

**COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE
TOWN OF NEEDHAM, MASSACHUSETTS**

FY'06 Annual Report

Community Preservation Committee

Members:

Ron Ruth, Chairman
John Comando
Roy Cramer
Bruce Eisenhut
Cheryl Gosmon
Mary Ellen Herd
Paul Siegenthaler
Richard Weitzen
Cary Young

Appointed by:

Town Moderator
Board of Selectmen
Conservation Commission
Planning Board
Housing Authority
Board of Selectmen
Town Moderator
Park and Recreation Commission
Historical Commission

Patricia Carey, Staff Liaison Town Manager
Nikki Witham, Recording Secretary Town Manager

Purpose and Mission:

Massachusetts General Law (M.G.L.) Chapter 267 of the Acts of 2000, Section 2, defines community preservation as “the acquisition, creation and preservation of open space, the acquisition, creation and preservation of historic structures and landscapes and the creation and preservation of community housing.” The Community Preservation Committee is appointed to make recommendations for use of the Community Preservation Fund.

FY'05 Accomplishments and Activities

- The Committee created the initial Needham Community Preservation Plan and Application Process.
- The Committee held two public meetings in the Fall of 2005. The first public meeting presented the Community Preservation Plan and answered general questions about the state legislation. The second public meeting focused on the application process, and included a presentation from the Massachusetts Community Preservation Coalition outlining types of projects completed in other communities.
- At the November, 2006 Special Town Meeting, the Committee recommended approval of its first proposal. The Committee and Town Meeting jointly appropriated \$20,000 for the completion of the Town’s Open Space and Recreation Plan to the Town Manager, Conservation Commission, Park and Recreation Commission and the Planning Board.
- The Committee held a public meeting in April, 2006, to gather public input on the proposals under review for funding.

- At the May, 2006 Annual Town Meeting, the Committee recommended and Town Meeting approved the funding of four proposals:

\$ 25,000	Historical Commission	Master Plan for Historic Structures
\$ 47,700	Conservation Commission	Master Plan for Trails
\$ 58,000	Conservation Commission	Restoration of Two Ridge Hill Footbridges
\$324,500	Housing Authority	Design of High Rock Estates

- In addition to funding the proposals, Town Meeting also appropriated \$2,041,876 for the second round of funding for community preservation based on anticipated Fiscal Year 2007 revenues from the CPA surcharge. As required by the state legislation, funds were spent or put in reserve for Historic Resources, Community Housing, and Open Space. Remaining funds were placed in the Annual Reserve, for future projects in those categories or Recreation. Five percent of the revenue was put into the CPA Administrative budget.