

Town of



AMHERST

Massachusetts

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**2017 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING**  
**ARTICLE 25**  
**North Prospect-Lincoln-Sunset Local Historic District**

As Chair of the Amherst Historical Commission, I am pleased to convey the Commission's wholehearted support for the formation of a North Prospect-Lincoln-Sunset Local Historic District. Neighborhood support is overwhelming, and the area is highly deserving of this designation with its many examples of architecturally significant and historically important structures.

This area of Amherst is in danger of losing some of its important historic fabric as a result of its close proximity to the University of Massachusetts campus and resulting development pressures. The proposed Local Historic District (LHD) will be a useful tool for the community to use to protect the scale, historical fabric, and character of this diverse historical neighborhood. It is worth noting that this proposed district includes socially and economically varied residential neighborhoods, including modest houses built by African American and Irish residents in the 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries as well as the larger homes of more well-to-do residents. This diversity is one of the LHD's great strengths.

The Amherst Historical Commission encourages Amherst Town Meeting members to support this worthy project. Neighborhood residents and others have done an enormous amount of work documenting the structures in the District and recording this aspect of our town's shared history.

We urge you to support establishment of the North Prospect-Lincoln-Sunset Local Historic District, to help Amherst preserve one of its most historically important areas.

Many thanks,

Meg Vickery, Chair  
Amherst Historical Commission