

Community Facilities and Services

Draft Existing Conditions

Introduction

The Town of Wrentham owns and operates a variety of public facilities that serve the public good and make it possible for municipal employees and volunteers to provide services to residents both directly and indirectly. Wrentham's ability to provide adequate facilities and services depends on effective capital planning, a commitment to implementation, and the amount of revenue available for local government operations. This chapter of the master plan includes information about the structure of Town administration and provides an overview of the different types of facilities and services provided by the Town of Wrentham.

Key themes/findings

- The Town maintains a Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) which is reviewed and updated annually to guide improvements to Town-owned buildings, equipment, and infrastructure.
- The Town recently updated its Pavement Management Program (PMP) and completed a Water System Master Plan (WSMP) to assess the Town's roads and public water system.
- Aging infrastructure and the need for modernization of key municipal facilities in the next 10-15 years present challenges that will need to be balanced against the Town's limited funding for capital improvements.
- Many of the town's roads are in a serious state of disrepair due to a prolonged lack of funding. It is estimated that more than \$15 million in funding is needed to repair the Town's existing roadways.
- The Department of Public Works, the Building Department, and the Facilities Department are responsible for a wide range of tasks in maintaining the town's infrastructure, buildings, and equipment, but could use facility upgrades and additional staffing resources.
- Town Hall's existing size does not accommodate current space demands for operations and lacks adequate office space for town departments as well as community meeting space.

MUNICIPAL MISSION STATEMENT

The Town of Wrentham is a municipal government that seeks to promote and support a high quality of life for its citizens. Through the development and contribution of all employees to the maximum of their potential, the Town will provide quality services that result in the highest achievable levels of customer satisfaction and recognition for excellence. Service delivery will be cost effective, based on the needs of the community and the requirements of local ordinances, and state and federal laws. Our goal is to be the best local government for our size in Massachusetts and to be recognized throughout the Eastern United States for providing quality service to citizens and visitors.

Town government

Pursuant to the Town's General Bylaws, last revised in November 2019, Wrentham is governed by an open town meeting form of government and led by an elected five-member Board of Selectmen. In an Open Town Meeting form of government, all registered voter residents in attendance vote on the budget and other Articles in the Warrant. The warrant lists the meeting's time, place, and agenda. A Town Meeting's action is not valid unless the subject was listed on the Warrant.

The Board of Selectmen is the governing body as well as the Awarding and Licensing Authority of the Town. It is their responsibility for calling all Annual and Special Town Meetings and putting together the Town Meeting Warrants. The primary purpose of the Annual Town Meeting is to appropriate money to fund Town expenses for the fiscal year. The Moderator presides over these meetings at which Articles are presented to voters. Articles are items listed on the warrant.

Appropriations for each town function or department may be in separate articles or one article on the warrant may propose appropriations for all necessary town expenses. The Moderator announces and explains the articles contained in the meeting warrant, conducts the discussion of each article, and announces the results of each vote. The Finance Committee contributes to the decision-making process by analyzing the impacts of Articles and offering their recommendations for or against as they deem appropriate.

Town departments

The Town of Wrentham's government is comprised of more than 24 departments, each vital to the efficient operation of town business and the provision of public services. The Town Administrator is appointed by the Board of Selectmen and serves as the chief administrative officer of the Town. The Town Administrator is responsible for coordinating day-to-day operations of the community, including supervision of all town departments under the jurisdiction of the Board of Selectmen, and appointing most department heads. A list of Town departments, boards, and commissions which carry out governmental activities, classified by function, is below:

General Government

- Assessing Department
- Board of Selectmen
- Economic Development Commission
- Facilities Management
- Finance
- Human Resources
- Information Technology
- Planning and Community Development
- Town Administrator
- Town Clerk
- Town Moderator
- Treasurer/Collector
- Constables
- Emergency Management
- Fire Department
- Police Department
- Zoning Board of Appeals

Public Works

- Animal Control Officer / Animal Inspector
- Department of Public Works
- Recycling

Human and Health Services

- Council on Aging
- Commission on Disability
- Public Health Nurses
- Veteran's Agent
- Wrentham Housing Authority

