



Community Preservation Survey

FY 2021-22

We Need Your Input

The Community Preservation Act (CPA) is a state law which allows communities to raise funds dedicated to community preservation projects in three categories: open space/recreation, historic preservation, and community housing. By law, a minimum of 10% of the annual revenue must be allocated to each area. In November 2016, Watertown residents voted to adopt a 2% property tax surcharge which also qualifies the community for annual state matching funds. **There is over \$12.8 million of CPA funding available.**

The Community Preservation Committee (CPC) is charged with vetting project proposals through an application process with final project recommendations sent to the City Council for review and allocation of funding. Each year, the CPC must review the community's needs and priorities for potential CPA project funding. To learn more about the CPA and the CPC, visit: watertown-ma.gov/cpc (<http://watertown-ma.gov/cpc>).

Your response to this survey will help us plan for next year. The survey will be open until June 30th.

* Required

This fiscal year, 2021-22, is the first application cycle for CPA funding. We are reaching out to you to understand (1) if and how you learned about the CPA, (2) if you know about the CPA projects that are being recommended to the City Council for funding, (3) your ideas for future projects and (4) to gather general demographic information to hone our community outreach efforts.

1. Have you heard about the CPA and/or the CPC in Watertown? *

☐ Yes

☐ No

2. How have you heard about the CPA? (Select all that apply) *

- ☐ City/CPC Website
- ☐ Watertown News
- ☐ Public Event (Forum, Webinar, Faire on the Square)
- ☐ Email
- ☐ Social Media (Facebook, Nextdoor)
- ☐ CPC Meeting
- ☐ WCA-TV
- ☐ Word of Mouth
- ☐ This Survey (This is the first time I heard of the CPA)
- ☐

Other

FY 2021-22 Project Recommendations:

Historic Preservation: City Hall Geographical Paintings

The CPC is recommending a grant of \$33,000 to the Watertown Historical Society to restore and conserve two paintings that flank the lobby of City Hall. Each will be protected by a barrier constructed of wooden and metal rails.

Open Space/ Outdoor Recreation: Irving Park

The CPC is recommending a grant of \$294,195 to the Department of Public Works to rehabilitate Irving Park with new plantings, seating, bollard lighting, a granite border, safety fencing, and accessible walkways.

What Projects Would You Like to See in Watertown?

3. Are there specific open space projects that you would like to see supported by CPA funds?

Open Space: CPA funds may be used to acquire, create, and preserve land or natural areas for passive recreational opportunities, wildlife habitat protection, and preserve wetlands and native vegetation.

4. Are there specific outdoor recreation projects that you would like to see supported by CPA funds?

Outdoor Recreation: CPA funds may be used to create, acquire, preserve, or rehabilitate land for active or passive recreational use such as new parks, playgrounds, bike trails, walking paths, dog parks, community gardens, and other outdoor facilities.

5. Are there specific housing projects that you would like to see supported by CPA funds?

Community Housing: CPA funds may be used to acquire, create, preserve, or support community housing for low- and moderate-income individuals, families, and seniors whose income is less than 100% of areawide median income (AMI) to ensure that Watertown continues to be a diverse community. The 2021 moderate-income limit (<100% AMI) for a household of 1 is \$84,560 and the low-income limit (<80% AMI) is \$67,648. For a household of 4, the moderate-income limit is \$120,800 and the low-income limit is \$96,640.

6. Are there specific historic preservation projects that would like to see supported by CPA funds?

Historic Preservation: CPA funds may be used to acquire, preserve, rehabilitate, or restore historic resources including buildings, structures, landscapes, documents, vessels or artifacts that are listed on the State Register of Historic Places or deemed historically significant by the Watertown Historical Commission.

Demographic Information

To gauge if we are reaching a cross-section of folks in our community, would you please answer the following questions?

7. How are you connected to Watertown?

- ☐ Live
- ☐ Work
- ☐
- Other

8. How long have you lived in Watertown?

- ☐ Less than 1 year
- ☐ 1-3 years
- ☐ 4-9 years
- ☐ 10-14 years
- ☐ 15-20 years
- ☐ Over 20 years

9. Which voting district do you live in?

- ☐ A - District Councilor Nicole Gardner
- ☐ B - District Councilor Lisa J. Feltner
- ☐ C - District Councilor Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr.
- ☐ D - District Councilor Emily Izzo
- ☐ I'm not sure which district I live in.
- ☐ I don't live in Watertown.

10. Do you rent or own the home you live in?

- ☐ I'm a renter
- ☐ I'm a homeowner

11. How many people are in your household?

- ☐ 1
- ☐ 2
- ☐ 3
- ☐ 4
- ☐ 5 or more

12. How would you describe your household? (Select all that apply)

- ☐ Household with no children
- ☐ Household with children under 18
- ☐ Household with young adult(s) 19 or older
- ☐ Household with senior(s) aged 65 or older
- ☐ Household with senior(s) with disabilities and/or mobility limitations
- ☐ Household with person(s) with disabilities and/or mobility limitations
- ☐

Other

13. What is your age?

- ☐ Under 18
- ☐ 19-24
- ☐ 25-34
- ☐ 35-49
- ☐ 50-64
- ☐ 65-75
- ☐ 75 or older

14. What is your approximate household income?

- ☐ Under \$50,000
- ☐ \$50,000 - \$74,000
- ☐ \$75,000 - \$99,000
- ☐ \$100,000 - \$150,000
- ☐ Over \$150,000

15. Are you Hispanic or Latina/o?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

16. Which group do you most identify with?

☐

Asian

☐

Black or African American

☐

Native American

☐

White or Caucasian

☐

Other

Wrap Up

We are committed to expanding our outreach across the Watertown community. If you would like to receive email notifications about the community preservation program activities and events, please visit <https://notifications.civicplus.com/ma-watertown/lists> (<https://notifications.civicplus.com/ma-watertown/lists>).

17. If there is a community organization that you think we should contact, please provide a name and contact information.

18. Please share any comments, questions, or concerns about Watertown's Community Preservation program. We'll get back to you.

