May 4, 2023

Kara Runsten, MVP Program Manager Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs 100 Cambridge Street, Suite 900 Boston, MA 02114

Re: Taking Root: Expanding the Ayer-Devens Pocket Forest Project – Action Grant Application

Dear Ms. Runsten.

This letter serves as confirmation that the Devens Enterprise Commission (DEC), in partnership with the Town of Ayer (MVP grant co-applicants), together commit to match, at minimum, 25% of the total "Taking Root: Expanding the Ayer-Devens Pocket Forest Project" cost with In-Kind Contributions through municipal/organizational professional staff service hours and project construction materials.

Through this letter, the DEC confirms an In-Kind Contribution/Match in the amount of \$, which includes a combination of \$ in cash for the project and \$ in labor. This letter also serves as confirmation that all In-Kind matching funds/contributions provided to the Project by the DEC have been approved by the Commission.

The DEC acknowledges that the funding under this MA Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs (MVP) Grant will be provided on a reimbursement basis.

The DEC is excited to again partner with the Town of Ayer on this regional project that will bring together the communities and school systems to learn, engage, prepare, plant and monitor additional pocket forests in both communities, while impacting a diverse population and building on our previous MVP work: integrating the natural and built environment to adapt and mitigate the impacts of climate change. The co-benefits (creating safer, healthier, and more socially engaging spaces and places for people), and replicability of this project make it even more exciting and worthwhile. We hope you will agree and look forward to hearing from you!

Sincerely,

Peter Lowitt, FAICP

Director/Land Use Administrator

