

To: The Community Preservation Committee

From: City of Somerville, Engineering Department and Transportation & Infrastructure Division and the Friends of the Community Path

Subject: Revised scope and budget for the rehabilitation of the Somerville Community Path

Date: April 25, 2016

The City of Somerville requests the Community Preservation Committee consider the following revised budget and scope for the *Preservation, Rehabilitation, Restoration and Improvements to the Somerville Community Path* project originally submitted by the Friends of the Community Path. The project is now a joint project between the City of Somerville and the Friends of the Community Path. The City of Somerville will receive the CPA funds if approved and will serve as the project manager. The Friends of the Community Path will participate in the committees to select the contractors and will serve an advisory role.

The goal of the revised project is to: **rehabilitate and improve the Somerville Community Path so that the community receives increased use and enjoyment of the Path.**

To achieve this goal, we have several objectives:

1. Address drainage issues on the Path to increase the usability of all portions of the Path year-round
2. Improve the quality of the Path's surface to increase safety and comfort for all Path users
3. Increase community awareness of the former use of the Path as a rail bed through installing an interpretive display
4. Explore opportunities to enhance the Path through the addition of new features that serve multiple purposes such as rain gardens.
5. Conduct work through a productive partnership between the Friends of the Community Path, the City of Somerville and the MBTA
6. Manage the project in a way that is responsive to the State procurement laws, environmental concerns, the City of Somerville's lease with the MBTA, CPA regulations, and project management best practice.

The project will have two components:

- Repaving the Community Path from Thorndike to Buena Vista and from Grove to Cedar.
- Conducting a design study for the use of raingardens and bioswales to improve drainage, the feasibility of adding additional community gardens, and the siting of an interpretive display of railroad artifacts.

Revised budget

Construction: repaving the Community Path	\$125,000
Study	\$75,000
Total requested from CPA	\$200,000

Repaving component details

The scope of the repaving project from Thorndike to Buena Vista and from Cedar to Grove includes is to:

- Overlay the existing Path with tack and 1.5" of top
 - Length of approximately 2,500 feet
 - Width of approximately 12 feet
- Install stone dust shoulder on both sides of path
 - Width of shoulder to be 2 feet
 - Thickness to be such that there is a smooth transition between pavement and soil
- Make adjustments to access points, to meet ADA requirements.
 - Adjustments can be made by raising pavers
- Feathering pavement
- There are 11 access points
 - Access points are between streets and side paths

The budget is as follows:

Item	Cost
Paving path	\$55,000
Supply and install stone dust	\$30,000
Milling	\$40,000
Total	\$125,000

Design study component details

The design study will consider four intervention themes along the length of the existing Path:

- Opportunities to improve the drainage of the Path through surface interventions such as raingardens and bioswales and designs for the proposed interventions.
- Feasibility of adding additional community garden plots along the Community Path and appropriate designs and locations for additional plots.
- Recommendations for siting an interpretive display of railroad artifacts to inform Path users of the history of the Community Path.
- Design and proposed locations of signage for path etiquette and way findings.

The design team will partner with the City of Somerville and the Friends of the Community Path to facilitate a robust community engagement process that will include multiple face to face meetings and opportunities for written comment.