



Bill Humphrey for State Representative
12th Middlesex (Newton/Brookline)
The Humphrey Committee
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Bill Humphrey is running for State Representative in the 12th Middlesex District. His campaign platform includes the following information on Arts, Culture, and Historic Preservation:

Arts, culture, and tourism are a \$27 billion industry in Massachusetts, employing 130,000 people and often serving as the gateway introduction to Massachusetts for out-of-state skilled talent and business owners. Historic preservation is also a specialist, high-value jobs engine that maintains unique local character even as our state evolves.

Bill Humphrey has been a lifelong supporter of public funding for arts and culture and a proponent of historic preservation. As a Newton City Councilor, Bill has served for over four years on the Programs & Services Committee, which has the closest relationships with our Parks, Recreation, & Culture Commission and the Community Preservation Commission.

Bill's late grandfather was a publicist for the Boston Symphony Orchestra and his late grandmother was a Mass Art student and published a book of sketches of symphony members at work (as well as illustrating a children's book). Arts, culture, and recreational opportunities are often the things that give our lives meaning, purpose, aspiration, and ambition. They get some of us up in the morning. They give some of us something to look forward to at the end of each day or week. In some cases, the arts are our daily work, while in other cases cultural activities are a calling and passion that transcends labor and remuneration. Arts and culture fill our hearts and fortify our spirits. They should be by and for the people.

Our outgoing State Representative often worked closely with local officials and community members to address concerns at DCR-managed state parklands in our district, and Bill hopes to continue that tradition. He is currently a board member of the Friends of Hemlock Gorge.

As a lifelong Newton resident and the son of a historian, Bill has a deep appreciation for local history and an understanding of the expenses required to preserve and maintain that history. As a Newton City Councilor, Bill Humphrey supported reforms to the local landmarking ordinance and then successfully petitioned for local landmark status for the iconic Strong Block of Waban Square. He supports zoning and regulatory reforms that make preservation more feasible from a cost standpoint to property owners by changing what they can do with their properties while protecting what already exists.

Bill Humphrey is also a champion for and regular patron of public libraries, which are not only an incredible free resource of books, information, multimedia, and tools, but are also a refuge and safe haven for people of all ages and backgrounds. Bill helped lead the successful charge to stop the proposed budgetary elimination of Sunday Newton Free Library hours in 2020. Bill is also a staunch opponent of library censorship and surveillance.

Available online at <https://www.billhumphrey.org/issues-overview#culture>