

Chapter

12

MUNICIPAL FACILITIES



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I. Introduction

The purpose of this chapter is to identify “facilities to support the future land use pattern of [the Town], meet the projected needs of the community, and coordinate with other local governments’ special districts and school districts...” RSA 674:2, III (b). This is one of 13 sections of a Master Plan that are optional by statute and the ninth specific topic to be taken up by the Peterborough Master Plan Steering Committee since beginning its work in 2002.

A. Scope of Chapter

For the purposes of a master plan, a community facilities chapter typically deals with facilities and services that are operated by a unit of government (public) or a private entity (semi-public), but in either instance exist to serve public needs; examples of these are police, fire, schools, libraries, hospitals, churches, and the like. The Master Plan Steering Committee (MPSC) began to look at the development of a community facilities chapter in 2005, but the chapter was put on hold while other related planning exercises were taking place. From 2005 through 2008 four separate reports were prepared and submitted to the Select Board that addressed municipal facility needs in Peterborough¹, and two of those reports were in fact prepared by the Master Plan Steering Committee. All of these reports focused specifically on the needs of the Highway, Police, and Fire Departments; the reports and their conclusions are still considered valid and therefore serve as the basis for the discussion in this chapter of those three facilities.

¹ “Peterborough Municipal Facilities Needs and Feasibility Study;” Weller & Michal; November 15, 2005; Report of the Municipal Needs Study Task Force; August 29, 2006; Report to the Select Board Regarding Highway, Police, and Fire; August 5, 2008; and Report to the Select Board Regarding Highway, Police, and Fire Part II; November 25, 2008.

As indicated above, a wide range of activities can be identified in a community facilities chapter. This chapter, however, deals only with the municipal facilities over which the Town has direct control: the Town House/Public Administration; Police and Fire; Public Works; Library; and Recreation. Other non-municipal facilities are noted cursorily for information purposes, but are not evaluated in any way.

B. Relationship to Other Master Plan Chapters

Through the process of identifying needs and recommending improvements/solutions to those needs, the goals and recommendations of the other chapters will be taken into consideration and judgments made as to whether any of these other goals and recommendations would necessitate any change in the provision of these particular municipal facilities. For example, recommendations regarding the amount of land to be preserved versus the amount of land projected to be developed could result in an expectation that certain facilities will need to be improved and/or expanded over a certain time period.

C. Relationship to the Capital Improvements Program

The Town of Peterborough has maintained a Capital Improvements Program (CIP) since 1989 and since 1997 that Program has been overseen by a Select Board-appointed Committee. The purpose of the CIP is to aid the Select Board and the Budget Committee in their preparation of the annual budget specific to the capital projects that are under consideration.

Peterborough defines a capital improvement as one with a cost of at least \$10,000 and a useful life of five years or more. A working definition of capital projects typically includes the following criteria:

- the extended useful life of facility or equipment;
- an infrequent recurrence of the expenditure;
- real property acquisition or development;
- expansion of utility systems; or
- the creation or expansion of a public building.

The above list makes clear the relationship between the CIP and the Master Plan, in particular this chapter. The current CIP for FY13 contains 17 projects, 15 of which have to do with four of the municipal facilities addressed in this chapter.

The state statutes make the adoption of a Master Plan mandatory for any town that wishes to prepare a CIP. The intention behind this requirement is that, through the master planning process, future needs will be more easily identified and brought into the capital budgeting program in a timely manner.

II. Inventory of Municipal Facilities

A. Public Administration

Public Administration is housed in the Town House, located at the corner of Main and Grove Streets in the Downtown. The structure was built in 1918 and was completely remodeled in 1996. The building houses offices for the Town Administration, Assessing, Public Works Department, Finance Department, Town Clerk, and the Office of Community Development. There is a meeting room (the Selectmen's Room) on the first floor that is used for the regular meetings of the various Town boards and committees. The Upper Hall is used for the annual Town Meeting, elections, and numerous other events, both public and private. As noted in the Cultural Resources Chapter, the Upper Hall is a frequent venue for various arts and cultural events.



Figure 1: Town House

The building serves its various functions well, and much better since the Food Pantry moved out of the lower level, which freed up space in the building. Parking, however, can at times be problematic. Since the building has no land other than what it sits on, anyone driving to the Town House must use the public, on-street parking, which can be difficult, depending on the time of day or other events occurring in the Downtown.

B. Public Safety

Public Safety services in Peterborough are provided by a Police Department and a Fire Department that includes ambulance service and emergency services. Please note that many of the following comments regarding the sufficiency of the physical facilities of Police and Fire are based on the reports referenced in Footnote 1 on Page 1. The conclusions of these various reports are used here as a starting point for the Steering Committee's current evaluation of the adequacy of the facilities; it was understood at the start, however, that after this evaluation the Committee might reach different conclusions on which to base its recommendations.

1. Police

The Police Department is located on Grove Street approximately midway between Main Street and Route 101. The station is comprised of: an entryway, outer lobby and dispatch area; offices for the Chief, a Lieutenant, two Sergeants, and an

Investigator; an interview room; a squad room; a conference room; and evidence room; a records room; a locker room; restrooms, and a kitchen; a utilities room and computer room; and the cell block, which has three cells, a sally port and a booking area. In addition, the back of the lot is fenced for an impoundment area, and there is a garage that is used to store equipment.

