

Town of Danvers



2017 Open Space and Recreation Plan



Open Space and Recreation Advisory Committee

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Section 1

Plan Summary

Building on the Past

The protection of undeveloped space and the establishment of recreational areas are vital to the health of a community and the quality of life of its residents. The Town of Danvers is fortunate in that it has recognized this importance over the years.

This is the seventh Open Space and Recreation Plan and its approach is both global and focused. It builds on the work of the past 27 years by the Town's administration and six preceding Open Space and Recreation Task Forces. Past plans targeted various parcels, creating a patchwork of building blocks throughout the Town. This plan was developed by the Open Space and Recreation Advisory Committee (OSRAC), a group established based on a recommendation in the past 2001 plan.

The 2017 Plan focuses, as before, on individual neighborhoods in the Town and takes into consideration the various and unique needs of each. This approach requires both an intimate understanding of each neighborhood's unique characteristics as well as consideration of existing resources. Identifying specific needs and considering how these needs may be addressed is included in this report.

Recommendations in the 2017 Plan

The Open Space and Recreation Advisory Committee was created to aid the Town Manager with the implementation of the goals, objectives, and actions outlined in earlier plans. The Committee has and will continue to provide constant advisement on open space and recreation issues and will continue to serve as a resource for future open space and recreation plans, acquisition, and management. Initial actions could be developing approved uses on the recently acquired 21-acre parcel of Lebel's Grove and the creating management plans for Town-owned open space parcels. The Plan also recommends that the Town consider working with privately-owned properties that hold sizable "open spaces", such as the Rebecca Nurse homestead and the former Danvers State Hospital grounds, to provide additional passive recreational areas. The plan also recommends expanding and improving existing recreation areas to increase access and amenities for all Town residents with a focus on developing waterfront activities, trail systems and upgrading play equipment.

The Concept of Contiguous and Improved Open Space

Raising awareness of existing open space parcels is extremely important to the preservation of Town resources. Creating uniform signage and wayfinding concepts for all the Towns open space areas will serve to provide increased passive recreation for residents, while also protecting important green space. It is recommended that areas of protection be expanded by connecting already existing open space parcels, thus creating networks of contiguous green space and increasing the accessibility of the lands for residents of

Danvers. Computer-generated maps enabled OSRAC to consider concepts that wove together patterns of protected and unprotected plots into contiguous “usage areas” such as Lebel's Crescent (which will greatly benefit from the Town’s most recent acquisition of Lebel’s Grove). Furthermore, the town resident survey reflected a significant interest in establishing abandoned railway trails that interconnect with already established active trails, such as the Danvers Rail Trail.

Protection and Enhancement of Natural Resources

The continued protection and enhancement of resources unique to Danvers is highly recommended and emphasized by this plan and OSRAC. Such unique resources can be recognized in the concept of the Four Rivers Estuaries, which is comprised of over nine miles of waterfront along the Waters, Crane, and Porter Rivers. These, in turn, become the confluence of the Danvers River. Feedback from the Town resident survey expressed strong interest in acquiring land for water supply and protection purposes. This plan will help to guide the Town in taking the necessary steps to achieve needed water protection as highlighted by residents. A recommendation to protect the banks of the Towns rivers is an important goal to prevent erosion of valued resource areas. Steps to preserve and protect the natural resources of the community are highlighted in this plan.

Improvement of Recreation Opportunities

Focusing on basic maintenance and upkeep of neighborhood parks and playground facilities while also continuing to renovate and improve existing parks and playgrounds is a recommendation of this plan that stemmed from the 2016 Recreation Needs Assessment and Plan. Similar to the 2009 Open Space and Recreation Plan, the committee recommends to include a proposal for West Park, a neighborhood park in West Danvers where currently no such park is provided and the improvement of Sandy Beach Recreation Area, the only waterfront park and public beach in Danvers. Additional details on the process, methodology, and recommended actions are presented in the subsequent sections of this Plan.

With this plan in hand, Danvers can continue to maintain its existing open space and recreation areas in the same excellent condition as it has been and preserve the level of protection that the Town has been able to accomplish in the past several years.



Section 2

Introduction

Statement of Purpose

An Open Space and Recreation Advisory Committee was appointed by the Town Manager as a recommendation of the 2001 Open Space and Recreation Plan, the fifth plan developed for the Town of Danvers. The mission of the Committee is to further update and refine the Open Space and Recreation Plan for the Town by conducting an inventory of its existing open space and recreation facilities and recommending strategies for acquisition, use, and protection of open space and conservation land. It also recommends continued improvement, enhancement, and development of existing recreational facilities. Since the completion of the 2009 plan, the Town has accomplished numerous past goals such as the creation of the Danvers Rail Trail, the acquisition of Lebel's Grove property, and the maintenance of existing open space areas. Other goals such as preventing bank erosion on Frost Fish Brook, improving playground facilities and updating open space trails have been achieved. Updating and submitting Open Space and Recreation Plans is an important responsibility that the Town and the advisory committee take earnestly. These plans are essential to the community because they aid the Town in receiving funding, completing yearly goals and acknowledging resident objectives.

Planning Process and Public Participation

Open Space and Recreation Action Committee (OSRAC) members Beth Klemm (Recreation Committee Representative), Bruce Symmes (Former Town Assessor, Recreation Committee Representative), Jamie Perkins (OSRAC Chair), Peg Zilinsky (Planning Board Representative) and Thom DeCoff met monthly with appointed staff, Georgia Wilson (Conservation Commission and Planning Department Representative) to complete this plan. All OSRAC meetings were posted online as well as in Town Hall. These meetings were open to the public.

In order to assure that the plan was appropriately updated, the committee referenced the Open Space and Recreation Planner's Workbook for guidance. Committee data collection involved dividing the Town into four geographic regions. These four regions were then further divided into nine neighborhoods, which narrowed the focus and allowed the Committee to inventory Town's existing resources and its needs from a more intimate perspective. This also enabled the evaluation of the relationship between the neighborhoods and their needs to each other, as well as to the Town as a whole. The committee also used non-meeting time to inspect open space areas, recreational facilities and neighborhood facilities. OSRAC met closely with other important committees that helped to create this plan. These committees and groups include: Recreation Committee, River Committee, Conservation Commission, Lebel's Grove Committee, Historical Commission, Preservation

Commission, and many more. Important GIS maps and mapping details were created with the help of Renee Hunter from the Danvers Engineering Division.

In order to gain insight from Town residents, an Open Space survey was conducted by the Committee in November 2016. The process of the survey is explained further in Section 6 of this plan. A Town Recreation Needs Assessment and Plan was also completed in the summer of 2016, which provided a vast amount of resident feedback pertaining to recreation and open space. The process of the Needs Assessment is also explained further in Section 6 of this plan.

A final draft of the 2017 Open Space and Recreation Plan and its major goals was presented to Town boards and committees. After these presentations, the committee held a public workshop for final public input before presenting the final plan to the Board of Selectmen. A copy of these posted meeting agendas can be found in the appendix of this plan.

This 2017 Open Space and Recreation Plan is the result of this total process.



Section 3

Community Setting

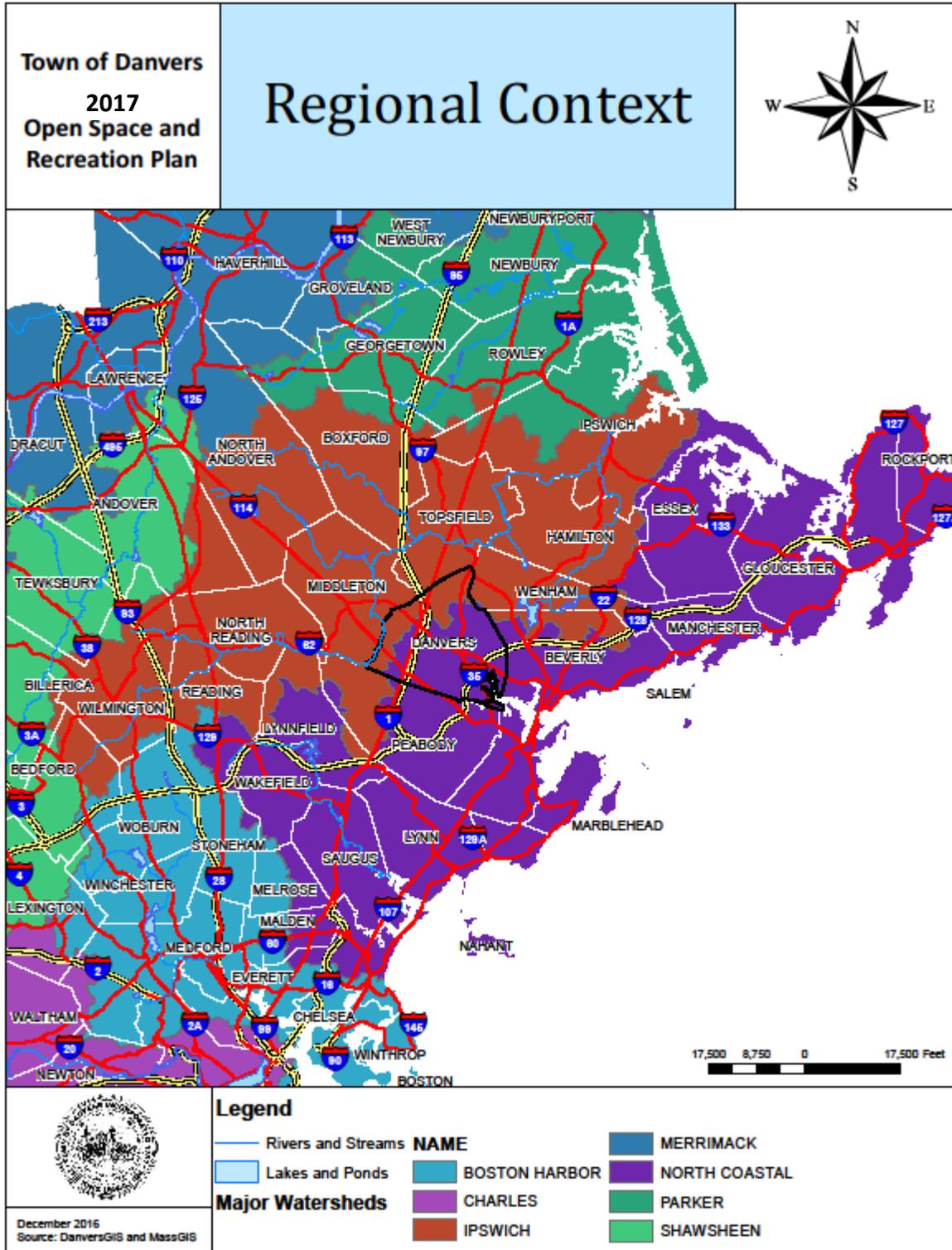
Regional Context

The Town of Danvers, located approximately 19 miles north of Boston, is one of the communities comprising the North Shore of Massachusetts. Danvers' central location within the North Shore, its close proximity to the Cities of Boston, Beverly, Salem, and Peabody, and its intersection by a number of major highway corridors has resulted in a unique development pattern within the Town. While commercial development in the Town is concentrated along the highway corridors and the shared borders of these other municipalities, the remainder of Danvers is residential. The Town's historic and agricultural character is still evident, in the northern portion of Danvers, which is closer to the more rural communities within the North Shore.

Danvers shares a number of resources with the surrounding communities. As mentioned in Section 1, the Town has over nine miles of coastline and is within the Salem Sound watershed. The Ipswich River forms the westerly border for the Town and this freshwater resource is shared within the adjacent municipalities as well as those downstream and upstream of Danvers. This is a particularly important resource, as the Town's two public well sites are located along the Ipswich River. Drinking water forms a common link between Danvers and its neighbors. The Town of Danvers actually supplies water for both Danvers and the Town of Middleton. While the Town's two well sites are located in Danvers, the water treatment facility and reservoir are located in Middleton. The reservoir for the Cities of Salem and Beverly is located in Danvers. Likewise, groundwater does not follow municipal boundaries. The zones of contribution or "Zone II" areas for public wells for the City of Peabody extend into Danvers as does Danvers' Zone II extends into Peabody. Zone II for the Towns of Wenham and Hamilton shared well also extends into Danvers. These communities have all worked together to adopt measures to protect each other's water supplies. The Town recently received a Sustainable Water Management Initiative (SWMI) Grant from the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection to evaluate water supply conditions in the Ipswich River Basin. The joint grant also includes surrounding communities such as, Middleton, Hamilton, Wenham, Topsfield and the Lynnfield Center Water District. Working with these communities is an important management practice that will help to improve our Towns and other Towns water resources.

Danvers has been actively involved in the North Shore Task Force, a group organized by the regional agency of the Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC). As the regional planning agency for 101 cities and towns of the Boston metropolitan area, one of MAPC's legislative mandates is to prepare a "comprehensive regional plan for the physical, social and economic improvement of the region". On May 23, 2008 the MAPC Council adopted MetroFuture as the new regional plan. Comprised of 65 specific goals for the year 2030, as well as objectives, the MetroFuture will use this progress to measure 13 implementation strategies which in turn will provide hundreds of recommendations needed to achieve these goals.

Danvers is also involved with the Network of Conservation Commissions and maintains established relationships with the adjacent municipalities. The Town is dedicated to continue working with, coordinating, and building upon the shared open space and recreation resources within the Town and area.



History of Community

In 1752, Danvers, formerly known as Salem Village, was officially established as a District and was made a township in 1757. During the 1760's and 1770's, Danvers took a politically active role in the growing revolutionary turmoil and her record during the Revolutionary War is indeed a proud one. Seven Danvers minutemen were killed in the first armed struggle during the Lexington Alarm of April 19, 1775. Three hundred Danversites actively served in the war and Danversport built and outfitted four privateers. Danvers also contributed such famous sons as Brigadier General Israel Putnam, a significant figure in America's war for Independence in 1776, and Doctor Samuel Holten, a member and President of the Continental Congress and signer of the Articles of the Confederation.

At the time of the Revolution, Danversport became a prominent shipping and shipbuilding center where tidal mills prospered. The Town's local bricks boasted national fame, while the later leather tanning industry brought a diverse and colorful mixture of new immigrant labor to the area. The 19th century saw Danvers growing industrially and culturally. From 1820 - 1850 Danvers was the midst of the New England reform era as numerous cultural and reform societies were formed.

Tapleville emerged in the 1830's as a center for the production of woven carpets where English and Scottish weavers settled and made their homes. Danvers Plains took advantage of important crossroads and the introduction of the railroad in the 1840's to become a prominent commercial center. Putnamville and Danvers Highlands were noted for their important and early shoe manufacturing industry, while farms throughout Danvers became known far and wide for the Danvers half-long carrot and the Danvers onion, still popular today.

Considered a fine area for country residence, Danvers saw the growth of numerous fine and elegant country estates, one of which, Glen Magna, can be visited today. Among the known literary giants were John Greenleaf Whittier, Lucy Larcom, and Nathaniel Hawthorne who wrote about many town sites, scenes, and people.

Though a number of Danvers structures have been lost to fire and "progress". Much of the Town's period architecture still survives and its written records have been preserved, making Danvers an important and accessible area for period study. This historical character is preserved with the help of the Towns Historic District Commission.

Population Characteristics

Danvers experienced its greatest growth during the 1950s and early 1960s, when the population swelled from 15,720 persons in 1950 to 24,764 persons in 1965. The population explosion in the adjacent Town of Middleton over this same period should be noted particularly with regard to the potential impact of this growth on the shared resources between the two municipalities, including the public water system. The 2000 Census reported a growth of 57.3% in Middleton. Since that time, however, Danvers population has decreased about 10% since 2000 (U.S. Census Bureau, 2011-2015 American Community Survey)

Increased development in Danvers can be seen through the rise of total housing units from 10,615 in 2010 to 10,988 in 2015. This increase has created denser neighborhoods, which may be a factor in the increased resident desire for open space land. The Open Space Committee has listed potential areas of acquisition to prevent desired areas from development in this plan. Many types of acquisitions such as easements and deed restrictions are goals of the 2017 Plan. Obtaining more open space areas is crucial to the creation of a town continual greenway or trail system.

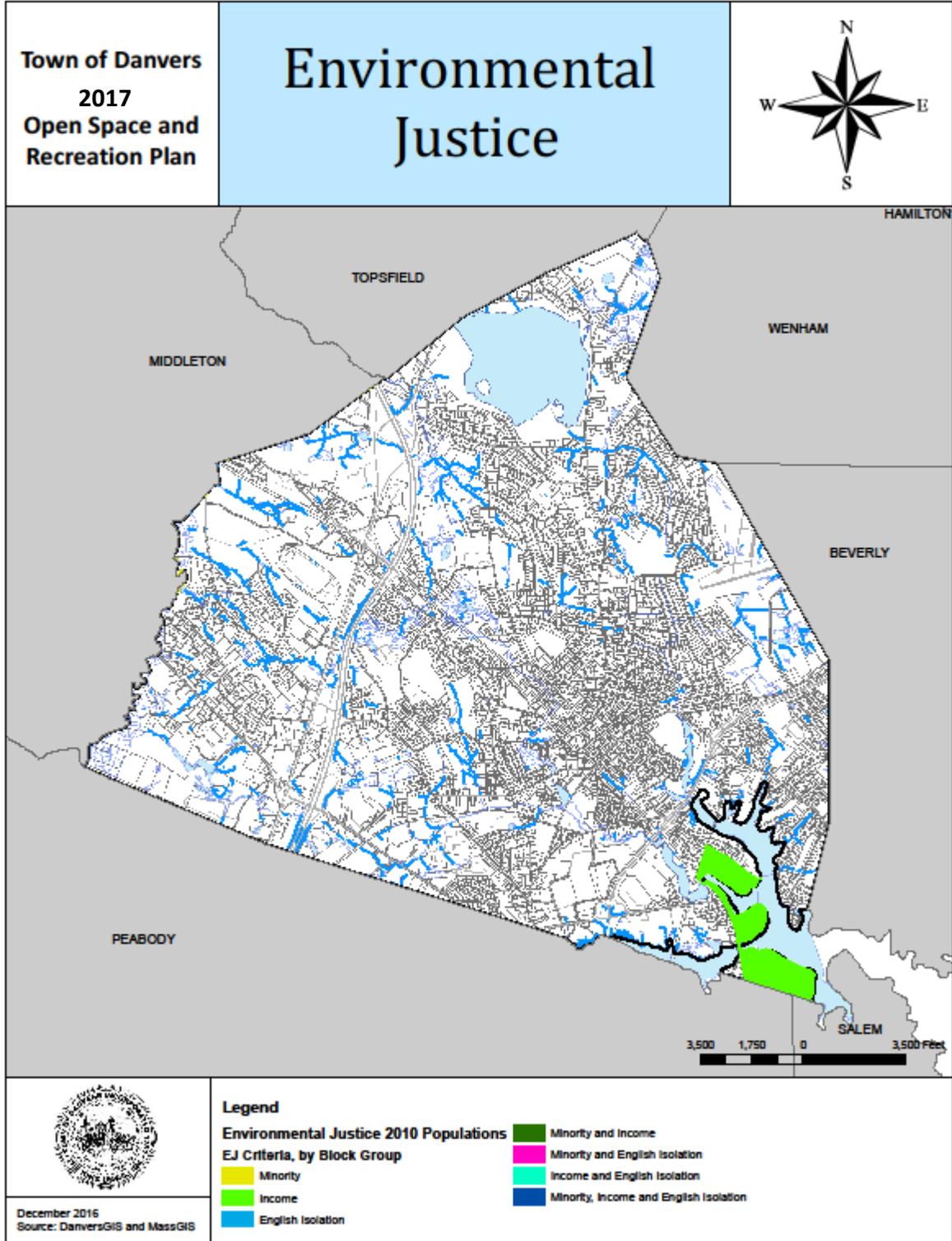
The construction of apartment and condominium buildings in close proximity or adjacent to Town highway corridors which attract young professionals to the Town, have increased the opportunity for open space area partnership. Adding trail systems and walking areas to these developments can increase active and passive

recreation for residents. Communicating with current and potential condominium developers is a goal in this 2017 Plan.

Since the 2010 Census, the population portion of school aged children has remained steady. Although there are no major increases or decreases in this population, offering numerous open space and recreation areas are a necessity. Due to a steady increase of school aged children in the past, playground and recreation areas were implemented. Maintaining and improving these areas for current users are a need the community has expressed.

An increase in the participation at the Danvers Senior Center as well as in the recreation programs offered by the Town (such as trips and band concerts held at the Rotary Pavilion during the summer) has occurred, possibly due to the increase in residents over the age of 65, which rose from 4,516 in 2010 to 5,291 in 2015. Providing easily accessible open space opportunities for the senior community is a major need as identified in this plan.

Danvers has a small Environmental Justice community making up 3.4% of the Towns total population. This community is considered EJ based on its income. This blockgroup is located in the Danversport area – a waterfront neighborhood that includes four DEP Activity and Use Limitation sites based on oil and hazardous material disposal as well as one MA regulated hazardous waste generating site. This plan highlights the importance of providing open space and recreation opportunities for the EJ community as well as proposed actions to complete needed goals.



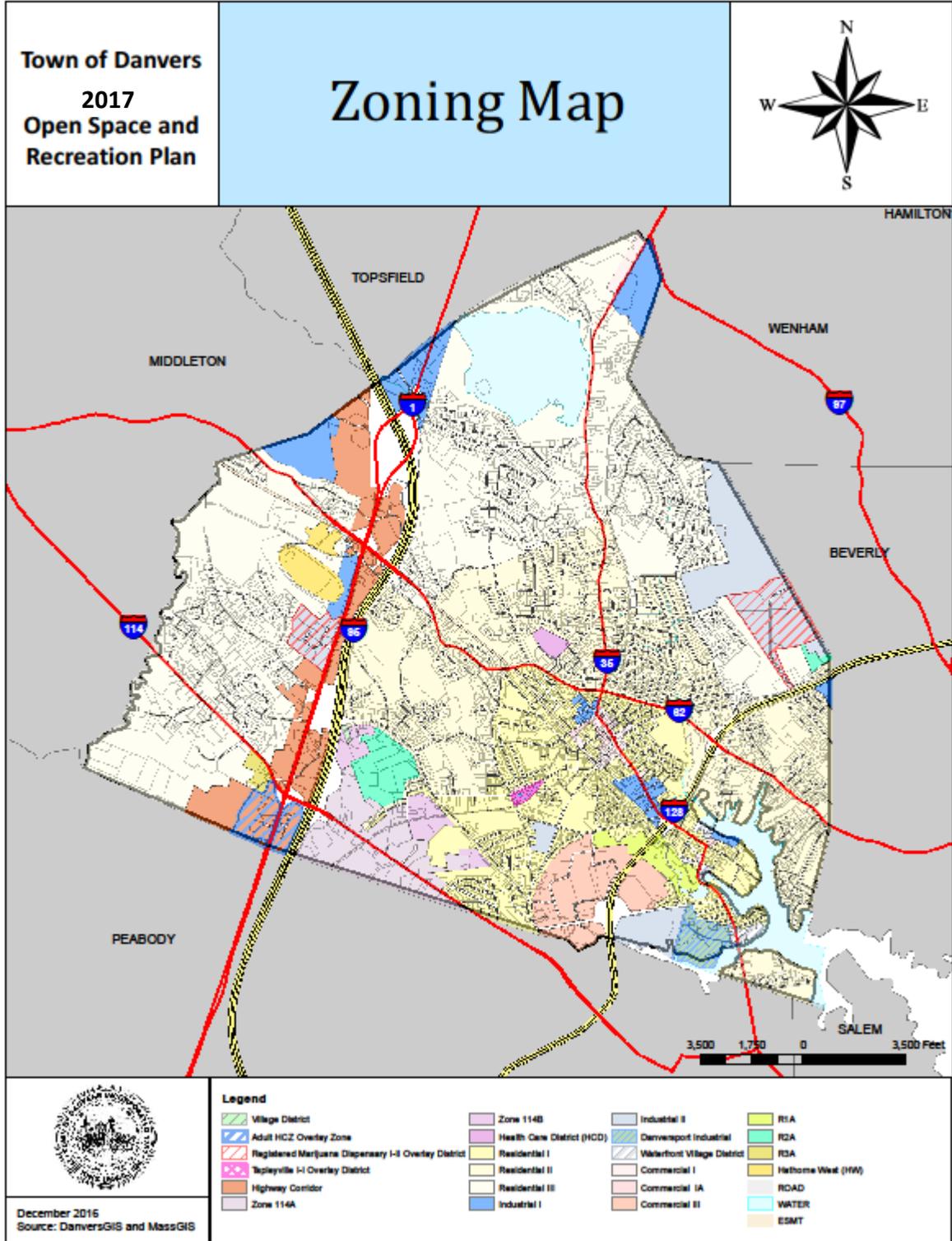
Growth and Development Patterns

Development within the Town of Danvers has historically been dictated by its resources. The extensive waterfront along the four rivers in Danvers was home to a number of industrial uses that were attracted there for water-based transportation purposes. The prime agricultural soils found throughout the Town supported a significant farming industry. Residences were established based on their proximity to businesses and to Danvers Square, the Town's historic social and cultural center.

Growth and development has changed since the Town's adoption of zoning bylaws and the construction of major highway corridors now bisecting Danvers. Commercial development is currently concentrated along the highways and the farms, which once dominated the landscape, have almost all been turned into residential subdivisions. The remaining Agricultural lands are listed in this plan for permanent projection. With the help of the Agricultural Commission, the Town can take steps towards protecting farm areas.

The majority of commercial and industrial developments now existing within Danvers have been redeveloped on older commercial properties. While residential development also involves some redevelopment, most residential construction involved "infilling", or development on the remaining vacant lots scattered throughout the Town. A recent boom in the construction of multi-family housing has occurred, a result of Danvers' location and easy access provided by highways. The Town has been working on implementing a Maple Street Traditional Neighborhood Development Overlay District (MSTND). This overlay district will be mixed use, allowing both residential and commercial buildings in one zone. The intent of the MSTND is to provide housing choices for households of all incomes, ages and sizes, promote sustainable development that is pedestrian friendly, and generate positive tax revenue while providing the opportunity for new business growth and additional local jobs. This Chapter 40R Smart Growth District project will go through all necessary steps of peer review, community input and plan approval. A goal of this plan is to ensure that regulatory boards such as the Planning Board and Conservation Commission are working together to review and discuss potential development projects.

If Danvers were to reach its maximum build-out with no interference from Town land purchases, the existing open space areas would be separated. Plans to prevent this issue are discussed in the proposed goal of continual green space. By purchasing lands that abut current open space areas, the Town will be able to create connected trail systems and resource protection barriers.





Section 4

Environmental Inventory and Analysis

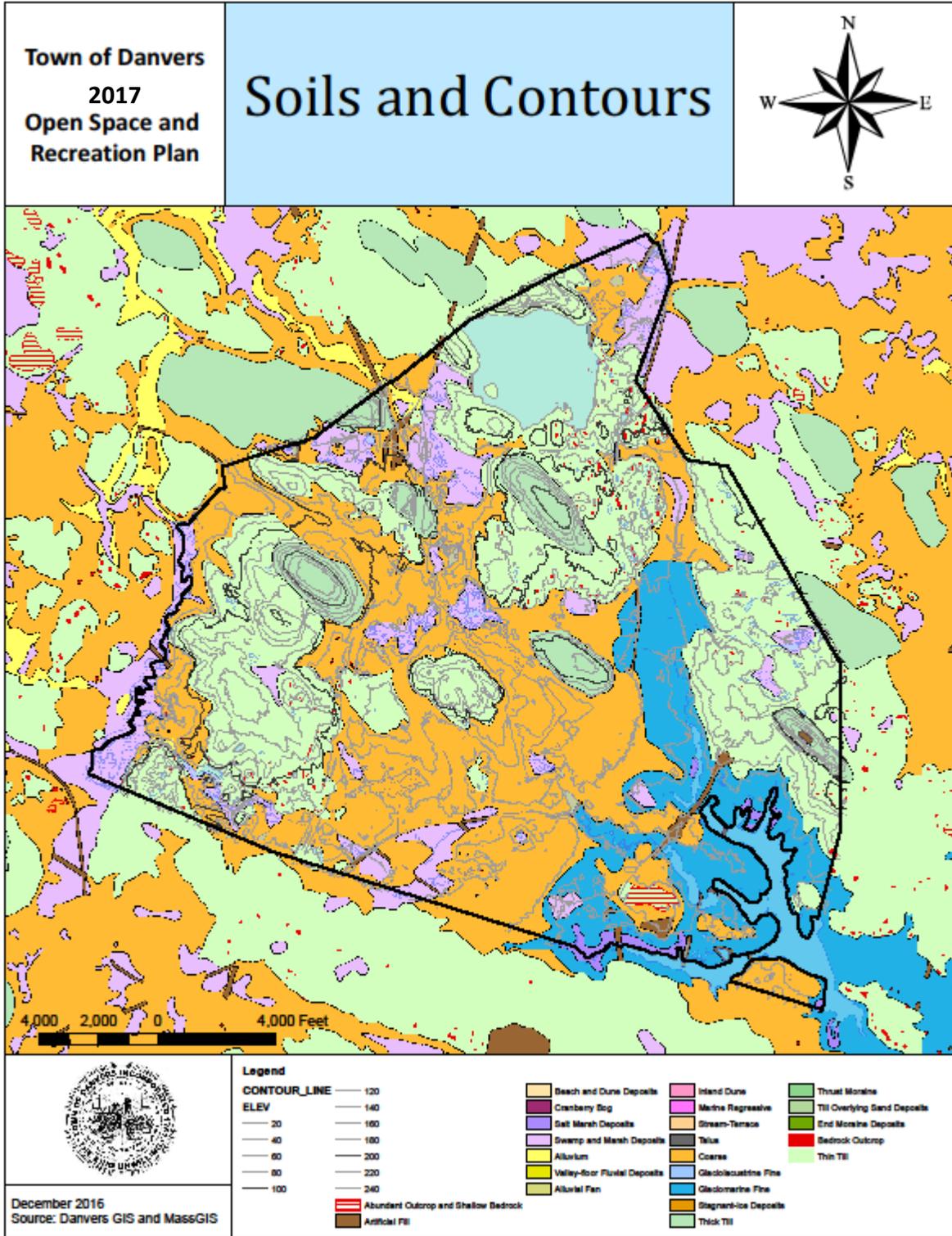
Geology, Soils, and Topography

The geology of the Town of Danvers is, to a great extent, a product of continental glacial activities, which worked to mold and shape much of the northeast section of Massachusetts. Drumlins and exposed bedrock which dominate the topography of the northern and central sections of Town are indicative of the grinding and shaping forces of a glacier. The highest point in Danvers is found on the former State Hospital property, reaching nearly 240 feet above sea level. Some of the lower lying areas of this property are used for crop fields under the jurisdiction of the Department of Food and Agriculture and an Agricultural Preservation Restriction has been placed on a portion of this land. Restrictions have also been placed over the remaining functioning farms, which are located in north and south-central Danvers, and total approximately 115 acres.

The southern and southeastern parts of Danvers consist mainly of glacial river and estuarine deposits that were formed by outwash of the melting glacier. This area is characterized typically by level topography with sandy/silty soils. Numerous streams discharge to the southeast and eventually feed the Crane, Waters, and Porter Rivers, which join to form the Danvers River, a major feeder of the Salem Harbor.

The Town's soils are characterized by glacial tills, which exhibit an extremely unsorted mixture of grain sizes, ranging from fine silt to cobblestone in size. Much of the soil in the Town exhibits a wide variation in local permeability with exposed bedrock in areas of higher elevation. Bedrock exposures often accompanied by abutting wetlands have proven to be difficult hurdles for building in central Danvers. Soils high in silt and clay are found on the outer boundaries of Town, and pose greater difficulties with regard to soil stabilization, erosion, groundwater recharge and drainage. Preventing erosion on the banks of central brooks is a needed goal as stated in this plan.

Woodland stands are scattered in the central and western sections of Danvers, and mostly occur on upland sites. Some of these stands are located on the Town-owned conservation land that offer passive recreation trails and some fresh water access to the public. There are some large tracts of privately-owned land (most notably those of St. Johns Preparatory School and those comprising the area known as Muddy Boo) that have significant wetland resource issues, lending to unfavorable development conditions. The Muddy Boo is a major source of flood prevention for its surrounding neighborhood. Keeping this area protected is an important goal listed in this Plan.



Landscape Character

Danvers' physical landscape is characterized by a varying topography which includes hills, flat lands, wetlands, and tidal coastline. Each of these features contributes to the character of the Town, be it through a scenic vista, a particular development pattern, or a recreational attraction.

Many of the Town's hills rise significantly above the surrounding land, offering impressive views. The Boston skyline is visible from Hathorne Hill, site of the former Danvers State Hospital. Views from Folly Hill include the expanse of the Danvers saltwater shores. Much of Danvers' flat lands have already been developed. The once numerous farms have long since been converted to residential neighborhoods. The few farms which still remain protect large tracts of open space for the benefit of nearby residents.

More abundant than agricultural lands are the wetlands which are scattered throughout the Town. While development has begun to encroach upon some of these wetlands, the majority remain undisturbed because of their physical development limitations as well as the protection by local and state wetland regulations. These wetlands serve to provide open space, wildlife habitat, stormwater detention, and limited recreation. It is a goal of this plan to continue working with the Conservation Commission to assure that these wetland areas are protected.

Danvers' coastline, on the other hand, provides limitless recreation opportunities. The four tidal rivers which form the eastern boundary of the Town have been an important component of the Town's physical, historical, and cultural landscape. As stated above, the rivers separate the Town from the adjacent communities and the Atlantic Ocean. Impressive views of these rivers can be seen from various locations along their banks. Equally impressive views are visible from the banks of the tidal estuaries. Historically, industry dominated the landscape of the waterfront. Industrial development (including shipping and manufacturing) has been located along the rivers. While remnants of this past remain, most of the waterfront has since been developed residentially. Houses have always been located along the water, first as homes for the industrial workers, and later as summer camps for Town residents. Although a few camps remain, most have been replaced with larger, year-round homes. Preventing adverse impacts to these important recreation areas and public access points is further discussed in this Plan.

Some obvious recreation opportunities offered by the rivers include boating, fishing, and swimming. As described in more detail below, Danvers has a very active waterfront and is home to a number of marinas, both private and public. Several water access points also exist, providing access to the water for canoeing, kayaking and passive viewing. Fishing activities are frequently observed along the road bridges which cross the rivers at various points. Also located along the banks of the Crane River is John George Park and Sandy Beach, which provide playgrounds and multi-use recreational fields.

Water Resources

With over nine miles of saltwater shores and miles of freshwater frontage, water resources are an important characteristic of the Town.

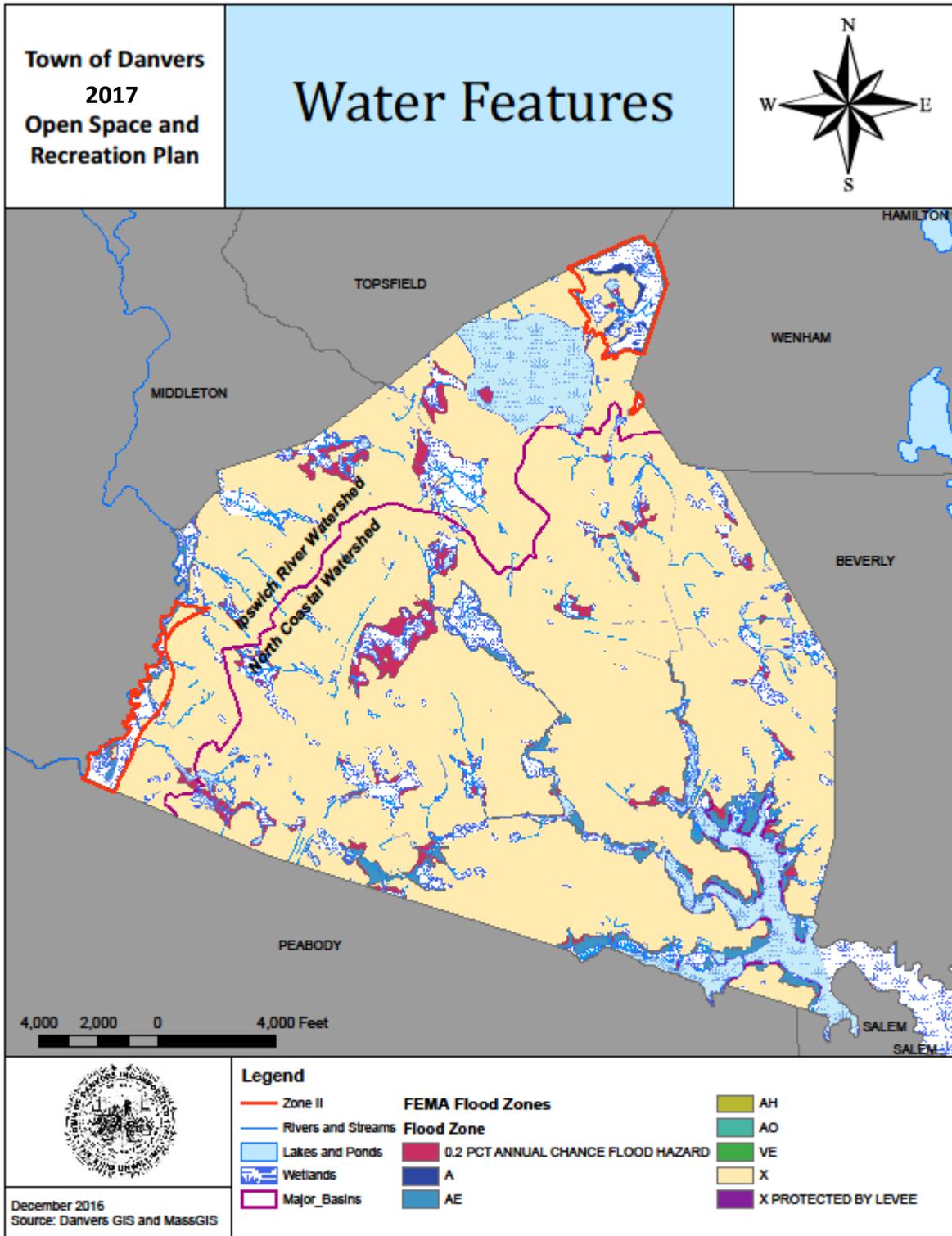
On the East side of Town, the Waters, Crane, Porter, and Danvers Rivers provide a direct outlet to the Atlantic Ocean. Recreational access to the rivers is also provided by five private marinas and/or boatyards, as well as four public water access points located along the shoreline, which may also be used for launching a canoe or kayak. There are two public facilities managed by the Town's Harbormaster, Pope's Landing and Crane Marina, which provide for public water access. Pope's Landing offers a scenic waterfront park with picnic area and public boat launch ramp. The Crane River Marina is the Town's only public marina and provides slip space for up to 68 vessels. Benches are also available at several of these points, offering a quiet spot to enjoy a sunrise or picnic.

A number of other recreational uses also exist along this coastline. John George Park, was constructed with partial funding from the Dept. of Environmental Management. The park is located adjacent to Crane Marina and includes a playground, multi-use recreational fields, and picnic area. Across the street from John George Park is the only public beach in Danvers, Sandy Beach. This plan proposes improvements to Sandy Beach, such as a splash pad, picnic tables, parking areas, and recreational boating areas that provide canoes and kayaks. Other water resources in Danvers include numerous wetlands and freshwater rivers, some of which ultimately drain into the tidal rivers. Wetlands are scattered throughout Danvers and serve a number of important functions, such as providing open space. These wetlands include surface waters, stormwater detention areas, and vegetated wetlands. Ferncroft Pond and College Pond are two open space properties that provide opportunities for passive recreation through walking trails and picnic areas. Muddy Boo, located in south central Danvers, collects stormwater runoff from the surrounding area and eventually discharges via Crane Brook and Mill Pond into the Crane River. The Meadow, another stormwater detention area, is a wetland which is flooded during winter and serves as a popular outdoor ice skating rink.

The intermittent and perennial streams which crisscross Danvers serve a number of functions such as providing habitat for wildlife and aiding in stormwater management. The Ipswich River, which forms the Town's western border and links 19 communities, provides additional recreation opportunities, and serves as a major public water supply. The Town's two public wells are located within the river's watershed. In conjunction with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, the Town has fortunately been able to protect the majority of the water frontage along the Ipswich River. The Town acquired the last significant piece of private property on the river in Danvers, known as Lebel's Grove, which will protect an additional 1,000 feet of river frontage.

Acquisition of the above property protects the zone of contribution to the two public wells. Zone II for these wells extends the along the length of the Ipswich River to the former Danvers State Hospital property and also coincides with Zone II of a public well which serves City of Peabody located on the opposite side. In May 2001 the Groundwater Protection District was implemented to protect the public water supply. Included in this protection was Zone II for the Wenham/Hamilton public well which extends into northeast Danvers. The water supply reservoir for the Cities of Salem and Beverly, known as the Putnamville Reservoir, overlaps the limits of the Groundwater Protection District for the Wenham/Hamilton well and therefore some additional protection indirectly provides for this surface water supply. A Source Water Assessment and Protection (SWAP) Report was completed for Danvers and Middleton. This report outlines the land uses in Town water supply protection areas, and current protection recommendations the Town can take. Updating and following the recommendations of the SWAP Report will help to protect our community's water supplies.

The Town of Danvers also completes an annual National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) PII MS4 General Permit Report. This report includes a self-assessment of measurable goals from the BMP's selected in previous plans as well as a summary of control measures and public outreach initiatives the Town can take. An important highlight of this plan is gathering information from all regulatory boards and analyzing how BMP's are instilled. Some future BMP's of the 2016-2017 report are: Educating dog owners about picking up waste, maintaining street sweeping schedules, requiring waste management plans for each construction site, updating mapping of stormwater outfalls and implementing an employee educational program. DPW continues to work with other important departments to complete these annual reports.



Vegetation

While predominately a suburban community, Danvers has still been able to preserve significant amounts of open space and large expanses remain undisturbed due to development constraints. Much of this once abundant farmland has been developed over the years. Connors, Clark, and Folly Hill farms are three of the largest remaining tracts of land still in agricultural use. Connors and Clark farms are protected by Agricultural Preservation Restrictions. The third, Folly Hill Farm, is proposed for permanent protection by this plan. In 2001, the Town acquired 22 acres of Choate Farm and recreation uses have been developed on this property. The remainder of this land, however, has been developed into a cluster subdivision.

Danvers owns and manages more than six open space parcels, all of which provide passive recreation opportunities for residents. One of these, the Town Forest, is the largest protected tract of woodland in Danvers, consisting mainly of white pine, black oak, hickory, and ash trees. The forest boasts an extensive trail system with picnic areas and space for camping. This land is contiguous to other privately owned woodlands which are proposed for protection by this plan. This plan proposes the development of a management plan for the Town Forest as well as the other larger tracts of Town-owned property to ensure proper use, protection, and maintenance. The Town Forestry Department has a full time tree warden that inspects and monitors street trees, sub development trees and all other applicable publicly owned trees.

Danvers boasts numerous brooks and streams as well as several acres of bordering, vegetated wetlands. The vegetated inland wetlands, including areas of isolated land subject to flooding and seven certified vernal pools, are host to an abundance of wildlife, and provide vegetation, valuable habitat, and food sources. In 1999, the Danvers Conservation Commission amended the local wetland regulations to require a 25-foot "no disturb" buffer and a 35-foot "no build" buffer from any wetland. These buffers provide an added protection for wetlands.

Despite the heavy development of areas along the waterfront, the salt marsh along the Danvers river banks and the intertidal zone consists of plentiful species of spartina alterniflora and spartina patens. The constant threat of continuous bank erosion, however, results in effectively blanketing the salt marsh and smothering it. This situation also increases the "silting in" of the rivers. Public and private efforts to minimize this activity have been taken into consideration. For example, portions of Frost Fish Brook are being improved through use of riprap and armor stone along the banks as well as planting vegetation to control erosion. The Department of Environmental Protection as well as the Danvers Conservation Commission are overseeing these efforts and will continue to do so as a goal of this Plan.

Fisheries and Wildlife

The Town-owned open space parcels, as well as the numerous wetlands and stormwater detention areas, provide an abundance of habitat for wildlife in Danvers. This wildlife is typical of that found in the North Shore region and New England in general. Many species of small mammals observed throughout the community such as beaver, muskrat, weasels, fishers, and raccoons. Larger mammals include the foxes, coyotes, and white tailed deer. Both native and migratory birds can be observed in Town. Native birds visible year-round include the chickadee, swallow, goldfinch, house finch, wren, sparrow, thrush, robin and turkey. Several species of owl such as the great horned owl or the barred owl can also be found in many wooded areas. Black-throated blue, yellow, and other types of warbler can be observed during spring. Several species of hawk are abundant, especially the red-tailed hawk. Annual migrating species include Baltimore orioles and ruby-throated hummingbirds. Canada geese have unfortunately become permanent residents of several ponds and waterways in Danvers, causing a health concern which the Town's Board of Health has been addressing. These

efforts include using a goose harassment service, integrated pest management principals as well as strategically planting bushes and shrubs along pond shorelines to make goose access more difficult. Danvers' tidal shorefront is a habitat for a small number of shellfish, particularly clams, and, in some sections such as near Sandy Beach, there are several horseshoe crabs. Fish inhabit the tidal rivers and there have been recent attempts by the Massachusetts Department of Fisheries to encourage migration of smelt up the Crane River to Mill Pond. Danvers is not home to any known rare, threatened, or endangered species.

Protecting the habitat of these values species is an important goal the committee has established in the 2017 Plan.

Scenic Resources and Unique Environments

Danvers' scenic resources include many of the aspects of the Town's landscape discussed above. The high points in Town, including Hathorne Hill and Folly Hill, are significant and unique locations and provide views of Boston and Danvers' coastal waters. The coastal waters themselves (the four rivers and their estuaries) are also examples of unique scenic areas. Connors Farm and nearby Choate Farm, which abut the Putnamville Reservoir, are included in the Department of Environmental Management's Scenic Landscape Inventory. Endicott Park which consists of over 165 acres of former farmland is owned and managed by the Town and attracts over 160,000 visitors annually.

Other unique resources in Danvers are the historic buildings. The Rebecca Nurse Homestead, a 27-acre property owned by the Danvers Alarm List Company, provides a representation of life during the colonial period as well as a direct link to the Salem witch trials. Glen Magna, the 11-acre country mansion of William C. Endicott, Jr. is owned and managed by the Danvers Historical Society. The "Old Salem Village" historic district includes structures from the 1600's. The Danvers Historic District Commission oversees the alteration of any structure within this district.

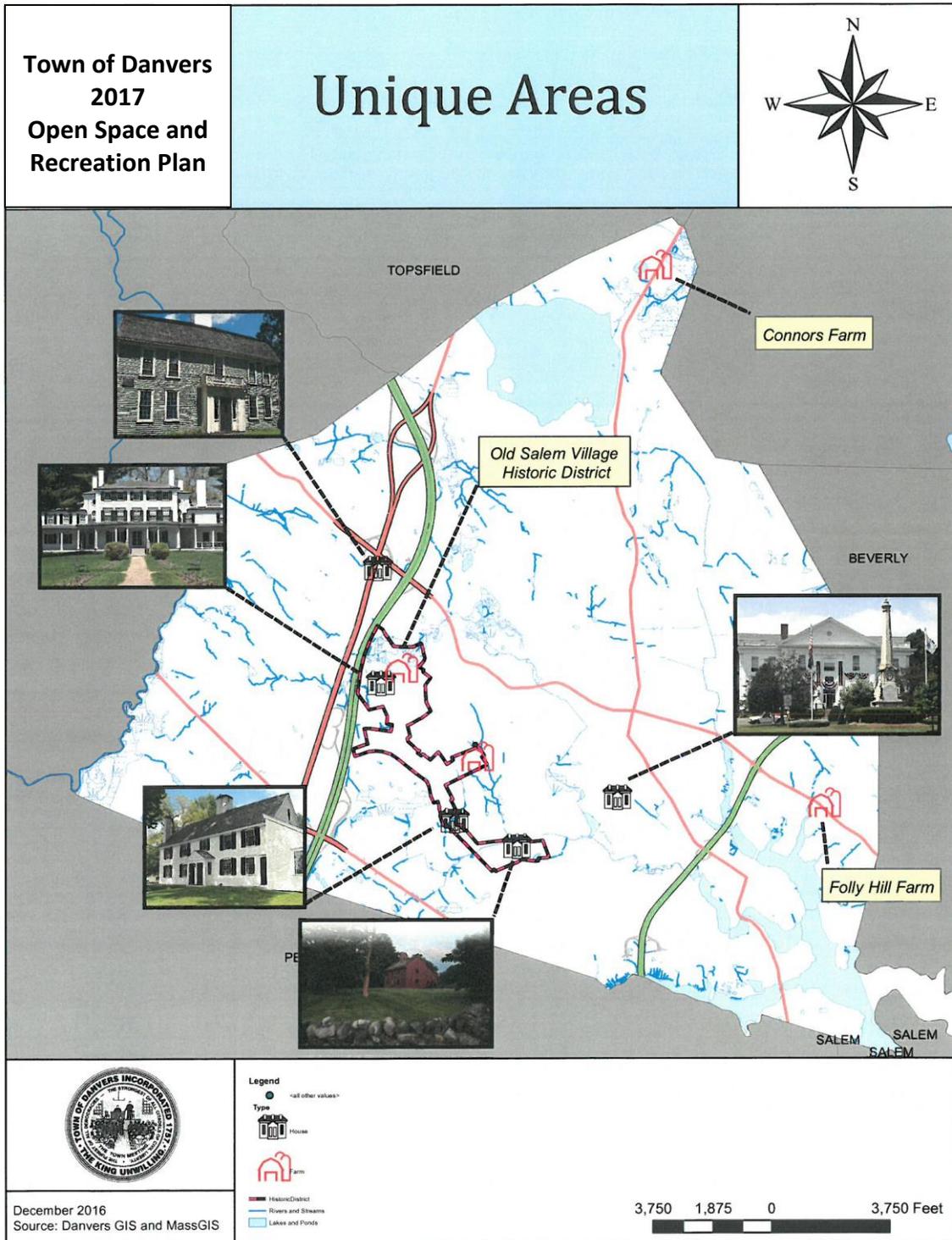
Environmental Issues

Issues such as increasing traffic volumes, air and noise pollution, and the constant decrease in available open space results in a decrease of residents' quality of life and continues to be a concern. Cleanup of groundwater contamination caused by former industrial properties continues. Several vacant properties on the Crane River are moving forward with remediation. Areas of concern such as 21E and AUL sites are monitored at both the Town and State level to assure necessary remediation is being achieved. These areas pose an impact to neighboring communities as well as the Danvers Environmental Justice Population.

The Department of Public Works has recently started implementing drain labels on catch basins through the Town to better inform residents that disposing of any material into storm drains will harm the Town's water systems. The Town continues to provide curbside pick-up of household trash, recycling, yard waste, and "white" goods. A Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day is held each year. In 2016, Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day saw more than 330 resident visitors. Danvers takes an active role when it comes to catch basin maintenance. In 2016, 1,104 catch basins were cleaned, equaling 1/3 of the Town total. Culverts are cleaned at least twice a year, depending on rain fall.



Culvert cleaning is important in protecting water flow and flood protection. Erosion and run-off prevention is monitored by the Conservation Commission, Engineering department and the Department of Public Works. Approved projects are monitored closely to assure that any erosion, soil run off or spillage is kept away from important resources and water systems.





Section 5

Inventory of Lands of Conservation and Recreation Interest

The Town of Danvers open space and recreation resources include an array of publicly and privately-owned land that are utilized for active and passive recreation activities. Danvers is also the host for a regional water supply and the Town's well system. This inventory serves to call out the existing open spaces and offers a baseline which can be used to evaluate existing and future needs.

Open Space refers to land that is preserved to protect existing and future well fields, aquifers and recharge areas, watershed land, agricultural land, grasslands, fields, forest land, fresh and salt water marshes, and other wetlands. Open Space also protects ocean, river, stream, lakes, ponds, beaches, dunes, other coastal lands, and lands that include scenic vistas, wildlife habitats or nature preserves. Open space may also include any undeveloped land with unique recreation and/or conservation importance.

Preserving these vulnerable properties is critical because a lack of protection may potentially lead to major, unwelcome changes and decreases in quality of life. Lack of protection and unmonitored, careless development could bring on negative consequences such as diminishing the Town's appearance. Also, the condition of natural resources could be greatly altered in a relatively short amount of time. Protecting open space and planning for future development allows for assurances that the attractiveness and quality of life of Town inhabitants will remain.

This Inventory of Lands of Conservation and Recreation Interests includes public, nonprofit, and private properties. Properties owned by private and non-profit entities include agricultural land such as the Clark Farm, less than fee interests such as open space in cluster subdivisions, estates like Glen Magna and the Rebecca Nurse Homestead, privately owned cemeteries including the Walnut Grove Cemetery, and institutional holdings such as St. John's Preparatory School. Public properties listed in this inventory consist of land owned by any public entity such as a municipality, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, the Beverly-Salem Water District, the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA), or the United States government.

Over the years, the Town of Danvers has accumulated several acres of protected land. Some of this land is under the care and custody of the Conservation Commission and has been selected to be developed with trail systems, parking areas, picnic areas, and other minor amenities to encourage passive recreation such as hiking, fishing, or canoeing. The Town acquired Lebel's Grove in 2012, which is approximately 21 acres with 1,000' of frontage on the Ipswich River. This land was acquired with the help of a Drinking Water Supply Protection (DWSP) Grant, and is permanently protected under Article 97. Other areas, which are under the

control of the Town of Danvers Recreation Department, include various athletic fields and playgrounds such as, John George Park, Endicott Park, Plains Park, Crane River Marina, and Pope's Landing. Within the 14.09 square miles that make up Town of Danvers, the following areas hold open space acquisition interest either in whole or in part: Muddy Boo, Lebel's Crescent, West Park, Four-Rivers Estuary, Nike Knoll, Lobao Swamp/College Pond/Bishop's Meadow, Choate Farm-Putnamville Connection, Lindall Hill, the former New England Home for the Deaf, John George Park and Sandy Beach Recreation Areas, Gates Field Trails, Rebecca Nurse Easement, and Riverside School Playground Annex. These areas are more specifically listed and described in the Section 9 of the 2017 Open Space & Recreation Plan. They do include some land that the public may perceive to be protected but are not, such as the Walnut Grove Cemetery on Ash Street.

Protected Parcels

Open space can be protected by various means and to varying degrees. Highly restricted conservation and recreation land includes land that is held in fee simple ownership by a non-profit conservation organization, municipality, state, or Federal agency if the land is owned and managed specifically for the purpose of conservation and/or recreation. This includes land controlled by the Danvers Conservation Commission, the Department of Public Works (such as the Town's water supply), the Commonwealth under Article 97, a non-profit land trust, or land the Town has acquired through the use of State or Federal funds. Once land is owned by a municipal conservation commission or serves as a playground or park, it is difficult to transfer or sell the property for a different purpose.

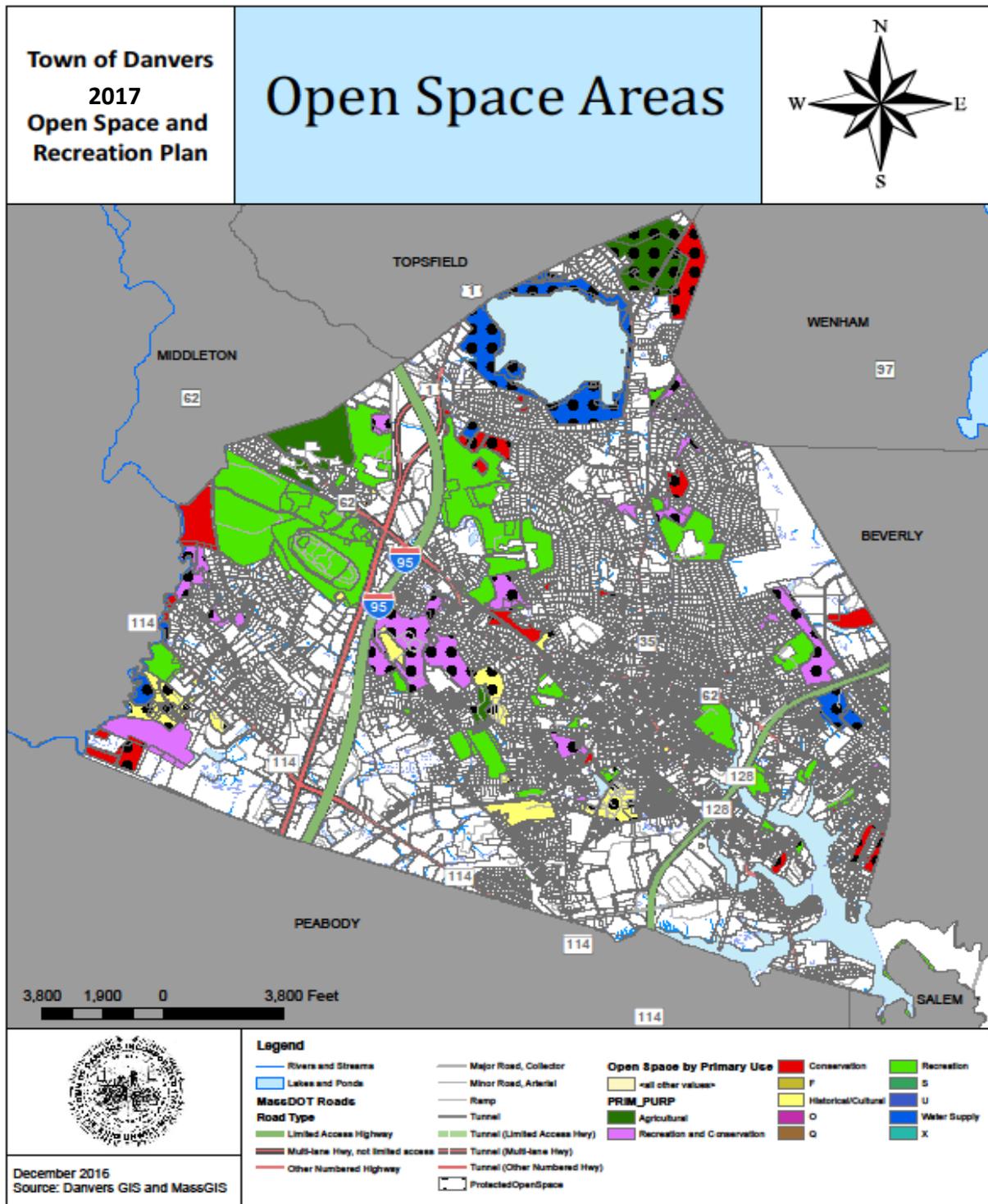
Article 97 of the Massachusetts Constitution, Massachusetts General Law Chapter 40, Section 8C and Chapter 45, Section 3 protect open space through use restrictions. Restricted open land which is private is protected if it has a deed restriction in perpetuity, an agricultural preservation restriction, a conservation restriction in perpetuity, or if it is part of the Wetlands Conservancy Program. Under Article 97 of the Articles of Amendment to the Massachusetts Constitution, Chapter 184, Section 11, a conservation restriction in perpetuity may be placed on a property to provide the State, town or non-profit entity with development rights. Another means of ensuring the land will remain as open space is with the Agricultural Preservation Restriction (APR) program. Through the APR program the State and/or the Town may purchase the development rights on farmland in order to preserve it for agricultural use.

In addition, moderate restrictions can be placed on private land that is then taxed as forest, farm, or recreational land under M.G.L. Chapter 61, or land on which development is restricted by a short-term conservation restriction of up to 30 years. One purpose of short-term conservation restrictions is to lower taxes until development or sale is economically feasible. Due to the time limit on the restriction, however, the land is not protected from development. If the land is for sale prior to the expiration of the tax abatement status, the Town has the right to the first refusal to purchase the property. The use of land protected under Chapter 61, 61A, or 61B may not be changed or sold by the owners without notification to the town. The Town then has 120 days to decide to purchase the land which allows for the acquisition of space as it becomes available on the market and threatened by development.

Unprotected Parcels

Unprotected open space includes all under-developed land not utilized for residential, commercial, industrial, or transportation related purposes. Areas in which non-conservation use is valued higher than open space use, such as major public or private institutions, are not protected by any means also fall into this category. Although general perception might be that open spaces are protected from development because of the length of time they have served the same function, this may not always be the case. Such areas that fit this category may include schools, colleges, cemeteries, hospitals, golf courses, other commercial recreational facilities, or

military installations. Unprotected parcels may be owned by a municipality but not protected by Article 97 or Chapter 45S, controlled by a school department or other town department (not including the Conservation Commission), owned by an office of the U.S. Government such as the Department of Defense, or by a State Office such as the Department of Mental Health. Less than fee interests that are not protected include areas with watershed protection restrictions under M.G.L. Chapter 184's wetlands restrictions. Private recreation lands may be protected under M.G.L. Chapter 61B such as country clubs, marinas, fish and game clubs, or agricultural land incentive areas.



Private Lands

Agricultural Lands:

MAP & LOT	LOCATION	PARCEL SIZE (Acres)	OWNERSHIP AND LEGAL REF (if known)	STATUS	DESCRIPTION
02-05	30 Valley Rd.	44.95	Robert & Patrick Connors, Trust. Book 16544 Page 241	Private	Connors Farm; Development rights purchased under DFA's APR Program
02-12	31 Valley Rd.	14.08	Robert & Patrick Connors, Trust. Book 16544 Page 241	Private; use/Pub custody	Connors Farm; Development rights purchased for fields under DFA's APR Program
41-107	163 Hobart St.	11.55	Elaine & William Clark, Jr. Book 23099 Page 493	Private	Clark Farm; Development rights and recreation easement purchased
06-05A	7 Valley Rd.	3.15	Robert D. Connors Trustee Book 6948 Page 284	Private	Chapter 61A Land
06-12	9 Valley Rd.	13.35	Robert D. Connors Trustee/9 Valley Rd. Trust Book 24440 Page 442	Private	Chapter 61A Land
53-104	40 Foster St.	11.90	George Koban et al Book 13355 Page 496	Private	Chapter 61A Land
53-104A	36 Foster St.	.46	George Koban et al Book 13355 Page 495	Private	Chapter 61A Land
61-03	64 Andover St.	4.92	Seaside Realty Associates, LLC Book 16823 Page 333	Private	Kane's Flower World; Chapter 61A Land
66-02	13 South Liberty St.	.69	Lee H. Gibney Book 1221 Page 560	Private	Gibney Gardens
53-106	126 Elliott St.	3.38	Albert F. & Pamela R Petronzio	Private	Folly Hill Farm
23-51	43 Putnam Ln.	9.33	Lanes End Farm, Inc Book 14974 Page 136	Private	Lanes End Farm
23-53	45 Putnam Ln.	.70	Lanes End Farm, Inc Book 14974 Page 136	Private	Lanes End Farm

Less than Fee Interests:

MAP & LOT	LOCATION	PARCEL SIZE (Acres)	OWNERSHIP AND LEGAL REF (if known)	STATUS	DESCRIPTION
09-42	29 Reservoir Dr.	.20	Grenier Alan Etal Book 6893 Page 25	Private	Open Space parcels lying between cul-de-sacs on west and east of Reservoir Dr. for 10-lot Rogers Farm subdivision on Salem-Beverly Reservoir (aka Putnamville Reservoir)

09-38	35 Reservoir Dr.	2.71	Rogers Farm Trust Book 23250 Page 53	Private	Open Space parcels lying between cul-de-sacs on west and east of Reservoir Dr. for 10-lot Rogers Farm subdivision on Salem-Beverly Reservoir (aka Putnamville Reservoir)
15-91	13 Wildwood Rd.	2.78	Jeffery Forden Trustee Book 9562 Page 551	Private	Open Space for Wildwood Estates cluster subdivision a 3-lot development
21-39B	27 Neal Rd.	7.20	Richard McAdoo Jr Book 9458 Page 394	Private	Open Space
21-95	21 Rocky Hill Cir.	1.74	DiBiase Builders Inc. Book 7388 Page 562	Private; Open Space with fee remaining w/developer	30'-wide easement to the west of cul de sac and east of Putnamville Playground. Land-locked open space west of cul-de-sac & east of Putnamville Playground; w/ 30'-wide easement from Parcel 87 Open Space across Parcel 86 and from Robin Hill cul de sac over Parcels 84 & 85
27-176	4 Germano Dr.	3.08	Dennis Delgenio Et al c/o Tomahawk Ln. Trust Book 7059 Page 568 Page 571 Conservation Restriction	Private; Open Space	Chapter 40, Sec 8C & Zone. B-law XV,D3;Open Space of 20-lot Arrowhead Estates Subdivision
34-01	12 College Pond Dr.	14.79	College Pond Trust/Alan Grenier Trustee Book 7986 Page 548 Conservation Restriction to Town on Page 557	Private with owners & their guests allowed internal combustion devices use on space	Abuts Greenleaf Open space on north; Electric easement on College Pond Open Space in 17-lot cluster subdivision (Plan Book 198, Plan 24.) Primarily wetlands crossed by Beaver Brook
36-229	21 Thorpe Cir.	5.96	240 Locust Limited Partnership; Woodvale Section D Trust gave Conservation Restriction to Town Book 20275 Page 557	Private Open Space	Open Space of lot Thorpe Circle Cluster Subdivision with managed by the developer.
036-229A	4 Avon Rd.	.38	240 Locust Limited Partnership Book 20275 Page 559	Private	Open Space of lot Thorpe Circle Cluster Subdivision with managed by the developer.
53-226	33R Cardinal Rd.	.77	Thomas Bachini & John Bachini Trust Book 7152 Page 473	Private	Open Space of a 5-lot cluster subdivision

Estates and Privately Owned Cemeteries:

MAP & LOT	LOCATION	PARCEL SIZE (Acres)	OWNERSHIP AND LEGAL REF (if known)	STATUS	DESCRIPTION
59-02A	25 Clinton Ave.	.33	Russell & Endicott Cemetery Book 8339 Page 152	Private	Historic Russell and Endicott Cemetery
57-27A	65 Sylvan St.	2.50	St. Mary's Cemetery	Private	St. Mary's Cemetery at corner of Ash & Sylvan St.
51-1A	30 Sylvan St.	25.00	Walnut Grove Cemetery	Private	Walnut Grove Cemetery
50-60A	131 Holten St.	2.70	Holten St. Cemetery Book 4616 Page 569	Private	Holten St. Cemetery which abuts Map 49-100 (Stone St.) wetlands on north and west which drain to Crane Brook
18-40A	57 Preston St.	.52	Preston Cemetery Book 10836 Page 124	Public Management by Town Health Inspector by default	Preston Cemetery; Historic gravesites
18-39A	485R Maple St.	.51	Putnam Cemetery; Health Inspector oversees by default	Public	Putnam Cemetery; Historic gravesites
34-08A	18 Summer St.	5.02	Wadsworth Cemetery; Town	Private	Wadsworth Cemetery. Rear of this irregularly-shaped parcel is traversed by Beaver Brook. Abuts College Pond Open Space & Electric Light M34-1A. Historical Significance from the 17 th and 18 th centuries.
15-28A	270 Locust St.	.23	Putnamville Cemetery Book 9937 Page 598	Public	Town Health Inspector by default; Putnamville Cemetery; Historic gravesites
33-01	29 Ingersoll St.	11.22	Danvers Historical Society Book 5136 Page 63	Private; only access Endicott Park	Glen Magna Estate; McIntire Tea House, Historic shoe factory buildings, gardens Westerly side Forest
57-203	149 Pine St.	26.00	Danvers Alarm List Co. Book 2779 Page 410	Private	Historic Rebecca Nurse House, farmlands and Nurse Cemetery property
57-254	149R Pine St.	.30	Danvers Alarm List Co. Book 2779 Page 410	Private	Historic Rebecca Nurse House, farmlands and Nurse Cemetery property
57-27B	47 Adams St.	1.00	Danvers	Public	Adams St. Cemetery, Paupers' Cemetery, no markers
38-03	59R Buxton Rd.	5.70	Temple Sinai Inc. c/o Henry Winkeller Book 7573 Page 147	Private	Rear parcel primarily wetlands lying north and east of Danvers' Well Site #1 & south of Lebel's Grove
39-01	6 Cemetery Rd.	1.81	Temple Sinai of Swampscott	Private	Private Cemetery
39-70A	8 Buxton Rd.	6.60	Temple Emanuel Cemetery Book 7935 Page 566	Private	Private Cemetery
38-02	59 Buxton Rd.	2.40	Sons of Jacob Cemetery	Private	Private Cemetery
38-06	24 Buxton Rd.	.74	Temple Emmanuel of Chelsea Book 7990 Page 16	Private	Private Cemetery

38-06A	24 Buxton Rd.	.15	Jewish Cemetery Association of Massachusetts Book 7990 Page 16	Private	Private Cemetery
38-07	54 Buxton Rd.	15.30	Sons of Jacob Cemetery	Private	Private Cemetery
38-08	58 Buxton Rd.	.92	Roumanian-American Cemetery	Private	Private Cemetery
38-09	56 Buxton Rd.	1.30	Congregation Anshi Sfiard Cemetery	Private	Private Cemetery
38-10	49 Buxton Rd.	2.04	Ezrath Israel Cemetery	Private	Private Cemetery
38-11	49 Buxton Rd.	8.60	Temple Sinai Memorial Park	Private	Private Cemetery
38-12	19 Buxton Rd.	2.73	Jewish Cemetery Association of Massachusetts, Inc Book 13796 Page 312	Private	Private Cemetery
31-68A	47R Green St.	.33	Abandoned cemetery; Town Board Health management by default	Private; with easement access	Situated off Green St & surrounded by Manter /Westover Farms Open Space; Historic significance; Accessed from Grace Rd.
56-03B	38 Garden St.	.28	Garden St. Cemetery Book 3985 Page 410	Private	Private Cemetery with historical significance
51-295A	45 High St.	.63	High St. Cemetery	Private	Private Cemetery with historical significance
53-106A	128 Elliott St.	.19	Danvers	Public	East Danvers Cemetery
042-008A	155 Hobart St.	14.4	Annunciation Cemetery	Private	Private Cemetery originally 27+ acres. 13.5 acres of the cemetery was sold and 20 lot subdivision was developed in 2017.

