



MASSACHUSETTS HOUSING PARTNERSHIP COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE

MHP's Community Assistance (CA) team provides technical assistance to municipalities, housing authorities, non-profits, and developers to support the development of affordable housing statewide. CA's work adjusts to respond to current housing issues facing the state and its communities.



WORKSHOPS & TRAININGS

The Community Assistance team holds trainings addressing affordable housing topics that are of interest to our constituents, often in collaboration with other non-profits, practitioners, state agencies, and municipal partners.

Past trainings have focused on:

- Chapter 40B
- Affordable Housing Trust Conference
- Affordable housing finance
- Ongoing stewardship compliance
- Using the Community Preservation Act (CPA) for housing
- Tailored presentations on local housing concerns

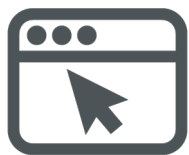
We hold annual conferences such as a conference for Affordable Housing Trusts in the fall, as well as our signature event, the Massachusetts Housing Institute, a two-day training for local officials, volunteers, and employees involved in housing. For information on upcoming trainings, visit www.mhp.net/events.



SAVE THE DATE!
**14TH ANNUAL
HOUSING INSTITUTE**
JUNE 10-11, 2020,
DEVENS, MA



HOUSING TOOLBOX
for Massachusetts Communities 



RESOURCES & PUBLICATIONS

HOUSING TOOLBOX FOR MASSACHUSETTS COMMUNITIES: MHP and the Citizens' Housing and Planning Association (CHAPA) produced this website as a one-stop resource for municipalities. It includes information on building community support, updating zoning, and navigating the housing development process.

The CA team publishes a variety of manuals and documents to guide municipalities on current affordable housing issues, including CPA and Municipal Affordable Housing Trusts. Some of our recent publications include the *Chapter 40B Handbook for Zoning Boards of Appeals*, the *Municipal Affordable Housing Guidebook* (2018 update), and a *Local Action Units (LAUs) Guide*. These are all available on the Housing Toolbox at www.housingtoolbox.org/.



www.mhp.net
www.housingtoolbox.org
www.mhp.net/DataTown

DATATOWN: DataTown is an interactive site created by MHP's Center for Housing Data that allows users to explore municipal-level information for any Massachusetts community through a series of simple, accessible charts and graphics. We want people to use DataTown to learn about their community, download the graphics, and use them to have more informed conversations about local housing needs. We are always looking for feedback and ideas for new content. Visit www.mhp.net/DataTown and tell us what you think, as well as what you would like us to add!



TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

We provide direct technical and financial assistance statewide to support the development of affordable housing through a variety of programs as described below.

40B TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE: MHP's Chapter 40B technical assistance program provides qualified consultants to assist zoning boards of appeal (ZBAs) in their review and permitting of 40B developments. The program has been underway since 1999 and has provided help to zoning boards in more than 209 communities.

PLANNING FOR AFFORDABILITY: MHP provides grants and direct technical assistance to communities interested in addressing restrictive local regulations which impede the development of affordable housing. MHP staff or consultants can review existing regulations as well as facilitate conversations and actions aimed at addressing a community's full range of housing needs. MHP has worked with communities to adopt zoning for multifamily housing, develop inclusionary zoning programs, and add affordable units using the Local Initiative Program (LIP).

MUNICIPAL AFFORDABLE HOUSING TRUSTS AND CPA: MHP works with communities to create and run effective Municipal Affordable Housing Trusts, as well as providing assistance to communities on how to use Community Preservation Act funds to support affordable housing development.

SITE FEASIBILITY REVIEW: Many communities and housing authorities identify potential properties they think may be suitable for affordable housing development, but they do not have the staff expertise to assess feasibility. CA team members provide direct assistance as well as oversee small grants for third party technical assistance to help assess a site's potential. This work ranges from financial feasibility and site analysis to preparing requests for proposals for developers.

STATE OF HOUSING ANALYSIS AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT: MHP also works with communities to move the dialogue around housing production forward. MHP can provide analysis of statewide and local housing needs, along with strategies to facilitate challenging conversations around community change.

Readymade charts available in DataTown

