



CITY OF NEWBURYPORT
OFFICE OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT
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MEMORANDUM

TO: Newburyport City Council

FROM: Andrew R. Port, Director of Planning & Development

CC: Sean R. Reardon, Mayor
Andrew Levine, Chief of Staff

RE: Approval for Gift Acceptances – Site Amenities for Market Landing Park Expansion Project

DATE: November 27, 2023

As you know, the Council approved gap funding for construction of the Market Landing Park Expansion project earlier this year. This project is now under construction using funding from various sources, including but not limited to two substantial state grants (*i.e. P.A.R.C. and MassTrails*) totaling \$800,000. Since available project funding for the “bones” of new park space does not cover the cost of various site amenities, additional local fundraising was necessary. As directed by the Council, we are now returning to request your acceptance of these very generous gifts provided by well-known local institutions. They are as follows:

| <u>Donor</u> | <u>Amount</u> | <u>Purpose</u> |
|---------------------------------|---------------|--|
| Mary Alice Arakelian Foundation | \$200,000 | Site Amenities for Market Landing Park |
| Institution for Savings | \$50,000 | Site Amenities for Market Landing Park |
| Newburyport Bank | \$40,000 | Site Amenities for Market Landing Park |

We request your timely acceptance of the attached Gift Acceptance Orders, representing substantial contributions by three well-known and reputable local institutions, all for the purchase of remaining site amenities called for in Sasaki’s approved design plans, including trellis swings, benches, picnic tables, hammocks, and additional Adirondack chairs for the expansive new lawn areas between the boardwalk/berm and new bike path “spine.” Standard bronze plaques will be installed in the general vicinity of these site amenities as recognition for these generous contributions to the quality and public enjoyment of one of Newburyport’s most prized community spaces – our central waterfront. A primary project plaque (*typical*) to be located along the new shared use path will recognize core construction funding for the project (*e.g. City Council, Community Preservation Committee, P.A.R.C. and MassTrails grant programs*).

Having these gifts accepted by the end of the calendar year should leave sufficient time for approval of associated contractor Change Orders, purchases from applicable vendors, and installation of these new amenities by Spring 2024, in time for opening of the new park wings for public use. Thank you for your consideration.