

January 15, 2007

Micheal J. Powers
CT-DEP Inland Fisheries Division
Housatonic River Natural Resources Restoration Project
79 Elm Street
Hartford, Connecticut 06106-5127

RECEIVED
JAN 17 2007
INLAND FISHERIES

Re: Submission of Phase 1 Grant Application Materials
"Car-top" Boat launches in the Town of Kent

Dear Mr. Powers:

As specified in the "Instructions for the Preparation and Submission of Restoration Project Proposals", I am sending you the following materials:

1. Part A. Responder and Project Summary Form
2. Part B. Project Narrative, Project Location and Criteria Statements.
3. Part C. Supporting materials including conceptual plans for the two boat launch sites and letters of support from the Town of Kent Board of Selectman and Conservation Commission.

One original and six (6) copies are being provided. Electronic copies of the application materials are also included with the "hard copy."

We look forward to your invitation to submit more detailed information concerning the project.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

Sincerely,



Bart Clark, P.E.

Licensed in Connecticut and New York

cc: Ruth Epstein, First Selectwoman, Town of Kent
Bruce Adams, Chairman Town of Kent Park and Recreation Commission
Sandra Cox, Housatonic Valley Paddle Club

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Car-top Boat” Launches in the Town of Kent

PART A – Responder and Project Summary Form

Request for Proposals:

**HOUSATONIC RIVER NATURAL RESOURCES RESTORATION PROJECT
CONNECTICUT SUBCOUNCIL REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)**

Part A: RESPONDER AND PROJECT SUMMARY FORM

Please read "RFP: Overview of Selection Process" before completing this form.

Part A must be completed using Submittal Form A.

Responses may be entered electronically using the Microsoft Word version of Part A of this form available on the Housatonic River Basin Natural Resource Restoration Project in Connecticut website (www.housatonicrestoration.org), saved and printed. Alternatively, the responder may print the form and complete it with black ink.

An Adobe Acrobat version of the entire form (Part A and Part B) is also available on the Housatonic River Basin Natural Resource Restoration Project in Connecticut website

Project Name Provide a brief working name.

"Car-top" Boat Launches in the Town of Kent

Responder – if there is more than one party involved in the project, please provide the information for the primary or lead party.

Bart Clark

Name

Title

27 Reverie Lane

Address

Address

Warren, CT 06754

City

State

Zip

860-868-1367

Phone

oakwoodea@optonline.net

Email

Type of Entity

Check the box that best describes the primary respondent.

Private individual

Non-profit organization

Municipal government

State government

County government

Federal government

Tribal government

Corporation or Business

Academic Institution

Other (explain)

Project Implementation

Does the responder plan to be the Project Sponsor and respond to the Request for Supplemental Information (RSI) pending approval of this Proposal?

Yes No

If yes, please list any other project participants. Currently developing a Broader group of participants

If the responder does **NOT** plan to be the Project Sponsor and does **NOT** intend to respond to the Request for Supplemental Information (RSI), is the responder interested in being a project participant and assisting a different Project Sponsor on this project?

Yes No

Request for Proposals:

Restoration Priority Funding Category See Sec. 3 of "RFP: Overview of Selection Process" for category descriptions.

Primary Restoration Category. Check the restoration category that is the primary goal of the project.

Check one box.

- Aquatic Natural Resources Restoration/Enhancement
 Riparian & Floodplain Natural Resources Restoration/Enhancement
 Restoration/Enhancement of Recreational Uses of Natural Resources

Secondary Categories. Check all relevant boxes.

- Aquatic Natural Resources Restoration/Enhancement
 Riparian & Floodplain Natural Resources Restoration/Enhancement
 Restoration/Enhancement of Recreational Uses of Natural Resources

List Specific Injured Natural Resources and/or Impaired Natural Resource Services to Benefit from Project

The stretch of the River that Runs from Housatonic Meadows State Park to Bridge Street (Rte 341) in Kent is very lightly used for boating and fishing activities. This is primarily due to the lack of formal access to the River. There are only two Boat Ramps, one in Falls Village and one in Housatonic Meadows State Park. The additional Boat Ramps would allow easier and controlled access to River for a greater length of the River.

