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TOWN OF

HARWICH

*732 Main Street
Harwich, MA 02645*

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

(508)-430-7538 FAX (508)430-7531

October 29, 2019

**To: The Community Preservation Committee
From: Amy Usowski, Conservation Administrator**

RE: FY20-21 CPA Funding Request

On behalf of the Harwich Conservation Commission, I respectfully request that the Community Preservation Committee accept the attached revised request for project funding for FY20-21. If it is too late to review this revision, the Commission and I understand, and ask that you still consider the original proposal. The purpose of this revision is to clarify that the \$20,000 requested will be for the restoration and rehabilitation of town-owned open space that was purchased with CPA funds, and has a Conservation Restriction upon it.

Application # 069
For Administrative Use Only

TOWN OF HARWICH - COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE
2019 CPA PROJECT FUNDING REQUEST APPLICATION
FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021

Submission Date: 9/20/2019; revised 10/29/2019

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Applicant: Amy Usowski, Conservation Administrator

Town Committee, Board or Organization: Conservation Commission

Legal Mailing Address: 732 Main Street, Harwich, MA 02645

Phone: 508-430-7538 Email Address: ausowski@town.harwich.ma.us

Project Manager: Amy Usowski, Conservation Administrator

Legal Mailing Address: : 732 Main Street, Harwich, MA 02645

Phone: 508-430-7538 Email Address: ausowski@town.harwich.ma.us

Second Contact Person: _____

Legal Mailing Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email Address: _____

PROJECT INFORMATION

PROJECT TITLE: Restoration and Rehabilitation of Town-Owned Conservation Lands

PROJECT AMOUNT REQUESTED: \$ 20,000

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The Town of Harwich has done a wonderful job of acquiring a large amount of land for conservation purposes. A challenge is properly caring for that land, while maintaining adequate public access. Many of our trailhead parking areas need to be rehabilitated, for example, new split rail fencing is needed to encompass them, such as the Route 39 side of Thompson's Field. Fencing can also be used to keep people and vehicles out of areas within our conservation lands where we do not want them, for both environmental protection and/or safety purposes. Our signage for various conservation parcels needs replacement, and additional signage needed on certain properties. If awarded, these funds would only be used for lands in which CPA funding was used to help acquire them, and have a deed restriction, such as a conservation restriction on them.

ESTIMATED START DATE: July 1, 2020

ESTIMATED COMPLETION DATE: June 30, 2021

**Three years from the release of funds (July 2020) funds may be rescinded automatically;
waivers may be sought.**

CPA CATEGORY

APPLICANTS PLEASE TAKE NOTE **please check boxes for all that apply**

- Open Space:** This application is for the “acquisition, preservation, rehabilitation and/or preservation of open space”.
- Historic:** This application is for the “acquisition, preservation, rehabilitation and/or restoration of historic resources”. Please provide the date on which
- the HDHC received and endorsed this application.**
Community Housing: This application is for the “acquisition, creation, preservation and/or support of community housing”.
- Recreation:** This application is for the “acquisition, creation, preservation, rehabilitation and/or restoration of land for recreational use”.

How does this project fit into Harwich’s Local Comprehensive Plan and/or other Plan?

The Local Comprehensive Plan speaks to the need to actively manage the open space that the Town owns. An objective of the LCP is to manage these lands efficiently.

The Open Space and Recreation Plan highlights the fact that the Town has done an excellent job in acquiring key pieces of land for Conservation purposes, but now the need is to maintain that land. One of the goals of the OSRP is to preserve and enhance properties that provide passive and active recreation opportunities. It is an objective in the plan to implement strategies to curb the inappropriate use of Conservation lands for dumping, off-road vehicles, vandalism, and other incompatible uses. Fencing, signage, cameras, etc will help curb these undesirable uses on our Conservation land. These items will help restore and rehabilitate our dilapidated entrances to our public Conservation lands, while curbing the inappropriate uses of our land.

How does this project benefit the citizens of Harwich? If appropriate, has the application sought public opinion or input? If not, why?

Adequately maintaining our Conservation lands provides safe, enjoyable places for passive outdoor recreation. A survey was completed in 2015 to support the 2017 Open Space and Recreation Plan. The highest need identified by the Community was for hiking trails. The Conservation Commission has care and custody of just under 1,000 acres of land, and many of these properties contain miles of trails. It takes a significant effort to maintain those trails. The Conservation Department has not formally requested public input, but public input is what is driving this application.

Please list other Commissions/Boards/Committees/Organizations that may have involvement, jurisdiction, partnering:

<u>Commissions/Boards/Committees/Organizations</u>	Please have them initial here after their review
Board of Selectmen	LMB
Conservation Commission	SFP

Describe their response, or provided written comments/input:

Please see the attached letter – Appendix A

PROJECT BUDGET: Attach a dated and detailed line item project budget estimate for your funding request. If the request involves a Town-owned asset, provide the project’s projected operating expenses, including maintenance.

COST ESTIMATE(S): \$20,000

LAND and/or BUILDING ACQUISITION PROJECTS: The following **must** also be submitted, as applicable: Please find a Appendix B

- Surveys and/or plot plans for the property
- Appraisals and agreements, if available.
- Name of present owner and attach copy of deed conveying property unto present owner.
- Property address, Harwich Assessor’s property identification (Map#, Parcel #).
- For proposed Open Space land purchases, be prepared to discuss public access with the Committee.

By signing below, the Applicant represents and warrants that all the information included is true and correct to the best of the signer’s knowledge and belief. Further, the Applicant acknowledges in the event that the Community Preservation Committee agrees to grant funds to Applicant (and subject to Town Meeting approval), this application together with any Terms and Conditions shall constitute a binding agreement, between the Applicant and the Community Preservation Committee. Further, Applicant acknowledges and agrees to execute any additional grant agreements should the Community Preservation Committee so request.

ATTESTATION: I HEREBY ATTEST THAT THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS APPLICATION IS TRUE AND ACCURATE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE.

Signature - Chief Executive Officer or Board Chair

Title Chairman

Printed Name Larry Ballantine
LARRY BALLANTINE

Date _____

Signature - Chief Executive Officer or Board Chair

Title

Printed Name _____

Date _____