



*The Commonwealth of Massachusetts*  
*Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs*  
100 Cambridge Street, Suite 900  
Boston, MA 02114

Deval Patrick  
GOVERNOR

Timothy Murray  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

Richard K. Sullivan, Jr.  
SECRETARY

RECEIVED

JUL 11 2011

CONSERVATION  
COMMISSION

July 8, 2011

Tel: (617) 626-1000  
Fax: (617) 626-1181

Jane Sears Pierce  
Conservation Commission  
40 South Street  
Foxborough, MA 02035

Re: Open Space and Recreation Plan

Dear Ms. Pierce:

Thank you for submitting the draft Open Space and Recreation Plan for Foxborough to this office for review and compliance with the current Open Space and Recreation Plan Requirements. This plan was particularly thorough and has been conditionally approved through July 2018. Conditional approval will allow the town to participate in DCS grant rounds through July 2018, and a grant award may be offered to the town. However, no final grant payments will be made until the plan is completed.

Once the following items are addressed, your plan will receive final approval:

1. Population Characteristics – the town's industries should be included in this section.
2. Section 5 – this section is extremely well done! The only thing missing is a list of any Agricultural Preservation Restrictions in the town.
3. Analysis of Needs – the Community Needs should include information on the SCORP and how it pertains to Foxborough. It can be found online at <http://www.mass.gov/Eoeea/docs/eea/dcs/massoutdoor2006.pdf>.
4. Action Plan – each action should have a potential funding source included.
5. Letters of Review – letters from the Regional Planning Agency, Planning Board, and Chief Municipal Officer must be included.

Congratulations on a great draft plan! Please contact me at (617) 626-1171 or [melissa.cryan@state.ma.us](mailto:melissa.cryan@state.ma.us) if you have any questions or concerns, and I look forward to reviewing your final plan.

Sincerely,

Melissa Cryan  
Grants Manager



Smart Growth & Regional Collaboration

June 27, 2011

Jane Sears Pierce, Conservation Manager  
Foxborough Conservation Commission  
40 South Street  
Foxborough, MA 02035

RECEIVED  
JUN 28 2011  
CONSERVATION  
COMMISSION

Dear Ms. Pierce:

Thank you for submitting the Town of Foxborough Open Space and Recreation Plan 2011-2018 to the Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC) for review.

The Division of Conservation Services (DCS) requires that all open space plans must be submitted to the regional planning agency for review. This review is advisory and only DCS has the power to approve a municipal open space plan. While DCS reviews open space plans for compliance with their guidelines, MAPC reviews these plans for their attention to regional issues generally and more specifically for consistency with *MetroFuture*, the regional policy plan for the Boston metropolitan area.

The following are MAPC's comments on the Foxborough Open Space and Recreation Plan:

#### Consistency with *MetroFuture*

*MetroFuture* is the official regional plan for Greater Boston, adopted consistently with the requirements of Massachusetts General Law. The plan includes goals and objectives as well as 13 detailed implementation strategies for accomplishing these goals. We encourage all communities to become familiar with the plan by visiting the web site at <http://www.metrofuture.org/>.

We are pleased to see that the Foxborough plan refers to *MetroFuture* in several sections of the plan. The Foxborough plan includes many recommendations that will help to advance some of the goals and implementation strategies in *MetroFuture* that relate specifically to open space, recreation, and the environment. The following recommendations from the Action Plan show a high degree of integration of *MetroFuture* goals and strategies:

- Working toward passing the Community Preservation Act (CPA).
- Encourage preservation of farms and agricultural lands.

- Establish alliances with regional, state, and neighboring community open space organizations.
- Partner with regional public and private watershed agencies.

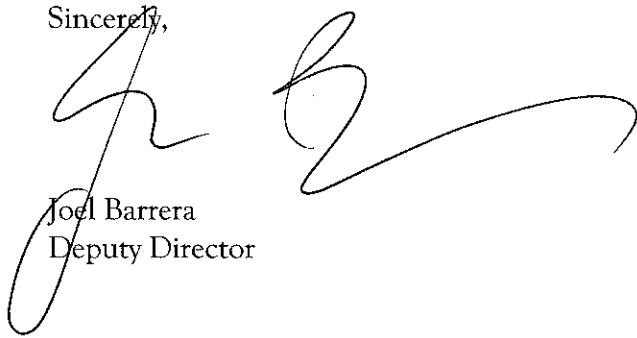
The Foxborough plan includes a very extensive discussion of regional resources including the Canoe River ACEC and the Hockomock Swamp ACEC.

