eastern MA Historical Commission Coalition
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Technical Assistance Program (TAP) Coordinator
What is MAPC’s Technical Assistance Program (TAP)?

- Opportunity for cities and towns to leverage MAPC’s expertise
- TAP grants fund MAPC staff time to work for communities
- All 101 cities and towns are eligible for TAP funding

MAPC Work Areas:
- Community Engagement
- Land Use
- Economic Development
- Housing
- Transportation
- Environment
- Clean Energy
- Public Health
- Arts & Culture
- Municipal Collaboration

Data services
TAP’s Primary Funding Sources

- District Local Technical Assistance (DLTA)
- Planning for MetroCommon Technical Assistance (PMTA)
- Leveraged funds

Over $1M in TAP funding award each year

Federal Funds (UPWP)
Barr Foundation grants
State grants (*EOHED One-Stop, EEA, Community Compact, MHP, MVP, etc.*)
Local funds
Program Details

- MAPC asks applicants to submit project ideas – call for projects released in late fall annually

- Applicants are encouraged to reach out to MAPC staff prior to submitting ideas

- Grants awarded on an annual basis, usually in February/March and July/August (if funding remains)

- Grant awards vary from $5K to $30-40K – depends on other project budget sources

Funding Priorities

- Advances racial and social equity
- Involves multiple communities
- Implements regional and state priorities (MetroCommon2050, Housing Choice Initiatives, Community Compact Best Practices)
MetroCommon2050

- **Access** to arts, cultural, and social activities
- **Public art and programming** to better understand people, places, and history
- **Affordable** space for artists to live and work
- Historic buildings, properties, and landscapes are adapted to meet contemporary challenges (climate, housing, accessibility, recreational needs)
- **Historic preservation** benefits the full range of the region’s cultural heritage
- **Human-centered public realm** through urban design and public art

*Goal: Thriving Arts, Culture, and Heritage*

Greater Boston is full of unique places and experiences that bring joy and foster diversity and social cohesion.
MAPC Expertise ⏳ Connections to Historic Preservation

Community Engagement
- Build consensus around historic preservation efforts
- Engage new residents and communities to broaden understanding of local history

Land Use & Housing
- Align zoning with preservation goals
- Incentivize adaptive reuse and restoration of historic properties
- Visioning for historic structures to be converted into housing or mixed-use

Clean Energy & Environment
- Innovate ways to adapt historic structures against climate change and natural hazards like flooding and make structures more energy efficient

Economic Development
- Support small businesses that are cultural anchors
- Recognize legacy businesses
- Highlight economic impact of historic preservation
### Current Projects and Focus Areas

#### Transportation
- Assess multimodal access to historic and cultural landmarks
- Improve multimodal connectivity around historic districts

#### Arts & Culture
- Neighborhood plans for cultural and historic districts
- Visioning and concept plans for adaptive reuse
- Work with local artists to promote a better understanding of local history and investment in preservation
- Collaboration between historical commissions, cultural councils, and community preservation committees

#### Municipal Collaboration
- Shared services for procurement or maintenance needs of historic structures
- Capacity building for local governance
Current and Recent Projects

- Visioning for fire station conversion to arts center in Revere
- Map highlighting African American history in Arlington, Concord, Lexington
- Salem Charlotte Forten Memorial Call for Art Process
  - Establishes a process for commissioning commemorative works of art through engagement
- Concept plan for converting former state courthouse into an arts and culture center

Historic & Cultural Resource Elements in Comprehensive Plans

- Creates goals and policies to guide Historical Commissions, Cultural Councils, and Community Preservation Committees in Wrentham, Dedham, Revere, and others
Historic Preservation at MAPC

• Nationwide experience. Work samples from Charleston, SC; New Jersey; Cape Cod
• National Park Service grant writing and management
• National Register of Historic Places nomination process
• Certified Local Governments
• Historic preservation bylaw preparation
• Preservation easement development
• Surveying underrepresented histories and landmarks
• Climate/disaster resiliency for cultural resources
• Cultural tourism

New MAPC staff expand historic preservation expertise
Historic Preservation at MAPC

• Emphasis on highlighting underrepresented stories through local historic contexts and tangible resource preservation (example: Chinatown Cultural Plan)

• Region-wide survey project

• Eastern MA Historical Commission Coalition
How do you apply for a TAP grant?

Complete the TAP application form
Optional: Consult with an MAPC staff member to help refine a project idea

This year’s initial deadline: Jan. 16

Application requires:
- Support from municipal CEO (Town Manager, Mayor, etc.) or designated member of leadership team
- MAPC Council Representative from lead municipal applicant
- Acknowledgement of MAPC’s Racial Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Statement

Note: Cash matches are NOT required
Leveraging TAP Funds for State Grants

• If you have a project idea that is a good candidate for a state grant program, and you know you want MAPC to do the work, MAPC may award TAP funds to serve as grant matches (if grant is approved).

• MAPC will develop scopes of work for grant applications.

What grants have you applied for and/or received in the past?
Thank you!

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