

05/19/2021

Jennifer R. Cervenka, Chair  
Rhode Island Coastal Resource Management Council  
4808 Tower Hill Road  
Wakefield, RI 02879-1900

RE: RI CRMA Application # 2021-03-003/Walker Farm Resilience & Recreation Improvements

Dear Ms. Cervenka,

I am writing to support the Town of Barrington's application for approval from the RI-CRMC for improvements to the Town owned Walker Farm recreation area on 100-Acre Cove.

I am JeanMarie Jungman-Josephson and I have lived in Barrington, and Rhode Island, for about 34 years. During this time, I have enjoyed the waters of the "Ocean State": going to the beaches when my kids were young, watching concerts 'on the water', dining with water views, etc. Plus, for the past 25 years, kayaking on Rhode Island's many waterways.

I am a member of the Appalachian Mountain Club, and the Rhode Island Canoe & Kayak Association, with whom I have lead kayak paddles at 100-Acre Cove, and attended paddles lead by others. It is a wonderful site from which to introduce new paddlers to kayaking.

At this time, the launch site is used by motor boaters, stand-up paddlers, canoe's and kayakers; the dock is frequently used by fishermen as well as families.

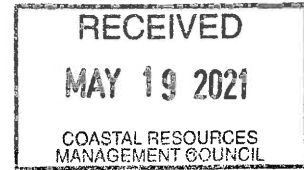
Needless to say, this level of use leads to congestion around this one launch site. Add to this confusion the unorganized parking situation, with lack of designated boat trailer parking, and it gets a bit crazy at times.

I have seen application #2021-03-003 develop to address many needs: it will be "accessible" to those with mobility problems (including those with handicapping conditions, and those with the effects of simply getting older), shoreline restoration w/ buffer plantings, marsh restoration, as well as parking safety concerns.

I do believe that this application is in line with the overall goals of the CRMA; and I encourage you approve this motion.

Sincerely,

JeanMarie Jungman-Josephson  
606 Maple Ave  
Barrington, RI 02806  
401-243-4417  
kayakjmj@yahoo.com



May 10, 2021

Jennifer R. Cervenka , Chairwoman  
Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council  
Stedman Government Center – Suite 116  
4808 Tower Hill Road  
Wakefield ,Rhode Island 02879-1900

RE: RI CRMC Application number 2021-03-003 , Walker Farm Resilience and Recreation Improvements

Chairwoman Cervenka ,

I am writing today in support of the Town of Barrington’s application for approval from the Rhode Island Coastal Resource Management Council (RI CRMC) for improvements to the Town-owned Walker Farm recreation site located on Hundred Acre Cove.

As a Barrington resident for more than 40 years I have had direct involvement in town improvement projects which ,without exception, have enhanced the “value” of the improved space , in terms of resident use and resident pride. I have no doubt that The Walker Farm Resilience and Recreation Improvement plan will generate the same level of enthusiasm , pride and satisfaction. The benefit to CRMC and its mission will be realized through the appropriate restoration and preservation , of one of the last publicly accessible tidal estuaries in Rhode Island’s East Bay, making it a desirable destination for myriad of outdoor enthusiasts such as paddlers, kayakers , as well as rowers and boaters, and those folks seeking a few contemplative moments in nature.

While my enthusiasm for the project is not unlike any other user of that wonderful space, I also see it as a solution to a potential safety problem that emerges with the increased use of the very contained space currently relegated to the transport and launching of the several varieties of watercraft including the aforementioned kayaks, paddle boards, rowing shells and recreational motorboats, which during peak use periods of the year, will inevitably converge on one another ( early mornings and late afternoons and evenings in the warmer weather). I am a coach in the East Bay rowing program as well as a United State Rowing Association official. As such, my guiding principle for any rowing activity is “safety first”. The current configuration of the “launching area” for kayakers, rowers, fishermen and powerboat owners, lends itself to an unorganized and unprioritized effort to get on the water. To this mix add jet skiers and recreational power boaters heading north through the Veterans’ bridge at speeds greater than posted into an area cluttered with unmotorized boats and you have a reasonable potential for bad outcomes. Separating the rowing boats, kayaks, and paddlers from the fishing and recreational motorized boats is prudent , and frankly necessary for safety of all concerned. The Improvement project addresses that concern quite readily. Also, as proposed, the additional space earmarked for parking and the resultant automobile traffic flow pattern improves safety and offers a more efficient use of space.

As you and your committee discuss the merits of the Walker Farm Resilience and Recreational Improvements’ proposal please keep the safety factor as “top of mind” in all your deliberations. I know that all rowing, paddling and kayaking participants will truly appreciate your efforts.

Best regards,

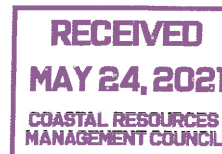
David P. Loftus

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David P. Loftus".



May 18, 2021

RI Coastal Resources Management Council  
Stedman Government Center, Suite 3  
4808 Tower Hill Road  
Wakefield, RI 02879-1900



Subject: Walker Farm project  
Application number: (RI CRMC 21-03-003)

Attention: Jeffrey Willis, Executive Director  
Tracy Silvia, Permitting

To Whom it May Concern,

On behalf of the Rhode Island Canoe and Kayak Association (RICKA), I am writing to provide support for the Walker Farm kayak launch, the ADA-accessible ramp/launch platform, improved parking and other project elements associated with this project.

In addition, we as a Canoe/Kayak Club fully support the project's application for CRMC approval for an Assent and Special Exception which would permit the installation of the stepped kayak/canoe launching area, an accessible, floating, ADA-compliant kayak launch platform as well as a low-profile dock for use by kayaks, canoes and rowers.

I believe our members would benefit greatly from this project and support this initiative. Our club has several members who are senior citizens with various accessibility issues that would appreciate the improved access. Please feel free to contact me if you have further questions.

Thank you,

Pat Lardner  
President, Rhode Island Canoe and Kayak Association  
588 Victory Highway  
West Greenwich, RI. 02817

cc: [stonefoxfarm@juno.com](mailto:stonefoxfarm@juno.com)  
[doshea5031@aol.com](mailto:doshea5031@aol.com)

May 18, 2021

Jennifer R. Cervenka, Chair  
Rhode Island Coastal Resource Management Council  
Stedman Government Center - Suite 116  
4808 Tower Hill Road  
Wakefield, RI 02879-1900  
RE: RI CRMC Application number 2021-03-003/Walker Farm Resilience and Recreation Improvements

Chairman Cervenka,

I am writing today in support of the Town of Barrington's application for approval from the Rhode Island Coastal Resource Management Council (RI CRMC) for improvements to the Town-owned Walker Farm recreation site located on Hundred Acre Cove.

Upon returning to reside in Rhode Island in 2012 after attending RISD in the '90's, I was introduced to Walker Farm my first day of East Bay Rowing's (EBR) "Learn to Row" program for adults in the spring of 2014. I've been sculling at Walker Farm with EBR every May-October ever since, enjoying outdoor exercise, bird-watching, turtle spotting, and rowing camaraderie.

In my seven years involved in the EBR program at Walker Farm, I've encountered periodic pot holes in the access road, parking congestion, flooding of the grassy area bordering the shoreline, and cold water temperatures where we have water-launched the boats amidst rocks for many seasons. In the short term, the pot holes and flooded areas are obstacles, but the large puddles can also serve as a breeding ground for mosquitos and other pests. Water-launching our sculling shells, in general, has been a challenge due to the presence of shoreline rocks that can harm the boats and due to cold water in the early spring and late fall which have often cut the rowing season short. The proposed improved access road and parking, shoreline restoration with buffer plantings, new launch areas, and floating dock could alleviate these issues.

The proposed project aims to thoughtfully balance the myriad of desirable site uses with restoration of the unique ecology of the area to benefit those frequenting Walker Farm now and in the future. If implemented, the improvements would make Walker Farm an even more invaluable natural and recreational resource.

