Open Letter from Chief Executives of CPA Communities to Conference Committee Supporting an Increased State Match for CPA communities in the FY18 State Budget

June 28, 2017

The Honorable Karen Spilka Senate Committee on Ways and Means The State House, Room 212 Boston, MA 02133

The Honorable Brian Dempsey House Committee on Ways and Means The State House, Room 243 Boston, MA 02133

Dear Senator Spilka and Representative Dempsey:

As the Chief Executives of communities that have adopted the Community Preservation Act (CPA), we urge you to include an outside section in the FY18 budget that will support an increased state match for CPA communities. Without immediate action to adjust the recording fees at the state's Registries of Deeds, the CPA Trust Fund distribution for the 172 participating communities will plunge to an all-time low of approximately 11% of locally-raised revenues in 2018.

When CPA was signed into law by Governor Cellucci in 2000, it was heralded as a true partnership between the Commonwealth and local communities. Today however, a large gap has developed between the approximately \$150 million invested annually by the 172 CPA cities and towns and the \$26 million contributed by the state. A nominal \$25 adjustment in recording fees would increase the base CPA state match to approximately 32%, which is the historic average distribution over the last eight years.

We see CPA success stories every day in our communities. These projects create jobs, contribute to tourism and a strong local economy, build much-needed community housing, and rehabilitate our municipal parks, playgrounds and athletic fields, while at the same time preserving our history and culture.

Your quick action is needed to ensure the viability of this innovative and highly successful program.

Signed,

(see signatories on following page)

cc: Senator Stanley Rosenberg
Senator Sal N. DiDomenico
Senator Viriato M. deMacedo
Representative Robert A. DeLeo
Representative Stephen Kulik
Representative Todd M. Smola

Signed,

TOWN OF AGAWAM Richard A. Cohen, Mayor

TOWN OF AMHERST

Paul Bockelman, Town Manager

Town of Arlington Adam Chapdelaine, Town
Manager

Town of Ashland

Michael Herbert, Town Manager

Town of Barnstable Andy Clyburn, Assistant Town
Manager

Town of Bedford
Margot Fleischman, Selectmen
Chair

CITY OF BOSTON

Martin J. Walsh, Mayor

Town of Braintree
Joseph C. Sullivan, Mayor

TOWN OF BRIDGEWATER
Michael Dutton, Town Manager

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager

TOWN OF CANTON
Charlie Aspinwall, Town
Administrator

Town of CHELMSFORD

Paul E. Cohen, Town Manager

CITY OF CHELSEA
Thomas G. Ambrosino, City
Manager

TOWN OF CONCORD Christopher Whelan, Town Manager

CITY OF FALL RIVER

Jasiel F. Correia II, Mayor

CITY OF GLOUCESTER
Sefatia Romeo Theken, Mayor

CITY OF HOLYOKE Alex Morse, Mayor

Town of Hudson Thomas Moses, Executive Assistant

Town of Lexington
Board of Selectmen

Town of Littleton Keith A. Bergman, Town Administrator

CITY OF MALDEN

Gary Christenson, Mayor

TOWN OF MAYNARD
Kevin Sweet, Town Administrator

CITY OF MEDFORD
Stephanie M. Burke, Mayor

Town of MILLIS
Michael J. Guzinksi, Town
Administrator

Town of Nahant Jeff A. Chelgren, Town Administrator

CITY OF NEW BEDFORD
Jon Mitchell, Mayor

CITY OF NEWBURYPORT Donna D. Holaday, Mayor

CITY OF NEWTON
Setti D. Warren, Mayor

Town of North Andover Andrew W. Maylor, Town Manager

CITY OF NORTHAMPTON

David J. Narkewicz, Mayor

TOWN OF NORWELL

Peter Morin, Town Administrator

Town of Norwood

John Carroll, General Manager

CITY OF PEABODY
Edward A. Bettencourt, Jr., Mayor

CITY OF PITTSFIELD Linda M. Tyer, Mayor

CITY OF QUINCY
Thomas P. Koch, Mayor

Town of Randolph

David Murphy, Town Manager

CITY OF SALEM Kimberley Driscoll, Mayor

CITY OF SOMERVILLE

Joseph A. Curtatone, Mayor

Town of Stoughton
Michael J. Hartman, Town
Manager

TOWN OF WAYLAND

Nan Balmer, Town Administrator

Town of Wellesley Blythe C. Robinson, Executive Director

Town of West Springfield William Reichelt, Mayor

CITY OF WESTFIELD Brian P. Sullivan, Mayor

Town of Westford Jodi Ross, Town Manager

Town of Wrentham
William F. Ketcham, Town
Administrator