



TOWN OF WESTMINSTER

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

11 South Street
WESTMINSTER, MASSACHUSETTS 01473
www.westminster-ma.gov

February 23, 2021

Melissa Cryan
Grant Programs Supervisor
Division of Conservation Services
100 Cambridge Street, 9th Floor
Boston, MA 02114

RE: Open Space and Recreation Plan Update

Dear Ms. Cryan:

The Board of Selectmen has reviewed the updated Open Space and Recreation Plan prepared by the Open Space Committee and the Town Planner. The Board voted unanimously on February 22, 2021 to support the goals and objectives outlined in the plan.

Please be assured we understand the importance of balancing the town's development needs with safeguarding the character of our community through the preservation of its open space and natural resources. We appreciate and support the efforts of the Open Space Committee in identifying and prioritizing those needs and look forward to working with the Committee in this regard.

Sincerely,


Heather M. Billings, Selectman, Chair



THE HAGER PARK COMMISSION

Town Hall - 11 South Street
Westminster, MA 01473

24 February 2021

Melissa Cryan
Grant Programs Supervisor
Division of Conservation Services
100 Cambridge Street, 9th Floor
Boston, MA 02114

Dear Ms. Cryan:


The Hager Park Commission has reviewed the Town of Westminster's draft 2021 Open Space & Recreation Plan (OSRP) and we support its submission to your office for review and approval.

Hager Park now contains approximately 172 acres and has been owned by the Town of Westminster since 1917. The land is primarily wooded but includes a recently restored 9 acre field with views of Mount Wachusett. Hager Park has a network of trails that offers recreational opportunities to town residents within a mile of our town center.


We concur with the OSRP's goals and look forward to implementing those items in the action plan that fall under our jurisdiction. Please feel free contact us if you have any questions.

Sincerely,


The Hager Park Commission



Christopher C. Mossman



Matthew E. Pearson



Alan P. Wiktorski

February 11, 2021



Steve Wallace
Town Planner
Westminster, MA

Re: Town of Westminster Open Space & Recreation Plan

Dear Mr. Wallace:

The Montachusett Regional Planning Commission (MRPC) staff completed a review of Westminster's Open Space and Recreation Plan that has been recently prepared by the Town of Westminster. MRPC staff used the *Open Space and Recreation Plan Requirements* guidebook published by the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, Division of Conservation Services, to determine if the plan complied with the required sections.

We find the plan to be well-researched, indicating to us that the committee responsible for its completion was most serious in its efforts. The MRPC is pleased to support Westminster's Open Space and Recreation Plan. We would like to take this opportunity to congratulate local residents and officials for completing a well-prepared document.

If you have any questions or desire further information, please contact us.

Sincerely,

John Hume

John Hume
Planning and Development Director



Parks and Recreations Committee

February 2, 2021

Melissa Cryan
Grant Programs Supervisor
Division of Conservation Services
100 Cambridge Street, 9th Floor
Boston, MA 02114

Dear Ms. Cryan:

The Westminster Parks and Recreation Board has reviewed the draft 2021 Open Space & Recreation Plan (OSRP) we and support its submission to your office for review and approval.

One of our members was on the ad-hoc committee that prepared this Plan and we support the recommendations contained within. Our Board has long been searching for land in the Village Center to build children's playground in our Village Center, and we are searching town-wide for land to build new athletic fields. We expect to apply for grants to fund these projects and plan to use the OSRP as a supporting document.

