



Amherst Massachusetts

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION ACT COMMITTEE

Monday, November 18, 2019

To the: Town Manager
Town Council Finance Committee:
Town Council

Attached is the CPA Committee's Special Report to the Town Council for Fiscal Year 2020. We hope you will find this particular project worthy of your endorsement and approval.

We welcome your questions and we thank you in advance for your support of the Community Preservation Act.

Respectfully submitted,

Nate Budington
Chair



Amherst Massachusetts

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION ACT COMMITTEE

Community Preservation Act Committee (CPAC) Special Report to the Town Council for FY2020

The Community Preservation Act Committee is pleased to present this report to the Town Council outlining a special borrowing article we are recommending for Fiscal Year 2020. The Committee has reviewed the Kendrick Park Downtown Playground proposal submitted by the Town and offers its unanimous support. It is clear that this valuable project might never be accomplished without the support of the CPA at this time, and that the Town must act quickly to take advantage of it.

Rationale

The CPAC receives many worthy proposals each year, and customarily makes an annual recommendation to the Council in the spring of each year of which projects to support. Due to the large amount of state funds available and the limited time frame in which to take action, the CPAC considered this application outside of its normal recommendation cycle. This application meets CPAC goals for projects that are broadly supported across communities, Town departments, and the public, addresses documented needs for recreation, and is eminently achievable in a timely manner.

Project Details

Recreation

Town of Amherst – Kendrick Park: Design and Construction of a Downtown Playground: borrowing authorization of \$659,000, of which \$400,000 is to be reimbursed from a state PARC grant and the debt service on \$259,000 to be paid from CPAC funds (Vote: 9-0) – This proposal seeks to construct a playground in Kendrick Park, including play structures, rain gardens, benches and tables, and walkways. The Town has received preliminary approval for a \$400,000 Parkland Acquisitions and Renovations for Communities (PARC) grant from the state for 70% reimbursement for design and construction; a vote from the Council to fund the full amount is required in order to receive the grant.

Respectfully submitted,

Nate Budington, chair, representative at large
Sarah Marshall, vice chair, LSSE Commission representative
Michael Birtwistle, Planning Board representative
Fletcher Clark, Conservation Commission representative
Sarah Eisinger, representative at large
Robin Fordham, Historical Commission representative
Sam MacLeod, representative at large
Diana Stein, representative at large
David Williams, Housing Authority representative