



## NEW BEDFORD COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

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# COMMUNITY PRESERVATION ACT PROJECT APPLICATION

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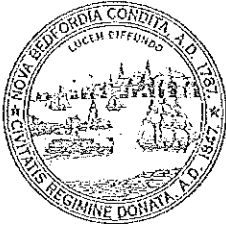
## FY18

Application Form Deadline: **December 11, 2017**

Applicants must submit this application no later than 12:00PM on Monday, December 11, 2017. Please refer to Submission Requirements within the Application Packet Instructions.

Full applications will not be accepted--regardless of project eligibility--until the Project Eligibility Determination Form has been submitted and approved.

Department of Planning, Housing & Community Development  
608 Pleasant Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Patrick Sullivan, Director



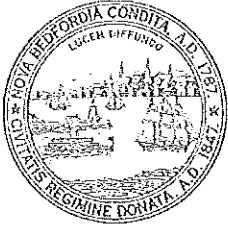
CITY OF NEW BEDFORD  
COMMUNITY PRESERVATION FUND - FY 2012

## Project Application

### Submission Requirements Checklist

Application items should be presented in the following order. Please check each item included in your submission.

<b>GENERAL</b>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Application Cover Page(form provided)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Submission Requirements Checklist (this form)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Narratives (prompts provided)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Project Schedule(form provided)
<b>FINANCIAL</b>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Budget Form (form provided)
<input type="checkbox"/>	At least two written quotes for project costs. Detailed cost estimates and/or written quotes.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Proof of secured funding (commitment letters or bank statements), if applicable.
<b>OWNERSHIP/OPERATION (NON-CITY)</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	If the applicant is not the owner, attach documentation of site control or written consent of owner to undertake the project.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Certificate of Good Standing(if operating as a corporation)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	501(c)(3) certification (if operating as a non-profit)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Purchase & Sale agreement or copy of current recorded deed, if applicable.
<b>COMMUNITY SUPPORT</b>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Letters of support from residents, community groups, city departments, boards or commissions, etc.
<b>HISTORIC RESOURCES PROJECTS</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Documentation that the project is listed on the State Register of Historic Places or a written determination from the New Bedford Historical Commission that the resource is significant in the history, archeology, architecture, or culture of New Bedford.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Photos documenting the condition of the property.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Report or condition assessment by a qualified professional describing the current condition of the property, if available.
<b>PLANS &amp; REPORTS</b> <i>The following plans and reports, if available, will strength your application, (submit in digital format only). Applicants are encouraged to submit as much detail as possible.</i>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Renderings, site plans, engineering plans, design and bidding plans, specifications, and any MAAB variance requests.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Applicable reports (21E, Historic Structure Report, appraisals, survey plan, feasibility studies, etc.)
<b>VISUAL</b>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Map of the property location (if applicable, show wetlands and wetland buffers, flood plain, water bodies, parks, open spaces, rails, and other features pertinent to the project). Applicants may use the City's <a href="#">interactive mapping website</a> .
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Photos of the project site (not more than four views per site) Digital copies required.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Catalog cuts (i.e. recreation equipment) if applicable.



CITY OF NEW BEDFORD  
COMMUNITY PRESERVATION FUNDING 2018

Project Application Cover Page

<b>PROJECT INFORMATION</b>			
PROJECT TITLE:	Abolition Row Park		
PROJECT LOCATION:	18-20 Seventh Street		
LEGAL PROPERTY OWNER OF RECORD	New Bedford Historical Society		
CPA PROGRAM CATEGORY (Indicate all categories that apply)	<input type="checkbox"/> OPEN SPACE	<input type="checkbox"/> HISTORIC PRESERVATION	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RECREATION	<input type="checkbox"/> HOUSING	
ESTIMATED START DATE	April 2018	ESTIMATED COMPLETION DATE	September 2019
ONE SENTENCE DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT	Construction of a park in a vacant lot on Seventh Street		

<b>APPLICANT INFORMATION</b>			
THE APPLICANT IS: (Check only one)	<input type="checkbox"/> CITY BOARD OR DEPT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NON PROFIT 501c3	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE GROUP/INDIV
APPLICANT / ORGANIZATION:	New Bedford Historical Society, Inc.		
CO-APPLICANT NAME/ORGANIZATION: (If applicable)	New Bedford Parks Recreation and Beaches		
CONTACT PERSON:	Lee Blake		
MAILING ADDRESS:	21 Seventh Street, New Bedford, MA 02740		
TELEPHONE #:	774-929-3035	EMAIL:	bonneylee13@verizon.net

<b>BUDGET SUMMARY</b>	
CPA FUNDING REQUEST (must match CPA request in attached Budget Summary)	\$231,600
TOTAL BUDGET FOR PROJECT	\$641,330

<b>SIGNATURES</b>		
I/we attest that all information provided in this entire submission is true and correct to the best of my/our knowledge and that no information has been excluded, which might reasonably affect funding. I/we authorize the Community Preservation Committee and/or the City of New Bedford to obtain verification from any source provided. I acknowledge and agree that a permanent restriction may be placed on the property as a condition of funding.		
NAME (printed) Lee Blake	SIGNATURE Lee Blake	DATE: 12/10/17
NAME (printed)	SIGNATURE	DATE:

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION FUND ■ PROJECT APPLICATION FY18  
**PROJECT NARRATIVES**

**Project Description**

**① GENERAL NARRATIVE (1000 Character Maximum)**

*Provide a description of:*

- *The project's location, the property involved and its proposed use.*
- *The proposed scope of work.*

The New Bedford Historical Society proposes to develop Abolition Row Park on a vacant corner lot on Spring and Seventh Streets at 18 & 20 Seventh Street. Abolition Row Park will be a transformational green space at the edge of the city's downtown core and within the city's Seaport Cultural District. The park will replace a privately owned and unsightly lot that has been badly maintained since a fire in 2010 destroyed the two homes on the space. The lot sits across the street from three buildings on the National Register of Historic Places; two Johnson House properties, which are documented Underground Railroad sites dating from 1800, and the Friends Meeting House built in 1820. The goal is to create an attractive pocket park with a mission of telling the story of the abolitionists that lived in the Seventh Street neighborhood. The City of New Bedford will be a partner in this project.

**② COMMUNITY NEED (1000 Character Maximum)**

- *What community need(s) will this project address? How does the project benefit the public and what populations(s) will it serve? If it serves a population currently underserved, please describe.*
- *How does the project preserve and enhance the character New Bedford?*

Abolition Row Park will transform two vacant lots in a residential area into a recreational park that emphasizes the history and culture of New Bedford and addresses neighborhood stabilization issues. The park will serve as a catalyst for transformative change as it will anchor a new local historic district, the Abolition Row District, that has been proposed by the City Dept. of Planning. The park will highlight the under-told story of New Bedford's activism to end enslavement during the Anti-Slavery period. It will highlight the tolerant and accepting nature of the city's population at a time when racial divisions were severe. It will help preserve and protect the structures around the park, namely the Johnson House and the Friends Meeting House. The park will enhance the historical narrative of the city by including the stories of underserved African Americans who were active in 19th century. The park will serve multiple purposes as both a park and a tourist destination.

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION FUND ■ PROJECT APPLICATION FY18  
**PROJECT NARRATIVES**

**Project Description**

**GOALS & OBJECTIVES (1000 Character Maximum)**

- Describe the project's goals and objectives. The objectives must be specific, measurable, achievable and realistic.
- How does the project meet the general and category-specific priorities outlined in the Community Preservation Plan or other current relevant planning documents?

The goal of ARP is to construct a green space that will preserve and enhance the historical nature of the Seventh Street neighborhood. The park will create a safe space and tell an under-told story of New Bedford's role in furthering democracy with the city's collective citizenry response to end slavery. ARP will create a new local historic district with a focus on social justice highlighted by the stories of 19th century city residents active in the Underground Railroad and the important issues of the day. ARP will be constructed as a recreational park with learning at its core with educational kiosks to capture the history and culture of the proposed local historic district. The park is envisioned as a place that will knit together the historic properties facing the site with a recreational learning space that will create a corridor along Seventh Street to the RJD museum and the 19 historic sites on the street.

**MEASURING SUCCESS (1000 Character Maximum)**

- How will the success of this project be measured?

The Society will measure success by several indicators. First and foremost, we want to develop positive and collaborative relationships with the number of non-profits in the neighborhood who now recognize the importance of the Abolition Movement and the potential for education and tourism this site can bring to the area.

We will also measure the following:

- Success in raising funds from a variety of sources to accomplish the development of ARP
- Managing the construction of a historical park
- Working with the City to create a new local historic district for the Seventh Street neighborhood
- Completing a statute to Frederick Douglass
- Marketing and branding Abolition Row Park
- Expanding the recreational use and educational use of ARP
- Transforming the lot into a safe destination for all, including tourists
- Completing the park in September 2019

## PROJECT NARRATIVES

## Project Description

## ⑤ COMMUNITY SUPPORT (1000 Character Maximum)

- *Explain the level of community support this project has received. If at all possible, please include letters of support from any groups or individuals who have endorsed this project.*

A committee of neighborhood folks and preservation groups met for months to develop plans for ARP. The group included representatives from the National Park, the Preservation Society, WHALE, the Society of Friends, Seventh Street residents as well as members of the Society and the Office of Community Development. The Society was able to compete for the pro bono services of COG design, which facilitated the meetings and translated the suggestions into a park design the community is pleased with. Once developed, the plans were presented to the Memorials Committee of the City Council and the Mayor's Office for approval.

Currently, an exhibit on the Abolition Row project is on view at the Boston Architectural College, garnering state-wide support for the preservation of local history, especially the stories of African American abolitionists and residents of this 19th century neighborhood.

