



Setti D. Warren
Mayor

Newton, Massachusetts Community Preservation Program Fiscal 2012 FUNDING PROPOSAL



Submit 14 printed copies & 1 electronic copy by 4 pm, 14 October 2011 to:
Community Preservation Program Manager
Newton Planning and Development Department
1000 Commonwealth Ave., Newton, MA 02459
aingerson@newtonma.gov 617.796.1144

Date received:
3 May 2011

Proposals must follow instructions in the current Proposal & Project Handbook, available upon request and online at www.newtonma.gov/cpa. You may adjust spaces, but use NO MORE THAN 1 PAGE to answer all questions on this page.

Project CONTACTS	<i>Name & title / affiliation, mailing address, email, & any other way we should contact you (fax, phone, ...) Star (*) name of the project manager responsible for presentations, reports, budgets & deadlines.</i>		
Candace Havens Director, Department of Planning and Development 1000 Commonwealth Avenue Newton, MA 02459 617-796-1137 / chavens@newtonma.gov	Jennifer Molinsky* Chief Planner, Long-Range Planning Department of Planning and Development 1000 Commonwealth Avenue Newton, MA 02459 617-796-1131 / jmolinsky@newtonma.gov		
Project TITLE	Recreation and Open Space Plan Update		
LOCATION	<i>Full street address (with zip code) or other precise location.</i> Citywide		
BUDGET	CP FUNDS REQUESTED: \$4,000	OTHER FUNDS TO BE USED: \$5,000 staff time Already expended: \$9,200 consultant and staff time (2009-10)	TOTAL PROJECT COST: \$18,200
ATTACH DETAIL SEPARATELY.			
SUMMARY	<i>Summarize project goals & benefits in max. 300 words - do not use additional pages.</i>		
<p>Goals: The Department of Planning and Development is requesting \$4,000 to support the completion of the update of the City's <i>Recreation and Open Space Plan</i>. The current plan is out-of-date, covering the period 2003 to 2007. The goal of the project is an updated plan that has been approved by the Commonwealth's Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EOEEA).</p> <p>Process: Updating the <i>Plan</i> requires both data collection and a public process. In the past two years, staff and a consultant have completed nearly all the data collection and have redlined the previous <i>Plan</i> with proposed changes to required information. The next step involves engaging stakeholders and experts in setting goals for the next five years. An Advisory Committee and subcommittees will be established to address particular topics and arrive at consensus revisions. The Conservation Commission, Parks and Recreation Commission, Newton's Planning and Development Board, the Board of Aldermen, the Metropolitan Area Planning Council, and the EOEEA itself will then review the draft <i>Plan</i>. The requested funds would be used to hire a consultant to arrange and participate in public meetings and reviews and to draft changes to the <i>Plan</i>. The resume of the proposed consultant, Jitka Hiscox, is attached; Ms. Hiscox worked for the City in 2009 on data collection for the <i>Plan</i> update and is familiar with the content and process.</p> <p>Benefits: The <i>Plan</i> is used extensively to guide City decisions regarding open space and is also a useful public reference. In addition, an updated <i>Plan</i> approved by the EOEEA is necessary in order for the City to be eligible to apply for certain grants administered by the EOEEA's Division of Conservation Services. Finally, Newton's Community Preservation Committee relies on this <i>Plan</i> to prioritize funding requests for open space and recreation projects.</p>			

1. HOW WILL CP FUNDS BE USED?	<i>Check all that apply.</i>				COMMUNITY HOUSING
	HISTORIC RESOURCES	OPEN SPACE	RECREATION LAND		
allowed IF resource was acquired or created with CP funds	Acquire		X	X	USE SEPARATE PROPOSAL FORM. Please consult staff.
	Create	NOT ALLOWED	X	X	
	Preserve		X	X	
	Support	NOT ALLOWED	NOT ALLOWED	NOT ALLOWED	
	rehabilitate/restore		X	X	

Combined answers to questions 2-5 must fit on one page. Attach supporting information on separate pages.

