



City of Cambridge

Agenda # 7
IN CITY COUNCIL
September 9, 1985

- WHEREAS:** The City has previously entered into an agreement with the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA) which provides funds from the Urban Mass Transportation Authority (UMTA) for the process of creating a park and outdoor recreation facilities on the site of the former New Street Landfill; and
- WHEREAS:** The MBTA is now completing the grading of the site prior to returning it to the City; and
- WHEREAS:** The City desires additional funds to ensure the successful completion of this major construction project; and
- WHEREAS:** The City recognizes the importance of implementing construction at the earliest possible time:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, By the City Council of the City of Cambridge:

1. That applications be submitted by the City of Cambridge to the Massachusetts Executive Office of Environmental Affairs, Division of Conservation Services for Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund and State Urban Self-Help Financial assistance for the New Street Landfill Park Project.
2. That the City Manager or Deputy City Manager, or in their stead, the Assistant City Manager for Community Development, is hereby authorized and directed to file such applications, to make any amendments to the application or program proposed as may be necessary, to provide such additional information, furnish such documents, and execute such contracts as may be required, and to act as the authorized correspondent and representative of the City in connection with said application.
3. That the U.S. Government, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and the Division of Conservation Services be and hereby are assured of full compliance with all assurances and understandings as may be required.

In City Council September 9, 1985.

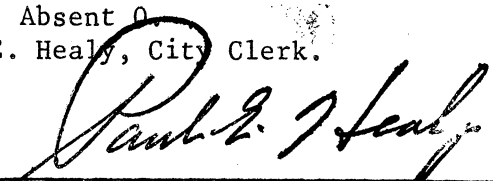
Adopted by a yeas and nays vote:-

Yeas 9; Nays 0; Absent 0.

Attest:- Paul E. Healy, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:


Paul E. Healy, City Clerk.

City of Cambridge

MASSACHUSETTS

In City Council

September 9

198⁵

Agenda # 7 application for additional
funding to develop playing fields
and other active and passive
recreation facilities on the new Street Dump Site

	YEA	NAY	ABSENT	PRESENT
Mr. Daniel J. Clinton	✓			
Mr. Thomas W. Danehy	✓			
Ms. Saundra Graham	✓			
Mr. Alfred W. LaRosa	✓			
Mr. David E. Sullivan	✓			
Mr. Walter J. Sullivan	✓			
Mr. Alfred Vellucci	✓			
Ms. Alice K. Wolf	✓			
Mayor Duehay	✓			

9 0 0



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139
TEL. 498-9011

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
ROBERT W. HEALY
City Manager

September 9, 1985

RICHARD C. ROSSI
DEPUTY CITY MANAGER

To the Honorable, the City Council:

Subject: Applications for Additional Funding to Develop Playing Fields and Other Active and Passive Recreation Facilities on the New Street Dump Site

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide the City Council with an understanding of the current project status and the need for quick passage of the attached City Council Resolution. On August 30, 1985, the City filed two preliminary applications with the Division of Conservation Services of the State Executive Office of Environmental Affairs for funds totaling \$2.5 million to be used on a Phase I development project for the New Street Dump Site. As part of those applications, the City is required to submit a resolution, motion or similar action duly adopted or passed as an official act of the Applicant's governing body which authorizes the filing of the application, including all understandings and assurances contained therein and directs and authorizes the person identified as the official representative of the applicant to act in connection with the application and to provide such additional information as may be required.

Because the City Council did not meet after August 5th, the City has been given an extension to the middle of September to provide the required City Council Resolution. The applications can not be approved without the support of the City Council. The following information is presented to demonstrate the logical progression of work (past, present and future) for the development of the site as a major athletic and recreation facility.

