



CHARLES RIVER

conservancy

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Dear Committee Members,

Since I cannot be at this meeting today, I am sending this letter. My name is Renata von Tscharner, the Founder and President of the Charles River Conservancy (CRC).

As you might know, the CRC has over 25,000 volunteers and supporters. Many of our annual 2,000 volunteers regularly work at Magazine Beach. The restoration of the Powder Magazine is a crucial component of rejuvenating the park at Magazine Beach. The curatorship program allows this to happen. I urge you to vote in favor of this bill.

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Re: S. 1966 - An Act enabling the Department of Environmental Management to lease real property Petruccelli

January 28, 2014

Good Morning,

I write to urge you to add Magazine Beach Park's Powder Magazine to DCR's Historic Curatorship Program. This program will allow DCR to lease out the 1818 structure in exchange for their expending the funds to convert it to a 21st century use. What a novel way to get things done in our current economy!

In the last few years DCR has begun to make improvements to Magazine Beach Park in Cambridge. They completed the pedestrian footbridge, removed the construction trailers, emptied the Powder Magazine, repaired benches and picnic tables, pruned trees, and removed graffiti. Also, in December, they put a rubber roof on the Magazine. In 2014 they will give the building a new roof, windows, doors and security lighting. But they don't have the money to actually activate the space.

Please vote to add the Powder Magazine to the Historic Curatorship Program. It will provide DCR with another tool to reactivate the park without spending taxpayer's dollars.

Thank you,

Renata von Tsharner