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It's green space, it's art, it's both

By [Auiditi Guh](#)/ Staff Writer
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With 20 artists from all over the country interested in prettying up a narrow, weedy strip along Lincoln Street, Allston residents are excited about the chances for a better view.

"It's going great," said Allston resident Harry Mattison of the process so far. "We've got a good core group of neighbors interested in the project and about 20 artists interested in working on the green strip project."

Spearheaded by the Allston-Brighton Community Development Corp., the project received a boost with grants from the New England Foundation for the Arts and the National Parks Service, designed to support artists in community collaborations.

Whatever the design and art installments, the main goal is to improve that patch of land, the development corporation said.

Thanks to a \$22,000 grant available to communities through the federal Housing and Urban Development, the corporation is hiring a landscape architect to survey and review the slope and block of land this summer.

Party Oct. 1

A steering committee comprised of residents, activists, grant organization representatives, artists and park service officials will narrow the list to four later this month and a kickoff party is scheduled Oct. 1 at the Allston Branch Library for the community to meet the finalists.

The four winners will each receive a \$1,500 planning grant. The artists will work with the CDC and the community to creatively and comprehensively re-envision the green strip, and to plan and create public artwork.

Their proposals will be displayed in the library and a final design will be chosen in January 2006.

The steering committee that will overlook the planning and development of the project will comprise of area residents and representatives from NEFA, CDC and NPS.

(Editor's note: To learn more about the project or to participate, contact the Allston-Brighton CDC at 617-787-3874)

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