

**THE TIME IS RIGHT FOR WESTMINSTER TO ADOPT  
THE COMMUNITY PRESERVATION ACT  
APRIL 26TH, 2022 BALLOT QUESTION**

On April 26th, the voters of Westminster will have the opportunity to pass the Community Preservation Act (CPA). Repeated town surveys have shown that our residents care deeply about the character and beauty of Westminster. The CPA will help by providing dedicated funding for the acquisition and protection of open space, recreation (playing fields, trails etc.), historic preservation, and senior / affordable housing.

CPA monies are not used for the General Fund. Instead, the CPA provides a “smart growth” tool to shape the future of our town. That’s one of the best parts of the Act – there will always be money to help preserve the best of Westminster for future residents (and us too!!).

The CPA does not restrict in any way a property owner’s right to sell, build, or develop their property.

Investing in the CPA creates a funding stream through a partnership between the Town and the State. This partnership has been so successful that 188 Massachusetts communities have joined the CPA since 2000, and in 22 years, NONE have revoked it. Each CPA town uses a small surcharge based on property assessment and those funds are MATCHED by the State. Historically, towns like Westminster have received nearly an 80% match. In fact, this year those towns received a 99% match. The CPA is a great INVESTMENT.

The first \$100K of assessed property value will be EXEMPT from the surcharge. Low income families will also be EXEMPT, protecting the most vulnerable in our community. For the average property in Westminster, the surcharge will be about \$29 per quarter.

The impact of CPA funds is in the citizens' hands – OUR hands. CPA funds will be administered by a newly formed Town committee consisting of both Town officials and other citizens from the community. The committee will review and recommend projects related strictly to open space, recreation, historic preservation, and senior / affordable housing. A state law has established requirements for housing, but the CPA provides us with better control over how housing is developed in our town. Approval of every CPA project will be decided at Town Meetings.

Please help by voting “YES” for the CPA at the Community/Senior Center on April 26th. We all love our town. It’s a state of mind, and a slice of history for those who grew up here, those new to town, and for future generations.

Von Salmi Sr.  
Bernard Aubuchon Jr.

Ned LaFortune  
Laila Michaud

