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Gary Christenson, Mayor

February 6, 2025

The Malden City Council
215 Pleasant Street
Malden, MA 02148

Dear Members of the City Council:

I write to ask for the City Council's support to fund the following projects which have been submitted to me and recommended by the Community Preservation Committee (CPC): the Malden River Works Project: \$1,000,000; the Devir Park Phase II Revitalization Project: \$769,596; the Forest Dale Cemetery Wall Restoration Project: \$475,000; The Pearl Street Station Envelope Assessment Project: \$8,000; the Oliver Street Station Envelope Assessment Project: \$8,000; the Saint Paul's Parish Envelope Assessment Project: \$14,500; the Affordable Housing Trust Fund: \$349,166.52; and, the Housing Subsidy for Older Adults Project: \$40,000. In reaching their recommendation, after public hearings, the CPC found that each of these projects meet eligibility requirements and align with the priorities stated in Malden's Community Preservation Plan.

Two of these recommendations involve the reallocation of a \$1,450,000 bond to the Malden River Works Project (\$1,000,000) and to the Devir Park Project (\$450,000). The CPC found that these projects are similar to the Roosevelt Project that is not moving forward at this time. This reallocation will help fund another phase of the Devir Park Master Plan as well as the climate resilient public riverfront park along the Malden River while also drawing down the funds before triggering arbitrage.

In addition, these recommendations also include funding to assess the conditions of three (3) historic buildings in order to understand the scope of improvements necessary to preserve their envelope. This is an important first step in rehabilitating them to the standards established by the Secretary of Interior for Historic Preservation. Similarly, funding is also recommended for the restoration of the stone wall surrounding the Forest Dale Cemetery that will create an appearance consistent with its historic character.

Finally, the recommendations include an award to the Affordable Housing Trust Fund as well as to the Housing Subsidy Project for Older Adults administered by Housing Families. These are both in line with our on-going work to maintain and create affordable housing opportunities in our community.

Again, I fully support these requests and thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

GARY CHRISTENSON
Mayor, City of Malden