Specifically in regard to CPA, you are undoubtedly aware that state matching funds for CPA communities have declined precipitously in recent years. We encourage you to support *An Act to Sustain Community Preservation (HB 765 / SB 1841)*, the CPA reform bill that has been filed in the Legislature by Senator Cynthia Creem (D-Newton) and Representative Stephen Kulik (D-Worthington). This legislation would slightly broaden the eligible uses of CPA funds (at local discretion), and ensure that matching funds will not fall below 75% of locally-raised revenues. Please contact your state legislators to let them know of Foxborough's support for this critical legislation.

Foxborough's proposed Open Space and Recreation Plan is very thorough and carefully considers the regional context for open space planning. It should serve the town well as it continues its efforts to preserve open space and provide for the recreational needs of its residents.

Thank you for the opportunity to review this plan.

Sincerely,



Joel Barrera  
Deputy Director

Cc: Melissa Cryan, Division of Conservation Services  
Mark Resnick, MAPC Representative, Town of Foxborough



**BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
TOWN OF FOXBOROUGH**

40 SOUTH STREET  
FOXBOROUGH, MASSACHUSETTS 02035

Lawrence J. Harrington, Chairman  
James J. DeVellis, Vice Chairman  
Mark S. Sullivan, Clerk  
Lorraine A. Brue  
Lynda A. Walsh

Kevin E. Paicos  
Town Manager  
Telephone 508-543-1200  
FAX 508-543-1235

To: Foxborough Conservation Commission  
From: Kevin Paicos, Town Manager  
Date: Sept. 26, 2011  
Re: Draft Open Space & Recreation Plan, 2011-2018

On behalf of the Board of Selectmen and myself I would like to offer our enthusiastic congratulations to both the Conservation Commission and to the Open Space and Recreation Plan Committee for their efforts in producing Foxborough's Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP). The Plan provides a great deal of valuable data that will be extremely useful to Town residents, boards and committees. In addition, it will be an excellent reference for the Planning Board as it begins to draft the Town's Master Plan.

The Open Space and Recreation Plan will be an effective tool for furthering Foxborough's efforts to protect its natural assets and retain its semi rural character. The Selectmen and I look forward to the creation of an Open Space and Recreation Plan Committee who will be responsible for implementing the Open Space and Recreation Plan's recommendations by developing strategies to protect, preserve and utilize the Town's natural resources.

As you know, good stewardship of Foxborough's remaining open space is an issue of great importance to its residents. We appreciate your efforts in that regard, and applaud your success in completing Foxborough's 2011-2018 Open Space and Recreation Plan.

Thank you!

Sincerely,  
Kevin Paicos, Town Manager



**TOWN OF FOXBOROUGH**  
**Planning Board**

40 South Street  
Foxborough, Massachusetts 02035

(508)543-1250  
(508)543-1235 Fax

August 16, 2011

Ms. Jane Sears Pierce  
Conservation Manager  
Town of Foxborough

Dear Jane,

On behalf of the Planning Board, I offer the following comments on the Town's new OSRP. I believe you have developed and written a comprehensive and thorough plan for the benefit of all the citizens of Foxborough. We agree that the Plan affirms the Town's desire to preserve and protect those things that makes the Town special for so many of us. The Planning Board, in particular, grapples with the developmental pressures and land use conflicts.

We believe that a few issues should be considered in the next update. As you note, region-wide considerations should be incorporated into long-term conservation planning to assure connectivity between protected areas in neighboring towns into the future. Located between Moose Hill Audubon and TTOR lands in Sharon, Borderlands State Park mostly in Easton, and the Walpole Town Forest-Water supply land in south Walpole, Foxborough is the linchpin to regional connections. This connectivity is compromised by the transportation corridors that bisect the Town, but documentation of existing wildlife corridors and patterns may be useful in creating connectors. We also note that the Bay Circuit Trail passes very close to the town and should probably be included in trail maps.

