

Baker-Polito Administration Announces Location of Salisbury Beach's Future Welcome Center

Salisbury- Thursday, August 18, 2016- Today, Lieutenant Governor Karyn Polito joined with Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) Commissioner Leo Roy, and state and local officials to announce the location of Salisbury Beach's future Welcome Center. The new \$1.4 million facility, which will be designed, constructed, and maintained by the town, will be built at the Broadway Mall section of the beach, because of its central location.

"It is critical that seaside communities like the Town of Salisbury are provided with invaluable infrastructure that will increase tourism, bolster local economies, and elevate the level of enjoyment for all visitors to benefit from," said Lieutenant Governor Karyn Polito. "The future Welcome Center serves as an excellent example of our Administration's commitment to partnering with local communities to ultimately meet the needs of the public."

"The Department of Conservation and Recreation remains dedicated to its mission to protect, promote, and enhance the state's natural, cultural, and recreational resources for the public to benefit from and enjoy," said DCR Commissioner Leo Roy. "Ensuring quality amenities are accessible to the public will provide people and their families with more flexibility to enjoy the state reservation and the opportunity to better explore the area."

The Welcome Center will serve as a major upgrade that will provide beachgoers, business patrons, and visitors with high quality amenities when enjoying Salisbury Beach Center. The facility will feature bathrooms for the public to use, a DCR lifeguard break room for guards on duty at that portion of the state beach, and storage space for beach supplies. The Baker-Polito Administration authorized the spending of the \$1.4 million grant, which was secured by Senator Kathleen O'Connor Ives in a 2014 Environmental Bond Bill, to finance the Welcome Center.

"The Governor, Lt. Governor Polito, Secretary of Energy and Environmental Affairs, Matt Beaton, and DCR Commissioner Leo Roy, have from the beginning, shared our vision about the beach center's bright future and have truly been partners with us, in supporting strategic state investment in order to grow visitorship and tourism and to spur economic development," said State Senator Kathleen O'Connor Ives (D-Newburyport).

"This is an exciting day. I am grateful to Lt. Governor Polito, Governor Baker and Commissioner Roy who our office worked very hard with to secure this important funding for Salisbury," said State Representative Jim Kelcourse (R-Amesbury). "I am looking forward to joining the Lt. Governor and the Commissioner as we announce another great investment in the community."

To assist the town, the Department of Conservation and Recreation has provided the community with examples of coastal facility designs. Furthermore, the agency will require the Welcome Center to be elevated due to its close proximity to the coastal dunes.

The Welcome Center underscores the Baker-Polito Administration's commitment to ensuring the public continues to receive a high level of access to the state's beaches, parks, forests, and reservations, which will ultimately foster a love of nature, and encourage a healthy, active lifestyle. To read more about the state parks system, please visit the [DCR's website](#).

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The Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), an agency of the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, oversees 450,000 acres of parks and forests, beaches, bike trails, watersheds, dams, and parkways. Led by Commissioner Leo Roy, the agency's mission is to protect, promote, and enhance our common wealth of natural, cultural, and recreational resources. To learn more about DCR, our facilities, and our programs, please

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