2. CITYWIDE NEEDS: *How will the project address needs identified in existing citywide plans? (Provide short quotes with plan title, year & page.)*

An updated *Recreation and Open Space Plan* would support the goals of the **Comprehensive Plan, 2007**, including: “to recognize, preserve and maintain the City’s important natural assets and resources;” “to ensure an adequate amount, variety, and distribution of open space for both public benefit and biodiversity;” “to integrate compatible recreation and conservation uses;” “to pursue courses of action necessary to protect and preserve remaining large open spaces;” and “to assure a well-informed and well-coordinated stewardship for the open space and recreation resources for which the City of Newton is privileged to be custodian.”

An updated *Plan* would also support the **Community Preservation Committee’s** goals for open space and land for recreational use by providing a set of priorities to guide decisions involving open space acquisition, creation and preservation of linear open space and paths, and creation and preservation of parks in areas of the City where these resources are currently scarce.

3. OTHER FUNDING: *What additional funding have you obtained or are you pursuing?*

In 2009-10 the Planning & Development Department invested approximately \$9,200 of time from staff and a consultant to update and expand the prior *Plan’s* database of City parks and conservation areas. The department has set aside approximately \$5,000 of additional time from Jennifer Molinsky to manage and complete this project in FY12.

4. STEWARDSHIP: *How will the project be maintained after CP funds have been spent? (Hint: “through the regular City budget” is seldom a persuasive answer.)*

The Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs considers a municipal *Recreation and Open Space Plan* up-to-date for **5** years, so there will be no additional costs for the *Plan* itself during that time.

As it develops its new multi-year *Capital Improvement Plan*, the City is carefully reviewing which ongoing costs for conservation areas, parks and playgrounds should be assigned to operating versus capital budgets. This budgetary review and reallocation will lead to both improved maintenance and long-term cost savings.

5. COMMUNITY CONTACTS: *List email addresses and/or phone numbers for at least 3 people familiar with the project and its manager’s qualifications. No more than 1 of these should be a resident of the project’s immediate neighborhood or a Board member, supervisor, employee, etc. of the project’s sponsor or the manager.*

Robert DeRubeis, Commissioner, Department of Parks and Recreation, City of Newton
rdereubis@newtonma.gov / (617) 796-1500

Jane Sender, President, Newton Conservators
president@newtonconservators.org / (617) 244-1047

Susan Lunin, Vice-Chair, Conservation Commission
suzylunin@aol.com / 617-964-1959

See attached list of organizations that will be contacted for advisory committee and subcommittees.

PROJECT TIMELINE					
Project TITLE:		Recreation and Open Space Plan Update			
STEPS <i>BIG steps, SHORT descriptions!</i>	ASSISTANCE REQUIRED <i>from other organizations or City depts. (raise funds, issue permits, etc.)</i>	START <i>season/ year</i>	FINISH <i>season/ year</i>	COST <i>estimate</i>	
1 Collect and analyze data: update parcel database; note changes that have occurred since last Plan; gather data on population, growth and development, regional context, changes in landscape or environmental resources, etc.; analyze data. <i>Nearly complete.</i>	Planning Department: complete data collection.	2009	June 2011	\$9,200 (spent) \$400 (to be spent)	
2 Redline previous <i>Plan</i> with proposed changes based on information gathering described above. <i>Nearly complete.</i>	Planning Department: complete redlining.	April 2011	June 2011	\$320	
3 Identify Advisory Committee: Mayor's Office to invite a core group of organizations with a City-wide or multi-site interest in open space to join an Advisory Committee. Each group will be asked to appoint a representative.	Organizations and City departments: identify representatives to participate in the update.	April 2011	June 2011	\$320	
4 Meetings and opinion gathering: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hold Advisory Committee meeting • Hold subcommittee meetings focused on specific topics, inviting a wider range of organizations with neighborhood- or parcel-specific interests to participate (see attached list of potential participants) • Invite additional participation via a written feedback form • Hold joint public hearing with Planning and Development Board 	Consultant: organize meetings and synthesize information gathered at them; assist with collecting and collating written feedback. Advisory Committee and Subcommittees: assist in gathering feedback from memberships of various organizations; hold joint public hearing. Planning and Development Board: hold joint public hearing with Advisory Committee.	June 2011	October 2011 Public Hearing: November 2011	\$3,850	
5 Draft report and prepare maps required by EOEEA.	Consultant and Planning Department: draft report with maps; review and edit proposed changes.	November 2011	December 2011	\$1,810	
6 Shepherd draft report through reviews at City and State level: Planning and Development Board, Parks and Recreation Commission, Conservation Commission, Board of Aldermen, Metropolitan Area Planning Council, and State EOEEA.	Advisory Committee; City Staff, with assistance of consultant: shepherd updated <i>Plan</i> through reviews and finalize update. Planning and Development Board, Parks and Recreation Commission, Conservation Commission, Board of Aldermen, MAPC, Metropolitan Area Planning Council & EOEEA: review draft.	January 2012	June 2012	\$2,200	