If we were forced to find any shortcomings, it would be that the Town's present and future recreation needs are not as fully examined as they might be. We also note that the Payson Road Recreation area not included in tables or maps.

We again thank you and the Commission for completing this herculean task on the Town's behalf.

Sincerely,

  
Sharon Wason, AICP  
Town Planner

## Boyden Library

10 Bird St., Foxborough, MA 02035

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June 30, 2011

Jane Sears Pierce, Conservation Manager  
Foxborough Conservation Commission  
40 South St.  
Foxborough, MA 02035

Dear Jane,

On behalf of the Boyden Library Board of Trustees, I would like to commend the Open Space and Recreation Plan Committee for its efforts in producing the updated Open Space and Recreation Plan, 2011-2018. The Plan provides a great deal of valuable data that will be extremely helpful to both town residents and to our various Boards and Committees as we address those issues and concerns so thoroughly covered in the Plan.

The Plan will be an effective tool for furthering Foxborough's efforts to protect its natural resources and retain its relatively rural character. In addition to its comprehensive environmental inventory and listing of both conservation and recreation interest parcels, the Plan also provides important demographic and economic information.

We at the Boyden Library, Foxborough's public library, are happy to make copies of the Plan available to our library patrons, and we feel it will be a valuable resource not only to our adult patrons, but to school-age children as well. The *Vernal Pools*, *Wildlife Migration Corridors* and *Rare Species* sections are likely to be of particular interest to students.

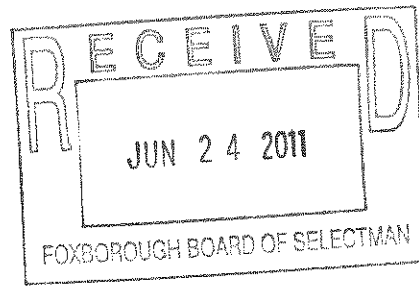
The Boyden Library Board of Trustees and Boyden Library staff stands ready to work cooperatively with the Open Space and Recreation Plan Committee in implementing the Plan's recommendations in the coming months and years.

We appreciate the Committee's efforts, and we applaud the work of your Committee in creating the Open Space and Recreation Plan, 2011-2018.

Sincerely,

Jerry M. Cirillo  
Library Director, for the Boyden Library Board of Trustees

Conservation Commission  
40 South St.  
Foxboro, MA 02035



Dear Conservation Commission,

I am writing this letter to comment on the Draft Open Space and Recreation Plan. Specifically I will be commenting on the recreation plan portion.

I would like to first mention that I am a lifelong resident and have sat on numerous committees such as the landfill, Canoe River Aquifer Advisory, Local Emergency Planning along with the Board of Health.

I sent a letter at the beginning of this process in regards to access to recreation property and a disability transition plan for the town of Foxboro. Since my accident seven years ago I am currently nonambulatory and in a wheelchair. I thought Foxboro was a proactive town but from the examples I gave in the previous letter sent to you in the ADA coordinator, I feel that it is a reactive town when it comes to disability rights. I gave examples outside the scope of this plan to lend myself credibility.

In section 7 the Recreation Plan states the "Town should purchase lands that have become available for sale." I believe the town's priority should be making the current recreation land accessible before purchasing other land. I realize that is in the action plan which I will comment on as well. It also states that the Committee for Disabled Citizens makes important decisions about Foxboro's future. This is my second term on the committee and I cannot even get handicapped parking spaces in the center of town changed by simply re-stripping them which would make them van accessible. I hope this example contradicts the preceding statement about the Committee for Disabled Citizens.

Section 7 it also states that the Payson Road facility has such a high level of participation. This entire property is a disgrace when it comes to handicapped access. These are brand-new facilities we are building in town and they are not even accessible. These facilities include the playground plus the lacrosse field and a brand-new football field that sits down in the Valley. The accessibility to the Payson Road facility is a disgrace at best, especially the parking lot. You talk about ensuring safety and having helpful conditions, which would contradict the conditions of recreation land.

