



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS NEWTON

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Community Preservation Committee Program Manager

Newton City Hall

1000 Commonwealth Avenue

Newton, MA 02459

Dear Lara,

The LWV Newton is pleased to endorse the CPC proposal for the Commonwealth Ave Carriageway project that will reconfigure the area between Lyons Field and the Mass Pike. It fits our positions of improving infrastructure for cyclists and pedestrians, and will increase greenspace in that edge of the City. The financial planning for the project looks firm to us. The request of \$390,000 is 7% of the total amount. In addition the City and MA DOT have committed funding.

We are not ready to provide support for the Grace Episcopal Church application for CPC funding \$1,433,000 (50% of the total funding) for the church tower, belfry, and spire restoration. The other 50% of the funding for the project, which is from other sources (Grace Episcopal Church member contributions and endowment, National Fund for Sacred Places, Massachusetts Historical Commission's Emergency MA Preservation Projects Fund, and private foundation support), has only been applied for, not secured. Until we see demonstrable commitment in the sharing of funding from a community outreach program, such as was recently completed for Farlow Park, and from those to whom requests are made, we will refrain from making a statement of support/non-support of the project.

Sincerely,

Marcia Johnson

Marcia Johnson

President, League of Women Voters, Newton