Project Location (if known) See directions and "RFP: Overview of Selection Process" for additional materials to provide (maps, aerial photographs)

Municipality/ies:

Town of Kent

Longitude for approximate center of project area: Site 1 - 73d 28.298'W and Site 2 - 73d 26.341'W

Latitude for approximate center of project area: Site 1 - 71d 44.287N and Site 2 - 41d 46.034N

Project Budget Estimate (if known)

Total Project Cost Estimate: \$ 700,000

Housatonic River NRD Fund Estimate: \$

Car-top Boat” Launches in the Town of Kent

PART B – Project Narrative

I. IDENTIFY PROJECT GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**A. Project Description**

The project proposes to create a series of boat launches. The purpose of the project is to restore recreation access to the River by providing a way for boaters to safely enter and leave the River. The use of the sites is primarily for use by individuals. Commercial use is not expected to be a large part of the use, although being a public launch commercial use would not be prohibited.

The Boat Launches are anticipated to be designed in accordance with the National Park Service publication, "Logical Lasting Launches, Design Guidance for Canoe and Kayak Launches. (2004)" The launch area themselves are anticipated to follow the Guidance for "Chapter 4. Simple Launches" except where improvements may be needed for Accessibility. There will be facilities for car parking, Litter Control and Handicap access.

The project is located in areas that have historically been used for boat launching, although no formal access is currently provided at these locations. A vicinity map showing the locations of the two launches and Arial photos with general design information is attached to this application.

B. How project Goals Relate to CT SubCouncil Goals

The following table list the goals and objectives stated in Item 2 of the "Request for Proposals: Overview of Selection Process" and how the project relates to these goals:

Connecticut SubCouncil Goals	Resources	Services
Restore		The project would restore a service allowing increased use of the recreational resource in the section of the River from Cornwall Bridge to Kent.
Sustainable Benefits		The interest in boating and fishing on the River is likely to increase as the population increases in the area. Having well designed areas for access will allow some control of the impacts that will occur with increased traffic, erosion of the river banks, accumulation of litter, etc. Without the improvements, the ability to control the traffic and its impacts would be greatly diminished.
Measurable Benefits		The benefits would be measured by the number of visits to each launch.
Integrate Public Participation		The areas, especially at the Museum site, could potentially include educational displays to advertise all of the Restoration Efforts up and down the River. Having boat launches in close proximity to schools would encourage use of the facilities for educational purposes.
Avoid Impacts		Due to the nature of the past activities at each site, the impacts would be very small. Both sites are currently used for this type of activity and current and past activities that have been more intense in nature.
Mitigate Impacts		Any impact due to increased traffic the adjacent Housatonic Wildlife Management Area could be mitigated during the project design which could include fencing and signage. The potential impact to archeological resources at the Museum Launch could be mitigated based on information obtained during archeological investigations during project design.

II. PROJECT BENEFITS

The project proposed will provide the following benefits:

- Provide a formal boat launch on the River in an area historically used as a launch at North Kent Road;
- Provide the ability to maintain the areas to limit the impacts to the river that would occur without formal access (including more direct access by law enforcement);
- Provide a parking area at North Kent Road for use by Boaters using the River and Hunters using the Housatonic Wildlife Management Area;
- Provide the only public boat launches South of Housatonic Meadows State Park and North of CT Rte 341 in Kent (and the only accessible ones north of New Milford);
- Provide a launch to the faster water below North Kent, a way to leave the River and a launch to the slower waters south of the Museum without using private property; and
- Provide potential access to public transportation via rail passenger service and Bus due to its proximity to Rte 7 and the Housatonic Rail Road for persons who use the boat launch.

