

TOWN OF WILBRAHAM
COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE
240 SPRINGFIELD STREET,
WILBRAHAM, MASSACHUSETTS 01095

PROJECT PROPOSAL FORM

PROJECT TITLE: Oakland Street Forest Management Project

CPA Funding Requested: \$15,700.00 Total Project Cost: \$15,700.00

Name of Applicant: Wilbraham Conservation Commission

Sponsoring Organization (if applicable): _____

Mailing Address: Town of Wilbraham, 240 Springfield Street, Wilbraham, MA 01095

Daytime Phone: 413-596-2800, ext 204 Email: mgraves@wilbraham-ma.gov

Are supporting documents attached to this form? Yes Number of Pages: 7

Please indicate to which of the Community Preservation categories this project applies:

Open Space Preservation

Affordable Housing

Historic Preservation

Public Recreation

PLEASE ATTACH THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION. Please respond to each question separately, indicating the question number. Please type all responses.

- General project description and goals with projected schedule for project completion, including target dates for interim tasks and goals.**

The Wilbraham Conservation Commission oversees and manages approximately 1500 acres of land in Wilbraham. The property known as Lantern Lane off Sessions Drive in Hampden was acquired by The Town of Wilbraham in 2005 for conservation and open space purposes. The land is to be used for passive recreational uses, such as hiking, bird watching and similar activities. There are extensive existing trail loops within the property and are generally used by the adjacent neighbors.

The Commission is currently in the process of developing a Forest Management Plan for the parcel that includes a Forest Cutting Plan, Trail Creation Plan and Invasive Plant Species removal. The Forest Cutting Plan is likely to recommend mature woodland thinning, pruning, treatment and periodic clearing to promote the health of the forest. The Trail Creation Plan will enhance the existing trails as well as create new ones. While there are not extensive invasive plants on the site, getting a head start to prevent the spreading of invasive plants and overtaking native species is a sound forest management practice.

The first step is marking the property boundaries and is currently being completed in-house by the Land Management Coordinator, Melissa Graves. The FCP is being developed by private forest consultant Carmine Angeloni and will be submitted to the state forester within the month of January, 2016. The implementation of the project is anticipated to begin summer or fall, 2016.

Oakland Street Forest Management Project

2. Community Need: Why is this project needed?

Our town forests have been neglected up until a couple years ago when Wilbraham experienced first hand what happens to trees and forests that have been inflicted with disease, bugs, and storm damage. On a parcel like Oakland Street where the public is welcome, we need to make that forest as safe as possible to prevent injury from falling branches and limbs from damaged trees. Some of the damage to the trees is not obvious to a casual observer. Ash and Birch trees are being damaged by boring bugs and fungus and the tree can drop branches without notice. The size and quantity of trees on this parcel leads to the lack of wildlife. There is little or no underbrush for shelter, food or dens. The goals on this particular parcel is to increase wildlife habitat providing denning and nesting sites, provide a safe place for the public to visit and promote a healthy forest.

3. Community Support: What is the nature of support for this project?

The Conservation Commission is dedicated to taking a more active role in preserving and managing town forests according to sound forestry practices and principles. This parcel is 72 acres of Pine and hardwoods and an extensive trail system. In order to promote future growth within this forest, a mature tree harvest is necessary. Opening up the canopy will promote a young healthy forest that will encourage animal habitat. The Wilbraham Conservation Commission garners support for these projects from the Open Space and Recreational Committee, the Wilbraham Engineering Department and the Wilbraham Hiking Club.

4. Budget: What is the total budget for the project and how will CPA funds be spent? All items of expenditure for CPA funds must be clearly identified. What other funding sources have been committed for this project? (use Budget Form provided)

See attached Budget Form

5. Maintenance: If ongoing maintenance is required for this project, how will it be funded and who will be responsible?

Trail maintenance is usually done by volunteers and the Open Space and Recreation Committee. The existing trails on this parcel will be protected from any damage from the logging operation.

6. Project location: Please include a map showing property location and any schematic drawings of the proposed project as appropriate.

Site plans are attached to this application.

Oakland Street Forest Management Project

Additional information, if applicable:

7. Documentation that the applicant has control over the site.

The property is owned by the Town of Wilbraham and is under the jurisdiction and direction of the Wilbraham Conservation Commission.

8. Evidence that the project conforms to the conservation, zoning, building and other regulations of the Town of Wilbraham.

