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Gary Christenson, Mayor

January 4, 2024

Malden City Council
215 Pleasant Street
Malden, MA 02148

RE: Community Preservation Committee Submissions

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 Linden Rink Construction: \$67,360 from Open Space Reserve; the Oak Grove Community Center Design: \$151,650 from Historic Preservation Reserve; Fitzgerald Park Project: \$87,500 from Open Space Reserve and \$87,500 from Budgeted Reserve; the Malden Hospital Open Space Acquisition: \$730,000 from Budgeted Reserve; and, the Malden River Works Project: \$983,000 from Budgeted Reserve.

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.

Four of these recommendations comport with the community vision identified in our Open Space and Recreation Plan which calls for a "network of well-maintained open spaces that are available and accessible to all ages and interests." The proposals are in line with that goal and will include among other things, the creation of a new outdoor rink; the expansion of the widely used Fitzgerald Park to incorporate an enhanced play area with ADA accessibility; the acquisition and preservation of open space at the former Malden Hospital site and funding toward the climate resilient public riverfront park as part of Malden River Works. In addition, the CPC also recommends funding that moves us closer to the goal of restoring and revitalizing the Oak Grove Community Center to its original longstanding use as a community center for meetings, events and other civic uses.

Again, I fully support these requests and believe that these projects will result in assets that will foster a sense of community and that we can all be proud of. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

GARY CHRISTENSON
Mayor, City of Malden