

# **HOLYOKE HISTORICAL COMMISSION**

## **Community Preservation Act Role & Responsibilities**

The **Holyoke Historical Commission** (HHC) is a seven-member body appointed by the Mayor and has been established for the preservation, protection and development of the historic or archaeological assets of the City of Holyoke, according to the provisions of the General Laws of Massachusetts, Chapter 40: section 8D, and adopted by the City of Holyoke on November 20, 1972.

The **Community Preservation Committee** (CPC) is a nine-member body with representatives from the Holyoke Conservation Commission, Holyoke Historical Commission, Holyoke Housing Authority, Holyoke Parks & Recreation Commission, Holyoke Planning Board, Holyoke City Council, and three at-large members appointed by the Holyoke City Council. The CPC receives project requests, evaluates community needs in the areas for which CPA funding can be used, and makes recommendations to the City Council for the use of CPA funds.

Historic Preservation funding through the Community Preservation Act (CPA) allows for the preservation of a building, structure, vessel, real property, document, or artifact (historic resource) that is on the Massachusetts Register of Historic Places (MRHP) **or** that has been determined by the Holyoke Historical Commission to be a resource that is significant in the history, archeology, architecture, or culture of Holyoke. Funds may only be provided for the acquisition, preservation, rehabilitation, or restoration of a historic resource. For rehabilitation projects, work must comply with the U.S. Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation.

### **Role of the Holyoke Historical Commission in the CPA Process**

As the appointed body for the preservation, protection and development of the historic or archaeological assets of the City of Holyoke, the Holyoke Historical Commission will advise the CPC with the selection of CPA historic preservation projects to fund and assist in the management of those projects. The HHC appointee to the CPC will act as the liaison and facilitator between the two bodies and must be a member of the HHC

### **Responsibilities of the Holyoke Historical Commission in the CPA Process**

1. The HHC will determine if a historic resource is on the Massachusetts Register of Historic Places or if a historic resource is significant in the history, archeology, architecture, or culture of Holyoke.
2. Where a preservation restriction is required as part of a CPA grant, the HHC will hold the preservation restriction on behalf of the City of Holyoke and CPC.
3. Where a preservation restriction is required as part of a CPA grant, the HHC may help identify historically significant features that shall be included as part of the description within the preservation restriction.
4. The HHC may review CPA historic preservation applications provided by the CPC.
5. The HHC may provide comments to the CPC related to CPA historic preservation applications that have been reviewed by the HHC. Those comments may provide the following information:
  - i. Recommend conditions for funding to ensure a proposed project follows the Secretary of Interior Standards for Rehabilitation.
  - ii. Identify proposed projects that will rehabilitate historic resources that the HHC has determined are most endangered of being demolished if funding is not received.
6. The HHC may request additional information, such as plans, specifications, current photos, historic photos, maps, or narrative descriptions that may be needed from the applicant to determine the effect the project will have on the historic resource.
7. The HHC may designate some or all the responsibilities in this document to HHC staff or another approved historic preservation professional.
8. Where the HHC has designated responsibilities to staff or a historic preservation professional, the designee shall keep the HHC informed of their activities and provide related documents for the HHC to review.