

**APPLICATION FOR
COMMUNITY PRESERVATION ACT ELIGIBILITY**

Date: ____ 1 November 2021 _____

Project Title: Francis Avenue Lookout Park _____

Name of Applicant: Central Berkshire Habitat for Humanity ____

Name of Organization: Central Berkshire Habitat for Humanity _____

Address: 314 Columbus Avenue Pittsfield, MA 01201 _____

Telephone: 413-442-3181 _____

Email: cvalli@berkshirehabitat.org _____

CPA Category (circle all that apply):

Open Space
Recreation

Historic Preservation
Community Housing

CPA Funding Requested: \$ 16,000.00

Total Project Cost: \$ 16,000.00

Please provide a brief project description below. Include a brief description of how your project accomplishes the goals of the CPA. Also include a description of how the estimated project cost was developed under “Estimated Budget”. Please include supporting materials as necessary.

Project Description:

This project includes costs for design and engineering for the creation of a pocket park at the top of Francis Avenue and upgrades to the neighboring stairwell that leads residents from the top of Francis Avenue to the Big Y, Salvation Army, and other vital resources.

The view from the site for the proposed pocket park is arguably one of the best in the City, and would not only provide a space for community to gather and enjoy the view, but benches at the park would provide a space for residents to rest on their long walk to and from the grocery stores with bags in hand. The stairwell is a vital access point for groceries for Westside residents as it reduces the distance and burden of having to walk a longer alternative route. This project would look at adding potential lighting to the stairwell to increase safety, repairs to the concrete at the top of the stairwell, landscaping, and ways of making winter maintenance more manageable. Native and hardy plants would be used in the overall landscaping plan for the parklet and stairwell area. Expenses of this project would be used to engage an engineer, a landscape architect, and other potential experts to work with Habitat, the Pittsfield Housing Authority, the City, and the residents to create a design and engineering plan to be used for future funding opportunities.

This project would allow these partner agencies to work together to design a parklet that served the needs of the community, takes advantage of a beautiful vista, and preserves a piece of land that is otherwise undevelopable.

An important note: This project proposal has not yet been presented to the Pittsfield Housing Authority Board for approval, although plans and details have been shared. Habitat and partners will present to the Pittsfield Housing Authority November Board meeting. If this project is deemed eligible by the CPC, full Board approval will be sought for the funding application.

Estimated Project Budget:

The requested project budget of \$16,000 includes funds to engage an engineer and a landscape architect in a planning and design process with other project partners. These funds would primarily cover staff time for the engineer and architect. Other items included in this budget to support the planning process and assist with the engagement of the community include: mailings, surveys, and presentation and meeting materials.

Estimated Project Costs:

Consulting Engineer: Approximately 50 Hours at \$150/hour = \$7,500.00

Consulting Landscape Architect: Approximately 40 Hours at \$150/hour - \$6,000.00

Land Survey: Approximately \$1,000.00

Community Engagement and Meeting Supplies: Approximately \$1,500.00

Total: \$16,000.000

Where appropriate, signature of property owner (or City representative if City-owned) and/or chief executive officer of organization:



CEO, Central Berkshire Habitat for Humanity

NOTE: This application enables the CPC to review the request to ensure eligibility and offer guidance. If eligible, an Application for Funding must be completed.

Photos of proposed Francis Avenue Parklet location and stairwell:

