

ROSE FITZGERALD KENNEDY GREENWAY CONSERVANCY, INC.
GUIDELINES REGARDING LOBBYING AND POLITICAL ACTIVITIES

ADOPTED: OCTOBER 2015

Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code (the “Code”) imposes on not-for-profit corporations like the Rose Fitzgerald Kennedy Greenway Conservancy, Inc. (the “Conservancy”) certain restrictions on lobbying and other political activities. Specifically, the Code requires that “no substantial part” of the activities of the organization may involve lobbying for or against the adoption of legislation. In addition, Section 501(c)(3) prohibits the Conservancy from participating or intervening any way in any political campaign on behalf of or in opposition to a candidate for public office. The Conservancy may carry on certain lobbying activities so long as those activities do not exceed certain limits. There is an absolute ban, however, on any participation or intervention by the Conservancy in political campaigns.

The Massachusetts Lobbying Law, Mass. Gen. Laws ch. 3, Section 39-50 (the “Lobbying Law”), imposes restrictions and obligations on individuals who engage in lobbying, which is defined to include any act to promote, oppose or influence state legislation or the veto thereof, and any act to influence state executive branch officials regarding policy, procurement, standards, rates or regulations. A person engaging in such activity must register with the Secretary of the Commonwealth if the activity is undertaken for “compensation or reward” and if the person has at least one direct lobbying communication with a government official. There is an exemption if such activity is merely incidental to such persons business or professional activities. As a “safe harbor,” the law provides that such activity will be held to be incidental if, in a 6-month reporting period, compensation or reward received for such activity is less than \$2,500 and time spent on the activity totals fewer than 25 hours.

In their work on behalf of the Conservancy, employees and board members must comply with the restrictions set forth in the Code and in the Lobbying Law described above. Both the Code and the Lobbying Law are complex regulatory schemes with various exceptions and definitions that are not always intuitive. Thus, all employees and Board members are encouraged to refrain from making their own judgments as to the application of these laws in any particular situation and should contact the Executive Director for guidance to comply with these laws and with any questions or concerns about these obligations.