

Community Preservation Committee Grant Application

Applicant Information

Applicant

Tony Barletta, Town Administrator

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Applicant's Address

Town Hall
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Town Committee or Board (if applicable)

Board of Selectmen

Application Purpose

- Recreation

Project Information

Project Name

Beach Access Mats and Wheelchairs

Project Description

This project will fund beach access boardwalk mats which will ease access to our beaches and adjacent facilities. The mats will provide a more stable walkway for people especially those with walkers, wheelchairs, strollers, beach buggies etc. This project will also fund the purchase of beach wheelchairs. Beach access mats have been donated to the Town of Nahant to improve the accessibility of Short Beach near Little Nahant. 30 linear feet of boardwalk style mat plus required hardware cost about \$3,000. The Town would like to add more of these style mats at additional access points where necessary. Short Beach, Doggie Beach, Bass Point and Canoe Beach could potentially benefit however the specific areas will need to be determined. It is important that the mats are not influenced by wave action so they cannot extend too far onto any beach. The land supporting them must be graded and cleared properly in advance of installation. They would need to be installed and removed seasonally. With 5 potential locations at 30' each, the total estimated cost of the material is about \$15,000. Beach wheelchairs cost about \$3,000 each. The Town would need to explore options of storage for the wheelchairs when they are not in use and determine how beach goers would get access to them. The Lifesaving Station Garage, the Bailey's Hill Garage, and the East Point Garage are all options for storage. The Town Hall could manage reservations of the wheelchairs on a first come first serve basis and would coordinate with the user and the DPW for drop off and pick up. This project seeks to fund the purchase of 2

beach wheelchairs for a total of \$6,000. Combined, the total cost of this project would be no more than \$25,000.

Grant Amount Requested

\$25,000

Contribution to the Preservation of Nahant's Unique Character

Nahant's beaches are Nahant's character. They are a primary feature of our community and should be enjoyed by all. A few years back, with the help of funds from a resident, we implemented a beach access mat near the Little Nahant Playground. We had a lot of positive feedback from residents and requests to put the mats in other areas. Installing these mats will only make our beaches more accessible and safer to access for the public and our residents. The beach wheelchairs will help provide those with accessibility challenges the opportunity to enjoy our public beaches as well and show our community support for all those who desire to spend time at our shores.

Planning Context

IS part of a Program Plan

If so, when was the plan prepared?

2022

Who has approved the plan?

Open Space and Recreation

Evaluation Criteria

- How will the proposed project contribute to the preservation of Nahant's unique character and enhance our quality of life?

Nahant's unique character cannot be described without mention of our public beaches. Providing proper access to those areas for all beach goers is essential to enhancing the experience and promoting our quality of life.

- Is the proposed project consistent with town planning documents that have received wide input and scrutiny?

I believe improving ADA accessibility at our public beaches was mentioned during the public process of developing the Town's Open Space and Recreation Plan.

- Is the proposed project feasible?

Yes but feasibility is site specific. Some beaches such as 40 Steps and Tudor Beach are not considered feasible for mats. However, in the case of Tudor Beach, a beach wheelchair could be provided through a reservation process. Beaches like Short Beach, Doggie Beach, and Canoe Beach are more feasible for mats. This would be further determined should the project be funded.

- Is the cost of this project proportionate to its objectives?

Yes, the Town vetted these costs with previous purchases and online research.

- Does the project have demonstrated community support?

It has been requested many times that the Town improve access at our public beaches for those with physical challenges. I believe this was mentioned during the public process of developing the Town's Open Space and Recreation Plan.

Estimated Cost and Schedule

Attach cost estimates for construction projects and state how costs were derived.

Is your project expected to continue over more than one year?

No

Project Priority

6

Contingency Planning

The Town would seek alternative grant funding opportunities or apply for CPA funding in a future round.

Order			
Product	Qty	Unit Price	Price
Total of CPC Funds Requested	1	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00
	Total		\$25,000.00