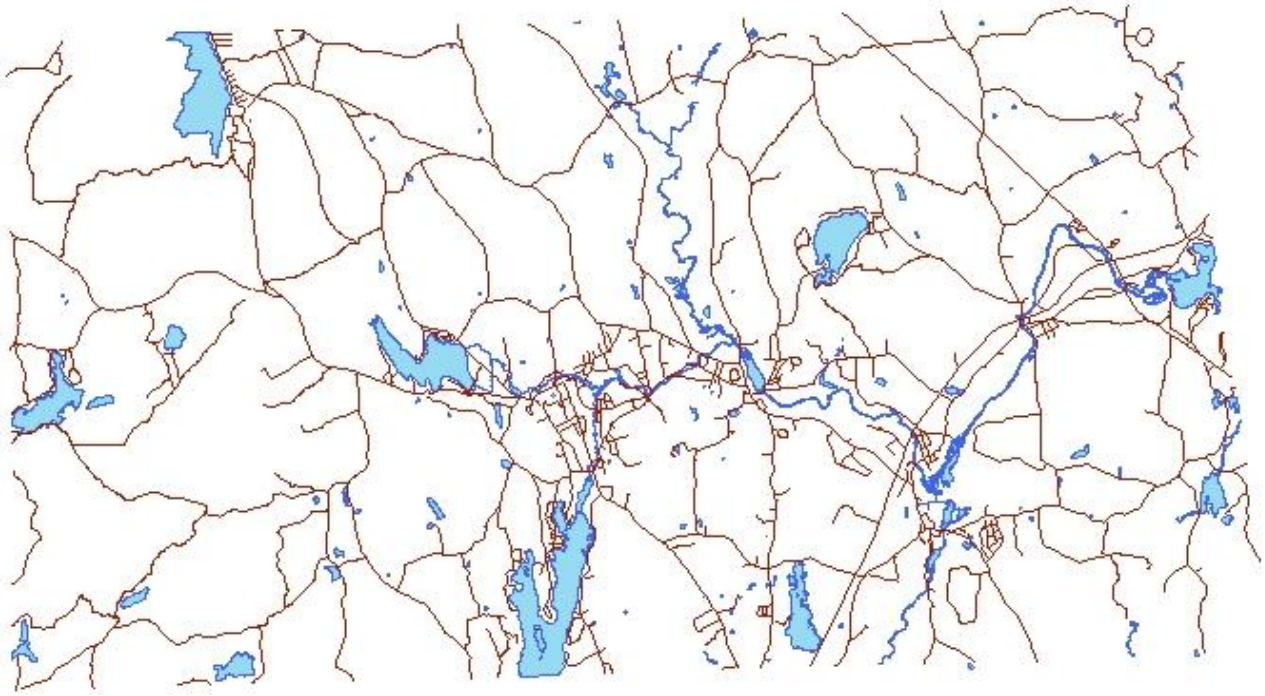
TOWN OF BURRILLVILLE
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN
5-YEAR UPDATE



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Prepared for: Burrillville Town Council
&
Burrillville Planning Board

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Chapter I
Introduction

CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

I.1 Purpose

In 1988 the State of Rhode Island enacted the Comprehensive Planning and Land Use Regulation Act requiring the 39 communities in the State to prepare and adopt a local Comprehensive Plan. This plan supersedes all previous Comprehensive Plans for the Town of Burrillville. The intent of the Act stems from the following findings of the General Assembly:[1]

1. The absence of accurate technical information and comprehensive planning by municipal government as a rational basis for long-term physical development creates conflicting requirements and reactive land use regulations and decisions.

2. Municipal government is responsible for land use, but lacks the technical information and financial resources to plan for orderly growth and development and the protection and management of our land and natural resources.

3. Land, water and air are finite natural resources. Comprehensive planning must provide for protection, development, use and management of our land and natural resources.

4. Comprehensive planning and its implementation will promote the appropriate use of land. The lack of comprehensive planning and its implementation has led to the misuse, under-use and over-use of our land and natural resources.

5. The coordination of growth and the intensity of development with provisions for services and facilities is a proper objective of comprehensive planning.

6. Comprehensive planning is needed to provide a basis for municipal and state initiatives to ensure all citizens have access to a range of housing choices, including the availability of affordable housing for all income levels and age groups.

7. Municipal comprehensive planning must recognize and address land uses in contiguous municipalities and encourage cooperative planning efforts by municipalities.

8. Comprehensive planning will provide a basis for improved coordination so that local plans reflect issues of local, regional and state-wide concern.

9. Improved coordination is necessary between State and municipal governments to promote uniform standards and review procedures as well as consistency in land use regulations.

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[1] Handbook on the Local Comprehensive Plan for the Rhode Island Comprehensive Planning and Land Use Regulation Act, June, 1989, The State Planning Council, Division of Planning, Rhode Island Department of Administration.

The State's goals for comprehensive planning provide the overall direction for this Plan. In accordance with State laws and regulations, Burrillville submitted copies of the Comprehensive Plan to the surrounding communities and did not receive any negative feedback. The planning process, statements of goals and policies, and the issues of growth, land use, and quality of life are consistent with the State Guide Plan, and are as follows:[2]

1. To promote orderly growth and development that recognizes the natural characteristics of the land, its suitability of use and the availability of existing and proposed public and/or private services and facilities.

2. To promote an economic climate which increases quality job opportunities and overall economic well being of each municipality and the State.

3. To promote a balance of housing choices, for all income levels and age groups, which recognizes the affordability of housing as the responsibility of each municipality and the State.

4. To promote the protection of the natural, historic and cultural resources of each municipality and the state.

5. To promote the preservation of the open space and recreational resources of each municipality and the state.

6. To encourage the use of innovative development regulation and techniques that promote the development of land suitable for development while protecting our natural, cultural, historical and recreational resources and achieving a balanced pattern of land uses.

7. To promote consistency of state actions and programs with municipal comprehensive plans and prove for review procedures to ensure that state goals and policies are reflected in municipal comprehensive plans.

8. To ensure that adequate and uniform data are available to municipal and state government as the basis for comprehensive planning and land use regulation.

9. To ensure that municipal land use regulations and decisions are consistent with the comprehensive plan of the municipality and to ensure state land use regulations and decisions are consistent with State guide plans.

10. To encourage the involvement of all citizens in the formulation, review and adoption of the comprehensive plan.

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[2] Handbook on the Local Comprehensive Plan for the Rhode Island Comprehensive Planning and Land Use Regulation Act, June, 1989, The State Planning Council, Division of Planning, Rhode Island Department of Administration.

The Comprehensive Plan for Burrillville is a document with accompanying graphics and maps which addresses historical trends, current and future conditions in each of the following functional areas:

- Land use;
- Natural and cultural resources;
- Housing;
- Recreation/Open Space
- Community services and facilities;
- Transportation; and,
- Local economy;

The Plan presents goals, policies and recommendations for each element, as well as a program for the implementation of these recommendations within a 5-20 year time frame.

The Comprehensive Plan is a broad-based policy document which presents the Town's intentions for its future development as defined by the citizens of the community, and adopted by the Planning Board and Town Council. The underlying theme of this document is consistent with the following key priority objectives of the State's Land Use Plan 2025:

- Sustain Rhode Island's unique character through use of the Urban Services Boundary, rural centers, and holistic approaches to planning.
- Promote permanent greenspace throughout the rural, urban, and waterfront areas.
- Develop concentrated well-designed centers, neighborhoods and special places.
- Offer diverse affordable housing stock.

I.2 Growth Issues

Over the past 10 years Burrillville has undergone a period of moderate growth and new development. This has brought about a new awareness of the fragile nature of the community's resources, recognition that the town will continue to grow, and a desire to ensure that such future growth is compatible with the rural character of the community. This rural character has been defined in many ways throughout the planning process, but essentially includes the following elements:

- The village atmosphere and identity, including the mills and mill housing around which each village grew;

- The rustic landscape, including forested areas, open fields, farmland, rural roads, stone walls and other similar landscape features; and,

- The lakes, ponds, rivers and streams found throughout the Town.

Preservation of this rural character was a major theme of the planning process, as identified by the Comprehensive Plan Committee and the general public.

Issues Identification - The issues which were considered through the planning process were identified through a variety of sources. These include a citizen survey conducted by the consultant in the spring of 1990, a questionnaire submitted to Town and community service providers, an issues identification exercise conducted with the public attending the first public workshop on the Plan and through discussion at monthly Comprehensive Plan Committee meetings. Table I-1 summarizes these issues (not prioritized). This list, while not all encompassing, is representative of the concerns presented by the public during the planning process. These issues, and many inter-related topics form the problem statement to which the goals, policies and recommendations respond.

Table I-1
Summary of Issues Raised During the Planning Process

1.	Maintaining the area's rural character.	20.	Need for new recreational areas.
2.	Water quality protection.	21.	Redevelopment of the old mill complexes.
3.	Promotion of industrial park and initiatives for development of Routes 100 & 102.	22.	Growth with consideration of existing Town character.
4.	Need for various road improvements.	23.	Development in wetlands or over groundwater aquifers.
5.	Maintenance of Zambarano hospital as an active facility providing employment for Town residents.	24.	Cooperative use of Zambarano facilities or purchase of unused land/buildings for Town/public use.
6.	Need to review minimum lot requirements in the zoning ordinance.	25.	Uncontrolled commercial expansion along Route 102.
7.	Overdevelopment in general.	27.	Improvements to Pascoag commercial center.
8.	Overdevelopment of the lake areas.	28.	Need for more active recreation areas.
9.	Allowing cluster development and condominiums.	29.	Encourage use of lakes for recreation.
10.	Development of commercial and industrial activities, especially along main routes such as Rte. 102.	30.	Extension of water and sewer lines, particularly to areas surrounding the lakes and ponds for water quality protection purposes.
11.	Continued development without sewers.	31.	Poor condition and maintenance of sidewalks.
12.	Allowing industrial development.	32.	Continued decline of the Pascoag village center.
13.	Maintenance of the existing village quality and revitalization of the village.	33.	Need for more commercial and industrial development for tax base expansion purposes.
14.	Permitting small building lots.	34.	Maintenance of village character.
15.	Preservation of open space, aquifers, wetlands and other natural resources.	35.	Improve existing housing conditions, and promote affordable housing.
16.	Improvements to Town government facilities, including Town Hall.	36.	Development, including industrial, which threatens the Town's water supply.
17.	Centralizing Town facilities.	37.	Development without preservation of open space.
18.	Keeping new building in character with existing development.	38.	Inappropriate industrial development, particularly that which does not support the tax base.
19.	Improved parking at Town facilities.		

I.3 Citizen Survey Summary

A telephone survey of over 400 Burrillville residents was conducted from March 26 through April 4, 1990. The purpose of the survey was to gain a more thorough understanding of Town residents' opinions on growth and development issues, community services, quality of life and other planning-related questions.

Town Image - To identify views on the image of the Town, respondents were asked what they liked best about Burrillville, and then which features they found least favorable. Most commonly mentioned as the things liked best about the Town were its rural atmosphere and country character (70 percent) and the quiet and peaceful nature of the community (14 percent).

Items which were most often indicated as least liked included taxes being too high (19 percent), road conditions (15 percent), and over-development of the community. Other features which were mentioned with some frequency included electric company operations and prices, lack of retail stores in the community, politics and government, and Town services.

Town Services - In general, residents were satisfied with the services and their quality. With the exception of water service, sewer service and planning and zoning, where many respondents were unable to rate the quality of the service because they were unfamiliar with it, most residents feel that the Town's services are either average or above average.

Highest ratings were for the public, but non-municipal services, including rescue service (57 percent above average), and fire protection (49 percent above average). Other services rated highly include active recreation facilities (24 percent above average), schools (21 percent above average) and police service (20 percent above average).

Quality of Life - Respondents were asked to identify the importance of various reasons people have chosen to live in Burrillville. Their reasons grouped from the most important to the least are as follows:

- Presence of farms and open space
- Schools
- Recreational opportunities
- Historic character
- Opportunities for quality housing
- Employment opportunities
- Shopping opportunities

The data reveal that Burrillville residents are attracted to the community largely because of its small town, rural qualities, which the Town couples with quality public services, including schools and housing.

Future Development - The availability of quality housing in Burrillville is influential to residents' quality of life in Burrillville. Over 70 percent of respondents indicated that it was important to encourage the development of shops, stores and restaurants. The high percentage of respondents supportive of future development of shops, stores and restaurants is borne out by the number of respondents mentioning the lack of retail stores as one of aspects of Town they liked the least. Seven of ten people interviewed indicated that the Town should encourage development of manufacturing businesses. Respondents

felt that manufacturing development should be located along Route 102, in the existing industrial park, in Pascoag center or along Route 100.

Over 90 percent of respondents indicated that the presence of farms and open space was an important reason for living in Burrillville. The rural character of the community appears to be one of the many amenities the Town offers to residents, which is recognized and appreciated. Eight of ten interviewees stated that they favored the expenditure of Town money to protect open spaces and farmland from future development.

Development Regulations - A question asking respondents to rank the planning and zoning process as above average, average or below average showed that most respondents feel the present process is adequate. Burrillville adults are in favor of strict interpretation of the Town's zoning standards (88 percent), and believe that existing zoning standards are about right or not strict enough.

Slightly more than 40 percent of respondents indicated that the present rate of development in Burrillville was too fast, while 13 percent indicated it was too slow. About 40 percent of respondents indicated that the rate of development is about right. Again, this shows the general feeling of contentment with existing conditions, and respondent's desires to maintain these conditions.

Summary - The most highly valued aspects of the Town are its small town character, open space and quiet, peaceful nature. Citizens are generally pleased with the services and facilities provided by the Town, but have particular concerns with street and road maintenance, parks and playgrounds, the landfill and planning and zoning.

There is concern about over-development, rapid growth, and the ability of the existing planning and zoning process to respond to this growth pressure. Protection of open spaces is of concern, and most residents would appear to support expenditure of Town funds to protect open spaces and farmland from future development. Residents are positive about development of more retail stores and manufacturing space also received support from the interviewees.

I.4 Demographic Changes

The demographics of the community include population and social characteristics which describe the makeup of the residents of Burrillville, such as age, gender, income, occupation and other factors. The composition of the existing and projected population of the

Town is important to understanding how the Town should develop in future years. Population was reviewed on a town-wide, census tract and planning district basis.

Census Tracts - Census tracts are geographic divisions within the community, defined by the U.S. Bureau of the Census. They generally correspond to population density, i.e., smaller tracts for higher density areas, larger tracts for lower density areas. Tract boundaries are established by local committees, the State Division of Planning and the Bureau of the Census.

Burrillville was comprised of two census tracts (CT) for the 1980 Census, numbered 129 and 130. Census tracts (from the 1980 Census) are illustrated on Map 1. They correspond generally to Pascoag and Harrisville (CT 129) and the remainder of the Town (CT 130). These tracts were slightly modified in the 1990 Census to accommodate the growth of the Town, with CT 129 remaining the same, and CT 130 being divided into two sections, 130.01 and 130.02, divided at Route 98, Sherman Farm Road. CT 130.01 includes the area west of Rte. 98, and CT 130.02 includes the area east of the highway.

Planning Districts - With the exception of Chapter VIII, Recreation, Conservation and Open Space, Census Tracts 129, 130.01 and 130.02 shall be considered planning districts. In addition, much detail is given to the Pascoag Census Designated Place (CDP), which is a portion of Census tract 129. CDP's are areas recognized by the Census Bureau as distinct neighborhoods that contain a core business area.

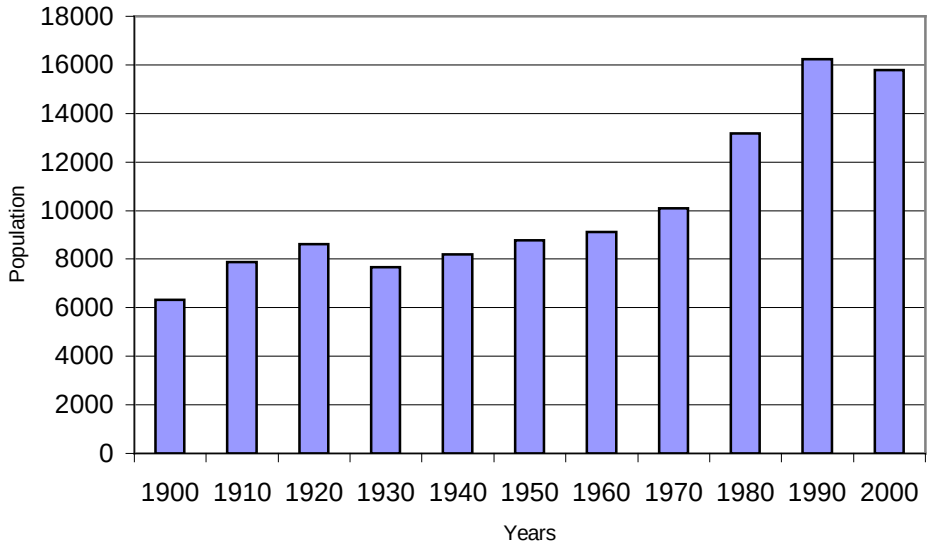
Historic and Current Population - Best available data was used for all statistics, including 2000 Census data where available. The Town's population has grown significantly over the past 90 years, as shown on Table I-2 and Figure I-1.

