

Dear Members of the Land Stewardship Committee, Carlisle Conservation Commission, Town Stakeholders, and Members of the Carlisle Community,

In recent months, there has been significant discussion regarding land management practices, licensing, and the operation of the Land Stewardship Committee (LSC). Rather than revisiting the specific circumstances that prompted these discussions, this communication is intended to outline a clear, transparent, and orderly process for revising the LSC charter, as requested and discussed during the joint meeting of the Select Board, Carlisle Conservation Commission (CCC), and three members of the LSC on January 27, 2026.

The current LSC charter, approved by the CCC on December 12, 2024, was adopted on a trial basis to transfer certain land management responsibilities from the CCC to the LSC in response to the CCC's expanding workload. Based on experience to date, it has become clear that further clarification and revision of the charter is warranted to improve effectiveness, efficiency, and public understanding.

Based on collective experience to date, it appears that this structure has not achieved its intended goals and has instead contributed to confusion, inefficiencies, and discord—both within the LSC and across the broader Carlisle community.

In response, I have drafted a proposed revision to the LSC charter. This draft reflects a careful review of both the original 2005 charter and the 2024 revision.

Given the level of community interest and the importance of maintaining compliance with the Massachusetts Open Meeting Law, the following stepwise process is proposed to guide the charter revision:

1. **Initial CCC Review – February 12, 2026 CCC meeting**

A first draft (Draft #1) of the revised charter will be presented for preliminary discussion at a properly posted open meeting of the CCC, with the goal of confirming general agreement among Commissioners on the overall approach and scope of revision.

2. **Review**

- **LSC Review** - “Draft #2” from CCC will be circulated to the LSC and discussed at a properly posted open meeting of the LSC. This discussion will allow LSC members to deliberate collectively and identify requested edits or concerns.

- **Additional Stakeholder and Public Review**

“Draft #2,” will also be distributed for review to relevant stakeholders, including:

1. Agricultural Commission
2. Land Stewardship Committee
3. Carlisle Conservation Foundation (CCF)
4. Select Board
5. Community Garden Manager
6. Trails Committee
7. Farmers with leases to farm Town-owned land, recent past and current

In addition, the materials will be posted on the CCC town website to allow for public review.

3. **Compilation of LSC/Stakeholder/Public Feedback**
Written comments and suggested edits from stakeholders and the public will be submitted to the CCC Administrator for consolidation. msullivan@carlislema.gov
4. **CCC Deliberation – March 12, 2026 CCC meeting**
The CCC will hold a properly posted public meeting to review the compiled feedback. Commissioners will deliberate on proposed revisions, with opportunity for public comment, and identify agreed-upon changes to be incorporated.
5. **Final Review and Vote - March 19, 2026 CCC meeting**
A revised draft (“Draft #3”) reflecting the CCC’s determinations shall be presented at a duly noticed public hearing of the CCC for final discussion and vote.

This process is intended to ensure transparency, broad input, orderly deliberation, and full compliance with applicable laws, while providing a clear and well-defined path toward a revised charter that strengthens the stewardship of Carlisle’s conservation lands and promotes public trust.

Thank you for your engagement and thoughtful participation in this process.

Sincerely,
Navneet Hundal,

Conservation Commissioner