



COMMUNITY PRESERVATION APPLICATION FOR FUNDING

City of Newburyport
Community Preservation Committee

Applications for funding are due by **Thursday, February 6, 2020 at 4:00 p.m.** with the Community Preservation Committee, c/o Office of Planning and Development, City Hall, 60 Pleasant St., Newburyport MA 01950.

Application Instructions:

Applicants should file ten (10) paper copies and one electronic copy of the completed application and all accompanying documents.

Applications should be stapled or clipped. Bound applications are not required.

Please be mindful of extraneous paper.

PROJECT NAME: Bartlet Mall Historic Restoration – Northwest Corner Improvements

PROJECT ADDRESS: 149 High Street, Newburyport, MA 01950

MAP/LOT: 35-160

APPLICANT NAME: City of Newburyport Parks Department & Commission

(Group or Committee Affiliation)

CONTACT PERSON: Lisë Reid

TELEPHONE/FAX NO.: 978-465-4462

ADDRESS: 60 Pleasant Street
Newburyport, MA 01950

EMAIL: lreid@cityofnewburyport.com

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION CATEGORY:

(Please check all that apply)

- Open Space**
- Historic Resource**
- Affordable Housing***
- Recreation**

* Applicants seeking Affordable Housing funds must attend a Newburyport Affordable Housing Trust meeting to review and discuss their application. This review must occur prior to the Community Preservation Committee deliberations.

The Committee may require, as a condition for funding, that the applicant grant to the City or other authorized grantee certain restrictions, including: preservation restrictions on rehabilitated or acquired historic resources, conservation restrictions on preserved or acquired lands, and deed restrictions on affordable housing projects. If applicable, the restriction shall be recorded at the Southern Essex Registry of Deeds.

PROJECT SUMMARY: Provide a description of the Project, including the property involved and its proposed use.

The Bartlet Mall Park Restoration project is a phased project that will restore, preserve and protect the historic integrity of Bartlet Mall according to the original plans of landscape architect Charles Eliot. Known as the “Ancient Commons” as Eliot called it, the Bartlet Mall, as it is now known, was the center of the community since the landing in 1635. As a Common standing at the highest point overlooking the busy Merrimac River waterfront, the Common became the industrial center of Newburyport. As the Common fell into disrepair, the Mall Improvement Association hired Charles Eliot to improve the Common and the remains of those improvements are what we enjoy today. Our goals are to restore the Bartlet Mall to what existed in 1890 and to restore the Essex County Courthouse to its 1804 form as designed by Charles Bulfinch, the most noted architect of his time.

The portions of work for which we currently seek funding are indicated in the list below by asterisks and bold type. The project as a whole includes:

- Cleaning the water in Frog Pond;
- Re-grading the steep slopes;
- Clearing vegetation from the water’s edge and define a broad beach of local sandy gravel around the pond as it was historically;
- Renovating and replacing walkways within the park to make them more accessible;
- Restoring the precision of Eliot’s pattern-centered tree planting plan:
 - planting native trees with a high canopy;
 - pruning trees to raise the canopy, and removing hazardous and invasive trees, both of which pose a threat to the aesthetic integrity and landscape health of park and the safety of its users;
 - provide a lesser tree allee along Pond Street in accordance with Eliot’s first plan;
- *** Restoring the historic driveway access to Frog Pond from Auburn Street;**
- *** Returning the pedestrian promenade with tree allee to its original splendor extending the promenade to Auburn Street;**
- *** Renovating the play area (today’s renovation of the playground located there will create a fully-inclusive recreational space);**
- *** Finishing construction begun in 1887 by the Mall Improvement Association to form steep slopes at the northwest corner of the park to support a raised recreational area;**
- Renovating the Swan Fountain;
- Replacing the Taggard Memorial at the northwest corner of the park;
- The project also includes returning the Essex County Courthouse (the longest continuously operating courthouse in the nation), located on the edge of the park, to its original exterior architecture as designed by Charles Bullfinch and erected in 1804.

PUBLIC BENEFIT: Describe in detail the benefits Newburyport will receive from the Project and how the Project fulfills the Community Preservation Committee’s Project Evaluation Criteria.

Bartlet Mall Park is the City of Newburyport’s most visually prominent park. Centrally located on High Street at one of the main gateways to downtown, the Park is an easy walk from the central business district, as well as a number of residential neighborhoods and schools. It provides a prime destination for runners, strollers, and dog walkers. The Park plays a major role in hosting annual festivals and other

cultural events. The National Register of Historic Places includes the Bartlet Mall Park and the Essex Superior Courthouse, which overlooks the park's Frog Pond, the aesthetic and recreational centerpiece of Bartlet Mall Park.

The project supports the City's Open Space and Recreation Plan in the following ways:

- Goal 1: "Protect lands of public conservation and recreational interest including the city's defining scenic heritage landscapes . . ." The project helps to "enhance scenic byways," as it supports restoration of this highly visible, historic park along High Street.
- Goal 2, "Maintain a high quality of parks and recreation areas . . ."
 - Action 2.2 Continue implementation of maintenance and capital improvements plan for. . . Bartlet Mall . . .
 - removes hazardous and invasive trees
 - Action 2.36 addresses this goal's objective to "contain and eliminate invasive plant species" replacing those species with a more appropriate trees.
- Goal 3: Improve access to, connections between, and awareness of public open space and recreation areas.

The project supports the City's 2017 Master Plan in the following ways:

- Supports Master Plan Section D: Newburyport's Cultural, Historical & Natural Heritage Resource Goals, which "work to preserve the City's historic and cultural resources; to protect linkages between the City's history and contemporary life; to enhance the community's self-appreciation; to strengthen the sense of community; to educate the City's youth; and to protect Newburyport's special character."
 - Historic preservation of the park and courthouse are at the core of this project as we return the park renowned landscape architect Charles Elliot's original vision and the Essex County Superior Courthouse to Charles Bullfinch's original design.
 - Renovation of the recreation space in the northwest corner of the park will include elements that bring history alive by providing children, families and all visitors with connections to the park's past.
 - Renovation of the northwest corner will restore the beauty of the Bartlet Mall, thereby helping protect Newburyport's special character.
- The plan points out "without its urban forest landscape Newburyport would be a very different place." The project supports preservation of the downtown's urban landscape;
- Supports the goal to "encourage the community to navigate the City on foot" by removing accessibility barriers to the popular pathways at the Mall.

Additionally, this Park is part of the Essex Coastal Scenic Byway (ECSB), and as such may be able to leverage federal funding by conducting this type of work.

CONTROL OF SITE: Indicate whether the applicant owns or has a purchase agreement for the Project site. If the property is under agreement, include a description of the agreement and the timing and conditions. If the applicant does not have site control, explain.

The City of Newburyport, applicant, owns the park. The park is under the jurisdiction of the Parks

Commission. The Essex County Courthouse is owned by the Commonwealth of MA. The City will work with the State to coordinate historic restoration of that structure.

FEASIBILITY: List all steps that may be required for completion of the Project, such as environmental assessment, zoning or other approvals, agreement on terms of any required conservation, affordability or historic preservation restrictions, and any other known issues. For projects that may impact abutters or the neighborhood, describe support or objections from those affected.

The project will require approval from the Conservation Commission and from the State, as the Courthouse owner, when we embark on the Courthouse restoration phase of the project.

PROJECT TIMELINE: Describe the anticipated steps or phases for completion of the Project. Demonstrate whether the Project will be ready to proceed in the coming fiscal year.

Pending approval of grant funding our timeline would be:

Additional fundraising for playground..... Ongoing
 Design-engineering Winter 2021
 Sealed bid for slope & driveway construction..... February-March 2021
 Construction of slopes & driveway March-June 2021
 Playground Construction June 2021 (pending funding)

FUNDING:

A. **Amount of Newburyport Community Preservation Funding Requested:**
 \$ 100,000

B. **Other Sources of Funding Available:** If funding from other sources may be available for the Project, please complete the following table:

SOURCE OF FUNDING	AMOUNT REQUESTED	STATUS (COMMITTED Y/N IF NOT-WHEN)	CONTINGENT ON CP FUNDS (Y/N)
The Mayor Gayden W. Morrill Charitable Foundation	77,218	Y	N

ATTACHMENTS:

Include the following with ALL copies of the application:

- Assessor's map showing location of the Project
- Photographs
- Recent written estimates of cost with detailed scope of work
- Proposed oversight and management plan for the Project
- If the project involves public property, provide verification that the applicable public agency or department supports the project as presented and will oversee the project if funded. (**Applicable agency is applicant**)
- Historic resources include buildings, structures, vessel real properties, documents or artifacts that are listed or eligible for listing on the state register of historic place or determined to be significant in the history, archeology, architecture or culture of the city by the local historic preservation commission. If the project involves a historic resource, please provide evidence (date of listing on the state register or a letter from the Newburyport Historical Commission confirming its determination of significance) with the application that it meets these criteria

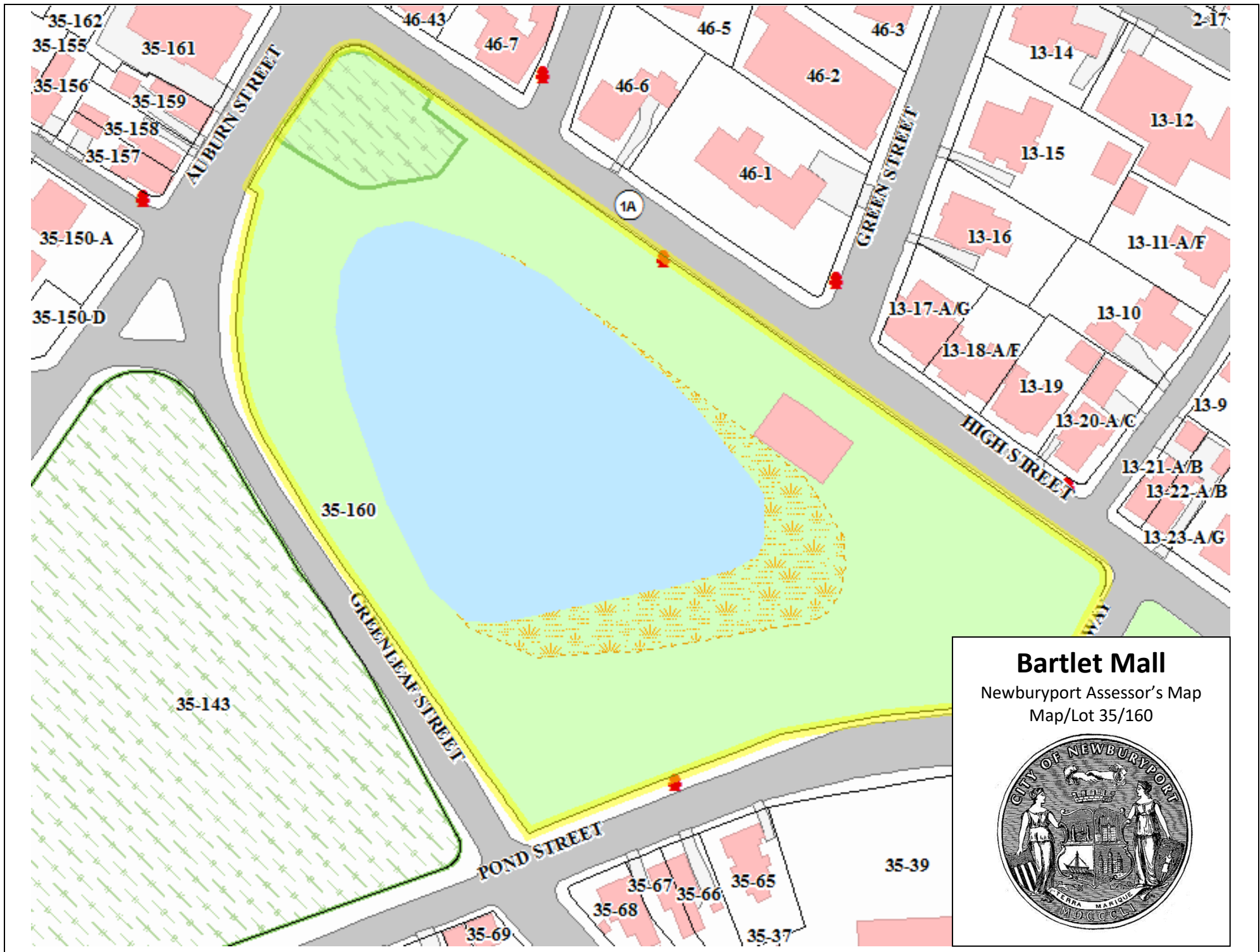
Include the following, if applicable and available:

- Architectural plans and specifications, for new construction or rehabilitation
- Maps, renderings, site plans
- Historic structures report, existing conditions report
- Names and addresses of project architects, contractors and consultants
- Budgets
- Letters of Support

Attach additional sheets as necessary to answer all questions.

YOU MAY BE REQUESTED TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.

