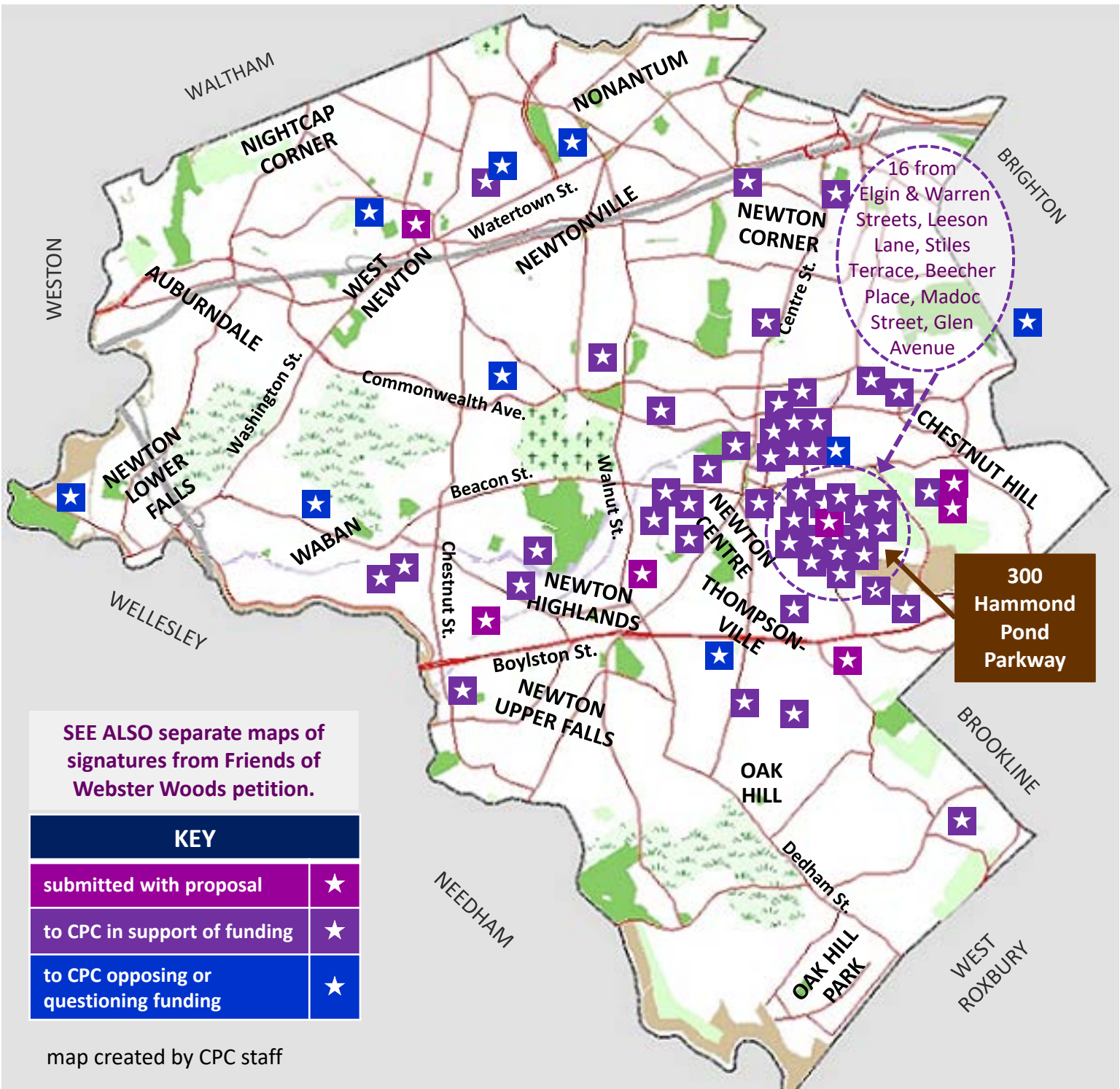


**300 Hammond Pond Parkway (“Webster Woods”)
Letters & Public Hearing Statements by Individuals or Households
to the Newton Community Preservation Committee
through 19 November 2019**



Major street

NEWTON VILLAGE or NEIGHBORHOOD

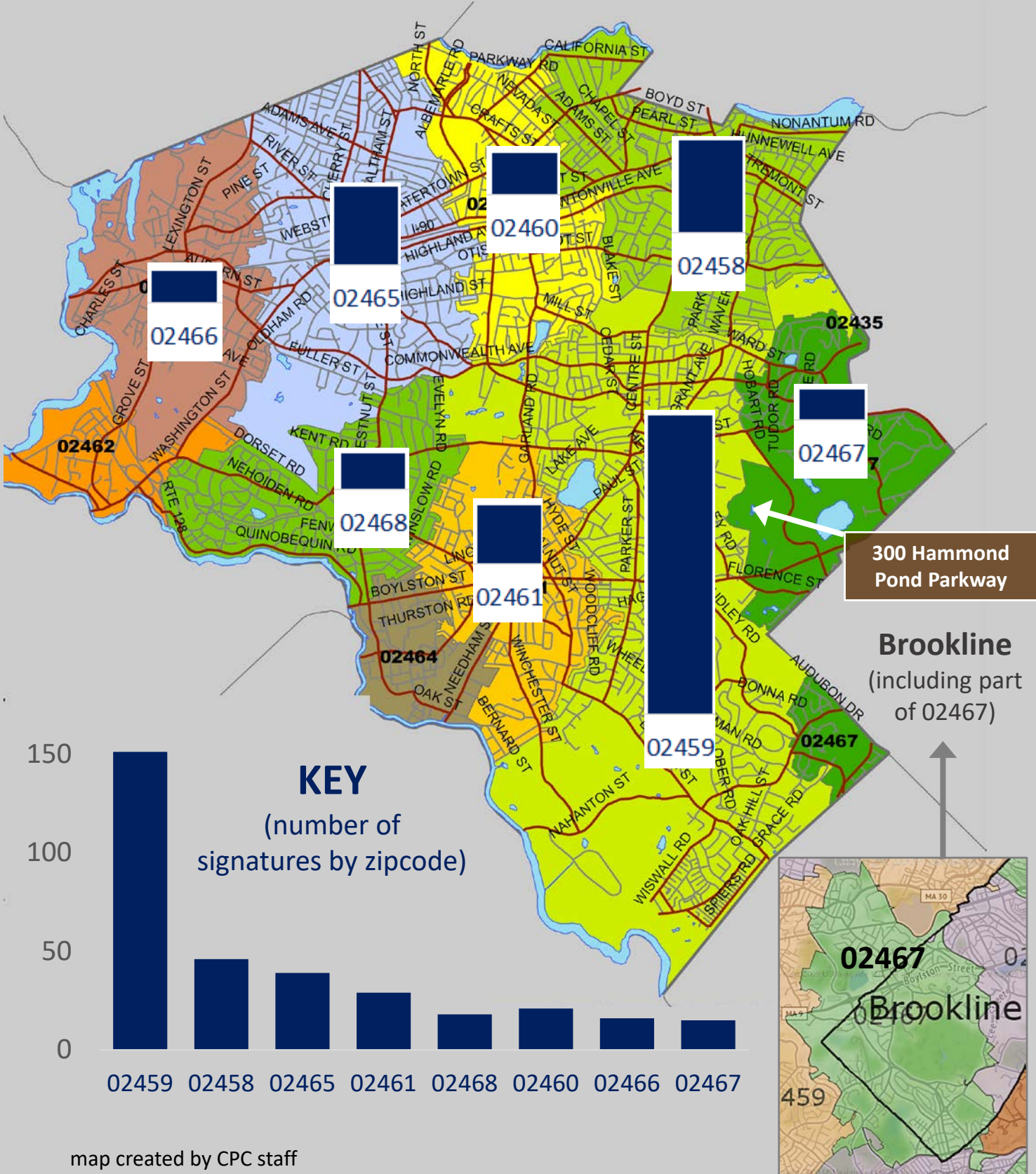
BORDERING CITY/TOWN

On Newton’s CPA Program website, www.newtonma.gov/cpa, the funding proposal and letters sent directly to the CPC are available from the link for [300 Hammond Pond Parkway](#) under [Proposals & Projects – Pending](#) or directly from this project page: www.newtonma.gov/gov/planning/cpa/projects/webster.asp#2019-acquisition

Webster Woods Community Letters & Hearing Statements to Newton CPC			
<i>Address</i>	<i>Newton Neighborhood or Other City</i>	<i>Zip Code</i>	<i>Date Rec'd</i>
24 Warren Street	Newton Centre	02459	08-Oct-19
150 Gibbs Street	Newton Centre	02459	09-Oct-19
27 Burdean Road	Newton Centre	02459	09-Oct-19
120 Garland Road	Newton Centre	02459	10-Oct-19
16 Stiles Terrace	Newton Centre	02459	09-Oct-19
84 Leeson Lane	Newton Centre	02459	11-Oct-19
250 Hammond Pond Parkway	Chestnut Hill	02467	13-Oct-19
34 Trinity Terrace	Newton Centre	02459	15-Oct-19
885 Centre Street	Newton Centre	02459	15-Oct-19
45 Warren Street	Newton Centre	02459	15-Oct-19
48 Kingston Road	Newton Highlands	02461	16-Oct-19
22 Hollis Street	Newton Corner	02458	16-Oct-19
112 Hyde Street	Newton Highlands	02461	17-Oct-19
234 Church Street	Newton Corner	02458	18-Oct-19
17 Garner Street	Newton Centre	02459	19-Oct-19
62 Ellis Road	West Newton	02465	21-Oct-19
75 Beecher Place	Newton Centre	02459	22-Oct-19
(Garden Club)	Chestnut Hill	02467	23-Oct-19
110 Elgin Street	Newton Centre	02459	24-Oct-19
133 Harwich Road	Chestnut Hill	02467	24-Oct-19
32 Walnut Hill Road	Newton Centre	02459	25-Oct-19
12 Spring Street	Newton Upper Falls	02464	25-Oct-19
19 Chestnut Terrace	Newton Centre	02459	25-Oct-19
140 Sumner Street	Newton Centre	02459	25-Oct-19
78 Leeson Lane (Elgin Street)	Newton Centre	02459	25-Oct-19
165 Elgin Street	Newton Centre	02459	25-Oct-19
142 Elgin Street	Newton Centre	02459	25-Oct-19
35 Bowen Street	Newton Centre	02459	25-Oct-19
87 Adella Avenue	West Newton	02465	25-Oct-19
83 Grove Hill	Newtonville	02460	25-Oct-19
84 Fenwick Road	Waban	02468	27-Oct-19
9 Laurel Street	Newton Centre	02459	28-Oct-19
21 Carver Road	Newton Highlands	02461	29-Oct-19
47 Glen Avenue	Newton Centre	02459	31-Oct-19
412 Parker Street	Newton Centre	02459	03-Nov-19
115 Elgin Street	Newton Centre	02459	10-Nov-19
25 Wachusett Road	Chestnut Hill	02467	11-Nov-19
31 Herrick Road	Newton Centre	02459	11-Nov-19
177 Homer Street	Newton Centre	02459	11-Nov-19

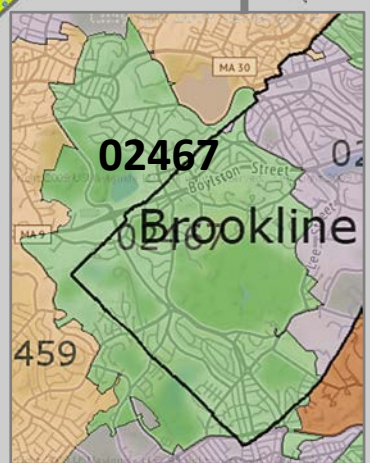
Webster Woods Community Letters & Hearing Statements to Newton CPC			
<i>Address</i>	<i>Newton Neighborhood or Other City</i>	<i>Zip Code</i>	<i>Date Rec'd</i>
19 Chesley Road	Newton Centre	02459	12-Nov-19
93 Undine Road	Boston	02135	12-Nov-19
4 Garrison Street	Chestnut Hill	02467	19-Nov-19
29 Baker Place	Newton Lower Falls	02462	19-Nov-19
167 Lake Avenue	Newton Centre	02459	06-Nov-19
871 Beacon Street	Newton Centre	02459	06-Nov-19
143 Elgin Street	Newton Centre	02459	06-Nov-19
298 Cypress Street	Newton Centre	02459	06-Nov-19
12 Prentice Road	Newton Centre	02459	06-Nov-19
36 Metacomet Road	Waban	02468	06-Nov-19
15 Oak Avenue	West Newton	02465	06-Nov-19
175 Elgin Street	Newton Centre	02459	06-Nov-19
45 Eliot Avenue	West Newton	02465	06-Nov-19
31 Madoc Street	Newton Centre	02459	06-Nov-19
54 Gray Cliff Road	Newton Centre	02459	06-Nov-19
337 Linwood Avenue	Newtonville	02460	06-Nov-19
18 Walter Street	Newton Centre	02459	06-Nov-19
79 Warren Street	Newton Centre	02459	06-Nov-19
41 Collins Road	Waban	02468	06-Nov-19
questioning or opposed to funding			
in support of funding, from immediate neighborhood (see			

300 Hammond Pond Parkway ("Webster Woods") Signatures by Newton Zip Code on Friends of Webster Woods Online Petition of Support, as of 7 November 2019



