

TOWN OF HAMPDEN

OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION PLAN



2017

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TOWN OF HAMPDEN OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION PLAN UPDATE 2017

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and

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TOWN OF HAMPDEN OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION PLAN

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SECTION 1: PLAN SUMMARY



The preservation of Hampden’s environmental resources, rural character, and historic quality are key components of Hampden’s Open Space and Recreation Plan Update. Trends in population growth and the pressure to develop available land makes it imperative to have a clear and common vision in order to “grow smart”, balancing new growth and development with the permanent protection of the most critical areas of open space.

The important needs of the citizens of Hampden are the protection of water resources, the preservation of agricultural and forested land; the maintenance and historic value of the Scantic River and the Town Center; the enhancement of recreational opportunities for residents of all ages, interests, and abilities; and the protection of mountain ridges from unsuitable development.

The passage of the Community Preservation Act in April 2001 Town Meeting signifies the commitment of Hampden citizens to support open space protection, recreational opportunities and historic preservation, as well as affordable housing. At subsequent Town Meetings over the last 16 years, the voters allocated approximately \$213,500 for Recreation (e.g. Memorial Park Spray Park, Playscapes, Pavilions, and ADA improvements), \$67,600 for Affordable Housing (e.g. Centennial Commons upgrades and Housing Needs study) plus a \$55,000 set-aside for future obligations, \$209,300 for Historical Preservation (e.g. Town House renovations, Library, Town and Cemetery records conservation and gravestone preservation), and \$180, 980 for Open Space (Goat Rock and West Brook Conservation Areas, South Rd and Pine Mountain Conservation Restrictions).

Some of the priority needs for water resource protection include the protection of groundwater supplies and watershed areas; the prevention of non-point source pollution of the Scantic River; the preservation of floodplain; and the creation of greenbelt areas along Town waterways. In terms of preservation of agricultural and forested land for future uses, landowners are encouraged to enroll in the Chapter 61, 61A and 61B program, and to keep land in the program if it is currently enrolled in this program. The Selectmen will be encouraged to consider exercise of the 120-day right-of-first-refusal option on Chapter 61 properties before they are sold for development. In Massachusetts, towns can exercise this option or assign it to a qualified non-profit for current Chapter 61 land. Hampden residents have also chosen to place some parcels of both public and private land under permanent conservation or agricultural protections.

SECTION 2: INTRODUCTION

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE



Hampden's first Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP), submitted in 1981, evolved from Town concern over the future use and development of Hampden's natural resources. Hampden citizens' interest in preserving environmental quality led them to investigate all current open space areas, recreational facilities, water resources, land uses, population characteristics, and Town growth rates in order to develop a realistic plan of action for their open space, conservation and recreation areas.

Since that time, Hampden has been experiencing continuing development pressure. Development in inappropriate areas and failure to protect significant resources such as wetlands, open spaces, mountain ridges and floodplains will bring serious effects. The Town's OSRP was updated in 2003, and 2009, each time expanding on strategies to preserve and protect open space and natural resources and improve recreational resources in the Town.

After publication of the last OSRP update, the Town of Hampden began work on several of the identified items in the action plan, developing strategies for the following goals as identified in the 2009 plan:

- Maintain historic quality and physical appearance of the Town center;
- Manage physical development to preserve, enhance, and where appropriate, capitalize on the Town's environmental attributes and rural character;
- Protect Water Resources;
- Maximize utilization of recreation and conservation facilities for all town residents including effective management and equitable distribution of services; and
- Preserve agricultural and forested land for future uses.

While significant progress has been made towards these goals, Hampden residents remain concerned that growth and development patterns could result in the loss of farmland and open space, compromise the quality of private and public water supplies, and create unattractive commercial strip development. There is also a pervasive apprehension that any changes made in the Town may adversely affect the Town's quiet charm and rural character.

For these reasons, and to comply with MA DCS requirements to update the OSRP every 7-years, the committee has undertaken this 2017 update of the Hampden OSRP.

PLANNING PROCESS AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

In 2017, the Hampden Open Space and Recreation Plan Committee reconvened to kick off the effort to update its 2009 OSRP. Committee members included active citizen volunteers; members of various town boards including the Board of Selectmen, Community Preservation Committee (CPC), and Conservation Commission; and representatives from local organizations such as the Minnechaug Land Trust, Hampden Seniors, and the Friends of the Senior Center. A list of additional considerations and questions was distributed to Town Departments and Committees to encourage participation and comment. The committee reviewed past iterations of the OSRP, and evaluated progress made towards the goals, objectives, and actions presented in the 2009 plan. It conducted a structured public engagement effort to solicit input on the 2017 OSRP update, utilizing various media outlets to raise awareness of the effort, and inviting public input through online and hard copy surveys, as well as a public OSRP Visioning workshop at the Town Hall. A comparable process has been used for the original Open Space Plan document and for each Update.

In August, 2017, the committee posted the Hampden 2017 Open Space and Recreation Plan Update Survey to explore Hampden residents' uses, wishes, and dreams for the Town's current and future open spaces. A link to the online survey was posted to the Town website and Facebook pages and the hard copy survey was distributed at the Senior Center and in multiple locations around the Hampden Town House. The survey was also publicized through in local newspapers including the Scribe, Hampden/Wilbraham Times, and the Reminder. After 6 weeks, over 80 surveys had been filled out. The survey and results of the survey are included in the appendices (Appendices A and B).

The committee received almost 90 responses to the OSRP survey, a copy of which is included in the appendices. Highlights of the survey include:

- Hampden residents are most likely to participate in the following recreational activities: walking (74%), hiking (68%), and bicycling (49%).
- Residents expressed a desire to see more hiking trails (58%), public swimming access to a pond with a beach (50%) or to a river (48%), and multi-use trails (48%). Others wanted canoe/kayak put-ins and facilities, and more recreational opportunities for adults in the Town. Write-ins included more sidewalks and ice skating on Mill Pond. These are also the activities that respondents noted they most often go outside of Hampden to do, along with Kayak/canoe put-ins and off-road bike trails. 72.55% said they would like to see improvements in the connections of bike and multi-purpose Trails.

- When asked about the importance of protecting/conserving the following community features, drinking water ranked very high (30% of respondents ranked as #1) compared to other options, for which peoples’ passions were more dispersed (Open space/natural/ conservation lands: 19% of respondents ranked as #1, Woodlands: 17%, Working Farms: 16%, Water resources (natural/recreational): 12%).

The survey remained open into October, 2016 and was again publicized through notifications about the Hampden OSRP Update public workshop and visioning session. The public was notified of a visioning session scheduled for Wednesday, September 27th, 2017 at the Hampden Town House Auditorium. Notice about the event was posted on the Town website, Facebook pages, around the Town House and Library, at the local Market and Senior Center, and in the local newspapers listed above.

Approximately 12 people attended the visioning session (sign-in sheet is included in the appendix). The session opened with a brief presentation on the purpose and components of an OSRP. A visioning exercise followed, in which two small groups formed to visualize what the “ideal” Hampden would look like in 10 to 20 years in terms of open space and recreation. Next, participants discussed what would be needed to achieve those visions and began articulating goals. At the end of the discussion, the top goals were prioritized and priority actions were listed by the entire group.

Notably, the attendants specifically decided that the five primary goals were of equal importance – designating a group of particular objectives to be addressed as priorities.

The Hampden Conservation Commission and interested Town residents had previously participated in Open Space Planning workshops in May 2003 and July 2009 where they discussed their vision for Hampden and what they considered to be unique features in the Town (see Figure 1, below). One portion of the Visioning Workshop in September 2017, specifically revisited those 2009 goals, objectives, and action plan items, which have been incorporated in this 2017 OSRP Update along with new goals, objectives, and “wish list” items for the future of the Town.

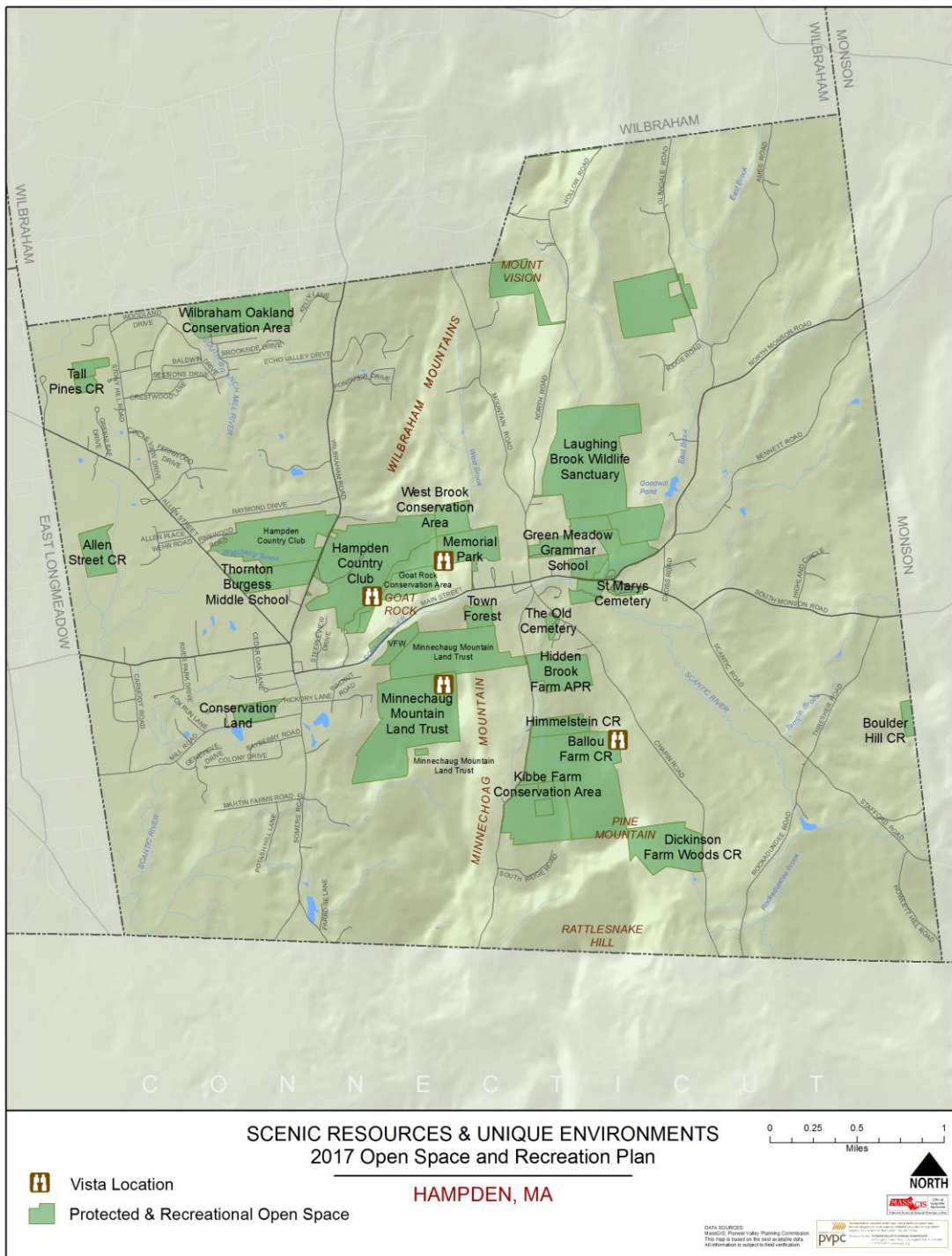


FIGURE 1: SCENIC RESOURCES AND UNIQUE ENVIRONMENTS IN HAMPDEN

ENHANCED OUTREACH

The Hampden OSRP committee made extra efforts to ensure the plan update process was broadly publicized and accessible for all members of the public to participate in. Based on an understanding of the community demographics and special populations, the committee advertised the 2017 survey and

visioning session through a mix of printed and digital media, and provided access to hard copy surveys at a number of locations throughout town. Approximately one-third of surveys completed were hard-copy. Among diverse populations, surveys consistently reveal that word of mouth, phone calls, or face-to-face and peer-to-peer communications are the most desired forms of communication. Committee members posted survey links and meeting notifications on the Town's two Facebook pages, as well as some of the committee members' personal social media accounts, and asked volunteers from other partnering organizations, including the Town Senior Center, to help spread the word. In addition, paid advertisements were run in local newspapers.

SECTION 3: COMMUNITY SETTING



REGIONAL CONTEXT

Hampden is a suburban community of 5,139 at the 2010 census with a municipal budget of slightly over 12.5 million dollars in 2016 (2016 Annual Town Report). It is located approximately 10 miles southeast of Springfield, Massachusetts, along the northern banks of the Scantic River, and comprises a total area of 19.65 square miles. It is bordered by East Longmeadow on the west, Wilbraham on the north, Monson on the east, and Somers and Stafford, Connecticut on the south. In the recent past, the Town has accomplished 2.5 million dollars in school renovations and improvements.

Hampden Village is nestled among a series of hills and mountains that rise to picturesque effect, including Mount Vision (931'), Minnechaug Mountain (908'), Pine Mountain (880'), and Goat Rock, which affords scenic views into East Longmeadow and Somers, Connecticut. The greatest elevation is situated in southern Hampden, where Pine Mountain reaches 1070 feet. Buildings in Hampden Center date largely from the 1780s to the 1950s, although the majority were constructed during the middle decades of the nineteenth century when woolen mills flourished along the Scantic River.

Hampden has historically been able to enjoy seclusion and a slow rate of growth as a result of its location and distance from major population centers. Although Hampden is primarily a residential community, there has been some commercial building in recent years, which assists in the stabilization of its finances. There are no state highways in town, but the county and rural roads are in good condition. The nearest

state highway is Route 83 in the neighboring town of East Longmeadow. In 1904, the Town narrowly avoided being partially flooded in order to provide a water supply for the City of Springfield. There is no passenger or freight rail service and no bus service.

Hampden residents share many open space and recreational resources with residents of neighboring municipalities, and in some cases, Hampden residents share property lines with such amenities. A land protection effort was undertaken by residents in the Sessions Road/Baldwin Drive area, who, along with neighboring Wilbraham residents, worked to prevent development of a 70-acre parcel that would have altered the character of their neighborhood. In 2005, this land was purchased as conservation land by the Town of Wilbraham in conjunction with the Department of Environmental Management. In recent years the town of Wilbraham has adopted and enacted a Forest Management Plan for that parcel, which has prompted issues for Hampden neighbors regarding trail quality and ATV use, an already serious problem on other conservation properties throughout town.

In addition, Hampden middle school students currently attend the Thornton W. Burgess (TWB) Middle School in Hampden before going to Minnechaug Regional High School in Wilbraham. TWB is a recreation asset for Hampden residents, hosting a large open space behind the school building with multiple ball fields and a basketball court. Hampden-Wilbraham Regional School District and its residents have been studying various consolidation plans which call for sending Hampden students to Wilbraham Middle School and/or for disbursing them to the Elementary and High School for up to five years, or possibly longer if the regional agreement is amended again at a later date. The future of TWB as a municipally-owned recreational resource for Hampden residents may be impacted by the ultimate course of the school consolidation plans.

Town residents currently participate in recreational programs through the school system, the Parks and Recreation Department and a limited agent, The Recreation Association of Hampden, and the library system. Residents also participate in organized outdoor events such as the Harvest Hike and Brunch, beginning at the Veterans of Foreign Wars post on Main Street or in Memorial Park and co-sponsored by the Minnechaug Land Trust, the Boy Scouts, the Girl Scouts, and other groups. Between 100 - 150 people hike on Minnechaug Mountain or the Goat Rock Preserve at this Town event. In 2009 the Garden Club sponsored creation of a community garden in the field at the South Road entrance to Minnechaug Mountain Conservation Land, which was relocated to more arable land on a private parcel on Mill Road in 2010, then in 2012 gained a more permanent home on town land next to Green Meadows Elementary School. It has plots available to the general public and is now overseen by its own members. Use of this site could be jeopardized by expansion at the Elementary School.

Hampden has a traditional well-attended Memorial Day Parade followed by a Remembrance Ceremony held at the War Memorial near the Town House in which nearby towns often participate with bands or fire-fighting equipment. It has had on-again-off-again Fall Festivals and Art Shows of several iterations. An active Farmer's Market is currently held at the Baptist Church grounds from Spring through Fall. The Hampden Senior Center has many active programs and attendants, and sits next to the new Police Station on Allen Street.

Minnechaug Land Trust (MLT), a 501©3 nonprofit land trust that works on behalf of the Towns of Hampden and Wilbraham to preserve open space, organized both Minnechaug Mountain campaigns, the purchase of the West Brook Area, and the two CR purchases using CPA funds and State grants. In 2010,

MLT acquired a 35-acre parcel, known as Goat Rock Conservation Land, connecting two Town parks via a popular hiking trail, the Goat Rock Ridge Trail, which runs along the Wilbraham Mountain ridge for a little over a mile. The property was transferred to the Town of Hampden after its acquisition, and is now open for the pleasure of the public. West Brook I was purchased and transferred to the Town for public use in 2013, and the Land Trust is currently working on closure for a 39 acre parcel at Mt. Vision that will allow hiking through to some Wilbraham areas.

HISTORY OF THE COMMUNITY

The territory that now comprises the Towns of Wilbraham and Hampden was called Minnechaug by the Algonquin tribe of Nipmuck in the area, which translates to “Berryland”. There are suspected native sites along the north bank of the Scantic River near the Town Center. For generations, berries of all kinds grew abundantly in the area. Wilbraham and Hampden were part of the Outward Commons of the Town of Springfield for some years after they were settled, until 1763 when the Town of Wilbraham was incorporated. Hampden was then known as South Wilbraham. On March 28, 1878, Hampden took its name from the county, which was named after the prominent British statesman John Hampden.

Hampden’s first settler arrived in 1741. Nine years later, in 1750, Lewis Langdon erected the first sawmill in town, on the Scantic River. About 1775, he built a grist mill about 1650 feet below his sawmill. This was the beginning of a series of sawmills, grist mills, shingle mills, woolen mills, and dams that operated throughout the 18th and 19th centuries. Establishment of these mills along the Scantic created an extended street village from the Town center, which today yields several modest mid-19th century examples of residences. Many of the mills succumbed to fires, and newer mills were built in the same locations.

In 1831, Hampden was still covered with “thatch”. The native Americans in the area used to burn the land every year to help in growing berries. They also used the rivers in the Town for fishing, and generally the land was more suited to dairy and orchards than farming. Additionally, in the late 1800’s, there was a prominent timber and charcoal industry, which denuded the land of all trees. The charcoal was used for the powder mills in Hazardville (later known as Enfield, Connecticut). There had been speculation that a railroad from Springfield to Providence through Hampden would be built in the late 1870’s, but that failed to materialize. Without a railroad, the competition of larger mills in urban centers was a deterrent to quality production in Hampden. One mill, the Lacousic, burned in 1892 and was not rebuilt, and the Ravine Mill burned in 1904. In 1891, the Town library was formed. There is still one surviving orchard, Bilton’s, which grows peaches and apples. When the large Ballou Farm on South Road was at risk of development, the Land Trust assisted a private party in preserving the parcel as farmland; two other farms have also been protected.

In the early 20th century, the lack of industry and easy forms of transportation that caused business to fail or leave the Town made it increasingly attractive for tourism and as a summer residence. One of Hampden’s more prominent summer residents was naturalist, conservationist and author Thornton Burgess (1874-1965), who summered at 789 Main Street from 1928 to 1955. He also lived here year-round for the final ten years of his life. Some of Hampden’s residents responded quickly to this potential new source of income. In 1911, for example, the Steward Beebe house on North Road was converted into a hotel, the Maple Tree Inn. There was also the Hampden Hotel, opened in 1902. In the 1930’s Albert Lee

renamed Pine Mountain and built an observation deck and dance hall on it. The deck was a tower which provided a view of the surrounding area; therefore, the mountain became known as “Tower Mountain.”

It is apparent that Hampden has undergone various transitions throughout its history. Once a farming community, it became a mill town and then a sleepy community overlooked by the nearby cities. Now its proximity to Springfield and Hartford has drawn commuters, creating a bedroom community that nonetheless has substantial truck traffic, particularly on Somers and Wilbraham Roads and Allen Street. A majority of the Town’s population commute to Springfield, Hartford and Worcester.

The community has found, however, that as people continue to move to the suburbs, Hampden has become an even more desirable place to live. A large number of subdivisions were put on hold due to the downturn in the housing industry in the last decade. Several of those subdivisions are now actively developing (e.g. Kibbe Lane, South Ridge Road, Chapin Road). When built, the planned housing may result in an influx of children into the school system. While space in the schools was at a premium in 2009, some local schools are likely being closed, so future building expenditures are possible. A new Police Station and a small full-time fire contingent have been added in the last 2 years to accommodate current changes. Similar potential costs, as well as other service increases caused by population changes, such as police and fire protection, must be monitored carefully in order to provide adequate services to Hampden residents at moderate cost.

The local golf course, which was open to the public, was sold and converted to more exclusive membership, with a very high entry threshold for use, so that access to this large and beautiful tract of land has essentially been lost to most residents. The associated development has also prompted issues around water use, wetland preservation, and effects on abutters. A desire for more water usage at this site has prompted current consideration of water and sewer line installation in some parts of town.

DEMOGRAPHICS / POPULATIONS CHARACTERISTICS

In the year 2015, the total population of Hampden was 5,179. In 2008, the total population was 5,143. Many factors contribute to population growth, including desirability of location, location and availability of infrastructure, and the state of the economy. The population density in Hampden in 2010 was 264.2 people per square mile. The median age has risen slightly from 47.8 in 2010 to 49.1 in 2015, with the majority of the population falling between the ages of 45 and 64 years. Over 10% of Hampden residents live with a disability. Over 99% of Hampden’s population is white – only 3.4% are foreign born and 4.7% of the population 18 years old and over speak a language other than English in the home.

Median household income in 2015 compares quite favorably to that of Hampden County in general. While the county as a whole had a median income of \$51,514, Hampden had a median household income of \$81,018. Young people in Hampden are more likely to experience financial burdens, with 7.4% of individuals under 18 years of age falling below the poverty level, compared to 4.3% of residents 65 years and over, and 5.2% of residents overall. The unemployment rate in Hampden has dropped from 7.2% in 2009 to 3.1% in 2017, according to the Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development (EOLWD) (MAEOLWD 2017). The 2017 labor force is 2,971. The vast majority of workers who live in Hampden commuted alone to work, and the average commute time was 28.5 minutes, almost 6 minutes longer than the average length of for all commuters in the Hampden County.

Currently, there is a pattern of movement from rural areas and center cities to suburban areas like Hampden. Regional land use patterns indicate a movement westerly from the Palmer area and easterly from Springfield along major roads into Hampden, Wilbraham and Ludlow. Employment in the area, which is primarily based in the Springfield area, is following the trend of the slowly recovering economy.

INDUSTRIES

As noted in the Community History, Hampden's industry, from the first sawmill in 1741, expanded to grist mills, more sawmills, a shingle mill, and woolen and button mills, powered by dams along the waters of the Scantic. As the town developed, plow shops, tanneries and blacksmith shops edged the Scantic shores, gradually surrounded by orchards, pastures, and field crops. The town's structure echoes its beginning.

As South Wilbraham, Hampden had been primarily an agricultural town of orchards and dairies, along with a thriving timber and charcoal industry, for nearly a hundred years. Hampden separated from Wilbraham in 1878, near the beginning of its industrial apex. The mills experienced multiple burn-rebuild cycles, peaking in the 1880s and 1890's, but succumbing eventually, near the turn of the century, to larger mills established elsewhere with easier access to transport.

Moving into the 1900's, the trend moved back to agriculture - adding new orchards. Hampden's industries became centered on tourism and summer residents, with several hotels, inns, observation decks from mountain tops, and even a dance hall. More recently, those vacation homes have become permanent residences neighbored by new homes and subdivisions. Some orchards, crop and livestock farms, and at least one operating sawmill remain. Hampden is now home to many small-to-moderate-sized entrepreneurial ventures and to commuters.

The most common industries in Hampden in 2016, by percentage, were: Construction (11%), Public administration (6%), Professional, scientific, and technical services (5%), Health care (5%), Educational services (5%), Arts, entertainment, and recreation (4%), and Food and beverage stores (4%).

The most common occupations, as of 2016, by percentage, were: Electrical equipment mechanics and other installation, maintenance, and repair occupations including supervisors (9%), Other sales and related workers including supervisors (7%), Other production occupations including supervisors (7%), Sales representatives, services, wholesale and manufacturing (5%), Top executives (4%), Other management occupations except farmers and farm managers (4%), and Driver/sales workers and truck drivers (3%).

Hampden has a bank branch established in 1998, a full-service local grocery, a seasonal farm market including nursery sales, an assisted-care facility, several restaurants and cafes, a veterinary service, gas station, several construction and landscaping operations and many other owner-run businesses.

Considering all these factors, it appears that, so far, Hampden residents have not had to deal with a great influx of new residents, or threats of a downturned economy. Their focus has been to keep the current character and natural resources of the community, and this is likely to continue. At the same time, projected population growth highlights the need for proactive planning to ensure all current and future

Hampden residents have access to recreation while the Town maintains sufficient open space to preserve its rural character.

POPULATION TRENDS

Of the 12,576 acres that lie within the town’s borders, Hampden owns approximately 630, including town buildings and other structures. Almost 440 acres of that, about 3.5%, is conserved land and parks, about 3700 square feet (0.085 acres) per resident. The privately-held 368 acres of Audubon’s Laughing Brook Wildlife Sanctuary nearly doubles that acreage. However, land developed as parks and school yards makes up less than 90 acres and is not well-distributed.

Hampden followed the same course of development as many towns in Western Massachusetts, beginning as an agricultural community, developing major industries dependent on water power throughout the 19th century, and suffering from their decline in the early 20th century. Hampden suffered more and sooner than other towns with similar growth patterns, because of its comparative inaccessibility. This decline also preserved and revitalized forests and other natural resources, as trees grew once again after being cut down. Now most of the Town is under forest cover.

The first year of Hampden’s recorded population, 1880, was also the population peak for the next 60 years. From a high of 958 persons in 1880, Hampden’s population steadily declined as local employment dwindled, mills closed, and agriculture became less profitable. In 1905 the Town reported only 561 residents. Not until nearly 1940 did the Town regain its size as documented in 1880, at 1,023 residents. In 1960 that figure had doubled, and doubled again in 1975. This rate of increase has lessened since that time.

Between 2010 and 2016, Hampden’s population increased by 1.1%, adding roughly 55 new residents. Vital statistics reported in the 2015 Hampden Annual Town Report showed that the number of deaths was more than double, in some cases triple, the number of births in Hampden every year from 2007-2015, indicating that much of the population growth has occurred due to in-migration, or people moving to Hampden from other areas (2015 Annual Town Report).

HAMPDEN POPULATION PROJECTIONS

Census 2010	Projection 2015	Projection 2020	Projection 2025	Projection 2030	Projection 2035
5,139	5,069	4,951	4,776	4,550	4,281

Source: UMass Donahue Institute

(Note: the 2014 American Community Survey has Hampden’s estimated population for 2015 as 5,179, so UMass’s numbers are bit lower, due to differing methodologies. UMass uses local fertility/mortality trends combined with regional migration-by-age trends from past American Community Surveys.)

Projected decreases in Hampden’s population could negatively impact funding availability for acquiring critical environmental parcels for conservation and other projects.

GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT PATTERNS

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The recent economy has slowed the construction of single family dwellings, which are the most prevalent form of residential construction in Hampden, but there is a steady increase, nonetheless. There were 102 building permits issued in 2009. The 2015 Annual Town Report indicated that the Building Department issued 283 total building permits in 2015 – 3 for new dwellings, 8 for new commercial. In 2016, permits were issued for 9 new dwellings and 154 alterations, 2 new commercial buildings, and 12 commercial additions or alterations; there were 210 total permits issued.

The tax rate for residential and commercial development is the same and has had a slow but steady rate of increase. In FY 1989 it was \$12.78 per thousand, and by 2014 it had risen to \$18.00. The 2017 tax rate was \$19.29 per thousand, which represents a 7.2% increase over only 4 years. The total number of parcels in town has remained relatively stable. There were 2,345 parcels in Hampden in FY2009, and 2,373 parcels in FY2017. Although this is only a moderate increase, it is likely influenced by a large number of subdivisions approved just prior to 2009, but lying dormant and unbuilt until recently.

Municipal revenues continue to exceed expenses. In 2015, total revenues were \$12,254,643, the majority of which came from the real estate tax levy. If carefully watched, the municipal budget will continue to keep the Town running efficiently and economically, thus providing adequate services to Hampden's residents at reasonable rates. Fortunately for Hampden, its rate of growth has slowed. This pause will give town residents the time to plan carefully for its future, particularly in regard to capital expenditures. With educational enrollments declining, costs associated with the schools can be controlled. However, there is growing concern among some residents that future potential mergers as part of various Hampden-Wilbraham Middle School unification plans will leave Hampden without the secondary recreation and open space benefits currently provided by the schools' operation within the Town. For instance, Thornton W. Burgess Middle School has large green space behind it with multiple baseball diamonds, soccer nets, and a basketball court. The entire parcel is noted by Hampden residents as an important recreational amenity.

In recent years, the Town has entered into contracts with a solar company to install solar generation on the Town landfill. This project was projected to benefit residents from both reduced electric rates for municipal use, and added revenue, which will lessen the property tax burden on residents. Controlling costs of municipal and residential operation should allow for the expenditure of funds on other priority items which this OSRP seeks to articulate. (2015 Annual Town Report)

INFRASTRUCTURE

Hampden residents rely on the local road, energy, water, and communications network to meet daily needs. Hampden is one of the few towns in Massachusetts that has no numbered highways or state routes. There are 54.7 miles of roadway and 8 bridges in Hampden, all of which are maintained by the Town. The lack of stoplights is a source of pride for residents, although many have expressed a need for signalized pedestrian crossing where fast-moving automobile traffic causes difficult and or dangerous crossing conditions for those travelling on foot. Most town roads do not have sidewalks, and there are no bike lanes or public transportation in the Town. The car-centric nature of the Town's transportation system is a common result of rural and suburban development patterns, but it can also have a negative impact for municipalities attempting to increase the livelihood of a traditional town center.

The Town is served by the MassBroadband 123 network, which connects over 1,200 public safety entities, community colleges, libraries, medical facilities, and town halls, serving households and businesses around the state. This fiber-optic network is routed into Hampden Town Hall, and provides the necessary broadband infrastructure to foster economic growth, improve health care and education, and strengthen public safety.

One of the most important factors affecting residential homes in Hampden is its dependence on individual wells and on the independent septic system, which it will continue to have for the foreseeable future. The Town's zoning code includes a Water Supply Protection Overlay District (WSP) to set forth standards, rules and permitting procedure for development and land uses that are located within the Town's groundwater source recharge areas. Enforcing this aspect of the zoning code is critical to protecting the quantity and quality of residents' drinking water for future decades. In addition, local health officials should strictly enforce the State Sanitary Code to ensure that the septic systems continue to function properly over the next 20 years.

While there is no town-wide system of water distribution or sewer, with the vast majority of residents relying on private, individual wells and independent septic systems, there are some "public" well sites where wells serve multiple users such as the school, employment centers, apartment complexes, etc. There is also one public well site serving approximately nine residences, and under the control of the Town's Water District. Some "workaround" responses were required to deal with salt infiltration, traceable to old DPW storage practices, of some wells on Main Street. As noted in the town History, in recent years, there has been ongoing discussion prompted by Great Horse, a private club and large land owner in town, about installing town sewers and water on some roads. The Great Horse Country Club development, in particular, has prompted feedback from a relatively large group of residents that opposes such infrastructure investments for fear that they would fundamentally alter the rural nature of the town, and lead to rising taxes or water charges. These possible costs, as well as other service increases caused by population increase, such as police and fire protection, must be monitored carefully in order to provide adequate services to Hampden residents at a reasonable cost.

Another major factor is the terrain of the land on the eastern portion of town which consists of the Minnechaug Mountain Range, Wilbraham Mountain Range and Pine Mountain Range. Increased development in these sensitive areas would cause additional runoff, lowland flooding and a decrease in water quality of the Scantic as well as decrease the scenic beauty of the mountains. Green infrastructure, such as rain gardens, bio-swales, tree boxes, etc., can simultaneously protect or improve the water quality

of nearby surface water resources, and improve green space in a community. There may be opportunities for the Town of Hampden to encourage new developments in these sensitive environmental areas to use green infrastructure as both a stormwater management strategy and aesthetic improvement to green space benefiting local residents and neighbors.

LONG-TERM DEVELOPMENT PATTERNS

In its current zoning, the Town has 12 types of districts, including the following and with the addition of the Ridgeline and Hillside Protective Bylaw and the Flexible Residential/Open Space Development (FROSD) or Cluster Zoning Bylaw. The Ridgeline and Hillside Bylaw was approved in 1990, and additional wetland protection bylaws were effective April 28, 1992. (See Figure 2: Hampden Zoning Map)

1. R-6 District
2. R-4 District
3. Multi-Unit Dwelling District
4. Business District
5. Commercial District
6. Limited Industrial District
7. Flood Plain/Wetlands District
8. Golf Recreational District
9. Limited Recreational District
10. Non-Profit Educational and Recreational District



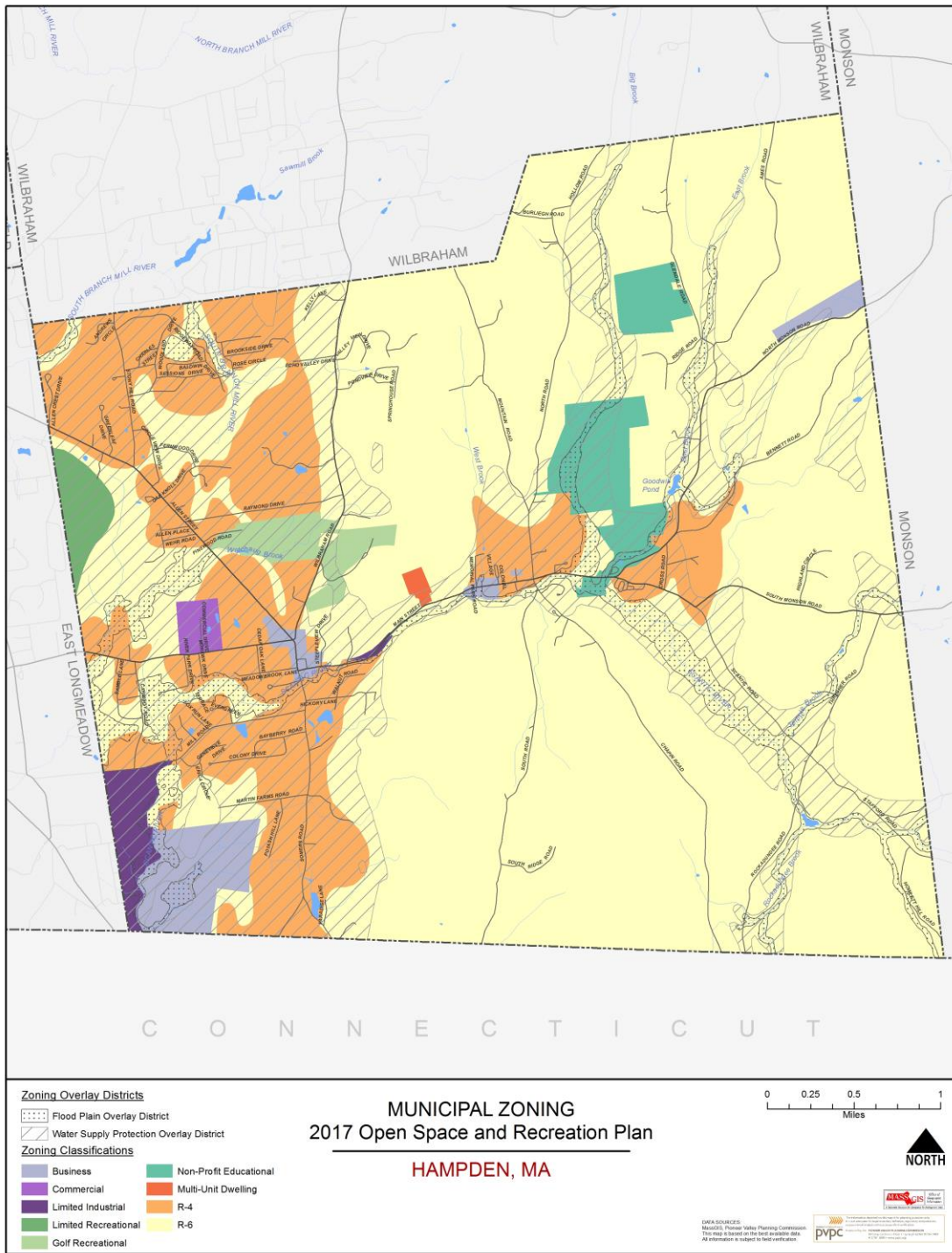


FIGURE 2: HAMPDEN ZONING MAP

The land use classifications for Hampden published by the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs in 1985 follow:

Commercial	35	.3%
Industrial	9	.1%
Transportation	0	0%
Agriculture	965	7.7%
Urban Open Land	74	.6%
Recreation	161	1.3%
Water	12	.1%
Other*	9,578	76%

*Generally forested

Further, to help communities consider and address questions related to growth and sprawl such as those following, EOEА sponsored the creation of a set of buildout maps and analyses for all 351 cities and towns within the Commonwealth of Massachusetts -

- What growth patterns does current zoning dictate?
- What long-term impacts does that growth create such as: traffic, water quality and quantity, and education?
- What is the maximum potential growth possible under existing zoning?
- What are likely impacts on municipal services from that growth?
- Is there an alternative, more favorable future and what would that look like?
- What can be done now to enhance the pattern of new development?

The maps and analyses depict currently developed and protected land within a community and what a community would look like if remaining undeveloped land was completely developed in accordance with local zoning. In Hampden, the analyses revealed the following data:

Impact of Additional Development	
Developable Land Area (Acres)	7,064
Additional Residential Units	3,788
Additional Commercial/Industrial Floor Area (Square Feet)	3,544,738
Additional residential water use (gallons per day)	795,480
Additional Commercial Water Use (Gallons per Day)	265,856
Additional Residential Solid Waste (Tons)	2,450
Additional Students	1,895
Additional Miles of Roadway	83

As population increases, demands for various municipal services and facilities tend to increase proportionately; this in turn, requires additional civic acreage for such uses as schools, refuse disposal areas, cemeteries and utilities. This has not been a concern in Hampden as population growth has remained slow. While population growth has not reached the levels anticipated in the report, other changes have occurred. Recent improvements to solar energy technology have increased development interest in open space properties as locations to install large solar arrays and associated facilities. The town has passed a number of bylaw amendments in the last decade pertaining to the regulation of solar installments on private property, and has lost a few large, open, private parcels to solar use. As residential and commercial development continue to follow the trend of large lot sizes, more land will be required for infrastructure such as water lines, roads, and utilities.

SECTION 4: ENVIRONMENTAL INVENTORY AND ANALYSIS



GEOLOGY, SOILS, AND TOPOGRAPHY

TOPOGRAPHY

The topography of Hampden is best described by dividing it into three sections:

- a. The Western Lowlands area lies west of Wilbraham and Somers Roads and encompasses all the land within Hampden west of the road line. The area is characterized by quite flat topography, numerous streams and extensive areas of poorly drained soil types either associated with landform depressions or the many drainage ways.
- b. The Central Ridge is the steep wooded backbone of the Town. It traverses the entire middle portion running in a north to south direction. It is bounded on the east by Chapin and North Roads and on the west by Somers and Wilbraham Roads. Beautiful Mount Vision (elevation 931 feet), Minnechaug Mountain (980 feet), Rattlesnake Hill (1120 feet) and Pine Mountain (1070 feet) lie within the Central Ridge formation. The mountains afford not only scenic vistas but also hiking, skiing and sledding opportunities.
- c. The Eastern Uplands occupies the third of Hampden east of Chapin and North Roads. It has a gently undulating topography. The slopes are much less steep than those in the Central Ridge section but vary markedly from the flat terrain of the Western Lowland section. Several waterways cut through this region, the most prominent of which is the Scantic River.

SOILS

The soils in Hampden have an influence on the types of development, and other land use activities. For instance, the flood plain soils led numerous farmers to the area to take advantage of the deep, fertile, and stone-free qualities. The steep slopes and wetlands provide soils and other resources that attract wildlife and certain types of plant species, while the soils above the aquifer are sandy. At the same time, the expansive views afforded by the steep slopes have made these sensitive areas attractive for residential development.

The following is a list of the general soil types found in Hampden. It will be important in both the present and the future to analyze the specific soil conditions before development takes place, and to identify important resources such as prime agricultural land.

There are five general soil types found in Hampden. They include:

1. Charlton-Woodbridge-Paxton Association

These soils are nearly level to extremely steep and have fairly good drainage. They typically exist in areas of glaciated uplands. In the soil survey¹ done for Central Hampden County, the largest area of this soil type was found in Hampden and Wilbraham. This soil association and its' underlying soil types are found in the southern portion of Hampden and in the eastern half of the Town. This soil association is typically composed of 40% Charlton soils, 20% Woodbridge soils, 20% Paxton soils and 15% minor soils.

Limitations associated with this soil association include stoniness, slopes and wetness. There are very few limitations to using land comprised of this soil association for recreation, woodlands and/or wildlife habitats. The Central Hampden County soil survey found that most of the acreage of this soil association was wooded or undevelopable. Small amounts of it were used for dairy farming and rural residential development.

2. Hinckley-Windsor-Merrimac Association

This soil association and its' underlying soil types are found in the western section of town. This general soil association is comprised of Hinckley soils (30%), Windsor soils (20%), Merrimac soils (20%), and minor soils (30%). This general soil association contains topography that is fairly steep to moderately sloped. Due to their sandy composition, these soils drain excessively.

