

Canton Community Preservation Committee Report to Town Meeting 2021

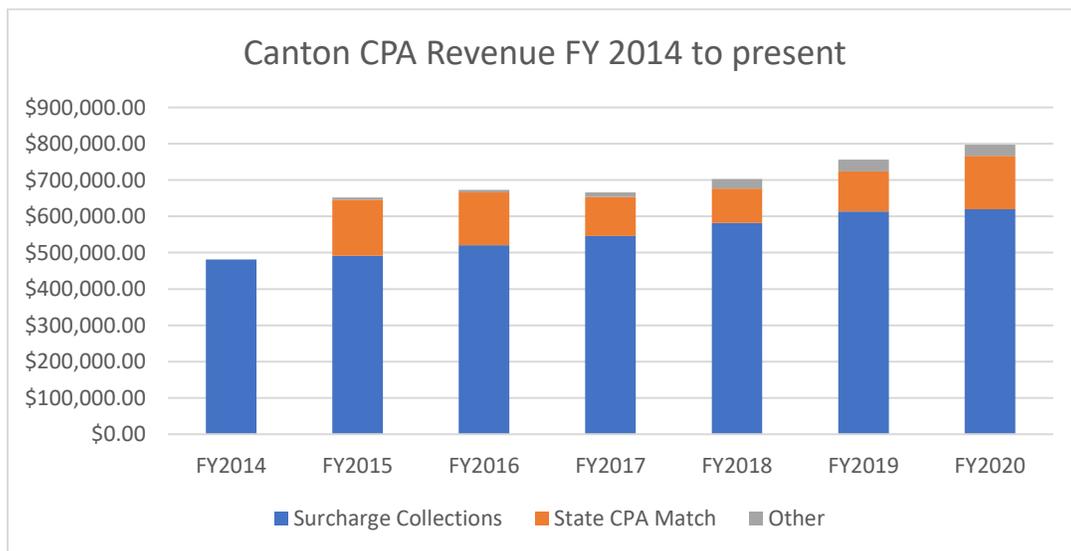
The Canton Community Preservation Committee (CCPC) is comprised of nine volunteer members: one citizen-at-large and one member each from the Conservation Commission, Historical Commission, Housing Authority, Planning Board, Playground & Recreation Commission, Select Board, Capital Planning Committee, and School Committee. Current members of the CCPC include:

<p>Stacey Gorman, Parks & Recreation – Chair Shaun Chu, Capital Planning – Treasurer Lisa Lopez, Select Board David McCarthy, Planning Board Vacant, School Committee</p>	<p>George Comeau, Historical Commission – Vice-Chair John McSweeney, Housing Authority – Clerk Josh Cohen, Conservation Commission John Leonetti, Citizen-at-Large</p>
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Total CPA revenues in fiscal year 2020 were \$797,703. This includes surcharge collections from Canton taxpayers of \$619,735 and the State “Match” of \$147,419. The following charts capture the Fund’s actual revenue streams through the end of fiscal year 2020.

CPA Revenue by Fiscal Year

Fiscal Year	Surcharge Collections	State CPA Match	Other	Total Revenue
FY2014	\$480,993.57	\$0.00	\$877.59	\$481,871.16
FY2015	\$491,959.51	\$153,822.00	\$5,812.76	\$651,594.27
FY2016	\$520,788.81	\$145,336.00	\$7,341.15	\$673,465.96
FY2017	\$545,946.62	\$108,001.00	\$11,689.00	\$665,636.62
FY2018	\$581,951.58	\$94,671.00	\$25,996.39	\$702,618.97
FY2019	\$613,699.65	\$110,487.00	\$32,523.76	\$756,710.41
FY2020	\$619,735.77	\$147,419.00	\$30,548.53	\$797,703.30
Totals	\$3,855,075.51	\$759,736.00	\$114,789.18	\$4,729,600.69



For fiscal year 2021, the CCPC (in consultation with the Finance Director) used a CPA revenue estimate of \$700,000. As of mid-April, CPA surcharge collections already exceed \$534K. Additionally, the State Match grew for a third straight year, and a record distribution of \$181,402 was received in FY 21. This record match was made possible by a permanent increase to the revenue source for the State CPA Trust Fund, which is expected to generate an additional \$36 million annually to be distributed to the 186 CPA communities throughout the Commonwealth.

