

Review of Chatham Land Bank and Open Space Committee projects as of December 2005 based on the record as found in the Annual Town reports.

January 1999	The Land Bank Open Space Committee was established in January, 1999 to carry out the Cape Cod Open Space Acquisition Program created by Chapter 293 of the Acts of 1998. The committee's first meeting was on February 4, 1999. Funds for open space acquisitions became available in November, 1999 with the imposition of a 3 percent surcharge on real estate tax assessments. The Open Space Program is authorized to impose this surcharge until 2020.
First Purchase December 1999 STM	The committee's first open space purchase occurred in December, 1999. A special November Town Meeting approved borrowing \$500,000 from unallocated Town funds to purchase 11.38 acres bordering Lover's Lake with frontage on Old Comers Road in Chathamport from MCI/WorldCom. This loan was repaid from Land Bank funds in May, 2000 at a cost, with interest, of \$500,893.
May 2000 TM	That same May, Town Meeting approved the purchase of 4.84 acres at the intersection of Mill Hill and Meetinghouse Roads in South Chatham for \$66,600. This was a beneficial purchase at one-half the land's assessed valuation of \$133,200.
November 2000 STM	A special Town Meeting in November authorized a 2:1 joint purchase with the Chatham Conservation Foundation of 4.7 acres with 800 feet of frontage on Main Street (Rte. 28), West Chatham for \$277,000. Chatham provided two thirds or \$184,666.67 of the purchase price of which \$168,000 were Land Bank funds and \$16,666.67 were surplus Barnstable County monies returned to Chatham.
May 2001 STM	In 2001, two properties fronting Rte. 28 were purchased. These were 3.17 acres between Black Pond and Main Street, West Chatham (\$275,000) and 0.38 acre (\$26,000) in South Chatham.
January 2002	Only one purchase was funded in 2002. This was for 1.72 acres in the Old Village off Ivy Lane as a joint purchase funded with \$100,000 from the Land Bank, the Chatham Conservation Foundation (\$100,000) and abutters and neighbors (\$550,000).
May 2003 TM	The May 2003 Town Meeting authorized the purchase of 7 acres of saltwater marsh off Seaquanset Road, West Chatham for its assessed value of \$68,200 and of two lots totaling 0.93 acres on Skunk's Neck Road, Chatham for \$200,000, in a 1:1 joint purchase

with the Land Bank (\$100,000) and the Chatham Conservation Foundation and an abutter (\$100,000).

**May 2004
TM**

Four properties were approved for purchase in 2004. The first, 1.82 acres between Bearses Pond and Rte. 28, West Chatham, is to be known as the Captain George N. Harding Conservation Area. It was purchased for \$650,000. Beach frontage property of +/- one acre, adjacent to the Andrew Hardings Lane Town Landing, was purchased jointly for \$310,000 by the Land Bank (\$160,000) and Old Village Association (\$150,000). The third property, 0.52 acres at the intersection of Routes 137 and 28, was purchased for \$225,000 to be paid in two installments: \$125,000 in FY05 and \$100,000 in FY06.

**December 2004
STM**

A December 2004 special Town Meeting authorized the purchase of 8.33 acres known as the Sylvan Gardens for \$4,200,000. of which \$4,180,000 was bonded. This property lies between White and Black Ponds and Old Main Street, Chatham. Its purchase included the gift of 1.14 acres adjacent to the gardens by the Loyola Sylvan Trust. This purchase is the only Land Bank acquisition that has required bonding, to date.

December 2005

There was no Land Bank purchase in 2005. In the seven years since the Cape Cod Open Space Acquisition Program began, 12 properties totaling 44.79 acres have been purchased. The first 11 properties, 36.46 acres plus beach frontage off Andrew Hardings Lane, were acquired at a cost of \$2,339,693 to the Land Bank and \$1,009,000 to the Chatham Conservation Foundation, the Old Village Association, Barnstable County surplus funds, abutters and neighbors for a total of \$3,348,693. The Sylvan Garden acquisition of 8.33 acres brought the gift of an additional 1.14 acres which brings the total of conserved open space to 45.93 acres plus about an acre of beach frontage off of Andrew Hardings Lane.

Submitted by George Cooper
December 27, 2005.