

Massachusetts Ocean Planning
Listening Session

Tufts Library
46 Broad Street
Weymouth MA, 02188

Monday,
September 29, 2008
7:00 p.m.

1 (The Ocean Management Planning Listening
2 Session convened at 7 p.m. conducted by Assistant
3 Secretary Babb-Brott.)
4 ASSISTANT SECRETARY BABB-BROTT: Good
5 evening and thank you for coming. Thank you for
6 coming tonight. This is one of 18 public meetings
7 that the Executive Office of the Environmental
8 Affairs is holding in support of the ocean planning
9 process. My name is Deerin Babb-Brott, Assistant
10 Secretary for Oceans at the Executive Office of
11 Environmental Affairs, and on behalf of my boss,
12 Secretary Ian Bowles, welcome and thank you for
13 coming out this evening.
14 If this were an overflowing and a gust
15 crowd it would be my obligation, and I will anyway,
16 as in good form, to recognize Mayor Sue Kay. Thank
17 you for being here this evening.
18 MAYOR KAY: Thank you.
19 ASSISTANT SECRETARY BABB-BROTT: And
20 also Jamie Lynn Ryan who is representing
21 Representative James Murphy. Thank you for being
22 here this evening.
23 We have a very small group this evening

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1 so I am going to go through the formal
2 preliminaries, and then I think we can just do
3 question and answer. And if folks have thoughts,
4 have questions, take advantage of us being here.
5 We're happy to answer whatever we can. If we can't
6 we'll tell you that. The only ground rules for that
7 are going to be we are videotaping all of our public
8 information meetings, and they will be available for
9 viewing by anybody on the web. In order to do that,
10 we have to make sure that folks are using the
11 microphones so that the sound gets picked up and
12 makes sense when we all go to look at them 2 months
13 from now. So when we do, if you do request to talk,
14 that's great, but let's try to remember to use the
15 microphone. I'm usually the biggest criminal in
16 that regard. So help us do that.
17 So the agenda is simple. I'll just
18 walk through some basic introduction stuff, and then
19 give you an overview of the ocean planning process.
20 This is where I would go to the sign-in sheets. We
21 have folks who have signed in. But as I said I
22 think we'll just do question and answer and
23 discussion, if that suits people.

1 There are a number of materials
 2 available when you signed in. Please take the time
 3 to sign in and get contact information. As most
 4 folks have. Thank you. That will give us the
 5 opportunity to put you on a mailing list and make
 6 sure you get emails and information about notices of
 7 upcoming meetings, planning products, technical
 8 materials, just helps you stay in touch with the
 9 process and help us reach out to you. So that we're
 10 able to do that.

11 Also at the very end of the handout
 12 that I'll be walking through this evening, there is
 13 3 or 4 questions that we're just kind of leaving the
 14 folks in terms of the kind of information that we're
 15 interested in soliciting. So look at those
 16 questions if you would, and things like what is
 17 important to you about an ocean plan or about how we
 18 think about an ocean plan based on how you use or
 19 experience the ocean. How should that be reflected
 20 in an ocean plan. Just thoughts that will help
 21 guide us as we think about building the plan going
 22 forward. They are just suggestions, and we're happy
 23 and want to hear whatever is on your mind about use

1 protection, enjoyment, or anything else about the
 2 ocean that you care to share with us.

3 So with that, I'll jump in and talk a
 4 little bit about what is an ocean plan. And the
 5 ocean plan will be a plan to guide the use,
 6 protection, and development of our ocean waters. It
 7 will address uses and development that are
 8 incompatible with each other, identify uses and
 9 development that are incompatible with natural
 10 resources. It will identify natural areas that
 11 should be protected. It will generally and under
 12 overall sense balance use protection and development
 13 of ocean waters.

14 It will be implemented through state
 15 permitting processes. Any state permit approval
 16 that is issued based on the plan will have to be
 17 consist with it. So that the plan itself not
 18 regulation, it will have a legal and controlling
 19 force in terms of the permits and regulations that
 20 are issued to projects subject to the plan.

21 It's going to be based on environmental
 22 economic and social information, maps and data that
 23 we'll use to -- this is an academic definition of

1 the ocean planning process. Rationally organize the
 2 use of ocean space so the interaction between uses
 3 balance demands for development with the need to
 4 protect the environment and to achieve social and
 5 economic objectives in an open and planned way.

