

7. COMMUNITY AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES WITH UTILITIES

The purpose of this Chapter is to evaluate Dunbarton's community facilities, recreational facilities, and utilities. Providing and maintaining the essential services of community and recreational facilities and utilities are jointly one of the primary functions of government. As the population and demographics of the community grow and change over time, it is important that the community make adjustments in its delivery of services to meet the needs of the changing community.

Historically, rural communities in New Hampshire have provided very limited community facilities and services. In many cases, community facilities were limited to only a Town Hall and later, public school. However, as the population of the state increased, more services have been required to meet the needs of the citizenry. Today, modern communities are expected to provide full-time police protection, fire protection, as well as highway crews, recreational facilities, and professional administrators to manage daily operations of Town government.

For community facilities, this Chapter will inventory and assess current Town facilities, identify and assess the adequacy of existing equipment, and also identify current and long-term staffing needs. In addition, recommendations on how to meet some of these needs are provided throughout the Chapter by department and

summarized at the end. Input was asked of Town Department heads for a report on the status of their department's facilities, staffing, and equipment. They were also asked to provide an assessment of their current and anticipated future needs.

VISION STATEMENT

Continue to provide delivery of quality Town Services to the residents of Dunbarton that meet future facility and service needs and will continue to serve the greater community over the coming years.

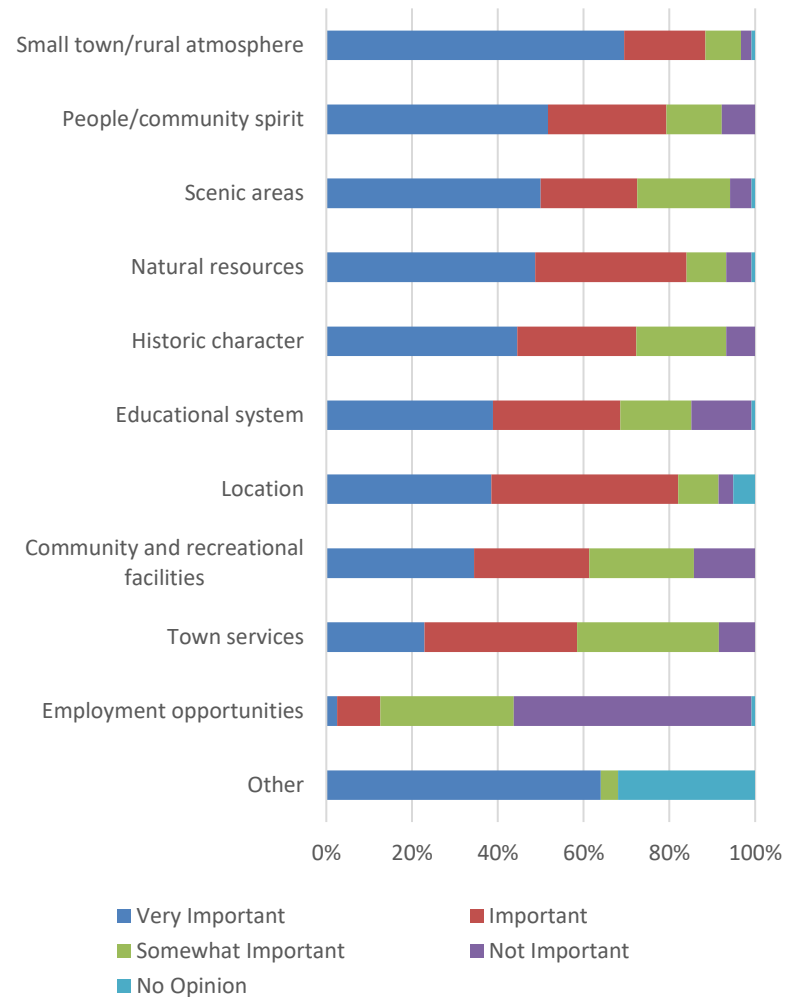
An important component to a high quality of life, recreation provides a much-needed means of stress reduction and physical well-being. Recreational facilities also provide residents with a place to interact and create a sense of community that is beneficial to people of all ages.

Utilities inventoried within the Town of Dunbarton include broadband, telephone, television, electrical distribution, and water supply; currently, Dunbarton does not have municipal water or public sewer. Utilities are the backbone of everyday life in small and large towns alike, and recommendations are proposed in order to enhance or expand their delivery.

COMMUNITY SURVEY RESULTS

In order to gain input from residents, a Community Survey was available that covered a variety of topics, including several questions related to facilities, services, recreation, and utilities in Dunbarton. Overall, the results demonstrated residents' high appreciation of the Town's small town, rural atmosphere, community spirit, scenic areas and natural and historic resources. Residents also demonstrated support to appropriate town property for future use (63.7%), to develop a trail network for non-motorized use (78.8%), and to do more to encourage recycling within Town (53.7%). Survey results also indicated that the majority of residents do not have any concerns regarding parking in the Town Center (70.1%).

Community Survey Question #2: Please rate each of the following features for their importance to you in Dunbarton.



Community Survey Question #9: Do you have any concerns regarding parking in the Town Center?

Q. 9	Total	Percent
Yes	36	21.6%
No	117	70.1%
No opinion	14	8.4%
Total	167	100.0%

Community Survey Question #25: Should the Town identify appropriate properties for future Town services including police, fire, schools, etc. and take steps to procure those properties (if not currently owned by the Town)?

Q. 25	Total	Percent
Yes	100	63.7%
No	42	26.8%
No opinion	15	9.6%
Total	157	100.0%

Community Survey Questions #26: The Town Hall is currently underutilized. What should the Town do with the building?

Q. 26	Total	Percent
Town offices	47	31.1%
Expand library	20	13.3%
Rekindle theatre project	40	26.5%
Other	44	29.1%
Total	151	100.0%

Community Survey Question #27: Do you support the Town encouraging the development of a comprehensive trail network?

Q. 27	Total	Percent
Yes	119	78.8%
No	29	18.2%
No opinion	11	6.9%
Total	159	100.0%

Community Survey Question #28: If you answered yes to Question #27, what trail uses would you support?

Q. 28	Total	Percent
Motorized uses (ATVs/dirt bikes)	10	8.0%
Motorized uses (snowmobiles only)	11	8.8%
Non-motorized uses (walking, biking)	104	83.2%
Total	125	100.0%

Community Survey Question #29: Should the Town do more to encourage recycling?

