



Public Facilities Committee Report

City of Newton In City Council

Monday, September 13, 2021

Present: Councilors Leary (Chair), Laredo, Kelley, Kalis, and Crossley

Absent: Councilors Gentile, Norton Danberg

Also Present: Councilors Oliver, Wright and Albright

City Staff Present: Commissioner of Public Buildings Josh Morse, Chief Financial Officer Maureen Lemieux, Assistant Financial Planning & Analysis Manager Perry Rosenfield, Comptroller Sue Dzikowski, and Open Space Coordinator Luis Perez Demorizi

Referred to Public Facilities and Finance Committees

#349-21 Transfer \$181,550 to a Cheesecake Brook Bridge Repair Account

HER HONOR THE MAYOR requesting authorization to transfer the sum of one hundred eighty-one thousand five hundred and fifty dollars (\$181,550) from Acct #62A10498-579000 Stormwater Current Year Reserve to a Cheesecake Brook Bridge Repair Account.

Action: **Public Facilities Approved 5-0**

Note: Josh Morse, Commissioner of Public Buildings and Maureen Lemieux, Chief Financial Officer presented the request to transfer the sum of \$181,550 from Acct #62A10498-579000 Stormwater Current Year Reserve to a Cheesecake Brook Bridge Repair Account. Commissioner Morse explained the attached back-up, which included a cost break down for the temporary bridge that will replace the bridge that was damaged in a recent rain storm. Additionally, he explained that they are moving through this process quickly because the bridge is critically important for the F.A. Day community. Currently, students are being diverted to the north and south sides of the street and making their way around. This will be a temporary bridge while Public Buildings works with a number of different departments and groups for a permanent solution. Commissioner Morse explained that part of the permanent solution may be moving the bridge to another area. He also noted that once the permanent solution is in place, they will make a decision on what will be done with the temporary bridge. Ms. Lemieux explained that the long-term solution may take two to three years due to the multiple entities that may need to approve this project.

Councilors asked the following questions:

Q: What is the timeline for this project, if the funds are approved by the City Council?

A: Commissioner Morse explained that it should take approximately 3 weeks. He also explained that he has the structure in place for his on-call contractors to respond quickly and that is why the request is coming from the Public Buildings Department. The Department of Public Works and Parks, Recreation & Culture will also be involved in this project.

Q: Is the plan to put the temporary bridge in the same place the damaged bridge is now?

A: Commissioner Morse explained that it will be in the same location.

Q: Is the temporary bridge accessible?

A: Commissioner Morse explained that it can't be and that is part of the reason it will take two to three years to have a permanent solution.

Councilors made the following comments:

It is important to be aware of purchasing temporary structures and what that will mean for the future.

It was noted that the permanent bridge that will be accessible needs to be completed as soon as possible so that the bridge can be used by all.

Councilor Laredo motioned to approve which passed unanimously.

The Committee adjourned at 6:49 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Alison Leary, Chair



City of Newton, Massachusetts
Office of the Mayor

RUTHANNE FULLER
MAYOR

349-21
Telephone
(617) 796-1100

Telefax
(617) 796-1113

TDD
(617) 796-1089

E-mail
rfuller@newtonma.gov

September 8, 2021

RECEIVED
2021 SEP - 8 AM 11: 11
CITY CLERK
NEWTON, MA, 02459

Honorable City Council
Newton City Hall
1000 Commonwealth Avenue
Newton Centre, MA 02459

Councilors:

I respectfully submit a docket item to your Honorable Council requesting authorization to transfer the sum of \$181,550 from Acct # 62A10498-579000 Stormwater Current Year Reserve to a Cheesecake Brook Bridge Repair Account.

As you know, the Albermarle Foot Bridge, a key "route to school" for the F. A. Day students, was destroyed on August 19, 2021 when hit by a car during a localized flooding situation. The City and NPS administrators worked with all stakeholders to determine how best to move forward.

It was determined that we should purchase a steel framed 30' by 10' temporary pedestrian bridge to be constructed in the same place as the damaged bridge. This will restore critical pedestrian and bicycle access while the City works with the community and various stakeholders on the location, design and construction for the permanent fully accessible bridge.

As part of this project, we will also be conducting repairs to the footbridge at the end of Nevada Street.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Ruthanne Fuller
Mayor



CITY OF NEWTON, MASSACHUSETTS

PUBLIC BUILDINGS DEPARTMENT

52 ELLIOT STREET, NEWTON HIGHLANDS, MA 02461

Ruthanne Fuller, Mayor
Josh Morse
Building Commissioner

Telephone (617) 796-1600
Facsimile (617) 796-1601
TDD/tty # (617) 796-1608

September 7, 2021

Ruthanne Fuller, Mayor
Newton City Hall
1000 Commonwealth Avenue
Newton Centre, MA 02459

Re: Funding Request for the Replacement of the damaged Albemarle Road Footbridge & Re-decking of Nevada Street Footbridge

Dear Mayor Fuller:

The Public Buildings Department requests funding for the Replacement of the Damaged Albemarle Road Footbridge and the Re-Decking of the Nevada Street Footbridge. It is anticipated the cost for these projects will be \$181,550.

