MIDDLESEX CANAL COMMISSION

Northern Middlesex Council of Government: 40 Church Street, S-200: Lowell, MA 01852

<http://www.middlesexcanal.org/>commission Tel: 978-454-8021

Chairman, Thomas Raphael State, IRS Code 170C, Tax Free, EIN. #04-3339068

**Type of organization**: Arts, Culture & Humanities

**Mission Statement:** Establish the Middlesex Canal State Heritage Park on the former property of the old Middlesex Canal Company, by restoring and/or developing all the land and water areas and structures still remaining, which become available to it, for passive recreation and public use. There are 19 long segments of the horse towpath, structures, parks, and interpretive signs. The complete 27 mile length is listed in the National Register of Historic Sites as the Middlesex Canal Heritage and Archaeological District. It includes; two Planning Councils, nine municipalities and over 50 appointed delegates and volunteers and maintains a Museum and Visitors Center and archives.

**Impact Statement:** It was the first significant transportation canal and largely responsible for the growth of Boston as a world city, it was declared ***“the greatest work of its kind in the United States to date” by US Treas. Gallatin, 1808.*** The Commission and the Museum, with over 1000 annual visitors, provide history through lectures, and grade school educational courses and public recreation with walks, bicycle tours and interpretive signs and displays.

**Full Time Staff**: Member Directors 18, alternates and volunteers 50

**PROGRAMS:**

Restoration, of canal and structures, Interpretive Signs, Archaeological exploration, Archives, Education, Speakers, Walks, Bicycle Tours, Newsletter, Publications Museum, Museum Shop, Docent Training , Maintain Properties and Structures.

**BUDGET:**

Phase I, Middlesex Canal State Heritage Park, Mill Pond /Canal Project; # 603945 @ $3,080K

Phase II, Program Study of 19 Extant Segments; @$12,785K

Segment 5, Project # 606304 @$799,820.00 ( clean-up, 2 bridges $100,000.00)

Legislative Earmarks: $600K, used to bring the two major programs to 25% design and to establish the museum

**RESOURCES:**

Federal, State, Community Funds, Grants from Local Industries, , Direct gifts of money or Real Property, Member dues and annual gifts.