Institutional Holdings:

MAP & LOT	LOCATION	PARCEL SIZE (Acres)	OWNERSHIP AND LEGAL REF (if known)	STATUS	DESCRIPTION
20-49	65 Spring St.	30.60	St. John's Prep School/Northeastern Province of the Xavarian Brothers	Private	Campus buildings and grounds of St. John's Prep School on easterly side of Spring St.
25-74	55 Spring St.	23.10	St. John's Prep School	Private	Campus buildings and grounds of St. John's Prep School on easterly side of Spring St., partly cemetery
26-167	55 Spring St.	6.90	St. John's Prep School	Private	Baseball field
19-17	50 Spring St.	111.20	St. John's Prep School Book 5816 Page 553	Private	Campus, Xavarian Brothers' home, school buildings of St. John's Prep School
10-10	323 Locust St.	7.20	North Shore Unitarian Universalist Church Book 5315 Page 425	Private	Unitarian Universalist Church property The rear parcel is predominately pond and wetlands

10-16	321 Locust St.	4.50	NS Unitarian Universalist Church Book 5315 Page 425	Private	Unitarian Universalist Church property The rear parcel is predominately pond and wetlands
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Public Lands

*Public Conservation and Recreation Resources: (Federal/State/Local)
(Zoning: R = Residential, HC = Highway Corridor, I = Industrial)*

MAP & LOT	LOCATION	PARCEL SIZE (Acres)	OWNERSHIP AND LEGAL REF (if known)	STATUS	DESCRIPTION (Zone)
12-18	80 Ferncroft Rd.	8.14	Commonwealth Massachusetts/Danvers State Hospital	Public; nature trails	Ferncroft Pond. Former ice pond for Danvers State Hospital under protection of the Danvers Conservation Commission who oversee maintenance per Chapter 40, Sec 8C (Highway Corridor)
17-01	200 Dayton St.	40.25	Commonwealth Massachusetts/Danvers State Hospital	Public	Horace Clark Conservation Area; Danvers State Hospital Agricultural Land under Dept. of Food & Agriculture, protection under joint Conservation Restriction with Danvers Conservation Commission (R3)
10-12	320 Locust St.	454.00	Salem and Beverly Water Supply Board Book 3984 Page 448	Private; State Authorized Municipal Authority	Putnamville Reservoir and watershed area. Fishing in reservoir and passive recreation allowed on upland areas (R3)
10-09	2 Makushin Ln.	1.41	Danvers Book 27253 Page 149	Public	Open Space of the 4-lot Makushin Ln. cluster subdivision on the east side of Locust St. abutting Choate Farm to the rear and east; acquired by tax title. (R3)
46-03	56R Buxton Rd.	6.40	State Book 5736 Page-310	Public	Elongated parcel of wetlands between Norris Brook on east & Ipswich River on the west. (R3)
30-05	98 Green St.	2.37	State Book 6487 Page 720	Public	Site on South side West St. formerly part of Log Bridge layout (Sec 698 Acts of 1967) (R3)
30-07	93 Green St.	2.44	State Book 6063 Page 286	Public	Formerly Burley house site; Site on north side of West St. Abuts Town canoe launch-ramp, some trails (Sec 698 Acts of 1967) (R3)
41-01	16 Ingersoll St.	5.54	Danvers Dept. of Public Works/Parks & Recreation/Endicott Park Committee Book 4756 Page 413	Public	Community Gardens (R2)
41-10	85 Centre St.	1.26	Danvers Common	Public	Town Common (R2)
41-11	5 Ingersoll St.	.25	Danvers Common	Public	Training Field' Town Common Historic Revolutionary War Minute Man training site etc. (R2)

41-120	190 Hobart St.	10.96	Danvers Dept. of Public Works/School Dept. Book 4051 Page 111	Public	Highlands School (R2)
41-161A	67A Centre St.	.30	Danvers Book 9966 Page 481	Public	Parris Parsonage Site (R2)
42-205	60 Pickering St.	.85	Danvers Playground	Public	Pickering Playground at intersection of Otis & Pickering St. (R1)
42-206	76 Pickering St.	10.42	Danvers Great Oak School	Public	Great Oak School (R1)
43-20	13 Puritan Rd.	.09	Danvers Vacant Land	Public	Small parcel at right turn of St. (R2)
43-440A	4 Pickering St.	.29	Danvers Playground	Public	Pickering Playground (R1)
38-16	58R Buxton Rd.	2.00	Danvers Book 9275 Page 146	Public	Chapter 40, Sec 8C; Parcel on Ipswich River purchased for water supply protection (R3)
30-10A	23 West St.	18.05	Danvers Conservation Commission Book 5845 Page 728	Public	West St. Canoe Launch. Chapter 40, Sec 8C; Danvers canoe launch-ramp, few picnic tables, unpaved trails abuts Ipswich River & Middleton line (R3)
30-17	401 Andover St.	2.88	Danvers Well Site #1	Public; no access	Danvers Well Site # 1 into ancient Ipswich River channel (R3)
32-42	30 Ingersoll St.	13.10	Danvers Endicott Park	Public; now with fee for parking	Federal, State & LWC Funds drawn upon for renovation & development; Endicott Park parcel containing Barn, Carriage House, and caretaker house. Conference Center, playground, picnic area, nature study & paths. Westerly-side of Forest St. (R2)
33-02	21 Ingersoll St.	70.68	Danvers Book 4972 Page 255 & Book 5187 Page 609	Public; fee for parking	Remainder parcel of Endicott Park; westerly side Forest St. (R2)
33-48	70 Forest St.	40.95	Danvers Endicott Park Book 5187 Page 609	Public	Whipple Hill. Remainder parcel of Endicott Park on Easterly side Forest with unpaved trails (R2)
34-1A	229R Maple St.	6.10	Danvers Electric Light Division Book 6554 Page 075	Public	Abuts College Pond Open Space on north; 85±-foot-wide Electric Light Dept. path beginning on north side of Maple St. & meeting with continuation of path on Map 25 Parcel 10 (ESMT)
25-10	401 Maple St.	2.19	Danvers Electric Light Division Book 6554 Page 075 Book 6627 Page 530	Public	Parcel 10 parallels & lies between Rte. 62 and Mass Utility ROW. Considerable wetlands east of Nichols St.; M33/18A is perpendicular to Parcel 10, land-locked & crossed by Beaver Brook tributaries flowing to Meadows (R3)
33-18A	321R Maple St.	.78	Danvers Rear Land Book 6627 Page 530	Public	(R2)
25-125	12A Brentwood Circle	7.80	Danvers Conservation Commission management Book 6322 Page 528	Public (access on east side)	Chapter 40, Sec 8C ; Predominately wet meadow existing as drainage basin of Beaver Brook under Conservation Commission management (R2)

26-01	8 Greenleaf Dr.	19.34	Danvers Book 10489 Page 593	Public; at end of Rd. & between # 8&10	Contains Spring Pond and Beaver Brook drainage basin. Trails & log seating for nature viewing (R2)
26-01A	10R Greenleaf Dr.	1.54	Danvers Book 10489 Page 592	Public; at end of Rd. & between # 8&10	Contains Spring Pond and Beaver Brook drainage basin. Trails & log seating for nature viewing (R2)
28-75	60 Cabot St.	56.44	Danvers High School Book 4592 Page 448	Public	Danvers High School property (R3)
34-21A	4R Fox Run Rd.	2.40	Danvers Book 7570 Page 407	Public	Chapter 40, Sec 8C; Predominately wetland area of Beaver Brook at rear (north) of subdivision. Abuts 25-1A Electric Light Parcel on northeast (R2)
34-99A	38 Brookside Ave.	.05	Danvers Brookside/Vacant Land	Public	Beaver Brook culvert to brook between Brookside Ave (split Roadway) (R1)
36-124A	11 Sycamore St.	1.00	Danvers Vacant Land	Public	Irregularly-shaped parcel of open space for Frost Fish Brook drainage (R2)
36-281	30 Avon Rd.	25.40	Willis E. Thorpe School Book 5397 Page 625	Public	Thorpe Elementary School. Access restricted to non-academic hours. Recreation fields (R3)
38-01	61 Buxton Rd.	11.85	Danvers Well Site #2 Book 4739 Page 118	Public; Use discouraged	This large wetland parcel located at the end of Buxton on Ipswich River is one of the sources of town drinking water (R3)
38-05	54R Buxton Rd.	51.35	Town Forest Book 3707 Page 213	Public	Town Forest comprised of wooded uplands, Norris Brook and Ipswich River wetlands. Unpaved trails, Boy & Girl Scout camps, certified vernal pools (R3)
38-14	20 Buxton Rd.	.78	Danvers Vacant Land	Public	Vacant parcel with frontage that allows access to Goodale Cemetery (R3)
38-15	20R Buxton Rd.	.27	Danvers Goodale Cemetery	Public	Goodale Cemetery (R3)
44-241	55 Conant St.	31.13	Danvers Holten Richmond School	Public	Holten Richmond School and Plains Park (R1)
45-63	160 Conant St.	41.20	Danvers Conservation Commission Book 7249 Page 176	Public	Proctor Farm (Wood-Sawyer) Conservation Area. Comprised of a hayfield, wetlands and woodlands abutting Flatley on East, and Thorpe School on North (R3)
45-72	235 Yankee Division Highway	18.34	Danvers Roger Esty Reservoir	Public	Roger Esty Reservoir (water tower) (R2)
45-147A	20 Wayside Dr.	.23	Danvers Vacant Land	Public	Vacant lot at Wayside Dr. and Trask Ln. (R2)
45-162	12 Upland Rd.	1.38	Danvers Book 6025 Page 253	Public	Playground (R2)
30-010B	390 Andover St.	21.4	Danvers, Lebel's Grove Book 32618 Page 319	Public	Acquired in 2012 with partial Drinking Water Supply Protection Grant funding. Land protected under Article 97. Land was previously privately owned and used as recreational area. (R3)
46-04	50 Rear Buxton Rd.	19.00	Danvers Conservation Commission Book 196 Page 277	Public	Parcel abuts Town Forest on the north and Norris Brook on the west (R3)
47-05	105 Popes Ln.	52.50	Danvers Sanitary Landfill Book 5485 Page 404	Public	Capped Landfill (HC)

49-100	15 Stone St.	23.20	Danvers Book 10247 Page 187	Public	Stone St. Playground (R2)
50-86	139 Pine St.	6.30	Danvers	Public	Tapley Playground Crane Brook runs along southern lot boundary (R1)
50-238	53 Holten St.	2.31	Danvers Vacant Land	Public	Vacant land part of Meadows drainage system emptying to Mill Pond (R1)
58-68	69 Lawrence St.	.03	Danvers Book 6832 Page 199	Public	Small piece of land on westerly side of Lawrence near Purchase (R1)
50-247A	20 Burroughs St.	1.21	Danvers Vacant Land	Public	Putnam Mill Pond (R1)
51-46A	23 Sylvan St.	4.38	Danvers Peabody Institute Library	Public	George Peabody Library gardens and grounds (R1)
51-163	46 Lawrence St.	.79	Danvers Playground	Public	Lawrence St. Playground (R1)
52-62	95 Liberty St.	11.70	Danvers Riverside School	Public	Riverside School and Playground (R2)
52-126	13 Riverbank Ave.	.10	Danvers	Public	Residential parcel on Porter River (R1)
53-43	5 Harvard Ave.	.08	Danvers Book 6627 Page 530	Public	Parcel on paper St. (R2)
53-46	17 Harvard Ave.	.17	Danvers Vacant Land Book 4715 Page 381	Public	Parcel on paper St. southwest of Elliott St. (Rte 62) (R2)
53-48	21 Harvard Ave.	.26	Danvers Book 2201 Page 75	Public	Salt marsh parcel on paper St. subject to Porter River tidal action (R2)
53-62	8 Manchester St.	.11	Danvers Vacant Land	Public	Salt marsh parcel within floodplain subject to Porter River tidal action (R2)
53-65	25 Congress St.	.42	Danvers Vacant Land	Public	Vacant parcel on corner of (paper) Border St.; Porter River at rear (R2)
53-69	35 Congress St.	.06	Danvers	Public	Small salt marsh parcel at end on St. on Porter River (R2)
53-72	11 Manchester St.	.11	Danvers Vacant Land	Public	Parcel subject to tidal flowage of Porter River (R2)
53-86	105 Elliott St.	4.23	Danvers Williams School Book 3540 Page 571	Public	Williams School and Playground (R2)
53-86A	105R Elliott St.	2.50	Danvers Book 10632 Page 390	Public	Rear parcel behind Williams School (R2)
53-106A	128 Elliott St.	.19	Danvers East Danvers Cemetery	Public	East Danvers Cemetery (R2)
59-119	8 Harbor St.	2.40	Danvers Book 5641 Page 584	Public	Popes Landing marine boat launch, parking lot, and riverside park (I1)
59-120	128 Liberty St.	.74	Danvers Vacant Land Book 5641 Page 584	Public	Popes Landing parking lot (C1A)
57-27B	47 Adams St.	1.00	Danvers Adams St. Cemetery	Public	Adams St. Cemetery. Abuts St. Mary's on west (R1)
59-187	44 River St.	5.17	Danvers Bath House Book 3658 Page 393	Public	Bath House at Sandy Beach and Sandy Beach on Porter River (R1)
59-191	35 River St.	5.90	Danvers John George Park	Public	Multi-Purpose recreation fields across from Sandy Beach with McDewell Ave & Crane River (R1)
59-74A	35 Water St.	.50	MBTA Book 6311 Page 408	Public	Small parcel between Crane River & Crane River Condos at Sypko Bridge (R1A)

60-29	28 Bradstreet Ave.	8.38	Danvers Book 5674 Page 729	Public	Formerly Zwickerv Circle now Bradstreet. Ave. Playground and Open Space (R2)
60-57	9 Bradstreet Ave.	8.11	Danvers Book 10598 Page 468	Public	Wet meadow Open Space in natural state (R2)
60-73	3 Jalbert Ln.	.34	Danvers	Public	Vacant site; Possible housing site (R2)
60-148	28 Glen Ave.	.62	Danvers Book 4715 Page 375	Public	Vacant parcel with salt marsh on brook tributary of Porter River (R2)
62-48	15 Tipert St.	.27	Danvers Book 5269 Page 537	Public	Southwick Playground (R1)
Map 60- between 163 & 164	Mead St. between 14 on west and 15 on east	N/A	Danvers	Public	Street ends at the water's edge. Access to tidal and inter-tidal zones of southern shores of the Porter River. Benches for passive viewing. (R1)
Map 60- between 20 & 21	End of Hussey Ave. between 1 Hussey on north and 3 Chevalier on southeast	N/A	Danvers	Public	Street ends at water's edge. Small boat and pedestrian access to tidal and inter-tidal zones of westerly shores of the Porter River (R2)
Map 60- between 119 & 70A	End of River St.	N/A	Danvers	Public	Street ends at water's edge. Approach to tidal and inter-tidal zones of western shores of the Porter River. Currently a highway barrier, erosion/undermining prevents safe access. (R1)
Map 60- between 153 & 120	Eden Glen Ave. St. end Between 45 on north and 60 on the south	N/A	Danvers	Public	Street ends at water's edge. Access to tidal and inter-tidal zones of eastern shores of the Porter River. Care must be taken to protect existing salt marsh. (R2)
Map 65 between 15 & 53	At 35 Bates St., between 52 Riverside St. on north and 35 Bates St. on south	N/A	Danvers	Public	Historic, neighborhood 15-wide way to waterfront. Access to tidal and inter-tidal beach on westerly shores of the Porter River. (R1)
Map 65 between 45 & 1	Between 14 on the west and 16 Riverside St. on the east	N/A	Danvers	Public	This is a 15-wide way to the southerly shores of the Crane River. (R1)
Map 65 between 108 & 109	Tibbetts Ave. between #13 on north and #15 on the south	N/A	Danvers	Public	Due to the elevation of the land/height of the seawall, this access is best suited for passive enjoyment of the activities on the waters of the Porter, Crane and Danvers Rivers. (R2)
Map 65 between 61 & 98	At end of Bradstreet. Ave. between 7 on north -west and 106 on the southeast	N/A	Danvers	Public	Bradstreet slopes gradually to north-easterly shores of the Porter River. Access for portable small craft and the inter-tidal zone for fishing. Benches for passive viewing. (R2)

13-25	3R Paulette Rd.	5.22	Danvers Conservation Commission Book 6627 Page 530	Public	Part of Bishop's Meadow acquired from Mass Alfalfa Farms Nichols Brook drainage (R3)
42-53	86 Hobart St.	12.72	Danvers Book 3885 Page 250	Public	The Meadows; Beaver Brook wetlands, primarily utilized for winter skating. (R1)
13-23	7R Paulette Rd.	4.95	Danvers Conservation Commission Book 9275 Page 143	Public	Part of Bishop's Meadow acquired from Gordon Thomson/Nichols Brook drainage; Chapter 40, Sec 8C (R3)
14-200	166R Summer St.	16.04	Danvers Conservation Commission Book 6414 Page 676	Public; limited access	Chapter 40, Sec 8C; Easterly part of Bishops Meadow/Nichols Brook drainage. Access from Map 13-23 Parcel (R3)
15-79A	4 Juniper Ridge Rd.	5.97	Danvers Conservation Commission Book 7570 Page 403	Public; Cluster subdivision accepted by town	Chapter 184, Sec 31 (Balanced Growth recommends upland portion for housing.); Conservation Easement granted for open space, wetland & pond off Juniper Rd on north side public way. Slope easement along frontage. (R3)
20-19	15 Lobao Dr.	15.00	Danvers Book 3687 Page 304	Public; Dept. of Public Works management	Ivan G. Smith School & school playgrounds, soccer fields (R3)
20-19B	2 Orrantia Circle	.06	Danvers Rear Land Book 6832 Page 199	Public	Triangular parcel of rear land abutting Smith School lands (no utility) (R3)
20-99A	18R Strawberry Hill Ln.	.59	Danvers Playground Book 5506 Page 431	Public; Dept. of Public Works/Parks & Recreation	Strawberry Hill Playground (R3)
21-40	224 Locust St.	.25	Danvers Putnamville School Book 467 Page 257 (May 2, 1952)	Public; Dept. of Public Works	Putnamville School; Historic (R3)
21-62	11 Wenham St.	4.00	Danvers Book 3611 Page 530	Public; Dept. of Public Works/Parks & Recreation	Putnamville Park Playground. The Danvers Rail Trail runs through Putnamville Park. Park amenities upgraded in 2014. (R3)
21-70	203R Locust St.	8.40	Danvers Conservation Commission Book 5630 Page 191	Public	Open space abutting Putnamville Playground & Rock Hill (L-70) open space; Chapter 40, Sec 8C (R3)
21-80	12 Auburn St.	3.18	Danvers Conservation Commission Book 7570 Page 403	Public	Open Space abutting Lot 70 and Danvers High School to southeast; Chapter 40, Sec 8C (R3)
21-87	15 Rocky Hill Circle	12.05	Danvers Conservation Commission Book 7570 Page 403	Public	Open Space on north side of public way. Behind Griffin Farm; Chapter 40, Sec 8C (R3)

Map 65 between 55 & 56	Choate Ave. at northern-most end of Doty Ave. between 21 Choate Ave. on the north and South Essex Sewerage District Pumping Station at 1 Doty Ave. on south	N/A	Danvers	Public	Cul-de-sac-like end of two public streets adjacent to South Essex Sewerage District Pumping facility on easterly shores of the Porter River. Public Roadway area is currently grassed area. Paved parking for 3-4 cars. (R2)
Map 67 between 2 & 3	Wright's Beach at Jacob's Landing a way to beach on the southern shores of Danvers River	N/A	Danvers	Public	A 40'-wide right-of-way easement between Parcel 2 and New England Power Company land about 350'-long to extensive beach on the southern shores of the Danvers River. Suitable for fishing, picnicking & other passive uses. (R2)
10-50	401 Locust St.	21.98	Danvers Book 17203 Page 155	Public	Choate Farm Conservation Area; trails, parking area, Miriam E. Cooper Peach Orchard (R3)
31-47	197R Centre St.	8.84	Danvers Book 16887 Page 277	Public	Former Duffill property; Wetlands; Landlocked (R3)
12-21	31 Preston St.	2.70	Danvers Playground Book 5467 Page 211	Public; Dept. of Public Works/Parks & Recreation	Playground (R3)
23-10	5R West St.	8.64	Danvers Book 7768 Page 212	Public	Westover Farms Subdivision Open Space (R3)
23-16	0 Pat Dr.	.58	Danvers Book 27244 Page 556	Public	Westover Farms Subdivision Open Space (R3)
23-70	8 West St.	9.30	Danvers Book 7768 Page 212		Westover Farms Subdivision Open Space (R3)
23-90	11 West St.	.41	Danvers Book 27244 Page 556		Westover Farms Subdivision Open Space (R3)
15-39B	273R Locust St.	5.05	Danvers Book 25799 Page 549	Public	Moore Woods Conservation Area (R3)

Other Public and Unprotected Lands (Federal/State/Local):

MAP & LOT	LOCATION	PARCEL SIZE (Acres)	OWNERSHIP AND LEGAL REF (if known)	STATUS	DESCRIPTION
14-79	72 North St.	12.00	United States of America/Nike Station Book 4966 Page 095	Public, no access	National Guard/Nike Station
40-03	2 Armory Rd.	5.63	Commonwealth Massachusetts/Army National Guard Book 5221 Page 481	Public; no access	National Guard facility
18-37	485 Maple St.	9.28	Commonwealth Massachusetts	Public	State Police Barracks; Formerly District 5 for State Dept. of Public Works
37-35	201 Conant St.	1.69	State	Public; predominantly wetland	Parcel lying between Conant St. (at Cherry Hill Dr.) & Rte 128 Exit on south-bound Ln.
18-30	471 Maple St.	.37	State/Danvers State Hospital	Public	Danvers State Hospital property/ Part of highway island between Rtes 1 & 62
24-14A	470R Maple St.	1.76	State/Danvers State Hospital Book 61309 Page 284	Public	Danvers State Hospital Cemetery
46- 01	24R Buxton Rd.	13.00	New England Power Company Book 8129 Page 422	Private	Vacant land adjacent New England Power building sited on (17.76 ac) and Town conservation land to south of the Town Forest
12-01	565 Maple St.	83.70	Essex Agricultural & Technical Institute	Public	Essex Agricultural and Technical Institute/auditorium and function buildings, cow barns, pond, fields etc. Most academic buildings & parking located on south side of Rte 62
12-02	562 Maple St.	24.87	Essex Agricultural & Technical Institute	Public	Essex Agricultural and Technical Institute/auditorium and function buildings, cow barns, pond, fields etc. Most academic buildings & parking located on southerly side Rte 62
12-03	5 Preston St.	.75	Essex Agricultural & Technical Institute	Public	Farm stand at intersection of Maple and Preston St.
45-73	241 Yankee Division Highway	9.15	City of Salem/Folly Hill Reservoir	Public; restricted access	Folly Hill Reservoir
02-08	49 Valley Rd.	47.38	Danvers Book 9615 Page 027	Public	Chapter 40, Section 8C; Valley Rd. at Danvers/Wenham border (Peat Bog & Part of Wenham Swamp and Ipswich River drainage)
02-22	40 Valley Rd.	21.60	Danvers Book 9966 Page 452	Public	H. Lewis to custody of Conservation Commission/Connor's Farm
06-13	26 Valley Rd.	8.66	Danvers Book 9966 Page 452	Public; custody/Private use	An Agricultural Preservation Restriction on the property was acquired by Town. land is primarily wetlands

08-08	136 Old North St.	2.40	Danvers Land Book 7015 Page 791	Public	Rear land-locked area abutting Nichols Brook preserved for drainage; Chapter 40, Sec 8C Abandoned Way Chapter 40, Sec 8C
08-13A	180 North St.	0.20	Danvers Abandoned Roadway Book 4470 Page 417	Public	Abandoned roadway
13-29	136R North St.	.67	Town Conservation Commission Book 7015 Page 791	Public; no access	Land-locked parcel adjacent to I-95 with no access road. Chapter 40, Sec 8C. Woodlot
13-30	18R Lobao Dr.	4.00	Danvers Book 7231 Page 433	Public; no access	Chapter 40, Sec 8C ; Conservation Commission management land-locked parcel primary wetlands/watershed drainage
14-49	9A Naumkeag Row	.04	Danvers Electric Light Book 6728 Page 595	Public; ROW/Easement	ROW Easement; Rectangular parcel w/ 30' frontage on south side public way for Danvers' Electric Light substation
14-183	178 Summer St.	.16	Town Pump Station Book 5265 Page 165	Public	Pumping Station
15-27A	69 North St.	.29	Danvers Abandoned Roadway Book 4470 Page 417	Public	Triangular piece of abandoned Roadway on north side of public way/Chapter 40, Sec 8C
18-19	508 Maple St.	1.40	Danvers Vacant Land Book 11453 Page 250	Public	Vacant land with substation & power lines Rear contains wetlands
18-24	496 Maple St.	9.08	Danvers Electric Light Book 6554 Page 075	Public	Land containing Electric light power lines southwest side of Rte 62
18-26	494 Maple St.	0.15	Danvers Electric Light Division Book 6554 Page 075	Public	Land containing Electric light power lines southwest side of Rte 62
18-29	475 Maple St.	1.00	Danvers Electric Light Division Book 6554 Page 075	Public	Land containing Electric light power lines southwest side of Rte 62
18-33	256 Newbury St.	.52	Danvers Electric Light Book 6554 Page 075	Public	Part of highway island between Rtes 1 & 62
18-34A	464 Maple St.	1.06	Danvers Fire Station Engine 2 Book 55972 Page 258	Public	Fire Station Engine 2
18-36	257 Newbury St.	.83	Danvers Electric Light Book 6554 Page 075	Public	Part of a highway island between Rtes 1 & I-95
42-170	22 Beaver Park Rd.	1.04	Danvers Electric Light Book 6554 Page 75	Public	Elongated Electric Light equipment lands which continue on Map 34 to the northwest

42-198	15A Beaver Park Rd.	2.86	Danvers Electric Light Book 6554 Page 75	Public	Elongated Electric Light equipment lands which continue on Map 34 to the northwest
Multiple	Danvers Rail Trail	4.3 miles	Danvers	Public; ROW/Easement Danvers Rail Trail	Rectangular parcel leased by the Town of Danvers from the MBTA. 99 year lease executed on November 12, 2008. Current use is the Danvers Rail Trail, a non-motorized shared-use path linking schools, downtown Danvers, residential areas, and trails in neighboring towns of Peabody, Wenham and Topsfield.



Section 6

Community Vision

Description of Process

The Committee initially met monthly to gather information and data. An Open Space survey was conducted by the Committee in November 2016 to gather specific input from the Town residents on their perspectives of the Towns Open Space areas. This survey was made available to residents through social media (Facebook, Twitter and Instagram), through hard copy at central locations (Town Hall, Senior Center, Endicott Park and the Library), advertised on the towns DPW newsletter which is distributed through electrical bills, and emailed to recipients of the Towns Recreation Newsletter. Results of the survey allowed the Committee to assess the use of existing open space properties within the Town and to gain input from residents on their priorities for the Town with respect to funding for protection and property improvements, and any other open space needs. The Committee strongly felt that the survey was an important component of the public participation process. The survey and its results are discussed more specifically in the Appendix of this Plan.

A Town Recreation Needs Assessment was completed in the summer of 2016. This assessment served to examine the parks and recreation needs as identified by residents and key stakeholders of the Town. It also helped to determine which parks and recreation needs were deemed to be priorities. 19 Focus groups with town residents, committee members and stakeholders were held. A Town wide survey was also distributed, which brought in 525 resident responses. The survey was available to residents online as well as in hard copy. The data from this report was extremely important to the completion of this plan, as it provided a large amount of feedback from residents in regards to recreational needs. The Needs Assessment and its results are discussed more specially in the Appendix of this Plan.

The resident feedback that was received as a result of these two public participation processes helped to identify trends and resources that aided in shaping the community's overall goals.

Statement of Open Space and Recreation Goals

The ultimate goal is to maintain a balance between open space and growth, recreation and development, and needs and available resources.

The primary environmental goal is to preserve, improve and protect the small amount of remaining undeveloped land and water resources. Continuing to build without protecting these valuable resources will negatively impact the Town's existing open space, passive recreation lands, and water resources, resulting in an overall poorer quality of life for residents. Improving and advertising existing open space areas is a goal that will potentially increase visitors and further protect the community's natural resources. Expanding existing trail systems to create a continual greenway will further provide open space to residents as well as protect important unique resources.

The primary recreation goal is to improve and expand existing recreational areas. As the population demographics change, the Town must react to fulfill all residents' needs and desires. These goals can be achieved by providing better access to recreational areas and improving existing structures and sites.

The accomplishment of these goals, through implementation of the recommendations of this plan, will lead to a balanced network of active and passive recreational areas, as well as the preservation of our few remaining natural resources.



Section 7

Analysis of Needs

Summary of Resource Protection Needs:

Danvers is unique in that it has a wide array of natural resource areas. Coastal areas in town feature rivers, tributaries, salt marshes and coastal banks, while the inland areas have wetlands, vernal pools, brooks, and marshes. Protecting these areas from development and erosion are extremely important. Each resource area has a unique set of protective needs, but when all these needs come together, it creates uniform protection throughout the whole community. Providing access to these areas for passive recreation and environmental education are extremely important to the community. The following needs are based on the analysis of the environmental inventory in Section 4, the resident responses received from focus groups and surveys and the land interests in Section 5.

- Acquire land for water supply and protection purposes.
(48.39% of respondent's stated acquiring land for water supply and protection purposes is a very important priority the town should take in regards to Open Space.)
- Take measures to prevent rapid bank erosion of the community's major brooks and tributaries.
- Identify and acquire open space and conservation land to prevent development and increase resource protection.
(59.09% of respondents believe there is a need for additional open space land, and 85.4% of residents state that parks and open space are important/very important)
- Increase public awareness of existing open space areas in the community.
(More than 50% of residents were unaware that 4 of the towns 8 most used open space areas existed)

- Educate residents and neighbors on the importance of resource protection.
- Implement management plans for all open space areas.

Summary of Community's Needs:

Danvers extensive recreation and open space network allows for a large variety of opportunities. Recreational programs, facilities and resources are extremely important to residents of the community. Through detailed assessments of existing parcels, resident data and the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP), the needs of the community were formed. The four goals of the 2012 Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan are:

1. Increase the availability of all types of trails for recreation.
2. Increase the availability of water-based recreation
3. Invest in recreation and conservation areas that are close to home for short visits.
4. Invest in racially, economically and age diverse neighborhoods given their projected increase in participation in outdoor recreation.

These SCORP goals are a direct reflection of the needs of the Danvers community as expressed in focus groups, surveys and open discussions. The needs of the community are:

- Improve and expand waterfront recreation areas and opportunities.
(78% of residents stated that the Danvers Waterfront area was important/very important but only 44% reported they were satisfied with its current recreation facilities, programs and features)
(51% of respondents stated public beaches were important but unavailable or available but inadequate)
- Connect existing town trail systems to create a continual greenway.
(82% of residents believe trails and greenways are important/very important)
- Increase availability of nature or environmental education programs.
(33% of residents reported these programs are important but unavailable or available but inadequate)
- Continue to expand the Danvers Rail Trail to connect surrounding communities and Town open space areas.
(56% of residents use the Rail Trail regularly or frequently)
- Prioritize park and playground renovations for environmental justice populations and diverse neighborhoods.
(3% of the Danvers population is in an Environmental Justice (EJ) block group with the EJ criteria of income, according to the MA Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs 2010 Environmental Justice Populations spreadsheet.)

- Create and improve handicapped accessible trails and recreation areas.

Management Needs

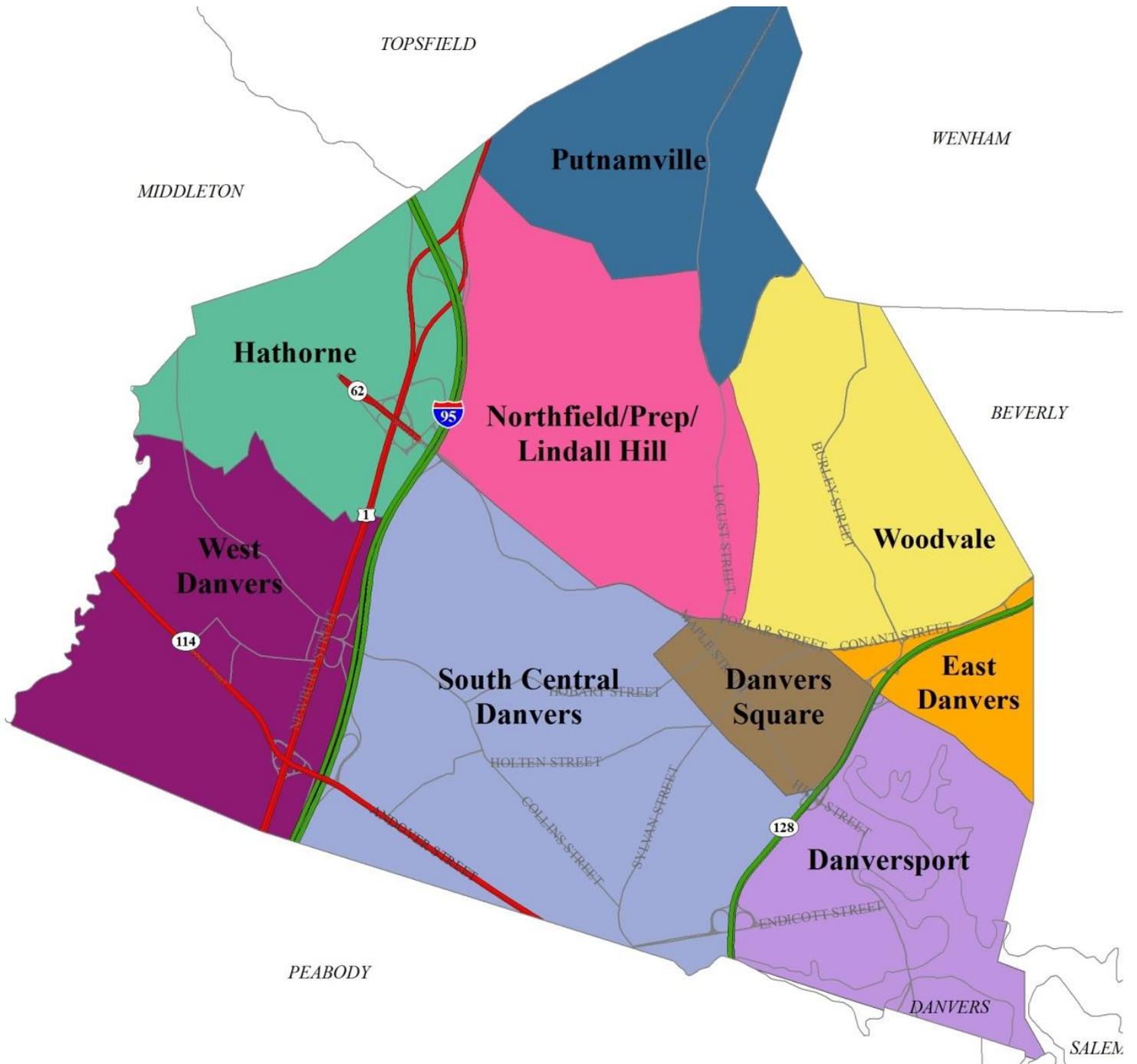
Many departments and committees in the Town team together to maintain and manage the community's open space areas, recreation facilities, natural resources and trail systems. Many boards such as the Open Space and Recreation Advisory Committee, River Committee, Recreation Committee, and Rail Trail Committee are made up of volunteer residents that have a strong interest in the community. These committees communicate with each other to make sure the maintenance needs of each Town amenity is accomplished.

The Conservation Commission continues to work closely with the Planning Board and Engineering Division. When new projects and sub-developments are proposed, both the Conservation Commission and Planning Board look to the Engineering Department for guidance on stormwater systems and best management practices that pose the least impact to important resource areas and community needs. Planning Board staff and Conservation Commission staff keep in constant communication to make sure proposed projects meet each other's standards and conditions before issuing final decisions. Each board is mindful of the impacts over development has on neighboring residents and resources.

The Department of Public Works is an important asset to the Town for many reasons. All athletic fields, playgrounds, and public parks are maintained by DPW. Recreation and DPW communicate to make sure the Towns recreation areas are safe, clean and maintained. DPW also works closely with the Conservation Commission to make sure town resource areas are protected and managed correctly. Salt distribution, culvert cleaning, and beaver dam removal are common communication topics between Conservation and DPW.

Potential improvements to Sandy Beach recreational area is a special opportunity that has involved many boards and departments. The recreation department staff is working closely with the planning department to brainstorm and implement ideas for the proposed park changes. With the help of the Open Space Committee, the River Committee, Engineering Division and Department of Public Works, the proposed project has grown into a tangible idea that could potentially be a major attraction for the community and the North Shore. In the future, these boards will continue to communicate with each other to make sure all aspects of the community are being maintained and managed correctly.

To further detail the needs of the community, OSRAC analyzed nine unique neighborhoods that comprise the Town, as represented in the following map and tables. Each neighborhood has individual needs based on its location, surrounding natural resources, recreational opportunities and access to open space.



WEST DANVERS (Boundaries – north: State Hospital, east: I-95, south: City of Peabody, west: Town of Middleton)

		Current Status	Actions to Pursue
Watershed Protection		The Town and the State currently own a significant amount of land along the Ipswich River, including a public well site. Existing private property with over 1,000 ft. of riverfront is currently undeveloped. Town acquired the 21-acre parcel known as Lebel’s Grove, which will aid in watershed protection.	Continue to protect riverfront area of Ipswich River through Lebel’s Grove.
Passive Recreation		A canoe launch and picnic area on the Ipswich River (approximately 18 acres) is accessible from West St. The Town Forest off Buxton Rd. contains a number of walking trails, which connect to the Town’s transfer station.	Implement passive recreation activities for Town owned Lebel’s Grove. Pursue trail links between Lebel’s Grove and Town Forest with access easement through Temple Sinai.
Active Recreation (organized)		None existing.	Implement organized and State approved active recreation opportunities for Town owned Lebel’s Grove
Open Space		In addition to the lands described above, other open space properties include the property off Dayton St./Centre St., as well as the private permanent open space provided as a requirement of the cluster subdivision of Westover Farms.	Improve access to open space parcels. Pursue tax deed for Westover Farms open space.
Waterfront	Salt	None	No additional actions to pursue.
	Fresh	See Watershed Protection above.	Increase access to properties along Ipswich River.
Habitat Protection		Existing public and private lands contribute to habitat protection even if lands are used for other purposes.	See watershed protection and open space above.
Stormwater Retention		The lowlands adjacent to the Ipswich River, the wetlands between Centre St. and Dayton St., and the subdivision detention ponds all provide areas for stormwater retention.	Maintain existing stormwater retention areas and explore practical methods for better treatment of runoff.

HATHORNE (Boundaries - north and west: Town of Middleton, east: I-95, south: State Hospital)

		Current Status	Actions to Pursue
Watershed Protection		Existing public and private protected lands contribute indirectly to protection of the Ipswich River Watershed.	No additional actions to pursue.
Passive Recreation		The land of the Essex Agricultural and Technical Institute includes fields and a pond (109± acres). The Ferncroft Conservation Area, which is leased by the Town from the State, also contains walking trails around a pond.	Identify important features for protection. Pursue a trail link between the Ferncroft Conservation Area and the Essex Agricultural and Technical Institute. Pursue acquisition of the Ferncroft Conservation Area from the State.
Active Recreation (organized)		Existing active recreation lands include the Preston St. playground and a Lacrosse/Soccer field shared with the Essex Agricultural and Technical Institute (3± acres).	Pursue partnerships with the Essex Agricultural and Technical Institute and the North Shore Community College that will increase recreational opportunities.
Open Space		Existing open space land is currently occupied by the Essex Agricultural and Technical Institute and the North Shore Community College consisting of 109± acres (of which 70± acres are under an APR). The former Danvers State Hospital property (344 acres including 250± acres of farm land along Middleton Rd. and Dayton St. under an APR), and a small section of former railroad bed between Hawthorne Ave. and the Town of Middleton.	Identify important features for protection. Gain access for public and plan future trails using railroad bed.
Waterfront	Salt	No waterfront.	No additional actions to pursue.
	Fresh	Existing freshwater includes the former ice pond for Danvers State Hospital off Ferncroft Rd., owned by the State.	Pursue acquisition of the former ice pond. Prior to acquisition, seek to coordinate maintenance of the pond with the appropriate State office.
Habitat Protection		Existing public and private protected land contribute to habitat protection even if land is used for another purpose.	No additional actions to pursue. At this time there are no endangered species within the Town.
Stormwater Retention		The pond on Essex Agricultural and Technical Institute property as well as the former Danvers State Hospital ice pond provide for stormwater retention.	No additional actions to pursue. Plan for future maintenance needs.