I am submitting 12 letters of support from a diverse group of organizations.

## ⑥ CRITICAL NEED (1000 Character Maximum)

- *Is this project of an urgent nature?*
- *Is there a deadline or factors not controlled by the applicant (i.e. opportunity for immediate acquisition, opportunity to leverage available non-CPA grant or other financial opportunity)?*
- *For historic resource applications, is the property at risk for irreparable loss? If so, please include a condition assessment from a qualified professional.*

As 2018 is the 200th anniversary of the birth of Frederick Douglass, funding is available and could be leveraged to transform the lots into a park and tourist destination. The Society began the discussion with the City Office of Planning to buy the land for back taxes and gift the land back to the City of New Bedford. The Seventh Street lots have been abandoned for over 7 years; the lots were in fact bringing the neighborhood down and threatening the historic properties on the periphery.

The Society has been working to develop the Johnson House into a house museum while the untended lots were holding tourists from visiting the home. The Society has been the winner of three National Endowment for the Humanities grants totaling \$600,000 (funds go to UMass and to the teachers) and has created a national program on New Bedford's Underground Railroad ties bringing teachers from around the country to the Johnson House and the city. The lots are what faced the visitors.

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION FUND ■ PROJECT APPLICATION FY18  
PROJECT NARRATIVES

Financial

**FINANCIAL INFORMATION (2000 Character Maximum)**

- Describe all successful and unsuccessful attempts to secure funding and/or in-kind contributions, donations, or volunteer labor for the project.
- Will the project require funding over multiple years, and if so, provide annual funding requirements.
- What is the basis for the total CPA request?
- How will the project be affected if it does not receive CPA funds or a reduced amount?

The development of ARP will require funding over multiple years with phased in construction and landscape development over a two-year period. The site preparation for the construction grade and development of the concrete plaza is the first stage of development that will include de-compacting the garden areas and adding soil amendments in preparation of laying the cement plaza. The basis for the total amount of CPA funds requested is derived from the accepted ARP plans and budget development made in conjunction with the COGdesign group and the Parks and Recreation Department. Total estimated costs of ARP are \$641,330 with Phase 1 at \$231,600.

The Society has been actively seeking leads for capital funding for ARP. We purchased the land under the guidance of the Office of Planning and have agreements in place from the City Council to donate the land to the city. The Society is currently waiting for a Memorandum of Understanding from the Office of Mayor to donate the land to the city.

The Society has successfully received funds from the DeMoulas Foundation to purchase the property and pay off the back taxes. The foundation covered the costs for the archaeological dig recently completed. We have received a recent award from the Crapo Foundation for the development of the statue of Frederick Douglass. The Society also competed nationally and was the number one choice from the United States Conference of Mayors for a grant of \$15,000 cash and \$25,00 in gardening materials. We also competed for and won landscape and park design services from COGdesign, a Boston-based pro bono firm that donates services to underserved communities. We approached the CHT Foundation for \$25,000 and were rejected.

In kind work has been promised by the Carpenter's Union for the park gazebo and benches with some design work and technical assistance from WHALE and COGdesign.

The Society will continue to seek funding for ARP if it does not receive funding or receives a lesser amount.

## PROJECT NARRATIVES

## Project Management

## ① APPLICANT INFORMATION (1000 Character Maximum)

- Describe the applicant. Are they public, private non-profit, private for-profit, an individual, a partnership, or another type of entity? What is their history and background?
- Identify and describe the roles of all participants (applicants, architects, contractors, etc.), including the project manager.

Founded in 1996, the New Bedford Historical Society Inc. is a non-profit, all-volunteer organization that is an advocate for racial and ethnic inclusion to the historical narrative of the city while preserving the structures related to the African American, Cape Verdean, and the Native American community. The organization has presented educational programs that highlight the contributions of these communities in the 18th and 19th century to the whaling industry, the maritime trades and the Underground Railroad. The Society has preserved a multi-cultural history that was in danger of being lost. The Society will be working with the Department of Public Infrastructure, the Department of Parks Recreation and Beaches, and the Office of Planning and Community Development on this project. The Society is awaiting a Memorandum of Understanding from the Office of the Mayor outlining the roles. COGdesign, park designers will continue to work with the project and provide guidance.

## ② APPLICANT BACKGROUND (1000 Character Maximum)

- Describe any past projects of similar type and scale, or experience that demonstrates the applicant's ability to carry out this project.

The Society has worked on several public arts projects and the restoration of the exterior and interior of the Nathan and Mary Johnson House. Our partners in these endeavors have been the City of New Bedford, WHALE, and the Park Service.

The exterior restoration of the Johnson House was a \$225,000 project managed by the Society with assistance from Derek Santos and the National Park. Funds were given by Senator Kennedy.

The Society also lead the campaign to raise the funds for the 54th MA Mural, a \$45,000 project with the NB Art Museum, UMass CVPA, and the National Park. The Society was the manager for the project, assisting to raise the funds and to put all the pieces in place to get the mural completed.

Finally, the Society raised \$75,000 in private funds to complete the interior renovation of the 1st and 2nd floor of the Johnson House to a house museum. Each project was carried out by a committed group of volunteers who found the funds to complete these important projects.

**PROJECT NARRATIVES****Project Management****③ PROJECT FEASIBILITY (1000 Character Maximum)**

- *List and explain further actions or steps required for completion of the project, such as environmental assessments, zoning or other permits and approvals, agreement on terms of any required conservation, affordability or historic preservation agreements, subordination agreements, and any known or potential barriers or impediments to project implementation.*

The Society will be working with the Department of Public Infrastructure, the Department of Parks Recreation and Beaches, and the Office of Planning and Community Development on this project. The Society is awaiting a Memorandum of Understanding from the Office of the Mayor outlining the roles.

**④ PROJECT MAINTENANCE (1000 Character Maximum)**

- *Please explain the long-term maintenance plan for the completed project.*

The Society will be working with the Department of Public Infrastructure, the Department of Parks Recreation and Beaches, and the Office of Planning and Community Development on this project. The Society is awaiting a Memorandum of Understanding from the Office of the Mayor outlining the roles and the maintenance of the completed project.

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION FUND ■ PROJECT APPLICATION FY18  
PROJECT NARRATIVES

Historic Resources Rehabilitation Projects Requirements

CPA Compliance (1000 Character Maximum)

- Describe how the proposed project complies with the U.S. Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation, as required by the CPA legislation under the definition of rehabilitation.
- Describe how the applicant will ensure compliance with these standards as the project is ongoing, including an identification of who will make historic preservation determinations.

Not applicable

Accessibility Requirements

CPA Compliance (1000 Character Maximum)

- Describe how the proposed project complies with the all ADA/MAAB Regulations.

Abolition Row Park will be completely accessible to all.

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION FUND ■ PROJECT APPLICATION FY18  
PROJECT NARRATIVES

Community Housing Projects Requirements

CPA Compliance (1000 Character Maximum)

- Describe how the proposed project complies with CPA affordability requirements. (100% of AMI for New Bedford)
- Describe the number and types of units (e.g.: 1br, 2br).
- Provide a complete Development Budget and an Operating Budget (for rental properties).

Not applicable

## PROJECT SCHEDULE

Please provide a project timeline below, noting all project milestones. Please note that because the City Council must approve all appropriations, CPA funds, if awarded, may not be available until up to two months following CPC approval.

	ACTIVITY	ESTIMATED DATE
PROJECT START DATE:	prepare site for construction grade for plaza, decompact garden areas	April 2018
PROJECT MILESTONE:	plaza installed and garden areas ready for fall planting	August 2018
50% COMPLETION STAGE:	plaza completed and water wall installed	October 2018
PROJECT MILESTONE:	Issue call for art for Douglass statue	February 2018
PROJECT COMPLETION DATE:	designs reviewed, statue completed and cast	February 2019

## PROJECT BUDGET

Please include a complete itemized budget of all project expenses, including the proposed funding source for each expense, in your submission. Note: CPA funds cannot be used for maintenance.

FUNDING SOURCES		EXPENSES				
		STUDY	SOFT COSTS*	ACQUISITION	CONSTRUCTION**	TOTAL
1	NEW BEDFORD CPA	\$	\$	\$	\$ 231,600	\$ 231,600
2	Phase I costs	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
3		\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
4		\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
5		\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
TOTAL PROJECT COSTS		\$	\$	\$	\$ 231,600	\$ 231,600

\* Soft costs include design, professional services, permitting fees, closing costs, legal, etc.

\*\* Construction refers to new construction, rehabilitation, preservation, restoration work, and/or accessibility related expenses.

## Project Cost Summary

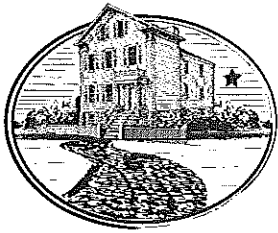
Please explain the status of each funding source (i.e., submitting application on X date, applied on X date, received award notification on X date, funds on hand, etc.). For sources where funding has been awarded or funds are on hand, please include documentation from the funding source (e.g., commitment letter, bank statement) in application packet.

