

Open Space Ad-Hoc Committee Meeting

June 18, 2024 | 9:00 am | Virtual via Zoom

Meeting Minutes

[Meeting recording](#)

Present:

- Town staff: Jami Fitch, Emerson Goodrich, Karen Martin, Eric Sanderson, Autumn Speer, Todd Souza
- Viewshed: Judy Colby-George, Jessica Kimball, Madeline Tripp
- Committee: Andrew Mackie, Crescie Mauer, Noah Nygren, Robyn Saunders, Karin Shupe, Doug Williams

Committee updates:

- Noah Nygren is the new representative from the Shellfish Commission.

1. Existing Conditions

- Jessica gives a summary of the current progress and updates since the last Ad Hoc Committee meeting. The following updates were made:
 - Private land: Ownership updated
 - Municipal land: Determined what is permanently protected. Municipal land will be broken down into civic, recreation, conservation easements, and undeveloped not in conservation categories.
 - Designated open space: updated made based on Town inventory
- Jessica summarizes that the data will be divided into six resource categories. The sea level rise (SLR) category was added since the last meeting based on the Committee's feedback. Community feedback will determine the "weight" of these categories, which will help prioritize areas for conservation. Resource categories have been continually refined and integrated with newly released data sources. Jessica expects the recreation and connectivity category will benefit from feedback from public engagement.
- Crescie inquires about an existing data source's inclusion in the Water Quality resource category.
- Jessica asks for feedback on the categorization, notably the separation of Environmental Hazards and SLR/Marsh Migration as resource categories. Jami, Robyn, Crescie, and Maggie, express support. Jami and Robyn ask about including the FEMA Floodplain data in SLR/marsh migration rather than in Environmental Hazards. Judy explains the floodplain data could not consider SLR and have certain regulatory outcomes that fits better in the Environmental Hazards category.
- Jessica notes that the data will be presented in their current form at the public workshop in July to collect public feedback to integrate before the following meeting in August.

2. Public Workshop

- Comment Card: Jessica explains the most passive activity which will allow participants to use a comment card to explain what open space means to them.

Town of Scarborough

- Mapping Activity: Interactive activity that provides an opportunity for the public to explore each resource category individually through printed maps. Community members will be able to mark up maps with notes, questions, corrections, etc.
- Funding Activity: Interactive activity where participants will receive twenty \$10,000 bills to divide between resource categories. This activity will provide a value rating gleaned from the community that will be used to update the first draft of the prioritization system.
- Robyn notes support for the funding activity and Maggie and Jami underscore the importance of keeping everyone involved through the interactive activities.
- Jessica presents the agenda for the Public Meeting. Todd asks about clarifying that the meeting format is best for people who can stay the entire time rather than drop ins, and Jami notes a 6:00 – 8:00 pm timeframe would be better.
- Andrew asks about parcel data as well as the role of the committee at this event. Jessica and Judy note that parcel data will be excluded from the maps shown to the public other than land already in conservation.
- Jessica adds the most important thing for committee members is to be present and take notes on community feedback as well as potentially representing each resource category while tabling. Jami adds that any committee members with specific expertise in any of the resource categories would be preferable in terms of manning mapping stations.
- Karin voices concerns over the workshop, including the presentation of the event as a 2-hour workshop and its new proposed start time at 6:00, rather than something people can drop into on their way home. Jessica notes that the collection of ideas will be finished during the first hour and a half and people could leave following the interactive portions of the workshop.
- Autumn and Karen inquire about a digital format of the public meeting and the activities to collect additional feedback from those who cannot attend. Jami notes that there are plans to have the activities digitally, but that there are no plans to conduct a Zoom portion of the meeting.
- Judy explains that the meeting would have to be completely different if it were hosted like an open house/drop in meeting, and suggests having child care options available. Maggie and Judy note a drop in portion could be during the mapping exercise and could contribute to the funding activity digitally at a later point.
- Jami adds that staff will discuss further options for child care to accommodate the format of the meeting. Andrew underscores the usefulness of providing child care in this situation.
- **ACTION: Jami and staff will follow up about location details for the workshop.**

