

# Trail Management Advisory Committee (TMAC)

Presentation of Findings to Date  
August 4, 2021



# Summary Agenda

<b>6:00 PM</b>	<b>Welcome &amp; Introductions, Seth Hickey, Stratham Parks &amp; Recreation Director, Scott Zeller, TMAC Member</b>
<b>6:15 PM</b>	<b>Purpose of TMAC &amp; Tonight's Meeting, Kate Dardinski, TMAC Member</b>
<b>6:30 PM</b>	<b>Group Discussion: Opportunities &amp; Concerns</b>
<b>7:00 PM</b>	<b>Break</b>
<b>7:10 PM</b>	<b>Breakout Groups</b>
<b>7:30 PM</b>	<b>Breakout Groups II</b>
<b>7:50 PM</b>	<b>Presentation of Group Work</b>
<b>8:00 PM</b>	<b>Wrap Up</b>
<b>8:15 PM</b>	<b>Adjourn</b>

# Purpose of TMAC

Purpose of the  
Public Forum



## Stratham Hill Park

Rare & valued  
resource.

A backbone of the  
community.



## Management Plan

The group is charged  
with recommending  
concrete feedback and  
a work plan structure for  
SHP to ensure it is  
protected in perpetuity.



## Community Support & Enjoyment

Including the public in the  
management of this kind of resource is  
challenging but necessary.

With multiple user groups it becomes  
imperative that we include as many  
stakeholders in the process as  
possible.

# Progress of TMAC To Date

## Trail Maintenance

Reviewed trail conditions from Trail Assessment Report.

Held site visits to review up to date conditions.

## Rules & Regulations

Understanding the complicated land ownership and corresponding allowed uses.

## Conservation

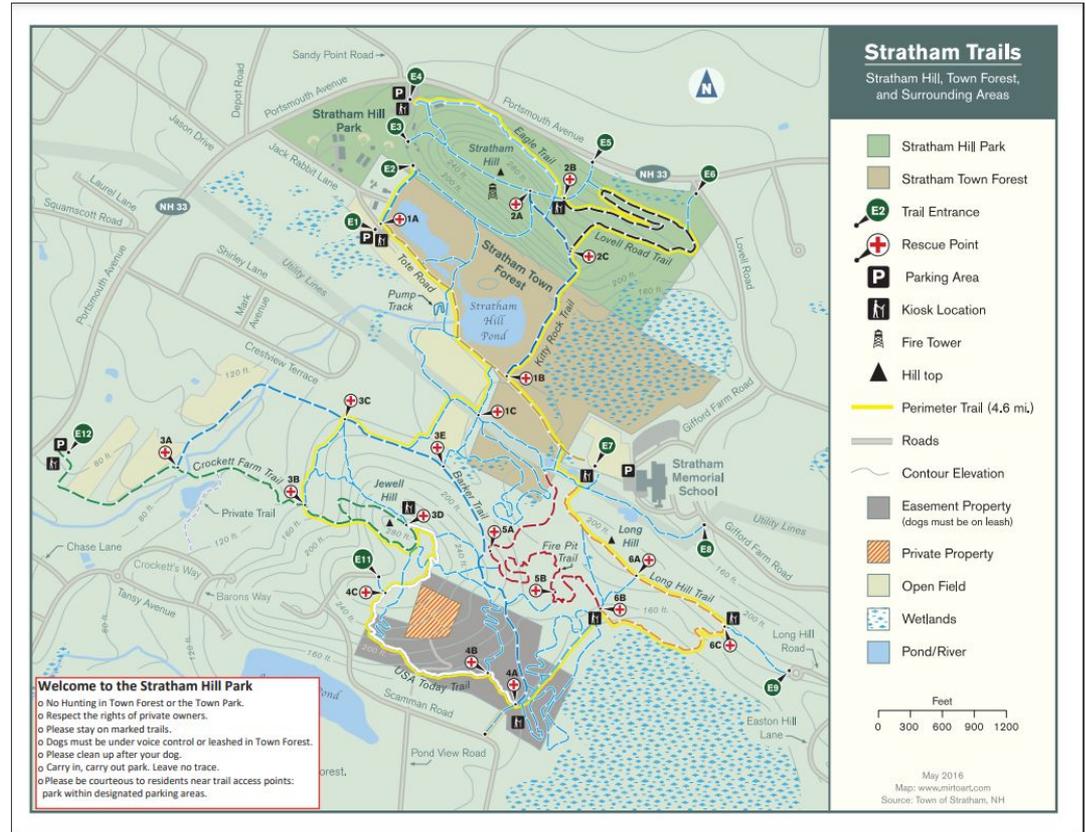
Understanding the various landowner stakeholders and future conservation needs.