FUNDING SOURCE		STATUS OF FUNDING
1	U.S. Conference of Mayors	Funded for \$15,000 and \$25,000 in-kind gardening essentials received notification Jan 2017
2	Crapo Foundation	\$10,000 for Douglass statue received notification Dec 2017
3	DeMoulas Foundation	Funding received to purchase site and pay back taxes Sept. 2016
4		
5		

**COMMUNITY PRESERVATION FUND ■ PROJECT APPLICATION FY18**

**Construction Projects Only**

ACTIVITY	CPA FUNDS	OTHER FUNDS	TOTAL
<b>Acquisition Costs</b>			
Land	\$	\$	\$
Existing Structures	\$	\$	\$
Other acquisition costs	\$	\$	\$
<b>Site Work (not in construction contract)</b>			
Demolition/clearance	\$	\$	\$
Other site costs	\$	\$	\$
<b>Construction/Project Improvement Costs</b>			
New Construction	\$	\$	\$
Rehabilitation	\$	\$	\$
Performance bond premium	\$	\$	\$
Construction contingency	\$	\$	\$
Other	\$	\$	\$
<b>Architectural and Engineering</b>			
Architect fees	\$	\$	\$
Engineering fees	\$	\$	\$
Other A & E fees	\$	\$	\$
<b>Other Owner Costs</b>			
Appraisal fees	\$	\$	\$
Survey	\$	\$	\$
Soil boring/environmental/LBP	\$	\$	\$
Tap fees and impact fees	\$	\$	\$
Permitting fees	\$	\$	\$
Legal fees	\$	\$	\$
Other	\$	\$	\$
<b>Miscellaneous Costs</b>			
Developer fees	\$	\$	\$
Project reserves	\$	\$	\$
Relocation costs	\$	\$	\$
<b>Project Administration &amp; Management Costs</b>			
Marketing/management	\$	\$	\$
Operating	\$	\$	\$
Taxes	\$	\$	\$
Insurance	\$	\$	\$
Other	\$ Project Budget	\$ Attached	\$
<b>TOTAL</b>	\$	\$	\$



NEW BEDFORD  
*Historical Society*

21 Seventh Street  
New Bedford, MA 02740

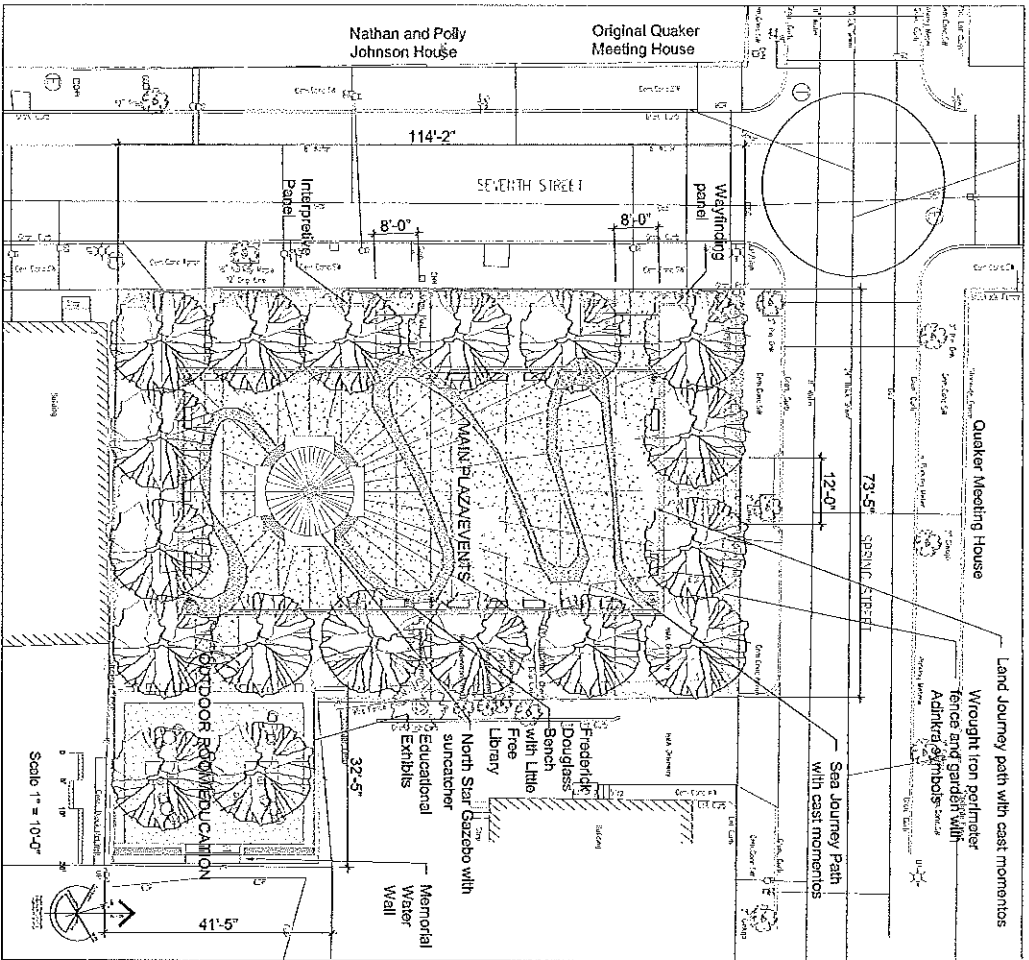
PHONE: 508-979-8828

FAX: 508-979-8836

[www.nbhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.nbhistoricalsociety.org)

**ATTACHMENTS FOR ABOLITION ROW PARK**

- 1) Masterplan for Abolition Row Park
- 2) USGS Topographic Map
- 3) 18 Seventh Street – Office of Community Planning  
With photos of site
- 4) Budget for project
- 5) City Council Memorials Committee acceptance of Abolition Row Park
- 6) Letters of support from 12 organizations
- 7) Letters for grant funds awarded



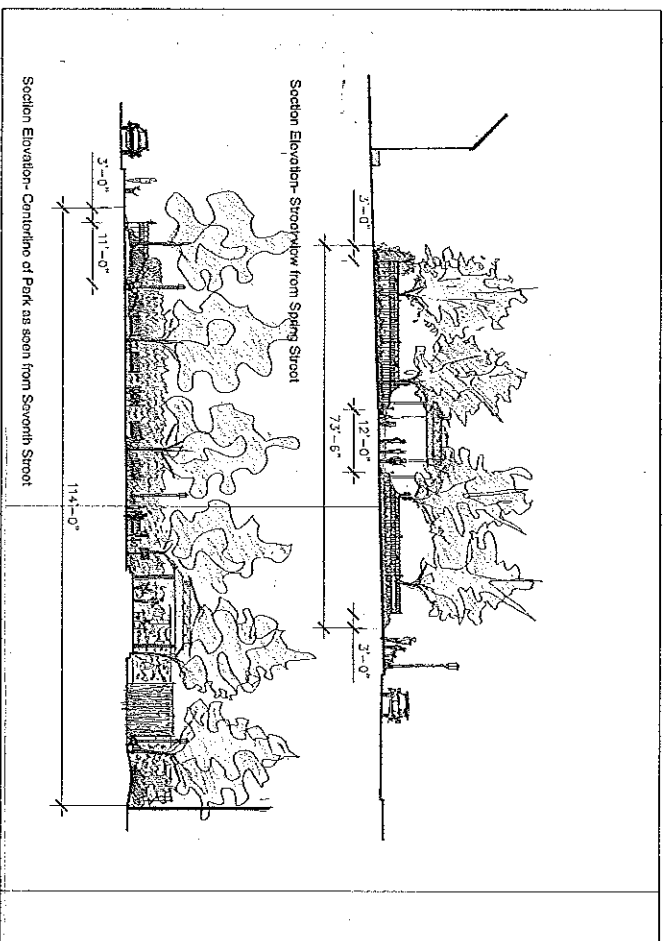
**Masterplan for Abolition Row Park, New Bedford, Massachusetts**  
 Client: New Bedford Historical Society  
 Park Partner: The City of New Bedford  
 Site Design: Community Outreach Group for Landscape Design (COGdesign)  
 - Barbara Conolly, M.P.S., Garden by Barbara Conolly  
 - Heather Helmack, ASLA, HighMark Land Design

**OBJECTIVE:**  
 The goal is to create an attractive pocket park with a mission of telling the story of the abolitionists that lived in the Seventh Street neighborhood.

**PHASE ONE**  
 Main Plaza Paving and Infrastructure

**FUTURE PHASES**

- Main Plaza Planting, Lighting and Site Furniture
- Call for Public Art
- Outdoor Exhibits
- Outdoor Room Water Wall, Planting, and Enclosure



October 24, 2016

**Location:** ES SEVENTH ST**Parcel ID:** 46 55**Zoning:** MUB**Fiscal Year:** 2015**Current Owner Information:**

NEW BEDFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

21 SEVENTH STREET

NEW BEDFORD, MA 02740

**Current Sales Information:****Sale Date:**

06/03/2016

**Sale Price:**

\$100.00

**Legal Reference:**

11708-161

**Grantor:**

WATERFRONT HISTORIC AREA, LEAGUE INC

Card No. 1 of 1

This Property contains 0.096 acres of land mainly classified for assessment purposes as Land

**Building Value:**

0

**Land Value:**

90900

**Yard Items Value:**

0

**Total Value:**

90900

No  
Sketch  
Available

NO  
IMAGE  
AVAILABLE

**Fiscal Year 2015****Fiscal Year 2014****Fiscal Year 2013**

Tax Rate Res.:	15.73	Tax Rate Res.:	15.16	Tax Rate Res.:	14.33
Tax Rate Com.:	33.56	Tax Rate Com.:	31.08	Tax Rate Com.:	29.54
Property Code:	130	Property Code:	130	Property Code:	130
Total Bldg Value:	0	Total Bldg Value:	0	Total Bldg Value:	0
Total Yard Value:	0	Total Yard Value:	0	Total Yard Value:	0
Total Land Value:	90900	Total Land Value:	90900	Total Land Value:	107400
<b>Total Value:</b>	<b>90900</b>	<b>Total Value:</b>	<b>90900</b>	<b>Total Value:</b>	<b>107400</b>
<b>Tax:</b>	<b>\$1,483.34</b>	<b>Tax:</b>	<b>\$1,378.04</b>	<b>Tax:</b>	<b>\$1,539.04</b>

Disclaimer: Classification is not an indication of uses allowed under city zoning.  
This information is believed to be correct but is subject to change and is not warranted.

