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March 2020

Dear CRC Supporter,

We are excited to share a summary of a very busy and productive 2019 that has laid the groundwork for the exciting 20<sup>th</sup> year to come! We are proud of our most recent work and appreciate our funders and partners that have helped to make it possible.

In 2019, the CRC's board and staff undertook a critically important strategic planning process funded by a generous anonymous donor. With this plan as a guide, we will focus our efforts to maximize our impact in key areas that will support the Charles and its parks as well as the public's interest and ownership of these public spaces. To support our ability to execute on our strategic plan, the CRC board adopted and implemented an institutional investment plan and made critical improvements to the organization's aging IT system to increase our efficiency and effectiveness.

While pursuing this important structural growth, the CRC continued and expanded its core programming:

- We surpassed 2,000 volunteers, whom we recruited and led in maintenance projects in the parks.
- We planned for the return of our annual community swim, City Splash.
- We undertook permitting and planning for two long-term projects that will impact the health of this public resource: Hell's Half Acre restoration project to address invasive species and a floating wetland pilot research project to explore new ways to improve the river's water quality.

It is almost two years since our founder retired and I took the helm of this great organization. This period has seen considerable change and investment, reflected in the attached audited financials. The CRC is well positioned to achieve our strategic plan goals and continue our successful work of stewarding and improving the Charles River and its parks. We hope you'll join us in supporting and enjoying them!

Sincerely,

Laura Jasinski  
Executive Director