keep<sub>great</sub> times<sub>going</sub> able<sub>away</sub> control<sub>visit</sub> bikers<sub>issue</sub> people  
leash rules run<sub>biking</sub> races dogs leash Thanks walk  
dog owners trails<sub>share</sub> dogs<sub>happy</sub> park<sub>good</sub>  
Please<sub>mountain</sub> bikes many<sub>experience</sub> love<sub>protection</sub> see  
others leash<sub>never</sub> biking<sub>traffic</sub> allowing<sub>know</sub> everyone



# Stratham Hill Park

- Story Walk
- Fire Tower
- Pump Track
- Designated on and off leash area
- Ball fields/recreation area
- Fair grounds
- At least 9 points of entry
- Running and bike racing series
- Forest Management Plan
- ~200 Acres

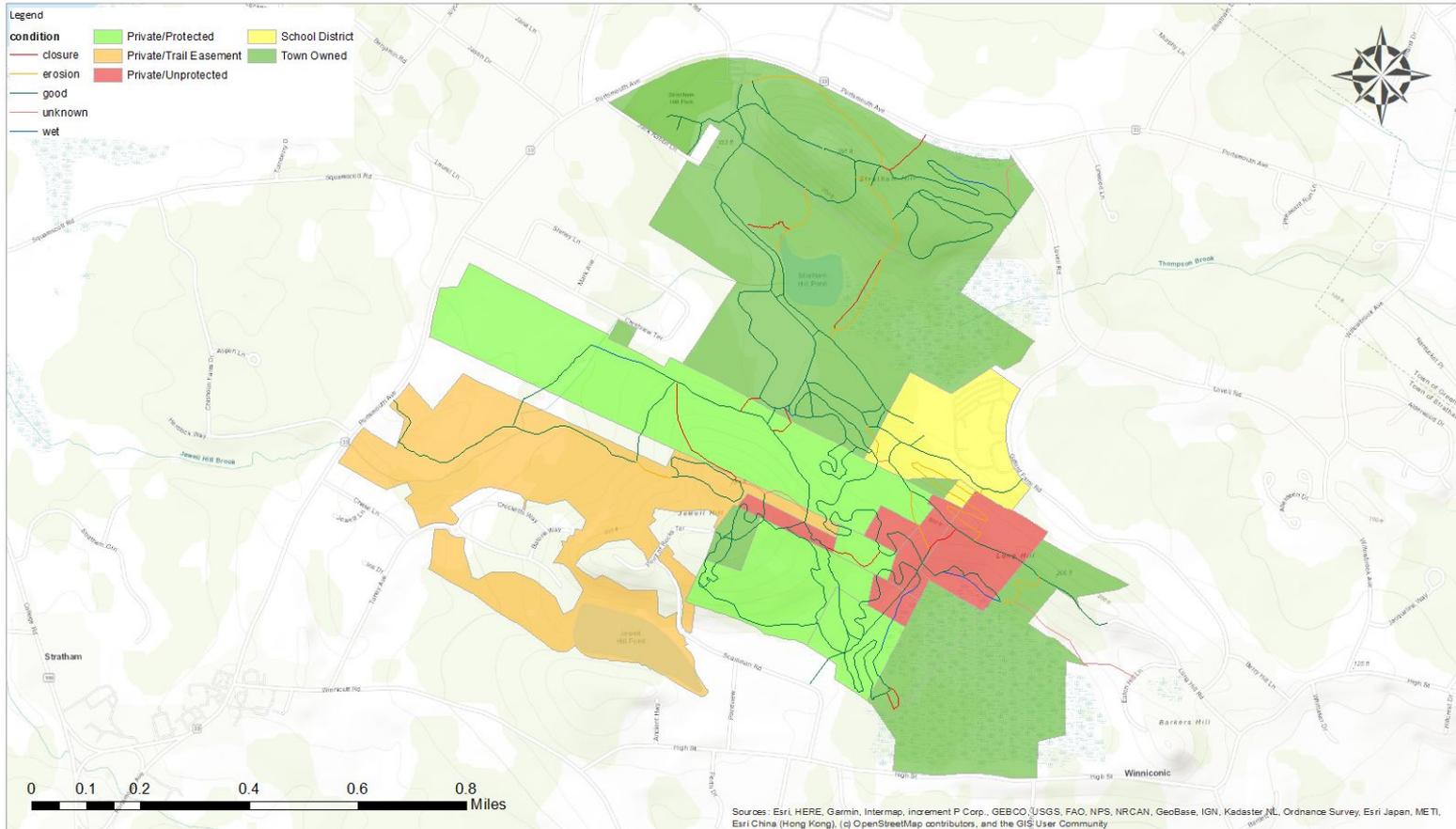


# Trail Maintenance & Management

- Reviewed existing trail conditions
  - Snowhawk LLC Trail Inventory & Assessment Report from Spring 2020
  - Site walks/conditions reported
- Consulted with report preparer and field expert
  - Suggested trail improvements
  - Closures
  - Bridge/boardwalk repairs
  - Erosion Control
  - Overuse
  - Sensitive habitat
- Maps

