



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS  
KATJANA BALLANTYNE, MAYOR



**Community Preservation Committee**  
**Strategic Planning and Community Development**

September 27, 2024

RE: Artfarm CPA Funding Recommendation

In FY19 the Community Preservation Committee recommended appropriating \$542,675 for the conversion of the 2.1 acre former waste transfer facility on Poplar Street to a public open space for active and passive recreation. The appropriation included \$367,899 to come from the open space/recreational land reserve budget, and \$174,776 from the budgeted reserve. This recommendation was put on hold at the time to address the need for underground infrastructure to be located at the site. The CPC has continually held the funds in the respective reserves so that the funds would be available as the CPC originally committed.

With the Poplar Street pump station under construction, the CPC again reiterated the same recommendation as it made in FY19. However, the FY19 Budgeted Reserve Funds were rolled back into the Undesignated Reserve Fund where they have been carried forward since the 2019 fiscal year. The \$174,776 intended for the Artfarm project is no longer in the Budgeted Reserve but is currently in the Undesignated Fund. The amount of \$174,776 should be transferred from the Undesignated Reserve Fund to the Open Space/Recreation Reserve. The full amount of \$542,675 can then be appropriated from the Open Space Recreation Reserve to the Artfarm project.

Thank you,

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CC: Alan Inacio, Director Finance and Administration, OSPCD  
Community Preservation Committee