

# City of Northampton

MASSACHUSETTS

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## *In City Council, May 5, 2022*

*Upon the recommendation of Mayor Gina-Louise Sciarra, Office of Planning & Sustainability, and the Conservation Commission*

### 22.097 An Order to Acquire Property Located on Sylvester Road

WHEREAS, The *Open Space and Recreation Plan: 2019-2025* recommends filling gaps within the Saw Mill Greenway;

WHEREAS, The City has an option to purchase 229 acres (Map ID 41-001, 003 and 012, Barbara Pomeroy) to add to the adjacent Saw Hills Greenway as the Russell Pomeroy Trail at Saw Mill Hills, for the appraised value of \$260,000;

WHEREAS, This land will fill the largest ecological and trail gap in the Saw Mill Hills and has been a top city priority for two decades;

WHEREAS, Funding for the full financing will be sought from grants, CPA appropriations, and other donations;

### ***Ordered, that***

The Conservation Commission is authorized to purchase or otherwise acquire for conservation and passive recreation purposes, as provided by MGL Chapter 40, §8C, any fee, easement or conservation restriction as defined in MGL Chapter 184, §31 or any other interest in the above land and any immediately adjoining land; that the City Council hereby accepts such conservation restrictions; that the Conservation Commission is authorized to grant conservation restrictions and related easements on any land so acquired.. The property shall be held under the care, custody and control of the Conservation Commission, and the acquisition is found to be in the public interest pursuant to Section 32 of Chapter 184 of the Massachusetts General Laws.

Further Ordered: That \$690,000 is appropriated for such acquisition; that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Mayor, is authorized to borrow \$690,000 under Chapter 44, Section 7(1) of the General Laws; that the Mayor and/or the Conservation Commission are authorized to apply for and expend any federal, state, or other aid available for this project, including any grant from the Division of Conservation Services of the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs under the LAND Self-Help Act, Chapter 132A, Section 11 of the General Laws, provided that the amount of the borrowing authorized by this vote shall be reduced by any such grants or aid received for the project; and that any premium received by the City upon the sale of any bonds approved by this order, less any such premium applied to the payment of the costs of issuance of such bonds, may be applied to the payment of costs of the project approved by this order in accordance with Chapter 44, Section 20 of the General Laws and thereby reduce the amount of the authorized borrowing by a like amount.