



Pollinator Pathways in Lower Allston

Harvard-Allston Public Realm Flexible Fund Application
May 2019

Harvard-Allston Public Realm Flexible Fund Application

Applicant Information

1. Name of entity(ies) applying for funding and name of project.

Our team consists of Miriam Shenitzer, *Artist*; John Powell, *Light Time in Space*, Tom Sullivan, *Pollinators Welcome*, and Beth Fried, *gardener/educator*

2. Background on applicant(s): type of organization, e.g. 501 (c) 3, public agency, etc.;

Miriam Shenitzer and John Powell are artists and sole proprietors of their respective businesses. Tom Sullivan, M.A.L.D. is the proprietor of Pollinators Welcome. Beth Fried is consulting with us on this project.

3. Primary contact person name, phone number, e-mail.

Miriam Shenitzer is the team leader and coordinator for this project
617.953.2857, miriamshenitzer@hotmail.com

4. Key personnel involved in the project.

See #1.

5. Any partner organizations/property owners to be involved in project.

The City of Boston via the Public Improvement Commission, the Church of Scientology (for maintenance of Everett St strip), the Herter Community Garden.

6. If applicant is a non-profit organization, provide qualifications and prior history of executing similar projects. We are not a non-profit, but here is our information:

Miriam Shenitzer holds an Ed.M from Harvard's Graduate School of Education and a BFA from the Bezalel Academy of Art and Design in Jerusalem. Miriam is an artist, teacher, and activist; her work with John Powell includes *Seeking Sanctuary*, a 3-day performance and multimedia installation with Palaver Strings, and members of the Cape Verdean, Chinese, and Irish immigrant communities. Miriam's deep connection to immigrant communities has been nourished by her years of working in community-based agencies in Boston, as well as in the Watertown Public Schools. As part of her practice there she works with children and families to create art on topics of culture, language and the environment. Miriam also brought together parents, teachers and administrators to create the district-wide Green Team, which in turn gave birth to the Watertown School Gardens, and she has been the lead garden teacher at her school since its inception. Miriam initiated Watertown's ESL parent liaison program and works closely with those liaisons to create and strengthen school-family partnerships with underrepresented minorities. Miriam is a firm believer in the benefits of the outdoors for urban communities, and the importance of nature in all our lives.

Tom Sullivan, M.A.L.D., Pollinators Welcome: Tom has devoted his personal and professional lives to bringing awareness of the need to protect pollinators to diverse communities in Massachusetts. He designs, consults, speaks publicly, writes, educates and develops products

for pollinators and their habitat. Tom focuses on native bee proliferation by increasing nesting sites, meadow grasses and flowers, and connectivity among habitat fragments across the landscape. Tom has had over ten years' experience designing and creating gardens. He has managed projects with budgets of \$10,000-\$20,000, including the first nursery devoted to native pollinator habitat in the state. Tom is founding member of the Western Mass Pollinator Working Group. Over the last ten years, Tom has given over a hundred talks and workshops in schools, municipalities, agricultural conferences, and more.

John Powell, Light Time in Space: John has an MFA from Mass College of Art and a MS in Visual studies from the MIT Center for Advanced Visual Studies. John has been making public art in and around Boston for many years. He has deep experience partnering with public and private agencies and communities of all kinds. John's projects' budget typically range from \$125,000 to \$250,000 and run from 1-5 years. His work includes the illumination of the Charles River Bridge, funded through a LEF foundation grant in 2009; and *Text Walk*, an animation of the scaffolding around Emerson College's Little Building in 2012. Recently, John was invited by the Cambridge Housing Authority to rehabilitate the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Plaza, and he is currently working on *Iluminación Lowell*. John is a long-time resident of Lower Allston who cares deeply about his community. He transformed his block on Franklin St into artists' studios in the early 1990's, and has been an active steward of his neighborhood. John served on the board of the Allston Civic Association for many years, and is currently the secretary of the Fern Square Park association. He continues to maintain the park in the face of increasing use as the neighborhood gentrifies. John is also a beekeeper and gardener.

Beth Fried, BS, MAT is actively involved in land preservation, habitat restoration and bird habitat preservation. Beth is a member of Cornell Lab of Ornithology, Massachusetts Audubon, Waltham Land Trust, Menotomey Bird Club, Pollinator Gardeners, and the Greater Boston LGBTQ Outbreath group. She is a teacher/educator, recently retired from Watertown Public Schools where she taught Special Education. She currently teaches meditation and gardening.

Project Information

1. Briefly describe the proposed project. Include a description of the site with a map and identify all property owners. If the applicant is not the sole property owner, please include letters of support from property owner(s).

What we want to do:

We propose to begin a network of pollinator-friendly gardens--a pollinator corridor-- across lower Allston from the Mass Pike to the Charles River. The gardens will act to attract and support native bees, butterflies and other pollinators. We are basing our work on the success of groups in Holland, England, Ireland, Toronto, Montreal, Seattle, and Portland, ME.

Why now?

Lower Allston is in a period of deep and rapid change, and this change brings opportunity. It is an opportunity to develop and beautify the green spaces that already exist in the neighborhood, to enhance community engagement, to promote resilience and sustainability and to take a small but important step in environmental stewardship.

Why this?

We know that bees, butterflies and other pollinators are disappearing rapidly. We also know that pollinators are essential to our food system: as Tom says, whole ecosystems and human health are intertwined with pollinator well-being*. ¹ Yet there is hope: as awareness of the threats posed to pollinators grows, there is an international movement to support pollinators by creating chains of pollinator-friendly gardens in urban and rural neighborhoods. This movement has had surprisingly rapid and positive results—in Amsterdam, for example “...the diversity of wild bee and honeybee species ... has **increased** by 45 percent since 2000. The city of 2.3 million people attributes the success to creating bee-friendly environments...”² If it can be done in Amsterdam and Portland, it can be done in Allston.



