



www.cityofmalden.org

Gary Christenson, Mayor

March 14, 2023

Malden City Council
215 Pleasant Street
Malden, MA 02148

RE: Early Learning Center Playground Project

Dear Members of the City Council:

I write to ask for the City Council's support to fund the attached project to construct playground improvements at the Early Learning Center which has been submitted to me by the Community Preservation Committee (CPC). In reaching their recommendation, the CPC found that the project meets eligibility requirements and aligns with the priorities stated in Malden's Community Preservation Plan. This project was also the subject of a Public Hearing of the CPC held on January 18, 2023.

The Early Learning Center enrolls students between the ages of 3 to 5 years old and is located on Mountain Avenue. The existing playground is at the rear of the school building and is over 20 years old. Through the advocacy of our Disability Commission, it was brought to our attention that the playground did not adequately accommodate children of varying abilities and needs. This was also evident from the public meetings that took place in developing the plan. The proposal is to create a new, inclusive, accessible playground with play structures that will create opportunities for children of all abilities. The plan will also include a redesign of the adjacent parking lot to improve safety and ensure that the playground is available to the public after school and on the weekends.

Again, I fully support this request and believe that this project will result in a playground that will benefit our students as well as the neighborhood. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

GARY CHRISTENSON
Mayor, City of Malden