

Criteria for Discontinuance of a Trail

These criteria will be used to assist the Trails Subcommittee and Conservation Commission in determining whether a trail should be discontinued.

The following are criteria which might weigh in favor of discontinuing a trail:

1. Not heavily used by the public
2. Represents special maintenance problems: e.g., unhoused encampments, requires frequent mowing, wet areas requiring extensive infrastructure like bridges or boardwalks
3. Duplicates other trails in an area or is an extraneous trail in an existing system
4. Negatively impacts areas of special concern for habitat, plant life or wildlife such as: vernal pools, endangered species, nesting sites or deer yards
5. Problematic use

The following are criteria which might weigh against discontinuing a trail:

1. Trail is used by the public
2. Links conserved areas or trail networks
3. Provides access to natural areas for neighborhoods without such access
4. Provides access to special places: views, waterfront, natural features, historic features
5. Provides public access to City conservation land acquired with the intent for public use
6. Has strong community support to keep the trail open