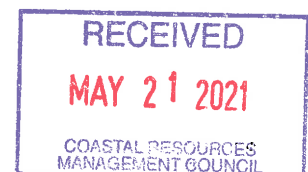
I whole heartedly support the Walker Farm CRMC Application, and look forward to enjoying, sharing, and appreciating improved access to such a unique coastal area.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Katie Hutchison  
2 Bradbury St.  
Warren, RI 02885  
(978) 807-5060



## Cstaff1

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**From:** Katie Hutchison <katiehutch@outlook.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 18, 2021 5:19 PM  
**To:** cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** RI CRMC Applic. number 2021\_03\_003 Walker Farm  
**Attachments:** RI\_CRMC\_2021\_03\_003 Walker Farm EBR KH.pdf

Hello,

I'm sending a letter of support for the application cited in the subject line of this email. Please see the attached.

Thank you!

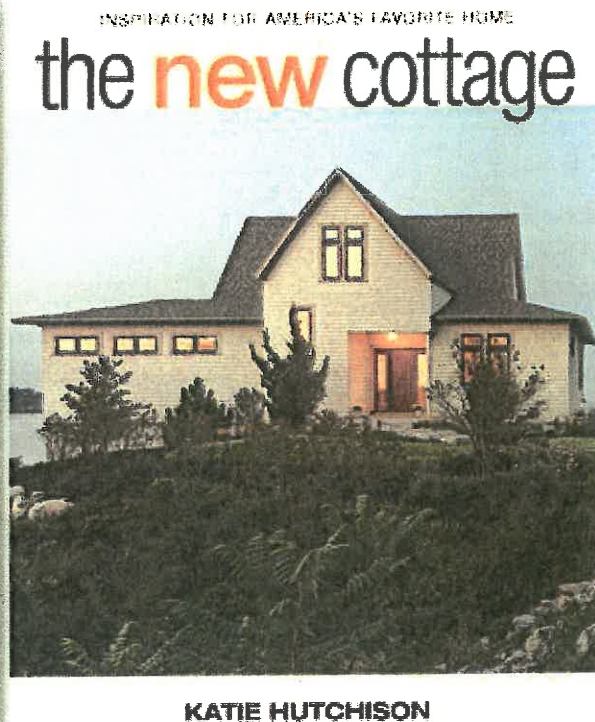
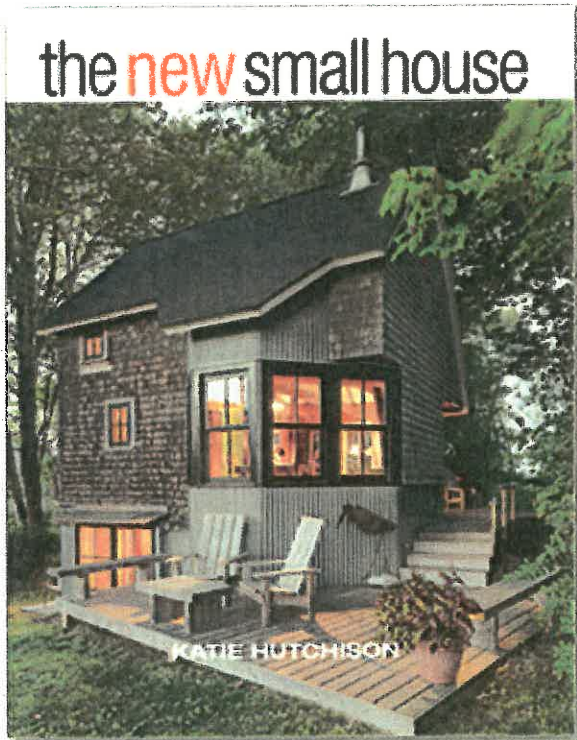
Katie Hutchison

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Architect, Designer, Author, and Podcaster

Katie Hutchison Studio  
2 Bradbury Street, Warren, RI 02885  
tel: (978) 741-0932 fax: (978) 336-5662 [www.katiehutchison.com](http://www.katiehutchison.com)

[facebook](#) [instagram](#) [houzz](#) [applepodcasts](#) [The New Small House](#) [The New Cottage](#)



May 18, 2021

Jennifer R. Cervenka, Chair  
Rhode Island Coastal Resource Management Council  
Stedman Government Center - Suite 116  
4808 Tower Hill Road  
Wakefield, RI 02879-1900  
RE: RI CRMC Application number 2021-03-003/Walker Farm Resilience and Recreation Improvements

Chairman Cervenka,

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Upon returning to reside in Rhode Island in 2012 after attending RISD in the '90's, I was introduced to Walker Farm my first day of East Bay Rowing's (EBR) "Learn to Row" program for adults in the spring of 2014. I've been sculling at Walker Farm with EBR every May-October ever since, enjoying outdoor exercise, bird-watching, turtle spotting, and rowing camaraderie.

In my seven years involved in the EBR program at Walker Farm, I've encountered periodic pot holes in the access road, parking congestion, flooding of the grassy area bordering the shoreline, and cold water temperatures where we have water-launched the boats amidst rocks for many seasons. In the short term, the pot holes and flooded areas are obstacles, but the large puddles can also serve as a breeding ground for mosquitos and other pests. Water-launching our sculling shells, in general, has been a challenge due to the presence of shoreline rocks that can harm the boats and due to cold water in the early spring and late fall which have often cut the rowing season short. The proposed improved access road and parking, shoreline restoration with buffer plantings, new launch areas, and floating dock could alleviate these issues.

The proposed project aims to thoughtfully balance the myriad of desirable site uses with restoration of the unique ecology of the area to benefit those frequenting Walker Farm now and in the future. If implemented, the improvements would make Walker Farm an even more invaluable natural and recreational resource.

I whole heartedly support the Walker Farm CRMC Application, and look forward to enjoying, sharing, and appreciating improved access to such a unique coastal area.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Katie Hutchison  
2 Bradbury St.  
Warren, RI 02885  
(978) 807-5060



cstaff1

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**From:** Mark Allio <markrallio@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 17, 2021 1:43 PM  
**To:** cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** RI CRMC Application number 2021-03-003/Walker Farm Resilience and Recreation Improvements- letter of support- mark allio 05-17-21  
**Attachments:** Letter of Support for Walker Farm CRMC application 2021- Mark R. Allio 05-17-21.pdf; Untitled attachment 00191.htm

May 17, 2021

Ms. Jennifer R. Cervenka, Chair  
Rhode Island Coastal Resource Management Council  
Stedman Government Center - Suite 116  
4808 Tower Hill Road  
Wakefield, RI 02879-1900

RE: RI CRMC Application number 2021-03-003/Walker Farm Resilience and Recreation Improvements

Dear Chairman Cervenka,

I am writing today in support of the Town of Barrington's application for approval from the Rhode Island Coastal Resource Management Council (RI CRMC) for improvements to the Town-owned Walker Farm recreation site located on Hundred Acre Cove.

As a 25 year resident of Rhode Island, former 10 year resident of Barrington and current weekly visitor (my parents are still residents), and active paddler, I am also a:

- current RI State Director of the American Canoe Association
- current Co-Conservation Chair, Standup Paddleboarding Sub-Committee Chair, and Paddling Leader for the Narragansett Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club
- supporting member of the Rhode Island Canoe & Kayak Association (RICKA)
- general supporter of all recreation and conservation improvement measures undertaken in Rhode Island, and particularly in East Bay

I heartily endorse this project as a Rhode Island citizen deeply supportive of investments that support our recreation, boating, fishing, paddling and conservation communities. I have long utilized the Walker Farm boat ramp and access point for numerous kayak and SUP paddles over the years, and can attest to its significance as one of the premier recreational boating, fishing, and paddling sites in the entire state.

Walker Farm is a wonderful resource for Barrington and Rhode Island, but could use some improvement. Here is a detailed list that has been compiled specifically to address the use of this investment:

1. There is a need to separate the different user groups who are seeking access to the waters of Hundred Acre Cove. Currently they are jammed into a single area less than 50' wide with all foot traffic crossing the boat ramp used by motorized vehicles. There are real congestion and safety concerns with the existing conditions, such as:
  - a. There is very limited space to drop kayaks, canoes, stand up paddle boards from trucks/cars
  - b. Vehicles backing onto ramp are too close to families, kids launching kayaks, canoes, rowing boats and other craft

c. Parking is disorganized, chaotic and dangerous and parking on both sides of road often makes it too narrow for 2 way traffic. There is also no designated boat trailer parking.

