

**SPRINGFIELD COMMUNITY PRESERVATION
FULL APPLICATION COVER SHEET**

I. PROJECT INFORMATION

CPA program area - check all that apply:

☐ community housing ☐ historic preservation ☒ open space ☒ recreation

Project/Program Title: **Venture Pond 16 Acres Phase 2**

Brief Project/Program Summary:

Campus Neighbors of Springfield, Inc. and DPBR collaboration to complete overall project to include design and engineering work, install 4 benches and 3 trash containers, fishing-kayak launching platform, eco-education boards, security system.

estimated start date: 11/2022

estimated completion date: 11/2023

II. APPLICANT INFORMATION

Type of Applicant - check one:

☐ City of Springfield ☒ Non-Profit Organization ☐ For-Profit Business ☐ Individual

Name of Organization: **Campus Neighbors of Springfield, Inc**

Name of Contact Person: **Colleen Moynihan**

Mailing Address: **15 Birchland Avenue**

Mailing City/State/Zip: **Springfield MA 01119**

Phone: **413-782-6839**

Fax: **n/a**

Email: **moynihancolleen@yahoo.com**

Website: **na**

III. BUDGET SUMMARY

Estimated Project Budget: **\$250,000**

CPA Funding Request: **\$250,000**

Will you be seeking multi-year funding ☐ Yes ☒ No

CPA Request as Percentage of Total Project/Program Budget: **100%**

List Other Secured Funding Sources:

n/a

List Other Prospective Funding Sources:

n/a

Applicant Signature: *Colleen Moynihan*

Date Submitted: 3-25-22

I. GENERAL INFORMATION – VENTURE POND

Community Preservation Funds are available in four categories. There are some questions that are only relevant to certain categories. Please only answer the questions in this section that relate to the category(s) that are being applied for.

- A. All Categories that involve property (land and/or buildings)
 - 1. Provide the parcel ID number(s) for property included in the project
 - a. Parcel Id: 122820668
 - 2. Does the applicant own the property?
 - a. Yes. Venture Pond is owned by the City of Springfield and maintained by the Department of Parks, Buildings & Recreation Management (PBRM) as open space.
 - 3. If the applicant does not own the property, attach a purchase & sale agreement to purchase the property.
 - a. Not applicable.
- B. Community Housing Questions – Not applicable to this project.
- C. Historic Preservation Questions – Not applicable to this project.
- D. Open Space & Recreation Questions
 - 1. Is this project in a wetland or does it abut a wetland?
 - a. Venture Pond is a wetland.
 - 2. If so, has the Conservation Commission been informed?
 - a. Yes, the Conservation Commission is aware of, and in support of, this application to improve Venture Pond. Please see the attached letter of support from the Commission.
 - 3. If the project is on municipal park or conservation land attach a letter of support from the Park Commission or Conservation Commission.
 - a. The Department of Parks, Buildings & Recreation Management, is the main applicant for this project and is in full support of the project. Please see attached letter from the Board of Park Commissioners.

II. NARRATIVE

The narrative is an opportunity to explain the proposal to the CPC and how the proposal achieves one or more of the CPA criteria. In a separate document, answer the following questions. Keep responses in the same order they are presented here and include the headings for each section.

A. Project Summary

Introduce the project with a summary which notes the CPA category, goals, project scope, and budget. (200 words or less)

The Department of Parks, Building and Recreation Management (DPBRM) and Campus Neighbors of Springfield, Inc are collaborating in this application for open space and/or recreation Community Preservation Act funding.

The initial/phase 1 of Venture Pond project was to develop a woodland walking trail around Venture Pond to decrease the presence of invasive species and to install park signage. Covid constraints for staff and contractors moved the completion of phase 1 to summer 2022. This application is to continue the completion of the overall project and includes the installation of a fishing dock and kayak launch to increase recreational opportunities for city residents.

The phase 2 Venture Pond budget includes design and engineering services, installation of bench sitting, information kiosks, fishing and kayak launching platform and a security camera system.

B. Proposal Description

1. Describe the proposal and how it will benefit Springfield. (200 words or less)

The Department of Parks, Building and Recreation Management (PBRM) and Campus Neighbors are collaborating to improve Venture Pond. Renovations to Venture Pond benefit this Springfield water asset by providing a walking trail around this unique water body. Located in the Sixteen Acres neighborhood, Venture Pond is an 8-acre naturally occurring pond situated south of Wilbraham Road and west of Plumtree Road and serves a densely populated residential area. The increased offerings at Venture Pond will provide neighborhood and city residents the opportunity to enjoy a woodland walking trail with aquatic and wildlife viewing of and in the pond's habitat.

