

Stephanie Cooper, Acting Commissioner
Department of Conservation and Recreation
251 Causeway St.
Boston, MA 02114

Dear Commissioner Cooper,

I am writing to urge your support for Hull Artists in their desire to renovate the vacant DCR police station on Nantasket Avenue, in Hull. I am frustrated by the DCR's lack of action to respond to a plan by **Hull Artists** to renovate this long-vacant DCR -owned property and turn it into a valued community resource. Hull Artists, a reputable community nonprofit art association, has a proposal to rehabilitate this building into the Nantasket Center for the Arts serving the South Shore. This plan will not only pay for the building's renovation but will assure its maintenance and public access for decades.

Hull Artists invested \$40,000 to engage consultants in a feasibility study to determine the possibility and cost of converting the building. These funds were raised with the support of over 200 residents of Hull and neighboring communities in the heart of the pandemic. It is noteworthy the study received financial support from the MA Cultural Council's Feasibility Fund, recognizing the project's potential benefits to the State and the local communities.

The study's findings were shared with representatives of the DCR last summer. However, as a community resident and a supporter of the arts, I am frustrated by the DCR's lack of action to engage with Hull Artists and move this project forward. Already in a seriously dilapidated state, the building remains empty and deteriorates further with each storm. We need DCR support and action now before the building is beyond repair.

I strongly urge you to use the authority of your office to proceed with the proposal for a curatorship. A regional art center will serve as a valued community resource and an economic stimulus as well. In addition to providing a home for many local artists, the center will offer art and cultural activities for the community including seniors, youth, at-risk groups, adults, as well as provide needed space for community groups.

As a community member, I support the creation of the Nantasket Center for the Arts because I believe in the value of arts and community programs. The longer the building remains vacant, the more it deteriorates resulting in losing the opportunity to create something beneficial and the building will no longer be economically feasible to renovate remaining a blight.

Respectfully,

Name: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____