



**Christine McCall**  
*Assistant City Manager/DPD Director*

**Yovani Baez-Rose**  
*Deputy Director*

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Thomas A. Golden, Jr., City Manager 

FROM: Christine McCall, Assistant City Manager/DPD Director

DATE: August 9, 2022

CC: Yovani Baez-Rose, Deputy Director

SUBJECT: MOTION RESPONSE: 6/14/22- Councilors Robinson and Gitschier-Req. City Mgr. Look Into Feasibility Of Utilizing CPA Funds To Acquire And Preserve The Apple Orchard Near Llewelyn Street-

The Department of Planning and Development (DPD) has looked into the feasibility and process of utilizing Community Preservation Act (CPA) funds for the Llewelyn Street property. CPA funds may be used for a variety of projects including acquiring, creating, or preserving open space in the City of Lowell. While the acquisition and preservation of this property are eligible for CPA funds, DPD does not recommend the City pursue it at this time.

A variety of park and open space projects are in the Department's queue, including multiple projects we are requesting CPA funding for in the next round. To acquire this property, the City would first need to enter into negotiations with the property owner and agree to a fair market price and then apply for CPA funds to cover those costs. The process and timeline for that type of negotiation do not align with the CPA application process for this year.

CPA funding is available on an annual basis and the preservation of open space will always be an eligible expense for this funding source. DPD recommends engaging in a dialogue with the existing property owner to better understand their intentions with the property and discuss applying for CPA funding in the future to preserve this property as passive open space. The capacity of the Department of Public Works to maintain this property must also be included in conversations as CPA funds cannot be used to maintain the property.

YBR/cmm