6 We need an ocean plan in part because
 7 the Oceans Act of 2008 recognizes that a plan is
 8 necessary for Massachusetts because the ocean is a
 9 public resource. It belongs to all of us. We need
 10 to protect, enhance the environment. We need to use
 11 the ocean. And we can neither protect it in its
 12 entirety or develop it in its entirety. So the
 13 ocean plan is fundamentally going to be about
 14 identifying the different kinds of issues, and it's
 15 going to be about balance.

16 So the Oceans Act in June the
 17 legislature passed and the Governor signed the
 18 Oceans Act 2008 which directs the Executive Office
 19 of Environmental Affairs Energy Environmental
 20 Affairs with the assistance of an ocean advisory
 21 commission and science advisory council to develop
 22 the plan. And in short the Act directs that the
 23 ocean plan set forth the Commonwealth's goals citing

1 priorities and standards for proper stewardship of
 2 its ocean waters held in trust for the benefit of
 3 the public.

4 So the Oceans Act also directs that the
 5 plan coordinate uses that cross international,
 6 federal, state, and local jurisdictions. An example
 7 could be down the road when deep water wind farms
 8 are proposed, they'll be in federal waters. Their
 9 cable will run through state waters and then run
 10 through local waters. How do we think intelligently
 11 about the regulations or the impact of those kind of
 12 activities now. The plan asks that we foster with
 13 the Act and asks that we through the plan foster
 14 sustainable uses. Alternative energy sources for
 15 example.

16 And the Act finally says that we need
 17 to identify locations and performance standards for
 18 activities, uses, and facilities allowed in the
 19 Ocean Sanctuary Act. Examples of those kinds of
 20 projects is the sand mining, wind turbines,
 21 agricultural facilities. So we have to identify the
 22 locations and develop regulations and performance
 23 standards for those.

9

1 Importantly the Oceans Act directs that
2 commercial and recreational fishing shall be
3 allowable -- shall be allowable uses subject to the
4 exclusive description of marine fisheries and
5 directs that it will have sole responsibility for
6 developing implementing fisheries management plans
7 and regulations.

8 So the schedule in the product for the
9 plan is that by June of next year 2009 we will
10 submit a draft plan for public hearings and by the
11 end of the year December 31, 2009, we'll formally
12 promulgate an ocean plan that does two things.
13 First, it will be a plan as I talked about here that
14 identifies areas suitable for different kinds of
15 developmental protection and describes how they will
16 be managed or regulated. And secondly because the
17 time we have is so short and the amount of
18 information and the questions that the state and all
19 of us need to answer is so long the plan will have a
20 second piece which will be a formal road map really
21 the long-term plan for what are the big picture
22 questions, what is the information we need to answer
23 those questions. How will we evaluate how the plan

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1 is working, and what will be the ways that we refine
2 and change the plan over time.

3 So we're doing that through a four-step
4 process, four-step process. Step 1 is going to be
5 gather information, and that's happening now through
6 January of '09. The first step here is receiving
7 public information and comment to help us begin
8 putting together the raw materials, to collect and
9 analyze existing environment economic and social
10 data, we're going to use that to establish the site
11 of the baseline for the short- and long-term plan.
12 We're developing that information using agency
13 resources, work groups assisting the agency
14 comprised of interests from the outside world,
15 stakeholder groups specific interest groups who use
16 the ocean one way or another and also from the
17 general public.

18 We're also simultaneously reviewing and
19 analyzing ocean planning models from around the
20 world, what are the different kinds of plans we'll
21 be looking for out in the world that can help guide
22 our work here, looking in different places who have
23 done figuring out what the strength and weakness are

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1 and how they apply it to what we're doing.

2 Second step is developing a draft plan.

3 So we'll assemble the raw materials between now and
4 January, and then we'll begin to assemble those, put
5 it together, overlay the data and the information
6 layers and begin to identify layers of compatibility
7 and conflict among uses and between uses and
8 resources. Evaluate the tradeoffs from different
9 planning decisions and work through areas of
10 conflict with stakeholders. So as we identify
11 areas, we may have an area suitable for one kind of
12 potential development but that may encroach on an
13 area of some kind of natural resource or some other
14 kind of use. We're going to be evaluating what is
15 the severity of that impact between those two. What
16 are the tradeoffs if we were to favor one over
17 another. And then begin to make distinctions about
18 which should be there. Those are the kinds of
19 things.