Because of the excessive drainage, farm uses on this soil association can be challenging without constant irrigation. Development can be limited in certain areas due to the coarse texture of the soils. In Central Hampden County, however, most of this soil type is used as urban land and sites for rural housing development.

¹ https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_MANUSCRIPTS/massachusetts/hampdenMA1978/Hampden.pdf

3. Rock Outcrop-Holyoke Association

This general soil association is found through the center of Hampden. It can be found in the areas that include Goat Rock, Memorial Park, Minnechaug Mountain, Pine Mountain, and Mount Vision. This general soil association is characterized by rock outcrops and sloping to steep topography. This general soil association comprises approximately 30% rock outcrop, 20% Holyoke soils, and 50% minor soils.

In the Central Hampden County soil survey, most of the lands with this soil association were woodland areas or lands used for recreational purposes. Development on lands with this soil association is constrained due to shallow soil depths and the presence of bedrock.

LANDSCAPE CHARACTER

Hampden is primarily a rural residential town. About 80% of its land is vacant, or in forest, agricultural use, or water bodies. The remaining 20% of the land in use is concentrated around the Town Center, or in a predominantly business area in the western part of the Town, or in the many subdivisions that are also scattered throughout the western section of the Town.

The eastern part of Hampden contains mountainous terrain with steep slopes and elevations above sea level from 450 to 850 feet. In the southern part of the Town and running to its northern border are the following mountains: Pine Mountain, 1070 feet above sea level; Minnechaug Mountain with a 990 feet elevation; and the beginning of the Wilbraham Mountains including Mount Vision with a 934 feet elevation. This mountainous topography is interrupted by the river valleys created by East Brook and the Scantic River. It is along the Scantic River that Hampden's Town Center is located. Goat Rock, a rock formation on the edge of the Wilbraham Mountains, stands as a guardian to the natural gateway to the valley that comprises Hampden Village. The gateway made possible the western route to Hampden, providing a link to the neighboring towns of East Longmeadow and Springfield to the west and Somers, Connecticut to the south. Without this natural route, trade and communication would have required a long and arduous journey over rough mountain terrain.

Moving westward towards East Longmeadow, the slopes become more gentle and the land assumes a terracing effect until the land becomes quite swampy with many irregular low hills. The area known as Scantic Meadows along the river has many scenic views and some areas protected by Chapter 61, but is experiencing a rapid rate of new development. A subdivision in that area had stalled until recently, but some roads were completed and several houses built in the last year, with many other parcels already sold.

Hampden's climate is generally pleasant with a range in temperature typical of the southern Connecticut River Valley. The range of temperature is 27 degrees F. in January and 74 degrees F. in July. Annual precipitation averages 44 inches. The average length of the freeze season is approximately four months, generally from mid-November through mid-March. Hampden's climate allows for a variety of outdoor recreational activities year round and is suitable for many vegetable and fruit crops.

The Buildout Table in the previous chapter indicates that in 2001 there were approximately 7,000 acres of developable land in Hampden. However, most of the land deemed "developable" in this analysis is spread out over areas of Hampden that are physically constrained or unsuitable to development due to

steep slopes, rocky or poorly draining soils, or wetlands. Existing development is concentrated around the Town Center and in western Hampden.

It should be remembered that almost any land can be developed if the benefits warrant the costs of site improvement, access roads and utilities. However, with the exception of a few scattered single family dwellings, land values in Hampden should not warrant the development of Soil Associations #1 and #5.

WATER RESOURCES

The Scantic River, Hampden's only significant river, enters Hampden at its southeastern corner and extends northwest almost to the center of the town, from where it follows a southwesterly course and eventually drains into the Connecticut River in East Windsor, Connecticut. The South Branch of the Mill River rises on the northern border of Hampden at a pond on Pondview Drive to flow westward into Springfield's Watershops Pond and then to the Connecticut River.

Virtually all of Hampden's water-powered industry was located on the Scantic. The only other bodies of fresh water are a handful of small mill ponds. The Scantic and one of the mill ponds provide the only natural water recreation for its residents. It is only possible to canoe or tube the Scantic during high water in the Spring. The river also provides fishing and swimming.

WATER SUPPLY AND AQUIFER RECHARGE

Almost all Hampden residents have their own wells and on-site septic systems. To date, no major water quality problems due to septic system failures have been identified. However, homes located near wet areas have experienced some problems. Hampden has almost no Town supplied water nor sewers but is considering partial coverage prompted by a request from the Great Horse (Hampden Country Club doing business as Great Horse) facility. Nevertheless, it would be wise for Hampden to identify aquifers and water recharge areas in order to secure water for the Town should increased future needs arise. One exception to this is Massachusetts Audubon's Laughing Brook Wildlife Sanctuary and nine new residences near it, which have a public water supply. The new residents found they could not use wells because they would be contaminated by the landfill; therefore, they sued for a safe water supply and won.

Wells get their groundwater from aquifers, where water is stored in spaces between soil particles. At present, two sources of information are available to locate potential aquifer areas in Hampden, although this information is not sufficiently accurate for site specific consideration. These sources are referenced in the References section of this document. The Town's zoning code includes a Water Supply Protection Overlay District (WSP) to set forth standards, rules and permitting procedure for development and land uses that are located within the Town's groundwater source recharge areas. The Water Supply Protection Overlay District covers most of the lowlands, the entire town west of Wilbraham and Somers Roads, and also covers much of the area surrounding the Scantic River and its tributaries. The Pioneer Valley Planning Commission also analyzed information from Mass GIS to identify and map interim wellhead protection areas in town, which are shown in Appendix D. This map shows that the areas suitable for the most groundwater protection are also located in the most densely developed portion of town, and near the river protection areas as well. Salt infiltration to several wells along Main Street, from a former DPW salt pile, has been addressed by providing a new well source for several homes and the Federated Church.

WATERSHEDS

Hampden falls entirely within the Connecticut River watershed. The Towns surrounding Hampden are part of the Connecticut, Chicopee and Quinebaug watersheds. The Connecticut River is the region's central natural resource, and the quality of its water has improved greatly over the past few decades due to investments in combined sewer overflow remediation as well as land protection upstream. The water running through the rivers, streams and brooks in Hampden ultimately flow into the Connecticut River, but none are currently listed as impaired on the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection's 2014 List of Impaired Waters—the most recent data available. However, many of the Town's waterways remain unassessed, so contamination is still possible. Possible impairments include E.coli, phosphorous, and nutrients, especially where streams travel through areas with large areas of lawn. Watchaug Brook flows through a large golf course before draining into an extensive area of wooded marsh wetlands; an NHESP designated polygon for estimated and priority habitat for rare species.

SURFACE WATER

Streams and Stream Banks - Protection of waterways and their banks is important to ensuring good water quality and quantity and providing Town access to the stream/river for public enjoyment. Development and improper uses along a stream bank can cause pollution to the water (from agricultural wastes and fertilizers, commercial and industrial wastes and residential septic tank systems), erosion of land which will increase sediment load in the system, and runoff. Development also limits access to that waterway, an issue especially pertinent in Hampden with the Scantic River. Hampden has several waterways, its largest being the Scantic River, designated Class B, which bisects the Town. Other notable streams/brooks are Laughing Brook, Big Brook, West Brook, East Brook, Temple Brook, Rockadundee Brook, Thrasher Brook and Watchaug Brook. Protection of these also provides for the Town's visual amenities and wildlife habitat.

ACCESS

Lack of public access to waterways in Hampden has been mentioned by participants in the 2017 OSRP update process and is one of the most important issues facing residents today. While some locations exist to access the rivers for fishing, *e.g.* the VFW, and wildlife viewing, *e.g.* the Audubon Laughing Brook property, many residents expressed the desire to have opportunities for swimming and launching canoes and kayaks. Although most of Hampden's brooks are shallow, there may be areas of possible access that could be identified by residents, if not for canoes, possibly for swimming and fishing.

FLOOD HAZARD AREAS

The flood hazard areas in Hampden follow the rivers, streams and wetlands. Flood zone maps used for the purposes of the National Flood Insurance Program were last updated by the State in 2013. The largest area with a 1% chance of flooding in any given year is land located along Scantic River in the Southwestern portion of town. Other areas that have 1% chance of flooding in any given year include lands along the Watchaug Brook and the South Branch Mill River. Land along most of the other brooks, as well as wetlands in the northwestern section of town have a 0.5% chance of flooding in any given year. Historic development patterns led to development concentrated along waterways. In Hampden, the Town Center

borders the Scantic River and a significant portion of the Town's housing is in areas that border the Scantic River and other small brooks.

WETLANDS

Wetlands are very important not only to the health of ecosystems, but also to the protection of property and public health. Wetlands provide storage capacity during high rainfall or flood events, reducing the need for the construction of costly flood control structures. Wetlands also capture and filter sediment and nutrients from stormwater runoff, reducing sedimentation and pollution of waters and lakes/ponds. A wide variety of species depend on wetlands for habitat, which in turn provides recreation opportunities for residents. Groundwater supplies and aquifers may also be recharged through the presence of wetlands, depending on the underlying soil formation. The discharge/recharge of aquifers in particular can be seriously disrupted if wetlands are altered, potentially impacting the quality of drinking water.

Hampden has many areas where the water table is at or near the land surface and, as a result, the land characteristics range from seasonally wet or flooded to deep marsh or open water. In Hampden, 117 acres or .94% of the Town's total land can be classified as a wetland type (MacConnell's 1972 figures). Eighteen acres of that figure is open water, while 99 acres is shallow freshwater wetlands. These wet areas are chiefly located in the lowland section (western part) of Hampden; however, some wet areas do exist in upland sections along streams and brooks. Much of this wetland comprises the rear portions of private properties and can be threatened by the gradual expansion of lawns or disposal of piles of lawn clippings or mulch, removal of shading vegetation, extension of driveways, and establishment of small outbuildings. See Appendix D for details. In addition, over 200 acres that has been horse farm for many years has recently changed hands and has the strong potential to be developed, possibly with condos. The land has over 30 acres of forested marsh, marsh/bog and an open-water pond of almost 3 acres which will need protection.

VEGETATION

GENERAL INVENTORY

According to Massachusetts Audubon Society's *Losing Ground* Report (2014), as of 2013, approximately 11% (1,412 acres) of Hampden's 12,585 acres was developed.² Only 8% of the Town's acreage³ is protected from development, ranking it 305th out of the Commonwealth's 351 towns and cities. Between 2005 and 2013, the Town lost 29 acres of undeveloped land (21 acres of natural land and 8 acres of open land, defined as forest or wetlands, and agricultural areas or bare land, respectively).

² Massachusetts Audubon, *Losing Ground: Planning for Resilience (Fifth Edition)*. For the *Losing Ground* report, land uses were identified and categorized using orthographic imagery. As of 2016, the report's methodology is available at: <http://www.massaudubon.org/our-conservation-work/advocacy/shaping-the-future-sustainable-planning/publications-community-resources/losing-ground-report/losing-ground-fifth-edition>

³ Massachusetts Audubon, *Losing Ground: Planning for Resilience (Fifth Edition)*

Hampden's vegetative cover is as diverse as its topography and adds to the Town's scenic and rural character. Its forests and fields provide aesthetic, economic and recreational benefits. Wetlands and abandoned fields also add important habitat elements for a diverse wildlife population. According to an aerial photo study directed by Professor William MacConnell of the University of Massachusetts in 1972, there is evidence of a large number of abandoned fields and pastures showing the decline of agriculture in Hampden.

BioMap2 is the Commonwealth's guide to biodiversity conservation, and is managed by the Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program (NHESP). BioMap2 identifies Core Habitat areas as those critical to the survival of listed threatened and endangered species, species identified on the State Wildlife Action Plan (SWAP; these species may not necessarily be listed as threatened or endangered), high-quality wetland and forestland habitats, and priority natural communities. Critical Natural Landscape areas are large landscape blocks and upland buffers to wetland and aquatic habitats. There are four identified BioMap2 Core Habitat areas in Hampden, and one Critical Natural Landscape areas. There are no priority natural communities, though this may be due to lack of survey effort.

- **Core 883:** This Core Habitat is the one Critical Natural Landscape in Hampden and encompasses most of the Central and Eastern sections of the Town. This core habitat features a vernal pool core—which denotes it is in the top 5 percent of habitats with the most interconnected clusters of potential vernal pools in the state. Vernal pools are small, seasonal wetlands, typically used by amphibians and invertebrate animals for breeding.
- **Core 978:** This Core Habitat is located in the eastern section of town, embraces much of Temple and East Brooks, as well as the Scantic, and includes land in both Hampden and Monson. It is designated as an aquatic core habitat, which denotes the presents of intact river corridors that have an integrated and functional ecosystem for fish and other aquatic species of Conservation Concern. This area is also listed as a Core Habitat due to the presence of the climbing ferns (*Lygodium palmatum*, a species of special concern), four-toed salamanders (*Hemidactylum scutatum*, non-listed SWAP), eastern box turtles (*Terrapene Carolina*, a species of special concern), wood turtles (*Glytemys insculpta*, a species of special concern) and eastern worm snakes (*Carphophis, amoenus*, a threatened species).
- **Core 1013:** This Core Habitat is located on the Western edge of town along the border of East Longmeadow. It encompasses the land bordered by the Town border, Allen Street and East Longmeadow Road and the lands adjacent. There are five species of concern in this Core Habitat. They include the Climbing Fern (*Lygodium palmatum*, a species of special concern), the Blue-spotted Salamander (*Amybystoma laterale*, a species of special concern), the Four-toed Salamander (*Hemidactylum scutatum*, non-listed SWAP), the Eastern worm snake (*Carphophis amoenus*, a threatened species), and the Northern Black Racer worm (*Coluber constrictor*, non-listed SWAP).

- **Core 1105:** This Core Habitat is located in the northeastern section of Hampden and the neighboring towns of Wilbraham and Monson. This is listed as a Core Habitat due to the presence of the climbing ferns (*Lygodium palmatum*, a species of special concern), four-toed salamanders (*Hemidactylium scutatum*, non-listed SWAP), eastern box turtles (*Terrapene Carolina*, a species of special concern), and wood turtles (*Glytemys insculpta*, a species of special concern).
- **Core 1264:** The smallest of the core habitats in Hampden, this area spreads into Springfield, Wilbraham, and East Longmeadow. In Hampden, this Core Habitat is in the northwestern corner of town and is almost completely developed. The entirety of the core habitat includes examples of two priority and exemplar natural communities, including calcareous Basin Fen, a critically endangered community with 5 or fewer documented in the state, and Inland Atlantic White Cedar Swamp, an imperiled community with 6-20 documented sites in the state. There are also seven species of special concern, including all those found in Core 1013 as well as the Bristly Buttercup (*Ranunculus pensylvanicus*), and the Eastern Spadefoot toad (*Scaphiopus holbrookii*, a threatened species).

Further degradation and/or loss of these environments would impact the biodiversity of not only Hampden, but also the Commonwealth. Conservation and awareness efforts should be directed towards these areas to protect both the presence of threatened and endangered species and also the habitat needed to support biodiversity.

A table of plant species commonly found in Hampden is included in Appendix E.

FOREST LAND

Approximately 7,918 acres (63%) of Hampden is forested. Hampden is within the general central hardwoods-hemlock-white pine forest type which includes white and red oak, white pine, hemlock, poplar, aspen, red and sugar maple, white ash, shagbark and pignut hickory, and white, silver and gray birch. At present much of the Town is forested; the most heavily forested areas are located in the Minnechaug and Wilbraham Mountain complex and the upland area in the eastern section of Town. Forest management, particularly multiple use forest management should be encouraged.

Public Shade Trees

Hampden has a tree warden, housed within the Highway Department, in charge of the maintenance and protection of public shade trees. Hampden defines a public shade tree as any tree within the public way or on the boundary of private property and the public way. Public shade trees may only be trimmed, cut or removed by the tree warden or their related staff or with a permit from the tree warden. In 2013, a permit was granted to cut several hundred shade trees along public ways, prompting concern. A Shade Tree ordinance requiring public notice and input before Shade Trees are removed was proposed and placed on the warrant for Town meeting in 2014, but defeated. Hampden also requires the planting of public shade trees in new subdivisions and other public ways.



Agricultural Land

According to town land use data, there are approximately 965 acres of agricultural land (approximately 7.7% of the land in town) in Hampden. A majority of this land is used for growing crops. The agricultural land in town has a role in providing locally-grown food to the region and helps contribute to the character that many equate with Western Massachusetts.

The most active farm in town is Bilton's Orchard, growing apples, plums, and peaches for over 50 years. Several farms grow hay for horses, including several along Scantic Road. Maple Sugarbush is maintained in many small-to-medium sized lots around town, with most of the product sold locally.

Several of the recent subdivisions in Hampden have been constructed on what was once farmland. The Scantic Meadows development was once grassy farmland; a large solar array was placed on nearby farmland that had already been seriously degraded; and other land, along Mill Road, that had been sold to a utility company several years ago, but had been kept in field crops such as corn and pumpkins, was utilized for a solar array. A smaller 6 acre hayfield along Stony Hill Road was developed into a commercial solar array. Other land along Mill Road has been maintained primarily as cornfields. Although a very large horse training barn was built on hayfield lying between Scantic road and the Scantic River, a farm and forest management plan was developed for the remaining property.

Approximately half of the soils present in Hampden are considered prime agricultural soils. Most of these soils are no longer in use for farming and have either been developed or are close to development. The western half of town is primarily prime soils, including soils of statewide importance and soils that are "unique." Soils of statewide importance include soils that are nearly prime and are capable of producing high yields. In Massachusetts, soils are classified as "unique" because of their ability to produce specialty

crops, such as cranberries in the eastern part of the state (though any other such specialty crops are very rare elsewhere). Additional prime farmlands soils exist in the eastern part of town along the Scantic River.

Wetland Vegetation

Hampden has a significant aggregate of wetlands. Most of the Town's wetlands are located in the western section of town and along the rivers/streams in town. In many cases, these wetlands are ringed by developments. Wetland types throughout town are varied and include wooded swamp-deciduous, wooded swamp-coniferous, wooded swamp-mixed trees, shallow marsh meadows, deep marshes, shrub swamps, and bogs. The vegetation in wetland environments plays a critical role in reducing the impacts of flooding and in filtering water before it enters rivers, streams, and groundwater. Stormwater runoff from development often carries debris and pollution that can negatively impact the vegetation in these sensitive ecosystems if sources of contamination are not controlled.

Forested wetlands or swamps are freshwater wetlands that are dominated by trees. Red Maple and Eastern Hemlock trees are the most common trees found in forested wetlands. The BioMap2 Core Habitat found in the northwest section of town includes an Atlantic White Cedar Swamp. This type of forested wetland is classified as an "imperiled community," and is uncommon outside of the coastal areas of the state. Examples of other wooded swamps can be found in some of Hampden's conservation areas. The Laughing Brook Wildlife Sanctuary and the unnamed conservation area in the northwest section of town at the end of Sessions Drive provide examples of wooded swamp-deciduous environments and the Allen Street Conservation Area provides examples of both the wooded swamp- mixed trees and the wooded swamp- coniferous environments. While these conservation areas are protecting some of these important habitats, most of the wooded swamps in Hampden are not protected.

Marshes are wetlands that have long periods of standing water. The flooding of these areas is often too long and too deep to support wooded vegetation. Species like the four-toed salamander use these habitats for breeding. There a few deep marsh areas in town. They exist between Commercial Drive and Allen Street and in the area around the intersection of Somers Road and Mill Road.

Shrub swamps, unlike marshes, can support some wooded vegetation. They are, however, too wet to support the full grown trees found in forested wetlands. They contain a variety of shrubs as well as trees such as Red Maples. Shrub swamps can be found along many of the rivers, streams, and brooks in town.

Bogs are wetlands that accumulate peat—a deposit of dead plant material. These wetlands typically occur where the groundwater is acidic and there are limited nutrients present. This combination results in low plant growth and slow decay of organic matter. These bogs are high in biodiversity and provide habitat for a number of plant and animal species. Hampden has a number of bogs, some of which are located at the end of Kibbe Lane and across the Northwest section of town. None of these bogs are in conservation lands, but Forested Marsh that is in and adjacent to Memorial Park has been identified as including a sphagnum peat bog.

Rare, Threatened, and Endangered Species

There are two plants in Hampden protected under the Massachusetts Endangered Species Act. These plants can be found in the BioMap2 Core areas located throughout town.

Climbing Fern (*Lygodium Palmatum*) is a species of special concern in Massachusetts, meaning that if not monitored and preserved, it could become threatened. Climbing fern is present in all of Hampden’s Core Habitat areas. Climbing fern is an evergreen, ivy-like plant that spreads over the ground and onto shrubs. It thrives in pine-oak-maples woods and in moist environments like stream corridors and thickets.



FIGURE 3: CLIMBING FERN, *Lygodium Palmatum*
(Photo: Bruce Sorrie, NHESP)

Bristly Buttercup (*Ranunculus hispidus*) is a species of special concern in Massachusetts. It grows in the BioMap2 Core land located in the northwest corner of town and adjacent land in Wilbraham, Springfield and East Longmeadow. Bristly buttercup is a perennial herb characterized by small, pale yellow flowers. The bristly buttercup thrives in areas that receive filtered light and are often wet or flooded.



FIGURE 4: BRISTLY BUTTERCUP, *RANUNCULUS HISPIDUS*. IMAGE SOURCE: WILDFLOWER.ORG

FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE

INVENTORY OF WILDLIFE HABITATS

Since Hampden offers a large number and variety of natural habitats, it thus encourages many species of wildlife. These include mammals, a list of which is in Appendix E.

Birds include ducks, hawks, woodcock, pheasant, grouse, partridge, dove, woodpecker, swallow, jay, mockingbird, chickadee, catbird, robin, starling, warbler, cardinal, various grosbeak, scarlet tanager, finches, bluebirds and orioles. Amphibians include salamander, toad, frog, bullfrog, tree frog, and peeper. Reptiles include turtles (box, painted spotted, wood, snapping), snakes (garter, ribbon, water, black, hognose).

Although fishing is limited because there are virtually no lakes and ponds, trout fishing is a major recreational asset of Hampden. It is perpetuated by annual trout stocking of the Scantic River and other waterways by the Division of Fisheries and Game hatcheries. The Division also releases reared pheasants, encouraging upland game and hunting. Hampden has a fair amount of native trout and upland birds such as partridge and woodcock.

Different forms of wildlife are observed and studied in programs offered at Laughing Brook Education Center.

VERNAL POOLS

Vernal pools are seasonal wetlands that are predominantly dry in the summer and fall and are filled with shallow water in the winter and spring. They are usually found in areas with gentle sloping grasslands. Vernal pools act as an important habitat for a number of rare plants and animals that thrive in this seasonal habitat. A lack of fish in vernal pools makes breeding possible for many species. Other species, including birds, use vernal pools as a feeding source. The Blue Spotted Salamander, a species of special concern identified in Hampden, is a species that breeds and thrives in vernal pools.

There are currently 12 certified vernal pools in Hampden and 67 potential vernal pools. Potential vernal pools are identified through aerial photography and are only certified once assessed by the Natural Heritage Endangered Species Program (NHESP). Vernal pools are not protected under the Wetlands Protection Act, but by certifying them, they become eligible for protection from the impacts of developments. Another potential strategy is to require developers to certify potential vernal pools on any property requiring permits from the Town.

CORRIDORS FOR WILDLIFE MIGRATION

Given Hampden's rural development patterns, large swaths of undeveloped land exist and likely function as wildlife corridors. A considerable proportion of these large swaths of land are currently unprotected, meaning that as development pressure increases these wildlife corridors could be threatened. There are a number of conservation areas in Wilbraham that abut land in Hampden that is currently undeveloped. These lands should be studied further to better understand their conservation values and the potential opportunities for protection.

RARE, THREATENED, AND ENDANGERED SPECIES

MESA-listed species

There are five animals found in Hampden that are protected under the Massachusetts Endangered Species Act. Certain projects that fall within Priority Habitats of the below species are subject to review and permitting by NHESP. The location of these species should also be referenced in any land protection efforts carried out in their habitat by the Town or State.

Eastern Wormsnake (*Carphophis amoenus*) is a threatened species in Massachusetts. It has only been observed in five communities in the state—all of them in Hampden County. The Eastern Wormsnake is a small (7-14.5 inch) non-venomous snake that can be found predominantly in deciduous hardwood forests, mined pine-hardwoods, pine forests, and early successional fields. The Eastern Wormsnake was identified in three of the five core habitats in Hampden.

Eastern Spadefoot (*Scaphiopus holbrookii*) is a threatened species in the state of Massachusetts. It is a small grayish or blackish brown toad with cat-like eyes. The toad has been observed in very few communities in the state, but historic specimens suggest that it used to be more widespread. In



FIGURE 5: EASTERN SPADEFOOT (Source: Mass.gov)

Hampden, it resides in the northwest corner of the Town in a BioMap2 Core Habitat that encompasses land in Hampden, Springfield, Wilbraham, and East Longmeadow. This toad spends most of the year buried underground, coming above ground in the spring to mate in vernal pools and other moist areas.

Blue-spotted Salamander (*Ambystoma Laterale*) is a species of special concern in Massachusetts. The salamander has been found in two BioMap2 Core Habitats in Hampden, including core habitats that cross into the neighboring communities of Springfield, Wilbraham, and East Longmeadow. These medium-sized salamanders with distinctive blue splotches thrive in mature deciduous and mixed deciduous-coniferous forests and woodland. They use vernal pools, swamps, and marshes for breeding.

Eastern Box Turtle (*Terrapene carolina*) is a species of special concern in Massachusetts and can be found in many communities across the state. The Eastern Box Turtle has a high-domed shell and variable markings and coloration. The Eastern Box Turtle thrives in a number of different habitats including dry and moist woodland, brushy fields, and thickets.

Wood Turtle (*Glyptemys insculpta*) is a species of special concern that was documented in two of Hampden's Core Habitats. The wood turtle can be recognized by its sculpted shell and the orange coloring on its legs and neck. The wood turtles preferred habitat is the riparian zone along slow moving streams and mixed or deciduous forests.

SCENIC AND UNIQUE ENVIRONMENTS

Laughing Brook Educational Center, an Audubon Sanctuary, was once the home of Thornton W. Burgess, children's storybook writer. It now consists of 356 acres available for hiking and exploring. Professional and dedicated staff members offer a variety of workshops and lectures to persons of all ages. Rare species of plants can be found at Laughing Brook, among them the Hartford Fern.



FIGURE 6: EASTERN BOX TURTLE (*TERRAPENE CAROLINA*) (Source: *Mass.gov*)

The **Scantic River**, running east to west through the center of Hampden, is a class B river allowing good swimming and fishing opportunities. At present, there is only one town access point to the river for the Town residents to enjoy fishing and swimming.

Jonathan's Mill, or Flynt Park, is the name given to a small picnic area by the river. In 1797 Jonathan Flynt established a fulling mill which is believed to have been the first attempt at cloth manufacturing in Hampden. "Fulling" is the process of cleansing, shrinking and thickening cloth by moisture, heat and pressure. Although the mill itself is no longer in existence, the headstones of the dam have been replaced, creating a swimming hole. The Center Dam dates to the late 18th century, and has had some top stones replaced after a flood in 1955, though several were recently lost once again.

A stand of **white cedars** has been found on Town-owned land behind Thornton Burgess School. These are believed to be the largest Atlantic white cedars in Massachusetts.

Hampden's **Main Street** has a unique character of a rural New England and alpine village combined. Adjacent to Main Street is the Town Commons, bounded by the original Hampden Hotel, the Scantic

River, the Town House and the old Howlett home neighboring Academy Hall. This area is the focal point for many Town holiday observances.

Goat Rock, on the southern terminus of the Wilbraham Mountain Range, is a natural formation composed of schist and quartz. It rises in a steep ascent to a height of approximately 650 feet. It can be accessed from the east by a hiking trail with a gradual ascent or from the west by a near vertical climb, or by a more gradual trail that crosses a bit of Golf Course land. From the summit you can see the Town of East Longmeadow and the Berkshire foothills. It is protected by a Conservation Restriction. Goat Rock received its name in 1750 when William King's goats roamed the slopes of the Wilbraham Mountains and one fell and died on the rock. In spite of this infamous beginning, Goat Rock has been a gathering spot for picnics, outings, hikes, campouts, religious services and weddings for centuries. To the present day, it remains a popular area for gathering and is part of a well-used system of hiking trails. A parcel of land adjacent to Memorial Park and access for a ridgeline trail to Goat Rock was purchased and deeded to the Town.

Other landscapes that provide scenic views are the Town transfer station, South Road, North Road, and both Prospect Hill and Old Cemeteries. The transfer station is a capped landfill that attracts birds like hawks and buzzards and offers views of Wilbraham, Pine and Minnechaug Mountains.

ENVIRONMENTAL CHALLENGES

SLOPES

The steep slopes of the central ridge and eastern region of Hampden are areas of enormous environmental resources; sand and gravel soils providing water recharge areas, timber stands and wildlife habitat, but they are also areas that are sensitive to overuse. Development may seriously jeopardize the quality of such areas, causing runoff, lowland flooding and a decrease in the water quality of the Scantic, and decrease the scenic beauty of the mountains. Thus, whether a single dwelling or multiple units, development should be guided carefully by all concerned Town Boards and Commissions to help avoid environmental damage to those areas, as well as guide the developer from the problems that can result from disruption of this sensitive terrain.

FLOODPLAINS

The protection of floodplains is essential for all communities if they intend to mitigate flood hazard within the Town. As floodplains are attractive for a variety of uses and development due to their rich soils, minerals, level terrain, and locational advantages, (Dept. of Army, Office of Chief of Engineers), their development must be regulated. Development on the floodplain decreases the absorption area for the flood waters and thus the natural flood storage capacity of the land. This results in greater storm runoff and higher flood levels downstream.

Protection or regulation of floodplain use can be accomplished by a variety of methods: flood control zoning ordinances, non-zoning bylaws, further enforcement of the Wetlands Act, subdivision ordinances, building and sanitary codes, protection of flood-prone open spaces, flood-warning systems, and discouragement of streets and water and sewer lines into flood-prone areas. At present, Hampden has passed a Floodplain Overlay District Bylaw that prohibits many types of new buildings or structures, fill,

and dumping, and encourages recreational easements to provide public access to the Scantic River (addressing the objectives of previous OSRPs).

WETLANDS

Protection of wetlands relies chiefly on the Wetlands Protection Act, Mass, GL Ch. 131, Sec. 40, which places the responsibility of enforcing the Act upon the Town's Conservation Commission. Hampden has added a Wetland Zoning District to its zoning map which is used to enforce the Act. Care must be taken by the Conservation Commission, however, to consider those wetlands that are not presently contained within these boundaries, and especially to stringently enforce the Act's regulations.

AQUIFER RECHARGE AREAS

The importance of protecting aquifers and their recharge areas cannot be emphasized enough in a Town that relies upon private on-lot wells for its municipal water supply. If groundwater resources are not adequately protected, well water quality and quantity will deteriorate. Also, if the future shows a need for the development of a Town surface water supply, then maintenance of groundwater quality will be essential. With its groundwater/floodplain zoning bylaw, Hampden restricts and controls activities that threaten water supply. Further recommendations are:

- Septic systems – control the number so that soils will be able to naturally purify the effluent by percolation and dilution before it reaches the water table;
- Development – control the area of blacktop or buildings that decrease the area available for water absorption for groundwater;
- Road salt – cover salt that is stored and restrict its use in identified recharge areas;
- Fuel storage tanks – restrict and control the areas where they are allowed so they do not allow pollutants to leak into groundwater;
- Agricultural activities – restrict excessive use of fertilizers and pesticides or improper manure disposal that often pollutes groundwater;
- Sanitary landfills – ensure that they are contained from above and below to prevent leachate from seeping into the water table.

NEW DEVELOPMENT

Several subdivisions that have lain all or partially dormant since the Recession are now under development on Somers Road at Kibbe Lane, on South Ridge Road, on Highland Circle and elsewhere. Many of the lots under development abut or include wetlands. The South Ridge Road subdivision also includes Ridgeline and Hillside.

It has only recently come to the attention of this committee that there is a plan and grant request underway, not only for sewer and water in a portion of the town, as previously mentioned, but for a concentrated development of condos somewhere near the Hampden Country Club now operating as Great Horse Golf Course or a recently purchased nearly-abutting Horse Farm. The details are currently unclear, precluding further planning at this time. If developed as the outline currently appears, there could be noticeable effects on surrounding neighborhoods.

HAZARDOUS WASTE OR BROWNFIELD SITES

According to the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), 23 sites in Hampden have been identified and classified under Massachusetts General Law Chapter 21E (Massachusetts Oil and Hazardous Material Release, Prevention, and Response Plan). These sites are scattered throughout the Town, with the largest concentrations appearing on Main Street, Somers Road and Glendale Road. Thirteen of these sites have been identified due to their presence of oil and five other sites have been identified due to the presence of other hazardous materials. The five additional sites in the database lack information on the chemical type. The Town has not rehabilitated any sites through the Massachusetts Development Financing Authority (MDFA) or the EPA Brownfields Program. One site has been rehabilitated through DEP's Brownfield Program⁴. A subcommittee is currently in discussions with DEP and other agencies to clear up and develop a small parcel on Main Street across from Memorial Park and near the Scantic River. The presence of hazardous waste or brownfields should be a consideration in the development of any recreational facilities. Additionally, remediating sites with the most desirable locations could help reduce development pressures on greenfield areas.

LANDFILLS

Hampden has a landfill at Cross Road that is unlined, was closed in 1994, and capped in 2002. An abutting area now serves as a transfer station for trash that is removed to Springfield. Recyclable materials are collected separately on the site and removed as well. Leakage from the landfill prompted creation of a special water supply district for several homes nearby, after the landfill was closed. The Town is currently pursuing installation of a Solar Array on the landfill surface, and perhaps in the adjacent, unused portion of the landfill parcel. There is a small, second and older landfill between Pinewood and Raymond Drives, that has been inactive since 1971.

EROSION AND INVASIVE SPECIES

The Hampden Conservation Commission addresses erosion as it relates to invasive species, which are often a problem along riverbanks. Invasive species, particularly bittersweet, may be identified on properties during the permitting process. Bittersweet is known to ensnarl itself around large trees along the riverbed, strangling them to death. The death of these trees perpetuates significant erosion into the rivers. Other invasives frequently encountered on riverbanks are multiflora rose and barberry. The Commission has done work throughout the Town to remove invasive plants cautiously, in efforts to reduce erosion. Clearing of areas near riverbanks requires consultation with the Commission.

⁴ Pioneer Valley Regional Brownfields Plan <
<http://www.pvpc.org/sites/default/files/PV%20Brownfield%20Plan.pdf>>

ENVIRONMENTAL EQUITY / ACCESS TO OPEN SPACE

Hampden residents have expressed concern about equal access to recreation and open space in all areas of town. Small neighborhood parks have been a recommendation in past OSRP's to expand equitable access to playgrounds in the Town. In addition, there is a lack of sidewalks in the parts of town where access for elderly or mobility-impaired residents is critical. Similarly, there is a need for more ADA-accessible recreational resources in town. This should include a paved or gravel multi-use trail and better ingress and egress to existing parks.

SECTION 5: INVENTORY OF LANDS OF CONSERVATION AND RECREATION INTEREST



INTRODUCTION

The term "open space" can refer to conservation land, forested land, recreation land, agricultural land, small parks, green buffers along roadways or any open area that is dedicated to conservation. From a community planning perspective, it can also refer to undeveloped land with particular conservation or recreation interest. This includes vacant lots and brownfields that can be redeveloped into recreation areas. Some open space can be used for passive activities such as walking, hiking, and nature study while others are used for more active recreational uses including soccer, tennis, or baseball. Throughout this document, the term is used with a broad definition, including spaces for recreation as well as wildlife habitat, for water quality protection as well as forestry. The land may or may not be accessible to the public, depending on the purpose.

As detailed in the previous section, there are many values to protecting open space; protecting open space can provide profound economic benefits by helping avoid costly mistakes of misusing or overwhelming available resources. Open Space Plans allow the town to maintain and enhance the benefits of open space and protect the green infrastructure of the community. Planning for this "green infrastructure" of water supply land, working farms and forests, viable wildlife habitats, parks, recreation areas, trails, and greenways is as important to the economic future of a community as planning for

schools, roads, water, and wastewater infrastructure. There are many ways to assure that these lands and their values are protected over time, with differing degrees of complexity to accomplish, and differing permanency of those protections. This inventory section identifies private, non-profit and public properties that have some sort of open space designation, and describes those protections. More details, particularly for municipal properties, are described in Appendix E.

Private properties in Hampden are protected at the initiation of the owner, often when the owner seeks a tax assignment generally referred to as Chapter 61, for a property, to value it as forest, agricultural, or recreational property. These are very temporary, renewable, protections that can vary year-by-year. A few private owners seek more permanent protection for their lands through deed restrictions, such as under an Agricultural Protection Restriction that preserves the agricultural values even when the lands are passed on. Non-profit organizations such as Audubon can use other more complex means to permanently designate lands as preserved for conservation.

The Town can designate municipally-owned lands for conservation, as well; long-term preservation requires careful detailed documentation, as well as both town-wide votes and state agreements to such a designation in their deeds. Lands acquired for watershed and aquifer protection are often permanently protected open space. Several recreational open spaces have been acquired under conservation deeds, as well.

Private, public and non-profit conservation and recreation lands are protected under Article 97 of the Articles of Amendment to the State Constitution.

Lands under special taxation programs, Chapter 61, 61A or 61B, are actively managed by their owners for forestry, agricultural, horticultural or recreational use. The Town has the right of first refusal, for a very limited time, should the landowner decide to sell and change the use of the land, therefore, it is important to be aware of these lands and reflect on steps the community might consider to permanently protect some of these properties.

PRIVATE PARCELS

CHAPTERS 61, 61A, AND 61B

Chapter 61, 61A, and 61B is a voluntary program designed by the Massachusetts Legislature to tax real property in the Commonwealth at its timber resources, agricultural, or recreational value rather than its highest and best use (development) value. Landowners who enroll their land in the program receive property tax reductions in exchange for a lien on their property. The terms of the lien require that enrolled land remain in an undeveloped state and be managed for forest production, agricultural production, or recreation. Furthermore, the lien provides the municipal government of the city/town in which the enrolled property is located a right of first refusal should the landowner put the land up for sale while it is enrolled in the program. Towns may assign their right of first refusal to a state agency or a non-profit land trust. Landowners who develop their land while enrolled in the program, or for a period of time after withdrawing from the program, may be required to pay penalties.

Hampden has approximately, **3100 acres** total in Chapter 61 programs. Approximately **51 parcels totaling 1463.15 acres in Hampden are now under Chapter 61A or 61A/FMP** (Agriculture or Agriculture/Forest Management Plan) restrictions, allowing these parcels to remain in agricultural use for the duration of the

programs. There are **935 acres (42 parcels) enrolled in Chapter 61B** (recreation/open space), and **33 properties totaling 701.7 acres currently enrolled in Chapter 61** (forest land). The right-of-first-refusal process in Hampden is handled through the Select Board, after consultation with all departments. The full list of Chapter 61, 61A and 61B parcels appears in Appendix E.

Additionally, there are several other sorts of private parcels that include conservation restrictions or recreational use, detailed below.

AGRICULTURAL PRESERVATION RESTRICTION (APR)

The Agricultural Preservation Restriction program is a voluntary program that offers a non-development alternative to farmland owners, who are faced with a decision regarding future use and disposition of their farms, for their agricultural lands. The program offers farmers a payment up to the difference between the “fair market value” and the “fair market agricultural value” of their farmland in exchange for a permanent deed restriction, which precludes any use of the property that will have a negative impact on its agricultural viability. (MA DAR, 2013).

The city has one parcel of nearly 38 acres of land in the APR program.

Hidden Brook Farm APR (Ferriter Farm) – 37.62 acres of the 40 acre Ferriter Farm property are protected under the Agricultural Preservation Act. In June 2003, the Town of Hampden celebrated its 125 anniversary by recreating the 1915 Old Home Day and Clambake on the farm. The clambake followed the intent of the original event in uniting the Town in a day of food, fun and festivities. Prior to the day of the original clambake, the Town was falling victim to disruptive social forces and economic decay. The clambake brought townspeople together with a common vision. The re-creation also celebrated the common history of Hampden and Wilbraham.

TABLE 1: HAMPDEN AGRICULTURAL PRESERVATION RESTRICTIONS (APR)

SITE NAME	PARCEL ID	OWNER	ADDRESS	LOT SIZE (ACRES)	ACRES CLASSIFIED	PUBLIC ACCESS	LEVEL OF PROTECTION
Hidden Brook Farm APR	13.23.0	Ferriter Thomas F	87 South Rd.	40	37.62	N	In perpetuity

Source: Hampden Assessor’s Office

The following properties are *privately held* land that is encumbered by conservation or historic/recreation preservation restrictions.

NEIL ROBERT KIBBE FARM

70 acres, CRs co-owned by The Town of Hampden and Mass Audubon. In a Limited Development project undertaken by the MLT, this 76 acre farm of scenic and environmental importance was purchased by MLT. The farmhouse, barn and 13 acres were sold as one lot, with CRs on all but 2 acres around the home; the remainder of the land was sold with two unrestricted 2-acre building envelopes designated in areas with minimal environmental impact, and CRs on the remainder of the land. A trail spur from South Road allows public access to the Algonquin Trail. Additional funding for this project was obtained from CPA monies and a partnership with Mass Audubon to receive a Conservation Partnership Grant.

DICKINSON FARM WOODS

50 acres, with CRs owned by Town of Hampden and MLT. MLT worked with a private landowner who wanted to keep the family farm as open space, purchasing CRs on 50 acres, using funds from the Conservation partnership grant and CPA. A trail from Chapin Road was designed as an Eagle Scout project, is open to the public, and connects to the historic Boston to Hartford Coach Road.