2. Creating a separated, designated area for kayakers, paddle boarders, rowers makes a lot of sense, especially these elements:

a. Permitting the seasonal installation (April-November) of a low-profile dock for rowers, paddle boarders, kayakers and canoeists launching and recovering is critical to the project's success. It allows them, to move away from the only launch area that is now available to them.

b. Building a step-down area for kayaks launching will be a huge improvement

c. Having areas for canoe, kayak and rowing boat storage right near the launch will be great.

d. Having separated parking for near launch point is critical to reducing driving/parking conflicts

e. Installing benches for sitting and watching the Cove and boaters is a new element

3. This project will create a fully-accessible launch for people with mobility limitations. There are none in the East Bay and few on Narragansett Bay.

4. There is no safe place with seating to take advantage of the spectacular views of 100 acre Cove and to watch the many species of birds and other wildlife. Creating the new, fully-accessible viewing platform (with railings) on the existing broken concrete platform at the existing dock is a good idea and safer for all users.

5. This area of shoreline was created by dumping fill on saltmarsh wetlands and it is currently eroding into the cove and flooding the site at high tides. Restoring the shoreline to be more resilient to storm impacts and frequent flooding is important. This will help get the site ready to flood more frequently with the impacts from climate change such as sea level rise.

6. The existing Town dock and boat launch will be improved by reducing use conflicts at the ramp and improving access to the dock with new paths the viewing platform deck.

Although I have not been directly involved in the advocacy effort, and I am expressing my support as an individual, I believe that this effort and investment is congruent with vision and strategic priorities desired by many supporting stakeholders and residents of Rhode Island, as evidenced by the following:

1. There is a broad group of organizations and citizens who have been involved in the development and design of this project. The Town of Barrington has been a great leader in pulling together the concept and funding. The design plan for habitat restoration was formulated with Save the Bay.

2. The project has received grants from the RI Infrastructure Bank Resilience Program, the RI DEM Parks Recreation Grant Program and the CRMC's own Habitat Restoration Grant Program.

3. The Walker Farm Project and its site-specific design has received unanimous votes of support from the following Town agencies: Barrington Harbor Commission, Barrington Conservation Commission, Barrington Parks and Recreation Commission, Barrington Climate Resilience and Energy Committee and the Barrington Town Council.

Moreover, the Walker Farm project meets the mission and goals of the RI CRMC, specifically:

1. It preserves and restores ecological systems on the site through the removal of dumped fill, the restoration of the shoreline, marsh restoration for resilience and flood storage and the installation of buffer plantings.

2. At the same time, the project develops a rare publicly accessible coastal resource for RI residents to access Hundred Acre Cove for a variety of uses. This will increase safety for all users with a dedicated area for



launching and recovering human-powered craft and all-new accessible paddling facilities for those with mobility limitations to be able to access the water and to watch the wildlife.

3. The project is a thoughtful long-range planning and management project that balances the site uses with ecological systems restoration to produce the maximum benefit for the RI community, now and in succeeding generations. and

This is a great project that improves Walker Farm for all users and the people of East Bay and Rhode Island. We have an opportunity to further enhance one of the best public access points in the state, and I urge you to approve this project application for both its Assent for the construction of the facilities and the Special Use Exception for the seasonal floating dock.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Mark R. Allio  
125 Prospect Street Apt 13  
Providence, RI 02906  
E-mail-m [markrallio@gmail.com](mailto:markrallio@gmail.com)

*American Canoe Association, RI State Director, Certified Standup Paddleboarding Instructor LI  
Appalachian Mountain Club, Narragansett Chapter, Paddling Leader and SUP Sub-Committee Chair  
L.L. Bean Outdoor Discovery School, Greater Boston, SUP and Kayak Instructor  
Save The Bay, Annual Swim Kayak and SUP Safety Squad  
The Explorers Club, MN'98, New England Chapter Officer-At-Large  
Waterfire, Captain-In-Training*

cstaff1

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**From:** Smith-Montross, Mary <smithmontrossm24@barringtonschools.org>  
**Sent:** Sunday, May 16, 2021 3:41 PM  
**To:** cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** RI CRMC Application number 2021-03-003/Walker Farm Resilience and Recreation Improvements

Dear Chairman Cervanka,

I am writing today in support of the Town of Barrington's application for approval from the Rhode Island Coastal Resource Management Council (RI CRMC) for improvement to the Town-owned Walker Farm recreation site located on Hundred Acre Cove.

My name is Maude Smith-Montross, and I am a youth rower for East Bay Rowing. I am 15 years old and attend Barrington High School. I have lived in Barrington for 10 years, and have rowed with EBR for two seasons.

My experience of Walker Farm has been overwhelmingly positive, but there are key improvements that must be made to make this beautiful area safe for all users. Installation of a low-profile dock would address the most pressing of the issues. Walker Farm is surrounded by a rocky coast, which makes for an unsafe launching ground. To launch our skulls for our youth rowing program, we have to walk the boats down to the coast and into the water. On many occasions, my teammates and I have twisted an ankle or taken a hard fall due to the uneven ground. The coast is also littered with broken glass, rusty nails, and other hazardous items. Not only that, but the water is also full of treacherous obstacles. Obscured rocks, glass bottles, and lion's mane jellyfish are plentiful in the shallows where we gather to launch our boat. Walker Farm is a beautiful, natural wonder of Barrington, but it doesn't feel like it. It feels like an injury waiting to happen. We have been lucky enough to recover from our twisted ankles, step around particularly menacing jellyfish, and identify areas with shards of glass, but it is inevitable that if we continue like this someone will be hurt.

Walker Farm has the possibility to be a fun-filled, beautiful place for many more youth rowers, kayakers, recreational bird watchers, fishermen, and the rest of Barrington's residents, but changes need to be made. The Town of Barrington's application for improvement to the Walker Farm recreation site is the answer. This project will not only ensure safety, but conserve a remarkable natural location. A variety of organizations have signed on in support of this crucial project, including Save the Bay and the Barrington Conservation Commission. This project will improve the quality and long term sustainability of Walker Farm and its resources. This aligns with the goals of the RI CRMC as it works to preserve the marsh and create well planned recreational use of this special location. This is an opportunity to construct an access point to the marsh that is unique to all of the others in the state. Approval of this project would be a crucial turning point in preserving Walker Farm for our recreational users and for generations to come. I urge you to approve this project application for both its Assent for the constructions of the facilities and the Special Use Exception for the seasonal floating dock.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Maude Smith-Montross  
111 Highland Ave  
Barrington, RI 02806



May 11, 2021

Jennifer R. Cervenka, Chair  
Rhode Island Coastal Resource Management Council  
Stedman Government Center - Suite 116  
4808 Tower Hill Road  
Wakefield, RI 02879-1900

RE: CRMC Application #: 2021-03-003/Walker Farm Resilience and Recreation Improvements

Chairman Cervenka,

I am writing today in support of the Town of Barrington's application for approval from the Rhode Island Coastal Resource Management Council (RI CRMC) for improvements to the Town-owned Walker Farm recreation site located on Hundred Acre Cove.

Doreen and I have lived in Barrington for the past 27 years, enjoying the Barrington River and Walker Farm for its recreational benefits, walking paths, and access to water. Three of our daughters have rowed for East Bay Rowing Program, which has been a tremendous opportunity. Crew has provided our daughters with an up-close experience with the river. The sport builds on core fundamentals for our daughters' growth: fitness, teamwork, commitment, strength/grit, and pride.

The project will expand on access to water for others to enjoy beautiful hundred acre, experiencing recreational boating and rowing. Creating a separated, designated area for kayakers, paddle boarders, rowers make a lot of sense, especially these elements:

- Permitting the seasonal installation (April-November) of a low-profile dock for rowers, paddle boarders, kayakers and canoeists launching and recovering is critical to the project's success. It allows them, to move away from the only launch area that is now available to them.
- Building a step-down area for kayaks launching will be a huge improvement
- Having areas for canoe, kayak and rowing boat storage right near the launch will be great.
- Having separated parking for near launch point is critical to reducing driving/parking conflicts
- Installing benches for sitting and watching the Cove and boaters is a new element

We have an opportunity to have one of the best public access points in the State; improving connectivity and access to Hundred Acre cove. I strongly urge you to approve this application for both its Assent for the construction of the facilities and the Special Use Exception for the seasonal floating dock.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

*Christopher and Doreen Feeney*

Christopher and Doreen Feeney  
28 Roberta Drive, Barrington, RI  
401-246-2836

May 11, 2021

Jennifer R. Cervenka, Chair  
Rhode Island Coastal Resource Management Council  
Stedman Government Center – Suite 116  
4808 Tower Hill Road  
Wakefield, RI 02879-1900



RE: RI CRMC Application number 2021-03-003/Walker Farm Resilience and Recreation Improvements

Dear Chairman Cervenka,

I am writing to support the Town of Barrington's application for approval from the Rhode Island Coastal Resource Management Council (RI CRMC) for improvements to the town-owned Walker Farm site on Hundred Acre Cove.