20 As we go through that process we'll be
21 conducting a hands-on evaluation with stakeworkers.
22 So we envision drafting that kind of rough product
23 and bringing it back to the world and saying "here

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1 is what it looks like when we start assigning
2 different kinds of values to the different pieces
3 and we can all play with the knobs, and see how the
4 distinction works.

5 And I'll take a brief break right here
6 and welcome and introduce Senator Bruce Tarr who is
7 a member of the Ocean Advisory Commission and who
8 has joined us this evening.

9 SENATOR TARR: Thank you, Deerin.
10 Sorry for being late, but I'm glad to be with all of
11 you, and I will keep my comments brief, but I
12 appreciate the opportunity to provide them.

13 I want to thank everybody for coming
14 today and providing what is critical input to this
15 process. As Deerin probably already mentioned,
16 Massachusetts is on the forefront in the entire
17 country of trying to develop a management plan that
18 will give us the good stewardship of the ocean
19 resources that we should be expected to provide.
20 And what the Legislature has done through the Ocean
21 Management Act is provide the infrastructure by
22 which we can all come up with an appropriate
23 regulatory framework and hence permitting processes

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1 that follow from that framework that reflect the
 2 priorities that we have for this incredible natural
 3 resource that borders our state.

4 I will also suggest that one of the
 5 critical components that we have to try to do as we
 6 move forward with that plan is infuse it with a
 7 sense of balance. Balance that understands the
 8 traditional industries that have been drawn from the
 9 ocean like the commercial fishing industry which is
 10 very, very important to me, and I know to many
 11 people who will be involved in this process. The
 12 issues of tourism and access to this natural
 13 resource that have always characterized the quality
 14 of life that we have here in the Bay State. And at
 15 the same time understand that there will be others
 16 who will look to the ocean as a new frontier for
 17 various kinds of projects. And the ones that I
 18 think we all have been focused on the most lately
 19 are issues of renewable energy whether they be wind
 20 generation or tidal generation or current types of
 21 generation from the various fluctuations that happen
 22 in the ocean. And those things I don't believe
 23 should be out of bounds at the outside, but what

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1 they should be is carefully considered and placed
 2 into the context of not interfering with other
 3 traditional uses of the ocean from which this state
 4 has derived tremendous benefit over its entire
 5 existence. I'm always very careful to point out
 6 that the reason we exist in the Commonwealth is in
 7 large part because we have a rich commercial fishery
 8 which is why people came here to settle in the
 9 various ports and coastal communities that we have
 10 here. So it seems to me we ought to be first and
 11 foremost about trying to protect those things that
 12 give us that richness and that quality of life and
 13 then very considerate when we think about new uses
 14 which have been and surely will continue to be
 15 proposed.

16 But all of that being said, I think
 17 it's important to understand that we are the
 18 stewards of this resource. And as I said the last
 19 time Deerin and I were together, I look at a lot of
 20 this process as being about how we will use the
 21 greatest natural resource of this Commonwealth and
 22 that is its citizenry to plan the future of its
 23 greatest physical resource which is its ocean and

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1 maritime environment.

2 With that, I appreciate everybody being
 3 here, and I for one look forward to working with all
 4 of you and many others to develop the right plan for
 5 the future of the Commonwealth that cherishes that
 6 great resource depicted up on that white board.

7 ASSISTANT SECRETARY BABB-BROTT: Thank
 8 you, Senator. As always, a hard act to follow.

9 One of the things we're running through
 10 and we'll keep going on the processes, but I think
 11 with this small group we may do it differently and
 12 do kind of a question and answer form of the plan.

13 SENATOR TARR: Fine.

14 ASSISTANT SECRETARY BABB-BROTT: So we
 15 talked about the process. Step 1 is gathering the
 16 information through January. Step 2 then is
 17 February and April which is developing the graph
 18 plan beginning to put the raw materials together
 19 illustrating to folks what the result of different
 20 kinds of decisions may look like.

21 Step 3 is taking what we end up with as
 22 a rough working plan after having looked at a number
 23 of potential different drafts, back to the public

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1 for additional review and discussion. Now we're
 2 starting to narrow in and here are the kind of value
 3 judgements we've made, policy decision, heading
 4 toward what do folks think.

