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JAMAICA PLAIN

Nira Rock Urban Wild in Jamaica

Plans receive \$50k...

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tt Rocheleau September 18, 2012 03:20 PM

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neleau, Town Correspondent

arks department has received a \$15,000 grant to renovate an area of Rock Urban Wild in Jamaica Plain.

ng, combined with some \$35,000 more from other money received

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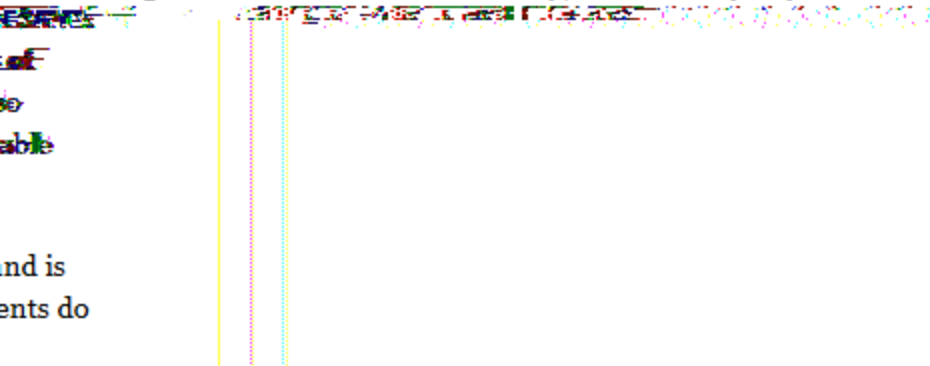
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will allow for improvements to be made to the Arcola Street area of
cre green space, which features a 40-foot rock face, an orchard, and
adow.

aid planned work includes: incorporating a newly-acquired parcel of
iring the granite and puddingstone stairway at Arcola Street,
ng a seat wall and bollards, adding a more accessible entry path with
d crushed stone and bench seating and planting new landscaping.

als plan to host a ribbon cutting at [Nira Rock](#) to celebrate the
ents there on Sat. Sept. 22, at 10 a.m.

as one of eight communities in the country, and the only city in the



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gentle urban wild, the city issued a press release. "Urban wilds are the backbone
contributes to a more interconnected community and fosters active modes
transportation such as walking and biking. By their very nature, trails also
protect, sustain and restore open spaces — making communities more livable
and improving the quality of life."

Nira Rock abuts a hospital, school, playground and community garden and
situated amid a densely-settled housing neighborhood where many residents
not have their own yards, according to the city.

The urban wild has received other funding this year that will be put toward
paying for renovations.

Melanie and Nathaniel Stinnett, a newly-married couple who asked their
wedding guests to, in lieu of giving gifts, donate to fund Nira Rock site
restoration, donated almost \$21,000 this year to Nira Rock, city officials
Another \$7,000 was received from the New England Grassroots
Environmental Fund, \$5,000 from Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Massachusetts
and \$2,250 from the city's Small Changes grant program.

The Hyde Square Task Force youth organization in Jamaica Plain assisted
the effort to obtain some of the funding, according to the city.

"With the influx of money for improvements at Nira Rock have come
commitments from neighbors and business partners to also stay involved
improvement and maintenance at the site," the city release said.

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Workers from LongHorn Steakhouse, one of the Darden Restaurant brand plan to help with that local effort, city officials said.

The ribbon-cutting event Saturday is scheduled to include a performance by Rosalita's Puppets, pumpkin painting and refreshments provided by H.P.

For more information, call the Boston Parks and Recreation Department at 617-635-4505.

E-mail Matt Rocheleau at mjrochele@gmail.com.

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