Rising temperatures are shrinking the home ranges of bumblebees, such as this rusty-patched species (*Bombus affinis*).³

¹ There is a worldwide phenomenon taking place, and it affects every element of life as we know it. Globally, across the United States, and throughout Massachusetts, pollinator species are in decline. The exact causes of the decline of each of the tens of thousands of species may still be indefinite, yet much is already understood: without pollinators, human life and all terrestrial ecosystems on earth would not survive. Pollination is not just fascinating natural history: it is an essential ecological function (U.S. Forest Service). [From the Great Barrington Pollinator Action Plan](#)

² [Bees are dying at an alarming rate. Amsterdam may have the answer.](#) by Linda Givetash / NBC news/ Sep. 7, 2018 / 3:49 AM EDT / accessed November 18, 2018

³ <https://www.sciencenewsforstudents.org/article/climate-change-shrinks-bumblebee%E2%80%99s-range>



The city of Amsterdam installed native plants and flowers outside the Sloterdijk train station as part of an effort to save bees and butterflies.⁴

The time is ripe for a concerted effort to support pollinators in Lower Allston: there is already a pollinator garden at the Gardner Pilot Academy, and the Friends of the Lincoln St. Strip are including pollinator-friendly native plants in its plan for a garden there. Thus even our first garden will already perform an important role in linking these sites for pollinators to visit, and beginning a pollinator corridor through the neighborhood.

Where do we start and why?

The first garden will be located on the Everett St. Embankment, which is publicly owned and accessible. The Everett St Bridge is an important gateway to the neighborhood. The Embankment is currently unmarked and easily ignored, while the other entrances to Lower Allston are enhanced by public art (Lincoln and Franklin streets) and a future garden (Lincoln and Cambridge streets). The Everett St. Embankment is a very large—about 6,000 square foot--triangular green strip that has tremendous potential. It already contains some trees, shrubs and flowers planted by the Allston Brighton North Neighbors Forum in 2009. The Forum has been replaced by the Allston Civic Association, an organization that John Powell has been a member of for years. Some of the plants that they introduced remain, but the site contains many extremely tenacious and invasive plants that will need to be removed. The soil is good, sandy loam, and there is a huge old locust tree that needs some care but is very pollinator friendly.

⁴ Linda Givetash / NBC News

There are also other some beautiful small pollinator-friendly trees including redbud and native cherry trees. These latter we would move from their present precarious spot at the bottom edge of the plot. The embankment would profit from a pollinator garden to mark and distinguish it, building on and improving the plantings that are already in place.

Please note: The scope of the project at the Everett St Embankment creates a complete habitat for pollinators within a year. It is relatively expensive because of the need to create a fully-established pollinator habitat within one growing season.

The site is owned by the city of Boston, and maintained by the church of Scientology as part of their community engagement. Both entities support the project.

Herter Community Garden

*Our second pollinator garden will be at the other end of the proposed pollinator corridor--the Charles River Reservation. The Herter Community Garden is there, and its members are enthusiastic about helping us create a pollinator garden at the Northern edge of their space, as well as planting a pollinator-friendly herbaceous border around the rest of the garden. The garden gets a lot of foot, bike, and scooter traffic along the paths of the Charles River Reservation. The gardeners have volunteered to move the fencing back so that the pollinator garden at the tip of the site will become publicly accessible. They are excited about our adding our pollinator icon and multilingual signage, and about us doing programming with them around pollinator-friendly gardening. Most of the gardeners are Boston residents, and they come from China, India, Russia and Nepal, as well as the US. Upriver from the Herter Community Garden is the Charles River Community Garden, which already has a beehive, making a natural link in the pollinator garden chain.

Herter Pollinator Garden Site Looking South.

What will we do and when will we do it?

Most of plan will be accomplished during the first year, with maintenance and development of other sites continuing for subsequent years.

Everett St. Embankment

Tom Sullivan has assessed the soil, trees, shrubs and plants remaining on the site. The soil is good quality sandy loam, ideal for planting, but the slope of the site makes working there more difficult, and adds some challenges to the design because of potential erosion and water run-off. Tom will create a design to fit the site's conditions and come up with a list of suitable plants. Our group will prepare the site for planting by marking the bulbs to preserve, and digging out any unwanted small invasive trees, shrubs and weeds. We will also dig out and move some native cherry trees which are too close to the wall. Because the plot is very grown over with tenacious invasive species, we will need to weed it extensively and repeatedly over the summer and early fall before planting.

In the fall of 2019 we will plant an array of shrubs and plants that will be dormant over the first winter and will flower from early spring to late fall of 2020 and going forward, ensuring a steady source of pollen and nectar for the pollinators. In the spring of 2020 we will add aluminum "icons", powder-coated in blue (see example below). In addition, we will design, create and add signage explaining the purpose of the garden and its plants in the main languages in use in Allston/Brighton: Spanish, Chinese, Portuguese and Russian as well as English. Finally, we will

add pollinator “hotel”, a simple structure which attracts native pollinators, which will also have a sign explaining its purpose.

Herter Community Garden

This plot is much smaller, about 1000 square feet, and has been cared for consistently, unlike the Everett St. Embankment, and so will need much less preparation. We propose to prepare the site in late summer (August/Sept), and plant in mid- to late autumn. The garden members will have final approval on the design, which will contain woodland plants on the shady, eastern side and meadow plants on the sunnier, western side. We plan to plant the borders with plants that self-propagate easily, providing extra plants for community gardeners to distribute to visitors as part of our combined outreach and education. We will add our icon and signage in the Spring of 2020. At that point the garden members would move their fencing back, leaving the pollinator garden publicly accessible. They have asked us to support them by financing a gate but will do the labor themselves.

What are the next steps?

In addition to the creation of the first garden on the Everett St embankment, we will be designing a plan for the creation of additional gardens in the neighborhood to make a viable corridor for pollinators. We will also be planning community-based programming in – and around the gardens. Each garden will be site-specific, yet marked with our icon and thus clearly visually linked to the others in the chain

We have already identified some potential sites in Lower Allston, and will use the year of the grant to solidify those sites and identify more. The groups responsible for the sites are enthusiastic about pollinator gardens but need more time to process the idea and establish consensus. They would be part of a next phase of the plan.

