



CITY OF WATERTOWN

Community Preservation Committee

Mark Krackiewicz, Chair
Jason Cohen, Vice Chair
Jonathan Bockian
Bob DiRico
Dennis J. Duff
Allen Gallagher
Jamie O'Connell
Elodia Thomas
Matthew Walter

The Community Preservation Committee of the City of Watertown will hold a public meeting in accordance with the Acts of 2021 suspending provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G. L. c. 30A, § 20. This meeting has only opportunities for remote participation with public access provided as follows:

ACCESS INFORMATION:

- A. The meeting will be recorded by WCATV (Watertown Cable Access Television) and aired at a later date.
- B. The Public may join the virtual meeting online: <https://watertown-ma.zoom.us/j/84202401207>
- C. The Public may join by phone: (877) 853-5257 or (888) 475-4499 (Toll Free); enter Webinar ID: 842 0240 1207#
- D. Public may comment prior to the meeting by email to Lanae Handy: lhandy@watertown-ma.gov

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16, 2022 AT 7:00 PM

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Irving Park Project Presentation
3. Committee Discussion - Irving Park Project
4. Acceptance of 2022-2-17- Minutes
5. Committee Discussion
 - A. Draft Recommendation to City Council
6. Adjournment

COVER PAGE for a group of recommendations

At its _____, 2022 meeting, the CPC voted to recommend to the City Council a total expenditure of \$_____ in CPA funds for _____# projects. The CPC determined that the recommended projects would meet the goals expressed in the Community Preservation Plan, provide a public benefit, address a need, are ready to commence, and demonstrate the ability to leverage non-CPA funds, among other factors.

If approved by the City Council, private organizations must enter into a Grant Agreement with the City and City Departments must comply with the terms of a Memorandum of Agreement with the CPC and submit regular progress and budget reports. Additional specific conditions are listed as applicable to each project.

CPA FY22 PROJECT FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS				
PROJECT		FUNDING SOURCE		AWARD RECOMMENDATION
1630 and 1930 City Hall Geographical Paintings		Historic Preservation		\$33,000
FY 22 PROJECT RECOMMENDATION BREAKDOWN (If part of a group)				
CPA CATEGORY	NUMBER OF PROJECTS	TOTAL CATEGORY RESERVE AMOUNT	UNDESIGNATED RESERVE AMOUNT	CATEGORY RESERVE FUND BALANCE
Historic Preservation	1	\$33,000	\$0	\$1,200,000

The following project summaries describe the project proposals recommended for CPA funding in FY 2022.

The full applications can be found at: [FY 2022 CPA Project Applications | Watertown, MA - Official Website \(watertown-ma.gov\)](#)



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FY2022 FUNDING RECOMMENDATION

Date:

To: The Honorable City Council

PROJECT TITLE:	1630 and 1930 City Hall Geographical Paintings
PROJECT LOCATION:	City Hall Administration Building
APPLICANT/ORGANIZATION:	Watertown Historical Society (City of Watertown is co-applicant)
CPA CATEGORY:	Historic Preservation
CPC RECOMMENDED FUNDING AMOUNT:	\$33,000
CPC RECOMMENDED FUNDING SOURCE:	Historic Preservation Reserve

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Historical Society of Watertown requested \$33,000 to stabilize, repair, and preserve the two 7'6" x 5'6" paintings that flank the City Hall lobby: one depicting a map of the town in 1630 (the year of its founding) and the other an aerial view of Watertown in the 1930 Tercentenary year. Both paintings, created on Masonite panels, were deemed locally historic and culturally significant resources by the Watertown Historical Commission at their November 4, 2021, meeting.

The paintings would be removed from the walls in City Hall, placed in foam-core boxes made specifically for them, and transported by Maquette Fine Arts Services to the Louise Orsini Fine Art Conservation studio.

The conservator proposes to treat the paintings to remove and reduce the appearance of scratches, tack holes, abrasions, and grime.



