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MAYOR

CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE



COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION FOR Junction Park FY23 Construction

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The City of Somerville Public Space and Urban Forestry Division (PSUF) is seeking seed funding for construction for the expansion and renovation of Somerville Junction Park, combining an existing 1 acre passive park with an adjacent 0.5 acre city-owned lot that had been used for parking to create new park amenities adjacent to the MBTA Somerville Community Path. This project will implement a previous CPA-funded design phase. Improvements will include a large passive lawn area, native pollinator plan beds, ADA accessible walking paths, overlooks, fixed and movable lounge seating, café and picnic tables, a water bottle filler, bike repair station, cooling water mist stations, and artistic elements calling back to the history of Somerville Junction Park.

ELIGIBILITY

OpenSpace/Recreational Land: This project would create new recreational land and provide new amenities.

RECOMMENDATION

On January 25, 2023 by a vote of 6-0, the Community Preservation Committee recommended approval to City Council that PSUF be awarded \$400,000 of Community Preservation Act funds for construction of the expansion and improvements to Junction Park, as described in their application from the following account:

Category: Historic Preservation	Recommended Funding Source	Amount
Junction Park FY23 Construction	Open Space Reserve	\$400,000
	Total	\$400,000

FUNDING CONDITIONS

1. The CPA-funded portion of the project must be initiated within three years unless extension is granted by the CPC.
2. CPA funds will be used only for CPA eligible expenses.
3. The City of Somerville will install a permanent sign noting CPA funding at the completion of the project and a temporary sign during construction.

ALIGNMENT WITH COMMUNITY NEEDS

Neighborhood residents participated in the CPA-funded process to design the improvements to the park. The project addresses goals of the FY23 Community Preservation Plan, SomerVision 2040, and Somerville's Urban Forestry Management Plan by expanding Somerville's total open space, providing passive and active recreational facilities that are attractive, safe and accessible, and increasing tree canopy and native pollinator plantings.

PROJECT BUDGET AND SCOPE

CPA Expenses	Amount
Construction	\$400,000
Total	\$400,000
Sources	
CPA funds	\$400,000
PARC Grant	\$400,000
CDBG	TBD
City Bond or Other	TBD
Est. Total	\$2,724,430

MEASURES OF SUCCESS

The goals of this project are to:

- Conversion of parking lot to additional park space
- Renovation of existing Junction Park passive park
- Installation of fixtures identified in Design Plan
- Installation of trees and native pollinator plant beds

The full original proposal is available at:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1uef3Rz17AqvyQaGwsvvYp5tkoDZUQoEz/view?usp=share_link