At one site, for example, the German International School, staff is extremely enthusiastic about the possibility of a pollinator garden on their grounds. We are already in conversation about what their students could plant this summer in their raised beds, and they are excited about creating gardens, teaching and learning about pollinators and how we can help them.

At another site, Fern Park/Collins Square, the neighborhood association is discussing how a pollinator garden could fit into the plan they have been working out with help from the Harvard Flex Fund. They are excited about the creation of a pollinator corridor in Allston (see attached letter).

2. Describe public benefits of the project with reference to review criteria.

- **The fund seeks to enhance the aesthetic quality and user experience of the public realm. Gardens do that better than almost any other public improvement.**

The public benefits of this project are vast. Gardens are of incredible importance to human health, and North Allston suffers from a lack of access to gardens. As Dr. Oliver Sachs,

neurologist and writer, asserted: “I cannot say exactly how nature exerts its calming and organizing effects on our brains, but I have seen in my patients the restorative and healing powers of nature and gardens, even for those who are deeply disabled neurologically. In many cases, gardens and nature are more powerful than any medication.”⁵

As a recent article in Sierra magazine entitled Outdoors for All⁶, points out, “The psychological, physical, and cognitive benefits of nature connection may be universal, but access to natural areas is not... The neighborhoods with the most poverty are often those with the fewest parks and the least green space. ‘This is a social justice issue.’” Lower Allston is such a neighborhood, and its residents will be able to benefit equally from the pollinator gardens.

- **Pollinator gardens benefit our cities in an age of climate change and pollinator destruction**

It is also a critical time for our environment: Our cities, including Allston, are being developed at breakneck speeds, without enough thought to preserving green space. In an age of climate change and environmental degradation, creating gardens are a way to support the pollinators whose numbers are falling at unprecedented rates, and on whose existence our foodstuffs, and our lives, depend.

- **Pollinators will also benefit local neighborhood gardens**

The garden will bring more pollinators to the neighborhood, which in turn will benefit plants and flowers all over the community. More pollinators mean more fruit, flowers and vegetables.

- **But what about the sting?**

The risk of being stung by bees as they forage is very, very small. Foraging bees are collecting pollen and nectar to feed their young and themselves. They are not flying around looking for someone to sting. We are safe watching bees as they fly from flower to flower, since most bees only sting if we should pinch or step on them, or they get caught in clothing.⁷ In fact, you can reach out and stroke a bumble bee as it is collecting pollen without any harm. Tom does this as part of his presentations with kids, and they go crazy with delight

- **Demonstrate potential for public engagement as a project outcome**

The potential for public engagement as an outcome for this project is vast. People are naturally drawn to gardens; it is part of our makeup. As people pass by, notice, and spend time in our gardens, they will have an opportunity to read and learn about the ways that the plants support pollinators and what they can do to help. Our signage will be in 5 languages, so as to reach and include most of Allston’s residents, not just our English speakers. Simply learning about what we can do to help pollinators can be greatly empowering. For example, Paul Bradford, the Scientology administrator who has committed to watering the garden, had never heard of

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Oliver Sacks: The Healing Power of Gardens, New York Times, 04/18/2019

⁶ <https://www.sierraclub.org/sierra/2019-3-may-june/feature/outdoors-for-all-nature-is-a-human-right>
By Richard Louv, Photos by Tytia Habing

⁷ <http://www.polinator.org/brochures.htm>

pollinator gardens before we turned to him. Within a few days Paul was completely enchanted by the idea. He printed out Great Barrington's Pollinator Plan and was explaining to us exactly what we needed to do to make the garden welcoming for pollinators. People have become aware of the degradation of our environment and are happy to be able to make a difference, to turn the tide the other way.

The garden will also be a site for events for wider community events. Tom Sullivan gives talks and workshops all over Massachusetts on pollinators and how to attract them to our gardens. He has done pollinator walks, and helped people make and give away native "seed balls", which can be planted in almost any sized garden. Tom is a natural communicator. Working with him helps city dwellers who have never before planted a seed, or thought about a bumble bee, make connections with their natural environment. His workshop topics include designing pollinator habitat gardens, making nests for wood-nesting bees, and planting mini-meadows. Recently he teamed up with a group of native Americans to bring life back to a sacred burial ground near Great Falls. The group disseminated 980 seed balls made by local 9th graders under Tom's leadership. The seedballs were placed in the tracks of deer and coyote, according to the directions of the Native American seer Elizabeth Perry.

Miriam's connections with the immigrant community allows her to access a wide audience and bring in interpreters for community garden events. As a teaching artist, Miriam will bring drawing, painting and other art-making workshops to the gardens.

There are two schools that are part of the neighborhood, and both are enthusiastic about pollinators and education. Students and families at the Gardner Pilot Academy already have a small pollinator garden and outdoor education is a part of their curriculum. That education can be reinforced and enriched by our pollinator gardens as the children –and their families--are exposed to more examples of a phenomenon that they have become familiar with. There is potential to create more formal programming for the students and their families as the garden develops. The Gardner Pilot Academy conducts ESL classes for its families, who are 65% Spanish speaking. As an ESL teacher and Spanish speaker, Miriam has years of experience creating hands-on curriculum in both languages for people of all ages and levels of education. She has learned and benefitted from her students and their unique experiences, and is committed to continuing to do so. Miriam has connected with Lauren Foggarty-Lafferty at the Gardner Pilot Academy and they are both enthusiastic about the possibility of combined programing.

The German International School's students range from Kindergarten through High School. As mentioned above, we are already consulting with them about their summer projects, and they are excited about the connection between their community and the gardens. We are talking about having their older students help out with the work at Everett St, as well as possible connections between their students and those of the Gardner Pilot Academy close by. This project is thus already forging connections between two very different schools and their cultures. The gardens that come out of our project will be a place for the very diverse cultures of North Allston to meet and get to know each other, to work together, enjoy their neighborhood, and help take a positive step towards restoring pollinator populations in the city.

