

CONSERVATION COMMISSION 245 deKoven Drive, P.O. Box 1300, Middletown, CT 06457-1300 TEL: (860) 344-3425 FAX: (860) 344-3593

August 30, 2011

John Hall Executive Director The Jonah Center for Earth and Art PO Box 854 Middletown, CT 06457

Dear Mr. Hall,

The Middletown Conservation Commission was excited to learn about The Jonah Center's proposed Collective Impact initiative for the City of Middletown at our August meeting. There was a great deal of enthusiasm expressed by members for the project.

In Middletown the environmental community is not well organized. Groups are often unaware of other's projects that may be of interest to them, and find themselves in a reactive mode when concerns arise. By promoting communication and collaboration, a network such as proposed would result in a stronger voice for the environmental community, and an increased ability to take a more active role in protecting Middletown's environment. Further, involvement of the business community would result in a better working relationship between groups time and again seen at odds with each other.

The Conservation Commission wholeheartedly supports this proposed Collective Impact project, and is excited about the prospect of working with others in the community to protect and improve Middletown's environment.

Sincerely,

Sheila Stoane

Sh Stan

Vice-Chair