

The Community Preservation Act (CPA) is a Massachusetts state law (MGL Ch. 44B) passed in 2000 that enables cities and towns to raise funds and create a local dedicated fund to:

- Preserve open space
- Create affordable housing
- Preserve historic sites
- Develop outdoor recreation

The Community Preservation Committee (CPC) oversees the implementation of the CPA in New Bedford.

The CPC

The Community Preservation Committee (CPC) has four major responsibilities:

- **Assess Community Preservation needs of New Bedford** by soliciting input from city boards and commissions and holding an annual public hearing to gain public input;
 - **Develop and maintain a community preservation plan** establishing the CPC's priorities for recommending projects to the City Council to receive CPA funding;
 - **Prepare an annual budget for the City Council**, establishing how the Committee intends to allocate annual CPA revenue;
 - **Make project recommendations to the City Council** presenting the allocation of CPA funding following a competitive application process.
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The Community Preservation Plan

The Community Preservation Plan identifies and establishes the city's priorities in each of the four categories that CPA funding supports. The Plan also guides the allocation of funds to projects that improve and benefit the community.

The Plan is revised annually to ensure that the City's current preservation needs are being met and as part of the annual update the CPC does the following:

- Reviews existing planning documents such as the Master Plan and Open Space Plan;
- Hosts an annual meeting to gain public input relative to the CPA goals and priorities;
- Consults with other municipal boards and committees.

The Community Preservation Committee needs your input!

As part of its outreach to municipal boards and committees, the CPC is interested in hearing from members of the Conservation Commission to better understand the city's needs and priorities regarding the acquisition, creation and preservation of open spaces.

Through research and review of the *Open Space and Recreation Plan 2014-2021*, needs and priorities were identified. Please review these items to make sure each are still relevant. In addition, please recommend any additional needs and/or priorities.

- Support preservation of open space in New Bedford;
- Improve and enhance the public's access to the waterfront and in public areas;
- Restore degraded landscapes along the waterfront;
- Protect natural resources , particularly Clark's Cove and Sassaquin Pond;
- Enhance the Buttonwood Brook/Pond watershed;
- Create new greenways through urban New Bedford;
- Acquire private undeveloped land abutting existing open space and expand the natural area around the Acushnet Cedar Swamp State Reservation.