

OPEN SPACE & RECREATION

**Break out groups comments incorporated below.*

1. Preserve Lincoln's natural resource, agricultural and recreational values.
 - (a) Protect existing conservation land and open space from conversion.
- consider conversion for recreation fields
 - (b) Protect lands of conservation and recreation interest including:
-stone walls, tree planting, viewscapes, character
 - (i) high-value water resources and/or natural communities (plant & animal),
 - (ii) high-value scenic vistas into existing agricultural land from roads and trails,
 - (iii) appropriate roadside character,
 - (iv) chapter 61 and 61A lands,
 - (v) privately-owned farms in agricultural use,
 - (vi) visual corridors, buffers and scenic vistas along trails and fields or meadows,
 - (vii) outstanding natural features (geologic, topographic, hydrologic),
 - (viii) appropriate recreational facilities.
 - (c) Explore opportunities for maintaining and expanding agriculture in Lincoln.
2. Promote active stewardship of existing agriculture and conservation land.
--coordinate and educate landscape contractors on Best Management Practices
 - (a) Maintain baseline inventory and monitoring program.
 - (b) Encourage best land management practices including:
Formal or informal education, resource - individualized attention
 - (i) farming practices compatible with natural resource and recreation values,
 - (ii) ecologically sound woodlot management,
 - (iii) scientifically sound management of existing open farm ponds,
 - (c) Acquire funds and resources for long-term land stewardship and scientific study.
3. Foster recreational opportunities on recreational and conservation land.
- remember active recreation – fields, etc.
 - (a) Encourage multiple and diverse uses on recreation and conservation land.
-partner with adjacent towns on recreation facilities (NIKE site, hoops court)
 - (b) Evaluate maintenance needs and expansion opportunities of roadside paths and trails.
 - (c) Provide new facilities and maintain current facilities as appropriate.
- Rec Center – Fields (sports)- Basketball & upgrades for Kids/ community
- Opportunity for creating National Park with open space – more protection (higher status)

- *Look for positive features or uses to convert open space; compromises for development – housing development, H2O filtration plant*
- *promote incentives for placing land into conservation*
- 4. Foster coordination, education and outreach regionally and locally. *–include and work with community to host and invite to workshops; go to where the young families or interest groups are (soccer fields)*
 - (a) Coordinate with boards and organizations to promote current goals.
 - Weekend workshops/ open house – dump/Codman Farm*
 - Interpretive signs*
 - (b) Partner with regional organizations to promote conservation and recreation goals.
 - *continue to publish conservation department as resource*
 - *Mass Bay Circuit Trail/ analogy to Lincoln Appalachian Trail*
 - (c) Foster a long-term stewardship ethic among all property owners in Town including:
 - (i) water conservation measures,
 - (ii) ecological landscaping practices,
 - (iii) energy and resource conservation,
 - (d) Provide opportunities for community-building and individualized recreation.
 - (e) Continue to develop and retain professional and highly competent staff.

ISSUES THAT TIE INTO OTHER TOPICS

- *Preserving open spaces must be balanced with other considerations*
 - o *Stratford Way history – no compromise*
 - o *Higher density*
- *More effective review of proposed developments*
 - o *Always have State laws to fall back on – homeowners*
- Requirements of new septic systems are resulting in loss of trees/habitat*
- Open space must tie into current and proposed zoning*
- Sharing of land for agriculture – look for ways town can provide incentives to homeowners who want to put land into conservation or agriculture*
- Transportation – preserve roadside character*
- Revise Town Website to promote activities*
- Promote stewardship ethics in all aspects of Town – stand at Mall*
- Consider wildlife Management as it relates to public health and safety*
- Define Regional*
- Requirement for cluster development; provide easier incentives and easier process;*
- Open view corridors from roads; require view corridors in permitting process; define directives (directions?)*
- Trails for recreation; “points” for planning, grants, etc.*

Explore economic models for trails as transportation

Open space impacts all categories; what Lincoln is and wants to be

Huge implications on value – too expensive at some point.

How do residents want to maintain existing conservation land?

Pros/cons for new purchases/ what value can it bring to the Town?

Who is balancing all the interest of the Town?

What are the economic impacts of having so much open space?

Cluster subdivisions maintain private property value and tax benefits to Town while also protecting open space.

Organize Trail conservancy or group to maintain/sponsor trails.

** maintain current character*