



ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP DEPARTMENT/

NEW BEDFORD CONSERVATION COMMISSION

CITY OF NEW BEDFORD
JONATHAN F. MITCHELL, MAYOR

June 11, 2014

Mayor Jonathan Mitchell
City of New Bedford
93 William St.
New Bedford, MA 02740

Dear Mayor Mitchell:

A long-term neighborhood dispute over a piece of City property located at Lot 122 on Padanaram Avenue has come to the attention of the Conservation Commission. The current dispute is over the erection of a fence some years ago, then the dismantling of that fence in January of this year, and now the apparent re-erection of that fence, located in a resource area under the jurisdiction of the Conservation Commission.

Our concern is that no permit for the erection of that fence has ever been filed. Beyond that immediate concern, it appears that different parties to this dispute have been told different things by different members of the City Government at various times. There is the additional difficulty of some matters, far beyond the purview of our Commission involving the language in the Easement to that parcel in question.

Perhaps your office could arrange a meeting of all parties involved so we can all have a clear picture of how to move ahead. We would like to see the resource area protected, of course, for that is the primary responsibility with which our Commission is charged. But we are also interested in seeing a civil resolution to an ongoing dispute among our fellow residents. A clear understanding of the law and procedure might help all parties to see their way to a better understanding of one another's rights and responsibilities.

Respectfully yours,

John G. Radcliffe, Chairman
City of New Bedford Conservation Commission

Cc: Joseph P. Lopes, Councilor, Ward 6; Ronald LaBelle, Commissioner of Public Infrastructure; Jill Maclean, City Planner; David Glicksman; Antone Amaral, City Solicitor's