



# *The Commonwealth of Massachusetts*

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December 15, 2006

CERTIFICATE OF THE SECRETARY OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS  
ON THE  
FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT

PROJECT NAME : The Bridle Path  
PROJECT MUNICIPALITY : Barnett Road - Sutton  
PROJECT WATERSHED : Blackstone River  
EOEA NUMBER : 13310  
PROJECT PROPONENT : Steven & George Funari  
DATE NOTICED IN MONITOR : November 8, 2006

As Secretary of Environmental Affairs, I hereby determine that the Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR) submitted on the above project **adequately and properly complies** with the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act (G. L. c. 30, ss. 61-62H) and with its implementing regulations (301 CMR 11.00).

According to the FEIR, the proposed project consists of the construction of 37 single-family homes (totaling approximately 66,647 square feet (sf)). The site is vacant of structures and is wooded. The proposed roadway is approximately 7,016 linear feet in length. Since the SDEIR, the proponent has reduced the amount of impervious areas to 7.9 acres by reducing the proposed roadway right-of-way (ROW) from 50 to 40 feet and the roadway pavement width to 24 feet and the sidewalk width to 5 feet. The site is approximately 101.25 acres.

The project may require a Water System Modification Permit (BRP WS 33), a Section 401 Water Quality Certificate, and a Sewer Connection/ Extension Permit from the Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP). The project must comply with the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Permit for stormwater discharges from a construction site. It requires a Programmatic General Permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The project will require an Order of Conditions from the Sutton Conservation Commission for impacts to wetland resource areas and buffer zones as a "limited" project or a Superseding Order of Conditions from MassDEP.

**Review of the FEIR:**

The FEIR provided a detailed project description with a summary/history of the project. It included proposed site plans as an attachment to the FEIR.

The proponent has reduced the alteration of approximately 15,230 sf of Bordering Vegetated Wetlands (BVW) to 13,020 sf by bridging over three wetlands. The entrance roadway off Barnett Road has been shifted northward to overlap the partial width of Martin Road to reduce wetlands impacts as suggested by the Sutton Conservation Commission (SCC). The FEIR included plans for approximately 36,243 sf of wetlands replication.

The FEIR included a copy of the Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) dated June 11, 2004 in Appendix E. A maintenance program for the drainage system was included in Appendix D of the FEIR. This maintenance program outlined the actual maintenance operations, responsible parties, and back-up systems. The FEIR addressed concerns regarding the erosion and sedimentation control for the project in an Erosion/Sedimentation Control Plan in Appendix C.

**Summary of the FEIR Mitigation:**

The FEIR included a separate chapter on mitigation measures. This chapter on mitigation did not include a proposed Section 61 Finding for MassDEP. Chapter 7 of the FEIR contained a commitment to mitigation measures. On December 8, 2006, the proponent estimated the individual costs of the proposed mitigation measures that were listed in the FEIR.

In the FEIR, the proponent has committed to the following mitigation measures:

- Provide approximately 36,243 sf of wetland replication on-site for impacting 13,020 sf of BVW for roadway construction, approximately \$64,000.
- Provide five bridges and retaining walls at wetland crossings to reduce wetlands impacts, approximately \$160,000.
- Deed approximately 211,680 sf or 4.8595 acres of open space to the Town of Sutton, approximately \$140,000.
- Provide three south-north and one east-west wildlife passage corridors within the project site, approximately \$80,000.
- Provide a separate parcel, about 26,185 sf (0.6 acres), around the Martin Farmstead to protect potential historical and archaeological artifacts, approximately \$50,000.
- Construct a stormwater collection system that meets DEP Stormwater Guidelines, approximately \$535,000. Install two Stormceptor units to treat the entrance roadway runoff for the 745-foot area adjacent to Steamburg Brook, approximately \$16,000. The

maintenance of the stormwater collection system would cost approximately \$1,600 per year and about \$10,000 to clean out detention basins on average once every five years.

- Clean out two currently blocked culverts under Martin Road and its crossing with Steamburg Brook, approximately \$8,500 to \$10,000.
- Prohibit construction work near the vernal pool from March 1 to May 15.

In its comment letter, MassDEP states that the proponent should have other potential alternatives for the design and layout of the project which would avoid or greatly reduce wetland impacts. MassDEP has recommended that the main roadway crossing should be eliminated and alternative access developed, including reducing the size and scope of the project. Since the project requires an individual 401 Water Quality Certificate, the proponent should work with MassDEP to redesign the roadways and reduce wetland impacts.

No further MEPA review is required for the completion of the above project. The proponent should finalize its permitting requirements and Section 61 Finding with MassDEP.

December 15, 2005

Date

  
Robert W. Gollidge, Jr.

cc: Paul Anderson, DEP/CERO

Comments received:

Jack Sheehan, 11/6/06

DEP/CERO, 11/27/06

MHC, 12/8/06

Carr Research Laboratory, 12/8/06

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