

City of Cambridge

MASSACHUSETTS

In City Council March 27, 1972

	YEA	NAY	ABSENT
Mr. Clinton	✓		
Mr. Danehy	✓		
Mr. Duehay	✓		
Mrs. Graham	✓		
Mr. Moncreiff	✓		
Mr. Owens	✓		
Mr. Sullivan	✓		
Mr. Vellucci	✓		
Mayor Ackermann	✓		
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CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

City Hall Annex

Inman & Broadway

EXTENSION 344

To John H. Corcoran
City Manager

From ^{R.A.C.} Robert A. Bowyer, Director
Planning and Development

Date March 24, 1972

Subject Application to HUD for Grant Under Open Space Program

For the past several years the City of Cambridge has been fortunate in receiving substantial grants under the Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Urban Beautification program and Open Space Land program. Within the past year or two we have been aware HUD has been planning to combine the activities covered under the Urban Beautification, Open Space Land and Historical Preservation programs to create a new, larger and more flexible program to be called Legacy of Parks. The former programs would then be eliminated.

No guidelines or application forms have been available for the new program. Based on our contacts with HUD and information obtained from the Federal Register we prepared and you approved submittal of a letter of intent to file an application, which is all we could do.

Yesterday we were able to obtain the most up-to-date guidelines and some of the application forms. Ironically, even though there have been no guidelines or application forms, HUD would like to receive our application by April 1, 1972, particularly with the end of the Federal fiscal year in June approaching. That date is significant because the "certification" of the Metropolitan Area Planning Council as the open space planning organization expires on April 1st. Applications received after April 1st may be delayed several months while MAPC is recertified.

As part of its budgeting process HUD has allocated \$600,000 for Cambridge. The program is a 50-50 matching program so that Cambridge must produce a matching share of \$600,000.

As reviewed with you earlier the proposed program for 1972 is drawn from the high priority projects requested as part of the Capital Improvements Program. The proposed 1972 program includes:

1. Russell Field -- acquisition of presently vacant land adjacent to the field and refurbishment of the recreational facilities. Under con-

sideration is use of a part of Russell Field for the North Cambridge MDC skating rink, pre-fabricated school classrooms and improved high school athletic facilities. IF any of these facilities are located there permanently, additional recreation space will be needed. Even if none of these facilities are located there, additional recreational facilities are needed there to serve North Cambridge.

2. St. Peter's Field -- Improvements were scheduled in the 1971 Urban Beautification Program but were deferred because of the indecision on the skating rink for which St. Peter's Field was a recommended site. Whether the skating rink is built here, or at Russell Field, St. Peter's Field does need some work.
3. Cambridge Common -- The work proposed is the first year of a staged multi-year development plan.
4. Riverside/Cambridgeport -- There are several projects for recreational development in the Riverside/Cambridgeport area: (1) The existing Corporal Burns Playground, the largest facility in the Riverside Neighborhood, needs extensive renovation in order to better serve the needs of the area. A neighborhood committee has been meeting to discuss plans for such renovation activity. (2) \$50,000 will be reserved for an unspecified use to be determined at neighborhood meetings. (3) The park in the Green, Franklin, Pearl project is included for financing reasons explained below.
5. East Cambridge -- Recreational expenditures in East Cambridge will probably be focused on the redesigning and renovation of the Hurley and the Silva playgrounds and on street planting and general neighborhood improvements. These plans will be developed at meetings with neighborhood residents.
6. Model Cities -- Recreational expenditures in the Model Cities neighborhood could be focused on developing spaces in two of the low income housing projects, Washington Elms and Newtowne Courts. An alternative possibility would involve the acquisition or rehabilitation of the Cambridge Neighborhood House or the Margaret Fuller House. Both of these settlement houses are listed on the National Register of Historic Places and are currently used for community service programs. These plans will be developed at meetings in the Model Neighborhood.
7. Harvard Square -- A series of phased improvements need to be undertaken in the Harvard Square business district in order to prepare for the opening of the Kennedy Library and the celebration of the Bicentennial.

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CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

In City Council

March 27, 1972

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING FILING OF APPLICATION FOR GRANT TO ACQUIRE AND DEVELOP
OPEN-SPACE LAND

WHEREAS Title VII of the Housing Act of 1961, as amended, provides for the making of grants by the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to States and local public bodies to assist them in the acquisition and development of permanent interests in land for open-space uses where such assistance is needed for carrying out a unified or officially coordinated program for the provision and development of open-space land as part of the comprehensively planned development of the urban areas; and

WHEREAS the City of Cambridge (herein sometimes referred to as "Applicant") desires to acquire and develop fee simple interest to certain land and to develop certain publicly owned lands. Such acquisition and/or development activity will be carried out in the areas known as Russell Field, St. Peters Field, the Cambridge Common, Harvard Square, the Riverside/Cambridgeport neighborhood, the Model Cities neighborhood and East Cambridge. Such land is to be held and used for permanent open-space land for recreational uses; and

WHEREAS Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and the regulations of the Department of Housing and Urban Development effectuating that Title, provide that no person shall be discriminated against because of race, color, or national origin in the use of land acquired and/or developed; and

WHEREAS it is recognized that the contract for Federal grant will impose certain obligations and responsibilities upon the Applicant and will require among other things (1) assurances that families and individuals displaced as a result of the open-space land project are offered decent, safe and sanitary housing, (2) compliance with Federal labor standards, and (3) compliance with Federal requirements relating to equal employment opportunity; and

WHEREAS it is estimated that the cost of acquiring and/or developing such land will be \$1,200,000.00.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CAMBRIDGE:

1. That an application be made to the Department of Housing and Urban Development for a grant in an amount authorized by Title VII of the Housing Act of 1961, as amended, which amount is presently estimated to be \$600,000., and that the applicant will pay the balance of the cost from other funds available to it.
2. That the City Manager, or in his stead the Director of Planning and Development, is hereby authorized and directed to execute and to file such application with the Department of Housing and Urban Development to provide additional information and to furnish such documents as may be required by said Department, to execute such contracts as are required by said Department, and to act as the authorized correspondent of the Applicant.

3. That the proposed acquisition and development is in accordance with plans for the allocation of land for open-space uses, and that, should said grant be made, the Applicant will acquire, develop and retain said land for the uses designated in said application and approved by the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

4. That the United States of America and the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development be, and they hereby are, assured of full compliance by the Applicant with regulations of the Department of Housing and Urban Development effectuating Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

5. That the United States of America and the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development be, and they hereby are, assured of full compliance by the Applicant with the Federal labor standards imposed under Title VII of the Housing Act of 1961, as amended.



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139
Tel. 876-6800

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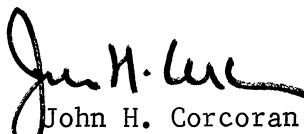
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
JOHN H. CORCORAN
City Manager

March 27, 1972

To the Honorable, the City Council:

I transmit herewith communication from Robert A. Bowyer, Director of Planning and Development, dated March 24, 1972, relative to the application to HUD for a grant under the Open-Space Program, together with a proposed resolution, for acceptance by the City Council.

Very truly yours,


John H. Corcoran
City Manager

JHC/b

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COMMUNICATION

from the City Manager trans-

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proposed resolution authorizing filing
of application for grant to acquire and
develop open-space land in the sum of
\$600,000

March 27, 1972