

Community Preservation Act Committee Proposal Request Form for FY 2016

CPA funding category

Check all that apply

- Community Housing
- Open Space
- Historic Preservation
- Recreation

Date:

Submitting Entity:

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Overview of Proposal:

Appraisals, Surveys and Related Studies

Funding for required appraisals and surveys can often mean the difference between a land conservation project moving forward or not. Currently, the Conservation Department budget does not include funds for appraisals or any of the other due diligence costs. This funding is critical to get projects started and to establish value.

Funding Request: \$25,000

Describe how your request meets the CPA criteria:

1. Description of funding needed including:
 - a. Documentation of cost estimates:
 - b. Other sources of funding, e.g., grants, self-funding, fund-raising:

The Town works with a number of state and local organizations to fund land preservation projects. However, the majority of that funding is required to go towards the purchase of the property not the prior evaluation of the land. Therefore, the due diligence cost typically must come from the Town.

- c. Timeline on how CPA funds, if awarded, would be spent including over multiple years:

Due diligence funding would be utilized over FY2016.

2. Urgency of the Project, if any:

The first phase of moving forward on a land conservation project is to get an appraisal and any necessary studies of the property done. Therefore, it is critical to have the monies available to do this work when an important land acquisition becomes available.

3. Estimated timeline from receipt of funds to Project completion:

Approximately one year.

4. Acquisition or preservation of threatened resources:

The due diligence funding provides the Conservation Department the ability to assess potential property acquisitions for their natural and community resource value.

5. Population(s) to be served by the Project:

These funds would be used to assess potential properties that would be used by all Amherst residents potentially for passive recreation or just a scenic view.

6. How will the CPA investment in your property, facility or project be maintained over time?

Successful land acquisitions that utilized due diligence funding will become part of the land control and cared for by the Conservation Commission and the Town of Amherst Conservation Department.

7. How the Project is prioritized by requesting Town committees or commissions?

The Conservation Commission will be discussing and voting on its recommendations for projects to the CPAC during their December 2015 meetings.

8. Other information regarding the Project deemed necessary for CPAC.

