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For Immediate Release

Emerald Necklace Conservancy Commemorates 150 Red Oaks Planted by Ropes & Gray with Plaque Dedication

Boston, MA –August 18, 2016 – Generations to come will enjoy a full canopy over the Emerald Necklace parkways thanks to 150 red oaks (*Quercus rubra*) donated by the co-managing partners of Ropes & Gray in recognition of the law firm’s 150th anniversary. On August 17, the Emerald Necklace Conservancy honored this contribution by dedicating a permanent plaque to Ropes & Gray outside of the Shattuck Visitor Center in the Back Bay Fens. Leading off the ceremony was new Conservancy president Karen Mauney-Brodek who stated, “We are so very grateful to Ropes & Gray for this extraordinary gift that will be treasured by generations to come.”

The red oaks, planted in collaboration with the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation, constitute a substantial investment in the future of the Emerald Necklace parks and parkways. “Their care will be ensured with a dedicated long-term maintenance protocol with our public partners” explained Ray Oladapo-Johnson, Conservancy director of park operations.

Speaking at the ceremony, DCR Commissioner Leo Roy said “Public-private partnerships are a vital component of the Department of Conservation and Recreation’s efforts to revitalize all of the Commonwealth’s natural, cultural, and recreational resources, and the planting of 150 trees along the Emerald Necklace Parks System demonstrates the affinity that our civic and corporate friends have for the state parks system,”



“Ropes & Gray’s investment in the Boston community through our partnership with the Emerald Necklace Conservancy is representative of our dedication to our clients in Boston and New England, and to our community as a whole,” said Ropes & Gray Boston office co-managing partner Newcomb Stillwell.

PHOTO L-R: Martin Hall, Partner, Ropes & Gray; **Karen Mauney-Brodek**, President, Emerald Necklace Conservancy; **John R. Cook, Jr.**, Vice Chair of the Board of Directors, Emerald Necklace Conservancy; **Diane Patrick**, Co-Managing Partner of Ropes & Gray’s Boston Office; **Leo Roy**, Commissioner, Department of Conservation and Recreation; **Newcomb Stillwell** and **Jane Goldstein**, Co-Managing Partners of Ropes & Gray’s Boston Office

About the Emerald Necklace Conservancy

The Emerald Necklace Conservancy is a private nonprofit organization that brings people together to renew, enliven and advocate for the six Emerald Necklace parks designed by Frederick Law Olmsted. Our programs and projects reflect this mission and include: Parks restoration and maintenance; stewardship and volunteer activities, educational programs and tours; as well as special events in the parks. To learn more, please visit www.emeraldnecklace.org. Contact us at info@emeraldnecklace.org or call 617-522-2700.