



JOSEPH A. CURTATONE  
MAYOR

Somerville CPA



**CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS**  
**COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE**  
RESIDENT FEEDBACK ON DRAFT COMMUNITY PRESERVATION PLAN  
JULY 21, 2014

**MEMBERS**

- Michael A. Capuano, Chair
- Dick Bauer, Vice Chair
- Tanya Cafarella
- Elizabeth Duclos-Orsello
- Michael Fager
- Arn Franzen
- Ezra Glenn
- Courtney Koslow
- Uma Murugan

**STAFF**

- Emily Monea

**TESTIMONY FROM JUNE 24<sup>TH</sup> PUBLIC HEARING**

**Alan Bingham** spoke favorably of a program that would fast track smaller grants to historic homeowners. He encouraged the CPC to consider supporting universal design and expressed support for seniors to allow them to age in place.

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**WRITTEN COMMENTS**

**From: Marybeth Savicki**  
**Received: June 30, 2015**

Dear Ms. Monea,

I have been a resident of Somerville for 28 years and a homeowner in Ward 7, Precinct 1, since 1997. I am writing to ask that the City please consider allotting a portion of the CPA funds available this year to preserve our outdoor recreational space, particularly those fields located at Argenziano School and Nunziato Park.

I first came to Somerville to attend Tufts University (technically in Medford, I know, but I spent more time in Davis than Medford Square) and benefitted greatly from the amenities of the City as a student and young professional. I lived in apartments in Teele Square, Davis Square and Spring Hill before purchasing a two family house on Teele Avenue. I have always been proud of the City and its commitment to its residents. The investment in Somerville real estate that I made in 1997 was one of my best decisions ever. I've stayed with my house in Somerville even longer than I've stayed with two husbands!

Now, as a mother of three school-aged children, I am gaining an appreciation for a different side of Somerville: the one that supports families. My children attend the fabulous West Somerville Neighborhood School and have recently begun to play soccer through the Somerville Youth Soccer League. I am deeply committed to raising my children in Somerville and doing everything I can, as a master's educated, professional woman, to contribute to my community and advance its place as a great place to live, play and work.

If Somerville is truly invested in advancing its reputation as a city committed to the well-being and happiness of all its residents, the City will make the investments necessary to preserve and enhance our

outdoor recreational spaces. All Somerville residents should have access to clean, safe green spaces, upon which to connect with their neighbors and friends and to celebrate how much fun it is to live in Somerville.

I deeply appreciate your consideration of this feedback and look forward to hearing of the City's plans to make these critical improvements to our infrastructure.

Best regards,

Marybeth L. Savicki  
30 Teele Avenue

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**From: Chris Mancini**  
**Received: July 15, 2015**

Hi Emily,

I had one quick thought on the CPA plan for this year. Hopefully, I can explain it clearly. Since the Open Space/Rec funds were not fully allocated in the last round, my suggestion is that that surplus not be counted toward this next year's total allocation. That is to say, if the CPC decides that 15% of CPA funds be directed to Open Space/Rec again, that the previous surplus not be counted toward that 15%. In this way, that reserve and allocation can continue to grow without risk of being reallocated into other categories.

I hope that makes sense!

Thanks,

Chris

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Chris Mancini  
Executive Director  
Groundwork Somerville  
24 Park St. #7  
Somerville, MA 02143  
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617.628.9988

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**From: Barbara Mangum**  
**Received: July 20, 2015**

Hi Emily,

Given the number and size of applications for historic preservation funds last year, I think that the allocation of 15% of the funds for this purpose is too low. Fortunately, it was possible to use the 20% of non-specified funds to round this out with good results for just about everyone who applied. I would hope that this could happen again in 2016. If the amount of the open space/recreation requests do not

meet 15% of the funding available, I would consider reducing this down by several percent and placing that in the non-specified funds.

I would make sure that requests from the City Government meet the same requirements as those from the general public in terms of the quality of application. It would make sense that those applications that have been found eligible for historic preservation funds and which would normally have to go before the historic preservation commission, would arrange to do so soon after submission.

I also ask the CPC to consider multiyear funding for special capital projects that would strongly benefit the City's population. Specifically, I am hoping that the Somerville Museum could present its capital strategic plan to the CPC for funding over several years.

That is the extent of my comments for now. Thank you for all your work on Somerville's behalf!  
Barbara

B. Mangum  
President of the Trustees  
Somerville Museum

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**From: Alan Moore**  
**Received: July 20, 2015**

Emily and the CPA committee:

I believe that the amount of funds allocated to Open Space and Recreation reserve or projects should be increased significantly from last year's 15% level.

Thank you,  
Alan Moore  
Resident  
23 Cherry St.

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**From: Tim Talun**  
**Received: July 20, 2015**

Dear Members of the Community Preservation Commission,

The CPC is a tremendous opportunity to shape the future of our neighborhoods and city. There are significant needs related to all three categories that the CPC can fund - open space, affordable housing, and historic preservation - and thus I urge the commission to allocate equal funding to each category.

Over the past year, there has been a lot of public dialogue in Union Square, where I live, about the importance of open space. It has become apparent through various planning processes that Somerville is in jeopardy of not being able to reach the Somerville open space goal of 125 new acres of open space without the ability to acquire new property for open space. Most other communities have used

CPC funds for just this, but this will not be possible in Somerville unless the adequate CPC funds are allocated to this. Equal funding for open space is needed.

As significant new development is anticipated in Union Square and around the city, the value of historic preservation where possible and appropriate becomes even more important. Significantly more funds for historic preservation were requested during FY '15 than were available, and the current condition of many of the City's public historic buildings means much more is needed. Equal funding for historic preservation is needed.

Thank you all for your work on the commission and the opportunity to submit these comments.

Sincerely,

Tim & Shu Talun  
30 Boston Street  
Somerville, MA 02143

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