For questions contact: Office of Planning and Development
Newburyport City Hall
planning@cityofnewburyport.com
(978) 465-4400



Bartlet Mall

Newburyport Assessor's Map
Map/Lot 35/160



BARTLET MALL RESTORATION ESTIMATED COSTS
NORTHWEST CORNER
2/4/2020

item	Amount
DESIGN ENGINEERING	\$ 40,000.00
Permitting, existing conditions plan, design, bid specs, bid & construction administration	
GENERAL CONDITIONS	\$ 26,000.00
Site Prep & Mobilization: Cordon off site, signage, move existing equipment (bike racks, power pole, playground equipment & edging, picnic tables & benches	\$ 18,000.00
Remove and dispose of organic material	\$ 3,000.00
Silt fence & erosion Control	\$ 5,000.00
SLOPE & DRIVE CONSTRUCTION	\$ 71,800.00
Stockpile topsoil, regrade earth and compact per plans; Install topsoil on slopes	\$ 25,000.00
Install underground electrical as indicated for outlets and lighting	\$ 5,000.00
Hydro seed slopes	\$ 2,000.00
Install new lighting as indicated. (Allowance)	\$ 10,000.00
Install 4 new signs about historic restoration (signs by owner)	\$ 2,000.00
Install 66 LF of new (antique) curbing where missing along Auburn street	\$ 3,000.00
Pave new street to frog pond (2,080 SF)	\$ 20,800.00
Remove granite boulders and 12 granite steps with railings to location directed	\$ 4,000.00
PLAYGROUND REPLACEMENT	\$413,354.00
Playground safety surfacing (by owner)	\$87,332.00
New inclusive playground equipment (by owner)	\$ 210,141.00
Playground equipment & surfacing installation	\$ 115,881.00
SUBTOTAL	\$ 551,154.00
CONTINGENCY	\$ 55,115.40
TOTAL	\$ 606,269.40



M.E. O'BRIEN & SONS, INC.
 17 Trotter Drive - P O Box 718 / Medway MA 02053
 508-359-4200 (phone) / 508-533-6342 (fax)
SDO Certified WBE (MA Only)

QUOTATION

Date: February 1, 2019

Page 1 of 2

Job: Bartlett Mall

Location: Newburyport, MA

Salesman: Andrew C. Berger, CPSI / jaf (Andy_Berger@obrienandsons.com)

Attention: Lisë Reid – Parks & Rec / lreid@cityofnewburyport.com

We are pleased to offer our quotation on the following for the above subject job:

<u>QTY</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
1 Ea.	<u>Play Equipment by Landscape Structures, Inc.</u> Quote #MEO19017 Custom Designed Play Equipment as detailed and shown in 2D layout and 3D color renderings	\$199,640.00
	Less MHEC B14 Discount	- 9,499.00
	Total Furnished and Delivered	\$190,141.00
1 Ea.	Allowance for custom entrance sign and historical panels and equipment – TBD	\$20,000.00
	<u>Surface America – PlayBound Poured-In-Place</u>	\$91,928.00
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Materials and installation of rubber only. • Sub-base is by others. • 5,874± square feet. • Combination 1-3/4" thick (1,030 sq/ft), 3" thick (2,969 sq/ft) and 3-1/2" thick (1,875 sq/ft) system. Thicknesses are subject to a nominal variation. • Top surface 50% black, 50% standard color, speckled mix. (Simple graphics per email-wave pattern). • Standard aromatic binder is included. • If any percentage of sky blue, royal blue, light gray, dark gray or teal are included aliphatic binder is required and price will increase by \$1.25 per sq/ft. • Teal, yellow, purple and primary red are custom colors. If used in more than 25% of top surface, additional \$0.50 per sq/ft will be added. • If installation is included, please note the following: Prevailing wages are included. Installation is to take place over a prepared sub-base by others. Installation lead-time is to be determined and is weather dependent. Site security is by others. M.E. O'Brien & Sons and Surface America will NOT be responsible for repairs if surfacing is walked on or otherwise disturbed prior to curing. 	
	Less MHEC B14 Discount	- 4,596.00
	Total Furnished, Delivered and Poured On-Site	\$87,332.00

Re: Bartlett Mall
Newburyport, MA
February 1, 2019

<u>QTY</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
	<u>Installation – Prevailing Wages</u>	
	• Excavate 5,874 sq/ft ± and remove offsite.	\$15,566.00
	• Supply and install sub-base and preparation for Poured-in-Place.	\$19,090.00
	• Installation of all play equipment as shown in plans and renderings.	\$75,450.00
	• Estimated installation of custom entrance sign, historical panels and play equipment (custom).	\$5,775.00

NOTE: Installation pricing is to cover prevailing wages per scope noted above. If prevailing wages DO NOT apply we can re-quote as required.

****PLEASE READ – IMPORTANT NOTES – PLEASE READ****

- Contractor/Customer is responsible for quantity, color, and product confirmation.
- Prices based on quantities listed. Any change to quantities may impact prices quoted.
- M.E. O’Brien & Sons is NOT responsible for plan take-offs. All quantities, square footages, thicknesses, etc. are the responsibility of the purchaser. Confirm and double check quantities quoted. It is the responsibility of the purchaser to approve/purchase items “per plan”.
- Prices are quoted for 2019, are firm for 30 days only and are subject to review thereafter.
- Prices are for materials only unless otherwise noted.
- Prices do NOT include off-loading, lift-gate (lift-gate is an additional charge) or inside delivery.
- Prices do NOT include sales tax.
- If installation is included, M.E. O’Brien & Sons is NOT responsible for buried underground hazards including, but not limited to: ledge, unsuitable bearing soils, unmarked utilities, boulders, construction debris and any other conditions beyond our control. Additional cost will be required to rectify these situations.
- Standard manufacturer's design, colors, specifications, and construction apply.
- If ordered, inspect entire delivery carefully, making note on delivery receipt of ANY damage so a freight claim can be filed if damage is discovered after opening package(s).
- Retainage does not apply.
- Returns must be made within 30 calendar days of receipt of order. Customer is responsible for re-stocking fee plus shipping charges (to and from) for all returned items. Custom products and surfacing products are NOT returnable.
- Our terms are: to be arranged.
- Allow 5 to 10 weeks for delivery of materials after receipt of order and architectural approval if required. Installation to take place as soon as possible after receipt of materials and according to installer’s schedule.

*If we can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us.
Thank you!*

**OVERSIGHT AND MANAGEMENT PLAN
BARTLET MALL HISTORIC RESTORATION PROJECT
Newburyport, Massachusetts**



Project Identification

Project Name: Bartlet Mall Historic Restoration

Start Date: September 2016

End Date: TBD

Project Manager: Lisë Reid, Parks Director

Project Background & Description

Bartlet Mall Park is the City of Newburyport's most visually prominent park. Centrally located on High Street at one of the main gateways to downtown, the Park is an easy walk from the central business district, as well as a number of residential neighborhoods and schools. It provides a prime destination for runners, strollers, and dog walkers. The Park plays a major role in hosting annual festivals and other cultural events. The National Register of Historic Places includes the Bartlet Mall Park and the Essex Superior Courthouse, which overlooks the park's Frog Pond, the aesthetic and recreational centerpiece of Bartlet Mall Park.

The Bartlet Mall Park Restoration project is a phased project that will restore, preserve and protect the historic integrity of Bartlet Mall according to the original plans of landscape architect Charles Eliot. Known as the "Ancient Commons" as Eliot called it, the Bartlet Mall, as it is now known, was the center of the community since the landing in 1635. As a Common standing at the highest point overlooking the busy Merrimac River waterfront, the Common became the industrial center of Newburyport. As the Common fell into disrepair, the Mall Improvement Association hired Charles Eliot to improve the Common and the remains of those improvements are what we enjoy today. Our goals are to restore the Bartlet Mall to what existed in 1890 and to restore the Essex County Courthouse to its 1804 form as designed by Charles Bulfinch, the most noted architect of his time.

Project Management

MANAGEMENT TEAM

Parks Director Lisë Reid has extensive experience in project management of this nature including the renovation of the High School Stadium, the new baseball field and the Chery Hill Soccer Fields.

Michael Hennessey. Mike works as Parks Manager for Newburyport. He has worked in his current position for the city since 2016, and has more than 25 years of private sector experience in landscape and hardscape design, construction and maintenance.



Newburyport City Hall
60 Pleasant Street, PO Box 550
Newburyport, MA 01950
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FAX 978.465.4452
parks@cityofnewburyport.com

PERMITTING

Required permits include Notice of Intent with the Newburyport Conservation Commission.

PUBLIC BID COORDINATION

The project team will coordinate a pre-bid site meeting for all interested bidders. Upon the submission of construction bids, the team will review all proposals and identify the lowest responsible bidder.

Product: Advertisement in the Central Register
Provision of prevailing wage rate documents
Pre-bid site meeting

CONSTRUCTION ADMINISTRATION

Parks Manager Michael Hennessey will review product and material submissions, and will act as site supervisor through all phases of the project on a daily basis.

Parks Director Lisë Reid will review contractor invoices, hold regular project meetings and document progress through photographs and meetings notes.

Scope of Work

The project includes multiple phases to address the following scope of work:

- Cleaning the water in Frog Pond;
- Re-grading the steep slopes;
- Clearing vegetation from the water's edge and define a broad beach of local sandy gravel around the pond as it was historically;
- Renovating and replacing walkways within the park to make them more accessible;
- Restoring the precision of Eliot's pattern-centered tree planting plan:
 - planting native trees with a high canopy;
 - pruning trees to raise the canopy, and removing hazardous and invasive trees, both of which pose a threat to the aesthetic integrity and landscape health of park and the safety of its users;
 - provide a lesser tree allee along Pond Street in accordance with Eliot's first plan;
- Restoring the historic driveway access to Frog Pond from Auburn Street;
- Returning the pedestrian promenade with tree allee to its original splendor extending the promenade to Auburn Street;
- Renovating the play area (today's renovation of the playground located there will create a fully-inclusive recreational space);
- Finishing construction begun in 1887 by the Mall Improvement Association to form steep slopes at the northwest corner of the park to support a raised recreational area;
- Renovating the Swan Fountain;



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- Replacing the Taggard Memorial at the northwest corner of the park;
- Returning the Essex County Courthouse (the longest continuously operating courthouse in the nation), located on the edge of the park, to its original exterior architecture as designed by Charles Bullfinch and erected in 1804.

Project Progress

As of January 2020 the following steps have been taken toward completion of the Bartlet Mall Historic Restoration Project

- Frog Pond cleanup is ongoing;
- Repaired a section of the southern slope representing 16.88% of total needed repair;
- Initiated removal of hazardous and invasive trees in 2017 and will continue that effort according to the approved three-year tree management plan;
- We are now mowing the slopes, which will aid our efforts to improve the turf quality;
- Purchased a slope mower in 2019 and now regularly mow slopes to encourage healthy turf;
- We worked on cleaning up the pond edge by removing invasive weeds near the courthouse and are in the process of permitting with the Conservation Commission for installation of the sandy beach;
- The Newburyport Parks Conservancy has \$7,000 toward Swan Fountain restoration and we have recently been granted a Community Preservation Act award of \$20,000 to investigate why the fountain seems to be shifting on its foundation and develop a plan to stabilize it or create a new foundation to support the restored fountain;
- A local developer has renovated the basketball court for us.
- An RFP is being issued to secure design-engineering services for restoration of the northwest corner which includes:
 - Restoring the historic driveway access to Frog Pond from Auburn Street;
 - Returning the pedestrian promenade with tree allee to its original splendor extending the promenade to Auburn Street;
 - Renovating the play area (today's renovation of the playground located there will create a fully-inclusive recreational space);
 - Finishing construction begun in 1887 by the Mall Improvement Association to form steep slopes at the northwest corner of the park to support a raised recreational area;
- Fundraising through grants and private donations is ongoing.

Project Timeline

The following is our suggested phased approach to this project. Based on funding availability, the phased tasks may not necessarily take place in the order listed below, i.e. portions of Phase III may take place before Phase I or II is complete, etc.



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parks@cityofnewburyport.com

PHASE I

- Water quality cleanup (currently underway)
- Repair damage to the grass banks (in progress, 16.88% complete)
- Mow grassy slopes to achieve a manicured appearance (complete, ongoing)
- Improve the turf quality on slopes (in progress)
- Clear vegetation from water's edge (almost complete)
- Define a broad beach of local sandy gravel around the pond as it was historically

PHASE II

- Replace asphalt walkways and renovate stone walkways to improve accessibility, spring 2020
- Prune and plant trees according to the original tree planting plan to restore historically intended views clear across the pond (in progress)
- Reinstall allée of elms on the 2nd level of the Mall
- Extend High Street Promenade to Auburn Street
- Renovate and reconfigure basketball court and play area

PHASE III

- Restore Swan Fountain
- Restore Taggard Fountain, positioning it in the High Street-Auburn Street corner of the park



BARTLET MALL HISTORIC RESTORATION PROJECT NW CORNER IMPROVEMENTS – PHOTOS



This page and following show artists' renderings of proposed equipment layout for new, inclusive playground at Bartlet Mall.

Design courtesy of Landscape Structures Inc. and O'Brien & Sons



FOR A BETTER TOMORROW
WE PLAY TODAY
shapedbyplay.com

Proudly presented by:
ANDY BERGER



BARTLET MALL HISTORIC RESTORATION PROJECT NW CORNER IMPROVEMENTS – PHOTOS



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ELEMENTS FOR A GREAT OUTDOORS

BARTLET MALL HISTORIC RESTORATION PROJECT

NW CORNER IMPROVEMENTS – PHOTOS



The current stairs and eroding walkway present accessibility barriers to lower levels of Bartlet Mall and will be replaced with an ADA compliant drive depicted below.



Architect’s rendering of proposed improvements to the northwest corner of the Bartlet Mall.

Rendering by Rob Leanna



The asphalt basketball court at Bartlet Mall is badly cracked and uneven rendering it an eyesore, a hazard as a play surface, a barrier to accessing the park and nearly unusable for playing basketball.

