

Project name: Addressing the community housing needs of West Boylston

Date: August 8, 2018

Cost: \$25,000

Project sponsor: Affordable Housing Trust

Contact: Patricia Halpin, chair

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Request: to continue to secure funding to engage consulting services to advise the town in the area of community housing

This grant will assist our community to:

1. Hire consultants to develop and implement a plan for affordable housing for seniors on public land;
 - Provide professional guidance in the creation of an rfp to create up to 60 affordable housing
 - Hire legal services to provide direction in land issues.
 - Work with developers to create housing that is consistent with the wishes of the town as expressed in its Master Plan and Housing Production Plan.
2. exercise some local control in the area of community housing

- evaluate housing data and needs, whether rental or ownership
- monitor existing affordable housing thus keeping the Subsidized Housing Inventory (SHI) current

Past Community Preservation grants have allowed West Boylston to contract for professional services to guide the ZBA in monitoring existing affordable housing developments insuring the units are in compliance with state statutes securing legal counsel when appropriate. The Community Housing Specialist facilitates the relationship between the town and the Department of Housing and Community Development. as the town continues to negotiate with the state to develop affordable housing for seniors on Housing Authority land. The grant has allowed the town to procure the preliminary studies required before a request for proposal (rfp) can be issued.

Going forward the Trust seeks to continue to engage the services of the Community Opportunities Group Inc to develop the essential programs and documents needed to develop affordable housing for seniors as well as the tasks outlined at the start of this proposal. Professional help is essential to the enterprise.

Part of CPA grant appropriation would be used to contract services with other entities needed to meet town goals.

Budget considerations: not to exceed \$25,000

This request complies with criteria established by the Community Preservation Act.