Public Safety

- Building Department
- Board of Health

Culture and Recreation

- Fiske Public Library
- Historical Commission
- Recreation Commission

Education

- Wrentham Public Schools
 - Delaney School
 - Roderick Elementary School

Capital improvement planning

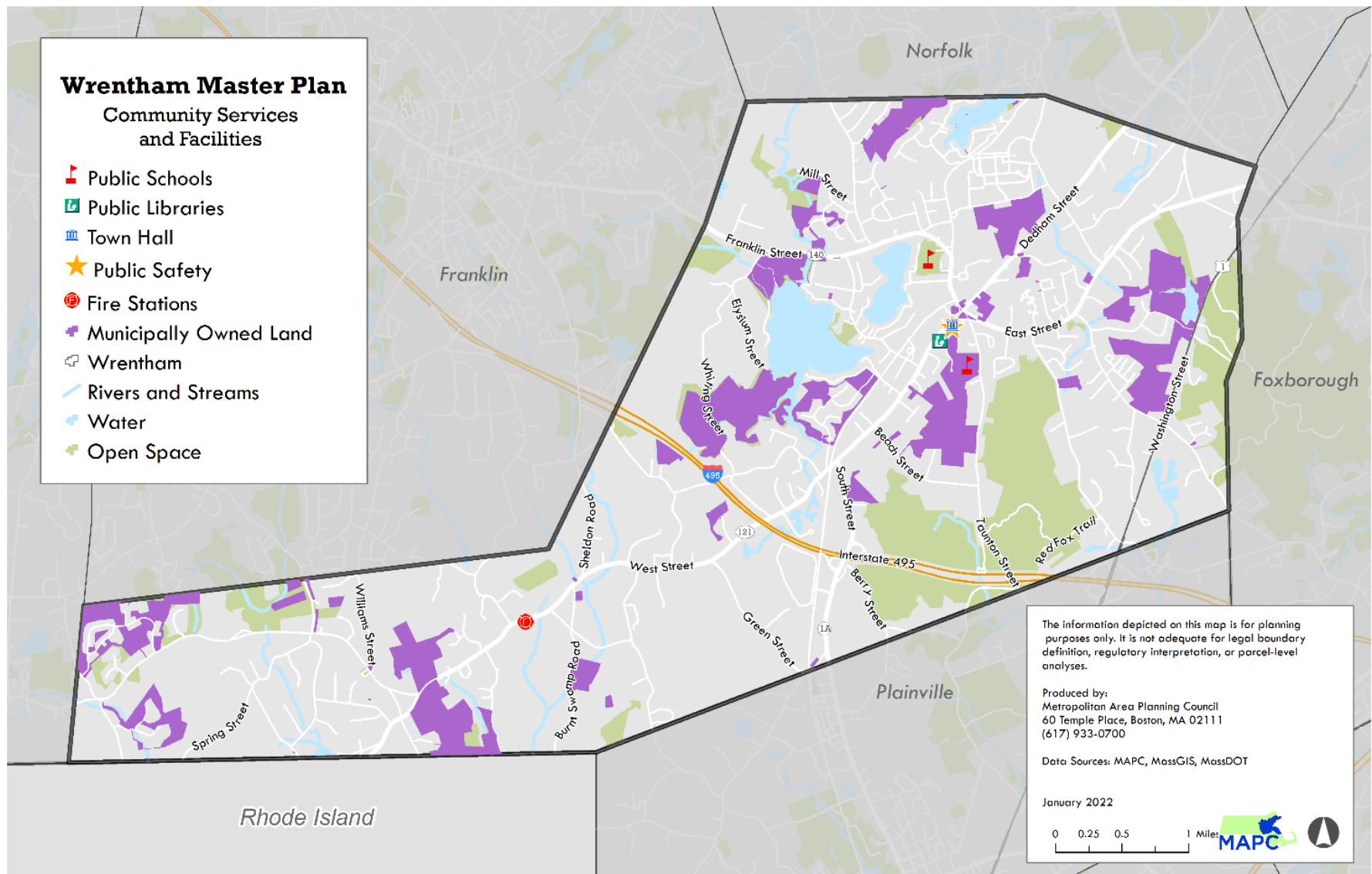
The Town maintains a Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) to guide improvements to the Town's buildings, equipment, and infrastructure, which is developed and updated annually by the Town Manager and Town Department heads and submitted to the Finance Committee for feedback. The CIP is a working document as items are added, removed, or moved out depending on needs and finances. While individual department heads are charged with submitting capital requests for their departmental needs, the Town's Director of Facilities & Capital Planning, develops the capital plan for all Town owned buildings.

The FY2022 CIP provides a detailed list of projects that have been completed or are currently being worked on, and information on funding sources for capital improvement projects. In addition to public infrastructure and general municipal facilities, the Town also makes capital investments in other types of community facilities projects including parks and open space, recreational facilities, and community and human services facilities.

In 2020, a Facility Condition Assessment was prepared for the Town of Wrentham by Dude Solutions in partnership with ALPHA Facilities Solutions, LLC. The report assessed the physical condition of 34 town owned facilities, totaling 274,831 square feet, and identified and documented current site needs. The report also assessed the remaining service life of major building systems including envelope; architectural finishes; roofs; electrical; plumbing; and heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC).

Data collected for the Facility Condition Assessment was also input into Capital Forecast – a cloud-based capital planning tool used to forecast facility maintenance needs and estimate current and future funding requirements for facility sustainment. The software's implementation has raised the Town's awareness of the condition of their buildings and brought more needed improvements to light. Although the comprehensive assessment serves as a guide for long term capital planning, the Town uses Dude Solutions – an online work order request system – to order and track both regular and preventative maintenance throughout the Town's facilities.

Figure 1: Wrentham's Public Facilities



Town facilities and infrastructure

A public facility is any town-owned asset that has been developed for a public purpose and provides community services, such as school facilities and also includes non-building facilities such as parks, playgrounds, and cemeteries.

