

Kim Szeto
New England Foundation for the Arts
1000 Washington Street, 2nd Floor
Boston, MA 02118

Annis Sengupta
Metropolitan Area Planning Council
60 Temple Place
Boston, MA 02111

October 25, 2022

Re: Devens Making It Public Application Support

Dear Ms.Szeto and Ms. Sengupta,

I am writing on behalf of the Devens Enterprise Commission (DEC) in support of the Devens Grant Application to request training, technical assistance, and funding for the “**Making It Public: Devens Community Art Project**”. This project builds on ongoing efforts to create meaningful connections between Devens’ history, culture, and natural environment. The project’s focus on building staff capacity to support equitable community engagement and public art development will complement the Devens focus to integrate the natural and built environments and engage in public processes with our businesses, residents, and regional partners.

The DEC strongly supports this grant application, including its intent to increase visibility and accessibility to public art which will highlight our culture and history, through opportunities to connect with existing resources like the United Native American Cultural Center and the Fort Devens Museum. There will also be an opportunity to highlight sustainability in art in partnership with Devens’ The Great Exchange and give new artistic life to otherwise discarded resources.

The Devens Enterprise Commission was created by Chapter 498 of MGL Acts of 1993 with a mission of insuring that Devens became a model of Sustainable Redevelopment of a former military base (Fort Devens) and that it serves as a model for regional collaboration. We believe this project advances both of these goals set forth in the Devens Reuse Plan and will allow us to work a diverse sent of partners and celebrate the uniqueness of Devens.

The DEC supports the overall proposal and will join the efforts to educate and engage the community around the value of public art, sustainability in public art, and equitable and diverse engagement. We look forward to the opportunity to participate in and support the project.

Sincerely,

William P. Marshall, Chairman
Devens Enterprise Commission



DEVENS ENTERPRISE COMMISSION
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