

RECEIVED

PROJECT APPLICATION FORM – FY27

OCT 01 2025

Applicant: Christin Ritz

Submission Date: 10/1/25

Applicant's Address, Phone Number and Email

Purpose: (Please select all that apply)

Fairhaven
Land Use & Planning
Department

21 Sedgewick Rd

Fairhaven, MA 02719

508-542-2264 theromanticpanda@hotmail.com

- Open Space
- Community Housing
- Historic Preservation
- Recreation

Town Committee (if applicable) or other sponsoring organization:

Fairhaven Sustainability Committee

Project Name:

Macomber Pimental Park Native Plant Garden

Project Location/Address: 7 Benese St Fairhaven MA

Amount Requested:

\$3,505.00

Project Summary: In the space below, or attached sheets if necessary, provide a detailed summary of the project citing the elements of the Guidelines for Submission and Review and Recommendation Criteria found in the Application Guidelines.

At the 6/30/25 Board of Public Works meeting I received approval to use the area where the BMX Pumptrack is located in Macomber Pimental Park as the site of a native plant garden. The BPW agreed to clear the area and level the dirt jumps as they were planning to do anyway. We have already received a \$500 grant to pay for some of the plants. The vision of the project is to not only enhance the beauty of the area and bring recreation to an underutilized space, but to support threatened pollinators and wildlife, and increase climate resiliency through the use of vegetation native to coastal Massachusetts. In addition we are seeking to install an osprey nesting platform, a permeable ADA compliant walkway and educational signs throughout the 5,000 square foot area to add interest and enrichment for visitors. We are in process to apply for an RDA for a low impact disturbance to install these items. The signs will teach visitors about the importance of native plant species for wildlife, climate resiliency, flood protection, and increase recreation for people of all ages and abilities.

We are applying for the CPC grant to finance the signs, the osprey nesting platform, and the purchase of native plants including native trees. Please see attached estimates for 8 durable, aluminum, color, digitally printed signs along with posts and installation, the manufacture and installation of an osprey nesting platform, and the purchase of plants from a local native plant nursery.

Estimated Date for Commencement of Project:

Fall 2025

Estimated Date for Completion of Project:

Fall 2026

General Criteria for All Projects – Check off and Address each criterion as it applies:

- ✓ Is the project consistent with the goals of the Town of Fairhaven *Community Preservation Plan*?
The project creates new recreational space, provides education, and increases climate resiliency of adjacent wetlands.
 - ✓ Does the project have other sources of funding? If so, indicate percentage.
The only funding so far is a \$500 grant for pollinator-friendly plants from Keep Mass Beautiful.
 - ✓ Does the project leverage additional or multiple sources of public and/or private funding?
In addition for the private grant listed above, we will be applying for private and public grants.
 - ✓ Does the project preserve a threatened resource?
No.
 - ✓ Is the project consistent with existing Planning Documents such as the Master Plan and Open Space Plan?
Yes.
 - ✓ Does the project comply with the zoning regulations?
Yes.
 - ✓ Does the project have a means of support for maintenance and upkeep, such as a defined maintenance plan?
Yes.
 - ✓ Does the project involve currently owned municipal assets?
Yes.
 - ✓ Does the project serve underserved populations or address more than one focus area of the CPA?
If funding for the walkway is obtained it will be ADA compliant and wheelchair accessible.
 - ✓ Does the project reclaim abandoned or previously developed lands?
The area was previously used for bicycle recreation but was scheduled to be leveled and seeded with grass.
 - ✓ Does the project require a Special Permit, NOI, Building Permit or other permitting? Please list all local and State permits you are aware of that the project will need?
RDA for low impact/minor disturbance.
 - ✓ Does the project have community support?
Yes, BPW, Conservation Commission, Sustainability Committee
 - ✓ Does the project have sufficient supporting documentation?
See attached estimates.
 - ✓ Does the project provide a positive impact to the community?
Yes, enriches area for people, allows for recreation, and supports environment/wildlife.
 - ✓ Has the applicant/ team demonstrated the ability and competency to implement the project as proposed?
We have received estimates from experienced local businesses.
 - ✓ Does the applicant have site control, or the written consent by the property owner to submit an application?
The BPW has approved use of the site.
-

Historic Preservation Selection Criteria - Check off and Address each criterion as it applies: NOT APPLICABLE

- Is the building on the National or State Register of Historic Places?
 - Is the property eligible for listing on the National or State Register of Historic Places?
 - Has the property been included in the local Survey of Historic Properties (MACRIS)?
 - Is the property in danger of being demolished?
 - Are there potential archeological artifacts at the site?
 - Did the property ever play a documented role in the history or is it noted in published histories of the Town?
 - Are there any particularly important historic aspects about the property?
 - Are there other potential uses for the property, which could benefit the Town?
 - Could the building be converted for affordable housing use while still retaining its historic character?
 - Is the owner interested in preserving the historic integrity of the property?
 - Does the proposal conform to the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties? Has previous work on the building conformed to the Standards?
 - Was the structure built before 1921? Has it otherwise been identified as being historic or have cultural value?
-

