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PRESS RELEASE

Baker-Polito Administration Announces Partnerships Matching Funds Program Projects

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Department of Conservation & Recreation

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BOSTON — The Baker-Polito Administration today awarded \$859,824 to twenty-six Massachusetts communities and non-profit organizations as part of the Fiscal Year 2018 [Partnerships Matching Funds Program](#). The program, which is administered by the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), provides important funds for projects that are proposed by park advocacy groups, civic

and community organizations, institutions, non-state government partners, and individuals with an interest in improving the Commonwealth's natural, cultural, and recreational resources.

"Our Administration prioritizes strong partnerships that truly benefit the public, and through our close collaboration with park advocates, the projects funded through the Partnerships Matching Funds Program will have a significant impact on our state parks system," **said Governor Charlie Baker.**

"The Partnerships Matching Funds Program serves as a great tool for advocacy groups, non-profits, individuals and municipalities interested in investing in their local community and park," **said Lieutenant Governor Karyn Polito.** "With great support from dedicated partners, generations of people will directly benefit from the projects that are funded through this unique program."

In order to be considered for the competitive Partnerships Matching Funds Program, projects proposed within DCR managed parks and facilities are first thoroughly reviewed by agency staff and the Commissioner. Once selected, the agency matches the private investment in the park and all projects are managed by DCR to oversee the implementation of the project in close consultation with contributing partners.

"By utilizing the Partnerships Matching Funds Program, the state is able to leverage valuable public dollars with critical private funds to aid in the completion of projects throughout the Commonwealth," **said Energy and Environmental Affairs Secretary Matthew Beaton.** "The Commonwealth's residents have long valued the importance of close to home parks, and by working together, we are able to ensure that generations of people will continue to enjoy a first class park system."

"The Baker-Polito Administration is proud to work with state park advocates to assist with the Department of Conservation and Recreation's mission to protect, promote, and enhance the Commonwealth's natural, cultural, and recreation resources," **said DCR Commissioner Leo Roy.** "The projects funded through the Partnerships Matching Funds Program will have a lasting impact on the millions of guests who visit the agency's many parks, forests, and reservations each year."

Additionally, during today's State House event, twenty-two FY'17 Partnerships Matching Funds Program recipients were also recognized. Last year, these projects were awarded \$896,786 in capital funds. Over the years, the program has received hundreds of applications with past projects including improvements to historic buildings in Cambridge, design work to improve Greater Boston's bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure, flood mitigation work in Waltham, landscape enhancements to Borderland State Park in Sharon, and trail improvements to the Massachusetts Central Rail Trail in West Boylston.

"Green Space is one of the greatest resources we have in Plymouth and Cape Cod," **said State Senator Vinny deMacedo (R-Plymouth).** "I am proud to be able to continue to work with the Baker-Polito

Administration on their continuous investment in our parks especially those at Myles Standish and Scusset Beach which serve as attractions to visitors to our region and amenities for our residents.”

“I want to thank the Baker-Polito Administration for awarding much deserving communities natural, cultural and recreational funding through the Partnerships Matching Funds Program,” **said State Senator Mike Rush (D-West Roxbury)**. “Communities, such as the town of Dedham, in which I represent, will see the benefit of such a program assisting them with the design and construction of a pedestrian bridge in Cutler Park. By leveraging public dollars with private funds, projects such as this one in Dedham will come to fruition quicker than anticipated.”

DCR matches partner contributions of up to and including \$25,000 at 2:1, and 1:1 for contributions above \$25,000. In certain circumstances, DCR will consider a 2:1 match for contributions above \$25,000, for example multi-phase projects with the same partner. Partner matches are donated to the Commonwealth’s Conservation Trust.

“I’m grateful to Governor Baker and Lt. Governor Polito’s commitment to our Commonwealth’s unique park system and beautiful natural resources” **said State Representative Paul McMurtry (D-Dedham)**. “By partnering with DCR, the residents of Dedham and surrounding communities will be able to enjoy healthy outdoor recreational activities for generations to come.”

“The Partnerships Matching Funds Program not only solidifies our partnership with the Baker-Polito Administration and DCR, but also provides funding to protect and enhance one of our most valued resources here in the First Essex District,” **said State Representative Jim Kelcourse (R-Amesbury)**.

The following projects were awarded DCR Partnerships Matching Funds for FY’18:

Applicant: Bay State Trail Riders Association

Community: Blackstone/Bellingham

Amount Awarded: \$20,000

Proposal Summary: For the construction of the SNETT between Route 126 and Center Street (1.25 miles of trailway).

Applicant: Blue Hills Observatory and Science Center

Community: Milton

Amount Awarded: \$10,000

Proposal Summary: To enhance the visitor experience through improved and updated interpretive displays and signage.

Applicant: Cambridge Plant and Garden Club

Community: Cambridge

Amount Awarded: \$60,000

Proposal Summary: For Phase II, which includes the hiring of a landscape architect to develop plans, specifications, and provide a cost estimate for the rehabilitation of landscape, pathways, lighting, vegetation, turf, and repair/treatment of the brick and limestone walls in Lowell Memorial Park.

Applicant: Cambridgeport Neighborhood Association

Community: Cambridge

Amount Awarded: \$46,666

Proposal Summary: To build an outlook (with railings) beside the new canoe/kayak launch at Magazine Beach Park (the outlook and boat launch are part of the larger CSS Phase II Plan that DCR will begin implementing in phases).

