



Open Space and Recreation Plan

AVON, MASSACHUSETTS



Acknowledgments

The Town of Avon received technical assistance from Old Colony Planning Council (OCPC) through the District Local Technical Assistance (DLTA) Program to supplement funding from the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EOEEA), Conservation Assistance for Small Communities Grant award.

Drafting an OSRP is an enormous undertaking and requires the collection, coordination, and analysis of substantial amounts of information. This effort would not have been possible without valuable input and assistance from many people working within the town of Avon, as well as in the region. Below is a partial list of public and private organizations that contributed to the making of this plan:

Avon Conservation Commission
Avon Board of Assessors
Avon Board of Health
Avon Planning Board
Avon Department of Public Works
Avon Recreation Commission
Avon Town Administrator
Avon Civic Association
Old Colony Planning Council

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June 24, 2022

William Fitzgerald
Department of Public Works
65 East Main Street
Avon, MA 02322

Re: Open Space and Recreation Plan

Dear Mr. Fitzgerald:

Thank you for submitting the Open Space and Recreation Plan for Avon to this office for review and compliance with the current Open Space and Recreation Plan Requirements. I'm pleased to write that the plan has received final approval and the town is eligible to apply for DCS grants through April 2029. Please contact me melissa.cryan@mass.gov if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Melissa Cryan

Melissa Cryan
Grant Programs Supervisor

Section 1 Plan Summary

This Plan continues the ongoing efforts by the Town of Avon to protect natural resources, conserve open space, develop community gathering spaces, and provide a variety of well-maintained recreational opportunities.

Section 2 includes a statement of purpose and outlines the planning and public participation process undertaken for this Plan.

Sections 3 and 4 provide background information on the Town including history, demographic data, development patterns, and the natural environment. This information helps to set the community and natural context for the inventory of the Town's present open spaces and recreation facilities, contained in Section 5.

Sections 6 through 8 identify the Town's future open space and recreation needs and outline community priorities. Finally, the detailed Action Plan in Section 9 provides a prioritized seven-year program to address the identified community needs.

The Open Space and Recreation Goals

Recreation Goal

Goal # 1 Existing recreational facilities and opportunities are connected and improved to provide a range of recreational opportunities accessible to meet the needs of

all residents, in or close to every neighborhood.

Recreation Access Goal

Goal # 2 Recreational facilities and programs are expanded to provide universal access that meet the needs of underserved populations.

Natural Resources Goal

Goal #3 Lands of natural resources, scenic, and recreation value are protected, well-stewarded, connect with each other, and with neighborhoods to accommodate the needs of all residents, and be enjoyed by future generations.

Watersheds &

Infrastructure Goal

Goal #4 The Stormwater Management Program is implemented and in compliance with Stormwater Management Regulations to ensure groundwater and surface water are protected as clean and abundant resources to preserve and protect the town's water supply, wildlife, and other natural resources.

Land Conservation

Goal

Goal #5 Management and protection of natural and recreational resources is achieved through initiative-taking planning,

coordinating, and advocacy that provides adequate, dedicated funding sources for open space and recreational facility

acquisition and maintenance to protect natural resources while encouraging appropriate public use.

Section 2 Introduction

A. Statement of Purpose

The Town of Avon is committed to the preservation and protection of its natural, social, and cultural resources, and to providing its citizens with opportunities to interact with and enjoy these resources. This 2022 Avon Open Space and Recreation Plan makes recommendations to help guide planning and development and suggests criteria and actions for protecting and stewarding Avon’s resources and recreational spaces.

The purpose of this plan is to inventory, assess, and plan for future open space and recreation resources. Through this process, we have identified existing and potential needs that are not currently being met or will not be met unless we start to address these shortcomings today.

A community benefits from protecting open space in many ways.

- **Attract Investment.** Parks and open spaces create a high quality of life that attracts tax-paying businesses and residents to communities. Open space and trails raise property values.
- **Revitalize Communities.** Urban parks, gardens, and recreational open spaces stimulate commercial

growth and promote inner-city revitalization.

- **Boost Tourism.** Open spaces boost local economies by attracting tourists and supporting outdoor education.
- **Prevent Flood Damage.** Floodplain protection offers a cost-effective alternative to expensive flood-control measures.
- **Protect Farms.** Protecting agricultural lands safeguards the future of farming economies and communities.
- **Promote Sustainable Development.** Open Space preservation helps communities prevent the higher costs of unplanned development.
- **Promote Healthy Lifestyles.** Nearly half of Americans get less than the recommended minimum amount of physical activity. Open Spaces and Parks play a critical role in helping residents and visitors get outside and become active.
- **Safeguard the Environment.** Open Space conservation is often the cheapest way to safeguard drinking water, clean the air and achieve other goals.

Grant Programs Offered by the Division of Conservation Services

- **Land and Water Conservation Fund Grant Program.** Funding to acquire land for conservation or recreation purposes, building a new park, renovating an existing park, or doing trail work. Max. award \$1,000,000 to build or renovate trails and acquire land for trails.
<https://www.mass.gov/how-to/apply-to-the-massachusetts-land-and-water-conservation-fund-grant-program>
- **Conservation Partnership Grant** fund the acquisition of conservation land by non-profit entities. You can apply if you are a not-for-profit group whose mission is to protect land in perpetuity and want to buy land for conservation purposes. Max. award \$175,000 for the purchase of land or conservation restrictions.
<https://www.mass.gov/how-to/apply-for-a-conservation-partnership-grant>
- **Drinking Water Supply Protection Grant Program** funding for protecting and conserving the quality and quantity of public drinking water supply sources in the Commonwealth, acquisition of land in existing DEP approved drinking water supply protection areas or land in estimated protection areas of identified and planned future water supply wells or intakes. Max. award \$300,000 for the purchase of land or conservation restrictions.
<https://www.mass.gov/how-to/apply-to-the-drinking-water-supply-protection-grant-program>
- **Landscape Partnership Grant** To protect large-scale landscapes necessary to sustain the integrity and resilience of ecosystems and viability of local farms and forest economies, enable projects that stretch beyond the scope of other state grant programs, and support Executive Order 569 which calls for the state government to adapt to climate change and build a more resilient Commonwealth. Max. award \$1,250,000 for purchases of 500+ acres of land, conservation restrictions, and agriculture preservation restrictions.
<https://www.mass.gov/how-to/apply-for-a-landscape-partnership-grant>
- **Local Acquisitions for Natural Diversity (LAND) Grant.** Municipal conservation and agricultural commissions can apply for LAND grants to acquire interests in land that will be used

for conservation and passive recreation purposes.

<https://www.mass.gov/how-to/apply-for-a-local-acquisitions-for-natural-diversity-land-grant>

- **Parkland Acquisitions and Renovations for Communities (PARC) Grant Program.** Funding for municipalities to acquire parkland, build a new park, or renovate an existing park. <https://www.mass.gov/how-to/apply-to-the-parkland-acquisitions-and-renovations-for-communities-parc-grant-program>

This 2022 Open Space and Recreation Plan for the Town of Avon:

- ✓ Identifies natural and recreational resources within Avon and takes

inventory of all open space within the town.

- ✓ Incorporates public input to better serve the community's needs, build support for various efforts, and encourage public participation in the protection of important resources.
- ✓ Addresses threats of climate change and recommends actions to adapt to and mitigate these threats.
- ✓ Identifies strategies for directing development and resource protection.

In drafting this 2022 plan update, while strides have been made to protect Avon's various resources, the dominant pattern of urban sprawl continues to place pressure on these resources, and this type of growth has gone unchecked.

B. Planning Process and Public Participation

In the late spring of 2021, the Town of Avon received technical assistance from Old Colony Planning Council (OCPC) through the District Local Technical Assistance (DLTA) Program to supplement funding from the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EOEEA), Conservation Assistance for Small Communities Grant Program to assist the town with the drafting of its Open Space and Recreation Plan. Reimbursement under this funding is contingent upon the submission of an eligible application by the Town to one of the following grant programs in the fiscal

year 2022: Local Acquisitions for Natural Diversity, Drinking Water Supply Protection, Landscape Partnership, or Parkland Acquisitions and Renovations for Communities.

In February 2022, Avon applied for a MassTrails Grant for the DeMarco Accessible Regional Trail Connection to meet this requirement. The application plans to transform DeMarco Park into an open space and recreation centerpiece for the community through accessibility to once unmaintained trails to form a comprehensive shared-use trail system that

meets MassTrails requirements and provides a regional connection to the 135-mile Boston to Cape Cod Claire Saltonstall Bikeway.

During this OSRP process, OCPC created the required maps, conducted public forums for community input, drafted the Open Space and Recreation Surveys, and helped to develop goals and actions towards furthering the protection of Avon's many resources based on community input, relevant data, and through contact with the town many departments. The draft plan was then submitted to the Town for further review and edits.

This builds upon previous efforts by the Town to develop an Open Space and Recreational vision for the DeMarco Park. Beginning in 2019 and continuing through this Open Space and Recreation Plan, OCPC has worked with the Town of Avon to review current uses and resident views of DeMarco Park through community surveys, public outreach, and a plan reporting as the Town developed its plans for DeMarco Park.

Avon's most recent Open Space and Recreation Plan (1999) included a recommendation for taking a range of actions, including optimizing the use of DeMarco Park while maintaining an open space and recreation focus for the land. It was recommended that improvements be made to the park, including building out walking/bike paths and a public pavilion equipped for seasonal ice skating. Additional recommendations for the community included maximizing open space, parks, and recreation opportunities for persons with disabilities and creating a bikeway/trail system to connect residential

areas to open space and recreation areas, centers of employment, and public facilities such as school playgrounds and conservation land.

In July 2021 OCPC drafted the Town of Avon Open Space & Recreation Plan 2022 Public Participation Plan. This plan identifies the purpose of engagement, stakeholders, resources, opportunities & scale of engagement, messaging & approach, and a timeline.

Public listening sessions and working group meetings were held through Zoom video conferencing on July 19, 2021, <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1BD5QZDeRcEGqCSD-znvaxpLG4yWETs1u/view>, and August 9, 2021, [GMT20210809-150606 Recording 1920x1080.mp4 - Google Drive](#) with town officials and the public.

These meetings were advertised on the town website, and the OCPC website and video recordings of the meeting were posted on both sites. Public engagement materials are in Appendix G of this Plan. Each month OCPC Delegates, including those from the town of Avon, were provided updates on the progress of the Plan through monthly council meetings.

The July 2021 meeting reviewed the timeline and objectives for the projects, developed a public participation plan, discussed the collection of data, and set additional dates for working group meetings and public listening sessions.

On August 9, 2021, the working group meeting the Goals and Objectives of the Plan were reviewed, and areas of concern included regional bicycle and pedestrian connectivity and the care and maintenance of the shared resource DW Field Park.

A public listening session was held on October 26, 2021, to review the proposed Goals and Objectives for the OSRP with the public for comment. These were the Goals proposed at the working group meeting on August 9th.

A meeting was held with town officials on January 13, 2022, to review the final list of Goals and Objectives, an additional meeting was held on January 19, 2022, to confirm the final Goals and Objectives for the Plan.

C. Enhanced Outreach for Environmental Justice Neighborhoods

Environmental Justice (EJ) is based on the principle that all people have a right to be protected from environmental hazards and to live in and enjoy a clean and healthful environment. EJ is the equal protection and meaningful involvement of all people concerning the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies and the equitable distribution of environmental benefits.¹

Equitable distribution and access to environmental assets including parks, open spaces, and recreation is a priority. Access to parks is also part of addressing climate change impacts on vulnerable populations.

Avon is the 20th of 365 Massachusetts communities in terms of percentage of the total population residing within EJ block groups. Town-wide, 3 out of the 4 Census block groups are Environmental Justice Neighborhoods, subsequently, 85 percent of the Avon population lives in EJ block groups.

Given Avon is only 4 ½ square miles, all the population is close to existing facilities and programs. Per the open space survey, 72

percent of respondents said they lived within ½ mile, and 95 percent within 1 mile of a park or recreation facility.

Based on the Town's size and a very high percentage of residents living in EJ neighborhoods, any public outreach could be considered to equally be communicated to EJ populations. However, meaningful outreach needs to go beyond electronic means such as websites, emails, and social media.

Early in the process, Avon's targeted approach to EJ outreach included recognizing the even more diverse makeup of the Avon schools as a particularly effective route for outreach to the Towns. The minority composition of Avon's school system is much higher than statewide averages. As an example, African Americans make up 31.2 percent of the Avon school district, vs 9.3 percent of the statewide. The Avon School District ranks among the top 20 percent of public school districts in Massachusetts for diversity, with minority populations constituting 56.1 percent of the district's population.

¹ <https://www.mass.gov/environmental-justice>

In August of 2021, an OSRP survey went live. The flyers sent home with students from school proved to be the most effective outreach to obtain participant responses. A statistically significant 200+ responses out of 1,630 total Avon households (12.3%) responded—Considering less than half of the households have children under 18, the response rate would be double. (Other populations such as the elderly were also addressed, as outlined below.)

The survey results guided the preparation of the plan, its needs, goals, and objectives better than other projects.

Additionally, in preparation for June 23, 2022, Listening Session, canvassing of the 3 EJ Block groups (3 of the 4 Census Blocks in Avon) was conducted between June 18th and June 22. This included visiting each neighborhood to deliver postcards by leaving them at their homes or on parked vehicles. These postcards contain information on where and how to participate in the public listening session, where to download a copy of the plan, and how to provide written comments. Where residents were present, OCPC staff discussed the plan, the listening session, and any questions they had regarding the Plan. Many were pleasantly surprised by the personal invitation to appear and be heard.

The Town supported these efforts via the installation of an electronic variable message sign at high-traffic venues. The sign messaging depicted information on where to access the website to download a copy of the plan and how to participate in the upcoming public meeting. For those unable to attend, information on how to submit written comments was also available for review.

Enhanced Outreach to Other Populations

The town also undertook enhanced outreach to other vulnerable and underserved populations in addition to those meeting the EJ criteria. These populations may also have limited access to traditional electronic and social media and/or may be less inclined to respond.

Census data indicates the population of Avon and surrounding communities is aging. This elder subpopulation is a critical one to support with the new OSRP. Recent calls for more elder-focused recreational amenities are given additional credence with this data.

Targeted distribution of materials to seniors through the Council on Aging, outreach was undertaken, as well as to certain young populations and neighborhoods through the School Department. The direct canvassing of neighborhoods addressed all populations as an additional benefit. homes mentioned above going door-to-door to distribute flyers, answer questions directly with the residents, and provide information regarding where to access the plan and how to provide public comment and attend public listening sessions. For those unable to participate in the live listening sessions, copies were available through the broadcast of videos on YouTube and Community Access television.

This additional enhanced outreach was initiated to focus on both the young and older residents on either side of the spectrum

with direct, face-to-face contact and distribution of postcards with QR codes and website links to access a dedicated website for the OSRP with a Fact Sheet outlining the highlights of the Plan and public gathering events to increase participation and allow the public to provide comments. QR Scan cards were distributed to the high school for distribution to students and at the COA, library, local churches, barber shop, McDonald's restaurant, and town hall.

Additionally, OCPC staff attended live events sponsored by the Mass Cultural Council and held at the DeMarco Park on June 15th and June 22nd, 2022, to answer questions from the public, and distribute QR code cards and fact sheet flyers advertising the June 23rd public listening session related to the Open Space and Recreation Plan.

Moving forward, the Town will continue targeted outreach to these groups in support of this Open Space and Recreation Plan. Old Colony Planning Council created a site on their webpage dedicated to the Avon OSRP which can be accessed at http://www.ocpcrpa.org/avon_open_space_plan.html. Information regarding public

listening session recordings, fact sheets, copies of flyers and postcards for public outreach, and copies of the Draft and Final plans are available for download, review, and public comment.

The Town scheduled a public hearing to review the final Open Space and Recreation Plan after it was revised per comments received from EOEEA through its review of the draft, now proposed for town adoption.

This public listening session was recorded and posted on the town website, YouTube

(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eyxh1zrbDIE>), and the website of the Regional Planning Agency. A copy of the recording was provided to the public access channel for community access, advertisement of the listening session was posted on the town meeting calendar and advertised in local media including newsprint and radio broadcasts.

Digital copies of the plan were provided to the delegates of the communities in the OCPC district for distribution to their constituents.

Avon!

We want to hear from you

Tell us what you think about your local open spaces and recreation areas.



June 23rd, 6pm

<https://bit.ly/3zon6c0>

Presented by:



Town of
AVON



OLD COLONY
PLANNING COUNCIL

Figure 1: Enhanced Outreach OSRP Fact Sheet Flyer



AVON OPEN SPACE PLAN

FACT SHEET

The 2022 Avon Open Space and Recreation Plan makes recommendations to help guide planning and development and suggests criteria and actions for protecting and stewarding Avon's resources and recreational spaces.

AVON GOALS



RECREATION & ACCESS

Existing recreational facilities and opportunities are improved to provide a range of recreational opportunities accessible to meet the needs of all residents, in or close to every neighborhood.

Recreational facilities and programs are expanded to provide universal access that meet the needs of underserved populations.



NATURAL RESOURCES

Lands of natural resource, scenic, and recreation value are protected, well-stewarded, connect with each other and with neighborhoods to accommodate the needs of all residents, and be enjoyed by future generations.



WATER PROTECTION

The Water Protection programs, including the Stormwater Management Program is implemented to ensure groundwater and surface water preserve and protect the town's water supply, wildlife, and other natural resources.



LAND CONSERVATION

Management and protection of natural and recreational resources is achieved through planning, coordinating, and advocacy that provides adequate, dedicated funding sources for open space and recreational facility acquisition and maintenance to protect natural resources while encouraging appropriate public use.

THIS 2022 OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION PLAN FOR THE TOWN OF AVON:

- ✓ Identifies natural and recreational resources within Avon and surrounding areas and takes assesses all open space within the town.
- ✓ Incorporates public input to better serve the community's needs, build support for various efforts, and encourage the public participation in protection of important resources.
- ✓ Addresses threats of climate change and recommends actions to adapt to and mitigate these threats.
- ✓ Identifies strategies to manage development to maximize the protection of resources.



Old Colony Planning Council

70 School St., Brockton, MA 02301

www.ocpcrpa.org/avon_open_space_plan.html



Figure 2: Electronic Message Board







Section 3 Community Setting

A. Regional Context

Physical Locations and Characteristics

The Town of Avon is a small mixed-residential, industrial, and commercial community with a 2020 Census² population count of 4,777 and a land area containing 4.57 square miles (2,880 acres), the town of Avon is among the smallest towns in eastern Massachusetts. Avon is adjacent to the city of Brockton and the towns of Stoughton, Holbrook, and Randolph, and a suburb of Boston. Avon has commuter rail service to Boston via stations in Brockton, Stoughton, and Randolph.

Despite its size, an exceptionally large volume of traffic travels through Avon daily on two major north-south routes, State Route 28, and Route 24, which in turn connect with the outer circumferential limited-access Route 128 one community to the north, and with the outer circumferential Route 495, three communities to the south. The east-west road network connects the major north-south Routes 138, 139, 24, 28, and 37.

Bus service is available from the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA) and Brockton Area Transit (BAT) Authority. These run to the MBTA Ashmont Red Line Station, and BAT connects Avon to Brockton and limited adjacent areas. The restoration of commuter rail service through Brockton and Randolph

has made Avon more desirable as a Boston commuter community.

Boston and Providence are less than one hour away. The town's strategic location, continuous economic growth, and commercial-industrial developments such as the Avon Industrial Park and the Avon Merchants Park have made it a major employment center.

The Town is almost entirely in the Taunton River Basin, being drained by Beaver Brook which flows to the Avon Reservoir and on to the Salisbury Plain River, and by other streams flowing to Trout Brook and on to the Salisbury Plain River on route to the Taunton River. A small area in the northeastern corner of the town drains to the Boston Harbor Basin via the three Swamp Brook, the Monatiquoit River, and the Weymouth Fore River. Avon is at the top of each basin and, accordingly, the streams are small, and flows are limited.

Shared resources include the City of Brockton's D.W. Field Park, the Beaver Brook system, and wooded wetlands along the Avon/Randolph border. The Park has 735 acres of ponds, lakes, dams, woods, a golf course, and an encircling parkway. Much of it, 238.26 acres, is in Avon, including the northernmost pond, the Brockton

² 2020 Decennial Census P1

Reservoir. This supplies the city with about .8 million gallons/day of drinking water.

Regional Resources

Open Space

Regional open space resources in nearby communities include the DW Field Park in Brockton and Avon, a 737-acre park that connects Avon and Brockton through a parkway winding around the Brockton Reservoir and other ponds. Much of the Park, 238.2 acres, is in Avon, endowed by 19th-century manufacturer D.W. Field and designed in a style influenced by Frederick Law Olmstead. The limited land area around the reservoir and ponds in the northern part of the park in Avon was expanded through acquisitions by Brockton to protect water supplies and the park.

Taunton River Watershed

The Town is almost entirely in the Taunton River Basin, being drained by Beaver Brook which flows to the Avon Reservoir and on to the Salisbury Plain River en route to the Taunton River. A small area in the northeastern corner of the town drains to the Boston Harbor Basin via the three Swamp Brook, the Monatiqiot River, and the Weymouth Fore River. Avon is at the top of each basin where the streams are small and flow-limited.

South Shore and Narragansett Bay

The Taunton River, designated a Federal Wild and Scenic River in 2000, was identified for its “outstandingly remarkable” values

including agriculture, ecology, and biological diversity. It is the longest undammed coastal river in New England and is host to over 154 species of birds and forty-five species of fish. The designation protects the free-flowing condition of the river for the enjoyment of present and future generations.

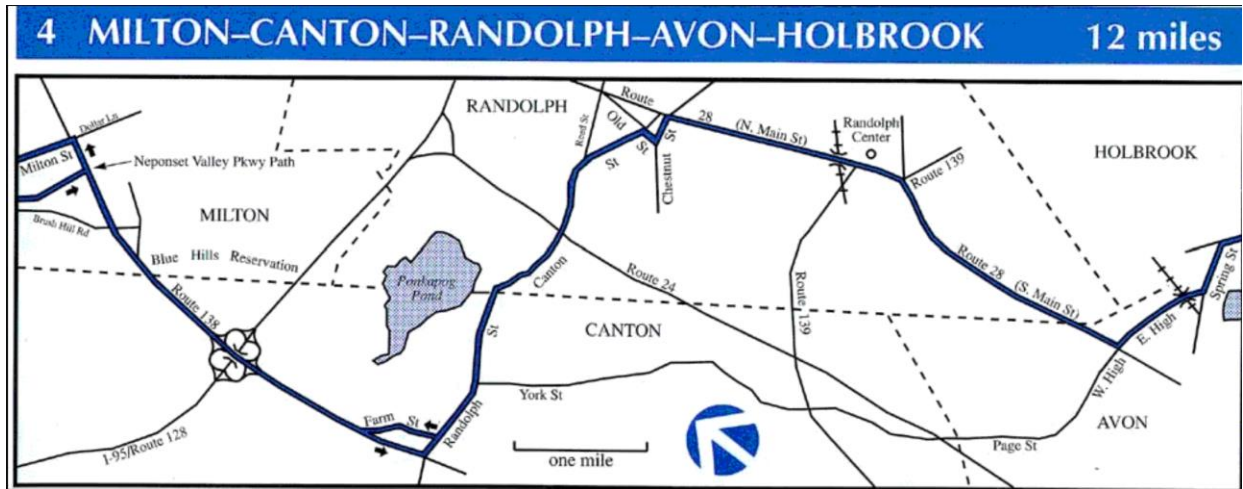
Beaver Brook

Beaver Brook emerges from tributaries in Stoughton and Avon, feeds the Avon Reservoir, and then flows to the Taunton River via the Salisbury Brook and Salisbury Plain River. Actions to protect the Beaver Brook are its inclusion in the Town’s Water Supply Protection Zoning District (though Avon does not draw on the Reservoir), and enforcement of the Wetland Protection Act requirements where the Brook runs through the Avon Merchants Park.

Bay Circuit Trail

The Bay Circuit Trail was conceived in 1929 then-Secretary of the Trustees of Reservations Charles W. Eliot III, a disciple of Frederick Law Olmsted. The concept was to have an arc of parks and conservation land linked by continuous trails, waterways, and scenic drives from the North Shore to Duxbury Bay (much as the Emerald Necklace connects neighborhoods and parks within Boston). These holdings would approximate a regional greenbelt around greater Boston and provide access to the heritage and character of the New England countryside. The contemporary concept is necessarily more modest, as many opportunities for major holdings are gone.

Figure 3: Claire Saltonstall Bikeway – Avon



Claire Saltonstall Bikeway

The Claire Saltonstall Bikeway, also known as the Boston to Cape Cod Bikeway, is a 135-mile bikeway marked as Bike Route 1 that starts on the Charles River Bike Path near Boston University in Boston, Massachusetts, and winds along Boston’s Emerald Necklace. Using mostly backroads and bike paths, with occasional stretches of secondary highways, ends in Provincetown, Massachusetts. The bikeway was named in memory of Claire Saltonstall, the daughter of Senator William L. Saltonstall, on July 17, 1978. Claire, killed by an automobile in 1974 while she was riding her bicycle provided the impetus for a safe bikeway. Senator Saltonstall was a sponsor of bicycle safety

legislation and was instrumental in developing the bikeway.

Wooded Wetlands at Avon/Randolph border

Wooded wetlands bracket the Avon/Randolph border with discontinuous holdings by each town.

The Zone II Water Recharge Area

The Zone II Water Recharge Area for the town’s Trout Brook wells extends south into Brockton. The aquifer is not tapped by Brockton, but activities in the city move into Holbrook which could affect Avon’s water supply.

B. History of the Community

According to “A History of Avon Massachusetts, 1720-1988” by William F. Hanna, the Town of Avon can trace its history to 1630, when the Native American leader Chicataubut, sold the English the

right to settle Dorchester, south of the top of Blue Hill.

Shortly after the death of the Native American Chief Chicataubut, his brother Kitchamakin extended the

boundary further southward, all the way to the Plymouth County line. This “New Grant,” as it was called, gave the town of Dorchester title to over 40,000 acres, making it the largest town in New England. In 1726 Dorchester’s South Precinct, holding the present Stoughton, Avon, Sharon, Canton, and Foxborough, was set aside and incorporated under the name Stoughton.

The part of Stoughton that later became Avon was known as East Stoughton. The shoe industry was the major employer in the community. In 1869 there were eight boot and shoe factories and a hotel in East Stoughton. Feeling isolated from the rest of Stoughton and ill-served by it, residents seceded and established the new town of Avon. Residents named the town in honor of Shakespeare’s hometown and incorporated it in 1888. They felt closer to Brockton and never pursued a plan to be annexed by the city.

The number of shoe firms in Avon steadily diminished from the final quarter of the nineteenth century on but hundreds of townspeople continued to work in the shoe trade locally in one of Brockton’s shoe factories. The shoe industry further declined after World War II. Then Route 24 was built to provide easy access to the new Route 128 and during the 1950s and early 1960s, Avon became a “bedroom community” oriented toward Boston. The town lost factory workers, household workers, and laborers, while it gained professionals, skilled blue-collar workers, and employees engaged in the public service sector.

The population expanded in the post-war years reaching 5,295 in 1970 and then

declining to 4,443 by 2000. Growth was slowed or reversed by a limited water supply and a lack of buildable land due to limited capacity for on-site sewage, but build-out analyses have found that significant growth is still possible, particularly with outside water sources and a possible localized sewer district for the Avon Industrial Park, as well as agreements with adjacent communities.

Just as residential building in the town was slackening, industrial and commercial construction was increasing. The 1956 Town Meeting created the Avon Industrial and Development Commission and the modern industrial/commercial history began with the 1966 creation of the Avon Industrial Park. This capitalized on its extensive undeveloped land, some of its challenging wetlands, and its immediate proximity to the new Route 24.

Under strong leadership, the Town built Bodwell Street, the main access road through the park, and accepted it as a public way in 1967. This road facilitated the subdivision and development of adjacent lands by private developers. The Park further succeeded by concentrating on distribution activities and industries with minimal water and sewer needs. In 1984 the Avon Industrial Park West was begun with some public support for the extended and looped water distribution system. It soon evolved into the extraordinarily successful Avon Merchants Park “Big Box” retail center.

C. Population Characteristics

In recent years, Avon's population has decreased while the number of households increased by only four in the 2000-2010 decade. The 2020 ACS data estimates 1,634 households for the Town of Avon which would indicate a decrease of 75 households from 2010. Population decreases were experienced between 1990-2000 (-2.52%), and 2000-2010 (-1.96%). The 2020 Census indicates an increase in the population of 421 residents from the 2010 Census (9.66%). The population increased from 4,356 in 2010 to 4,777 indicated in the 2020 Census.

The Town of Kingston experienced the highest rate of population growth in the OCPC region, with population growth from 1990-2010 increasing by 3,305 new residents, (28.4%). Other OCPC communities experiencing population growth include Bridgewater, which increased by 5,314 residents, (20%).

The Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) Demographic and Socio-Economic Forecast estimates that Avon will grow from 4,356 residents in 2010 to 4,500 residents by 2040. Avon's expected 3.3 percent increase in population during this time trails neighboring Abington (18.9 percent), Easton (8.2 percent), and Brockton (3.5 percent), as well as the Commonwealth (12.7 percent); but will surpass the growth expected to occur in Halifax (1.6 percent) and Stoughton (0.7 percent).

Households

More than population, the number, and type of households and their spending power within a community correlate with housing demand. A *household* is a single

person or two or more people who occupy the same housing unit, which can be a house, apartment, mobile home, group home, or a single room occupied as separate living quarters. According to the US Census Bureau, a household consists of all the people who occupy a housing unit (e.g., house, apartment, single room). A household includes the related family members and all the unrelated people, if any, such as lodgers, or foster children who share the housing unit. A person living alone in a housing unit, or a group of unrelated people sharing a housing unit, is also counted as a household. The household count excludes group quarters.

According to the US Census Bureau, from 2010 to 2019, the number of households in Avon decreased from 1,709 households in 2010 to 1,574 households estimated for 2019 (ACS estimates), a decrease of 135 households (7.90%). The 2020 ACS data estimates 1,634 households for the Town of Avon which would indicate a decrease of 75 households from 2010.

Overall, household growth in Avon is expected to increase. Between 2010 and 2040, the number of households in Avon is expected to increase from 1,709 in 2010 to 2,008 in 2040 according to the MassDOT Demographic and Socio-Economic Forecast. Avon's 17.52 percent increase in the number of households between 2010 and 2040 is consistent with other communities of the region but less than the 23.74 percent anticipated growth of the number of households throughout the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Avon’s population, like that of the Commonwealth, is aging and projected to continue to do so. The median age has increased from 40.2 in 2000 to 44 in 2010. Statistics from the Census data indicated that Avon is beginning to change that trend, with the median age indicated in the 2019 ACS at 40.0 years. The median age in the 2020 ACS the following year, decreased to 39.8 years.

Household Types

Different household types often have different housing needs. As an example, a married couple with children usually requires a larger dwelling unit than a single person. A community’s composition of household types can indicate how well suited the existing housing inventory is to residents.

According to the 2010 US Census, Avon had 1,709 households which were divided between family households and non-family households. Family households are defined

as any household with two or more related persons living together, whereas non-family households are defined as one person or more than one non-related person living together. According to the 2010 Census, approximately 68 percent of Avon’s households were family households (1,162) and 32 percent (547) were non-family households, which represented a decrease in the percentage of family households from the 2000 Census total of 1,220 family households (71.6 percent) and 485 non-family households (28.4 percent). The 2017 American Community Survey data estimates 1,103 family households (70 percent) and 471 (29.9 percent) non-family households. Of the 471 non-family households, 385 (24.45 percent of the total households in Avon) lived alone.

Figure 4: Avon Population by Age

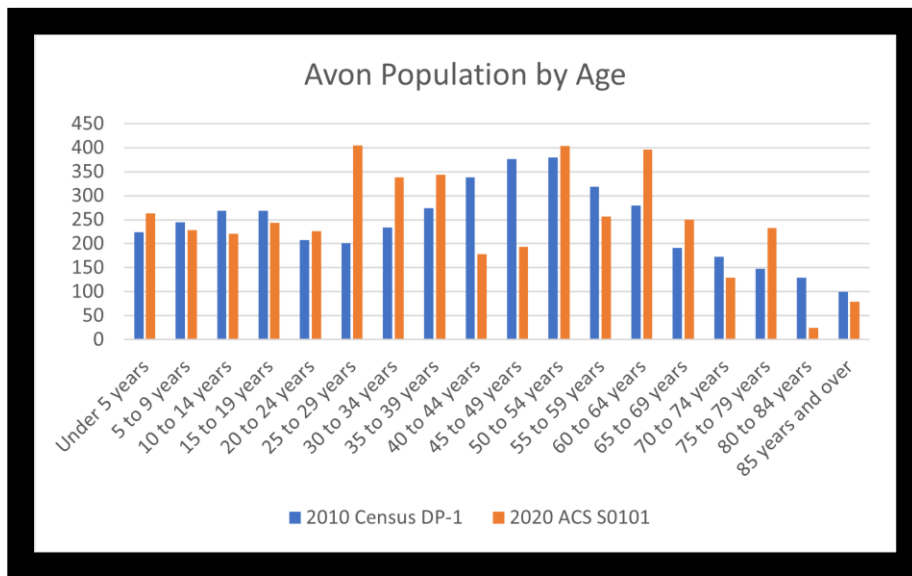


Table 1: Population Change 1990-2020

	Decennial Census Population				Change 1990-2000		Change 2000-2010		Change 2010-2020	
	1990	2000	2010	2020	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Abington	13,817	14,605	15,985	17,062	788	5.70%	1,380	9.45%	1,077	6.74%
Avon	4,558	4,443	4,356	4,777	-115	-2.52%	-87	-1.96%	421	9.66%
Bridgewater	21,249	25,185	26,563	28,633	3,936	18.52%	1,378	5.47%	2,070	7.79%
Brockton	92,788	94,304	93,810	105,643	1,516	1.63%	-494	-0.52%	11,833	12.61%
Duxbury	13,985	14,248	15,059	16,090	263	1.88%	811	5.69%	1,031	6.85%
East Bridgewater	11,104	12,974	13,794	14,440	1,870	16.84%	820	6.32%	646	4.68%
Easton	19,807	22,299	23,122	25,058	2,492	12.58%	813	3.65%	1,946	8.42%
Halifax	6,526	7,500	7,518	7,749	974	14.92%	18	0.24%	231	3.07%
Hanover	11,912	13,164	13,879	14,833	1,252	10.51%	715	5.43%	954	6.87%
Hanson	9,028	9,495	10,209	10,639	467	5.17%	714	7.52%	430	4.21%
Kingston	9,045	11,780	12,629	13,708	2,735	30.24%	849	7.21%	1,079	8.54%
Pembroke	14,544	16,927	17,837	18,361	2,383	16.38%	910	5.38%	524	2.94%
Plymouth	45,608	51,701	56,468	61,217	6,093	13.36%	4,767	9.22%	4,749	8.41%
Plympton	2,384	2,637	2,820	2,930	253	10.61%	183	6.94%	110	3.90%
Stoughton	26,777	27,149	26,962	29,281	372	1.39%	-187	-0.69%	2,319	8.60%
West Bridgewater	6,389	6,634	6,916	7,707	245	3.83%	282	4.25%	791	11.44%
Whitman	12,240	13,882	14,489	15,121	1,642	13.42%	607	4.37%	35,900	7.25%
Plymouth County	435,276	472,822	494,919	530,819	37,546	8.63%	22,097	4.67%	35,900	7.25%
Massachusetts	6,016,425	6,349,097	6,547,629	7,029,917	332,672	5.53%	198,532	3.13%	482,288	7.37%

Source: US Census Bureau, 1990, 2000, 2010, & 2020

Table 2: Households, OCPC Region, 1990 to 2020

	1990 Census	2000 Census	2010 Census	Change 1990-2010		2020 ACS DP02	Change 2010 - 2020	
				Number	Percent		Number	Percent
Abington	4,817	5,263	6,080	1,263	26.20%	6,081	1	0.01%
Avon	1,591	1,705	1,709	118	7.40%	1,634	-75	-4.38%
Bridgewater	5,947	7,526	7,995	2,048	34.40%	8,367	372	4.65%
Brockton	32,850	33,675	33,303	453	13.80%	31,459	-1,844	-5.53%
Duxbury	4,625	4,946	5,344	719	15.50%	5,800	456	8.53%
East Bridgewater	3,593	4,344	4,750	1,157	32.20%	4,899	149	3.13%
Easton	6,436	7,489	7,865	1,429	22.20%	8,938	1,073	13.64%
Halifax	2,362	2,758	2,863	501	21.20%	2,901	38	1.33%
Hanover	3,742	4,349	4,709	967	25.80%	4,663	-46	-0.97%
Hanson	2,838	3,123	3,468	630	22.20%	3,872	404	11.65%
Kingston	3,224	4,248	4,665	1,441	44.70%	5,234	569	12.19%
Pembroke	4,666	5,750	6,298	1,632	35.00%	6,643	345	5.48%
Plymouth	15,875	18,423	21,269	5,394	33.90%	24,412	3,143	14.78%
Plympton	766	854	1,006	240	31.30%	993	-13	-1.29%
Stoughton	9,394	10,254	10,295	901	9.60%	11,052	757	7.35%
West Bridgewater	2,232	2,444	2,571	339	15.10%	2,503	-68	-2.64%
Whitman	4,435	4,999	5,300	865	19.50%	5,596	296	5.59%
Plymouth County	149,519	168,361	181,126	31,607	21.10%	190,355	9,229	5.10%
Massachusetts	2,247,110	2,443,580	2,547,075	299,965	13.30%	2,646,980	99,905	3.92%

Source: US Census 1990, 2000, 2010, 2019 ACS 5-Year Estimates

Table 3: MADOT Household Projections

	MADOT 2020	MADOT 2030	MADOT 2040	Percent Increase 2020 - 2040	
				Number	Percent
Abington	6,887	7,589	7,767	1,687	27.75%
Avon	1,793	1,902	2,008	299	17.52%
Bridgewater	8,946	9,553	9,626	1,631	20.40%
Brockton	34,967	35,465	35,668	2,365	7.10%
Duxbury	5,890	6,436	6,551	1,207	22.59%
East Bridgewater	5,327	5,613	5,737	987	20.78%
Easton	8,499	9,185	9,261	1,396	17.75%
Halifax	3,098	3,255	3,370	507	17.72%
Hanover	5,090	5,388	5,472	763	16.20%
Hanson	3,808	4,033	4,129	661	19.06%
Kingston	5,294	6,075	6,191	1,526	32.72%
Marshfield	10,481	11,179	11,669	2,143	22.50%
Pembroke	6,904	7,263	7,384	1,086	17.24%
Plymouth	26,119	29,172	30,283	9,014	42.38%
Plympton	1,134	1,198	1,203	197	19.54%
Stoughton	11,178	11,754	12,217	1,922	18.67%
West Bridgewater	2,779	2,956	3,006	435	16.93%
Whitman	5,808	6,071	6,195	895	16.88%
Massachusetts	2,830,145	3,044,477	3,151,722	604,647	23.74%

Table 4: MADOT Demographic and Socio-Economic Forecast Population Projections, 2010 - 2040

	2010 Census	2020 Census	2030 Projection	2040 Projection	Projected Change 2020-2040	
					Number	Percent
Abington	15,985	17,062	18,764	19,000	1,938	11.36%
Avon	4,356	4,777	4,444	4,500	-277	-5.80%
Bridgewater	26,563	28,633	28,333	28,689	56	0.20%
Brockton	93,810	105,643	96,700	97,100	-8,543	-8.09%
Duxbury	15,059	16,090	15,307	15,500	-590	-3.67%
East Bridgewater	13,794	14,440	14,616	14,800	360	2.49%
Easton	23,112	25,058	24,689	25,000	-58	-0.23%
Halifax	7,518	7,749	7,620	7,640	-109	-1.41%
Hanover	13,879	13,864	13,999	14,084	220	1.59%
Hanson	10,209	10,639	10,863	11,000	361	3.39%
Kingston	12,629	13,708	14,814	15,000	1,292	9.43%
Pembroke	17,837	18,361	18,695	18,931	570	3.10%
Plymouth	56,468	61,217	68,559	70,312	9,095	14.86%
Plympton	2,820	2,930	2,963	3,000	70	2.39%
Stoughton	26,962	29,281	28,279	28,635	-646	-2.21%
West Bridgewater	6,916	7,707	7,549	7,644	-63	-0.82%
Whitman	14,489	15,121	15,389	15,583	462	3.06%
Massachusetts	6,547,629	7,029,917	7,225,472	7,380,399	350,482	4.99%

Table 5: Projected Households and Household Size

Avon Projected Households in 2020	Avon Projected Households in 2030	Avon Projected Average Household Size in 2020	Avon Projected Average Household Size in 2030
1,808	1,888	2.41	2.32

According to the 2020 American Community Survey, Avon was estimated to contain a total of 1,634 households. This was estimated to be a decrease of 135 households (7.9 percent) from the 2010 US Census. Of those households' 29.3 percent were households with children under 18 years of age. The 2020 ACS DP02 estimates the total households for Avon to be 1,634

The 2010 Census data shows the number of total households increased by four households from 2000 to 2010 to 1,709 total households (0.24 percent). Of the 2010 family households in Avon, 43.2 percent included children under 18 years of age. When you consider both family and non-family households in Avon calculated by the US Census bureau in 2010, those with children under the age of eighteen were 29.38 percent of the total households. Of the total households in Avon, 17.2 percent contained individuals 65 years of age and over.

Between 2000 and 2010, the percentage of female households with children under the age of 18 years increased by 16.54 percent while the non-family households with individuals 65 years of age and over decreased by the same percentage. According to the 2019 ACS, 159 households were female households with no husband present, 10.1 percent of the total households in Avon. Of those female households,

seventy included children of the householder under 18 years of age (4.4 percent of the total households in Avon).

Household Size

Another key factor when assessing the housing needs of a community is household size. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the average household size in Avon decreased from 2.61 persons per household in 2000 to 2.55 persons per household in 2010. The decline in the average household size is also prevalent in most of Avon's neighboring communities as well as Plymouth County. The average household size is projected to decrease from 2020 to 2030. The average household size projected for 2020 is 2.41. The average household size for 2030 is projected to decrease to 2.32.

From 2000 to 2010, the households that experienced the largest increase in Avon were 1-person owner-occupied households which increased by forty-four households or 19.3 percent. Owner-occupied households containing three, five, and six people all saw decreases during the same time. Owner-occupied housing units of seven or more persons increased by two units or 16.6 percent. From 2000 to 2010, there was no net increase or decrease in renter-occupied housing units.

Age Distribution

The population of the United States is aging at a pace historically unprecedented. This statistical demographic reality is indisputable, yet not every community is addressing this reality in policies and planning efforts. In the US in 2010, there were 40.3 million people aged sixty-five and older, twelve times the number in 1900. The percentage of the overall US population aged 65 and over increased from 4.1 percent in 1900 to 13.0 percent in 2010; it is projected to reach 20.9 percent by 2050. People aged eighty-five and older are the fastest-growing cohort among older adults in both absolute numbers and percentages. The US older-adult population is growing steadily, with increasing numbers of older adults living longer, healthier lives and contributing to their communities and society in general.

To determine how to best meet future open space and recreational needs in Avon, it is important to examine the current age of the population, as well as aging trends over time. Table 6 shows the population by age for the Town of Avon from 2000 to 2010. Figure 2 depicts a chart of the Avon Population by Age for 2010 and 2020.

The data shows significant population decline in almost all age groups below age forty-five, with the largest percentage of population decline occurring in the twenty-five to thirty-four age group (20.33%). Population growth is depicted in most age cohorts over the age of forty-five except for the sixty-five to seventy-four years age cohort. The highest percentage of population

increase is within the fifty-five to sixty-four and eighty-five+ age cohorts, an increase of 159 residents (36.21 percent) and 27 residents (36.98 percent, respectively). This trend reflects the growth and maturing of the “Baby Boom” generation (those born between 1946 and 1964) as they move across the age ranges. This aging trend is also reflected in the increase in the median age, which rose from 40.2 years in 2000 to 44.4 years in 2010.

The 2020 American Community Survey (DP02) estimates a decrease in the five-to-nine-year population of (-21.9) percent from the 2010 Census. The ACS estimates a decrease in population for the 10 -to-14 year and 15-to-19-year age cohorts by (-23.5) percent and (-8.2) percent from the 2010 Census. The 20-to-24-year age cohort is estimated to have a slight 1.8 percent increase and the 25-to-34 years age cohort is estimated to increase significantly by 36.1 percent from 2010 Census figures. There is a population decrease of (-28.7) percent in the 35-to-44-year age cohort. The 45-to-54-year age group is estimated to experience a decrease in population by (-5.8) percent from the 2010 Census counts. The 55-to-64-years age group is estimated to increase by 71.5 percent. There is a decrease (-16.3%) in the 65-to-74-years age group. There is estimated to be a slight increase in the 75-to-84-years age group, 1.86 percent (4) in 2020. The age 85+ years population is estimated to increase by 6 residents, 1.6 percent.

School Enrollment

School enrollment trends are a critical component of Avon's town-wide growth and population trends. A review of school enrollment helps to frame a discussion of the potential future impacts of population change on both the school system and the community and helps better plan for future local housing needs. The results of the analysis are useful in formulating an affordable housing strategy that is sensitive to these changes over time.

The Town of Avon Public School System is a comprehensive public school system serving 732 students in grades Pre-Kindergarten to 12 in 2019. The district consists of two public schools, the Avon Middle High School, and the Ralph D. Butler Elementary School.

During the 2018 – 2019 school year, the Ralph D. Butler Elementary School serves a student population of 410 students in Prekindergarten through grade 6 and has stayed relatively flat over five school years. The percentage of students achieving proficiency in Math is 61 percent (which is lower than the Massachusetts state average of 64 percent) for the 2015-2016 school year. The percentage of students achieving proficiency in Reading/Language Arts is 76 percent (which is higher than the Massachusetts state average of 71 percent) for the 2015-2016 school year. The Ralph D. Butler Elementary School placed in the bottom 50 percent of all schools in Massachusetts for overall test scores (math proficiency is bottom 50 percent and reading proficiency is top 50 percent) for the 2015-2016 school year. Minority enrollment is 39 percent of the student body (majority Black or African American), which is higher than

the Massachusetts state average of 37 percent.

Avon Middle High School has a student population of 322 students in grades 7 through 12 during the 2018-2019 school year, which has declined by 5 percent over five school years. The teacher population of forty-two teachers has stayed flat over five school years. Avon Middle High School is ranked within the top 50 percent of all 1,671 schools in Massachusetts (based on combined Math and Reading proficiency testing data) for the 2015-2016 school year. The percentage of students achieving proficiency in Math is 65-69 percent (which is higher than the Massachusetts state average of 64%) for the 2015-2016 school year.

The percentage of students achieving proficiency in Reading/Language Arts is 80-84 percent (which is higher than the Massachusetts state average of 71 percent) for the 2015 - 2016 school year. Minority enrollment is 56 percent of the student body (majority Black or African American), which is higher than the Massachusetts state average of 37 percent. The graduation rate for the student body is between 80 and 89 percent for the 2018-2019 school year.

Table 6: Age Distribution in Avon, 2000-2020

	2000 Census		2010 Census		2020 ACS		Change 2000 - 2020	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Under 5 Years	243	5.5%	224	5.1%	263	5.8%	20	8.2%
5 to 9 Years	292	6.6%	245	5.6%	228	5.1%	-64	-21.9%
10 to 14 Years	289	6.5%	268	6.2%	221	4.9%	-68	-23.5%
15 to 19 Years	266	6.0%	269	6.2%	244	5.4%	-22	-8.2%
20 to 24 Years	222	5.0%	208	4.8%	226	5.0%	4	1.8%
25 to 34 Years	546	12.3%	435	10.0%	743	16.5%	197	36.1%
35 to 44 Years	732	16.5%	612	14.1%	522	11.5%	-210	-28.7%
45 to 54 Years	634	14.3%	756	17.3%	597	13.3%	-37	-5.8%
55 to 64 Years	439	9.9%	598	13.7%	753	16.7%	314	71.5%
65 to 74 Years	453	10.2%	364	8.4%	379	8.4%	-74	-16.3%
75 to 84 Years	254	5.7%	277	6.4%	258	5.8%	4	1.6%
85+ Years	73	1.6%	100	2.3%	79	1.8%	6	8.2%
Total Population	4,443		4,356		4,513		70	1.6%
Median Age	40.2		44.4		39.8		-0.4	

Source: US Census, 2000, 2010, 2020 ACS S0101

Table 7: Age Distribution in Avon, 2019 and 2020

	2019 ACS		2020 ACS	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Under 5 years	251	5.6%	263	5.8%
5 to 9 years	296	6.6%	228	5.1%
10 to 14 years	205	4.6%	221	4.9%
15 to 19 years	207	4.6%	244	5.4%
20 to 24 years	152	3.4%	226	5.0%
25 to 34 years	745	16.6%	743	16.5%

35 to 44 years	633	14.1%	522	11.6%
45 to 54 years	671	14.9%	597	13.2%
55 to 59 years	331	7.4%	357	7.9%
60 to 64 years	367	8.2%	396	8.8%
65 to 74 years	385	8.6%	379	8.4%
75 to 84 years	170	3.8%	258	5.7%
85+ years	87	1.9%	79	1.8%
Total Population	4,500		4,513	
Median age (years)	40.0		39.8	

Source: 2019 and 2020 ACS 5-year Estimates, DP05

Table 8: Avon Housing Characteristics

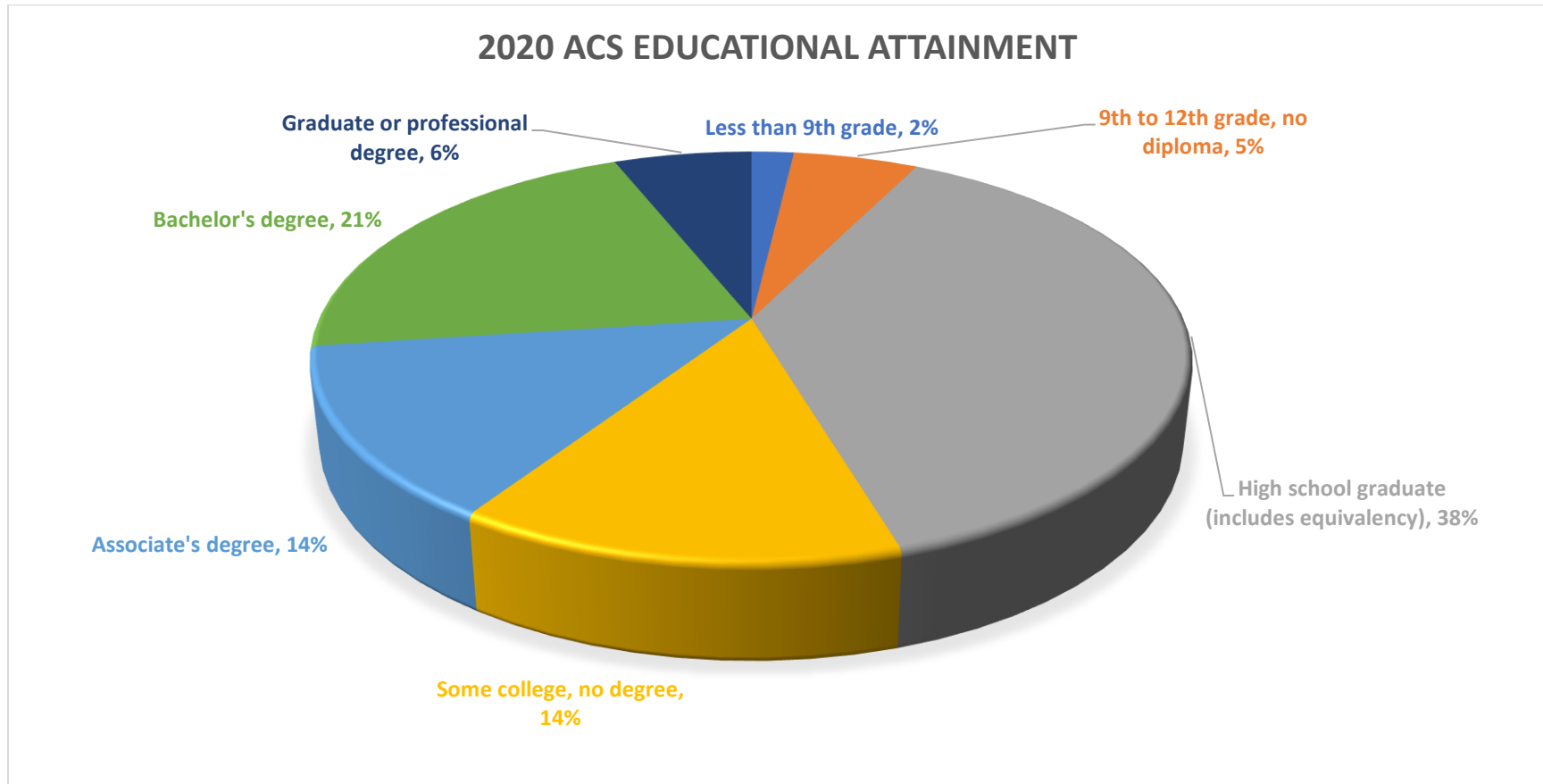
Units in Structure	2019 ACS		2020 ACS	
	Estimate	Percent	Number	Percent
Total Housing Units	1,787	100%	1,776	100%
1-unit, detached	1,305	73.0%	1,149	64.7%
1-unit, attached	115	6.4%	113	6.4%
2 units	150	8.4%	136	7.7%
3 or 4 units	92	5.1%	274	15.4%
5 to 9 units	54	3.0%	42	2.4%
10 to 19 units	37	2.1%	30	1.7%
20 or more units	9	0.5%	10	0.6%
Mobile home	15	0.8%	8	0.5%
Boat, RV, Van, etc.,	10	0.6%	14	0.8%

Source: 2019 & 2020 ACS 5-year Estimates, DP04

Table 9: Avon Race and Ethnicity, 2000-2020

	2000		2010		2020	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
<i>White Alone</i>	4,152	93.5%	3,660	84%	3,092	64.73%
<i>Black or African American Alone</i>	166	3.7%	434	10%	910	19.05%
<i>American Indian or Alaskan Native Alone</i>	12	0.3%	5	0.1%	7	0.15%
<i>Asian Alone</i>	41	0.9%	120	2.8%	196	4.10%
<i>Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander Alone</i>	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
<i>Some Other Race Alone</i>	34	0.8%	65	1.5%	226	4.73%
<i>Two or More Races</i>	38	0.9%	72	1.7%	346	7.24%
Total Population	4,443	100%	4,356	100%	4,777	100%
<i>Hispanic or Latino (of any race)</i>	11	0.40%	36	1.30%	311	6.51%

Figure 5: Avon Educational Attainment Aged 25+



Source: 2020 ACS 5-year Estimates, S1501

Educational Attainment

The Figure above shows the educational profile of adults aged twenty-five years and older in the Avon for 2020 as estimated in the American Community Survey. In Avon, during 2020, 38 percent of those aged twenty-five years and older had a high school diploma or high, which is an increase from 35 percent estimated in the 2017 ACS. In 2020, the ACS estimated that 14 percent of Avon residents aged twenty-five years and older had an associate degree. Of the residents of Avon aged twenty-five years and over, 21 percent were estimated to have a bachelor's degree and 6 percent have a Graduate or professional degree, according to 2020 ACS estimates.

Race & Ethnicity

Between 2000 and 2020, the racial and ethnic composition of Avon evolved into a more diverse population. In 2010, 3,660 (84 percent) of residents self-identified as White, a decrease of 9.5 percent from 2000 (4,152, 93.5%). The 2020 Census shows a further decrease in the number of residents self-identifying as White Along with 64.73 percent a decrease from 2010 of 19.27 percent.

The Asian population experienced significant growth during the 2000 to 2010 period, with an increase of 79 (192.68 percent) individuals, the Asian community represented 2.8 percent of the total population of Avon in 2010. In 2020 the percentage of Avon residents self-identifying as Asian Alone increased to 4.10 percent of the population.

According to the US Census Bureau, persons in Avon identifying as Some Other Race Alone increased by thirty-one

individuals representing a 91.17 percent growth in the population of that cohort between 2000 and 2010. The number of residents self-identifying as Some Other Race Alone accounted for 4.73 percent of the total population in the 2020 Census.

Although only thirty-six individuals in Avon were Hispanic in 2010, this represented 1.3 percent of the population. The number of Hispanic residents in Avon increased to 6.51 percent in the 2020 Census.

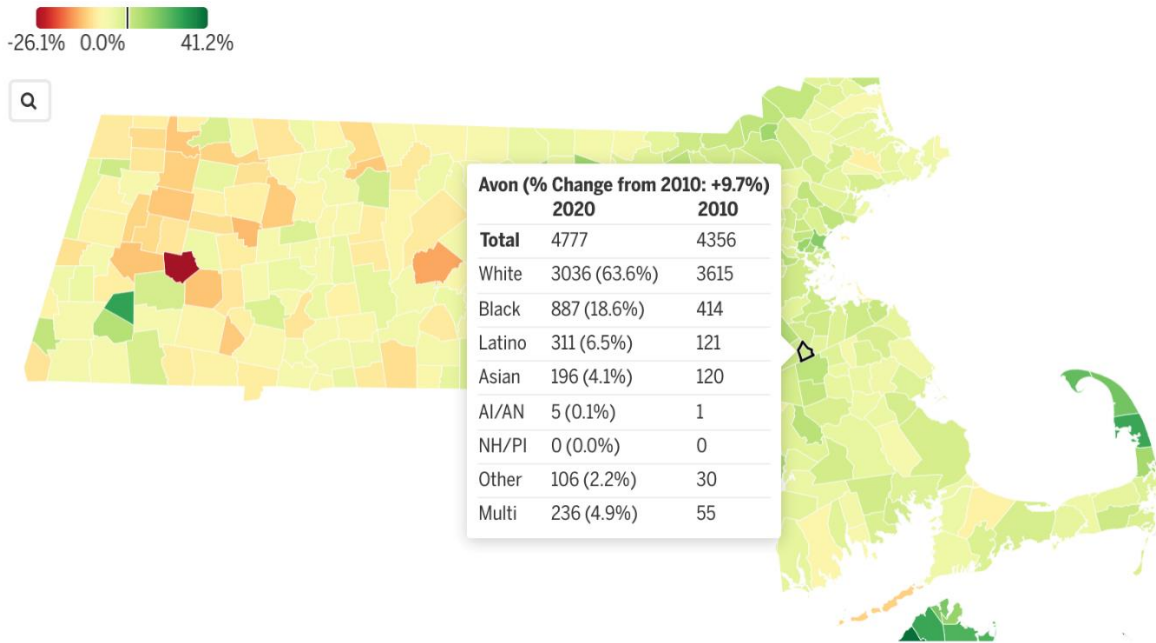
Environmental Justice

Populations

Environmental Justice (EJ) Populations are identified as a neighborhood that meets 1 or more of the following four criteria: (i) the annual median households income is not more than 65 percent of the statewide annual median household income; (ii) minorities comprise 40 percent or more of the population; (iii) 25 percent or more of households lack English language proficiency; or (iv) minorities comprise 25 percent or more of the population and the annual median household income of the municipality in which the neighborhood is located does not exceed 150 percent of the statewide annual median household income.

The Town of Avon meets environmental justice criteria for minority populations of 40 percent or more in three out of 4 Census block groups, (seventy-five percent). According to Mass.gov, the 2020 total population of Avon within those EJ block groups is 3,709. The percentage of the

population in Environmental Justice block groups is 82.4 percent.³



Source: [US Census Bureau](https://www.census.gov) • Black = Black or African American, Latino = Hispanic or Latino, AI/AN = American Indian and Alaska Native, NH/PI = Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander, Other = Some Other Race, Multi = Two or More Races.

Residents with Disabilities

Understanding the needs of disabled residents of Avon is a crucial aspect of planning for open space and recreation needs. Disability data for Avon is available in the 2000 US Census and the American Community Survey, but no disability data was collected for the 2010 US Census. Therefore, disability data in the 2020 American Community Survey (ACS) is the most recent data. According to the US Census Bureau, shortly after the 2000 Census, there was growing agreement that

surveys questions on disability did not coincide with recent models of disability. An interagency group was formed to develop a new set of questions, and new questions were introduced in 2008. These questions categorize a disability as one having difficulty in one of the following: hearing, vision, cognition, walking or climbing stairs (ambulatory), self-care (difficulty bathing or dressing), and independent living (difficulty doing errands alone such as visiting a doctor’s office or shopping).

Because of the changes to the questions, the US Census Bureau recommends that the new ACS disability questions not be compared to the previous ACS disability

³ <https://www.mass.gov/doc/massachusetts-cities-towns-with-environmental-justice-populations/download>

questions or the 2000 US Census disability data. As a result, this section focuses only on disability data available from the 2020 ACS.

According to the ACS S1801, there were an estimated 280 residents in Avon that experience hearing difficulty (6.2%). There were 274 Avon residents with vision difficulty (6.1%). The 2020 ACS indicated 266 Avon residents with a cognitive difficulty (6.3%) and 415 residents reported an ambulatory difficulty (9.8%) and seventy-two residents (1.7%) reported a self-care difficulty.

Of the total estimated population with a disability, the most common disability reported was an ambulatory disability, which is a disability that involves serious difficulty walking or climbing stairs. The next most common disabilities are difficulties with living independently and cognitive difficulties.

It is important to note that some residents experience more than one disability, which is why the values may sum to greater than the total number of disabled residents. In addition, this data is based on a survey sample and is therefore subject to sampling variability, which can result in a degree of uncertainty.

Disabled residents often have unique housing, open space, and recreation needs, both in terms of physical design/accessibility of these spaces as well as the cost relative to a fixed or limited income. For those reasons, affordable housing and open space and recreation plans should be sensitive to the needs of the disabled community and should incorporate their issues into the goals and strategies for all plans.

Income

According to the US Census Bureau, median household income is calculated based on the income of the householder and all other individuals 15 years old and over living in a household. The median household income of a community is determined by dividing the income distribution into two equal groups, one having incomes above the median, and the other having incomes below the median.

The median household income in Avon in 2020 was estimated by the ACS at \$97,353, more than the median household income for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts of \$84,385 and Plymouth County at \$92,906. Within the Old Colony Planning Council region, only the city of Brockton had a lower Median Household Income of \$62,249.

While median household income is a valuable social and economic indicator, it does not account for the broad range of household incomes in a community.

The 2020 American Community Survey (ACS) estimates showed that 169 or 10.3 percent of the households in Avon had an annual income of less than \$25,000, and approximately 360 or 22 percent of the households in Avon had an annual income of less than \$50,000.

The 2020 ACS estimates that Avon had a median household income of \$97,353 which is in the middle of the regional municipalities, with Brockton showing the lowest median household income at \$62,249. Hanover has the highest median household income in the region with its residents earning \$133,922, followed by Duxbury with \$126,889 and Pembroke with \$119,827.

Between 2000 and 2020, the median household income for Avon increased by 93.53 percent from \$50,305 in 2000 to \$97,353 in 2020. Within the Old Colony Planning Council region, the community with the highest percentage increase in median household income was Avon, with an increase of 93.53 percent from 2000 followed by West Bridgewater at 88.31 percent increase in median household income between 2000 and 2020. Duxbury experienced the lowest percentage increase in median household income with an increase of 30.65 percent between 2000 and 2020.

It is important to adjust these values for inflation so an absolute comparison can be

made. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) Inflation Rate Calculator, one dollar in 2000 has the same buying power as \$1.50 in 2020 dollars, an increase of \$0.50 over 20 years. The dollar had an average inflation rate of 2.06 percent per year between 2000 and 2020, producing a cumulative price increase of 50.30 percent. This means that prices in 2020 are 1.50 times higher than the average prices since 2000, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics consumer price index. The inflation rate in 2000 was 3.36 percent. The inflation rate in 2020 was 1.23 percent. The 2020 inflation rate is lower compared to the average inflation rate of 6.27 percent per year between 2020 and 2022.

Table 10: Income Distribution for Avon Households 2000-2020

Income Category	2000		2020 ACS		Percent Change 2000-2020	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Change	Percent
\$200,000 or More	28	1.6	66	4.0%	38	135.7%
\$150,000 to \$199,999	42	2.5	353	21.6%	311	740.5%
\$100,000 to \$149,999	197	11.5	386	23.6%	189	95.9%
\$75,000 to \$99,999	273	15.9	139	8.5%	-134	-49.1%
\$50,000 to \$74,999	326	19	330	20.2%	4	1.2%
\$35,000 to \$49,999	281	16.4	118	7.2%	-163	-58.0%
\$25,000 to \$34,999	138	8.1	73	4.5%	-65	-47.1%
\$15,000 to \$24,999	219	12.8	51	3.1%	-168	-76.7%
\$10,000 - \$14,999	84	4.9	58	3.5%	-26	-30.9%
Less than \$10,000	124	7.2	60	3.7%	-64	-51.6%

Source: 2020 ACS 5-year Estimates, S1901, DP03, Census 2000 Summary File 3 (SF3) DP-3

Table 11: Median Income 2000-2020

OCPC Municipalities	2000 Median Household Income (Dollars)	2020 Median Household Income (Dollars)	% Change 2000 to 2020
Abington	\$ 57,100	\$106,001	85.64%
Avon	\$ 50,305	\$97,353	93.53%
Bridgewater	\$ 65,318	\$100,747	54.24%
Brockton	\$ 39,507	\$62,249	57.56%
Duxbury	\$ 97,124	\$126,889	30.65%
East Bridgewater	\$ 60,311	\$102,669	70.23%
Easton	\$ 69,144	\$106,900	54.60%
Halifax	\$ 57,015	\$97,844	71.61%
Hanover	\$ 73,838	\$133,922	81.37%
Hanson	\$ 62,687	\$100,455	60.25%
Kingston	\$ 53,780	\$95,197	77.01%
Pembroke	\$ 65,050	\$119,827	84.21%
Plymouth	\$ 54,677	\$92,727	69.59%
Plympton	\$ 70,045	\$107,734	53.81%
Stoughton	\$ 57,838	\$90,201	55.95%
West Bridgewater	\$ 55,958	\$105,377	88.31%
Whitman	\$ 55,303	\$88,932	60.81%

Source: US Census, ACS 5-year Estimates 2020 S1901

Table 12: 2020 ACS Median Household Income by Census Block Group

Geographic Area Name	Median Household Income	Source
Census Tract 4571, Block Group 1	\$100,909	2020 ACS
Census Tract 4571, Block Group 2	\$128,782	2020 ACS
Census Tract 4571, Block Group 3	\$95,511	2020 ACS
Census Tract 4571, Block Group 4	\$57,031	2019 ACS

The distribution of income across Avon households has changed significantly since 2000. In Avon, according to the 2020 ACS, more than 57.7 percent of households made \$75,000 or more in 2020, and 49.2 percent of households made \$100,000 or more. Subsequently, the American Community Survey estimates that 42.2 percent of the population of Avon earned less than \$75,000 in 2020. Since 2000, the number of households earning more than \$150,000 in Avon has increased by more than 740 percent, and households with incomes more than \$200,000 increased by more than 135 percent.

Per Capita Income

The US Census Bureau defines per capita income as the average income received in the past 12 months for every man, woman, and child in a geographic area. It is derived by dividing the total income of all people 15 years old and over in a geographic area by the total population in that area. Income is not collected for people under 15 years old even though those people are included in the denominator of per capita income.

Employment

The residents of Avon are employed in a variety of industries although most are employed outside of Avon borders. The industries that employ the most residents are the educational services, healthcare, and social assistance industries (28.8%) and the Retail Trade (12.6%). Employment data is important to review because it gives a sense of how many people in Town are working in traditional high-paying industries such as management and finance versus people working in traditionally low-paying industries, such as retail, hospitality, and food service industries.

A related concern to employment and income is unemployment. Over the five years before the COVID-19 pandemic, the unemployment rates in Avon, its neighboring communities, the County, and the Commonwealth all dropped, as the economy continued to rebound from the most recent recession.

The current unemployment rate is at 5.40 percent, compared to 5.50 percent last month and 11.30 percent last year during the pandemic. This is lower than the long-term average of 6.06 percent.⁴ The US average is 6.0 percent. Avon has seen the job market increase by 4.3 percent over the last year.

⁴ Bureau of Labor Statistics
https://ycharts.com/indicators/avon_ma_unemployment_rate

Table 13: Largest Employers in Avon

Largest Employers in Avon		
Company Name	Address	Number of Employees
Design Communications Ltd.	Bodwell St. #1	250-499
Abbott Home Health Care Inc.	Kiddie Drive #106	100-249
Adams Media	Littlefield St. #3	100-249
Avon Public Schools	Patrick Clark Drive	100-249
Costco Wholesale	Stockwell Drive	100-249
Dana Barros Basketball Club	Kiddie Dr.	100-249
Home Depot	Stockwell Drive	100-249
PPG Aerospace	Bodwell St.	100-249
Road Safe Traffic Systems Inc.	Bodwell St.	100-249
Ruby Wines Inc.	Bodwell St. Ext. #A	100-249
Walmart Supercenter	Memorial Drive	100-249
Wrobel Engineering Co. Inc.	Bodwell St. Ext. #A	100-249
Atsco Footwear Inc.	Bodwell St. Ext. #A	50-99
Avon High School	West Main St.	50-99
Bay State Wine Co.	Robbie Road #A	50-99
Be Peterson Inc.	Murphy Drive #2	50-99
Christmas Tree Shops	Stockwell Drive	50-99
Convenience Food Systems	Wales Ave	50-99
Home Health & Childcare Svc	Bodwell St. #C	50-99
Jetro Cash & Carry Ent LLC	Bodwell St.	50-99
Jordan's Furniture	Stockwell Drive	50-99
Premier Diagnostics Svc	Bodwell St. #C	50-99
Shop Repair	Bodwell St.	50-99
TL Edwards Inc.	Wales Ave Rear	50-99
YRC Freight	Bodwell St.	50-99

Source: <https://lmi.dua.eol.mass.gov/LMI/LargestEmployersArea/LEAResult?A=05&GA=000113>

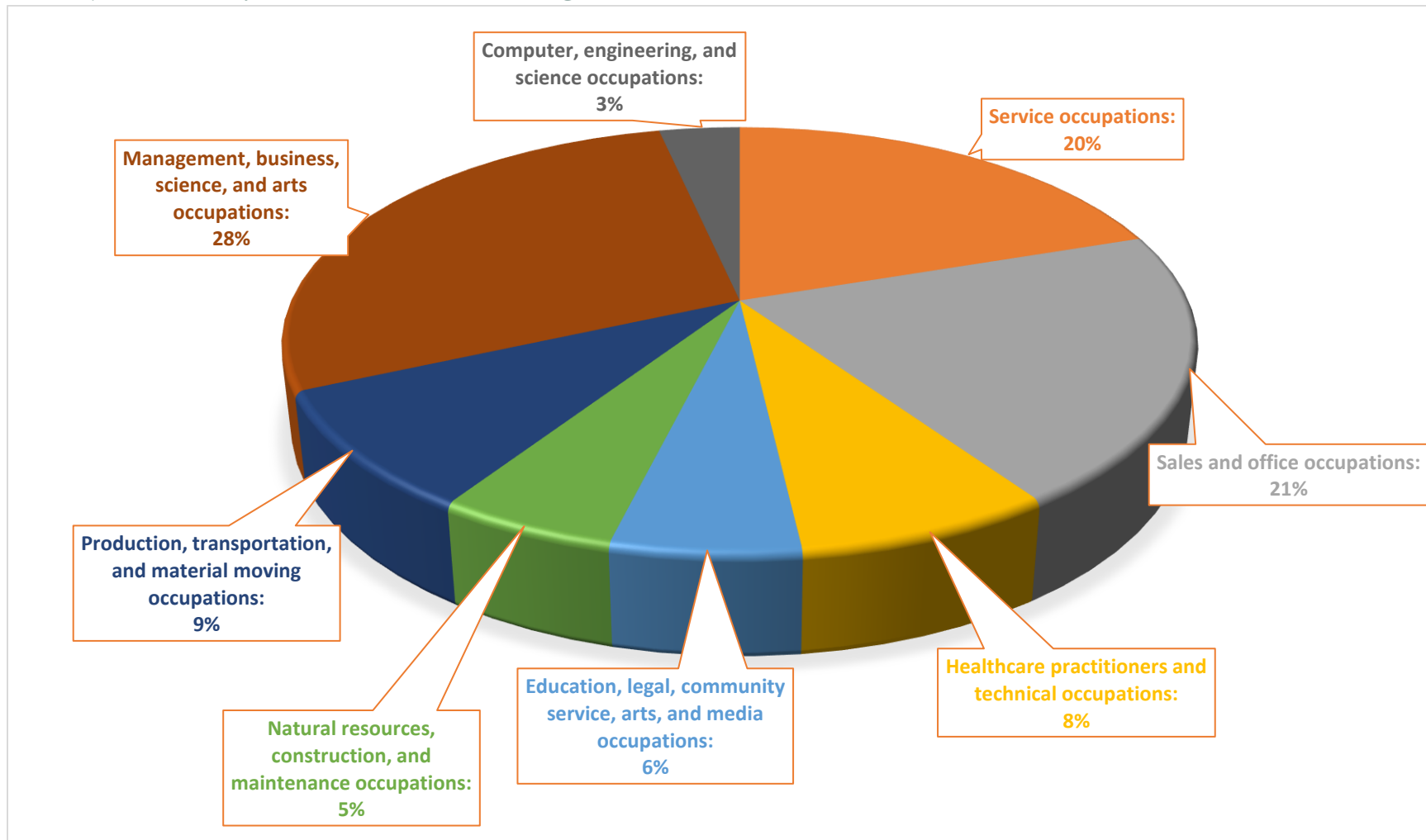
Table 14: Employment of Avon Residents by Industry

Industry	Number	Percent
Agriculture, forestry, fishing, hunting, and mining	0	0.0%
Construction	235	9.4%
Manufacturing	201	8.0%
Wholesale Trade	14	0.6%
Retail Trade	315	12.6%
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	117	4.7%
Information	56	2.2%

Finance, insurance, real estate rental, and leasing	177	7.1%
Professional, scientific, management, administrative, and waste management services	206	8.2%
Educational services, healthcare, and social assistance	719	28.8%
Arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodations, and food services	236	9.5%
Other services except for public administration	104	4.2%
Public Administration	117	4.7%
Total civilian employed population (16+ years)	3,703	100%

Source: ACS 5-year Estimates, 2019 DP03

Occupations Of Avon Residents Aged 16+



Source: 2020 ACS S240

According to HUD “extremely low income” housing is reserved for households earning at or below 30 percent of the Area Median Income (AMI); “very low income” households are households earning between 31 percent and 50 percent of the AMI; and “low income” households are households earning between 51 percent and 80 percent of the Area Median Income (AMI).

The federal poverty level was \$16,100 for a household of one in 2021. According to the 2020 ACS S1701, of the Avon population for whom the poverty status is determined (4,489), 340 live below the poverty level (7.6%). Of the population for whom poverty status is determined, 827 are under 18 years, and of that age cohort, 44 or 5.3 percent live below the poverty level. All 44 of those children living below the poverty level are minors between the ages of 5 to 17 years.

Individuals most likely to live in poverty in Avon are individuals between the age of 18 to 64 years, which is consistent with regional, state, and national trends. Of those within the 18 to 64 years age cohort (2,946), 239 (8.1%) lived below the poverty level. The 35 to 64 years cohort contains the highest percentage of residents living below the poverty level (9.7%).

Affordability is of particular concern to low-income households. Many federal and

state housing programs define low-income households according to household size and household income, measured as a percent of Area Median Income (AMI).

In terms of families, Avon has a low rate of families below the federal poverty level, which is \$26,200 for a household of four in 2020⁵. Avon’s poverty rate for all families is 5.4 percent, which is more than Plymouth County’s rate of 4.4 percent and less than the Commonwealth’s rate of 6.6 percent. The family-type most likely to live in poverty in Avon is female householders with no husband present (4.6%) which is significantly less than Plymouth County (14.1%) and the Commonwealth (20.5%). The second highest family type most likely to live in poverty in Avon are families with householder 65 years and over (15.2% of all families in Avon).⁶

Commonwealth of Massachusetts female-headed households with no husband present and related children under 18 years of age are the family type with the highest percentage of poverty according to the 2020 ACS; 29.2 percent of all families are classified under this category. Families with female householder with related children under five years old account for 34.2 percent of the Commonwealth families living below the poverty level.

D. Growth and Development Patterns

The Town of Avon is located off Route 24, south of Route 128. It is a residential, commercial, and industrial town with a strong non-residential tax base. This tax base is in the Avon Industrial Park and the Avon

Merchants Park located on either side of Route 24. There is no public sewer available.

The number of shoe firms in Avon steadily diminished from the final quarter of the nineteenth century on, but hundreds of

⁵ <https://aspe.hhs.gov/topics/poverty-economic-mobility/poverty-guidelines/prior-hhs-poverty->

[guidelines-federal-register-references/2020-poverty-guidelines](https://aspe.hhs.gov/topics/poverty-economic-mobility/poverty-guidelines/prior-hhs-poverty-)

⁶ 2020 ACS 5-year Estimates, S1702

townspeople continued to work in the shoe trade locally in one of Brockton's shoe factories. The shoe industry further declined after World War II.

The population expanded in the post-war years reaching 5,295 in 1970 and then declining to 4,443 by 2000 and 4,356 in 2010. Growth was slowed or reversed by a limited water supply and a lack of buildable land due to limited capacity for on-site sewage disposal. Just as residential building in the town was slackening, industrial and commercial construction was increasing.

When Route 24 was built providing easy access to Route 128 and during the 1950s and early 1960s Avon became a "bedroom community" oriented toward Boston. The town lost factory workers, household workers, and laborers, while it gained professionals, skilled blue-collar workers, and employees engaged in the public service sector.

By the late 1950s and early 1960s, the traditional shoe and shoe components industries located near the town center had declined, and Avon's modern industrial/commercial history began with the development of the 300-acre Avon Industrial Park.

The 1956 Town Meeting created the Avon Industrial and Development Commission and the modern industrial/commercial history began with the 1966 creation of the Avon Industrial Park. This capitalized on its extensive undeveloped land and its immediate proximity to Route 24.

With strong local leadership, the town built the main access road, Bodwell Street, through the park and later extended it across Page Street with Bodwell Street Extension to connect with Wales Street. These roads

facilitated subdivision and private development of adjacent lands.

With no sewerage and limited water supplies but highway access, the Park has diverse, moderate-scale manufacturing, metal-related trades, and many distribution activities using little water. With the lack of sewerage requiring land for septic leaching fields, and a building coverage zoning limit of 25 percent, many of the lots are used un-intensively.

Principal highways in town are State Routes 24 and 28. Route 24, a six-lane, limited access highway, runs along the western border of Avon going south to New Bedford, and north to Route 128 (US I93/I95) which connects the town with all of greater Boston and beyond. The north-south Route 28 extends from the Brockton city line on the south to the Randolph town line to the north. Harrison Boulevard is a major east/west road in Avon that extends from the Route 24 interchange and the Stoughton town line to Route 28.

Public transit service is available from the Brockton Area Transit system, the MBTA bus route, and the Boston-Middleboro MBTA Commuter Rail Line which runs along the western edge of town. There is no station in town, but service can be reached at the Holbrook/Randolph station, located on Route 139 at the Holbrook/Randolph town line, and the Montello station in Brockton, about 2.2 miles south of Avon center.

There is also rail and truck freight service. Boston and Providence are less than one hour's drive away. The Town's strategic location, continuous economic growth, and commercial-industrial developments such as the Avon Industrial Park and the Avon Merchants Park have made it a major employment center. The location of commuter rail service through Brockton and

Randolph has made Avon more desirable as a Boston commuter community.

The Town’s industrial/commercial tax base helps to make Avon an affordable place to live while giving it the capacity to support good public facilities and services including high-quality schools.

Present Land Use Patterns

The Town’s primary land use is residential and the greatest proportion of this is in detached single-family home development. While housing is the dominant land use, commercial and industrial development has constituted the newest construction in recent years.

The second-largest land uses are the varied industrial, distribution, wholesale, and retail uses in the Avon Industrial Park and the Avon Merchants’ Park. These are well separated from most residences, being on either side of Route 24 at the western edge of the town.

Land use data within Avon was obtained from the most recent MassGIS land use layer. Land use describes how the natural environment has been modified into a built environment. The impervious surface covers approximately 22.8 percent of land in the town and is denser in more developed areas. The following table shows the extent of impervious surface and urban land development throughout the Town.

Table 15: Land Use in Avon

Land Use Classification	Percentage of Landcover
Commercial	7.7%
Industrial	12.7%
Open Land	42.4%
Residential – multi-family	3.3%
Residential – single family	15.8%
Right-of-way	15.8%
Tax-exempt	2.1%
Unknown	0.2%
Total	100%

Zoning

These development patterns and potentials reflect the town’s current zoning bylaw⁷. The Town of Avon is divided into seven zoning districts and four overlay districts⁸.

Table 16: Avon Zoning Districts

District	Short Name
Residence-Suburban A	RES R-25
Residence-Suburban B	RES R-40
General Business	GEN BUS
Industrial	IND
Mixed-Use-Low Density	MU Low D
Residential-High Density	R HD
Commercial	COM
Floodplain	FP
Water Supply Protection District	WSPD

⁷ https://www.avon-ma.gov/sites/g/files/vyhlf271/f/uploads/dimensional_and_density_regulations_table_0.pdf

⁸ <https://ecode360.com/31964113>

Business District	Overlay	BOD
Village District	Overlay	VOD

Table of Use Regulations - Principal Uses										
		Avon Zoning Districts								
		RES R-25	RES R-40	GEN BUS	IND	COM	MU Low D	RES HD	BOD	VOD
A.	Residential Uses									
1	Detached dwelling on a separate lot occupied by not more than one family.	Y	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
2	One two-family or one duplex dwelling on a separate lot.	Y	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
3	Attached dwelling occupied by not more than one family in each unit between side walls. See § 255-7.5A or 255-5.6.	SP	SP	SP	N	N	Y	Y	N	Y
4	Apartments. See § 255-7.5A or § 255-5.6.	SP	SP	SP	N	N	Y	Y	N	Y

Table of Use Regulations - Principal Uses										
		Avon Zoning Districts								
		RES R-25	RES R-40	GEN BUS	IND	COM	MU Low D	RES HD	BOD	VOD
4	Recreational facility owned or operated by an agency of the Town or other government.	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
5	Public utilities.	SP	SP	SP	SP	SP	SP	SP	SP	SP
6	Private, nonprofit libraries or museums.	SP	SP	SP	N	SP	Y	Y	SP	SP
7	Private, nonprofit community center building, settlement house, adult education center, or other similar facility, provided indoor or outdoor noisy activities shall not be less than 100 feet from any lot line and shall not be detrimental to the neighborhood by reason of noise in any season.	SP	SP	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	N	N
8	Hospital, infirmary, nursing home, convalescent home.	SP	SP	Y	N	N	SP	SP	N	SP
9	(Reserved)									
10	Overnight camps for children under 18 years of age.	SP	SP	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
11	Trade, professional or other school conducted as a private business for gain.	N	N	SP	SP	SP	Y	N	SP	SP
12	Private, nonprofit membership club or lodge.	SP	SP	Y	Y	N	SP	N	N	SP
13	Country, golf, swimming, tennis, or other recreational facility.	SP	SP	SP	SP	SP	N	SP	N	SP

Table of Use Regulations - Principal Uses										
Avon Zoning Districts										
		RES R-25	RES R-40	GEN BUS	IND	COM	MU Low D	RES HD	BOD	VOD
2	Offices and clinics for medical, psychiatric, or other health services for the examination or treatment of persons as outpatients, including only laboratories that are part of such office or clinic.	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	SP	SP
3	Laboratory or research facility.	N	N	Y	Y	SP	SP	N	SP	Y
4	Commercial or educational radio or television studio.	N	N	N	Y	SP	SP	N	SP	SP
E. Retail Business and Consumer Service Establishments										
1	Store serving local retail business needs of residents of vicinity, including but not limited to bakery, grocery, meat market, fruit stores, florist, hardware or paint store, news and/or tobacco store, drugstore, provided the gross floor area of each establishment is equal to or less than 25% of lot area, and further provided that all display, storage and sales of material are conducted within a building and provided there will be no manufacturing on the premises.	N	N	Y	N	N	Y	SP	SP	SP

Table of Use Regulations - Principal Uses										
Avon Zoning Districts										
		RES R-25	RES R-40	GEN BUS	IND	COM	MU Low D	RES HD	BOD	VOD
14	Entertainment and recreational facilities operated as a business for gain, including but not limited to bowling alley, theater, or sport arena, provided such use is housed indoors in a sound-insulated structure protecting neighborhood from inappropriate noise in any season.	N	N	Y	SP	SP	Y	N	N	SP
15	All Town and municipal uses.	SP	SP	SP	SP	SP	SP	SP	SP	SP
C. Agricultural Uses										
1	Farms - agricultural, floricultural, orchard, horticultural, or silvicultural (5 acres or more).	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	N
2	Farms - livestock or poultry, but not swine, provided that any building housing livestock or poultry be not less than 50 feet from the property boundary (5 acres or more).	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	N
3	One roadside stand per farm for sale of agricultural products, the major portion of which are grown or produced on the premises.	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	N
D. Office and Laboratory										
1	Business, financial, professional, or governmental offices, but no retail business, no manufacturing and no processing.	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y

Table of Use Regulations - Principal Uses										
		Avon Zoning Districts								
		RES R-25	RES R-40	GEN BUS	IND	COM	MU Low D	RES HD	BOD	VOD
2	Store for retail sale of merchandise, provided all display, storage, and sales of materials are conducted within a building and provided there will be no manufacturing on the premises.	N	N	Y	SP	Y	Y	N	SP	SP
3	Eating places serving food and beverages to be consumed within the building; no dancing or live entertainment permitted.	N	N	Y	SP	SP	SP	SP	SP	SP
4	Eating places serving food and beverages to be consumed within the building, with dancing and/or live entertainment permitted.	N	N	Y	SP	SP	SP	N	N	SP
5	Drive-in or open-air restaurant or other establishment providing food and beverages with no live or mechanical entertainment.	N	N	SP	SP	SP	Y	N	SP	SP

Table of Use Regulations - Principal Uses										
		Avon Zoning Districts								
		RES R-25	RES R-40	GEN BUS	IND	COM	MU Low D	RES HD	BOD	VOD
5	Planned unit development. See § 255-7.5F.	SP	SP	N	N	N	N	SP	N	N
6	Cluster residential development. See § 255-7.5E.	SP	SP	N	N	N	N	SP	N	N
7	Hotels/motels. See § 255-7.5B.	N	N	SP	SP	SP	SP	N	SP	SP
8	Renting of rooms in an existing dwelling to not more than six persons.	SP	SP	SP	N	N	SP	N	SP	SP
9	Conversion of an existing dwelling to accommodate not more than two families, provided that each resulting unit has at least 900 square feet of habitable floor space.	SP	SP	SP	N	N	Y	SP	SP	SP
10	Mobile homes.	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
11	Trailer park or mobile home park.	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
12	Campgrounds.	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
13	Parking of commercial vehicles over five tons.	SP	SP	SP	Y	Y	SP	N	SP	SP
14	Multiple dwelling units on a single lot in a residential or mixed-use zone.	SP	SP	SP	N	N	SP	SP	SP	
B. Institutional, Recreational, and Educational Uses										
1	Place of worship.	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
2	Religious, sectarian, and nonsectarian denominational, private, or public school not conducted as a private business for gain.	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
3	Cemeteries.	SP	SP	N	N	N	N	N	N	N

Table of Use Regulations - Principal Uses										
Avon Zoning Districts										
		RES R-25	RES R-40	GEN BUS	IND	COM	MU Low D	RES HD	BOD	VOD
11	Store of retail sale of merchandise such as, but not limited to, lumber yards wherein merchandise is stored in the open, provided that all merchandise so stored is screened from ground-level view from any abutting street or abutting property where such material is stored.	N	N	SP	Y	SP	N	N	N	N
12	Planned business development.	N	N	Y	SP	SP	SP	N	N	Y
13	Adult entertainment establishments in accordance with § 255-5-5.	N	N	N	SP	N	N	N	N	N
F. Automotive Service and Open-Air Drive-In Retail Service										
1a	Full-service, attendant-operated motor vehicle service station.	N	N	Y	Y	SP	N	N	N	N
1b	Self-service gasoline sales outlet.	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
2	Sale or rental of automobiles, boats, and other motor vehicles and accessory storage conducted entirely within an enclosed, sound-insulated structure to protect the neighborhood from inappropriate noise and other disturbing effects such as but not limited to flashing, fumes, gases, smoke, and vapors.	N	N	Y	SP	SP	N	N	N	N

Table of Use Regulations - Principal Uses										
Avon Zoning Districts										
		RES R-25	RES R-40	GEN BUS	IND	COM	MU Low D	RES HD	BOD	VOD
6	Space for manufacturing, assembly, or packaging of consumer goods, provided that at least 50% of such merchandise is sold at retail on the premises and that all display, sales and storage are conducted within the building, and further provided that not more than 25% of floor area is devoted to manufacturing, assembly, or packaging of consumer goods and that not more than five persons are employed at any one time for the manufacturing assembly, or packaging of such goods.	N	N	Y	SP	SP	N	N	N	N
7	Service businesses serving local needs, such as barbershops, shoe repair, self-service laundry, or dry cleaning or pick-up agency.	N	N	Y	N	SP	Y	SP	SP	SP
8	Hand laundry, dry cleaning or tailoring or other similar uses, provided personnel are limited to not more than 10 persons at any one time on the premises.	N	N	Y	N	SP	Y	N	SP	SP
9	Mortuary, undertaking or funeral establishment.	N	N	Y	N	N	Y	N	N	N
10	Veterinary establishment or similar establishment, provided that animals are kept wholly indoors.	N	N	Y	N	N	SP	N	N	N

Table of Use Regulations - Principal Uses										
		Avon Zoning Districts								
		RES R-25	RES R-40	GEN BUS	IND	COM	MU Low D	RES HD	BOD	VOD
5	Place for manufacturing, assembling or packaging of goods, provided that all resulting cinders, dust, flashing, fumes, gases, odors, refuse matter, smoke, and vapor are effectively confined to the premises or be disposed of in a manner that does not create a nuisance or hazard to safety or health.	N	N	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N
6	Wholesale business and storage in a roofed structure.	N	N	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N
7	Trucking terminals.	N	N	N	SP	N	N	N	N	N
8	Freight terminals.	N	N	N	SP	N	N	N	N	N
9	Extractive industries.	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
10	Planned industrial development.	N	N	N	SP	N	N	N	N	N
11	Facilities for processing materials for recycling.	N	N	SP	SP	N	N	N	N	N
12	Residential wind energy conversion facilities by special permit with the Planning Board as SPGA.	SP	SP	SP	SP	SP	SP	SP	N	N
13	Medium wind energy conversion facilities by special permit with the Planning Board as SPGA.	N	N	SP	SP	SP	SP	SP	N	N
14	Commercial wind energy conversion Facilities by special permit with the Planning Board as SPGA.	N	N	N	SP	SP	SP	SP	N	N
15	Temporary wind monitoring or meteorological towers.	SP	SP	SP	SP	SP	SP	SP	N	N
H. Other Principal Uses										

Table of Use Regulations - Principal Uses										
		Avon Zoning Districts								
		RES R-25	RES R-40	GEN BUS	IND	COM	MU Low D	RES HD	BOD	VOD
3	Sale or rental of automobiles, boats, and other motor vehicle and accessory storage conducted partly or wholly on open lots.	N	N	Y	SP	SP	N	N	N	N
4	Automobile repair shops, provided all work is carried out within the building.	N	N	Y	Y	SP	N	N	N	N
5	Car washing establishments.	N	N	Y	Y	SP	N	N	N	N
6	Sales place for flowers, garden supplies, agricultural produce partly or wholly outdoors, including commercial greenhouses.	N	N	Y	Y	SP	Y	N	N	N
7	Outdoor sports facility conducted for profit, such as golf courses, country clubs, tennis clubs, marina.	SP	SP	SP	SP	N	SP	SP	N	SP
8	Place for exhibition, lettering or sale of gravestones.	N	N	Y	N	N	Y	N	N	N
G. Industrial, Wholesale and Transportation Uses										
1	Laundries and dry-cleaning plants.	N	N	SP	Y	N	N	N	N	N
2	Printing, binding, publishing, and related arts and trades.	N	N	SP	Y	N	SP	N	SP	SP
4	Plumbing, electrical or carpentry shop or other similar services or repair establishments.	N	N	SP	Y	N	N	N	N	N

Table of Use Regulations - Principal Uses										
		Avon Zoning Districts								
		RES R-25	RES R-40	GEN BUS	IND	COM	MU Low D	RES HD	BOD	VOD
4	The use of a portion of a dwelling or accessory building thereto by a resident builder, rental office, carpenter, painter, plumber, electrician, mason, or other tradesman for incidental work and storage in connection with an off-premises occupation, provided there is no external change which alters the residential appearance of the buildings, and further provided that all storage is kept indoors.	SP	SP	Y	Y	N	SP	N	N	N
5	Storage or garaging of camping and recreational equipment, for personal use.	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y
6	Store for retail sale of merchandise, provided all display, storage and sale of materials are conducted within the building where they are warehoused, manufactured and/or assembled and that the sales area be no more than 8,000 square feet.	N	N	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N
7	Residential tree surgeon, landscape gardener.	N	N	SP	Y	SP	N	N	N	N
8	Trailer use for temporary storage.	N	N	SP	SP	SP	SP	SP	N	N

Table of Use Regulations - Principal Uses										
		Avon Zoning Districts								
		RES R-25	RES R-40	GEN BUS	IND	COM	MU Low D	RES HD	BOD	VOD
1	Any trade, industry, or other use that is noxious or hazardous by reason of vibration or noise or the emission of odors, dust, gas, fumes, smoke, cinders, flashing or excessively bright lights, refuse matter or electromagnetic radiation.	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
2	Signs or advertising devices except as permitted by this bylaw (See Article X).	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
3	Open-lot storage or sale of junk or salvaged materials.	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
4	Any use hazardous to health because of danger of flooding, inadequacy of drainage, or inaccessibility to fire-fighting apparatus or other protective services.	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
5	The stripping of loam, peat, sand, or gravel or other materials except for reuse on the same property. (See § 255-7.5C.)	SP	SP	SP	SP	SP	N	SP	SP	SP
6	Wireless or broadcasting towers over 100 feet high erected on federal, state, county or Town property only.	SP	SP	SP	SP	SP	SP	SP	SP	SP
7	Establish medical marijuana treatment, dispensing and cultivation facilities.	N	N	N	N	SP	N	N		

Figure 6: Residential and Commercial Tax Rates, FY2019-2021

	Commercial Tax Rate	FY19	FY20	FY21	Residential Tax Rate	FY19	FY20	FY21
Abington	One Rate	\$17.39	\$17.00	\$16.48	One Rate	\$17.39	\$17.00	\$16.48
Avon	Commercial/Industrial	\$34.33	\$33.42	\$31.60	Residential	\$17.99	\$17.70	\$16.78
Bridgewater	One Rate	\$14.83	\$14.73	\$14.48	One Rate	\$14.83	\$14.73	\$14.48
Brockton	Commercial	\$31.68	\$30.41	\$29.64	Residential	\$15.54	\$15.15	\$14.50
Duxbury	One Rate	\$14.68	\$14.66	\$14.48	One Rate	\$14.68	\$14.66	\$14.48
East Bridgewater	One Rate	\$17.56	\$17.29	\$17.05	One Rate	\$17.56	\$17.29	\$17.05
Easton	One Rate	\$15.96	\$15.38	\$15.48	One Rate	\$15.96	\$15.38	\$15.48
Halifax	One Rate	\$17.47	\$17.44	\$17.39	One Rate	\$17.47	\$17.44	\$17.39
Hanover	Commercial	\$17.38	\$17.07	\$17.09	Residential	\$16.41	\$16.31	\$16.33
Hanson	One Rate	\$15.53	\$15.27	\$15.10	One Rate	\$15.53	\$15.27	\$15.10
Kingston	One Rate	\$16.46	\$16.28	\$16.08	One Rate	\$16.46	\$16.28	\$16.08
Pembroke	One Rate	\$14.60	\$14.49	\$14.58	One Rate	\$14.60	\$14.49	\$14.58
Plymouth	One Rate	\$16.54	\$16.35	\$16.16	One Rate	\$16.54	\$16.35	\$16.16
Plympton	One Rate	\$17.68	\$17.62	\$17.49	One Rate	\$17.68	\$17.62	\$17.49
Stoughton	Commercial	\$26.73	\$25.59	\$25.49	Residential	\$15.34	\$14.89	\$15.10
West Bridgewater	Commercial	\$27.65	\$28.46	\$27.68	Residential	\$16.53	\$16.37	\$16.71
Whitman	One Rate	\$15.28	\$15.85	\$15.50	Residential	\$15.38	\$14.85	\$15.50

Priority Development Areas

Priority Development Areas (PDAs) are areas that are appropriate for increased development or redevelopment due to several factors including good transportation access, available infrastructure (primarily water and sewer), an absence of environmental constraints, consistency with adopted master plans or community development plans, and as important, local support. Priority Development Areas can range in size from a single parcel to many acres. Potential development ranges from small-scale infill projects to large commercial, industrial, residential, or mixed-use developments. Examples are town and village centers, Chapter 40R districts, industrial parks, and proposed commuter rail-focused Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) sites.

A community's Priority Area designations can guide municipal decisions about zoning revisions, infrastructure investment, conservation efforts, and master plan revisions.

The Town of Avon Priority Development Areas:

Approximately 95.3 acres in the Southeast quadrant of the Route 24/Harrison Boulevard Interchange were previously proposed for an outlet store and an amphitheater.

Approximately twenty-one acres of the western side of Central Street south of Russell Road/Old Pond Street is zoned Residential B which could be developed as added housing.

Development and/or redevelopment sites are scattered among 123.3 acres the

length of Memorial Drive (Route 28) (57.8 acres of which are Mapped as also in PPAs).

Approximately 85.5 acres of mixed residential and Industrial zoned land along Page Street with the potential for housing on the Page Street frontage and industry on the back land. This is largely for residential uses.

The 300-acre Avon Industrial Park and the smaller Avon Merchants' Park. Though these are developed, they contain scattered vacant land offering opportunities for development, redevelopment, or intensification of uses, particularly if the installation of a municipal sewer is completed.

Priority Protection Areas

Priority Protection Areas (PPAs) are areas that deserve special protection by environmental features such as endangered species habitats, significance for water supply protection, scenic vistas, or historic significance. These areas include farmland, sensitive habitat, environmental resources areas, and potential linkages between existing open space resources, and places of cultural or historical significance.

Priority Protection Areas can vary in size from one building parcel to a sizable portion of a watershed or an Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC). Sites may be candidates for protection through acquisition or protective provisions such as conservation restrictions. Their designation is an important input to local Open Space and Recreation Plans. They are lands of particularly high resource, habitat, or open space value, not just undeveloped woodlands – although the latter may be especially important to maintain unbroken habitat.

The Town of Avon Priority Protection Areas:

Approximately ninety-three acres along the western edge of D.W. Field Park protect water supplies in the Reservoir, wildlife habitat, and the Park itself, but not on the eastern edge of the park and adjacent lands.

Approximately 145 acres of Water Protection Land on the Holbrook Town Line protects town wells from potentially contaminating industrial uses plus an additional thirty-six acres in Holbrook.

The 26.9-acre Memorial Drive Water Protection Area mapped over the Memorial Drive PDA guarding the Trout Brook wells against potentially contaminating nearby uses and overlapping the western edge of the PPA described in #2.

The 128-acre scenic Harrison Blvd. Corridor area from Pond Street to West Main Street with approximately one hundred acres of water supply protection land and twenty-eight acres of another land.

E. Infrastructure

Transportation System

Avon is served by two numbered highways, Route 24 and 28. Route 24, a Principal Arterial, is a six-lane, limited access highway running along the western border of Avon south to Fall River ending in Portsmouth Rhode Island, and north to I-93/128 and on to beyond Boston. It is heavily used by commuters to Boston and provides good access to the Avon businesses near the Harrison Boulevard interchange. Route 28 is also a major north-south road. It provides access to a mix of residential areas, commercial uses, and town facilities. The portion in Avon extends from the Brockton city line in the south to the Randolph town line to the north.

Edward Harrison Boulevard is the major east-west road in Avon, running from the Route 24 interchange and the Stoughton town line to Route 28, with movement further east to Holbrook relying on local East Spring Street.

The highways and town streets are in good condition and there are sidewalks throughout the town.