JITKA HISCOX
jitka.hiscox@gmail.com
513 Chestnut St
Waban, MA
617-710-1319

Education

M.A. in GIS for Development and Environment; CLARK UNIVERSITY Worcester, MA
Expected in 2012. Coursework in GIS, Remote Sensing, Land Use/Land Change, Spatial Analysis and C++ and Python Programming.

B.A. in Government ; HARVARD UNIVERSITY Cambridge, MA
Awarded in 2009. Coursework in Economics, GIS, Political Science, Statistics, Russian Language and Persian Language. Member of the Track & Field team; Frank Haggerty Prize for Excellence, 2007.

Relevant Skills: ArcGIS 9.3 and 10, C++, GeoDa, Idrisi Taiga, Microsoft Office, Python, R, Stata 11.
Languages: Czech (fluent), English (fluent), Russian (intermediate), Persian (basic).

Work Experience

GIS Specialist. Monitoring and Evaluation Team; PARTNERS IN HEALTH Boston, MA
Assist the core of Monitoring and Evaluation team in design of monitoring and evaluation framework. Integrate spatial information and project-specific records. Assess and quantify the effectiveness of health service delivery. March 2011 – Present.

Teaching Assistant. School of Geography; CLARK UNIVERSITY Worcester, MA
Grade homework and assist students in the Introduction to Quantitative Methods course in class and office hours. January 2011 – Present.

GIS Specialist. Government Department; MIT & HARVARD UNIVERSITY Cambridge, MA
Combined raster, vector and census data for an impact evaluation study in Ghana. Geo-coded data gathered in Ghana and generated a dataset for the sampling frame. Provided routing directions, maps and navigational support to 14 teams of survey enumerators. Cleaned data post data entry. Analyzed baseline indicators. Baseline data were gathered on 2800 farmers within 330 communities and results were presented to NGO partners. June 2009 – Present.

GIS Specialist. Economics & Government Department; HARVARD UNIVERSITY Cambridge, MA
Organized and processed geographic data collected in a field experiment on the electoral fraud during registrations in Ghana. Matched GPS data with survey data, census data and processed precipitation raster data using GIS. Analyzed spatial data. Database and analysis were used in an academic publication. February 2009 – January 2011.

GIS Specialist. Department of Political Science; BOSTON UNIVERSITY Boston, MA
Designed database. Geo-referenced and digitized historical maps for a geo-database of colonial territories. The data was integrated into a web interface and used to convey historical data availability to researchers. June 2010 – December 2010.