My name is Nancy Morrissette and I live at 74 Ferry Lane in Barrington. As a life-long resident of Barrington, I have spent many years swimming, sailing, kayaking and rowing in Hundred Acre Cove. It has and will always be a large part of my life. Being able to have access to the cove and all it has to offer has been a blessing. Over the years, I've witnessed the town grow and with that growth comes more activity especially at Walker Farm.

The proposed improvements to Walker Farm would help alleviate congestion and potential hazards from the varying groups trying to launch any kind of water craft or even fish from the dock. There is limited space to drop kayaks, canoes and paddle boards. Trucks and cars are backing onto the ramp while people (including those with children) are trying to launch their boats. Often times cars have trouble finding a parking spot as cars and trucks are parked on both sides of the road. Boat trailers often are parked where-ever, adding to the disorganization. These safety concerns have grown over the years as Walker Farm's popularity grows. With the pandemic last year, the activity grew even more. Quite a few times I witnessed people's patience waning to either launch their water craft or even find a parking space.

The town's proposed improvements would solve many safety issues while maintaining Walker Farm's integrity. By creating a separated area for kayakers, paddle boarders, rowers and canoeists would divide the area between motorized and human-powered water craft. The proposed installation of a seasonal low-profile dock for this population would allow them easy access to the water. In addition, the proposed dock would give people with mobility challenges access to the water as well. This is an important feature for East Bay residents as there isn't a local boat ramp available.

Besides the seasonal dock and moving the non-motorized away from the current launching spot, a separate viewing spot for bird-watching and other wildlife abundant in the cove. I love watching the osprey return each spring and hatching their babies. Establishing a full-accessible platform on the existing broken concrete platform will make it safer for all wild-life enthusiasts.

All of the proposed improvements meet the RI CRMC's goals. By planting buffer plants and restoring the marsh, the plans preserves and restores the cove's ecological systems including the shoreline. This is important for the future of this vital natural resource.

I implore you to grant the town permission to move forward with this plan. As I said, I grew up playing, swimming and enjoying Hundred Acre Cove. These necessary improvements will insure future generations will have access to this incredible natural resource as well. I urge you to approve the Town of Barrington's application for both its Assent for the construction of the facilities and the Special Use Exception for the seasonal floating dock.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Nancy S. Morrissette  
74 Ferry Lane  
Barrington, RI  
02806  
401-829-8698

May 10, 2021

Jennifer R. Cervenka, Chair  
Rhode Island Coastal Resource Management Council  
Stedman Government Center - Suite 116  
4808 Tower Hill Road  
Wakefield, RI 02879-1900

RE: RI CRMC Application number 2021-03-003/Walker Farm Resilience and Recreation Improvements

Chairman Cervenka,

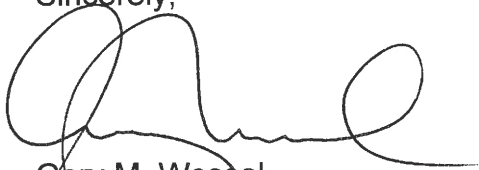
I strongly support the Town of Barrington's application for approval from the Rhode Island Coastal Resource Management Council for improvements to the Town-owned Walker Farm recreation site located on Hundred Acre Cove. This site is a state treasure and it would be unfortunate to not expand its use in such critical ways as documented in the Improvements plan.

I have lived in Rhode Island for over 30 years, and as the father of three children, our family relies on the outdoor activities available to us to love, learn, and live in our environment. Walker Farm is one such place. We boat, kayak, walk our dogs, row with East Bay Rowing, and simply enjoy watching others utilizing this beautiful scape. The plans described appear to serve the mission of the RI CRMC well, and the improved safety and accessibility goals are important for the community.

I hope you will prioritize this project and I appreciate your efforts for such important improvements.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Gary M. Wessel  
233 Irving Ave  
Providence, RI 02906

[rhet@brown.edu](mailto:rhet@brown.edu)  
401.453.1998



cstaff1

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**From:** W. Parish Lentz <plentz@bglaw.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 10, 2021 1:28 PM  
**To:** cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Cc:** Arnold Robinson; Jake Cell 2580 Vm Pwr (jlentz@ithaca.edu)  
**Subject:** Town of Barrington Application for Resilience and Recreation Improvements at Walker Farm (CRMC Application number 2021-03-003)

I have lived in Barrington for over 20 years, but wasn't really aware of Walker Farm until my son started rowing with East Bay Rowing club in 2015. I couldn't believe what an amazing resource it is and how beautiful it is.

I also noticed that on busy days, the parking (we cannot call it a lot) is downright dangerous as power boaters with trailers, kayakers with their own kayaks and those looking to rent from Walker Farm Kayak, cars using the circle and rowers all tried to navigate a very small and hectic space. I have driven trailers with boats and using a public ramp can be nerve racking even without having to worry about human powered crafts and people crossing **right in front of your trailer**. As a fantastic spot with parking close to the ramp, on a Saturday, there was a scary scrum of very different users trying to access a very concentrated area with no orchestration whatsoever.

East Bay Rowing was the best experience of my son's years at Barrington High School, but launching the boats crossing over the boat ramp and then onto an very uneven beach which often had broken glass and rotted fish carcasses was not very safe. The addition of a low profile dock **AWAY FROM THE POWER BOAT LAUNCH RAMP** will be a huge safety and access improvement for the human powered craft users. We also have friends with older parents who have a kayak launch on their dock for disabled and less abled folks; such an addition would great at Walker to allow more users to access Hundred Acre Cove.

I attended the hearing and presentation by Arnold Robinson and realize we are far far behind where we should be for establishing a sustainable shoreline. I didn't realize until his presentation that yes, those were curbstones and other rubble that had been dumped there to build up a "shore". With the warming oceans we need to make our shoreline as resilient as possible and returning the field to its natural marsh state is a great step.

My son now rows in college and we are most grateful to the access he had at Walker Farm. I have started rowing also with the masters group and am very grateful for the resource that we have at Walker Farm. This is a resource that needs to be carefully stewarded.

Our family supports the proposed improvements at Walker Farm 100%.

Thank you for your time,

Parish Lentz

**W. Parish Lentz**  
Partner and Attorney at Law



**Providence**  
Barton Gilman LLP  
One Financial Plaza, 18th Floor  
Providence, RI 02903  
401 273 7171

**Boston**  
Barton Gilman LLP  
75 Federal Street, 9th Floor  
Boston, MA 02110  
617 654 8200

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May 10, 2021



Jennifer R. Cervenka , Chairwoman  
Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council  
Stedman Government Center – Suite 116  
4808 Tower Hill Road  
Wakefield ,Rhode Island 02879-1900

RE: RI CRMC Application number 2021-03-003 , Walker Farm Resilience and Recreation Improvements

Chairwoman Cervenka ,

I am writing today in support of the Town of Barrington’s application for approval from the Rhode Island Coastal Resource Management Council (RI CRMC) for improvements to the Town-owned Walker Farm recreation site located on Hundred Acre Cove.

As a Barrington resident for more than 40 years I have had direct involvement in town improvement projects which ,without exception, have enhanced the “value” of the improved space , in terms of resident use and resident pride. I have no doubt that The Walker Farm Resilience and Recreation Improvement plan will generate the same level of enthusiasm , pride and satisfaction. The benefit to CRMC and its mission will be realized through the appropriate restoration and preservation , of one of the last publicly accessible tidal estuaries in Rhode Island’s East Bay, making it a desirable destination for myriad of outdoor enthusiasts such as paddlers, kayakers , as well as rowers and boaters, and those folks seeking a few contemplative moments in nature.

