Environmental Justice Screening Form

Project Name	Trout Brook Ecological Restoration Project
Anticipated Date of MEPA Filing	July 31, 2026
Proponent Name	Edmund Starzec Charter Development estarzec@charter.us (339) 368-1468
Contact Information (e.g., consultant)	See above
Public website for project or other physical location where project materials can be obtained (if available)	www.TroutBrookERP.com
Municipality and Zip Code for Project (if known)	Brockton, MA 02302
Project Type* (list all that apply)	Ecological Restoration
Is the project site within a mapped 100-year FEMA flood plain? Y/N/ unknown	Yes
Estimated GHG emissions of conditioned spaces (click **here** for GHG Estimation tool)	Not applicable, no conditioned spaces are proposed as part of the project.

Project Description

1. Provide a brief project description, including overall size of the project site and square footage of proposed buildings and structures if known.

   This project will restore approximately 1,500 feet of the Trout Brook in downtown Brockton by daylighting, widening, and naturalizing the stream corridor and reconnecting it to its surrounding floodplain. The work will remove constraints created by the site's historic use as a railyard and will create a healthier, more resilient waterway capable of managing stormwater, improving water quality, and supporting wildlife habitat.

   The work will include the excavation and regrading of the existing stream corridor, creation of new floodplain areas, construction of habitat pools and riffles, installation of a diversion channel, and stabilization of streambanks using natural materials and vegetation. Existing culvert structures and associated headwalls will be removed to improve stream function and flood storage capacity. The project will maintain stream flow during construction through temporary water-control measures designed to protect water quality and minimize impacts to the brook.

   The project also includes restoration of adjacent upland areas through soil management, grading, and establishment of native vegetation. Native trees, shrubs, live stakes, and seed mixes will be installed throughout the corridor to create a diverse and self-sustaining ecological system. Areas of impacted soil will be excavated, managed, and disposed of or stabilized in accordance with environmental requirements. Public access improvements include an ADA-accessible walking path and passive recreational areas that will connect residents to the restored natural resource. Upon

completion, the project will create a functional urban stream and floodplain system that reduces flooding, improves ecological health and supports future redevelopment.

See the proposed project plan for more information.

2. List anticipated MEPA review thresholds (301 CMR 11.03) (if known)

As this is an Ecological Restoration Project under DEP regulations, full MEPA review is not required. Charter will submit a Notice of Ecological Restoration Project (NERP) to MEPA.

The project is expected to exceed the "alteration of 500 or more linear feet of bank along a fish run or inland bank" threshold.

3. List all anticipated state, local and federal permits needed for the project (if known)

- MEPA Notice of Ecological Restoration Project (NERP)
- City of Brockton Conservation Commission Notice of Intent
- Army Corps Section 404 Clean Water Act
- MassDEP 401 Water Quality Certification (potentially applicable)

4. Identify EJ populations and characteristics (Minority, Income, English Isolation) within 5 miles of project site (can attach map identifying 5-mile radius from EJ Maps Viewer in lieu of narrative)

The entire City of Brockton is made up of EJ block groups. All of the City's block groups qualify under the minority criteria and many also qualify under the income and English isolation criteria. Additionally, within the five-mile radius there are several minority EJ block groups within the Towns of Avon and Stoughton (see attached map).

5. Identify any municipality or census tract meeting the definition of "vulnerable health EJ criteria" in the DPH EJ Tool located in whole or in part within a 1 mile radius of the project site

There are multiple census tracts meeting the definition of vulnerable health EJ criteria within one mile of the project site, specifically including tracts with high elevated blood lead prevalence and low birth weight prevalence (see attached map).

6. Identify potential short-term and long-term environmental and public health impacts that may affect EJ Populations and any anticipated mitigation. It is not anticipated that the proposed project will have any long-term negative public health impacts. Construction will involve the use of heavy equipment and generate truck trips in the vicinity of the site but best practices will be employed to minimize emissions and disturbance on the surrounding neighborhoods.
7. Identify project benefits, including "Environmental Benefits" as defined in 301 CMR 11.02, that may improve environmental conditions or public health of the EJ population The proposed project will result in multiple environmental benefits for the public that will directly improve environmental conditions by daylighting and restoring the Trout Brook as a publicly-accessible open space.
8. Describe how the community can request a meeting to discuss the project, and how the community can request oral language interpretation services at the meeting . Specify how to request other accommodations, including meetings after business hours and at locations near public transportation. The public can request a meeting to discuss the project by contacting Edmund Starzec at Charter Development: (339) 368-1468 or estarzec@charter.us. Charter will provide interpretation services if needed and accommodate requests related to meeting time and location.

