

# **Lower Merrimack River Local Advisory Committee (LMRLAC)**

## **Annual Report - 2018**

The LMRLAC is chartered by New Hampshire RSA 483 Section 8-a to advise local authorities on matters pertaining to the management of the Lower Merrimack River corridor, which consists of the Designated River itself and the land within one quarter mile of the shoreline in the Towns of Hudson, Litchfield, and Merrimack, and the City of Nashua. To that end the LMRLAC reviews and comments to the appropriate permitting authorities on every proposed project within the corridor that could impact the resource values and characteristics of the River.

The LAC also advocates for general public support for River management and protection activities and is required to report annually to the municipalities on the status of compliance with applicable laws, regulations, and approved plans. This Report responds to that requirement.

In 2018 LMRLAC reviewed or followed projects in Merrimack, Litchfield, Hudson, and Nashua. LMRLAC also followed the progress of seasonal water quality monitoring, the Crest Gate project on the Pawtucket Dam in Lowell, MA, the Beazer East” Brownfield” creosote cleanup effort in Nashua, prospective boat launch projects in Litchfield and Nashua, and the PFOA/PFOS contamination in the region. Maintaining adequate representation from all member towns is an ongoing discussion topic as well.

In Hudson, LMRLAC reviewed and commented on Alteration of Terrain and Shoreland permit applications for The Sparkling River Condominium development. The LMRLAC member representing the Town of Hudson is Christine Dupree. In Litchfield, there were no new projects submitted for LMRLAC review in 2018. The LMRLAC member representing the Town of Litchfield is Michael Croteau, Esq. In Merrimack, LMRLAC reviewed and commented on an Alteration of Terrain application for the Residences at Edgebrook. LMRLAC members representing the Town of Merrimack are Nelson Disco and George May. In Nashua, LMRLAC reviewed an application for the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) for the Waste Water Treatment System pump improvements. LMRLAC members representing the City of Nashua are Gene Porter, Francis Murphy, Chris Barrett, and Karen Archambault. The LAC would welcome nominations for one or more additional members from Hudson and Litchfield. Applications and information can be found at: <https://www.nashuarpc.org/about/related-organizations/lmrlac/>.

Because public awareness of the River is essential to gaining widespread support for its protection, the provision of greater public access – both on the water and from the shore – is an important goal of the LMRLAC, and is consistent with the Town’s and Nashua Regional Planning Commission Long Range Plans. To that end, the LAC will continue to advocate for granting of conservation and public access easements for trails be made a condition of approval for development projects along the shoreline of the Merrimack River. LMRLAC Public Meetings are held at the Nashua Public Library on the 4th Thursday of the month at 7pm, unless noted otherwise on the NRPC website.

Respectfully Submitted 1/29/19

*Gene Porter*

Gene Porter, Chairman