

**NARRATIVE IN SUPPORT OF PROPOSAL  
TO CONSTRUCT A FIXED PIER, GANGWAY AND FLOAT AT  
5 LAFAYETTE STREET IN FAIRHAVEN, MA**

**Prepared for:**

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## **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

It is proposed to construct a fixed pier, gangway and float at 5 Lafayette Street in Fairhaven, MA. The site is referenced as Assessor's Map 13, Lot 48. The proposal requires an Order of Conditions from the Fairhaven Conservation Commission and a Waterways Permit from the DEP Division of Waterways. This Narrative has been prepared in support of these two petitions.

## **2.0 EXISTING CONDITIONS**

The site is located on the east bank of the Acushnet River, 1,500 feet north of Pope Island and 3,200 feet south of the Route 195 crossing of the river. The site has a single-family dwelling surrounded by manicured lawns. The set of plans include an "Existing Conditions" plan (sheet 1 of 3) which has the zero elevation at mean low water as required by the Division of Waterways regulations. It shows the 100-year flood plain at elevation 4.40 based on the hurricane dike's "levee" protection. It also shows a Natural Heritage Endangered Species priority habitat "PH 252" to the south which is well away from the proposed project. The coastal bank is protected by a dumped rubble seawall extending up to elevation 8. The ground under the ocean slopes down from the low water mark at a slope of 6.5 to 8.0 percent.

## **3.0 PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS**

It is proposed to construct a 6-foot wide by 90-foot-long fixed wooden pier supported by wood piles culminating in a 10-foot wide by 18-foot-long fixed deck area. A 20-foot-long gangway will extend from this fixed deck to an 8-foot wide by 75-foot-long float secured by wooden piles. All piles will be driven by a barge mounted pile driver. The piles near shore will be driven at high tide to assure that the barge does not disturb the ground beneath. The piles will disturb a total of 20.5 square feet of bottom area. In accordance with the Fairhaven shellfish bylaw, a fee will be paid to the Town to fund shellfish propagation.