Municipal Buildings

The Town of Wrentham currently owns and manages 9 public buildings as well as some accessory structures throughout the town. The major structures include the following:

- **Wrentham Town Hall:** The Wrentham Town Hall, which houses several municipal departments, is located in the town center at 79 South Street. The two-story, 10,984 sq. ft. facility was originally constructed in 1950 and underwent substantial renovations and additions in the early 2000s. These improvements helped to alleviate the space needs of some departments. However, Town Hall's existing size does not accommodate current space demands for operations and lacks adequate office space for town departments as well as community meeting space. The 2020 Facilities Assessment describes the building as well maintained and in good condition.
- **Building Inspector Office:** The Building Inspector Office building is located near the DPW Facility at 350 Taunton Street. The one story, 1,500 sq. ft. structure was built in 1935 and houses administrative offices for the town's Building Inspector.
- **Wrentham DPW Facility:** The Wrentham Public Works Facility is located at 360 Taunton Street. The two-story, 9,638 sq. ft. main building, which houses the Town's Department of Public Works, was constructed in 1977. The public works site also includes the DPW garage, a leased multiuse trailer, a storage building, a salt shed, and the town's brush dump. The DPW building and grounds are the largest and oldest of the Town's facilities, which have yet to be renovated.
- **Animal Control Garage:** The Animal Control Garage is located near the DPW Facility on Taunton Street. The one-story, 600 square-foot building was built in 1935 and provides storage for animal control. This facility is generally in poor condition and many of the major building systems are deteriorated and have exceeded their recommended useful life.
- **Cemetery Garage Building:** The Cemetery Garage Building is located on the site of the Wrentham Center Cemetery, a 15-acre cemetery, that is also owned and operated by the Town. The one-story, 600 square-foot building was built in 1942 and provides storage for both cemetery maintenance and ancillary DPW operations. This facility is generally in poor condition and many of the major building systems are deteriorated and have exceeded their recommended useful life.
- **Wrentham Public Safety Building:** The Wrentham Public Safety Building, located at 89 South Street, serves as the headquarters for both the Wrentham Police Department and Wrentham Fire Department. The two story, 38,329 sq. ft. building was built in 2002 and features a large, shared meeting space.
- **Sheldonville Fire Station (Station #2):** Constructed in 1978, the Sheldonville Fire Station (Station #2), is a 1,978 sq. ft. building located at 1143 West Street. The facility is generally in good condition and a majority of the major and minor building systems are

within their expected service life. The station has two vehicle bays and accommodates approximately 4 personnel at a time. The 2019 Town Meeting approved \$150,000 in funding for basic repairs and maintenance to the Sheldonville Fire Station. These improvements will make the facility ready for personnel to occupy the station on a more regular basis.

- **Fiske Public Library:** The Fiske Public Library is located, across from Roderick Elementary School at 110 Randall Road and shares a parking lot with the Sweatt Athletic Complex. Built in 1997, this 13,840 sq. ft. building houses the Town's 90,654 holdings.
- **Wrentham Senior Center:** The Wrentham Senior Center located at 400 Taunton Street serves as the headquarters for the Council on Aging. This 3,778 sq. ft. facility was constructed in 1997 and features a food prep area for the center's Meals on Wheels program. The building is generally in good condition.
- **Old Fiske Library Museum & Gallery:** The Old Fiske Library Museum & Gallery is located at 55 East Street. This 3,997sq. ft., 1890's structure once served as the town library. Today the building houses the Wrentham Historical Commission and the Wrentham Arts and Cultural Commission and serves as a meeting space for community events.
- **Wampum House:** The Wampum House is a historic cape style farmhouse located at 677 South Street in Wampum Corner. Because of its age and nearly unaltered condition, the Wampum House is one of Wrentham's earliest and most significant structures (see the Historical and Cultural Resources chapter for more information). The main building was built in 1694 and a one-story addition was later added to the rear of the home. The two story, 2,215 sq. ft. facility is generally in good condition and a majority of the building systems are within their expected service life. The Wampum House is owned by the Town and maintained by the Facilities Department. The facility is also rented out to the community for private events.

OTHER PUBLIC FACILITIES

Recreational Facilities

The Town of Wrentham has a number of facilities that offer passive and active recreational opportunities (**Table 1**). Facilities actively managed by the Recreation Commission are generally located at two facilities: the William A Rice Recreation Area, and the Sweatt Athletic Complex. The Rice facility, located on Emerald Street across from the Developmental Center, includes over eighty acres of playing fields and courts, as well as a large parking area and the recreation commission offices. The Sweatt complex is a sixty-acre site, shared with a few school buildings, and offers additional playing fields, courts, and park spaces. It also offers connectivity with the Trout Pond and Knuckup Hill open spaces parcels. The Recreation Commission also manages the Sweatt Beach portion of the Water Department's property at Lake Pearl.

Two additional facilities managed by the Department of Public Works also offer recreation opportunities in the town center. Sweatt Memorial Park offers tennis courts and park spaces in a town center setting. It is adjacent to Wrentham Town Common, which is a favorite recreation site for residents. Please refer to the Open Space and Recreation Chapter of this plan and the Town's 2020 Open Space and Recreation Plan for more detailed information on Wrentham's parks, open space, and recreation facilities.

