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**CITY OF NEWTON, MASSACHUSETTS**  
**PUBLIC BUILDINGS DEPARTMENT**  
52 ELLIOT STREET, NEWTON HIGHLANDS, MA 02461

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Ruthanne Fuller, Mayor  
Josh Morse  
Building Commissioner

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May 30, 2023

Ruthanne Fuller, Mayor  
Newton City Hall  
1000 Commonwealth Avenue  
Newton Centre, MA 02459

RE: Funding for Crafts Street Wash Bay

Dear Mayor Fuller:

The Public Buildings Department respectfully requests \$1,000,000 to complete the Wash Bay Project at the Crafts Street yard.

\$500K was originally requested and made available in early 2019 to replace the DPW wash bay vehicle wash system. Working with DPW and our engineering firm, it became clear that based on the conditions of the supporting systems and equipment that the scope of work would need to be expanded to ensure that a sound investment was made.

The project had to include the replacement of the water, sewer, and electrical services, water heating systems, electrical panel and distribution systems, plumbing distribution, grounding, and much more. Without this work the new vehicle wash system would not be able to function in some cases, and in others it would likely prematurely fail. The condition of the supporting systems and the need to replace them could not have been known until we got into the design development phase of design, and completed, the subsurface system analysis.

The design schedule had to be extended to complete a more complex project, and as such there was a compounding effect on costs through construction inflation between 2019 and 2020.

Like many projects, the wash bay was placed on hold during the pandemic while our attention and resources were focused on the pandemic response.

Coming out of the pandemic, our design team updated the design to account for code changes and prepared the project documents for bid. The project funding request now includes the necessary expanded scope, and it reflects the increased costs due to the historic construction cost escalation the country has experienced over the past few years. This project was recently bid out and the funds being requested are based on the lowest responsible bidder.

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Please see attached estimate of costs.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Morse", written in a cursive style.

Josh Morse  
Public Buildings Commissioner

cc: Maureen Lemieux, Chief Financial Officer  
Alex Valcarce, Deputy Buildings Commissioner  
Jonathan Yeo, Chief Operating Officer

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