

North Shore Water Resilience Task Force
September 28, 2022
DRAFT CHARTER SIGNING CEREMONY SUMMARY

Purpose:

- Review progress of current task force activities
- Formalize task force charter with signing ceremony
- Provide opportunity for task force member and legislator comments and press questions

Attendees

State and Congressional Legislators and legislative aids/staff: Senator Bruce Tarr, Michael Dougherty (Office of Sen. Tarr), Don Siriani (Office of Sen. Tarr), Kelly Bovio (Office of Congressman Seth Moulton), Liam Horsman (Office of U.S. Senator Ed Markey), Senator Joan Lovely, Tom Baranowski (Office of Rep. Minicucci), Representative Jamie Belsito, Representative Sally Kerans, Representative Tom Walsh, Michael Searles (Office of Rep. Walsh)

Task Force Members and Stakeholders: Katherine Antos, Erin Bonney Casey, Wayne Castonguay, Peter Clay, Chris Cole, Chris Cronin, Joe Domelowicz, Jim Engel, Greg Federspiel, Bob Fennell, John Fortin, Cecelia Gerstenbacher, Vicki Halmen, Kevin Harutunian, Curtis Johnson, Kristin Kassner, John Keeley, Bob LaBossier, David Lane, Joe Lobao, Kerry Mackin, Ken MacNulty, Erik Mansfield, Hanna Mogensen, Erik Mysliwy, Tim Olson, Ryan Percival, Brad Perron, Peter Phippen, Joscelyn Ruelle-Kersker, Andy Sheehan, Alan Taubert

Press: Paul Leighton (Salem News), John Muldeon (Ipswich Local News), Karyn Regal (WBZ)

Facilitators: Sara Cohen, Martin Pillsbury

Introduction

Senator Tarr welcomed all participants. He emphasized the historic nature of the charter signing event and his belief that it lays the groundwork for the hard work necessary to solve the water security and ecosystem challenges of the region together in a cooperative way.

Liam Horsman from Senator Ed Markey's office and Kelly Bovio from Congressman Seth Moulton's office both offered support on behalf of the U.S. congressional delegation. Senator Lovely and Representative Belsito also spoke to the group, expressing support for and the urgency of the Task Force's work.

Brief Task Force Updates

The facilitators provided updates on task force business:

- The task force will be issuing a press release in the coming weeks. A draft of this will be circulated to all task force members to ensure they feel appropriately represented and that the description of the task force is in keeping with the discussions and agreements of the group to date.

- The request for proposals drafted by the subcommittee for the initial \$100,000 of earmarked funds is being finalized by the procurement team at MAPC and will be issued in the coming weeks.
- The subcommittee will work to interview and select a vendor. They will come back to the full task force with *either* a recommendation for a vendor and final scope, *or* to address any large budget gaps that may emerge in vendor negotiations around the proposed scope.

Charter Signing

The twenty charter members were invited to sign the task force charter.

Sixteen members had representatives sign the charter at the ceremony: the Town of Andover, the City of Beverly, the Town of Boxford, the Town of Burlington, the Town of Danvers, the Town of Hamilton, the Town of Ipswich, the Ipswich River Watershed Association, the City of Lynn/Lynn Water and Sewer Commission, the Town of Middleton, the Town of North Andover, the City of Peabody, the Town of Reading, the Salem and Beverly Water Supply Board, the Town of Topsfield and the Town of Wenham.

The City of Salem and the Town of Wilmington both provided representatives to speak on behalf of their community's intention to sign the charter, but the designee was not able to attend the ceremony and will sign the charter at a later date.

The Town of Lynnfield/Lynnfield Center Water District and the Town of North Reading did not have a representative present to speak on behalf of their respective communities or sign the charter. Senator Tarr's office will be in touch with these communities to determine their participation on the task force.

Comments and Press

Kerry Mackin and Wayne Castonguay spoke on behalf of the importance of the Task Force's mission. Senator Tarr answered questions from press members Paul Leighton and Karyn Regal.

Next Steps

- ➔ The charter will be signed by those entities not able to provide a signature at the ceremony and signed copies will be distributed to all members.
- ➔ A draft press release will be circulated to Task Force members for review and approval with an opportunity for member communities and organizations to provide quotes to be included.
- ➔ The earmark scope subcommittee will issue the RFR, interview prospective vendors, and return to the full task force with recommended next steps.