Table 1: Recreation Commission Facilities

Managed by Recreation Commission			
Name	Location	Description/Amenities	Acreage
William A. Rice Complex	54 Emerald Street	1 Baseball/2 softball fields, 3 basketball courts, 2 volleyball courts, multi-use fields, batting cages	80.49
Sweatt Athletic Complex	120 Taunton Street	1 Baseball/ 2 softball fields, 2 Little League fields, tee ball, picnic shelter, tot lot, batting cages, trails	58.34*
Sweatt Beach and Boat Landing	715 Franklin Street	Beach, dock, picnic area, volleyball, bathhouse, kayaking and paddleboard rentals	76.55#
Managed by Department of Public Works			
Name	Location	Description/Amenities	Acreage
Sweatt Memorial Park	3 Franklin Street	Tennis courts, benches, picnic area, path, lighting	0.96
Town Common	5 Common Street/ 20 East Street	Benches, paths, gazebo, monuments	2.34

Source: Town of Wrentham Board of Assessors and Recreation Commission

*Includes school site #Includes Water Department land

Town Cemeteries

Wrentham has two town-owned cemeteries. They include the historic Wrentham Center Cemetery and the Sheldonville Cemetery. Established in 1673, the Wrentham Center Cemetery located along East Street and Dedham Street is one of the oldest cemeteries in Wrentham. The 15-acre site has more than four hundred gravestones that bear the names of individuals and families who were prominent in the Town's economic history. The Sheldonville Cemetery is a smaller cemetery located on Burnt Swamp Road that dates back to 1813. Both of these facilities are maintained by the Cemetery Division of the Department of Public Works.

Table 2: Town Cemeteries

Name	Location	Acreage
Wrentham Center Cemetery	65 East Street	15.00
Sheldonville Cemetery (Burnt Swamp)	43 Burnt Swamp Road	1.96

Source: Town of Wrentham Board of Assessors and Recreation Commission

INFRASTRUCTURE

Roadways and Sidewalks

Wrentham has approximately 96 miles of streets and roadways within its town limits, which includes 26 miles of state-maintained facilities. As mentioned in the Transportation & Connectivity chapter of this plan, approximately 25% of Wrentham's streets have sidewalks on at least one side and only 2% have sidewalks on both sides of the street. Most of the town's existing sidewalk network is centered around downtown and Route 1A south of downtown.

The Department of Public Works is responsible for maintaining all town owned public roadways and sidewalks. In 2021 the DPW worked with Environmental Partners Group, Inc. to develop a Pavement Management Plan (PMP) for the town's roadway system. This long-term planning document has been used to identify and prioritize Wrentham's roadway infrastructure needs. The PMP highlights the most effective use of funding by examining multiple means of pavement preservation and reconstruction.

Many of the town's roads are in a serious state of disrepair due to a prolonged lack of funding. It is estimated that more than \$15 million in funding is needed to repair the Town's existing roadways. Through State Aid, which ranges from approximately \$250,000 to \$450,000 each year, the Town can fund a handful of roadway improvement projects. It is estimated that an annual investment of 3 million dollars is needed to maintain the town's roads in their present state.¹

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts' Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) is a federally mandated, prioritized listing of highway, bridge, intermodal, and transit investments implemented with funding from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). Local communities and Metropolitan Planning Organizations partner to develop local priorities to be included in the TIP. Currently, Wrentham has one project listed in the TIP:

Route I-495/Route-1A Ramps Reconstruction project

The purpose of the Route I-495/Route-1A Ramps Reconstruction project is to improve traffic safety and operation of Route 1A (in the area of Route I-495), including I-495 Southbound (SB) off/on ramps. Work for this project will include the construction of a new slip ramp (from Route-1A NB to Route-I-495 SB) and milling and repaving of the existing pavement. Pedestrian and bicycle accommodations consisting of 10-foot-wide paved, shared-use-paths will be provided along both sides of Route 1A in accordance with applicable design guides.²

For more detailed information on Wrentham's recent transportation improvements Please refer to the Transportation & Connectivity chapter of this plan.

Water

Wrentham's water system consists of approximately 95 miles of water mains, five groundwater supply wells, three treatment facilities and three storage tanks. In addition, the Town maintains six emergency interconnections with neighboring water distribution systems including two with the Town of Norfolk, one with the Town of Foxborough, and one with the Town of Franklin. The other two connections are with the Wrentham Development Center (WDC), which operates the Wrentham State School. The system is managed by the Water Division of the Department of Public Works.

Table 3: Water Facilities

Name	Location
Franklin Street Well No. 2	Located to the north of Lake Pearl
Franklin Street Well No. 3	
Thurston Street Well No. 4	Located in the eastern part of Wrentham near Route 1
Lake Pearl Well No. 5	Located adjacent to Lake Pearl
Crocker Pond Well No. 6	Located adjacent to Crocker Pond

Source: Town of Wrentham Annual Water Quality Report 2020

The Water Division recently oversaw the completion of a 5-million-dollar water main replacement project on Madison Street. The purpose of this project was to increase fire flows and provide redundancy throughout the water distribution system. The project called for the replacement of two existing 12-inch dead end watermains with a new 16-inch loop along the entire length of Madison Street from East Street

¹ Town of Wrentham, 2019 Annual Report

² MassDOT Highway Design Public Hearings, <https://www.mass.gov/event/wrentham-route-i-495route-1a-ramps-reconstruction-2022-01-26t183000-0500-2022-01-26t193000-0500>

(Rt. 106) to Washington Street (Rt. 1) for a total length of 8,940 feet. In addition, new stormwater features such as bioswales and regrading were implemented at various locations along Madison Street to promote improved drainage under the Massachusetts Stormwater Standards.³ This project will greatly aid in the economic development of Route 1.

