

From: [Brian DeLacey](#)
To: [Carol Ann Desiderio](#); [Barbara Murphy](#)
Subject: Public Comment: OPPOSITION to #139-23, SUPPORT of #140-23, SUPPORT of #223-23 for an ESTIMATE.
Date: Tuesday, May 23, 2023 10:34:32 AM
Attachments: [May 23, 2023-PublicComment.pdf](#)
[May22-InfluencesOnRPIP.png](#)

May 23, 2023

Please accept this as public comment for the 5/23/23 City Council meeting, in OPPOSITION to paper #139-23, in SUPPORT of paper #140-23, and in SUPPORT of paper #223-23 calling for an ESTIMATE.

As you may know, last night's Board of Health meeting extended their review of health matters related to artificial turf at Roosevelt Park into July. However, it is immediately clear that removing long-existing contamination at Roosevelt Park is in the public interest and should proceed without further delay.

Therefore, I respectfully ask that the Council pass #140-23 and approve the \$1.2M sought for excavation of hazardous soil as recommended by paper #223-23. This action is consistent with the long-standing recommendations of the Community Preservation Committee. Let's start digging soon.

Also, I ask that you SUPPORT the Finance Committee report #223-23 seeking "an estimate of a plan for a grass-based field, and for a field with a grass-compatible substrate." As a result of the many ongoing proceedings, tabling paper #139-23 until July seems would be a common sense approach.

I have attached a May 22nd article which clearly shows that the Roosevelt Park Improvement Project continues to endure pressures from outside interests beyond the geographic area of Roosevelt Park, and even from outside the City of Malden. Less than 10% of the written public comments are from residents of Ward 5-1, while nearly 18% are from people who don't live in Malden. These pressures are unlike anything seen in the park planning processes for Devir, Trafton, and Kierstead parks.

In light of all of the new developments, I ask that you re-engage with the neighbors of Ward 5-1 and the Salemwood School Community. These Malden residents are entitled to the same opportunity afforded residents who have been so central to Devir Park, Trafton Park, and Kierstead Park planning.

Sincerely,
Brian DeLacey, 1 Earl Street, Malden, MA

REFERENCES

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139-23 Order: That \$1.3 million of available general fund free cash is appropriated to fund additional costs association with the improvements to Roosevelt Park

140-23 Order: That One Million Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$1,200,000) is appropriated to pay costs related to a change in scope of the Roosevelt Park Revitalization Project to excavate additional soils ...

223-23 Committee Report: The Standing Committee on Finance, to whom was referred Paper #139 Series of 2023, having considered the same make the following report: The Finance Committee reported the paper out with no recommendations to the Full Council. A majority of the Finance Committee sought the Full Council's support for an estimate of a plan for a grass-based field, and for a field with a grass-compatible substrate.

May 22, 2023 - Roosevelt Park Planning Influences, <https://bit.ly/41W3zKA>, on Malden News Network