

5. **Support:** Have the appropriate Town Boards and Commissions expressed support and/or approved the project? What is the nature and level of community support for this project?

CPA Application for Funding HWRHS

1. Project Description: Please give a detailed project description, including specific objectives.

The funding request is to cover the cost of the design/engineering services of the conceptual plan that was completed as part of the HWRHS Recreation Master Plan. The scope of the service and related deliverables are all outlined in the attached proposal from Gale Associates. The proposal gives a very detailed explanation of exactly the services that will be received if these funds are expended. The request covers phases 1-4, miscellaneous expenses, and the wetlands sub-consultant portion of the proposal which totals \$67,240. The design and engineering services will cover the following a reconstructed track and field facility, a synthetic turf game field, a synthetic turf combination baseball/rectangular field, and athletic lighting. The goal of this particular project is to upgrade the current athletic facilities at the High School while indirectly helping to alleviate the overuse of the playing fields and parks in both Hamilton and Wenham.

2. Goals: How does this project accomplish the goals of the CPA? (See Guidelines for Project Submission for general criteria)

GENERAL CRITERIA

- a. Is consistent with the Recreation Master Plan and the Hamilton Wenham High School Athletic Master Plan.

The Hamilton Wenham Recreation Master plan which was completed in 2011 identified the re-development of the High School game field to an artificial turf field with lighting as a top priority. This was based upon public comment, public surveys, field demand analysis, and field evaluations that were all completed by Gale in the Master Plan. Furthermore a High School Athletic Master Plan was completed in January of 2015, which further illustrated the need for redeveloped fields at the High School. This High School Master Plan report (power point presentation attached) has broken the redevelopment of the athletic complex into multiple phases. Both of these reports can be read on the Hamilton Wenham Recreation Department page on the town's website www.hamiltonma.gov.

- b. Endorsements from Boards and Committees

The funding request is fully supported by the Recreation Committee as well as members that are serving on the field working group. The Hamilton BoS has also given an "unofficial" endorsement to the working group of the need to look at the high school for the potential construction of an artificial turf field. A February 11th meeting with the School Committee is being scheduled in order to get their support for the application since the site of the engineering services is at the High School. This funding request does cover everything up to and including

Site Plan Review, so if the project is to be constructed all proper approval from Hamilton Board and Committees will be needed as well as an agreed upon budget.

c. Practicality/feasibility

If funding for the engineering services of this project is approved the expectation is that these services will commence at the start of July. The engineering services phase will last about 4 months and will include all parties involved with the project.

d. Additional funding

The total for the engineering services is \$67,240 of that \$22,592.64 is being requested from the Wenham CPC. If this project is to move forward it is expected that an extensive fundraising campaign will take place.

g. Conserving Resources

The two Towns and the high school cannot continue with their current field usage patterns and not expect to see playing field(s) deteriorate at alarming rates. We have already started to see the impact at Pingree Park, Patton Park, Fairhaven Field, and all of the high school practice fields. Not only will this project benefit the high school campus by allowing the game field to be used for practices as well as games, but, lighting will allow the high school to hold most of their athletic events (practices and games) at the high school campus. Town fields will benefit by moving high school athletics back to the campus alleviating usage on Patton Park, Fairhaven Field, Pingree Park, and Donovan Field, all of which are currently used for high school athletics. Town fields will also be saved by moving youth sports to the high school campus for games and practices during the weekend. Simply put, the flexibility that an artificial turf field(s) with lights grants us in regards to field usage, will greatly benefit both the high school and youth athletes as well as both high school and town playing fields. By creating more usage opportunities at the high school, we will see a trickle-down effect where town fields become less used and by result maintain better playing conditions.

GENERAL CRITERIA

a. Master Plan

As noted above this project is consistent with both the Hamilton Wenham Recreation Master Plan as well as the Hamilton Wenham Regional High School Athletic Master Plan. This project has been unanimously supported by the Hamilton Wenham Recreation Committee.

b. Resident Demand

As part of the Recreation Master Plan, which listed this project as a top priority, a community wide survey was conducted as well as meetings with the public all of this information was taken into consideration when Gale associated made their recommendations. Also, at the April 2015 Town Meeting voters passed an article moving \$500,000 dollars from the sale of the Patton

Estate be moved to a Recreation Stabilization fund for field improvements. The passing of this vote demonstrates that the community is aware of the need for playing field development and why this project responds to that demand. Also, back in last May the Hamilton CPC held a public hearing which included public comment from community member and although not all comments were supportive of this project, a great many where, which shows the support for this project. (Comments are attached)

c. Underserved population

Although a majority of the users of the facilities will be high school athletes, there will be ample opportunities for other groups and residents to use the facility. Youth sports will have the opportunity to utilize the facilities when not in use by the high school, town camps and programs that were previously unavailable due to field closures, would now be available. According to Law all upgrades to the facilities would become ADA compliant allowing for use for our disabled residents.

d. Availability of facilities

If constructed this project would increase the direct and indirect availability of recreation facilities tremendously. Directly it would allow for more use at the high school complex, in some cases usage could see a 4X-5X increase. Indirectly, it would take usage away from the town's parks and fields, so they could be enjoyed by residents looking for more areas of passive recreation.

3. Timeline: What is the schedule for project implementation, including a timeline for all critical milestones? Will this be a multi-year project?

If approved at Town Meeting engineering services will begin at the start of July, it is anticipated that this process will take approximately four months.

4. Budget: Please provide a full budget including the following information, as applicable. (NOTE: CPA funds may not be used for maintenance):

- a. Total amount of the project cost, with itemization of major components.
- b. Additional funding sources. Please include those that are available, committed, or under consideration.
- c. Describe the basis for your budget and the sources of information you used.

The full budget of this project is included in the proposal form Gale Associates. Additional funding will be sought for in an application to the Wenham CPC.

5. Support: Have the appropriate Town Boards and Commissions expressed support and/or approved the project? What is the nature and level of community support for this project?

As referenced earlier the Hamilton Wenham Recreation Committee unanimously supports this application. We also feel that this project has strong community support.