



August 5, 2022

Massachusetts Board of Underwater Archeological Resources (BUAR)  
251 Causeway Street, Suite 800  
Boston, MA 02114

**Re: Project Notification Form  
Proposed Flood Control System Along Chicopee Falls  
Chicopee, Massachusetts**

Board of Underwater Archeological Resources:

As part of an ongoing effort to establish a site suitable for redevelopment, the City of Chicopee (the City) proposes improvements to several parcels along the Chicopee River. This project is the crucial first step in realizing these potential economic improvements in a former industrial area that has been dormant and drastically underutilized for decades. The enclosed project notification information (PNF) is provided for the BUAR's review as part of the Environmental Assessment being prepared for this work pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

The City plans to continue efforts to support the future redevelopment of a portion of the former Uniroyal complex located at 154 Grove Street and a portion of the former Facemate complex (A.K.A. "the Baskin Parcel") located at 75 West Main Street, both in Chicopee, Massachusetts (collectively referred to as "the Site"). The City proposes to accept and place contaminated fill material at the Site to facilitate future construction and redevelopment efforts consistent with local planning efforts and municipal zoning along the Chicopee River. Specifically, fill will be placed along the Chicopee Falls Local Protection Project flood control levee (the Levee) and a water intake structure and associated pumping station along the Chicopee River will be abandoned and filled (the Project). The existing undulating topography and buried/mitigated contamination currently presents development challenges; therefore, the Project will raise the Site up to approximately eight (8) feet to create a consistent development Site between elevations 98 feet and 100 feet (NAVD 88).

In order to protect the environment and the local community, the Project will implement a number of best management practices (BMPs) during construction to mitigate noise, air quality degradation, and construction-period stormwater runoff. Once fill is placed and the Site is brought to final grade, long-term stormwater management BMPs will be constructed and are anticipated to be adaptable to future development requirements. All stormwater management work will be performed at the new Site grade and any stormwater structures proposed for reuse will be retrofitted to the new target elevations to preclude the need for excavation.

As a priority Brownfields property, the Site offers a suitable location for the deposition of offsite soils with contaminant concentrations below the Reportable Concentrations specified under 310 CMR 40.0300 and 40.1600 to reduce the burden on New England landfills while supporting a crucial redevelopment effort for the City. All soil materials will be handled in accordance with the Anti-Degradation Provision of the Massachusetts Contingency Plan (MCP) at 310 CMR 40.0032(3) and are not anticipated to pose any significant risk to the future at-grade uses envisioned at the Site. The materials will also be handled in compliance with the City's Fill Management Plan, which has been submitted to MassDEP. The City will acquire all relevant permits and approvals to ensure compliance with the applicable regulations, including

obtaining coverage under the Construction General Permit (CGP) pursuant to the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination Systems (NPDES) program, obtaining coverage under the Massachusetts General Permit pursuant to the Clean Water Act, and securing an Order of Conditions from the Chicopee Conservation Commission.

The Massachusetts Historical Commission's online database was reviewed to identify any historic resources within or adjacent to the Project limits. The Massachusetts Historical Commission's online database (The Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System - MACRIS) lists the following resources:

- CHI.K – Fisk Rubber Company Complex (Inventoried Area)
- CHI.Q – Chicopee Manufacturing Company (Inventoried Area)

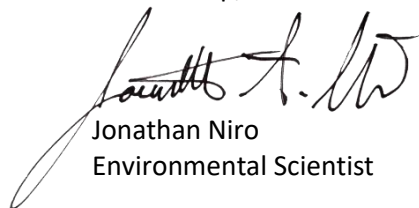
A Project Notification Form (PNF) was previously submitted to the Massachusetts Historical Commission (MHC) for the demolition of eight (8) structurally unsound buildings at the Site. The PNF was assigned MHC Project #46829 and a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) was subsequently issued by MHC on or about April 5, 2011. Inventoried buildings identified by MHC as CHI.553, CHI.554, and CHI.555 have been demolished following the issuance of the aforementioned 2011 MOA. The following inventoried buildings remain at the Site:

- CHI.228 – Fisk Rubber Company Office – 154 Grove Street (Inventoried Building)
- CHI.556 – Fisk Rubber Company Office Building and Garage – 154 Grove Street (Inventoried Building)

The Project does not propose any impacts to CHI.228 or CHI.556.

On behalf of the City of Chicopee, BETA Group, Inc. requests that the BUAR review the enclosed materials at its earliest convenience and provide any comments regarding the Project. Written comments should be submitted by email to Jonathan Niro at [jniro@BETA-inc.com](mailto:jniro@BETA-inc.com) or by mail at 89 Shrewsbury Street (Suite 300), Worcester, Massachusetts 01604. If you have any questions concerning the enclosed Project information, please feel free to contact Jonathan Niro at the provided email address or by phone at (774)-573-9694.

Very truly yours,  
BETA Group, Inc.



Jonathan Niro  
Environmental Scientist

Attachments: Project Notification Form  
Figure 1 – USGS Site Locus  
Construction Plans  
Photographic Documentation