

# Article 27

## Community Preservation Program – Direct Appropriations from Fund Balance

(Majority vote)

Mr. Sghia-Hughes moves that the Town transfer from the Community Preservation Fund and appropriate, or set aside for later appropriation, \$955,105 and that the Town Manager be authorized to expend or set aside amounts as set forth in the article and in compliance with conditions to be noted in the Community Preservation Committee's Award Letters.



# Community Preservation Program

## Acton 2009 Town Meeting Article 27

- Overview of Acton's Community Preservation Act (CPA) Process
- Project Highlights
- Projects recommended for Appropriation
- Conclusion



# Acton's CPA Process

- CPA adopted by Acton in 2002
- Community Preservation Fund
  - 1.5% surcharge on town real estate property tax bills
  - State matching funds (67% match last year)
- CP Fund may only be used for:
  - Open space\*
  - Historic preservation\*
  - Community housing\*
  - Recreational uses

\*requires minimum 10% allocation each year



# Acton's CPA Process

- Acton Community Preservation Committee (CPC)
  - Required by state statute
- Purpose
  - Study needs
  - Encourage project proposal submission
  - Facilitate an open and public deliberation process
  - Recommend appropriations from CP Fund at Town Meeting



# Acton's CPA Process

- 08/08 Updated CPC plan and submission guidelines
- 09/08 Held public hearing on plan and approved 2009 Plan
- 11/08 Received 14 proposals for 2009 funding
- 02/09 Completed 3 months public meetings on proposals
- 02/09 Approved final recommendation for 9 projects including Open Space Set-Aside



# Determining Project Eligibility

	Open Space	Historic Preservation	Recreation	Community Housing
Acquire	✓	✓	✓	✓
Create	✓	—	✓	✓
Preserve	✓	✓	✓	✓
Support	—	—	—	✓
Rehabilitate and/or Restore	If acquired or created with CPA funds	✓	If acquired or created with CPA funds	If acquired or created with CPA funds



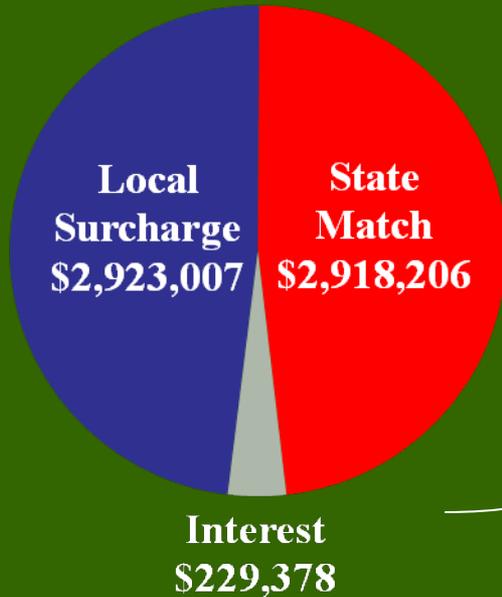
# Fund Balances

<b>2009 COMMUNITY PRESERVATION FUND BALANCE</b>	<b>Sub- Totals</b>	<b>Total Balance</b>
CP Fund Surcharge Collected in FY 2008	\$708,031	
State CP Trust Fund Receipt, October 2008	\$473,581	
Interest Earned FY 2008	\$101,371	
Unencumbered funds from FY2008	\$236,687	
Recapture funds from completed projects	\$15,751	
<b>Total - 2009 CP Fund Balance</b>		<b>\$1,535,421</b>
<b>Total Open Space Set-Aside (separate account)</b>		<b>\$1,020,000</b>
<b>Recommendations:</b>		
<b>Addition to Open Space Set-Aside</b>	\$425,000	
<b>Additional Project Funding (including Historic Preservation Set-Aside and CP Administration)</b>	\$530,155	
<b>Total FY2009 Fund Appropriation</b>		<b>\$955,155</b>
<b>Remaining 2009 fund balance</b>		<b>\$580,266</b>



