

## Community Preservation Act



YES

## on Question 5

As described in this Telegram & Gazette [article](#), the *Yes for a Better Worcester Coalition* launched its official campaign on September 28 at the Printers Building in the presence of an enthusiastic group of supporters. Dr. Kathy Mills, Vice President for Programs, attended the event representing The Health Foundation, which supports this effort and provided a grant of \$26,000 to seed the Coalition's efforts encouraging support for adoption of the Community Preservation Act (CPA) which will appear as question 5 on the City's November 8 general election ballot.

The CPA became state law in 2000 and thus far has been adopted by 189 communities in Massachusetts, including Boston, Lowell, Springfield, Fall River, New Bedford, Shrewsbury, and Grafton. Passage of the measure in Worcester would make the city eligible for matching funds collected by the Massachusetts Department of Revenue. These funds, estimated to yield approximately \$3 to 4 million annually, would be held in a dedicated trust fund overseen by a mandated advisory committee, creating a sustainable resource for investments in Worcester's open spaces for parks and recreation, historic preservation, and community housing that fall outside of the City budget. Ballot question 5 proposes a 1.5% surcharge on real estate taxes with exemptions for low-income households and low-to-moderate income senior households. According to August 2022 data from the Worcester Regional Research Bureau, the median surcharge contribution for homeowners and commercial owners under the Act would be approximately \$43 per year and \$173 per year, respectively. The Coalition's website - [CPAWorcester.org](http://CPAWorcester.org) - contains a calculator that Worcester residents can use to determine their specific surcharge, as well as ways residents can join in efforts to support the campaign (e.g., canvassing, displaying a lawn sign, hosting an information session).

"The Health Foundation's early support of the 2022 campaign [by Yes for a Better

Worcester to adopt the Community Preservation Act] gave us a huge boost and made it possible for us to produce campaign plans and voter education materials. Just as importantly, their validation as a leading voice for a healthy community inspired others to join with us,” said Ann T. Lisi on behalf of the steering committee. “We feel stronger with The Health Foundation at our side. I hope to report the best result in November – passage of ballot question number five!”

*Yes for a Better Worcester* is a growing coalition of local and statewide organizations committed to the passage of CPA in the city of Worcester. Partner organizations include Preservation Worcester, Worcester Interfaith, Worcester Common Ground, Mass Audubon Broad Meadow Brook, Greater Worcester Land Trust, Regional Environmental Council, Worcester Cultural Council, Neighbor to Neighbor, Hanover Theater and Conservatory, League of Women’s Voters Worcester Area, New England Botanic Garden at Tower Hill, Davis Publications, the Esler Foundation, and The Health Foundation of Central Massachusetts.

[Visit our website](#)



The Health Foundation of Central Massachusetts | 446 Main Street, 20th Floor,  
Worcester, MA 01608

[Unsubscribe dgermain@hfcmm.org](mailto:dgermain@hfcmm.org)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by [dgermain@hfcmm.org](mailto:dgermain@hfcmm.org) powered by



Try email marketing for free today!