It does no good to have land like the Booth Playground that is inaccessible. I charge you or any committee member to get into a wheelchair and try to navigate Field one, Field two, the two soccer fields, the Babe Ruth field, or even just the parking lots. It is a disgrace and this is why people in wheelchairs don't bother using recreation land that they are entitled to.

The rehabilitation act in 1973 was the second piece of legislation that gave rights to all individuals as equal. I should not have to complain for the past seven years that I cannot gain access to Booth field 2 to watch my son play baseball. I should not have to complain for the last seven years that I cannot gain access to fields, and when I do voice my opinions, it ruins my wheelchair which is a \$28,000 chair. My new chair which I will be receiving in a month is \$50,000. To make these fields and surrounding areas accessible takes a minimal amount of resources and would not only benefit the disabled community but would also benefit anyone that has children in strollers or the like. I don't expect wheelchair accessible paths throughout conservation lands or state forests but the lack of accessibility to even the football fields and public playgrounds is disheartening. This is what I think about being proactive in making foresight 20/20 instead of hindsight.

In section 9 under the action plan of objective 4b it says to evaluate existing facilities for health, safety and ADA compliance. I have been trying for the past seven years to bring these

ADA issues to light, but to no avail. I believe this is going to be another document that will sit on the shelf and gather dust. I have been trying to get a "transition plan" from the ADA coordinator, and after review, I realized it's another document that is incomplete at best and no one seems to comply with the plan or the law which is over 10 years old.

It saddens me when we use a simple statement under goal 4 line 3, "increase facility accessibility to comply with ADA." to summarize the deplorable, embarrassing and illegal situation. I rhetorically asked why would we start complying with a 20-year-old law and what specifically is going to be done? The Booth playground and surrounding areas along with the brand-new facility at Payson Road and all the schools recreation land are substandard best.

In closing, I have sat through some of these meetings and have given you my input, only to have it come down to the simple premise of "evaluate and increase facility accessibility". The lack of consideration for the conditions is a disgrace and an insult to my intelligence. This is what I mean by the town of Foxboro making the disabled community in wheelchairs second-class citizens when it comes to access to recreation land. Again, I charge anyone of you to borrow my wheelchair and try to navigate these facilities. You will not only be upset but you will be embarrassed every time you read the Foxboro Reporter when it says we are the "The Gem of Norfolk County."

Respectfully yours,



Daniel Lagatta III  
56 Baker St.  
Foxboro, MA 02035

6/24/11

CC selectman: ADA coordinator





BOARD OF ASSESSORS  
**TOWN OF FOXBOROUGH**  
40 SOUTH STREET  
FOXBOROUGH MASSACHUSETTS 02035

(508) 543-1215

June 15, 2011

Dear Mr. Boette,

In order to meet the State requirements, the Conservation Commission's Open Space Committee produced a significant new Open Space and Recreation Plan. This Plan is a very important and valuable resource and to our town. It took a tremendous amount of time and effort. Jane and her committee deserve many thanks for getting this project done well & in a timely fashion.

On behalf of the Assessors Office, I would like to extend our gratitude in creating this Open Space and Recreation Plan for our community.

Sincerely,

Hannelore Simonds, MAA  
Chief Assessor  
Town of Foxborough



BOARD OF HEALTH  
**TOWN OF FOXBOROUGH**

MASSACHUSETTS 02035

Eric S. Arvedon, Chairman  
Paul A. Mullins, Vice Chairman  
Paul Steeves, Clerk

[www.foxboroughma.gov](http://www.foxboroughma.gov)

40 SOUTH STREET  
Tel. (508) 543-1207  
Fax (508) 543-6278

Pauline E. Clifford, Health Agent

On behalf of the Foxborough Board of Health, I would like to offer our enthusiastic congratulations to the Conservation Commission's Open Space Committee for its efforts in producing the updated Open Space and Recreation Plan. The Plan provides a great deal of valuable data that will be extremely helpful to the Town and to the Conservation Commission as it works to update the Town Master Plan.

The Plan will be an effective tool for furthering Foxborough's efforts to protect its natural resources, especially our precious groundwater aquifers. The Board of Health looks forward to continuing to work together with the Open Space Committee in implementing the important recommendations of the Plan in the coming months and years.

