From: <u>Michael Hyman</u>

To: <u>Mahoney, Dennis; McGarry, Marion</u>

Cc:Rosenson, ValerieSubject:Bocuzzi Park Master PlanDate:Friday, July 19, 2019 5:46:49 PM

## Dear Representative Mahoney and Representative McGarry:

I am writing today asking for your support and that of the Parks and Recreation Committee to approve the revised lease for SoundWaters at Boccuzzi Park. The revised lease is required to recognize that the former lease holder, Young Mariners, has been merged into SoundWaters and to proceed with implementation of the Boccuzzi Park Master, developed with much community input.

Among many other benefits, the plan

- Relocates the parking lot away from the flood zone, eliminating a source of pollution and reclaiming that waterfront for people access.
- Eliminates the existing temporary trailers in the park.
- Increases Park resiliency with the addition of buffering sand dunes at the water's edge.

As a Stamford resident for more than twenty-seven (27) years and the former director of the Chester Addison Center for more than ten years I am intimately aware of the valuable community asset we have in Boccuzzi Park. As a water accessible park, this plan marries environmental, conservation, and community access with partners that have a long and storied history of respect for the environment. Of course, I am very biased about this situation. You see as a 10 year old my daughter received her sailing license at SoundWaters and as the director of a neighborhood community center we sponsored dozens of children in exciting learning excursions with Young Mariners'. Moreover, Boccuzzi Park has gently evolved into a Waterside community space with much needed activities for our citizenry while respectfully preserving greenspace.

The proposal before you "gets it right" in a balanced way that maintains an environmentally appropriate plan that encourages an equally appropriate level of community access and use. Your consideration and support for this plan is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,
Michael A. Hyman
53 Carriage Drive, Stamford CT 06902
203.325.4912