ENGLISH

Trout Brook *Ecological Restoration Project*

Conceptual Master Plan

Legend

1. **Trout Brook** with 3:1 embankment slopes and revised channel grading to reduce erosion
2. **Constructed Pool** deeper, calmer water to provide shelter and habitat for aquatic life
3. **Riffle Zone** shallow, faster moving section of channel over rocks to oxygenate water and further support wildlife habitat
4. **Diversion Channel** for excess water flow and flood damage mitigation
5. **Universally Accessible Path** from Elliot Street to Court Street
6. **ERP Site Boundary**
7. **Future Pedestrian Crossing** with connection to Taber Ave. by others
8. **Lower Floodplain Planting (Hydric Zone)** frequent flooding - projected 10 year flood frequency
9. **Higher Floodplain Planting (Mesic Zone)** periodic flooding - projected 100 year flood frequency
10. **Upland Transitional Zone Planting** infrequent flooding projected - greater than 100 year flood frequency

Key Plan

- Lower Floodplain Planting (Hydric Zone)
- Higher Floodplain Planting (Mesic Zone)
- Upland Transitional Zone Planting
- ERP Site Boundary

70’ 0’ 70’ 140’ 280’

BRR
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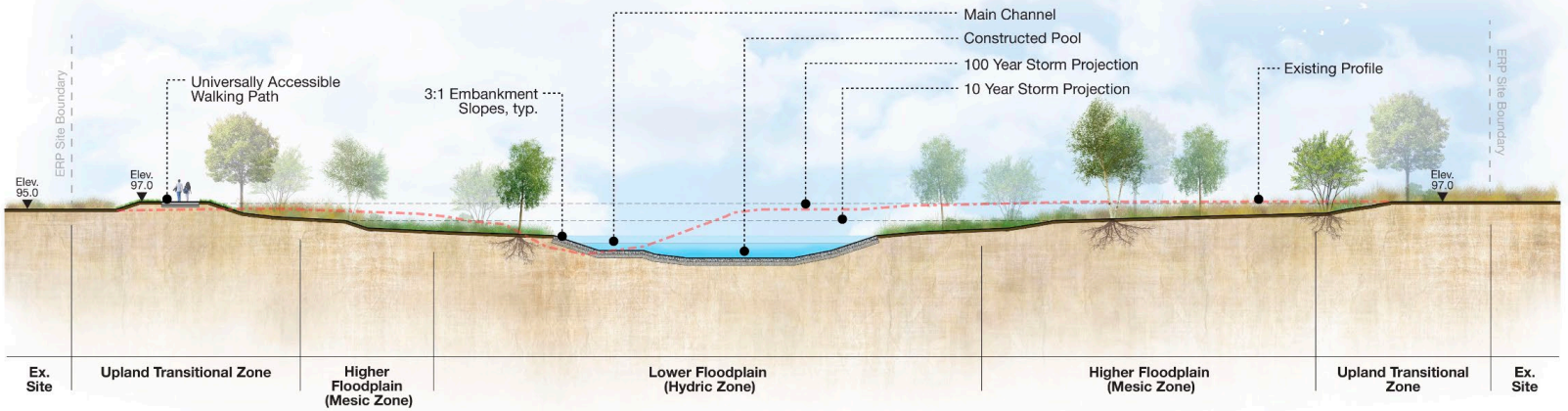
Landscape Architects and Planners

