

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

The Town of Hampden adopted the Community Preservation Act in 2001. Although the law allows up to a 3% surcharge on property taxes (the first \$100,000 valuation on residential property being exempt), Hampden voted the minimum of a 1% surcharge for CPA funds. These local funds are augmented by up to 100% with State matching funds. The CPA surcharge raised \$39,097.00 in FY 2006 and the Town received a match in the same amount from the Commonwealth. Although we have received full matching funds for the past four years, it is likely the percentage of a state contribution will be reduced in the future as more communities adopt the CPA. The monies collected by this surcharge may only be used for Open Space, Historic Preservation, Affordable Housing and limited Recreational Use.

Pursuant to the requirements of the law, the Community Preservation Committee is comprised of representatives of the following committees: Planning Board, Housing Authority, Historical Commission, Conservation Commission, Park and Recreation Commission, as well as Members at Large.

The Community Preservation Committee reviews and assesses each request for CPA funds to assure that criteria for each category are met. Only after the Committee has approved the application(s) for funds will the recommendation be made for the Town Meeting. The voters at Town Meeting make the final decision for appropriation of CPA funds. In 2005 (per the committee's recommendation and voter approval) the following proposals were approved:

OPEN SPACE	\$20,000 to the Hampden Land Trust (4 th installment)
HISTORIC PRESERVATION	\$630 Smart Growth Grant \$4,500 for continued gravestone restoration and repairs to the Old Cemetery.
AFFORDABLE HOUSING	\$950 for Housing Authority to conduct engineering assessment at Centennial Commons

Applications for CPA Funds are available at the Town Offices or cpa@hampden.org
Respectfully submitted:

Douglas Boyd, Chair (Member at Large)
Robert Burger, Vice Chair (Member at Large)
Dorothy Kibbe, Secretary (Member at Large)
John D. Flynn (Planning Board)
Benjamin Bump (Housing Authority)
Connie Witt (Historical Commission)
John M. Flynn (Member at Large)
Phillip Grant (Conservation Commission)