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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MMC Announces \$300,000 Investment in Neighborhood Parks

Funds aimed at public parks and community benefits in Western Prom, Parkside and St. John Valley neighborhoods

PORTLAND, Maine – As a component of its ongoing expansion and modernization project, Maine Medical Center will provide the city of Portland \$300,000 for investments in parks in the Western Prom, Parkside and St. John Valley neighborhoods.

This investment in city parks affirms MMC's commitment to the neighborhoods it belongs to, as well as its appreciation for the continuing collaboration and open dialogue it shares with city and neighborhood leaders. MMC has been an anchor of the west Portland neighborhoods for over 140 years, and its employees, patients and their visitors greatly benefit from the wonderful community spaces that surround it.

“Maine Medical Center’s vision of working together so our communities are the healthiest in America is absolutely supported through helping our neighborhood partners enhance the parks and open spaces we all enjoy and value,” said Jeff Sanders, MMC Chief Operating Officer and Executive Vice President. “MMC recognizes the responsibility it has to our neighbors to help make our community a place where people enjoy living, working and receiving care.”

District 2 City Councilor Spencer Thibodeau has worked closely with MMC and the local neighborhood associations as the hospital's expansion and modernization plan has progressed for more than two years. Thibodeau thanked MMC for the investment in community resources, and the neighborhood associations for their continued open communications and partnerships with MMC to make these investments happen.

"MMC plays a critical role in the city and in the state, in terms of providing the highest level of health care, but MMC is also an important member of the neighborhoods it abuts," said Thibodeau. "This kind of investment in the parks and neighborhoods is good for the city."

"We're looking forward to helping the neighborhoods make some real progress that will improve residents' lives with on-the-ground investment," said Portland City Manager Jon Jennings. "Tapping into our city departments' experience and expertise will maximize the benefits provided by this grant from MMC."

In addition to this one-time grant, MMC is also developing an "Caring Community" grant program that will make available up to \$30,000 each year to neighborhood associations or other entities in the St. John Valley, Parkside, West End, Western Prom and Libbytown neighborhoods. This program was a requirement under the Institutional Overlay Zone framework approved by the City Council in 2017 that provides the context for future MMC development at the Bramhall campus. Groups will be able to apply for these grants for a variety of initiatives, including those that promote quality of life, diversity and inclusion, public safety, environment sustainability and the general support of strong, safe, accessible and vibrant neighborhoods. MMC also supported the installation of holiday lights in Bramhall Square this year with a one-time \$6,000 grant.

Altogether, MMC's \$525 million project will create 128 new private patient rooms, add 19 procedure rooms for surgeries and other complex treatments, provide an additional 225 spaces for patient and visitor parking and consolidate MMC staff parking into a single location that will meet current demand and future growth.

About Maine Medical Center

Maine Medical Center (MMC), recognized as a Best Regional Hospital by U.S. News and World Report for 2017-2018, is a complete health care resource for the people of Greater Portland and the entire state, as well as northern New England. Incorporated in 1868, MMC is the state's largest medical center, licensed for 637 beds and employing nearly 8,700 people. MMC's unique role as both a community hospital and a referral center requires an unparalleled depth and breadth of services, including an active educational program and a world-class biomedical research center. As a nonprofit institution, Maine Medical Center provides nearly 23 percent of all the charity care delivered in Maine. MMC is a member of the MaineHealth system, a growing family of health care services in northern New England. For more information, visit www.mmc.org.

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