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March 24, 2010

Ms. Jody Kablack  
Director of Planning & Community Development  
278 Old Sudbury Road, Flynn Building  
Sudbury MA 01776

Dear Jody,

I write to iterate my support for the Community Preservation Act (CPA) and to update you on the status of Massachusetts Senate Bill 90, An Act to Sustain Community Preservation.

With your help, I have become well-versed in the benefits that state CPA funding has provided to Sudbury, in conjunction with the funds raised through the local surcharge. Since its inception, the statewide CPA Trust Fund has allocated nearly \$7.3 million to Sudbury. These and local funds have been used to preserve open space (e.g., Cutting Farm, Libby Land, Nobscot Reservation), restore historic buildings (e.g., Hosmer House, Hearse House, Loring Parsonage), build affordable housing, and create walkways and athletic fields for recreational use. Clearly, the CPA's goals coincide closely with Sudbury's vision of open space, historical legacy and economic diversity. These projects have certainly enhanced the quality of life in Sudbury.

Since being signed into law in late 2000, The Community Preservation Act has been adopted by 142 communities, representing 40% of the Commonwealth's cities and towns. Using CPA funds, municipalities have preserved more than 11,377 acres of open space; created or rehabilitated more than 3,100 affordable housing units and developed hundreds of innovative affordable housing programs; and approved funding for more than 1,600 historic preservation projects and over 550 recreation projects. Reportedly, over 600 construction industry jobs have been preserved or created because of CPA projects.

Although the state match for Sudbury has averaged over \$1 million annually since 2004, the match percentage has been declining because so many municipalities have recently adopted CPA surcharges locally. That is in part why I am one of 79 cosponsors of SB 90, which would make a modest adjustment to registry of deed fees in order to replenish the statewide CPA Trust Fund such that fund distribution to towns would be at least 75% of what is raised locally. Because this bill has so much support, I am cautiously

optimistic about its prospects for passage in this or the next legislative session. As you know, passage of the bill would generate additional funds for Sudbury that could be used for the many worthy CPA-related projects of which you and the Selectmen are well-aware.

Jody, I hope you find this information useful. Please do not hesitate to contact me on this or other issues of concern to you.

Respectfully,



Thomas P. Conroy  
State Representative