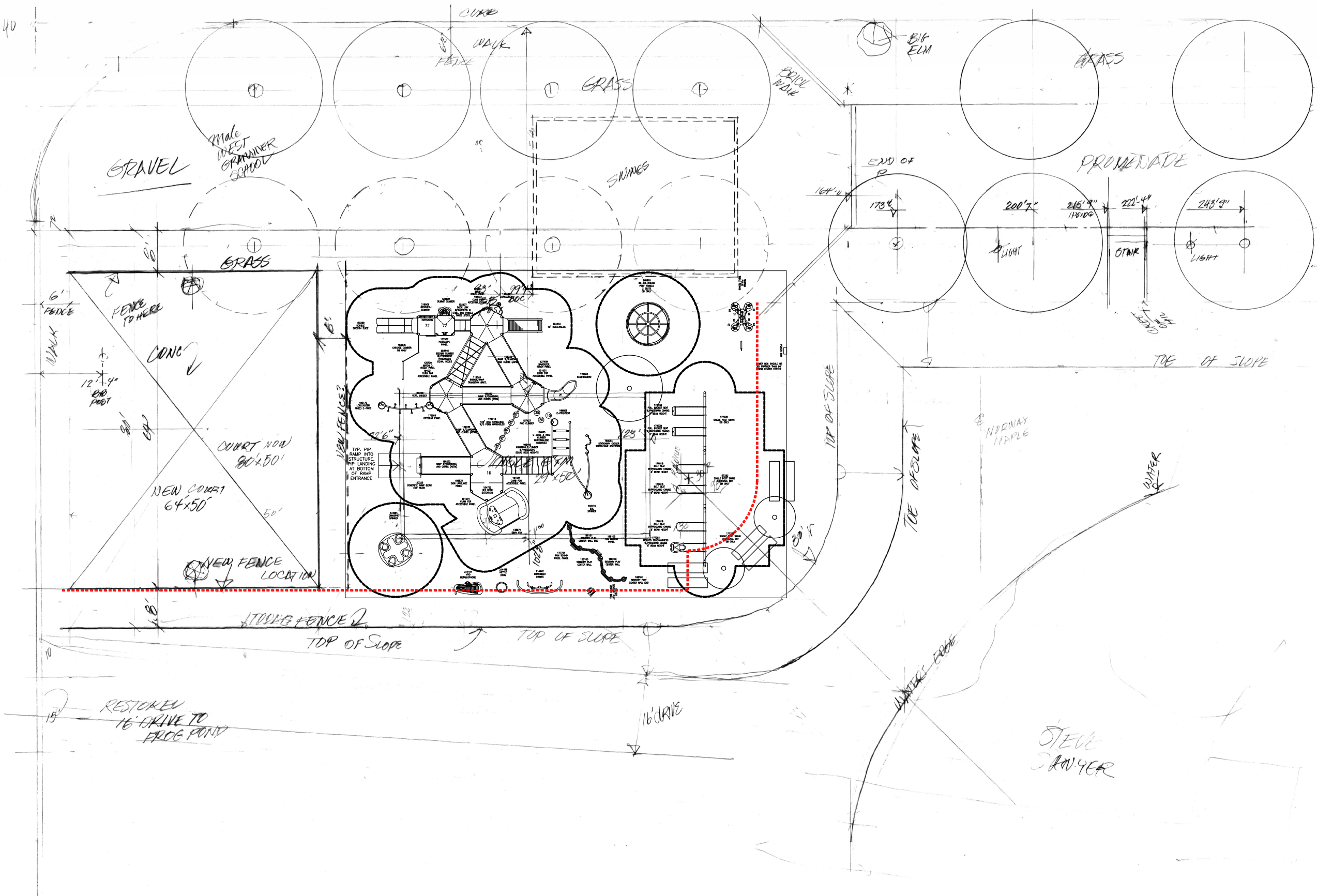
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Sketch Number:

Date:
Project #:
Scale:
N

BARTLET MALL PARK
NEWBURYPORT, MASSACHUSETTS



EGA
ARCHITECTS
© 2019 EGA, P.C.
One Vernon Street
Newburyport, Massachusetts 01950
978-462-5515 Fax: 978-462-5525



1 PARTIAL SITE PLAN
1"=20'-0"



The play components identified on this plan are IPEMA certified. (Unless model number is preceded with *) The use and layout of components must conform to the safety requirements of ASTM F1487. To verify product certification, visit www.ipema.org

THIS PLAY AREA & PLAY EQUIPMENT IS DESIGNED FOR AGES 5-12 YEARS UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED ON PLAN.

IT IS THE MANUFACTURER'S OPINION THAT THIS PLAY AREA DOES CONFORM TO THE ADA ACCESSIBILITY STANDARDS, ASSUMING ANY ACCESSIBLE PROTECTIVE SURFACING IS PROVIDED, AS INDICATED, OR WITHIN THE ENTIRE USE ZONE.

THIS CONCEPTUAL PLAN WAS BASED ON INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO US, PRIOR TO CONSTRUCTION. DETAILED SITE INFORMATION INCLUDING SITE DIMENSIONS, TOPOGRAPHY, EXISTING UTILITIES, SOIL CONDITIONS, AND DRAINAGE SOLUTIONS SHOULD BE OBTAINED, EVALUATED, & UTILIZED IN THE FINAL DESIGN. PLEASE VERIFY ALL DIMENSIONS OF PLAY AREA, SITE, ORIENTATION, AND DRAINAGE CONDITIONS PRIOR TO OPENING. SLIDES AND SITE FURNISHINGS PRIOR TO OPENING. SLIDES SHOULD NOT FACE THE HOT AFTERNOON SUN.

CHOOSE A PROTECTIVE SURFACING MATERIAL THAT HAS A CRITICAL HEIGHT VALUE TO MEET THE MAXIMUM FALL HEIGHT FOR THE EQUIPMENT (REF. MANUFACTURER'S SPECIFICATIONS). CONSIDER PERFORMING SPECIFIC COMPACTED SAND OR RUBBER MULCH TESTING TO DETERMINE THE BEST EQUIPMENT FOR PUBLIC USE. SECTION 3 CURRENT REVISION). THE SURFACING MUST BE WELL DRAINED. IF THE SOIL DOES NOT DRAIN NATURALLY IT MUST BE TILED OR SLOPED 1/8" TO 1/4" PER FOOT TO A STORM SEWER OR A "FRENCH DRAIN".

IT IS THE MANUFACTURER'S OPINION AND INTENT THAT THE LAYOUT OF THESE COMPONENTS CONFORM WITH THE U.S. CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION'S (CPSC) "HANDBOOK FOR PUBLIC PLAYGROUND SAFETY".

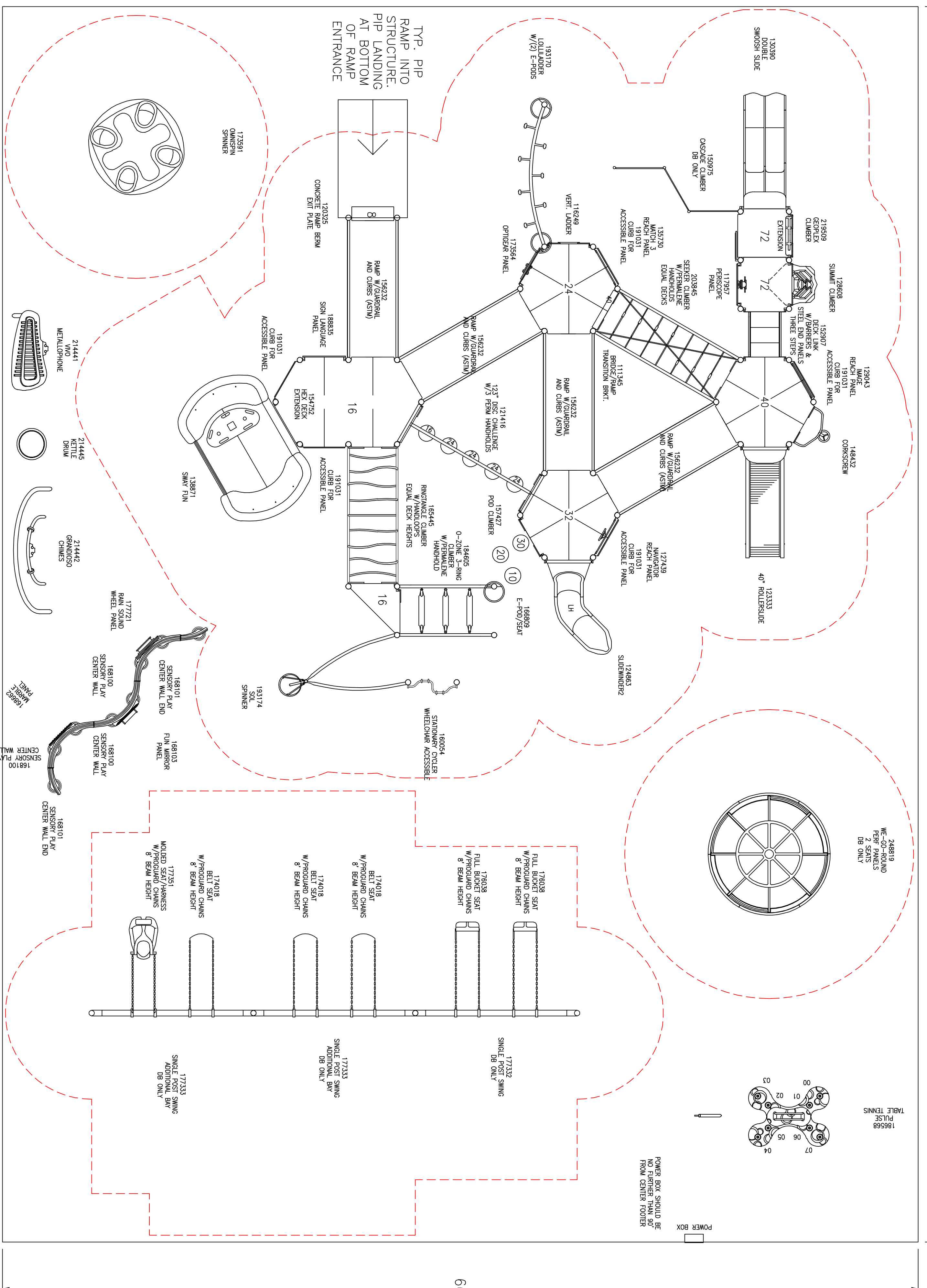
DESIGNED BY: JRA

COPYRIGHT: 1.10.2019
LANDSCAPE STRUCTURES, INC.
601 7th STREET SOUTH - P.O. BOX 198
DELANO, MINNESOTA 55328
PH: 1-800-328-0335 FAX: 1-763-972-6091

Date	Previous Drawing #	Initials



89'



TOTAL ELEVATED PLAY COMPONENTS	20	12	REQUIRED	10
TOTAL ELEVATED COMPONENTS ACCESSIBLE BY RAMP	0	REQUIRED	0	
TOTAL ELEVATED COMPONENTS ACCESSIBLE BY TRANSFER	0	REQUIRED	0	
TOTAL ACCESSIBLE GROUND LEVEL COMPONENTS SHOWN	16	REQUIRED	7	
TOTAL DIFFERENT TYPES OF GROUND LEVEL COMPONENTS	8	REQUIRED	4	

O'BRIEN & SONS
LANDSCAPE STRUCTURES
93 West Street
PO Box 650
Medfield, MA 02052-0650
Phone 508-359-4200
Fax 508-359-2817

BARTLETT MALL
NEWBURYPORT, MA

M.E. O'BRIEN &
SONS, INC.
ANDY BERGER

SYSTEM TYPE:
PLAYBOOSTER/IND
DRAWING #:
ME019017

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

RECEIVED

MAR 31 1976

DATE ENTERED

APR 30 1976

DB# 76000 280

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC Superior Courthouse and Bartlett Mall

AND/OR COMMON
Same

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER High Street, Pond Street,
High Street and area surrounded by Auburn & Greenleaf Sts. NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN Newburyport CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT Sixth
STATE Massachusetts VICINITY OF CODE 025 COUNTY CODE Essex 009

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Superior Courthouse: Essex County
Bartlett Mall: City of Newburyport

STREET & NUMBER Essex County: 32 Federal Street
City of Newburyport: City Hall
CITY, TOWN Salem 01970 STATE Massachusetts
Newburyport 01950 VICINITY OF

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, Essex County Registry of Deeds
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

STREET & NUMBER 32 Federal Street
CITY, TOWN Salem STATE Massachusetts

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE Inventory of Historic Assets of the Commonwealth

DATE 1968
FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Massachusetts Historical Commission

CITY, TOWN Boston STATE Massachusetts 02108

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

CHECK ONE

CHECK ONE

EXCELLENT

DETERIORATED

UNALTERED

ORIGINAL SITE

GOOD

RUINS

ALTERED

MOVED DATE _____

FAIR

UNEXPOSED

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Superior Courthouse and Bartlett Mall are located on Newburyport's historic High Street east of the Market Square area of the city. The Mall is bounded by High Street, Pond Street, Greenleaf Street and Auburn Street. The Courthouse, located on the northern side of the Mall, fronts High Street and abuts the Frog Pond to the rear. The Frog Pond was created by a small detached iceberg formed and deposited during the glacial period and today is a natural, spring-fed body of water which remains practically unchanged from its original shape.

Since the late 17th century the Mall area has been and continues to be one of Newburyport's major public spaces. The Mall interrupts the parade of stately houses on High Street and signals the arrival of the downtown area.

At the beginning of the 18th century the pond and surrounding land were used for grazing purposes and there were only a few houses in the vicinity. During the following decades the area took on increasing importance in the community and several other buildings, including a ropewalk (for winding cordage to rig Newburyport ships), a windmill, hay scales, and a powder house, were constructed on the "common land," as it was called. Eventually these buildings crowded together with no apparent plan or care, and the area around the Frog Pond became one of Newburyport's eyesores. At the beginning of the 19th century, Captain Edmund Bartlett and several other public-spirited citizens began improvements to the common land by removing the unsightly buildings and planting trees. Soon the area was transformed into a lush line of greenery and the promenade to the east of the Frog Pond was named in Bartlett's honor.

The Bartlett Mall continued to be used for the public good, and in 1891 its appearance was again enhanced with the addition of a 30-foot swan-shaped fountain in the middle of the pond. The fountain was presented as a gift to the city by Edward S. Mosely.

The park-like atmosphere created by the Mall's facelift in 1800 provided a perfect setting for the new Courthouse which was built to replace the Court and Town House originally on what is now Water Street. The famous Boston Architect Charles Bulfinch was selected to design the building which was completed in 1805. Originally the front facade consisted of an open portico on the ground level with graceful columns supporting the upper story. The building was capped by a pediment which was surmounted by a classical female figure holding the scales of Justice.

In 1853 the Courthouse was substantially altered when the brick arches in front were filled in and the figure of Justice removed. The original roof was replaced, and heavy cornices and brackets were added. The rear of the building retains the original Bulfinch design: the first floor windows have recessed arches, and the second floor windows have keystone lintels typical of Bulfinch. On top of the building are cylindrical stacks with projecting flat caps. They are known as Emerson ejectors and were commonly installed in Newburyport structures during the 1840's and '50's as the most progressive method of ventilation. Four brick chimneys pierce the ridge roof and another rises from the foundation above the roof on the outside of the south elevation.

Horizontal banding in granite separates the floors on the south side, while on the remaining elevations the division is achieved through the use of brick headers. On either end of the Courthouse is a recessed ogee arch extending from the base of the

continued

February 7, 2019

Mr. Mike Dissette, Chair
Community Preservation Committee
% Office of Planning and Development
City of Newburyport
60 Pleasant St.
Newburyport, MA 01950

Dear Members of the Community Preservation Committee,

The Bartlet Mall playground project is one of many critical steps in the much needed restoration of the Mall. The current playground had served us well but the restoration will accomplish several important steps:

- Replace a worn and outdated space with a new safer surface and equipment.
- Rework the current design to allow the promenade to be extended to Auburn St. as originally intended in the Charles Eliot design without taking away recreational space the public now uses and enjoys
- Help the community move forward in the restoration of a National Historic site that is long overdue.