Non-applicable

Applicant's Signature:  Date: 1/11/16
Printed Name: Christopher J. Brown

For Community Preservation Committee Use

Received on _____ Reviewed on _____
Recommendation: _____ Amount _____ Funding Cycle FY _____



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BUDGET FORM

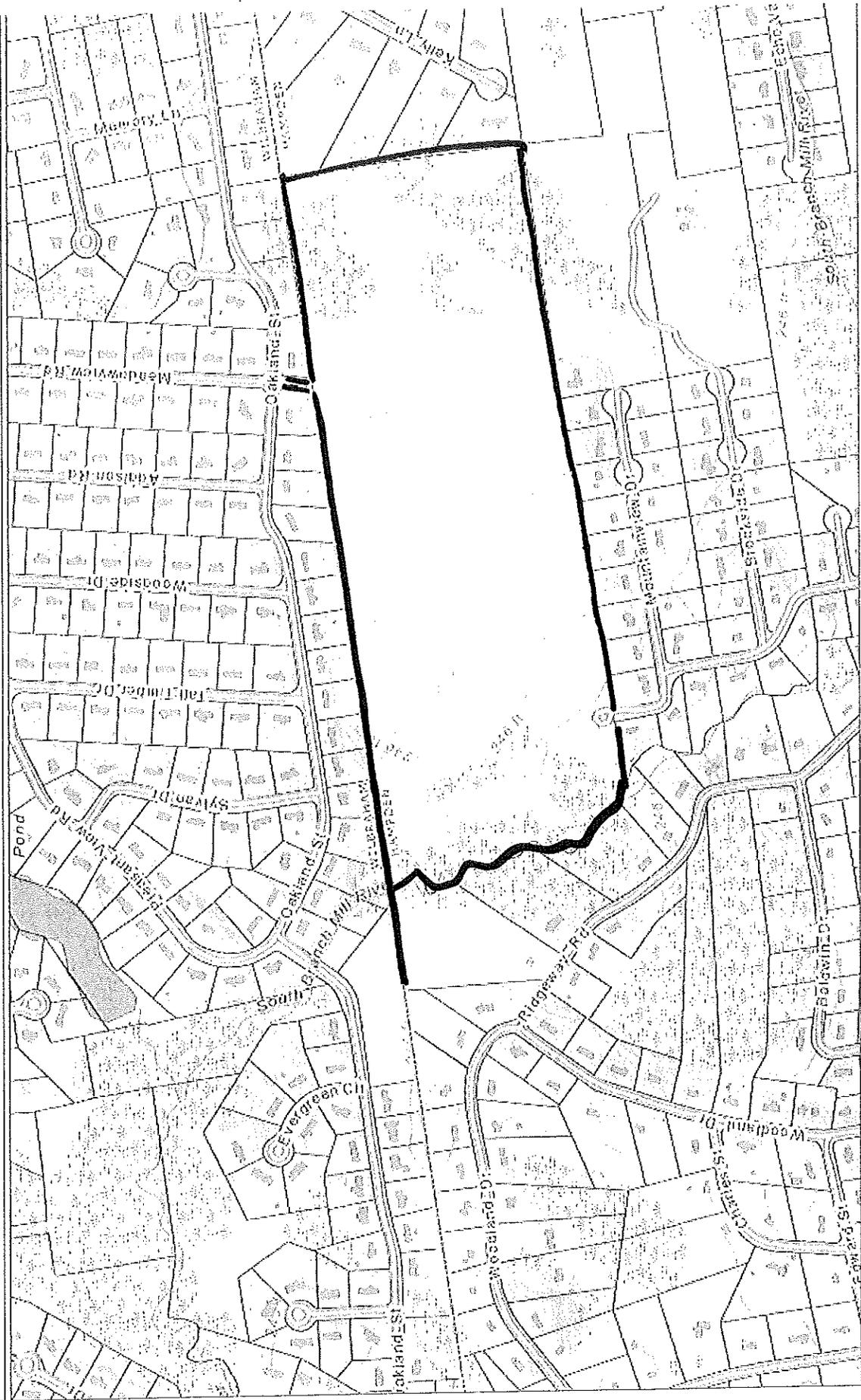
Project Name: OAKLAND STREET FOREST MANAGEMENT PROJECT
Applicant: **Wilbraham Conservation Commission**

SOURCES OF FUNDING		
Source	Amount	
Community Preservation Act Fund	\$15,700.00	
Total Project Funding	\$15,700.00	

PROJECT EXPENSES		
Expense	Amount	Please indicate which expenses will be funded by CPA Funds:
Perimeter survey and marking boundary locations	0.00 (in-house)	0 %
Selective survey of damaged, diseased and dangerous trees	8100.00	100%
Treatment of valuable young trees that may be salvageable	4000.00	100%
Invasive plant removal on 2+- acres	2100.00	100%
Trail enhancements (kiosk and signage)	1500.00	100%
Total Project Expenses	\$15,700.00	

Please feel free to photocopy or recreate this form if more room is needed.