The Town of Avon has bus service by the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA) and Brockton Area Transit (BAT), providing service to the MBTA Ashmont Red Line Station. BAT also provides a DIAL-A-BAT service for the elderly and people with special needs. The Boston-Middleboro MBTA Commuter Rail line passes through Avon without stopping but residents have access to it at the Holbrook/Randolph station to the north and the Montello station in Brockton to the south.

Avon's direct access to Route 24 and 28 has made it a desirable place for businesses to locate. Both the highway and the nearby commuter rail make the town attractive to commuters.

Sewer Service

Except for special agreements like Walmart, Costco, TL Edwards, a recently approved multi-family development, and a restaurant on Route 28 that provide access to the City of Brockton wastewater system,

Avon relies on on-site sewage disposal. The lack of a public sewer system can restrict residential development or expansion, particularly within the Water Supply Protection District, and restricts allowable non-residential growth.

Most of the vacant land has septic limitations or flood hazards, limiting development. Any future sewer service would be used to meet existing needs before serving land that is presently undevelopable. Extensive installation of sewer main would allow significant residential development in some present natural areas, so it is important to identify and protect such areas.

Bicycle and Pedestrian Accommodations

The Town seeks to increase opportunities for walking by improving existing pedestrian infrastructure as well as establishing integrated pedestrian routes through and between neighborhoods, employment centers, and park and recreation areas.

The Town has an extensive network of sidewalks as shown in the following map. The condition of the sidewalks varies throughout the town. Along major corridors like Main Street, some of the sidewalks need repair. In the sections of town with the older sidewalks, there is a lack of ADA accommodations such as sidewalk ramps and a reasonable width for a pedestrian using a wheelchair to pass fixed objects. These accommodations are met on the new sidewalks in town.

The Town has worked towards improving bicycle infrastructure by installing bicycle parking at several locations

utilizing Old Colony's Bicycle Parking Program, which is funded through the Old Colony Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). These bike parking locations include the Avon Public Library, the Police and Fire Station (Route 28), and the bus stop at Saint Michael's (Route 25). There is still potential for bicycle infrastructure improvements in the town, for example, more bicycle lanes in high-traffic areas can improve the number of riders and help keep bicyclists off sidewalks. Interconnections between communities such as Brockton and Randolph can also incentivize mode shift.

Planned Improvements

There are no specific programmed alternative transportation projects (bicycle or pedestrian-focused); however, the roadway projects that are programmed have pedestrian and bicycle accommodations included in the design. Currently, there are two TIP projects programmed in Avon.

Intersection improvements at Harrison Blvd and Pond Street. This project consists of minor geometric improvements, installing new upgraded traffic signal equipment, and upgrading bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure and accommodations at the intersection. Currently under construction.

Intersection improvements at two intersections, Route 28 at Harrison Boulevard, and Route 28 at East and West Spring Street. This intersection has been the subject of previous traffic studies and a Road Safety Audit was completed for the Route 28/East and West Spring Street Intersection in 2012. Recommended improvements include improved pedestrian accessibility, monitoring/enforcing travel speed limits, re-evaluating crosswalk locations, improving signage, evaluating potential changes in lane

usage, and considering geometric modifications and changes to traffic control by coordinating the existing signals and the operational benefits of a new signal at Route 28 at East/West Spring Street. There is a chosen concept plan with significant improvements to accommodations.

Potential Improvements

Potential pedestrian and bicycle improvements for Avon are based upon Avon master plans as well as previous regionwide pedestrian and bicycle connectivity studies. The *Old Colony Bicycle and Pedestrian Connectivity and Livability Study* of 2018 included general recommendations for the town. This study stated that Avon should continue building for pedestrians and ensuring ADA-compliant infrastructure and create a Sidewalk Master Plan and ADA Transition Plan. The following Figure 4 shows the potential pedestrian and bicycle paths in Avon.

Connect Nichol's Avenue to Leo's Lane to D.W. Field Park.

Connect Bow's Lane from West Main St. to East Main St. and continue along Connolly Road across Route 28 to Holbrook and Ames Nowell State Park.

Extend Freeman Street to connect between Page St. and Bodwell St.

Extend Granite Street in the vicinity of Avon Fish and Game to Bodwell St.

Create a path from East High St. through Robbins St. to East Spring St. and continue along East Spring St. into Holbrook.

Create a path between East Main St. (Route 28) and East High Street and continue to Randolph.

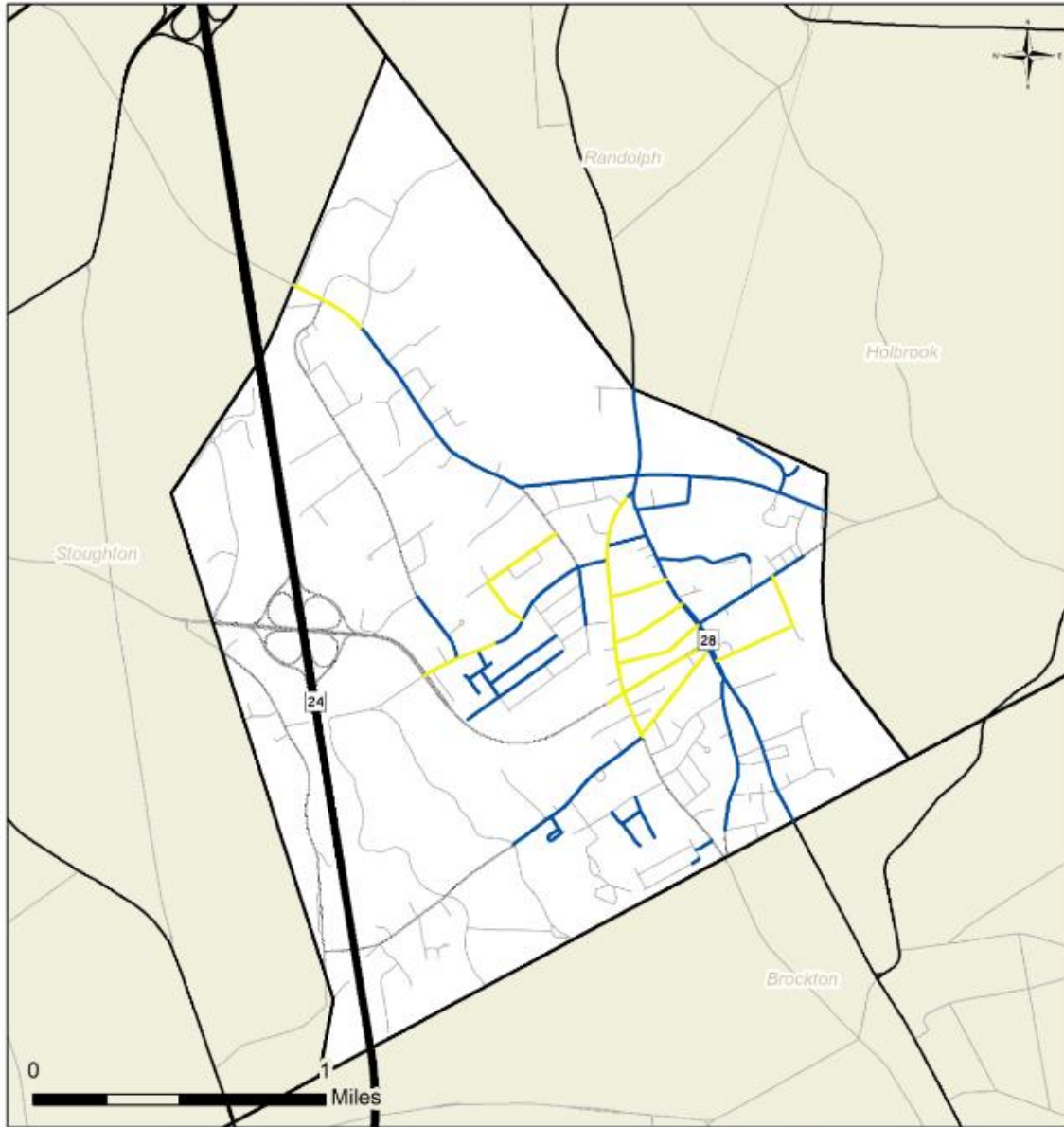
Create a path from East Main St. at the Randolph line running northwest through the Conservation Area connecting with a path from Wales Ave. and continuing into Randolph⁹.

9

<http://www.ocpcrpa.org/docs/transportation/Active Transportation Study Report 2021.pdf>

Figure 7: Avon Sidewalk Gap Analysis

Avon Sidewalk Gap Analysis



- Existing Sidewalk
- Potential Sidewalk Expansion



Old Colony Planning Council
70 School Street, Brockton, MA 02301
www.ocpcrpa.org
Created October 2021

GIS Data Sources: Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT), Office of Geographic Information (MassGIS), OCPC

Figure 8: Potential Pedestrian and Bicycle Paths in Avon

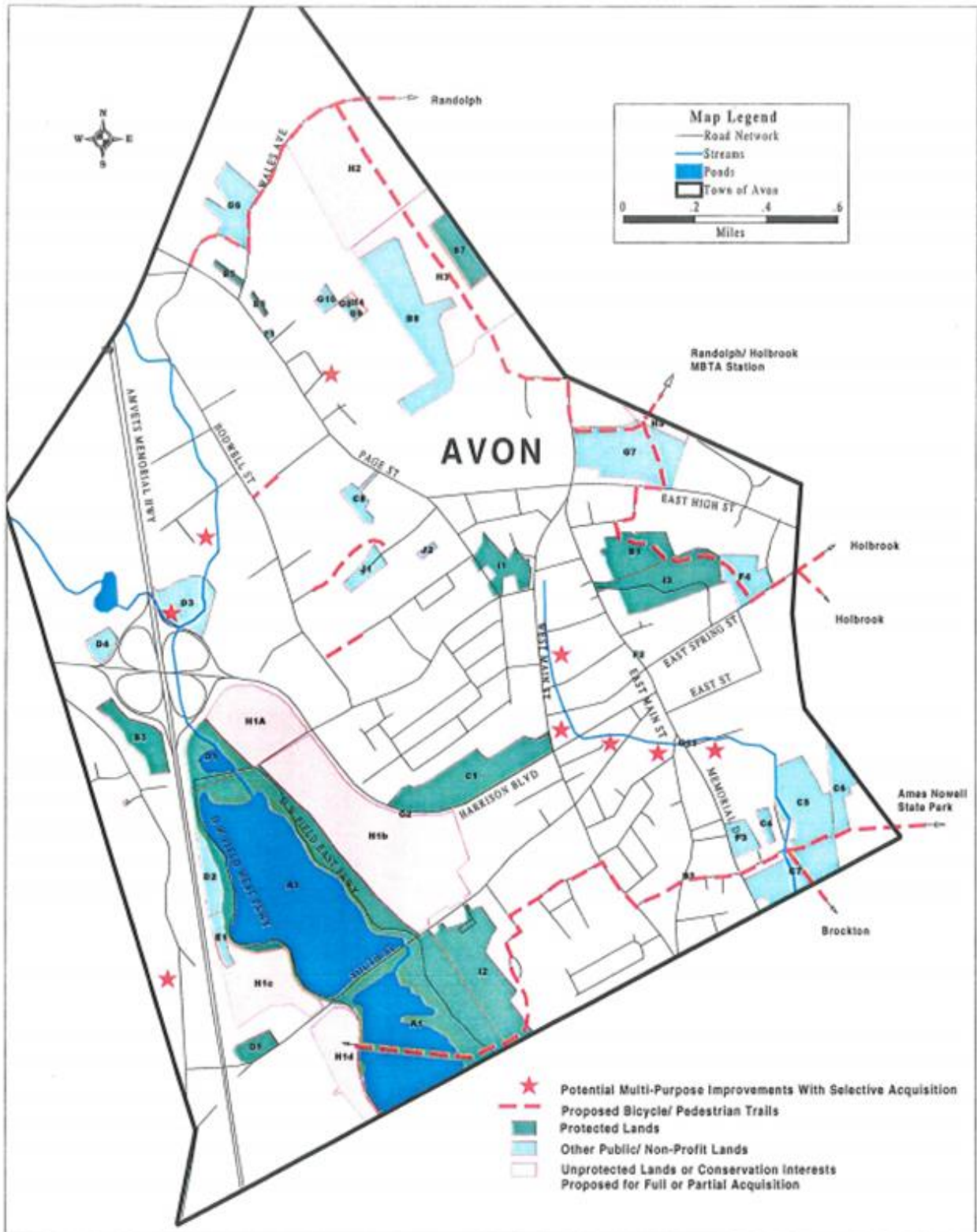
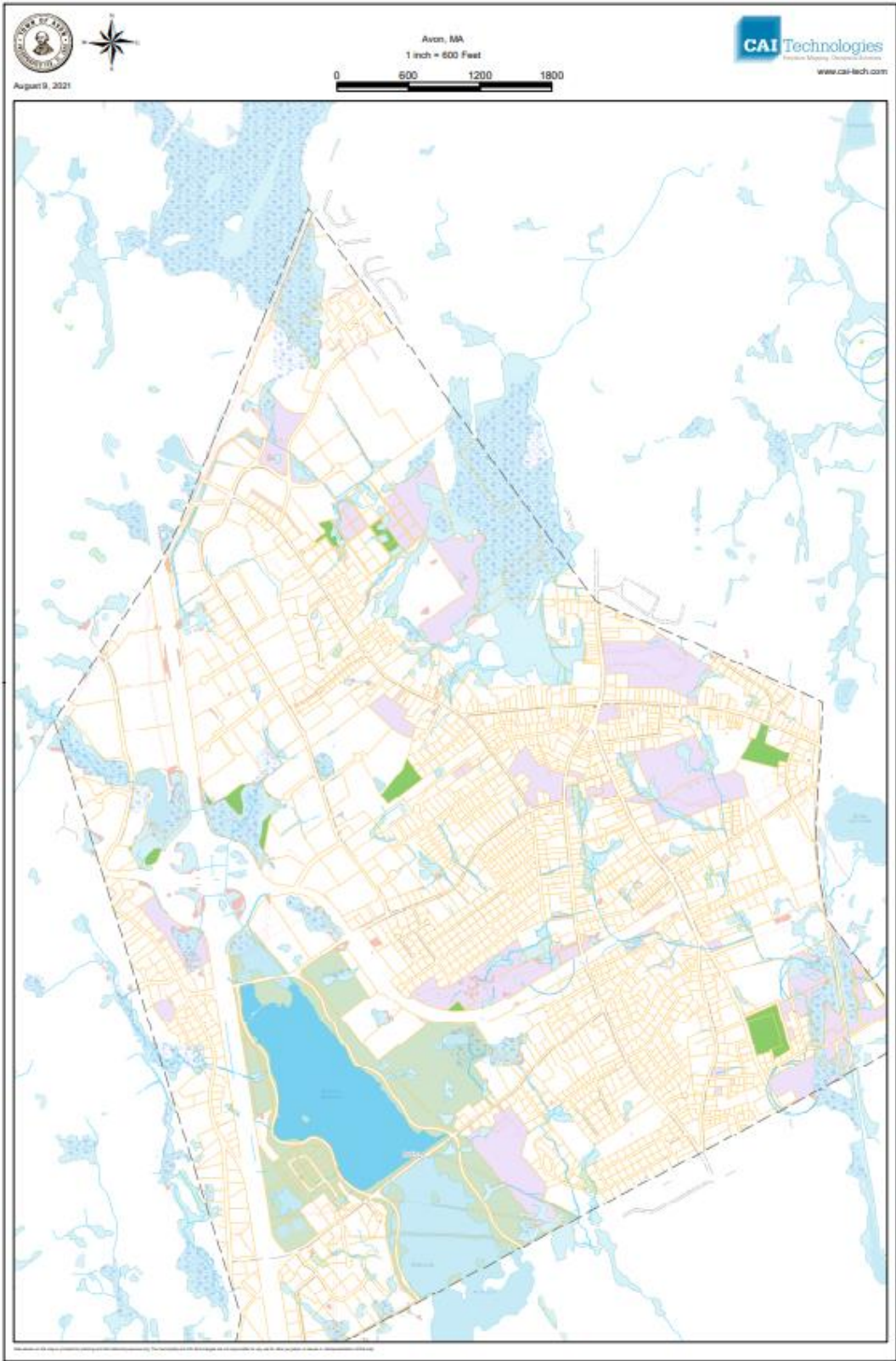


Figure 9: Sidewalks



Section 4 Environmental Inventory and Analysis

A. Geology, Soils, and Topography

Geology

Most of the surficial materials in Massachusetts are deposits of the last two continental ice sheets that covered all of New England in the latter part of the Pleistocene ice age. The glacial deposits are divided into two broad categories, glacial till and moraine deposits, and glacial stratified deposits. Widespread till deposits were laid down directly on bedrock on semi-consolidated coastal plain strata by glacier ice. Tills in thick-till (>15 ft thick) drumlin landforms are found in all parts of the State. Areas of shallow bedrock contain thin discontinuous till deposits and several bedrock outcrops and are located chiefly in rocky upland areas. Moraine deposits related to glacial ice lobes of the last ice sheet are located mostly in southeastern Massachusetts. Glacial stratified deposits concentrated in valleys and lowland areas laid down by glacial meltwater in streams, lakes, and the sea in front of the retreating ice margin during the last deglaciation. Postglacial deposits, primarily flood-plain alluvium, and swamp

deposits make up a lesser proportion of the unconsolidated materials.¹⁰

Avon's surficial landscape was formed over 18,500 years ago by the Laurentide ice sheet, a large glacier that covered the northeastern portion of the continent. As this mile-high glacier expanded southwards from eastern Canada it scoured its way across the landscape, picking up bedrock and surficial materials and depositing these as it advanced. After extending southward to southern New England, the climate warmed and the glacier began to melt, depositing the remaining materials as it receded northward onto the region's geological bedrock base.

A Geologic and Seismic Investigation for Relocation of Route 138 Brockton Avon Town Line indicates an area of the undulatory ground moraine¹¹. The till constituting the knobs of the ground moraine contains unusual quantities of cobble and granite boulders of all sizes. The geology of the location and the surrounding

¹⁰ Stone, J.R., Stone, B.D., DiGiacomo-Cohen, M.L., and Mabee, S.B., comps., 2018, Surficial materials of Massachusetts – A 1:24,000-scale geologic map database: U.S. Geological Survey Scientific

Investigations Map 3402, 189 sheets, scale 1:24,000; index map, scale 1:250,000; 58-p. pamphlet; and geodatabase files, <https://doi.org/10.3133/sim3402>.

¹¹ <https://pubs.usgs.gov/of/1954/0198/report.pdf>

region suggests that the site is underlain at shallow depths by dark-colored granite.

The geologic sections show a layer of till overlying an irregular bedrock profile that ranges from 5 to 21 feet below the surface of the ground. The bedrock surface may be more irregular than the smooth curves indicate, with small ridges and depressions at altitudes both above and below the traverse lines.¹²

A review of the Soils and Geographic Features Map indicates much of the surficial geography consists of Till or Bedrock. There are also large concentrations of sand and

gravel deposits in the southeastern area. There are deposits of floodplain Alluvium concentrated at the center of the sand and gravel deposits interspersed with wetlands.

Soils

Avon, like the rest of southeastern Massachusetts, was blanketed by glacial ice sheets. As the ice retreated it revealed the region's characteristic north-south drumlins and created the present north-south drainage patterns found in Avon and the region.

Table 17: Soil Map Unit Description Report

Map Unit Symbol	Map Unit Name
1	Water
10	Scarboro and Birdsall soils, 0 to 3 percent
31A	Walpole sandy loam, 0 to 3 percent
51	Swansea muck, 0 to 1 percent slopes
52	Freetown muck, 0 to 1 percent slopes
53	Freetown muck, ponded, 0 to 1 percent slopes
71A	Ridgebury fine sandy loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes
71B	Ridgebury fine sandy loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes, extremely stony
73A	Whitman fine sandy loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes, extremely stony
103B	Charlton-Hollis-Rock outcrop complex, 3 to 8 percent slopes
104C	Hollis-Rock outcrop-Charlton complex, 0 to 15 percent slopes
245B	Hinckley loamy sand, 3 to 8 percent slopes
245C	Hinckley loamy sand, 8 to 15 percent slopes
253D	Hinckley loamy sand, 15 to 35 percent slopes
254B	Merrimac fine sandy loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes
310B	Woodbridge fine sandy loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes
312B	Woodbridge fine sandy loam, 0 to 8 percent slopes, extremely stony
315B	Scituate fine sandy loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes

¹² Cooperative Geologic Project File Report, Geologic and Seismic Investigations for Relocation of Route 138 Brockton-Avon Town Line, J. Maynard

317B	Scituate fine sandy loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes, extremely stony
420B	Canton fine sandy loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes
422B	Canton fine sandy loam, 0 to 8 percent slopes, extremely stony
422C	Canton fine sandy loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes, extremely stony
424B	Canton fine sandy loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes, extremely bouldery
424C	Canton fine sandy loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes, extremely bouldery
602	Urban land, 0 to 15 slopes
623C	Woodbridge-Urban land complex, 3 to 15 percent slopes
626B	Merrimac-Urban land complex, 0 to 8 percent slopes
628B	Canton-Urban land complex, 0 to 3 percent slopes
628C	Canton-Urban land complex, 3 to 15 percent slopes
653	Udorthents, sandy
654	Udorthents, loamy
655	Udorthents, wet substratum

Source: <https://websoilsurvey.sc.egov.usda.gov/App/WebSoilSurvey.aspx>

Since all the town relies on on-site disposal, except for the few commercial sites which are tied into the Brockton sewer system, soil conditions are important. The greatest concentrations of land with severe limitations for septic systems are in the northernmost portion of town bordered by Stoughton and Randolph to the north and Page Street and East and West High Street to the South. These soil patterns are suggested by the following interpreted soil map, and the town's development patterns and potentials reflect the town's soils and its zoning bylaw.

Soils are important because they influence the ability of various parts of the town to be developed due to their suitability for on-site sewage disposal. Patterns of soil associations help to anticipate the developability of land. However, soils with quite distinct characteristics are sometimes found together in one association. As a result, interpretive maps of soil groups according to their limitations for septic systems can be more useful for anticipating

development than maps of soil associations. When severely limited soils are mapped, the area's typical large lots will have some usable soils. As a result, such "severely limited" areas often accommodate up to three-quarters as many units as unrestricted soils. Except for actual wetlands, the soils are a better predictor of future maintenance problems than of developability. This can be seen by comparing the map of soil limitations with the Town's actual development patterns.

Avon's soils fall into five Soil Associations (described below); the Hollis-Gloucester association, the Gloucester-Acton-Scituate association, the Whitman-Peat-Ridebury association, the Hinkley-Sudbury association, and gravel pits-made-land-stripped association.

The Hollis Gloucester association includes rocky, shallow soils, and very stony, moderately deep soils on moderate slopes.

The Gloucester-Acton-Situate soils association includes well-drained and moderately well-drained, very stony soils on moderate, and steep slopes.

The Whitman-Peat-Ridebury association includes well-drained and moderately well-drained, very stony soils on moderate and steep slopes.

The Hinckley-Sudbury association includes droughty and moderately well-drained, loose, gravely soils on gentle to strong slopes.

Gravel Pits-Made-Land-Stripped land association includes barren land.

The northeast portion of Avon, bounded by Page Street to the west, Wales Avenue to the north, and Main Street to the south, is mapped as Freetown Muck. This is a very deep, nearly level, very poorly drained, and ponded organic soil in depressions and along streams and rivers. Typically, this type of soil is completely covered with water and has emergent wetland vegetation typical of freshwater marshes. A few small areas, with controlled drainage, can be used for cranberry bogs. Areas with this type of soil prove to be excellent habitats for wetland wildlife.¹³ This land has severe limitations for on-site sewage disposal.

Just to the west of this region are mapped 3W soils, which can accommodate up to three-quarters as many units as unrestricted soils. In the eastern part of Avon, just south of the Freetown Muck section is more 3W-mapped land (high water table). Most of the

dwellings in Avon are situated in these two areas leading to problems for on-site disposal systems that are not properly maintained.

The land surrounding D.W. Field Park is mapped as a floodplain, and this land should be preserved in its natural state, to protect the Brockton Reservoir from contamination.

Topography

The Town of Avon is located at -71.041158 longitude and 42.6554 latitudes at an elevation of 65m/213 feet. The topography of Avon is gently rolling dropping from northwest to southwest. There are very few hills and very little topographic relief or scenic outlooks, and other than Waldo Lake and the Brockton Reservoir, Avon has no significant ponds.

With its limited relief, Avon's landscape depends on the balance of open areas (fields, marshes, wet meadows, and ponds), woodlands, and developed areas. As New England evolves from farmland back to forest or to large-lot subdivision, the open land which gives scenic vistas and reveals the underlying terrain is increasingly rare.

Landslides

Landslides include a wide range of ground movements, such as rock falls, deep failure of slopes, and shallow debris flows. Although gravity, acting on an over the steep-ended slope, is a factor in landslides, there are other contributing factors.

¹³ Soil Survey of Norfolk and Suffolk Counties

B. Landscape Character

The character of a town, and how it feels to the residents and visitors, is extremely important in how a community defines itself. The Landscape character offers many unique habitats and recreation destinations.

The Town of Avon is a fully developed urban environment made up of dense residential areas pre-dating WWII, newer post-WWII suburban neighborhoods, and well-established industrial areas where the city's factories once provided income to those residents employed. The town is a

significant regional employment and business center that accommodates a diverse mix of industrial and commercial enterprises. Most of the businesses are proximate to Route 24 and located in either the Avon Merchants Park or the Avon Industrial Park. There are also several businesses located on East Main Street toward the Brockton city line. According to the 2019 ACS 5-year Estimates, 73 percent of housing units in Avon are one-unit detached dwellings.

C. Water Resources

Streams, Lakes, and Other Waterbodies

Avon has limited but prominent surface water. The largest stream is Trout Brook, considered an impaired waterbody (on the Final Massachusetts Year 2014 Integrated List of Waters for fecal coliform, dissolved oxygen, total suspended solids, and turbidity).

Its source is northeast of Argyle Avenue and west of the Conrail Line, Avon and it flows to the confluence with the Salisbury Brook forming the Salisbury Plain River, Brockton.

Virtually all stormwater in Avon flows to Trout Brook.¹⁴ In addition, the entirety of the Town's water resources is drawn from the Trout Brook aquifer, through which Trout

Brook flows. Impervious cover and discharge of untreated stormwater from 24 percent of the town's land surface that is impervious are strongly suspected as the cause of the impairment. Historical development through the town has created substantial impervious areas throughout the town, leaving Avon with one of the highest percentages of impervious areas in the state at over 23 percent¹⁵. Research has shown that when impervious cover in a watershed reaches between 10 and 25 percent, ecological stress becomes apparent. Beyond 25 percent impervious cover, stream stability is reduced, habitat is lost, water quality becomes degraded, and biological diversity decreases (NRDC, May 1999).

Identification and Assessment of Causes of Impairment: Trout Brook (Town of Avon, 2018) The Town was awarded a grant in 2018 through the Southeast New England

¹⁴ Avon Town Hall Green Infrastructure Demonstration Project, BWR-RFR-2018-08-219

¹⁵ 604b Water Quality Management Planning Grant Program Application, FFY2020, Avon MA

Program (SNEP) for Coastal Watershed Restoration Grants Program by the USEPA and the New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission (NEIWPCC) for the identification and Assessment of Causes of Impairment: Trout Brook application. This project resulted in a final report that summarizes the work completed with funding by the grant provides conclusions on water quality in the Trout Brook watershed identifies BMPs to improve water quality and lists recommendations for next steps towards addressing the causes of impairments in Trout Brook.

Two prominent lakes are entirely or in part within the community – Brockton (also known as Avon) Reservoir (89.4 acres) and Waldo Lake. Both are within D.W. Field

Park, a much-loved recreation area in the Town of Avon and the City of Brockton. Both lakes are impaired (category 4C). The latter is 72.39 acres, about half of which is in Avon and the rest in Brockton.

Rivers and Streams

- Trout Brook
- Three Swamp Brook
- Searles Brook
- Mary Lee Brook
- Beaver Brook

Lakes and Ponds

- Brockton (Avon) Reservoir
- Waldo Lake

Figure 10: Taunton River Watershed 2001 Water Quality Assessment Report

TROUT BROOK (SEGMENT MA62-07)

Location: Source northeast of Argyle Avenue and west of Conrail Line, Avon to the confluence with the Salisbury Brook forming the Salisbury Plain River, Brockton.

Segment Length: 3.4 miles

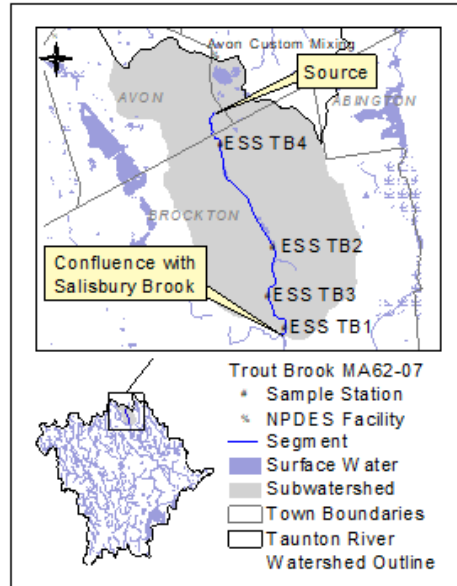
Classification: Class B, Warm Water Fishery

The drainage area of this segment is approximately 6.9 square miles. Land-use estimates (top three) for the subwatershed:

- Residential..... 59.2%
- Forest 13.9%
- Open land..... 12.2%

The impervious cover area for this subwatershed is 25.6%.

This segment is on the Massachusetts Year 2002 Integrated List of Waters – Category 5 for not meeting water quality criteria for siltation, organic enrichment/low DO, and pathogens (MassDEP 2003).



WMA WATER WITHDRAWAL SUMMARY (APPENDIX G, TABLE G5)

Facility	WMA Permit Number	WMA Registration Number	Source (G = ground)	Authorized Withdrawal (MGD)
Avon Water Department	9P42501801	42501801	4018000-01G 4018000-02G 4018000-03G 4018000-04G 4018000-05G 4018000-06G	0.45 reg 0.16 perm Total – 0.61

NPDES WASTEWATER DISCHARGE SUMMARY (APPENDIX G, TABLE G3)

Avon Custom Mixing Services, Inc., a manufacturer of elastomeric compounds (rubber products), is authorized to discharge from its facility, Division of Chase and Sons, to Trout Brook. Although the NPDES permit #MA0026883 was issued November 2001, the company appealed the permit. Their permit appeal was denied in August 2002. Under the conditions of their permit, the facility is authorized to discharge 0.0015 MGD of treated sanitary effluent from its wastewater treatment facility and 0.15 MGD of combined non-contact cooling water and stormwater discharge from Outfall 002. Whole effluent toxicity limits are C-NOEC>21% and LC50>100% with a monitoring frequency of four times a year using both *Ceriodaphnia dubia* and *Pimephales promelas*. According to MassDEP Northeast Regional Office, the facility has occasional violations of their fecal coliform bacteria and ammonia limits (Ahsan 2005).

The former Hybripac Inc. in Avon was issued an emergency exclusion for their groundwater remediation project in 1997, which is no longer in effect (Pellerin 1997).

USE ASSESSMENT

AQUATIC LIFE

Habitat and Flow

ESS conducted instream habitat evaluations at four sites along Trout Brook in June/July 2002. The stations (upstream to downstream) were located at Studley Avenue, off of North Montello Street, Brockton (Station TB4); near East Ashland Street, Brockton (Station TB2); near Court Street, Brockton (Station TB3); and near Crescent Street (Route 27), Brockton (Station TB1). The habitat assessment scores were generally low ranging from 86 to 114/200. Channel flow status was the only habitat variable that consistently scored in the suboptimal range at all four sites evaluated. Instream habitat in this brook was

limited as a direct result of development, poor instream cover, significant channel alteration, some sediment deposition, moderately unstable banks and little to no riparian zones (ESS 2003).

Toxicity Effluent

One modified acute and chronic whole effluent toxicity test was conducted on the Avon Custom Mixing, Inc. treated sanitary effluent (Outfall #001) using both *Ceriodaphnia dubia* and *Pimephales promelas*. No acute or chronic toxicity to either test organism was detected in the August 2004 test. No other whole effluent toxicity testing reports have been submitted to MassDEP.

Chemistry – water

Between June and November 2002, the following four stations were sampled by ESS along this segment of Trout Brook as part of their NPS study (ESS 2003).

- TB4 – Studley Avenue, off of North Montello Street, Brockton (n=3 sampling events).
- TB2 – East Ashland Street, Brockton (n=5 sampling events).
- TB3 – Court Street, Brockton (n=3 sampling events).
- TB1 – Crescent Street (Route 27), Brockton (n=5 sampling events).

Results of these surveys are summarized below).

Dissolved Oxygen and % Saturation

The concentration of dissolved oxygen at the four stations monitored (day surveys only) ranged from 2.6 to 7.9 mg/L with eight of the fourteen measurements <5.0 mg/L. Percent saturation ranged from 30.8 to 85.9 and 11 of the 14 measurements were less than 60% saturation.

Temperature

The highest temperature measured in Trout Brook was 28.8°C (Station TB4) on the 1 August 2002.

pH

The pH in Trout Brook ranged from 6.0 to 7.8 SU at the four stations monitored. Only three of the 16 measurements were less than 6.5 SU.

Specific Conductance

Specific conductance ranged from 134.4 to 481.0 µmhos/cm (n=16).

TSS

The TSS concentrations ranged from 2.0 to 27 mg/L at the four stations sampled in Trout Brook. It should be noted that the highest concentrations (23 to 27 mg/L) were measured in the lower reach of the brook near Court Street and Crescent Street (Stations TB3 and TB1).

TKN

The concentration of TKN ranged from 0.3 to 2.6 mg/L (n=16).

Total Phosphorus

Total phosphorus concentrations ranged from 0.04 to 0.20 mg/L, however, it should be noted that the highest concentrations were consistently measured in the lower reach of the brook near Court Street and Crescent Street (stations TB3 and TB1). Only one of the 16 measurements was <0.05 mg/L.

The *Aquatic Life Use* is not assessed for Trout Brook as a result of the lack of instream biological data (response type indicators of in-stream water quality conditions). This use in this urbanized subwatershed is identified with an Alert Status because of habitat degradation, low dissolved oxygen/saturation and elevated total phosphorus concentrations.

PRIMARY AND SECONDARY CONTACT RECREATION AND AESTHETICS

Fecal coliform and *E. coli* samples were collected at four sampling stations in Trout Brook between June and November 2002 during both dry and wet weather events. From upstream to downstream these stations are summarized as follows (ESS 2003):

- TB4 – Studley Avenue, off of North Montello Street, Brockton
- TB2 – East Ashland Street, Brockton
- TB3 – Court Street, Brockton
- TB1 – Crescent Street (Route 27), Brockton

Samples were also collected from three tributaries to Trout Brook (Stations SEB1 and SEB2 on Searles Brook, Station MAB1 on Malfardar Brook, and Stations CB1 and CB2 on Cary Brook).

ESS 2003 bacteria data

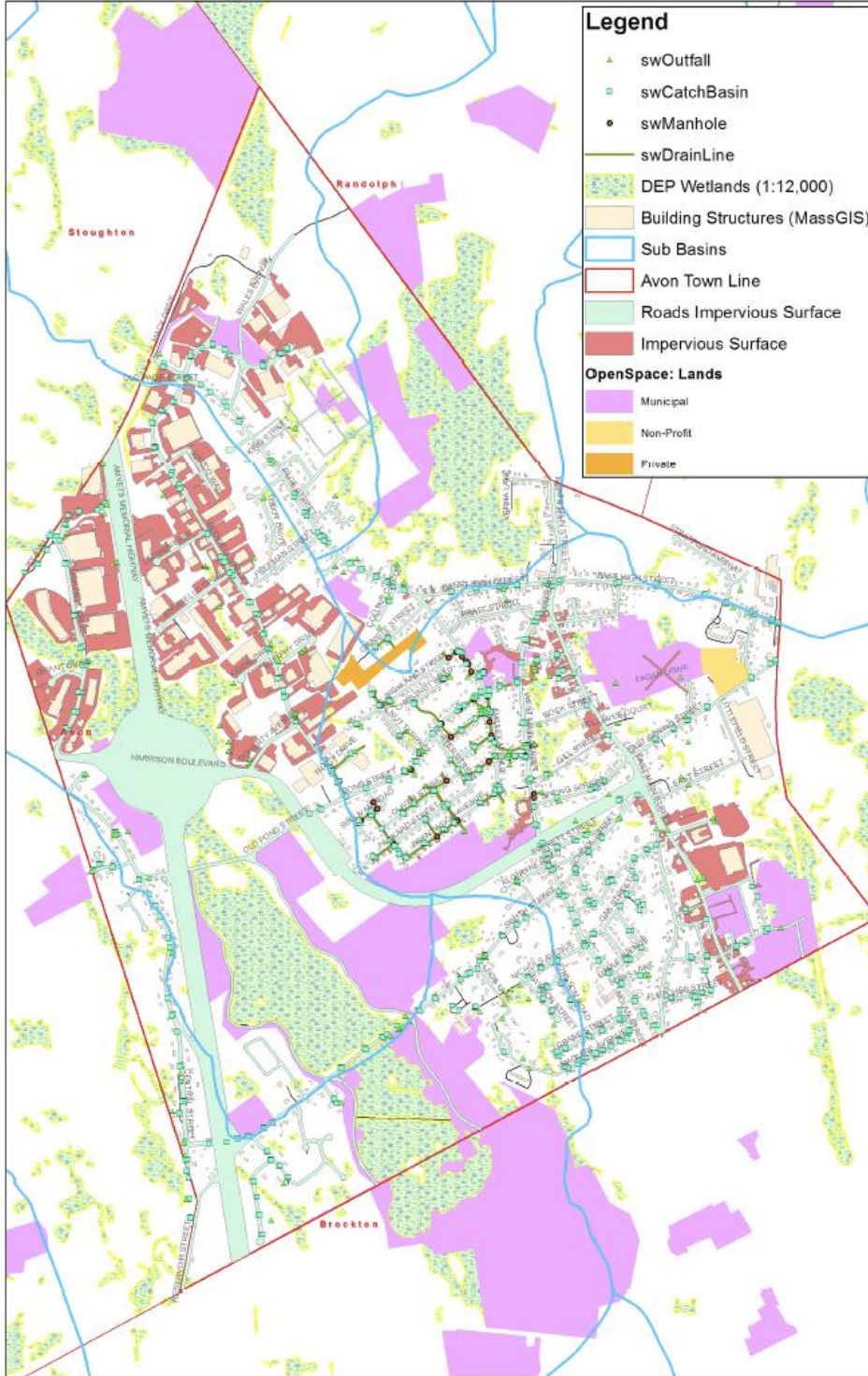
Station	Fecal Coliform data range (cfu/100 mL)	Geometric Mean (cfu/100 mL)	<i>E. coli</i> bacteria data range (cfu/100 mL)	Geometric Mean (cfu/100 mL)	Number of Samples
TB4	1,100 – 9,600*	NA	1,000 – 8,400	NA	3
*Both samples collected during the primary contact season exceeded 2,000 cfu/100 mL.					
TB2	120 and 16,000*	1,829	70 and 10,000	1,344	5
*60% of the samples collected during the primary contact season exceeded 2,000 cfu/100 mL.					
TB3	4,200 – 48,000*	NA	4,000 – 22,000	NA	3
*All of the samples collected during the primary contact season exceeded 2,000 cfu/100mL.					
TB1	1,200 - 64,000*	8,020	1,200 - 55,000	6,643	5
*80% of the samples collected during the primary contact season exceeded 2,000 cfu/100 mL.					

NB: Elevated bacteria counts in Trout Brook are representative of both dry and wet weather sampling conditions. Elevated bacteria counts were also documented in the three tributaries (ESS 2003).

No objectionable oils, odors, or other objectionable conditions were identified by ESS at the two most upstream sampling locations in Trout Brook (Station TB4) near Studley Avenue, off of North Montello Street, and near East Ashland Street, Brockton (Station TB2). Further downstream, however, near Court Street, Brockton (Station TB3), sewage and chemical odors were noted and the water column was described as opaque. No objectionable conditions (odors, oils, other deposits) were noted by ESS at the most downstream sampling location in Trout Brook near Crescent Street (Route 27), Brockton (Station TB1) (ESS 2003).

The *Primary and Secondary Contact Recreational* uses are assessed as impaired because of elevated bacteria counts. The *Aesthetics Use* is assessed as support upstream from East Ashland Street (upper 2.1 mile reach) but is assessed as impaired downstream from East Ashland Street (lower 1.3 mile reach) because of objectionable conditions reported by ESS.

Figure 11: Avon MA Drainage System



Source: Stormwater Asset Management, Water Infrastructure Planning and Technical Assistance Grant (BRP 2015-02)

Streams and Storm Drainage

Avon, with a total area of 4.5 square miles, is entirely in the Taunton River Watershed and partly in the Weir River Boston Harbor Watershed. Seventy-seven percent of the town’s area, representing 3.5 square miles, is in a medium-stress portion of the Taunton River Watershed. In general terms, the EOEA “stressed watershed: designations refer to broad regions and reflect the relative quantity of stream flow in these watersheds or sub-watersheds in comparison to other watersheds in the state.¹⁶ The town is almost entirely in the Taunton River Basin, being largely drained by Beaver Brook which flows to the Avon Reservoir and on to the Salisbury Plain River en route to the Taunton River.

The northeast corner of the town drains via Three Swamp Brook through the Cochato-Monatiquoit River sub-basin to Boston Harbor and Massachusetts Bay while most of the town drains via the Trout Brook and its tributaries (including Beaver Brook flowing through the Brockton Reservoir and Waldo Lake) through the Salisbury Plain River sub-basin southeastward to the Taunton River and Narragansett Bay.

The most significant local sub-watersheds are the Beaver Brook Watershed draining approximately 2,000 acres to the

Brockton Reservoir, and the Trout Brook watershed draining 1,100 acres in Avon to the Salisbury Plain River. The first is particularly important as it drains the Industrial Park and Merchants’ Park to the Brockton Reservoir.

More than 65 percent of the Town’s water supply is drawn from the Trout Brook aquifer, which receives stormwater runoff from most of Avon’s surfaces. Avon has detected elevated levels of total and fecal coliform at the Porter Public Well Water Supply Well, which may be caused by bacteria-laden stormwater runoff from the surrounding area. With the town being in the upper reaches of the Taunton River/Narragansett Bay watershed, the stormwater catchment areas that recharge the Town’s wells are small, and therefore they are especially sensitive to the quality of the water that is recharged to the groundwater. As most residents receive drinking water from this aquifer protecting this public drinking water supply is of utmost importance.¹⁷

Table 18: Stormwater System Elements

Stormwater Infrastructure	Amount
Catch Basins	870
Manholes	361
Outfalls	234
Miles of Pipe	2.89

¹⁶ Statistics used to rank basin stress included median annual 7-day low flow, median annual 30-day low flow, and median annual low pulse duration. The more flow-stressed a basin is, the more extensively stream flow may be investigated when establishing new sources of water supply within the region, and the more emphasis will be placed by the regulatory community on conservation for the purposes of

restoring flows to the stream system. However, the site-by-site analysis would be required to determine the specific impact of a water supply source on nearby stream flow, as well as the extent of flow stress that exists in a localized area.

¹⁷ 604b-Water Quality Management Planning Grant Program Application, FFY 2020

In 2016, the Town of Avon was awarded a grant through the Water Infrastructure Planning and Technical Assistance Program, administered by MassDEP, to implement a stormwater operations and asset management system. The project efforts included inventorying stormwater assets, developing procedures for illicit discharge detection and elimination, and field investigation to assess the condition of the stormwater system and collect data to support asset management. Data collected was used to develop a GIS database of Avon's stormwater infrastructure. The project also included a public education and outreach component that included preparing and displaying a poster that informed residents about Avon's approach to stormwater water planning.¹⁸

Most recently, the Town is in the final stages of a multi-faceted project at the Town Hall called the Avon Town Hall Green Infrastructure Demonstration Project using funding provided by the MassDEP 319 Nonpoint Source Pollution Grant Program. This project included designing and installing multiple structural BMPs, including a gravel wetland, two tree box filters, a rain garden, and leaching catch basins throughout the parking lot to provide stormwater treatment, as well as daylighting a portion of a culverted stream. Avon developed a robust public education and outreach program that included multiple signs posted at each BMP explaining the function, a project website, developing educational posters, publishing an educational message in the Town's quarterly newsletter, and completing periodic tours of

the project area following construction completion.

The Town would like to expand the program to other adjacent town-owned facilities to treat stormwater as part of a Municipal Campus Approach.

Storm Drainage Needs - Since the town is at or near the head of the Trout Brook and Beaver Brook watershed, storm flows are 'moderate.'

Wetlands

Avon's wetlands areas provide wildlife habitat, flood storage, pollution abatement, and groundwater recharge. Most of the Town's wetlands are in the extensive wooded swamp east of Page Street and along the Randolph Town line. Most of the wetlands are in mapped floodplains or areas with severe septic limitations. Therefore, they are protected through the Zoning and Health Board regulations, as well as by the Wetlands Protection Act. It is appropriate to acquire important wetlands, but higher priorities should go to key developable uplands, or to areas with good potential to recharge groundwater by holding stormwater.

Flood Plains

Though flood flows are limited by the Town's location at the head of two basins, the low-lying terrain has a significant amount of mapped flood plain. These areas

¹⁸ Watershed-Based Plan, Trout Brook Watershed within the Town of Avon, MassDEP, 10/22/2019

run north-south beside Three Swamp Brook, Trout Brook, and Beaver Brook, and spread out in low-lying areas.

Water Supply System

The Avon Water Division (Avon) maintains and operates six (6) public groundwater supply wells (01G, 02G, 03G, 04G, 05G, and 06G.). Avon’s sources are located within the Taunton River Basin. The Porter Well (03G) wellhead protection area is located entirely in Avon; the Memorial Well #1 (01G), inactive GP Well #2 (02G), Theater Well #3 (04G), Connolly Road Well #4 (05G), and Trout Brook Wells #7 and #8 (06G) wellhead protection area is in Avon, Brockton, and Holbrook. These wells are in aquifers with a high vulnerability to contamination due to the absence of hydrogeologic barriers (i.e., clay) that can prevent contamination migration.¹⁹

Originally built around 1890, the Porter is the oldest public well for the Town of Avon. During the early 1940s, the 57-foot-deep Memorial #1 and Memorial #2 were built, and 20 years later the Theater and the Connolly were added to the inventory. Finally, in 2008 the 35-foot deep Satellite well was constructed. Memorial #2 was made inactive in the 1970s due to low production and elevated levels of Magnesium and iron. From all active sources, Memorial #1 is the deepest and one of the largest water producers. The five active wells (out of the six active runs at full capacity during the

summer and more likely share the same aquifer source.

Table 19: Description of the Water System, 2003

Zone II#: 225	Susceptibility: High
Well Names	Source IDs
Memorial Well #1	4018000-01G
GP Well #2	4018000-02G
Theater GP Well #3	4018000-04G
Connolly Road Well #4	4018000-05G
Troutbrook Wells #7 & #8	4018000-06G
Zone II#: 507	Susceptibility: High
Well Names	Source IDs
Porter Well	4018000-03G

Avon’s entire water supply is withdrawn from a sub-basin on the Taunton River Watershed. There are no hydrogeological barriers, and the aquifer is highly transmissive according to Tata & Howard.²⁰ The Trout Brook aquifer has been contaminated with VOC, resulting in the construction of a granular activated carbon filtration plant²¹ to treat five of the Avon sources. Unfortunately, there are no viable sites for additional water sources in Avon.²² The town has undertaken extensive demand management to reduce stress on sources and the environment.

Net Groundwater Depletion (NGD) is a measure of the influence of all groundwater withdrawals and discharges on streamflow.

¹⁹ Source Water Assessment and Protection (SWAP) Report, Avon-4018000-SWAP-2003-12-30-1

²⁰ Water Management Act Grant Proposal: Avon Dept. of Public Works, submitted in 2018 for consideration to the MassDEP.

²¹ The filtration plant project was completed in 2009 requiring a \$2 Million investment cover with a grant from a National Trust Fund from a settlement of the Oil Gas Industry.

²² Water Management Act Grant Proposal: Avon Dept. of Public Works, submitted in 2018 for consideration to the MassDEP.

It is calculated by comparing a subbasin's unaffected August streamflow to all groundwater discharges (septic systems plus DEP-regulated groundwater discharge facilities) and groundwater withdrawals (public water supply wells, non-PWS wells such as industrial wells, and private domestic wells. NGD is expressed as a percent change in the unaffected August streamflow due to all groundwater withdrawals and discharges. The Net Groundwater Depletion for Avon is depicted in the following tables.

Groundwater Withdrawal Category (GWC) for each subbasin is based on the ratio of the 2000-2004 groundwater withdrawal volume to the unimpacted median monthly flow for August and represents conditions during the late summer bio-period (July – September). Each groundwater withdrawal category

represents the range of this ratio that would result in the biological category of the same number under conditions of low (1%) impervious cover. The Groundwater Withdrawal Category for the town of Avon is shown in the following tables.

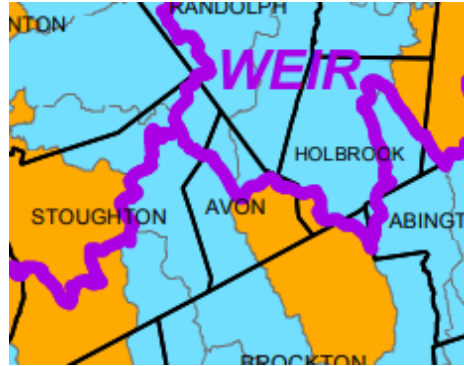
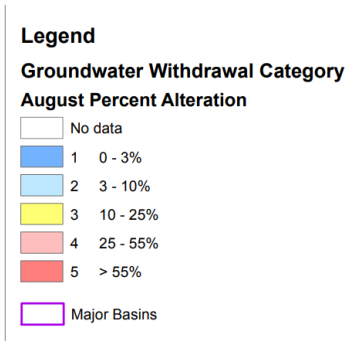
Biological Category (BC) for each subbasin is based on the simulated 2000-2004 existing condition of aquatic habitat using fluvial fish community characteristics as the surrogate variable. Each biological category represents the percent alteration within the range of these fluvial fish community characteristics as a function of the following subbasin parameters: 1) impervious cover; 2) cumulative groundwater withdrawal as a portion of the unimpacted August median flow; 3) stream channel slope; and 4) percent wetland within the stream buffer area.

Table 20: Description of the Water System, 2020

Well ID	Well Common Name	Location	Well ID	Well Common Name	Location
01G	Memorial Well #1	Memorial Drive	05G	Well #4	Connolly Road
02G	Memorial Well #2	Memorial Drive	06G	Trout Brook Wellfield	Argyle Avenue
03G	Porter Well	Avon Place	07G	Satellite Wells #3A, 3B, 3C	Argyle Avenue
04G	Theater Well #3	Argyle Avenue			

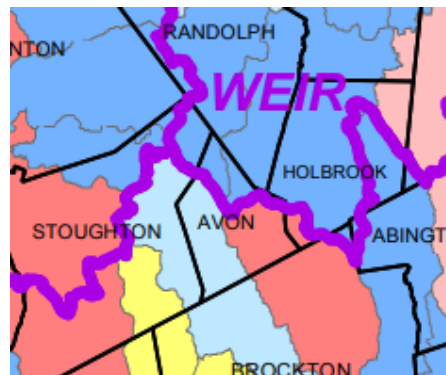
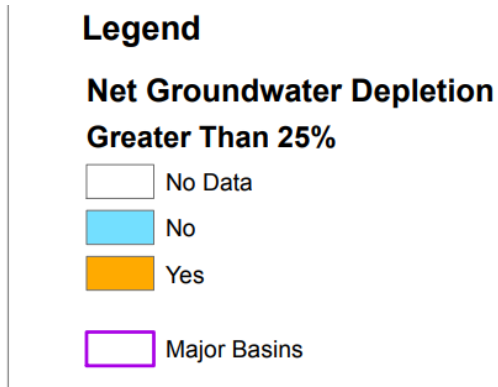
Source: 2020 Town of Avon Annual Water Quality Report, MassDEP PWSID #4018000

Figure 12: Groundwater Withdrawal Category (GWC)



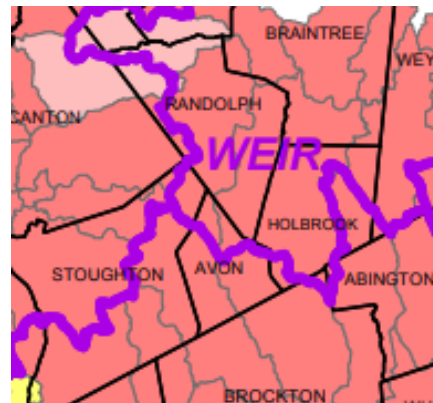
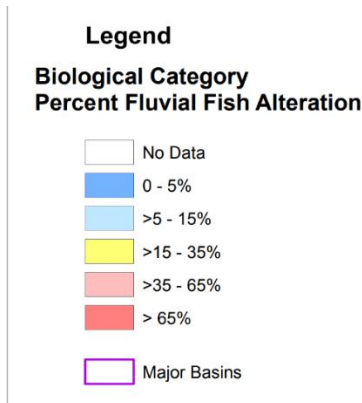
Source: <https://www.mass.gov/doc/groundwater-withdrawal-categories-statewide-map/download>

Figure 13: Net Groundwater Depletion (NGD)



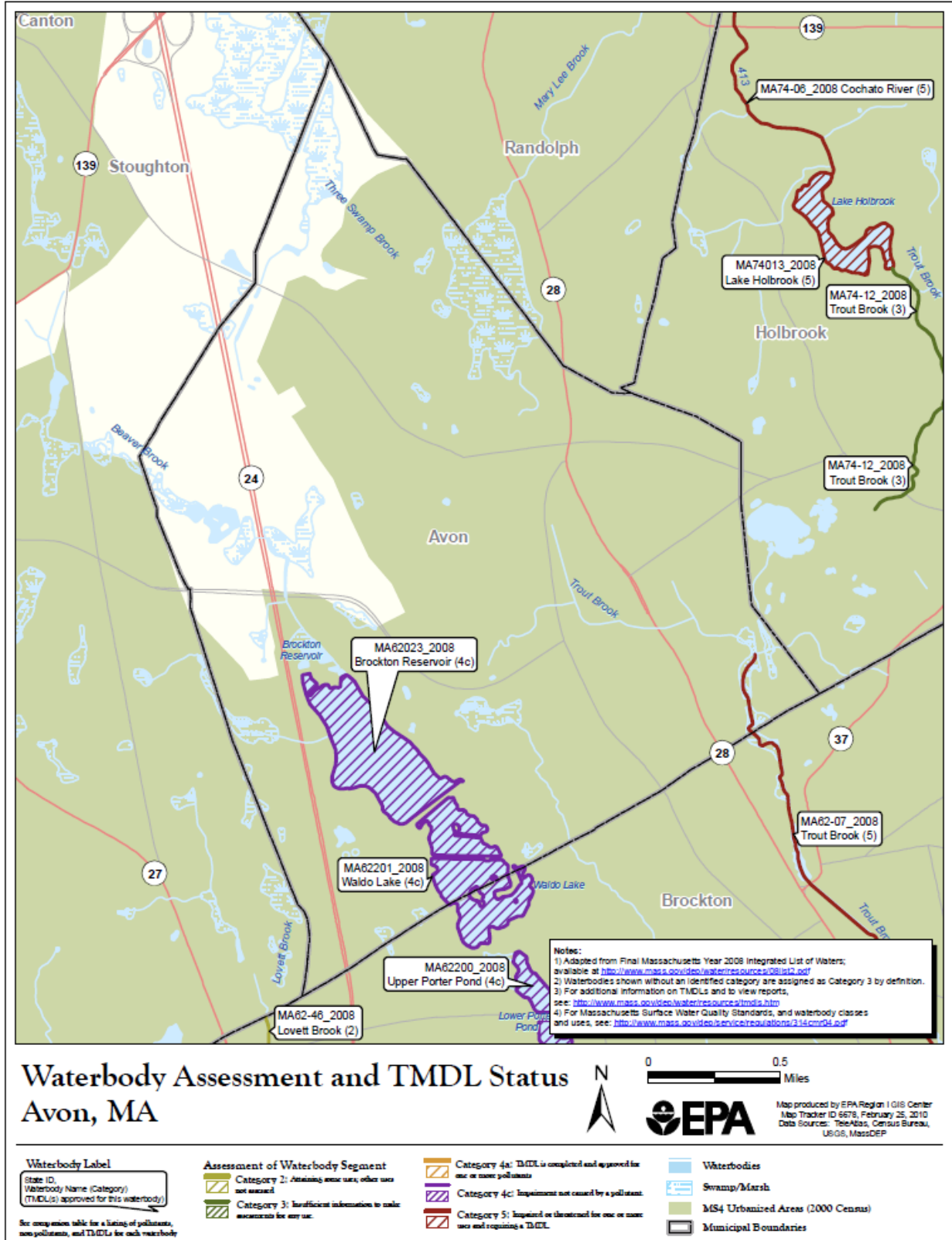
Source: <https://www.mass.gov/doc/net-groundwater-depletion-statewide-map/download>

Figure 14: Biological Category Percent Fluvial Fish Alteration



Source: <https://www.mass.gov/doc/biological-category-statewide-map/download>

Figure 15: Waterbody Assessment and TMDL Status



Summary of Waterbody Assessment and TMDL Status in Massachusetts

Avon, MA

ID	Waterbody Name	Watershed Name	Category	Acres		Miles		Cause	TMDL
				In Town - Total	Total	In Town - Total	Total		
MA62-07_2008	Trout Brook	Taunton	5			0.3	3.4	Organic enrichment/Low DO Pathogens Siltation Suspended solids Turbidity	
MA62023_2008	Brockton Reservoir	Taunton	4c	89.4	89.4				
MA62201_2008	Waldo Lake	Taunton	4c	44.39	72.39				

1) Adapted from Final Massachusetts Year 2008 Integrated List of Waters (CN 281.1, 12/2008); available at <http://www.mass.gov/dep/water/resources/08list2.pdf>
 2) For additional information on TMDLs and to view reports, see: <http://www.mass.gov/dep/water/resources/tmdl.htm>
 3) For Massachusetts Surface Water Quality Standards, and waterbody classes and uses, see: <http://www.mass.gov/dep/service/regulations/314cmr04.pdf>

Assessment of Waterbody Segment

Category 2 - Attaining some uses; other uses not assessed
 Category 3 - Insufficient information to make assessments for any use
 Category 4a - TMDL is completed
 Category 4c - Impairment not caused by a pollutant
 Category 5 - Impaired or threatened for one or more uses and requiring a TMDL

Land Uses in the Protection Areas

The Zone IIs for Avon is primarily a mixture of forest and residential land uses with a small portion consisting of industrial and commercial activities. Route 28 and Harrison traffic spills are the biggest concern. Land uses and activities that are potential sources of contamination are:

Commercial Uses body shops, gas stations, services stations/auto repair shops, bus and truck terminals, cemeteries, dry cleaners, junk yards and salvage yards, photo processors, railroad tracks and yards, and repair shops.

Industrial Uses Electronics/Electrical Manufacturers, electroplaters, industrial parks, hazardous waste storage, treatment, and recycling.

Residential Uses Fuel oil storage (at residences, lawn care/gardening, septic system/cesspools.

Miscellaneous: Aboveground storage tanks, oil or hazardous material sites, road and maintenance depots, schools, colleges and universities, small quantity hazardous waste generators, stormwater drains/retention basins, transmission line rights of way, transportation corridors, underground storage tanks, waste transfer/recycling stations.

Key Land Uses and Protection

Issues Include:

1. Activities in Zone I.
2. Chemical and Hazardous Materials Storage and Use
3. Road and Maintenance Depots

4. Residential Land Uses
5. Transportation Corridors
6. Oil or Hazardous Material Contamination Sites
7. Comprehensive Wellhead Protection Planning

The overall ranking of susceptibility to contamination for the Memorial Well #1, GP Well #2, Theater GP Well #3, Connolly Road Well #4, Trout Brook Wells, Satellite wellfield #3, and Porter Well is high, based on the presence of at least one high threat land use within the water supply protection areas.

1. **Activities in Zone Is** –Zone I for all of Avon’s wells is a 400-foot radius around each wellhead, except for the Trout Brook Wells, tubular wellfield, for which the ZI is a 250-foot radius around each well. Massachusetts drinking water regulations (310 CMR 22.00) require public water suppliers to own the Zone through a conservation restriction. Only water supply activities are allowed in Zone I. However, many public water supplies were developed before the Department’s regulations and contain non-water supply activities such as homes and public roads. The following activities are located in the Zone for Avon’s wells: Memorial Well #1 (01G) and GP Well #2 (02G) contain several commercial buildings and parking for numerous cars, a local road, and residential properties;

Porter Well (03G) contains residential properties, commercial buildings and parking for numerous cars, and a local road; Theater GP Well #3 (04G) contains a portion of a commercial building; Connolly Road Well #4 (05G) contains a local road and residential property; Trout Brook Wells, Wellfield #3, (06G) contains a very small portion of a railroad right-of-way. Rights-of-way are a potential source of contamination because of the possibility of chemical releases during track maintenance or the over-application or improper handling of herbicides used during rights-of-way maintenance.

Zone I Recommendations:

- ✓ To the extent possible, remove all non-water supply activities from the Zone Is to comply with DEP's Zone I requirements.
- ✓ Use BMPs for the storage, use, and disposal of hazardous materials such as water supply chemicals and maintenance chemicals.
- ✓ Do not use or store pesticides, fertilizers, or road salt within Zone I.
- ✓ Keep any new non-water supply activities out of Zone I.
- ✓ Work with the local Conservation Commission to make sure the wetland/ stream resource areas

are properly delineated in the field before the application of pesticide and that the supplier reviews the Yearly Operating Plan (YOP) from the utilities. These plans are approved directly by the Department of Food and Agriculture, with copies being sent to the local Conservation Commission.²³

2. *Chemical and Hazardous Materials Storage and Use* – Many large and small businesses use hazardous materials, produce hazardous waste products, and/or store large quantities of hazardous materials in Underground Storage Tanks (USTs)/Aboveground Storage Tanks (ASTs). Although many facilities within the watershed use best management practices (BMPs), hazardous materials and waste can be unexpectedly released through spills, leaks, or improper handling or storage, and become potential sources of contamination. Hazardous materials should never be disposed of in a septic system or floor drain leading directly to the ground.

Hazardous Materials Storage and Use Recommendations:

- ✓ Educate local businesses on BMPs for protecting water supplies, and encourage them to use BMPs for handling, storing,

²³ Source Water Assessment and Protection (SWAP) Report Avon-4018000-SWAP-2003-12-3-1

and disposing of hazardous waste.

- ✓ Work with local businesses to register those facilities that are unregistered generators of hazardous waste or waste oil. Partnerships between businesses, water suppliers, and communities enhance successful public drinking water protection practices.
- ✓ Educate local businesses on Massachusetts floor drain requirements.²⁴

3. **Road and Maintenance Depots** - Potential sources of contamination in state and municipal facilities can result from accidental dumping, spills, leaks, vehicle washing operations, or wastewater treatment. Waste management and product storage pose the greatest threats with a wide variety of potentially harmful contaminants.

Road and Maintenance Depots

Recommendations:

- ✓ Institute Best Management Practices. Encourage road and maintenance depots to develop best management practices to ensure proper salt storage, proper maintenance of facilities, and good housekeeping practices.
- ✓ Adequately size salt pile structure to allow for the loading

and unloading of salt within the structure. Review the Department of Environmental Protection's Drinking Water Program Guidelines on Deicing Chemical (Road Salt) Storage.

- ✓ Encourage proper storage of materials at these facilities.

4. **Residential Land Uses** - Approximately 36 percent of the combined Zone IIs consist of residential areas, all of which are served by private septic systems. If managed improperly, activities associated with residential areas can contribute to drinking water contamination. Common potential sources of contamination include:

a. **Septic Systems** - Improper disposal of household hazardous chemicals in septic systems are a potential source of contamination to the groundwater because septic systems lead to the ground. If septic systems fail or are not properly maintained, they can be a potential source of microbial contamination.

b. **Household Hazardous Materials** - Hazardous materials may include automotive wastes, paints, solvents, pesticides, fertilizers, and other substances. Improper use, storage, and disposal of

²⁴ Source Water Assessment and Protection (SWAP) Report, Avon-4018000-SWAP-2003-12-30-1

chemical products used in homes are potential sources of contamination.

- c. **Heating Oil Storage** - If managed improperly, Underground and Aboveground Storage Tanks (USTs and ASTs) can be potential sources of contamination due to leaks or spills of the fuel oil they store.
- d. **Stormwater** - Catch basins transport stormwater from roadways and adjacent properties to the ground. As flowing stormwater travels, it picks up debris and contaminants from streets and lawns. Common potential contaminants include lawn chemicals, pet waste, and contaminants from automotive leaks, maintenance, washing, or accidents.

Residential Land Use

Recommendations:

- ✓ Educate residents on best management practices (BMPs) for protecting water supplies.
- ✓ Work with planners to control new residential developments in the water supply protection areas.
- ✓ Promote BMPs for stormwater management and pollution controls.

5. Transportation Corridors –

Transportation corridors and other paved and unpaved local roads cross through the water supply protection areas. Spills from vehicular accidents are a major concern. In addition, roadway construction, maintenance, and typical highway use can all be potential sources of contamination.

Accidents can lead to spills of gasoline and other potentially dangerous transported chemicals. Roadways are frequent sites for illegal dumping of hazardous or other potentially harmful wastes. De-icing salt, automotive chemicals, and other debris on roads are picked up by stormwater and washed into catch basins.

Transportation Corridor

Recommendations:

- ✓ Wherever possible, ensure that drains discharge stormwater outside of Zone I.
- ✓ Identify stormwater drainage systems along transportation corridors. If maps are not yet available, work with state and local officials to investigate mapping options such as the upcoming Phase II Stormwater Rule requiring some communities to complete stormwater mapping.
- ✓ Work with local emergency response teams to ensure that any spills within Zone IIs can

be effectively contained. Review storm drainage maps with emergency response teams.

- ✓ Work with the Town and State to best manage stormwater in Zone IIs. Best management practices include street sweeping, vegetative swales, and regular catch basin inspection, cleaning, and maintenance.

6. **Presence of Oil or Hazardous Material Contamination Sites** - The Zone IIs for Avon's wells contain DEP Tier Classified Oil and/or Hazardous Material Release Sites indicated on the map as Release Tracking Numbers 4-0000048, 4-0000318, 4-0000421, 4-0012357, 4-0015693, 4-0015811, 4-0016138, 4-0016152, 4-0016198, 4-0016272, 4-0017002, and 4-0017394.

Oil or Hazardous Material Contamination Sites

Recommendation:

- ✓ Monitor progress on any ongoing remedial action conducted for the known oil or contamination sites.

7. **Protection Planning** - Protection planning protects drinking water by managing the land area that supplies water to a well or reservoir. A Wellhead Protection Plan coordinates community efforts, identifies protection strategies, establishes a timeframe for implementation, and provides a

forum for public participation. There are resources available to help communities develop a plan for protecting drinking water supply wells.

Protection Planning Recommendations:

- ✓ Coordinate efforts with local officials to compare local wellhead protection controls with current MA Wellhead Protection Regulations 310 CMR 22.21 (2).
- ✓ Develop a Wellhead Protection Plan.
- ✓ Coordinate efforts with the Towns of Brockton and Holbrook to include Avon's source protection areas in local wellhead protection controls.
- ✓ If local controls do not regulate floor drains, be sure to include floor drain controls that meet 310 CMR 22.21(2).
- ✓ Work with town boards to review and provide recommendations on proposed development within your water supply protection areas.

Identifying potential sources of contamination is an important initial step in protecting your drinking water sources. Further local investigation will provide more in-depth information and may identify new land uses and activities that are potential sources of contamination. Once potential sources of contamination are identified,

specific recommendations should be used to better protect your water supply.

Groundwater – Aquifer

Recharge Areas

Avon has a Water Supply Protection District. The purpose of the district is to protect existing and potential community water supplies through the preservation and maintenance of the groundwater table and quality. This is increasingly important as development increases impermeable surfaces thus increasing runoff and lessening recharge. If the town installs a public sewer system, the recharge will be lessened from leaching fields.

Ponds

The Town has very few natural ponds, though there is one east of Route 24 and north of South Street. The main ponds are the Beaver Brook impoundments forming the Brockton Reservoir and Waldo Lake, though the latter is split between Avon and Brockton (discussed under Water Quality and Open Space Resource).

D. Vegetation

General Inventory

As in most of New England, Avon's undeveloped land is primarily woodland, much of it wooded swamp. Avon lies within the Southern New England Coastal Plains and Hills Ecoregion, an area comprised of plains with a few low hills. Forests are mainly central hardwoods with some transition hardwoods and some elm-ash-red maple and red and white pine. Many major rivers drain this area. A rare species habitat

is found on the shores of Brockton Reservoir and Waldo Lake.

Wetland Vegetation

Red Maple Swamp Wetlands are usually classified by the plant communities that grow in them. Red Maple Swamp is the most common in Massachusetts. According to the Classification of the Natural Communities of Massachusetts, Red Maple Swamps may occur in a variety of physical settings including hillside seeps and upland drainage ways caused mostly by groundwater seepage and overland flow, seasonally flooded basin swamps in undrained basins, and alluvial swamps (Swain & Kearsley, 2001). Red maple is usually dominant in the over-story with other plants existing alongside. Some of these other tree species include yellow birch (*Betula alleghaniensis*), black gum (*Nyssa sylvatica*), white ash (*Fraxinus Americana*), and Eastern white pine (*Pinus strobus*), and American elm (*Ulmus Americana*) to name a few. Filling, highway construction, upland development, as well as their conversion to agricultural land continue to threaten the health and vitality of Red Maple Swamp communities.

Shrub Swamp Shrub Swamp has a much smaller presence in Avon than its Red Maple counterpart. Shrub Swamp is widespread and may occur in basin depressions, at pond margins, and along river and stream sides – common physical attributes of Avon. Conceptually, shrub swamp communities are shrub-dominated wetlands occurring on mineral or mucky mineral soils that are seasonally or temporarily flooded. This type of swamp community is often found in

transition zones between emergent marshes and swamp forests, all of which can be found in Avon. A combination of plant species may occur in Shrub Swamps, including but not limited to, common arrowhead (*Sagittaria latifolia* var. *latifolia*), skunk cabbage (*Symplocarpus cinnamomea*), sensitive fern (*Onoclea sensibilis*), royal fern (*Osmunda regalis*) sedges (*Carex* spp.), and Sphagnum moss (*Sphagnum* spp.). The spread of invasive species, particularly purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*), is a common threat affecting these swamps.

Forest Land

Avon's undeveloped land is primarily woodland, much of it wooded swamp. The woodland is new growth hardwoods replacing former agriculture, with some pockets of softwoods on sandy soils, and an extensive area of wooded swamp east of Page Street crossing the Randolph town line. There are no significant open wetlands, e.g., marshes, bogs, or wet meadows. There may be some undocumented vernal pools requiring further inventory work. Nor is there any significant farmland.

Invasive Species

Invasive species are defined as non-native species that cause or are likely to cause harm to ecosystems, economies, and/or public health (NISC, 2006). Although invasive species can be any type of organism including marine organisms, insects, and birds, this Plan focuses on invasive terrestrial plants, as these are the most studied and managed type of invasive species.

Species that may have negative impacts on Avon include purple loosestrife (*Lythrum*

salicaria), and phragmites (*Phragmites australis*), which are susceptible to wildfire. Japanese knotweed (*Fallopia japonica* syn. *Polygonum cuspidatum*) creates a continuing safety hazard, especially along roadsides.

The Avon DPW spends a great deal of time mechanically cutting that back. Management practices to remove these invasive species require a combination of mechanical removal and targeted herbicide controls. It's along most roadsides. The town also has Norfolk County Mosquito Control come in when needed to clean streams, but the knotweed continues to grow back. Avon Conservation Commission requires cleaning out of Invasive Species as part of project review, including evaluation of existing conditions by professionals. Removal of non-native invasive plants around the stormwater basins is conducted before subdivision acceptance.

The Vegetation Management Plans (VMPs) and Yearly Operational Plan (YOP) of the local utilities Eversource, National Grid, and commuter rail address invasive species. (Hand clearing only near Avon wells). Avon is at the top of the watershed and without ponds as other places might have where it is a recreational issue. The town is not responsible for the maintenance of Brockton/Avon Reservoir, it's in DW Field Park and is a Brockton's drinking water reservoir. Any invasive species on those properties is unknown.

According to the November 2021 MassDEP Integrated List of Waters for the 2018/2020 Reporting Cycle both the Brockton Reservoir and Waldo Lake do not support aquatic life due to the presence of Fanwort

(*Cabomba caroliniana*) and possibly other unconfirmed invasive species of *Myriophyllum*, possibly *heterophyllum*, was also identified. Although both are in Brockton's D.W. Field Park, and thus managed by the City of Brockton, Avon will be working with Brockton, including through the recently funded Wildlands Trust project for DW Field Park restoration, including ecological functions. Avon's Open Space planning process identified the high use of DW Field Park by Avon's residents, and widespread support for restoring recreational functions in the park.

Exotic non-native invasive plant and insect species threaten the overall and long-term health of many habitats because they outcompete native species for precious resources and, in extreme cases, eliminate native species from those habitat areas. Of greatest concern are those invasive species that reside in some of the town's water bodies. These species degrade the ecological health of these systems and limit recreational use.

Other problematic aquatic and riparian species include common reed (*Phragmites australis*), purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*), fanwort (*Cabomba spp.*), and variable milfoil (*Myriophyllum heterophyllum*) (Glover, 2012). The Town of Avon consulted with Norfolk County Mosquito Control District to inquire about other invasive species of concern. Glossy Buckthorn (*Frangula Alnus*), Multiflora rose (*Rosa multiflora*), Milfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum*), Black locust (*Robinia pseudoacacia*), Honeysuckle (*Lonicera sp.*), Olive (*Elaeagnus sp.*).

Public Shade Trees

Public shade trees are an important part of the community's infrastructure. Not only do large trees provide aesthetic value to a community's streets and natural areas, but they also provide value as "green infrastructure" that controls and cleanses stormwater, reduces soil erosion, absorbs carbon, and air pollutants, and reduces the "heat island effect" by shading surfaces such as pavement and brick.

The Town values street trees and recognizes their contribution to the visual character and sustainable design of neighborhoods.

The Town of Avon has a Tree Warden elected for the term of three years for the care and custody of all public shade trees, shrubs, and growths in the town, except those within a state highway layout or under the control of park commissioners. The Tree Warden is consulted and holds a public hearing in coordination with the Planning board before the removal of any Public Shade Tree.

The department's functions include trimming, grooming, raising, pruning, and removal of all town trees. The department will remove municipal trees only if they are dead, in severe decline, or pose a threat to public safety.

The Town does not currently have an inventory of Public Shade Trees, which would provide information on species, maturity, and condition, nor does it have a Public Shade Tree planting program, or a Tree Committee. These are all activities the community could implement in the development of a local Public Shade Tree program. The Town could consider a restructuring of the operational

responsibilities of the Tree Warden position going forward to support the long-term goal of planting more shade trees town-wide. Future street tree planting initiatives can be funded through available state programs such as Green Communities and Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness, and federal grant programs.

Street trees typically live 10 to 15 years on average. As trees need to be replaced in Town spaces, commercial corridors, business parks, and neighborhood streets, alternative species should be planted to provide greater variety and protection against substantial losses caused by diseases prone to certain species. Additionally, new and replacement street trees should be carefully located so as not to block doorways, storefront windows, and signs. Deciduous trees are strongly encouraged over conifers to provide shade along sidewalks and in parking lots and to maintain storefront visibility. An exception should be made when screening is necessary. Existing street trees that are low branching should be pruned up to eight feet above the sidewalk to enhance visibility for walkers as well as drivers. The Town of Avon is a Tree City USA community.

The broad use of street trees planted around Avon is a simple and beautiful solution to reducing heating and cooling needs for centers, corridors, and neighborhoods. When planted on the south and west sides of buildings, shade trees drop their leaves during the cooler fall season allowing warming sunlight to reach sidewalks and buildings. Additionally, they create a lush canopy in the warmer months by providing shade to keep the sidewalk and adjacent buildings cool. This provides a low-

tech, low-cost solution to reduce energy needs.

A copy of a Sample Shade Tree Regulation and Shade Tree Bylaw are included in Appendix H of this plan for further review and consideration.

E. Fisheries and Wildlife

Avon is such a long-settled community that many residents may not be aware of the animal populations that continue to live here. Recently, the expanding whitetail deer, eastern coyote, and Canada goose populations have been much discussed by local media, and many people are aware of the presence of these animals. It is extremely likely, however, that a mere handful of Avon residents know that Hawks regularly prey on pigeons and starlings and that these predatory birds are occasionally joined by Goshawks and Merlins.

Avon's remaining wild lands contain a variety of habitats for wildlife. The interspersed fields, wet meadows, shrub swamps, wooded swamps, and surface water creates a rich tapestry of food, water, shelter, and nesting spaces for wild animals of all kinds. Sightings include Wild Turkey, American Wood cock, River otter, Fisher cats, Muskrat, Box Turtle, Blanding's Turtles, Musk turtles, Raccoon, Red Fox, and Spotted Turtles.

Upland Wildlife Inventory

Most common forest wildlife can be found in forested areas. In Avon, wildlife inventories are limited. Upon inspection of the open spaces around Avon and at DeMarco Park, there is evidence to support a population of deer, eastern cotton tail rabbits, wild turkeys, and red fox. This includes animal scat, territorial scrapings, foraging evidence, roadkill, and nesting sites, in addition to conspicuous visible presence.

Wetland Wildlife Inventory

Common Massachusetts wildlife species can be expected to be present in Avon's various wetland resource areas. Common wetlands waterfowl are frequently observed, including Canada Geese.

Rare, Threatened, and Endangered Animal Species

The Mass Wildlife's Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program, Rare Species Viewer identifies the Eastern Box Turtle (*Terrapene Carolina*) as a Special Concern under the Reptile Taxonomic Group with a most recent observation of 2012.

Rare, Threatened, and Endangered Plant Species

The Massachusetts Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program reports no local sightings of endangered plant species.

The *BioMap2* Core Habitat contains 184 acres. The *BioMap2* Core Habitat Protected is 147 acres or 80 percent. There are 0 acres of *BioMap2* Critical Natural Landscape and 0 acres of *BioMap2* Critical Natural Landscape protected.

Wildlife Corridors

Avon has groupings of protected lands that can allow for wildlife movement but connecting these areas to other protected lands to create larger, extended corridors always remains a priority for the Town.

The MassWildlife Lands Viewer shows the following large tracts of open space land in the Town of Avon and comprise a slightly fragmented open space corridor. Beginning at the northwest corner of town with the Schepis property the corridor is interrupted by Bodwell Street. The next viable wildlife connection would be the King Street, Lothrop Drive Area.

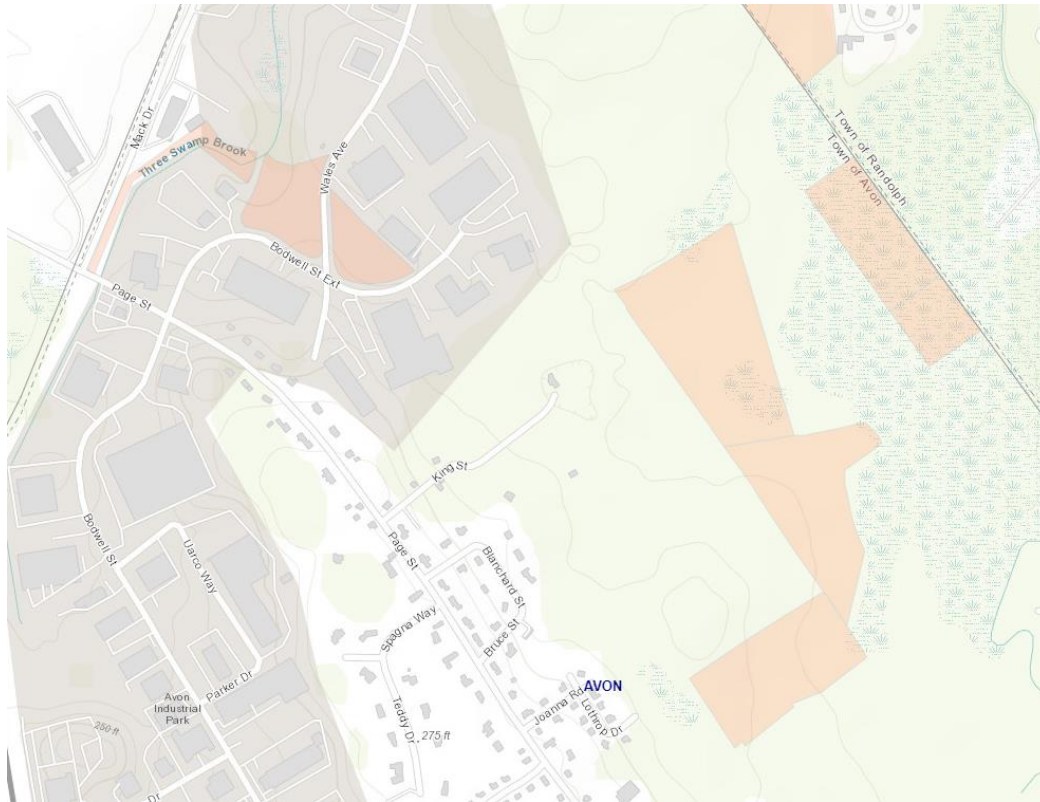
The Schepis Property is located off Page Street and extends into the Three Swamp Brook behind Bodwell St. Extension and Wales Avenue.

A large area of three town-owned parcels behind the King Street Lothrop Drive area. Including the wetlands area at the Randolph town line.

The Jablonski Property contains two large town-owned parcels located behind Central Street abutting Route 24.

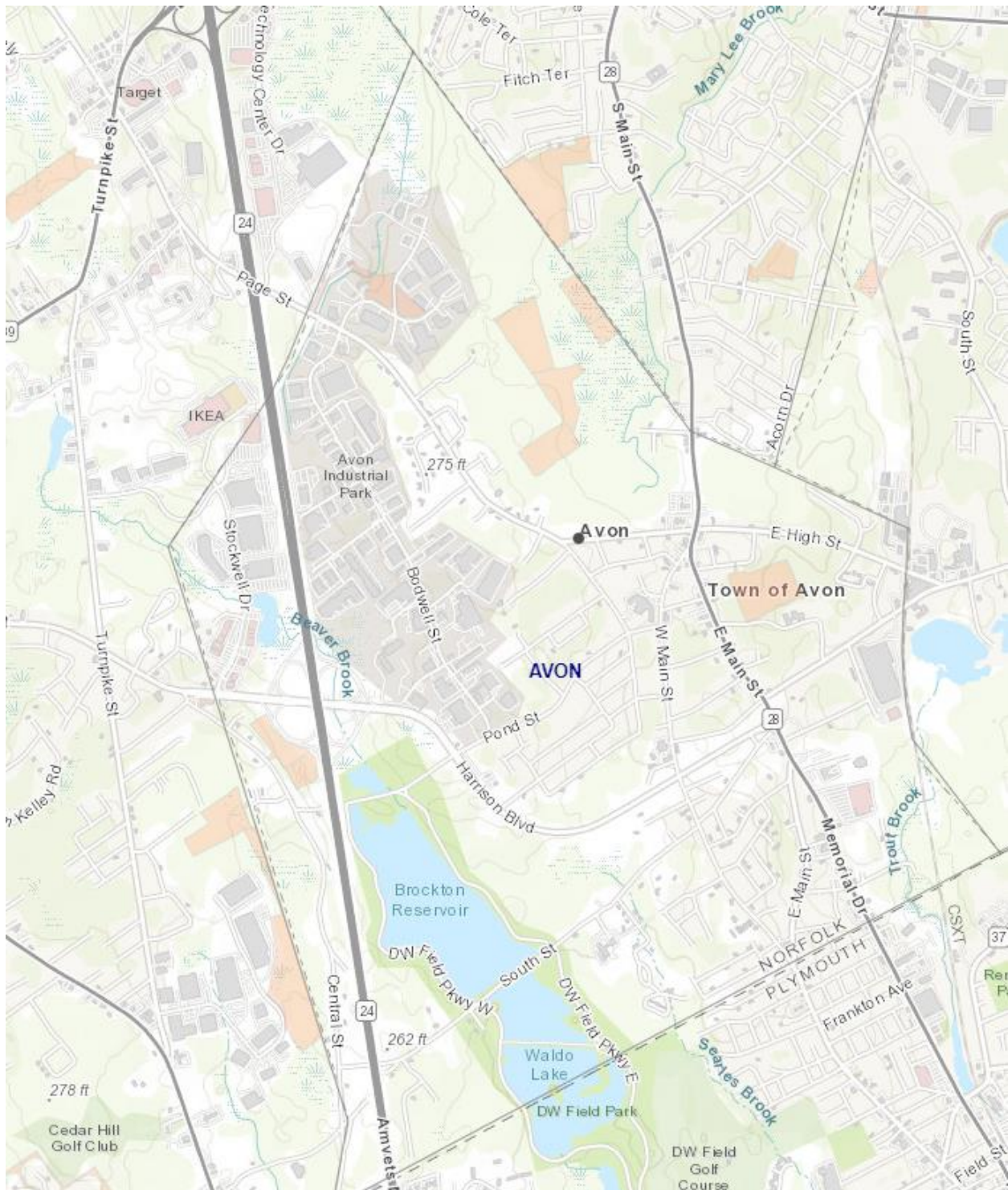
The Robbins Street Conservation Area contains one large parcel between Robbins St and Fagan Drive.

Figure 16: MassWildlife Lands Viewer Wildlife Corridors



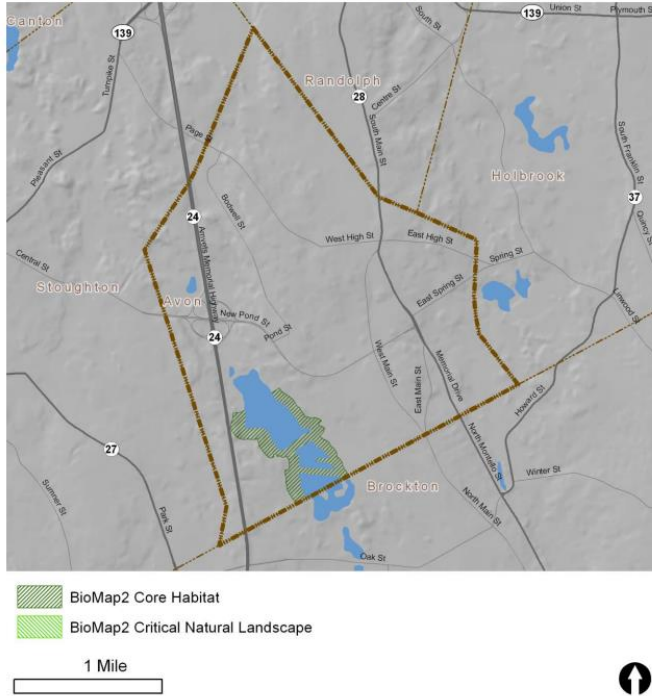
Source: <https://mass-eeea.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=3a7c475cb6d54578ba8c7149d885ad30>

Figure 17: Fragmented Open Space Wildlife Corridor



Source: <https://mass-eoee.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=3a7c475cb6d54578ba8c7149d885ad30>

BioMap2 Core Habitat and Critical Natural Landscape in Avon



Avon at a Glance

- Total Area: 2,905 acres (4.5 square miles)
- Human Population in 2010: 4,356
- Open space protected in perpetuity: 340 acres, or 11.7% percent of total area*
- BioMap2 Core Habitat: 184 acres
- BioMap2 Core Habitat Protected: 147 acres or 80.0%
- BioMap2 Critical Natural Landscape: 0 acres
- BioMap2 Critical Natural Landscape Protected: 0 acres

BioMap2 Components

Core Habitats

- 1 Species of Conservation Concern Core**
 - 1 insect

* Calculated using MassGIS data layer "Protected and Recreational Open Space—March, 2012".

** See next pages for complete list of species, natural communities and other biodiversity elements.

Species of Conservation Concern, Priority and Exemplary Natural Communities, and Other Elements of Biodiversity in Avon

Insects

Dragonflies

Umber Shadowdragon, (*Neurocordulia obsoleta*), SC

- E = Endangered
- T = Threatened
- SC = Special Concern
- S1 = Critically Imperiled communities, typically 5 or fewer documented sites or very few remaining acres in the state.
- S2 = Imperiled communities, typically 6-20 sites or few remaining acres in the state.
- S3 = Vulnerable communities, typically have 21-100 sites or limited acreage across the state.

F. Scenic Resources and Unique Environments

Scenic Landscapes

As New England evolves from farmland back to forest or to large-lot subdivisions, open land, which gives scenic vistas and reveals the underlying terrain, is increasingly rare. Past State (Department of Environmental Management) Inventories of Scenic Resources listed nothing in Avon or other non-coastal portions of Southeastern Massachusetts since they concentrated on large-scale multi-community vistas, with considerable relief and good visibility from highways. Avon's scenic areas are water-related and publicly protected. These include:

- Views of the Brockton Reservoir/Waldo Lake from South Street and Pond Street
- Views of D.W. Field Park from the East and West Parkways
- Views of the restored Blanchard House and Tavern

Cultural Resources

Avon was originally part of the large township of Dorchester (founded in 1637); it was later part of Stoughton, which was incorporated in 1726. The first known settler was Moses Curtis, who built a house in 1720, which is still standing on North Main Street. Moses Curtis had eleven children, and by 1749 the area had come to be called "Curtis Corner". There were two attempts, in 1741 and 1755, to have this area annexed to Bridgewater, but the voters of Stoughton did not approve the initiative. Curtis Corner

came to be called East Stoughton. Avon itself was incorporated as a separate town in 1888.

Avon has several historic sites that are shown on the accompanying map and listed as follows:

1. Blanchard's Tavern. North Main Street. Built-in 1784 it was used as the Town Hall until 1976.
2. Ashley Curtis House. West Main and Pond Streets. A historic building was built in the 1750s.
3. Briggs House. North Main Street. A historic building was built by Moses Curtis in 1720.
4. John French House. South Street. A historic building was built in 1754.
5. Amariah Harris House. West Main Street. A historic building was built in 1768.
6. Caleb Howard House. East Main Street. A historic building was built in the 1750s.
7. William Blanchard House. East Main Street. A historic building was built in 1763.
8. Joseph Porter House. Bodwell and Pond Streets. A historic building was built in 1763.
9. Dependence French House. 186 South Street. A historic building was built in 1745.

10. Porter House. 253 Pond Street. A historic building was built in 1768.
11. Porter Place. 533 West Main Street. A historic building was built in 1756.
12. Nathaniel Linfield House. 443 South Street. A historic building was built in 1768.
13. Samuel Robbins House. Goeres Square. A historic building was built in 1820 and is now the Butler House and Blanchard Museum.
14. Railroad Station. A historic building located on East High Street.
15. Avon Baptist Church. Main and West High Streets. A historic building was built in 1848.
16. Lower Road Cemetery. East Main Street. The first cemetery in town.

Areas of particular interest

Blanchard's Tavern is a landmark located just off North Main Street in Avon. William Blanchard founded Blanchard's Tavern in 1784. In 1938 Henry Lawton Blanchard, a former Avon resident donated the tavern to the town, and Blanchard's Tavern became the Avon Town Hall. In 1976 the town sold Blanchard's Tavern back to the Blanchard Trust. Restoration of the tavern began in 1978. In 1979 it opened back up to the public in its eighteenth-century appearance. It is open to the public and offers traditional period entertainment.

Samuel Robbins House 1820 Captain Samuel Robbins, a sea captain from Boston, built the house in 1820 that now serves as the Blanchard House Museum. The Blanchard Trust acquired the Robbins house in 1966, restored it, and opened it in 1970 as the

Blanchard House Museum. Today the museum holds the collection of the Avon Historical Society.

Two Cemetery – the Avon Cemetery on East Main Street and the St. Michael's Cemetery on East Spring Street. These cemeteries contain the remains of many prominent figures throughout Avon's history such as the Gorses, Ganley's, Doherty's, Geary's, Littlefield's, Wheeler's, and Blanchard's.

Goeres Square dedicated in 1920 to honor Private Andrew Goeres who was the son of a prominent Avon family. Private Goeres died of wounds suffered in the Argonne Meuse offensive less than five weeks before the end of World War 1. In Goeres Square can also be found a gazebo and fountain, which adds to the small-town charm of Avon.

D.W. Field Park. The Park is 737 acres, and it connects Avon and Brockton through a winding road that runs around the Brockton Reservoir. This Park is well used and serves as an excellent outdoor recreational facility. Bicycling, non-motor boating, cross country skiing, downhill skiing, freshwater fishing, golf, hiking, ice skating, and picnicking are activities that the park provides. Benches that are situated around the park in open areas create a relaxing environment. During warm periods it is a good place to bring children to observe nature. It also serves a vital purpose of protecting the Brockton Reservoir from being polluted.

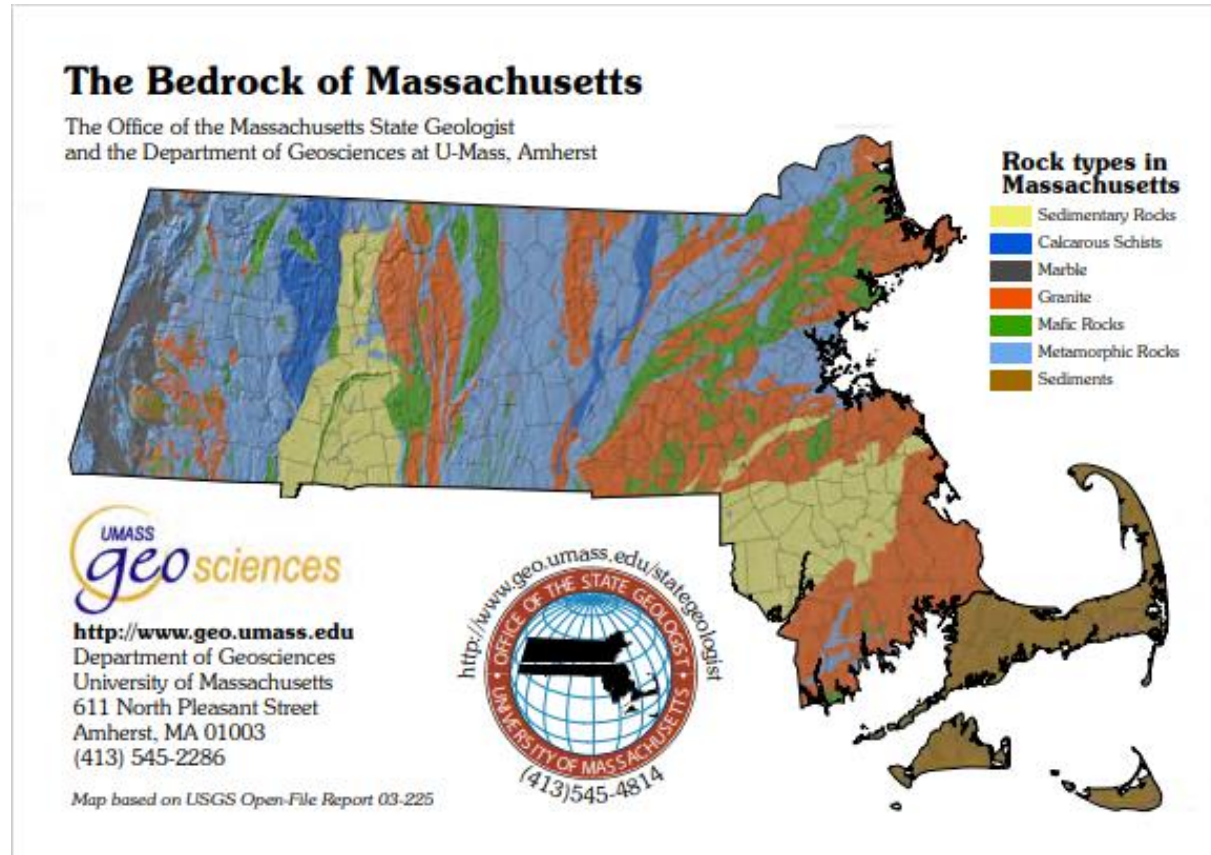
Unusual Geologic Features.

The USGS indicates that the counties of Bristol, Norfolk, and Plymouth contain the Rhode Island Formation, a sandstone,

graywacke, shale, and conglomerate with minor beds of meta-anthracite. Rhode Island Formation is the thickest and most extensive formation in the Narragansett basin. Does not extend to the Norfolk basin. Consists of gray sandstone and siltstone and lesser amounts of gray to black shale, gray conglomerate, and coal beds 10 m thick.

Figure 18: Bedrock of Massachusetts

Interfingers with Wamsutta Formation in Narragansett basin. Geologic hazards can include earthquakes, landslides, sinkholes, and subsidence. Statewide data did not identify any local areas that were previously recorded as being vulnerable to geologic hazards.



Source:

http://www.geo.umass.edu/stategologist/updated_postcard.pdf?_gl=1*1o8mkh3*_ga*MTI4MzA1NzAzNy4xNjU0MjAzMjg4*_ga_21RLS0L7EB*MTY1NDIwMzI4OC4xLjEuMTY1NDIwMzI5Ni4w&_ga=2.195532396.175842484.1654203288-1283057037.1654203288

G. Environmental Challenges

The Town of Avon has several unique characteristics to keep in mind when considering environmental challenges.

- It is only 4.5 square miles in size.
- It is home to the Brockton Reservoir and a sizable portion of Waldo Lake.
- Route 24 runs through the town on its western edge.
- It has a population density of 990 people per square mile (US Census Bureau 2017).

Avon faces several environmental challenges that influence open space and recreation planning, including the following.

- Biodiversity and Habitat Fragmentation
- Wastewater Management
- Stormwater Management
- Climate Change
- Erosion and Flooding
- Hazardous Waste and
- Solid Waste Disposal

Biodiversity and Habitat Fragmentation

Another major impact of development is the fragmentation of habitat. Because so much of Avon has already been altered by development, Avon will focus conservation efforts on the remaining conservation land, and those few and precious remaining areas are potentially capable of producing additional public water supply.

Residential and Commercial Development

The Town of Avon is about 4.5 square miles, ranking as one of the state's smallest communities, with much of its remaining land unsuitable for development. The Town's industrial areas have proven to be a regional asset. The industrial area contributes significantly to the Town's tax base and provides thousands of jobs in the area.

Total residential land use makes up 22.6 percent of the Town's land. Commercial and industrial uses make up 15.7 percent of the Town's land. Several categories of open space combined (forest, wetlands, cropland, open land, and water) make up 37.2 percent of the Town.

The projected increase in the number of households in Avon suggests considerable pressure on the town's remaining open spaces, especially if large lot sizes for single-family homes continue to be the preference. Such low-density growth may leave some backyards untouched and lessen the perceived need for community open space, but the large lots leave little 'wild' land. Even the slight increase in the projected population will likely lead to an increase in demand for recreation and open space.

Environmental Features and Natural Hazards

Table 21: Environmental Features and Natural Hazards

Vulnerabilities	Strengths
Stormwater pollution	Open Space
Impervious surface	DW Field Park
Stormwater system mapping	Wetlands
Mosquito habitat	
High groundwater/ledge	

Avon’s compactness combined with future growth and change makes it especially important to strategically site open space and recreation areas so that these areas are central to most existing or growing neighborhoods.

The Town currently has within its borders two core areas of protected open space – water supply protection and conservation (which includes DW Field Park) – that provide tremendous value for recreation, agriculture, water supply, and wildlife.

Hazardous Waste Sites

Waste Site Reportable

Releases

In the Town of Avon, there are concerns with hazardous waste due to potential impacts on the drinking water supply, threat of surface contamination, and groundwater pollution.

Brownfields, while a challenge, also present opportunities for redevelopment in areas that already have the infrastructure in place. In addition, these sites can save the development of “green sites” that would otherwise be developed.

DEP maintains detailed records of contaminated sites in the Commonwealth and charts the progress of cleaning efforts at each site under the state’s waste site cleanup regulations, the Massachusetts Contingency Plan. The progress of the cleanup efforts and the compliance status of these sites are available for public information on the DEP searchable waste site list weblink: <http://public.dep.state.ma.us>

The Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA) Waste Site and Reportable Releases for Avon indicates ninety-three sites that have undergone some level of petroleum or hazardous material cleanup as reported in the MassDEP 21E Reportable Release database. Twelve sites were Phase II, three sites were Phase III, two sites were Phase IV, and four sites were Phase V.

