



David B. Cohen
Mayor

APPLICATION FOR COMMUNITY PRESERVATION FUNDING

Submit to Jennifer Goldson, Community Preservation Planner
Newton Planning and Development Department
1000 Commonwealth Avenue, Newton, MA 02459
jgoldson@ci.newton.ma.us
617-796-1120 ext. 1131

PROPERTY OF:
DEPARTMENT OF
PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT
CITY HALL
1000 Commonwealth Avenue
NEWTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02459
2009 OCT 15 PM 1:55

Name of Applicant³ THE PLAYGROUND PROJECT AT ALBEMARLE, INC.

Name of Co-Applicant, if applicable FRIENDS OF ALBEMARLE, DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

Contact Name MARGARET DORIS, PRESIDENT

Mailing Address 119 FAIR OAKS AVE city NEWTONVILLE state MA zip 02460-1154

Daytime Phone 617-630-9922 Email INFO@NEWTONPLAYGROUND.ORG

Name of Proposal ACCESSIBLE ENHANCEMENTS TO THE GATH POOL

Address of Proposal (or assessor's parcel id) 265 Albemarle Road, Newtonville

CPA Category (circle all that apply): Open space Historic preservation Recreation Community housing

CPA Funding Requested \$120,875 Total Cost of Proposed Project \$120,875

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Attach answers to the following questions. Applications will be returned as incomplete if all requested information is not provided. Include supporting materials as necessary.

1. **Goals:** What are the goals of the proposed project?
2. **Community Need:** Why is this project needed? Does it address needs identified in existing City plans?
3. **Community Support:** What is the nature and level of support for this project? Include letters of support and any petitions.
4. **Timeline:** What is the schedule for project implementation, including a timeline for all critical milestones?
5. **Credentials:** How will the experience of the applicant contribute to the success of this project?
6. **Success Factors:** How will the success of this project will be measured? Be as specific as possible.
7. **Budget:** What is the total budget for the project and how will CPA funds be spent? All items of expenditure must be clearly identified. Distinguish between hard and soft costs and contingencies. (NOTE: CPA funds may NOT be used for maintenance.)
8. **Other Funding:** What additional funding sources are available, committed, or under consideration? Include commitment letters, if available, and describe any other attempts to secure funding for this project.
9. **Maintenance:** If ongoing maintenance is required for your project, how will it be funded?

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Provide the following additional information, as applicable.

10. Documentation that you have control over the site, such as Purchase and Sale Agreement, option, or deed.

³ If the proposal is on City-owned land, either the applicant or the co-applicant must be the City Board, Commission, or Department in control of the land.

The Playground Project at Albemarle, Inc.

We're Building a Playground Just for the Fun of It!

October 7, 2004

Mr. Peter Johnson, Chairman
Newton Parks and Recreation Commission
70 Crescent Street
Newton, MA 02466

Dear Chairman Johnson and members;

I am writing to ask for the Commission's support for the Playground Project and the Friends of Albemarle's planned request for CPA funding to improve the comfort and user friendliness of the Gath Memorial Pool, one of this community's finest resources.

Over the past two decades, there have been some significant shifts in Gath Pool user demographics. Seniors, once an underrepresented user group, are now a vibrant presence with Aquatic exercise classes targeted specifically at this population. The addition of a pool lift and the inclusion of developmentally and physically challenged youngsters in Albemarle Acres summer camp as well as in municipal swim classes have significantly increased the number of users of all ages who need special accommodation.

The public, assisted by programs initiated by Parks and Recreation and the Newton Health Department, has a greater understanding of the risk posed by excessive sun exposure and skin cancer. While once the pool deck was crowded with sun worshipers hoping to achieve the perfect tan, users now seek to enjoy the pool while minimizing their sun exposure.

At present, there is virtually no shade, artificial or natural, at the Gath Pool until late afternoon when the building itself provides shade as the sun begins to set. Access to shade is essential for seniors, the physically or medically challenged, small children in lessons and to all users who wish to enjoy the pool (and supervise their children) in comfort. While not pool "users", infants on the pool deck are also vulnerable to sun exposure and heat exhaustion. Parents with infants in carriers who also have toddlers to watch over currently have no place to keep their infant out of direct sun light.