5 And then the final review then is the
 6 formal review called for by the Act which is formal
 7 public hearings and review by the legislature. One
 8 of the reasons that we wanted to include as much
 9 public participation and back and forth as possible
 10 is because once we get to that final mandated
 11 process they're public hearings. That means we just
 12 sit and listen. And we don't have the opportunity
 13 to actually do the work with folks. That's so
 14 important to do in order to put a plan on the table.
 15 One piece that is important is to go back and
 16 emphasize the schedule. For everything that the
 17 senator just walked through, if we had 5 years to do
 18 this we could do amazing things. We're going to do
 19 pretty amazing things between now and July of 2009.
 20 But the time line is very brief that is established
 21 by the legislature. So we have a lot to do and very
 22 little time to do it in, and that's kind of
 23 affecting how we're putting the process together.

1 For example immediately relating to the next thing
 2 that happens. And I think you'll feel some of that
 3 as we talk about how the plan is being put together.
 4 That, and then I just want to emphasize that that
 5 second piece of what we envision product which is
 6 that longer term plan to allow us to capture the
 7 longer term major issues that we know have to be
 8 addressed in detail but we simply may not be able to
 9 get at in extraordinary detail first go around.

10 So that concludes the formal half of
 11 this evening's symposium. Is there anyone who would
 12 like to make formal comments or to make a formal
 13 statement? And if not we can just do question and
 14 answers and do it as informally as possible.

15 Again, if folks could use the mike so
 16 we have sound on the video, and we'll just go from
 17 there.

18 MS. MESCHINO: I had planned to address
 19 your comments but if no one is going to, I'm happy
 20 to.

21 ASSISTANT SECRETARY BABB-BROTT:
 22 Please. We didn't bring all the equipment for
 23 nothing.

1 is something we hope that you'll take very seriously
 2 in terms of all of the compatible uses which is
 3 fisheries management, and then the third is we like
 4 to see all of that incorporate responsible
 5 permitting relative to renewable projects. In
 6 particular Hull has two big ones that we're actually
 7 considering now, which is offshore wind,
 8 desalination plant, and then actually further study
 9 around some renewable opportunities, renewable
 10 energy opportunity and we're actually looking to
 11 create an entity sort of along the lines of Woods
 12 Hole but much more modest, but that use of building
 13 on some sort of a cutting edge in the pursuit that
 14 wind has to date.

15 I want to pause in particular on the
 16 beach nourishment. Hull has a significant DCR
 17 reservation, and I'm sure in particularly you heard
 18 about the Metropolitan Beach Commission and the
 19 lobby work Senator Hart has done, and part of that
 20 was to infuse additional capital and planning into
 21 some of the reservations the Metropolitan beaches of
 22 which Nantasket Beach, I think the best. Revere is
 23 not near here for competing comments. But in all

1 Tell us who you are.
 2 MS. MESCHINO: Thank you very much for
 3 the opportunity to address you. I'm very pleased
 4 that you're taking this time. My name is Joan
 5 Meschino, I'm actually chairman of the Board of
 6 Selectmen in Hull, and Senator, I was actually
 7 pleased to hear your comments in particular because
 8 Hull has three goals right now and you pretty much
 9 said them all.
 10 Hull is somewhat unique in that it is a
 11 peninsula and we have 28 miles of coastline. Three
 12 of those are open ocean area beach. So when you are
 13 talking about the plan relative to the development
 14 of a plan for open ocean and state water, obviously
 15 that actually is critical to us. So we're thrilled
 16 to see that the Governor is planning and you're
 17 taking all of these things seriously, and we see
 18 some pretty integral ways we can fit into that. And
 19 I'd just like to share with you what our three goals
 20 are and how we think what we would like to see you
 21 take into consideration.

22 The first is actually critical to us in
 23 a couple of basic ways. Beach nourishment. Second

1 seriousness we are looking -- we're asking, the town
 2 is asking for and DCR is asking for significant sand
 3 nourishment, beach nourishment to go with that.
 4 It's important in a number of ways, not the least of
 5 which is crucial protection. When DCR did a lot of
 6 the analysis around justification for the capital
 7 improvements and how they were going to make
 8 recommendations, going to the town also up to the
 9 state, they did a lot of I guess forecasting, for
 10 lack of a better word, around what some of the
 11 upland damages would be if we did nothing. And I
 12 jotted down that if we did nothing relative to the
 13 seawall you could expect over 50 years, easily
 14 \$30 million up on damage. However as soon as you
 15 add sand nourishment, beach nourishment, you drop
 16 that damages number down to \$2.5 million. So when
 17 we talk about something like sand beach nourishment
 18 it actually has a very dramatic impact to
 19 protection. Of course the problem with that kind of
 20 beach nourishment is you can't get the volume from
 21 upland sand. I mean some absurd amount of truck
 22 loads that you have to put in. You couldn't even
 23 drive sand in during the course of a season that it

1 wouldn't get washed away before you add more to make
2 it work. So what we're talking about in this
3 project realistically the only option you have is
4 sand mining. Obviously that presents a lot of
5 permitting issues but DCR feels confident and we
6 would encourage use through this process to openly
7 consider a responsible way to permit that.

