



Town of Arlington  
Office of the Town Manager

Adam W. Chapdelaine  
Town Manager

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MEMORANDUM

DATE: December 13, 2021

TO: Board Members

SUBJECT: Appointment as an Associate Commissioner to the Conservation Commission

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This memo is to request the Board's approval of my appointment of Myra Schwartz, Arlington, MA, as an Associate Commissioner to the Conservation Commission, with a term expiration date of 06/30/2024.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Town Manager

**Myra S. Schwartz**  
272 Highland Ave.  
Arlington, MA 02474

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

## **EXPERIENCE**

**Program Manager, Environmental Protection Specialist (GR13), Land Chemicals and Redevelopment Division/Brownfields and Sustainable Materials Management Section,** Boston, MA, 2019-2021.

Region I lead for the Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training program; lead on Sustainability Practices/Green Energy/and Resiliency, 2019-2021. Accomplishments include: Instrumental in changing national policy on incorporating green infrastructure and stormwater management into the FY21 Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training grants program; serving as the technical contact and Project Officer on Healthy Communities and Pollution Prevention grants on green infrastructure, stormwater, watershed management and green energy. Awarded funding from the Office of Water, Non-Point Source program for a pilot, "Incorporating Green Infrastructure into local Hazard Mitigation plans in the Mystic River Watershed." Responsibilities included: managing and coordinating project; Organizing/conducting presentation at the national 2020 virtual NPS conference, Sept. 2019-2021.

**Environmental/Stormwater Planner, Office of Assistance and Pollution Prevention, 2004-2019.** Environmental Protection Specialist (GR13).

Work involved implementing a number of regional and national priority initiatives and teams, including: Stormwater and Green Infrastructure, *Making a Visible Difference Lawrence, Bridgeport and Hinsdale*, and *Sustainable Knowledge Corridor Initiative*. Developed and implemented the Regional Integrated Stormwater Strategy, in particular activities related to LID and Green Infrastructure, 2008-2019. This involved cross program coordination, working closely with EPA ORD, Atlantic Ecology Division, OEP's water programs, OSRR Brownfields program, and OES enforcement. Played a leadership role on LID/Green Infrastructure towards implementing the use of techniques within OES (SEPs), A&P2 and in the region, developing tools and resources, and assisting in the development of the GI/LID technical documents; and Project officer and Technical contact on a number of Healthy Communities, EJ and Pollution Prevention grants. These accomplishments are summarized below:

*Soak Up the Rain New England* webinar series. Organized and conducted a webinar series "Soak Up the Rain New England," focusing on success stories and resources related to implementing green infrastructure, Dec. 2015-2021. Conducted a joint webinar with Office of Water "Lessons Learned on Integrating Water Quality and Nature-based Approaches into Hazard Mitigation Plans," Watershed Academy.

*Rain Garden/Green Infrastructure Trainings.* Organized and conducted rain garden trainings in

New England including: Bridgeport, CT, Hartford, CT, Worcester, MA, Providence, RI., E. Boston and Federal facilities, partnering with city, federal and state agencies; and neighborhood/watershed groups: 2010-2015.

*Green Infrastructure Workshops.* Project Manager in organizing, implementing and coordinating a contract to conduct Green Infrastructure workshops for the development community, to support the Sustainable Knowledge Corridor Initiative priority. Partners included: ORD, Atlantic Ecology Division, University of Massachusetts, and the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission, ("Nuts & Bolts of Green Infrastructure" and a GI workshop and vendor fair), 2013-2014, Holyoke Community College.

*MS4/LID Clinics.* Project Manager in implementing and coordinating a contract to conduct MS4/LID clinics in New England-the first cross program major effort to implement the Integrated Stormwater Strategy towards providing needed technical assistance on the recently issued MS4 permits for Massachusetts and New Hampshire. This involved: coordinating cross office reviews (w/OEP staff) to produce four technical documents to be used in clinics and posted for wide audience on the EPA website to provide guidance to MS4 regulated community; and leveraging cross program resources and monies resulting in an increase in funding and scope of these clinics from \$6,000-\$50,000.

*LID Conferences.* Organized and conducted four LID conferences (with OEP and external State partners) for the Development and MS4 communities: "LID for the Development Community" and "LID for Northern Climates," held in Vermont, Maine, and New Hampshire, partnering with regional NEMO programs.