III. GENERAL TASKS

After a commitment to the Project from the Connecticut SubCouncil, the following general tasks will need to be completed:

- Finalize agreements with Sponsoring Parties and State Agencies involved
- Survey of the Launch areas
- Conceptual Design
- Conceptual Design Review by Sponsoring Parties
- Preliminary Design
- Preliminary Design Review and conceptual approval by Sponsoring Parties
- Preliminary Design Review by Regulatory Agencies (Regulatory Agencies would include the Army Corps of Engineers, the CTDEP, the Town of Kent Selectman, the Town of Kent Wetlands Commission, the Town of Kent Planning and Zoning and the National Park Service)
- Advanced Detail Design Plans
- Advanced Detail Design by Sponsoring Parties
- Advanced Detail Design Plan Review by Approving Authorities
- Preparation of Construction Specifications and Contract Documents
- Advertisement for Bids
- Let Construction Contracts
- Perform Construction

IV. A WORD ABOUT OUR SPONSORS

The persons involved with this application are in the process of forming a group of interested organizations that would sponsor the second phase of the application process, if the SubCouncil invites the submission of more information, and the longer term maintenance of the facilities if constructed. Groups that have expressed interest and support in the Project include: the Town of Kent, Board of Selectman; the Kent Conservation Commission; the Kent Chamber of Commerce; the Housatonic Valley Paddle Club. Formal letters of support are attached where provided.

We have discussed the project with the CTDEP Wildlife Division, the Boating Division, the CT Historic Preservation & Museum Division, the National Park Service and the CT Appalachian Mountain Club, Trails Committee. The input of all parties contacted to date has been used to develop the scope of this proposal and will continue to be solicited throughout the life of the project.

I. CRITERIA STATEMENTS

A. Does the proposal contain the information identified by the CT SubCouncil as set out in the "Instructions for the Preparation and Submission of Restoration Project Proposals"?

Based on the Instructions, there are three Parts to the submittal: Part A – the Responder and Project summary Form; Part B – the Project Narrative, location and Criteria Statements; and Part C Supporting materials such as maps, plans and photographs. One original and 6 copies are being provided with this application.

B. Does the Proposed Project restore, rehabilitate, replace and/or acquire natural Resources or natural resource services equivalent to those that were injured by release of PCBs or other hazardous substances from the GE facility at Pittsfield, MA?

The Project Restores and enhances the ability to use the River as a recreational resource by providing clean access to the River for canoes, kayaks and fishermen.

C. Is the Proposed Project, or any portion of the Proposed Project, an action that is presently required under other federal, state or local law, including, but not limited to, enforcement actions?

There appears to be no current requirement to provide boat launches on the Housatonic River by any Federal, State or Local Laws.

D. Is the Proposed Project inconsistent with any federal, state or local law or policy?

Based on the research prepared for this project and application, Federal, State and Local laws and/or policy will have an impact on the development of the project. While these laws and policies may impact the scope and impact of the design, there are no portions of the project that appear inconsistent with them. The laws and policies are described below:

On the Federal Level, portions of the North Kent Boat Launch area may need to be within areas that are governed by the terms and policies of the National Park Service due to a scenic easement for the Appalachian Trail. Based on the research, there appears to be means and methods to satisfy the concerns of the National Park Service by insuring the detailed designs include means to address their concerns. Additionally, the Army Corps of Engineers will need to be one of the approving agencies for both launches. Based on past experiences with the Corps, there appears to be means and methods for the launches at both sites to satisfy typical concerns for this type of facility.

On the State level, portions of the North Kent Boat Launch may be on the lands of the Housatonic Wildlife Management Area. Based on conversations with DEP personnel, a boat launch and limited parking area would not be inconsistent with the uses intended for the Area. For the Sloane-Stanley Museum Site, the Connecticut Historic Preservation & Museum Division indicates that there is a State Archaeological Preserve near the area proposed for the launch, so, special procedures may need to be followed prior to construction but it currently does not appear to be inconsistent with policies. Additionally, the CTDEP will also be an approving agency for the launches due to streambank disturbances, etc.

