



Ruthanne Fuller
Mayor

City of Newton, Massachusetts
Office of the Mayor

Telephone
(617) 796-1100
Fax
(617) 796-1113
TDD/TTY
(617) 796-1089
Email
rfuller@newtonma.gov

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**Newton ARPA Investment
Parks & Conservation Trail and
Accessible Pathway Improvements - \$150,000**

The COVID-19 pandemic, with our residents' accompanying thirst for being outdoors, strengthened our conviction of the importance of our City's parks and conservation lands.

Many residents are enjoying these areas in all seasons by walking trails and pathways. While accessibility improvements in our parks are underway with playground surfacing upgrades citywide, with new accessible swimming equipment at Crystal Lake and our doubling of the Conservation Land improvements FY2022 budget from \$25,000 to \$50,000, we still have much more to do.

I have decided to deploy \$150,000 in APRA funds to speed up our renovations of trails and paths to improve their condition and accessibility.

One example of an accessible pathway project we can expedite is at Lyons Field in Auburndale. The City will build a path to the baseball diamond seating and concession stand area that sits at the bottom of a steep hill so everyone, regardless of mobility and sight challenges, can enjoy a game.