# Stratham Hill Park Trail Conditions Map

## As presented in Trail Assessment Report from 2020



### Trail Popularity

Trailforks scans ridelogs to determine which trails are ridden the most in the last 9 months. Trails are compared with nearby trails in the same city region with a possible 25 colour shades. Think of this as a heatmap, more rides = more kinetic energy = warmer colors.

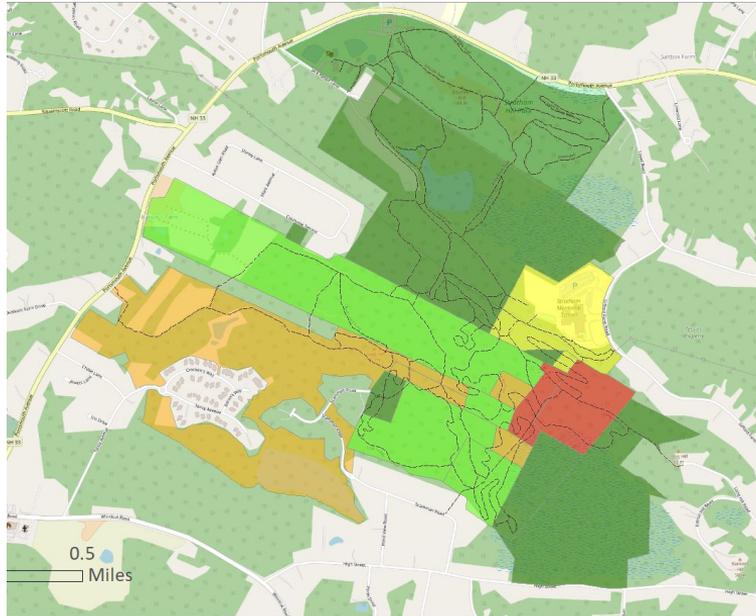
- most popular
- popular
- less popular
- not popular



- Popular Routes
  - Week 2 Gordon Barker Bike Race
  - TRAILRUN#1
  - 2021 SHP Summer MTB Series Cour...
  - NEHSCA HS Route
- Trails
  - Barker
  - Barker Connector
  - Crockett Farm
  - Dead Fish (unofficial name)
  - DuckRoot
  - Eagle
  - Father & Son
  - Fire Pit
  - Gifford land west run
  - Jewell Hill Connector
  - Kitty Rock
  - Long Hill
  - Long Hill Connector
  - Long Hill Single Side
  - Lovell Road
  - Once A Pond A Time

# Rules & Regulations/Ownership

- SHP is a combination of parcels that make up the entirety of the “park”.
- Not all landowners have the same set of permitted uses

