



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' SERVICES

167 Holland Street, Ste 322 Somerville, MA 02144



KATJANA BALLANTYNE
MAYOR

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To: Community Preservation Committee (CPC)

From: Department of Veterans' Services

Date: November 19, 2024

Subject: Revised Scope and Funding Request for Somerville Veterans Memorial Cemetery & Monuments Restoration Project

After receiving feedback from the committee during the meeting on October 23, 2024 our department has revised the scope of the Somerville Veterans Memorial Cemetery restoration project. This revised proposal now includes the restoration of additional monuments and memorials throughout the city. The Veterans Memorial Cemetery remains the highest priority for immediate restoration with a new proposed **total project cost of \$136,275** that includes:

- A comprehensive Preservation Survey of the cemetery and other monuments and memorials throughout the city (\$18,500).
- First phase of construction and restoration work focused on the cemetery (\$100,000), as recommended by preservation conservator.
- A 15% contingency fee for unforeseen expenses.

This approach ensures that all historic objects under the department's care are evaluated and restored in alignment with best practices.

We have engaged Daedalus, a historic preservation conservator, to conduct a **Preservation Survey** or Study for the condition of the cemetery and several additional memorials across Somerville. Daedalus will provide a comprehensive report detailing the current condition of these objects, propose treatment procedures, and estimate the costs for the restoration work. This survey will adhere to the **Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Restoration** and will guide future conservation efforts.

The Preservation Survey will include detailed assessments of the cemetery as well as monuments across the city, including key sites such as the WWI Memorial at Union Square, the Civil War Memorial at Somerville Avenue Cemetery, and more. This study will guide preservation efforts and ensure that all elements are treated with the care and attention they require.

The first phase prioritizes:

- Completion of the Preservation Survey to inform the scope of future work.
- Immediate restoration and construction efforts focused on the cemetery.

The cemetery remains the highest priority for this phase, with work on additional monuments to follow based on the survey findings and future funding applications.

The conservator has also visited other selected monuments around the city and provided valuable feedback on the restoration process. His comments emphasize the importance of restoring these objects with the highest level of care, ensuring that they are handled by experts who regularly care for historic objects. The conservator has stressed that the work will be thoroughly documented with detailed reports and images, which will serve as a guide for future caretakers. This documentation will be essential for future generations tasked with preserving these monuments, ensuring the continuity of their legacy.

Additionally, the conservator emphasized that restoring these monuments is a vital part of preserving the city's history, as it allows future generations to connect with the past and understand the significance of these objects. By restoring and maintaining these monuments, we ensure that the stories of our veterans and the community are remembered and honored. The construction process will be directed by the findings of the conservator's study, ensuring that the project adheres to preservation standards while maintaining the historical integrity of the site.

We would like to emphasize that this funding request is critical for the success of this project, as it will lay the groundwork for future funding opportunities. Securing this initial funding will significantly enhance our ability to leverage matched contributions from other grants, including the State Historical Records Advisory Board (SHRAB) and similar programs. The total funding request is \$136,275. Any work not completed during this phase will be included in next year's funding application to continue restoration efforts.

If the final costs of the first phase are less than estimated or if funds remain unused, the balance will be returned to the CPC.

We are committed to preserving the city's historical assets with the highest standards of care and appreciate your guidance and support as we proceed.

Thank you for your consideration.

Enclosed

Budget Summary
Daedalus Proposal

CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS
FY24 CPA FUNDING CYCLE BUDGET SUMMARY FORM

PROJECT NAME: _____

APPLICANT: _____

SUMMARY OF PROJECT COSTS							
<i>In addition to this form please include a complete itemized budget of all project expenses, including the proposed funding source for each expense, in your submission.</i>							
PROPOSED SOURCE		EXPENSES					
		STUDY	SOFT COSTS ⁽¹⁾	ACQUISITION	CONSTRUCTION ⁽²⁾	CONTINGENCY ⁽³⁾	TOTAL
1	Somerville CPA						
2							
3							
4							
5							
TOTAL PROJECT COSTS							

⁽¹⁾ Soft costs include design, professional services, permitting fees, closing costs, legal, etc.
⁽²⁾ Construction includes new construction, preservation, rehabilitation, restoration work, and/or accessibility related expenses.
⁽³⁾ A 15% contingency is strongly recommended for all construction projects.

EXPLANATION OF FUNDING SOURCES			
<i>Please explain the status of each funding source (i.e., submitting application on X date, applied on X date, received award notification on X date, funds on hand, etc.). For sources where funding has been awarded or funds are on hand, please attach documentation from the funding source (e.g., commitment letter, bank statement).</i>			
	SOURCE	SECURED? (YES/NO)	STATUS OF FUNDING SOURCE
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			



Daedalus

205-3 ARLINGTON STREET
WATERTOWN, MA 02472
617.926.7590 ♦ DAEDALUSART.COM

Proposal for Preservation Survey

Objects: Veterans Memorials & Veterans Cemetery Objects in the City of Somerville Ma

Materials: Various types of stone & metal

Prepared For: Somerville Veterans Services

Contact: Nancy Blanchard

As Requested, Daedalus will supply the City of Somerville, Office of Veterans Services with a **Preservation Survey** for the historic monuments, markers and architectural ornament which honor those who served this nation.

The survey will include the following:

- Detail the current condition of the comprised elements of the Veterans Cemetery (Broadway) this important, historic and powerful site which was built in gratitude for the extreme sacrifices made by our ancestors. The site incorporates a variety of objects made from different materials, each requiring a unique plan for treatment. These elements include:
 - The Bronze Grave Markers
 - The Bronze Plaques
 - The Bronze Sculpture/Bust
 - The Granite Memorials
 - The Entrance Posts and Iron Fence & Gate
- In addition, the following Veterans Memorials across the city will be included in the survey:
 - WW2/ Korean Memorial @ City Hall
 - WW2 Memorial @ C.Hill Cemetery
 - Old Police Station @ 50 Bow st
 - Civil War Memorial @ Som. Ave Cemetery
 - Murphy Memorial @ Foss Park
 - Magoun Plaque @ Trum Field
 - WW 1 Memorial @ Union SQ
 - East Somerville Memorial @ E. Somerville Library



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Approach for survey

- The conditions will be documented by describing the way the objects were fabricated and noting the environmental circumstances which have caused the degradation. The report will include photographs which will help illustrate the written descriptions.
- Historical Research and the inclusion of early images (if available) will be used in the report to help detail the conditions.
- Recommend **treatment procedures**, methods and materials to be used for the cleaning and surface repairs of each of the elements listed.
- Treatment procedures proposed will follow the Secretary of Interiors Standards of Restoration (title 36/ Section 68) as well as the Guidelines for Treatment of Historic Works set by the American Institute for Conservation. Each treatment procedure proposed (approach) will be justified with a description of why the treatment is needed (reason).
- Provide the owners with a range of **anticipated costs** for the treatment of the objects.
- This survey should be used as **a guideline** for approaching treatment. It will **NOT** be written in a form that can/should be used as biddable specifications but could be included in a bid package as an appendix once the perimeters of the work is established, if needed.
- This survey will be an important snap-shot of the condition of the site which can be added to the historical record and used by future generations to help guide their preservation efforts.
- We have completed these surveys for many local municipalities and institutions including the City of Medford, the City of Boston, Mount Auburn Cemetery and MIT.
- We anticipate that two of our staff members will be onsite for a several days documenting the conditions. The written report will take several weeks to write and compile.
- If the project does go out for public procurement Daedalus **will** be permitted to take part in the bidding/ hands on treatment process.

Estimated Cost: \$18,500

Josh Craine 11/2024