Table I-2
Burrillville Population Trends, 1900-1990

Year	Population	Percent Change
1900	6,317	---
1910	7,878	24.7
1920	8,606	9.2
1930	7,677	-10.8
1940	8,185	6.6
1950	8,774	7.2
1960	9,116	3.9
1970	10,087	10.7
1980	13,164	30.5
1990	16,230	23.3
2000	15,796	-2.7

Source: U.S. Census of Population, 2000.

Figure I-1
Burrillville Population, 1900-1990



Source: U.S. Census of Population, 2000.

The increase in population since 1990 is partly due to natural increase. Between 1990 and 2001, there were 2029 births, and 1843 deaths in Burrillville, a natural increase of

186 persons.[1] Since the population decreased by 434 persons during that time, this indicates that there was a net natural increase of 186 persons during that period. This indicates a modest out migration from the Town of Burrillville.

Population Distribution - In order to better understand where the population is living in Burrillville, an analysis of population distribution was performed.

Table I-3
Summary of Population by Planning District 1990, 2000

District/ Tract	1990	Percent of Total	2000	Percent of Total	Actual Change 1990-2000	Percent Change 1990-2000
CT130.02	7,429	45.7	7,402	46.8	-27	-.36
(CT129)	5,484	33.7	5,036	31.8	-448	-8.1
(CT130.01)	3,317	20.4	3,358	21.2	41	1.2
Total	16,230	100.0	15,796	100.0	434	2.6

Sources: U.S. Dept. of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, 1990, 2000.
Recreation, Conservation, Open Space Plan, Burrillville, Rhode Island, April 1988 (1980 data).

The boundaries of the Planning Districts in this Plan were redrawn to correlate to the Town's Census tracts. This resulted in the redistribution of population as shown on the above table. Census tract 129 yielded the largest decrease in population from 1990 to 2000, showing a negative 8.1 percent. This may be, in part, a reflection of the consistent economic decline associated with Pascoag Main Street and surrounding the residential areas; the number of second floor residential uses along Main Street has decreased. Additionally, this area of Pascoag is most transient, and, if there is going to be a discrepancy between what the census provides and what the population actually is, that difference would be in Pascoag. Though, not having the time to contest census estimates, it is believed that the more obvious economic disinvestment has spawned a bias of sorts with regards to population trends –vacant Main Street buildings does not always mean outmigration population-wise.

[1] Based on information received from RI Department of Health, through 1987, and from the Burrillville Town Clerk's office for 1988, 1989. It is likely that the figures for births are undercounted in 1988 and 1989, and as they become available form the State, they will be added to the profile.

I.5 Population Projections

Population projections were prepared by the Rhode Island Department of Administration, Division of Planning.

Table I-4 indicates projected population for upcoming years 2005 to 2030:

Table I-4
2000 Population Projections for Burrillville

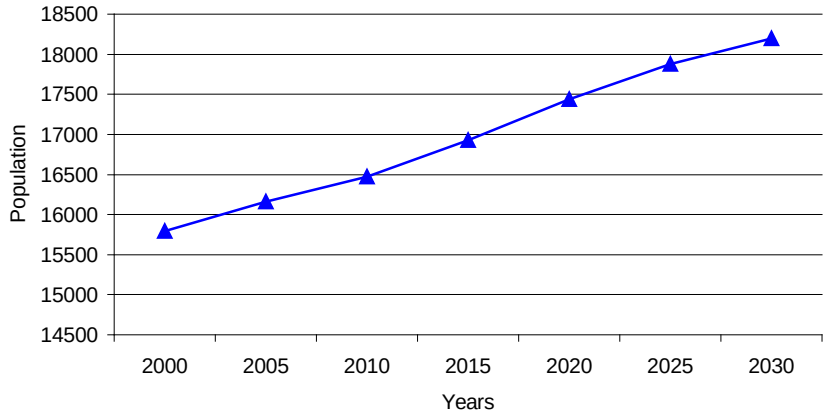
	State Estimate	Percent Change
2000	15,796	
2005	16,163	2.32
2010	16,469	1.89
2015	16,928	2.79
2020	17,439	3.01
2025	17,876	2.50
2030	18,195	1.78

Sources: 2000 projections, R. I. Dept. of Administration, Division of Planning Department.

These figures suggest an increasing population, but one which is expected to grow at a slightly slower rate than in the past 20 years. A 4.21 percent increase in total population is estimated between years 2000 and 2010, compared to a 5.8 percent increase for years 2010 to 2020. Figure I-2 illustrates historic population trends and future projections.

Figure I-3 shows population growth by the actual change which occurred every ten years, to illustrate the rate of increase. After a high growth period between 1900 and 1910, the Town experienced fairly steady increases, with the exception of the depression period between 1920 and 1930, which likely saw closure of many local mills, loss of employment and an exodus of population. Between 1930 and 1970, growth remained between 300 and 1200 persons per decade. Between 1970 and 1980, there was a dramatic increase in new residents, with an increase of over 3,000 people in ten years. A similar increase occurred during the period between 1980 and 1990 (3,066 persons). Based on future population estimates, the period between 1990 and 2000 shows a slower rate of increase, at some 1,800 new residents over the decade.

Figure I-2
Population Trends and Projections, 1990-2020
Burrillville, Rhode Island

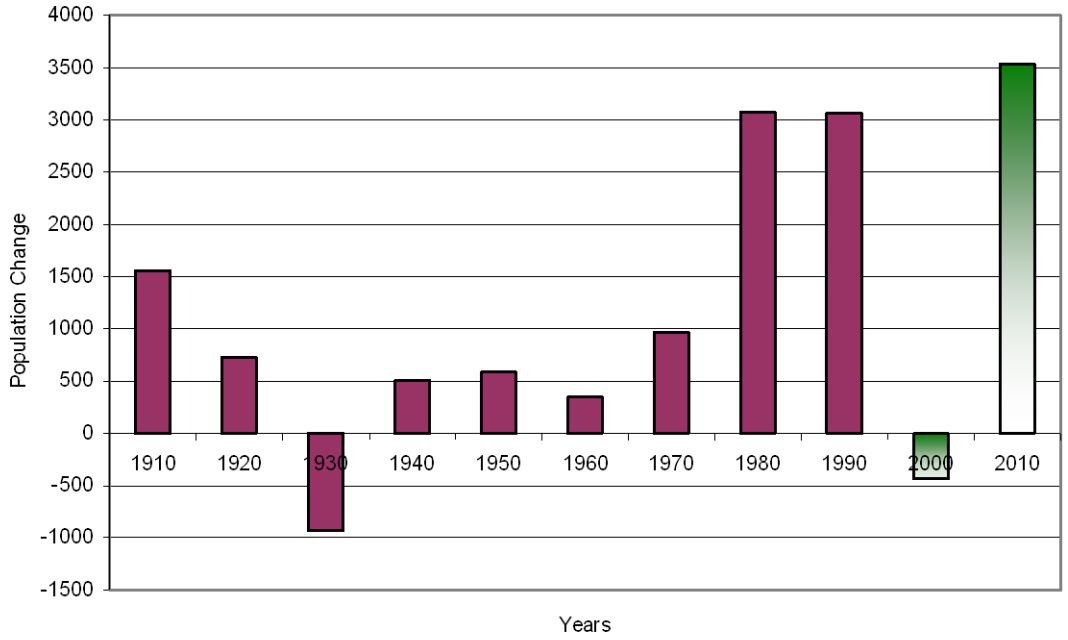


Sources: Rhode Island Department of Administration, Division of Planning.

Age and Gender of Population - According to the 2000 Census, the largest percentage of Burrillville residents were between the ages of 35-44 and 45-54, followed by the 25-34, 10-14 and 15-19 year age groups (see Table I-5). The smallest age group, comprising 1.8 percent of the total population, were 85+ years of age. The State as a whole, by comparison, showed the age groups 35-44 and 45-54 as the largest, and the 85+ year age group as the smallest. Burrillville had a somewhat older overall population, with a median age of 37.5 years, compared to a statewide median of 36.7 years.

In 2000, 28.2 percent of Burrillville's population was under age 18, while in 1990, 27.9 percent were under age 18. Household size has declined from 2.92 persons per household in 1990 to 2.75 in 2000, supporting the assumption that there are more, but smaller families.

Figure I-3
Population Changes, 1910 to 2010
Burrillville, Rhode Island



Sources: RI Department of Economic Development, Basic Economic Statistics, 1900-1980.
Rhode Island Statewide Planning, projections, 2000.

Figure I-4 illustrates 2000 Town and State population distributed by age as a percentage of their respective total populations. Burrillville contains a larger percentage for the 35-44 and 45-54 age groups. The less established age cohort, 20-24 age group, is a smaller percentage of total than that of Rhode Island. This may indicate Burrillville's lack of opportunity for college-age students or young professionals. Generally speaking, the state contains a higher percentage of older people than Burrillville.

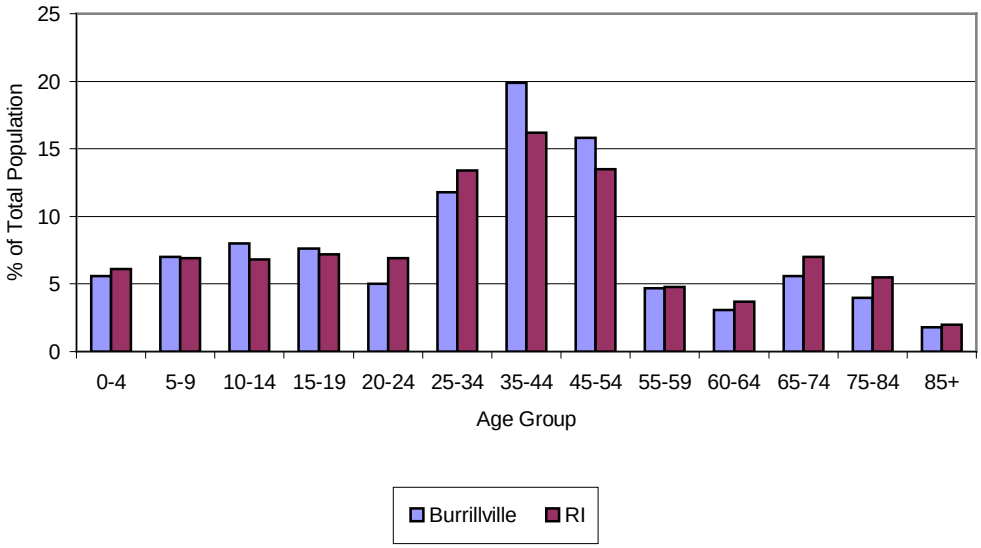
Table I-5
Age Distribution of the Population, 2000
Burrillville and Rhode Island

Age Group	Burrillville	% of Total	State of RI	% of Total
0-4	886	5.6	63,896	6.1
5-9	1,106	7.0	71,905	6.9
10-14	1,271	8.0	71,370	6.8
15-19	1,204	7.6	75,445	7.2
20-24	796	5.0	71,813	6.9
25-34	1,864	11.8	140,326	13.4
34-44	3,145	19.9	170,310	16.2
45-54	2,500	15.8	141,863	13.5
55-59	738	4.7	49,982	4.8
60-64	486	3.1	39,007	3.7
65-74	882	5.6	73,684	7.0
75-84	632	4.0	57,821	5.5
85+	286	1.8	20,897	2.0
Total	**13,164**	**100.00**	**947,154**	**100.00**

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, 2000.

Projections by Age Group - Table I-6 shows Burrillville's current and future population distributed by age. The Census has not yet published detailed data regarding age breakdowns from the 1990 count. Therefore, the Town elects to use the Rhode Island Department of Administration, Division of Planning age distributions applied to the Town's total population projections. The 1990 Census indicates that approximately 27.6 percent of the Town's population is under age 18, and the estimates shown on the following table indicate 27.9 percent is under age 18, a close approximation.

Figure I-4
Comparison of Age Group Distribution
Burrillville and Rhode Island



Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, 2000.

Between 1990 and 2000, those age groups expected to lose population include 10-14, 15-19, 20-24, 40-44, 60-64, and 65-69. Age groups expected to increase by more than 20 percent include 30-34, 45-49, 50-54, 55-59, and 75+. This implies that the Town's population is aging, student age population (10-19) is decreasing, and that the higher-earning labor force group (40-64) is increasing.

Table 1-6 seems to reflect the out-migration of college-age students by depicting a large exodus of the 20-24 age group. The decrease estimated for the 45-54 age group is a bit puzzling, but perhaps reflects a predicted downsizing trend associated with empty nesters wishing to capitalize on an every growing demand for real estate.

Household and Family Composition - Households are defined in the Census as persons per occupied housing unit. In 1990, Burrillville had 15,538 persons in 5,313 households yielding an average household size of 2.92. Current town-wide household size is 2.75 persons, based on the 2000 population of 15,483 persons and 5,559 total households. This indicates a potential demand for more housing units which serve smaller households.

Table I-6
1999 Population Projections by Age, 2000 to 2015

Age Group	Year 2000	Percent of Total	Year 2010	Percent of Total	Percent Change 2000-2010	Year 2015	Percent of Total	Percent Change 2010-2015
0-4	886	5.6	1,077	5.5	21.5	1,109	5.4	2.9
5-9	1,106	7.0	958	4.9	-13.3	1,130	5.5	17.9
10-14	1,271	8.0	843	4.3	-33.6	1,007	4.9	19.4
15-19	1,204	7.6	629	3.2	-47.7	889	4.3	41.3
20-24	796	5.0	1,363	7.0	71.2	659	3.2	-51.6
25-34	1,864	11.8	3,099	16	66.2	3,108	15.2	.2
35-44	3,145	19.9	2,431	12.5	22.7	2,952	14.4	21.4
45-54	2,500	15.8	3,370	17.4	34.8	2,669	13	-20.8
55-59	738	4.7	1,895	9.8	156	1,950	9.5	2.9
60-64	486	3.1	1,201	6.2	147	1,901	9.2	58.2
65-74	882	5.6	1,307	6.7	48.1	1,884	9.2	44.1
74 +	922	5.8	1,138	5.8	23.4	1,189	5.8	4.4

Source: http://www.planning.state.ri.us/misc/ripop.pdf 1999; Community Profile, Census 2000, TOB
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In 2000, there were 4,253 families, 29.2 percent of which had children under the age of 18. The combined total of children age 19 and under was 4,467, or 1.05 children per family. The percentage statewide was slightly higher, at 1.06 children per family.

Regional Population - The region is generally defined as Burrillville, Woonsocket, Glocester, Smithfield, North Smithfield, Rhode Island; Blackstone, Millville, Douglas, Uxbridge and Webster, Massachusetts, and Thompson and Putnam, Connecticut (see Figure I-7). The planning region used for this Plan had a 1990 population of 157,044, which increased to 164,223 in 2000 (see Table I-7). This represented a region-wide increase of nearly 4.3 percent. Burrillville shares 9.6 percent of the region's total population, while decreasing 2.7 percent from 1990 to 2000. Burrillville is the fourth largest community in the region as of year 2000.

Table I-7
Regional Population, 1980-1990

	1990 Population	2000 Population(1)	% of Region	Actual Change 1990-2000	Percent Change 1990-2000
Burrillville	16,230	15,796	0.10	-4,343,066	-0.03
Glocester	9,227	9,948	0.06	7,211,677	0.08
Smithfield	19,163	20,613	0.13	14,502,277	0.08
No. Smithfield	10,497	10,618	0.25	121525	0.01
Woonsocket	43,877	43,224	0.26	-653-2,037	-0.01
Blackstone, MA	7,900	8,804	0.05	9,041,330	0.11
Uxbridge, MA	9,440	11,156	0.07	17,161,066	0.18
Millville, MA	2,380	2,724	0.02	344687	0.14
Douglas, MA	4,820	7,045	0.04	22,251,090	0.46
Webster, MA	15,560	16,415	0.10	8,551,080	0.05
Thompson, CT	9,350	8,878	0.05	-4,721,209	-0.05
Putnam, CT	8,600	9,002	0.05	40220	0.05
Region Totals	157,044	164,223	1	70,160,677	0.05

Sources: RI Department of Administration, Division of Planning; Massachusetts State Data Center; Connecticut Office of Policy and Management, U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, 2000.