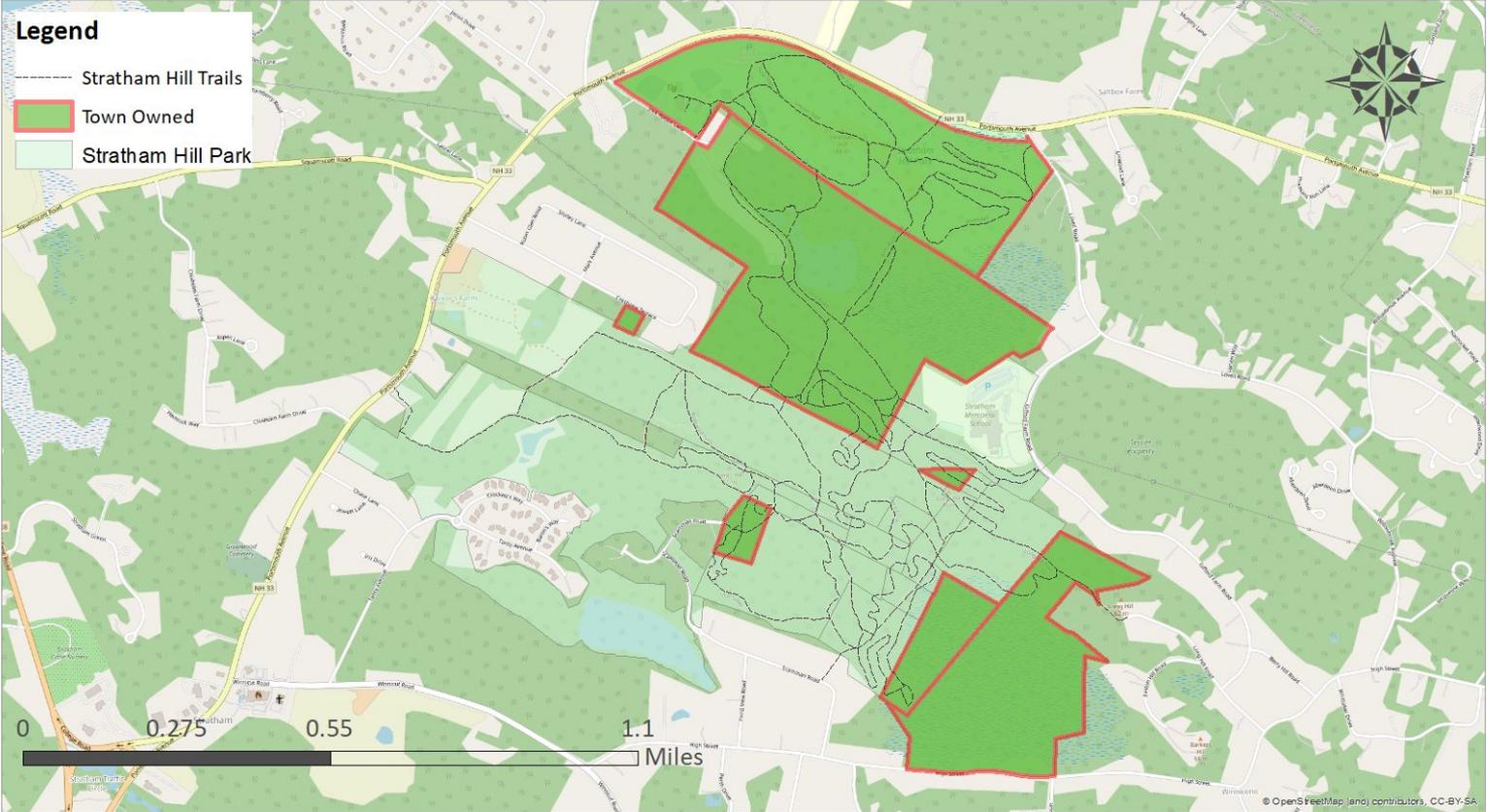


# Current Rules & Regulations

## **Welcome to the Stratham Hill Park**

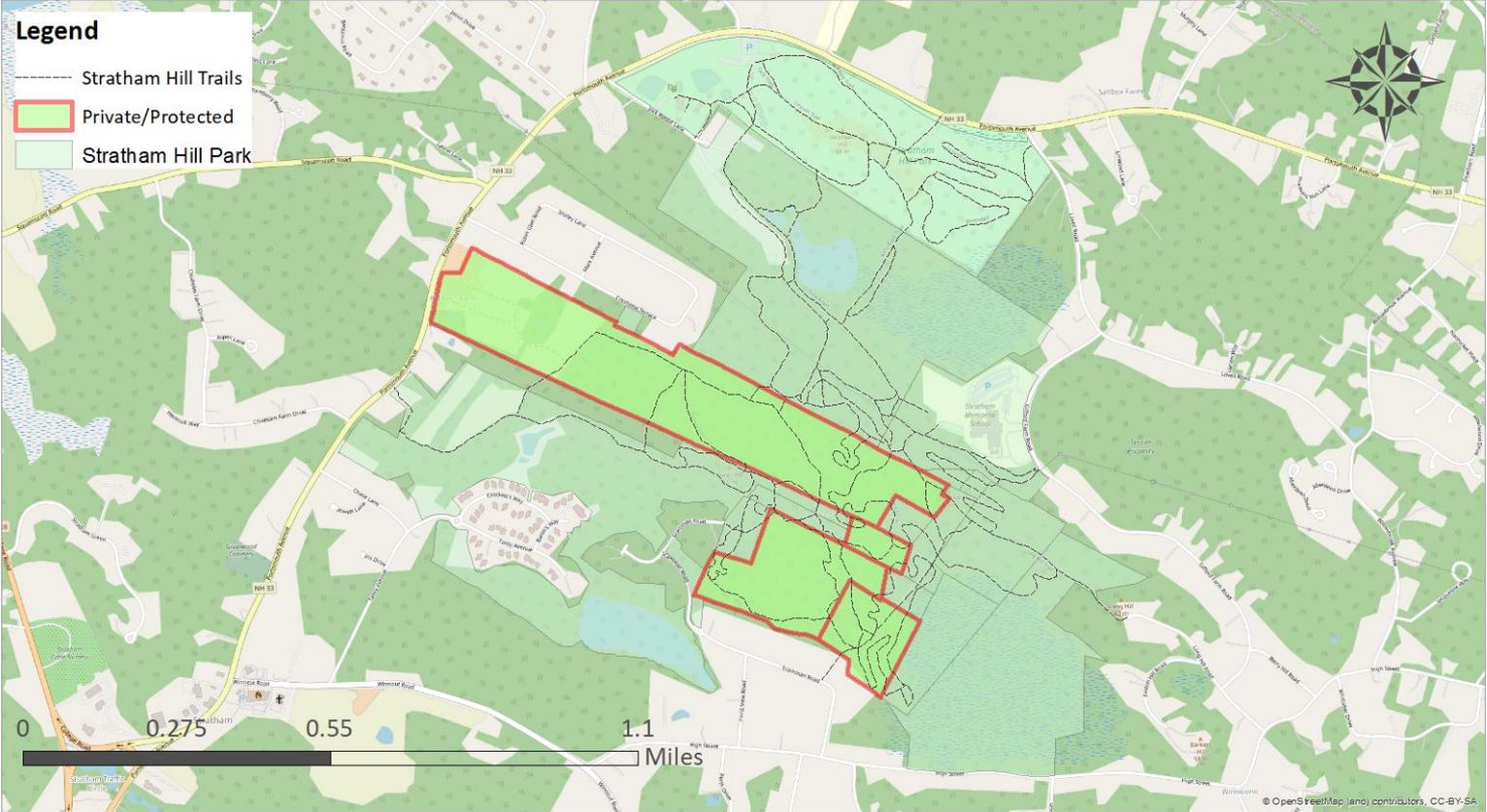
- o No Hunting in Town Forest or the Town Park.
- o Respect the rights of private owners.
- o Please stay on marked trails.
- o Dogs must be under voice control or leashed in Town Forest.
- o Please clean up after your dog.
- o Carry in, carry out park. Leave no trace.
- o Please be courteous to residents near trail access points:  
park within designated parking areas.

