Eileen M. Donoghue City Manager

June 1, 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 592 Main Street Groton, MA 01450

Dear Mr. Fosburgh and Ms. Wallace:

Until recently I served as a Massachusetts State Senator, and the towns of Groton, Pepperell, and Dunstable were in my district. It did not surprise me that there was tremendous interest in exploring Wild and Scenic designation, and I'm proud to say that I was an early supporter. I attended Representative Tsongas's announcement of the Study Committee legislation, and have followed it closely ever since.

The "Nashua, Squannacook, and Nissitissit Rivers Stewardship Plan" does a wonderful job of outlining the numerous river-related resources that make these rivers eligible for designation and suggesting voluntary actions that can be taken to protect them. Groton, Pepperell, and Dunstable voters have overwhelmingly called for the three rivers to be designated Wild and Scenic.

I encourage Congress to act as swiftly as possible to designate these rivers as Partnership Wild and Scenic Rivers. Although I have taken a job as City Manager of Lowell, I continue to be passionate about the protection of the river-related biological diversity, recreational & scenic, cultural & historical values that are so evident in the eleven riverfront communities upstream of my current position. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully yours,

Eileen Donoghue

City Manager

Lowell, Massachusetts