3. Explain why HAPRFF funding is required.

This is exactly the kind of programming the HAPRFF is looking for—enhancing the aesthetic quality and user experience of the public realm. The fund’s mission and goals dovetail with ours.

Does your project—

- Demonstrate that it can be completed in a timely fashion, with preference given to those projects that can be completed within one year, or 2-3 years in the case of particularly large and complex projects requiring larger-than-average grants.

Tom’s record of designing and creating gardens ensures that the project can be completed in a timely fashion. John has managed much larger and more complex projects, and Miriam has been responsible for long-term gardening and outreach projects as part of her work in Watertown Public Schools. The bulk of the work at the first two gardens will be done in year one, but it could become a multi-stage project over years two and/or three. Our budget includes three years of maintenance. We plan to re-apply next year for additional sites to continue the Pollinator Pathway in Lower Allston.

- Demonstrate that grant funding will not be used to pay organization salaries or operating expenses.

Our organization does not have salaries: all funds will be used for project design, preparation, coordination, development, implementation and maintenance costs

- Have a public agency as a proponent or partner or, in the case of projects on private property, as a co-proponent or sponsor.

Our partner is the City of Boston via the Public Improvement Commission for Everett Embankment, and the Herter Community Garden for their project

4. Explain if this project/funding would be part of a larger phased project, and if HAPRFF funding would be sought for future phases.

Yes; this project is part of a larger, phased project in two ways: while the gardens will be prepared and planted in the first year, we will need to fund weeding and care for the first three years. Similarly, during our first year we will develop a master plan for a pollinator pathway through the neighborhood. We plan to add to the pollinator pathway as more sites become available, and we will be seeking HAPRFF funding for that development. We will also be seeking funding for ongoing workshops/events at all the sites.

5. Timeline (start date, end date, milestones).

June or July 2019, (depending on when funding is released): Garden design prepared, site preparation begun, Everett Embankment.

August, 2019: site preparation, Everett st/Herter community garden

September-October, 2019 and Spring 2020: Shrubs and flowers planted Everett St/Herter Community Garden

February 2020: “Icons” developed and fabricated, signage designed, produced and translated

April, 2020: Master plan for additional pollinator gardens finalized

April, May, June 2020: additional plantings made, icons, pollinator hotels (1 per site) and signage added

July 30 2020 End of phase 1

Maintenance ongoing for a total of 3 years

6. Project maintenance requirements, protocols, and sources of funding.

Maintenance is key to the success of any garden, especially in the beginning. Gardens need the most maintenance in their first three years, as they are getting established. During those first years, our group will be maintaining the Everett St. garden with the help of Paul Bradford, administrator at the church of scientology across the street from the plot. Paul and his staff are already taking care of the existing strip; he has committed to watering the pollinator garden and to weeding it under our guidance. Going forward, we anticipate that Paul and his staff will be able to maintain the garden almost independently, with minimal consults from our group.

Maintenance at Herter Community Garden will be simpler. We will do intensive maintenance in the spring, summer and fall of 2020. The community gardeners have committed to watering the pollinator garden in times of excessive heat/drought as they water their own plots. By the Spring of 2021 we will be able to cut back on our maintenance and give more responsibility to the gardeners: The Herter St. Community Garden has two maintenance days per year, and we will be present at both of them for the first 3 years. They will be able to contact us with any questions or problems that may arise; we intend to remain active in the neighborhood as we grow the pollinator pathway.

Finally, native plants make a pollinator garden far more sustainable and lower maintenance than traditional gardens since they were created in and have adapted to local conditions.⁸

7. Anticipated project sustainability/life span

Gardens of native plants are extremely sustainable since the plants have evolved for exactly the conditions in which they are growing. We will be planting perennials that come up each Spring, and bushes that live for many years. The flowers and shrubs currently in the Everett Embankment park are at least ten years old and have had no regular watering or care until now, thus we can be quite sure that the pollinator gardens we put in will live longer than ten years. Indigenous plants reseed and thrive in their native habitat. Nature is self-sustaining when native plants are reintroduced.

8. Anticipated regulatory review and necessary permits

Not applicable.

⁸ Wild Seed Project, www.wildseedproject.net

Expenses: Everett St Embankment

Item Description	Cost breakdown	Total cost
Garden design, plant selection, + 3 site visits, directing labor to prep and install		\$8,000
Supplies: Plants, shrubs, seeds 20% large plants (4ft +), 65% medium-sized (2-4ft)plants, 15% ground covers (which will be holding the soil, preventing erosion).	4,600 sq ft 1,600 plants x \$8.00/plant	\$12,800
Supplies: miscellaneous, mulch, barriers,etc	\$500	\$500
Site prep including clearing aggressive invasive perennials and saplings, marking bulbs, moving cherry saplings, pruning roses next to stairs	3 team members @ \$35/hour x 8hrs x 3days plus 3 laborers @ 25/hr x 8hrs x 3 days	\$4,320
Continued site prep/ Maintenance for summer, fall of 2019 before planting 2 team members \$35/hr x 5 hs x 7 days = \$1,225 and 2 laborers \$25/hr x 5x 7= \$875 \$1,225 + 875 = \$2,100	7 visits depending on when grant money comes in.	\$2,100
Planting: Managing delivered plants before fall planting, planting, and initial watering	3 team members @ \$35/hour x 8 hours x 5 days plus 3 laborers @ 25/hr x 8 hrs x 5 days	\$7,200