# Town Owned Parcels in SHP



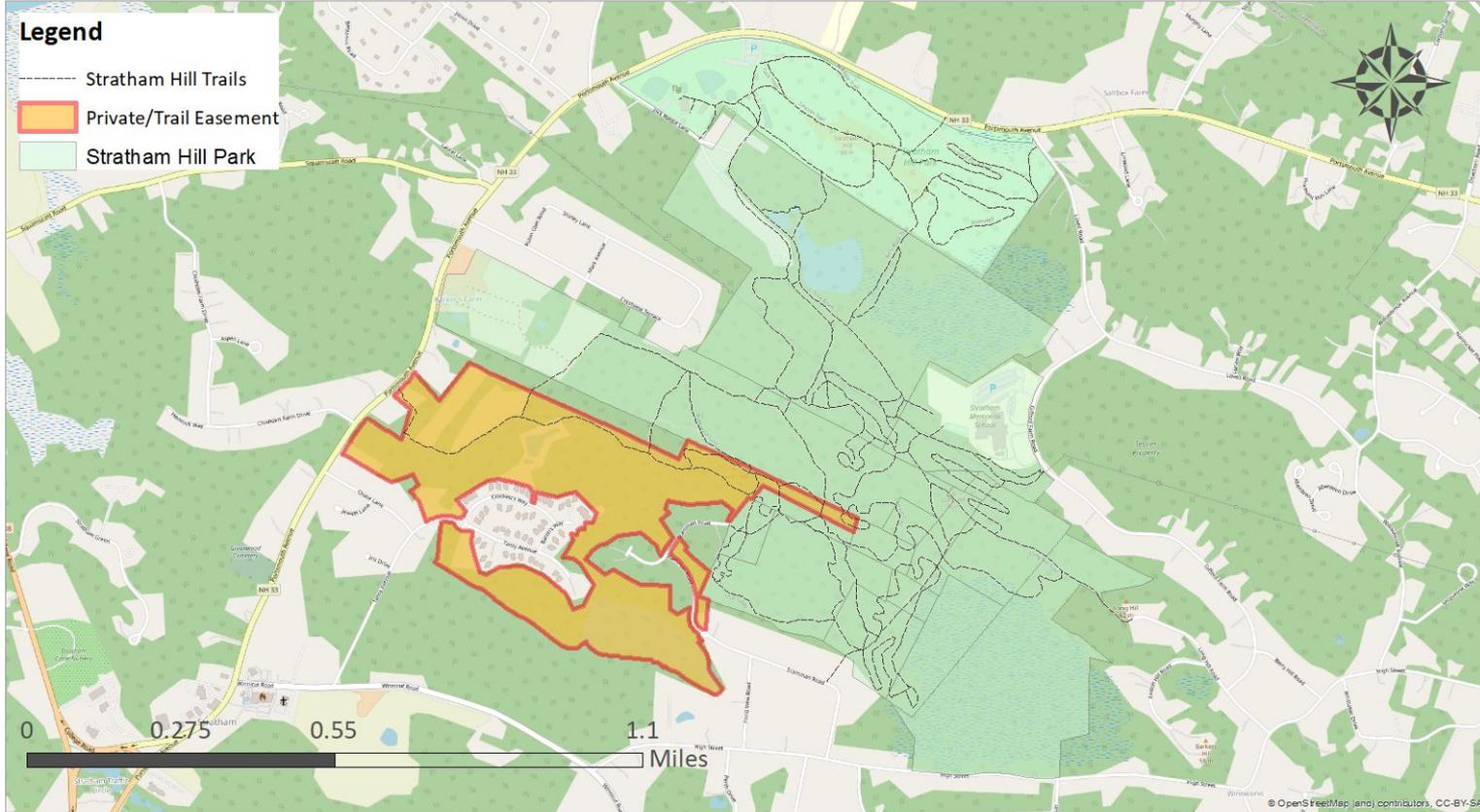
# Private/Protected\* Parcels in SHP

\*Private/Protected means the land is still owned by a private landowner but is protected under a conservation easement

