

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING

Planning Today for a Stronger, More Resilient Marblehead Tomorrow

Our mission is simple but critical: to improve the quality of life for all Marblehead residents - families, seniors, the disabled, and our most vulnerable.

35	\$1.9M	\$50M+	\$700,000+	\$4 MILLION+
Active Projects Managed	Grants Secured in 2 Years	Est. Construction Value Managed	FY27 Grants Already Submitted	Additional FY27 Grants Anticipated

The CDP is Marblehead's grant engine. Every \$1 in staff salary generates far more in external funding, reducing the burden on local taxpayers. In FY27 alone, \$700K in grants are already submitted and ~\$4M more are anticipated. Without full staffing, those opportunities are lost.

WHO WE ARE	WHAT WE DO	CURRENT PROJECTS	COMMUNITY PLANS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The CDP is Marblehead's "utility player" able to support multiple departments. We lead or assist with a wide range of projects involving land use, infrastructure, open space, housing, sustainability, historic preservation, and economic growth. Our work intersects with almost every town department, board, and the community. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plan and oversee high-priority capital projects Secure and manage grants that bring outside funding into Marblehead Lead long-range planning and policy initiatives Implement sustainability and climate resiliency programs Support economic development and tourism Coordinate with boards, commissions, departments, and the public to improve quality of life 	<p>We are currently managing 35 active projects with a combined budget of \$1.8 million and estimated construction costs exceeding \$50 million, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Marblehead Rail Trail Five Corners Intersection State Street Landing and Tuckers Wharf Project Elm Street Project Municipal Boatyard Project Coffin School Disposition Net-Zero Plan Initiatives 	<p>Develop and Implement Community Plans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recreation and Open Space Plan Housing Production Plan Economic Development Plan Comprehensive Master Plan

HOW WE PARTNER ACROSS TOWN

DPW	Complete street projects, bike infrastructure, Bridge, Rail Trail, and more.
Recreation & Parks	Devereaux Beach ADA Improvements and open space projects.
Harbors & Waters	State Street Landing and Municipal Boatyard projects.
Historical Commission	Historical grants (Abbot Hall Attic Museum, REV250, and others).
Regulatory Boards and Commissions	Administers and manages the Planning Board, Zoning Board, Design Review Board, Conservation Commission, and Old Historic District Commission.
Other Boards and Committees	Assist Green Implementation Committee, Housing Committee, Complete Streets Committee, and Old Burial Hill Committee.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING

WHY A FULLY STAFFED DEPARTMENT MATTERS

MORE THAN A SINGLE PLANNER

The Town Planner role now includes acting as the town's Conservation Agent formerly overseen by the Town Engineer, leaving little capacity for strategic projects and long-range planning.

PROJECTS AT RISK

Without adequate staff, critical projects will face delays or may not move forward, wasting prior investments and delaying improvements that impact residents' quality of life.

GRANTS REQUIRE CAPACITY

Grant success requires more than writing applications; it takes staff to administer funds, manage projects, consultants, budgets, compliance, and future opportunities.

SUSTAINABILITY LEADERSHIP

Our Sustainability Coordinator leads initiatives such as EV transition planning, school energy assessments, bike infrastructure, Green Community certification, and Net Zero goals.

ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY BENEFITS

Supports local businesses, tourism, housing initiatives, and smart growth, ensuring economic vitality and strong quality of life for all.

GRANT SUCCESS

\$1.9 MILLION

awarded - 2-year net gain of \$1.1M vs. salary cost

\$700,000

FY27 grants already submitted

~\$4 MILLION

additional FY27 grants anticipated

✓ **INVEST IN MARBLEHEAD**

A smart investment that delivers far more in grants, projects, and long-term value.

Tier 1 - RESTORE

Director position restored; high-priority projects managed.

Tier 2 - STABILIZE

Asst. Planner + Conservation Agent; frees Town Planner for housing, zoning, and planning initiatives.

Tier 3 - INVEST

Dedicated Grant Writer; centralizes applications across all departments.

\$4M+ in anticipated FY27 grants achievable

× **NO OVERRIDE**

Budget cuts cost us far more - in lost grants, delayed projects, and increased burden on other departments.

Director eliminated

Loss of department stability and inconsistent decision making.

Department reduced to Town Planner + clerk only

Insufficient for current workload.

35 active projects at risk of delay or abandonment

Grant opportunities missed

No capacity to write or administer applications.

Increased burden on DPW, Rec & Parks, Harbors & other departments

Financially irresponsible

Reduces return on prior investments.

Investing in a fully staffed Community Development & Planning Department is an investment in Marblehead's future. It ensures high-quality planning, effective project execution, strategic funding, and a better quality of life for every resident.