

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

CITY OF LOWELL

In City Council

VOTE

Authorize City Manager on behalf of the City of Lowell, to accept and expend Three Hundred Seventy Five Thousand (\$375,000) Dollars through MassDevelopment's Site Readiness Grant Funds for Ayer City Industrial Park as a way to bring new investment into the area and create more attractive commercial and industrial redevelopment opportunities.

The MassDevelopment Site Readiness Grant Award has made available to the City of Lowell Grant funds in the amount of Three Hundred Seventy Five Thousand (\$375,000) Dollars; and

The City of Lowell is desirous of accepting and expending said Grant from MassDevelopment Site Readiness Grant Funds for Ayer City Industrial Park; and

The City of Lowell desires to use said grant monies to invest in massing studies, appraisals, phase 1 assessments, title exams and surveys in the district which would be a significant step in stimulating the Ayer City Industrial Park and signal to private parties that the City is committed to the district.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT VOTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LOWELL, as follows:

That the City Manager of the City of Lowell is hereby authorized to accept and expend Three Hundred Seventy Five Thousand (\$375,000) Dollars through MassDevelopment's Site Readiness Grant Funds for Ayer City Industrial Park as a way to bring new investment into the area and create more attractive commercial and industrial redevelopment opportunities.

BE IT FURTHER VOTED:

That the City Manager, on behalf of the City of Lowell, be and hereby is, authorized to execute any and all documents necessary in connection with said grant from the MassDevelopment Site Readiness Grant Funds, including the expenditure thereof.



Eileen M. Donoghue
City Manager

Kara Keefe Mullin
Assistant City Manager

July 14, 2020

Mayor John J. Leahy
and
Members of the City Council

REFERENCE: Authorize City Manager to Accept/Expend \$375,000 Site Readiness Grant Funds for Ayer City Industrial Park

Dear Mayor Leahy and Members of the City Council:

The City Administration and the Department of Planning and Development (DPD) have had significant conversations relative to the redevelopment of the Ayer City Industrial Park (ACIP), the City's most recent urban renewal plan area. As a way to bring new investment into the area and create more attractive commercial and industrial redevelopment opportunities, DPD has applied for and been successful in obtaining \$375,000 in Site Readiness Grant funds from MassDevelopment.

As the City engages in conversations with developers about ACIP, it has become apparent that providing clarity to the challenges in the area is a critical element for firms to commit to redevelopment in the district.

I respectfully request that the City Council vote to authorize the City Manager to accept/expend \$375,000 from MassDevelopment's Site Readiness Program to invest in massing studies, appraisals, phase 1 assessments, title exams and surveys in the district. This would be a significant step in stimulating the ACIP and signal to private parties that the City is committed to the district.

Sincerely,

Eileen M. Donoghue
City Manager

EMD/ns

Attachment

cc: Diane N. Tradd, Assistant City Manager/DPD Director
Christine P. O'Connor, City Solicitor
Joseph Giniewicz, Urban Renewal Project Manager