Maintenance, spring, summer, fall 2020 1 team member @ 35\$/hr x4 hrs =140 1 laborer @ \$25/hr x 4 hrs = \$100 Total \$240 Will get in-kind contribution assistance from Scientology maintenance crew	\$240x 7 visits in year 1 of grant	\$1,680
	\$240 x 3 visits in year 2 of grant	\$720
Maintenance consulting, spring, summer fall 2021, and 2022 (years 2 and 3) Will get in-kind contribution assistance from Scientology maintenance crew	1 team member @\$35/hrs x8hrs = \$280 + 1 laborer @\$25/hr x 8 hrs = \$200 \$280 + \$400=\$480 x 4 visits/year 2 in year 2 of grant 2 in year 3 of grant	\$3,840
Icon design, fabrication, painting, installation	\$400 x 2	\$800
Signage design, translation (one-time cost)		\$650
Signage fabrication, printing, installation	\$400 x 2	\$800
Pollinator hotel signage design, translation (one-time cost)		\$500
Pollinator hotel design, materials, fabrication installation and signage installation		\$450
General project management and administration, including development of plan for future sites		\$7,500
Events/workshops/native seed ball giveaways	\$500ea.	\$500 year 1 \$500 year 2
Total expenses Everett year 1 and general project management		\$47,800

Total expenses Everett years 2 and 3		\$5,060
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Expenses: Herter Garden and Border

Item Description	Cost breakdown	Total cost
Garden design, plant selection, + 3 site visits, directing labor to prep and install		\$4,000
Supplies: Plants, shrubs	\$ 2,400 for mature plants \$700 for plugs	\$3,100
Supplies: gate, hardware, misc		\$300
Site prep including removing invasive species, digging beds	2 team members and 3 laborers for 2 days 1 team member = 35/hr x 8hr =280/day x 2 days = \$560 2 team members = \$1,120 1 laborer \$ 25/hr x 8 x= \$200 x 2 people = \$400 x 2 days =\$800 \$1,120 + 800 = \$1,920	\$1,920
Managing plants before planting, planting, and initial watering 3 days' labor x 3 people team member 280/day x 3 days = \$840 x 2 team members = \$1680 laborer \$200/day x 3 days = \$600 \$600x 2 people = \$1,200 \$1680 + \$1,200 =\$2,280		\$2,040

Maintenance, first year 1 team member @ 35\$/hr x 6 hrs =\$210	5 visits/year x 1 year	\$1050
Maintenance consulting, year 2 and year 3 1 team member @35\$/hrx 6 hrs = \$210	2 visits/year x 2 years	\$840
Icon design, fabrication, painting, installation		\$400
Signage fabrication, printing, installation		\$400
Pollinator hotel design, materials, fabrication and installation and signage installation		\$450
events/workshops	\$500	\$500 year 1 \$500 year 2
Total expenses Herter year 1 Total expenses Herter years 2 and 3		\$14,160 \$1,340
Total Everett and Herter year 1		\$47,800 + 14,160 =\$61,960
Total Everett, Herter years 2 and 3		\$5,060 + \$1,340 = \$6,400
Grand Total, Everett, Herter 3 years		\$68,360

Budget Narrative for Expense Items.

Pollinator Garden Design, Everett St. Embankment

The analysis and design of the pollinator garden at the Everett Street Embankment will take into account the plot's size, (a triangular plot 360 feet long and 30 feet at its widest, tapering to a few feet at its narrowest) orientation and slope. It will retain and preserve the plants and shrubs which will contribute to the support of pollinators and the beauty of the garden and add other native plants, grasses and shrubs to make a sustainable garden which provides pollen, nectar and shelter for pollinators throughout the season.

Pollinator Garden Design, Herter Garden

The analysis and design of the pollinator garden at Herter will take into account both the main plot at the Northern edge and the border around the rest of the garden. The large oak tree makes for a shady garden on one side and a sunny one on the other, so that different types of plants will need to be selected.

Initial site prep, Everett ST. Embankment (see above, what we will do and when we will do it)

Our group will prepare the site for planting by marking the bulbs to preserve, and digging out any unwanted small invasive trees, shrubs and weeds. We will also dig out and move some native cherry trees which are too close to the wall. Because the plot is very grown over with tenacious invasive species, we will need to weed it extensively and repeatedly over the summer and early fall before planting.

Plants, shrubs and seeds

Native pollinator-supporting plants and shrubs will be chosen from sources that use sustainable, organic methods. Local sources will be used whenever possible

Metal Icon design, fabrication and installation

Metal icons will be designed, fabricated and painted locally. They will be installed permanently using concrete.

Pollinator hotel design, fabrication and installation.

Pollinator "hotels" will be designed and using sustainable materials, and mounted on cedar posts. Explanatory signage will be designed and affixed to the posts as well

Signage design, text translation, printing, fabrication and installation

Informational signage explaining the purpose of the garden and the pollinator hotel will be created, designed, translated into the 5 major languages of the neighborhood and installed.

Maintenance:

Comprehensive weeding, soil enrichment, annual Spring trimming, planting, dividing and pruning, Guidance of neighboring scientology maintenance staff at Everett St and gardeners at Herter.

Master plan development, additional sites in Lower Allston:

Explore potential sites, secure community/stakeholder buy-in, work out details of design, implementation and maintenance.

Opening festivities/workshops

Develop event to officially open the pollinator gardens with participation from schools, community associations, artists and residents.

Workshops: getting to know pollinators, making seed balls, planting pollinator-friendly plants, etc.

2. Other funding sources, if applicable, and amount and status (e.g. funds granted, requested, date when status will be known).

We are not requesting funding from other sources; however, the Church of Scientology will be making in-kind contributions of maintenance and watering.

