



**RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT**  
**OFFICE OF WATER RESOURCES**  
235 Promenade Street  
Providence, Rhode Island 02908

April 17, 2025

City of Providence Parks Department  
c/o Brian Byrnes, Deputy Superintendent of Parks  
1000 Elmwood Avenue  
Providence, RI 02907

### **Freshwater Wetlands Permit**

Re: Application No. 25-0015 for the property and project located:

Approximately 30 feet east of Frederick C. Green Memorial Boulevard and approximately 1,250 feet southeast of its intersection with Temple Avenue, near Utility Pole No. 99, Assessor's Plat 90, Lot 157, Providence, RI.

Dear Mr. Byrnes:

Kindly be advised that the Department of Environmental Management's ("DEM") Freshwater Wetlands Program ("Program") has completed its review of your **Application for a Freshwater Wetlands Permit** as described in Rule 3.11 of the Rules and Regulations Governing the Administration and Enforcement of the Fresh Water Wetlands Act, 250-RICR-150-15-3 ("Rules"). This review included a site inspection of the above referenced property ("subject property") and an evaluation of the proposed construction of a pedestrian boardwalk over a pond, a new boat ramp, improvements to the existing parking lot, new parking areas, and restoration plantings with minor clearing and grading, landscaping and associated site alterations as illustrated and detailed on site plans submitted with your application. These site plans were received by the DEM on January 16, 2025.

Our observations of the subject property, review of the site plans and evaluation of the proposed project reveals that alterations of jurisdictional areas are proposed. However, pursuant to Rule 3.7.3B of the Rules, this project meets the Variance Criteria for Public and Governmental Bodies, and a **Freshwater Wetlands Permit** may be issued under the following terms and conditions:

#### **Terms and Conditions for Wetlands Application No. 25-0015:**

1. This letter is the DEM's permit for this project under the R.I. Fresh Water Wetlands Act, R.I. Gen. Laws § 2-1-18 et seq.
2. This permit is specifically limited to the project, site alterations and limits of disturbance as detailed on the site plans submitted with your application and received by the DEM on January 16, 2025. A copy of the site plans stamped approved by the DEM is enclosed. Changes or revisions to the project that would alter jurisdictional areas are not authorized without a permit from the DEM.
3. Where the terms and conditions of the permit conflict with the approved site plans, these terms and conditions shall be deemed to supersede the site plans.

4. You must notify this Program in writing of the anticipated start date, and of your contractor's contact information, by submitting the Notice of Start of Construction Form prior to commencement of any permitted site alterations or construction activity. You must also notify this Program in writing upon completion of the project. The Start of Construction Form can be found on the webpage: [dem.ri.gov/stormwaterconstruction](http://dem.ri.gov/stormwaterconstruction).
5. A copy of the stamped approved site plans and a copy of this permit must be kept at the site at all times during site preparation, construction, and final stabilization. Copies of this permit and the stamped approved plans must be made available for review by any DEM or city representative upon request.
6. Within ten (10) days of the receipt of this permit, you must record this permit in the land evidence records of the City of Providence and supply this Program with written documentation obtained from the City showing this permit was recorded.
7. The effective date of this permit is the date this letter was issued. This permit expires five (5) years from the date of this letter unless renewed pursuant to the Rules.
8. Any material utilized in this project must be clean and free of matter that could pollute any jurisdictional area.
9. Prior to commencement of site alterations, you shall erect or post a sign resistant to the weather and at least twelve (12) inches wide and eighteen (18) inches long, which boldly identifies the initials "DEM" and the application number of this permit. This sign must be maintained at the site in a conspicuous location until such time that the project is complete.
10. Temporary erosion and sediment controls detailed or described on the approved site plans shall be properly installed at the site prior to or commensurate with site alterations. Such controls shall be properly maintained, replaced, supplemented, or modified as necessary throughout the life of this project to minimize soil erosion and to prevent sediment from being deposited in any freshwater wetland, buffer, floodplain, or other jurisdictional areas not subject to disturbance under this permit.
11. Upon permanent stabilization of all disturbed soils, temporary erosion and/or sediment controls must be removed.
12. You are obligated to install, utilize, follow, and maintain all best management practices detailed or described on the approved site plans in the construction of the project to minimize or prevent adverse impacts to any adjacent freshwater wetland, buffer or floodplain, or other jurisdictional areas and the functions and values provided by such freshwater wetlands and buffers or floodplain.
13. All plantings of shrubs, trees or other forms of vegetation as shown or detailed on the approved plans, or detailed in this permit, must be installed as soon as possible after completion of final grading; weather and season permitting. You must notify this Program in writing upon completion of the required plantings for a compliance inspection by a Program representative.
14. Mitigation or screen plantings of trees and/or shrubs proposed between the project and any adjacent freshwater wetland areas and buffers except for necessary replacement, must be allowed to develop naturally without being subjected to mowing or manicuring.
15. Any plantings which fail to survive one full growing season shall be replaced. Replacement plantings shall be similarly guaranteed for one full growing season.