MAJOR WORK ACTIVITIES TO DATE:

- | | |
|-----------|---|
| 1978 | Preliminary feasibility study completed which set the site master plan and landform configuration for the MBTA filling activities. |
| 1978-1983 | MBTA filling and grading activities including site monitoring activities for methane gas generation and settlement to create data base for future site development. |
| June 1982 | Site survey completed by City to monitor filling activities. |
| Jan. 1983 | Site design study completed by City utilizing site survey to evaluate proposed master plan. Anticipated site conditions from MBTA filling activities were evaluated and potential problem areas and additional data requirements identified. Major findings included: |
| | 1. Site grades did not match proposed 1978 Master Plan requiring significant grading and plan revisions. |

2. Methane gas generation would create poor conditions for establishment of vegetation.
3. Poor soil suitability for vegetation establishment would require extremely costly site preparation activities.
4. Substantial on-site stormwater retention would be required due to apparent inadequate capacities in area storm drains. Additional information was required on drainage system to provide site drainage design.
5. Significant site settlement would be expected over the next 20 years with approximately 50% occurring in the next 5 years.
6. Perimeter gas vent trench constructed by the MBTA appears to be effective. However, additional information was required on drainage system to provide site drainage design.
7. Existing wetland area has only minimum capacity as a stormwater retention area and should be regraded in accordance with the revised master plan for improved use in site stormwater management.

April 1983-
Jan. 1984

Based on the findings, data requirements and recommendations of the design study, a comprehensive monitoring program was conducted to:

1. Determine capacities and potential of existing drainage system surrounding the dump site and develop preliminary design recommendations for stormwater management in terms of required off-site and on-site improvements.
2. Estimate maximum groundwater elevations at the site.
3. Estimate the relationship and potential impacts of the dump site on Fresh Pond via groundwater.
4. Collect additional field data on combustible gas levels beneath the site and document the performance of the existing vent trench with respect to preventing off-site migration of gases.

Findings of this comprehensive monitoring program were outlined in a report and presented to the City and DEQE for review and comment.

Oct. 1983-
Jan. 1984

Second site survey was conducted to evaluate final site grades. Significant problem areas were identified where site grades were not in conformance with master plan elevations and were creating additional drainage problem areas. In addition, excess site fill would require significant and costly site regrading to accommodate facilities.

April 1984-
August 1984

MBTA conducted subsurface investigations as required by the City to document depth of fill and fill characteristics for direction of site regrading to accommodate facilities.

June 1984

The MBTA agreed to provide additional site grading activities as required to provide an interim on-site drainage system and accommodate proposed future facilities. A series of meetings involving "T" and City officials were held to develop plans for final grading and termination of "T" contractual activities on the site.

Oct. 1984

The City submitted the grading and drainage plan to the MBTA for their use in undertaking, as promised, its final grading of the site prior to site acceptance by the City. The purpose of the plan is to reduce drainage problems by on-site redirection and retention of storm water. The directed grading activities are based on accommodating facilities as outlined in the revised Master Plan while providing required immediate storm water control and improvements to reduce area drainage problems. A number of flooding conditions have occurred during the past two years impacting properties on Bellis Circle, Sherman and New Streets. New building construction on New Street will be adversely affected by any sizeable storm lending additional impetus to new water control measures as soon as possible.

Feb. 1985-
Aug. 1985

Based upon the recommendation of the January 1984 Comprehensive Monitoring Report and recent public meetings concerning the site, a Phase II comprehensive monitoring program was undertaken. Activities include air quality monitoring and analysis; groundwater level monitoring, sampling and analysis.

Aug. 1985

Applications were filed with the State Division of Conservation Services for \$2.5 million in additional funds.

The City began the process of selecting a consultant for the final design of a Phase I project.

Sept. 1985

The MBTA will finish the regrading of the Dump and return control of the site to the City.

The MBTA will advertise for construction the Russell Field Restoration Project which will include a football field for temporary use by the High School. This work will be completed by early Fall, 1986.

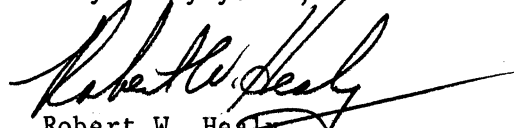
PROPOSED WORK ACTIVITIES:

During September and October, City agencies will meet with community groups and the new Special Committee on Outdoor Athletics and Recreation to discuss the Phase I Dump Project and a program for future phases. The athletic requirements of the School Department will be an important part of these discussions.

After these meetings, the program will be presented to the City Council in late October.

Hopefully, construction will start by the Fall of 1986.

Very truly yours,


Robert W. Healy
City Manager

RWH/b

Agenda # 7 S- 635

Resolution approving the applications
for additional funding to develop play-
ing fields and other active and passive
recreation facilities on the New Street
Dump site.

In City Council,

September 9, 1985

9/9/1985

MP
P

Order
Adopted

9-0-0