

SETTI D. WARREN

MAYOR

### NEWTON PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

246 Dudley Road, Newton, MA 02459 Office: (617) 796-1500 TDD/TTY: (617) 796-1089 parks@newtonma.gov



ROBERT J. DERUBEIS COMMISSIONER

May 20, 2016

Alice Ingerson CPA Program Manager Newton City Hall 1000 Commonwealth Ave. Newton, Ma 02459

Dear Alice,

I am writing to inform you that the Parks & Recreation Department wants to secure the \$2,500,000 appropriation that was voted on by the CPC at the December 10, 2015 public hearing. This recommendation has not been docketed with the City Council at this time, I do anticipate bringing it forward to the Council after meeting with the CPC.

This is a \$3,300,000 project, and I fully intend on continuing to pursue alternative funding sources in an attempt to get this project completed in an expeditious manner. I look forward to meeting with CPC at the next scheduled meeting.

Sincerely,

Robert J. DeRubeis

cc: Carol Schein, Open Space Coordinator

#### CPC staff correction:

The \$2.5 million recommendation voted by the CPC on 10 December 2015 was docketed with the City Council later that month and received docket number 357-15. The CPC then held its written recommendation at the request of Parks & Recreation.

WARD 4 - PETER KASTNER WARD 5 - BYRON DUNKER WARD 6 - ANDREW STERN WARD 7 – RICHARD TUCKER, VICE-CHAIR WARD 8 – DONALD FISHMAN SECRETARY-ROBIN MCLAUGHLIN

ALTERNATES: MICHAEL CLARKE, JACK NEVILLE, SAM FIGLER, PAT PALMER



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ROBERT J. DERUBEIS COMMISSIONER

SETTI D. WARREN MAYOR

May 31, 2016

Alice Ingerson, Ph.D. Community Preservation Program Manager 1000 Commonwealth Avenue Newton, MA 02459

Dear Alice:

I am writing in preparation for the June 8, 2016 meeting of the CPC. The Committee has requested that I respond to questions posed regarding non-CPC funding sources and the work that is anticipated to be completed with CPC funds.

# Q.1 What are the funding sources you anticipate looking to for the difference between the original estimated \$3.3 million total project cost and the recommended \$2.5 million in CPA funds?

I will look to the City to fund some of the shortfall through CIP. Athletic lights at other sites are already identified on the CIP. I would add these lights to the list and propose to move them in front of other sites that have existing lighting. The building would be another element that could be on the CIP. There has been discussion to reach out to business entities in the neighborhood through a fundraising effort. We would also revisit the leagues that will be regular users of the site. Newton West Little League paid for the lights at Lyons Field.

# Q. 2 What is the breakdown of which portions of the original scope of work you anticipate completing with the CPA funds, vs. which portions of that scope you anticipate completing with other funds?

When concerns arose surrounding the amount of CPC funding that might be available, the department had to consider phasing this project. We reached out to Weston & Sampson and requested that they provide us with multiple renditions of possible phasing options that were feasible. They supplied us with three renditions, all containing pros and cons. The department felt that the one that allowed completion of both fields and hardscape was the one that had the most merit. This plan eliminates lights and the building. The lights are identified in the construction documents as a \$312,000 line item and the building is in at \$360,000.

COMMISSION MEMBERS WARD 4 - PETER KASTNER WARD 5 – BYRON DUNKER WARD 6 – ANDREW STERN WARD 7 – RICHARD TUCKER, VICE-CHAIR WARD 8 – DONALD FISHMAN SECRETARY-ROBIN MCLAUGHLIN

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The plan would be to run conduit for the lights and the building so that these elements could be added without much disruption to what had already been completed. The ideal situation would be to have all the money in place prior to construction, so that we would not incur multiple stagings.

That being said, I am in front of you this evening requesting that the 2.5 million dollar CPC recommendation for Newton Highlands Playground Rehabilitation be forwarded to the City Council for their approval.

In closing, I want to thank the Community Preservation Committee for their time and effort in approving this project and for their generous funding allocation to help see this important community resource become a reality.

Sincerely,

Robert J. DeRubeis, Commissioner