



Increasing CPA Funding (HD.2835 & SD.746)

An Act to preserve Community Preservation

Sponsored by Rep. Ann-Margaret Ferrante & Sen. Cynthia Creem

This legislation would provide for an approximately 45% Community Preservation (CPA) Trust Fund distribution for all 175 CPA communities.

Unless the legislature acts soon to stabilize the CPA Trust Fund, the state match is expected to fall close to single digits in 2019, preventing communities from funding vital affordable housing, recreation, historic, and open space projects.

The Trust derives its revenue from fees collected at the Registries of Deeds across the state, but those fees have never been adjusted since CPA was signed into law in 2000. The legislation calls for an increase to the Registry recording fees that would provide all current CPA communities with approximately a 45% first round distribution in 2020. The bills would raise the recording fee from \$20 to \$75.

During four of the last six years, the legislature has approved short-term funding from the state's budget surplus to temporarily bolster the CPA Trust Fund. However, even when this funding has been available, the CPA Trust Fund distributions continues to reach record lows.

Last November, the Trust Fund alone would have only been able to match 14% of what communities raised locally – and even with the influx of \$10 million in budget surplus funds, the base match was only increased to 19%. This legislation would provide a long-term solution – an adjustment in the current funding source for the CPA Trust Fund.



For more information:

Eric Shupin
Director of Public Policy

eshupin@chapa.org

(617) 842-9712

www.chapa.org

