

June 12, 2019

Honorable Karen Spilka  
Senate President  
State House, Room 332  
Boston, MA 02133

Honorable Robert DeLeo  
Speaker of the House  
State House, Room 356  
Boston, MA 02133

Dear President Spilka and Speaker DeLeo,

As Chief Executives of 101 municipalities that have adopted the Community Preservation Act (CPA), we are writing to support the modernization of the statewide CPA Trust Fund. The Community Preservation Act is an invaluable program that helps our communities create jobs, generate tourism, and provide investments in our local economies through affordable housing development, construction and rehabilitation of parks and recreational facilities, and preservation of open space and historic assets.

However, the viability of CPA is threatened. As you know, locally raised funds are matched by the statewide CPA Trust Fund, which derives its revenue from recording fees at the Registries of Deeds. Yet this funding mechanism has never been updated since CPA was signed into law in 2000, severely diluting the state's CPA Trust Fund distribution. An ever-growing gap has developed between the approximately \$160 million invested annually by the 175 CPA cities and towns and the \$24 million contributed by the state. As a result, the CPA Trust Fund distribution that previously matched 100% of locally raised CPA funding has plummeted to an estimated 11% match today. The program is no longer the state-local partnership it was designed to be.

In the spirit of renewing this partnership, both the House and Senate included language to permanently increase funding for the statewide CPA Trust Fund in the fiscal year 2020 budget. The increase would raise the base percentage match from 11% to just under 30% annually for all 175 CPA communities in November of 2020. We thank Chairman Aaron Michlewitz and Senator Cynthia Stone Creem for advocating for this increase in their respective chambers and we look forward to the final approval vote of this legislation.

Additionally, the budget conference committee is considering a transfer of up to \$20 million from the state's FY2019 budget surplus to the Trust Fund in time for the November 2019 distribution, avoiding a record-low disbursement. Without this money, the statewide match will be an estimated 11%. This short-term solution for 2019, coupled with the long-term fix for 2020 and beyond, will ensure a viable, vibrant, and enduring CPA.

We add our names in support of this initiative and urge the Legislature and Governor Baker to support these efforts to ensure the viability of this highly successful program.

Signed,  
*(see signatories on following page)*

CC:

Honorable Cynthia Stone Creem  
Honorable Michael J. Rodrigues  
Honorable Cindy F. Friedman  
Honorable Viriato M. deMacedo  
His Excellency Charles Baker

Honorable Aaron Michlewitz  
Honorable Denise C. Garlick  
Honorable Todd M. Smola  
Her Honor Karyn Polito

