

By Mr. Brett of Quincy, petition of Joseph E. Brett that the Metropolitan District Commission or the Department of Natural Resources be authorized to acquire certain lands adjacent to the Neponset River for conservation and recreational purposes. Urban Affairs.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Seventy-Four.

AN ACT AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT COMMISSION AND/OR THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES TO ACQUIRE CERTAIN LANDS ADJACENT TO THE NEPONSET 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 and the department of
2 natural resources each in its own area of responsibility is hereby
3 authorized and directed to acquire certain lands and/or rights in
4 land adjacent to the Neponset river for the purpose of conserva-
5 tion and recreation and to prepare an overall site plan for the
6 development of these lands. The primary objective of this pro-
7 gram shall be the preservation of the wetlands of the Neponset
8 river valley for conservation purposes, public control of the river
9 banks and the development of recreation areas and points of
10 access to the river consistent with conservation objectives.

11 In carrying out this authorization, the metropolitan district
12 commission and the department of natural resources shall coordi-
13 nate its planning with the metropolitan area planning council,
14 division of fisheries and game, and with the boards and agencies
15 including but not limited to the planning boards and the conser-
16 vation commissions in the communities adjacent to the river.

17 The metropolitan district commission and the department of
18 natural resources plans shall relate to local open space and recrea-
19 tion systems, both existing and proposed, and shall be consistent

20 with the policies and objectives for the development of the
21 Neponset river set forth in the open space and recreation plan
22 for the Boston metropolitan area prepared by the metropolitan
23 area planning council in cooperation with the metropolitan
24 district commission and the department of natural resources.

25 The metropolitan district commission and the department of
26 natural resources shall take advantage of any federal or state
27 programs that assist in the acquisition or development of open
28 space and recreation land and is hereby authorized to enter into
29 contracts and agreements with any department, agency or subdivi-
30 sion of the federal or state government and any individual,
31 corporation, association or public authority to provide or receive
32 services, facilities, staff assistance or money payments in connec-
33 tion with the work of the commission or department and the
34 commission or department may contribute or receive services,
35 facilities, staff assistance or money payments as consideration in
36 such contracts and agreements. For the above purposes the com-
37 mission or department may expend for service and other ex-
38 penses such amounts as the general court may appropriate there-
39 for together with such amounts as the commission or department
40 may receive under any federal or state law or by gift, grant or
41 contract from any source including grants, bequests, gifts or con-
42 tributions made by any individual, corporation, association, pub-
43 lic authority or agency or subdivision of the federal or state
44 governments. Any federal or state reimbursements or grants shall
45 be credited to the Metropolitan Parks Trust Fund, (chapter
46 ninety-two, section thirty-four of the General Laws) of the
47 commission.

48 The metropolitan district commission and/or the department
49 of natural resources is hereby authorized to issue bonds to the
50 extent of two million, five hundred thousand dollars to carry out
51 the aforesaid purposes.