PUBLIC AND NON-PROFIT PARCELS

Hampden owns approximately 630 acres, including town buildings and other structures, of the 12,576 acres within its borders. Almost 440 acres (~ 3.5%) of that is conserved land and parks, about 3700 square feet (0.085 acres) per resident. The privately-held 368 acres of Audubon's Laughing Brook Wildlife Sanctuary nearly doubles that acreage. However, land developed as parks and school yards makes up less than 90 acres and is not well-distributed.

Hampden's town-owned vacant land – about 103 acres in total, primarily constitutes many tiny parcels. There are 8 parcels about 5 acres or larger, ranging from 4.86 to 34 acres. The largest parcels are on North Road (<20) and Wilbraham Road (34). Others are on Ridge Rd, Scantic Rd, Somers Rd, So. Monson Rd, Sessions/Crestwood (back) and Bayberry.

The following sites represent Town-owned conservation areas. The two schools, with nearly 40 acres, are also included as town property with recreational opportunities, but are not under any type of protection. The two cemeteries also act as a special sort of Open Space, with historical and cultural protections. Of this list, Hampden Memorial Park, Mill Pond, Gerrish Park, and Minnechaug Mountain, Goat Rock and West Brook Conservation Areas are permanently protected.

TOWN COMMON

The Town Common is .43 acres at the intersection of Main Street and Chapin Road. It has a triangular shape and has a World War I monument carved by Monson sculptor Ezio DeSanti (B. 1888). Atop the broad circular base sits a square stepped granite platform, its three levels representing faith, hope and charity. The pedestal itself, of Monson granite, contains four arched recess tablets bearing inscriptions. The Common is not paved, but has a curb cut for wheelchairs. Cleaning and restoration work was done on the Memorial in 2016.

MILL POND

Mill Pond is several parcels totaling 27.13 acres on Mill Road, and has wetlands and some open water suitable for skating in the winter and wildlife observation. There is an access point for Fire Trucks to obtain water quickly. Mill Pond has street parking and benches. The area has no special accommodation for wheelchairs. One of this group of parcels is partially adjacent to elder housing.

JONATHON'S MILL

.125 acres on Riverside drive, offers fishing, picnicking, and swimming. There is no pavement for wheelchairs.

SESSIONS DRIVE / OAKLAND DRIVE CONSERVATION AREA (owned by Wilbraham)

Through a complicated chain of events, the town of Wilbraham came into control of several acres of land off Oakland Drive, on the Wilbraham side, and Sessions Drive, on the Hampden side. The land lies within the boundaries of Hampden, but belongs to Wilbraham. Formerly known as Lot 82, the 31,000 square feet (0.711 acres), contains wetland, and offers wildlife observation and walking trails. Wilbraham recently had the parcel selectively logged, with an eye to improved trails and long-term forest health. The parcel was single-aged, had little undergrowth, and many unhealthy trees, but was cut to allow for better differentiation.

THORNTON BURGESS SCHOOL

23 acres on Wilbraham Road, has basketball courts, baseball fields, soccer fields, events, and walking trails. The school has accessibility to the building and playing fields for the disabled. The Girl Scouts have created a trail accessible to wheelchairs, with a boardwalk through a cedar swamp as a connection to the Senior Center on Allen Street.

GREEN MEADOWS SCHOOL

16 acres on North Road, has baseball fields and playgrounds. The school has accessibility to the building and playing fields for the disabled. It directly adjoins other parcels of open space and privately conserved land. A section of this property has been allotted for the creation of a Community Garden. Currently, there are approximately 30 plots rented at \$20 each for the season (May 15 to Oct 15), self-managed by a participant's oversight committee. \$5000 of CPA funds was voted at Town Meeting, supplemented by rental funds, to reactivate an old well at the school for watering crops. The plots near the graveled parking area are marginally accessible to wheelchairs.

OLD CEMETERY

5.35 acres, located on Chapin Road. The burying ground has one vehicular entrance and is bounded by a white picket fence set into stone and marked by a boulder inscribed "The Old Cemetery". The cemetery contains over 1000 markers, made up of granite, marble, slate and sandstone. The earliest marker is dated 1755. The road is not paved and is steep, making it difficult to access for the disabled. The Cemetery is non-sectarian. Since the last update of the OSRP, the Town used Community Preservation Act funds to improve the Old Cemetery, surveying, and improving fences along the south and north borders of the property. The Hampden Garden Club has planted 911 daffodil bulbs on the front slope of the Cemetery.

PROSPECT HILL CEMETERY

6.85 acres. The majority of markers date from the twentieth Century. The cemetery is non-sectarian. It is bounded by a white picket fence set into stone and its center entrance is marked by a large, inscribed boulder. There are three vehicular entrances providing access to all areas of the cemetery. The area also encompasses the Roman Catholic St. Mary's Cemetery.

MINNECHAUG MOUNTAIN

273 acres on the northeast slope of Minnechaug Mountain are town-owned conservation land located south of the Scantic River, with access and a parking lot on South Road. The parking lot has spaces reserved for the disabled, but no other facilities. The Algonquin Trail is an interstate hiking trail system, made and maintained by the Boy Scouts, that crosses through this parcel. The acquisition of this parcel by the Town has increased recreational opportunities in the Town, including hiking, mountain biking, and horseback riding on trails and passive recreation like birdwatching and geocaching. There is a secondary access most of the year from Main Street through property owned by the VFW. The access is quite steep, though it was recently stabilized while the VFW was improving its own wide bridge across the Scantic and a VFW pavilion.

HAMPDEN MEMORIAL PARK

42 acres on Main Street, include, baseball fields, trails, and benches for picnicking. A creek for fishing runs through the property. There are curb cuts and other accommodations for ADA. Over the last few years, the sandy-bottomed swimming pool was replaced with an accessible Spray Park in 2006 and 2007 using approximately \$100,000 of CPA funds along with privately-raised capital. A new pavilion was installed for use in summer programs and the playscape was replaced in 2014. In 2015, the Town used Community Preservation Act funds to install an ADA-compliant playscape, and to install guardrails on the access road to the park. The restroom is small, but accessible. In 2016, further improvements including special accessible pathways and swings were made at the park to make the equipment handicap accessible and ADA-compliant. The park also serves as the access point and parking for the Goat Rock and West Brook Conservation Areas.

GOAT ROCK CONSERVATION AREA

Goat Rock Conservation Area's 36 acres are primarily steep, providing access to a ridgeline walking trail and the historic Goat Rock outlook as well as a higher overlook point. Sustainable trails have been designed to replace some sections of the traditional, but highly eroded, paths. Trail work has been done by many community members, including volunteers from high school groups, the Wilbraham Hiking Club and Minnechaug Land Trust. The viewpoints are regularly cleared by hand work, and the trails have been re-marked regularly.

WEST BROOK CONSERVATION AREA

The West Brook Conservation Area is 21.85 acres abutting Memorial Park and bordering on a more northern section of West Brook. Trails for this property begin at the park and access to Goat Rock, and though not as steep as the Goat Rock Land, West Brook's trails are uneven and filled with roots and rocks. An attempt to purchase the more accessible eastern section of the parcel fell through, though the owner graciously allows access to make a relatively easy hike circuit that re-enters Memorial Park at the upper ballfield area. Many different wildflowers have been spotted in the West Brook area, it has a pristine section of the stream running through it, and supports a wide range of wildlife. The adjacent parcel has a large peat bog and forested marsh, as well as ATV and logging-road damage and a swampy entrance area from North Road.

GERRISH PARK

Gerrish Park is an eighth of an acre right off Main Street and has picnic tables and grills. There is no paving between the parking areas and the tables, only grass; however, the area is quite flat and could be accessed by wheelchair.

MOUNT VISION (IN PROCESS)

39 acres of land along North Road known as Mt. Vision are being purchased with a combination of CPA and Land Trust funds. The property will provide conservation and passive recreation and will be managed and controlled by the Conservation Commission with certain conservation restrictions in favor of the Minnechaug Land Trust. There are currently no managed trails, though neighbors walk there regularly. The land was recently heavily logged. There is a narrow access on North Road on the southwest corner of the property, and a deeded right-of-way north through adjoining private land to Burleigh Road in

Wilbraham, providing potential access to Pesky Sarpent Conservation Area and Rice Nature Preserve in Wilbraham.

The full list of **Town-Owned lands**, Table 5, is in Appendix G; it might be useful to further assess the vacant parcels for condition, potential uses, and public access.

In Hampden, by far the largest **Non-profit landholder** is Massachusetts Audubon Laughing Brook Nature Sanctuary. Other non-profits with substantial open space are several churches, particularly Bethlehem Baptist Church, as well as the VFW, and Elder Housing. Minnechaug Land Trust holds 20 acres near Minnechaug Mountain.

MASSACHUSETTS AUDUBON LAUGHING BROOK NATURE SANCTUARY

Laughing Brook's 368.8 acres of woodlands, meadows, and streams along its four-mile trail system are open to the public. Be on the lookout for the many signs of wildlife that live at the sanctuary, including white-tailed deer, mink, woodland warblers, thrushes, and amphibians. Listen for the running brook and for kingfishers and other migratory birds, which signal the return of spring at Laughing Brook. A variety of wildlife tracks can be found in the winter snow. In the fall, enjoy the many colors of the forest and the wildflower-filled meadow. Learn about the world of nature and continue the living legacy of naturalist and children's author Thornton W. Burgess, whose former home is located at the sanctuary. The home, outbuildings and 18 acres surrounding it are listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

OTHER AREAS THAT PROVIDE KEY OPEN SPACE/REC OPPORTUNITIES

Though most of the prime farmland lies on the western side of Hampden, in the lowland or "flats" area, there are some substantial areas resting along the Scantic and between North Monson road and North Road. Some farmland of Statewide Importance lies along South Road at the base of Minnechaug Mountain.

Additionally, there are large NHESP-identified priority and estimated habitat polygons throughout Hampden, including along the Scantic and Mill Rivers. Near Thrasher Brook, and south into Connecticut, there is an established legacy forest area.

PARK AND OPEN SPACE EQUITY

Lack of sidewalks is a problem for accessibility to recreation and other open space in Hampden. There are no sidewalks leading to Thornton Burgees Middle School or Memorial Park, so it can be unsafe for children to get to the playground. The mini-mall attracts groups of younger people who cross the street at the intersection nearby, often while distracted by interactions, or riding bikes or scooters.

Access to the Senior Center, particularly through two intersections from elder housing and down Allen Street, is also hampered by lack of sidewalks.

Various public parks and amenities in the center of town could be stitched together to create a more connected, walkable, and active town center. The purchase and repurposing of the former Cumberland Farms property would support this aim, as the abandoned property sits across from the well-used Memorial Park on Main Street and might provide a better access to Minnechaug Mountain by way of a bridge across the Scantic to adjacent town-owned land and the mountain.

All the outer corners of Hampden lack easy park access; the northwestern and southwestern corners are more heavily populated, but do have relatively direct road access, if without sidewalks. In the area known as the “flatlands” there is no open space other than the Oakland Street Conservation land off Sessions Drive owned by Wilbraham. It is essentially impossible to walk to a park from the southeast corner of town, and there is currently little conserved land in that area. It might be useful to evaluate whether opportunities exist in that area.

SECTION 6: COMMUNITY VISION



DESCRIPTION OF PROCESS

In early 2017, the Town of Hampden Open Space Committee convened to undertake an update of the Town's Open Space and Recreation Plan. The most recent OSRP was published in 2009, and since that time Hampden had made a number of improvements to its open space and recreation system.

The Town of Hampden initially conducted public outreach for input on its original open space and recreation through a public survey in 2000. Although it was felt that the results of the original Hampden public survey, were still valid, the Open Space Committee conducted an open Space and Recreation Visioning Workshop on July 28, 2009, combined with the input of Town Boards, to guide that year's update of the plan.

In 2001, voters also approved the acquisition of 93 acres on the northeast slope of Minnechaug Mountain as town-owned conservation land, purchased through a combination of Self-Help grant funds, conservation funds, private foundation grants and fundraising efforts within the community. This parcel abuts 14 acres of town-owned land on the south side of the Scantic River, with access and a parking lot on South Road. The 14-acre parcel provides possible, but undeveloped, access to the Scantic River. The Algonquin Trail, an interstate hiking trail system made and maintained by the Boy Scouts, crosses through

the Minnechaug parcel, and several other trails have been developed and are occasionally maintained by volunteer groups. The acquisition of this parcel by the Town has increased recreational opportunities in the Town, including hiking, mountain biking, and horseback riding on trails and passive recreation like birdwatching and geocaching. Voters also adopted the Community Preservation Act, which has provided funds to be matched by the State for open space, historic preservation, and affordable housing.

At the 2002 Special Fall Town Meeting, voters approved (pending other funding) the acquisition of an additional 166-acre parcel on the northwest slope of Minnechaug Mountain, which abuts the 93 acres currently owned and managed by the Town. At the same meeting, voters agreed to allocate \$100,000 of Community Preservation funds for this purchase. A Self-Help grant was approved for \$250,000, and the balance of funds were obtained from private foundations and fundraising efforts within the community.

In 2010, MLT acquired a 35-acre parcel, known as Goat Rock Conservation Area, that has access to two parks, tiny Gerrish Park and the primary Memorial Park, via a popular hiking trail, the Goat Rock Ridge Trail, which runs along the Wilbraham Mountain ridge for a little over a mile. The property was transferred to the Town of Hampden after its acquisition, and is now open for the pleasure of the public. West Brook Conservation Area was purchased and transferred to the Town for public use in 2013, and the Land Trust is currently working on closure for a 39 acre parcel at Mt. Vision that will allow hiking through to some Wilbraham areas. When the large Ballou Farm on South Road was at risk of development, the Land Trust assisted a private party in preserving the parcel as farmland; two other farmland parcels were also conserved.

A Community Garden has been developed and, after a few moves, is located next to Green Meadows School, is overseen by its own committee, and was supported by a CPA investment for refurbishing of a well.

Nearly \$700,000 of CPA money has been allotted since 2001, almost equally to Historic Preservation, Recreation, and Open Space. Since fewer requests have been made for CPA allotments to Affordable Housing, extra money has been set aside for that purpose.

In August, 2017, the committee posted the Hampden 2017 Open Space and Recreation Plan Update Survey to explore Hampden residents' uses, wishes, and dreams for the Town's current and future open spaces. A link to the online survey was posted to the Town website and Facebook pages and the hard copy survey was distributed at the Senior Center and in multiple locations around the Hampden Town House. The survey was also publicized through local newspapers and flyers including the Scribe, Hampden/Wilbraham Times, and the Reminder. After 6 weeks, 28 hard-copy and 56 online surveys had been filled out. The results of the survey are included in the appendices (Appendix B).

The survey remained open into October, 2016 and was again publicized through notifications about the Hampden OSRP Update public workshop and visioning session. The public was notified of a visioning session scheduled for Wednesday, September 27th, 2017 at the Hampden Town House Auditorium. Notice about the event was posted on the Town website, local grocery store, Facebook pages, and the local newspapers listed above.

Approximately 12 people attended the visioning session (sign-in sheet is included in Appendix C. The session opened with a brief presentation on the purpose and components of an OSRP. A visioning exercise followed, in which two small groups formed to visualize what the "ideal" Hampden would look like in 10

to 20 years in terms of open space and recreation. Next, participants discussed what would be needed to achieve those visions and began articulating goals. At the end of the discussion, the top goals were prioritized and priority actions were listed by the entire group.

The meeting was very positive, and addressed a number of major items that attendees felt could be important objectives of the OSRP. *There was universal agreement that the primary intent of the goals from the 2009 OSRP remain applicable and relevant for the 2017 update.* A need for sidewalks and accompanying accoutrements figured prominently in the discussion of needs at the visioning session, as did strong sentiments for developing Main Street Open Space access (e.g. at the former Cumberland Farms and possible Memorial park expansions or additions), water access in general, flatter and more available "away-from-road" walking and biking trails, and several other items.

STATEMENT OF OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION GOALS

During the visioning session, residents reviewed the actions and goals of the 2009 Hampden OSRP, and articulated and developed revised goals and action steps to address a variety of open space and recreation issues impacting Hampden in the present day. Hampden has begun work on several of the identified items in *previous* action plans, developing strategies for open space, farmland preservation, and the protection of natural resources; promoting appropriate economic development; improving the appearance of commercial uses; improving the quality of development; and addressing miscellaneous bylaw improvements. The following updated 2017 goals, *listed in no specific order*, were developed by the Open Space Committee using comments collected at the visioning session and through the survey, as well as an assessment of trends found in sections 3-5 of this plan:

Goal 1 – Maintain historic quality and physical appearance of the Town center.

Goal 2 – Manage physical development to preserve, enhance, and where appropriate, capitalize on the Town's environmental attributes and rural character.

Goal 3 – Protect Water Resources.

Goal 4 – Maximize utilization of recreation and conservation facilities for all town residents including effective management and equitable distribution of services.

Goal 5 – Preserve agricultural and forested land for future uses.

SECTION 7: ANALYSIS OF NEEDS



SUMMARY OF RESOURCE PROTECTION NEEDS

Hampden is a quiet, rural town, whose residents value its crucial wildlife corridors and forested areas with trails. The key areas of natural resources are its slopes, wetlands, river areas, and groundwater supply. Studies have shown that the central ridge of Hampden, containing Minnechaug Mountain, provides an essential corridor for the movement of wildlife. Wildlife studies have also shown that many wildlife species require greater habitat than the small patches that often remain after landscapes are fragmented. Ideally, resident and migratory wildlife require small and large patches of protected land as well as corridors of forest cover for protection of their movements.

Residents identified opportunities to expand upon existing wildlife corridors and connections of open space parcels in the Town. Recommendations included pursuing land acquisition of a Westbrook open space on Mountain Road, which would connect two other Town-owned open space properties. There are other acquisitions or easements that would improve existing habitat continuity and connection of natural resources that might be pursued in the future.

SUMMARY OF COMMUNITY NEEDS

The preservation of Hampden's environmental resources, rural character, and historic quality were the key components of Hampden's last Open Space and Recreation Plan Update in 2009. Citizens of Hampden highlighted the protection of water resources, the preservation of agricultural and forested land, the maintenance and historic value of the Scantic River and the Town Center, the enhancement of recreational opportunities, and the protection of mountain ridges from unsuitable development, as important needs.

Previous assessments of the Town's open space and recreation needs, since the first plan was developed in 1986, and for updates, have generally found that most of the recreational needs surveyed were adequately met by Hampden's existing facilities. Hampden had, and has, several playgrounds, trails, picnic spots, and quiet areas to satisfy the majority of preferred activities. However, certain facilities earlier deemed desirable and missing remain a need today. Preceding questionnaire respondents and Town Boards indicated swimming, ice skating, and bike paths as those activities for which facilities were lacking, and there has been ongoing Town interest in developing ice skating and swimming facilities at selected Town-owned lands, but concrete solutions have been elusive.

More generally, over the last twenty years, a) Residents felt Hampden's most important features were its rural, small town atmosphere, its forests, and its open spaces; b) a majority of residents believed that a loss of wildlife and open space was a negative impact resulting from growth and development; 3) residents said the most important growth and development goals were to preserve the rural character of the Town, protect natural resources and environmental quality, and to protect open space and farmland.

The survey published for the 2017 OSRP update elicited many similar responses, with some interesting new propositions. Respondents expressed the desire for *community gathering spaces* to serve residents and that would attract visitors. Suggestions included a river or pond access site with parking, an area for a small cafe or store to sell local items promoting Hampden organizations and local vendors, ice skating in the winter, and lighted walkway paths. People continued to stress the need for a community public swimming area, noting that they have to travel to neighboring towns with swimming pools or lakes. While the Town currently has a Spray Park, it has limited hours, is used primarily by younger children, and some residents have complained that it lacks shade. It is clear that the pond/swimming area replaced by the Spray Park is much missed. That the access road and parking for Memorial Park are not plowed in winter and the park is closed to the public for much of the summer due to camp activities, are issues.

Suggestions included creating a beach area along the Scantic River with parking and a wading area for both adults and kids. Ice skating might be offered by enhanced maintenance of the Mill Pond site, a wetland site with extensive cattails and some open water, or by developing a seasonal ice skating rink by enclosing and flooding flat ground at an accessible location. In addition, residents expressed interest in developing other winter sports (cross-country skiing and sledding), more fully distributed picnicking areas, and community participation events. Grooming of existing, or development of new, trails and coordination of Town activities might fulfill many of these desires.

Hampden has shown strong interest in preserving open space within the Town for natural resource protection and for recreation. In the 2017 survey, *33% of respondents said Drinking Water Resources are*

the most important community feature to protect and conserve when asked to rank the importance of a number of features. Of all response, the most votes overall (at any ranking) went to Wildlife Habitat, followed closely by Open Space, Natural/Conservation Lands. As Hampden relies on private wells for its water supply, and may face development pressure in the future, it is crucial the Hampden protect its water resources. This protection is especially significant as Hampden has only one surface water body remaining (Mill Pond).

A crucial Town need is the provision of recreational facilities in certain parts of Town. Some neighborhoods have no area facilities. The lowlands/flatlands in the western part of Hampden lack playground facilities, while the southeast portion of town lacks open space. The closest Town-owned parcels to the lowlands suitable for recreational and/or conservation enjoyment are Mill Pond (a small area that is undeveloped), and a Wilbraham-managed Oakland Street parcel along the northern border. Gerrish Park (again a small area suitable only for picnicking and passive recreation), and Memorial Park (possessing adequate facilities) are at some distance for residents of the western part of Town. The nearest open spaces to the western part of Town is the Hampden Country Club now operating as Great Horse, which is privately owned and charges high fees, and the TWB middle school fields.

The western part of town, specifically the central western section, was also designated by citizens as an area in desperate need of sidewalks. Parents have shown great concern regarding child safety along certain intersections and streets, and users of the Senior Center also have limited safe walking options. Main St., Somers Rd., Wilbraham Rd., and Allen St. were consistently mentioned as those main roads requiring sidewalks.

The need to increase amenities for non-motorized mobility, mainly pedestrian and cycling mobility, was a theme throughout the 2017 OSRP update process. There are significant barriers for young people and elderly or disabled adults in Hampden to access recreational resources, due to both a lack of coordinated non-motorized network and a general shortcoming in places of interest for residents of all ages to go. Hampden has a number of trails, though very few are family-oriented or accessible to seniors or the mobility impaired.

For pedestrian amenities, the lack of sidewalks and safe road crossings dissuades or prohibits many residents from moving freely around town. Hampden has the unique distinction of not having any stoplights. While this helps to preserve the rural character of town, it creates challenges for pedestrian mobility. Respondents to the 2017 OSRP survey and participants in the Visioning Session noted the need for sidewalks and other safe routes connecting pedestrians from one place of interest in town to another, including a safe crossing of Somers Road near Centennial Commons, a senior housing complex. This community is two lots away from the intersection of Main Street and Allen Street (where Allen turns into Somers Rd). Residents of the Commons often are unable to drive or do not have access to a personal vehicle, and would like to be able to have a safe walking route to the grocery store and other amenities at that nearby intersection. A crossing at this location would also put walkers on the correct side of the road to reach the Senior Center, just a ways up the road.

People ride bicycles today more than ever for recreation, exercise, and as a mode of transportation. Not surprisingly, different types of cyclists have different needs. In Hampden, the most common needs highlighted were for off-road bicycling (and mixed-use) trails or paths, and wider shoulders on existing roadways for safe road riding. The lack of bike trails or widened roads has created a problem for

Hampden bicyclists, as the present road system is too narrow to accommodate cars and bikes, forcing bicyclists into the sandy shoulders. Solutions to this problem, given Hampden's desire not to pave more land, rely on widening the roads or stabilizing the sandy shoulders.

Residents of the 2017 survey and participants of the visioning session spoke of the need for increased community facilities and gathering places. One opportunity that was brought up numerous times throughout the 2017 OSRP update process was the potential redevelopment of the former Cumberland Farms property in the Town center, which could potentially offer access to the Scantic River. Participants of the 2017 visioning session brainstormed potential uses for the site. Proposals ranged from a petting zoo to a food truck location to a seasonal ice rink. Other recommendations for new community gathering spaces including creating a fenced, off-leash dog park, and exploring opportunities to acquire or enter into a use agreement for the lot behind the Baptist Church as a potential location for an accessible trail, biking, Frisbee golf, skate park, etc. In the near term, the Town could also increase programming out of the recreation department to offer activities such as geocaching and scavenger hunts that provide opportunities for community members to recreate together.

Many of the recreation needs identified in the 2012 Massachusetts SCORP update are also relevant in Hampden. Road biking, gardening, and swimming were popular statewide, while hiking was reported as the activity with the highest levels of participation for the Western Massachusetts region. The need for more trails, especially those closer to where people live, was most frequently mentioned by resident survey respondents as a real need across the state. A lack of funding for construction and maintenance were both listed as the biggest obstacles to building new recreational facilities. Public officials surveyed for SCORP said that the age group that has the least of their recreation needs met are adolescents aged 13-18. When asked what types of facilities are most lacking in the community, teen centers and skateboard parks were mentioned the most frequently. SCORP surveys also indicated that most people's participation in recreational activities would increase or stay the same in the next 5 years. As in Hampden, water-based recreation came up frequently at the SCORP public meetings, with participants citing a need for more water access, whether for swimming or boating. When asked what activities they would like to try or do more frequently in the next five years, 43% of youth respondents chose Canoeing, kayaking, rafting or tubing and camping. Finally, SCORP surveys targeted at land trusts revealed that acquiring new land, trail maintenance, conservation restriction stewardship, and funding are the four greatest challenges with regards to the facilities they manage. (2012 SCORP)

Accessibility Assessment (ADA)

The focus on Goal 1 of the 2009 OSRP, to update Memorial Park, has resulted in highly-improved accessibility in that park. Redesigned paths, pavilions, and special swings have been installed, and the Spray Park and play-scape are accessible. An accessible boardwalk was built between the Senior Center and TWB Middle School, though no ongoing maintenance has been done and it needs upgrades. In the recent survey, it was clear that residents felt certain groups require additional attention. They were young children, teenagers, families, and senior citizens. Expansion of present facilities and programs may adequately meet the needs of those first three groups. Senior citizens now enjoy a Senior Center, located on Allen St and completed in 2005, that is well-attended and provides a great range of activities as well as a sense of community. It has also served as an emergency shelter during power outages and natural disasters.

But activities and facilities for less mobile groups, of all ages, are recognized by the Town as crucial needs. Hampden has many natural surface woodland trails, both traditional and newly developed, but they are inaccessible to many seniors and the mobility impaired. People with disabilities, at present a small but growing segment, need to be able to use more recreational areas. In recognizing these needs, the Town is working to ensure its facilities are handicapped-accessible and has recently formalized appointment of an ADA Coordinator. Building on these efforts, the Town should seek to increase access to more of its recreational assets for the mobility impaired, where feasible, and should seek to develop a mixed-use, fully accessible trail in town for all residents to enjoy.

The Conservation Commission in Hampden is an appointed board of approximately seven volunteer residents who promote stewardship of local conservation lands and implement the Wetlands Protection Act Regulations, Riverfront Act, and Hampden Wetlands By-Laws. Individualized services for those needing assistance in applying for permits are provided, as much as possible, by the volunteers. Such services range from producing maps from the town GIS system, to step-by-step guidance in completing the application (either in person or by email). The regular Commission meeting room is not easily accessible, but the meeting can be moved quickly, as needed, to a nearby accessible space in the same building.

The Commission has partial oversight responsibility for seven town-owned conserved properties: Mill Pond, Memorial Park, Minnechaug Mountain, Goat Rock and West Book Conservation Areas, Jonathan's Mill, and Gerrish Park. The Commission offers no programs through these parcels.

Of these, Minnechaug Mountain, Goat Rock, and West Brook are essentially inaccessible to the mobility impaired, and there is no clear way to change that status. Minnechaug Mountain's South Road parking lot has special parking spaces and is graveled. The area surrounding the parking is wet meadow, precluding much expansion of accessible surface, though a picnic table might be feasible.

Gerrish Park is quite small, but has accessible parking and flat, grassy, access to picnic tables. Mill Pond, though partially level, has a bench near the street parking, but no paths or other adapted provisions. This might be a good area to target for further consideration. As a primary goal of the OSRP for the last seven years, much work has been completed, as detailed elsewhere, at Memorial Park, including accessible playscapes, spray park, pavilions, bridges, and paths.

MANAGEMENT NEEDS AND POTENTIAL CHANGE OF USE

Management, staffing, or land use changes are the instruments used to address open space and recreation challenges and needs. They can also contribute to the challenges. In Hampden, new bylaws permitting and regulating solar energy generation have been passed in recent years, but there is ongoing concern that solar farms are being developed in prime open space parcels, an issue not yet addressed in the bylaws. Similarly, while bylaws do exist to protect critical and highly valued environments along mountain ridges, some ridges in town continue, perhaps inevitably, to be developed with residential properties, sometimes in indirect ways, restricting future potential for public enjoyment of these areas. For instance, a well-loved trail running along the ridge of the Wilbraham Mountains is no longer fully passable.

Hampden residents are aware of recreation and conservation opportunities, and most residents use their facilities extensively. Residents' greatest concerns, and the greatest obstacles for using or enjoying open

space or recreation areas in Hampden, were limited access, [presence of] ticks, lack of signage or information, parking, and poor maintenance. Vandalism and destruction of areas not designed for ATV use are concerns to area residents and are issues that the Town must consider for future Town policies.

The most frequently used recreation areas are generally the most highly developed, and those in which the Town has made the greatest investments, including Memorial Park (recreation), Laughing Brook (conservation and nature education), Thornton Burgess (school, recreation, meetings, concerts), and Green Meadows (school, recreation, meetings). The quality of these and other Town facilities varies. As a result of high use, citizen participants of the 2017 OSRP update felt, maintenance efforts must be improved. Forest management and trail improvements were recommended in the Oakland Street Conservation Area (Wilbraham). General repairs to existing facilities were considered a high priority while certain added facilities such as toilets and food vendors were also suggested.

Residents felt that certain groups require additional attention. They were children ages 5 through 12, teenagers, families, and senior citizens. Expansion of present facilities may adequately meet the needs of those first three groups. Senior citizens now enjoy a new Senior Center, located on Allen St and completed in 2005. However, affordable housing for seniors is limited to the existing units at Centennial Commons, and this does not meet the needs of a growing senior population. Activities and facilities for special needs groups is recognized by the Town as crucial. Hampden has a plethora of natural surface woodland trails, but they are not family oriented and are inaccessible to many seniors and the mobility impaired. People with disabilities, at present a small segment, need to be able to use more recreational areas. In recognizing these needs, the Town ensures its facilities are handicapped-accessible and is investigating opportunities to expand the affordable housing market for seniors. Building on these efforts, the Town should seek to increase access to all of its recreational assets for the mobility impaired, where feasible, and should seek to develop a mixed-use, fully accessible trail in town for all residents to enjoy.

For the non-mobility-impaired, the challenge is about connecting users with the right resource. Raising awareness of Hampden's existing resources and protected areas is viewed as a key to building more investment and involvement in the Town's opportunities. A lack of signage and website information means that many residents do not recognize the various recreational resources that are already available. This limits not only potential usage of these resources, but also potential supporters and volunteers. Many, if not most, residents have no knowledge of the extensive natural surface woodland trail presence in Hampden, as these trails are not well advertised/publicized. Detailed information on conservation areas, playgrounds, and public parks and facilities, including the potential activities there and parking/access points, should be centralized and promoted on the Town's website. In tandem with this, town departments could coordinate to develop and distribute maps of the Town's existing trail network, detailing the trails' locations and use restrictions. The distribution of this map could be coupled with outreach and education about trail etiquette and environmental stewardship. Creating "clarity" around how and why a space is used and cared for by their fellow neighbors will encourage more people to feel ownership of and connection to their public spaces.

SECTION 8: GOALS AND OBJECTIVES



Several past goals and objectives identified in previous Open Space plans have been successfully put into place. One is protection of hillsides and ridgelines from inappropriate development with a targeted zoning bylaw that was approved at the 1990 Town Meeting. Water supply areas and wetlands were mapped, and a wetland protection zoning bylaw was approved at Town Meeting in 1992. A Shade Tree Protection ByLaw was drafted and put on the warrant, but failed to pass the Town meeting.

The Objective of updating Memorial Park has been met with a Spray Park with redesigned surround and landscaping, new playscape with currently-recommended play surface and improved drainage, accessible pathways, swing, parking and new pavilions, improved drainage for the parking lot and lower ballfield, and repaired seating and fencing for the lower ballfield. West Brook, which flows through the park, has been improved by removing and replacing culverts, stabilizing the banks with better natural plantings, and additional barriers to prevent destructive parking or driving near the brook or on grassy areas.

The Town continues to work towards objectives identified in previous Open Space Plans as well as new objectives identified in the survey and meetings for this plan update. It should be noted that both the Visioning group attendees and the Update Committee ***actively decided that they did not wish to prioritize any of the six goals over the others, but felt they all must be addressed concurrently.*** The committee did, however, *identify specific objectives to be addressed first; those are indicated in the Action Plan with asterisks**.*

The six Goals and the accompanying Objectives identified, follow:

GOAL – MAINTAIN HISTORIC QUALITY AND PHYSICAL APPEARANCE OF THE TOWN CENTER.

OBJECTIVES

- Consider relevant buildings for historic register
- Encourage maintenance and historic value of Scantic River, Town Center, and Town House.

GOAL - MANAGE PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT TO PRESERVE, ENHANCE, AND WHERE APPROPRIATE, CAPITALIZE ON THE TOWN'S ENVIRONMENTAL ATTRIBUTES AND RURAL CHARACTER.

OBJECTIVES

- Direct future Town growth toward suitable development areas in order to maintain environmental quality.
- Protect mountain ridges by acquiring valuable land and conservation restrictions.
- Preserve the many scenic views existing in town, especially as they connect with open space corridors
- Consider the possibility of developing additional public access to Scantic River.

GOAL – PROTECT WATER RESOURCES.

OBJECTIVES

- Prevent well pollution from road salt, septic tanks, and agricultural activity such as nitrates, pesticides, herbicides, etc.
- Protect ground water supplies
- Prevent non-point pollution to Scantic River
- Preserve wetlands
- Preserve floodplains
- Protect watershed areas
- Create and develop some greenbelt areas along Town waterways.
- Continue to monitor and contain ground water contamination from DPW salt shed and the landfill.

GOAL – MAXIMIZE UTILIZATION OF RECREATION AND CONSERVATION FACILITIES FOR ALL TOWN RESIDENTS INCLUDING EFFECTIVE MANAGEMENT AND EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION OF SERVICES.

OBJECTIVES

- Develop parks in all neighborhoods

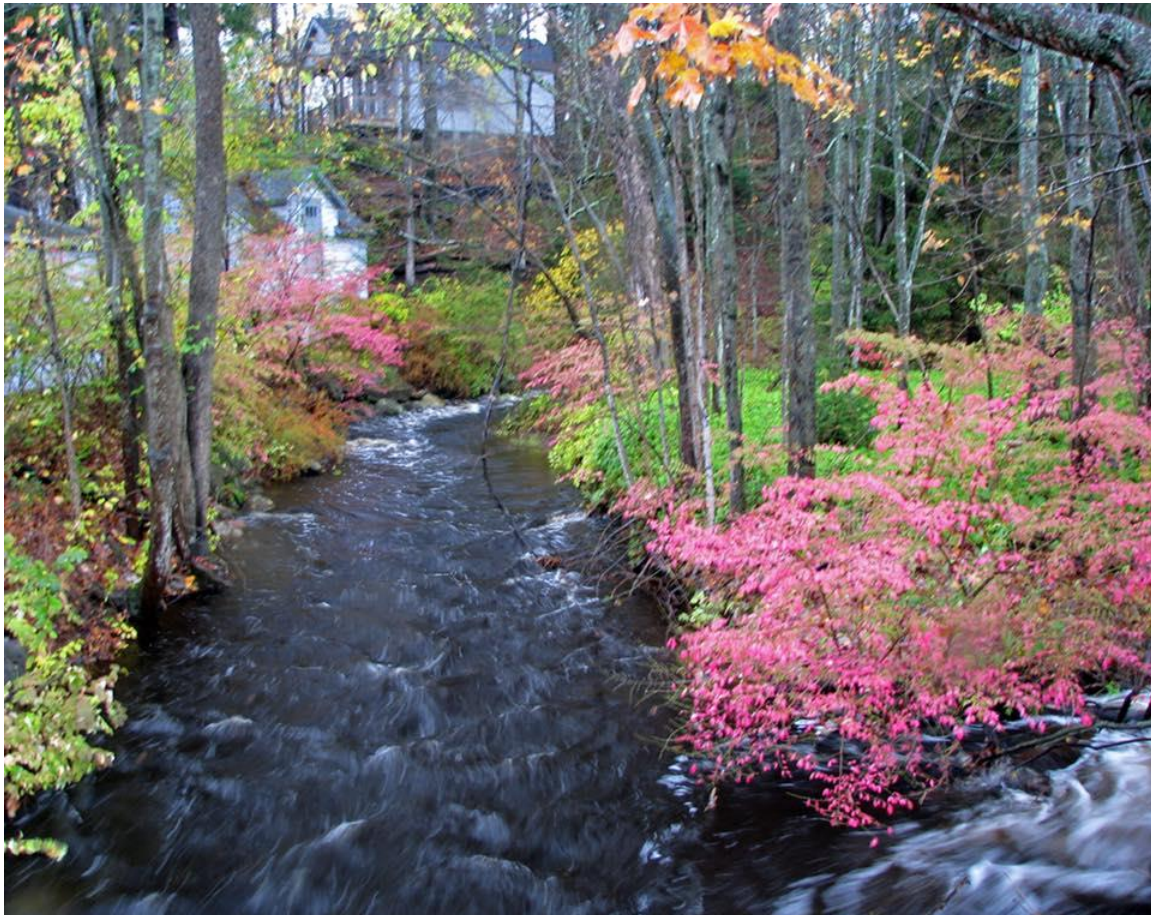
GOAL – PRESERVE AGRICULTURAL AND FORESTED LAND FOR FUTURE USES.

OBJECTIVES

- Advise farmers of the opportunities in the APR program
- Advise landowners of wooded properties of the Forestry Incentive Program
- Encourage use of state agriculture and forestry programs through chapter 61, 61A, and 61B.

