

From: Ann LeRoy <annleroy12@gmail.com>
To: LDiggins@town.arlington.ma.us, Eric Helmuth <EHelmuth@town.arlington.ma.us>, JHurd@town.arlington.ma.us, SDeCoursey@town.arlington.ma.us, DMahon@town.arlington.ma.us
Cc: mkrepelka@town.arlington.ma.us, spooler@town.arlington.ma.us, jfeeney@town.arlington.ma.us, David Morgan <dmorgan@town.arlington.ma.us>
Date: 06/23/2022 03:15 PM
Subject: Letter of Support for Open Space and Recreation Plan

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Town of Arlington's email system. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the REAL sender (whose email address in the From: line in "< >" brackets) and you know the content is safe.

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Dear Members of the Select Board,

I am pleased to send you this link to the draft Open Space and Recreation Plan for 2022-2029, with a request that you review the document and provide us with your comments and a letter of support by July 22.

You can read the Plan and the Appendices here: https://bit.ly/Arlington_OSRP

The Town's current plan was approved in 2015 for seven years by the state Division of Conservation Services in the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs – the state agency that sets the guidelines for open space plans and must approve and authorize the plans.

The Open Space Committee, along with staff in the Department of Planning and Community Development, began work on this updated version of the Plan several years ago. The first step was to prepare an application for funding support from the Community Preservation Act Committee, which was recommended by the Select Board and approved by Town Meeting in 2020. The grant for \$35,000 allowed us to hire Horsley Witten Group to provide technical support and participatory planning expertise for the extensive updating process.

During 2020 and 2021, we held several remote public forums, met with Town staff and other committee members, held listening sessions at parks and other locations around town, and conducted an online survey that was completed by more than 1,000 residents. The comments, recommendations, concerns, and new ideas gathered from these outreach efforts contributed to the needs analysis and the goals and objectives outlined in the Action Plan and throughout the other sections that describe the community and its open spaces.

On behalf of the committee, I want to thank you again for your past support of our work, and for the efforts of everyone in town who works together to implement these goals and objectives.

Please let me know if you have any questions. After we finalize this draft in late July and receive the official state approval, we will print a small number of copies for Town offices, and the entire Plan will be posted on the Town website.

Thank you again for taking some time to review this draft Plan and providing us with a letter of support that we can forward to the state.

PS... we are still proofing this report ourselves, and, for example, will update Sandy Pooler's title to Town Manager (congratulations!) and fix any other needed edits ... Also, I will attend the Select Board meeting on Monday, June 27, when I understand my reappointment to the Open Space Committee will be addressed. I will be glad to answer any questions at that time. Thanks again!

Ann LeRoy, Chair
Open Space Committee