



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE



KATJANA BALLANTYNE,
MAYOR

To the honorable City Council:

Achieving its goal of expanding the range of applications for CPA funding, Community Preservation Committee received a larger number of applications for CPA funds through our FY23 grant application process than we have seen in recent years. Full applications were received for 11 projects, totaling more than \$3,800,000 for open space/recreation and historic preservation projects, compared to \$1,600,000 available out of FY23 CPA revenue. Over the past 6 months the CPC has been carefully deliberating over CPA priorities and policies, as well as applicants' capacity and readiness to proceed, and encouraging applicants to identify additional sources of funding, so that the CPC can recommend the most prudent use of the CPA funds.

The CPC also identified that approximately \$1,600,000 has accumulated which been uncommitted or returned unspent from previous years. While it is desirable to carry over some fund balance to allow flexibility, the CPC opted to spend down a portion of its reserves to support project applications this funding round. The recommendations for this funding round apply \$383,853 from the carried-over reserve funds. Additional funds remaining in the Undesignated Fund Balance may be used to cover off-cycle applications, as well as one additional project from the FY23 application round which is still under deliberation.

Through its deliberations, the CPC has arrived at a recommendation for FY23 that provides funding for all of the projects that were identified as ready to proceed this year. Due to the complexity of this application round, the CPC has split the decisions about the applications from this funding round over several months. The following is a list of the recommendations in the pipeline:

CPA FY23 Funding Recommendations			
Project	Amount Recommended	Category	Date of CPC Recommendation
Elizabeth Peabody House	\$300,000	Historic Preservation	1/25/2023
Mudflat Studio	\$15,000	Historic Preservation	1/25/2023
Blessing of the Bay Path Improvement	\$250,000	Open Space/Recreation	1/25/2023
Junction Park	\$400,000	Open Space/Recreation	1/25/2023
Henry Hansen Park	\$350,000	Open Space/Recreation	1/25/2023
217 Somerville Ave	\$100,000	Open Space/Recreation	1/25/2023
Grace Baptist Church/SHA4CD	\$425,000	Historic Preservation	3/1/2023
Somerville Museum	\$151,000	Historic Preservation	3/1/2023
Subtotal	\$1,991,000		
Affordable Housing Trust	\$1,618,683	Affordable Housing	Anticipated 3/22/2023

Thank you,

Roberta Cameron, Community Preservation Act Manager