The Bartlett Mall is our historic treasure that is arguably unmatched in historical significance in a city with many examples. We owe it to ourselves to make this spot a place that proudly displays its historic significance to our citizens and our many visitors.

I strongly support funding to initiate this project.

Respectfully,
Bill Ladas
20 Lime St.
Newburyport, MA 01950

February 6, 2019

Lise Reid
Newburyport Parks
Newburyport City Hall
60 Pleasant Street
P.O. Box 550
Newburyport, MA 01950
lreid@cityofnewburyport.com

Dear Lise,

Opportunity Works, Inc., forwards this letter of support to you for CPA grant funding for a universally accessible playground in Newburyport! The site at Bartlet Mall is a visible and central location. We support funding for the Bartlet Restoration Project, including construction of the playground, replacement and/or renovation of all walkways within the park to make them more accessible, and historic landscape restoration

Opportunity Works is a 501 © 3 non-profit organization that serves 260 adults with disabilities and understands and addresses the barriers all people with disabilities face.

Imagine a family with a child who has a disability. Whether the child has an intellectual disability, autism, ADHD, social anxiety or a physical disability - any of these neurodevelopmental disorders can profoundly limit the places a family can enjoy time together. The social isolation these children and their families experience can be profound. Even if the child is able to physically access the playground equipment, it does not guarantee they will know how to play on it with their peers. Specific attention and effort must be directed toward the creation of inclusive play opportunities for children with disabilities so they may play alongside their typically-developing peers.

Universally accessible playgrounds take this into account by creating developmentally appropriate playground components that serve both children who are typically developing and those with physical, cognitive, emotional or sensory disabilities. By creating a playground that offers play opportunities for all, children begin to develop together socially. Typically-developing children will have the opportunity to play with and learn what they have in common with children with disabilities.

There are too few public settings where such a moment is possible. One can only imagine how the child's parents must feel - to see their child find and play with a friend in a public space where all are truly welcomed. *

Thank you for addressing very important local needs that affect our children.

Sincerely,

Jane Harris-Fale

Jane Harris-Fale
Executive Director

*(Some information based on an article by Sue Swanson, speech/language pathologist at the Center for Autism and Neurodevelopmental Disorders (CANDO) at the UMass Memorial Medical Center.)

February 5, 2019

Lisè Reid
Parks Director
Newburyport Parks
Newburyport City Hall
60 Pleasant Street
P.O. Box 550
Newburyport, MA 01950

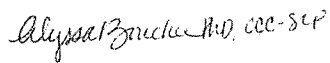
Dear Ms. Reid,

I am writing in strong support of an all-inclusive playground in Newburyport. I am a resident with a young child who frequents the Bartlett Mall playground often as it is the closest playground to our house. As a mother, I understand the value of dedicated outdoor space for our children as it relates to their social, emotional, cognitive, and motor development and my family is grateful for the access to parks in this beautiful city.

As a speech-language pathologist, I have dedicated my career to children with communication differences, many of whom also experience mobility challenges. Most of these children are excluded from typical playgrounds or find somewhat dangerous work-arounds in order to participate in basic play activities, like sliding or swinging.

In my years as a clinician and researcher, I have studied the ways in which universal design can positively impact children, both with and without disabilities. An accessible and inclusive playground in our town would allow for all children to play in the same space, making a clear statement that human variability should be accepted and celebrated. Most importantly, it would offer the chance for families, who are otherwise excluded, the opportunity to play without restriction and participate fully in the fundamental activities of childhood.

Sincerely,



Alyssa Boucher, PhD, CCC-SLP
146 State St.
Newburyport, MA 01950

Sent via email Lreid@cityofnewburyport.com

February 5, 2019

Newburyport Parks
Newburyport City Hall
60 Pleasant Street
P.O. Box 550
Newburyport, MA 01950

Re: **Playground at Bartlet Mall** *151 High Street, Newburyport*

To Whom It May Concern:

I write this letter in support of Lisa Reid's efforts for CPA funding for the Bartlet Restoration Project including construction of the playground, replacement and/or renovation of all walkways within the park to make them more accessible and historic landscape restoration.

As the parent of a special need's child, it is essential for not only children to have a place to play, but having access to Inclusive Playgrounds would give our therapists another venue in which to work with children other than in the home. Inclusive Playgrounds would also enable our children with disabilities another environment outside of school in which to interact with their peers.

Inclusive Playgrounds would demonstrate how the City of Newburyport values all of its citizens and visitors by providing play areas accessible to everyone.

Kind regards,



Corinne Poor

8 Merrill Street

West Newbury, MA 01985

Corinne.poor@gmail.com

From: [Theresa Arsenault](#)
To: [Lise Reid](#)
Subject: Letter of Support
Date: Tuesday, February 05, 2019 1:50:09 PM

To whom it may concern:

I am writing this letter in support of grant funding being awarded to the city of Newburyport's Bartlett Restoration Project in order assure that there are funds to be allocated to make the park and walkways handicap accessible. Ideally, with adequate funding, these modifications can be made in a way which provides accessibility while still preserving the historic vibe that is maintained throughout the city.

As a Certified Pediatric Nurse and Certified Neuroscience Nurse currently practicing as a Pediatric Neurology Nurse I am all too familiar with the stories of families with a handicap child not being able to participate in activities or struggling to come up with a makeshift solution to participate in an activity because of restrictions of the physical set up of park, playground or beach. Every child (and adult if they are so inclined) deserves to be able to enjoy swinging on a swing, a stroll downtown with family on a warm, sunny day or sticking their toes in the sand at the beach. To do this a parent with a child that requires a special accommodation, such as a wheelchair, shouldn't be burdened with figuring out the "how" and should just be confident in achieving a fun-filled day knowing that accessibility will not be an issue.

I think that every person should have the pleasure of enjoying the many places, like Bartlett Mall, in the wonderful city of Newburyport, without restriction or worry. I hope to hear that funds are able to be allocated in order to make this a reality.

Respectfully,

Theresa Arsenault

17 Pearson Drive

Newbury, MA 01922

From: [Stacie Allen](#)
To: [Lise Reid](#)
Subject: Bartlett Restoration Project Support
Date: Tuesday, February 05, 2019 5:02:33 PM

Hello -

I'm a Newbury resident and writing to express my family's full support of making the Greater Newburyport parks more inclusive of children with disabilities.

I'm aware of and support the grant for CPA funding for the Bartlett Restoration Project - including construction of the playground, replacement and/or renovation of all walkways within the park to make them more accessible and historic landscape restoration.

Thank you,
Stacie

--

Stacie Allen
(e) stacieallenconsulting@gmail.com
(c) 978.273.8218

From: [Sarah Tappan](#)
To: [Lise Reid](#)
Subject: All inclusive playground
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2019 1:09:01 PM

Lisë

I'd like to register my support for your CPA grant request for the will be the Bartlett Mall Restoration Project including construction of the playground, replacement and/or renovation of all walkways within the park to make them more accessible. Accessibility around Newburyport is a priority for me.

Thanks
Sarah Tappan
11 Titcomb St, Newburyport, MA 01950

From: [Ryann Nickerson](#)
To: [Lise Reid](#)
Subject: Inclusive playground @ Bartlett Mall
Date: Tuesday, February 05, 2019 3:04:33 PM

Both you and I know that Newburyport is a very special place. I was asked by the Lablanc family to write a letter to petition the inclusion of special playground equipment so that all kiddos can play equally. It is so important as a community to support each other and that includes our children. We teach our children in different ways. It is critical for us as a community to show our support of all kids, not some kids. There shouldn't just be one adaptable playground for children with special needs in our town or one swing or piece of equipment that is for a child with special needs. Our children are watching; if we demonstrate that we are "adaptable," it will not only make children with special needs happy and included, but it can start a critical conversation around inclusive spaces for kids with special needs.

Thanks!

Ryann Nickerson
44 Water Street
Mom to Samuel and Jack

This message was sent from my mobile. Please excuse its brevity and any misspellings or punctuation errors.

From: [Pam Marrese](#)
To: [Lise Reid](#)
Subject: Letter of Support
Date: Tuesday, February 05, 2019 3:24:41 PM

Dear Lisè,

I am writing in support of my dear friend, Kasey Edwards, and her family. They have been working toward making our community more inclusive, particularly the local playgrounds.

My family and I consider ourselves to be very lucky to live in a community as great as Newburyport and we have an opportunity to make it even better. Transforming our parks and playgrounds into accessible areas that anyone could utilize regardless of abilities is not only a wonderful thing to do, but the right thing to do.

This is something that my family fully supports and feels as though it would benefit locals and visitors alike.

Thank you,

Pam Marrese
3 Goldsmith Drive
Newburyport, MA 01950

Sent from my iPad

From: [Darby and Margot Kopp](#)
To: [Lise Reid](#)
Subject: Playground
Date: Tuesday, February 05, 2019 2:48:20 PM

Hi Lise,

As a mother of a now teenager with a disability, I am writing in support of your efforts to fund an inclusive playground as well as accessible walking trails in Newburyport. Efforts like these are so important so that all children can enjoy childhood, and so then they have grown up in a place and a society that does not unnecessarily exclude them.

Thank you,
Margot Kopp

From: [Katie Vazeos](#)
To: [Lise Reid](#)
Subject: Inclusive Playground
Date: Tuesday, February 05, 2019 1:55:54 PM

I'm writing to express my full support of the funding for the Bartlett Mall restoration project, including a fully inclusive playground. I'm fully in favor in doing whatever we can do accommodate anyone's needs, especially children, throughout our community. Please let me know if there is anything else I can do to help.

Katie Vazeos
Marketing Strategist
FRONETICS | [fronetics REAL ESTATE](#)
T: 978-499-9988 ext.709 | (888) 827-8701
W: [www.fronetics.com](#) | [froneticsrealestate.com](#)
11 Chestnut Street Suite 305 Amesbury, MA 01913

From: [Katie Accardi](#)
To: [Lise Reid](#)
Subject: CPA Funding
Date: Tuesday, February 05, 2019 2:04:08 PM

To Whom This May Concern:

I am writing to you in support of CPA funding for the Bartlet Restoration Project including construction of the playground, replacement and/or renovation of all walkways within the park to make them more accessible and historic landscape restoration. Having this playground fenced in 100% is also important, as there are extremely busy streets ...surrounding it.

NO KIDS SHOULD BE LEFT BEHIND!

Thank you,

Katie Accardi

481A Merrimac Street

Newburyport, MA 01950

From: [Karacutic](#)
To: [Lise Reid](#)
Subject: Bartlett Restoration
Date: Tuesday, February 05, 2019 11:48:34 AM

Hello Ms. Reid

This email is in support of the Bartlett Restoration project. These updates and improvements will serve our community and its residents so well. Thank you

Kara Chiarello

From: [JENNIFER BEAUCHESNE](#)
To: [Lise Reid](#)
Subject: Inclusive Park Support
Date: Tuesday, February 05, 2019 10:27:28 AM

Dear Ms. Reid,

Please accept this letter of support for the building and/or renovation of Newburyport public parks and playgrounds that are both accessible to all, and all-inclusive.

Our family includes my 5 year old niece, and the accessible play equipment and walkways are scarce. This limits her options for interacting with peers due to her disability's mobility limitations. She uses adaptive equipment to help her to navigate at home, and we have seen the remarkable successes this allows.

This is a wonderful opportunity for Newburyport to shine as being welcoming and inclusive, and will likely set a much-needed precedent for other areas to follow suit. This is not only a great thing for families impacted by disabilities, but for everyone using walkways, parks and play equipment in Newburyport and surrounding locales.

Thank you in advance for helping to pioneer this critical effort!

Sincerely,
Jennifer Beauchesne

From: vze2rxts@comcast.net
To: [Lise Reid](#)
Subject: I support an inclusive, easily accessible playground at the Barlett Mall
Date: Tuesday, February 05, 2019 7:02:17 PM

The Bartlett Mall is a jewel in the middle of this beautiful historic city. Restoring it to its historic design is a smart way for us to retain our heritage, but restoring it with inclusive access for all ensures that we allow (encourage) everyone to enjoy it.

An inclusive playground would provide a safe and easily accessible gathering spot for families. By having a wonderful playground at the Mall, Newburyport would be letting children and their families make happy memories together. My children grew up playing on the playground at the Mall, as they were some of the last graduates of the Kelley school. The Mall playground is part of their childhood. Let's keep the magic happening for generations!

Jennifer Wood
vze2rxts@comcast.net

From: [Jennie Donahue](#)
To: [Lise Reid](#)
Subject: Bartlet Mall
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2019 1:50:58 PM

Good afternoon,

As chairperson for the Newburyport commission on disabilities, I am writing this email to support renovations, restorations and updates to the Bartlet Mall area.

The Bartlet Mall is a beautifully unique and special place for residents and visitors to Newburyport. Though a favorite outdoor spot for many people, for many years, barriers and insufficient accessibility have always made this area non-inclusive and not accessible for children with special needs.

There is no access for people with mobility related special needs, to get down to the frog pond, a central element to this historic park.

The playground and area around and above the frog pond, are also not inclusive for the entire community.

The restorations and renovations in the plan for this project, not only enhance and restore a beautiful and historic city landmark, it will also create access for people with disabilities where previously there has been none.

There are many reasons for this project to be adequately funded through a grant, creating inclusion is quite possibly the most valuable one.

When a municipal project includes significant improvement to access as well as creating real inclusion, it is always a very advantageous project to embark on. This is a wonderful opportunity to improve the quality of life for so many people with disabilities who wish to be included.

Grant funding for this project is integral.

A project planned with universal design is always a project worth funding.

The benefit of access and inclusion is one that is invaluable.

To see the joy on children's faces who previously could not use the playground or the park area and the equally vibrant smiles of their parents, is a truly beautiful thing to behold. Something everyone can be proud of.

We sincerely appreciate consideration for the CPA grant funding being sought for this project. The city of Newburyport and the Newburyport commission on disabilities strive to create access for all, when these types of projects arise. We are excited to see the parks department taking on this initiative. Through success of this project, children and families with disabilities will finally be able to appreciate this special, old park.

Also, I will add personally, as a lifelong resident of Newburyport and taxpayer, I fully support this project. I spent a great deal of my youth enjoying the Bartlet Mall. Even as a small child I recognize the importance of this park and its historical value in our community. From the unique topography to the big old Willow trees and specimen plantings, it really is a special place, deserving of updates and restoration.

