

# Town of Ayer

## Office of Community & Economic Development

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June 13, 2018

Jamie Fosburgh, NPS, Manager, Northeast Region Rivers Program  
Lucy Wallace, Chair, NRWSR Study Committee  
Nashua River Wild and Scenic River Study Committee  
c/o Nashua River Watershed Association, Inc.  
592 Main Street, Groton, MA 01450

Dear Mr. Fosburgh and Ms. Wallace,

The Town of Ayer, Massachusetts is one of the historic New England communities within the Nashua River Wild and Scenic River Study Area. On behalf of the Town of Ayer Office of Community & Economic Development, we are most encouraged and grateful that the "Nashua, Squannacook, and Nissitissit Rivers Stewardship Plan" has recognized numerous river-related cultural and heritage resources as among the significant reasons that the three rivers merit designation as Wild and Scenic Rivers.

Throughout my 30+ year professional career of municipal economic development, historic preservation, land-use planning, land trust administration, and sustainable community design, I have been a strong believer that (sustainable) economic & community development goes hand-in-hand with protecting natural resources and our precious cultural & historical resources.

It is with hopeful enthusiasm that we look forward to the Nashua, Squannacook, and Nissitissit Rivers being designated as Partnership Wild and Scenic Rivers. It will be a distinct pleasure for the Ayer Office of Community & Economic Development to work with and support the future Stewardship Council on any number of the recommended actions in the "Stewardship Plan". We are prepared and enthusiastic about engaging with the communities along the Nashua, Squannacook and Nissitissit Rivers by providing an informative, educational and engaging Guided Walking Tour Series to increase public understanding and deeper appreciation of the holistic, interconnected, and, most important, (sustainable) development qualities, opportunities and aspirations that would be made possible through the Wild & Scenic River Designation.

Thank you,

Alan S. Manoian AICP,  
Dir. Ayer Office of Community & Economic Development  
Town of Ayer, MA  
1 Main Street  
Ayer, MA 01432