

Wrentham Community Preservation Committee

Residents Guide

Wrentham CPC Overview

The Wrentham Community Preservation Committee (WCPC) wants to make sure the residents understand how eligibility works; how the project approval process works; and what the funding sources are for the Wrentham Community Preservation Act (CPA) Fund.

Eligibility

Projects must fall into four categories and are only eligible for CPA funding if they fit in a box with a "Yes" in the chart below. For instance, one can use funds to Acquire recreation space, Create it (build trails or a ball field), Preserve it, Rehabilitate it (i.e. rehab old tennis courts) but not Support it (on going maintenance).

Is This Project Eligible?

	Open Space	Historic	Recreation	Housing
Acquire	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Create	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Preserve	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Support	No	No	No	Yes
Rehabilitate and/or Restore	No (unless acquired or created with CPA \$\$)	Yes	Yes	No (unless acquired or created with CPA \$\$)

There are a LOT of expenditures that CPA funds CANNOT be used for; examples include: to pave a street; fix potholes; build sidewalks; hire teachers; fire fighters or police officers; or supplemental funds to build school classroom buildings. Regular town funding needs to address these areas, not CPA funds.

Project Process

- 1. Project Eligibility WCPC determines if a project is eligible.
- 2. Project Application and Presentation -WCPC requires a project application and a project presentation, then discusses the projects presented in total this year.
- 3. WCPC Votes If approved by majority of members, project moves to Town Meeting.
- 4. Town Meeting Residents Vote Residents must approve a project to commit CPA funds. A simple majority vote passes most projects. A 2/3 approval is required for borrowing money to pay for a project, as determined by WCPC with input from the Finance Committee and Town Administration

Funding Sources

Funds for the Wrentham CPA come from two sources:

- 1. Since 2017 a surcharge on Wrentham Real Estate Taxes. This collects approximately \$300,000 per year.
- 2. State Matching Funds. Each November, the State partially matches our CPA collections. This has ranged from 24% to 43% of our tax collections in recent years, hypothetically equalling \$72,000 \$129,000 on the above \$300,000 number.

Resources

Have a project in mind? Contact the WCPC at our email CPC (at) wrentham.gov or read the WCPC Annual Plan on the Wrentham.gov website for more information on project areas and evaluation criteria.