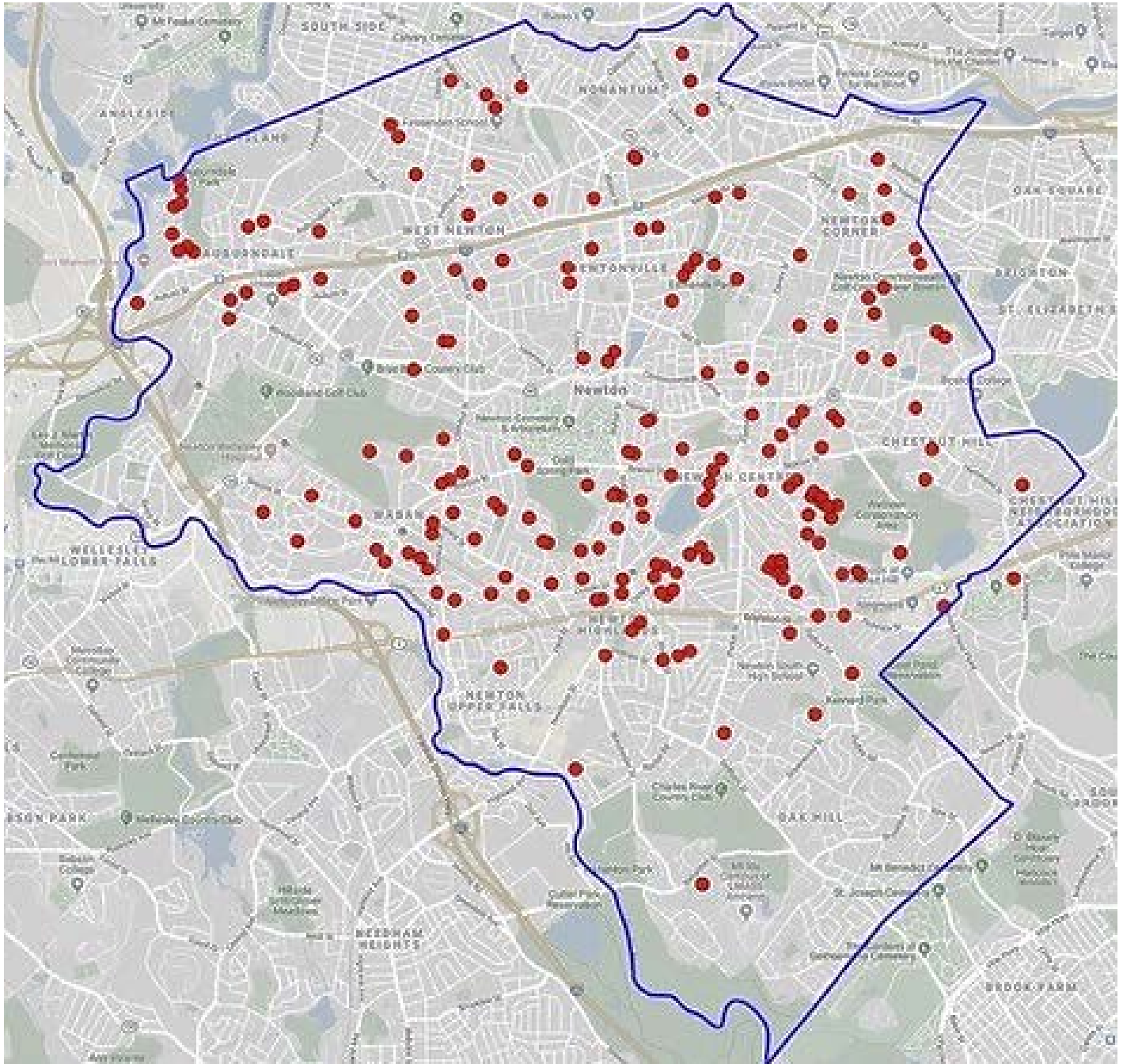
300 Hammond Pond Parkway

Brookline
(including part of 02467)



Friends of Webster Woods Online Petition

Signatures with Determinable Newton Addresses as of 24 October 2019



Friends of
Webster Woods
ONLINE PETITION

Save Webster Woods!



We the undersigned urge
the Community
Preservation Act

Committee and the Newton City Council to approve Mayor Fuller's proposal to acquire wooded land owned by Boston College.

The property in question is a large parcel of land once owned by the Mishkan Tefila temple, on Hammond Pond Parkway, that bisects the Webster Woods, the largest continuous tract of forest left in Newton. The City owns wooded land directly to the north of this parcel; the state Department of Conservation owns land directly to the south. This parcel is an inseparable part of the woods, with many trails that link to adjacent publicly owned forestland, and it includes a beautiful and environmentally sensitive vernal pool.

The Webster Woods are an irreplaceable resource, a peaceful refuge for anyone who wants to walk its trails and listen to birds surrounded by trees and rock ledges. In increasingly unstable times, the Webster Woods offer the deeply steadying presence of the natural world.

If that property were to be developed by Boston College, there would likely be irreparable harm to the woods, the vernal pool, and to the quiet, recreational opportunities that these woods offer all Newton residents and others.

Many of us have tried to explain the importance of protecting the planet from climate change to our children. We have a chance to show them what protection looks like right now by saving our own Webster Woods, and defending a great Newton resource.

[Yigal Agam](#) started this petition...

https://www.change.org/p/newton-ma-community-preservation-act-committee-save-webster-woods?recruiter=20881381&recruited_by_id=90d9f5b0-89c7-11e7-9ba4-1375dab7780e&utm_source=share_petition&utm_medium=copylink&utm_campaign=petition_dashboard

As of 3:16 pm, 26 October 2019, this online petition had 1,318 signatures.

Reasons for signing

Theodore Kuklinski 2 days ago

This is one of the most critical open space parcels in Newton and was intended as open space by the original donor.

Miriam Altman 4 days ago

I really care about this woods. It is a beautiful place to take a walk in, it supports special creatures due to its rare vernal pond, and it is a lovely spot of green in newton. Please sign it!!

Louise Kittredge 1 week ago

Newton needs this parcel; wild green space is precious.

Jeremy Altman 2 weeks ago

I love the woods and it should be preserved.

Eileen Ladieu 2 weeks ago

Eileen Ladieu-Sohn, I am signing because it is so important to have nature & all of it's charming elements in our lives . To remind us how important they are & to refresh us, all.

Emilie Kaden 2 weeks ago

Webster Woods has been an important resource for me over my 50 years in Newton, and it should be available to future generations.

Christine Young 2 weeks ago

Beautiful places, nature must be preserved 🙌🇺🇸

isabelle albeck 2 weeks ago

Let's keep our trees!

Peter H Smith 2 weeks ago

I'm signing because these contiguous open spaces can never be replaced and we need to preserve them for future generations.

alison leary 2 weeks ago

So important to protect Webster Woods for perpetuity.

Henry Finch 2 weeks ago

It's the right thing to do. It partially corrects Newton's mistake selling this parcel over 60 years ago.

CPC staff correction: The land that Boston College purchased from Congregation Mishkan Tefila in 2016 was originally sold to the Congregation in 1954 by a state agency, the Metropolitan District Commission (precursor of the Dept. of Conservation & Recreation), rather than by the City of Newton.

Suzette Barbier 2 weeks ago

We must preserve this treasure. Our previous Mayor should have taken action at the time Mishkan Tefila put the land up for sale. We are incredibly lucky we have a second opportunity to acquire this valuable property. Once gone, it is gone forever. Please approve this proposal to acquire... Read more

Pam Perry 2 weeks ago

I worked at BC, and their quest for space is insatiable. STOP THEM FROM RUINING THIS LAND!

Elizabeth Luchars 2 weeks ago

We cannot lose more wildlife habitat in Newton!

Beth Wilkinson 2 weeks ago

Webster Woods is an important piece of land on its own, but its continued existence also is critical to the abutting woodlands.

Dan Brody 2 weeks ago
The public has enjoyed Webster Woods for decades. Let's keep it that way.

Frank Nestle 2 weeks ago
we moved to Newton and this very street due to the close Webster Woods - it is what makes Newton Newton!

Celia Harrison 3 weeks ago
This beautiful wooded land must be preserved to maintain recreation opportunities, habitat, and to prevent the corrosion of our environment.

francesca koss 3 weeks ago
Open green spaces are essential for the health of us and our planet

Eric Cigan 3 weeks ago
Newton needs to save its remaining open spaces.

From: Elizabeth WILKINSON <bethwilkinson@mac.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 22, 2019 11:12 PM

Hi, Alice,

Today, I communicated with Yigal Agam, who created the Change.org petition for the Friends of Webster Woods. [Many of the people who signed do not live in Newton, so] I edited the list (down to 244 signers [listed as living in Newton]) , whose names are attached.

Here is Yigal's summary of their zip codes:

<u>zip code</u>	<u>number of signers</u>
02459	99
02458	31
02465	28
02461	27
02468	17
02460	16
02466	14
02467	10

CPC staff note: This online file also includes a separate map of these addresses, created by Beth Wilkinson.

Friends of Webster Woods Online Petition to Newton CPC & Newton City Council			
signers with Newton zip codes as of 11 November 2019 (total number: 340)			
Name	City	Postal Code	Signed On
Newton Corner			
Jonathan Goldberg	Newton	02458	10/6/2019
Diane Becker	Newton	02458	10/13/2019
Margaret Geller	Newton	02458	10/13/2019
alison leary	Newton	02458	10/14/2019
Anne Yudowitz	Newton	02458	10/14/2019
Catherine Willinger	Newton	02458	10/14/2019
Ellen Silver	Newton	02458	10/14/2019
John Bliss	Newton	02458	10/14/2019
Karen Worth	Newton	02458	10/14/2019
Natasha Fox	Newton	02458	10/14/2019
Peter H Smith	Newton	02458	10/14/2019
Roberta Fern	Newton	02458	10/14/2019
Susan Conant	Newton	02458	10/14/2019
SUSAN WADSWORTH	Newton	02458	10/14/2019
Walter Graham	Newton	02458	10/14/2019
Alice Wood	Newton	02458	10/15/2019
Anne Nash	Newton,	02458	10/15/2019
David Gullette	Newton	02458	10/15/2019
Hariprasad Ravishankar	Newton	02458	10/15/2019
Judy Ryde	Newton	02458	10/15/2019
Laurel Hughes	Newton	02458	10/15/2019
Sharon Jacobs	Newton	02458	10/15/2019
Carolyn Gombosi	Newton	02458	10/16/2019
Henry Iselbacher	Newton	02458	10/16/2019
James Mnookin	Newton	02458	10/16/2019
Reed Donahue	Newton	02458	10/16/2019
Jeremy Glass	Newton	02458	10/21/2019
Ken Mallory	Newton	02458	10/21/2019
Lanna Grady	Newton	02458	10/21/2019
Lisa Kirby	Newton	02458	10/21/2019
Lourdes Ramos-Heinrichs	Newton	02458	10/21/2019
jane pipik	Newton	02458	10/25/2019
Alexandra Turner	Newton	02458	10/28/2019
Julie Pierce	Newton	02458	10/28/2019
Anne Chalmers	Newton	02458	10/29/2019
Ellen Silver	Newton	02458	10/29/2019

Friends of Webster Woods Online Petition to Newton CPC & Newton City Council			
signers with Newton zip codes as of 11 November 2019 (total number: 340)			
Name	City	Postal Code	Signed On
Joel Ziff	Newton	02458	10/29/2019
Meda Turetsky	Newton	02458	10/29/2019
Mordechai Rothschild	Newton	02458	10/29/2019
Neal Green	Newton	02458	10/29/2019
Sari Korman	Newton	02458	10/29/2019
Silka Rothschild	Newton	02458	10/29/2019
Claudette Beit-Aharon	Newton	02458	10/30/2019
Harvey Mamon	Newton	02458	10/30/2019
Ken Mallory	Newton	02458	11/2/2019
Christopher Toole	Newton	02458	11/3/2019
Newton Centre			
Daniel Ozick	Newton Center	02459	10/6/2019
Elizabeth Luchars	Newton Center	02459	10/6/2019
Yigal Agam	Newton	02459	10/6/2019
Jon Hurwitz	Newton Center	02459	10/10/2019
Anisha Dam	Newton Center	02459	10/11/2019
Barbara Nestle	Newton	02459	10/11/2019
Caroline Kern	Newton Center	02459	10/11/2019
Frank Nestle	Newton Center	02459	10/11/2019
Alan Nogee	Newton Center	02459	10/13/2019
Anita Rubin	Newton	02459	10/13/2019
Arlene Bandes	Newton Centre	02459	10/13/2019
Barbara Bates	Newton Centre	02459	10/13/2019
Beth Wilkinson	Newton Centre	02459	10/13/2019
Bill Blanchfield	Newton Center	02459	10/13/2019
Enid Wetzner	Newton	02459	10/13/2019
Hillary Tsibris	Newton	02459	10/13/2019
Jan and Bill Riggs	Newton Center	02459	10/13/2019
Katherine Howard	Newton Center	02459	10/13/2019
Lois Maisel	Newton Center	02459	10/13/2019
Marion Pollock	Newton	02459	10/13/2019
Rebecca Mayne	Newton	02459	10/13/2019
Sarah Solomon	Newton	02459	10/13/2019
Vered Waizman	Newton Center	02459	10/13/2019
Wendy Norton	Newton Center	02459	10/13/2019
Alan M Cody	Newton Center	02459	10/14/2019
Andrew Wales	Newton	02459	10/14/2019