Figure 17 shows a map of the Waste Site and Reportable Releases for the Town of Avon. Open Sites are indicated in red dots, Closed Sites are shown in blue dots, and Closed Sites with Use Limitations are depicted in green dots.

There are five Open Sites indicated in the Figure and are depicted in red font and three Closed with Site Use Limitations depicted in green font on the table of Reportable Releases.

Landfills

No active Municipal Solid Waste landfills remain in the Town of Avon or the OCPC region. There was an old municipal solid waste landfill site on Wales Avenue owned by the Town of Avon. The landfill has been closed since 1973 and was capped in 1975. In 1990, the DEP submitted the site to become a compost site. It was laid with 2'-3' of cover on top and monitoring wells were installed. The Commonwealth of Massachusetts DEP Inactive & Closed Landfills and Dumping report of January 2017 indicates the landfill has a CLF classification as a Closed Landfill with Environmental Monitoring Required and a Closure Status as Capped. The report indicates that the Liner, the barrier between the solid waste fill and the underlying soil, is designated as Not Lined, meaning that no part of the landfill is lined. The Massachusetts DEP has the landfill listed as an Active Composting Site in its January 2017 report.

To receive trash and recyclable materials collections, Avon residents are automatically subscribed to the municipal collection program. Multi-unit dwellings consisting of three or more units must use a private dumpster with a private waste hauler. All residents should have a town trash tote, the hauler will only pick up trash in a town tote. The Town also has a recycling policy and residents are issued a recycling tote.

The Town of Avon conducts semi-annual Municipal Household Hazardous Waste Collection Days. The town supports this program to reduce the amount of hazardous waste in the Municipal Solid Waste Street (MSW). This service reduces the degree of illegal dumping, and "backyard-based"

groundwater contamination, and reduces the degree of toxicity to emissions generated at the waste to energy facility.

The town has a composting site at the location of the former landfill, 100 Wales Avenue. The compost site is open from April to December for yard waste.

Flooding/Erosion

Avon is in the Taunton River Watershed and is home to the Brockton Reservoir and Waldo Lake, as well as several smaller bodies of water. Flooding represents a high-frequency, potentially serious severity hazard for Avon.

Flooding can be caused by various weather events including hurricanes, extreme precipitation, thunderstorms, nor'easters, and winter storms. Flooding can be both riverine (topping the banks of streams, rivers, and ponds) and from stormwater that is not properly infiltrated into the ground. While Avon experiences these events, the impacts of climate change will lead to increasingly severe storms and, therefore, increasingly severe impacts. The impacts of flooding include injury or death, property damage, and traffic disruption. Areas within FEMA flood zones, repetitive loss sites and local areas identified as flood-prone are more vulnerable to the impacts of flooding.

Flood hazards are also linked to erosion, which can compromise receiving water quality, slope stability, and the stability of building foundations. These impacts put current and future structures and populations located near steep embankments at risk. Erosion can also undercut streambeds and scour around

stream crossing, creating a serious risk to roadways.

Currently, the Conservation Commission maintains and enforces requirements for erosion and sedimentation control for construction projects within 100 feet of wetlands, or when work results in a negative environmental impact on Wetland Resource Areas. The Board of Health has the regulatory responsibility to regulate the prevention of stormwater sheet flow resulting in ponding on abutting properties in all new construction projects. Erosion and sedimentation control are provided by the installation of sediment control barriers including straw wattles secured by wood stakes, geotextile silt fencing embedded in the ground, secured hay bale rows, TRM's (Turf reinforcement mats), wood chips, composted berms, temporary settling basins, fractionalization tanks, polymerization of untreated effluent, filtered dewatering, and a host of others. All construction sites that disturb 1 acre or greater are required to obtain coverage under an EPA NPDES (National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System) permit for surface-generated stormwater discharges. This includes the implementation of a site Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP), specifying site erosion control and non-structural Best Management Practices, such as operation and routine maintenance procedures and record-keeping obligations.

Locally Identified Areas of Flooding

The areas identified as being the most vulnerable to flooding are those areas located within the 100-year floodplain. According to FIRM maps, areas most vulnerable to flooding in Avon are areas

along Beaver Brook and Trout Brook, the Brockton Reservoir and Waldo Lake in D.W. Field Park, and northeast Avon (particularly the area east of Page Street to the Randolph town line).

- The parking lot of the Avon Public Library
- Kiddie Drive
- West Main Street, south of South Street
- Doherty Avenue
- West High Street at Old Pratt Street.

Sedimentation

While all waterways in Avon are subject to threats of erosion and sedimentation, some waters experience ecological degradation due to the increased presence of organic material and sedimentation. For example, the Summary of Waterbody Assessment and TMDL Status indicates Trout Brook in Avon was designated Category 5 – Impaired or threatened for one or more uses and requires a TMDL. The Brockton Reservoir and Waldo Lake received Category 4c – Impairment not caused by a pollutant.

The DPW actively engages in a program to remove sediment from deep sump catch basins in the entire street drainage system. Catch basins and street cleaning are done regularly along with routine inspections by the Department. Maintaining and cleaning these systems is important to prevent water pollution and street flooding.

Forestry Issues

As listed in the following table, approximately 20 percent of total land consists of Evergreen Forest, Scrub/Shrub, and Forested and Non-Forested Wetlands in

2020. As conservation land, these larger tracts of forested areas are protected from future development. Unprotected areas are of interest to the Town as well, particularly those adjacent to these lands for conservation, wildlife habitat protection, and drinking water protection.

Table 22: Avon Table of Forest Lands

FOREST LAND-USE TYPE	ACRES
Evergreen Forest	115.93
Scrub/Shrub	29.94
Forested Wetland	368.39
Non-forested Wetland	78.07
Saltwater Wetland	0.15
Other Impervious	44.17
Mixed-Use - Primarily Residential	0.37
Residential – Single-Family	105.72
Residential - Multi-Family	18.80
Commercial	126.31
Mixed-Use - Primarily Commercial	1.49
Industrial	190.42
Right-of-Way	205.34
Bare Land	34.98
Water	127.14
Aquatic Bed	22.29
Developed Open Space	348.70
Grassland	35.03
Deciduous Forest	1051.48
TOTAL	2904.72

Climate Change

Climate change will exacerbate many of the existing environmental challenges in Avon, including flooding and invasive species. The impacts are already being felt. In

the last five years, Massachusetts has experienced increasingly more frequent and severe weather events. Record-breaking snowfall in 2015, a widespread and severe drought in 2016, and the warmest years on record are just some examples.

To avert the most catastrophic impacts of climate change, the global community must cut emissions in half within the next ten years. In comparison, if emissions continue at current rates, scientists expect devastating impacts including severe heat waves that will affect more than one-third of the world population, a severe drought that will affect more than four hundred million urban residents, and that nearly all the world’s coral reefs will die.²⁵

These most catastrophic impacts can be averted with emissions reductions and natural carbon sequestration, such as wetlands restoration and afforestation. However, even if emissions are dramatically reduced within the next ten years, a certain amount of climate change is inevitable due to the gases that have already been emitted. The US Environmental Protection Agency projects that climate change will continue to result in increasing temperature and changes in precipitation patterns; sea-level rise, wetland loss, and coastal flooding; threats to ecosystems and natural resources; and public health hazards.

However, there are effective strategies for both reducing greenhouse gas emissions within the Town, as well as becoming resilient to the impacts of climate change. Open space and recreation planning can

²⁵ International Panel on Climate Change, *Special Report: Global Warming of 1.5 Celsius Summary for Policymakers*.

mitigate flooding, invasive species, and extreme temperatures.

Avon has been initiative-taking in planning for becoming more resilient to the impacts of climate change, including completing a Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Plan in 2021. The MVP plan was developed based on a Workshop held on September 21, 2020, and meetings with a Core Committee composed of staff from several different town departments.

During the CRB, participants were asked to discuss natural hazards and climate change impacts on Avon. Discussion centered around several major natural hazards in the Town: flooding, extreme temperatures, hurricanes, winter storms, wind, and drought. Participants were asked to identify the four top hazards/climate change impacts that Avon faces. They were:

1. Flooding, such as:
 - a. Flooding of wellfields and limitation on access.
 - b. Spot flooding of streams and ditches with impact on properties and septic systems.
 - c. Short-term flooding of roads.
2. High winds, such as:
 - a. Loss of power, communications, water, and other utilities.
 - b. Limited road access with downed trees.
3. Winter Storms, such as:
 - a. Loss of power, communications, water, and other utilities.
 - b. Road access.
4. Drought and heat waves, such as:

- a. Impact on well drawdowns.
- b. Lack of AC for vulnerable populations.
- c. Increased water demand.
- d. Brushfires.

Environmental Equity

In the context of open space and recreation planning, environmental equity refers to differences in access to open space and recreational opportunities based on demographics and geography. In Massachusetts, a community is identified as an “Environmental Justice” community based on median household income, race, and English-language proficiency. Three of the four census tracts in Avon are environmental justice populations.

In addition, certain environmental challenges affect vulnerable populations more than other populations. According to the Massachusetts Executive Office of Health and Human Services, the factors that lead to vulnerable population health impacts are:

- Exposure: Exposure is contact between a person and one or more biological, psychosocial, chemical, or physical stressors, including stressors affected by climate change.
- Sensitivity: Sensitivity is the degree to which people or communities are affected, either adversely or beneficially, by climate variability or change.
- Adaptive capacity: Adaptive capacity is the ability of communities, institutions, or people to adjust to potential hazards, take

advantage of opportunities, or respond to consequences.

As climate change will affect different people differently, environmental equity is an important consideration in becoming more resilient to extreme weather. For example, older residents are more vulnerable to hot temperatures from climate change, due to their increased sensitivity. Low-income residents who cannot afford air conditioning are more vulnerable to heat due to their increased exposure and lack of adaptive capacity.

Water Resources

Water, its abundance or its lack, its protection and management, defines the landscape and character of Avon and in the past has also represented one of the Town's primary challenges. Whether there is no water or lots of water determines the type of vegetation that characterizes the town.

Protection of drinking water quality is of utmost concern. Groundwater or surface water, or both, connect Avon to its borders in terms of effects on its water supplies or theirs. These same water corridors and their vegetation are life-sustaining to the Town's wildlife.

Avon's municipal drinking water supply is drawn from seven wells within the Town. The wells are protected by Zone II wellhead protection areas and by Avon's Water Supply Protection District. Almost all of the Town's wastewater is handled by onsite wastewater systems, except for a small commercial area on Memorial Drive (Route 28) near the Brockton city line, which is connected to Brockton's municipal wastewater system. The combination of small size with a limited amount of land available to develop and a lack of municipal sewer service has kept Avon's population stagnant in recent years.

Figure 19: Waste Site Reportable Releases

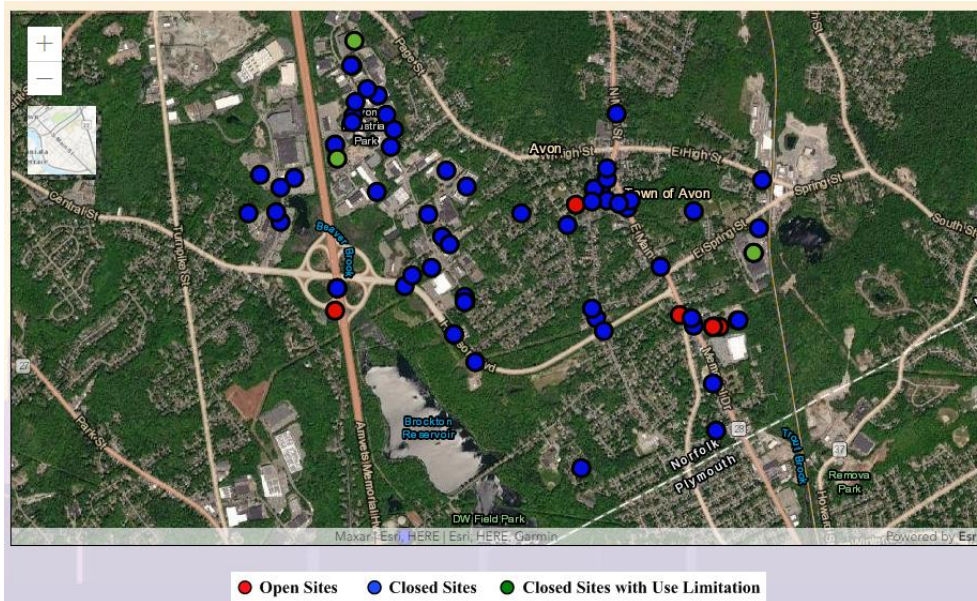


Table 23: EEA Reportable Releases for Avon

RTN	Town	Release Address	Site Name	Reporting Category	Notification Date	Compliance Status	Date	Phase	RAO Class	Chemical Type
4-0028957	AVON	IN FRONT OF 260 POND ST.	ROADWAY	TWO HR	08/23/2021	UNCLASSIFIED	08/23/2021			
4-0028696	AVON	273 EAST MAIN ST.	SUPER PETROLEUM	TWO HR	02/17/2021	UNCLASSIFIED	02/17/2021			
4-0028549	AVON	40 LEDIN DR.	WM AVON INC. - RECYCLING FACILITY	TWO HR	10/12/2020	PSNC	10/23/2020		PN	
4-0028493	AVON	150 MAIN STREET	MODF RELEASE	TWO HR	09/22/2020	PSNC	11/20/2020		PN	
4-0028184	AVON	START AT 800 W. MAIN STREET	ROADWAY	TWO HR	02/11/2020	PSNC	04/13/2020		PN	
4-0028181	AVON	NEAR 2 MAIN STREET	UTILITY POLE ON ROADWAY	TWO HR	02/03/2020	PSNC	04/03/2020		PN	
4-0027518	AVON	110 LADGE DRIVE	FORMER DEN-LEA RENTAL INC.	120 DY	01/10/2018	DPS	10/29/2018			
4-0027218	AVON	40 LEDIN DR.	WASTE MANAGEMENT FACILITY	TWO HR	05/04/2018	PSNC	06/18/2018		PN	
4-0027159	AVON	ROUTE 24 SOUTH ONRAMP	ROADWAY	TWO HR	03/16/2018	TIER1D	03/25/2019			
4-0027129	AVON	72 EAST ST.	ROADWAY	TWO HR	03/05/2018	PSNC	04/25/2018		PN	
4-0026973	AVON	40 MURPHY DRIVE	40 MURPHY DRIVE	120 DY	11/17/2017	PSNC	03/28/2018		PN	
4-0026813	AVON	NEAR 101 WALES AVENUE	AVON INDUSTRIAL PARK	TWO HR	07/05/2017	PSNC	11/22/2017		PN	
4-0026738	AVON	MURPHY DRIVE	AVON INDUSTRIAL PARK	TWO HR	07/03/2017	PSNC	06/12/2018		PN	
4-0026219	AVON	54 HARRISON AVE	ROADWAY	TWO HR	07/22/2016	PSNC	08/11/2016		PN	
4-0026183	AVON	POND ST @ MALLEY ST	ROADWAY	TWO HR	07/01/2016	PSNC	08/30/2016		PN	
4-0026099	AVON	EXIT 19	RT 24 SOUTH	TWO HR	05/16/2016	PSNC	07/07/2016		PN	
4-0026049	AVON	491 WEST MAIN STREET	491 WEST MAIN STREET	120 DY	03/24/2016	PSNC	05/09/2016		PN	
4-0025542	AVON	185 BODWELL STREET	AT & T FACILITY	TWO HR	03/12/2015	PSNC	05/13/2015		PN	Oil
4-0025351	AVON	61 STRAFELLO DRIVE	COMMERCIAL PROPERTY	120 DY	10/01/2014	PSC	12/23/2014		PA	Oil and Hazardous Material
4-0025328	AVON	55 MURPHY DRIVE	PREFERRED FREEZER SERVICES	TWO HR	09/18/2014	PSNC	11/10/2014		PN	Hazardous Material
4-0025164	AVON	HARRISON BLVD. INT. POND ST.	ROADWAY	TWO HR	06/02/2014	PSNC	06/24/2014		PN	Oil
4-0024945	AVON	40 LEDIN DRIVE	WASTE MANAGEMENT FACILITY	TWO HR	01/04/2014	RAO	03/04/2014		A1	Oil
4-0024784	AVON	225 BODWELL STREET	CUMMINGS CORPORATION	TWO HR	09/24/2013	RAO	04/28/2014		A1	
4-0024556	AVON	VIC. 492 SOUTH STREET	BROCKTON WATER TREATMENT PLANT	TWO HR	05/13/2013	RAO	06/25/2013		A1	Hazardous Material
4-0024514	AVON	ROUTE 24S	ROUTE 24 SOUTHBOUND EXIT 19A	TWO HR	04/18/2013	RAO	05/15/2013		A2	Oil
4-0024457	AVON	30 BARTLETT STREET	RESIDENCE	TWO HR	03/13/2013	RAO	05/01/2013		A2	Oil
4-0024197	AVON	11 LEDIN DRIVE	BAYSIDE TRUCKING	TWO HR	09/21/2012	RAO	10/18/2012		A1	Oil
4-0023271	AVON	40 LEDIN DR	WASTE MANAGEMENT FACILITY	TWO HR	05/17/2011	RAO	07/25/2011		A2	Oil
4-0022007	AVON	215 BODWELL ST	YRC INC	120 DY	06/30/2009	RAO	07/07/2010		A2	Hazardous Material
4-0021733	AVON	53 EAST MAIN ST	FORMER SHOE SHANK MANUFACTURER	72 HR	01/12/2009	RAO	04/30/2010	PHASE II	A2	Oil
4-0021726	AVON	RTE 24 SOUTHBOUND	ROUTE 24S SOUTH OF EXIT 19	TWO HR	01/08/2009	RAO	02/09/2009		A1	Oil
4-0021431	AVON	BODWELL ST	BODWELL STREET	TWO HR	08/11/2008	RAO	10/16/2008		A1	Oil
4-0021268	AVON	RTE 24 N	STATE HWY RTE 24 NORTH	TWO HR	05/22/2008	RAO	07/15/2008		A1	Oil
4-0020795	AVON	58 EAST MAIN ST	AVON TAPE INC	120 DY	09/20/2007	DPS	02/14/2008			Hazardous Material

4-0020536	AVON	KEEFE ST	INTERSECTION KEEFE ST. & MAIN ST.	TWO HR	05/30/2007	RAO	07/26/2007		A2	Oil
4-0020477	AVON	57 LITTLEFIELD ST	POLAR CORP	TWO HR	04/30/2007	RAO	07/05/2007		A1	Oil
4-0020332	AVON	58 EAST MAIN ST	AVON TAPE, INC	120 DY	02/14/2007	RAO	02/14/2008	PHASE II	B2	Oil and Hazardous Material
4-0020036	AVON	100 LADGE DR	AVON QUALITY STORAGE	120 DY	08/29/2006	REMOPS	08/20/2012	PHASE V		Hazardous Material
4-0019861	AVON	75 STOCKWELL DR	NAMCO	TWO HR	06/14/2006	RAO	08/18/2006		A1	
4-0019049	AVON	255 BOWELL ST	NO LOCATION AID	TWO HR	04/26/2005	RAO	02/24/2006		A2	Oil
4-0019006	AVON	HARRISON BLVD	NO LOCATION AID	TWO HR	04/04/2005	RAO	06/09/2005		A1	Oil
4-0018842	AVON	RTE 24 NORTHBOUND	SOUTH OF EXIT 19	TWO HR	12/28/2004	RAO	02/28/2005		A1	Hazardous Material
4-0018649	AVON	53 EAST MAIN ST	AMERICAN SHOE SHANK	TWO HR	08/31/2004	RAO	10/29/2004		A1	Oil
4-0018550	AVON	NEW POND ST	EAST OF EXIT 19	TWO HR	07/14/2004	DEPNFA	08/26/2008			
4-0017891	AVON	54 BODWELL ST	BROCKTON FURNACE AND DUCT	TWO HR	07/31/2003	RAO	10/06/2003		A2	Oil
4-0017832	AVON	HARRISON BLVD AND W MAIN	NO LOCATION AID	TWO HR	06/02/2003	RAO	10/31/2003		A1	
4-0017808	AVON	REAR 75 STOCKWELL DR	AQUALEISURE ACROSS FROM HOME DEPOT	TWO HR	05/06/2003	RAO	05/23/2003		A1	
4-0017696	AVON	675 BODWELL	NO LOCATION AID	TWO HR	03/19/2003	RAO	06/04/2003		A2	
4-0017694	AVON	4 MEMORIAL DR	KEMPTON AVE	120 DY	03/17/2003	RAO	06/21/2006	PHASE III	A2	Oil
4-0017681	AVON	284 EAST MAIN ST	NO LOCATION AID	TWO HR	05/03/2002	RTN CLOSED	11/15/2007			Oil
4-0017526	AVON	273 EAST MAIN ST	GASOLINE SERVICE STATION	120 DY	12/13/2002	REMOPS	07/17/2009	PHASE V		Oil and Hazardous Material
4-0017394	AVON	100 LADGE DR	NO LOCATION AID	120 DY	10/02/2002	DPS	07/17/2003	PHASE V		Hazardous Material
4-0017331	AVON	255 BODWELL ST	KROHN-HITE CORP	72 HR	09/06/2002	RTN CLOSED	01/03/2003			Oil
4-0017033	AVON	MEMORIAL DR	AL & BOB'S GETTY	TWO HR	05/03/2002	PSNC	09/26/2019		PN	Oil
4-0017002	AVON	3-5 AND 7 EAST MAIN ST	AVON CLEANERS & RUG CO	72 HR	04/22/2002	RTN CLOSED	11/27/2007	PHASE II		Hazardous Material
4-0016981	AVON	RTE 24 N	EXIT 19B RAMP	TWO HR	04/03/2002	RAO	05/21/2002		A1	
4-0016338	AVON	HARRISON BLVD	INTERSECTION WITH MEMORIAL BLVD	TWO HR	07/01/2001	RAO	02/25/2002		A2	Hazardous Material
4-0016198	AVON	3-5 EAST MAIN ST	AVON CLEANERS & RUG CO	120 DY	04/12/2001	TIERI	05/17/2002	PHASE IV		Hazardous Material
4-0015889	AVON	267 WEST MAIN ST	AVON HIGH SCHOOL	TWO HR	11/20/2000	RAO	05/07/2001		A2	
4-0015883	AVON	GRANT DR	APPROX 25 GRANT DR	TWO HR	11/28/2000	RAO	05/11/2006		A2	Oil
4-0015833	AVON	75 BODWELL ST	ON SITE CONCRETE INC	TWO HR	10/16/2000	RAO	02/15/2008		B1	Oil
4-0015811	AVON	57 LITTLEFIELD ST	UST SITE	120 DY	10/06/2000	RAO	03/23/2012		A2	Oil and Hazardous Material
4-0015754	AVON	HARRISON BLVD	EXIT 19B	TWO HR	09/13/2000	RAO	11/20/2000		A2	
4-0015693	AVON	81 MEMORIAL DR	NO LOCATION AID	120 DY	08/18/2000	RAO	07/16/2003	PHASE II	A2	Oil
4-0015676	AVON	57 LITTLEFIELD ST	JUNKYARD	120 DY	08/11/2000	PSC	12/14/2015	PHASE IV	PA	Oil and Hazardous Material
4-0015654	AVON	RTE 24 N	HARRISON BLVD	TWO HR	08/07/2000	RAO	10/25/2000		A2	Oil
4-0015368	AVON	RTE 28	WAL MART PARKING LOT	TWO HR	03/21/2000	RAO	05/19/2000		A2	Oil
4-0015341	AVON	1 FAGAN DR	CROWLEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	TWO HR	03/06/2000	RAO	07/07/2005	PHASE II	A2	Oil
4-0014797	AVON	NORTH MAIN ST	POLE 15	TWO HR	06/20/1999	RAO	08/13/1999		A1	Oil
4-0012950	AVON	STOCKWELL DR	VACANT LOT ACROSS JORDANS FURN	TWO HR	04/09/1997	RAO	06/13/1997		A2	Oil
4-0012563	AVON	5 BODWELL ST	FRITO LAY INC	72 HR	10/15/1996	RAO	02/12/1997		A2	Oil
4-0012056	AVON	RTE 24 N	EXIT 19	TWO HR	04/02/1996	RAO	06/04/1996		A2	Oil

4-0012029	AVON	53 HIGHLAND ST	FRONT OF DWELLING	TWO HR	03/20/1996	RAO	05/20/1996		A1	
4-0011930	AVON	20 LEOS LN	NO LOCATION AID	TWO HR	02/05/1996	RAO	07/25/1996		A2	Oil
4-0011811	AVON	255 BODWELL ST	AVON INDUSTRIAL PARK	72 HR	11/20/1995	RTN CLOSED	01/02/1996			Oil
4-0011258	AVON	60 STOCKWELL DR	HOME QUARTERS	TWO HR	04/03/1995	RAO	06/06/1995		A1	Oil
4-0010482	AVON	40 STRAFELLO DR	UNIT E	TWO HR	05/14/1994	RAO	12/08/1994		A2	Hazardous Material
4-0010381	AVON	255 BODWELL ST	NO LOCATION AID	72 HR	10/01/1993	RAO	10/30/2012		A3	Oil
4-0010344	AVON	55 BODWELL ST	NEEMCO INC	120 DY	03/18/1994	RAO	03/13/1997	PHASE II	A2	Oil and Hazardous Material
4-0010319	AVON	41 LEDIN AVE	AVON INDUSTRIAL PARK	120 DY	02/25/1994	RAO	02/29/1996	PHASE II	A2	Oil
4-0010085	AVON	25 GRANT ST	NO LOCATION AID	72 HR	11/16/1993	RAO	12/30/1996	PHASE II	A2	Oil
4-0010082	AVON	520 BODWELL ST	BODWELL ST EXTENTION	TWO HR	11/09/1993	RAO	11/08/1994		A2	Hazardous Material
4-0006002	AVON	POND ST	MASS HWY	NONE	05/23/1993	RAO	01/07/1998	PHASE II	A2	Oil
4-0001316	AVON	520 BODWELL ST	HOLMES TRANSPORTATION FMR	NONE	07/15/1993	RAO	03/28/1995		A2	Oil
4-0001188	AVON	271 EAST HIGH ST	S EASTON CRANE CORPORATION	NONE	10/15/1992	RAO	02/10/2005	PHASE II	A2	Oil
4-0001097	AVON	481 WEST MAIN ST	CHAPMAN MANUFACTURING CORP	NONE	10/15/1991	DEPNFA	07/23/1993			Oil
4-0000634	AVON	230 BODWELL ST	WINCHESTER INDUSTRIES	NONE	01/15/1989	RAO	07/03/1995	PHASE II	B1	
4-0000633	AVON	105 BODWELL ST	FIDELITY PRODUCTS	NONE	01/15/1989	DEPNFA	08/02/1995			
4-0000421	AVON	100 LADGE DR	HYBRIPAK INC FMR	NONE	01/15/1988	REMOPS	09/06/2008	PHASE V		
4-0000396	AVON	30-32 DOHERTY AVE	RANFAC CORP	NONE	10/15/1987	RAO	10/27/1999	PHASE III	A2	
4-0000318	AVON	LADGE DR	DEN-LEA RENTAL INC FMR	NONE	01/15/1987	RAO	02/23/2000	PHASE III	A2	Oil
4-0000283	AVON	235 BODWELL ST	KNICKERBOCKER DISPATCH	NONE	01/15/1987	RAO	08/06/1998	PHASE II	A2	
4-0000024	AVON	201 WEST MAIN ST	AVON CITGO STATION	NONE	01/15/1987	RAO	05/10/1995		A2	Oil
4-0028957	AVON	IN FRONT OF 260 POND ST.	ROADWAY	TWO HR	08/23/2021	UNCLASSIFIED	08/23/2021			
4-0028696	AVON	273 EAST MAIN ST.	SUPER PETROLEUM	TWO HR	02/17/2021	UNCLASSIFIED	02/17/2021			

Section 5. Inventory of Lands of Conservation and Recreation Interest

A. Importance of Open Space Protection

The natural resources and open spaces help to make the Town of Avon an attractive and interesting place to live. Protection of these areas is critical for providing safe drinking water, clean air, and outdoor recreation opportunities.

Government agencies, landowners, non-profits, and local land trusts all play a role in the important task of preserving open space for the benefit of current and future populations. Land conservation, especially on a permanent, landscape scale, provides numerous community benefits: protecting diverse landscapes; preserving habitat for rare or endangered species; maintaining species diversity; ensuring water quality; facilitating wildlife adaptation to climate change; and enhancing recreational access.

Open space also has a critical role to play in the fight against climate change, and efforts to build resilience to the impacts of climate change. Lands that best support wildlife, absorb pollutants, and filter stormwater should be prioritized for protection. Climate-resilient open spaces and conservation lands not only protect

wildlife but also provide natural defenses against flood, drought, and other risks to people.

Protected open space serves several valuable functions. Depending on the type (e.g., forest, meadow, wetlands, farmland), open space can provide valuable habitat for plant and wildlife; help replenish and protect aquifers; reduce and absorb storm water runoff; provide a sustainable and wide range of resources; and absorb and/or treat pollutants. Open space also offers numerous active and passive recreational opportunities and adds scenic views to the landscape. “Protected” open space is land that is preserved because it is under the care and custody of the Conservation Commission, Water Commission or Park and Recreation, is subject to a Conservation Restriction (CR) or other deed restriction; is owned by a nonprofit organization whose purpose is the preservation of open space; is dedicated as park land’ or is otherwise protected by Article 97 of the Massachusetts Constitution. Establishing criteria to prioritize open space parcels for protection would help the Town

and regional conservation partners to be strategic about which lands to acquire. Such a strategy can focus on developing a network of large, connected parcels of open space which have higher ecological value. Because natural systems do not necessarily adhere to political boundaries, natural resource protection is best achieved through regional collaboration. This approach emphasizes connections between natural habitat areas and corridors, study, and collecting inventory information for unique sites of special importance such as vernal pools or endangered or rare habitats and species. This work will often reach beyond municipal limits.

B. Inventory

The open space and recreation areas in the Town of Avon encompass both land and water sites, publicly and privately owned. The purpose of this inventory is to identify areas of conservation and recreation interest in the Town to evaluate current and future open space planning needs. Areas of interest include open spaces that are valued for one or more of the following factors: recreation opportunities, protection of natural resources, historic and scenic character.

The inventory is divided into two sections: public or non-profit land; and private open space. Within these sections, land has ranging degrees of protection, which prevent or restrict land uses and development. Protected open spaces are private or public parcels that are permanently committed to conservation or recreation purposes by deed restriction or easement. Unprotected open spaces are areas that are of conservation or recreation

interest to the Town but are not permanently protected as open space. Partially or limited protected open spaces are areas that have a partial or short-term restriction on development but are not protected forever.

The inventory of lands of conservation and recreation interest describes ownership, management agency, lots size, primary use, public access, and type of public grant accepted for each parcel (if applicable). Further detail on current use, zoning, condition, and recreation potential (potential future interventions that could broaden recreational opportunities on a site) is provided for all town-owned conservation and recreation parcels. The degree of protection from destruction or degradation that is afforded to various parcels of land owned by private, public, and nonprofit owners is also evaluated.

- Private lands can be protected in perpetuity through deed restrictions, or conservation easements, known in Massachusetts as Conservation Restrictions (some non-statutory restrictions may only run for a period of 30 years and those lands are therefore not permanently protected open space).
- Lands under taxation programs Chapter 61, 61A, or 61B, are actively managed by their owners for forestry, agricultural, horticultural, or recreational use. The Town has the right of first refusal should the property owner decide to sell and change their use of the land. Therefore, it is important to prioritize these lands, track their status, and consider steps the community should

take to permanently protect these properties when the opportunity arises.

- Land acquired for watershed and aquifer protection are often permanently protected open space.
- Public recreation and conservation lands may be permanently protected open space if they have been dedicated to such uses as conservation or recreational use by deed.

Private Parcels

In addition to the private non-profit lands, there is also privately-owned open space in Avon. While some land is partially protected from development or else considered undevelopable, much of it is not currently protected or restricted although it is vacant. It is important to realize that some of these parcels will play vital roles in creating open space and recreation opportunities in Avon. In some cases, unprotected open space may be the missing links in creating connections between protected open spaces. In other cases, some of these parcels might be acquired by the Town to meet the growing demand for recreation lands.

Private Recreation

Augmenting town recreation lands and facilities are properties owned the Avon Fish and Game Association located off Page Street.

Chapter 61, 61A, and 61B

ACCORDING TO THE BOARD OF ASSESSORS, THE TOWN OF AVON CURRENTLY HAS NO LAND UNDER CHAPTER 61 CLASSIFIED FOREST, 61A AGRICULTURE, OR 61B RECREATION.

Chapter 61, 61A, and 61B is a voluntary program designed by the Massachusetts Legislature to tax real property in the Commonwealth at its timber resources, agricultural, or recreational value rather than its highest and best use (development) value. Landowners who enroll their land in the program receive property tax reductions in exchange for a lien on their property. The terms of the lien require that enrolled land remain in an undeveloped state and be managed for forest production, agricultural production, or recreation. Furthermore, the lien provides the municipal government of the City/town in which the enrolled property is located a right of first refusal should the landowner put the land up for sale while it is enrolled in the program. Towns may assign their right of first refusal to a state agency or a non-profit land trust. Landowners who develop their land while enrolled in the program, or for a period after withdrawing from the program, may be required to pay penalties.

Agricultural Preservation Restriction (APR)

ACCORDING TO TOWN RECORDS, THERE ARE CURRENTLY NO LANDS THAT ARE SUBJECT TO A PRIVATE CONSERVATION RESTRICTION, ENROLLED IN THE STATE'S AGRICULTURAL PRESERVATION RESTRICTION PROGRAM, OR HELD BY LAND TRUSTS OR NON-PROFITS.

However, these methods of conservation should be promoted and encouraged to private landowners.

The Agricultural Preservation Restriction program is a voluntary program that offers a non-development alternative to farmland owners for their agricultural lands who are faced with a decision regarding future use and disposition of their farms. The program offers farmers a payment up to the difference between the “fair market value” and the “fair market agricultural value” of their farmland in exchange for a permanent deed restriction, which precludes any use of the property that will have a negative impact

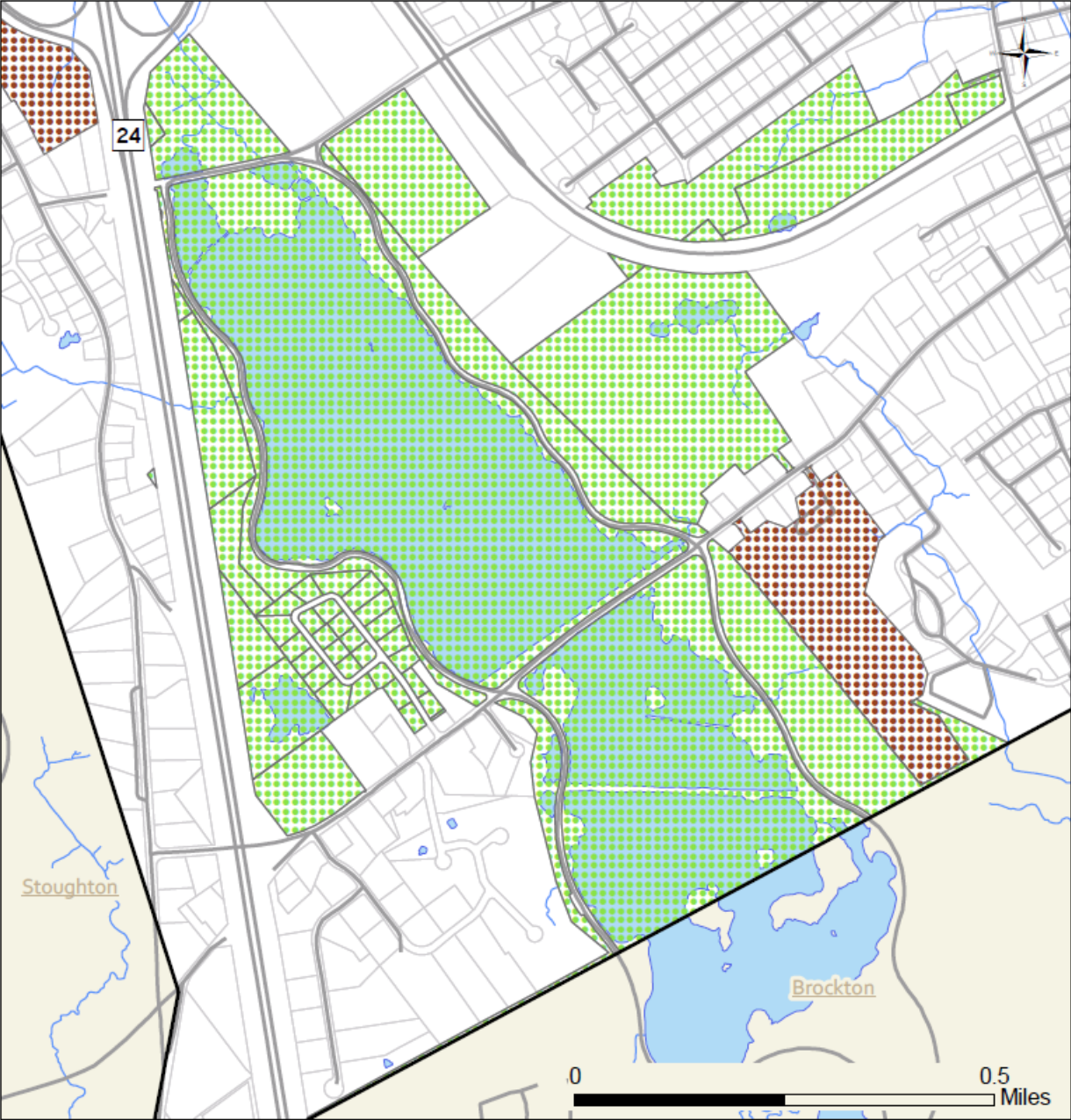
on its agricultural viability. (MA DAR, 2013) More recent APRs also include an ‘Option to Purchase Premises at Agricultural Value’, ensuring that protected farmland is not sold at prices beyond the reach of working farmers.



Public and Non-Profit Parcels


The Town owns 115.61 acres of land used for public recreation and/or conservation purposes. The City of Brockton and Town of Avon Water Departments, Avon Fish and Game and other cemeteries own 318.13 acres of land. The City of Brockton owns water supply and park land around the Avon Brockton Reservoir and in DW Field Park.

The Open Space and Recreation resources in the Town of Avon consist of present public and semi-public holdings and facilities, and, more broadly, of other natural and scenic assets which give the town some of its character and may require protection. Some resources can be protected by partial or full acquisition. Others, such as a scenic landscape or a historic development pattern, may be difficult to protect without changed perspectives on approaches to land use.

Avon Open Space Parcels - D.W. Field Park



-  Other Public Protected, Recreational, and Open Space Parcels
-  Town Owned Open Space Parcels



Old Colony Planning Council
 70 School Street, Brockton, MA 02301
www.ocpcrpa.org
 Created January 2022

GIS Data Sources: Town of Easton, Massachusetts
 Department of Transportation (MassDOT), Office of
 Geographic Information (MassGIS)

Open Space Protected by Ownership and/or Purpose

DW Field Park/City of Brockton Reservoir

Location	Land is west of Harrison Blvd., bordered by Harrison Blvd., Old Pond Street, South Street, Central Street and Route 24.
Acres	238.26
Map, Block and Lot Numbers	A5-3-5; B2-5-3; B3-3-2; B4-6-2; B4-7-2; B5-1-1; C2-1-1
Management	City of Brockton Water and Park Departments
Handicapped Accessibility	Partial, Parkway is accessible as is base of tower is in Brockton, shore of Waldo Lake is steep and rocky, walk along dam requires steps.

DW Field Park is in the northwest corner of Brockton and southwest corner of Avon. The site includes the Brockton Reservoir, and Waldo Lake in Avon. Recreational opportunities include walking, jogging,

bicycling, boating, fishing, golf, hiking, ice skating, picnicking, and cross-country skiing.

Impacts to the Park has occurred through development on property to the west. Several subdivisions were approved on South Street. This resulted in a joint City/Town proposal to acquire vacant land to create a wooded buffer around the park benefiting both communities by protecting drinking water source and preserving open space. The Division of Conservation Services encouraged the effort and approved funding for the first phase, but local matching funding was unable to be obtained.

Since that effort, the Brockton Water Commission has acquired sixty-nine acres leaving approximately 48.4 acres between or adjacent to the major acquisitions to be acquired, while approximately 20.2 acres are now unavailable as they were developed into subdivisions. Other relatively inaccessible land to the west of the park owned by the Veterans of Foreign Wars is unlikely to be developed but would be appropriate to acquire for coordinated management. Other long-term City of Brockton holdings north and west of the park could be appropriate managed as part of the protective Water Commission oversight.

Town of Avon Lands Managed by Conservation Commission

Location: Off Robbins Street, north of Fagan Drive

Acres: 16.7

Map, Block and Lot Numbers: D6_6_25

Management: Conservation Commission

Handicapped Accessibility: Parking is available at edge of woods, but terrain is irregular.

Recommendation: Create smoothly graded paths as part of the proposed bike/pedestrian paths.

Degree of Protection: Protected

Zoning: Residential A, 25,000 square foot lot minimum.

This site is an irregular grass and tree covered area. Access is from an unmarked strip of woods between two houses on Robbins Street or through the Fagan Drive land. It is unimproved wooded upland just north of the Fagan Drive and lacking any trails or facilities. It could be used for recreation purposes tied into recreational development and potential trails at the Fagan Drive Area.

Location: 450 East Main Street

Acres: 27,550 square feet

Map, Block and Lot Numbers: D3-10-09

Management: Conservation Commission

Handicapped Accessibility: None except at edge of steep site.

Recommendation: Drainage headwall, see spreadsheet

Degree of Protection: Good, depending on deed.

Zoning: Business District

This small, thickly vegetated, steeply sloping site is covered by trees, shrubs, and some grass. Access to the highest part of the site is from East Main Street while Connolly Road could give access to the lower portions. Though too steep and densely wooded for a major playground, it could be developed with small activity areas at different levels with much vegetation retained on the steepest slopes and in the lowest, wettest

areas. It is now unimproved open space with no trails or other facilities.

Location: Jablonski Property - Central Street

Acres: 11.5

Map, Block and Lot Numbers: B4-1-1

Management: Conservation Commission

Handicapped Accessibility: None except to edge of site from road.

Recommendation: Design any future paths under ADA compliant standards.

Degree of Protection: Good

Zoning: Residential B, 40,000 square foot minimum lot size.

This grass and tree covered area has no frontage, no improve access. It is unimproved open space acting as a buffer between houses and a Route 24 on-ramp. It has the potential to include a significant storm water detention basing protecting and recharging this area upstream from the Brockton reservoir.

Location: Schepis Property Wales Avenue (Conservation for drainage purposes)

Acres: 2.85

Map, Block and Lot Numbers: B8-04-03

Management: Conservation Commission

Handicapped Accessibility: None except from edge of road. Demand is unlikely as this is a low-lying drainage area.

Recommendation:

Degree of Protection: Care and Custody of Conservation Commission

Zoning: Industrial

This is a grass and tree covered drainage basin at the corner of Wales Avenue and Bodwell Street in the Industrial Park. Access is from Wales Avenue.

Location: North of Wales Avenue, east of Page Street

Acres: 0.64

Map, Block and Lot Numbers: B8-03-06

Management:

Handicapped Accessibility:

Recommendation:

Degree of Protection: Property conveyed to the Town under the provisions of MGL Chapter 40 Section 8C, as amended, to be managed and controlled by the Conservation Commission of the Town of Avon for the promotion and development of the natural resources and for the protection of the watershed resources of Avon.

Zoning: Industrial.

This long, narrow, grass and tree covered area in the Industrial Park forms an informal buffer between an industrial building and houses along Page Street and has access from Wales Avenue.

Location: South of Wales Avenue, east of Page Street

Acres: 0.3 acres

Map, Block and Lot Numbers: B7-4-2

Management: Conservation Commission

Handicapped Accessibility: Minimal from edge. It is an undeveloped wooded strip.

Recommendation:

Degree of Protection: Said property is conveyed to the Town of Avon under the provisions of MGL Chapter 40, Section 8C, as amended, to be managed and controlled by the Conservation Commission of the Town of Avon for the promotion and development of the natural resources and for the protection of the watershed resources of Avon.

Zoning: Industrial

This is a second, long, narrow grass and tree covered strip of land forming a buffer between an industrial building and housing along Page Street with access from Wales Avenue.

Location: Rear, Page Street, and Randolph Town Line (Conservation for groundwater recharge)

Acres: 9.0 acres

Map, Block and Lot Numbers: C8-02-05

Management: Conservation Commission

Handicapped Accessibility: None, a low-lying, landlocked parcel

Recommendation:

Degree of Protection: Eminent Domain Tax Taking

Zoning: RHD

This landlocked site is a long, rectangular unimproved parcel of wooded swamp on the Randolph town line. It is listed as held for groundwater recharge and it abuts the eastern end of a larger, comparable holding in Randolph. That in turn abuts the Edwards property discussed under later under the section titled 'Opportunities presented by unprotected lands of conservation and recreation interest.' There are no trails on the site, but they are proposed later the adjacent unprotected land.

Location: Rear of Page Street (Conservation for groundwater recharge)

Acres: 33.4 acres

Map, Block and Lot Numbers: C7-3-27

Management: Conservation Commission

Handicapped Accessibility: None, a large, low-lying landlocked parcel

Recommendation:

Degree of Protection: None

Zoning: Residential B, 40,000 square foot lot minimum

This is a large irregular parcel of wooded swamp with some upland in the portion nearest Page St.

Location: Past the northern end of Stockwell Drive between the town line and Route 24.

Acres: 139 square feet

Map, Block and Lot Numbers: A7-01-02

Management: Conservation Commission

Handicapped Accessibility: Adjacent to roadway

Recommendation:

Degree of Protection: Property is conveyed to the Town of Avon under the provisions of MGL Chapter 40, Section 8C, as amended, to be managed and controlled by the Conservation Commission of the Town of Avon for the promotion and development of the natural resources and for the protection of the watershed resources of Avon.

Zoning: Industrial

This is a tiny rock, grass, and tree-covered lot near the Costco Store in the Avon Merchants Park with access from Stockwell Drive. It is big enough for a commemorative picnic table.

Location: "Avon Park" land off King Street, east of Page Street

Acres: 2.75 acres

Map, Block and Lot Numbers: C7-2-4, 5, 6

Management: Conservation Commission

Handicapped Accessibility: None, beyond passable portion of King Street.

Recommendation: Location of package sewer treatment plant

Degree of Protection: Tax Taking property

Zoning: Residential B, 40,000 square foot lot minimum

These are three 40,000 square foot lots in a failed/tax foreclosed subdivision.

Location: Further "Avon Park" land off King Street, east of Page Street and diagonally across from Housing Authority Fellowship.

Acres: 4.6 acres

Map, Block and Lot Numbers: B7-4-9, 10, 11; B8-4-7, 8

Management:

Handicapped Accessibility: Poor, at edge of passable portion of King Street.

Recommendation: Grade any future paths (e.g., to Bodwell Street, allowing noon-time walks) for ADA access.

Degree of Protection: Tax Taking

Zoning: Residential B, 40,000 square foot lot minimum.

This slightly higher ground is mapped as upland on the edge of the swamp. Only part of it is mapped as severely limited for septic systems, and it has frontage on King Street, so this land may be partly developable.

Town of Avon Park Land

John J. DeMarco Park

Location: North Main Street, north of East High Street, abutting vacant land in Randolph.

Acres: 22.8

Map, Block and Lot Numbers: D6-7-1

Management: Select Board

Handicapped Accessibility: Currently accessible paths to bandstand and fountain; rear portion of property is undeveloped with informal paths.

Recommendation: Design recommended bike/pedestrian system for full ADA accessibility.

Degree of Protection: Could be used for any municipal purpose

Zoning: Residential A, 25,000 square foot lot minimum

Use of the former “Lutheran Home” site were explored by a Lutheran Property Study Group appointed by the Board of Selectmen. A resulting survey suggested many recreational uses with the greatest demand for a bike path, to be integrated with paths to and from other destinations.

After further study, the front part of the site has been developed as the multi-purpose John J. DeMarco Park honoring the late long-term selectman, civic leader, and regional planning advocate. The park includes a brick remembrance walkway, a lawn for picnics and concerts, walking paths, a pavilion, and a fountain. Further uses of the site are still in the design phase.

Partially Protected Lands Held for Other Purposes by Public or Non-Profit Bodies

Town of Avon Lands Held by the Water Department

Table 24: Town of Avon Lands Held by Water Department

Town of Avon Lands Held by Water Department					
Map Block Lot #	Location	Acres	Management	Zoning	Degree of Protection
C4-8-22, 23; D4-3-1, D4-2-1		28.3	Avon Water DPW Division	Residential A, 25,000 square foot lot minimum	Permanently Protected Eminent Domain taking for the purpose of providing a suitable watershed and to provide protection for the public water supply. Authorize

					Selectmen to transfer the same to the care, custody, and management and control of the Water Commissioners.
C4-9-2	Harrison Blvd.	0.31	Avon Water DPW Division	Business	No Book & Page reference.
E3-4-1, E3-4-10; E3-5-1&2, E4-1-13	Connolly Road	11.38	Town of Avon Order of Taking Eminent Domain Water Department	Residential A, 25,000 square foot lot minimum	Tax Taking, Good depending on long-term needs
E4-3-3, 4, 5	Argyle Avenue	1.5	Town of Avon Water DPW Division	Residential A, 25,000 square foot minimum lot	Quitclaim deed, no protections.
E4-1-4, 5, 7, 13, 14, 15	Meadow ROW	17.37	Avon Water DPW Division	Residential A, 25,000 square foot lots	Limited, Not deeded to Conservation Commission
E4-1- 4, 5; E4-5-3	East of RR Tracks, west of Holbrook Line, north of Brockton Line	8.8	Brockton Water Administration	Residential A, 25,000 square foot lot minimum plus Industrial on the northern most tip; E4-4-3.	Quitclaim Deed
B4-2-1	Atone Road/Sanborn Hill Road Standpipe	2.0	Avon Water Dept., Highway Dept.	Residential B, 40,000 square foot minimum lot	Deed reference: for water department purposes only.

C6-2-38	Page Street Standpipe	5.40	Avon Water Dept.	Residential B, 40,000 square foot minimum	Historical handwritten deed
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Location: Brentwood Avenue

Acres: 28.3

Map, Block and Lot Numbers: C4-8-22, 23; D4-3-1, D4-2-1

Management: Avon Water DPW Division

Zoning: Residential A, 25,000 square foot lot minimum

The eastern end of this strip houses Avon's oldest well, the dug (not drilled) Porter Well along with the Town's Highway Department. The easternmost portion across West Main Street houses a sand pile and an apparent salt shed. It backs onto a low open marshy portion of Trout Brook (just upstream from Harrison Blvd.) with potential for multi-purpose flood storage/recharge/habitat use. A utility line runs through the site and is kept clear of trees and brush. Access is from residential Brentwood Avenue, Harrison Blvd., and West Main Street. Uses are limited by the need to protect the well and to keep the area accessible for power line maintenance. It is best left to function as a protected green space with examination of its potential for flood storage and recharge.

Location: Harrison Blvd.

Acres: 0.31

Map, Block and Lot Numbers: C4-9-2

Management: Avon Water Dept., Highway Dept.

Degree of Protection: No Book & Page Reference

Zoning: Business

This is a grass and tree covered lot west of the curve of Harrison Blvd. and abutting recently acquired Brockton Water holding and parcels C4-9-4 and C4-9-3, proposed for acquisition by the Avon Water Dept. Due to its relative inaccessibility it is best left as protected open space and managed as part of the adjacent water lands.

Location: Connolly Road

Acres: 11.38

Map, Block and Lot Numbers: E3-4-1, E3-4-10; E3-5-1&2, E4-1-13

Management:

Degree of Protection: Tax Taking, Good depending on long-term needs

Zoning: Residential A, 25,000 square foot lot minimum

This site includes town water supply protection land and Department facilities south of Connolly Road. It is at the edge of a commercial area with little population.

Location: Argyle Avenue

Acres: 1.5

Map, Block and Lot Numbers: E4-3-3, 4, 5

Management: Avon Water Dept. Highway Dept.

Degree of Protection:

Zoning: Residential A, 25,000 square foot minimum lot

This site is the location of many water department facilities. It is in a commercial area with a small population density. Due to its location and importance as a water supply area, it is best left as protected green space.

Location: Meadow Road

Acres: 17.37

Map, Block and Lot Numbers: E4-1-4, 5, 7, 13, 14, 15

Management: Avon Water Dept. Highway Dept.

Degree of Protection: Limited, Not deeded to Conservation Commission,

Zoning: Residential A, 25,000 square foot lots
This extensive well protection area contains a well/pumping station and borders a Walmart Store.

Location: East of RR Tracks, west of Holbrook Line, north of Brockton Line

Acres: 8.8

Map, Block and Lot Numbers: E4-1- 4, 5; E4-5-3

Management: Brockton Water Dept.

Degree of Protection: Quitclaim Deed

Zoning: Residential A, 25,000 square foot lot minimum plus Industrial on the northern most tip; E4-4-3.

The property further protects Avon's wells and is complemented by recently acquired land in the adjacent part of Holbrook. This acquisition was particularly necessary given the lack of water supply protection zoning in Holbrook's industrially zoned portion of Avon's Zone II recharge area. The Old Colony Planning Council discussed

appropriate zoning changes with the Holbrook Public Works Department and Planning Board in the late 1980s, but little happened, making acquisition the most protective option.

Location: Atone Road/Sanborn Hill Road Standpipe

Acres: 2.0

Map, Block and Lot Numbers: B4-2-1

Management: Avon Water Dept., Highway Dept.

Degree of Protection: Deed reference: for water department purposes only.

Zoning: Residential B, 40,000 square foot minimum lot

Access is via a curved, crushed stone road off Central Street. The area outside of the fenced-in standpipe has an attractive open, needle-carpeted pinewoods sloping towards the Stoughton line. It has been proposed for a playground/tot lot since the nearest play area is at the Butler School, about two miles away, but might be too much out of sight for this use without opening the view from the street. It might better be left to informal recreation.

Location: Page Street Standpipe

Acres: 5.40

Map, Block and Lot Numbers: C6-2-38

Management: Avon Water Dept.

Degree of Protection:

Zoning: Residential B, 40,000 square foot minimum

Like the Antone Road standpipe site above, this site has limited visibility, being up a driveway and back about 350 feet, yet the size of the wooded site suggests use for a

playground and tot lot. The immediate neighborhood is residential, and the nearest

play area is at the Avon High School a half mile away.

Brockton Water Protection Land

Table 25: Brockton Water Protection Land

Brockton Water Department Protection Land					
Map Block Lot #	Location	Acres	Management	Zoning	Degree of Protection
B4-8-1	Between Harrison Blvd. and Park, just south of Pond Street	12.3	City of Brockton Water Department	Residential B, 40,000 square foot lot minimum	Permanently Protected Deed references 'purpose of protecting the Brockton Reservoir as a source of the City's water supply'
C3-1-6	Between Harrison Blvd. and Park, north of South Street	40	Brockton Water Commission	Residential B, 40,000 square foot lot minimum	Permanently Protected Deed Reference: for the purpose of protecting the Brockton Reservoir as a source of the City's water supply.
B2-5-7 through 20; B2-06-1 through 08; and B3-3-2	Martineau Circle - Between Route 24 and Park, north of South St.	15.52 acres; 13.30 acres previously subdivided as Martineau Circle and	Brockton Water Commission	Residential B, 40,000 square foot lot minimum	B3-3-2 Quitclaim deed land known as Field Park subject to an

through 8; and B2-5-1		3.22 acres between the Circle and Route 24.			easement to Algonquin Gas Co Bk 19627 Page 127
B2-5-1	Old Central Street		City of Brockton	Residential B, 40,000 square foot lot minimum	Permanently Protected Deed references: “the public convenience and necessity of the inhabitants of the City of Brockton require that land be taken in fee for the protection of the Avon Reservoir”
B2-5-2	Route 24	5.9	City of Brockton	Residential B, 40,000 square foot lot minimum	Permanently Protected Deed reference: grant is made on condition that it be preserved as undeveloped land and act as a buffer zone along other lands surrounding the Brockton Reservoir in perpetuity.
B4-7-2	North of Park between Pond Street,	11	Brockton Water Commission	Residential B, 40,000 square	No Book & Page Reference.

	Route 24, and private holdings.			foot lot minimum	
B3-3-2	Between Park and Route 24	7.3	Brockton Water Commission	Residential B, 40,000 square foot lot minimum	Quitclaim Deed: no protections

Location: Between Harrison Blvd. and Park, just south of Pond Street

Acres: 12.3

Map, Block and Lot Numbers: B4-8-1

Degree of Protection: Deed references 'purpose of protecting the Brockton Reservoir as a source of the City's water supply'

Zoning: Residential B, 40,000 square foot lot minimum

Recently acquired extensive woodland sloping from Harrison Blvd. to the edge of the present park and offering a potential for Park expansion and activities such as hiking and trail bike riding.

Location: Between Harrison Blvd. and Park, north of South Street

Acres: forty

Map, Block and Lot Numbers: C3-1-6

Management: Brockton Water Commission

Degree of Protection: Deed references 'purpose of protecting the Brockton Reservoir as a source of the City's water supply'

Zoning: Residential B, 40,000 square foot lot minimum

Extensive woodland, some open land, and a small pond between the curve of Harrison Blvd. And the edge of the present park and offering a potential for Park expansion and

activities such as hiking, trail bike riding, and habitat preservation.

Location: Martineau Circle - Between Route 24 and Park, north of South St.

Acres: 15.52 acres; 13.30 acres previously subdivided as Martineau Circle and 3.22 acres between the Circle and Route 24.

Map, Block and Lot Numbers: B2-5-7 through 20; B2-06-1 through 08; and B3-3-2 through 8; and B2-5-1

Management: Brockton Water Commission

Handicapped Accessibility:

Degree of Protection: B3-3-2 Quitclaim deed land known as Field Park subject to an easement to Algonquin Gas Co Bk 19627 Page 127

Zoning: Residential B, 40,000 square foot lot minimum.

Irregular woodland running from Route 24 to the edge of the park and almost to South Street, offering trails and a wooded backdrop to the park. It abuts woodland and a pond north of the Brockton water tanks.

Location: Old Central Street

Acres: 3.22

Map, Block and Lot Numbers: B2-5-1

Management: City of Brockton

Degree of Protection: Deed references: “the public convenience and necessity of the inhabitants of the City of Brockton require that land be taken in fee for the protection of the Avon Reservoir”

Zoning: Residential B, 40,000 square foot lot minimum

Location: Route 24

Acres: 5.9

Map, Block and Lot Numbers: B2-5-2

Management: City of Brockton

Degree of Protection: Deed reference: grant is made on condition that it be preserved as undeveloped land and act as a buffer zone along other lands surrounding the Brockton Reservoir in perpetuity.

Zoning: Residential B, 40,000 square foot lot minimum

Location: North of Park between Pond Street, Route 24, and private holdings.

Acres: eleven

Map, Block and Lot Numbers: B4-7-2

Management: Brockton Water Commission

Degree of Protection:

Zoning: Residential B, 40,000 square foot lot minimum.

Long-term water supply protection holdings dating back to when Avon was East Stoughton. These city-owned wetlands, open water and segment of Beaver Brook

look like part of the park but are managed separately from it.

Location: Between Park and Route 24

Acres: 7.3

Map, Block and Lot Numbers: B3-3-2

Management: Brockton Water Commission

Degree of Protection:

Zoning: Residential B, 40,000 square foot lot minimum

This unused strip of level woodland held for water supply protection looks like part of the park but is managed separately.

These long-term holdings and extensive acquisitions around DW> Field Park have accomplished much, but some key gaps remain. The hope is that these holdings and their management can be integrated with the park while protecting water quality. The major gaps are at the northern end of the park, between two major holdings along Harrison Blvd of interest to the Avon Water Department, and one parcel up against Route 24. In addition, the visual character of the park would benefit from partial acquisition or committed vegetated screening along the approved Fieldstone subdivision next to the park drive south of the present South Park development. In addition, overall protection and park management would benefit from acquisition of the VFW property and integration of the adjacent City-owned holdings north of the park and between the park and Route 24.

Other – Town Pound

Town Recycle and Compost Drop off

Location: Wales Avenue

Acres: 7.1

Map, Block and Lot Numbers: B8-1-6

Management: Town of Avon

Handicapped Accessibility:

Recommendation:

Degree of Protection: Eminent Domain Taking

Zoning: Industrial

This facility is located at the former town dump. It has potential environmental issues which need to be examined before possible reuses of this site can be explored.

Public and Private Cemeteries

Owned by Town of Avon

Location: Page Street, north of King Street, Curtis Cemetery

Acres: 0.12

Map, Block and Lot Numbers: B7-4-6

Management: Town of Avon

Handicapped Accessibility:

Recommendation:

Degree of Protection:

Zoning: Residential B, 40,000 square foot lot minimum

Location: 180 East Main Street, Town of Avon Cemetery

Acres: 0.26

Map, Block and Lot Numbers: D5-6-19

Management: Town of Avon

Zoning: Residential A, 25,000 square foot lot minimum

These are two small, historically evocative, stone wall-bound cemeteries adding to the town's character and interest.

Privately Owned

Location: 80 Memorial Drive

Acres: 8.1

Map, Block and Lot Numbers: E4-2-1

Zoning: Residential A, 25,000 square foot lot minimum

This large, attractive facility is a neighborhood asset even though the surroundings are only partially residential. One question is the ownership of and prospects for the three acres which wrap around the north side, east side, and half of the south side of the cemetery.

Location: East Spring Street, St. Michaels Cemetery

Acres: 10.8

Map, Block and Lot Numbers: E5-1-1

Zoning: Residential A, 25,000 square foot lot minimum

This major facility extends the open space character of the adjacent Crowley School and backs on to the Fellowship Circle public housing for the elderly to the north. It is suggested for inclusion with the Robbins Street woodland to the north and the DeMarco Park property in bike path system linking open spaces and other destinations.

Non-Profit Holdings

Location: VFW Land between the park and Route 24

Acres: three

Map, Block and Lot Numbers: B3-3-1

Management: VFW

Zoning: Residential B, 40,000 square foot lot minimum. Within Avon's Water Supply Protection Overlay Zoning District limiting hazardous uses.

Avon Housing Authority

Senior Citizen Housing: 5.10 acres. This property abuts St. Michael's Cemetery which abuts the Crowley School land, which in turn abuts the Robbins Street conservation land. No significant undeveloped land.

Location: Former Avon Park subdivision land east of Page Street and abutting Conservation property.

Acres: 2.75

Map, Block and Lot Numbers: C7-2-1, 2, 3

Management: Avon Housing Authority

Degree of Protection: Good, reflecting long-term use.

Zoning: Residential B, 40,000 square foot lot minimum

These three low-lying 40,000 square foot lots adjacent to Conservation holding above are owned by the Avon Housing Authority for potential low-cost housing, rather than by the Town. Such development seems unlikely, given the site's isolation and wooded swamp character.

Partially Protected Public Recreation and Athletic Facilities

Avon School Department and Parks and Recreation Commission.

Location: Avon High School

Acres: 8.6

Map, Block and Lot Numbers: C5-10-6

Facilities: Gymnasium, basketball court, playground, tot lot, seasonal ice-skating rink, one ball field at Noonan Field.

Management: Park and Recreation Commission. It is used by Babe Ruth and South Shore Men's leagues in addition to high school teams.

Handicapped Accessibility: Parking includes handicapped parking spaces, signage that identifies the facility, accessible bathrooms, all facilities are on ground level.

Recommendation: Build a level path to facilities from parking area.

Degree of Protection: Good, reflecting long-term use.

Zoning: Residential A, 25,000 square foot lot minimum

Location: Ralph D. Butler Elementary School, Patrick Clark Drive

Acres: 28.3

Map, Block and Lot Numbers: C3-02-15

Facilities: Gymnasium, playground, tot lot, tennis courts, three ball fields, soccer field.

Management: Park and Recreation Commission. The "High School Field" here is reserved exclusively for high school teams.

Two fields are used for Little League. All the fields need to be reconstructed.

Handicapped Accessibility: Parking includes handicapped parking spaces, signage – a sign that identifies the facility, restroom in building is ADA accessible, all facilities are on ground level.

Recommendation: build a level paved path to facilities from parking area.

Degree of Protection: Good, reflecting long-term use.

Zoning: Residential A, 25,000 square foot lot minimum

Location: Robert F. Crowley School, Fagan Drive

Acres: 16.1 acres

Map, Block and Lot Numbers: D5-6-7

Facilities: Playground, tot lot, two ball fields, a small soccer field. The fields are used by Little League and high school softball teams. The site abuts conservation land to the north and St. Michael's Cemetery to the south.

Management: Park and Recreation Commission

Handicapped Accessibility: Parking includes handicapped parking spaces, signage: a sign identifies the facility, the restrooms are ADA accessible, all facilities are on ground level.

Recommendation: Build a paved path from parking area to facilities.

Degree of Protection: Good, reflecting long-term use.

Zoning: Residential A, 25,000 square foot lot minimum

Location: Bartlett Street Tennis Courts, across from High School

Acres: 0.6 acres

Map, Block and Lot Numbers: D6-4-19

Facilities: Two tennis courts

Management: Park and Recreation Commission

Handicapped Accessibility: Parking lacks handicapped parking spaces, there are no restrooms on site, all facilities are on ground level.

Recommendation: Needs a handicapped parking space.

Degree of Protection: Good, reflecting long-term use

Zoning: Residential A, 25,000 square foot lot minimum

Private Recreation Facilities

Location: Avon Fish and Game, Inc. 113 Granite Street

Acres: 3.9

Map, Block and Lot Numbers: C5-1-49

Facilities: Clubhouse with inside run range, outside archery range, picnic area. Club is at the end of a dead-end street near the Avon Industrial Park. The site is reduced from a past 8.9 acres by sale of land to the abutting Condyne Corp.

Degree of Protection: Fair, depending on the club's long-term plans

Zoning: Residential A, 25,000 square foot lot minimum

Miscellaneous Town Properties

- School Department 53 acres
- Town Offices: 1.86 acres. The small Trout Brook tributary ponding area and covered foot bridge behind and between the Town Offices and the Library suggest possible approaches to handling downstream potential

multi-purpose flood storage/recharge/habitat protection areas.

- Police and Fire Department: 1.70 acres
- Town Library: 1.10 acres

Location: Corner of Memorial Drive and Ladge Drive

Acres: 31,257 square feet

Map, Block and Lot Numbers: D4-17-11

Management: Town of Avon

Degree of Protection: Fair, depending on Town needs

Zoning: Residential A, 25,000 square foot lot minimum

This is a key parcel accommodating the Edison power line and Trout Brook; potentially the upper end of a flood storage/recharge impoundment at the Ladge Drive culvert.

There are also several small or land-locked, town-owned parcel acquired through tax foreclosure. Some may have potential for neighborhood open spaces while others might better be sold to abutters to enlarge lots.

Location: Private Lane west of Page St.

Acres: one acre

Map, Block and Lot Numbers: C6-2-5, 6

Management: Town of Avon

Degree of Protection: Fair, depending on Town needs

Zoning: Residential B, 40,000 square foot lot minimum

These wooded lots adjacent two private ways one of which abuts back land next to vacant lots along Granite Street and the Avon Fish and Game Association property

described above. They help to give a wooded backdrop to adjacent neighborhoods/

Location: Two lots, one of 15,750 square feet surrounded by lots fronting on East Main Street, Connolly Road, and Overlook Drive; the other, of 5,400 square feet on Fletcher Street.

Acres: 0.39 acres

Map, Block and Lot Numbers: D3-12-5, 19

Management: Town of Avon

Degree of Protection: Fair, depending on Town needs

Zoning: Residential A, 25,000 square foot lot minimum

These back onto 4.18 privately-owned acres running from East Main Street to Memorial Drive, which could offer a route for a portion of the proposed Field Park to Trout Brook bike/pedestrian path. A new house on intervening Kempton Avenue and commercial growth along Memorial Drive may preclude this. Study the possibilities of acquiring the private land and integrating these with it; potentially donating the 5,400 square foot lot for an affordable house given sewerage; or leaving the lots as informal natural areas or expanded private yard space.

Location: Corner of Connolly Road and Overlook Drive

Acres: 0.12 acres

Map, Block and Lot Numbers: D3-12-12

Management: Town of Avon

Degree of Protection: Fair

Zoning: Residential A, 25,000 square foot lot minimum

This is very small for public use and is landscaped as an extension of the adjacent private house lot.

Location: Two lots south of King Street

Acres: 0.12 acres

Map, Block and Lot Numbers: B7-6-6, 7

Management: Town of Avon

Degree of Protection: Fair

Zoning: Residential B, 40,000 square foot lot minimum

These are bracketed by houses on this relatively high portion of King Street. They are not needed to make good use of the non-adjacent extensive public land to the east and might well be left as informal open space or parts of adjacent house lots.

Section 6 Community Vision

A. Vision

The Town of Avon has consistently sought to protect historically valuable open space, including protection of the Town water supply, and provide high quality, well maintained recreational programs that provide opportunities for all residents, regardless of mobility. The Town has a

commitment towards equitable public spaces connected by multi-modal accommodations including bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure accessible for all abilities and ages to support the citizens' vision of a livable and healthy lifestyle.

B. Description of Process

The Open Space and Recreation Planning Team hosted two visioning sessions to review this updated Plan. The first was held on August 9, 2021, specifically for relevant board and committee members and was attended by representatives from a variety of town boards and commissions including the Assessors', Board of Appeals, Board of Selectmen, Planning Board, and representatives from the Select Board including the Town Administrator.

The Open Space Committee hosted a second Visioning Session for the public on August 19th with only a few interested citizens attending. These visioning sessions were held to review the survey responses resulting in productive conversations.

From April 2019 through December 2021 a series of surveys were conducted with residents of the Town of Avon to determine their views about Open Space and Recreation Planning and Preservation, improvements to DeMarco Park and housing needs. These surveys were

distributed to residents as online surveys from Survey Monkey.

The OSRP survey was distributed with printed fliers that had information and QR codes to reach the survey, online through the town staff emails, school department emails, and word of mouth. The response was robust with 195 completed surveys returned.

During the writing of this Plan, Avon was described in several ways including

“An old-fashioned small town”,

“a suburb of Boston”,

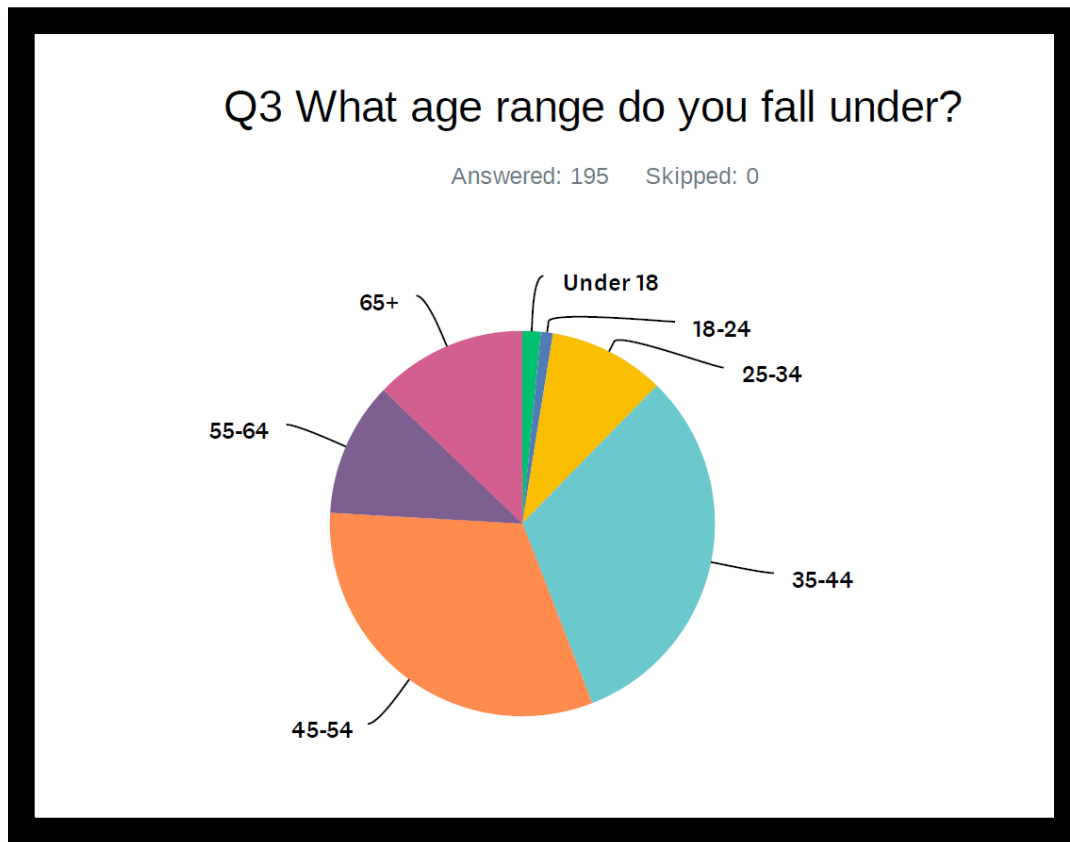
“a sleepy little bedroom community adjacent to Brockton”,

“a place where neighbors look out for each other”,

“a home with community spirit”.

Like other small communities, residents are attracted to the close connections that develop between each other and the broader community, but more than typically must go

Figure 20: What age range do you fall under? (n=195)



outside of town for many services including health facilities, entertainment, recreation centers, and social service programs.

Who Responded to the 2021 OSRP Survey?

In all, 194 people responded to the question to tell us about themselves, one person skipped this question. Over ninety-two percent of the respondents identified as residents of the Town of Avon. Three respondents were employed in or near the Town and seven respondents identified as Students. Five respondents indicated they have a child in the Avon School System, one by School Choice. Most of the respondents

indicated they have resided in Avon for more than ten years (67.96%) and almost ninety-five percent indicated a need to preserve open space, historic, and natural areas in Avon. When asked what was most important to preserve, sixty-three percent indicated “Open Space to meet our active recreational needs.” Sixty percent indicated “Open Spaces to meet our water protection and stormwater management needs and forty-five percent indicated places of historical value. Of the housing portion of the survey respondents (242 total respondents to the Housing surveys), eighty-three percent indicated they own their home and almost eleven percent indicated they rent. Five percent of the respondents indicated they live with parents or relatives.

In all, 195 people responded to the survey.

Almost sixty-four percent of the respondents were between the age of 35 and 54. Twelve percent of the respondents were under the age of 34 years and twenty-four percent were 55 years of age or over. Only 1.54 percent of respondents were under the age of eighteen.

Survey respondents were asked questions regarding:

- Affiliation to the community (worker, resident, student, other in which 92.27% of respondents said they were residents).
- Length of residency in Avon (67.96% of respondents have lived in the town for over ten years).
- Age (63.58% of residents fall between the ages of 35-54 years).
- The need to preserve open space (94.87% of respondents said yes there is a need).
- The importance of preserving different types of open space (62.89% said preserving open space to meet active recreational needs was very important).
- The way in which Avon should preserve open space (81.87% of respondents said the town should pursue donations, grants, and other funding sources for land acquisition).
- Parks & Recreational Areas visited in the last year the top three were:
 1. D.W. Field Park at 93.19 percent.
 2. John J. DeMarco Park at 70.68 percent, and

3. Butler Elementary School Athletic Field/Playground at 62.83%).

- Photos they would like to share of favorite recreation/open space areas in town:



- Proximity to open space and recreation facilities (71.79% of respondents live within ½ a mile of a

park/recreational area. Avon is 4.5 square miles for reference.)

- On a scale of 1 – 5, Importance to have well-lit and accessible sidewalks connecting them to the park or recreation area of their choice (64.29% said five of greatest importance).
- Satisfaction with the places for children and youth to play and hang out in town (62.37% were not satisfied).
- Satisfaction with the places for adults to enjoy (60.94% were not satisfied),
- Satisfaction with the general conditions of available parks and rec spaces (62.69% were satisfied).
- Their top three recreational facilities they feel are needed (out of fourteen choices)
 1. Children’s play areas
 2. A large park with many facilities
 3. Bike Trails
- Their top three athletic facilities they feel are needed (out of seven choices)
 1. Basketball Court
 2. Soccer Field
 3. Baseball Field
- Type of business they would like to see in Avon (78.31% said restaurant. Also, of note the “other” option got the most additional responses in the survey, nineteen in total).
- On a scale of 1 – 5, the importance to protect current open space from future climate related events or

natural disasters (52.08% said protection was very important).

Between April and September 2019, Avon residents were surveyed about DeMarco Park. A link to an online version²⁶ of the survey was put on the town’s website as well as promoted at the Senior Center. A paper survey also was made available at the Senior Center and Town Hall and was distributed at one of the summer concerts at DeMarco Park.

Who responded to the 2019 DeMarco Park Open Space Survey?

In all, 250 residents of Avon completed the survey:

- Most respondents had been living in Avon for many years – about half for 20+ years and only 14 percent for 5 or fewer years.
- There was a diversity of ages represented among respondents – a quarter (26%) were seniors aged sixty-five or older and 10 percent were under the age of thirty-five.
- Half of respondents stated they were families living with children.
- Most respondents had household incomes above the Median Household Income of Avon (figure 8), which is about \$69,709.²⁷

²⁶ Online survey settings were set to prevent multiple responses, allowing the survey to be taken only once from a single electronic device.

²⁷ Census Bureau American Community Survey 2013-2017

- When asked about activity levels, over half (56%) of respondents stated they were moderately active. Most

others were walkers. Only 12 percent stated they were vigorously active.

Figure 21. Which category best describes your age? (n=244)

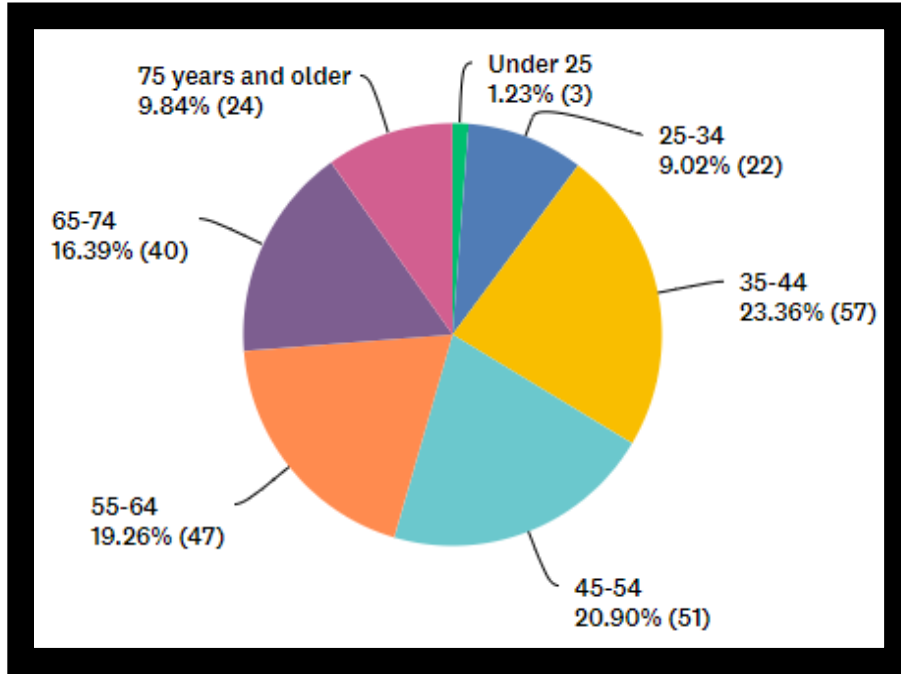
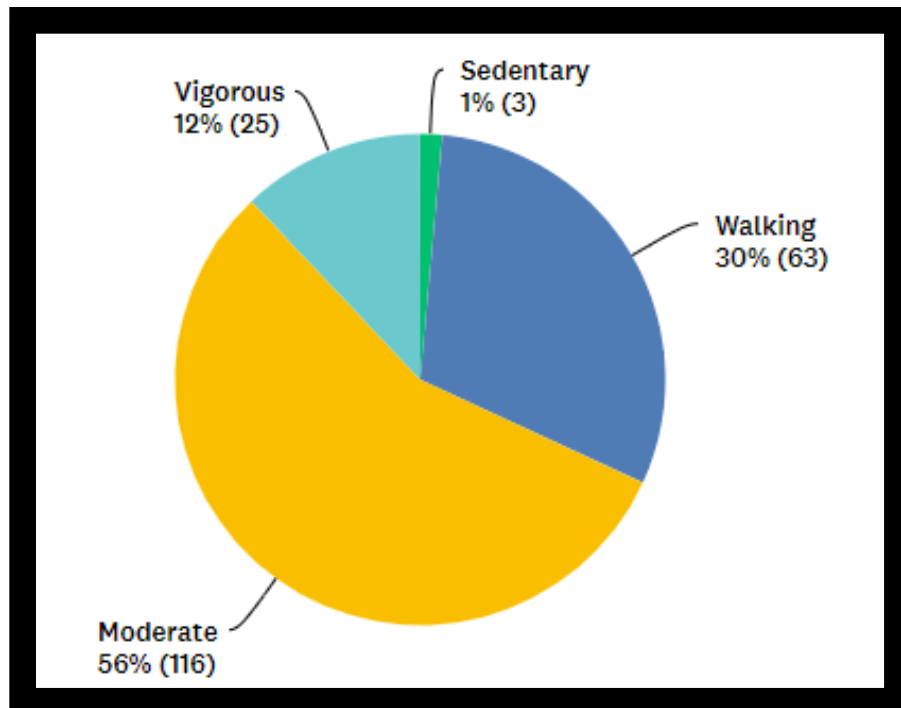


Figure 22. What is your current activity level? (n=207)

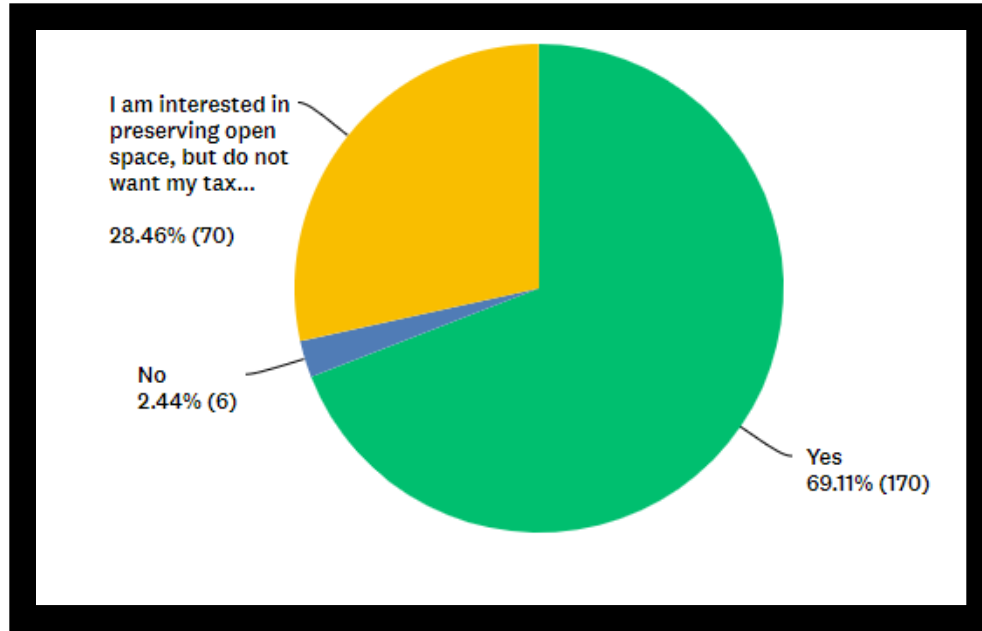


Should the town preserve open space?

Nearly all respondents agreed that the town should preserve land for open space and recreation (figure 10); however, of those

who agreed, 29 percent felt that taxes should not go up for this purpose.

Figure 23. Should the Town preserve land for open space and recreation? (n= 246)

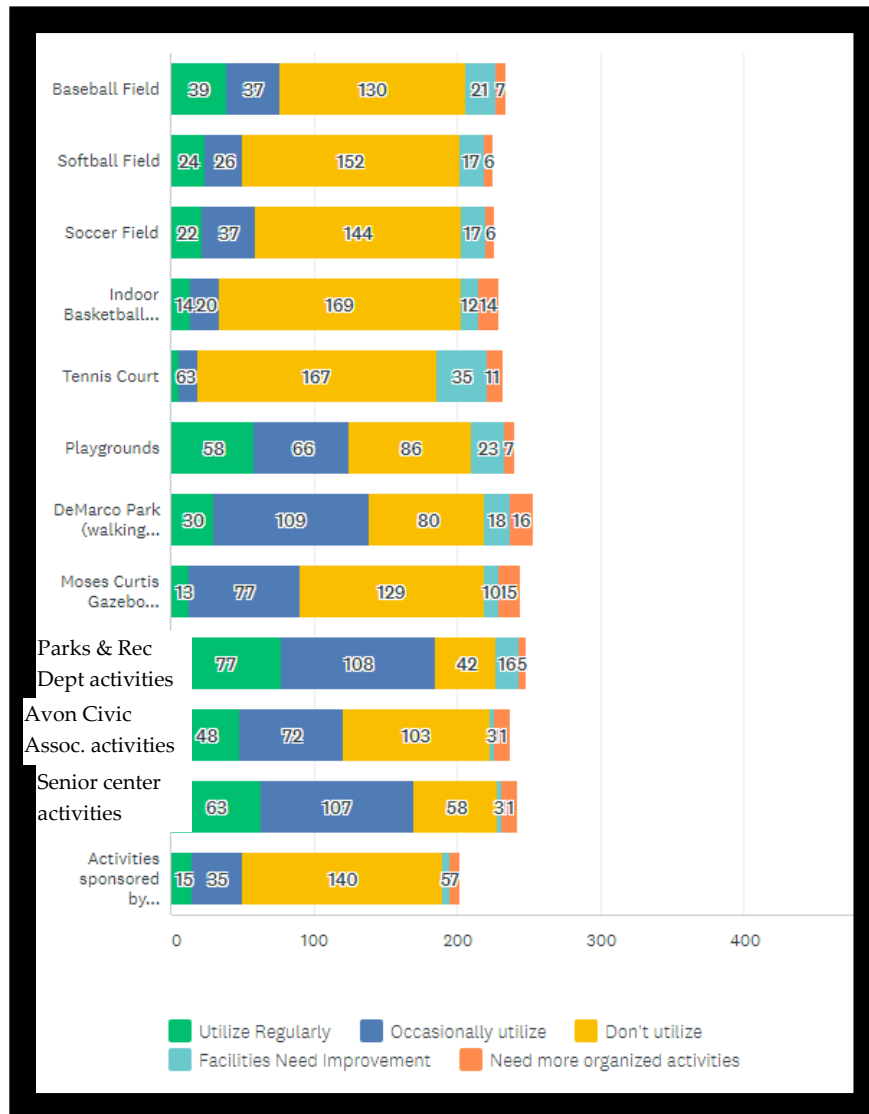


What spaces and activities do you currently use?

Survey participants were asked which town facilities they utilized / activities they participated in currently. D.W. Field Park, playgrounds, and events and activities sponsored by Avon Civic Association were

utilized most regularly by respondents. DeMarco Park and activities sponsored by Avon's Department of Parks and Recreation also were utilized occasionally.

Figure 24. Which town/school facilities do you utilize, and activities do you participate in? Check all that apply (n=243)

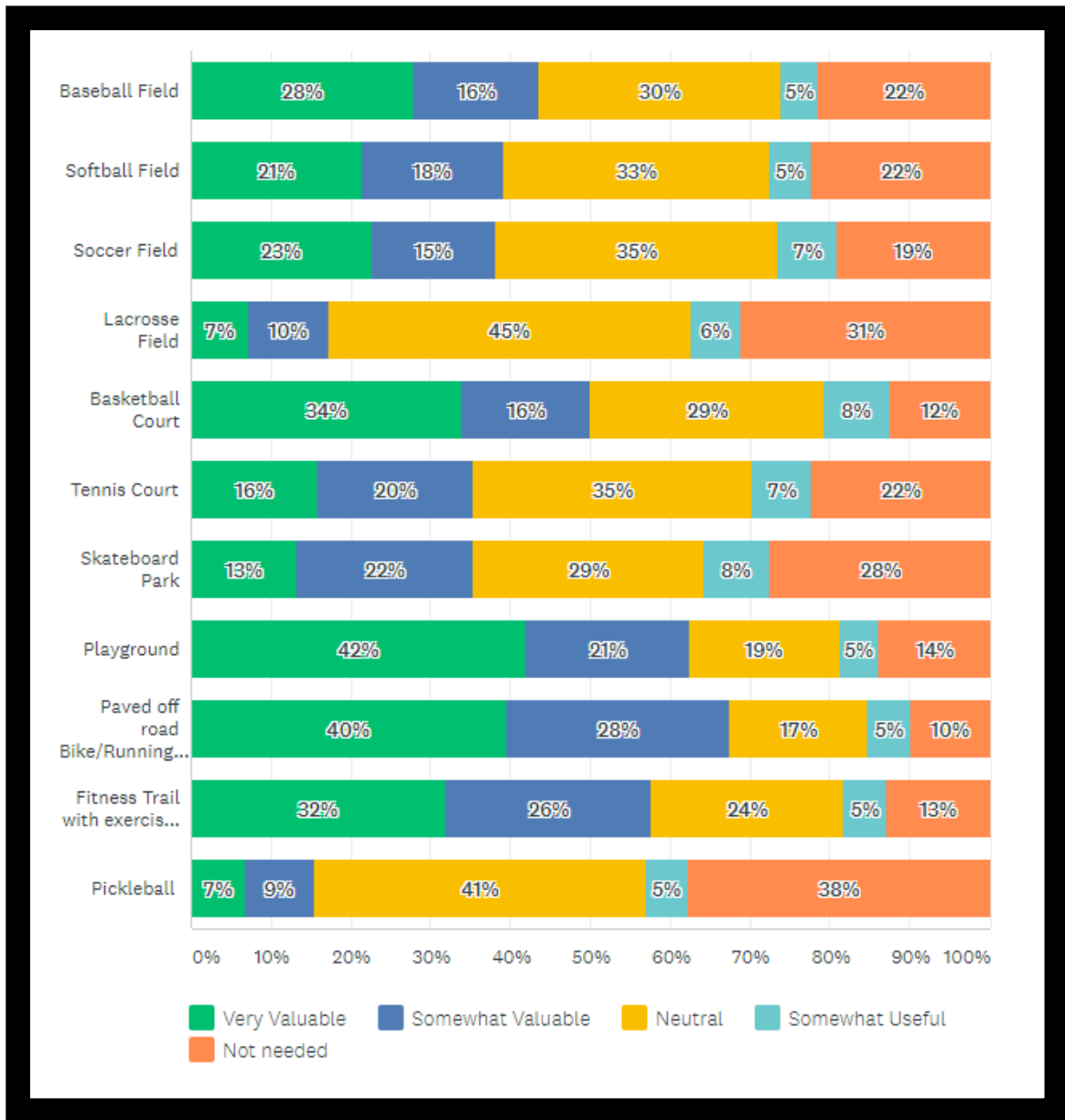


What active recreational areas would you like to see more of?

When asked about Active Recreation areas survey participants would like to see, there was majority support overall for playgrounds, paved off-road biking/running

trails, and fitness trails with exercise stations. Half also stated they would like to see a basketball court.

Figure 25. If the Town were to create additional Active Recreation areas, please prioritize the need for the following (n=235)

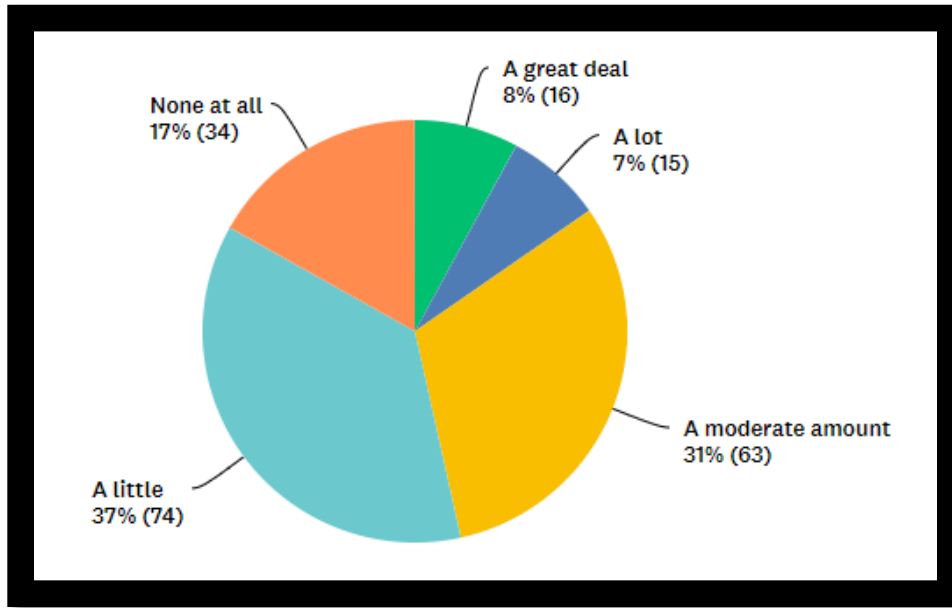


How do you feel about DeMarco Park as it is right now?

Survey participants were asked specifically about DeMarco Park. Overall, 46 percent of respondents felt that the park had a moderate to a great deal of activity

happening there. A minority (17%) of respondents were not aware of any activity at all.

Figure 26. What is your opinion about the existing level of activity, including visits, events, and activities, of DeMarco Park? (n=202)

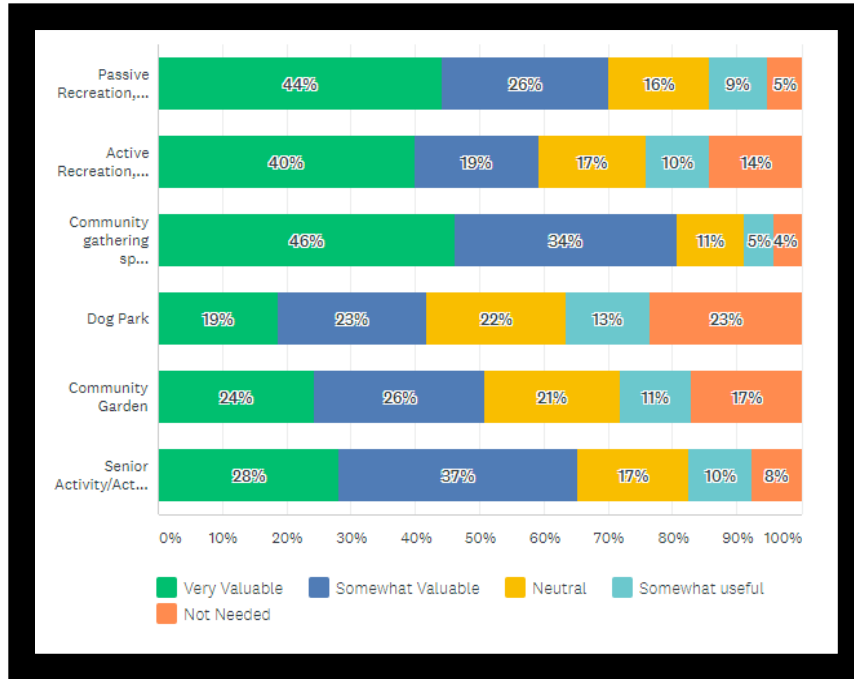


What would you like to see at DeMarco Park?

When asked about priority improvements to the use of the park, a large majority (80%) of respondents agreed that using the park as a community gathering space for concerts, events, etc. was somewhat to very valuable. Passive (e.g., picnic areas and trails) recreational uses,

senior programming, and active recreational uses (e.g., playgrounds and basketball courts) also were considered somewhat to very valuable (70%, 65%, and 59%, respectively). The dog park was perceived to be less valuable than other choices.

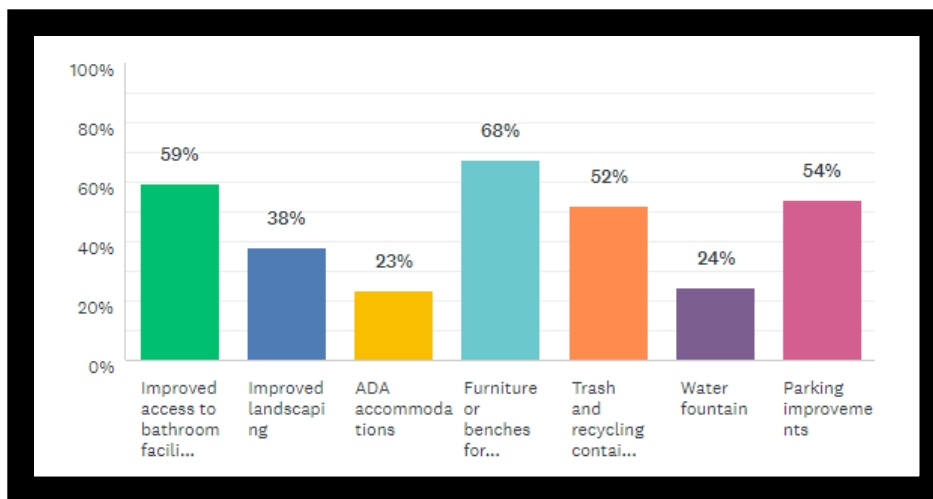
Figure 27. If the Town were to improve DeMarco Park, please prioritize the need for the following. (n=242)



Participants were asked about improvements and activities that would increase their use of DeMarco Park. A majority (68%) of respondents felt that park furniture, including benches, would increase

their use of the park (figure 15). Over half felt that bathrooms, better parking, and trash and recycling containers would increase their use.

Figure 28. What improvements might increase your use of DeMarco Park? (n=189)

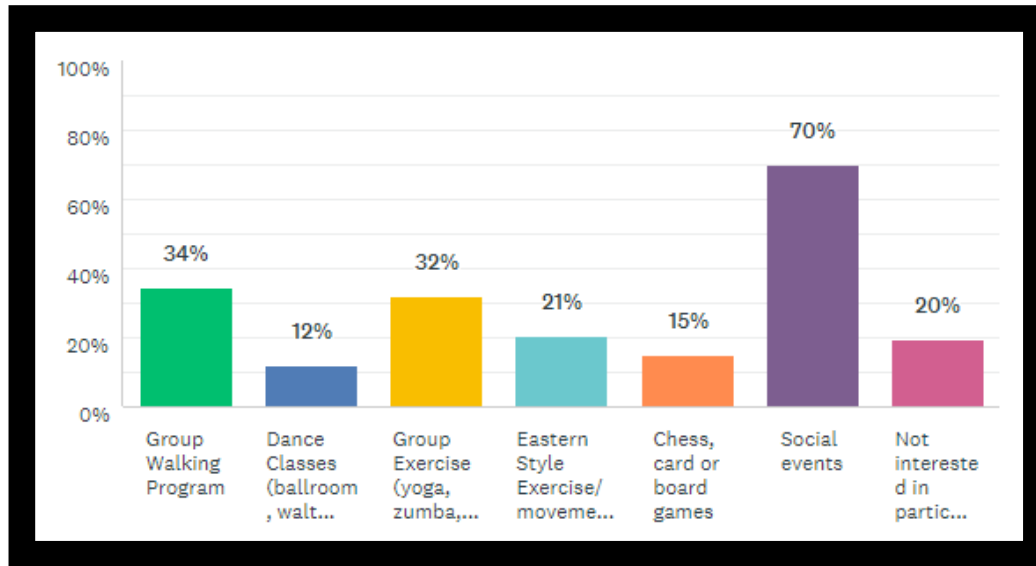


As for activities, social events by far received the most support – 70 percent of

respondents thought that social events would increase their use of the park. About

a third of respondents thought group walking (34%) and exercise programs (32%) would increase their use of the park.

Figure 29. What activities might increase your use of DeMarco Park? (n=204)



the

Did age influence opinions?

Of the sixty-four seniors aged sixty-five and older who answered the survey, the following was noted (with caution since sample size was small):

- When it comes to improving DeMarco Park, seniors prioritize its use first as a community gathering space, followed by a place for passive recreation. Unsurprisingly, this group deprioritizes active recreation – while 66 percent of those under sixty-five thought active recreation was somewhat or very valuable, only 37 percent of seniors thought so. Surprisingly, 65 percent of seniors stated that senior programming at

park was somewhat to very valuable – 65 percent of those under 65 concurred. This similarity in perceptions may reflect younger generations growing awareness of the needs of seniors, many of whom are friends and family.