Q. 29	Total	Percent
Yes	87	53.7%
No	35	21.6%
No opinion	40	24.7%
Total	162	100.0%

DUNBARTON COMMUNITY VISIONING SESSION

The Community Visioning Session was held at the Dunbarton Elementary School on January 25, 2017. Approximately 40 residents were in attendance. Three breakout sessions were available for residents to attend covering the topics of transportation and housing, natural features and community facilities, and land use and economics. Results related to this Chapter are described below and are separate from the Community Survey results presented previously.

Though the rural setting of Town was appreciated, many wished for more vibrancy and sense of place in the central area of town where many of the municipal buildings are located. This would be one way to bring the community together and keep the community spirit vibrant. A community center/area was desired by those present, along with additional meeting space in Town. A potential space could be the second floor of the Town Hall, however, this space is currently not ADA compliant and would require renovations. Parking in the downtown area was also mentioned as being limited, especially during Town or church events.

A concern was brought up regarding proper planning for community facilities in the future. Town growth and the need for larger facilities (i.e. Town office, fire department, police department and the elementary school) should begin to be planned for now instead of when they reach capacity. Additionally, many of the attendees mentioned that there are very limited broadband choices and speed is very slow. Many residents have only one choice in internet providers. Similarly, many were in agreement that cell phone reception was poor across Town.

Finally, discussion touched on the topic of the declining volunteer rate occurring statewide and in Dunbarton. Many attendees

Dunbarton Master Plan Community Visioning Session

Wednesday, January 25, 2017 6:30 PM
Dunbarton Elementary School

*Pizza and
refreshments
will be served!*

Please join us for discussion on the update of the Dunbarton Master Plan! We are looking for your input as we develop a planning and development vision for Dunbarton over the next ten years.

This is an opportunity for residents to offer suggestions on important Town issues and to get involved in the community planning process. Topics to be discussed at the Visioning Session include Community Facilities, Transportation, Natural Features, Housing, Economics, and Land Use.

Questions?

Please contact Stephen Laurin

(603) 774-3547 x106 • building@dunbartonnh.org

*Visioning Session postcard sent to all property owners in Town notifying
of the event*

mentioned that it would be beneficial to have a Town newsletter, dedicated website that reviewed news and events in Town as a way to be more informed and help more residents be involved.

DISCUSSION OF POPULATION TRENDS

Examining past and projected population growth and characteristics can be highly valuable to a community when determining if the community is adequately served. Evaluating community facilities, recreational facilities, and municipal utilities in comparison with past trends and projected populations can allow communities to be adequately served now and in future years.

HISTORIC TRENDS

As a population, Dunbarton has grown significantly since 1970. In Table 7.1, from 1970 to 1980, the Town grew by 42.3%, adding almost 350 residents during that decade. Between 1980 and 1990, the population continued to grow by 585 additional residents, a percent increase of 49.8%. From 1990 on, the population continued to grow but at a slightly slower rate, with a percent increase of 26.5% and 23.9% in 2000 and 2010. The number of housing units increased proportionately every decade between 1970 and 2010, with the exception of 1990, which had over twice the percent of previous decades increase with 58.9% (Table 7.1).

CURRENT TRENDS

Table 7.2 shows growth experienced by Dunbarton and its abutting communities from 2000 to 2010. All areas have experienced growth within the last decade, ranging from 3.5% in Hopkinton to 28.6% in New Boston. Dunbarton's percent increase was on the higher end of the range when comparing abutting communities, with 23.9%.

Table 7.1: Overall Population and Housing Growth Trends, 1970-2010

Growth	Population	Net Change		Housing Units	Net Change	
		#	%		#	%
1970 Census	825	NA	NA	354	NA	NA
1980 Census	1,174	349	42.3%	431	77	21.8%
1990 Census	1,759	585	49.8%	685	254	58.9%
2000 Census	2,226	467	26.5%	858	173	25.3%
2010 Census	2,758	532	23.9%	1,077	219	25.5%
Total Change 1970 – 2010	-	1,933	234.3%	-	723	204.2%

Sources: 1970-2010 US Census Population and Housing Unit Counts

Table 7.2: Population Increase of Dunbarton and Abutting Communities

Community	% Increase, 2000-2010
Bow	5.3%
Dunbarton	23.9%
Goffstown	4.3%
Hooksett	14.8%
Hopkinton	3.5%
New Boston	28.6%
Weare	13.0%

Source: 2000 & 2010 US Census

Figure 7.1 illustrates the Census population figures, by age groups, as shown in the Dunbarton Today Chapter. This reference is useful for determining the immediate needs of certain age groups, such as children and the elderly.

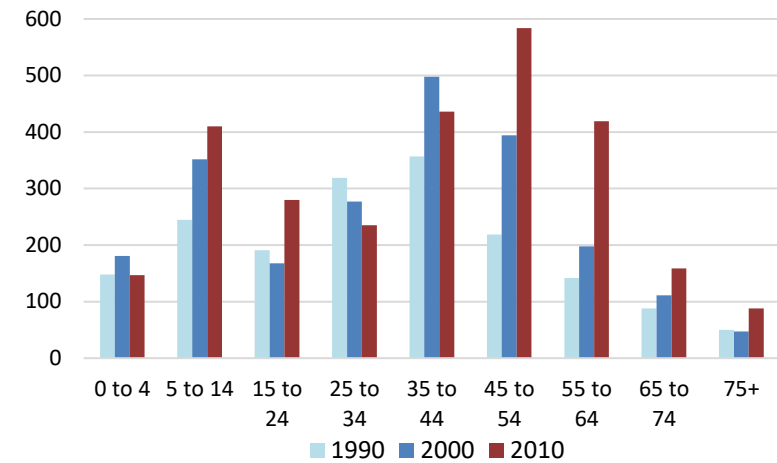
FUTURE PROJECTIONS

Excerpted from the “Dunbarton Today” Chapter, Table 7.3 projects future population growth for Dunbarton and abutting communities based upon the community’s historical share of the County’s population. These projections are of resident population and do not include seasonal or transient persons.

In 2017, the population of Dunbarton was estimated at 2,823 people, an increase of approximately 65 residents from 2010. Dunbarton is projected to experience a slightly higher increase in 2020, with a projected population of 2,947 residents over the five year period. This slowed rate of growth is expected to continue into 2040, with only approximately 555 new residents from the 2017 estimates.

