

Memorandum

To: Kathleen Gallagher, City Clerk

From: Advisory Committee on Trees
Charles Jackman, Jennifer Sager, and Robert Trumbule

Date: February 7, 2003

Subject: **Proposed Greenbelt Greenlands Ordinance (Report 2003-2)**

The Advisory Committee on Trees (ACT) has considered the proposed Greenbelt Greenlands Ordinance. ACT members met with Celia Craze, Director of Department of Planning and Community Development, and discussed the proposed ordinance at their regular meeting on January 23, 2003.

ACT members support the intent and structure of such an ordinance. It is an extremely worthwhile endeavor to protect parts of the original "greenbelt" and other natural open areas in the City of Greenbelt for future generations. ACT members do have some suggestions regarding the proposed ordinance:

- 1) A comprehensive review of the city's properties should be undertaken to provide an inventory of particular types of undeveloped areas that remain. These areas should be listed under different categories of property designations, such as a) Vegetation type and growth stage, b) Habitat type, c) Level of disturbance, d) Value as buffer, etc.
- 2) A list of likely types and sizes of preserved areas for the "Greenbelt Greenlands" should be developed and matched with the inventory of available undeveloped areas. Criteria such as the value of the area for recreational hiking, wildlife enhancement, etc. should be considered.
- 3) A list of desired future city projects should be created and matched with the inventory of available undeveloped areas and should not be included in the "Greenbelt Greenlands" list.
- 4) All areas of Greenbelt should be considered to be potential sites that may be included within this ordinance. It should be possible for residents in Greenbelt East and West, as well as the historic part of Greenbelt, to be relatively close to a "Greenbelt Greenlands" area.

ACT members are willing to help city staff with the suggested property vegetation types of the City of Greenbelt areas as needed.