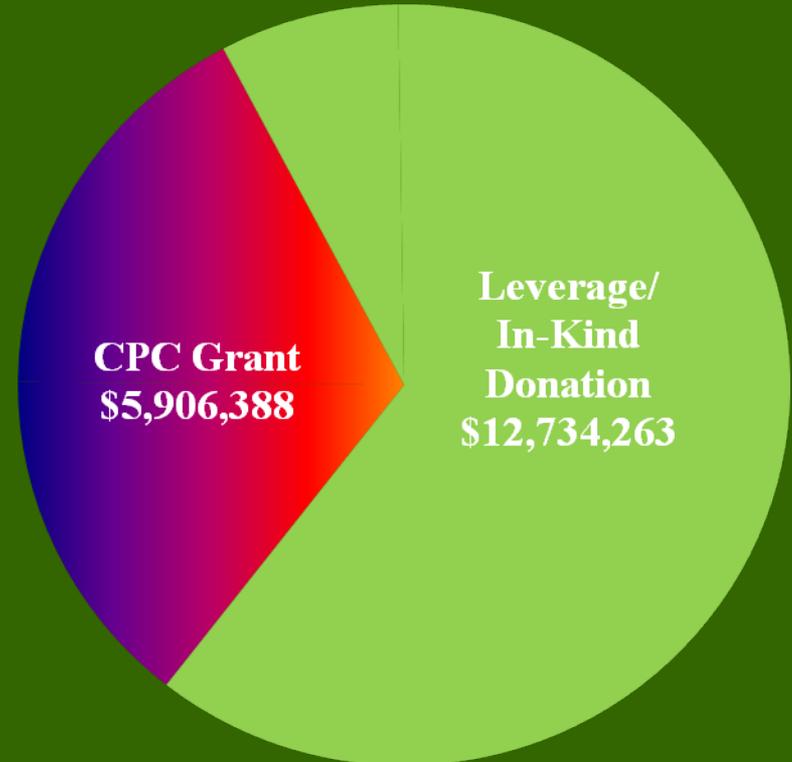
# CPC Project Funding to Date

2003-2008  
CPC Revenue



\$6.1M Total

2003-2008  
CPC Project Funding

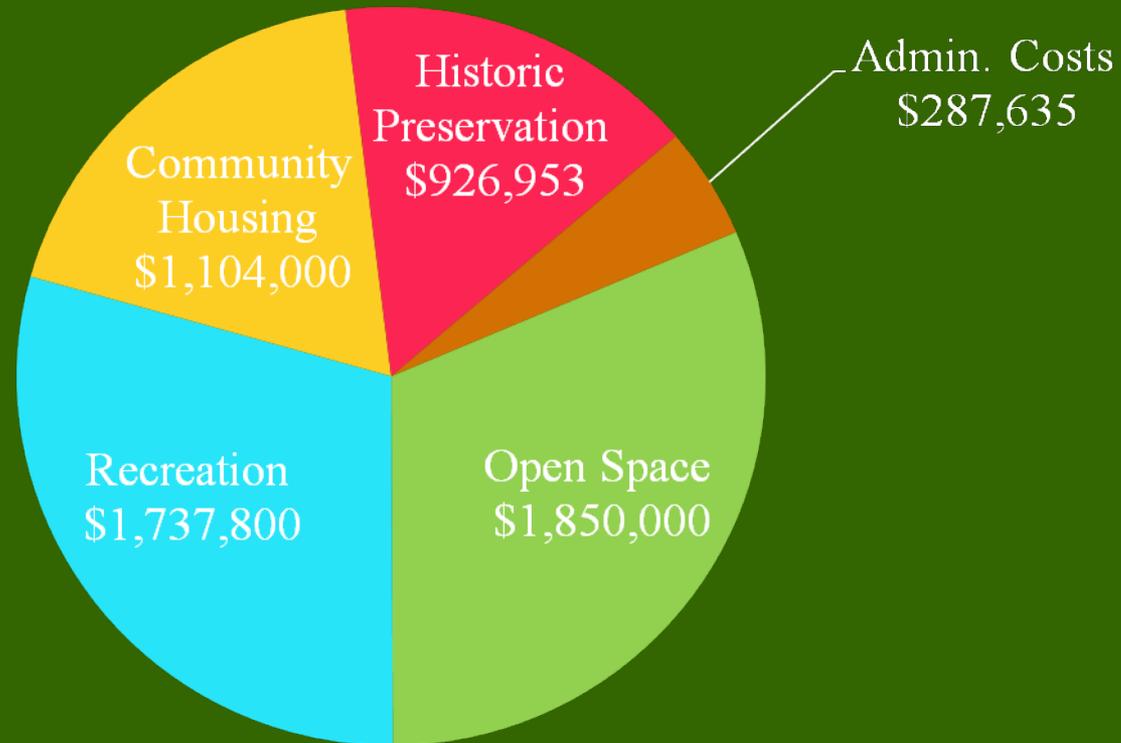


\$18.6M Total

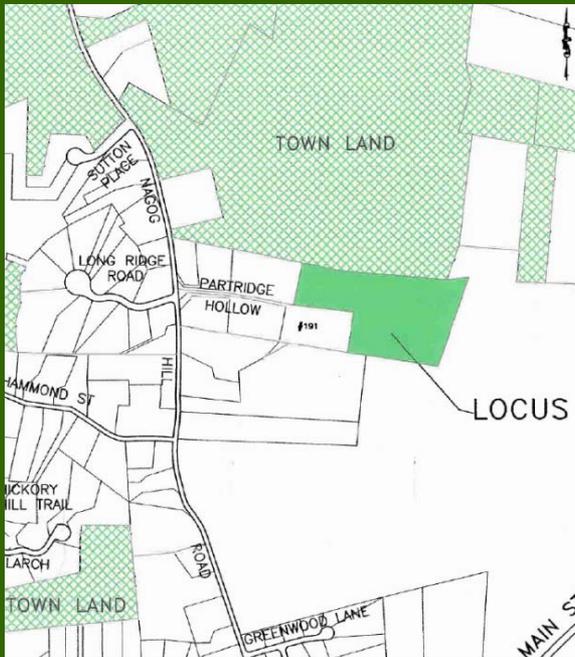


# CPC Funding by Category

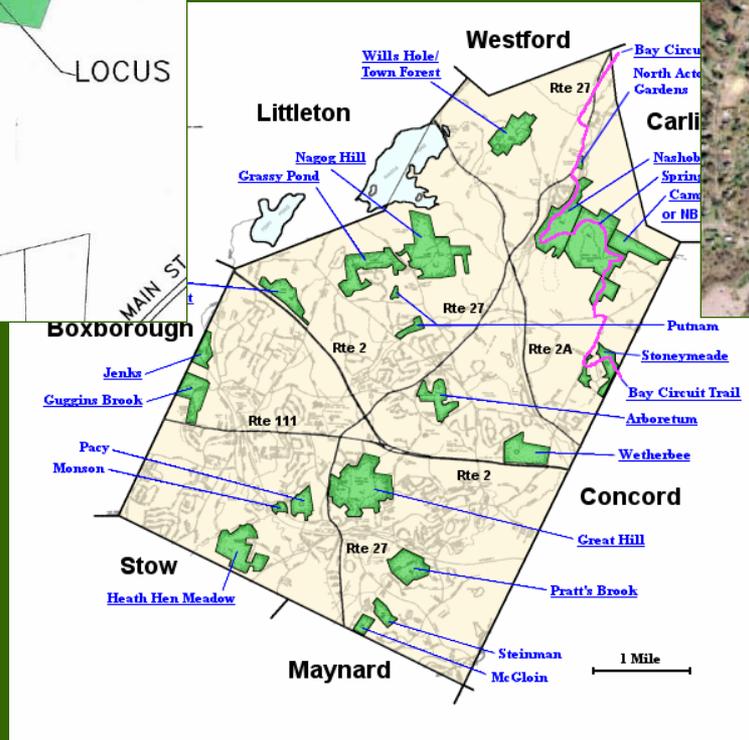
2003-2008



# Highlights: Open Space Projects



*Groener Land Purchase*