Richard Lafond  
Town Manager  
Abington

John Mangiaratti  
Town Manager  
Acton

Brian S. Noble  
Town Administrator  
Acushnet

Paul Bockelman  
Town Manager  
Amherst

Jeffrey Madison  
Town Administrator  
Aquinnah

Adam Chapdelaine  
Town Manager  
Arlington

Robert Pontbriand  
Town Manager  
Ayer

Thomas Caputo  
Chair, Board of Selectmen  
Belmont

John C. Curran  
Town Manager  
Billerica

Martin J. Walsh  
Mayor  
Boston

Thomas M. Guerino  
Town Administrator  
Bourne

Susan Bak  
Chair, Board of Selectmen  
Boxborough

Joseph Sullivan  
Mayor  
Braintree

Michael Dutton  
Town Manager  
Bridgewater

Lou DePasquale  
City Manager  
Cambridge

Michael Milanoski  
Town Administrator  
Carver

Jill Goldsmith  
Town Manager  
Chatham

Paul E. Cohen  
Town Manager  
Chelmsford

Tom Ambrosino  
City Manager  
Chelsea

Timothy R. Carroll  
Town Administrator  
Chilmark

Kate Hodges  
Acting Town Manager  
Concord

John O'Rourke  
Chair, Board of Selectmen  
Conway

Shawn MacInnes  
Town Administrator  
Dartmouth

Diana M. Schindler  
Interim Town Administrator  
Deerfield

Elizabeth Sullivan  
Town Administrator  
Dennis

Mallory Aronstein  
Town Administrator  
Dighton

James A. Duggan  
Town Manager  
Dracut

Denise Menard  
Town Manager  
East Longmeadow

Nicole LaChapelle  
Mayor  
Easthampton

Connor Read  
Town Administrator  
Easton

Lisa O'Donnell  
Chair, Board of Selectmen  
Essex

Mark Reese  
Town Administrator  
Fairhaven

Sefatia Romeo Theken  
Mayor  
Gloucester

Angela Otis  
Chair, Board of Selectmen  
Goshen

Timothy P. McInerney  
Town Administrator  
Grafton

Matthew Streeter  
Town Administrator  
Granville

Mark Pruhenski  
Town Manager  
Great Barrington

David G. Nixon  
Town Administrator  
Hadley

Joseph Domelowicz  
Town Manager  
Hamilton

Michael McCue  
Town Administrator  
Hanson

Larry Ballantine  
Chair, Board of Selectmen  
Harwich

Jeffrey Ritter  
Town Administrator  
Holliston

Alex Morse  
Mayor  
Holyoke

Norman Khumalo  
Town Manager  
Hopkinton

Ryan McLane  
Town Administrator  
Hubbardston

Philip E. Lemnios  
Town Manager  
Hull

Thomas J. Calter  
Town Administrator  
Kingston

Peter d'Errico  
Chair, Board of Selectmen  
Leverett

James Malloy  
Town Manager  
Lexington

Stephen J. Crane  
Town Manager  
Longmeadow

Gary Christenson  
Mayor  
Malden

Gregory T. Federspiel  
Town Administrator  
Manchester-by-the-Sea

Michael Maresco  
Town Administrator  
Marshfield

Michael J. Gagne  
Town Administrator  
Mattapoisset

Stephanie M. Burke  
Mayor  
Medford

Michael E. Boynton  
Town Administrator  
Medway

Andrew Sheehan  
Town Administrator  
Middleton

Michael J. Guzinski  
Town Administrator  
Millis

Antonio Barletta  
Town Administrator  
Nahant

C. Elizabeth Gibson  
Town Manager  
Nantucket

Jon Mitchell  
Mayor  
New Bedford

Donna Holaday  
Mayor  
Newburyport

Ruthanne Fuller  
Mayor  
Newton

Lyne Savage  
Interim Town Manager  
North Andover

David Narkewicz  
Mayor  
Northampton

Adam Gaudette  
Town Manager  
Northbridge

Tony Mazzucco  
General Manager  
Norwood

Edward Bettencourt  
Mayor  
Peabody

Edwin J. Thorne  
Town Administrator  
Pembroke

Linda Tyer  
Mayor  
Pittsfield

Tom Koch  
Mayor  
Quincy

Brian Howard  
Town Manager  
Randolph

Gerald Schwall  
Chair, Board of Selectmen  
Rehoboth

Deborah M. Eagan  
Town Administrator  
Rowley

Kim Driscoll  
Mayor  
Salem

George Dunham  
Town Manager  
Sandwich

Richard M. Brown  
Town Administrator  
Somerset

Joseph Curtatone  
Mayor  
Somerville

John Martin  
Chair, Board of Selectmen  
Southampton

William Wrigley  
Town Administrator  
Stow

Jeffrey K. Bridges  
Town Administrator  
Sturbridge

Melissa Murphy-Rodrigues  
Town Manager  
Sudbury

Sherry Patch  
Town Administrator  
Sunderland

Richard Montuori  
Town Administrator  
Tewksbury

Richard Reault  
Chair, Board of Selectmen  
Tyngsborough

Derek Brindisi  
Town Manager  
Upton

Jeannette A. McCarthy  
Mayor  
Waltham

Derek Sullivan  
Town Administrator  
Wareham

Michael J. Driscoll  
Town Manager  
Watertown

Daniel Hoort  
Town Administrator  
Wellfleet

John Petrin  
Interim Town Administrator  
Wenham

Nancy Lucier  
Interim Town Administrator  
West Boylston

David L. Gagne,  
Town Administrator  
West Bridgewater

Angus Jennings  
Town Manager  
West Newbury

William Reichelt  
Mayor  
West Springfield

Jennifer Rand  
Town Administrator  
West Tisbury



Brian Sullivan  
Mayor  
Westfield



Jodi Ross  
Town Manager  
Westford



Leon Gaumont, Jr.  
Town Manager  
Weston



Brian Domina  
Town Administrator  
Whately



Susan C. Bunnell  
Chair, Board of Selectmen  
Wilbraham