GOAL – PROVIDE MORE CONNECTIVITY AMONG HAMPDEN’S OPEN SPACE AND RECREATIONAL AREAS AND ITS NEIGHBORHOODS

- Discover and develop connections between public properties



SECTION 9: SEVEN YEAR ACTION PLAN

Objectives identified as high priorities for directed energy are marked by asterisks **

GOAL #1: MAINTAIN HISTORIC QUALITY AND PHYSICAL APPEARANCE OF THE TOWN CENTER.			
ACTION	TIMELINE	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES
1. Continue to oversee Community Preservation projects involving affordable housing, historic preservation (including cemetery preservation) and open space protection.	Ongoing	Community Preservation Committee	LAND grants Private foundations CPA

GOAL #2: MANAGE PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT TO PRESERVE, ENHANCE, AND WHERE APPROPRIATE, CAPITALIZE ON THE TOWN'S ENVIRONMENTAL ATTRIBUTES AND RURAL CHARACTER.			
ACTION	TIMELINE	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES
1. Inform potential developers of methods available, like the Flexible Development Bylaw, to preserve open space	1-3 years and ongoing	Board of Selectmen, Conservation Commission	Staff time Conservation Assistance for Small Communities Grant Program
2. Continue to keep land registered as 61, 61A and 61B by the use of first refusal option.	1-3 years and ongoing	Conservation Commission	Staff time
3. ** Insist on strict enforcement of existing bylaws. Adhere to strict enforcement of Title 5.	1-3 years and ongoing	Conservation Commission, the Board of Appeals,	Staff time

GOAL #2: MANAGE PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT TO PRESERVE, ENHANCE, AND WHERE APPROPRIATE, CAPITALIZE ON THE TOWN'S ENVIRONMENTAL ATTRIBUTES AND RURAL CHARACTER.			
ACTION	TIMELINE	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES
		Board of Selectmen	
4. Continue to pursue protection of all wetlands within new subdivisions in order to preserve their vital functions of pollution control and flood storage	1-3 years and ongoing	Conservation Commission, Planning Department, DPW	Staff time CPA LAND grants (for acquisition costs) LWCF
5. Encourage or actively purchase conservation restrictions on critical areas of open space.	1-3 years and ongoing	Conservation Commission	Staff time CPA LWCF Landscape Partnership Grant Program Conservation Assistance for Small Communities Grant Program
6. ** Pursue Westbrook open space land acquisition on Mountain Road to connect 2 other Town-owned open space properties	1-3 years	Conservation Commission, Board of Selectmen	LAND grants (for acquisition costs) CPA LWCF Landscape Partnership Grant Program Local Funds

GOAL #3: PROTECT WATER RESOURCES.			
ACTION	TIMELINE	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES
1. Take advantage of available funding for land preservation through state and private nonprofit conservation groups.	1-3 years and ongoing	Board of Selectmen, Conservation Commission	LAND grants (for acquisition costs) MassWildlife Habitat Protection Program (management grant for already-conserved lands) MA Drinking Water Supply Protection Grant Program LWCF Landscape Partnership Grant Program Conservation Assistance for Small Communities Grant Program
2. Work to protect large blocks of open space and water resources that are linked by a system of trails and natural wildlife corridors.	1-3 years and ongoing	Conservation Commission	Donation CPA LAND grants Landscape Partnership Grant Program LWCF Conservation Assistance for Small Communities Grant Program MassWildlife Habitat Protection Program (management grant for already-conserved lands)

GOAL #3: PROTECT WATER RESOURCES.			
ACTION	TIMELINE	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES
3. Encourage or actively purchase conservation restrictions on critical areas of open space.	1-3 years and ongoing	Conservation Commission	Donation CPA LAND grants MA Drinking Water Supply Protection Grant Program LWCF Landscape Partnership Grant Program
4. Continue to sponsor forums featuring guest speakers who are professionals in fields of land management and conservation.	1-3 years and Ongoing	Minnechaug Land Trust Conservation Commission, volunteer groups	Local funds Conservation Assistance for Small Communities Grant Program

GOAL #4: DEVELOP OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION AMENITIES IN ALL NEIGHBORHOODS AND FOR ALL RESIDENTS.			
ACTION	TIMELINE	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES
1. ** Acquire and improve former Cumberland Farms property as a public amenity with river access.		Board of Selectmen, Conservation Commission, Special Working Group	Local funds / CPA LWCF Donations in kind
2. Install sidewalks at the following locations:	3-5 years	DPW Planning Department	Chapter 90 Recreational Trails

GOAL #4: DEVELOP OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION AMENITIES IN ALL NEIGHBORHOODS AND FOR ALL RESIDENTS.			
ACTION	TIMELINE	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Main street to continue from east to west to Somers Road • Somers Road from Village Food Mart to Allen Street Senior Center (east side of road) and Centennial Commons/Springmeadow Ln (west side of road) • Wilbraham Road from Allen/Somers/Longmeadow intersection north to TWB Middle School (west side of road) <p>Incorporate sidewalks into any road reconstruction plans in these areas.</p>			Program Complete Streets Local funds
<p>3. Create a walking path connecting North Road, through the Green Meadows Elementary School property, connecting to MA Audubon's Laughing Brook Wildlife Sanctuary and Glendale Road, and north to the Mt. Vision conservation area.</p>	3-5 years	Conservation Commission Volunteers	Recreational Trails Program Complete Streets (?) Local funds / CPA LWCF
<p>4. ** Identify a suitable location for a handicapped accessible recreational trail and bike path that connects to another town or point of interest. Explore routes around power line/utility corridor (crosses Allen Street near Life Church, or off of Somers road south of Minnechaug Mountain). This trail could be used for walking, jogging, and x-country skiing.</p>	1-3 years	Planning Department Conservation Commission Parks and Recreation Department	Recreational Trails Program Local funds CPA LWCF Conservation Assistance for Small Communities

GOAL #4: DEVELOP OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION AMENITIES IN ALL NEIGHBORHOODS AND FOR ALL RESIDENTS.			
ACTION	TIMELINE	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES
			Grant Program
5. Increase programming out of recreation department to offer activities such as geocaching and scavenger hunts	1-3 years	Parks and Recreation Department Conservation Commission	Staff time
6. Widen shoulders on roads to make safe space for cyclists at the following locations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Main Street from Somers Road east to Glendale Road/Scantic Road split • Somers Road/Allen Street • Wilbraham Road 	3-5 years	DPW Planning Department	Chapter 90 Recreational Trails Program Complete Streets Local funds
7. Discuss shared-use agreement with Bethlehem Church for public use of land behind church.	1-3 years	Board of Selectman, Parks and Recreation	Local funds LWCF
8. Identify potential land acquisition opportunities, or reuse of existing town land, for tennis courts and a dog park.	1-3 years	Parks and Rec	Town appropriation LWCF Conservation Assistance for Small Communities Grant Program

GOAL #4: DEVELOP OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION AMENITIES IN ALL NEIGHBORHOODS AND FOR ALL RESIDENTS.			
ACTION	TIMELINE	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES
9. Install flashing stop sign near Centennial Commons Senior Housing on Somers Road/Allen Street for safe access to the Senior Center across the road.	1-3 years	DPW Planning Department	Chapter 90 Complete Streets Local funds
10. Increase town presence on-line - improve town website to include activities listings.	1-3 years	Parks & Recreation Commission, Conservation Commission	Local funds / CPA Staff Time
11. Create trail maps and brochures that highlight natural and scenic features of local conservation areas. Make available on website.	1-3 years	Parks & Recreation Commission, Conservation Commission	Local funds / CPA Staff Time
12. Ensure that all public buildings and suitable recreational areas and trails are accessible to the handicapped	Ongoing	Board of Selectmen, Parks & Recreation Commission, Historical Society, and School Committee	Chapter 90 Complete Streets Recreational Trails Program Local funds
13. Identify potential locations to create permanent public access to the Scantic River for recreational purposes	1-3 years	Parks & Recreation Commission, Conservation Commission	Recreational Trails Program LWCF CPA Conservation Assistance for Small Communities

GOAL #4: DEVELOP OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION AMENITIES IN ALL NEIGHBORHOODS AND FOR ALL RESIDENTS.			
ACTION	TIMELINE	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES
			Grant Program
14. Maintain Mill Pond as a recreational site suitable for skating and picnicking.		Parks & Recreation Commission, Board of Selectmen, Conservation Commission; with help from Boy & Girl Scouts, Lions, other volunteer groups Fire Department	Volunteer time Recreational Trails Program CPA LWCF
15. Continue to provide adult and summer programs at the high school and library	Ongoing	Parks & Recreation Commission	Local funds
16. Develop neighborhood parks	1-3 years	Parks & Recreation Commission, Board of Selectmen, Conservation Commission	LWCF Landscape Partnership Grant Program Conservation Assistance for Small Communities Grant Program

GOAL #5: PRESERVE AGRICULTURAL AND FORESTED LAND FOR FUTURE USES.			
ACTION	TIMELINE	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

GOAL #5: PRESERVE AGRICULTURAL AND FORESTED LAND FOR FUTURE USES.			
ACTION	TIMELINE	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES
1. Take advantage of available funding for land preservation through state and private nonprofit conservation groups.	Ongoing	Board of Selectmen, Conservation Commission	Conservation Partnership Grant Program (for acquisitions by not-for-profit groups such as land trusts) LWCF
2. Encourage 61A landowners to apply for the APR Program and 61B landowners to apply for the Forestry Incentive Program	1-3 years and ongoing	Conservation Commission	Staff Time Conservation Assistance for Small Communities Grant Program

GOAL #6: PRESERVE AGRICULTURAL AND FORESTED LAND FOR FUTURE USES PROVIDE MORE CONNECTIVITY AMONG HAMPDEN'S OPEN SPACE AND RECREATIONAL AREAS AND ITS NEIGHBORHOODS.			
ACTION	TIMELINE	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES
1. Discover and develop connections between public properties	Ongoing	Board of Selectmen, Conservation Commission	Conservation Partnership Grant Program (for acquisitions by not-for-profit groups such as land trusts) Staff Time LWCF

Notes: **** These items were identified as high priorities for directed energy**

CPA Community Preservation Act: helps communities preserve open space and historic sites, create affordable housing, and develop outdoor recreational facilities.

LWCF Federal Land & Water Conservation Fund: provides up to 50% of the total project cost for the acquisition, development, and renovation of: Park, Recreation, and Conservation areas

PARC Parkland Acquisitions and Renovations for Communities Grant Program: reimburses municipalities for parkland acquisitions and park development and renovation. Note that this option has not been selected as a likely avenue; Hampden applications have consistently failed fundable scoring due to low scores on affordable housing.

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APPENDIX A: 2017 HAMPDEN OSRP UPDATE PUBLIC SURVEY



Hampden 2017 Open Space and Recreation Plan Update Survey

1. Please provide your responses to the questions below.

1. What type of recreational activities do you and/or your family participate in here in Hampden? Check all that apply.

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Swimming | <input type="checkbox"/> Gardening |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Baseball | <input type="checkbox"/> Hiking |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Softball | <input type="checkbox"/> Ice Skating |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Basketball | <input type="checkbox"/> Cross-country Skiing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Football | <input type="checkbox"/> Snowshoeing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Soccer | <input type="checkbox"/> Sledding |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tennis | <input type="checkbox"/> Motorized Recreation (ATV, Snowmobiling) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Golf | <input type="checkbox"/> Yoga/Tai Chi/Meditation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bicycling | <input type="checkbox"/> Disc Golf |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Walking | <input type="checkbox"/> Canoeing/Kayaking |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Running | <input type="checkbox"/> Equestrian |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hunting | <input type="checkbox"/> Roller Blading/Skating |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fishing | <input type="checkbox"/> None |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Camping | |

Other (please specify)

2. What additional recreational activities would you like to see Hampden offer? Check all that apply.

- Public swimming access: River access
- Public swimming access: Swimming pond with beach
- Dog Park
- Skate Park
- Disc/Frisbee Golf
- Canoe/kayak put-ins and facilities
- Picnic areas
- Off-road (mountain) Bike Trails
- Multi-use Trails
- Hiking Trails
- Recreation Equipment Rental
- More for Children
- More for Teens
- More for Adults
- More for Families
- More for Senior Citizens
- More for Disabled Citizens
- None
- Other

Other (please specify)

3. What activities do you travel OUTSIDE of Hampden to do?

- Hike
- Swim
- Dog Park
- Picnic Areas
- Playgrounds
- Off-road bike or multi-purpose trails
- Community Gardening
- Kayak/canoe put-ins
- Swimming (rivers or pools)
- None
- Other (please specify)

4. Which parks, playgrounds and open spaces do you or your family regularly use in Hampden?

	Never	Sometimes	Frequently	Did Not Know it Existed
Memorial Park	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Flynt Park (Jonathan's Mill)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Gerrish Park	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Town conservation land, woods, and trails	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Audubon (Laughing Brook) Land	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Private land, woods, and trails	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
School properties	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Scantic River	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Other (please specify)

5. What improvements, additions, or changes would you like to see in Hampden's recreational facilities?

- Connecting Bike/Multi-purpose Trails
- Restroom Facilities
- More Trees/Shade Structures
- Lighting Improved
- Updated/More Modern Playgrounds
- Better Maintenance of Existing Facilities
- More/updated playing fields
- Improvements for the Disabled
- River Walks
- Waste Disposal
- More seating/benches
- Pond or river swimming area

Other (please specify)

6. Where in Hampden would you like to see additional recreation facilities and programs provided?

7. Do you think the following groups have sufficient recreational opportunities?

	Yes	No
Preschoolers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Grade School Children	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Teenagers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Adults	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Senior Citizens	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Families	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Disabled	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Newcomers/immigrants	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
College students	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Those Without Cars	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

8. Please rank the importance of protecting/conserving the following community features. (1 = most important)

<input type="text"/>	Buildings of Historical or Architectural Interest
<input type="text"/>	Places of Historical or Archaeological Value
<input type="text"/>	Farmland/Meadowlands
<input type="text"/>	Working Farms
<input type="text"/>	Open Space, Natural/Conservation Lands
<input type="text"/>	Water Resources (natural/recreational)
<input type="text"/>	Drinking Water Sources
<input type="text"/>	Scenic Areas
<input type="text"/>	Wildlife Habitat
<input type="text"/>	Historic Cemeteries
<input type="text"/>	Woodlands

9. Please list the landscapes, views, locations, and other outdoor experiences that you think most symbolize Hampden's unique character and the parts of Hampden that you would "show off" to visitors and guests.

10. What do you value most about open space in Hampden? Do you think land protection is important? If so, why? (i.e. for recreation, drinking water supply protection, protection of property values, etc.)

11. What land protection actions do you think Hampden should take to conserve open space?

	Agree	Disagree
City Purchase of Land	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Pursue Conservation or Agricultural Restrictions on Private Land	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Revise Zoning for Open Space / Conservation Focus	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Continue to Use Local Community Preservation Act Funds for Land Protection	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Educate private landowners about conservation restrictions funded through federal Forest Legacy Program	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Source Water Protection program (Drinking Water)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
More strictly limit impervious development (buildings, pavement) over the aquifer recharge areas	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The Town should not pursue land protection/open space actions	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

12. If you ever use any of the rivers/waterways/ponds in Hampden, which rivers do you use, and for what?

	Fishing	Walking	Boating	Picnics	Swimming / wading	Other	Do not use river
Scantic River	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
West Brook	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Watchaug Brook	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
East Brook	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Big Brook	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Temple Brook	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rockadundee Brook	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Goodwill Pond	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Thresher Brook	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Laughing Brook	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Southern Branch of Mill River	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

13. What activities or improvements would you like to see made available on the rivers/waterways/ponds?
Please specify where in the comment box below.

- Launching areas (for canoeing, kayaking, boating, rafting)
- Picnicking
- Sanctioned swimming areas
- More clean up / maintenance services
- Camping
- Fishing access
- Parking areas
- Trails
- None

Other (please specify)

14. Do any of the following concerns prevent you from using or enjoying open space or recreation areas in Hampden? Please specify any concerns below in the comment box.

- Invasive species
- Ticks
- Erosion
- Safety concerns
- Trash
- Crime
- Poor maintenance
- Dams
- Limited access
- Lack of signage or information
- No parking
- Accessibility for the disabled
- Dogs or pet waste
- Inconvenient location
- No bicycle racks
- None

Other/please specify

15. Are you able to get to a publicly accessible open space or recreation area without driving?

- Yes, there is open space, a park, or a conservation area within a 10-minute walk from my home and I use it.
- There is open space, a park, or conservation area within a 10-minute walk from my home but I do not use it.
- There is no open space or any parks or conservation areas within a 10-minute walk from my home, but that is ok.
- There is no open space or any parks or conservation areas within a 10-minute walk from my home, but it is something I would like to see.
- I don't know if there is any open space, parks, or conservation areas within a 10-minute walk from my home.

16. The term "residential growth" refers to new housing development. Please rank the residential growth policies that you support for Hampden. (1 = most important)

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>	Limit the number of new houses built per year.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>	Limit the location of new houses on steeper slopes (greater than 15%, or about 8.5 degrees).
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>	Limit the location of new houses to more than 200' from any wetland.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>	Limit the location of new houses on scenic land and farmland.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>	Limit lot sizes/encourage compact development.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>	Encourage subdivision developments to dedicate open space.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>	Encourage or incentivize development in/near established neighborhoods.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>	No changes to the current policies governing residential growth.

17. How long have you lived in Hampden?

- Less than one year
- 1-4 years
- 5-9 years
- 10-19 years
- 20-29 years
- 30+ years
- I don't live in Hampden

18. What is your age?

- Under 18
- 18-29
- 30-49
- 50-65
- Over 65

19. If you are a property owner, approximately how many acres do you own in Hampden?

- None/renter
- Up to 3 acres
- 3-5 acres
- 6-9 acres
- 10-19 acres
- More than 20 acres

20. What is your gender?

- Female
- Male

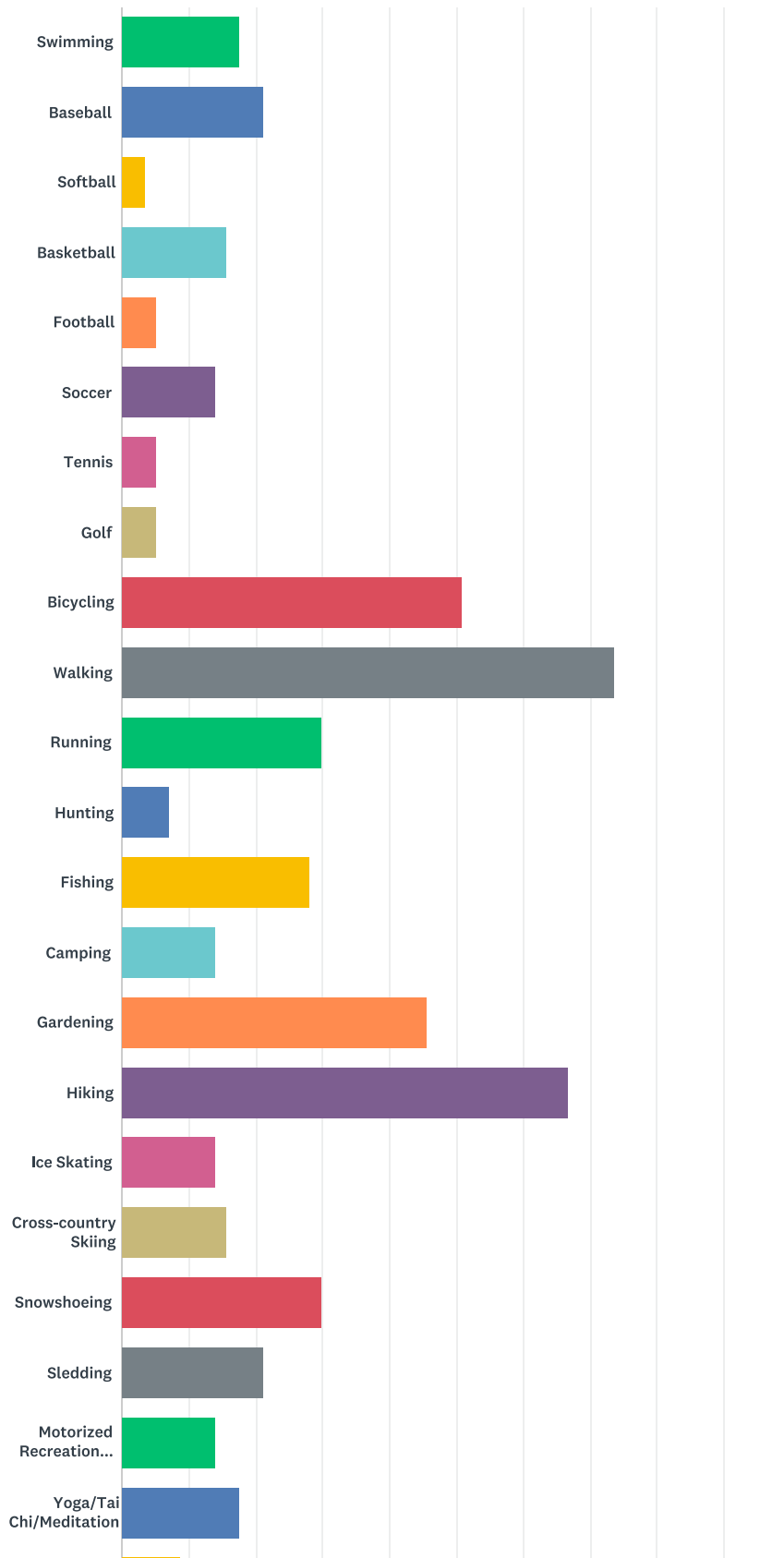
21. Please tell us more about your thoughts on Hampden's recreation and/or open space opportunities.

Thank you for your responses!

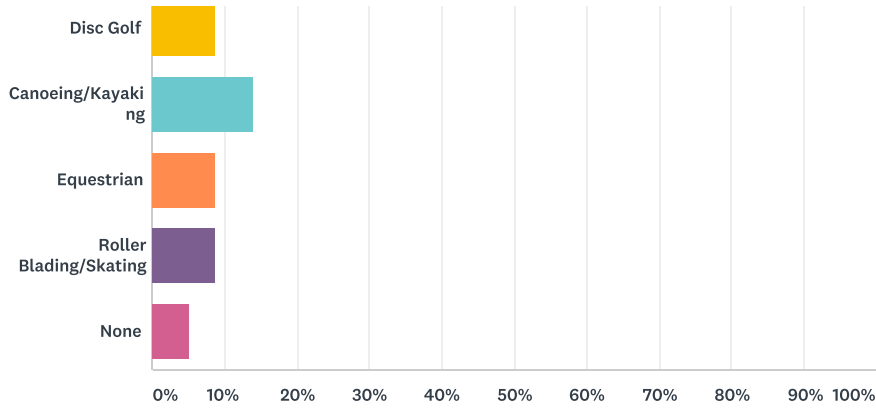
APPENDIX B: 2017 HAMPDEN OSRP UPDATE PUBLIC SURVEY
RESULTS

Q1 What type of recreational activities do you and/or your family participate in here in Hampden? Check all that apply.

Answered: 57 Skipped: 0



Hampden 2017 Open Space and Recreation Plan Update Survey



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Swimming	17.54%	10
Baseball	21.05%	12
Softball	3.51%	2
Basketball	15.79%	9
Football	5.26%	3
Soccer	14.04%	8
Tennis	5.26%	3
Golf	5.26%	3
Bicycling	50.88%	29
Walking	73.68%	42
Running	29.82%	17
Hunting	7.02%	4
Fishing	28.07%	16
Camping	14.04%	8
Gardening	45.61%	26
Hiking	66.67%	38
Ice Skating	14.04%	8
Cross-country Skiing	15.79%	9
Snowshoeing	29.82%	17
Sledding	21.05%	12
Motorized Recreation (ATV, Snowmobiling)	14.04%	8
Yoga/Tai Chi/Meditation	17.54%	10
Disc Golf	8.77%	5
Canoeing/Kayaking	14.04%	8
Equestrian	8.77%	5
Roller Blading/Skating	8.77%	5
None	5.26%	3
Total Respondents: 57		

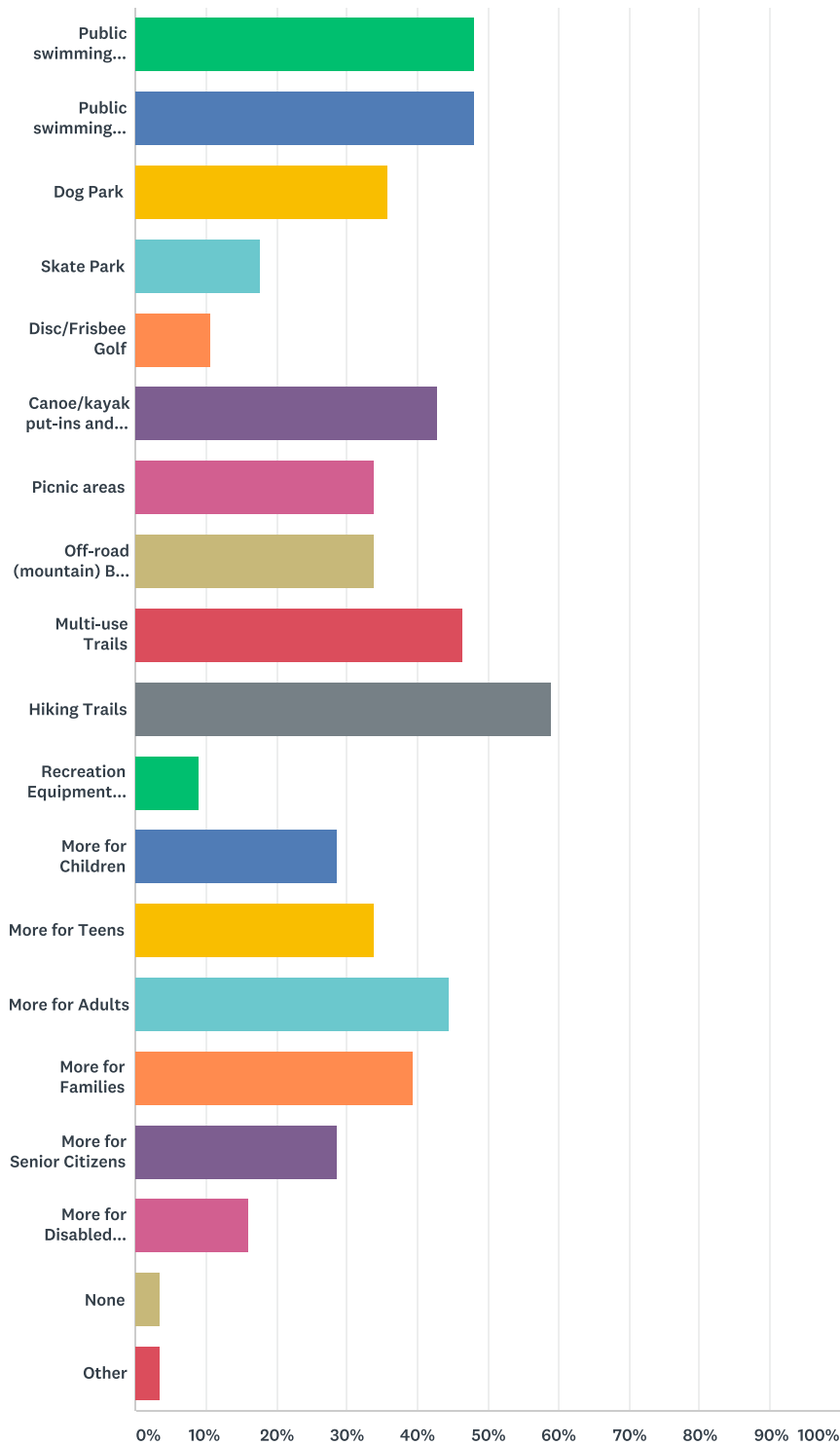
#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	We are new to the area.	9/9/2017 9:49 AM

Hampden 2017 Open Space and Recreation Plan Update Survey

2	Lacrosse	9/9/2017 9:32 AM
3	It would be nice to participate in more but not much is offered.	8/20/2017 5:16 PM
4	Splash park!	8/20/2017 4:08 PM

Q2 What additional recreational activities would you like to see Hampden offer? Check all that apply.

Answered: 56 Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Public swimming access: River access	48.21% 27
Public swimming access: Swimming pond with beach	48.21% 27

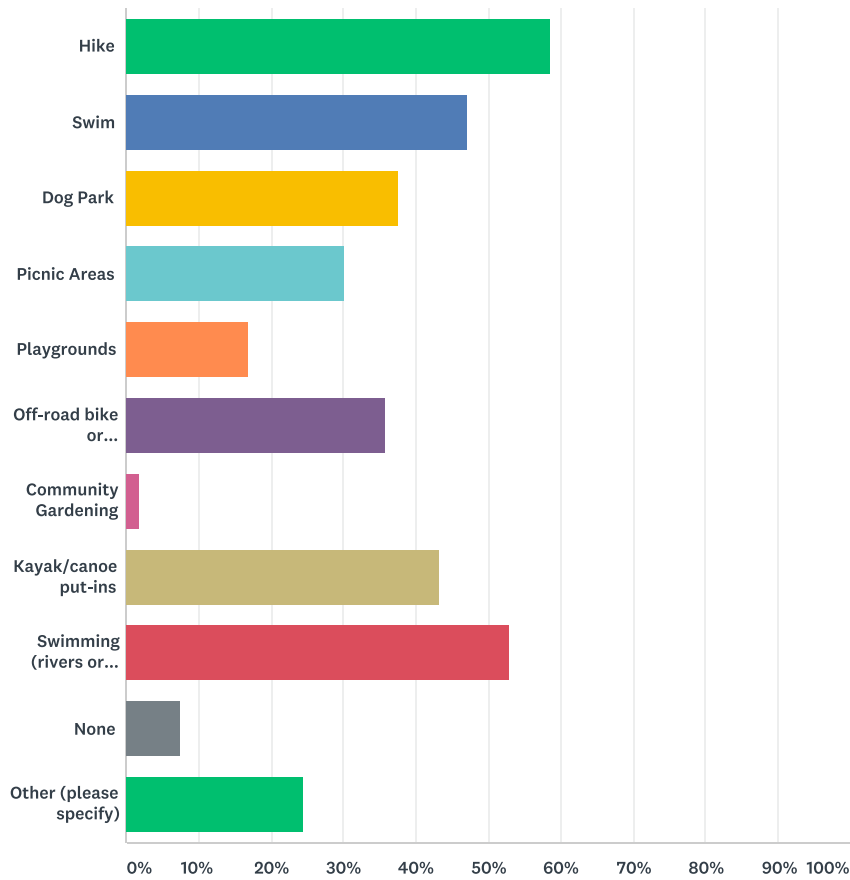
Hampden 2017 Open Space and Recreation Plan Update Survey

Dog Park	35.71%	20
Skate Park	17.86%	10
Disc/Frisbee Golf	10.71%	6
Canoe/kayak put-ins and facilities	42.86%	24
Picnic areas	33.93%	19
Off-road (mountain) Bike Trails	33.93%	19
Multi-use Trails	46.43%	26
Hiking Trails	58.93%	33
Recreation Equipment Rental	8.93%	5
More for Children	28.57%	16
More for Teens	33.93%	19
More for Adults	44.64%	25
More for Families	39.29%	22
More for Senior Citizens	28.57%	16
More for Disabled Citizens	16.07%	9
None	3.57%	2
Other	3.57%	2
Total Respondents: 56		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	walking,running and biking space, ice skating, snowshoeing, cross country skiing	9/11/2017 9:46 PM
2	ice skating on Mill Pond	8/24/2017 10:11 PM
3	Public land archery deer hunting like wilbraham.	8/22/2017 2:12 PM
4	Swimming pool with resident access; although swimming pond with beach is nice too	8/21/2017 1:50 PM
5	Swimming with beach - we had that for years at the rec (it was perfect!) but some 'new' residents ruined that!	8/21/2017 1:29 PM
6	sidewalks	8/20/2017 4:25 PM
7	More sidewalks for jogging!	8/20/2017 3:49 PM
8	Additional park areas - Maybe where Cumb Farms was	8/17/2017 3:39 PM

Q3 What activities do you travel OUTSIDE of Hampden to do?

Answered: 53 Skipped: 4



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Hike	58.49% 31
Swim	47.17% 25
Dog Park	37.74% 20
Picnic Areas	30.19% 16
Playgrounds	16.98% 9
Off-road bike or multi-purpose trails	35.85% 19
Community Gardening	1.89% 1
Kayak/canoe put-ins	43.40% 23
Swimming (rivers or pools)	52.83% 28
None	7.55% 4
Other (please specify)	24.53% 13
Total Respondents: 53	

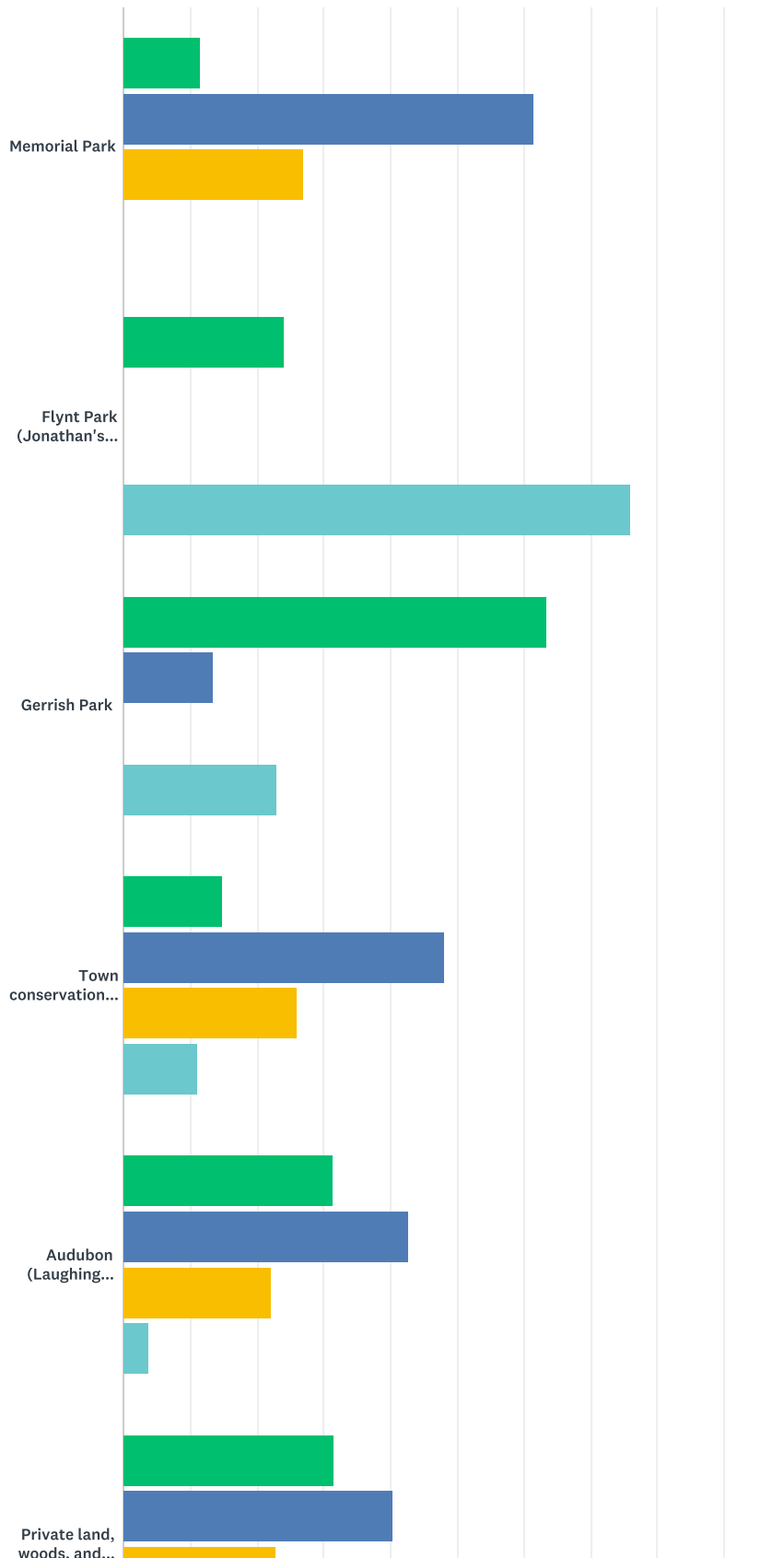
#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	entertainment: concerts, music, theater, retail,	9/29/2017 11:54 AM
2	golfing, skiing, walking, bike riding	9/11/2017 9:46 PM
3	Disc golf	9/11/2017 6:12 AM
4	Sidewalks, i.e. East Longmeadow bike path	9/4/2017 9:56 AM

Hampden 2017 Open Space and Recreation Plan Update Survey

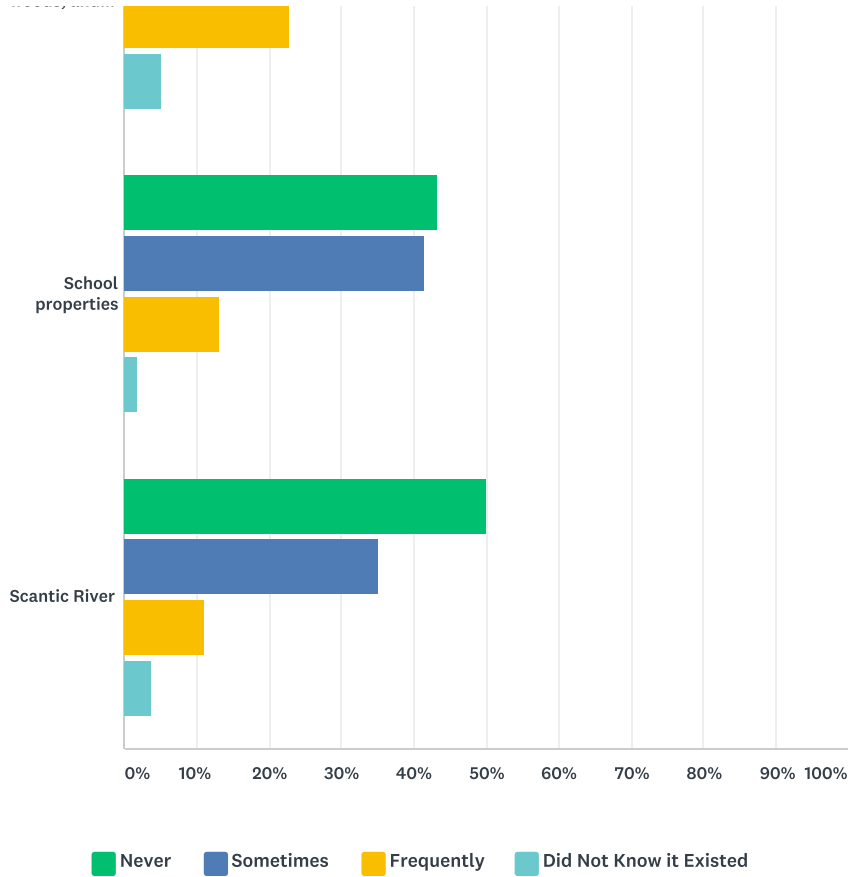
5	I hade the way dirt bikes are ruining the hiking trails.	8/28/2017 6:42 PM
6	Hunting and fishing	8/22/2017 2:12 PM
7	Yoga	8/22/2017 8:45 AM
8	Fishing	8/22/2017 8:05 AM
9	Indoor tumble time for kids/gymnastics	8/21/2017 1:50 PM
10	horses	8/21/2017 9:22 AM
11	Tennis Courts	8/20/2017 4:25 PM
12	ATV / UTV trails	8/20/2017 3:10 PM
13	Backpacking	8/17/2017 3:39 PM

Q4 Which parks, playgrounds and open spaces do you or your family regularly use in Hampden?

Answered: 57 Skipped: 0



Hampden 2017 Open Space and Recreation Plan Update Survey

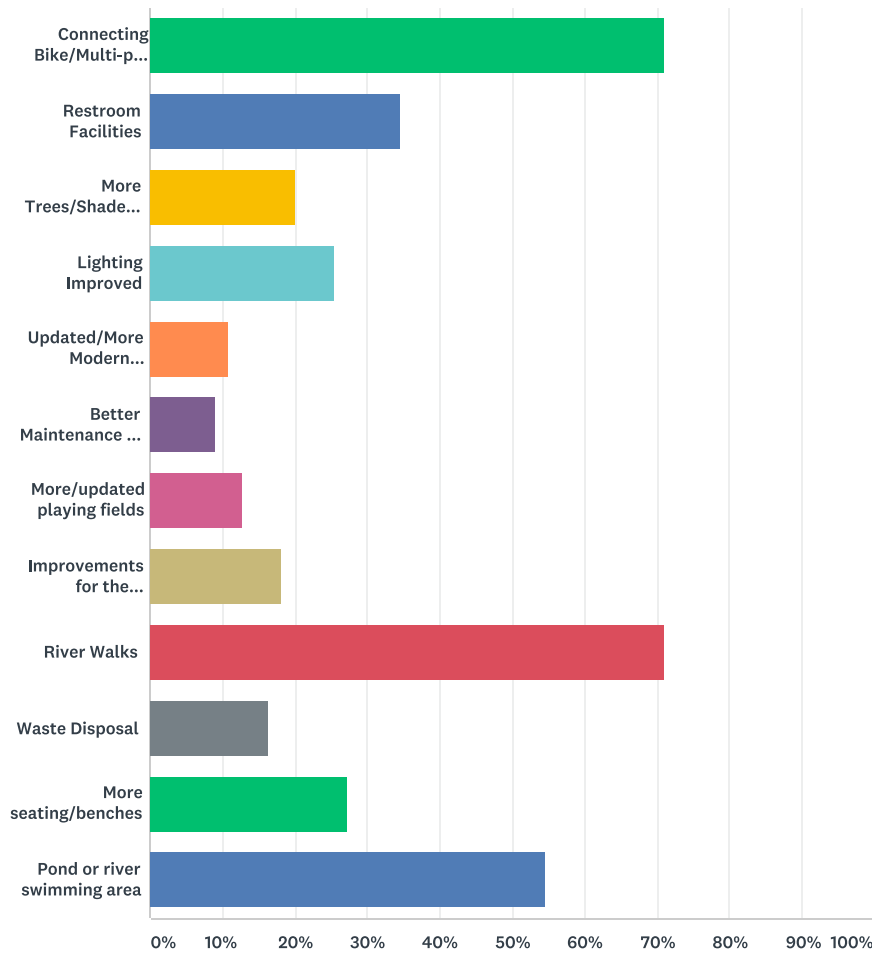


	NEVER	SOMETIMES	FREQUENTLY	DID NOT KNOW IT EXISTED	TOTAL
Memorial Park	11.54% 6	61.54% 32	26.92% 14	0.00% 0	52
Flynt Park (Jonathan's Mill)	24.00% 12	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	76.00% 38	50
Gerrish Park	63.46% 33	13.46% 7	0.00% 0	23.08% 12	52
Town conservation land, woods, and trails	14.81% 8	48.15% 26	25.93% 14	11.11% 6	54
Audubon (Laughing Brook) Land	31.48% 17	42.59% 23	22.22% 12	3.70% 2	54
Private land, woods, and trails	31.58% 18	40.35% 23	22.81% 13	5.26% 3	57
School properties	43.40% 23	41.51% 22	13.21% 7	1.89% 1	53
Scantic River	50.00% 27	35.19% 19	11.11% 6	3.70% 2	54

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	I live on the River	9/17/2017 2:02 PM
2	New to area. Haven't had a chance to use any parks yet	9/9/2017 9:32 AM
3	Scantic is not the same - no real access point anymore	8/21/2017 1:29 PM
4	Would like to see Scantic cleaned and have walking..biking trails	8/21/2017 9:22 AM
5	ruined mem park, private for profit use should not be allowed	8/21/2017 8:47 AM
6	Used to use Community Garden, which is on school grounds	8/17/2017 3:39 PM

Q5 What improvements, additions, or changes would you like to see in Hampden's recreational facilities?

