

PRESERVE EASTHAMPTON NOW

Preserve Easthampton Now
Post Office Box 306
Easthampton, MA 01027

Dear Easthampton Voter:

On November 6th, you will have an opportunity to vote on the passage of the Community Preservation Act (CPA). This act was initiated by the State of Massachusetts to help communities preserve their essential resources and unique character. The Act provides Easthampton with the authority to establish a special fund to be used for the purpose of *protecting open spaces, preserving historical areas and buildings, and creating affordable housing*. The CPA is vitally important because it discourages urban sprawl, protects our agricultural, recreational, and natural resource areas such as our aquifer, and preserves the rich history of Easthampton.

This fund is financed through a 3% surcharge on the local property tax with the first \$100,000 of value being exempted. *For the average homeowner in Easthampton, this tax surcharge will be about \$20.* In addition, Massachusetts has established a state-matching fund of \$25 million that will contribute significant amounts of money to the Easthampton CPA fund for up to three years. If the CPA isn't passed, we will forfeit the state's contribution to other communities.

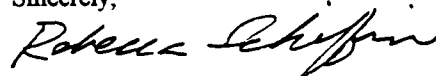
In order to protect Easthampton's open spaces, historic heritage, and affordable housing, we need your help!

To pass the CPA, a majority of the voters must vote YES on Question 1 on November 6th. We believe that once voters understand how the CPA will benefit Easthampton they will help to pass it, but we can't inform the voters without your help.

What you can do!

1. **PLEASE MAKE A DONATION NOW** to help us educate *every voter* in Easthampton about what the CPA has to offer them.
2. **Spend an afternoon helping us.** Your time and effort will send a strong message to other voters that they should support the Community Preservation Act.
3. **Mark your calendar for November 6th, 2001, and make sure you vote YES on Question 1.** Please spread the word and inform your friends and family about this important opportunity. Every vote is needed!
4. **Attend** the CPA public information forum at White Brook Middle School on October 4 at 7:00 PM.

Sincerely,



Rebecca Schiffrin, Chairperson, Preserve Easthampton Now

Yes! I can contribute: \$100.00 \$50.00 \$25.00 Other Amount: _____

Make your check payable to *Preserve Easthampton Now* and mail to:
Preserve Easthampton Now, P.O. Box 306, Easthampton, MA 01027.

Yes! I would like to volunteer!

- Canvas door to door, or talk to neighbors
 Hold sign on voting day/Post sign on lawn

- Want to be added to email distribution list.
 Other Skills which might help: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Thank you for your support and don't forget to mark your calendar for November 6th, 2001.