A Water System Master Plan (WSMP) was recently prepared for the Town of Wrentham by Environmental Partners Group, LLC. The WSMP will help ensure that the Town can provide high-quality drinking water to all customers and serve as a roadmap to guide improvements to Wrentham's water system in the coming years. The WSMP includes an assessment of the Town's existing water storage facilities and projected storage needs. Overall, the plan found that the Town has the ability to meet present and future demands with all of its water supply sources and treatment facilities operational. However, the WSMP recommends that the Town pursue additional groundwater supplies in west Wrentham, improve resiliency at existing facilities, and maintain updated emergency response plans. Section 6 of the WSMP presents a Capital Improvements Program (CIP) with cost estimates for recommended improvements that should be implemented over the next 20 years to properly maintain and improve Wrentham's public water system.

Sewer

Wrentham has no municipal sewer system. Waste disposal is primarily through on-site wastewater treatment systems, i.e., septic systems. Some older properties which have not been updated still have cesspools, which are upgraded to comply with Title 5 as properties change hands (See the Land Use chapter for more information about Title 5 Septic System regulations). The Wrentham Developmental Center and two open space subdivisions, Oak Hill and Toils End, have their own small "package" treatment plants for the use of the homes within the subdivision.

Town services

While public facilities provide physical space for local government services, service delivery also depends on people: municipal staff and volunteers. Community services include municipal services and utilities such as public safety (police, fire, and EMS), public health, recreation, public water, sewer, and partner organization and contracted services such as solid waste and recycling or street maintenance.

Town Facilities Management

Public Works

The Wrentham Department of Public Works (DPW) is headquartered at 360 Taunton Street. The DPW is responsible for managing and maintaining the Town's public works infrastructure and provides support to multiple other Town departments. The Public Works Department is staffed by 21 full-time employees and is organized into five divisions: Administration, Highway, Water, Cemetery, and Fleet Maintenance. Each division is supervised by a division manager, with overall direction from the Department of Public Works Director.

The Highway Division is responsible for maintaining all public roadways and sidewalks, the stormwater drainage system, snow plowing and sanding operations, road signage, and traffic markings. The division also oversees grounds maintenance for all public buildings, Town-owned cemeteries, the Town Commons and public shade trees. The Highway Division actively saves the town money by keeping most requests for service in house. Work such as failing catch basins, arborist work, small drainage repair problems, removing beaver obstructions, roadside mowing, annual cross walk painting, patching potholes and

³ Madison St. Water Main Replacement, GZA GeoEnvironmental, Inc, <https://www.gza.com/projects/madison-st-water-main-replacement>

trenches as well as most other kinds of road repairs are all done with the divisional staff. Inland flooding is one of the highest priority local impacts of climate change in Wrentham, therefore stormwater drainage and roadway landscaping is increasingly important.

The Water Division is responsible for providing high quality drinking water to homes and businesses. The Division operates and maintains the town's Municipal Public Drinking water system, as described above. The Water Division is further charged with emergency repairs to water main breaks, installing and reading water meters, testing meters, and other components of the water distribution system. The Cemetery Division oversees the preservation, maintenance, operation and perpetual care of town owned cemeteries. This Division manages all burials, cremations, headstone installations, and sales of lots for the Wrentham Center Cemetery.

In addition to core DPW administrative functions, the DPW also provides fleet maintenance services for most town vehicles and oversees the vendor contract for curbside solid waste disposal and recycling services. The Town utilizes automated curbside trash and recycling collection. Through a contractor, trash is collected weekly, and recyclable items are collected bi-weekly. Residents are provided with a blue 96-gallon wheeled cart for recycling and a black 35-gallon wheeled cart for trash. The DPW also operates the Town's Yard Waste Drop-off site. Wrentham residents that pay the annual trash fee and purchase a \$20 sticker can use the center. Waste accepted at the DPW Brush/Compost Site includes leaves, grass/lawn clippings, branches, shrubs, and Christmas trees.

Although the DPW works continuously to maintain the Town's infrastructure, their own facilities are significantly degraded and require substantial investment in order to serve the needs of the Department and the Town as a whole. A facility condition assessment conducted by Alpha Facilities Solutions in 2020 concluded that several of the DPW Facility's major building systems have exceeded their useful life, do not meet current building codes, and their condition negatively impacts both the Department's operational efficiency and employee safety.

Facilities Department

The Facilities Department is responsible for the maintenance and repair of all town owned buildings including projects such as those related to building envelopes, building systems, flooring, and fixed building assets that are not department specific. The department is led by the Director of Facilities & Capital Planning and staffed by one full-time Maintenance Technician, two part time janitors, and one part time administrative assistant. In addition to regular custodial duties, response to work order requests, and planned maintenance activities, the Facilities Department is also charged with developing the annual Capital Improvement Plan.

