

EDEA # 13485  
 MEPA Analyst: Briony Angus  
 617-626-1029

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

Executive Office of Environmental Affairs ■ MEPA Office

**ENF Environmental Notification Form**

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: <b>Community Rowing, Inc.</b>		
Street: <b>11 Nonantum Road</b>		
Municipality: <b>Newton</b>	Watershed: <b>Charles River Watershed</b>	
Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates: <b>19321175E, 4691887N</b>	Latitude / Longitude: <b>42° 21' 31" N / 71° 10' 17" W</b>	
Estimated commencement date: <b>Fall 2006</b>	Estimated completion date: <b>Spring 2008</b>	
Approximate cost: <b>\$6 Million</b>	Status of project design: <b>5% complete</b>	
Proponent: <b>Community Rowing, Inc.</b>		
Street: <b>600 Pleasant Street</b>		
Municipality: <b>Watertown</b>	State: <b>MA</b>	Zip Code: <b>02472</b>
Name of Contact Person From Whom Copies of this ENF May Be Obtained: <b>Kayrine Carr</b>		
Firm/Agency: <b>Fort Point Associates, Inc.</b>	Street: <b>286 Congress Street, 6th Floor</b>	
Municipality: <b>Boston</b>	State: <b>MA</b>	Zip Code: <b>02210</b>
Phone: <b>(617) 357-7044</b>	Fax: <b>(617) 357-9135</b>	E-mail: <b>jfay@fpa-inc.com</b>

- 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 301CMR 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): **50-year lease of Commonwealth land, presently under the care, custody and control of the DCR, by the Division of Capital Asset Management (DCAM) acting in consultation with DCR through Chapter 149 of the Acts of 2004, Section 123 (amended by inserting after 279 the following new section: Section 279A, signed January 5, 2005). Financial assistance as provided through Chapter 352 of the Acts of 2004, Section 2E, 2800-0107.**

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; Site Plan review by the Newton Planning Board (voluntary), Army Corps Section 10, NPDES NOI**

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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Historical & Archaeological Resources |

Summary of Project Size & Environmental Impacts	Existing	Change	Total	State Permits & Approvals
<b>LAND</b>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Order of Conditions <input type="checkbox"/> Superceding Order of Conditions <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chapter 91 License <input type="checkbox"/> 401 Water Quality Certification <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MHD or MDC Access Permit <input type="checkbox"/> Water Management Act Permit <input type="checkbox"/> New Source Approval <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DEP or MWRA Sewer Connection/ Extension Permit <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Permits <i>(Including Legislative Approvals) – Specify:</i>  <b>Chapter 92 License from DCR</b>  <b>Article 97 Legislation from Massachusetts General Court</b>  <b>DCR Temporary Construction Permit</b>  <b>DCR Annual Lease</b>  <b>Massachusetts Historical Commission Review</b>
Total site acreage	2 acres			
New acres of land altered		1 acres		
Acres of impervious area	- 0 -	30,000 sf	30,000 sf	
Square feet of new bordering vegetated wetlands alteration		- 0 -		
Square feet of new other wetland alteration		30,000 sf		
Acres of new non-water dependent use of tidelands or waterways		- 0 -		
<b>STRUCTURES</b>				
Gross square footage	- 0 -	49,000 sf	49,000 sf	
Number of housing units	- 0 -	- 0 -	- 0 -	
Maximum height (in feet)	- 0 -	30 ft	30 ft	
<b>TRANSPORTATION</b>				
Vehicle trips per day	800	40	840	
Parking spaces	±150	0	150 min.	
<b>WATER/WASTEWATER</b>				
Gallons/day (GPD) of water use	2,500 gpd	2,000 gpd	4,500 gpd	
GPD water withdrawal	- 0 -	- 0 -	- 0 -	
GPD wastewater generation/treatment	2,000 gpd	2,000 gpd	4,000 gpd	
Length of water/sewer mains (in miles)	- 0 -	- 0 -	- 0 -	

**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: Community Rowing Boathouse)  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: The area west of DCR Daly Rink is an archaeological site listed in the Massachusetts Historical Commission's Inventory of Historic and Archaeological Assets of the Commonwealth (19-MD-880).)  No

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

Yes (Specify: The potential impact on archeological resources which may exist in the area is not known at this time.)  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.)

Community Rowing, Inc. (CRI) proposes to construct a boathouse and docking facilities along the Charles River for use by Community Rowing, Inc. for their public rowing programs. Community Rowing, Inc. currently operates out of the DCR Daly Ice Skating Rink on the Charles River in Newton, on Commonwealth land under the care, custody and control of the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), formerly the Metropolitan District Commission (MDC). The new CRI boathouse is proposed for the property located directly to the west of the DCR Daly Rink on Commonwealth land under the care, custody and control of the DCR or another site determined as a result of MEPA site analysis. The DCR Daly Rink is to the east; Nonantum Road is to the south; the Newton Yacht Club is to the west; and the Charles River is to the north (see Figure 1, USGS Locus Map and Figure 2, Aerial View).

Founded in 1985, Community Rowing, Inc. (CRI) is a thriving non-profit organization with nearly 30 programs, a fleet of over 100 sweep and sculling shells and an annual operating budget of almost \$1 million. With more than 1,500 rowers each year, CRI has grown to be the largest and most successful community-access rowing program in the country. Not only are all of the Community Rowing public programs open for anyone to join, but CRI offers several programs free of charge to

underserved populations. These programs include: G-ROW BOSTON, an intensive rowing, academic support, and college-focused program for over 200 girls from the Boston public schools; learn-to-row classes for students at the Perkins School for the Blind; summer camps for children recruited through the Boston Centers for Youth and Families; and adaptive rowing with the City of Newton Special Recreation Program. A new boathouse will allow CRI to expand these outreach and adaptive programs to reach more people in Greater Boston with safer and more accessible programming.

CRI has conducted a thorough analysis of potential alternative locations along the Charles River for the boathouse facility. Based on the analysis, it has been determined that several locations, including the proposed location, could potentially serve the needs of CRI's extensive rowing programs. The alternative site analysis was focused on the middle basin to avoid conflicts with other users, particularly competitive rowing programs that operate downstream of CRI. The following sites were considered: John F. Kennedy Park, Hell's Half Acre, Herter Park East, Herter Park Central, Herter Park West, Squibnocket Park, Daly Field, Daly Field East and the Proposed Site - West of DCR Daly Rink. Each of these sites vary in suitability and utility for the proposed use, as detailed in the Alternatives Analysis. Of the alternative sites, Daly Field East best serves the program needs of CRI with the fewest conflicts.

See Attachment A, Supplemental Information for additional information on the project and the alternatives analysis.