The project scope is to complete the broader project with implementation of phase 2 to include several sitting locations along the trail and a secured fishing platform on the eastern side of the pond. The platform also provides kayak launching. Informational signage will be installed to highlight the type of habitat and ecology found at Venture Pond and to encourage use of the trail system.

2. Identify what CPA criteria this proposal achieves and how they are accomplished.

Venture Pond addresses the preservation, rehabilitation and restoration of recreation land as outlined in the Springfield Community Preservation Plan. The improvements aim to renovate the existing conditions at Venture Pond in order restore the park to its full potential as a neighborhood open space and recreation resource. Specifically, the project addresses the open space and recreation priority of renovating small neighborhood green spaces, creating and enhancing opportunities for trails on park and conservation land, and controlling invasive plant species on park and conservation land.

The Project is consistent with the priorities identified in the Community Preservation Plan. The renovation of amenities at Venture Pond addresses the following plan criteria: to preserve and enhance the essential character of Springfield, to protect open space and recreational resources that may otherwise deteriorate, to demonstrate a practical and feasible project that can be implemented within its proposed budget and schedule, and to utilize Springfield based resources. The project has received endorsements from municipal boards and departments. Additional community support has been sought at the neighborhood level and the project is enthusiastically supported by the Campus Neighbors.

The project will be advantageous to the community, as its completion gives Springfield residents an open space to meet the needs of a diverse residential neighborhood. The inclusion of eco-information signage heightens environmental awareness and best practices.

3. Describe the need that this proposal will address.

The Department of Parks, Buildings & Recreation Management (PBRM) has identified city-wide lake management, habitat management and the development of trails in its Open Space and Recovery Plan. Improvements to Venture Pond will address these goals specifically. The Open Space Plan is developed with community and resident input and PBRM continually strives to address the recreational needs of the city when completing park renovation projects.

The residents abutting Venture Pond, and the 16 Acres neighborhood, have frequently requested improvements to Venture Pond and PBRM enthusiastically supports this project. A survey of neighbors as to their wishes for the area indicated that having benches, trails and other amenities would be a positive.

4. What is the expected outcome of this proposal?

Completion of this renovation project will restore Venture Pond to its full recreational value to actively engage the neighborhood in utilizing the park. Improvements to Venture Pond create positive aesthetics for the neighborhood which enhances the market value and stability of the surrounding residential properties. Residents can expect to enjoy full use of the park by Fall 2023.

The Venture Pond PBRM and Campus Neighbor collaboration builds on the phase1 completion to increase residential outdoor recreation. The general impact for Springfield includes generally higher property values for the residential area resulting in potentially higher tax assessments; healthier life styles with reduced morbidity trends; and expanded awareness of applied environmental best practices.

C. Feasibility & Sustainability

1. What other funding sources have been secured or are being pursued?
 - a. At this time, no additional funding other than this CPA grant request are anticipated.
2. Once the proposal is complete how will it be sustained/maintained?
 - a. Venture Pond will continue to be maintained by PBRM, under the direction of Board of Park Commissioners.
3. Is there an operating pro forma for when the proposal is complete and what is the basis?
 - a. No, there is no operating pro forma for this project.

D. Applicant Experience

1. What similar projects/programs has the applicant successfully completed?

The Department of Parks, Buildings & Recreation Management will coordinate and oversee all aspects of the Venture Pond renovation project. PBRM has a long history of successfully completing park improvements and renovation projects. PBRM plans to work with its on-call design firms to procure necessary engineering plans and materials to successfully complete the improvements to Venture Pond. This phase 2 project completes the necessary work to return this park to its full potential.

2. Describe the professional experience of the applicant/project team.

All projects of PBRM are overseen by its Executive Director, Patrick Sullivan, who has over 30 years of experience in park renovations and improvements. The department will work with its on-call design firm to complete the necessary construction and landscaping plans for Venture Pond renovations. In the past five years, the DPBRM has completed twenty similar projects, resulting in approximately \$10,000,000 in park improvements. The department has been successful in receiving up to 80% in grant funding on these projects.