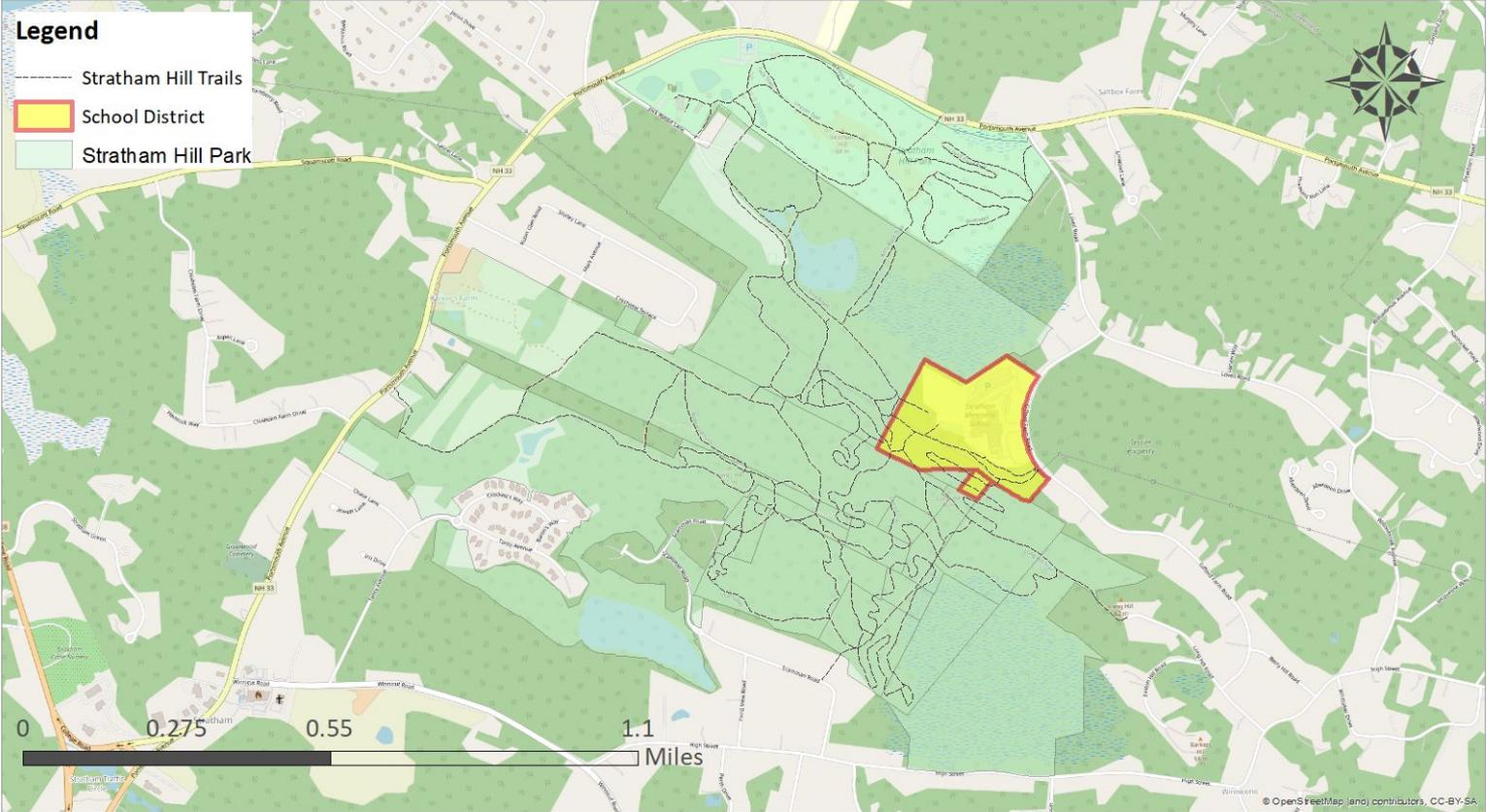


## Private/Trail Easement Parcels in SHP

\*Private/Trail Easement means the land is still owned by a private landowner but allows for trail access.