While my enthusiasm for the project is not unlike any other user of that wonderful space, I also see it as a solution to a potential safety problem that emerges with the increased use of the very contained space currently relegated to the transport and launching of the several varieties of watercraft including the aforementioned kayaks, paddle boards, rowing shells and recreational motorboats, which during peak use periods of the year, will inevitably converge on one another ( early mornings and late afternoons and evenings in the warmer weather). I am a coach in the East Bay rowing program as well as a United State Rowing Association official. As such, my guiding principle for any rowing activity is “safety first”. The current configuration of the “launching area” for kayakers ,rowers, fishermen and powerboat owners, lends itself to an unorganized and unprioritized effort to get on the water. To this mix add jet skiers and recreational power boaters heading north through the Veterans’ bridge at speeds greater than posted into an area cluttered with unmotorized boats and you have a reasonable potential for bad outcomes. Separating the rowing boats, kayaks, and paddlers from the fishing and recreational motorized boats is prudent , and frankly necessary for safety of all concerned. The Improvement project addresses that concern quite readily. Also, as proposed, the additional space earmarked for parking and the resultant automobile traffic flow pattern improves safety and offers a more efficient use of space.

As you and your committee discuss the merits of the Walker Farm Resilience and Recreational Improvements’ proposal please keep the safety factor as “top of mind” in all your deliberations. I know that all rowing, paddling and kayaking participants will truly appreciate your efforts.

Best regards,

David P. Loftus

**cstaff1**

---

**From:** Cassin Edgar-Smith <cassin31415@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, May 2, 2021 9:41 PM  
**To:** cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** Walker Farm Resilience and Recreation Improvements

May 2, 2021

Jennifer R. Cervenka, Chair  
Rhode Island Coastal Resource Management Council  
Stedman Government Center - Suite 116  
4808 Tower Hill Road  
Wakefield, RI 02879-1900

RE: RI CRMC Application number 2021-03-003/Walker Farm Resilience and Recreation Improvements

Chairman Cervenka,

My name is Cassin Edgar-Smith and I am a resident of Barrington. I am writing today in support of the Town of Barrington's application for approval from the Rhode Island Coastal Resource Management Council (RI CRMC) for improvements to the Town-owned Walker Farm recreation site located on Hundred Acre Cove. I've been rowing with East Bay Rowing and enjoying Walker Farm for a long time now and I think that many people would benefit the application. From my experience rowing, I know first hand the benefits of more launching space. It would allow for much safer launching of kayaks and rowing shells alike, while also allowing longer operating seasons as people wouldn't have to go into the cold water when nearing winter. Other recreation improvements would also make it a more enjoyable area that is more accessible.

As stated earlier, I support these improvements to Walker Farm and the accessibility for the broader community and ask that the committee approve this plan.

Thank you for your time.

Cassin Edgar-Smith  
14 South Meadow Lane  
Barrington, Rhode Island 02806  
401-574-6884

May 1, 2021

Jennifer R. Cervenka, Chair  
Rhode Island Coastal Resource Management Council  
Stedman Government Center - Suite 116  
4808 Tower Hill Road  
Wakefield, RI 02879-1900



RE: RI CRMC Application number 2021-03-003/Walker Farm Resilience and Recreation Improvements

Chairman Cervenka,

I am a resident of Barrington and I am writing in support of the Town of Barrington's application for approval from the Rhode Island Coastal Resource Management Council (RI CRMC) for improvements to the Town-owned Walker Farm recreation site located on Hundred Acre Cove. Our family has been associated with East Bay Rowing and appreciates the water access offered for kayakers.

Creating a separated, designated area for kayakers and rowers would offer many improvements with regards to the accessibility of the water. East Bay Rowing has a strong rowing program, but the current launching situation is sub-par and compromises the rowers as they have to enter into the slippery rocky bottom while maneuvering a heavy boat. Additionally, this has led to expensive boat damage due to the precarious nature of loading crew boats under these circumstances.

A seasonal dock would also eliminate congestion that occurs with the current one-access point that is available for all water use. Additionally, improvements relating to a step-down for kayakers would improve accessibility to the general public. Adding to the quality of our community would be small boat storage as well as benches to enjoy the views from land.

As stated earlier, I support these improvements to Walker Farm and the accessibility for the broader community and ask that the committee approve this plan.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Devyn Smith  
Meadow Lane  
Barrington, RI 02806  
860-287-7984



5/1/2021

Jennifer R. Cervenka, Chair  
Rhode Island Coastal Resource Management Council  
Stedman Government Center - Suite 116  
4808 Tower Hill Road  
Wakefield, RI 02879-1900

RE: RI CRMC Application number 2021-03-003/Walker Farm Resilience and Recreation Improvements

Chairman Cervenka,

My name is Patrick Sullivan and I am a resident of Barrington RI and wanted to send a letter expressing my support for the proposed changes at Walker Farm in Barrington, RI. It is my understanding that the town of Barrington has an application for approval with RI CRMC to create improvements to the town owned Walker Farm recreation site located on Hundred Acre Cove.

I have been a resident of Barrington since 2001 and have been using the water and parks in town actively since I moved to the area. I am an avid kayaker, paddle boarder, power boater, and rower and can see the various uses of the town's natural resources from a variety of different angles.

My involvement in the project to date has been mostly from the perspective of a rower as I am one of the founding members of East Bay Rowing and a board member. I have seen the plans as they evolved and attended various meetings to understand the proposed plans for the site.

East Bay Rowing is a nonprofit group that was established to bring rowing to youth and adults of the East Bay. We launch our boats from Walker Farm and row on Hundred Acre Cove from April to October. We have anywhere from 90-150 youth and adults who engage with this amazing location at any given time. The proposed changes to this site both from a habitat preservation perspective as well as an accessibility perspective is very important in my mind. The changes proposed on the plans will help this site be managed in a way that protects it but at the same time creates clearly delineated areas for different uses. Right now the location does not have great structure to the site to preserve the environment or improve accessibility. From my perspective it is left to chance.

As a multipurpose user of the site I have observed firsthand the issue with motorized craft trying to launch in the same area as paddle craft. Being a regular user (~5-6 times per week) I know how to avoid the issues and successfully navigate the area whether it is to launch my small whaler or take my paddle board out. However, the average user comes much less and in general there is a great deal of confusion on how to engage with this property.

This intersection of interests in a very narrow space is a recipe for safety issues as well environmental issues. Trailers backing up, motor boats launching and retrieving off trailers, kids fishing, kayakers

launching on boats ramps, and crabbers crabbing are just a few of the activities all happening quite literally at the same time.

I believe the project and proposed improvements to this location in application number 2021-030003/Walker Farm will alleviate these issues and will allow for the goals of CRMC, the Town of Barrington, and users of Walker Farm to be met in a great way. Not only will it improve this location but I think it can also be an example for the East Bay and the State on how to effectively navigate the interests of preserving our fragile ecosystem while at the same time creating an area where people can engage with our amazing resources.

I am happy to discuss if you would like further perspective.

Patrick Sullivan  
12 Joyce Street  
Barrington, RI 02806

Cell – 401-835-1379





4/28/2021

Jennifer R. Cervenka, Chair  
Rhode Island Coastal Resource Management Council  
Stedman Government Center - Suite 116  
4808 Tower Hill Road  
Wakefield, RI 02879-1900

RE: RI CRMC Application number 2021-03-003/Walker Farm Resilience and Recreation Improvements

Chairman Cervenka,

I am writing today in support of the Town of Barrington's application for approval from the Rhode Island Coastal Resource Management Council (RI CRMC) for improvements to the Town-owned Walker Farm recreation site located on Hundred Acre Cove.

I am the Director of Rowing for East Bay Rowing, a rowing program that currently launches out of Walker Farm. We have been located at Walker Farm for 10 years and are thrilled to see the resilience and recreation improvements proposed in this application.

Having launched from the current boat ramp and shoreline on a daily basis, I see firsthand how helpful this project will be to ALL human and motor powered vessels. Carrying rowing shells that are over the lip of the ramp onto the rocky shoreline is an accident waiting to happen. We have been very fortunate that it hasn't yet. With a dedicated launch pad, cleared of rocks, and a dock to launch from the safety issues are eliminated. In addition, East Bay Rowing would like to offer para-rowing opportunities. The current launching is not handicap accessible. Having a handicap accessible dock allows access to all potential rowers. The separation of human and motor powered vessels will also eliminate congestion at the boat ramp.

