

Springfield Community Preservation Grant Application

Community Preservation Funds are available in four categories: Community Housing, Historic Resource, Open Space & Recreation. You may skip a question if it does not apply to your project. ***IMPORTANT*** If you click on any links in this application, you must use the back arrow to return to this application or you will lose your work. Be sure to save your application.

INTRODUCTION

Please read the [instruction and information pages on the CPC website](#) before proceeding with this application. Options to save and finish the application later are found at the bottom of this application.

Helpful additional resource links can be found on the [Home page](https://www.springfield-ma.gov/finance/community-preservation) <https://www.springfield-ma.gov/finance/community-preservation>

Review the [DOR Community Preservation Fund Allowable Spending Purposes Chart](#) to determine if your project qualifies for CPA funding. Questions about this form or to receive a paper application, please call 413-530-1268 or by email cpc@springfieldcityhall.com

Applicant :

Non-Profit Organization

Neighborhood where the project is proposed	Grant Request Amount
Metro Center/Downtown	\$14,470.00

Location of proposed project

127 State Street, Springfield, Massachusetts 01103

Name of Organization or Individual

Community Music School of Springfield (CMSS)

Project/Program Title:

CMSS Exterior Improvements

CPA program area— check all that apply. Once you make a selection, only the questions relating to that selection(s) will appear.

Historic Resource

Brief Project/Program Summary

This project will make historically appropriate improvements to CMSS building exterior, including refinishing deteriorating entrances, repairing masonry, and removing historically inappropriate additions.

Anticipated Start Date of Construction

7/1/2023

Anticipated completion date of project

10/30/2023

Applicant Contact Name and Title

Sierra Simmons, Associate Director

Applicant Contact Phone Number

(413) 750-9565

Applicant Contact Email
ssimmons@communitymusicschool.com

Website
Communitymusicschool.com

Additional project partner email address

Name of additional project partner

Applicant Contact Address
127 State Street, Springfield, Massachusetts 01103

Grant Request

Grant Request Amount
\$14,740.00

Will you be seeking multi-year funding?
No

Total Project Budget
\$14,740.00

Total Sources of Committed Funding (excluding this grant request)
\$0.00

CPA request as % of project
100

List committed funds from all sources and agencies. If none write zero or none.
none

Budget
CMSS Exterior Improvements Budget 2023.pdf

Sustainability
We are committed to responsibly stewarding this magnificent Art Deco bank building that enables us to fulfill our mission. CMSS is undergoing a facilities needs assessment this year that will inform further preservation needs of our building and enable us to create a multi-year plan and budget for facilities costs.

Fair Wage Compliance Certificate. Applies only to non-municipal projects.

Maps
GIS Map - CMSS.png

Parcel ID #
111100639

Applicant standing in property
Property Owner

Comments

Historic Preservation Questions

Historic preservation projects must follow the Secretary of Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation. Assisted properties are subject to an exterior preservation restriction or require a local historic district designation.

Does my project qualify? [Quick reference.](#)

Is the building over 100 years old or have other local

What year was the property

historic significance due to age, architecture, social history, etc.? **built?**
Yes 1933

Is the building located in a National Register District? **Will the owner agree to a preservation restriction or local historic district designation?**
Yes Yes

Has the project been reviewed and approved by the Springfield Historical Commission?
Yes

What steps will be taken to ensure the work complies with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards?

CMSS worked with a historic preservation professional to create our project plan, and will work with a contractor who is experienced with historic preservation projects to implement these improvements. We are committed to ensuring that appropriate materials are used and that the appearance of the building will retain its historic character.

Has the appropriate City agency been contacted?
Yes

Has the appropriate Neighborhood Civic Association been contacted?
N/A

Project Details

PLEASE NOTE: You have the option of typing in a response or attaching a file. If your responses are lengthy, please upload a document. Be sure to label each document with a title.

Narrative (200 words or less)

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The Springfield Safe Deposit & Trust Company building which houses Community Music School of Springfield is a landmark building with significant historic, architectural and civic importance. Completed in 1933, it is an outstanding example of the Art Deco style, retaining integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. Located in the heart of Springfield's Central Cultural District, the building is important as a prominent work of architecture and as a part of Springfield's downtown cityscape.

The Safe Deposit and Trust Company made the decision to begin the building's construction during the Great Depression to "stimulate local building activities... and alleviate unemployment in the building trades," with

preference given to local laborers. The bank achieved success and stability. With a long history of service to the community, the building continues in that role as the Community Music School of Springfield, whose mission is to provide an equitable and inclusive center of excellence in music education that empowers individuals, inspires creative passion, and promotes wellbeing in our greater community. CMSS is prioritizing this preservation project as part of our commitment to maintaining the integrity of our historic building despite the ongoing challenge of securing funding for facilities projects.

