

August 11, 2010

Mark Boyle, Director of Real Estate
MBTA
10 Park Plaza
Boston, MA 02116

Subject: Emerald Necklace Conservancy Signage Proposal

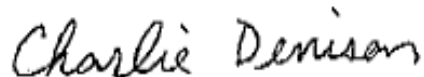
Dear Mr. Boyle:

We are writing in support of the Emerald Necklace Conservancy's proposed "Signage for Walking Routes from T Stations to Emerald Necklace Parks". We consider it an invaluable service which yields many benefits, and at no cost to the agencies on whose property these signs will be hung. Whereas currently many residents and tourists are unaware of how easy it is to access Olmsted's Emerald Necklace, these signs, and the associated public education campaign, will make the parkland more popular and more accessible. The proposal will concurrently promote healthful visits to the park, and reduce the demand for parking on site.

This proposal follows Boston's precedent for showcasing its heritage through signed walking trails: consider the popularity of the Freedom Trail, the Walk to the Sea, and the Arnold Arboretum's directions from the Forest Hills station. The Conservancy's outstanding proposal similarly promises to draw visitors to our treasured parks.

I urge you to support the Conservancy's proposal and allow the posting of signs marking these walking routes to the park. If you have any questions or comments, please contact Charlie Denison, Advocacy Director, at charlie@livablestreets.info or 617-852-6125. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Charlie Denison
Advocacy Director