



CITY OF CONCORD

New Hampshire's Main Street™

REPORT TO THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Beth Fenstermacher, Assistant City Planner
DATE: October 19, 2020
SUBJECT: Conservation Easement Enforcement Guidelines

Recommendation

Accept this report.

Background

The Conservation Commission currently stewards forty-nine (49) Conservation Easements located on private properties throughout the City. Ensuring compliance with the terms of the conservation easements is the central requirement of the stewardship.

Five years ago, City Council approved the Commission's request to hire an intern through the Central NH Regional Planning Commission (CNHRPC) to monitor the easements on an annual basis. The intern prepares monitoring reports, which include maps and photographs, and identifies potential easement violations.

In order to ensure consistency and transparency in its stewardship of the easements, the Commission wanted to formalize the review and enforcement process through an establish set of guidelines. The guidelines were drafted by Commission members utilizing standards and practices set forth by the Land Trust Alliance.

Discussion

At their October 14, 2020, meeting, the Commission officially adopted the Conservation Easement Enforcement Guidelines. The Commission will utilize the guidelines when reviewing the easement monitoring reports, starting with those completed in 2020.