Since the Community Preservation Committee began accepting project applications in FY15, a total of 47 projects across all categories have been recommended by the CCPC and approved by Annual Town Meeting. While most projects have been funded in total through a single appropriation, acquisition of and improvements to the Paul Revere Heritage Site required the issuance of a 10-year bond. Debt service payments on that bond began in FY20 and the FY21 debt service payment totaled \$261,790. In addition to project spending, the CCPC appropriates five percent of estimated revenues to cover administrative expenses as allowed by the CPA statute. To date, actual expenditures from the administrative budget have fallen well below the appropriation. Any administrative funds remaining at the end of each fiscal year are “returned” to the CPA Fund.

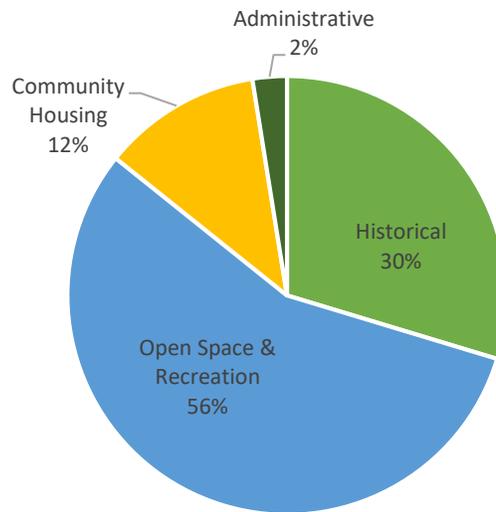
The following table summarizes total spending in each project category by fiscal year as well as the administrative expenses* and debt service payments** to date. The subsequent chart shows percentage breakdowns of CPA expenditures: the chart is inclusive of the two debt service payments (but excludes the remaining payment obligations for the Paul Revere Heritage Site acquisition).

	Historic	Open Space / Recreation	Housing	Debt Service	Administrative
FY2014	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$5,250.50
FY2015	\$57,571.45	\$200,000.00	\$82,578.28		\$12,100.37
FY2016	\$544,586.45	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$14,393.06
FY2017	\$95,165.00	\$46,400.00	\$120,000.00		\$11,321.00
FY2018	\$211,975.00	\$697,200.00	\$80,000.00		\$14,841.00
FY2019	\$0.00	\$387,000.00	\$80,000.00		\$12,700.00
FY2020	\$65,120.00	\$465,987.51	\$74,000.00	\$271,090.00	\$16,950.00
FY2021	\$465,000.00	\$390,827.00	\$132,000.00	\$261,790.00	\$35,000.00
TOTAL	\$1,439,417.90	\$2,187,414.51	\$568,578.28	\$532,880.00	\$122,555.93

* With the exception of FY21 administrative expenses reflect actual expenditures. The FY21 number is the amount appropriated which routinely exceeds estimates by several thousand dollars.

** Debt service payments made towards the \$2,065,000 purchase of the Paul Revere Heritage Site fall under the Open Space category. Project was approved in FY2015; however, bond was not issued until FY20 following the execution of the property transfer.

Allocation of CPA Funds (FY15-FY21) with bonding



While the pandemic interfered with progress for many CPA-funded projects, several important initiatives moved forward over the past year. A few highlights of the benefits of CPA in Canton follow:

Historical Resources

In advance of extensive restoration work on the exterior of Memorial Hall, the Town Facilities Department employed a \$15,000 CPA grant to undertake a masonry investigation and develop cost estimates for the full rehabilitation of the building exterior.





**CANTON RESIDENTS:
STRUGGLING TO PAY YOUR HOUSING COSTS
DUE TO COVID-19?**

The Canton COVID-19 Emergency Housing Relief Program (CHRP) has been developed to support Canton renters and affordable (deed restricted) homeowners who may be having difficulty paying rent or their mortgage due to COVID-19. If approved, eligible applicants can receive up to \$2,500.00 per month towards their housing expenses for a period of 3 months. Specifically, the grant would pay 70% of a tenants rent or 70% of a qualified homeowners principal & interest.

For more details on the program and to apply, please contact MCO Housing Services, LLC at 978-456-7999 or see the Canton section at: <https://mcohousingservices.com/rental-relief-program/>

**LOTTERY APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY
SEPTEMBER 25, 2020**

CHRP is sponsored through the Canton Community Preservation Act (CPA) Fund.




Affordable Housing

The Planning Department partnered with MetroWest Collaborative Development to administer a \$52,000 Community Housing grant. While relatively small in scale, the Emergency Housing Relief Program provided rental assistance to nine Canton residents who were impacted by COVID-19.

Open Space & Recreation

The School Department implemented recreation projects at two locations. New basketball courts at the Kennedy School service the school, league play through the Recreation Department and pickup play for Canton residents. The SHINE Slides at the Luce School provide quick access to the lower playground as well as a unique outdoor playground experience for users including non-student users outside of school hours.

