

Open Space, Recreation & Multi-Use Trail Plan

13 Objectives 2011-2018



Adopted or Endorsed
Historic Commission
Conservation Commission
Planning Board
Recreation Commission
Transportation & Parking
Agriculture Commission
Youth Commission
City Council

1. Conservation Management

- Exotics removal
- Boundary markers program
- Expanded “friends-of” partnerships
- Improved baselines and assessments
- Naming to create a story: Mill River Greenway



2. Conservation Acquisitions: Nature



2018 Target:
25% of city for
most ecologically
valuable areas

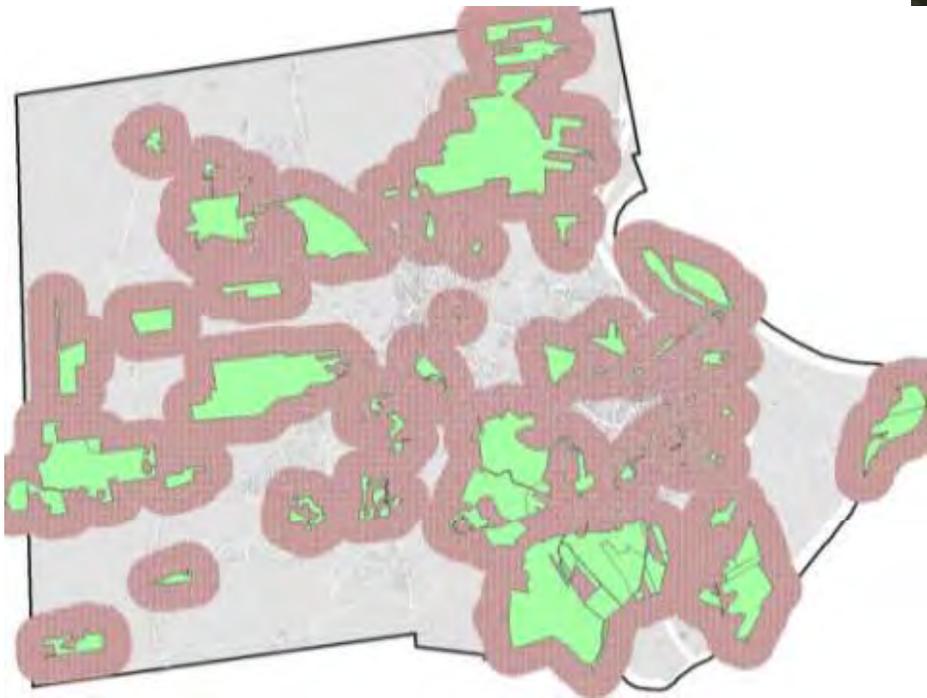
- TODAY: 19% ecologically “pristine”
 - 11% conservation area
 - 7.5% state, federal, water
- PLUS private cons. Restrictions: nature/working?

3. Conservation Acquisitions: People

2018 Target: open space close to all neighborhoods & urban areas



**Environmental Justice
focus:
Connecticut River
Greenway**



4. Agriculture: Preserve Farmland

2018 Target:
APRs on non-
state eligible
farmland



- State AND Local APRs: 3.2%
- Community Gardens
- Community Gardens targeted to EJ areas

5. Agriculture: Support Farmers

2018 Target:
Add farmers to
agriculture focus



- Public land to farming- lease or sell
- Agriculture Commission farmers forum
- Agriculture Commission road priorities
- Keep Farming effort

6. Recreation Acquisition

2018 Target: Serve demonstrated needs



- Expand land base (Sheldon and Florence Fields)
- 1.5% of city in parks and recreation

7. Recreation Development

2018 Target:
Develop central
athletic complex



- Develop Florence Recreation Fields
- 2014 Playgrounds effort

8. Conn. River Waterfront Park & Boathouse

2018 Target:
Develop riverfront
park

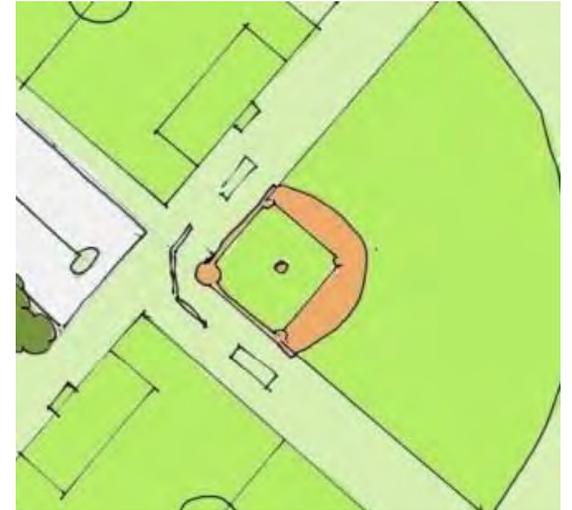


- Land acquired 2013
- Development of park 2014
- **FUTURE:** Boathouse by Northampton Youth and Community Rowing