All projections should be considered subject to modification as no methodology is perfect enough to predict what an actual future count would be. Projections are based on existing trends that can modify or change suddenly. Dunbarton Today also notes these projections have assumptions built in that may change or modify over time, particularly as the numbers reach out to 2040.

Figure 7.1: Dunbarton’s Population by Age, 1990, 2000, and 2010



Source: 1990, 2000, and 2010 US Census

Table 7.3: Population Projections for Dunbarton and Abutting Communities

Dunbarton and Abutting Communities						
Towns	2017	2020	2025	2030	2035	2040
Bow	7,790	7,842	8,065	8,349	8,566	8,708
Dunbarton	2,823	2,947	3,129	3,239	3,323	3,378
Goffstown	17,838	18,051	18,335	18,689	18,911	18,988
Hooksett	14,528	15,403	16,508	17,089	17,532	17,823
Hopkinton	5,640	5,624	5,697	5,897	6,050	6,151
New Boston	5,674	5,818	6,214	6,334	6,409	6,435
Weare	8,860	9,051	9,334	9,514	9,627	9,667

Source: NH OSI 2017 Population Estimates and 2016 Population Projections

INVENTORY OF COMMUNITY FACILITIES

An examination of each of the departments in Dunbarton which serves the population will be undertaken in this section. Each department will be inventoried for its statistics, equipment, and staffing and facilities needs. Recommendations are made based upon the information compiled. Locations of community facilities are displayed on the ***Community Facilities Map***.

CEMETERIES

All of Dunbarton's cemeteries are active at this time. Two cremains gardens are available for residents in Page's Corner Cemetery and in Center Cemetery.

Table 7.4: Public and Private Cemeteries

Cemetery	Location
East Dunbarton Cemetery	Robert Rogers Road
Dunbarton Center Cemetery	Route 13, Stark Highway
North Dunbarton Cemetery (Pages Corner Cemetery)	Route 13, Stark Highway
Stark Cemetery (Private)	Mansion Road

Source: 2004 Dunbarton Master Plan

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CEMETERIES

- Acquire additional appropriate cemetery space for the Town.
- Develop expansion criteria for Dunbarton Center Cemetery.

TOWN OFFICES/TOWN HALL

The Town Offices are located at 1011 School Street. They provide space for numerous Town employees, including the Town Administrator, Town Clerk, Town Tax Collector, Building Inspector and Welfare/Health and Human Service Office.

The current office area encompasses 2,300 square feet. Staff report the need for more space for records/storage, computer equipment and private meeting space. As the demand for service grows, a larger space will be required for additional staff and their meeting/equipment needs. Staff have reported that a large parcel of land has recently been purchased by an individual who indicated they would be willing to work with the Town in the future for relocation/development of Town departments.

Table 7.5 outlines current equipment in the Town Hall. No additional equipment needs have been identified, but current equipment should be replaced as needed.

The staff is currently able to work efficiently with the present staffing levels. If, however, more demand is placed on the existing staff, longer hours of operations may be needed possibly necessitating that additional part-time staff is hired, or current part-time positions become full-time.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE TOWN OFFICES/TOWN HALL

- Build a Town Office Complex in Dunbarton Center that is ADA accessible and conforms to IBC codes, yet maintains consistency with the current structure and rural character of Dunbarton Center.
- Maintain necessary work and storage environments for Town Office staff.
- Look for suitable land for the development of a new Town Office as the Town's needs expand.

Table 7.5: Town Office Equipment

Name of Equipment	Type of Equipment	Condition	Year Acquired	Replacement Year	Replacement Cost	Priority For Replacement
HP 4200 Laser Printer	Printer	Fair	2002	2022	\$2,400	Low
HP Laser 6P	Printer	Good	2000	2020	\$500	Med
Xerox 6204	Wide Format Copier	Good	2007	2027	\$15,000	Low
Xerox 7225	Copier	Excellent	2017	2027	\$6,000	Low
Panasonic	Telephones (8)	Good	N/A	N/A	\$1,000	Low
Dell	Computers (9)	Good	Various	Various	\$8,000	Low
Biz Hub 4750	Copier	Excellent	2017	2027	\$2,500	Low
Biz Hub 20	Printer	Fair	N/A	N/A	\$350	High
Biz Hub 200	Copier	Fair	2008	2020	\$3,500	High
HP	Printer	Good	N/A	N/A	\$350	Med
Lexmark T640	Printer	Good	N/A	N/A	\$350	Med
Brother	Typewriter	Good	N/A	N/A	\$75	Low
Canon	Calculator (4)	Good	Various	Various	\$300	Low
NeoPost	Postal Meter	Excellent	N/A	N/A	rental	Low
Swintec 2500	Typewriter	Good	N/A	N/A	\$75	Low

Source: Town Office Staff

DUNBARTON TOWN HALL RESTORATION PROJECT & COMMITTEE

Since 2009, the Dunbarton Town Hall Restoration Committee has been working towards renovations on the Dunbarton Town Hall. Built in 1909, this 109 year old building was the third town hall constructed in Town, as the previous burned in a fire. The building stands two stories in height, with a large voting hall, main entrance and stairs, kitchen, and the Town Library on the first floor. The second floor was constructed as the Town Hall meeting space, but is rarely used today as it does not meet necessary accessibility and building codes.

The Dunbarton Town Hall Restoration Project is a 501(c)(3) that meets quarterly and oversees money raised for the restoration project. Phase I and II were completed in 2012 and 2014, though Phase III is incomplete as it was not passed by voters at Town Meeting in 2015. The Committee continues to meet with focus on community outreach and pursuing funds. Additional information can be found on the Town's website.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

The Highway Department duties include, but are not limited to, all aspects of road maintenance and tree removal in Town right of way. The Highway Garage is located on Everett Road and is approximately 3,600 square feet in size. Additionally, the Highway Department operates the Town's Salt Shed which is approximately 2,400 square feet in size.

The office space and storage/garage needs of the Highway Department are currently sufficient. The Department does not foresee the need to expand its facilities in the next few years. In addition, environmentally safe storage of de-icing materials and road salt should be continued to be followed.

