

TOWN OF SUDBURY COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

PROJECT SUBMISSION FORMSubmitter: Mark Thompson, Technology AdministratorSubmission Date:Group or Committee Affiliation (if any):Submitter's address and phone number:

278 Old Sudbury Road

Sudbury, MA 01776

978-639-3306

Purpose (please select all that apply):☒ Open Space☒ Community Housing☒ Historic

Recreation

Submitter's email address: thompsonm@sudbury.ma.usProject Name: GIS MappingProject Description: See attachedCosts:

Fiscal Year	Total Project Cost	CPC Funds Requested	Other Funding Sources (amount and source)
2010	\$61,000	\$30,000	Town Funds
2011			
2012			
2013			
2014			
Total	\$61,000	\$30,000	

How does this project meet the General Criteria and Category Specific Criteria for CPC projects (see attached)?

Does this project fall within the jurisdiction or interest of other Town Boards, Committees or Departments? If so, please list the boards, committees or departments, whether applications and/or presentations have been made, and what input or recommendations have been given. N/A

For Community Preservation Committee Use:

Form Received on: _____

Project Presented to CPC on: _____

Reviewed by: _____

Determination: _____

Project Description:

General Criteria

The Sudbury Community Preservation Committee will give preference to proposals that address as many of the following general criteria as possible:

- **Are eligible for Community Preservation Act (CPA) funding according to the requirements described in the CPA legislation.** GIS data base mapping will provide the CPC and other town boards with easy to use information on all land in Sudbury that will assist them in determining the needs, possibilities and resources of the town that are desirable for community preservation funding. The CPC will have the option of having all pertinent mapping information available to its members via the Internet, thereby having access to the data anywhere the Internet is available. Mapping layers will include parcels, buildings, color aerial photography, color-infrared photography, and wetlands. The Town intends to implement a web forms application that will enable the staff to track historic structures, affordable housing units, and open space parcels.
- **Are consistent with the town's Master Plan, Open Space and Recreation Plan, Land Use Priorities Committee Report, Town-wide Comprehensive Facility Study, Community Housing Plan, and other planning documents that have received wide scrutiny and input and have been adopted by the town.** GIS mapping is an integral component of modern day land use. Most planning documents include maps, however Sudbury's maps have been hand drawn for decades. GIS mapping will enable all town boards and departments to create maps for any purpose. Report efforts that receive such scrutiny should have a solid baseline of information, which the GIS can provide throughout the community.
- **Receive endorsement by other municipal boards or departments.** The following town departments and boards endorse use of CPA funds for this purpose:
Department of Public Works, Conservation, Planning and Community Development, Board of Assessors, Town Manager, Water District and Information Systems.
- **Preserve the essential character of the town as described in the Master Plan.** GIS mapping will be used by the Selectmen, Conservation Commission and Planning Board to identify parcels of land for acquisition or conservation so that the character of the town is preserved. The GIS will provide a single source of information for property ownership, parcel areas, topography and slope information, landcover and landuse information, photography and other digital documentation, and many other data. This single source of information will support internal research efforts and formal/informal analyses required in support of master planning efforts intended to preserve the essential character of the town. It is also noteworthy to understand that the GIS will possess the ability to store current and historical information, as well as store data over time. In this way, the GIS can track changes (or lack thereof) over time and serve as a unique tool in the master planning process.
- **Either serve more than one CPA purpose (especially in linking open space, recreation and community housing) or demonstrate why serving multiple needs is not feasible.** GIS Mapping will enable all 4 eligible areas of CPA funding to better identify their needs and understand their projects. The complete GIS database will include parcel data from many sources so that researching property will be much easier. Individual mapping layers (and associated databases) can be maintained for open space, recreation, community housing, and other cultural and social resources of the community. Additionally, the GIS program intends to implement web technology that will allow boards and committees to maintain their own mapping layers and GIS databases to maintain the information they rely on.

- **Demonstrate practicality, feasibility, urgency.** The mapping layers requested for funding will complete the database and enable usage across a broad spectrum of users. Since the GIS database will be new, creating these final layers at this time will enable full functionality from the inception of the project. Waiting several years will create inefficiencies in data compatibility and diminish the Town's capacity to realize a full return on its investment in GIS. The price of adding these layers now will also be slightly less since we are currently working with a same provider on other mapping layers. There is no shortage of needs for these additional layers, and no shortage of uses for dozens of staff, board and committee members. The intent of the town is to focus on maximizing the number of uses and users of the new program, with the overall goal of realizing as much value as possible.
- **Demonstrate that the project can be implemented expeditiously and within budget.** Price quotes have been obtained. To date, all elements of the project have been delivered on-budget and on-time.
- **Demonstrate that project alternatives, and alternative funding mechanisms, have been fully explored.** Funding the project through the town's capital budget has been attempted, but failed. The only remaining option is to request funding through the Sudbury Foundation.
- **Produce an advantageous cost/benefit value.** With excellent GIS databases, the Town will be able to sell maps to the public to help offset the cost of the project. More practically, the cost/benefit value is best realized when the town benefits from having accurate and available base mapping of property boundaries, utility systems, and environmental features. The ability to rapidly and completely assess environmental impacts of change (and proposed change), combined with the ability to demonstrate the town's position on proposals in regards to impact, both result in the kind of value only afforded by an appropriate cost/benefit ratio.
- **Leverage additional public and/or private funds.** The majority of funding for the GIS mapping has come from the Sudbury Water District.
- **Preserve or utilize currently owned town assets.** Enhancing the database to include these layers gives additional value to the current database. Assets include our roads, utilities, community buildings, town-maintained trees, parks, recreational facilities, environmental features, and more. How these layers interact, or overlay one another, is an aspect of these assets that the program can address as well.

Category Specific Criteria

Open Space

Mapping Sudbury's wetlands will enable the committee and other town boards to better identify parcels for preservation. Wetland mapping will help also identify important wildlife habitat, priority habitat areas, areas with significant vegetation, farmlands, trails and trail linkages, connections with other open space areas, and water bodies. All of these will enable the committee and project proponents to fully address the open space criteria set by the Community Preservation Committee.

Historical

Mapping Sudbury's historic resources will enable the committee and other town boards to better protect and preserve the historic, cultural, architectural and archaeological resources of significance. All information will be available on a parcel basis, and will improve the level of protection currently afforded. All Historic Districts will be mapped, as well as all structures currently inventoried in the Sudbury Historic Properties Survey (Volumes 1 and 2), and structures and parcels on the State and

National Historic Register.

Community Housing

Mapping Sudbury's inventory of community housing will enable the decision makers to ensure socioeconomic diversity throughout the town, and not in just one geographical area. It will also make monitoring these units for continued affordability easier if data is stored in one central system and made available to all involved parties. Conversion of market rate units to affordable units may also be easier when the data is correlated to the Assessor's data base in order to easily locate all lower priced units in Sudbury.