

City of Newton

APPLICATION FOR COMMUNITY PRESERVATION FUNDING



David B. Cohen
Mayor

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

Name of Applicant City of Newton

Sponsoring Organization, if applicable Conservation Commission and Parks & Recreation Dept.

Mailing Address 1000 Commonwealth Avenue City Newton State MA Zip 02459

Daytime Phone 617-796-1120 **Email** mhorn@ci.newton.ma.us

Name of Proposal Flowed Meadow Improvement Project

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

CPA Funding Requested \$74,250 **Total Cost of Proposed Project** \$74,250

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.
4. **Timeline:** What is the schedule for project implementation, including a timeline for all critical elements?
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. (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.
11. Evidence that the project does not violate any zoning ordinance or any other laws or regulations.
12. Evidence that the proposed site is free of hazardous materials or that there is a plan for remediation in place.
13. Evidence that appropriate professional standards will be followed if construction, restoration or rehabilitation is proposed.
14. Information indicating how this project can be used to achieve additional community benefits.

Refer to the City web site (ci.newton.ma.us) and the Community Preservation Plan for further information. Form CPA-1 (Revised 10/02)

FLOWED MEADOW IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Joint Project of Conservation Commission and Parks & Recreation

1. **Goals:** This project will take existing City-owned land adjacent to the Charles River and Purgatory Cove and create new and improved access to both the unimproved portion of Auburndale Park and the new Flowed Meadow Conservation Area (formerly part of the Rumford Avenue Landfill). New pathways, signage and benches will enable visitors to use the open space for recreation in ways not now possible. In addition, the closure of a former pathway will help preserve and protect wetland resource areas and wildlife habitat by limiting access.
2. **Community Need:** The project will connect Auburndale neighborhoods to the West Newton community, Purgatory Cove and the MDC's Forest Grove Reservation. Existing pathways are unsafe and unmarked, and no visitor amenities such as benches and signage currently exist. The project will implement the recommendations made by the Flowed Meadow Planning Group after a year of wide-ranging discussions by representatives of numerous stakeholder groups.
3. **Community Support:** The project has the support of the members of the Flowed Meadow Planning Group, representing the following groups: Aldermen from the affected wards, Conservation Commission, Department of Public Works, Parks & Recreation Department, Auburndale Community Association, Newton/Waltham Citizens Against Hazardous Waste, The Newton Conservators, Charles River Watershed Association, Island Neighborhood Association of Waltham & Newton, and State Representatives Kay Khan and Peter Koutoujian. In addition, many individuals from both Auburndale and West Newton contributed their expertise to the report, a copy of which is enclosed.
4. **Timeline:** The major portions of the work will require final design and public bidding prior to actual construction. This process could take six to nine months from the time the CPA grant is awarded. Construction would take another two to three months. Minor items of the work can be done by volunteers and Eagle Scout candidates as they become available.
5. **Credentials:** Flowed Meadow is under the care of the Conservation Commission which is staffed by the Planning Department. Auburndale Park is under the care of the Parks & Recreation Department. Both departments have considerable experience in the design, construction and management of public open spaces for passive recreational opportunities.

6. **Success Factors:** The project success will be measured by the area's users who will be able to jog, walk, snowshoe and cross-country ski through a substantially larger area than has been available previously.
7. **Budget:** The proposed budget is \$74,250 and the funds will purchase labor and materials for pathways, signage and benches as well as materials for volunteer projects (bridges, log benches, signage – see attached list). In addition, funding is necessary for plants to be installed within an existing pathway area that should be closed to pedestrian traffic for the benefit of wildlife. All of the proposed work is considered 'capital improvement' as opposed to 'routine maintenance'. The new improvements will be designed to require minimal maintenance. The work will be included with the Conservation Commission's annual maintenance contract with a private contractor, plus occasional assistance from the Parks & Rec maintenance crew.
8. **Other Funding:** Funding is not available out of the Conservation Commission and Parks & Recreation Department budgets which are already committed to maintenance of existing facilities and emergency work. Capital Improvement Project (CIP) funding has been sought for previous years, but this project was not funded.
9. **Maintenance:** Both the Conservation Commission and Parks & Recreation Department have funds available for maintenance of existing facilities. Annual maintenance of the proposed improvements to Flowed Meadow would be fairly routine and not cost much. By using volunteers to pick up trash and clip vegetation, maintenance would include rolling the stonedust pathways every three years and removing fallen trees adjacent to the path. A maintenance plan will be prepared for inclusion in the annual maintenance contract.
10. **Site Control:** Flowed Meadow was recently assigned to the Conservation Commission by the Board of Aldermen (copies of Board Orders attached). Auburndale Park was assigned to Parks & Recreation by the Board of Aldermen some time ago.
11. **Zoning/Other Regulations:** The area in question is zoned "Public Use". The use proposed is as public open space, allowable under the current zoning. The other regulations that apply are the Wetlands Protection Act and Wetlands Regulations and the City of Newton Floodplain Ordinance 22-22, all of which are administered by the Conservation Commission. The proposed project can be designed to meet all regulations.
12. **Hazardous Materials:** The Flowed Meadow area is adjacent to the Rumford Avenue Landfill, recently capped after extensive testing for hazardous materials. Routine semi-annual testing and reporting of groundwater quality in the vicinity of the landfill falls within normal limits. The remainder of the site is forested.
13. **Professional Standards:** The Conservation Commission and Parks & Recreation Department will write work specifications with the advice of the consultant and the City Engineering Department. Construction supervision will be provided by the Engineering Department.

