

Town of Berlin Community Preservation Act Plan 2023

The Town of Berlin's Community Preservation Act Committee (CPAC) has prepared the 2023 Community Preservation Plan (the Plan), which is updated annually. The Plan describes the process for administering the Community Preservation Act (CPA) in the Town. It represents an informational document for the citizens of the Town, a guideline for applicants seeking project funding through the CPA, and a blueprint for the Committee making recommendations to Town Meeting for project funding. We hope you will review The Plan, which can be found at <https://www.townofberlin.com/community-preservation-act-committee>.

What is CPA?

In November 2018, the residents of Berlin voted to adopt the Community Preservation Act, M.G.L. c. 44B, under which the Town applies a 3% surcharge on the local property tax bills to set aside funds for projects that meet the CPA eligibility requirements in the areas of **open space and recreation**, **historic resources**, and **affordable housing**. In addition to the local tax surcharge, the State provides matching funds that are not less than 5% and not more than 100% of the funds raised by the community.

Process for Project Submission and Approval

The Town Administrator, Town boards, commissions, committees, departments, civic organizations, and residents may bring proposals for funding to the CPAC. The CPAC will give favorable consideration to proposals which best meet CPA guidelines based on available funding.

- Project proponents submit applications to the CPAC
- CPAC reviews applications (proposed projects), seeking input from citizens and Town boards, commissions and committees
- CPAC recommends a list of projects to be included on the Town Meeting Warrant
- A majority vote of Town Meeting is required for each project to receive CPA funds

CPA FUNDING RECAP CHART			
Fiscal Year	Local Surcharge	State Match Amount	Total Revenue
FY20	\$290,392	\$ 0	\$290,392
FY21	\$281,250	\$197,541	\$478,791
FY22	\$305,849	\$281,250	\$562,500

Community Preservation Projects

FUNDED TO DATE: **Historic** - Bullard House: Rehabilitation of foundation and drainage; **Historic** - Bullard House: Structural rehabilitation, architectural, design and engineering; **Historic** - Records & artifacts professional imaging; **Recreation** - Tennis, Pickleball and Basketball Courts reconstruction and repair at South Common; **Recreation** - Baseball Field announcer booth and scoreboard at South Common; **Open Space** - Horseshoe Pond Acquisition of Protected Conservation Land adjacent to Mt. Pisgah.

May 1, 2023 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING RECOMMENDED CPA PROJECTS:

- ARTICLE 11:
Community Garden Fencing - funding for acquisition of materials and installation of a fence at the Community Garden located on River Road West on Riverbridge property; \$45,000
- ARTICLE 21:
Land Acquisition 72 Carter Street – acquire 6.5 acres of an 8.5-acre parcel of land at 72 Carter Street for open space purposes; \$125,000
- ARTICLE 22:
South Common Pavilion - the construction and equipping of a pavilion; \$150,000