- When asked what activities would increase their use of DeMarco Park, 68 percent of seniors stated that social activities would increase their use of the park – this is like what respondents under the age of sixty-five said, too. Forty-eight percent also stated that walking programs would increase their use, which seems to be prioritized more highly than among those under the age of 65 (31% thought walking programs would increase their park use). Group exercise, thought by 36 percent of

those under sixty-five as something that would increase their use, was only thought by 18 percent of seniors as something that would increase their park use.

- Among improvements to DeMarco Park that would increase seniors' use of the space, ADA accommodations were more important to those 65+. Forty-two percent of seniors stated that ADA improvements to the park would increase their use of it.

Did families with children have different opinions than other households?

Of the 127 respondents who identified their household as a family with children, the following was noted (with caution since sample size was small):

- Active recreation was perceived as a need more among this group. Forty-two percent of those without children prioritized active recreation as a needed improvement to DeMarco Park; in contrast, 71 percent of families with children stated active recreation improvements were needed.
- When asked about activities that would increase their use of DeMarco

Park, group walking programs were of less interest to those with families (27% v. 43%) while social events were of more interest (78% v. 63%). Families with children were also more interested in participating in activities than households who identified otherwise (13% not interested v. 26%).

- As for improvements to DeMarco Park, improved landscaping factored more into families with children's increased use of the park (41% v. 31%). ADA accommodation factored in less (17% v. 33%).
- Unsurprisingly, families with children reported more frequent use of playgrounds than households that identified otherwise – 81 percent of families with children reported regular or occasional use of playgrounds. Similarly, families with children reported more frequent use of activities sponsored by the town's parks and recreation department – 68 percent reported regular or frequent use.
- Lastly, families with children identified the need to create baseball fields and basketball courts to a greater extent than other households. The need for playgrounds, paved off-road trails, and fitness trails were identified by all groups to similar extents.

What else did respondents have to say?

Seventy-nine respondents left additional comments at the end of the survey. Many of the comments were suggestions for facilities/activities in town: one person suggested a splash pad, two people suggested a farmers' market, and three the development of a recreational center. The most frequently made comments were as follow:

Addressing current issues first / need for maintenance planning. Twenty-seven respondents left comments related to the need to take better care of existing facilities and planning better for maintenance needs.

"You are looking to add places and opportunities, yet the tennis courts are locked. The outdoor basketball court that was well used at the high school was removed and never replaced. You contradict yourselves and waste taxpayers' money."

"Our small-town needs cleaning up and upgrading, safe enjoyable areas to enjoy everyday living in. This town has a lot of potential and with the cost of living being so high here, there should be more amenities for the community to enjoy!"

"Avon has some valuable fields; it is disappointing to see that some of the fields (baseball and soccer at the Butler specifically) and the tennis court on Bartlett Street are not better maintained. We should focus on maintaining these and then add facilities and fields to complement what we have."

Maintaining the small-town feel of Avon / less development, more open space.

Thirteen respondents commented on the importance of keeping Avon a small town, encouraging fewer housing developments and more open space.

"I don't want to lose the character of Avon. I moved here 11 years ago because I wanted out of Boston and wanted to have a place where I could come home to relax and not worry [...]. I don't want Avon to become packed like a sardine can [...]."

"The need for open space in a small town is important. This keeps a sense of community when we have community, we have engagement."

"Help to preserve and maintain our small-town atmosphere and the limited open spaces we have remaining."

More amenities / programs are needed. Eleven respondents expressed some level of dissatisfaction with the current availability of amenities and level of programming in town.

"Our family is very disappointed in the direction of the town and the significant increase in taxes with not enough services provided [...]. There are towns offering much, much more for children, families, and elders."

"Parks and Rec need to offer more free community programs in open space for all ages."

"The sidewalks in Avon need significant work or we need good, paved walking trails somewhere. I just had a baby, and it is very challenging to go for walks around Avon with the stroller [...], and I imagine they prevent many people from going on walks

and getting out of the house [...]. As a young couple with a newborn child and seeing the number of kids around, more parks, walking, and playground space, as well as

activity space like a basketball court or fixing the tennis court would be great ways to get kids outside and for the family to play together.”

Section 7. Analysis of Needs

A. Summary of Resource Protection Needs

The ability to best balance open space and resource protection with development pressures is a challenge for the Town of Avon. Town officials have worked to encourage thoughtful development through public infrastructure projects that support investment in transportation and pedestrian accommodations in areas to support infill development and urban centers.

Conservation / Resource Protection Needs

Greenbelt System, Stream, Wetlands Protection: Avon has scattered holdings, but no complete greenbelt corridors. It should consider developing a system of greenbelts along its streams and wetlands areas while opportunities remain. To do so would necessitate the identification of critical pieces of the potential systems and implement methods to protect them, e.g., purchase, land dedication, conservation easements, and local open space provisions.

Bikeway/Trail System: The Town lacks a town-wide multi-purpose trail system allowing non-motorized off-road travel.

Avon should seek to use existing and proposed easements, sidewalks, and small land purchases to connect residential, open space, and recreation areas and other destinations (DW Field Park, DeMarco Park, the High School/Library/Town Hall/Tennis Court area, Senior Housing, Goeres Square, and the Butler and Crowley Schools). This also fits with current state transportation funding priorities which include bikeways.

Maximum Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities: Since the inventory reveals some inaccessible resources, Avon needs to identify and implement ways to provide full access at conservation and recreation areas.

Water Resource Protection: Water quality in the Trout Brook, the Porter Well, and Brockton’s Reservoir are protected by the Sanitary Code for septic systems and by the Town’s Water Supply Protection Zoning District. Since ownership is the best protection, easements and purchase should be considered to prevent development in the flood plain or sensitive recharge areas.

Augmented Natural Flood Control: The Town’s streams, wetlands, and other natural portions of the drainage system provide

much flood storage, but the drainage system is inadequate and needs rehabilitation. It is also important to protect the quantity of groundwater by enhancing groundwater recharge, particularly if sewers are installed since they will divert potentially recharged water to the downstream treatment plant. Any future drainage improvements should be designed to take advantage of the flood control, recharge wildlife habitat, and open space value of any existing or potential detention areas as noted in the 1988 Updated Drainage Systems Report.

Protection/Expansion of DW Field Park and the Avon Reservoir: Some of the adjacent woodland along Harrison Blvd. is still privately-owned and zoned for business, and some land on the west side tied to the park by trails is privately-owned and has several approved subdivisions. Much of this privately-owned land drains to the Avon Reservoir. Accordingly, there is a need to finish acquiring this bordering land and to incorporate it into the DW Field Park, thereby protecting the Park and the Reservoir and expanding permanent recreation opportunities. Since Brockton owns the Park, the best approach is a joint effort to acquire the remaining land and to oversee management of the enlarged park.

Recreation Needs

The Park and Recreation Commission establishes long-range goals and objectives and develops recreation programs and activities in cooperation with other town bodies and local recreational organizations.

Determining Recreation Needs

Community Park: These serve the entire community with a large, contiguous open space.

Neighborhood Park: These resemble community parks but serve a smaller area.

Playfields: These accommodate outdoor sports competition, especially for teenagers and adults. They can be all-purpose or designed specifically for baseball, football, or soccer according to league requirements. Some guidelines recommend three acres per 1,000 residents, with a 10-acre minimum, and adequate parking.

Playgrounds: Playgrounds provide game space for a particular neighborhood and larger ones should include a tot lot. Some guidelines recommend one acre per 250 elementary school children in dense neighborhoods, and a service radius of one-half mile.

Play Lot or Tot Lot: A play lot should have swings, sandbox, and other equipment to serve one- to five-year-old. They can also help to lessen social isolation of suburban parents. Some guidelines recommend one-half acre for each 1,000 persons in densely populated neighborhoods, and a service area radius of one-quarter mile.

Avon presently has three small areas with enough play equipment to be listed as tot lots even through the total calculated area, as shown on the following table, is only a quarter acre.

Tennis Courts: Some guidelines recommend one tennis court per 2,000 persons.

Further recommended guidelines exist for swimming and other activities. Little

analysis has gone into increasingly important facilities for skateboards, roller blades, and mountain bikes. These may be too few facilities to meet growing demands regardless of any formal standards.

Table 26: Total Recreation Needs

Facility Type	Supply	2020 Population	Total Calculated Need	Present Net Need (Acres)
Playfields	Fifty acres	4,385	13.3 acres @ three acres per 1000 population	0
Playgrounds	Three acres	296	One acre/250 population 5-11 years	0
Tot Lots	0.25 acres	4,385	2.19 acres @ 0.5 acre/1,000 population	1.94
Tennis Courts	Two courts	4,385	Three @ one per 2,000 population	One court

Town-wide, Avon’s facilities meet the 2020 recommended guidelines for everything except for tot lots and tennis courts. The Town would meet the tennis court requirement if the unused courts at the Butler School are included. Two possible locations for tot lots are at the Sanborn Hill and Page Street standpipes. These would serve underserved neighborhoods.

Special Local Opportunities

Needs and opportunities can be quite mixed. An underlying need/obligation is to take advantage of unique local opportunities and to protect unique or characteristic resources. Not every community can or must have every resource or facility but pursuing local special opportunities will increase the

variety of resources open within the region. Examples of such resources from many communities are:

A quarry offering rock climbing in Quincy

A publicly owned steep hill accommodating a ski tow in Wrentham

Old sand pit and quarry badlands with dirt bike potential in Hingham

Access to the Wampanoag Canoe passage in Pembroke, Hanson, and Halifax

Multi-purpose recreational opportunities in the area’s highest “manmade drumlin,” East Bridgewater’s former BFI landfill

The diverse opportunities of the DeMarco Park property

The water sport opportunities at DW Field Park below the Reservoir

Randolph Intergenerational Center offers several recreational opportunities that are available to Avon residents including walking tours and pickleball. There are also

open swim hours available at the High School’s pool.

The YMCA in Stoughton is available to Seniors in Avon on Wednesday.

There are pickleball opportunities at Halloran Park in Stoughton, Easton pickleball courts, and Thayer Academy. These usually require a seasonal fee.

B. Summary of Community Needs

The Massachusetts Division of Conservation Services conducted an Outdoor Needs Survey as part of its 2017 SCORP update. When asked which activities a member of their households planned to participate in over the next 12 months, the top responses included: walking or jogging (on trails and greenways), hiking, and walking, or jogging (on streets and sidewalks). Respondents explained what motivates them to participate in outdoor recreation. The number one response was for physical fitness, followed closely by mental well-being and being close to nature. The nearness of an outdoor recreation facility to home was the top reason that it was visited most frequently.

These state-level survey responses provide an important reference point for the

input gathered during Avon’s OSRP update process. Like state-wide preferences, Avon residents seek to improve neighborhood walkability, expand off-road trail network range, and connectivity, and broaden access to nature within one’s community. The response to the Avon survey allowed the committee to understand the specific needs of special groups such as the elderly and teens. However, response rates among residents 65 years and older (25 responses) was far greater than those aged eighteen and under (3 responses).

Massachusetts Healthy Aging Collaborative report that residents 60+ in Avon fall behind on some Healthy Aging Indicators.

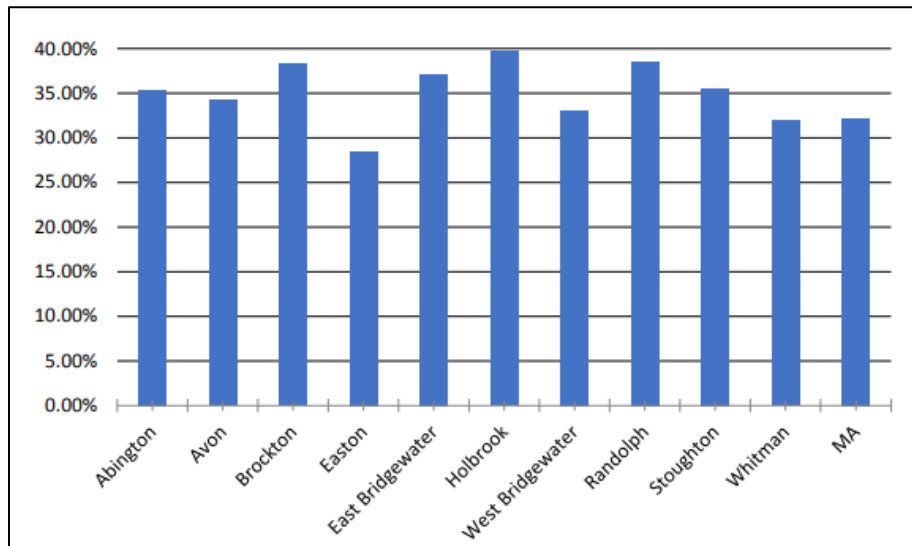
Table 27. Healthy Aging Indicators for Avon (source: Massachusetts Healthy Aging Collaborative)

Indicator	Avon estimate	State estimate
% 60+ with any physical activity within last month	55.1%	73.3%
% 60+ met CDC guidelines for muscle-strengthening activity	18.8%	27.7%
% 60+ met CDC guidelines for aerobic physical activity	44.0%	56.8%
% 60+ met CDC guidelines for both types of physical activities	10.1%	20.8%

Ninety-three percent of the survey respondents indicated that they have visited the DW Field Park in the past year. Seventy-one percent indicated that they visited the DeMarco Park and fifty-three percent visited the Miller Tracey Memorial Playground.

The prevalence of children overweight or obese in Avon is like that of nearby communities.

Figure 30. Grades 1, 4, 7, 10 - % overweight or obese males and females, 2015 (source: Community Health Needs Assessment, Good Samaritan Medical Center, 2018; based on data from MA Department of Public Health)



John J. Demarco Park Recommendations and Interventions from Previous Study

Recommendation 1: Develop a Comprehensive Master Plan for the Town of Avon, pursuing extensive public participation and stakeholder engagement throughout the development process. Avon’s compactness combined with future growth and change make it especially important to strategically site open space

and recreation areas so that these areas are central to most existing or growing neighborhoods. As survey results demonstrated, there exist differences between age and household groups when it comes to open space and recreation needs and interests. It is important for these differences to be acknowledged and factored into open space and recreation planning so that all residents have access.

Recommendation 2: Envision DeMarco Park as an open space and recreation centerpiece for the whole community. Given its size and location, DeMarco Park is well-placed to meet the needs of a diversity

of Avon residents' open space and recreation needs. Nearly two-thirds of survey respondents already utilize the park occasionally or regularly, and nearly three-quarters participate in Civic Association events at the park. When asked about the current level of activity at the park, however, just over half thought there was very little to no activity there. Clearly, there exist significant opportunities to expand residents' use of the park while balancing needs for passive and active recreation (the latter a greater need among families with children) and continuing to build community by using the park as a gathering place for events (a use important to all survey respondents).

When envisioning the park as a community centerpiece, there are several relatively low cost and straightforward interventions that could be undertaken in the short term (one year), in no order:

- A. *Improved entry*: Events at Demarco Park are consistently successful. Entry into the park by vehicles making event deliveries, however, often requires these vehicles to ride up onto curbing. Increasing the radius of curbing at the entrance would improve vehicle access.
- B. *Wayfinding*: For new residents and those not familiar with the park, it is relatively easy to lose your way toward the back of the property where unmaintained trails are left over from the site's previous uses. While there is an informational sign explaining the site's history and presenting a historic property map,

new and improved signage directing visitors along existing paths would be beneficial. Signs would also encourage visitors to stay on trails in usable condition and off sensitive wetland areas. Well-designed signs make parks more appealing in general to users.

- C. *Updating and posting park policy*: It appears that illegal ATV use in the wooded areas of the site has become an issue, damaging trails, and threatening sensitive wetland areas. Updating the town's 2005 DeMarco Park Use Policy to include a ban on ATVs as well as placing "no motorized vehicles" or "no ATV use" signs throughout the site is recommended. Additional updates to the policy should also be considered, such as keeping dogs leashed and no smoking.
- D. *More programming*: Eighty percent of survey respondents stated that prioritizing DeMarco Park as a community gathering space for concerts, events, and activities was somewhat to very valuable – above even using the park for passive recreation. Given that many survey respondents felt the park underutilized and that 70 percent thought social events would increase their use of the park, additional programming during and outside the summer season appears to be needed. Building a sheltered stage for family movie nights, concerts, and other events would perhaps be beneficial to the community.

Additional input from the community as to the types of programming they would like to see should be requested and taken into consideration.

- E. *Improved landscaping and maintenance:* Additional interventions over the medium term (two to five years) should also be considered:

*Improve age-friendliness*²⁸: Avon is a designated Age-Friendly Community and is an emerging Dementia-Friendly Community. The proportion of Avon residents 65 and over is expected to increase 62 percent by 2030. The needs and interests of this population group cannot be overlooked.

- A. When it comes to DeMarco Park, over two-thirds of seniors surveyed stated that senior programming at the park would be somewhat to very valuable, alongside continued social activities. Active recreation is less of a priority for this group, though there is some interest in walking groups. Older adults engage in over three-and-a-half times more physical activity in parks with walking loops,²⁹ a finding that should be considered when it comes to DeMarco Park.
- B. *ADA improvements:* Forty-two percent of seniors stated that ADA

improvements would increase their use of DeMarco Park. While many seniors experience disability, people of other ages do as well. Overall, 15 percent of residents in Avon experience a disability, which is significantly higher than in the state and slightly higher than in surrounding communities. It is important to meet the needs and interests of this population, too, with respect to access to parks, open space, and recreation. All improvements and additions made to DeMarco Park should be looked at through an ADA lens, considering factors such as trail material and slope, size of lettering on signs, well-placed benches, etc. In addition, inclusive facilities those differently abled should be considered, such as swing sets for wheelchair users or playgrounds designed to appeal to autistic children. Importantly, delineating a new ADA compliant parking area is essential.

- C. *Multi-use paved trails:* Over two-thirds of survey respondents thought that paved off-road trails for bicycling, running, and walking were somewhat to very valuable active recreation additions to the community. Research has repeatedly shown that multi-use trails can have

²⁸There are many great resources for creating age-friendly parks; e.g., <https://www.aarp.org/content/dam/aarp/livable-communities/livable-documents/documents-2018/Parks%20Guide-LR-091018-singles.pdf> (accessed March 4, 2020)

²⁹ Cohen, D.A., Han, B., Evenson, K.R., Nagel, C., McKenzie, T.L., Marsh, T., Williamson, S., Harnik, P. (2017). The Prevalence and Use of Walking Loops in Neighborhood Parks: A National Study. *Environmental Health Perspectives*, 125(2), 170-174.

a positive effect on a community's attractiveness and property values. As more Americans look to reconnecting with the natural environment, proximity to trails is increasingly being used as a selling point; for example, a study in seven Massachusetts communities near the Minuteman Bikeway and Nashua River Trail found that houses near the trails sold for a higher proportion of the asking price and in about half the time that it took for houses in the general inventory. According to the Center for Disease Control, parks with paved trails are 26 times more likely to be used for physical activity than those without. A trail in Avon could begin with paved walking paths at DeMarco Park, later expanding to include paved paths throughout the property, with benches along the way. Delineating some paths as 'quiet' walking paths and other paths as 'active' paths for running and bicycling could help meet the needs of more residents, including those looking to relax and those looking to move fast.

Finally, additional improvements over the long term (five to 10 years+) should be considered.

- A. ***Multi-generational exercise stations:*** Over half of survey respondents thought that a fitness trail with exercise stations was a somewhat to very valuable active recreation addition to the community. Fitness areas could include stationary

bicycles, side-by-side striders, and hand-eye dexterity games. Providing opportunities for physical activity could help improve community health, including boosting the physical activity levels of residents aged 60+ and helping reduce the prevalence of obesity in children.

- B. ***Interconnected, multi-use trails:*** Extending multi-use trails to connect with trails to/from popular locations in a community, such as public libraries and schools, begins to create a community network that is attractive to current and potential residents. A strong community network could eventually link up with networks in nearby communities, such as the proposed Trout Brook Greenway in Brockton or Ames Norwell State Park in Abington.

Recommendation 3: Continue maintenance and make upgrades to existing facilities. Playgrounds and a basketball court were both seen as somewhat to very valuable active recreation additions to the community. Over two dozen survey respondents left comments recommending the town address issues with current facilities and/or plan better for their maintenance. The basketball court was mentioned as a facility that needed to be replaced after the town's outdoor court was removed, and the baseball field was also identified as needing better care.

Access and Accessibility





The Town of Avon meets environmental justice criteria for minority populations of 40 percent or more in three out of 4 Census block groups, (seventy-five percent). The percent of population in Environmental Justice block groups is 82.4 percent. While there are several neighborhoods within the Town where there are no parks or playgrounds within walking distance, seventy-two percent of OSRP survey respondents indicated that the nearest park, trail, or conservation area within ½ mile of their home. Twenty-three percent indicated there was a park/recreation facility within one mile of their home. The Town should continue to work to identify opportunities to develop new parks within a half-mile of homes, regardless of age, or income, and to ensure these parks are accessible to those with disabilities.

All new construction and renovation of public facilities since 1968 are required to be accessible to people with disabilities. This plan identifies several measures the Town

can take to better meet the American with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements and needs of disabled residents for equal access to open space and recreational facilities. Demographic trends also show the possible need for programming for aging adults. People 65 years and over make up more than 14 percent of the Town population and this portion of the population is expected to increase in the coming years. Of the total households in Avon, seventeen percent contained individuals sixty-five years of age or older. This trend is important to consider when planning for the open space and recreation needs of all Avon's residents. As such, recreational resources that meet the needs and accommodate the abilities of these older residents will be an important component of this plan.

The results of the ADA self-assessment provide guidance to Town officials on how to program for disabled youths and adults, as well as aging adults with mobility challenges. Specific needs are depicted below.

Figure 31: DeMarco Park ADA Transition Plan

DEMARCO PARK				
#	Barrier Statement	Photo	Proposed Mitigation	Cost
1.	<p>Accessible Parking</p> <p>Designated accessible parking is not provided.</p>		<p>Pave and stripe a portion of the parking lot to add accessible parking spaces (including at least one van space), as well as the associated access aisles.</p> <p>Unit Cost: \$1,500 per space or aisle Est. Quantity: 2 (1 space + 1 aisle)</p>	\$3,000
2.	<p>Accessible Route</p> <p>The gazebo, benches, and picnic tables are not located on an accessible route due to the grass.</p> <p>The gazebo is not located on an accessible route due to stairs.</p> <p>The picnic tables lack an accessible seating location.</p>	 	<p>Provide an accessible route to the gazebo, benches, picnic tables. Additional study required.</p> <p>Unit Cost: \$10,000 Quantity: 1</p> <p>Build a ramp into the gazebo.</p> <p>Unit Cost: \$5,000 Quantity: 1</p> <p>Provide at least one table, and no less than 5% of the total number of tables, that provides compliant knee and toe clearance.</p> <p>Unit Cost: \$250 ea. Est. Quantity: 1</p>	\$15,250
3.	<p>Trails</p> <p>The trailhead not located on an accessible route, due to the excessive running slopes and gravel surface.</p>		<p>Provide an accessible route to the trailhead. Additional study required.</p> <p>Unit Cost: \$5,000 Quantity: 1</p>	\$5,000
TOTAL FOR DEMARCO PARK:				\$23,250

General needs for ADA accessibility improvements at multiple parks and open space facilities include:

- ADA tables and seating options
- Designated painted handicap spaces and ADA parking signage
- ADA playground features
- Improved paths and access ramps to features inside parks
- Improve signage and wayfinding

Other ideas for ADA improvements include creating a new public community garden site with handicap accessible raised beds.

Youth and teenagers have special needs unique from the general Town population. Of the total households in Avon, twenty-nine percent were households with children under 18 years of age. The needs of Avon's youth include a skating rink, an indoor multi-use recreational facility, and improved walking and biking access to parks.

C. Summary of Recreational Needs

- Installation of up-to-date equipment at all town playgrounds
- Updated basketball courts at the High School and the Crowley School. Redoing the ball fields at Butler School, clearing land to add two soccer fields.
- Security lights at Butler and Crowley school fields.
- Further paths and benches at the DeMarco Park.
- New seasonal ice-skating rinks, possibly at the unused Butler School tennis courts and at the proposed DeMarco Park picnic pavilion
- New fencing, scoreboards, and concession stands at all ballfields.
- Opportunities for swimming and small boating, possibly at DW Field Park's Waldo Lake to replace that lost with the filling of the Park's Ellis Brett Pond and including a bathhouse that could be seasonally used as a changing/warm-up clubhouse for winter ice-skating.
- A Wheels Park for skateboard and roller blades, on underused parking space near other youth facilities at the Buckley Center.
- Extensive bike paths, mountain bike trails and foot paths connecting location destinations and giving access to natural areas, e.g., in the expanded DW Field Park, or in the Page Street woodlands with connections to Wales Avenue, King Street, and Langley Road; and between the DeMarco Park property, the Robbins Street land, the Crowley School, St. Michael's Cemetery and other points to the north and south.
- A better distribution of local tot lots with complementary adult sitting and exercise facilities; at a minimum adding one in the southeastern corner of town (at the attractive sloping lot at East Main Street and Connolly Road), one to serve upper Page Street, and one for the isolated Center Street neighborhood.
- The potential major wildlife preserve/low impact recreation area incorporating the present Page Street properties and portions of the unprotected areas and some intervening private land.
- Some usable open space near every neighborhood.

The survey respondents provided a glimpse into the needs of young people in Avon. When asked, "Are you satisfied with the places for children and youth to play and hang out in town?" 121 responded 'No' (62.37%), and seventy-three indicated 'Yes' (37.63%). When asked to check the top recreational facilities they feel are needed, survey respondents indicated:

1. Children's play areas (31.28%)
2. A large park with many facilities (30.77%)
3. Bike Trails (29.23%)
4. Conservation Areas (27.69%)
5. Splash Pad (27.18%)

Survey respondents were asked to identify the top three athletic facilities needed in Avon. The top five responses indicated a need for basketball courts (79.49%), followed by Soccer Fields (41.03%), and Baseball fields (39.49%), Tennis Courts (38.46%) and Football Fields (30.26%). Follow up conversation is anticipated during the spring listening sessions to determine whether the existing athletic facilities are used at capacity therefore opportunity is reduced or whether their existence is unknown to the respondents indicating a need for additional information and outreach as to the existing athletic facilities.

Other key points of interest expressed by residents during the OSRP process include:

- Park with bathrooms and splash pad
- community garden with sidewalk loops for exercise
- running trail
- pickleball courts
- basketball courts with recreation area for teens
- running trail, linking the existing parks

Given that many protected open spaces and places in Avon prohibit dogs, residents have also expressed great interest in a dog park. The Town must continue to explore options for additional sites to consider “Dog Friendly” places in the community.

According to the Open Space survey, the DW Field Park is the most utilized recreational resource in the Town (93.19%) followed by DeMarco Park (70.68%).

Massachusetts Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Program (SCORP)

The Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) is a five-year plan which assesses statewide recreation demand and supply. The plan helps determine future needs and guides statewide outdoor recreation policies.

In the 2017 SCORP, the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs completed the Massachusetts SCORP to help guide the distribution of federal funding to state agencies and municipalities for the acquisition of open space, renovation of parks, and development of new parks. The goals of the 2017 SCORP are shown in the below.

1. Access for underserved populations.
2. Support the statewide trails initiative.
3. Increase the availability of water-based recreation.
4. Support the creation and renovation of neighborhood parks.

This OSRP reflects each of the four goals in the 2017 SCORP, as well as many of the 2017 SCORP objectives. Avon aims to increase access to recreational facilities and open spaces for residents of all ages, incomes, and abilities; provide a connected system of safe walking and biking routes and trails; protect water resources and pursue public water access points at DW Field Park; and develop new neighborhood parks. Avon’s focus on

expanding trail access by evaluating the feasibility of new trails at DeMarco Park directly relates to the SCORP Objectives to improve trail networks.

D. Summary of Management Needs

It is important for an Open Space and Recreation Plan to outline specific recommendations that will help the Town meet its open space and recreation goals in a strategic manner. Specifically, it is necessary for the Town to have the tools and policies at hand to implement the recommendations of the plan. These include:

- To coordinate/ integrate Town of Avon and City of Brockton management of water protection lands and open space and recreation land in and abutting DW Field Park.
- To coordinate water resource protection/acquisition activities with Brockton and Holbrook.

Survey question: Are you satisfied with the general condition of these parks, open spaces, and/or recreational facilities? Yes (62.69%) No (37.31%)

Survey respondents stated the poor condition of the trails and roads in the DW Field Park, especially on the west side near Route 24 and the Avon Town boundaries impacts their enjoyment of the property and requires significant maintenance. There were several survey respondents with questions regarding access to use the tennis courts as they are kept locked. Information regarding hours and conditions of use should be posted on the Town website and posted at the location.

Opportunities presented by unprotected lands of conservation and recreation interest

Proposed DW Field Park Acquisitions

These consist of the remaining unprotected Business or Residentially zoned land around Avon's portion of the DW Field

Park. They have value in themselves and need protection to protect the Park and in some cases its reservoir.

Table 28: Opportunities Presented by Unprotected Lands of Conservation and Recreation Interest

Opportunities Presented by Unprotected Lands of Conservation and Recreation Interest				
Proposed DW Field Park Acquisitions				
<i>Map, Block, and Lot Numbers</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Zoning District</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Degree of Protection</i>
B4-7-3	11.69	Business	Two adjacent parcels at the Northeast corner of DW Field Park	None beyond present environmental protection provisions
B4-7-4	13.36	Business	Two adjacent parcels at the Northeast corner of DW Field Park	None beyond present environmental protection provisions
C4-9/3, 4	16.9	Business	Between Harrison Blvd. and DW Field Park	None beyond present environmental protection
B2-5-1	5.9	Residential B, 40,000 square foot lot minimum	Between Route 24 and the Martineau Circle acquisitions	None beyond present environmental protection provisions
C2-2-1; C2-2-3	16.8	Residential B, 40,000 square foot lot minimum	From South Street to the Brockton line, west of the parkway	None beyond present environmental protection provisions
B3-3-1	3	Residential B, 40,000 square foot lot minimum. Also, within Avon's Water Supply Protection Overlay Zoning District limiting hazardous uses.	VFW land between Route 24 and the DW Field Park	Fair, depending on the long-term needs and enforcement of environmental regulations.

Location: Two adjacent parcels at the Northeast corner of DW Field Park

Acres: 25.05 acres

Map, Block and Lot Numbers: B4-7-3, 11.69 acres; B4-7-4, 13.36 acres

Degree of Protection: None beyond present environmental protection provisions

Zoning: Business

This is the gateway to the DW Field Park and part of its watershed. The

seemingly buildable lots were proposed for an outlet store which was withdrawn after close environmental scrutiny. Though they are in the Water Supply Protection overlay district, there is the potential for water quality problems from road/parking lot runoff and other hazards depending on business type. Hence, these lots are among the most vulnerable and recommend for acquisition by either the City of Brockton or the Town of Avon.

Location: Between Harrison Blvd. and DW Field Park

Acres: 16.9

Map, Block and Lot Numbers: C4-9/3, 4

Degree of Protection: None beyond present environmental protection

Zoning: Business

This land would be highly developable except for present limited curb cut rights. It is a key gap in preserving/expanding the east side of the DW Field Park and includes a potential town well site. Town acquisition through State Aquifer Land Acquisition funds has been explored and would be appropriate if compatible with well development and informal, non-contaminating recreation use.

Location: Between Route 24 and the Martineau Circle acquisitions

Acres: 5.9

Map, Block and Lot Numbers: B2-5-1

Degree of Protection: None beyond present environmental protection provisions

Zoning: Residential B, 40,000 square foot lot minimum

This woodland and pond between Route 24, the Brockton water tanks, and the Martineau Circle subdivision would make a

logical addition to the DW Field Park with hiking access partly provided by two mowed pipeline easements and its southern and eastern edges.

Location: From South Street to the Brockton line, west of the parkway.

Acres: 16.8

Map, Block and Lot Numbers: C2-2-1; C2-2-3

Degree of Protection: None beyond present environmental protection provisions

Zoning: Residential B, 40,000 square foot lot minimum

This sloping woodland runs along about 1,100 feet of the West Parkway and has frontage on South Street. It wraps around the South Park Homes subdivision at the corner of South Street and the Parkway and includes the large 14.3-acre Fieldstone subdivision and a 2.5-acre parcel on South Street just west of South Park. The nearest South Park lots are 70 to 190 feet from the Parkway and have nominal buffer area, but the cleared land and new houses are visible from the Parkway. The Park would be further protected by acquiring land west of the Parkway to the maximum feasible depth and/or acquiring a protective easement along the edge of any new development abutting the Parkway.

Location: VFW land between Route 24 and the DW Field Park

Acres: three

Map, Block and Lot Numbers: B3-3-1

Degree of Protection: Fair, depending on the long-term needs and enforcement of environmental regulations.

Zoning: Residential B, 40,000 square foot lot minimum. Also, within Avon's Water

Supply Protection Overlay Zoning District limiting hazardous uses.

Though protected by non-profit ownership and inaccessibility, the

landlocked three-acre site should be acquired for coordinated management as part of the park.

Other Unprotected Sites Providing Opportunities for Conservation and Recreation Interest

Table 29: Other Unprotected Sites Providing Opportunities for Conservation and Recreation Interest

Other Unprotected Sites Providing Opportunities for Conservation and Recreation Interest				
Other Sites				
Map, Block, and Lot Numbers	Acres	Zoning District	Location	Degree of Protection
B9-2-1 (23.2 acres), C9-2-1 (33.1 acres)	56.3	Residential B, 40,000 square foot lot minimum	Apparent TL Edwards property along Wales Avenue next to the Randolph town line	None beyond present environmental protection provisions
C8-2-4	52	Residential B, 40,000 square foot lot minimum	Apparent Schepis property east of Page Street	None beyond present environmental protection provisions
C7-2-17, 18; C8-2-3	200,000 square feet	Residential B, 40,000 square foot lot minimum	Private land	None beyond present environmental protection provisions
C4-8-24	19,981 square feet	Residential A, 25,000 square foot lot minimum	One corner on the inner curve of Harrison Blvd protruding into the Avon Water	None beyond present environmental protection provisions
D6-7-32	3.3	Residential B, 40,000 square foot lot minimum	Between the DeMarco Park property on the Randolph Town Line.	None beyond present environmental protection provisions

Potentially including D5-2-18, 21; D4-2-11; D4-7-11; D4-13-14, 15; D4-17-11, 12; D4-11-17; B6-1-7; and B5-1-1	Minimal, 31.8 acres in the list below, including 16.1 City-owned acres on Beaver Brook, plus a potential 5-10 acres to be identified in open lowlands.	Mostly Residential A and B, less than an acre of Town-owned Business land, and 1.73 acres of Industrially zoned streamside land.	Scattered parcels along the stream system with potential for streamside access or multi-purpose use.	None beyond present environmental protection provisions and City ownership of the Beaver Brook land above Route 24.
C7-1-1 through 6	5.5	Residential B, 40,000 square foot lot minimum	Private Land	None beyond present environmental protection provisions

Location: Apparent TL Edwards property along Wales Avenue next to the Randolph town line.

Acres: 56.3

Map, Block and Lot Numbers: B9-2-1 (23.2 acres), C9-2-1 (33.1 acres)

Degree of Protection: None beyond present environmental protection provisions

Zoning: Residential B, 40,000 square foot lot minimum

Two wooded upland parcels with few mapped limitations for septic systems and abutting woodland across the Randolph line. The westernmost part of parcel B9-2-1 is used to store used asphalt and other materials creating sizable hills along with old curbing, catch basin covers, etc. These abut the Schepis parcel.

With buffering, resolution of any zoning or water quality issues, acceptable access and compatible uses north of Wales Avenue,

the vacant land here could be used for the housing allowed by present zoning or for expanded industrial uses. Since the last portion of Wales Avenue was abandoned, the only access may be from the very end of the paved Wales Avenue or through a new subdivision road. The latter could connect with Stoughton Street in Randolph for housing or serve industries by looping back to an existing or new road in Avon. The remaining land could be used for open space and habitat. Acquisition as municipal land would keep the choice in Avon's hands. The unspoiled areas are recommended for acquisition in conjunction with the Schepis land and town land to the south and for use as open space, habitat, and trails.

Location: Apparent Schepis property east of Page Street

Acres: fifty-two

Map, Block and Lot Numbers: C8-2-4

Degree of Protection: None beyond present environmental protection provisions

Zoning: Residential B, 40,000 square foot lot minimum

This is a landlocked parcel abutting the two Edwards properties described above and separating two major town-owned parcels. These parcels were once considered for the site of a municipal golf course. They are largely wet, but some peripheral upland might be usable with installing of municipal sewer or innovative/alternative systems.

Location: Private land

Acres: 200,000 square feet

Map, Block, and Lot Numbers: C7-2-17, 18; C8-2-3

Degree of Protection: None beyond present environmental protection provisions

Zoning: Residential B, 40,000 square foot lot minimum

These four 40,000 square feet lots are between Conservation properties and Housing Authority parcels. The combination of these holdings along with some intervening private parcels could create a major wildlife preserve and low impact recreation areas, particularly if done in conjunction with Randolph's contiguous Conservation Area. Boardwalks and access easements would be needed to cross the deepest swamp and to allow trails running from Langley Road to Wales Street to cross intervening private land.

Location: One corner on the inner curve of Harrison Blvd protruding into the Avon Water Department Land.

Acres: 19,981 square feet

Map, Block and Lot Numbers: C4-8-24

Degree of Protection: None beyond present environmental protection provisions

Zoning: Residential A, 25,000 square foot lot minimum

This private parcel points into Water Department property and would best be acquired and managed as part of that property.

Location: Between the DeMarco Park property on the Randolph Town Line.

Acres: 3.3

Map, Block, and Lot Numbers: D6-7-32

Degree of Protection: None beyond present environmental protection provisions

Zoning: Residential B, 40,000 square foot lot minimum

This long, tapered wooded strip runs between the DeMarco Park property, houses in Randolph, and rough woodland in Holbrook. It could complement the DeMarco Park property by increasing its size to the town line; and would allow integrated open space uses such as bike/pedestrian trails along the Holbrook/Randolph line and on to the Holbrook/Randolph commuter rail station to the north.

Location: Scattered parcels along the stream system with potential for streamside access or multi-purpose use.

Acres: Minimal, 31.8 acres in the list below, including 16.1 City-owned acres on Beaver Brook, plus a potential 5-10 acres to be identified in open lowlands.

Map, Block and Lot Numbers: Potentially including D5-2-18, 21; D4-2-11; D4-7-11; D4-13-14, 15; D4-17-11, 12; D4-11-17; B6-1-7; and B5-1-1

Degree of Protection: None beyond present environmental protection provisions and

City ownership of the Beaver Brook land above Route 24.

Zoning: Mostly Residential A and B, less than an acre of Town-owned Business land, and 1.73 acres of Industrially zoned streamside land.

Though the Town’s streams are protected by the Sanitary Code, the

Wetlands Protection Act, and the Rivers Bill, some segments would benefit from selective acquisition in fee or acquisition of easements. These could allow creation of streamside paths, or the proposed multi-purpose flood control/ground water recharge/habitat/open space areas discussed above. Opportunities include the following Trout Brook and Beaver Brook segments.

Table 30: Scattered Parcels with Potential for Access or Multi-Purpose Use.

Map-Lot-Block (Acres)	Description
D5-2-18, 21 (6.37 acres)	The low-lying stream segment between Gill and Rock Street
D4-2-11 (2.2 acres)	The low, marshy area just above Harrison Blvd
D4-11-7 (1.8 acres)	The area between the Blvd. and School Street – which retains provisions for flashboards at School Street
D4-13-4, 15 (2.9 acres)	The area just above Glendower Street
D4-17-11, 12 (2.45 acres)	The land upstream of the Ladge Road culvert
B5-1-1 (16.1 acres)	The informal Beaver Brook impoundment just above Route 24
B6-1-7 (2 acre)	A segment of Beaver Brook just below Strafello Drive

Location: Private Land

Acres: 5.5 acres

Map, Block and Lot Numbers: C7-1-1 through 6

Degree of Protection: None beyond present environmental protection provisions

Zoning: Residential B, 40,000 square foot lot minimum

These possibilities need to be studied in detail. Potential concerns include ownership ability to hold useful storm flows without harming nearby development and septic systems, potential safe access for any open space, existing and potential groundwater recharge capacity, habitat value, and wetlands protection Act regulatory issues related to the above.

E. Funding Sources

Community Preservation Act

One source of additional revenue that the Town may consider is the Community Preservation Act (CPA). Avon has not

adopted the CPA which allows communities to create a local Community Preservation Fund to be used for funds through a surcharge of up to three percent of the real estate tax levy on real property for open space, historic preservation, and low and moderate housing and makes the

community eligible for a state match of a portion of the funds raised.

One of the limitations of this fund has been that it was historically more restrictive for recreation projects. By law, a community can only allocate funds to a recreation project once it has expended or reserved at least ten percent of its annual CPA revenues on each of the three CPA project categories. It may then use all or a portion of its remaining CPA funds (after appropriating up to five percent for the administrative expenses of its Community Preservation Committee) on land for recreational use.

Historically, CPA funds also must be used to create *new* recreational opportunities, and therefore CPA funds could not be used on land that was already designated for recreational use. However, due to legislation passed in 2013, local Community Preservation Committees may fund capital equipment (e.g., play equipment) at existing playgrounds, parks, and athletic fields.

Massachusetts Funding for Conservation and Recreation

Upon completion of this Open Space and Recreation Plan and subsequent approval by the state, the Town would be eligible to apply for the following grants:

Local Acquisitions for Natural Diversity (LAND): Grants to city and town conservation commissions for the acquisition of open space for conservation and informal recreation purposes (formerly the Self-Help Program).

Parkland Acquisitions and Renovations (PARC): Funds for acquiring and/or developing park and recreation land (formerly the Urban Self-Help Program).

Land and Water Conservation Fund: Federal funds (administered by EEA) for up to fifty percent of the costs of acquiring, developing, or renovating park, recreation, or conservation land.

DCR's ***Recreational Trails Grants*** is a federal assistance program of the United States Department of Transportation's Federal Highway Administration, administered at the State level. The program provides matching grants for a variety of trail protection, construction, and stewardship projects.

DCR's ***Urban and Community Forestry Challenger Grants*** provides fifty percent matching grants to develop, grow, and sustain programs that plan, protect, and maintain a community's public tree resources. Municipalities and non-profits are eligible to apply.

The Executive Office of Energy and the Environment (EEA) offers grants through the ***Conservation Partnership Program*** to non-public, non-profits for acquiring land and interests in lands suitable for conservation or recreation.

The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) provides grants through the ***Drinking Water Supply Protection Grant Program*** to assist in acquiring land to protect the quality of public drinking water supplies.

The ***Landowner Incentive Program*** through the Department of Fish and Game (DFG) provides grants to private landowners, sportsmen's clubs, land trusts,

and non-profit groups to restore or create wildlife habitats for the benefit of species-at-risk.

The *Agricultural Environmental Enhancement Program (AEEP)* provides funding to agricultural operations in Massachusetts for the mitigation and/or prevention of impacts on natural resources that may result from agricultural practices. While primarily a water quality program, AEEP will also fund practices that promote water conservation and/or reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

The *Massachusetts Environmental Trust General Grants* support non-profit organizations and municipalities in efforts to restore, protect, and improve natural resources of the Commonwealth.

The *Massachusetts Preservation Projects Fund (MPPF)* is a grant program established to support the preservation of properties, landscapes, and sites (cultural resources) listed in the State Register of Historic Places. Applicants must be a municipality or non-profit organization.

Chapter 90 Local Aid Funding The Massachusetts Chapter 90 Program was enacted in 1973 to entitle municipalities to reimbursement of documented expenditures for approved roadway reconstruction and improvements projects. Chapter 90 is a one hundred percent reimbursable program and eligible projects include resurfacing,

preliminary engineering, right-of-way acquisition, shoulders, side road approaches, landscaping, and tree planting, roadside drainage, structures (including bridges), sidewalks, traffic control and service facilities, street lighting, and other projects approved by the state highway department. Chapter 90 funds are apportioned to all cities and towns in the Commonwealth based on a formula that includes total population, road miles, and employment.

Federal Funding for Conservation and Recreation

Transportation Enhancement Program (TEP)

The TEP is a federal transportation program that funds community-based projects that expand travel choices and enhance the transportation experience. Projects can include creation of bicycle and pedestrian facilities, streetscape improvements, refurbishment of historic transportation facilities, and other investments that enhance communities, access, and the environment. MassDOT manages the TEP program in Massachusetts.

Section 8. Goals and Objectives

This section presents Open Space and Recreation goals and objectives for the Town of Avon based on the values and concerns identified by the Open Space and Recreation Plan Committee, Town Staff, and residents through the survey and at the public meetings. The goals are broad statements framed to indicate a desired future condition or achievement by the Town. The objectives are more specific statements that outline measurable steps that will help the Town

achieve these goals. These together guide the development of the Action Plan outlined in the following section.

For all the goals, objectives, and actions that follow, the availability of funding is paramount. Safeguarding existing sources and diligently pursuing new sources of funding will be necessary to achieve the proposed actions in this plan.

A. Statement of Open Space and Recreation

Goals

During the Open Space Visioning Workshop, Avon residents engaged in setting goals and objectives for a variety of thematic issues including agriculture, resource protection, and parks and recreation.

- Address climate change through forest, wetland, and riparian area stewardship, ecosystem protection, urban and community forestry, and community planning
- Provide places for education and research
- Protect and enhance scenic, historic, and cultural resources

Setting Conservation

Goals

- Protect water quality
- Provide accessible, quality, outdoor recreation
- Protect wildlife habitats for diversity and the sustainability of flora and fauna
- Improve the quality of life and the health of our communities

The following goals were developed with the Open Space and Recreation Committee after the results of the survey and visioning session were reviewed and analyzed for trends.

B. Goals

Recreation Goal

Goal # 1 Existing recreational facilities and opportunities are connected and improved to provide a range of recreational opportunities accessible to meet the needs of all residents, in or close to every neighborhood.

Recreation Access Goal

Goal # 2 Recreational facilities and programs are expanded to provide universal access that meet the needs of underserved populations.

Natural Resources Goal

Goal #3 Lands of natural resources, scenic, and recreation value are protected, well-stewarded, connect with each other and with neighborhoods to accommodate the needs of all residents, and be enjoyed by future generations.

Watersheds &

Infrastructure Goal

Goal #4 The Stormwater Management Program is implemented and in compliance with Stormwater Management Regulations to ensure groundwater and surface water are protected as clean and abundant resources to preserve and protect the town's water supply, wildlife, and other natural resources.

Land Conservation

Goal

Goal #5 Management and protection of natural and recreational resources is achieved through initiative-taking planning, coordinating, and advocacy that provides adequate, dedicated funding sources for open space and recreational facility acquisition and maintenance to protect natural resources while encouraging appropriate public use.

C. Objectives

Recreation Goal

Objectives

Goal # 1 Existing recreational facilities and opportunities are connected and improved to provide a range of recreational opportunities accessible to meet the needs of all residents, in or close to every neighborhood.

- 1. Broaden the network of neighborhood parks so they are equitably distributed across all Avon neighborhoods and maintain playgrounds to the same safety standards applied to schools.*
- 2. Increase engagement with the community in support of the open space and recreation plan to provide open space in or close to every neighborhood.*
- 3. Advocate for improved access to open spaces by people with disabilities.*

4. *Continue developing the local/regional trail network for transportation and nature-based*

recreation, study, and plan for bicycle use.

Recreation Access Goal Objectives

Goal # 2 Recreational facilities and programs are expanded to provide universal access that meet the needs of underserved populations.

1. *Town Parks, playgrounds, and recreation areas provide experiences for people with a variety of mobility, sense awareness, and mental capacity.*
2. *Improve access to information about recreational opportunities for users of all ages, incomes, and abilities.*
3. *Improve access to parks for community members who do not drive, including youth and seniors.*
4. *Improve trail connections and fill in the gaps of existing trail networks.*

1. *Protect ecological resilience of private and public conservation lands through stewardship and maintenance.*
2. *Identify and prioritize additional parcels with significant open space value.*
3. *Use Town zoning and other land use regulation and development standards to support the protection of open space and natural resources.*
4. *Develop and begin to implement a policy for climate change adaptation and mitigation and include protection and acquisition of unprotected open spaces in larger community planning processes. Develop a long-term strategic approach to recreation and open spaces and integrate it into the Town's other key strategic documents.*

Natural Resources Goal Objectives

Goal #3 Lands of natural resources, scenic, and recreation value are protected, well-stewarded, connect with each other and with neighborhoods to accommodate the needs of all residents and be enjoyed by future generations.

Watersheds & Infrastructure Goal Objectives

Goal #4 The Stormwater Management Program is implemented and in compliance with Stormwater Management Regulations to ensure groundwater and surface water are protected as clean and abundant resources to

preserve and protect the town's water supply, wildlife, and other natural resources.

1. *Continue to implement the Stormwater Management Program and comply with Stormwater Management Regulations.*
2. *Manage town projects to allow improvements to existing greenways when possible and seek opportunities for new greenways.*
3. *Use new development and redevelopment as an opportunity to make improvements in infrastructure, and to reduce impacts on resources.*
4. *Create a Climate Action Plan and update regulations to reduce vulnerability to flooding, severe weather, and extreme temperatures.*

Land Conservation

Goal Objectives

Goal #5 Management and protection of natural and recreational resources is achieved through initiative-taking planning, coordinating, and advocacy that provides adequate, dedicated funding sources for open space and recreational facility acquisition and maintenance to protect natural resources while encouraging appropriate public use.

1. *Coordinate regionally and work collaboratively with neighboring towns and regional entities on integrated protection and management of natural resources, recreational areas, and trail networks working toward common goals to increase awareness, appreciation, and use of the Town's open spaces, trails, natural resources, and recreational opportunities.*
2. *Identify additional measures to fund the protection of significant open space when at imminent risk of loss and promote collaboration among the various town boards, commissions, and departments responsible for open spaces*
3. *Maintain and increase funds designation for the ongoing maintenance and management of open spaces.*
4. *Identify connections between priority habitats and identify opportunities to link protection of wildlife corridors to other open space interests and larger community planning processes.*

Section 9. Seven-Year Action Plan

The Action Plan is divided into two types, Existing Resources and Additional Resources. The Existing Resources type contains Goals, Objectives, and Action Items that the Town of Avon Open Space Committee has identified as activities that can be conducted with existing municipal staff and resources. The Additional Resources type includes Goals, Objectives, and Action Items that the Town of Avon Open Space Committee has determined will require additional federal, state and/or local funding opportunities.

Goal
Objective
Strategy

Action Plan

Recreation Goal

Goal # 1 Existing recreational facilities and opportunities are connected and improved to provide a range of recreational opportunities accessible to meet the needs of all residents, in or close to every neighborhood.

Action	Timeline	Responsible Party	Funding Opportunities
<i>Objective A: Increase engagement with the community in support of the open space and recreation plan to provide open space in or close to every neighborhood.</i>			
High Priority Objective			
1. Educate the public about the links between open space, infrastructure, and climate change mitigation and adaptation. Work with Town departments to ensure appropriate information is disseminated to the public at large. Develop/Implement beautification projects (flower beds, trees, community gardens, etc.) in public places.	Year 2	Select Board/Town Administrator, Open Space Committee, DPW, Parks & Rec., Conservation Commission	Staff, Volunteer
2. Plan and develop a balanced program of intergenerational activities to include team sports, seasonal events, fitness/yoga, nature, agricultural, guided hikes, and other programs.	Year 2	Parks & Rec., Select Board/Town Administrator	Staff, Volunteer
3. Encourage local schools to use state and town-owned conservation lands as part of their environmental science curriculums. Engage with curriculum coordinators for the School Department to determine appropriate placement within the curriculum. Promote environmental education events (Earth Day, household hazardous waste collection days,	Year 2 – 3	Select Board/Town Administrator, Open Space Committee, DPW, Board of Health, School Committee, Conservation Commission	Staff, Volunteer

stormwater). Gather representatives from all environmental education and outreach organizations to synthesize and coordinate activities.

Objective B: Advocate for improved access to open spaces by people with disabilities.

High Priority Objective

1. Work with the Select Board/Town Administrator to continue to implement the Town's ADA Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan (SETP) for Exterior Areas.	Year 1 – 2	ADA Coordinator, Select Board/Town Administrator, Open Space Committee, Planning Board, Building Dept.	Staff, Volunteer
2. Study and design ways to improve the availability of ADA-compliant resources and promote existing opportunities for people of all ages and mobilities.	Year 1 – 2	Select Board/Town Administrator, Open Space Committee, Planning Board	Staff, Volunteer
3. Publicize the open spaces that are accessible to people with disabilities.	Year 1 – 2	Select Board/Town Administrator, Parks & Rec., Council on Aging, Open Space Committee	Staff, Volunteer

Objective C: Continue developing the local/regional trail network for transportation and nature-based recreation, study, and plan for bicycle use.

High Priority Objective

1. Engage volunteers in open space and trail work.	Year 2	Select Board/Town Administrator, Open Space Committee, Conservation	Staff, Volunteer
2. Develop strategies to fill in any gaps.	Year 2 – 4	Select Board/Town Administrator, Parks & Rec., Open Space Committee, School Committee, Planning Board, Conservation Commission	Staff, Volunteer

Objective D: Broaden the network of neighborhood parks so they are equitably distributed across all Avon neighborhoods and maintain playgrounds to the same safety standards applied to schools.

Medium Priority Objective

1. Secure funding for the improvement of the DeMarco Park and update existing trails to meet the needs of a variety of users.	Year 2	Town Administrator, DPW, Parks & Rec., Planning Board.,	PARC Grant, LAND Grant, Land and Water Conservation Fund
2. Promote the acquisition and development of neighborhood parks where none currently exist.	Year 3	Planning Board., Parks & Rec.	PARC Grant, CPA, foundations
3. Expand the pedestrian and bicycle network to improve safety and increase connections to neighborhoods, schools, and other activity nodes throughout the Town. Improve and expand on-road bike infrastructure and provide more bike parking.	Year 4	DPW, Planning Board., Parks & Rec.	Complete Streets, Transportation Enhancement Program
4. Develop amenities supported by neighborhood parks, such as playgrounds, off-leash dog parks, and community gardens.	Year 4	Planning Board., DPW, Select Board	Stanton Foundation, PARC Grant, LAND Grant

5. Continue to plant trees and add shade cover to reduce sun and heat exposure at play facilities, walkways, and other facilities.	On-going	DPW	Capital Improvement Grant, MVP Action Grants,
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Recreation Access Goal

Goal # 2 Recreational facilities and programs are expanded to provide universal access that meet the needs of underserved populations.

Action	Timeline	Responsible Party	Funding Opportunities
<i>Objective A: Town Parks, playgrounds, and recreation areas provide experiences for people with a variety of mobility, sensory awareness, and mental capacity.</i>			
High Priority Objective			
1. Biennial assessment of all town-owned open space facilities and identify accessibility improvements needed.	Ongoing	Planning Board., Parks & Rec., DPW,	Complete Streets, Chapter 90, Capital Improvements Plan, CPA, PARC Grant, Staff, Volunteer
2. Develop parks and open spaces that offer amenities that meet ADA requirements for people with disabilities. Expand and improve universal access to facilities and programs for Under-served Populations.	Ongoing	Planning Board., Parks & Rec., DPW, Commission on Disabilities	Complete Streets, Chapter 90, Capital Improvements Plan
<i>Objective B: Improve access to information about recreational opportunities for users of all ages, incomes, and abilities.</i>			
High Priority Objective			
1. Publicize recreational opportunities in neighboring towns through the town newsletter, Council on Aging, parents, and taxpayers.	Year 1	DPW, Planning Board.	General Fund, Staff
2. Produce comprehensive maps of Town open spaces and recreation resources identifying parking, access points, trails, and permitted uses.	Year 2 – 3	DPW, Planning Board.	General Fund, Recreational Trails Program, Staff
3. Establish more formal agreements with the Randolph Intergenerational Center for Avon Residents.	Year 1 – 3	Selectboard	General Fund, Staff

Objective C: Improve access to parks for community members who do not drive, including youth and seniors.

Medium Priority Objective

1. Prioritize projects that expand access or connect to areas that are currently underserved by recreational and/or natural resources.	Year 1 – 3	Planning Board., Parks & Rec., Conservation Commission	General Fund
2. Consider the needs of underserved demographic groups in park and open space designs.	Year 1 – 3	Planning Board, Parks & Rec.,	Complete Streets, Chapter 90, Capital Improvements Plan

Objective D: Improve trail connections and fill in the gaps in existing trail networks.

High Priority Objective

1. Support the acquisition of land and development of new open spaces that can provide a trail network.	Year 1 – 2	Planning Board., Parks & Rec., DPW, Conservation Commission	Recreational Trails Program, Transportation Enhancement Program, CPA
2. Ensure residents and visitors know where conservation lands are and rules and regulations for use.	Year 1 – 2	Conservation Commission	General Fund, Grant funding

Natural Resources Goal

Goal #3 Lands of natural resources, scenic, and recreation value are protected, well-stewarded, connect with each other and with neighborhoods to accommodate the needs of all residents and be enjoyed by future generations.

Action	Timeline	Responsible Party	Funding Opportunities
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Objective A: Identify and prioritize additional parcels with significant open space value.

Medium Priority Objective

1. Work with the Open Space Committee to identify parcels with significant open space value using a comprehensive approach to maximize open space values.	Year 1 – 2	Select Board/Town Administrator, Planning Board, DPW, Parks & Rec., Conservation Commission	Staff, Volunteer
2. Establish a committee to create a specific review process, including a decision tree designating who will decide and how the decisions will be made.	Year 1 – 2	Open Space Committee, Select Board/Town Administrator, Parks & Rec., Conservation Commission	Staff, Volunteer

3. Review the tax title list for land protection opportunities and develop a list of 'high impact' parcels that will be considered for protection and formalize procedures to determine whether parcels available for acquisition are significant to the interests of open space.	Year 1 – 3	Open Space Committee, Select Board/Town Administrator, DPW, Planning Board, Treasurer, Assessors, Parks & Rec., Conservation Commission	Staff, Volunteer
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Objective B: Protect ecological resilience of private and public conservation lands through stewardship and maintenance.

High Priority Objective

1. Improve Town zoning and development standards and regulations to support the protection of natural resources.	Year 2	Planning Dept., Conservation Commission	Conservation Partnership, Forest Stewardship Planning Grants
2. Review and revise local land use regulations so they effectively encourage compact development where appropriate and protect priority lands.	Year 2	Planning Dept.,	Planning Grants, LAND Grant
3. Support implementation of the Actions identified in the Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Plan, where appropriate.	On-going	DPW	Capital Improvement Plan, MVP Action Grants

Objective C: Use Town zoning and other land-use regulation and development standards to support the protection of open space and natural resources.

Medium Priority Objective

1. Maintain open communication channels with the Planning Board and review opportunities to modify the Zoning By-laws to effect changes to the zoning districts of the Town for the use of overlay districts, buffer zones, and/or cluster zoning to protect open space where it is appropriate to do so and encourage the creation of open space, street trees, and trail easements.	On-going	Planning Board, Conservation Commission	Staff, Volunteer
2. Consider adoption of the Green Communities Program which provides state funds for local projects involving open space, parks, environmental, energy building, and other projects.	On-going	Planning Board, DPW, Conservation Commission, Open Space Committee	Staff, Volunteer
Consider adoption of the Community Preservation Act, which allows communities to receive State grant opportunities for community projects including open space and recreation, buildings, and historical preservation.	Year 2	Select Board/Town Administrator, Planning Board, Assessors, Housing Authority, Conservation Commission, Open Space Committee, Parks & Rec	Staff, Volunteer, Community Preservation Coalition

Objective D: Develop and begin to implement a policy for climate change adaptation and mitigation and include protection and acquisition of unprotected open spaces in larger community planning processes. Develop a long-term strategic approach to recreation and open spaces and integrate it into the Town's other key strategic documents.

High Priority Objective

1. Track implementation of the Town’s Municipal Vulnerability and Hazard Mitigation Plans particularly opportunities to implement recommended green infrastructure projects.	Year 2 - 3	Planning Board, DPW	Staff, Volunteer
2. Protect privately held open space through acquisition, conservation, easements, and other means and work with appropriate committees to draft guidelines that describe the process and procedures for considering the acquisition of open spaces.	Year 2 – 3	Select Board/Town Administrator, Assessors, DPW, Parks & Rec., Conservation Commission	Staff, Volunteer
3. Develop and prepare those guidelines for presentation to the community through a series of community and neighborhood meetings.	Year 4 – 5	Open Space Committee	Staff, Volunteer
4. Present a final set of guidelines to the Selectboard for their review and approval.	Year 5	Open Space Committee	Staff, Volunteer

Watersheds & Infrastructure Goals

Goal #4 The Stormwater Management Program is implemented and in compliance with Stormwater Management Regulations to ensure groundwater and surface water are protected as clean and abundant resources to preserve and protect the town’s water supply, wildlife, and other natural resources.

Action	Timeline	Responsible Party	Funding Opportunities
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Objective A: Continue to implement the Stormwater Management Program and comply with Stormwater Management Regulations.

High Priority Objective

1. Promote Low Impact Development strategies and green infrastructure for cost-effective and sustainable stormwater management.	On-going	Planning Board., DPW	Capital Improvement Plan,
2. Elevate the need to maintain good water quality as a primary objective of local regulations and revise regulations accordingly.	On-going	Water Commission	Capital Improvement Plan,
3. Increase enforcement of local regulations protecting Groundwater and surface water.	On-going	Water Commission, Conservation Commission	General Funds, Capital Improvement Plan

Objectives B: Manage town projects to allow improvements to existing greenways when possible and seek opportunities for new greenways.

Low Priority Objective

1. Develop metrics to quantify pros and cons of green infrastructure actions including cost benefits. Review the most current data on relevant projects with similar parameters.	Year 2 – 3	Planning Board, DPW, Conservation Commission	Staff, Volunteer
2. Ensure that all town projects consider opportunities for adding vegetation, enhancing greenways, and improving open space. Establish protocols with the appropriate Town departments to ensure all available opportunities for enhancing greenways are examined as part of a design review or RFP (Request for Proposals) process.	Year 4	Conservation Commission, Building Dept., DPW, Planning Board	Staff, Volunteer

Objective C: Use new development and redevelopment as an opportunity to make improvements in infrastructure, and to reduce impacts on resources.

High Priority Objective

1. Promote low-impact development strategies and green infrastructure for cost-effective and sustainable stormwater management.	Year 2	Planning Board, DPW, Conservation Commission	Staff, Volunteer
2. Consider regulations for stormwater permits for green streets and complete streets.	Year 3	Planning Board, DPW, Conservation Commission	Staff, Volunteer

Objective D: Create a Climate Action Plan to monitor town activities for climate change impacts and undertake appropriate actions where needed to mitigate climate change concerns.

Low Priority Objective

1. Create an implementation committee to manage the process of creating and monitoring implementation of a comprehensive Climate Action Plan. Identify opportunities to update zoning and stormwater regulations to address these issues.	Year 4	Planning Board, DPW, Town Dept. Heads, Emergency Management, OCPC	Staff, Volunteer, Technical Assistance Grant
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Land Conservation Goal

Goal #5 Management and protection of natural and recreational resources is achieved through initiative-taking planning, coordinating, and advocacy that provides adequate, dedicated funding sources for open space and recreational facility acquisition and maintenance to protect natural resources while encouraging appropriate public use.

Action	Timeline	Responsible Party	Funding Opportunities
Objective A: Coordinate regionally and work collaboratively with neighboring towns and regional entities on integrated protection and management of natural resources, recreational areas, and trail networks working toward common goals to increase awareness, appreciation, and use of the Town's open spaces, trails, natural resources, and recreational opportunities.			
High Priority Objective			
1. Identify and prioritize additional parcels with significant open space value using a comprehensive approach to maximize open space values. Evaluate town-owned undesignated open space to dedicate portions to conservation or recreation use.	Year 2	Select Board, Town Administrator, Planning Board., DPW, Parks & Rec	OCPC, Brockton Water Dept., DEP, LAND Grant
2. Implementation: Ensure adequate staffing, resources, and communication for the effective implementation of OSRP.	Year 2	Select Board, Town Administrator, Parks & Rec., Conservation Commission	Technical Assistance Grants
3. Establish a public land use and access policy for all Town lands to guide public access and land management planning.	Year 2 – 3	Conservation Commission, Parks & Rec.	Technical Assistance Grants
4. Identify and secure funding for Town open space acquisition and management.	Year 3	Conservation Commission, Parks & Rec., DPW, Select Board	EEA Conservation Partnership Program, LAND Grant, PARC Grant, Land and Water Conservation Fund
5. Provide a cost-effective means of monitoring and maintaining town-owned open space and trails to prevent over-use, illegal dumping, unauthorized trail creation, and resource degradation.	Year 4	DPW, Conservation Commission, Town Administration	Recreational Trails Grants, DEP SMART
6. Encourage establishment of programming endowments.	Year 5	Conservation Commission, Parks & Rec.	CPA, Technical Assistance
Objective B: Identify additional measures to fund protection of significant open space when at imminent risk of loss and promote collaboration among the various town boards, commission, and departments responsible for open spaces.			
High Priority Objective			
1. Evaluate municipal funding mechanisms and procedures for protecting at-risk land and environmental features. Establish a standing committee of appropriate municipal officials and representatives from the community to be available to address any issues and opportunities that arise in a timely fashion when needed.	Year 2 – 3	Select Board/Town Administrator, Open Space Committee, Conservation Commission, Treasurer	Staff, Volunteer
2. Encourage public-private partnerships, work with local groups and other regional and national entities, establish relationships with outside parties, research outside funding	Year 3	Open Space Committee, Select Board/Town Administrator, Conservation Commission	Staff, Volunteer

sources, such as individual gifts, challenge grants and foundation grants to ensure a non-governmental system of protecting or acquiring land when municipal funding is not possible.

Objective C: Maintain and increase funds designation for the ongoing maintenance and management of open spaces.

Medium Priority Objective

1. Strengthen ties to the public health community in support of funding.	Year 2	Board of Health, Parks & Rec., Open Space Committee, Conservation Commission	Staff, Volunteer
2. Develop funding sources to uphold the level of maintenance and staff, if feasible, to ensure those significant capital investments in open space during the last decade are sustained.	Year 3 – 4	Select Board/Town Administrator, Conservation Commission, Open Space Committee, Parks & Rec.	Staff, Volunteer

Objective D: Identify connections between priority habitats and identify opportunities to link protection of wildlife corridors to other open space interests and larger community planning processes.

Low Priority Objective

1. Work with the Town’s GIS and other sources to identify wildlife corridors and animal habitat and identify links between habitat areas and prioritize protection of lands within existing wildlife corridors and with unique environmental features using Geographic Information Systems (GIS). Consult with RPA for drone fly-over of identified corridors.	Year 2	Open Space Committee, DPW, OCPC, Conservation Commission	Staff, Volunteer, Technical Assistance Grants
2. Educate the public about best practices to reduce interactions and conflicts with wildlife. Develop talking points, Q & A, and other materials to post on the Town website.	Year 2	Open Space Committee, Parks & Rec., Conservation Commission	Staff, Volunteer
3. At appropriate public meetings and outreach events, share materials and information. Ensure mapping and knowledge of habitat areas and linkages are discussed in broad community planning efforts. Work with Town staff and friends’ groups to promote activities and opportunities through social media and newsletters.	Year 3	Planning Board, Select Board/Town Administrator, DPW, Parks & Rec., Open Space Committee, Conservation Commission	Staff, Volunteer

Seven-Year Action Plan Prioritized by Year

Action Plan with Existing Resources

Year One

- Establish an Open Space Committee comprised of members of the Conservation Commission, Park and Recreation, DPW, and Planning Board. The Committee shall create a specific review process, including a decision tree designating who will decide and how the decisions will be made.
- Work with the Open Space Committee to identify parcels with significant open space value using a comprehensive approach to maximize open space values.
- Review the tax title list for land protection opportunities and develop a list of 'high impact' parcels that will be considered for protection and formalize procedures to determine whether parcels available

for acquisition are significant to the interests of open space.

- Work with the Select Board/Town Administrator to continue to implement the Town's ADA Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan (SETP) for Exterior Areas.
- Study and design ways to improve availability of ADA compliant resources and promote existing opportunities for people of all ages and mobilities.
- Publicize the open spaces that are accessible to people with disabilities.
- Coordinate with neighboring towns and regional entities to improve connectivity between shared open spaces, parks, recreational facilities, and opportunities to accommodate the needs of all residents.
- Partner with land trusts, government entities, and individuals to make full use of available government funds and programs to acquire and/or protect important land parcels.
- Incorporate the OSRP in Town and community planning and decision making.
- Encourage communications among boards, committees, neighboring communities, and other related organizations.
- The Committee should nominate a responsible person to oversee the review process. Regular review of the OSRP will ensure it remains current and relevant. A review should consider, amongst other things, up-to-date data, demographic analysis, and revisions to policy.

Year Two

- Track implementation of the Town's Municipal Vulnerability and Hazard Mitigation Plans particularly opportunities to implement recommended green infrastructure projects.
- Protect privately held open space through acquisition, conservation, easements, and other means and work with appropriate committees to draft guidelines that describe the process and procedures for considering the acquisition of open spaces.
- Educate the public about the links between open space, infrastructure, and climate change mitigation and adaptation. Work with Town departments to ensure appropriate information is disseminated to the public at large. Develop/Implement beautification projects (flower beds, trees, community gardens, etc.,) in public places.
- Encourage local schools to use state and town-owned conservation lands as part of their environmental science curriculums. Engage with curriculum coordinators for the School Department to determine appropriate placement within the curriculum. Promote environmental education events (Earth Day, household hazardous waste collection days, stormwater). Gather representatives from all environmental education and outreach organizations to synthesize and coordinate activities.
- Plan and develop a balanced program of intergenerational activities to include team sports, seasonal events, fitness/yoga, nature, agricultural, guided hikes, and other programs.
- Engage volunteers in open space and trail work.
- Develop strategies to fill in any gaps.
- Evaluate municipal funding mechanisms and procedures for protecting at-risk land and environmental features. Establish a standing committee of appropriate municipal officials and representatives from the community to be available to address any issues and opportunities that arise in a timely fashion when needed.
- Strengthen ties to the public health community in support of funding.
- Track progress on this Action Plan and report annually to relevant Town boards and committees.
- Use technologies and Best Management Practices that meet new regulations and support additional community and open space goals.
- Identify locations for green infrastructure.
- Consider the adoption of the Community Preservation Act, which allows communities to receive State grant opportunities for community projects including opens space and recreation, buildings, and historical preservation.
- Develop metrics to quantify pros and cons of green infrastructure actions including cost benefits. Review the most current data on relevant projects with similar parameters.

- Promote low impact development strategies and green infrastructure for cost-effective and sustainable stormwater management.
- Work with the Town's GIS and other sources to identify wildlife corridors and animal habitat and identify links between habitat areas and prioritize protection of lands within existing wildlife corridors and with unique environmental features using Geographic Information Systems (GIS). Consult with RPA for drone fly-over of identified corridors.
- Educate the public about best practices to reduce interactions and conflicts with wildlife. Develop talking points, Q & A, and other materials to post on the Town website.
- Coordinate with climate change groups and organizations to identify impacts significant to the community.

Year Three

- Encourage public-private partnerships, work with local groups and other regional and national entities, establish relationships with outside parties, research outside funding sources, such as individual gifts, challenge grants and foundation grants to ensure a non-governmental system of protecting or acquiring land when municipal funding is not possible.
- Develop funding sources to uphold the level of maintenance and staff, if feasible, to ensure those significant

capital investments in open space during the last decade are sustained.

- Secure funding and partner with abutting communities and other entities for open space maintenance and protection.
- Seek funding opportunities, including federal and state grants, to allow the construction of demonstration and pilot projects. Install three (3) new simple green infrastructure projects on Town-owned lands to be used as an environmental outreach tool to show how natural and nature-based solutions could manage stormwater.
- Consider regulations for stormwater permits for green streets and complete streets.
- At appropriate public meetings and outreach events, share materials and information. Ensure mapping and knowledge of habitat areas and linkages are discussed in broad community planning efforts. Work with Town staff and friends' groups to promote activities and opportunities through social media and newsletters.

Year Four

- Develop and prepare those guidelines for presentation to the community through a series of community and neighborhood meetings.
- Consider reconstruction of infrastructure in high-priority locations. Identify suitable locations

for the installation of green infrastructure.

- Ensure that all town projects consider opportunities for adding vegetation, enhancing greenways, and improving open space. Establish protocols with the appropriate Town departments to ensure all available opportunities for enhancing greenways are examined as part of a design review or RFP (Request for Proposals) process.
- Evaluate medium and long-term effects of climate change on habitat and biodiversity. Improve ecological habitats. Discourage and eradicate non-native invasive plant species and encourage the planting of native species on Town-owned properties.
- Update municipal plans, revise town level open space plans to address climate change impacts by considering climate change vulnerabilities, management of conservation land, and strategically prioritizing future areas for land protection.

Year Five

- Present a final set of guidelines to the Select board for their review and approval.

On-Going

- Work with the DPW to identify opportunities for green infrastructure and stormwater management practices that support open space goals.
- Consider adoption of the Green Communities Program which

provides state funds for local projects involving open space, parks, environmental, energy building, and other projects.

Action Plan Items Requiring Additional Resources

Year One

- Consider the needs of underserved demographic groups in park and open space designs.
- Support the acquisition of land and development of new open spaces that can provide a trail network.
- Ensure residents and visitors know where conservation lands are and rules and regulations for use.

Year Two

- Secure funding for improvement of the DeMarco Park and update existing trails to meet the needs of a variety of users.
- Produce comprehensive maps of Town open spaces and recreation resources identifying parking, access points, trails, and permitted uses.
- Improve Town zoning and development standards and regulations to support protection of natural resources.
- Review and revise local land use regulations so they effectively

encourage compact development where appropriate and protect priority lands.

- Identify and prioritize additional parcels with significant open space value using a comprehensive approach to maximize open space values. Evaluate town-owned undesignated open space to dedicate portions to conservation or recreation use.
- Establish a public land use and access policy for all Town lands to guide public access and land management planning.
- Implementation: Ensure adequate staffing, resources, and communication for effective implementation of OSRP.

Year Three

- Promote the acquisition and development of neighborhood parks where none currently exist.
- Identify and secure funding for Town open space acquisition and management.

Year Four

- Expand the pedestrian and bicycle network to improve safety and increase connections to neighborhoods, schools, and other activity nodes throughout the Town. Improve and expand on-road bike infrastructure and provide more bike parking.
- Develop amenities supported by neighborhood parks, such as

playgrounds, off-leash dog parks, and community gardens.

- Provide a cost-effective means of monitoring and maintaining town-owned open space and trails to prevent over-use, illegal dumping, unauthorized trail creation, and resource degradation.

Year Five

- Develop water-based recreational facilities, including swimming areas, spray parks, boating facilities, fishing areas.
- Encourage establishment of programming endowments.

On-Going

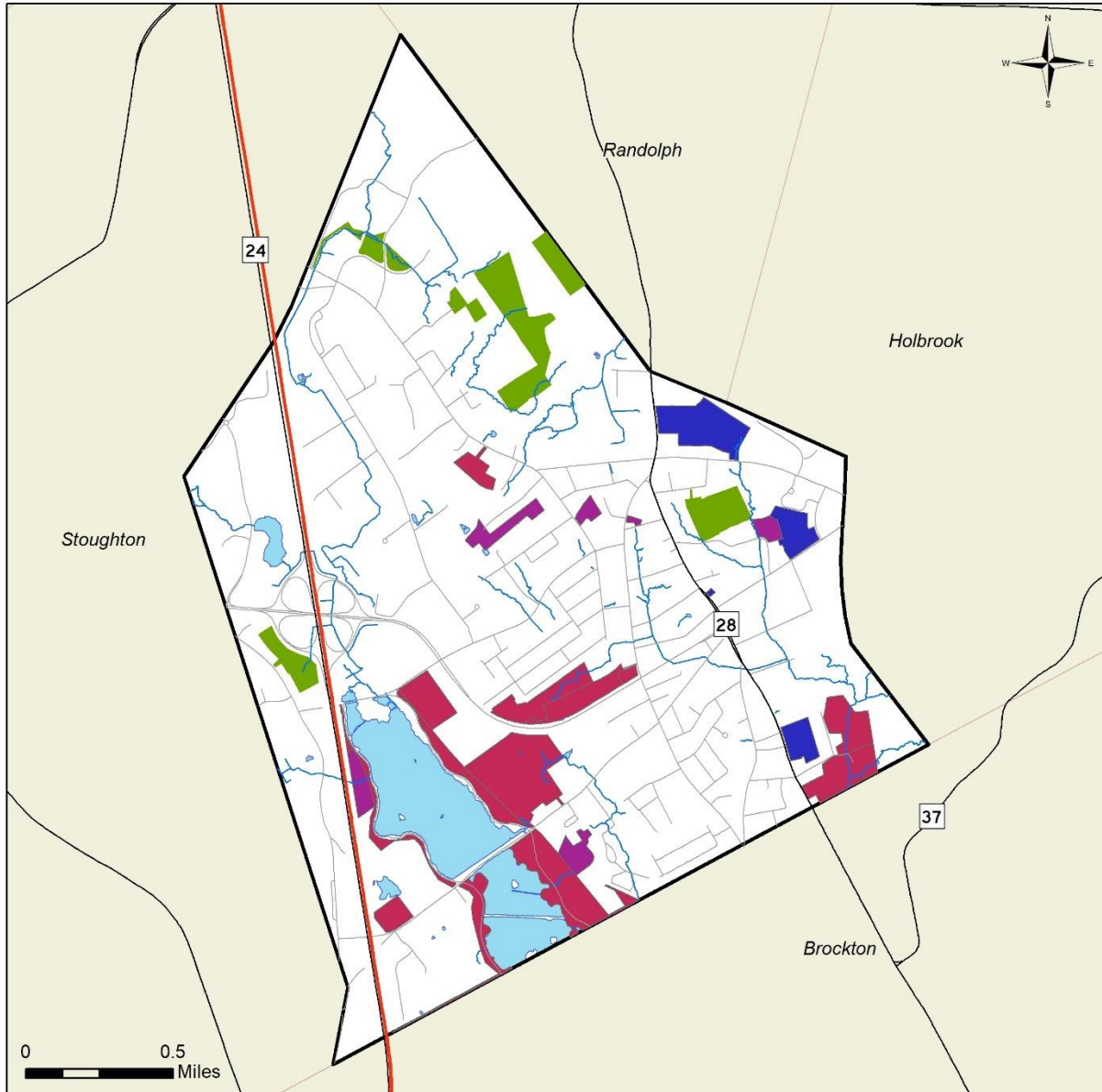
- Continue to plant trees and add shade cover to reduce sun and heat exposure at play facilities, walkways, and other facilities.
- Annually assess all town-owned open space facilities and identify accessibility improvements needed.
- Develop parks and open spaces that offer amenities that go above and beyond ADA requirements for people with disabilities.
- Expand and improve universal access to facilities and programs for Underserved Populations.
- Support implementation of the Actions identified in the Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Plan, where appropriate.
- Promote Low Impact Development strategies and green infrastructure for cost-effective and sustainable stormwater management.

- Elevate the need to maintain good water quality as a primary objective of local regulations and revise regulations accordingly.
- Increase enforcement of local regulations protecting Groundwater and surface water.
- Prepare brochures for homeowners and developers about best management practices that promote water protection and conservation. Seek to increase use of rain barrels.
- Support the acquisition of land that will increase drinking water supply protection.

Appendix A: Maps

Action Plan

Action Plan



-  Conservation
-  Historical/Cultural
-  Recreation
-  Water Supply



Old Colony Planning Council
70 School Street, Brockton, MA 02301

www.ocpcrpa.org
Created July 2021

GIS Data Sources:
MA Department of Transportation (MassDOT),
Office of Geographic Information (MassGIS),
Old Colony Planning Council

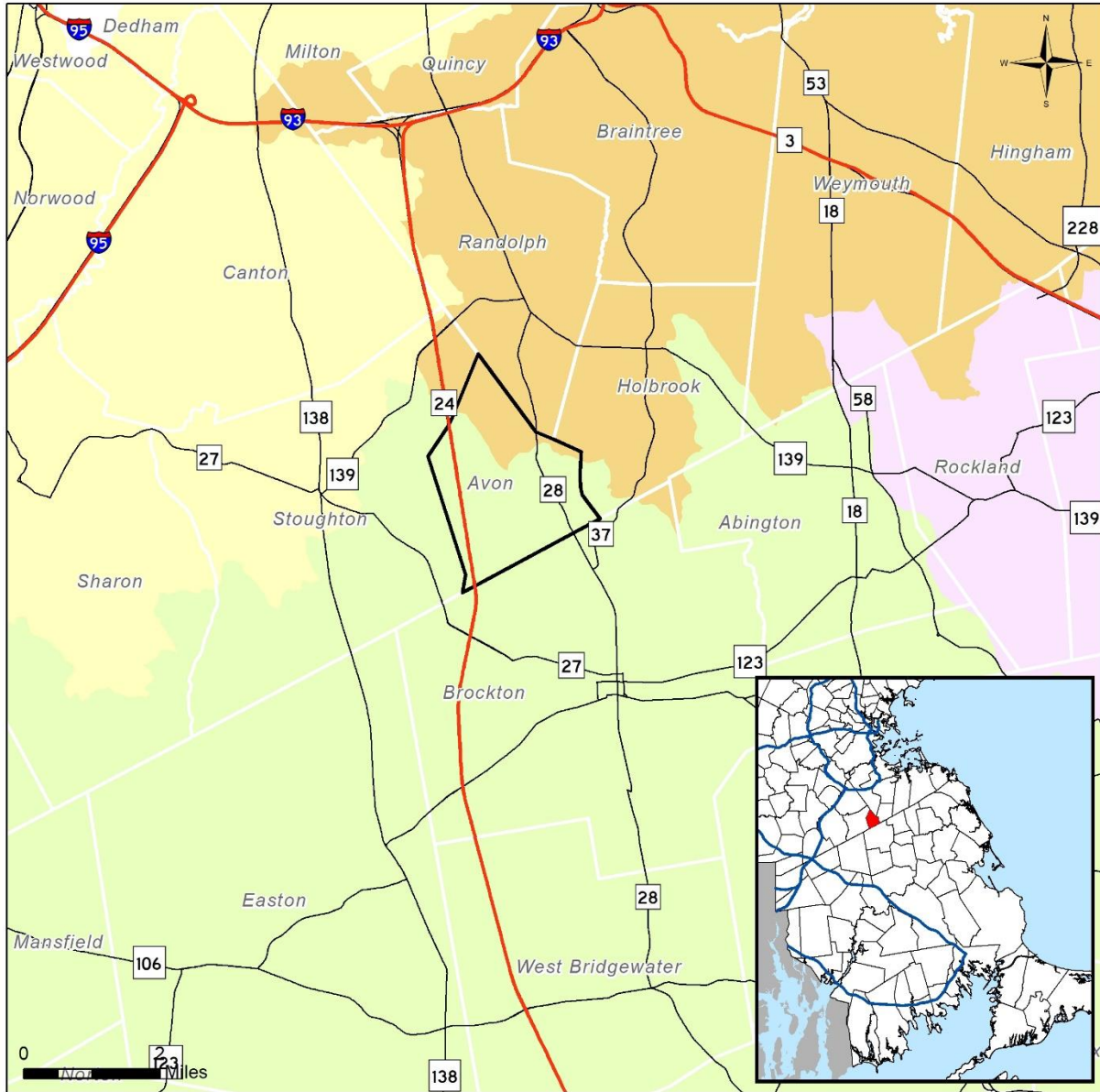
Developable Parcels in Avon

Developable Parcels of Avon



Regional Context

Regional Context



- Interstate/State Highways
- Major Routes
- Neponset River Watershed
- South Coastal Watershed
- Taunton River Watershed
- Weir River Watershed
- Town of Avon



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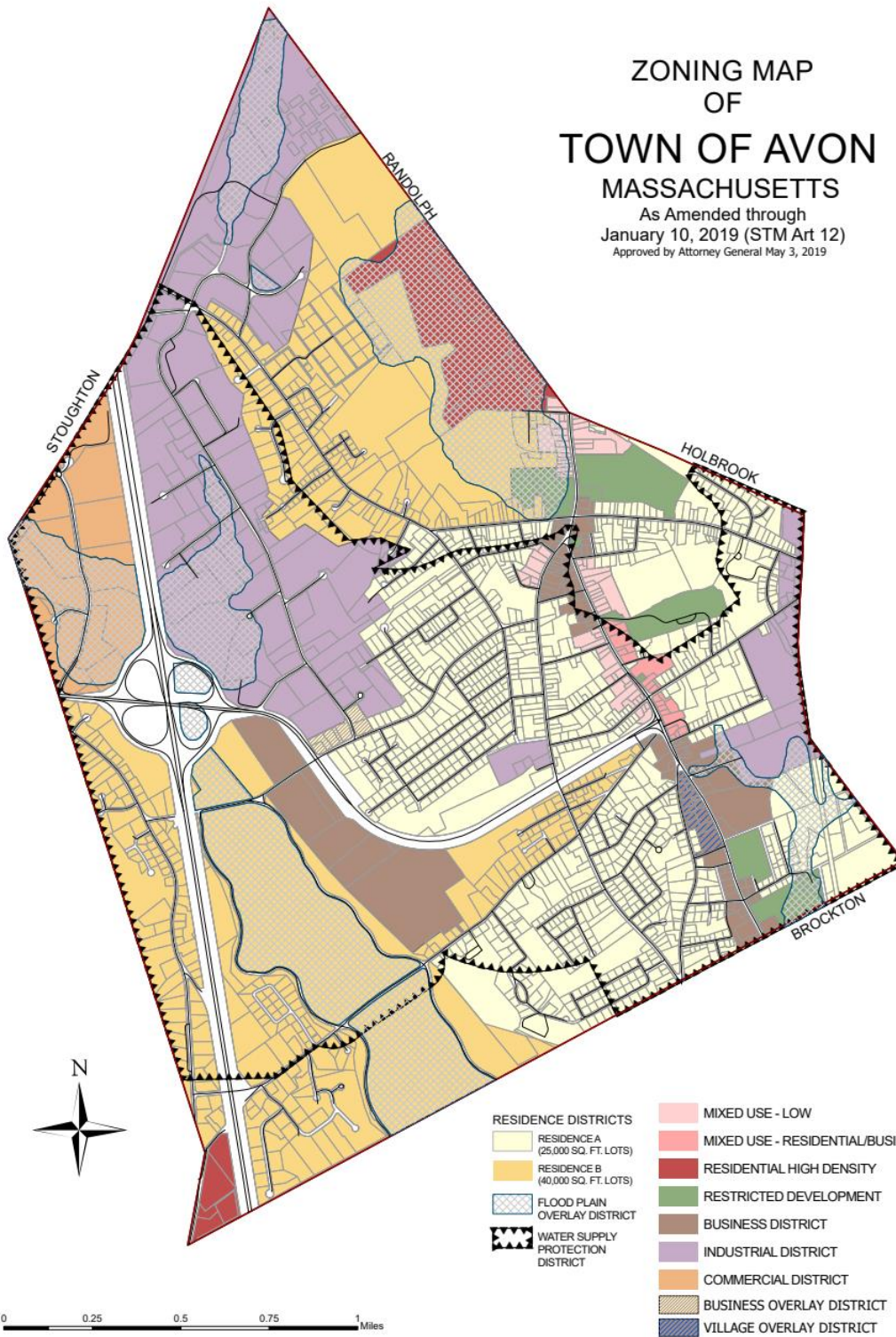
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GIS Data Sources:
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Zoning

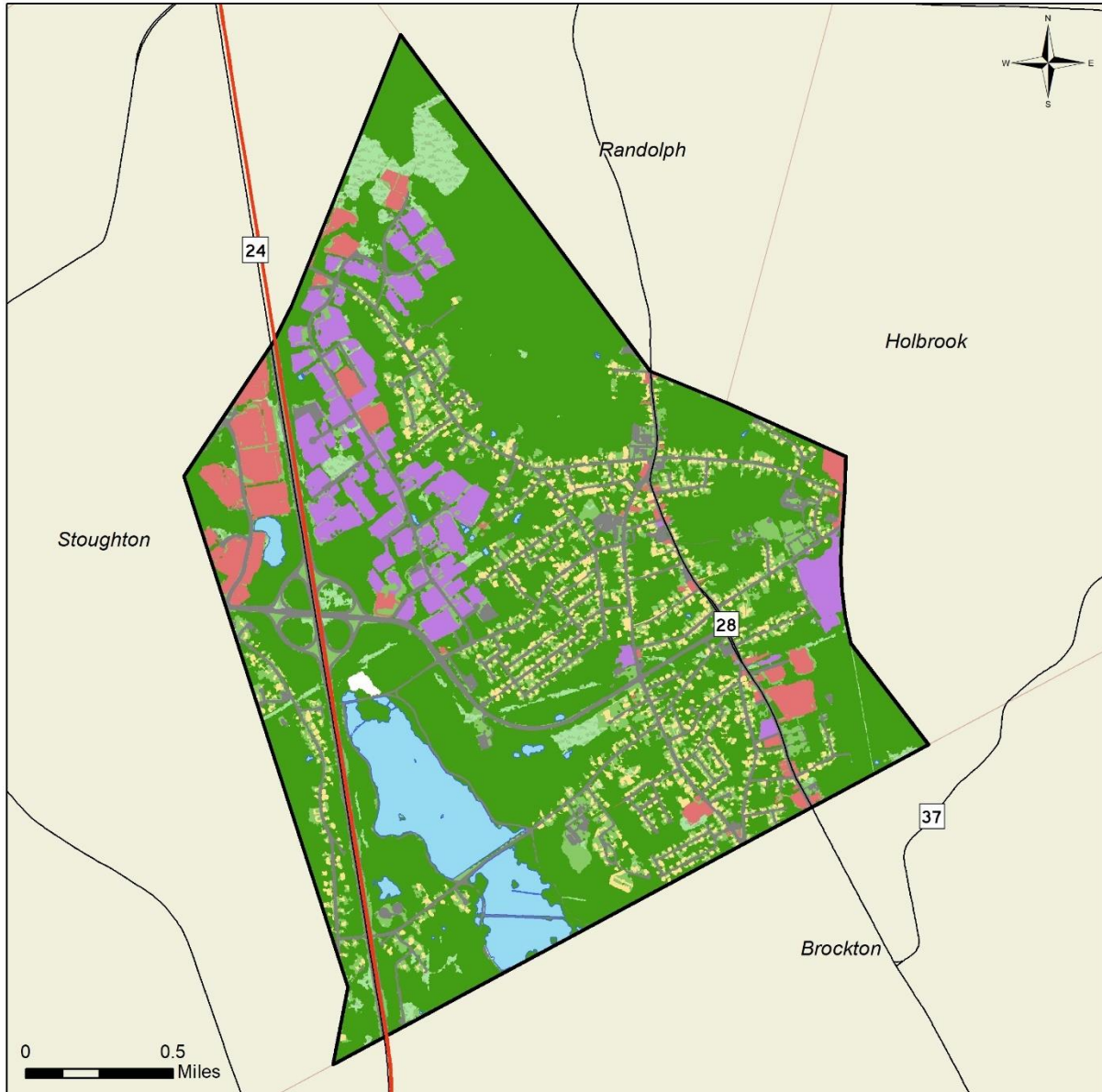
ZONING MAP OF TOWN OF AVON MASSACHUSETTS

As Amended through
January 10, 2019 (STM Art 12)
Approved by Attorney General May 3, 2019



Current Land Use

Current Land Use



- Residential
- Commercial
- Industrial
- Mixed Use
- Impervious Surfaces and Rights-of-Way
- Agriculture
- Forest and Wetland
- Developed Open Space
- Other Open Space



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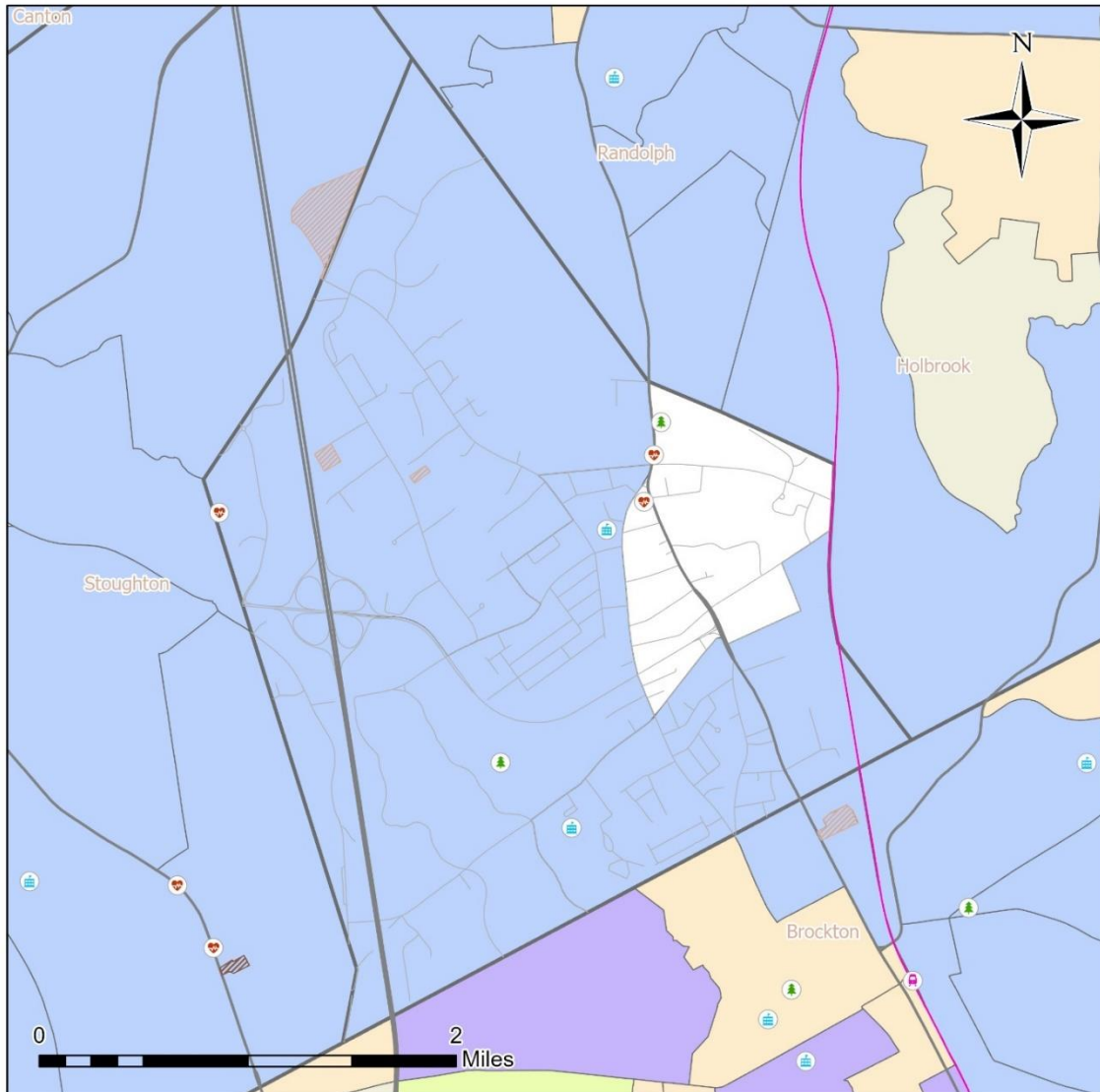
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Environmental Burdens: Avon

Environmental Burdens: Avon



- Prison
- Park-n-Ride Lots
- Schools
- Parks
- Sewage Treatment Plants
- Health and Medical Facilities
- Colleges and Universities
- Commuter Rail Stations
- Commuter Rail Lines
- Income
- Minority
- Minority and English
- Minority and Income
- Minority, Income and English
- Dumps, Landfills, Transfer Stations
- Brownfields



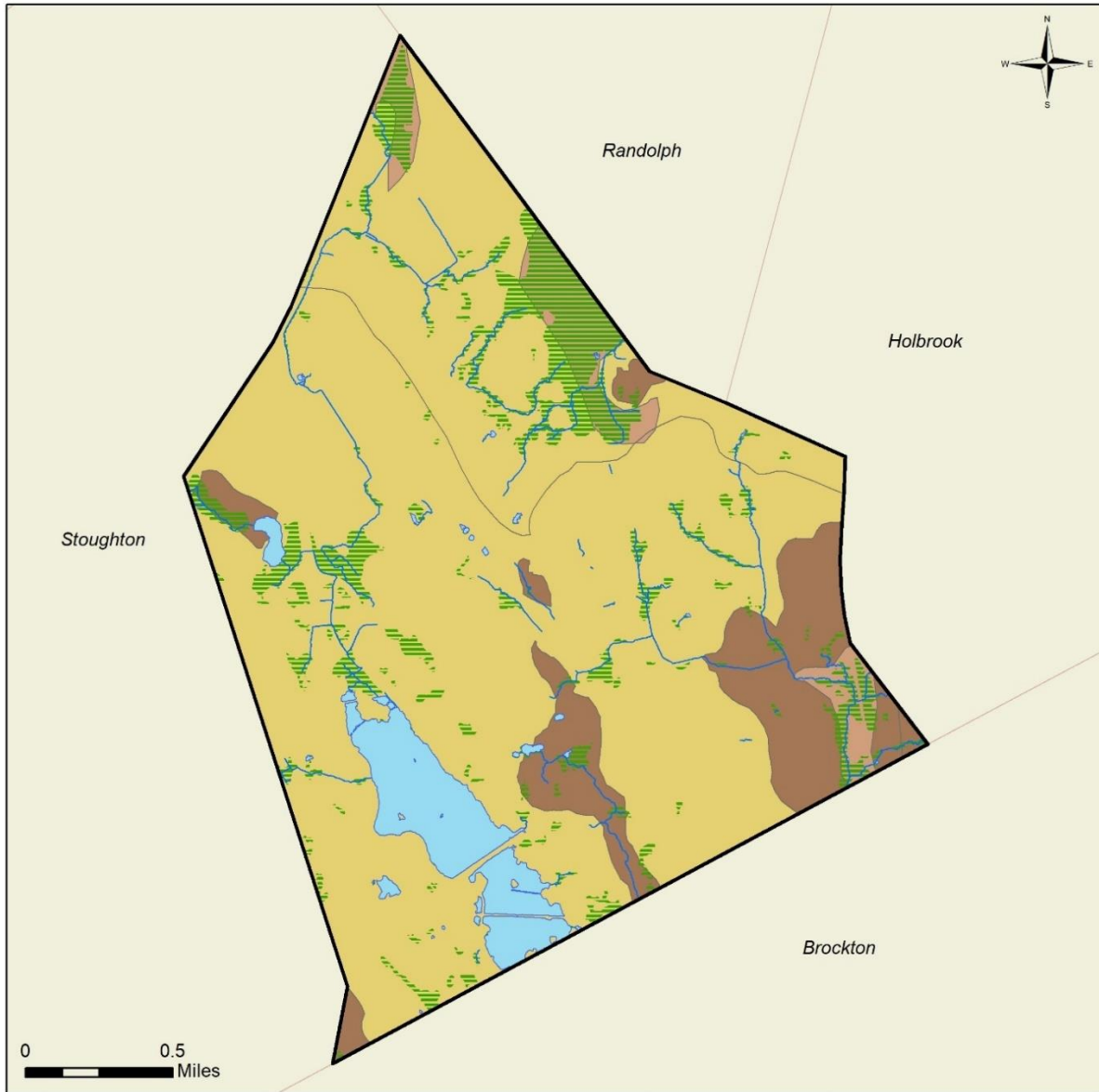
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Created September 2021

GIS Data Sources
Department of Transportation
(MassDOT), Office of Geographic
Information (MassGIS)

Soils and Geographic Features

Soils and Geographic Features



-  Lakes and Ponds
-  Wetlands
- Surficial Geology**
-  Sand and Gravel
-  Till or Bedrock
-  Fine-Grained Deposit
-  Floodplain Alluvium