The Weller & Michal study found that the Police Station functions well in its current location, for its use; the exception to this is the serious lack of storage space. State and federal laws require that certain items, including evidence, remain stored indefinitely. The Municipal Needs Task Force and the Master Plan Steering Committee both recommended that Fire and Police be joined into a Public Safety Complex so that many efficiencies of scale could be gained. Given that the current locations of both facilities were considered to be inadequate or inappropriate for a combined Public Safety Complex, alternative locations were explored, with no definitive conclusions being reached. More detail on this analysis is presented in Section III – Identification of Issues.



Figure 2: Police Station

Since the reports were published, the Police Department continues to function in its Grove Street location. Various repairs and improvements to the station and the accompanying garage have been completed, and others remain in the Capital Improvements Program (CIP) for completion as funding allows. Despite these various repairs, the lack of storage space remains an ongoing problem. State and federal laws require the retention of virtually all records and evidence associated with cases; not only do these materials take up voluminous space, the space must be accessible to the officers and secure at the same time.

“The Police Department has pressing needs for storage space, given the legal requirements to retain numerous police records and all manner of evidence seized during arrests. To date, storage is accommodated in one room on the main level of the Station House and an unfinished attic space. Both spaces are quickly reaching capacity. To further complicate matters, records and evidence must be stored where they are always under the control of the Department and easily accessible.”
Police Chief Guinard, in a presentation to the CIP Committee October 16, 2012.

One very noteworthy project included in the CIP is the establishment of a 24-hour Dispatch Center to be physically located at the Police Station. This Center is intended to serve as a basic stand-alone dispatch facility for the police, fire & EMS, and DPW departments. The current arrangement is that when the Police Station is not staffed (nights and weekends), all calls go to the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Dispatch in Goffstown. This creates delays in response and confusion resulting

from the County staff not being familiar with the local area; furthermore, the costs for this service are going up every year and this is something over which the Town has no control. Some of the reasons offered by both the Police and Fire Chief for the advantages of such a Center are as follows:

- To provide direct and total control over services.
- To provide around-the-clock response.
- More functional police station because of staffing/ability to monitor building, people, and monitor alarms for local buildings.
- Full access to SPOTS (State Police Online Telecommunications) terminal at the PD.
- Improved access to resources (record checks, other sensitive info, dispatch tapes, etc) no need for constant faxing of documents.
- Improved interoperability with Peterborough services due to closer relationships between the services and dispatchers. All town departments can be dispatched with immediate sharing of information.
- Enhanced 24/7 communications with all departments.
- Ability to grow as needed (only one political entity).
- Greater control of special event monitoring (this would include customizing the dispatch for local events).
- There would be overall better service for about the same amount of money the town is currently spending on the County Dispatch service.
- The Town would have full control of the cost of implementation and operation.
- If at some future time, a municipal safety complex is established, Peterborough Emergency Dispatch would already be established for such state of the art facility.
- There would be less competition for airtime without having to share with multiple communities. This project has been proposed to the CIP Committee as the costs of setup qualify it for a capital project under the Town's definition. Most of the costs would be for the structural retrofitting of space in the Police Station, the purchase of equipment for both Police and Fire, and the rewiring of box alarms. There would of course be additional costs for increased staffing needs; these have been projected by the Chiefs to balance out after a period of time. A summary of the financial calculations is presented in Table #1. The numbers indicate a first year increase of approximately \$19,000; the unknown and uncontrollable factor, however, is the rising cost of outside dispatch. The Town Administration, the CIP Committee, and the Budget Committee all support this project; as of this writing, the initial feasibility study is in the CIP for Fiscal Year 14.

Table #1: Comparison of Costs for 24-Hour Dispatch	
Existing Dispatch Costs	\$ 249,095
Projected Dispatch Costs	\$ 100,488
Start-up Costs:	
Personnel	\$ 127,000
Facility & Equipment	\$ 290,000
First Year Expense	\$ 524,944
Recurring Cost After Start-up	\$ 272,932
Recurring Cost Under Current Set-up	\$ 253,920

2. Fire & Rescue

The Fire Department is located on Summer Street and is open to the public from 8:00 A.M to 4:30 P.M. Monday to Friday. The Department is a primarily volunteer organization, with only two full-time employees – the Chief and a Clinical Director. The Fire Department is able to provide full-time coverage with a combination of paid responders, including per diem medics, and on-call volunteers.

According to the Weller & Michal study, the Fire Station is not adequate to meet current needs, and certainly not future needs. The Task Force and the Master Plan Steering Committee both agreed with this conclusion, and recommended that Fire and Police be joined into a Public Safety Complex. The Task Force recommended in 2006 that the Complex be located preferably on land owned by the Hospital that fronts on Route 202. If this site were not feasible, Evans Flats was chosen as an alternative location.

The Master Plan Steering Committee in 2008 came to no conclusion regarding a location, on either publicly or privately-owned land. The Committee could find no clear “winner” when looking at any of the possible sites. Since these reports were produced there have been no additional investigations or progress on the development of a single or joint facility for the Fire Department.