14. **Additional Community Benefits:** The connection of Newton and Waltham neighborhoods through this public open space along the Charles River is extremely important to all of the groups and individual citizens who attended meetings of the Flowed Meadow Planning Group. Having public open space in this area will ensure that the operations at the landfill will not expand. The opportunity for passive recreation will be expanded for the surrounding area which is densely populated and in need of quiet space in which to 'get away' from busy urban lives and re-connect with nature. Nature study by school children at the Burr School will be possible in future.

Enclosures:

Transfers of landfill/flowed meadow land to Conservation and Parks & Rec –
Board Order #298-01, 278-96, 438-97(A-1) and (A-1.2).

Map of area and ownership

Report of the Flowed Meadow Planning Group – August 2000

FLOWED MEADOW IMPROVEMENT PROJECT:

WORK LIST:

1. Parks & Rec – unimproved section of Auburndale Park
Close up interior pathway with vegetation –
rake, seed w/wetland mix 500' x 4' = 2,000 s.f. \$ 2,000.
Connect outer pathway to Exertrail w/stabilized soils and
Re-surface outer pathway w/stabilized soils
2,000 l.f. x 6' wide = 12,000 s.f.

12,000 s.f. of pathway x \$3.75 /s.f. = \$45,000.

Paint pump house – volunteers + cost of paint
Benches along Charles River – 2 @ \$900 = \$ 1,800
Signage (1 kiosk at each end of path) – 2 @ \$400 = \$ 800.
 2. Existing Flowed Meadow Conservation Area
Re-chip pathway – 7,350 s.f. – volunteers using City chips
Bridge over mosquito ditch – Dolan boardwalk by volunteers \$ 500
 3. Existing DPW, ConCom/P&R land
Bridge over stream – Dolan boardwalk or by volunteers \$ 500
Widen pathway through swamp by clipping - volunteers
Re-surface roadway - DPW
Benches – 3 @ \$900 = \$ 2,700.
Trail to The Knob – cut out soil and install wood chips –
400 l.f. x 3' wide = 1,200 s.f. \$ 1,200.
 4. Miscellaneous Tree Work to prepare for pathways \$ 5,000.
 5. Project Design, Bidding and Construction Costs
Landscape Architect/Engineering fee and construction supervision
Public Bidding Costs \$ 8,000.
Total \$67,500
 6. Contingency – 10% \$ 6,750
- Total Project \$74,250

CITY OF NEWTON
IN BOARD OF ALDERMEN

October 1, 2001

ORDERED:

That, in accordance with the recommendation of His Honor the Mayor and the Real Property Reuse Committee through its Chairman Ald. D. Pauline Bryson pursuant to MGL Chapter 40 §15A, 20.2 acres of city-owned land at the Rumford Avenue landfill adjacent to the Flowed Meadow Conservation area be and is hereby transferred from the Department of Public Works to the Conservation Commission.

Under Suspension of Rules
Readings Waived and Approved
23 yeas 0 nays 1 vacancy

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
Approved: October 3, 2001

(SGD) EDWARD G. ENGLISH
City Clerk

(SGD) DAVID B. COHEN
Mayor

CITY OF NEWTON

IN BOARD OF ALDERMEN

December 16, 1996

ORDERED:


That in accordance with the recommendation of the Finance Committee, through its Chairman, Alderman Paul E. Coletti, the sum of One Hundred and Sixty Two Thousand Dollars (\$162,000) be and hereby is appropriated from the Capital Stabilization Fund, to be expended under the direction of the Director of Planning and Development, for purposes of acquiring two parcels of land on Wabasso Street, identified on the City Assessor's Maps as Section 41, Block 31, Lot 44; and Section 41, Block 32, Lot 7. ^(Rosen) Once acquired, said parcels of land are to be placed under the control of the Conservation Commission and Parks and Recreation Department.