9. Recreation Maintenance



2018 Target:
Keep up with
maintenance
needs



- New Friends of Northampton Recreation
- DPW recreation division
- Florence Fields and Rail Trail needs

10. Multi-Use Trail Development

2018 Target:
75% of
residents
served



- Park-and-Ride lot with trail access
- Connecticut River Greenway
- King Street off-ramps AND Railroad underpass
- Extend trail in Leeds/Williamsburg

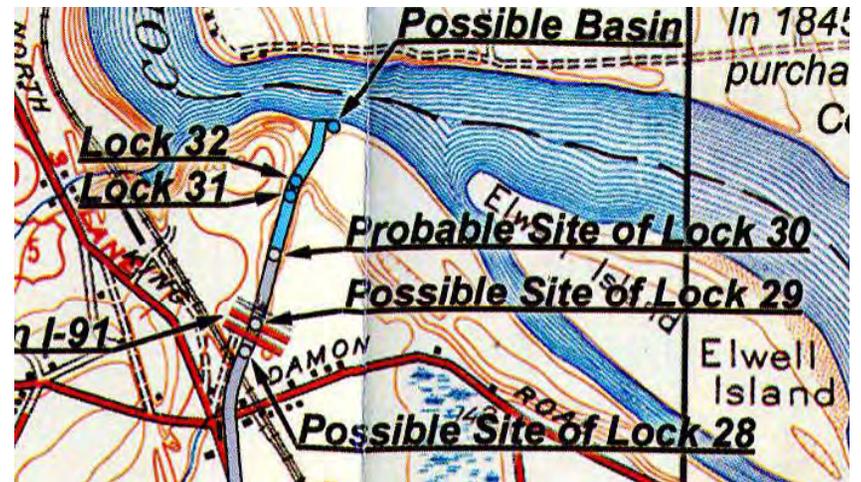
11. Pavement to Parks

2018 Target: Start as
new focus



- Support transportation and parking, bicycle and pedestrian, planning board
- EPA Green Streets technical assistance grant

12. Heritage Landscapes



- Preserve historical memory in conservation land
- Rebranding New Haven and Northampton canal