Table 7.6 shows existing equipment of the Highway Department. In the coming years, department vehicles and equipment should be updated as needed. A Highway Vehicle Capital Reserve Fund was established in 2012 for yearly contribution on the Town warrant. Department should also continue to participate in the Town's

Capital Improvement Program so that larger price items can be budgeted for appropriately so to lessen the impact on taxpayers. The highest priority is the replacement of the 1999 International dump truck that is currently in poor condition.

Currently, the Department employs one full-time employee and employs independent contractors for winter and summer maintenance.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

- Purchase necessary equipment so that the Department can maintain a high level of service on Town roads and fireponds.
- Evaluate the need for additional personnel to maintain high level of maintenance.
- Evaluate whether it would be more efficient for the Town to hire a full-time Public Works Director.

Table 7.6: Existing Highway Department Equipment

Name of Equipment	Type of Equipment	Condition	Number of Miles or Hours	Year Acquired	Anticipated Replacement Year	Estimated Replacement Cost	Priority
2015 Ford 550	1 Ton Dump	Excellent	42,500	2015	2025	\$95,000	High
1999 International	Dump Truck w/ Plow wing	Poor	70,000	1999	2019	\$165,000	High
2000 Chipper	Chipper	Good	N/A	2004	N/A	\$22,000	High
Power America	Pressure Washer	Good	N/A	2002	2007	\$2,500	Medium
1987 CAT	Grader	Good	8,000	2007	2025	\$300,000	High

Source: Road Agent

SOLID WASTE/TRANSFER STATION

The Solid Waste/Transfer Station is located at 131 Concord Stage Road and is roughly 3,200 square feet in size. The Transfer Station collects scrap metal, construction and demolition debris, household, yard and recyclable waste. In 2017, 870.34 tons of trash was collected. The Town of Dunbarton does not offer curb-side pick-up.

Currently, the department has one full-time supervisor and seven part-time employees. As of recently, there has been some turnover in Transfer Station personnel which has been challenging. One potential solution to this is to convert some of the part-time positions to fewer full-time positions. The need for additional staff would depend on future growth and future needs of the Town.

Recent improvements to the facility include roof repairs and electrical upgrades. Other future facility needs include office space for employees, a lunch room, additional storage, heating in work areas, and housing for vehicles.

Existing Transfer Station Equipment is listed in Table 7.7. In 2014, a Transfer Station Capital Revenue Fund was established so to fund future vehicle and equipment improvements, upgrades, and purchases. The Capital Improvement Plan recommends an annual contribution of \$31,000 to this fund. Future equipment needs include a loader/backhoe, can crusher, glass crusher, facility generator, horizontal baler and additional dumpsters.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE TRANSFER STATION

- Evaluate personnel needs and consider adding additional full time employees.
- Maintain necessary work and storage environments for staff.
- Evaluate the cost effectiveness (including staff and equipment demands) of accepting more materials.

Table 7.7: Existing Transfer Station Equipment

Name of Equipment	Type of Equipment	Condition	Number of Miles or Hours	Year Acquired	Anticipated Replacement Year	Estimated Replacement Cost	Priority
Chevy 2500 HD	Pick-up Truck	Excellent	N/A	2019	2029	\$50,000	Low
Mack Roll-Off	Truck	Good	98,900	2002	2027	\$250,000	Low
Philadelphia Tramrail	Baler	Good	N/A	2001	N/A	\$24,000	Low
Philadelphia Tramrail	Baler	Fair	N/A	1991	N/A	\$24,000	Low
Philadelphia Tramrail	Baler	Good	N/A	2012	N/A	\$24,000	Low
Philadelphia Tramrail	Baler	Fair	N/A	2012	N/A	\$24,000	Low
Orwak	Compactor	Good	N/A	2001	N/A	N/A	N/A
Accurate	Compactor	Good	N/A	2002	2022	\$60,000	Low
50 yd. (5) 43 yd. (2)	Containers	Good	N/A	2015	2025	\$70,000	Low
New Holland L170	Skid Steer	Good	3332	2007	2022	\$50,000	Low
Mettler Toledo	Floor Scale	Good	N/A	2007	2025	\$10,000	Low

Source: Transfer Station Supervisor

FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Dunbarton Volunteer Fire Department provides fire protection and emergency ambulance service for the Town of Dunbarton and other towns through mutual aid agreements. The Fire Station is located at 18 Robert Rogers Road. The combined square footage of both the garage and office space is 4,448 square feet.

Currently, the department is comprised of 35 part-time employees. It is anticipated that an additional two full-time firefighters /EMTs will be needed as the population continues to grow.

In planning for the future, the department will need a larger office space to accommodate more employees, as well as interior renovations to the current Fire Station. Recently in 2017, energy efficient lighting was installed.

In 2014, the Fire Department Emergency Vehicle Capital Reserve Fund was established for the purchase of a new Fire Engine in 2021. Annual deposits are made as part of the Town warrant at Town Meeting. Most recently in 2017, an older police cruiser was transferred and reused as the new Fire Department Command vehicle. In planning for the future, the Town should continue to follow an updated Capital Improvements Program so to have minimal impact on residents and taxpayers when new or replacement vehicles and equipment is needed. The Department should also continue to apply for grants and other funding sources when available.

Figure 7.2 shows the number of reported Fire Department Incidents between 2012 and 2017. Overall, the number of incidents has

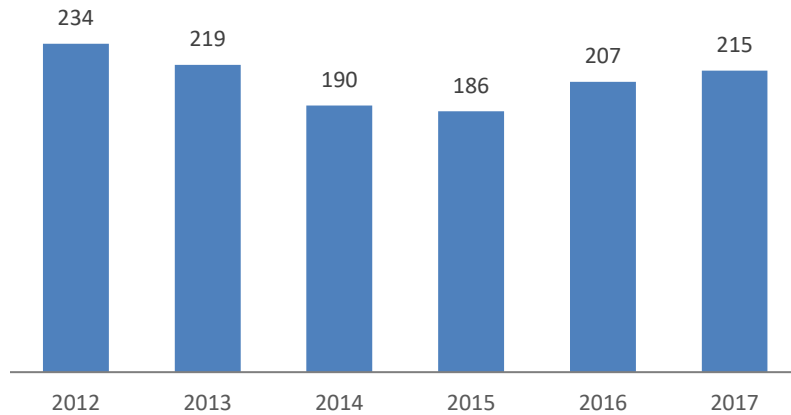
Table 7.8: Existing Fire Department Equipment