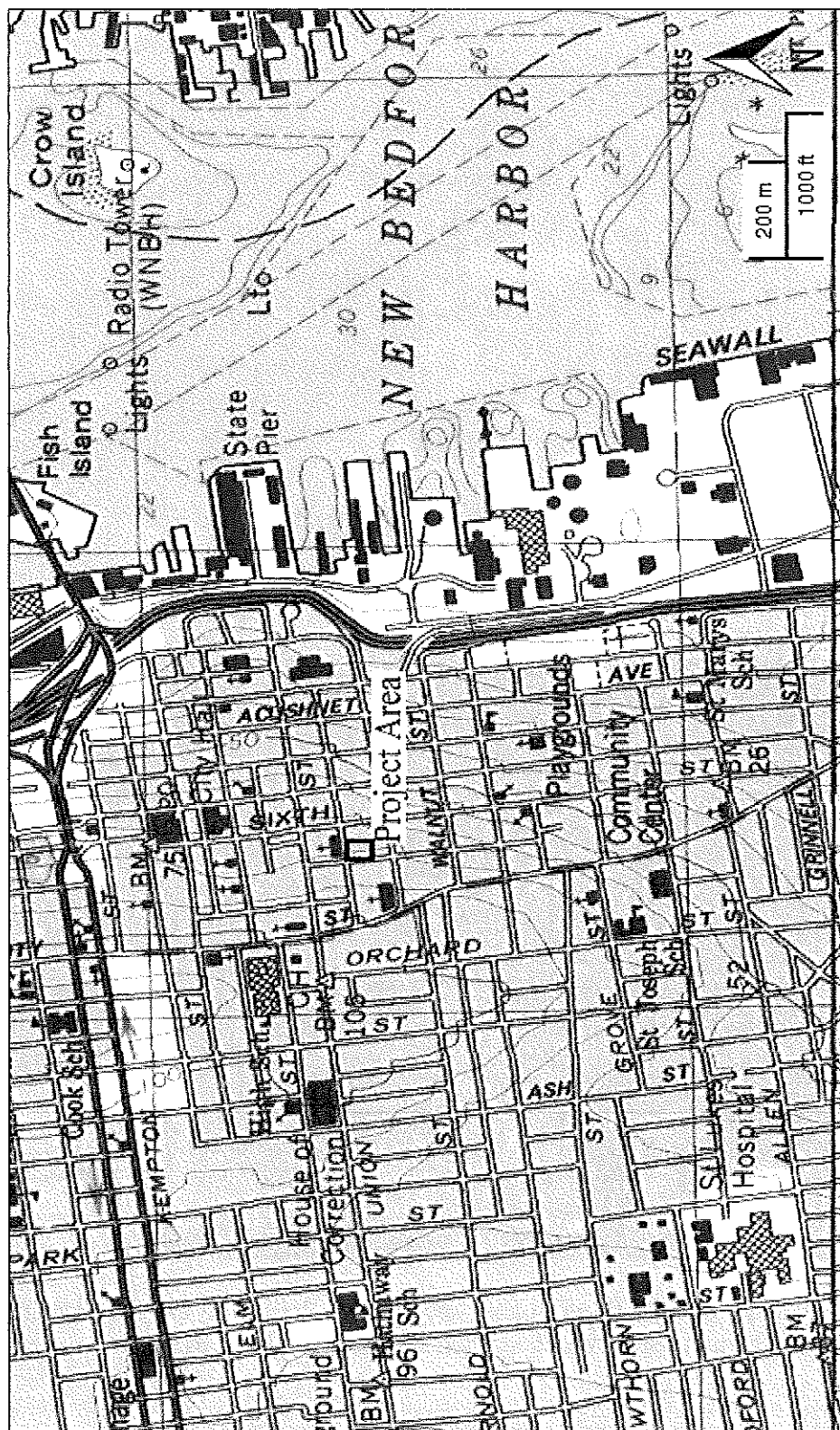


Figure 1. Project area location on USGS topographic map.



## OFFICE OF HOUSING, & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

**CITY OF NEW BEDFORD**  
JONATHAN F. MITCHELL, MAYOR

PATRICK J. SULLIVAN, DIRECTOR

### **Abolitionist Row Park**

The City of New Bedford, the New Bedford Historical Society and the Waterfront area League (WHALE) are seeking to collaborate on the acquisition of a vacant lot on the corner of Seventh Street and Spring Street. The city and the New Bedford Historical Society both agree that the lot's conversion to open space that commemorates and interprets Frederick Douglass' time in New Bedford would be an excellent way to tell the under told story of the Underground Railroad and abolitionism in New Bedford. Furthermore, it would nicely complement the two National Historic Landmarks across the street, in particular the Johnson house which will be open to visitors this summer.

#### **18 Seventh Street, New Bedford, MA. Parcel ID: Plot 46 Lot 55**

Owner: Steve Economos "Trustee"

FWC Realty Trust, 345 Union Street, New Bedford, MA

Lot Size: 57'x 73.51' - 4,168 square feet (0.096) acres

#### **History:**

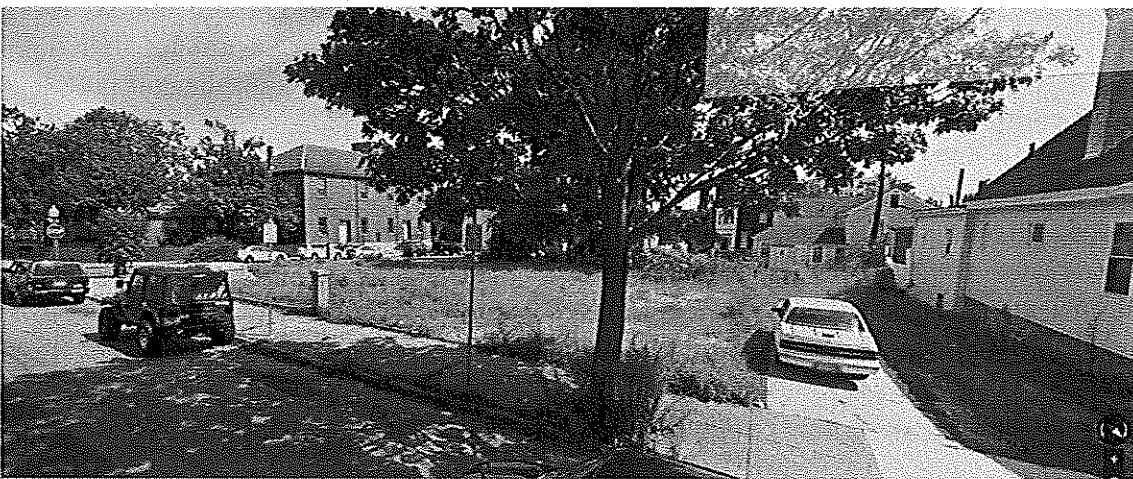


On November 7, 2009, the historic house (Built c. 1843 for John Thornton) located at 18 Seventh Street was ravaged by a three alarm fire and subsequently demolished. The remaining lot sits on the corner of Spring and Seventh Streets in the heart of the County Street National Register District. It also anchors a corridor of abolitionist activity in New Bedford that ran east to west from Sixth, Seventh and County Streets to north to south from Spring to Bedford Streets. Immediately south of this lot and contiguous is 20 Seventh Street. This is a vacant lot that is owned by the City and would be combined

with 18 Seventh Street to form a larger track of land.

Directly across from the 18 Seventh Street vacant lot sits two National Historic Landmarks, the original Quaker Friends Meeting House and the Nathan and Polly Johnson House. It was in the Johnson house that Frederick Douglass, a noted abolitionist and the most distinguished and celebrated African American leader and orator of the nineteenth century, found refuge after his escape from slavery in

Maryland in 1838. Born Frederick Augustus Washington Bailey, it was Nathan Johnson who gave him his "new" surname - Frederick Douglass. There is documentation of other fugitives finding asylum in New Bedford in this immediate area as well as other abolitionist activity. Fugitive William Winters was taken in and trained by pharmacist Elisha Thornton Jr. next door at 20 Seventh Street.





# The United States Conference of Mayors

1620 Eye Street, N.W. • Washington, D.C. 20006  
Phone (202) 293-7330 • Fax (202) 293-2352  
E-mail: [info@usmayors.org](mailto:info@usmayors.org) URL: [usmayors.org](http://usmayors.org)

For Immediate Release:  
Thursday, January 19, 2017

Contact:  
Elena Temple-Webb, [etemple@usmayors.org](mailto:etemple@usmayors.org), 202-286-1100  
Lindsay LaSala, [Lindsay.LaSala@Scotts.com](mailto:Lindsay.LaSala@Scotts.com), 937-644-7621

## THE UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF MAYORS (USCM) AND SCOTSMIRACLE-GRO TRANSFORM CITIES THROUGH GREENSPACE DEVELOPMENT

### *\$160,000 in Grants to Cities Announced at Mayors' 85<sup>th</sup> Winter Meeting*

Washington, DC – The United States Conference of Mayors (USCM) and The Scotts Miracle-Gro Company's charitable foundation today announced the recipients of grants totaling \$160,000, through GRO1000, the landmark garden and greenspace development grant program. The 2017 GRO1000 Showcase Grant Cities are:

New Bedford, MA: Abolition Row Park (Mayor Jonathan Mitchell)  
New Haven, CT: Cherry Ann Park (Mayor Toni Harp)  
Rochester Hills, MI: The Hills Sensory Garden (Mayor Bryan K. Barnett)  
Santa Monica, CA: Ishihara Park (Mayor Tony Vazquez)

"Mayors understand that cities receive an exponential return on their investment in public parks and greenspace development," said USCM CEO and Executive Director Tom Cochran. "We see The Conference's partnership with ScottsMiracle-Gro as an opportunity to help cities realize concrete benefits from this endeavor – from improving the public health of their citizens to stimulating economic development and increasing community engagement and pride."

