Kennebunk Land Trust

# Frequently Asked Questions

There is an upcoming Kennebunk Town Warrant Vote to Accept Drala Drive as a Public Way. This document provides information on what it means for Kennebunk Land Trust and Tributary Preserve

### *1. Why is there a vote on accepting Drala Drive as s town road?*

On April 9th, 2024, the Kennebunk Select Board voted 5 – 2 to move the question of road acceptance for Drala Drive to the June 11 town warrant. They were able to do this under the new road ordinance that allows a road to be accepted if it is deemed as a public benefit. Drala Drive is a direct entrance to the parking lot and trailhead of Tributary Preserve, KLT's newest nature preserve with a planned 2.5 miles of trail.

### *2. What is the connection between accepting the town road and Kennebunk Land Trust?*

Drala Drive is the primary and clearest access point to Tributary Preserve. By accepting the road, the town ensures that Tributary and its recreational opportunities remains open and accessible to the public in perpetuity. The road is currently private and closed for public use.

Without an officially public road, access to the preserve may be limited or even restricted, hindering community members' ability to enjoy Tributary Preserve and the outdoor recreation benefits.

### *3. The new Kennebunk town road ordinance allows a road to be accepted if it is deemed as a public benefit. How is accepting Drala Drive a public benefit?*

Accepting the town road benefits the community in several ways:

- Enhanced Accessibility: A public road ensures reliable and consistent access to the nature preserve for residents and visitors. This allows for outdoor recreation, education, nature exploration.
- Community Engagement: Access to the nature preserve fosters a sense of community and belonging, encouraging residents to connect with each other and with the natural environment. KLT has enlisted many community volunteers, and students to build recreation trails, and has raised funds from within the community to support these projects by people who believe in the value of the preserve.
- Economic Benefits: Nature preserves attract visitors, benefiting local businesses and boosting tourism revenue.
- Environmental Conservation: By providing public access to the preserve, the community is supporting environmental stewardship and conservation efforts, raising awareness about the importance of protecting natural habitats and fostering an appreciation of nature through outdoor recreation.

### 4. How can I participate in the voting process?

The question on the town warrant is Referendum Question H, and will appear on the warrant as written below:

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*ARTICLE 10: Referendum Question H: To see if the Town will vote to accept as a Town Way, Drala Drive, as depicted on a plan titled "Subdivision Plan Highland Rose", by Christopher Barstow Builder LLC, approved June 29, 2021 by the Kennebunk Planning Board and as recorded in the York County Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 416, Page 46 on July 2, 2021.*

In person voting will occur on June 11, 2024, at Town Hall. From 6:00AM – 8:00PM. Absentee ballots are available the week of May 13th through June 6th for the June 11th, 2024 election. More information on the voting process can be found on the town website here. https://www.kennebunkmaine.us/election

**6. Where can I find more information about Tributary Preserve and the town warrant vote?**

For more information about Tributary Preserve and Drala Drive road acceptance can be found on KLT's website at http://www.kennebunklandtrust.org/referendum-question-h/

*Thank you for your interest in learning more about Referendum Question H!*

*KLT believes that by supporting the acceptance of Drala Drive, you are helping to preserve access to the natural beauty that enriches our community, and ensure public outdoor recreation opportunities in our town.*