



TOWN OF ORLEANS

19 SCHOOL ROAD ORLEANS MASSACHUSETTS 02653-3699
Telephone (508) 240-3700 — Fax (508) 240-3703
<http://www.town.orleans.ma.us>

BOARD OF
SELECTMEN
TOWN
ADMINISTRATOR

August 6, 2015

Mary-Joe Perry, District Highway Director
MassDOT
1000 County St.
Taunton, MA 02780

Re: Orleans Massachusetts
Request for Site Access

Dear Ms. Perry:

With this letter the Town of Orleans requests approval from the Massachusetts Department of Transportation, Highway Division, to enter the MassDOT property at the southeast quadrant of the cloverleaf on Route 6a and Route 6 (Exit 12) in Orleans to conduct preliminary investigations related to the feasibility of that site for groundwater recharge beds for treated effluent from the Orleans Wastewater Treatment Plant to be located approximately one-quarter mile to the north of the subject cloverleaf. The subject site is shown on the attached map entitled "Orleans, MA – Effluent Disposal Alternative". Also attached is a copy of the special legislation filed by Representative Peake and Senator Wolf (H.3697) to authorize the Town of Orleans to use this land for the purpose of underground disposal of treated wastewater effluent.

The reason for the Town's interest in the MassDOT property stems from our inability to identify other potentially feasible and available sites in Orleans to replace the existing discharge located near the current septage treatment facility, which discharges within the Namskaket Marsh watershed. This marsh has been designated an Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) by the state. Concerns about ecosystem protection of this ACEC have caused the Town to decide to abandon the current discharge location and find an alternative location relatively close to the septage plant and with suitable hydrogeologic conditions.

The preliminary site investigations to be conducted by the Town's consultants would include evaluating topographic conditions, preliminary assessment of ecological factors such as endangered species habitats and wetlands, soil profiles and groundwater conditions, including borings and test pit infiltration studies. This work would be defined explicitly in a detailed work plan, approved and overseen by the MassDEP and the Town's consultants and scheduled and coordinated fully with MassDOT environmental and engineering staff. Should the physical, environmental and hydrogeologic appear suitable, the Town would request further discussions

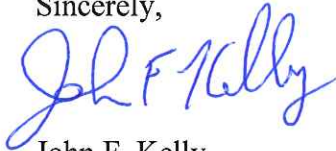
Mary-Joe Perry, District Highway Director
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with MassDOT related to use of the site. We note that a curb cut for access to the site already exists.

If you need additional information, please contact me at 508-240-3700 ext. 415 or Mike Domenica, the Town's consultant, at 617-869-2224. We will contact your office by phone to request a meeting, if it would be helpful, to further explain the background and details of this request.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



