

## Town of Falmouth Community Development Department Code Office

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TO: Town Council

FR: Amanda L. Stearns, Community Development Director

CC: Nathan A. Poore, Town Manager

RE: Request from University of Maine Cooperative Extension to enter into a Service

Agreement to use the conservation area TFl for agricultural purposes

The University of Maine Cooperative Extension has entered into a purchase and sales agreement with Tidewater LLC to acquire several office units in the TV2 building on Clearwater Drive. This purchase will replace the initial request to the Town for the use of a portion of the TF1 conservation area for a regional learning center. As part of that purchase the University needs to establish long-term rights for the cultivation of land within the conservation area to support the educational efforts of Cooperative Extension.

The Conservation Easement and the purposed Service Agreement have been reviewed by staff, including Natalie Burns, Town Attorney, and it has been determined that the Agreement does not invoke subdivision requirements but does require the Town Council's approval under the language of the Conservation Easement. The University concurs with this interpretation.

The Service Agreement provides three acres of land to the University for the purposes of cultivation of plants and the establishment of some hardscape improvements such as trellises. These activities are permitted under the Easement. The University has agreed to work closely with Town staff to ensure that the terms of the Easement are met.

Please find a copy of the recorded Conservation Easement and a draft of the Service Agreement for your review.