

DRAFT

**City of Boston Conservation Commission  
Public Meeting Minutes**

Boston City Hall, Hearing Room 801  
Boston, Massachusetts, 02201

**April 20, 2011**

**Commissioners Present:** Charles Button –Chairman, Antonia Pollak, John Lewis, John Sullivan, Stephen Kunian, Vivien Li

**Commissioners Not Present:** Jeanne McHallam

**Staff Present:** Chris Busch, Executive Director

**6:05 PM**      **Notice of Intent from Boston Harbor Industrial Development LLC, for the installation of sheet piling and a rock revetment, construction of two pile supported pedestrian piers, a wind turbine, roadway and stormwater management system improvements, landscaping and Harborwalk, Pappas Way, South Boston, Reserved Channel (Land Under Ocean, Coastal Bank, Coastal Beach, Land Subject to Tidal Action, 100-foot Buffer Zone).**  
***Continued from the March 23, 2011, Public Hearing***  
Owner: Massachusetts Port Authority  
Representatives: Roy Okurowsky, CEC, Inc., Brendan Cambell, Jay Cashman  
Documents: Project plans and details as provided in the project Notice of Intent

Project proponent submitted a letter to the Commission requesting a continuance of the matter until the May 18, 2011 Public Hearing.

- **Motion made by J. Lewis and seconded by J. Sullivan to continue review of the project Notice of Intent until the May 18, 2011 public hearing (voted 6/0/0)**

**6:15 PM**      **Notice of Intent from the Massachusetts Port Authority for the Green Bus Depot Project, involving construction of a 72,800 square foot building, a bus fueling station, installation of below grade fuel tanks, paving of bus circulation areas, site landscaping and utilities, installation of a stormwater management system and reconstruction of a stormwater outfall, North Service Area of Logan International Airport, East Boston, Boston Harbor (Coastal Bank, 100-foot Buffer Zone).** ***Continued from the April 6, 2011 Public Hearing***  
Owner: Massachusetts Port Authority  
Representatives: James Stolecki, Massport; Lowell Richards, Massport; Sam Slyman, Massport  
Documents: Revised project plans and details

V. Li – Massport is a dues paying member of my employer The Boston Harbor Association.

L. Richards – Provided an initial update on the efforts over past two weeks to review options to connect Bremen Street Park and Constitution Beach. Efforts have involved Massport staff and elected and appointed officials. Directed by CEO and Chairman to engage Massports full resources in exploring all options and explaining concerns regarding securing. Believe that progress has been made and Massport will continue in these efforts. Any final decision will be made after considering important perspectives, including security. Any decisions made by the Massport Board will be subject to review by the FAA and the Transportation Security Administration.

C. Button – Any initial comments from staff.

C. Busch – This matter was continued due to questions regarding the depth and grade of the stormwater drainage swale, which was to be reviewed by J. Sullivan; and continue the ongoing discussions between Massport, residents, electeds and others regarding greenway connection options.

J. Stolecki – Provided a recap of the project and project stormwater infrastructure. Discussed the drainage swale and elevation which will provide proper drainage during high tide conditions. Technical elevation information confirmed by J. Sullivan.

C. Button – How will petroleum product and spills be managed?

J. Stolecki – The sand swale and berm will provide treatment.

J. Sullivan – Did meet with staff and confirmed drainline elevations.

T. Pollak – Would like to reiterate what Mr. Richards had stated. There have been a number of meetings involving electeds and others; the Mayor would like to see this matter resolved. There is no definitive plan yet, but there is now a planning effort to resolve this matter and Massport appears to be committed to working with us and the public.

V. Li – How much of a set back is there from the fence so that the coastal bank can be maintained?

J. Stolecki – Two feet.

V. Li – Could the security fence also be delineated around the subject site.

S. Slyman – Provided a summation of the perimeter fence and gates.

S. Kunian – When Mr. Richards was previously before the Commission he noted that the greenway connection was beyond the Commission's jurisdiction. Members of the Commission have always had an interest in the public's access to open space resources. As citizens we are all interested in seeing the city enhanced and efforts taken to date appear promising. However, the proof of the pudding is in its eating.

