

TOWN OF LONGMEADOW COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE
FUNDING ELIGIBILITY AND SELECTION CRITERIA
Version 1.0

I. Eligibility for Funding Categories

The Town of Longmeadow is pleased to be able to offer Community Preservation Act (CPA) funds to applicants who propose projects that will benefit the Town and address one or more of the following:

1. The acquisition, creation and preservation of open space;
2. The acquisition and preservation of historic resources;
3. The creation, preservation and support of community housing; and/or
4. The acquisition, creation and preservation of land for recreational use.

The Community Preservation Committee (CPC) encourages applicants to propose projects that encompass more than one of the above categories. Use of Community Preservation Act funds may not include maintenance of real or personal property or use of land for a stadium, gymnasium or similar structures.

All proposed projects must meet the requirements described in the Community Preservation Act M.G.L. 44B, Chapter 267 of the Acts of 2000 and Chapter 165 of the Acts of 2002. In addition the CPC may require a deed restriction on CPA funded projects even when it is not a mandatory requirement by State law. Copies of the act are available at the Clerk's Office in Longmeadow Town Hall or at www.massachusettslaws.com.

II. General Criteria

The Longmeadow Community Preservation Committee will give preference to proposals that address as many of the following general criteria as possible:

1. Are eligible for Community Preservation Act (CPA) funding according to the requirements described in the CPA legislation;
2. Are consistent with the Long Range Plan, Open Space and Recreation Plan, School Department Strategic Plan, Townwide Comprehensive Facility Study and other planning documents;
3. Preserve the essential character of the town as described in the Long Range Plan Vision Statement;
4. Save resources that would otherwise be threatened and/or serve a currently under-served population;
5. Either serve more than one CPA category or demonstrate why serving multiple categories is not feasible;
6. Demonstrate practicality, feasibility and can be implemented expeditiously and within budget;
7. Produce an advantageous cost/benefit value;
8. Leverage additional public and/or private funds; and/or
9. Preserve or utilize currently owned town assets.

III. Category Specific Criteria

A. Open space proposals that address as many of the following specific criteria as possible will receive preference:

1. Permanently protect important wildlife habitat, including areas that
 - are of local significance for biodiversity;
 - contain a variety of habitats, with a diversity of geologic features and types of vegetation;
 - contain a habitat type that is in danger of vanishing from Longmeadow; or
 - preserve habitat for threatened or endangered species of plants or animals;
2. Provide opportunities for passive recreation and environmental education;
3. Protect or enhance wildlife corridors, promote connectivity of habitat or prevent fragmentation of habitats;
4. Provide connections with existing trails or potential trail linkages;
5. Preserve scenic views;
6. Protect, expand or repair flood control/storage.
7. Preserve and protect surface water bodies, including wetlands, vernal pools or riparian zones;
8. Preserve and protect open space including park land and conservation land; and/or
9. Preserve a threatened resource.

B. Historic Resource proposals which address as many of the following criteria as possible will receive preference:

1. Protect, preserve, enhance, restore and/or rehabilitate historic, cultural, architectural or archaeological resources of significance, especially those that are threatened;
2. Protect, preserve, enhance, restore and/or rehabilitate town-owned properties, features or resources of historical significance;
3. Protect, preserve, enhance, restore and/or rehabilitate the historical function of a property or site;
4. Located within a Longmeadow Historic District, on a State or National Historic Register, or eligible for placement on such registers, or on the Longmeadow Historic Properties Survey;
5. Demonstrate a public benefit;
6. Demonstrate the ability to provide permanent protection for maintaining the historic resource;
7. Provide long-term multi-generation benefits; and/or
8. Demonstrate appropriateness and professionalism of proposed work (rehabilitation work is expected to comply with Standards for Rehabilitation stated in the United States Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties).

C. Community Housing proposals which address as many of the following criteria as possible will receive preference:

1. Promote use or adaptive re-use of existing buildings or construction on previously-developed or Town-owned sites;
2. Meet local housing needs for eligible low and moderate income individuals and families;
3. Promote a socioeconomic environment that encourages a diversity of income, ethnicity, religion and age;
4. Provide housing that is harmonious in design and scale with the surrounding community;
5. Ensure long-term affordability; and/or
6. Convert market rate to affordable units;

D. Recreation proposals which address as many of the following criteria as possible will receive preference:

1. Support multiple recreation uses;
2. Serve a significant number of residents;
3. Expand the range of recreational opportunities available to residents of all ages;
4. Jointly benefit Conservation Commission and Park and Recreation Commission initiatives by promoting passive recreation, such as hiking, biking, and cross-country skiing, on Town owned property, especially those areas not readily accessible;
5. Maximize the utility of Town owned land (e.g. school property);
6. Promote the creative use of other corridors to create safe and healthful non-motorized transportation opportunities; and/or
7. Acquisition of land for recreation or to gain access to Town owned land for recreation.

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