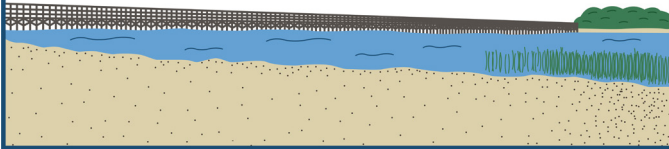


Public Facilities and Services

DRAFT: TO BE REFINED WITH YOUR HELP!

DRAFT FOR DISCUSSION 2-14-19

Envision Duxbury



Envision Duxbury is a comprehensive master plan being developed by the Town of Duxbury to guide the future growth and economic development of the town, using goals and ideas generated by community members.

The Town of Duxbury benefits from committed Town volunteers, professional staff, and a portfolio of largely modern public facilities. The Town is governed by Open Town Meeting – the Town’s legislative body - and a three member Board of Selectmen – which serves as the goal setting, long range planning and policy making body of the town. The Town Manager, appointed by the Board of Selectmen, administers the day-to-day operations of the government.

Town residents and officials have demonstrated a commitment to sustaining the strength of the Town government and its services. Within the last decade, Duxbury’s Town Meeting has approved the construction of a combined Middle/High School and a new police station, as well as substantial renovations to the fire station, senior center, and Percy Walker pool. In 2018, Town Meeting voted to expand the Senior Center. Potential upcoming facility improvements include the replacement of the Department of Public Works Operations Center, which is currently being studied.

Duxbury’s public facilities are maintained by the town’s Facilities Department. Structured as a consolidated, town-wide department, Facilities performs corrective, preventive, and emergency maintenance at both general government and school facilities. Including infrastructure operated by the Water Department,

the Town of Duxbury owns 63 facilities totaling roughly 850,000 square feet. In FY17, the Facilities Department completed more than 2,000 work order requests. Recent major projects completed by the department include the replacement of windows at the Alden School and restoration of the Recreation Department’s offices at the Girl Scouts House.

While the Facilities Department assumes a broad range of responsibility for Town owned buildings, Town leadership and individual departments also assess, plan, and initiate large scale improvements to Town assets. Major planning projects expected in the next ten years include the study and recommendations for repair and replacement of Powder Point Bridge, a master plan for the expansion of Mayflower Cemetery, and a Town Pier Capital Needs Assessment.

Recommendations

The following goals and strategies are intended to advance and sustain Duxbury’s careful investment and direction of its public resources.

Goal 1: Ensure that town and school facilities meet community use and departmental operations needs

- Plan for the replacement or substantial improvement of facilities whose characteristics of size, condition, or location inhibit the efficient operation of the departments which rely on them
- Provide sufficient resources to support thorough and timely operational maintenance activities, including responses to corrective and preventive maintenance work orders

Goal 2: Prioritize effective communication and collaboration within Town government and with the public

- Clarify roles and responsibilities between boards, committees, and professional staff
- Continue to disseminate important information through a variety of channels and refine outreach strategies when appropriate

- Develop approach to assist residents with engaging federal or state resources or agencies, e.g. FEMA

Goal 3: Continue developing capacity to plan and implement long term, proactive infrastructure and facilities improvements

- Identify and establish additional best practices for capital improvement planning for long term maintenance and infrastructure needs including establishing a fund to cover the local share of TIP or other shared funding projects
- Examine options for providing additional engineering expertise to respond to Town infrastructure needs
- Prioritize and implement recommendations from prior planning efforts, such as the Town's Climate Vulnerability Assessment Plan and Hazard Mitigation Plan, to protect Town facilities and infrastructure threatened by the present and anticipated effects of climate change, e.g. increased storm intensity and sea level rise

Goal 4: Leverage public facilities to provide professional and recreational opportunities to town residents

- Consider how town facilities, such as the library, can accommodate individuals who work remotely or in home occupations
- Expand on trainings and support available in the town for support of home businesses
- Evaluate town owned and operated waterfront facilities, e.g. public docks and waterfront parks, and identify improvements to allow for increased public access to the town's water resources

Goal 5: Identify opportunities to collaborate and coordinate regionally

- Continue, and consider expanding, participation in collective purchasing programs for capital equipment, e.g. police, fire and public works vehicles, to benefit from economies of scale and save staff time
- Collaborate with neighboring communities to develop shared use paths and other connections between adjacent green spaces
- Create processes and cultivate relationships to better coordinate with neighboring towns in addressing the impacts of development related to infrastructure, road safety, and emergency access

Questions for Stakeholders

1. What is your initial reaction to this material?
2. Given what you know about major goals, challenges, or opportunities in the Town, does anything appear to be missing or seem incomplete?
3. Are there goals or strategies that are difficult to understand or that need to be clarified?
4. Does this material raise any additional questions for you?
5. From your perspective, what is the highest priority among the goals and strategies?
6. What do you think your role, or the role of the group you represent, could be in implementing these goals and strategies?
7. Is there someone else who we should talk to in Duxbury who is knowledgeable of this topic?
8. What action items do you see as critical to achieving these goals and strategies?
9. Do you know of other resources that could be used to address these goals and strategies?
10. How do you see this element relating to other elements of the Master Plan?
11. Do you have any other comments?