

Community Preservation Committee

The Community Preservation Committee (CPC) is in its eighth year of reviewing proposals for funding under the Community Preservation Act (CPA or Act, MGL Chapter 44B). Under the Act, funds may be used for the acquisition, creation and preservation of open space; acquisition, preservation, rehabilitation and restoration of historic resources; acquisition, creation and preservation of land for recreational use; creation, preservation and support of community housing; and the rehabilitation or restoration of such open space, recreation land and community housing that is acquired or created through the CPA. The CPC, appointed by the Board of Selectmen, includes nine standing members, with representatives from the Town's Conservation Commission, Finance Committee, Historical Commission, Housing Authority, Park and Recreation Commission, Planning Board, Board of Selectmen, and two at-large citizen members. The CPC is supported by Jody Kablack, Director of Planning and Community Development, and by part-time assistance from the Planning Office.

The CPA funds raised in FY09 through the local tax surcharge equaled \$1,436,010. For FY09 the Town also received \$965,898 in October, 2008, a 71% revenue match from the state CPA trust fund, and interest earnings of \$248,370 bringing total FY09 revenues to \$2,650,278. In October, 2009 the state match decreased to \$539,676 or 31%. This decreasing state match has been anticipated, and is mostly due to dwindling reserves in the state CPA trust fund caused by the downturn in the housing market. While there are reasons to believe that the state match will increase in future years, the CPC is budgeting a similar revenue stream from the local surcharge, interest earnings and the state match in the coming fiscal year.

At the 2009 Annual Town Meeting, projects were presented in the areas of historic preservation (survey of Sudbury's Historic Properties and gravestone restoration, Town Clerk's historic document preservation, and exterior restoration of the Loring Parsonage), recreation and open space opportunities (Bruce Freeman Rail Trail concept plan and preservation of 79 Lincoln Lane), and the creation of affordable community housing (funding for the Sudbury Housing Trust). The total face value cost of all projects approved at the 2009 Town Meeting was approximately \$675,000. In addition, debt service expenses of \$1,124,000 for prior land acquisition projects and \$95,000 for administrative and operational needs of the CPC for FY10 were appropriated, bringing the total expenditures for FY10 to \$1,894,000.

Sudbury CPA monies held in reserve for future land acquisition and other projects have accumulated, and the unreserved fund balance at the end of 2009 was approximately \$6.9 million.

CPA funded projects that are underway or have recently been completed around Sudbury include exterior restoration of the Loring Parsonage, Hearse House restoration, and the Nobscot Road walkway construction. When there are projects happening, look for our signs noting "Sudbury Community Preservation Funds at Work."

Christopher Morely, Planning Board, Chair

Lynne H. Remington, At-large Member

Seamus O'Kelly, At-large Member

John C. Drobinski, Selectmen

Richard O. Bell, Conservation Commission

James A. Hill, Historical Commission

Georgette P. Heerwagen, Park and Recreation Commission

Sherrill P. Cline, Housing Authority

Sheila A. Stewart, Finance Committee