13. Improve Public Awareness



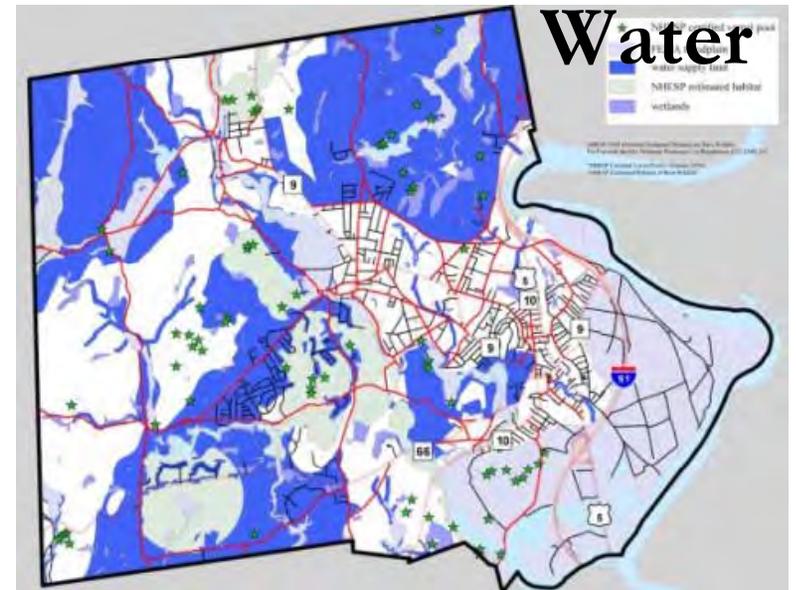
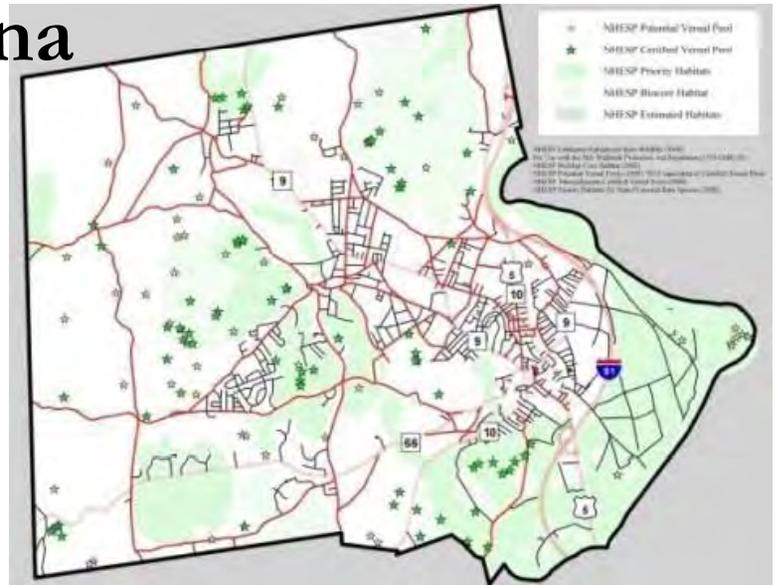
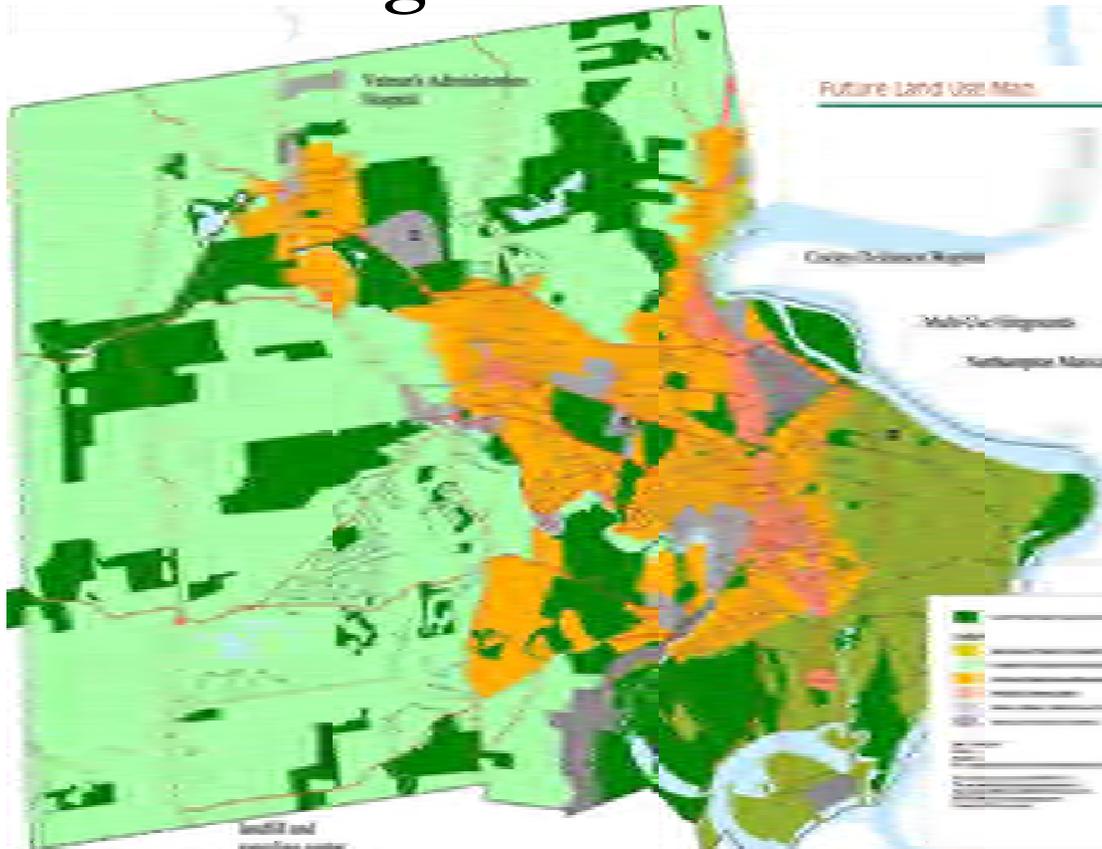
- Information kiosks
- Conservation signage
- Wayfinding
- FNTG maps



24% of City in open space, 0.6±% annually

Flora & Fauna

Planning Goals



Water

Our Common Backyard: Playgrounds