Project Description (200 words or less)

Project Description

This project falls under the CPA category of Historic Preservation, retaining and preserving the historic character of the building and its distinctive features and materials. This \$14,740 project focuses on repairing and improving our building's entrances and damaged areas of the wall.

There is significant wear on our State Street entrance, including the finish, decorative elements, lettering, and masonry, which we would repaint and repair. Our Stockbridge Street entrance has worn and faded finish, and we would refinish this entrance. An unused entrance on the east elevation, not a required egress, is covered with historically inappropriate weather stripping and CMSS signage (still visible despite being painted over), which were added in the early 2000s. We would carefully remove the sign and the door surround, seeking evidence of the surround's original configuration, in order to then restore it to its original appearance. We would then touch up the masonry and paint as necessary and clean up graffiti. Finally, we would repair missing masonry along the building's northwest corner, preventing additional deterioration.

Applicant Experience

Applicant Experience

CMSS is committed to maintaining the integrity of our historic building by maintaining its systems and restoring areas of the building that become deteriorated. In the last 7 years, CMSS has secured 5 Community Development Block Grants for Rehabilitation of Nonprofits, and we have been successful in completing projects in a timely manner and fulfilling the stringent

requirements of this federal grant. CDBG projects included an HVAC controls upgrade, accessibility improvements, and renovation of our basement studios. CMSS has two other urgent facilities projects currently in the planning and fundraising stages: a full roof replacement, and a restroom accessibility project. We are leveraging state and individual funding for the roof replacement, and CDBG funding for the restroom renovation.

For this CPA request, the improvements to CMSS' entrances were initially recommended by CMSS Board Member and retired Springfield City Planner Scott Hanson. The masonry repair was recommended by CMSS insurance agency due to potential for increased loss or destruction. These recommendations were examined, assessed, and either confirmed or augmented by Preservation Professional Peter Hamm of Historic Preservation Associates out of Wales, Massachusetts, who then provided the cost estimates used for this project budget. Additional modifications to the original plan were made based on recommendations from the Springfield Preservation Trust.

CMSS Executive Director and Associate Director have demonstrated a consistent ability to oversee facilities projects. Eileen McCaffery has served as Executive Director for 11 years. She has overseen several significant capital projects, including securing grants and contractors, and managing project finances, timelines and personnel. Sierra Simmons, Associate Director, has managed CMSS' grant writing and compliance for 9 years. She has managed several capital grants from application to implementation and reporting. She is also involved in the regular maintenance and upkeep of the facility, coordinating a variety of vendors and contractors.

Comments or additional information

User experience. This is our first year using an on-line application. If you have suggestions to improve the form please let us know.

Signature to Submit Application

The applicant certifies that all information in this application and all information furnished in support of this application is given for the purpose of obtaining a Community Preservation Act grant and is a true copy and is complete to the best of the applicant's knowledge and belief.

Sierra Simmons

Instructions:

SAVE: (button on the far right) Use this option if you'd like to save the application and resume work later. Type an email address on the next screen and a link will be sent that allows you to continue a saved application.

SUBMIT FINAL APPLICATION: Once you press this button, your application is submitted and no changes to the form will be accepted. If there is a revision, please send an email to cpc@springfieldcityhall.com. Please do not fill out another application.

A pdf link to your application will appear after you hit the submit button. Please save the file to your computer and print 9 hard copies of the application and include any attachments.

Applications may be dropped off during the hours of 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Monday, March 27 through Thursday, March 30. **THERE ARE TWO WAYS TO DELIVER APPLICATIONS.** If mailed, post mark by March 30 or hand deliver to:

DROP OFF LOCATION:

A drop box will be located inside City Hall at the **Election Office Room 25**. Look for the box labeled "CPA Applications" or ask the Clerk. Please do not drop applications in the voting box located outside of the building.

Or mail :

Springfield Community Preservation Committee
% Election Office Room 25
36 Court Street
Springfield, MA 01103

If you have a question about any part of the application process, contact the Administrator by telephone 413-530-1268 or by email at klee@springfieldcityhall.com.

Deadline for Submission is March 30, 2023 at 4:00 p.m. for both digital and hardcopy submissions.

Upload any additional files or attachments.

Timeline for CMSS Exterior Improvements.pdf

127_State_Street_CMSS(CPA_Historic_Determination).pdf

Photos.pdf

CMSS Support Letter - Springfield

Provide a list of all attachments included in this application.

1. Timeline for project
2. Historical Determination from Springfield Historical Commission
3. Photos of building and project area
4. Letter of support from Springfield Preservation Trust
5. Letter of support from Springfield Historical

Preservation Trust.pdf
CMSS Support Letter- Springfield Historical
Commission.pdf
MHC Preservation Restriction.pdf

Commission
6. CMSS' Preservation Restriction with the
Mass Historical Commission