*LID SEPs.* Developed LID/Green Infrastructure SEPs projects for use in Stormwater enforcement cases, which has resulted in: eight MS4 settlements (out of 9 cases) that have utilized LID SEPs. Provided on-going technical assistance to ORC staff on specific LID SEPs being developed.

*Technical Contact/Project Officer on Healthy Communities and Pollution Prevention grants.* Provided technical reviews and input related to deliverables related to Green Infrastructure, stormwater and watershed projects. Provided reviews and input into Quality Assurance Project plans.

Resiliency/Hazard Mitigation/Area-Wide Planning and technical assistance. Activities included: Identifying opportunities to deliver training and technical assistance integrating Green Infrastructure and sustainable practices into grant projects and Initiatives including hazard mitigation and the Land Revitalization program, and stormwater management.

**Brownfields Project Manager,** Environmental Protection Specialist (GR13/5), Office of Site Remediation & Restoration, Boston, MA, 2002-2004. Responsible for overseeing the administration of Brownfields Cooperative Agreement grants. Provided technical assistance on all aspects of grant implementation related to assessment, clean-up and redevelopment of sites. Represent the Brownfields team on the Region I Urban River Restoration Initiative; and the Regional Reuse, and the Smart Growth teams. Received National Notable Achievement Award,



awarded to Brownfields Team, 2002-2004.

**Massachusetts Watershed Coordinator**, Environmental Protection Specialist (GR13/5), MA Office of Ecosystem Protection, Environmental Protection Agency, Boston, MA, 1996-2002.

Responsible for facilitating, overseeing and coordinating EPA's assistance to twenty-seven watersheds in Massachusetts, in support of the Massachusetts Watershed Initiative. Provided technical assistance to state agencies and watershed associations in the areas of: citizen volunteer monitoring, water quality sampling, Geographic Information Systems (GIS), stormwater management, non-point source pollution, NPDES permitting, TMDL (Total Daily Maximum Daily Loads) program, funding opportunities, and overall watershed protection efforts. Coordinated citizen volunteer monitoring and water quality sampling assistance with staff from the Office of Environmental Measurement and Evaluation, including the development of Quality Assurance Project plans. Involved with TMDL development, implementation and enforcement dealing with stormwater and CSO issues. Reviewed, coordinated, and prepared formal comments to DEP on water quality assessments. Reviewed and prepared formal comments on NEPA/MEPA projects. Developed and coordinated procedures for conducting reviews and obtaining comments from watershed groups that addressed water quality issues of concern in NPDES permits. Project Officer of watershed grants. Received Employee of the Month, May, 1999.

**Massachusetts State Coordinator**, Environmental Protection Specialist (GR12), Underground Storage Tanks Program, Environmental Protection Agency, 1993-96.

Managed State Underground Storage Tanks Program. Provided technical support to Underground Storage Tanks Program managers of the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and Department of Fire Services (DPS) in administering State program. Initiated and provided technical assistance to state program staff to implement work programs; supervised state leak prevention programs to ensure states were meeting all commitments and were carrying out the programs consistent with Subtitle I of RCRA. Provided technical support to State agencies in delegation and overview of the UST program; Work Assignment Manager (WAM). Provided oversight and technical direction for contractors in conducting TQM Streamlining work assignments; provided technical assistance to owners/operators and the general public on regulatory requirements. Certified UST Inspector. Conducted over 100 inspections, conducted enforcement actions with state, municipal and private facilities, issued field citations and provided technical assistance to owners/operators for minor violations involving leak detection and corrective action (21E). Developed and implemented a regional enforcement strategy and technical assistance program targeting drinking water supplies, in cooperation with Office of Ecosystem Protection and State DEP and Office of Fire Safety. Received EPA RCRA/UST Excellence in Performance Award, 1995, EPA Time-Off Award, 1994.

**Environmental Protection Specialist**, (Grade 12) Department of Housing and Urban Development, Boston, MA, 1991-93.

Responsible for implementing and insuring compliance with NEPA/MEPA and all environmental federal and state laws, regulations, and executive orders that are applicable to HUD Housing and

Community Development programs. Monitored and conducted enforcement activities at state and local agencies for environmental compliance, and provided training and technical assistance to HUD grantees on all areas of environmental compliance including: flood plain management, wetlands protection, Clean Water Act, NPDES permitting, RCRA, CERCLA, Asbestos NESHAP, and Historic Preservation. Organized and conducted a region-wide training for grantees and staff. Provided guidance and prepared educational materials on environmental regulatory requirements to HUD staff and grantees. Coordinated technical assistance and compliance with EPA and other federal and state environmental agencies. Received Outstanding Performance Award, 1992.

