



Environmental Notification Form

For Office Use Only
Executive Office of Environmental Affairs

EOEA No.: *14326*
 MEPA Analyst: *Anne Canaday*
 Phone: 617-626- *1035*

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: Whalley Park		
Street: 42 Powder Mill Road		
Municipality: Southwick	Watershed: Great Brook	
Universal Tranverse Mercator Coordinates:	Latitude: 42°03'14.68"N Longitude: 72°45'06.10"W	
Estimated commencement date: 5/30/08	Estimated completion date: 6/15/09	
Approximate cost: \$5,000,000	Status of project design: 15 %complete	
Proponent: Mr. John Whalley		
Street: 38 Foster Road		
Municipality: Southwick	State: MA	Zip Code: 01077
Name of Contact Person From Whom Copies of this ENF May Be Obtained: Mr. Robert M. Levesque, RLA, ASLA		
Firm/Agency: R Levesque Associates, Inc	Street: 75 Broad Street, Suite C	
Municipality: Westfield	State: MA	Zip Code: 01086
Phone: 413-568-0985	Fax: 413-568-0986	E-mail: robl@rlaland.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. _____) 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): **At this point, no funding has been received. A Park Grant has been applied for from the Department of Conservation and Recreation. It is anticipated that there may be other federal or state funding sources utilized throughout the course of the project.**

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

List Local or Federal Permits and Approvals: **Determination of Applicability (received), Notice of Intent (to be filed), Site Plan Approval (to be filed), NPDES SWPPP (to be filed)**

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 checked="" 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 <i>(including Legislative Approvals) – Specify:</i>
Total site acreage	70±			
New acres of land altered		35±		
Acres of impervious area	0	4.2	4.2	
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	2,500±	2,500±	
Number of housing units	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Maximum height (in feet)	N/A	<35	<35	
TRANSPORTATION				
Vehicle trips per day	0	352	352	
Parking spaces	0	299	299	
WATER/WASTEWATER				
Gallons/day (GPD) of water use	N/A	175,000	175,000	
GPD water withdrawal	N/A	175,000	175,000	
GPD wastewater generation/ treatment	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Length of water/sewer mains (in miles)	N/A	N/A	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 (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.*)

Please see the attached Project Description Narrative.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION NARRATIVE

**42 Powder Mill Road
(Map E, Parcels 203A and 210)
Southwick, MA 01077**

RLA Project # 080303
August 2008

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Whalley Park is a proposed regional park located on Powder Mill Road in Southwick, Massachusetts. A Locus Map included herewith this ENF shows the location of the subject property. The park consists of approximately 70 acres of land, of which approximately 35 acres will be developed for active recreation purposes and the remaining land will be permanently protected parkland set aside for passive recreation and education.

Within the park there will be a large looping access road of approximately 4,830 linear feet in length. Said road will be an internal, on-site roadway; therefore, it will not meet the threshold for MEPA review for the construction of a new roadway although it is greater than ¼ miles in length. Said access road will service nine (9) athletic fields, a playscape, restrooms, a concession stand, storage buildings and parking for 299 vehicles.

The athletic fields within the park will consist of one (1) t-ball field, three (3) youth baseball fields, one (1) youth softball field, one (1) high school baseball field and three (3) multipurpose soccer fields. Sports lighting is proposed for the high school baseball field and one soccer field.

ALTERNATIVES

The work within the subject property has been proposed in the least intrusive manner possible. The following are the alternatives explored prior to selecting the current design for the proposed park.

On-Site

Alternative #1- Developing Whole Park

Based on the layout of the site, it is not feasible to develop the entire property. There is a large wetland that borders on Great Brook which runs adjacent and partially through the subject property. If the entire property was developed, there would be a greater amount of disturbance within the Resource Areas on-site, including the wetland and the Riverfront Area of Great Brook. In an attempt to minimize any potential damage to these areas, the layout of the site has been designed to avoid the possible disturbance to the Resource Areas on-site.

Alternative #2- Developing Less

Based on anticipated future needs of the Town of Southwick, decreasing the size of the park is not a feasible alternative. With a smaller park, the anticipated future needs of the residents

within the community will not be fully met. One of the purposes of the park is to address the shortage of recreational parks, specifically for tournament quality, lighted fields. For this reason, and based on the layout of the site, it is appropriate to have nine (9) athletic fields.

Alternative #3- Not Developing the Site

This alternative is not feasible based on the needs of the Town of Southwick. As mentioned above, there is a large need for a park such as the one proposed. The project site is located adjacent to Southwick's Regional, Elementary, Middle, and High Schools, the recreational center, a privately funded park with indoor and outdoor facilities and the Southwick Motor Cross, a national motor cross racing facility.

Off-site

The alternatives for the proposed project are limited to the lot on which the project is located as determined in the Determination of Applicability, dated July 2008.

Within the Town of Southwick, there is no comparable off-site alternative for the proposed project. No other parcels have a comparable land area within a contiguous parcel, as the subject property totals approximately 70 acres of land. In addition, the subject property is located in close proximity to area schools and existing athletic fields, which makes it a prime location for the proposed park. The park, once completed will be donated to the Town of Southwick. Since the project proponent owns an appropriately sized parcel in an appropriately zoned area, it is not feasible to obtain another parcel for the purposes of the project.

END OF PROJECT DESCRIPTION NARRATIVE