

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING CONTINUED PUBLIC ACCESS TO
THE MDC WEST HARTFORD RESERVOIR

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan District Commission (“MDC”) provides water and sewer service to West Hartford and surrounding communities and, in that capacity, controls uses permitted on and within the reservoir property located within the Town of West Hartford (the “West Hartford Reservoir”); and

WHEREAS, for many decades thousands of residents of West Hartford and neighboring communities have used the West Hartford Reservoir for a wide variety of recreational and family-friendly activities, including but not limited to running, hiking, biking and walking; and

WHEREAS, as a result of an adverse legal ruling and associated liability and insurance concerns, the MDC is considering closing the West Hartford Reservoir to some or all of the public recreational activities with which it has become associated; and

WHEREAS, such a closure would result in the severe loss of enjoyment of public land by members of the public and would shutter one of the region’s great natural assets.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the West Hartford Town Council (1) urges the MDC to keep the West Hartford Reservoir open to the public for any and all recreational activities presently allowed, and (2) urges the West Hartford legislative delegation, and the Connecticut General Assembly as a whole, to pursue appropriate legislative action to ensure the continued public enjoyment of the West Hartford Reservoir.

(Slifka, Verrengia, Cantor)