CITY OF CHELSEA, MASSACHUSETTS

Thomas G. Ambrosino
City Manager

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Director of Planning & Development
Parks & Open Space
Funding

PARC Grants:
- Annual State grant, usually due in June, awarded in fall
- Reimburses community between 50 and 70% of cost of acquisition and/or construction up to $400,000
- Funds available over two years; first year design, second year construction
- Chelsea receives 70% reimbursement
  - $400,000 of reimbursement at 70% rate leverages a total budget of approximately $570,000 (design & construction)

City Funds:
- Annual CIP allotment of $170,000 for grant “match”
- Annual operating budget allotment of $19,000 for conceptual plans and cost estimate
Parks & Open Space

Funding (cont.)

CDBG:
• Program between $150,000 and $180,000 to upgrade a park
• Team with local nonprofit (The Neighborhood Developers) to develop a park in conjunction with the development of affordable housing

Other Funding:
• Other grants
• Foundations
• Donations (money/land)
• Possibly CPA

Other:
• Design Review
• Development Agreements
Parks & Open Space

Design

On-call landscape architect on 3 year contract

- RFP design for CDBG projects

Public hearings/workshops

Work with:
- Residents
- Abutters
- Nonprofits
- Salvation Army
- Seniors
- Developers
- Housing Authority
- Schools
- DPW
Highland Street Green Corridor:

- Shurtleff-Bellingham neighborhood deficient in park space
- Need to connect neighborhood to the Silver Line & associated multi-modal path
- Create Green corridor connecting existing and new park with streetscape features to provide the continuous connection
- PARC & local funds
- $625,000
- Completed by June 30th
- Future plans to extend the Corridor down the other side of the hill to the Salt Pile park
Parks

Salt Pile Park:
- Oil storage tank site purchased for expansion of road salt storage
- Agreed to construct a park on 32,000 sq ft of the site; expands to approx. 1.5 acres during the off-season
- Constructed & maintained by the property owner, but programmed by the City
- Reused some of the site features to reflect its history
- Provides much needed access to the river
Mystic River Overlook Park:

- Approximately two acre City-owned site under the Tobin Bridge
- Overlooks the Chelsea River/Mystic River confluence
- Passive recreation to be connected to a future walking path under the length of the bridge
- PARC grant/City funds
- $800,000
- Completion June, 2017

- Will also include a dog park funded (hopefully) by the Stanton Foundation
Chelsea Commons Park:
- Developer donated 40,000 square feet
- $1.4 million: Urban Self-Help, CDBG, City funds, foundations, local business donations
- Passive recreation to be connected to a future walking path under the length of the bridge
- Completion June, 2010
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Parks

Ruiz Park:
• Approximately 25,000 sq ft City-owned site
• Dedicated to John Ruiz, former middle-weight boxing champion
• Includes body-building exercise equipment
• PARC grant/City funds
• $700,000
• Completion June, 2014
Kayem Park:
• Approximately 5,000 sq ft MassPort-owned site
• Took 15 years to build
  • Clean-up the neighborhood
  • Build infrastructure
  • Convince MassPort to donate the land
• Urban Self-Help Grant/City funds
• PARC grant/City funds
• $570,000
• Completion June, 2011
Parks & Open Space

Parks

Requests we are working on:

- Skate Park
- Dog Park
- More exercise equipment
- Use of colors/textures for seniors with dementia and Alzheimer's
- Local artists
- Parks for older children (10-17 year olds)
- More waterfront access
Planning and Development

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