Working through the City's procurement regulations, the installation of park amenities and other park improvements will be publicly bid for construction by a qualified vendor.

III. TIMELINE

The timeline should identify the estimated start date and estimated completion date along with the completion of phases or important milestones of the project/program. Please provide the timeline in a list format.

- Fall 2022
 - CPA Award
 - City Council Recommendation
 - Contracting with CPC and DPBRM
- Winter 2023

- Further conceptual plan into design development and construction ready plans for public bid process
- Obtain necessary permits for construction
- Construction contract awarded through City's Procurement Procedures
- Order all park amenities (playground, swings, picnic tables, etc.)
- Pre-Construction meeting with PBRM, selected vendor and compliance
- Spring 2023
 - Construction begins on restoration project
- Summer 2023
 - Construction continues
 - Landscaping improvements
- Fall 2023
 - Project Completion

IV. BUDGET - Please see Attachment #1 – Proposed Project Budget

The Venture Pond budget includes design and engineering services, trail clearing, installation of woodchips, park signage and construction costs. Please see the attached itemized budget prepared by the PBRM on-call design firm, GZA, GeoEnvironmental, Inc., for an overview of anticipated costs, totaling \$107,000. At this time, we are requesting full funding from the Community Preservation Committee.

V. ATTACHMENTS

For all proposals

- A. Commitment letters for revenue sources identified in the budget
 - a. This project does not anticipate revenue other than Community Preservation Act funding.
- B. Letters of Support
 - a. Board of Park Commissioners Support Letter
 - b. Springfield Conservation Commission Support Letter

For projects that involve property (land/buildings)

- C. Letters of Support from Neighborhood Council/Association where project is located
 - a. Please see the attached letter from Campus Neighbors. As always, PBRM will work with the neighborhood council as the project moves forward with renovations.
- D. Maps
 1. Project location on citywide map
 - a. City of Springfield Open Space Map with Project Location
 - b. Venture Pond Property Card from Springfield GIS
 2. Plot map (from City GIS) with the project parcel outlined and showing all abutting property parcels and the closest major intersection with streets labeled
 - a. Venture Pond GIS Aerial Map
- E. Architectural/Engineer Plans/Elevations/Site Plans
 - a. A preliminary schematic plan has been developed by PBRM and is attached. Should this project move forward with funding, the plan will be updated to reflect current cost estimating and project scope to improve the conditions at Venture Pond.
- F. Photographs
 - a. Site Photos
- G. Operating Pro Forma (for project after it is complete)
 - a. Venture Pond will be maintained and operated by the City of Springfield under the direction of the Department of Parks, Buildings and Recreation Management.
- H. Proof of ownership/control of property such as deed(s), executed purchase & sale agreement, option, lease agreement, etc.
 - a. Venture Pond Deed



City of Springfield
Parks, Buildings, and Recreation Management

March 7, 2022

Community Preservation Committee
36 Court Street
Springfield, MA 01103

Dear Committee Members,

The Board of Park Commissioners convened a meeting on March 3, 2022 to hear requests from citizens and community organizations relating to Community Preservation Act 2022 park and recreation grant applications.

The Springfield Park Commission enthusiastically supports the Campus Neighbors application for phase two improvements to the Venture Pond recreation area.

The Park Commission feels this project is aligned not only with the city's priorities and needs for enhanced recreational offerings city-wide, but with the Community Preservation Act priority of improving access to Springfield's water bodies for water-based recreation and enjoyment.

We are available to answer any questions and look forward to working with the Community Preservation Committee and the Campus Neighbors organization to implement this project.

Sincerely,


Milagros Terry Rodriguez,
Board of Park Commissioners, Chairwoman

cc: Patrick Sullivan, Executive Director DPBRM
Colleen Moynihan, Campus Neighbors



THE CITY OF
SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

March 29, 2022

Community Preservation Committee
City Hall
36 Court Street
Springfield, MA 01103

Dear Community Preservation Committee,

On behalf of the Springfield Conservation Commission, I am pleased to submit this letter of support for the Department of Parks, Buildings and Recreation Managements CPA grant application for the enhancement of Venture Pond in the Sixteen Acres Neighborhood.

