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| **Newton, Massachusetts Community Preservation Program****FUNDING REQUEST** |
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|  |  | **PRE-PROPOSAL** | **X** | **PROPOSAL** |

*(For staff use) date rec’d:*

City of Newton



Ruthanne Fuller

Mayor

Last updated October 2020.

Please submit this completed file directly – do not convert to PDF or other formats.

For full instructions, see [**www.newtonma.gov/cpa**](http://www.newtonma.gov/cpa) or contact:

Mollie Hutchings, Community Preservation Program Manager

City of Newton Planning & Development Department, 1000 Commonwealth Ave., Newton, MA 02459

ahutchings@newtonma.gov 617.796.1144

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| You may adjust the space for each question, but the combined answers to all questions on this page must fit on this page. |
| **Project****TITLE** | Community Garden at Spears Park |
| **Project****LOCATION** | Corner of Walnut Pk. & Washington St., Newton |
| **Project****CONTACTS** | Name & title or organization | Email | Phone | Mailing address |
| **Project Manager** | Luis Perez Demorizi, Director of Parks & Open Space; Parks, Recreation & CultureAhron Lerman, Asst. Director of Parks & Open Space; Parks, Recreation & Culture | lpdemorizi@newtonma.govalerman@newtonma.gov | 617-796-1500 | 246 Dudley Rd. Newton, MA 02459 |
| **Other Contacts** | Nicole Banks, Commissioner;Parks, Recreation & Culture | nbanks@newtonma.gov | 617-796-1500 | 246 Dudley Rd., Newton, MA 02459 |
| **Project FUNDING** | **A. CPA funds requested:**$150,000 | **B.** **Other funds to be used:**$199,519  | **C. Total project cost (A+B):**$349,519 |
| **Project****SUMMARY** | Explain how the project will use the requested CPA funds. You may provide more detail in attachments, but your PROJECT SUMMARY MUST FIT IN THE SPACE BELOW. Use a cover letter for general information about the sponsoring organization’s accomplishments. |
| **New Community Gardens**Spears Park is a one-third (.32) acre park at the corner of Washington Street and Walnut Park in Newton. The park borders the Jackson Walnut Park Schools to the west and north, Washington street to the south, and Walnut Park to the east. This small parcel of open space was a private residential property that was deeded to the City of Newton in 1934. The previous residence and carriage house dated back to as early as 1848. The park is also located just down the block from the Jackson-Homestead Museum. The surrounding neighborhood is a mix of residential, commercial, and and institutional uses. Currently, the park is an open lawn with a perimeter of declining trees, many of them the invasive Norway maple. Spears Park currently does not have any programmed uses.  Over the past two years, Newton’s Parks, Recreation & Culture Department has partnered with the *Friends of Tasun Community Gardens at Spears Park* to bring forward just the second publicly accessible community garden space in the city—and the first north of the Mass Pike. The first community gardens, at Nahanton Park, offer 120 plots for rent and are incredibly popular. All plots have been booked solid for years, and there is currently a recurring waitlist of an average of 20 hopeful gardeners. Throughout the two-year planning and development process for these new gardens at Spears Park, the city held three community meetings, one of which was held on-site with neighbors and other stakeholders. The project has also received unanimous approval from the Parks & Recreation Commission in their November 2022 meeting, and full support from the city council and from various local entities, such as Green Newton and the Newton Conservators. The project was also supported by the Jackson Walnut Park Schools and the Friends of Tasun Garden at Spears Park.**Project Goals*** Provide up to 30 raised beds, including at least 2 accessible beds
* Provide accessibility throughout the garden area
* Provide critter-resistant fence enclosure
* Provide site amenities such as bike racks, benches, picnic tables, and signage
* Use sustainable materials
* Enhance pollinator habitat
* Provide garden tool storage and composting station
* Provide yard hydrants
* Provide amenities for the community outside of the fenced-in gardens
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| **Project Title** | Community Garden at Spears Park |
| **Proposed Funding Category: Recreation** | **Proposed Recreation Funding will be used to:** | **Acquire** |   |
| **Create** | A community garden! |
| **Preserve** |  |
| **Rehabilitate/ Restore** |  |
| **Community** **Needs** | From each of at least2 plans linked to the [*Guidelines & Forms*](http://www.newtonma.gov/gov/planning/cpa/program.asp) page of [**www.newtonma.gov/cpa**](http://www.newtonma.gov/cpa), providea brief quote with plan title, year, and page number, showing how this project meets previously recognized community needs. You may also list other community benefits not mentioned in any plan. |
| **Open Space and Recreation Plan Update 2020-2027*** Section 7: Analysis of Needs (p.143)
	+ *Addressing Gaps in the Availability of Open Space Resources* – “Given the demand, Newton would do well to consider creating more community gardens, especially in the northern part of the City.”
* Section 8:
	+ Goal 3: Accessibility (p.149)
		- *Objective A:* *Increase accessibility in the City’s Park land*
	+ Goal 4: Minimized Gaps in the Availability of Open Space Resources (p.150)
		- *Objective A:* Improved existing open space resources where need is greatest
		- *Objective B:* Expanded and diversified park and playground assets where need is greatest
	+ Goal 5: Connectivity (p.150)
		- *Objective A:* Enhanced bike network that includes not only higher traffic “spines”, but also low-stress components and connections to local open space resources, especially in under-served areas, and is consistent with regional plans
		- *Objective E:* Improved publicly available bike/pedestrian wayfinding and navigation measures.