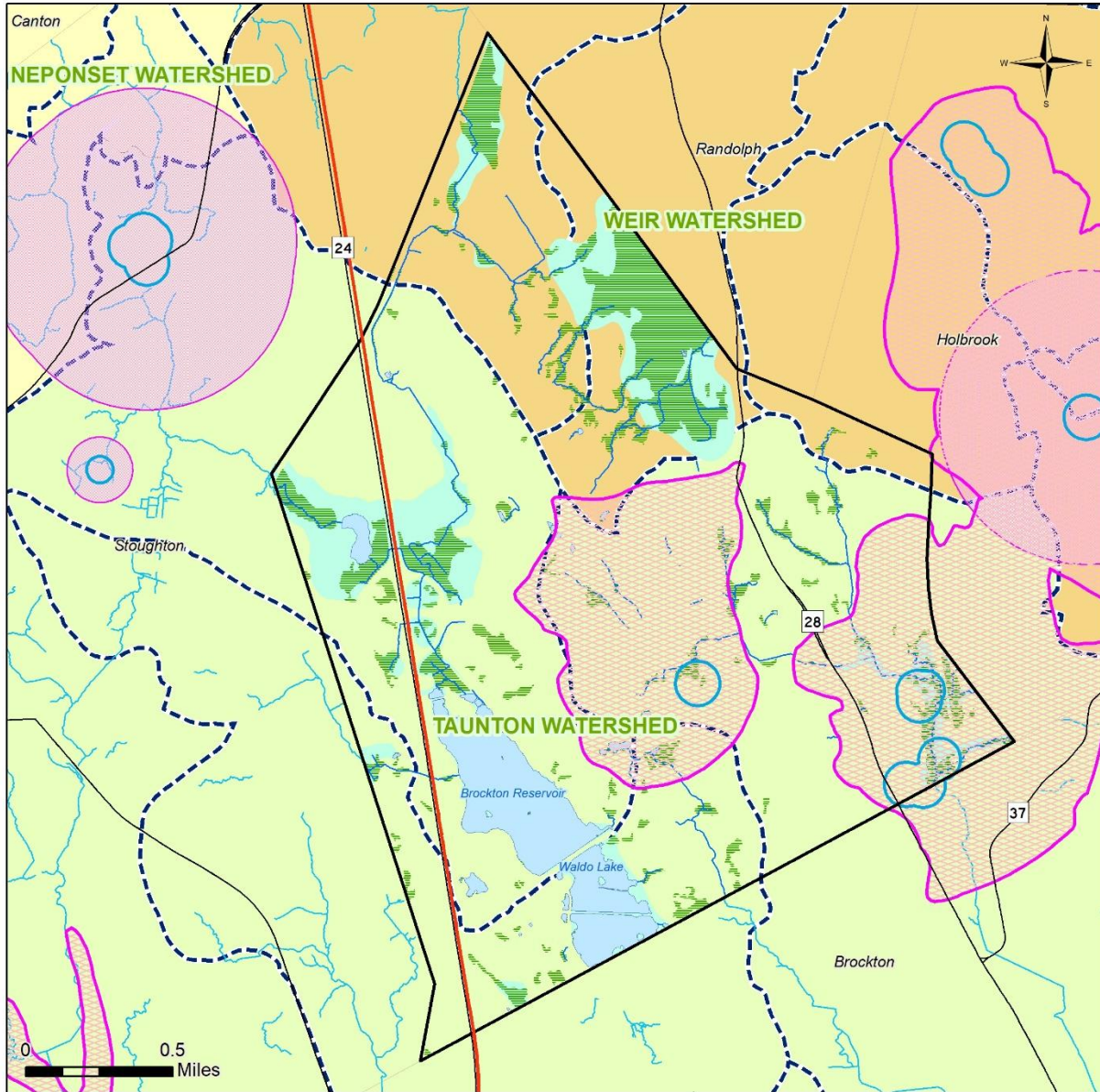
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Water Resources

Water Resources



- DEP Approved Zones I & II
- IWPA
- Lakes and Ponds
- Wetlands
- FEMA Flood Zones
- Neponset River Watershed
- Taunton River Watershed
- Weir River Watershed
- Sub-Basin Boundaries



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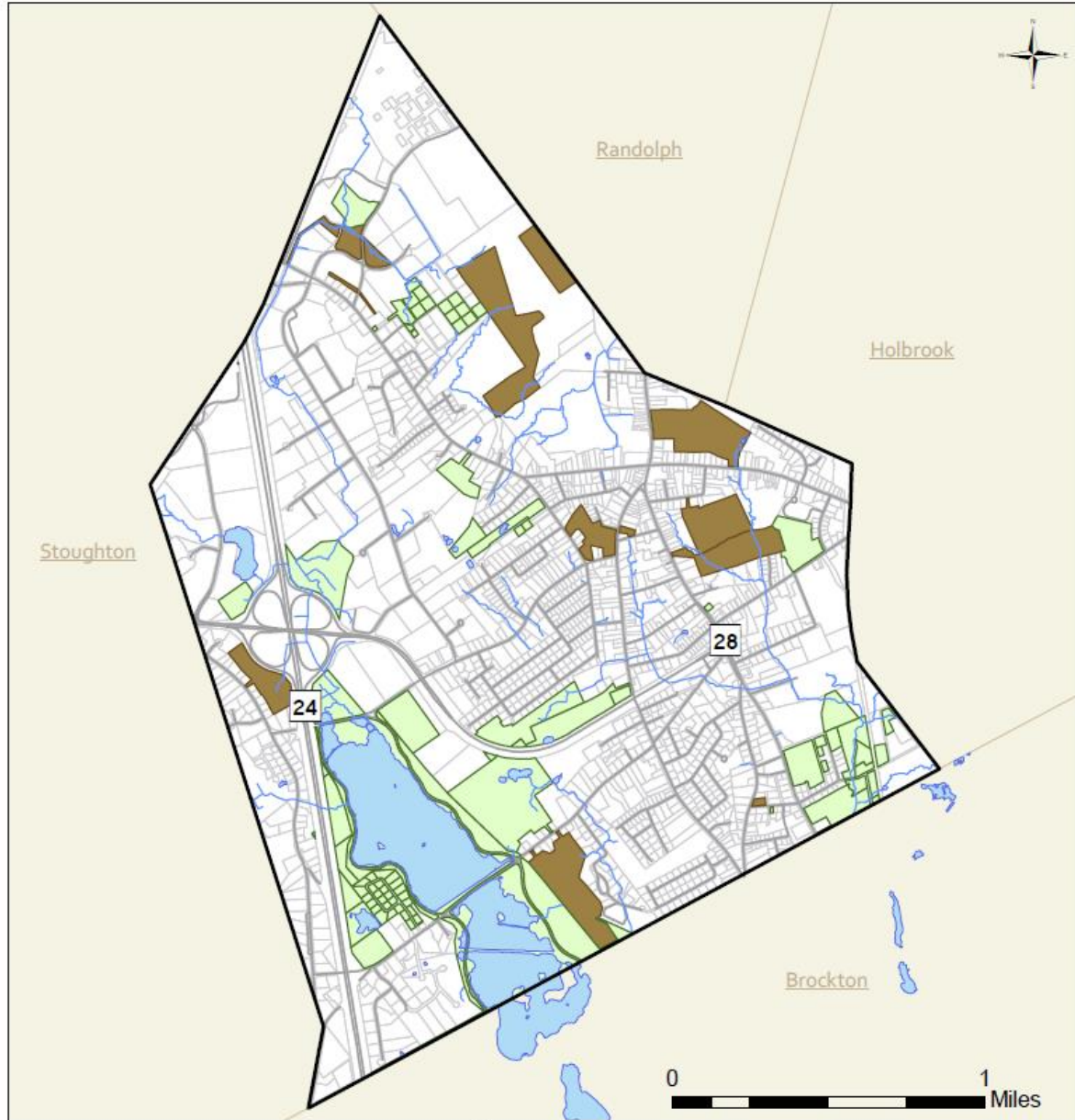
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GIS Data Sources:
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Open Space Inventory

Avon Open Space Parcels



-  Other Public Protected, Recreational, and Open Space Parcels
-  Town Owned Open Space Parcels



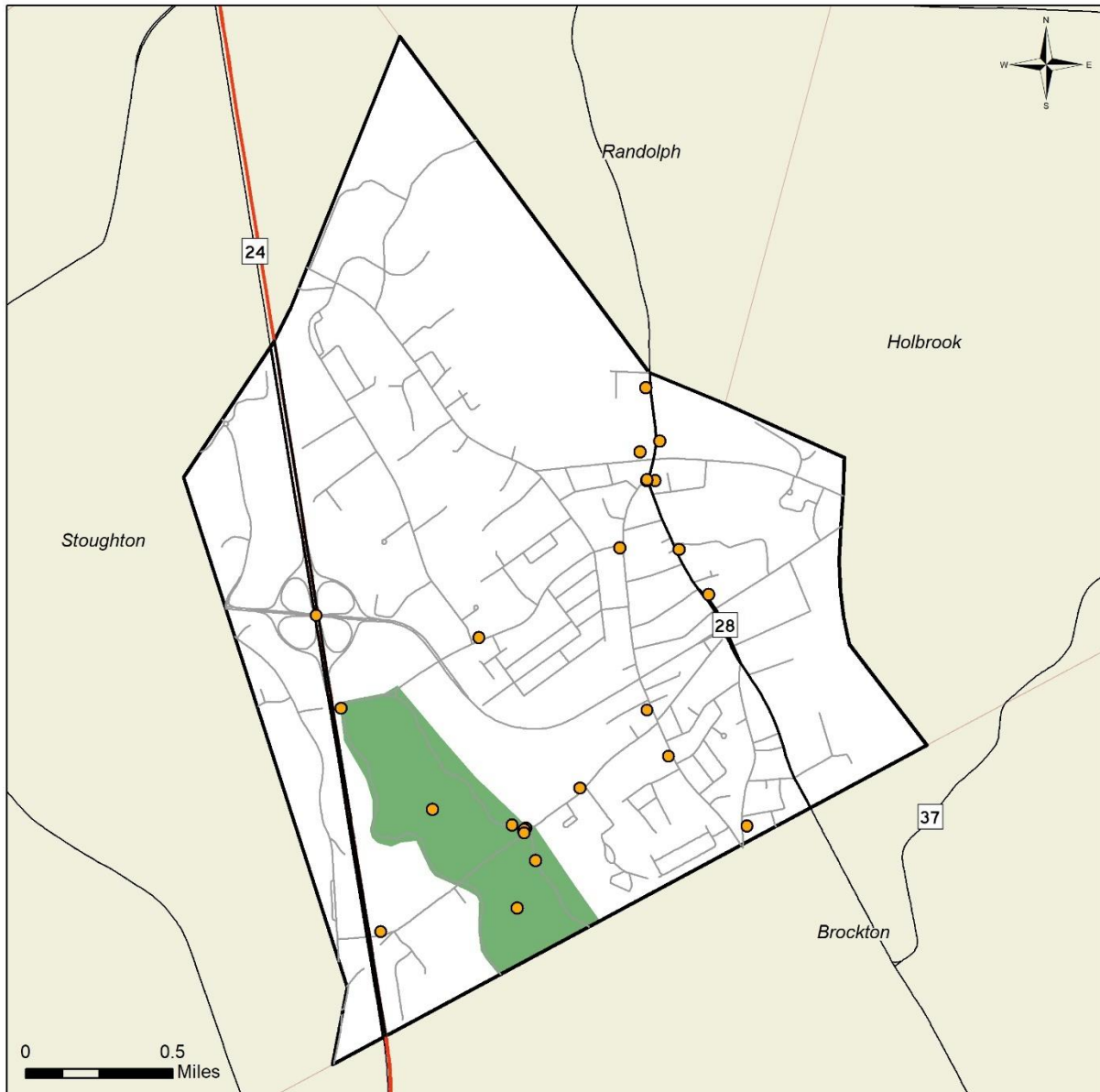
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Created January 2022

GIS Data Sources: Town of Easton, Massachusetts
Department of Transportation (MassDOT), Office of
Geographic Information (MassGIS)

Historic District

Historic District



- Mass Historic Commission Sites
- Historic Areas



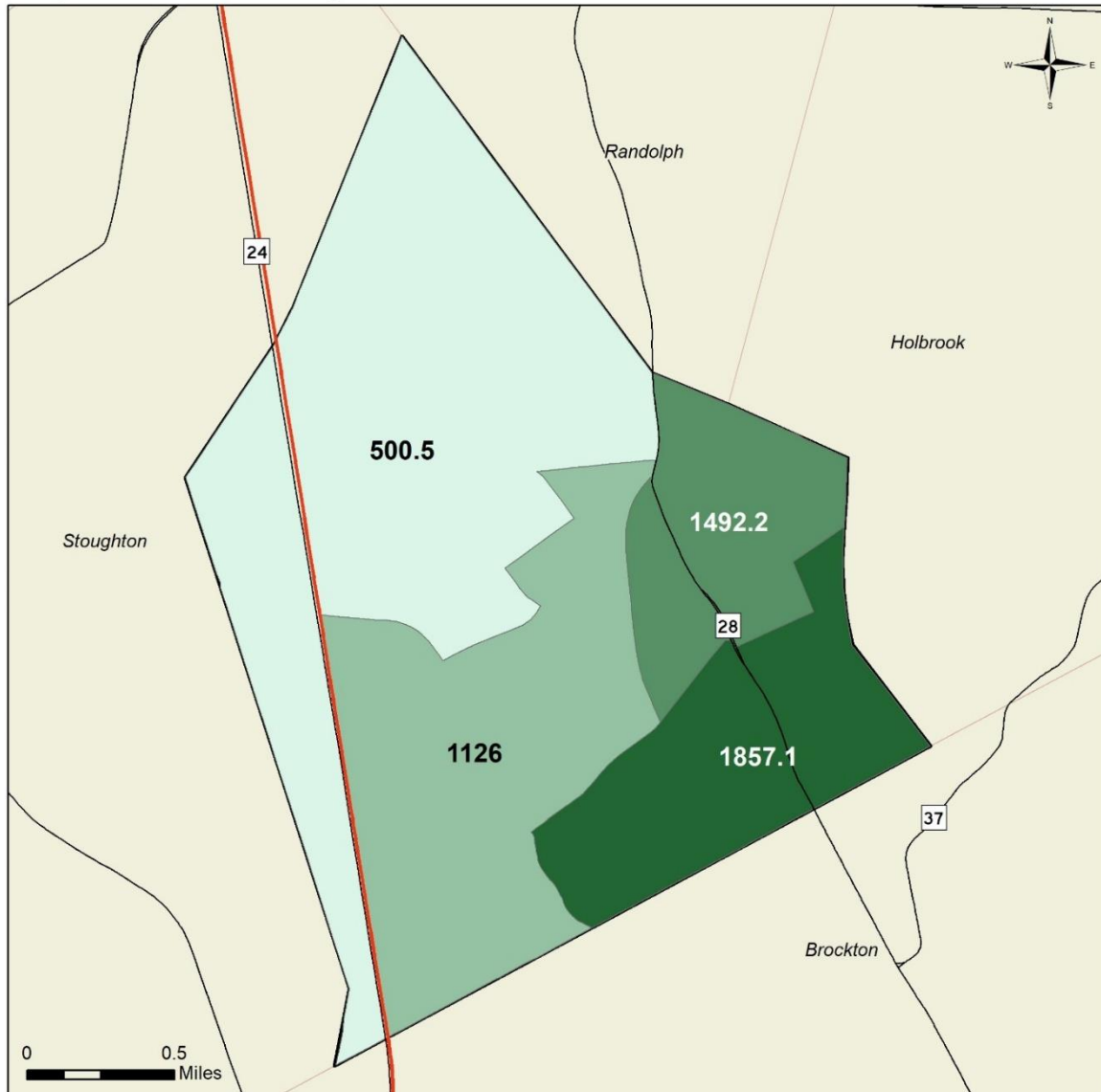
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GIS Data Sources:
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Office of Geographic Information (MassGIS),
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Population Density

Population Density



Residents per Square Mile



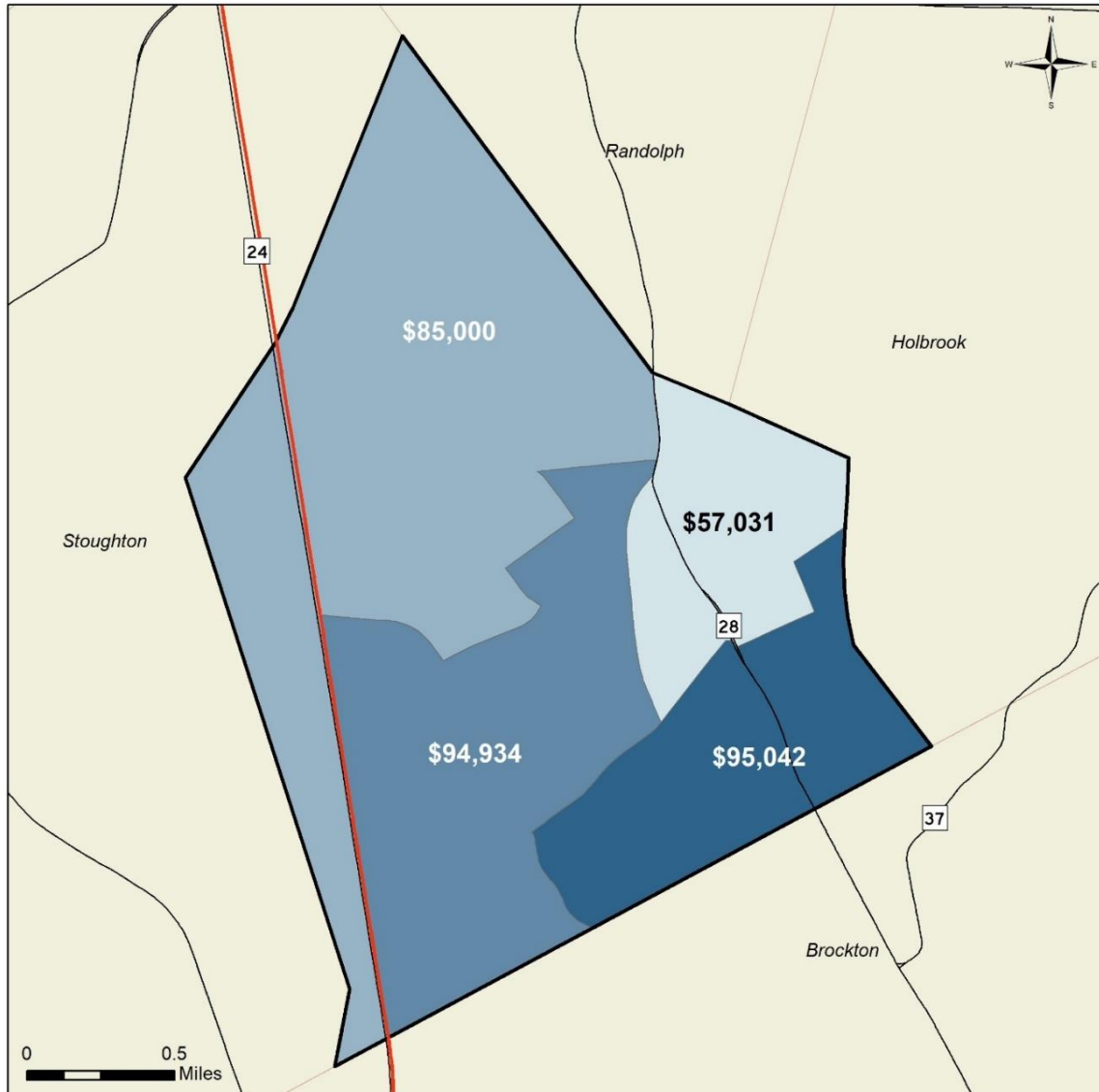
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Median Household Income

Median Household Income



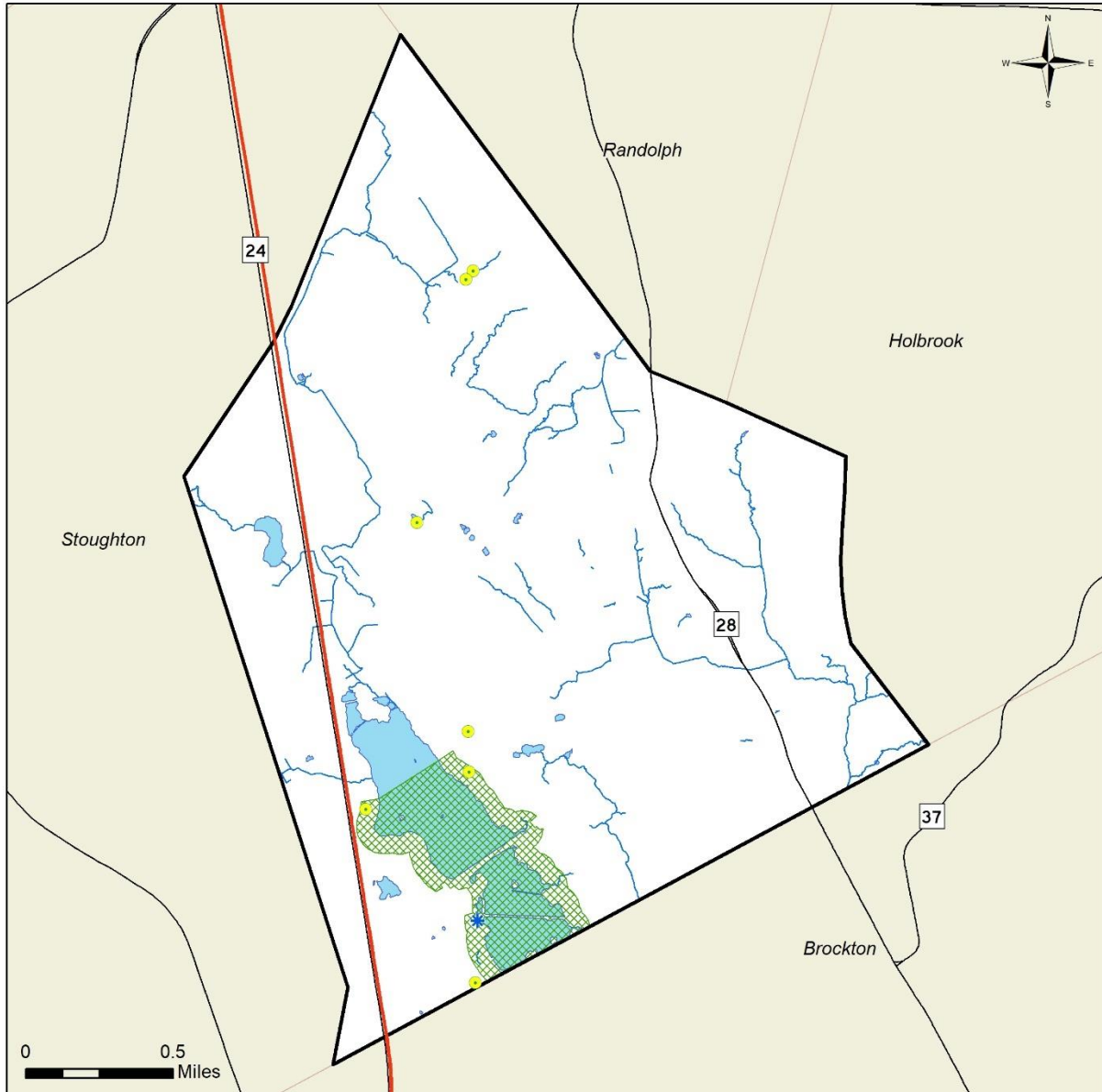
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GIS Data Sources:
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Office of Geographic Information (MassGIS),
Old Colony Planning Council

Plant and Wildlife Habitat

Plant and Wildlife Habitat



- Potential Vernal Pools
- * NHESP Certified Vernal Pools
- ▨ BioMap2 Core Habitat



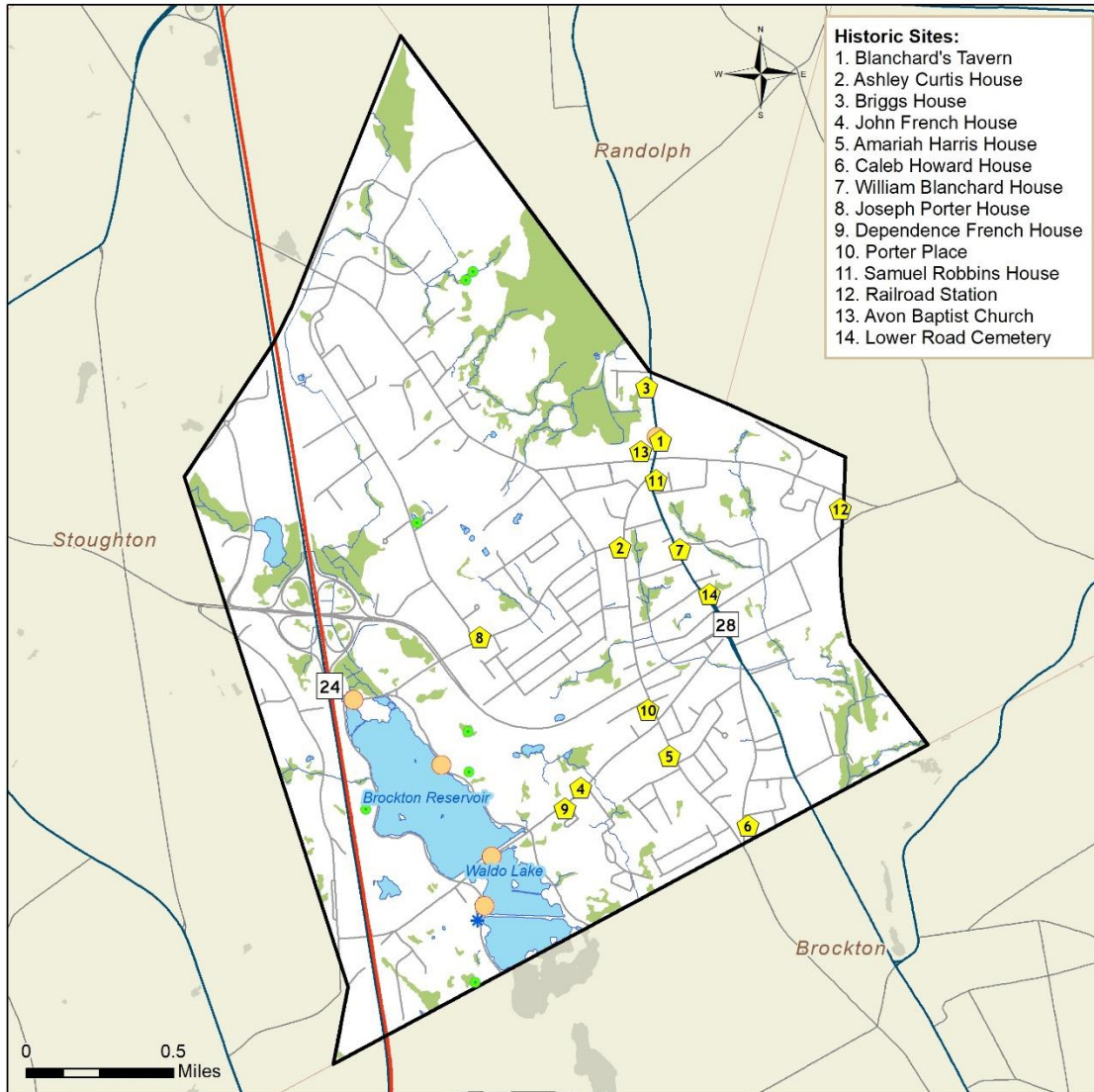
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Created July 2021

GIS Data Sources:
MA Department of Transportation (MassDOT),
Office of Geographic Information (MassGIS),
Old Colony Planning Council

Unique Features

Unique Features



- Historic Sites:**
1. Blanchard's Tavern
 2. Ashley Curtis House
 3. Briggs House
 4. John French House
 5. Amariah Harris House
 6. Caleb Howard House
 7. William Blanchard House
 8. Joseph Porter House
 9. Dependence French House
 10. Porter Place
 11. Samuel Robbins House
 12. Railroad Station
 13. Avon Baptist Church
 14. Lower Road Cemetery

- Historic Sites
- Scenic Landscapes
- NHESP Certified Vernal Pools
- Potential Vernal Pools
- Wetlands



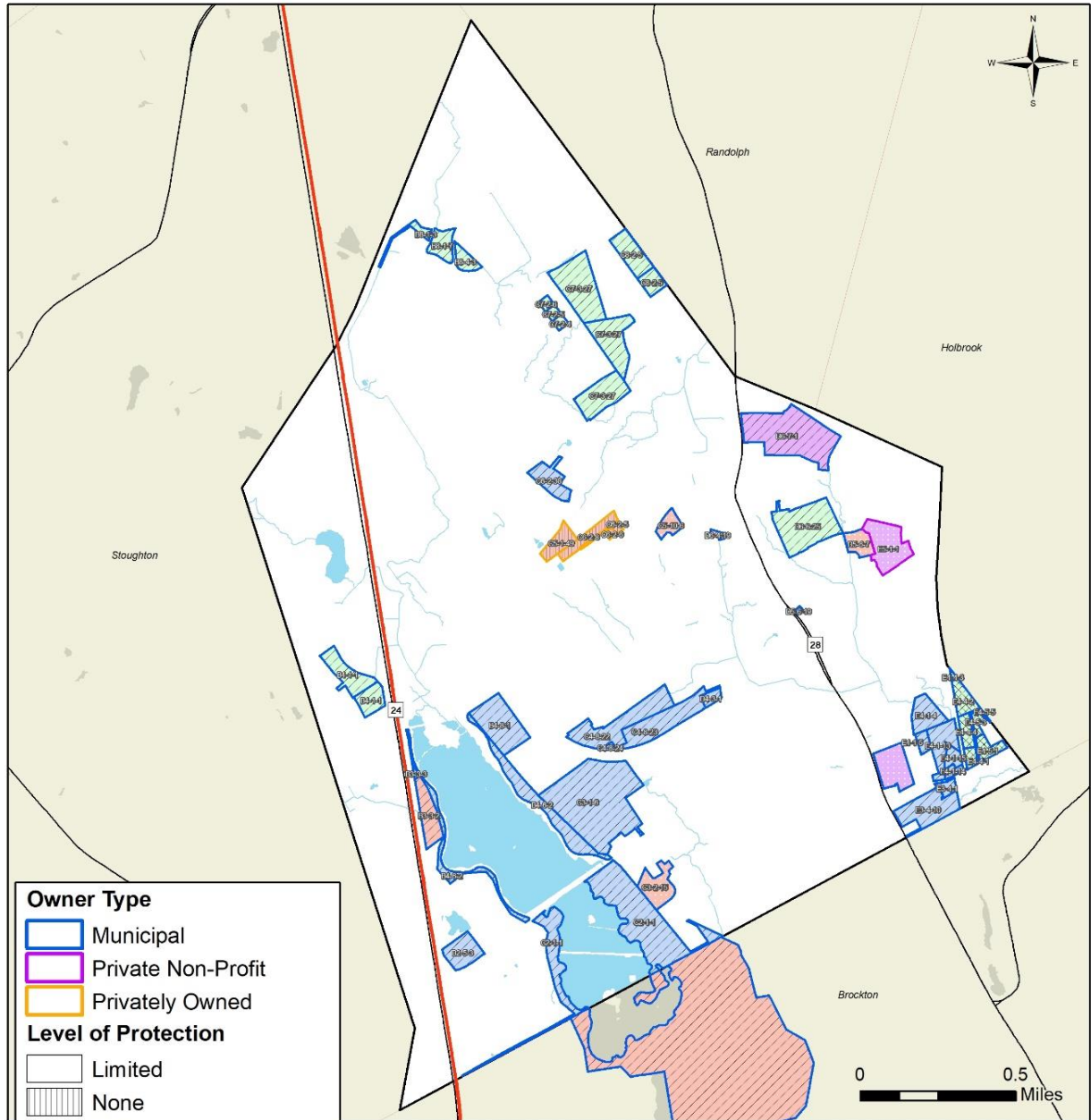
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GIS Data Sources:
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Protected & Recreation Open Space Inventory

Protected & Recreation Open Space



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GIS Data Sources:
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Appendix B: Inventory of Lands of Conservation and Recreation Interest

Town of Avon Conservation and Recreation Parcels

ID#	Map Lot Block ID	Site Name	Street	Primary Use Code	Fee Owner Manager	Site Facilities - ADA Accessibility	Lot Size (GIS acres)	Public Access	Level of Protection	Article 97	Type of Public Grant Accepted	Zoning	Condition	Recreation Potential
Town of Avon Conservation and Recreation Parcels														
1	A7-1-2	Stockwell Drive Rear Route 24	Northern end of Stockwell Drive near Route 24	9300	Town of Avon Conservation Commission	N/A – This is a tiny rock, grass, and tree-covered lot behind the Costco Store in the Avon Merchants Park with access from Stockwell Drive. It is possibly big enough for a commemorative picnic table. Possibly drainage or utility purposes.	139 square feet	N	P	Yes	None	IND	Natural State	Deed reference: conveyed under provisions of MGL Ch. 40 Sec. 8C, as amended, to be managed and controlled by the Conservation Commission of the Town of Avon for the promotion and development of the natural resources and for the protection of the watershed resources of Avon.
2	B4_1_1	Jablonski Property	CENTRAL ST	9300	Town of Avon Conservation Commission	N/A - Not suitable for public access. It is an unimproved open space acting as a buffer between housing and a Route 24 on-ramp.	11.5	Y	P	Yes	None	RDB	Natural State	Deed Reference: ‘through its Conservation Commission, for administrator, control, and maintenance under the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 40, Section 8C as amended’. This grass and tree covered area has access via frontage on Central Street. The southerly half of the parcel is in the Zone A of the Brockton Reservoir and is mostly wetlands. It could be evaluated for green infrastructure improvement that would further protect the Reservoir in terms of water quality and recharge. The northerly portion of the parcel has slopes that would limit use.

3	B7_4_2		Wales Avenue	9300	Town of Avon Conservation Commission	N/A - Not suitable for public access. B7_4_2 and B8_3_6 are long, narrow grass and tree covered strip of land forming a buffer between and industrial buildings on Bodwell Street Extension and housing along Page Street.	0.30	Y	P	Yes	None	RDB	Natural State	Deed Reference: to be managed and controlled by the Conservation Commission of the Town of Avon for the promotion and development of the natural resources and for the protection of the watershed resources of Avon.
4	B8_1_3	Schepis Property	0 BODWELL ST EXT	9300	Town of Avon Conservation Commission	N/A - Not suitable for public access. Drainage swale behind Bodwell Street Extension and along Mack Drive leading to drainage basin. Grades and water limit access.	1.85	Y	P	Yes	None	IND	Drainage Basin	Deed reference: conveyed to the Town of Avon under the provisions of MGL Chap 40, Sec 8C, as amended, to be managed and controlled by the Conservation Commission of the Town of Avon for the promotion and development of the natural resources and for the protection of the watershed resources of Avon. Deed contains three parcels marked "Drainage Basin" B8_1_1, B8_1_7, B8_4_3
5	B8_1_7	Schepis Property	WALES AVE	9300	Town of Avon Conservation Commission	N/A- Not suitable for public access. Drainage basin and land southeasterly of B8_1_3, northwest of Bodwell St. Extension and Wales Avenue intersection. Abuts Town Recycle and yard waste drop off site.	4.02944072	Y	P	Yes	None	IND	Drainage Basin	Quitclaim deed reference: conveyed to the Town of Avon under the provisions of MGL Chap 40, Sec 8C, as amended, to be managed and controlled by the Conservation Commission of the Town of Avon for the promotion and development of the natural resources and for the protection of the watershed resources of Avon. Deed contains three parcels marked "Drainage Basin" B8_1_1, B8_1_7, B8_4_3,

6	B8_03_06	Schepis Property	Wales Avenue East of Page St	9300	Town of Avon	N/A - Not suitable for public access. Drainage swale behind Bodwell Street Extension and along Mack Drive leading to drainage basin. Grades and water limit access.	0.64	T	P	Yes	None	IND	Drainage Basin	Quitclaim deed reference: conveyed to the Town of Avon under the provisions of MGL Chap 40, Sec 8C, as amended, to be managed and controlled by the Conservation Commission of the Town of Avon for the promotion and development of the natural resources and for the protection of the watershed resources of Avon B7_4_2 and B8_3_6 is long, narrow, grass and tree covered strips of land forming a buffer between industrial buildings on Bodwell Street Extension and housing along Page Street.
7	B8_4_3	Schepis Property	WALES AVE	9300	Town of Avon Conservation Commission	N/A - Not suitable for public access. Drainage swale behind Bodwell Street Extension and along Mack Drive leading to drainage basin. Grades and water limit access.	2.79158304	Y	P	Yes	None	IND	Natural State	Deed reference: conveyed to the Town of Avon under the provisions of MGL Chap 40, Sec 8C, as amended, to be managed and controlled by the Conservation Commission of the Town of Avon for the promotion and development of the natural resources and for the protection of the watershed resources of Avon. Deed contains three parcels marked "Drainage Basin" B8_1_1, B8_1_7, and B8_4_3 This is a grass and tree covered drainage basin at the northeasterly corner of Wales Ave and Bodwell Street in the Industrial Park. Grades and water limit access.
8	C3_2_15	Ralph D Butler School Fields	1 PATRICK CLARK DR	934C	Town of Avon School Department	ADA Assessment Completed Elementary School, surface parking, including two designated accessible parking spaces, a playground,	6.74024291	L	L	0	None	RDA	Good	Unable to locate deed.

						and two sports fields; Accessible Parking, Accessible Route								
9	C5_10_6	Avon High School Athletic Fields and Miller Tracy Playground	285 WEST MAIN ST	934C	Town of Avon School Department	ADA Assessment Completed Baseball Field; Accessible Parking, Accessible Route	2.82403395	Y	L	0	None	RDA	Good	Deed: 1874 handwritten deed, no protections referenced. Currently used as an athletic field. Potential for Improvements:
10	C7_3_27		REAR PAGE ST	9300	Town of Avon Tax taking eminent domain	N/A – Not Suitable for Public Access. This is a large irregular parcel of wooded swamp with some upland in the portion nearest Page Street.	33.43	Y	P	Yes	None	RDB	Wooded Swamp, natural state	Deed: Order of Taking by Eminent Domain- to take by eminent domain the land hereinafter described for the purpose of groundwater recharge and for preservation of open space.
11	C8-2-5	Randolph Town Line		9300	Town of Avon Eminent Domain Taking for open space preservation	N/A – Not Suitable for Public ADA Access. Entire site wetlands.	9.0	Y	P	Yes	None	RHD	Wooded swamp, natural state	Deed: Order of Taking by Eminent Domain- to take by eminent domain the land hereinafter described for the purpose of groundwater recharge and for preservation of open space. Long, rectangular, unimproved landlocked site held for groundwater recharge. Abuts the eastern end of a larger, comparable holding in Randolph. Shows as wetlands in entirety.
12	D3_10_9	East Main St	450 East Main Street @ Connolly Road	9300	Town of Avon Conservation Commission	N/A – Not Suitable for Public Access. There is a headwall on site and would be difficult to use. It is now	0.63	Y	P	Yes	None	RDA	Natural State	Deed reference: conveyed to the Town of Avon under the provisions of Ch. 40 Sec 8C as amended to be managed and controlled by the Conservation Commission of the Town of Avon for the promotion and development of its natural resources.

						unimproved open space with no trails or other facilities.								<p>Southerly residential part of town does not seem to have a playground and other recreational facilities.</p> <p>Small, thickly vegetated, steeply sloping site is covered by trees, shrubs, and some grass. Though too steep and densely wooded for a major playground, it could be developed with small activity areas at different levels with much vegetation retained on the steepest slopes and in the lowest, wettest areas.</p>
13	D5_6_7	Fagan Drive Fields and Playground	86 FAGAN DR	9031	Town of Avon	ADA Assessment Completed Several Athletic Fields and paved lot; Accessible Parking, Accessible Route	3.93206458	Y	L	0	None	RDV	Good	Quitclaim deed, no protections referenced.
14	D6_4_19	Avon Tennis Courts	WEST MAIN ST	9300	Town of Avon Parks and Recreation Department	ADA Assessment Completed Two Tennis Courts: Accessible Parking, Accessible Route	0.65	Y	P	Yes	None	RDB	Good	Quitclaim deed from American Legion, no protections referenced. Courts are currently closed pending funding for reconstruction.
15	D6_6_25	Robbins Street Conservation Area	Robbins Street	9300	Town of Avon	N/A. There is public access to this site. 45.38 ft. of frontage on Robbins Street between 2 SFDs containing 16.7 acres of land in its natural state. Boulders lining frontage hinders access.	16.7	Y	P	Yes	None	RDA		Quitclaim deed reference: acting by and through its Conservation Commission under the provisions of MGL Chap 40, Section 8C

16	D6_7_1	DeMarco Park	NORTH MAIN ST	9300	Town of Avon Order of Taking Eminent Domain Board of Selectmen	ADA Assessment Completed Unpaved parking lot, a gazebo, and outdoor seating; Accessible Parking, Accessible Route, Trailhead not located on an accessible route	24.155	Y	L	1	None	RDV	Good	Eminent Domain taking for the purpose of public use including Town Buildings, structures, recreation area and improvements to facilitate Avon Governmental services. Currently used for hiking trails and passive recreation, bandstand. Town has developed a master plan for the park and adjacent land and is applying for LWCF and other grants for implementation.
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THERE ARE NO CHAPTER 61, 61A, OR 61B PROPERTIES IN THE TOWN OF AVON. THERE ARE NO PROPERTIES WITH A CONSERVATION RESTRICTION IN THE TOWN OF AVON.

Other Public Protected, Recreational, and Open Space Parcels

ID #	Map/Lot ID	Site Name	Street	Primary Use	Fee Owner	Site Facilities – ADA Barrier	Lot Size (GIS acres)	Public Access	Level of Protection	Article 97	Type of Public Grant Accepted	Zoning	Condition	Recommendations
Other Public Protected, Recreational, and Open Space Parcels														
17	A5-3-5		Harrison Blvd	9300	Town of Avon	N/A – Not suitable for public access. Partially wetlands parcel between Harrison Blvd. Route 24 exit ramp and Stockwell Drive.	4.4	Y	P	1	None	COM	Natural State	Part of four parcel Quitclaim Deed from Brockton regarding PILOT. No protections referenced.
18	B2-5-1	Old Central Street		9800	City of Brockton	N/A – Water Reservoir Property.	3.22	Y	P	1	None	RDB	Natural State	Deed references: “the public convenience and necessity of the inhabitants of the city require that land be taken in fee for the protection of the Avon Reservoir”
19	B2-5-2	Route 24		9800	City of Brockton	N/A - Water Reservoir Property.	5.9	Y	P	1	None	RDB	Natural State	Deed reference: grant is made on condition that it be preserved as undeveloped land and act as a buffer zone along other lands surrounding the Brockton Reservoir in perpetuity.
20	B2_5_3		SOUTH ST	9800	City of Brockton Water Department	N/A – Water Tanks	6.03	X	P	1	None	RDB	Natural State	No Book & Page reference Twin Tanks Note: Avon Assessor Card says six acres
21	B2-5-7, B2-5-8, B2-5-9, B2-5-10, B2-5-11, B2-5-12, B2-5-13, B2-5-14, B2-5-15, B2-5-16, B2-5-17, B2-5-18, B2-5-19, B2-5-20, B2-5-21, B2-6-1, B2-6-2, B2-6-3,	Martineau Circle	Off South Street	9800	City of Brockton	N/A – Not ADA Accessible, natural state.	13.34	NO	N	0	None	RDB	Natural State	Twenty-eight parcels part of a confirmatory taking recorded 08/23/2002, totaling 13.34 acres. Irregular woodland running off South Street from just west of DW Field West Parkway to Twin Tanks and Route 24. Shown on Avon Assessors plans as unbuilt 'Martineau Circle' with paper street. Potential for trails and a wooded backdrop to the park. It abuts woodland and a pond north of the Brockton water tanks. This taking also included parcel B2-5-1.

	B2-6-4, B2-6-5, B2-6-6, B2-6-7, B2-6-8, B3-3-4, B3-3-5, B3-3-6, B3-3-7, B3-3-8													
22	B3_2_12	Central Street		9300	Town of Avon	No ADA Access. Small parcel adjacent to Route 24. Not Suitable for Public Access	0.06	N	N	0	None	RDB	Natural State	Part of four Quitclaim deed from Brockton for PILOT Triangle behind 243 Central.
23	B3-3-2	DW Field Park	Route 24	9800	City of Brockton Park Department	ADA Assessment Completed. Site consists of parking and hiking trails; Accessible Parking, Accessible Route	7.3	Y	P	1	None	RDB	Natural State	Quitclaim Deed: no protections.
24	B3-3-3	DW Field Park	Route 24	9800	City of Brockton	ADA Assessment Completed	0.29	Y	P	1	None	RDB	Underground transmission line, maintained, cleared.	Quitclaim deed with Algonquin Gas for utility easement.
25	B4_2_1	Central Street Water Tank	Central Street/Sanborn Hill Road/Antonie Drive	9300		N/A – Water Tanks	2	NO	P	1	None	RDB	Water storage tanks	
26	B4_6_1	Route 24	City of Brockton	9800	Algonquin Easement	N/A – Route 24 not suitable for public access	0.01	Y	P	1	None	RDB	Natural State underground gas transmission line, maintained, cleared	Easement for Algonquin Gas Transmission Co.
27	B4_6_2	D W Field Park	OLD POND ST	9800	City of Brockton Reservoir Water Department	N/A – Water Reservoir	120.2	Y	P	1	None	RDB	Natural State	No Book & Page Number

28	B4_7_1	Route 24	City of Brockton	9800	Algonquin Easement	N/A - Route 24 not suitable for public access	0.36	Y	P	1	None	RDB	Natural State	Easement for Algonquin Gas Transmission Co.
29	B4_7_2	DW Field Park	Old Pond Street	9800	City of Brockton Brockton Water Commission	ADA Assessment Completed	11	Y	P	1	None	RDB	Natural State	No Book & Page Reference. Long-term water supply protection holdings dating back to when Avon was East Stoughton. These city-owned wetlands, open water and segment of Beaver Brook look like part of the park but managed separately from it. North end of Reservoir includes connection road between DW Field West and East Parkways.
30	B4_8_1	D W Field Park	POND ST	9800	City of Brockton Water Department	ADA Assessment Completed	12.3	Y	P	1	None	BUS	Natural State	South of Old Pond and East of DW Field East Parkway, abutting Mass Electric Parcel/easement. Recently acquired (2002) extensive woodland sloping from Harrison Blvd. to the edge of the present park and offering a potential for Park expansion and activities such as hiking and trail bike riding. Could be another main entrance point off Harrison Blvd. in Avon, would need parking and relocated gate.
31	B5-1-1	Route 24		9300	Town of Avon	N/A - Route 24 not suitable for public access	16.7	Y	N	0	None	IND	Natural State	Part of four Quitclaim deed from Brockton regarding a PILOT
32	B7_4_6	Curtis Cemetery	Page Street (north of King St)	9300	Town of Avon	ADA Assessment Completed	0.12	Y	N	0	None	RDB	Cemetery	No Book and Page This is a small, historically evocative, stone wall-bound cemetery which adds to the Town's character and interest. Inactive
33	B7_4_8	King Street	14 King Street	9300	Town of Avon	Natural State, no ADA Access	2	Y	N	0	None	RDB		Quitclaim Deed, no protections referenced
34	B7_4_9, B7_4_10, B7_4_11, B7_6_6, B7_6_7, B8_4_7, B8_4_8,	Avon Park	King Street	9300	Town of Avon	Natural State, no ADA Access. This slightly higher ground is mapped as upland on the edge of the swamp.	4.14	Y	L	0	None	RDB		Deed reference tax taking, no protections. Only part of it is mapped as severely limited for septic systems, and it has frontage on King Street, so this land may be partly developable.

35	B8_1_6	Town Recycling Compost drop off	Wales Avenue	9300	Town of Avon	Animal Shelter	7.1	Y	N	0	None	IND	Animal Shelter	Eminent Domain Taking.
36	C2_1_1	D W Field Park	SOUTH ST	9800	City of Brockton Water Department	ADA Assessment Completed	72.6	Y	P	1	None	RDB	Natural State	No Book & Page Reference
37	C3_1_6	D W Field Park	SOUTH ST	9800	City of Brockton Water Department	ADA Assessment Completed	40	Y	P	1	None	BUS	Natural State	Deed Reference: for the purpose of protecting the Brockton Reservoir as a source of the City's water supply. Extensive woodland, some open land, and a small pond between the curve of Harrison Blvd. And the edge of the present park and offering a potential for Park expansion and activities such as hiking, trail bike riding, and habitat preservation.
38	C4_8_22	Avon Water Supply Land	BRENTWOOD AVE	931I	Town of Avon Eminent Domain Taking Water Department	Natural State, No ADA Access - Uses limited by the need to protect the well and to keep the area accessible for power line maintenance. It is best left to function as a protected green space with examination of its potential for flood storage and recharge.	14.4	N	P	1	None	RDA		Eminent Domain taking for the purpose of providing a suitable watershed and to provide protection for the public water supply. Authorize Selectmen to transfer the same to the care, custody, and management and control of the Water Commissioners. Site backs onto a low open marshy portion of Trout Brook (just upstream from Harrison Blvd.) with potential for multi-purpose flood storage/recharge/habitat use. A utility line runs through the site and kept clear of trees and brush. Access is from residential Brentwood Avenue, Harrison Blvd., and West Main Street.
39	C4_8_23	Avon Water Supply Land	HARRISON BLVD	9300	Town of Avon Water Department	Natural State, No ADA Access - Uses limited by the need to protect the well and to keep the area accessible for power line maintenance. It is best left to function as a protected green space with	11.98	N	P	1	None	RDA		Deed references a plan entitled "Town of Avon Water Department" dated 02/16/1961

						examination of its potential for flood storage and recharge.								
40	C4_8_24		HARRISON BLVD	9300	Town of Avon Water Department	Natural State, no ADA Access. No suitable for public access, Route 24.	0.45042383	N	P	1	None	RDA	Natural State	Part of four Quitclaim deed from Brockton for PILOT
41	C4_9_2	Avon Water Dept	Harrison Blvd	9300	Town of Avon Water Dept. Highway Dept. Town of Avon	Natural State, no ADA Access, Due to its relative inaccessibility it is best left as protected open space and managed as part of the adjacent water lands.	0.34	N	P	1	None	BUS	Natural State	No Book & Page reference. This is a grass and tree covered lot west of the curve of Harrison Blvd. and abutting recently acquired Brockton Water.
42	C5_1_49	Avon Fish and Game	85 GRANITE ST	3850	AVON FISH AND GAME ASSOCIATION	Gun and Rod Club	3.9	L	N	0	None	RDA		Gun and Rod club
43	C6_2_38		222 PAGE ST	9300	Town of Avon Water Department	Water Storage Tank	5.64331772	N	P	1	None	RDB	Natural State	Page Street Water Storage Tank.
44	C7_2_1	Avon Park (King Street)	Avon Park (King Street)	9730	Avon Housing Authority Fellowship	Natural State, no ADA access	0.92	N	L	9	None	RDB	Natural State	Deed reference transfer interest to Avon Housing Authority Fellowship, no additional protections
45	C7_2_2	Avon Park (King Street)	Avon Park (King Street)	9730	Avon Housing Authority Fellowship	Natural State, no ADA access	0.92	N	L	9	None	RDB	Natural State	Deed reference transfer interest to Avon Housing Authority Fellowship
46	C7_2_3	Avon Park (King Street)	Avon Park (King Street)	9730	Avon Housing Authority Fellowship	Natural State, no ADA access	0.92	N	L	9	None	RDB	Natural State	Deed reference transfer interest to Avon Housing Authority Fellowship
47	C7_2_4	Avon Park (King Street)	Avon Park (King Street)	9300	Town of Avon	Natural State, no ADA access	0.92	N	L	9	None	RDB	Natural State	Three 40,000 square foot parcels from a tax taking.
48	C7_2_5	Avon Park (King Street)	AVON PARK (KING ST)	9300	Town of Avon	Natural State, no ADA access	0.92	N	L	9	None	RDB	Natural State	Three 40,000 square foot parcels from a tax taking.
49	C7_2_6	Avon Park (King Street)	Avon Park (King Street)	9300	Town of Avon	Natural State, no ADA access	0.92	N	L	9	None	RDB	Natural State	Three 40,000 square foot parcels from a tax taking.
50	C7_3_17	Avon Park (King Street)	Avon Park (King Street)	9300	Town of Avon	Natural State, no ADA access	0.92	N	L	9	None	RDB	Natural State	
51	C7_3_18	Avon Park (King Street)	Avon Park (King Street)	9300	Town of Avon	Natural State, no ADA access	0.92	N	L	9	None	RDB	Natural State	
52	D3_12_12	Connolly Road	Connolly Road	9300	Town of Avon	Natural State, no ADA access	0.12					RDA	Vacant Land	No Book & Page Reference

53	D4_3_1		WEST MAIN ST	9300	Town of Avon Water Department	Natural State, no public access. . Uses limited by the need to protect the well and to keep the area accessible for power line maintenance. It is best left to function as a protected green space with examination of its potential for flood storage and recharge.	1.4	N	P	1	None	RDA		Deed reference: sale of land, no protections. The eastern end of this strip houses Avon's oldest well, the dug (not drilled) Porter Well along with the Town's Highway Department. The easternmost portion across W. Main St. houses a sand pile and an apparent salt shed. It backs onto a low open marshy portion of Trout Brook (just upstream of Harrison Blvd) with potential for multi-purposed flood storage/recharge/habitat use. Utility lines run through the site and keep clear of trees and brush. Access is from residential Brentwood Avenue, Harrison Avenue, and West Main Street
54	D5_6_19	East Main Street Cemetery	180 EAST MAIN ST	9300	Town of Avon	No barriers identified. There are no public elements.	0.26	Y	L	0	None	RDV	Cemetery	This is a small, historically evocative, stone wall-bound cemetery which adds to the Town's character and interest.
55	E3_4_1	Brockton Gardens	Connolly Road	9300	Town of Avon Order of Taking Eminent Domain Water Department	Natural State, no ADA access. This site includes town water supply protection land and Department facilities south of Connolly Road. It is at the edge of a commercial area with little population.	1.5 acres	Y	P	1	None	RDA	Natural State	1967 Order of Taking by Eminent Domain to be used by the Town under the control of the Water Commissioners, as a water supply and for the protection of its sources.
56	E3_4_10		140 MEMORIAL DR	9300	Town of Avon Water Department	Natural State, no ADA access. This site includes town water supply protection land and Department facilities south of Connolly Road. It is at the edge of a commercial area with little population.	10.4	Y	P	1	None	RDV		1967 Order of Taking by Eminent Domain to be used by the Town under the control of the Water Commissioners, as a water supply and for the protection of its sources. This site includes town water supply protection land and Department facilities south of Connolly Road. It is at the edge of a commercial area with little population.

57	E3_5_1		Connolly Road	9300	Town of Avon Water Department	Natural State, no ADA access. This site includes town water supply protection land and Department facilities south of Connolly Road. It is at the edge of a commercial area with little population.	1.2	Y	P	1	None	RDA		1967 Order of Taking by Eminent Domain to be used by the Town under the control of the Water Commissioners, as a water supply and for the protection of its sources. This site includes town water supply protection land and Department facilities south of Connolly Road. It is at the edge of a commercial area with little population.
58	E3_5_2	Brockton Gardens	Oakdale Avenue	9300	Town of Avon Water Department	Natural State, no ADA access. This site includes town water supply protection land and Department facilities south of Connolly Road. It is at the edge of a commercial area with little population.	0.28	N	P	1	None	RDA		Deed reference: Brockton Gardens, no protection. This site includes town water supply protection land and Department facilities south of Connolly Road. It is at the edge of a commercial area with little population.
59	E4_1_4		17 ARGYLE AVE	9300	Town of Avon Water Department	Public Water Supply Facility	5.92	N	P	1	None	RDA		Public water supply facility
60	E4_1_5		15 ARGYLE AVE	9300	Town of Avon Water Department	Public Water Supply Facility	1.59	N	P	1	None	RDA		Public water supply facility
61	E4_1_13		CONNOLLY RD	9300	Town of Avon Water Department	Public Water Supply Facility	6.46	N	P	1	None	RDA		
62	E4_1_13		Connolly Road	9300	Town of Avon Water Department	Public Water Supply Facility. This extensive well protection area contains a well/pumping station and borders a Walmart Store.	6.46	N	P	1	None	RDA		This extensive well protection area contains a well/pumping station and borders a Walmart Store.
63	E4_1_14		CONNOLLY RD	9300	Town of Avon Water Department	Public Water Supply Facility	1.1	N	P	1	None	RDA		
64	E4_1_15		CONNOLLY RD	9300	Town of Avon Water Department	Public Water Supply Facility	2.13	N	P	1	None	RDA		

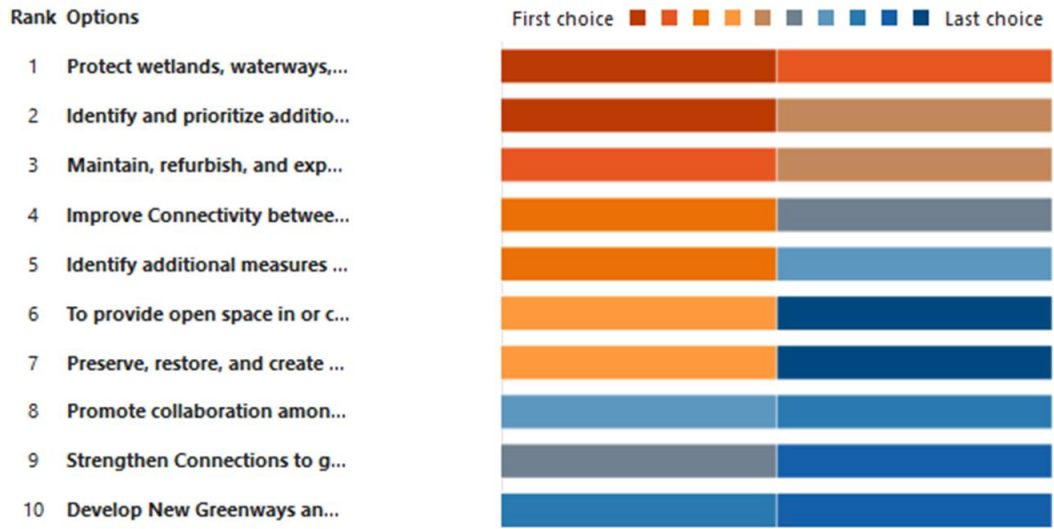
65	E4_2_1	Avon Cemetery South	80 MEMORIAL DR	9530	Avon Cemetery Association	Cemetery	8.1	Y	L	0	None	RDV	Cemetery	Deed reference: grant to Avon Cemetery Association of Avon, Norfolk County, MA.
66	E4_3_3		12 Argyle Ave	9300	Town of Avon Water Dept	Public Water Supply Facility - Due to its location and importance as a water supply area it is best left as protected green space.	0.67	N	P	1	None	RDA		Quitclaim deed, no protections. This site is the location of many water department facilities. It is in a commercial area with a small population density. Due to its location and importance as a water supply area it is best left as protected green space.
67	E4_3_4		Brockton Gardens	9300	Town of Avon	Natural State, no ADA Access - It is in a commercial area with a small population density. Due to its location and importance as a water supply area it is best left as protected green space.	0.32	Y	P	1	None	RDA		Tax Taking Deed, no protections referenced. It is in a commercial area with a small population density. Due to its location and importance as a water supply area it is best left as protected green space.
68	E4_3_5		Connolly Road	9300	Town of Avon	Public Water Supply Facility - This site is the location of many water department facilities. It is in a commercial area with a small population density. Due to its location and importance as a water supply area, it is best left as protected open space.	0.37	N	P	1	None	RDA		Quitclaim Deed no protections. This site is the location of many water department facilities. It is in a commercial area with a small population density. Due to its location and importance as a water supply area, it is best left as protected open space.
69	E4_4_1		East of Railroad	9300	Town of Avon	N/A	1.5	N	L	0	None	RDA		Quitclaim deed from Avon Supply Co. no protections.
70	E4_5_3	Brockton Gardens Annex		9300	Town of Avon	Natural State, no ADA Access. The property further protects Avon's	1.27 acres	N	L	0	None	RDA		The property further protects Avon's wells and is complemented by recently acquired land in the adjacent part of Holbrook. This acquisition was

						wells and is complemented by recently acquired land in the adjacent part of Holbrook								particularly necessary given the lack of water supply protection zoning in Holbrook's industrially zoned portion of Avon's Zone II recharge area.
71	E5_1_1	St Michaels Cemetery	EAST SPRING ST	9530	Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Boston	St. Michael Church Cemetery	10.8	Y	L	0	None	RDA	Cemetery	No Book & Page Reference

Appendix C: Open Space and Recreation Public Survey

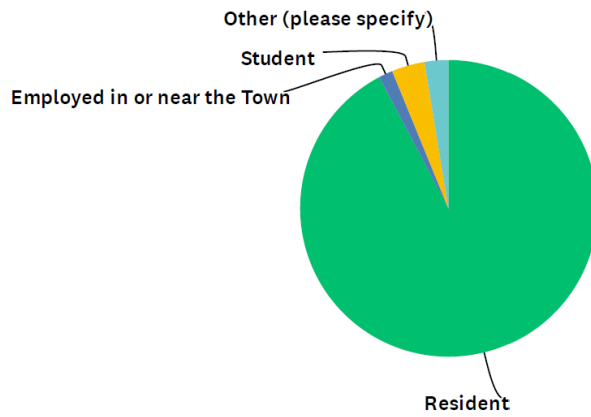
1. Please rank the following goals. Top of the list being the most important and bottom being the least important.

[More Details](#)



Q1 Tell us about yourself, what is your relation to Avon?

Answered: 194 Skipped: 1



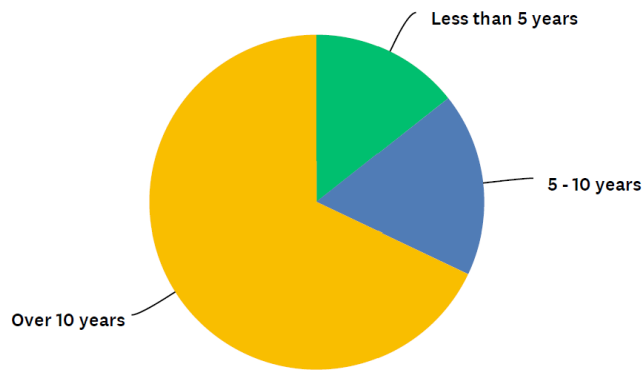
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Resident	92.27%	179
Employed in or near the Town	1.55%	3
Student	3.61%	7
Other (please specify)	2.58%	5
TOTAL		194

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Parent of a student	8/18/2021 5:35 PM
2	My child is a student @ AMHS	8/18/2021 12:18 PM
3	Parent of student	8/18/2021 12:08 PM
4	Parent of child who goes to school in Avon through School Choice	8/18/2021 9:25 AM
5	Parent of choice student	8/18/2021 8:41 AM

Avon Open Space & Recreation Plan Survey

Q2 If you are a resident, how long have you lived in Avon?

Answered: 181 Skipped: 14

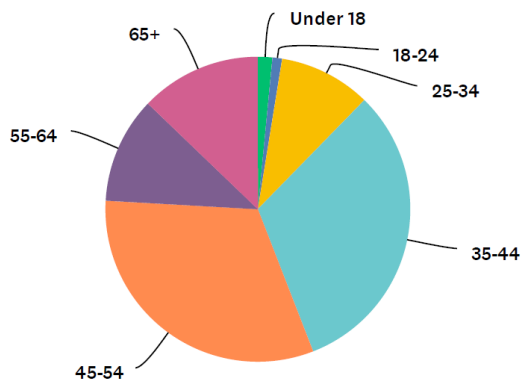


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Less than 5 years	14.36%	26
5 - 10 years	17.68%	32
Over 10 years	67.96%	123
TOTAL		181

Avon Open Space & Recreation Plan Survey

Q3 What age range do you fall under?

Answered: 195 Skipped: 0

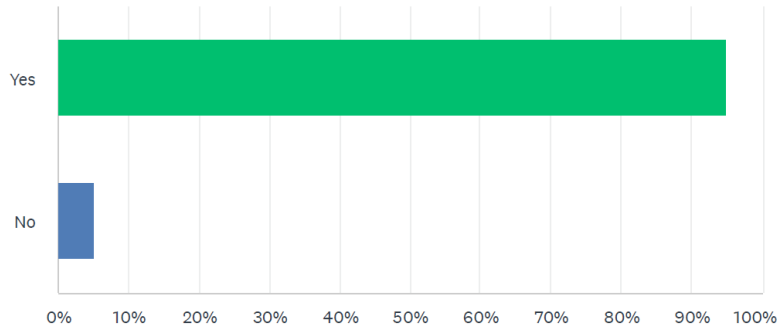


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Under 18	1.54%	3
18-24	1.03%	2
25-34	9.74%	19
35-44	31.79%	62
45-54	31.79%	62
55-64	11.28%	22
65+	12.82%	25
TOTAL		195

Avon Open Space & Recreation Plan Survey

Q4 Do you feel there is a need to preserve open space, historic and natural areas in Avon?

Answered: 195 Skipped: 0

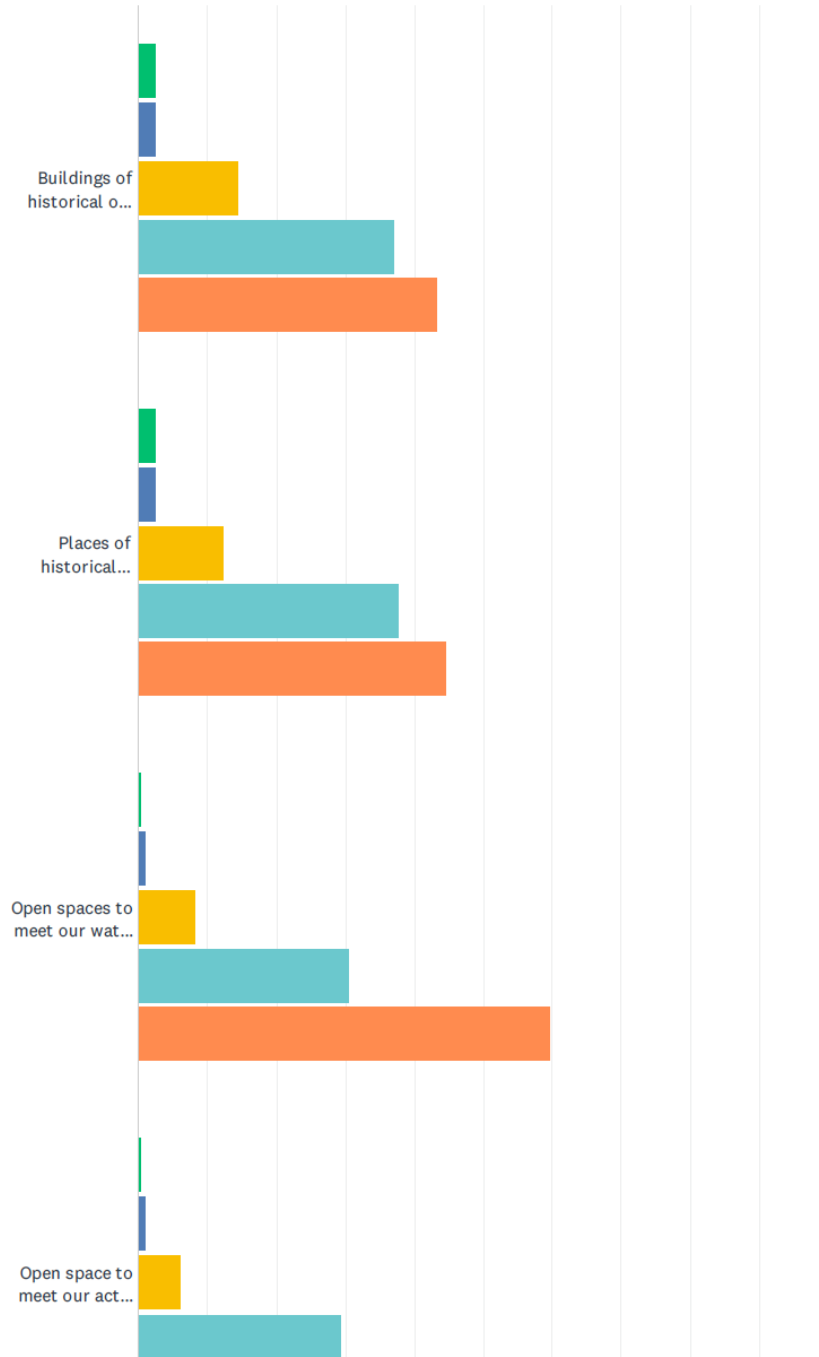


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	94.87%	185
No	5.13%	10
TOTAL		195

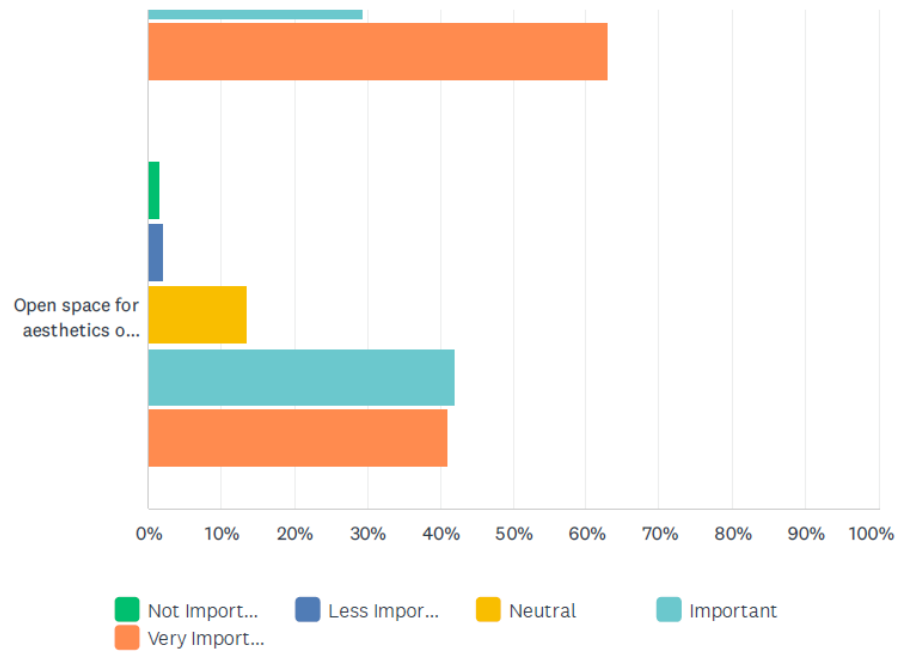
Avon Open Space & Recreation Plan Survey

Q5 How important is it to you to preserve:

Answered: 194 Skipped: 1



Avon Open Space & Recreation Plan Survey

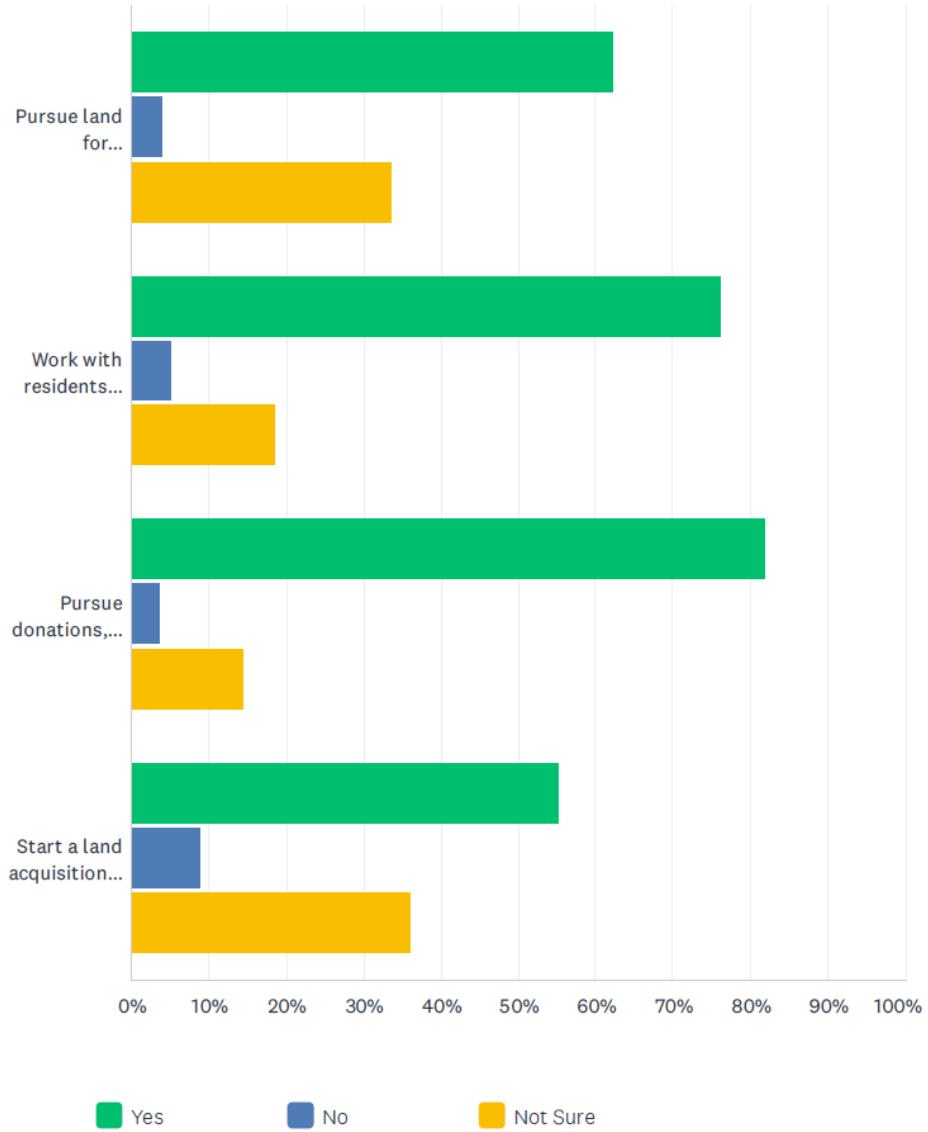


	NOT IMPORTANT	LESS IMPORTANT	NEUTRAL	IMPORTANT	VERY IMPORTANT	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Buildings of historical or architectural interest	2.58% 5	2.58% 5	14.43% 28	37.11% 72	43.30% 84	194	4.16
Places of historical value	2.59% 5	2.59% 5	12.44% 24	37.82% 73	44.56% 86	193	4.19
Open spaces to meet our water protection and storm water management needs	0.52% 1	1.03% 2	8.25% 16	30.41% 59	59.79% 116	194	4.48
Open space to meet our active recreational needs	0.52% 1	1.03% 2	6.19% 12	29.38% 57	62.89% 122	194	4.53
Open space for aesthetics or passive recreation	1.55% 3	2.07% 4	13.47% 26	41.97% 81	40.93% 79	193	4.19

Avon Open Space & Recreation Plan Survey

Q6 To preserve Open Spaces in town, Avon should:

Answered: 193 Skipped: 2



Avon Open Space & Recreation Plan Survey

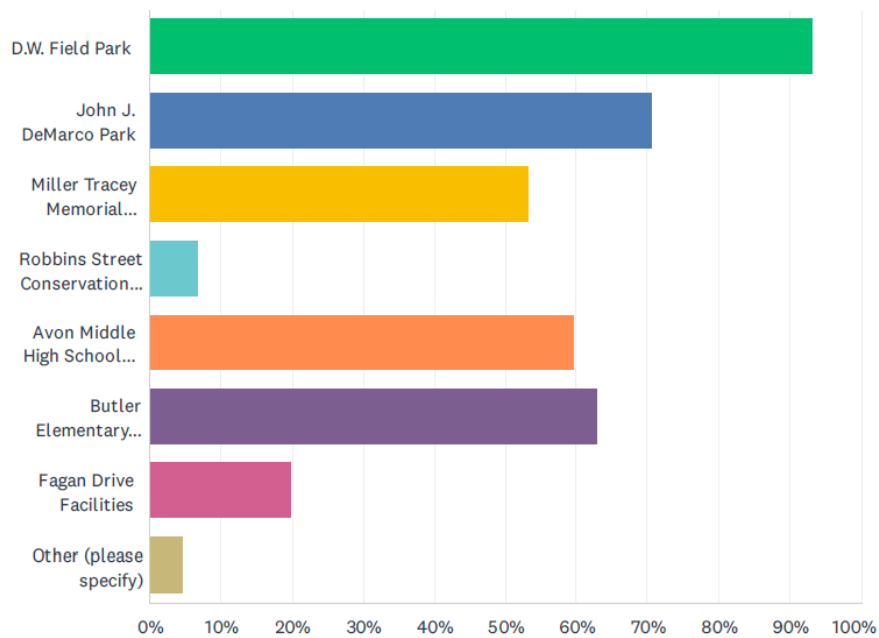
	YES	NO	NOT SURE	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Pursue land for town/state/land trust.	62.18% 120	4.15% 8	33.68% 65	193	1.28
Work with residents regarding deed/conservation restrictions limiting/protecting future land development.	76.17% 147	5.18% 10	18.65% 36	193	1.58
Pursue donations, grants, and other funding sources for land acquisition.	81.87% 158	3.63% 7	14.51% 28	193	1.67
Start a land acquisition program.	55.21% 106	8.85% 17	35.94% 69	192	1.19

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Not let Doug King buy Generations and build apartments/condo's.	9/20/2021 3:59 AM
2	I don't believe the Town has much available buildable land. So any land acquisition efforts should likely be modest	9/9/2021 12:58 PM
3	huge 40B developments, NOOOO	9/1/2021 8:11 PM
4	We just need a basketball court - use the tennis courts on west main	8/18/2021 10:53 AM
5	Please help stop the deforestation of this town. The center of tow looks horrible. It looks like a DPW lot. It's pitiful and ugly. Wildlife is being encroached upon by the constant deforestation. This town has become ugly.	8/18/2021 9:56 AM
6	We need safe parking areas for DW off of Harrison	8/18/2021 8:59 AM
7	What does a land acquisition mean, isn't there existing land thT can be used for the osrp	8/18/2021 8:37 AM

Avon Open Space & Recreation Plan Survey

Q7 Please check the parks/recreational areas that you have visited in the last year:

Answered: 191 Skipped: 4



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
D.W. Field Park	93.19% 178
John J. DeMarco Park	70.68% 135
Miller Tracey Memorial Playground	53.40% 102
Robbins Street Conservation Area	6.81% 13
Avon Middle High School Athletic Fields	59.69% 114
Butler Elementary School Athletic Fields/Playground	62.83% 120
Fagan Drive Facilities	19.90% 38
Other (please specify)	4.71% 9
Total Respondents: 191	

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	The creek behind the library, under the foot bridge	9/28/2021 3:45 PM
2	bluehills	9/28/2021 11:57 AM
3	bad trails/roads in DW Field Park, needs work esp on west side near Rt 24 within Avon Town	9/9/2021 12:58 PM

Avon Open Space & Recreation Plan Survey

	boundaries	
4	Baseball fields on Fagan Drive	8/23/2021 9:29 AM
5	Fagan drive athletic fields	8/20/2021 2:39 AM
6	Powers farm in randolph	8/18/2021 12:52 PM
7	I would like to use tennis courts but they are always locked up. How do I get access?	8/18/2021 9:29 AM
8	Crowley Fields, Fagan Drive	8/18/2021 8:40 AM
9	Fagan Drive	8/11/2021 12:11 PM

Avon Open Space & Recreation Plan Survey

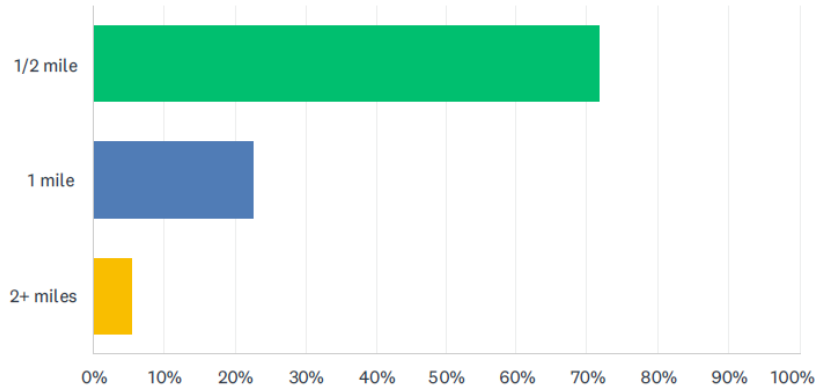
Q8 If you have any photos you'd like to share of your favorite recreation/open space area in town please upload here:

Answered: 2 Skipped: 193

#	FILE NAME	FILE SIZE	DATE
1	20210804_111725.jpg	1MB	9/9/2021 12:57 PM
2	CJ 4 yr old model photos (1).jpg	218.9KB	8/19/2021 7:44 PM

Q9 How close is the nearest Avon park/recreation facility to you?

Answered: 195 Skipped: 0

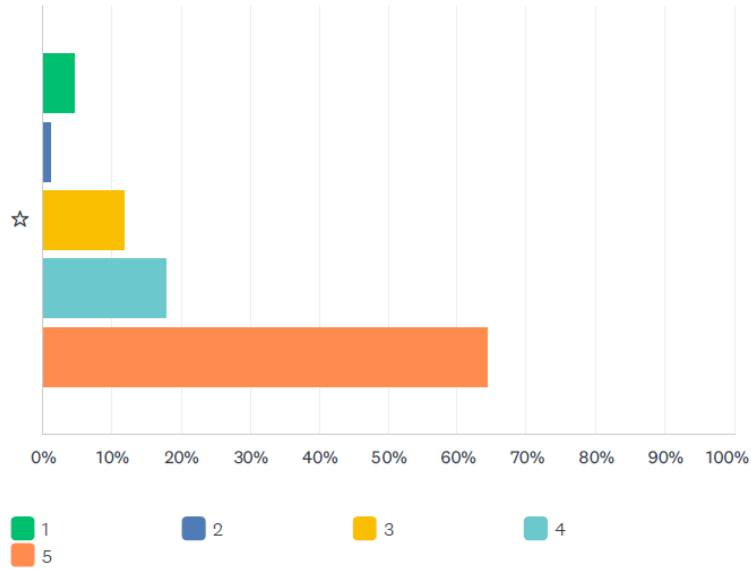


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
1/2 mile	71.79%	140
1 mile	22.56%	44
2+ miles	5.64%	11
TOTAL		195

Avon Open Space & Recreation Plan Survey

Q10 How important is it to have well lit and accessible sidewalks connecting you to the park or recreation area of your choice? 1 star being of least importance and 5 being of greatest importance.

Answered: 84 Skipped: 111

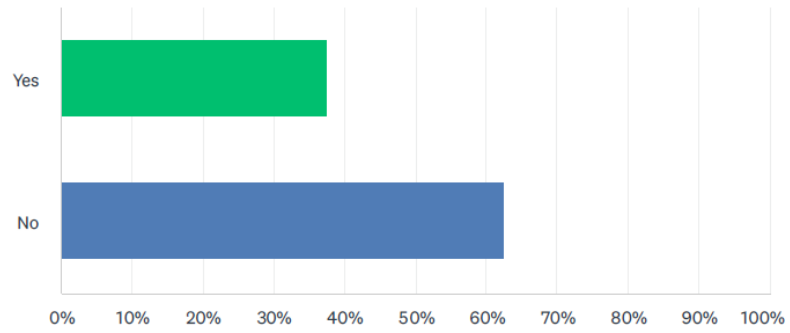


	1	2	3	4	5	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
☆	4.76% 4	1.19% 1	11.90% 10	17.86% 15	64.29% 54	84	4.36

Avon Open Space & Recreation Plan Survey

Q11 Are you satisfied with the places for children and youth to play and hang out in town?

Answered: 194 Skipped: 1

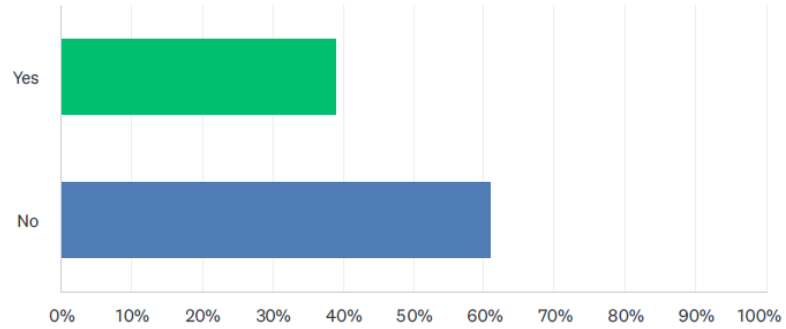


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	37.63%	73
No	62.37%	121
TOTAL		194

Avon Open Space & Recreation Plan Survey

Q12 Are you satisfied with the places available in town for adults to enjoy?

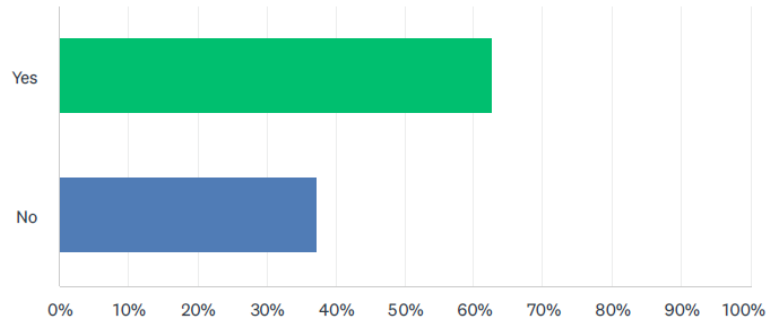
Answered: 192 Skipped: 3



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	39.06%	75
No	60.94%	117
TOTAL		192

Q13 Are you satisfied with the general condition of these parks, open spaces, and/or recreational facilities?

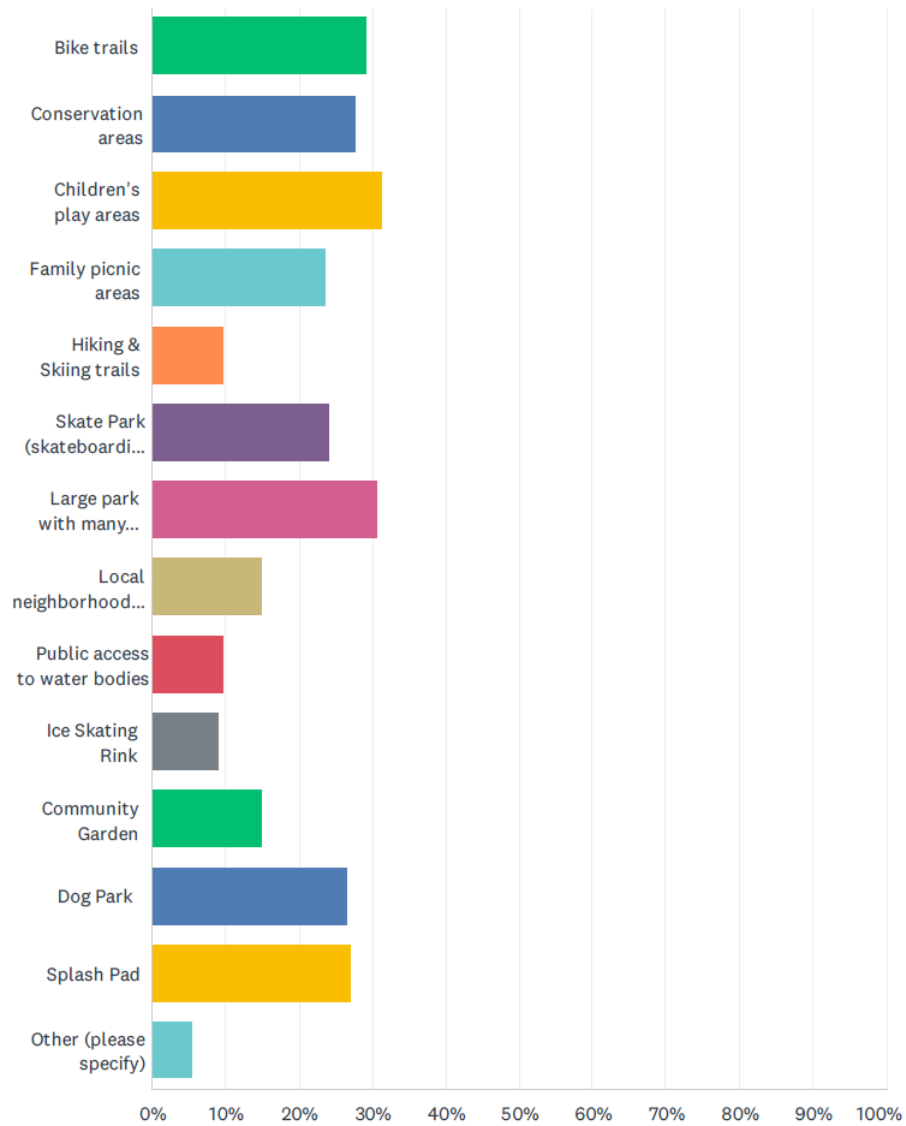
Answered: 193 Skipped: 2



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	62.69%	121
No	37.31%	72
TOTAL		193

Q14 Please check the TOP THREE recreational facilities you feel are needed:

Answered: 195 Skipped: 0



Avon Open Space & Recreation Plan Survey

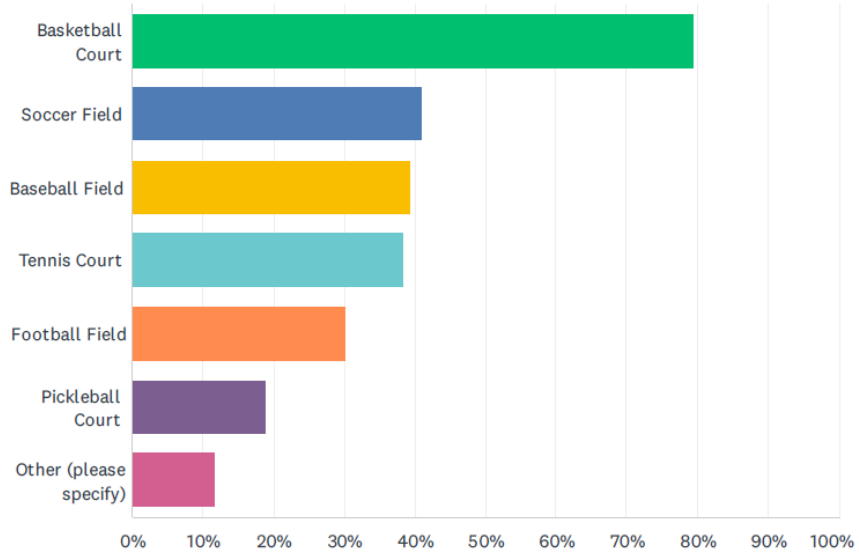
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Bike trails	29.23%	57
Conservation areas	27.69%	54
Children's play areas	31.28%	61
Family picnic areas	23.59%	46
Hiking & Skiing trails	9.74%	19
Skate Park (skateboarding, bmx biking, etc.)	24.10%	47
Large park with many facilities	30.77%	60
Local neighborhood parks	14.87%	29
Public access to water bodies	9.74%	19
Ice Skating Rink	9.23%	18
Community Garden	14.87%	29
Dog Park	26.67%	52
Splash Pad	27.18%	53
Other (please specify)	5.64%	11
Total Respondents: 195		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	?	9/28/2021 11:57 AM
2	Basketball courts now	9/12/2021 2:48 PM
3	Tennis courts	9/8/2021 12:54 PM
4	Less traffic areas	9/1/2021 8:11 PM
5	Updated tennis court/pickleball court	8/30/2021 9:21 AM
6	Running trail	8/28/2021 12:04 PM
7	Community center/ after school program	8/18/2021 5:35 PM
8	Basketball court, rec area for teens	8/18/2021 11:46 AM
9	Basketball Court	8/18/2021 10:53 AM
10	park with bathrooms and splash pad	8/18/2021 8:59 AM
11	Community garden and sidewalk loops for exercise	8/11/2021 12:11 PM

Avon Open Space & Recreation Plan Survey

Q15 Please check the TOP THREE athletic facilities you feel are needed:

Answered: 195 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Basketball Court	79.49% 155
Soccer Field	41.03% 80
Baseball Field	39.49% 77
Tennis Court	38.46% 75
Football Field	30.26% 59
Pickleball Court	18.97% 37
Other (please specify)	11.79% 23
Total Respondents: 195	

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Swimming	9/28/2021 12:50 PM
2	?	9/28/2021 11:57 AM
3	Walking track	9/24/2021 3:53 PM
4	none	9/21/2021 6:34 AM
5	a good running track	9/20/2021 3:59 AM
6	Bike walking trails	9/2/2021 8:54 AM
7	dumb question	9/1/2021 8:11 PM

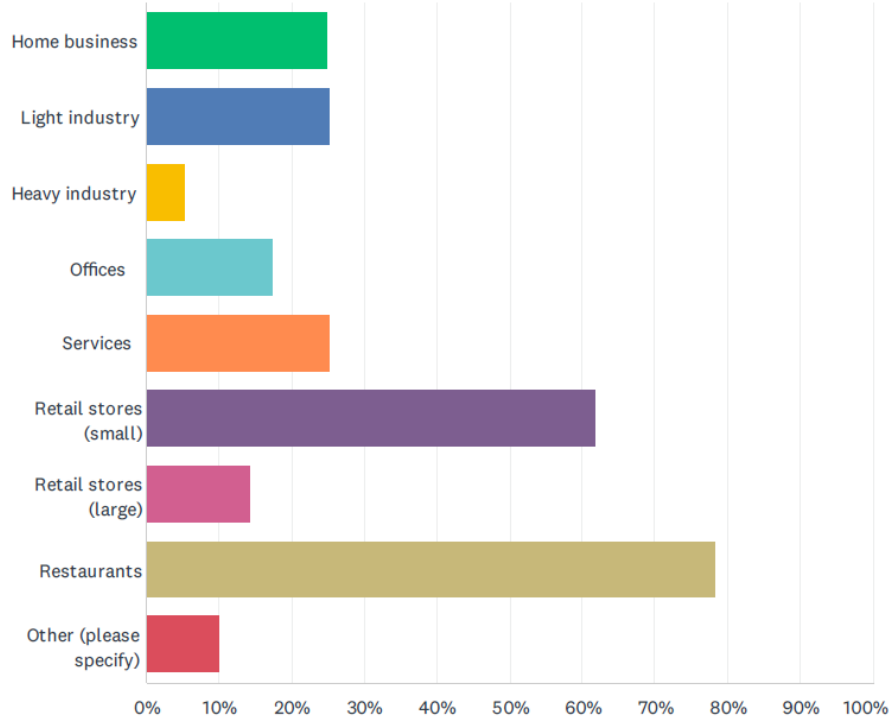
Avon Open Space & Recreation Plan Survey

8	Have a running trail, linking the existing parks, utilize sidewalks and build new trails	8/28/2021 12:04 PM
9	Open the tennis court!!	8/27/2021 9:39 AM
10	Only above two	8/22/2021 9:08 PM
11	Track	8/22/2021 6:52 PM
12	Softball field	8/20/2021 2:39 AM
13	Track	8/18/2021 5:35 PM
14	swimming pool	8/18/2021 12:30 PM
15	Indoor pool	8/18/2021 11:12 AM
16	Skate park	8/18/2021 9:56 AM
17	Track	8/18/2021 9:47 AM
18	Skate park	8/18/2021 9:41 AM
19	We need to get up to date w Arts & music! High school only gets 6 months of band! Not all kids do sports. We need to be more than sports based	8/18/2021 9:40 AM
20	Track	8/18/2021 8:59 AM
21	tennis court is needed	8/18/2021 8:58 AM
22	Street hockey	8/18/2021 8:36 AM
23	all are satisfactory	8/18/2021 8:32 AM

Avon Open Space & Recreation Plan Survey

Q16 What type of business would you like to see in Avon?

Answered: 189 Skipped: 6



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Home business	24.87% 47
Light industry	25.40% 48
Heavy industry	5.29% 10
Offices	17.46% 33
Services	25.40% 48
Retail stores (small)	61.90% 117
Retail stores (large)	14.29% 27
Restaurants	78.31% 148
Other (please specify)	10.05% 19
Total Respondents: 189	

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	supermarket	11/20/2021 2:14 PM

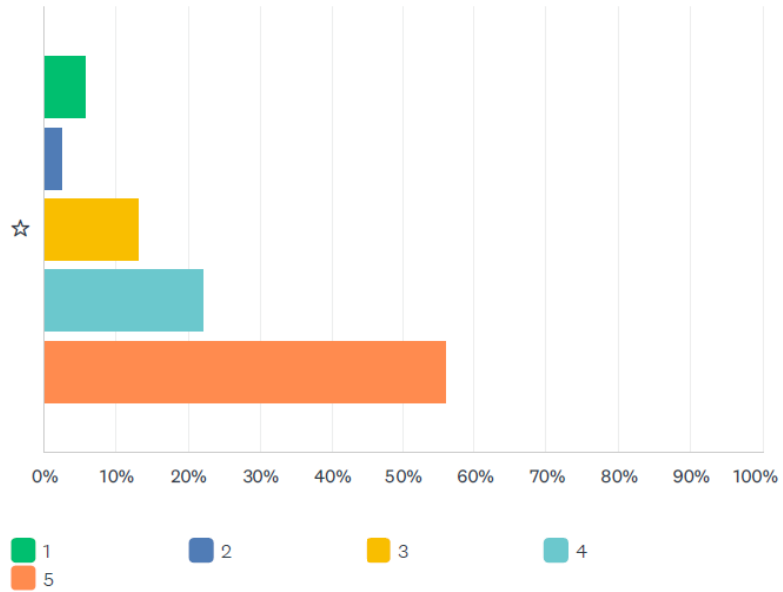
Avon Open Space & Recreation Plan Survey

2	Too many empty business and storefronts in Avon. Let's fill those buildings with businesses and not clear anymore land for new businesses.	11/8/2021 9:05 PM
3	none avon is over crowded	9/28/2021 11:57 AM
4	None we have enough	9/12/2021 2:48 PM
5	No more we have what we need	9/10/2021 5:34 PM
6	Avon is so small where would any of the above fit in?	9/10/2021 1:34 PM
7	I think avon has too many big businesses... we need to orotect our town from becoming a big city!	9/8/2021 9:10 PM
8	Bakery	9/8/2021 7:43 PM
9	dumb ass survey, who thought this one out ???	9/1/2021 8:11 PM
10	All of the above	9/1/2021 7:28 PM
11	Starbucks or Small Grocery	8/27/2021 9:33 AM
12	I feel Avon has enough businesses	8/18/2021 12:26 PM
13	Cafe for socializing	8/18/2021 12:08 PM
14	Trader Joe's should go next to Party City or where Petco is located	8/18/2021 10:12 AM
15	None	8/18/2021 10:08 AM
16	juice bar	8/18/2021 10:05 AM
17	A safe fun place for young teens	8/18/2021 9:40 AM
18	Small coffee or specialty with outdoor seating	8/18/2021 8:59 AM
19	more restaurant more stuff to do in the comminuty	8/18/2021 8:58 AM

Avon Open Space & Recreation Plan Survey

Q17 How important is it to protect current open space from future climate related events or natural disasters. 1 star being of least concern and 5 being of greatest concern.

Answered: 189 Skipped: 6



	1	2	3	4	5	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
☆	5.82% 11	2.65% 5	13.23% 25	22.22% 42	56.08% 106	189	4.20

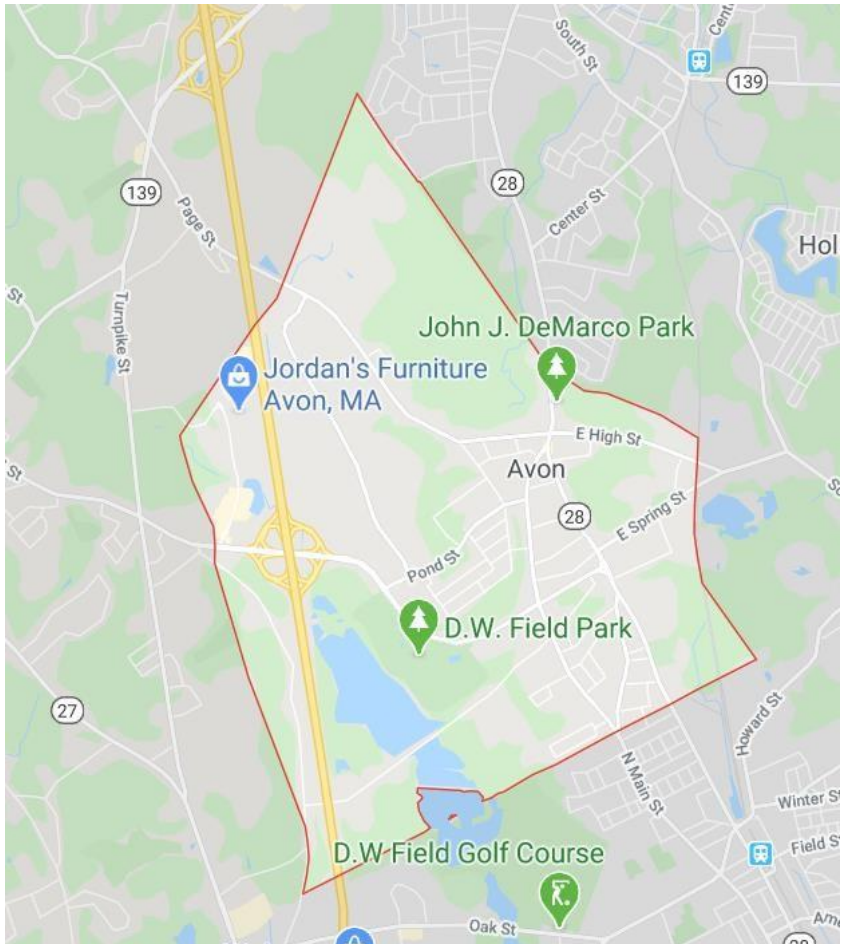
Appendix D: ADA Access Self-Evaluation

AVON, MA

ADA/504 SELF-EVALUATION & TRANSITION PLAN



**ARCHITECTURE
+ ACCESSIBILITY**
ONE BRIDGE ST
NEWTON MA
0 2 4 5 8 - 1 1 3 2
KMACCESS.COM
6 1 7 . 6 4 1 . 2 8 0 2



October 7, 2020

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SECTION 1: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Town of Avon has retained KMA, LLC to assist in the development of an Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Self-Evaluation & Transition Plan (SETP). The Town is making progress in ensuring its programs and services are accessible; it is in the process of developing a grievance policy, has appointed an ADA Coordinator, is developing procedures to assure Town activities are held in accessible locations, is drafting a public notice of ADA compliance, and is drafting a process for responding to requests for reasonable modifications. Its facilities, policies, and programs are becoming more accessible.

