

Vote Yes on Article 24C to Protect the Rail Trail on Southeast St.

**KESTREL
LAND TRUST**



The Threat: For nearly a decade this parcel of land, known as the Old Rock Farm, was the site of intensive condominium development plans. A foreclosure by Greenfield Savings Bank in January 2013, however, has created a unique opportunity to purchase the parcel for conservation.

For Recreation and Views: Thousands of people walk and bicycle on the Norwottuck Rail Trail each year and will benefit from the protection of this land. Its conservation will help complete the greenway of protected land along the Rail Trail in South Amherst. This parcel also affords a beautiful wide-open view of the Mount Holyoke Range and Pelham Hills.

For Wildlife: This land has long been recognized as a great spot for bird watching, including Carolina wrens, barred owls, woodcocks, pileated woodpeckers, bobolinks, rose-breasted grosbeaks, Baltimore orioles, cardinals, and meadowlarks. The land also contains a certified vernal pool, providing habitat for wood frogs, painted turtles, and spotted turtles.

Limited Development: The total cost required to buy the entire lot is \$501,000. To make this project financially feasible, Kestrel has identified two lots for limited development (the Rock Lot and Lot 6) to cover up to half of the purchase price. These 2 house lots would replace the old shack and be located at the site of the original 1950s farm house and barns. Kestrel has received two competing bids on these two house lots for \$250,000.

Leveraging CPA Funding: State funds of \$100,000 and private donations totaling \$75,000 have been raised to leverage a CPA investment of up to \$125,000. With CPA, five acres of public conservation land can be created, protecting this scenic area forever.



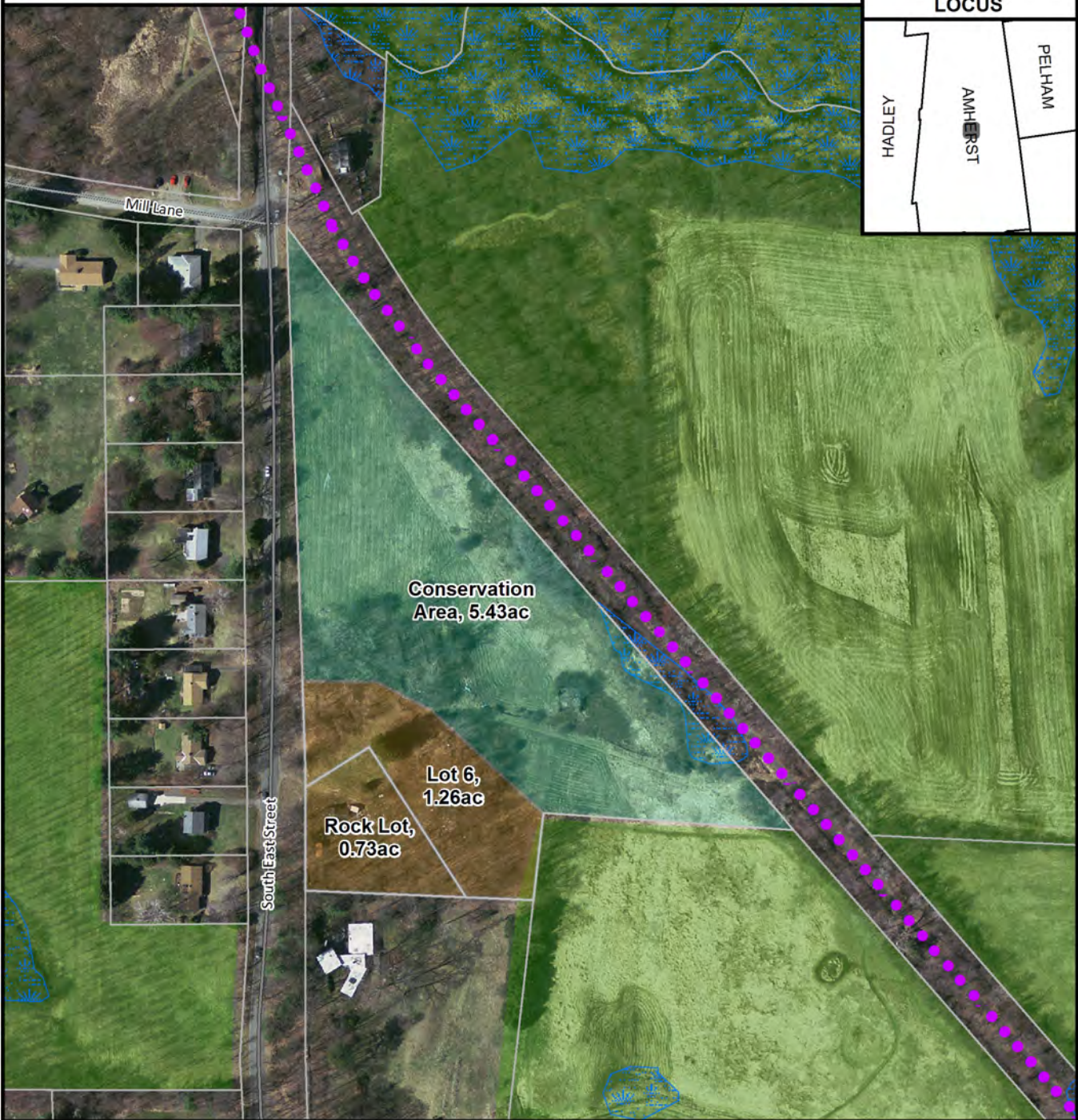
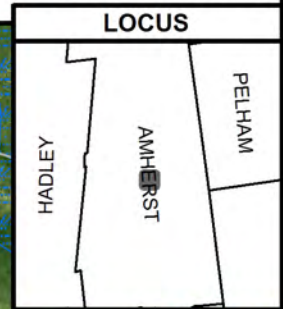
For Bikers!



For Birders!

**South East St, Rail Trail
Protection Plan**

Municipality: Amherst
Date Created: 3/13/2013



- Conservation Area
- House Lots
- Protected in Perpetuity
- DEP Wetlands
- Parcels
- Bike Trail

0 200 400 Feet



Map created by B.E. Wright. Data provided by MassGIS and/or local municipalities. Data are approximate and provided without warranty or liability.