

March 7, 2024

Christopher Zigmont, Chairperson  
Sustainability Advisory Committee  
Town of Exeter  
Exeter, NH 03833

RE: Exeter Warrant Article 24

Dear Citizens of Exeter,

We are writing today to express the unanimous, unqualified support of the Sustainability Advisory Committee (SAC) for Exeter 2024 Warrant Article 24, Citizen's Petition - 'Rugg Property'. Warrant Article 24 expresses support for the future purchase of 47 acres of property by the Town of Exeter, located north of Oaklands Town forest and east of Wood Ridge Lane, and owned by the Rugg family. The expressed purpose of the future purchase, and expanding the town owned Oaklands Town Forest, would be for the preservation of open space, public outdoor recreation, as well as protecting drinking water supplies and wildlife habitat. The petition requests the Select Board review the project, evaluate potential funding options such as bonds, and to advise and authorize the Select Board to apply for, obtain, accept, and pass through any federal or state grants, loans, or private gifts which may be available for this potential acquisition, in collaboration with and facilitated by conservation organizations.

It is the position of the SAC that this article is in the best interest of the Town of Exeter and its resident's sustainable future in providing and preserving this natural resource for generations and maintaining current outdoor recreational use. This article has no tax impact and raises no funds.

Respectfully,  
For and on behalf of the SAC

Christopher Zigmont