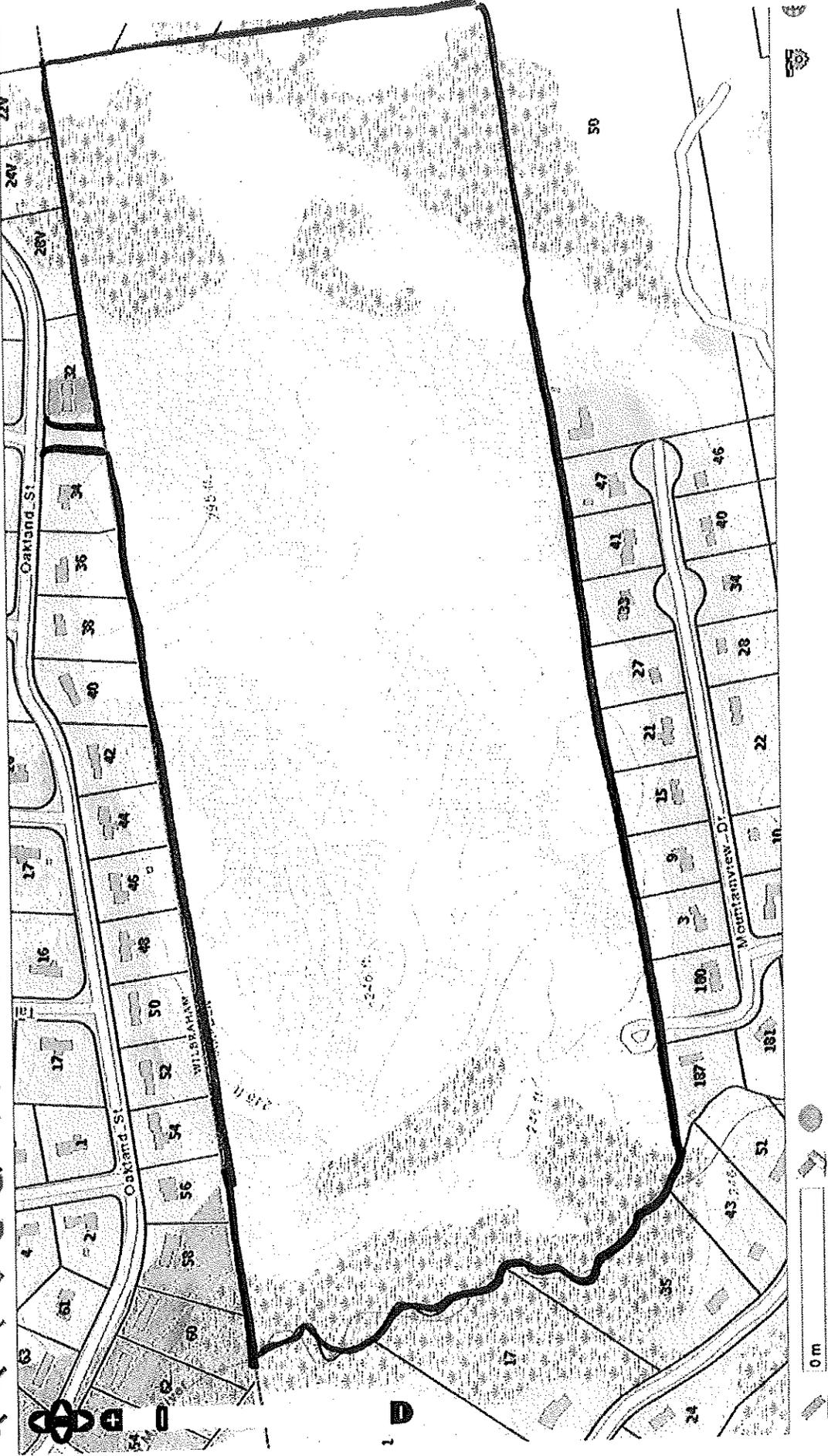
Oakland Street - Forest Management Plan



Oliver OLIVER: MassGIS's Online Mapping Tool

OLIVER Updates Please use the red pushpin instead of the "Search for location" window.

Zoom to a town



OLIVER OLIVER: MassGIS's Online Mapping Tool

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