**Capital Improvement Plan FY 2025-2029*** Priority Number 34: “Spears Garden – Install community garden with raised planter boxes, irrigation, pathways, seating.”
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| **COMMUNITY CONTACTS** | List at least 3 Newton residents or organizations willing and able to comment on the project and its manager’s qualifications. No more than 1 should be a supervisor, employee or current work colleague of the project manager or sponsor. Consult staff on the community contacts required for your specific proposal.  |
| Name & title or organization | Email | Phone | Mailing address |
| Friends of Tasun Community Garden at Spears Park | marcus.breen1@gmail.com | 617-987-7660 |  |
| Arthur Magni, Chairman Parks & Recreation Commission |  | 617-821-8351 |  |
| Maria S Greenberg, Newton City Councilor | msgreenberg@newtonma.gov | 617-817-6548 |  |
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| You may adjust the space for each question, but the combined answers to all questions on this page must fit on this page. Full proposals must include separate, detailed budgets in addition to this page. |
| **Project TITLE** | Community Garden at Spears Park |
| **SUMMARY CAPITAL/DEVELOPMENT BUDGET** |
| **Uses of Funds** |
| Topographic Survey (ARPA) | $6,500 |
| Conceptual Design (ARPA) | $15,700 |
| Final design and construction administration, Weston & Sampson Inc. (ARPA) | $37,800 |
| Construction Budget (ARPA, CPA, Donations & Grants) | $270,619 |
| 14 Months approximate Parks and Open Space staff time through final design and construction (@$50.00/hr, 6 Hrs/week) | $16,800 |
| 42 urban forestry staff hours @ $50/hr rate (approx. 3 staff) tree maintenance, organic material salvage) | $2,100 |
| **D. TOTAL** **USES** (should equal **C.** on page 1 and **E.** below) | **$349,519** |
| **Sources of Funds** | **Status**(requested, expected, confirmed) |  |
| State earmark funds  | Confirmed | $75,000 |
| The Village Bank donation | Expected | $7,500 |
| Hauser Trust  | Expected | $1,455 |
| Green Newton | Confirmed | $500 |
| America Rescue Plan Act Funds (ARPA) | Confirmed | $96,164 |
| City of Newton full time employee salaries | Expected | $18,900 |
| CPA Funds | Requested | $150,000 |
| **E. TOTAL SOURCES** (should equal **C.** on page 1 and **D.** above) | **$349,519** |
| **SUMMARY ANNUAL OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE** **BUDGET** (cannot use CPA funds) |
| **Uses of Funds** |
| Seasonal mowing and leaf removal | $1250 |
| City water costs | $500 |
| Pruning costs, annualized | $420 |
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| **F. TOTAL ANNUAL COST** (should equal **G.** below) | **$2170** |
| **Sources of Funds** |
| Public Grounds and Maintenance Budget | $1750 |
| Forestry Budget | $420 |
| **G. TOTAL ANNUAL FUNDING** (should equal **F.** above) | **$2170** |
| **Project TIMELINE** | **Phase or Task** | **Season & Year** |
| Final Desing and Bidding | February -- June 2024 |
| Site construction | September 2024 -- March 2025 |
| Garden Bed preparation and construction | Spring 2024  |
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| **Project TITLE** | Tasun Community Garden at Spears Park |
|  **🡫 Check off submitted attachments here.** |
| **REQUIRED.** | x | **PHOTOS** | of existing site or resource conditions (2-3 photos may be enough) |
| x | **MAP** | of site in relation to nearest major roads (omit if project has no site) |
| Pre-proposals: separate attachments not required, just use page 3 of form. **Full proposals: separate,****detailed budget attachments REQUIRED.** | **PROJECT FINANCES** printed and as computer spreadsheets, with both uses & sources of funds |
| x | **Development budget:** include total cost, hard vs. soft costs and contingencies, and project management – amount and cost of time from contractors or staff (in-kind contributions by existing staff must also be costed) |
|  | **Operating/maintenance budget, projected separately for each of the next 10 years**(CPA funds may not be used for operations or maintenance) |
|  | **Non-CPA funding:** commitment letters, letters of inquiry to other funders, fundraising plans, etc., including both cash and est. dollar value of in-kind contributions |
|  | **Purchasing of goods & services:** briefly summarize sponsor’s understanding of applicable state statutes and City policies |
| **REQUIRED** **for all full proposals.** | **SPONSOR FINANCES & QUALIFICATIONS, INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT** |
|  | **For sponsoring department or organization, most recent annual operating budget** (revenue & expenses) **& financial statement** (assets & liabilities); each must include both public (City) and private resources (“friends” organizations, fundraising, etc.) |
| x | **For project manager: relevant training & track record** of managing similar projects |
| **REQUIRED for** **all full proposals involving City govt., incl. land acquisition.** | x | **CAPITAL** **IMPROVEMENT PLAN** | current listing/ranking & risk factors for this project |
|  | **COVER** **LETTER** | from head of City department, board or commission confirming: current custody, or willingness to accept custody, of the resource and commitment of staff time for project management |
| **ZONING & PERMITTING** |
| N/A | **Permits required:** including building permits, environmental permitting, parking waivers, demolition, comprehensive permit, or special permits (if applicable) |
| X | **Other approvals required**: Newton Conservation Commission, Newton Historical Commission, Newton Commission on Disabilities, Parks and Recreation Commission, Massachusetts Historical Commission, Massachusetts Architectural Access Board, etc.  |
| **DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION** |
| x | **Professional design & cost estimates**: include site plans, landscape plans, etc. |
|  | **Materials & finishes**; highlight “green” or sustainable features & materials |
| **OPTIONAL for****all proposals.** |  | **LETTERS of SUPPORT** | from Newton residents, organizations, or businesses |