Name of Equipment	Type of Equipment	Condition	Number of Miles or Hours	Year Acquired	Anticipated Replacement Year	Estimated Replacement Cost	Priority
N/A	Engine	Excellent	N/A	2005	2030	\$500,000	High
1991 Mack	Engine	Good	22,793	1991	2021	\$500,000	High
1996 Chevy	Tanker	Good	8,007	1996	2020	\$475,000	High
2000 Mack	Tanker	Good	9,406	2000	2025	\$425,000	High
2005 KME	Engine	Excellent	12,797	2005	2030	\$500,000	High
2010 Chevy	Ambulance	Good	18,343	2010	2020	\$225,000	High
2010 Ford	Forestry	Good	102,370	2016	2025	\$20,000	Medium
1999 Avon	Boat & Trailer	Fair	N/A	N/A	2026	\$10,000	Medium
Zoll	Heart Monitor-Defib	Excellent	N/A	2018	2025	\$35,000	High
1987 GMC	Rescue	Good	16,000	1987	2021	\$200,000	Medium
2013 Chevy	Command Car	Good	90,000	2018	2020	Unknown- Comes from PD	N/A
2016 Kawasaki	Mule UTV	Excellent	N/A	2016	N/A	\$18,000	Medium
Dell Computer	Computer	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Source: Dunbarton Fire Department; Fire Chief

decreased since 2012, with most recently having 215 incidents in 2017. In most cases, the increase in calls for service are medically related. At this time, Dunbarton does not have a separate rescue squad. Medical calls are handled by the Fire Department.

Figure 7.2: Number of Reported Fire Department Incidents, 2012-2017



Source: Dunbarton Annual Town Reports

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

- Have Highway Department regularly maintain and keep Fire Ponds accessible year-round.
- Evaluate yearly the equipment / personnel needs of the department to ensure that department can meet the special needs of the Town, such as senior citizen housing development.
- Pursue full-time staffing level for Fire and Rescue Department.
- Hire Fire Inspector to expand department's non-emergency services.

DUNBARTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

The Dunbarton Elementary School is located at 20 Robert Rogers Road. At the 2018 Town Meeting, residents approved a warrant article for an addition and renovations that include interior/exterior renovations, updates to mechanical, electrical and plumbing, and site work. This work will help to upgrade aging school facilities and equipment, provide one additional classroom to ensure adequate space for all-day kindergarten, provide additional office and small instructional spaces to meet the changing needs of the school, and enhance control over access and security at the main entry.

In addition to the addition and renovations, residents voted to deposit \$240,000 into the existing Dunbarton School Capital Reserve Fund that was established in 1991. As discussed at the Town Meeting, residents anticipate to make this deposit annually so to be prepared for projects and improvements in the future.

There are no staffing needs at this time. Additional staffing is usually dictated by an increase in the student population or for custodial staffing needs by an increase in space or a desire on the part of the community to improve services.

Table 7.9: Current Elementary School Staffing Levels

Staff Type	Number
Professional Staff <i>Includes teachers, counselors, health staff, principals</i>	33
Support Staff <i>Includes assistants, administrative & service staff</i>	12
Total	45

Source: <https://www.dunbarton.k12.nh.us/>

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR DUNBARTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

- Support Dunbarton Elementary School as per School Board Schedule.

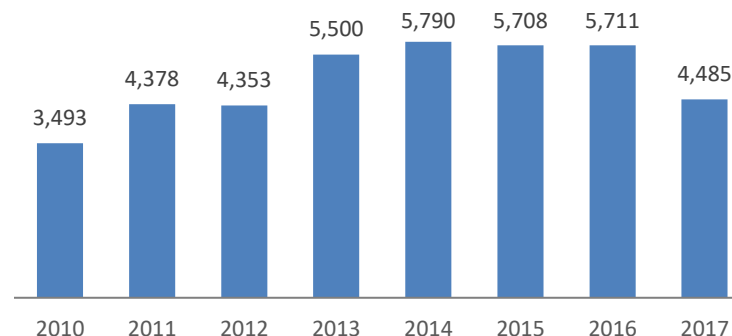
POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Police Department is located on 18 Robert Rogers Road and is approximately 1,760 square feet in size. Currently, this location is adequate for the current needs of the Department, but additional facilities needs may be needed in the future as the needs of the community change.

The Police Department currently employs four full-time and seven part-time officers. There is currently no auxiliary, secretary, or chaplain position filled. Moving forward, the department anticipates it will need a full-time office manager and additional staff as necessary. The Department continues to develop an organizational culture that actively pursues excellence in all that it does.

An incident is any activity warranting police attention, whether a motor vehicle stop, an arrest, roadside assistance, or a dog complaint. Prior to 1996, these records cannot be found in the Town Reports. It should also be noted that prior to 2001, the department did not have a full-time chief and the NH State Police handled many of the calls for service. Between 2010 and 2017, the Police Department had an increase in the number of reported incidents, though quite a few less were reported in 2017 compared to the years immediately prior (Figure 7.3).

Figure 7.3: Reported Police Department Incidents, 2010-2017



Source: Created by CNHRPC, Data from Dunbarton Annual Reports

In addition, the Departments offers a Vacant House Check program, medical or mental health registration, and participates in the Concord regional Crimeline.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

- Hire additional full-time and part-time staff as needed.
- Continue to rotate and acquire vehicles on a timely basis to minimize excessive repair and safety issues.
- Upgrade current Police facilities to include a Sally Port, employee shower, etc. as needed.

Table 7.10: Existing Police Department Equipment

Name of Equipment	Type of Equipment	Condition	Number of Miles or Hours	Year Acquired	Anticipated Replacement Year	Estimated Replacement Cost
2017 Ford Police Interceptor SUV	Patrol Vehicle	Good	36,000	2017	2024	\$24,000
2017 Ford Police Interceptor SUV	Patrol Vehicle	Good	51,000	2016	2023	\$45,000
2013 Ford Police Interceptor SUV	Patrol Vehicle	Fair	125,000	2012	2021	\$45,000
2008 Ford Taurus	Police Chief Vehicle	Fair	86,000	2009	2022	\$35,000
2008 Ford Crown Victoria	Police Details & Special Events	Poor	N/A	2008	When no longer serviceable or 2021	In 2021, it will be replaced with the 2013 Interceptor SUV

Source: Dunbarton Police Department

DUNBARTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Dunbarton Public Library is located in 2,500 square feet of the Town Hall Building, 1004 School Street. The library collection contains just over 15,000 volumes. These include fiction, nonfiction, audio books and DVDs for children and adults, and local newspapers and magazines. Online resources available 24/7 include the library card catalog and databases and downloadable content through the New Hampshire State Library. The library offers educational programs for children such as story times and playdates, Reading to Therapy Dogs, Summer Learning activities, and Maker Toy parties. Programs for adults include monthly book discussions, life-long learning activities and opportunities, and a very popular weekly Men's Coffee group. Internet access (including wi-fi) is available.

