

Bill H.4138

An Act providing for the preservation and improvement of land, parks and clean energy in the Commonwealth.

Colloquially known as the Environmental Bond Bill, Bill 4138 in the Massachusetts House of Representatives was passed by the 188th General Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts on June 4, 2014. Full text can be read here: <https://malegislature.gov/Bills/188/House/H4138>

Notable inclusions in Bill H.4138:

Lines 125-127: “\$6,000,000 shall be expended to improve the water quality and sedimentation quality and river health of the Charles River to include sediment mitigation in accordance with the Clean Charles River Initiative.”

Lines 720-722: “\$20,000,000 shall be expended to complete the planning, design and construction of Phase II of the Historic Parkways Initiative along the section of the Memorial Drive between the Longfellow Bridge and the Boston University Bridge in the city of Cambridge.”

Amendment 187: “\$7,000,000 shall be expended for the design and construction of 3 pedestrian underpasses adjacent to the Boston-side of the Charles river at the River street, Western avenue and Anderson bridges; provided further, that the pathway leading to these underpasses shall not extend laterally toward the center of the Charles river further than the new underpass finished tunnel bores; provided further, that the pathway leading to these underpasses shall not extend over the watershed of the Charles river any further than the minimum distance required to achieve the required slope and grade specifications for the pathways to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act; and provided further, that the pathway structures and tunnels shall not alter the existing arches of said River street or Western avenue bridges or hinder or impede any navigable waterway through the existing arches of said bridges.”

We would like to thank **Representative Michael Moran** of the 18th Suffolk district for sponsoring Amendment 187 of H.4138 and **Representative Jay Livingstone** of the 8th Suffolk district for co-sponsoring Amendment 187 and including Lines 125-127 and 720-722 in H.4138.