The Self-Evaluation process did identify some areas where improvement could be made in the delivery of accessible programs and services. Recommendations to address these areas include:

- Develop town-wide protocols for providing materials in alternate formats, providing auxiliary aids/services, and evaluating requests for reasonable accommodations.
- Develop enhanced communication regarding requesting modifications, accommodations, alternative formats, auxiliary aids and services and architectural accessibility on the Town's website, social media, print materials, and in buildings and announcements.
- Develop and disseminate protocols to ensure meetings (including Boards and Commissions), hearings, workshops, and conferences conform with the guidelines for accessible meetings.
- Provide ADA training for appropriate staff.
- Develop a Service Animal policy.
- Ensure that the Emergency Preparedness Plan specifically addresses the unique needs of individuals with disabilities.
- Review all Town documents for stigmatizing language (i.e. the use of the word "handicapped").
- Perform a more comprehensive review of the Town's employment practices for accessibility requirements. Ensure any accessibility policies that are currently being developed are included in the Employee Manual.
- Provide alternative means of contacting Town employees (i.e. email or TTY number).
- Perform a comprehensive review of the plans for accessibility compliance for the Fire Station and Library projects that are currently undergoing a renovation.
- Engage in targeted architectural barrier removal at facilities. KMA has identified the following facilities as the highest priority for barrier removal:
 - Library
 - Fire Station
 - Police Station

- Town Hall
- Civic Center and Council on Aging
- Schools
- Athletic Facilities
- Parks
- Playgrounds

This Self-Evaluation & Transition Plan will assist the Town in its ongoing effort to ensure equitable access for all its citizens. Recommendations contained in Section 4 reflect the regulatory obligations established in 28 CFR Part 35 as well as public input.

SECTION 2: REGULATORY CONTEXT

The Town of Avon is located at the eastern edge of Norfolk County. It shares a border with the City of Brockton and Stoughton. It is located approximately 17 miles south of Boston and 27 miles northeast of Providence, Rhode Island. Its territory is traversed by two highways: Route 24 and Route 28. The estimated population of Avon is 4,400.

Like all municipalities, the Town has a regulatory obligation to ensure that it does not discriminate against individuals with disabilities in the provision of municipal programs and services. The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) does not necessarily require that all the Town’s facilities are fully accessible. Rather it requires that all the Town’s programs and services, “when viewed in their entirety” are accessible. The Town is required to perform a Self-Evaluation to determine what barriers exist to their programs and services, and to develop and implement a plan to remove those barriers.

The ADA defines individuals with disabilities as those who fall into one of the following three categories:

- Individuals who have a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities;
- Individuals with a record of such an impairment; and
- Individuals regarded as having such an impairment.

The broad prohibition against disability-based discrimination requires that all Town programs and services be accessible to individuals with disabilities. The ADA requires a public entity to take five administrative action steps:

- Designate an employee responsible for carrying out compliance activities.
- Provide notice to the public of its rights and protections under the ADA and how the entity complies with those obligations.
- Establish a grievance procedure.

- Conduct a Self-Evaluation, a comprehensive review of policies and procedures.
- Develop an ADA Transition Plan.

Thus, the Town must assess specific services, policies, and practices, and address the removal of physical barriers and/or the revision of policies and procedures, to ensure compliance with the applicable ADA and Section 504 regulations, and with all provisions of the Massachusetts Code of Regulations (521 CMR). Massachusetts State law further requires that the Town apply the more stringent of the above standards to achieve accessibility.

APPLICABLE REGULATIONS

There are four federal and state requirements for architectural barrier removal from existing buildings and in alterations to existing buildings. These are:

- PL101-336: 1990 Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). This is the federal civil rights statute whose first purpose is:
 “...To provide a clear and comprehensive national mandate for the elimination of discrimination against individuals with disabilities.” (42 USC 12101. Sec.2(b))
- 28 CFR Part 35, Title II: Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Disability in State and Local Government Services (as amended by the final rule published on September 15, 2010). These are the U.S. Department of Justice’s regulations implementing the ADA, as required in 42 USC 12101, Sec.204(a)
- 29 USC 794: Section 504 of the 1973 Rehabilitation Act (504)
- 521 CMR: The Rules and Regulations of the Massachusetts Architectural Access Board. (1977, 1987, 1990, 1992, 1996, 1998, 2006)

ADA AND 504 BARRIER REMOVAL REQUIREMENTS

There are two requirements under Title II of the ADA that require a public entity such as the Town to remove existing barriers to bring an end to and to prevent discrimination against a person or people with disabilities. These two requirements are:

1. Program Access: requires that individuals with disabilities be provided an equally effective opportunity to participate in or benefit from a public entity’s programs and services. The ADA requires that public entities provide physical and communication access to each program service or activity. The Town must identify and correct policies and practices that have the effect of discriminating against individuals with disabilities.
2. Alterations: Any alterations that are performed must conform to the 2010 ADA Standards.¹ Alterations may trigger an obligation to perform additional barrier removal outside the planned scope of work. The ADA accessible path of travel requirement states: “When alterations are made to a primary function area that affect the usability of that area, alterations to provide an accessible path of travel to the altered area must also

¹ And 521 CMR: *The Rules and Regulations of the Massachusetts Architectural Access Board (MAAB)*.

be made unless the cost is disproportionate.” Further, the Town is required to maintain its existing facilities to ensure continued, unfettered, and uninterrupted access to persons with disabilities.

PROGRAM ACCESS

The Town’s fundamental obligation is to ensure that individuals with disabilities are afforded an equally effective opportunity to participate in, or benefit from, all its programs and services, subject only to the limitations of fundamental alteration and/or undue burden. Therefore, the Town must implement policy changes, if necessary, so that persons with disabilities can have full access. Further, the Town must continue to make changes to prevent discrimination and continually work to increase accessibility.

The ADA’s Section 202 Discrimination states:

“... no qualified individual with a disability shall, by reason of such disability, be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of the services, programs, or activities of a public entity, or be subjected to discrimination by any such entity.”

The ADA’s Section 204 required that the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) promulgate implementing regulations by 26 July 1991, one year after enactment of the legislation. These regulations are 28 CFR 28, published on July 26, 1991.

28 CFR 35.149 states:

“... no otherwise qualified individual with a disability shall, because a public entity’s facilities are inaccessible to or unusable by individuals with disabilities, be excluded from participation in, or be denied the benefits of the services, programs, or activities of a public entity, or be subjected to discrimination by any public entity.”

28 CFR 35.150 states:

“A public entity shall operate each service, program, or activity so that the service, program, or activity, when viewed in its entirety, is readily accessible to and usable by individuals with disabilities.”

This statutory and regulatory language above describes what is known as “program access” – a situation in which all programs are readily accessible to, and usable by, qualified persons with disabilities. In addition, qualified students with disabilities must be provided with equal services in as integrated a setting as possible, and the setting that is most appropriate to encourage interaction among all users. The determination of what is an equal and integrated setting is made on a case-by-case basis. What is appropriate for one person with a specific impairment may not be useful or appropriate for another person with the same impairment.

Failure to provide “program access” is an illegal act of discrimination under Title II of the ADA. The Town must identify and correct policies and practices that have the effect of discriminating against individuals with disabilities. The law provides public entities with some flexibility in how this standard can be met. Both structural and nonstructural methods of providing “program access” can be used.

METHODS OF PROVIDING PROGRAM ACCESS

28 CFR 35.150 details the methods that a public entity such as the Town may use to provide program access. These include:

- Reassignment of services to accessible buildings;
- Delivery of services at alternate accessible sites;
- Alteration of existing facilities and construction of new facilities; or
- Any other methods that result in making its services, programs, or activities readily accessible to and usable by individuals with disabilities.

From an architectural standpoint, this requirement does not mean that every building must be accessible. However, every program must be accessible. When choosing a method of providing program access, the Town is required to give priority to the one which results in the most integrated setting possible and is most appropriate to encourage interaction among all users.

LIMITATIONS ON OBLIGATION TO PROVIDE PROGRAM ACCESS

The ADA's regulations specify certain clear limitations on a public entity's obligation to provide program access. An entity is not required to perform an action that poses an undue financial or administrative burden or constitutes a fundamental alteration. The decision that compliance would result in such alteration or burdens must be made by the head of the public entity or his or her designee and must be accompanied by a written statement of the reasons for reaching that conclusion. The threshold for an action constituting an undue burden is a high one for state and local government entities. If it is determined that barrier removal will result in such an alteration or burdens, the Town must still, "take any other action that would not result in such an alteration or such burdens but would nevertheless ensure that individuals with disabilities receive the benefits or services provided by the public entity."

SCHEDULE FOR PROGRAM ACCESS COMPLIANCE

Both 504 and Title II of the ADA presume that people with disabilities will be using the programs and services of public entities. In anticipation, they both mandate proactive steps to prevent discrimination by removing existing barriers. They do not permit public entities to wait until a person with a disability arrives before beginning to make accommodations. 504 and Title II mandate proactive barrier removal so that when a student with a disability arrives at school, the programs and services are substantially accessible. Minor accommodations may be needed, but the significant assessment and barrier removal should be complete.

SECTION 3: PROJECT METHODOLOGY

The Town of Avon retained the services of KMA to perform an accessibility assessment of its programs, services, and facilities. To date, KMA has performed the following tasks:

1. A virtual kick-off meeting and training was held with representatives from town departments on May 6, 2020 to discuss project goals and methodology. At the meeting, KMA introduced the broad non-discrimination provisions of the ADA and the ADA Self-Evaluation process, and subsequently distributed three surveys for the Town to complete:
 - a. Administrative Survey addressing Town-wide policies and procedures
 - b. Department Surveys
 - c. Employment Survey
2. KMA completed program access audits of 20 Town buildings, athletic fields, playgrounds, recreation facilities, and polling locations. Audit findings are included in the Appendix of this report.
3. An online accessibility survey was created to gather public input.
4. A review of the completed surveys, other policy documents received from the Town, and the Town's website was performed. [See Section 5]
5. KMA developed a DRAFT ADA Self Evaluation & Transition Plan to be reviewed by the Town and posted on the Town's website to solicit public review and input. The DRAFT report was developed to summarize the ADA Title II requirements and KMA's primary findings and recommendations. It was submitted to the Town on 7.30.2020.
6. KMA incorporated the comments to the DRAFT Report into a Final Report that was to the Town of Avon on 10.07.2020.

SECTION 4: FINDINGS & RECOMMENDATIONS

The proper implementation of the recommendations in this section will require a thorough understanding of federal and state accessibility requirements.

A. FINDINGS REGARDING PROGRAMS, SERVICES, and OPERATIONS

Based on the information from the Town's website, completed survey responses, and discussions with staff, KMA finds that the Town has made progress in meeting its ADA obligations not to discriminate based on disability. Following are specific findings and recommendations.

According to the town's website, Avon provides municipal programs and services through the following departments:

Animal Control	Assessors	Avon Public Library
Building Department	Department of Public Works	Electrical Inspector
Fire Department	Health	Highway Division - DPW
Housing Authority	Human Resources/ Selectboard	Library Trustees
Parking Clerk	Parks & Recreation	Plumbing & Gas Inspector
Police Department	Recycling & Trash Collection	School District
Town Accountant	Town Administrator	Town Clerk
Town Moderator	Treasurer/ Collector	Veteran's Services
Water Division - DPW		

KMA reviewed the worksheets submitted by the following departments:

Avon Public Library	Building Department	Fire Department
Health	Human Resources/ Selectboard	Parks & Recreation
School District	Town Accountant	Town Administrator
Town Clerk	Treasurer/ Collector	

Animal Control

According to the Town's website, the Avon Animal Control Department shares an Animal Control Officer with the Town of Holbrook. The Department deals with cats, dogs and sick or injured wildlife. They do not respond to nuisance wildlife calls. The Animal Control Department did not respond to the SETP Department Survey.

Assessors

According to the Town's website, the Avon Assessors Department is made up of elected officials that are required to value all property in their community annually at full market value. Their

office is located at Town Hall. The Assessors Department did not respond to the SETP Department Survey.

Avon Public Library

The Avon Public Library provides an extensive circulating collection covering a wide variety of topics, in print, non-print, and electronic formats. The collection promotes browsing with an environment conducive to both formal and independent learning. Special programs and materials support and promote basic literacy, curriculum objectives, general information, and lifelong learning needs. Programs and events are held for children, teens and adults. There are six public computers with reference databases and Internet access (available in-house and remotely) giving patrons further access for their informational, educational, cultural and recreational pursuits. Services include loaning both physical and digital library materials, providing informational, educational, and recreational programming for all ages. The Library is located at 280 West Main Street. Survey responses indicate significant architectural barriers at the Library and that there have been complaints about the difficulty accessing the downstairs bathrooms, the ramp into the community room, and the long walk at the front door. Survey responses indicate that Library personnel have received training in the Town's nondiscrimination policy as well as how to communicate with people with disabilities. However, personnel are not aware of the Town's policies/ procedures for responding to reasonable accommodation or auxiliary aid requests, how to provide outreach in a manner that is accessible, or an emergency preparedness plan that addresses the needs of individuals with disabilities. The Library also notes that they do not have access to text-to-voice on computers, print enlargers, or silencing headphones. The Library is currently undergoing a renovation to address access to the bathroom on the main floor and the ramp at the community room. Please see our findings in the Structural section of this report for more information regarding the physical accessibility of the Library.

Building Department

The Building Department oversees permitting and inspectional services. Their services are located at Town Hall and at buildings throughout the Town. Survey responses indicate that while the Building Department personnel have received training in effective communication with people with disabilities, they have not been trained in the Town's policy of nondiscrimination, they are not aware of the Town's policies/ procedures for responding to reasonable accommodation or auxiliary aid requests, or how to provide outreach in a manner that is accessible. The Building Department notes that there are some barriers within Town Hall, such as accessible counter heights, doorknobs, tactile signage, and audio/ visual assistance.

Department of Public Works

The DPW is made up of 9 employees that are responsible for Town drinking water Town streets, parks playgrounds, and Town buildings. According to the Town's website, the Department of Public Works is "...responsible for the operation and maintenance of the Town's infrastructure in the areas of streets, sidewalks, storm drains, sanitary sewers, snow and ice operations, as well as Town owned buildings, land and cemeteries. The Department of Public Works is also responsible for the treatment, quality control and distribution of public drinking water. The Department of Public Works is committed to providing our citizens with water that meets or surpasses all state and federal drinking water standards..." Their office is located at Town Hall and the DPW Garage.

The DPW Department left many survey responses blank. Survey responses indicate that personnel have not received training in the Town's policy of nondiscrimination, and they are not aware nor have they received training in the Town's policies/ procedures for responding to reasonable accommodation or auxiliary aid requests, communicating with people with disabilities, or providing outreach in a manner that is accessible.

Electrical Inspector

According to the Town's website, the Electrical Inspector oversees permitting and inspectional services for electrical projects within the Town. They are located out of Town Hall. The Electrical Inspector did not respond to the SETP Department Survey.

Fire Department

The Fire Department provides ambulance services, permits, and fire protection services to the community. The Fire Department is located at 150 Main Street and services all properties throughout the Town. Survey responses indicate that the Fire Department personnel have received training in the Town's policy of nondiscrimination. They have not received training in the Town's protocols for responding to requests for reasonable accommodations, but they indicate that they have received training for responding to reasonable accommodation or auxiliary aid requests, and communicating with people with disabilities. Responses indicate that the Department does provide outreach, but materials do not include a statement of nondiscrimination and they are not aware of how to request alternative formats or auxiliary aids for their outreach in a timely manner. The department notes that they do not have an emergency preparedness plan that addresses the needs of individuals with disabilities. The department also notes that the building entrance is not accessible due to the steps. The Fire Station is currently undergoing a renovation. Please see our findings in the Structural section of this report for more information regarding the physical accessibility of the Fire Station.

Health Department

According to the Town's website, the Board is made up of elected members who volunteer their time to ensure compliance with federal, state and local regulations that maintain the safety of public health and the environment through field work, inspections, approval and permitting of regulated activities, public education and policy setting. The Board of Health provides coalition coordination, prevention resources, training for community members, health promotion campaigns, input to local boards for best practices on policy changes that affect substance use (tobacco, marijuana and alcohol), data collection and dissemination for prevention, and coordination of services for residents to promote healthy activity. The Board of Health functions out of Avon Public Buildings such as the school, the Library, the COA, the Town Hall, and local businesses. The Board's survey responses indicate that personnel have received training in the Town's nondiscrimination policy and the Town's policies/ procedures for responding to reasonable accommodation or auxiliary aid requests. Survey responses also indicate that the Board's personnel have not received training in the Massachusetts Relay Service, their methods of outreach do not alert recipients how to request auxiliary aids and services or alternative formats, and the Board does not have access to the appropriate auxiliary aids and services.

Highway Division – DPW

According to the Town’s website, the Highway Division of the DPW is primarily responsible for maintaining, and constructing all of Avon’s roadways, sidewalks and associated Town properties. They are also responsible for assisting with the Memorial Day parade and Town elections. Their office is located at Town Hall and the DPW Garage and functions under the DPW.

Housing Authority

Limited information is provided on the Town’s website regarding the responsibilities of the Avon Housing Authority. They are located at 1 Fellowship Circle and did not respond to the SETP Department Survey.

Human Resources/ Board of Selectmen

According to the survey responses, the Board of Selectmen are the Chief Executive Officers for the Town and the Human Resources Department handles all personnel matters for the Town. They provide alcohol licensing, Class I, II, III licenses, livery licenses, Common Victualler licenses, entertainment licenses, Street Opening Permits, Temporary Sign Permits, notary services, Gift Acceptance Requests, Employment Applications, interviews, and pre-employment screening services. The Board of Selectmen meet at the Selectmen’s Office is located at Town Hall, the Mary McDermott Meeting Room at Town Hall, or in front offices such as the Town Clerk’s Office. Survey responses indicate that the Board of Selectmen personnel have not received training in the Town’s policy of nondiscrimination, and they are not aware nor have they received training in the Town’s policies/ procedures for responding to reasonable accommodation or auxiliary aid requests, communicating with people with disabilities, or providing outreach in a manner that is accessible. They do indicate that they are aware of an emergency preparedness plan that addresses the needs for individuals with disabilities. Survey responses also indicate that the doors to Town Hall are not automatic, the ramp is “not to code for handicap accessibility”, and there is no accessible ramp to the Mary McDermott Meeting Room.

Responses to the Human Resources survey indicate that the Department has not fully reviewed its policies/ procedures to assure that they do not discriminate against people with disabilities. Additionally, not all staff that conduct interviews have received training in nondiscrimination, policies/ procedures for reasonable accommodations have not been developed or disseminated, the personnel manual is not available in alternative formats and does not include a statement of non-discrimination/ instructions for filing a grievance/ instruction on how to request a reasonable accommodation, and the Town does not have a procedure for responding to requests for reasonable accommodations.

Library Trustees

According to the Town's website, the Avon Library Trustees represent citizen control and governance of the library.

Parking Clerk

According to the Town's website, the Avon Parking Clerk oversees parking violations within the Town. They are located at 150 Main Street and functions under the Police Department.

Parks and Recreation

The Town's Parks and Recreation Department is responsible for all playgrounds, fields and youth programs for the town. They provide a summer program, a teen program, field permits (baseball/soccer), and family movie night services to the residents of Avon. Survey responses indicate that personnel have not received training in the Town's policy of nondiscrimination, and they are not aware nor have they received training in the Town's policies/ procedures for responding to reasonable accommodation or auxiliary aid requests, communicating with people with disabilities, or providing outreach in a manner that is accessible. Locations for their programs include the Avon Civic Center, the Ralph D Butler playground/field, and the Noonan Field/Miller Tracy playground. Survey responses also indicate inaccessible play structures and restrooms at the facilities used by the Department.

Plumbing & Gas Inspector

According to the Town's website, the Avon Plumbing and Gas Inspector oversees all plumbing and gas inspections in Town. They are located at Town Hall. The Plumbing and Gas Inspector did not respond to the SETP Department Survey.

Police Department

According to the Town's website, the Avon Police Department provides typical police functions to the residents of Avon. They also manage anonymous drug tips, oversee a firearms licensing process (temporary), produce public records for the Town, and vacation home checks. The Police Department is also developing an Autism Awareness program. The Police Station is located at 86 Fagan Drive. The Police Department did not respond to the SETP Department Survey.

Recycling & Trash Collection

According to the Town's website, the Recycling and Trash Collection Department oversees all of the Town's recycling and trash collection. They also manage a composting site and bulk item collections. The Department is located at Town Hall and functions under the Board of Health.

School District

The Avon School District is made up of 140 employees and roughly 725 students. It provides educational services to the residents of Avon. The School District is located at the Avon Middle High School, the Ralph D. Butler Elementary School, and the Central Administration Office. The District's survey responses indicate that personnel have received training in the Town's nondiscrimination policy and the Town's policies/ procedures for responding to reasonable

accommodation or auxiliary aid requests. Survey responses also indicate that the District's outreach methods include a statement of nondiscrimination and the District has an emergency preparedness plan that addresses the needs of individuals with disabilities. The District indicates that personnel have not received training in the Massachusetts Relay Service. Please see our findings in the Structural section of this report for more information regarding the physical accessibility of the schools in the Town.

Town Accountant

The Town Accountant processes financial data for the Town. Survey responses indicate that they do not provide services to the residents of Avon. Survey responses indicate that personnel have not received training in the Town's policy of nondiscrimination, and they are not aware nor have they received training in the Town's policies/ procedures for responding to reasonable accommodation or auxiliary aid requests, communicating with people with disabilities, or providing outreach in a manner that is accessible. The Town Accountant notes that they have only been with the Town since January 2020.

Town Administrator

According to the Town's website, the Town Administrator is the Chief Administrative Officer for the Town. The Town Administrator is appointed by the Board of Selectmen and is responsible for all day to day operations of the Town that are under their authority. The Town has appointed Gregory Enos as the Town Administrator. Gregory Enos also serves as the Town's ADA Coordinator. The Town Administrator's Office is located at Town Hall. Survey responses indicate that the Town is currently working on developing several ADA policies and procedures.

Town Clerk

The Town Clerk is the Vital Record Holder who facilitates "elections, dog licensing, public record requests, OML- meeting notices, agendas, minutes, Facebook, and the website. They provide licensing, permits, elections, notarization, vital records requests, DBAs, and recycle tickets." Services are provided at the town clerk counter in Town Hall, the Mary McDermott room for polling place, and the Avon Middle High School auditorium for town meetings. The Town Clerk has received a complaint regarding signage for accessibility into the polling place to which signage was subsequently provided. A majority of the survey responses were left blank. KMA recommends reviewing the Town's accessibility policies and procedures with this department. The Town Clerk also notes that doors at their meeting/ polling locations do not have auto openers and there is no ramp directly to the polling place. They also notes that there are accessibility issues in the public bathroom.

Town Moderator

The Town Moderator is involved in Town meetings. They are located at Town Hall and did not respond to the SETP Department Survey due to a medical condition.

Treasurer/ Collector Department

The Treasurer/ Collector Department is responsible for facilitating the collection of municipal

taxes, payroll, and HR functions. Their services include the collection of taxes, employee new hire, payroll, and HR functions. They are located at Town Hall. Survey responses indicate that personnel have not received training in the Town's policy of nondiscrimination, and while they are they have received training in the Town's policies/ procedures for responding to reasonable accommodation or auxiliary aid requests and in communicating with people with disabilities they are not aware of how to fully implement the policies/ procedures. Additionally, the Department notes that their methods of outreach do not provide notices of nondiscrimination. The Department also notes that the tax collector counter may be too high for accessibility.

Veteran's Services

According to the Town's website, the Veteran's Services Department provides advice and assistance to veterans on things such as State and Federal benefits, healthcare, military records, and headstones/ markers. They are located at Town Hall and did not respond to the SETP Department Survey.

Water Division - DPW

According to the Town's website, the Water Division Department of the DPW "...supplies and distributes potable drinking water to the residents and businesses located within Avon. The Water Division oversees both public and private water construction activities that connect to our municipal water supply. We operate and maintain 42 miles of water main, 457 fire hydrants, two water storage standpipes, eight pumping stations, three water treatment plants, one water filtration plant and one garage facility..." The Water Division also oversees all water meter readings/ installations and provides emergency water repair support. The Department is located at Town Hall and functions under the DPW.

Finding 1: ADA Coordinator. The Town has appointed Gregory Enos, the Town Administrator, to fulfill the responsibility of an ADA Coordinator and indicates that training has been completed with Jeff Dougan and the state for the community access monitor program.

Recommendation 1: KMA recommends Gregory Enos complete the ADA training offered by the National Association of ADA Coordinators:

<https://www.adacoordinator.org/page/Training>.

Finding 2: Grievance Policy & Procedure. The Town is in the process of adopting a Grievance Policy and Procedure to resolve disability related complaints (see DRAFT in Appendix).

Recommendation 2:

- The Grievance Policy should be posted in conspicuous locations in all Town buildings and distributed to all department heads.
- The ADA Coordinator is not listed on the Grievance Policy. Their name and contact information should be provided.

Finding 3: Surcharges. In the response to the Administrative Survey, the Town notes that surcharges are not imposed to recover the cost of accommodations, effective communication services, or accessibility features.

Recommendation 3: None.

Finding 4: Meetings at Accessible Locations. The Administrative Survey responses note that procedures are being finalized to assure meetings, hearings, workshops, and conferences are held in accessible locations.

Recommendation 4: The Town should develop written protocols for accessible meetings and distribute to all departments, boards and commissions. Helpful documents on how to write such protocols can be found on the mass.gov website. See:

<https://blog.mass.gov/mod/access/5-ways-to-improve-event-accessibility/> and <https://www.mass.gov/files/documents/2016/07/uy/planning-for-accessible-events.pdf>

Finding 5: Licensing/ Certification: Town licenses or certifications (i.e. liquor, restaurant, etc.) have not had the application process thoroughly reviewed to ensure qualified persons with disabilities are not screened out.

Recommendation 5: Provide department training to ensure all Town licenses/ certifications provide equal access to persons with disabilities.

Finding 6: Service Animal Policy. The Town does not have a written policy regarding service animals in municipal facilities.

Recommendation 6: Develop a written Service Animal policy and post it in Town facilities and on the website.

Finding 7: Public Notice. KMA reviewed the Town's DRAFT Public Notice of ADA Compliance (see sample in Appendix).

Recommendation 7:

- Provide the name and contact information for the ADA Coordinator on the Public Notice.
- Develop an abbreviated form of the Notice to be included in program announcements, etc.
- Ensure the Notice includes information on how to request reasonable modifications to programs and states that the Town has grievance procedure
- Ensure the Notice is visibly posted in public spaces of municipal facilities, in publications and digital media, including:
 - a. Building entrances/ lobbies, bulletin boards, and gathering places
 - b. Home page of the Town's website and other pages where information about disability services, public events and facility accessibility is displayed
 - c. Employee handbooks and manuals
 - d. Event posters, flyers, program brochures, and announcements
 - e. Program announcements (in abbreviated form)

Finding 8: Staff Training on Town’s Policy of Nondiscrimination. The Administration Survey responses indicate that Town personnel have received training in the Town’s policy of nondiscrimination. However, department survey responses indicate that personnel have not received such a training.

Recommendation 8: Ensure all departments are included in a recurring training on the Town’s policy of nondiscrimination.

Findings 9: Reasonable Modifications of Policies. The Town is developing a process for responding to requests for modifications to policies or practices for people with disabilities to participate. Currently they are responding in an ad hoc manner. The Town has not provided training in how to respond to requests for reasonable modifications. Additionally, responses to the department self-evaluation surveys indicate that personnel do not have a clear understanding of the Town’s ADA policy.

Recommendation 9: Develop and provide guidance on requests for reasonable modifications for all Town departments and new hires to ensure that everyone is aware of how to appropriately respond to requests. This policy should include criteria for determining whether a modification would fundamentally alter the nature of the program or a protocol, and it should ensure that all requests are reviewed by the Town Administrator/ ADA Coordinator. Some examples of how to develop this guidance can be found on the eeoc.gov website. See: <https://www.eeoc.gov/policy/docs/accommodation.html>.

Finding 10: Auxiliary Aids and Services. Responses to the surveys indicate the need to establish the capacity across all Town departments to provide auxiliary aids and services and then to disseminate information about their availability.

Recommendation 10:

- Assess the needs of the community for auxiliary aids and services. Based on the assessment, establish the appropriate vendors and contractual agreements so that aids and services can be provided in a timely manner, for example:
 - TTY or telephone relay service
 - ASL interpreters
 - Assistive listening systems
- Ensure appropriate departments are aware of their obligations to inform the public regarding the availability of Auxiliary Aids for persons who are deaf or hard of hearing and people who are blind or have limited sight.
- Establish department wide guidance regarding the specific Town communications requiring notice of the availability of Auxiliary Aids (e.g. meeting announcements, events, conferences, etc.). See <https://nationaldisabilitynavigator.org/ndnrc-materials/disability-guide/auxiliary-aids-and-services/>

Finding 11: Alternative Formats. Where Town documents are provided, notification is not provided that documents can be requested in alternative formats. For examples, see the policy documents at <https://www.avon-ma.gov/files/sodium-information>.

Recommendation 11: Assess the needs of the community for alternative formats. Based on the assessment, establish the appropriate vendors or protocols so that documents in alternative formats can be provided in a timely manner, for example: taped texts, audio recordings, Braille materials and large print materials. Include notification regarding the availability of alternative formats on the Town website.

Finding 12: Contact Information. Where phone numbers are provided as a means of contacting the municipality, an alternative means of communication (e.g. TTY number or email) is not consistently provided. For example: <https://www.avon-ma.gov/treasurer-collector>

Recommendation 12. Where telephone numbers are provided as a means of contact also include email addresses or link to MA Relay. Include alternate means of communication on all directories, pamphlets, brochures, etc. This can include email addresses or numbers of telephone relay numbers.

Finding 13: Training. Submitted department worksheets indicated a need for training of front-line Town personnel in several aspects of accessible program delivery.

Recommendation 13. Provide training to appropriate personnel in the following:

- The Town's nondiscrimination policy.
- How to respond to telephone calls made through Video Relay Services and Telecommunication Relay Services so that the calls are responded to in the same manner as other telephone calls.
- How to respond to requests for reasonable modifications, auxiliary aids and services and documents in alternative formats.

Findings 14: Title III Entities Using Town Facilities. The Town's policies on the reservation and use of Town Facilities do not include information on the obligation of the Title III Entity (i.e. sports leagues, theater groups, fundraisers) to facilitate the participation of persons with disabilities. For example, see https://www.avon-ma.gov/sites/g/files/vyhlf271/f/uploads/2019field_permit_requesta.pdf

Recommendation 14: Develop language to be included in Town rental agreements that ensure Title III entities of their obligations to facilitate the participation of persons with disabilities.

Findings 15: Use of Contractors. There is a statement of nondiscrimination included in the contract language that stating that the contractor is obligated to follow Federal, state, and local requirements prohibiting discrimination in employment for “mental or physical handicap.” Administration Survey responses indicate that additional steps are necessary to ensure Town contractors are fully aware of the obligations under the ADA.

Recommendation 15:

- Develop language to be included in Town contracts that alerts contractors of their obligations to facilitate the participation of persons with disabilities in programs and activities the contractor operates on behalf of Avon. This should extend beyond just employment measures. The Town should also develop materials for contractors explaining the Title II obligations they inherit when contracting with the Town.
- Modify the contract language so it does not include stigmatizing language. See Finding 17 for more information.

Finding 16: Transportation. The Town’s Council on Aging provides transportation services and is currently working on developing procedures for responding to requests from persons with disabilities. The Council on Aging van is maintained by the Brockton Area Transit and its drivers trained by the Brockton Area Transit.

Recommendation 16: Work with the Council on Aging to ensure a policy is developed to respond to requests from persons with disabilities who use the van service. This policy should include procedures for providing the schedule and route in an accessible format. Additionally, the contractors associated with the Council on Aging van should follow the Recommendations in Finding 15, above.

Finding 17: Documents & Publication. Town documents/ announcements appear to use stigmatizing language (e.g. “handicapped”). For example, see the Town’s Employment Application form and the contractor form.

Recommendation 17: Ensure the Town’s policy on nondiscrimination includes information on patronizing or stigmatizing language and/or images. “People-first” or “person-first” language is a way of describing disability that involves putting the word “person” or “people” before the word “disability” or the name of a disability, rather than placing the disability first and using it as an adjective. Some examples of people-first language might include saying “person with a disability,” “woman with cerebral palsy,” and “man with an intellectual disability.” The purpose of people-first language is to promote the idea that someone’s disability label is just a disability label—not the defining characteristic of the entire individual. Many guides on disability language and etiquette may likely emphasize using person-first language, except, perhaps, when discussing certain disability cultural groups that explicitly describe themselves with disability-first language. Thus, while it is generally a safe bet to use people-first language, there are members of certain disability groups in the US who prefer *not* to use it, such as the American Deaf community and a number of Autistic people/ Autistics. The basic reason behind members of these groups’ dislike for the application of people-first language to themselves is that they consider their disabilities to be inseparable parts of who they

are. Using person-first language, some also argue, makes the disability into something negative, which can and should be separated from the person.

Finding 18: Website. Generally, the Town of Avon's website is substantially accessible and can be made more user friendly with small modifications. However, there is little information on the website regarding access to programs and services for people with disabilities. See Appendix for more in depth technical analysis.

Recommendation 18:

- Modify the Town's website per the suggestions found in the web analysis section of this report (in the Appendix). Suggested modifications include: increased color contrast, clarifying linked text descriptions and file types, ensuring PDF documents are accessible, and including more consistent headers.
- Include an accessibility page that includes more information regarding access to programs and services for people with disabilities. Information on the accessibility of facilities, information on the Town's accessibility policies (nondiscrimination, service animal, grievance procedure) communication materials, and the process for requesting accommodations or auxiliary aids/services would be helpful.
- Include how to request an accommodation in all meeting announcements posted to the Town's website.

- As the Town budget and schedule allows, redesign the website to fully conform with Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act and W3C-WAI's WCAG 2.0

Finding 19: Emergency Preparedness. A formal emergency preparedness plan was not provided for review. The Police Department did not fill out a Department Survey.

Recommendation 19.

- Ensure a formal emergency preparedness plan is developed that includes:
 - Training for first responders in effective communication with people with disabilities.
 - Provisions to ensure that equal access to safe egress is provided for any visitor, member of the community or employee, including additional assistance if required to effectively evacuate and/or shelter them during an emergency.
 - Protocols and signage for such issues as:
 - Fire exits signage and maneuvering space;
 - Safe wait areas;
 - Evacuation Maps;
 - Locations of fire exits and safe wait areas serving each municipal space; and
 - Public and employee orientation to the Town 's emergency evacuation procedures.
- Review the Police Department's policies/ procedures and ensure recurring training is provided for all officers/ emergency personnel on how to communicate with members of the community with disabilities.

- The Police Department website notes that an Autism Awareness program is being developed. Ensure this program is thoroughly reviewed so that it does not discriminate against people with disabilities. Additionally, a process for requesting the registration form in alternative formats is not available.

Finding 20: Employment. A review of the Employment Survey responses indicates that the Town's employment practices, procedures, and personnel have not been thoroughly reviewed for accessibility. An employee manual was not provided for review. The Town has hired an outside firm to revise job descriptions and organize the HR personnel files.

Recommendation 20.

- Review all of the employment policies/ procedures to ensure they do not discriminate against individuals with disabilities. KMA recommends updating the personnel manual to reflect the findings of the review.
- Ensure the hired HR Firm follows the obligations for contractors noted in Finding 15.
- Ensure all staff who conduct interviews have received ADA training.
- Develop formal policies/procedures relative to requests for reasonable accommodations.
- Ensure the Town's Personnel Manual will be available in alternate formats and will include information on how to request reasonable modifications.
- Develop a procedure for responding to requests for a reasonable accommodation by an applicant or employee. KMA recommends including a copy of the Grievance Procedure in the Personnel Manual and on the Town's employment web page.

B. STRUCTURAL FINDINGS

KMA audited the following buildings:

Avon Middle-High School	Fire Station
Avon Public School Administration Office	Library
Butler Elementary School	Police Station
Civic Center + Council for Aging	Town Hall
DPW Garage	

In addition, KMA audited the following exterior areas:

Avon Middle-High School	DW Park
Bartlett Street	Fagan Drive / Crowley
Butler Elementary School	Moses Curtis
Cemetery	Pharmacy Park
DeMarco Park	Tracy-Miller

The Town has made progress removing structural barriers to programs in its facilities. Below is a table identifying the principal architectural barriers identified, recommended mitigations, and a draft implementation schedule. The information below is ordered chronologically by priority. For example, in the Buildings section the Library is listed first as it appears to be a highly visible and highly trafficked building. The issues listed in the Principal Barriers section for the Library are also listed with the highest priority items at the top.

Finding 1: Buildings.

Building	Principal Barrier(s)	Recommendation(s)	Schedule
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Fire Station	The fire station is currently under construction. A preliminary review of the plans revealed some areas that do not conform to the requirements of the 2010 ADA Standards.	In the immediate future, KMA recommends performing a more comprehensive review of the renovation drawings for accessibility requirements. KMA also strongly recommends reviewing for the requirements of the local accessibility code, 521 CMR, as part of this review.	1 Month
Police Station	<p>The entry stairs lack handrails.</p> <p>The drinking fountains protrude into the circulation space.</p> <p>The door thresholds are not beveled at maximum 1:2.</p> <p>The booking area phone is too high.</p> <p>The accessible jail cell lacks a visual alarm.</p> <p>The door to the employee bathroom lacks maneuvering clearances.</p> <p>The employee locker room shower thresholds are too high, and the shower controls are not mounted in the correct locations.</p> <p>The employee locker room accessible toilet stalls are too small, and they lack door maneuvering clearances and visual alarms.</p> <p>The urinal in the employee locker room is located in a deep alcove that is not wide enough.</p> <p>The employee mail receptacles and</p>	<p>Due to the high traffic of the Police Station and the fact that it recently underwent a major renovation, KMA recommends mitigating all the barriers identified in the audit report. Since the mitigations noted in the audit report for the areas accessed by the public are relatively small KMA recommends mitigating them in the more immediate future.</p> <p>KMA recommends mitigating barriers to employee common use spaces identified in the audit report as part of routine maintenance, planned alterations or in response to a specific request and as Town budget permits.</p>	1 Year

	phone are too high. The TV in the employee training room protrudes into the circulation space.		
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<p>Town Hall</p>	<p>The parking serving Town Hall lacks a van accessible space and the signage is mounted too low.</p> <p>The counters are mounted too high and protrude into the circulation space.</p> <p>Permanent rooms and spaces lack the required tactile/ braille signage.</p> <p>Door hardware required tight grasping and twisting of the wrist to operate.</p> <p>The toilet rooms serving the community room have mirrors mounted too high, incorrect toilet CLs, and lack the required grab bars.</p> <p>The toilet rooms serving the multipurpose room lack the required footprint for an accessible bathroom.</p> <p>The hallway door to the multipurpose room lacks a level landing.</p> <p>The TV and AED box protrude into the circulation space.</p> <p>The AED box controls are mounted too high.</p> <p>Accessible tables are not provided in the Selectmen’s Board Room.</p> <p>The employee toilet rooms lack the required footprint for an accessible bathroom.</p> <p>The employee kitchen area sink is too high and lacks the required knee/ toe clearance for a forward approach.</p> <p>If the exit doors serve as an</p>	<p>Due to the high traffic of Town Hall, KMA recommends mitigating all the barriers identified in the audit report.</p> <p>KMA recommends prioritizing the exterior parking to its high visibility.</p> <p>In the more immediate future:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Modify the service counters • Install tactile/ braille signage • Replace the door hardware • Designate the toilet rooms as unisex and modify at least one to be fully accessible. Ensure the information on the accessible toilet room is disseminated to employees and the public. • Designate an alternative accessible meeting area for the multipurpose room. Ensure all programs offered in the multipurpose room are capable of being provided in this space. If an alternative location is used, information on its location and the process for requesting its use must be disseminated. • Provide an accessible table in the Selectmen’s Board Room. • Develop an emergency egress plan that addresses the needs for individuals with disabilities 	<p>2 Years</p> <p>1 Year</p> <p>6 Months</p>
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		and accounts for the potential architectural barriers at the exit doors.	
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	emergency accessible means of egress, they lack the required clear width and maneuvering clearances.		
Civic Center & Council on Aging	<p>Accessible parking is not provided.</p> <p>The ramp and walkways to the Council on Aging have cross slopes >2%.</p> <p>The entry doors lack a level landing and the thresholds are too high.</p> <p>The toilet rooms in the Civic Center, the recreation room, and the Council on Aging lack the required footprint for an accessible bathroom.</p> <p>Accessible elements in one of the Council on Aging toilet rooms are not mounted in the correct locations and the entry door lacks maneuvering clearances.</p> <p>The Council on Aging kitchen lacks the required clearances between opposing elements. Additionally, some controls are not within an accessible reach range and the sink lacks the required knee/ toe clearance for a forward approach.</p> <p>The Civic Center lacks an accessible desk.</p> <p>The employee toilet room in the Council on Aging lacks the required footprint for an accessible bathroom.</p> <p>The Council on Aging employee offices have door hardware that requires tight grasping and twisting of the wrist to operate.</p> <p>If the exit door is an emergency accessible means of egress it lacks the required clear width and maneuvering clearances.</p>	<p>Due to the high traffic of the Civic Center and Council on Aging, KMA recommends mitigating all the barriers identified in the audit report.</p> <p>KMA recommends prioritizing the exterior parking, ramp, and door landings to their high visibility.</p> <p>In the more immediate future:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designate the toilet rooms as unisex and modify at least one per building to be fully accessible. Ensure the information on the accessible toilet room is disseminated to employees and the public. • Develop a policy to have employees assist residents with the use of the kitchen in the Council on Aging to be utilized until a renovation occurs. Ensure the information on the policy is disseminated to employees and the public. • Provide an accessible desk in the Civic Center. • Develop an emergency egress plan that addresses the needs for individuals with disabilities and accounts for the potential architectural barriers at the exit 	<p>3 Years</p> <p>2 Years</p> <p>1 Year</p>

		doors.	
Avon Middle High School	The accessible route from the parking has running slopes >5%,	Due to the high traffic at AMHS for Town meetings and the fact that	4 Years

	<p>The accessible route from the parking has running slopes >5%, cross slopes >2%, and a curb ramp with excessive slopes.</p> <p>Faculty bathrooms have accessible elements that are not mounted in the correct locations and furniture obstructing the required clearances.</p>		
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	<p>An accessible route is not provided to the cafeteria stage.</p> <p>The nurse's office lacks an accessible bathroom.</p> <p>Staff bathrooms lack the required footprint for an accessible bathroom and accessible elements are not mounted in the correct locations.</p>		
Avon Public School Admin Office	<p>Accessible parking is not provided.</p> <p>Inaccessible entrances lack directional signage.</p> <p>One of the entry ramps has running slopes >8.3%.</p> <p>One of the entry ramps lacks a level landing, has a change in level >0.25", and lacks the required handrails/ handrail extensions.</p> <p>Entry thresholds are >0.5" tall.</p> <p>An accessible toilet room is not provided in the building.</p> <p>Accessible door hardware is not provided.</p> <p>Door hardware required tight grasping and twisting to operate.</p> <p>The reception counter is too high.</p> <p>The door to the superintendent's office lacks maneuvering clearances.</p> <p>Doors to interior offices lack maneuvering clearances.</p>	<p>Due to the moderate traffic at the Avon Public School Administration Office, KMA recommends mitigating all the barriers identified in the audit report.</p> <p>KMA recommends prioritizing the areas open to the public.</p>	7 Years
DPW Garage	<p>Accessible employee parking is not provided.</p> <p>The employee toilets rooms are not accessible.</p>	<p>Due to the relatively low traffic of this building and no public access, KMA recommends mitigating barriers identified in the audit report as part of routine maintenance, planned alterations or in response to a specific request and as Town budget permits.</p>	8 Years

Finding 2: Athletic Facilities. KMA did not observe any fully accessible athletic facilities in the Town of Avon. KMA reviewed the Avon Middle-High School baseball field, the Bartlett Street courts, the fields at Butler Elementary School, and the fields at Fagan Drive/ Crowley Park. Athletic facilities lacked accessible routes, accessible parking, accessible seating, and accessible gates.

Recommendation 2A: Due to the intensive use of the Avon athletic facilities, KMA recommends providing accessible athletic facilities within the next five years. At least one of each type of athletic facility (e.g. baseball field, tennis court, basketball court, track etc.) should be made accessible, with priority going to those with the highest use.

Recommendation 2B: KMA did not observe any portable toilets at the athletic facilities. If provided, ensure at least one accessible portable toilet serving each athletic facility will be installed and designated as unisex. Ensure the accessible portable toilet is located on an accessible route.

Finding 3: Play Areas. KMA did not observe any fully accessible play areas in the Town of Avon. KMA reviewed the playground at Butler Elementary School and the Tracy Miller Playground. The play areas lacked an accessible route, an accessible play surface, accessible play features, accessible seating, and accessible parking spaces.

Recommendation 3: Provide at least one fully accessible playground within the next five years with priority going to the one with the highest use. KMA has been informed that the Town plans to modify the Butler School playground. Ensure any modifications to existing play areas are done in compliance with the 2010 ADA Standards. Information regarding the accessible playgrounds should be disseminated to residents and available on the Town website. For information on accessible play area requirements please see: <https://www.access-board.gov/attachments/article/1369/play-guide.pdf>.

Finding 4: Trails. KMA did not observe any fully accessible trails in the Town of Avon. KMA reviewed the trails at DW Park and the DeMarco Park Trails. They lacked accessible parking spaces and an accessible route to the trailhead.

Recommendation 4: Since this is the only trail operated by the Town, KMA recommends mitigating all the barriers identified in the audit report within the next five years.

Finding 5: Parks. KMA observed DeMarco Park, Moses Curtis Memorial Park, and Pharmacy Park. When provided, they lacked accessible parking, accessible routes to amenity features, and accessible seating.

Recommendation 5: KMA recommends mitigating all the barriers identified in at least one park within the next five years with priority going to the park that has the highest use/ traffic.

Finding 6: Sidewalks. KMA did not observe sidewalks as part of the scope of this project. However, there were several public comments expressing concerns for sidewalks within Town.

Recommendation 6: KMA recommends ensuring any planned/ future sidewalk renovations are carefully monitored to ensure they fully conform to the requirements of the 2010 ADA Standards.

SECTION 5: SUMMARY OF PUBLIC SURVEY RESPONSES

KMA developed an online public comment survey to get input from citizens of the Town of Avon regarding their ideas and concerns about the accessibility of the Town programs and facilities. The survey was made up of five questions that ranged from asking about the ease of use of Town facilities/buildings to whether residents understand where to go to request an accommodation. The survey was distributed on the Town's email, website, and social media pages. KMA received 54 online responses. The focus of the responses was on the physical/structural accessibility of the Town. The principal issues raised in the survey responses include:

1. Comments to the survey acknowledge a general need for the Town to make accessibility improvements.
2. Parks are not accessible.
3. The Library is difficult to access.
4. The Town's website is difficult to use.
5. Many of the respondents do not know how to request Town materials in an alternate format or how to request an accommodation.
6. The Town lacks sidewalks, especially at North Main Street.
7. Some residents have had difficulty getting information on a Town service, program, or event.

Survey Responses:

1. **Question: Are there Town buildings/facilities (building structures, parks, playgrounds, trails, docks, recycling centers, etc.) that you have had difficulty using?**

Responses: 8 yes/ 46 no

Comments:

- We have not had a chance to use anything but the parks trail as the driving into the WDFields is not yet letting vehicles in.
- Parks are often not open
- The hours/days if the Recycling Center needs to be expanded to a longer period. Buying tickets should be done at the Recycling site too, not only at the Town Hall.
- DeMarco Park is great but paved paths, lighting and picnic tables would be nice for Avon residents only. Areas for 6 -9 graders to hang outside
- Public Library is difficult to access.
- Butler school parking lot
- DeMarco Park

2. **Question: Have you ever had difficulty getting information about a Town program, service, or event?**

Responses: 12 yes/ 42 no

Comments:

- Sometimes it feels like you have to be "in the know" . I do get email updates now, but facebook would be helpful, too, imo
- I am disabled and under the age of 60 and was told by the COA that I did not qualify for any of their services due to my age. I do not believe that is fair or maybe even legal.
- notices in the mail come too late.
- In the past the Town has closed spontaneously and did not put away messages on their phone. Every employee who has a phone line should put an away message on their email and voice mail so that residents know they are unavailable that day and when that person will be available again.
- Your website is not user friendly. It is confusing and difficult to find information.
- In the past the town hasn't fully utilized the website to provide easy to access information. I believe it's getting better, but improving the functionality and ease of access of the website would be appreciated.
- Wish summer camp info/registration came out sooner for planning purposes. Obviously this year is different but in the future i would rather keep my money in avon then sending out of town for childcare.
- Park & Recreation should share information with the main town departments so that news of things that are going on gets spread to the parents quicker we also need to opt in and use technology for signing up for lots of upcoming events they plan on having
- Sometimes the info is vague or confusing

3. **Question: Do you know how to request Town materials in alternate formats (for example, large print or Braille)?**

Responses: 9 yes/ 45 no

4. **Question: Do you know how to request an accommodation (for example, ASL**

SECTION 6: SUMMARY OF DRAFT REPORT RESPONSES

KMA submitted a DRAFT SETP report to the Town of Avon on 07.30.2020. The DRAFT report was submitted to Town Departments for review. KMA received the following in response to our DRAFT Report:

- Email Comments from Gregory Enos 08.06.2020
- Email Comments from Chief Jeffery Bukunt 08.06.2020
- The DPW Department submitted a Department Survey on 08.06.2020
- Email Comments from Gregory Enos 09.02.2020
- Email Comments from the ACG Group 09.09.2020
- Email Comments from Gregory Enos & Mike Carter 09.15.2020

KMA made several updates to the reports based on the clarifications provided in these responses. For example, we updated some of the Department descriptions to better reflect who oversees them. Additionally, there were two areas identified in the responses that required KMA to go back and review. These areas were the DeMarco Park Trails and the shared parking area at Town Hall, the COA, and the Civic Center. We have updated the reports to reflect the findings of the subsequent site visit and email conversations with the Town.

interpreters or assistive listening systems) for Town services and events?

Responses: 6 yes/ 48 no

5. Question: Any other comments about accessibility?

Comments:

- I haven't needed an accommodation and thus I have not had any reason to look for information regarding how to request either an accommodation or alternative format documents
- Hello, I have a suggestion about the streets lighting not bright enough. The street lights are not bright enough. Would it an energy savings to switch these old street lights to LED lights? Other town already installed LED lights in the streets, like Randolph switched then years ago. It is also a safety issue. Thank you
- Please adhere to state minimums. Lower my taxes please.
- I dont know how to request for 3 and 4, but im sure If I needed those I could find someone in the town office to direct me to the correct place
- closing fridays at 1pm is not convenient. I get in the summer but not year round
- Closing early of Town Hall on Friday should be looked at with the possibility of maintaining normal hours with a skeleton staff to accommodate the residents, not to give civil servants a longer weekend.
- The pavement on North Main Street before the town line is terrible. How anyone would comfortably get a wheelchair or any other assistance device on those horrible sidewalks is beyond me.
- It seems that there is plenty of room for a dog park and walking / dog park in the area along Fagan drive
- The streets and vacant lots are a real eyesore in comparison to neighboring towns/cities - Randolph, Holbrook, Stoughton and Braintree. There are main thoroughfares that look like trash ridden overgrown neglected lots. The transition from N Main to E Main is an embarrassment! Broken sidewalks poorly tended vacant lots unattractive median poor signage inappropriate traffic lights for an exit off of Rt 24 the lost is endless. We pay ample taxes so I'm not sure why those dollars aren't being used to improve the town.
- To visit Demarco Park for events, some may need to park a distance away due to its' main st. location. Could be difficult for old or injured. True of other parks also due to town's small size.

APPENDIX

AVON GRIEVANCE POLICY

SAMPLE PUBLIC NOTICE OF ADA COMPLIANCE

SAMPLE EVENT LANGUAGE

WEBSITE ANALYSIS

FUNDING RESOURCES

SURVEY FORMS

Administration

Departments

Employment

Public

COMPLETED SURVEYS

DEPARTMENT SURVEY RESPONSE TABLE

ACCESS AUDIT REPORTS

AVON GRIEVANCE POLICY

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Steven P. Rose, Chairman,
Robert F. Brady, Jr., Clerk
Eric S. Beckerman, Associate

Gregory S. Enos
TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

Town of Avon
Massachusetts

Town Offices
Buckley Center 02322
(508) 588-0414
FAX (508) 559-0209



GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE UNDER THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

This Grievance Procedure is established to meet the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 ("ADA"). This may be used by anyone who wishes to file a complaint alleging discrimination on the basis of disability in the provision of services, activities, programs, or benefits by the Town of Avon.

The Town of Avon's Personnel Policy governs employment-related complaints of disability discrimination. The complaint should be in writing and contain information about the alleged discrimination such as name, address, phone number of complainant and location, date, and description of the problem. Alternative means of filing complaints, such as personal interviews or a tape recording of the complaint, will be made available for persons with disabilities upon request.

The complaint should be submitted by the grievant and/or his/her designee as soon as possible but no later than 60 calendar days after the alleged violation to: "The Office of the Town Administrator, 65 E. Main Street, Avon Massachusetts, 02322."

Within 15 calendar days after receipt of the complaint, the Town Administrator or designee will meet with the complainant to discuss the complaint and the possible resolutions. Within 15 calendar days of the meeting, the Town Administrator or designee will respond in writing, and where appropriate, in a format accessible to the complainant, such as large print, Braille, or audio tape. The response will explain the position of the Town of Avon and offer options for substantive resolution of the complaint.

If the response by the Town Administrator or designee does not satisfactorily resolve the issue, the complainant and/or his/her designee may appeal the decision within 15 calendar days after receipt of the response to the Town Administrator or designee.

Within 15 calendar days after receipt of the appeal, the Town Administrator or designee will meet with the complainant to discuss the complaint and possible resolutions. Within 15 calendar days after the meeting, the Town Administrator or designee will respond in writing, and, where appropriate, in a format accessible to the complainant, with a final resolution of the complaint.

All written complaints received by the Town Administrator or designee, appeals to the Town Administrator or designee, and responses from these two offices will be retained by the Town of Avon for at least three years.

DRAFT

SAMPLE PUBLIC NOTICE OF ADA COMPLIANCE

Long

Americans with Disabilities Act

(Name of Public Entity) does not discriminate on the basis of disability in its services, programs, or activities.

Employment: (Name of Public Entity) does not discriminate on the basis of disability in its hiring or employment practices and complies with the ADA title I employment regulations.

Effective Communication: (Name of Public Entity) will, upon request, provide auxiliary aids and services leading to effective communication for people with disabilities, including qualified sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices, documents in Braille, and other ways of making communications accessible to people who have speech, hearing, or vision impairments.

Modifications to Policies and Procedures: (Name of Public Entity) will make reasonable modifications to policies and procedures to ensure that people with disabilities have an equal opportunity to enjoy programs, services, and activities. For example, people with service animals are welcomed in (Name of Public Entity) offices, even where pets and other animals are prohibited.

Requests: To request an auxiliary aid or service for effective communication, or a modification of policies or procedures contact (ADA Coordinator name and contact information) as soon as possible, preferably XX days before the activity or event.

Complaints: Send complaints to (ADA Coordinator name and contact information).

Short

Americans with Disabilities Act

The (Name of Public Entity) does not discriminate on the basis of disability in its programs, services, activities, and employment practices.

If you need auxiliary aids and services for effective communication (such as a sign language interpreter, an assistive listening device or print material in digital format) or reasonable modification to programs, services or activities contact the ADA Coordinator as soon as possible, preferably XX days before the activity or event.

A grievance procedure is available to resolve complaints.

Upon request, this notice is available in alternative formats such as large print or Braille.

(ADA Coordinator name and contact information)

SAMPLE EVENT LANGUAGE

For additional information or to request accommodations to participate in this meeting (event) contact (###) ###-#### or MA Relay 711 or email AppropriatePerson@address.org. Meeting materials in alternate formats can be made available upon request. Notification 72 hours prior to the meeting will allow the Town to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting. Note, the (meeting location) is an accessible facility.

WEBSITE ANALYSIS

KMA, LLC conducted a cursory review of the Town of Avon's website (<https://www.avon-ma.gov/>) in order to help identify any significant and recurring accessibility and usability problems. The basis for the review was the guidance from Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act and W3C-WAI's WCAG 2.0.

KMA utilized WebAim's WAVE Toolbar, and The Paciello Group's Colour Contrast Analyzer (CCA) and ARC Toolkit to review the Town's web site.

Generally, the Town of Avon's website is substantially accessible and can be made more user friendly with small modifications.

Suggested modifications include:

- Increased color contrast (ex: search bar);
- Link text that clearly describes the destination or function of the text. Avoid link text such as "read more";
- Links to PDF documents should indicate the file type;
- Ensure that PDF documents are accessible,
- Inclusion of first and third level headers: Due to the amount of information presented on the website, the addition of consistent headers would allow users of screen readers and other assistive technology to navigate web pages by structure.

FUNDING RESOURCES

Municipal Americans with Disability Act (ADA) Improvement grant

The Massachusetts Office of Disability (MOD) offers a project grant, the [Municipal Americans with Disability Act \(ADA\) Improvement grant](#), for cities and municipalities that have an SETP in place; this grant can be used for the removal of architectural barriers or barriers to communication.

Project examples include but are not limited to increasing both physical access and programmatic access through the addition of features such as: ramps, elevators, power lifts and Limited Use/Limited Application (LULAs), signage, communication access devices, curb cuts, and/or any other features that are designed to improve architectural access/or programmatic access.

Note: Municipalities must be members, or willing to become members, of the State's [Community Compact Cabinet](#) (CCC) to apply for project grants. Municipalities that have selected the "[Public Accessibility Best Practice](#)" option will increase their grant score. By selecting the "Public Accessibility Best practice" option, municipalities commit to completing an Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Self-Evaluation and Develop a Transition Plan or to strive for the [Universal Participation](#) (UP) designation from the Mass Cultural Council, which aims to increase accessibility at cultural facilities.

Grant [application](#) (online) opens in August and closes in October. Grants are awarded or denied in December.

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)

Community Block Grants are available to municipalities with fewer than 50,000 residents who do not receive Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds directly from the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Communities can apply for funds to cover a variety of projects that include the removal of architectural barriers to allow access by persons with disabilities. A community that applies for an architectural barrier removal grant must complete a grant application that delineates a SETP or a Memo of Understanding that is co-signed by the Department of Housing and Development and the Department of Justice. The community must also state that it will complete an SETP within five years of the signing.

Grant [application](#) (online) opens in December and closes in March. Applicants must register with the State of Massachusetts CDBG Grant Management System.

[CDBG Technical Assistance Guide for Architectural Barrier Removal](#)

SURVEY FORMS

A. ADMINISTRATION

Town of Avon MA

ADA Self Evaluation & Transition Plan: Administration Survey

Name of Individual filling out this form:

Position:

Phone:

Email:

Policy/Procedure	Yes	No	N/A	Comments
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A. GENERAL PROCEDURES					
1.	Has an employee been appointed to coordinate the public entity's ADA obligations - ADA Coordinator? (Required if 50 or more employees.).				Name and title
a.	ADA Coordinator has received ADA training.				Please provide date of last training

<p>2. A Grievance Policy and Procedure has been adopted to resolve disability related complaints? The policy includes the name and contact information of the employee responsible for receiving and processing discrimination complaints. _</p>				<p>Please attach</p>
<p>a. The Grievance Policy is posted in conspicuous locations in all Town buildings.</p>				<p>Name and contact info</p>
<p>b. The Grievance Policy has been distributed to all department heads, boards and commissions.</p>				
<p>3. Surcharges are not imposed to recover the cost of accommodations, effective communications services or accessibility features.</p>				
<p>4. Procedures are established to assure meetings (including Boards and Commissions), hearings, workshops, and conferences, are held in accessible locations.</p>				<p>Please describe</p>
<p>5. List any licenses or certifications issued by the Town (liquor, restaurant, etc.) and indicate whether the application process has been reviewed to ensure that qualified persons with disabilities are not screened out:</p>				
<p>a.</p>				
<p>b.</p>				
<p>c.</p>				
<p>d.</p>				

B. NOTIFICATION

<p>2. Public Notice of ADA compliance has been developed and is visibly posted in public spaces of municipal facilities, in publications and digital media including:</p>				<p>Please attach</p>
<p>a. Building entrances/lobbies, bulletin boards and gathering places</p>				
<p>b. Home page of the Town's website and other pages where information about disability services, public events and facility accessibility is displayed</p>				
<p>c. Employee handbooks and manuals</p>				
<p>d. Event posters, flyers, program brochures and announcements</p>				
<p>e. Program announcements (in abbreviated form)</p>				
<p>3. Appropriate staff have received training regarding:</p>				<p>Please describe how this is accomplished.</p>

a. the Town's policy of nondiscrimination,				
b. how to respond to requests for reasonable modifications,				
c. their roles and responsibilities in providing auxiliary communication aids and services,				
d. the available resources for providing auxiliary aids and services,				
e. effective communication with people with disabilities.				
f. Use of the Massachusetts Relay Service to make and receive calls.				

C. REASONABLE MODIFICATIONS OF POLICIES

1. The Town has a process for responding to requests for modifications to policies or practices if the modification is necessary for a person with a disability to participate?				
a. The process includes criteria for determining whether a modification would fundamentally alter the nature of the program.				

D. SERVICE ANIMALS				
1. The Town has a written policy regarding service animals in municipal facilities.				Please attach
E. USE OF CONTRACTORS				
1. The Town has included language in its contracts to ensure that contractors are aware of their obligations to facilitate the participation of persons with disabilities in programs and activities the contractor operates on behalf of the Town.				Please attach sample language
2. The Town has developed a procedure to disseminate information about ADA requirements to contractors.				Please describe how this is accomplished.
F. TRANSPORTATION				
1. The Town provides or contracts for transportation services. (If the answer is no, skip the rest of this section)				
2. The Town or contractor has procedures for responding to requests from persons with disabilities to provide schedule and route materials in a timely manner in an accessible form.				
3. The Town or contractors have procedures to provide information with no delay nor additional cost to persons with disabilities.				
4. The Town or contractor provides training and testing to assure employees are fully qualified to serve passengers with disabilities.				
4. The Town or contractor has a policy that requires regular and frequent checks of lifts, as well as other access-related equipment or vehicles.				

G. COMMUNICATIONS

<p>1. There is a policy requiring and implementing procedures for making Auxiliary Aids and Services available to persons who are deaf or hard of hearing and people who are blind or have limited sight.</p>				
<p>a. All program announcements include information about how to request an auxiliary aid or service.</p>				
<p>b. Sound amplification and assistive listening systems are available and maintained in assembly/meeting spaces and performance areas.</p>				
<p>c. The Town has a procedure to ensure that qualified interpreters are provided in an expeditious manner when requested in advance at meetings, hearings, interviews, conferences or public appearances by Town officials.</p>				
<p>2. The Town has the resources necessary to provide materials in alternative (to traditional print) formats including large print, audio and/or scanned material for use with screen readers,</p>				<p>Please describe how this is accomplished.</p>
<p>3. Where phone numbers are provided as a means of contacting the municipality, an alternative means of communication (e.g. TTY number or email) is also provided.</p>				

<p>a. TDD numbers or telephone relay numbers been added to all The Town directories, pamphlets, brochures, letterhead, etc.</p>				
H. DOCUMENTS AND PUBLICATION				
<p>1. The Town has reviewed public documents to eliminate patronizing or stigmatizing language and images.</p>				
<p>I. Website</p>				
<p>2. Is there a policy regarding the accessibility of the Town's webpages, that is, in compliance with the W3C Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.0 or Section 508 Standards?</p>				
<p>3. Are the staff and contractors who are responsible for webpage and content development aware of the policy and knowledgeable about these standards?</p>				
<p>4. Has the website been tested for compliance with either of these standards?</p>				
<p>a. If yes, have people with disabilities who use screen reading software and other assistive technology participated in the evaluation?</p>				

1. Municipal alerts and emergency warnings are sent in multiple formats?				
2. Emergency evacuation procedures from buildings address the needs of individuals with disabilities.				Please attach a copy of the section of your emergency preparedness plan that addresses individuals with disabilities
3. Emergency personnel are trained in effective communication with people with disabilities.				

If you have any questions, please contact: Katie Denis, kdenis@kmaccess.com

B. DEPARTMENT

Note: this survey was also made available online.

Town of Avon MA

ADA Self Evaluation & Transition Plan: Department Survey

Department Name:

Department Contact Person:

Phone:

Email:

1. Please provide a brief description of your department:

2. Please provide a list of the programs/ services your department provides to residents of the Town (licensing, permits, youth soccer, notarization, etc.).

3. Please provide a list of the locations where the programs/ services noted in Question 3 are located.

4. What, if any, do you think may be barriers (architectural, operational, etc.) for individuals with disabilities to access your programs/services?

5. Have you ever received feedback that one of your programs was difficult to access by an individual(s) with a disability? If yes, please describe:

6. Do you charge any user fees related to providing accessibility to you programs? If yes, please describe:

7. Do you offer any separate services, programs or activities for people with disabilities? If yes, please describe:

Note: if there is insufficient space for your response, please add additional sheets.

Service/ Program	Yes	No	N/A	Comment
8. Have department personnel received training in: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. the Town's policy of nondiscrimination, b. protocols for responding to requests for reasonable modifications, c. providing auxiliary communication aids and services, d. available resources for providing auxiliary aids and services, e. effective communication with people with disabilities. f. Use of the Massachusetts Relay Service to make and receive calls. 				

9. What methods of outreach do you use to communicate with the people who live in Town and visitors (emails, social media, brochures, print materials, letters, etc.)?				
10. Do your methods of outreach (see #7) alert recipients on how to request auxiliary aids/services and/or materials in alternate formats?				
11. Do materials or literature about your programs and services include a notice about non-discrimination?				
12. If requested, do you have the resources necessary to provide print materials in alternate formats in a timely manner?				
13. If they are requested, do you have access to appropriate auxiliary aids and services (ASL interpreters, assistive listening systems, etc.)?				
14. Does the emergency preparedness plan for your facilities address the needs of individuals with disabilities?				If yes, please describe.

If you have any questions, please contact: Katie Denis, kdenis@kmacccess.com

C. EMPLOYMENT

**Town of Avon MA
ADA Self Evaluation & Transition Plan: Employment Survey**

Name of Individual filling out this form:

Position:

Phone:

Email:

EMPLOYMENT				
Policy/ Procedure	Yes	No	N/A	Comments
1. The Town has reviewed the following areas to assure that it does not discriminate against persons with disabilities:				Where possible, please attach examples of forms.
• Recruitment advertising				
• Application form.				
Job descriptions to distinguish between essential functions and				
• marginal functions				
Leaves of absence, sick				
• leave, or any other leave				
• Medical examinations				
Protocol is in place to				
• ensure personnel files are managed so that information identifying disability is contained in a separate file.				
Training programs, both in-				
• house and outside opportunities				

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Performance evaluation forms 				
2. Staff who conduct interviews have received ADA training.				
3. Policies/procedures relative to requests for reasonable accommodations have been developed.				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Policies/procedures have been communicated to all department heads 				
4. The Town's Personnel Manual is available in alternate formats.				
4. The Town's Personnel Manual contains:				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a Statement of Nondiscrimination or Equal Opportunity 				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Instructions regarding filing a grievance 				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Instructions regarding requesting a reasonable accommodation. 				
6. The Town has a procedure for responding to requests for a reasonable accommodation by an applicant or employee.				

If you have any questions, please contact: Katie Denis, kdenis@kmaccess.com

5. Any other comments about accessibility?

Note: if there is insufficient space for your response, please add additional sheets.

DEPARTMENT SURVEY RESPONSE TABLE

KMA developed this table based on the Department responses to the survey. See attached *Avon Department Survey Response Table* document.

ACCESS AUDIT REPORTS

The audit reports have been completed in accordance with the ASTM Standard Guide for Property Condition Assessments: Baseline Property Condition Assessment Process. KMA's audits were not comprehensive. In some cases, a representative sample of certain areas and elements (such as thresholds or other common-use spaces) were audited, and recommendations were developed based on observed patterns of compliance.

For each instance of non-compliance, the Report provides standard recommendation for barrier mitigation. Because the audit does not account for structural and other factors that may have a significant impact on the feasibility of standard mitigation strategies, it is assumed that further design study will be performed to determine a specific approach to mitigation. In most cases, there will be additional, alternative approaches for mitigation from the standard mitigation presented in the report. Construction costs for standard mitigations, including unit costs, are estimated costs provided for budget planning purposes only and do not represent actual construction costs. Factors that will influence actual construction costs include the specific approach to mitigation contemplated, structural and other factors not identified during the audit, and the local market.

See attached:

Avon SETP_Buildings_10.07.2020

Avon SETP_Exterior Areas_10.07.2020

COMPLETED SURVEYS

See attached:

Avon Admin Survey

Avon Employment Survey

All other survey responses are reflected in the *Avon Department Survey Response Table* document or Section 5 of the report.

AVON EXTERIOR AREA AUDITS

KMA audited the following exterior areas:




Avon Middle-High School Playing Fields
Bartlett Street Courts
Butler Elementary School
Cemetery
DeMarco Park
DW Park
Fagan Drive / Crowley Park
Moses Curtis Memorial Park
Pharmacy Park
Tracy-Miller Playground

AVON MIDDLE-HIGH SCHOOL PLAYING FIELDS

AUDITED ON: MAY05, 2020



Avon Middle-High School is located between Page Street and Victory Avenue. The site consists of a baseball field. One designated accessible parking space is provided.

AVON MIDDLE-HIGH SCHOOL PLAYING FIELDS				
	Barrier Statement	Photo	Proposed Mitigation	Cost
	<p>Accessible Parking</p> <p>The designated accessible parking space lacks an access aisle and the required signage.</p>		<p>Pave and stripe a portion of the parking lot to add an access aisle as well as their associated signs.</p> <p>Unit Cost: \$1,500 ea.</p> <p>Quantity: 2 (1 space + 1 aisle)</p>	\$3,000
2.	<p>Accessible Route</p> <p>The baseball field and the bleachers are not located on an accessible route.</p> <p>A wheelchair space is not provided at the bleachers.</p> <p>The gate lacks a level landing, @ 7.7%.</p> <p>The gate lacks the required minimum 10" of smooth surface along the bottom of the push side.</p>	 	<p>Provide an accessible route. Additional study required.</p> <p>Unit Cost: \$10,000</p> <p>Quantity: one</p> <p>Provide an accessible space on an accessible route next to the bleachers.</p> <p>Unit Cost: \$25/SF</p> <p>Quantity: 20 SF</p> <p>Regrade the gate landing.</p> <p>Unit Cost: \$1,000</p> <p>Quantity: one</p> <p>Install a kick plate that is minimum 10" tall on the bottom of the push side of the gate.</p> <p>Unit Cost: \$250 ea.</p> <p>Quantity: one</p>	\$11,750

TOTAL FOR AVON MIDDLE-HIGH SCHOOL PLAYING FIELDS: \$14,750

Avon Middle - High School Baseball Field

Facility Inventory		LOCATION:
ACTIVITY	EQUIPMENT	NOTES
Picnic Facilities	Tables & Benches	Located adjacent to accessible paths
		Access to Open Spaces
	Grills	Back and Arm Rests
		Adequate number
Trash Cans	Height of Cooking Surface	
Picnic Shelters	Located adjacent to accessible paths	
	Located adjacent to accessible paths	
Trails		Located adjacent to accessible paths
		Located near accessible water fountains, trash can, restroom, parking, etc.
		Surface material
		Dimensions
Swimming Facilities	Pools	Rails
		Signage (for visually impaired)
	Beaches	Entrance
		Location from accessible parking
Play Areas (tot lots)	All Play Equipment i.e. swings, slides	Safety features i.e. warning for visually impaired
		Location from accessible path into water
Game Areas: *ballfield *basketball *tennis	Access Routes	Handrails
		Location from accessible parking
Boat Docks	Access Routes	Shade provided
		Same experience provided to all
Fishing Facilities	Equipment	Located adjacent to accessible paths
		Enough space between equipment for wheelchair
Programming	Are special programs at your facilities accessible?	Located adjacent to accessible paths
		Berm cuts onto courts
Services and Technical Assistance	Information available in alternative formats i.e. for visually impaired	Height
		Dimensions
		Spectator Seating <i>no wheelchair space</i>
		Located adjacent to accessible paths
		Handrails
		Located adjacent to accessible paths
		Handrails
		Arm Rests
		Bait Shelves
		Handrails
		Fish Cleaning Tables
		Learn-to-Swim
		Guided Hikes
		Interpretive Programs
		Process to request interpretive services (i.e. sign language interpreter) for meetings

LOCATION

PARKING			
Total Spaces	Required Accessible Spaces		
Up to 25	1 space ✓		
26-50	2 spaces		
51-75	3 spaces		
76-100	4 spaces		
101-150	5 spaces		
151-200	6 spaces		
201-300	7 spaces		
301-400	8 spaces		
401-500	9 spaces		
Specification for Accessible Spaces	Yes	No	Comments/Transition Notes
Accessible space located closest to accessible entrance		✓	<i>lacks access aisle</i>
Where spaces cannot be located within 200 ft of accessible entrance, drop-off area is provided within 100 ft.			
Minimum width of 13 ft includes 8 ft space plus 5 ft access aisle		✓	
Van space – minimum of 1 van space for every accessible space, 8 ft wide plus 8 ft aisle. Alternative is to make all accessible spaces 11 ft wide with 5 ft aisle.			
Sign with international symbol of accessibility at each space or pair of spaces		✓	
Sign minimum 5 ft, maximum 8 ft to top of sign		✓	
Surface evenly paved or hard-packed (no cracks)			
Surface slope less than 1:20, 5%			
Curbcut to pathway from parking lot at each space or pair of spaces, if sidewalk (curb) is present			
Curbcut is a minimum width of 3 ft, excluding sloped sides, has sloped sides, all slopes not to exceed 1:12, and textured or painted yellow			
RAMPS			
Specification	Yes	No	Comments/Transition Notes
Slope Maximum 1:12		✓	
Minimum width 4 ft between handrails		✓	
Handrails on both sides if ramp is longer than 6 ft			
Handrails at 34" and 19" from ramp surface			
Handrails extend 12" beyond top and bottom			
Handgrip oval or round			
Handgrip smooth surface			
Handgrip diameter between 1 1/4" and 2"			
Clearance of 1 1/2" between wall and wall rail			
Non-slip surface			
Level platforms (4ft x 4 ft) at every 30 ft, at top, at			

LOCATION

SITE ACCESS, PATH OF TRAVEL, ENTRANCES			
Specification	Yes	No	Comments/Transition Notes
Site Access			
Accessible path of travel from passenger disembarking area and parking area to accessible entrance		✓	
Disembarking area at accessible entrance		✓	
Surface evenly paved or hard-packed		✓	
No ponding of water			
Path of Travel			
Path does not require the use of stairs		✓	<i>not wheelchair access.</i>
Path is stable, firm and slip resistant			
3 ft wide minimum			
Slope maximum 1:20 (5%) and maximum cross pitch is 2% (1:50).			
Continuous common surface, no changes in level greater than 1/4 inch			
Any objects protruding onto the pathway must be detected by a person with a visual disability using a cane			
Objects protruding more than 4" from the wall must be within 27" of the ground, or higher than 80"			
Curb on the pathway must have curb cuts at drives, parking and drop-offs			
Entrances			
Primary public entrances accessible to person using wheelchair, must be signed, gotten to independently, and not be the service entrance		✓	<i>not wheelchair access.</i>
Level space extending 5 ft. from the door, interior and exterior of entrance doors			
Minimum 32" clear width opening (i.e. 36" door with standard hinge)			
At least 18" clear floor area on latch, pull side of door			
Door handle no higher than 48" and operable with a closed fist			
Vestibule is 4 ft plus the width of the door swinging into the space			
Entrance(s) on a level that makes elevators accessible			
Door mats less than 1/2" thick are securely fastened			
Door mats more than 1/2" thick are recessed			
Grates in path of travel have openings of 1/2" maximum			<i>Gate locks required surfacing.</i>
Signs at non-accessible entrance(s) indicate direction to accessible entrance		✓	
Emergency egress – alarms with flashing lights and audible signals, sufficiently lighted			

LOCATION

STAIRS and DOORS

Specification	Yes	No	Comments/Transition Notes
Stairs			
No open risers			<i>Bleachers w/ wheelchair space</i>
Nosings not projecting			
Treads no less than 11" wide			
Handrails on both sides			
Handrails 34"-38" above tread			
Handrail extends a minimum of 1 ft beyond top and bottom riser (if no safety hazard and space permits)			
Handgrip oval or round			
Handgrip has a smooth surface			
Handgrip diameter between 1 1/4" and 1 1/2"			
1 1/2" clearance between wall and handrail			
Doors			
Minimum 32" clear opening			
At least 18" clear floor space on pull side of door			
Closing speed minimum 3 seconds to within 3" of the latch			
Maximum pressure 5 pounds interior doors			
Threshold maximum 1/2" high, beveled on both sides			
Hardware operable with a closed fist (no conventional door knobs or thumb latch devices)			
Hardware minimum 36", maximum 48" above the floor			
Clear, level floor space extends out 5 ft from both sides of the door			<i>✓ no leveling area</i>
Door adjacent to revolving door is accessible and unlocked			
Doors opening into hazardous area have hardware that is knurled or roughened			

NOTES

LOCATION

RESTROOMS – also see Doors and Vestibules			
<i>Specification</i>	Yes	No	<i>Comments/Transition Notes</i>
5 ft turning space measured 12" from the floor			
At least one Sink:			
Clear floor space of 30" by 48" to allow a forward approach			
Mounted without pedestal or legs, height 34" to top of rim			
Extends at least 22" from the wall			
Open knee space a minimum 19" deep, 30" width, and 27" high			
Cover exposed pipes with insulation			
Faucets operable with closed fist (lever or spring activated handle)			
At least one Stall:			
Accessible to person using wheelchair at 60" wide by 72" deep			
Stall door is 36" wide			
Stall door swings out			
Stall door is self closing			
Stall door has a pull latch			
Lock on stall door is operable with a closed fist, and 32" above the floor			
Coat hook is 54" high			
Toilet			
18" from center to nearest side wall			
42" minimum clear space from center to farthest wall or fixture			
Top of seat 17"-19" above the floor			
Grab Bars			
On back and side wall closest to toilet			
1 1/2" diameter			
1 1/2" clearance to wall			
Located 30" above and parallel to the floor			
Acid-etched or roughened surface			
42" long			
Fixtures			
Toilet paper dispenser is 24" above floor			
One mirror set a maximum 38" to bottom (if tilted, 42")			
Dispensers (towel, soap, etc) at least one of each a maximum 42" above the floor			

NOTES

LOCATION

FLOORS, DRINKING FOUNTAINS, TELEPHONES			
Specification	Yes	No	Comments/Transition Notes
Floors			
Non-slip surface			
Carpeting is high-density, low pile, non-absorbent, stretched taut, securely anchored			
Corridor width minimum is 3 ft			
Objects (signs, ceiling lights, fixtures) can only protrude 4" into the path of travel from a height of 27" to 80" above the floor			
Drinking Fountains			
Spouts no higher than 36" from floor to outlet			
Hand operated push button or level controls			
Spouts located near front with stream of water as parallel to front as possible			
If recessed, recess a minimum 30" width, and no deeper than depth of fountain			
If no clear knee space underneath, clear floor space 30" x 48" to allow parallel approach			
Telephones			
Highest operating part a maximum 54" above the floor			
Access within 12" of phone, 30" high by 30" wide			
Adjustable volume control on headset so identified			
SIGNS, SIGNALS, AND SWITCHES			
Specification	Yes	No	Comments/Transition Notes
Switches, Controls and Signs			
Switches and controls for light, heat, ventilation, windows, fire alarms, thermostats, etc. must be a minimum of 36" and a maximum of 48" above the floor for a forward reach, a maximum of 54" for a side reach			
Electrical outlets centered no lower than 18" above the floor			
Warning signals must be visual as well as audible			
Signs			
Mounting height must be 60" to centerline of the sign			
Within 18" of door jamb or recessed			
Letters and numbers at least 1/4" high			
Letters and numbers raised .03"			
Letters and numbers contrast with the background color			

NOTES

LOCATION			
FLOORS, DRINKING FOUNTAINS, TELEPHONES			
<i>Specification</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Comments/Transition Notes</i>
Floors			
Non-slip surface			
Carpeting is high-density, low pile, non-absorbent, stretched taut, securely anchored			
Corridor width minimum is 3 ft			
Objects (signs, ceiling lights, fixtures) can only protrude 4" into the path of travel from a height of 27" to 80" above the floor			
Drinking Fountains			
Spouts no higher than 36" from floor to outlet			
Hand operated push button or level controls			
Spouts located near front with stream of water as parallel to front as possible			
If recessed, recess a minimum 30" width, and no deeper than depth of fountain			
If no clear knee space underneath, clear floor space 30" x 48" to allow parallel approach			
Telephones			
Highest operating part a maximum 54" above the floor			
Access within 12" of phone, 30" high by 30" wide			
Adjustable volume control on headset so identified			
SIGNS, SIGNALS, AND SWITCHES			
<i>Specification</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Comments/Transition Notes</i>
Switches, Controls and Signs			
Switches and controls for light, heat, ventilation, windows, fire alarms, thermostats, etc, must be a minimum of 36" and a maximum of 48" above the floor for a forward reach, a maximum of 54" for a side reach			
Electrical outlets centered no lower than 18" above the floor			
Warning signals must be visual as well as audible			
Signs			
Mounting height must be 60" to centerline of the sign			
Within 18" of door jamb or recessed			
Letters and numbers at least 1 1/2" high			
Letters and numbers raised .03"			
Letters and numbers contrast with the background color			

NOTES

BARTLETT STREET COURTS

AUDITED ON: MAY05, 2020



The site is located on Bartlett Street. The site consists of two tennis courts and a parking lot. No designated accessible parking spaces are provided.

BARTLETT STREET COURTS				
	Barrier Statement	Photo	Proposed Mitigation	Cost
	<p>Accessible Parking Designated accessible parking is not provided.</p>		<p>Stripe a portion of the parking lot to add accessible parking spaces (including at least one van space), as well as their associated signs and access aisles. Unit Cost: \$300 ea. Est. Quantity: 2 (1 space + 1 aisle)</p>	\$600
2.	<p>Accessible Route The gate lacks a level landing, @ 14.9%. The gate lacks the required minimum 10" of smooth surface along the bottom of the push side.</p>		<p>Regrade the gate landing. Unit Cost: \$1,000 Quantity: 1 Install a kick plate that is minimum 10" tall on the bottom of the push side of the gate. Unit Cost: \$250 ea. Quantity: one</p>	\$1,250
TOTAL FOR BARTLETT STREET COURTS:				\$1,850

Bartlett Street Tennis Courts is an unmaintained, locked facility containing two tennis courts. *Without public access, there is no need for an ADA assessment.*

Conversations with town official and the public indicate that the courts have been closed to the public for a significant amount of time. There were reports from many years ago that the site was becoming a teenage gathering spot and was closed. The Town might consider this site for redevelopment of the site into a pickleball court or other uses. There was public interest in the use of pickleball courts in other communities


BUTLER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL


AUDITED ON: MAY 05, 2020



The Butler Elementary School is located along Patrick Clark Drive. The site consists of an elementary school, surface parking, including two

designated accessible parking spaces, a playground, and two sports fields. There is no accessible route from the parking to the playground or the sports fields.

BUTLER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL				
	Barrier Statement	Photo	Proposed Mitigation	Cost
	<p>Accessible Parking Designated accessible parking is not provided. Note: The existing para//e/ parking spaces designated with the International Symbol of Accessibility do not meet the dimensional requirements for an accessible parking space.</p>		<p>See mitigation and costs in the Buildings Audit Report.</p>	

2.	<p>Accessible Route</p> <p>The playground, gazebo, and picnic tables are not located on an accessible route due to grass surfaces.</p> <p>The playground lacks ground level play components and an accessible route between elements.</p>		<p>Provide an accessible route. Additional study required. Unit Cost: \$20,000 Quantity: 1</p> <p>Provide ground-level play components at the playground. Additional study required. Unit Cost: \$1,000 Quantity: one</p>	\$21,000
TOTAL FOR BUTLER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL:				\$21,000

BUTLER PLAYGROUND AUDITED JUNE 10, 2022

BUTLER PLAYGROUND.

Facility Inventory		LOCATION:
ACTIVITY	EQUIPMENT	NOTES
Picnic Facilities	Tables & Benches	Located adjacent to accessible paths NO
		Access to Open Spaces YES
		Back and Arm Rests NO
	Grills N/A	Adequate number
		Height of Cooking Surface
	Trash Cans	Located adjacent to accessible paths
Picnic Shelters N/A	Located adjacent to accessible paths	
	Located near accessible water fountains, trash can, restroom, parking, etc.	
Trails		Surface material
		Dimensions
		Rails
		Signage (for visually impaired)
Swimming Facilities	Pools N/A	Entrance
		Location from accessible parking
	Beaches /	Safety features i.e. warning for visually impaired
		Location from accessible path into water
		Handrails
Play Areas (tot lots)	All Play Equipment i.e. swings, slides	Same experience provided to all FENCED IN
	Access Routes	Located adjacent to accessible paths NO
		Enough space between equipment for wheelchair NO
Game Areas: *ballfield *basketball *tennis	Access Routes	Located adjacent to accessible paths
		Berm cuts onto courts NO
	Equipment	Height
		Dimensions
Boat Docks	Access Routes N/A	Spectator Seating NONE
		Located adjacent to accessible paths
Fishing Facilities	Access Routes	Handrails
		Located adjacent to accessible paths
	Equipment N/A	Handrails
		Arm Rests
		Bait Shelves
Programming	Are special programs at your facilities accessible?	Handrails
		Fish Cleaning Tables
		Learn-to-Swim N/A
Services and Technical Assistance	Information available in alternative formats i.e. for visually impaired	Guided Hikes N/A
		Interpretive Programs UNKNOWN
Services and Technical Assistance	Process to request interpretive services (i.e. sign language interpreter) for meetings	NO NO
		NO NO

LOCATION

PARKING			
Total Spaces	Required Accessible Spaces		
Up to 25	1 space		
26-50	2 spaces		
51-75	3 spaces		
76-100	4 spaces		
101-150	5 spaces		
151-200	6 spaces		
201-300	7 spaces		
301-400	8 spaces		
401-500	9 spaces		
Specification for Accessible Spaces	Yes	No	Comments/Transition Notes
Accessible space located closest to accessible entrance		X	
Where spaces cannot be located within 200 ft of accessible entrance, drop-off area is provided within 100 ft.		X	
Minimum width of 13 ft includes 8 ft space plus 5 ft access aisle		X	
Van space – minimum of 1 van space for every accessible space, 8 ft wide plus 8 ft aisle. Alternative is to make all accessible spaces 11 ft wide with 5 ft aisle.		X	
Sign with international symbol of accessibility at each space or pair of spaces		X	
Sign minimum 5 ft, maximum 8 ft to top of sign		X	
Surface evenly paved or hard-packed (no cracks)	X		
Surface slope less than 1:20, 5%	X		
Curbcut to pathway from parking lot at each space or pair of spaces, if sidewalk (curb) is present		X	
Curbcut is a minimum width of 3 ft, excluding sloped sides, has sloped sides, all slopes not to exceed 1:12, and textured or painted yellow		X	
RAMPS			
Specification	Yes	No	Comments/Transition Notes
Slope Maximum 1:12			
Minimum width 4 ft between handrails			
Handrails on both sides if ramp is longer than 6 ft			
Handrails at 34" and 19" from ramp surface			N/A
Handrails extend 12" beyond top and bottom			
Handgrip oval or round			
Handgrip smooth surface			
Handgrip diameter between 1 1/4" and 2"			
Clearance of 1 1/2" between wall and wall rail			
Non-slip surface			
Level platforms (4ft x 4 ft) at every 30 ft. at top, at			

LOCATION

SITE ACCESS, PATH OF TRAVEL, ENTRANCES			
Specification	Yes	No	Comments/Transition Notes
Site Access			
Accessible path of travel from passenger disembarking area and parking area to accessible entrance		X	GRASS, MULCH, GRAVEL DRIVE
Disembarking area at accessible entrance		X	
Surface evenly paved or hard-packed	X		
No ponding of water		X	NONE VISIBLE
Path of Travel			
Path does not require the use of stairs	X		
Path is stable, firm and slip resistant		X	
3 ft wide minimum	X		
Slope maximum 1:20 (5%) and maximum cross pitch is 2% (1:50).	X		
Continuous common surface, no changes in level greater than 1/2 inch		X	
Any objects protruding onto the pathway must be detected by a person with a visual disability using a cane		X	
Objects protruding more than 4" from the wall must be within 27" of the ground, or higher than 80"			N/A
Curb on the pathway must have curb cuts at drives, parking and drop-offs		X	
Entrances			
Primary public entrances accessible to person using wheelchair, must be signed, gotten to independently, and not be the service entrance		X	
Level space extending 5 ft. from the door, interior and exterior of entrance doors			
Minimum 32" clear width opening (i.e. 36" door with standard hinge)			N/A
At least 18" clear floor area on latch, pull side of door			
Door handle no higher than 48" and operable with a closed fist			
Vestibule is 4 ft plus the width of the door swinging into the space			
Entrance(s) on a level that makes elevators accessible			
Door mats less than 1/2" thick are securely fastened			
Door mats more than 1/2" thick are recessed			
Grates in path of travel have openings of 1/2" maximum			
Signs at non-accessible entrance(s) indicate direction to accessible entrance			
Emergency egress – alarms with flashing lights and audible signals, sufficiently lighted			

LOCATION

STAIRS and DOORS			
Specification	Yes	No	Comments/Transition Notes
Stairs			
No open risers			
Nosings not projecting			
Treads no less than 11" wide			
Handrails on both sides			N/A
Handrails 34"-38" above tread			
Handrail extends a minimum of 1 ft beyond top and bottom riser (if no safety hazard and space permits)			
Handgrip oval or round			
Handgrip has a smooth surface			
Handgrip diameter between 1 1/4" and 1 1/2"			
1 1/2" clearance between wall and handrail			
Doors			
Minimum 32" clear opening			
At least 18" clear floor space on pull side of door			
Closing speed minimum 3 seconds to within 3" of the latch			
Maximum pressure 5 pounds interior doors			N/A
Threshold maximum 1/2" high, beveled on both sides			
Hardware operable with a closed fist (no conventional door knobs or thumb latch devices)			
Hardware minimum 36", maximum 48" above the floor			
Clear, level floor space extends out 5 ft from both sides of the door			
Door adjacent to revolving door is accessible and unlocked			
Doors opening into hazardous area have hardware that is knurled or roughened			

NOTES

LOCATION

FLOORS, DRINKING FOUNTAINS, TELEPHONES			
<i>Specification</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Comments/Transition Notes</i>
Floors			
Non-slip surface			
Carpeting is high-density, low pile, non-absorbent, stretched taut, securely anchored			
Corridor width minimum is 3 ft			N/A
Objects (signs, ceiling lights, fixtures) can only protrude 4" into the path of travel from a height of 27" to 80" above the floor			
Drinking Fountains			
Spouts no higher than 36" from floor to outlet			
Hand operated push button or level controls			
Spouts located near front with stream of water as parallel to front as possible			
If recessed, recess a minimum 30" width, and no deeper than depth of fountain			
If no clear knee space underneath, clear floor space 30" x 48" to allow parallel approach			
Telephones			
Highest operating part a maximum 54" above the floor			
Access within 12" of phone, 30" high by 30" wide			
Adjustable volume control on headset so identified			
SIGNS, SIGNALS, AND SWITCHES			
<i>Specification</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Comments/Transition Notes</i>
Switches, Controls and Signs			
Switches and controls for light, heat, ventilation, windows, fire alarms, thermostats, etc, must be a minimum of 36" and a maximum of 48" above the floor for a forward reach, a maximum of 54" for a side reach			
Electrical outlets centered no lower than 18" above the floor			N/A
Warning signals must be visual as well as audible			
Signs			
Mounting height must be 60" to centerline of the sign			
Within 18" of door jamb or recessed			
Letters and numbers at least 1/4" high			
Letters and numbers raised .03"			
Letters and numbers contrast with the background color			

NOTES

LOCATION

SWIMMING POOLS - accessibility can be via ramp, lifting device, or transfer area			
Specification	Yes	No	Comments/Transition Notes
Ramp at least 34" wide with a non-slip surface extending into the shallow end, slope not exceeding 1:6 with handrails on both sides			
Lifting device			N/A
Transfer area 18" above the path of travel and a minimum of 18" wide			
Unobstructed path of travel not less than 48" wide around pool			
Non-slip surface			

LOCATION

SHOWER ROOMS - Showers must accommodate both wheel-in and transfer use			
Specification	Yes	No	Comments/Transition Notes
Stalls 36" by 60" minimum, with a 36" door opening			
Floors are pitched to drain the stall at the corner farthest from entrance			
Floors are non-slip surface			
Controls operate by a single lever with a pressure balance mixing valve			
Controls are located on the center wall adjacent to the hinged seat			N/A
Shower heads attached to a flexible metal hose			
Shower heads attached to wall mounting adjustable from 42" to 72" above the floor			
Seat is hinged and padded and at least 16" deep, folds upward, securely attached to side wall, height is 18" to the top of the seat, and at least 24" long			
Soap trays without handhold features unless they can support 250 pounds			
2 grab bars are provided, one 30" and one 48" long, or one continuous L shaped bar			
Grab bars are placed horizontally at 36" above the floor line			

LOCATION

PICNICKING			
Specification	Yes	No	Comments/Transition Notes
A minimum of 5% of the total tables must be accessible with clear space under the table top not less than 30" wide and 19" deep per seating space and not less than 27" clear from the ground to the underside of the table. An additional 29" clear space (totaling 48") must extend beyond the 19" clear space under the table to provide access	X		1 HDBCP ACCESS 7 TOTAL TABLES
For tables without toe clearance, the knee space under the table must be at least 28" high, 30" wide and 24" deep.	X		
Top of table no higher than 32" above ground	X		
Surface of the clear ground space under and around the table must be stable, firm and slip-resistant, and evenly graded with a maximum slope of 2% in all directions		X	ALL TABLES ON MULCH
Accessible tables, grills and fire rings must have clear ground space of at least 36" around the perimeter	X	X	














CEMETERY

AUDITED ON: MAY 05, 2020



CEMETERY			
Barrier Statement	Photo	Proposed Mitigation	Cost

		No barriers identified. KMA has confirmed with the town there are no public elements.		N/A
	TOTAL FOR CEMETERY:N/A			N/A




The cemetery is located along E Main Street. The site consists of burial plots surrounded by a stoned wall with a wrought iron entrance gate.


DEMARCO PARK

AUDITED ON: MAY05, 2020



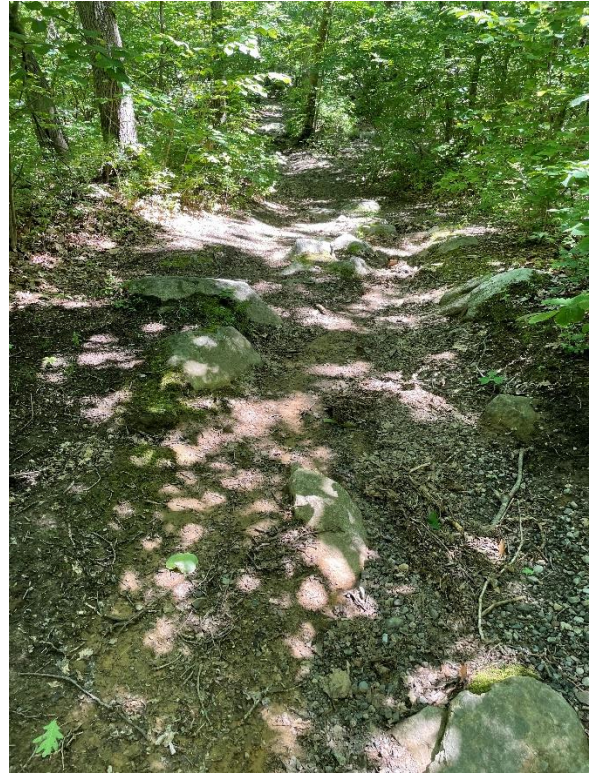
DeMarco Park is located along East High Street. The site consists of an unpaved parking lot, a gazebo, and outdoor seating. There are no designated accessible parking spaces in the parking lot.

