



May 26, 2021

Reading Conservation Commission
c/o Charles Tirone, Conservation Administrator
16 Lowell Street
Reading, MA 01867

Re: Notice of Intent Application – Maillet, Sommes and Morgan Land
0 Lowell Street and 0 Willow Street, Reading, Massachusetts

Dear Members of the Conservation Commission:

On behalf of the Applicant, the Town of Reading, the Horsley Witten Group, Inc. (HW) is submitting the enclosed Notice of Intent (NOI) application and supporting materials for open space and stormwater improvements at the Maillet, Sommes and Morgan (Maillet) Conservation Area, comprising of 0 Lowell Street and 0 Willow Street in Reading, MA.

The proposed project is part of a larger, grant-funded effort through the Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness grant program (MVP) designed to address current and future flooding within the Mystic River Watershed and improve climate change resiliency and water quality while advancing environmental justice and open space connectivity.

The Town of Reading's site at the Maillet Conservation land was one of the priority sites originally identified to address the program goals and has been selected for design development and permitting. The project will involve installation of a constructed stormwater wetland system to address local flooding and improve water quality within the Aberjona River. The project also seeks to enhance existing resource areas through native plantings and invasive species control, as well as improve the existing trail system onsite with development of accessible trails, formalized trail markers, educational signage, and seating areas.

The proposed project/activities will occur within the buffer zone to Bordering Vegetated Wetland (BVW) associated with the Aberjona River, with a small BVW crossing to connect proposed constructed stormwater wetlands and trail systems. These jurisdictional areas are regulated under the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act (M.G.L. Ch. 131 § 40) and the Town of Reading General Bylaw (Section 7.1) and associated Wetlands Protection Regulations. Proposed mitigation includes local flooding and water quality improvements, wetland replacement and restoration, invasive species management, and restoration of native plant communities. It is anticipated that the entire project will result in an overall improvement to the interests protected by these resource areas.

Additionally, proposed open space improvements will support the recreational goals of the Reading Trail Committee and the Town's current Open Space and Recreation Plan, which include, but are not limited to, protecting open space for watershed protection and wildlife habitat; enhancing open space for passive recreation; making open spaces pedestrian and

bicycle friendly; improving or creating trails where possible; providing adequate wayfinding; and connecting open spaces.

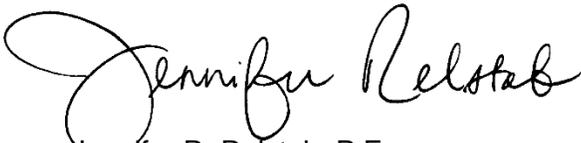
Details of the proposed project are shown on the site plans, entitled "Mystic River Watershed, Maillet Conservation Area, Reading, Massachusetts" dated May 2021, and described in the attached project narrative.

Enclosed please find 2 copies of the NOI application, supporting documentation, and site plans for the proposed project*. As this is a municipal project, the state filing fees are exempt, and the Applicant is seeking a waiver for any local filing fees. An electronic copy of all materials has been submitted as well and copied to the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP), Northeast Regional Office. HW has also sent notification of the pending public hearing to abutters in accordance with State and local filing regulations and policies.

Thank you in advance for your review of this NOI application. We look forward to meeting with you next month. If you have any questions and/or require additional information pertaining to this submittal, please contact me at (508) 833-6600 or at jrelstab@horsleywitten.com.

Sincerely,

Horsley Witten Group, Inc.



Jennifer R. Relstab, P.E.
Project Manager

Enclosures

cc: MassDEP, Northeast Regional Office
Alex Rozycki, P.E., Town of Reading
Ryan Percival, P.E., Town of Reading
Catherine Pedemonti, Mystic River Watershed Association
Patrick Herron, Mystic River Watershed Association

*Additional hard copies will be forwarded to Commission members as requested.