I.6 Goals, Policies and Implementation Actions

During the past 20 years Burrillville has experienced the most substantial growth in population in its history, adding over 7,000 new residents. Most of this growth has been through in-migration to the community, with people finding Burrillville an attractive and economical place to live. As the urbanized communities of Rhode Island have experienced a decline in available affordable housing, the satellite communities, such as Burrillville, Glocester, Foster and others will continue to experience an influx of families and individuals who, for reasons relating to affordability and or simply desiring a more rural quality of life.

Population is expected to continue to grow, although at a slower rate than recently experienced. As the availability of developable land in Burrillville continues to decrease, there will be fewer opportunities for development, increase in land values and a corresponding slowing of population growth. Over the next ten years the population is expected to steadily increase, however, families will have fewer children. In addition, elderly and adults from higher earning labor force brackets will increase. High school graduates and college age populations will continue to out-migrate. These changes must be monitored

and factored into local decisions regarding community services, facilities and land use changes.

As these changes occur, it is important that public sentiment regarding growth and development be maintained at the forefront of local decision-making. Public participation in the planning process shows substantial concern for: maintaining the rural character of the community, while allowing growth, which will comfortably support existing and future infrastructures of the community. The natural environment of Burrillville is highly valued by its residents, and viewed as important to both the quality of life and the successful future economic development of the community. While residents highly favor land preservation, they also understand the importance of maintaining the affordability of the community through tax base expansion. Residents feel a balance can be achieved through modifying existing land use regulations, particularly the zoning ordinance and subdivision regulations. The recommendations of this Plan focus on these overall desires of the Burrillville citizenry, and their hopes and aspirations for the future of their community.

I. General Goals	Policies	Implementation Actions
I.1 To accommodate growth, allowing for orderly and reasonably timed improvement and expansion of facilities to serve this growth.	I.1.a In accordance with RI State Land Use Plan 2025, growth should occur within existing village centers where infrastructure and services are present.	I.1.a.1 Higher density development should occur in areas served by or planned to be served by public water and sewer.
		I.1.a.2 Lower density development should occur in outlying areas where public sewer and water service is not available..
		I.1.a.3 The Town will conduct a study of impact fees as a growth control measure.
		I.1.a.4 Review and update the Comprehensive Community Plan at five-year intervals, and ensure that changing public needs are met.

I. General Goals	Policies	Implementation Actions
I.2 To guide the type and location of development to create a desirable land use pattern and protect the natural, environmental, cultural and historic qualities of Burrillville.	I.2.a Growth should be directed toward land which is environmentally suitable for development, and away from the Town's critical natural resources.	I.2.a.1 Higher density development should occur within and or contiguous to the established villages.
		I.2.a.2 Lower density development should occur in the rural outlying areas of the community and should be controlled through zoning measures.
		I.2.a.3 The site plan review process should include an environmental assessment for major projects which will estimate the number of new residents the project will generate.
I.3 To recognize the needs of individual population groups, such as the elderly, students, and labor force age groups.	I.3.a Consider the age group needs of the Town's population when planning for future community services and facilities.	I.3.a.1 Review age group projections for students when planning for upgraded school and recreational facilities.
		I.3.a.2 Review projections for labor force age groups when reviewing plans for new nonresidential development.
		I.3.a.3 Consider establishing a task force to monitor the needs of the Town's growing elderly community.

Chapter II
Natural and Cultural Resources

CHAPTER II
NATURAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

Burrillville is rich in natural resources: valuable wetlands for flood control, groundwater aquifers and recharge areas, high quality surface water, unique historical areas. The Town's natural environment adds immeasurably to its property values and quality of life. Although many large areas of undeveloped land exist in Burrillville, the environment is experiencing direct and indirect impacts from residential and other forms of development.

The Comprehensive Planning and Land Use Regulation Act requires that this element "provide an inventory of the significant natural resource areas such as water, soils, prime agricultural lands, natural vegetation systems, wildlife, wetlands, aquifers, coastal features, floodplains and other natural resources and the policies for protection and management of such areas. The element shall include policies for the protection of historic and cultural resources of the municipality and the state. The policies and implementation techniques must be identified for inclusion in the implementation program element." This element considers the nature of the environment, the ability of the Town's natural resources to support future development, the impact the Town's current regulations have upon the environment, and how the resources can be best protected in the future.

II.1 Natural Resource Conditions, Trends and Projections

The following presents an inventory of natural and cultural systems in the Town of Burrillville.

Topography - Burrillville lies in Rhode Island's interior uplands. There are no drastic changes in topography in surrounding towns, although elevations do gradually increase to the northwest in Douglas and Webster, Massachusetts. Conversely, elevations decrease to the south and east as the Narragansett lowland boundary is approached.

The Town's irregular topography was shaped by glacier ice which receded some 11,000 years ago. The irregular pattern of hills provide for a diversified, scenic topography, but the rugged slopes and rock outcrops also have acted as a deterrent to settlement. Kame-and-kettle topography formed by large blocks of ice which broke off from the main glacier is prevalent in the western part of Town. This type of topography is characterized by numerous small kettle holes and a very irregular topography.[1]

[1] Rhode Island Historical Preservation Commission. Preliminary Survey Report Town of Burrillville. 1982.

Elevations range from a low of 249 feet above mean sea level (msl) at the Slatersville Reservoir on the Burrillville-North Smithfield town line, to a high of 753 feet above msl on Benson Mountain at the Burrillville-Thompson, Connecticut border. There are relatively few large areas of slope having severe restrictions to development (in excess of 15 percent). Areas of steep slope are found throughout the Town, but are more prevalent along western and eastern borders.

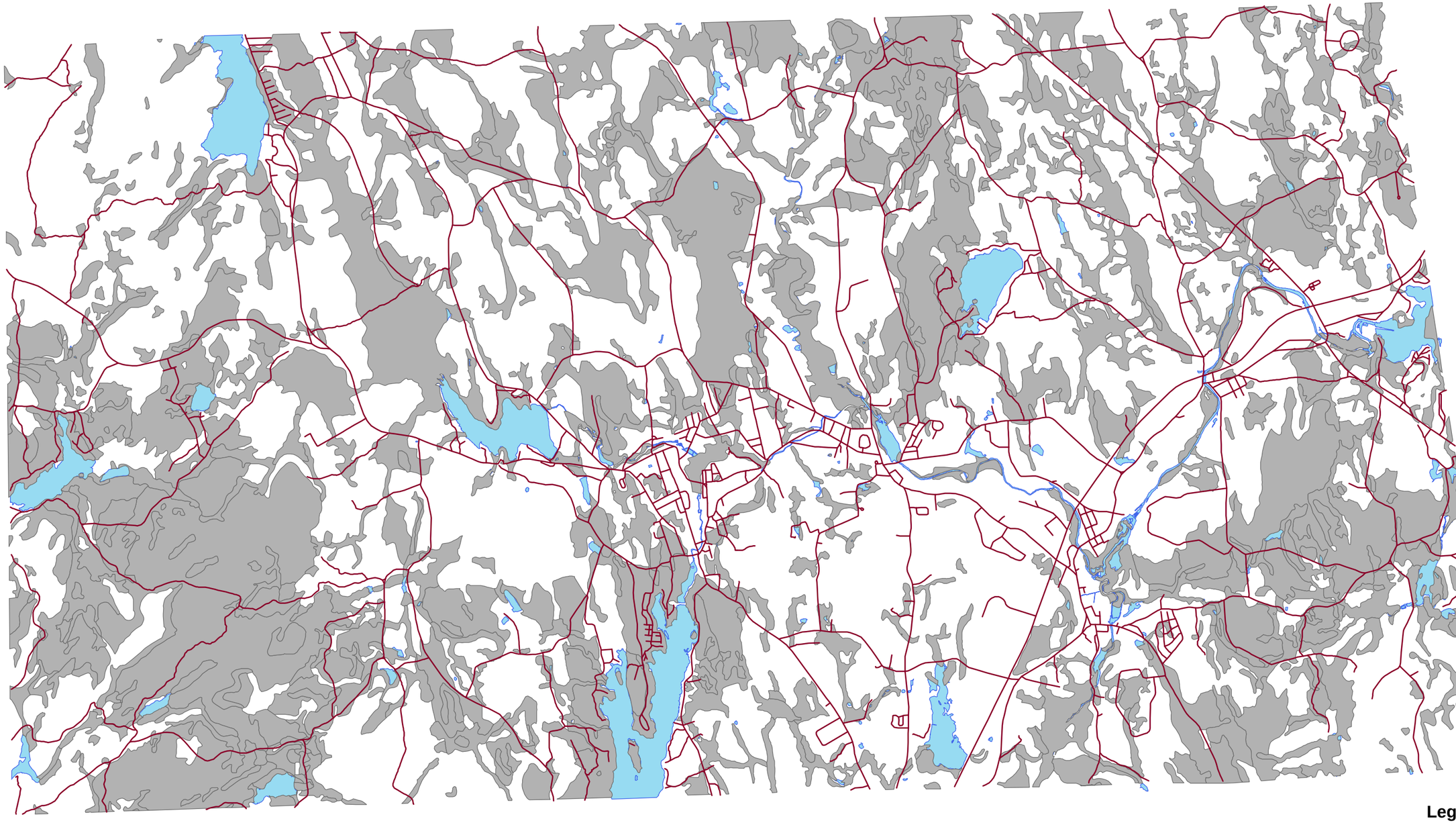
Soils - An assessment of Burrillville's soil types is important when considering future development potential. A mixture of unsorted soil and rocks, commonly known as till, covers most of Burrillville. In areas where rivers flowed from the glacier, well-sorted sands and gravels were left behind. Outwash deposits are found in the valleys along rivers and other low-lying areas. Till soils in Burrillville are generally thin, hard and very stony.[2] Glacial till is characterized as consisting of clay, silt, sand and boulders transported and deposited by glacial ice. Outwash areas in Burrillville also are poorly suited for crop production because of their composition of excessively well-drained sand and gravel. Outwash is stratified sand and gravel produced by glaciers and carried, sorted and deposited by water that originated mainly from the melting of glacial ice.

Certain soil characteristics lend themselves to use for crops and pastures, while others may serve well as locations for buildings or transportation routes. Soils with poor drainage and high flooding frequency may be unsuitable for development. Soils with a high water table, rapid permeability or shallow depth to bedrock may preclude installation of on-site septic systems unless special design features are incorporated to mitigate these problems.
Decisions regarding individual development applications should be based upon site specific soils data. For the purposes of this Plan, soils are defined as follows:[3]

- **Soils with moderate constraints to development** - Soils which are generally suited to residential development. Some soils in this group have moderate soil constraints for development and evaluations must be made on a case by case basis. The constraints consist of: 1) very rapidly permeable soils which have a higher potential for groundwater contamination; 2) slowly permeable soils which tend to have greater septic system failure rates and 3) extremely stony soils, which are expensive to excavate and grade for residential development. Also included are disturbed areas which are often suitable for residential development, but which need site specific evaluation. Examples include gravel pits, cut and fill areas, and paved areas.

2 Rhode Island Historical Preservation Commission. Preliminary Survey Report Town of Burrillville. 1982.
3 Rhode Island Geographic Information System, 1991.

Major Wetlands and Severe Constraints Soils



Map 1

Source: 1997, RIGIS

Legend

- roads
- water
- Severe Constraints

0 1,400 2,800 5,600 Feet

Prime agricultural soils, defined as those best suited for producing food, fee, forage, fiber and oilseed crops, and also available for these uses, are also classified as having moderate constraints to development.

- **Soils with high constraints to development** - Soils with bedrock and slope constraints (greater than 15 percent slope - 15 feet of vertical rise over 100 feet of horizontal distance) - soils in this group have slopes in excess of 15 percent, and/or have significant shallow to bedrock areas. The steep slopes increase the potential for soil erosion during construction, and make construction of on-site septic systems difficult. Shallow soils, and rock outcrops impair the construction of roads, buildings, buried utilities and on-site septic systems.

  Soils with a seasonal high water table (19 inches to 42 inches depth) are considered to have high constraints to development. They generally have a seasonal high water table at a depth of 1.5 to 3.5 feet from the surface for significant periods during the year. Many of these soils have additional constraints to development, such as slow permeability or, in a few instances, very rapid permeability.

  Seasonal high water tables are found throughout the Town, and are especially prevalent in the northwest and northeast quadrants of the community. Soils having bedrock and slope constraints are found throughout the Town, and in particular the southwest corner of the Town, in the Pulaski Memorial State Forest, surrounding the Pascoag Reservoir, between Hill Road and Round Top Road, and in the Oakland area.

- **Soils with severe constraints to development** - These are hydric (wet) soils (0 - 18 inches depth) which have water at, or near, the surface for significant periods of the year. Other severe constraints (rock, sand etc.) which consist of miscellaneous soil types that have significant constraints for residential development. Soils attaining severe constraints to development are depicted on Map 1.

  Hydric soils are found throughout the Town, generally associated with river and stream systems. Excessively rocky or sandy soils are found in two small pockets, one at the landfill along the Clear River, and one northwest of Spring Lake.

Development in Burrillville is highly controlled by poor soil conditions. Of the 36,279 total acres of land in the Town, approximately 12,517 acres are undeveloped, and of these, 9,320 acres (40 percent of undeveloped acres) are considered developable based on soil conditions.

Approximately, 3,448 acres contain some type of building such as a single family home with property in the Town's Farm Forest and Open Space Program. Soils with moderate constraints to development are shown on Map 2.

Wetlands - Wetlands are generally defined as those areas in which the amount of moisture in the soil exceeds the amount necessary for the growth of most plants. The formation of "hydric" (water-saturated) soils, and certain plants and animals which have adapted to living in a "wet" environment, indicate the presence of a land in which the water table is at, near or above the ground surface, i.e., wetland. Many wetlands occur between uplands and open water bodies, others are found in upland areas where there is a seasonally high water table.

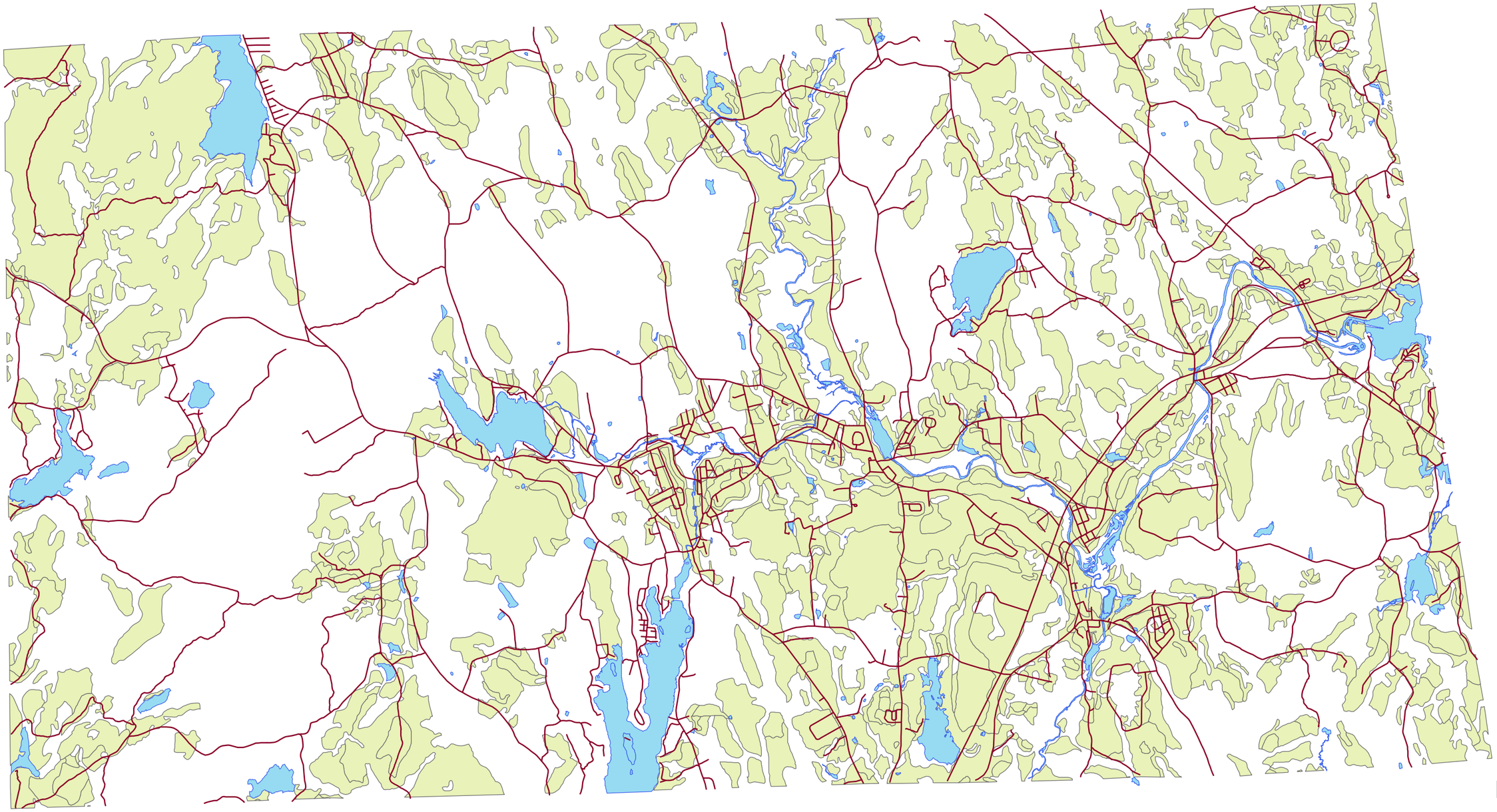
Wetlands provide several important functions which, in Burrillville, are classified as follows:

- *Flood control* - ability of a wetland to reduce flood velocity and provide storage capacity for flood waters;
- *Groundwater potential* - the ability of a wetland to contribute to collect runoff from surrounding areas and recharge the groundwater system, as well as acting as filters for polluted runoff;
- *Planning elements* - aesthetic appeal, educational value, recreational value, buffer capacity, and vulnerability to development or modification; and,
- *Ecological parameters* - value to wildlife, wildlife diversity, wetland size, type of site (streamside, lakeside, pondside), and vegetative diversity.