Respectfully,
Jennie L Donahue - Chairwoman
Newburyport Commission On Disability (NCOD)
ncodchair@gmail.com
508-725-8476

*"A Disability is
not a handicap -
attitudes are"*

"Help break down the barriers. Seek to understand and educate yourself and others about disabilities"

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Jason Beauchesne](#)
To: [Lise Reid](#)
Cc: kaseyedwards60@gmail.com
Subject: Letter of Support for Inclusive Parks
Date: Tuesday, February 05, 2019 10:25:28 AM

Dear Ms. Reid,

I am writing this letter of support in an effort to make Newburyport parks more accessible to those with disabilities in the community. A close family member of mine is 5 years old and lives in your town. Her disabilities are severe in many ways and her physical disabilities make it impossible to navigate the play equipment and walkways currently in place. I am hopeful that the town of Newburyport values inclusion of persons of all ability levels in your community and will take the lead in creating ways for people of all ability levels to interact together on a daily basis. Thank you for advocating for those that rely on the help of others to bring positive change to the world.

Sincerely,

Jason Beauchesne

From: [Heather Ahearn Fontaine](#)
To: [Lise Reid](#)
Subject: Playground for all!
Date: Tuesday, February 05, 2019 1:40:46 PM

Hello Lise Reid,
I am writing to show my support of an all inclusive playground in Newburyport. Every child should have the freedom and accessibility to a playground. How amazing this would be for everyone in the committee and what a great way to lead.

Thank you so much,
Heather Fontaine

From: [Dorene Olsen](#)
To: [Lise Reid](#)
Subject: Bartlett Mall and Nbpt Parks - inclusivity
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2019 10:47:15 AM

Dear Lise,
I'm writing in support of helping expand our parks to be handy capable...not only for young children with disabilities - but also for our aging population that ride on our main streets on their scooter/wheelchairs.

These folk deserve equal accessibility for park respite and joy.

Thank you for helping to pursue this!

Dorene

From: [Colby Pollard](#)
To: [Lise Reid](#)
Subject: Bartlet Mall Restoration Project
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2019 1:36:37 PM

Hi Lisë,

I'm writing in support of the Bartlet Mall Restoration project and the grant for CPA funding to renovate the playground, and walkways for further accessibility for all residents, and visitors to the park. I have lived across from the Bartlett Mall on Pond St with my family for the past six years, and we use the space nearly everyday.

Yesterday, in the 60 degree February weather after school, there were countless children, parents, and dogs enjoying all aspects of the park. There are many families that live within walking distance, and many others who make it a point to drive to the park for their use. Improving the surfaces and walkways will only bring more people to use this unique city space.

I attended a Parks meeting last year at the library, and was shocked to hear people suggesting that the playground, and basketball court are rarely used. At the time, I spoke and expressed this was not because kids, and adults alike choose not to use the the space, but because you literally cannot successfully use the basketball court in particular because of it's poor condition. The drainage or lack thereof of the playground structure is another reason, as it sits in a puddle after a hard rain or a thaw. To be honest, I'm also not very impressed that the DPW drives over the large field on Pond St weekly to empty one trash barrel that is along the walkway above the pond. The tire tracks leave an impression in the ground, and are very noticeable.

I just so happened to take the attached pictures of the basketball court yesterday as my children and others were attempting to play basketball at the park to share with my wife, to show her how bad it is. As a community, we deserve this space to be improved upon, and for everyone to be able to safely access and use the space accordingly.

Best of luck with the grant application, we're always rooting for the Bartlet Mall and consider it practically a part of our family. We even gave our son the middle name 'Bartlet' when he was born in 2015.

Best,
Colby Pollard
21 Pond St

From: [Bri McCorkell](#)
To: [Lise Reid](#)
Subject: Bartlet Restoration Project
Date: Tuesday, February 05, 2019 11:43:39 AM

Dear Lisa.

I am writing to show my support for CPA funding for the Bartlet Restoration Project including construction of the playground, replacement and/or renovation of all walkways within the park to make them more accessible and historic landscape restoration.

As a local family with multiple children + friends impacted by this project, we are a voice of YES for the children + all of their needs.

Sincerely,

Bri, Rory, Holden + June McCorkell

From: [Barbara Martin](#)
To: [Lise Reid](#)
Subject: Inclusive playground
Date: Tuesday, February 05, 2019 11:28:13 AM

Please add my support to your campaign to construct an inclusive playground. I believe this would be a great asset to Newburyport, and loved by all those who are unable to access a traditional playground.
Sincerely,
Barbara Martin

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Ashley Murphy](#)
To: [Lise Reid](#)
Subject: Inclusive Playground
Date: Tuesday, February 05, 2019 1:16:30 PM

To Whom This May Concern:

I am writing to you in support of CPA funding for the Bartlet Restoration Project including construction of the playground, replacement and/or renovation of all walkways within the park to make them more accessible and historic landscape restoration. Having this playground fenced in 100% is also important, as there are extremely busy streets surrounding it.

NO KIDS SHOULD BE LEFT BEHIND!

Thank you, Ashley Murphy

From: [Don Shea](#)
To: [Lise Reid](#)
Subject: Re: Bartlet Mall Walkways grant
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2019 8:21:51 AM

Dear Lise,

I wholeheartedly support any proposal to improve the walkways around the Bartlet Mall. As a frequent user of this park, I have been advocating for such a project for five years through emails to the Parks Department, the former Bartlet Mall Commission and to our Ward 2 City Councilor, Jared Eigerman. The walkways on the top portion of the Mall along Pond St. and Greenleaf St. are in terrible condition with broken, choppy asphalt making it very difficult to walk on them without tripping or losing your balance, particularly for anyone not very steady on their feet. The sand and gravel walkways along the lower sections of the Mall and on top along High St. are more level but also equally uncomfortable to use. In the winter they cannot be maintained well and are therefore frequently icy or muddy as temperatures and conditions change. The combination of broken asphalt and sand/gravel surfaces make it very difficult to ride a bicycle or push a baby stroller around the park.

I work in Cambridge near Fresh Pond in which a new "rubberized" walkway was installed in one section of the park. It is a joy to be able to walk along a smooth surface that is also less harsh on your knees and feet, so I would love to see a similar surface used at the Bartlet Mall. However, I would also greatly welcome any surface that would be an improvement over the current walkways.

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to voice my opinion on this very important project. I truly believe that better walking surfaces would encourage much greater use and enjoyment of the Mall. And after all, isn't that what a park is there for?

Regards,

Don Shea
31 Pond St.
Newburyport

On Wed, Feb 6, 2019 at 7:39 AM Lise Reid <LReid@cityofnewburyport.com> wrote:

Hi Don,

I am submitting a grant application tomorrow to replace the asphalt walkways at Bartlet Mall with new, more accessible walkways and to renovate the existing stone walkways to make them also more accessible year round. We would welcome a letter of support for that grant application if you have the time. The

letter should be addressed to:

Mr. Mike Dissette, Chair
Community Preservation Committee
c/o Office of Planning and Development
City of Newburyport
60 Pleasant Street
Newburyport, Massachusetts 01950

An email is just as effective. Either way it can be sent to me and I will see it gets submitted with the grant application.

Thanks in advance for considering,
Lisë

Lisë Reid
Parks Director
Parks Department
City of Newburyport
60 Pleasant Street
P.O. Box 550
Newburyport, MA 01950
parks@cityofnewburyport.com

From: [Theresa Arsenault](#)
To: [Lise Reid](#)
Subject: Letter of Support
Date: Tuesday, February 05, 2019 1:50:09 PM

To whom it may concern:

I am writing this letter in support of grant funding being awarded to the city of Newburyport's Bartlett Restoration Project in order assure that there are funds to be allocated to make the park and walkways handicap accessible. Ideally, with adequate funding, these modifications can be made in a way which provides accessibility while still preserving the historic vibe that is maintained throughout the city.

As a Certified Pediatric Nurse and Certified Neuroscience Nurse currently practicing as a Pediatric Neurology Nurse I am all too familiar with the stories of families with a handicap child not being able to participate in activities or struggling to come up with a makeshift solution to participate in an activity because of restrictions of the physical set up of park, playground or beach. Every child (and adult if they are so inclined) deserves to be able to enjoy swinging on a swing, a stroll downtown with family on a warm, sunny day or sticking their toes in the sand at the beach. To do this a parent with a child that requires a special accommodation, such as a wheelchair, shouldn't be burdened with figuring out the "how" and should just be confident in achieving a fun-filled day knowing that accessibility will not be an issue.

I think that every person should have the pleasure of enjoying the many places, like Bartlett Mall, in the wonderful city of Newburyport, without restriction or worry. I hope to hear that funds are able to be allocated in order to make this a reality.

Respectfully,

Theresa Arsenault

17 Pearson Drive

Newbury, MA 01922

From: [Kasey Edwards](#)
To: [Lise Reid](#); [jason leblanc](#); [Jennie Donahue](#)
Cc: [Donna Holaday](#); [Chris Edwards](#); [Nancy London](#)
Subject: Re: Accessible swings project
Date: Tuesday, February 05, 2019 10:22:34 AM

Lisë,

Thank you so much for the initiative. I cannot tell you how excited I am for the idea of this inclusive playground to come to fruition. I took my children to the playground yesterday like so many others to take advantage of the beautiful weather. The outdoor play was therapeutic and cathartic for both the parents/caretakers and the children. The joy the children experienced was contagious. To be able to bring that exuberance and an easier accessibility to disabled children who experience daily reminders that their life is more difficult and more limited than the population in which they are surrounded by, and who have had no outlet easily available to them previously to express that playfulness and excitement, is incredibly imperative. This is an important endeavor and we are so grateful to have yours and the City of Newburyport's support on this is wonderful. I am 100% in support of this and any subsequent projects. I have reached out on social media to friends and locals to try to get more letters of support by end of day tomorrow.

Much appreciation,

Kasey

February 6, 2019

Lise Reid
Newburyport Parks
Newburyport City Hall
60 Pleasant Street
P.O. Box 550
Newburyport, MA 01950
lreid@cityofnewburyport.com

Dear Lise,

Opportunity Works, Inc., forwards this letter of support to you for CPA grant funding for a universally accessible playground in Newburyport! The site at Bartlet Mall is a visible and central location. We support funding for the Bartlet Restoration Project, including construction of the playground, replacement and/or renovation of all walkways within the park to make them more accessible, and historic landscape restoration

Opportunity Works is a 501 © 3 non-profit organization that serves 260 adults with disabilities and understands and addresses the barriers all people with disabilities face.

Imagine a family with a child who has a disability. Whether the child has an intellectual disability, autism, ADHD, social anxiety or a physical disability - any of these neurodevelopmental disorders can profoundly limit the places a family can enjoy time together. The social isolation these children and their families experience can be profound. Even if the child is able to physically access the playground equipment, it does not guarantee they will know how to play on it with their peers. Specific attention and effort must be directed toward the creation of inclusive play opportunities for children with disabilities so they may play alongside their typically-developing peers.

Universally accessible playgrounds take this into account by creating developmentally appropriate playground components that serve both children who are typically developing and those with physical, cognitive, emotional or sensory disabilities. By creating a playground that offers play opportunities for all, children begin to develop together socially. Typically-developing children will have the opportunity to play with and learn what they have in common with children with disabilities.

There are too few public settings where such a moment is possible. One can only imagine how the child's parents must feel - to see their child find and play with a friend in a public space where all are truly welcomed. *

Thank you for addressing very important local needs that affect our children.

Sincerely,

Jane Harris-Fale

Jane Harris-Fale
Executive Director

*(Some information based on an article by Sue Swanson, speech/language pathologist at the Center for Autism and Neurodevelopmental Disorders (CANDO) at the UMass Memorial Medical Center.)

From: [Selvitella, Kristin O](#)
To: [Lise Reid](#)
Subject: Support of All Inclusive Playground
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2019 11:50:25 AM

Hi Lise,

I am excited to hear about the opportunity to build an inclusive playground in the City of Newburyport. I have two daughters 6 & 3 who have experienced so much joy playing at the many parks around Newburyport. This should be an opportunity for all the children in our City as well as our visitors. I could not support this more and think this is an excellent way to make our community more inclusive for our children.

Thank you,
Kristin

Kristin Selvitella
VP, Financial Lines Field Operations Manager

1 Financial Center, Boston, MA 02111, US
O 617-717-5058 M 781-439-3469
E kselvitella@chubb.com

[ACE and Chubb are now one.](#)

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From: [Ashley Berek](#)
To: [Lise Reid](#)
Subject: Inclusive playground
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2019 8:13:38 PM

Hi Lisa,

I wanted to send a letter in hopes that you would be able to share another parents perspective on the addition of an inclusive playground. My daughter is in preschool, st NES, and has cerebral palsy. She is wheelchair bound and is unable to access any playground in the area except for the Bres because it has one ramp for her to be able to go up on. Besides just inclusive swings, it's important for kids like my daughter to be able to access an array of equipment like her typical peers. She is motivated socially and what better place to bring your child, then the playground, to expand upon this stage of development.

I also feel as though it sets the tone for the community as a whole and supports tolerance and acceptance. So a playground that can be used by all..not just kids w special needs, is a key component to teaching positive self esteem and empathy etc for all.

I hope this helps pave the way for a place where all can play and learn.

Feel free to reach out for additional support and best of luck.

Best,
Ashley Rao
978-509-1274

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Sarah Harrison](#)
To: [Lise Reid](#)
Subject: Letter of support for inclusive playground at Bartlett Mall
Date: Tuesday, February 05, 2019 10:28:37 AM

Lise,

We are writing to show our support for an inclusive playground in Newburyport for children with disabilities. We have lived in the Newburyport area for 10+ years now and are so happy that this is potentially coming to fruition. Our children are friends with other local kids who do not have the same physical capabilities that our children do and we would love to have a place to play where our friends can enjoy the park/play area and not feel left out ... and where we can support them at the same time!

Thank you so much!
Sarah & Chris Harrison

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Tricia Sabulis](#)
To: [Lise Reid](#)
Subject: Inclusive Playgroup
Date: Tuesday, February 05, 2019 11:48:14 AM

Hello,

I am writing to tell you how much we support the construction/renovation of Newburyport parks and playgrounds to be all inclusive. Our 4 year old daughter is in a wheel chair and would love a park where she can play! Thank you so much for thinking of our community by making these exciting changes!