*Piper Lane Land Purchase*



# Highlights: Affordable Housing Projects



# Highlights: Historic Preservation Projects



*Civil War Exhibit*



*Davis Monument restoration*



*West Acton Citizens' Library  
restoration*



*Exchange Hall restoration*

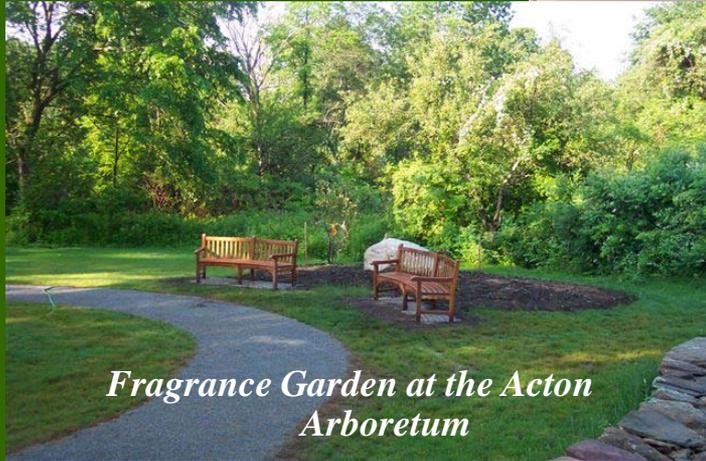
*Acton Community Preservation Program  
Town Meeting 2009, Article 27*