NORTHFIELD/PREP/LINDALL HILL (*Boundaries – north: Putnamville Reservoir, east: railroad right-of-way, south: Rte. 62, west: I-95*)

		Current Status	Actions to Pursue
Watershed Protection		Existing public and private protected lands contribute to the Salem Harbor and the Ipswich River Watersheds.	No additional actions to pursue.
Passive Recreation		Existing land used for passive recreation includes walking trails around College Pond (21± acres). Walking trails over abandoned railroad beds from Spring St. to Maple St.	Nature walking trail around Smith School Pond. Develop a Senior Park at former Hunt Hospital site.
Active Recreation (organized)		Existing land for active recreation includes the fields and playgrounds at the Smith School (16± acres). St. John’s Preparatory School has extensive recreation fields.	No additional actions to pursue.
Open Space		In addition to the lands described above, the open space includes Town property south of North St., also known as Lobao Swamp (33± acres) and the privately protected open space adjacent to College Pond (15± acres).	Acquisition of the former NIKE site off North St. from the federal government should be pursued as well as the acquisition or protection of the adjacent private property as it becomes available.
Waterfront	Salt	No salt waterfront is located in this region.	No protection needed.
	Fresh	College Pond and Smith School Pond are the only fresh waterfronts located within this region.	No additional actions to pursue.
Habitat Protection		The large tracts of existing public and private protected lands contribute to habitat protection even though the lands are used for other purposes.	No additional actions to pursue.
Stormwater Retention		Lobao Swamp and College Pond both provide areas for stormwater retention.	Permanent protection of the private properties comprising Lobao Swamp should be pursued.

PUTNAMVILLE (*Boundaries – north: Topsfield and Wenham, east: Wenham, south: Wenham St. and Putnamville Reservoir, west: US-1 and Topsfield*)

		Current Status	Actions to Pursue
Watershed Protection		Existing public and private protected lands contribute indirectly to the Salem Harbor and Ipswich River Watersheds. Town properties along the Wenham–Danvers Town Line (47± acres), Topsfield–Danvers Town Line (22± acres), and along Locust St. (9± acres) as well as Connors Farm (76± acres) are located within the zone of contribution for the Wenham–Hamilton public well.	No additional actions to pursue.
Passive Recreation		Existing land used for passive recreation surrounds the Putnamville Reservoir. The use of the reservoir itself, however, is restricted, as it is a public water supply. It may not be used for most water-based recreation, such as swimming or canoeing. Fishing is allowed.	Increase and improve access from Open Space sites to the Danvers Rail Trail and vice versa. Improvements to signage and amenities.
Active Recreation (organized)		The Putnamville Playground is located on the south side of Wenham St.	Playground recently expanded structurally. No additional actions to pursue.
Open Space		Choate Farm Open Space area consists of parking, picnic tables and trails. Moore Woods Open Space area consists of trails and a connection to the Danvers Rail Trail.	Implement maintenance plan for Moore Woods and Choate Farm Open Space areas.
Waterfront	Salt	No waterfront.	No additional actions to pursue.
	Fresh	The existing Putnamville Reservoir is fresh waterfront.	No additional actions to pursue.
Habitat Protection		Existing public and private protected lands contribute to habitat protection even if lands used for other purposes.	No additional actions to pursue.
Stormwater Retention		Town land along the Wenham–Danvers town Line, also known as the Wenham Swamp, provides an area for stormwater retention.	No additional actions to pursue.

EAST DANVERS (Boundaries – north: Conant St., east: Beverly, south: Rte. 62/Elliott St., west: City of Beverly)

		Current Status	Actions to Pursue
Watershed Protection		Existing public and private protected lands contribute indirectly to the protection of the Salem Harbor Watershed. These lands include properties owned by the Town and the Salem-Beverly Water District on Folly Hill. They include water supply storage facilities as well as the land off Foster St., currently classified under Chapter 61A.	A greater level of protection for the Ch. 61A property on Foster St. should be pursued, either through an APR or outright acquisition.
Passive Recreation		Properties owned by the Town and the Salem-Beverly Water District on Folly Hill contain walking trails.	The property at the top of Folly Hill contains walking trails used by neighbors. This property is adjacent to the Town and the Salem-Beverly Water District properties as well as the Ch. 61A property. The property also provides a potential link between the Folly Hill and Elliott St. residences. Protection of this link and the walking trails either through acquisition or easements should be explored.
Active Recreation (organized)		What is characterized as East Danvers is actually several different neighborhoods that are separated by Rte. 128. The neighborhood of Folly Hill is in fact isolated from the rest of the Town as its sole access is off Rte. 128 North. This neighborhood does contain a small playground. The properties along Conant St. are in close proximity to Plains Park and the Thorpe School.	No additional actions to pursue.
Open Space		Existing public and private protected lands contribute to open space.	See comments for Ch. 61A property and Folly Hill above. Protection for the public view from both properties of the Porter River should be considered.
Waterfront	Salt	No waterfront. Significant water runoff flowing south from Folly Hill is partly contained in an intermittent stream, crosses under Elliott St., and empties into the Porter River west of the Danversport Yacht Club.	No additional actions to pursue.
	Fresh	No waterfront. Significant water runoff flowing south from Folly Hill is partly contained in an intermittent stream, crosses under Elliott St., and empties into the Porter River west of the Danversport Yacht Club.	No additional actions to pursue.
Habitat Protection		Existing public and private protected lands contribute to open space, even if it is not their primary purpose.	No specific protection needed.
Stormwater Retention		The significant runoff down Bradley St, Garfield St., and from the former St. Alphonsus Church, crosses Elliott St. and empties into a mini-estuary of the Porter River west of the Danversport Yacht Club during heavy downpours.	No additional actions to pursue.

DANVERSPORT (Boundaries – north: Rte. 62/Elliott St., east and south: Cities of Salem, Beverly, and Peabody, west: Rte. 128)

		Current Status	Actions to Pursue
Watershed Protection		Existing public and private protected and unprotected lands contribute indirectly to the protection of the Salem Harbor Watershed.	Further protection along the Porter, Crane, and Waters Rivers estuaries should be explored. This protection should be pursued, either through conservation restrictions or outright acquisition.
Passive Recreation		Existing lands for passive recreation include the water access at the end of Bradstreet Ave., Eden Glen Ave., Mead St., and Choate Ave. with benches provided at Mead St. and Bradstreet Ave.	Pursue passive recreation activities for Town owned parcel on Jersey Lane. The Town should pursue obtaining open space from the former New England Home for the Deaf. The 35-acre reclamation site bound by Crane River, Rte. 128, and Clinton Ave. should be acquired for estuary protection and passive recreation.
Active Recreation (organized)		Existing lands used for active recreation include the Riverside School, John George Park, Sandy Beach, the Williams School, the Bradstreet Ave. Playground, Pope’s Landing, and the Crane River Marina.	Improve access and amenities to Sandy Beach per the community’s needs and the surrounding EJ population.
Open Space		Existing lands contributing to open space include the properties along Congress, Glen, and Bradstreet Avenues.	See comments on protection of river estuaries under watersheds above.
Waterfront	Salt	Most of Danvers salt waterfront is located in Danversport. Existing waterfront lands include the water access listed under passive recreation above and the boatyard/marina facilities listed under active recreation above.	See comments on additional water access under passive recreation above, comments on expansion of Sandy Beach under active recreation above, as well as habitat protection below.
	Fresh	Several rivers and streams feed into the Danvers River. The land along these rivers is not permanently protected.	See comments on protection of river estuaries above.
Habitat Protection		Existing public and private protected lands contribute to open space, even if it is not their primary purpose.	<u>Porter, Crane, & Waters Rivers Estuaries:</u> Additional, contiguous protection can provide for real habitat improvement and lead the way for the development and success of wildlife programs. Add environmental education kiosks to Sandy Beach
Stormwater Retention		No specific retention areas. The public lands along the water provide storage for floodwaters.	No specific protection needed.

SOUTH CENTRAL DANVERS (Boundaries - north: Rte. 62/Maple St., east: Rte. 128, south: City of Peabody, west: I-95)

		Current Status	Actions to Pursue
Watershed Protection		Publicly protected lands include Endicott Park, Gates property, Tapleyville Park, the Meadows, the Mill Pond, lot 050-238, and the electric power line easements between Collins and Andover Streets. Private lands include the Rebecca Nurse property and the St. Mary’s and Sylvan St. cemeteries. A total of over 293 acres.	The privately-owned area known as Muddy Boo is in multiple ownerships and in dire need of protection from abuse and encroachment. Acquisition and/or easements can provide permanent, long-term protection.
Passive Recreation		Developed public lands with passive opportunities include Endicott Park, the Gates property, the Meadows, and Mill Pond, while some limited opportunities are offered on private lands such as the cemeteries, the Rebecca Nurse Homestead and Clark Farm.	The Gates property could have its non-sports areas enhanced with trails and signage. A conservation easement with the Rebecca Nurse owners would give further protection to this valuable historic open space.
Active Recreation (organized)		This area enjoys the use of developed recreation areas at the Gates Fields, the Great Oak and Highlands Schools, and at the Tapleyville and Lawrence St. playgrounds.	No additional sites envisioned at this time. Develop railroad right-of-ways into a trail system.
Open Space		All the above sites contribute to the wealth of open space available. In addition, smaller pockets of green space exist throughout the area and include the training field on Centre St. and the cemetery on Garden St.	See Muddy Boo above. Use and availability of power line easements off Collins and Andover Streets need to be investigated.
Waterfront	Salt	Privately owned lot 063-011 abuts Waters River.	Pursue a protective easement to ensure against encroachment and abuse of estuary edges.
	Fresh	No primary site but extensive stream and marsh edges abutted by residential properties. An existing pond at Endicott park is used for fishing.	Abutter education to ensure water quality and habitat protection.
Habitat Protection		Large areas such as Endicott Park, St. Mary’s, Sylvan St. cemeteries, Gates Field, and the Rebecca Nurse Homestead provide the best habitat protection, while connecting corridors enhance wildlife movements.	Contact appropriate State agencies for assistance in identifying critical habitats such as vernal pools. Appropriate management tools (plans) should be developed to protect existing or potential sites.
Stormwater Retention		Current public areas include Endicott Park, the Meadows and Mill Pond. Privately owned “Muddy Boo” is a major critical area of retention and water quality protection.	Continue protection from encroachment by monitoring, education, and citation where needed. See “Muddy Boo” above.

DANVERS SQUARE (Boundaries – north: Rte. 62/Poplar St., east: Rte. 128, south: Purchase St., west: Lawrence St.)

		Current Status	Actions to Pursue
Watershed Protection		Existing public and private protected lands contribute indirectly to the Salem Harbor Watershed.	No additional actions to pursue.
Passive Recreation		Limited opportunities. Currently the grounds of the Town’s library are used for some passive activity.	Pursue trail link to other Town areas via former railroad right-of-way and utility right-of-way. Potentially acquire cemetery parcels.
Active Recreation (organized)		Existing organized recreation areas located at Plains Park include ballfields, playground equipment, basketball courts, tennis courts, and a skateboard park (31± acres).	No additional actions to pursue.
Open Space		This area of Danvers includes the downtown and surrounding densely developed areas. The only open space areas are Plains Park and its adjacent tidal estuary.	Permanent protection of the private property that comprises the estuary should be pursued.
Waterfront	Salt	The tidal estuary located adjacent to Plains Park of which a portion of this estuary is publicly-owned (½ ± acre).	Pursue permanent protection of the tidal marshes located on the private property within the estuary.
	Fresh	The Mill Pond is used for picnics and fishing.	Continue to work with DPW to maintain Mill Pond via vegetative measures, dredging.
Habitat Protection		Existing public protected lands provide minimal habitat due to the nature of the uses.	Permanent protection of the tidal estuary will provide habitat for saltwater species as well as other animals dependent on the marsh.
Stormwater Retention		No specific stormwater retention areas.	No additional actions to pursue.

WOODVALE (Boundaries - north: Wenham St. and Wenham, east: Beverly and Wenham, south: Conant and Poplar Streets, west: railroad right-of-way)

		Current Status	Actions to Pursue
Watershed Protection		Frost Fish Brook flows through Woodvale and empties into Porter River by the Holten-Richmond Middle School.	Management plan for continuing monitoring and maintenance of brook bank to prevent erosion and sedimentation.
Passive Recreation		Proctor Farm is located on the opposite side of Conant St. The area behind the high school provides trails that are part of the Choate-Putnamville Connector.	Pursue trail link to other Town areas via former railroad right-of-way and utility right-of-way.
Active Recreation (organized)		The high school provides a playground, football stadium, fields, and tennis courts. Thorpe School provides a playground and two new lacrosse/soccer fields.	New updates have been added to high school fields. No additional actions to pursue.
Open Space		Wooded area behind the high school and Proctor Farm.	No additional actions to pursue.
Waterfront	Salt	N/A	N/A
	Fresh	Frost Fish Brook	Management plan for continuing monitoring and maintenance of brook banks to prevent erosion and sedimentation.
Habitat Protection		Existing public and private lands provide habitat protection. Proctor Farm Conservation Area and portions of Cherry Hill Office Park provide wildlife habitat.	Management plan for Proctor Farm Conservation Area should be developed and implemented.
Stormwater Retention		Frost Fish Brook receives water from the drainage system throughout Woodvale. Runoff from the drainage system and erosion of the banks of the river contribute to the sediment load deposited into the Porter River, creating the need to dredge the navigable rivers more frequently. A permanent means of stabilization was approved and implemented for a section of Frost Fish Brook.	Continue permanent means of stabilization on the remaining eroding banks of Frost Fish Brook. Issue a notice to Frost Fish Brook abutters about the impacts of yard waste on bank stabilization and stormwater retention.



Section 8

Goals and Objectives

Open Space and Recreation Goals and Objectives

The overarching goals seen in this section have been organized and placed in appropriate categories that detail their specific needs. These goals were formed through a more detailed analysis of community feedback, environmental assessments and reviews of the previous 2009 plan. Goals that were not achieved from the previous plan have been updated and added to this 2017 plan. As the demographics of the community change, the goals change as well. Maintaining and improving open space and recreation areas are two major goals for this plan that have an important list of detailed objectives. Continuing to protect the community's natural resources and water systems are the remaining major goals this plan will help to achieve.

In finalizing these goals for the 2017 Open Space and Recreation Plan, the committee had a strong focus, as it had before, on preserving and improving the community's strong passive and active recreation opportunities, natural resources and land acquisition. The following goals and objectives are:



GOAL 1: Improve and acquire open space areas to increase passive recreation.

Danvers has eight major open space areas that are most frequented by residents of the Town. Responses from this plans community outreach heavily emphasized on a lack of information about the Towns open space areas which has led to a decrease in users. While residents were happy with the quality of the trails, they were displeased with the lack of signage, maps and advertisement each area had. Other residents also commented that a rise in development has increased the desire for the Town to acquire more open space parcels.

Objectives:

- 1) Identify present and future passive recreation areas and potential areas of expansion.
- 2) Secure more permanent protection for present and future areas using creative, multi-layered systems of designation such as deed restrictions or public/private easements and partnerships.
- 3) Identify and search for creative ways to alleviate conflicts from competing interests for land usage.
- 4) Develop a passive recreation management plan for each major area (and collectively for smaller ones) to integrate into the town wide Open Space and Recreation Plan.
- 5) Encourage public awareness and positive attitudes about the benefits of passive recreation and open space in proximity to residential areas and assuage the fears of negative impacts.
- 6) Continue participation in the technical review process by members of the permanent Open Space and Recreation Advisory Committee to ensure the focus on passive and active recreation and open space values in all future planning, public and private.
- 7) Increase public awareness of town open space areas by updating signage, maps, and advertising.
- 8) Add environmental education amenities to existing open space parcels



GOAL 2: Improve and maintain existing recreation areas to increase access and amenities for the community.

Danvers has an extensive inventory of playgrounds, fields, facilities and programs. These amenities are



extremely important to residents and families. By improving existing recreational areas, the needs of the community will be met. These improvements can be accomplished through grants, donations and money that has been set aside. Making the Town's recreation areas handicapped accessible as well as open to EJ communities is an important goal established by the community and committee.

Objectives:

- 1) Expand existing waterfront recreation by improving water quality, advertised activities and amenities.
- 2) Increase recreational opportunities for all areas of Town and provide access for handicapped users and EJ communities.
- 3) Seek funding for maintenance and improvements.
- 4) Prioritize site improvements and expansions based on community needs.
- 5) Expand existing trail systems to create a continual greenway connection.





GOAL 3: Increase protection of the Towns natural resources.

Danvers varied natural resources require specific protection goals that can be accomplished by both Town workers and residents. Educating these individuals about the benefits of wetlands, rivers, marshes and forests are extremely important for overall protection.

Objectives:

- 1) Permanently protect the Town's remaining agricultural lands.
- 2) Develop management plans for publicly owned open space lands that include inventories of natural features and habitat areas.
- 3) Identify and eliminate private property encroachment onto public open space lands.
- 4) Identify and protect open space that is currently privately owned, particularly those lands that are contiguous to existing public lands or that provide a scenic vista and/or public access.
- 5) Seek community volunteers to maintain and protect local resource areas.
- 6) Increase public outreach to community centers, schools and programs to educate residents on the importance of natural resource protection.
- 7) Continue working with the Conservation Commission to implement State and Town protection laws.





GOAL 4: Preserve and protect the saltwater shores, watersheds and freshwater resources of Danvers.

Protecting our water resources is important to maintaining our quality of life in Danvers. The various streams, brooks and saltwater systems provide habitat for many plants, animals and fish. The Ipswich River Watershed and the North Coast Watershed in Danvers are important to the quality and quantity of water and the effective human use of water resources.

Protecting these water sources is not only important to plant and animal habitat but to the happiness and wellbeing of residents.

Objectives:

- 1) Identify ownership, usage, conditions (physical and ecological), and any encroachment of waterfront.
- 2) Coordinate with surrounding communities to protect regional watersheds.
- 3) Strictly enforce current DEP standards and Town by-laws to protect existing watersheds, freshwater resources and sensitive saltwater shores.
- 4) Continue creation and maintenance of recreation opportunities on appropriate waters.
- 5) Educate residents on the values of the Towns water systems and the impact development/encroachment can have on them.
- 6) Develop a public awareness program to emphasize the importance of maintaining natural drainage courses and detention areas for both flood protection and wildlife habitat.





Section 9

Seven-Year Action Plan

The following actions are recommended for implementation over the seven years of this 2017 Plan. Recognizing that priorities may change and that the availability of properties and funding will affect the proposed schedule, the sections of the 2017 Open Space and Recreation Plan and its recommended actions should be viewed as a “road map” for the Town to utilize over the next seven-year period. It is not intended to be an exclusionary list with an absolute schedule for implementation.

Open Space and Recreation Advisory Committee

This concept is a major key to the success of the proposed Open Space and Recreation Plan and was proposed by several parties including the Conservation Commission, the Recreation Committee, and the Town Manager. The Open Space and Recreation Advisory Committee ensures continuity between plans as well as oversees the actions proposed in Section 9 of this 2017 Plan. In addition, the committee provides a vehicle for continued public input and support and allows for citizen assistance to the Department of Planning and Human Services. The committee includes representatives of other Town boards and acts as “ombudsmen” for open space and recreation issues at large. It is particularly helpful as a driving force to initiate the following actions which are recommendations of this plan.

Responsible Parties Legend

AC	Agricultural Commission
BOA	Board of Assessors
BOH	Board of Health
BOS	Board of Selectmen
CC	Conservation Commission
DDC	Danvers Disability Commission
DCAT	Danvers Community Access Television
DPW	Department of Public Works
DEP	Department of Environmental Protection
ED	Engineering Division
FC	Finance Committee
HC	Historic District Commission

HM	Harbor Master
LGC	Lebel’s Grove Committee
OSI	Open Space Interns
OSRAC	Open Space and Recreation Advisory Committee
PB	Planning Board
PC	Preservation Commission
PD	Planning Department
RTAC	Rail Trail Advisory Committee
RD	Recreation Department
RC	Recreation Committee
RVC	River Committee
SC	School Committee

Seven-Year Action Plan

Goal 1: Improve and acquire open space areas to increase passive recreation.

Actions	Responsible Parties	2017-2018	2019-2022	2023-2024	Funding Source
Identify present and future passive recreation areas and potential areas for expansion and acquisition to provide a continuous greenway and trail system.	OSRAC CC BOA LGC				LAND Grant Town Funds
Secure more permanent protection for present and future areas using creative, multi-layered systems of designation such as deed restrictions or public/private easements and partnerships.	OSRAC BOS BOA PB				Donations Bonds
Identify and search for creative ways to alleviate conflicts from competing interests for land usage.	OSRAC PB PD				N/A
Develop a passive recreation management plan for open space areas to integrate into the town wide Open Space and Recreation Plan.	OSRAC, OSI PD RD RC, DPW				N/A
Encourage public awareness and positive attitude about the benefits of passive recreation and open space in proximity to residential areas and assuage the fears of negative impacts.	CC, OSRAC, DTAC, RD, RC, PB, PD				N/A
Increase public awareness of the town open space areas by updating signage, maps and advertising.	OSRAC, OSI, PD, DCAT				Town Funds Capital Outlay
Add environmental education amenities to existing open space parcels	OSRAC, OSI, PD				Town Funds

Goal 1: Focus Areas

LEBEL'S CRESCENT *(A concept for a continuous greenway along the Ipswich River)*

A number of properties along the Ipswich River are currently protected from development, either through the ownership of the Town of Danvers or the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. These properties include the Danvers Town Forest off Buxton Road, the Town's well sites, the Ipswich River Canoe Launch, and the recently acquired Lebel's Grove. With the protection of four additional properties (through acquisition, easement, or other method) a continuous link between the Town of Danvers Transfer Station to the former Danvers State Hospital property (now known as Halstead) can be created. The key piece for this continuous link or greenbelt is Lebel's Grove, the approximately 21-acre property at 390 Andover Street which also possesses over 1,000 feet of frontage on the Ipswich River. The name "Lebel's Crescent" shows recognition of the importance of this property to the concept.

Protecting the parcels identified in Lebel's Crescent will provide a continuous link of open space, allow for passive recreational trails, handicapped accessibility, conserve the entire length of Ipswich River frontage in Danvers, and preserve its habitat. Implementing a plan for protection of all parcels comprising the Crescent during the next five years will make Lebel's Crescent a reality and accomplish five goals of this Plan.

Recommended Actions:

Implement an action and maintenance plan for "Lebel's Grove", 390 Andover Street.

- Pursue actions to establish passive recreational uses at Lebel's Grove with the help of the Lebel's Grove Committee and the Open Space and Recreation Action Committee.

Acquire easements to link the Town Forest to Lebel's Grove through Well Site 1:

- 59R Buxton Rd. (Parcel 038 003), *about 5.7 acres*; Temple Sinai
- 54 Buxton Rd. (Parcel 038 007), *about 15.3 acres*; Sons of Jacob Cemetery

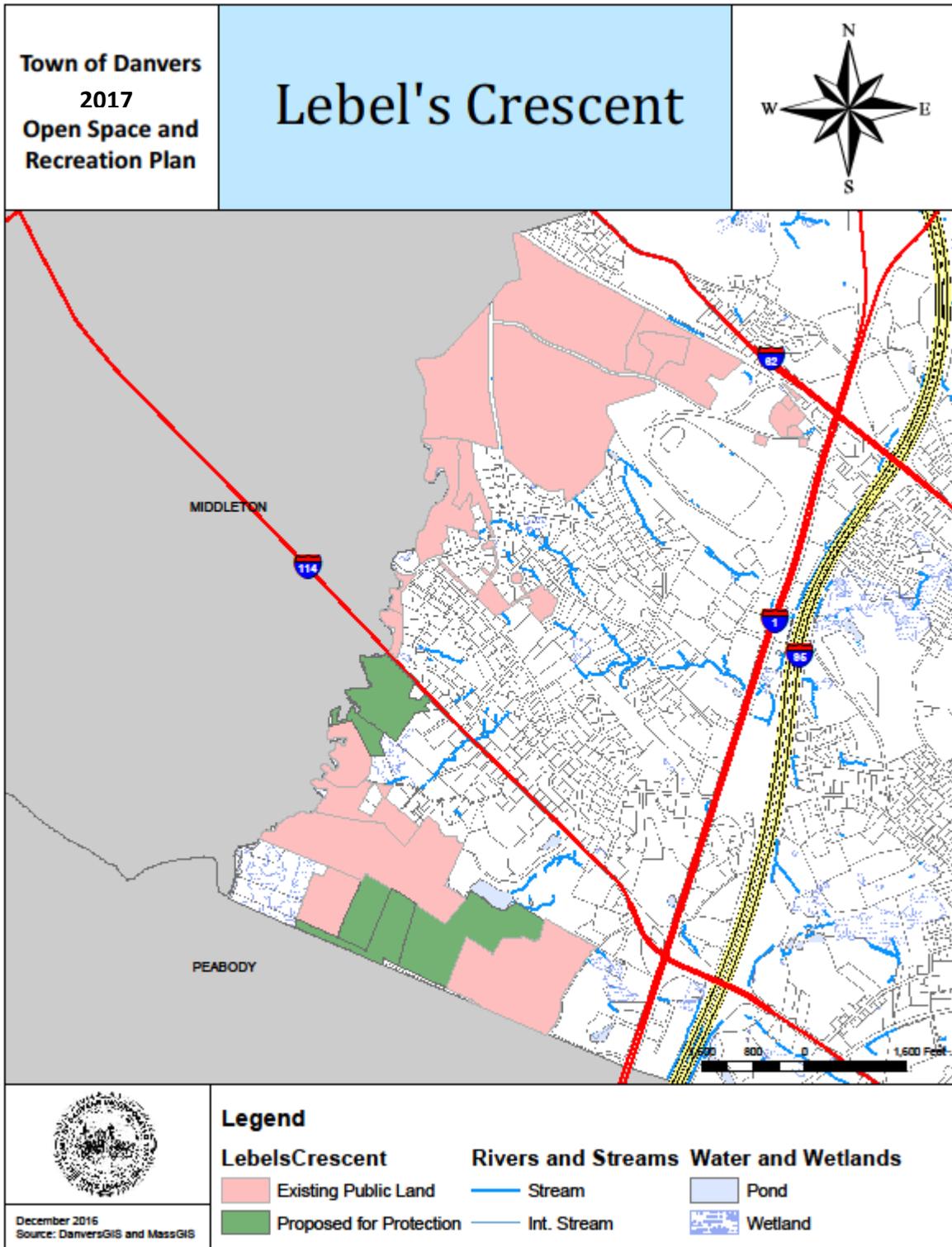
Acquire easements or protect:

- 18R Buxton Rd. (Parcel 046 002), *about 17.6 acres*; New England Power Company
- 24R Buxton Rd. (Parcel 046 001), *about 13.0 acres*; New England Power Company
- 105 Popes Ln. (Parcel 047 003), *about 39.6 acres*; New England Power Company - This would provide a more permanent link from Transfer Station (former landfill) to Town Forest.

- **Acquire easements over the remainder of Commonwealth of Massachusetts' properties.**
- **Develop Land Use Management Plan in connection with the DEP**
- **Develop a master plan for future design**

Responsible Parties: Lebel's Grove Committee, Planning Department, Conservation Commission

Funds: Grants, donations, town funds.



Goal 1: Focus Areas

NIKE KNOLL

The United States Government discontinued use of the NIKE Site at 72 North Street some years ago and the property has recently become more actively used by the National Guard. Though a specific use has not been identified, the Town has expressed an interest in protecting the approximately 12-acre property from development.

Located adjacent to the NIKE Site are two undeveloped properties under common ownership: 68 and 70 North Street. The protection of these properties in conjunction with that of the NIKE Site would result in protection of about 14 acres of open space in a well-developed neighborhood. Furthermore, a possibility exists for protection of a portion the property at 252R Locust Street upon which a dwelling currently exists.

Recommended Actions:

Protect the properties most vulnerable to development:

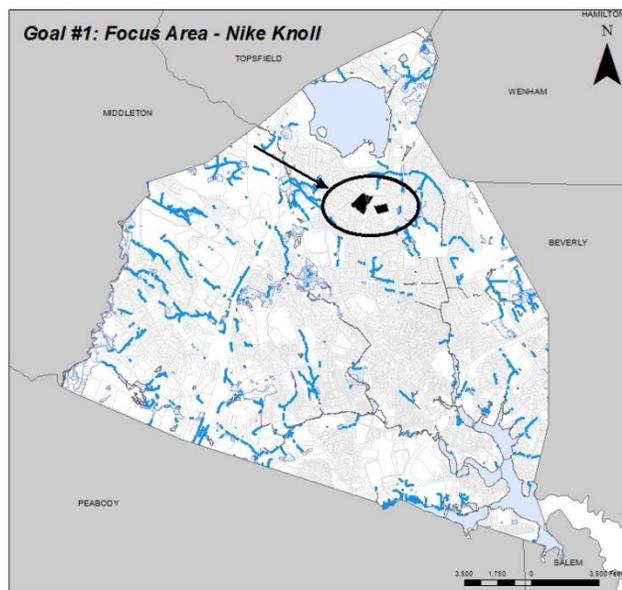
- 68 North St. (Parcel 015 030), *about 1.3 acres*
- 70 North St. (Parcel 014 205), *about .7 acre*

Contact the Federal Government and negotiate for the protection of:

- 72 North St. (Parcel 014 079), *about 12 acres*

Protect other important properties:

- 252R Locust St. (Parcel 021 039A), *about 5.7 acres*



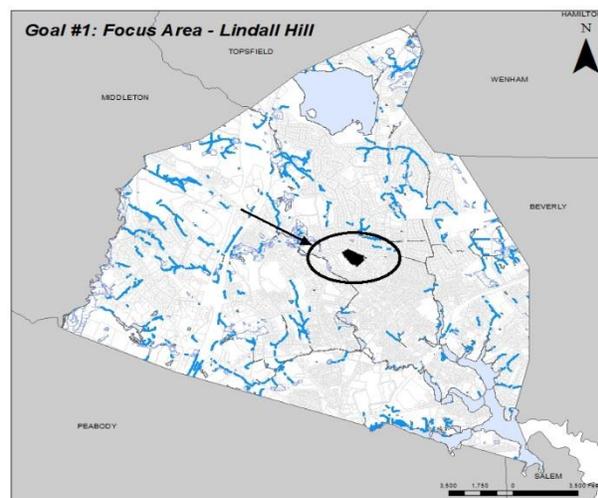
LINDALL HILL

The property at the former Hunt Hospital which is located at 75 Lindall Street contains over 16 acres of land. Most of the buildings are not in use, but some are still used as medical offices or in transition to another use. A portion of this parcel (described as Lot 1 and including areas of Creese Road and Lindall Street Extension) was set aside during the development of the Hunt Hospital for permanent protection. Lots 3 and 4 have been reserved under a private Open Space Restriction Easement with similar conditions as a Conservation Restriction. Lot 4 includes a utility easement.

Recommended Actions:

- **The Town should work towards developing a passive recreation site for seniors at:**

- 75 Lindall St. (Parcel 034 139), *about 16 acres*



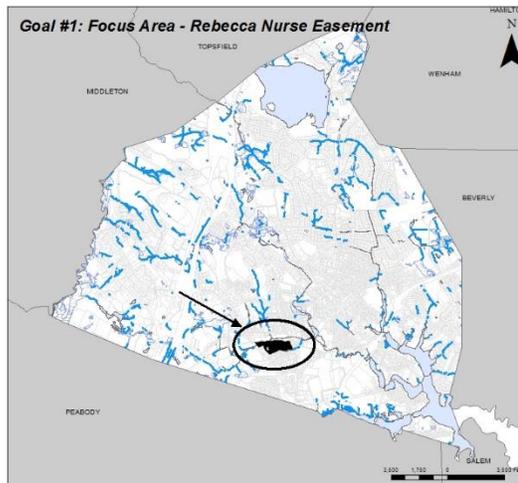
Goal 1: Focus Areas

REBECCA NURSE EASEMENT

This property located at 149 Pine Street is currently in private ownership by the Danvers Alarm List Company. The Town should pursue an agricultural preservation restriction, conservation, or public use easement for walking trails to add further protection from potential development.

Recommended Actions:

- **Discuss permanent protection with owners of Rebecca Nurse Homestead**
- 149 Pine St. (Parcel 057 203), about 26 acres



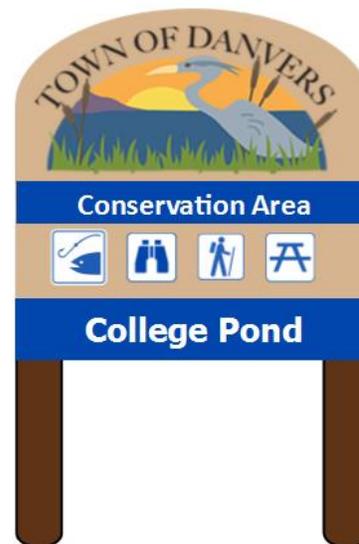
PASSIVE RECREATION MANAGEMENT PLANS

An inventory of all Town open space areas should be completed with the help of the Open Space and Recreation Advisory Committee as well as the Planning Department and Open Space Interns. These management plans should including mowing schedules, trail maintenance needs, amenity inventories and map details. Having a management plan is crucial to preserving the open space areas the community uses. These management plans should be updated and edited yearly to assure the correct actions are being taken to protect Town space. Management Plans should be created for the following open space areas: *Town Forest, Ferncroft Pond, College Pond, Proctor Farm, Choate Farm and West Street Canoe Launch.*

INCREASE PUBLIC AWARENESS OF OPEN SPACE AREAS

Feedback from community forums stated many residents are unaware of the open space areas in Town. Updating and implementing wayfinding signage will improve the number of visitors to Town owned open space. The Town and Open Space and Recreation Advisory Committee should update and add new street signs to all open space areas that will be visible to residents. Creating uniform branding, logos and colors will help users to access open space sites. Advertising these spaces and their associated maps can be done through the Town website, social media and in hard copy as popular town locations. The Open Space interns can complete this goal throughout upcoming summer hours.

Advertising current open space areas can be done in collaboration with the Danvers Community Access Television team. Having special showings or “commercials” before televised public meetings of open space areas and their amenities will help to bring awareness.



COLLABORATION WITH RAIL TRAIL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (RTAC)

The Danvers Rail Trail is a 4 1/3-mile non-motorized shared-use path linking schools, downtown Danvers, parks, residential areas, and trails in the neighboring towns of Peabody, Wenham, and Topsfield. Increasing the connections the Trail has to existing open space areas will help to achieve the goal of creating a continual trail system, and will allow more opportunities for residents to access this amenity.

Goal 2: Improve and maintain existing recreation areas to increase access and amenities for the community.