DEMARCO PARK			
Barrier Statement	Photo	Proposed Mitigation	Cost
<p>Accessible Parking</p> <p>Designated accessible parking is not provided.</p>		<p>Pave and stripe a portion of the parking lot to add accessible parking spaces (including at least one van space), as well as the associated access aisles.</p> <p>Unit Cost: \$1,500 per space or aisle Est. Quantity: 2 (1 space + 1 aisle)</p>	<p>\$3,000</p>
<p>2. Accessible Route</p> <p>The gazebo, benches, and picnic tables are not located on an accessible route due to the grass.</p> <p>The gazebo is not located on an accessible route due to stairs.</p> <p>The picnic tables lack an accessible seating location.</p>	 	<p>Provide an accessible route to the gazebo, benches, picnic tables. Additional study required.</p> <p>Unit Cost: \$10,000 Quantity: one</p> <p>Build a ramp into the gazebo.</p> <p>Unit Cost: \$5,000 Quantity: one</p> <p>Provide at least one table, and no less than 5% of the total number of tables, which provides compliant knee and toe clearance.</p> <p>Unit Cost: \$250 ea. Est. Quantity: one</p>	<p>\$15,250</p>

3.	<p>Trails</p> <p>The trailhead not located on an accessible route, due to the excessive running slopes and gravel surface.</p>		<p>Provide an accessible route to the trailhead.</p> <p>Additional study required.</p> <p>Unit Cost: \$5,000</p> <p>Quantity: one</p>	<p>\$5,000</p>
TOTAL FOR DEMARCO PARK:				<p>\$23,250</p>

DeMarco Park AUDIT CONDUCTED ON JUNE 10, 2022











DeMarco Park AUDIT CONDUCTED ON JUNE 10, 2022

LOCATION

PARKING			
Total Spaces	Required Accessible Spaces		
Up to 25 ✓	1 space	<i>No</i>	
26-50	2 spaces		
51-75	3 spaces		
76-100	4 spaces		
101-150	5 spaces		
151-200	6 spaces		
201-300	7 spaces		
301-400	8 spaces		
401-500	9 spaces		
Specification for Accessible Spaces	Yes	No	Comments/Transition Notes
Accessible space located closest to accessible entrance		X	
Where spaces cannot be located within 200 ft of accessible entrance, drop-off area is provided within 100 ft.		X	
Minimum width of 13 ft includes 8 ft space plus 5 ft access aisle	X		
Van space – minimum of 1 van space for every accessible space, 8 ft wide plus 8 ft aisle. Alternative is to make all accessible spaces 11 ft wide with 5 ft aisle.	X		
Sign with international symbol of accessibility at each space or pair of spaces		X	
Sign minimum 5 ft, maximum 8 ft to top of sign		X	
Surface evenly paved or hard-packed (no cracks)		X	
Surface slope less than 1:20, 5%			
Curbcut to pathway from parking lot at each space or pair of spaces, if sidewalk (curb) is present		X	
Curbcut is a minimum width of 3 ft, excluding sloped sides, has sloped sides, all slopes not to exceed 1:12, and textured or painted yellow		X	
RAMPS			
Specification	Yes	No	Comments/Transition Notes
Slope Maximum 1:12			
Minimum width 4 ft between handrails		X	
Handrails on both sides if ramp is longer than 6 ft		X	
Handrails at 34" and 19" from ramp surface		X	
Handrails extend 12" beyond top and bottom		X	
Handgrip oval or round		X	
Handgrip smooth surface		X	
Handgrip diameter between 1 1/4" and 2"		X	
Clearance of 1 1/2" between wall and wall rail		X	
Non-slip surface		X	
Level platforms (4ft x 4 ft) at every 30 ft, at top, at		X	

LOCATION

SITE ACCESS, PATH OF TRAVEL, ENTRANCES			
Specification	Yes	No	Comments/Transition Notes
Site Access			
Accessible path of travel from passenger disembarking area and parking area to accessible entrance		X	
Disembarking area at accessible entrance		X	
Surface evenly paved or hard-packed		X	
No ponding of water			N/A
Path of Travel			
Path does not require the use of stairs	X		
Path is stable, firm and slip resistant		X	
3 ft wide minimum	X		
Slope maximum 1:20 (5%) and maximum cross pitch is 2% (1:50).			
Continuous common surface, no changes in level greater than 1/2 inch		X	
Any objects protruding onto the pathway must be detected by a person with a visual disability using a cane		X	
Objects protruding more than 4" from the wall must be within 27" of the ground, or higher than 80"		X	
Curb on the pathway must have curb cuts at drives, parking and drop-offs		X	
Entrances			
Primary public entrances accessible to person using wheelchair, must be signed, gotten to independently, and not be the service entrance		X	
Level space extending 5 ft. from the door, interior and exterior of entrance doors			
Minimum 32" clear width opening (i.e. 36" door with standard hinge)			
At least 18" clear floor area on latch, pull side of door			
Door handle no higher than 48" and operable with a closed fist			
Vestibule is 4 ft plus the width of the door swinging into the space			
Entrance(s) on a level that makes elevators accessible			
Door mats less than 1/2" thick are securely fastened			
Door mats more than 1/2" thick are recessed			
Grates in path of travel have openings of 1/2" maximum			
Signs at non-accessible entrance(s) indicate direction to accessible entrance			
Emergency egress – alarms with flashing lights and audible signals, sufficiently lighted			

LOCATION

STAIRS and DOORS			
Specification	Yes	No	Comments/Transition Notes
Stairs			
No open risers			
Nosings not projecting			
Treads no less than 11" wide			
Handrails on both sides			
Handrails 34"-38" above tread			
Handrail extends a minimum of 1 ft beyond top and bottom riser (if no safety hazard and space permits)			
Handgrip oval or round			
Handgrip has a smooth surface			
Handgrip diameter between 1 1/4" and 1 1/2"			
1/2" clearance between wall and handrail			
Doors			
Minimum 32" clear opening			
At least 18" clear floor space on pull side of door			
Closing speed minimum 3 seconds to within 3" of the latch			
Maximum pressure 5 pounds interior doors			
Threshold maximum 1/2" high, beveled on both sides			
Hardware operable with a closed fist (no conventional door knobs or thumb latch devices)			
Hardware minimum 36", maximum 48" above the floor			
Clear, level floor space extends out 5 ft from both sides of the door			
Door adjacent to revolving door is accessible and unlocked			
Doors opening into hazardous area have hardware that is knurled or roughened			

NOTES

LOCATION

RESTROOMS – also see Doors and Vestibules

Specification	Yes	No	Comments/Transition Notes
5 ft turning space measured 12" from the floor			
At least one Sink:			
Clear floor space of 30" by 48" to allow a forward approach			
Mounted without pedestal or legs, height 34" to top of rim			
Extends at least 22" from the wall			
Open knee space a minimum 19" deep, 30" width, and 27" high			
Cover exposed pipes with insulation			
Faucets operable with closed fist (lever or spring activated handle)			
At least one Stall:			
Accessible to person using wheelchair at 60" wide by 72" deep			
Stall door is 36" wide			
Stall door swings out			
Stall door is self closing			
Stall door has a pull latch			
Lock on stall door is operable with a closed fist, and 32" above the floor			
Coat hook is 54" high			
Toilet			
18" from center to nearest side wall			
42" minimum clear space from center to farthest wall or fixture			
Top of seat 17"-19" above the floor			
Grab Bars			
On back and side wall closest to toilet			
1 1/4" diameter			
1 1/2" clearance to wall			
Located 30" above and parallel to the floor			
Acid-etched or roughened surface			
42" long			
Fixtures			
Toilet paper dispenser is 24" above floor			
One mirror set a maximum 38" to bottom (if tilted, 42")			
Dispensers (towel, soap, etc) at least one of each a maximum 42" above the floor			

NOTES

LOCATION

FLOORS, DRINKING FOUNTAINS, TELEPHONES			
<i>Specification</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Comments/Transition Notes</i>
Floors			
Non-slip surface			
Carpeting is high-density, low pile, non-absorbent, stretched taut, securely anchored			
Corridor width minimum is 3 ft			
Objects (signs, ceiling lights, fixtures) can only protrude 4" into the path of travel from a height of 27" to 80" above the floor			
Drinking Fountains			
Spouts no higher than 36" from floor to outlet			
Hand operated push button or level controls			
Spouts located near front with stream of water as parallel to front as possible			
If recessed, recess a minimum 30" width, and no deeper than depth of fountain			
If no clear knee space underneath, clear floor space 30" x 48" to allow parallel approach			
Telephones			
Highest operating part a maximum 54" above the floor			
Access within 12" of phone, 30" high by 30" wide			
Adjustable volume control on headset so identified			
SIGNS, SIGNALS, AND SWITCHES			
<i>Specification</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Comments/Transition Notes</i>
Switches, Controls and Signs			
Switches and controls for light, heat, ventilation, windows, fire alarms, thermostats, etc, must be a minimum of 36" and a maximum of 48" above the floor for a forward reach, a maximum of 54" for a side reach			
Electrical outlets centered no lower than 18" above the floor			
Warning signals must be visual as well as audible			
Signs			
Mounting height must be 60" to centerline of the sign			
Within 18" of door jamb or recessed			
Letters and numbers at least 1/4" high			
Letters and numbers raised .03"			
Letters and numbers contrast with the background color			

NOTES

LOCATION

SWIMMING POOLS – accessibility can be via ramp, lifting device, or transfer area			
Specification	Yes	No	Comments/Transition Notes
Ramp at least 34" wide with a non-slip surface extending into the shallow end, slope not exceeding 1:6 with handrails on both sides			
Lifting device			
Transfer area 18" above the path of travel and a minimum of 18" wide			
Unobstructed path of travel not less than 48" wide around pool			
Non-slip surface			

LOCATION

SHOWER ROOMS - Showers must accommodate both wheel-in and transfer use			
Specification	Yes	No	Comments/Transition Notes
Stalls 36" by 60" minimum, with a 36" door opening			
Floors are pitched to drain the stall at the corner farthest from entrance			
Floors are non-slip surface			
Controls operate by a single lever with a pressure balance mixing valve			
Controls are located on the center wall adjacent to the hinged seat			
Shower heads attached to a flexible metal hose			
Shower heads attached to wall mounting adjustable from 42" to 72" above the floor			
Seat is hinged and padded and at least 16" deep, folds upward, securely attached to side wall, height is 18" to the top of the seat, and at least 24" long			
Soap trays without handhold features unless they can support 250 pounds			
2 grab bars are provided, one 30" and one 48" long, or one continuous L shaped bar			
Grab bars are placed horizontally at 36" above the floor line			

LOCATION



PICNICKING			
Specification	Yes	No	Comments/Transition Notes
A minimum of 5% of the total tables must be accessible with clear space under the table top not less than 30" wide and 19" deep per seating space and not less than 27" clear from the ground to the underside of the table. An additional 29" clear space (totaling 48") must extend beyond the 19" clear space under the table to provide access		X	
For tables without toe clearance, the knee space under the table must be at least 28" high, 30" wide and 24" deep.		X	
Top of table no higher than 32" above ground			
Surface of the clear ground space under and around the table must be stable, firm and slip-resistant, and evenly graded with a maximum slope of 2% in all directions		X	
Accessible tables, grills and fire rings must have clear ground space of at least 36" around the perimeter	X		

Facility Inventory

LOCATION: **Demarco Park**

ACTIVITY	EQUIPMENT	NOTES
Picnic Facilities	Tables & Benches	Located adjacent to accessible paths <i>some not all</i>
		Access to Open Spaces <i>W "</i>
		Back and Arm Rests <i>W "</i>
	Grills	Adequate number <i>Yes</i>
		Height of Cooking Surface
	Trash Cans	Located adjacent to accessible paths <i>Yes</i>
	Picnic Shelters	Located adjacent to accessible paths
		Located near accessible water fountains, trash can, restroom, parking, etc.
Trails		Surface material <i>crush stone/asphalt/dirt</i>
		Dimensions
		Rails <i>N/A</i>
		Signage (for visually impaired) <i>little to none</i>
Swimming Facilities	Pools	Entrance
		Location from accessible parking
		Safety features i.e. warning for visually impaired
	Beaches	Location from accessible path into water
		Handrails
		Location from accessible parking
		Shade provided
Play Areas (tot lots)	All Play Equipment i.e. swings, slides	Same experience provided to all
	Access Routes	Located adjacent to accessible paths
Game Areas: *softball *basketball *tennis	Access Routes	Enough space between equipment for wheelchair
		Located adjacent to accessible paths
		Berm cuts onto courts
	Equipment	Height
		Dimensions
		Spectator Seating
Boat Docks	Access Routes	Located adjacent to accessible paths
		Handrails
Fishing Facilities	Access Routes	Located adjacent to accessible paths
		Handrails
	Equipment	Arm Rests
		Bait Shelves
		Handrails
		Fish Cleaning Tables
Programming		Learn-to-Swim X
	Are special programs at your facilities accessible?	Guided X Hikes
		Interpretive Programs <i>Band stand not very accessible</i>
Services and Technical Assistance		Information available in alternative formats i.e. for visually impaired
		Process to request interpretive services (i.e. sign language interpreter) for meetings

DW FIELD PARK

DW PARK			
Barrier Statement	Photo	Proposed Mitigation	Cost
<p>Accessible Parking</p> <p>Designated accessible parking is not provided.</p>		<p>Stripe a portion of the parking lot to add accessible parking spaces (including at least one van space), as well as their associated signs and access aisles.</p> <p>Unit Cost: \$300 ea.</p> <p>Est. Quantity: 2 (1 space + 1 access aisle)</p>	\$600
<p>2. Accessible Route</p> <p>An accessible route is not provided from the parking.</p>		<p>Provide an accessible route. Additional study required.</p> <p>Unit Cost: \$5,000</p> <p>Quantity: one</p>	\$5,000
TOTAL FOR DW PARK:			\$5,600

AUDITED ON: MAY20, 2020



DW Park is located off South Street. The site consists of parking and hiking trails. No designated accessible parking spaces and no accessible routes are provided.

Experience Information	
Name of Property or Facility	DW Field Park
Location	384 Oak St
Managed By	City of Brockton

Overall Location Condition	Very Good
ADA accessible	Yes
Easily accessible by car	Yes
Easily accessible by public transit	Yes
Does the site appear maintained	Yes
Plenty of shade	Yes
Places to sit	Yes
Does the fencing need to be replaced	No
Do walkways need replacing	No
Drainage Problems	No
Is the site's name posted	Yes
Is the site open to the public during normal hours	Yes
Was the site easy to find/ access	Yes
Does the site flow with the local neighborhood	Yes
Does the site feel safe	Yes

Does the site have the possibility to support urban Agriculture	Yes
Parking Spaces	235 (4 ADA)
Nearby public transportation routes	Bat Route 4 & 4A

Parks

D.W. Field Park

Was the site hard to find or access?	The site is very easy to find as it is a city icon, and is easily located on a map. The park is visible from major streets and is well signed. The park has good road networks and parking, and is accessible by bus.
Potential issues with ADA accessibility?	Most areas are accessible with smooth walkways and trails, and most areas have ramp-like areas to allow access. There are 4 designated ADA parking spaces, all in the lot off of Oak St. However, the tower and some trail areas only have access by stairs, and some of the paths up to and around the ponds are narrow and/or uneven. Some of the benches are old and less accessible.
What would make the site seem safer or more inviting?	The site feels safe and inviting, but the addition of passive boating and swimming within some of the ponds would help make the park even more inviting. Opening of the tower more consistently would be good as well.
What does the site do well?	The site provides a centrally located place for active and passive recreation. The site is well maintained and well kept. Most of the trails and available activities are accessible. The site provides good opportunities for urban agriculture if desired and ecological connectivity. The site and its lakes are clearly marked and signed and the trails are clearly indicated.
What could the site improve on?	The site could open some space for more parking, while opening up the tower more consistently, and the ponds could be used for canoeing and swimming.
Other comments about the experience at the site?	The encroachment level here is incredibly high with development occurring on almost all sides.
Other comments on facilities or infrastructure?	Overall the facilities at DW Field Park are impeccable. All the ponds are all clearly marked and signed and appear clean. Trails are clearly marked and most are clear of obstruction and are smooth with easy inclines. The observation tower, although closed, appears in good shape. The golf course appears well maintained and managed. There is no noticeable trash and roads are well marked and even and smooth.
Any other general comments about the space?	This park should be the flagship of the park system and is definitely a success story to highlight.



Parks

D.W. Field Park





FAGAN DRIVE/ CROWLEY PARK

AUDITED ON: MAY 05, 2020



The Fagan Drive/ Crowley Park is located along Hendrick Street. The site consists of several athletic fields and a paved lot. No designated accessible parking spaces are provided.

FAGAN DRIVE/ CROWLEY PARK Barrier Statement		Photo	Proposed Mitigation	Cost
	<p>Accessible Parking</p> <p>Designated accessible parking is not provided.</p>		<p>Stripe a portion of the parking lot to add accessible parking spaces (including at least one van space), as well as their associated signs and access aisles.</p> <p>Unit Cost: \$300 ea.</p> <p>Est. Quantity: 2 (1 space + 1 access aisle)</p>	\$600
2.	<p>Accessible Route</p> <p>The athletic fields and the bleachers are not located on an accessible route.</p> <p>A wheelchair space is not provided at the bleachers.</p>		<p>Provide an accessible route. Additional study required.</p> <p>Unit Cost: \$10,000</p> <p>Quantity: one</p> <p>Provide an accessible space on an accessible route next to the bleachers.</p> <p>Unit Cost: \$25/SF</p> <p>Quantity: 20 SF</p>	\$10,500

3.	<p>Shed Structure</p> <p>A shed structure was identified during the audit. KMA requires more information regarding its intended use to assess the accessibility requirements.</p>	No Image	N/A	N/A
<p>TOTAL FOR FAGAN DRIVE/ CROWLEY PARK:</p>				<p>\$11,100</p>

Crowley Field

Facility Inventory

LOCATION:

ACTIVITY	EQUIPMENT	NOTES
Picnic Facilities	Tables & Benches 2	Located adjacent to accessible paths
		Access to Open Spaces
	Grills N/A	Back and Arm Rests NO
		Adequate number 2 TOTAL 1 DEEP ACCESS
		Height of Cooking Surface
Trash Cans N/A	Located adjacent to accessible paths	
Picnic Shelters N/A	Located adjacent to accessible paths	
Trails	N/A	Located near accessible water fountains, trash can, restroom, parking, etc.
		Surface material
		Dimensions
		Rails
		Signage (for visually impaired)
Swimming Facilities	Pools N/A	Entrance
		Location from accessible parking
	Beaches N/A	Safety features i.e. warning for visually impaired
		Location from accessible path into water
		Handrails
Play Areas (tot lots)	All Play Equipment i.e. swings, slides	Location from accessible parking
	Access Routes	Shade provided
		Same experience provided to all
Game Areas: *ballfield *basketball *tennis	Access Routes	Located adjacent to accessible paths NO
		Enough space between equipment for wheelchair
	Equipment	Located adjacent to accessible paths NO
		Berm cuts onto courts N/A
		Height
Boat Docks	Access Routes NO	Dimensions
		Spectator Seating METAL BLEACHERS
		Located adjacent to accessible paths
Fishing Facilities	Access Routes	Handrails
		Located adjacent to accessible paths
	Equipment N/A	Handrails
		Arm Rests
		Bait Shelves
Programming	Are special programs at your facilities accessible?	Handrails
		Fish Cleaning Tables
		Learn-to-Swim N/A
Services and Technical Assistance	Information available in alternative formats i.e. for visually impaired	Guided Hikes N/A
		Interpretive Programs UNKNOWN
Services and Technical Assistance	Process to request interpretive services (i.e. sign language interpreter) for meetings	NO
		NO

LOCATION

PARKING			
Total Spaces	Required Accessible Spaces		
Up to 25	1 space		
26-50	2 spaces		
51-75	3 spaces		
76-100	4 spaces		
101-150	5 spaces		
151-200	6 spaces		
201-300	7 spaces		
301-400	8 spaces		
401-500	9 spaces		
Specification for Accessible Spaces	Yes	No	Comments/Transition Notes
Accessible space located closest to accessible entrance		X	NO MARKED SPACES IN
Where spaces cannot be located within 200 ft of accessible entrance, drop-off area is provided within 100 ft.			PARKING AREA. NO IDENTIFIED HDCT PARKING.
Minimum width of 13 ft includes 8 ft space plus 5 ft access aisle		X	
Van space – minimum of 1 van space for every accessible space, 8 ft wide plus 8 ft aisle. Alternative is to make all accessible spaces 11 ft wide with 5 ft aisle.		X	
Sign with international symbol of accessibility at each space or pair of spaces		X	
Sign minimum 5 ft, maximum 8 ft to top of sign		X	
Surface evenly paved or hard-packed (no cracks)	X		
Surface slope less than 1:20, 5%			
Curbcut to pathway from parking lot at each space or pair of spaces, if sidewalk (curb) is present		X	
Curbcut is a minimum width of 3 ft, excluding sloped sides, has sloped sides, all slopes not to exceed 1:12, and textured or painted yellow	X		1 CURB CUT TO SIDEWALK AT THE ENTRY TO PARKING LOT. 50-75' FROM CLOSEST SPOT.
RAMPS			
Specification	Yes	No	Comments/Transition Notes
Slope Maximum 1:12		X	NO RAMPS ANYWHERE ON
Minimum width 4 ft between handrails		X	PROPERTY
Handrails on both sides if ramp is longer than 6 ft		X	
Handrails at 34" and 19" from ramp surface		X	
Handrails extend 12" beyond top and bottom		X	
Handgrip oval or round		X	
Handgrip smooth surface		X	
Handgrip diameter between 1 1/4" and 2"		X	
Clearance of 1 1/2" between wall and wall rail		X	
Non-slip surface		X	
Level platforms (4ft x 4 ft) at every 30 ft. at top, at		X	

LOCATION

SITE ACCESS, PATH OF TRAVEL, ENTRANCES			
Specification	Yes	No	Comments/Transition Notes
Site Access			
Accessible path of travel from passenger disembarking area and parking area to accessible entrance			
Disembarking area at accessible entrance		X	
Surface evenly paved or hard-packed	X		
No ponding of water			NONE VISIBLE
Path of Travel			
Path does not require the use of stairs	X		
Path is stable, firm and slip resistant		X	MULCH - GRASS
3 ft wide minimum	X		
Slope maximum 1:20 (5%) and maximum cross pitch is 2% (1:50).			
Continuous common surface, no changes in level greater than 1/2 inch		X	
Any objects protruding onto the pathway must be detected by a person with a visual disability using a cane		X	
Objects protruding more than 4" from the wall must be within 27" of the ground, or higher than 80"			N/A
Curb on the pathway must have curb cuts at drives, parking and drop-offs	X		
Entrances			
Primary public entrances accessible to person using wheelchair, must be signed, gotten to independently, and not be the service entrance	X		NO BUILDING ENTRANCES
Level space extending 5 ft. from the door, interior and exterior of entrance doors	X		ONLY STRUCTURE ON PROPERTY
Minimum 32" clear width opening (i.e. 36" door with standard hinge)	X		IS A STORAGE WAREHOUSE
At least 18" clear floor area on latch, pull side of door	X		3 BALLFIELDS.
Door handle no higher than 48" and operable with a closed fist	X		
Vestibule is 4 ft plus the width of the door swinging into the space	X		
Entrance(s) on a level that makes elevators accessible	X		
Door mats less than 1/2" thick are securely fastened	X		
Door mats more than 1/2" thick are recessed	X		
Grates in path of travel have openings of 1/2" maximum	X		
Signs at non-accessible entrance(s) indicate direction to accessible entrance	X		
Emergency egress - alarms with flashing lights and audible signals, sufficiently lighted	X		

LOCATION

STAIRS and DOORS			
<i>Specification</i>	Yes	No	<i>Comments/Transition Notes</i>
Stairs			
No open risers			
Nosings not projecting			
Treads no less than 11" wide			
Handrails on both sides			
Handrails 34"-38" above tread			N/A
Handrail extends a minimum of 1 ft beyond top and bottom riser (if no safety hazard and space permits)			N/A
Handgrip oval or round			
Handgrip has a smooth surface			
Handgrip diameter between 1 1/4" and 1 1/2"			
1 1/2" clearance between wall and handrail			
Doors			
Minimum 32" clear opening			
At least 18" clear floor space on pull side of door			
Closing speed minimum 3 seconds to within 3" of the latch			
Maximum pressure 5 pounds interior doors			
Threshold maximum 1/2" high, beveled on both sides			
Hardware operable with a closed fist (no conventional door knobs or thumb latch devices)			N/A
Hardware minimum 36", maximum 48" above the floor			
Clear, level floor space extends out 5 ft from both sides of the door			
Door adjacent to revolving door is accessible and unlocked			
Doors opening into hazardous area have hardware that is knurled or roughened			

NOTES

LOCATION

RESTROOMS – also see Doors and Vestibules			
<i>Specification</i>	Yes	No	<i>Comments/Transition Notes</i>
5 ft turning space measured 12" from the floor			
At least one Sink:			
Clear floor space of 30" by 48" to allow a forward approach			
Mounted without pedestal or legs, height 34" to top of rim			
Extends at least 22" from the wall			
Open knee space a minimum 19" deep, 30" width, and 27" high			
Cover exposed pipes with insulation			
Faucets operable with closed fist (lever or spring activated handle)			
At least one Stall:			
Accessible to person using wheelchair at 60" wide by 72" deep			
Stall door is 36" wide			
Stall door swings out			
Stall door is self closing			
Stall door has a pull latch			
Lock on stall door is operable with a closed fist, and 32" above the floor			
Coat hook is 54" high			
Toilet			
18" from center to nearest side wall			
42" minimum clear space from center to farthest wall or fixture			
Top of seat 17"-19" above the floor			
Grab Bars			
On back and side wall closest to toilet			
1 1/4" diameter			
1 1/2" clearance to wall			
Located 30" above and parallel to the floor			
Acid-etched or roughened surface			
42" long			
Fixtures			
Toilet paper dispenser is 24" above floor			
One mirror set a maximum 38" to bottom (if tilted, 42")			
Dispensers (towel, soap, etc) at least one of each a maximum 42" above the floor			

NOTES

1 Porta-Potty - NON WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE

NO PERMANENT RESTROOMS.

LOCATION

FLOORS, DRINKING FOUNTAINS, TELEPHONES			
<i>Specification</i>	Yes	No	<i>Comments/Transition Notes</i>
Floors			
Non-slip surface			
Carpeting is high-density, low pile, non-absorbent, stretched taut, securely anchored			
Corridor width minimum is 3 ft			N/A
Objects (signs, ceiling lights, fixtures) can only protrude 4" into the path of travel from a height of 27" to 80" above the floor			
Drinking Fountains			
Spouts no higher than 36" from floor to outlet			
Hand operated push button or level controls			
Spouts located near front with stream of water as parallel to front as possible			N/A
If recessed, recess a minimum 30" width, and no deeper than depth of fountain			
If no clear knee space underneath, clear floor space 30" x 48" to allow parallel approach			
Telephones			
Highest operating part a maximum 54" above the floor			N/A
Access within 12" of phone, 30" high by 30" wide			
Adjustable volume control on headset so identified			
SIGNS, SIGNALS, AND SWITCHES			
<i>Specification</i>	Yes	No	<i>Comments/Transition Notes</i>
Switches, Controls and Signs			
Switches and controls for light, heat, ventilation, windows, fire alarms, thermostats, etc, must be a minimum of 36" and a maximum of 48" above the floor for a forward reach, a maximum of 54" for a side reach			N/A
Electrical outlets centered no lower than 18" above the floor			
Warning signals must be visual as well as audible			
Signs			
Mounting height: must be 60" to centerline of the sign			
Within 18" of door jamb or recessed			
Letters and numbers at least 1/4" high			
Letters and numbers raised .03"			
Letters and numbers contrast with the background color			

NOTES

LOCATION

SWIMMING POOLS - accessibility can be via ramp, lifting device, or transfer area			
Specification	Yes	No	Comments/Transition Notes
Ramp at least 34" wide with a non-slip surface extending into the shallow end, slope not exceeding 1:6 with handrails on both sides			
Lifting device			
Transfer area 18" above the path of travel and a minimum of 18" wide			N/A
Unobstructed path of travel not less than 48" wide around pool			
Non-slip surface			

LOCATION

SHOWER ROOMS - Showers must accommodate both wheel-in and transfer use			
Specification	Yes	No	Comments/Transition Notes
Stalls 36" by 60" minimum, with a 36" door opening			
Floors are pitched to drain the stall at the corner farthest from entrance			
Floors are non-slip surface			
Controls operate by a single lever with a pressure balance mixing valve			
Controls are located on the center wall adjacent to the hinged seat			N/A
Shower heads attached to a flexible metal hose			
Shower heads attached to wall mounting adjustable from 42" to 72" above the floor			
Seat is hinged and padded and at least 16" deep, folds upward, securely attached to side wall, height is 18" to the top of the seat, and at least 24" long			
Soap trays without handhold features unless they can support 250 pounds			
2 grab bars are provided, one 30" and one 48" long, or one continuous L shaped bar			
Grab bars are placed horizontally at 36" above the floor line			

LOCATION

PICNICKING			
Specification	Yes	No	Comments/Transition Notes
A minimum of 5% of the total tables must be accessible with clear space under the table top not less than 30" wide and 19" deep per seating space and not less than 27" clear from the ground to the underside of the table. An additional 29" clear space (totaling 48") must extend beyond the 19" clear space under the table to provide access	X		2 TABLES 1 HOOP ACCESS
For tables without toe clearance, the knee space under the table must be at least 28" high, 30" wide and 24" deep.	X		
Top of table no higher than 32" above ground	X		
Surface of the clear ground space under and around the table must be stable, firm and slip-resistant, and evenly graded with a maximum slope of 2% in all directions		X	WOOD MULCH.
Accessible tables, grills and fire rings must have clear ground space of at least 36" around the perimeter			N/A



MOSES CURTIS MEMORIAL PARK

AUDITED ON: MAY 05, 2020



Moses Curtis Memorial Park is located along East High Street. The site consists of a gazebo and outdoor seating. There are no designated accessible parking spaces serving the park.

MOSES CURTIS MEMORIAL PARK			
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	Barrier Statement	Photo	Proposed Mitigation	Cost
	<p>Accessible Route</p> <p>The benches and the description placard are not located on an accessible route.</p>		<p>Provide an accessible route.</p> <p>Additional study required. Unit Cost: \$5,000</p> <p>Est. Quantity: one</p>	\$5,000
2.	<p>Accessible Route</p> <p>The gazebo is not located on an accessible route due to stairs.</p>		<p>Build a ramp into the gazebo.</p> <p>Unit Cost: \$10,000</p> <p>Quantity: one</p>	\$10,000
TOTAL FOR MOSES CURTIS MEMORIAL PARK:				\$15,000

Audited on June 10, 2022







Facility Inventory

LOCATION:

Moses Curtis

ACTIVITY	EQUIPMENT	NOTES
Picnic Facilities	Tables & Benches <i>No tables only bench</i>	Located adjacent to accessible paths <i>NO</i>
		Access to Open Spaces <i>NO</i>
	Grills	Back and Arm Rests <i>NO ARM REST</i>
		Adequate number <i>NO - ONLY 1</i>
	Trash Cans	Height of Cooking Surface <i>N/A</i>
		Located adjacent to accessible paths
Picnic Shelters	Located adjacent to accessible paths Located near accessible water fountains, trash can, restroom, parking, etc.	
Trails		Surface material <i>N/A Gravel</i>
		Dimensions <i>NO TRACKS</i>
		Rails <i>NO</i>
		Signage (for visually impaired) <i>YES</i>
Swimming Facilities	Pools	Entrance <i>N/A NO FOOTER beach</i>
		Location from accessible parking
	Beaches	Safety features i.e. warning for visually impaired
		Location from accessible path into water
		Handrails
		Location from accessible parking
	Shade provided	
Play Areas (tot lots)	All Play Equipment i.e. swings, slides	Same experience provided to all <i>N/A NO play equipment</i>
	Access Routes	Located adjacent to accessible paths Enough space between equipment for wheelchair
Game Areas: *ballfield *basketball *tennis	Access Routes	Located adjacent to accessible paths <i>NO game area</i>
		Berm cuts onto courts
	Equipment	Height
		Dimensions
Boat Docks	Access Routes	Spectator Seating
		Located adjacent to accessible paths <i>NO BOAT DOCKS</i>
Fishing Facilities	Access Routes	Handrails
		Located adjacent to accessible paths <i>NO fishing</i>
	Equipment	Arm Rests
		Bait Shelves
		Handrails
		Fish Cleaning Tables
Programming	Are special programs at your facilities accessible?	Learn-to-Swim <i>NO programming</i>
		Guided Hikes
		Interpretive Programs
Services and Technical Assistance	Information available in alternative formats i.e. for visually impaired	<i>NO</i>
	Process to request interpretive services (i.e. sign language interpreter) for meetings	<i>NO</i>

No parking. Sidewalks in great disrepair. Gravel path fairly flat. No flat pathway to bench. The only way into the gazebo requires three steps. Benches in the gazebo 14.5" from floor.

LOCATION

PARKING		<i>No parking</i>	
Total Spaces	Required Accessible Spaces		
Up to 25	1 space		
26-50	2 spaces		
51-75	3 spaces		
76-100	4 spaces		
101-150	5 spaces		
151-200	6 spaces		
201-300	7 spaces		
301-400	8 spaces		
401-500	9 spaces		
Specification for Accessible Spaces	Yes	No	Comments/Transition Notes
Accessible space located closest to accessible entrance		X	
Where spaces cannot be located within 200 ft of accessible entrance, drop-off area is provided within 100 ft.		X	
Minimum width of 13 ft includes 8 ft space plus 5 ft access aisle		X	
Van space – minimum of 1 van space for every accessible space, 8 ft wide plus 8 ft aisle. Alternative is to make all accessible spaces 11 ft wide with 5 ft aisle.		X	
Sign with International symbol of accessibility at each space or pair of spaces		X	
Sign minimum 5 ft, maximum 8 ft to top of sign		X	
Surface evenly paved or hard-packed (no cracks)		X	
Surface slope less than 1:20, 5%		X	
Curbcut to pathway from parking lot at each space or pair of spaces, if sidewalk (curb) is present		X	
Curbcut is a minimum width of 3 ft, excluding sloped sides, has sloped sides, all slopes not to exceed 1:12, and textured or painted yellow		X	
RAMPS			
Specification	Yes	No	Comments/Transition Notes
Slope Maximum 1:12		X	<i>No ramps</i>
Minimum width 4 ft between handrails		X	
Handrails on both sides if ramp is longer than 6 ft		X	
Handrails at 34" and 19" from ramp surface		X	
Handrails extend 12" beyond top and bottom		X	
Handgrip oval or round		X	
Handgrip smooth surface		X	
Handgrip diameter between 1 1/4" and 2"		X	
Clearance of 1 1/2" between wall and wall rail		X	
Non-slip surface		X	
Level platforms (4ft x 4 ft) at every 30 ft. at top. at		X	

LOCATION

SITE ACCESS, PATH OF TRAVEL, ENTRANCES

Specification	Yes	No	Comments/Transition Notes
Site Access			
Accessible path of travel from passenger disembarking area and parking area to accessible entrance		X	entrance on main street with no parking. Must park
Disembarking area at accessible entrance		X	across the busy street. No
Surface evenly paved or hard-packed		X	signage of where to park.
No ponding of water		X	Sidewalk in poor condition
Path of Travel			
Path does not require the use of stairs	X		
Path is stable, firm and slip resistant		X	
3 ft wide minimum		X	
Slope maximum 1:20 (5%) and maximum cross pitch is 2% (1:50).	X		
Continuous common surface, no changes in level greater than 1/2 inch	X		
Any objects protruding onto the pathway must be detected by a person with a visual disability using a cane	X		
Objects protruding more than 4" from the wall must be within 27" of the ground, or higher than 80"	N/A		
Curb on the pathway must have curb cuts at drives, parking and drop-offs	N/A		
Entrances			
Primary public entrances accessible to person using wheelchair, must be signed, gotten to independently, and not be the service entrance		X	This is outside - Not easily accessible by wheelchair due to poor
Level space extending 5 ft. from the door, interior and exterior of entrance doors		N/A	Sidewalks
Minimum 32" clear width opening (i.e. 36" door with standard hinge)			
At least 18" clear floor area on latch, pull side of door			
Door handle no higher than 48" and operable with a closed fist			
Vestibule is 4 ft plus the width of the door swinging into the space			
Entrance(s) on a level that makes elevators accessible			
Door mats less than 1/2" thick are securely fastened			
Door mats more than 1/2" thick are recessed			
Grates in path of travel have openings of 1/2" maximum			
Signs at non-accessible entrance(s) indicate direction to accessible entrance			
Emergency egress - alarms with flashing lights and audible signals, sufficiently lighted			

LOCATION

STAIRS and DOORS

Specification	Yes	No	Comments/Transition Notes
Stairs			
No open risers	X		
Nosings not projecting	X		
Treads no less than 11" wide	X		
Handrails on both sides	X		
Handrails 34"-38" above tread	X	⊗	
Handrail extends a minimum of 1 ft beyond top and bottom riser (if no safety hazard and space permits)		X	
Handgrip oval or round		X	
Handgrip has a smooth surface	X		
Handgrip diameter between 1 1/4" and 1 1/2"		X	
1 1/2" clearance between wall and handrail		NA	
Doors			
Minimum 32" clear opening		N/A	NO door
At least 18" clear floor space on pull side of door		↓	
Closing speed minimum 3 seconds to within 3" of the latch			
Maximum pressure 5 pounds interior doors			
Threshold maximum 1/2" high, beveled on both sides			
Hardware operable with a closed fist (no conventional door knobs or thumb latch devices)			
Hardware minimum 36", maximum 48" above the floor			
Clear, level floor space extends out 5 ft from both sides of the door			
Door adjacent to revolving door is accessible and unlocked			
Doors opening into hazardous area have hardware that is knurled or roughened			✓

NOTES

LOCATION

RESTROOMS – also see Doors and Vestibules

Specification	Yes	No	Comments/Transition Notes
5 ft turning space measured 12" from the floor		N/A	NO RESTROOM
At least one Sink			
Clear floor space of 30" by 48" to allow a forward approach			
Mounted without pedestal or legs, height 34" to top of rim			
Extends at least 22" from the wall			
Open knee space a minimum 19" deep, 30" width, and 27" high			
Cover exposed pipes with insulation			
Faucets operable with closed fist (lever or spring activated handle)			
At least one Stall:			
Accessible to person using wheelchair at 60" wide by 72" deep			
Stall door is 36" wide			
Stall door swings out			
Stall door is self closing			
Stall door has a pull latch			
Lock on stall door is operable with a closed fist, and 32" above the floor			
Coat hook is 54" high			
Toilet			
18" from center to nearest side wall			
42" minimum clear space from center to farthest wall or fixture			
Top of seat 17"-19" above the floor			
Grab Bars			
On back and side wall closest to toilet			
1 1/2" diameter			
1 1/2" clearance to wall			
Located 30" above and parallel to the floor			
Acid-etched or roughened surface			
42" long			
Fixtures			
Toilet paper dispenser is 24" above floor			
One mirror set a maximum 38" to bottom (if tilted, 42")			
Dispensers (towel, soap, etc) at least one of each a maximum 42" above the floor		✓	

NOTES

LOCATION

FLOORS, DRINKING FOUNTAINS, TELEPHONES

Specification	Yes	No	Comments/Transition Notes
Floors			N/A NO floors
Non-slip surface		↓	
Carpeting is high-density, low pile, non-absorbent, stretched taut, securely anchored			
Corridor width minimum is 3 ft			
Objects (signs, ceiling lights, fixtures) can only protrude 4" into the path of travel from a height of 27" to 80" above the floor			
Drinking Fountains			
Spouts no higher than 36" from floor to outlet		↓	N/A NO drinking fountains
Hand operated push button or level controls			
Spouts located near front with stream of water as parallel to front as possible			
If recessed, recess a minimum 30" width, and no deeper than depth of fountain			
If no clear knee space underneath, clear floor space 30" x 48" to allow parallel approach			
Telephones			NO telephones
Highest operating part a maximum 54" above the floor		↓	
Access within 12" of phone, 30" high by 30" wide			
Adjustable volume control on headset so identified			

SIGNS, SIGNALS, AND SWITCHES

Specification	Yes	No	Comments/Transition Notes
Switches, Controls and Signs			NO switches et c
Switches and controls for light, heat, ventilation, windows, fire alarms, thermostats, etc. must be a minimum of 36" and a maximum of 48" above the floor for a forward reach, a maximum of 54" for a side reach		↓	
Electrical outlets centered no lower than 18" above the floor			
Warning signals must be visual as well as audible			
Signs			
Mounting height must be 60" to centerline of the sign		NO	
Within 18" of door jamb or recessed		N/A	
Letters and numbers a t least 1 1/2" high	X		
Letters and numbers raised .03"		X	
Letters and numbers contrast with the background color	X		

NOTES

LOCATION

SWIMMING POOLS – accessibility can be via ramp, lifting device, or transfer area

Specification	Yes	No	Comments/Transition Notes
Ramp at least 34" wide with a non-slip surface extending into the shallow end, slope not exceeding 1:6 with handrails on both sides		N/A	NO SWIMMING POOLS
Lifting device			
Transfer area 18" above the path of travel and a minimum of 18" wide			
Unobstructed path of travel not less than 48" wide around pool			
Non-slip surface			

LOCATION

SHOWER ROOMS - Showers must accommodate both wheel-in and transfer use

Specification	Yes	No	Comments/Transition Notes
Stalls 36" by 60" minimum, with a 36" door opening		N/A	NO SHOWERS
Floors are pitched to drain the stall at the corner farthest from entrance			
Floors are non-slip surface			
Controls operate by a single lever with a pressure balance mixing valve			
Controls are located on the center wall adjacent to the hinged seat			
Shower heads attached to a flexible metal hose			
Shower heads attached to wall mounting adjustable from 42" to 72" above the floor			
Seat is hinged and padded and at least 16" deep, folds upward, securely attached to side wall, height is 18" to the top of the seat, and at least 24" long			
Soap trays without handhold features unless they can support 250 pounds			
2 grab bars are provided, one 30" and one 48" long, or one continuous L shaped bar			
Grab bars are placed horizontally at 36" above the floor line			

LOCATION

PICNICKING

Specification	Yes	No	Comments/Transition Notes
A minimum of 5% of the total tables must be accessible with clear space under the table top not less than 30" wide and 19" deep per seating space and not less than 27" clear from the ground to the underside of the table. An additional 29" clear space (totaling 48") must extend beyond the 19" clear space under the table to provide access		N/A	NO PICNICKING
For tables without toe clearance, the knee space under the table must be at least 28" high, 30" wide and 24" deep.			
Top of table no higher than 32" above ground			
Surface of the clear ground space under and around the table must be stable, firm and slip-resistant, and evenly graded with a maximum slope of 2% in all directions			
Accessible tables, grills and fire rings must have clear ground space of at least 36" around the perimeter			

PHARMACY PARK

AUDITED ON: MAY 05, 2020



Pharmacy Park is located across the street from the Avon Fire Station. It is a small greenspace with no public elements or parking.

PHARMACY PARK				
	Barrier Statement	Photo	Proposed Mitigation	Cost
	No barriers identified. KMA has confirmed with the town there are no public elements.	No Image	N/A	N/A
TOTAL FOR PHARMACY PARK:				N/A

TRACY-MILLER PLAYGROUND

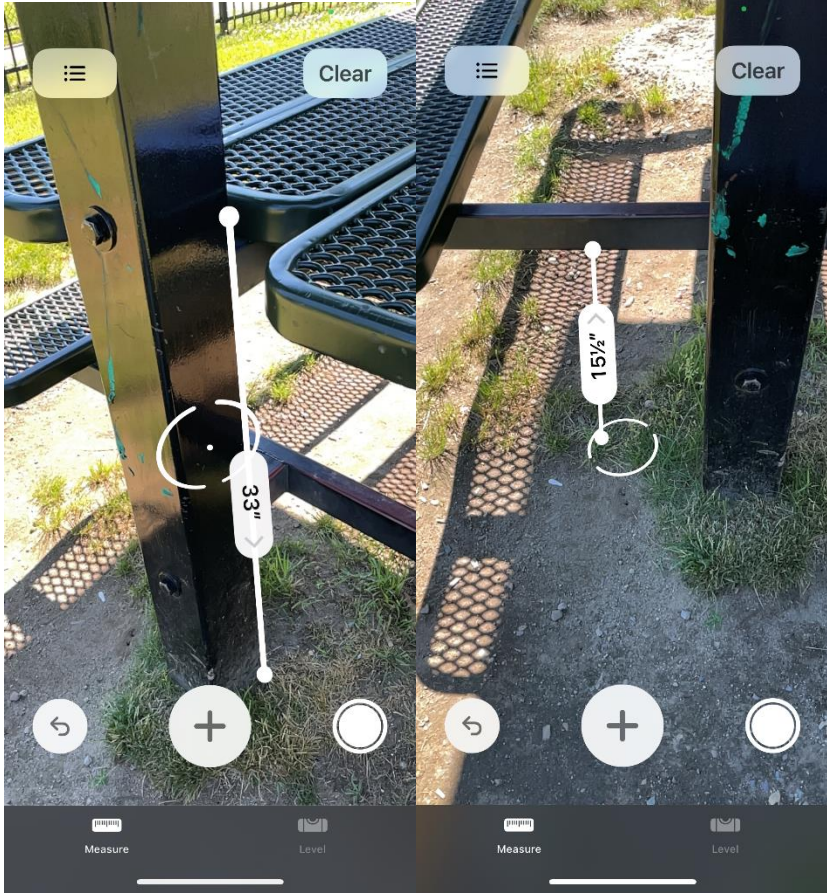
AUDITED ON: MAY 05, 2020



Tracy-Miller Playground is located on Page Street. The site consists of a playground and benches. There is no parking serving the playground.

TRACY-MILLER PLAYGROUND			
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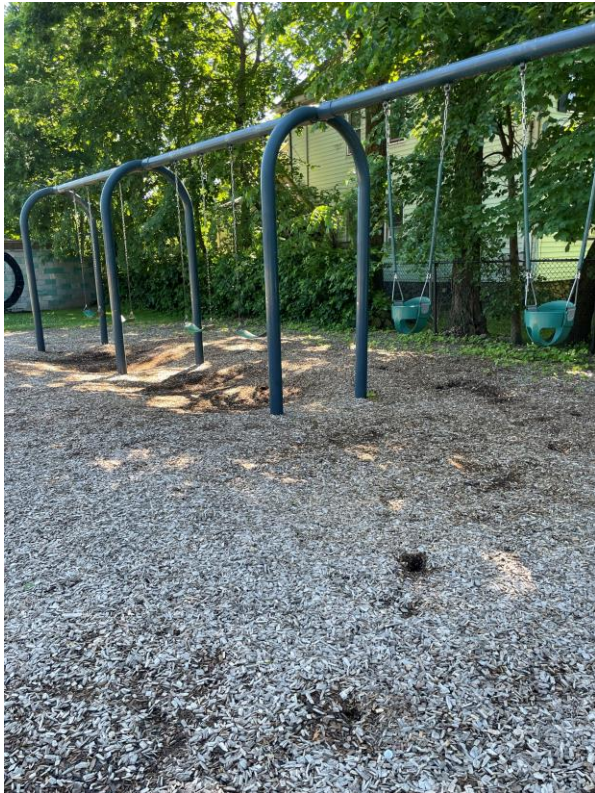
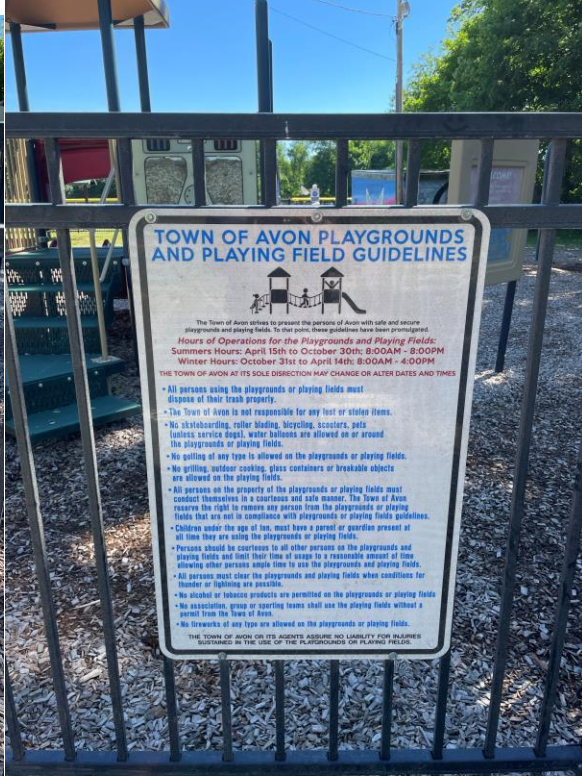
Barrier Statement	Photo	Proposed Mitigation	Cost
<p>Accessible Route</p> <p>The playground and the benches are not located on an accessible route.</p> <p>The playground lacks ground level play components and an accessible route between elements.</p>		<p>Provide an accessible route. Additional study required. Unit Cost: \$5,000 Quantity: one</p> <p>Provide ground-level play components at the playground. Additional study required. Unit Cost: \$1,000 Quantity: one</p>	<p>\$6,000</p>
<p>TOTAL FOR TRACY-MILLER PLAYGROUND:</p>			<p>\$6,000</p>













Tracy Miller Playground Audited June 10, 2022

Facility Inventory LOCATION: *Tracy Miller Playground*

ACTIVITY	EQUIPMENT	NOTES *	
Picnic Facilities	Tables & Benches	Located adjacent to accessible paths	NO
		Access to Open Spaces	N/A
		Back and Arm Rests	NO
		Adequate number	N/A
	Grills	Height of Cooking Surface	N/A
	Trash Cans	Located adjacent to accessible paths	NO
		Located adjacent to accessible paths	NO
Picnic Shelters	Located near accessible water fountains, trash can, restroom, parking, etc.	NO	
Trails		Surface material	<i>wood chips</i>
		Dimensions	
		Rails	NO
		Signage (for visually impaired)	NO
Swimming Facilities	Pools	Entrance	N/A
		Location from accessible parking	N/A
		Safety features i.e. warning for visually impaired	N/A
	Beaches	Location from accessible path into water	N/A
		Handrails	N/A
		Location from accessible parking	N/A
		Shade provided	N/A
Play Areas (tot lots)	All Play Equipment i.e. swings, slides	Same experience provided to all	NO
	Access Routes	Located adjacent to accessible paths	NO
		Enough space between equipment for wheelchair	YES
Game Areas: *ballfield *basketball *tennis	Access Routes	Located adjacent to accessible paths	N/A
		Berm cuts onto courts	N/A
	Equipment	Height	N/A
		Dimensions	N/A
		Spectator Seating	N/A
Boat Docks	Access Routes	Located adjacent to accessible paths	N/A
		Handrails	N/A
Fishing Facilities	Access Routes	Located adjacent to accessible paths	N/A
		Handrails	N/A
	Equipment	Arm Rests	N/A
		Bait Shelves	N/A
		Handrails	N/A
		Fish Cleaning Tables	N/A
Programming	Are special programs at your facilities accessible?	Learn-to-Swim	N/A
		Guided Hikes	N/A
		Interpretive Programs	N/A
Services and Technical Assistance	Information available in alternative formats i.e. for visually impaired		NO
		Process to request interpretive services (i.e. sign language interpreter) for meetings	NO

* Two picnic tables each w/ 2 benches. Not ADA Compliant table height from seat height too high. Height of table 10 ground 33". No accessible paths to benches or trash. No shade on benches. Signage faded and not conducive to visually impaired with color or icons. The surface of wood chips is uneven with weeds and tree roots presenting a tripping hazard. Play equipment no suitable for disabled children.

LOCATION

PARKING		Required Accessible Spaces		Comments/Transition Notes
Specification	Yes	No		
Total Spaces				No parking at all - closest parking is at a school 150 steps from parking lot - no handicapped parking @ school and poor sidewalk conditions!
Up to 25		1 space		
26-50		2 spaces		
51-75		3 spaces		
76-100		4 spaces		
101-150		5 spaces		
151-200		6 spaces		
201-300		7 spaces		
301-400		8 spaces		
401-500		9 spaces		
Specification for Accessible Spaces	Yes	No		
Accessible space located closest to accessible entrance		X		
Where spaces cannot be located within 200 ft of accessible entrance, drop-off area is provided within 100 ft.	X			
Minimum width of 13 ft includes 8 ft space plus 5 ft access aisle		X		
Van space - minimum of 1 van space for every accessible space, 8 ft wide plus 8 ft aisle. Alternative is to make all accessible spaces 11 ft wide with 5 ft aisle.		X		
Sign with International symbol of accessibility at each space or pair of spaces		X		
Sign minimum 5 ft, maximum 8 ft to top of sign		X		
Surface evenly paved or hard-packed (no cracks)		X		
Surface slope less than 1:20, 5%		N/A		
Curbcut to pathway from parking lot at each space or pair of spaces, if sidewalk (curb) is present		N/A		
Curbcut is a minimum width of 3 ft, excluding sloped sides, has sloped sides, all slopes not to exceed 1:12, and textured or painted yellow		N/A		
RAMPS				
Specification	Yes	No		Comments/Transition Notes
Slope Maximum 1:12		N/A		
Minimum width 4 ft between handrails				
Handrails on both sides if ramp is longer than 6 ft				
Handrails at 34" and 19" from ramp surface				
Handrails extend 12" beyond top and bottom				
Handgrip oval or round				
Handgrip smooth surface				
Handgrip diameter between 1 1/4" and 2"				
Clearance of 1 1/2" between wall and wall rail				
Non-slip surface				
Level platforms (4ft x 4 ft) at every 30 ft, at top, at bottom, at change of direction			✓	

LOCATION

SITE ACCESS, PATH OF TRAVEL, ENTRANCES

Specification	Yes	No	Comments/Transition Notes
Site Access			
Accessible path of travel from passenger disembarking area and parking area to accessible entrance		X	
Disembarking area at accessible entrance		X	
Surface evenly paved or hard-packed		X	
No ponding of water		X	
Path of Travel			
Path does not require the use of stairs	X		
Path is stable, firm and slip resistant		X	
3 ft wide minimum	X		
Slope maximum 1:20 (5%) and maximum cross pitch is 2% (1:50).	X		
Continuous common surface, no changes in level greater than 1/8 inch		X	
Any objects protruding onto the pathway must be detected by a person with a visual disability using a cane		X	
Objects protruding more than 4" from the wall must be within 27" of the ground, or higher than 80"		N/A	
Curb on the pathway must have curb cuts at drives, parking and drop-offs		N/A	
Entrances			
Primary public entrances accessible to person using wheelchair, must be signed, gotten to independently, and not be the service entrance		NO	
Level space extending 5 ft. from the door, interior and exterior of entrance doors		NO	
Minimum 32" clear width opening (i.e. 36" door with standard hinge)		N/A	
At least 18" clear floor area on latch, pull side of door		N/A	
Door handle no higher than 48" and operable with a closed fist		N/A	
Vestibule is 4 ft plus the width of the door swinging into the space		N/A	
Entrance(s) on a level that makes elevators accessible		N/A	
Door mats less than 1/2" thick are securely fastened		N/A	
Door mats more than 1/2" thick are recessed		N/A	
Grates in path of travel have openings of 1/2" maximum		N/A	
Signs at non-accessible entrance(s) indicate direction to accessible entrance		NO	
Emergency egress - alarms with flashing lights and audible signals, sufficiently lighted		N/A	

NOTES

LOCATION

STAIRS and DOORS			
Specification	Yes	No	Comments/Transition Notes
Stairs			
No open risers		N/A	
Nosings not projecting			
Treads no less than 11" wide			
Handrails on both sides			
Handrails 34"-38" above tread			
Handrail extends a minimum of 1 ft beyond top and bottom riser (if no safety hazard and space permits)			
Handgrip oval or round			
Handgrip has a smooth surface			
Handgrip diameter between 1 1/4" and 1 1/2"			
1 1/2" clearance between wall and handrail			
Doors			
Minimum 32" clear opening			
At least 18" clear floor space on pull side of door			
Closing speed minimum 3 seconds to within 3" of the latch			
Maximum pressure 5 pounds interior doors			
Threshold maximum 1/2" high, beveled on both sides			
Hardware operable with a closed fist (no conventional door knobs or thumb latch devices)			
Hardware minimum 36", maximum 48" above the floor			
Clear, level floor space extends out 5 ft from both sides of the door			
Door adjacent to revolving door is accessible and unlocked			
Doors opening into hazardous area have hardware that is knurled or roughened		✓	

NOTES

LOCATION

RESTROOMS – also see Doors and Vestibules				
Specification	Yes	No	Comments/Transition Notes	
5 ft turning space measured 12" from the floor		X		
At least one Sink:				
Clear floor space of 30" by 48" to allow a forward approach			<i>there are no bathrooms</i>	
Mounted without pedestal or legs, height 34" to top of rim				
Extends at least 22" from the wall				
Open knee space a minimum 19" deep, 30" width, and 27" high				
Cover exposed pipes with insulation				
Faucets operable with closed fist (lever or spring activated handle)				
At least one Stall:				
Accessible to person using wheelchair at 60" wide by 72" deep				
Stall door is 36" wide				
Stall door swings out				
Stall door is self closing				
Stall door has a pull latch				
Lock on stall door is operable with a closed fist, and 32" above the floor				
Coat hook is 54" high				
Toilet				
18" from center to nearest side wall				
42" minimum clear space from center to farthest wall or fixture				
Top of seat 17"-19" above the floor				
Grab Bars				
On back and side wall closest to toilet				
1 1/4" diameter				
1 1/2" clearance to wall				
Located 30" above and parallel to the floor				
Acid-etched or roughened surface				
42" long				
Fixtures				
Toilet paper dispenser is 24" above floor				
One mirror set a maximum 38" to bottom (if tilted, 42")				
Dispensers (towel, soap, etc) at least one of each a maximum 42" above the floor		↓		

NOTES

LOCATION

SWIMMING POOLS – accessibility can be via ramp, lifting device, or transfer area			
Specification	Yes	No	Comments/Transition Notes
Ramp at least 34" wide with a non-slip surface extending into the shallow end, slope not exceeding 1:6 with handrails on both sides		N/A	NO SWIMMING POOLS
Lifting device			
Transfer area 18" above the path of travel and a minimum of 18" wide			
Unobstructed path of travel not less than 48" wide around pool			
Non-slip surface			

LOCATION

SHOWER ROOMS - Showers must accommodate both wheel-in and transfer use			
Specification	Yes	No	Comments/Transition Notes
Stalls 36" by 60" minimum, with a 36" door opening			NO SHOWER ROOMS
Floors are pitched to drain the stall at the corner farthest from entrance		N/A	
Floors are non-slip surface			
Controls operate by a single lever with a pressure balance mixing valve			
Controls are located on the center wall adjacent to the hinged seat			
Shower heads attached to a flexible metal hose			
Shower heads attached to wall mounting adjustable from 42" to 72" above the floor			
Seat is hinged and padded and at least 16" deep, folds upward, securely attached to side wall, height is 18" to the top of the seat, and at least 24" long			
Soap trays without handhold features unless they can support 250 pounds			
2 grab bars are provided, one 30" and one 48" long, or one continuous L shaped bar			
Grab bars are placed horizontally at 36" above the floor line			

LOCATION

PICNICKING			
Specification	Yes	No	Comments/Transition Notes
A minimum of 5% of the total tables must be accessible with clear space under the table top not less than 30" wide and 19" deep per seating space and not less than 27" clear from the ground to the underside of the table. An additional 29" clear space (totaling 48") must extend beyond the 19" clear space under the table to provide access		X	
For tables without toe clearance, the knee space under the table must be at least 28" high, 30" wide and 24" deep.		XX	
Top of table no higher than 32" above ground		X	
Surface of the clear ground space under and around the table must be stable, firm and slip-resistant, and evenly graded with a maximum slope of 2% in all directions		X	
Accessible tables, grills and fire rings must have clear ground space of at least 36" around the perimeter		N/A	

Appendix F: Letters of Support



OLD COLONY
PLANNING COUNCIL

Christine Joy, President | Mary Waldron, Executive Director

(508) 583-1833

70 School Street, Brockton, MA 02301

www.ocpcrpa.org

June 3, 2022

Melissa Cryan
Division of Conservation Services
Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
100 Cambridge Street, Suite 900
Boston, MA 02114

RE: Town of Avon Open Space and Recreation Plan Update, June 2022

Dear Ms. Cryan,

On behalf of the Old Colony Planning Council, I am pleased to provide this letter of support for the recently completed Town of Avon Open Space and Recreation Plan June 2022 update. The Town and its Open Space and Recreation Plan Committee are to be commended for their diligent work in completing this Plan.

The Town and the Open Space Working Group have done a very thorough job, and the final document appears to meet the standards for such plans as promulgated by your office. This plan highlights the need to balance new development with the need to protect open space and natural resources, as well as enhance recreational opportunities. This Plan articulates a need for enhanced protection and upkeep of critical town-owned open spaces; improved trail systems and trail links on town-owned open spaces, promotion of the Town's open space and recreation opportunities, and equitable access to the Town's open space and recreation facilities. This Plan provides the Town with specific guidance and action steps needed to accomplish its goals and objectives. This Plan also recognizes the need for partnerships with public and private entities to make its goals and objectives a reality. Many of these partnerships are currently being pursued by the Town on behalf of D.W. Fields Park. The Town of Avon will be well-served by having a State-approved, updated Plan to plan for its recreation facilities and programs, as well as to preserve and protecting its valuable open spaces and natural resources.

Please consider this letter to be a demonstration of OCPC's support for the Plan and the process used to develop it. We find Avon's Plan to be fully consistent with the Massachusetts Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mary Waldron'.

Mary Waldron
Executive Director

Board of Selectmen
Steven P. Rose, Chairman
Eric S. Beckerman, Clerk
Jason L. Suzor, Sr., Associate

Gregory S. Enos
Town Administrator

Town of Avon Massachusetts

Town Offices
Buckley Center 02322
(508) 588-0414
Fax (508) 559-0209



June 15, 2022

Ms. Melissa Cryan
Division of Conservation Services
Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
100 Cambridge Street, Suite 900
Boston, MA 02114

RE: Town of Avon Open Space and Recreation Plan Update, June 2022

Dear Ms. Cryan,

On behalf of the Town of Avon, I am pleased to provide this letter of support for the Town of Avon Open Space and Recreation Plan Update as prepared by the Town of Avon with support from the Old Colony Planning Council (OCPC). This plan demonstrates Avon's strong commitment to preserving and enhancing open space areas within its borders, and the contents of the plan represent a collaborative effort between several boards and commissions in Town.

Extensive community input into this planning process was sought to ensure that the goals and objectives included in this Plan are truly in line with the community's needs. Outreach efforts included a community survey, public meetings, and a community public listening session. The goals, objectives, and action items outlined in this OSRP update will aid Avon as it continues to provide open space, and recreation opportunities, maintain historical sites and seek additional grant funding. We feel the result will serve as a valuable resource for the town for many years.

We thank you for considering this Plan and supporting our open space and recreation efforts.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gregory S. Enos".

Gregory S. Enos
Town Administrator



AVON PLANNING BOARD
TOWN OFFICES/BUCKLEY CENTER
AVON, MASSACHUSETTS 02322-1496
TEL. (508) 588-0414 - FAX (508) 559-0209
planningboard@avonmass.org

June 15, 2022

Melissa Cryan
Division of Conservation Services
Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
100 Cambridge Street, Suite 900
Boston, MA 02114 RE: Town of Avon Open Space and Recreation Plan Update, June 2022

Dear Ms. Cryan,

On behalf of the Town of Avon Planning Board, I am pleased to provide this letter of support for the Town of Avon Open Space and Recreation Plan Update as prepared by the Town of Avon with support from the Old Colony Planning Council (OCPC). This plan demonstrates Avon's strong commitment to preserving and enhancing open space areas within its borders, and the contents of the plan represent a collaborative effort between several boards and commissions in Town.

Extensive community input into this planning process was sought to ensure that the goals and objectives included in this Plan are truly in line with the community's needs. Outreach efforts included a community survey, public meetings, and a community public listening session. The goals, objectives, and action items outlined in this OSRP update will aid Avon as it continues to provide open space, and recreation opportunities, maintain historical sites and seek additional grant funding. We feel the result will serve as a valuable resource for the town for many years.

We thank you for considering this Plan and supporting our open space and recreation efforts.

Sincerely,

Thanks,

Charles Comeau, Chair
Avon Planning Board

Appendix G: Public Listening Sessions and Outreach Materials



Christine Joy, President | Mary Waldron, Executive Director

(508) 583-1833

70 School Street, Brockton, MA 02301

www.ocpcrpa.org

Town of Avon Open Space & Recreation Plan 2022 Update Public Participation Plan

I. Purpose of Engagement

Community input and involvement is necessary to the project. It is necessary to have a public say in the plan for open space and recreational areas in the Town of Avon which will be frequented most by the town’s general population as well as those that work and travel through the community.

Successful engagement in the short term is active attendance in working groups, visioning sessions, listening sessions, public meetings, and responses to surveys. Long term would be informing the public and town staff for the town to be held accountable based on the final plan’s goals and recommendations.

The overall goal is to inform and engage the public via various outreach opportunities as mentioned before and make sure information is easily accessible. When a community is informed and engaged those leads to be able to Empower them and this is accomplished through the Town’s Parks and Recreation Committee and Conservation Commission.

II. Stakeholders

The following group has been identified as key stakeholders:

NAME	AFFILIATION	CONTACT
Bill Fitzgerald , Public Works Director	Town of Avon	wfitzgerald@avon-ma.gov
Greg Enos , Town Administrator		genos@avon-ma.gov
Eric Beckerman , Board of Selectman		ebeckerman@avon-ma.gov
Jennifer Mayo , Parks & Recreation Director		jmayo@avon-ma.gov

Kevin Mooney , Conservation Commission		kmooney@avon-ma.gov
Chuck Comeau , Planning Board		ccomeau@avon-ma.gov
Taunton River Watershed Alliance	---	trwa_staff@verizon.net
Lauren Kras , Hub Director Southeast Region	Massachusetts Audubon Society	lkras@massaudubon.org
Elijah Romulus , Senior Comprehensive Planner	Old Colony Planning Council	eromulus@ocpcrpa.org
Laurie Muncy , AICP, Director, Community Planning & Economic Development	Old Colony Planning Council	Lmuncy@ocpcrpa.org

III. Resources, Opportunities & Scale of Engagement

There are several resources available for this plan to be executed properly. OCPC staff and resources such as Survey Monkey, ArcGIS, Canva, Microsoft office, and adobe acrobat all allow for the creation of various informational and outreach efforts. The town of Avon project lead: **Greg Enos and Bill Fitzgerald** are also equipped to work towards the successful completion of the Plan.

With any planning effort, there are strengths and weaknesses, and enacting a public outreach plan is no different. The biggest challenge will be planning in a pandemic specifically with shifting public health protocols. We will need to know what the Town plans on as it relates to public meetings being virtual or in-person or hybrid and being flexible enough to adjust in a fluid environment. Staff support is the biggest strength being the Town of Avon and Old Colony Planning Council. Finally, the seasonal timing can be both a gift and a curse. A summer timeline can either lead to more public participation with better weather or less for the same reason. So, a robust outreach effort will prove to be useful.

In terms of the scale of engagement, we will start moderately small and branch out. We will start with identifying key stakeholders to address their goals and vision in a kickoff working group meeting. We will then broaden the scope to include stakeholders via a series of public meetings and an online survey.

Regarding the town's demographic information and land use OCPC will create maps where information is needed.

IV. Messaging & Approach

The messaging for this will rely on both hard copy flyers and fact sheets as well as digital such as websites, social media, and email outreach. The approach for said messaging will be split across three phases, to inform, to engage, and to empower.

1. To Inform...
 - OCPC will generate a fact sheet,
 - OCPC will generate a flyer,
 - Town of Avon and/or OCPC can host a webpage for the information generated,
 - Social Media – OCPC will generate postings.
2. To Engage...
 - Establish a working group,
 - Online survey will be drafted,
 - Community Mapping – OCPC has GIS mapping capabilities.
3. To Empower
 - Residents will have a chance to weigh in via an online survey and attend a series of public meetings.

V. Timeline

July

- **Working Group Meeting #1**
- Town Staff Interviews
- Develop public participation program.
- Collect data on Community Setting, Environmental Inventory
- Analyze Resource Protection Needs, Management Needs
- **Community Survey, Map Development**

August

- Community Goals and Objectives, Strengths/Weaknesses/Opportunities - Articulate, organize and refine.
- **Public Listening Session 1 (via zoom)**
- Community Survey
- Draft section 3: Community Setting,

September

- **Working Group Meeting #2**
- Draft Section 4: Environmental Inventory and Analysis, Section 5: Lands of Conservation Interest

October

- Draft Section 6: Community Vision, Section 7: Analysis of Needs,

November

- **Working Group Meeting #3**
- Draft Section 8 Goals and Objectives. Section 9: Seven Year Action Plan

December

- **Public Listening Session 2 (via zoom)**

January

- **Working Group Meeting #4**
- Present draft plan to Town

February

- Edit and finalize.
- Submit the draft plan to State.

Enhanced Public Outreach Plan for Environmental Justice Populations

Expanded outreach opportunities

- QR scan code postcards that direct to project website, survey questions, fact sheet, and copy of the plan for comment.
- Distribute those QR cards to the high school for distribution to the students. It will be Bill's responsibility to get permission from the school for the disbursement of the cards.
- Distribute QR cards at various locations in town clerk, COA, library, local barber, local church (St. Michaels?), civic groups (?), OCPC delegates, and convenience stores.
- Place public meeting notices on town websites, on agendas for upcoming meetings, and on the OCPC website.
- Does Bill have access to a bulk mail permit? If so, postcards can be mailed. There are an estimated 1,634 households, mailing would cost about \$650 without a bulk permit should they wish to do so. Any tax or water bills going out soon that can include a postcard? Even if the bills are going out in July, we can still do it and include the intention in the Plan.
- OCPC will create a fact sheet with visuals from the plan that can be placed on the website page.
- Cable Access channel, Youtube video, Newspaper articles (which paper?), We may record a video solely for distribution instead of waiting for the public listening session recording so that we could broadcast sooner.
- Any upcoming bandstand events? Do we have access to one of those real estate boxes to leave QR cards?

TOWN OF AVON SURVEY



HOW CAN WE IMPROVE OUR PARKS & RECREATION AREAS?



LET US KNOW!

We want your opinion, takes less than 5 minutes!

<https://tinyurl.com/pjwf284y>

Or scan this code with your cell now



Any questions or concerns?

Contact: Bill Fitzgerald

(508) 588-0414 or

wfitzgerald@avon-ma.gov

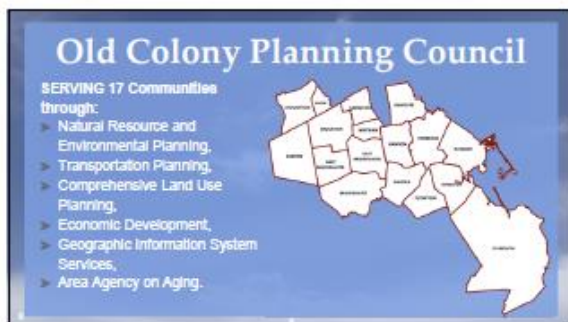
Working Group Meeting July 19, 2021



1



2



3



4



5



6



13

NEXT STEPS

- Update Goals & Objectives,
- Set Dates for Public Listening Sessions,
- Set August working group meeting date,
- Acquire parcel inventory for analysis,
- Launch Survey,
- Citizen/staff photos for report.

Image: DNR, Field Plans
Source: OpenStreetMap contributors, Imagery © Mapbox, © OpenStreetMap contributors, CC-BY, Imagery © Mapbox

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thanks!

Any questions?

You can reach me at:
eromulus@ocpcrpa.org
or (508) 583-1633 ext. 217

**OLD COLONY
PLANNING COUNCIL**

15

AVON OPEN SPACE & RECREATION PLAN UPDATE



SCAN TO
TAKE SURVEY



OLD COLONY
PLANNING COUNCIL

Public Listening Session
Tuesday August, 17, 2021 at 6 PM
Register for the event at:
<https://tinyurl.com/ydfmaj5z>

Listening Session and Working Group Meeting

August 17, 2021

OLD COLONY PLANNING COUNCIL'S SUGGESTED GOALS & OBJECTIVES FOR AVON'S OPEN SPACE & RECREATION PLAN Rev. 8.6.21		
CATEGORY	GOALS	OBJECTIVE
Resource Protection & Enhancement Goals	Increase protection of priority unprotected open spaces as identified in the Town of Avon Priority Development and Protection Areas April 2016 report.	Communicate with property owners of priority unprotected open spaces to discuss potential protection of these open spaces. As appropriate, broaden community awareness of the status of priority unprotected open space.
	Include protection and acquisition of unprotected open spaces in larger community planning processes.	Protect privately held open space through acquisition, conservation, easements, and other means. Identify additional measures, approaches or incentives to protect priority unprotected open spaces.
	Identify and prioritize additional parcels with significant open space value.	Work with the OS Committee to identify parcels with significant open space value. Formalize procedures to determine whether parcels available for acquisition are significant to the interests of open space, including designating who will decide and how the decision will be made.
	Use Conservation Restriction Policy to protect land with conservation and resource values.	Encourage conservation restrictions with public access, including areas of open space and potential for green features within the built environment. Encourage conservation restrictions for land with significant conservation value even when public access is not an option.
	Use Zoning Tools to protect open space.	Open communication channels with the Planning Department to ensure better protection of open space and green features in the context of development and town planning efforts. Consider the use of overlay districts, buffer zones, and/or cluster zoning to protect open space. Modify the Zoning by-laws to encourage the protection or creation of open space, trees, and green features.
	Community Goals	To provide open space in or close to every neighborhood.

	To preserve Avon's natural and historical visual character.	
	Improve Connectivity between open spaces, parks, and other recreational resources.	Continue developing the local/regional trail network for transportation and nature-based recreation.
	To ensure the provision of recreation facilities while recognizing that recreation needs should be met on neighborhood, town wide and regional levels.	
	To preserve and provide conservation land, particularly that with multi-purpose potentials for recreation, flood control, ground water recharge and wildlife habitat preservation and neighborhood enhancement.	
	Coordinate and plan with civic groups for the wise use of Avon's natural resources.	
	Preserve, maintain, diversify, and enhance open space resources and recreation opportunities.	Use innovative growth management strategies and improved regulatory controls to accomplish desired goals.
		Provide recreational opportunities for diverse population groups, no just youth.
Education, Outreach and Advocacy		Create active collaboration among groups providing environmental education and programming for children, families, and adults, to reach more residents and present more consistent perspectives on stewardship and conservation.
		Increase public awareness of open space and related environmental issues through outlets such as print and on-line media, targeted events and programs, annual presentation of achievements to date, and other public awareness activities.
		Educate the public about the links between open space, infrastructure, and climate change mitigation and adaptation.
		Advocate for improved access to open spaces by people with disabilities.
		Encourage local schools to use state and town-owned conservation lands as part of their environmental science curriculums.
		Actively engage with other community groups to identify shared goals and objectives.

	Enhance broad understanding of green corridors/open space functions and values, particularly about stormwater, groundwater, climate, and wildlife.	Consider opportunities for workshops and/or seminars to educate public.
		Engage the school community regarding water-related issues through appropriate areas of curriculum.
		Encourage use of open space and greenways for walking and biking to reduce carbon emissions.
	Promote collaboration among the various town boards, commissions, and departments responsible for open spaces.	Incorporate the OSRP in town and community decision making.
		Think regionally and work collaborative with neighboring towns.
		Continue to partner with land trusts, government entities, and individuals to make full use of available government funds and programs to acquire and/or protect important land parcels.
Ensure cooperation between the Park and Recreation Commission, the School Department, and private groups to avoid duplicating efforts.		
	Secure funding and partner with other entities for open space land protection.	
Tie Infrastructure upgrades into community interests and awareness-building about sustainability and stewardship.	Increase public understanding of linkages between infrastructure and resource management, including climate change, watershed management, pollution, health, and well-being.	
Financing Open Space Initiatives	Identify additional measures to fund protection of significant open space when at imminent risk of loss.	Develop municipal funding mechanisms and procedures for protecting at-risk land and environmental features.
		Research outside funding sources, such as individual gifts, challenge grants, and foundation grants.
		Encourage public-private partnerships.
		Utilize outside third parties, such as land trusts, and non-profits, to ensure a non-governmental system of protecting or acquiring land when municipal funding is not possible.
Maintain or increase funds designated for the ongoing maintenance and management of open spaces.	Develop funding sources to uphold the level of maintenance and staff if feasible to ensure that significant capital investments in open space during the last decade are sustained.	
Green Corridors	Protect and Improve existing green corridors.	Establish a Greenways Program to identify and designate certain streets as greenways.
		Develop a system to identify green corridors of all types based on values (wildlife, scenic, bicycle, and pedestrian, connectivity, stormwater management).
		Identify methods to protect and improve green corridors.
	Develop New Greenways and Green Streets	Seek opportunities to create greenways or green streets with roadway redevelopment or improvement projects.

		Include development of greenways and green streets in large scale planning processes.
Habitat and Wildlife	Preserve, restore, and create habitat for native wildlife and plants.	Devise policies and programs that promote and protect plant and animal biodiversity.
		Evaluate medium and long-term effects of climate change on habitat and biodiversity.
		Improve ecological habitats.
	Reduce Human-Wildlife Conflicts.	Implement the municipal policy for wildlife management.
		Promote best practices to reduce wildlife incursions in developed areas and neighborhoods.
		Educate the public about best practices to reduce interactions and conflicts with wildlife.
Identify and Protect Wildlife Corridors 	Identify priority wildlife corridors using aerial photography and other tools.	
	Identify connections between priority animal habitats.	
	Identify opportunities to link protection wildlife corridors to other open space interests and larger community planning processes.	
Management Goals	Improve governmental coordination to protect open space.	Institutionalize interdepartmental coordination to improve protection and use resources most effectively.
		Various Town departments should communicate regularly on issues related to climate change, develop synergies to mitigate the causes of climate change and adapt to its effects.
		Work with adjacent municipalities to identify ways in which joint action could benefit shared open space opportunities.
		Support and strengthen links between open space goals and other environmental goals, including climate change mitigation and adaptation goals.
Park and Recreation Lands	Provide a range of recreational opportunities for all. 	Provide a diversified selection of year-round recreational programs for residents of all ages, incomes, and abilities.
	Increase awareness, appreciation, and use of the town's open spaces, trails, natural resources, and recreational opportunities.	Use marketing tools to publicize the location, amenities, and availability of open spaces.
		Promote universal access for trails, recreation facilities, and conservation areas.
	Maintain, refurbish, and expand lands for park and recreational use. 	Ensure comprehensive planning for open space recreational use.
		Expand the properties available for active and passive recreational use.
Meet the long-term space needs of locally significant sports.		
		Restore and refurbish the Town's parks.
		Expand on opportunities for institutions and individuals to help care for the Town's open spaces.
Wetlands and Watersheds	Protect wetlands, waterways, and water resource areas as a critical	Ensure a high level of protection for the remaining fragile wetlands.
		Improve water quality in Town's surface waters, including rivers, brooks, ponds, and lagoons.

	component of the Town's Open Space Inventory.	<p>Further develop specific protocols for Conservation review of building permit applications for projects which are located within a wetland buffer zone or resource area.</p> <p>Ensure the excellent quality of Avon's water supply.</p> <p>Limit use of toxic substances on natural resources town wide.</p> <p>Increase access to scarce water-based recreational resources, particularly swimming and boating opportunities.</p>
Watersheds and Infrastructure	Continue to implement the Stormwater Management Program	<p>Use technologies and Best Management Practices that meet new regulations and support additional community and open space goals.</p> <p>Develop Green Street guidelines to reduce runoff and pollution from streets.</p> <p>Identify locations for green infrastructure.</p>
	Protect Water Resources and Biodiversity	<p>Manage quantity and quality of groundwater and surface water to protect the town's water resources.</p> <p>Promote town-wide water saving techniques.</p> <p>Protect and monitor streams, rivers, ponds, and wetlands.</p> <p>Prioritize remaining parcels along waterways for protection when they become available.</p>
Complying with Stormwater Regulations	Manage town projects to allow improvements to existing greenways when possible and seek opportunities for new greenways.	<p>Ensure that all Town projects consider opportunities for adding vegetation, enhancing greenways, and improving open space.</p> <p>Develop metrics to quantify pros and cons of green infrastructure actions including cost benefits.</p>
	Use new development and redevelopment as an opportunity to make improvements in infrastructure, and to reduce impacts to resources.	<p>Reduce impervious cover over time.</p> <p>Consider potential alternatives to conventional infrastructure during Capital Improvements Program (CIP) planning process.</p> <p>All future municipal projects should consider green infrastructure alternatives, including projects that are not part of the Capital Improvements Program.</p>
Regional Planning	Devise management strategies that address current environmental challenges, including climate change and non-native invasive species.	<p>Consider potential impacts of climate change in management decisions, including decisions regarding vegetation for reduction of urban heat-islands and/or stormwater management, and habitat buffers to counter stresses and enable wildlife migration.</p> <p>Devise management strategies to address non-native invasive species.</p>
	Strengthen Connections to green spaces in neighboring communities.	<p>Communicate with staff and/or environmental advocates in neighboring communities to enable formation of strategies to strengthen connections between green spaces. Cooperate with adjacent communities to maximize benefits from potentially shared holdings.</p>

Working Group Meeting

October 26, 2021

OLD COLONY PLANNING COUNCIL'S SUGGESTED GOALS & OBJECTIVES FOR AVON'S OPEN SPACE & RECREATION PLAN Rev. 12/29/2021

Resource Protection & Enhancement Goals

- Identify and prioritize additional parcels with significant open space value.
- Use Zoning tools to protect open space.
- Include protection and acquisition of unprotected open spaces in larger community planning processes.

Community Goals

- Increase connectivity between open spaces, parks, and other recreational resources.
- To provide open space to or close to every neighborhood.

Education, Outreach, and Strategy Goals

- Promote the collaboration among the various town boards, commission, and departments responsible for open spaces.
- Increase engagement with the community to support of the open space and recreation plan.

1

OLD COLONY PLANNING COUNCIL'S SUGGESTED GOALS & OBJECTIVES FOR AVON'S OPEN SPACE & RECREATION PLAN Rev. 12/29/2021

CATEGORY	GOALS	OBJECTIVE	ACTION and RESPONSIBLE DEPT.
Resource Protection & Enhancement Goals	Identify and prioritize additional parcels with significant open space value.	Formalize procedures to determine whether parcels available for acquisition are significant to the interests of open space, including designating who will decide and how the decision will be made.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify parcels using a comprehensive approach to maximize open space value. Select Board, Conservation Commission, Planning Board, Engineering/DPW, School Dept. Develop a list of "high impact" parcels that will be considered for protection. Conservation Commission, Open Space Commission. Establish a committee to create a specific review process, including a decision tree. Conservation Commission, Select Board, Park and Recreation Commission. Review the Tax Title list for land protection opportunities. Conservation Commission, Open Space Commission.

4

OLD COLONY PLANNING COUNCIL'S SUGGESTED GOALS & OBJECTIVES FOR AVON'S OPEN SPACE & RECREATION PLAN Rev. 12/29/2021

Resolving Open Space Initiative Goals

- Identify parcels with historical significance or parcels that contain archeological resources or other historic sites.
- Identify parcels with historical significance or archeological resources that have been previously identified.

Habitat and Wildlife Goals

- Identify parcels with habitat or wildlife resources and develop strategies to protect and enhance these resources.
- Identify parcels with habitat or wildlife resources and develop strategies to protect and enhance these resources.

Park and Recreation Lands Goals

- Identify parcels with potential for park or recreation use and develop strategies to protect and enhance these resources.
- Identify parcels with potential for park or recreation use and develop strategies to protect and enhance these resources.

2

OLD COLONY PLANNING COUNCIL'S SUGGESTED GOALS & OBJECTIVES FOR AVON'S OPEN SPACE & RECREATION PLAN Rev. 12/29/2021

CATEGORY	GOALS	OBJECTIVE	ACTION and RESPONSIBLE DEPT.
Resource Protection & Enhancement Goals	Use Zoning Tools to protect open space.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain open conservation parcels with the Planning Department to ensure better protection of open space and green features in the context of development and town planning efforts. Consider the use of overlay districts, buffer zones, and/or cluster zoning to protect open space. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with the Planning Board to review opportunities for additional protection. Conservation Commission, Planning Board. Issue the new zoning bylaws to encourage the use of open space and green features. Planning Board. Work with the Planning Board to effect changes to the zoning districts of the Town when it is appropriate to do so. Conservation Commission, Planning Board.

5

OLD COLONY PLANNING COUNCIL'S SUGGESTED GOALS & OBJECTIVES FOR AVON'S OPEN SPACE & RECREATION PLAN Rev. 12/29/2021

Wetlands and Infrastructure Goals

- Continue to implement the Stormwater Management Program and comply with Stormwater Management Regulations.
- Manage loan projects to allow improvements to existing greenways when possible and seek opportunities for new greenways.
- Use new development and redevelopment as an opportunity to make improvements to infrastructure, and to reduce impacts to resources.

3

OLD COLONY PLANNING COUNCIL'S SUGGESTED GOALS & OBJECTIVES FOR AVON'S OPEN SPACE & RECREATION PLAN Rev. 12/29/2021

CATEGORY	GOALS	OBJECTIVE	ACTION and RESPONSIBLE DEPT.
Resource Protection & Enhancement Goals	Use Zoning Tools to protect open space.	Modify the Zoning by-laws to encourage the protection or creation of open space, trees, and green features.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Modify the Zoning by-laws to meet specific goals using standardized tools such as the US Green Building Council's Sustainable Sites, and zoning systems. Conservation Commission, Planning Board. Support the implementation of the Green Communities Program which provides incentives for local projects involving open space, parks, walkways, energy building and other projects. Planning, Conservation, Engineering/DPW, Conservation Commission, Open Space Commission. Amend the rules to implement the Community Preservation Act, which allows communities to create their own opportunities for community projects including open space and recreation, housing, and historical preservation. Select Board.

6

OLD COLONY PLANNING COUNCIL'S SUGGESTED GOALS & OBJECTIVES FOR AGENY'S OPEN SPACE & RECREATION PLAN No. 10262021

CATEGORY	GOALS	OBJECTIVE	ACTION and RESPONSIBLE DEPT.
Resource Protection & Enhancement Goals	Include protection and acquisition of unprotected open space in larger community planning processes.	Protect privately held open space through acquisition, conservation, easements, and other means.	<p>Work with appropriate committees to draft guidelines that describe the process and procedures for considering the acquisition of open spaces. (Select Board, Conservation Commission, Park and Recreation, Assessment Dept.</p> <p>Develop and prepare those guidelines for presentation to the community through a series of community and neighborhood meetings. Conservation Commission.</p> <p>Present a final set of guidelines to the Board of Selection for their review and approval. Conservation Commission.</p>

7

OLD COLONY PLANNING COUNCIL'S SUGGESTED GOALS & OBJECTIVES FOR AGENY'S OPEN SPACE & RECREATION PLAN No. 10262021

CATEGORY	GOALS	OBJECTIVE	ACTION and RESPONSIBLE DEPT.
Community Goals	To provide open space in or close to every neighborhood.	Use creative means to acquire, share, repurpose, or access additional facilities and public spaces.	<p>Locate and build new multi-purpose fields. Park and Recreation.</p> <p>Establish formal partnerships with local institutions and organizations. Park and Recreation.</p> <p>Look at additional and alternative funding mechanisms. Park and Recreation.</p>

10

OLD COLONY PLANNING COUNCIL'S SUGGESTED GOALS & OBJECTIVES FOR AGENY'S OPEN SPACE & RECREATION PLAN No. 10262021

CATEGORY	GOALS	OBJECTIVE	ACTION and RESPONSIBLE DEPT.
Resource Protection & Enhancement Goals	Include protection and acquisition of unprotected open space in larger community planning processes.	Identify additional easements, approaches, or incentives to protect privately unprotected open spaces.	<p>Establish outreach protocol. Conservation Commission.</p> <p>Reach out to private owners utilizing outreach protocol. Conservation Commission.</p> <p>Identify potential mechanisms to prevent loss of unprotected open space such as a land bank. Conservation Commission.</p>

8

OLD COLONY PLANNING COUNCIL'S SUGGESTED GOALS & OBJECTIVES FOR AGENY'S OPEN SPACE & RECREATION PLAN No. 10262021

CATEGORY	GOALS	OBJECTIVE	ACTION and RESPONSIBLE DEPT.
Community Goals	To provide open space in or close to every neighborhood.	Enhance cost recovery and business planning.	<p>Create and implement a clear Pricing and Cost Recovery Policy. Park and Recreation.</p> <p>Create and adopt a Strategic Business Plan. Park and Recreation.</p> <p>Conduct scheduled analysis of user fees and ensure fees are appropriate with level of service provided. Park and Recreation Commission.</p>

11

OLD COLONY PLANNING COUNCIL'S SUGGESTED GOALS & OBJECTIVES FOR AGENY'S OPEN SPACE & RECREATION PLAN No. 10262021

CATEGORY	GOALS	OBJECTIVE	ACTION and RESPONSIBLE DEPT.
Community Goals	Improve Connectivity between open spaces, parks, and other recreational resources.	Continue developing the local/regional trail network for transportation and nature-based recreation.	<p>Develop and implement trail construction standards, including marking, bridges, signage, walkways, and surfaces, etc. Open Space Committee, Conservation Commission.</p> <p>Study and plan for bicycle use. Planning Board, Open Space Committee</p> <p>Provide neighborhood-oriented opportunities for recreation and gardening by creating informal playing fields, expanding community garden locations, maintaining/improving existing playgrounds. Engineering/OPW, Open Space Committee, Park and Recreation</p>

9

OLD COLONY PLANNING COUNCIL'S SUGGESTED GOALS & OBJECTIVES FOR AGENY'S OPEN SPACE & RECREATION PLAN No. 10262021

CATEGORY	GOALS	OBJECTIVE	ACTION and RESPONSIBLE DEPT.
Education, Outreach, and Strategy	Promote collaboration among the various town boards, commissions, and departments responsible for open space.	Incorporate the OSRP in town and community decision making.	<p>Track progress on this Action Plan and report annually to relevant Town boards and committees. Conservation Commission, Open Space Committee.</p> <p>Encourage communication among boards, committees, neighboring communities, and other related organizations. Conservation Commission, Open Space Committee.</p>

12

OLD COLONY PLANNING COUNCIL'S SUGGESTED GOALS & OBJECTIVES FOR AVONS OPEN SPACE & RECREATION PLAN Rev. 10/09/2021

CATEGORY	GOALS	OBJECTIVE	ACTION and RESPONSIBLE DEPT.
Education, Outreach, and Strategy	Promote collaboration among the various town boards, commissions, and departments responsible for open spaces.	Think regionally and work collaboratively with neighboring towns.	<p>Continue to partner with land trusts, governmental agencies, and individuals to make full use of available governmental funds and programs to acquire and/or protect important land parcels. Conservation Commission, Open Space Committee.</p> <p>Secure funding and partner with abutting communities and other entities for open space land protection. Open Space Committee, Conservation Commission, Planning Board.</p>

13

OLD COLONY PLANNING COUNCIL'S SUGGESTED GOALS & OBJECTIVES FOR AVONS OPEN SPACE & RECREATION PLAN Rev. 10/09/2021

CATEGORY	GOALS	OBJECTIVE	ACTION and RESPONSIBLE DEPT.
Education, Outreach, and Strategy	Increase engagement with the community in support of the open space and recreation plan	Increase public awareness of open space and related environmental issues through outreach outlets such as prize and on-line media, targeted events and programs, annual presentation of achievements to date, and other public awareness activities.	<p>Work with Town staff and friends/ groups to promote activities and opportunities through social media and newsletters. Park and Recreation, Open Space Committee, Local Friends Groups.</p> <p>Engage volunteer groups in open space and trail work. Open Space Committee, Conservation Commission.</p>

16

OLD COLONY PLANNING COUNCIL'S SUGGESTED GOALS & OBJECTIVES FOR AVONS OPEN SPACE & RECREATION PLAN Rev. 10/09/2021

CATEGORY	GOALS	OBJECTIVE	ACTION and RESPONSIBLE DEPT.
Education, Outreach, and Strategy	Increase engagement with the community in support of the open space and recreation plan	Create active collaboration among groups providing environmental education and programming for children, families, and adults, to reach more residents and present more consistent perspectives on stewardship and conservation.	<p>Plan and develop a balanced program of intergenerational activities to include teen sports, seasonal events, fitness programs, nature, agricultural, guided hikes, and other programs. Park and Recreation, Open Space Committee.</p> <p>Gather representatives from all environmental education and outreach organizations to synthesize and coordinate activities. Park and Recreation Commission, Open Space Committee, School Committee, Conservation Commission.</p>

14

OLD COLONY PLANNING COUNCIL'S SUGGESTED GOALS & OBJECTIVES FOR AVONS OPEN SPACE & RECREATION PLAN Rev. 10/09/2021

CATEGORY	GOALS	OBJECTIVE	ACTION and RESPONSIBLE DEPT.
Education, Outreach, and Strategy	Increase engagement with the community in support of the open space and recreation plan	Educate the public about the links between open space, infrastructure, and climate change mitigation and adaptation.	<p>Work with Town departments to ensure appropriate information is disseminated to the public at large. Select Board, Climate Action Committee.</p> <p>Initiate a long-term project to document the impact of climate change on the town's assets and educate people about the likely effects of climate change. Planning Board, Conservation Commission, Board of Health.</p> <p>Encourage energy conservation in local food production. Board of Health, Planning Board.</p>

17

OLD COLONY PLANNING COUNCIL'S SUGGESTED GOALS & OBJECTIVES FOR AVONS OPEN SPACE & RECREATION PLAN Rev. 10/09/2021

CATEGORY	GOALS	OBJECTIVE	ACTION and RESPONSIBLE DEPT.
Education, Outreach, and Strategy	Increase engagement with the community in support of the open space and recreation plan	Create active collaboration among groups providing environmental education and programming for children, families, and adults, to reach more residents and present more consistent perspectives on stewardship and conservation.	<p>Develop strategies to fill in any gaps. Park and Recreation Commission, Open Space Committee, School Committee, Conservation Commission.</p> <p>Develop/Implement beautification projects (flower beds, trees, community gardens, etc.) in public areas. Open Space Committee, Park and Recreation, Engineering/OTPC.</p>

15

OLD COLONY PLANNING COUNCIL'S SUGGESTED GOALS & OBJECTIVES FOR AVONS OPEN SPACE & RECREATION PLAN Rev. 10/09/2021

CATEGORY	GOALS	OBJECTIVE	ACTION and RESPONSIBLE DEPT.
Education, Outreach, and Strategy	Increase engagement with the community in support of the open space and recreation plan	Advocate for improved access to open spaces by people with disabilities.	<p>Work with ADA Coordinator and Commission for the Disabled to improve and evaluate features which improve access to open spaces. Conservation Commission, Park and Recreation, Commission on Disabilities.</p> <p>Study and design ways to improve availability of ADA compliant measures and provide existing opportunities for people of all ages and abilities. Open Space Committee, Planning Board, Select Board.</p> <p>Publishize the open spaces that are accessible to people with disabilities. Conservation Commission, Park and Recreation, Commission on Disabilities, Council on Aging.</p>

18

OLD COLONY PLANNING COUNCIL'S SUGGESTED GOALS & OBJECTIVES FOR AVON'S OPEN SPACE & RECREATION PLAN Rev. 10/26/2021

CATEGORY	GOALS	OBJECTIVE	ACTION and RESPONSIBLE DEPT.
Education, Outreach, and Strategy	Increase engagement with the community in support of the open space and recreation plan	Encourage local schools to use state and town-owned conservation lands as part of their environmental science curricula.	Engage with curriculum coordinators for the School Department to determine appropriate placement within the curriculum. Conservation Commission, Engineering/DPW, School Committee. Promote environmental education events (Earth Day, household hazardous waste collection days, etc.). Select Board, Board of Health, Conservation Commission, Open Space Committee, School Committee.

19

OLD COLONY PLANNING COUNCIL'S SUGGESTED GOALS & OBJECTIVES FOR AVON'S OPEN SPACE & RECREATION PLAN Rev. 10/26/2021

CATEGORY	GOALS	OBJECTIVE	ACTION and RESPONSIBLE DEPT.
Financing Open Space Initiatives		Maintain or increase funds designated for the ongoing maintenance and management of open spaces.	Develop funding source to uphold the level of maintenance and staff if feasible to ensure those significant capital investments in open space during the last decade are matched. Work with Park and Recreation and Open Space Committee and advocacy groups to advocate for appropriate levels of funding. Conservation Commission. Solicit new fees to the public health community in support of funding. Conservation Commission, Health Department.

22

OLD COLONY PLANNING COUNCIL'S SUGGESTED GOALS & OBJECTIVES FOR AVON'S OPEN SPACE & RECREATION PLAN Rev. 10/26/2021

CATEGORY	GOALS	OBJECTIVE	ACTION and RESPONSIBLE DEPT.
Financing Open Space Initiatives	Identify additional measures to fund protection of significant open space when at imminent risk of loss.	Develop municipal funding mechanisms and procedures for protecting at-risk land and environmental features. Research outside funding sources, such as individual gifts, challenge grants, and foundation grants.	Establish a standing committee of appropriate municipal officials and representatives from the community to be available to address any issues and opportunities that arise in a timely fashion when needed. Select Board, Conservation Commission. The Committee set forth above should research funding sources. Select Board, Conservation Commission.

20

OLD COLONY PLANNING COUNCIL'S SUGGESTED GOALS & OBJECTIVES FOR AVON'S OPEN SPACE & RECREATION PLAN Rev. 10/26/2021

CATEGORY	GOALS	OBJECTIVE	ACTION and RESPONSIBLE DEPT.
Habitat and Wildlife		Preserve, restore, and create habitat for native wildlife and plants, Reduce Human-Wildlife Conflict, Identify and Protect Wildlife Corridors.	Educate the public about plant and animal biodiversity and its value. Conservation Commission. Promote stewardship of native plants and animals. Conservation Commission. Discourage and eradicate non-native invasive plant species and encourage the planting of native species on Town-owned properties. Conservation Commission. Coordinate with climate change groups and organizations to identify impacts significant to the community. Conservation Commission, Select Board.

23

OLD COLONY PLANNING COUNCIL'S SUGGESTED GOALS & OBJECTIVES FOR AVON'S OPEN SPACE & RECREATION PLAN Rev. 10/26/2021

CATEGORY	GOALS	OBJECTIVE	ACTION and RESPONSIBLE DEPT.
Financing Open Space Initiatives	Identify additional measures to fund protection of significant open space when at imminent risk of loss.	Encourage public-private partnerships. Utilize outside third parties, such as land trusts, and non-profits, to ensure a non-governmental system of protecting or acquiring land when municipal funding is not possible.	Work with local groups and other regional and national entities to develop partnerships. Conservation Commission, Park, and Recreation. The Committee set forth above should identify outside third parties. Select Board, Conservation Commission. The Committee should establish relationships with outside parties to discuss proactively land protection options. Select Board, Conservation Commission.

21

OLD COLONY PLANNING COUNCIL'S SUGGESTED GOALS & OBJECTIVES FOR AVON'S OPEN SPACE & RECREATION PLAN Rev. 10/26/2021

CATEGORY	GOALS	OBJECTIVE	ACTION and RESPONSIBLE DEPT.
Habitat and Wildlife		Preserve, restore, and create habitat for native wildlife and plants, Reduce Human-Wildlife Conflict, Identify and Protect Wildlife Corridors.	Implement the municipal policy for wildlife management. Promote best practices to reduce wildlife increases in developed areas and neighborhoods. Develop talking points, Q and A, and other materials to post on the Town website. Conservation Commission, clem@townofavon.com At appropriate speaking events and outreach events, share materials and information. Conservation Commission, Park, and Recreation. Educate the public about best practices to reduce interactions and conflicts with wildlife.

24

OLD COLONY PLANNING COUNCIL'S SUGGESTED GOALS & OBJECTIVES FOR AVON'S OPEN SPACE & RECREATION PLAN Rev. 10/26/2021

CATEGORY	GOALS	OBJECTIVE	ACTION and RESPONSIBLE DEPT.
Habitat and Wildlife	Preserve, restore, and create habitat for native wildlife and plants, Reduce Human-Wildlife Conflicts, Identify and Protect Wildlife Corridors.	Identify priority wildlife corridors using aerial photography and other tools. Identify connections between priority animal habitats.	Work with the IT Department to identify possible wildlife corridors using Geographic Information Systems (GIS). Consult with SPA for a drone fly-over of identified corridors. Conservation Commission, IT, Open Space Committee. Work with GIS Department, Tree Wardens, and other town officials and departments to identify animal habitat. Conservation Commission, Park and Recreation Commission, Open Space Committee.

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OLD COLONY PLANNING COUNCIL'S SUGGESTED GOALS & OBJECTIVES FOR AVON'S OPEN SPACE & RECREATION PLAN Rev. 10/26/2021

CATEGORY	GOALS	OBJECTIVE	ACTION and RESPONSIBLE DEPT.
Park and Recreation Lands	Provide a range of recreational opportunities for all.	Provide a diversified selection of year-round recreational programs for residents of all ages, incomes, and abilities.	Evaluate and review, if appropriate, the development of a water play feature. Park and Recreation Department. Evaluate and review, if appropriate, the development of "natural play" or "adventure play" areas. Park and Recreation. Evaluate and review, if appropriate, the development of a multi-use path through Town. Select Board, Engineering/DPW, Planning Board, Building Dept.

28

OLD COLONY PLANNING COUNCIL'S SUGGESTED GOALS & OBJECTIVES FOR AVON'S OPEN SPACE & RECREATION PLAN Rev. 10/26/2021

CATEGORY	GOALS	OBJECTIVE	ACTION and RESPONSIBLE DEPT.
Habitat and Wildlife	Preserve, restore, and create habitat for native wildlife and plants, Reduce Human-Wildlife Conflicts, Identify and Protect Wildlife Corridors.	Identify connections between priority animal habitats. Identify opportunities to link protection wildlife corridors to other open space zones and larger community planning processes.	Identify links between habitat areas. Conservation Commission, Park, and Recreation Commission, Open Space Committee. Prioritize protection of lands within existing wildlife corridors and with unique environmental features. Open Space Committee, Conservation Commission. Ensure mapping and knowledge of habitat areas and linkages are discussed in broad community planning efforts. Engineering/DPW, Conservation Commission, Park and Recreation Commission, Open Space Committee, IT Dept.

26

OLD COLONY PLANNING COUNCIL'S SUGGESTED GOALS & OBJECTIVES FOR AVON'S OPEN SPACE & RECREATION PLAN Rev. 10/26/2021

CATEGORY	GOALS	OBJECTIVE	ACTION and RESPONSIBLE DEPT.
Park and Recreation Lands	Provide a range of recreational opportunities for all.	Provide a diversified selection of year-round recreational programs for residents of all ages, incomes, and abilities.	Identify rights-of-ways and public easements that can be linked to the existing trail system. Conservation Commission, Engineering/DPW. Purchase and install safe bike racks (including protected bike racks or bike lockers and shared roadway signs) on town roads. Engineering/DPW, Planning Board, Conservation Commission. Sponsor group hikes and evaluate interest in recruiting group hikes. Open Space Committee, Conservation Commission.