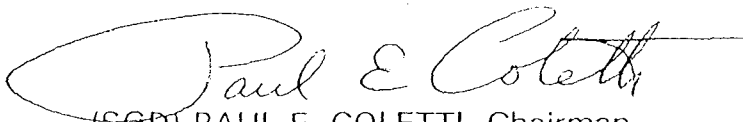
FROM:	<u>Capital Stabilization Fund</u>	
	39A101A-5901	\$162,000.00
TO:	<u>Wabasso Land Acquisition</u>	
	C11404-5810	\$162,000.00

Under Suspension of Rules
Readings Waived and Approved
23 yeas, 0 nays, 1 absent (Bauckman)

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
Approved December 18, 1996


(SGD) EDWARD G. ENGLISH
City Clerk


(SGD) THOMAS B. CONCANNON, JR.
Mayor


(SGD) PAUL E. COLETTI, Chairman
Finance Committee

JAN 16 1997

44-1013-0100-00

CITY OF NEWTON

IN BOARD OF ALDERMEN

June 15, 1998

ORDERED:

That in accordance with the recommendation of the Finance Committee through its Chairman, Alderman Paul E. Coletti, the sum of One Hundred Eighty-Seven Thousand Dollars (\$187,000) be and hereby is appropriated from Free Cash, to be expended under the control of the Director of Planning and Development and Public Building Commissioner, for purposes of acquiring the property located at 68 Wabssso Street (Section 41, Block 31, Lot 47 on the City of Newton Board of Assessor's records) for conservation and/or parks and recreation purposes only, and for demolishing the structure or structures on the property, and disposing of all demolition debris.

GENERAL FUND

FROM:	Free Cash	\$187,000.00
TO:	<u>Wabssso Street Land Acquisition</u> (C11404-5810)	\$187,000.00

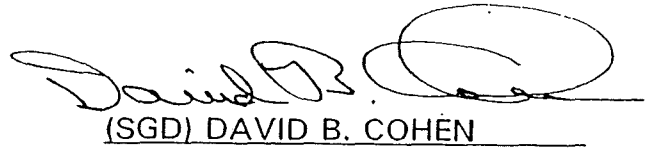
(CONTINUED NEXT PAGE)

Under Suspension of Rules
Readings Waived and Approved
20 yeas, 0 nays, 4 absent (Antonellis, Ciccone,
R. Lipof, Salvucci)

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
Approved June 17, 1998


(SGD) EDWARD G. ENGLISH

City Clerk


(SGD) DAVID B. COHEN

Mayor


(SGD) PAUL E. COLETTI, Chairman

Finance Committee





David B. Cohen
Mayor

City of Newton, Massachusetts
Office of the Mayor

Telephone
(617) 796-1100
Telefax
(617) 796-1113
E-mail
Dcohen@ci.newton.ma.us

November 1, 2002

Community Preservation Committee
Newton City Hall
1000 Commonwealth Avenue
Newton, MA 02459

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I have attached several applications for funding under the Community Preservation Act for your consideration. These projects all come within the jurisdiction and control of various city departments.

City Hall Lighting Restoration

Installation of original light fixtures in corridor and public spaces. This would eliminate the fluorescent fixtures that were added in the 1970's. These fixtures would be replaced with a pendant fixture reminiscent of the original fixtures.

City Hall War Memorial Copula and Balustrade Restoration

Exterior painting of the war memorial copula and the balustrade. The City Hall balustrade was replaced nine years ago when the roof was repaired. The balustrade was reconstructed using lead coated copper. Its color, gray, is not in keeping with the original white finish. The same holds true for the War Memorial Cupola.

City Hall Window Restoration

Window renovations to the Alderman Chamber and War Memorial windows. The current windows have started to rot, particularly at the frames and need immediate repair to prevent further damage. We propose to remove and renovate the windows, installing insulated energy efficient glass in the existing frames.