Public Safety

Police Department

The Wrentham Police Department (WPD) is committed to working in partnership with the citizens of Wrentham to provide the highest level of public safety and services to the community. The members of the Department are empowered to enforce the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the By-Laws of the Town of Wrentham. The Department is led by the Chief of Police, who – with the support of the Deputy Chief of Police – oversees the divisions comprising the Police Department. The WPD has a total of 23 FTE employees, including five sergeants, fourteen patrolmen, an administrative assistant, and Cruiser, the Community Resource Dog. The Police Department operates out of the Public Safety Building at 89 South Street, which also houses the Fire Department.

Fire Department

The Wrentham Fire Department provides a range of emergency services, including fire prevention and suppression, emergency medical services, and code enforcement. As of fiscal year 2020 (FY20), the Fire Department is staffed by a Chief of Department, Deputy Chief, Administrative Captain, Fire Prevention & Training Captain; four Shift Captains that serve as Shift Commanders, 20 firefighters and an administrative assistant. In FY20 the Fire Department applied for and received a \$1,003,828 grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). This additional funding will enable the Department to hire six additional firefighters and staff two ambulance crews per shift.

Wrentham has two fire stations that house a variety of apparatus. The Fire Department Headquarters are located in the Public Safety Building at 89 South Street. The 2019 Town Meeting approved \$150,000 in funding for basic repairs and maintenance to the Sheldonville Fire Station (Station 2) located at 1143 West Street. These improvements will make the facility ready for personnel to occupy the station on a more regular basis. The department currently maintains three class “A” pumpers, a heavy-duty ladder truck, a 2,500-gal tanker/pumper, two ambulances, two brush trucks, and three support vehicles. The condition of the Department’s fleet has been improved significantly with the addition of a new Class “A” pumper and a new Ambulance. The Fire Department is actively exploring replacement strategies either through capital or grant alternatives as costly repairs and the age of the Department’s vehicle fleet remain a challenge.

Emergency Management

The Wrentham Emergency Management Agency (WEMA) is the town agency responsible for coordinating local, state, regional, federal, volunteer, and private resources during emergencies and disasters in the Town of Wrentham. The Emergency Management Director (EMD) provides the lead command and control for all-hazards that require the coordination of more than one agency for emergency events. WEMA develops plans for effective response to all-hazards, disasters or threats; trains emergency personnel and volunteers to protect the public; provides information to residents; and assists individuals, families, and businesses to mitigate against, prepare for, and respond to and recover from all-hazards emergencies.

The Emergency Operations Center (EOC) is located at the Wrentham Public Safety building. The EOC is under the command and authority of the Emergency Management Director. The center provides a place for representatives of the Local Emergency Management Team to assemble and coordinate the support of any type of emergency in the Town. The EOC is equipped with computers, communication, and monitoring equipment, which enables officials of the various departments and outside agencies to communicate and bring needed resources to the emergency. If additional resources from outside the community are required, Emergency Management will coordinate requests through the center.

Building Department

The Building Department provides building, electrical, plumbing, and gas inspectional services and administers the State Building Code and enforces the town’s Zoning Bylaw. Building Department is headed by the Building Commissioner/Zoning Enforcement Officer and staffed by a Local Building and Mechanical Inspector, a Wiring Inspector, an Assistant Wiring Inspector, a Plumbing and Gas Inspector, Assistant Plumbing and Gas Inspector and an Administrative Assistant. The Building Department offices are located near the DPW Facility at 350 Taunton Street.

Planning and Community Development

Located in Town Hall, the Planning and Community Development Department (PCDD) provides guidance, coordination, and advisory planning services to the Town of Wrentham. This Department is involved in

many key town-wide initiatives including but not limited to land use, zoning, transportation, economic development, affordable housing, open space, and land preservation. The PCDD is led by the Director of Planning & Economic Development and staffed by a full time Land Use Specialist, a part time Administrative Assistant, and a part time Conservation Agent.

The PCDD staff provides administrative support to the Planning Board, the Zoning Board of Appeals, and Conservation Commission to administer the Town's Zoning Bylaw. Working with various Town departments, boards, committees and community organizations, the Department also helps develop policies, program initiatives, and recommended zoning provisions to guide the future development of the community in alignment with the Town's Master Plan.

Public Education

Wrentham Public Schools

Wrentham operates a PK-6 public school system which is comprised of two schools located on one campus at 120 Taunton Street. The mission of Wrentham Public Schools (WPS), in partnership with families and the community, is to establish a safe, supportive, and structured environment in which students can achieve individual success. The district is governed by the Wrentham School Committee, a board of five elected members, and managed by the Superintendent.

According to the most recent data available from the Massachusetts Department of Education, 921 students were enrolled in Wrentham Public Schools for the 2021-2022 school year. Of these, approximately 59% were students in pre-kindergarten through grade 3 and 41% in grades 4 to 6. The Delaney School, which includes the Vogel Building and Janneli Annex, houses students in preschool through grade 3. The Roderick Elementary School is for students in grades 4 through 6. Table 1 summarizes Wrentham's public-school buildings and their associated recreational facilities.