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OLD COLONY PLANNING COUNCIL'S SUGGESTED GOALS & OBJECTIVES FOR AVON'S OPEN SPACE & RECREATION PLAN Rev. 10/26/2021

CATEGORY	GOALS	OBJECTIVE	ACTION and RESPONSIBLE DEPT.
Park and Recreation Lands	Provide a range of recreational opportunities for all.	Provide a diversified selection of year-round recreational programs for residents of all ages, incomes, and abilities.	Provide a safe and well-maintained public space for off-leash dogs, including potentially allowing dogs off-leash at specific locations during specified time frames. Recreation Committee. Provide additional recreation opportunities and programming for seniors, such as a pickleball court. Park and Recreation Department. Provide additional bird-watching and wildlife-viewing areas and educate public knowledge of and access to existing areas, such as at DeMunn Park. Park and Recreation Dept.

27

OLD COLONY PLANNING COUNCIL'S SUGGESTED GOALS & OBJECTIVES FOR AVON'S OPEN SPACE & RECREATION PLAN Rev. 10/26/2021

CATEGORY	GOALS	OBJECTIVE	ACTION and RESPONSIBLE DEPT.
Park and Recreation Lands	Provide a range of recreational opportunities for all.	Provide a diversified selection of year-round recreational programs for residents of all ages, incomes, and abilities.	Integrate passive recreation opportunities found in the Town's conservation areas and open spaces into recreation activities sponsored by Park and Recreation Commission. Park and Recreation, Open Space Committee. Support development of neighborhood parks and playgrounds. Select Board, Planning Board, Board of Health, Park and Recreation.

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OLD COLONY PLANNING COUNCIL'S SUGGESTED GOALS & OBJECTIVES FOR AVON'S OPEN SPACE & RECREATION PLAN Rev. 10/26/2021

CATEGORY	GOALS	OBJECTIVE	ACTION and RESPONSIBLE DEPT.
Park and Recreation Lands	Increase awareness, appreciation, and use of the town's open space, trails, natural resources, and recreational opportunities.	Use marketing tools to publicize the location, amenities, and availability of open spaces.	<p>Update town-wide open space and trail maps and provide them online and in print. Place at strategic locations in town. Open Space Committee, Conservation Commission.</p> <p>Spencer trail walks and canoe or bicycle trips to introduce people to the available opportunities. Open Space Committee, Conservation Commission.</p> <p>Optimize cross-posting of events across the open space and trails website. Open Space Committee.</p>

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OLD COLONY PLANNING COUNCIL'S SUGGESTED GOALS & OBJECTIVES FOR AVON'S OPEN SPACE & RECREATION PLAN Rev. 10/26/2021

CATEGORY	GOALS	OBJECTIVE	ACTION and RESPONSIBLE DEPT.
Park and Recreation Lands	Maintain, refurbish, and expand lands for park and recreational use.	<p>Expand the properties available for active and passive recreational use.</p> <p>Restore and refurbish the Town's parks.</p>	<p>Add properties to the park system that specifically serve the needs of passive recreation. Parks and Recreation, Open Space Committee.</p> <p>Explore use of utility easements and power poles for trails. Conservation Commission, Open Space Committee, Engineering/DPW.</p> <p>Develop and implement trail construction standards, including marking, bridges, signage, walkways, and surfaces. Conservation Commission, Open Space Committee, Engineering/DPW.</p>

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OLD COLONY PLANNING COUNCIL'S SUGGESTED GOALS & OBJECTIVES FOR AVON'S OPEN SPACE & RECREATION PLAN Rev. 10/26/2021

CATEGORY	GOALS	OBJECTIVE	ACTION and RESPONSIBLE DEPT.
Park and Recreation Lands	Increase awareness, appreciation, and use of the town's open space, trails, natural resources, and recreational opportunities.	<p>Use marketing tools to publicize the location, amenities, and availability of open spaces.</p> <p>Provide universal access for trails, recreation facilities, and recreation areas.</p>	<p>Consider joining the "10-Minute Walk Campaign" to assist in ensuring all residents are within a 10-minute walk to an open space/park. Open Space Committee, Park and Recreation.</p> <p>Create a fully inclusive park and playground. Park and Recreation, Engineering/DPW.</p> <p>Indicate accessibility levels in brochures, maps, and other public materials and provide them online and in print. Park and Recreation, Open Space Committee.</p> <p>Improve 1-2 trails to be more mobility-impaired accessible (flat, stable walking surface). Open Space Committee, Park and Recreation, Engineering/DPW.</p>

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OLD COLONY PLANNING COUNCIL'S SUGGESTED GOALS & OBJECTIVES FOR AVON'S OPEN SPACE & RECREATION PLAN Rev. 10/26/2021

CATEGORY	GOALS	OBJECTIVE	ACTION and RESPONSIBLE DEPT.
Park and Recreation Lands	Maintain, refurbish, and expand lands for park and recreational use.	<p>Expand on opportunities for institutions and individuals to help care for the Town's open spaces.</p>	<p>Formalize volunteer opportunities program through the Parks and Recreation and Open Space Committee. Conservation Commission, Park and Recreation.</p> <p>Implement utility wayfinding signs to trails, links at trailheads, pet waste bag dispensers. Conservation Commission, Open Space Committee, Engineering/DPW.</p>

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OLD COLONY PLANNING COUNCIL'S SUGGESTED GOALS & OBJECTIVES FOR AVON'S OPEN SPACE & RECREATION PLAN Rev. 10/26/2021

CATEGORY	GOALS	OBJECTIVE	ACTION and RESPONSIBLE DEPT.
Park and Recreation Lands	Maintain, refurbish, and expand lands for park and recreational use.	<p>Secure comprehensive planning for open space/recreational use.</p> <p>Expand the properties available for active and passive recreational use.</p>	<p>Review the 2001 Master Plan and ensure that ongoing activities are consistent with the recommendations of this plan. Planning Board.</p> <p>Ensure that any future Master Plan updates ensure that activities are consistent with the recommendations of this plan. Conservation Commission, Planning Board, Parks and Recreation, Open Space Committee, Master Plan Committee.</p> <p>Identify properties with Conservation Restrictions or other mechanisms to allow public access and identify as the town website. Conservation Commission, Parks and Recreation, Open Space Committee.</p>

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OLD COLONY PLANNING COUNCIL'S SUGGESTED GOALS & OBJECTIVES FOR AVON'S OPEN SPACE & RECREATION PLAN Rev. 10/26/2021

CATEGORY	GOALS	OBJECTIVE	ACTION and RESPONSIBLE DEPT.
Warehouses and Infrastructure	Continue to implement the Stormwater Management Program and complying with Stormwater Management Regulations	Use technologies and Best Management Practices that meet new regulations and support additional community and open space goals.	<p>Work with the Engineering/DPW to implement the Stormwater By-Law. Conservation Commission, Planning Board, Engineering/DPW.</p> <p>Work with the Engineering/DPW to identify opportunities for green infrastructure and stormwater practices that support open space goals. Parks and Recreation, Conservation Commission, Engineering/DPW.</p> <p>Install three (3) new simple green infrastructure projects on Town-owned lands to be used as an environmental outreach tool to show how natural and nature-based activities could manage stormwater. Conservation Commission, Engineering/DPW.</p>

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OLD COLONY PLANNING COUNCIL'S SUGGESTED
GOALS & OBJECTIVES FOR AVON'S
OPEN SPACE & RECREATION PLAN No. 15052021

CATEGORY	GOALS	OBJECTIVE	ACTION and RESPONSIBLE DEPT.
Watersheds and Infrastructure	Continue to implement the Stormwater Management Program and complying with Stormwater Management Regulations	The technologies and Best Management Practices that meet new regulations and support additional community and open space goals. Develop Green Street guidelines to reduce runoff and pollution from streets.	Seek funding opportunities, including federal and state grants, to allow the construction of demonstration and pilot projects. Conservation Commission, Engineering/DPW. Convene a task force to consider stormwater funding needs and potential revenue sources, including possible stormwater fees or utility. Conservation Commission, Water Commission, Engineering/DPW.

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OLD COLONY PLANNING COUNCIL'S SUGGESTED
GOALS & OBJECTIVES FOR AVON'S
OPEN SPACE & RECREATION PLAN No. 15052021

CATEGORY	GOALS	OBJECTIVE	ACTION and RESPONSIBLE DEPT.
Watersheds and Infrastructure		Manage town projects to allow improvements to exist greenways when possible and seek opportunities for new greenways.	Ensure that all Town projects consider opportunities for adding vegetation, enhancing greenways, and improving open space. Establish protocols with the appropriate Town departments to ensure all available opportunities for enhancing greenways are evaluated as part of a design review or RFP (Request for Proposals) process. Conservation Commission, Building Department, Engineering/DPW, Planning Board, Climate Action Committee.

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OLD COLONY PLANNING COUNCIL'S SUGGESTED
GOALS & OBJECTIVES FOR AVON'S
OPEN SPACE & RECREATION PLAN No. 15052021

CATEGORY	GOALS	OBJECTIVE	ACTION and RESPONSIBLE DEPT.
Watersheds and Infrastructure	Continue to implement the Stormwater Management Program and complying with Stormwater Management Regulations	Identify locations for green infrastructure.	Work with the Engineering/DPW to develop a list of possible technologies to consider with new projects. Conservation Commission, Planning Board, Engineering/DPW. Consider reconstruction of infrastructure in high-priority locations. Conservation Commission, Engineering/DPW, Planning Board.

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OLD COLONY PLANNING COUNCIL'S SUGGESTED
GOALS & OBJECTIVES FOR AVON'S
OPEN SPACE & RECREATION PLAN No. 15052021

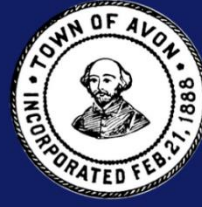
CATEGORY	GOALS	OBJECTIVE	ACTION and RESPONSIBLE DEPT.
Watersheds and Infrastructure		Manage town projects to allow improvements to exist greenways when possible and seek opportunities for new greenways.	Develop metrics to quantify past and core of green infrastructure actions including cost benefits. Review the most current data on relevant projects with similar parameters. Engineering/DPW, Conservation Commission, Planning Board, Building Department.

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OLD COLONY PLANNING COUNCIL'S SUGGESTED
GOALS & OBJECTIVES FOR AVON'S
OPEN SPACE & RECREATION PLAN No. 15052021

CATEGORY	GOALS	OBJECTIVE	ACTION and RESPONSIBLE DEPT.
Watersheds and Infrastructure	Continue to implement the Stormwater Management Program and complying with Stormwater Management Regulations	Identify locations for green infrastructure.	Consider requirements to stormwater permits for green streets and complete streets. Conservation Commission, Planning Board, Engineering/DPW. Promote Low Impact Development strategies and green infrastructure for cost-effective and sustainable stormwater management. Planning Board, Engineering/DPW, Conservation Commission.

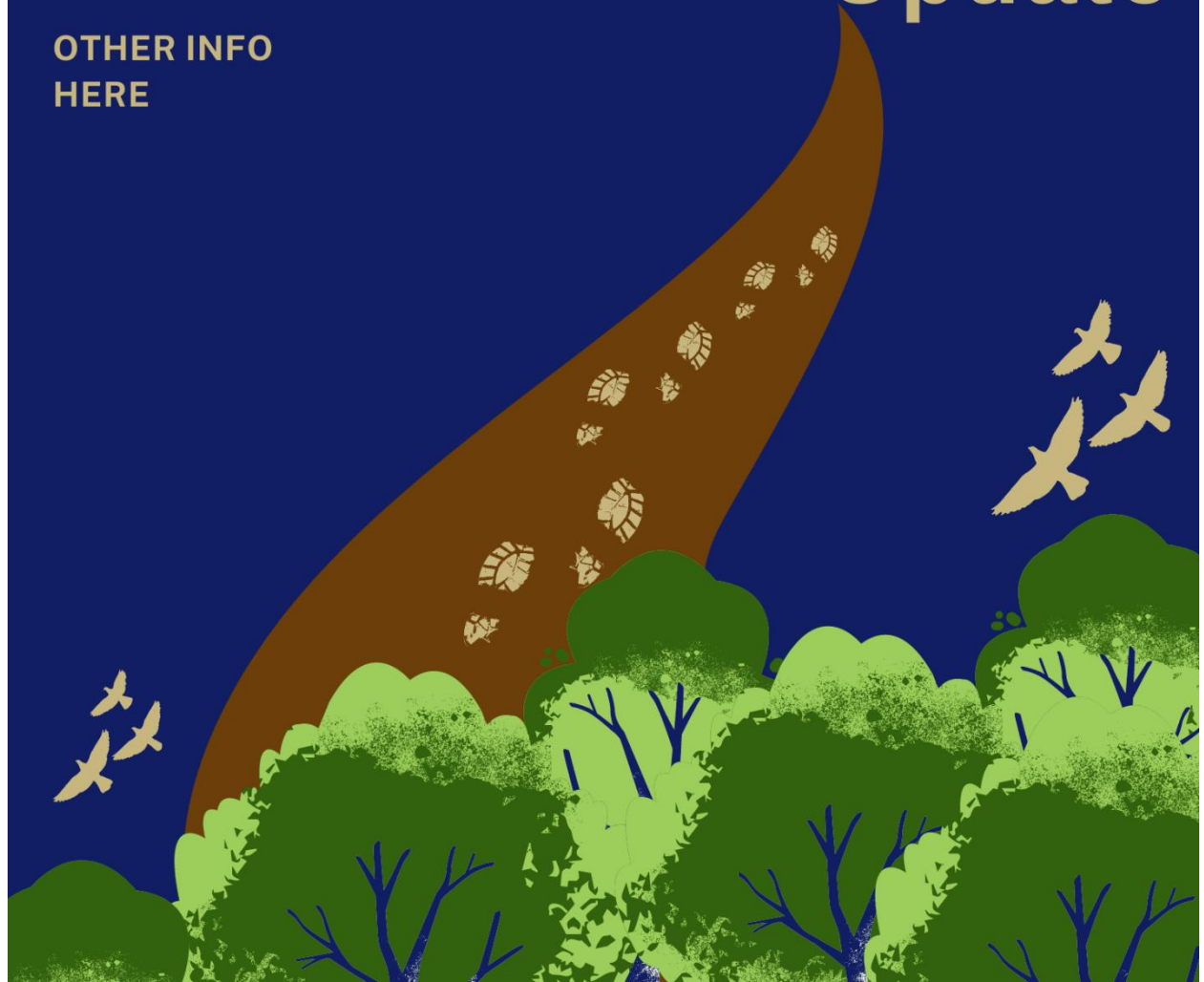
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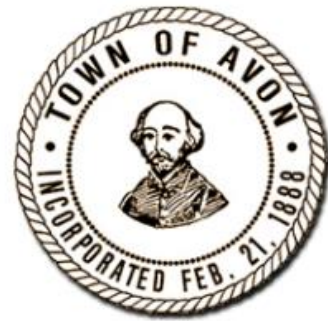
OLD COLONY
PLANNING COUNCIL

Avon Open Space & Recreation Plan Update

OTHER INFO
HERE



TOWN OF AVON SURVEY



HOW CAN WE IMPROVE OUR PARKS & RECREATION AREAS?



LET US KNOW!

We want your opinion, takes less than 5 minutes!

<https://tinyurl.com/pjwf284y>

Or scan this code with your cell now



OLD COLONY
PLANNING COUNCIL

Any questions or concerns?

Contact: Bill Fitzgerald

(508) 588-0414 or

wfitzgerald@avon-ma.gov




OPEN SPACE PLAN

The 2022 Avon Open Space and Recreation Plan makes recommendations to help guide planning and development and suggests criteria and actions for protecting and stewarding Avon's resources and recreational spaces.

PUBLIC MEETING

Thursday, June 23
6:00PM via Zoom



www.ocpcrpa.org/avon_open_space_plan.html



Old Colony Planning Council
70 School St., Brockton, MA 02301

GOALS



**RECREATION
& ACCESS**



**NATURAL
RESOURCES**



**WATER
PROTECTION**

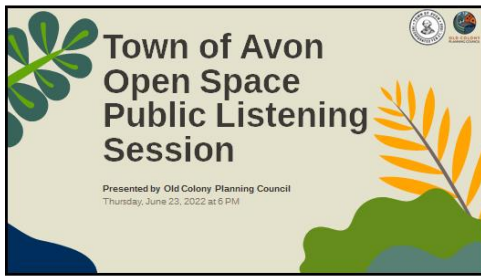


**LAND
CONSERVATION**

Public Listening Session

June 23, 2022

6/23/2022

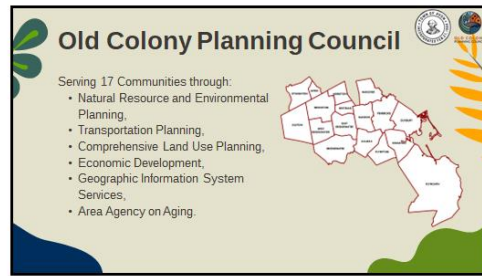


**Town of Avon
Open Space
Public Listening
Session**

Presented by Old Colony Planning Council
Thursday, June 23, 2022 at 6 PM

This slide features a decorative background with green and yellow leaves and a blue wave at the bottom. It includes the logos of the Town of Avon and Old Colony Planning Council.

1



Old Colony Planning Council

Serving 17 Communities through:

- Natural Resource and Environmental Planning,
- Transportation Planning,
- Comprehensive Land Use Planning,
- Economic Development,
- Geographic Information System Services,
- Area Agency on Aging.

This slide includes a map of the Old Colony Planning Council's service area, showing 17 communities. It features the same decorative background and logos as slide 1.

2



What is Open Space?

- Conservation Land,
- Forested Land,
- Agricultural Land,
- Athletic Fields,
- Playgrounds,
- Small/Pocket Parks,
- Green Buffers along Roadways, and/or
- Undeveloped Land of Conservation/Recreation Interest.

This slide features a photograph of a group of people gathered outdoors near a flagpole. It includes the same decorative background and logos.

3



What is an Open Space & Recreation Plan?

- Roadmap for prioritizing open space and recreation projects and expenditures.
- Prerequisite for MA Division of Conservation Service Grants.
- Public Process
- Plan Components:
 - Plan Summary & Introduction
 - Community Setting
 - Environmental Inventory
 - Inventory of Lands
 - Community Goals
 - Analysis of Needs
 - Goals & Objectives
 - 5-Year Action Plan
 - Public Comments
 - ADA Inventory

This slide includes the same decorative background and logos.

4



Vision

The Town of Avon has consistently sought to protect historically valuable open space, including protection of the Town water supply, and provide high quality, well-maintained recreational programs that provide opportunities for all residents, regardless of mobility.

The Town has a commitment towards equitable public spaces connected by multi-modal accommodations including bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure accessible for all abilities and ages to support the citizens' vision of a livable and healthy lifestyle.

This slide features a photograph of a person walking on a path near a body of water. It includes the same decorative background and logos.

5



**Needs Assessment
& Survey Results**

This slide features a photograph of a park area with a sign that reads "SALMOND PARK". It includes the same decorative background and logos.

6

1

Collected Survey Data

- 2 Public Outreach Surveys
- First survey was collected via the Avon Council on Aging with 175 responses
- Second survey provided a broader outreach to the community with 195 responses

7

Survey Results

When asked: "Are you satisfied with the places for children and youth to play and hang out in town?"

62.37% of respondents said No

8

Survey Results

When asked to check the top recreational facilities they feel are needed, survey respondents indicated:

1. Children's play areas (31.28%)
2. A large park with many facilities (30.77%)
3. Bike Trails (29.23%)
4. Conservation Areas (27.69%)
5. Splash Pad (27.18%)

9

Survey Results

When to identify the top athletic facilities needed, respondents said:

1. Basketball Courts (79.49%),
2. Soccer Fields (41.03%),
3. Baseball fields (39.49%),
4. Tennis Courts (38.46%),
5. Football Fields (30.26%).

*Additional facilities written in included swimming pools, track, and skate park

10

Resident Feedback on Residential Needs

- Installation of up-to-date equipment at all town playgrounds
- A better distribution of local tot lots with sitting areas, and exercise facilities
- Updated basketball courts, soccer fields, tennis court access
- Safer parking
- Trails for walking, running, and biking

11

Goals & Vision

12

Recreation Goal

Goal #1

Existing recreational facilities and opportunities are connected and improved to provide a range of recreational opportunities accessible to meet the needs of all residents, in or close to every neighborhood.

1. Ensure parks are equitably distributed and maintained
2. Increase engagement with the community
3. Advocate for improved access to open spaces by people with disabilities
4. Continue developing the local/regional trail network

13

Recreation Access Goal

Goal #2

Recreational facilities and programs are expanded to provide universal access that meet the needs of underserved populations.

1. Provide experiences for people with a variety of mobility, sense awareness, and mental capacity.
2. Improve access to information
3. Improve access to parks for community members
4. Improve trail connections and fill in the gaps of existing trail networks

14

Natural Resources Goal

Goal #3

Lands of natural resources, scenic, and recreation value are protected, well-stewarded, connect with each other and with neighborhoods to accommodate the needs of all residents and be enjoyed by future generations.

1. Maintain ecological resilience of private and public conservation lands
2. Identify and prioritize additional parcels with significant open space value
3. Use Town development standards to support the protection of open space and natural resources
4. Develop and implement a policy for climate change adaptation and mitigation

15

Watersheds & Infrastructure Goal

Goal #4

The Stormwater Management Program is implemented and in compliance with Stormwater Management Regulations to ensure groundwater and surface water are protected as clean and abundant resources to preserve and protect the town's water supply, wildlife, and other natural resources.

1. Continue to implement the Stormwater Management Program
2. Manage improvements to existing greenways and seek opportunities for new greenways
3. Use new development and redevelopment as an opportunity to make improvements in infrastructure, and to reduce impacts on resources
4. Create a Climate Action Plan and update regulations to reduce vulnerability to flooding, severe weather, and extreme temperatures.

16

Land Conservation Goal

Goal #5

Management and protection of natural and recreational resources is achieved through initiative-taking planning, coordinating, and advocacy that provides adequate, dedicated funding sources for open space and recreational facility acquisition and maintenance to protect natural resources while encouraging appropriate public use.

1. Work collaboratively with neighboring towns and regional entities on integrated protection and management of natural resources, recreational areas, and trail networks
2. Identify additional measures to fund the protection of significant open space
3. Maintain and increase funds designation for the ongoing maintenance and management of open spaces
4. Identify opportunities to link protection of wildlife corridors to other open space interests and larger community planning processes

17

7-Year Action Plan

18

Year 1: Assemble & Assess

- Establish an Open Space Committee comprised of members of the Conservation Commission, Park and Recreation, DPW, and Planning Board.
- Work with the Open Space Committee to identify parcels with significant open space value using a comprehensive approach to maximize open space values.
- Study and design ways to improve availability of ADA compliant resources and promote existing opportunities for people of all ages and mobilities.

19

Year 2: Engage the Public

- Educate the public about the links between open space, infrastructure, and climate change mitigation and adaptation. Work with Town departments to ensure appropriate information is disseminated to the public at large. Develop/Implement beautification projects (flower beds, trees, community gardens, etc..) in public places.
- Engage volunteers in open space and trail work.
- Consider the adoption of the Community Preservation Act, which allows communities to receive State grant opportunities for community projects including opens space and recreation, buildings, and historical preservation.

20

Year 3: Produce Funding

- Develop funding sources to uphold the level of maintenance and staff, if feasible, to ensure those significant capital investments in open space during the last decade are sustained.
- Seek funding opportunities, including federal and state grants, to allow the construction of demonstration and pilot projects. Install three (3) new simple green infrastructure projects on Town-owned lands to be used as an environmental outreach tool to show how natural and nature-based solutions could manage stormwater.
- Consider regulations for stormwater permits for green streets and complete streets.

21

Year 4: New Project Protocols

- Ensure that all town projects consider opportunities for adding vegetation, enhancing greenways, and improving open space. Establish protocols with the appropriate Town departments to ensure all available opportunities for enhancing greenways are examined as part of a design review of RFP (Request for Proposals) process.
- Update municipal plans, revise town level open space plans to address climate change impacts by considering climate change vulnerabilities, management of conservation land, and strategically prioritizing future areas for land protection.

22

Years 5-7 & On-going Actions

- Present a final set of guidelines to the Select board for their review and approval.
- Consider adoption of the Green Communities Program which provides state funds for local projects involving open space, parks, environmental, energy building, and other projects.
- Continue to plant trees and add shade cover to reduce sun and heat exposure at play facilities, walkways, and other facilities.
- Support the acquisition of land that will increase drinking water supply protection.

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Want to know more?

Find the Full plan Online

http://ocpcrpa.org/avon_open_space_plan.html

Open Space and Recreation Plan

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Transcript of Public Listening Session

June 23, 2022

YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eyxh1zrbDIE>

Audio file

[GMT20220623-215933_Recording_1920x1080.mp4](#)

Transcript

00:00:10 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

Megan, I would suggest we hold that the recording until.

00:00:16 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

Yeah, I was thinking the same thing.

00:00:19 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

I can also edit it out.

00:00:21 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

OK.

00:00:27 William Fitzgerald, Avon DPW

Mary Rick Jordan.

00:00:28 William Fitzgerald, Avon DPW

Question is Ken, is there a way he can show himself if he wants to?

00:00:32 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

Yes, on the zoom there is on the bottom you either do stop video or video.

00:00:38 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

You press that button.

00:00:39 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

Mary, you might not as a webinar, but if he is interested in showing this video, we can.

00:00:43 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

OK, I gotcha.

00:00:45 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

We can so.

00:00:46 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Whether not only.

00:00:47 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

The panelists and hosts can have the.

00:00:49 Gregory Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Video to be seen.

00:00:51 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

OK.

00:00:52 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

Well, thank you for clarifying that.

00:00:54 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

We'll get away, but get some of the other logistics.

00:00:56 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

Any other questions logistically about that?

00:00:59 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

Some some other questions?

00:01:02 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

Don't see OK got it?

00:01:03 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

Thank you Rick and everybody else who helped answered.

00:01:07 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

For the record, my name is Mary Waldron, I'm the executive director of the Old Colony Planning Council and with me today.

00:01:14 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

And is Laurie Muncie and she is the director of the Community Planning and Economic Development Department as well as Megan Fournier?

00:01:22 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

Who is the senior administrative assistant for Old Colony Planning Council?

00:01:27 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

More importantly this this.

00:01:31 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

Effort has, at the request of the town of Avon and with us as Greg Gino's Town administrator as well as Bill Fitzgerald, DPW Department chair.

00:01:41 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

I'm not getting your title right.

00:01:43 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

I'm sorry, but and along with other titles that you have for the for the for the town.

00:01:49 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

But we this has been a bit of a.

00:01:51 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

Process many of the communities across the Commonwealth do go through open space public listening sessions as well as the the open space.

00:02:00 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

Plans and the value is that it really given an opportunity for the Community members to have engagement.

00:02:07 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

Have town folks being engaged.

00:02:09 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

But I really want to be able to give a shout out to those to the town for being so forward, thinking and and and applying for this fund.

00:02:18 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

This applying for these.

00:02:20 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

Funds also open up opportunities for other state funding, but with that I don't know if Greg if you would like to say any comments before heading into the presentation.

00:02:30 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Uh, just I would like to thank both Colony Planning Council and Bill Fitzgerald and others who have been involved in the process.

00:02:36 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

The Civic Association CEO and Library for helping out getting out information in providing the survey and gave this information out.

00:02:45 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

As Mary said, this is a big

00:02:47 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Step for the town in terms.

00:02:48 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Of finalizing this process.

00:02:50 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

To make us eligible for grants.

00:02:52 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

But it also gives us a insight on.

00:02:54 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

The different things that.

00:02:56 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Going forward, the town would like to see about capital improvements in terms of the term so.

00:03:01 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

There's a lot.

00:03:02 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Of different avenues that this funding and this this.

00:03:06 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Plan will allow us to.

00:03:09 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Be part of and hopefully create some additional open space, but I think everyone saw through COVID in the pandemic.

00:03:16 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

The importance of outdoor living spaces and activities that people can get out on their own and be able to have access to that and and having this process started.

00:03:27 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Allows us to really move forward.

00:03:31 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

Thank you Greg.

00:03:33 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

Would you like to say few words?

00:03:39 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

You're muted bill if you.

00:03:41 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

Were planning on saying something.

00:03:43 William Fitzgerald, Avon DPW

Uhm, no.

00:03:44 William Fitzgerald, Avon DPW

It's been a a good process.

00:03:46 William Fitzgerald, Avon DPW

I appreciate especially appreciated working with the working group, UM, which met a few times I worked with Lisa and Lori and Mary and folks and I just found haven't been here in public works and there was a lot of remarkable.

00:04:04 William Fitzgerald, Avon DPW

A consensus on what ought to be done going forward in this great said.

00:04:10 William Fitzgerald, Avon DPW

This will guide a capital plan to implement.

00:04:14 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

Thank thank you, Bill and and as you said, this is this is a village right?

00:04:19 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

So there is old Colony Planning council.

00:04:21 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

Sort of like I want to say Switzerland, where the independent organization taking data, reviewing, providing thoughts and and connectivity.

00:04:33 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

But this could never.

00:04:35 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

Really have been done without the interaction and communication with the town.

00:04:38 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

So with all of that I just want to say thank you to your CPC team.

00:04:42 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

But most importantly, the Avon and for for being again forward.

00:04:47 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

Thinking with that, I'm going to turn this over to Megan.

00:04:52 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

Good evening everyone.

00:04:53 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

UM, thank you for joining us today.

00:04:55 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

Uh, a lot of, UM, but I'll be going over personally is just a quick overview.

00:05:00 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

We aren't sure who is called in.

00:05:02 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

If if you're aware as to what's going on and and and what an open space plan is and what the purpose of it, and so it's really just we're gonna do a quick overview as.

00:05:12 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

To what it is the process that the team at OCC has been working with Avon on and kind of the next steps for it.

00:05:21 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

And then we'll be kind of welcoming any input you might have that may have not been reflected in.

00:05:26 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

What we've discovered so first thing.

00:05:30 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

Is the old Colony Planning Council?

00:05:32 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

In case you weren't aware, we are regional planning association.

00:05:36 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

We represent 17 communities.

00:05:39 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

Throughout southeastern Massachusetts, mostly the Plymouth and some of the Bristol County.

00:05:45 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

And as you can see here we we offer services such as assisting towns with their natural resources, environmental planning, transportation planning, comprehensive land use planning, economic development and GIS systems, which is mapping and then area agency on aging.

00:06:05 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

So I think again for some of you who aren't aware of what an open space plan is, it's really taking a look at a town or a city or wherever you live, and checking out the space.

00:06:16 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

That is kind of as it said, is available to be used, and that includes, you know.

00:06:21 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

Again, you can see this list, so I won't be repetitive.

00:06:25 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

But really, it's it's a lot of your outdoor spaces and how you the town utilizes that.

00:06:33 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

Uhm, you know we're going to be focusing a lot on what this recreation plan is.

00:06:38 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

And so again, this is what's been being worked on by the town in, oh.

00:06:43 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

CPC for quite some time now.

00:06:45 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

A lot of research goes into.

00:06:49 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

Learning and and discovering the open spaces and prioritizing what is felt to be.

00:06:57 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

What you'd like to be worked on and what needs what?

00:07:00 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

What the needs are from the town, UM and.

00:07:05 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

You may have seen and at the end. I'll show you a link as well to a roughly 500 page document that really kind of goes everything in depth for this this process.

00:07:15 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

Uhm, this is kind of part of the public process of really kind of making you aware as to what's going on and the plan components really kind of go over the summary.

00:07:24 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

The goals, the the action plans and everything that's gone into it.

00:07:33 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

The vision of Ivan has consistently sought to protect historically valuable open space, including protection of the town water supply and provide high quality, well made.

00:07:41 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

Recreational programs that provide opportunities for the residents regardless of mobility.

00:07:48 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

The town is a commitment towards equitable public spaces connected by multimodal accommodations, including bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure, accessible for all abilities ages to support the citizens vision of a livable and healthy lifestyle, and again that was developed over this time to kind of determine the purpose of what this whole project.

00:08:07 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

Really, it's been about.

00:08:11 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

So Next up is over the past year or so there has been some public surveys that have gone out to the town.

00:08:20 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

And this is.

00:08:21 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

Just a quick really recap as to some of the answers that we felt captured.

00:08:25 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

A lot of what it is as a town you've been looking for so.

00:08:30 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

There are the two biggest outreach surveys that we did. One was first collected via working with the Council on Aging and we received roughly 175 responses on that, and then we wanted to target a broader outreach as that kind of.

00:08:45 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

Cap capsulated a lot of the elder population and we wanted to ensure that everyone was represented and so the second survey brought us in 195 responses. So it's a really great.

00:08:57 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

Sample size as to what the town.

00:08:59 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

Might be interested in.

00:09:01 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

So one of the.

00:09:02 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

Main questions that we asked was are you satisfied with the places for children and youth to play and hang out in town?

00:09:07 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

And as you can see, it's.

00:09:09 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

A big 60.

00:09:10 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

2.5 essentially of respondents said no.

00:09:16 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

Next question was when asked to check the top recreational facilities they feel are needed.

00:09:21 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

Survey respondents indicated that of the large list that we had asked, these are the top five.

00:09:28 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

So children play areas as you can see.

00:09:31 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

Again, these percentages are based off of people selecting multiple options.

00:09:36 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

So it doesn't necessarily 30% is just a piece of it, but it is one of.

00:09:41 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

The highest needs.

00:09:43 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

That includes a large park with many facilities, bike trails, conservation areas in the.

00:09:48 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

Splash pad

00:09:51 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

Additionally, they asked to identify the top three athletic facilities that they were looking for, and of that the top five.

00:09:58 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

That kind of pumped up we're basketball courts. As you can see, is a very high 80% soccer fields. Baseball fields, tennis courts, and football fields. As a note two, there were some written in options which means.

00:10:11 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

They weren't an opportunity to kind of be pulled on, but those were also written in with swimming pools, a track and skate park.

00:10:21 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

So essentially that was only just a few questions from the entire.

00:10:27 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

Multi survey process. Yes, Phil.

00:10:30 William Fitzgerald, Avon DPW

I just wanted to clarify that there were two different pools, so you can't compare 33% want.

00:10:38 William Fitzgerald, Avon DPW

Tot lots with 70% want basketball courts. They're talking about two totally different population.

00:10:47 William Fitzgerald, Avon DPW

Well, if you've got into the report in detail, you see there's a tremendous amount of use and support for both of those, as well as other things just to ignore.

00:10:55 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

Correct and and and and as.

00:10:57 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

You were saying, Bill?

00:10:58 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

I mean, a lot of of the survey results.

00:11:00 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

The percentages aren't necessarily reflective of the specific people that only 30.

00:11:06 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

Percent total it's.

00:11:08 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

When you're looking at at survey data, you know that's just happens to be.

00:11:12 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

But top percentages of different things.

00:11:14 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

So as Bill was kind of saying, it's not necessarily how many people have responded only to to recommending that one option so.

00:11:22 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

Uhm, and there are different questions that kind of provide different feedback, so that is a very good point, thank you.

00:11:29 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

For bringing that up, Bill.

00:11:31 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

Uhm so.

00:11:34 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

As a summary of a lot of the questions, we mostly took a look at comments 'cause comments always tend to give a lot additional feedback and and between the survey results and those comments, some of the main items that residents kind of brought up his feedback was that there needs to be an installation of up-to-date equipment at all town.

00:11:55 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

There needs to be a better distribution of local top lots with sitting areas as well as a better distribution of exercise facilities.

00:12:03 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

As we said in the other section, updated basketball courts, soccer fields, tennis court access.

00:12:10 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

Uhm, we know that.

00:12:12 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

Some of the comments on there was was gaining access to tech support since they were blocked often times so.

00:12:19 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

There needs to be safer.

00:12:20 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

Parking was a big concern as well as better and more trails for walking, running and biking.

00:12:31 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

So with all that we put together goals.

00:12:36 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

And so that got condensed into five goals for the purpose of this plan, and each kind of have objectives that relate to those goals.

00:12:44 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

So the first one is a recreation goal, so.

00:12:48 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

In summary, it's really focusing on making sure that the parks up there is equitable access in all neighborhoods for kind of equal distance to be able to get to.

00:12:59 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

Uhm, the similar needs as well.

00:13:03 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

Uhm, making sure that there is increased engagement within the community.

00:13:07 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

Advocating for improved spaces for people with disabilities as well as continuing to develop the local and regional trail network.

00:13:18 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

Our second goal is really focused on the recreation access UM and so those objectives that we're going to be aiming towards is providing experiences for people with a variety of ability.

00:13:30 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

Improving access to information about these facilities and what the town is doing to work towards it.

00:13:37 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

Improving access to parks for community members and improving trail connections and filling the gaps of those existing trail networks.

00:13:46 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

So essentially, it's it's an extension off of the first goal.

00:13:49 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

And really.

00:13:49 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

Focusing on the access piece and communication.

00:13:54 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

For our natural resources goal, it's focusing a lot on the conservation of the lands that that you have in your area.

00:14:02 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

Identifying and prioritizing additional areas that might be considered significant open space to use or to conserve.

00:14:11 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

Again, use town development standards to protect.

00:14:15 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

Up the open space and natural resources and develop and implement a policy for climate change, adaptation, and mitigation that would also be continued forward as the years go on.

00:14:28 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

For our fourth goal, we focus on watersheds and infrastructure.

00:14:33 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

Umso that focuses a lot on your your water management.

00:14:36 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

There is the.

00:14:38 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

Continuing to implement the stormwater management program, managing the improvements to the existing greenways and also seeking for new ones and using new development and redevelopment as opportunity to make improvements to your infrastructure and creating a climate action plan to update regulations to reduce.

00:14:58 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

The vulnerability to flooding, severe weather and extreme temperatures.

00:15:03 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

And lastly the 5th.

00:15:04 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

Goal on focuses on land conservation and that is aiming to work collaboratively collaboratively.

00:15:12 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

Excuse me with neighboring towns and regional entities to work together to.

00:15:18 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

Protect and manage our natural resources.

00:15:20 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

Identify additional measures that help us fund and protect significant open space.

00:15:27 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

Maintain and increase funds, stagnate designation for the ongoing maintenance and management, and identifying opportunities to link.

00:15:34 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

Protection of wildlife borders to other open space interests.

00:15:38 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

In larger community planning processes.

00:15:42 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

So with these goals, provides us with a 7 year action plan that this whole plan kind of aims us towards.

00:15:52 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

So for the first year after this gets approved, this focuses a lot by receiving a grant from the state to be able to fund these projects.

00:16:02 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

But first thing is that we need to assemble and assess so that focuses a lot on on putting together a committee to identify kind of what has been discussed.

00:16:13 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

During this this plan on studying and designing ways to actually improve the availability of these.

00:16:23 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

For year 2, the main.

00:16:26 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

Uh, my.

00:16:27 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

Goal is to.

00:16:27 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

Engage the public, so that's gonna be a lot of educating the public on what is.

00:16:34 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

The the goal that you'll be working towards.

00:16:36 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

I'm working with the town departments to ensure that there's appropriate information.

00:16:41 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

Engaging volunteers in the open space and trail work and then considering the adoption of the Community Preservation Act.

00:16:50 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

And as you can see it allows communities to receive state grant opportunities for community projects.

00:16:57 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

The next is producing funding, so that's going to develop funding sources, funding opportunities.

00:17:05 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

Come and start working towards regulations for items such as permits.

00:17:11 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

For green streets and complete streets.

00:17:15 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

Here 4 is a new project protocols, so that's really just sharing the All towns when you're when they're developing new projects, it's considering the different opportunities that this open space plans and working towards, which includes enhancing greenways.

00:17:31 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

Uhm, and uh?

00:17:35 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

Ensuring that it's part of their request for proposals as they they recommend it.

00:17:39 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

It's also updating municipal plans and revising the town level open space plans to ensure the climate change impacts.

00:17:47 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

Are addressed.

00:17:51 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

And then years 5 through 7 plus moving on from there, it's really going to be focusing on a final set of guidelines considering the adoption of the Green Communities program, continuing to plant trees and add shade and supporting the acquisition of land that will increase drinking water supply protection.

00:18:14 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

So again, that's just a very quick overview for our town, so with that I would like to see if anyone has any questions.

00:18:21 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

Has any input towards what's been talked about?

00:18:24 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

If there's anything that you feel is missing that you really are passionate about that you would like the the town to consider.

00:18:31 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

Then we are very open to to getting your.

00:18:35 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

Your comments and.

00:18:35 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

Your questions, as you can see on this slide which will be available on our website which.

00:18:42 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

Can be found.

00:18:43 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

Here or you can scan the QR code.

00:18:46 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

Our the full open space and recreation plan is available online for you to read.

00:18:50 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

You know it's a lot of content, but it.

00:18:52 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

Is really in.

00:18:53 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

Exciting information for you to kind of see what is down the pipeline for the town of Ivan.

00:19:01 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

Megan, there's a couple things, so there is a question in the question and answer part, and it said how many people are in the audience.

00:19:09 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

Alore answered 7, but I'm looking at 12 in the attendee list and there's five of us on the panel and then Bill Fitzgerald has a question.

00:19:24 William Fitzgerald, Avon DPW

Now that was a mistake, sorry.

00:19:27 William Fitzgerald, Avon DPW

I'm outside.

00:19:34 William Fitzgerald, Avon DPW

Yeah, I'm all set.

00:19:36 William Fitzgerald, Avon DPW

I don't.

00:19:36 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

No, no, we heard you.

00:19:38 William Fitzgerald, Avon DPW

OK, sorry no.

00:19:39 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

We're wondering, we're wondering if there's any others who have a a question.

00:19:46 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

And obviously there's a lot of information that kind of gets presented right now. If you weren't already aware of this, these details if you end up having any other comments or questions you can e-mail Lori Muncy, who's on the call with us today at Almansi at oakpa.org.

00:20:06 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

And she'll be able to take that information and present it to Avon.

00:20:11 Rick Jordan

I do have a question.

00:20:12 Rick Jordan

Rick Jordan.

00:20:16 Rick Jordan

I have some other towns do open space and recreation plans. If we were to look at some other oh SRP's from other towns nearby, would we see the same similar five goals as what we see in this draft Avon plan?

00:20:34 Megan Fournier, Senior Executive Assistant OCPC

Lori, I put that to Lori.

00:20:37 Laurie Muncy

Well, each town schools might be geared a little differently.

00:20:41 Laurie Muncy

A lot of our communities live near the ponds and their goals are really focused on protection of those water resources.

00:20:51 Laurie Muncy

So it just depends on which time you're working with.

00:20:55 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

I see.

00:20:58 Rick Jordan

Uhm, I think Bill mentioned to me that the the survey questionnaire that went out to the public did not ask about pickleball courts, but there might have been some feedback along those lines.

00:21:12 Rick Jordan

Was there any feedback?

00:21:14 Laurie Muncy

Yes, there was.

00:21:15 Laurie Muncy

There was some some requests for pickleball courts.

00:21:19 Laurie Muncy

The actual survey results is found in the appendix of the plan.

00:21:25 Laurie Muncy

If you'd like to, you know, look at them deeper, but there were a request for pickleball.

00:21:31 Laurie Muncy

And you know one of our recommendations was probably to look at converting the tennis courts that you have now.

00:21:38 Laurie Muncy

Now rehabbing them into pickleball would be kind of the easiest solution, but that would be up for the town to decide.

00:21:48 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

In Maury

00:21:48

Right?

00:21:50 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Just to add on to what gorgeous says.

00:21:52 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Is that I've seen a few different open.

00:21:55 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon
Space rocks plants.

00:21:55 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon
In my day.

00:21:58 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon
Those really kind.

00:21:59 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon
Of separate between.

00:22:02 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon
Uhm, what town needs and wants to survey.

00:22:05 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon
So I've seen them where they're strictly all on.

00:22:10 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon
Preserving open space and.

00:22:12 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon
Getting a control you're purchasing open pieces of property that we clean it too.

00:22:18 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon
It's all recreation.

00:22:20 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon
It's all facilities.

00:22:22 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon
It's all that, so they just just different.

00:22:25 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon
I think the plan kind of mimics what we got through our response.

00:22:30 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon
I do see one question here.

00:22:32 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

If you want.

00:22:33 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Me to take a stab at it.

00:22:34 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

It was about working with parking right.

00:22:37 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

Yes please.

00:22:37 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

I I I know that Bill had answered it.

00:22:39 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

Please go right ahead.

00:22:41 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Yeah, so there was a question about work.

00:22:43 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

With the parking Commission.

00:22:45 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

We this process is not necessarily just park and rec.

00:22:49 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

It's really conservation planning.

00:22:52 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

All the other groups.

00:22:54 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Once we get this plan in place, it would be heavily working with those groups as.

00:22:59 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Megan had in there about looking at.

00:23:01 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

An open space type committee.

00:23:03 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

And working heavily with no open space group that would have a lot of.

00:23:08 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Components with park and rec.

00:23:11 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

We saw from the survey there's.

00:23:12 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

A lot of of.

00:23:14 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Recreational activities in terms of playgrounds.

00:23:17 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

And basketball courts and.

00:23:18 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Pickleball courts so that would all be worked with.

00:23:21 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

And with the coordination with marking rec.

00:23:24 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Want to select?

00:23:25

Me and.

00:23:27 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Other departments that are involved.

00:23:30 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

Thank you Greg.

00:23:31 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

I'm Steve Kay has a question so I'm going to ask him to unmute.

00:23:36 Steve Kriscowski

Hello Steve Chris Coski, this is a question more for I guess town folks.

00:23:41 Steve Kriscowski

Not necessarily for the Planning Council, but maybe it will be, but my question kind of had to do with DW Field Park.

00:23:48 Steve Kriscowski

I know a big chunk of that.

00:23:50 Steve Kriscowski

Is in Avon, but I.

00:23:52 Steve Kriscowski

I still consider myself fairly new here.

00:23:54 Steve Kriscowski

Being here for about five years, it always.

00:23:55 Steve Kriscowski

Kind of seems like a.

00:23:56 Steve Kriscowski

Lot of that stuff falls on.

00:23:57 Steve Kriscowski

Brockton and I.

00:23:58 Steve Kriscowski

Know that they just got like a big giant grant to redo the park.

00:24:02 Steve Kriscowski

I guess there.

00:24:02 Steve Kriscowski

Was a few questions about like.

00:24:04 Steve Kriscowski

Will the town of Avon have any input or you know involvement with some of the grants and some of the improvements in DW Field part?

00:24:11 Steve Kriscowski

Because a lot of it is in Avon and I guess part of my question was like kind of you know what's like.

00:24:18 Steve Kriscowski

What's up with that?

00:24:19 Steve Kriscowski

Like how come Avon isn't more involved with that DW field?

00:24:22 Steve Kriscowski

Park so thanks.

00:24:24 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

So anyone wanting to stab?

00:24:27 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

At that I could throw my half brain working.

00:24:30 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

So and I know Phil and I.

00:24:32 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Know Bill dropped off, but.

00:24:35

It is a.

00:24:36 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Conundrum in a.

00:24:37 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Quarter that we've been.

00:24:38 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Dealing with for a.

00:24:38 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

While PW Park, even though it's partially in Avon.

00:24:43 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

That prompted.

00:24:45 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Controls that we feel parked in that regards of maintenance and repairs.

00:24:50 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Anything else we requested.

00:24:52 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

We asked them we talked to.

00:24:54 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Tim Carpenter a lot in terms of things going on and part of that.

00:24:58 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Granted they got built first round and myself did work with the wildlife trusts to give input on what we would like to be seen on there.

00:25:07 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

So we are trying to work with them.

00:25:10 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Doing some of those things, but the park itself.

00:25:15 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Is basically a city of Brockton.

00:25:18 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Park and we are just the.

00:25:21 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Wonderful bystanders of how to get, you know.

00:25:23 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

While writing their account, and I think we.

00:25:26 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Try to work with them.

00:25:27 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

On certain things and.

00:25:30 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

They both have the town and city know the difficulties of maintaining a part of.

00:25:36 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

That size and.

00:25:37 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

The amount of paving projects that are there and.

00:25:42 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

I don't know the process would be wild trust if someone has more information on that, but I do know that we have been involved in working with them and.

00:25:50 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

I believe part of it.

00:25:51 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Is to make sure that they live on parts.

00:25:55 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Are not left.

00:25:56 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

In the lurch.

00:25:57 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

In terms of that process.

00:26:00 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Because we have been.

00:26:02 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

A good partner with the city of Brockton.

00:26:04 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

With some rose events and things that.

00:26:05 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Go on in the.

00:26:06 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

In the park.

00:26:09 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Now I'm leaving.

00:26:10 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

I don't know.

00:26:11 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

My network connection.

00:26:12 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

As well as lawyer.

00:26:14 William Fitzgerald, Avon DPW

Yeah, that's a great question.

00:26:16 William Fitzgerald, Avon DPW

One of the things that came out initially with the working group and then really with the survey was the use and interest in DW Field Park.

00:26:26 William Fitzgerald, Avon DPW

And I've been here eight years, and I never really heard that.

00:26:29 William Fitzgerald, Avon DPW

You know, I, I deal with Parks and rec in this community a lot.

00:26:32 William Fitzgerald, Avon DPW

And it just came out so strong and we've already started working at the same time Wildlands Trust had independently gone to a foundation and came up money with money to do a masterplan more or less for the park over the.

00:26:40 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

OK.

00:26:47 William Fitzgerald, Avon DPW

Next three years, that's.

00:26:48 William Fitzgerald, Avon DPW

Really planning type money that they've got, but we're working with them on implementation.

00:26:53 William Fitzgerald, Avon DPW

Grants already.

00:26:54 William Fitzgerald, Avon DPW

Including we've been looking at we on Old Pond, which technically is a Vons, some type of safety improvements with bikes and pedestrians there a lot of moving pieces, but I've met with them a couple of times out in the park and there definitely know we want to be at the table.

00:27:13 William Fitzgerald, Avon DPW

We're willing to work with them.

00:27:15 William Fitzgerald, Avon DPW

And support them, and it's a very high priority of the town I mean.

00:27:20 William Fitzgerald, Avon DPW

From everybody who's been involved here.

00:27:22 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

So I'm going to add a couple more things on that 'cause I think this is a really good point as well of Nunlee Steve, but then also Malik.

00:27:32 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

You know the thoughts of improving the Avon side, so once we get that, but the Wild Land Trust is, you know, I'm not gonna repeat myself.

00:27:40 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

It is a feasibility first study, but there is also the Friends of DW Field Park that is really a great group of cross section of both folks from Avon as well as Brockton and they are re constituting themselves.

00:27:56 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

There's a new president, they're being much more engaged on.

00:27:59 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

Means what we can do is, I think that only their website is not up and functioning yet, but they're going to revitalize that and.

00:28:10 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

But there is a Facebook page and maybe we can drop that into the chat to answer that, but that's a good way I think.

00:28:16 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

As citizens, I'm I'm a biker and I am in Brockton, but I cycle and I go all the way to the Avon side.

00:28:23 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

I do three times around on the Avon side and I come back to Brockton and all the things we talked about in terms of the repairs.

00:28:30 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

I see it.

00:28:31 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

I feel it, and so that is one piece that the friends of DW Field Park.

00:28:38 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

Oh, CPC we as a regional partner mean we can.

00:28:41 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

And I know that town administrator Greg Enos had talked about reaching out to Bill Carpenter.

00:28:47 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

Perhaps this might be even a conversation that that Greg maybe even to have with the mayor, and just say this, you know.

00:28:53 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

But talk about this point and how it's being brought forward.

00:28:57 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

That, but we can serve as a convener, and in addition to that wildland trust, is has an office space in our old Colony Planning Council that we donate to them so that we know the importance of.

00:29:11 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

What work they're beginning as an independent as as experts in the field of protecting open space?

00:29:19 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

So there's a lot of things that we can do in terms of of DW Field, Park and and hope that it only grows from there.

00:29:29 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

I hope that answers the DW Field Park.

00:29:30 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

There's a lot more to be come and you know certainly if this group we have your contact will continue to keep from updates on the progress of what the Wild land trusts are doing.

00:29:41 Steve Kriscowski

Thank you so much.

00:29:43 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

Right?

00:29:44 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Tim Carpenter

00:29:46 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

Tim Carver, I did oh, good Lord, I'm sorry.

00:29:48 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

Thank you Tim Carpenter.

00:29:50 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

Uhm, I pressed the sulfur bill right.

00:29:53 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

Rick Jordan has another question, right Rick?

00:29:58 Rick Jordan

Yes, some that's great to hear about DW Field Park.

00:30:02 Rick Jordan

I'm also a biker.

00:30:04 Rick Jordan

I biked in the park this morning.

00:30:06 Rick Jordan

I did the whole loop.

00:30:07 Rick Jordan

It's really a great asset I think for Eva.

00:30:11 Rick Jordan

Uhm, I did try to get involved with DW Field Park a year ago and it was pretty impossible.

00:30:18 Rick Jordan

There was no group that could be contacted or when I tried various methods to contact them they were not.

00:30:25 Rick Jordan

There was no response, so it it's good, but I did see that about a month or six weeks.

00:30:31 Rick Jordan

Go, perhaps they had a, uh, meeting I I only learned about it 'cause I saw a flyer when I was biking through there.

00:30:39 Rick Jordan

I otherwise would not have known about it, and it's good to hear they they're trying to revitalize the friends of DW Field Park.

00:30:48 Rick Jordan

I I would also add that I think the road condition around Old Pond St is pretty pretty bad and even dangerous, particularly the small 50 foot diagonal between DW Field East Parkway and Old Pond St and particularly from a bicycling standpoint.

00:31:09 Rick Jordan

It's to me it's dangerous, so I I just wanted to mention that.

00:31:14 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

Thank you Rick and Rick and Steve.

00:31:17 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

We probably have your emails, but do me a favor if you can.

00:31:20 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

Both e-mail Lori since her contact information there.

00:31:24 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

We'll connect it so happens to be.

00:31:27 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

It's all sort of been family right?

00:31:29 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

So Joanne Zigman, one of our staff members is on the board for the Friends of DW Field.

00:31:34 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

Mark, she is a very strong advocate for.

00:31:38 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

For the environment for natural resources and knowing Joanne and how she works that she will be dogging about growing this group.

00:31:46 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

So there was an annual meeting I believe was done in May.

00:31:49 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

And come and it was held in downtown Brockton, and I kind of said we shouldn't be holding these meetings downtown Brockton we should be holding them at VW, but it was also the weather in terms of not being unsure, so it was the best quick thing that they were able to do.

00:32:05 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

But the more the merrier that we can get.

00:32:07 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

So Rick and I know that Steve both have said.

00:32:09 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

Having difficulties, let's get you connected to that group as well as Rachel, who is with wildland trust, wants to meet with just about everybody in any group that that is available.

00:32:21 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

So not just only public officials, but if there's a citizens group as well.

00:32:26 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

So just on that point.

00:32:28 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

I think we've got that, so Rick, do you still have the question?

00:32:31 Rick Jordan

I I had another comment, if you have time.

00:32:37 Rick Jordan

I'm I'm also a pickleball player.

00:32:40 Rick Jordan

I find it pretty interesting that people I'm I'm in my 60s and and I find it pretty interesting that people who are playing pickleball are often in there.

00:32:51 Rick Jordan

50s and above, although of course there are people younger than that involved, but it really appeals to that somewhat older, older age set from 50 to 70, because it's a, it's a bit safer than tennis.

00:33:05 Rick Jordan

It's still a good workout.

00:33:08 Rick Jordan

And and so it's kind of an interesting sport and and it's easier than tennis, for instance.

00:33:16 Rick Jordan

So if it's an interesting sport from a demographic standpoint, I don't know if Avon can afford to have a pickleball court.

00:33:24 Rick Jordan

I'm not.

00:33:24 Rick Jordan

I'm not a not insisting on it or pushing hard.

00:33:28 Rick Jordan

For it but.

00:33:28 Rick Jordan

I I find it an interesting contrast with.

00:33:32 Rick Jordan

The needs of, say, 5 year olds to 18 year olds in terms of basketball courts and so on.

00:33:39 Rick Jordan

So and Avon has an interesting demographic where we have about an equal size.

00:33:45 Rick Jordan

Older population.

00:33:46 Rick Jordan

At with the younger set, so I think if you compare the age 0 to 30 to age 50 to 90, it's it's about the same percentage in Avon, which I think is kind of interesting.

00:33:59 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

The wreck on that point or not?

00:34:02 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Drag out the meeting for this is that I did meet with the chair and vice chair of the recreation to talk about the pilot stream.

00:34:11 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Facilities, and they're going to do a survey on things that they would like to be seen there.

00:34:17 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

We met with a couple different people before in terms of vendors on.

00:34:23 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Potential resurfacing it, and they'll have some additional meetings on that to look for input in.

00:34:33 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Kind of look at what the funding sources will be for that type of project so.

00:34:38 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

They're going to be looking at that area.

00:34:40 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Right, yeah?

00:34:41 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Would probably be the location, so there is some.

00:34:43 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Stuff going on I.

00:34:44 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Just don't know when it might get done, but if there's something there park and rec is.

00:34:48 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Taking the active role in.

00:34:51 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

Thanks Greg.

00:34:51 Rick Jordan

Thank you.

00:34:53 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

So I do want to read there's a question that Malik has been patiently waiting to be answered, so it's tough for kids to cross certain busy roads in our town, especially if they are disabled.

00:35:03 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

Any thoughts on pedestrian bridges?

00:35:10 William Fitzgerald, Avon DPW

I'll take a shot, I was just.

00:35:12 William Fitzgerald, Avon DPW

Typing an answer.

00:35:16 William Fitzgerald, Avon DPW

'cause I've seen bridges less so, no, but there's been a lot.

00:35:19 William Fitzgerald, Avon DPW

Of work on bike.

00:35:20 William Fitzgerald, Avon DPW

Uhm, bike lanes and pedestrian, new sidewalks, things like that as a first step.

00:35:26 William Fitzgerald, Avon DPW

Harrison and Pond will include bike and pedestrian.

00:35:31 William Fitzgerald, Avon DPW

Accommodations, or, you know, striping all that stuff, which then gets folks into old pond in that part of DW Field Park.

00:35:39 William Fitzgerald, Avon DPW

But it's definitely there's something called a complete streets plan.

00:35:42 William Fitzgerald, Avon DPW

We're working on.

00:35:43 William Fitzgerald, Avon DPW

That would be something we'll put out for draft comment that'll look for key areas to improve.

00:35:51 William Fitzgerald, Avon DPW

What you're talking about?

00:35:55 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

And on that bill is just that, you know, the mass DLT is working right now on making any accessible transitions along Route 28. Doing other sidewalk improvements from Eastside St, which is where the fire station is always in Randolph Line we have.

00:36:13 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Worked with the Capital committee to implant to.

00:36:18 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Put in those solar powered beacons for certain.

00:36:22 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Areas in front of the high school and we're.

00:36:24 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Going to plan to put a couple more in other.

00:36:26 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Areas that we know there are.

00:36:27 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

High traffic areas for school age.

00:36:30 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Children who are walking, so we're aware that.

00:36:33 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

There are some areas that are.

00:36:35 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Problematic, and we're trying to.

00:36:36 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Work with what we can in terms of.

00:36:39 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Sidewalk repairs and improvements.

00:36:43

And making sure we.

00:36:43 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Work with the state to have them fix their portion of.

00:36:47 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Route 28

00:36:48 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

As well as any.

00:36:50 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Chapter 19 St projects and so make sure we take.

00:36:53 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Care of the sidewalks as well.

00:36:56 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

Thanks, Greg, Bill, and thanks for the question there.

00:36:59 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

There's another question question in the question answer.

00:37:03 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

I'm only hearing of this open space plan.

00:37:05 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

Are there other any?

00:37:06 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

Are there any other surveys coming up?

00:37:10 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

There is still time if I'm right.

00:37:13 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

That, uhm.

00:37:16 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

Lisa can answer the questionnaire or is there?

00:37:20 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

I think this was done right, Laurie?

00:37:24 Laurie Muncy

Yeah, the survey closed last fall I believe, but any comments that you have or suggestions please e-mail them to me immediately or in.

00:37:35 Laurie Muncy

The next week.

00:37:36 Laurie Muncy

And I'll put them in the plan so that at least it'll be addressed in the plan.

00:37:42 Laurie Muncy

But I don't know of any future surveys the town has in mind.

00:37:47 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

And the only this survey.

00:37:48 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Would be on the bottom sheet as I mentioned.

00:37:50 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

About what might go there?

00:37:52 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

And what would be the best option?

00:37:54 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

That that would be.

00:37:55 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Really, the only other survey.

00:37:57 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

That I know right now.

00:37:58 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

I know parking lot is working on.

00:38:02 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

That aspect of it, so that's one.

00:38:04 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

More than I do.

00:38:08 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

Rick Rick has a question.

00:38:14 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

I think you need to just unmute yourself Rick.

00:38:18 Rick Jordan

Hello yes.

00:38:21 Rick Jordan

So if I look at I think it's section 77 E which focuses on funding sources and and I think the three main sources.

00:38:21 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Right?

00:38:32 Rick Jordan

There's three main sources cited there, one of which is state recreation grants, which I think have like a 50% match.

00:38:42 Rick Jordan

To them or something and that then possible.

00:38:45 Rick Jordan

I think federal funding might have been a third, but the the primary one that caught my attention was the CPA tax which is.

00:38:53 Rick Jordan

In addition to the real estate tax.

00:38:57 Rick Jordan

Avon currently does not have a CPA tax.

00:39:00 Rick Jordan

In other words, and it what it is, is a an addition to our real estate tax.

00:39:06 Rick Jordan

And one can add up to 3% to our.

00:39:10 Rick Jordan

Real estate tax bills through CPA.

00:39:13 Rick Jordan

I know for instance, Randolph has this in place.

00:39:17 Rick Jordan

So I don't know.

00:39:18 Rick Jordan

I'm a little concerned that the plan is heading is trying to make a case for CPA tax higher taxes.

00:39:25 Rick Jordan

I know our real estate tax bills went up quite a lot last year from FY21 to 22 of an average of 9%, and I've done a spreadsheet on that and shared that with the board of select then.

00:39:38 Rick Jordan

So I think one of the concerns coming from this is that this is plan is primarily a push for more taxes.

00:39:46 Rick Jordan

So I don't know if there's any initial response to that.

00:39:50 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

I can tell you well, I was going to say the town is shaking their head no, and from old County Planning Council this is not ever the purpose of open space plans throughout the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

00:40:01 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

It is actually a very tedious process of identification assessment.

00:40:07 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

Uhm, research data.

00:40:10 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

Uhm, so never.

00:40:12 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

That is never ever ever from the state perspective, nor from I think from.

00:40:18 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

The many open space plans at Okalani Plan funding Council that never will be, uh, the purpose of of doing this and and and I do know that.

00:40:29 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

These plans are necessary in order to get other state grant funding and that is, I think, the purpose that the town has is looking for other alternatives than putting the burden on the town.

00:40:41 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

But I'm not going to speak for the town, but that generally is why these are done.

00:40:45 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

So Greg, would you like to take this?

00:40:46 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

It that I mean, I think without going too far into it.

00:40:50 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

I think every.

00:40:50 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Single open Space, Right plan imaginable when.

00:40:53 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

It says to also.

00:40:55 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Funding sources CPA is gonna be listed because it is typically there's a section that is strictly for open space and planning, so it is a an available funding source for any count that chooses it, so it's it's not saying that town Avon has to.

00:41:11 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Do it this way.

00:41:12 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

It's that it's an option for any.

00:41:15 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Down was looking for funding for that.

00:41:18 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Not that we would be looking at it in regards, I.

00:41:21 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

I don't think we would be.

00:41:22 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

In that process of looking.

00:41:24 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

At it, but it's just.

00:41:25

It's just a.

00:41:26 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Due diligence section of saying.

00:41:28 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Here's all the different available sources.

00:41:32 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

And that's what's there.

00:41:34 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Whether or not the town goes after every single grant that's available.

00:41:38 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

'cause again, just 'cause it grants available doesn't mean the strings that are attached is gonna work for the town, but it's a list of what's available, so it's just a.

00:41:45 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Matter of figuring.

00:41:46 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Out what's best for the town and.

00:41:49 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Looking at that different area.

00:41:53 Rick Jordan

Thank you.

00:41:55 William Fitzgerald, Avon DPW

Mary is charging me.

00:41:56 William Fitzgerald, Avon DPW

For support letters now for grants from them.

00:42:07 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

So there's a question in in in the question and answer, it's yes.

00:42:11 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

This is from Lisa.

00:42:12 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

Yes, it's tough for me to cross my street.

00:42:14 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

Also, 129 pond across from border. I would love a crosswalk or crosswalks. Part of this plan.

00:42:27 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

I don't believe.

00:42:29 Laurie Muncy

There is a section on pedestrian and bicycle access with maps that shows where you have existing sidewalks and where they should be constructed or could be proposed to be constructed.

00:42:45 Laurie Muncy

I don't remember the exact section.

00:42:47 Laurie Muncy

Off the top of my head, but it is in the plan.

00:42:50 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

But I don't think we indicate which ones that have got to be done, I think.

00:42:55 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Uhm, if there's ever request we kind of look at it and see I know and and they always simply like.

00:43:03 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

You say loris.

00:43:04 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Play, don't say where this connection.

00:43:06 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Form UM, so I wouldn't.

00:43:10 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

You'd always have to see.

00:43:11 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

I know we we have one Malley.

00:43:12 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

We have them on.

00:43:14 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

A couple different.

00:43:15 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Areas is part of the the work going on on Bond Street by Broadwell and things that nature so.

00:43:22 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

There's always a.

00:43:23 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Possibility that it could be somewhere we had.

00:43:26 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Uhm one around there, but I'll.

00:43:28 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Defer to Bill when they're going through and doing the the plan.

00:43:36 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

'cause it's about crossing accessibility on both.

00:43:39 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Sides of the.

00:43:39 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Street and doing it.

00:43:43 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

Thank you Greg.

00:43:44 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

Before we get to you, Rick, I'm going to go.

00:43:46 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

There's a new question that is from Marci when was the last Open base study done?

00:43:52 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

Has it been done before?

00:43:54 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

If So what came of it and how much does it cost?

00:43:59 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

Lori, do you want to answer that?

00:44:01 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

Or Bill are you answering that just to mute yourself Bill if you'd like either one?

00:44:06 William Fitzgerald, Avon DPW

I keep hitting the hitting the wrong button.

00:44:09 William Fitzgerald, Avon DPW

Laurie can go ahead.

00:44:11 Laurie Muncy

There were previous drafts of the plan, the most recent that I recall was 2004.

00:44:17 Laurie Muncy

Or but there was no evidence that those plans were actually approved by the state, so we're not sure if this is a new plan or if this is an updated version of the old plan.

00:44:32 Laurie Muncy

But once we submit this plan to the state, it will be adopted and it will be official.

00:44:41 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

And just talking about the costs.

00:44:44 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

In true transparency, this is a, I believe 15,000 bill.

00:44:51 Laurie Muncy

Correct, there was a grant for 15,000.

00:44:56 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Stuff I don't believe had funding.

00:44:59 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Fortunately I.

00:45:00 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Think it went through grants and through.

00:45:02 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

The LTA system. So it wasn't that it was total cost, around 15,000, but the cost of town.

00:45:11 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Ending the file grant.

00:45:12 Greg Enos, Town Administrator Avon

Approval is 0.

00:45:16 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

Thank you.

00:45:20 William Fitzgerald, Avon DPW

The total cost.

00:45:22 William Fitzgerald, Avon DPW

Lori was 30, right, 15 DLT and 15 from the Open space grant.

00:45:28 William Fitzgerald, Avon DPW

And the town ended up paying 2500 of that. So thank you Old Colony and thank you, Commonwealth of Mass.

00:45:45 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

Any other questions?

00:45:47 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

Rick, I'm sorry.

00:45:48 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

Rick lumium.

00:45:50 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

You have a question.

00:45:51 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

Your hand is.

00:45:51 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

Up thank you for waiting.

00:45:55 Rick Jordan

Yes, well you can hear me yes.

00:45:59 Rick Jordan

I just want to acknowledge the work that went into creating the open space and recreation plan.

00:46:05 Rick Jordan

I think you know, Bill Fitzpatrick and the old colony have done a very good job pulling this together, and I think it's it's a a nice step forward.

00:46:16 Rick Jordan

For the town of Avon, and I appreciate your work on it.

00:46:22 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

I can attest to that.

00:46:24 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

There is a lot of work that goes into it and you know and and it does take time to have it be proper and most importantly, well, you know perhaps one may say that because there's 11 or 12 attendees and and and with us on it, it does take time.

00:46:42 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

Uh, you know, in in the in the report it will show you know Lori went door to door and we went to concert meetings.

00:46:49 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

You know, when the concert's and making sure we're going to where the people are and really making sure that this is well advertised and well promoted? It's just hard, right? Busy lives. During COVID people aren't necessarily reading the normal way, and.

00:47:02 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

The typical way of conducting things, but to your point, Rick, we have dedicated and and dedicated town officials.

00:47:12 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

You obviously are all on this call tonight.

00:47:16 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

You care about your community.

00:47:18 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

And our role as the professionals.

00:47:20 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

It wasn't me who wrote the report.

00:47:22 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

Lori wrote that report and Megan, and with Bill Fitzgerald comments, and I will attest, at least over the last couple weeks.

00:47:30 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

The hours mean hours, nighttime, weekend, morning.

00:47:35 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

Uhm, it does take that to do it the right way and you know, we even still find there's some things that we can continue to tweak, but we don't have another year to do this and I think the goal for all of you who are on this call would be my advice.

00:47:50 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

As a older woman.

00:47:53 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

I hope wisdom would be staying involved in your community.

00:47:56 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

If they're looking for people to be on on committees and and and advisory boards and just be involved and have that voice and tell your neighbors to come and get that voice out, it's it's a challenge nowadays, right?

00:48:08 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

Number one.

00:48:09 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

People don't want to come forward and say what they think.

00:48:12 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

'cause they will be passed ized by some negativity and you know that's a reality of the world we.

00:48:18 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

Don't give up your voice.

00:48:20 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

Certainly don't give up what you care about these questions that were were in either of the chat or within the question and answer format.

00:48:27 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

They're really important to hear that right to hear how much it costs.

00:48:30 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

Is there another plan?

00:48:31 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

How come we're doing again, right?

00:48:33 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

The last thing anybody wants is a plan to sit on a shelf, and so I can attest to you.

00:48:38 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

I can attest you, her name is Melissa.

00:48:40 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

She works for the state.

00:48:41 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

She had tons of questions for what was originally submitted and then back and forth and back and forth.

00:48:47 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

And and they care about the those those members of the community that may not have a voice she specifically identified.

00:48:57 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

Try to say the young as well as the older population.

00:49:03 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

Just every really wanted to make sure that this was a well.

00:49:07 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

Thought out and well engaged reports.

00:49:11 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

So it's a lot of work, but I but it's so well worth it.

00:49:14 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

And so Rick and Steve and Bernardo and Jason and Kathleen and Linda and Lisa Malik, Marci Person Recreation, and Warren like, stay involved.

00:49:25 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

And you do have Lori.

00:49:27 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

Uhm, you do have Lori's e-mail. If you do have any comments about the report, and to continue to make sure that it is a stay engaged. So thank you, that's my soapbox, sorry.

00:49:46 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

I do not see any other, UM.

00:49:51 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

I do not see any other questions and I do not see anything else in the chat.

00:49:58 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

Maybe I'm going to look for.

00:50:01 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

Uhm, anybody Greg or Bill or anybody would like to have any final comments great.

00:50:08 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

Uhm, just again I would say for the town, right?

00:50:11 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

You're you.

00:50:12 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

You're a small community in the sense of of of maybe perhaps population, but you are really have a lot going on in your Community, and you know any chance that I will get.

00:50:25 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

I I do.

00:50:26 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

I not only take my bike to Avon, but.

00:50:29 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

The people there have a lot of affinity with with with the area and so we will look forward to seeing this product and this it be approved by the state and when it does get by this date we will make sure that you get notified.

00:50:41 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

So thank you all for being on here tonight and thank you, Bill.

00:50:45 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

Harold as well as Greg and the Oak team.

00:50:51 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

And with that.

00:50:52 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

I'm just going to look at the chat.

00:50:53 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

I think that's it.

00:50:54 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

Thank you everybody.

00:50:57 Mary Waldron, Executive Director OCPC

Have a good night.

Appendix H. Shade Trees

Sample Shade Tree Bylaw

SECTION 1. Intent and Purpose.

a. It is the intent of this by-law to sustain environmental health, enhance the economic vitality and maintain the quality of life for the citizens of the Town of Avon. Shade trees make an important contribution to the character and heritage of Avon's neighborhoods. This by-law established policy and guidelines for ensuring the health and longevity of the Town's community forest.

b. It is the policy of the Town of Avon to encourage new tree plantings on the public as well as private property and to cultivate a healthy flourishing community forest.

c. It is also the intent of this by-law to mandate the creation and implementation of a community forest plan as part of the open space and recreation plan of the Town's Master Plan. A goal of this community forest plan will be to obtain and maintain eligibility for annual recertification as a recognized "Tree City, USA."

SECTION 2. Definitions. Whenever the following words or terms are used in this by-law, they shall be construed to have the following meanings:

"Shade Tree" - All trees within a public way or on the boundaries thereof shall be public shade trees; and when in any proceeding in which the ownership or rights in a tree are material to the issue, that, from the length of time or otherwise, the boundaries of the highway cannot be made certain by records or monuments, and that for that reason it is doubtful whether the tree is within the highway, it shall be taken to be within the highway and to be public property until the contrary is shown. Public shade trees shall also include those planted with public funds in public ways or, if deemed expedient by the Tree Warden, upon adjoining land at a distance not exceeding 20 feet in accordance with MGL Chapter 87, Section 7.

"**Person**" - Any person, firm, association, or corporation.

"**Town**" - The Town of Avon and any of its departments and/or employees.

"**Tree Warden**" - The specific individual appointed by the Board of Selectmen to fill this position. Such person shall be qualified in accordance with MGL Chapter 87.

"**Heritage Tree**" - A public shade tree specifically designated by the Department of

Environmental Management, Urban Forestry Program, upon recommendation by the Town Tree Warden to be a heritage tree. Heritage trees may qualify for state funds for maintenance under this program. A tree may qualify as a heritage tree if it meets one or more of the following criteria:

- a. Old Age - 100 years or greater; Size - 32 inches diameter or greater.
- b. Species rarity.
- c. Association with a specific historical event or person.
- d. Healthy abnormality, e.g., shape, etc.
- e. Scenic enhancement, e.g., trees around Avon _____.
- f. Wildlife value.

"Public Areas" and **"Public Property"** - Includes all public parks and other lands owned, controlled, or leased by the Town except Conservation property.

"Public Nuisance" - Any tree or shrub or part thereof which by reason of its condition prohibits the use of any public areas is infected with plant disease, is infested with injurious insects or pests, significantly threatens existing public improvements, or immediately endangers the life, health, safety, or welfare of persons or property.

"Shrubs" - Any woody plant, normally having multiple stems and bearing foliage from the ground up.

"Tree" - Any woody plant greater than or equal to 1-1/2" diameter 12" from the ground.

"Topping" - The practice of cutting back large-diameter branches of a mature tree to stubs.

Topping is prohibited.

"Community Forest" - The sum of all trees and other vegetation growing within the boundaries of a community.

"Community Forest Master Plan" - A document that describes the goals and objectives related to the management of a community forest.

"Green Industry" - All businesses associated with landscaping, arboriculture, etc. **"ANSI"**
- American National Standards Institute.

"Major Alterations" - The following terms describe major alterations requiring a permit:

- Crown cleaning is the selective removal of one or more of the following items:

dead, dying, or diseased branches, weak branches, and waterspouts.

- Crown thinning is the selective removal of branches to increase light penetration and air movement or reduce weight.
- Crown raising is the removal of the lower branches of a tree to provide clearance.
- Crown reduction, also called crown shaping, decreases the height and/or spread of a tree.
- Vista pruning is the selective trimming of framework limbs or specific areas of the crown to allow a view of an object from a predetermined point.
- Crown restoration pruning should improve the structure, form, and appearance of trees which have been severely topped, vandalized, or storm damaged.

SECTION 3. Authorization and Establishment of the Public Shade Tree Management Advisory Board.

- a. There is hereby created a Public Shade Tree Management Advisory Board which shall serve in an advisory capacity to the Tree Warden on all matters pertaining to tree and landscape planning and maintenance of shade and other public trees in the Town of Avon. The Board shall review the Annual Work plan for tree maintenance, planting, and removal prior to its implementation. The Board shall consist of six members, appointed by the Board of Selectmen, to be composed of the following: the Tree Warden who shall be an ex-officio non-voting member, one member of the historical commission, two members of the "green industry"; i.e., landscaping, arborists, etc., and two members at large. Board members will serve 3-year terms with appointments to be staggered to ensure board continuity. Board actions shall be governed by Article ___, Section ___ of the Town Charter.
- b. Board members will be responsible for establishing rules and regulations required for the implementation of this by-law. The board shall meet on a periodic basis as determined by its membership.
- c. The Tree Warden is hereby tasked to develop an Annual Work Plan for tree maintenance and replacement and removal for each fiscal year. The plan shall include locations of work, designated work to be accomplished, and resources including funds required. Such a plan will be reviewed by the Advisory Board. Any public hearings required for the implementation of the Annual Work Plan will be conducted in accordance with MGL Chapter 87 (Shade Tree) and Chapter 40 (Scenic Road). The Annual Work Plan shall be submitted in time for the submission of the Annual Operating Budget and Capital Budget of the Town.
- d. The Advisory Board shall also be responsible for fostering educational programs

regarding continued care of Shade Trees and their importance to the Town's Character and shall publicize and foster participation in grants and tree planting programs of the State and/or private corporations/foundations.

- e. The Advisory Board shall support and help stimulate interest in Arbor Day and Arbor Week programs in schools, conservation organizations, and private companies and families within the Town of Avon.

SECTION 4. Authorization of the Tree Warden. The Tree Warden and the Public Shade Tree Management Board shall carry out the provisions of this by-law. As per Massachusetts Law Chapter 87 and Chapter 41, the Town of Avon must appoint a Tree Warden. This individual shall be qualified by demonstrated training and experience in the field of arboriculture. It is recommended that this person be a Massachusetts certified arborist and possess a Massachusetts pesticide license. The Tree Warden shall be appointed by the Town Administrator with the approval of the Board of Selectmen as per Town Charter.

SECTION 5. Responsibilities and Authority of the Tree Warden.

- a. The Tree Warden and the Shade Tree Management Advisory Board shall be responsible for the creation and implementation of a Community Forest Plan to be incorporated into the Town Open Space and Recreation Plan.
- b. The Tree Warden shall be responsible for the periodic inspection of public shade trees to ensure they are free from disease or other conditions that may endanger tree health or are a clear and immediate safety hazard to the public. The Tree Warden shall make every effort to repair and maintain shade trees prior to their removal in accordance with ANSI Standard A300 most current edition.
- c. The Tree Warden is responsible for conducting public shade tree hearings in accordance with MGL Chapter 87, Section 3. He shall conduct joint hearings with the Planning Board when required under the Scenic Roads Law, MGL Chapter 40, Section 15c.
- d. The Tree Warden shall be responsible for the location, selection, and identification of any trees which may qualify as "heritage trees" and shall promptly forward such recommendations to the Department of Environmental Management, Urban Forestry Program for consideration for future preservation. Any person may submit a petition recommending a tree that they believe qualifies as a heritage tree. Upon receipt of the petition, the Tree Warden will hold a duly advertised public hearing to acquire public input on the tree so recommended. Upon completion of the public hearing, the Tree Warden may, at his discretion, submit the tree to the Department of Environmental Management for recognition as a heritage tree. Heritage trees so designated shall be marked by the Tree Warden and located on engineering plans used by the Town.
- e. The Tree Warden shall be responsible for the marking of all public shade trees on

scenic roads prior to the issuance of any driveway permit or building permit to prevent the inadvertent removal or damage to public shade trees on these roads. He shall mark any public shade tree so requested by any citizen.

- f. The Tree Warden shall review all proposed subdivision plans for tree locations and measures taken to protect existing trees during construction and shall recommend to the Planning Board conditions required as part of their approval process.
- g. The Tree Warden shall review all proposed subdivision plans and topography to ascertain the location of any recommended heritage trees. The location of the same shall be furnished to the Planning Board. The Planning Board is encouraged to grant waivers of current regulations for the preservation of any identified heritage trees towards required street trees on an inch-for-inch basis.
- h. The Tree Warden shall keep complete and accurate records on the condition of all public shade trees and all work completed on public shade trees to include all attempts at restoration or treatment of same prior to their removal.
- i. The Tree Warden, in accordance with MGL Chapter 87, is hereby given authority, control, and supervision of all trees which now or which may hereafter exist upon any public property, except Conservation Commission property, street, or highway belonging to the Town of Avon, and over all trees which exist upon any private property in the Town of Avon, when such trees are in such a hazardous condition as to immediately endanger the public health, safety, and welfare. This power includes, but is not limited to, the power to enforce the rules, regulations, and specifications concerning the trimming, spraying, removal, planting, pruning, and protection of trees, shrubs, vines, hedges, and other plants upon the right of way of any street, alley, sidewalk, park, or other public places in the Town in accordance with this by-law and MGL Chapter 87.
- j. In addition, pursuant to MGL Chapter 87, Section 2, the Tree Warden has the additional right to make regulations for the care and preservation of public shade trees and establish fines and forfeitures of not more than that specified in MGL Chapter 87, Section 2 in any one case for violation thereof; which, when posted in one or more public places, and, in towns, when approved by the selectmen, shall have the effect of town by-laws.
- k. The Tree Warden has the authority to supervise all work done by permit as described in this by-law and to affix reasonable conditions to the granting of permits.

SECTION 6. Permit for Maintenance and Removal of Trees and Shrubs.

- a. **Permit Required** - No person, except on order of the Tree Warden, shall remove or do

major alterations specified herein and as determined by the Tree Warden on a tree or shrub in the public right of way, park areas and other town-owned lands, or cause such action to be done by others without a permit for such work from the Tree Warden as herein provided. This includes all persons engaged in the business of cutting or removing trees or shrubs. Any person may apply for and obtain a permit, but all work must be accomplished or supervised by a certified arborist. The hearing and notice process required by MGL Chapter 87; Section 3 must be complied with.

- b. **Permit Required and Conditions** - When a permit is requested, the Tree Warden must decide that the proposed work is necessary and in accord with the purposes of this chapter. The Tree Warden must take into account safety, health, and welfare, location of utilities, public sidewalks, driveways, and streetlights.
- c. **Exemption** - In cases of emergency situations such as hurricanes, snow/ice storms, or other acts of God where immediate removal is required of downed trees or limbs, work necessary to restore safe conditions is allowed. No permit shall be required to cultivate, fertilize, or water trees and shrubs on Town property.
- d. **Permit Form, Expiration, Inspection** - Permits shall be logged by the Tree Warden on a standard form and include a description of the work to be done and shall specify the location. Any work done under such a permit must be performed in strict accordance with this chapter and ANSI Standard A300 (most current edition). Permits issued under this section shall expire three months after the date of issuance. There is no charge for permits.
- e. The applicant shall be required to pay any advertising fees for public hearings.

SECTION 7. Permits for Planting Trees and Shrubs.

- a. Planting - All trees and shrubs planted on all public property within the Town of Avon become the property of the Town of Avon.
 - (1) The planting of the following species is prohibited on any Town of Avon's property, except with the express written approval of the Tree Warden:
 - (a) Ailanthus species (Tree of Heaven)
 - (b) Populus species (Poplar)
 - (c) Salix species (Willows)
 - (d) Catalpa species (Catalpa)
 - (e) Acer negundo (Boxelder)

- (f) *Acer saccharinum* (Silver Maple)
- (g) *Robinia pseudoacacia* (Black Locust)
- (h) *Acer paltanoides* (Norway Maple)

- (2) There is no charge for the permit. The applicant shall be required to pay any advertising fees for public hearings. The permit will be on a standard form. Permits logged under this section shall expire 6 months after the date of issuance.
 - (3) No person shall plant any tree, shrub, or other vegetation in the public right-of-way, park areas, and other town-owned lands without first obtaining a permit for such work from the Tree Warden. The request for such permit shall specify the size, species, and variety of tree, shrub, or other vegetation to be planted and shall be submitted to the Town Tree Warden for approval before planting. Approved tree and shrub list as well as guidance on planting procedures are available at the Tree Warden office.
 - (4) Planting locations and minimum distances will be based on the mature size and landscape variables of the plants. Proper distances and planting locations shall be determined by the Tree Warden based on the recommendation contained in the Community Forest Plan.
- b. No person shall plant on any public or private premises situated at the intersection of two or more streets or alleys in the Town, any hedge, tree, shrub, or another vegetation device that may obstruct the view of the operator of any motor vehicle or pedestrian approaching such intersection.
 - c. Only small maturing trees or shrubs are authorized for planting under any overhead utility wires or cables. No trees should be planted over underground utility systems unless approved by the Tree Warden.
 - d. In new subdivisions or when the development of commercial property occurs, the Tree Warden shall review landscaping plans and may suggest locations of street trees to be planted in any of the streets, and other public places henceforth developed. Tree species and sizes are to be recommended by the Tree Warden. Landscaping shall conform to the Avon subdivision regulations unless otherwise waived by the Planning Board.

SECTION 8. Licensing. All work performed on town-owned trees is to be done by or supervised by a Massachusetts certified arborist or ISA certified arborist.

SECTION 9. Trimming.

To ensure high-quality shade trees, shaped for maximum aesthetic appreciation and to prevent interference with traffic and utility wires, all newly planted trees in public lands shall be trimmed and shaped as necessary for five years after planting. Trimming (pruning) of all trees in public areas shall be done according to current technical specifications of the American National Standard for Tree, Shrub, and Other Woody Plant Maintenance-Standard Practices (ANSI A300). The current safety specifications of the American National Standard for Tree Care operations (ANSI Z133) apply. All specifications and procedures are available from the Tree Warden.

- a. Trimming of trees or bushes upon private property may be accomplished, upon order of the Board of Selectmen, where the same obstructs, endangers, hinders, or incommodes persons traveling on streets or sidewalks.
- b. Trees shall not be topped.

SECTION 10. Removal of Trees and Stumps.

- a. **Dangerous, Obstructive, and Infected Trees** - Any dead public tree or part thereof that the Tree Warden shall find to be infected, immediately hazardous to endanger the public or other trees, plants, shrubs grown in the Town, or to be significantly injurious to sewers, sidewalks, or other public improvements may be removed by the Town in accordance with the procedures set forth in MGL Chapter 87. All wood must be removed from the street prior to the end of each working day, and all holes shall be filled to normal grade level with topsoil as soon as practical.
- b. Any public shade tree that has been removed, except those removed as a visibility hazard, shall be replaced with one or more trees at a location to be determined by the Tree Warden. Size and species shall also be determined by the Tree Warden.

SECTION 11. Obstructions.

- a. Trees and shrubs standing in or upon any Town-owned land or upon any private premises adjacent to any public right of way or public areas shall be kept trimmed so that the lowest branches projecting over the public street provide a clearance of not less than sixteen feet. The Tree Warden may waive the provision of this section for newly planted trees if determined that they do not interfere with public travel or endanger public safety. The Town shall have the right to trim any tree or shrub in the Town when it interferes with the safe use of streets or sidewalks or with the visibility of any traffic control and it is so ordered by the Board of Selectmen.
- b. Clearance from sidewalk to lower branches shall not be less than ten feet. All trees standing upon private property in the Town, the branches of which extend over the line of the street shall be trimmed (pruned) so that no branches shall grow or hang

over the line of the sidewalk lower than ten feet above the level of the sidewalk.

SECTION 12. Prohibited Acts.

- a. **Damage to Public Trees** - No person shall, without the consent of the owners in the case of a private tree or shrub or without written permits from the Tree Warden in case of Town-owned trees, do or cause to be done by others any of the following acts:
 - (1) Secure, fasten or run any rope, wire, sign, unprotected electrical installation, or other devices or material to, around, or through a tree or shrub except to secure leaning or newly planted trees.
 - (2) Break, injure, mutilate deface, kill, or destroy any tree or shrub.
 - (3) Remove any guard, stake, or other device or material intended for the protection of a public tree or shrub, or close or obstruct any open space above the base of a public tree or shrub designed to permit access to air, water, and fertilizer.
 - (4) Attach any sign, poster, notice, or other objects on any tree, or fasten any guy wire, cable, rope, nails, screws, or other devices to any tree, except that the Town may authorize tying temporary signs to trees when necessary.
 - (5) Cause or encourage any fire or burning near or around any public tree.
- b. **Excavation** - All trees on any Town-owned land near excavation or construction of any building, structure, or street or utility work, shall be sufficiently guarded and protected by those responsible for such work as to prevent injury to said trees. No person shall excavate any ditches, tunnels, or trenches, or install pavement within a radius of ten feet from any public tree without a permit from the Tree Warden.

SECTION 13. Requirements and Penalties.

- a. Any person who violates any provision of this by-law or who fails to comply with notices issued pursuant to provisions of this by-law, shall be subject to fines of up to \$300 for each separate offense. Any builder, contractor, or agent who intentionally assisted in the commission of any such violation shall be liable for each separate violation. All such violations which are of a continuing nature shall constitute a separate offense for each day of such continuance, and each tree removed shall constitute a separate offense. Any tree removed in violation of this by-law shall also be replaced by the violator on an inch-for-inch basis.
- b. **Fines** shall be assessed and collected under MGL Chapter 21D adopted as a part of

this by-law. The Tree Warden shall have the requisite police power established under MGL Chapter 21D.

- c. **Appeal** - Any person who receives an order under this by-law from the Tree Warden and objects to all or any part thereof shall have the right to appeal such order. The Board of Selectmen shall hear such appeal within 30 days of receipt of written notice of the appeal. The Board of Selectmen shall by letter notify the party appealing the order of its decision within ten days after the hearing closes and file a written decision with the Town Clerk.

SECTION 14. Evaluation and Future Update of By-Law. A successfully implemented management strategy must be monitored to ensure that progress is being made and standards are being met. Evaluation provides the feedback necessary to determine whether the management strategy is working. The periodic evaluation also provides an opportunity to reassess the needs and goals of the community. The management strategy may need to be adjusted to reflect new or altered goals. By providing for regular evaluation as part of the management process, the need for change can be identified before a crisis develops. Evaluation methods include surveys and record-keeping as well as public opinion heard through polls or hearings.

The Tree Warden and the Shade Tree Management Advisory Committee shall conduct periodic evaluations of this by-law and implement instructions and policies.

SECTION 15. Severability. Should any part or provision of this by-law be determined by a court of law to be invalid, the same shall not affect the validity of the by-law as a whole nor any part thereof other than the part found invalid.

Sample Shade Tree Regulations

Section I: Purpose

1. The Town recognizes that trees are an asset to the community, as they provide a more healthful and beautiful environment. Trees and other vegetation provide oxygen; shade; protection from wind, glare, and noise; view barriers; wildlife habitats; aesthetics; and a priceless psychological counterpoint to the man-made urban setting.
2. The Town further recognizes that landscaping is economically beneficial in attracting new residents, visitors, and industry. When grown in the proper place and of proper varieties, landscaping enhances the value and marketability of the property and promotes the stability of desirable neighborhoods and commercial areas.
3. It is the town's intent that the Shade Tree Regulations shall govern the alteration, removal, and replanting of any non-hazardous public shade trees by an individual, utility organization, corporation, or agency other than the city. Removals and replanting shall only be performed by the city or a qualified tree removal contractor, insured, and approved by the town.

Section II: Definitions

As used herein, the following words and phrases shall be construed as follows:

- *Public Property* includes public parks, and other lands owned, controlled, or leased by the town, except conservation lands.
- A *public shade tree* is any tree existing, whether volunteer or planted, within a public way or on the boundaries thereof. Public shade trees shall include those planted with public funds in public ways or, if deemed appropriate by the Tree Warden, upon adjoining land at not more than 20 feet as per MGL Ch. 87 § 7
- A *shrub* is any woody plant, normally having multiple stems and bearing foliage from the ground up.
- The *Town* is the Town of Avon and its departments and/or employees.
- A *tree* is any woody plant greater than or equal to 1 ½" diameter, measured 4 ½' from the ground.

- A *tree removal contractor* is any individual, firm, association, or other organization qualified in the removal of trees and approved by the Tree Warden as to qualifications, experience, and equipment. Said contractors shall provide certificates of insurance in the following amounts: \$100,000 workmen's compensation, as required by law; between \$1,000,000 and \$3,000,000 bodily injury; and between \$1,000,000 and \$3,000,000 property damage.
- The *Tree Warden* is the individual appointed by the Selectboard as such, qualified in accordance with MGL Ch. 87. To the extent appropriated and where delegated, the responsibilities and powers of the Tree Warden shall extend to the Deputy Tree Warden.

Section III: Qualifications, Responsibilities, and Authority of the Tree Warden

1. **Qualifications:** As per MGL Ch. 41 and 87, the Town of Avon is required to appoint a Tree Warden. The position of Tree Warden is held by the _____. The Tree Warden shall carry out the provisions hereof.
2. **Responsibilities:** The Tree Warden shall be responsible for the periodic inspection of public shade trees to ensure that (a) they are free from disease and/or other conditions that may endanger tree health and (b) they do not present a clear and immediate safety hazard to the public. The Tree Warden shall make every effort to repair and maintain shade trees prior to their removal.

The Tree Warden shall further be responsible for the marking of all public shade trees on scenic roads prior to the issuance of any driveway and/or building permit to prevent the inadvertent removal of damage to public shade trees on said roads. He/she shall mark any public shade tree if requested by any citizen.

The Tree Warden shall keep accurate records on the conditions of public shade trees and work completed on them, including attempts at restoration or treatment of same prior to their removal.

3. **Authority:** Pursuant to MGL Ch. 87, the Tree Warden is hereby given authority, control, and supervision of all trees which now or which may hereafter exist upon any public property (except conservation land), street, or highway belonging to the Town if in such a hazardous condition as to immediately endanger the public health, safety, and welfare. Said power included, but is not limited to, the power to supervise, condition, and/or prohibit the alteration, removal, and planting of trees and shrubs up the right of way of

any street, alley, sidewalk, park, or other public places in accordance herewith and with MGL Ch. 87.

The Tree Warden has the authority to supervise all work done by permit as described herein and to affix reasonable conditions to the granting of any such permit.

Section IV: Permits for Maintenance, Removal, and Planting

1. ***Application:*** Except on order of the Tree Warden, or a municipal department or utility acting in response to an emergency situation, or pursuant to the maintenance of an existing transmission line and/or pole no person shall alter, remove, or plant a tree or shrub in the public right of way, park areas or other public property, or cause such an act to be done by others, without a permit for said work from the Tree Warden. The said requirement applies to all persons, including those engaged in the business of cutting, removing, or planting trees or shrubs. A landowner whose property is within 100 feet of the public shade tree, or a municipal department or utility as not otherwise exempted by the language, may apply for, and obtain a permit, but all work must be accomplished or supervised by a tree removal contractor or the Shade Tree Department.

An application for a permit shall consist of a letter to the Tree Warden, and specifying the size, species, and variety of tree or shrub to be altered, removed, or planted. Following a request for a permit, the Tree Warden shall decide if the proposed work is necessary and in accord with the purposes hereof. The Tree Warden shall consider the public safety, health, and welfare and location of utilities, public sidewalks, driveways, and streetlights. With respect to the planting of trees or shrubs, the Tree Warden shall determine the proper location(s) and distance(s) based on the mature size of the tree(s) or shrub(s) and other landscape variables; and evaluate the equity of requiring the applicant to provide a replacement tree to be planted elsewhere within the town.

2. ***Public hearing:***

- a. ***For All Public Shade Trees Located on Land Under the Control of Recreation, Parks and Forestry Dept.***

The Tree Warden is responsible for conducting public shade tree hearings located upon the land under the control of the Town in accordance with MGL Ch. 45 § 5. Upon the receipt of a request, the Tree Warden shall schedule and post notice of said hearing. Said notice shall be posted in two (2) or more public places in the Town and on the tree itself, if applicable, within seven (7) days of the hearing, and published in a newspaper of general circulation for two (2) successive weeks, the

The first publication is to occur no fewer than seven (7) days prior to the hearing. Said notice shall identify the location of the tree and hearing date.

3. **Expenses:** Where applicable, an applicant is responsible for the following expenses: (a) legal advertising; (b) the cost of cutting down the tree and grinding the stump 6" below grade, including the hauling away of debris and the filling of the hole with 6" of the screened loam or seeding; (c) the cost of police traffic details, if requires (d) compensation for the purchase of replacement trees as described in section VI hereof.
4. **Issuance:** Following a determination by the Tree Warden a permit should be issued to the applicant for removal. The Warden shall request (a) proof of insurance as required by Section II hereof and (b) any necessary bond for the work to be performed. The Avon Police Department shall be provided with a copy of the permit.
5. **Emergency alteration or removal:** In the event of an emergency, including but not limited to a hurricane, snow/ice storm, or other act of God, where immediate removal of downed trees or limbs is required, work necessary to restore safe conditions is allowed without a permit.
6. **Dangerous, obstruction, and/or infected trees:** Any public tree or part thereof that the Tree Warden shall find to be infected, immediately hazardous to endanger the public or other trees or shrubs, or significantly injurious to sewers, sidewalks, or other public improvements, may be removed by the Town in accordance with the procedures set forth in the MGL Ch. 87. Any public shade tree that has been removed, except those removed as visibility hazards, shall be replaced with one or more trees at a location and of a size and species to be determined by the Tree Warden.
7. **Records, expiration, and fees:** All work orders shall be logged by the Tree Warden on a standard form and includes the location and description of the work to be done.

Section V: Prohibited Acts

1. **Damage:** No person shall, without the consent of the owners, in the case of a private tree or shrub, or without written permits from the Tree Warden, in case of a tree or shrub on public property, do or cause to be done by others any of the following acts:
 - a. Secure, fasten or run rope, wire, sign, unprotected electrical installation or other device or material to, around, or through a tree or shrub, except to secure leaning or newly planted trees.

- b. Break, injure, mutilate, deface, kill, or destroy any tree or shrub.
 - c. Remove any guard, stake, or other device or material intended for the protection of a public tree or shrub, or close or obstruct any open space above the base of a public tree or shrub designed to permit access to air, water, and fertilizer.
 - d. Attach any sign, poster, notice, or other objects on any tree, or fasten any guy wire, cable, rope, nails, screws, or other devices to any tree, except that the Town may authorize tying temporary signs to trees if necessary; or
 - e. Cause or encourage any fire or burning near or around any public tree.
2. **Excavation:** All trees on any public property near the excavation or construction of any building, structure, or street, or in the vicinity of utility work, shall be sufficiently guarded and protected by those responsible for such work to prevent injury to said trees. No person shall excavate any ditches, tunnels, or trenches, or install pavement within a radius of ten (10) feet from any public tree without a permit from the Tree Warden.

Section VI: Penalties

1. **Fines:** Any person found in violation of any provision hereof, or who fails to comply with notices issued pursuant to provisions hereof, shall be subject to fines of up to \$300 for each separate offense. Any builder, contractor, or agent who intentionally assists in the commission of any such violation shall also be liable for each separate violation in addition to the liability hereunder of any other individual or entity. All violations which are of a continuing nature shall constitute a separate offense for each day of such continuance, and each tree removed shall constitute a separate offense. Determinations as to the length of continuing violations and the number of trees affected thereby shall be made by the Tree Warden. No violation shall be deemed to have ceased unless and until there is a public hearing in the same manner as set forth in Section IV (2) hereof and a determination or resolution of the offense is issued thereafter.
2. **Replacement:** Any tree removed for a private purpose, without compensation to the Town and/or in violation hereof, shall be replaced by the violator on an inch-by-inch basis. All replacement trees shall be at least 2" in diameter and of nursery-grown stock. Replacement trees shall be of a size and species specified by the Tree Warden and shall be planted on public property along with rights of way or within easements as permitted by MGL Ch. 87 § 7 and determined by the Tree

Warden.

Alternatively, the violator may pay a replacement fee equal to \$500 per 2" in diameter of the removed or to-be removed tree.

3. **Legal advertising:** In addition to fines and/or replacement costs or fees, any person found in violation hereof shall be responsible for the cost of advertising any public hearing required by Section IV hereof.
4. **Appeal:** Any person who receives an order from the Tree Warden hereunder and objects to all or any part thereof shall have the right to appeal such order. For Public Shade Trees located on Land under the Control of the Recreation, Parks, and Forestry Department then to the Recreation, Parks, and Forestry Department for all other Public Shade Trees to the Selectboard or the Recreation, Parks, and Forestry Department as the case may be, shall hear such appeal within 30 days of receipt of written notice thereof. The Selectboard or Recreation, Parks, and Forestry Dept. shall notify the party appealing the order of its decision by mail within ten (10) days after the hearing closes. A copy of the said decision shall be filed with the Town Clerk.

Section VII: Severability

Should any part hereof or provision herein be determined by a court of law to be invalid, the same shall not affect the validity hereof as a whole or any part other than that found invalid.