In addition, the conservator would stabilize panel edges, flatten lifting with conservation-grade adhesives, and consolidate paint films surrounding losses and holes. Where possible, the conservator proposes to fill losses and holes, mechanically texture the fills to match surrounding paint as well as fill scratches, abrasions, or lost details with conservation grade paints.

Frame expert, Andrew Haines proposes to remove the existing portions (some sections are missing) of the frames prior to removal of the paintings. The framer proposes to refurbish the remaining frame sections and if possible, combine sections to compose one complete brass frame.



Due to an inability to employ a brass fabricator, the framer would re-create missing elements of the second frame out of wood using gilt in metal leaf over gesso and bole, toned to match the surface of the brass.

After the frame and paintings restoration is complete, the transport company would return the paintings and reinstall them, supervised by the conservator. The framer would attach the frame elements.

For each painting, Spokeshave Design proposes to construct a protective barrier composed of a wooden top rail and black steel intermediate rails and posts. The barriers would be approximately 9' long and 3' high. The side handrails would be 37" long. The legs or posts would have non-skid foot pads so that the barrier would not be easily moved. These barriers would protect the paintings from being damaged again. The barrier design meets ADA standards, with the intermediate rails being within cane sweep. Attached to the barriers, each restored painting would feature a plaque with the painting name and description as well as an acknowledgement of the CPA funding award.

RECOMMENDED FUNDING:

On February 17, 2022, by a vote of 8-0, (with Matthew Walter absent), the Community Preservation Committee recommended appropriating \$33,000 from the Historic Preservation Reserve for the 1630 and 1930 City Hall Geographical Paintings restoration project as a grant to the Watertown Historical Society in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Community Preservation Grant Agreement and the overall purposes summarized in this document.

ALIGNMENT WITH COMMUNITY PRESERVATION PLAN 2021-2025

The City Hall Geographical Painting project would align with guiding principles and priorities as well as historic preservation goals outlined in the Community Preservation Plan:

- Project would be publicly visible and accessible
- Project demonstrates support from a municipal body—the Watertown Historical Commission
- Elements of the project would comply with ADA standards
- Project demonstrates feasibility, with team expertise, a reasonable and informed budget, realistic timeline, and a long-term maintenance plan
- Project would restore and preserve a city-owned historic resource

PROJECT OUTCOME

The historic paintings greet the citizens and visitors of City Hall as an introduction to Watertown. Upon completion of the restoration, the paintings would be more vibrant, visible, and better represent the geographic history they were meant to display. This project would grant these city-owned historic resources the respect and care they deserve.

SPECIFIC FUNDING CONDITIONS

- The City shall not dispose of, sell, relocate, or alter paintings [without notifying the CPC?] If the paintings are sold or disposed of, CPA funds appropriated for this project should be returned to the Watertown Community Preservation Fund.
- The transport contractor and conservators shall provide the City with Certificates of Insurance in the amount of \$_____ or greater covering damage or loss of property. The City shall be named as an additional insured on these certificates.
- The Watertown Historical Society agrees to document and appropriately archive the preservation methods and materials used.
- The Watertown Historical Society agrees to monitor the maintenance of the paintings (biannual cleanings and humidity tracking) to be performed by the Department of Public Buildings.

STANDARD FUNDING CONDITIONS

- No disbursements of funds may occur until the project has received all necessary governmental and third-party approvals, the project budget has been approved by the CPC, and all other sources of funds have been committed, as necessary, to complete the project.
- Any CPA funds appropriated but not used for the stated purposed of this project should be returned to the Watertown Community Preservation Fund.
- Other conditions as deemed necessary and defined within the Grant Agreement with the City.

TIMELINE

Summer 2022 – Project commencement with the removal of paintings and frames for transport to respective conservator studios

July 2022 through July 2023 – Painting restoration and conservation work

July/August 2022 – Frame work conservation and fabrication work

July/August 2022 – Barrier construction and installation at City Hall lobby

July 2023 – Painting transport and reinstallation of paintings in City Hall lobby

July 2023 – Installation of signage

The full proposal is available at: <https://content.civicplus.com/api/assets/0350ba93-8b56-4295-9cae-eb84459489a4?cache=1800>