8 Apart from the nourishment protection
9 also public access DCR reservation, beaches where
10 you can actually come for a day and pay a few
11 dollars, take your family to the beach. So there is
12 that aspect of it as well. So destination part is
13 integral to our community's economy and making
14 caller destination. So there is a lot of important
15 reasons why a project like that should be considered
16 actively and we believe it can be done responsibly.

17 That being said we would ask you to
18 consider the second goal which is we do have a very
19 vibrant maritime culture there, and the culture is
20 not just part of common part of history, it really
21 goes to what makes Hull special. We have active
22 fishing activity, commercial and recreational, clams
23 lobsters, you name it we have got it. And people

1 there actually rely on that as their income and
2 people come to charter fish, part of what brings
3 people to Hull, and that's not just June and July
4 and August. That is crazy people coming down in
5 March, I don't know why, but they like to go
6 fishing. So it's integral to our year-end community
7 as well as people who actually live in the town. We
8 have a rich tradition of saving the coastline. So
9 when we talk about maintaining balance and
10 responsibly pursuing fisheries management, we're
11 serious about that and very sensitive to those
12 environmental issues, and we do believe a balance
13 can be achieved.

14 The third point that I just want to
15 bring to your attention, you actually mentioned, the
16 Town of Hull is actively considering two major
17 projects right now. One is for offshore wind
18 turbines, and we are actively going through permit
19 on that right now. And the second would be, we
20 hope, keeping our fingers crossed if it works out,
21 the desalinization plant. So those will present
22 challenges relative to permitting. We believe that
23 they can be permitted. We believe that they can be

1 responsibly permitted. And we'd like to see you
2 actively consider that and keep an open mind
3 relative to these kinds of projects. They speak
4 directly to renewal energy, and of course Hull is
5 very conscious of that. We talk about climate
6 change and ocean, it's something we worry about.
7 Ocean water speaks to about 70 percent of our land
8 mass in Hull.

9 So we will be pursuing those. We would
10 like to see the state take an active interest in
11 those projects. We did actually get a nice letter
12 from the Governor after he had been down to Hull.
13 We had one of our town forums. He had not known we
14 were doing it and encouraged us to reach out to the
15 EOEa with guidance and support which we will do.
16 But we think, again, these kinds of projects
17 especially, not just industrial use, these are
18 projects that speak to renewable energy and to
19 sustainability. And we think those are things that
20 again that are compatible with the other town
21 interests and we would like you to consider
22 actively.

23 The last thing I wanted to mention was

1 the town is looking at itself and its vision in how
2 to go forward as a town, apart from all of these
3 things. One of the things that we discovered is
4 people are very interested in coming in and doing
5 research and study. We're actually contemplating a
6 project right now with wave generation and we are
7 trying to leverage that and to make ourself a
8 destination not just for maritime, what have you,
9 but also speaking about how we might create this
10 sort of institution, very preliminary. I don't know
11 if anything will happen, but it's the kind of
12 creativity and sort of cutting edge thing a lot of
13 activists in town have really taken to heart.

14 And I just want to share that with you
15 because like I said we do believe that these are
16 compatible uses and we can find a way, and we're
17 very pleased that you are taking this seriously and
18 move forward on this and if there is any way we can
19 be a resource to you and share our experience, we
20 would be happy to do that. I apologize taking up so
21 much of everyone else's time. Thank you so much for
22 letting me address you tonight.

