

**Town and County of Nantucket**  
**Board of Selectmen • County Commissioners**

Michael A. Glowacki, Chairman  
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C. Elizabeth Gibson  
Town & County Administrator

May 31, 2005

Charles Sayle III  
Save Our Waterfront Inc.  
PO Box 143  
Nantucket, MA 02554

Re: Spruce Street Improvement Project

Dear Mr. Sayle:

The Spruce Street Improvement Project is the Town's effort to reclaim a public access to the Creeks and to dedicate land in the area for open space purposes. Spruce Street and an adjoining 12' wide public easement have been encroached upon by an abutting property owner for the past several years. Pursuant to affirmative votes on Article 81, as amended, of the 2004 Annual Town Meeting, the Town negotiated with this abutter to remove the encroachments and agreed to release its rights and convey a portion of the public easement to the abutter. In return the abutter agreed to release his rights and convey a portion of private property to the Town for open space and recreation purposes.

To remove the existing encroachments in the Spruce Street right-of-way requires a permit from the Conservation Commission. An application for the removal of an encroaching fence will be filed with and addressed at a Conservation Commission public meeting.

The Town recently completed surveying in the area in preparation for eminent domain takings of two Creeks parcels for open space purposes. The Town & County will also consider converting all or a portion of the Spruce Street layout for open space preservation, pursuant to the above referenced Town Meeting vote. The eminent domain takings of the Creeks parcels require public hearings, which will be noticed for two weeks in the local newspaper. No date or time has been set for this hearing. Dedication of all or part of the Spruce Street layout for open space does not require a public hearing, but will occur at a Board of Selectmen meeting, if the County Commission agrees to alter the layout of Spruce Street.

The Town would certainly appreciate the support of Save Our Waterfront, Inc. in this project as it directly coincides with your goal to "Advocate for the protection of existing public access to the waterfront, as well as for the creation of additional public access."

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "C. Elizabeth Gibson".

C. Elizabeth Gibson  
Town Administrator

pc: Board of Selectmen  
Andrew Vorce, Planning Director