

PLANNING & ZONING
COMMISSION

Telephone: 860-435-5190
Fax: 860-435-5172
Email: landuse@salisburyct.us



TOWN OF SALISBURY
CONNECTICUT

DRAFT FOR APPROVAL

Town Hall
P.O. Box 548
27 Main Street
Salisbury, Connecticut 06068

November 4th 2024

Department of Energy and Environmental Protection
Open Space and Watershed Land Acquisition Grant Program
Constituent Affairs - Land Management Division
79 Elm Street, 6th Floor
Hartford, CT 06106-5127

To whom it may concern:

The Planning and Zoning Commission of the Town of Salisbury strongly supports the Salisbury Association's grant application to the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) for an Open Space Grant. This grant will help the Town preserve an additional 221 acres of forest and ridgeline in Salisbury's northeast corner in the Twin Lakes watershed. This acquisition is part of a multi-organization effort that has preserved more than 1,000 acres of contiguous landscape containing an interconnected ecosystem of forests, ridgelines, fens, vernal pools, and alkaline lakes. These habitats support a rich diversity of plants and animals, many of which are on the State list of endangered, threatened, and special concern species.

Salisbury's 2024 POCD recognizes the importance of maintaining large areas of habitat as a resiliency strategy to mitigate the effects of climate change. The POCD also recognizes that because of its size, wide elevation gradient, geology, and bio-geographical position in western Connecticut, Salisbury has an important stewardship responsibility for the entire State in terms of biodiversity preservation.

The Salisbury Planning and Zoning Commission (PZC), by unanimous vote, endorse this letter sent on its behalf by the Chair.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael W. Klemens". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "M".

Michael W. Klemens, PhD
Chair Salisbury PZC