23 SENATOR TARR: Thank you. Don't

1 apologize. Your comments were well researched, well
 2 prepared, and very appropriate. And one of the
 3 things that I find most important is that the degree
 4 of specificity that you have been able to offer us
 5 and technically about the interface between the old
 6 and the new. And Hull is certainly experienced in
 7 tradition of a fishing community, great life saving
 8 museum and coast guard resource over at Point
 9 Allerton. A lot of important things. One of the
 10 first windmills, municipal windmill that I ever saw
 11 was in Hull. Senator Hedlund brought me over to see
 12 it at the high school. So you actually are on the
 13 cutting edge in many ways of that interface. And
 14 it's so important to hear about what you're doing
 15 and how you're trying to lay the appropriate ground
 16 work and not reacting ad hoc to various proposals
 17 that might come forward. Thank you for your
 18 comments.

19 MS. MESCHINO: My pleasure to be here.

20 ASSISTANT SECRETARY BABB-BROTT: Other
 21 folks. Mayor Kay, please.

22 MAYOR KAY: Good evening. Thank you.

23 Welcome to Weymouth.

1 tourism plan, and this tourism plan, we have an
 2 intern working on it right now, and she is coming up
 3 with some pretty good ideas. As you may know,
 4 Quincy is far ahead of us in the tourism area.
 5 Weymouth is just sort of embarking on it. The goal
 6 here is to enhance not only revenues from tourism
 7 but also to enhance our historic areas and go for
 8 funding and grants to that effect. It all relies on
 9 transportation.

10 We envision picking up a boat in
 11 Boston, taking it into Quincy, picking up a trolley,
 12 and then doing Braintree and Weymouth area, going
 13 back on the boat. It's all underutilized and it
 14 should not just be for computer boats. I note Hull
 15 had a boat taxi. Fabulous. That is the way to go.
 16 We need to get our cars off the roads and that is a
 17 terrific way to do it.

18 Secondly, I'm very concerned about the
 19 safety of the shoreline coming down from Boston.
 20 Braintree, which is a very small, I think might be
 21 3, 4 miles of coast, but think about what is on
 22 there. Clean Harbors on there. You have the Citgo
 23 terminal, all very close to Quincy and to Weymouth.

1 SENATOR TARR: Always a pleasure to be
 2 here.

3 MAYOR KAY: I'm mayor of the Town the
 4 Weymouth. I must tell you that my colleague from
 5 Hull brings up a lot of very good points and I won't
 6 waste time to tell you all up and down the coast
 7 those issues are very similar. We are looking for
 8 dredging projects to happen in Weymouth. We also
 9 have sand issues.

10 I wanted to talk a little bit this
 11 evening about being part of a regional group, an
 12 alliance. Weymouth, Braintree, and Quincy have
 13 found an alliance looking at tourism, and thank you,
 14 Senator, for mentioning it. What I'm hoping is that
 15 part of your plan will include transportation
 16 possibly, the idea of tourism.

17 One looks at the Big Dig one is able to
 18 get around Boston but as soon as you start coming
 19 south and you hit that bottleneck at Braintree
 20 everything slows down. So I would like to see
 21 enhancement of transportation coming off our
 22 waterways. And we can do that all along the coast.
 23 We would not be able to put through a very good

1 Very scary. Quincy shoreline also. So we would
 2 like to get some kind of, more enhancement of safety
 3 elements incorporated. I know that Homeland
 4 Security has pegged a couple of those areas as sites
 5 to be concerned. I'd certainly like to see more
 6 grant money -- I can tell you that there is a harbor
 7 master in the community of Braintree and he doesn't
 8 get paid. He uses his own boat. It's kind of
 9 scary. That's all that is out there in addition to
 10 the Coast Guard.

11 Tourism, transportation. I must
 12 impress upon you how important that would be for the
 13 South Shore. We want to become the North Cape Cod.

14 SENATOR TARR: Madam Mayor, thank you
 15 for your welcome, and I just want to say again,
 16 these comments are highly relevant because they talk
 17 about how we manage these resources. And one of the
 18 things that I'm concerned about is maintaining the
 19 shoreline, the sand management issues is huge, and
 20 the regional approach exploring for transportation
 21 might also benefit the south with regard to sand
 22 management. So in some way you're paving the way.
 23 Transportation clearly is going to be an issue and

