

ENF Environmental Notification Form

For Office Use Only
 Executive Office of Environmental Affairs
 EOEa No.: 14065
 MEPA Analyst: Deirdre Buckley
 Phone: 617-626-1044

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: Newburyport Harborwalk Boardwalk Connection		
Street: 126 Merrimac Street		
Municipality: Newburyport	Watershed: North Coastal	
Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates:	Latitude: N 42d 48'	Longitude: W 70d 52'
Estimated commencement date: Fall/Winter 2007/2008	Estimated completion date: Summer 2008	
Approximate cost: \$500,000	Status of project design:	80 %complete
Proponent: City of Newburyport, Office of Planning and Development		
Street: City Hall, 60 Pleasant Street		
Municipality: Newburyport	State: MA	Zip Code: 01950
Name of Contact Person From Whom Copies of this ENF May Be Obtained: David Smith, Project Manager		
Firm/Agency: Vine Associates, Inc.	Street: 372 Merrimac Street	
Municipality: Newburyport	State: MA	Zip Code: 01950
Phone: 978-465-1428	Fax: 978-465-2640	E-mail: dsmith@vineassociates.net

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. _____) 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): Funding from the state Seaport Council for design and construction.

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

List Local or Federal Permits and Approvals: Conservation Commission Notice of Intent, MA DEP Chapter 91 and Federal U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Permit.

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

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Land | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rare Species | <input checked="" 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 checked="" 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	0.3 (A)			
New acres of land altered		0.3		
Acres of impervious area	.21	-.05	.16	
Square feet of new bordering vegetated wetlands alteration		N/A		
Square feet of new other wetland alteration		49		
Acres of new non-water dependent use of tidelands or waterways		0		
STRUCTURES				
Gross square footage	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Number of housing units	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Maximum height (in feet)	N/A	N/A	N/A	
TRANSPORTATION				
Vehicle trips per day	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Parking spaces	N/A	N/A	N/A	
WATER/WASTEWATER				
Gallons/day (GPD) of water use	N/A	N/A	N/A	
GPD water withdrawal	N/A	N/A	N/A	
GPD wastewater generation/treatment	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Length of water/sewer mains (in miles)	N/A	N/A	N/A	

(A) = Area of proposed walkway and roadway surface alternations

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-Common Tern, Bald Eagle, Shortnose Sturgeon, Atlantic Sturgeon) 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.)

The proposed project involves the installation of a timber boardwalk for the public to traverse along the Merrimack River in Newburyport. The boardwalk will provide a critical link between the City's 6000 LF Clipper City Rail Trail on the east and the 2000 LF portion of the Harborwalk in Cashman Park to the west. The subject portion of the shoreline has been inaccessible for public waterfront access since the construction of a condominium development down to the high water line. Members of the public have been unable to move along the shoreline without a lengthy and unattractive detour back to a narrow sidewalk along a busy arterial road and then crossing a difficult intersection including Route 1 on- and off-ramps. Physically, there are no other viable routes for the public to travel between the park and rail trail due to the buildings and roads of the condominium development.

The proposed boardwalk structure will be located on timber piles north of the condominiums in the intertidal zone of the Merrimack River. The boardwalk will be 10 feet wide by 340 feet long and supported by 63 one-foot diameter piles. The pile-supported structure will not interfere with the movement of water or sunlight. In addition, the work includes improving access from the existing Harborwalk pathway in Cashman Park to the new boardwalk by realigning an existing paved cul-de-sac.