Actions	Responsible Parties	2017-2018	2019-2022	2023-2024	Funding Source
Expand existing waterfront recreation by improving access, advertised activities and amenities.	RD, PD, RC, OSRAC, BOH, DPW, RVC				Town Funds PARC Grant LWCF Grant
Increase recreational opportunities for all areas of Town and provide access for handicapped users and EJ communities.	RD, PD, RC, OSRAC, DPW, OSI, DC,				PARC Grant LWCF Grant Donations
Seek funding for recreation area maintenance and improvements.	RD, PD, RC, OSRAC, OSI				PARC Grant LWCF Grant Donations
Prioritize site improvements and expansions based on community needs.	RD, PD, RC, DPW, OSRAC, DC				Town Funds
Expand existing trail systems to create a continual greenway connection.	PD, RD, RC, OSRAC, LGC, RTAC, OSI, DPW, DC				Town Funds Grants

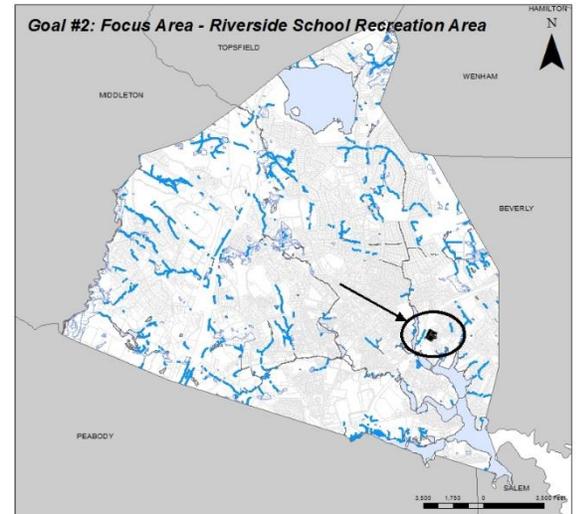
Goal 2: Focus Areas

RIVERSIDE SCHOOL RECREATIONAL AREA

The approximately two-acre property abutting the Riverside School to the north and located immediately adjacent to the play fields would provide a natural and much needed extension of these fields. The Town purchased a portion of 81R Liberty St. (Parcel 052 057A) in November 2001 for the possible expansion of recreational fields at the Riverside School which directly abuts this parcel. To further expand and protect this area:

Recommended Actions:

- **Acquire portions of**
 - 69 Liberty St. (Parcel 052 052), *about 2.4 acres*
 - 67 Liberty St. (Parcel 052 051), *about 3.3 acres*
 - 59 Liberty St. (Parcel 052 049), *about 1.5 acres*



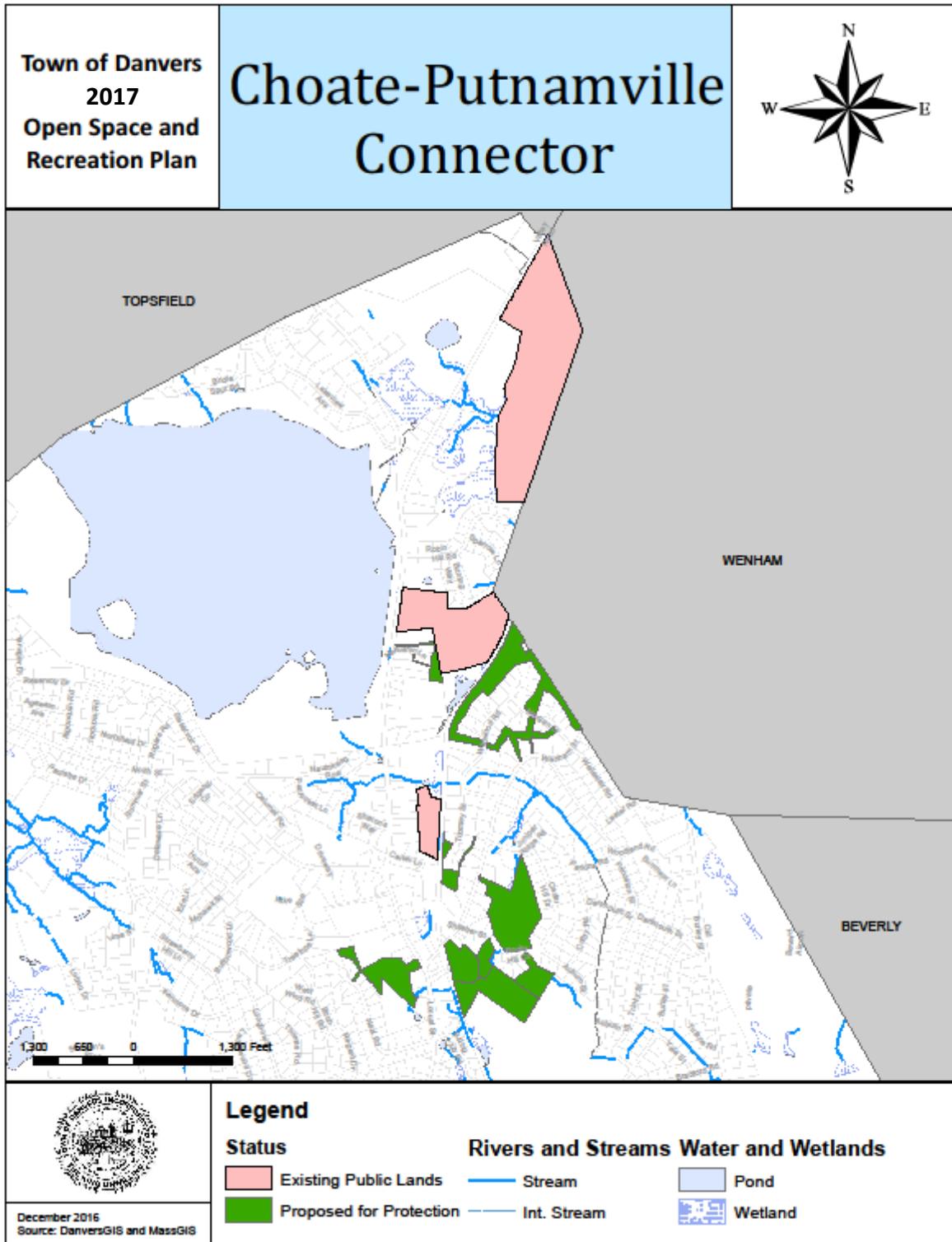
CHOATE-PUTNAMVILLE CONNECTOR *(A concept for expansion of Town trail systems)*

With the acquisition of 22 acres of Choate Farm in 2001, the Town protects one of its few remaining large open space tracts. Since the last Open Space Plan, the property at 407 Locust Street has been subdivided into two lots and the Town has acquired a portion of this parcel for the Choate Farm Conservation Area at 401 Locust Street. This area has been used by the Danvers Elementary and High Schools as well as Salem State College. The Rotary Club of Danvers has provided significant improvements to much of the area including a parking lot, benches, and a trail complex through the upland forest. Choate Farm Open Space area also connects directly to the Danvers Rail Trail.

Recommended Actions:

- **Encourage public participation of care and maintenance of property including the Miriam E. Cooper Peach Orchard, parking lot, upland trail, Danvers Rail Trail, and Swampwalk.**
- **The Danvers Rail Trail connects to the Topsfield Mass. Audubon Society. To further this connection, a plan for a further link to the Audubon’s hiking trails should be implemented.**
- **Pursue public access on cluster subdivision open-space parcels.**

Parcel Protection and Maintenance List		
Parcel #	Address	Acres
010 050	401 Locust Street	21.9
015 039B	273R Locust Street	5.0
021 062	11 Wenham Street	4.0
021 070	203R Locust Street	8.4
010 020	16 Wildwood Road	11.4
010 009	2 Makushkin Lane	1.4
015 091	13 Wildwood Road	2.8
015 069A	15 Toomey Street	1.7
021 087	15 Rocky Hill Circle	12.0
021 039B	27 Neal Road	7.2
021 080	12 Auburn Street	3.2
021 095	21 Rocky Hill Circle	3.2
002 008	49 Valley Road	47.4



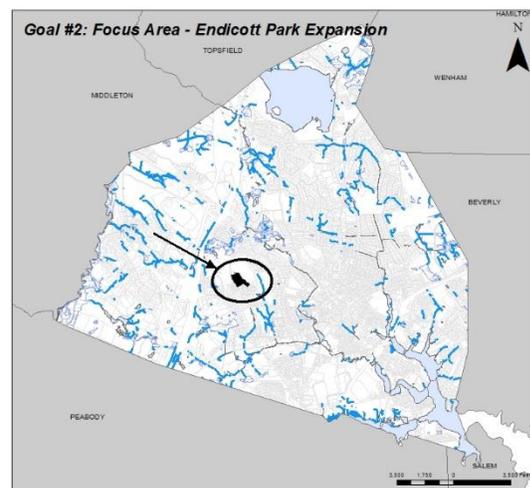
ENDICOTT PARK EXPANSION

The property located at 90 Forest Street is under the private ownership of the Roman Catholic Archbishop and is also known as St. Richard's Church. If this were to become available for purchase, the Town would be interested in acquiring part or all of this parcel to expand Endicott Park and increase its contiguity.

Recommended Actions:

- **Acquire all or a portion of:**
90 Forest St. (041 040), *about 11.2 acres*

Funding: Town Funds, Grants



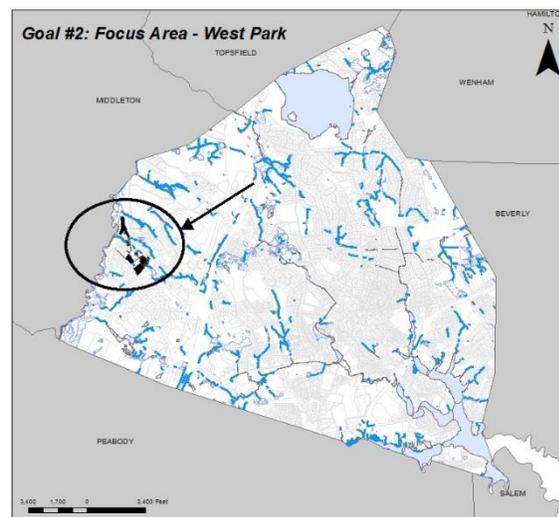
WEST PARK

(A proposal for a neighborhood park for West Danvers)

The neighborhood of West Danvers is separated from the remainder of the Town by two major roadways, Route 1 and Interstate 95. While home to a number of residents, particularly along Dayton and Centre/Green Streets, the neighborhood does not currently contain any active recreation areas. A neighborhood park to which residents can walk or bicycle is proposed. Acquisition of a property with sufficient size to accommodate a playground, basketball courts, a multi-use field, and picnic tables is necessary.

Recommended Actions:

- **Identify potential properties for use such as:**
 - 35 Green St. (Parcel 031 067), *about 5.6 acres*
 - Westover Farms (Parcels 023 070, 023 010, 023 016, 023 090), *about 18.9 acres*
 - 140 Dayton St. (Parcel 031 063), *about .87 acres*
 - 142 Dayton St. (Parcel 031 064), *about .81 acres*
 - 144 Dayton St. (Parcel 031 065), *about .16 acres*
- **Negotiate with owners to acquire property.**
- **Construct and develop park.**
- **Increase neighborhood involvement.**



Funding: Town Funds, Donation

SANDY BEACH RECREATION AREA

The waterfront area known as John George Park is located on River Street adjacent to Crane Marina and Sandy Beach. On the opposite side of River Street, lies the Town's only public beach. The acquisition of 25 River Street would allow the expansion of the playground at John George Park while the acquisition of 48 River Street would provide improved access to Sandy Beach and expanded parking facilities.

Recommended Actions:

Negotiate with property owners for acquisition of:

- 48 River St. (Parcel 060 005), *about .5 acre*
- 25 River St. (Parcel 059 192), *about .5 acre*
- **Implement master plan for potential Sandy Beach improvements**
- **Increase access and use for neighboring EJ Community**
- **Update amenities through town funding and grant acquisition**



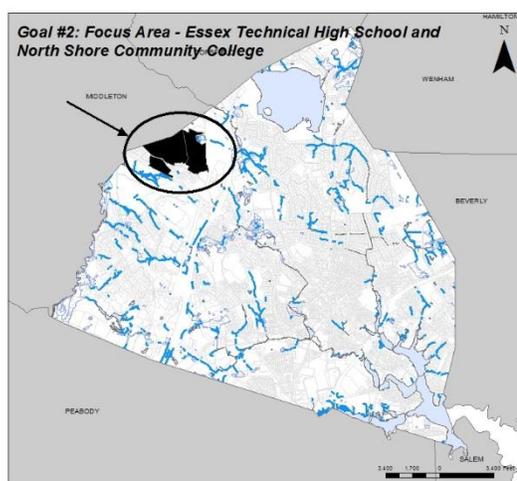
Funding: Town Budget, Town Funds, Grants

ESSEX TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL AND NORTH SHORE COMMUNITY COLLEGE:

Essex Technical High School is an independent, state funded, day school serving grades nine through twelve. It is located in the Hathorne section of Town near the Middleton town line. Founded in 1913, Essex Tech. serves students from various towns within a twenty mile radius of the school. The Tech's educational programs specialize in plant, animal, and Environmental Sciences.

Recommended Actions:

- **Work with merger committee to ensure incorporation of continued public access.**
- **Continue cooperative partnership with Essex Aggie on use of athletic fields.**
- ❖ **Protect:**
 - 562 Maple St. (Parcel 012 002), *about 24.8 acres*
 - 565 Maple St. (Parcel 012 001), *about 83.7 acres*
 - 10 Ferncroft Rd. (Parcel 012 017D), *about 65.8 acres*



OUTREACH TO ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE COMMUNITY

Reaching out to and working with the Town EJ community is an important goal that will serve to provide access and amenities to residents. Communicating with the EJ community on potential projects, acquisitions, improvements and developments will provide the Town with valuable feedback that can be used during project implementation.

COLLABORATION WITH THE DISABILITY COMMISSION

The Danvers Disability Commission (DDC) is an important group that will help to complete the overall goal of providing handicapped accessible amenities to residents. The DDC should be included in all park and open space development, improvement and construction projects. By doing so, other groups such as the Recreation Committee, Recreation Department, Planning Department and Open Space Interns can better plan and implement projects. The DDC helped to review and implement the ADA Evaluation included in this plan.

UPDATE TO THE 5-YEAR RECREATION FACILITY PLAN

An update to the Recreation Facility Plan will help to identify which recreation areas are in need of renovations, updates and new amenities. This plan is also a place where ADA compliance initiatives can be listed as potential future goals. The fields and facilities utilized for recreation activities are constantly monitored by the Recreation Division, the Recreation Committee and the Public Works Department. An important component of any Open Space and Recreation Plan is the continuing maintenance and improvements required for all recreational facilities within the Town. Action plans for the maintenance and improvements should be included in the Five Year Recreation Field and Facility Plan below. Funding for improvements and maintenance comes from several sources including the Town of Danvers, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, recreation leagues, Friends of Danvers Recreation, Friends of Endicott Park, and private donations.

Recommended Actions:

- **Formalize an agreement with New England Power Company to use the practice fields on Bow Street.**
- **Continue discussions with Essex Aggie and St. John's Preparatory School over shared use of fields and other possible joint projects.**
- **Implement the Five Year Recreation Field and Facility Plan.**

Goal 3: Increase protection of the Town's natural resources.

Actions	Responsible Parties	2017-2018	2019-2022	2023-2024	Funding Source
Permanently protect the Town's remaining agricultural lands.	AC, OSRAC, PD				N/A
Develop and implement management plans for publicly owned open space lands that include inventories of natural features and habitat areas.	OSRAC, OSI, CC, PD				N/A
Identify and eliminate private property encroachment onto public open space lands.	OSRAC, CC, PD, BOA, OSI				N/A
Identify and protect open space that is currently privately owned, particularly those lands that are contiguous to existing public lands or that provide a scenic vista, public access and continual greenway.	OSRAC, CC, PD, BOA, LGC				N/A
Seek community volunteers to maintain and protect local resource areas.	OSRAC, PD, OSI, DCAT				N/A
Increase public outreach to community centers, schools and programs to educate residents on the importance of natural resource protection.	OSRAC, PD, OSI, DCAT, SC				N/A
Annually evaluate the 2017 Open Space and Recreation Plan	OSRAC, PD, RD, RC				N/A

Goal 3: Focus Areas

FERNCROFT CONSERVATION AREA

The Town of Danvers currently holds an agreement with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for the use of the 8 acre area surrounding Ferncroft Pond (012 018). The placement of this property under the permanent control of the Town would guarantee the continuing use of the property by the Town. The Open Space Intern Program maintains the trails located on the property.

Recommended Actions:

Initiate negotiations to acquire the Ferncroft Conservation Area (the “lease” area) from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Establish a partnership with surrounding North Shore Community College.

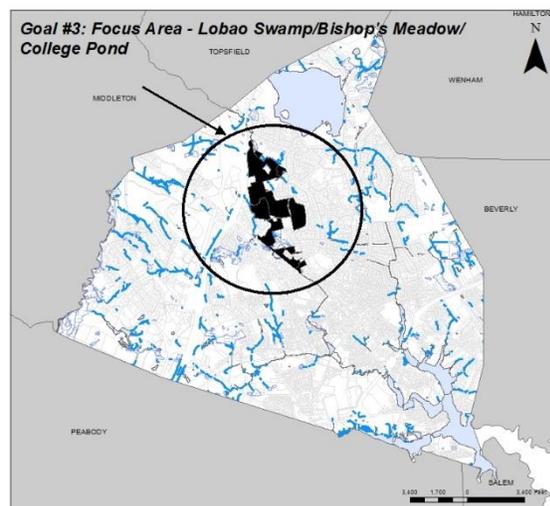
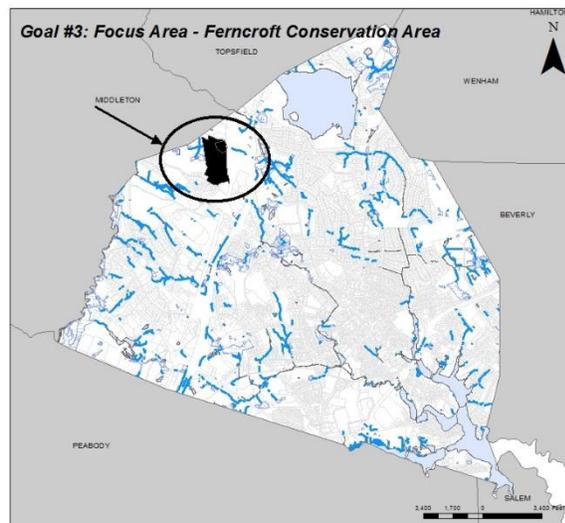
LOBAO SWAMP/BISHOP’S MEADOW/COLLEGE POND

Lobao Swamp, Bishop’s Meadow, and College Pond, are three wetlands located within the area bound by Summer Street, Interstate 95, and Maple Street. Although the Town currently owns a number of properties within the limits of these natural resources, the sensitive environmental nature and the valuable function that these wetlands perform warrant protection of the other properties which comprise them. One of the most important property owners in this area is St. John’s Preparatory School which is the single largest owner of land within Lobao Swamp and Bishop’s Meadow. It is recommended that methods of protection be discussed with the School. The school has recently expanded its recreational fields, as well as installing 2,000+ solar panels to a newly constructed solar array site.

Recommended Actions:

➤ **Protect parcels around Lobao Swamp, Bishop’s Meadow, and College Pond:**

- 36 Spring St. (Parcel 025 073A), *about 21 acres*
- 40 Summer St. (Parcel 034 003A), *about 4 acres*
- 50 Spring St. (Parcel 019 017), *about 111 acres*; St. John’s Preparatory School
- 65 Summer St. (Parcel 020 049), *about 30 acres*; St. John’s Preparatory School
- 126R North St. (Parcel 013 024), *about 2.6 acres*; St. John’s Preparatory School
- 164 Summer St. (Parcel 014 202), *about 5 acres*; (portion in Bishop’s meadow)
- 55 Spring St. (Parcel 025 074), *about 23 acres*; (adjacent to College Pond)
- 12 College Pond Dr. (Parcel 034 001), *about 15 acres*
- 18 Summer St. (Parcel 034-008A), *about 5 acres*; Wadsworth Cemetery



OPEN SPACE INTERN PROGRAM

Since its foundation in 1986, the Open Space Intern Program has been responsible for maintaining all the town-owned open space areas. Maintenance includes trail creation and marking, construction of kiosks, posting maps at designated areas, improving trail conditions by building bridges or adding wood chips to the pathway in muddy areas, painting the wood surfaces such as picnic tables, kiosks and some signage, planting of annuals, perennials and shrubs, trash collection, and mowing. Continuing this internship program is an important key to achieving many goals of this Plan. The opportunity to expand the number of interns should be explored.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Educating residents, schools, committees, and programs on the importance of our Towns natural resources is a vital tool that can aid in the prevention of resource loss. Promoting creative ways to teach this importance is a goal OSRAC has had in both this plan and past ones as well. The goals to gain community involvement and educate visitors are:

- **Open Space Passport Program:** This program will allow visitor of the Towns open space areas to gather specific stamps from each site to fill their Danvers Passport. The goal of this program is to create traffic to existing open space sites and encourage children to explore the Towns natural resources. This could be implemented through the 4th grade curriculum during their Town History academic week.
- **Tour Our Open Space Day:** Dedicating a day for schools to “fieldtrip” to the Towns open space areas will bring awareness to the sites. This program could be developed to include lesson plans based on ecology, biology, resource protection and other sciences. An additional program of “Walk Danvers” could be implemented to bring more awareness to open space sites.
- **Paint-A-Drain:** The Stormdrain Stenciling program has been used by many communities in Massachusetts. This program encourages children to stencil educational messages on and around stormdrains that highlight the importance of pollution prevention and water contamination. These message will help to teach children, and remind residents, that any pollutants dumped into stormdrains can pollute local waterbodies.



Goal 4: Preserve and protect the saltwater shores, watersheds and freshwater resources of Danvers.

Actions	Responsible Parties	2017-2018	2019-2022	2023-2024	Funding Source
Identify ownership, usage, conditions (physical and ecological), and any encroachment of waterfront.	OSRAC, CC, HM, RVC, PD				N/A
Coordinate with surrounding communities to protect regional watersheds.	OSRAC, CC, PD				N/A
Strictly enforce current DEP standards and Town By-Laws to protect existing watersheds, freshwater resources and sensitive saltwater shores.	CC, DEP, PD				N/A
Continue creation and maintenance of recreation opportunities on appropriate waters.	RD, RC, OSRAC, DPW, RVC				Town Funds Grants Town Budget
Educate residents on the values of the Towns water systems and the impacts development/encroachment can have on them.	OSRAC, DCAT, CC, RVC, HM				N/A
Develop public awareness programs to emphasize the importance of maintaining natural drainage courses and detention areas for both flood protection and wildlife habitat.	OSRAC, CC, PD, DPW, ED, RVC,				Town Funds
Identify and protect waterfront and stormwater detention areas that are currently privately owned.	OSRAC, CC, OSI, PD, RC				N/A

Goal 4: Focus Areas

MUDDY BOO *(A concept for the protection of a valuable storm water detention area)*

It is recommended that we protect the undeveloped portions of the area in South Central Danvers known as Muddy Boo. Muddy Boo is bounded on the west by Route 95, on the north by Centre Street, on the east by Prince and Garden Streets, and on the south by Route 114.

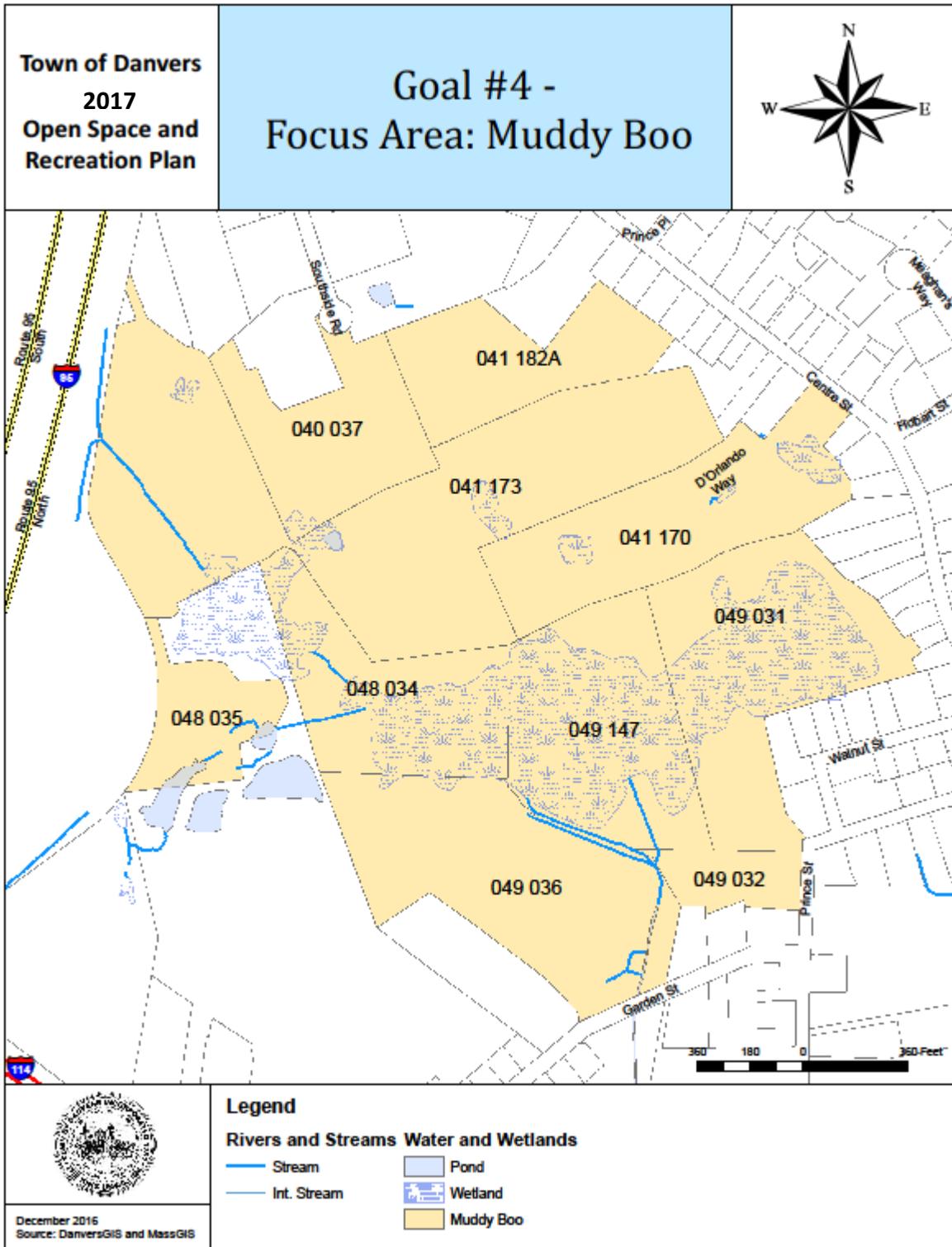
The protection of this area is important in order to preserve its natural function as a storm water detention area and as a habitat for animals and waterfowl. The area is covered with a dense growth of small trees, shrubs, and other vegetation which functions naturally to collect and hold storm water and release it gradually to the Crane Brook, the main stream of this watershed.

There are approximately 80 acres of undeveloped wetlands in this area owned by a number of different landowners. Muddy Boo has been identified for protection in all six of the prior Open Space and Recreation Plans and has decreased in size as development encroaches from all directions along its perimeter in the drier areas. Negotiations for protecting the areas needed for drainage should commence in the first year of the five-year action plan.

Recommended Actions:

Protect remaining parcels comprising Muddy Boo:

- 64R Centre St. (Parcel 041 173), *about 25.3 acres*
 - 153R Andover St. (Parcel 048 034), *about 8.05 acres*
 - 27R Prince St. (Parcel 049 147), *about 9.7 acres*
 - 5 Southside Rd. (Parcel 040 037), *about 7 acres*
 - 19 Garden St. (Parcel 049 036), *about 6.5 acres; portion*
 - 27 Prince St. (Parcel 049 032), *about 2.0 acres; portion*
 - 23 Prince St. (Parcel 049 031), *about 11.9 acres; portion*
 - 86R Centre St. (Parcel 041 182A), *about 6.5 acres*
 - 56 Centre St. (Parcel 041 170), *about 2.8 acres; portion*
 - 151R Andover St. (Parcel 048 035) *about 3.8 acres; portion*
- **Educate abutters about the importance of Muddy Boo**
 - **Continue collaborating with Conservation Commission to prevent encroachment**



Goal 4: Focus Areas

FOUR-RIVERS ESTUARIES *(A concept of a contiguous shoreline)*

The Porter, Crane & Waters Rivers converge to form the Danvers River which, in turn, leads to the Atlantic Ocean. The long, winding, shoreline of these estuaries emerge from contaminated industrial sites (that require cleanup) to undisturbed saltwater marsh where shorebirds forage.

Recommended Actions:

Protect “Waters River Gateway”

- Water frontage at 126 & 128 Water Street (Parcels 065 054A & 064 064), *about 1.9 acres*

Protect “Waters River Estuary”, specifically the shoreline on both sides from the river mouth to the Danvers-Peabody Town Line and acquire property from the former New England Home for the Deaf.

- 152 Water St. (Parcel 067 001), *about 17 acres* - This property contains a historic structure as well as newer construction of another facility for resident care. There is a large grassed area between the buildings and the shorefront.
- Acquire land next to Waters River through fee or easement for public access including fishing, strolling, and access to Wrights Beach at end of Jacob’s Landing/NEPCO ROW. Wright’s Beach is inaccessible at the current time.

Work with North Shore Medical Center officials to encourage the construction of walking paths for employees, patients and others.

- 100 Endicott St. (Parcel 064 142), *about 49 acres*; North Shore Medical Center

Protect the outer banks of the Porter River:

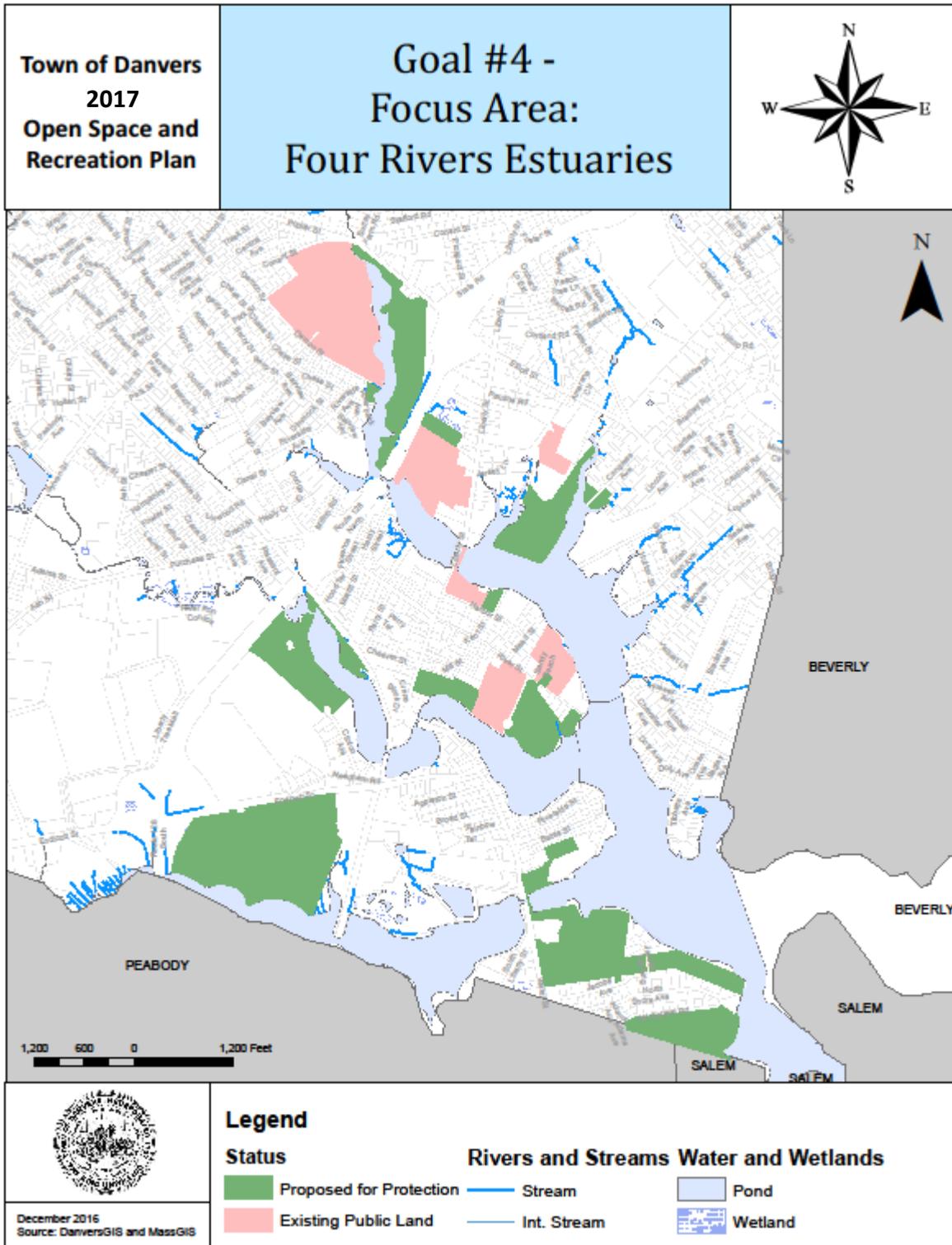
- 55 Conant St. (Parcel 044 241), *about 31.1 acres*; Holten Richmond Middle School
- 31 & 31R Elliott St. (Parcels 044 026 & 044 027), *about 13.3 acres combined*
- 105R & 107R Elliott St. (Parcels 053 086A & 053 070), *about 17.1 acres combined*
- 17 Riverbank Ave. (Parcel 052 127), *about .4 acres*
- 81R & 95 Liberty St. (Parcels 052 057A & 052 062), *about 13.4 acres combined*
- 34, 30, 29, 31,33, & 35 Congress Ave. (Parcels 053 049, 053 050, 053 066, 053 067, 053 068, & 053 069), *about .8 acre combined*
- 21 Harvard St. (Parcel 053 048), *about .25 acre*
- 55 Clinton Ave. (Parcel 059 002B), *about 12.7 acres*

Protect the inner shore of the Porter and Crane Rivers

- 8 & 10 Harbor St. (Parcels 059 119 & 059 119A), *about 3.5 acres combined*
- 35, 44, 48, 6, 56, 57, & 58 River St. (Parcels 059 191, 059 187, 060 005, 060 008, 060 007, 060 009, & 060 001), *about 14 acres combined*
- 3 River Dr. (Parcel 059 189), *about 4.7 acres*
- McDowell Ave. (Parcel 059 190), *about 3.7 acres*
- 13 Mill St. (Parcel 059 204), *about 1.7 acres*
- 28 Water St. (Parcel 059 134), *about 2.5 acres*
- 20 Cheever St. (Parcel 059 039), *about 1.9 acres*

Protect “Danvers River Estuary”

- Shoreline of 22 Jacobs Ave. (Parcel 067 003), *about 7 acres*; New England Power Co.
Shoreline of 15 Mt. Carmel Rd. (Parcel 067 076), *about 11.4 acres*



FOLLY HILL WATERSHED *(A concept of contiguous lots forming a watershed)*

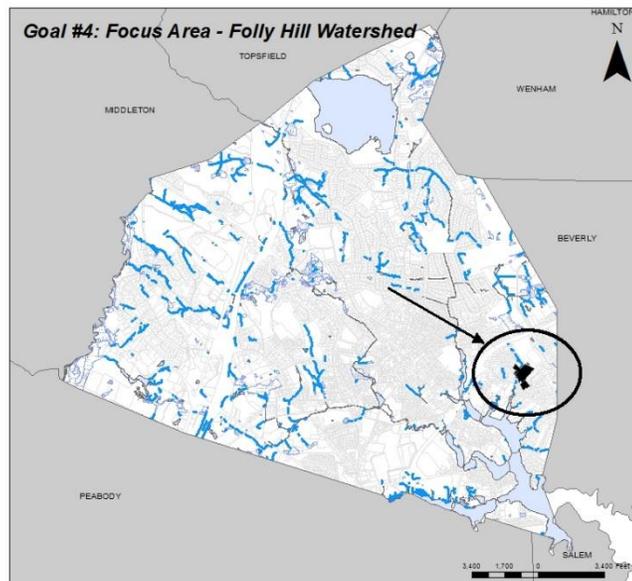
The highest and most compact watershed in Danvers is the sweep of land from the top of Folly Hill that rolls down through the farm at 40 Foster Street, squeezes under Elliott Street, spreads through the "Swiss cheese" of developed/undeveloped lots between the Williams School and the Danversport Yacht Club and settles into a feeder estuary of the Porter River. A holistic plan that attends to this topography is needed to insure no further unintended disruption of the watershed. Protection of the larger uphill tracts and smaller lots downstream may require all five years of this plan but first-year focus on the Reeve Trust properties and 40 Foster Street is vital.

The Town has acquired a portion of the Reeve Trust properties contiguous with the lot already owned by the Town.

Recommended Actions:

❖ **Protect remaining properties:**

- 126 Elliott St. (Parcel 053 106), *about 3.4 acres*; Currently protected by Chapter 61A
- 36 Foster St. (Parcels 053 104A), *about .5 acres*; Currently agricultural use
- 40 Foster St. (Parcel 053 104), *about 11.9 acres*; Currently agricultural use



STREAM TEAM PROGRAM:

The Town should consider forming a summer intern program that concentrates on the monitoring and cleanup of various waterways in Danvers. The "Stream Team" could be funded as part of or as a subset of the current Open Space Intern Program, working to identify problem areas and provide public education regarding surface water issues. Another option could be to have the team work with the Department of Public Works. The Town should explore the possibility of adding one more intern position to be primarily responsible for stream cleaning efforts. The Town should work to expand the program to its full staffing of six interns in order to accomplish larger projects. Volunteers to monitor and clean local waterway could also be used.

PUBLIC OUTREACH AND EFFORT:

Residents that abut the Towns rivers, salt marshes, detention ponds, and brooks are important sources of protection. Educating these residents on the importance of the Towns water resources is a goal that will help to prevent negative impacts. Forms of outreach could be through street mailings, public meetings, and site visits. This time could be utilized to educate abutters about appropriate lawn refuse disposal, DEP/Conservation Commission Regulations and way to alleviate conflicts with bank erosion and salt marsh pollution.



Section 10

Public Comments

The Open Space and Recreation Advisory Committee invited the public and various Town boards/committees to a presentation of the 2017 Open Space Plan in March of 2017. This presentation highlighted the goals and visions of the plan, and provided opportunity for feedback and recommendation from the public and Town boards. The questions and comments received during the presentation were later incorporated into the plan as necessary.

Following the initial presentation, the Open Space and Recreation Advisory Committee distributed the final plan draft to the: Metropolitan Area Planning Council (regional planning agency), Conservation Commission, Planning Board, Recreation Department, and Board of Selectmen. A presentation on the Plan was also given to the Board of Selectmen for final review and comment from the public and Town before formal submission to the State. The following pages include letters of support from various departments, agencies and boards.