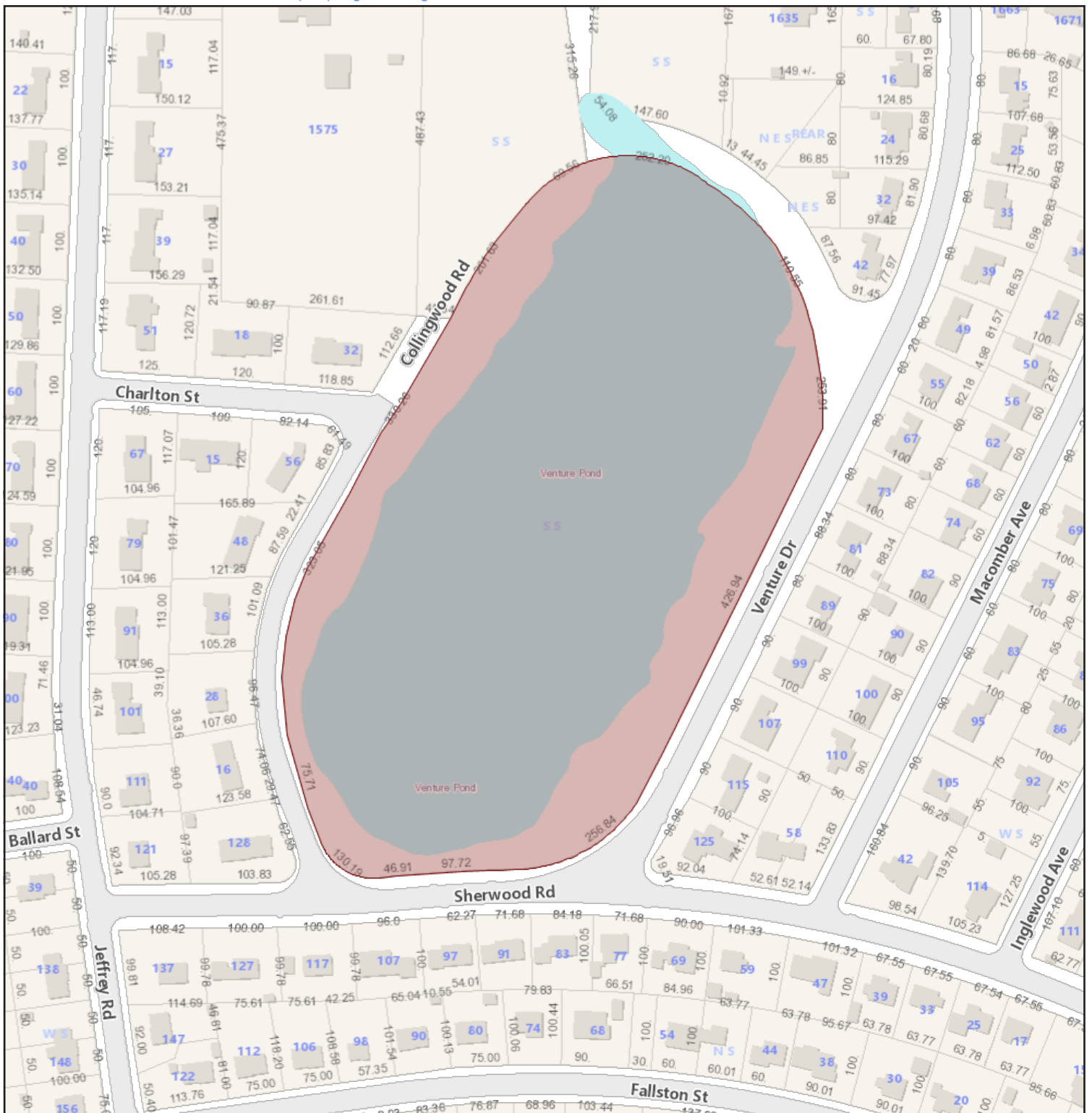
Venture Pond is a very important waterbody in our city and is one of only a small handful of glacial kettle ponds in Springfield. The care of this pond is paramount to the overall ecological and aquatic health of the area. We believe that the improvements to the Venture Pond Trail will benefit the health of the Pond with the removal of invasive species and establishment of a walking trail around the perimeter. These enhancements will offer trail walkers a clearly defined path that will decrease foot traffic in sensitive areas, helping establish vegetation and prevent erosion. The ultimate goal of this phased project is to provide the greatest habitat potential for animal and plant species while providing for passive recreational opportunities such as wildlife viewing, kayaking and walking.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact our office at 413-787-6234.