The current occupancy load of the library is 25 people. Attendance far exceeds that for each program we offer. A potential location for these programs could be the upstairs Town Hall space.

In August 2018, the Library Board of Trustees voted to make the Dunbarton Public Library Director's position full-time (35 hours per week). This is the first full-time position at the library and is expected to be adequate staffing for the next few years.

The Dunbarton Public Library is growing as a well-used and appreciated resource. In 2017, visits to the library by adults and children increased nearly 30% over 2016. Circulation statistics also saw an increase, most especially in adult fiction and children's picture books and juvenile fiction. New members also increased.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE DUNBARTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

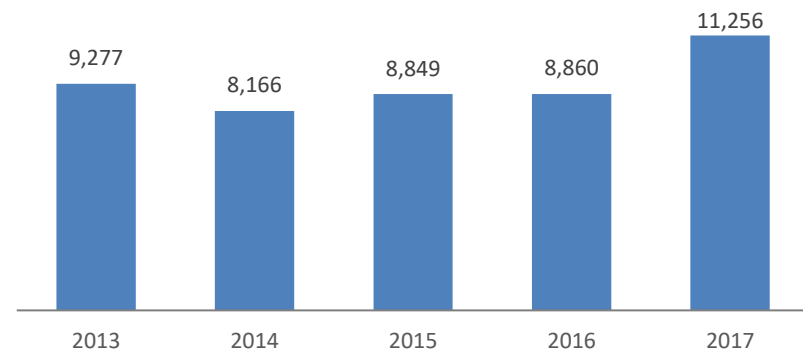
- Increase staff workspace and storage.
- Acquire additional space to accommodate Library programs and events and the number of attendees they draw.

Table 7.11: Existing Library Equipment

Name of Equipment	Type of Equipment	Condition	Year Acquired	Anticipated Replacement Year
HP Intel Core 17	Computer	Excellent	2017	7 yrs
HP Intel Core 17	Computer	Excellent	2017	7 yrs
HP Intel Core 15	Computer	Excellent	2017	7 yrs
HP Intel Core 13	Computer	Excellent	2017	7 yrs
Canon C250iF	Leased	Excellent	2016	7 yrs
Canon MG5220	Inkjet	Excellent	Unknown	Unknown
Dell Sonic Wall	Firewall	Excellent	2017	7 yrs
ENGenius	Wireless	Excellent	2017	7 yrs

Source: Dunbarton Town Librarian

Figure 7.4: Library Circulation, 2013-2017



Source: Dunbarton Town Librarian

RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

An important component to a high quality of life, recreation provides a much-needed means of stress reduction and physical well-being. Recreation facilities also provide residents with a place to interact and create a sense of community that is beneficial to residents of all ages. Locations of select recreational facilities are displayed on the ***Recreational Facilities Map***.

WHAT THE COMMUNITY SAID...

During the Town’s visioning session, the Town’s rural setting and natural features were highly appreciated by those in attendance with many stating it was the main reason they live in Town. The variety of natural features in Town, including open space, conservation land, scenic vistas, trails, and water bodies, were mentioned as specific resources that are highly valued and often used for recreation, including hiking and kayaking. Additionally, many participants mentioned Clough State Park for its recreation opportunities.

Additionally, respondents to the Community Survey indicated strong support of the development of a trail network in Town, particularly one that would be intended for non-motorized used. Many suggested uses for the trails would be walking, hiking, horse-back riding, and cross-country skiing. One concern discussed was the maintenance of these trails, including what organization would be responsible and where funding would come from.

INDOOR RECREATIONAL RESOURCES

Table 7.12 show a current list of indoor recreational resources in Dunbarton. Both the Community Survey and Community Visioning Session yielded hopes for a Community Center for use by Town residents. Currently, no such facility exists.

Table 7.12: Indoor Recreational Resources in Dunbarton

Name
Dunbarton Elementary School Community Facility (including Gym/Large Multi-Use Room, and Auditorium/Assembly Hall)
Dunbarton Library
Congregational Church

Source: 2004 Dunbarton Master Plan

The Dunbarton Elementary School has a Community Facility with industrial kitchen available. The school gym is also used by groups for programming. The Dunbarton Library offers various programs a year for residents of all ages, including book discussion, special topic groups, and children’s activity programs. The Congregational Church regularly hosts the Girl Scout and Brownie troops as well as special programs such as the Holiday Dinner for Seniors that is sponsored by the Dunbarton Police Department.

OUTDOOR RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

As an important part of a healthy community, recreational facilities play a key role in residents’ high quality of life. Residents have the opportunity to participate in various recreation opportunities, such as hiking and swimming, in Clough State Park, Dunbarton Town Forest lots or in various conservation lands across Town. Strong appreciation was not only shown for these resources through the public input process, but also for the development of additional recreational resources in Town.

CLOUGH STATE PARK & THE HOPKINTON-EVERETT MULTI-USE TRAIL SYSTEM

Clough State Park is located on the shore of Everett Lake in nearby Weare and includes a sandy beach, playing fields, and large picnic areas. Other recreational opportunities in the Park include canoeing, kayaking, fishing, and hiking.

Neaby Everett Lake is the Hopkinton-Everett Trails Area that spans both Dunbarton and the Town of Weare. These 26 miles of multi-use trails are a great spot for hiking or mountain biking. A trails map is available online at the NH State Parks website and parking for these trails is located along Ray Road in Dunbarton.

DUNBARTON TOWN FORESTS

Dunbarton has a Town Forest Committee to oversee the Town Forest lots. This includes a total of 469 acres, including Stark Pond, Winslow, Kimball Pond Area, Charlie Little, Old Hopkinton Road, and Mansion Road. The Committee also supports the costs for the tree care on the Town Common.

The Town also has a Capital Reserve Account for maintenance and upkeep that was established in 1930.