Friends of Webster Woods Online Petition to Newton CPC & Newton City Council			
signers with Newton zip codes as of 11 November 2019 (total number: 340)			
Name	City	Postal Code	Signed On
Anne Serrell	Newton Center	02459	10/14/2019
Arthur Glasgow	Newton Centre	02459	10/14/2019
Barbara Wales	Newton Centre	02459	10/14/2019
Bernice Cramer	Newton Center	02459	10/14/2019
Bonnie Clendenning	Newton Center	02459	10/14/2019
Christina Perez	Newton	02459	10/14/2019
David Oliver	Newton Center	02459	10/14/2019
Dian Bohannon	Newton Center	02459	10/14/2019
Dorothy Hostler	Newton Center	02459	10/14/2019
Ellen Gibson-Kennedy	Newton Center	02459	10/14/2019
Francoise La Monica	Newton Center	02459	10/14/2019
Haynes Miller	Newton Center	02459	10/14/2019
Jeff Goldman	Newton	02459	10/14/2019
John B Fox Jr	Newton Center	02459	10/14/2019
John Chadis	Newton	02459	10/14/2019
John Neufeld	Newton Centre	02459	10/14/2019
Joseph Rossi	Newton Center	02459	10/14/2019
Josh Ehrenfried	Newton	02459	10/14/2019
Judith Di Leo	Newton Center	02459	10/14/2019
Julie Winsett	Newton Center	02459	10/14/2019
kemper thompson	Newton Centre	02459	10/14/2019
Lauren Perry	Newton	02459	10/14/2019
Levere Hostler	Newton Center	02459	10/14/2019
Linda Fenton	Newton Center	02459	10/14/2019
Linda Rinearson	Newton Center	02459	10/14/2019
Lynne Karlson	Newton Center	02459	10/14/2019
Marian Reynolds	Newton Center	02459	10/14/2019
Martin Albert	Newton Center	02459	10/14/2019
Mary Lou Eshelman	Newton Center	02459	10/14/2019
Melissa Gallagher	Newton Center	02459	10/14/2019
Paul Muther	Newton Centre	02459	10/14/2019
Rebecca Wales	Newton	02459	10/14/2019
Renata Selig	Newton Center	02459	10/14/2019
Richard Bankhead	Newton Centre	02459	10/14/2019
Sarah Luria	Newton Center	02459	10/14/2019
Steven Miller	Newton Center	02459	10/14/2019
Thomas Hanold	Oak Hill	02459	10/14/2019

Friends of Webster Woods Online Petition to Newton CPC & Newton City Council			
signers with Newton zip codes as of 11 November 2019 (total number: 340)			
Name	City	Postal Code	Signed On
Vera Tarbaieva	Newton Center	02459	10/14/2019
Vicki Saltonstall	Newton Center	02459	10/14/2019
annie weiss	Newton Center	02459	10/15/2019
Joshua Jacobson	Newton Center	02459	10/15/2019
Joyce Pollock	Newton Center	02459	10/15/2019
Judith Murad	Newton Center	02459	10/15/2019
Kelly Dissing-Olesen	Newton Center	02459	10/15/2019
Matthew Manne	Newton	02459	10/15/2019
Naomi Myrvaagnes	Newton Center	02459	10/15/2019
Patricia Rand	Newton Center	02459	10/15/2019
Sally Pian	Newton	02459	10/15/2019
Sheldon Buckler	Newton Center	02459	10/15/2019
Suzanne DiCarlo	Newton Center	02459	10/15/2019
William Land	Newton Center	02459	10/15/2019
Yael Heher	Newton Center	02459	10/15/2019
Evan Morgan	Newton Center	02459	10/16/2019
Felice Scheff	Newton	02459	10/16/2019
Jeremy Altman	Newton	02459	10/16/2019
Jerry Regosin	Newton Centre	02459	10/16/2019
Joanne Mead	Newton Center	02459	10/16/2019
Liz Hiser	Newton Center	02459	10/16/2019
Louisa Kimmell	Newton	02459	10/16/2019
Matt Ottmer	Newton	02459	10/16/2019
Rebecca Mayne	Newton Center	02459	10/16/2019
Sharon W	Newton Center	02459	10/16/2019
Suzanne Berne	Newton Center	02459	10/16/2019
carrie jasper	Newton Center	02459	10/17/2019
Elliot Frank	Newton	02459	10/17/2019
Jaime Kim	Newton Center	02459	10/17/2019
Ken Kimmell	Newton	02459	10/17/2019
Mary Beth Maisel	Newton Center	02459	10/17/2019
Schuyler Larrabee	Newton Centre	02459	10/17/2019
Daniel Jackson	Newton Center	02459	10/18/2019
Kia Freeman	Newton	02459	10/18/2019
Ariella Hatch-Tuchman	Newton Center	02459	10/20/2019
rashel shophet-ratner	Newton Center	02459	10/20/2019
Daniel Segre	Boston	02459	10/21/2019

Friends of Webster Woods Online Petition to Newton CPC & Newton City Council			
signers with Newton zip codes as of 11 November 2019 (total number: 340)			
Name	City	Postal Code	Signed On
Anne Clark	Newton	02459	10/22/2019
Claire Hosford	Newton Center	02459	10/22/2019
Peter Barrer	Newton Centre	02459	10/22/2019
Rory Altman	Newton	02459	10/22/2019
Margaret Zaleski	Newton Center	02459	10/23/2019
Emily Lindstrom	Newton Center	02459	10/24/2019
Benjamin Bayes	Newton Center	02459	10/25/2019
DAVID CASH	Newton Center	02459	10/25/2019
Debra Cohen	Newton Centre	02459	10/25/2019
Guila Ben-Simon	Newton Center	02459	10/25/2019
Michael Lauenger	Newton Centre	02459	10/25/2019
Natalie Wong	Newton	02459	10/25/2019
Nelson Wong	Newton	02459	10/25/2019
Kathryn Kiely Spunt	Newton Centre	02459	10/26/2019
Pam Woodworth	Newton Center	02459	10/26/2019
Sara Hoverstad	Newton Center	02459	10/26/2019
PAMELA LIBBY	Newton Center	02459	10/27/2019
Ursula Mangoubi	Newton Center	02459	10/27/2019
alden mauck	Newton	02459	10/28/2019
Carol Fernandez	Newton Center	02459	10/28/2019
Cathleen Cavanaugh	Newton Center	02459	10/28/2019
heather tausig	Newton Center	02459	10/28/2019
Marian Glasgow	Newton Center	02459	10/28/2019
Martha Hausman	Newton	02459	10/28/2019
Arnold Zar-Kessler	Newton Center	02459	10/29/2019
Barbara Adner	Newton Center	02459	10/29/2019
Barbara Silver	Newton	02459	10/29/2019
Barry Bergman	Newton Center	02459	10/29/2019
Daniel Caine	Newton Center	02459	10/29/2019
Ellen Golub	Newton Center	02459	10/29/2019
GEOFFREY BOCK	Newton Center	02459	10/29/2019
James C. Varnum	Newton	02459	10/29/2019
Laurey Mauck	Newton	02459	10/29/2019
Lorel Zarkessler	Newton Center	02459	10/29/2019
Marsha Green	Newton Center	02459	10/29/2019
Myra Abelson	Newton Center	02459	10/29/2019
Richard Dale	Newton	02459	10/29/2019

Friends of Webster Woods Online Petition to Newton CPC & Newton City Council			
signers with Newton zip codes as of 11 November 2019 (total number: 340)			
Name	City	Postal Code	Signed On
Sally Bock	Newton Center	02459	10/29/2019
Sherry Israel	Newton	02459	10/29/2019
Stephanie Listokin	Newton Center	02459	10/29/2019
Susan Levy	Newton Center	02459	10/29/2019
Arthur GREEN	Newton	02459	10/30/2019
Howard Smith	Newton Center	02459	10/30/2019
Jeralyn Ellowitz	Newton	02459	10/30/2019
Joan Glinert	Newton Center	02459	10/30/2019
Marci Borenstein	Newton Center	02459	10/30/2019
Pamela Adelstein	Newton	02459	10/30/2019
Robert Lindenberg	Newton Centre	02459	10/30/2019
Susan Levin	Newton	02459	10/30/2019
Pamela Frorer	Newton Center	02459	10/31/2019
Raina Rothschild	Newton	02459	10/31/2019
Herbert Bassett	Newton Center	02459	11/1/2019
Kendall Driscoll	Newton Center	02459	11/1/2019
Susan Stern	Newton Centre	02459	11/2/2019
Newtonville			
Felicity Green	Newtonville	02460	10/6/2019
Anne Wightman	Newtonville	02460	10/14/2019
Bill Horne	Newton	02460	10/14/2019
Jennifer Dundon	Newtonville	02460	10/14/2019
linda simon	newton	02460	10/14/2019
Lois Biener	Newtonville	02460	10/14/2019
Michael Riley	Newton	02460	10/14/2019
Sarah Riley	Newton	02460	10/14/2019
Virgini Sigel	Newtonville	02460	10/14/2019
Jill Geiger	Newtonville	02460	10/15/2019
Lia Wilson	Newton	02460	10/15/2019
Sara Brenner	Newtonville	02460	10/15/2019
Anndy Dannenberg	Newton	02460	10/16/2019
Louise Kittredge	Newtonville	02460	10/16/2019
Roger Kirschner	Newton	02460	10/16/2019
Miriam Altman	Newtonville	02460	10/22/2019
Chris Perriello	Newton	02460	10/23/2019
Susan Denison	Newtonville	02460	10/27/2019
Herbert Dreyer	Newtonville	02460	10/29/2019

Friends of Webster Woods Online Petition to Newton CPC & Newton City Council			
signers with Newton zip codes as of 11 November 2019 (total number: 340)			
Name	City	Postal Code	Signed On
Bella Rosner	Newtonville	02460	10/30/2019
Newton Highlands			
Kristyn Ellen	Newton	02461	10/6/2019
Dan Brody	Newton Highlands	02461	10/12/2019
Lucy Caldwell-Stair	Newton Highland	02461	10/13/2019
Suzette Barbier	Newton Highlands	02461	10/13/2019
Adam Lerner	Newton	02461	10/14/2019
CHARLES ELLIS	Newton	02461	10/14/2019
Elsa Lawrence	Newton	02461	10/14/2019
Jenna Wang	Newton Highlands	02461	10/14/2019
Laurie Hackett	Newton	02461	10/14/2019
Mario Niepel	Newton	02461	10/14/2019
Ning Wang	Newton	02461	10/14/2019
Nyssa Patten	Newton Highlands	02461	10/14/2019
Olga Winner	Newton	02461	10/14/2019
Patricia Freysinger	Newton	02461	10/14/2019
Patty Kellogg	Newton Highlands	02461	10/14/2019
Rogers Howard	Newton	02461	10/14/2019
Arshia Verma	Newton	02461	10/15/2019
Gisela Voss	Newton	02461	10/15/2019
John White	Newton	02461	10/15/2019
Laurie Cleveland	Newton	02461	10/15/2019
Michael Goldman	Newton	02461	10/15/2019
Stuart Snyder	Newton	02461	10/15/2019
Eve Berne	Newton	02461	10/17/2019
Molly Doyle	Newton	02461	10/19/2019
Linda Morrison	Newton	02461	10/25/2019
annie hadfield	Newton	02461	10/29/2019
JONATHAN SLAVIN	Newton	02461	10/29/2019
Joshua Rothschild	Newton	02461	10/29/2019
Allen Katzoff	Newton	02461	10/30/2019
Newton Upper Falls			
Kristen McCarron	Newton	02464	10/21/2019
West Newton			
Celia Harrison	Newton	02465	10/6/2019
Phil Wolfson	Newton	02465	10/6/2019
Christian Madsen	Newton	02465	10/7/2019

Friends of Webster Woods Online Petition to Newton CPC & Newton City Council			
signers with Newton zip codes as of 11 November 2019 (total number: 340)			
Name	City	Postal Code	Signed On
Michelle Okimoto	Newton	02465	10/7/2019
RON JOSEPH	Newton	02465	10/13/2019
Brooks Mathewson	Newton	02465	10/14/2019
Carolin vanderLaan	Newton	02465	10/14/2019
Cindy Callaway	Newton	02465	10/14/2019
Gail Elson	Newton	02465	10/14/2019
Janet Panaggio	Newton	02465	10/14/2019
Jessica Moylan	Newton	02465	10/14/2019
Kimberley Law	Newton	02465	10/14/2019
Nancy Morrison	Newton	02465	10/14/2019
Paroma Mallick	Newton	02465	10/14/2019
Paula Potter	Newton	02465	10/14/2019
Peter Roberts	Newton	02465	10/14/2019
Sherry Cohen	Newton	02465	10/14/2019
Susan Gardos	Newton	02465	10/14/2019
Carolina Haass-Koffler	Newton	02465	10/15/2019
Emilie Kaden	Newton	02465	10/15/2019
Jennifer Craddock	Newton	02465	10/15/2019
JoAnn Feldstein	Newton	02465	10/15/2019
Mark Dwortzan	Newton	02465	10/15/2019
Sarah Barnett	Newton	02465	10/15/2019
Andrew Thompson	Newton	02465	10/16/2019
Anton Koenig	Newton	02465	10/16/2019
Kat Adelson	Newton	02465	10/18/2019
Lisa Robinson	Newton	02465	10/20/2019
MERCE LOPEZ	Newton	02465	10/20/2019
Theodore Kuklinski	Newton	02465	10/24/2019
Judi Burten	Newton	02465	10/25/2019
Walia Dungan	Newton	02465	10/25/2019
BOB DRUKMAN	Newton	02465	10/28/2019
Karen Burns	Newton	02465	10/28/2019
Chippa Martin	Newton	02465	10/29/2019
Marc Ronell	Newton	02465	10/29/2019
Robert Roth	Newton	02465	10/29/2019
Doug Cahn	Newton	02465	10/31/2019
Auburndale			
Courtney Foster	Newton	02466	10/11/2019

Friends of Webster Woods Online Petition to Newton CPC & Newton City Council			
signers with Newton zip codes as of 11 November 2019 (total number: 340)			
Name	City	Postal Code	Signed On
Linda Winslow	Newton	02466	10/13/2019
Rebecca Warner	Newton	02466	10/13/2019
A._.M Abernathy	Newton	02466	10/14/2019
Andrew Liu	Newton	02466	10/14/2019
Clemency Coggins	Newton	02466	10/14/2019
Nancy Wrenn	Newton	02466	10/14/2019
Robert Persons	Newton	02466	10/14/2019
Susan Blandy	Newton	02466	10/14/2019
Christine Young	Newton	02466	10/15/2019
Dan Ruben	Newton	02466	10/15/2019
Eileen Ladieu	Newton	02466	10/15/2019
Jean Chaisson	Newton	02466	10/15/2019
Beverly Droz	Newton	02466	10/16/2019
Sonja Wadman	Newton	02466	10/18/2019
Bonnie Norton	Newton	02466	10/26/2019
Nancy Levine	Newton	02466	10/27/2019
Chestnut Hill			
David Hruska	Newton	02467	10/6/2019
Diana Eusse	Newton	02467	10/6/2019
Kyle Rosenthal	Newton	02467	10/13/2019
Susan Lawrence	Newton	02467	10/13/2019
Thomas Fox	Newton	02467	10/13/2019
Melanie Renaud	Newton	02467	10/14/2019
Michele Hanss	Newton	02467	10/14/2019
Sam Levinson	Newton	02467	10/15/2019
JB Hruska	Newton	02467	10/16/2019
Sarah Gant	Newton	02467	10/16/2019
Enric Adillon	Newton	02467	10/25/2019
Molly Funk	Newton	02467	10/25/2019
alinda dersjant	Newton	02467	10/29/2019
ELISA Brousse	Newton	02467	10/29/2019
Lori Kagan	Newton	02467	10/29/2019
Waban			
Terri Noyes	Newton	02468	10/6/2019
Risa Gelles-Watnick	Newton	02468	10/11/2019
Deb Karl	Newton	02468	10/13/2019
Henry Finch	Newton	02468	10/13/2019