Regards,

Christopher Collins (KC)

Christopher Collins
Chairman
Springfield, MA Conservation Commission



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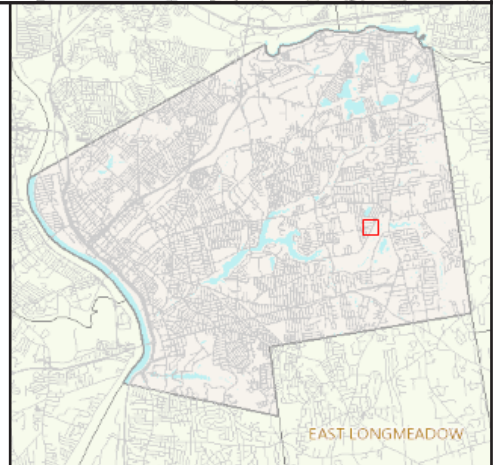
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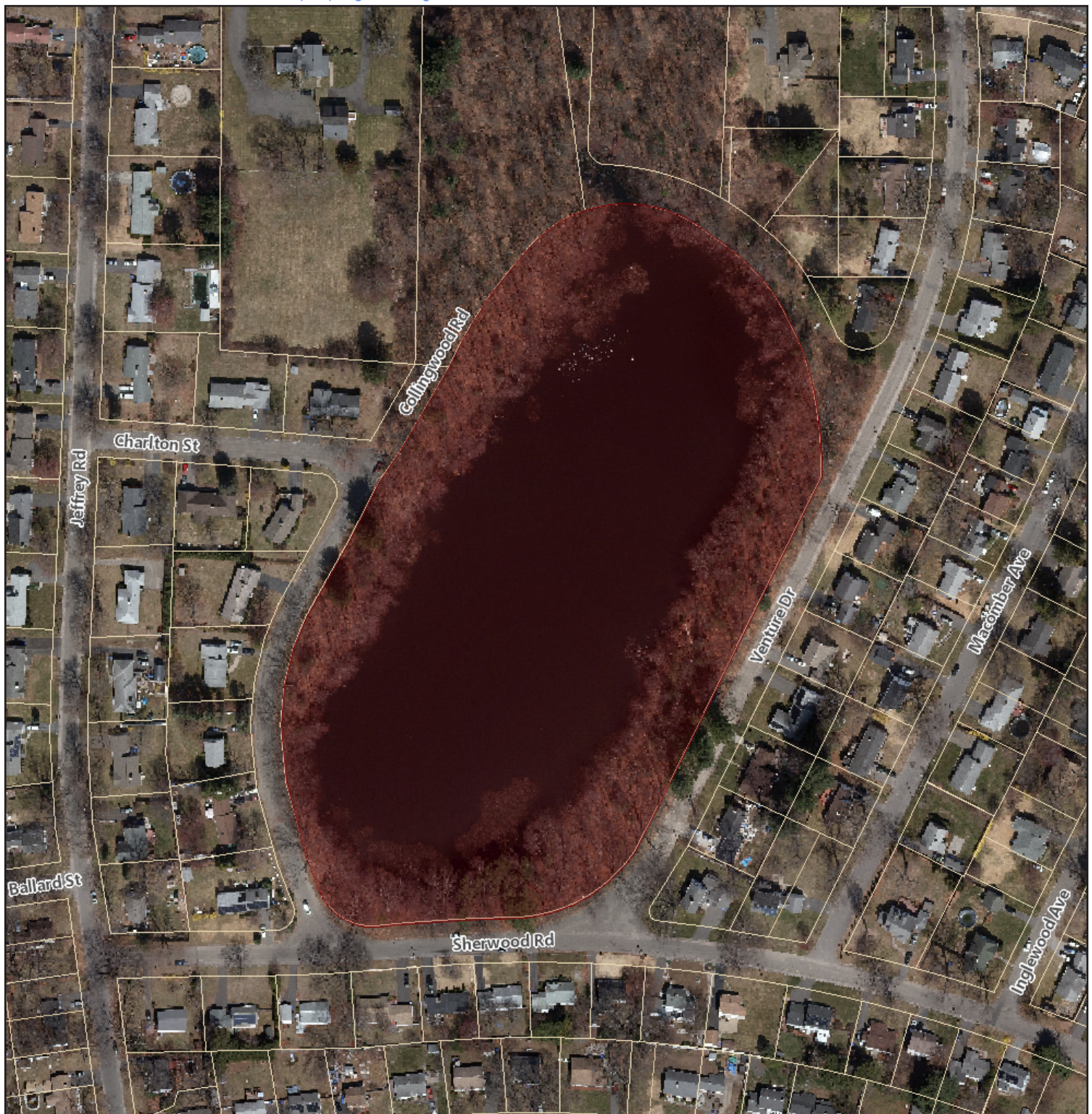
Property Information