Sincerely,


Josh Morse
Public Buildings Commissioner

cc: Maureen Lemieux, Chief Financial Officer
Alex Valcarce, Deputy Buildings Commissioner
Jonathan Yeo, Chief Operating Officer

**Albemarle Road Footbridge Replacement &
Nevada Street Footbridge Re-Decking**

Summary of Project Costs

1. Demo of existing Albemarle Road Footbridge	\$ 6,000
2. New Temporary Bridge Purchase/Construction/installation	\$133,200
3. Replacement of Decking on Nevada Street Footbridge	\$ 25,830
4. Contingency	<u>\$ 16,520</u>
5. Total Project Funding Request	\$181,550

City of Newton

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Ruthanne Fuller

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

Mayor

1000 Commonwealth Avenue
Newton Centre, MA 02459-1449

September 8, 2021

Dear Councilors,

As you are aware the Albemarle pedestrian footbridge between Watertown and Crafts Streets was destroyed by a vehicle that was swept into the brook during a recent flooding event. This bridge is a critical walking path for students and residents attending area schools, the park, the fields, and the Gath pool. The proposed temporary bridge is the fastest solution to restore pedestrian access to the area.

In addition, the funding request from the Public Buildings Department includes monies to replace the deteriorated decking on the second footbridge located on Albemarle Road by Nevada Street. The Department of Public Works recently had a consultant look at this bridge and the bridge was deemed structurally sound; however, the consultant suggested that the decking be replaced.

The Department of Public Works is very supportive of the requests for funds for the temporary bridge solution and the new decking.

Regards,

James McGonagle
Commissioner of Public Works

James McGonagle
Commissioner

Telephone: (617) 796-1010 • Fax: (617) 796-1050 • jmcgonagle@newtonma.gov

Newton Parks, Recreation & Culture Department
246 Dudley Road, Newton, MA 02459
Office: (617) 796-1500
parks@newtonma.gov
Nicole Banks, Commissioner



September 8, 2021

Re: Cheesecake Brook Bridge Replacement at Albemarle

Dear Councilors,

This letter is to indicate the Parks, Recreation & Culture Department is in firm support of the funding request for the temporary bridge solution and installation of new decking for the Cheesecake Brook pedestrian bridges the Public Buildings department is requesting.

As you all may be aware, the pedestrian bridge at Albemarle between Watertown and Crafts Streets was impaired by a vehicle that was dragged through the brook after a recent storm. This bridge is an essential walking route for students and residents to access nearby schools and the wonderful Russ Halloran Sports & Recreation Complex, and Gath Pool. The proposed temporary bridge is the quickest route to restore access to the area's many recreational and educational amenities.

The temporary bridge solution will be a significant and well received improvement that will ensure safe pedestrian crossings over the brook for the park, pool, and schools.

Regards,

Nicole Banks
Commissioner
Parks, Recreation & Culture Department
City of Newton

N. E. L. Corporation

GENERAL CONTRACTOR
PO BOX 929•3 AJOOTIAN WAY, BLDG B•MIDDLETON, MA 01949
(978) 777-2085 • FAX (978) 777-2719

September 7, 2021

City of Newton
1000 Commonwealth Ave
Newton Centre, MA 02459-1449

Attention: Arthur Cabral

Reference: Contract No. C-3985
General Building Construction Repairs, Installation and Maintenance Services

Project: Revised Proposal - Albemarle Road Emergency Bridge Replacement

Dear Mr. Cabral,

NEL Corporation is pleased to submit a cost proposal in the amount of \$165,030.00 for the completion of the Albemarle Road Emergency Bridge Replacement Project. The cost proposal includes Middlesex County Prevailing Wage Rates.

Scope of Work:

Base Contract:

- Demo existing damaged pedestrian bridge and dispose
- Evaluate substructure and layout for new temporary pedestrian bridge
- Provide engineering for new temporary pedestrian bridge
- Install new substructure as needed and new temporary pedestrian bridge (steel frame, wood decking, and wood hand rail)
- Rework asphalt transition on each end
- Base Contract Total: \$108,950

Change Order #1:

- City of Newton to purchase temporary rental bridge
- Change Order #1 Total: \$30,250

Change Order #2:

- Remove timber decking and timber sleepers at 2nd Albemarle Rd pedestrian bridge location
- Replace-in-kind timber decking and timber sleepers at 2nd Albemarle Rd pedestrian bridge location
- Existing steel beams, fence, and asphalt approaches to remain
- Change Order #2 Total: \$25,830

Exclusions:

- Police details

N. E. L. Corporation

GENERAL CONTRACTOR
PO BOX 929•3 AJOOTIAN WAY, BLDG B•MIDDLETON, MA 01949
(978) 777-2085 • FAX (978) 777-2719

If you have any questions or need additional information, please feel free to contact me at
(978) 777-2085.

Very Truly Yours,
NEL Corporation

X  _____

Michael Galasso
Project Manager

Accepted By:

Arthur Cabral Project Specialist

Print Name & Title

Signature

Date



September 9, 2021

Re: Cheesecake Brook Pedestrian Bridges at Albemarle

Dear Councilors,

This letter is to confirm Newton Public Schools is in support of the funding request for the installation of a temporary pedestrian bridge over the Cheesecake Brook on Albemarle Road between Crafts and Watertown Streets. This temporary pedestrian bridge installation will replace the footbridge that was severely damaged during a recent storm. This bridge provides pedestrian and bike access to and from F.A. Day Middle School for hundreds of students each day. NPS also supports the funding needed to re-deck the walking surface of the pedestrian bridge near the intersection of Albemarle Road and Nevada Street.

Both of these projects are critical to maintaining pedestrian and bicycle access along Albemarle Road and to quickly restoring pedestrian access to F.A Day Middle School, Albemarle park and fields, the Gath Pool and other area amenities.

Sincerely,

Liam T. Hurley
Newton Public Schools
Assistant Superintendent & Chief Financial and Administrative Officer

Cc: David Fleishman
Jackie Mann