



CITY OF CONCORD

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REPORT TO THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Concord Conservation Commission Chair Kristine A. Tardiff
AnneMarie Skinner, AICP, City Planner

DATE: March 21, 2025

SUBJECT: Resolution authorizing the appropriation of \$48,000 from the Conservation Trust Fund for an update to the City of Concord Forest Inventory and Management Plan

Recommendation

Set the attached resolution appropriating the sum of \$48,000 from the Conservation Trust Fund to update the Forest Inventory and Management Plan for public hearing on May 12, 2025.

Background

The City's current Forest Inventory and Management Plan (the Plan) was completed in 2009. The Plan, which is prepared by the Conservation Commission with the assistance of the City's contracted forestry consultant, establishes policies and management plans for City-owned conservation properties which balance conservation goals, natural resource protection and stewardship, and passive recreational use strategies.

Discussion

The Conservation Commission desires to update the 2009 City of Concord Forest Inventory and Management Plan. The purpose of the update is to reflect management activities over the last 15 years, update the forest inventories, assess the impacts of recent invasive plant and insect infestations on the City forest ecosystem, help identify the effects of the increased number of trails and users of these trails on wildlife and timber production, consolidate all of the individual management plans from land acquisitions into a geographic information systems database, identify conservation priorities, develop strategies and objectives for open space protection versus harvesting, and incorporate updated natural resource information. On February 26, 2025, the Commission voted to recommend that the City Council appropriate the sum of \$48,000 from the Conservation Trust Fund to pay FORECO, LLC, (the City's contracted forester) to update the plan.

If approved, it is anticipated the updated plan will be completed within the next 12 months.