

Town of Sudbury

Community Preservation Committee

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BY:

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PROJECT SUBMISSION FORM

Submitter: Beth Suedmeyer, Environmental Planner

Submission Date: November 6, 2017

Group or Committee Affiliation (if any): Planning and Community Development

Submitter's address and phone number:

Purpose (please select all that apply):

Town of Sudbury

Open Space

Planning and Community Development

Community Housing

278 Old Sudbury Road

Historic

Sudbury, MA 01432

Recreation

Submitter's email address: suedmeyerb@sudbury.ma.us

Project Name: Funding for the 2018 Open Space and Recreation Plan Update

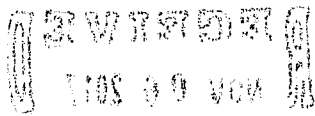
Project Description:

The 2018 Open Space and Recreation Plan Update (the Plan) will further the Town's widely endorsed goals of providing and maintaining a diversity of conservation and recreation land uses reflecting the interests and needs of the whole community. Over the past two decades, Sudbury has made considerable progress preserving open space land; however, priority conservation properties are still unprotected.

This updated Plan will present an analysis of the Town's resources and needs and provide an action plan for meeting those needs. The goals and objectives will be crafted to focus on the community's priorities for natural resource protection and recreation. They will also include unmet goals from past plans, updated to today's needs. The updated Plan will be complementary with other Town plans, and shares many similar goals and objectives with the new Master Plan process, which will be initiated in the coming year. It is clear that Sudbury residents and town officials have strong desires to preserve land for a variety of reasons and uses. This Plan will help the Town prioritize its decisions land for protection, management, and funding.

The Plan will help establish priorities among the limited number of potential parcels available to preserve and identify areas of Town that are most threatened by environmental or developmental concerns. The Plan will update previous studies completed in 1977, 1985, 1998 and 2009. Many of the goals and objectives identified in those studies have been attained; however, many remain unaddressed and new goals will be added. The Town continues to grow and its finite open land resources are diminishing. The Plan is one resource to help Sudbury achieve its long term goals, manage growth, and maintain Sudbury's history and character.

Once completed, the Plan is a powerful instrument to effect community goals. Through public outreach and a collaborative interdepartmental effort, it establishes the community's priorities and recommends actions that will support them. Once the Plan is approved by the Executive



Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, Division of Conservation Services, the Town will become eligible to apply for land acquisition grant programs administered by that Agency. Finally, the Plan will help the Town coordinate with ongoing acquisition efforts of state environmental agencies and local and regional land trusts.

Accordingly, the Plan will be developed to meet the requirements of the Commonwealth's Executive Office of Environmental Affairs. See this link for their guidance document <http://www.mass.gov/eea/docs/eea/dcs/osplanreq08.pdf>. Town staff will prepare much of the updated Plan. The requested CPA funds will be utilized to hire consultant or student services to prepare portions of the Plan, which may include but not be limited to:

- Data Gathering and Analysis;
- Mapping and GIS; and
- Preparation of Outreach Materials

Numerous other Towns have utilized CPA funds to update Open Space and Recreation Plans.

Costs: \$15,000

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Total Project Cost</u>	<u>CPC Funds Requested</u>	<u>Other Funding Sources (amount and source)</u>
2019	TBD	\$15,000	TBD and staff time
2020			
2021			
2022			
2023			
Total			

How does this project meet the General Criteria and Category Specific Criteria for CPC projects (see attached)?

Updating the OSRP is consistent with both General, Open Space, and Recreation Criteria identified in the CPC Application.

General Criteria:

- Consistent with the Town's Master Plan, Open Space and Recreation Plan;
- Preserve the essential character of the town as described in the Master Plan; and
- Serve more than one CPA purpose, linking open space and recreation

Open Space Criteria:

- Permanently protect important wildlife habitat, including areas that: - are of local significance for biodiversity; - contain a variety of habitats, with a diversity of geologic features and types of vegetation; - contain a habitat type that is in danger of vanishing from Sudbury; or - preserve habitat for threatened or endangered species of plants or animals;
- Preserve Sudbury's rural and agricultural character;
- Provide opportunities for passive recreation and environmental education;
- Protect or enhance wildlife corridors, promote connectivity of habitat or prevent fragmentation of habitats;
- Provide connections with existing trails or potential trail linkages;

- Preserve scenic views;
- Border a scenic road (Morse Road);
- Protect drinking water quantity and quality;
- Provide flood control/storage;
- Preserve important surface water bodies, including wetlands, vernal pools or riparian zones; and
- Preserve a parcel identified in the 2009-2013 Open Space and Recreation Plan.

Recreation Criteria:

- Support multiple recreation uses;
- Serve a significant number of residents;
- Expand the range of recreational opportunities available to Sudbury residents of all ages;
- Jointly benefit Conservation Commission and Park and Recreation Commission initiatives by promoting passive recreation, such as hiking, biking, and cross-country skiing, on town owned property;
- Maximize the utility of land already owned by Sudbury (e.g. school property); and
- Promote the creative use of railway and other corridors to create safe and healthful non-motorized transportation opportunities.

Does this project fall within the jurisdiction or interest of other Town Boards, Committees or Departments? If so, please list the boards, committees or departments, whether applications and/or presentations have been made, and what input or recommendations have been given.

Yes, the Project will be presented to and discussed with relevant committees, including but not limited to the Conservation Commission, the Land Acquisition Review Committee, the Board of Selectmen, Park and Recreation Commission, and the Finance Committee.

For Community Preservation Committee Use:

Form received on: _____

Project presented to CPC on: _____

Reviewed by: _____

Determination: _____