Thus far, the team working on this project has included East Bay Rowing in a lot of the discussions. They have worked with us in picking out an appropriate dock, low profile, which will accommodate all human-powered crafts much better than the typical boat dock. They have discussed parking issues with us. We have seen how chaotic Walker Farm can get on a beautiful summer day with all types of boats trying to launch off the

one current ramp area. Having designated parking areas for trailers and cars will alleviate a lot of the chaos.

One of the biggest improvements I see from this project is the goal of preserving and restoring the shoreline, marsh and overall ecological systems at Walker Farm. The 'big mud pit' will be restored to a formal marsh area. The shoreline will be cleaned up of dumped fill and cement blocks and adding buffer plantings will assist in the entire marsh restoration. This is a true ecological win for Walker Farm. I love that this project includes both a huge improvement for human activities on a coastal property while enhancing the ecological needs too.

On the behalf of East Bay Rowing, I urge you to approve this project application. With approval, Walker Farm will have one of the best coastal access points in the state. Safety needs for all will be met, separation of human and motor powered vessels will be met, parking issues will be met, and handicap accessibility will be met.

Thank you so much for your consideration.

Best,

*Deb Sullivan*

Deb Sullivan  
Director of Rowing, East Bay Rowing  
12 Joyce Street, Barrington RI 02806  
401.835.8441



**From:** Judy Cullman <judwah@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 30, 2021 11:48 PM  
**To:** cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** Jennifer R. Cervenka,

Jennifer R. Cervenka,  
Chair  
Rhode Island coastal resource management council Stedman Government Center - Suite 116  
4808 Tower Hill Rd,  
Wakefield, RI  
02879-1900

RE: RI CRMC Application number 2021-03-003/Walker Farm Resilience and Recreation Improvements

Chairman Cervenka,

I am writing today in support of the Town of Barrington's application for approval from the Rhode Island Coastal Resource Management Council (RI CRMC) for improvements to the Town-owned Walker Farm recreation site located on Hundred Acre Cove.

My name is Judy Cullman and have lived in Barrington for 23 of my last 24 years in Rhode Island. I have been fortunate to spend countless unforgettable hours of rowing community camaraderie along with moments of sanctuary at Walker Farm. Like many fellow neighbors and friends , we have a profound reverence for access to healthy recreation in nature that promotes general well being for all. We would like to preserve the relationship we keep with our natural environment.

Walker Farm is a wonderful resource for Barrington and Rhode Island, but could use some improvements.

There is a need to separate the different user groups who are seeking access to the waters of Hundred Acre Cove. Currently they are jammed into a single area less than 50' wide with all foot traffic crossing the boat ramp used by motorized vehicles. There are real congestion and safety concerns with the existing conditions, such as:  
- limited space to drop kayaks, canoes, stand up paddle boards from trucks/cars -Vehicles backing onto ramp are too close to families, kids launching kayaks, canoes, rowing boats and other craft -disorganized, chaotic and dangerous parking on both sides of road often makes it too narrow for 2 way traffic. There is also no designated boat trailer parking. A separate, designated area for kayakers, paddle boarders, rowers makes a lot of sense, Recommended elements include:

- a. Permitting the seasonal installation (April-November) of a low-profile dock for rowers, paddle boarders, kayakers and canoeists launching and recovering is critical to the project's success. It allows them, to move away from the only launch area that is now available to them.
- b. Building a step-down area for kayaks launching will be a huge improvement c. Having areas for canoe, kayak and rowing boat storage right near the launch will be great.
- d. Having separated parking for near launch point is critical to reducing driving/parking conflicts e. Installing benches for sitting and watching the Cove and boaters is a new element

This project will create a fully-accessible launch for people with mobility limitations. There are none in the East Bay and few on Narragansett Bay.



A safe place with seating to take advantage of the spectacular views of 100 acre Cove and to watch the many species of birds and other wildlife would also be benefited. Creating the new, fully-accessible viewing platform (with railings) on the existing broken concrete platform at the existing dock is a good idea and safer for all users.

This area of shoreline we enjoy was created by dumping fill on saltmarsh wetlands and it is currently eroding into the cove and flooding the site at high tides. Restoring the shoreline to be more resilient to storm impacts and frequent flooding is important. This will help get the site ready to flood more frequently with the impacts from climate change such as sea level rise.

The existing Town dock and boat launch will be improved by reducing use conflicts at the ramp and improving access to the dock with new paths the viewing platform deck.

A broad group of organizations and citizens who have been involved in the development and design of this project. The Town of Barrington has been a great leader in pulling together the concept and funding. The design plan for habitat restoration was formulated with Save the Bay. The project has received grants from the RI Infrastructure Bank Resilience Program, the RI DEM Parks Recreation Grant Program and the CRMC's own Habitat Restoration Grant Program.

The Walker Farm Project and its site-specific design has received unanimous votes of support from the following Town agencies: Barrington Harbor Commission, Barrington Conservation Commission, Barrington Parks and Recreation Commission, Barrington Climate Resilience and Energy Committee and the Barrington Town Council.

This is a great project that improves Walker Farm for all the users. We have an opportunity to have one of the best public access points in the state

I urge you to approve this project application for both its Assent for the construction of the facilities and the Special Use Exception for the seasonal floating dock.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Judy Cullman  
34 Kingswood Road  
401-533-1214



April 27, 2021

Jennifer R. Cervenka, Chair  
Rhode Island Coastal Resource Management Council  
Stedman Government Center - Suite 116  
4808 Tower Hill Road  
Wakefield, RI 02879-1900

RE: RI CRMC Application number 2021-03-003/Walker Farm Resilience and Recreation Improvements

Chairman Cervenka,

I am writing today in support of the Town of Barrington's application for approval from the Rhode Island Coastal Resource Management Council (RI CRMC) for improvements to the Town-owned Walker Farm recreation site located on Hundred Acre Cove.

Hello, My name is Elizabeth Silveria. As an avid user of the Walker Farm recreation area I am asking for your assistance for improvements to this area. Improving the existing Town dock and boat launch will help reduce conflicts at the ramp. Improving access to the dock with new paths to the viewing platform deck will enable more people to enjoy the beautiful view and help with boats. The project will meet the CRMC goals as it will increase safety for all users with a dedicated area for launching and recovering human-powered craft and all-new accessible paddling facilities for those with mobility limitations to be able to access the water and to watch the wildlife. I urge you to approve this project application for both its Assent for the construction of the facilities and the Special Use Exception for the seasonal floating dock.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Silveria  
11 Tyler Point Rd Barrington, RI 02806  
401-330-6665

April 27, 2021

Jennifer R. Cervenka, Chair  
Rhode Island Coastal Resource Management Council  
Stedman Government Center - Suite 116  
4808 Tower Hill Road  
Wakefield, RI 02879-1900



RE: RI CRMC Application number 2021-03-003/Walker Farm Resilience and Recreation Improvements

Chairman Cervenka,

I am writing today in support of the Town of Barrington's application for approval from the Rhode Island Coastal Resource Management Council (RI CRMC) for improvements to the Town-owned Walker Farm recreation site located on Hundred Acre Cove.

My name is Dwight McMillan and I've been a Barrington resident since 2005. My kids and I use the Walker Farm site as participants with East Bay Rowing. I also use the site personally to access the water with our kayak and single rowing shell.

As a member of the town's Harbor Commission, I've been aware of the scope and goals of this project since the planning stages. In my opinion, as a user of the site and also as a commission member, this project will solve 3 major problems:

1. Improve the safety for accessing the water with small craft (kayaks etc) by moving that activity away from the boat ramp to the north area of the property;
2. Keep heavier use on paths and in limited areas – especially by adding a low profile dock – to preserve shoreline and overall condition of the site; and
3. Redesign the parking and traffic flow so there is less chaos and congestion as you drive in and people can use the boat ramp more easily.

I strongly support this project and specifically think that the approval of a Special Use Exception for the seasonal floating dock is a critical success factor. Adding the floating dock and shifting that use to the north area will make it so all of the other project benefits can be fully realized.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "D. McMillan".

