## **MEMORANDUM**

To: Select Board, Jim Malloy

From: Carol Kowalski, Assistant Town Manager for Development

Date: September 4, 2024

RE: Busa Farm Conservation Restriction

Cc: K. Axtell, K. Katzenback, S. Lino, P. Tames, K. Ohmart, E. Entin, J. Platt, M. Fenollosa

The recording of a permanent conservation restriction is a condition of the 2009 purchase of the Busa Farm property with Community Preservation Act funding. Town Counsel, the grantee (Citizens for Lexington Conservation), Conservation Director Karen Mullins, and I, with input from LexFarm, and working with Pete Westover of Conservation Works, developed a final draft Conservation Restriction that now conforms to the Town's goals for the site (including a potential for future active recreation were all efforts to continue to lease to a farm operator ever exhausted), the CPA funding conditions, and the state's model conservation restriction.

The baseline documentation was submitted in December 2023. All parties and the state's counsel and CR reviewer have worked this year to develop the terms of the CR final draft in the Board's September 9 meeting packet. The state has approved this final draft for the Board's notarized signatures and for signature by the Secretary of Energy and Environmental Affairs.

I appreciate the Board's consideration of executing this long-awaited conservation restriction to protect the resource values of Lexington's farm property.