

Town of Swansea  
Open Space and Recreation Plan  
2023 - 2030

## **Appendix F:**

Public Comments on Draft Plan



**Town of Swansea, Massachusetts  
PLANNING BOARD**

**Town Hall Annex,  
68 Stevens Road  
Swansea, Massachusetts 02777  
TEL (508) 674-5731**

October 4, 2023

Melissa Cryan  
Grant Programs Supervisor  
Division of Conservation Services  
Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs  
100 Cambridge Street, Suite 900  
Boston, MA 02214

Re: Swansea, 2023 Open Space & Recreation Plan

Dear Ms. Cryan:

The Swansea Planning Board recently completed a review of the updated Open Space & Recreation Plan (OSRP). The Planning Board voted to authorize this letter in support of the plan developed in accordance with the applicable requirements and guidelines as set forth by the Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EFA), Division of Conservation Services (DCS) at its meeting on October 2, 2023.

The Commonwealth requires that an OSRP be on file for all municipalities as a means of satisfying eligibility requirements for state and federal grants programs offered through EEA and DCS. This plan serves as a guide to ensure that the recreational needs, conservation goals and natural resource protections of this community are developed and implemented. The Planning Board believes that this Open Space and Recreation Plan, as developed with guidance from the Southeastern Regional Planning and Economic Development District (SRPEDD) complies with the requirements and guidelines laid out by the Massachusetts Executive Office of EEA, DCS and further progresses previous versions of our Open Space and Recreation Plans.

The Planning Board will continue to work with the Town's Conservation, Recreation and Planning Departments to implement components of the plan as presented. We are also committed to working with our vast array of partners to protect the Town's resources and look forward to our continued collaboration with your agency as we develop our vision for the future of this magnificent town.

On Behalf of the Planning Board,

John P. Hansen, Jr. AICP  
Community Development Director  
68 Stevens Road  
Swansea, MA 02777



## Town of Swansea, Massachusetts

TOWN HALL, 81 MAIN STREET  
SWANSEA, MASSACHUSETTS 02777

### OFFICE OF SELECTMEN

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CHRISTOPHER R. CARREIRO, *Chairman*  
ROBERT C. MEDEIROS, *Vice Chairman*  
STEVEN H. KITCHIN, *Clerk*

MALLORY ARONSTEIN  
*Town Administrator*

October 18, 2023

Melissa Cryan  
Grant Programs Supervisor  
Division of Conservation Services  
Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs  
100 Cambridge Street, Suite 900  
Boston, MA 02114

### RE: Town of Swansea 2023 Open Space and Recreation Plan

Dear Ms. Cryan,

We, the Town of Swansea's Board of Selectmen, are pleased to submit the 2023 Open Space and Recreation Plan developed by the Open Space Committee and Community Development Director John Hansen, Jr., with assistance from the Southeastern Regional Planning and Economic Development District (SRPEDD). This plan was developed in accordance with the applicable requirements and guidelines as set forth by the Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EFA), Division of Conservation Services (DCS).

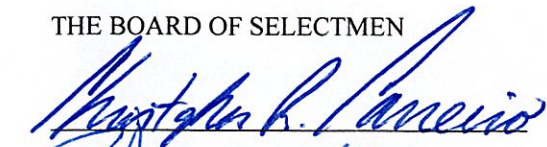
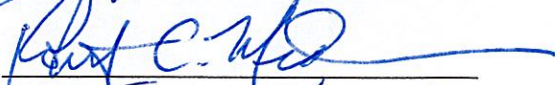
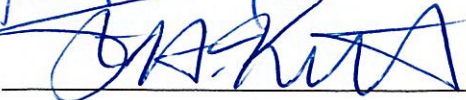
Our Open Space and Recreation Plan update is consistent with the goals and objectives of the Massachusetts Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, and was formulated with significant public input from our community. As such, the plan accurately represents community needs and identified areas of concern, discussed at a variety of public and stakeholder input sessions, and through means of solicited feedback. The plan identifies attainable goals and objectives, including identifying responsible parties and potential funding sources.

Our Town Administrator, Community Development Director, Parks and Recreation Commission and other town departments will continue to work with our state, federal, regional and local partners to promote the long-range planning evidence within this plan, as well as the execution of the natural, recreational, cultural and historical resource goals outlined. Our identified projects are comprised of both large and small enhancements, allowing us to continue to preserve and improve our valuable community assets with relative ease.

The Board of Selectmen, by vote at its meeting of October 17, 2023, supports the certification of the 2023 Open Space Plan for the Town of Swansea. We thank you for your kind attention and consideration of our request, in the midst of the hard work of our team and our volunteers.

Sincerely,

THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN



**SRPEDD**  
Southeastern Regional Planning  
& Economic Development District

Melissa Cryan  
Grant Programs Supervisor  
Division of Conservation Services  
Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs  
100 Cambridge Street  
Boston, MA 02114

Re: Town of Swansea, Open Space and Recreation Plan 2023-2030

Dear Ms. Cryan,

The Southeastern Regional Planning and Economic Development District's (SRPEDD) planning staff has reviewed the *Town of Swansea Open Space and Recreation Plan, 2023-2030*.

SRPEDD staff assisted the Town of Swansea's Open Space Committee to collect input from Town staff, boards and committees as well as the general public to update Swansea's previous Open Space Plan, completed in 2002. This 2023 update was prepared in accordance with the applicable requirements and guidelines as set forth by the Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA), Division of Conservation Services (DCS). It is consistent with SRPEDD's goals and objectives as well as the Massachusetts Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan.

The *Open Space and Recreation Plan, 2023-2030* reflects community needs and issues of concern discussed at public and stakeholder visioning sessions. The plan identifies attainable goals and objectives, including identifying responsible parties and potential funding sources. Town departments will continue to work with state, federal, regional and local partners, including SRPEDD, Wildlands Trust, Save the Bay, watershed and trail advocates, neighboring communities and others, to advance the goals and objectives set forth in this plan.

SRPEDD supports the certification of the *Town of Swansea Open Space and Recreation Plan 2023-2030*.

Sincerely,

Helen Zincavage, AICP  
Manager of Environmental Programs  
Southeastern Regional Planning and Economic Development District  
88 Broadway, Taunton, MA 02780

## Swansea Town Plan

Linda Trudeau <trudeau533@hotmail.com>

Fri 9/29/2023 5:46 PM

To: Danica Belknap <dbelknap@srpedd.org>

Hi

Just wanted to give my 2 cents. I am in support of the current plans. Love what you did with the recreational space near the baseball fields. It has become quite popular and the children love it. One thing I might mention, it desperately needs more shade space. Shade is at a premium and in the hot summer days it's very much needed. It may be in your plan for the future and if so disregard but if not it should be considered. I was at the playground this past summer and a preschool class was having an outing. When it came lunch time the teachers gathered the little one to have lunch and used the shade from the wood structure for a shaded area to eat. It made using the slide and ladder a little difficult for others. It's a beautiful play area just needs more shade space to be perfect

Linda Trudeau

Sent from my iPad