Friends of Webster Woods Online Petition to Newton CPC & Newton City Council			
signers with Newton zip codes as of 11 November 2019 (total number: 340)			
Name	City	Postal Code	Signed On
Adrienne B	Newton	02468	10/14/2019
Ann Esvelt	Newton	02468	10/14/2019
Helen Jordan	Newton	02468	10/14/2019
isabelle albeck	Newton	02468	10/14/2019
Jenn Martin	Newton	02468	10/14/2019
Patricia Leibensperger	Newton	02468	10/14/2019
Robert Ellertsen	Newton	02468	10/14/2019
Susan Heyman	Newton	02468	10/14/2019
Elizabeth Paik	Newton	02468	10/15/2019
Jack Cheng	Newton	02468	10/15/2019
maurice gilmore	Newton	02468	10/15/2019
Ameen Sheikh	Newton	02468	10/16/2019
Sarah Buckley	Newton	02468	10/17/2019
Shannon McGill	Newton	02468	10/17/2019
Joel Ratner	Newton	02468	10/20/2019
Dahlia Rudavsky Rudavsky	Newton	02468	10/30/2019

October 8, 2019

To the Members of the Community Preservation Committee:

The residents of Newton urge you to support the Mayor's decision to purchase the 17 acres of Webster Woods currently held by Boston College by eminent domain. This represents the best opportunity to purchase open space in the City of Newton. Open space has been underfunded in the past and this would be an excellent decision to help restore open space funding in Newton while protecting the integrity of the largest woodland in Newton.

Losing the opportunity to protect this land would be losing a once in a lifetime opportunity to protect the in tact open space of Webster Woods for current and future generations. While the price tag may seem high, the alternative is considerably worse for the City and the natural life living within its borders. Allowing BC to develop these woods for their own purposes will represent significant harm to all of Newton. One small example of allowing BC to do what they want in Newton is the traffic disruption in Newton every time BC has a home football game.

Thank you in advance for your serious consideration of using CPA funds to permanently protect this central portion of Webster Woods. This is a must win situation for the City of Newton. To that end, I have pledged a significant sum of money to support this purchase for the City.

Sincerely,



Jeff Goldman
24 Warren St.
Newton Center, MA. 02459

October 8, 2019

To the Members of the Community Preservation Committee:

The residents of Newton urge you to support the Mayor's decision to purchase the 17 acres of Webster Woods currently held by Boston College by eminent domain. This represents the best opportunity to purchase open space in the City of Newton. Open space has been underfunded in the past and this would be an excellent decision to help restore open space funding in Newton while protecting the integrity of the largest woodland in Newton.

Losing the opportunity to protect this land would be losing a once in a lifetime opportunity to protect the in tact open space of Webster Woods for current and future generations. While the price tag may seem high, the alternative is considerably worse for the City and the natural life living within its borders. Allowing BC to develop these woods for their own purposes will represent significant harm to all of Newton. One small example of allowing BC to do what they want in Newton is the traffic disruption in Newton every time BC has a home football game.

Thank you in advance for your serious consideration of using CPA funds to permanently protect this central portion of Webster Woods. This is a must win situation for the City of Newton. To that end, I have pledged a significant sum of money to support this purchase for the City.

Sincerely,



Jeff Goldman
24 Warren St.
Newton Center, MA. 02459

Mead Mahoney
150 Gibbs Street
Newton, MA 02459

October 9, 2019

RE: Webster Woods Preservation

Dear Ms. Ingerson,

I am writing to ask the Community Preservation Committee to please vote in favor of allocating the money that Mayor Fuller has proposed to preserve Webster Woods.

I have lived in Newton for more than 20 years, and in West Roxbury for the other 25 years, and these woods have been part of my life for as long as I can remember. I have walked in the woods many, many times and during all seasons, and I treasure them and the biodiversity they provide to me, a life-long city dweller. I still thrill at a glimpse of a deer, an owl, a frog or snake. It is a rare thing for a city to be able to offer its residents and neighbors the chance to walk in real woods. My children, and their cousins, have grown up building fairy houses in the Webster Woods and tossing twigs into the vernal pool.

People more qualified than I can speak to the environmental impact of woods, but I do know from reading The Hidden Life of Trees, by Peter Wohlleben, that "Every day in summer, trees release about 29 tons of oxygen into the air per square mile of forest. A person breathes in nearly 2 pounds of oxygen a day, so that's the daily requirement for about 10 thousand people. **Every walk in the forest is like taking a shower in oxygen.**" (The Hidden Life of Trees, p. 224).

Please, please, please preserve these woods. It is my hope that after preserving them, we can encourage more of Newton's city dwellers to visit them and reap the benefits. We cannot replace them once they are gone, and forests are shrinking every day, all over the world.

Sincerely,



Joanne Mead

From: Ruth Rosenberg <funde@comcast.net>
Sent: Wednesday, October 09, 2019 12:18 PM
To: Alice Ingerson <aingerson@newtonma.gov>
Subject: Webster Woods support

Dear Mrs. Ingerson,

I am a Newton resident for 25 years.

One of Newton's best assets and attraction as a residential area, are its magnificent surroundings of forests and diverse nature of fauna and flora.

Webster Woods, aside from being a manifestation of Newton's beauty, are also wonderful outdoor activities area for walking, jogging, nature study, geology study, birding, rock climbing, and cross-country skiing.

Having these public natural forests areas near residential neighborhoods, encourages outdoor activities and promote wellbeing and health for all.

Please keep the Webster Woods a natural conservation area for everyone to enjoy.

Thanks,
Ruth & Miki Rosenberg
27 Burdean Rd.
Newton MA 02459

Sent from my iPhone

From: Heather Tausig <htausig@aol.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 10, 2019 1:06 AM
To: Alice Ingerson <aingerson@newtonma.gov>
Subject: Webster Woods

To the Community Preservation Committee members:

I am writing tonight to encourage you to support the Mayor's efforts to protect Webster Woods. I understand that the possibility of protecting this special habitat is possible via "eminent domain" and that Community Preservation Act funds could be allocated for this purpose. This is a perfect example of what the CPA was created for.

Webster Woods is a very special place in Newton. I walk in these woods more than once a week and it provides a perfect place to disconnect from the busy suburban place that we live in. As many studies have pointed out, walking in the woods provides relief from stress and worry and helps us think more clearly. Nature refreshes us and provides us with energy and inspiration.

Perhaps even more importantly, many Newton residents enjoy walking, jogging, studying nature and geology, birding, rock climbing, and even cross-country skiing in Webster Woods. This area, including the beautiful vernal pool with tadpoles and salamanders, provides both Boston College and Boston University students with an important local ecological study site as well.

Having spent my career focused on environmental conservation, provided climate change education programs in the Newton Public Schools (NPS) and now supporting both local environmental groups and the efforts of NPS to reduce our environmental impact, I am following this effort closely. Again, I encourage you to support the protection of Webster Woods by the City of Newton via the use of Community Preservation Act funds.

I look forward to hearing more about this important effort in November at the public hearing. I hope you will champion the protection of Webster Woods for all of us here in Newton.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Heather Tausig
120 Garland Rd.
Newton, MA 02459

From: Dileo, Judith <jdileo@bu.edu>
Sent: Friday, October 11, 2019 10:11 AM
To: Alice Ingerson <aingerson@newtonma.gov>
Subject: Webster Woods

Dear Ms. Ingerson,

I have lived at 84 Leeson Lane since January 1985, and have enjoyed walking in Webster Woods for those many years, sometimes with a dog when we've had one. I am so grateful to Mayor Fuller for supporting the efforts to take by eminent domain the strip now owned by Boston College. Were the college to develop this piece of land themselves or sell it, the serenity of Webster Woods would be destroyed. I am disappointed in Boston College; one would think that an educational institution would realize the importance of peaceful spaces open to the public. I hope that your committee will be successful in preserving Webster Woods as it is.

Sincerely,

Judith Di Leo

From: David Hruska <dhruska@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, October 13, 2019 5:23 PM
To: Alice Ingerson <aingerson@newtonma.gov>
Subject: Webster Woods

Hello Program Manager Alice Ingerson and & CPC:

As a resident of Newton for over 9 years, I have frequently enjoyed walking through Webster Woods. The availability of quiet, pristine woods within the relatively urban environment of Newton is a unique asset. With Boston College now owning a large section of the woods, this asset is in jeopardy. Development within this fragile ecosystem would cause irreparable harm.

I support Mayor Fuller's proposal to preserve Webster Woods.

The city tried, unsuccessfully, to stop the sale of the woods in 1954. Now, 65 years later, we are presented with a rare and unique opportunity to forever preserve these woods. While the cost of acquisition is high, the benefits are incalculable. Working together, the Mayor, the CPC, City of Newton staff, and all citizens of Newton are well-positioned to secure this legacy for future generations that will continue to be enjoyed in perpetuity.

I urge the CPC to provide the necessary funding to purchase and thereby preserve Webster Woods.

Best,
David Hruska
250 Hammond Pond Pkwy Apt 407S
Chestnut Hill, MA 02467-1518
847-477-5513

From: Ellen Gibson-Kennedy <egibsonkennedy@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 15, 2019 4:49 AM
To: Alice Ingerson <aingerson@newtonma.gov>
Subject: In Support of Webster Woods

October 15, 2019

Dear Community Preservation Committee Members,

I am writing to voice my support for Mayor Ruthanne Fuller's proposal to permanently preserve 17 acres of Webster Woods by eminent domain. I understand that taking any land by eminent domain is not an easy task, but I believe the permanent protection of this critically valuable and unique open space is crucial and necessary. The City of Newton had the foresight to preserve Webster Woods, and to allow Boston College to develop a portion of it would go directly against its previous conservation efforts and its image as the Garden City.

Boston College has been a part of Newton since 1907 and it will continue to thrive without this 17-acre parcel of land within Newton's largest natural area. Conversely, development of this parcel will have a detrimental impact on the forests and wetlands of Webster Woods, causing irreparable damage to critical animal and bird habitat, groundwater, and our own access to open space. Unlike Boston College, Webster Woods will not continue to thrive without these 17 acres.

Recently, many Newton students, our own children and grandchildren, marched for action on the global climate crisis. Our city can be a leader in acting locally against this global environmental threat. Show our children that you hear their voices by permanently protecting 17 acres within an already protected conservation area. If we can't protect Webster Woods—the land that directly supports their own health and well-being—how can we expect our children to think that we care about their future and the world they will inherit?

Mayor Fuller has tried to work with Boston College to no avail and she must use the power of eminent domain as a last resort. Listen to the voices of our children and grandchildren, as I want you to listen to mine now. Support Mayor Fuller's proposal to permanently protect Webster Woods.

Thank you,

Ellen Gibson-Kennedy, MPH
34 Trinity Terrace
Newton, MA 02459

From: Kyle Rosenthal <rosentka@bc.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, October 15, 2019 4:23 PM
To: Alice Ingerson <aingerson@newtonma.gov>
Subject: Webster Woods Comment

I am a junior at Boston College studying information systems, operations management, and social impact and sustainability. I am also a member of Climate Justice BC, the BC Sustainability Action Committee, and the Catholic Divestment Network. I lived on Boston College's Newton campus my freshman year and its upper campus within the city of Newton my sophomore year.

The Newton Community Preservation Committee and Newton City Council have a right and a duty to protect the Webster Woods and collaborate with Boston College to find the best solution for all stakeholders. Allowing BC to retain the building on the grounds is reasonable, but my university's lack of clarity with regard to the rest of the area and uncalled for statements toward the mayor and our city makes it clear that BC is not responsible enough to protect these woods for future generations.

I hope that one day BC can be trusted in regards to the conservation of land, but until that day, I entrust the committee and the city to protect this beautiful, open space that provides a quiet refuge and connection with nature to Newton and surrounding residents, along with the prevention of climate change and storm flooding.

As small colleges continue to close throughout Massachusetts, it presents an opportunity for universities like Boston College to acquire already developed land and potentially save jobs while creating new opportunities for students. Similar opportunities may present themselves with the closing of other institutions. The city of Newton can and should continue to collaborate with BC as its intentions to expand will not and should not diminish, but can be channeled into other pre-developed areas.

To reiterate, I urge the committee and city council to continue with plans to take back and manage the Webster Woods while engaging with Boston College to avoid this situation in the future and in the attempt to find new space for expansion. I love my university and it is difficult to write against it, but I believe that this decision is in the best interest of public health and the environment and that tuition dollars will be better spent searching for a new property rather than litigating against our city.

Sincerely,

Kyle Rosenthal
Boston College CSOM '21
Climate Justice BC/Catholic Divestment Network
LSG advisory member to the Global Catholic Climate Movement
Executive Director - Element Hope

Former resident of 885 Centre Street, Newton, MA, 02459

From: Alan Noguee <alannogee@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 16, 2019 9:36 AM
To: Alice Ingerson <aingerson@newtonma.gov>
Cc: Noguee Alan <friendsofcoldspringpark@gmail.com>
Subject: Fwd: Support for Webster Woods

To: CPC

Below please find my letter to the City Council, with cc to the mayor, in support of preserving Webster Woods, and the reason for it. I strongly support the use of eminent domain, if necessary, and use of CPA funds for this purpose.

