



CITY OF NEW BEDFORD
JONATHAN F. MITCHELL, MAYOR

May 16, 2017

Katie Theoharides, Director of Climate and Global Warming Solutions
Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs
100 Cambridge Street, Suite 900
Boston, MA 02114

Re: Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Program Grant Application: **FY 17: RFR ENV 17 POL 5**

Dear Ms. Theoharides,

The New Bedford Conservation Commission is pleased to provide a letter of support to the City of New Bedford's Department of Environmental Stewardship for their Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Grant Application. The Commission recognizes the threats from climate change, including the need to address sea level rise and the increase in storm intensities. Both sea level rise and the increase in storm intensity can impact infrastructure (including stormwater systems and flood control devices), private property and natural resources.

Under this grant application, the City plans to formulate a *Coastal Stormwater Management Capitol Plan*. This plan shall prioritize municipal upgrade projects based on community vulnerability, presence of combined sewer components, resource areas impacted, mitigation reliability, and feasibility of a long-term solution. This plan shall identify the critical pathways to protect the City's residents, infrastructure and natural resources. The Conservation Commission wholeheartedly supports the development of such a plan and looks forward to working with the Department of Environmental Stewardship on its development.

Very Truly Yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sarah Porter for".

Craig Dixon, Chairman
New Bedford Conservation Commission.