Dwight McMillan  
11 Starboard Ln  
Barrington, RI 02806  
401-374-0161

April 28, 2021

Jennifer R. Cervenka, Chair  
Rhode Island Coastal Resource Management Council  
Stedman Government Center - Suite 116  
4808 Tower Hill Road  
Wakefield, RI 02879-1900

RE: RI CRMC Application number 2021-03-003/Walker Farm Resilience and Recreation Improvements

Chairman Cervenka,

I am writing today in support of the Town of Barrington's application for approval from the Rhode Island Coastal Resource Management Council (RI CRMC) for improvements to the Town-owned Walker Farm recreation site located on Hundred Acre Cove.

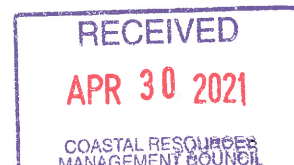
I am a life-long RI resident, residing in Portsmouth, Providence, East Providence, Barrington, and currently Bristol. I am a Biologist, trained at Brown in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology. I value the natural environment from both a professional and recreational perspective. One of the most notable resources RI has is its public access to our phenomenal waterways, ocean beaches, Narragansett Bay, Sakonnet River, and all of the river systems that feed into these larger bodies of water. Access and opportunity to enjoy our waterways should not be limited to those residents that live near or on these waterways. Public access has been a statewide priority.

Walker Farm is an excellent example of an accessible public access to a RI coastal waterway. My first exposure to Walker Farm was in 2014 when my daughter started Learn to Row classes with East Bay Rowing RI (EBR). Although I'd been a Barrington resident for 20 years, I had no idea of the public access to the Barrington River from Walker Farm. What a phenomenal resource! I started rowing with the club in 2015 and have continue to be a regular rower, beach launching at Walker Farm from April – October.

During this time, I have seen increased use of Walker Farm by many launching boats and jet skis, kayaks, canoes, paddleboards, and yes even rowing shells by non-EBR members. In addition to those launching into the water, there is increased use of the shoreline and dock for crabbing, fishing, swimming, relaxing on hot summer evenings by the cool breeze off the water, dog walking, and general sea-side recreation. From the diversity of languages heard at Walker Farm, it is clear this resource is used by residents from throughout the state.

While a spectacular resource, there are many challenges with the use of Walker Farm.

- The area attracts users for a multitude of purposes, but most of these users are congregated in the small area at or near the boat ramp. It is not uncommon to



have someone launching a powerboat, someone launching a kayak, individuals crabbing from the dock or shoreline, and rowing shells being launched all at the same time and in essentially the same location, the boat ramp and adjacent beach area. The congestion results in a bit of chaos and concerns for safety, particularly with motorized watercraft being launched adjacent to human-propelled boats or boards. Sight lines for those carrying small watercraft, as well as for those launching motorized watercraft, are not always optimal and having crossing pathways of traffic is a safety concern.

- Parking is haphazard at best. There are no defined parking spaces nor defined places for trailer parking. Typically, cars and trailers park along the side of the dirt access road. This results in narrowed travel space and could be a concern for passageway for boats on trailers, 2-way traffic flow, and access for emergency vehicles.
- Beach / Water launching of small craft is not optimal especially during the early spring and late fall when water temperatures are low. The addition of a low-profile dock floating dock will expand the use of this facility outside of the warmer summer period. Paddling through Hundred Acre Cove in the fall when the foliage is prime is spectacular but does require a bit of fortitude to water launch in cool October water.
- The addition of a fully accessible small-boat launch area is a huge benefit of this proposed project. There are few areas locally that allow for easy access to the water for those with mobility impairments. For a wheelchair bound individual to get into a kayak and paddle through Hundred Acre Cove is opening new horizons for that individual. This sort of access should be much more common throughout the state.
- As a biologist and someone who cares about our natural resources and the impacts of climate change on our coastline, the restoration of this former saltmarsh is greatly valued. Currently the property floods whenever there is a large rain or particularly high tide. The area does not act in its natural manner as a 'sponge' for the changing water table. Saltmarsh restoration projects throughout the state have aided to control erosion and limit flooding. Route 114 runs adjacent to this property. Increasing the resiliency of this area to sea-level rise will aid to protect this important East Bay transportation artery.
- As a rower, I am over the moon about the possibility of a dock to launch from. EBR has nurtured over 2000 youth rowers in its 10year history, many who have gone on to row in college and some have competed at the national team level. Training is constrained by the water temperatures in at the 'bookends' of the season, early spring and late fall. Safety issues around beach launching from a rocky shoreline (cuts and abrasions) as well as equipment damage from the same rocky shoreline would be addressed by the proposed improvements.

The proposed project addresses many of the CRMC goals: restoration and protection of the shoreline, expanding public access to the waterfront including access for mobility impaired residents, thoughtful design to support multiple uses.

I fully support this project as a regular user of the Walker Farm property, but more importantly as a resident of Rhode Island. This proposal addresses both the environmental and recreational needs of the site, improving access and use while protecting the shoreline environment. I urge you to approve this project application for both its Assent for the construction of the facilities and the Special Use Exception for the seasonal floating dock.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Patricia M. Brady, Ph.D.  
102 Windward Ln., Bristol, RI  
401 480 7629



April 27, 2021

Jennifer R. Cervenka, Chair  
Rhode Island Coastal Resource Management Council  
Stedman Government Center - Suite 116  
4808 Tower Hill Road  
Wakefield, RI 02879-1900

RE: RI CRMC Application number 2021-03-003/Walker Farm Resilience and Recreation Improvements

Chairman Cervenka,

My name is Shelli Edgar and I am a resident of Barrington. I am writing today in support of the Town of Barrington's application for approval from the Rhode Island Coastal Resource Management Council (RI CRMC) for improvements to the Town-owned Walker Farm recreation site located on Hundred Acre Cove. Our family has been associated with East Bay Rowing and appreciates the water access offered for kayakers.

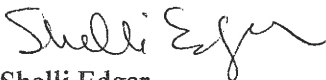
Creating a separated, designated area for kayakers and rowers would offer many improvements with regards to the accessibility of the water. Permitting of the seasonal dock would offer significant improvements for rowers as well as kayakers. East Bay Rowing has a strong rowing program, but the current launching situation is sub-par and compromises the rowers as they have to enter into the cold and rocky floor of the water. Additionally, this has led to expensive boat damage due to the precarious nature of loading crew boats under these circumstances.

A seasonal dock would also eliminate congestion that occurs with the current one-access point that is available for all water use. Additionally, improvements relating to a step-down for kayakers would improve accessibility to the general public. Adding to the quality of our community would be small boat storage as well as benches to enjoy the views from land.

As stated earlier, I support these improvements to Walker Farm and the accessibility for the broader community and ask that the committee approve this plan.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Shelli Edgar  
14 South Meadow Lane  
Barrington, RI 02806  
860-514-4213



April 27, 2021

Jennifer R. Cervenka, Chair  
Rhode Island Coastal Resource Management Council  
Stedman Government Center - Suite 116  
4808 Tower Hill Road  
Wakefield, RI 02879-1900

RE: RI CRMC Application number 2021-03-003/Walker Farm Resilience and Recreation Improvements

Chairman Cervenka,

I am writing today in support of the Town of Barrington's application for approval from the Rhode Island Coastal Resource Management Council (RI CRMC) for improvements to the Town-owned Walker Farm recreation site located on Hundred Acre Cove.

Hello, My name is Elizabeth Silveria. As an avid user of the Walker Farm recreation area I am asking for your assistance for improvements to this area. Improving the existing Town dock and boat launch will help reduce conflicts at the ramp. Improving access to the dock with new paths to the viewing platform deck will enable more people to enjoy the beautiful view and help with boats. The project will meet the CRMC goals as it will increase safety for all users with a dedicated area for launching and recovering human-powered craft and all-new accessible paddling facilities for those with mobility limitations to be able to access the water and to watch the wildlife. I urge you to approve this project application for both its Assent for the construction of the facilities and the Special Use Exception for the seasonal floating dock.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Elizabeth Silveria  
11 Tyler Point Rd Barrington, RI 02806  
401-330-6665





April 30, 2021

Jennifer R. Cervenka, Chair  
Rhode Island Coastal Resource Management Council  
Stedman Government Center - Suite 116  
4808 Tower Hill Road  
Wakefield, RI 02879-1900

RE: RI CRMC Application number 2021-03-003/Walker Farm Resilience and Recreation Improvements

Chairman Cervenka,

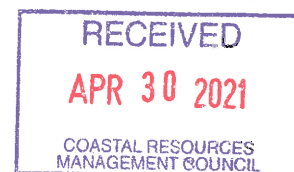
I am writing today in support of the Town of Barrington's application for approval from the Rhode Island Coastal Resource Management Council (RI CRMC) for improvements to the Town-owned Walker Farm recreation site located on Hundred Acre Cove.