As founder and President of Friends of Cold Spring Park, I am pleased to add that the organization has also endorsed these actions.

Sincerely,

Alan Noguee
President, Friends of Cold Spring Park

Begin forwarded message:

From: Alan Noguee <Alannogee@yahoo.com>
Date: October 2, 2019 at 7:37:19 PM EDT
To: Citycouncil <citycouncil@newtonma.gov>
Cc: Ruthanne Fuller <rfuller@newtonma.gov>
Subject: Support for Webster Woods

Dear Councilors,

Last Spring I had the good fortune to go on a Webster Woods walk with the Newton Conservators. It is truly a beautiful woodland, with an accessible vernal pool teeming with wildlife. I strongly support permanently preserving this precious resource, including by exercising eminent domain, if necessary.

Webster Woods is the largest contiguous Woodland in Newton. Preserving it is important to our health, our mental health, and our ecological health.

Parks support the health of our residents. Doctors are now prescribing walks in parks for a variety of ailments, and “at least one major health insurer has begun offering incentives for nature prescriptions.” <https://www.outsideonline.com/2393660/science-newest-miracle-drug-free>. See also <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/12/03/well/move/the-secret-to-good-health-may-be-a-walk-in-the-park.html>

Parks support the mental health of our citizens, reducing stress, depression and anxiety. <https://www.nrpa.org/our-work/Three-Pillars/health-wellness/ParksandHealth/fact-sheets/parks-improved-mental-health-quality-life/>

Green space—in particular large tracts of contiguous green space—is critical to protect the health of the environment and the ecosystems that support us.

We are in an era that some scientists fear may be the sixth great extinction our planet has experienced. Insect populations are crashing. <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/11/27/magazine/insect-apocalypse.html>

Bird populations are crashing. <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/09/19/science/bird-populations-america-canada.html>

Reptile and amphibian populations are crashing.
https://www.biologicaldiversity.org/campaigns/amphibian_conservation/

The primary cause of these ecosystem pressures is loss of habitat. The spread of invasive species and climate change are also significant factors. Preserving large contiguous green spaces preserves critical habitat. It creates a buffer against the spread of invasive species. It creates a refuge from urban heat islands and a buffer against the impact of climate change, as well as a carbon sink to help slow climate change.

Preserving Webster Woods would preserve a key piece of the largest contiguous green space in Newton. It is an investment in the health, mental health and ecological health of ourselves, our children and our grandchildren. Please support the Mayor's efforts to preserve it.

Alan Noguee
48 Kingston Rd.
Newton Highlands

From: Jeff Smith <emergesafe@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 16, 2019 10:51 AM
To: Alice Ingerson <aingerson@newtonma.gov>
Subject: Purchase of Webster Woods

I am solidly in favor of this purchase. Please proceed. Remember Seward's folly

Thank you,
Jeff Smith
22 Hollis St,
Newton

Sent from my iPhone

October 9, 2019

received by US mail, 17 Oct 2019r

Dear ~~Newton Councilor,~~ *Ms. Ingraham:*

I am writing in support of taking Webster Woods by eminent domain. While I recognize the significance of allocating so much money seems daunting, it seems to me to be a rational and ethical choice in light of Boston College's refusal not to develop.

One answer to slowing climate change is the planting of millions and millions of trees. How can we justify cutting so many down? Our ecosystem within Newton is shrinking already. Our carbon output continues to increase (even with solar homes and electric/hybrid cars). We live in troubled times where the science behind climate change is being denied while danger grows.

It is time for bold action. Let Newton lead the way and continue to do its share in fighting climate disaster. We owe it to the next generation.

Please know it is not only a small number of users who support this decision. For instance, I rarely walk Webster Woods and do not have an imitate connection to this large parcel. Yet, many of us understand the critical importance of maintaining ecosystems for the health of the world.

I urge you to vote to support this action.

Thank you,



Cara Feldberg *Ph.D.*
112 Hyde St.
Newton Highlands, MA 02461

From: sjkcs48@yahoo.com <sjkcs48@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 4:34 PM
To: Alice Ingerson <aingerson@newtonma.gov>
Subject: Re: Webster Woods - confirming sender of letter to CPC

My name is Steve Carter, and my correct email address is sjkcs48@yahoo.com. You have my permission to post my message about the Webster Woods project,

Sent: Friday, October 18, 2019 8:04 PM
To: Alice Ingerson
Subject: Webster Woods

Dear Ms. Ingerson,

I support the City's efforts to acquire Webster Woods. However, I hope that in addition to reviewing the purchase price and legal fees associated with this effort, that the City also discusses and accounts for the on-going costs to maintain and care for this property. Too often the City embarks on projects, but fail to ensure that they are covered in future maintenance budgets.

Thank You,

Steve Carter
234 Church Street
Newton Corner, MA 02458

Sent from my iPad

copies of this letter addressed to each CPC
member were hand-delivered on 18 October 2019

10/18/19

Dear

I am writing in an effort to save Webster Woods. It stands as one of Newton's most valuable green spaces. It provides sanctuary for people, wildlife, and innumerable plants and trees. To corrupt this forest in any way would be to dishonor it. Please vote to save Webster Woods through eminent domain. By all criteria this is the right thing to do.

I remain, respectfully yours,

Amy Robinson
Newton Center MA

another year, and my beloved webster woods is preparing her raiment of splashed oranges and russet reds. myriad forest creatures are busily stocking up for winter, and the air feels scrubbed clean, so characteristic of a new england fall. another year, this precious forest land is still threatened by an entity both larger and monetarily richer. another year where the biblical story of big verses small, might vs presumably weak, plays itself out yet again. those unfamiliar with a modern day version of this story might be unaware of the threat currently posed against webster woods, conservation land in newton. boston college, who a few years back purchased a significant portion of the woods, with future plans to desecrate it with dormitories and other edifices, seems unwilling to negotiate a city of newton buy back. all the woodland creatures, big and small, smooth and furry, are poised to be destroyed or greatly compromised by this failure of boston college to honor what the woods represent. this forest is a haven for wildlife who have little place left to go. it is presumably a protected landscape where trees and plants, shrubs and undergrowth can flourish, gifting us their unmatched beauty, and the peace they inherently bring. whatever has transpired between boston college and the city of newton in these past two or three years of meetings, legal wrangling and the like, the moment of truth is now fully at hand. will the citizenry of newton represent a city of progressive environmentalism, or will they fall to the beckoning of what ultimately will spell destruction of newton's largest forest? will the squirrels retain their nests, the birds their tree limbs, the fox and deer, the skunks and chipmunks their sustenance? this is that quintessential fork in the road. i have confidence the enlightened folks of newton, when confronted with the road too often less traveled, will be the road they now take to validate our collective deference and respect for webster woods and the creatures who call it home.

this is a letter to the editor. i hope you find this worthy of printing so folks understand the import of what is happening. thanks you.

amy robinson 45 warren street newton centre, ma 617 817 4243

From: Jonathan Landman <jlandman62@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, October 19, 2019 1:17 PM
To: Alice Ingerson <aingerson@newtonma.gov>
Subject: Considerations re: Webster Woods & eminent domain

Dear CPC Members,

My wife and I have lived on Garner Street in Newton Center for about 20 years. I'm writing to you to express our strong support for the plans to take B.C.'s property in Webster Woods by eminent domain, and to highlight two associated ideas about this process.

I care about the preservation of this property. We take dog walks there all the time. The woods truly are a special place. One of my favorite paths is the one which runs along a rocky ledge with a beautiful prospect into the forest canopy and the glen below. I've seen deer and coyotes and hawks there. In the winter, we've gone snowshoeing in Webster Woods and after a fresh snowfall, the serenity of the place is utterly apart from the city all around. Yesterday, as I walked there enjoying the fall colors, I was curious to see how the recent storm had impacted the forest and, sure enough, a big tree had fallen across one of the paths. As I'm sure you know, this is the largest undeveloped piece of land in the city, and given our urban surroundings, we should be grateful to have these green-lunged, carbon-soaking woods so close at hand. I'm hoping the land will be treated as the gem it is - preserved for us, now, and for future generations.

The Mayor is right to be advocating eminent domain. I've been attending meetings of the Friends of Webster Woods and it seems clear B.C. will make no promise to preserve the forest. If the woods are to be protected, the city must act. B.C. says it offered to do a land swap, but the land they proposed taking in a swap for property they now hold is just another swath of contiguous woodland. The city will have to pay market value for the property, but once bonded, the cost will be spread out over many years and there will still be a lot of C.P.A. funds available for further open space purchases, as well as for affordable housing, historical preservation and recreation. This is expensive, but we feel it's important.

Now: for the two associated ideas.

First, I ask the CPC to consider the pros and cons of taking not just the woods purchased by B.C., but also the back lot. The university's placement of a salt shed so close to the vernal pond puts the pond and the salamanders that breed there at risk. Additionally, we don't know how the university might develop that lot in the future; if they moved to place buildings there, that could detract from the peaceful quality of the woodland. If the city were to take the back lot, the parking lot could be removed and that patch of land could be reclaimed - perhaps as a field or even as community gardening space. On the other hand, I wouldn't want an expanded taking to endanger public support for the taking of the forested land.

Second, as part of the overall CPC financial planning for the future of Webster Woods, I would ask that the CPC take into consideration some site improvements to enhance access to and enjoyment of the Woods. Community discussions would surface more and better thinking, but a few of the ideas that seem appealing to me would be:

1. One or more well-marked, signaled pedestrian crossing(s) of Hammond Pond Parkway so that walkers could safely enjoy the woods on both sides of the Parkway as part of a longer walking experience. Right now, crossing the Parkway is stressful and potentially dangerous; we are still nimble but almost never cross over because it does not seem worth the risk.
2. A small, well-marked parking area along the Parkway to give safe, convenient access to the Woods from that side of the property.

3. Signage, for example, at the corners of Glen and Beacon, and Glen and Langley directing passers-by towards the Webster Woods Conservation area, and accompanying signs at the corners of Glen/Elgin and Glen/Warren directing people to the Woods entrances there. There are probably other entrances to the Woods that should be similarly highlighted so that more people can find and take advantage of the property.

4. Maps of the paths situated at popular entrance points encompassing the woods on both sides of the Parkway, and printed maps for occasional visitors to take so they can way-find in the forest.

Thank you for considering our input.

Respectfully,
Jonathan Landman
17 Garner St
Newton, MA 02459

From: Matthew Sliwa III <MSliwa@KSPfinancial.com>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2019 2:01 PM
To: Alice Ingerson <aingerson@newtonma.gov>
Subject: Webster Woods Proposal

TO: Mayor Ruthanne Fuller and Newton City Council

This is probably the rare communication you receive opposing the acquisition of the Boston College property using eminent domain and the first time I have ever written to you on either a positive or negative basis. There are three reasons for this.

1. Eminent Domain is a significant use of government power of the general populace and as such should be used judiciously and in the best interest of all of the voters in Newton. In recent years, the Newton City Council has taken several measure that curtail the freedom of its residents, many who oppose these policies but are rarely heard. While there has been some information passed on via various sources, (word of mouth, Newton Tab, City of Newton website), I imagine those most informed are only the squeaky wheels that have been upset about the legal BC purchase of this property four years ago. The most recent information outlining the final appropriation meeting was a mere three inch blurb in the Tab. In fact, I don't EVER remember reading a comprehensive contra view of the purchase in the Tab. Something on the magnitude of spending \$15MM+ dollars of public money should have a much larger open environment to speak and with fully aware participants. It should be front page news for the Tab with both sides of the argument being presented, not in executive session.

2. The current Available Funds report and Community Preservation Plan on the website suggest this project would absorb virtually all currently available CPA funds, or the equivalent of 3-4 years of annual funding. Perhaps many believe money could be best spent elsewhere, but the last time the city undertook a survey on best uses of funds was 2011-2012, when the number of responses was less than 200, or only 0.23% of the 2014 population of Newton. This is certainly NOT something statistically significant and upon which action should be taken. While in 2011 open space was the highest priority, it was only because affordable housing had the most unfavorable ratings. Affordable housing actually had more #1 votes than either open space, recreation or historic purposes. The website says the current, new survey's results will not be published until after December 2019, and it may attract a similar response rate. Don't you think it is time to take a more comprehensive survey of the city before spending \$15MM dollars? Given all of the talk on how unaffordable Newton is to live in, especially for its employees (this is mentioned almost weekly in the Tab), doesn't that warrant attention and potentially \$15MM? It seems to me the conversation is mere lip service to those having trouble staying in the community, especially the elderly. Personally there are many surrounding cities that have more and better quality outdoor space for athletics. In many cases, our current athletic programs have to pay for use of private land at an alternatively much higher rate. Other outdoor locations are maintained and improved by citizens out of their own pockets. I guarantee more people would come out against this purchase if they knew alternative uses for the money could help their own budgets.

3. The save Webster Woods group would lead someone to believe the BC parcel is the only outdoor space in the area. In fact, the BC property is surrounded by the following parcels existing on Boylston St, Hammond Pond Parkway, Elgin St, Warren St, Comm Ave and Suffolk Rd. The sum of currently undevelopable land held in these other parcels by the Commonwealth of MA and the City of Newton already contain 6.51MM square feet of land (~2.7MM for MA and ~3.81MM for Newton). The BC property is 947,000 sq. ft, only 12.7% of the total area, leaving the vast majority of the area

permanently in tact. Additionally this does not take into consideration the forever undevelopable wetlands already part of the BC property. While the BC parcel is contiguous to other conservation land, at no point does it make the properties untraversable or unusable. Last, should BC go down an undesirable development course, doesn't Newton have a zoning board in place with a process to approve?

In closing I would highlight the exceptional quality of development, both architecturally and aesthetically, BC has produced over the past century and a half. Newton derives great exposure and benefit from this world class institution. It is unfortunate that the Mayor and City Council are only hearing the 381 voices that are Friends of Webster Woods (per their Facebook website) and not the other 99.5% of the community.

