



TO: Eve Isenberg, Chair, Community Preservation Committee
Community Development Department, 141 Keyes Rd, Concord, MA 01742

FROM: Concord Free Public Library - Library Committee & Library Director

RE: Letter of Support for the Application for CPC Funding for Storm Windows

DATE: November 4, 2025

We write this letter in support of the Concord Free Public Library Corporation's grant application requesting funding for storm windows at the Main Library (129 Main Street).

The Library is a central hub of our community and the preservation of the Main Library's original windows is of utmost importance to this Committee. The Library Committee supports the installation of these storm windows to maintain the building's historic nature while at the same time improving the insulation of these openings, reducing heating and cooling expenses, and supporting the Library's sustainability goals.

The Library was built in 1873 in the Colonial Revival style, with additions and alterations in 1917 and 1933. Along with its stellar print and art collections, the Library has continuously played a pivotal role in the culture and history of the Town of Concord. These factors clearly fit within the parameters of the CPC's aim of funding monies for the "acquisition, preservation, rehabilitation and restoration of historic resources." Further, the 2025 Historic Preservation Plan for Concord calls for "[r]eusing buildings - and making them more energy efficient - plays an essential role in meeting Concord's goals for sustainability, resilience, and climate action."

The nonprofit Library Corporation owns the Library buildings and grounds, and is responsible for the preservation and maintenance of these facilities. The Town of Concord (under the guidance of the Library Committee) employs and finances the staff and day-to-day running costs, such as utilities.

In seeking to install storm windows over the main building's single-pane original windows, instead of replacing them with modern windows, the Library Corporation would improve insulation over the current, inefficient single panes and still maintain the historic facade. The

Committee anticipates that these storm windows will result in cost savings for the Town as less funding will be necessary for heating and cooling the building if the heat gain and loss through these openings is improved. This approach has precedence and is consistent with the storm windows already in place at the Fowler Library in West Concord.

Finally, one of the Library's Sustainability goals (modeled after the Town's Climate Action and Resilience Plan) is to reduce Green House Gas (GHG) emissions and work towards achieving Net Zero emissions by 2030. Improving the insulation of the windows, leading to a reduction in the use of energy to heat and cool the building, supports that important goal of reducing the Town's and the Library's GHG and Net Zero emissions.

We believe that the installation of these storm windows would preserve the historical nature of the building, save the Town money in the future, and further the Town's and the Library's sustainability goals. And as the committee spends quite a bit of time admiring the windows during our meetings, we can attest to our support for keeping these beautiful, original structures in place!

Thank you for your consideration of the application and for your support of our beautiful Library.

Respectfully Submitted,

Laura Klein, Chair

Scott Akehurst-Moore

Thomas Clafin

Sara Pacelle

Pam Ressler

James Vahey

Mary-Wren vanderWilden

Julie Hirschler, Associate Member

Teresa Hubscher-Younger, Associate Member

Emily Smith, Library Director