

Springfield Community Preservation Committee Annual Hearing September 2, 2025 Minutes

*Meetings are held at 6:00 p.m. on the first Tuesday of the month. The minutes and agendas for all meetings are available on the Meeting Portal of the City website.
<https://www.springfield-ma.gov/finance/community-preservation>*

To view the remote meeting:

<https://www.facebook.com/SpringfieldCommunityPreservationCommittee>

Mail public comments to: Community Preservation Committee, Springfield City Hall
36 Court Street, Springfield 01103 or e-mailed to cpc@springfieldcityhall.com. Telephone 413-530-1268.

Present: Robert McCarroll (Springfield Preservation Trust), Stephen Bosworth (Neighborhood Representative) Yolanda Cancel (Neighborhood Representative)

Absent: Willie Thomas (Housing Authority), Judy Crowell (Historical Commission) Juanita Martinez (Conservation Commission), Rhonda Sherrell - (Neighborhood Representative)

Agenda items moved to September 16 meeting

Annual Public Hearing to Solicit Comments on Needs & Opportunities Which CPA Could Address

The Annual Public Hearing took place tonight with a slide show that offered an overview of the Community Preservation Act and the function of the Community Preservation Committee. Public comments will be included in the annual preservation plan and comments are accepted until September 30, 2025. See slide show here: [2025 CPA ANNUAL Hearing Powerpoint](#)

Notices: two (2) legal ads ran in the Springfield Republican newspaper in addition to press releases and digital articles in Masslive, EIPueblo and AfAMPPoint of View. Email notices were mailed to all neighborhood groups listed on the city web site and to a list of interested parties and community groups. Additional outreach was placed on the SCPC city web page and content was placed on the SCPC Facebook page.

Public Comments sent by mail and email will be placed in the 2026 Community Preservation Plan

Public Comments made at the hearing by those present and joining remotely

Stephen Howard, resident

Does the City Council see the applications that the CPA doesn't recommend? Answer: No, but the applications are on the website. How does it impact the recommendations if a councilor sees a project they'd like but was not funded. Answer: It doesn't. Only recommended projects by the CPC are moved to the City Council for approval.

Tracye Whitfield, Springfield City Councilor

Can we see the amount of funding for each category? I see the same applicants year after year and I'd like to see more diversity in the grants. Specifically more opportunity for single family homes constructed by small developers. Multiple answers. The issue is the cost of building one unit vs multiple units using CPA funds with the decision applicants is the cost of one unit vs using CPA funding for multiple units for the same money.

Betsy Johnson, President, Metro Center Neighborhood Association

The neighborhood does not have any parks in our area, outside of hard to get to spaces. We have a large undeveloped site near Worthington and Tyler Streets and with other matching funds we'd like to get a design for an active park. Springfield Redevelopment owns the 3 parcels at this time.

Laura Walsh, Senior Park Manager

I'm here tonight to listen to what people are interested in doing next year. Any neighborhood council who is interested in a project to please contact the parks department.

We'll submit our formal recommendations by email.

Terry Green, small developer

There is a park in Chicopee that has work-out and weight equipment outside space. Is this something that could be created? Yes, the CPA funded physical equipment at Forest Park and Marshal Roy parks.

Tracey Whitfield, Springfield City Councilor

If several applicants partnered for a larger housing unit plan, would that be looked at more favorably by the committee. Answer, again it is the cost of the project vs the number of housing and the CPA funds available.

Miscellaneous open discussion on accessing the city website and where to locate helpful information and reviewed the Department of Revenue chart for CPA funding.

Motion to adjourn

Next Meeting September 16, 2025