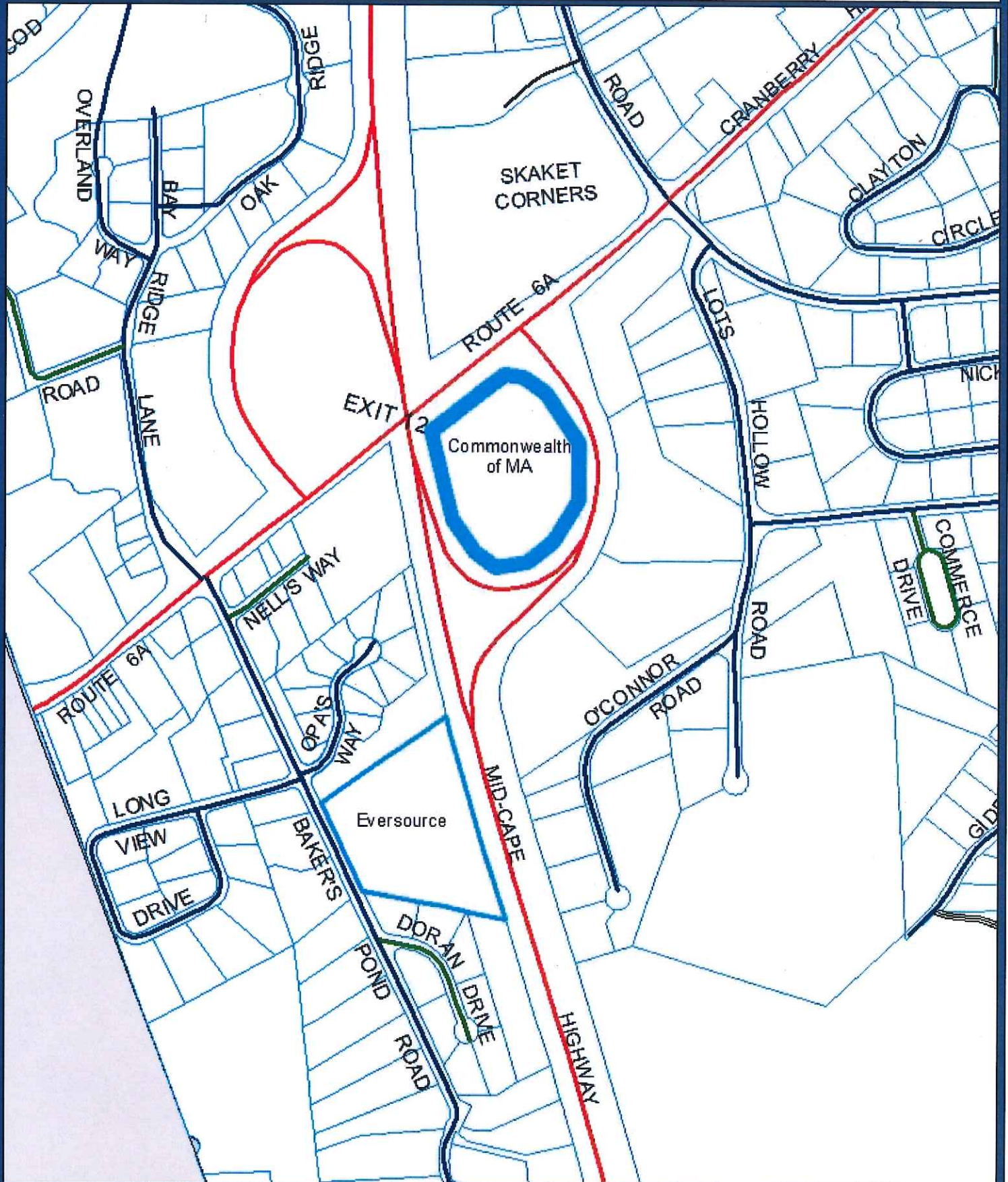
John F. Kelly
Town Administrator

cc: Board of Selectmen
Representative Sarah Peake
Senator Dan Wolf
George Meservey, Director of Planning
Andrea Coates, MADOT District Environmental Engineer
Mike Domenica, Water Resources Associates

Attachments (2)



Orleans, MA - Effluent Disposal Alternative



This map is illustrative and intended for planning purposes only. Orleans Planning, 2015



0 170 340 680 Feet

HOUSE No. 3697

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Sarah K. Peake and Daniel A. Wolf

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act authorizing the town of Orleans to use certain land of the commonwealth of Massachusetts under the control of the department of transportation highway division for wastewater disposal.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Sarah K. Peake</i>	<i>4th Barnstable</i>
<i>Daniel A. Wolf</i>	<i>Cape and Islands</i>

HOUSE No. 3697

By Representative Peake of Provincetown and Senator Wolf, a joint petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Sarah K. Peake and Daniel A. Wolf (by vote of the town) that the town of Orleans be authorized to use certain parcels of state owned land for wastewater purposes. State Administration and Regulatory Oversight. [Local Approval Received.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Eighty-Ninth General Court
(2015-2016)**

An Act authorizing the town of Orleans to use certain land of the commonwealth of Massachusetts under the control of the department of transportation highway division for wastewater disposal.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the
2 Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Transportation may authorize the town of
3 Orleans to use certain parcels of land currently under the care and control of the department of
4 Department of Transportation Highway Division for the purpose of the underground discharge of
5 treated wastewater effluent. The land to be used by the town is located within the layout of the
6 Mid-Cape Highway Route 6 Exit 12 Interchange. The use of the land shall be subject to the
7 terms and conditions as the Department of Transportation Highway Division may prescribe.

8 SECTION 2. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the town of
9 Orleans shall be responsible for all costs and expenses including, but not limited to, costs
10 associated with any engineering, surveys, appraisals, and document preparation related to the use

11 agreement authorized in section 1 as such costs may be determined by the Department of Public
12 Works.

13 SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon its passage.