Approximately 1,450 to 1,500 acres of Burrillville land area is considered wetland. Wetlands are classified by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service by ecological system and further by bottom characteristics and vegetation types. The ecological systems include estuarine, palustrine (vegetated wetlands), riverine (rivers, streams and brooks), marine and lacustrine (lakes and ponds). Wetlands in Burrillville are either palustrine, riverine or lacustrine.

The dominant type of palustrine wetland in Burrillville is the forested wetland, commonly known as the wooded swamp. Most of the wooded swamps are vegetated with broad- leafed deciduous trees and include a variety of species including red maples, gum, oak and others. Wooded swamps dominated by evergreens are also found in Burrillville. Two extensive evergreen swamps are found to the north and west of the Wilson Reservoir in the western part of Town. White pine, Atlantic white cedar, and hemlock are the dominant species in evergreen swamps.

Moderate Constraint Soils



Map 2

Source: 1997, RIGIS

Legend

- roads
- water
- busoi96 selection

0 1,6253,250 6,500 Feet

4

The scrub/shrub swamp, is another wetland type within the palustrine ecological system, found in Burrillville. Though not as common as the wooded swamp, the scrub/shrub swamp is found in most areas of the Town. They are characterized by a dominance of shrubs or tree saplings less than 20 feet tall, broad-leafed shrubs and other low growing plants including bottombush, sweetgale, highbush blueberry, swamp azalea, winterberries, and many others. Scrub/shrub swamps are often intermixed with emergent wetlands which are vegetated by nonpersistent grasses, rushes, sedges, and other herbaceous or grass-like plants.[4]

Local Wetland Regulation - Burrillville's Zoning Ordinance provides wetland protection relating to building lots containing wetlands, individual sewage disposal system proximity to wetlands, and impervious surfaces.

Rhode Island Freshwater Wetlands Act - This Act requires that a permit be obtained from RIDEM (Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management) Freshwater Wetlands Section before any freshwater wetland is altered in any way. Filling, grading, clearing of vegetation or construction is considered alteration of a wetland.[5]

The Act protects land that is clearly wet, such as ponds, rivers, marshes, streams and bogs, as well as those areas which may seem dry for much of the year, such as wooded swamps, where water is not observed on the surface, and areas subject to storm flowage and flooding. The law also considers as wetlands, certain areas which might be dry all year round, such as the area 50 feet around ponds, marshes, swamps and bogs, along with the area 100 feet from flowing bodies of water less than 10 feet in width and the area 200 feet from flowing bodies of water greater than 10 feet in width. The Town has the option of placing more restrictive regulations upon wetlands within its boundaries, but may not require less setback than that required by the State.

Surface Water Resources - A critical issue in all Rhode Island communities, the question of water supply and quality is also important to Burrillville residents, as indicated in the 1990 citizen survey. When asked about the ability of existing regulations to protect the Town's water quality, many respondents were unsure (24 percent), while the remainder split, 39 percent agreeing, 35 percent disagreeing. Those who said the regulations did not adequately protect water quality were asked which water bodies needed additional protective measures. The response receiving the highest number of mentions was "all" the lakes, ponds, rivers and streams. The list of water

4 U.S. Department of the Interior Fish and Wildlife Service. Wetlands of Rhode Island. September 1989.
5 Freshwater Wetlands Act Information Sheet, Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management.

bodies which respondents specifically mentioned, beyond those which were already listed included:

- Echo Lake
- Clear Brook;
- Mill Pond;
- Sucker Pond;
- Round Top Pond;
- Brook Pond;
- Harris Pond;
- Tarkiln Pond;
- Brothers Pond; and,
- Fish Pond.

Burrillville is included in the Blackstone River Basin, one of three major drainage basins in Rhode Island. Portions of western Burrillville are in the Five-Mile River sub-basin which is part of the larger Thames River Basin. The majority of land area in Burrillville drains to the Clear River or to brooks which eventually flow into the Clear River. The flow from the Clear and Chepachet Rivers join in eastern Burrillville to form the Branch River which flows generally north-east out of Burrillville and joins the Blackstone River in North Smithfield.

Burrillville is bisected generally north and south by a system of rivers. A number of brooks enter this system from the north and south. The river system starts with the Clear River which originates in Wallum Lake in the northwest part of the Town. The Clear River flows south into the Wilson Reservoir and is joined by Dry Arm and Hemlock and Brooks. The extreme northern portions of the River are classified as A-Type water.

For inland surface waters, class A can be considered for existing or proposed drinking water supply, fish and wildlife habitat, recreational use, agricultural use, industrial supply and other purposes. Class B can be considered for bathing, fish and wildlife habitat, recreational use, agricultural use, industrial supply and other legitimate uses, including navigation. Class C can be considered for recreational use, fish and wildlife agricultural and industrial water supply, industrial cooling, sewerage discharges and other legitimate uses, including navigation.

Clear River is downgraded to C-type water after flowing into a relatively flat swampy area, and is upgraded to B-type water shortly after it leaves the swamp. The River meanders easterly after leaving the Wilson Reservoir and is ponded at a dam in the Laurel Hill area. The Pascoag River, Class-B water flowing from the Pascoag Reservoir, joins the Clear River from the south, and

shortly thereafter flows into a wetland area where it is joined by Mowry Brook from the north. The River takes a more northerly course and flows under several roads before joining the Nipmuc River in Graniteville Village.

From this confluence the River flows in a southerly direction and backs up into a millpond which is dammed in Harrisville. From this dam the flow meanders east for approximately a mile and is joined by Herring Brook which flows south out of Spring Lake, and is Class-A water. At Whipple Road the flow turns south and after going under Route 102, is down graded to Class-C water. Clear River joins the Chepachet River (Class-B water) flowing from the Chepachet Reservoir, to form the Branch River.

The channel widens at the confluence and begins to flow in a northeasterly direction. The Branch's flow is interrupted by a mill dam in the Oakland area and flows under Route 102 before reaching the apex of its northerly tract in Burrillville. Tuckey Brook enters the flow from the north in a small wetland area before the River meanders back to a southeasterly course. The River enters Slatersville Reservoir which is Class-B water after flowing under Douglas Pike in the Nasonville area of the Town.

The Branch River and several reaches of the Clear River in Burrillville are contaminated by industrial and municipal wastewater. Organic compounds are the principal contaminants; they cause local deficiencies in dissolved oxygen during low-flow and elevated coliform-bacteria counts at high and low flow periods. A reduction in the number of industrial-waste discharges during the past two decades and expansion and upgrading of sewerage treatment facilities have led to a corresponding increase in the quality of water in the Branch and Clear Rivers.[6]

There are several other small brooks in Town, most of which originate in wetlands or ponds and flow into neighboring Towns in Rhode Island, Connecticut and Massachusetts. Several of these brooks have been given water quality classifications, and are listed in Table II-1 along with other currently named watercourses.

6 U.S. Geological Survey Water Supply Paper 2300.

Table II-1
Small Brooks and Watercourses
Burrillville, Rhode Island

Name of System	Origin	Destination	Class
Chockalog River	Cedar Swamp & Greene	Nipmuc River	A
	River, Mass.		
Croff Farm Brook	Wetlands System	Whitman Pond, CT	B
	Buck Hill Mgt.Area		
Keach Brook	Pond and Wetland	Quaddick Res, CT	B
	System		
	Pulaski St. Park		
Tarkiln Brook	Wetlands in Glocester	Slatersville Res.	B
	and Burrillville, Paine Bk.		
Leeson Brook	Wetlands in Buck Hill	Cold Spring Bk.&	A
	Mgt. Area	Croff Farm Bk.	
Cold Spring Brook	Wetlands in Buck Hill	Wallum Lake	A
	Mgt. Area		
Dry Arm Brook	Round Pond	Clear River	B
Iron Mine Brook	Wetlands Pulaski	Clear River	B
	State forest		
Leland Brook	Wetlands near Pulaski	Wilson Reservoir	B
	State Forest		
Mowry Brook	Wetlands north of Stone	Clear River	B
	Barn Road		
Round Top Brook	Chase Pond, Mass.	Nipmuc River	A
Herring Brook	Spring Lake	Clear River	B
Hemlock Brook	Wetlands in Mass.	Clear River &	A
		Tinkerville Bk	
Tuckey Brook	Wetlands east of	Branch River	B
	Black Hut Mgt Area		

Source: Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management.

Burrillville's landscape is dotted with lakes and ponds. Some are manmade, but most are natural water bodies left by the receding Laurentide glacier. The Pascoag Reservoir is the largest water body, approximately 424 acres in Burrillville. None of these surface water bodies are used for drinking water supply. Other large water bodies found in Town are listed in Table II-2.

Table II-2
Major Water Bodies

Water Body	**Area** (Acres)	**Water Quality Classification**
Pascoag Reservoir	424	B
Wallum Lake	275	A
Wilson Reservoir	109	B
Spring Lake	95	B
Wakefield Pond	76	B
Slatersville Reservoir	67	B
Sucker Pond	55	B
Un-named Water Bodies	54	B
Wilbur Pond	23	B
Round Pond	15	B
Peck Pond	13	B
Big Round Top Pond	7	A
Ross Pond	4	B
Chapham Pond	3	B
Gilleran Pond	3	B
Little Round Top Pond	2	B
Tarklin Pond	NA	B
Total Area	**1,225**	NA

Source: http://www.state.ri.us/dem/pubs/regs/REGS/WATER/h20qlty.pdf; Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management

Lakes and ponds in Burrillville are used for a variety of uses including boating, fishing, swimming and other active and passive types of recreation.

Groundwater - The area beneath the land surface can be divided into two zones. In the upper zone, known as the unsaturated zone, open fractures in rocks or open spaces between soil particles are only partially filled with water. Beneath this zone all the open spaces are filled with water. This completely filled zone is termed the *saturated zone*. Water within this zone is called *groundwater*, and its upper boundary is known as the *water table*.

Swamps, streams, ponds and wetlands are places where the land surface intersects with the water table. Under natural conditions, these are discharge areas for groundwater, not recharge areas. Wells penetrate the saturated groundwater zone some distance below the water table and

intercept this slow moving resource before it reaches natural points of discharge, such as wetlands and streams.[7]

A groundwater reservoir is defined as an area of stratified drift with a saturated thickness of 40 feet or greater, and an average transmissivity of 4,000 square feet per day or greater.[8] Stratified drift is unconsolidated, sorted sediment composed of layers of sand, gravel, silt or clay, deposited by meltwater from glaciers. Coarse-grained stratified drift contains space between the gravel and sand particles which can hold large amounts of water without restricting its flow. A thick deposit of stratified drift has an excellent chance of yielding large quantities of water.[9]

Two types of water sources, direct and indirect recharge, replenish stratified drift aquifers. The major source of direct recharge is precipitation that falls directly on and infiltrates into the ground, flows through the unsaturated zone to the water table, and then down the hydraulic gradient to streams and ponds. Under natural conditions, groundwater will move from the aquifer to the stream. If a pumping well is located near the stream, the water table gradient may be reversed and water from the stream may infiltrate the aquifer and flow toward the center of the pumping, and is defined as indirect or induced recharge.

Glacial till, a second type of aquifer, functions primarily as recharge to underlying bedrock or down gradient stratified drift aquifers.[10] Till typically consists of unsorted boulders, gravel, sand, silt and clay, and exhibits a low permeability. The average thickness of till is 20 feet. Wells dug in till have low and often variable yields.

Burrillville is one of 14 Rhode Island communities which depend entirely upon groundwater for its drinking water source.

The Town of Burrillville is underlain by the Upper Branch River Groundwater Reservoir, an extensive primary recharge coarse-grained and layered stratified drift aquifer with a water saturated thickness of 10 feet or greater (see Map 3). This groundwater aquifer is classified by

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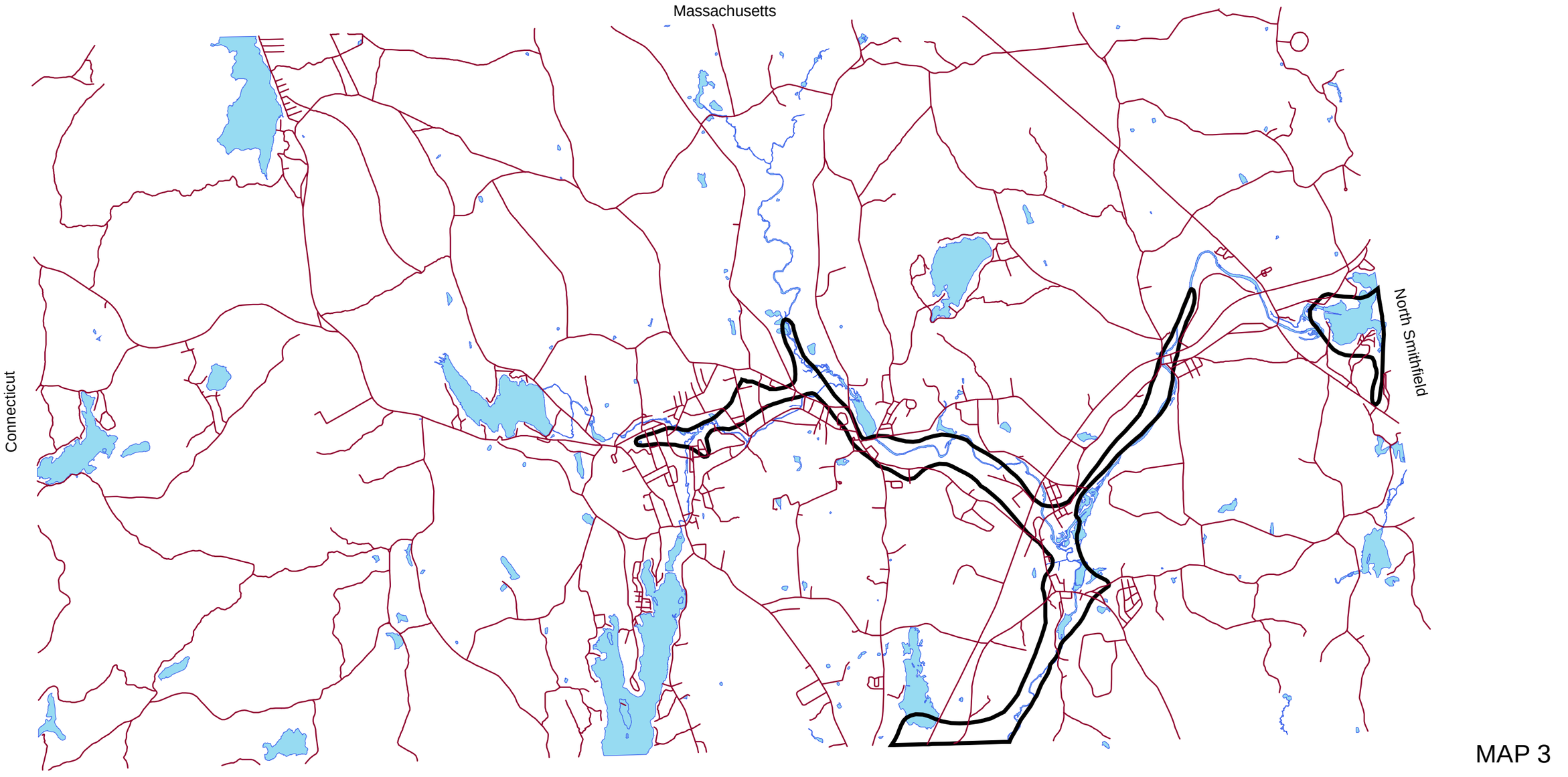
7 Protecting Connecticut's Groundwater - A Guide to Groundwater Protection for Local Officials, Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection, p. 4.

