

COMMUNITY HOUSING, OUTDOOR RECREATION, PARKS, OPEN SPACE, & HISTORICAL PRESERVATION



! WE NEED YOU

Join us in passing CPA for New Bedford

AHA! New Bedford
Buttonwood Zoological Society
Buzzards Bay Coalition
Cape Verdean Association
Cape Verdean Recognition Committee
Community Action for Better Housing
Community Economic Development Center
Friends of Buttonwood Park
Friends of Clasky Common
Greater New Bedford Industrial Foundation
Inter-Church Council of Greater New Bedford
Martha Briggs Educational Club
NB Beautiful
Neighborhoods United
NeighborWorks - Southern Mass
New Bedford Art Museum/ArtWorks!
New Bedford Economic Development Council
New Bedford Historical Society
New Bedford Port Society
New Bedford Preservation Society
Operation Clean Sweep
ORPH, Inc.
Rotch-Jones-Duff House and Garden Museum
Schooner Ernestina
The Trustees of Reservations
The Trust for Public Land
Waterfront Historic Area League (WHALE)
Your Theatre, Inc.
YWCA

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COMMUNITY PRESERVATION ACT FOR NEW BEDFORD

INVESTING IN OUR FUTURE



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? WHAT IS CPA?

The Community Preservation Act (CPA) enables cities and towns in Massachusetts to create a dedicated fund for parks, outdoor recreation, historical preservation, and housing for local families while receiving matching state funds for these purposes.

CPA became law in Massachusetts in 2000 and has been adopted by 155 communities, including Fall River, Dartmouth, and Acushnet.

? HOW DOES CPA WORK?

- In June, City Council voted unanimously to allow CPA on the ballot this November.
- **You'll find Question 5: The Community Preservation Act, on the back of your ballot, Tuesday, November 4th.**
- After adopting CPA, New Bedford will form a local Community Preservation Committee with up to nine New Bedford citizens, who will review and select projects. The City Council will have final approval of all funding in a public process
- Under CPA, 10% of the funds must be spent on historic preservation, 10% on open space and recreation, and 10% on community housing. The remaining 70% can be used for any of these purposes.
- CPA funds can be used on projects citywide. Everyone benefits!

THE DOLLARS AND SENSE OF CPA

\$470 million The amount distributed from the State's CPA Trust Fund to communities like Acushnet, Cambridge, Fall River, and Somerville.

\$0 The amount New Bedford has received from the State's CPA Trust Fund.

\$1.15 million The amount New Bedford would have generated last year alone through CPA.

! WHY CPA IS A WISE INVESTMENT FOR NEW BEDFORD

- CPA projects create construction jobs and new investments that eliminate blight and help maintain and increase value of neighboring properties.
- CPA brings in significant state matching funds – an immediate return that can grow over time.
- CPA funds offer an edge for other grants, bringing in millions in additional state, federal, and private funds.
- CPA creates reliable funding for projects and neighborhoods most vulnerable to cuts: parks, ball fields, and preservation.

? WHAT ARE THE NUMBERS ON CPA?

The average New Bedford homeowner would pay **only \$18 a year** or \$4.50 on a quarterly tax bill. With the state match, this would raise a total of \$1.1 million for projects in New Bedford neighborhoods and parks. The average business owner would pay \$5 per month or \$15 on a quarterly tax bill.

ASSESSED PROPERTY VALUE	ANNUAL SURCHARGE
\$100,000	\$0
\$150,000	\$11.37
\$200,000	\$22.74
\$250,000	\$34.48
\$300,000	\$45.48

This dedicated fund comes from a surcharge on local property tax bills and the State Community Preservation Trust Fund.

? WHO IS EXEMPT?

- First \$100,000 of assessed property value for all residential property owners
- First \$100,000 of assessed property value for all commercial property owners
- Low-income property owners
- Low and moderate income seniors
- Anyone who rents