

Our Goals (Summarized from the CPC's 2018 Preservation Plan):

Housing:

- To support the maintenance and expansion of affordable housing, including housing for those with disabilities and seniors, owner-occupied housing, and the redevelopment of brownfields or adaptive reuse and preservation of historic buildings
- To leverage ongoing in-fill and redevelopment efforts in order to end blight and support holistic neighborhood redevelopment.
- To cover gaps in funding and demonstrating local commitment to complex projects to secure competitive funding from other sources.
- To support strategic planning and the development of a city-wide affordable housing master plan.
- To help make existing market rate housing become permanently affordable through programs that purchase and resell units with long-term deed restrictions or subsidize the cost for first-time homebuyers in exchange for a long-term deed restriction, which in some cases can be a more cost-effective alternative for creating affordable units.
- To support temporary rental assistance that would help households at risk of homelessness due to unexpected circumstances to stay in their existing homes, or to access permanent housing by assisting with move-in costs.
- To support homeownership for first-time homebuyers through mortgage subsidies or down-payment assistance loans.

Historic Preservation:

- To support the preservation of historic buildings, cemeteries, and artifacts throughout our city.
- To prevent the loss and/or supporting the development of new uses for historic buildings. This includes city-owned, non-profit, and privately-owned properties which demonstrate public and economic benefit in being restored.

Open Space and Recreation:

- To support the redevelopment of park and recreation areas throughout our city, including playgrounds and sports fields that have no path forward under our municipal budget or are owned by non-profit organizations and are operated for wide public benefit.
- To support the development and maintenance of urban play and recreation areas, such as the Canal Walk and community gardens.
- To support acquisition and development of new conservation and recreation land in line with the priorities of the Conservation Commission and Parks and Recreation Department.
- To improve and support citizens' river access, including opportunities for fishing, boating, swimming, and enhancing views of the river.
- To support the control of invasive species.
- To engage in projects to increase our city's air quality and capacity for stormwater filtration, such as increasing the downtown tree canopy and development of downtown green spaces.
- To respond to erosion, pollution, flooding challenges exacerbated by climate change and aging infrastructure.