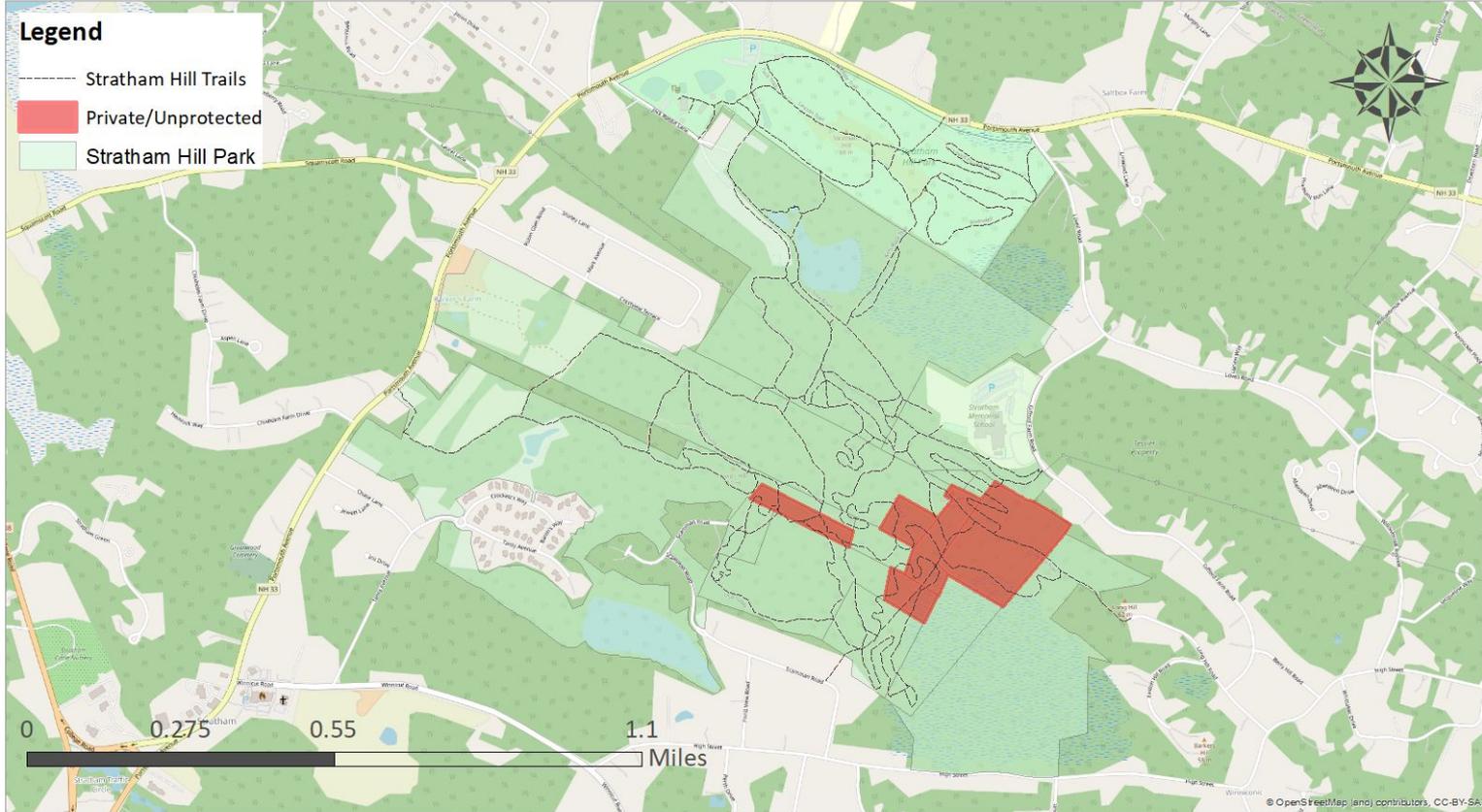


# School District Parcels in SHP



# Private/Unprotected Parcels in SHP

\*Private/Unprotected means the land is owned by a private landowner and has no protection from development



# Conservation

- There is a need to consider protecting those parcels that remain unprotected in the park



# Meeting Ground Rules

1. Treat each other with respect.
2. Minimize distractions (turn off cell phones, etc.)
3. Personal attacks will not be tolerated.
4. Speak honestly and constructively.

# Discussion - CONCERNS AND OPPORTUNITIES

- 2 Sticky Notepads - 2 colors!
- One sticky per idea
- Green: Please write an opportunity you see at SHP
  - Opportunity: something you LIKE, appreciate, see as a success
- Yellow: Please write a concern & a strategy to address the concern
  - Concern: something you do not like, see as not successful
- Once complete, each person will read aloud (if desired) and group by themes

# Breakout Groups

- 4 Groups - Pick 2
- Within your small group - 20 mins
  - Designate Team Leader to report to larger group
  - discuss your concerns & opportunities
  - Prepare findings for larger group -
    - **What are your main opportunities & concerns?**
    - **Did the group ID any potential solutions**
- In your 2nd group (20 mins)
  - Designate team leader
  - Discuss findings of first group and build off that discussion
  - Prepare findings for the larger group-
    - **What were the main opportunities and concerns?**
    - **Did the group ID any potential solutions?**
- Return to larger group and report back main points

# Survey & Where to Find More Information



Survey



More Information on Town of  
Stratham Website

# Next Steps: Focus Areas

- Complete data collection
  - Public Forum responses
  - Pursue counters for understanding use patterns/needs
  - Compile survey data (open) through September 4th, 2021
- Develop comprehensive rules/regs for entirety of park
  - Signage plan
  - Trail markers
  - Maps
- Work plan for trails based on need
  - Erosion control
  - Sensitive habitat
  - boardwalk/bridge repair
  - Closures of rogue side trails
- Next Public Forum: Late Fall