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## CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE



### COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE FY18 FUNDING RECOMMENDATION FOR *PROSPECT HILL PARK, CITY OF SOMERVILLE PARKS AND OPEN SPACE DIVISION*

#### PROJECT DESCRIPTION

This project will renovate Prospect Hill Park, a local historic district and the site of the raising of the first flag of the united colonies, ordered by George Washington on January 1, 1776. If approved, these funds will serve as the match to the EOEEA PARC grant accepted by the Board of Aldermen on January 25, 2018 (agenda item 204955).

#### ELIGIBILITY

*Historic resources and Recreational Land:* This project would rehabilitate a passive park that is also a local historic district.

#### RECOMMENDED FUNDING- PRELIMINARY DISCUSSION

On March 28, 2018 by a vote of 6-0 the Community Preservation Committee recommended appropriating \$797,330 for this project, \$146,533 from the historic resources reserve, \$121,996 from the budgeted reserve, and \$528,801 from the undesignated reserve budget, to the control of the City of Somerville Parks and Open Space Division for the overall purposes summarized in this document.

#### Project Budget

Expenses	Amount
Study	\$0
Soft costs	\$0
Construction	\$0
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,200,000</b>
Sources	
CPA historic resources/recreation land funds-requested	\$800,000
Other sources- PARC grant	\$400,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,200,000</b>

## **ALIGNMENT WITH FY18 COMMUNITY PRESERVATION PLAN**

The project is a blended project and has received the support of the Somerville Historic Preservation Commission. Prospect Hill Park is not currently handicap accessible. The proposed design addresses issues of accessibility and will achieve compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act when implemented. The design also incorporates sustainable practices and design. The project leverages funding from the PARC grant program.

## **FUNDING CONDITIONS**

1. Upon commencement of the Project and as appropriate, the City of Somerville agrees to post a sign stating that the Project was funded through the City of Somerville's Community Preservation Act program.
2. The Grantee agrees to complete the proposed project following the US Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation, as required by the Community Preservation Act, and to secure contractors who have demonstrated experience successfully completing projects to these standards.

## **MEASURES OF SUCCESS**

The goals of the project are:

- To allow persons with disabilities to experience the park by creating routes that are compliant with ADA law
- To address elements of the park that need repair or upgrading including pathways, ADA surfacing, lighting, plantings, lawns, and areas of steep erosion
- To manage the urban tree canopy by removing dead trees, selectively pruning others and curating views that have been blocked by invasive overgrowth

The project's success will be measured through a completed renovation that is historically and environmentally sensitive, replaces dilapidated elements, and successfully interprets the history of the site while meeting local and national historic guidelines.

***The full proposal is available at:*** <https://www.somervillema.gov/departments/community-preservation-act/2018-cpa-projects>