16. Any areas where infiltration is proposed that are identified in the soil erosion and sediment control plan to be used for construction activities where compaction or activities that will reduce infiltration capacity can be expected, (staging, fueling, vehicle washout, etc.) shall have their infiltration capacity restored to the design level. This shall be confirmed with infiltration testing in the field.
17. The proposed permeable pavers and pervious pavement shall be maintained as specified in Stormwater Rule 250-RICR-150-10-8.22(H):
  - a) A legally binding and enforceable maintenance agreement shall be executed between the facility owner and the responsible authority.
  - b) Areas where infiltrating permeable pavement practices are proposed shall not serve as a temporary sediment control device during site construction phase.
  - c) Permeable paving surfaces require regular vacuum sweeping or hosing (minimum every three months or as recommended by manufacturer) to keep the surface from clogging. Maintenance frequency needs may be more or less depending on the traffic volume at the site.
  - d) Minimize use of sand and salt in winter months.
  - e) Do not repave or reseal with impermeable materials.
  - f) The SESC Plan shall specify at a minimum:
    1. How sediment will be prevented from entering the pavement area;
    2. A construction sequence;
    3. Drainage management; and
    4. Vegetative stabilization.

Pursuant to the provisions in 250-RICR-150-15-3.8.13 and 250-RICR-150-15-3.14.4(A), as applicable, any properly recorded and valid Freshwater Wetlands Permit is automatically transferred to the new owner upon sale of the property.

You are required to comply with the terms and conditions of this permit and to carry out this project in compliance with the Rules at all times. Failure to do so may result in an enforcement action by this Department and/or subject you to the enforcement provisions of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineer's regulations.

In permitting the proposed alterations, the DEM assumes no responsibility for damages resulting from faulty design or construction.

Kindly be advised that this permit is not equivalent to a verification of the type or extent of freshwater wetlands or jurisdictional areas on site. Should you wish to have the types and extent of freshwater wetlands verified, you may submit the appropriate application in accordance with 250-RICR-150-15-3.9.3.

This permit does not remove your obligation to obtain any local, state, or federal approvals or permits required by ordinance or law and does not relieve you from any duties owed to adjacent landowners with specific reference to any changes in drainage.

If you have not already done so, or in order to check on the status of their review, please contact the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to determine federal permit requirements on your project. Write the Corps' New England District, Regulatory Branch, 696 Virginia Road, Concord, MA 01742-2751; website: <https://www.nae.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory/or> email at [cenac-r-ri@usace.army.mil](mailto:cenac-r-ri@usace.army.mil). Please note that the Department of the Army authorization must be obtained before any work is initiated in areas subject to Corps jurisdiction.

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Please contact Jessica Lord of this office (telephone: 401-537-4249) should you have any questions regarding this letter.

Sincerely,



Martin D. Wencek, Environmental Scientist IV  
Office of Water Resources  
Freshwater Wetlands Program  
MDW/JAL/jal

Enclosure: Approved site plans

cc: Elizabeth Waterhouse, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New England District  
Todd Turcotte, PE, Vice President, Pare Corporation  
Seaver Anderson, Senior Environmental Scientist, Pare Corporation