KUNCANOWET TOWN FOREST AND CONSERVATION AREA

The Kuncanowet Town Forest and Conservation Area includes seven miles of maintained trails and supports a wide diversity of plants, animals, land, and water features. Permitted uses include non-motorized recreation including hiking, birding, tracking, snow shoeing and cross-country skiing. Access to trails is available at the end of Holiday Shore Drive.

The field on Gorham Pond Road is currently in poor condition since it hasn't been limed or fertilized in many years. It is now overgrown by aggressive plants such as poison ivy, bittersweet and sumac. On the advice of the UNH Cooperative Extension, the Committee

purchased clean wood ash to upgrade the field, in addition to a "brontosaurus" machine that was brought in to clear brush back to the wall surrounding the fields.

A capital reserve fund was established in 2012 for maintenance and upkeep of the forest and conservation area.

CONSERVATION LANDS

Dunbarton is a community filled with forests, farms, hills, abundant water resources, and open space that encourage natural resource stewardship. Conservation lands help provide wildlife habitat, water supply protection, protection from development and opportunities for recreation.

Nearly 5,400 acres in Dunbarton are conservation land consisting of both fee-owned, state and conservation easement parcels. Easement holders in Dunbarton are the US Army Corps of Engineers, NH Department of Resources and Economic Development, Five Rivers Conservation Trust, Society for the Preservation of NH Forests, Piscataquog Land Conservancy and the Town of Dunbarton. These acres can be seen in Table 7.13. More information on the numerous conservation lands in Dunbarton can be found in the Natural Resources Chapter.

Table 7.13: Conservation Lands and Town-Owned Lands

Primary Protecting Agency	Size (Acres)
US Army Corps of Engineers/NH Department of Resources and Economic Development	1,188
Five Rivers Conservation Trust	560
Society for the Preservation of NH Forests	466
Piscataquog Land Conservancy	13
Town of Dunbarton	3,168

Source: GRANIT Conservation Lands Database and Dunbarton Conservation Commission

Town-owned conservation lands are open to the public for low-impact recreational use, such as hiking, bird watching, snow shoeing, and cross-country skiing. No open fires, dumping, or ATVs are allowed. Snowmobiling is allowed on designated trails found on some conservation properties.

The Town should work to advertise appropriate public access to parcels owned by SPNHF, Dunbarton, or other agencies to advertise the outdoor recreational opportunities for residents and to indicate the specific uses for each property.

RECREATION COMMITTEE

The Dunbarton Recreation Committee sponsors the youth sports programs in Dunbarton to provide an opportunity for children to have fun, learn new skills, and develop character and self-esteem. They focus on sportsmanship, teamwork, respect and self-discipline.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR RECREATION FACILITIES

- Pursue constructing or renovating a structure to be used as a community facility – particularly with a Senior Center component.
- Acquire land for playing fields.

SOURCES FOR FINANCING FACILITY NEEDS AND IMPROVEMENTS

The following is an inventory of alternative financing sources and strategies Dunbarton could employ to help pay for needed staff,

equipment, and facilities in various Departments. These suggestions should be reviewed by Department Heads and the Board of Selectmen as ways to meet the goals and recommendations outlined in this Chapter.

USER FEES

During the 1980s, the concept of user fees for the funding of numerous public facilities and services was widely adopted throughout the nation. Several communities in New Hampshire help finance community facilities and programs through the adoption of user fees. Examples of user fees in New Hampshire include water district charges and transfer station fees.

LICENSE AND PERMIT FEES

Fees, such as building permit, zoning application, and planning board subdivision and site plan fees, are all examples of permit fees. Such fees are highly equitable and are successful for minimizing the burden on taxpayers for specific programs such as building code enforcement.

GRANTS-IN-AID

New Hampshire communities are eligible for various grants-in-aid for financing school construction and improvements. Examples include:

- Foundation Aid to help schools provide minimum education
- Building Aid
- Handicap Education Aid
- Area Vocational School Tuition and Transportation Aid
- Sweepstakes Aid
- Nutrition Grants
- Driver Education

SALE OF SURPLUS TOWN PROPERTY AND LAND

Sale of Town-owned property is another viable option for raising funds to pay for new community facilities. Parcels that should be liquidated include those that have no significant conservation or cultural value, or limited potential for future facilities.

CAPITAL RESERVE FUNDS

Capital reserve funds are similar to savings accounts, as they allow the Town to contribute money to a specific account for the purpose of purchasing or defraying the cost of significant items such as school additions, highway equipment, fire trucks, and municipal facilities.

BONDS

Bonding is a popular method of raising revenue to construct or purchase Town equipment and facilities. Though viable, the Town should avoid encumbering too much debt, as it can limit the ability of the Town to fund future, unidentified needs.

GROWTH MANAGEMENT

The purpose of this type of ordinance is to regulate and control the timing of development in accordance with the objectives of both the Master Plan and the Capital Improvements Program. Growth Management Ordinances are useful when growth is occurring as they allow Town Departments to manage growth in a more orderly and manageable way. This allows future capital needs planning and budgeting to happen in a proactive way, as opposed to reacting to large, unanticipated growth in any certain year

PRIVATE FOUNDATIONS / TRUSTS

For years, communities have been the beneficiaries of trusts and donations created by private citizens and foundations. The Town

should actively solicit such resources for assistance regarding the development or expansion of recreational facilities and programs.

TOWN APPROPRIATIONS

In addition to grants, community groups can also seek appropriations through the annual budget process to pay for the expansion of recreational or community facilities.

VOLUNTEERS

Dunbarton should continue to seek the help of volunteers and publicly recognize their efforts.

UTILITIES

Utilities are also essential services that are delivered to residents through private companies. Population, density, and usage are driving forces which determine the level of services a municipality requires. This section will examine the current conditions of the utilities in Dunbarton and propose measures to enhance or expand services if necessary. Selected Town utilities are depicted on the *Utilities Map*.

BROADBAND

The term broadband commonly refers to high-speed Internet access that is always on and faster than the traditional dial-up access. Broadband includes several high-speed transmission technologies such as: Digital Subscriber Line (DSL), Cable Modem, Fiber, Wireless, Satellite or Broadband over Powerlines (BPL).