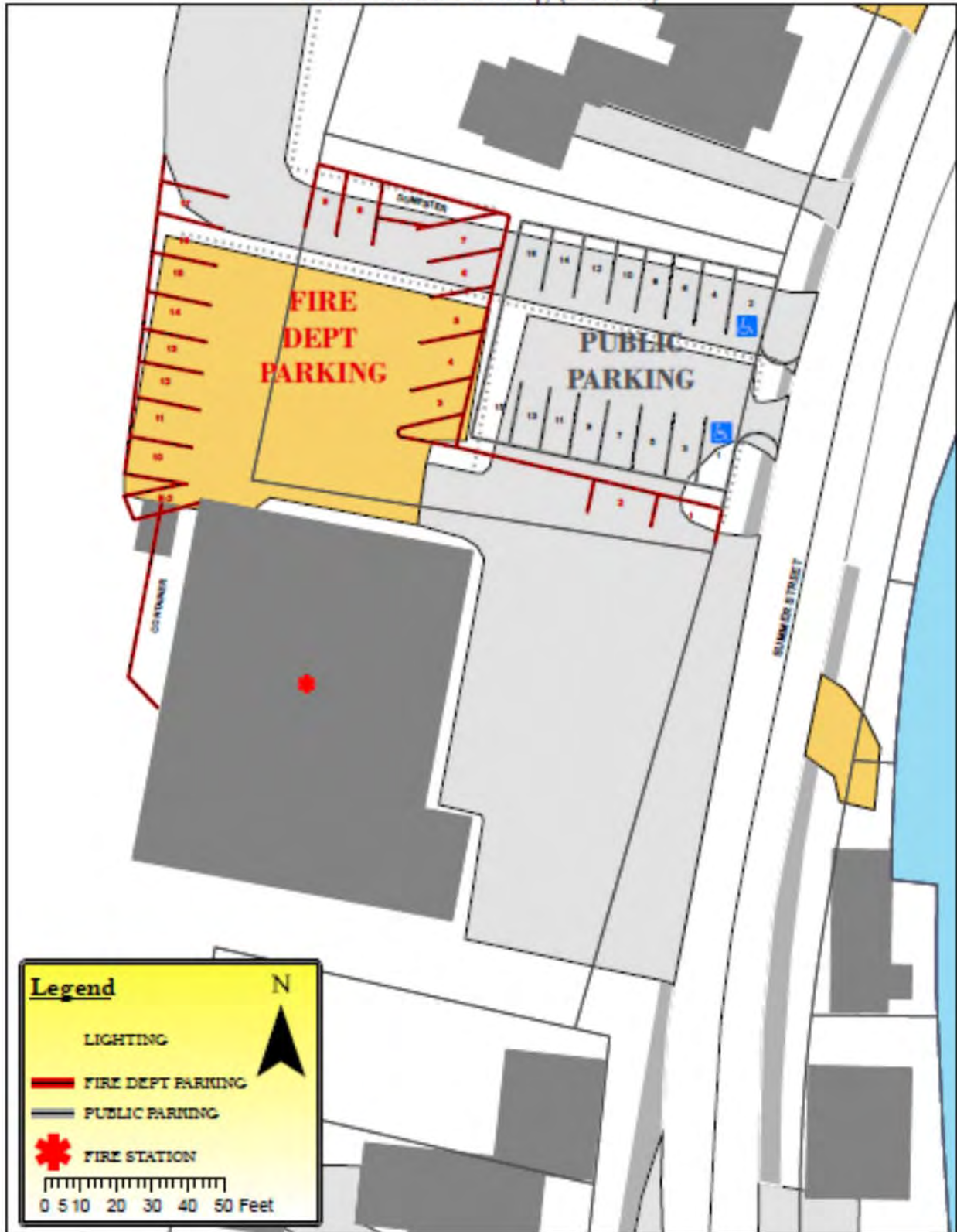


Figure 3: Fire Station

Incremental repairs continue to be made to the building; and the recently-approved proposal to reorganize the parking area at and adjacent to the station (see the sketch on the following page) is an attempt to make the space as functional as possible, considering that the station will more than likely be in this location for some time. The parking improvements are scheduled to be completed in the spring of 2013.

The ambulance service has been staffed with full-time paid responders since January of 2005. In addition, as of October 2011 the Department has an arrangement with Monadnock Community Hospital to handle most of their patient transfers. This has resulted in a dramatic increase in calls for the service as well as a significantly reduced response time; in fact, this system is seen as a model for emergency response. The Department operated for many years with two ambulances, but has since needed to add a third ambulance and additional staff to handle the work load. The addition of staff and equipment underscores the inadequacy of the existing physical space for both Fire and Rescue.

Fire Station Parking (Sketch)



C. Public Works

The Department of Public Works is comprised of Highway, Buildings & Grounds, Recycling, and the Utilities Division (water and sewer). The Director of Public Works has office space in the Town House and the four divisions are located in separate facilities, described below.

1. Highway

The Highway Department is located on Elm Street. Facilities consist of the Garage and a salt shed. The Department employs eight full-time people and some occasional seasonal workers. Principal pieces of equipment consist of dump trucks, dump/plow trucks, a backhoe, loader, sweeper, grader, chipper, snow blower, and sidewalk plow.



