



April 13, 2023

Roberta Cameron
Community Preservation Manager

Dear Community Preservation Committee,

The Mystic River Watershed Association is formally requesting a one-year extension on our grant titled "Blessing of the Bay Boathouse Park Revitalization" Contract # 180033. This grant was to end 5/14/2023, and we are asking for an extension to 5/14/2025.

Current Status of Project

Since receiving funding from the Somerville CPA in 2018, the project team has:

- Secured funding for (\$250,000) and completed improvements including:
 - o New paths at both entrances of the park; planted 25 trees and replaced benches (see Figure 1)
- Completed land survey and partnered with land owners (Dept of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) and City of Somerville) to uncover complicated land ownership (see Figure 2), modify budget/project scope and determine the priority of future improvements.
- Seeded a 13000SF native meadow (specific deliverables outlined below)

Despite the majority of the project being completed, drought conditions last summer in 2022 delayed the meadow's germination. While excited to say they did germinate in the Fall of 2022, this timing means that plant establishment is expected to occur during the 2023 growing season. Meadow monitoring, maintenance and spot treatments will continue ongoing through the 2024 growing season.

Future Plans

To ensure the meadow is successfully established, monitoring, maintenance and spot treatments will continue through the 2024 growing season. An additional layer of perennial plugs will be planted in Fall 2023.

Please let me know if there is additional information you need for this formal extension request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Michelle Liebetreu". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Michelle Liebetreu
Deputy Director of External Affairs