Comfort, accessibility and user friendliness would also be enhanced with improved seating. At present the only seating provided at the pool is with several elevated concrete slabs. The lack of backs and/or handgrips makes these difficult if not impossible for seniors and physically challenged individuals to use. Their configuration and color also make them an obstacle to the visually impaired.

Standards for accessible drinking fountains have been refined and manufacturers have created new designs to meet those new standards. The needs of wheelchair users are now better understood, as are as the needs of seniors who may have trouble with balance, or stooping to use a fountain.

Usage patterns indicate a need for additional grab bars at strategic locations in both locker rooms.

The current floor surface is a combination of tiles and painted concrete, posing a significant risk for falls.

The Playground Project at Albemarle, Inc. and the Friends of Albemarle recognize the significant efforts that the City of Newton has made to improve the accessibility at Gath Pool and make the swim experience a positive

119 Fair Oaks Ave. Newtonville, MA 02460 617 630-9922
www.newtonplayground.org

The Playground Project at Albemarle, Inc.

experience for all users. We would like to assist the City in their efforts by jointly apply for a CPA grant to fund targeted items, specifically:

1. **Shade** – We propose shading parts of both the kiddie pool area and main pool deck with a custom super-span sun port. The sun port is attractive, fine mesh awning structure which blocks out the sun's rays yet allows moisture to pass through. The sun port supports a 90-mph wind load, is available in a variety of attractive colors and is easily maintained. The canopy is a semi-permanent structure and is removed at the end of each swim season.
2. **Benches** – We propose the addition of fourteen backed benches with armrests to be installed at several points – both shaded and uncovered – within the main kiddie pool enclosures. The bench proposed is consistent in style with the benches already in place on the Albemarle Playground and the Community Commons, and has been successfully used in chlorinated water applications by other municipalities.
3. **Drinking Fountains** – We propose replacing two old drinking fountains on the main pool deck with two new fountains that meet new ADA standards. The Halsey-Taylor barrier-free Voyager meets the requirements of ADA for both children and adults, is designed to retrofit to existing applications and has self-closing, light-touch push bars requiring minimal pressure to activate.
4. **Grab bars:** We propose adding additional grab bars where indicated, most notably within the shower enclosures.
5. **Non-slip Floor Surfacing** – We propose the purchase and installation of non-slip flooring through the Gath Pool Locker Rooms and public passage areas. Upgrading to rubberized flooring would not only minimize the risks of slips, but would reduce the risk of serious injury when falls occur.

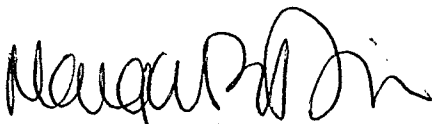
Cost estimates for this project total as follows:

1. Sun Port Shade area -	\$47,000.00
2. Benches -	\$12,000.00
3. Drinking Fountains-	\$ 3,500.00
4. Grab Bars-	\$ 2,650.00
5. Non-slip floor surfacing-	\$55,725.00

Total CPA Funding Request \$120,875.00

We are asking the commission for their support for this CPA project to improve the comfort and user friendliness of the Gath Memorial Pool, one of this community's finest resources. With these improvements to the existing facility, users can thoroughly enjoy aquatics activities in comfort.

Sincerely,



Margaret E. Doris
President

The Playground Project at Albemarle, Inc.

Application for Community Preservation Funding
Enhancements to Gath Pool

The Playground Project at Albemarle, Inc., the Friends of
Albemarle and the Department of Parks and Recreation

Project Description

1. Goals: Enhancing sun-protection, accessibility and user-friendliness at the Gath Pool.

- A. **Shade** – We propose shading parts of both the kiddie pool area and main pool deck with a custom super-span sun port. The sun port is attractive, fine mesh awning structure which blocks out the sun's rays yet allows moisture to pass through. The sun port supports a 90-mph wind load, is available in a variety of attractive colors and is easily maintained. The canopy is a semi-permanent structure and is removed at the end of each swim season.
- B. **Benches** – We propose the addition of fourteen backed benches with armrests to be installed at several points – both shaded and uncovered – within the main kiddie pool enclosures. The bench proposed is consistent in style with the benches already in place on the Albemarle Playground and the Community Commons, and has been successfully used in chlorinated water applications by other municipalities.
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- D. **Grab bars:** We propose adding additional grab bars where indicated, most notably within the shower enclosures.
- E. **Non-slip Floor Surfacing** – We propose the purchase and installation of non-slip flooring throughout the Gath Pool Locker Rooms and public passage areas. Upgrading to rubberized flooring would not only minimize the risks of slips, but would reduce the risk of serious injury when falls occur.