Tricia Sabulis

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Tina Rawson](#)
To: [Lise Reid](#)
Cc: [Mel Y](#)
Subject: Inclusive playground
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2019 7:45:06 AM

Please consider the building of an inclusive playground in Newburyport, MA. We have many fine parks but none that are truly handicap adapted. It would mean the world to many boys and girls who otherwise do not get the chance to play on a playground. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Tina Rawson
3 Avon Ave., Newburyport, MA 01950

Cc: Mel Yung

From: [Sharon Kennedy](#)
To: [Lise Reid](#)
Subject: Inclusive playgrounds
Date: Tuesday, February 05, 2019 1:53:36 PM

I am in full support of creating an inclusive playground at Barlett Mall! Thank you.

Sharon Kennedy
24 Munroe St.
Newburyport

sharonbkennedy@gmail.com
sharon@rm228.com
www.rm228.com

From: [Stacie Allen](#)
To: [Lise Reid](#)
Subject: Bartlett Restoration Project Support
Date: Tuesday, February 05, 2019 5:02:33 PM

Hello -

I'm a Newbury resident and writing to express my family's full support of making the Greater Newburyport parks more inclusive of children with disabilities.

I'm aware of and support the grant for CPA funding for the Bartlett Restoration Project - including construction of the playground, replacement and/or renovation of all walkways within the park to make them more accessible and historic landscape restoration.

Thank you,
Stacie

--

Stacie Allen
(e) stacieallenconsulting@gmail.com
(c) 978.273.8218

From: nnifap30@gmail.com
To: [Lise Reid](#)
Subject: Local and inclusive playground
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2019 7:16:41 PM

To Ms. Reid,

I was notified by a local parent that there was need for support of a new and inclusive playground to replace the one at Bartlett Mall in Newburyport.

Having recently played with my three and several other local families there, the playground which is used by numerous children is in desperate need of renovation.

Additionally, knowing numerous families in Newburyport with children who require adaptive equipment in order to access a playground it is imperative that the playgrounds are accessible to all children including those who use wheelchairs!!

Thank you for your time and if I can help in any way please let me know.

Thank you
Pattie

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Sarah Tappan](#)
To: [Lise Reid](#)
Subject: All inclusive playground
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2019 1:09:01 PM

Lisë

I'd like to register my support for your CPA grant request for the will be the Bartlett Mall Restoration Project including construction of the playground, replacement and/or renovation of all walkways within the park to make them more accessible. Accessibility around Newburyport is a priority for me.

Thanks
Sarah Tappan
11 Titcomb St, Newburyport, MA 01950

From: [Meredith](#)
To: [Lise Reid](#)
Subject: Bartlett Mall playground
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2019 9:53:54 AM

Dear Ms. Reid,

I am writing in support of the inclusive playground project that is being discussed with regard to the Bartlett Mall playground. The importance of playgrounds to be able to accommodate and include children with disabilities has been overlooked for far too long and this is an opportunity for Newburyport to lead by example.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Meredith Makin
Amesbury, MA

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Sarah Joor](#)
To: [Lise Reid](#)
Subject: All-inclusive
Date: Tuesday, February 05, 2019 5:59:33 PM

Hi, Lise,

I am writing in favor of an all-inclusive adaptive playground at Bartlett Mall in Newburyport. An accessible playground is greatly needed and long overdue for this community. Every kid deserves a playground to play on & this project desperately needs to go forward. Please include a fence around the playground for kids' safety. We so hope this grant is approved.

Thank you.

Best,
Sarah Joor

Sarah
(978) 270-8425

February 5, 2019

Lise Reid
Parks Director
City of Newburyport
Green Street
Newburyport MA 01950

Dear Ms. Reid,

I was delighted to learn about the Bartlet Resoration Project's effort to establish an inclusive playground in the Greater Newburyport area, particularly at the Bartlet Mall, which has a long history of being a gathering place for children and families for so many decades.

The Mall is an ideal, prominent location for this sorely needed community resource as it is within walking distance from many central locations and organizations, including several churches with active youth groups, one of which is home to a K-8 school, the region's YWCA main site and childcare site and our busy downtown and waterfront. It is located less than a mile from our upper elementary and middle schools on a commonly used pathway to and from those schools, and it would be a block from our active rail trail which is accessible from many locations, including the regional commuter rail. In addition, the Mall is the site of several annual community events for families that bring hundreds – perhaps thousands – of repeat and new visitors throughout all four seasons. Residents and visitors alike will enjoy such an important amenity.

The inclusive playground will fill a void in Newburyport proper and the surrounding area where there are no such settings for children and young adults in need of inclusive equipment.

In addition, due to the prominent location and on-going use of the Mall by so many individuals and organizations, I can truly see such a playground being a 'destination' for many families throughout the region who lack opportunity for outdoor recreation opportunities that meet their families' needs.

Thank you for seeking funding for such an important regional resource. I would be thrilled if Newburyport could have the privilege of hosting an inclusive playground and forecast that it would be well-used and well-maintained by an appreciative host community and many guests.

Sincerely,

Christine Doherty

Christine Doherty
13 Purchase Street
Newburyport, Massachusetts

From: [Matthew Lydon](#)
To: [Lise Reid](#)
Subject: All-Inclusive Playground
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2019 6:29:00 PM

Dear Ms. Lisa Reid,

My wife and I are residents of Newburyport and we love living in such a great community. We have two young children who enjoy playing in the local parks here in town. There is nothing more gratifying than seeing your child smile and enjoying life on a playground. I am writing this email to show my support for an All-Inclusive Playground in Newburyport. Please help these children experience the fun of being a kid and let them enjoy these great parks we have in the community!

Sincerely,

Matthew Lydon

15 Hallisey Dr

Newburyport MA 01950

From: [Ryann Nickerson](#)
To: [Lise Reid](#)
Subject: Inclusive playground @ Bartlett Mall
Date: Tuesday, February 05, 2019 3:04:33 PM

Both you and I know that Newburyport is a very special place. I was asked by the Lablanc family to write a letter to petition the inclusion of special playground equipment so that all kiddos can play equally. It is so important as a community to support each other and that includes our children. We teach our children in different ways. It is critical for us as a community to show our support of all kids, not some kids. There shouldn't just be one adaptable playground for children with special needs in our town or one swing or piece of equipment that is for a child with special needs. Our children are watching; if we demonstrate that we are "adaptable," it will not only make children with special needs happy and included, but it can start a critical conversation around inclusive spaces for kids with special needs.

Thanks!

Ryann Nickerson
44 Water Street
Mom to Samuel and Jack

This message was sent from my mobile. Please excuse its brevity and any misspellings or punctuation errors.

From: [Rachael Murphy](#)
To: [Lise Reid](#)
Subject: Inclusive Playground
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2019 2:47:23 PM

Dear Lisa,

Please consider building, or adding an inclusive playground to one of our many playgrounds in Newburyport. Many families in this community use our playgrounds as a meeting place for after school or weekend playdates, birthday parties, attending community events, etc. It is only fair that all the children who attend these social gatherings have playground equipment they can enjoy.

Thank you!

From: [Regina Shirley](#)
To: [Lise Reid](#)
Subject: Letter of support for Bartlett Mall
Date: Tuesday, February 05, 2019 12:18:16 PM

Hello,

I am writing in full support of the restoration and all-inclusive playground construction at the Bartlett Mall and/or any children's playgrounds in our town. While I am friends with those that have children with disabilities, even more importantly, I want my 6 yr old daughter to see how people band together so no one feels left out. Having a place where those with and without any handicaps can co exists will only allow for more opportunities to teach the younger generations what it means to be treated as an equal and that "fun" isn't something you have to miss.

Thank you!!

Regina Shirley

Regina Shirley

978-518-5078

From: [Pam Marrese](#)
To: [Lise Reid](#)
Subject: Letter of Support
Date: Tuesday, February 05, 2019 3:24:41 PM

Dear Lisë,

I am writing in support of my dear friend, Kasey Edwards, and her family. They have been working toward making our community more inclusive, particularly the local playgrounds.

My family and I consider ourselves to be very lucky to live in a community as great as Newburyport and we have an opportunity to make it even better. Transforming our parks and playgrounds into accessible areas that anyone could utilize regardless of abilities is not only a wonderful thing to do, but the right thing to do.

This is something that my family fully supports and feels as though it would benefit locals and visitors alike.

Thank you,

Pam Marrese
3 Goldsmith Drive
Newburyport, MA 01950

Sent from my iPad

From: [Maritza Fernandez](#)
To: [Lise Reid](#)
Subject: Support for building of playground
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2019 7:54:34 AM

Dear coordinator,

This letter is in support of the playgrounds so much needed by so many children that would be able to access these playgrounds easily and enjoy what each child deserves and needs, a safe, accessible, beautiful and fun place to enjoy and feel happy and have fun.

I believe this is such a great idea and I support all the people and families of these wonderful children that are involved in this project. Hope it fully comes to be realized.

Thank you so much for the hard work.

Sincerely,

Maritza Fernandez
14 Dorothy E. Lucey Drive
Newburyport, MA

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Dower, Nicole](#)
To: [Lise Reid](#)
Subject: Bartlet Restoration Project
Date: Tuesday, February 05, 2019 1:49:18 PM

To Whom This May Concern:

I am writing to you in support of CPA funding for the Bartlet Restoration Project including construction of the playground, replacement and/or renovation of all walkways within the park to make them more accessible and historic landscape restoration. Having this playground fenced in 100% is also important, as there are extremely busy streets surrounding it.

NO KIDS SHOULD BE LEFT BEHIND!

Thank you,
Nicole Dower and Family

--

Nicole Dower
Manager of Creative Services

NxStage Medical, Inc.
350 Merrimack Street
Lawrence, MA 01843
Tel: (978) 332-5911
Fax: (978) 687-4800
ndower@nxstage.com

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From: [Moray Wilson](#)
To: [Lise Reid](#)
Subject: All Inclusive Playground
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2019 11:33:37 AM

Hi Lisa,

I just learned from my neighbor about the proposed Bartlet Restoration Project, and I fully support building an all-inclusive playground! As a mother of two young children myself, I would love to see a playground built that all can enjoy.

Thank you,

Moray Wilson
13 Lucey Drive
Newburyport

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Morgan Lake](#)
To: [Lise Reid](#)
Subject: Letter of support
Date: Tuesday, February 05, 2019 12:01:31 PM

To whom it may concern,
Please consider following through with a handicap friendly playground in the city of Newburyport! No child should be left behind! I believe this will not only bring the community closer together but will also allow for our young children to grow and learn together as equals! Thank you for your consideration!

Morgan Lake

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Megan Oxland](#)
To: [Lise Reid](#)
Subject: Playground at Bartlett Mall
Date: Tuesday, February 05, 2019 6:39:42 PM

I'm writing with astounding support of the all-inclusive playground Lise Reid is trying to pass through.

I am blessed that going to any playground is a possibility for my children. Knowing there are children (and parents) who are unable to experience the joys of childhood, such as swinging on a swing, or going down a slide is a not only a shame, but truly a crime against humanity.

Many of these children and parents lives are a daily struggle, why should play time be too? Especially when there are so many resources, we as a community, can make available to provide the simple joys of play to all children.

I am 100% behind an all-inclusive playground and will continue to support the initiative until this becomes a reality.

Please keep us updated on how this turns out and if there is anything else we can do to help you!

Megan

From: [Eileen Page](#)
To: [Lise Reid](#)
Subject: All Inclusive Playground
Date: Tuesday, February 05, 2019 4:28:31 PM

Dear Ms. Reid,

I'm sure by now you are being inundated with emails voicing support for the proposed all inclusive playground on the Mall. I hope these letters serve a strong testament to the community who would benefit from the implementation of such a playground in Newburyport.

Now more than ever, it is so important to teach acceptance and understanding of all humans from a young age, and what better place to start that lesson than the playground? An inclusive playground would not only be beneficial to the children it caters to, but also has the potential to spark thoughtful, helpful discussions with parents about what it means to be handicapped, and the differences - or, in some situations, lack-thereof - that handicapped children may have from those who are not.

Of course, it should be noted that this playground would attract non-Newburyport residents, as well. I have worked with several families of children with special needs, and a fully accessible playground would no doubt be a destination point for them.

Finally, I believe this playground could make Newburyport an even more desirable point of interest in the coming spring and summer months. The city's already vibrant downtown and coastal views would only be enhanced by such a unique feature.

As a municipal employee myself, I can fully appreciate the time and work that will go into this project, and the countless hours spent on proposals and grants. On behalf of myself and the wonderful families who would benefit from this playground, I'd like to thank you for taking the time to read our letters of support and work to bring such a wonderful asset to the community.

Best,

Eileen Page
Ipswich, MA
(978) 412-7781

From: [Darby and Margot Kopp](#)
To: [Lise Reid](#)
Subject: Playground
Date: Tuesday, February 05, 2019 2:48:20 PM

Hi Lise,

As a mother of a now teenager with a disability, I am writing in support of your efforts to fund an inclusive playground as well as accessible walking trails in Newburyport. Efforts like these are so important so that all children can enjoy childhood, and so then they have grown up in a place and a society that does not unnecessarily exclude them.

Thank you,
Margot Kopp

From: [Laura Laughlin](#)
To: [Lise Reid](#)
Subject: All Inclusive Playground/Bartlet Restoration Project
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2019 10:42:42 AM

Lise Reid,

As a resident in Newburyport, I strongly support an "All Inclusive Playground" as part of the Bartlet Restoration Project. It is so challenging for kids with special needs to fully enjoy the playgrounds in Newburyport. How great it would be for parents to see the joy on their child's face as they use the playground to actually play vs. sit and watch. Being able to play outside is good for everyone, I think it would be amazing to give this to all kids. There are many children in Newburyport who truly would benefit with a playground they can use. Please make this happen.

Newburyport Resident and Special Education Teacher,
Laura Laughlin



To whom it concerns,

I am writing this letter in support of an accessible playground in Newburyport, MA. I have been a Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialist for ten years and became a resident of beautiful Newburyport a few years ago. As I have begun to grow my family, I have taken notice to what a great community we have for families however it is disappointing that people with disabilities are limited here.

We are a historical town with much of our public places being preserved which restricts access to people requiring mobility supports. We have a large population within our own community as well as the many tourists whom visit each year that would utilize and benefit from an all-inclusive experience. I love that the location chosen for the playground is in the center of town for easy accessibility and viewable to everyone that drives into town. This sends a strong and positive message which welcomes people into our community and invites people of all abilities to play together. When we all come together for nonrestrictive quality fun outdoors lives are improved and people are happy.