8 The State of the State's Groundwater, State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, Department of Environmental Management, April 1990.

9 Protecting Connecticut's Groundwater - A Guide to Groundwater Protection for Local Officials, Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection, p. 4.

10 The State of the State's Groundwater, State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, Department of Environmental Management, April 1990.

Groundwater Reservoir



MAP 3

Source; 1997, RIGIS

Legend

- roads
- gw_reservoirs
- water

0 2,200 4,400 8,800 Feet

RIDEM as GAA, indicating "groundwater resources that are known or presumed to be suitable for drinking water use without treatment."

Use of Groundwater in Burrillville - Fire Districts in the Town currently tap its groundwater resources for domestic water use purposes through a series of active production wells. There are three (6) production wells in the Harrisville Fire District, which draw water from the Clear River Aquifer. The transmissivity in the area where these wells are drilled is as high as 5,000 sq. ft./day. The Pascoag Fire District also has two wells in the Clear River Aquifer that are currently not able to yield potable due to MTBE (gasoline additive) contamination in the ground water. These wells are capable of yields of up to 600 gallons per minute (gpm) jointly.

Potential Sources of Groundwater Contamination - Groundwater quality may be affected by "point" sources of pollution (coming from a specific source) and "nonpoint" (coming from disperse activities). Point pollution sources identified by RIDEM in the Inventory of Known and Potential Sources of Groundwater Contamination include landfills, dumps, underground injection control sites, surface impoundments, salt storage sites, leaking underground storage tanks, and other miscellaneous sites. The inventory is not all-encompassing - additional potential contamination sources are likely to exist. In Burrillville, the known and potential pollution sites include (all of these site are either undergoing environmental remediation or environmental study and analysis in advance of remediation):

- Former Mobile Station (Main Street, Pascoag)
- Union Avenue garage - salt storage;
- Burrillville landfill;
- Whipple Avenue salt storage area;
- Burrillville Wastewater Treatment Plant;
- Burrillville salt storage area;
- Refinement International (Mapleville) - inactive surface impoundment;
- Boliden Metech (Mapleville) - inactive injection well;

One significant hazardous waste site is located in Burrillville, the Western Sand and Gravel site on Route 7 at the North Smithfield Town line. A portion of the quarry was used for liquid waste disposal, and studies show contamination of ground and surface water around Tarkiln Brook. This is an EPA Superfund site, and a public water system has been constructed to serve homes in the area.

Nonpoint sources of pollution include pesticides, fertilizers, septic systems, road salt application, radon and others. Most of Burrillville has been identified as "threatened" in terms of the impact that nonpoint pollution has on its groundwater resources. These are areas where groundwater is presumed suitable for drinking water use, except for localized degradation. Nonpoint sources are prevalent in these areas, and they threaten groundwater quality.[11]

Groundwater Protection in Burrillville - Groundwater protection activities in Burrillville are administered both locally and by the State Department of Environmental Management.

The Town has delineated aquifer protection districts in the Zoning Ordinance in order to prevent contamination of this valuable resource. The existing Aquifer Protection District prohibits six (6) specific uses within overlay district boundaries, and all uses not specifically permitted, are prohibited. Residential densities in Aquifer Protection Districts are set according to the transmissivity of the underlying aquifer.[12] Areas with higher transmissivity have lower densities. RIDEM has embarked on a program of revising aquifer and recharge area boundaries based upon more recent techniques of defining these areas. It is suggested that the Town review the revised boundaries at the earliest possible time, and make the necessary revisions to the groundwater aquifer zoning district boundaries.

The State administers the Underground Storage Tank and Leaking Underground Storage Tank program, Oil Spill Emergency Response and Oil Storage programs, groundwater investigations, groundwater classification, the Wellhead Protection program and private well drilling regulations. Underground storage tank regulations require that tank owners and operators obtain certificates of registration from RIDEM and follow defined procedures for proper closure of tanks no longer in service. More stringent requirements apply to existing facilities located in sole source aquifers as designated by EPA or for new facilities located in an area where a leak could affect groundwater or surface water used for present or future public water supplies.[13]

The Wellhead Protection Program is a program administered by the Groundwater Section of RIDEM to prevent contamination of groundwater resources that are used by public drinking water systems. It applies to public wells which provide drinking water to 15 or more service connections, or regularly serves an average of at least 25 individuals daily, at least 60 days of the

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11 The State of the State's Groundwater, State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, Department of Environmental Management, April 1990.

12 Transmissivity is the rate at which water flows through the ground.

13 The State of the State's Groundwater, State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, Department of Environmental Management, April 1990.

year. This includes community wells that serve resident populations such as trailer parks, nursing homes, major municipal wells, and non-community wells that serve hotels, restaurants, schools etc.

RIDEM has provided the local Fire Districts with wellhead protection area delineations and other technical assistance, and reviews the local protection programs. The Districts responsible for developing the wellhead protection plan, including potential pollution source inventories, protection strategies and contingency plans. Plans for various districts were submitted to RIDEM by Pascoag in March 1994; and, Harrisville in 1995. Management options include public education, land acquisition, groundwater monitoring, and groundwater amendments to local zoning ordinances and local regulations for design and operating standards.

Most recently, as of November, 2007, the Harrisville Fire District (HFD) updated its Water Supply System Management Plan which contains admirable goals, policies and actions that collectively work to protect groundwater quality and quantity, a major component of which is public education and awareness.

Water Quality Protection can be preserved through dissemination about the hydrologic cycle and proper handling of household chemical; Demand Management is controlled through pamphlets containing general information on the system, leak, sources of lost water, and information on consumption and daily activities. During times of water conservation, the HFD relies on advertisements, public service announcements or the town's website.

Estimated future demand is based on projections contained in the Town's Comprehensive Plan with future projections being conservatively high such as a 5.8% growth rate between 2010 and 2020.

A complete executive summary of the Water Supply System Management Plan can be seen in Appendix I of Chapter III Community Services and Facilities.

Stormwater Management

The Environmental Protection Agency's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES), Phase II Rules Interpretation requires "small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems or MS4's" to obtain permits and establish a storm water management program that is intended to improve waterbodies by reducing the quantity of pollutants that can enter storm sewer systems during storm events.

The State RIDEM mandated that all MS4's adopt Stormwater Management Plan that prescribes various goals, policies and actions related to minimizing stormwater contaminants as well as attenuating stormwater runoff.

Burrillville took a progressive approach by constructing two porous parking lots within town; one serves the newly expanded Police Station with the other being within the Stillwater Mill Redevelopment District is depicted here:

Studies have shown water quality to decline after impervious surfaces exceed 10% of total land coverage. Burrillville is actually improving its water quality by introducing porous pavement into its former mill sites.

A copy of the Town's Stormwater Management Plan may be obtained from the Planning Office.

Floods and Floodplains

Floods in Burrillville occur in every season of the year. Spring floods are common and are caused by rainfall combined with snowmelt. Floods in late summer and fall are usually the result of hurricanes or other storms, and winter floods often result from occasional thaws, particularly in

years of heavy snowfall. Figure II-3 represents flood hazard zone A, a special flood hazard area inundated by 100-year floods.

Areas considered to be in Flood Hazard zone A exist along most of the major rivers, brooks, swamps, lakes and ponds in Burrillville. The broadest areas of land subject to flooding are found in the floodplains north of the confluence of the Clear and the Nipmuc Rivers in Graniteville and south of the confluence of the Clear and Chepachet River in the Oakland area. Another broad band of land which is subject to flooding from a 100-year storm is found along the Clear River north of the Wilson Reservoir.

A floodplain management plan was conducted for the Pascoag Reservoir dams. This study conducted by U.S.D.A Soil Conservation Service in 1989, identifies areas that would be inundated by a dam breach, areas that would be inundated by a 100 year flood, and floodplain management alternatives that need to be considered to minimize damage from a 100 year flood event.

Vegetation and Wildlife - The vegetation and animal populations of Burrillville's uplands reflect the past use of the land and this past use was determined to a great extent, by the underlying soils. Although much of the land that was once farmed has reverted back to woodland, man still has an impact on the types of vegetation and wildlife which inhabit an area. Forests were cleared in areas where the soils were suitable for crop and livestock. These areas are mainly found in the valleys. Stone walls found in second growth forests are evidence that much of Burrillville's land had once been cleared for agricultural uses.

Today much of Burrillville is forested with mixed hardwood forests. Like most of the state, Burrillville's forest are dominated by the oak-hickory forest type. Low to medium grades of White, Scarlet, Black, and Red Oak stands dominate the mixed hardwood stands, along with a small percentage of several species of Hickory. Productivity in most areas is low but most stands exceed the 20 cubic feet per acre per year minimum which designates forestland as being commercially viable. Stands of high grade Northern Red Oak (*Quercus rubra)* and other hard woods are found in areas of the Town where soils are suited for woodland management and production. Woodbridge soils found north of the Wilson reservoir and east of Wallum Lake have

high site indexes for northern red oak.[14] The White Oak population in Burrillville and around the state has been declining, partially due to defoliation impacts from gypsy moth caterpillars.

The Elm-Ash-Red Maple forest type is also wide spread in Burrillville, and accounts for 28 percent of commercial forestland in the State. The Red Maple is the dominant species in this forest type with a small percentage of white ash. The American elm has been decimated by the Dutch Elm disease, and is essentially no longer a part of this forest type. This forest type is found throughout the Town in soils where available moisture is high.

The State manages close to 6,000 acres of land in Burrillville, most of it maintained as forest land. The State has a firewood program for people who burn wood for heating and other purposes. State foresters show wood lots to interested parties, and the high bidder is allowed to take fuel wood which has been marked for removal. Much of the fuel wood is taken from areas where heavy gypsy moth infestation has left a stand of dead or dying trees. The State also conducts operations aimed at improving wildlife habitat in parts of State management areas. These operations usually involve clear cutting small patches of land. New growth in cleared areas provide food for a variety of browsing animals, and piles of brush and treetops provide shelter for other small animals. The Boy Scouts of America own close to 1,100 acres of land in the Wallum Lake area of Burrillville. Much of this land is forested, and is utilized for research and education.

Stonewalls dividing fields are often lined with native trees and shrubs, becoming narrow ribbons of woodland crisscrossing the agricultural land. These field borders, and upland areas associated with them, support a variety of wildlife including pheasants, quail, redtail hawks, sparrow hawks, doves, and woodcock.

In addition to avian species, these areas are also inhabited by a number of mammals which typically exist in Rhode Island, i.e., fox, rabbit, skunk, woodchuck, deer, etc. Wetlands and the land immediately surrounding them are often left in their natural state and provide another valuable type of wildlife habitat. Animals utilizing these habitats include wood ducks, black ducks, mallards, snipe, rails, herons, kingfishers, marsh hawks, muskrats, mink and otter. The safe movement of wildlife throughout the Town is of concern, especially as the outlying areas become more developed.

[14] Site index is a measure of productivity which denotes the height of a tree in relation to its age. The soils mentioned above have a site index of 72 for northern red oak which means that a 50-year-old tree in this soil will typically reach a height of 72 feet.

Rare and Endangered Species and Habitats - The historical and current status of species of plants and animals suspected of being rare or declining has been monitored for the past decade by the Rhode Island Natural Heritage Program (NHP). There are approximately 49 species of plants and animals in Burrillville which the NHP has cataloged. Species are assigned to one of seven status categories. The Federally Endangered and Federally Threatened species are given the highest status in regard to protection, followed by State Endangered, State Threatened, State Interest, Species of Concern and State Extirpated species. There are no known Federally Endangered or Federally Threatened species in Burrillville. However, there are a number of state status species in the Town. A list of these species is found on the following website: http://www.state.ri.us/dem/programs/bpoladm/plandev/heritage/index.htm

The NHP has inventoried habitats where rare species are found and have made management recommendations to ensure their continued survival in those habitats. Sites of particular interest in Burrillville include the following:

1. The Clear River area provides habitat for a number of state-listed rare plants, three of which may be known from only a single locality in the state.

2. The wetland in Leeson Brook, contained within the Buck Hill Management Area, is a site for nesting Great Blue Herons.

3. The Pulaski/Washington State Forest Complex provides a large, relatively undisturbed forest habitat for several rare birds and amphibians.

4. The wetland just west of the North Smithfield line and contiguous to the Massachusetts border, generally known as Screech Hole Bog, contains a rare Level Fen community, several rare plant occurrences, and one of the few remaining populations of a rare invertebrate.

5. The Cedar Swamp Pond and Croff Farm Brook complex represents one of the most significant areas of biological diversity in Rhode Island. At least 15 state-listed rare species occur; such species as Black Spruce, American Larch, and Creeping Snowberry, commonly found much farther north, co-occur with Inundated Horned Rush and the Horsetail Spike-Rush, a regionally rare Coastal Plain Species which range southward to the Gulf Coast.

All of the sites listed above would benefit from additional protection in the form of protective zoning, placement of conservation restrictions, or acquisition of buffer zones.[15]

[15] RI Department of Environmental Management Planning and Development Department. A Survey of the State's Scenic Areas. 1990.

Agricultural Land - Prime agricultural land is defined as: land best suited for producing food, fee, forage, fiber and oilseed crops, and also available for these uses.[16] (see Map 4). It has the soil quality, growing season, and moisture supply needed to produce high yields of crops economically when treated and managed, including water management, according to modern farming methods. In Burrillville, the Soil Conservation Service has identified prime agricultural soils throughout the Town. Small pockets of prime farmland soils are located in all areas of the Town, most of the larger areas are located to the east and south of Harrisville. Farmland of State-wide Importance is land that is nearly prime farmland and that economically produces high yields of crops when treated and managed according to modern farming methods. Large contiguous areas of important farmland are found in the center of Town, running from the Rhode Island/Massachusetts border to the Burrillville-Glocester Town line.

Farming has not been a staple of the Burrillville economy since the early 19th century. Only a few farms have survived into the twentieth century, most of the early farms have been reclaimed by forest. Despite a small agrarian population, preserving the Town's agricultural heritage, as well as protecting that land which produces food for local and regional consumption should be carefully considered. It is important for the Town to look upon farming as something other than a transient use, soon to be replaced by urban development.

Visual and Aesthetic Resources - Visual resources, simply defined, are represented by the character of the physical environment and the perception we have of that particular environment. Research into human perception has established that visual quality in the environment makes a significant contribution to a community's overall quality of life. The character and interplay between topographic features, natural and man-made landmarks, the form of open space and development, as well as historic and culturally meaningful structures and sites, creates a community identity; what landscape architect, J.B. Jackson, referred to as "a sense of the place."

Incongruous elements in, or aberrations to this perceived landscape or the lack of a perceivable form and order adversely affects residents' and visitors' attitudes toward the community. As such, the erosion of the visual and cultural character of a community can have not only psychological impacts, but also very real economic impacts through depreciated real estate and failing marketability to prospective new businesses and residents.

