

By Mr. Brett of Quincy, petition of Joseph E. Brett that the Metropolitan District Commission be directed to complete certain flood control projects on the Neponset River and to acquire land adjacent to the river for conservation and recreation purposes. Metropolitan Affairs.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Sixty-Seven.

AN ACT AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT COMMISSION TO COMPLETE CERTAIN FLOOD CONTROL PROJECTS ON THE NEPONSET RIVER AND TO ACQUIRE CERTAIN LANDS ADJACENT TO THE RIVER FOR CONSERVATION AND RECREATION PURPOSES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 The metropolitan district commission is hereby authorized and
2 directed to complete certain flood control projects on the Nepon-
3 set river including dredging of the waterway in order to assure
4 adequate protection to the valley during times of high water, to
5 give due consideration to the possibilities for the widening and
6 ponding of the river, to acquire certain lands and/or rights in
7 land adjacent to the river for the purposes of conservation and
8 recreation and to prepare an overall site plan for the develop-
9 ment of these lands. The primary objective of this program
10 shall be the preservation of the wetlands of the Neponset River
11 valley for conservation purposes, public control of the river
12 banks and the development of recreation areas and points of
13 access to the river consistent with conservation objectives.

14 In carrying out this authorization, the metropolitan district
15 commission shall coordinate its planning with the metropolitan
16 area planning council and with the boards and agencies including
17 but not limited to the planning boards and the conservation
18 commissions in the communities adjacent to the river. No con-
19 struction shall be undertaken until comprehensive acquisition
20 and development plans have been prepared and approved by the

21 metropolitan district commission and the metropolitan area
22 planning council.

23 The metropolitan district commission plans shall relate to local
24 open space and recreation systems, both existing and proposed,
25 and shall be consistent with the policies and objectives for the
26 development of the Neponset river set forth in the open space
27 and recreation plan for the Boston metropolitan area prepared
28 by the metropolitan area planning council in cooperation with
29 the metropolitan district commission and the department of
30 natural resources.

31 The metropolitan district commission shall take advantage of
32 any federal or state programs that assist in the acquisition or
33 development of open space and recreation land and is hereby
34 authorized to enter into contracts and agreements with any de-
35 partment, agency or subdivision of the federal or state govern-
36 ment and any individual, corporation, association or public au-
37 thority to provide or receive services, facilities, staff assistance
38 or money payments in connection with the work of the commis-
39 sion and the commission may contribute or receive services,
40 facilities, staff assistance or money payments as consideration in
41 such contracts and agreements. For the above purposes the
42 commission may expend for services and other expenses such
43 amounts as the general court may appropriate therefor together
44 with such amounts as the commission may receive under any
45 federal or state law or by gift, grant or contract from any source
46 including grants, bequests, gifts or contributions made by any
47 individual, corporation, association, public authority or agency
48 or subdivision of the federal or state governments. Any federal
49 or state reimbursements or grants shall be credited to the Metro-
50 politan Parks Trust Fund, (chapter 92, section 34 of the General
51 Laws) of the commission.

52 The metropolitan district commission is hereby authorized to
53 issue bonds to the extent of five million dollars of which not more
54 than two million, five hundred thousand dollars shall be used for
55 flood control and dredging, to carry out the aforesaid purposes.