Table 4: Wrentham Public Schools

School	Year Built	Address	Grades	Enrollment	Recreation Facilities
Delaney School	1956	120 Taunton Street	PK-3	541	Sweatt Athletic Complex: 1 Baseball/ 2 softball fields, 2 Little League fields, tee ball, picnic shelter, tot lot, batting cages, trails
George L. Vogel Building	1935				
Janneli Annex	2003				
Charles E Roderick Elementary School	1968	120 Taunton Street	4-6	380	

King Philip Regional Schools

After 6th grade, students attend King Philip Regional District schools, which bring together approximately 1,874 students from Wrentham, Norfolk, and Plainville. Of these, approximately 38% are students enrolled at the regional middle school (grades 7-8) and 62% are enrolled at the regional high school (grades 9-12). The King Philip High School is located in Wrentham, while the King Philip Middle School is located in Norfolk.

Culture and Recreation

Fiske Public Library

The Fiske Public Library was constructed in 1997 and is located at 110 Randall Road between Roderick Elementary School and the Sweatt Athletic Complex. The Library serves as a cultural hub for the community and offers a variety of programming for children, teens, and adults. In addition to the area occupied by the circulation desk the facility features nine public computer workstations, a Children's Reading Room, a Homework Center, two study rooms, and three community meeting rooms. The Fiske Library has over 6,600 registered patrons and 90,654 holdings. Wrentham is part of the SAILS Library Network of 72 public and academic libraries in 40 communities throughout Southeastern Massachusetts, offering residents access to books, movies, music, magazines, and reference material. Additionally, the Library provides a number of museum passes that can be checked out.

Old Fiske Library Museum

The Old Fiske Library was built in 1894 and has since been renamed the Old Fiske Museum. The museum was renovated in 2010 and now houses the Wrentham Historical Commission and the Wrentham Arts and Cultural Commission. The Old Fiske Museum is open to the public the first Sunday of each month and hosts a variety of exhibits, local artifacts, art, and open houses throughout the year.

Wrentham Recreation Department

The Wrentham Recreation Department along with the Recreation Commission provides a wide variety of recreational programming for residents and maintains the Town parks, open space, and recreational facilities. The Recreation Department is staffed by a Recreation Director, an Assistant Recreation Director and an Administrative Assistant and operates from an office at the William Rice Recreation Complex located at 54 Emerald Street. The Recreation Department is committed to providing a safe and secure environment for the public to enjoy Wrentham's open space areas while collaborating with other organizations to promote community pride. Please refer to the Open Space and Recreation chapter of this Plan for additional information about the Recreation Department.

Health and Human Services

Veterans Services

Veterans Services in Wrentham is carried out by the town's Veterans Agent. The Veterans Agent is responsible for aiding veterans and their dependents in all State and Federal claims related to service-connected and non-service-connected compensation, pensions, and services. Additionally, this office assists with veteran health benefits and prescription drugs, business and education programs, and burial benefits. In particular, the Agent helps to arrange benefits for needy Veterans and families pursuant to Mass. General Laws Chapter 115. Wrentham's Veterans' Agent is shared with the towns of North Attleboro and Plainville.

Wrentham Housing Authority

The Wrentham Housing Authority (DHA) provides housing assistance to residents through State and Federal programs such as the Alternative Housing Voucher Program (AHVP). These programs are income based and the eligibility guidelines are set by the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) and the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

The WHA housing stock consists of 66 one-bedroom apartments dedicated to senior/disabled individuals on Garden Lane as well as a mix of two-, three-, and four-bedroom apartments for families on New Emerald Lane. The Wrentham Housing Authority is staffed by an Executive Director, a Program Coordinator, and a Resident Services Coordinator.

In fiscal year 2020, the WHA received \$106,629 in capital improvement funds from DHCD as well as a \$675,000 grant to convert four units at Garden Lane into ADA units. The Community Preservation Committee also awarded the WHA \$54,200 for Bulkhead and Storm Door Replacements at New Emerald Lane. These projects are all anticipated to be completed in 2021.

Council on Aging

The Wrentham Council on Aging (COA) is responsible for providing direct services to residents 60 and over and also identifying other available community resources to assist this population. The Council on Aging Board consists of seven members appointed by the Board of Selectmen. The Wrentham Senior Center located at 400 Taunton Street serves as the headquarters for COA. The Senior Center is staffed by the Director, an Outreach Coordinator, an Administrative Assistant Director, and two Drivers.

The Senior Center provides support services and a variety of recreational, social, educational, and health programs to Wrentham's older residents. Programs and activities offered through the Center and COA include exercise classes; walking groups; line dancing; knitting and crocheting; and yoga. The COA also provides transportation services, a meals-on-wheels service, and one-on-one assistance for a variety of needs such as applying for health insurance, disability, and other benefits.

Disability Commission

The Disability Commission provides guidance to public and private agencies, individuals, organizations, and institutions to ensure that people with disabilities have equal access to Town facilities, services, and programs. The Commission consists of nine Commissioners, all volunteers. The members are appointed by the Town Administrator with approval from the Selectmen. Mass. General Laws Chapter 40: Section 8J mandates that the majority of Commissioners have a disability or have a family member with a disability.

Board of Health & Public Nurses

Wrentham's Health Department is mandated through federal, state, and local law to protect and promote the health and safety of the community. The Health Department and Board of Health (BOH) are responsible for enforcing the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) regulations and local rules in the areas of wastewater disposal, solid waste, noise, odor, and hazardous waste. Additionally, it administers and enforces the Department of Public Health community sanitation program and Food and Drug Administration food protection program.