GIS Specialist. Asset Information Management; NATIONAL GRID Waltham, MA
Converted data from aerial imagery gathered during a helicopter survey for import into the company's asset database. Designed and implemented the data conversion process. Documented project specifications in a Publisher document. Over 3000 miles of transmission lines were converted and imported into company database facilitating company operations and asset management. November 2009 – November 2010.

Consultant. Planning Department; CITY OF NEWTON Newton, MA
Interviewed various parties to determine the progress made on previous action plans. Validated Open Space database. Redesigned Open Space Accessibility Survey. Coordinated and supervised a team of five interns during survey work in the field. Spring 2009 – August 2010.

Research Assistant. Institute for Quantitative Social Science; HARVARD UNIVERSITY Cambridge, MA
Research on electoral violence in Kenya. Built a geo-referenced dataset of violent incidents related to elections since 1991. Constructed a spatial model to provide quantitative support for existing theories about the underlying causes of electoral violence in Kenya. Fall 2008 – Fall 2009.

Research Assistant. Government Department; HARVARD UNIVERSITY Cambridge, MA
Designed variables and collected data for a quantitative analysis of immigration policies of OECD member countries. The project was the foundation of a greater immigration policy collection effort by scientists at Harvard University, Columbia University, MIT, LSE and others. Summer - Fall 2007.

GIS Research Assistant. Center of International Development; HARVARD UNIVERSITY Cambridge, MA
Estimated potential for sugarcane production using GIS. Researched existing policies in the bio-fuels industry. Investigated recent developments in the venture capital markets and the trends in clean energy investment in comparison with the overall market trends. Spring 2008 - Summer 2008.

Research Assistant. National Bureau of Economic Research; HARVARD UNIVERSITY Cambridge, MA
Worked along with other Research Assistants to identify remuneration patterns of executives. Coded company policies from annual company reports. Coding was used in an analysis published in an NBER paper. Fall 2004.

Professional Memberships:

American Association of Geographers , 2010-Present.

American Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing, 2010 – Present.

Awards:

GeoEye Foundation Imagery Grant, 2011.

IDCE Fellowship, 2010-2011.

Jennifer Hrabchak Molinsky

37 Eliot Avenue • Newton, Massachusetts 02465 • (617) 916-9744 • jmolinsky@gmail.com

EDUCATION

Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Department of Urban Studies and Planning

Ph.D. in Urban Planning, February 2005. Focus on public policy, land use planning, and growth management. Dissertation, *The Interests of Landowners on the Metropolitan Fringe*, examined landowners' interests in their property and the relation between interests and owner behavior.

Princeton University, Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs

Master of Public Affairs – Urban and Regional Planning, June 1995.

Yale College

Bachelor of Arts, May 1991. Major: American Studies, Concentration in Architecture and Environment
Distinction in the Major, *magna cum laude*.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

City of Newton, Newton, MA. *Interim Chief Planner for Long Range Planning*, 2010 to present; *Principal Planner, Zoning and Planning Coordinator*, 2008 to 2010. Manage staff responsible for economic development planning, long-range planning, and zoning analysis. Develop policy proposals, conduct research and analysis, draft potential ordinance amendments, and lead long-range planning efforts.

Abt Associates, Cambridge, MA. *Associate*. 2010. Conducted research and prepared reports on the economic, political, and demographic factors likely to affect affordable housing and community development in the near future (for a nonprofit organization), and on financial literacy efforts aimed at vulnerable populations (for a federal agency).

Lincoln Institute of Land Policy, Cambridge, MA. *Adjunct Faculty*, 2005 to 2006; *Project Manager and Research Assistant*, June 1999 to 2004. Managed a survey of landownership, owners' interests in land, and land markets on the urban/rural fringe. Project involved a survey of 2000 landowners in four US metro areas. Authored a working paper published by the Lincoln Institute (2007) describing study findings.

PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC), Arlington, VA. *Consultant*, Office of Government Services, July 1995 to January 2000. Conducted and supervised policy analysis and market research primarily for the Federal Housing Administration and other federal agencies on topics including mortgage insurance programs, welfare reform, and federal debt. Developed and delivered training programs for clients and staff.