Car-top Boat” Launches in the Town of Kent
PART C – Supporting Materials

North Kent
Boat Launch

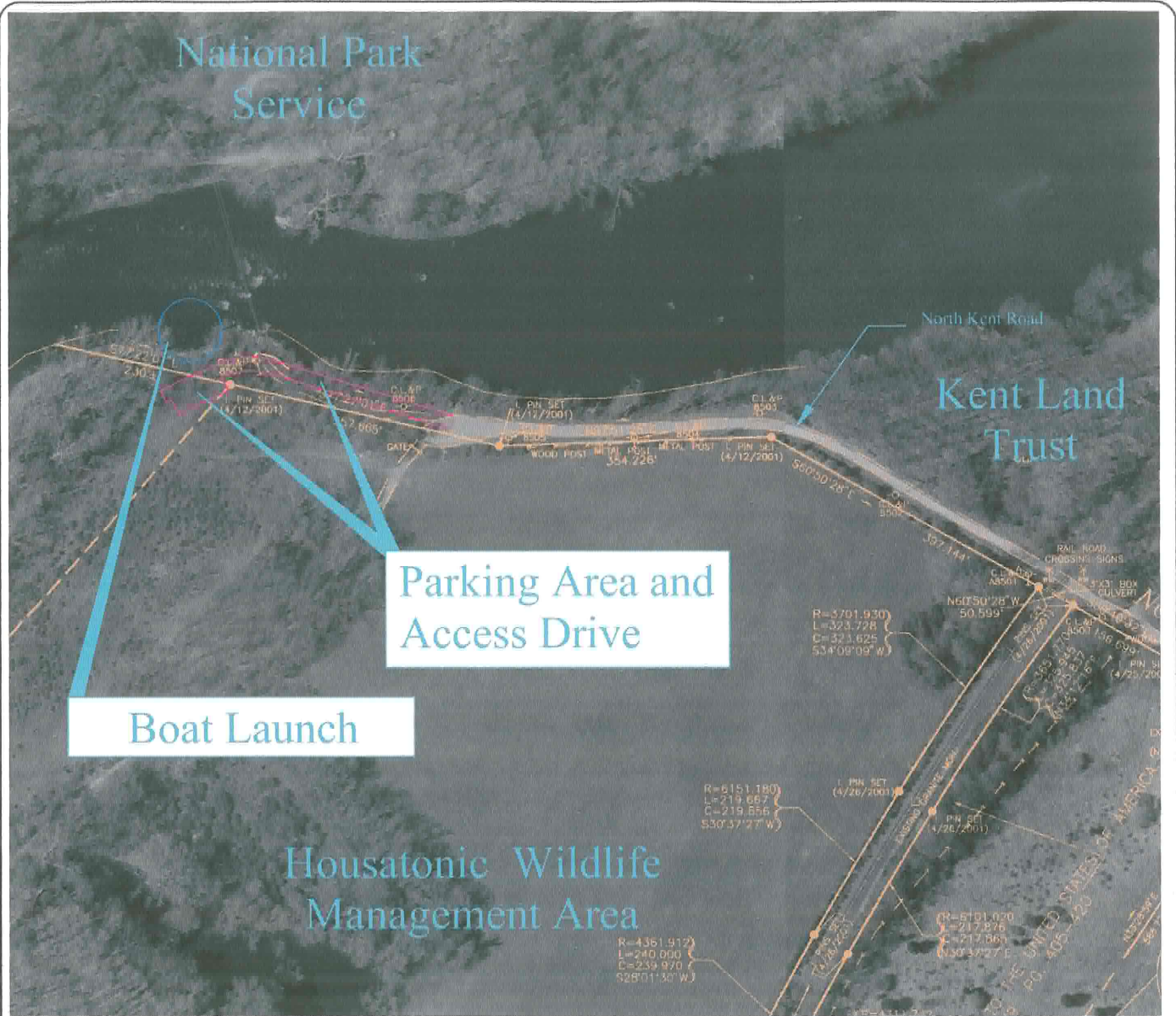
Sloane-Stanley
Museum Boat Launch

Notes:

Oakwood Environmental
Associates
27 REVERIE LANE
WARREN, CONNECTICUT 06757
(860) 868-1367

