



**City of Everett**  
Office of the Mayor  
**Carlo DeMaria, Jr.**  
484 Broadway  
EVERETT, MASSACHUSETTS 02149

## **PRESS RELEASE**

**Monday, January 9, 2017**

### **CITY OF EVERETT LOOKS TO EXTEND NORTHERN STRAND COMMUNITY PATH** *DeMaria administration awards RFP to Howard Stein Hudson*

Mayor Carlo DeMaria and the City of Everett are seeking to build upon the success of the northern sections of the Northern Strand Community Path by continuing it to the Mystic River. The extension of the Northern Strand to the south will provide a connection for residents and commuters alike to the Gateway Center, the Wynn Boston Harbor, and destinations across the river in Somerville and Boston.

The City recently awarded an RFP for the Northern Strand Community Path Extension conceptual design to Howard Stein Hudson (HSH). HSH with offices in Boston and Chelmsford, has been delivering transportation improvement projects throughout the Commonwealth for the past thirty years.

Mayor DeMaria stated, “The extension of the Northern Strand Community Trail represents a major opportunity for the City of Everett and its residents. Multi-use bike paths that connect significant destinations can bring increased economic vitality, improved quality of life, and better community health outcomes by providing easy access to physical activity.”

Clay Larsen, Project Manager of Bike to the Sea stated, “I want to thank Mayor DeMaria and the City of Everett for spearheading this project. This connection provides a critical link from the Northern Strand Community Path’s end through Gateway Park, the Wynn Harbor development, and into Boston. When the trail is completed users will be able to ride from Lynn all the way to Boston.”

To move the path forward to the Mystic River, the City of Everett has partnered with Wynn Resorts, the MBTA, DCR, and the Gateway Shopping Center. These partnerships will involve creative engineering solutions and a keen understanding of group dynamics; the inner workings of the MBTA, DCR, and private developers; and strong facilitation that brings a diverse set of stakeholders together around a set of shared goals and understandings.

The primary challenge for this project was designing an efficient yet collaborative stakeholder process that moves all relevant parties in the same direction. The dominant stakeholders in the extension are the private landowners and state agencies involved, but

broad, sustained community support was essential to move this project forward. Mayor DeMaria emphasized that the stakeholders needed to understand that the community wants this project and its benefits make it worthwhile.

DDR and Wynn Resorts have committed to easement rights for their respective sections of the Northern Strand Community Path as part of their MEPA filings for the Gateway Center and Wynn Boston Harbor.

Connecting Everett to the City of Boston via a comfortable and safe multi-use path would create a more affordable, healthier, and more enjoyable commute options for hundreds of commuters, and a recreational outlet for hundreds more. The Northern Strand is also an essential section of a much larger vision for a connected statewide bicycle network.

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