1 one we have to look at because it's one that most
 2 folks may not see as intrinsic to a coastal plan,
 3 and we have to make sure that it's made part of that
 4 planning. So thank you for your comments.
 5 MAYOR KAY: Thank you for coming.
 6 SENATOR TARR: My pleasure.
 7 ASSISTANT SECRETARY BABB-BROTT:
 8 Please, Leona.
 9 MS. ROACH: Good evening. Thank you
 10 Senator, representative from Senator Murphy's office,
 11 thank you. It's a pleasure to be here. My name is
 12 Leona Roach and I'm here on behalf of Massachusetts
 13 Marine Trade Association.
 14 I wonder if Deerin could take a little
 15 more time just to speak in specifics about the
 16 jurisdictional planning area and what uses it might
 17 cover not cover particularly in terms of near shore
 18 activities.
 19 ASSISTANT SECRETARY BABB-BROTT: Thank
 20 you, Leona. The jurisdictional area of the plan
 21 runs from about a third of a mile from mean low
 22 water out so we start about a third of a mile out.
 23 So the intent of the act and Senator is one of the

1 authors and will talk more about that, was not to
 2 involve ourselves with direct kinds of permitting
 3 activities which happen right at the water's edge.
 4 Docks and piers, immediate small dredging project
 5 kinds of issues. The thinking was that the more
 6 pressing need and more important appropriate place
 7 to be focusing our efforts was out in the blue water
 8 or deeper water in the state jurisdiction. So the
 9 act covers the area roughly a third of a mile out to
 10 3 miles which is the limit of state jurisdiction.
 11 There are places where as you go passed a river
 12 mouth or bay or harbor there is a line drawn across
 13 because you need to connect to the two dots but the
 14 basic plan area is the area shaded in blue up on the
 15 planning map there.
 16 The second part of the question?
 17 MS. ROACH: That was it. Thank you.
 18 ASSISTANT SECRETARY BABB-BROTT: Thank
 19 you. Other folks with thoughts, questions, please?
 20 COUNCILMAN O'CONNOR: Town council here
 21 Representing Senator Hedlund tonight. Senator
 22 Hedlund just wanted to have me here tonight to voice
 23 his support for the process that is going on here

1 and wishes he could be here himself. He had a prior
 2 engagement. During when the legislature passed the
 3 Oceans Act he worked along side with Senator Tarr in
 4 order to help get this through the legislature and
 5 believes it's a very worth-while procedure and looks
 6 forward to working with the towns and communities, 7
 7 of which the 8 towns are in the south shore right on
 8 the ocean. So he looks forward to working on things
 9 such as beach nourishment which is very much in Hull
 10 and Weymouth as well as alternative and renewable
 11 energy that can come of the beach act that we would
 12 somehow implement with it. And basically just wants
 13 to voice his support for the process and offer any
 14 assistance he can in with working forward to get
 15 this done. And all the components of the act done.
 16 Thank you.
 17 SENATOR TARR: If I might acknowledge
 18 Senator Hedlund's contribution to the whole process.
 19 He has been a great advocate and someone who
 20 understood the kind of balance we're trying to
 21 infuse into this plan. And I would also point out
 22 in his pivot role as the ranking member on the
 23 Transportation Committee he can help bring a lot of

1 knowledge and understanding of some of these issues
 2 about how we move people along the coastline. For
 3 instance I heard many stories from the senator about
 4 commuter boats and the pros and cons and lots of
 5 other issues. So he will play a role here
 6 particularly on that element and also in coastal
 7 protection. And we talked a lot about sand mining
 8 and beach nourishment, and he brings a lot of
 9 passion to those issues, and those will be most
 10 useful moving forward. Thank you.
 11 COUNCILMAN O'CONNOR: Thank you.
 12 ASSISTANT SECRETARY BABB-BROTT: Other
 13 questions or comments from folks?
 14 On the handout there are a number of
 15 Internet links that we encourage folks to follow.
 16 Provides additional information for you, give you an
 17 opportunity to get your name on an email list where
 18 we can reach back out to you and provide you with
 19 information. There is background, video of previous
 20 public hearings, the act is there, the Ocean
 21 Advisory Commission members and the sites of
 22 Advisory Council, the planning process is there, and
 23 if you have any other questions feel free to either

1 call me, talk to the Senator, find us, and thank you
2 for coming tonight.

3 MAYOR KAY: Thank you.
4 (The proceedings adjourned
5 at 7:43 p.m.)
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1 C E R T I F I C A T E
2

3 I hereby certify the foregoing 34 pages
4 contains a true, full, and correct transcription of
5 all my stenographic notes, taken to the best of my
6 ability in the above-captioned matter held at the
7 Tufts Library, Weymouth, Mass, on Monday, September
8 29, 2008, at 7 p.m.

9 _____
10 CAROL DiFAZIO
11 Registered Professional Reporter
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