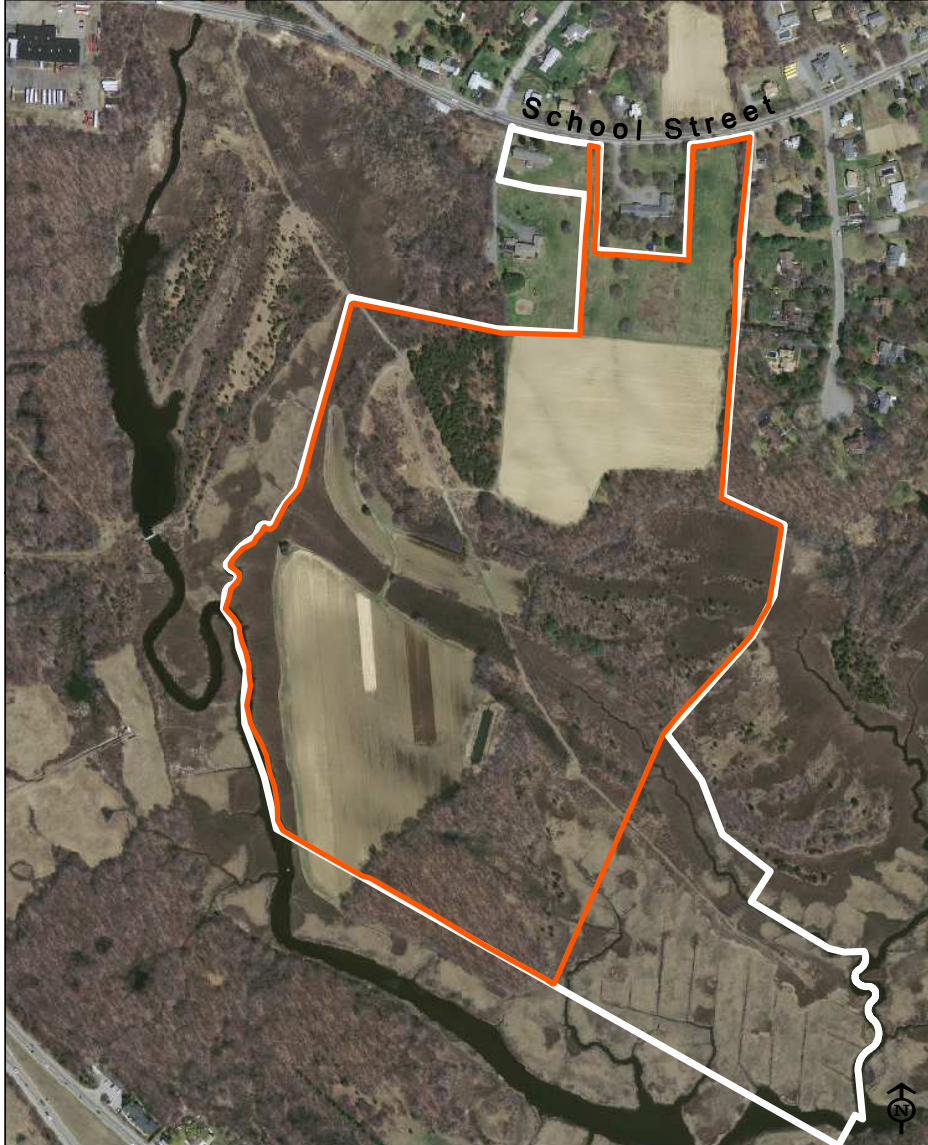


A Yes Vote on Article 11

Preserves 68 acres of Seekonk Farmland Forever



Parcel boundaries and 2009 orthophotos from MassGIS.

Benefits of Preserving School St Farmland

- ☑ Preserves best soils for farming
- ☑ Advances Seekonk's Master Plan
- ☑ Preserve Seekonk's agricultural character
- ☑ Significant leverage of local dollars: State APR program providing 80% of APR value
- ☑ Preserves land providing flood control
- ☑ Preserves Runnins River watershed
- ☑ Protects wildlife habitat

Legend

- Map 2 Lot 3
- Agricultural Preservation Restriction
~68 Acres

Vote: To transfer \$147,000 in CPC funds to permanently preserve 68 acres of Seekonk farmland

The property (Map 2 Lot 3) lies on the south side of School Street and consists of the best type of soils for farming in Massachusetts. The family-owned property has been leased to a local farm for decades. The family applied to and was accepted to the state's Department of Agricultural Resources' Agricultural Preservation Restriction (APR) program.

The APR program works with interested farmland owners to purchase their farmland's development rights in exchange for a permanent deed restriction, or APR. The APR eliminates rights to develop the farmland and permanently preserves the land for agricultural purposes.

An appraiser determined a value of \$735,000 for the development rights of the property. The state APR program committed to providing 80% (\$588,000) towards the APR. The Seekonk Community Preservation Committee (CPC) supports the transfer of \$147,000 in CPC dollars for the remaining balance of the APR.

A Yes vote tonight supports the transfer of \$147,000 of CPC dollars towards an APR to preserve the School Street property.

Once in the APR program, landowners continue to own their farmland. The land can always be sold, but is sold at farmland value and kept in farming. The APR program thus helps to protect Massachusetts' best farming soils for farming.