As a Certified Child Life Specialist, I also understand the importance of play on the developing child. Having an all-inclusive playground in Newburyport provides our children for years to come with numerous benefits including but not limited to increased social skills, motor skills, overall health, self-esteem, mutual understanding and new friendships.

Thank-you for considering my community to receive this amazing grant and your time in reading my desires to see Newburyport as a place where everyone feels included. I truly look forward to watching the compassion my own children gain through playing in an inclusive playground.

Warm regards,

Alison Zirpolo, CTRS, CCLS
Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialist
Certified Child Life Specialist

From: [Jennie Donahue](#)
To: [Lise Reid](#)
Subject: Bartlet Mall
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2019 1:50:58 PM

Good afternoon,

As chairperson for the Newburyport commission on disabilities, I am writing this email to support renovations, restorations and updates to the Bartlet Mall area.

The Bartlet Mall is a beautifully unique and special place for residents and visitors to Newburyport. Though a favorite outdoor spot for many people, for many years, barriers and insufficient accessibility have always made this area non-inclusive and not accessible for children with special needs.

There is no access for people with mobility related special needs, to get down to the frog pond, a central element to this historic park.

The playground and area around and above the frog pond, are also not inclusive for the entire community.

The restorations and renovations in the plan for this project, not only enhance and restore a beautiful and historic city landmark, it will also create access for people with disabilities where previously there has been none.

There are many reasons for this project to be adequately funded through a grant, creating inclusion is quite possibly the most valuable one.

When a municipal project includes significant improvement to access as well as creating real inclusion, it is always a very advantageous project to embark on. This is a wonderful opportunity to improve the quality of life for so many people with disabilities who wish to be included.

Grant funding for this project is integral.

A project planned with universal design is always a project worth funding.

The benefit of access and inclusion is one that is invaluable.

To see the joy on children's faces who previously could not use the playground or the park area and the equally vibrant smiles of their parents, is a truly beautiful thing to behold. Something everyone can be proud of.

We sincerely appreciate consideration for the CPA grant funding being sought for this project. The city of Newburyport and the Newburyport commission on disabilities strive to create access for all, when these types of projects arise. We are excited to see the parks department taking on this initiative. Through success of this project, children and families with disabilities will finally be able to appreciate this special, old park.

Also, I will add personally, as a lifelong resident of Newburyport and taxpayer, I fully support this project. I spent a great deal of my youth enjoying the Bartlet Mall. Even as a small child I recognize the importance of this park and its historical value in our community. From the unique topography to the big old Willow trees and specimen plantings, it really is a special place, deserving of updates and restoration.

From: [Lydia Pollard](#)
To: [Lise Reid](#)
Subject: Letter of Support for Bartlet Restoration Project
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2019 9:47:31 AM

Dear Lise,

I am a lifelong resident of Newburyport and I have had the privilege of living across the street from the Bartlet Mall at two different times in my life. I attended the Kelley School, conquered the monkey bars in Kindergarten, played kickball at recess, and shot baskets with my friends after school. Decades later I now have two children who I frequently walk over to the park to play after school. Living in this thickly settled area so close to downtown, backyards are scarce and we feel fortunate to be able to visit the ducks and turtles in the pond and to practice the monkey bars or ride scooters around the basketball courts before dinner. The playground sadly has seen much better days and desperately needs updating to include handicapped accessible walkways and structures. The basketball court is no longer a surface where one could actually play basketball because it is so uneven and full of cracks /potholes. For much of the year, the "playground" appears more like a vacant lot than it does an inviting place for safe play.

I am excited to hear that there is a plan to improve this playground and as a resident of Pond street I would be eager to help in any way possible. I hope that we as a community can find a way to reinvest in this property that serves as a backyard to a large number of families in the area.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to me if there are any opportunities to support efforts to restore this playground and park as a whole.

Sincerely,

Lydia Pollard

21 Pond Street Newburyport

From: [Leslie May](#)
To: [Lise Reid](#)
Subject: All inclusive playground
Date: Tuesday, February 05, 2019 9:48:09 PM

Dear Lise,
We support the all inclusive playground being built at the Bartlett Mall. Thank you for your support of the special needs children in town.

Best,
Leslie & Dan May
5 Lucey Dr
Newburyport

Sent from my iPhone

February 7, 2019

Mr. Mike Dissette, Chair
Community Preservation Committee
% Office of Planning and Development
City of Newburyport
60 Pleasant St.
Newburyport, MA 01950

Dear Members of the Community Preservation Committee,

The Bartlet Mall playground project is one of many critical steps in the much needed restoration of the Mall. The current playground had served us well but the restoration will accomplish several important steps:

- Replace a worn and outdated space with a new safer surface and equipment.
- Rework the current design to allow the promenade to be extended to Auburn St. as originally intended in the Charles Eliot design without taking away recreational space the public now uses and enjoys
- Help the community move forward in the restoration of a National Historic site that is long overdue.

The Bartlett Mall is our historic treasure that is arguably unmatched in historical significance in a city with many examples. We owe it to ourselves to make this spot a place that proudly displays its historic significance to our citizens and our many visitors.

I strongly support funding to initiate this project.

Respectfully,
Bill Ladas
20 Lime St.
Newburyport, MA 01950

From: [Kirsten](#)
To: [Lise Reid](#)
Subject: In support of accessible playground
Date: Tuesday, February 05, 2019 8:45:40 PM

Hello,

I am writing to support an accessible playground in Newburyport. Everyone should have equal access to play and physical activity. Thank you for supporting these efforts in our great City.

Kirsten Rowe
47 Washington Street, NBPT

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Katie Vazeos](#)
To: [Lise Reid](#)
Subject: Inclusive Playground
Date: Tuesday, February 05, 2019 1:55:54 PM

I'm writing to express my full support of the funding for the Bartlett Mall restoration project, including a fully inclusive playground. I'm fully in favor in doing whatever we can do accommodate anyone's needs, especially children, throughout our community. Please let me know if there is anything else I can do to help.

Katie Vazeos

Marketing Strategist

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W: www.fronetics.com | froneticsrealestate.com

11 Chestnut Street Suite 305 Amesbury, MA 01913

From: [Karacutic](#)
To: [Lise Reid](#)
Subject: Bartlett Restoration
Date: Tuesday, February 05, 2019 11:48:34 AM

Hello Ms. Reid

This email is in support of the Bartlett Restoration project. These updates and improvements will serve our community and its residents so well. Thank you

Kara Chiarello

From: [Julie Hebeisen](#)
To: [Lise Reid](#)
Subject: MAKE NEWBURYPORT PARKS MORE ACCESSIBLE
Date: Tuesday, February 05, 2019 12:42:39 PM

Good Afternoon Lise!

I write to you to urge the city to make our parks and playgrounds more inclusive.

As a resident of Newburyport, a proud and determined community where inclusivity and accessibility is paramount in so much that we do, we must also reflect that in how we raise our children, and how we welcome all abilities to gather and PLAY!

Play creates the foundation for well rounded children. It teaches about sharing, taking turns, safety, personal space, creativity. But, it also teaches children about the importance of exercise, crucial to overall health.

The parks in Newburyport taught my daughter about first friendships, many that she treasures today. Two of my daughter's friends, 7 year old residents of this city, would not be able to fully engage with most of the parks in the Port. That hurts my heart. My daughter has a million questions about abilities, which we love. She often asks, "Do you think XXXX could do this? Play here? Ride on this?" This answer is almost always, no. Diversity of ability is all around us. I urge you to make simple adjustments to level the "playing" field.

Thanks so much for the opportunity to share my feelings.

Julie Danahy Hebeisen
15 Newhall Lane
Newburyport, MA 01950

--

Julie Danahy Hebeisen
Office of Development and Communications
Lynn Economic Opportunity, Inc.
156 Broad St.
Lynn, MA 01901
781.309.5622, Extension 222



From: [kkbedard63](#)
To: [Lise Reid](#)
Subject: Inclusive playground
Date: Tuesday, February 05, 2019 6:44:01 PM

I am sending along support of an all inclusive playground at Bartlett Mall. As a parent of a special needs son who is now 21, I have witnessed first hand the joy on kids faces in other communities to be able to play together with typical peers. I appreciate your efforts in writing this grant.

Thank you in advance,

Karen Bedard
21 Virginia Ln.

Sent from my Samsung Galaxy , an AT&T LTE smartphone

From: [J.P.](#)
To: [Lise Reid](#)
Subject: All inclusive playground!
Date: Tuesday, February 05, 2019 9:02:26 PM

Good morning,

I am writing in my support of an all-inclusive playground at the Bartlet Mall. No child should be left behind!

Thank you!

Jodi Paris Anastos
Newburyport resident

From: [Jonathan Nickerson](#)
To: [Lise Reid](#)
Subject: Inclusive playground @ Bartlett Mall
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2019 8:22:02 AM

Lise, I've heard through the grapevine that htere is an effort to build an inclusive playground here in NBPT and I had to write a quick note of support. Having an opportunity for ALL the children in the town is a must and when we heard from our friends, the Lablanc family that their son Alex couldn't play with his friends in the way that he deserves it was a no-brainer to support this initiative. I know that there is a common agreement to this sentiment across the town and I hope that these words and feelings reach you to help support the cause. Please let me know what we can do to help support the cause moving forward. Thank you for your time.

Jon Nickerson

Newburyport Resident

781-258-6177

--

Jonathan Nickerson
cell- 781-258-6177

From: [JENNIFER BEAUCHESNE](#)
To: [Lise Reid](#)
Subject: Inclusive Park Support
Date: Tuesday, February 05, 2019 10:27:28 AM

Dear Ms. Reid,

Please accept this letter of support for the building and/or renovation of Newburyport public parks and playgrounds that are both accessible to all, and all-inclusive.

Our family includes my 5 year old niece, and the accessible play equipment and walkways are scarce. This limits her options for interacting with peers due to her disability's mobility limitations. She uses adaptive equipment to help her to navigate at home, and we have seen the remarkable successes this allows.

This is a wonderful opportunity for Newburyport to shine as being welcoming and inclusive, and will likely set a much-needed precedent for other areas to follow suit. This is not only a great thing for families impacted by disabilities, but for everyone using walkways, parks and play equipment in Newburyport and surrounding locales.

Thank you in advance for helping to pioneer this critical effort!

Sincerely,
Jennifer Beauchesne

From: vze2rxts@comcast.net
To: [Lise Reid](#)
Subject: I support an inclusive, easily accessible playground at the Barlett Mall
Date: Tuesday, February 05, 2019 7:02:17 PM

The Bartlett Mall is a jewel in the middle of this beautiful historic city. Restoring it to its historic design is a smart way for us to retain our heritage, but restoring it with inclusive access for all ensures that we allow (encourage) everyone to enjoy it.

An inclusive playground would provide a safe and easily accessible gathering spot for families. By having a wonderful playground at the Mall, Newburyport would be letting children and their families make happy memories together. My children grew up playing on the playground at the Mall, as they were some of the last graduates of the Kelley school. The Mall playground is part of their childhood. Let's keep the magic happening for generations!

Jennifer Wood
vze2rxts@comcast.net

Respectfully,
Jennie L Donahue - Chairwoman
Newburyport Commission On Disability (NCOD)
ncodchair@gmail.com
508-725-8476

*"A Disability is
not a handicap -
attitudes are"*

"Help break down the barriers. Seek to understand and educate yourself and others about disabilities"

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Jason Beauchesne](#)
To: [Lise Reid](#)
Cc: kaseyedwards60@gmail.com
Subject: Letter of Support for Inclusive Parks
Date: Tuesday, February 05, 2019 10:25:28 AM

Dear Ms. Reid,

I am writing this letter of support in an effort to make Newburyport parks more accessible to those with disabilities in the community. A close family member of mine is 5 years old and lives in your town. Her disabilities are severe in many ways and her physical disabilities make it impossible to navigate the play equipment and walkways currently in place. I am hopeful that the town of Newburyport values inclusion of persons of all ability levels in your community and will take the lead in creating ways for people of all ability levels to interact together on a daily basis. Thank you for advocating for those that rely on the help of others to bring positive change to the world.

Sincerely,

Jason Beauchesne

From: [Katie Accardi](#)
To: [Lise Reid](#)
Subject: CPA Funding
Date: Tuesday, February 05, 2019 2:04:08 PM

To Whom This May Concern:

I am writing to you in support of CPA funding for the Bartlet Restoration Project including construction of the playground, replacement and/or renovation of all walkways within the park to make them more accessible and historic landscape restoration. Having this playground fenced in 100% is also important, as there are extremely busy streets ...surrounding it.

NO KIDS SHOULD BE LEFT BEHIND!

Thank you,

Katie Accardi

481A Merrimac Street

Newburyport, MA 01950

From: [Holly Duren](#)
To: [Lise Reid](#)
Subject: In Support of Accessible Parks
Date: Tuesday, February 05, 2019 12:51:08 PM

Dear Ms. Reid,

I am writing in support of making Newburyport parks for accessible and inclusive for all.

This initiative seems like a no brainer, as research is confirming that children of all ages and abilities benefit immensely from play — especially outdoor play. For the children (or their caretakers) who cannot access Newburyport Parks, the benefit of transforming our parks to be more inclusive is obvious. But, I believe this action benefits ALL children who use NBPT parks.

My active and able-bodied 2 year old son benefits from interactions with ALL people, not just those who can access the resources (like local parks) that he can. He learns to include others and appreciate the differences in each of us that color our world. Children are remarkably open-minded, creative, and adaptable. It is important to me as a resident that all of our next generation are given the opportunity to thrive in our community.

As you consider funding and appropriations, please apportion funding to include access for all to our town parks and playgrounds

Thank you for your consideration of this important need.

Holly Duren
54 Carter Street
Newburyport

Heidi Paek, Realtor
Keller Williams Realty
49 Main Street
Topsfield, MA 01938
heidipaek@kw.com
978-500-3242

RE: INCLUSIVE PLAYGROUND AT BARTLETT MALL

February 6, 2019

Dear Mayor Holaday and Ms. Reid,

I'm writing in support of the proposed inclusive playground at Bartlett Mall. A park where *all* children can play and share fun experiences is essential to building a community where no child is left behind. Such a park would particularly help children and families at risk of feeling isolated and alone.

The proposal is an uncommon opportunity for a public\private collaboration with helpful input from well-informed, dedicated citizens. Plus, there is the added advantage of outside funding. Please proceed while the opportunity is in hand – and before it slips away! With your support, the new space would yield significant public benefits for many years to come.