The cities, announced at the Mayors' 85<sup>th</sup> Winter Meeting in Washington, DC, were chosen by a panel of former mayors and national garden experts. GRO1000 grant awardees each receive a total of \$40,000 in monetary support and in-kind donations, to develop gardens and greenspaces that will help improve their communities.

"We believe that gardens and greenspaces have the power to positively transform our cities," said Jim Hagedorn, ScottsMiracle-Gro Chairman and CEO. "We're honored to work with the U.S. Conference of Mayors to bring more public greenscapes to communities across the U.S. and their residents."

The GRO1000 program is part of The Scotts Miracle-Gro Foundation's commitment to bring the life-enhancing benefits of gardens and greenspaces to more people and communities. The initiative will support the creation of more than 1,000 community gardens and greenspaces in the U.S. by 2018, in conjunction with ScottsMiracle-Gro's 150th anniversary. To that end, more than 830 community projects have received GRO1000 funding to date. For more information, visit [www.GRO1000.com](http://www.GRO1000.com).

Descriptions of the 2017 projects appear below.

- **Abolition Row Park** will be a transformational public greenspace at the edge of New Bedford's downtown core, replacing blighted property adjacent to three buildings on the National Register of

Historic Places—documented Underground Railroad sites and the first home in freedom of Frederick Douglass. The park will be a teaching and storytelling garden that will focus on the city's history in the 19<sup>th</sup> century as a community of tolerance and a haven for those seeking escape from the institution of slavery. The park will also feature Monarch gardens created to engage local schoolchildren and college students.

- A former derelict dumping site, **Cherry Ann Park** is now a five-acre greenspace in New Haven that serves to connect a predominantly low income African-American residential community, city park, neighborhood K–8 school and state university. The park's transformation, which began in 2014, will continue with environmental and health educational opportunities for students at the King Robinson Magnet School, job creation for local youth, and a series of raised edible garden beds to feed community members in need.
- **The Hills Sensory Garden** will be a 5,000 square foot garden located in Rochester Hill's Riverbend Park. The garden will be comprised of two different areas—a student designed and maintained space and a professionally designed sensory garden. The garden will include areas specifically devoted to schools from Rochester Hills, teaching students elements of ecology such as native plants, soil erosion, and pollination, and will encourage children to interact with nature through guided walks and a natural elements playground. The garden will also serve the public as a recreational sensory garden. The natural elements playground immediately adjacent to the garden will be designed with sensitivity towards those with autism.
- The result of community outreach to design a buffer area adjacent to a new Metro Rail, **Ishihara Park** is a public greenspace where the community can connect with nature while being buffered from a nearby maintenance facility and its 24/7 operations. Ishihara Park will cover 2.35 acres and serve as an urban revitalization effort to replace land formerly used as a parking lot with native trees and shrubs and creating open greenspace for the community. A Nature Garden will include flowering trees and plants, enticing natural pollinators, and will give residents access to natural beauty and tranquility. The open greenspace will allow residents to use the park as they desire—for meditation, celebrations, bird watching or just simply walking and talking. A Learning Garden and an urban orchard of citrus trees will provide the community with space to grow fresh produce and gain horticulture knowledge.

#### **About The United States Conference of Mayors**

*The United States Conference of Mayors is the official nonpartisan organization of cities with populations of 30,000 or more. There are more than 1,200 such cities in the country today, and each city is represented in the Conference by its chief elected official, the mayor. Find us at [usmayors.org](http://usmayors.org), on [facebook.com/usmayors](https://facebook.com/usmayors), or follow us on Twitter at [twitter.com/usmayors](https://twitter.com/usmayors).*



# COMMUNITY FOUNDATION of Southeastern Massachusetts

## Board of Directors

Garfield

December 1, 2017

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Chair

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New Bedford Historical Society  
21 Seventh St.  
New Bedford, MA 02740

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E. Sousa, CFA

A. Strand

Richard W. Sullivan

Vadeboncoeur

Robert Emeritus  
Clark

Dear Ms. Blake:

I am pleased to inform you that the Board of Directors of the Community Foundation of Southeastern Massachusetts approved a \$10,000.00 grant to the New Bedford Historical Society for a Frederick Douglass statue that will be dedicated in Abolition Row Park for the 200th anniversary of Douglass's birth in 2018.

This grant was recommended by the advisors of the Henry H. Crapo Foundation Fund. The purpose of the Henry H. Crapo Foundation Fund is to promote the well-being of the Greater New Bedford Area and to support those 501c(3) local organizations that have the following characteristics relative to the core values of the Henry H. Crapo Charitable Foundation:

- Involvement by the Bullard Family
- Impact
- Excellence
- Catalyst/Leverage
- Community Needs
- Informality – No red tape
- Filling Gaps

While the Fund does not provide operating support for programs, it will consider contributions to capital drives and short-term projects which demonstrate impact and excellence, leverage other resources and meet community needs by filling program and service gaps. The Fund will support and work collaboratively with similar organizations to review community needs, coordinate grant making, and promote increases in locally directed philanthropy.

### TERMS & CONDITIONS FORM (enclosed):

The Community Foundation requires that you review, sign, and return the enclosed Terms & Conditions form as soon as possible. We request this grant be listed in your publications and promotional materials as indicated below.

### Community Foundation of Southeastern Massachusetts – Henry H. Crapo Foundation Fund

It is important that no individuals (including any donors to the fund or any staff of the Foundation) receive any personal benefits or services for this grant that are not otherwise extended to the general public without cost.

Materials List and Budget		Unit	Qty.	cost per item	subtotal Cost	Phase One	Phase Two	Phase Three	city in/ind
<b>Site Preparation</b>									
<b>Mobilization</b>		allow			\$ 3,000.00	X			
<b>Clearing and Grubbing</b>		allow				X			
Prepare site for construction grade for plaza, remove and store granite steps- 5075 sq ft		allow			\$ 7,500.00	X			
Remove subgrade for 3' structural soil base for plaza		cu yds	600	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00	X			
Install crushed stone base in The Courtyard (1072 sq ft)		cu yds	19	\$ 323.00	\$ 323.00	X			
CU Structural Soil under pavement at 18" depth under 5443 sq ft pavement		cu yds	300	\$ 100.00	\$ 30,000.00	X			
Remove bollards Spring St entrance		allow	2	\$ 1,100.00	\$ 2,200.00	X			
Decompect garden areas and add soil amendments		allow			\$ 3,000.00	X			
Removal of street tree at Spring St. and replace in alternate area		allow	1		\$ 1,000.00	X			
<b>Utilities</b>									
Water, include backflow preventer and 3 hose bibbs		allow		\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00	X			
Electrical connection		allow		\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00	X			
Storm water connection to street		allow		\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00	X			
Catch basins with area drains (3 ?)		each	3	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 3,600.00	X			
Phase 1 Slewing		allow		\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	X			
<b>Site Improvements</b>									
Repair public sidewalk as needed for utilities		sq ft	190			X			
Install curb cut at Spring St entrance		in ft	12			X			
Plaza concrete with detail joints check against 3,427 sf		sq ft	3927	\$ 15.00	\$ 58,905.00	X			
Cast bronze monuments in main plaza paving		each	15	\$ 100.00	\$ 1,500.00	X			
Plaza "path" details in 2 integral colors upgrade- price 944sf unit block		sq ft	944	\$ 25.00	\$ 23,600.00	X			
Plaza existing old granite curb		in ft	260	\$ 30.00	\$ 7,800.00	X			\$ 7,800.00
water wall 10' x 10' includes plumbing and lighting		allow		\$ 90,000.00	\$ 90,000.00			X	
Interpretive panel fence walls on The Courtyard, 8' ft x 105 ft		in ft	105	\$ 95.00	\$ 9,975.00		X		
decorative fence 4' wrought iron posts		in ft	265	\$ 125.00	\$ 33,125.00		X		
6' chain link fence at neighbors property line (inside new hedge)		in ft	10	\$ 200.00	\$ 2,000.00		X		
gazebo 14' diameter to include suncatcher and northstar deck design and lighting		each	50	\$ 25.00	\$ 1,250.00		X		
clean and reset granite steps		each	1	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00		X		
dry laid pavers in The Courtyard		allow	1	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00		X		
		sq ft	1072	\$ 20.00	\$ 21,440.00			X	
<b>Site Furniture Including Interpretative Elements</b>									
Information panels 2' x 3' (high pressure laminate)		each	2	\$ 500.00	\$ 1,000.00		X		
Interpretive panel walls, 8' ft x 6' wt (high pressure laminate)		each	6	\$ 4,080.00	\$ 24,480.00			X	
cast style tables & chairs 2:1		each set	4	\$ 350.00	\$ 1,400.00			X	
4' benches in ground mount with plaque		each	24	\$ 675.00	\$ 9,450.00			X	
6' Douglass bench with in ground mount		each	1	\$ 820.00	\$ 820.00			X	
trash barrels		each	3	\$ 650.00	\$ 1,950.00			X	
Life size bronze statue of young Frederick Douglass		each	1	\$ 80,000.00	\$ 80,000.00			X	
Adelphi 8' x 8' iron custom features for fence or granite blocks		each	10	\$ 550.00	\$ 5,500.00			X	
Granite block displays outdoor education area		each	10	\$ 210.00	\$ 2,100.00			X	
Little Library (needs lighting and 2 or 3 cast books: Columbian orator, Complete works of Shakespeare, Lady of the Lake or bible?)		each	1	\$ 1,700.00	\$ 1,700.00			X	
Removable bollards at Spring St. entrance		each	1	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00		X		
Bike racks		each	3	\$ 450.00	\$ 1,350.00			X	
Installation of site furniture		allow			\$ 20,000.00			X	
<b>Lighting &amp; Electricity</b>									
Washingtonian style lights		each	6	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 30,000.00		X		
Uplighting		each	4	\$ 500.00	\$ 2,000.00		X		
Down lights (lamps)		each	8	\$ 500.00	\$ 4,000.00		X		
electrical box, (12) outlets and misc hardware		allow			\$ 8,000.00		X		
<b>Planting</b>									
loam/compost mix at 6" 4005 sf		cu yd	74	\$ 35.00	\$ 2,590.00		X		
mulch at 4" 942 sf ONLY FOR CAMDEN BEDS		cu yd	12	\$ 55.00	\$ 660.00		X		
seed sf lawn area only		sf	3060	\$ 0.50	\$ 1,530.00		X		
flowering trees 3"-3.5" cal		each	18	\$ 375.00	\$ 6,750.00		X		
Shrubs to screen (Thuja occidentalis 'Smagard' 5' on center 5-6' height		each	14	\$ 75.00	\$ 1,050.00		X		
shrubs 3-4' for south wall, lilac glabra 'Dance' #120 container		each	12	\$ 80.00	\$ 960.00		X		
perennials for perimeter and gazebo marked 90' for perimeter, 36' for gazebo, 12' for wall #1 ct		each	128	\$ 7.50	\$ 1,035.00		X		
gazebo plants shrubs #15 container		each	24	\$ 30.00	\$ 720.00		X		
fountain wall vines #1 container		each	6	\$ 10.00	\$ 60.00			X	
plant installation		allow		\$ 35,000.00	\$ 35,000.00				
contingency fund 10%					\$ 59,257.30				
<b>Total estimated cost for this project</b>					\$641,330.30				\$ 7,800.00