Answered: 55 Skipped: 2



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Connecting Bike/Multi-purpose Trails	70.91% 39
Restroom Facilities	34.55% 19
More Trees/Shade Structures	20.00% 11
Lighting Improved	25.45% 14
Updated/More Modern Playgrounds	10.91% 6
Better Maintenance of Existing Facilities	9.09% 5
More/updated playing fields	12.73% 7
Improvements for the Disabled	18.18% 10
River Walks	70.91% 39
Waste Disposal	16.36% 9
More seating/benches	27.27% 15
Pond or river swimming area	54.55% 30
Total Respondents: 55	

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
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Hampden 2017 Open Space and Recreation Plan Update Survey

1	pedestrian sidewalks connecting Allen St, Somers road and main street retail businesses.A more spacious park in the commercial center of town (Somers/All/main streets. intersection that would improve foot traffic to retail, while also providing a gathering place to small events.	9/29/2017 11:54 AM
2	Sidewalk on all of Main St and Allen would be nice	9/10/2017 10:32 PM
3	Please consider installing sidewalks connecting our popular locations. The length of Main Street to Laughing Brook. TWB to Allen Street. Allen Street to the senior center. It would be great for exercise but more importantly, safer for all, especially the children (including my own) who walk these routes.	9/4/2017 9:56 AM
4	Would love an area that has river access with beach, an area for small cafe nearby for food option and a common area for folks to congregate around - nice for winter too if pond would freeze to ice skate and then get hot chocolate at cafe	8/21/2017 1:50 PM
5	?	8/21/2017 1:29 PM
6	Would like to see Scantic cleaned and have walking..biking trails	8/21/2017 9:22 AM
7	Clearing the brush by the Scantic so we can see it again. Also Tennis courts.	8/20/2017 4:25 PM

Hampden 2017 Open Space and Recreation Plan Update Survey

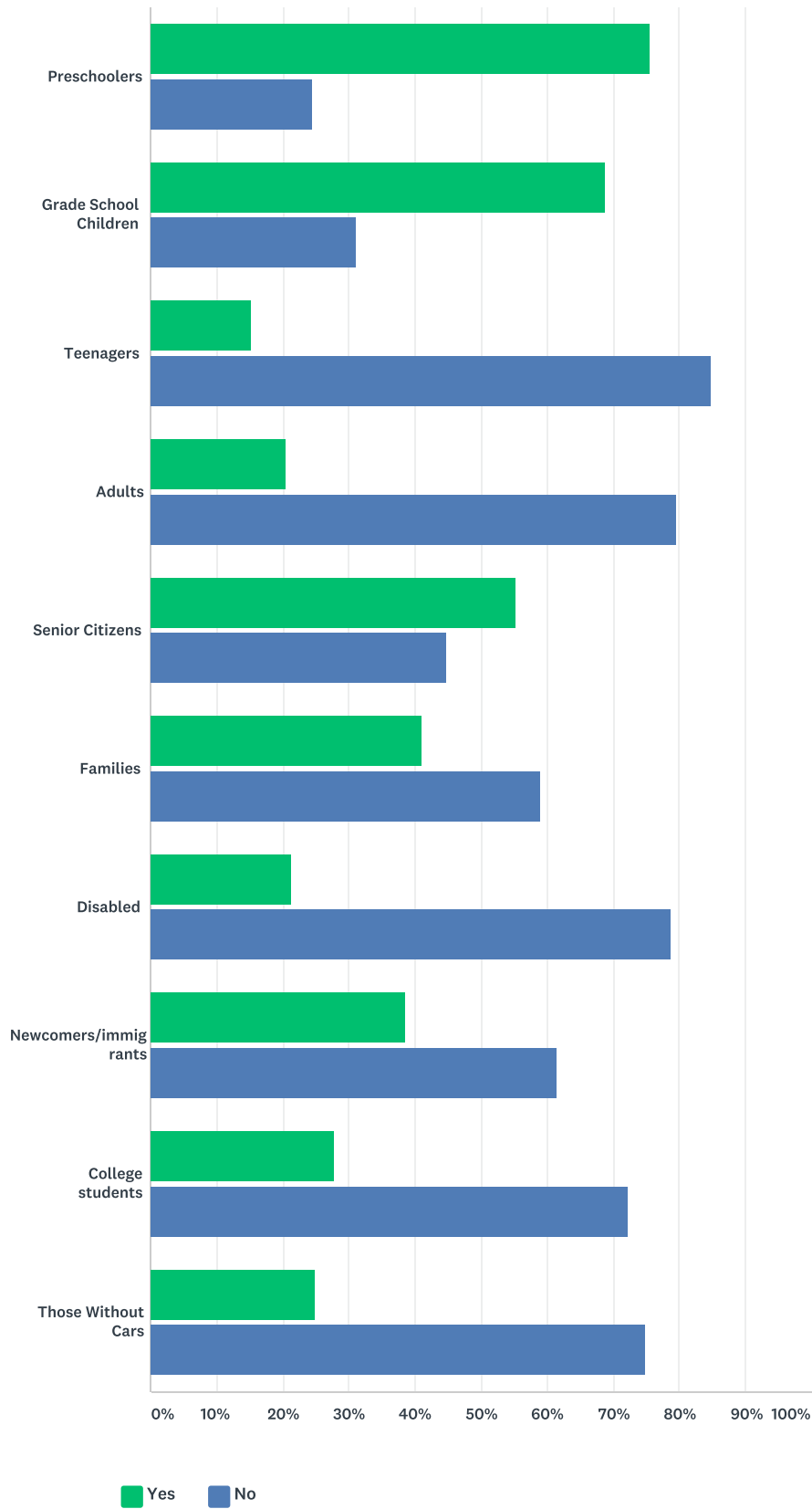
Q6 Where in Hampden would you like to see additional recreation facilities and programs provided?

Answered: 21 Skipped: 36

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	as stated above;commercial center of town (Somers/All/main streets. intersection that would improve foot traffic to retail, while also providing a gathering place to small events.	9/29/2017 11:54 AM
2	Near the library. Along the river.	9/24/2017 4:42 PM
3	Old cumberlands property	9/17/2017 2:02 PM
4	Where the old Cumberland Farms building is and it would be great to see a walking and especially bike lane on the main roads like Main St. and Allen St.	9/11/2017 6:12 AM
5	Anywhere	9/9/2017 9:32 AM
6	Along the main roads	9/4/2017 2:25 PM
7	Sidewalks. I think we need better signage showing Flynt Park, conservation land and trails.	9/4/2017 9:56 AM
8	I would like to see the town work with Laughing Brook to update and maintain the trails. The place is a complete disaster!	8/28/2017 6:42 PM
9	It would be great to see a beach area along the river w/parking & a swimming area for kids to wade. We have a 3&6yr olds and find the spray park not only has very limited hours but theres NO shade. Every adjacent town has a nice swimming pool or lake..I feel like my kids still cant swim bc of lack of opportunity.	8/25/2017 8:25 PM
10	Mill Pond	8/24/2017 10:11 PM
11	On the Cumberland Farms site.	8/22/2017 8:45 AM
12	Along the scantic for river access; next to frog shop - get rid of that abandoned building and replace	8/21/2017 1:50 PM
13	Walking or Biking trails along increasingly busy main roads.	8/21/2017 9:55 AM
14	Scantic Ricer	8/21/2017 9:22 AM
15	Swimming areas	8/20/2017 10:24 PM
16	TWB, Senior Center, Laughing Brook	8/20/2017 6:14 PM
17	Where ever they are possible to have them.	8/20/2017 5:16 PM
18	I would like Memorial Park to be open year-round and stop barricading for the exclusive camp.	8/20/2017 4:25 PM
19	Along the river... tear down the old Cumbies and use that access...	8/20/2017 3:23 PM
20	Find a way to use Laughing Brook.	8/20/2017 3:10 PM
21	Along Main Street - on the River side	8/17/2017 3:39 PM

Q7 Do you think the following groups have sufficient recreational opportunities?

Answered: 54 Skipped: 3

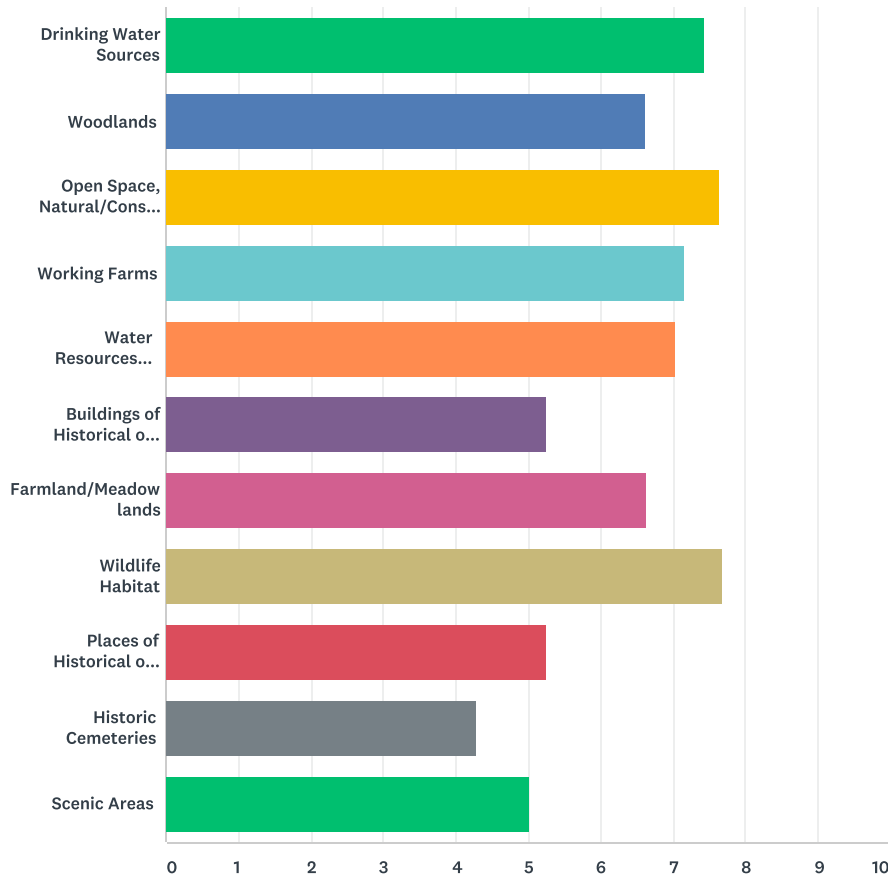


Hampden 2017 Open Space and Recreation Plan Update Survey

	YES	NO	TOTAL
Preschoolers	75.56% 34	24.44% 11	45
Grade School Children	68.89% 31	31.11% 14	45
Teenagers	15.22% 7	84.78% 39	46
Adults	20.41% 10	79.59% 39	49
Senior Citizens	55.32% 26	44.68% 21	47
Families	40.91% 18	59.09% 26	44
Disabled	21.43% 9	78.57% 33	42
Newcomers/immigrants	38.46% 15	61.54% 24	39
College students	27.91% 12	72.09% 31	43
Those Without Cars	25.00% 11	75.00% 33	44

Q8 Please rank the importance of protecting/conserving the following community features. (1 = most important)

Answered: 55 Skipped: 2



	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	TOTAL
Drinking Water Sources	32.50% 13	7.50% 3	10.00% 4	7.50% 3	5.00% 2	10.00% 4	2.50% 1	5.00% 2	5.00% 2	2.50% 1	12.50% 5	41
Woodlands	17.39% 8	6.52% 3	13.04% 6	4.35% 2	8.70% 4	13.04% 6	4.35% 2	15.22% 7	2.17% 1	8.70% 4	6.52% 3	41
Open Space, Natural/Conservation Lands	17.07% 7	7.32% 3	21.95% 9	12.20% 5	12.20% 5	7.32% 3	7.32% 3	2.44% 1	7.32% 3	4.88% 2	0.00% 0	41
Working Farms	15.00% 6	10.00% 4	10.00% 4	15.00% 6	12.50% 5	5.00% 2	15.00% 6	2.50% 1	10.00% 4	2.50% 1	2.50% 1	41
Water Resources (natural/recreational)	11.11% 4	25.00% 9	8.33% 3	5.56% 2	2.78% 1	11.11% 4	13.89% 5	0.00% 0	11.11% 4	11.11% 4	0.00% 0	31
Buildings of Historical or Architectural Interest	8.57% 3	5.71% 2	2.86% 1	8.57% 3	5.71% 2	17.14% 6	2.86% 1	11.43% 4	14.29% 5	11.43% 4	11.43% 4	31
Farmland/Meadowlands	8.57% 3	14.29% 5	8.57% 3	8.57% 3	14.29% 5	11.43% 4	5.71% 2	8.57% 3	8.57% 3	11.43% 4	0.00% 0	31
Wildlife Habitat	7.50% 3	25.00% 10	7.50% 3	15.00% 6	12.50% 5	12.50% 5	7.50% 3	10.00% 4	2.50% 1	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	41
Places of Historical or Archaeological Value	5.26% 2	2.63% 1	5.26% 2	13.16% 5	10.53% 4	2.63% 1	18.42% 7	15.79% 6	2.63% 1	13.16% 5	10.53% 4	31
Historic Cemeteries	4.35% 2	2.17% 1	10.87% 5	2.17% 1	6.52% 3	4.35% 2	6.52% 3	10.87% 5	15.22% 7	13.04% 6	23.91% 11	41
Scenic Areas	0.00% 0	5.41% 2	8.11% 3	10.81% 4	13.51% 5	5.41% 2	8.11% 3	13.51% 5	8.11% 3	16.22% 6	10.81% 4	31

Hampden 2017 Open Space and Recreation Plan Update Survey

Q9 Please list the landscapes, views, locations, and other outdoor experiences that you think most symbolize Hampden's unique character and the parts of Hampden that you would "show off" to visitors and guests.

Answered: 32 Skipped: 25

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	wide open land, farms, hills	9/29/2017 11:54 AM
2	Laughing Brook, North Road, Hike up Goat Rock	9/28/2017 11:31 AM
3	Scantic River..Laughing Brook	9/17/2017 2:02 PM
4	Scantic river, trails	9/11/2017 9:46 PM
5	Goat Rock	9/11/2017 6:12 AM
6	Goat Rock, memorial park, love the scantic river. Laughing brook.	9/10/2017 10:32 PM
7	Unknown	9/9/2017 9:32 AM
8	laughing brook, Sullivan's, the rec,	9/9/2017 9:15 AM
9	Close twb and make it a large complex for all to use	9/9/2017 8:09 AM
10	Goat rock	9/4/2017 2:25 PM
11	Scantic Rd has beautiful views...I'm not impressed w/the appearance of the playground or shopping center. Hampden House outdoor area is nice & maybe Mountain View for an icecream.	8/25/2017 8:25 PM
12	Laughing Brook, Goat Rock, Mill Pond, Memorial Park	8/24/2017 10:11 PM
13	Goat rock	8/24/2017 9:52 PM
14	Goat Rock, Minnechaug Mountain	8/24/2017 6:22 AM
15	Goat rock. Scantic river	8/22/2017 2:12 PM
16	Senior Center, TWB, Green Meadows, Main St. other than the eyesore that is Cumberland Farms, the Rec,Goat Rock, Scantic River, Minnechaug Mountain, Oakland St. Conservation Land/Trails, view from North Rd. View from South Rd.	8/22/2017 8:45 AM
17	Wooded areas, Thornton Burgess, memorial park and the scantic river	8/22/2017 8:05 AM
18	I show off memorial park, hiking trails, scantic river, and the new golf course	8/21/2017 1:50 PM
19	Goat Rock - best view in town	8/21/2017 1:29 PM
20	Small town charm and neighborliness.....beauty of nature	8/21/2017 9:55 AM
21	All of the town and the history .	8/21/2017 9:22 AM
22	We are new and still getting to know the area	8/20/2017 10:24 PM
23	Goat rock	8/20/2017 9:14 PM
24	The view from Great Horse...but now we can't go up there anymore. Goat Rock is good, also Laughing Brook.	8/20/2017 6:14 PM
25	I don't think Hampden has any outdoor experiences to show off with the exception to memorial park	8/20/2017 5:16 PM
26	Scantic River if you could see it. Laughing Brook Park.	8/20/2017 4:25 PM
27	Overlook on the hike starting at Memorial Park	8/20/2017 4:08 PM
28	Laughing broil goat rock	8/20/2017 3:52 PM
29	Not sure... perhaps need more	8/20/2017 3:23 PM
30	The Damn on River side Dr. , Goat Rock,	8/20/2017 3:10 PM
31	Goat Rock and the opposite end above the REC. The saved building free mountain above the VFW.	8/20/2017 2:59 PM
32	Goat Rock views, West Brook trails, Cedar Swamp, Laughing Brook	8/17/2017 3:39 PM

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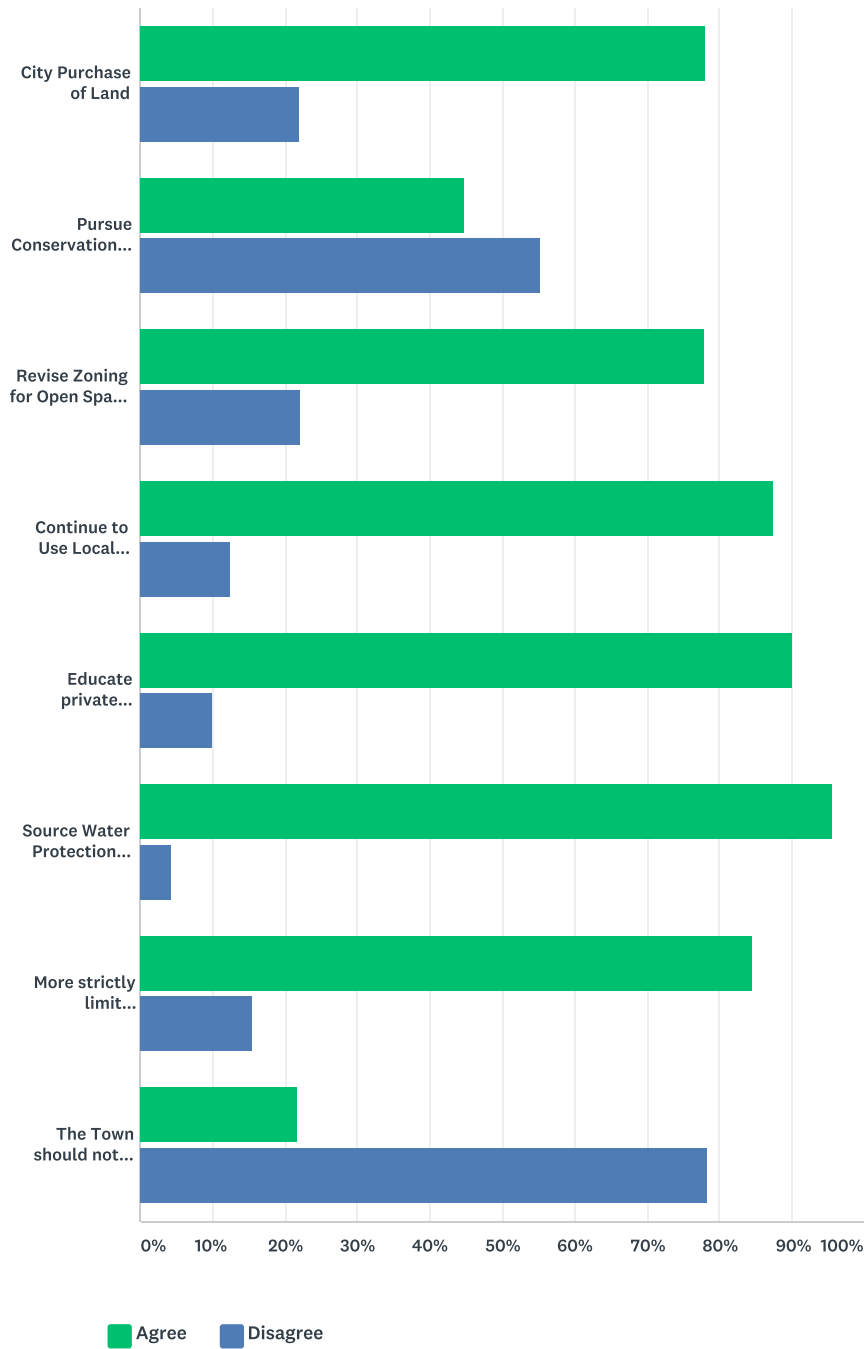
Q10 What do you value most about open space in Hampden? Do you think land protection is important? If so, why? (i.e. for recreation, drinking water supply protection, protection of property values, etc.)

Answered: 27 Skipped: 30

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	yes, protect open spaces, stop more churches, stop solar farms, and unsightly signage, and deferred maintenance of commercial businesses. All of these unsightly places deter from the lovely landscapes that Hampden is known for, and why people leave the 'city' to ride their bikes, convertibles and take walks through our town. Now that we have 3 ugly solar farms, on three major arteries as people enter our town, the first and lasting impression is 'ugly', and gives the impression that we don't care about the aesthetics of our town.	9/29/2017 11:54 AM
2	Water supply, primarily. Recreation and animal habitat next.	9/28/2017 11:31 AM
3	River.drinking water	9/17/2017 2:02 PM
4	pastures, fields and meadows, yes, property values, rural setting people looking for, I would try to get water from Quabbin Res.Well water is very hard and poor quality	9/11/2017 9:46 PM
5	Yes, for all of the reasons listed above.	9/11/2017 6:12 AM
6	Every time I see a new giant house being built it takes another little piece of the charm of Hampden. I live on main st. My well is in close to road. The salt and pollutants concern me. I live in Hampden because of the open spaces and woods.	9/10/2017 10:32 PM
7	It's most important that it's maintained. Protection is imp for all the reasons you listed.	9/9/2017 9:15 AM
8	The community	9/4/2017 2:25 PM
9	It's part of our community. It's one of the things that makes Hampden special.	9/4/2017 9:56 AM
10	Land protection is important to a degree but I'd love to see more shops, breakfast nooks, cafes...like a cute town people would want to come to like Kennebunkport ME.	8/25/2017 8:25 PM
11	Yes to land protection being important. It's what makes a community unique, if not it ends up looking like any other developed town...ie EL	8/24/2017 10:11 PM
12	Hampden will lose its small town appeal if we don't protect land and wildlife. Water needs to be protected from contamination and over use. Development can change wetlands and run off.	8/24/2017 9:52 PM
13	Trails	8/24/2017 6:22 AM
14	Wildlife viewing. Land protection must be a priority due to recent rampant development.	8/22/2017 2:12 PM
15	Drinking water and water sources protection, maintenance an availability of school properties, protection of property values, multiple opportunities for all residents, including disabled and senior citizens. Remove blight such as Cumberland Farms.	8/22/2017 8:45 AM
16	Protection of property values and recreation. Wooded areas are disappearing	8/22/2017 8:05 AM
17	I came to Hampden partly for the open spaces - it is nice we are not all on top of each other; it is important for land protection - I don't want to see more solar fields coming in; however I would like to see more of a community space built up	8/21/2017 1:50 PM
18	Drinking water supply protection and property value protection, along with keeping two schools in town	8/21/2017 9:55 AM
19	Drinking water would be #1. Property protection is also important.	8/20/2017 6:14 PM
20	Yes. For Drinking water since we all have wells	8/20/2017 5:16 PM
21	1 Water protection. 2. Views. 3. Recreation value. 4. Controlling growth.	8/20/2017 4:25 PM
22	I'd rather see walking paths with large open fields than developing it all. You can't get land back once it's developed. I moved here for the land, convenience and quiet.	8/20/2017 4:08 PM
23	Being right where it is. Close enough but far enough away to still have free and bear and wild life	8/20/2017 3:52 PM
24	Property values and small town feel	8/20/2017 3:49 PM
25	I value it for the wildlife preservation. It is very important to protect open space	8/20/2017 3:10 PM
26	Land protection is extremely important as we get our CLEAN water from wells. Open space, be it fields or woods, are needed as filter beds for the rain percolating into the ground.	8/20/2017 2:59 PM
27	Wildlife habitat corridors, drinking water protection, protection of waters for wildlife, recreation in natural settings, quality of life	8/17/2017 3:39 PM

Q11 What land protection actions do you think Hampden should take to conserve open space?

Answered: 54 Skipped: 3



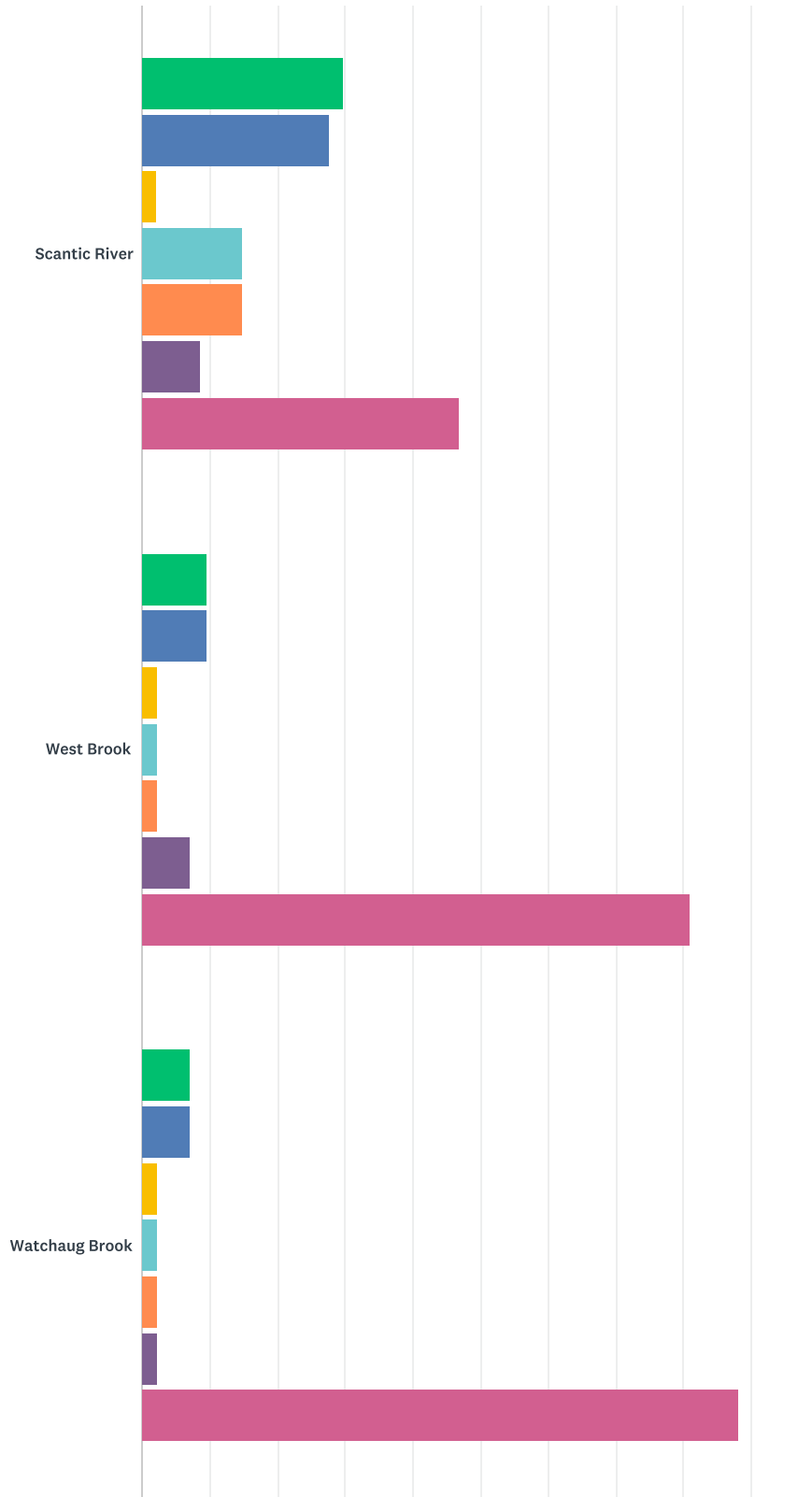
	AGREE	DISAGREE	TOTAL
City Purchase of Land	78.00% 39	22.00% 11	50
Pursue Conservation or Agricultural Restrictions on Private Land	44.68% 21	55.32% 26	47
Revise Zoning for Open Space / Conservation Focus	77.78% 35	22.22% 10	45
Continue to Use Local Community Preservation Act Funds for Land Protection	87.50% 42	12.50% 6	48

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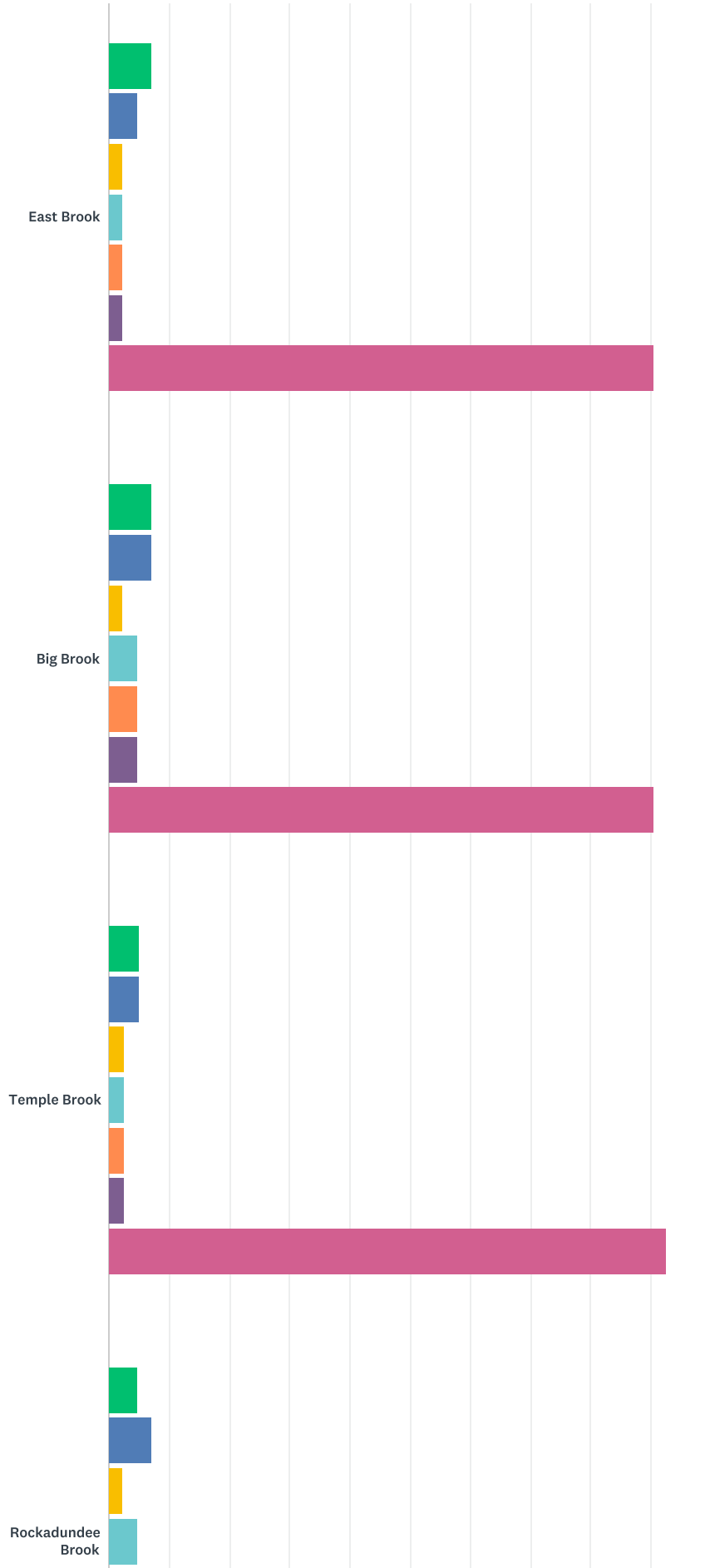
Educate private landowners about conservation restrictions funded through federal Forest Legacy Program	90.00% 45	10.00% 5	50
Source Water Protection program (Drinking Water)	95.65% 44	4.35% 2	46
More strictly limit impervious development (buildings, pavement) over the aquifer recharge areas	84.44% 38	15.56% 7	45
The Town should not pursue land protection/open space actions	21.74% 10	78.26% 36	46

Q12 If you ever use any of the rivers/waterways/ponds in Hampden, which rivers do you use, and for what? (Visit <http://trout.maps.arcgis.com/> and type "Hampden, MA" in the search field to view waterways in your town.)

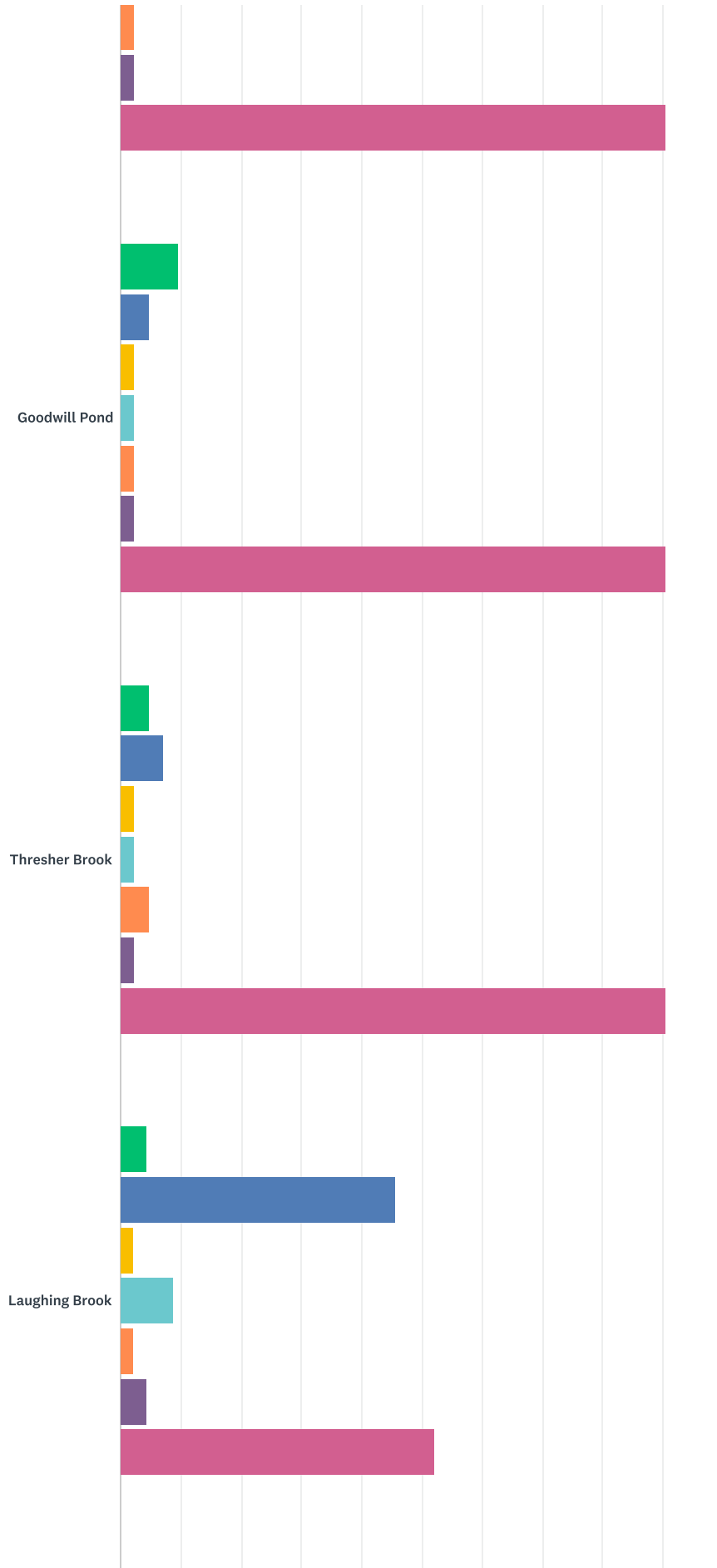
Answered: 49 Skipped: 8



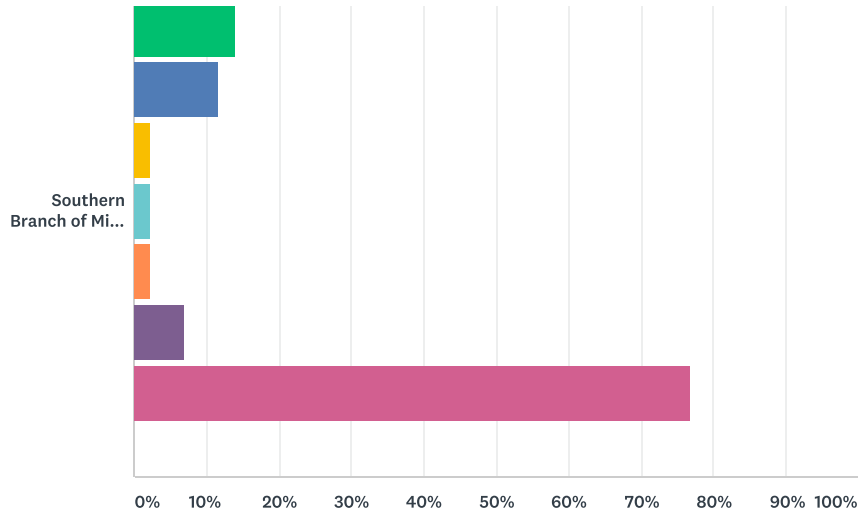
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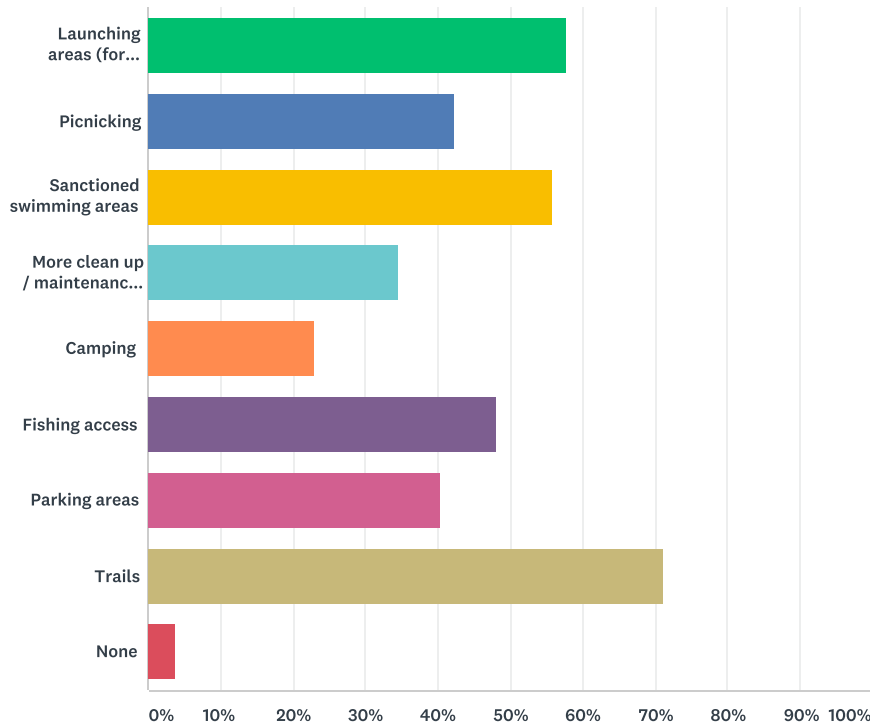


■ Fishing
 ■ Walking
 ■ Boating
 ■ Picnics
 ■ Swimming / wading
■ Other
 ■ Do not use river

	FISHING	WALKING	BOATING	PICNICS	SWIMMING / WADING	OTHER	DO NOT USE RIVER	TOTAL RESPONDENTS
Scantic River	29.79% 14	27.66% 13	2.13% 1	14.89% 7	14.89% 7	8.51% 4	46.81% 22	47
West Brook	9.52% 4	9.52% 4	2.38% 1	2.38% 1	2.38% 1	7.14% 3	80.95% 34	42
Watchaug Brook	7.14% 3	7.14% 3	2.38% 1	2.38% 1	2.38% 1	2.38% 1	88.10% 37	42
East Brook	7.14% 3	4.76% 2	2.38% 1	2.38% 1	2.38% 1	2.38% 1	90.48% 38	42
Big Brook	7.14% 3	7.14% 3	2.38% 1	4.76% 2	4.76% 2	4.76% 2	90.48% 38	42
Temple Brook	5.00% 2	5.00% 2	2.50% 1	2.50% 1	2.50% 1	2.50% 1	92.50% 37	40
Rockadundee Brook	4.76% 2	7.14% 3	2.38% 1	4.76% 2	2.38% 1	2.38% 1	90.48% 38	42
Goodwill Pond	9.52% 4	4.76% 2	2.38% 1	2.38% 1	2.38% 1	2.38% 1	90.48% 38	42
Thresher Brook	4.76% 2	7.14% 3	2.38% 1	2.38% 1	4.76% 2	2.38% 1	90.48% 38	42
Laughing Brook	4.35% 2	45.65% 21	2.17% 1	8.70% 4	2.17% 1	4.35% 2	52.17% 24	46
Southern Branch of Mill River	13.95% 6	11.63% 5	2.33% 1	2.33% 1	2.33% 1	6.98% 3	76.74% 33	43

Q13 What activities or improvements would you like to see made available on the rivers/waterways/ponds? Please specify where in the comment box below.

