

Warrant Article Questionnaire Non-Standard Town Agency Articles

Section III – Questions with Response Boxes – To Be Completed By Petition Sponsor

Article #17	Date Form Completed: 8/31/22
Article Title: Mathworks Mitigation Funds Re-appropriation	
Sponsor Name: Town Administration	Email: crundelli@natickma.org/ jerrickson@natickma.org

Question	Question
1	Provide the article motion exactly as it will appear in the Finance Committee Recommendation Book and presented to Town Meeting for action.
Response	<p>Move that the Town vote to re-appropriate \$310,000 to be expended under the direction of Town Administration, which were originally appropriated from the Mathworks Mitigation Fund to be used for road improvement projects under Article 23 of the 2013 Spring Annual Town Meeting, which amount is no longer needed to complete the project for which it was originally appropriated, as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - \$300,000 for the purpose of design and construction of improvements to the intersection of Walnut Street and Bacon Street - \$10,000 for the purpose of design and construction of trailhead improvements at the Rt. 9 entrance to Hunnewell Town Forest
2	At a summary level and very clearly, what is the proposed purpose and objective of this Warrant Article and the accompanying Motion?
Response	<p>To re-appropriate funding that was originally intended to support transportation oriented projects proximate/associated with the Mathworks Apple Hill expansion project, specifically targeting the Oak Street and Route 9 intersection project. That project was completed as planned, with these funds being unused and available for re-appropriation. The Town has several transportation oriented projects that provide additional opportunities for transportation mobility improvements proximate to the Apple Hill campus, including improving access to open space and intersection improvements as Walnut/Bacon Streets.</p> <p>The motion seeks to authorize Town Administration to appropriate the necessary funding and execute any/all instruments that may be necessary to affect said projects. These projects have all been vetted and supported by the Planning Board, the Conservation Commission, and MathWorks (see attached support letters).</p>

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3	Has this article or one of a very similar scope and substance been on a previous Warrant Article and what have been the actions taken by the Finance Committee, other Boards or Committees and Town Meeting?			
Response	Yes, the original Mathworks Mitigation Funds appropriation was a Town Meeting Warrant Article 23 in 2013. Article 27 at the 2022 Spring Town Meeting was also related and consisted of a re-appropriation request of other remaining Mathworks Mitigation funds for a trail connection at Pickerel Pond.			
	Warrant Period Ex: 2021 SATM	Other Committees Ex: Planning Bd refer	FinCom Action Ex: Referral	Town Meeting Ex: Referral
	2022 SATM	Conservation Commission Sponsor	Favorable Action	Passed by 2/3 vote
	2013 SATM	Planning Board Decision Condition	Favorable Action	Favorable Action
4	Why is it required for the Town of Natick and for the Town Agency sponsor(s)?			
Response	As the project listed for the original Mathworks Mitigation Funds appropriation are now complete, the Town is looking to re-appropriate the remaining funds to other projects related to the original projects, or projects that could provide some benefit to the Mathworks campuses.			
5	Does this article require funding, how much, from what source of funds and under whose authority will the appropriation be managed and spent?			
Response	This article does NOT require funding. This seeks to re-appropriate existing funding. All funds will be managed and spent under the authority of Town Administration, or its designated agents.			
6	Does this article act in any way in concert with, in support of, or to extend any prior action of Natick Town Meeting, Massachusetts General Laws or CMR's or other such legislation or actions?			
	Does this article seek to amend, rescind or otherwise change any prior action of Natick Town Meeting?			
Response	This article seeks to amend the prior action of the 2013 SATM to appropriate Mathworks Mitigation Funds (see detail above)			
7	How does the proposed motion (and implementation) fit with the relevant Town Bylaws, financial and capital plan, comprehensive Master Plan, and community values as well as relevant state laws and regulations?			

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Response	<p>The proposed motion fits with several of the goals/objectives in the 2020 Town of Natick Open Space and Recreation Plan, including <i>“Enhance, steward, and restore existing natural resources, open spaces, and recreational facilities”</i> and <i>“Provide a system of walking and bicycle trails that connect our open spaces and provide a way to travel throughout the town.”</i> The Town is also working to increase accessibility of open spaces, which improvements to the trailhead would work towards.</p> <p>The proposed motion also fits with several of the goals from the Natick 2030 Plan, including the following goals from the Transportation and Infrastructure and the Open Space, Recreation and Natural Resources chapters.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Goal 1, Chap. 4 – <i>“Improve safety in all travel modes through the implementation of proven safety counter-measures, such as improved traffic control equipment, upgraded pedestrian crossings (e.g. median and crossing islands), roadway design improvements/ road diets, access management measures along commercial corridors, and roundabouts.”</i> • Goal 2, Chap. 4 – <i>“Reduce traffic congestion and improve accessibility by improving/increasing multi-modal access, including vehicular access, public transit, walking, bicycling and ride-sharing.”</i> • Goal 1, Chap. 7 – <i>“Continue to support, expand and maintain Natick’s high quality active and passive open spaces.”</i> • Goal 2, Chap. 7 – <i>“Increase the number of public connections, perimeter trails and access points to Natick’s lakes, rivers and wetlands.”</i> • Goal 3, Chap. 7 – <i>“Provide a system of walking and bicycle trails that connect Natick’s open spaces and provide a way to travel throughout the Town.”</i>
8	Who are the critical participants in executing the effort envisioned by the article motion?
Response	In addition to Town Administration, the Department of Public Works and the Conservation Commission/Community and Economic Development Department are the critical participants. .
9	<p>What steps and communication has the sponsor attempted to assure that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interested parties were notified in a timely way and had a chance to participate in the process • Appropriate Town Boards & Committees were consulted • Required public hearings were held
Response	The Town Administrator has contacted Mathworks to ensure they are involved in the use of these funds outside the originally approved and completed projects. The Conservation Commission will be discussing the project at their September 15 th meeting. The Planning Board

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	previously vetted and supported these projects. No public hearings are required for the spending of this funding.
10	Since submitting the article have you identified issues that weren't initially considered in the development of the proposal?
Response	None.
11	If this Warrant Article is not approved by Town Meeting what are the consequences to the Town and to the sponsor(s)? Please be specific on both financial and other consequences?
Response	These projects will likely not get completed or be substantially delayed until capital funding can be identified to support their completion.