

Final Inclusions to the Environmental Bond Bill

Bill H.4375: An Act providing for the preservation and improvement of land, parks and clean energy in the Commonwealth. Colloquially known as the Environmental Bond Bill, full text of Bill H.4375 can be read here: <https://malegislature.gov/Bills/188/House/H4375>

Notable inclusions in Bill H.4375:

“\$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.”

“\$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.”

“\$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 watersheet 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 Senator Sal DiDomenico and Representatives Jay Livingstone and Michael Moran for their efforts to see this language included.