



# CITY OF CONCORD

*New Hampshire's Main Street™*

## REPORT TO THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

**FROM:** Beth Fenstermacher, Acting Assistant City Planner  
Concord Conservation Commission

**DATE:** October 27, 2016

**SUBJECT:** Resolution authorizing the appropriation of \$20,000 from the Conservation Reserve Fund for the completion of an update to the Conservation Open Space Plan, as approved by the Conservation Commission

### Recommendation

Set a public hearing for December 12, 2016, on a Resolution authorizing the appropriation of \$20,000 from the Conservation Trust Fund for the completion of an update to the Conservation Open Space Plan.

### Background and Discussion

In 2015, the Conservation Commission determined the need to update the 2008 Conservation Open Space Plan. The purpose of the new plan is to update conservation priorities, develop strategies and objectives for open space protection, and incorporate updated natural resource information to better inform decision making. The Commission voted to include \$30,000 in the FY2016 budget to hire a consultant using the Forestry Fund as the funding source. The City Council approved the budget as submitted.

Unfortunately, Staff was not able to move that project forward in the anticipated timeline and the project was not completed during FY2016. The available money allocated for the plan update was closed out at the end of FY2016 because the money was not spent. Funding to move the project forward was not included in the FY2017 budget request.

Initial Conservation Open Space plan expenditures this year have been funded from the Conservation Commission's consulting services budget. However, an additional \$20,000 is required for the consultant to complete the update. This request will be fully supported by the Forestry Fund within the Conservation Reserve which has an available balance of \$489,463.22. Based on the current project parameters, these dollars would allow the project to be completed this fiscal year within the original \$30,000 budget.

BAF