

An Overview of the Community Preservation Act (CPA)

CPA is a state law passed in 2000 that allows Massachusetts communities to conduct a referendum to add a small surcharge on local property taxes. When combined with matching funds from the statewide Community Preservation Trust Fund, this dedicated fund is used to build and rehabilitate parks, playgrounds, and recreational fields, protect open space, support local affordable housing development, and preserve historic buildings and resources.

5 facts about CPA's statewide impact (as of May 2023):

1



195

cities and towns have adopted CPA - and 70% of MA residents live in CPA community.

2

The **amount raised** for community preservation funding **statewide:**

\$3.15 billion



3



34,204

acres of open space preserved.

3,300

outdoor recreation projects including ball fields, trails, and parks.



4

Housing units **created:**

10,000



Housing units **supported:**

16,000

5

6,700

historic preservation projects.