Trout Brook *Ecological Restoration Project*

Illustrative Sections



Section A-A

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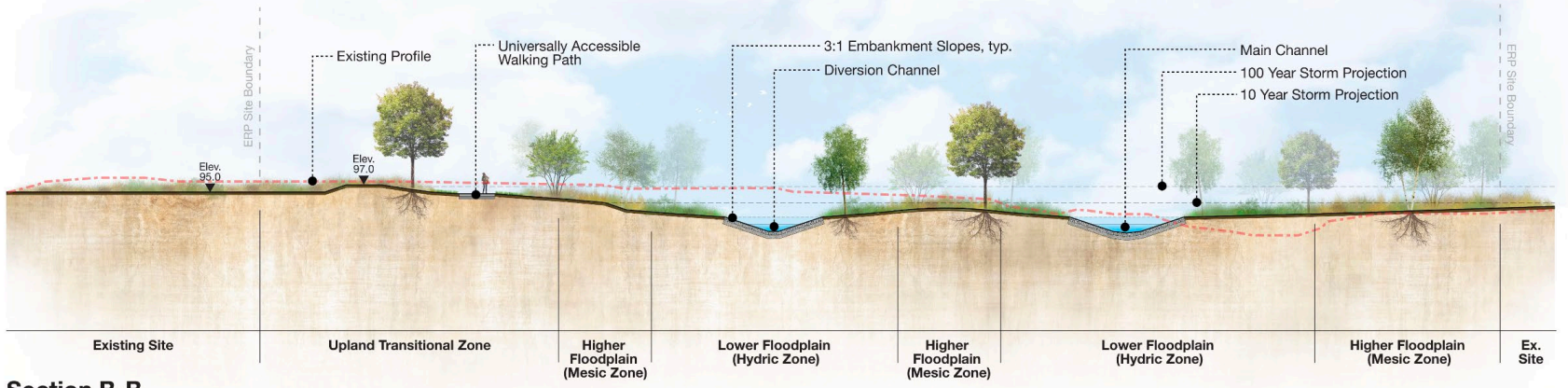

Section B-B

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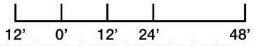

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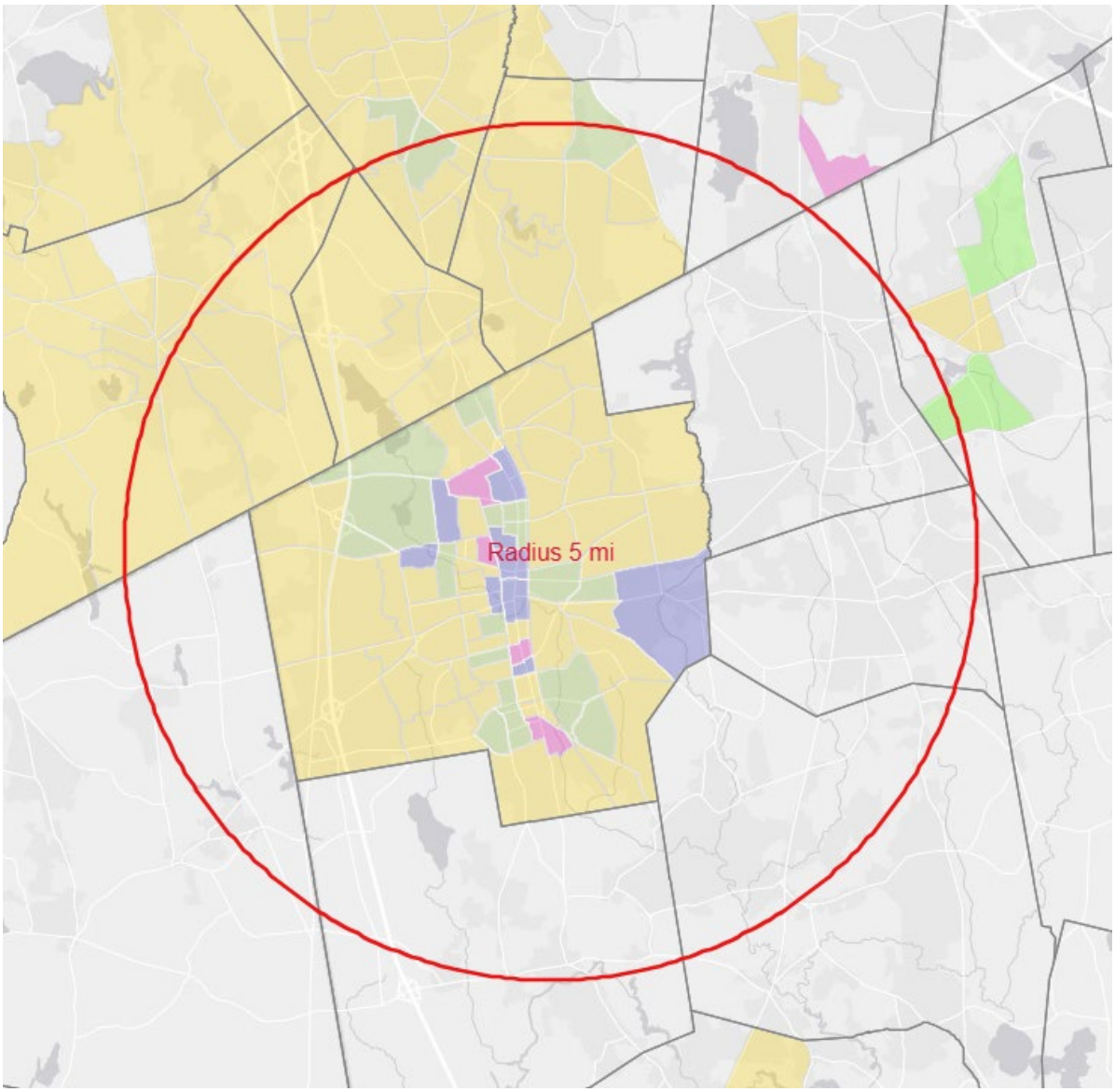
Massachusetts 2020 Environmental Justice Populations Within a 5-Mile Radius of the Trout Brook Ecological Restoration Project