Respectfully,

Matthew J Sliwa III
62 Ellis Rd
Newton, MA 02465



Chestnut Hill Garden Club

Mayor Ruthann Fuller
The Community Preservation Committee
Members of the Board of Aldermen
City of Newton
1000 Commonwealth Avenue
Newton Centre, MA 02459

Re: Eminent Domain Seizure of 17 acres currently owned by Boston College,
Contiguous to the Webster Conservation Area

October 21, 2019

Dear Mayor Fuller, Members of the Community Preservation Committee and Members
of the Board of Aldermen,

The Chestnut Hill Garden Club urges the City of Newton to take action to protect the 17
acres of natural, open space once part of the Webster Conservation Area, now owned
by Boston College.

Edwin S. Webster, for whom the conservation area is named, was one of the founders
of the The Chestnut Hill Garden Club in 1915. He was our president in 1924 and his
wife was our first female president in 1932. In 1916, Mr. and Mrs. Webster gave a 38
acre parcel from their real estate holdings in Newton to the Commonwealth of
Massachusetts. This area was included with other acreage acquired by eminent domain
by the City of Newton to form the Webster Conservation Area.

In 1954, amidst community opposition, The Commonwealth sold 28 acres of the
Webster Conservation land to the Temple Mishkan Tefila, with a deed restriction that
the land be used for educational or religious purposes for 99 years. Boston College
purchased 28 acres from the Temple Mishkan Tefila in 2015.

The Temple Mishkan Tefila developed approximately 6 of the acres for its buildings and
parking lots. The 17 acres in contention now have remained undeveloped, wild and
natural. Included in the land are Bare Pond, a vernal pool that is visited and studied by
naturalists, sandstone ledges, outcroppings of Roxbury puddingstone and trails walked
and enjoyed by Newton residents. The land is contiguous to and provides access to
other open conservation land for people and wildlife. The Chestnut Hill Mall with its
acres of asphalt, cement and cars runs along a nearby edge of the conservation area, a
reminder of how the natural state of the subject 17 acres could be destroyed, if
developed.

The Chestnut Hill Garden Club continues Mr. and Mrs. Webster's interest in and
concern for the conservation of natural, open spaces. We strongly encourage the City of

Newton to take action to protect this open land from development, so that future generations of Newton residents can enjoy this natural landscape.

We fully support the Mayor taking, by eminent domain, 17 acres, formerly in the Webster Conservation area and now owned by Boston College.

We respectfully ask that the Community Preservation Committee fund the purchase of the 17 acres from Boston College

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Lisa M. Farber".

Lisa M. Farber
President
Chestnut Hill Garden Club



Newton, MA, October 19, 2019

rec'd by email 24 October 2019

To the Newton City Council and the Newton Community Preservation Committee:

I am writing this note from the middle of Webster Woods' vernal pool. I have seen the vernal pool as a sheet of ice in the winter, as a lively pond in the summer, and am staring at it now as an enchanted combination of stones, and yellow-red leaves at sunset in the middle of the fall, dry – probably not for very long. I hear blue jays and a woodpecker and the light wind through the leaves. When we first moved to Newton and to this neighborhood, our new neighbors took us for a walk to the woods and to this vernal pool, where we saw frogs and a family of deer. It seemed magical to us back then, exactly as it is now – an island of wilderness, that is small enough that one can start to gradually learn all its secrets and hidden treasures, but big enough than one can feel lost and connected to nature in a way that is rarely experienced while living in the middle of a town like ours.

Not far from where I am sitting, however it is possible to see some trucks and asphalt through the trees – a reminder that the uniqueness of this place is vulnerable, and its future is not guaranteed. I have followed with trepidation the efforts towards protecting Webster Woods, and was thrilled to learn about the plan for the city to buy the portions of land under threat, in order to protect them for perpetuity.

With this note, I wish to express my strong support for this plan, and my hope that the city of Newton will stand as an example of how the love and respect for nature can have the priority – as a collective effort – over private development. As I sit here, I hope that this spot will be here for future generations to enjoy and appreciate.

Sincerely,
Daniel Segrè, Newton, MA 02459

75 Beecher Place, Newton, MA 02459

From: Kate and Eric <kateanderic@verizon.net>
Sent: Thursday, October 24, 2019 5:35 PM
To: Alice Ingerson <aingerson@newtonma.gov>
Subject: Webster Woods

Dear CPC Members:

This is to express our concern over the potential loss of green space within Webster Woods. Accordingly, we ask that the Newton City Council and Community Preservation Committee approve the eminent domain taking of the section of these woodlands owned by Boston College.

Our understanding is that city officials declined to explore the acquisition of this property when it was first made available for sale by Temple Mishkan Teflia. No doubt there would have been many supporters among Newton residents for the purchase of this property had they been apprised of the opportunity.

If there is an argument for allowing a portion of Webster Woods to be lost to development, then there is a similar argument for the elimination of any and all green space in Newton. But it is hard to imagine what such an argument would be. Surely a proposal to abandon all of the city's green space over time would be met with outrage. A fifty-percent loss of our green space would be just as abhorrent? Ten percent? The question is, how does the city calculate the value of green space and its loss?

No Newton resident will benefit from the reduction of Webster Woods by Boston College. At the same time tax payers will bear no monetary cost to preserve this space by an eminent domain taking – we have already paid for the project. Please put our tax dollars/CPA contributions to the use for which they were intended – preservation.

Thank you for considering this.

Sincerely,

Eric and Kate Spunt
110 Elgin Street
Newton, MA 02459

From: Suzanne Berne <sberne@comcast.net>
Sent: Friday, October 25, 2019 1:42 PM
To: Alice Ingerson <aingerson@newtonma.gov>
Subject: Webster Woods

Dear Community Preservation Act Committee:

I am writing to you in support of Mayor Ruthanne Fuller's proposal to take 17 acres of Webster Woods, land presently owned by Boston College, by eminent domain. I strongly believe that Boston College's refusal to place a conservation restriction on those acres indicates its intention--at some point--to develop them. By erecting administration buildings, dormitories, or a hockey rink (and I've heard rumors of all three), the college would destroy the integrity of the woods from within its very heart.

As those of you who have visited the woods know, they are profoundly beautiful, and one of the few places left in the city where, even in the middle of a busy day, you can take a walk and hear only birds and crickets and the sound of the breeze. A development inside of Webster Woods would turn what has always been a forest into pockets of trees. Countless animal habitats would be disrupted and delicate ecosystems devastated. Thousands of trees would be cut down. There would be no more refuge. We would all lose so much and Boston College would gain--a few buildings.

I have taught at Boston College for thirteen years. I value it as an institution. I love my students and my department. But I do not approve of the college's stance on Webster Woods. In the pope's encyclical, he deplores irresponsible development and laments the degradation of the natural world. He encourages everyone to take action to protect the environment. We should be heeding that call at home as well as globally.

I visit Webster Woods every day. They are the reason I live in Newton, the Garden City. My children have grown up thinking of the woods as essential, as much a part of Newton as Mason-Rice, where they first went to school, and the Halloween Window Painting Contest and the Newton Centre T station. I hope their children, and all the children of Newton, now and in the future, are able to feel same.

Thank you for all you do for our city. Please support Mayor Fuller's proposal to save Webster Woods.

All Best,

Suzanne Berne
165 Elgin St
Newton, MA 02459

From: Nina Bogdanovsky <nina.bogdanovsky@bc.edu>
Sent: Friday, October 25, 2019 11:38 AM
To: Alice Ingerson <aingerson@newtonma.gov>
Subject: Webster Woods

Dear Mayor and Newton City Councilors,

My name is Nina Bogdanovsky. I have been a Newton resident since 1992 and I have also been a librarian at Boston College since 2006. I recently found out that our Mayor is going to attempt to take 17 acres from Boston College under eminent domain. I want to let you know that I respectfully but very strongly oppose this decision and I am going to list several reasons for this disagreement.

1. As you know, the City of Newton could have acquired this property in 2014/15. The City chose not to do so and in 2016 Boston College chose to buy it for \$20 million dollars. I don't see why Boston College should suffer from the changing moods of the Newton administration after it lawfully purchased it and already invested several million dollars into the property.
2. I don't see this particular piece of land as vital for Newton. It is not developed as a recreational area, it is on the outskirts of the city and borders a busy parkway, and it is hardly used by the majority of Newton residents.
3. I am absolutely sure that whatever Boston College decides to develop on the 17 acres will be environmentally sensitive to say the least. Moreover, from observing Boston College development and construction for the past 13 years, I am positive it will benefit not only the Boston College community but Newton residents in general. Many BC buildings, including the newly renovated McMullen Museum, are free and open to the public and many Newton residents enjoy intellectual and artistic life available on our campus.
4. The legal battle that Newton is going to start will be expensive. Our taxes are going up. This new endeavor will increase them even higher. This does not find approval by the vast majority of Newton residents I know.

This current situation will force me to begin campaigning against the current administration that brings in this awful possibility of a lawsuit.

Regards,

Nina Bogdanovsky

32 Walnut Hill Rd
Newton, MA 02459

October 10, 2019

Hand-delivered 25 October 2019

Dear Alice Ingerson -

I am writing in support of Mayor Fuller's proposed effort to acquire the 17.4 acres of Webster Woods by eminent domain from Boston College. It is my understanding that all other efforts have been exhausted and this is the last remaining option to protect the woods from development.

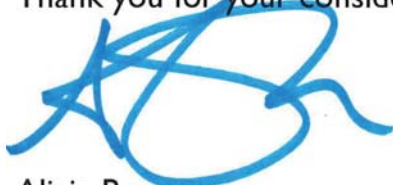
The Webster Woods is a unique parcel as it is the largest contiguous forest in Newton. It would be a huge loss to the environment if the trees were to be taken down. Given impending climate change and that dramatic loss of trees already occurring across the city due to climate change and gas leaks, the loss of trees here should be unacceptable. The only way to ensure the woods remain pristine is to have them controlled by the city.

I also understand that the funds the CPC would use to pay for the woods come from a CPA allocation that is to be used just for acquiring new open space. Thus, it would not impact funds that could be used for ongoing maintenance of open space already under the city's control. I was happy to learn this as several residents had raised a concern to me that open space preservation in their neighborhood might be negatively impacted by this purchase.

While I greatly appreciate the value to everyone in the city to save Webster Woods, I think that there should continue to be efforts made to share that message broadly and reassure residents that funds spent on this will not hold up renovation on open space in their neighborhood.

Lastly, the Save Webster Woods efforts have captured the attention of many young people in Newton. From simple acts like asking their parents' permission to put up a lawn sign up or attending a hike in the woods with their Girl Scout Troop, our youngest residents are paying attention. The loss of these woods would no doubt be heartbreaking to many of these young people. We owe it to them to save Webster Woods and pledge to work harder on climate change.

Thank you for your consideration.



Alicia Bowman

19 Chestnut Terrace

Alicia Bowman
19 Chestnut Terrace
Newton, MA 02459

From: Cindy Callaway <ccallaway083@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, October 25, 2019 11:55 AM
To: Alice Ingerson <aingerson@newtonma.gov>
Subject: Please Save Webster Woods!

Hi - Webster woods and specifically the vernal pool in Webster woods need to be saved.

I am so happy to hear that Mayor Fuller has pushed the eminent domain proposal, since Newton should have purchased the land when it was first offered to the city years ago. WE need to save this important ecological place! We have to make sure it remains as conservation land, and not lose more green space in our city.

Thanks for your support!

Cindy

Cindy Callaway
83 Grove Hill Ave
Newton, MA 02460

From: David Cash <dcash35@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, October 25, 2019 8:00 PM
To: Alice Ingerson <aingerson@newtonma.gov>
Subject: Support of Webster Woods Acquisition

Dear CPC,

I write to fully support Mayor Fuller's proposal to acquire the 17-acre portion of Webster Woods owned by Boston College (BC). The Community Preservation Act was created exactly for this situation – to provide the funds to protect and conserve valuable natural and open space resources for the public good.

The portion of Webster Woods under consideration has enormous ecosystem and recreational value, and its possible development by BC would bisect the largest contiguous forest in Newton, disrupting populations of flora and fauna that are rare in metro Boston.

I am not a religious person, but I find the obstruction by Boston College in relinquishing the property to be ironic, given the Catholic Church's growing concern about human impact on the environment, most recently articulated in Pope Francis' encyclical, *Laudato Si'*:

Regrettably, many efforts to seek concrete solutions to the environmental crisis have proved ineffective, not only because of powerful opposition but also because of a more general lack of interest. Obstructionist attitudes, even on the part of believers, can range from denial of the problem to indifference, nonchalant resignation or blind confidence in technical solutions. We require a new and universal solidarity. As the bishops of Southern Africa have stated: "Everyone's talents and involvement are needed to redress the damage caused by human abuse of God's creation". p. 5

The choice for Newton seems obvious – invest, through an already existing program that will not raise taxes – and invest in a property that will have innumerable benefits in perpetuity.

Sincerely,

David Cash
Former Commissioner, Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection

35 Bowen St.
Newton, MA 02459

David W. Cash, Ph.D.
(617) 794-9431 (cell)
dcash35@gmail.com

Hand-delivered 25 October 2019

October 9, 2019

Dear Newton Councilor,

I am writing in support of taking Webster Woods by eminent domain. Taking any land by eminent domain is an enormous step - but one that in this case I believe is warranted and necessary. Ensuring the preservation of this piece of green space should be a critical priority for the City of Newton.

Boston College has refused to allow a conservation restriction. Getting that assurance from BC would be the first best option in this situation, but unfortunately it seems not to be on the table. I believe this leaves eminent domain as the only remaining option.

The Boston College land parcel is in the middle of Webster Woods, sandwiched between City owned land and state owned land. Breaking up the Woods with development in this parcel would cause irreparable damage to animal habitats and would fundamentally change the character of the woods.

There's a vernal pool on the property (Bare Pond) that is the home of the spotted salamander, which is on the endangered species list. Coyotes also live on the property, and disruption to their habitat could mean that they move into the surrounding residential community.

