

**COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE
TOWN OF NEEDHAM, MASSACHUSETTS**

FY'15 Annual Report

Community Preservation Committee

Members:

Gary Crossen, Chairman
Lita Young, Vice Chair
Paul Alpert
Robert Boder
Reg Foster
Ron Furman
Mark Gluesing
Peter Oehlkers
Mike Retzky

Appointed by:

Board of Selectmen
Board of Selectmen
Planning Board
Historical Commission
Housing Authority
Town Moderator
Town Moderator
Conservation Commission
Park and Recreation Commission

Staff:

Patricia Carey, Staff Liaison
Kristen Wright, Recording Secretary

Purpose and Mission:

Massachusetts General Law (M.G.L.) Chapter 267 of the Acts of 2000, Section 2, defines community preservation as “the acquisition, creation and preservation of open space, the acquisition, creation and preservation of historic structures and landscapes and the creation and preservation of community housing.” Needham voted to accept the legislation in November 2004. The Community Preservation Committee is appointed to make recommendations for use of the Community Preservation Fund.

FY'15 Accomplishments and Activities

- The Needham Community Preservation Fund received its state distribution of \$566,099 from the Commonwealth in December 2014, a 31.5% match. The percentage from the state has varied from a low of 26.64% to a high of 100%. In total, \$6,634,740 has been received from the state as of December 2014. The Town collected \$1,954,427 in FY'15 through the local surcharge.
- The Committee held a public hearing in March 2015 to gather public input on the proposals under review for funding.
- At May, 2015 Annual Town Meeting, the Committee recommended and Town Meeting approved the funding of the following proposals:

\$ 450,000	Park and Recreation	Design: Rosemary Pool
\$ 1,527,000	School Committee	Newman Athletic Fields

\$ 800,000	School Committee	Eastman Conservation Trail
\$ 510,000	Park and Recreation	Mills Field Site Improvements
\$ 10,000	Conservation Commission	Trails: Student Conservation Association
\$ 30,000	Park and Recreation	Design: Charles River Boat Launch
\$ 115,000	Selectmen/Town Manager	Rail Trail

- In addition to funding the proposals at the Annual Town Meeting, and as required by the state legislation, funds were spent or put in reserve for Community Housing and Open Space. The debt service for Town Hall is also paid through CPA funds, meeting the obligation for spending under Historic Resources. Remaining funds, totaling \$1,448,606 were placed in the Annual Reserve, for future projects in those categories or Recreation. Approximately, five percent of the revenue was put into the CPA Administrative budget.
- The Staff Liaison spoke in support of CPA funded recreation projects at a public hearing at the State House, and attended the 15th anniversary of the creation of the Community Preservation Act.

Statistics

- The Community Preservation Fund has provided financial support to fifty-one (51) projects, with a total of \$23,363,352.

Community Housing total	\$ 1,384,500
Open Space total	\$ 2,084,619
Historic Preservation total	\$ 15,301,733
Recreation and General total	\$ 4,592,500