3. Images, renderings, and other relevant information

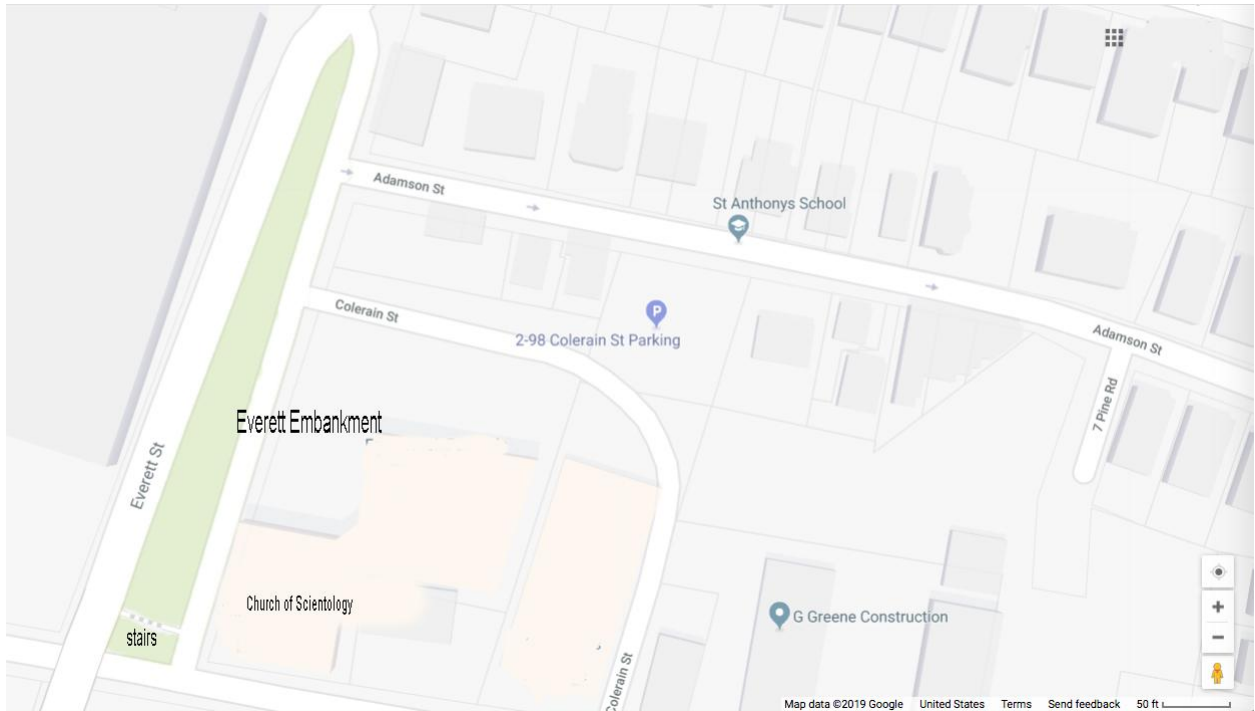


Pollinator Gardens in Lower Allston

black: proposed sites 2019

blue: potential future sites

red: other pollinator gardens



Map of the Everett St. Embankment and its placement in Lower Allston



Everett St. Embankment looking SW



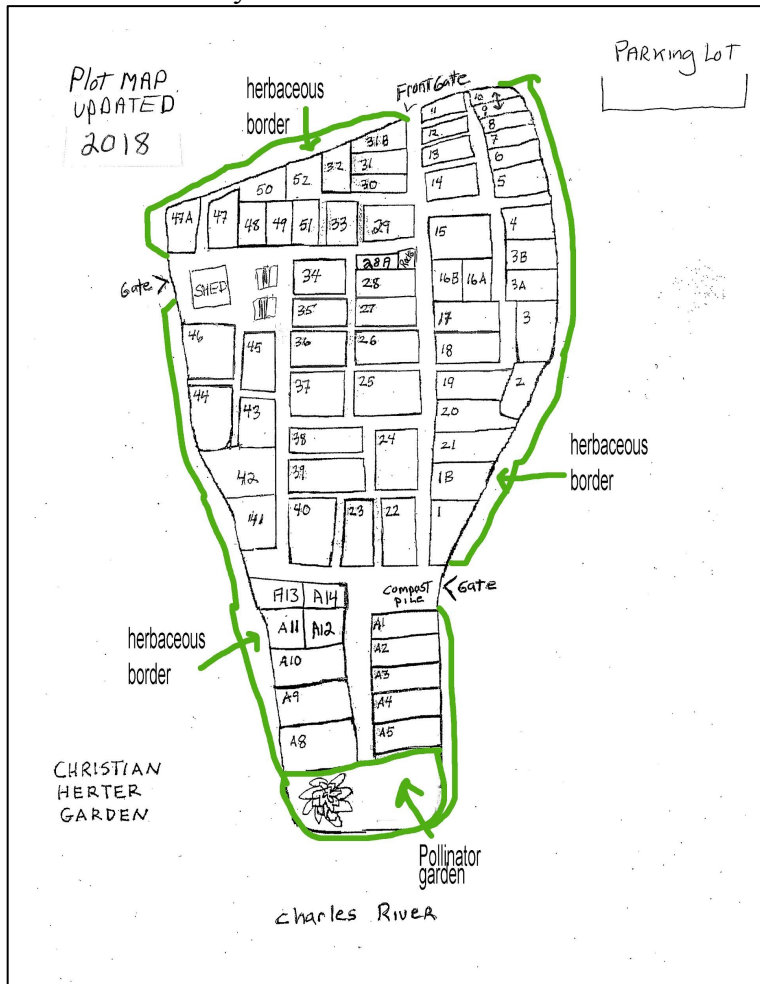
Everett St. Embankment looking NW



Everett St Embankment Stairs



Herter Community Garden





Herter Community Garden Looking North.

