

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
STATE HOUSE, ROOM 473G, BOSTON 02133-1054

REP. ALICE K. WOLF

REPRESENTING THE PEOPLE
OF NORTH AND WEST CAMBRIDGE

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E-Mail: Rep.AliceWolf@house.state.ma.us

1999 APR 22 A 10:05

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS

Committees on:

Education, Arts and Humanities
Housing and Urban Development

LEGISLATIVE AIDE
CHRISTINE A. LOPES

E-Mail: Christine.Lopes@state.ma.us

April 16, 1999

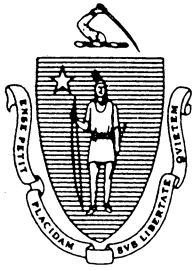
City Clerk
Cambridge City Hall
765 Mass. Avenue
Cambridge, Ma. 02138

Dear City Clerk *Margaret*

I am forwarding this important information on the Self-Help Grant Program run through the Division of Conservation and Services of the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs. I hope this information is useful and that the City of Cambridge is able to take advantage of this opportunity. If there is any further information that I can provide, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Alice K. Wolf
Alice K. Wolf
State Representative



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Environmental Affairs
100 Cambridge Street, Boston, MA 02202

ARGEO PAUL CELLUCCI
GOVERNOR

JANE SWIFT
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

BOB DURAND
SECRETARY

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April 8, 1999

Dear Prospective Applicants:

I am pleased to announce that the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs (EOEA), through the Division of Conservation Services, will conduct a fiscal year 2000 grant round for the Self-Help Program. This program provides state financial assistance to cities and towns for the purchase of conservation land. Properties assisted with state funds become permanently protected open space ensuring that they will remain in conservation use for generations to come. **The filing deadline for the Fiscal Year 2000 Grant Round is June 1, 1999.**

The focus of this year's grant round is strictly the purchase of open space for biological conservation (including species and habitats) and protection of sensitive stream, river, lake and pond watersheds. This is in direct response to Governor Cellucci's goal of protecting 200,000 additional acres of open space across the Commonwealth by 2010. Due to the need to emphasize land preservation and to eliminate a large backlog of previous park construction project obligations, there will be no Urban Self-Help grant round this year.

Proposals from urban, suburban and rural communities that foster protection of ecosystems (including contiguous land, water, and wildlife habitat) and advance the Watershed Initiative through inter-municipal and municipal-state cooperation are strongly encouraged. Innovative land acquisition proposals that utilize zoning overlay districts, conservation restrictions, and other creative tools that will help stretch limited public dollars and maximize contiguous land protection are also strongly encouraged. I will be asking you to copy your application to my Watershed liaison, the "Watershed Team Leader", in your watershed. Please refer to the enclosed description of the state Watershed Initiative, and the list of Watershed Team Leaders.

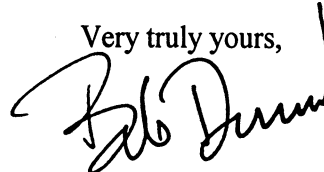
Self-Help funds have specific eligibility requirements and are awarded on a competitive basis. Grants range from 52-70% reimbursement based upon your community's equalized valuation per capita (EVPC) decile rank. The grants will be a maximum of \$500,000 per applicant community, at the discretion of the Secretary.



Be advised that a state approved Open Space and Recreation Plan is a prerequisite to your community's participation in this grant round. There is still time to begin the planning process if your plan has expired and you wish to participate in the grant round. Information on the status of your plan, a list of sites in your community which have received this funding in the past and are therefore permanently protected, and your EVPC decile rank is available from the Division of Conservation Services.

This is a perfect opportunity to realize new and innovative biological conservation and ecosystem protection projects. Please contact the Division of Conservation Services at 617/727-1552 if you wish to receive an application package, and mark your calendars for the June 1, 1999 deadline.

Very truly yours,



Bob Durand

Comm. & Rpts City Officers

#4

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A communication was received from Alice K. Wolf, State Rep., transmitting important information on the Self-Help Grant Program run through the Division of Conservation and Services of the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs.

In City Council April 26, 1999

Referred to the City Manager