Kent Boat Launch
Kent Center
Kent Connecticut

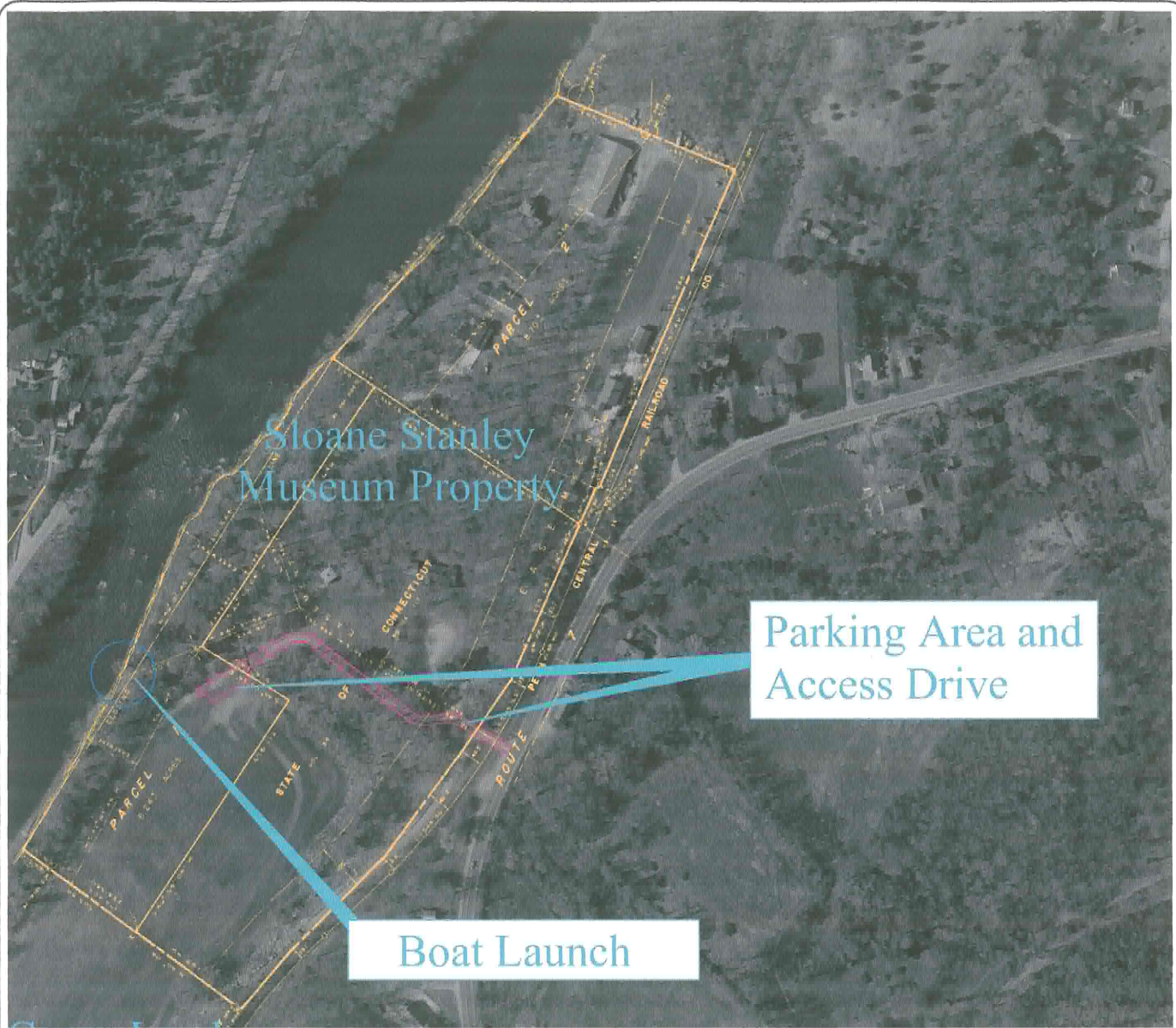
SHEET TITLE: Concept Plan					
DATE: 1/15/2007	SCALE: 1"=200'	DRAWN BY: [initials]	CHECKED BY: [initials]	PROJ. NO.:	DWG. NO.: 1 of 3



Notes:
 1. Removed west boat ramp. 1/7/2007

Oakwood Environmental Associates
 27 REVERIE LANE
 WARREN, CONNECTICUT 06757
 (860) 868-1367