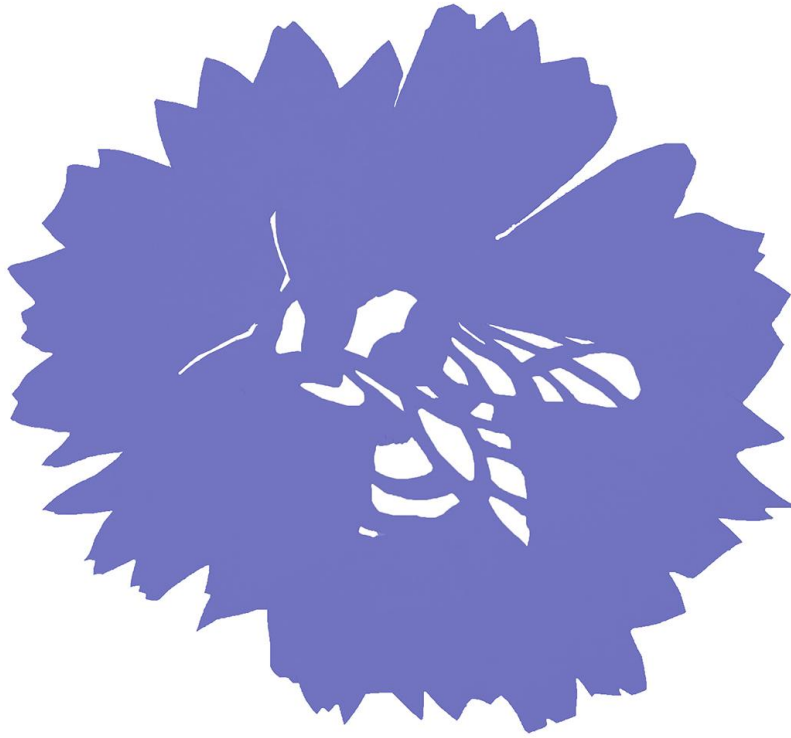


Herter Community Garden Looking South



Example of a Pollinator Hotel: The Edmonton & Area Land Trust⁹

⁹ <https://www.sciencenewsforstudents.org/article/bee-hotels-are-open-business>



Example of a pollinator icon¹⁰



Example of pollinator hotel signage

¹⁰ Copyright Miriam Shenitzer

PROPERTY OWNER CONSENT FORM

PROPERTY ADDRESS: Everett St Embankment (running north from Lincoln St.), Lower Allston

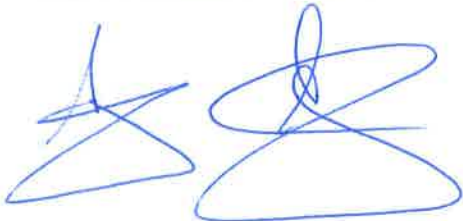
PROPERTY OWNER: City of Boston, via Public Improvement Commission

The City of Boston, through its Public Improvement Commission, agrees to permit Miriam Shenitzer, Artist, Light Time in Space (John Powell), and Pollinators Welcome (Tom Sullivan) to undertake the following work at the above location:

1. Develop design concepts to create a pollinator garden in the space.
2. Plant, water, and weed the pollinator garden (with the assistance of the neighboring community).
3. Remove such plants as are inimical to pollinator environments
4. Add metal "icons" and multilingual explanatory signage, as detailed in final design.
5. Fundraise for this initiative pursuant to the requirements for obtaining a Harvard Flex Fund Grant.

This consent form is valid from the date signed below through the completion of the anticipated design. Once completed, Miriam Shenitzer, artist, and Pollinators Welcome shall submit the results and final plans to the City of Boston through the Public Improvement Commission for final review and approval before proceeding.

All submissions should be sent to Amy Cording, Chief Engineer, City of Boston Public Improvement Commis-sion, Boston City Hall Room 714 Boston MA 02201 o e amy.cording@boston.gov.



Dated: 5/1/19



CHURCH OF
SCIENTOLOGY
OF BOSTON

April 30, 2019

1515 Hancock Street
Suite 306
Quincy, MA 02169

(617) 266-9500
boston@scientology.net
scientology-boston.org

To whom it may concern:

This is a letter of support for artist Miriam Shenitzer's proposed pollinator garden on a parcel of city-owned land, located just across the street from the Church of Scientology of Boston's future headquarters. The Church's address location is 214, 218, 226 Lincoln Street in Lower Allston. The Pollinator Garden that is being proposed, is for that stretch of landscape embankment on Everett Street, located just between the cross streets of Lincoln Street and Adamson Street.

I have met with Miriam Shenitzer who briefed me on the project. I and other church members are strong proponents of this Pollinator Garden Project that is being presented by Miriam Shenitzer. I and others at the Church see the importance of pollinators and plants and the important role each plays in this environment.

The Church of Scientology wants to give support to this Pollinator Garden Project. We will be able to do so in the following manner:

- Watering this garden embankment following the initial planting - every few days for the first two weeks; and then continued watering of the garden when there is insufficient rain, through-out the Spring, Summer and Fall; and
- General maintenance of the Everett Street Pollinator Garden, under the direction of Miriam Shenitzer.

All Church support work on this project will be done in coordination with and under guidance from Miriam Shenitzer.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul Bradford".

Paul Bradford - Administrator
Church of Scientology of Boston



May 12th, 2019

To whom it may concern,

This letter is to show the support of the Christian A. Herter Garden Committee located on the Charles River off of Soldiers Field Road in Allston for the grant application by Miriam Shenitzer, Beth Fried, and Tom Sullivan to replant the northernmost section of the garden area within the fence line to benefit local, native pollinators.

If the aforementioned applicants receive the grant Harvard-Allston Public Realm Flexible Fund, then the Christian A. Herter Garden Committee and the members of the community garden will grant permission for the applicants to replant the area and do minor maintenance. The Christian A. Herter Garden Committee and members will commit to doing the bulk of the on-going and yearly maintenance for the pollinator garden area and will keep it open to the public as an educational tool.

The Christian A. Herter Garden Committee will approve the final plan and layout of the pollinator garden by vote if and when the grant application is accepted.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Keegan Dougherty".

Keegan Dougherty
The Christian A. Herter Garden Committee Member
Dougherty.Keegan@gmail.com
3038107699

To Whom it May Concern;
regarding the Everett Street Embankment Pollinator Corridor Project.

I write with most enthusiastic support of the pollinator corridor project being developed by Miriam Shenitzer and collaboration artist John Powell. Their current focus, the Everett Street Embankment garden, is an important step to both prototype plant types, and to share the importance of pollinator gardens with those passing by this active area.

We know our surrounding natural ecology is under stress by rapid urban development. The Everett Street site is large enough to demonstrate the ecological value of this remediation concept. The added educational component is particularly important at this time of large scale real estate development, and plans for bold highway relocation and public space creation.