Phase I

[illegible]

Lee Blake

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Hi Lee,

Thank you for reaching out. As you know I am very interested in this project and looking forward to putting together a proposal. In relationship to my own work, a single seated life sized bronze figure would normally be between \$55,000 and \$70,000 depending on the complexity of the sculpture. This price includes the bench which should also be cast in bronze unless another permanent material, such as stone, were used. It also includes the costs paid to the foundry for molding and casting the figure as well as the delivery and final installation of the sculpture.

I would itemize it something like this:

Design and Modeling	\$30,000 - \$35,000
Mold making	\$3000 - \$5000
Casting	\$20,000 - \$25,000
Delivery and Installation	\$2000 - \$5000
<hr/>	
Total	\$55,000 - \$70,000

**Lee Blake, President**

New Bedford Historical Society

508.979.8828

[www.nbhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.nbhistoricalsociety.org)

[www.facebook.com/nbhistory](http://www.facebook.com/nbhistory)

*Until the lions have their historians, tales of the hunting will always glorify the hunter.*



*City of New Bedford*  
IN COMMITTEE

February 23, 2017

The Honorable City Council  
133 William Street  
New Bedford, MA 02740

Dear Honorable Members of the City Council:

The Committee on Memorials & Dedications at a Meeting held on Wednesday, February 22, 2017, considered a Written Motion, Councillor Rebeiro, requesting, that the land donated to the City by the Historical Society across the street from the Nathan and Mary "Polly" Johnson House located at 21 Seventh Street to be turned into a park honoring the Abolitionists in New Bedford for their important work. (Ref'd 11/22/16)

On motion by Councillor Coelho and seconded by Councillor Abreu, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council referral to the Mayor to accept the lot at 18 Seventh Street to be turned into a park honoring the abolitionists movement in New Bedford. This motion passed on a voice vote.

IN COMMITTEE ON MEMORIALS &  
DEDICATIONS

*Naomi R A Carney a.*  
Councillor Naomi R. A. Carney, Chairman

NC/at



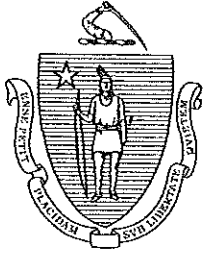
Item Title:  
REPORT - 18 SEVENTH STREET - PARK

Item Detail:  
L4. REPORT, Committee on Memorial and Dedications recommending to the City Council, referred to the Mayor to accept the lot at 18 Seventh Street to be turned into a park honoring the abolitionists' movement in New Bedford.

Additional Information:

ATTACHMENTS:

	Description	Type
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>REPORT - COMMITTEE ON MEMORIALS &amp; DEDICATIONS</u>	Cover Memo



*The Commonwealth of Massachusetts*

MASSACHUSETTS SENATE

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT MAJORITY LEADER

SENATOR MARK MONTIGNY  
ASSISTANT MAJORITY LEADER  
*Second Bristol and Plymouth District*

CHAIRMAN  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON RULES

STATE HOUSE, ROOM 312C  
BOSTON, MA 02133-1053

TEL: (617) 722-1440

FAX: (617) 722-1068

DISTRICT TEL: (508) 984-1474

MARK.MONTIGNY@MASENATE.GOV  
WWW.MASENATE.GOV

December 8, 2017

New Bedford Community Preservation Committee  
c/o Department of Planning, Housing & Community Development  
608 Pleasant Street, 2d Floor  
New Bedford, MA 02740

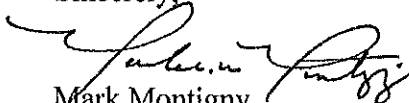
Dear Committee Members:

I am writing to express support for the New Bedford Historical Society's application for Community Preservation Act funds. For years I have supported the Society's mission of preserving and celebrating New Bedford's collective history and heritage. Recently the Society requested my support for their CPA proposal to develop Abolition Row Park.

The proposed park will compliment neighboring historic properties including the Friends Meeting House and the Nathan and Mary (Polly) Johnson Properties, which served as part of the extensive Underground Railroad network. Abolition Row Park will transform this neighborhood and highlight the important history of people of color in New Bedford. As we approach the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Frederick Douglass' birth, it seems fitting to construct a community space where we can memorialize and continue to seek social justice for all.

As the committee engages in a full and fair analysis of all worthy projects, I want to assure you that this project has my full support. If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact my office at anytime.

Sincerely,

  
Mark Montigny  
SENATOR



# United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park  
33 William Street  
New Bedford, Massachusetts 02740

December 5, 2017  
City of New Bedford  
Community Preservation Committee  
608 Pleasant Street  
New Bedford, MA 02740

Dear Committee members:

As superintendent of New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park, I write this letter in support of the application of the New Bedford Historical Society for Community Preservation funds for the first phase of the development of Abolition Row Park. The proposed park will greatly enhance the neighborhood at Seventh and Spring Streets as it sits directly across the street from three buildings on the National Register of Historic Places; the two Johnson House properties, which are documented Underground Railroad sites dating from 1800, and the Friends Meeting House built in 1820.

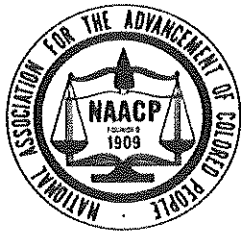
The New Bedford Historical Society is creating a new public space that illustrates why 19th century New Bedford was known throughout the south for its tolerant racial attitudes and for its support of the advancement of African Americans. Through the development of this public park, the City has an opportunity to add a little-known chapter to the city's history that broadens our historical narrative and makes it more inclusive. The park will significantly transform the local neighborhood while giving the city a new heritage tourism destination and sense of pride in local history.

Over the past 20 years, the Historical Society has supported several public art memorials that have recognized the role of African Americans and Cape Verdeans in the city's history. Abolition Row Park will add to the significant memorials to African American history that dot the downtown area. The National Park Service has been proud to partner with the New Bedford Historical Society on preservation projects and on the development of significant and inclusive public art projects. Through our collective advocacy, the city has significant memorials that now attract visitors and provide educational resources that acknowledge the role people of color have had in the city's history. These projects provide visible markers to increase pride of place and pride in the history of New Bedford for all our citizens.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Meghan Kish  
Superintendent, New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park



NEW BEDFORD BRANCH  
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT  
OF COLORED PEOPLE

95 Cedar Street or P.O. Box 1711, New Bedford, Massachusetts 02741 • 508-991-4416

—Chartered 1917— Historic Home of Frederick Douglass • Lewis Temple • Sgt. William H. Carney

December 1, 2017

City of New Bedford  
Community Preservation Committee  
608 Pleasant Street  
New Bedford, MA 02740

As president of the New Bedford Chapter of the NAACP, I write this letter in support of the application of the New Bedford Historical Society for Community Preservation funds for the first phase of the development of Abolition Row Park. The proposed park will greatly enhance the neighborhood at Seventh and Spring Streets directly across the street from three buildings on the National Register of Historic Places; the two Johnson House properties, which are documented Underground Railroad sites dating from 1800, and the Friends Meeting House built in 1820.

