

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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February 12, 2014

Senate President Therese Murray
Chairman Stephen Brewer

Speaker of the House Robert DeLeo
Chairman Brian Dempsey

Re: Recapitalization of the Brownfields Redevelopment Fund

Dear Madam President, Mr. Speaker, Chairman Brewer, and Chairman Dempsey:

We are writing today to express our support for the swift recapitalization of the Brownfields Redevelopment Fund. The Brownfields Redevelopment Fund supports the clean-up of contaminated properties, putting them back on the tax-roles or dedicating them to public recreational use. It is a win-win for the environment and the economy.

Since its inception in 1998, the Fund has invested over \$78 million through more than 630 awards to support housing and commercial development on remediated brownfields sites. In the last six years, projects financed by the Fund have created over 2600 jobs and over 4000 housing units. It is a national model of success.

Among these projects are the following:

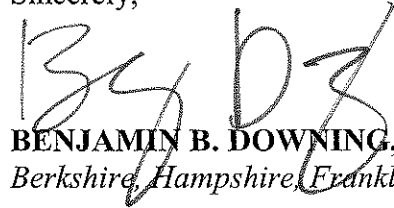
- \$912,940 to convert former tire shop at 57 Granite St. in **Haverhill** into parking garage to serve growing downtown residential and commercial community;
- \$900,000 to build **RiverMills** Center, a 21,000 square foot senior center at 154 Grove St. in Chicopee;
- \$453,060 to convert former coal storage facility at 82-84 Billington Street in **Plymouth** into extension of town's park and trail system.

The Brownfields Redevelopment Fund is critically important as cities and towns emerging from the recession look to underutilized or abandoned properties as growth opportunities. The program, administered by MassDevelopment, provides support for assessment as well as clean-up. MassDevelopment provides valuable annual reports detailing specifically how the funds are used and the positive impacts these projects have on cities and towns across the Commonwealth.

Increased utilization of the Fund has left it fully depleted as of June 2013. There are already \$28 million in potential new requests on hold.

Please join us in supporting the recapitalization of the Brownfields Redevelopment Fund. We look forward to working with you to keep this effective financing tool generating economic growth in our Commonwealth.

Sincerely,



BENJAMIN B. DOWNING, *State Senator*
Berkshire, Hampshire, Franklin & Hampden District



ANTONIO ED CABRAL, *State Representative*
Thirteenth Bristol District



JENNIFER L. FLANAGAN, *State Senator*
Worcester and Middlesex District



JAMES B. ELDRIDGE, *State Senator*
Middlesex and Worcester District



WILLIAM N. BROWNSBERGER, *State Senator*
Second Suffolk and Middlesex District



BRUCE E. TARR, *State Senator*
First Essex and Middlesex District

JOAN B. LOVELY, State Senator
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EILEEN M. DONOGHUE, State Senator
First Middlesex District

BARRY R. FINEGOLD
Second Essex and Middlesex District

MICHAEL J. RODRIGUES
First Bristol and Plymouth District

GALE D. CANDARAS
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JAMES T. WELCH
Hampden District

KATHLEEN O'CONNOR-IVES
First Essex District

DANIEL A. WOLF
Cape and Islands District

MARK C. MONTIGNY
Second Bristol and Plymouth District

THOMAS P. KENNEDY
Second Plymouth and Bristol District

SAL N. DIDOMENICO
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ANTHONY PETRUCCELLI
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Third Middlesex District

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First Worcester District

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State Representative
Fourteenth Middlesex District

RUTH BALSER
State Representative
Twelfth Middlesex District

TACKEY CHAN
State Representative
Second Norfolk District

STEPHEN DINATALE
State Representative
Third Worcester District

DIANNA DIZOGLIO
State Representative
Fourteenth Essex

DANIEL DONAHUE
State Representative
Sixteenth Worcester District

TRICIA FARLEY-BOUVIER
State Representative
Third Berkshire District

CAROLE FIOLA
State Representative
Sixth Bristol District

WILLIAM GALVIN
State Representative
Sixth Norfolk District

SEAN GARBALLEY
State Representative
Twenty-Third Middlesex District

JONATHAN HECHT
State Representative
Twenty-Ninth Middlesex District

PAUL HEROUX
State Representative
Second Bristol District

KEVIN HONAN
State Representative
Seventeenth Suffolk District

JAY KAUFMAN
State Representative
Fifteenth Middlesex District

MARY KEEFE
State Representative
Fifteenth Worcester District

JOHN KEENAN
State Representative
Seventh Essex District

STEPHEN KULIK
State Representative
First Franklin District

JAY LIVINGSTONE
State Representative
Eighth Suffolk District

ELIZABETH MALIA
State Representative
Eleventh Suffolk District

FRANK MORAN
State Representative
Seventeenth Essex District

JERALD PARISELLA
State Representative
Sixth Essex District

ALAN SILVIA
State Representative
Seventh Bristol District

WILLIAM PIGNATELLI
State Representative
Fourth Berkshire District

FRANK SMIZIK
State Representative
Fifteenth Norfolk District

DENISE PROVOST
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Twenty-Seventh Middlesex District

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Thirteenth Essex District

DAVID ROGERS
State Representative
Twenty-Fourth Middlesex District

TIMOTHY TOOMEY
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Twenty-Sixth Middlesex District

PAUL SCHMID
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Eight Bristol District

AARON VEGA
State Representative
Fifth Hampden District

CARL SCIORTINO
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Thirty-Fourth Middlesex District

TOM SANNICANDRO
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