3. Event-based Engagement

- Jessica touches on the additional public engagement activities, such as at Scarborough Summerfest on 8/16 and Concerts in the Park on 7/11, 7/18, and 8/1. Consultants will provide the materials, Emerson will coordinate these events, and Committee members need to volunteer to staff the tabling events.
- Andrew asks if 7/18 is still the date for the Maine Turnpike Authority meeting. Autumn will look into it.
- **ACTION: Emerson will send out an email to the Ad Hoc Committee about volunteering for the community events.**

4. Digital Public Engagement

- Jessica introduces the website created to collect public feedback digitally, which will include two data collection methods that replicate the workshop's Mapping and Funding activities. The website will go live before the 7/11 Concert in the Park.

- Madeline shows how the online collection methods will work.
- The Committee will be asked to review the website before it's available to the public. Jami requests that the draft site be complete by 6/26 to allow the Committee time to review it around the July 4th holiday.
- Karen notes that calling it a "Budget Activity" may be confusing to some, and suggests "Investment Activity or Investment Priorities," which Jami expressed support for notably as the terminology is similar to that used related to the Land Bond.
- The Committee discusses collecting demographic information as part of the online survey.
- Jessica suggests including demographic questions after the activity itself.
- Doug asks about what the demographic data will specifically be used for. Jessica explains that a summary will be produced using the demographic data collected and can be discussed among the committee as to the importance of making this publicly available and what to highlight in the final deliverable. Jessica highlights that this importantly can shift how public outreach can be adjusted to capture a better cross section of the population.
- The Committee decides the following demographic information should be collected:
 - How many people younger 18 live in your household?
 - How many people older than 65 live in your household?
 - In which area of Scarborough do you live?

5. Draft Plan Outline

- Jessica shares a general outline for the draft Plan.

6. Next meeting:

- Tuesday, August 20th @ 9:00 am; hybrid
- **ACTION: JAMI will send a calendar invitation to the Committee.**



Scarborough Open Space Plan

OPEN SPACE AD-HOC COMMITTEE
Meeting 2
06/18/2024

AGENDA

1. Existing Conditions Update
2. Public Workshop (7/25/2024)
3. Event-Based Public Engagement Activities
4. Digital Public Engagement
5. Draft Plan Update: Outline

Existing Open Space (updates)

- **Private Land**

- Updates have been made based on committee feedback
- Identifying all ownership of private conservation land

- **Municipal Land**

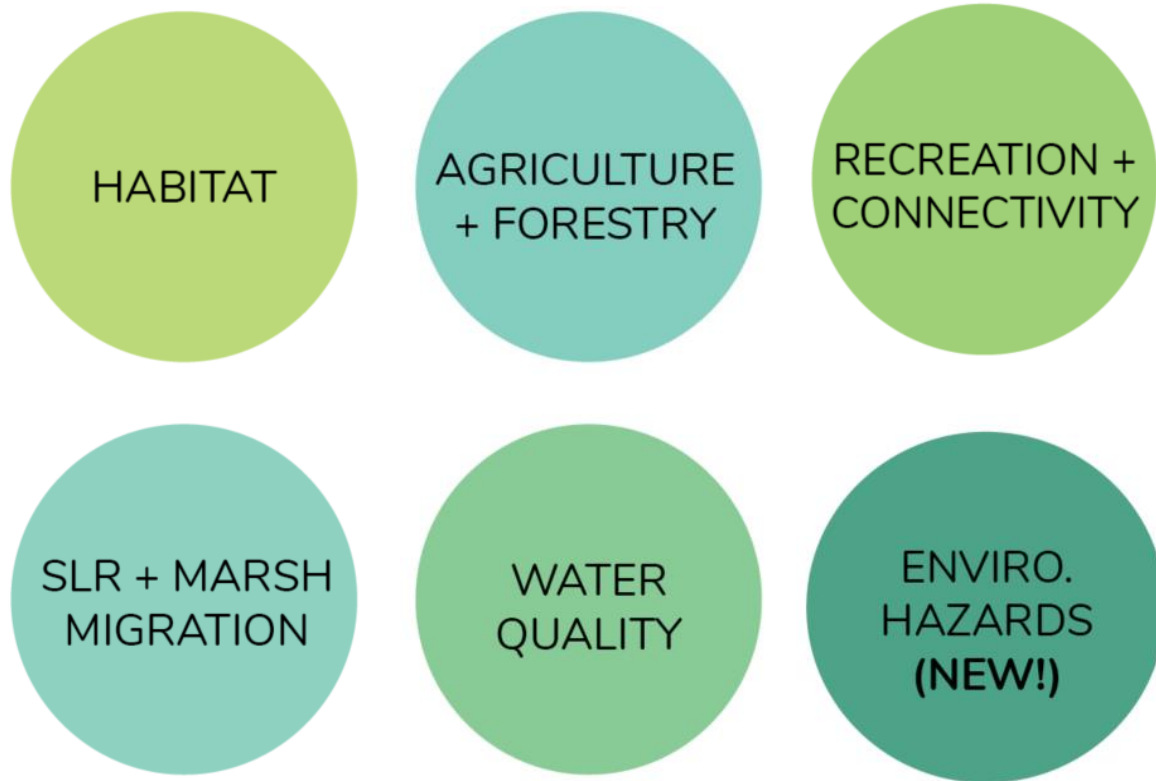
- Reviewing all municipal land to determine what is protected and what should be counted as open space.
- Four categories: (1) Civic; (2) Recreation; (3) Conservation Easements; (4) Undeveloped not in conservation.

