



Ruthanne Fuller
Mayor

City of Newton, Massachusetts
Department of Planning and Development
1000 Commonwealth Avenue Newton, Massachusetts 02459

Telephone
(617) 796-1120
Telefax
(617) 796-1142
TDD/TTY
(617) 796-1089
www.newtonma.gov

Barney S. Heath
Director

Date: March 8, 2021
From: Lara Kritzer, Community Preservation Program Manager
To: The Honorable City Council
CC: The Honorable Mayor Ruthanne Fuller
RE: FY22 CPA Funding for the Grace Tower Restoration Project

In the Community Preservation Committee's recommendation for Grace Episcopal Church's Tower Restoration project (originally submitted Oct. 28, 2020 and updated on Jan. 8, 2021), the CPC recommended that the CPC project funding come entirely from the City's existing and future Historic Resource Reserve Accounts. This recommendation was approved by the City Council on March 1, 2021, with \$991,244.71 to come out of the City's existing Historic Reserve accounts, and the remaining \$441,755.30 needed for the project to come from the City's FY22 Historic Reserve Account when the funding was available in July 2021. The amount of the FY22 funding is below the amount anticipated to be set aside in FY22 for specific category reserve accounts, and there is no question at this time that the funding will be available in July for this purpose. The applicants are also not anticipated to be ready to request any CPA funding before Fall 2021 or Spring 2022 at the earliest.

Unfortunately, it has since come to our attention that the City cannot commit future CPA funding in this manner. In reviewing the March 1 City Council Order for this project, the Comptroller raised this issue of committing funding before the fiscal year in question and has stated that she cannot certify this Council Order until the FY22 funds have been removed. The proposed solution to this problem is for the City Council to revise the existing Council Order to remove the FY22 funding, approving only the existing Historic Resource funds (\$991,244.71) at this time. To address the project shortfall, the CPC will submit a separate recommendation requesting approval to use the FY22 Historic Resource Reserves to cover the remaining \$441,755.30 of the originally approved project as soon as these funds are available in July 2021.

www.newtonma.gov/cpa

Lara Kritzer, Community Preservation Program Manager
lkritzer@newtonma.gov 617.796.1144