

BURLINGTON

Open Space & Recreation Plan

This is what we heard during public meetings, an online survey, and interviews with Town Staff. **Did we get it right?**

Use an index card to provide comments.

RESOURCE PROTECTION NEEDS

HABITAT CORRIDORS & LINKAGES

- Creating habitat corridors between natural areas.
- Creating linkages between open space and recreational resources to improve connections for users.

PROTECTING NATURAL RESOURCES

- Reducing pollutants in runoff from roadways and development to improve water quality in streams and wetlands.
- Protecting groundwater sources for public drinking water.
- Determining which properties and town infrastructure are vulnerable to flooding and severe storm events.

COMMUNITY NEEDS

ACTIVE RECREATION

- Adding indoor recreation facilities, such as a swimming pool, youth center, and fitness area.
- Finding opportunities to increase walking and biking amenities to promote active lifestyles and make it safer to travel through town without a car.
- Increasing outdoor recreation facilities in neighborhoods that lack amenities within walking distance.
- Providing open fields/green space for unorganized recreation activities.

PASSIVE RECREATION

- Increasing conservation areas protected in perpetuity as opportunities to enjoy nature, but also maintain and improve environmental quality.
- Improving access to conservation areas, including signage and walking/biking amenities that link to these areas.
- Adding amenities to conservation areas, such as parking, trail markings, benches, and information kiosks.

ACCESSIBILITY NEEDS

- Continuing to make improvements to recreation and conservation areas that increase accessibility for those with disabilities.

COMMUNICATION NEEDS

- Improving the promotion and communication of conservation and recreation areas and programming.
- Using multiple approaches to reach residents, including social media.

MANAGEMENT NEEDS

MAINTENANCE NEEDS

- Improving the efficiency of maintenance management of the Parks and Recreation Department through new technology.
- Increasing capacity to maintain parks and conservation areas, including the use of partnerships with community groups.
- Managing invasive species in conservation areas.
- Developing baseline data of existing conservation areas to create land management plans.

POLICY NEEDS

- Establishing a reliable funding source for land acquisition, including the Community Preservation Act.

Review our **Action Plan** to meet these needs. Paper copies here or go online: www.surveymonkey.com/r/BurlingtonOSRPActionPlan.

