

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 18, 2017... The Town of Marshfield is reaching out to residents one more time. Starting early in 2017, the Town has been updating its Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP), which inventories and assesses current open space and recreation resources; articulates community needs, goals and objectives; and outlines an action plan for the next seven years. **On June 7, a second public input session will be held at the Boys and Girls Club, 37 Proprietors Drive from 7-9 pm.** This input session is a follow-up to the one held in March, which asked residents about how well the town is providing recreational opportunities and conserving natural areas, what could be improved, and what more could be done to meet local and resource protection needs.

On June 7, residents will be asked if proposed goals, objectives, and actions will meet the needs they expressed in March. Set up as an **open house**, residents can stop by **any time** that is convenient for them. They can plan to spend 30 to 40 minutes reviewing information and asking questions. Residents will be given the opportunity to provide feedback on what they agree with, what could be revised and how, and what's missing.

The update process includes reviewing inventories of environmental resources, open space and recreational lands, and unique historic and cultural resources. It also requires evaluating current goals and objectives and the action plan of the existing OSRP plan. Discussions during the public workshops and responses to the community survey will help inform this evaluation.

The OSRP must be current and have state approval in order for the Town to continue to be eligible for state funding, which can be used for various projects, such as creating new parks, acquiring lands with critical habitat, and expanding trail networks.

The update process involves all town departments, committees, and boards to ensure the plan is relevant and feasible. **It is very important that there is public input into this process.**

For additional information, contact Karen O'Donnell, Open Space Committee Chair, at 781-837-8727, or Krista Moravec, Project Consultant, at 401-272-1717, kmoravec@horsleywitten.com.

To view the current Open Space and Recreation Plan (2010), you can find it here: <http://www.marshfield-ma.gov/conservation-commission/pages/open-space-plan-2010>.