Town of Danvers
Agricultural Commission
Conservation Commission
Historic District Commission
Lebel's Grove Committee
Planning Board
Preservation Committee
Rail Trail Committee
Recreation Committee
River Committee



POSTED

FEB 27 2017

TOWN CLERK DANVERS

2017 Open Space and Recreation Plan Draft WORKSHOP

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

Daniel J. Toomey Hearing Room

Danvers Town Hall

Thursday, March 2nd, 2017

6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

Agenda

1. Introduction:
Purpose of meeting and introduction of board members and guests
2. Presentation:
Presentation of the 2017 Open Space and Recreation Plan Draft
3. Open Discussion:
Question and comment period



February 21, 2018

Georgia Wilson, OSRAC Staff Liaison
 Department of Planning and Human Services
 Town of Danvers
 1 Sylvan Street
 Danvers, MA 01923

Dear Ms. Wilson:

Thank you for submitting the "Town of Danvers 2017 Open Space and Recreation Plan" to the Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC) for review.

The Division of Conservation Services (DCS) requires that all open space plans must be submitted to the regional planning agency for review. This review is advisory and only DCS has the power to approve a municipal open space plan. While DCS reviews open space plans for compliance with their guidelines, MAPC reviews these plans for their attention to regional issues generally and more specifically for consistency with *MetroFuture*, the regional policy plan for the Boston metropolitan area.

Consistency with *MetroFuture* - *MetroFuture* is the official regional plan for Greater Boston, adopted consistently with the requirements of Massachusetts General Law. The plan includes 65 goals and objectives as well as 13 detailed implementation strategies for accomplishing these goals. We encourage all communities within the MAPC region to become familiar with the plan by visiting www.mapc.org/get-involved/metrofuture-our-regional-plan.

We are pleased to see that the Danvers Open Space and Recreation Plan will actually help to advance several *MetroFuture* goals and implementation strategies that relate specifically to open space, recreation, transportation (bicycle), and the environment generally. In fact, this plan identifies many positive connections with *MetroFuture*, including planning with neighboring communities around shared resources like water supplies; encouraging smart growth, such as in the development of a Chapter 40R Smart Growth District for the Maple Street area; and increasing bicycle and pedestrian accessibility, such as through potential additional connections to the Danvers Rail Trail.

Surrounding communities - The plan acknowledges the Town's efforts to collaborate with other communities in the North Shore Task Force (NSTF) subregion of MAPC. It also specifically addresses the importance of regional resources located in and around Danvers, such as the Ipswich River corridor, which runs adjacent to the public wells that supply Danvers and Middleton with drinking water. The plan mentions the Sustainable Water Management Initiative (SWMI) Grant, which MassDEP recently awarded to Danvers, Middleton, Hamilton, Wenham, Topsfield, and the Lynnfield Center Water District to evaluate



water supply conditions in the Ipswich River Basin. Another regional resource described in the plan is the 4 1/3-mile Danvers Rail Trail, which connects Danvers to the neighboring towns of Peabody, Wenham, and Topsfield.

The Danvers Open Space and Recreation Plan should serve the Town well as it continues its efforts to preserve open space and provide for the recreational needs of its residents.

Thank you for the opportunity to review this plan.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Marc D. Draisen".

Marc D. Draisen
Executive Director

cc: Melissa Cryan, Division of Conservation Resources

Town



of Danvers,
Massachusetts 01923

Board of Selectmen

978-777-0001
978-777-1025

Phone
Fax

April 3, 2018

Bob O'Connor
Director of Division of Conservation Services
Executive Office of Environmental Affairs
100 Cambridge Street, Suite 900
Boston, MA 02114

Re: 2017 Open Space and Recreation Plan

The Open Space and Recreation Advisory Committee (OSRAC) provided the Board of Selectmen with draft copies of their recommendations for action for the next seven years as outlined in the 2017 Open Space and Recreation Plan. On behalf of the Board of Selectmen I am writing to express our appreciation for the work of OSRAC and our support for the Plan.

OSRAC presented their recommendations at the regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen on November 21, 2017. The Board voted unanimously to endorse the actions recommended for the Town to accomplish and/or undertake during the next seven years.

We look forward to your review and approval of our plan update.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Diane M. Langlais".

Diane M. Langlais
Acting Chairman
Danvers Board of Selectmen

TOWN OF DANVERS



Town Hall, Sylvan Street
Danvers, Mass. 01923
Telephone (978) 777-0001
Fax (978) 762-0215

Department of Planning and Human Services

October 26, 2017

Robert O'Connor, Director
Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs
Division of Conservation Services
100 Cambridge Street
Suite 900
Boston, MA 02114

Re: 2017 Open Space and Recreation Plan

Dear Mr. O'Connor

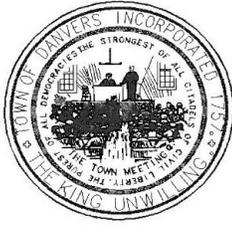
The Open Space and Recreation Advisory Committee (OSRAC) provided the Recreation Committee with draft copies of their recommendations for action for the next seven years as outlined in the 2017 Open Space and Recreation Plan. The Recreation Committee is writing to you to express our appreciation for the work of OSRAC and our support for the Plan.

The Committee strongly endorses the actions recommended for the Town to accomplish and/or undertake during the next seven years. The Committee agrees that OSRAC has provided invaluable assistance to the Town Manager in the implementation of the seven-year plan which will be in effect until 2023 upon State approval.

Respectfully,

Arthur P. Skarmas
Chairman

Planning • Public Health • Recreation and Harbor Services
Senior Services • Sexual Services



Town of Danvers
Planning Board

Danvers Town Hall
One Sylvan Street
Danvers, MA 01923
www.danvers.govoffice.com

March 27, 2018

Bob O'Connor
Director of Division of Conservation Services
Executive Office of Environmental Affairs
100 Cambridge Street, Suite 900
Boston, MA 02114

Re: Danvers 2017 Open Space and Recreation Plan

The Open Space and Recreation Advisory Committee (OSRAC) provided the Planning Board with draft copies of their recommendations for action for the next seven years as outlined in the 2017 Open Space and Recreation Plan. On behalf of the Planning Board I am writing to express our appreciation for the work of OSRAC as well as the goals and initiatives they have highlighted.

OSRAC presented their recommendations to the Planning Board. The Board endorses the actions recommended for the Town to accomplish and/or undertake during the next seven years.

We look forward to your review and approval of the plan update.

Sincerely,

William Prentiss
Chairman



TOWN OF DANVERS

TOWN HALL, DANVERS, MASSACHUSETTS 01923
TELEPHONE (978) 777-0001 EXTENSION 3095 FAX (978) 762-0215

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND HUMAN SERVICES
Conservation Commission

April 12, 2018

Bob O'Connor
Director of Division of Conservation Services
Executive Office of Environmental Affairs
100 Cambridge Street, Suite 900
Boston, MA 02114

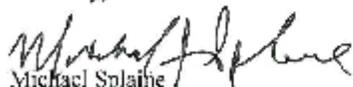
Re: Danvers 2017 Open Space and Recreation Plan

The Open Space and Recreation Advisory Committee (OSRAC) provided the Conservation Commission with draft copies of their recommendations for action for the next seven years as outlined in the 2017 Open Space and Recreation Plan. The Commission is in support of the plan, and values the efforts OSRAC has taken to incorporate measures that are important to protecting our community's natural resources. On behalf of the Conservation Commission I am writing to express our appreciation for the work of OSRAC as well as the goals and initiatives they have highlighted.

The Conservation Commission endorses the actions recommended for the Town to accomplish and/or undertake during the next seven years.

We look forward to your review and approval of the plan update.

Sincerely,


Michael Splaine
Chairman



Appendix

Town of Danvers Open Space and Recreation Advisory Committee

In order to obtain detailed information from residents in regards to the Town's Open Space and Recreation needs, two separate surveys and informative sessions were held. While one survey focused solely on Open Space, the other survey and focus group forum focused solely on Recreation. Having two individual channels for detailed responses allowed the Open Space and Recreation Advisory Committee and other important departments to compile needed data. This data revealed the needs and wants of the Town residents in regards to Open Space and Recreation.

The first of these data collection methods was the Town's 2016 Recreation Needs Assessment and Planning Report. Town employees were able to compile a large amount of responses from residents, which in turn helped shape the 7 year Action Plan as explained in Section 9 of this document. The Needs Assessment served to examine the parks and recreation needs as identified by the residents and key stakeholders of the Town.

The Recreation Needs Assessment and Planning Report data was collected through questionnaires, focus groups and one on one interviews. 19 Focus Groups were conducted and 525 surveys were completed. This Appendix summarizes the findings from the Recreation Needs Assessment and Planning Report, as well as responses from individual focus groups. The findings from the Recreation Needs Assessment and Planning Report were presented to the Board of Selectmen.

In November of 2016, the Open Space & Recreation Advisory Committee (OSRAC) initiated a town-wide survey to seek input from the townspeople as to their perceptions of the current status and future needs for Open Space. Responses to the questionnaires were limited with 94 responses. This Appendix includes a summary of the survey results, as well as charts reflecting survey answers.

A summary of this survey information was reported to the Town's Board of Selectmen and management and data taken from the survey was used extensively during the preparation of this 2017 Open Space and Recreation Plan.



Town of Danvers, MA

2016 Recreation Needs Assessment and Planning Report

Submitted February, 2017 by:

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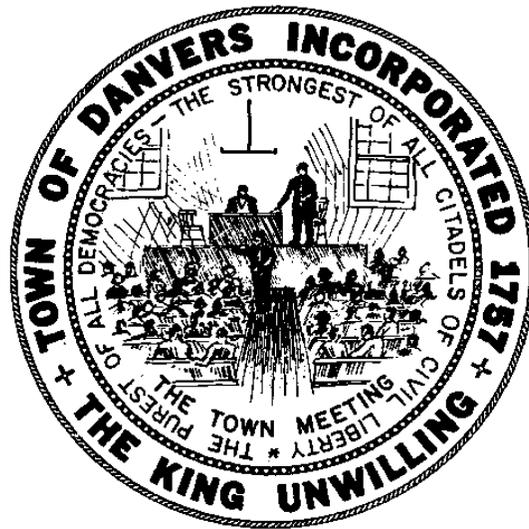


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Introduction

The scope of this report focuses on the work of the planning and evaluation team from the University of New Hampshire in conducting a parks and recreation needs assessment for the Town of Danvers, MA during the Summer/Fall of 2016. The project team was led by Dr. Nate Trauntvein, Dr. Bob Barcelona, and Elizabeth Parent a graduate student at the University of New Hampshire. Specifically, the purpose of this study was the following:

1. To examine the parks and recreation needs as identified by the residents and key stakeholders in the Town of Danvers;
2. To determine which parks and recreation needs expressed were deemed to be priorities for the Town of Danvers;
3. To develop a set of recommendations that would allow the Town of Danvers to meet the priorities that were identified throughout the study.

In addition to understanding the broad parks and recreation needs and priorities, the town had a specific interest in better understanding the use and priorities of three specific recreation facilities or areas in Danvers, including Endicott Park, Danvers Harbor, and Danvers Senior Center. The team from UNH has expertise in community planning and parks and recreation administration, and team members have conducted similar community planning studies in New Hampshire and throughout the country.



The team’s philosophy and approach in undertaking the study was one of “holding up a mirror” and reflecting back to the community what we heard during the data collection process. The results and recommendations presented in this report are a direct reflection of the data that was collected. While the team’s expertise in parks and recreation planning played a role in the final recommendations and discussion, all recommendations were informed by the data gathered during

2016 Recreation Needs Assessment and Planning Report

an extensive research and public input process. The research and public input process included the following activities:

1. Background and information gathering related to existing parks and recreation resources in Danvers;
2. Recreation facility tours and observations for major indoor and outdoor recreation facilities;
3. Benchmarking recreation facility space and budget allocations with peer communities identified by the Town of Danvers;
4. Focus group and one-on-one meetings with recreation stakeholders and the public;
5. Town-wide online household survey, with paper copies available for those who could not or chose not to access the survey online.

All public input activities were designed to get broad citizen participation and input into the process. Copies of study instruments, including the household survey and benchmarking survey are included in the Appendix of this report.



Project Activities

The following sections provide the data analysis and interpretation for the research and public input activities of the project. Every effort was made to capture the key themes and ideas generated by each of the project activities. An integration of the key ideas and themes across project activities will be discussed in the “Recommendations” section.

1. Background and Information Gathering

The project team reviewed information provided by the Town Recreation Division that helped to provide historical, statistical, and demographic context for the report. In particular, the project team reviewed the 2008 Open Space and Recreation Plan, Town of Danvers Fiscal Budget

2016 Recreation Needs Assessment and Planning Report

2017, U.S. Census 2010-2014 American Community Survey 5 Year Estimates, Recreation brochures, and division marketing material.

Demographic trends for Danvers have remained remarkably consistent over the past five years. Since the Census of 2010, the portion of the population with school aged children has remained steady as has the median age of the town which has ranged from 43 to 45 years of age. While the median age of Danvers has not seen much variation, the number of residents who are 65 years old and older has increased from 4,516 in 2010, to 5,291 in 2015 (U.S. Census Bureau, 2011-2015 American Community Survey).

The town provides a wide range of recreation facilities and amenities, including numerous neighborhood parks and playgrounds, athletic fields, tennis courts, a skate park, a dog park, multi-use trails, harbor, beach, senior center, and a regional destination park.

Beyond the recreation facilities and amenities, the town provides a wide range of programming for all community members including, youth sports, fitness, nature programs, trips, after school programming, summer day programs, summer park supervision, and special events. The recreation division has been successful generating revenue from its recreation programs and special events, as the division generates 66% of its revenue from non-general fund sources (i.e., fees, grants, etc.). This is an indication of the popularity of the division's programs and services and the entrepreneurial approach and innovation of recreation division staff.

The recreation division has a strong and mutually beneficial partnership with the Danvers Public School District to use programming and gymnasium space for a variety of recreation activities. The importance and strength of this partnership cannot be overstated. There is a clear dedication from both the school district and the recreation division to provide the best services possible to residents. The recreation division programs extensively at all the Danvers schools, including, Danvers High School, Holten-Richmond Middle School, Highlands Elementary, Thorpe Elementary, Great Oak Elementary, Riverside Elementary, and Smith Elementary. Nearly all of Danvers Recreation indoor programming (sports, fitness, technology workshops, after school care, etc.) takes place in schools. One of the strongest programs in Danvers, the Fun Club Afterschool program, operates in four of the five elementary schools and serves a significant number of elementary school aged youth. Despite having this strong school/town partnership that provides space for both education and recreational needs, there is still a need for more accessible indoor recreational facilities that are accessible to the public, particularly for recreational sports during the cold winter months. The town also partners with several outside nonprofit youth sports organizations to facilitate access to youth sports programming such as lacrosse, football, soccer, and baseball/softball, travel basketball, hockey, and cheerleading. These nonprofit groups offer seasonal and year-round youth sports programs ranging from recreational and developmental in scope, to highly competitive travel clubs. Nonprofit youth sport groups have a strong connection with the recreation division, and all have partnered with the town actively in the past to develop suitable facility space to run practices and games. The town has benefited from these arrangements by being able to facilitate a wide-range of youth sport experiences to area residents, while gaining access to athletic facility space for the nonprofit youth sport programs.

2. Benchmarking

Fourteen (14) benchmark communities were identified by the Recreation Division Director. Benchmark communities were deemed by the town to be comparable along dimensions of size, scope of services offered, geographic location, or some combination. The benchmark communities identified in this study were: Arlington, Burlington, Beverly, Peabody, Billerica, Reading, Lexington, Andover, Bedford, Brookline, Marblehead, Sharon, Wilmington, and Shrewsbury. A web-survey was sent to all benchmark communities soliciting information related to population size, recreation and town budget, and recreation staffing levels. Of the 14 benchmark communities identified in this study, completed data was received from nine (64%) – Burlington, Beverly, Peabody, Reading, Andover, Bedford, Brookline, Sharon, and Wilmington.

Table 1 shows the breakdown analysis related to financing town recreation services. In this analysis, Danvers is allocated comparably to other towns of similar size and resources. The percent of cost recovered by Danvers is high compared to most other benchmark communities. While Danvers Recreation is allocated a slightly higher percentage of the town budget than other benchmark communities, they returned \$272,500 to the town general fund in 2016. See Table 1 for full details.



Table 1: Benchmarking Information – Town Financial Support of Recreation

	Rec General Fund Allocation	Cost Recovery	Total Recreation Budget	Percent Cost Recovery	Rec Allocation Per Capita	Municipal Budget	Rec Allocation as % of Town Budget	Dep or Rec and Parks	Rec Staff FTEs
Burlington	\$562,801	\$876,643	\$1,439,444	61%	\$22.47	\$122,407,965	.45%	Rec	14
Beverly	\$382,000	\$450,000	\$832,000	54%	\$9.79	\$114,221,924	.33%	Rec	4
Peabody	\$796,726	\$200,209	\$996,935	20%	\$15.03	\$158,016,509	.50%	Both	6
Reading	\$180,575	\$783,726	\$964,301	81%	\$7.22	\$86,773,092	.20%	Rec	3
Andover	\$708,049	-	-	-	\$20.83	\$177,926,592	.39%	Both	5
Bedford	\$100,000	-	-	-	\$7.14	\$84,025,879	.11%	Rec	7
Danvers	\$687,509	\$1,309,800	\$1,997,309	66%	\$25.95	\$110,076,889	.62%	Rec	13
Sharon	\$204,437	\$362,022	\$566,459	64%	\$11.28	\$77,827,929	.26%	Rec	3
Wilmington	\$137,861	\$858,705	\$996,566	86%	\$6.20	\$100,520,702	.14%	Rec	1

Either no data or incomplete data was provided by Arlington, Billerica, Lexington, Marblehead, and Shrewsbury

3. Observations and Themes from Focus Groups

Focus groups and interviews were held with interested citizens and stakeholder groups in Danvers throughout the day on Thursday, June 16, 2016 and Wednesday, June 22, 2016. There were 19 focus group and 1-1 interviews were held with approximately 100 residents and stakeholders. Stakeholder groups represented a range of interests, including recreation and town staff, program partners, a current member of the Board of Selectmen, adult recreation participants, Recreation Advisory Board members, parents of recreation participants, Danvers School administration, recreational sport coaches and officials, and seniors. Meetings were scheduled through the town and coordinated with the Recreation Division, and were facilitated by the project team from UNH. Meetings consisted of an open, guided conversation related to the recreation needs and priorities in Danvers.

The project team met to review focus group notes and discuss salient themes and trends that emerged across the interviews. The following themes and observations were found by the team to be dominant and salient throughout the focus group and interview process:

- a. **The Town of Danvers has committed citizens interested in public recreation issues.** The public is clearly invested in the discussion regarding public recreation in Danvers. This was evident in the number of residents who attended focus groups and feedback they provided regarding programming and facilities.



- b. **Danvers is fortunate to have numerous outdoor recreation resources in a heavily populated area.** Despite being a very developed and populated town, Danvers has managed to conserve several properties and resources that allow residents to enjoy the outdoors. Residents and staff alike take pride in resources such as Endicott Park, and the Danvers Rail Trail.
- c. **Endicott Park** is truly a regional park that provides pastoral beauty, unique farm and animal experiences, hiking, nature interpretation, a playground, and most recently a dog park. With more than 150,000 visitors Endicott Park faces several unique challenges. First, as a natural and pastoral setting, it is possible to “love the park to death.” Despite having a user fee, people are flocking to Endicott. The use of the park by large groups was one issue that was raised in several focus groups.

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In the summer, between outside summer programs coming into the park and the Recreation Division hosting two of its own programs at the park, there is possible overuse of specific areas such as the pond that are environmentally sensitive. For summer programs operated by the Recreation Division, there is limited indoor space for inclement weather days. The Recreation Division might consider relocating The Science & Nature Adventures for Kids at Endicott Park program to the Thorpe School, which is proximate to Proctor Farm Natural area. This would open additional space at Endicott Park for the younger children's program (Little Lizards), who have less impact on the natural resources there.

The Hay Barn at Endicott Park also has the potential to be a valuable resource for the Town of Danvers. If renovated, the Hay Barn could provide additional indoor space for programming and serve as a destination locations for special events, such as receptions and weddings. Which would generate significant revenue.

- d. Danvers Rail Trail** is a 4.3 mile non-motorized trail that connects downtown Danvers to schools, parks and neighborhoods to each other, and to neighboring towns. Active and passionate volunteers manage and maintain the trail and its signage with minimal use of tax payer dollars. Various groups support and use the rail trail, including seniors, and school aged children.
- e. Passive Recreation development at Lebel's Grove is needed.** With the town purchasing Lebel's Grove, a property adjacent to the Ipswich River, there is an opportunity to provide some needed passive recreation amenities. Several groups mentioned the need for additional accessible canoe landing, walking paths, picnic areas, a disc golf course, and beach volleyball courts. These amenities would invite people to use the property in passive, low impact ways.
- f. Danvers has adequate playing fields, however there is demand for outdoor basketball courts.** There is a consensus that Danvers has first class athletic fields and organizes the field scheduling and maintenance well in coordination with the various sports leagues. By lighting some of these fields, more field time will be available for additional practices and teams. Several focus groups mentioned the need for additional outdoor basketball courts for summer basketball leagues. The current outdoor basketball courts are heavily programmed and are not available for pick-up games during summer hours.
- g. The Danvers School District, Recreation Division, and Department of Public Works maximize the use of the school facilities for the town residents.** The strong relationship that exists between these three organizations makes for cost efficient and quality recreation programming. School administrators, recreation division staff, and public works staff work hard to coordinate the best use of the town school facilities. Schools provide indoor and outdoor space for recreation sports, fitness, Fun Club afterschool child care programs, and numerous other community recreation programs. Fun Club is a strong afterschool child care program that meets the needs of many young families in the Danvers community. Parents not only expressed appreciation for the program, but want to be provided opportunities to volunteer and give back to the program. One of the challenges faced by Fun Club and its staff is the need for space

dedicated to Fun Club staff and equipment. Fun Club staff need to have access to program preparation space and internet access. There is insufficient space in the Town Hall Recreation Division for Fun Club staff to do adequate planning and preparation for their daily programs. At the school sites, there has been inconsistent access to school internet, impeding preparation for programming at school sites.

There is a need for additional recreation division space in the town. The current space in the town hall cannot accommodate the staff who need access to computers and program materials to plan and implement their programs.

Also, despite one of the best working relationships between a school district and a recreation division, there is inadequate indoor recreation space for programming during the school day. Due to safety and logistical reasons gyms are not available during school hours and therefore, there is minimal indoor programming during the school day. There is demand for open indoor gym space for adult fitness programs, and activities such as pickle ball, pre-school programming (i.e., mini kickers, blastball, etc.).

- h. The Senior Center is a hub for seniors, predominantly 65 and older, to be active, social, and engaged.** Seniors at the Senior Center reported being thoroughly satisfied with the strong mix of active (i.e., yoga, pickle ball, walking group, etc.), social (i.e., dinners, patio parties, traveling chef, trips, etc.), and passive (i.e., quilting, Mahjong, bingo, etc.) programming. The one thing the senior group wanted was to better engage and serve younger seniors, specifically 55 to 65 year olds. The Senior Center Staff and town administration were also interested in better engaging younger seniors. Some programs that have been successful for engaging younger seniors have been the Paint and Sip parties that start at 5pm. Adults between 55 and 65 are largely working full-time jobs and are unable to use the Senior Center as it typically operates between 8am and 5pm. There is also room for more active programming outside of the Senior Center, beyond trips. Seniors reported using the Danvers Rail Trail and other outdoor facilities. The Senior Center should consider developing stronger programming relationships with the Recreation Division. Staff from the Recreation Division could use the Senior Center or other town resources including Endicott Park and the Rail Trail.
- i. Fun Club is an incredible town service for younger elementary aged children.** As was mentioned above, Fun Club is a popular after school childcare program run in four of the five elementary schools. Though predominantly positive, Fun Club focus group participants requested before school drop off, and more opportunities for older elementary school children and middle school children. As children age out of Fun Club there is an opportunity for the Recreation Division to provide diverse and engaging pre-teen and teen programming. An example of this type of programming would be converting programs like Seacoast Technology Workshops into recurring afterschool programs.



4. Data Analysis from the Town Wide Survey

The Town of Danvers distributed a link to an online survey to town residents in a variety of ways. First, a link was sent out to current and past registrants in town recreation programming. Second, flyers were distributed through the schools to parents of school age children. Third, the link was provided on the town websites, and sent out in a town wide mailing. Fourth, paper questionnaires were provided at the Senior Center, Town Hall, and at Endicott Park. Paper questionnaires were numbered and tracked as they were given out, to prevent people from completing multiple questionnaires. A total of 978 questionnaires were started and 525 were completed online.

Respondents reported a median age of 49, which is slightly older than the town median age of 44.9. Approximately 37.9% of respondents were male and 23% had children under the age of 18 living in their homes. (see Table 2 for detailed demographic data)

Use and Satisfaction in Town Facilities

Over 55% of respondents reported regularly or frequently using the Danvers Rail Trail, and 44% reported visiting Endicott regularly or frequently. Satisfaction with both those resources was above 88% reporting them as good or superior. The only other resources that respondents were as satisfied with were the indoor and outdoor facilities at the High School and Middle School. More people reported using the elementary schools (22% use them regularly or frequently), than the High School or the Middle School. Those using the elementary schools were significantly less satisfied with the facilities (51% reporting good or superior rating). For obvious reasons the Senior Center was regularly or frequently used by a smaller portion of respondents, yet they were likely to report the quality being good or superior (79%).

Parks that were the least visited, tended to receive the lowest satisfaction ratings. Specifically, Folly Hill Park, Bradstreet Park, Southwick Park, Preston Street Park, and Rand Circle Park had less than 44% of respondents reporting that they were in good or superior condition.

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Only 30.4% of respondents reported Sandy Beach being good or superior in quality. (see Table 3 for detailed satisfaction data)

Table 2: Demographics for the Resident Survey

Variable	Percent, Median or Mean	Number
<i>Age</i>		
Average Age	Median = 49 (SD 12.3)	378
11-17	.3%	1
18-35	6.9%	26
36-50	45.2%	171
51-64	29.6%	112
65-80	17.5%	66
81 and older	.5%	2
<i>Gender</i>		
Male	37.9%	150
Female	62.1%	246
<i>Employment Status</i>		
Employed Full-Time	68.6%	269
Employed Part-Time	9.7%	38
Retired	13.3%	52
Not Retired nor Employed	3.8%	15
<i>Number of Years Living in Danvers</i>		
Average Number of years	M = 22.3 (SD 19)	363
0-10	35.5%	129
11-20	23.4%	85
21-40	21.2%	77
41 and more	19.8%	72
<i>Households w/ Children</i>		
Average Number of Households	23%	349
Children under the age of 5	20.4%	79
Children between 6-12	38%	147
Children between 13-18	23.9%	92
Grandchildren living in Town	8.1%	31



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Table 3: Use and Quality of Recreation Facilities and Properties in Danvers

Facility	Use		Quality	
	M (SD)	% Regularly or Frequently	M (SD)	% Superior or Good
Rail Trail	2.38 (.77)	56.0%	3.88 (.38)	89.8%
Endicott Park	2.24 (.76)	44.3%	3.86 (.41)	88.2%
Plains Park	1.90 (.83)	30.1%	3.58 (.65)	66.5%
Elementary School Playgrounds	1.85 (.86)	30.8%	3.41 (.72)	52.7%
Elementary School Fields	1.81 (.87)	29.8%	3.44 (.72)	55.9%
John George Park	1.79 (.83)	26.1%	3.61 (.64)	67.5%
DHS Outdoor Facilities	1.65 (.82)	22.0%	3.84 (.46)	86.9%
Pope's Landing	1.60 (.73)	14.8%	3.64 (.60)	69.6%
Elementary Schools Indoors	1.58 (.82)	22.1%	3.38 (.73)	51.1%
DHS Indoors	1.54 (.77)	16.8%	3.88 (.41)	90.0%
HRMS Indoors	1.51 (.74)	15.2%	3.84 (.43)	85.7%
Public Access Points	1.50 (.75)	15.3%	3.61 (.62)	68.2%
Gates Fields	1.49 (.77)	17.2%	3.54 (.67)	61.6%
Tapley	1.48 (.75)	15.6%	3.33 (.81)	49.3%
Sandy Beach	1.40 (.60)	6.3%	2.85 (.98)	30.4%
Woodvale Park	1.33 (.64)	9.3%	3.34 (.72)	44.8%
Crane River Marina	1.31 (.65)	10.1%	3.52 (.75)	65.3%
Lawrence Street Park	1.30 (.60)	7.8%	3.20 (.76)	37.3%
Choate Farm	1.30 (.55)	4.6%	3.42 (.73)	53.6%
Skate Park	1.25 (.57)	6.8%	3.20 (.91)	45.2%
Senior Center	1.23 (.54)	5.9%	3.75 (.54)	79.0%
Putnamville Park	1.23 (.53)	5.6%	3.28 (.86)	50.0%
Williams School Art Assoc.	1.15 (.42)	2.6%	2.83 (.93)	25.6%
Folly Hill Park	1.12 (.40)	2.9%	3.13 (.91)	39.7%
Bradstreet Park	1.12 (.38)	2.3%	3.13 (.91)	38.5%
Southwick Park	1.10 (.38)	2.8%	3.20 (.83)	40.7%
Preston Street Park	1.10 (.36)	2.0%	3.19 (.89)	43.8%
Rand Circle Park	1.05 (.27)	1.0%	3.10 (.99)	40.0%

Use Scale: 1-Never Use; 2-Occasionally Use; 3-Regularly Use & Frequently Use

Note: % of respondents who reported “regularly use” or “frequently use” to each statement.

Quality Scale: 1-Poor; 2-Below Average; 3-Average; 4-Good & Superior

Note: % of respondents who reported “good” or “superior” to each statement.

Importance Performance of Recreation Facilities, Programs and Features

Participants in the survey were asked to report the importance of various facilities, program and recreation features, as well as their satisfaction with those features. Using importance and performance scores, a mean difference score can be calculated. A negative mean difference score suggests that there is room for improvement and a positive score suggests the town is performing above expectations. The only features with a positive score were Outdoor Athletic Fields. Areas in need of most improvement were Danvers Waterfront, and Sandy Beach Park. They both had very low satisfaction ratings. There was room for improvement with Division of Recreation customer service, the online registration process, and indoor recreation facilities. Outside of the waterfront, respondents were least satisfied with their indoor recreation facilities. (see Table 4 for detailed overall importance and performance data)

Table 4: Importance and Satisfaction with Recreation Facilities, Programs and Features

Facility	n	Importance		Satisfaction		Import/ Perform Difference
		M (SD) 1-4	% Important & Very Important	M (SD) 1-4	% Satisfied & Very Satisfied	
Parks & Open Space	377	3.78 (.60)	85.4%	3.66 (.61)	71.7%	-0.12
Trails & Greenways	384	3.73 (.66)	82.3%	3.71 (.54)	75.0%	-0.02
Customer Service	380	3.73 (.62)	79.7%	3.57 (.62)	62.2%	-0.16
Danvers Waterfront	389	3.71 (.64)	78.7%	3.31 (.71)	44.0%	-0.40
Water Quality at Sandy Beach Park	381	3.68 (.68)	77.4%	3.02 (.84)	30.1%	-0.66
Recreation Programs & Services	375	3.66 (.75)	77.9%	3.61 (.56)	64.1%	-0.05
Online Registration Process	386	3.63 (.71)	72.8%	3.51 (.64)	57.3%	-0.12
Outdoor Athletic Fields/ Sports Complexes	380	3.55 (.82)	70.8%	3.60 (.59)	64.6%	0.05
Indoor Recreation Facilities	378	3.53 (.81)	68.8%	3.43 (.64)	49.7%	-0.10
Dredging at Danvers Harbor	382	3.42 (.81)	58.1%	-	-	-

Importance Scale: 1-Very Unimportant; 2-Unimportant; 3-Neither Important nor Unimportant; 4-Important & Very Important

Note: % of respondents who reported “important” or “very important” to each statement.

Satisfaction Scale: 1-Very Unsatisfied; 2-Unsatisfied; 3-Neutral/Neither; 4-Satisfied & Very Satisfied

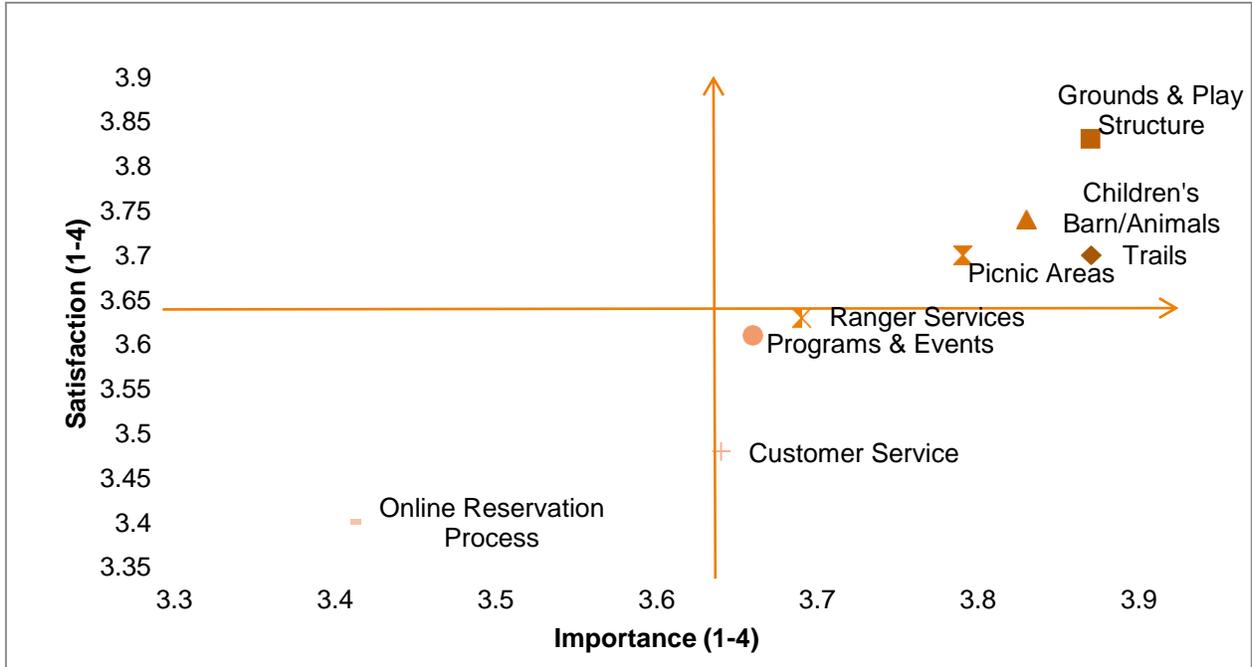
Note: % of respondents who reported “satisfied” or “very satisfied” to each statement.

As part of the survey questionnaire, respondents were asked to assess the importance and performance of two specific facilities, Endicott Park and Danvers Harbor. Results of these site-specific analyses is provided below.

Importance and Performance of Endicott Park Features

There was a portion of the survey dedicated specifically to assessing Endicott Park. Approximately 404 survey respondents answered questions regarding their feelings of importance and satisfaction of features at Endicott Park. To prevent non-users from answering these questions the electronic survey was designed so only participants who answered that they “frequently used,” “regularly used,” or “occasionally used” Endicott Park were prompted with these questions. Paper copy survey submissions were reviewed to ensure non-users were not represented in the data. Three features were identified as being areas in need of primary focus due to user ratings of high importance and low satisfaction. Four additional areas were identified as being rated high in importance and high in satisfaction, signifying that the Town should focus on maintaining the current state of these features. Additional user comments are included to provide insight on possible areas of improvement should the Town wish to focus on a broader range of features. Lastly, one feature was rated low in importance and low in satisfaction, indicating that this is an area to be aware of but not necessarily a priority for the Town.





Graph 1: Importance Performance Analysis of Endicott Park

At Endicott Park, the area of most concern, was customer service. It is unclear whether users are disappointed in customer service on a personal side, such as through face-to-face communication with Rangers, or whether there is a general lack of adequate customer service between both Endicott Park and the Recreation Office in terms of communication via email or phone. Both outlets should be explored by recreation staff as well as rangers to ensure that all methods of communication are occurring effectively and efficiently. Perhaps most correlation can be identified through another area that users identified as an area in need of improvement, ranger services.

Users provided open-ended comments pertaining to this area that ranged from requests for more friendly staff, to a general lack of understanding on the services that rangers provide to the park. Suggestions from users indicated that Rangers should focus more on adequately maintaining fields and buildings, enforcing user rules, and being friendlier. Most open-ended comments about Endicott Park and the Rangers were encouraging.

The third area identified as most in need of improvement by users was programs and events. Users expressed interest in more programs ranging from more preschool programs, to affordable yoga, to festivals and BBQs. Respondents to the survey were not fully aware of the current programming and events occurring at Endicott Park. There is a need to improve the marketing of programs and events by the recreation division including utilizing online and print marketing.

There were four features where Endicott Park was meeting the high standards of respondents. These items included play structures and grounds, the barn/animals, trails, and picnic areas. While respondents were satisfied with play structures, they did report wanting improvements to support amenities around the playground like maintaining the water fountain, providing shade structures, and adding restroom facilities near the playground. Additionally, approximately 12% of users who wrote comments identified the creation of some sort of water feature such as a splash pad as Endicott Park’s biggest need or area of improvement.

