

HOUSE No. 4023

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

House of Representatives, February 24, 2016.

The committee on Ways and Means to whom was referred the Bill establishing the Olmsted Park improvement fund (House, No. 3821), reports recommending that the same ought to pass with an amendment substituting therefor the accompanying bill (House, No. 4023).

For the committee,

BRIAN S. DEMPSEY

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In the One Hundred and Eighty-Ninth General Court
(2015-2016)

An Act establishing the Olmsted Park improvement fund.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 21 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after
2 section 3E, the following sections:-

3 Section 3F. Subject to appropriation, the department shall administer a program for the
4 rehabilitation and improvement of Olmsted Parks in cities and towns of the commonwealth. For
5 the purposes of this section the term "Olmsted Park" shall mean a municipal park designed by
6 the architectural firm headed by Frederick Law Olmsted and designated by the department as an
7 Olmsted Park. A city or town with an Olmsted Park within its boundaries that desires state
8 assistance to rehabilitate or improve the Olmsted Park may apply in writing for a grant from the
9 Olmsted Park Improvement Fund established in this section.

10 Section 3G. (a) There shall be established and set up on the books of the commonwealth
11 a separate fund known as the Olmsted Park Improvement Fund to be administered by the
12 department and used without prior appropriation for the purposes of providing rehabilitation and
13 improvement grants to cities and towns with an Olmsted Park within its municipal boundaries.

14 The fund shall consist of public and private sources such as gifts, grants and donations, interest
15 earned on such revenues and any funds provided from other sources. Revenues deposited in the
16 fund that are unexpended at the end of the fiscal year shall not revert to the General Fund and
17 shall be available for expenditure in the following fiscal year.

18 (b) The department shall award competitive grants from the Olmsted Park Improvement
19 Fund to qualifying municipalities for rehabilitation and improvement projects of Olmsted Parks
20 that are located within those municipalities.