Applicant: Cambridgeport Neighborhood Association

Community: Cambridge

Amount Awarded: \$32,400

Proposal Summary: To design and produce 6 interpretative signs for the park.

Applicant: City of Cambridge

Community: Cambridge

Amount Awarded: \$100,000

Proposal Summary: To install lighting at the Lynch Family Skate Park.

Applicant: Clinton Conservation Commission

Community: Clinton

Amount Awarded: \$5,200

Proposal Summary: For the treatment of the invasive aquatic plant *Egeria densa* (Brazilian elodea), which is growing in about 70% of Clamshell Pond in Clinton.

Applicant: Deerfield Trails

Community: Charlemont

Amount Awarded: \$14,000

Proposal Summary: For the development of a new map/brochure to highlight the trail; the installation of signs at trailheads and intersections; and the purchase of materials for trail repairs as needed at Dubuque State Forest.

Applicant: Emerald Necklace Conservancy

Community: Boston

Amount Awarded: \$50,000

Proposal Summary: For the removal of invasive plants that are growing in the area and replace them with plants that are site appropriate and native to the region.

Applicant: Friends of Leo J. Martin Skiing

Community: Weston

Amount Awarded: \$50,000

Proposal Summary: For the design of a new pumphouse.

Applicant: Friends of Lynn Nahant

Community: Lynn/Nahant

Amount Awarded: \$16,655

Proposal Summary: For the refabricate and installation of interpretive signs.

Applicant: Friends of Myles Standish

Community: Carver

Amount Awarded: \$4,000

Proposal Summary: For the replacement of deck boards located on the north end of the trail around the East Head Reservoir in Myles Standish State Forest.

Applicant: Friends of Paragon Carousel

Community: Hull

Amount Awarded: \$36,668

Proposal Summary: To make the first floor public bathrooms ADA compliant.

Applicant: Friends of Scusset Beach

Community: Sandwich

Amount Awarded: \$10,000

Proposal Summary: For the installation of site amenities for the playground and campground, materials for the maintenance of the ADA pathway through the camping area, and the installation of speed bumps.

Applicant: Lake Cochituate Watershed Council

Community: Natick/Wayland/Framingham

Amount Awarded: \$6,000

Proposal Summary: To continue invasive plant treatment, including a mid-summer survey, hand-pulling of EWM, the use of benthic matting where appropriate, and the removal of water chestnuts.

Applicant: Maudslay State Park Association

Community: Newburyport

Amount Awarded: \$10,000

Proposal Summary: For the final phase of a multi-year project to remove invasive species at Flowering Pond.

Applicant: Moseley Family Foundation

Community: Newburyport

Amount Awarded: \$50,000

Proposal Summary: For Phase I of II to restore the dam at Flowering Pond.

Applicant: Mystic River Watershed Association

Community: Medford/Somerville

Amount Awarded: \$30,000

Proposal Summary: For the implementation of mechanical harvesting and treatment of invasive species along large areas of the river in Medford and Somerville.

Applicant: Natick Conservation Commission

Community: Natick/Wayland/Framingham

Amount Awarded: \$16,000

Proposal Summary: To conduct micro-watershed mapping, characterization and ranking of necessary micro-watershed improvement areas, and retrofit proposals and cost estimates for outfalls to Lake Cochituate.

Applicant: Quincy Homestead

Community: Quincy

Amount Awarded: \$50,000

Proposal Summary: To repair damage to the Quincy Homestead, which is on the National Register of Historic Places.

Applicant: Quinsigamond Rowing Association

Community: Shrewsbury/Worcester

Amount Awarded: \$50,000

Proposal Summary: For the design of Lake Quinsigamond Finish Tower - Rowing

Applicant: Revere Beach Partnership

Community: Revere

Amount Awarded: \$25,001

Proposal Summary: To explore the possibility of electricity and speakers along Revere Beach through a feasibility study.

Applicant: Revere Beautification Committee

Community: Revere

Amount Awarded: \$2,067

Proposal Summary: For the purchase of a trailer for the power washer at Revere Beach (the trailer will enable the staff to easily move equipment for cleaning purposes).

Applicant: Rock Pond Association

Community: Georgetown

Amount Awarded: \$14,667

Proposal Summary: For the removal of Eurasian water milfoil from Rock Pond.

Applicant: Town of Dedham

Community: Dedham

Amount Awarded: \$62,500

Proposal Summary: For the design and potential construction of a 50 foot long pedestrian bridge in Cutler Park.

Applicant: Town of Wayland

Community: Natick/Wayland/Framingham

Amount Awarded: \$8,000

Proposal Summary: For engineering consulting for future grant opportunities to combat invasive species.

Applicant: Town of Wayland

Community: Wayland

Amount Awarded: \$30,000

Proposal Summary: To be used for the Mass Central Rail Trail – Wayside Bridge.

Applicant: Wachusett Greenways

Community: West Boylston

Amount Awarded: \$50,000

Proposal Summary: For the connection of the Mass Central Rail Trail (MCRT) at the eastern end of the Route 140/Beaman Street, West Boylston causeway.

###

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[Department of Conservation & Recreation](#) →

DCR manages state parks and oversees more than 450,000 acres throughout Massachusetts. It protects, promotes, and enhances the state's natural, cultural, and recreational resources.

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