April 24, 2023 Volume 17, Issue 1

Preserve Groveland



CPA Interesting Facts:

- Groveland is among 187 communities using CPA for preservation
- Groveland CPC has received over \$3 Million in State matching funds in the last seventeen years!
- A new dog park and entrance to the Pines, recent CPA projects, were completed this year.

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Groveland Community Preservation Committee

Town Meeting Votes On 2023 CPA Projects

Voters at the 2023 Town Meeting on April 24 will be asked to approve eleven CPA projects this year. The projects this year are a significant investment in Groveland's recreational and historic resources. When completed they will offer residents of all ages several new ways to stay healthy, exercise, and have fun. In addition. residents will be able to learn more about our history and culture. Several of the articles address projects at the Pines Recreation Area including # 24, # 25, and #26. These projects would

add a splashpad, a skate park, and a pickleball / tennis court to the Pines. The goal is to have the Pines offer a range of recreation options for people of all ages and be a true enjoyment destination for Groveland families. For basketball fans, article # 29 will offer improvements to the court at Washington Park. For soccer fans article # 27 will improve safety and parking at Shanahan Field. Article # 22 will provide funds for a match of a state grant to buy an ATV for safety responders on the Groveland

Community Trail. Historic resources are covered in remaining articles. A townwide protection plan for our trees is proposed in article #28, restoration of historic markers at Riverview Cemetery in article #31, continued plans for saving historic Lucile's Cottage in article # 30, landscaping and paving at Washington Hall in article #23 and a sustainability plan for historic Veasey Park in article # 32. We ask your support on all these worthy projects to continue to improve and preserve Groveland and

Facts and Figures of Groveland CPA for FY23

The Community Preservation Act tax in Groveland is 3% of your annual property tax on your home. All the tax collected gets matched by the State each year. Groveland has consistently received among the top 25 communities in the state with CPA, a large match amount due to our demographics and our 3% rate. (Each of the 187 communities in the state with CPA receive different matches based on these factors. Communities can choose a 1, 2, or 3% rate when they approve the CPA.)

The Community
Preservation Act provides
new funding sources

which can only be used to address four core community concerns: acquisition and preservation of open space, creation and support of affordable housing, acquisition and preservation of historic buildings and landscapes, and development of outdoor recreational facilities.

Average home value in Groveland - \$ 578,096

Average annual property tax - \$ 7,590

Average annual CPA tax - \$ 228

Town-wide CPA tax collected - \$ 422,665 State match - 82.5%

State match - \$ 348,605

Total state match received since 2005 - \$3,063,897

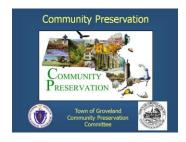
invest in our future!

Impact of state funds -Every local dollar spent on a project reaps us \$ 1.825 in funding impact.

Groveland without CPA -Our three million dollars of match would have gone to all the other CPA communities.

Number of CPA projects voted at TM - 53

Clearly CPA has had a significant impact on our town for the past 17 years and we have all benefited greatly by the generosity of taxpayers willing to fund the program. The Community Preservation Committee says thank you!



A non-profit, Friends of Community Trail has been formed to fund trail maintenance. Check out their site at

GrovelandCommunityTrail.org



"See you one day on the trail!"

Mike Davis, Groveland resident

An investment in the future of our town!

Groveland is a small town with limited resources. We have always been very careful with our spending. Unlike many other towns, we relied on volunteers to serve in most positions and only spent taxpayer funds on necessary items. We kept our tax rate low to benefit our residents. Even today, our tax rate is the third lowest among

North Shore towns. In 2004 an effort began to become a CPA community, joining the State program that promised matching funds if we set aside funds from taxpayers. It took two years to have voters approve our membership. Community Preservation has been a timely benefit to our town. With CPA we

are now able to build playgrounds, preserve open space and historic resources, and begin to address housing needs in our town. Groveland never had the funds to accomplish these items. However, with CPA we can now point proudly to changes that have made our town more livable both now and in the future.

What is the CPA?

The Community
Preservation Act is
statewide enabling
legislation to allow cities
and towns to exercise
control over local planning
decisions. This legislation
strengthens and
empowers Massachusetts
communities:

- All decisions are local.
- Local people must vote by ballot to adopt CPA.
- A committee of local people draws up plans for use of the funds.

- These plans are subject to local approval.
 CPA provides new funding sources which can be used to address four core community concerns:
- Acquisition and preservation of open space
- Creation and support of affordable housing
- Acquisition and preservation of historic buildings and landscapes
- Development of outdoor recreational facilities

A minimum of 10% of the annual revenues of the fund must be used for Open Space, Housing, and Historic Preservation. The remaining 70% can be allocated for any combination of the allowed uses, or for recreational use. This gives each community the opportunity to determine its priorities, plan for its future, and have the funds to make those plans happen.

What has Groveland accomplished with the CPA?

Our town has successfully completed many Community Preservation Act (CPA) funded projects over the past 17 years. How have we benefited from these projects? Here is just one example of a successful set of CPA projects.

A plan for improving facilities at the Pines Recreation Area was developed in 2013 by the Pines Committee. The removal of sand from the site paid for some of the work but soon all money was spent. Then in 2015 a CPA article was passed at town meeting for \$217,000 that funded completion of softball fields, an irrigation system, electrical work, landscaping, and fencing.

Also voted at that time was an additional \$143,000 of CPA funds for the new boat ramp and bathrooms. Again in 2019, CPA was tapped for \$70,000 for safety guard rails, field hydroseeding, and a new roof for the pavilion. Another CPA project that year also funded \$155,000 for a new playground at the Pines.

In 2021 some residents noted that our dog park at the Pines was worn out and needed improvements. Research was completed and the CPC found a grant program that would help build a new dog park if we provided the seed funding of \$25,000. At the 2021 town meeting the CPA

funding was approved and a new dog park was completed at the Pines. Our \$25,000 CPA seed money will net Groveland with an investment of nearly \$250,000 from the Stanton Foundation for the brand-new dog park at the Pines.

A total investment of \$610,000 of CPA funds through the years has provided our town with a wonderful recreation facility that benefits all Groveland and surrounding communities' residents. The total cost of the work was \$860,000 with an approximate cost to taxpayers of only \$360,000 due to our state match and the dog park grant. A terrific leverage of funds of over 238 percent.