Over the past 20 years, the Historical Society has been responsible for several public art memorials that recognize the role of African Americans and Cape Verdeans in the city's history. Abolition Row Park will add to the significant memorials to African American history that dot the downtown area. These memorials have been developed by NAACP and New Bedford Historical Society members and include the Lewis Temple monument in front of the library, the 54<sup>th</sup> MA Regiment mural, the 54<sup>th</sup> MA Regiment Memorial Park and a base relief tablet in front of City Hall recognizing Frederick Douglass's time in New Bedford. Through our collective advocacy and funding, the city has significant memorials that now attract visitors and provide educational resources that acknowledge the role people of color have had in the city's history. These projects provide visible markers to increase pride of place and pride in the history of New Bedford for all our citizens.

I look forward to welcoming Abolition Row Park and the stories it will tell. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Bruce A. Rose  
President, New Bedford NAACP

**New Bedford Monthly Meeting**  
**Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)**  
**83 Spring Street, New Bedford, MA 02740-5934**

December 7, 2017

City of New Bedford, Community Preservation Committee  
608 Pleasant Street  
New Bedford, MA 02740

Dear Committee Members:

New Bedford Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends is a Quaker congregation that was founded in the eighteenth century and that holds its meeting for worship at 10 a.m. each Sunday. At our business meeting on Sunday, December 3, 2017, New Bedford Monthly Meeting reached unity to send a letter of support for the New Bedford Historical Society's application for Community Preservation funds for the first phase of the development of Abolition Row Park.

The proposed park will transform a lot that has been badly maintained since a fire destroyed the two homes that had occupied the space. The lot at Seventh and Spring Streets sits across the street from three buildings of considerable historical significance: 1) the Nathan and Polly Johnson House; 2) the original New Bedford Friends Meeting House, later owned by the Johnsons; 3) and our current Friends Meeting House, constructed in 1822. Both the Johnson house and the original Friends Meeting House are listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

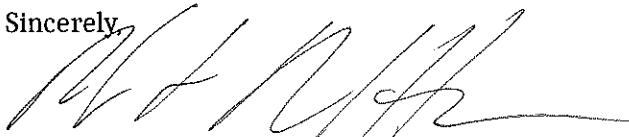
Abolition Row Park will be a green space in the city's downtown focused on telling an important but under-told aspect of New Bedford's history. The park will tell the story of New Bedford's role during the 19th century as a community of tolerance and a haven for freedom-seekers escaping the institution of slavery. To preserve and share the story of the 19th century abolitionist movement, the New Bedford Historical Society is also developing sites related to the Underground Railroad, with an aim of bringing pride to our fellow citizens and appealing to cultural heritage tourism.

We look forward to working with the New Bedford Historical Society to tell the story of the racially diverse abolitionist neighborhood that flourished around our Meeting House in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. We believe that at this time in American history it is important to tell this story about people from different backgrounds working together with a goal of assisting oppressed people who came to New Bedford seeking freedom and a better life, and we applaud the New Bedford Historical Society for their work on this park and for bringing attention to this important aspect of the city's history.

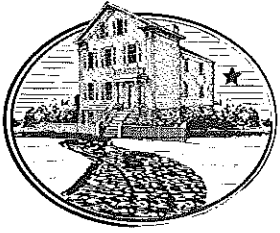
The New Bedford Historical Society has had a catalytic role in highlighting the important history of people of color in New Bedford. Through research and education, it has created opportunities for the entire city to celebrate and preserve important aspects of New Bedford's history that enrich our heritage. Please give this application all due consideration.

It is a joy to be the hand of New Bedford Monthly Meeting in sending this letter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rob Ransbottom', written over a horizontal line.

Rob Ransbottom, Clerk, New Bedford Monthly Meeting



NEW BEDFORD  
*Historical Society*

21 Seventh Street  
New Bedford, MA 02740

PHONE: 508-979-8828

FAX: 508-979-8836

[www.nbhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.nbhistoricalsociety.org)

December 1, 2017

City of New Bedford  
Community Preservation Committee  
608 Pleasant Street  
New Bedford, MA 02740

As clerk of the New Bedford Historical Society, I write this letter in support of the Society's application for Community Preservation funds for the first phase of the development of Abolition Row Park. The proposed park will greatly enhance the neighborhood at Seventh and Spring Streets directly across the street from three buildings on the National Register of Historic Places; the two Johnson House properties, which are documented Underground Railroad sites dating from 1800, and the Friends Meeting House built in 1820.

Over the past 20 years, the Historical Society has been responsible for several public art memorials that recognize the role of African Americans and Cape Verdeans in the city's history. Abolition Row Park will add to the significant memorials to African American history that dot the downtown area. These memorials have been developed by the New Bedford Historical Society members and include the Lewis Temple monument in front of the library, the 54<sup>th</sup> MA Regiment mural, the 54<sup>th</sup> MA Regiment Memorial Park and a base relief tablet in front of City Hall recognizing Frederick Douglass's time in New Bedford. Through our collective advocacy and funding, the city has significant memorials that now attract visitors and provide educational resources that acknowledge the role people of color have had in the city's history. These projects provide visible markers to increase pride of place and pride in the history of New Bedford for all our citizens.

I look forward to welcoming Abolition Row Park and the stories it will tell. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Carl Cruz, Clerk

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*Preserving and celebrating the heritage of African-Americans, Cape Verdeans, American Indians, West Indians and other people of color in New Bedford, Massachusetts*

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## THE ROTCH-JONES-DUFF HOUSE & GARDEN MUSEUM

396 County Street • New Bedford, MA 02740 • 508-997-1401

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VICE PRESIDENT

Margaret Z. Gray

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Nathanael R. Brayton

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ANNUAL APPEAL CHAIR

Michael A. Esposito

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Kate Corkum

[www.rjdsmuseum.org](http://www.rjdsmuseum.org)

December 3, 2017

City of New Bedford

Community Preservation Committee

608 Pleasant Street

New Bedford, MA 02740

As executive director of the Rotch Jones Duff and Garden Museum, I write this letter in support of the application of the New Bedford Historical Society for Community Preservation funds for the first phase of the development of Abolition Row Park. The proposed park will greatly enhance the Seventh Street neighborhood and replace a badly maintained vacant lot that sits directly across the street from three buildings on the National Register of Historic Places; the two Johnson House properties, which are documented Underground Railroad sites dating from 1800, and the Friends Meeting House built in 1820.

Over the past 20 years, the Historical Society has been responsible for several public art memorials that recognize the role of African Americans and Cape Verdeans in the city's history. Abolition Row Park will add to the significant memorials to African American history that dot the downtown area. Through the advocacy and funding, the New Bedford Historical Society has gifted the city with significant memorials that now attract visitors and provide educational resources that acknowledge the role people of color have had in the city's history.

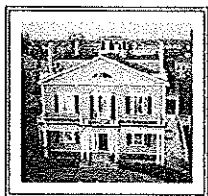
As we create a new public space that illustrates why 19th century New Bedford was known throughout the south for its tolerant racial attitudes and for its support of the advancement of African Americans, we are adding a little-known chapter to the city's history that broadens the city's historical narrative and makes it more inclusive. The park will significantly transform the local neighborhood while giving the city a new heritage tourism destination and sense of pride in local history. These projects provide visible markers that increase pride of place in the history of New Bedford for all our citizens.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Kate Corkum

Executive Director





**NEW BEDFORD'S  
ARTS & CULTURE  
PROJECT**

30 Cornell Street  
New Bedford, MA 02740  
508-996-8253 x205  
AHACoordinator@cfsema.org  
[www.ahanewbedford.org](http://www.ahanewbedford.org)

December 3, 2017

New Bedford Community Preservation Committee  
Department of Planning, Housing & Community Development  
608 Pleasant Street  
New Bedford, MA 02740

Dear Committee Members,

As executive director of AHA!, I write this letter in support of the application of the New Bedford Historical Society for Community Preservation funds for the first phase of the development of Abolition Row Park. The proposed park will replace a privately owned and unsightly lot that has been poorly maintained since a fire in 2010 destroyed the two homes on the space. The lot at Seventh and Spring Streets sits across the street from three buildings on the National Register of Historic Places: the two Johnson House properties, which are documented Underground Railroad sites dating from 1800, and as well as the Friends Meeting House built in 1820.

The plans for Abolition Row Park will use the positive elements of creative placemaking using local history and cultural tourism to transform the residential neighborhood. Abolition Row Park will tell the story of New Bedford's role during the 19th century as a community of tolerance and a haven for freedom seekers escaping the institution of slavery. The project will be an opportunity for neighborhood regeneration which addresses social justice concerns through its historical aspects while leveraging existing infrastructure to create a place of shared understanding. In preserving and interpreting the under told story of people of color, the New Bedford History Society is also developing sites related to the Underground Railroad and Abolition Row as a unique area that brings pride to our fellow citizens, creates a sense of New Bedford place in history and attracts cultural heritage tourism.

The New Bedford Historical Society has had a catalytic role in highlighting the important history of people of color in New Bedford. Through research and education, the Society has created opportunities for the entire city to celebrate and preserve important aspects of New Bedford's history that enrich our collective heritage as well as position New Bedford as a national leader in the contemporary interpretation of the Underground Railroad. If New Bedford is to position itself as a cultural community, we need to be able to physically represent a diversity of voices.

Sincerely,

Candace L. Heald, Ph.D.  
Director, AHA!



