LONDONDERRY 2010 OPEN SPACE TASKFORCE
“COMMITTEE CHARGE”

PURPOSE:

The 2010 Londonderry Open Space Taskforce (“Task Force”) shall develop a plan to fulfill the Master Plan mandate to “protect the natural resources needed to sustain a livable Londonderry” (Chapter 4, Introduction), to support the development of an updated Master Plan in 2011, and to confirm the economic viability of the plan.

SCOPE OF WORK

The Task Force shall conduct its work in five phases:

Phase I: Complete a comprehensive inventory of physical and financial assets held by the Town of Londonderry for open space conservation purposes, including easements. Identify existing open spaces that are effectively protected from development by statute or zoning provisions or by conditions imposed by the Planning Board on previously developed properties. Summarize any stewardship plans/reports developed on any of the above properties.

Phase II: Develop detailed information on the town’s needs for natural services, including but not limited to: drinking water quality and quantity; flood storage; air quality; production of food, fuel and fiber; soil stabilization; outdoor recreation in a natural setting; scenic views; plant and animal habitat and connections between habitat patches; species diversity; and such other natural services as the Task Force may recommend. The Task Force should consider natural services provided by and to neighboring towns.

Phase III: Assess the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats (the “SWOT” analysis) to the provision of each of these services. This analysis should pay particular attention to the issue of flooding and the adaptation to and mitigation of threats from climate change.

Phase IV: Present the work of the three previous phases to the community at large and solicit community input, through multiple channels, on the types of open spaces residents value, the approaches to open space protection, the level of support for open space investments, the process used to execute the Open Space Plan, and any other concerns or suggestions from the public.

Phase V: Develop plans to sustain each of the natural services for the long term and at the levels identified in Phase I; ensure that these plans are economically viable. Taken together these plans should provide for the long term stewardship, management and uses of the town’s open spaces and should integrate the existing Forest Management Plans. The final version of the Open Space Plan should include guidance on which approaches to protection should be used to achieve various open space objectives, and it should detail the process to be followed in executing the plan.
The Task Force shall draw upon the expertise of local residents; town staff; town boards, committees and organizations; government agencies; and non-profit organizations; and shall solicit public input and share the results of each phase of its work with the public through open meetings and, as required, in reports to the Town Council.

In making its recommendations the Task Force shall consider regulation, land protection, and incentive/disincentive programs as synergistic means to achieve the natural service requirements it identifies.

Finally, the Task Force shall develop time-phased cost estimates to implement the plans it develops, and it shall propose revenue sources and estimate their magnitude under current and projected conditions, to ensure the plan is economically viable.

**REPRESENTATION:**

The “Task Force” shall consist of eleven (11) nine (9) voting members as follows:
- One (1) appointed representative from the Londonderry Conservation Commission
- One (1) appointed representative from the Heritage Commission
- One (1) appointed representative from the **Town Council** Solid Waste Advisory Comm.
- One (1) appointed representative from the Budget Committee
- One (1) appointed representative from the Recreation Commission
- One (1) appointed representative from the Planning Board
- One (1) appointed representative from the Londonderry Trailways organization
- One (1) appointed representative from the Londonderry School Board
- One (1) appointed representative from the Londonderry Legislative Delegation
- Two (2) At Large representatives appointed by the Town Council

In addition the Task Force is encouraged to draw upon the expertise of other non-voting members expressing an interest in assisting the Task Force.

**ORGANIZATION:**

Each respective committee or board shall notify the Town Manager of its appointees in writing on or before June 25, 2010 October 1, 2010.

The “Task Force” shall determine its own rules or order of business, unless otherwise provided by law or Town Charter.

During the Task Force’s initial meeting, the members shall appoint a Chairperson, Vice Chairperson and secretary.

**DUTIES / RESPONSIBILITIES:**

1. Hold meetings and keep minutes of any such meeting, in accordance with RSA Chapter 91-A.

3. Act as liaison to the Town Council and other Town Boards and committees on issues relating to the project.

4. Maintain a permanent project file that at a minimum, includes:
   
   A. Committee minutes;
   B. Project plans, contracts and payment requests;
   C. Project correspondence;
   D. Other material as deemed necessary.

5. Provide periodic reports to the Town Council and media.