

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

CITY OF LOWELL

In City Council

VOTE

Authorizing the City Manager on Behalf of the City of Lowell, to accept a Gift from Paul Belley, of a piano to be used as part of the street piano program in downtown Lowell.

Paul Belley desires to donate the piano decorated with artwork by local artist Margo Thach to be placed on the street and used as part of the street piano program in the City of Lowell; and

The City of Lowell desires to accept the gift of said piano to be used as part of the street piano program in the City of Lowell.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT VOTED:

That the City Manager be and she is hereby authorized in the name of the City of Lowell, to accept the gift of a piano to be used as part of the street piano program in downtown Lowell, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53A½.

Henri B. Marchand
Director
Office of Cultural Affairs and Special Events

September 4, 2018

City Manager Eileen Donoghue
City Hall/375 Merrimack Street
Lowell, MA 01852

Dear Manager Donoghue,

The Cultural Affairs and Special Events Office has been working to establish a street piano program in downtown Lowell similar to other cities and towns. The program places donated piano(s) at various locations to be played impromptu by passersby and others, creating a lively and animated streetscape.

Paul Belley had secured a piano and had it decorated with artwork by local artist Margo Thach (photo attached). The piano is now ready for a tuning and to be placed on the street, hopefully for a final month this season before being put back in storage until next Spring. We have a second piano that is currently in storage and that, if this program is successful, we can also deploy next season.

We have a tarp and cable system to secure the piano overnight and during inclement weather. Andrew Duncan at Enterprise Bank agreed to allow us to place the piano in front of the bank's fence on Merrimack Street and to be responsible for uncovering the piano in the morning and recovering it at night or if weather is threatening.

The next step to be able to move forward with making minor repairs and tuning the piano as well as having City staff move it in place is for the City Council to accept it as a gift from Mr. Belley.

I ask that this acceptance request/vote be included as part of an upcoming City Council agenda.

Please let me know if you have any questions regarding this matter.

Sincerely yours,



Henri B. Marchand
Director

