Criteria for Discontinuance of a Trail

These criteria will be used to assist the Trails Subcommittee and Conservation Commission in determining whether a trail should be discontinued.

The following are criteria which might weigh in favor of discontinuing a trail:

- 1. Not heavily used by the public
- 2. Represents special maintenance problems: e.g., unhoused encampments, requires frequent mowing, wet areas requiring extensive infrastructure like bridges or boardwalks
- 3. Duplicates other trails in an area or is an extraneous trail in an existing system
- 4. Negatively impacts areas of special concern for habitat, plant life or wildlife such as: vernal pools, endangered species, nesting sites or deer yards
- 5. Problematic use

The following are criteria which might weigh against discontinuing a trail:

- 1. Trail is used by the public
- 2. Links conserved areas or trail networks
- 3. Provides access to natural areas for neighborhoods without such access
- 4. Provides access to special places: views, waterfront, natural features, historic features
- 5. Provides public access to City conservation land acquired with the intent for public use
- 6. Has strong community support to keep the trail open