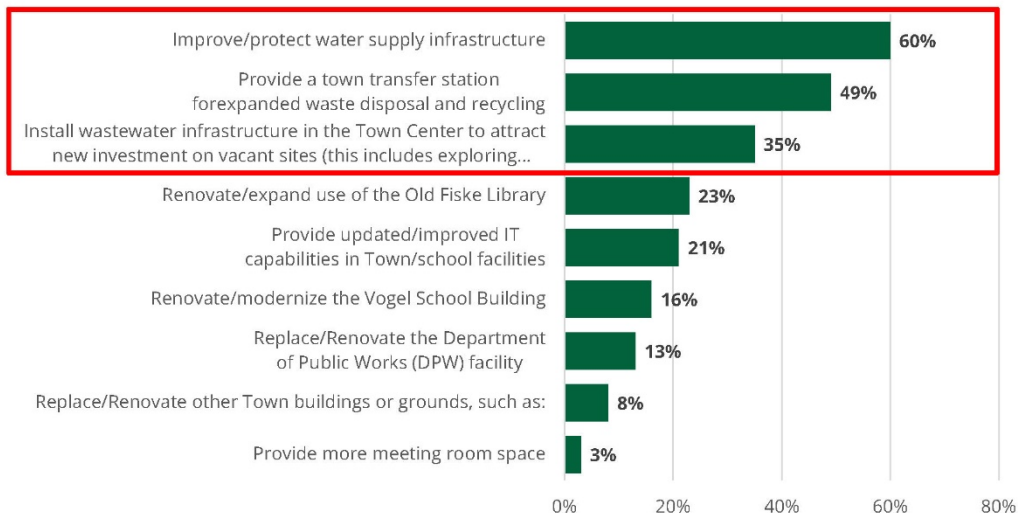
In addition to the BOH, Wrentham has two Public Health Nurses that provide direct services and programs to residents free of charge. services and programs provided to residents include immunization and blood pressure clinics, school programs, and home visits.

Community engagement

The Community Facilities and Services existing conditions report was informed by interviews with Town staff and officials and feedback received from the community survey. Additional feedback from the public forums and steering committee will be incorporated into this element as goals and strategies are discussed.

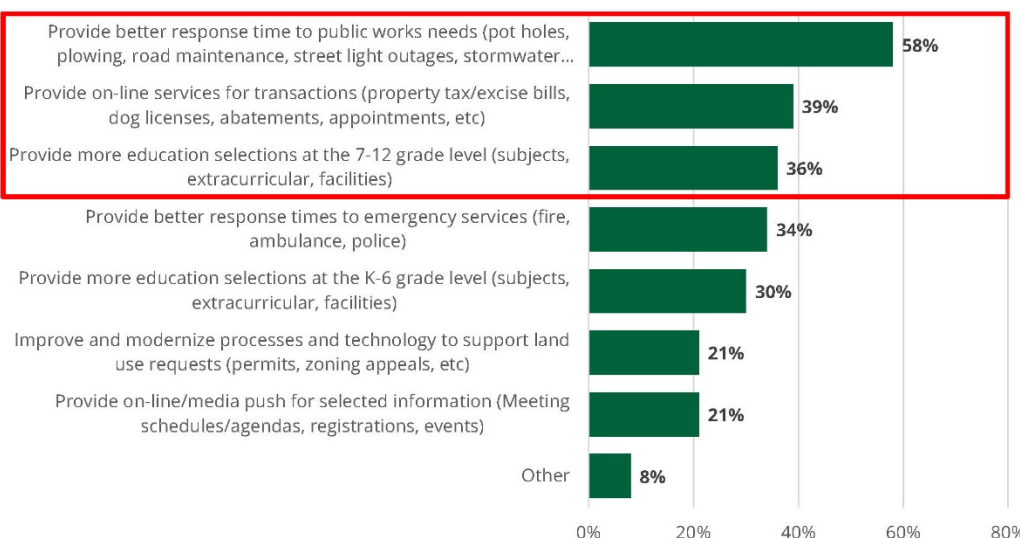
The Phase II survey conducted in November-December 2021 asked survey participants to rate the importance of a number of priorities related to community facilities and services. According to the survey, respondents' top priorities for Town facilities are improving and protecting Wrentham's water supply infrastructure, providing a transfer station for expanded waste disposal and recycling, and installing wastewater infrastructure in the Town Center to attract new investment on vacant sites (this includes exploring...

What should be the top priorities for Town facilities? Choose up to 3.



In terms of Town Services, respondents would like the Town to provide better response times to public works needs (e.g., potholes, plowing, road maintenance, etc.). Residents would also like an easy and convenient method to do online transactions for things like paying their property tax/excise bills, applying for dog licenses, and scheduling appointments with municipal staff.

What should be the top priorities for Town services? Choose up to 3.



We also asked survey participants what the most important challenges were in terms of governance and services. Effective communication and outreach in the Town (46%) and increasing efficiency and effectiveness (37%) were both identified as significant challenges.

What are the most important challenges in terms of governance and services? Choose up to 2.

