South Burlington Land Trust

dedicated to preserving South Burlington's forests, wetlands, farmlands and other natural areas through landowner preservation agreements and other conservation vehicles to maintain city residents' high quality of life



April 8, 2022

To The South Burlington City Council Via Electronic Mail

Dear Councilor Riehle and fellow Councilors,

President
Sarah Dopp
Treasurer
Michael Mittag
Secretary
Alyson Chalnick
Janet Bellavance
John Bossange
Rosanne Greco
Karen Ryder
Allan Strong

Board of Directors

The South Burlington Land Trust, with over 200 members, is a nonprofit environmental organization dedicated to conserving undeveloped land in our City. The Hubbard Natural Area is a testament to our City's commitment to land conservation as a benefit for all its citizens. Purchased in 2013 with Open Space Funds, this parcel of undeveloped land is an asset for South Burlington residents. It is well used by people of all ages as a place to enjoy, experience, and walk in both fields and forests. For the past ten years, it has served us well in its rustic and natural state.

The South Burlington Land Trust board of directors is writing to express concerns regarding the development plans for this Natural Area. Specifically, we oppose any paving of paths on this field. In light of the City's commitment to addressing the climate crisis, we should not be adding any more impermeable surface areas, especially in the middle of a field. In this instance, less is best. We urge you to allow the Hubbard Natural Area to remain in its natural state, similar to other natural areas, such as Red Rocks Park.

Sincerely,

The South Burlington Land Trust Board of Directors