



CITY OF CONCORD

REPORT TO THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Beth Fenstermacher, Assistant City Planner, on behalf of the Conservation Commission

DATE: December 19, 2017

SUBJECT: Authorization to accept the donation of a 4 acre parcel of land, identified as Map 99, Block 2 Lot 10, assessed at \$3,300 for the purpose of conserving the land in perpetuity.

Recommendation

It is recommended that City Council approve the acceptance of a donation of land from Mr. Donald L. Horne, and authorize the City Manager to execute the deed for the property transaction.

Background

Mr. Horne approached the Conservation Commission offering to donate a land-locked, undeveloped parcel of land identified as Map 99, Block 2 Lot 10, located off Reserve Place, with the condition that the land be conserved in perpetuity. The parcel is 4-acres in size and became landlocked following the discontinuance of the Old Dimond Road, also known as Salt Marsh Road, and the construction of the residential development on Reserve Place and Timberline Drive.

The Horne property is in the vicinity of other conserved land and will add to the overall City system of open space and trails. There will be no added maintenance costs and there is potential value for the City from future timber sales.

In October 2017, the Conservation Commission conducted a publicly noticed site walk to observe existing site conditions. Commission members noted the quality of the forested land, and agreed that the land was worth protecting. In addition, members noted the proximity to the old Dimond Road recreation easement, which connects this parcel with other City-owned land and City-held easement areas. A title search was completed, and no issues were identified. The Commission held a public hearing on December 13, 2017. No public comments were received, and the Commission voted unanimously to recommend acceptance of the land for conservation purposes.

The assessed value of the property is \$3,300. The purpose of this donation is consistent with and presents no conflict or obstacle to the accomplishment of City Council goals, the Code of Ordinances, or the operating funds of the Planning Division and Conservation Commission.

Discussion

Upon the City Council's approval of this report, City staff will move forward with the execution of the Quitclaim Deed and transfer of the property. A letter of thanks on behalf of the City of Concord Conservation Commission will be sent to Mr. Horne.