Answered: 52 Skipped: 5



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Launching areas (for canoeing, kayaking, boating, rafting)	57.69% 30
Picnicking	42.31% 22
Sanctioned swimming areas	55.77% 29
More clean up / maintenance services	34.62% 18
Camping	23.08% 12
Fishing access	48.08% 25
Parking areas	40.38% 21
Trails	71.15% 37
None	3.85% 2
Total Respondents: 52	

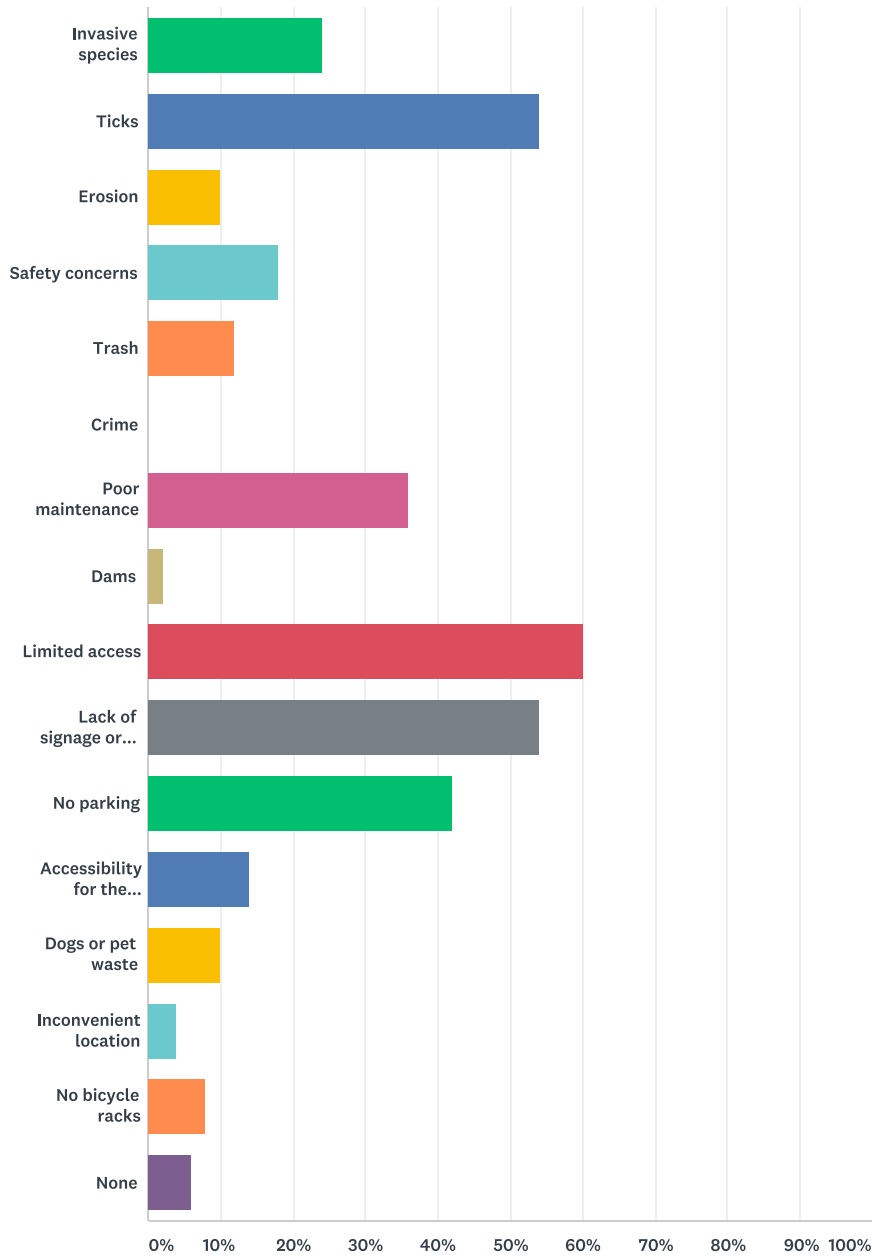
#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Some type of paved trail is very important for accessibility for disabled and the very young (in strollers).	9/24/2017 4:42 PM
2	All of them.	8/28/2017 6:42 PM
3	Swimming/beach area!!	8/25/2017 8:25 PM
4	ice skating	8/24/2017 10:11 PM
5	More access to these areas, marked for visitors. Would like to see more buildup around one or more with beach area, lit walking path, covered pavilion, area for cafe to sell small items - that benefit local booster clubs or the scouts throughout the year	8/21/2017 1:50 PM
6	Anywhere	8/20/2017 6:14 PM

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7	By the Scantic River	8/20/2017 4:25 PM
8	Tube races S Road bridge	8/20/2017 4:13 PM
9	I think it would be great if a public area became available to let's kids paddle around in. Secondary, I think that the two rivers need some general removing of large obstacles to allow better flow of the river.	8/20/2017 2:59 PM
10	Public grassy and bench areas nearby; possibly fire ring	8/17/2017 3:39 PM

Q14 Do any of the following concerns prevent you from using or enjoying open space or recreation areas in Hampden? Please specify any concerns below in the comment box.

Answered: 50 Skipped: 7



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Invasive species	24.00%	12
Ticks	54.00%	27
Erosion	10.00%	5
Safety concerns	18.00%	9
Trash	12.00%	6
Crime	0.00%	0

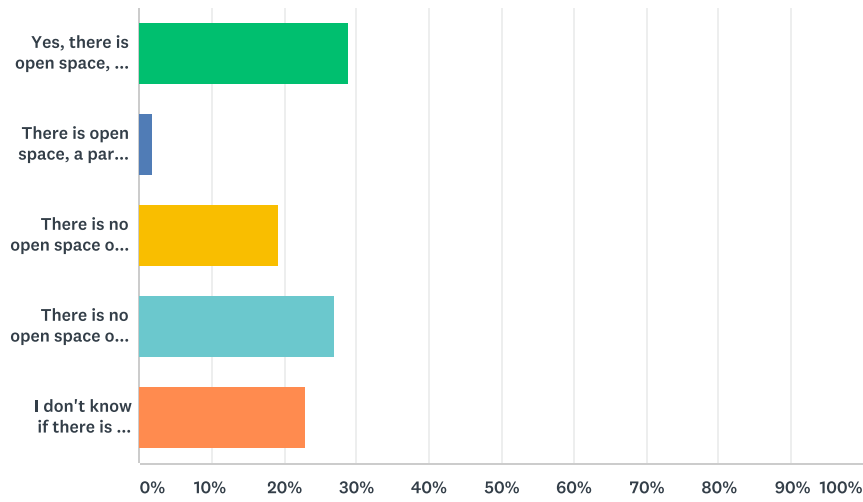
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Poor maintenance	36.00%	18
Dams	2.00%	1
Limited access	60.00%	30
Lack of signage or information	54.00%	27
No parking	42.00%	21
Accessibility for the disabled	14.00%	7
Dogs or pet waste	10.00%	5
Inconvenient location	4.00%	2
No bicycle racks	8.00%	4
None	6.00%	3
Total Respondents: 50		

#	OTHER/PLEASE SPECIFY	DATE
1	We have trails all over the place but none appear to be maintained. People also do not clean up after pets and don't know how to read signs.	8/28/2017 6:42 PM
2	poison ivy	8/24/2017 10:11 PM
3	Would like to enjoy areas with water access, but do not know where they are located around town and there is no parking or signs to show where the access point is to park downtown and walk	8/21/2017 1:50 PM
4	Mosquitoes	8/20/2017 4:54 PM
5	Summer access to Memorial Park and trails is horrible	8/17/2017 3:39 PM

Q15 Are you able to get to a publicly accessible open space or recreation area without driving?

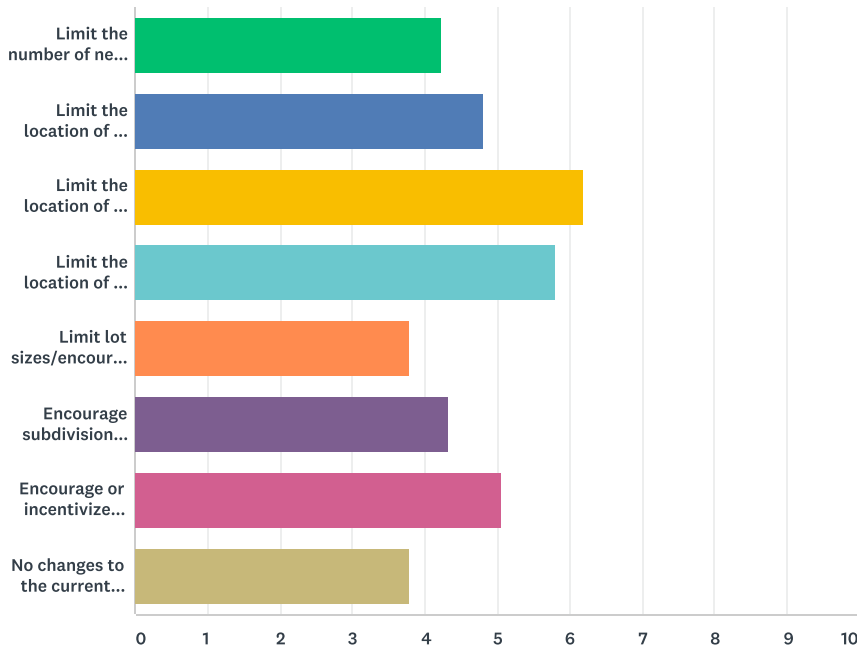
Answered: 52 Skipped: 5



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Yes, there is open space, a park, or a conservation area within a 10-minute walk from my home and I use it.	28.85% 15
There is open space, a park, or conservation area within a 10-minute walk from my home but I do not use it.	1.92% 1
There is no open space or any parks or conservation areas within a 10-minute walk from my home, but that is ok.	19.23% 10
There is no open space or any parks or conservation areas within a 10-minute walk from my home, but it is something I would like to see.	26.92% 14
I don't know if there is any open space, parks, or conservation areas within a 10-minute walk from my home.	23.08% 12
TOTAL	52

Q16 The term "residential growth" refers to new housing development. Please rank the residential growth policies that you support for Hampden. (1 = most important)

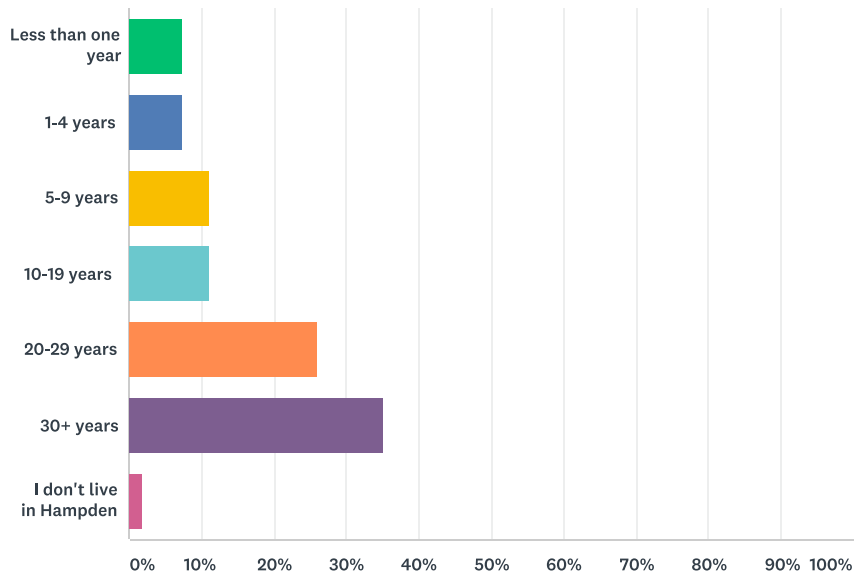
Answered: 47 Skipped: 10



	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	TOTAL	SCORE
Limit the number of new houses built per year.	22.58% 7	3.23% 1	3.23% 1	19.35% 6	3.23% 1	12.90% 4	16.13% 5	19.35% 6	31	4.23
Limit the location of new houses on steeper slopes (greater than 15%, or about 8.5 degrees).	7.69% 2	23.08% 6	19.23% 5	0.00% 0	11.54% 3	19.23% 5	19.23% 5	0.00% 0	26	4.81
Limit the location of new houses to more than 200' from any wetland.	29.03% 9	29.03% 9	9.68% 3	12.90% 4	9.68% 3	3.23% 1	6.45% 2	0.00% 0	31	6.19
Limit the location of new houses on scenic land and farmland.	28.57% 10	17.14% 6	17.14% 6	5.71% 2	14.29% 5	8.57% 3	8.57% 3	0.00% 0	35	5.80
Limit lot sizes/encourage compact development.	6.06% 2	6.06% 2	6.06% 2	12.12% 4	21.21% 7	21.21% 7	15.15% 5	12.12% 4	33	3.79
Encourage subdivision developments to dedicate open space.	6.06% 2	12.12% 4	21.21% 7	12.12% 4	6.06% 2	15.15% 5	15.15% 5	12.12% 4	33	4.33
Encourage or incentivize development in/near established neighborhoods.	14.71% 5	11.76% 4	14.71% 5	23.53% 8	14.71% 5	8.82% 3	2.94% 1	8.82% 3	34	5.06
No changes to the current policies governing residential growth.	9.09% 3	12.12% 4	12.12% 4	6.06% 2	12.12% 4	9.09% 3	3.03% 1	36.36% 12	33	3.79

Q17 How long have you lived in Hampden?

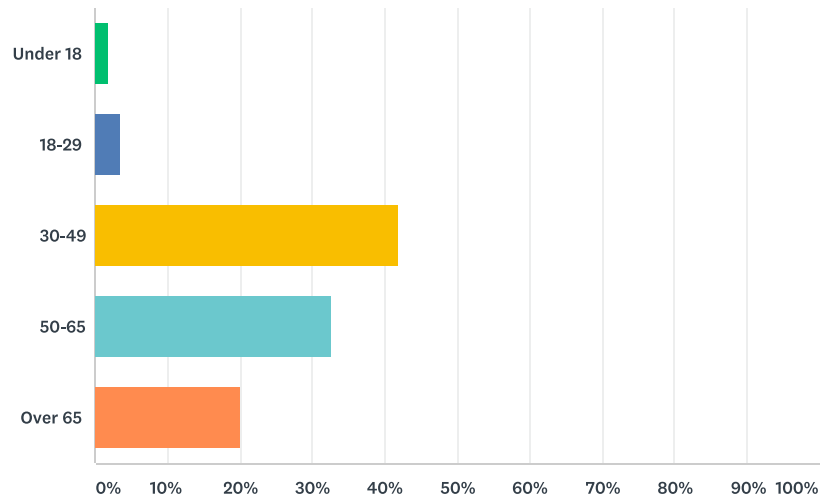
Answered: 54 Skipped: 3



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Less than one year	7.41% 4
1-4 years	7.41% 4
5-9 years	11.11% 6
10-19 years	11.11% 6
20-29 years	25.93% 14
30+ years	35.19% 19
I don't live in Hampden	1.85% 1
TOTAL	54

Q18 What is your age?

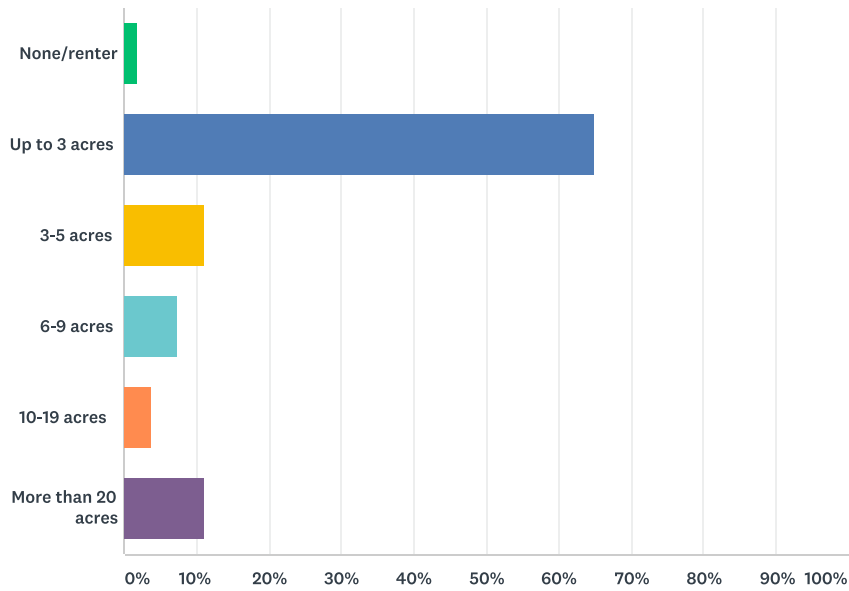
Answered: 55 Skipped: 2



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Under 18	1.82% 1
18-29	3.64% 2
30-49	41.82% 23
50-65	32.73% 18
Over 65	20.00% 11
TOTAL	55

Q19 If you are a property owner, approximately how many acres do you own in Hampden?

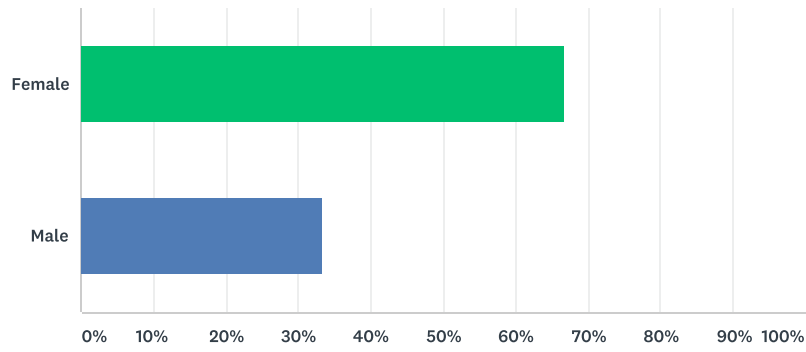
Answered: 54 Skipped: 3



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
None/renter	1.85% 1
Up to 3 acres	64.81% 35
3-5 acres	11.11% 6
6-9 acres	7.41% 4
10-19 acres	3.70% 2
More than 20 acres	11.11% 6
TOTAL	54

Q20 What is your gender?

Answered: 54 Skipped: 3



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Female	66.67% 36
Male	33.33% 18
TOTAL	54

Hampden 2017 Open Space and Recreation Plan Update Survey

Q21 Please tell us more about your thoughts on Hampden's recreation and/or open space opportunities.

Answered: 25 Skipped: 32

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	I don't think Hampden does a good job of attracting enterprising commercial ventures that enhance property values, tax base, while also providing a need/service to the residents—and is a destination spot for out-of-town visitors. too many non-tax paying churches that occupy beautiful open space land, allowing ugly solar farms (chain link fences with sagging & torn green mesh/tall electrical poles/narrow buffer zones allowing panels too close to road and properties) that destroy residential property values and scenic beauty of our town. Hampden should create a zoning by-law that somewhat controls the type of commercial architecture that is allowed in Town, like Longmeadow does. Also, enforce unregistered cars and old gas/oil powered equipment from piling up on peoples land that may leak contaminants in wells.	9/29/2017 11:54 AM
2	My husband and infant daughter and I enjoy hiking as well as jogging with a stroller. There are great hiking opportunities near us in Hampden and Wilbraham, but we need to drive to the east Longmeadow rail trail to access a safe off road paved trail for using the stroller or bike trailer. We live off Wilbraham road and don't have sidewalks or much of a shoulder to use to walk with our daughter - we pretty much have to drive somewhere when we want to take her out for a stroll.	9/24/2017 4:42 PM
3	Cleaning of River. More to do for pre Seniors and Seniors	9/17/2017 2:02 PM
4	very important for smart development	9/11/2017 9:46 PM
5	Sometimes I just want to go for walk on main st. The traffic is so loud it takes the joy out of it. i just want the new development to slow.	9/10/2017 10:32 PM
6	The old Cumberland Farms building and that nasty looking gas station should be leveled out for beautiful river access.	9/9/2017 12:13 PM
7	We are new to the area and have no way of finding out the things in Hampden. Getting information out to your residents would be essentials we can use the areas available	9/9/2017 9:32 AM
8	The town of Hampden would benefit from more sidewalks for safe walking. Examples would be the rec park to Laughing Brook, TWB to Allen street and then to the Senior Center and from Allen Street to St Mary's Church	9/4/2017 8:41 PM
9	I think we need sidewalks in town	9/4/2017 5:17 PM
10	Sidewalks would help me get from point a to point b more safely	9/4/2017 2:25 PM
11	I think that what has been done at the rec is fantastic! If whoever has been responsible for those changes could work on some of these other areas that would be Awesome! I tried to find Kathy's trail but once you walk through the field nothing is marked.	8/28/2017 6:42 PM
12	Please provide more places for our children! With the schooling merge mess, so many young families are moving elsewhere. Give us something to stay for, a beach area and maybe an indoor play area/gym for the winter.	8/25/2017 8:25 PM
13	Would love to have access to an open air gymnasium where adults and teens can use low impact and cardio equipment to work out in a park like setting. It'd be great to have this located close to playground equipment so parents can utilize it while children are on playground.	8/25/2017 3:16 PM
14	Limit solar.	8/24/2017 10:11 PM
15	I love Hampden and always tell others about how awesome it is. There is so much recreational potential from the town it is great that you are taking this survey!	8/24/2017 6:22 AM
16	Lack of maintenance of the Oakland St. Forest Management Project on the trails on the Western "loop." The recent work has left too much slash and it unsightly. The trails are growing in. It is not clear if parking on the cul-de-sac is permitted because trash removal vehicles use it as a turnaround and they need the entire paved area.	8/22/2017 8:45 AM

Hampden 2017 Open Space and Recreation Plan Update Survey

17	As mentioned in some answers previously; would like to encourage the thought of having more of a community designated area to drive locals and visitors to a site that has a larger river access or pond access with parking, an area for small cafe type building that will sell local items that would benefit the local schools, booster clubs and/or scouts - could sell hot chocolate Hampden sweatshirts and the minnechaug cards, etc in winter with ice skating available on the pond if freezes, and im summer sell other items. Would like walkway paths that are lit (like the east Longmeadow bike path), swimming section, community garden area would be nice, and an area for locals to congregate - summer concert area, fall pumpkin patch, local vendors. I have lived here for 7 years and came here partly to raise my children in a friendly town, one where they can still ride bikes around town, fish, enjoy nature, and be in a safe community. I have many friends with kids and elderly parents in town but find that we only congregate at memorial park.. we go outside of town for beach areas with swimming sections, and during the winter have nowhere to go that is covered or indoors with activities.. would like to see a larger community area built up with multiple options to expand Hampden's locals to be together, an area for us and visitors to congregate much like fountain park with events! Thank you for taking the time to put together this survey and get input from residents. I look forward to hearing next steps.	8/21/2017 1:50 PM
18	More should be focused on young people in town	8/21/2017 9:55 AM
19	Hampden is not a walkable town. There should be sidewalks so that children are not walking in the road. Memorial Park is a part-time park. Barricaded for a camp or during the winter. I have to go to other towns to swim too. But I do enjoy the train system around the park.	8/20/2017 4:25 PM
20	I think with the funds that they are getting they are doing a good job. Live to see more done byt it does reflect back to funds	8/20/2017 3:52 PM
21	Most importantly more sidewalks!!!	8/20/2017 3:49 PM
22	Do something about kids trespassing on motorcycles and 4 wheelers. They ruin crops and destroy property	8/20/2017 3:47 PM
23	Could not answer some questions as I don't think there's enough information or I'm not educated on some of the items... and you should've put I don't know rather than just the options of yes and no on some questions. Open space is good of course, there's just so much that goes into all this that I don't think I can respond to her a lot... But thank you for asking my opinion...Good luck with this survey..	8/20/2017 3:23 PM
24	I think we are doing well, but need to keep watch on what is happening on this open space aspect and to try to do better whenever we can and to watch for additional opportunities.	8/20/2017 2:59 PM
25	There are serious issues with mechanized vehicles (bikes, ATV's) causing damage and destruction in preserved and conserved areas.	8/17/2017 3:39 PM

APPENDIX C. VISIONING SESSION MATERIALS

Please sign in! 2 handouts on table

Town of Hampden Open Space and Recreation Plan Update

Visioning Workshop

Wednesday, September 27, 2017, 6:00-8:00 PM, Town House Auditorium

Note that not all participants signed the sheet. There were 12 attendees.

Name	Affiliation / Neighborhood / Street	Email Address (Optional)
<i>Mauro D. ...</i>	<i>...</i>	

Town of Hampden
Open Space and Recreation Visioning Workshop
September 27, 2017
Town House Auditorium

6:00-6:10 pm **Registration and orientation**

6:10-6:30 pm **Welcome/Overview of Workshop and Open Space and Recreation Plan**

6:30-7:00 **Visioning Exercise**

Step 1: As a group, discuss the “ideal” Hampden in 10-20 years in terms of its open space and recreational amenities. What would the town look like? What would it be like to live in Hampden with these amenities in place? Try to sum up what it would be like in one or two sentences, such as “You can walk or bike anywhere,” or “There are lots of natural areas amid neighborhoods to wander to/through,” etc. Consider topics such as environmental protection, quality of life, safety, health, etc. You may end up with more than one vision, or even with competing visions.

Step 2: Report out the results of the visioning exercise by sharing the visioning statements to which each group aspires. Note the differences between the Hampden of today and the “idealized” vision for tomorrow.

Step 3: Note areas of consensus and difference, and compare to 2010 plan’s stated vision. Try to synthesize new or updated statements into a few common visions.

7:00-7:30 **Needs Analysis**

Step 1: Each table has a copy of an enlarged map of Hampden. Use the symbol stickers, or draw your own stickers, and place them where you see a need for different types of open space/recreation resources in Hampden.

- Where are important natural resources and recreational areas now?
- What do you notice is/is not being used, or where activity is/is not happening?
- What are other concerns or assets that need attention?
- Also note maintenance or informational needs with town-wide impacts.

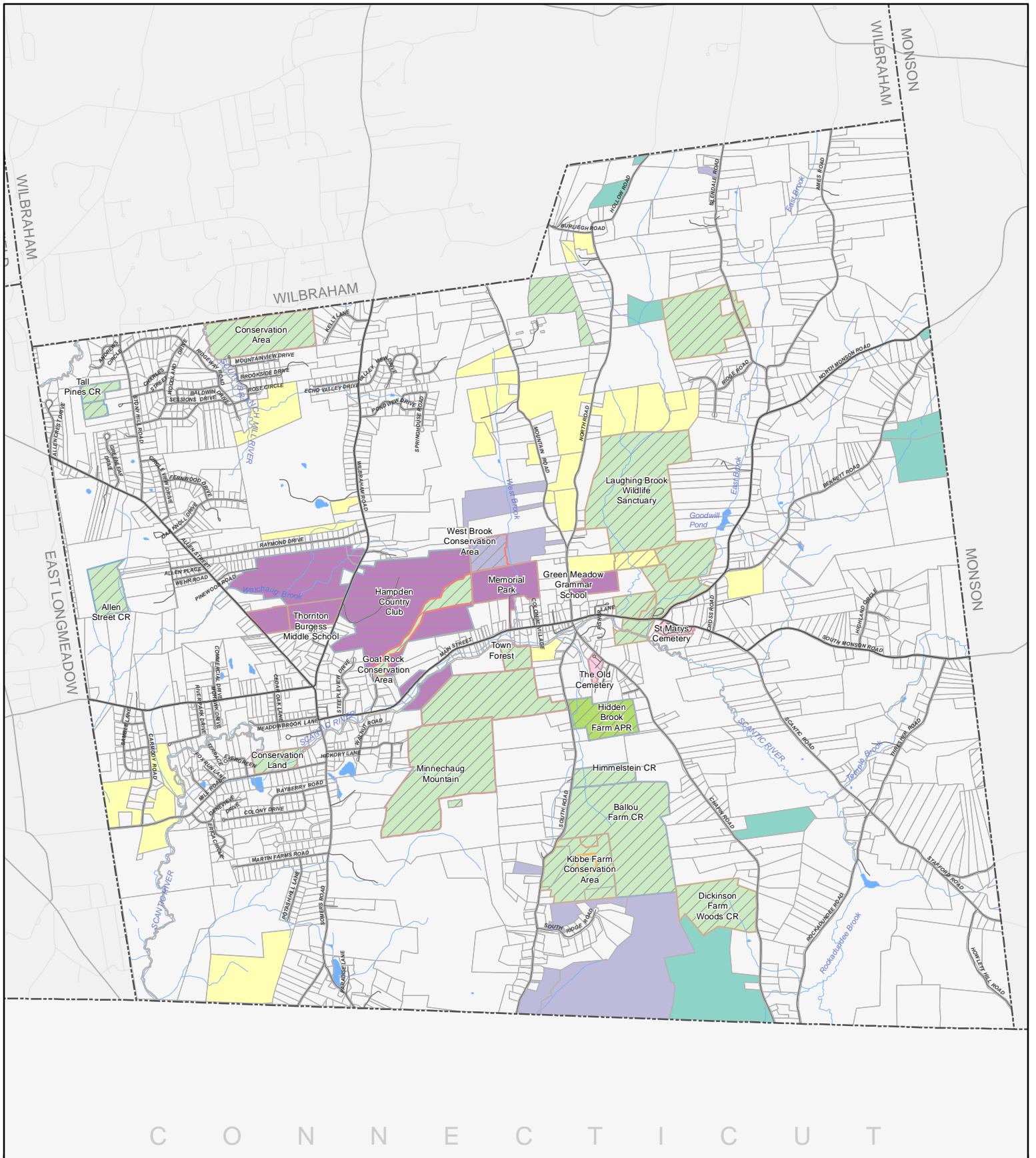
Step2: Report out on the mapping exercise and collectively identify the Town’s strengths and challenges.

Identify open space and recreation needs and prioritize.

7:30-8:00 **Identify 2017-2024 OSRP Goals and Objectives and Action Items**

- If each group could manage the town for the day, what would they do?
- Identify open space and recreation goals and objectives based on prior discussion.
- Comment on and discuss on resulting goals and objectives.
- Come to consensus on adding/removing any goals or objectives.
- Identify top actions to address specific goals and objectives based on this and prior discussions.

APPENDIX D: HAMPDEN 2017 OSRP MAPS



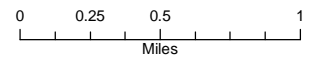
C O N N E C T I C U T

Primary Purpose	Owner Type
Conservation	Municipal
Recreational	Land Trust
Historical/Cultural	Private for Profit
Agriculture	
Level of Protection	Chapter Lands
In Perpetuity	CHPT 61
Limited	CHPT 61A
None	CHPT 61B

PROTECTED & RECREATIONAL OPEN SPACE

2017 Open Space and Recreation Plan

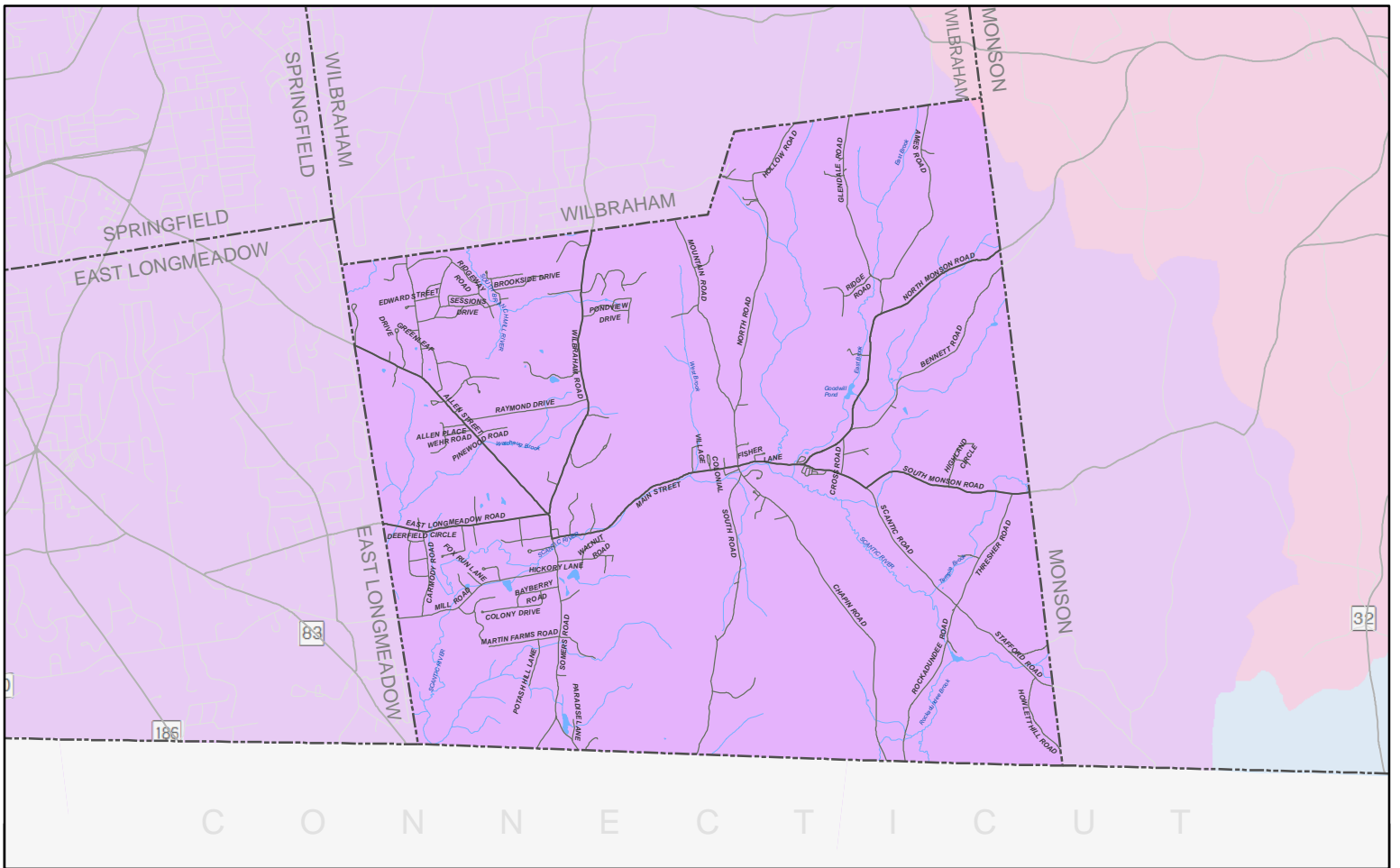
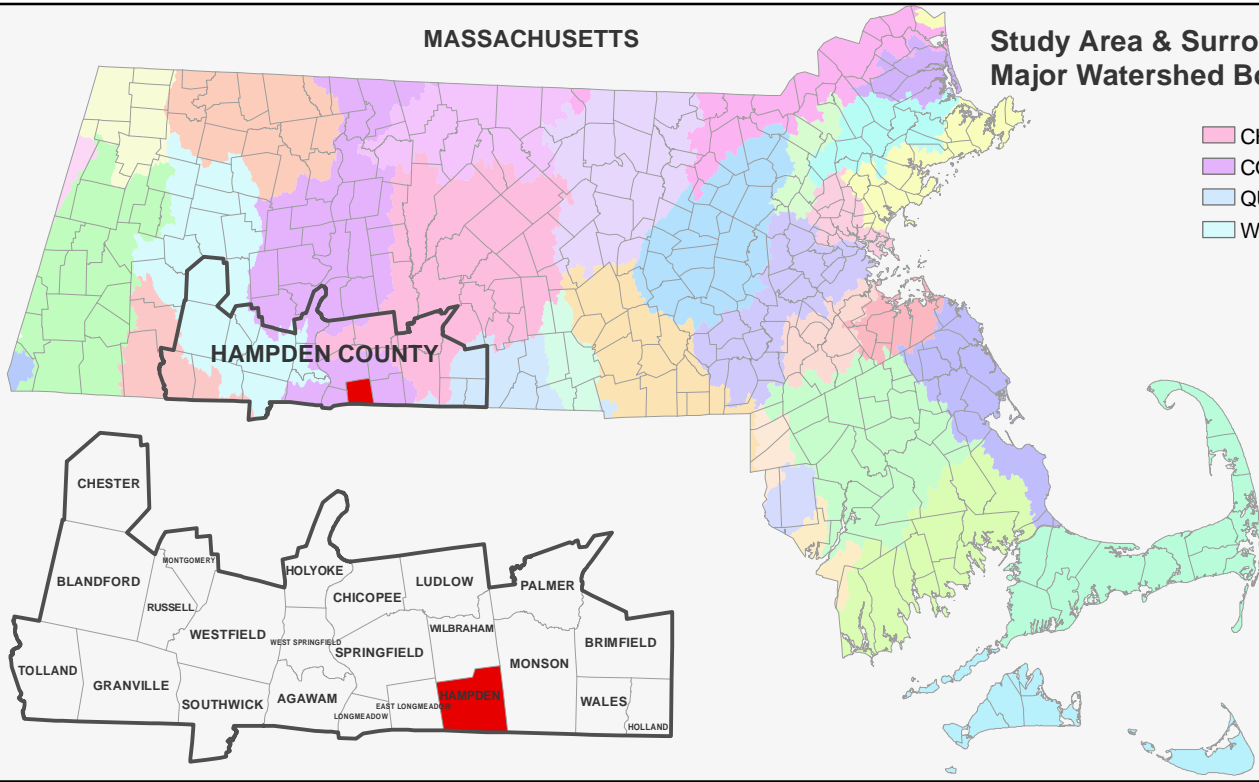
HAMPDEN, MA



MASSACHUSETTS

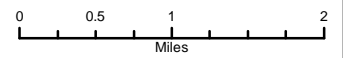
Study Area & Surrounding Major Watershed Boundaries

- CHICOPEE
- CONNECTICUT
- QUINEBAUG
- WESTFIELD

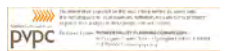


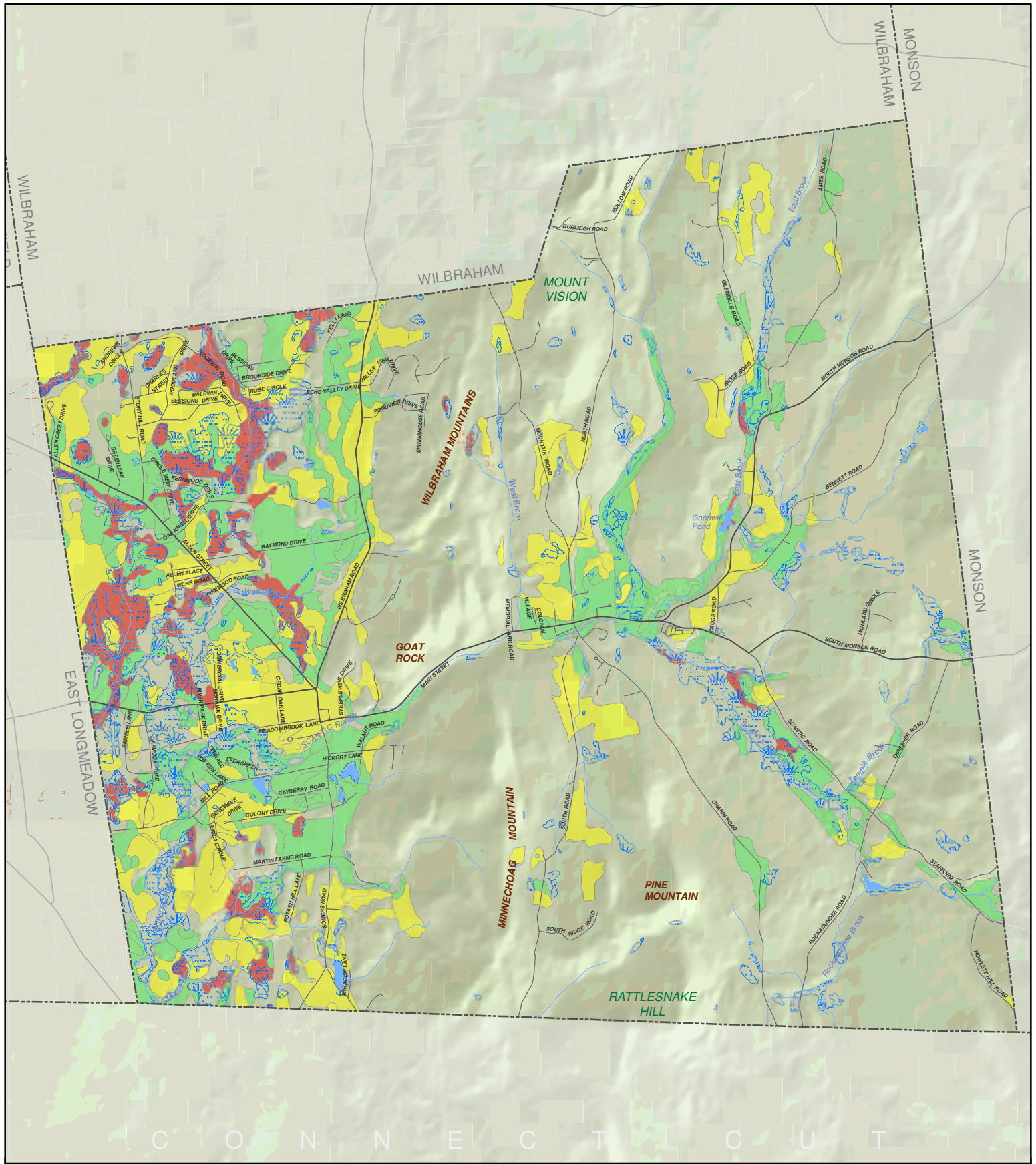
REGIONAL CONTEXT
2017 Open Space and Recreation Plan

HAMPDEN, MA



DATA SOURCES:
MassGIS, Pioneer Valley Planning Commission.
This map is based on the best available data.
All information is subject to field verification.