As you know, good stewardship of Foxborough's remaining open space is an issue of great importance to the Board of Health. We appreciate the Open Space Committee's efforts in that regard, and we applaud the work of your Committee on the Open Space and Recreation Plan.

Thank you!

Very truly yours,

Eric S. Arvedon, Chairman

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JUN 14 2011  
CONSERVATION  
COMMISSION



**TOWN OF FOXBOROUGH  
MASSACHUSETTS  
COUNCIL ON AGING & HUMAN SERVICES**  
75 Central Street, Foxborough, Massachusetts 02035-2324

Vicki Lowe  
Executive Director

Tel (508) 543-1252  
Fax (508) 543-1264

**RECEIVED**  
JUN 14 2011  
CONSERVATION  
COMMISSION

June 14, 2011

To Whom It May Concern:

As Director of the Council on Aging & Human Services, I would like to commend the efforts of Conservation Manager, Jane Sears Pierce for her efforts in producing the 2011-2018 Open Space Recreation Plan. The Plan provides a great deal of valuable data that will be extremely helpful to the Town and to the Planning Board as it works to update the Town Master Plan.

Jane has included all of the town departments seeking input to create the best plan possible. She has informed residents and landowners of the open space and recreation plan and has made copies of the draft available to the public at various town buildings. As a department head, I look forward to continuing to work together with the Conservation Commission in implementing the other recommendations of the Plan in the coming months and years.

Sincerely,

  
Vicki L. Lowe



Board of Water and Sewer Commissioners  
**TOWN OF FOXBOROUGH**  
40 SOUTH STREET  
MASSACHUSETTS 02035

William C. Euerle, Chairperson  
Michael P. Stanton, Vice-Chairperson  
Richard M. Pacella, Jr., Clerk

Leo R. Potter  
Superintendent  
Telephone 508-543-1209  
Fax 508-543-6278

May 25, 2011

Jane Sear Pierce, Conservation Manager  
Town of Foxborough Conservation Commission  
40 South Street  
Foxborough, MA 02035

RE: Town of Foxborough Open Space and Recreational Plan

Dear Jane:

On behalf of the Board of Water and Sewer Commission for the Town of Foxborough, I would like to offer our enthusiastic congratulations to the Open Space Committee for its efforts in producing the updated Open Space and Recreation Plan. The Plan provides a great deal of valuable data that will be extremely helpful to the Town and to the updating of the Town's Master Plan.

The Plan will be an effective tool for furthering Foxborough's efforts to protect its natural resources. The Plan will also help increase the Town's overall point evaluation associated with the Commonwealth's Capital Application which is used in evaluating the Town's priority point listing for the state grants and State Revolving Fund Loans.

As you know, good stewardship of Foxborough's remaining open space is an issue of great importance to the Board of Water and Sewer and Town. We appreciate the Open Space Committee's efforts in that regard, and we applaud the work of your Committee on the Open Space and Recreation Plan.

Thank you.

BOARD OF WATER AND SEWER COMMISSIONERS

Leo R. Potter, Superintendent

LRP:ew

Cc: BWSC

May 23, 2011

Jane Sears Pierce  
Conservation Commission  
40 South St.  
Foxboro, MA 02035

Dear Ms. Sears Pierce,

Thank you for making the Open Space and Recreation Plan available for residents review. I think your committee has done a wonderful job on the plan. I am thrilled you have been able to get it completed.

Great job!

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Debbie Cunniff". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Debbie Cunniff  
Foxboro Resident



# TOWN OF FOXBOROUGH

## Recreation

40 South Street  
Foxborough, Massachusetts 02035

Peter St. Laurent, Chairman  
Debbie Giardino, Director

Tel: (508) 543-7255  
Fax: (508) 543-6278

May 23, 2011

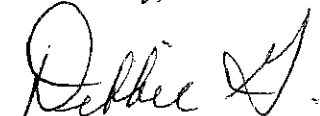
Dear Jane,

Per your request I have read and also made a copy of the Open Space and Recreation Plan available at our office.

I think the plan is great and will serve the town well.

Please let me know if you need anything else.

Yours truly,

  
Debbie Giardino  
Recreation Director