



CITY OF NEWBURYPORT
OFFICE OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT
60 PLEASANT STREET • P.O. BOX 550
NEWBURYPORT, MA 01950
(978) 465-4400

MEMORANDUM

TO: **Honorable Members of the Newburyport City Council**

FROM: **Andrew R. Port, Director of Planning & Development**

CC: **Sean R. Reardon, Mayor**
Heather L. Shand, City Council President/Chair, Ad Hoc Committee on Market Landing Park Expansion

RE: **Late File Communication & Order – Market Landing Park Expansion Project**

DATE: **October 11, 2022**

As you know, this Department has been overseeing design, funding and other aspects of the long-awaited Market Landing Park Expansion project. Throughout the process to date the Council, and its designated Ad Hoc Committee, have provided guidance on both design and funding for the project.

Most recently the Council voted on 7/11/2022 to approve CPA bonding of \$3,000,000 to complete Phase I park improvements in spring 2023. We have since received confirmation of a \$400,000 grant award from the Massachusetts Division of Conservation Services (DCS) supplementing this and other funding sources for Phase I work. However, our ability to proceed with the timely preparation of complex bid plans and specifications suitable for public procurement in the weeks ahead is contingent upon a vote of the Council to approve the final schematic design plans pursuant to said bond order (see attached *ORDR00356 05 09 2022*). During the past few months Sasaki has worked to secure overlapping plan approvals from the Newburyport Planning Board given their jurisdiction under the Newburyport Zoning Ordinance. The final Planning Board approval/vote in relation to these project plans is expected on 10/19/2022. As such, **I hereby request a timely meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee on Market Landing Park Expansion, to be held tentatively on Tuesday 10/25/2022. I also request that the attached/associated Order relative to final plan approval, be accepted as a late file this evening, along with this memo/communication, and referred to said Ad Hoc Committee for consideration on 10/25/2022.** Attached to this memo and the Order are the most recent schematic plans and illustrations provided to us by the design team at Sasaki. Your timely approval of same would be greatly appreciated given the potential implications for design costs and bidding timeframes crucial to this project in the coming weeks.

Thank you in advance for your consideration, and your continued support for this long-awaited project.