Kent Boat Launch					
Kent,		North Kent Road Connecticut			
SHEET TITLE: Concept Plan					
DATE:	SCALE:	DRAWN BY:	CHECKED BY:	PROJ. NO.:	DWG. NO.:
12/2/2006	1"=200'	bc	-		2 of 3



Sloane Stanley
Museum Property

Parking Area and
Access Drive

Boat Launch

Casey Land

Notes:
 1. Added boundaries from Howland map.
 1/7/2007
 2. Removed Ped Bridge 1/12/2007

Oakwood Environmental
 Associates
 27 REVERIE LANE
 WARREN, CONNECTICUT 06757
 (860) 868-1367

Kent Boat Launch
 Sloane Stanley Museum
 Kent Connecticut

SHEET TITLE: Concept Plan

DATE	SCALE	DRAWN BY	CHECKED BY	PROJ. NO.	DWG. NO.
12/16/2006	1"=200'	bc	-		3 of 3



TOWN OF KENT, CONNECTICUT 06757

41 Kent Green Boulevard
P.O. Box 678
Kent, CT 06757-0678
(860) 927-4627
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January 9, 2007

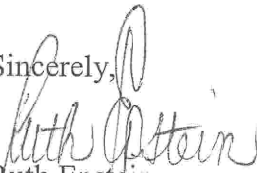
Bart Clark
27 Reverie Lane
Warren, CT 06754

Dear Bart:

The Kent Board of Selectmen gives its support to the concept of your proposal to install boat launches on two sites at the Housatonic River: south of the Sloane-Stanley Museum site and on North Kent Road. Members understand that you will be seeking funds for the project through the Housatonic Resource Recovery Project grant.

Should the plan come to fruition, it would provide for increased recreational usage of the river, which would benefit both the town of Kent and its visitors.

Sincerely,



Ruth Epstein
First Selectman

cc: Selectman Vincent LaFontan
Selectman Nancy O'Dea-Wyrick

KENT CONSERVATION COMMISSION

41 KENT GREEN BOULEVARD
KENT, CONNECTICUT 06757

December 28, 2006

Ms. Ruth Epstein, First Selectman
Ms. Nancy O'Dea-Wyrick, Selectman
Mr. Vincent LaFontan, Selectman
Kent, CT 06757

Dear Selectmen:

The Kent Conservation Commission has reviewed the preliminary project description written by Bart Clark of Oakwood Environmental Associates in regard to applying for grant monies to be administered by the Housatonic Resource Recovery Project (HRRP). We are unanimous in conveying our strong support for the essentials of his proposal, which is to construct two boat landings along the river, one of them in the vicinity of the Sloan-Stanley Museum and a second at a site yet to be determined.

We believe that Mr. Clark's proposal has a number of merits. First, it satisfies one of HRRP's criteria for eligibility, namely it enhances the recreational potential of the river for Kent citizens as well as for visitors who may wish to bring kayaks and canoes from elsewhere to explore our beautiful river. We also believe that while our commission has considered a number of projects on which we might like to see HRRP monies spent--boating access being just one of them--there is little time or manpower to put together sufficient data to get a serious proposal ready in the time allowed. Mr. Clark's proposal, by contrast, is close to being ready to go right now.

We also believe that Mr. Clark's proposal has built into it a number of safeguards and controls that give his boat landings long-term supervision and support from state agencies, namely the fact that the dollars invested will be spent primarily on state-owned land using state-owned parking facilities and the like. This makes the idea attractive in the short term and in the long term and should generate few if any costs locally. At the same time it will providing a substantial return to local businesses in the form of tourist dollars. Regarding the pedestrian bridge, however, we feel that this is a good idea that needs further consideration and may not be suitable for this current grant application.

We urge you to give the boat landings proposal your whole-hearted support as Mr. Clark prepares for the first go-round in the grant process, namely being chosen for eligibility, through submission of his first papers on January 19th. The Kent Conservation Commission intends to work with Mr. Clark as he needs assistance and guidance in meeting whatever additional requirements HRRP may raise.

Sincerely,

Shaun McAvoy, Denis DePaul, Barrie Birge, Boone Moore, Wendy Murphy, Laurie Doss and Jos Spelbos