I am frustrated that the City of Newton had the opportunity to purchase the parcel outright during the last administration and opted not to do so.

Losing the opportunity to preserve such a significant amount of green space would be a tragedy. Newton, the Garden City, is in danger of losing one of its largest gardens.

I urge you to support this action.

Thank you,



Cecilia Dunn
140 Sumner Street
Newton, MA 02459

From: Barb Nes <nesbarb@googlemail.com>
Sent: Friday, October 25, 2019 1:41 PM
To: Alice Ingerson <aingerson@newtonma.gov>
Cc: Barbara Nestle <nesbarb@googlemail.com>
Subject: Save our Webster Woods Please!!

Dear CPC team

We received this email address via the Friends of Webster Woods. We moved to Newton from London, UK 3 years ago because it is green, has parks, this amazing big woods, trains, and great schools. We have bought a house very close to Webster Woods so that our daughter can grow up near real nature and share the great woods experiences we both had growing up in Switzerland and Germany.

We would do anything to keep the gorgeous Webster Woods - the Webster Woods is what makes Newton Newton!! Coming from Europe, we cannot remotely understand how it can even be debated to deforest woods to build a university campus. In Switzerland we are planting trees, guard our forests and need public hearings/permit process for every tree we fell.

Please let us know how we can help the city to buy back this precious piece of land for the public interest and also to combat climate change locally. Please keep Newton green!

Many thanks for hearing us.

Best regards

Barbara and Frank Nestle
78 Leeson Lane
Newton MA 02459
617 870 1719

From: Jerry Reilly <jerreilly@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, October 25, 2019 11:42 AM
To: Alice Ingerson <aingerson@newtonma.gov>
Subject: Webster Woods

One of the prime missions of CPA funding is to preserve open space. The preservation of Webster Woods is the single biggest opportunity in Newton in a generation and the results would be enjoyed for many generations to come. This is a historic opportunity.

There are all kinds of valid concerns about this project – the city's current and projected fiscal deficits, the swamping of the CPA fund with one humongous project, legal issues about the appropriate use of eminent domain – but I want to take the long view for a moment.

The city has a page of wonderful historic city maps on its web site.

Check out the map from 1848. Most of the city was empty with a few scattered developments where some of today's village centers are and nothing else but open land in between.

Now move to 1886, a tremendous amount of that land in between the villages has been filled in. Now move through 1895, 1907, 1917, 1929 – with each passing of a decade, more and more undeveloped land disappears.

Today in 2019, for a very built out developed suburban town Newton still has a substantial amount of undeveloped natural land that is immensely appreciated by the populace- nearly all of it under public control. The Charles River riverfront was put under public control in the late 1800's and today it is one of most values natural resources in the city – everything from Nahanton Park, Hemlock Gorge, Lower Falls, Riverside, The Cove, etc.

Other pockets of undeveloped land are under city control – Edmands Park, Dolan Pond, Hammond Pond, Webster Woods (partially)

When you look at these old maps one thing becomes very clear. Once a piece of undeveloped natural land gets use for some kind of development – that's it. It's permanent. It's never coming back.

Most of the 17 acre parcel of land that was purchased by Boston College is part of the much larger 100+ acre of Webster Woods – one of the only and biggest section of undeveloped woods in the city of Newton.

It's always very easy to let a few acres go – we'll build some houses, a road, some commercial building. That's what we've been doing for a couple of hundred years. At this point though the remaining open land becomes a scarcer and scarcer, more valuable resource for all of us.

Sitting here in 2019, we all owe an enormous debt to the forward thinking folks who in the late 1800's put all out riverfront land under public control. I'm sure it was a controversial decision then but 150 years later we can enjoy the benefits every day.

Likewise today we have the opportunity to preserve those 17 acres, most of which is woods, part of the greater Webster Woods. If we do, 150 years from now our descendants will be enjoying a pocket of nature in a world that then will have far less of it. If we don't, in a very short time those 17 acres WILL be developed.

What you can see from all those historic maps is that once land gets developed it ain't never coming back.

Please vote to approve CPA funding for the preservation of Webster Woods in perpetuity. Your grandchildren's children will thank you for it.

--- Jerry Reilly
--- 12 Spring St
--- Newton Upper Falls

From: annie weiss <anniecweiss@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, October 25, 2019 6:44 PM
To: Alice Ingerson <aingerson@newtonma.gov>
Subject: Webster Woods

Dear Ms. Ingerson,

I am writing to implore you to support Mayor Fuller's proposal to acquire a 17-acre section in the middle of Webster Woods.

Webster Woods is a unique resource in the heart of Newton, and the only large parcel of woods in the greater Boston area that is accessible by public transportation. The scope and beauty of the woods, the rare absence of traffic noise, the natural animal habitats are worth protecting. During this time of rapid ecological degradation and climate crisis, the "Garden City" should take advantage of the readily available CPC funds to secure and protect this stunning land, and CO2 absorbing forests, for now and into the future.

Boston College has refused to place a conservation restriction on these lands, and refused to reveal its intentions for development. There are no laws in place that would prevent the college from cutting down thousands of trees and developing the heart of Webster Woods in any way they please, regardless of noise, traffic, visual or environmental impact.

I have lived in Newton for 20 years, and have often said "I'll never move as long as I can walk to the woods." The time I spend walking my with my dog and friends each week in Webster woods provides much-needed respite from the hectic pace, noise and clamor of daily life. The beneficial effects of forest and open space on mental and physical health have been well-documented, as has the importance of open space for a functioning and healthy eco-system. The protection of Webster Woods is of utmost importance to our property values, and to the livability and desirability of the Garden City.

Thank you for your consideration.
Annie Weiss

"The purpose of life is to live it, to taste experience to the utmost, to reach out eagerly and without fear for newer and richer experience." Eleanor Roosevelt

Annie Weiss, LICSW, CGP, FAGPA
53 Langley Rd, Suite 350
Newton Center, MA 02459
617-244-9009
annieweiss@aya.yale.edu
www.annieweisstherapy.net

Clinical Associate, McLean Hospital
Group Consultant, Brookline Community Mental Health Center
Certified Group Psychotherapist
Certified IFS Therapist

From: Pcwarchitects <pcwarchitects@aol.com>
Sent: Friday, October 25, 2019 4:54 PM
To: Alice Ingerson <aingerson@newtonma.gov>
Subject: Re: Webster Woods- Preservation of open space

Dear CPC members,

The woods have been a special place for our family for a generation. Here's a photo of the Safari birthday party in Webster Woods (a hunt for stuffed animals) in 1990.



Please vote to preserve Webster Woods for our children's children.

Current and future generations will thank you for your thoughtful stewardship.

Sincerely,

Pam Woodworth
Newton Resident

142 Elgin Street
Newton, MA, 02459

Sent from my iPhone

received by email 27 October 2019

An initial letter from the Friends of Webster Woods
is also attached to the proposal.

Dear Members of the Community Preservation Committee:

I write to you on behalf of the Friends of Webster Woods ("the Friends"). I serve as co-director of this group and have had the pleasure of meeting many of you during our tours of the woods. I served on the Mayor's Executive Advisory Committee for this initiative, and I also had the honor of serving on the CPC some time ago. During my term of service, the CPC purchased the Angino Farm and the land adjacent to the Crystal Lake bathhouse. As a Newton resident, I greatly enjoy these resources today and I am proud to know that I played a small role in preserving them.

If you vote in favor of Mayor Fuller's proposal to take the wooded land owned by Boston College, you will look back with similar pride upon that decision. This proposal offers a once in a generation opportunity to preserve a unique and treasured resource.

There are so many compelling aspects to this proposal. First, the amount of open space land that you have the opportunity to preserve-- 17 acres. Second, that this parcel is right in the middle of two larger tracts of public land, making it the largest contiguous tract of open space in Newton. Third, that the parcel contains valuable and fragile resources, including a vernal pool that is habitat for a spotted salamander. Fourth, that these woods are beloved by so many all across the city as a sanctuary for the quiet enjoyment of nature. (Note that Save Webster Woods signs can be seen all over Newton, and a map of petition signers shows support all across the city.)

Fifth, that this parcel is uniquely threatened. This is because Boston College owns this land, has the resources to intensively develop it, and as an educational institution has the legal right to override local zoning under the "Dover Amendment." That could mean potentially thousands of trees cut down, hills leveled, and land paved over.

And unfortunately, Boston College has made no commitment whatsoever to protect and preserve these woods.

The Friends recognize that the price is high--\$15.4 million. However, it is clear that the CPC does have the funds to afford this purchase, particularly if the purchase price is bonded. In fact, as we understand it, the CPC expenditures in recent years are under-allocated for open space when compared to the CPA 25% target for open space. And even with this expenditure, there will be resources still available for other open space purchases down the road, as well as affordable housing, parks, and historic preservation.

The Friends also pledges to help defray part of this purchase price by making \$200,000 available to the City. We will await the City's instructions on how and when to make this contribution; the contribution is available now.

We have reviewed the arguments against this proposal, and respectfully state that none of them are persuasive.

For example, Boston College has made much of the fact that the City had an opportunity to purchase all or a part of the land a few years ago and declined to do so. While we agree that it would have been preferable for the City to act then, this is not a reason for the City to repeat the same mistake and fail to action now. As I said in a recent op-ed in [The Boston Globe](#), "regrets don't matter; the woods do."

Boston College has also stated that this expenditure will take away funds for other needs, such as schools. Of course, as CPC members, you know that this is not true—CPC funds cannot be used for this purpose.

Finally, Boston College claims that it is unfair for the woods to be taken. The facts refute this claim. As BC states in a recent letter it sent to Newton residents, it bought the entire 25 acre parcel in 2016 for \$20 million. Under the Mayor's proposal, Boston College will receive \$15.4 million for 17 acres of wooded land in the back of the parcel—the least economically valuable part. Boston College will be left with 8 acres of extremely valuable land with frontage along Hammond Pond Parkway, plus all of the buildings, parking lots, and other improvements on the land, and will have paid a net price of a mere \$4.6 million for that (\$20 million minus \$15.4 million). It is very difficult to understand how that outcome is unfair to the college.

The bottom line is that this Newton voters approved a small surcharge on their tax bills to foster community preservation. An essential feature of a great community is to leave some land undeveloped, so that all can enjoy the natural beauty and quiet recreation they offer, not just now, but in perpetuity. As CPC members, you have the opportunity right here, right now to continue to preserve these woods, and strengthen the community of this garden city with this one vote. The Friends urges you in the strongest possible terms to seize this opportunity now, and we thank you for your careful attention to this proposal.

Ken Kimmell

On behalf of the Friends of Webster Woods

From: Katherine Howard <katherineh998@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, October 27, 2019 12:02 PM
To: Alice Ingerson <aingerson@newtonma.gov>
Subject: Please save Webster Woods!

Dear Community Preservation Committee members,

Please support the acquisition of the 17 acres! This is a critical opportunity, a once in a lifetime chance to save this jewel of open space and to preserve the larger expanse of contiguous conservation area. For once we can do something good for the planet!

I've been walking in these woods for 25 years and have many pleasant memories of walking there with my mother, marveling at the wilderness and wildlife so close to home. I've also been on many nature, vernal pool, and geology educational trips with Newton Conservators, marveling at the children taking it all in. The woods are an important resource to preserve for future generations.

Thank you for your efforts and for your support!
Katherine Howard
84 Fenwick Rd, Waban

From: Marian Glasgow <marianglasgow@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, October 28, 2019 5:15 PM
To: Alice Ingerson <aingerson@newtonma.gov>
Subject: Vote funding for Webster Woods

We must not lose this treasure!

Marian Glasgow
9 Laurel St
Newton, MA 02459

From: Jason Korb <jkorb@capstonecommunities.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 29, 2019 1:43 PM
To: Alice Ingerson <aingerson@newtonma.gov>
Subject: RE: Webster Woods CPA Proposal: Nov. 6 Public Hearing, Nov. 12 Working Session

Hi Alice,

I cannot attend the hearings, but wanted to convey my strongest support for the Webster Woods acquisition. The woods have such significant recreational and environmental importance to our family, the City and the entire region. While growing up, I have fond memories of walking the woods with my father, and I am now creating similar memories with my children. It is my hope that their children, and their children's children will also be able to have their own memories in this unspoiled woods. This type of acquisition is exactly the type of use for which CPA was created.

I highly encourage the CPC to vote favorably for this acquisition funding.

Best,

Jason Korb
21 Carver Road, Newton Highlands

From: Aedin <aedin.culhane@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 31, 2019 11:30 AM
To: Alice Ingerson <aingerson@newtonma.gov>
Cc: Barb Nes <nesbarb@googlemail.com>; Simon French <french.simon@gmail.com>
Subject: Supporting purchase of Webster Woods with CPA funds

Dear Alice

The city should have purchased Webster Woods when it was first offered it several years ago. I fully support the decision to acquire Webster Woods by eminent domain using Newton Community Preservation Program Funds. We need to maintain and expand green space in our city for recreation, protection of species and wildlife, our physical and mental health and also to mitigate air pollution and climate change.

Regards
Aedin Culhane
47, Glen Ave, Newton MA 02459

Sent by email to Newton CPC staff,
7 pm, 3 November 2019

Statement in favor of funding for acquisition of Webster Woods

From: Stephen J. Small
412 Parker St., Unit I
Newton, MA 02459

My family has lived in Newton since 1982.

From 1978-1982 I was an Attorney-Advisor in the Office of Chief Counsel at the Internal Revenue Service in Washington, DC, and I was the principal draftsman for the regulations under Section 170(h) of the Internal Revenue Code, allowing a federal income tax deduction for the donation of a conservation easement (“conservation restriction” in Massachusetts) to protect the conservation values of land, in perpetuity. I have been involved in hundreds of land protection and land conservation projects in Massachusetts, and around the country, for more than three decades.

I had the privilege of being enlisted by Alderman Baker, and others, to draft the conservation restriction on the Newton Commonwealth Golf Course, protecting that property in perpetuity for public outdoor recreation. I am a member of the Webster Woods Advisory Panel but I am delivering this statement on my own behalf, not on behalf of the Panel.

