

Memorandum



To: Natick Select Board
CC: James Errickson, Town Administrator
From: Jillian Wilson Martin, Sustainability Director
Date: October 1, 2021
Subject: Green Communities Implementation Grant Application

The Town of Natick is interested in applying for a \$500,000 implementation grant through the Green Communities program. Green Communities grants are fully reimbursable and the Town has had successful experiences applying for such grants in the past.

As part of the 2021 Block 2 Green Communities grant program, the Town seeks to reduce energy use and carbon emissions and to electrify the majority of heating needs at the Morse Institute Library. This will be achieved by pairing deferred maintenance repairs and upgrades with forward-thinking investments in building infrastructure, specifically, the replacement of a failing chiller and aging building energy management system (BMS) with a heat pump and state-of-the-art building controls. The modern electrified HVAC and controls system resulting from this project will use less energy, lead to significantly reduced carbon emissions, and constitute a necessary step to achieve our net zero carbon goals by facilitating increased use of renewable energy.

If awarded, the grant would cover a portion of the heat pump and new controls costs, which are expected to exceed \$1M in total. The Town is separately allocating funding through the capital plan to cover the balance that would not be funded by Green Communities and ensure these critical deferred maintenance needs are addressed – with or without the grant.

A signature from Natick's Chief Executive Officer is required to submit the grant application. We respectfully request the Select Board's support for this application and their permission to allow Chair Adelman-Foster to sign the attached Certificate of Application on the Board's behalf. The application is due on Thursday, October 7, 2021.

Thank you for your consideration.