Another theme from the open-ended comments was law enforcement at Endicott Park. Law enforcement issues ranged from traffic control, to roadways and parking fees. Respondents

were interested in the creation of an annual parking pass for residents. This is currently available through the Friends of Endicott and should be promoted by the division of recreation.

The Children's Barn and its animals was another feature that was identified as very important while also rating high in user satisfaction. Approximately 13% of users who wrote comments recognized the Children's Barn as Endicott Park's biggest need or area of improvement. Users noted wanting to see continued maintenance and a steady number of animals over time if not an increase. Additional programming could work its way into this setting as well. Picnic areas were another feature that guests were satisfied with and thought were very important. A few suggestions include adding more picnic tables to the playground area, making repairs to existing tables or purchasing new ones in the near future, and building a pavilion to provide a covered picnic area. Providing more signage or information posted on the Endicott Park website regarding the Park's carry-in, carry-out policy could be helpful for the users that mentioned concerns over lack of trash barrels.

Trails were tied with grounds and play structure on importance levels; however, they fell short on levels of satisfaction. Suggestions for improvement include general trail maintenance through Endicott Park and at Whipple Hill, adequately marked signage and trailheads, and more information regarding the trails that the Park offers. Users noted wanting to be able to use the trails for winter activities but were unaware of what was offered, how to access them and their distances. Other users reported feeling unsafe on trails by themselves or with children because of existing maintenance levels. (see Table 5 for detailed Endicott Park Importance Performance Data)



Table 5: Endicott Park Users Importance and Satisfaction of Endicott Park Features

Facility	n	Importance		Satisfaction		Import/ Perform Difference
		M (SD)	% Important & Very Important	M (SD)	% Satisfied & Very Satisfied	
Trails	405	3.87 (.38)	88.1%	3.70 (.53)	73.4%	-0.17
Grounds & Play Structure	401	3.87 (.43)	89.8%	3.83 (.40)	83.3%	-0.04
Children’s Barn/Animals	407	3.83 (.43)	85.3%	3.74 (.48)	76.2%	-0.09
Picnic Areas	404	3.79 (.46)	81.7%	3.70 (.49)	71%	-0.09
Ranger Services	404	3.69 (.60)	75.4%	3.63 (.51)	64.1%	-0.06
Programs/Events	405	3.66 (.64)	73.6%	3.61 (.52)	62.4%	-0.05
Customer Service	402	3.64 (.61)	69.9%	3.48 (.56)	50%	-0.16
Online Reservation Process	401	3.41 (.76)	54.4%	3.40 (.55)	41.8%	-0.01

Importance Scale: 1-Very Unimportant; 2-Unimportant; 3-Neither Important nor Unimportant; 4-Important & Very Important

Note: % of respondents who reported “important” or “very important” to each statement.

Satisfaction Scale: 1-Very Unsatisfied; 2-Unsatisfied; 3-Neutral/Neither; 4-Satisfied & Very Satisfied

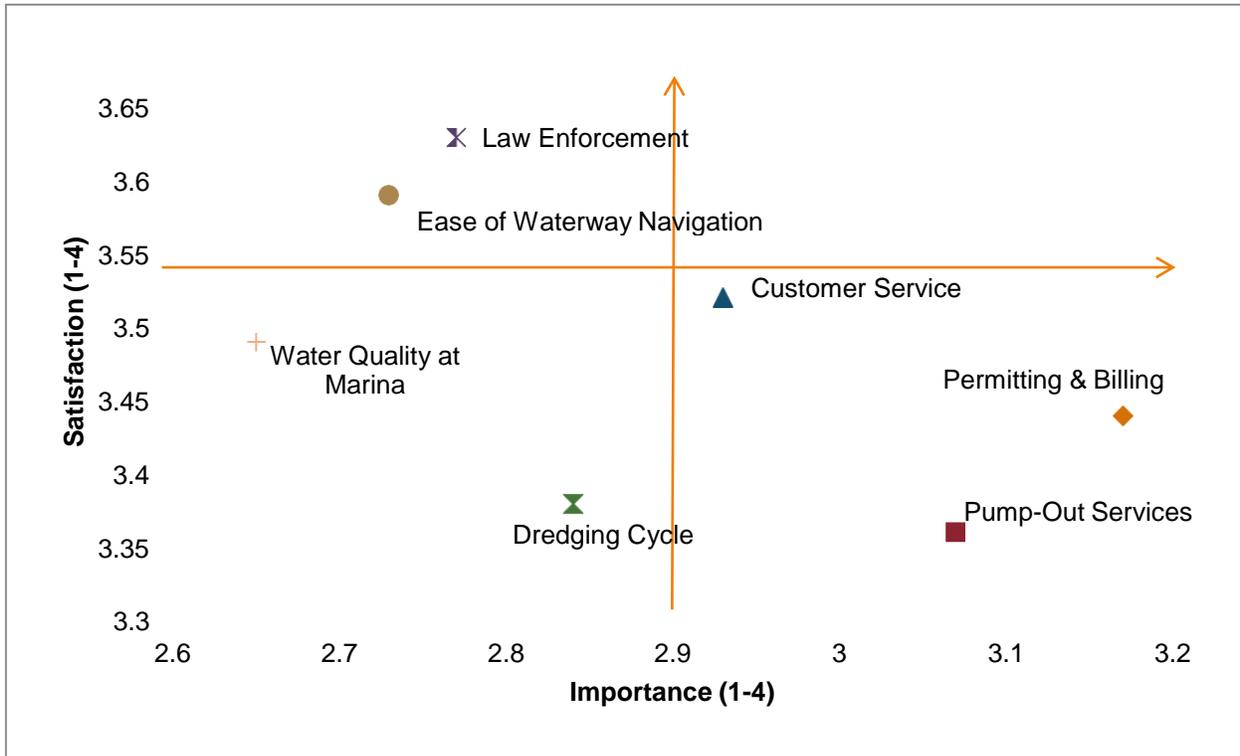
Note: % of respondents who reported “satisfied” or “very satisfied” to each statement.



Importance and Performance of the Harbor

Approximately 195 survey respondents answered questions regarding their feelings of importance and satisfaction of features at the Danvers Harbor. To prevent non-users from answering these questions the electronic survey was designed so only participants who answered that they “frequently used,” “regularly used,” or “occasionally used” Crane’s River Marina and/or Pope’s Landing Park and Facility were prompted with these questions. Paper copy survey submissions were reviewed to ensure non-users were not represented in the data. All seven features that participants rated came back with fairly low importance and average satisfaction. It is recommended that the Town maintain the current services levels of the following; water quality at Crane’s River Marina, dredging cycle, ease of waterway navigation, law enforcement, customer service, permitting and billing, and pump-out services. Termination or reduction of current services levels of any of the aforementioned Harbor features will most likely result in disappointment from Harbor users. The next section serves as potential recommendations should the Town wish to renovate or rework any portion of the harbor.





Graph 2: Importance Performance Analysis of Danvers Harbor

Dredging, signage and navigation were three themes that users often brought up in relation to one another. Dredging was a popular topic for users when answering the open-ended question about what they thought was the biggest need or area of improvement. Users thought that the channel should be dredged and widened and that maintenance should be occurring as needed. Signage is a feature that Harbor users wanted to see more of, especially for instances of navigation during low tide. Additionally, the use of more solar lights was recommended to aid navigation.

Launching was identified as another potential area in need of improvement for users. Harbor users noted wanting quantitatively more access points that was easier to utilize. Examples include side ramps at Pope's Landing so that users could launch their boats by themselves, a better schedule, replacing docks at Crane River Marina, a construction of a Rip Rap behind the Marina to stop erosion from filling in slips. There was also feedback regarding adding more transient dock access in the event that boaters wish to tie up for a couple of hours to visit restaurants and local businesses after coming in from other locations.

Other areas of user interest in terms of improvement and need were issues regarding law enforcement and traffic control. Users indicated the need for the Harbormaster or other Harbor staff to have a larger presence at the Pope's Landing Dock to monitor users operating the boat ramp and to enforce the 30 minute dock parking at the Crane River Public Dock. Suggestions were made on utilizing cameras to monitor boats speeding in the 5 MPH no-wake zones multiple times. Additionally, there was a lot of feedback given on the parking situation at Pope's Landing. Users felt that they were often put off when they had to walk long distances in order to access the marina because the parking lot was full (Games at John George Park seem to be the root of this problem, as the Crane River Marina Area Lot often fills up with cars from softball team parents and attendees). Recreation staff should look into this problem and address as they see fit, whether total enforcement

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of boater-use only at Crane River Marina Area Lot, or specific spaces reserved for boaters to allow for equal access during busy times.

Users also showed concern over water quality at both the Harbor and Sandy Beach area. Many reported unease over murky water, floating debris and contamination. Others reported feeling that the river should be acceptable for swimmers and were troubled by floating trash and how it affected their boating pursuits. We acknowledge that river water quality could be completely safe despite user perceptions. Improvement of water quality is recommended if it is within the scope of unacceptable conditions and there is indeed trash and debris within areas that the Town maintains. If water quality is at safe levels educating users and the community on these appropriate conditions is recommended. Concerns may stem entirely from a lack of awareness but to improve the problem widespread communication on appropriate levels will need to occur.

Areas with less concern that were still mentioned multiple times include increasing pump-out service to accommodate users more regularly, cleaning up Sandy Beach so that it better represents the Harbor as a whole, adding a Splash Pad or other water feature to the area, and constructing a launch site for canoes and kayaks to access the river. While Sandy Beach is currently under more jurisdiction of the recreation office than the Harbor area at Pope's Landing, it is recommended that both work together to achieve appropriate water quality perceptions and expansion of launching opportunities and community involvement in the area. (see Table 6 for detailed Danvers Harbor Importance Performance Data)



Table 6: Danvers Harbor Users: Importance and Satisfaction of Danvers Harbor Features

Facility	n	Importance		Satisfaction		Import/ Perform Difference
		M (SD)	% Important & Very Important	M (SD)	% Satisfied & Very Satisfied	
Permitting & Billing	192	3.17 (.82)	43.8%	3.44 (.60)	47.3%	0.27
Pump-Out Services	190	3.07 (.91)	44.7%	3.36 (.68)	43.8%	0.29
Customer Service	193	2.93 (.83)	31.0%	3.52 (.56)	54.1%	0.59
Dredging Cycle at Danvers Harbor	197	2.84 (.84)	28.4%	3.38 (.68)	47.6%	0.54
Law Enforcement/ Harbormaster	199	2.77 (.80)	22.6%	3.63 (.53)	64.9%	0.86
Ease of Waterway Navigation	196	2.73 (.83)	24.5%	3.59 (.58)	62.3%	0.86
Water Quality at the Marina	198	2.65 (.78)	18.7%	3.49 (.65)	56.6%	0.84

Importance Scale: 1-Very Unimportant; 2-Unimportant; 3-Neither Important nor Unimportant; 4-Important & Very Important

Note: % of respondents who reported “important” or “very important” to each statement.

Satisfaction Scale: 1-Very Unsatisfied; 2-Unsatisfied; 3-Neutral/Neither; 4-Satisfied & Very Satisfied

Note: % of respondents who reported “satisfied” or “very satisfied” to each statement.



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This section addresses adequacy and availability of recreation facilities in Danvers. Indoor recreation facilities are more likely than outdoor facilities to be inadequate. More than 40% of respondents reported having inadequate access to ice skating arenas, indoor pools, teen centers, and fitness centers. The outdoor facilities that respondents reported being most inadequate were outdoor swimming pools, and public beaches. (see Table 7 for detailed Endicott Park Importance Adequacy Data)

Table 7: Importance and Availability of Recreational Facilities in Danvers

Variable	Overall n	n (%) Reporting: Important but Unavailable OR Available but Inadequate
INDOOR FACILITIES		
Indoor Ice Skating/Ice Arena	437	220 (50.3%)
Indoor Swimming Pool	443	215 (48.5%)
Teen/Youth Center	433	194 (44.8%)
Indoor Weight Room/Fitness Center	438	179 (40.9%)
Indoor Performing Arts Center	433	147 (33.9%)
Indoor Gym or Athletic Courts	435	144 (33.1%)
Indoor Multipurpose Gyms	433	139 (32.1%)
Indoor Community Meeting Space/Rooms	438	137 (31.3%)
Indoor Senior Center	439	67 (15.3%)
OUTDOOR OPEN SPACE AND PARKS		
Outdoor Swimming Pool	440	230 (52.3%)
Outdoor Ice Skating	438	166 (37.9%)
Pet/Dog Park	443	157 (35.4%)
Undesignated Green Space	435	145 (33.3%)
Built/developed parks	436	103 (23.6%)
Outdoor Bandstand/Performing Arts Stage	439	89 (20.3%)
Playgrounds	438	86 (19.6%)
Outdoor Basketball Courts	439	84 (19.1%)
Skateboard/Action Sport Park	436	55 (12.6%)
ATHLETIC FIELDS		
Multi-use Athletic Fields	435	82 (18.9%)
Baseball/Softball Fields	437	74 (16.9%)
Outdoor Tennis Courts	439	60 (13.7%)
TRAILS AND PATHS		
Bike Lanes/Paths	438	139 (31.7%)
Non-motorized trails or greenways	443	120 (27.1%)
Motorized Recreational Trails	436	70 (16.1%)
RIVER FACILITIES		
Public Beaches	436	224 (51.4%)
Public Boat Launches	443	60 (13.5%)

Note: % of respondents who reported that the following recreation facilities were important but unavailable or available but inadequate for themselves or their families.

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In addition to certain indoor recreation facilities, indoor-focused recreation programming such as open gyms, aquatics programs, teen activities, and fitness programs were reported as programming needs in the town of Danvers by a portion of the population. (see Table 8 for detailed programing Importance Performance Data)

Table 8: Importance of Recreational Programs in Danvers

Variable	Overall n	n (%) Reporting: Important but unavailable OR Available but inadequate
Open gyms / Drop-in recreation programs	373	156 (41.8%)
Aquatics/swim programs (e.g. swim lessons, water aerobics)	374	150 (40.1%)
Outdoor adventure activities (e.g. rock climbing, high ropes courses)	375	150 (40.0%)
Out-of-school activities for teens	371	142 (38.3%)
Fitness programs (e.g. aerobics, weights, yoga, Pilates)	374	128 (34.2%)
Nature or environmental education programs	376	124 (33.0%)
Arts and cultural programs (e.g. performing arts, art lessons, dance)	378	124 (32.8%)
Adult recreational sports (e.g. soccer, basketball, tennis, softball, hockey golf)	373	117 (31.4%)
Sports instruction (e.g. golf or tennis lessons)	374	117 (31.3%)
After-school programs for elementary and middle school children	371	100 (27.0%)
Non-sport adult recreation activities (e.g. cards, games, social opportunities)	375	94 (25.1%)
Holiday/Special Events	382	92 (24.1%)
Pre-kindergarten activities	371	91 (24.5%)
Summer day programs for children and youth	370	82 (22.2%)
Running events/activities (e.g. 5 or 10K race)	376	78 (20.7%)
Musical concerts and performances	383	77 (20.1%)
Cycling events/activities (e.g. road races, BMX)	377	73 (19.4%)
Adapted recreation programs for people with disabilities	368	71 (19.3%)
Youth recreational sports (e.g. soccer, baseball/softball, hockey lacrosse)	374	69 (18.4%)
Bus trips (e.g. casino trips, Red Sox games)	380	56 (14.7%)
Senior/older adult recreation activities	376	55 (14.6%)

Note: % of respondents who reported that the following recreation facilities were important but unavailable or available but inadequate for themselves or their families.

There is overwhelming support for a portion of tax dollars to be used for recreation facilities, services and programs. People with children were significantly more likely to report being willing to pay a fee for programs and activities in Danvers than were those respondents without children (74.1% compared to 52.5%). Parents were also more likely to support using tax dollars to offset the cost of building and maintaining park and recreation facilities (87.6% compared to 77.3%). Compared to other funding sources, a much smaller portion of respondents supported paying a fee to use certain recreation facilities (48% of respondents). (see Table 9 for detailed funding support options)

Table 9: Differences in Opinions on Funding Town-Supported Recreation Between Respondents With and Without Children Living at Home

Opinions on Funding	Overall % Agree/Strongly Agree	Respondents with Children Living at Home	Respondents With No Children Living at Home
I would be willing to pay a fee for the use of certain recreation facilities in Danvers	48.2%	50.7%	44.8%
I would be willing to pay a fee to participate in recreation programs and activities in Danvers	64.8%	74.1%	52.5%
I believe that some portion of a resident’s property tax should be used to offset the costs to build and maintain park and recreation facilities in Danvers	83.2%	87.6%	77.3%
I believe that some portion of a resident’s property tax should be used to run recreation programs and activities in Danvers	70.4%	76.4%	62.6%
I believe that it is a good idea for the Town of Danvers to partner with other organizations and agencies to deliver park and recreation services	68.1%	71.4%	63.6%

Agreement Scale: 1-Strongly Disagree; 2 -Disagree; 3-Neither Agree nor Disagree; 4-Agree & Strongly Agree

Note: % of respondents who reported “strongly agree” or “agree” to each statement.

Recommendations

Danvers Recreation Planning Study Recommendations

The town of Danvers Recreation Division currently contributes successfully to the quality of life of residents and non-resident participants. The Division's diverse array of facilities and program offerings are generally well-thought of by the public. For example, the public is either satisfied or very satisfied with the location, quantity, and quality of recreation facilities and programs, and reports a high level of satisfaction with the Danvers Recreation Division as a whole.

Danvers' demography and geography suggest that the recreation division is well-positioned to be a significant contributor to the quality of life and economic development of the town and region in the short- and long-term.

Based on the activities associated with this project, including background research and observations, stakeholder focus groups, and the resident household survey, the following recommendations are offered for consideration by the town of Danvers:

- 1. Obtain or build a new indoor multipurpose recreation facility. Ideally this facility would provide adequate office space for recreation programming staff, function rooms for programming, a teen center, and storage for all Danvers Recreation programs equipment and supplies.**
 - ✓ Relocate Park and Recreation administrative offices to this new building.
 - ✓ Have space for a teen center that would provide afterschool programming for middle and early high school students.
 - ✓ Include adequate space for functions, meetings, and multipurpose activities, and provide adequate storage for equipment.
 - ✓ This would eliminate program cancelations due to last minute school scheduling conflicts.
 - ✓ Pursue sponsorship opportunities and/or naming rights with businesses or private organizations that are appropriately aligned to the mission of the town as one mechanism to help offset annual operating costs of the facility.
 - ✓ There is also some demand for indoor hockey and swimming pools.

Data Support:

- ✓ Nearly 70% of respondents to the online survey reported that indoor facilities were important, but less than 50% were satisfied with the indoor recreation facilities available in Danvers.
- ✓ More than 44% of respondents to the online survey reported that there is inadequate space for teens and youth.
- ✓ Half of respondents to the online survey reported inadequate indoor ice facilities.
- ✓ Almost half of respondents to the online survey reported inadequate indoor swimming facilities.
- ✓ More than 40% of respondents reported the need for drop in recreation programming, and 38% reported the need for out-of-school teen programming.
- ✓ Various focus groups and interviewees reported the need for a teen center in town. A place where middle school and high school children could go after school and in the summer for age appropriate programming and healthy recreational activities.

2. **Focus on basic maintenance and upkeep of neighborhood park and playground facilities, and continue to follow a renovation schedule for parks with poor ratings.**
 - ✓ Ensure that all playgrounds are renovated/maintained per recommendations from playground safety inspection.
 - ✓ Ensure that all playground elements are accessible for youth with disabilities.
 - ✓ Provide safety features at all playgrounds to promote accessibility including fencing, cross-walks, and safe walking access.

Data Support:

- ✓ Respondents to the online survey were least satisfied with several of the neighborhood parks. For Folly Hill Park, Bradstreet Park, Southwick Park, Preston Street Park, and Rand Circle Park, Lawrence Street Park, and Woodvale Park 50 % - 60% of respondents reported the parks being in less than good condition. In the case of Sandy Beach nearly 70% of respondents reported that the park was in less than good condition.
 - ✓ Conversations in several focus groups revolved around the quality of the sport fields in comparison to the local parks.
3. **Extend partnerships with the Rail Trail Advisory Committee to expand multi-modal trail networks and connectivity throughout the town.**
 - ✓ Consider designing programs to engage diverse user groups on the Danvers Rail Trail.
 - ✓ Designing programs for the Senior Center that take place on the rail trail and connect trail use with local businesses (i.e., bike shops, eateries, etc.).
 - ✓ Support the connection of the Danvers Rail Trail to other communities and provide more trail access points and amenities (i.e., benches, picnic tables, parking, etc.).

Data Support:

- ✓ The Danvers Rail Trail is the most frequently used recreation resource in Danvers (56% of respondents reported regularly or frequently using the rail trail).
 - ✓ Nearly 90% of respondents reported that the trail was in good or superior condition.
 - ✓ Focus groups with the Danvers Rail Trail Advisory Committee, Friends of Danvers Recreation, and other recreation groups all drew attention to the importance of the rail trail as the gem of the town.
 - ✓ Focus groups highlighted how it connects schools, neighborhoods, and other towns to downtown Danvers. They also focused on the economic impact the trail is having in the community.
4. **Extend the partnership with the Danvers Senior Center to provide more active and after hours programming for seniors at the Senior Center and other active recreation facilities.**
 - ✓ The Senior Center staff and users desire to have younger seniors (55-65 year olds) join the center and participate in the programming. The hours of operation (8am-5pm) are the primary impediment to this group accessing the services of the Senior Center. As most younger seniors are actively working, they are excluded from these services. The Senior Center should consider extending its hours by hosting Recreation Division

adult programs in the evenings. They should also continue to offer after hours programs like Paint and Sip. These types of programs have proven to be successful in engaging younger seniors.

- ✓ Senior Center staff should also consider extending their programming beyond the doors of the Senior Center and group trips. Active programming in town natural areas such as Endicott Park, and the Danvers Rail Trail might be more appealing to younger, and to more active seniors. Programming such as Pickleball would be an example of active programming that is incredibly popular among active older adults.

Data Support:

- ✓ A relatively small percent of respondents use the Senior Center (5.9%), but they are very satisfied with the quality of the facility and programs (79% report good or superior quality).
- ✓ Only 15% of respondents reported inadequate senior facilities in Danvers.
- ✓ Less than 15% of respondents reported inadequate senior programming in Danvers
- ✓ While not solely senior focused there was a larger percentage of respondents looking for adult recreational sport programming (31%).
- ✓ In the focus groups, both the senior users of the Senior Center and the Staff see the need to recruit younger senior users. Specifically, they would like to see more seniors aged 55 to 65.

5. Develop low impact passive recreation infrastructure at Lebel's Grove.

- ✓ Build accessible walking paths and trails throughout the property.
- ✓ Add benches, seating and picnic areas.
- ✓ To encourage picnicking consider adding a beach volleyball court(s), disc golf course, bocce court(s) and horseshoe pit(s).

Data Support:

- ✓ Numerous focus groups and interviews mentioned the importance of Lebel's Grove as a recreation destination. While most people agreed that it should be passive recreation focused there were some that desired a more developed recreation areas.
- ✓ Given the environmental restriction placed on the property it is important that passive recreation opportunities be provided.
- ✓ There was also some disagreement on what qualifies as passive recreation at Lebel's Grove. Most focus groups and individuals agreed that developing accessible walking paths with benches and picnic areas was acceptable.
- ✓ In to paths and picnic areas, there was significant support for other passive resources being added, such as sand volleyball and bocce courts, horse shoe pits and a disc golf course.
- ✓ There were some concerns raised over the impact level of the disc golf course, however most of those concerns stemmed from a misunderstandings of what disc golf courses entail.
- ✓ Unlike regular golf courses, disc golf courses are not manicured and do not require the same level of maintenance.

6. Insure that environmentally sensitive areas at Endicott Park are protected and built facilities are maximized.

- ✓ Endicott Park cannot environmentally support the heavy use it receives in the summer between Danvers' summer programs, other town's summer programs, and daily visitors. Danvers should consider moving the older youth program SNAKE to the Thorpe School where they would be proximate Proctor Farm natural area. Danvers should also consider charging large group fees to other towns who use the park for field trips. These funds could support the increased maintenance necessitated by these groups.
- ✓ Danvers should consider repurposing and updating the Hay Barn to be a meeting and reception center. With the bucolic setting and amenities already in place, the Hay Barn would be a desirable rental venue for family gatherings, weddings, and business meetings.

Data Support:

- ✓ Behind the Danvers Rail Trail, Endicott Park was the most regularly and frequently used recreation facility (44% of respondents regularly or frequently use Endicott Park).
 - ✓ More than 88% of respondents reported Endicott Park being in good or superior condition.
 - ✓ Approximately one-third (33%) of respondents reported wanting more nature and environmental education programming.
 - ✓ Endicott Park and Danvers Harbor both had unique sections in the survey that assessed the importance of certain areas and features, and the satisfaction of respondents with those areas and features. While users of Endicott Park were predominantly satisfied with their services, there was still room for improvement on certain areas at the park. Specifically, people are looking for more programming, better maintenance of trails, and improved customer service. (See the Graph 1 and Table 5 above for complete details).
7. **Provide access to indoor and outdoor swimming pools and swimming lessons.**
- ✓ Access to pools can be provided in a variety of ways, including signing agreements with private organizations that currently have pools. For example, Greenleaf Pool Association, Danvers Yacht Club and St. John's Prep all have outdoor pools where partnerships could be developed for outdoor pool space and programming. For indoor pool space, the Lydon Center Indoor Pool, YMCA, and even hotels in Danvers could be viable partners.
 - ✓ Danvers should continue to reposition Sandy Beach as an active swimming area. This can be accomplished by offering more programming like Stand-Up Paddling, kayaking, canoeing and other water based activities. To encourage this type of programming, town operated summer programs should consider using Sandy Beach for field trips. Paddle board and kayak lessons could be part of that programming.
 - ✓ Placing a splash pad water feature at Sandy Beach could also encourage visitation of the park and create a more vibrant and welcoming appearance.

Data Support:

- ✓ Over 40% of survey respondents reported that there is inadequate aquatics programming available in Danvers.
- ✓ More than half (52%) of respondents reported that there were inadequate outdoor swimming pool facilities available to the public in Danvers.

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- ✓ Just under half (48%) of respondents reported that there were inadequate indoor swimming pool facilities available to the public in Danvers.
- ✓ Numerous focus group participants mentioned the need to better utilize the natural water features in town (i.e., Sandy Beach).

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Appendix A: Benchmark Survey Questions

1. What is your total population?
2. What is your total annual participation in town recreation programs and services?
3. Approximately what percentage of your recreation participants are from: full time residents, seasonal residents, non-residents?
4. What was your total general fund (tax) allocation for recreation for the last budget year?
5. Does the recreation general fund allocation include parks/outdoor recreation maintenance?
6. If you have park and outdoor recreation maintenance as part of your department, what is your total parks/outdoor recreation maintenance budget?
7. What was your total amount of non-tax revenue (i.e. revolving fund) generated in the last budget year?
8. What was the total amount of non-tax revenue (e.g. revolving fund, enterprise fund) generated by your Department in the last budget year?
9. What were your total expenditures from non-tax revenue in the last budget year?
10. What was your total municipal/town budget (general fund only) for the last budget year?
11. Do you have a Recreation Commission or advisory board?
12. What is your total number of full-time equivalents (FTE's)?
13. Approximately how many volunteers do you use annually?
14. Do you have a dedicated indoor recreation facility that you operate and use primarily for community recreation activities?
15. What year did your facility open?
16. What was the total capital cost to build the facility?
17. Approximately how many square feet is the facility?
18. What features or amenities does the facility have (basketball or volleyball courts, multipurpose rooms, meeting space, offices, locker rooms, fitness/weight rooms, dance/gymnastics studios, kitchen or concessions, racquetball/squash courts, other)?
19. Do you partner or share space in the facility with other agencies or organizations? If so - with whom?
20. What are your approximate annual operating expenses for the indoor recreation facility?
21. What are your approximate annual operating revenues generated by the facility (memberships, rentals, classes, programs)?
22. In what other ways do you meet your community's needs for indoor recreation space?
23. Does the recreation department provide programs, facilities and services specifically for the senior population?

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24. What programs, facilities and services do you provide specifically to meet the needs of your seniors population?
25. What other town departments and/or private organizations provide programs, facilities and services to meet the recreation and social needs of the senior population?



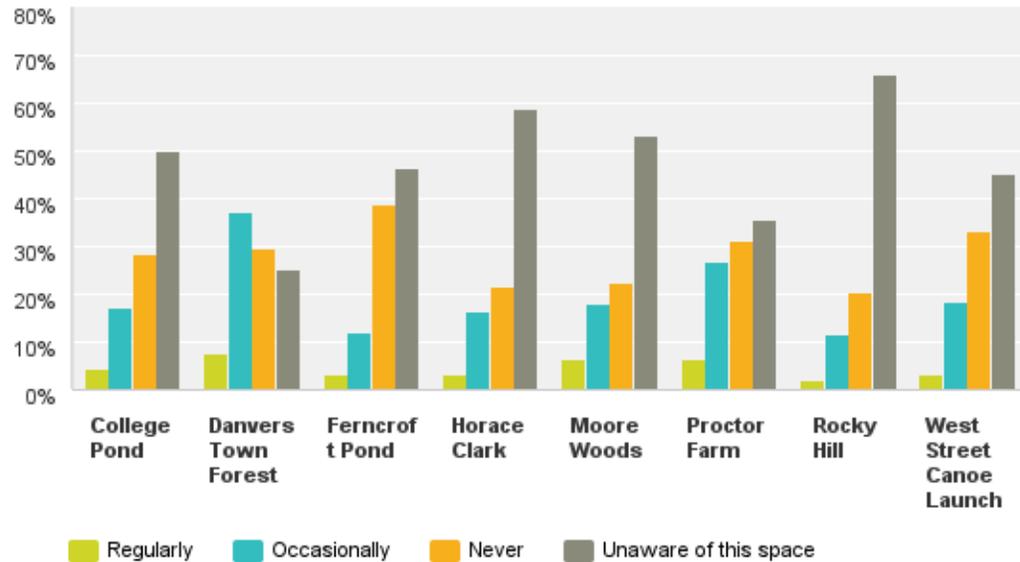
**Town of Danvers
Department of Planning and Community
Services
Town Wide Open Space Survey**

Purpose:

The Town of Danvers is conducting an Open Space Survey. The Open Space and Recreation Advisory Committee members have been writing the 2016 Open Space and Recreation Action Plan, and have created this survey to obtain input from residents of the Town. This valuable feedback will help to ensure that the plan reflects the needs and concerns of the Town's residents in regards to our Open Space areas. Please take 5-8 minutes to complete this anonymous survey.

Q1 During the year, how often do you or your family members use the following Open Space areas?

Answered: 94 Skipped: 0



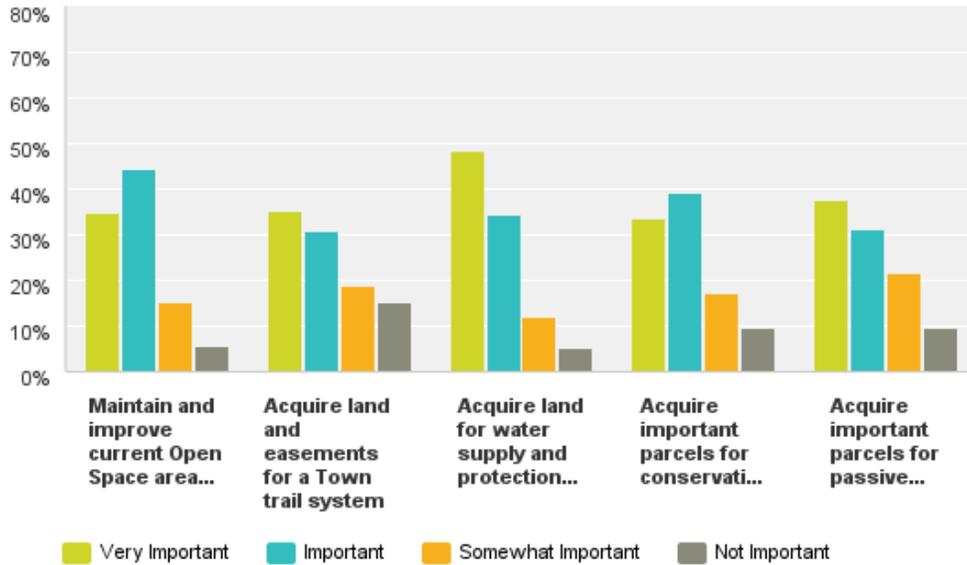
Q2 Based on the Open Space areas you or your family visit, please rate the quality of the following:

Answered: 75 Skipped: 19



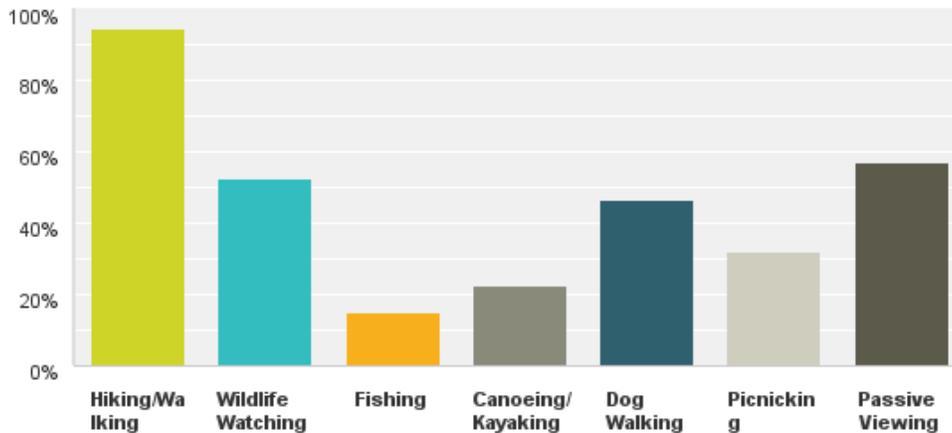
Q3 Please rate the importance of the following priorities the Town should take in regards to Open Space.

Answered: 93 Skipped: 1



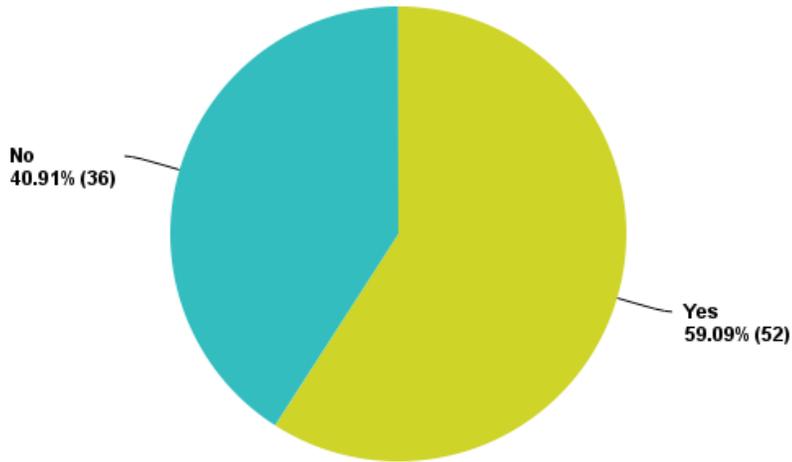
Q4 Please select the activities you or your family participate in when visiting the Town's Open Space areas:

Answered: 88 Skipped: 6



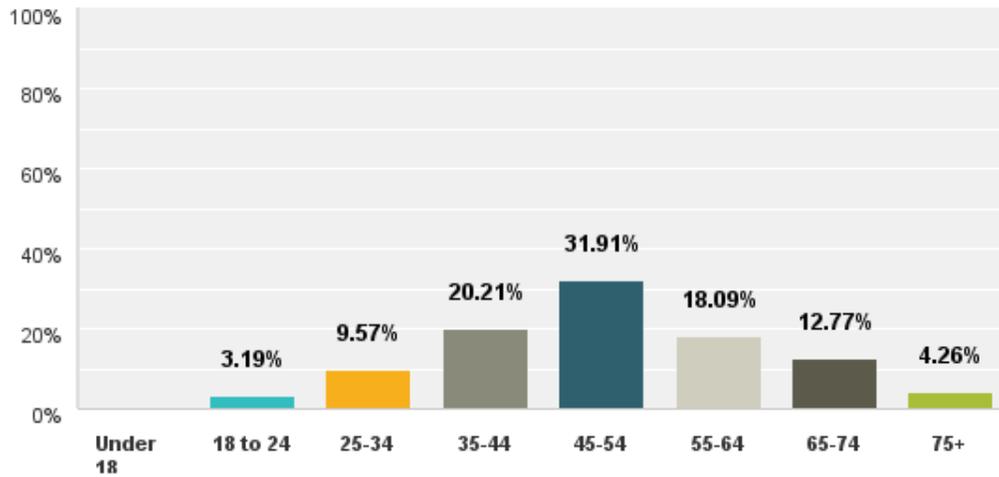
Q5 Do you think there is a need for additional Open Space?