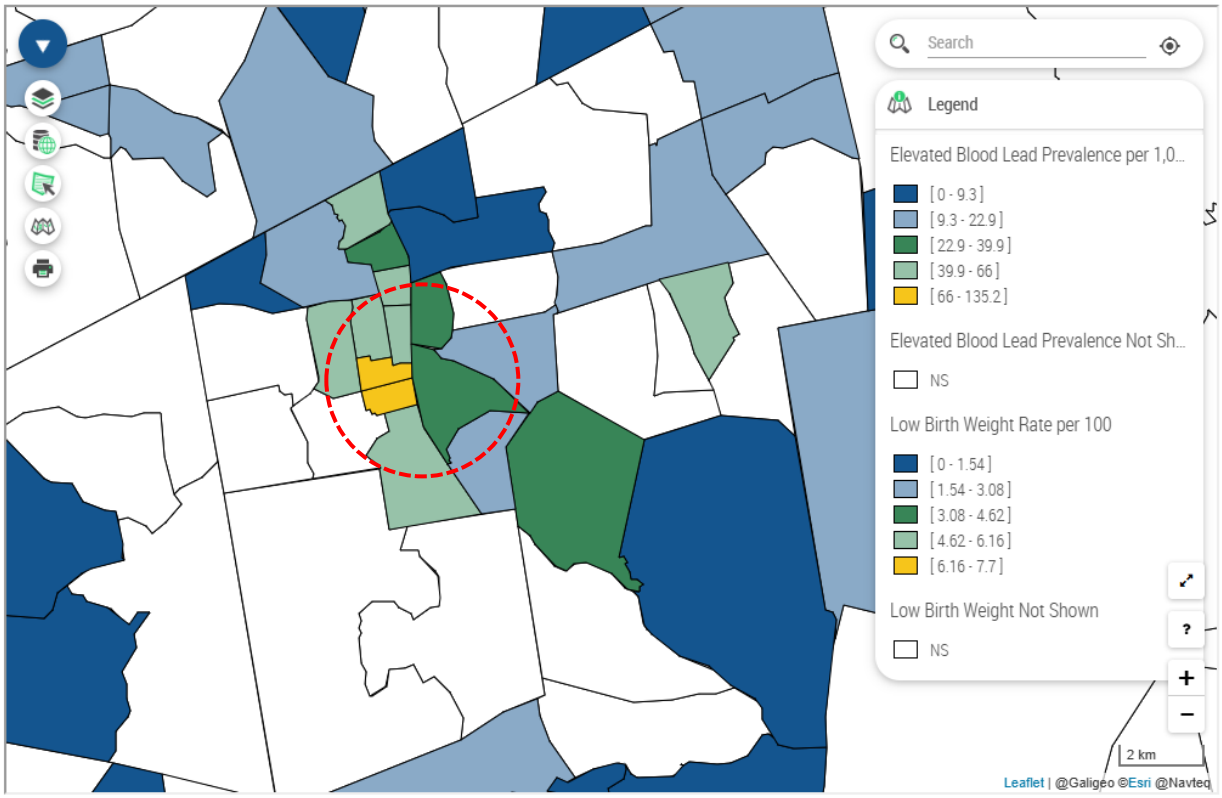


LEGEND

- Minority
- Minority and Income
- Minority and English Isolation
- Minority, Income and English Isolation

Source: https://www.mass.gov/info-details/massgis-data-2020-environmental-justice-populations

Vulnerable Health EJ Census Tracts
Within a 1-Mile Radius of the Trout Brook Ecological Restoration Project



Source: Massachusetts Department of Public Health Environmental Justice Tool