Flowed Meadow Open Space/Recreation Space Creation

The Flowed Meadow Improvement Project will carry out the recommendations of the Flowed Meadow Planning Group to link Auburndale, West Newton, and the MDC's Forest Grove Reservation for passive recreation and wildlife habitat preservation purposes. Funding for general construction and materials is being requested, with Eagle

1000 Commonwealth Avenue Newton, Massachusetts 02459

www.ci.newton.ma.us



DEDICATED TO COMMUNITY EXCELLENCE

Scout candidates and neighborhood volunteers completing the portions of the project not requiring heavy equipment.

Forte Park Open Space/Recreation Space Creation

Phase II development of Forte Park will complete the restoration of the park. Forte Park is a six acre park located in a mixed residential and commercial district off of California St. in the Nonatum village of Newton. Phase II development will provide sports and security lighting for the athletic fields and peripheral jogging/exercise paths. It will add street lighting for the entryway leading into the park off of California St. In the past, Forte Park was a prime site for the local bocci players to play. Over the years the courts deteriorated to the point that they became non-existent. Part of the Phase II plan is to reestablish those courts. Landscaping is proposed in the form of additional plantings along the present entry drive and in the picnic areas. Other plantings will be used to provide additional screening for the residential and industrial neighbors and to act as a natural border between the active and passive activities within the park. To aid these plantings, additional irrigation is proposed. To interconnect Forte Park to other parts of the greenway along the Charles River, a gravel pedestrian walking/jogging path with exercise stations along the periphery of the Park will be developed as well.

Replacement of Docks at Crystal Park

Crystal Lake is a major swim facility that services the needs of the Newton residents during the summer months. The lake is a 24 acre site that allows for swimming as well as boating and fishing. Since it is a large, open natural body of water, the docks serve as an integral part of the facility during the swim season. The docks are set up to delineate the swim areas, allowing guards accessibility to a larger area with the placement of lifeguard chairs on the deck. It also allows swim instructors to carry out instruction from the docks, overseeing a large number of activities simultaneously. The proposal is to replace the docks with a new dock system. The present docks are in disrepair and need constant adjustment, which compromises the structural integrity of the docks. There is age and usage wear on the dock channeling and decking that creates a hazardous condition that infringes on the functionality and safety of the docks.

Historic Burial Grounds Restoration

The Jackson Homestead - The City of Newton's Museum, in cooperation with the Newton Historical Society, requests a grant of \$188,277 from the Community Preservation Act to undertake the first phase of a five-year project to preserve, and create access to, Newton's three historic burying grounds. Working from a Master Plan for Newton's Burying Grounds completed by the Newton Historical Commission in 1990, the Newton Historical Society and The Jackson Homestead Museum plan to implement this major revitalization project with a total projected cost of \$793,799. With funding from the first round of the CPA, the most urgently needed work could commence and the burying grounds would begin to become fully utilized community resources. The East Parish, West Parish, and South Burying Grounds are both history museums and parks. Filled with irreplaceable artwork, the burying grounds are also open spaces containing vital information about the city's first settlers and about early America. However, at this time, these beautiful old landscapes are overgrown and hazardous. The intricately carved

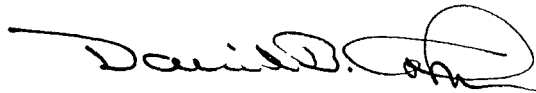
stones and monuments therein are deteriorating and endangered by vandalism, neglect, weather, and the passage of time. CPA funds will begin to restore, preserve, and make accessible, these historic community open spaces.

Newton Corner Library Renovation

The goal of the Newton Corner Branch Library project is to completely renovate and restore the exterior of this historically significant building. One of the last intact Greek Revival houses in Newton Corner, this 1845 building was purchased by the City from the Chaffin family in 1931 for use as a Library. The building is an integral part of the landscape of the Farlow-Kenrick Park Historic District, anchoring the passive open space that is an important component of the area.