Answered: 88 Skipped: 6



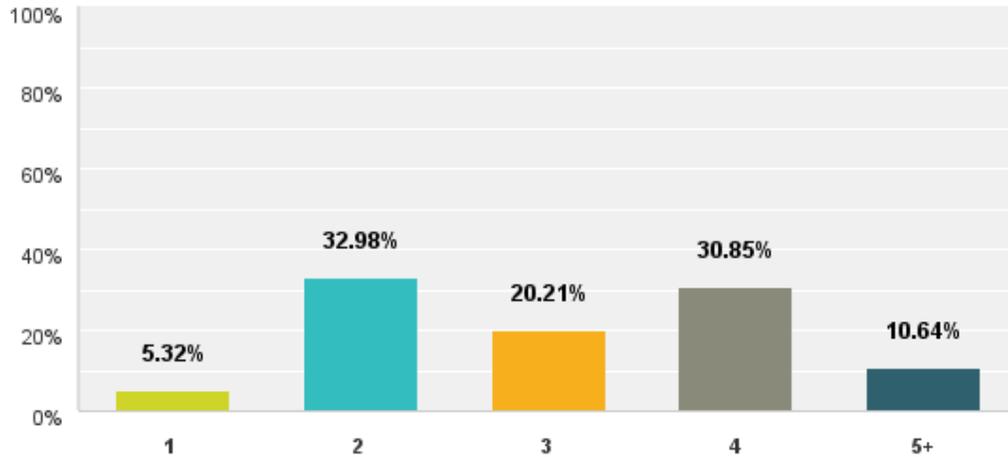
Q8 Age:

Answered: 94 Skipped: 0



Q9 Counting yourself, how many people currently live in your household, including children:

Answered: 94 Skipped: 0



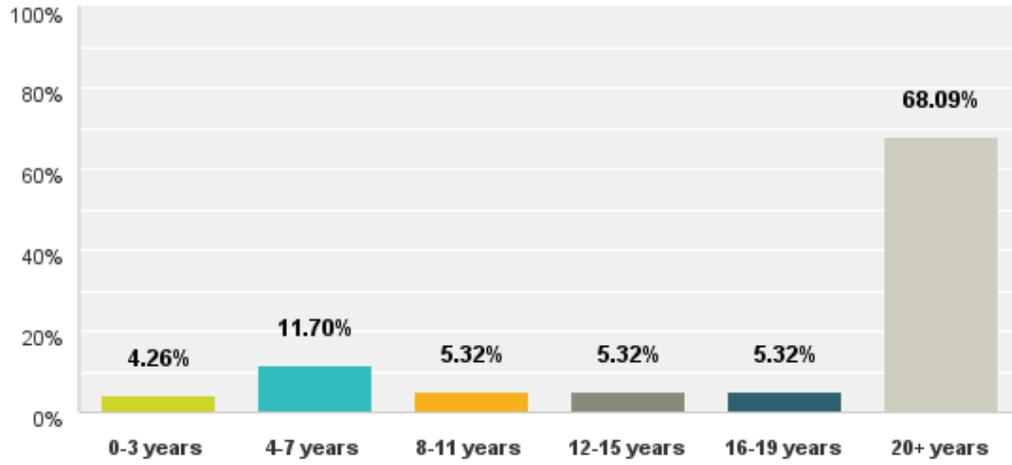
Q11 Please choose the option which most closely approximates the combined total gross household income:

Answered: 81 Skipped: 13



Q12 How long have you lived in Danvers?

Answered: 94 Skipped: 0



Summary of 2016 Open Space Survey Findings

Most used Open Space Areas:

- Danvers Town Forest
- Proctor Farm

Least used Open Space Areas:

- Rocky Hill
- Horace Clark

Details/Amenities that need improvement:

- Site Maps
- Street Signage

Top Priority Town should take in regards to Open Space:

- Acquire land for water supply and protection purposes

94% of respondents stated they utilize Open Space areas for walking/hiking

59% of respondents believe there is a need for additional Open Space in Town.

32% of respondents were ages 45-54

68% of respondents have lived in Danvers for 20+ years

A number of respondents stated they would like to see additional Open Space in the waterfront/riverfront areas.

Extension of the Rail Trail and creation of a new trail system on abandoned railways was a common desire among respondents.

Additional Comments:

- "Town needs to advertise and have handouts about existing open spaces"
- "Put a priority on maintaining and protecting future open space in Danvers"
- "More information about areas and access"
- "It is most important to purchase more open space as it comes available than to re-do open space that the Town already owns. Renovating existing space can always be done in the future, but the ability to purchase land is always pressing and time sensitive, as the option to purchase probably won't present itself again once it's developed"

ADA Access Self Evaluation

Recreational Facilities

The Open Space and Recreation Advisory Committee and Danvers Disability Commission have together developed and reviewed an ADA evaluation that outlines steps for improving accessibility at the Town's recreational facilities.

In recent years, one new playground has been constructed, John George Park, which is accessible. A major expenditure was also made at the adjacent Sandy Beach, the Town's only public beach, replacing the existing bathhouse with a new accessible structure, providing an accessible route to the beach, and constructing an accessible shade shelter. The Town has allocated funds for park improvements at Sandy Beach and will team together with the Disability Commission to assure accessible opportunities are provided. Accessible picnic tables are provided at several properties, also as noted in the following evaluation. As new tables are purchased to replace or supplement existing tables, $\frac{1}{3}$ will be handicap accessible.

The Open Space and Recreation Committee and the Recreation Department have committed to working with the Disability Commission to improve the Town's recreational facilities for persons with disabilities. The Disability Commission has been involved in the review and design of several of the facility improvements noted in the below evaluation and will continue to do so as new projects come about. The Commission has additionally been involved in the review of a concession stand at Plains Park to ensure its accessibility. As a number of the existing playgrounds function as neighborhood parks, parking is not necessarily provided at each. The location of accessible parking is noted in the evaluation below. The Department of Public Works is committed to providing the required accessible and van-accessible parking spaces as parking lots are resurfaced or relined.

Recreational Programs

The Recreation Department offers "Summer Adventures", a summer program for special needs students up to the age of 22. The program provides full day trips to offsite locations such as bowling, mini golf and go-karting. Staffing and transportation are provided to assure accessibility requirements are met.

The Recreation Department also encourages residents with special needs to contact them directly to arrange individually for an accommodation to allow participation in any of the other programs offered by the Town.

Properties under the Jurisdiction of the Conservation Commission

The majority of the properties under the jurisdiction of the Conservation Commission are unimproved lands comprised of wetlands which function as open space and/or drainage areas for adjacent streams. As noted in the below inventory, a number of Conservation Commission sites have potential for handicapped accessible parking and viewing platforms.

Grievance Policy

A copy of the Town of Danvers Grievance Policy is included in this Appendix. The Town Manager is designated as the ADA Coordinator.

Program Accessibility – Facility Inventories & Transition Plans

To best inventory all Recreation and Conservation owned parcels, the Open Space and Recreation Advisory Committee elected to visit a number of sites. On these visits, members noted amenities, barriers to access, existing conditions and future opportunities to implement ADA regulations. Following data collection, the committee met with members of the Danvers Disability Commission (DDC) to discuss corrective actions and opportunities. The DDC provided necessary feedback that will be used for future implementation and corrective action at all recommended sites.

Choate Farm

Address: 401 Locust St. (Conservation Commission)

Size: 21.979 acres

Amenities: Multi-purpose Open Space, Walking Trails, Picnic Tables, Access to Rail Trail

Permits: N/A

Electricity: None

Public Restrooms: None

Park Description: Choate Farm provides approximately 1 mile of marked walking trails through fields and forest. This trail system links directly with the Danvers Rail Trail, and is just a short walk from the Swamp walk. Choate Farm has the Miriam E. Cooper Peach Orchard which many Danvers residents enjoy in late summer. Picnic tables near either end of the trail provide a relaxing place to enjoy the outdoors. Located directly across the road from the Putnamville Reservoir, Choate Farm has a parking lot with ample space.



Accessibility: No universal access paths or amenities.

DDC Corrective Action: Add handicapped parking spots to parking lot. Add handicapped accessible picnic benches.

Authority: Danvers Department of Public Works, Danvers Traffic Advisory Committee, Open Space Interns.

College Pond

Address: 8 Greenleaf Dr. (Conservation Commission)

Size: 19.34 acres

Amenities: Walking Trails, Boardwalk w/ Bench and Viewing Platform

Permits: N/A

Electricity: None

Public Restrooms: None

Park Description:

College Pond is an excellent spot for a short walk. A new boardwalk to the pond provides a platform and a bench for some of the best bird watching in town. College Pond is a quiet, peaceful spot to relax and enjoy nature. This site is just a short walk from St. John's Prep and surrounding neighborhoods.



Accessibility: No universal access paths or amenities. Access to walking paths is down steep grade and stairs.

DDC Corrective Action: None planned.

Danvers High school Playground/Fields

Address: 60 Cabot Rd. (Recreation)

Size: 56.439 acres

Amenities: Playground Equipment, Baseball/Softball Fields, Multi-purpose Fields, Adventure/Ropes Course, Tennis Courts, Water Bubbler, Picnic Area, Tennis Court Lights, Stadium Lights (MUSCO Control Link)

Permits: Danvers Youth Soccer, Danvers Youth Lacrosse, Danvers Youth Football, Danvers Babe Ruth United Men's Soccer, North Shore Celtic Men's Soccer

Electricity: Yes

Public Restrooms: Yes, Stadium use only

Playground Equipment Installation Date; Manufacturer: 2000; Playworld Systems

Park Description: Danvers High School is located on Cabot Road in a residential neighborhood. There is a brand new athletic complex including a new football stadium with a turf field and a track, baseball field, multi-purpose practice field and concession stand with bathrooms. Woodvale Playground is also on the property adjacent to the 5 new hard Tennis Courts. Two regulation-sized soccer and field hockey fields share space with Burley Field, a regulation size baseball diamond. The former 'Project Adventure' ropes course area will be rebuilt behind the new Football Stadium. There is ample parking available.

Accessibility: Handicapped parking provided for access to some amenities. Playground lacks handicapped parking and access.

DDC Corrective Action: Add curb cuts and parking near playground to accommodate handicapped users.

Authority: Department of Public Works, Danvers Traffic Advisory Committee

Endicott Park

Address: 57 Forest St. (Recreation)

Size: 165 acres

Amenities: Playground, Dog Park, Pond w/ Picnic Area, Fitness & Nature Trails, Multi-purpose Open Space Areas, Picnic Areas, Water Bubblers, Historic Farm Buildings including Carriage House (Visitor's Center), Hay Barn, Children's Barn, Science/Nature Center, Community Gardens

Permits: Indoor/Outdoor Reservations, Photography Reservations

Electricity: Yes

Public Restrooms: Yes - Indoor

Playground Equipment Installation Date; Manufacturer: 2012; Play and Park Structures

Park Description: Passive recreation activities for all ages abound, ranging from hiking, picnicking, sledding, snowshoeing, and playground use. Endicott Park has a children's barn with farm animals, and a newly constructed dog park as of Fall 2016. There are 4 multi-use field areas available for reservation and a Visitor's Center with restrooms as well as meeting rooms. There is a disk golf course being planned for 2018.

Accessibility: Handicapped accessible: parking, fishing platform, electric doors, access ramps, bathrooms, picnic tables and water fountains.

DDC Corrective Action: Add curb cuts to playground area, mediate drainage issue near HP spots.



Ferncroft Pond

Address: 80 Ferncroft Rd. (Conservation Commission)

Size: 8.137

Amenities: Walking Trails, Picnic Tables

Permits: N/A

Electricity: None

Public Restrooms: None

Park Description: Ferncroft Pond Open Space provides 3/4 mile of nature trails through the woods and wetlands surrounding the pond. The area boasts a healthy beaver population and a new trail provides a relaxing spot to view a beaver dam. The area around the pond is wetlands and some vernal pools can be found during certain months. Ferncroft Pond provides a quiet, safe habitat for wildlife in an otherwise busy area.



Accessibility: No universal access paths

DDC Corrective Action: None planned. Add to list of future Boy Scout project locations for ADA compliant view platform.

Folly Hill Park

Address: 12 Upland Rd. (Recreation)

Size: 1.380 acres

Amenities: Playground Equipment, Picnic Area, Water Bubbler

Permits: N/A

Electricity: None

Public Restrooms: None

Playground Equipment Installation Date;

Manufacturer: 2004; Little Tikes

Park Description: Folly Hill Park is located in a secluded neighborhood known as Folly Hill. The park features playground equipment, a swing set and a sand-box area. There are multiple benches surrounding the play area and community members have plenty of room to run in the large grassy area. The paved basketball court and old sand box have been removed (winter 2016) and grass seed was put down.



Accessibility: No universal access paths.

DDC Corrective Action: Install handicapped parking if applicable. Install handicapped picnic tables.

Authority: Department of Public Works, Danvers Traffic Advisory Committee, Open Space Interns.

Gates Field

Address: 15 Stone St. (Recreation)

Size: 23.200 acres

Amenities: Multi-Purpose Open Space/Fields, Water Bubbler

Permits: Danvers Youth Soccer, Danvers Girls Soccer

Electricity: None

Public Restrooms: None

Park Description: Gates Field is located behind the Danvers Senior Center and adjacent to the Salem Village Witchcraft Victims' Memorial of Danvers. Gates Field offers room for multiple soccer fields to be lined at once. There is parking available in both the 176 Hobart Street and 15 Stone Street lots. Benches for players and spectators are set up along the Senior Center side of the property and a water fountain is located in the Hobart Street parking area (left side of picture). There is also a bridge that connects the Senior Center with the Highlands School where there is a play area and walking path for people to utilize.



Accessibility: Access from the Senior Center to the fields is provided. New bridge crossing is accessible.

DDC Corrective Action: Mark handicapped parking at 176 Hobart st. lot and provide accessible pathways.

Authority: Department of Public Works, Danvers Traffic Advisory Committee.

Great Oak School

Address: 76 Pickering St. (Recreation)

Size: 10.420 acres

Amenities: Playground Equipment, Baseball/Softball Fields, Basketball Court, Picnic Area, Water Bubblers, Scoreboard

Permits: Danvers Girls Softball

Electricity: None

Public Restrooms: Yes, during games only

Playground Equipment Installation Date; Manufacturer: 1998; Playworld Systems. New Playground Installation Expected 2017; TBD

Park Description: Great Oak School and the fields are located between Otis Street and Pickering Street. There is a parking area along Otis Street which leads to a picnic area and snack bar which also houses restrooms that are available only when there is a game. Great Oak features two small ballfields, Great Oak Upper and Great Oak Lower, and two large fenced in softball fields known as Rollins and Tiggies. There is a playground area for children located close to the school which has plans to be replaced the summer of 2017. Basketball hoops are also available on the school's pavement area. The softball fields are utilized by the High School softball program.



Accessibility: Two handicapped parking spaces are located at the front of the school.

DDC Corrective Action: Add handicapped parking spaces closer to ball fields that are van accessible.

Authority: Department of Public Works, Danvers Traffic Advisory Committee

Highlands School

Address: 190 Hobart St. (Recreation)

Size: 10.960 acres

Amenities: Playground Equipment, Baseball/Softball Fields, Basketball Court, Multi-purpose Open Space, Pickle Ball Courts, Picnic Area

Permits: Danvers National Little League

Electricity: None

Public Restrooms: None

Playground Equipment Installation Date;

Manufacturer: 2000; Playworld Systems, 2012; Play and Park Structures

Park Description:

Highlands Elementary School offers large multi-purpose field space on the side and in back of the school. In the back field space there are two smaller T-ball fields and one larger ballfield. Highlands has a large playground area for children and a few picnic tables for community members. There are 6 pickle ball courts where the tennis courts used to be with plans to resurface them the summer of 2017, as well as a large basketball court located at the back of the school near a paved area for children to play four-square and hopscotch. There is also a walking path (not pictured below, approximately 1/4 of a mile) that goes around the large ball field, open space, pickle ball courts, and playground for community members to use; as well as a bridge that connects Highlands School with the Senior Center for easy access to Gates Field.

Accessibility: Paved path around the perimeter of the school buildings allow access to playground and tennis courts. 3 handicapped parking spaces are located at the front and rear of the school. Curb cuts provide access to the play area and paved walking trail.

DDC Corrective Action: Add handicapped accessible picnic tables seasonally.

Authority: Open Space Interns



John George Park

Address: 35 River St. (Recreation)

Size: 5.900 acres

Amenities: Playground Equipment, Stretching Station, Baseball/Softball Fields, Multi-purpose Open Space, Walking Path, Picnic Area, Water Bubbler

Permits: Danvers National Little League, Danvers Youth Soccer, Danvers Girls Softball, Men's Softball, Rotary Softball, Danvers Recreation Co-Ed Softball, Women's Softball, North Shore Men's Softball, Danvers Youth Lacrosse

Electricity: None

Public Restrooms: Available across the street at Sandy Beach during beach hours

Playground Equipment Installation Date; Manufacturer: 1997; Landscape Structures

Park Description: John George Park is a large recreation area on River Street. The park is home to two large ball fields known as John George 1 and John George 2. There is a large playground area for children with a new poured-in-place surface with a horseshoe area located behind it. It is not uncommon for the outfields of both fields to be lined for soccer or lacrosse and other activities. Another feature that makes John George unique is a paved walking path that surrounds the entirety of the park (approximately 1/3 of a mile). The park offers a view of the Crane River and Marina, and is across the street from Sandy Beach

Accessibility: The paved parking path allows all users to access the perimeter of the facility. Handicapped parking is provided as well as accessible picnic tables.

DDC Corrective Action: None planned.



Lawrence Street Park

Address: 46 Lawrence St. (Recreation)

Size: 0.788 acres

Amenities: Playground Equipment, Multi-purpose Open Space, Picnic Area, Water Bubbler

Permits: N/A

Electricity: None

Public Restrooms: None

Playground Equipment Installation Date; Manufacturer: 2004; Little Tikes

Park Description: Lawrence Street Park is a smaller park located in a residential neighborhood in Danvers. Lawrence Street offers large open space and multi-use fields for community members to enjoy. There is a large playground and swing set area as well as picnic tables and benches.

Accessibility: No universal access paths

DDC Corrective Action: None planned. Add to list for potential playground improvements.



Library Park

Address: 23 Sylvan St. (Recreation)

Size: N/A

Amenities: Park Benches, Open Space, Rotary Pavilion, Water Bubbler

Permits: N/A

Electricity: None

Public Restrooms: In the Library

Park Description: The Library Park is a small plot of land in between the Peabody Institute of Danvers Library and Mill Pond that includes benches and the Rotary Pavilion overlooking the pond. The Rotary Pavilion is the site of our summer concert series and Library Events. It is utilized by community members for wedding pictures, picnics and more. Permits are not required and private reservations are not accepted. Use is based on a first come first serve system.



Accessibility: Handicapped accessible parking spaces are located in close proximity to the Mill Pond pavilion, with an attached paved entrance way. The pavilion has a handicapped accessible ramp for universal access. Accessible picnic tables have been installed.

DDC Corrective Action: Explore changing the ramp location closer to the handicapped accessible parking.

Moore Woods

Address: 273R Locust St. (Conservation Commission)

Size: 5.045 acres

Amenities: Picnic Table, Access to Locust St, Access to Rail Trail

Permits: N/A

Electricity: None

Public Restrooms: None

Park Description: Moore Woods is a small parcel of land that provides access to the Rail Trail from the Locust St. neighborhoods. A picnic table is located just a short distance off the trail. Moore Woods is a short walk away from Choate Farm, located just north on the Rail Trail.



Accessibility: No universal access paths

DDC Corrective Action: None planned.

Plains Park

Address: 55 Conant St. (Recreation)

Size: 31.130 acres

Amenities: Playground Equipment, Baseball/Softball Fields, Memorial Field Monument, Basketball Court, Multi-purpose Open Space, Tennis Courts, Skateboard Park, Basketball Court Lights, Twi Field Lights, Tennis Court Lights (MUSCO Control Link), Batting Cage, Water Bubblers

Permits: Danvers American Little League, Danvers Youth Soccer, Danvers Girls Softball, Danvers Youth Lacrosse, Danvers Recreation Co-Ed Softball, Danvers Family Festival

Electricity: Yes

Public Restrooms: Yes- during games only

Playground Equipment Installation Date; Manufacturer: 2002; Little Tikes, 2004; Playworld Systems, 2008; Play and Park Structures

Park Description: Plains Park is located adjacent to the Danvers' Holten-Richmond Middle School. The park features a full skate park in memory of community member Brad Purcell, a full outdoor basketball court with

plans to resurface the summer of 2017, three fenced in tennis courts, a playground area for children, and baseball/softball fields. Water fountains and benches also appear on many edges of the park. The largest ballfield at Plains Park is known as Twi Field; the Twi has lights, a large scoreboard and bleachers, and is located next to batting cages and a snack bar which offers restroom access while games are going on. Twi is the home of Danvers High School's Varsity baseball team. Behind the right field fence of the Twi are the Rotary and Brown #1 fields. Behind Brown #1 is the Department of Public Works' Porter St. garage and another snack bar which faces Memorial Field. Next to Memorial Field is Brown #2 Field with a batting cage in between the two fields, and a second small batting cage area is located between the two. Parking is located around both Memorial Field and Brown #2 Field. Lastly, Plains Park is home to four smaller fields behind the Twi's left field fence known as the Utility Fields (#3, 4, 5, 6).



plans to resurface the summer of 2017, three fenced in tennis courts, a playground area for children, and baseball/softball fields. Water fountains and benches also appear on many edges of the park. The largest ballfield at Plains Park is known as Twi Field; the Twi has lights, a large scoreboard and bleachers, and is located next to batting cages and a snack bar which offers restroom access while games are going on. Twi is the home of Danvers High School's Varsity baseball team. Behind the right field fence of the Twi are the Rotary and Brown #1 fields. Behind Brown #1 is the Department of Public Works' Porter St. garage and another snack bar which faces Memorial Field. Next to Memorial Field is Brown #2 Field with a batting cage in between the two fields, and a second small batting cage area is located between the two. Parking is located around both Memorial Field and Brown #2 Field. Lastly, Plains Park is home to four smaller fields behind the Twi's left field fence known as the Utility Fields (#3, 4, 5, 6).

Accessibility: Paved access to a number of amenities.

DDC Corrective Action: Implement handicapped parking spaces closer to ball fields. Mediate signage issue.

Authority: Department of Public Works, Danvers Traffic Advisory Committee.

Popes Landing

Address: 8 Harbor Street (Recreation)

Size: 2.400 acres

Amenities: Public boat launch, picnic areas, benches, waterfront viewing

Permits: N/A

Electricity: Yes

Public Restrooms: Yes

Accessibility: Handicapped parking provided, paved waterfront path.

DDC Corrective Action: None planned.



Preston Street Park

Address: 31 Preston St. (Recreation)

Size: 2.700 acres

Amenities: Playground Equipment, Multi-purpose Open Space

Permits: N/A

Electricity: None

Public Restrooms: None

Playground Equipment Installation Date;

Manufacturer: 2003; Little Tikes

Park Description: Preston Street Park is a quiet park located on a residential street in Danvers. The park offers a small playground area and an open space area often seen being used as a dodgeball field.

Accessibility: No universal access paths.

DDC Corrective Action: None planned. Add to playground improvement list for future amenity additions.



Proctor Farm

Address: 160 Conant St. (Conservation Commission)

Size: 41.2 acres

Amenities: Walking Trails, Picnic Tables, Gazebo

Permits: N/A

Electricity: None

Public Restrooms: None

Park Description: Proctor Farm is one of Danvers most visited Open Space sites. A mile and a half of nature trails wind through a variety of landscapes including: fields, ponds, wetlands, and forest. These diverse habitats are prime locations for observing birds such as: Orioles, Warblers, Goldfinches and Hawks. Proctor Farm has a parking lot on Conant St., and connects via trail to both Thorpe School and Cherry Hill Office Park.

Accessibility: No universal access paths.

DDC Corrective Action: Possibility to add one handicapped parking space, but space is limited and lot is a gravel surface. Work with engineering department to explore serpentine paths and invisible ramp systems.

Authority: Department of Public Works, Danvers Traffic Advisory Committee



Putnamville Park

Address: 11 Wenham Rd. (Recreation)

Size: 4.000 acres

Amenities: Playground Equipment, Multi-purpose Open Space, Picnic Area

Permits: N/A

Electricity: None

Public Restrooms: None

Playground Equipment Installation Date:

Manufacturer: 2016; Play and Park Structures

Park Description: Putnamville Park is a quiet park on Wenham Road in a neighborhood of Danvers called Putnamville. The park offers a playground area with a brand new play structure, swings, a woodchip surface, multiple picnic tables and a shaded area under the trees. Along with the abundance of open space, Putnamville

Park is also a stop along the Danvers Rail Trail and features a bridge entryway into the park. Recently the park was fixed up by the Lowe's Heroes program and now offers bike racks, bike pumps, and a chalkboard and map area for community members using the Rail Trail to utilize.

Accessibility: Universal access to the Rail Trail is provided. Access to the amenities is limited.

DDC Correction Action: Move water fountain for better access.



Rail Trail

Address: Town-wide

Size: 4.33 miles

Amenities: Trails/Paths

Permits: N/A

Electricity: No

Public Restrooms: None

Park Description: The Danvers Rail Trail is a 4 1/3-mile non-motorized shared-use path linking schools, downtown Danvers, parks, residential areas, and trails in the neighboring towns of Peabody, Wenham, and Topsfield. It is ideal for walking, biking, jogging, or walking the dog. The trail is built along what was once part of the historic Boston to Maine railroad running from Newburyport to Danvers. The Danvers Rail Trail is managed and maintained by a group of community volunteers and provides a healthful recreational option available to all residents and visitors.



Accessibility: Universal access provided to handicapped users.

DDC Corrective Action: Increase the number of handicapped access points and amenities.

Authority: Department of Public Works, Danvers Engineering Department, Rail Trail Advisory Committee

Rand Circle Park

Address: Center of Rand Circle Development (Recreation)

Size: ≈.680 acres

Amenities: Playground Equipment, Basketball Court, Multi-purpose Open Space, Picnic Area

Permits: N/A

Electricity: None

Public Restrooms: None

Playground Equipment Installation Date; Manufacturer: 2003; Little Tikes

Park Description: Rand Circle Park is a small park located within the Rand Circle Development used mostly by residents of the development. The park offers a small play structure, monkey bars and a swing set as well as a paved area with a basketball hoop.



Along with large areas of open space to play in, there are also a few picnic tables for people to enjoy and some shaded areas under the trees. There is parking available on either side of the park.

Accessibility: No universal access paths.

DDC Corrective Action: Make a top priority for handicapped playground access improvements. Handicapped children are present in the neighborhood and would greatly benefit from improvements.

Riverside School

Address: 95 Liberty Street (Recreation)

Size: 11.700 acres

Amenities: Playground Equipment, Softball Field, Basketball Court, Multi-purpose Open Space, Picnic Area, Softball Field Lights (MUSCO Control Link)

Permits: Maple Street Church, Danvers Girls Softball, Men's Softball, Danvers Recreation Co-Ed Softball, North Shore Men's Softball

Electricity: Yes

Public Restrooms: None

Playground Equipment Installation Date; Manufacturer: 2004; Little Tikes

Park Description: Riverside Elementary School has a large softball field with lights. The park area also features basketball hoops, hopscotch and foursquare on the paved area and a large playground area on the right edge of the property with a lot of shaded areas. There is a large portion of fenced in open space used as multi-purpose fields and picnic tables throughout the park.

Accessibility: No universal access paths.

DDC Corrective Action: Implement handicapped parking spaces in the rear of the property with associated curb cuts.

Authority: Department of Public Works, Danvers Traffic Advisory Committee.



Sandy Beach

Address: 44 River Street (Recreation)

Size: 5.17 acres

Amenities: Playground Equipment, Multi-purpose Open Space, Beach Area, Picnic Area, Pavilion

Electricity: None

Public Restrooms: Yes

Playground Equipment Installation Date;

Manufacturer: 2005; Little Tikes

Park Description: Sandy Beach is the only park in Danvers with beach access. Upon walking on to the property there is a bathhouse and a water fountain/outdoor shower for the community to utilize. Sandy Beach offers a swing set, large open space and fields, and a pavilion with picnic tables. On the shoreline of the Porter River there is a beach volleyball court and lifeguards are stationed on the beach during the summer months.

Accessibility: Property includes accessible restrooms, picnic tables, outdoor showers and water fountain. A large paved path leads from the street to the waterfront.

DDC Corrective Action: Partner with the DDC when drafting preliminary site design improvements and ideas.

Authority: Department of Public Works, grant funding.



Smith School

Address: 15 Lobao Dr. Implementation (Recreation)

Size: 15.000 acres

Amenities: Playground Equipment, Baseball/Softball Field, Basketball Hoop, Multi-purpose Open Space/Fields, Picnic Area, Water Bubbler

Permits: Danvers Youth Soccer, Danvers Youth Lacrosse

Electricity: None

Public Restrooms: None

Playground Equipment Installation Date;

Manufacturer: 2000; Playworld Systems

Park Description: Smith Elementary School is located

on Orrantia Circle in a residential neighborhood near St. Johns Prep. The park area consists of large open space and multi-purpose fields often used for soccer and lacrosse. The school has a large playground area, a basketball hoop and games lined on the pavement. There are plenty of picnic tables and shaded areas under the trees.

Accessibility: Site includes a paved entrance in the playground, and paved play area. Two handicapped accessible parking spaces are located at the entrance of the play area.

DDC Corrective Action: Partner DDC with DPW, Engineering and Planning when new school design is drafted and approved.



Southwick Park

Address: 15 Tipert St. (Recreation)

Size: 0.267 acres

Amenities: Playground Equipment, Multi-purpose Open Space, Picnic Area, Water Bubbler

Permits: N/A

Electricity: None

Public Restrooms: None

Playground Equipment Installation Date;

Manufacturer: 2002; Play and Park Structures

Park Description: Southwick Park is a quiet park on

Tipert Street that abuts a large open space and multi-use area. There is also a fenced in park area that houses playground equipment, a tire-swing and picnic tables.

Accessibility: No universal access paths.

DDC Corrective Action: None planned.



Tapley Park

Address: 139 Pine St. (Recreation)

Size: 6.300 acres

Amenities: Playground Equipment, Baseball Fields, Basketball Court, Picnic Area, Moulton Field Lights, Batting Cage, Water Bubbler

Permits: Danvers National Little League

Electricity: Yes

Public Restrooms: Yes- During games only

Playground Equipment Installation Date;

Manufacturer: 2000; Playworld Systems

Park Description: Tapley Park is known for its two ballfields, Moulton and Phinney. Moulton Field features

lighting, a snack bar area behind home plate, and bleacher areas on either side for fans to sit and watch the game. Phinney Field is further back into the park with one large bleacher along the first base side and a flag pole in center field. Tapley Park also has a basketball court, batting cages, a small picnic area, and a mulched playground area for children. The Danvers Rail Trail runs adjacent to Tapley Park.

Accessibility: Two handicapped accessible parking spaces are provided in the rear of the site.

DDC Corrective Action: None planned.



Thorpe School

Address: 30 Avon Rd. (Recreation)

Size: 25.400 acres

Amenities: Playground Equipment, Basketball Court, Multi-purpose Open Space/Fields, Veterans Memorial Fields 1 & 2, Trails/Path

Permits: Danvers Youth Soccer, Danvers Youth Lacrosse, Danvers HS Lacrosse, Danvers HS Soccer

Electricity: None

Public Restrooms: None

Playground Equipment Installation Date;

Manufacturer: 2005; Gametime

Park Description: Thorpe Elementary School is located in a residential neighborhood and is home to

two large fields used for both soccer and lacrosse. There is a large walking path around the fields for community members to utilize (approximately 1/3 of a mile) that leads to both basketball hoops at the back of the school and a playground area at the front of the school.

Accessibility: A paved track runs around the site fields and connects to a play area in the back of the school.

Two handicapped parking spaces are available, as well a seasonal handicapped accessible port-a-potty.

DDC Corrective Action: Increase safety through surface improvements.



Town Forest

Address: 54R Buxton Rd. (Conservation Commission)

Size: 51.35 acres

Amenities: Picnic Tables, Walking Trails, Campfire Pit (with permission)

Permits: N/A

Electricity: None

Public Restrooms: None

Park Description: At over 50 acres, the Town Forest is Danvers' largest Open Space area. An extensive trail network, approximately 3 miles, has been redesigned for easier exploration of the forest. The red, yellow, and green trails are unique loops accessible by the "spine" of the trail network, the blue trail. Each trail offers a unique experience with varying terrain to suit each explorer's abilities.

Accessibility: No universal access paths.

DDC Corrective Action: None planned.



West St. Canoe Launch

Address: 23 West St. (Conservation Commission)

Size: 18.050 acres

Amenities: Picnic Tables, Walking Trails, Canoe Launch

Permits: N/A

Electricity: None

Public Restrooms: None

Park Description: The West Street Canoe Launch is a small system of trails that provide access to the Ipswich River. These short trails provide easy entry for canoes and kayaks.

Accessibility: No universal access paths.

DDC Corrective Action: The Town is currently working with the Department of Fish and Wildlife through grant funding to improve water access. DDC recommends considering widening path and providing handicapped accessible access to water if feasible.



Whipple Hill (Endicott Park)

Address: 57 Forest St. (Recreation)

Size: 40.950

Amenities: Walking Trails, Amphitheater

Permits: N/A

Electricity: None

Public Restrooms: None

Park Description: Whipple Hill is a large, forested, Open Space area located within Endicott Park. This area provides a number of hiking trails, an outdoor theater and is often used for sledding in the winter time. Funds for a disc golf course at the site have been approved in the FY 18' budget.

Accessibility: No universal access paths.

DDC Corrective Action: None planned.



Williams School/Art Association

Address: 105 Elliot Street (Recreation)

Size: 6.730 acres

Amenities: Playground Equipment, Softball Fields

Permits: Danvers Girls Softball

Electricity: None

Public Restrooms: None

Playground Equipment Installation Date;

Manufacturer: 2002; Playworld Systems

Park Description: The Park is home to a softball field surrounded by woods. The field is used by local softball teams and a playground area with a swing set can be found along the street. A fence surrounds the park and there is plenty of parking surrounding the Art Association building.

Accessibility: No universal access paths.

DDC Corrective Action: Add to list for possible playground site improvements.



Remaining Conservation Areas:

Address: **12A Brentwood Circle**

Acres: 7.8

Description: Wetlands/drainage

Accessibility: No universal access paths.

Corrective Action: None planned.

Address: **4R Fox Run Road**

Acres: 2.4

Description: Wetlands

Accessibility: No universal access paths.

Corrective Action: None planned.

Address: **3R Paulette Drive**

Acres: 5.2

Description: Drainage

Accessibility: No universal access paths.

Corrective Action: None planned.

Address: **7R Paulette Drive**

Acres: 4.95

Description: Wetlands/drainage

Accessibility: No universal access paths.

Corrective Action: None planned.

Address: **4 Juniper Ridge Road**

Acres: 5.97

Description: Open Space

Accessibility: Unimproved - no universal access paths.

Corrective Action: None planned.

Address: **12 Auburn Street**

Acres: 3.18

Description: Open Space

Accessibility: Unimproved - no universal access paths.

Corrective Action: None planned.

Address: **15 Rocky Hill Circle**

Acres: 12.05

Description: Open Space

Accessibility: Unimproved - no universal access paths.

Corrective Action: None planned.

Address: **40 Valley Road**

Acres: 21.6

Description: Open Space

Accessibility: Unimproved - no universal access paths.

Corrective Action: None planned.

Address: **136R North Street**

Acres: 0.67

Description: Open Space

Accessibility: Unimproved - no universal access paths.

Corrective Action: None planned.

Address: **18R Lobao**

Acres: 4.00

Description: Wetlands

Accessibility: Unimproved - no universal access paths.

Corrective Action: None planned.

Address: **69 North Street**

Acres: 0.29

Description: Open Space

Accessibility: Unimproved - no universal access paths.

Corrective Action: None planned.

**TOWN OF DANVERS
EQUAL ACCESS TO FACILITIES AND ACTIVITIES
GRIEVANCE POLICY**

Maximum opportunity will be made available to receive citizen comments, complaints, and/or to resolve grievances or inquiries.

STEP 1: The Town Manager will be available to meet with citizens and employees during business hours.

When a complaint, grievance, request for program policy interpretation or clarification is received either in writing or through a meeting or telephone call, every effort will be made to create a record regarding the name, address, and telephone number of the person making the complaint, grievance, program policy interpretation or clarification. If the person desires to remain anonymous they may.

A complaint, grievance, request for program policy interpretation or clarification will be responded to within ten working days (if the person making the complaint is identified) in a format that is sensitive to the needs of the recipient, (i.e. verbally, enlarged type face, etc.).

Copies of the complaint, grievance, request for program policy interpretation or clarification and response will be forwarded to the Department of Planning and Human Services. If the grievance is not resolved at this level it will be progressed to the next level.

STEP 2: A written grievance will be submitted to the Town Manager. Assistance in writing the grievance will be available to all individuals. All written grievances will be responded to within ten working days by the Town Manager, with whom local authority for final grievance resolution lies, in a format that is sensitive to the needs of the recipient, (i.e. verbally, enlarged type face, etc.).