# WHALE

Waterfront Historic Area League

December 6, 2017

City of New Bedford  
Community Preservation Committee  
608 Pleasant Street  
New Bedford, MA 02740

**WHALE Board  
of Directors**

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Lyn Keith  
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Daniel Perry  
Anthony Sapienza  
David Slutz  
Tony Souza  
Joe Tavares  
Bob Unger

Dear Committee members:

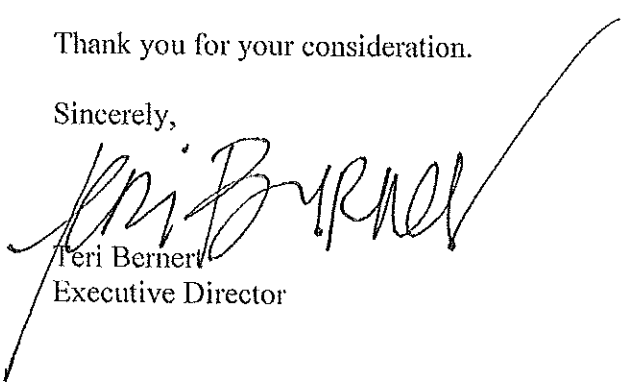
As executive director of WHALE, I write this letter in support of the application of the New Bedford Historical Society for Community Preservation funds for the first phase of the development of Abolition Row Park. The proposed park will greatly enhance the neighborhood at Seventh and Spring Streets as it sits directly across the street from three buildings on the National Register of Historic Places; the two Johnson House properties, which are documented Underground Railroad sites dating from 1800, and the Friends Meeting House built in 1820.

The NB Historical Society is creating a new public space that illustrates why 19th century New Bedford was known throughout the south for its tolerant racial attitudes and for its support of the advancement of African Americans. Through the development of this public park, the City has an opportunity to add a little-known chapter to the city's history that broadens our historical narrative and makes it more inclusive. The park will significantly transform the local neighborhood while giving the city a new heritage tourism destination and sense of pride in local history.

Over the past 20 years, the Historical Society has been responsible for several public art memorials that have recognized the role of African Americans and Cape Verdeans in the city's history. Abolition Row Park will add to the significant memorials to African American history that dot the downtown area. WHALE has been proud to partner with the New Bedford Historical Society on preservation projects and on the development of significant and inclusive public art projects. Through our collective advocacy and funding, the city has significant memorials that now attract visitors and provide educational resources that acknowledges the role people of color have had in the city's history. These projects provide visible markers to increase pride of place and pride in the history of New Bedford for all our citizens.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

  
Peri Berner  
Executive Director



COLLEGE OF VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS  
DEPARTMENT OF ART EDUCATION, ART HISTORY AND MEDIA STUDIES

December 6, 2017

City of New Bedford  
Community Preservation Committee  
Office of Community Development  
608 Pleasant Street  
New Bedford, MA 02740

Dear members of the review committee,

I am a Professor of History of Art and Architecture at the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth. I teach several Service Learning courses, which aim to engage my students with the New Bedford Community. The New Bedford Historical Society staff—particularly President Lee Blake—have been extremely helpful to my students and their socially-engaged projects. Indeed, in recent decades the New Bedford Historical Society has played a very important role in bringing awareness to both the city and the University of Massachusetts. It has created educational opportunities for the entire community.

Recently, my students and I collaborated with Ms. Blake on “Black Spaces Matter,” a research project and exhibit about New Bedford’s Abolitionist Row, which is now on display at the McCormick Gallery in Boston. Because of the various ways we have worked together, I feel confident to support Ms. Blake and the activities of the Historical Society. In particular, this letter is in full support of the application of the New Bedford Historical Society for Community Preservation funds for the first phase of the development of Abolition Row Park. The proposed park will replace a privately owned and unsightly lot that has been badly maintained since a fire in 2010 destroyed the two homes on the space. The lot at Seventh and Spring Streets sits across the street from three buildings on the National Register of Historic Places; the two Johnson House properties, which are documented Underground Railroad sites dating from 1800, and the Friends Meeting House built in 1820.

I am highly supportive of this project as an educator and a professor at the University of Massachusetts. Indeed, the project will be an opportunity not only to revive the neighborhood, but also to add to the livelihood of our downtown campus, the Star Store (only a few blocks from



UMass | Dartmouth

COLLEGE OF VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS  
DEPARTMENT OF ART EDUCATION, ART HISTORY AND MEDIA STUDIES

the site of this project). Finally, as a resident of the city of New Bedford, I am most certain that this project will bring pride to our communities.

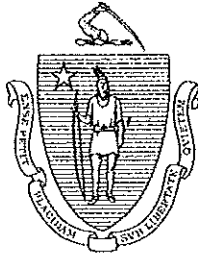
Given the evidence of the Historical Society's energy and productivity, I have no doubt that if granted, they will make the best of this opportunity.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. Karimi'.

Pamela Karimi

Associate professor of Art History  
College of Visual and Performing Arts, Group VI: Room 313  
University of Massachusetts Dartmouth  
285 Old Westport Road  
Dartmouth, MA 02747  
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COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON 02133-1054

**ANTONIO CABRAL**  
STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
13<sup>TH</sup> BRISTOL DISTRICT  
STATE HOUSE, ROOM 466  
BOSTON, MA 02133  
TEL. (617) 722-2017

December 6, 2017

CHAIRMAN  
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON BONDING, CAPITAL EXPENDITURES  
AND STATE ASSETS  
(508) 997-8113 (DISTRICT)  
E-Mail:  
Antonio.Cabral@MAhouse.gov

City of New Bedford  
Community Preservation Committee  
Office of Community Development  
608 Pleasant Street  
New Bedford, MA 02740

Dear Committee members:

I write in support of the New Bedford Historical Society's application for Community Preservation funds for the first phase of the development of Abolition Row Park.

The proposed park will replace a privately owned and unsightly lot that has been badly maintained since a fire in 2010 destroyed the two homes on the space. The lot at Seventh and Spring Streets sits across the street from three buildings on the National Register of Historic Places; the two Johnson House properties, which are documented Underground Railroad sites dating from 1800 and the Friends Meeting House, built in 1820.

The plans for Abolition Row Park will use the positive elements of creative place making using local history and cultural tourism to transform the residential neighborhood. The project will be an opportunity for neighborhood regeneration that addresses social justice concerns through its historical aspects while leveraging existing infrastructure. In preserving and interpreting the under told story of people of color, the Society is also developing sites related to the Underground Railroad and Abolition Row as a unique area that brings pride to our fellow citizens and will appeal to cultural heritage tourism.

The New Bedford Historical Society has had a catalytic role in highlighting the important history of people of color in New Bedford. Through research and education, it has created opportunities for the entire city to celebrate and preserve important aspects of New Bedford's history that enrich our collective heritage.

I appreciate every consideration that you may afford the New Bedford Historical Society.

Sincerely,

  
**ANTONIO F.D. CABRAL**

State Representative, 13<sup>th</sup> Bristol District  
Committee on Bonding, Capital Expenditures and State Assets

AFDC/ajm





## CITY OF NEW BEDFORD

PARKS, RECREATION & BEACHES  
*JONATHAN F. MITCHELL*



October 13, 2017

Re: Community Preservation Fund FY 2018  
Proposal for Construction of Abolition Row Park Seventh St New Bedford, Ma

To Whom It May Concern,

The Department of Parks Recreation & Beaches supports moving forward with the application by the New Bedford Historical Society for the Abolition Row Park project. If the project is selected for funding, this department will be the co applicant.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Mary S. Rapoza, Director

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181 HILLMAN STREET, BLDG. #3  
NEW BEDFORD, MA 02740  
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MAILING ADDRESS  
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Box #9, NEW BEDFORD, MA 02740  
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## SCHOONER ERNESTINA-MORRISSEY ASSOCIATION

### SEMA Directors:

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*President*  
Robert Hildreth,  
*Vice President*  
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Kurt Hasselbalch  
Manuel Lopez  
Derek Stevens  
Polly Zajac

Schooner Ernestina-Morrissey  
Association, Inc.  
P.O. BOX 2995  
NEW BEDFORD, MA  
02741-2995

[sema@ernestina.org](mailto:sema@ernestina.org)

[www.ernestina.org](http://www.ernestina.org)

The Schooner Ernestina-Morrissey Association, Inc. (SEMA) is a 501c(3) not-for-profit corporation with the purpose of raising funds to provide for the maintenance, equipment, manning, programming and operation of the Schooner Ernestina ex Effie M. Morrissey as a sail training vessel, school ship, and educational enterprise.

December 1, 2017

City of New Bedford  
Community Preservation Committee  
608 Pleasant Street  
New Bedford, MA 02740

Dear Committee members,

I write this letter in support of the application of the New Bedford Historical Society for Community Preservation funds for the first phase of the development of Abolition Row Park. The proposed park will greatly enhance the neighborhood at Seventh and Spring Streets directly across the street from three buildings on the National Register of Historic Places; the two Johnson House properties, which are documented Underground Railroad sites dating from 1800, and the Friends Meeting House built in 1820.

Over the past 20 years, the Historical Society has been responsible for several public art memorials that recognize the role of African Americans and Cape Verdeans in the city's history. Abolition Row Park will add to the significant memorials to African American history that dot the downtown area. These memorials have been developed by New Bedford Historical Society members and include the Lewis Temple monument in front of the library, the 54<sup>th</sup> MA Regiment mural, the 54<sup>th</sup> MA Regiment Memorial Park and a base relief tablet in front of City Hall recognizing Frederick Douglass's time in New Bedford. The Historical Society has worked with the Ernestina Commission when developing interpretative materials and programming for the New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park. Through collective advocacy and funding, the city has significant memorials that now attract visitors and provide educational resources that acknowledge the role people of color have had in the city's history. These projects provide visible markers to increase pride of place and pride in the history of New Bedford for all our citizens. I look forward to welcoming Abolition Row Park and the stories it will tell. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

President, Schooner Ernestina-Morrissey Association Inc.