

June 4, 2018

Dear Greenbelt Members,

On behalf of Greenbelt's Board of Directors and Search Committee, we are very pleased to announce that Kate Bowditch will become the President of Greenbelt starting upon Ed Becker's retirement on September 30, 2018. Kate will commence work at Cox Reservation on September 1<sup>st</sup>, so as to overlap with Ed for a month.



Kate Bowditch is a published scientist who has served in various leadership positions at the Charles River Watershed Association for almost twenty-five years. At CRWA Kate has worked at the intersection of science and conservation for the betterment of the river, its watershed and parklands and the thirty-five cities and towns through which it courses. During this period of time the Charles River was transformed from a heavily polluted river, which received a grade of D from the EPA, to a river that is now considered the cleanest urban river in American, a widely acclaimed conservation success story.

Kate is a seasoned leader, having at different times led a team of six staff scientists, directed CRWA's advocacy program, served as Director of Projects, Director of Philanthropy and Director of Stewardship. She has overseen volunteer programs and community engagement initiatives, and created CRWA's Blue Cities Initiative, a planning approach that promotes the use of green infrastructure to restore natural hydrology to the urban environment. She has developed partnerships with Boston's universities, and helped achieve success with projects such as the Charles River Gateway at the site of the old Medfield State Hospital. She has traveled and consulted abroad, spending three years in Kenya, a year in Austria, and most recently developed a partnership in the Dominican Republic using funds granted to CRWA by the International River Foundation as part of the Riverprize, the world's foremost award in river basin management.

Land conservation has played a role in many of CRWA's projects, connecting land and water in a variety of initiatives. We are excited to have Kate bring her considerable gifts and skills to the mission work of Greenbelt – conserving farmland, wildlife habitat and scenic landscapes across Essex County. Kate's work has been rooted in the communities that she has served. She understands well the importance of patience and persistence, the benefit of careful attention to relationships of all kinds, the power of coalitions and partnerships, and thoughtful conservation advocacy.

Conserving local farmland, wildlife habitat, and scenic landscapes since 1961.

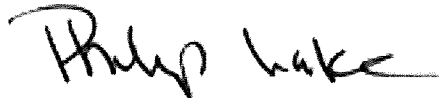


Aside from Kate's exemplary record of experience and accomplishment, the Search Committee is impressed by her warm, open, thoughtful and genuine approach to interpersonal relations. She loves being outdoors whether it be skiing, sailing, or traveling. Her personal and work history reflect a lifetime dedication to the natural world and to the work of conservation.

This announcement is the culmination of a national search for Greenbelt's next President. The search Committee has benefited from the counsel of the Board, staff, friends and colleagues of Greenbelt and for that we are most appreciative. We are particularly thankful to Ed Becker whose admired leadership has led to a remarkable legacy of organizational success, accomplishment and strength. The firm foundation will serve as a strong base for progress going forward under Kate Bowditch.

Please join us in congratulation and welcoming Kate Bowditch as Greenbelt's next President.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Philip Lake". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Philip Lake, Chair, Greenbelt Board of Directors

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Annie Madden". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Annie Madden, Chair, Greenbelt Search Committee