

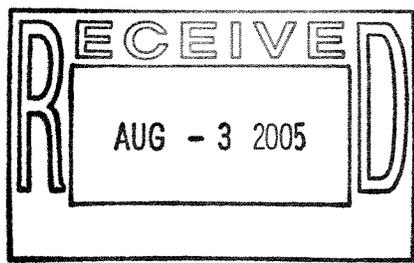
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Metropolitan Area Planning Council

60 Temple Place, Boston, Massachusetts 02111 617-451-2770 fax 617-482-7185 www.mapc.org

Serving 101 cities and towns in metropolitan Boston



August 2, 2005

Mr. Peter Ashton, Chairman
Board of Selectmen
Town of Acton
472 Main Street
Acton, MA 01720

Dear Chairman Ashton and Members of the Board:

The term of Acton's representative to the Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC) expired on June 30, 2005. 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 in a like manner 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 regional arena, and who will appropriately report back to the Town on issues discussed at MAPC. 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 metropolitan collaboration and MAPC is rising to its challenges. We are excited to be involved in programs such as these:

- We are rewriting the comprehensive regional plan for metro Boston. Our project is called MetroFuture, and we have already engaged more than 1,000 officials and residents in "visioning" for the 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, and protecting water supplies.
- The Council has an active legislative agenda, overseen by its Legislative Committee. Currently, we are actively engaged in reforming the process by which the Commonwealth disposes of surplus state land.
- 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.

You can learn more about MAPC's ongoing activities by consulting our website, www.mapc.org.

Richard A. Dimino, *President* Gordon Feltman, *Vice President* Grace S. Shepard, *Treasurer* Jeanne E. Richardson, *Secretary*

Marc D. Draisen, *Executive Director*

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.

Please address any questions regarding the appointment process to Thomas Hauenstein, Manager of Human Resources, at (617) 451-2770, ext. 2072 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 x5005, or contact me by email at mdraisen@mapc.org. Thank you for your attention.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Marc D. Draisen". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Marc D. Draisen
Executive Director