



Setti D. Warren
Mayor

City of Newton, Massachusetts Community Preservation Committee



MEMORANDUM

DATE: 7 September 2010

TO: Newton Historical Commission

FROM: Community Preservation Committee

ABOUT: **administrative funding commitment for Historic Preservation Guidelines**

PROJECT FUNDING & SCHEDULE

At its 19 August 2009 public meeting, Newton's Community Preservation Committee (CPC) voted 5-0 to commit \$12,000 from its fiscal 2011 administrative budget to this project, as proposed by the Newton Historical Commission (NHC) in the attached summary. These guidelines will use Newton-specific examples to illustrate both appropriate and inappropriate changes to historic buildings, by style and period, and will be made available to the general public on the City's website.

NOTE: Under guidelines established by the Massachusetts Department of Revenue, the CPC may not carry fiscal 2011 administrative funds forward unless they are encumbered by a contract, grant agreement or purchase order by June 2011. If the required additional funding from other sources is committed by spring 2011, the CPC anticipates committing its administrative funds to this project through a formal Memorandum of Understanding with the NHC. If the required additional funding is not committed by June 2011, the CPC and NHC will cancel the project, while reserving the option to pursue it in the future.

PROJECT RATIONALE & GOALS

Create guidelines to

- ◆ assist the CPC and NHC in carrying out their responsibilities under the Community Preservation Act to study Newton's community preservation needs, possibilities and resources; to evaluate the significance of historic resources proposed for funding; and to recommend expenditures from Newton's Community Preservation Fund
- ◆ assist proposal sponsors in meeting the Newton CPC's requirements to apply the Secretary of the Interior's *Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties* by: evaluating historic significance on a broad basis, including but not limited to architecture and design; identifying historically significant features; and choosing appropriate treatments that preserve significant features while allowing historic buildings to be rehabilitated for new uses

PROJECT MANAGEMENT

As staff to the Newton Historical Commission, Senior Preservation Planner Brian Lever will serve as the project manager in

- ◆ finding additional required matching funds (estimated at \$15,000 state grant and \$3,000 from other sources)
- ◆ hiring and overseeing a qualified consultant
- ◆ soliciting and overseeing volunteer services contributed by architects and other members of the NHC, as well as other qualified community volunteers
- ◆ promoting consistency between CPC funding recommendations and the City's regulatory decisions by leading the adoption of these guidelines by Newton's historic commissions, including the NHC itself

WEBSITE: www.ci.newtonma.gov/cpa

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