2. Community Need:

Over the past two decades, there have been some significant shifts in Gath Pool user demographics. Seniors, once an underrepresented user group, are now a vibrant presence with Aquatic exercise classes targeted specifically at this population. The addition of a pool lift and the inclusion of developmentally and physically challenged youngsters in Albemarle Acres summer camp as well as in municipal swim classes have significantly increased the number of users of all ages who need special accommodation.

The public, assisted by programs initiated by Parks and Recreation and the Newton Health Department, has a greater understanding of the risk posed by excessive sun exposure and skin cancer. While once the pool deck was crowded with sun worshipers hoping to achieve the perfect tan, users now seek to enjoy the pool while minimizing their sun exposure.

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Comfort, accessibility and user friendliness would also be enhanced with improved seating. At present the only seating provided at the pool is with several elevated concrete slabs. The lack of backs and/or handgrips makes these difficult if not impossible for seniors and physically challenged individuals to use. Their configuration and color also make them an obstacle to the visually impaired.

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Usage patterns indicate a need for additional grab bars at strategic locations in both locker rooms.

The current floor surface is a combination of tiles and painted concrete, posing a significant risk for falls.

3. Community support:

There were almost 40,000 admissions to the Gath Pool during the 2004 season. Patrons have been nearly universal in their support for pool enhancements. Attached is a sampling of letters of support.

4. Timeline:

The sponsors are ready to begin work on this project as soon as notification of any grant is received. Vendors have been identified, and delivery times established. All work is to be completed before the start of the 2005 Pool Season.

5. Credentials:

The Playground Project at Albemarle, Inc, a 501(c)(3) corporation, has been working with the City to build and promote accessible recreation since 1992. As a first round CPA funding recipient, the Playground Project is familiar with the requirements and commitment necessary to see a project through to completion.

The Friends of Albemarle was formed by area residents who wished to take a more active role in the preservation and management of the neighborhood's open spaces. Working with Newton's Department of Parks and Recreation, the Friends applied to, and received, a Community Outreach Group for Landscape Design (affiliated with the Landscape Institute of the Arnold Arboretum), "grant" in the form of professional services. As a result, the Friends have been able to engage a graduate student in landscape design to develop a general plan and guidelines for future improvements and development.

The Department of Parks and Recreation has been the sole sponsor or co-sponsor in a number of CPA projects, including one jointly sponsored with the Playground Project. The Department will take the lead in this project in making sure all City Departments are properly involved, and all City requirements are met.

6. Success Factors:

The success of this project will be measured by community feedback and enthusiasm for these enhancements.

7. Budget:

Cost estimates for this project total as follows:

A. Sun Port Shade area - Sunport, installed \$32,000 Six footings \$12,000 Misc&Contingency \$3,000 TOTAL	\$47,000.00
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B. Benches - 14 @ \$800 ea., includes freight and footings	\$12,000.00
C. Drinking Fountains-	\$ 3,500.00
D. Grab Bars-	\$ 2,650.00
E. Non-slip floor surfacing- includes design, removal of old flooring and prep	\$55,725.00