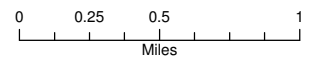




C O N N E C T I C U T




SOILS & GEOLOGIC FEATURES 2017 Open Space and Recreation Plan

HAMPDEN, MA



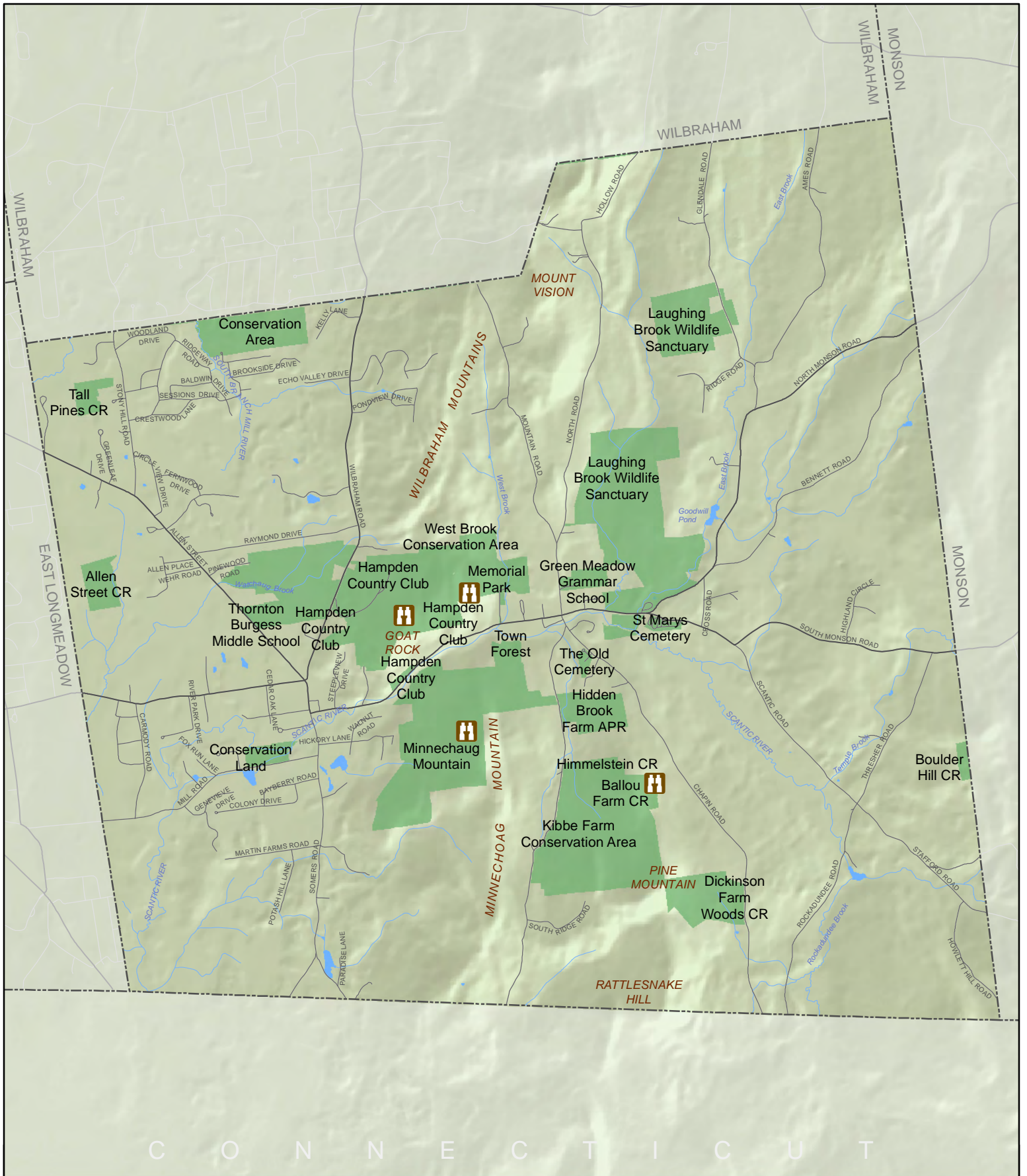
 MADEP Wetlands 12K

Important Soils

-  Prime Farmland
-  Farmland of Statewide Importance
-  Farmland of Unique Importance

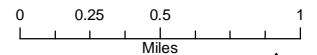
DATA SOURCES:
MassGIS, Pioneer Valley Planning Commission.
This map is based on the best available data.
All information is subject to field verification.







C O N N E C T I C U T

SCENIC RESOURCES & UNIQUE ENVIRONMENTS
2017 Open Space and Recreation Plan



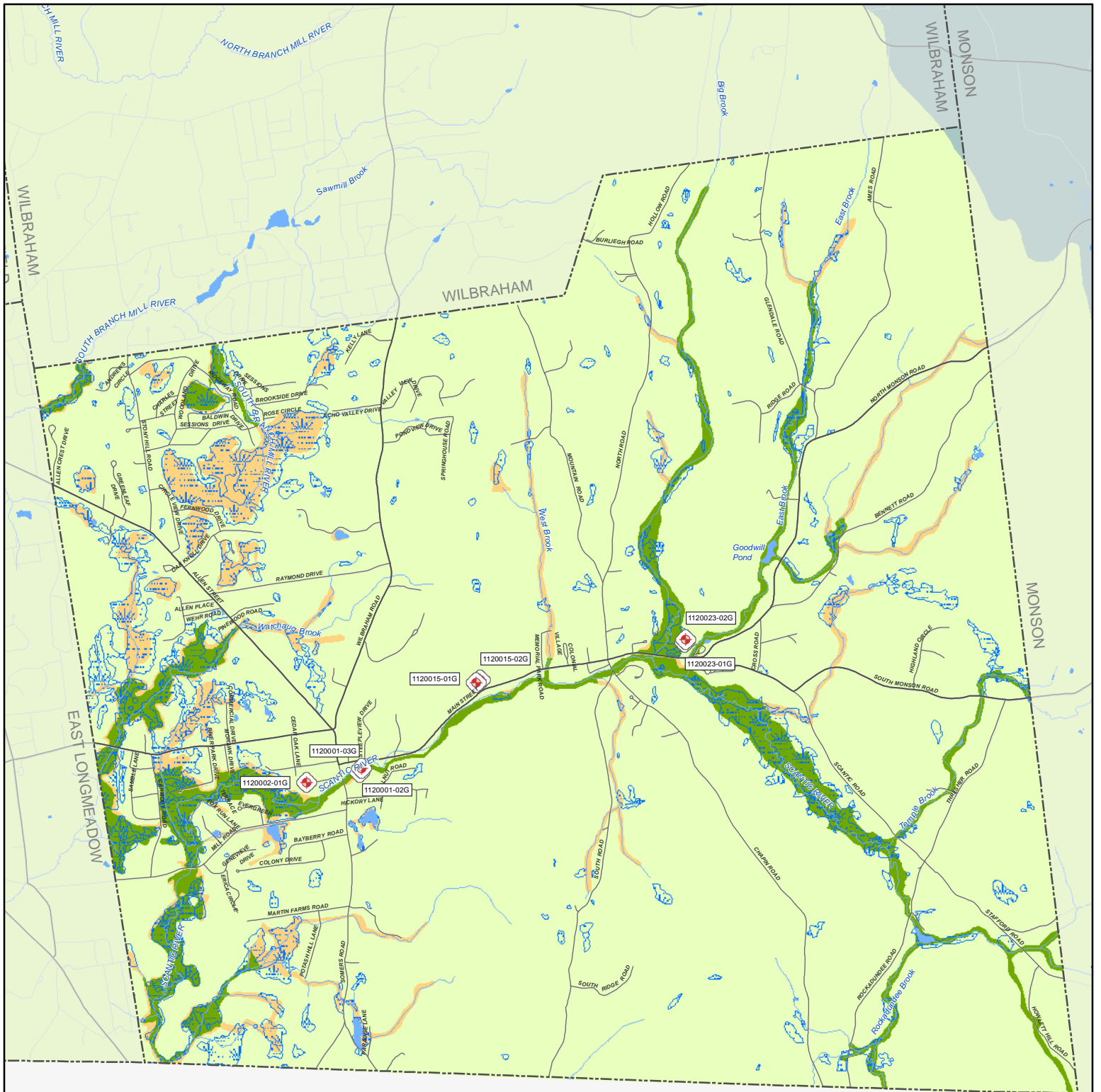
-  Vista Location
-  Protected & Recreational Open Space

HAMPDEN, MA



DATA SOURCES:
MassGIS, Pioneer Valley Planning Commission.
This map is based on the best available data.
All information is subject to field verification.

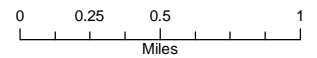




C O N N E C T I C U T

WATER RESOURCES 2017 Open Space and Recreation Plan

HAMPDEN, MA

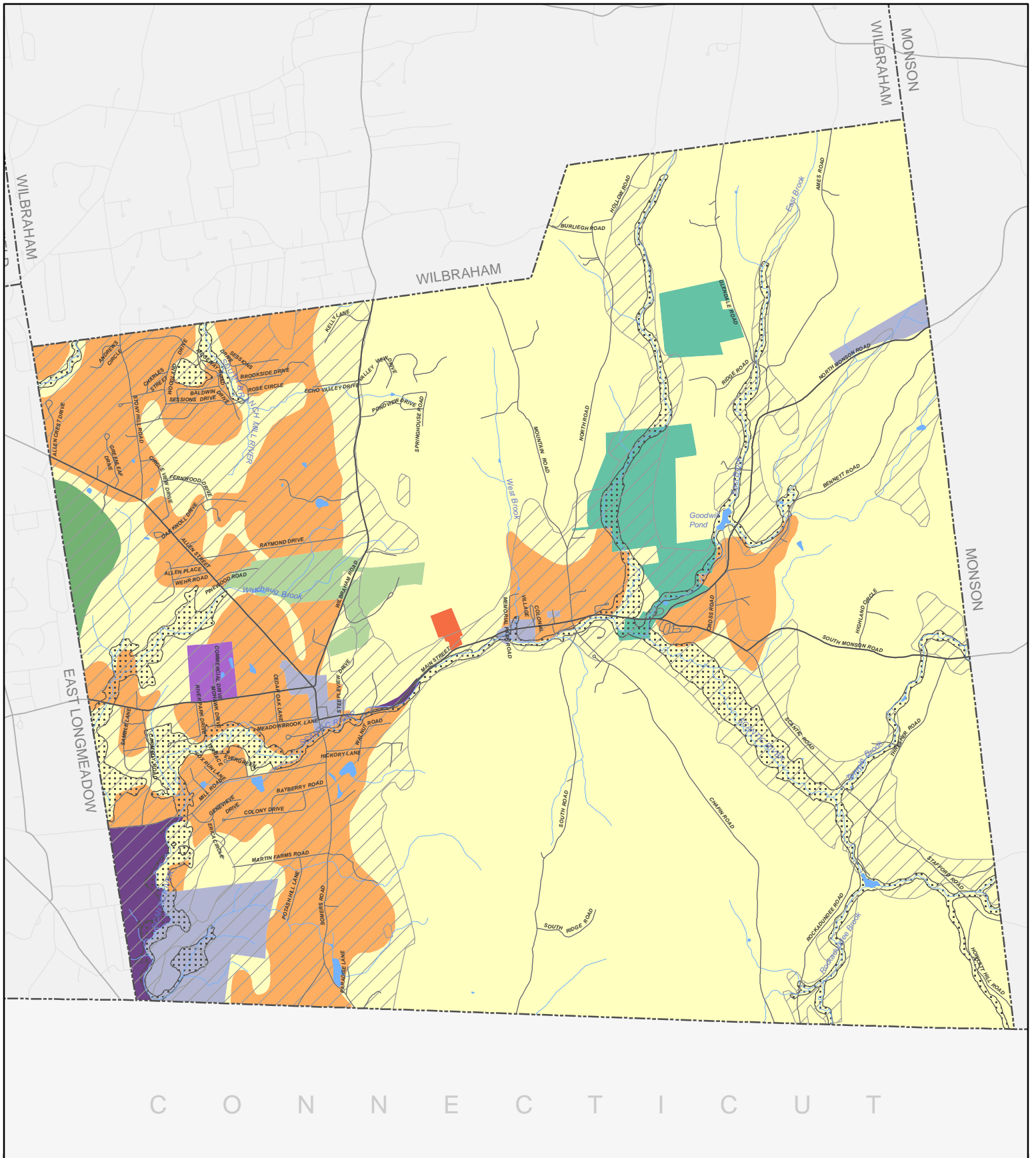


- MADEP Approved Zone II Areas (None Present)
- Outstanding Resource Waters: Public Water Supply Watershed (None Present)
- MADEP Open Water 25K
- MADEP Streams 25K
- MADEP Wetlands 12K
- Chicopee River Watershed
- Connecticut River Watershed

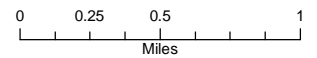
- Public Water Supply
- FEMA Q3 100 yr Flood Zone
- FEMA Q3 500 yr Flood Zone

DATA SOURCES:
MassGIS, Pioneer Valley Planning Commission.
This map is based on the best available data.
All information is subject to field verification.





MUNICIPAL ZONING
2017 Open Space and Recreation Plan
HAMPDEN, MA



Zoning Overlay Districts

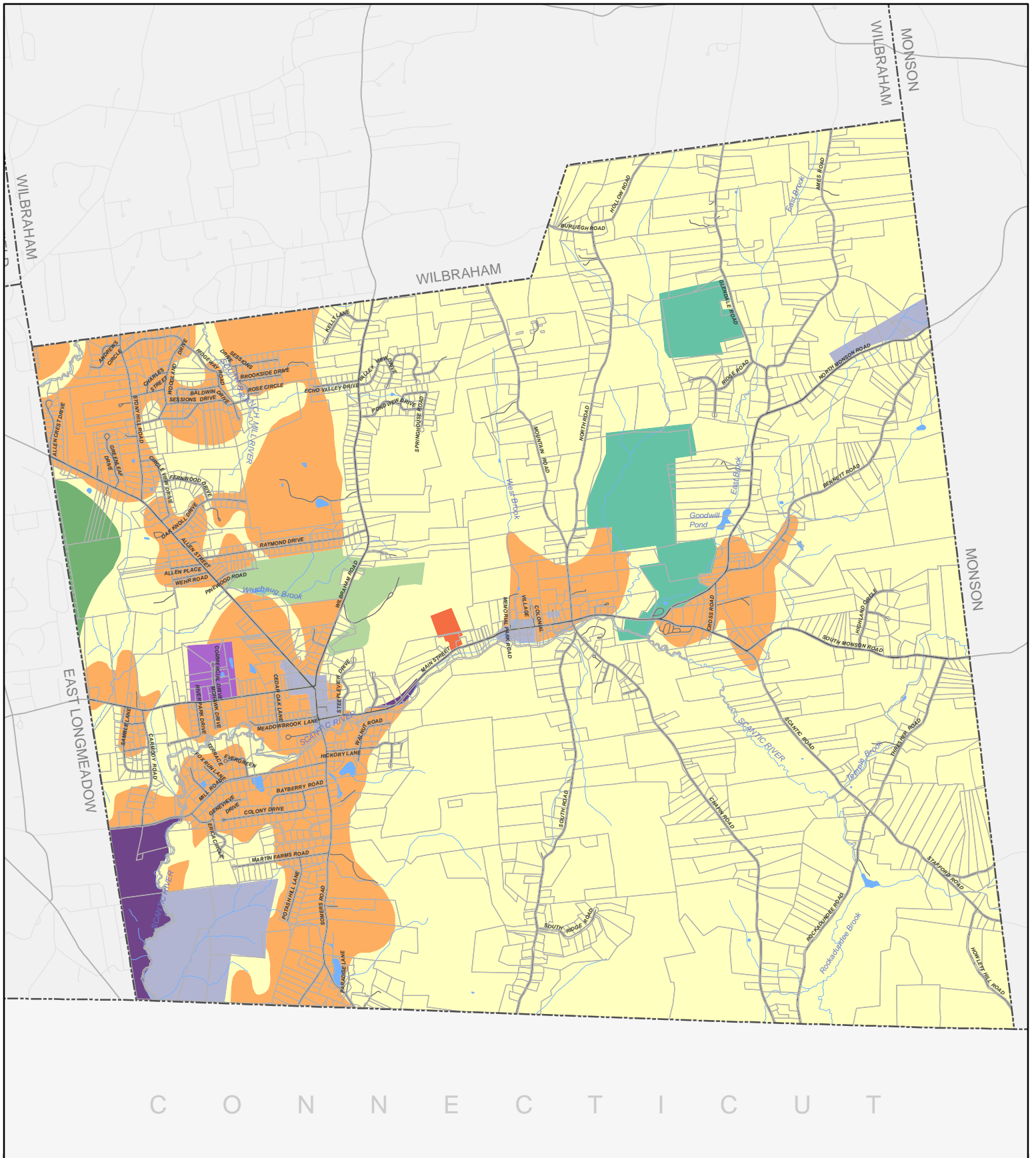
- Flood Plain Overlay District
- Water Supply Protection Overlay District

Zoning Classifications

- | | |
|----------------------|------------------------|
| Business | Non-Profit Educational |
| Commercial | Multi-Unit Dwelling |
| Limited Industrial | R-4 |
| Limited Recreational | R-6 |
| Golf Recreational | |

DATA SOURCES:
 MassGIS, Pioneer Valley Planning Commission.
 This map is based on the best available data.
 All information is subject to field verification.

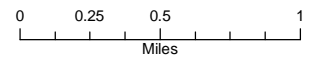




C O N N E C T I C U T

MUNICIPAL ZONING 2017 Open Space and Recreation Plan

HAMPDEN, MA

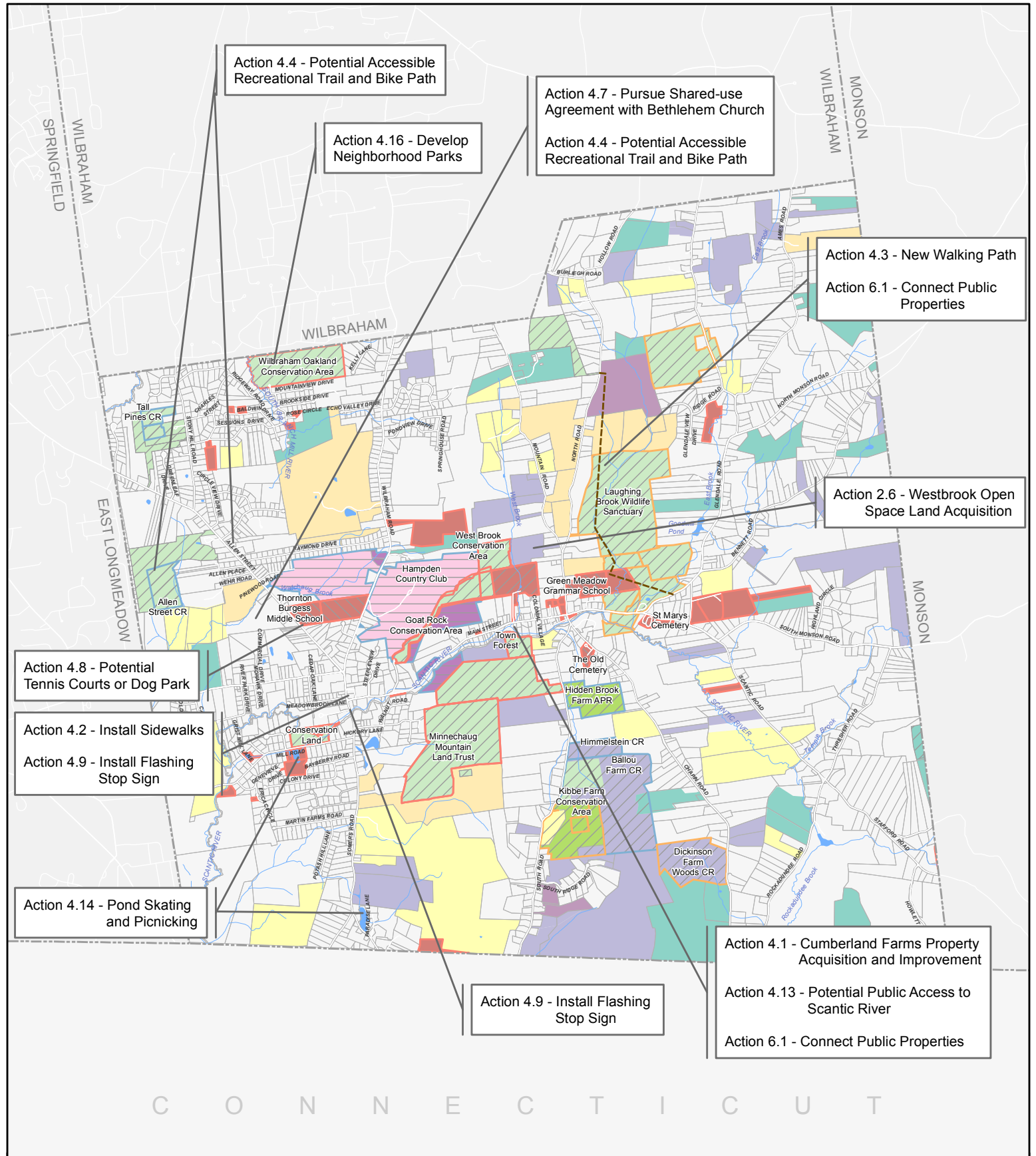


Zoning Classifications

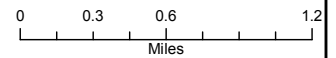
- | | |
|---|---|
| Business | Non-Profit Educational |
| Commercial | Multi-Unit Dwelling |
| Limited Industrial | R-4 |
| Limited Recreational | R-6 |
| Golf Recreational | |

DATA SOURCES:
MassGIS, Pioneer Valley Planning Commission.
This map is based on the best available data.
All information is subject to field verification.





ACTION PLAN MAP
2017 Open Space and Recreation Plan
HAMPDEN, MA



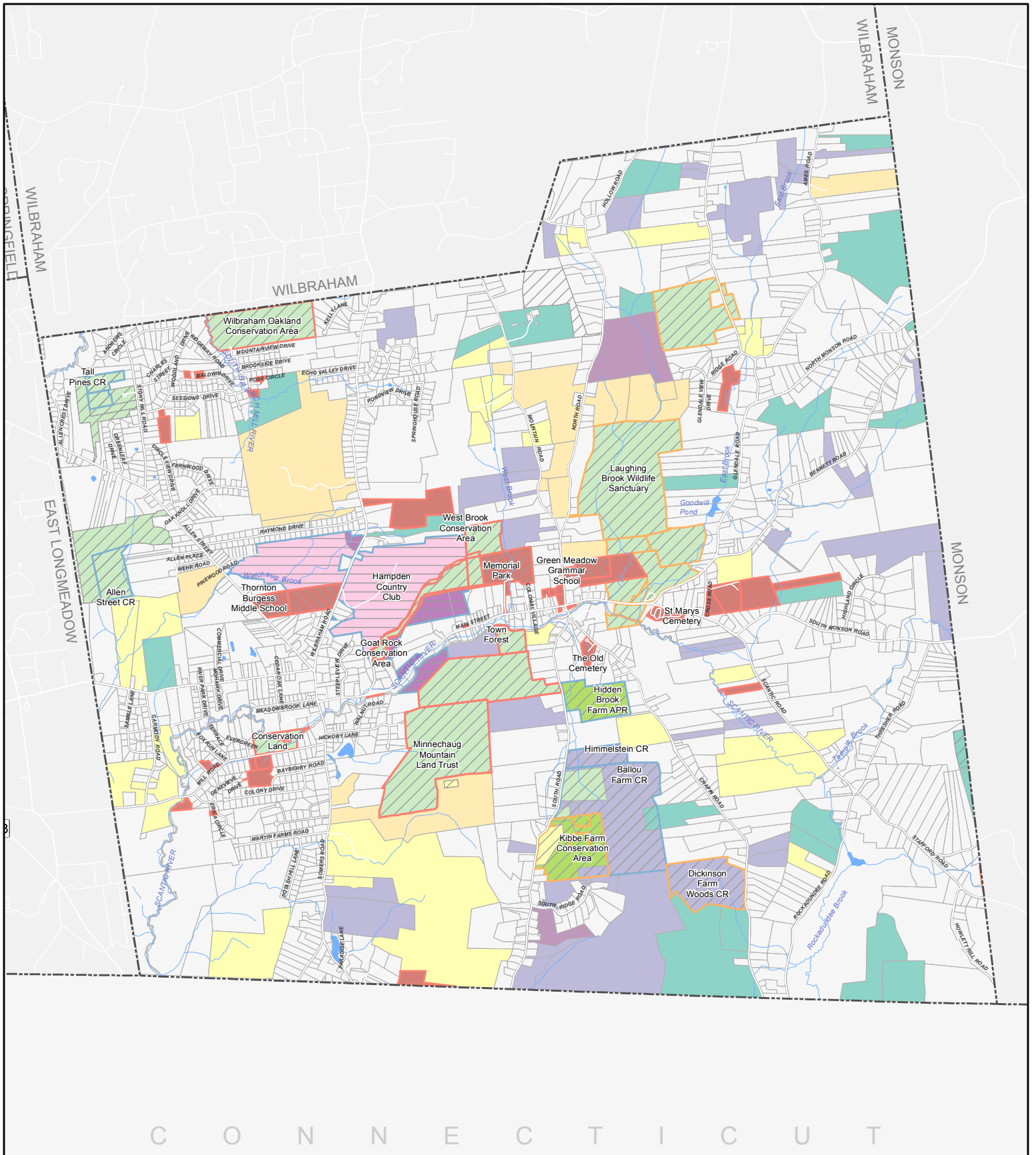
Level of Protection	Owner Type
In Perpetuity	Municipal
Limited	Land Trust
None	Private for Profit

Chapter Lands	Primary Purpose
61A	Conservation
61B	Recreation
61FMP	Open Space
61A/FMP	Town Owned Open Space/Recreational Asset
61B/FMP	

New Walking Path

DATA SOURCES:
 MassGIS, Pioneer Valley Planning Commission,
 Town of Hampden, MA.
 This map is based on the best available data.
 All information is subject to field verification.





C O N N E C T I C U T

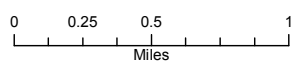
Level of Protection	Owner Type
	In Perpetuity
	Limited
	None
	Municipal
	Land Trust
	Private for Profit

Chapter Lands	Primary Purpose
	61A
	61B
	61FMP
	61A/FMP
	61B/FMP
	Conservation
	Recreation
	Open Space
	Town Owned Open Space/Recreational Asset

PROTECTED & RECREATIONAL OPEN SPACE

2017 Open Space and Recreation Plan

HAMPDEN, MA



DATA SOURCES:
 MassGIS, Pioneer Valley Planning Commission,
 Town of Hampden, MA.
 This map is based on the best available data.
 All information is subject to field verification.



APPENDIX E: HAMPDEN VEGETATION AND WILDLIFE INVENTORIES

Following is a table of plant species commonly found in Hampden.

Species	Common Name
Acer Rubrum	Red Maple
Acer Saccharum	Sugar Maple; hard maple
Amphicarpaea bracteata	Hog-Peanut
Aralia nudicaulis	Wild Sarsaparilla
Arisaema triphyllum	Jack-in-the-Pulpit
Asclepias syriaca	Common Milkweed
Aster acuminatus	Whorled Aster
Aster divaricatus	Common white heart-leaved aster
Aster racemosus	Small-headed Aster
Berberis thunbergii	Japanese Barberry
Betula lenta	Sweet Birch; Black Birch
Betula papyrifera	Paper Birch
Betula populifolia	Gray Birch
Carya glabra	Pignut Hickory
Carya ovata	Shagbark Hickory
Castanea dentata	American Chestnut
Centaurea sp	Knapweed
Chimaphila maculata	Spotted Wintergreen
Chimaphila umbellata	Prince's Pine: pipsessewa
Comptonia peregrina	Sweet Fern
Crataegus sp.	Brainerd-Hawthorn
Dennstaedtia punctilobula	Hay-Scented Fern
Desmodium rotundifolium	Round-leaved tick-trefoil
Dianthus armeria	Deptford-pink
Euthamia graminifolia	Common flat-topped Goldenrod
Fraxinus americana	White Ash
Goodyera pubescens	Downy rattlesnake-Plantain
Hamamelis virginiana	Witch Hazel
Impatiens capensis	Orange Touch-me-not; Spotted Jewelweed
Juniperus communis	Common Juniper
Juniperus virginiana	Eastern Red Cedar
Lycopodium complanatum	Northern Ground Cedar
Lysimachia quadrifolia	Whorled Loosestrife
Maianthemum canadense	Canada Mayflower
Mimulus ringens	Allegheny Monkey-Flower
Mitchella repens	Partridge-Berry
Monotropa uniflora	Indian Pipe
Osmunda cinnamomea	Cinnamon Fern
Osmunda claytoniana	Interrupted Fern
Ostrya Virginiana	Hop Hornbeam
Parthenocissus Quinquefolia	Virginia Creeper; Woodbine
Phytolacca Americana	Pokeweed
Pinus Strobus	White Pine
Plantago Major	Common Plantain
Polygonum sagittatum	Arrow-leaved Tearthumb
Polystichum acrostichoides	Christmas Fern

Populus deltoides	Cottonwood
Populus tremuloides	Quaking Aspen
Pycnanthemum Incanum	Hoary Mountain Mint
Quercus alba	White Oak
Quercus prinus	Rock Chestnut Oak
Quercus rubra	Northern Red Oak
Rhus typhina	Staghorn Sumac
Rosa multiflora	Multiflora Rose
Rubus allegheniensis	Common Blackberry
Rubus hispidus	Swamp Dewberry
Rubus idaeus	Red Raspberry
Smilacina racemosa	False Solomon's Seal: Wild Spikenard
Solidago rugosa	Wrinkle-leaved Goldenrod
Tilia americana	Basswood; American Linden
Tsuga Canadensis	Eastern Hemlock
Tussilago farfara	Coltsfoot
Vaccinium Angustifolium	Common Low Bush Blueberry
Viola sp.	Violet
Vitis sp.	Wild Grape

A list of mammals found in Hampden is below:

Mammals	Common Name
Virginia Opossum	Didelphis virginia
Masked Shrew	Sorex cinereus
Smoky Shrew	Sorex fumeus
Common Water Shrew	Sorex paulstris
Northern Short-Tailed Shrew	Blarina brevicauda
Hairy-Tailed Mole	Parascalops breweri
Eastern Mole	Scalopus aquaticus
Star-Nosed Mole	Condylura cristata
Eastern Small-footed Bat	Myotis leibii
Little Brown Bat	Myotis lucifugus
Northern Long-eared Bat	Myotis septentrionalis
Eastern Pipistrelle	Pipistrellus subflavus
Big Brown Bat	Eptesicus fuscus
Eastern Cottontail	Sylvilagus floridanus
Snowshoe Hare	Lepus americanus
Eastern Chipmunk	Tamias striatus
Eastern Gray Squirrel	Sciurus carolinensis
Woodchuck	Marmota monax
Red Squirrel	Tamiasciurus hudsonicus
Southern Flying Squirrel	Glaucomys volans
American Beaver	Castor canadensis
White-footed Mouse	Peromyscus leucopus
Deer Mouse	Peromyscus maniculatus

Southern Red-Backed Vole	Clethrionomys gapperi
Meadow Vole	Microtus pennsylvanicus
Woodland Vole	Microtus pinetorum
Woodland Jumping Mouse	Napaeozapus insignis
Common Porcupine	Erethizon dorsatum
Coyote	Canis latrans
Red Fox	Vulpes vulpes
Common Gray Fox	Urocyon cinereoargenteus
Black Bear	Ursus americanus
Common Raccoon	Procyon lotor
Fisher	Martes pennanti
Ermine	Mustela erminea
Long-tailed Weasel	Mustela frenata
American Mink	Mustela vison
Northern River Otter	Lutra canadensis
Striped Skunk	Mephitis mephitis
Bobcat	Lynx rufus
White-Tailed Deer	Odocoileus virginianus

APPENDIX F: HAMPDEN CHAPTER 61 LANDS

TABLE 1: HAMPDEN CHAPTER 61 – FOREST LANDS

PARCEL ID	LOCATION	LOT SIZE (ACRES)	AREA CLASSIFIED (ACRES)	OWNER	ZONING	CHAPTER
32.16.3	294 Ames Rd.	15.22	11.62	Ty & Jennifer Alexander	Residential R-6	61FMP
29.42.1	150 Ames Rd.	94.25	88.4	David Doyle	Residential R-6	61FMP
25.42.0	Bennett Rd.	19.89	19.89	Vincent & Ann Murphy	Residential R-6	61FMP
30.4.2	Bennett Rd.	0.15	0.15	Ronald & Alice Kempf	Residential R-6	61FMP
5.5.0	Bumpstead Hill	40	40	Jonathan & Melissa Jackopsic	Residential R-6	61FMP
4.3.0	434 Chapin Rd.	22.5	20.75	Timothy & Cynthia Connors	Residential R-6	61FMP
4.1.0	488 Chapin Rd.	117	115	Mary & Megan Mackenzie	Residential R-6	61FMP
9.10.0	Chapin Rd.	26.54	26.54	Judith & Albert Jones	Residential R-6	61 FMP
11.40.0	180 East Longmeadow Rd.	27.92	26.92	Brett & Anna Connor	Residential R-4/ R-6	61FMP
19.11.0	195 Glendale Rd.	20.19	16.51	Catherine Lamoureux	Residential R-6	61FMP
29.1.0	Glendale Rd.	15	15	Arthur & Elaine Beaumier	Residential R-6	61FMP
32.1.3	Glendale Rd.	35.57	35.57	David & Cheryl Gallant	Residential R-6	61FMP
23.33.0	Lookout Mountain	43.6	43.6	John Mastronardi	Residential R-6	61FMP

PARCEL ID	LOCATION	LOT SIZE (ACRES)	AREA CLASSIFIED (ACRES)	OWNER	ZONING	CHAPTER
23.33.1	Mountain Rd.	1.4	1.4	John Mastronardi	Residential R-6	61FMP
28.4.0	Mount Vision Rd.	0.23	0.23	John Mastronardi	Residential R-6	61FMP
23.32.0	Lookout Mountain	0.13	0.13	John Mastronardi	Residential R-6	61FMP
28.12.0	Mount Vision Rd.	0.1	0.1	John Mastronardi	Residential R-6	61FMP
28.11.0	Mount Vision Rd.	0.1	0.1	John Mastronardi	Residential R-6	61FMP
28.5.0	Mount Vision Rd.	0.36	0.36	John Mastronardi	Residential R-6	61FMP
28.7.0	Mount Vision Rd.	0.23	0.23	John Mastronardi	Residential R-6	61FMP
23.31.1	257 Mountain Rd.	13	11.53	David & Pollee Moore	Residential R-6	61FMP
23.49.0	298 North Rd.	79.5	16	Arthur & Elaine Beaumier	Residential R-6	61FMP
24.43.0	28 North Monson Rd.	37.4	35.9	John Matthews	Residential R-6	61FMP
30.4.0	North Monson Rd.	1.57	1.57	Ronald & Alice Kempf	Residential R-6	61FMP
10.1.0	70 Rock A Dundee Rd.	28.03	21.53	Michael McGovern & AnneThomas	Residential R-6	61FMP
9.44.0	80 Rock A Dundee Rd.	15.77	14.53	Olesya & Alecsei Cherkashin	Residential R-6	61FMP
5.4.0	Scantic Rd.	47.19	47.19	Jonathan & Melissa Jackopsic	Residential R-6	61FMP
22.177.0	Sessions Dr./ Baldwin Dr.	38.6	38.6	Kay Vee Realty Company Inc.	Residential R-4/ R-6	61FMP
3.20.0	355 South Rd.	19.65	11.48	Joseph & Wendy Bonavita	Residential R-6	61FMP

PARCEL ID	LOCATION	LOT SIZE (ACRES)	AREA CLASSIFIED (ACRES)	OWNER	ZONING	CHAPTER
19.64.0	67 South Monson Rd.	10	10	Daniel & Rebecca Blanchard	Residential R-6	61FMP
10.31.0	St. Germain Rd.	4.64	3.9	Lawrence & Ruth Lytwyn	Residential R-6	61FMP
15.39.0	St. Germain Rd.	9.61	9.61	Boulder Hill Development LLC	Residential R-6	61FMP
17.133.0	162 Wilbraham Rd.	18.36	17.36	Keith Isham	Residential R-6	61FMP

Source: Hampden Assessor's Office

TABLE 2: HAMPDEN CHAPTER 61A - AGRICULTURAL LANDS

PARCEL ID	LOCATION	LOT SIZE (ACRES)	AREA CLASSIFIED (ACRES)	OWNER	ZONING	CHAPTER
17.5.0	155 Allen St.	36.9	29.1	Daniel & Ann Marie Noel	Residential R-4/ R-6	61A/ FMP
32.19.0	240 Ames Rd.	37.9	34.9	Lillian & Michael Fedora	Residential R-6	61A/ FMP
28.24.0	Burleigh Rd.	6.6	6.6	Moriarty	Residential R-6	61A
28..25.0	Burleigh Rd.	5	5	Moriarty	Residential R-6	61A
6.8.1	Carmody Rd.	2.5	2.5	Harold & Elvira Alston	Residential R-4	61A
14.1.0	160 Chapin Rd.	26	25	Catherine & Brent Bertelli	Residential R-6	61A
21.127.0	Crestwood Ln.	13.8	13.8	James Belmer & Susan Maharne	Residential R-4/ R-6	61A
11.36.0	218 East Longmeadow Rd.	32.75	30	Twomey Melikian	Residential R-4/ R-6	61A

PARCEL ID	LOCATION	LOT SIZE (ACRES)	AREA CLASSIFIED (ACRES)	OWNER	ZONING	CHAPTER
11.38.0	204 East Longmeadow Rd.	45.15	41.65	Mary Sokolowski	Residential R-4/ R-6	61A
6.20.0	495 Glendale Rd.	14.45	14.45	Sara & Eric Weichselbaumer	Residential R-4/ R-6	61A
19.84.1	Glendale Rd.	18.76	18.76	Richard & Judith Hatch	Residential R-6	61A
24.20.0	Glendale Rd.	1.38	1.38	Elwood Davis Trust (Jeanne Trust)	Residential R-6	61A
24.21.0	340 Glendale Rd.	13.92	11.82	Elwood Davis Trust (Jeanne Trust)	Residential R-6	61A
24.22.0	Glendale Rd.	1.8	1.8	Elwood Davis Trust (Jeanne Trust)	Residential R-6	61A
29.9.0	Glendale Rd.	24.4	22.9	James & Donna Vallandingham	Residential R-6	61A
6.5.0	Mill Rd.	27.63	27.63	Stanley & Judith Witkop	Residential R-4/ R-6/ Limited Industrial	61A
6.8.4	Mill Rd.	24.01	24.01	Mill Nominee Trust (Alston)	Residential R-4/ R-6	61A
18.5.0	Mountain Rd.	2	2	Cornelius Flynn	Residential R-6	61 A/ FMP
23.19.0	Mountain Rd.	3.87	3.87	Sally Rumprik	Residential R-6	61A
23.21.0	Mountain Rd.	12	12	Mark Bilton & Robert Bilton, Jr.	Residential R-6	61A
23.26.0	Mountain Rd.	7.74	7.74	Robert, Bilton, Jr.	Residential R-6	61A
23.27.0	Mountain Rd.	12.77	12.77	Mark Bilton & Robert Bilton, Jr.	Residential R-6	61A
23.28.1	Mountain Rd.	11.04	11.04	William Baxter	Residential R-6	61A

PARCEL ID	LOCATION	LOT SIZE (ACRES)	AREA CLASSIFIED (ACRES)	OWNER	ZONING	CHAPTER
23.29.0	Mountain Rd.	5.09	5.09	Cornelius Flynn	Residential R-6	61A/ FMP
23.31.0	Mountain Rd.	13.04	13.04	Mark Bilton & Robert Bilton, Jr.	Residential R-6	61A
23.39.0	116 Mountain Rd.	7.1	5	Sally Rumlplik	Residential R-6	61A
23.52.0	Mountain Rd.	29.31	29.31	Cornelius Flynn	Residential R-6	61A/ FMP
9.45.0	192 North Rd.	64.88	62.88	Colleton & Dickstein	Residential R-6	61A
18.9.0	North Rd.	13.9	13.9	Cornelius Flynn	Residential R-6	61A/ FMP
18.17.0	North Rd.	15.7	15.7	Cornelius Flynn	Residential R-4/ R-6	61A/ FMP
23.42.0	North Rd.	14.7	14.7	Cornelius Flynn	Residential R-6	61A/ FMP
23.43.0	North Rd.	66.02	66.02	Cornelius Flynn	Residential R-6	61A/ FMP
24.7.1	North Rd.	16	16	Cornelius Flynn	Residential R-6	61A/ FMP
24.8.0	North Rd.	26.8	26.8	Cornelius Flynn	Residential R-6	61A/ FMP
24.9.0	North Rd.	5	5	Cornelius Flynn	Residential R-6	61 A/ FMP
9.42.0	108 Rock A Dundee Rd.	13.7	11.1	Raymond Legary	Residential R-6	61A
14.20.4	148 Scantic Rd.	11.22	9	Robert & Sharon Ober	Residential R-6	61 A
9.45.0	278 Scantic Rd.	64.88	62.88	Peter & Karen Debney	Residential R-6	61 A
9.46.0	252 Scantic Rd.	40.1	38.1	Sammy & Martha Anderson	Residential R-6	61 A

PARCEL ID	LOCATION	LOT SIZE (ACRES)	AREA CLASSIFIED (ACRES)	OWNER	ZONING	CHAPTER
9.47.0	263 Scantic Rd.	24.4	22.9	Robin Warner	Residential R-6	61A
2.3.0	Somers Rd. (Rear)	65.42	65.42	Richard & Susan Jonelis	Residential R-4/ R-6/ Business	61A
2.19.1	251 Somers Rd.	8.21	5.71	Brian & Sheila Murphy	Residential R-4	61A
7.166.0	137 Somers Rd.	108.74	107.74	Joan Kibbe	Residential R-4/ R-6	61A/ FMP
7.167.0	229 Somers Rd.	266.22	233.9	James & Dorothy Kibbe	Residential R-4/ R-6	61A
8.17.0	South Rd.	2	2	Joan Kibbe	Residential R-6	61A
8.21.0	249 South Rd.	13.28	12.28	Norman Turnberg	Residential R-6	61A
37.5.0	South Rd.	8.5	8.5	James Burns & Cheryl Sutton	Residential R-6	61 A
17.116.0	Wilbraham Rd.	12.25	12.25	The Farm at Greathorse, LLC	Residential R-4/ R-6	61A/ FMP
17.119.0	Wilbraham Rd.	4.5	4.5	The Farm at Greathorse, LLC	Residential R-4/ R-6	61A/ FMP
17.120.0	Wilbraham Rd.	236.48	232.48	The Farm at Greathorse, LLC	Residential R-4/ R-6	61A/ FMP
17.104.1	Raymond Dr.	0.23	0.23	The Farm at Greathorse, LLC	Residential R-4	61A/ FMP

