



Smart Growth & Regional Collaboration

June 27, 2014

Mike Gowing, Chair
Board of Selectmen
Town of Acton
472 Main Street
Acton, MA 01720

Dear Mr. Gowing:

The position of Acton's representative to the Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC) expires on June 30, 2014. It is my hope that the Town will continue its participation on the Council by appointing a representative for a three-year term, and I have outlined this process below.

In accordance with the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 40B, Section 24, when the term of an appointed member expires, his/her successor shall be appointed **for a term of three years**. This term should commence on the date of appointment and must comply with the statute in order to be considered valid.

We recommend that the Town select an elected or appointed official or resident who can effectively represent Acton's interests in the region, and who will appropriately report back to the Town on MAPC's projects and policy priorities.

In keeping with MAPC's ongoing efforts to diversify our staff and members of the Council, we always appreciate it if an appointing authority can give due consideration to candidates who might help MAPC to more accurately reflect the population of our region.

Please be aware that in the capacity of Council representative, individuals hold a statutory office and are considered to be special state employees within the meaning of various statutes, including the Conflict of Interest Law.

This is an exciting time for smart growth and regional collaboration and MAPC is rising to the challenge:

- We are working with municipalities, state agencies, and allied organizations across the region to implement our regional plan for sustainable development, *MetroFuture: Making a Greater Boston Region*. Various programs from HUD, the EPA, and the Commonwealth have provided us with resources to bolster our work to achieve the bold goals of the *MetroFuture plan*.
- MAPC provides top-notch technical assistance to its member communities – drafting zoning bylaws, preparing applications to state government, helping communities to prepare for

natural or man-made disasters, protecting water supplies, establishing 40R or 43D districts, etc. Often, MAPC can cover all or part of the costs of these efforts.

- The Council has an active legislative agenda, overseen by its Legislative Committee. Currently, we are actively engaged in efforts to expand funding for the Community Preservation Act (CPA), to reform the state's antiquated zoning and subdivision laws, and to enhance the ability of municipalities to regionalize service delivery.
- As vice chair of the region's Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), we play an active role in making sure that the voice of our member communities is heard in state deliberations on transportation policies and capital projects.
- We continue to assist communities in the bulk purchase of goods and services – everything from fire trucks to office supplies. Buying as a group keeps the price low and helps to ensure quality products and services.

You can learn more about MAPC's ongoing activities by consulting our website, www.mapc.org, or you can follow us on Facebook or Twitter.

MAPC takes pride in playing a critical role to promote sustainable growth and inter-local cooperation across the region. We value Acton's involvement in deliberations about the region's physical, social and economic condition, and we need your participation. We look forward to the involvement of your new appointee.

I would also like to point out that the Town has the option of appointing an Alternate member to serve conterminously with the term of the Representative. Details on this process are enclosed with this letter. The Alternate member can vote at all Council meetings on behalf of the Town in the absence of the Representative.

Please address any questions regarding the appointment process to Thomas Hauenstein, Manager of Human Resources, at (617) 933-0772 or thauenstein@mapc.org. Or, if you have broader questions about the role of MAPC and its Council members, feel free to call me directly at (617) 933-0701, or contact me by email at mdraisen@mapc.org. Thank you for your attention.

Respectfully,



Marc D. Draisen
Executive Director



TOWN OF ACTON
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Acton, Massachusetts, 01720
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Fax (978) 929-6350

Michael J. Gowing
Chairman, Board of Selectmen

September 8, 2014

Mr. Marc D. Draisen, Executive Director
Metropolitan Area Planning Council
60 Temple Place, 6th Floor
Boston, MA 02111

Dear Mr. Draisen:

In accordance with the provisions of Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 40B,, section 24, I hereby appoint Frances J. Osman as the Town of Acton's representative to the Metropolitan Area Planning Council. Said appointment shall be for a term of three years from the above date.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Gowing, Chairman, Board of Selectmen