



June 15, 2023

Mr. José Massó  
Chief of Human Services  
City of Boston  
1 City Hall Square  
Boston, MA 02201

Mr. Dion Irish  
Chief of Operations  
City of Boston  
1 City Hall Square  
Boston, MA 02201

Rev. Mariama White-Hammond  
Chief of Environment, Energy, and Open Space  
City of Boston  
1 City Hall Square  
Boston, MA 02201

Dear Chiefs Massó, Irish & White-Hammond,

Recently, the City of Boston elected to close the beach behind the Curley Recreation Center for the summer. Several years ago, the state's Division of Fisheries & Wildlife communicated that a Beach Operations & Maintenance Plan (BOMP) would have to be submitted after the completion of the renovation and restoration of the Bathhouse in order to re-open the beach. (This is required to open any beach across the Commonwealth.) In Boston, that requires approval of the Boston Conservation Commission (BCC), which has not received a BOMP submission by the City of Boston to date.

Given that summer is upon us and the need for public health and recreation facilities is dire for the children, families and seniors, we urge you to not close the beach and instead come together and submit a Beach Operations and Management Plan (BOMP) to the Boston Conservation Commission for approval.

If the City of Boston submits their BOMP to the Boston Conservation Commission before the June 21, 2023 deadline, it would be eligible for review and approval at the BCC's upcoming meeting on July 5, 2023. The residents of South Boston and neighborhoods across the city need access to the Curley Recreation Center's beaches this summer. They have waited long enough.

In addition, we thank you for supporting our request with the City of Boston's contracted non-profit partner, the Massachusetts Audubon Society, for an immediate removal of the wire fence extension off the Curley Recreation Center's M Street fence. The removal of this ill-advised structure will prevent further reports of injury and endangerment of the public.

While State officials are committed to supporting the City of Boston if any assistance is needed, on-site signage falsely suggesting that the state is somehow holding up the process should be removed. Regardless, the ball is in the City's court.

Again, we urge your expeditious action on this critical issue.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Nick Collins in blue ink.

Nick Collins  
State Senator

Handwritten signature of Michael Flaherty in black ink.

Michael Flaherty  
At-Large City Councilor

Handwritten signature of Erin Murphy in black ink.

Erin Murphy  
At-Large City Councilor

Handwritten signature of Ed Flynn in black ink.

Ed Flynn  
City Council President

Handwritten signature of David Biele in black ink.

David Biele  
State Representative

CC: Director of State Relations Ellen Quinn, Executive Director Elena Itämeri