



Charles River Watershed Association

*Jac.
agenda
next week.*

From: Rita Barron, Executive Director

February 3, 1981

To: Charles River Riparian Municipalities
Office of the Mayor/Council/Selectmen/
Conservation Commission

Our contract with the Department of Environmental Management has been signed and CRWA is now fully authorized to proceed with the Charles River Corridor planning project about which we wrote some time ago. As the enclosed release indicates, we have selected Thomas M. Paine of Lincoln, a landscape architect, as our subconsultant to fulfill the major commitments of our contract.

Mr. Paine will be in touch with you in short order as he proceeds with updating the information previously gathered by CRWA. As the data are collected we will begin to schedule meetings with local officials and private land owners, and a series of workshops for the general public will come in due course. We are aware that many cities and towns along the Charles River have their officially-adopted open space plans and Mr. Paine is reviewing them. Needless to say there is every wish to coordinate our work for DEM with your local efforts. We are aware that significant portions of the Charles River shoreline are already enjoying the sort of stewardship that the Corridor proposes. To some extent we will concentrate on filling gaps.

I am designing a public involvement program and will be in communication with you informally as well as via scheduled sessions, I am sure. Please feel welcome to contact me at any point if you have a question or concern that can be addressed readily. All of us are eager to make this a thoughtful and useful project. The plan that emerges from our joint efforts must be implementable and that needs your support. We do not envision a Corridor Plan sitting on the proverbial shelf - we do envision a high-quality river system enjoyed by the residents of the watershed. The DEM/HCRS project is for us an incredible opportunity and we look forward to working closely with you during the coming months.

Rita Barron



Charles River Watershed Association

For immediate release

February 3, 1981

Contact: Rita Barron
527-2799 or
965-5975

The Charles River Watershed Association has announced the selection of landscape architect Thomas M. Paine of Lincoln to prepare a Charles River Corridor Plan under the terms of a contract recently executed between CRWA and the Department of Environmental Management. DEM announced last summer that CRWA had been chosen to receive a \$15,000 planning grant from the Heritage Conservation & Recreation Service. Mr. Paine grew up in the Charles River Watershed and attended school at Noble & Greenough in Dedham as well as Harvard College and Harvard University Graduate School of Design. He has an extensive professional background in historic and scenic preservation and open space design here and abroad.

The Charles River has been called a unique and priceless urban open space and recreational asset, according to CRWA Executive Director Rita Barron. Both DEM and HCRC have identified major stretches of the Charles in their respective river protection programs. CRWA's project will identify priority areas along the Charles River for both scenic preservation and recreational use. Detailed planning recommendations will be prepared for a so-called demonstration stretch from Mellen Street in Bellingham to the Cochrane Dam at Dover-Needham. Broader planning recommendations will be made for the segments upstream of Bellingham and downstream of the Cochrane Dam. An implementation strategy will be developed in cooperation with the affected communities and land owners. An extensive public involvement effort will include meetings, workshops, and media-supported information.

CRWA is a private non-profit organization dedicated to the improvement and protection of the Charles River and the enhancement of its recreational opportunities for the watershed's residents. CRWA's office is at 2391 Commonwealth Avenue in Auburndale. For more information about CRWA or the Corridor Project please call CRWA Executive Director Rita Barron (527-2799 or 965-5975).

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Comm. from Rita Barron, Exec. Dir., Charles
River Watershed Association, relative to
the Charles River Corridor planning
project.

In City Council,

Feb. 23, 1981

2/23/1981

To Cmg

And Environment

Committee

Copy sent to City Mgr
2/24/81 (22)

Copy sent to C. Crane of
the Environment Comm
2/24/81 (2)