



CITY OF CONCORD

REPORT TO MAYOR AND THE CITY COUNCIL

FROM: David Gill, Parks and Recreation Director

DATE: January 28, 2018

SUBJECT: National Recreation and Parks Association Grant Request

Recommendation:

Through the City Manager, authorize the Parks and Recreation Department to apply for funding through the National Recreation and Parks Association for \$40,000.

Background:

Our first park dates back just before 1883 (Penacook Park) and in 1884 there was a land gift from Nathaniel and Armenia White to create White Park. Over the years the City of Concord has expanded the number of parks and we currently operate twenty one parks covering over 230 acres throughout the city. Parks vary in size from the larger park like Memorial Field with numerous athletic fields to the smaller ones like West Street and Thompson Play Lots with neighborhood playgrounds and basketball courts.

We have an opportunity to apply for a grant to help review our access (walkability) to our parks, develop promotional materials and to plan for future needs for our neighborhoods. The National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) are working on a national initiative to promote a 10-Minute Walk from home campaign. NRPA is offering grants and technical assistance to support planning efforts that help cities increase access to high quality parks within a 10-minute walk. In the first round of grants 12-13 cities will receive \$40,000 to work alongside NRPA to develop their highest, best, and measurable commitment to the 10-Minute Walk Campaign.

Through this grant request we will be responsible for several deliverables that result in a final 10-Minute Walk plan and commitment. To accomplish this, NRPA is expecting cities will:

- The main applicant must be a local government parks and recreation agency/department.
- The Mayor of each community will sign onto the 10_Minute Walk Campaign.
- Each City will have at least three community partners (outside of the local Parks and Recreation Department).
- Join and participate in monthly technical assistance calls (combination of individual, small group, and large group).
- Attend an in-person training in late May to June (paid for by the grant, date TBA)
- Develop a specific 10-Minute Walk commitment and corresponding action plan to make progress towards your commitment.
- Participate in evaluation efforts that will include submitting planning documents and completing pre-and post-surveys.
- There is no match requirement for this grant.

The grant application closes on March 9 and cities will be selected on April 1, 2018.