**Environmental Planner**, CH2M Hill, Boston, MA, 1989-1990.

Project Manager for Environmental Impact Report for the Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) Facilities Plan developed for the Massachusetts Water Resources authority. Supervised three subcontractors in conducting environmental impact assessments of land uses, recreational and visual resources, planning consistency, and permitting. Conducted planning and citizen participation in the areas of solid-waste and hazardous-waste management.

**Senior Planner**, Boston Redevelopment Authority, Harbor Planning and Development, Boston, MA, 1986-1989.

Project Manager for a plan to rezone the Boston Inner Harbor waterfront. Supervised project team, consultants and interns in land use and zoning analyses. Coordinated citizen participation development of planning and zoning recommendations. Supervised and coordinated planning and development of water transportation activities. Planner on the Boston "Harborwalk" design team which resulted in the development of guidelines and requirements for developers to create the "Harborwalk" along the Boston waterfront. Managed production of planning documents and reports. Provided technical assistance to staff and developers on environmental regulatory, permitting and MEPA requirements. Held primary responsibility or reviewing Environmental Impact Reports and Board of Appeal cases for waterfront projects.

**Environmental Planner**, Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Air Quality Control, Boston, MA 1984-86.

Project Manager for the Massachusetts Community Right-to-Know program. Developed and implemented policies and procedures for a statewide compliance program. Coordinated activities with other state agencies and environmental program. Supervised implementation of all program activities in regional offices. Developed and managed statewide technical assistance, public information, and training programs for municipal officials and the general public. Established and worked with citizen advisory group. Managed the production and distribution of brochures, fact sheets, press releases, and compliance handbook.. Assisted in the development of a data system to serve three state agencies. Managed three RFPs and resulting contracts.



**Assistant Planner/Program Manager**, Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Water Supply, Boston, MA, 1982-83.

Developed and implemented a Water Conservation Grants program. Developed regulations and selection criteria in collaboration with other state and local programs. Established and worked with a citizen advisory group. Developed a statewide technical assistance and public information program. Conducted technical assistance workshops and conferences.

## **EDUCATION**

**Master of Regional Planning.** Department of Landscape Architecture and Regional Planning. University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA, 1986.

**Concentration:** Water Resources/Environmental Planning and Citizen Participation

**Thesis Project:** Conducted an Environmental Impact Assessment with recommendations of point-source water quality problems on the Millers River, which were incorporated into a watershed management plan developed by the Department of Environmental Management.

**Master of Arts in Education.** Oakland University, Rochester, MI, 1971.

**Bachelor of Arts.** University of Denver, CO, 1969.  
Major: Political Science

### **Other**

Harvard University, Graduate School of Design, Cambridge, MA, 1978. Summer program in Landscape Architecture.

Radcliffe College, Graduate Program in Landscape, Spring, 1990.

**Additional Coursework:** Wetlands Ecology - Harvard Extension and U of MA, Amherst, and University of MA, Boston.

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December 13, 2021

Myra Schwartz  
Arlington, MA 02476  
[schwartzmyra@icloud.com](mailto:schwartzmyra@icloud.com)

Re: Appointment: Associate Commissioner to the Conservation Commission

Dear Ms. Schwartz:

As a matter of the standard appointment procedure, the Select Board requests that you attend a virtual meeting of the Select Board conducted by remote participation, on Monday, December 20, 2021 at 7:15 p.m.

It is a requirement of the Select Board that you join this virtual meeting. This will give the Board an opportunity to meet and discuss matters with you about the area of activity in which you will be involved.

Information which includes the link to the meeting will be available at the bottom of the Select Board Agenda as well as on the Town Calendar when the meeting is posted Thursday, December 16th by 7:00 p.m.

Please contact this office by e-mail, [lcosta@town.arlington.ma.us](mailto:lcosta@town.arlington.ma.us), if you have any questions.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,  
SELECT BOARD

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Marie A. Krepelka".

Marie A. Krepelka  
Board Administrator