I'm a senior, living in Warwick, but also a rower who has enjoyed the sport and all of the pleasure it affords. I've rowed with East Bay Rowing for a few years and am well aware of Hundred Acre Cove and the Walker Farm. It's a beautiful site, but at present, there are also issues surrounding the site.

First of all, I've personally experienced major parking and congestion issues during the years. If this application is approved, as I hope it will, these parking and congestion issues will be resolved to the benefit of all who use Walker Farm.

Secondly, creating a separated, designated area for kayakers, paddle boarders, rowers makes a lot of sense to me. I've noticed that there are conflicts at the ramp, which include danger to children who are at risk due to its location. The existing Town dock and boat launch will be much improved by reducing use conflicts at the ramp and improving access to the dock with new paths to the viewing platform deck.

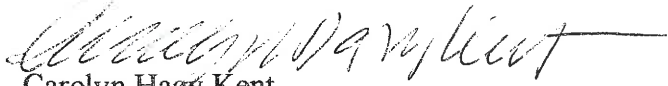
Further, and importantly, allowing the permitting of the seasonal installation (April-November) of a low-profile dock for rowers, paddle boarders, kayakers and canoeists launching and recovering will be critical to the project's success. This dock will be crucial in allowing participants in these sports to move away from the sole launch area -- the only one available to them now.



I believe in this proposed project wholeheartedly, and firmly believe that the passage of this application will benefit the community at large, and bring not only joy and recreational benefit, but safety, to any and all users of the site.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Carolyn Hagy Kent  
46 Hartford Place  
Warwick, RI 02888  
401-408-1727

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APR 30 2021  
COASTAL RESOURCES  
MANAGEMENT COUNCIL



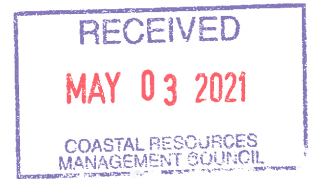
**Higgins  
Cavanagh  
Cooney**

JAMES A. RUGGIERI\*  
PAUL S. CALLAGHAN\*  
PETER E. GARVEY\*\*  
STEPHEN P. COONEY\*  
J. DAVID FREEL\*†  
KRISTINA I. HULTMAN\*  
SARAH E. WHEELER\*\*  
KURT A. ROCHA \*\*  
BRIAN W. HAYNES\*  
ADRIANNA HUGHES\*  
KELSEY PECK\*  
TYLER J. PARE\*

JAMES H. HIGGINS, JR.  
1952-1975

JOSEPH V. CAVANAGH  
1952-1985

JOHN P. COONEY, JR.  
1960-1981



\*Also Admitted in MA  
\*\*Also Admitted in CT & MA  
\*\*\*Also Admitted in MA & MI  
† Also Admitted in NJ

OF COUNSEL

GERALD C. DEMARIA\*  
CHARLES A. HAMBLY, JR.  
STEPHEN B. LANG  
MELISSA M. HORNE\*\*

April 30, 2021

By Email (cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov)  
and First-Class Mail

Jennifer R. Cervenka, Chair  
Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council  
Stedman Government Center - Suite 116  
4808 Tower Hill Road  
Wakefield, RI 02879-1900

**RE: RI CRMC Application number 2021-03-003/Walker Farm Resilience and Recreation Improvements**

Dear Chairman Cervenka:

I am writing in support of the Town of Barrington’s application for approval from the Rhode Island Coastal Resource Management Council (RI CRMC) for improvements to the Town-owned Walker Farm recreation site located on Hundred Acre Cove.

I have lived in Barrington for 21 years. During that time, I’ve spent ten (10) years as a member of Barrington’s Parks and Recreation Commission, and nine (9) years as a member of the Board of Directors of the Barrington Land Conservation Trust. I also use Walker Farm as a rower and kayaker. My experience in these roles has revealed that Walker Farm is an under-utilized and, at times, misused resource. The proposed Walker Farm Resilience and Recreation Improvements project (“Project”) will create a facility that will allow more and better public use of a valuable community resource.

Walker Farm was created by filling a salt marsh, an action that CRMC would not permit now that the value of salt marshes is so much better understood. As climate change increases the level of Hundred Acre Cove, the shoreline is eroding into the cove and the site is frequently

10 Dorrance Street, Suite 400, Providence, RI 02903 • 401-272-3500 • Fax: 401-273-8780  
470 Atlantic Avenue, Suite 400, Boston, MA 02210 • 617.273.8230 • Fax: 617.273.8001  
100 Pearl Street, 14th Floor, Suite 1456, Hartford, CT 06103 • 800-274-5299

www.hcc-law.com

Jennifer R. Cervenka, Chair  
Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council  
April 30, 2021  
Page 2



flooded by high tides. The Project's plan to restore the shoreline and install buffer plantings will make the area more resilient to storm impacts and allow salt marsh migration to reclaim part of the property.

The proposed parking improvements, low-profile dock and viewing platform will channel use of the Walker Farm property more appropriately. These improvements will help avoid further erosion by reducing the amount of foot traffic on the shoreline while at the same time enhancing safety and the user experience. The seasonal installation of a low-profile dock for rowers, kayakers and paddle boarders and a step-down area for kayak launching will allow these human-powered craft to be launched and recovered in an area that does not conflict with the existing ramp used to launch motorized craft. This feature will be especially valuable for mobility-limited users of this facility, which will be the only fully accessible launch in the East Bay.

The proposed Project reflects long-range planning and management strategies that balance potentially conflicting site uses with ecological restoration to optimize the environmental and recreational benefits of Walker Farm for the current and future Rhode Island community. Accordingly, I request that CRMC approve the application, including granting an Assent for the construction of the physical improvements at the site and a Special Use Exception for the seasonal floating dock.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Melissa Horne".

Melissa M. Horne



Brunswick, ME May 20, 2020

Greenville, ME

Northampton, MA

Alexandria, NH

Bretton Woods, NH

Gorham, NH

Blairstown, NJ

Haverstraw, NY

New York, NY

Bethlehem, PA

Coastal Resources Management Council  
Stedman Government Center, Room 116  
4808 Tower Hill Road  
Wakefield, RI 02879

RE: LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR WALKER FARM RENOVATIONS/IMPROVEMENTS- CRMC File 2021-03-003

To All Concerned Parties:

I am writing on behalf of the Appalachian Mountain Club to express our organization's strong support for the proposed Walker Farm improvements. The project would enhance public access to the water, restore shoreline areas and add other amenities for visitors. The mission of the Appalachian Mountain Club (AMC) is to foster the protection, enjoyment, and understanding of the outdoors. The Appalachian Mountain Club is excited to support this proposal, which aligns with our vision of promoting active conservation, outdoor journeys, and recreational networks for all communities.

I am a big fan and have enjoyed the Walker Farm property and Osamequin Wildlife Preserve in Barrington. We need more opportunities and places for people to enjoy the outdoors. I'm in favor of benches to encourage more "get togethers" in the outdoors even if people aren't going kayaking or hiking.

I am also in complete support of the shoreline improvements proposed, consisting of removing concrete debris, reconfiguring the shoreline, and installing a buffer zone with native plants which are essential to protecting the shoreline. The new stepped ADA accessible kayaking launch will be a wonderful improvement for all to use as will other proposed improvements.

Please accept this letter in full support of these expenditures to improve the Walker Farm property and facility. I have been advised that a trail along the water will connect Waters Farm to Osamequin is also proposed. A trail between the two will be a joy to all of us who enjoy both properties. Our tax dollars are used well in the improvement of all places that offer opportunities to enjoy the outdoors.

Sincerely,

Linda Pease  
Appalachian Mountain Club  
Conservation Co-Chair  
Flat Water Paddling Sub Chair  
P: 401-351-2234

