



Town Manager's Office
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June 5, 2008

Melissa Cryan
Urban Self-Help Coordinator
Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs
100 Cambridge Street, 9th Floor
Boston, MA 02114

Dear Ms. Cryan

I am pleased to write this letter of recommendation for the Athol Open Space and Recreation Plan. Having participated in portions of the plan I can clearly say that it has been completed by the people of Athol for the people of Athol. From development of the survey, interpretation of the results, development of goals and objectives and finalization of the maps this plan represents the strengths and weaknesses of the Town of Athol. It helps develop a working strategy to implement the desires of the people of our town. It sets short and long term conservation goals. The plan also includes a requirement for constant review of the plan by the parties involved in making the tough decisions.

The Open Space and Recreation Committee, originally appointed solely to redo the plan, has done such a great job with this plan that we have asked them to continue on to oversee its implementation.

David B. Ames
Town Manager

Athol Open Space & Recreational Committee
C/O Mr. David Ames
Athol Town Manager
584 Main Street
Athol, MA 01331

June 5, 2008

Dear Mr. Ames & Committee Members,

The Athol Conservation Commission would like to commend all of you for your diligent work that was done on the Open Space Plan. Through your years of research and surveys you have come up with an Open Space Plan that the Town of Athol can be proud of. The plan is workable and looks ahead to protect our valuable open space land for future generations to come.

Thank you for all the hours that each of you have put into this huge project.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert Muzzy", with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Robert Muzzy
Chairman
Athol Conservation Commission
584 Main Street
Athol, MA 01331



TOWN OF ATHOL

ATHOL PLANNING BOARD

584 MAIN STREET

June 17, 2008

Melissa Cryan
Urban Self-Help Coordinator
Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs
100 Cambridge Street, 9th Floor
Boston, MA 02114

Dear Ms. Cryan

The Athol Planning Board is pleased to write this letter of recommendation for the Athol Open Space and Recreation Plan.

The Open Space & Recreation Committee has done an excellent job seeking input from this Board throughout the update process. We wholeheartedly support their efforts on behalf of the Town of Athol.

The Planning Board anticipates using this invaluable resource as a tool in its regulatory oversight capacity. Having strong goals established on a community-wide basis makes our work more productive and enjoyable.

Calvin Taylor
Chairman



TOWN OF ATHOL

Selectmen

Alan D. Dodge
Anthony A. Brighenti
Wayne E. Miller, M.D.
Joseph F. Maga
Phillip D. King

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David B. Ames
Town Manager

Heather J. Brissette
Administrative Assistant

June 11, 2008

Melissa Cryan
Urban Self-Help Coordinator
Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs
100 Cambridge Street, 9th Floor
Boston, MA 02114

Dear Ms. Cryan

The Town of Athol is nearing an economic development boom. In preparation for that growth we are very pleased to have our new Open Space and Recreation Plan completed. Municipalities are constantly trying to balance growth with conservation. Athol is fortunate that we still have a lot of open space and we want to maintain that asset.

This Plan represents the vision of the people of Athol. It is designed in such a way to keep the key goals fresh on the minds of the leaders of the municipality. With this plan we have a clearer understanding of which properties become critical to conserve and which areas we should promote growth development.

We are pleased to submit this plan to the Commonwealth.

Sincerely,

Alan D. Dodge
Chairman



TOWN OF ATHOL

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DEVELOPMENT**

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June 10, 2008

Melissa Cryan
Urban Self-Help Coordinator
Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs
100 Cambridge Street, 9th Floor
Boston, MA 02114

Dear Ms. Cryan,

This Athol Office of Planning & Development is pleased and enthusiastic in its support of the Athol Open Space & Recreation Plan. This plan encompasses and demonstrates a high degree of dedication and hard work in the part of the Committee Members, as well as a high level of public participation.

The State of MA and the Town of Athol have set the bar high for the quality and effectiveness of planning documents. A careful analysis of the available data and conditions coupled with a full and open process for identifying goals and objectives has resulted in a well thought out strategy. The Town now has a comprehensive plan that lays out both short term and long term goals.

Thank you for your support of this planning initiative.

Sincerely,


Phil Delorey
Grant Administrator / Planner