S. Lamattina – Thank you to the Commission. Meeting with the Mayor last week and other electeds along with Massport Officials. The Mayor has instructed us to work this matter out. There is not a plan yet, however, there will be a community process to develop a plan. There is a willingness on the part of Massport to resolve this issue.

V. Li – Has progress been made?

S. Lamattina – There have been meetings, yes progress has been made and I feel confident in their giving word to the Mayor that further progress will be made.

Larry Venezia – Resident of Coleridge Street, would like to remind Massport in 1997 and then again this year there have been signatures from neighbors opposed to a greenway through out neighborhood.

Gail Miller – Friends of Belle Isle Marsh and Air Impact Inc., Thanks again to the Commission, we do not support the Green Bus Depot per se, but know that elected officials are now with us on this matter. Appreciate the Commission's and the Mayor's help. We are still nervous because the community groups have not been at the table and we hope that these groups become stakeholders as options are discussed. Would like to hear more commitment that there will be a stated process and group involvement.

Chris Markey – Vice President Air Impact, Inc. would like to reiterate what G. Miller stated.

V. Li – Where does the process go from here?

L. Richards – There will be continued focus on options and possibilities for increased access and connectivity. Next step is to get people out to the space who have not been there and articulation of options. Further discuss our security concerns. Hope to develop a strongly recommended route, but there may not be a single option decided on. With the timetable it will likely take months rather than weeks to get to one or more plausible options. We will also have to check with federal agencies that have jurisdiction as well.

V. Li – Time table for the Green Bus Depot?

S. Slyman – Have already chosen construction manager, could start work within the next month and have the facility open by fall of next year. Project has gone out to bid and have construction manager.

C. Button – A motion?

C. Button – Comments on Draft Order – no comments.

V. Li – Motion: to issue with the caveat that Massport continue to work with the City and interested parties and provide an update to the Commission within 30 days on progress of development of greenway connection options.

- **Motion made by V. Li and seconded by T. Pollak to accept the draft special conditions as amended, issue an Order of Conditions for the project and close the hearing (voted 6/0/0)**

**6:50 PM Notice of Intent from the Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries for an eelgrass habitat restoration project involving the harvesting of eelgrass from an existing eelgrass bed and establishment of test plots off of Deer Island, Long Island, Lovells Island, Governors Island and Thompson Island, Boston Harbor, (Land Under Ocean).**

Owner: Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Representatives: Tay Evans, DMF

Documents: Project plans and details as provided in the project Notice of Intent

C. Button – Any initial staff comments?

C Busch – Asked the proponent to discuss the project as it relates to the Algonquin Hubline Project and the Logan RSA Project.

T. Evans – Provided an overview of the project and history of eelgrass restoration projects in the Harbor. Proposed work is related to mitigation associated with the Hubline. Boston Harbor a great place for eelgrass currently due to

water quality; eelgrass naturally expanding in harbor at this time. Test plot work is expanding upon prior work by Batelle and Marine Fisheries.

V. Li – Did the initial plantings take or not?

T. Evans – Prior efforts were successful.

T. Pollak – How large are test areas?

T. Evans – four separate 9-meter square areas at each test plot.

V. Li – Stewart Dalzell of Massport is present and involved with RSA.

T. Evans – DMF has been working closely with Massport on RSA and eelgrass restoration plan associated with that project. There will be a five year monitoring plan.

J. Lewis – What constitutes success?

T. Evans – Given checkered pattern of initial plantings we expect shoots to infill open areas.

J. Sullivan – How much does it cost for each test plots?

T. Evans – Total for a test plots is 10 days of work. Not certain of actual costs.

S. Dalzell – Massport offered impacted beds off of Runway 33 as donor plants.

C. Button – Public comment? – no comment

C. Button – Comment on draft order – no comment

J. Lewis – motion: made to issue a permit for the project.

- **Motion made by J. Lewis and seconded by V. Li to accept the draft special conditions, issue an Order of Conditions for the project and close the hearing (voted 6/0/0)**

**7:05 PM Notice of Intent from Veolia Energy Boston, Inc., for the installation of a new waste heat/steam pipeline from the GenOn Kendall Station Power Generating Facility in Cambridge to Boston along the Craigie Dam and Lechmere Viaduct Bridge, Charles River (Riverfront Area, 100-foot Buffer Zone to Inland Bank).**