- **Designated Open Space** (land include as open space in subdivisions)

- Parcels updated based on updated town inventory.

Conservation Prioritization Map

RESOURCE CATEGORIES



PRIORITIZATION AREAS



Resource Categories (updates)

HABITAT

- Consulting FB Environmental on Data Sources + Priorities

AGRICULTURE + FORESTRY

- Added working farm data provided by the Town/SLT

SLR + MARSH MIGRATION

- Updated Marsh Migration Data from MNAP

WATER QUALITY

- Consulting FB Environmental on Data Sources + Priorities
- Added state data on aquifers

RECREATION + CONNECTIVITY

- Created buffers around recreation elements
- Potential connections from public engagement

ENVIRO. HAZARDS (NEW!)

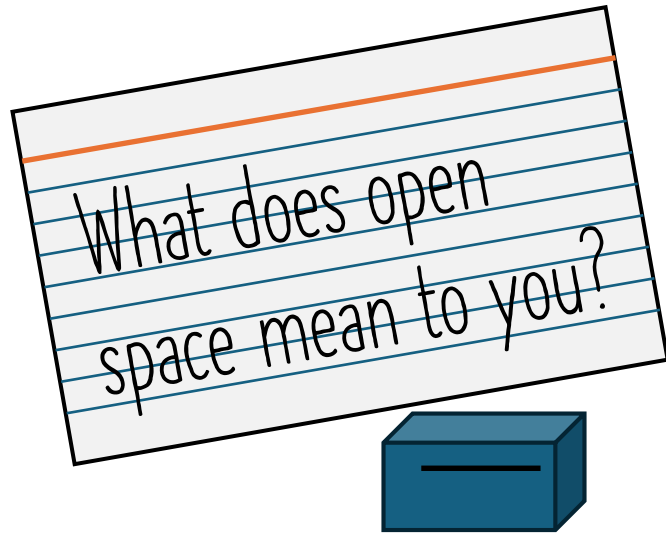
- FEMA Floodplains
- Steep Slopes
- Public Wells
- Highly Erodible Soils
- DEP EGAD sites
- Shoreland Zones
- Resource Protection Zones

Existing Condition and Data Updates

- All Existing Open Space and Resource Category Data will be updates currently underway will be presented at Public Workshop (July).
- Additional feedback received at Public Workshop will be integrated into the data.
- Updated maps will be presented at next Committee Meeting (August).

