

**North Prospect-Lincoln-Sunset  
Local Historic District Study Committee  
Town Hall  
4 Boltwood Avenue  
Amherst, MA 01002**

**ANNOUNCEMENT OF PUBLIC HEARING  
ON THURSDAY, MARCH 16, 2017, AT 6:30 PM IN THE TOWN ROOM  
AT TOWN HALL**

February 21, 2017

Dear Neighbors,

The Study Committee for our proposed Local Historic District (LHD) – which includes the neighborhood bordered by at Tan Brook to the east, Fearing Street to the north, Sunset Street to the west, and Amity Street to the south – will be holding a second Public Hearing on March 16, 2017, at 6:30 pm in the Town Room at Town Hall. This is an opportunity for you to ask questions, voice concerns – and show support.

After more than two years of research on over 200 properties, the Committee is pleased to announce that our proposed LHD, in accordance with state law, has been endorsed by the Massachusetts Historical Commission, the Amherst Planning Board and the Amherst Historic Commission. With your continued input, we are now preparing to take the LHD proposal to Spring Town Meeting, where it will require a 2/3's vote to be adopted.

As many of you know, the idea for this Local Historic District began with neighborhood residents. We initiated the idea in 2012, the Study Committee was formed in 2014, and we completed our research in November 2016. Our 600 plus page Study Report thoroughly documents the social, cultural, economic and architectural history of this vibrant, culturally diverse, mixed-race and mixed-class community that emerged in the neighborhood bordered to the north by the (then new) UMass campus and to the south by the Amherst business downtown. Many of you have provided written and oral documentation and participated in our collaborative research at the Jones Library Special Collections and other archives. Your many contributions enabled us to develop the “story” of our houses and community.

If you wish to see the report and/or the latest inventory form with the history of your own property, you will find them on the Study Committee's link of the town website.

<https://www.amherstma.gov/1906/Lincoln-Sunset-LHD-Study-Committee>

For your further information, we've enclosed a list of FAQs about what LHD's can do and cannot do. We have also enclosed a list of the many other LHDs throughout Massachusetts.

We appreciate and thank you for your interest, support and encouragement of this ongoing project. We look forward to talking with you at the Public Hearing on Thursday, March 16, 2017, at 6:30 PM.

Sincerely,

Steve Bloom, Chair  
Maurianne Adams  
Suzannah Fabing  
Bill Gillen  
Philip Shaver  
Ann Sutliff  
Ed Wilfert  
Lincoln-Sunset LHD Study Committee