



SENATOR JOHN J. CRONIN  
*Worcester and Middlesex District*

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
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Massachusetts Historical Commission  
220 William T. Morrissey Boulevard  
Boston, MA 02125

5 February 2026

Dear Members of the Funding Review Committee,

I am writing in strong support of the funding request for the restoration of the historic First Parish Church United Meeting House located in Westford, Massachusetts. As a State Senator representing this community, I have seen firsthand the vital role this institution and its building plays in the civic, cultural, and social life not only for the town of Westford but for its neighboring towns as well.

First Parish is far more than a place of worship. Since its inception over 300 years (established 1725 two years before Westford town incorporation) it has served as a central gathering space for town groups, nonprofit organizations, and community members of all ages. The church regularly hosts town-wide events, public meetings, cultural celebrations, educational programs, and charitable initiatives that bring residents together and strengthen our shared sense of community.

The proposed restoration project is essential to preserving this historic and functional space so it may continue serving the public safely and effectively. Without this investment, the deterioration of the building threatens not only an important historic structure, but also one of the few accessible venues available for inclusive, community-wide use in our town.

Funding this restoration will ensure that First Parish Church United remains a welcoming and reliable hub for civic engagement, volunteerism, and community connection. The project aligns closely with public goals of historic preservation, community development, and equitable access to shared spaces.

I commend the members of this congregation for their dedication to this project that will help allow this institution to continue its central role in this community. In addition to their church service many of the parishioners are also in active service to the town of Westford government as

well as charitable organizations. They have also pledged their own personal savings that signifies their commitment.

I thank you for your consideration and support of important projects like this that strengthen our communities.

With Every Good Wish,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John J. Cronin". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and a distinct "Cronin" at the end.

John J. Cronin  
Senator  
Worcester and Middlesex District