

“\$2.18 million grant could improve access, landscaping at Greylock Mill, athletic complex”

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**NEWS**

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State grant funding will fund extensive landscaping and improvements to the parking area of the Greylock Mill property in North Adams, above, and will also improve public access to the adjacent Alcombright Athletic Complex and its parking lot.

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**NORTH ADAMS** — Thanks to a state grant, the developers of the Greylock Mill have \$2.18 million to improve parking and landscaping, but the City Council must take action for the work to begin.

The mill’s owner, Greylock Works LLC, must grant the city long-term access and site control over the pieces of the mill property that will be improved using the MassWorks grant awarded by the state last year.

The funding is slated to be used for extensive landscaping and improvements to the parking area at the southeastern portion of the property, which will also improve public access to the adjacent Alcombright Athletic Complex and its parking lot. The work, which should be complete by July,

also includes new loading areas and pedestrian walkways.

“We’re so grateful for this substantial financial support from the state, and for the consistent advocacy from Mayor [Richard] Alcombright and so many others on behalf of Greylock Works,” wrote developer Salvatore Perry of Latent Productions in an email to The Eagle on Friday. “There will be an incredible transformation across the site over the coming six months.”

The City Council will discuss the proposed 10-year easement of privately owned land at its regular meeting on Tuesday.

“The city will need an easement and agreement that will provide future access to the parking at the mill for all public [or] municipal events held at our complex,” Alcombright wrote in a letter to the City Council this week.

Under the agreement, the public would have access to the parking area when there are major events at the athletic complex, while the Greylock Mill and its patrons would use it on a day-to-day basis.

“It’s kind of a win-win,” said Michael Nuvalle, the city’s Director of Community Development.

In addition to generally improving the area behind the mill, the proposed work would remove the current barriers and fencing between the athletic complex and the Greylock Mill.

Purchased in 2015 by New York based developer Latent Productions under several LLCs, plans for the Greylock Mill include a variety of uses including commercial, residential and a hotel.

Developers of the Greylock Mill have worked hand-in-hand with various levels of government for support. The mill won \$173,900 in U. Department of Agriculture grants in 2015, entered into a special tax agreement with the city last April, and in May was awarded \$200,000 from Environmental Protection Agency to address environmental contamination.

The Greylock Mill was one of two North Adams projects to win MassWorks funding in November; the proposed Extreme Model Railroad and Architecture Museum at Western Gateway Heritage State Park was awarded \$250,000.

For funding to be used to improve private property under the MassWorks grant program, a city or town must maintain site control for at least 10 years, hence the length of the proposed agreement between North Adams and Greylock Works.