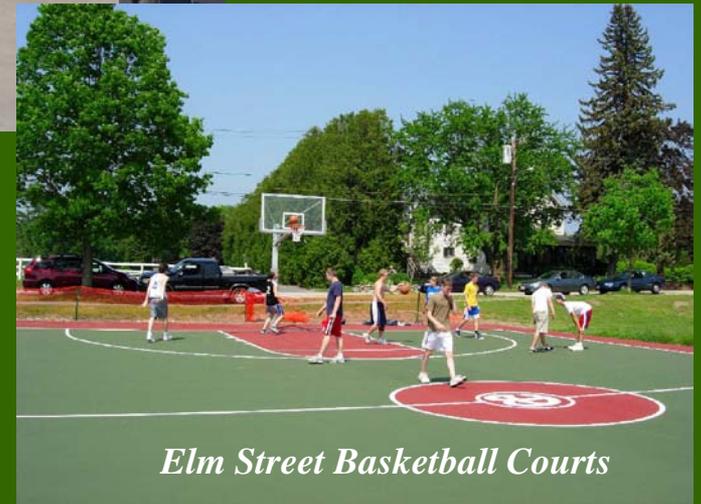
# Highlights: Recreation Projects



*T.J. O'Grady Skatepark*



*Fragrance Garden at the Acton Arboretum*



*Elm Street Basketball Courts*



# A: Open Space Set-Aside

Applicant: Acton Open Space Committee



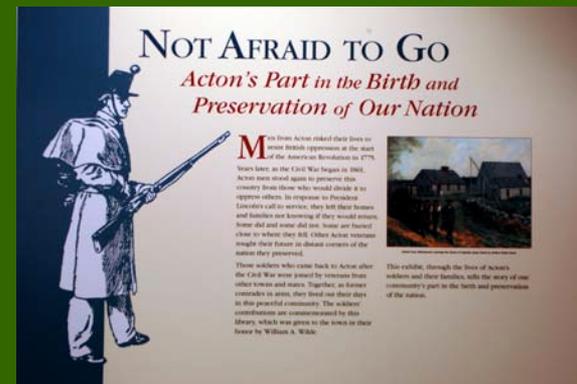
- \$425,000 set-aside for future open space purchase or protection
- Brings total set-aside to \$1,445,000



# C: Civil War Exhibit Enhancement

Applicant: Memorial Library Trustees

- \$8,000 to enhance exhibit funded by CPC in 2005
- Includes additional lighting, audio exhibits, replacement for computer, and additional signage



# D: Historic Streetscape Restoration

Applicant: Town of Acton



- \$10,000 to plant additional shade trees along scenic roadways in the 3 Historic Districts
- Three-year funding for up to 40 trees



# E: Wright-Holden Farmlands

Applicant: Historical Commission



- \$1,000 to fund consultant to prepare and file Area Form with Mass. Historical Commission



# F: Town Cemeteries

Applicant: Historical Commission



- \$14,000 to fund project to document Acton cemeteries and submit application for National Register of Historic Places
- Would provide access to preservation grants for cemeteries



# G: John Robbins House

Applicant: Bravery Realty Trust



- \$42,075 to repair roof and door of vintage 1800 house
- One of the 4 “lottery houses” in Acton
- Preserves the structure for continued restoration by the owners
- Town would hold preservation restriction on deed that stays with the house in perpetuity



# H: Pre-Development Funds

Applicant: Acton Housing Authority



- \$152,000 for engineering, architect, and site work to develop plan for affordable housing units on Sachem Way
- Development would be funded with State housing grants (up to \$4M)
- Would provide up to 12 family units



# I: Capital Fund

Applicant: Acton Housing Authority



- \$150,000 to fund capital items to preserve existing affordable housing stock (142 units)
- Would be used to replace 30-year old roofs



# J: Community Housing Program Fund

Applicant: Acton Community Housing Corporation



*Central Street duplex*

- \$50,000 to replenish the Community Housing Fund, to be managed by the ACHC
- To be used for a variety of community housing initiatives such as acquisition, condominium “buydowns”, and down-payment assistance



# K: Administrative and Operating Expenses

Applicant: Town of Acton



- \$59,080 (5% of FY 2008 revenues) to help Town with CPC-related administrative expenses
- Also pays for membership dues for the Community Preservation Coalition



# Conclusion

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<b>Recommendations:</b>		
<b>Total FY2009 Fund Appropriation</b>		<b>\$955,155</b>
<b>Resulting Open Space Set-Aside</b>		<b>\$1,445,000</b>
<b>Resulting Historic Preservation Set-Aside</b>		<b>\$44,000</b>
<b>Resulting 2009 fund balance</b>		<b>\$580,266</b>

- CPA Program Continuity
- Projects Thoroughly Vetted
- Public Process
- CP Funds Leveraged Wherever Possible



# Thank You!

