

MSA-S-1829-404

— CT 622-99 Waterfront Promenade —  
Consistency Report

CT 622-99



Judge John C. North, II  
Chairman

Ren Serey  
Executive Director

**STATE OF MARYLAND  
CHESAPEAKE BAY CRITICAL AREA COMMISSION**

45 Calvert Street, 2nd Floor, Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(410) 260-7516 Fax: (410) 974-5338

December 7, 1999

Mr. W.S. Ingersoll  
Town Manager  
118 N. Cross Street  
Chestertown, MD 21620

**RE: Waterfront Promenade and Boardwalk  
Critical Area Consistency Report**

Dear Mr. Ingersoll:

Thank you for providing notification of certification that the referenced project is consistent with Chestertown's Critical Area Program. The purpose of the project was to construct a 20-foot wide brick walkway along 140 feet of the Chester River and a 8-foot wooden boardwalk crossing the cove between High Street and Cannon Street. The area is designated Buffer Exempt (BEA) and the walkway and boardwalk are providing public access to the waterfront. Were there any plantings associated with the walkway and boardwalk? The Commission strongly recommends mitigation in BEAs. The mitigation ratio would be 2:1 and the plantings could be a combination of trees and shrubs. The plantings would not have to be located adjacent to the walkway, but could be provided for in another part of the Town in the Critical Area and in the same watershed. The Town's Critical Area Program mentions that the Town will continue to participate in the Tree City USA program with particular emphasis on the BEA. Does this program still exist and does the Town use it? While staff agree with your determination that the project is consistent with the Town's Critical Area Program, we strongly recommend that mitigation be provided for the area of impervious surface created by the walkway. For future reference, the Critical Area Commission has a published guidance paper on public walkways which provides recommendations on location, design and mitigation (see attachment).

The approval of this consistency report will be filed with the Commission. Please inform us of any changes to the project. If you have any questions, you can contact me at (410) 260-7073.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tracy Batchelder".

Tracy Batchelder  
Natural Resources Planner

enclosure

Branch Office: 31 Creamery Lane, Easton, MD 21601  
(410) 822-9047 Fax: (410) 820-5093



N/F

# MAYOR and COUNCIL of CHESTERTOWN

118 N. CROSS STREET CHESTERTOWN, MD 21620 (410) 778-0500

FAX (410) 778-4378



MARGO G. BAILEY, MAYOR

November 19, 1999

COUNCIL

HARRISON C. BRISTOLL, JR.  
THOMAS A. GROSS, SR.  
MABEL MUMFORD-PAUTZ  
J. BRIAN KIRBY

TOWN MANAGER

WILLIAM S. INGERSOLL

**Chesapeake Bay Critical Area Commission  
Attman Glazer Building  
45 Calvert Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Annapolis, MD 21401  
Attn: Tracy Batchelder**

Dear Tracy:

This letter shall represent a consistency report for the Town of Chestertown's Waterfront Promenade and Boardwalk, which was dedicated by Governor Glendening this August. The project is a 20 foot wide brick walkway along 140 feet of the Chester River and an 8 foot wooden boardwalk crossing the cove between High Street and Cannon Street. Both of the streets had public landings at their waterfront terminations.

All of the above activities took place in an area designated as buffer exempt. Further, by their nature, waterfront walkways are water dependent activities. No habitat areas were threatened as this walkway replaced the Custom House lawn. All the surrounding land area is an IDA, built 100-200 years ago.

The project was found to "meet a recognized public need" in accordance with the Chestertown Critical Area Plan (page 22, part 2.). It was also designed to "have a minimal impact on water quality, and fish, plant and wildlife habitat." On page 24 of our plan, under Review Criteria for Public Beaches and Other Public Water-Oriented Recreation or Education Area it states:

- (1) Public beaches or other public water-oriented or education area including, but not limited to, publicly owned boat launching and docking facilities and fishing piers may be permitted in the Buffer in IDA's.

This project was funded by \$50,000 in CZM funds and \$100,000 in a State Bond Bill and underwent State Clearinghouse review.

Sincerely,

*Bill Ingersoll*  
W. S. Ingersoll  
Town Manager

RECEIVED

NOV 24 1999



CHESAPEAKE BAY  
CRITICAL AREA COMMISSION