



**Friends of Wellington Park, Inc.**

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**Proposal for Little Free Library for Grownups at Wellington Park**

May 9, 2023 (revised June 21, 2023)

Friends of Wellington Park (FoWP) is proposing to install a Little Free Library (LFL) for adult readers at Wellington Park (Kilburn Road, West Newton) adjacent to the existing LFL for children. The two LFLs would be along the paved path from the main accessible Kilburn Road entrance to the basketball court. The LFLs would both be on the right side of path just past the information kiosk and before the entrance gate to the existing play area.

The LFL would be mounted several feet off the paved path the same distance as the original LFL. An additional heavy mat would be placed in the area between the LFL and the path to provide accessible use of the LFL. The dimensions and design of the new LFL box are similar to the existing LFL. It is proposed that the new LFL box be mounted 3 inches higher than the existing LFL. This height would still meet ADA accessibility side reach requirements for access by adult wheelchair users. In addition to the height difference, we propose to provide labels to distinguish the two LFLs – “Kids Books” and “Grown-up Books” – in addition to the height difference (based on a poll of our board and curators).



The existing children’s LFL has been very successful for a few years and has been curated by a local couple (Terry Lerner and Arthur Ley) who visit it on an almost daily basis. They will be the designated stewards of the LFL for adults as well. Their daughter and her friends entered a literary trivia contest run by the LFL organization in which the prize was a new LFL, post and a collection of books for both children and adults, with the intention of it being used at Wellington Park.

There is no cost to the City for the new LFL and its mounting post. FoWP has the LFL and post already in its possession and has written a letter gifting them to the City of Newton for use at Wellington Park. FoWP has the ability to install the LFL and post in coordination with the PRC Department, as they did for the children’s LFL. The PRC Department would need to request a Dig Safe check on the site which would be expected to be approved since it is adjacent to the existing LFL which also had Dig Safe approval.



We believe that the addition of LFL would be a valuable cultural asset to our park and a great benefit to the community. If this proposal is approved we would commence installation shortly following Dig Safe approval.



Existing Children's LFL and Proposed Adult LFL



Map of Wellington Park with Adult LFL Location in Red