

ENF

**Environmental
 Notification Form**

EOEA No.: 12810
 MEPA Analyst: ANDREA JAMES
 Phone: 617-626-1028

The information requested on this form must be completed to begin MEPA Review in accordance with the provisions of the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act, 301 CMR 11.00.

Project Name: Proposed Park Land Conversion		
Street: 30 East Foxboro Street		
Municipality: Sharon	Watershed: Neponsett/Taunton	
Universal Tranverse Mercator Coordinates:	Latitude: 71° 11' 30" Longitude: 42° 07' 00"	
Estimated commencement date: 8/1/02	Estimated completion date: 8/1/02	
Approximate cost: \$0	Status of project design: N/A	%complete
Proponent: Town of Sharon Recreation Department		
Street: 1 Community Center Drive		
Municipality: Sharon	State: MA	Zip Code: 02067
Name of Contact Person From Whom Copies of this ENF May Be Obtained: Eric Hooper		
Firm/Agency: Town of Sharon DPW	Street: 217 Rear South Main Street	
Municipality: Sharon	State: MA	Zip Code: 02067
Phone: 781-784-1525 x 11	Fax: 781-784-1508	E-mail:

Does this project meet or exceed a mandatory EIR threshold (see 301 CMR 11.03)?
 Yes No

Has this project been filed with MEPA before?
 Yes (EOEA No. _____) No

Has any project on this site been filed with MEPA before?
 Yes (EOEA No. 10739) No

Is this an Expanded ENF (see 301 CMR 11.05(7)) requesting:

a Single EIR? (see 301 CMR 11.06(8))	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
a Special Review Procedure? (see 301CMR 11.09)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
a Waiver of mandatory EIR? (see 301 CMR 11.11)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
a Phase I Waiver? (see 301 CMR 11.11)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Identify any financial assistance or land transfer from an agency of the Commonwealth, including the agency name and the amount of funding or land area (in acres):
Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (#25-00154)

Are you requesting coordinated review with any other federal, state, regional, or local agency?
 Yes (Metropolitan Area Planning Council, Ma Historical Commission) No

List Local or Federal Permits and Approvals:
None

Which ENF or EIR review threshold(s) does the project meet or exceed (see 301 CMR 11.03):

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Land | <input type="checkbox"/> Rare Species | <input type="checkbox"/> Wetlands, Waterways, & Tidelands |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Water | <input type="checkbox"/> Wastewater | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Energy | <input type="checkbox"/> Air | <input type="checkbox"/> Solid & Hazardous Waste |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ACEC | <input type="checkbox"/> Regulations | <input type="checkbox"/> Historical & Archaeological Resources |

Summary of Project Size & Environmental Impacts	Existing	Change	Total	State Permits & Approvals
LAND				<input type="checkbox"/> Order of Conditions <input type="checkbox"/> Superseding Order of Conditions <input type="checkbox"/> Chapter 91 License <input type="checkbox"/> 401 Water Quality Certification <input type="checkbox"/> MHD or MDC Access Permit <input type="checkbox"/> Water Management Act Permit <input type="checkbox"/> New Source Approval <input type="checkbox"/> DEP or MWRA Sewer Connection/ Extension Permit <input type="checkbox"/> Other Permits <i>(including Legislative Approvals) – Specify:</i>
Total site acreage	3.03 acres			
New acres of land altered		0		
Acres of impervious area	1.53 acres	0	1.53 acres	
Square feet of new bordering vegetated wetlands alteration		0		
Square feet of new other wetland alteration		0		
Acres of new non-water dependent use of tidelands or waterways		0		
STRUCTURES				
Gross square footage	N/A			
Number of housing units	N/A			
Maximum height (in feet)	N/A			
TRANSPORTATION				
Vehicle trips per day	N/A			
Parking spaces	N/A			
WATER/WASTEWATER				
Gallons/day (GPD) of water use	N/A			
GPD water withdrawal	N/A			
GPD wastewater generation/ treatment	N/A			
Length of water/sewer mains (in miles)	N/A			

CONSERVATION LAND: Will the project involve the conversion of public parkland or other Article 97 public natural resources to any purpose not in accordance with Article 97?

Yes (Transfer Use from Passive Recreation to Active Recreation) No

Will it involve the release of any conservation restriction, preservation restriction, agricultural preservation restriction, or watershed preservation restriction?

