



City of Somerville Community Preservation Committee

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION FOR Kennedy Schoolyard FY26 Construction Combined Funding Request Amended March 25, 2026

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

City of Somerville OSPCD Division of Public Space and Urban Forestry (PSUF) is requesting funds to construct a new accessible playground at the Kennedy School located at Sartwell and Cherry. This project will implement a design developed in collaboration with the Kennedy School staff, parent groups, and the local community. It is anticipated that the new layout will incorporate space for active recreation, elements to facilitate less structured play, age-appropriate play structures, new tree plantings, green spaces, outdoor classrooms, and quiet areas for student social interaction.

This amended recommendation takes the place of an earlier recommendation to fund construction of the Kennedy Schoolyard, changing the sources and amounts of funds. The updated request is to reduce the municipal bond issuance from \$2,000,000 to \$1,600,000 and add \$400,000 of existing CPA funds to the \$1,000,000 previously appropriated to cover the total construction budget of \$3,000,000.

ELIGIBILITY

Open Space/Recreation: This project would rehabilitate land for recreational use.

RECOMMENDATION

On March 25, 2026 by a vote of 8-0, the Community Preservation Committee recommended that \$228,000 be appropriated from the Community Preservation Act Undesignated Fund Balance to the Open Space Reserve.

The Community Preservation Committee further recommended by a vote of 8-0 that the City of Somerville OSPCD Division of Public Space and Urban Forestry be awarded \$400,000 of Community Preservation Act Funds, including \$228,000 from the Open Space Reserve and \$172,000 from the Budgeted Reserve for construction of a new schoolyard for the Kennedy School, as described in their FY26 application.

The Community Preservation Committee further recommended by a vote of 8-0 that the City of Somerville reduce the authorization to bond by \$400,000, from \$2,000,000 to \$1,600,000. Under authority of M.G.L. Chapter 44B. Debt service for this project will be paid out of the Community Preservation Act fund.

FUNDING CONDITIONS

The project will adhere to the General Conditions outlined in a Memorandum of Agreement between the CPC and the responsible City Departments.

DOCUMENTATION

- [FY25 Kennedy Schoolyard CPA Application](#)