Figure 4: Highway Garage and Salt Shed

The Highway Garage was also assessed by the four study reports referenced above. The initial report by Weller & Michal concluded that the Highway Garage does not have enough usable space for its functions, it is deficient in meeting various building and fire codes, and is extremely energy inefficient. Regarding the space issues, since the Town has taken ownership of the abutting Armory property, Public Works has been using the old maintenance building and yard to store many pieces of equipment, taking some pressure off of the space constraints of the Garage.

The Task Force concluded that if a new facility were to be considered, there were many advantages to combining all public works functions into one facility. This conclusion was supported by the Master Plan Steering Committee in its two reports of 2008.

2. Buildings & Grounds

The Buildings & Grounds division is staffed by three full-time employees, who share space in the Highway Garage. Their major pieces of equipment are two dump/plow trucks. Buildings & Grounds are responsible for maintaining all Town buildings (the Town House, Police Station, Fire Station, Library, Recreation Department Office Building, Highway Garage, Armory Buildings, Wastewater Treatment Plant, and Water Division Building) and associated grounds; five parks; three cemeteries; and the Common Pathway.



3. Recycling

The Recycling Center is located on Scott Mitchell Road off of Route 202 north. The facility consists of two buildings that are used for processing and storage and the work is carried out by three full-time employees. Major pieces of equipment used by the facility are a skid steer and a forklift.



The Recycling Center was not part of any of the municipal needs studies referenced above, in large part because this is one of the facilities in Town for which no deficiencies or problems have been identified. Space is adequate for the recycling functions; there is land available for expansion, if necessary; and through the CIP process, funds are allocated from time to time for building improvements or the purchase of equipment.

[While not necessarily relevant to this chapter, it is worth noting that the Recycling Center, thanks to the initiative of the Manager, won a NH Arborists Association Community Beautification Award in 2009. This is the only recycling facility to win such an award – and the photos here illustrate why!]



4. Utilities

The Utilities Division has two facilities, both located at the end of Pheasant Road off of Route 202 north: the Water Department that occupies an older structure that up until a few months ago was occupied by both the Water and Sewer Departments; and a new Wastewater Treatment Plant.



Figure 5: Water Department Building

The new wastewater treatment plant consists of an office/laboratory building and the batch reactor facility that treats the sewage. The plant is currently operated by an independent consultant, with one additional staff person on site every day. This facility is expected to meet the wastewater needs of the town for at least 20 years.

Since this new treatment plant uses a different kind of technology from the old one, there will be no further need for lagoons; therefore there are opportunities to re-use the land area on which the three lagoons currently sit. Some thoughts at this point are that one lagoon area would be for active recreation, one for passive recreation, and one would be set aside for wetland mitigation. The planning for the lagoon closure is scheduled to begin in 2012-2013.



Figure 7: WWTP Admin/Laboratory



Figure 6: Sequential Batch Reactors

Regarding the long-term space needs of this department, the Municipal Needs Task Force and the Master Plan Steering Committee recommended that a Public Works Complex should be built and located on the Town-owned land just north of the new Wastewater Treatment Plant. This Complex would combine Highway, Buildings & Grounds, and Utilities, leaving Recycling in its current location. As of this writing, no further action on these recommendations has occurred, with one exception: the DPW Director is working with US Rural Development, which provided a large portion of the funding for the facility, to construct an equipment and vehicle storage facility on this site.

D. Library

The Peterborough Library is located at the corner of Main, Pine and Concord Streets. The original part of the Library was constructed in 1893 with additions constructed in 1956 and 1978. The structure totals 15,000 square feet in area. It is a two-story open floor building with a partial third floor, made of brick with a wood frame. The library is staffed by four full time employees and three part-time staff members. The library is open 53 hours per week. Equipment used by the library consists largely of computer equipment, a printer, scanner, modem, fax and copier.

The Library is considered inadequate to meet current needs. In 2004 the Library used the services of a professional engineering/architecture firm to prepare a long-range master plan for the Library, which anticipated a reconstruction of the addition, beginning in 2008. The cost estimate of \$1.8 million dollars covered a variety of repairs and reconstruction that were intended to address space needs for the next 20-25 years. None of the repairs made in 2005, 2006 or 2007 would be affected by this renovation – these were repairs that were considered necessary whether or not the major project is carried out.



Figure 8: Town Library

Since the development of the master plan for the Library, cost estimates have increased from \$1.8 million to about \$4 - 6 million. In addition, once the Library was included in the analysis of the Municipal Needs Task Force, an alternative plan emerged – that being to tear down the addition and build new on that footprint, using as much “green” technology as possible. For several years now, the Peterborough Library trustees, staff, and members of the community have been discussing options for the library. The conversations have focused on the vision for the library and the physical structure that is needed in order to support that vision. The Trustees believe that a new library will:

- Support the library’s mission to provide lifelong learning
- Enhance the library’s ability to offer improved services for all members of the community
- Provide an opportunity to redefine the library’s relationship within the community
- Acknowledge the library’s cultural and architectural heritage as it prepares to serve future generations.

The Library Trustees' plan for a new library envisions the cost of a new facility being entirely funded through donations. Toward this end the 1833 Society was established as the fundraising arm of the Trustees.

