



CONSERVATION COMMISSION

225 Center Road - Easton, Connecticut 06612

July 17, 2020

Commissioner Katherine S. Dykes
Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection
Attn: Allyson Clark, Open Space and Watershed and Land Acquisition
79 Elm Street
Hartford, CT 06106-5127

Re: Open Space and Watershed Land Acquisition 2020 Grant Application
Property located at 18 South Park Avenue, Easton, CT 06612

Dear Commissioner Dykes:

The Easton Conservation Commission is pleased to support the Aspetuck Land Trust's application to seek funding from the State through the Open Space and Watershed Land Acquisition Program in order to acquire the 18.7 acre property located off South Park Avenue in Easton, CT.

This property encompasses part of the Mill River, immediately downstream of the Easton reservoir. It is known to contain excellent water quality and is an important cold water fishery. Additionally, it is a Class 1 Wild Trout Management Area. It is also the headwaters of the Town of Fairfield watershed which begins with release-water below the upstream hydraulic company dam. Preservation of this area through the proposed acquisition will avoid adverse impacts to natural resources and help protect the water resources and surrounding habitat of the Mill River that is home to wild native brook trout and wild brown trout.

We believe that the Aspetuck Land Trust will be the perfect steward of the Mill River and this newly acquired area will enhance land already owned by the Land Trust immediately to the north and south of the site.

Sincerely,

Dori Wollen jmd
Dori Wollen, Chair

DW/fmd

Cc. John Cunningham, Chair
South Park Advisory Committee