We concur with the OSRP's goals and look forward to implementing those items in the action plan that fall under our Board's jurisdiction.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Ralph LeBlanc', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Ralph LeBlanc, Chairman
Westminster Parks & Recreation



Town of Westminster

MASSACHUSETTS 01473
FROM THE OFFICE OF THE
PLANNING BOARD

Phone: (978) 874-7414
swallace@westminster-ma.gov

Jon Wyman, chairman Marie N. Auger, vice chairman Dan Bartkus Lawrence Skamarycz Mike Smith

February 12, 2021

Melissa Cryan
Grant Programs Supervisor
Division of Conservation Services
100 Cambridge Street, 9th Floor
Boston, MA 02114

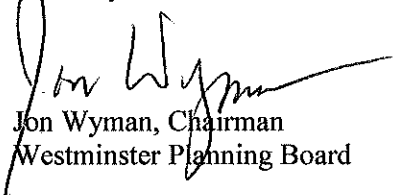
Dear Ms. Cryan:

The Westminster Planning Board has reviewed the draft 2021 Open Space & Recreation Plan (OSRP) and we write this letter in support of its submission to your Division. One of our members who also serves on the Mid-State Trail Committee was part of the ad-hoc committee that prepared this Plan. We consider this document an important component of the Town's long-range planning efforts.

The Board supports the OSRP's emphasis on protecting the Town's working landscapes for the dual purposes of promoting agriculture as an important component of our local economy and as a means of preserving the Town's rural landscape.

We concur with the OSRP's goals and look forward to implementing those items in the action plan that fall under the Planning Board's jurisdiction.

Sincerely,



Jon Wyman, Chairman
Westminster Planning Board

This institution is an equal opportunity provider

Stephen Wallace
Town Planner
swallace@westminster-ma.gov



Town of Westminister

11 SOUTH STREET
MASSACHUSETTS 01473

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE
CONSERVATION COMMISSION

mmarro@westminster-ma.gov
Phone: (978) 874-7413 * Fax: (978) 874-7411

February 18, 2021

Melissa Cryan
Grant Programs Supervisor
Division of Conservation Services
100 Cambridge Street, 9th Floor
Boston, MA 02114

Dear Ms. Cryan:

The Westminister Conservation Commission has reviewed the draft 2021 Open Space & Recreation Plan (OSRP) we and support its submission to your office for review and approval.

As managers of the Town's open space parcels (25 in all), we support the Plan's resource protections goals and the emphasis on preserving working landscapes as a means to preserving open space. Over the past two decades, the Commission has worked with our regional land trusts to preserve the entire shoreline around Muddy Pond in the north of town, and a LAND grant from your division funded part of that effort. We want to make sure that Westminister remains eligible for future open space grants and understand that having a State-approved OSRP is an important part of maintaining our grant eligibility.

We concur with the OSRP's goals and look forward to implementing those items in the action plan that fall under our Commission's jurisdiction.

Sincerely,

On Behalf and Request of The Conservation Commission,
Matthew S. Marro,
Conservation Agent
Cc: File
Conservation Commission



TOWN OF WESTMINSTER

11 South Street
Westminster, Massachusetts 01473
(978) 874-7401 • Fax (978) 874-7462

Westminster Agricultural Commission

February 18, 2021

Ms. Melissa Cryan
Grant Programs Supervisor
Division of Conservation Services
100 Cambridge Street, 9th Floor
Boston, MA 02114

Dear Ms. Cryan:

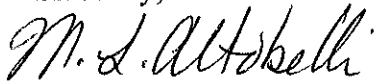
The Westminster Agricultural Commission has reviewed the draft 2021 Open Space & Recreation Plan (OSRP), and we support its submission to your office for review and approval.


Our Chairperson of the Agricultural Commission was pleased to serve on the ad-hoc committee that prepared this Plan. As a Commission, we appreciate the Plan's emphasis on protecting working landscapes, especially farms and farmland soil as a means to preserving open space.


While agriculture constitutes a small portion of our local economy, we are still largely a rural farming community, a Right to Farm community, and we run a very popular weekly farmer's market on our town common from May through October. We are a very active committee and have a number of projects planned for the future, many of them contained in the Action Plan of this document.


We concur with the OSRP's goals and look forward to implementing those items in the action plan that fall under our Commission's jurisdiction.


Sincerely,



ML Altobelli, Chair


Sue Nickerson, Secretary


Sheryl Vaillete, community liaison


Dean Johnson, Treasurer


Heather Bowen, member at large


Karen Sargent, community liaison