In early 2012 the Library Trustees, along with the 1833 Society, initiated another public discussion regarding a new library that includes the assistance of the University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension. UNH has developed a program called "The Community Profile Project" whose purpose is to assist communities in reaching community consensus on a local issue through citizen involvement. The program is run by Cooperative Extension staff and typically involves up to a day and a half of group discussions. This earlier effort was tabled while the Trustees dealt with issues related to potential locations for the Library. Since, for a variety of reasons, other potential sites were judged not feasible, the Trustees intend that any future discussion of a new library will be focused on the current site. As of this writing, the Steering Committee has been reconstituted and is meeting on a regular basis to plan the Community Forum on a new Library. An important consideration as these public discussions proceed is the historic importance of the original library building, which must be preserved as part of any new construction.

E. Recreation

The Recreation Department is located in an office building on Union Street on land that also contains a playground, program building, basketball court, four tennis courts, a tennis back board, a beach volley ball court, a skate park, two gazebos, an outdoor ice rink, a maintenance shed, a bathhouse and outdoor pool, three ball fields, and parking for approximately 80 – 100 cars.

The Recreation office is open from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm Monday through Friday, and sponsors various activities outside of office hours that may or may not require the use of these facilities. During much of the year, the Recreation Department operations run a full seven days per week including evenings. The Recreation Department has various equipment including two mini-buses, sports equipment, office equipment, pool maintenance and filtration equipment and large playground structures.

The Recreation Department also operates the Marshall-Thomas Recreation Area at Cunningham Pond. This area is open to Peterborough residents and their guests and has a guarded beach from Memorial Day to Labor Day, 11 am to 7 pm. The Area includes a boat launch for non-motorized boats.



Figure 9: Union Street Facilities



Figure 10: Cunningham Pond

The recent acquisition by the Town of the National Guard Armory on Elm Street has provided new opportunities for the Recreation Department to offer programming that has previously been unavailable, and in particular, access to indoor space.



Figure 11: The Maintenance Building (left) and the Armory Building (right)

The Select Board has authorized the Recreation Committee/Department to make use of the facility for some types of programming, and at no cost to the Town at this time. To date, the Senior Lunch Program is now being held in the building, space is being rented out to various groups and clubs for functions and activities; the Food Pantry that was located in the lower level of the Town House is now housed at the Armory building; and behind the building a community garden is being developed through the efforts of volunteers and donations. The main building has several rooms that are adequate for meeting space and a large drill hall. It is slowly being renovated and brought into compliance with all applicable codes. The maintenance building is currently being used to store vehicles and equipment overflow from the neighboring Highway Garage.

Also under consideration by the Recreation Department is the potential re-use of the wastewater lagoons as playing fields, following the completion of the new wastewater treatment plant. The new plant uses a different technology that does not rely on lagoons, creating opportunity for potential recreational use of approximately 16 acres of land. Another advantage to the use of the lagoon area is the proximity to the middle school and the high school, as can be seen in Figure 12 on the following page. This would create additional opportunities for the Town and the School to cooperate with programming.

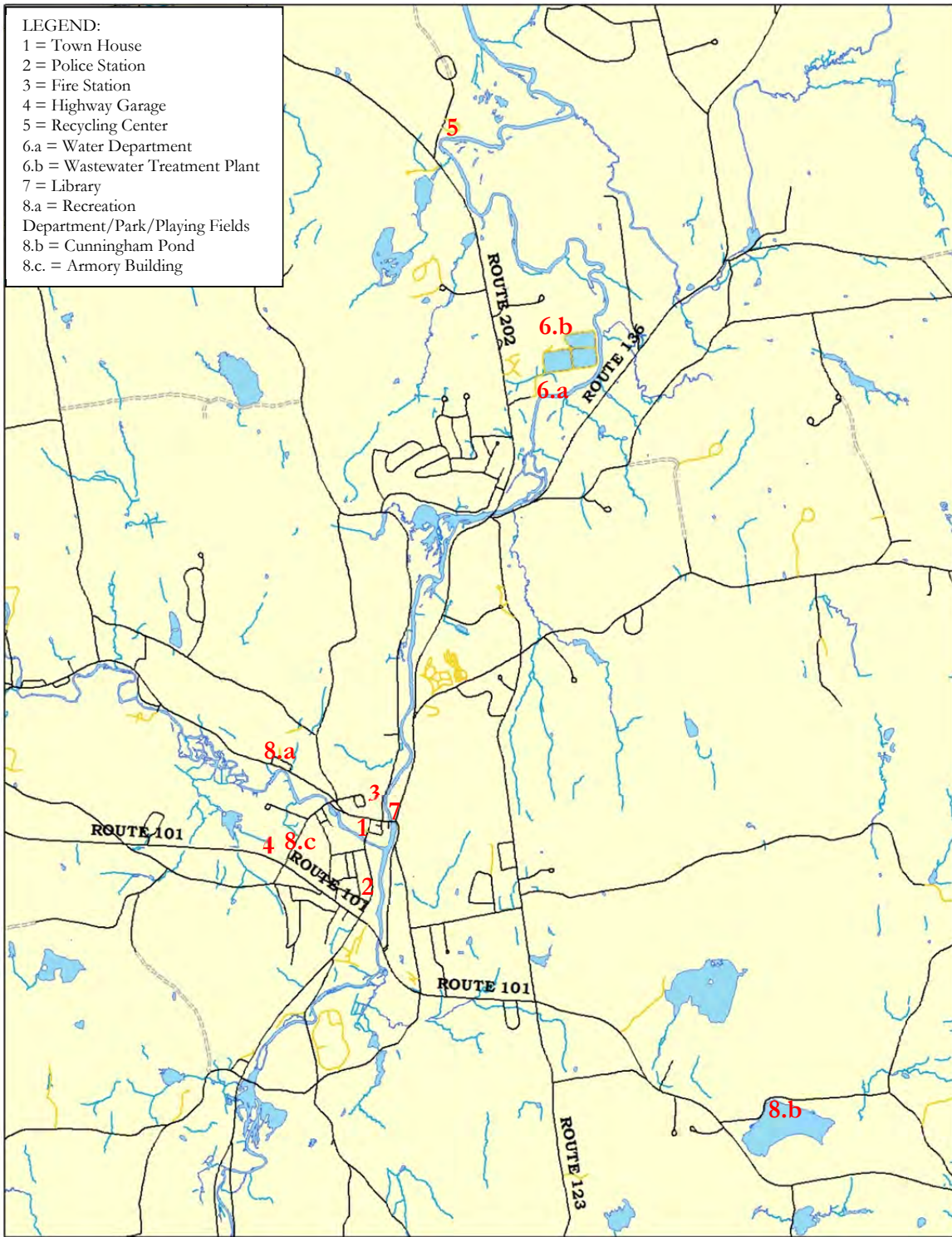
In terms of current and future adequacy, the primary issues with Recreation have to do with the inadequacy and/or lack of playing fields and indoor space. The athletic fields are not sufficient (see text box below); and the department continues to struggle with the growing demand for indoor programs, addressed in part by the acquisition of the Armory.

