

# ITEM

## 18-085

To consider and act on accepting a gift of a 4-acre parcel off of Oxford Lane to be placed into the Rines Forest Conservation Easement and to issue a gift letter.  
(Tabled from June 4<sup>th</sup>)



# M E M O R A N D U M

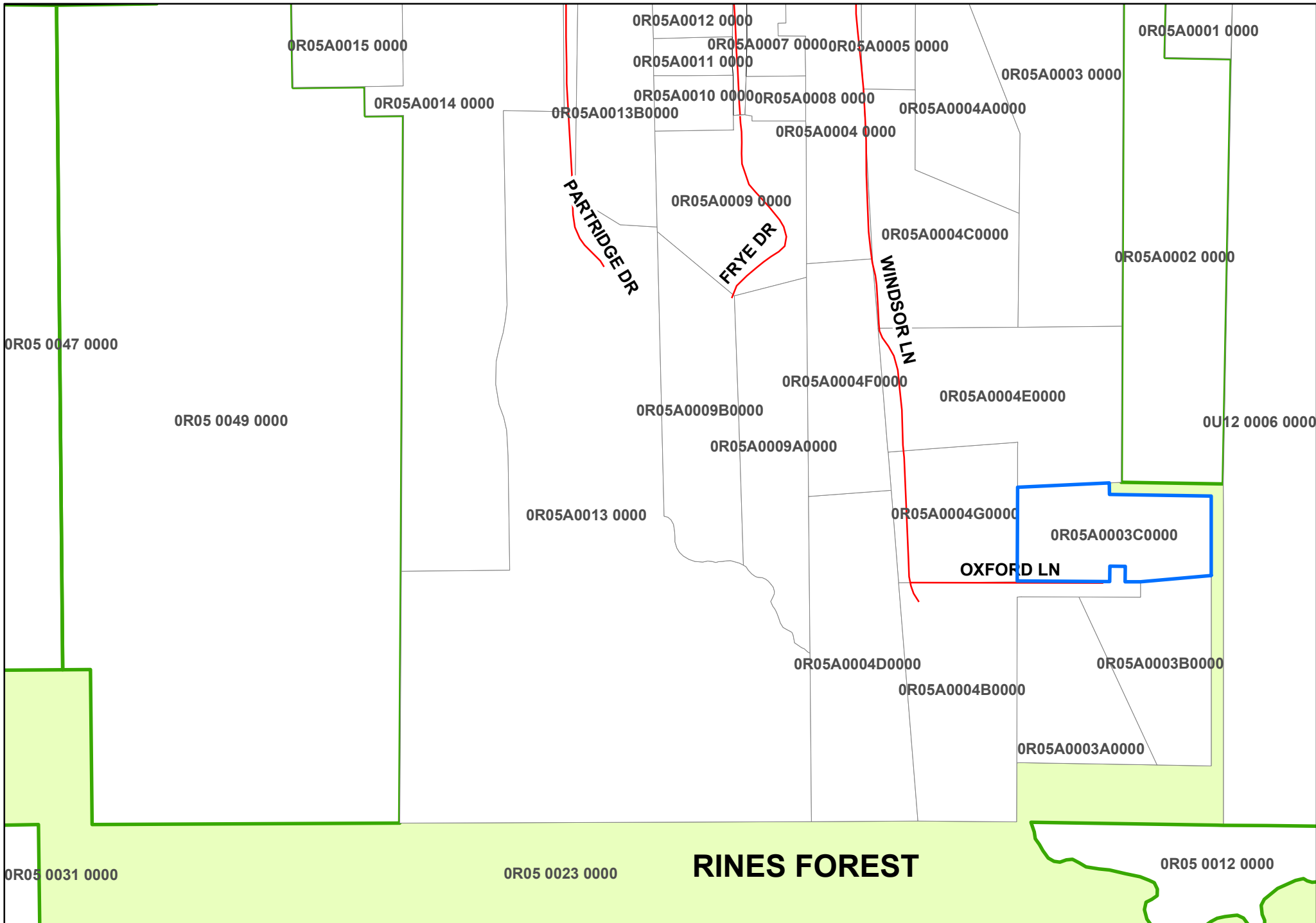
TOWN OF CUMBERLAND, MAINE  
290 TUTTLE ROAD  
CUMBERLAND, MAINE 04021  
TEL: 207-829-2205 FAX: 829-2224

**To:** Town Council  
**From:** William R. Shane, Town Manager  
**Date:** June 21, 2018  
**Re:** **18-085 – Oxford Lane Land Gift**

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Pursuant to your policy related to accepting new lands, the Lands & Conservation Commission has submitted a recommendation **“not to accept”** the land from Paul Benard. Mr. Benard and his neighbors have been in a long dispute over his new subdivision and the usage of Windsor Lane for the residents of Oxford lane. I believe that dispute has been resolved and one of Mr. Benard’s new lots was required to be left as open space.

If left as open space with the restrictions on the lot, the Assessor believes the value of the lot will be less than \$40,000 or about \$800 in property taxes.



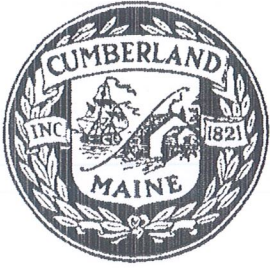
Gift from Paul Benard - 4.1 Acres  
Oxford Lane R5A Lot 3C

400 200 0 400 Feet



1 inch = 400 feet





## LANDS AND CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Town of Cumberland  
290 Tuttle Road  
Cumberland, ME 04021

June 20, 2018

Mr. Ronald Copp, Chairman  
Cumberland Town Council  
Cumberland, ME 04021

RE: Offer of 4-Acre gift by Mr. Benard

Dear Chairman Copp:

The Town Council recently referred the offer of a four-acre gift to the Lands and Conservation Commission (LCC) for a recommendation.

The LCC recognizes the significant scenic view of the property and its proximity to the Rines Forest and that acceptance of the gift would help protect the open space.

We also recognize that, because of the restricted public access and other limitations placed on the property through the bylaws and restrictive covenants, there would be very limited benefit to Cumberland citizens. Additionally, the Town would be responsible for added road maintenance costs associated with Oxford Lane.

Consequently, while the offer is attractive and the land could be a good addition to Rines Forest, because of the limitations placed on the land, we recommend the Town not accept the offer.

Sincerely,

Mike Schwindt  
LCC Chairman