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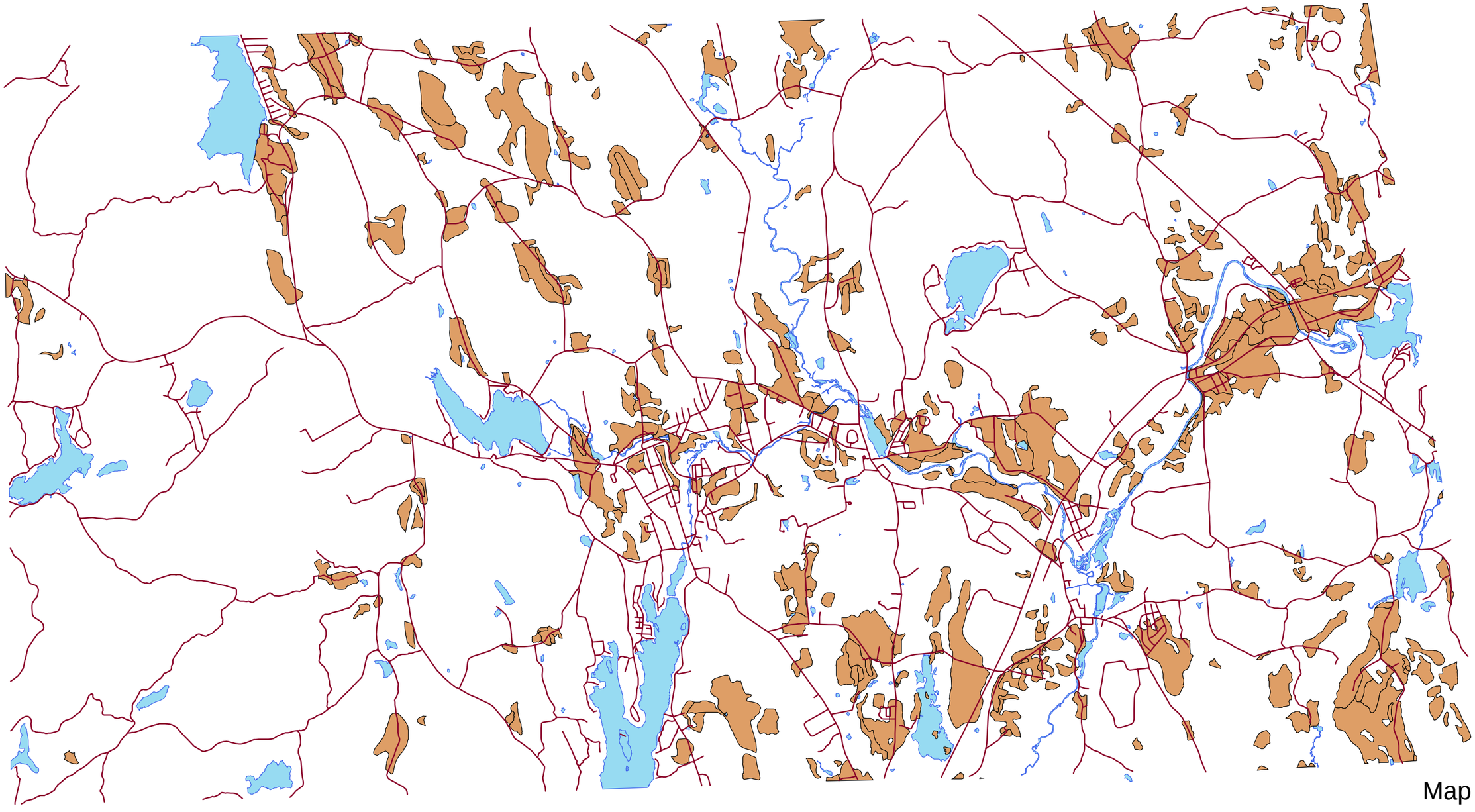
[16] The source of this information, and that which follows regarding the definition of prime agricultural land is from the U.S.D.A. Soil Conservation Service, Eastern Rhode Island Conservation District Newport County. Important Farmlands.

Prime Agricultural Soils
Farmland Group = 1



Map 4

Source: 1997, RIGIS

Legend

- roads
- water
- Prime Agricultural Soils

0 1,6253,250 6,500 Feet

4

Too often, concern for the visual environment has been dismissed as being a nonessential appurtenance to land use decision-making. Such an attitude is both archaic and unresponsive to public need. This fact is clearly demonstrated by citizen outcry against development projects that fail to fit into the character of the Burrillville landscape. The citizen survey indicated that the characteristics of Burrillville which people liked best were visual qualities: its small town character and natural beauty.

A detailed inventory and evaluation of Burrillville's visual resources is beyond the scope of this study. Such an endeavor requires a separate comprehensive study that should be undertaken in the future. However, for the purpose of developing a Town policy toward visual quality, a generalization of important elements is provided.

In descriptive terms, Burrillville's urban form includes a dense urban center surrounded by suburban residential uses and forested open spaces beyond. Two such urban centers exist, downtown Pascoag and Harrisville. Other smaller, yet definable villages also dot the Town and are still recognized by residents.

Areas such as streams, rivers, ponds, open farmland and fields lend natural definition to the Town and it is these elements which create a distinct, identifiable place.

Removal of large areas of existing vegetation, walls and rolling terrain, and replacing it with unplanned suburban-style layout of dwellings, placed upon clear-cut landscapes will eventually destroy the Town’s natural character and spatial definition, thereby forever changing the basic character of Burrillville. Certainly this is an important issue to guide our decision making when planning the Town’s future. Both the Comprehensive Plan and building regulations must be regularly monitored for their effectiveness in preserving the values and characteristics which define this environment.

Open space is especially critical in Burrillville to:

- Provide cleared undeveloped open spaces in a landscape dominated by forested or urbanized areas;
- Create unique edges between forests and cultivated or pastured fields;
- Maintain the rural character that is Burrillville's visual and cultural heritage; and,
- Provide visual counterpoint to the urbanized image generated by commercial development.

Similar to open space land, wetlands and watercourses provide essential open space in forested or urbanized environments. In addition to the open space and rural character issues, water resources have special inherent characteristics that have been documented as providing highly valued visual experiences. Steps must be taken to preserve the natural and aesthetic values these water resources offer and make them accessible to the public.

The Town of Burrillville is characterized by areas of unique natural beauty. Views of rural areas, ridges, historic districts, farmlands, wetlands and wooded areas, together with rivers, ponds, reservoirs, and streams give the Town its special character. An inventory of the Town's scenic landscapes was compiled as part of a Statewide study by the RIDEM Planning and Development Department. Sites with "noteworthy" or "distinctive" landscapes were identified using a variety of methods. Approximately 4,800 acres on eight sites were identified as noteworthy or distinctive within Burrillville. Sites include:

- Mill and grounds around Wallum Lake;
- The sequence of old farms and fields on East Ironstone Road;
- Views of woods around Round Pond;
- Pine forests and shoreline of Wakefield Pond;
- Town Farm Road at Wilson Reservoir with its surrounding pine forests and interesting shoreline; and,
- The noteworthy vegetation and residential development on Colwell Road.

The survey of scenic inventories is limited in that only sites which are visible from Town roads are considered. Other important views and vistas not identified in the State's inventory include:

- The view from Benson Mountain;
- The area along Knibb Road and Jackson Schoolhouse Road;
- The mill pond and waterfall at East Avenue in Harrisville;
- Harrisville Center;
- The Oakland Triangle (corner of Whipple Avenue and Victory Highway); and,
- The Snake Hill ledges in Oakland.

Additional scenic landscapes found in less visited areas are recognized to exist throughout the Town, and should receive equal attention to those identified above. This may be on a case by case basis in terms of future preservation efforts.

Protection of these visually important spaces may be achieved through a variety of techniques, including:

- Acquisition of important and sensitive lands;
- Conservation restrictions - limits what an owner can do with their property and/or enables others to use the property for specific purposes. State law defines such restrictions. Conservation restrictions may be drafted to conform to almost any situation, such as a restriction against cutting trees or removing stone walls.
- Purchase of development rights - acquisition of a conservation easement for the rights of development of a parcel to ensure preservation of the property as an undeveloped open space in perpetuity.
- Visual easements - a conservation restriction or easement which protects the visual or scenic elements of a parcel of land;
- Transfer of development rights - offers a person who's right to develop is restricted an opportunity to sell those rights to the owner of land in an area where the local government is prepared to allow development.
- Revise zoning and subdivision regulations to include scenic criteria and design guidelines such as the following:[17]
    - Structures should not be placed in open fields;
    - Buildings should be located adjacent to tree lines and wooded field edges so as to blend with the natural landscape;
    - Homes should not front directly onto off-site streets;
    - Where clustering will yield open space that can remain in active agriculture, its use should be explored and possibly required;
    - Existing farm and logging roads should be incorporated into subdivision design, linkages to open spaces, etc.;
    - Stone rows and tree lines should be preserved whenever possible;

[17] Preserving Rural Character, Fred Heyer, American Planning Association, Planning Advisory Service Report No. 429, and December 1990.

- Existing agricultural structures such as barns and silos should be preserved where feasible and maintained;

- Roads should follow existing contours to reduce severe earthwork;

- Disturbance for the construction of roads, stormwater basins and other improvements should be kept at a minimum and re-landscaped;

- A minimum setback from lakes or ponds should be consistently maintained;

- The maximum linear disturbance per lakefront lot should be limited, including docks, bulkheads, decks, walkways and beach areas;

- Structures should not be placed on ridge lines;

- Trees on ridges should not be removed;

- Water towers should not be placed on top of ridgelines;

- The height of water towers should be limited to an elevation below the crown line of mature on-site trees;

- Naturally vegetated areas between the new buildings and roads should be preserved and their alteration restricted;

- The creation of extensive property line to property line lawn areas should be discouraged;

- Building setback lines should be located to encourage development in the most suitable areas for development;

- Building should be restricted in steep slope areas that require extensive clearing, and earthwork;

- The maximum amount of natural vegetation on sloped sites should be preserved as much as possible;

- Encourage the use of natural materials for engineered structures such as curbing, culverts, walls and outlet structures.

• Public education.

II.2 Natural Resource Issues

The following issues relating to natural resources have been identified through the planning process, and are the focus of the goals, policies and recommendations of this element.

Topography

- The irregular pattern of hills provides for scenic topography, but the rugged slopes and rock outcrops constrain development.

- There are relatively few large areas of slope having severe restrictions to development (in excess of 15 percent). Areas of steep slope are found throughout the Town, but are more prevalent along western and eastern borders.

- The Town's Soil Erosion and Sediment Control ordinance should be updated to reflect the State's model as described in Chapter 45-46-5 of the Rhode Island General Laws.

Soils

- Development in Burrillville is limited by its poor soil conditions. The land is underlain to a large extent by soils considered to have high or severe constraints to development by the presence of a high water table, bedrock, slope greater than 15 percent, hydric conditions (wetlands), rock and/or sand.

- Prime agricultural soils best suited for producing food, forage, fiber and oilseed crops should be preserved to the greatest extent possible, particularly when associated with an active agricultural use.

- Soil erosion is identified by the Town as a major concern, particularly related to new residential development and road building.

- In any construction activities, the Town should comply with the best management practices presented in the Rhode Island Soil Erosion and Sediment Control Handbook.

- Enforcement of the existing soil erosion and sedimentation ordinance has been irregular. The Town should vigorously enforce the ordinance.

Wetlands

- Approximately 1,450 to 1,500 acres of Burrillville land area is considered to be classified as regulated wetland. The dominant type of palustrine wetland in Burrillville is the forested wetland, commonly known as the wooded swamp.

- Burrillville's Zoning Ordinance provides wetland protection relating to building lots containing wetlands, individual sewage disposal system proximity to wetlands, and impervious surfaces.

- The Rhode Island Freshwater Wetlands Act requires that a permit be obtained before any freshwater wetland is altered. Filling, grading, clearing of vegetation or construction is considered alteration of a wetland.[18] The Town has the option of placing more restrictive regulations upon wetlands, but may not require less setback than that required by the State.

- A wetland just west of the North Smithfield line, contiguous to the Massachusetts border, generally known as Screech Hole Bog, contains rare plant communities, several rare plant occurrences, and one of the few remaining populations of a rare invertebrate. Protection of this area should be a priority.

- The Town has no clear policy on wetland alteration, i.e., it is not evident whether the Town's policy is no wetland loss or no net loss from alteration etc.

Surface Water

- Preservation of water quality in Burrillville's lakes and ponds is of critical concern to most citizens, whether it be for future drinking water, recreational or natural resource preservation reasons. Watershed/lake protection regulations can be adopted for three general purposes:

  - Protecting the lake by regulating watershed activities that cause erosion and pollution problems.

  - Controlling development to protect the aesthetics and benefits of the shoreland. and,

  - Regulating the lake usage to reduce conflicts among swimmers, boaters, fishing enthusiasts and others.

- Some or all of the following measures should be considered to help preserve high water quality in the Town's surface water bodies:

[18] Freshwater Wetlands Act Information Sheet, Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management.

- Amendments to the zoning ordinance - in certain watershed districts, modify requirements on lot size, height, floor area ratio etc.

- Cluster zoning - planned unit development (uses regulated through specific design standards and performance criteria, rather than through the traditional lot by lot approach of conventional subdivision and zoning controls.)

- To preserve their natural beauty, restrict certain lakes and ponds to limited uses: i.e., non-use of motor boats; flyfishing only; etc.

- Lake monitoring - regular monitoring of certain chemical/physical parameters of lakes/ponds of concern - University of Rhode Island has a lake-monitoring program.

- Encourage best management practices in construction etc. - for example, porous pavements, street cleaning in communities near lakes; streambank stabilization; surface roughening (groove the soil along the contour of a slope to spread out the runoff), etc.

- Encourage the use of modern ISDS technologies.

- Provide municipal sewers to those lakefront areas which are currently developed and whose dated septic systems are affecting the water quality.

Groundwater

- Burrillville depends entirely upon groundwater as its drinking water source.

- Principal sources of groundwater contamination are waste disposal sites, underground fuel-storage tanks, surface impoundments of liquid wastes, solid waste landfills, septic systems and cesspools, storage areas for highway deicing salt, and oil and chemical spills. The principal groundwater contaminants derived from these sources are volatile organic chemicals, pesticides, metals, nitrate, sodium and chloride.[19]

- The Town should consider more specificity in zoning language regarding groundwater protection and land uses.

- Public education - particularly important in a community which takes all of its drinking water from groundwater sources.

[19] National Water Summary 1986, Groundwater Quality, Rhode Island, U.S. Geological Survey Water Supply Paper 2325.

Farmland

- Between 1966 and 1990, the amount of land classified as active agriculture decreased from 1,865 acres to 1,006 acres, a 46 percent decrease. According to RI DEM's Department of Agriculture, Burrillville contains only 548.86 acres of active farmland.[20]

- The Town should work to protect prime agricultural producing land by promoting development on marginal agricultural or non-agricultural land.[21] Various techniques may be considered, including cluster zoning, conservation easements and farmland preservation funds.

- The Town should have a policy stating that existing commercial agricultural areas, prime and State important farmland soils are important to the interest of Burrillville and its residents.

- Consider using the open space set aside provision in subdivision applications to preserve not only wetlands, but also prime/important farmland soils as well.

- Much of Burrillville is forested with mixed hardwood forests. Stands of high grade Northern Red Oak (*Quercus rubra)* and other hard woods are found in areas of the Town where soils are suited for woodland management and production.

- The State manages close to 6,000 acres of land in Burrillville, most of it maintained as forestland. The State has a firewood program for people who burn wood for heating and other purposes.

- Stonewalls and vegetative hedgerows dividing fields and forested upland areas, provide a variety of wildlife habitat; this diversity of wildlife should be preserved.

- The safe movement of wildlife throughout the Town is of concern, especially as the more rural areas are developed.

[20] http://www.state.ri.us/dem/programs/bnatres/agricult/farms99.htm

[21] Town Farmland Protection, Theresa M. Levins, American Farmland Trust, Connecticut Department of Agriculture, page 35, 1987.

- There are no known Federally Endangered or Federally Threatened species in Burrillville. Habitats where rare species are found include the Clear River area; the wetland in Leeson Brook, in the Buck Hill Management Area; the Pulaski/Washington State Forest Complex; the wetland just west of the North Smithfield line and contiguous to the Massachusetts border, generally known as Screech Hole Bog; the Cedar Swamp Pond and Croff Farm Brook complex.

- The sites listed above would benefit from additional protection in the form of protective zoning, placement of conservation restrictions, or acquisition of buffer zones.[22]

Visual

- Replacement of existing vegetation with development can destroy the natural rural character and spatial definition of Burrillville.

- Excessive scale, mass and glaring color of structures, or vegetational clearing and infrastructure construction that does not conform to the form and contour of the terrain can have a substantial negative impact upon the visual character of Burrillville.

- Similar to open space land, wetlands and watercourses provide essential open space in both forested and urbanized environments. In addition to the open space and rural character issues, water resources have special inherent characteristics that have been documented as providing highly valued visual experiences. Steps should be taken to preserve the natural and aesthetic values these water resources provide and make them accessible to the public.

II.3 Cultural Resources

The purpose of the Cultural Resources Element is to protect and preserve the Town's historic resources and to integrate historic preservation into the comprehensive planning process. The Rhode Island Comprehensive Planning and Land Use Regulation Act states that this element "shall include policies for the protection of historic and cultural resources of the municipality and

[22] RI Department of Environmental Management Planning and Development Department. A Survey of the State's Scenic Areas. 1990.

the state. The policies and implementation techniques must be identified for inclusion in the implementation element".

Comprehensive Planning Context - The ultimate intent of the planning effort is to integrate the Cultural Resources Element into the overall Comprehensive Plan. While the element itself is a complete document, with independent recommendations and implementation actions, it also integrates preservation goals with those of other elements and other interests within the Town. This interrelationship makes the plan truly comprehensive, as opposed to a compendium of detached master plans.

The Burrillville Planning Board is the agency charged with primary responsibility for the Comprehensive Plan, with direct assistance from the Comprehensive Planning Commission (CPC). The planning process also requires substantial citizen input. The CPC is composed of representatives of the Planning Board, Conservation Commission, Recreation Commission, Town Council, citizen members, and is open to all major interests and constituencies to work with Town planning staff and consultants to develop the overall comprehensive plan. In addition, the research for the Cultural Resources Element included the participation of the Burrillville Historical and Preservation Society (BHS), the Northwest Villages Conservancy (NVC) and the Rhode Island Historical Preservation Commission (HPC).