“The Recreation Department continues to be in dire need of additional athletic fields to meet the many requests for individual, team and league play in various sports. Field maintenance can be problematic due to scheduling to the fullest during the sports seasons. Youth soccer and youth lacrosse are just a couple of the programs requiring similar field space. Additionally, there are needs for properly sized adult softball fields and baseball fields as well as renovations needed on the existing youth softball and baseball fields which are also not properly sized. Our current soccer and lacrosse fields at Peterborough Elementary School are in terrible condition and are borderline unsafe for use. This situation is unacceptable. The development of additional fields will enable the Recreation Department to meet the current and future needs of its participants. We still have hope of developing some athletic fields on part of the former sewer lagoon site, but there is not as much land available there for reuse as originally thought. Other sites will still need to be considered. The need for new fields has not diminished. In fact, it continues to grow.” *Jeff King, Recreation Department Director, in a presentation to the CIP Committee, October 23, 2012.*

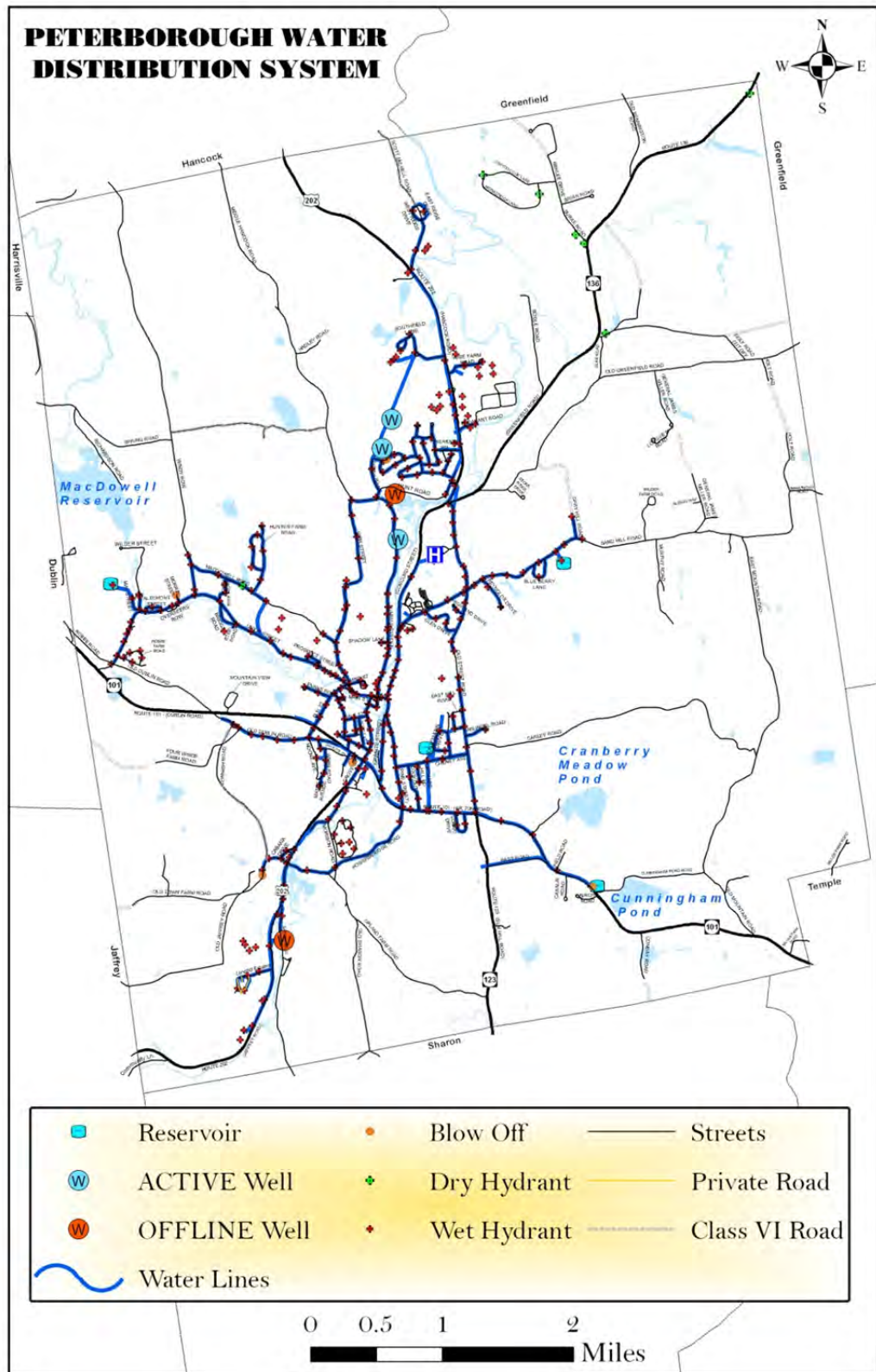


Figure 12: Wastewater Treatment Plant Lagoons

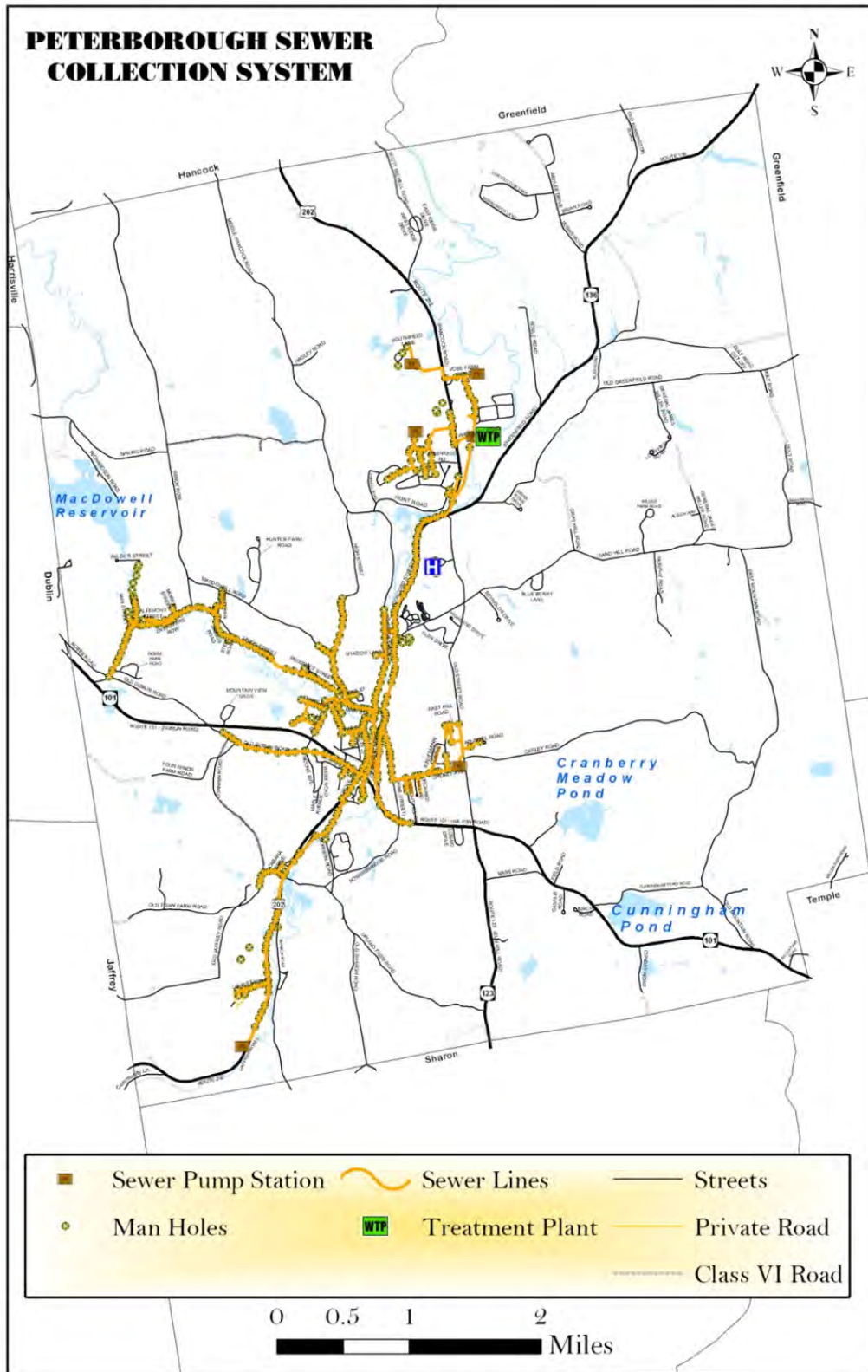
**MAP #1:
LOCATION OF SELECTED MUNICIPAL FACILITIES**