Having grown up in the area, I return frequently for visits with family and friends, and to enjoy Newburyport's dining, shopping and theater venues. Also, my work as a Realtor brings me to Newburyport on a regular basis. I've assisted families who've sought to move to Newburyport, and I routinely inform prospective buyers of the City's amenities. An inclusive playground would be another important draw, signaling the community's efforts to create a welcoming and fun place for all children.

I have particularly fond memories of playing at Bartlett Mall as a child and feeling amazed by the setting. It's truly a special gathering place; historic and beautiful, in the heart of the downtown. What better way to improve the site than to make it accessible and welcoming for all? I sincerely hope more children will grow up with treasured memories of Bartlett Mall like the ones I so happily recall.

Please support the proposed plans and move forward with this meaningful project.

Best regards,

Heidi Paek

From: [Erin Murray](#)
To: [Lise Reid](#)
Subject: Letter in Support of an Inclusive Playground in Newburyport
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2019 2:18:55 PM

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing a letter in support of the inclusive playground proposed for Newburyport, MA. This inclusive playground would make such a difference in the lives of those children who would otherwise not be able to access playground structures. Please consider building this inclusive playground so that we can offer all children in Newburyport--and the surrounding areas--an equal opportunity for wellness, development, and fun,

Sincerely,
Erin Murray

From: [Heather Ahearn Fontaine](#)
To: [Lise Reid](#)
Subject: Playground for all!
Date: Tuesday, February 05, 2019 1:40:46 PM

Hello Lise Reid,

I am writing to show my support of an all inclusive playground in Newburyport. Every child should have the freedom and accessibility to a playground. How amazing this would be for everyone in the committee and what a great way to lead.

Thank you so much,
Heather Fontaine

From: [Emily Banos](#)
To: [Lise Reid](#)
Subject: Inclusive Playground Support
Date: Tuesday, February 05, 2019 6:58:21 PM

Dear Ms. Reid,

I am writing to share my support for the all-inclusive playground at Bartlett Mall. Newburyport is an amazing community with many great parks but we are in need of a play space that can accommodate all children. As an elementary educator and mother I feel strongly that we should build a park that ALL families can enjoy.

Thank you!

-Emily Banos, Newburyport resident

From: [Eileen Page](#)
To: [Lise Reid](#)
Subject: All Inclusive Playground
Date: Tuesday, February 05, 2019 4:28:31 PM

Dear Ms. Reid,

I'm sure by now you are being inundated with emails voicing support for the proposed all inclusive playground on the Mall. I hope these letters serve a strong testament to the community who would benefit from the implementation of such a playground in Newburyport.

Now more than ever, it is so important to teach acceptance and understanding of all humans from a young age, and what better place to start that lesson than the playground? An inclusive playground would not only be beneficial to the children it caters to, but also has the potential to spark thoughtful, helpful discussions with parents about what it means to be handicapped, and the differences - or, in some situations, lack-thereof - that handicapped children may have from those who are not.

Of course, it should be noted that this playground would attract non-Newburyport residents, as well. I have worked with several families of children with special needs, and a fully accessible playground would no doubt be a destination point for them.

Finally, I believe this playground could make Newburyport an even more desirable point of interest in the coming spring and summer months. The city's already vibrant downtown and coastal views would only be enhanced by such a unique feature.

As a municipal employee myself, I can fully appreciate the time and work that will go into this project, and the countless hours spent on proposals and grants. On behalf of myself and the wonderful families who would benefit from this playground, I'd like to thank you for taking the time to read our letters of support and work to bring such a wonderful asset to the community.

Best,

Eileen Page
Ipswich, MA
(978) 412-7781

From: [Denise T. LeBlanc](#)
To: [Lise Reid](#)
Subject: Inclusive playground
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2019 4:43:37 PM

Ms. Reid,

I am writing to you in show of support for the inclusive playground being proposed. In this period in our history, I find it difficult to accept that our communities do not have such designated areas for children with challenges. Can you imagine the heart ache for these children and families when these children cannot enjoy these parks? Just the thought of a child, let alone a disabled child being excluded, breaks my heart. I am asking, please, do everything you can to make this happen.

Thank you,

Denise LeBlanc
978-314-5233

From: [Dorene Olsen](#)
To: [Lise Reid](#)
Subject: Bartlett Mall and Nbpt Parks - inclusivity
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2019 10:47:15 AM

Dear Lise,
I'm writing in support of helping expand our parks to be handy capable...not only for young children with disabilities - but also for our aging population that ride on our main streets on their scooter/wheelchairs.

These folk deserve equal accessibility for park respite and joy.

Thank you for helping to pursue this!

Dorene

From: [Ashley Murphy](#)
To: [Lise Reid](#)
Subject: Inclusive Playground
Date: Tuesday, February 05, 2019 1:16:30 PM

To Whom This May Concern:

I am writing to you in support of CPA funding for the Bartlet Restoration Project including construction of the playground, replacement and/or renovation of all walkways within the park to make them more accessible and historic landscape restoration. Having this playground fenced in 100% is also important, as there are extremely busy streets surrounding it.

NO KIDS SHOULD BE LEFT BEHIND!

Thank you, Ashley Murphy

From: [Dorothy Moerlein](#)
To: [Lise Reid](#)
Subject: Inclusive playground
Date: Tuesday, February 05, 2019 12:04:32 PM

Dear Ms. Reid,

Please include my enthusiastic support for an accessible playground and renovation at Bartlett Mall!
What a wonderful addition to our community this would be!

Cheers,

Dorothy Moerlein
West Newbury, MA

Sent from my iPad

From: [Craig Wilson](#)
To: [Lise Reid](#)
Subject: All Inclusive Playground
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2019 2:29:07 PM

Good afternoon Lisë,

As a resident of Newburyport (13 Lucey Dr) I wanted to voice my support for an Inclusive playground to be built at the Bartlett Mall. I think this is directly in support of the culture and values Newburyport promotes.

Thank you,

Craig Wilson

Sent via email Lreid@cityofnewburyport.com

February 5, 2019

Newburyport Parks
Newburyport City Hall
60 Pleasant Street
P.O. Box 550
Newburyport, MA 01950

Re: **Playground at Bartlet Mall** *151 High Street, Newburyport*

To Whom It May Concern:

I write this letter in support of Lisa Reid's efforts for CPA funding for the Bartlet Restoration Project including construction of the playground, replacement and/or renovation of all walkways within the park to make them more accessible and historic landscape restoration.

As the parent of a special need's child, it is essential for not only children to have a place to play, but having access to Inclusive Playgrounds would give our therapists another venue in which to work with children other than in the home. Inclusive Playgrounds would also enable our children with disabilities another environment outside of school in which to interact with their peers.

Inclusive Playgrounds would demonstrate how the City of Newburyport values all of its citizens and visitors by providing play areas accessible to everyone.

Kind regards,



Corinne Poor
8 Merrill Street
West Newbury, MA 01985
Corinne.poor@gmail.com

From: [Colby Pollard](#)
To: [Lise Reid](#)
Subject: Bartlet Mall Restoration Project
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2019 1:36:37 PM

Hi Lisë,

I'm writing in support of the Bartlet Mall Restoration project and the grant for CPA funding to renovate the playground, and walkways for further accessibility for all residents, and visitors to the park. I have lived across from the Bartlett Mall on Pond St with my family for the past six years, and we use the space nearly everyday.

Yesterday, in the 60 degree February weather after school, there were countless children, parents, and dogs enjoying all aspects of the park. There are many families that live within walking distance, and many others who make it a point to drive to the park for their use. Improving the surfaces and walkways will only bring more people to use this unique city space.

I attended a Parks meeting last year at the library, and was shocked to hear people suggesting that the playground, and basketball court are rarely used. At the time, I spoke and expressed this was not because kids, and adults alike choose not to use the the space, but because you literally cannot successfully use the basketball court in particular because of it's poor condition. The drainage or lack thereof of the playground structure is another reason, as it sits in a puddle after a hard rain or a thaw. To be honest, I'm also not very impressed that the DPW drives over the large field on Pond St weekly to empty one trash barrel that is along the walkway above the pond. The tire tracks leave an impression in the ground, and are very noticeable.

I just so happened to take the attached pictures of the basketball court yesterday as my children and others were attempting to play basketball at the park to share with my wife, to show her how bad it is. As a community, we deserve this space to be improved upon, and for everyone to be able to safely access and use the space accordingly.

Best of luck with the grant application, we're always rooting for the Bartlet Mall and consider it practically a part of our family. We even gave our son the middle name 'Bartlet' when he was born in 2015.

Best,
Colby Pollard
21 Pond St

From: [Maritza Fernandez](#)
To: [Lise Reid](#)
Subject: Support for building of playground
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2019 7:54:34 AM

Dear coordinator,

This letter is in support of the playgrounds so much needed by so many children that would be able to access these playgrounds easily and enjoy what each child deserves and needs, a safe, accessible, beautiful and fun place to enjoy and feel happy and have fun.

I believe this is such a great idea and I support all the people and families of these wonderful children that are involved in this project. Hope it fully comes to be realized.

Thank you so much for the hard work.

Sincerely,

Maritza Fernandez
14 Dorothy E. Lucey Drive
Newburyport, MA

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Christy Teel](#)
To: [Lise Reid](#)
Subject: Letter in Support on All Inclusive Playground
Date: Tuesday, February 05, 2019 11:57:19 AM

Dear Ms. Reid - please consider this a letter of support for an all-inclusive playground locally in Newburyport, and more specifically at the existing Bartlett Mall Playground. We are a local family with two young boys and know, and appreciate, the importance of playgrounds in our community that can be used by ALL children. This would be a wonderful addition to Newburyport and greatly appreciated by so many families, children and residents.

Thank you, Christy & Jon Teel

From: [Bri McCorkell](#)
To: [Lise Reid](#)
Subject: Bartlet Restoration Project
Date: Tuesday, February 05, 2019 11:43:39 AM

Dear Lisa.

I am writing to show my support for CPA funding for the Bartlet Restoration Project including construction of the playground, replacement and/or renovation of all walkways within the park to make them more accessible and historic landscape restoration.

As a local family with multiple children + friends impacted by this project, we are a voice of YES for the children + all of their needs.

Sincerely,

Bri, Rory, Holden + June McCorkell

From: [Mo Maffa](#)
To: [Lise Reid](#)
Subject: Bartlet Restoration Project
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2019 8:40:24 AM

Good Morning,

I am emailing you to please update the parks in Newburyport for kids of all abilities. Every child should have the opportunity to play at public parks. Please update the parks so ALL kids may have the same joy and convenience.

Thank you for your time and support,

Monique Maffa

From: [Barbara Martin](#)
To: [Lise Reid](#)
Subject: Inclusive playground
Date: Tuesday, February 05, 2019 11:28:13 AM

Please add my support to your campaign to construct an inclusive playground. I believe this would be a great asset to Newburyport, and loved by all those who are unable to access a traditional playground.

Sincerely,
Barbara Martin

Sent from my iPhone

February 5, 2019

Lisë Reid
Parks Director
Newburyport Parks
Newburyport City Hall
60 Pleasant Street
P.O. Box 550
Newburyport, MA 01950

Dear Ms. Reid,

I am writing in strong support of an all-inclusive playground in Newburyport. I am a resident with a young child who frequents the Bartlett Mall playground often as it is the closest playground to our house. As a mother, I understand the value of dedicated outdoor space for our children as it relates to their social, emotional, cognitive, and motor development and my family is grateful for the access to parks in this beautiful city.

As a speech-language pathologist, I have dedicated my career to children with communication differences, many of whom also experience mobility challenges. Most of these children are excluded from typical playgrounds or find somewhat dangerous work-arounds in order to participate in basic play activities, like sliding or swinging.

In my years as a clinician and researcher, I have studied the ways in which universal design can positively impact children, both with and without disabilities. An accessible and inclusive playground in our town would allow for all children to play in the same space, making a clear statement that human variability should be accepted and celebrated. Most importantly, it would offer the chance for families, who are otherwise excluded, the opportunity to play without restriction and participate fully in the fundamental activities of childhood.

Sincerely,



Alyssa Boucher, PhD, CCC-SLP
146 State St.
Newburyport, MA 01950

From: [Brian Potter](#)
To: [Lise Reid](#)
Cc: [Melissa Potter](#)
Subject: Bartlet Mall Playground Support Letter
Date: Wednesday, February 06, 2019 2:29:45 PM

February 6, 2019

Lise Reid
Parks Director
City Of Newburyport

Dear Ms. Reid,

We are writing this letter in support of Bartlet Mall Restoration Project including construction of the all-inclusive playground. We think this is a wonderful and necessary initiative so that all children throughout the greater Newburyport region as well as all visitors can enjoy the beauty of the Mall while easily accessing the playground equipment.

Since moving to Newburyport about 6 years ago, we have made many great friends who have children with special needs. These children have become friends with our children and it would a joy to see them all together on the playground equally enjoying their time outside as they grow and develop.

We appreciate your time and consideration as you and the town consider this important initiative.

Many thanks!!

Yours Sincerely,

Brian and Melissa Potter
31 Hancock Street
Newburyport, MA
857-928-2666
melissakpotter@gmail.com

From: [Amy Amato](#)
To: [Lise Reid](#)
Subject: All-Inclusive Playground
Date: Tuesday, February 05, 2019 8:19:06 PM

Dear Lise,

I can't imagine how hard your job must be. I know that special interests can be challenging. However, I've always known Newburyport prides itself on being all-inclusive. In this light, I would like you to strongly look into an all-inclusive playground. I know so many families that could benefit. Even for children that don't need these resources, they can come and play with friends in a new way. I'm excited to be connected to a town with so much love for its citizens.

Best,
Amy Amato
Byfield, MA

From: [Annelise Grant](#)
To: [Lise Reid](#)
Subject: Letter of support for inclusive playground
Date: Tuesday, February 05, 2019 11:38:27 AM

Hello Lise!

I heard about the plans for an inclusive playground at Bartlet Mall in Newburyport. As a citizen of the city, I would like to extend my full support for this, as I think it would truly be a benefit to those who live and visit here.

I also have a friend in Alaska who designs inclusive playgrounds; I'd be more than happy to connect you if you'd like a resource.

Thanks so much,
Annelise Grant
11 Congress St.
Newburyport

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Annelise Grant
annelise.a.grant@gmail.com
+1 978 764 2368