

FROM: Newton Tedder



TO: Malik Drayton - Conservation Agent


RE: City of Somerville Conservation Commission Position

Dear Mr Drayton:

I am interested in serving on the Conservation Commission for the City of Somerville. I've been a resident of Somerville for over 5 years, love the City and would like the opportunity to give back to my community through volunteering in city government. I believe my background in federal stormwater regulation at the USEPA and my knowledge of the Wetlands Protection Act provide a strong background for service on the commission.

For the past 7 years I have been serving as the lead permit writer and contact for the Massachusetts Small Municipal Storm Sewer (MS4) General Permit issued by EPA and MassDEP in 2016. Through this job I have developed a strong technical background in stormwater management and green infrastructure implementation to mitigate the impacts of stormwater on local waterways. Stormwater is the leading cause of water quality impairments throughout Massachusetts and without regulation at the federal, state and local level we wont solve this complex issue. In addition to a technical background in stormwater management, I feel that my ability to write and interpret permits, regulations, and Notices of Intent for permit coverage could be an asset to the Commission.

While I have never directly implemented the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act, I am very familiar with the Act and the Stormwater Standards. There is an overlap between the MS4 permit regulated area and the Wetlands Protection Act jurisdiction where projects can be subject to local stormwater ordinances as required by the MS4 permit as well as the Massachusetts Stormwater Standards. This overlap requires me to be well versed in the Massachusetts Stormwater Standards and the local requirements under the MS4 permit for post construction stormwater management. With this background I will be serving on the Technical Advisory Committee for the upcoming Stormwater Standards update by MassDEP to align the Stormwater Standards with the MS4 permit requirements. I would love the opportunity to use my knowledge of the MS4 permit and the Wetlands Protection Act and the Stormwater Standards to implement stormwater regulations at a local level to protect and preserve Somerville's natural areas.

Thank you for your time in reviewing my application. If you would like any other information please don't hesitate to email me at 

Sincerely,

Newton Tedder