



CITY OF NEWBURYPORT  
COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE  
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## GENERAL EVALUATION CRITERIA

The Newburyport Community Preservation Committee gives preference to proposals which address as many of the following general criteria as possible:

1. Eligible for Community Preservation Act (CPA) funding according to the requirements described in the CPA legislation (Chapter 44B of Mass. General Laws).
2. Consistent with the Master Plan, Open Space and Recreation Plan, Land Use and other planning documents that have received public scrutiny and input.
3. Preserve and enhance the essential character of the city.
4. Protect resources that would otherwise be threatened.
5. Serve more than one CPA purpose or demonstrate why serving multiple needs is not feasible.
6. Demonstrate practicality and feasibility, and that the project can be implemented within budget and on schedule.
7. Produce an advantageous cost/benefit value.
8. Leverage additional public and/or private funds (eg. qualify the project for additional grants from other sources) or receive partial funding from other sources and/or voluntary contributions of goods or services.
9. Preserve or improve utility of currently owned city assets.
10. Receive endorsement by other municipal boards or departments and broad-based support from community members.

## CATEGORY SPECIFIC CRITERIA

The Community Preservation Act funds three key community interests: open space, historic preservation, and affordable housing. Public recreation projects may also be funded.

1. **Open Space** proposals which address as many of the following specific criteria as possible will receive preference for funding:
  - Permanently protect important wildlife habitat, particularly areas that include:
    - locally significant biodiversity;
    - variety of habitats with a diversity of geologic features and types of vegetation;
    - Endangered habitat or species of plant or animal.
  - Preserve active agricultural use.
  - Provide opportunities for passive recreation and environmental education.
  - Protect or enhance wildlife corridors, promote connectivity of habitat or prevent fragmentation of habitats.
  - Provide connections with existing trails, protected open space or potential trail linkages.

- Preserve scenic views.
- Border a scenic road.
- Protect drinking water quantity and quality.
- Provide flood control/storage.
- Preserve and protect important surface water bodies, including streams, wetlands, vernal pools or riparian zones.
- Buffer for protected open space, or historic resources.

**2. Historic Preservation** proposals which address as many of the following criteria as possible will receive preference for funding:

- Protect, preserve, enhance, restore and/or rehabilitate historic, cultural, architectural or archaeological resources of significance, especially those that are threatened.
- Protect, preserve, enhance, restore and/or rehabilitate city-owned properties, features or resources of historical significance.
- Protect, preserve, enhance, restore and/or rehabilitate the historical function of a property or site.
- Demonstrates a public benefit.
- Ability to provide permanent protection for the historic resource.

**3. Affordable Housing** proposals which address as many of the following criteria as possible will receive preference for funding:

- Contribute to the goal of 10% affordability as defined by chapter 40B of Mass. General Laws.
- Promote a socioeconomic environment that encourages a diversity of income.
- Provide housing that is harmonious in design and scale with the surrounding community.
- Intermingle affordable and market rate housing at levels that exceed state requirements for percentage of affordable units pursuant to chapter 40B.
- Ensure long-term affordability.
- Address the needs of range of qualified household, including very low, low and low-to moderate income families and individuals.
- Provide affordable rental and affordable ownership opportunities.
- Promote use of existing buildings or construction on previously-developed or city-owned sites.
- Convert market rate to affordable units.

**4. Recreation** proposals which address as many of the following criteria as possible will receive preference for funding:

- Support multiple recreation uses.
- Serve a significant number of residents.
- Expand the range of recreational opportunities available to city residents of all ages.
- Jointly benefit Conservation Commission and Parks Commission initiatives by promoting recreation, such as hiking, biking, and cross-country skiing.
- Maximize the utility of land already owned by city (e.g. school property).
- Promote the creative use of railway and other corridors to create safe and healthful non-motorized transportation opportunities.