



Department of Public Infrastructure

Manuel H. Silva
Acting Commissioner

Water
Wastewater
Highways
Engineering
Cemeteries
Park Maintenance
Forestry
Energy

CITY OF NEW BEDFORD

Jonathan F. Mitchell, Mayor

December 1, 2017

Craig P. Dixon, Chairman Conservation Commission
133 William Street Room 304
New Bedford MA 02740

Dear Mr. Chairman, Commission Members, and Conservation Agent,

This letter is provided in response to the concerns mentioned in the Nitsch Engineering letter dated November 20, 2017 associated with the South Coast Rail (SCR), Proposed Layover Facility Project. More specifically this letter addresses Nitsch Comment # 5 also highlighted in VHB memorandum dated November 28, 2017 concerning the adequacy of drainage design for Wamsutta Street storm water being discharged to the drainage swale located to the south side of Wamsutta Street.


The City of New Bedford Department of Public Infrastructure (DPI) met with MassDOT and VHB on November 29, 2017 to discuss the Wamsutta Street drainage improvements. It should be noted that cleaning of the existing drainage swale is under consideration as a future project by DPI to provide additional enhancement to the Wamsutta Street drainage system. Based on our discussion at the November 29 meeting, DPI concurs with VHB that the proposed 2'X 5' box culvert appears to be the most appropriate treatment for the Proposed Layover Facility Project. We therefore confirm that the approach in the Wamsutta Street drainage design by SCR is consistent with the design assumptions for the proposed outfall and downstream system.

It is our understanding that the projected construction start for this project is eighteen to twenty-four months away in the South Coast Rail overall schedule. During this intervening time, if DPI is able to implement changes to the existing drainage swale, SCR has agreed to coordinate efforts to accommodate the improved swale conditions. These efforts may include lowering the outfall invert of the proposed 2' X 5' box culvert and potentially expanding the vertical height of the culvert at no cost to the City and in mutual agreement.

We concur with VHB and recommend proceeding with approval for the Notice of Intent for the proposed culvert replacement on Wamsutta Street as part of the Layover Facility improvements as presented by VHB. The City of New Bedford herewith authorizes South Coast Rail to include the offsite work proposed in Wamsutta Street and in the City controlled drainage easement as depicted in the Notice of Intent filing as part of the Wamsutta Layover Facility project.

If there are any questions with respect to this authorization letter please don't hesitate to call our office to discuss at the Department of Public Infrastructure at 508 979-1550 extension 67325 to discuss this situation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'David Fredette', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

David Fredette
City Engineer
/df

Cc: Manuel H. Silva, Acting Commissioner