



LINCOLN COMMUNITY PRESERVATION QUESTIONNAIRE

Do you care about the Town of Lincoln's open space, affordable housing, historic places, recreation facilities ... and its future?

If you answered yes to any of the above, then please take a few minutes to complete this questionnaire!

In November 2002, Lincoln voters adopted the Community Preservation Act establishing a Community Preservation Fund for open space, affordable housing, historic preservation and recreation, to be funded by a 1.5% real property tax surcharge, with matching funds from the State. At Town Meeting in March 2004, the Town approved increasing the surcharge to 3.0%. The Town estimates that the Fund will generate approximately \$950,000 per fiscal year, including the 100% State match. The Community Preservation Act requires that at least 10% of each year's Community Preservation Fund revenues be spent or set aside for spending on each of the three Community Preservation core categories - open space, affordable housing and historic preservation. The remaining 70% of the Community Preservation Fund may be allocated among those three categories, and recreation, as the Community Preservation Committee and Town Meeting see fit.

The Town's Community Preservation Committee is charged with identifying long and short term goals and needs in the four areas (open space, affordable housing, historic preservation and recreation), establishing criteria for evaluating proposed initiatives, and making recommendations to Town Meeting for the expenditure of the Community Preservation Fund. The Community Preservation Committee wants to make recommendations that have broad public support and meet a compelling vision of the Town's future. To that end, we are asking the citizens of Lincoln to complete this Questionnaire expressing your views on how the Town's Community Preservation Fund can best be deployed, both short and long term, to meet our community preservation goals.

Our Mission Statement

In alignment with the Town of Lincoln's Vision Statement, the Community Preservation Committee mission is to:

- *Preserve Lincoln's historic resources and structures;*
- *Preserve and enhance Lincoln's open space for both conservation and recreation; and*
- *Preserve and increase Lincoln's affordable housing in order to foster economic, racial/ethnic and age diversity among its citizenry.*

QUESTIONNAIRE

Open Space and Recreation

What is the best way to use the Town's **Open Space and Recreation** portion of the Community Preservation Fund? "Open space" includes land that protects a scenic vista, forested land, land that protects wells, aquifers and recharge areas, fields, as well as land used for recreational purposes, including playgrounds and athletic fields (but not stadiums, gymnasiums or similar structures), trails, non-commercial sports, parks, and community gardens. Do one or more of these open space types deserve priority?

If any specific open space parcels come to mind, please describe them below.

Historic Preservation

What is the best way to use the Town's **Historic Preservation** portion of the Community Preservation Fund? This portion may be used to acquire, restore and rehabilitate "historic structures and landscapes", defined as any building, structure, vessel or real property that the Lincoln Historical Commission determines to be significant in the history, archeology, architecture or culture of the Town, or that is listed or eligible for listing on the state register of historic places. If you feel that historic preservation in certain parts of Town should be given priority, write them down below.

Do any specific historic structures or landscapes come to mind? If so, please describe them below.

Community Housing

What is the best way to use the Town’s **Community Housing** portion of the Community Preservation Fund? This portion may be used for the creation, preservation and support of “community housing”, defined as housing for both low and moderate income families (including seniors). Eligible activities could include: rental assistance; acquisition of land or buildings to create affordable housing; conversion of existing buildings for community housing; home modifications (including accessibility) to allow seniors to stay in their homes; and grants or loans to provide down payments, assist with closing costs, or subsidize interest rates for qualified buyers. Do one or more of these activities deserve priority?

* * *

How important do you consider the following purposes for which the Town’s Community Preservation Fund might be used?

| Please check only one box for each item. | Extremely Important | Somewhat Important | Not Important |
|---|----------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| Protecting views | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Protecting historic structures and landscapes | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Protecting water supplies | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Linking existing parcels of conservation land | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| New playgrounds and athletic fields | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Hiking and bicycling trails | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Increasing the supply of affordable housing | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Restricting development rights | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Roadside and pedestrian paths | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Protecting smaller homes and neighborhoods | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Other (describe below) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | | | |

How would you prioritize use of Lincoln's CPC Funds (please rank in order of importance)?

- ___ Open Space
- ___ Affordable Housing
- ___ Historic Preservation
- ___ Recreation

What thoughts or advice do you have for the Community Preservation Committee?

(Optional) Please fill in your name and address below.

Lincoln, Massachusetts

(781) _____

Please mail your completed questionnaire to the Community Preservation Committee, c/o the Selectmen's Office, Town Offices, Lincoln, MA 01773, or drop it off at the Library or the Town Clerk's Office.

We thank you for your input.

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

| | | | |
|--------------------|---------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Rayna Caplan | Susie Collins | Craig Donaldson | Ken Hurd |
| John Koenig, Chair | Colin Smith | John Valpey | Peter von Mertens |

July 2005