Yes (Specify _____) No

RARE SPECIES: Does the project site include Estimated Habitat of Rare Species, Vernal Pools, Priority Sites of Rare Species, or Exemplary Natural Communities?

Yes (Specify _____) No

HISTORICAL /ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES: Does the project site include any structure, site or district listed in the State Register of Historic Place or the inventory of Historic and Archaeological Assets of the Commonwealth?

Yes (Specify _____) No

If yes, does the project involve any demolition or destruction of any listed or inventoried historic or archaeological resources?

Yes (Specify _____) No

AREAS OF CRITICAL ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERN: Is the project in or adjacent to an Area of Critical Environmental Concern?

Yes (Specify _____) No

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The project description should include (a) a description of the project site, (b) a description of both on-site and off-site alternatives and the impacts associated with each alternative, and (c) potential on-site and off-site mitigation measures for each alternative (You may attach one additional page, if necessary.)

Proposed Deborah Sampson Park/Sacred Heart Land Conversion Narrative

The Town of Sharon, Massachusetts proposes to convert 3.03 acres of the Deborah Sampson Park from dedicated outdoor recreation use. The Town purchased the former Sacred Heart School and surrounding property with financial assistance from the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund in 1975 (#25-00154). The site is in the geographic center of the Town and is currently used as a major outdoor recreational facility. This facility includes soccer and baseball fields, community gardens, four tennis courts, a basketball court, skateboard park and a multiple station exercise trail through wooded landscape.

At the time of the purchase, 2.2 acres of land surrounding the former Sacred Heart dormitory (Parcel "F"), was left unencumbered and reserved for future municipal use over the years, the Town has investigated reuse of the dormitory building and the surrounding 2.2 acre parcel.

In 1999, the Town established a Facilities Planning Committee to address the long-term building needs of the Town. This Committee, following several well publicized community meetings, recommended that the 2.2 acre dormitory site at Deborah Sampson Park Community should be reserved for a senior center/indoor recreation facility complex. The Town meeting appropriated money to engage an architect to provide preliminary site design for the senior center and future indoor recreation center.

Results of this design provided this spring, indicated that in order to sensitively construct this complex without impacting adjacent wetlands and existing outdoor recreation facilities, more than 2.2 acres was needed. The Town of Sharon, therefore, is seeking the additional 3.03 acres (Parcel "N") of contiguous land to satisfy the above community building needs.

In order to replace the recreational and economic utility of the 3.03 acre parcel, the Town of Sharon proposes to purchase and dedicate for passive outdoor recreational use the 91 acre King Philip Rock parcel off of Mansfield Street.

This King Phillip Rock parcel has been targeted on the Town's Open Space Recreation Master Plan since the Master Plan was first drafted in 1986. The subject property lies within the Canoe River Aquifer ACEC, is contiguous to more than 250 acres of Town conservation land, and directly abuts the 1000 acre Canoe River Wilderness (Norfolk County Conservation land. The King Philips parcel contains a unique assemblage of glacial erratics, has an existing trail network which connects contiguous protected open space, contains certified vernal pools, diverse wetland communities and provides habitat for spotted and box turtles. Also, based upon historic tradition, tribunals were held on this site by the Indian Confederation presided over by King Philip during the uprising of the 1600's.

Following the Town election and Town Meeting of May 2001, the citizens of Sharon voted to authorize the purchase of this property for \$715,000, based upon long negotiations and two appraisals (\$650,000 and \$1,100,000) secured by the Conservation Commission. A reassessment of the appraisal was secured by the Department of Public Works which set the value of the property at \$750,000.

The 3.03 acre parcel which the Town is proposing to release from park land restrictions consists primarily of paved parking area with a wooded area toward the Cedar Street side of the parcel. The parcel is located well outside Town of Sharon Conservation Commission wetlands buffer areas. A certified, full appraisal of this parcel was just received, concluding that its value is \$210,000.00, e.g., the value of one buildable lot.

It is the position of the Town of Sharon that the King Philip Rock parcel is clearly of much higher recreational and economic value than is the 3.03 acre parcel contiguous to the former Sacred Heart dormitory. The Town is hopeful for a prompt preliminary acceptance of this conversion proposal.