

ENF

**Environmental
Notification Form**

For Office Use Only
Executive Office of Environmental Affairs
EOEA No.: 13077
MEPA Analyst: Janet Hutchins
Phone: 617-626-1023

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: Additions & Renovations to Oliver Ames High School and Easton Middle School		
Street: Oliver Ames High School: 100 Lothrop Street Easton Middle School: Columbus Avenue		
Municipality: Easton	Watershed: Taunton watershed	
Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates: 325287E, 4658040N	Latitude: 42 degrees, 3 minutes, 30.2 seconds	Longitude: 71 degrees, 6 minutes, 42 seconds
Estimated commencement date: July 2004	Estimated completion date: August 2007	
Approximate cost: \$ 68,000,000	Status of project design: 25 %complete	
Proponent: Town of Easton		
Street: 136 Elm Street		
Municipality: Easton	State: MA	Zip Code: 02356-0129
Name of Contact Person From Whom Copies of this ENF May Be Obtained: Mr. Kenneth D. Costello, ASLA		
Firm/Agency: Kaestle Boos Associates, Inc.	Street: 1 New Hampshire Ave., Ste. 125	
Municipality: Portsmouth	State: NH	Zip Code: 03801
Phone: 1-603-766-1965	Fax: 1-603-766-4965	E-mail: kcostello@kba-architects.com

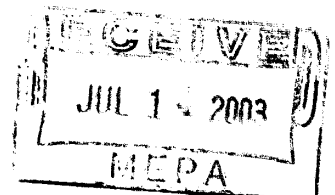
- Does this project meet or exceed a mandatory EIR threshold (see 301 CMR 11.03)?
 Yes No
- Has this project been filed with MEPA before?
 Yes (EOEA No. _____) No
- Has any project on this site been filed with MEPA before?
 Yes (EOEA No. 10336) No
- Is this an Expanded ENF (see 301 CMR 11.05(7)) requesting:
- a Single EIR? (see 301 CMR 11.06(8)) Yes No
 - a Special Review Procedure? (see 301 CMR 11.09) Yes No
 - a Waiver of mandatory EIR? (see 301 CMR 11.11) Yes No
 - a Phase I Waiver? (see 301 CMR 11.11) Yes 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):
School Building Assistance (58 % Reimbursement Rate)

Are you requesting coordinated review with any other federal, state, regional, or local agency?
 Yes (Specify _____) No

List Local or Federal Permits and Approvals:

Order of Conditions; Town of Easton, MA



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

- | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|
| <input checked="" 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 checked="" 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 (including Legislative Approvals) – Specify:
Total site acreage	63.37			
New acres of land altered		3.24		
Acres of impervious area	17.73	6.93	24.66	
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	HS= 147,027 MS= 95,000	HS= 121,000 MS= 63,000	HS= 268,863 MS= 158,000	
Number of housing units	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	
Maximum height (in feet)	HS= 51'-6" MS= 32'-0"	HS= 0'-0" MS= 3'-0"	HS= 51'-6" MS= 35'-0"	
TRANSPORTATION				
Vehicle trips per day	3,990	246	4,236	
Parking spaces	399	266	665	
WATER/WASTEWATER				
Gallons/day (GPD) of water use	19756	9746	29502	
GPD water withdrawal	-	-	-	
GPD wastewater generation/ treatment	17960	8860	26820	
Length of water/sewer mains (in miles)	-	-	-	

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 (Specify _____) 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.)

Oliver Ames High School is located at 100 Lothrop Street and the Easton Middle School is located on Columbus Avenue in Easton, Massachusetts. The schools are part of a larger campus that also includes the Parkview School (K-2), the Olmsted/Richardson School (grades 4,5 &6), a small sewage treatment building, athletic fields, basketball courts and tennis courts. The entire campus is +/- 84 acres (project acreage is 63.37 acres) and sits adjacent to the Easton Police and Fire Department, residential housing and conservation land.

Access to Oliver Ames High School is taken off of Lothrop Street to the east and also from Randall Street to the south. Access to the Easton Middle School is taken from Columbus Avenue and Spooner Street to the east and also from the Lothrop Street loop road which essentially services the entire campus. Currently, both schools suffer from poor and unsafe vehicular and pedestrian circulation patterns, a serious lack of parking for staff, students and visitors and an overall unappealing and somewhat harsh environment. Kaestle Boos Associates, Inc. (KBA) proposes to mitigate these site issues in a functional, responsible and aesthetically pleasing fashion. At the Oliver Ames High School, KBA will develop new and safe circulation patterns for buses, including a designated bus drop off lane that will accommodate eight (8) bus stacking spaces. KBA will also create a designated parent drop off area that will allow for quick and easy circulation for morning drop off and afternoon pick up. Stacking for approximately forty (40) cars will be provided. New parking lots will be developed to the east, south and west of the High School, providing more parking for staff, students and visitors. One (1) softball field and one (1) soccer field will be lost as a result of the new parking lots, but is necessary to accommodate the new student and staff populations. KBA proposes to construct four (4) new basketball courts and six (6) new tennis courts to the replace the ones that will be displaced in order to construct the new roadways and parking areas. At the Easton Middle School, KBA will develop additional bus drop off space to the west of the school and will also redevelop the existing bus parking area to the north of the school. The modified parking area will provide spaces for twenty two (22) buses and twenty four (24) standard vehicles. The existing parent drop off will be resurfaced in order to repair existing bituminous pavements that are cracked and worn. Parking to the east of the Middle School will be redeveloped and expanded and overall circulation patterns improved. Pedestrian walkways will also be reworked to provide safer access around the school. Some work will be done to the south of the school in the plaza between the Middle School and the Olmsted/Richardson School. KBA proposes to create equal plaza space for both schools and to bring more definition to the space.

Throughout the on-going design process, numerous on-site and off-site alternatives have been, and will be explored. One option was to leave all existing pavements and existing circulation patterns in place. The impacts include very poor drainage patterns, worn and broken pavement conditions and a serious lack of parking for students, staff and visitors alike. This option is the least disruptive to the wetland buffer zones. Another alternative was to develop the program requirements on another site. This would require construction on an undeveloped site and would drive the overall project cost upwards quite significantly. KBA has proposed to work within the existing context and framework of the existing site in order to maintain a reasonable project budget and to attempt to bring some design continuity and positive aesthetics to the campus as a whole. To achieve this goal and to mitigate current conditions, KBA proposes all new construction with renewable resource materials, installation of high efficiency mechanical units, low flow water fixtures and energy efficient construction materials. KBA also proposes that storm water systems be upgraded to meet current DEP regulations, and proposes a variance in parking striping regulations to reduce the amount of impervious surface needed to provide required parking totals.

By achieving these goals, KBA will be able to successfully improve site circulation, upgrade safety, provide a more aesthetically pleasing learning environment and meet the educational needs of the town of Easton for years to come, while attempting to minimize impacts to the surrounding environment.