

MEMORANDUM

TO: Conservation Commission
FROM: Maureen O'Meara, Town Planner
DATE: June 12, 2012
SUBJECT: 2012 Greenbelt Plan Update

Introduction

The Comprehensive Plan recommends that all master plans be reviewed and updated as needed every 7 years. The 2001 Greenbelt Plan has been a blueprint for Conservation Commission stewardship of the greenbelt system. Several of the priorities have been accomplished and new trails have been added that were not originally anticipated. The Conservation Commission also just finished a management plan that has been adopted by the Town Council and may influence future greenbelt trails. An update to the plan is appropriate.

Vision

The Conservation Commission should begin with a review of the vision statement to confirm that it continues to reflect current goals of the greenbelt trail system.

Potential Trails

The 2001 plan included recommendations for several additions to the greenbelt trail system in order to implement the vision. Enclosed is a map showing current trails and open space with the original trail recommendations. It should be noted that potential trails are shown in conceptual locations. Many of these are located on private property and the 2001 Greenbelt Plan explicitly recommended that the Town work cooperatively with willing property owners to expand the greenbelt trail system. Below is a summary of current status.

<u>Trail Link Number</u>	<u>Status</u>
1	Not yet implemented
2	Not yet implemented
3	Partially implemented. The Town has cleared title to an 18 acre parcel named Loveitt Woods. Links to Loveitt Woods from the abutting neighborhoods are

largely missing however. The only legal public access is from the Stonegate Trails off Locksley Rd. CELT has pursued additional links without success at this time.

- 4 Mostly implemented. Much of the length of this trail link will be established as part of the Cottage Brook Development. A small section west of Stephenson Rd is still without public access. It should be noted that nearly all of the trail north of South Street is located in wetlands and will require boardwalk. The Management Plan grouped this area as a preserve.
- 5 Not yet implemented. We have learned that a bike route has been established on the privately owned Canterbury on the Cape preserved land, with access from Wedgewood Rd.
- 6 This link has been created in concept in another location, specifically on the southern end of the Bothel property. No trail has been constructed but public access rights have been obtained.
- 7 Not yet implemented.
- 8 Completed - Winnick Woods
- 9 Not yet implemented.
- 10 In process by CELT.
- 11 Not yet implemented.
- 12 Completed.
- 13 Not yet implemented.
- 14 Not yet implemented.
- 15 Completed.
- 16 Completed (with a caveat).

- | | |
|----|--|
| 17 | Not yet implemented. Ocean Pines potential development may influence layout. |
| 18 | Not yet implemented. |
| 19 | Not yet implemented. |
| 20 | Partially complete. |
| 22 | Not yet implemented. |
| 23 | Complete. |
| 24 | Not yet implemented. |

The Conservation Commission should also think about desirable locations for trails which have not been previously identified.

Conclusion

Once the 2012 Greenbelt Plan update is completed by the Conservation Commission, it will need to be sent to the Town Council for adoption.