Source: Hampden Assessor's Office

TABLE 3: HAMPDEN CHAPTER 61B RECREATION AND NATURAL LANDS

PARCEL ID	LOCATION	LOT SIZE (ACRES)	AREA CLASSIFIED (ACRES)	OWNER	ZONING	CHAPTER
32.12.0	239 Ames Rd.	12.89	10	Jason & Kayla Barroso	Residential R-6	61 B
32.12.1	Ames Rd.	12.89	10	Jason & Kayla Barroso	Residential R-6	61 B
32.17.0	276 Ames Rd.	8.75	5	Tammie Chaffee	Residential R-6	61 B
19.78.1	74 Bennett Rd.	7	5.34	Michael & Joanne Marion	Residential R-6	61 B
19.82.1	Bennett Rd.	1.01	1.01	Michael & Joanne Marion	Residential R-6	61 B
24.55.0	179 Bennett Rd.	7.1	6.1	Michael Weisse	Residential R-6	61 B
25.32.4	338 Bennett Rd.	9.17	8.17	Clinton & Kristen Stonacek	Residential R-6	61 B
25.48.0	182 Bennett Rd.	13.5	12	Patricia D'Amours	Residential R-6	61 B
28.28.0	39 Burleigh Rd.	8.51	7.51	Stewart & Toi Graham	Residential R-6	61 B
14.17.0	199 Chapin Rd.	6.12	5.12	Jacqueline Ann Fournier & Leon King	Residential R-6	61 B
9.39.0	357 Chapin Rd.	10.9	9.9	Sue Bower	Residential R-6	61 B
9.40.0	377 Chapin Rd.	10.1	9.1	Sue Bower	Residential R-6	61 B
4.4.0	380 Chapin Rd.	64.46	63.46	Lori Beth Sterling	Residential R-6	61 B
29.16.5	Glendale Rd.	53.58	53.08	Edward Kennedy	Residential R-6	61 B
32.1.0	563 Glendale Rd.	4.31	2.31	Joyce Zeroogian	Residential R-6	61 B

PARCEL ID	LOCATION	LOT SIZE (ACRES)	AREA CLASSIFIED (ACRES)	OWNER	ZONING	CHAPTER
32.1.1	567 Glendale Rd.	3.6	3.6	Joyce Zeroogian	Residential R-6	61 B
20.7.0	Highland Circle	59.89	58.89	William & Linda Bond	Residential R-6	61 B
28.37.0	44 Hollow Rd.	21.03	19.65	David Proulx, Sr.	Residential R-6	61 B
36.49.0	Main St.	18.36	18.36	Harold Green	Residential R-6	61 B
18.1.2	Mountain Rd.	23.45	23.45	Russel & Laura Morton	Residential R-4/ R-6	61 B
18.4.1	Moutain Rd.	31.8	31.8	Lyman Wood	Residential R-6	61 B
23.18.0	95 Mountain Rd.	13.9	12.9	Lyman Wood	Residential R-6	61 B
23.49.0	298 North Rd.	79.5	16	Arthur & Elaine Beaumier	Residential R-6	61 B
3.24.1	South Rd.	9.82	9.82	Kevin Barbeau	Residential R-6	61 B
3.20.0	355 South Rd.	19.65	7.17	Joseph & Wendy Bonavita	Residential R-6	61 B
14.23.0	104 Scantic Rd.	7.55	6.55	James & Jeanne Moriarty	Residential R-6	61 B
14.22.0	116 Scantic Rd.	7.95	6.5	George Bouchard	Residential R-6	61 B
9.46.3	224 Scantic Rd.	11.64	10.64	Cheri Kevane & Jacob Strange	Residential R-6	61 B
2.19.0	259 Somers Rd.	20.66	19.16	Gail Banning	Residential R-4/ R-6	61 B
2.20.0	283 Somers Rd.	57	55	Craig Morel	Residential R-4/ R-6	61 B
13.3.0	120 South Rd.	38	36	Demetra Busky	Residential R-6	61 B

PARCEL ID	LOCATION	LOT SIZE (ACRES)	AREA CLASSIFIED (ACRES)	OWNER	ZONING	CHAPTER
8.19.0	179 South Rd.	21.31	19.96	Sherry Himmelstein & Kenneth Bernstein	Residential R-6	61 B
3.23.4	391 South Rd.	8.29	6.29	Sheryl Kosakowski & Edward Muska	Residential R-6	61 B
8.20.1	South Rd.	106.11	106.11	Sherry Himmelstein & Kenneth Bernstein	Residential R-6	61 B
8.20.2	South Rd.	3.17	3.17	Sherry Himmelstein & Kenneth Bernstein	Residential R-6	61 B
3.23.0	South Rd.	15.01	15.01	Russel & Ryan Morton	Residential R-6	61 B
8.2.4	South Rd.	5.05	5.05	Russel & Ryan Morton	Residential R-6	61 B
3.24.0	South Rd.	168.57	168.57	Russel, Laura & Ryan Morton	Residential R-6	61 B
15.23.1	South Monson Rd.	27.55	27.55	Ralph & Tina Dellulo	Residential R-6	61 B
3.19.8	South Ridge Rd.	11.89	11.89	Russel & Laura Morton	Residential R-6	61 B
3.19.14	South Ridge Rd.	13.88	13.88	Russel & Laura Morton	Residential R-6	61 B
22.47.0	45 Valley View Dr.	15.58	14.58	Kent Tarrant	Residential R-6	61 B

Source:

Hampden

Assessor's

Office

APPENDIX G: PRIVATELY-HELD LANDS WITH CONSERVATION, RECREATION, AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION RESTRICTIONS

TABLE 4: HAMPDEN CONSERVATION AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION RESTRICTIONS - PRIVATELY HELD PROPERTIES

SITE NAME	PARCEL ID	OWNER	ADDRESS	LOT SIZE (ACRES)	PRIMARY PURPOSE	PUBLIC ACCESS	LEVEL OF PROTECTION
Neil Robert Kibbe Farm	08-021-002	Martin, James P and Rachel A	245 South Rd	70 acres	Open Space	Limited	In perpetuity
Neil Robert Kibbe Farm	08-021-004	Martin, Paul C.	South Rd		Open Space	Limited	In perpetuity
Neil Robert Kibbe Farm Conservation area	08-021-000	Turnburg, Norman E.	249 South Rd	Abt. 10	Open Space	N	In perpetuity
Neil Robert Kibbe CR	03-019-000	Morton, Russell and Laura J	South Ridge Rd	App 6.5	Open Space	Limited	In perpetuity and 61B
Dickinson Farm Woods CR	04-004-000	Sterling, Lori Beth	380 Chapin Rd	47.9	Open Space	Limited	In perpetuity
Himmelstein CR	08-019-000	Himmelstein Sherry B and Bernstein Kenneth S	179 South Rd	21.31	Conservation	N	In perpetuity
Ballou Farm CR	08-020-000	Himmelstein Sherry And Kenneth	211 South Rd	137	Conservation	N	In perpetuity
Tall Pines CR	21-068-009	Southwood of Hampden Senior Condominium	1 Southwood Cr	17.6	Conservation	Y	In perpetuity

		Trust					
Tall Pines CR	21-040-001 and 21-067-000	Tall Pines of Hampden Senior Condominium Trust	Stony Hill Rd	31.06	Conservation	Y	In perpetuity
Allen Street CR*	16-040-000	New England Power Company	245 Allen St / 239 Allen St	96.3	Conservation	N	In perpetuity
Hollow Brook Farm APR	13-023-000	Ferriter, Thomas F, Jr.	87 South Road	40	1010 Agriculture	N	In perpetuity
Hampden Country Club	17-145-000	Hampden Country Club, LLC , doing business as Great Horse	128 Wilbraham Rd	231.89	Recreation	N	None – Golf Course Overlay District
Mass Audubon Society	18-016-000	(was Kathleen Flynn)	North Road-Rear	13.2	7180 Conserv	Lim	In Perpetuity
Mass Audubon Society	29-020	Glendale Road	789 Main Street	5,41	9500 Conserv	Lim	In Perpetuity
Mass Audubon Society	29-002-1	Glendale Road	208 South Great Rd	76.69	9500 Conserv	Lim	In Perpetuity
Mass Audubon Society	14-032	Scantic Road	208 South Great Rd	14.2	9500 Conserv	Lim	In Perpetuity
Mass Audubon Society	18-019	Main Street	208 South Great Rd	14.2	9500 Conserv	Lim	In Perpetuity
Mass Audubon Society	19-005	Glendale Raod	208 South Great Rd	34.8	9500 Conserv	Lim	In Perpetuity

Mass Audubon Society	19-002	Main Street	208 South Great Rd	31.4	9500 Conserv	Lim	In Perpetuity
Mass Audubon Society	18-012	North Road Rear	789 Main Street	175.6	9500 Conserv	Lim	In Perpetuity

Source: Hampden Assessor's Office, MA DCR

* Partial lot. Subject to Conservation and Management Permit 013-208.DFW.

APPENDIX H: HAMPDEN'S TOWN-OWNED LANDS – INCLUDING CONSERVATION AND RECREATION PROPERTIES

Table 5: Land Owned by the Town of Hampden – Conservation and Recreation Properties are **Shaded Dark** – Properties of Interest are **Shaded Light**

Parcel ID	Location	Lot Size	Owner/ Mgmt	Description	Zoning	Current Use	Condition	Recreation Potential	Public Access	Type of Grant Used	Degree of Protection		
17.47.0	100 Allen St.	14.55	Town of Hampden	Hampden Police Station	Residential R-4/ R-6								
17.47.0	104 Allen St.	14.55	Town of Hampden	Hampden Senior Center	Residential R-4/ R-6								
21.105.0	Baldwin Dr.	0.69	Town of Hampden	vacant land	Residential R-4/ R-6								
21.107.0	Baldwin Dr.	1.15	Town of Hampden	vacant land	Residential R-4/ R-6								
7.95.0	Bayberry Rd.	7.1	Town of Hampden	vacant land – Adj. Mill Pond	Residential R-4	vacant	overgrown	Access to Mill Pond	Lim	NA	None		
37.54.0	Chapin St.	5.35	Town of Hampden	Town of Hampden - The Old Cemetery	Residential R-6								
12.145.9	Country Club Dr.	35.07	Town of Hampden	Town of Hampden - Goat Rock Conservation Area	Residential R-6	Open Space / Pasv Rec	Good - Mon Reprt 8-2016	Excellent	Yes	Conserv Part, CPA ,Trust	CR - In perpetuity		
19.85.0	Cross Rd.	25.8	Town of Hampden	Town of Hampden - Former Town Dump	Residential R-6								
19.86.0	Cross Rd.	13.19	Town of Hampden	Town of Hampden - Former Town Dump	Residential R-6								
19.87.0	Cross Rd.	6.89	Town of Hampden	Town of Hampden - Former Town Dump	Residential R-6								
7.57A.1	Erica Cr.	0.43	Town of Hampden	vacant land – tiny - by power line	Residential R-4/ R-6								
6.28.9	Grist Mill Ln.	1.63	Town of Hampden	vacant land – mostly marsh	Residential R-4								
12.152.0	Main St.	0.34	Town of	vacant land – Scantic	Residential R-4			Access to					

Parcel ID	Location	Lot Size	Owner/ Mgmt	Description	Zoning	Current Use	Condition	Recreation Potential	Public Access	Type of Grant Used	Degree of Protection		
			Hampden	Adjacent VFW		vacant	overgrown	Scantic	No	NA	None		
34.1.0	Main St.	42	Town of Hampden	Town of Hampden - Hampden Memorial Park	Residential R-4/ R-6/ Business	Recreation	Excellent	Sports, Picnic	Yes	NA	Designated Rec		
35.17.0	Main St.	1	Town of Hampden	Town of Hampden - Town Hall & Library	Residential R-4								
35.19.0	Main St.	0.82	Town of Hampden	vacant land – behind Fire Station	Residential R-4/ Business								
36.6.0	Main St.	0.29	Town of Hampden	vacant land – tiny - driveway	Residential R-6								
36.30.0	Main St.	12.11	Town of Hampden	Minnechaug Mountain – Town Forest	Residential R-6	Open Space / Rec	Forested	Good	Yes	NA	In Perpetuity		
36.33.0	Main St.	1.5	Town of Hampden	vacant land – Adj Scantic and Minn Mtn	Residential R-6/ Business	Vacant	Forested	Access to Main Street	Lim	NA	Not Protected		
35.12.0	589 Main St.	1	Town of Hampden	Hampden DPW garage	Residential R-4/ Business								
37.17.0	616 Main St.	0.23	Town of Hampden	Hampden Historical Society Museum	Residential R-4								
37.35.0	Main St./ Chapin St.	0.41	Town of Hampden	Town Common (Town Green)	Residential R-4/ R-6								
6.4.0	Mill Rd.	2.57	Town of Hampden	vacant land – Adj Scantic	Residential R-4/ R-6	vacant	Over-grown	Access to Scantic	No	NA	None		
7.116.0	Mill Rd.	1.16	Town of Hampden	vacant land – Mill Pond	Residential R-4	Open Space / Firefighting	Moderate	Skating / birding	Yes	NA	None		
7.117.0	Mill Rd.	1.46	Town of Hampden	vacant land – Mill Pond	Residential R-4	Open Space / Firefighting	Moderate	Skating / birding	Yes	NA	None		
7.154.0	Mill Rd.	17.41	Town of Hampden	Conservation land – Adj Elder Housing/Mill Pond	Residential R-4	Retention and Filter	Untended	Lim – access to Mill St	Lim - Wetld	NA	Not Protected?		
18.1.3	Mountain Rd.	21.85	Town of Hampden	West Brook Conservation Area	Residential R-4/ R-6	Open Space / Passive Rec	Good -Mon Report 8 - '16	Excellent	Yes	CPA, LAND, Trust	CR - In Perpetuity		
18.18.0	North Rd.	19.29	Town of	vacant land – Comnty	Residential R-4/	Garden /							

Parcel ID	Location	Lot Size	Owner/ Mgmt	Description	Zoning	Current Use	Condition	Recreation Potential	Public Access	Type of Grant Used	Degree of Protection		
			Hampden	Grden / adj Green Meadows Elem School	R-6	Pub Well / School Grounds	Part Mown	Moderate	Lim by school hrs	CPA for Gdn water	Not Protected		
35.18.0	North Rd.	1	Town of Hampden	Hampden Fire Station	Residential R-4								
35.28.0	38 North Rd.	16.4	Town of Hampden	Green Meadows Elementary School	Residential R-6	School Grounds	Excellent	Good	Lim by School Hrs	NA	Not Protected		
12.193.0	Old Coach Rd.	166	Town of Hampden	Minnechaug Mountain	Residential R-6 (Restricted)	Open Spc / Rec/ Conserv			Yes	SelfHlp - LAND/ CPA/Trus /Foundat	CR - In Perpetuity		
24.15.2	Ridge Rd.	9.54	Town of Hampden	vacant land - wetlands	Residential R-6								
22.173.0	Rose Cr.	0.71	Town of Hampden	vacant land - small	Residential R-4								
14.20.6	Scantic Rd.	4.86	Town of Hampden	vacant land – marsh by pipeline	Residential R-6								
14.30.0	Scantic Rd.	6.85	Town of Hampden	Prospect Hill Cemetery & St. Mary's Cemetery	Residential R-6								
21.131.0	100 Sessions/ Crestwood	5.1	Town of Hampden	vacant (back land) marsh	Residential R-4/ R-6								
22.176.0	Sessions Dr.	1.34	Town of Hampden	vacant land - marsh	Residential R-6								
21.132.0	Sessions Dr.	0.64	Town of Hampden	vacant land - marsh	Residential R-6								
2.33.0	Somers Rd.	8	Town of Hampden	vacant land – on Ct border	Residential R-6								
13.6.0	South Rd.	93.29	Town of Hampden	Minnechaug Mountain – Center section	Residential R-6	Rec / Open Space	Good - See Mon Report – 8-2016	Good	Yes	Conserv Fund, Trust, Foundats	Purchased for Conserv		
19.63.0	South Monson Rd.	9	Town of Hampden	vacant land – Adj Town dump	Residential R-6								

Parcel ID	Location	Lot Size	Owner/ Mgmnt	Description	Zoning	Current Use	Condition	Recreation Potential	Public Access	Type of Grant Used	Degree of Protection		
10.32.0	Stafford Rd.	0.14	Town of Hampden	vacant land- Monson Border - slim	Residential R-6								
17.126.0	Wilbraham Rd.	34	Town of Hampden	vacant land – 700 ft frm West Brook, by GH	Residential R-4	Vacant	Forested	Steep	No	NA	Not Protected		
17.48.0	85 Wilbraham Rd.	23	Town of Hampden / School Committee	Thornton Burgess Middle School	Residential R-4/ R-6	School Grounds	Maintained	Excellent	Lim by School Hrs	NA	Not Protected		
none	Main Street	0.125	Town of Hampden	Gerrish Park	none	Park	Maintained	Minor	Yes	NA	Not Protected		
28.018.0	North Rd	39	Town of Hampden <i>In Process</i> – Prev. Bardy	Mt. Vision	R6	Vacant	See Baseline Rpt 2017	Excellent	Yes	CPA/ Owner Bargain Sale	To Be Protected CR In Perp		
27.003.0	240 Springfield Rd.	82.6	<i>Town of Wilbraham/</i> Wilbraham Conserv Comm	Oakland Street Conservation Area	NA	Recreation and Open Space	Good – Selectively Cut	Excellent	Yes	Special Legisl.	In Perpetuity		

Source: Hampden Assessor's Office

APPENDIX I: ADA SELF-EVALUATION AND INVENTORY OF JURISDICTIONAL PROPERTIES AND PROGRAMS

Part I. Administrative Responsibilities

1) Designation of 504 Coordinator

A Hampden Administrative Assistant, who had been serving informally in this position for several years, was appointed as the Town of Hampden's Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Coordinator (in accord with 43 CFR 17.206 (a) in February, 2018, by the Board of Selectmen. At the time of resubmission, the town is conducting a search, as our last coordinator has relinquished the post. A signed letter of explanation and intent to appoint a coordinator as soon as practicable is included in Appendix I. *Please see letter of explanation at end of this Appendix.*

2) Grievance Procedures

A grievance procedure - *Town of Hampden, Equal Access to Facilities and Activities, April 2018* document for public distribution - was approved April 2, 2018 by the Select Board; *a copy is attached at the end of this Appendix.*

Comprehensive Nature of the Grievance Procedure - This grievance procedure is all inclusive. It is universal in its reach and is intended for all departments and all programs of the town. It governs the activities of the Recreation and Conservation Commissions and is intended to govern any situation that may arise and ultimately result in a grievance. The protocol language can be used in any department, including all those that relate to Open Space and Recreation.

3) Public Notification Requirements

Public notice is routinely given to employees and the general public that the town does not discriminate on the basis of disability. The Annual Town Report publishes a notice that the publication is available in alternate formats (large print, audio). Each employment job posting and media advertisement is tagged with the following statement: **"The Town of Hampden is an Affirmative Action Equal Employment Opportunity Employer. All qualified applicants are encouraged to apply."**

Town House staff will read aloud, or record on audiotape, any employment advertisement on request, or take any other reasonable action to accommodate people with disabilities. Printing notices in large type or reformatting to simple language can be accommodated upon request.

Part II: Program and Properties Accessibility: Inventory

A **Blank ADA Survey Template** follows the Summary

Hampden-owned Properties under the Jurisdiction of The Hampden Conservation Commission and/or Department of Parks and Recreation:

Memorial Park

Protection: Recreation, In Perpetuity

Parcel ID:	Address:	Acres:	Owner: Town of	
34.1.0	Main St.	42	Hampden	Town of Hampden - Hampden Memorial Park

Summary: The focus on **Goal 1 of the 2009 OSRP**, to update Memorial Park, has resulted in highly-improved accessibility in that park. Redesigned paths, pavilions, and special swings have been installed, and the Spray Park and play-scape are accessible. *The goal has been designated as complete.*

42 acres on Main Street, include, baseball fields, trails, and benches for picnicking. A creek for fishing runs through the property. There are approximately 20-25 unmarked paved parking spaces, with one specifically marked, including adequate exit space, for accessibility. There are curb cuts and other accommodations for ADA access to the pavilions, playscape and spray park with reasonable paths of travel. The restroom doors, floor surfaces, and fixtures meet requirements.

Over the last few years, the sandy-bottomed swimming pool was replaced with an accessible Spray Park in 2006 and 2007. A new pavilion with accessible tables was installed for use in summer programs and the playscape was replaced in 2014. In 2015, the Town installed an ADA-compliant playscape, and guardrails on the access road to the park. In 2016, further improvements including special accessible pathways and swings were made at the park to make the equipment accessible and ADA-compliant. The baseball fields have no special accommodations, but the lower field can be accessed over flat grass areas without gates. The park also serves as the access point and parking for the Goat Rock and West Brook Conservation Areas. The parking and access road are unplowed in winter, with a locked gate and purposefully-narrowed access around that gate (to limit ATV entrance), essentially denying winter access to mobility-impaired persons for that season. There is a Summer Program for children run at this park for several weeks of the Summer season, during which there is very limited access for all other residents.

Gerrish Park**Protection: None**

none Main Street 0.125 Town of Hampden Gerrish Park

Summary: Gerrish Park is an eighth of an acre wayside park, right off Main Street. It has two picnic tables that are accessible, meeting all dimension requirements, and moveable. There are no grills or other facilities, entrances or gates. There is no paving between the two van-sized parking areas and the tables, only hard-packed grass; however, the area is flat and could be accessed by wheelchair.

Minnechaug Mountain**Protection: Conservation, In Perpetuity**

36.030.0	Main St.	12.11	Town of Hampden	Minnechaug Mountain – Town Forest
12.193.0	Old Coach Rd.	166	Town of Hampden	Minnechaug Mountain
13.6.0	South Rd.	93.29	Town of Hampden	Minnechaug Mountain

Summary: 273 acres on the northeast slope of Minnechaug Mountain are town-owned conservation land located south of the Scantic River, with access and a parking lot on South Road. The parking lot has spaces reserved for the disabled, with hard-packed gravel, but no other facilities than an informational kiosk. The parking is located within a wet meadow, prohibiting further development. The Algonquin Trail is an interstate hiking trail system, made and maintained by the Boy Scouts, that crosses through this parcel. The acquisition of this parcel by the Town has increased recreational opportunities in the Town, including hiking, mountain biking, and horseback riding on trails and passive recreation like birdwatching and geocaching, but it is essentially an inaccessible mountainous area. There is a secondary access most of the year from Main Street through property owned by the VFW. The access there is quite steep, though it was recently stabilized while the VFW was improving its own wide bridge across the Scantic and a VFW pavilion. The small Town Forest parcel of this land abuts the Scantic with a slope of 8-25%, so might be explored as a point for better accessibility to at least a small portion of the land.

Goat Rock Conservation Area**Protection: Conservation, In Perpetuity**

Parcel ID:	Address:	Acres	Description:
12.145.9	Country Club Dr.	35.07	Town of Hampden – Goat Rock Conservation Area
		Owner:	
		Town of Hampden	

Summary: Goat Rock Conservation Area’s 36 acres are primarily steep, providing access to a ridgeline walking trail and the historic Goat Rock outlook as well as a higher overlook point. Sustainable trails have been designed to replace some sections of the traditional, but highly eroded, paths. Trail work has been done by many community members, including volunteers from high school groups, the Wilbraham Hiking Club and Minnechaug Land Trust. The viewpoints are regularly cleared by hand work, and the trails have been re-marked regularly. The most accessible trail was added after establishment of the Area, and travels by courtesy through a small section of land owned by Hampden Country Club, now operating as Great Horse. It is possible to access the lower part of this trail by three-wheeled vehicle, but it is not maintained for that purpose, and motorized travel is prohibited for conservation and safety reasons.

West Brook Conservation Area**Protection: Conservation, In Perpetuity**

18.1.3 Mountain Rd. 21.85 Town of Hampden West Brook Conservation Area

Summary: The West Brook Conservation Area is 21.85 acres abutting Memorial Park and bordering on a more northern section of the pristine West Brook. Trails for this property begin at the park and access to Goat Rock, and though not as steep as the Goat Rock Land, West Brook’s trails are quite uneven and filled with roots and rocks. An attempt to purchase the more accessible eastern section of the parcel fell through, though the owner graciously allows access to make a relatively easy hike circuit that re-enters Memorial Park at the upper ballfield area. The adjacent privately-owned parcel has a large peat bog and forested marsh, as well as ATV and logging-road damage and a swampy entrance area from North Road.

Property: Mill Road and Mill Pond Protection: One parcel designated Conservation Land, In Perpetuity

7.116.0	Mill Rd.	1.16	Town of Hampden	vacant land – Mill Pond
7.117.0	Mill Rd.	1.46	Town of Hampden	vacant land – Mill Pond
7.154.0	Mill Rd.	17.41	Town of Hampden	Conservation land – Adj Elder Housing/Mill Pond
7.95.0	Bayberry Rd.	7.1	Town of Hampden	vacant land – Adj. Mill Pond

Summary: Mill Pond is several parcels totaling 27.13 acres on Mill Road, it is primarily wetlands with some open water that may be suitable for skating in the winter and wildlife observation. There is a streetside access point for Fire Trucks to obtain water quickly. Mill Pond has only street parking and stone benches with minimal mowing. The area has no special accommodation for wheelchairs and no curb cuts. One of this group of parcels is partially adjacent to elder housing, vacant, with very little slope, but mostly quite wet.

Other Services:

Conservation Commission: The Conservation Commission in Hampden is an appointed board of approximately six volunteer residents who promote stewardship of local conservation lands and implement the Wetlands Protection Act Regulations, Riverfront Act, and Hampden Wetlands By-Laws. Individualized services for those needing assistance in applying for permits are provided, as much as possible, by the volunteers. Such services have ranged from producing maps from the town GIS system, to step-by-step guidance in completing the application (either in person or by email). The regular Commission meeting room is not easily accessible, but the meeting can be moved quickly, as needed, to a nearby accessible space in the same building, via request to the limited-hour Commission clerk or through any of the town offices. The Commission runs no programs through any properties.

Sample ADA Evaluation Form

Property _____

Location: _____

Acres: _____

Owner: _____

Protection: _____

Summary:

Transition Plan:

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Responsible Parties: Selectboard____ADA Coordinator____, Recreation Dept.____, DPW ____, Conservation Commission_____

Name of Facility:

Location:

ACTIVITY	EQUIPMENT	NOTES: Yes / No X
Picnic Facilities	Tables & Benches	
	Grills	
	Trash Cans	
	Picnic Shelters	
Trails		
Swimming Facilities	Pools	
	Beaches	
Play Areas (tot lots)	All Play equipment i.e. swings, slides	
	Access Routes	
Game Areas: • Soccer	Access Routes	
	Equipment	
Boat Docks	Access Routes	
Fishing Facilities	Access Routes	
	Equipment	
Restrooms	Access Routes	
Water Fountain	Access Routes	
Parking		
Programming	Are special programs at your facilities accessible?	
Services and Technical Assistance	Information available in alternative formats i.e. for visually impaired	
	Process to request interpretive services (i.e. sign language interpreter) for meetings	

PARKING	
Total Spaces	Required Accessible Spaces
Up to 25	1 space
26-50	2 spaces
51-75	3 spaces
76-100	4 spaces
101-150	5 spaces
151-200	6 spaces
201-300	7 spaces
301-400	8 spaces
401-500	9 spaces

PARKING			
<i>Specification for Accessible Spaces</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Comments/Transition Notes</i>
Accessible space located closest to accessible entrance			Not to code.
Where spaces cannot be located within 200 ft of accessible entrance, drop-off area is provided within 100 ft.			
Minimum width of 13 ft includes 8 ft space plus 5 ft access aisle			
Van space – minimum of 1 van space for every accessible space, 8 ft wide plus 8 ft aisle. Alternative is to make all accessible spaces 11 ft wide with 5 ft aisle.			
Sign with international symbol of accessibility at each space or pair of spaces			
Sign minimum 5 ft, maximum 8 ft to top of sign			
Surface evenly paved or hard-packed (no cracks)			
Surface slope less than 1:20, 5%			
Curbcut to pathway from parking lot at each space or pair of spaces, if sidewalk (curb) is present			
Curbcut is a minimum width of 3 ft, excluding sloped sides, has sloped sides, all slopes not to exceed 1:12, and textured or painted yellow			
RAMPS			
<i>Specification</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Comments/Transition Notes</i>
Slope Maximum 1:12			
Minimum width 4 ft between handrails			
Handrails on both sides if ramp is longer than 6 ft			
Handrails at 34" and 19" from ramp surface			
Handrails extend 12" beyond top and bottom			
Handgrip oval or round			
Handgrip smooth surface			
Handgrip diameter between 1¼" and 2"			
Clearance of 1½" between wall and wall rail			
Non-slip surface			
Level platforms (4ft x 4 ft) at every 30 ft, at top, at bottom, at change of direction			

Notes:

SITE ACCESS, PATH OF TRAVEL, ENTRANCES			
<i>Specification</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Comments/Transition Notes</i>
Site Access			
Accessible path of travel from passenger disembarking area and parking area to accessible entrance			
Disembarking area at accessible entrance			
Surface evenly paved or hard-packed			
No ponding of water			

Path of Travel – For Dock, piers and paths to these structures			
Path does not require the use of stairs			
Path is stable, firm and slip resistant			
3 ft wide minimum			
Slope maximum 1:20 (5%) and maximum cross pitch is 2% (1:50)			
Continuous common surface, no changes in level greater than ½ inch			
Any objects protruding onto the pathway must be detected by a person with a visual disability using a cane			
Objects protruding more than 4" from the wall must be within 27" of the ground, or higher than 80"			
Curb on the pathway must have curb cuts at drives, parking and drop-offs			
Entrances			
Primary public entrances accessible to person using wheelchair, must be signed, gotten to independently, and not be the service entrance			
Level space extending 5 ft. from the door, interior and exterior of entrance doors			
Minimum 32" clear width opening (i.e. 36" door with standard hinge)			
At least 18" clear floor area on latch, pull side of door			
Door handle no higher than 48" and operable with a closed fist			
Vestibule is 4 ft plus the width of the door swinging into the space			
Entrance(s) on a level that makes elevators accessible			

Notes:

Door mats less than ½" thick are securely fastened			
Door mats more than ½" thick are recessed			
Grates in path of travel have openings of ½" maximum			
Signs at non-accessible entrance(s) indicate direction to accessible entrance			
Emergency egress – alarms with flashing lights and audible signals, sufficiently lighted			

Notes:

STAIRS AND DOORS			
<i>Specification</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Comments/Transition Notes</i>
Stairs			
No open risers			Section Not Applicable
Nosings not projecting			
Treads no less than 11" wide			
Handrails on both sides			
Handrails 34"-38" above tread			
Handrail extends a minimum of 1 ft beyond top and bottom riser (if no safety hazard and space permits)			
Handgrip oval or round			
Handgrip has a smooth surface			
Handgrip diameter between 1¼" and 1½" 1½" clearance between wall and handrail			

Doors			
Minimum 32" clear opening			Section Not Applicable
At least 18" clear floor space on pull side of door			
Closing speed minimum 3 seconds to within 3" of the latch			
Maximum pressure 5 pounds interior doors			
Threshold maximum ½" high, beveled on both sides			
Hardware operable with a closed fist (no conventional door knobs or thumb latch devices)			
Hardware minimum 36", maximum 48" above the floor			
Clear, level floor space extends out 5 ft from both sides of the door			
Door adjacent to revolving door is accessible and unlocked			
Doors opening into hazardous area have hardware that is knurled or roughened			

Notes:

RESTROOMS – also see Doors and Vestibules			
<i>Specification</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Comments/Transition Notes</i>
5 ft turning space measured 12” from the floor			
<i>At least one Sink:</i>			
Clear floor space of 30” by 48” to allow a forward approach			
Mounted without pedestal or legs, height 34” to top of rim			
Extends at least 22” from the wall			
Open knee space a minimum 19” deep, 30” width, and 27” high			
Cover exposed pipes with insulation			
Faucets operable with closed fist (lever or spring activated handle)			
<i>At least one Stall:</i>			
Accessible to person using wheelchair at 60” wide by 72” deep			
Stall door is 36” wide			
Stall door swings out			
Stall door is self-closing			
Stall door has a pull latch			
Lock on stall door is operable with a closed fist, and 32” above the floor			
<i>Toilet</i>			
18” from center to nearest side wall			
42” minimum clear space from center to farthest wall or fixture			
Top of seat 17”-19” above the floor			

Grab Bars			
On back and side wall closest to toilet			
1¼" diameter			
1½" clearance to wall			
Located 30" above and parallel to the floor			
Acid-etched or roughened surface			
42" long			
Fixtures			
Toilet paper dispenser is 24" above floor			
One mirror set a maximum 38" to bottom (if tilted, 42")			
Dispensers (towel, soap, etc) at least one of each a maximum 42" above the floor			

Notes:

FLOORS, DRINKING FOUNTAINS			
<i>Specification</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Comments/Transition Notes</i>
Floors			
Non-slip surface			
Carpeting is high-density, low pile, non-absorbent, stretched taut, securely anchored			
Corridor width minimum is 3 ft			
Objects (signs, ceiling lights, fixtures) can only protrude 4" into the path of travel from a height of 27" to 80" above the floor			

Drinking Fountains			
Spouts no higher than 36" from floor to outlet			
Hand operated push button or level controls			
Spouts located near front with stream of water as parallel to front as possible			
If recessed, recess a minimum 30" width, and no deeper than depth of fountain			
If no clear knee space underneath, clear floor space 30" x 48" to allow parallel approach			
SIGNS, SIGNALS, AND SWITCHES			
<i>Specification</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Comments/Transition Notes</i>
Switches, controls, and signs			
Switches and controls for light, heat, ventilation, windows, fire alarms, thermostats, etc, must be a minimum of 36" and a maximum of 48" above the floor for a forward reach, a maximum of 54" for a side reach			
Electrical outlets centered no lower than 18" above the floor			
Warning signals must be visual as well as audible			
Signs			
Mounting height must be 60" to centerline of the sign			
Within 18" of door jamb or recessed			
Letters and numbers a t least 1¼" high			
Letters and numbers raised .03"			
Letters and numbers contrast with the background color			

Notes:

PICNICKING			
<i>Specification</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Comments/Transition Notes</i>
A minimum of 5% of the total tables must be accessible with clear space under the table top not less than 30" wide and 19" deep per seating space and not less than 27" clear from the ground to the underside of the table. An additional 29" clear space (totaling 48") must extend beyond the 19" clear space under the table to provide access			
For tables without toe clearance, the knee space under the table must be at least 28" high, 30" wide and 24" deep.			
Top of table no higher than 32" above ground			
Surface of the clear ground space under and around the table must be stable, firm and slip resistant, and evenly graded with a maximum slope of 2% in all directions			
Accessible tables, grills and fire rings must have clear ground space of at least 36" around the perimeter			

Notes:

Appendix I – ADA Self-Evaluation and Inventory -Continued

Part III: Employment Practices

The Town of Hampden fully complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act requirements for employment practices including recruitment, personnel actions, leave administration, training, tests, medical exams/questionnaires, social and recreational program, fringe benefits, collective bargaining agreements and wage and salary administration. *Please see signed statement attached to this Appendix.*

Attachments to Appendix I:

1. *Designation of ADA Coordinator*

TOWN OF HAMPDEN
MASSACHUSETTS

TOWN HOUSE
625 Main Street
Hampden MA 01036
selectmen@hampden.org



BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Tel. (413) 566-2151 x 100
Fax (413) 566-2010

TO: Open Space and Recreation Plan Project Coordinator
FROM: Pamela B Courtney, Administrative Assistant
DATE: June 20, 2018
RE: ADA Coordinator

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pamela B Courtney".

This is in response to your request for a designated ADA Coordinator for the Town of Hampden. At this time, we are conducting a search as our last coordinator has relinquished the post. We are in the process of searching for another candidate to handle this important aspect of our town government.

We ask that you allow the submittal of the Town's Open Space and Recreation Plan and permit us to submit the name of our new appointee when one is chosen.

Please contact me should you have any questions.

/pbc

2. *Grievance Procedures*

Town of Hampden, Equal Access to Facilities and Activities, April 2018 document for public distribution

**For the General Public – Town of Hampden
Equal Access to Facilities and Activities
April 2018**

Maximum opportunity will be made available to receive citizen comments, complaints, and/or to resolve grievances or inquiries.

The elected and appointed officials, Boards, and Commissions will be available to meet with citizens and employees by appointment during posted meeting times. The Administrative Assistant to the Board of Selectmen will also be available during normal business hours (Monday – Thursday 9:00 am to 3:30 pm) as a resource to help citizens navigate the meeting schedules and connect with appropriate officials.

When a complaint, grievance, request for policy interpretation or clarification is received either in writing or through a meeting or telephone call, every effort will be made to create a record regarding the name, address, and telephone number of the person making the complaint, grievance, program policy interpretation or clarification. If the person decides to remain anonymous, he or she may.

Step 1: Town Department, Board, or Commission

Within 24 hours of receipt of a grievance by any town employee or official, a copy of the complaint, grievance, request for policy interpretation or clarification and response will be forwarded to the appropriate town department, Board, or Commission (e.g. Council on Aging, Park and Recreation Department, Library, etc.).

The relevant department, Board, or Commission receiving the complaint, grievance, request for policy interpretation or clarification will respond to it within ten working days (if the person making the complaint is identified) in a format that is sensitive to the needs of the recipient (verbally, in written format, etc.).

If the grievance is not resolved at this level or a citizen is not satisfied with the response, then it will progress to the Board of Selectmen.

Step 2: Board of Selectmen

A written grievance must be submitted to the Board of Selectmen with five business days of notification of the decision or response in Step 1. Assistance in writing the grievance will be available to all individuals by the Board of Selectmen or their designee. All written grievances will be responded to within ten working days by the Board of Selectmen in a format that is sensitive to the needs of the recipient. The Board of Selectmen will have the final authority on the resolution of grievances.

Approved, Board of Selectmen: April 2, 2018

3. Statement of ADA Compliance

TOWN OF HAMPDEN
MASSACHUSETTS

TOWN HOUSE
625 Main Street
Hampden MA 01036
selectmen@hampden.org



BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Tel. (413) 566-2151 x 100
Fax (413) 566-2010

TO: Open Space and Recreation Plan Project Coordinator
FROM: Vincent J Villomano, Chairman, Board of Selectmen
DATE: June 20, 2018
RE: Americans with Disabilities Act

Vincent Villomano
for

The Town of Hampden fully complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act requirements for employment practices, including recruitment, personnel actions, leave administration, training, tests, medical exams/questionnaires, social and recreational program, fringe benefits, collective bargaining agreements and wage and salary administration.

Should you require anything further, please contact me.

/pbc

ATTACHMENTS – LETTERS OF SUPPORT

TOWN OF HAMPDEN MASSACHUSETTS

TOWN HOUSE
625 Main Street
Hampden MA 01036
selectmen@hampden.org



BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Tel. (413) 566-2151 x 100
Fax (413) 566-2010

November 27, 2017

Division of Conservation Services
Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA) EEA
100 Cambridge Street, Suite 900
Boston, MA 02114

RE: Open Space Recreation Plan

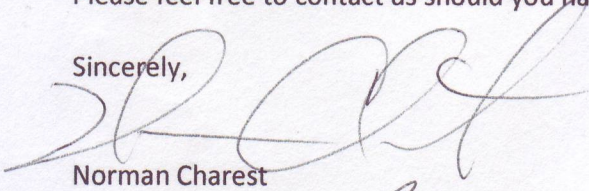
To Whom It May Concern:

The Board of Selectmen has reviewed the newly updated Open Space and Recreation Plan for 2017.

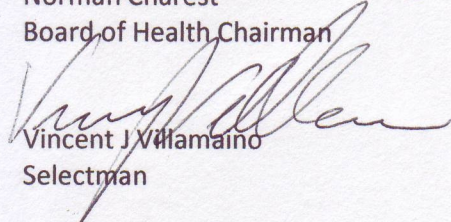
The board supports the tremendous contributions made by all of those who participated in updating this plan and wholeheartedly encourage your favorable review of this plan. We believe that the group did their due diligence in researching those concerns of our residents and have represented those concerns.

Please feel free to contact us should you have any questions. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Norman Charest
Board of Health Chairman



Vincent J. DiMamaino
Selectman

/pbc

**TOWN OF HAMPDEN
MASSACHUSETTS**

Town House
625 Main Street
Hampden, MA 01036

Fax: 413-566-3513
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Planning Board
625 Main Street
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Tel: (413) 566-2151 Ext. 109

John Matthews, Chair
Judge Robert Howarth
Phillip Schneider
Edward L. Loiko
Richard R. Green

Joanne Fiore, Adm. Assistant

December 18, 2017

Division of Conservation Services
Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs (EEA)
100 Cambridge Street, Suite 900
Boston, MA 02114

RE: Open Space Recreation Plan

Gentleman:

The Hampden Planning Board has reviewed the newly updated Open Space and Recreation Plan for 2017. The Board appreciates the efforts of those who participated in the update of this plan, however, we do not necessarily support the content in its entirety.

Sincerely,

John Matthews, Chair
Hampden Planning Board

cc: Conservation Commission ✓

Town of Hampden
Massachusetts

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625 Main Street
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Conservation Commission
625 Main Street
Hampden, MA 01036
413-566-2151 x 110

Division of Conservation Services
Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA) EEA www.mass.gov/envir
100 Cambridge Street, Suite 900 Boston, MA 02114

Re: The 2017 Hampden Open Space and Recreation Land Update

Members of the Town of Hampden Conservation Commission have reviewed the 2017 Hampden Open Space and Recreation Plan Update. We approve of the updates and the changes that were made. The Commission feels that the updated plan accurately reflects the current data as well as the status of the Open Space and Recreation land in our town.

Bonnie Geromini

November 29, 2017

Bonnie Geromini, Chairperson of the Hampden Conservation Commission