Oxford Brookes University, Oxford, England. *Researcher*, School of Planning, Planning Policies Research Group, summer 1994. Conducted research and analysis related to rural development policies as part of a study on rural economic diversification and its planning and environmental implications.

The Municipal Art Society, New York, NY. *Associate Director of Issues (Planning)*, 1993; *Project Manager*, 1992; *Issues Assistant*, 1991. Managed advocacy programs for a 100-year old non-profit civic organization. Projects involved zoning, land use, transportation, waterfront, community planning, and city- and state-initiated projects. Testified at city commissions and the City Council; served as public contact on Society projects and representative to coalition efforts; managed evening course for citizens involved in planning, and edited and wrote for the Municipal Art Society's monthly Newsletter.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Temple Shalom of Newton, *Member of Board of Trustees, Nursery School representative*, 2009-present.

City of Cambridge Planning Board, *Associate Member*, 2003 to 2005; *Member*, 2006.

Riverside Study Committee, *Member*, 2001 to 2002.

Member, American Planning Association

Attachment 2**Proposed Budget, *Recreation and Open Space Plan Update***

Source of Funds	Amount
Community Preservation requested funds	4,000
Staff time	5,000
Staff time and consultant –funds expended on data collection and analysis efforts in 2009-1010	9,200
Total Cost	\$18,200

Budget by Project Step	Cost
Collect and Analyze Data (portion completed 2009-2010)	9,200
Complete Data Collection and Analysis	400
Redline Draft	320
Identify Advisory Committee	320
Hold Meetings and Hearing	3,850
Draft Report	1,810
Hold Committee Reviews and Finalize Draft	2,200
Total Cost	\$18,200

Attachment 3

Recreation & Open Space Plan Update – Draft List of Organizations

- Bike Newton
- Bike/Pedestrian Task Force
- Board of Aldermen
- Charles River Watershed Association
- Community Preservation Committee
- Conservation Commission
- Council on Aging
- Department of Conservation and Recreation
- EDC and Economic Development Advisory Committee
- Fair Housing Committee
- Green Decade Coalition
- Historic Newton
- Human Service Advisory Committee
- League of Women Voters
- Library Board of Trustees
- MWRA
- Mayor’s Advisory Committee on Sustainable Newton
- Mayor’s Committee for People with Disabilities
- Newton Civic Pride (formerly Newton Community Pride)
- Newton Conservators
- Newton Neighborhood Network
- Newton Historical Commission
- Newton Housing Partnership
- Newton Schools
- Newton Tree Conservancy
- OLAWG (Off-Leash Area Working Group)
- Parks and Recreation Commission
- Planning and Development Board
- Urban Tree Commission
- Angino Farm Commission
- Boston College
- Braeburn Country Club
- Charles River Country Club
- Chestnut Hill Association
- CDBG Neighborhood Advisory Groups: West Newton, Newtonville and Newton Corner
- Crystal Lake Conservancy Friends of Crystal Lake
- Friends of Edmands Park
- Friends of Hammond Pond
- Friends of Hemlock Gorge
- Friends of Houghton Gardens
- Friends of Nahanton Park
- Friends of Bulloughs Pond
- Friends of Farlow Park
- Friends of Chaffin Park and Newton Corner Branch Library
- Friends of Wellington Park
- Lasell College
- Lower Falls Improvement Association
- Mt. Ida College
- Newton Baseball and Football Leagues
- Newton Cemetery
- Newton Commonwealth Golf Course
- Newton Corner Advisory Committee
- Newton Highlands Neighborhood Area Council
- Newton Upper Falls Neighborhood Area Council
- Newton Youth Soccer
- Newtonville Advisory Committee
- Nonantum Advisory Committee
- Waban Improvement Society
- West Newton Advisory Committee
- Woodland Country Club