I do not believe *every* parcel of land should be protected against development. I strongly believe the Webster Woods parcel should be protected against any further development. I defer to the comments and studies done by the scientists – the flora and fauna people – for the more detailed analysis of the importance of the conservation values of the Webster Woods parcel, by itself, *without more*, but more particularly for its key location in the larger jigsaw puzzle of almost 200 acres of protected open space in the City of Newton. The fact that such a large parcel of “open space” still exists in the close-in metropolitan Boston area is remarkable.

My principal observation is not technical, and it is this. Once a piece of open space is gone, it is gone forever. The “analysis” is really as simple as that.

I want to share with you the following.

The Land Trust Alliance, which is the umbrella organization for the land conservation groups around the country, has an annual national conference, and the conference moves around the country each year, to different locations and regions. At one point, some decades ago, the annual conference was in Vermont, and Howard Dean was the governor. He came to the conference as our keynote speaker, and this (not a direct quote, but the gist) is what I remember he said: “One hundred years from now, the people of Vermont will likely not remember what we did for education or for health care or for public health and safety. But they will see, and be very thankful for, the open space we have protected in this State, for their benefit and for the benefit of generations to come.”

Thank you for your consideration. Newton should save this very important piece of land.

From: emily kidd <emilykidd8191@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, November 10, 2019 9:38 PM
To: Alice Ingerson <aingerson@newtonma.gov>
Subject: Webster Woods

Hello,

I am writing in support of Webster Woods in Newton, MA having a permanent conservation restriction.

Thank you

119 Elgin St
Newton,MA

Sent from my iPhone

CPC staff note: Upon receiving the explanation that the state CPA statute requires conservation restrictions on CPA-funded open space acquisitions, this writer affirmed her general support for the proposed acquisition. As of 11 November 2019, she had not submitted a reworded email.

From: Jennifer Y. Wong <jenniferywong@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 11, 2019 3:33 PM
To: Alice Ingerson <aingerson@newtonma.gov>
Cc: City Council <citycouncil@newtonma.gov>; Joe Liu <joeliu4@gmail.com>
Subject: Urgent - Webster Woods

Dear Alice:

My husband and I are proud residents and homeowners of 25 Wachusett Road in Chestnut Hill. We are professionals in our mid-thirties who moved to Chestnut Hill from New York City to escape the concrete jungle for parks, greenery, and a breath of fresh air. We moved to this zip code for all of the wonderful amenities of the neighborhood, first and foremost the Olmsted-designed streets flanked by generation-old trees and the irreplaceable Webster Woods a stone's throw away.

I am a real estate investment professional. Since I relocated to Boston, I have worked as a real estate investment professional at the \$41 billion Harvard University Endowment, Bain Capital, and now AEW Capital Management. I understand in great detail the inner workings of a university and how they think about land, expansion, and future growth, at great cost to neighborhoods and the environment for the sake of future income streams.

Boston College is a business, first and foremost. Their goal is to obtain more students (paying customers), and to grow their enrollment for future students and future donations (perpetual and exponential income streams). They would tear down all of Webster Woods to build a third campus if they could. We cannot be blinded to the fact that they are a business, looking to expand an existing facility and real estate footprint, masquerading behind their mission as an educational institution. At Harvard, the mantra is that it is a school attached to a \$41bn private equity fund. Would we allow a Carlyle, Bain, or Blackstone to develop prime conservation land? Absolutely not. Would we correct the mistakes of the past and buy it back, via eminent domain, if necessary? Absolutely.

I grew up within San Francisco, and my greatest childhood memories are of the times I had with my parents playing in Stern Grove, a large neighborhood park. To think a school could buy that land and develop it breaks my heart. Thankfully, the city of San Francisco was smarter than that. My husband and I worked hard and saved every dollar to be able to afford a house in *this* neighborhood, out of all neighborhoods in greater Boston. To know that we can protect this land for future generations means that we do everything in our power to do so TODAY, while we still can. We will look back and know that the most precious commodity is not another school building, or an assisted living facility. It is the trees, the ponds, the wildlife, and the ecosystem that can never be replicated.

Best,

Jennifer and Joseph Liu

--

Jennifer Y. Wong
m: 415.812.5570
e: jenniferywong@gmail.com

From: Diana Ceballos <dianaceb@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 11, 2019 6:14 PM
To: Alice Ingerson <aingerson@newtonma.gov>
Subject: Please Protect Webster Woods

Dear CPC team

We received this email address via the Friends of Webster Woods. We moved to Newton Center about 5 years ago because it is green, has parks, a lake, woods, bus and train access, and great schools. We live very close to Webster Woods, and we enjoy it on a weekly basis sometimes every day.

Please help us forever preserve Webster Woods - as it is a priceless lung and recreational heaven to this side of the big City. As you know, air pollution is often actually worse here than in many other areas in MA, and Webster Woods plays an irreplaceable role in controlling the innumerable health effects of air and noise pollution in Newton. We need a committed government to protect this land from being deforested.

Most sincerely,

Diana Ceballos and Isabela McConnell
31 Herrick Rd, Apt 1
Newton Center, MA 02459

From: bonniehcarter@aol.com <bonniehcarter@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, November 11, 2019 11:43 PM
To: Alice Ingerson <aingerson@newtonma.gov>
Subject: Save Webster Woods

November 11, 2019

Alice Ingerson
Community Preservation Committee Program Manager
Newton City Hall
1000 Commonwealth Avenue
Newton, MA 02459

Dear Alice:

I support the acquisition of Webster Woods with Community Preservation funds. In my view, this just the type of project that the Community Preservation Act was designed for. The reasons for acquiring the property were well laid out at the public hearing, and in the correspondence you have received.

Thank you for your presentation on the Community Preservation Act at the November 6 hearing. It was good to get the audience all "on the same page."

I was interested to hear BC VP Tom McKeady talk about how Boston College has been a good neighbor in Newton. I wish that they would continue to be a good neighbor and accept the City's offer of fair market value for the property.

Thank you for communicating my support to the CPC.

Bonnie (Elizabeth) Carter
177 Homer Street
Newton Centre, MA 02459

From: Rick Kovalcik <rick.kovalcik@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2019 9:07 AM
To: Alice Ingerson <aingerson@newtonma.gov>
Subject: Webster Woods

I just wanted to write to say that I applaud this efforts to preserve Webster Woods. In fact I would be in favor of increasing the "CPA" add-on from 1% to 2% of property tax to help with initiatives like this. I hope the CPC does the right thing and votes to fund this.

Best,

-Rick Kovalcik, 19 Chesley Road, Newton Centre

-RKOV
Rick Kovalcik
he/him/his
kovalcik@alum.mit.edu, rk@mit.edu, et al.
rick.kovalcik@gmail.com for google docs, etc.
+1-508-259-6819 (worldwide cell phone)



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS NEWTON

PO Box 610207 Newton, MA 02461 · 617-383-4598
Email: info@lwwnewton.org · Website: www.lwwnewton.org

November 12, 2019

hand-delivered at 8:30 pm, 12 November 2019,
at CPC public meeting but after CPC funding votes

Alice Ingerson
Community Preservation Committee Program Manager
Newton City Hall
1000 Commonwealth Avenue
Newton, MA 02459

Board of Directors

President

Marcia Johnson

Vice President

Ellen Grody

Treasurer

Andrea Kozinetz

Clerk

Theresa Fitzpatrick

Directors

Jennifer Abbott
Bonnie Carter
Alice Donisi-Feehan
Frieda Dweck
Sue Flicop
Lois Levin
Karen Manning
Lisa Mirabile
Linda Morrison
Sharyn Roberts

Dear Alice:

Volunteer readers from the League of Women Voters of Newton (LWVN) have reviewed the application for the use of Community Preservation Act (CPA) funds to pay for the proposed acquisition of Webster Woods by the City of Newton pursuant to an eminent domain taking.

LWVN is concerned about the process of using eminent domain to acquire Webster Woods. While the choice of the method of acquisition is not under the purview of the Community Preservation Committee (CPC), acquiring Webster Woods with CPA money signals acceptance of the decision to use this acquisition tool. We believe that a more open and transparent process would have been helpful to allay concerns on our Board and allow us to give a whole-hearted approval. Because this did not happen, we do have some reservations that the taking of this land by eminent domain without a full understanding by the public as to its necessity sets a problematic precedent.

Nevertheless, on balance most, but not all, of our Board members support this application and recommends that the committee support this proposal for the following reasons:

- Acquisition of Webster Woods for the preservation of conservation land aligns with LWV and Newton priorities for open space and recreation land that would benefit the community as a whole;
- It has widespread community support;
- This may be the last opportunity to acquire the land and it should not be missed.

Our readers and members of the Board did, however, express the following concerns regarding the proposal, which we request be addressed before the application is approved:

- Project costs, as described in the application, do not seem to adequately take into account: (i) the cost of a hostile taking and a lengthy legal battle with Boston College over the appraised value of the land, and (ii) the annual costs of maintaining Webster Woods.
- \$15.2 million of the \$15.9 million total costs will be paid for with CPA funds. We believe too large a proportion of the project costs are being funded by CPA dollars. Instead, CPA funds should be used to leverage a larger contribution from outside resources of funding, such as a private partnership or additional community contributions. Alternatively or in addition, the city should find additional pockets of money from its own revenue sources to pay for a portion of this project.
- We are concerned that using such a large amount of CPA funds will deplete the account for years to come and not leave room for the funding of other projects (particularly non-city sponsored projects or those in the affordable housing and recreation categories).

Overall: LWVN supports the acquisition of Webster Woods but would like to have a better understanding of why eminent domain has been determined to be the best method for the acquisition of the land, and see a more realistic estimate of the project costs and the use of more non-CPA dollars to fund the project.

Sincerely,



Marcia Johnson
President, LWVN

Sent by email Tuesday, November 12, 2019 5:36 PM

Alice E. Ingerson, Ph.D., Community Preservation Program Manager
Planning & Development Department, Newton City Hall,
1000 Commonwealth Ave., Newton, MA 02459

Dear Dr. Ingerson,

The decision to use the power of eminent domain to attempt to take Boston College's land at 300 Hammond Pond Parkway is ill-advised and not in the best interest of the City of Newton, Boston College, or either's stakeholders. I am writing to voice my opposition to the use of City funds, man-hours, and political capital on this endeavor for the following reasons:

1. It is not the best way for the City of Newton to preserve the environment.
2. It is not the best use of the Community Preservation Act.
3. It is a controversial use of governmental power that can and should be avoided.
4. It shows ill will to the University.

Preservation and conservation are noble goals and I, as an environmentally minded person in this time when climate emergency is rising in the national conscious, believe that more should be done to protect an environment where humans can prosper. Tens of millions of city dollars can be used in ways that are more beneficial to the environment than to keep 17 acres undeveloped. Investing in more renewable energy sources, construction of more energy efficient buildings and renovation of existing structures, more robust recycling programs, among many others would be a more effective use of city resources in the fight against global climate emergency.

The greater Boston area is one of the fastest growing regions in the United States. Our city's boom is not expected to abate in the near future. A part of this growth is a growth of our population. As more people call greater Boston home, housing prices have increased to unsustainably high rates. In Boston-adjacent cities like Newton options for low and middle-income residents are scant. The Community Preservation Act should be used to make the City of Newton a city that is available for all people, not just those that are lucky enough to be able to afford it.

In 2019 something that is at the fore of many civically minded Americans' minds is the continued breach of trust by our leaders. Consistent executive overreach in the federal government has reached unprecedented levels. Setting a tone in Newton that parallels this trend in any way would be troubling and would open the doors for less environmentally minded leaders here in Massachusetts and in the rest of the country to stretch the powers of their office. Preserving the land through amicable, cooperative, and democratic processes should be the priority.

Finally, Boston College has been a staple in the Cities of Newton and Boston. BC adds life to the cities with the presence of students, faculty, and staff, programs like the Neighborhood Center and Campus School expressly created for non-BC affiliated residents. It would be a shame to tarnish the close relationship Newton and Boston College share. The City of Newton

should work with Boston College to ensure the preservation of the woods without the use of eminent domain.

Thank you for your attention and consideration,

Shamus Miller
shamusmiller@gmail.com

93 Undine Road, Boston, MA 02135

From: Susan Servais <susan.servais@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 19, 2019 1:29 PM
To: Alice Ingerson <aingerson@newtonma.gov>; Ruthanne Fuller <ruthanne@ruthannefuller.com>;
Linda Plazonja <lplazonja@newtonma.gov>
Cc: R. Lisle Baker <lbaker@newtonma.gov>; Marc C. Laredo <mlaredo@newtonma.gov>; Rebecca
Walker Grossman <rwgrossman@newtonma.gov>
Subject: Re: Newton Community Preservation Program November-December News

Webster Woods by Eminent Domain. This is a great idea and I fully support it.
Thank you for your concern about preserving open spaces!

I think Joni Mitchell had it right:

They paved paradise
And put up a parking lot
With a pink hotel, a boutique
And a swinging hot spot

Don't it always seem to go
That you don't know what you've got til its gone
They paved paradise
And put up a parking lot

They took all the trees
And put 'em in a tree museum
And they charged the people
A dollar and a half to see 'em

No no no
Don't it always seem to go,
That you don't know what you've got
Til its gone
They paved paradise
And put up a parking lot

Thanks for your hard work!
Susan Servais

4 Garrison Street
Chestnut Hill, Ma 02467

From: ELAINE MURRAY <elainemurray@comcast.net>
Sent: Tuesday, November 19, 2019 3:00 PM
To: Alice Ingerson <aingerson@newtonma.gov>
Subject: Re: Newton Community Preservation Program November-December News

I strongly oppose Newton's taking of this land, which is owned by Boston College. The City had the opportunity to purchase the land a few years ago and declined. Now, the City wants to pay far less than the market rate for land that it doesn't need. Surely, the City has more compelling uses for its funds.

Elaine K. Murray
29 Baker Place
Newton Lower Falls, MA 02462