Context for Preservation Planning - The Cultural Resources Element responds to the following questions posed by the HPC:

1. What historic resources exist? Where are they located? In what fashion do they relate to the past and future development of the community?
2. What preservation activities have already taken place or are in progress? How effective have they been?
3. Have the identified resources been adequately documented and evaluated? Are there resources (or entire groups of resources) which have not been identified, documented or evaluated?
4. How and in what way are the Town's historic resources threatened?
5. What are the Town's goals for its historic resources?
6. How will the town achieve these goals? Through which specific actions? Who are the actors?

7. To what extent is preservation part of the Town's overall plan for its development? Does the Town intend to integrate preservation into other aspects of its planning?

8. Given the identified resources and the present level of preservation activity, which strategies and actions are most important? Most urgent? Which are least important?

The cultural resources element includes the following material to answer these questions: an historical overview to establish the context for preservation activities; an inventory of documented properties, historic sites, and historic cemeteries and graveyards; an evaluation of historical preservation activities in Burrillville; an evaluation of known and likely threats to historic resources; and a set of priorities for addressing issues. Finally, the element presents goals, policies and actions for preservation.

Burrillville's historic resources have been documented by the Rhode Island Historical Preservation Commission through the local historic survey prepared in 1982.[23] This document presents a comprehensive inventory of the Town's historic resources and districts. The historical overview is presented in narrative form and is based on existing histories of Burrillville, most notably the HPC historic survey. This narrative, prepared by William M. Woodward of HPC, is designed to reflect a context for preservation activity and is not intended to be presented as a definitive history of Burrillville. The status of past historic preservation planning was derived from interviews with knowledgeable members of the BHS.

Known and likely threats to resources are documented, areas which are/are not protected with respect to historic and archaeological resources are noted. Preservation planning goals, objectives and policies reflect the needs of the Town as expressed by the members of the CPC, BHS and NVC. Finally, the policies lead to specific recommendations on specific actions and strategies, such as historic district zoning, creating an historical district commission, and setting into place specific mechanisms to preserve and protect archaeological resources.

II.3.a Cultural Resources - Existing Conditions, Trends and Projections

Located in the northwest corner of the state, Burrillville has a variety of historic resources typical of rural, upland Rhode Island towns. The circumstances of the Town's geography and its relative remoteness, however, distinguish its historic character from that of neighboring towns. Burrillville experienced an early agricultural phase, industrialization in the nineteenth century, and continued residential and industrial growth in the twentieth century. Civic, religious, and

[23] Historical and Architectural Resources, Burrillville, Rhode Island: A Preliminary Report, Rhode Island Historical Preservation Commission, 1982.

educational structures, especially from the early twentieth century, remain as valuable indicators of Burrillville's history.

Topography is important to understand Burrillville's development. Glacial deposits, scouring of the soil as glacier retreated, and long periods of erosion gave Burrillville an irregular topography, which formed settlement patterns and land use. A number of streams and small rivers cross the Town, and small bodies of water include a number of natural lakes and several man-made reservoirs. The presence of moving water across the Town's landscape encouraged settlement and played an important role in industrial development before the advent of steam. The higher, rugged areas remained more thinly populated than the lower, broader, river valleys. Burrillville's natural resources, moreover, are important for recreation and leisure use and their aesthetic qualities.

Pre-European Settlement - Three Algonquin tribes inhabited northern Rhode Island before European settlement. The Nipmucs, including a small sub-tribe known as the Pascoags, who were subsidiary to the Narragansetts and Wampanoags, occupied the area now known as Burrillville. Limited archaeological sites associated with the Indians have been identified.

Early Settlement - The first English settler in today's Burrillville was probably John Smith, who came to the Tarkiln area probably around 1674 and later encouraged several friends and family members to settle there. While their earliest buildings no longer stand, the village that grew at Oak Valley/Tarkiln was one of the Town's earliest nodes.

After nearly a century of English colonization, the rural western part of the state realized a sufficient number of residents who neither could nor would participate in town activities in Providence. In 1731 the northern and western sections of Providence County were set off as separate towns; Burrillville was part of the Town of Glocester. In 1800, residents of present-day Burrillville demanded separation from the Town of Glocester and in 1806 the Town of Burrillville was established.

Eighteenth Century - The eighteenth century settlement pattern of the Town was characterized by a rural population scattered about the Town with farms on the most arable land. Several early farmhouses survive in Burrillville, such as the M. Smith House (ca. 1750), on Victory Highway, the Reuben Keach House (18th century), on Central Street, and the J. Milard House (ca. 1754) on East Wallum Lake Road are all story-and-a-half- center-chimney dwellings. An unusual eighteenth-century form, seldom seen outside Burrillville is the end-chimney house, somewhat reminiscent of the seventeenth-century stone-ender form and apparently built in two sections.

Examples include the Esten House, on Mount Pleasant Road, the Ballou-Bligh House, on Joslin Road, and the Greene House on Smith Hill Road. Farming continued into the twentieth century, and farm complexes evolved over time are important in defining the Town's character: barns, corncribs, sheds, stone walls, orchards, and open fields are among the agricultural resources common to the rural landscape.

Nineteenth Century - As agriculture prevailed in the eighteenth century, industry dominated in the nineteenth century. Aided by improvements in transportation and technology, sleepy hamlets became bustling mill villages that saw dramatic changes in physical form. Improvements in transportation began in 1805 with the construction of Douglas Pike (Route 7). Soon after, Walling's Hotel was built beside the route in Nasonville. Railroad service, from Providence in 1873 and from Woonsocket in 1893, came later, and, indeed, its late arrival may well have limited the Town's growth potential in the nascent years of industrialization. Greater access to Burrillville followed the advent of the automobile and an improved road network, including the Victory Highway (1922 et seq., Route 102) from Woonsocket to Wickford, the refurbished Louisquisset Pike (Route 146), and Interstate Highways 95 and 195 to the south and east.

The Town's earliest industrial activity supported the agricultural economy and included sawmills and gristmills; these were in operation at Pascoag by 1746 and Wallum Lake by 1766. By the 1790's, small mills (all now gone) were active in Saxonville, Glendale, Harrisville, and Mapleville. Non-agricultural industry began to appear in the second quarter of the nineteenth century and grew rapidly: a machine shop in Harrisville in 1825, woolen mills in Huntsville and Gazzaville in the 1830's, eleven woolen mills in Town by 1850, and twenty-two woolen mills by 1856. At the outbreak of the Civil War, Burrillville's economy was clearly dominated by textile production. In addition to the mills, the villages that grew around them included mill offices and other auxiliary structures, dams, raceways, bridges, shops, institutional buildings, worker's housing, mill superintendent's housing, and occasionally mill owner's housing. Most of these villages remain but the early mills themselves have been lost to fire, though extensive rebuilding has occurred on original industrial sites. Mills remain today at Glendale (1853, 1889), Harrisville (1882, 1895-1926), Mapleville (1845, 1871-72, 1901), Mohegan (1892), Nasonville (1882), Oakland (1850, 1856, 1870, 1882), Pascoag (1865) and Saxonville (1905).

In response to the nineteenth-century population growth, schools, churches and other institutions flourished. The first public school house was built in 1806, and others appeared in the 1820's, including the Eagle Peak School (1826). In the 1860's and 1890's schools included the Joseph C. Sweeney School in Bridgeton and the Mapleville School in Mapleville. The Town's first religious

structure was the Society of Friends Meeting-house (1791), now much altered, in Mapleville. In the nineteenth century religious diversification paralleled the Town's growth: Methodists, Baptists, Episcopalians, and especially, after 1850, achieved sufficient numbers to build nine new churches for their members. Important surviving churches include the First Baptist Church (1839) in Pascoag, the First Universalist Church (1886, 1933) in Harrisville, and the United Methodist Church (1893) in Glendale.

The Town's rural character attracted new institutional use, including a tuberculosis hospital (now the Zambarano Hospital Complex) at Wallum Lake in the 1890's; Casmir Pulaski Memorial State Park in the 1930's, and the creation of several Management Areas.

Twentieth Century - Burrillville continued to develop in the twentieth century. Charles Fletcher located his Coronet Worsted Company in Mapleville in 1901 and added a new mill to that complex. Beginning in 1912, the presence of Austin T. Levy and his Stillwater Worsted Company had a profound effect on the Town. Not only did Levy purchase and operate existing mills, but also built large amounts of new worker's housing, including attractive Neo-Colonial houses in Harrisville from the 1920's through the early 1940's and modern pre-fabricated houses (unusual for Rhode Island) at Glendale in the 1930's. Levy also recast the village of Harrisville in a "New England Village" mode through his contributions of the Town Hall, The Assembly, The Ninth District Court, and The Jesse M. Smith Library, all designed by Jackson, Robertson & Adams in a Neo-Colonial style.

Post World War II - As the State underwent extensive suburbanization after World War II, Burrillville has received large numbers of new suburban residents. Its population has grown from approximately 8,000 in 1940 to over 13,000 in 1980. The construction of new houses, most of which are strung out along the Town's many roads, is a trend dissimilar to the strong village settlement pattern which characterized Burrillville's historic development. The Town retains, however, important groups of historic properties that reflect its agricultural beginnings, its industrial growth, and its civic development.

Existing Historic Resources - The HPC Preliminary Survey is the Town's primary list of properties considered important to Burrillville's history. Lists of historically significant properties are found in several different sources, including the National and State Register of Historic Places, and the local Historical Society files. The State of Rhode Island Historical Preservation & Heritage Commission’s Preliminary Survey, 1982, also depicts a number of historic properties, though not entirely comprehensive, according to those active in Burrillville historical preservation.

The inventory contains a listing of 230+ sites, comprising historic structures, municipal properties, parks, historic districts, houses of worship, and cemeteries. National Register and State Register sites are listed in the inventory as are other properties that may be eligible for nomination to the National Register or may be considered for local historic zoning.

The National Register of Historic Places includes the State's most important historic places, and is the nation's official list of significant historic properties worthy of preservation.[24] The benefits of being on the National Register include official recognition of the property's importance; eligibility to apply for federal planning and restoration grants when funds are available; eligibility to apply for federal planning and restoration grants when funds are available; eligibility for federal investment tax credits for certified substantial rehabilitations of income-producing properties; and protection from the adverse effects of state or federally funded or licensed projects through a review and assessment program. Listing on the Register does not require the owner to preserve or maintain the property. Unless the owner applies for and receives special federal or state benefits, she/he can do anything with the property which is permitted by local ordinances.

Currently there are two districts in Burrillville which are listed on the National Register of Historic Places: the Harrisville Mill Village Historic District, roughly bounded by Wood and Sherman Roads, East Avenue, Main, Chapel, School and River Streets; and the Oakland Historic District, including parts of Alice, Remington and Whipple Avenues, Victory Highway, Maple Lane, Mill, Pond River and School Streets. Map 5 shows the general location of these sites and others in the preliminary survey.

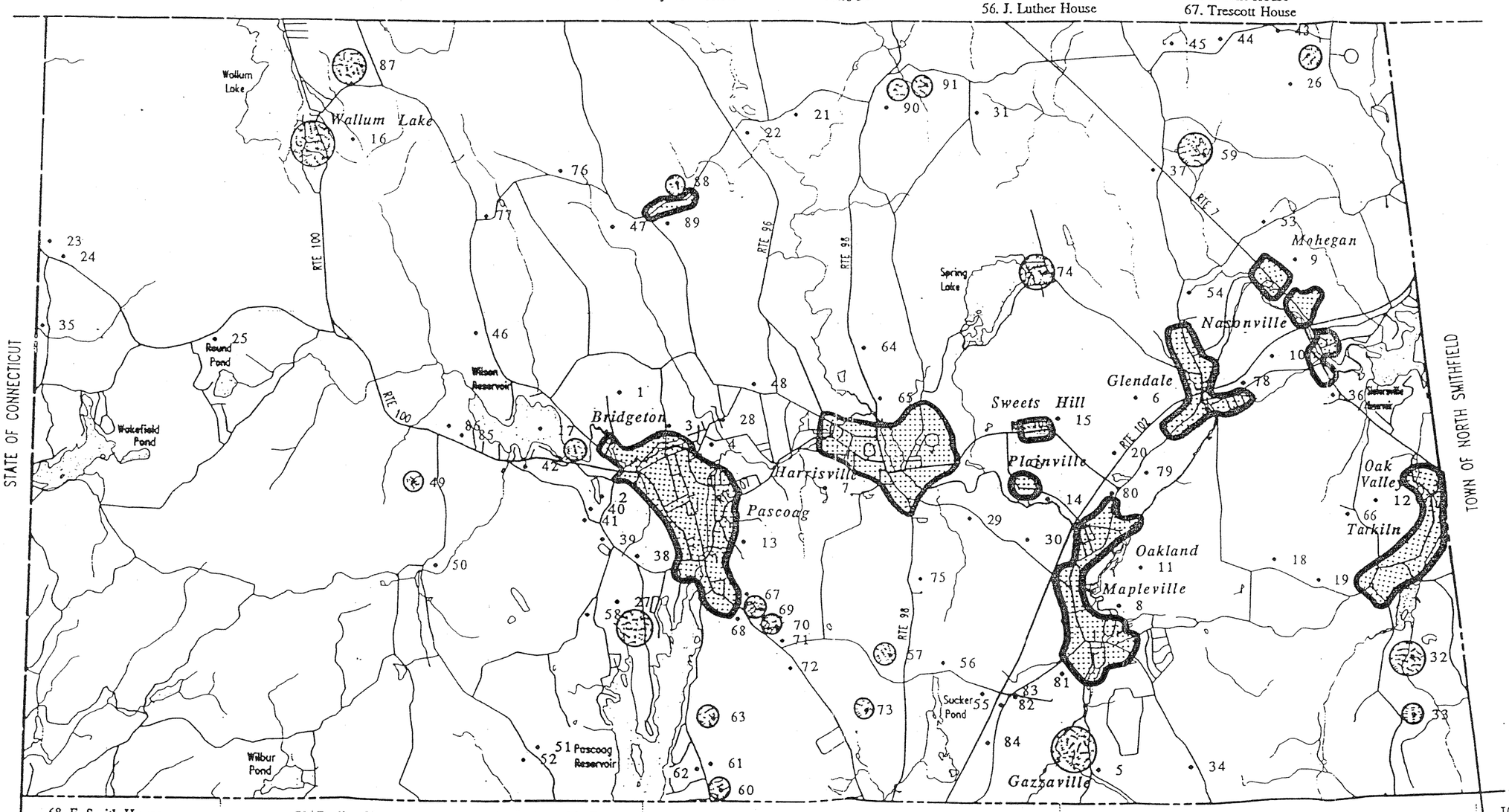
The HPC has also prepared a list of properties which *may* be eligible for listing on the National Register or the State Register. These are shown on Table II-3:

Table II-3
Properties and Districts with Potential for Inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places

	Name & Location	Potential (see Key)
1.	Pascoag Historic District (Main Street, Sayles Avenue, and Frank Potter Memorial Bridgeway)	+
2.	Sweet's Hill Historic District, East Avenue	#

[24] This paragraph is excerpted from the Historical and Architectural Resources of West Warwick, Rhode Island: A Preliminary Report, Rhode Island Historical Preservation Commission, 1987, page 28.

