


# OFFICE OF THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

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## MEMORANDUM

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**DATE:** August 1, 2018  
**TO:** Town Council  
**FROM:** Jeffrey D. Nutting, Town Administrator   
**RE:** Background for Open Space Discussion

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I have long been an advocate of open space for active or passive use. We continue to reach out to various property owners to see if they are interested in selling/donating their land to the Town. We have a good track record over the last 15 years of adding parcels to our open space inventory.

### Background

- The Town Council has been supportive of acquiring land over the years.
- Every parcel of land is now available on our GIS system and updated via the assessing office and GIS administrator.
- The CPA failed twice and at this point there is little financial incentive to adopt it.
- The Tax Collector held a sale of land of low value and land foreclosures and we have sold some small pieces or assigned property to various town departments.
- The staff meets every year to review land that has been foreclosed and makes recommendation to the Council where it should be assigned (Conservation, Recreation, Municipal use, etc.)
- Our open space account has a balance of \$1,104,000. **We should increase that account in preparation for future purchases of open space.**

### Committees/interested parties

- Administration
- Agricultural Commission
- Conservation Commission
- Metacomet Land Trust
- Recreation Advisory Committee
- SNETT Rail Trail Committee

### Documents/Other Information

- Master Plan - 2013
- Open Space and Recreation Plan - 2016
- Evaluation of Chapter 61 Land - 2017
- Conservation Commission Managed Properties Study - 2018

- Draft Map of future Bike Lanes
- Map of parcels over 5 acres
- Other maps as may be needed

**History of purchasing, accepting or by tax taking Open Space - 2002 until today**

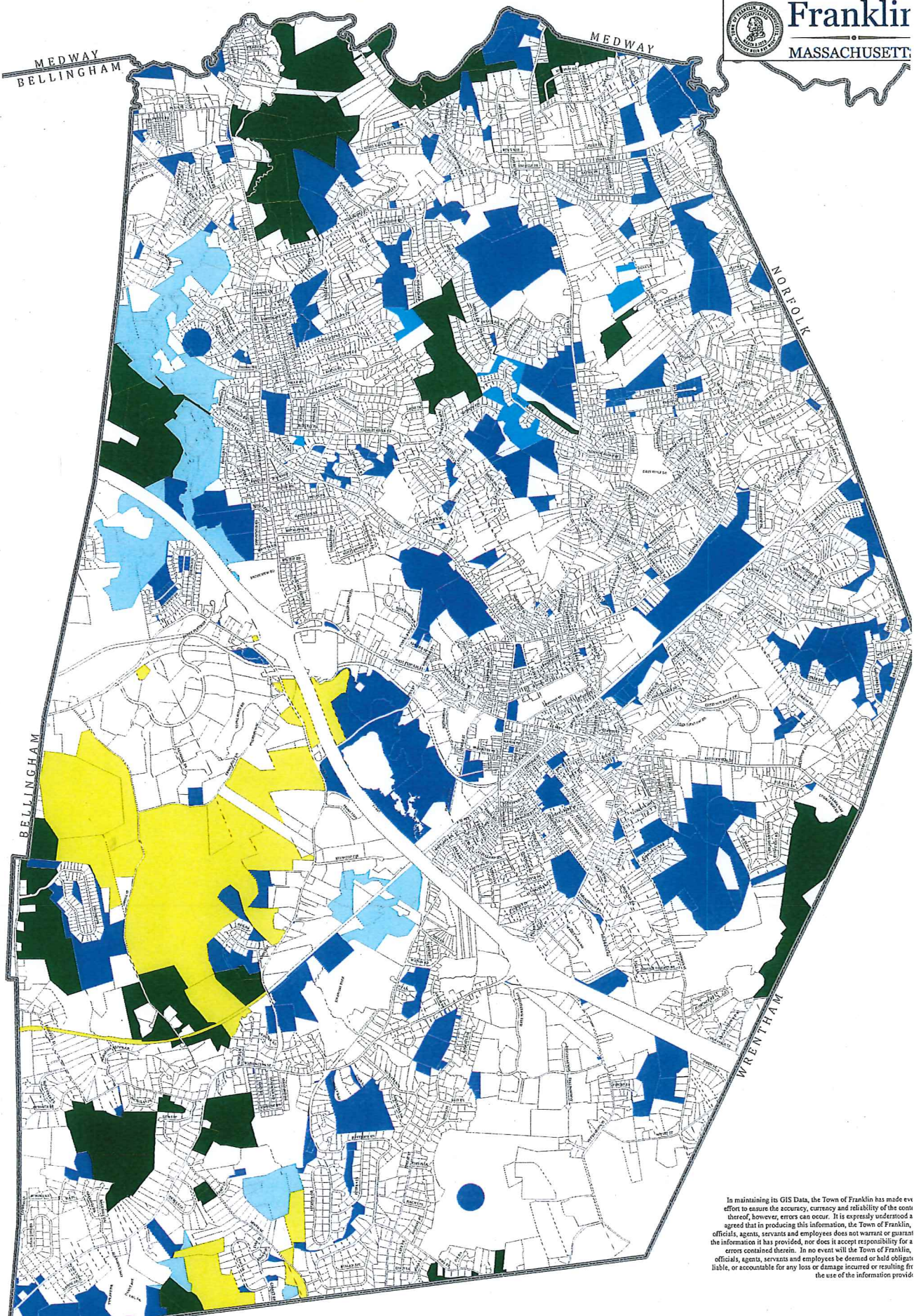
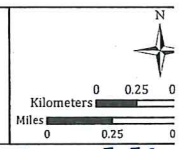
- 105 acres Del Carte property- Donated.
- 1.5 acres - Bought House at Delcarte for Playground and parking,
- 21.4 acres Accepted donation of land on Lincoln Street – Next to School
- 12.2 acres – Purchased off Cooper Drive
- 24 acres off Grove Street – Purchased
- 36.3 acres off Daniels Street
- 19.3 acres off Lincoln Street- Purchased
- 7.5 acres off of Juniper Road
- 4.3 acres off of Jordan Road
- 4.8 acres off Russet Hill
- 12 acres on Washington Street - Purchased
- Numerous other tax takings or open space developments (See Map)

