



City of New Bedford
Jonathan F. Mitchell, Mayor

City of New Bedford
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P R E S S R E L E A S E

New Bedford Community Preservation Committee launches Community Preservation Act (CPA) application

*Informational workshop is Wednesday, October 4 at 6 p.m.
National Park Visitor Center – 33 William Street*

New Bedford, Massachusetts- The city's Community Preservation Committee (CPC) will launch the Community Preservation Act application process on Wednesday, October 4, 2017 and also hold an informational Application Workshop that evening at 6 p.m., at the National Park Visitor Center located at 33 William Street.

The Community Preservation Act (CPA) was adopted by New Bedford voters through a ballot question in November 2014. This statewide enabling legislation allows communities to create dedicated funding for open space, outdoor recreational facilities, historic preservation and affordable housing activities in the city. Oversight of this process rests with the CPC, the body established by the city to oversee the CPA program in New Bedford.

In June, the Committee hosted three community meetings that invited the public to provide comments and suggestions for the community's goals and objectives for potential CPA uses that were included in developing a Community Preservation Plan. The input provided by citizens at these well-attended meetings has been incorporated into the Plan, and a final Community Preservation Plan was adopted on August 22 by the CPC.

The City Council recently approved that an amount of approximately \$2,500,000 be made available for projects that serve the four categories. With the plan and funding in place, the City, through its CPC, is now inviting organizations, businesses, and residents to consider applying for funding of eligible projects.

The application process is twofold: first, potential applicants must submit a completed Eligibility Determination Form that will be made available to the public on October 4 and due Monday, October 16. If the project has been deemed eligible according to CPA regulations and criteria, the applicant will be notified on or about October 30, and invited to submit a full application that

is due Monday, December 11, 2017. The CPC will then review and recommend project applications to the City Council for final consideration and awarding of funds.

An opportunity to ask questions about the full application process and CPA eligibility requirements will be discussed at a detailed Application Workshop. Interested applicants are strongly encouraged to attend this meeting to learn more.

Application materials will be made available at <http://www.newbedford-ma.gov/planning/community-preservation/>, and the Eligibility Determination Form can begin to be submitted on the evening of October 4, 2017 to coincide with the Application Workshop.

Applicants interested in pursuing CPA funding must submit an Eligibility Determination Form first, due Monday, October 16 by 12 noon. Directions for submission will be available on the website. The Fiscal Year 2018 Community Preservation Plan is also currently available on the website.

Questions concerning the application process and the Application Workshop should be directed to the Department of Planning, Housing & Community Development at 508.979.1500 or 508.979.1488.

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