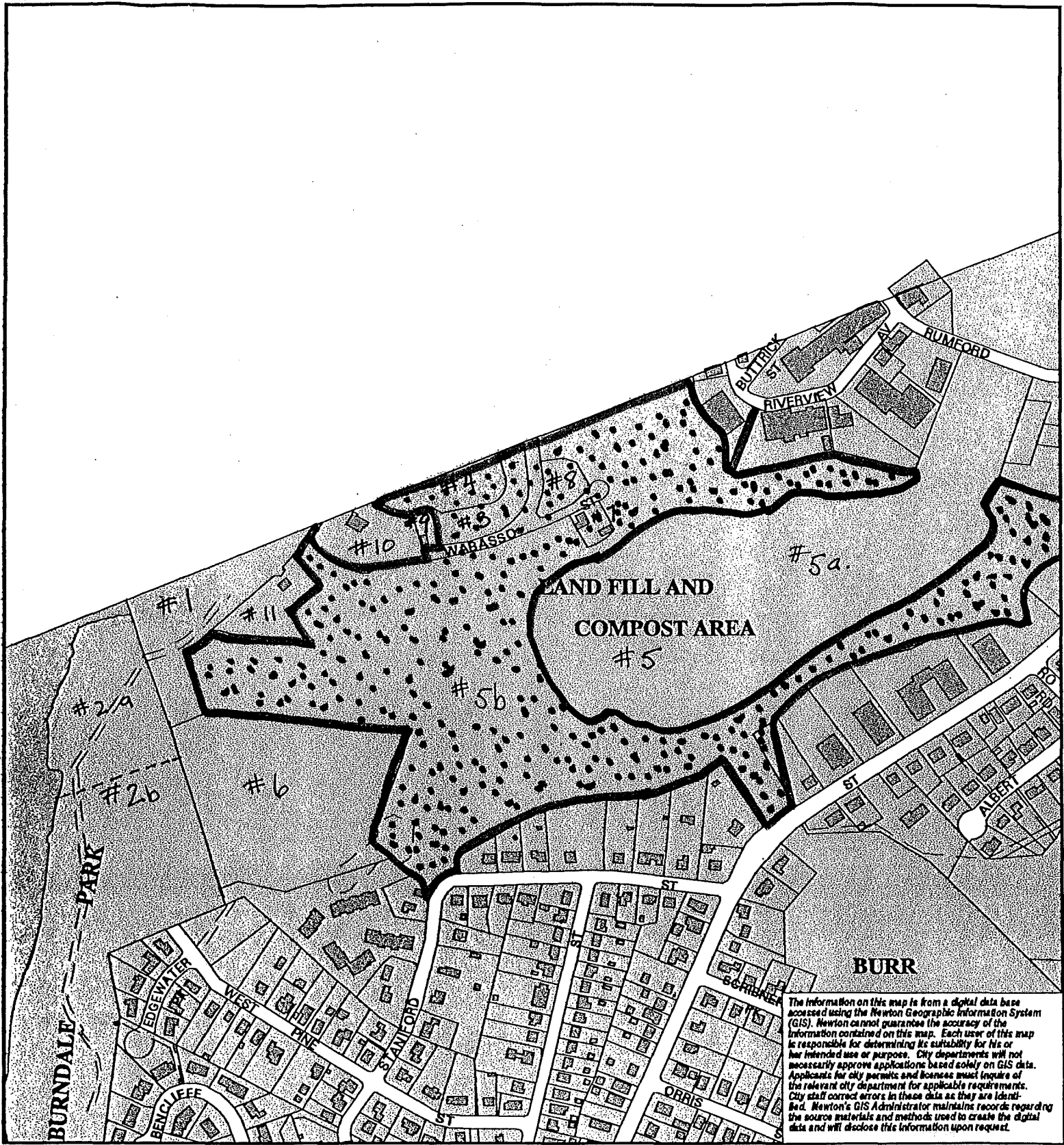
Thank you for your consideration of these matters.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David B. Cohen", with a stylized flourish at the end.

David B. Cohen
Mayor

DBC: smp



The information on this map is from a digital data base accessed using the Newton Geographic Information System (GIS). Newton cannot guarantee the accuracy of the information contained on this map. Each user of this map is responsible for determining its suitability for his or her intended use or purpose. City departments will not necessarily approve applications based solely on GIS data. Applicants for city permits and licenses must inquire of the relevant city department for applicable requirements. City staff correct errors in these data as they are identified. Newton's GIS Administrator maintains records regarding the source materials and methods used to create the digital data and will disclose this information upon request.

Newton Assessor's Sheet

Map Produced on: June 03, 1999
 Property boundaries from Newton Assessor's property maps
 Map projection & coordinate system: Mass. State Plane - NAD83

Scale: 1" = 418 ft.

8 11 99

CITY OF NEWTON
 MASSACHUSETTS
 ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT
 1000 COMMONWEALTH AVE.
 NEWTON CENTRE, MA 02459
 PHONE: 617-552-7896

Because of different update schedules, current property assessments may not reflect recent changes to property boundaries. Check with the Board of Assessors to confirm boundaries used at time of assessment.