In summary – We have property information on our GIS system, active staff participation, committee involvement in various areas and a good track record of acquiring land for open space along with a funding source when the right opportunity comes along to expand our open space or recreation.

I am happy to answer any question you may have

# OPEN SPACE LANDS OF CONSERVATION & RECREATIONAL INTEREST

- Chapter 61, 61A & 61B Lands - Private
  - Federally Owned - Public
  - Metacomet Land Trust- Public Recreation
  - State Owned - Public Recreation
  - Town Owned
- Parcel Line



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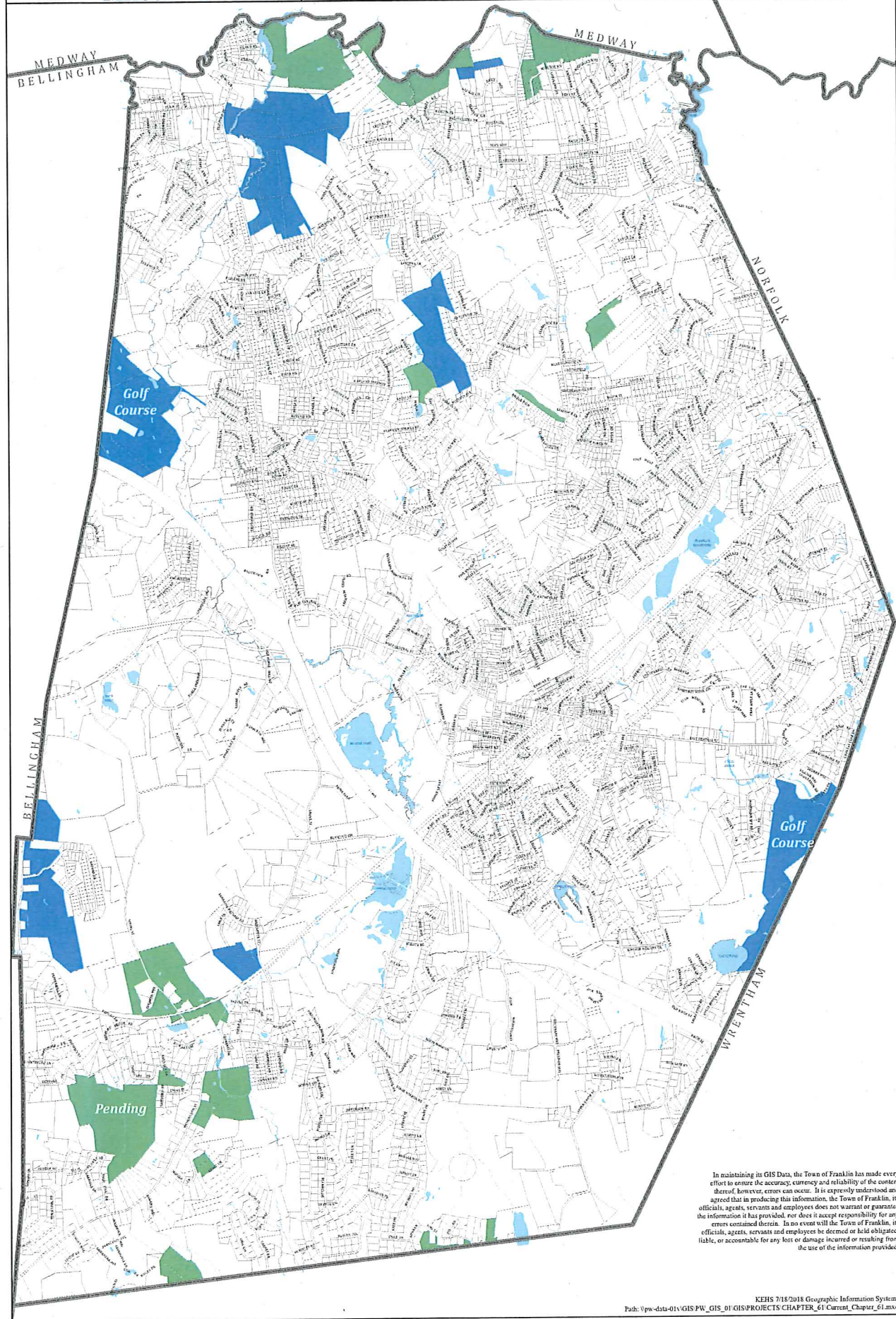
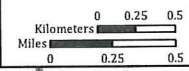
# Franklin

MASSACHUSETTS

## Chapter 61 Parcel

- 61A
- 61B
- Parcel Line

- Water
- Municipal Boundary



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