A pollinator garden, because its relays on the blooms of plants to attract bees and other beneficial insects, brings rich natural beauty to urban areas. In addition the birds supported by the pollinator insects help balance the population of mosquitos and other harmful species.

My own work with the Boston Schoolyard Initiative with 26 nature play gardens throughout Boston has convinced me that ongoing maintenance is essential to such gardens. Knowing that this group is working closely with the adjacent community at each step of planning gives me confidence in the sustainability of the outcome.

The value of the Everett Street project is that it is conceived not simply as a stand alone effort, rather planned as a node in a larger web of ecologically connected green spaces throughout our city. Last year in the immediate local area a pollinator teaching garden was funded and installed at the Gardner School, and future planting plans for other nearby schools and the Collins Park project will include pollinator plants.

The additive sum of the these public spaces becomes more than a set of isolated islands. We can imagine that with a network of public area pollinator gardens, and thoughtful in-between planting on private residential properties, we are on the path to rebuild an infrastructure of ecological connections.

In consideration of this the interpretive signage component of the Everett Street garden is essential. Signage that is artful and engaging will introduce, and the reinforce, the significance of these gardens. It is future thinking and respectful to the health of our community to encourage informed advocacy of these essential ecological ideas. Support of natural system corridors within urban areas benefits us all, and without question deserves encouragement and funding.

Thank you,



Ross Miller
artist and long time property owner
107 Franklin Street
Allston, MA 02134

5.12.2019



GERMAN
INTERNATIONAL
SCHOOL | Boston

Allston, May 10, 2019

To:

Harvard-Allston Public Realm Flexible Fund
Pollinator Pathway Project in Lower Allston

Dear Sir or Madam,

We are writing in our capacity as the Interim Head of School and the staff of the German International School Boston to strongly support the grant proposal by Miriam Shenitzer, artist, Tom Sullivan of Pollinators Welcome, and John Powell of Light Time in Space for the *Pollinator Pathway Project* in Lower Allston to the Harvard-Allston Public Realm Flexible Fund.

Our school has been searching for a way to include pollinators and their plight into our curriculum and to build a pollinator garden for the school when we were contacted by Miriam Shenitzer, Tom Sullivan, and John Powell.

A pollinator garden would be a great way for our school to further enhance our curriculum and to provide a hands-on learning experience for our students. The whole proposed project alligns well with our school's mission and we would be excited to participate. At the same time, being a part of the project would give our growing community of international students and families the great opportunity to further connect with the local community through potential volunteering and co-planning events to learn from and with another.

As a first step, the planning team already shared their expertise with us to plant some initial pollinator plants and seeds with our students in the coming weeks. Moving forward, our school would partner with the planning team to support the garden with volunteer labor. We would love to be included in 2020 plans but if there is a way to join in fall of 2019 we would be more than happy to do so.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Matthias Radke'.

Matthias Radke
Interim Head of School

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alexandra Seifried-Thiel'.

Alexandra Seifried-Thiel
Classroom Teacher Grade 3/4 & Art Teacher

April 24, 2019

To whom it may concern:

I am writing in support of the proposed Allston Pollinator Pathways. I have known and worked with Miriam Shenitzer, one of the project's leaders, for over ten years. During that time, Miriam initiated the creation of the Hosmer School Garden, which led to the development of school gardens in all of Watertown. Watertown is a very diverse community—our families come from many different cultures, socio-economic brackets, and religions. The Hosmer school is a title 1 School; a sizeable number of our students are from low-income families. Our families speak over 30 languages and come from all over the globe.

Miriam worked extensively with parents, teachers, and community organizations to develop the gardens. She reached out to local businesses to donate materials and expertise.

From Miriam's initial effort, an ongoing parent/school district group was developed to provide continuous support and care for the garden, especially during the summers when school is out. Miriam continues to bring students to the garden throughout the year for hands-on learning.

The garden has been an outdoor learning classroom since its inception. Students learn outside throughout the year, planting, weeding, composting, and harvesting. Many of our students have no other opportunity to connect with nature and the sources of their food in this very real, hands on way. The garden's produce is harvested by the children and used by the food services in the cafeterias.

Miriam has excellent community development skills, as well as extensive gardening knowledge. She is creative, reliable and well-organized. Miriam can bring a project from conception to fulfillment.

Sincerely,


Kelly Graves
Teacher/Garden Leader

Hosmer School
Watertown, MA

May 10, 2019

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter in support of Miriam Shenitzer and John Powell's Pollinator Garden project in Lower Allston. My organization, Palaver Strings had the pleasure of working with Miriam and John in February 2018 on a co-produced program, Seeking Sanctuary, at the Boston Center for the Arts. *Seeking Sanctuary*, showcased the experiences of Irish, Cape Verdean, and Chinese communities through new music compositions and spoken word personal narratives inspired by the stories of immigrants and their descendants in a series of three performances and several community workshops. This project helped to extend the conversation about how immigration, cultural identity, and art impact the social fabric in Boston. In conjunction with the performance, Miriam and John were commissioned to create a temporary, interactive, art installation that invited audience members to document and share their reflection on “home” and “sanctuary city.”

Miriam was wonderful to work with from the very early stages of the project. She was very flexible and able to co-curate a participatory art piece that served Palaver’s vision for the program while including her own creativity and expertise. Miriam led several segments of each of our workshops at different Boston immigrant community centers and was able to engage and communicate to participants regardless of language barriers. I was impressed by Miriam’s ability to activate a room full of people and encourage them to share their narratives on the art piece and verbally as a group. Miriam was responsible and trustworthy, and was able to work with very diverse groups of stakeholders to get a complicated project done. Miriam introduced us to John who helped to create the projections and installed of the art piece at the Boston Center for the Arts Cyclorama.

I would highly recommend Miriam Shenitzer and John Powell as organizers and creators for any community art project as I trust in their ability to engage many people in an intentional and impactful way.

Sincerely,



Maya French
Managing Director & Co-Artistic Director