Recreation Criteria - Check off and Address each criterion as it applies:

- ✓ **Will more than one age group use the project?**
Yes, all ages.
 - ✓ **Can the project be used by more than one activity (multi-use)?**
Passive and active recreation.
 - ✓ **How many participants will normally use the project at once?**
The area is over 5,000 square feet. Up to a dozen or more pedestrians could use the walking trail at once.
 - ✓ **Is this project the first of its kind in the Town or County?**
This will be the town's largest native plant garden and the first to have a walking trail and educational signs.
 - ✓ **Are grants available to help pay for the construction? If so, has application been made for the grant?**
There are DCR grants available to finance the walkway and we will apply in 2026.
 - ✓ **Does the project include considerations for additional parking?**
No, but there is ample street parking around the park.
 - ✓ **Can the project be used more than 1 of the 4 seasons per year?**
Yes, all seasons.
 - ✓ **Does the project match the character of the surrounding area?**
Yes, all plants will be native to coastal Massachusetts.
 - ✓ **Does the project include all normal safety considerations?**
Yes.
 - ✓ **Does the project meet all building and safety codes?**
Yes.
 - ✓ **Is the project accessible by pedestrians, bicycles, transit?**
It will be accessible to pedestrians including wheelchairs and strollers.
-

Open Space Criteria for Parcel Selection - Check off and Address each criterion as it applies:

- ✓ Is the project within the Nasketucket Watershed Area?
No.
 - ✓ Is the project with 100 feet of wetlands? Is the project with 200 feet of a river?
Yes, it is partially within the 25' Buffer Zone to a wooded swamp.
 - ✓ Is stream and bank protection an issue? Is vernal pool protection a consideration?
No.
 - ✓ Would this proposal enhance protection of any FEMA designated floodway?
Shrubs and vegetation along the perimeter will enhance protection to flood zone. Site sits along line of AE and VE flood zones.
 - ✓ Does the project include any Area of Critical Environmental Concern?
No.
 - ✓ Would this proposal contribute to preservation and/or creation of forested land?
Vegetation will contribute to preservation and protection from storm surge.
 - ✓ Will this proposal protect other parcels? Will this proposal impact other parcels?
The new vegetation may offer protection to the park and adjacent parcels.
 - ✓ Does this parcel abut protected land? Does this parcel support a significant wildlife habitat?
Yes, it is within 25' Buffer Zone of wooded swamp. The garden will support wildlife.
 - ✓ Is this parcel at risk for development? Did this parcel have a past proposal for development? Is it for sale?
No, it was planned to be planted with grass prior to this project.
 - ✓ Are grants available? If so, has application been made?
Yes, we have received a \$500 grant from Keep Mass Beautiful and intend to apply for DCR grants next year if eligible.
 - ✓ Does the property or structures have historic significance?
No.
 - ✓ Are there and stonewalls, old foundations, roads, trails, cart paths or scenic vistas?
Yes, the site offers scenic vistas and a water view.
 - ✓ Are there any active or passive recreation possibilities associated with this parcel?
Macomber Park is a recreation space, but this particular site's current bike recreation is being removed. This project would create new recreation for the park.
 - ✓ Is this parcel suitable for a community garden or farm?
Yes.
 - ✓ Is this parcel suitable for nature observation and educational programs?
Yes. The osprey nesting platform and educational signs would make it a perfect location for educational programs, talks, tours, etc in addition to visitors enjoying the features on their own.
-

Affordable Housing Selection Criteria - Check off and Address each criterion as it applies: NOT APPLICABLE

- Will this involve the renovation of an existing building? If so,
 - Is the building structurally sound?

 - Is it free of lead paint? Is it free of asbestos, pollutants, and other hazards?

 - Is there Town sewerage? Or is the septic system in compliance with Title 5?

 - Does the building comply with building, sanitary and handicap accessibility codes?

 - Is this a conversion of market rate to affordable housing?

 - Is this a tax title property?

 - Does this project involve the building of a new structure? If so,
 - Will the structure be built on tax title property, on Town owned land or donated land?

 - Will the building be free of environmental hazards?

 - Are there programs such as Habitat for Humanity involved?

 - Will the project be built on a previously developed site?

 - Does the project provide housing that is similar in design and scale with the surrounding community?

 - Does this serve the 60% income level population? Does this serve the 80% income level population?

 - Is long-term affordability assured? Will this be geared to one age group?

 - Will there be more than two bedrooms? Will there be multiple units?

 - Will it be located near services (grocery, mass transit, etc.)?

 - Will priority be given to local residents or employees of local businesses?
-