Parcel ID	12282-0668
Owner Name	SPRINGFIELD CITY OF
Owner Address1	36 COURT ST
Owner Address2	SPRINGFIELD, MA
Land Area In Square Feet	455,202
Assessed Value	150,700
Historic	
Zoning Name	Open Space



GIS information is provided on these Web Pages as a public resource for general information purposes only. It is used to locate, identify and inventory parcels of land in the City of Springfield for general purposes only and is NOT to be construed or used as a "legal description." Map and parcel information is believed to be accurate but accuracy is not guaranteed. No portion of the information should be considered to be, or used as, a legal document. The information is provided subject to the express condition that the user knowingly waives any and all claims for damages against the City of Springfield that may arise from the use of this data. Information provided on these Web Pages should be verified with the appropriate City department, and reviewed and approved by an attorney or other qualified professional prior to its use for any purpose with potential legal consequences.





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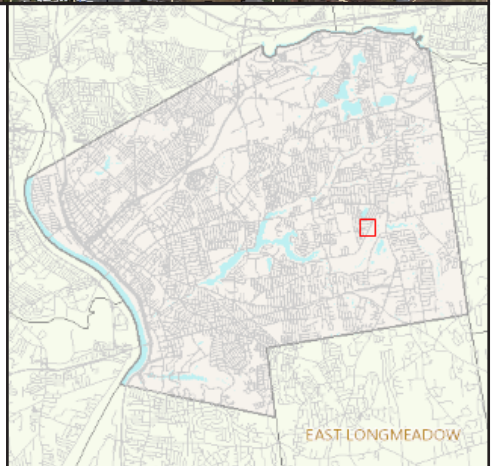
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**OPINION OF PROBABLE PROJECT COSTS
BASED ON CONCEPTUAL WATERFRONT ACCESS RECREATION IMPROVEMENT PLAN
FOR VENTURE POND - PHASE II
(DATED MARCH 2022)**

DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	UNIT	UNIT PRICE	EXTENSION	TASK TOTAL
MOBILIZATION / DEMOBILIZATION / ENG. LAYOUT					
MOBILIZATION / DEMOBILIZATION / ENG. LAYOUT	1	LS	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,000
SITE PREP & DEMO					
SEDIMENTATION & EROSION CONTROL	750	LF	\$8	\$6,000	\$16,000
DEWATERING/ SILT SOCK IN POND	1	LS	\$10,000	\$10,000	
SITE IMPROVEMENTS (includes vegetation removal, grading, earthwork)					\$125,500
INTERPRETIVE SIGNAGE	1	LS	\$10,000	\$10,000	
BENCHES	3	EA	\$2,500	\$7,500	
FISHING DOCK OVERLOOK	1	LS	\$100,000	\$100,000	
TRAIL HEAD KIOSK	1	LS	\$8,000	\$8,000	
LANDSCAPING/ SITE RESTORATION					\$10,000
SEEDING, NATIVE PLANTINGS	1	LS	\$10,000.00	\$10,000	
			SUB-TOTAL =	\$176,500	
			DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION CONTINGENCY (20%+)	\$35,000	
			TOTAL CONSTRUCTION=	\$211,500	
			PERMITTING	\$10,000	
			SURVEY	\$7,350	
			ENGINEERING, DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION ADMINISTRATION SERVICES	\$21,150	
			TOTAL (2022 DOLLARS)=	\$250,000	
ALL CONSTRUCTION COSTS INCLUDE LABOR AT PREVAILING WAGE RATES, OVERHEAD & PROFIT					

** The Design Contingency is intended to provide for minor Project elements that are undefined at the current level of design yet typically become evident as the design progresses and that may be recommended by the design team and agreed upon by the Owner during the design phase.