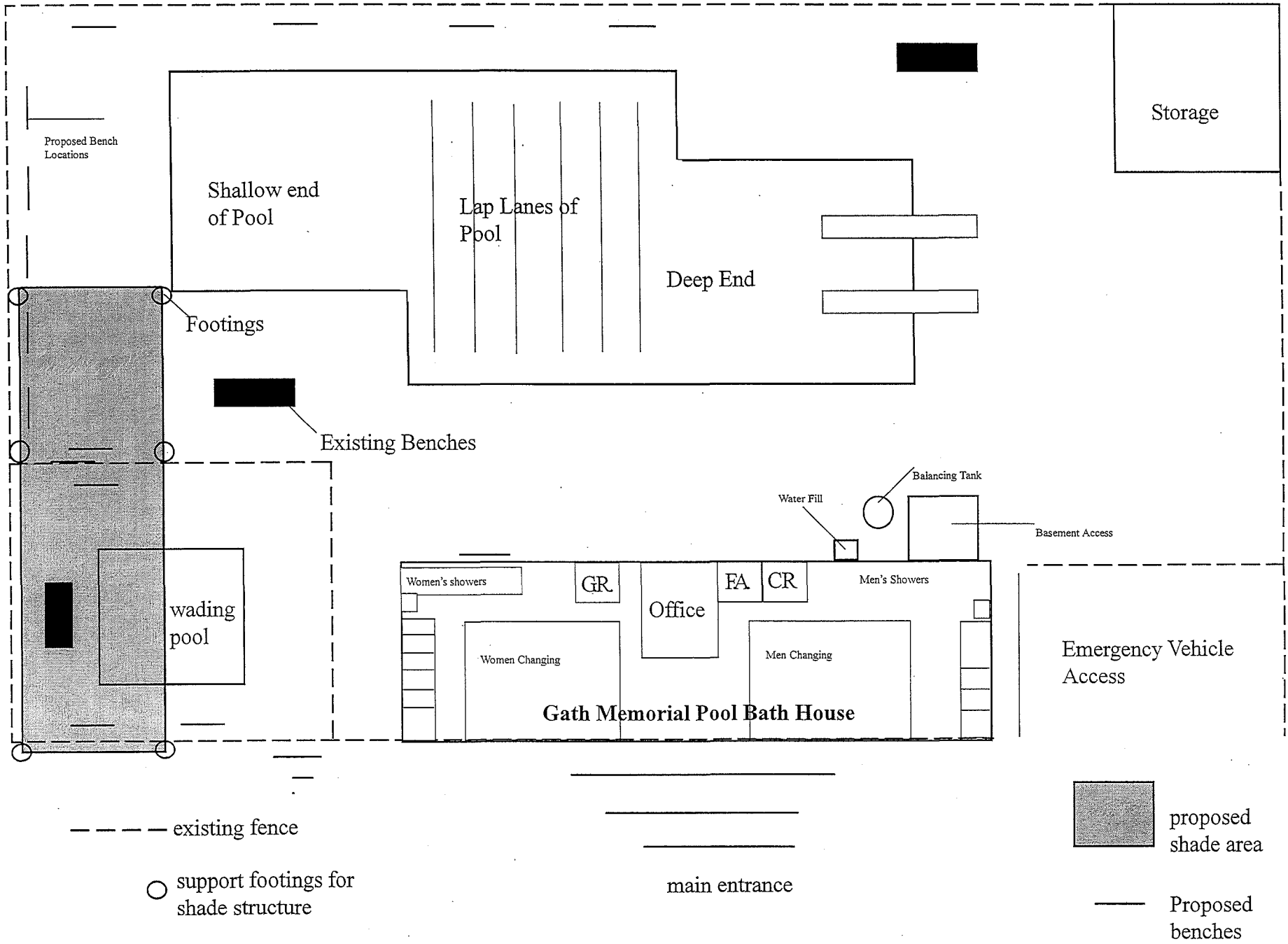
Total CPA Funding Request	\$120,875.00
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8. Funding:

No other funding sources are available, committed or under consideration.

9. Maintenance:

Maintenance will be assumed as part of the Pool budget. It should be noted that the addition of the shade and benches are not expected to increase maintenance costs significantly, and that the addition of non-slip flooring, which can be hosed clean, has the potential to actually decrease costs.



Proposed Bench Locations

Shallow end of Pool

Lap Lanes of Pool

Deep End

Storage

Footings

Existing Benches

wading pool

Water Fill

Balancing Tank

Basement Access

Women's showers

GR

Office

FA

CR

Men's Showers

Women Changing

Men Changing

Emergency Vehicle Access

Gath Memorial Pool Bath House

--- existing fence

○ support footings for shade structure

main entrance

■ proposed shade area

— Proposed benches