Public Workshop

Comment Card



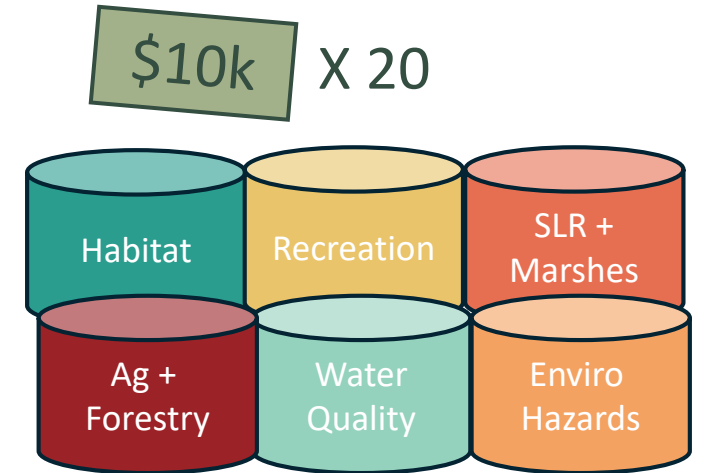
Take a comment card and provide us with your definition of open space!

Mapping Activity



Explore the six Resource Category Maps throughout the room, ask questions, and add information! This is an opportunity to learn about the six Resource Categories before considering how they may be used to prioritize conservation efforts.

Funding Activity



Each person has \$200,000 to spend on conservation in Town, divided among the six Resource Categories. Categories that receive the most money represent areas the Town should prioritize conservation efforts.

Public Workshop

Date: July 25, 2024

Time: 5:00 – 7:00 pm

Location: Public Safety Building (tentative)

AGENDA

1. Sign in Table (4:45-5:00pm)
2. Presentation: Introduction (5:00-5:30pm)
3. Mapping Activity (5:30-6:00pm)
4. Presentation: Funding Activity (6:00-6:15pm)
5. Funding Activity (6:15-6:30pm)
6. Short Break / Refreshments (6:30-6:45pm)
7. Presentation: Funding Results + Draft Prioritization Map (6:45-7:00pm)

Public Workshop

Viewshed will provide advertisement materials to Town by July 1st.

Town will advertise to listserv(s) and social media

Committee Members

- Advertise event to your organization
- At the Workshop:
 - Be present + listen
 - Take notes!

Event-Based Engagement

- Scarborough Summerfest (8/16)
- Concerts in the Park (7/11, 7/18, 8/1)

Funding Activity: Viewshed can provide a poster showing the six Resource Categories. Booth visitors can be given stickers to place on the categories that are most important to them.

Digital Engagement: Viewshed can provide a poster for the booth and handouts with the QR Code linking people to the website.

Digital Engagement

- **Website:** launch pad for digital engagement ([example](#))
- **Two data collection methods:**
 - Mapping ([example](#))
 - Fund your most important resource (see draft)

Viewshed will provide links to digital engagement at the Public Workshop and the Event-Based Engagement, so participants can also explore online and provide feedback that way.

Draft Plan Outline

1. Introduction

1. Vision for Town of Scarborough Open Space and Conservation
2. Definition of Open Space
3. How to use this plan
4. 30 x 30 Goal: what does this mean and how does it relate to this plan

2. Planning Process

1. Summary of the planning process
 1. Timeline / Steps taken
 2. Approach / Methodology
2. Public engagement summary (raw results will be in an appendix)

3. State of Scarborough Open Space

1. Existing Open Space (private, municipal, state, federal).
2. Existing Resources
 1. Habitat
 2. Agriculture and Forestry
 3. Recreation
 4. Water Quality
 5. Environmental Hazards
 6. Sea Level Rise

4. Conservation Prioritization Map

1. High / Medium / Low areas of prioritization
2. Data behind the Map
3. How the Prioritization Map relates to Growth Development Areas (show the overlay)

5. Open Space Conservation Strategies

1. TBD (Committee will discuss strategies in August and September meetings)
2. Ordinance Revisions
3. Funding Sources / Development Fees

6. Implementation

1. Action Plan

Appendices

Appendix 1: Public Engagement Data

Appendix 2: Mapping (all Resource Category maps + Composite + Conservation Prioritization Map)

Appendix 3: Ordinance Revision Memo