



April 22, 2021

Dear Town Meeting Members

RE: Capital Projects Update

The Capital Planning Committee (CPC) is pleased to provide a report of the completed and ongoing capital projects. The CPC will be starting the next capital cycle this July for the development of the FY23 Capital Improvement Program. Although the capital needs of the Town greatly exceed the financial resources available the CPC is extremely grateful to Town Meeting and the Select Board for their continued support in funding projects. Special thanks to the residents of the Town for supporting the various overrides both debt exclusions and general that have contributed greatly to the funding available for our capital needs.

We are pleased to present to the Spring 2021 Town Meeting the following projects:

Article 15 Transfer Station - An appropriation request for \$201,200 to complete the engineering specifications for the much needed improvements to the Transfer Station Facility. Once design is complete we will be returning to Town Meeting and requesting construction funding.

Article 16 Waterfield Road/Church Street Intersection – This appropriation of \$305,000 will be used to supplement a previous appropriation (Fall 2019) to reconstruct the Waterfield Road/Church Street Intersection. The Select Board has indicated this intersection upgrade is their highest traffic improvement project priority.

Article 17 Repair/Replacement Main Street Bridge Railing – Working with the Winchester Historical Commission it was decided due to the historical significance of the railing that it would be repaired/replaced with an in kind railing. The appropriation request for this project is \$270,000 and will allow for the replacement of the top railing and repairs to the remaining structure.

Article 18 Installation of additional culverts behind the Muraco School - The installation of the Muraco Culvert is the last flood mitigation project. The motion under this article appropriates \$9.11M for this project. The Fall 2020 Town Meeting appropriated \$400,000 for the engineering/permitting. The CPC met with the Select Board regarding funding options for this project and it was decided that due to the cost of the project that it would be appropriate to fund it through a debt exclusion override. As everyone is aware the voters approved the question on March 30th. Due to the long permitting process the funds for the construction will not be borrowed until 18-24 months from now.

Article 19 Immediate Repairs Muraco Elementary School – With the town now in partnership with the Massachusetts School Building Authority for replacement of the Lynch Elementary School by 2025, Muraco's renovation/replacement is planned for between 2028 to 2030. This article provides for \$3.65M for the immediate and essential repairs to the Muraco Elementary School. Based on the current condition of the building it is essential that certain improvements be made to the building now in order to extend [its](#)

useful life until its planned renovation/replacement. The CPC met with the Select Board regarding funding options for this project and it was decided that due to the cost of the project that it would be appropriate to fund it through a debt exclusion override.

Other capital projects included on the yellow sheet are as follows:

- Town Hall/DPW Fire Alarm - \$350,000
- ADA Projects - \$125,000
- Public Safety Radios - \$125,000
- DPW Road and Sidewalks - \$500,000
- DPW Buildings Generator Replacement Engineering - \$20,000
- Police Chief Replacement Vehicle - \$65,000
- MS4 Year 4 - \$200,000

Cemetery Roads and Grounds - \$70,000

The last year and half has been an extremely busy and challenging time. We have however been extremely successful in implementing the previously appropriated projects. Below is a summary of the status of these projects:

Bridge Projects

Waterfield Bridge/Railing	Completed
Lake Street Engineering	Underway, construction 2021
Everett Ave Culvert	Engineering evaluation required 2021
Cross Street Bridge Engineering	Evaluation required 2021
Washington Street Bridge Engineering	Evaluation required 2021

Flood Mitigation

Swanton Street Culvert	Construction to commence May 2021 <i>(road to be closed June 15th-September 15th)</i>
Muraco Culvert Engineering/Permitting	Underway

Water & Sewer

Lead Service Replacement	On-going
North Reservoir Dam Engineering/ Permitting	Underway, Construction summer 2021
MS4 Storm Water 5 year Program, Year 4	\$200,000 FY22 STM
North Reservoir Saw Mill Spillway	Construction 2021
Phase II Sanitary Sewer Rehab. Project B	Construction to be completed
2021 Wildwood Rd Drainage Improvements	Completed

Traffic Related Projects

Main Street & Highland Reconstruction	Completed
McCall School Traffic Calming	Completed
Church Street/Waterfield Rd Intersection Construction	Funding request STM 2021 Woodside
Road/Wildwood Street Design	Underway
Vinson Owen Safe Streets (SRTs)	Underway
DPW Roads & Sidewalks	On-going \$500K funding request STM 2021
Waterfield Rd./Mt Vernon St. Bikeway Crossing	Completed
Skillings Road Guardrail Replacement	Spring/Summer 2021
Highland Avenue Traffic Calming Design	Underway

Municipal / School Building Projects & Studies Status

McCall Middle School E-Wing Addition	Completed (6 new classrooms, athletic space, cafeteria)
Lynch School Feasibility Study	Beginning this summer
Muraco Immediate Repairs	Funding request \$3.65M STM 2021
Parkhurst Elevator	Underway
Lincoln School Exterior Walkway Repairs Design	Underway
Town Hall/DPW Fire Alarm Systems Design complete	Funding request for construction \$350,000, STM 2021
Town Hall/Main Fire Station HVAC Study	Design underway
Main Fire Station Security (card readers/cameras)	Completed
Westside Fire Station HVAC/Immediate Repairs Design	Underway
Town Hall Lower Level Flooring Replacement	Underway
Town Hall Security Improvements Design	Underway
DPW Facility – New garage units Design	Underway
Transfer Station Facility Upgrade	Funding request for design \$201,200 FTM 2021
ADA Transition Plan Implementation – Town Hall/Library Design	Underway
McCall Unit Vent Controls Pilot Program	Completed
Town Hall & Public Safety Generators	Completed

Westside Generator	Generator procured, installation 2021
Ambrose School/Lincoln School Oil Tank Removal	Work to be completed 2021 Muraco
Muraco Sink Replacement Project Phase 1	Completed
McCall School Masonry Design	Underway
WPS Central Office Space Programming & Carriage House Schematic Design	Underway

Other Projects & Studies

MBTA Main Train Station Demolition	Underway
Downtown Business District Study	Underway
Records Management	RFP to be issued 2021

Currently there are in excess of forty projects that are active and the CPC would like to thank the construction team Jay Gill, Director of Public Works, Peter Lawson, Facility Director, Beth Rudolph, Town Engineer, Mark Twogood, Assistant Town Manager, Meg White, Special Projects Manager, who are responsible for many of the capital projects from inception through completion. As always we are very appreciative of the good work the EFPBC has done, most recently the completion of the McCall Middle School addition and the initiation of the Lynch School Feasibility Study.

The membership of the CPC consists of representatives appointed/assigned by the Select Board, School Committee, Planning Board and Finance Committee. This committee makeup provides crucial input from many of the governing bodies. Additionally in recent years the Select Board has appointed a member to serve as the liaison between the CPC and the Select Board. The CPC is thankful for Select Board member Mike Bettencourt’s contribution while filling this role during these challenging times.

The Capital Planning Committee looks forward to presenting the various capital projects to the Spring 2021 Town Meeting.

Sincerely,

James Johnson, Chair
 Roger McPeek, Vice Chair
 Helen Philliou
 Christian Nixon
 Arun Balasubramaniam
 Alison Swallow