**MAP #2:
DISTRIBUTION LINES OF WATER SERVICE**



**MAP #3:
DISTRIBUTION LINES OF SEWER SERVICE**



III. Assessment of Issues

A. Public Administration

The assessment of the Town House and the various functions that operate within it considers the building to be adequate for its present and anticipated future uses. Town officials will need to continue to be mindful of space issues for staff and meetings, and that parking will at times be a challenge. Nevertheless, it is expected that the building will continue to meet needs for the foreseeable future. For these reasons, the Master Plan Steering Committee has no specific recommendations for the Town House at this time, other than on-going monitoring to determine whether any changes might be necessitated in the future.

B. Public Safety

The primary issues with the Police Station are (1) the lack of adequate and sufficient storage space; and (2) the need for a 24-hour dispatch center. The Fire Station has a number of deficiencies, along with challenges that are associated with its location. The Master Plan Steering Committee has evaluated the various studies and reports that have been conducted on these two facilities and has come to the following conclusions:

Past efforts to identify an acceptable site on either public or private land have not been successful. The economic climate has also contributed to a lack of political initiative in furthering such a project. The Committee suggests that immediate necessary improvements to the existing police and fire facilities are being delayed or prevented while the focus has been on the advisability of a joint facility. The Committee feels a sense of urgency in this matter given the length of time it has been studied, and urges immediate attention to addressing the space and structural deficiencies in both facilities. In addition, the Committee supports the establishment of the 24-hour Dispatch Center at the Police Station, as this addresses an immediate need and could be relocated if the Police Station were to move in the future.

C. Public Works

As described above the Public Works Department's various functions are housed in four separate facilities. This chapter has identified the Highway Garage as being the only one of the four facilities that is considered not adequate for its purposes; in addition, this building was also the subject of previous discussions regarding its location. While the Committee has the same concerns in this case as with Public Safety –namely, that a focus on an alternative site has possibly delayed or prevented improvements in this facility, there is another factor that could make a difference in the feasibility of a new facility.

A part of the new Wastewater Treatment Plant project is a closure plan for the lagoons, which are no longer needed for the new system. The plan describes how

the lagoons will be drained and the land reclaimed. Following the closure of the lagoons will be a public process to plan for the re-use of this area. Included in the closure plan is a storage facility. The building will be large enough to accommodate all of the Utilities Division equipment, and greatly supplement the Highway and Buildings & Grounds equipment; furthermore, the building would be able to support the functions of the Highway Garage if there were a plan to relocate this facility. If in fact there is public discussion about such a move in the future, the Town would need to address potential traffic impacts on Pheasant Road.

D. Library

The Master Plan Steering Committee supports the current efforts of the Library Trustees to engage the public in the UNH Cooperation Extension's Community Forum. Whether or not this support would extend to full support for a new library hinges largely on the results of the Community Forum.

E. Recreation

There are two primary issues that the Recreation Director and Committee have identified as deficiencies for the Recreation Department; they are the lack of indoor programming space, and the inadequacy of multi-use athletic fields. The indoor space issue is being somewhat ameliorated by the acquisition of the old Armory building; that being said, the building is being re-purposed as a community center that will be available for many different functions and not just for the use of the Recreation Department. Given the pressing needs of the Police and Fire Stations, the Master Plan Steering Committee feels it is not in a position at this time to support either of these long-term and costly efforts.

V. Conclusions

Regarding the selected facilities that were evaluated by the Master Plan Steering Committee for this chapter, the Committee concludes that no specific recommendations for the Town House are necessary at this time; and that specific recommendations regarding the Recreation Department are set aside in light of more pressing needs of Public Safety and Public Works, which are addressed below in the Recommendation section.

[NOTE: Once this chapter is adopted by the Planning Board, the Vision Statements and Recommendations will be moved to their respective sections in the complete Master Plan (Chapters 2 and 12). Within these chapters is an explanation of these various statements and how they are used for planning purposes.]

Vision Statements

- ❖ Residents and Town Officials recognize the importance of well-maintained municipal facilities for the Town's overall quality of life.
- ❖ Town Officials are committed to providing municipal facilities that are adequate to meet the present and future needs of all residents. To do this, they will ensure that the facilities are cost-effective, efficient, and balanced.

Recommendations

GOAL 1 – Make needed repairs to the current Police and Fire Stations

- (A) The Town should appropriate the funds necessary to make the needed improvements to the Police and Fire Stations until such time as there is reason to believe a joint Public Safety Facility will be built.
- (B) The Town should appropriate the funds necessary to fund the establishment of a 24-Hour Dispatch Center at the Police Station.

GOAL 2 – Establish a joint Public Safety Facility

- (A) The Town should begin the planning process, including budgeting, in order to construct a new Public Safety Facility.

GOAL 3 – Relocate the Highway Garage

- (A) The Public Works Director should evaluate the feasibility of moving Highway and Buildings and Grounds to Water Street once the storage facility is constructed and in use.

GOAL 4 – Support the planning process regarding a new Library

- (A) The public should fully engage in all planning efforts of the Library Trustees regarding the possible construction of a new Library.