As shown in Tables 7.14- 7.16, there are various options for broadband service, however, all with different availability, speed, price, and type of service. The primary provider in Dunbarton is Granite State Communications (Dunbarton Telephone Company, Inc.), offering DSL-based broadband to most residents and fiber

internet to some parts of Dunbarton. Currently, work is in process of installing fiber across Town, and will soon be able to provide fiber to their entire service area.

Table 7.14: Residential Broadband Service

Provider	Type of Service	Fastest Speed	Coverage
Hughes Net	Satellite	15 Mbps	100%
Viasat	Satellite	25 Mbps	100%
Xfinity	Cable	200 Mbps	28%
Dunbarton Telephone Company, Inc.	DSL & Fiber	100 Mbps (Fiber) 14 Mbps (DSL)	28% (Fiber) 98 % (DSL)
Consolidated Communications	DSL	7 Mbps	15%

Table 7.15: Business Broadband Service

Provider	Type of Service	Fastest Speed	Availability
Comcast Business	Cable	200 Mbps	35%
FirstLight	Fiber	1,000 Mbps	25%

Table 7.16: Mobile Internet Service

Provider	Type of Service	Fastest Speed	Availability
AT&T	Mobile	10 Mbps	100.0%
US Cellular	Mobile	3.0 Mbps	100.0%
Verizon	Mobile	10 Mbps	100.0
Sprint	Mobile	6.0 Mbps	64.8%
T-Mobile	Mobile	10 Mbos	65%

Source: broadbandnow.com for Tables 7.14- 7.16

TELEPHONE SERVICE

Local telephone service is provided by Dunbarton Telephone Company; this carrier is an Incumbent Local Exchange Carrier (ILEC) and is regulated by the New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission.

TELEVISION

Cable Television is available in Dunbarton through DirecTV (satellite), Xfinity (cable), and Dunbarton Telephone Company, Inc. (internet protocol television).

ELECTRICITY

The majority of electricity in Dunbarton is provided by Eversource, who serve a total of 510,000 electric customers in 211 communities within New Hampshire.

WATER SUPPLY

The majority of Dunbarton's water is supplied through private water supply systems (commonly referred to as wells) directly to households and businesses. According to data gathered through the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) OneStop, there are over 700 wells registered in Dunbarton. Additionally, water can be acquired through public water supply systems, which are typically found in densely populated communities, and provide water via piping for a large area with a high number of homes and businesses. Given Dunbarton's dispersed development patterns and absence of centrally located aquifers, it is unlikely public water supplies will be developed to serve residential properties in the near future. The Town's dependence on wells reinforces the importance of good homeowner and municipal practices, particularly those relating to water and waste management and transportation corridors, including road salt use and storage, in order to protect groundwater. Information is available from the NHDES.

The NHDES recommends testing well water every three to five years. High levels of both arsenic and radon have been documented in Dunbarton wells, and homeowners should include both contaminants in well water quality test runs. Treatment systems are available for both contaminants. Additional information on water supply and threats to water quality can be found in the Natural Resources Chapter.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR UTILITIES

- Pursue wireless technology for Town access.
- Encourage landowners to test their wells on a regular basis.

SUMMARY

The recommendations made in this Chapter address some of the changes that could potentially be made to community facilities to help maintain a high level of service over the upcoming years. It is evident that projected needs for many departments include additional staff, new or expanded facilities, or equipment upgrades. Although many of these requests have already been planned for, Dunbarton needs to be proactive in its financing and planning to ensure that community services remain at their current level of quality and that the residents are not burdened with large tax increases to pay for such services all at once.

As the population and demographics of Dunbarton grow and change over time, it is important that the community make adjustments in its delivery of services to meet those changes. Efficient community facilities and services that meet the needs of the public are important for maintaining and improving quality of life for residents. In the future, community facilities will continue to play a crucial role in Dunbarton's ability to attract potential newcomers as well as retain current residents.

CHAPTER OBJECTIVES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

OBJECTIVE 1:

To ensure that the Town of Dunbarton has the capability to meet present and future community facility needs.

- Acquire additional appropriate cemetery space for the Town. [Cemeteries]
- Develop expansion criteria for Dunbarton Center Cemetery. [Cemeteries]
- Build a Town Office Complex in Dunbarton Center that is ADA accessible and conforms to IBC codes, yet maintains consistency with the current structure and rural character of Dunbarton Center. [Town Offices]
- Maintain necessary work and storage environments for Town Office staff. [Town Offices]
- Look for suitable land for the development of a new Town Office as the Town's needs expand. [Town Offices]
- Purchase necessary equipment so that the Department can maintain a high level of service on Town roads and fire ponds. [Highway Department]
- Evaluate the need for additional personnel to maintain high level of maintenance. [Highway Department]
- Evaluate whether it would be more efficient for the Town to hire a full-time Public Works Director. [Highway Department]
- Evaluate the personnel needs and consider adding additional full time employees. [Transfer Station]

- Maintain necessary work and storage environment for staff. [Transfer Station]
- Evaluate the cost effectiveness (including staff and equipment demands) of accepting more materials. [Transfer Station]
- Have Highway Department regularly maintain and keep Fire Ponds accessible year-round. [Fire Department]
- Evaluate yearly the equipment / personnel needs of the department to ensure that department can meet the special needs of the Town, such as senior citizen housing development. [Fire Department]
- Pursue full-time staffing level for Fire and Rescue Department. [Fire Department]
- Hire Fire Inspector to expand department's non-emergency services. [Fire Department]
- Hire additional full-time and part-time staff as needed. [Police Department]
- Continue to rotate and acquire vehicles on a timely basis to minimize excessive repair and safety issues. [Police Department]
- Upgrade current Police facilities to include a Sally Port, employee shower, etc. as needed. [Police Department]
- Increase Library staff workspace and storage. [Library]
- Acquire additional space to accommodate Library programs and events and the number of attendees they draw. [Library]

- Support Dunbarton Elementary School as per School Board Schedule. [Dunbarton Elementary School]

OBJECTIVE 2:

To provide recreational opportunities that will meet the needs of all Town residents.

- Pursue constructing or renovating a structure to be used as a community facility – particularly with a Senior Center component. [Recreation Facilities]
- Acquire land for playing fields. [Recreation Facilities]

OBJECTIVE 3:

To have the Town of Dunbarton pursue the availability of competitive utility technology to meet the current communication needs of Town residents.

- Pursue wireless technology for Town access. [Utilities]
- Encourage landowners to test their wells on a regular basis. [Utilities]