Owner: Commonwealth of Massachusetts, City of Boston

Representatives: Victoria Fletcher, Epsilon Assoc.; John Dwyer, Veolia Energy; Gregory Cahil, Trimont Engineering

Documents: Project plans and details as provided in the project Notice of Intent

V. Li – Epsilon Associates is a dues paying member of my employer The Boston Harbor Association

T. Fletcher – Provided an overview of the project and pipeline alignment. Project will prevent future thermal discharges from the power plant into the Charles River. Waste heat will be converted to steam and used as an energy source; reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 33,000 tons per year. Wetland resource areas outlined in relation to pipeline location. Line will primarily be below paved surfaces. At Cragie Drawbridge the line will jump to the MBTA Greenline Viaduct and then back to the road on the other side of the bridge. No in-water work involved; some work to occur from a barge. Hope to have the pipe installed this summer.

C. Button – Have you coordinated with MassDOT and other state and local agencies?

T. Fletcher – Have been coordinating work and schedule with all property owners.

C. Button – Why is there a condensate line?

G. Cahil – Want to bring condensate back to Cambridge facility and use water.

C. Button – Where does water come from?

G. Cahil – Water comes from Cambridge water system and river water currently comes in to cool system. The river intake will no longer occur.

J. Sullivan – How is steam and condensate transferred?

G. Cahil – Discussed methods of transfer where steam travels under pressure and the condensate is pumped.

C. Button – Any comments from the public – no comment

C. Button – Any comments on the draft order – no comment

C. Button – Does anyone care to make a motion

V. Li – Moves draft order seconded by J. Lewis

- **Motion made by V. Li and seconded by J. Lewis to accept the draft special conditions, issue an Order of Conditions for the project and close the hearing (voted 6/0/0)**

**7:15 PM Request for Determination of Applicability from the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation for the installation of a pump lift station and a swimming pool drain line connection to an existing sewer line, at 1225 Soldiers Field Road, Brighton, Charles River (100-foot Buffer to Inland Bank).**

Owner: Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation

Representatives: Cathleen Paine, DCR; Jennifer James, McGuire Group; Jim Jackson, McGuire Group

Documents: Project plans and details as provided in the project Notice of Intent

V. Li – For the record the DCR is a dues paying member of my employer The Boston Harbor Association.

C. Button – Any initial comments

C. Busch – Some initial confusion with the filing as I was expecting a single RDA for three DCR pool projects, however, three separate RDA's were submitted and only one was scheduled for a hearing. The additional RDA's will have to be reviewed at the next public hearing.

J. Jackson – Provided an overview of the project which will separate the pool drain lines from the stormwater system and connect the lines to the sewer system.

J. James – Only one portion of the subject site extends into the 100-foot Buffer Zone. Most of the work to occur in existing paved areas.

V. Li – How long to conduct work?

J. James – Only a week for each pool.

C. Button – Any comments from the public – no comment

C. Button – Any comments on the draft project conditions – no comment

C. Button – Does anyone care to make a motion

V. Li – Moves draft order seconded by J. Lewis

- **Motion made by V. Li and seconded by J. Lewis to accept the draft project conditions, issue a Negative Determination of Applicability for the project and close the hearing (voted 6/0/0)**

**7:25 PM Update from the Massachusetts Department of Transportation on Order of Conditions DEP File No. 006-0647, issued for the construction of a water transportation docking facility adjacent to 500 Atlantic Avenue and Russia Wharf, Fort Point Channel, Boston. *Continued from the February 16, 2011 Public Hearing***

Email submitted from the proponent requesting a continuance of the Commission's review matter until the May 4, 2011 public hearing.

- **Motion made by V. Li and seconded by S. Kunian to continue the matter to the May 4, 2011 public hearing (voted 6/0/0)**

**7:30 PM Minutes: Upon a motion by V. Li and second by T. Pollak the Minutes of the March 2, 2011 Public Hearing were approved (vote 6/0/0).**

C. Busch – Raised issue with an Enforcement Order issued to Stephen Draper and his failure to complete mitigation requirements under the Order. Commission ordered that the matter be referred to the City of Boston Legal Department for further action.

**Motion made by T. Pollak and seconded by J. Lewis to adjourn the public meeting (voted 6/0/0).**