



Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe
483 Great Neck Rd So. Mashpee, MA 02649
Phone (508) 477-0208 * Fax (508) 477-1218

2021-RES-078
APPROVAL OF LETTER OF SUPPORT
FOR
THE NSF COASTLINES & PEOPLE (COPE) PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe (“Tribe”) is a federally-recognized Indian Tribe with a duly-enacted Constitution; *and*,

WHEREAS, the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Council (“Tribal Council”), the governing body of the Tribe, deems it essential, and is empowered, under Article VI, §2.A. of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Constitution to promote and protect the health and general welfare of the members of the Tribe; *and*,

WHEREAS, since time immemorial, the Tribe has relied upon the coastal regions of southeastern Massachusetts, Cape Cod and the Islands all of which are culturally significant to the Tribe in many ways; *and*

WHEREAS, the Northeast climate change impacts are most acute at our coastal regions in New England where we are currently experiencing faster atmospheric warming, adverse coastal-water warming, and detrimental sea-level rise compared to the rest of the continental U.S.; *and*

WHEREAS, Massachusetts Tribal communities are increasingly impacted by rising waters, flooding, extreme storms, erosion and these rapidly changing natural systems are intimately connected to our people, culture and traditions; *and*

WHEREAS, the Northeast Center for Coastal Resilience (NCCR) will produce actionable science, inform decision making, support transformative blue economy development, and facilitate collaborations serving as a regional knowledge center; *and*

WHEREAS, there is an urgent need for the Tribe to better understand the risks and impacts of climate change here in Massachusetts and to develop promising opportunities for adaptive planning and participate in the development of a blue economy; *and*

WHEREAS, NCCR will leverage world-class scientists and scholars from across the Commonwealth's public universities as a multi-institutional partnership with UMass Amherst, Boston, Dartmouth, and Lowell in partnership with strategic collaborators such as the Woods Hole Group and Essex County Community Foundation; *and*

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Tribal Council desires to provide a formal letter of support for the University of Massachusetts submittal of the NSF Coastlines & People (CoPe) Program to facilitate collaborations in building a framework for a climate-adaptive, just, and thriving coastal New England and the collective efforts to preserve, promote and protect these priority coastal regions in perpetuity.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Chairman of the Tribal Council, or in his absence other Tribal Council Officer, is hereby authorized to take all necessary action to ensure the submission of the letter of support, in substantively the same form as attached as Exhibit A, and to take such other actions as are reasonable and necessary in furtherance of the execution or performance of this Resolution.

Effective immediately and until revoked or modified by the Tribal Council, pursuant to the authority vested in the Tribal Council pursuant to Article VI, Section 2.A of the Constitution of the Mashpee Wampanoag. All resolutions or parts of resolutions inconsistent with this resolution are repealed.

CERTIFICATION

We, the undersigned Chairperson and Secretary of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Council do hereby certify that the Tribal Council is composed of 13 members of whom 11, constituting a quorum, were present at a meeting thereof, duly and regularly called, noticed, convened, and held on the 1st day of December, 2021, and that the foregoing Resolution was duly adopted by the affirmative vote of 9 members, with 0 opposing, and with 1 not voting.

Dated this 1st day of December, 2021.



Brian M. Weeden, CHAIRMAN
Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Council

ATTEST:



Cassie D. Jackson, SECRETARY
Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Council

EXHIBIT A
LETTER OF SUPPORT