



City of Somerville

Community Preservation Committee

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION FOR Mystic Open Space Recreation Improvements FY26

Project Description

The Somerville Housing Authority requests funds for improvement of open spaces at the Mystic River/View public housing developments. The purpose of the project is to fully utilize the land, making improvements that will be beneficial to the adults and children living in the community. With resident input, SHA is in the design phase of developing a capital improvement plan. CPA funds will be used to initiate a three-phase project: 1) to replace an underutilized community garden site with scattered raised community garden beds; 2) make improvements to the basketball court and surrounding site, and 3) make upgrades to playground areas.

Eligibility

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

Recommendation

On January 28, 2026 by a vote of 9-0, the Community Preservation Committee recommended that the Somerville Housing Authority be awarded \$50,000 of Community Preservation Act funds from the Budgeted Reserve to improve the open space at the Mystic River/View developments.

Funding Conditions

The project will follow the General Conditions outlined in a Grant Agreement between the City and the Grantee. In addition, the following special condition applies to this project:

1. If the Mystic Development open space is subject to a change in use which reduces or eliminates the open/outdoor recreation space within 50 years of the approval of this grant the funds will be required to be returned to the CPA fund Open Space Reserve, unless the Community Preservation Committee consents to allow the City to retain the funds.
2. CPA funds will not pay for design or installation of artificial turf.
3. A detailed scope for site improvements to be paid for with CPA funds will be provided before funds are disbursed.

The full original proposal is available at:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1lZA-GHYaoe-G_PTn4npCVsGcHns62koj/view?usp=drive_link