1. Bridgeton Historic District
2. Huntsville
3. Laurel Hill/Laurel Ridge
4. Saxonville/Saxondale
5. Gazzaville Historic Area
6. Glendale Historic District
7. Harrisville Historic District
8. Mapleville Historic District
9. Mohegan Village Historic District
10. Nasonville Historic District
11. Oakland Historic District
12. Oak Valley-Tarkiln Historic Area
13. Pascoag Historic District
14. Plainville/Whipple Historic Area
15. Sweet's Hill Historic District
16. Wallum Lake Area
17. Site of Wilson's Mills
18. S. Paine House/Tamarack Farm
19. Smith-Darling House
20. Lapham-Darling House
21. Taft-Arnold House
22. "Modern Colonial" House
23. Logee House
24. Logee-Whiting House
25. Buck Hill Fire Tower
26. A. Mowry Farm/Wright's Farm
27. Camp Dixie
28. Stone Arch Bridge
29. Ray Menard House
30. Reuben Keach House
31. John White House
32. Phetteplace-Smith Farm
33. G. Smith Farm/Country View Acres
34. Cooper House
35. Former Buck Hill District School
36. Walling House
37. Walling Schoolhouse
38. Washington Logee House
39. Former Eagle Peak Schoolhouse
40. Seth Ross House
41. Salisbury House
42. Whipple Angell House
43. Richardson-Ballou House
44. Richardson's Saw Mill
45. John Esten House
46. J. Millard House/Barksfield
47. Logee-Taft Farm
48. D. Smith House
49. J. Stanfield Farm
50. Site of Saw Mill
51. Jonathan Lackey House
52. Woodbury Lackey House
53. Ballou-Bligh House
54. Benjamin Joslin House
55. Smith Homestead
56. J. Luther House
57. Novitiate of the Sacred Heart Bros.
58. Sterling Paine House
59. Esten Farm
60. Welcome Sayles Farm/ Episcopal Conference Center
61. S. Eddy House
62. Former gas station/fruit stand
63. J. Eddy Farm
64. Young-Sherman House
65. Shippee Bridge
66. Greene House
67. Trescott House



68. E. Smith House
69. J. Irons Farm Complex
70. J. Salisbury Farm Complex
71. H. Chase House
72. L. Vallett House
73. Job Ballou Farm/Wood's Edge
74. Spring Lake Summer Resort
75. Mowry-Steere House/Hemlock Hill Farm
76. Thayer House
77. Stone Barn and G. Salisbury House
78. J. Clarkson House
79. Darling House
80. Former Trolley Substation
81. W. M. Smith House
82. M. Smith House
83. Gasoline station
84. A. Smith House
85. E. Angell House
86. Randall Angell House
87. Angell-Singleton Farm
88. A. Paine Farm
89. West Road Roadscape
90. Burlingame-Mitchell Farm
91. J. Reynolds Farm
92. I. Whipple House

Districts and Areas

More Than One Structure, Large Sites and Farms

• 99 Structures and Small Sites

Source: Rhode Island Historical Preservation Commission

MAP 5

0 2000 4000 6000
Feet

Comprehensive Plan
Burrillville, Rhode Island

Albert Veri & Associates, Inc.
Community Planners
70 Elm Street
Providence, Rhode Island
401/274-1360 02903

No Revisions Date

HISTORIC DISTRICTS, STRUCTURES AND SITES

Date: July 15, 1990 Digital data provided by the Rhode Island Geographic Information System
Drawn By: M.A.D.
Scale: As Noted

3.	Smith-Nichols House, Colwell Road, Oakland-Tarkiln	#
4.	Albert L. Sayles Residence, Pascoag	#
5.	Logee-Whiting House, Buck Hill Road	#
6.	Reuben Keach House, 18th Century, 66 Central Street	#
7.	First Baptist Church, Church Street, Pascoag	#
8.	Calvary Episcopal Church, Church Street, Pascoag	#
9.	Nasonville School, Douglas Pike	+
10.	Nasonville Bridge, Douglas Pike, over Branch River	*
11.	Eagle Peak School, Eagle Peak Road	***
12.	J. Millard House/Barksfield, East Wallum Lake Road	#
13.	D. Smith House, Hill Road	#
14.	Ballou-Bligh House, Joslin Road	#
15.	D.H., Whipple House (Lawton House), 41 Main Street	***
16.	Esten Farm, Mount Pleasant Road	#
17.	House, Pole 353, Old Route 102	+
18.	S. Eddy House, Reservoir Road	#
19.	Young-Sherman House, Sherman Farm Road	#
20.	Greene House, Smith Hill Road	#
21.	House, 78 South Main Street, Pascoag	+
22.	John White Farm, Spring Lake Road	+
23.	M. Smith House, Victory Highway	#
24.	Oakland Bridge, Victory Highway	*
25.	Brown Angell Farm/Singleton Farm, Wallum Lake Road	***
26.	A. Paine Farm, West Road	#
27.	Richardson-Arnold House, Round Top Road	***
28.	Smith-Darling Housing, Barnes Road	+

Source: Rhode Island Historical Preservation Commission

Key:

- Recommended for National Register consideration in the Historical Preservation Commission survey publication

* - Formally determined eligible for National Register listing by the National Park Service

*** - Review of preliminary materials by the State Review Board suggests the property may be eligible for the National Register.

+ - Consideration requested or suggested for National Register by owner or other party (this category includes properties for which the State Review Board reviewed preliminary or final materials and found that it did not appear National Register eligible at the time)

The above list of potentially eligible properties is not to be considered complete. As new research is conducted, and as the Town changes, other potential candidates for the National Register may be identified.

Members of the NVC and BHS, in an effort to update the Preliminary Survey Report so that it accurately portrays the extent of the historic resources in Town, recently conducted an informal follow-up survey. Members canvassed the Town for historic sites which were missed in the 1982 Survey. Many sites considered to be potentially significant were found on roads which had been overlooked in the original survey.

Table II-4 presents a preliminary listing of sites which should be considered for inventory and documentation by the HPC. The approximate location of these additional sites are shown on Map-6. The survey also revealed two areas which require further consideration for their merit as National Register Historic Districts. While the inventory is large, it is not complete. These sites and areas should be considered in future preservation planning efforts, and require a more detailed and formalized effort in documentation.

It should be noted that this list is based on a partial survey of the Town only. The BHS and NVC is planning additional town-wide surveys, and will provide information to the Town Planning Department and HPC for inclusion in the Plan as it becomes available.

Table II-4
Historic Resources Requiring Documentation and Evaluation

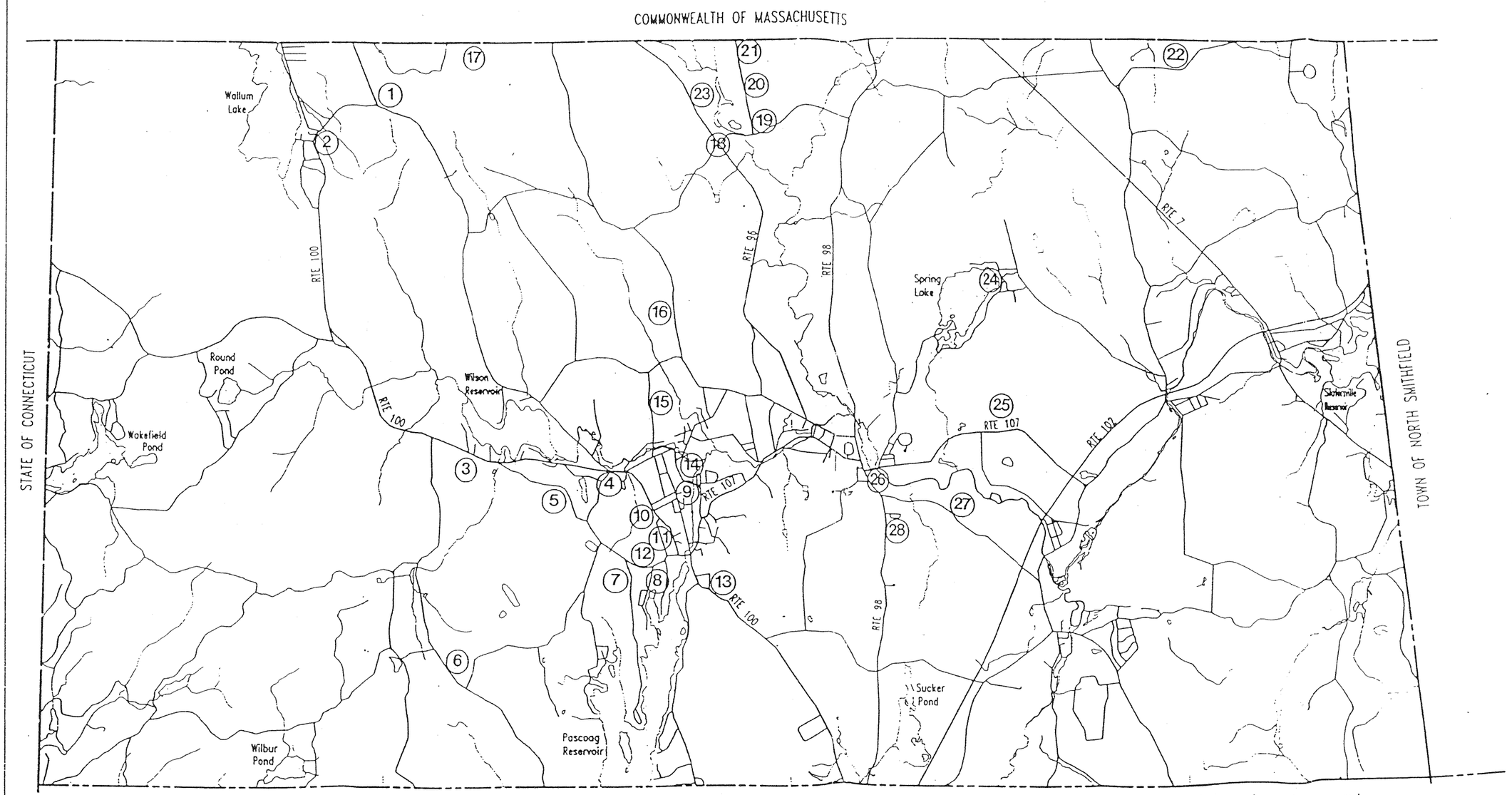
Map Ref.	Street Name	Description
1.	East Wallum Lake Road	Complete settlement with tannery and possible Indian graves
2.	Wallum Lake Road	Richardson House
3.	Wallum Lake Road	Gordon McLean House, hiding places for underground railroad
4.	Wallum Lake Road	Ross Village District, mixture of vintage homes and styles.
5.	Eagle Peak Road	Peck Farm, possible district along Eagle Peak Road.
6.	Jackson Schoolhouse Road	Lorenzo house, cape with later additions.
7.	Camp Dixie Road	Richard Carter house 18th century cape.
8.	Rock Avenue	Dunn's House, with cemetery.
9.	Sayles Avenue	Mill houses, Victorian & Queen Anne.
10.	Laurel Hill Road	Victorian Houses.
11.	Broad Street	Farm
12.	High Street	Tanner Hill School, Greek Revival, two story.
13.	South Main Street	Cattle impoundment, cemetery, stone walls.
14.	Centennial Street	Two Capes
15.	219 North Road	Chauvin farmhouse
16.	Hill Road	Harold Lovejoy farm 1870's
17.	Buxton Road	Cora Bates house, Cole-Segrave house stone structures.
18.	Round Top Four Corners	Commercial Village District known as Tassle Top.
19.	Broad Brook	Stone bottom house, old foundation.
20.	#310 & #235 Collins-Taft Road	#310 Nice details some original windows, #235 high federal farmhouse pedimented gable.
21.	Collins-Taft	Cattle impoundment, nice stone work.
22.	East Ironstone Road	Cattle impoundment.
23.	Spring Lake	Arcade, being restored, interesting artifacts of the period.
24.	Central Avenue	House possibly site of early town meetings.
25.	Central Avenue	Gable house.
26.	Steere Farm Road	House.

Sources: Burrillville Historical and Preservation Society, Northwest Villages Conservancy.

The inventory of historic sites includes some 232 districts, buildings and sites, but is generally thought to be in need of further study.[25] Few sites are currently protected through zoning, easements, historic districting or other measures. Sites which have been approved for the National Register have limited protection from potentially damaging federal programs and may be eligible for certain tax benefits and for federally funded matching grants-in-aid.

Future inventories of the Town's historic resources should be developed using criteria that objectively access Burrillville's historic resources. These criteria may include building age, architectural

[25] Statements by various members of Northwest Villages Conservancy, Burrillville Historical Society, Rhode Island Historical Preservation Commission.



1. East Wallum Lake Road — Complete settlement with tannery and Indian graves.
2. Wallum Lake Road — Richardson House.
3. Wallum Lake Road — Gordon McLean House, hiding places for underground railroad.
4. Ross Village District — Mixture of vintage homes and styles.
5. Eagle Peak Road — Peck Farm, possible district along Eagle Peak Road.
6. Jackson Schoolhouse Rd. — Lorenzo house, cape with later additions.
7. Camp Dixie Road — Richard Carter house 18th century cape.
8. Rock Avenue — Dunn's House, with cemetery.
9. Sayles Avenue — Mill houses, Victorian & Queen Anne.
10. Laurel Hill Road — Victorian Houses.
11. Broad Street — Farm.
12. High Street — Tanner Hill School, Greek Revival, two story.
13. South Main Street — Cattle impoundment, cemetery, stone walls.
14. Centennial Street — Two Capes.
15. 219 North Road — Chauvin farmhouse.
16. Hill Road — Harold Lovejoy farm 1870's.
17. Buxton Road — Cora Bates house, Cole-Segrave house stone structures.
18. Round Top Four Corners — Commercial Village District known as Tassle Top.
19. Broad Brook — Stone bottom house, old foundation.
20. #310 & #235 Collins — #310 - Nice details some original Taft Road windows; #235 high federal farmhouse pedimented gable.
21. Collins-Taft — Cattle impoundment, nice stone work.
22. East Ironstone Road — Cattle impoundment.
23. Round Top Road — Old Brook farm, cemetery.
24. Spring Lake — Arcade, being restored, interesting artifacts of the period.
25. Sweet's Hill farm — House is neglected and is threatened by development.
26. Central Avenue — House possibly site of early town meetings.
27. Central Avenue — Gable house.
28. Steere Farm Road — House.

Source: Burrillville Historical Society, Northwest Villages Conservancy, 1990.

Key:

(X) General Vicinity of Historic Site

MAP 6

0 2000 4000 6000 Feet

1990 Comprehensive Plan

Burrillville, Rhode Island

Albert Veri & Associates, Inc
Community Planners
70 Elm Street
Providence, Rhode Island
401/274-1350 02903

No Revisions Date

HISTORIC SITES FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION

Date July 6 1990 Digital data provided by the Department of Administration Information System

Drawn by MAS

Scale As Noted

style, building type, condition and thematic associations. No one criteria is paramount. A structure not conforming to one criterion could still be listed if it was found to have significant merit under other criteria.

The age criteria should be the fifty-year limit used by the National Register of Historic Places. With certain exceptions, the Register will not consider for listing structures that are less than fifty years old. The same applies to the local historic properties inventory prepared by HPC.

Another criterion is architectural style. Structures that have been included in the HPC local historic properties inventory in many cases are representative of a specific architectural style or local/regional building tradition. The condition criteria comes into play when accessing a structure's architectural style. Alterations to a structure that substantially mask or destroy a structure's architectural integrity could preclude its listing in the HPC inventory.

Thematic associations can refer to a structure's historical associations or to its contribution to an historic district's overall theme. In the case of the former, a structure could be included in the inventory if it was owned, occupied or built by an individual or organization notable in national, state or local history. In the case of the latter, a structure could be included in the inventory if it contributes to the overall theme of an identified historic area. Examples include any of the Levy buildings, or mill housing.

II.4 Cultural Resource Issues

Historic Preservation Activities - There have been three primary boards and commissions involved with the preservation of Burrillville's history, in addition to numerous individuals who have contributed informally over the years. The *Burrillville Historical and Preservation Society* was formed in the 1970's and continues to be an active group today. The Society's primary purpose is to maintain the history of the Town, and specifically, the preservation of buildings and archives. Activities conducted by the Society include storage of Town archives, programs such as History Month (bus tours, slide shows etc. funded through the State), historical programs for the local school system and informational workshops and meetings. The Society is an independent group, and is supported by members, State funding for selected programs, etc.

Burrillville's *Historic District Commission* (HDC), in existence since 1981, was dissolved in 1988. The HDC was active in historic preservation activities and in promoting historic district zoning. The Commission was considered part of Town government, and was allotted meeting and storage space in Town Hall, as well as a small budget.

The Commission played an important role in placing two historic districts on the National Register of Historic Places. Commission members' knowledge of the Town's historic resources was used extensively by the Preservation Commission in the preparation of their Preliminary Survey Report for the Town of Burrillville.

In February of 2003 the Burrillville Town Council motioned to re-establish the town's Historic District Commission. The HDC's primary responsibility will be to create Historic District Zoning which the town will use to protect existing historic areas. If successful, the town may be certified with Local Government Status by the Rhode Island Historic Preservation Commission and allow residents to be eligible for Historic Tax Credits.

The effectiveness of preservation activities can be measured by the completeness of the resource inventory, and the degree to which historic districts, buildings and sites are protected from deterioration, demolition and unsympathetic renovation. Using these measures, Burrillville's preservation activities to date have been less than fully effective. However, the current Town Council recognizes the potential of unsympathetic renovation.

As pressure for development increases in Burrillville, it is unlikely that future projects will be undertaken by people who are sympathetic to preservation goals. The Town recognizes the importance of expanding its tax base, of revitalizing its commercial centers, of reconstructing and, in some cases, of building new roadways. The area is a prime location for regional energy facilities and continues to experience development pressure in this sector. There is a need for the Town to establish stronger mechanisms through zoning and to find a means to protect historic properties, historic structures, bridges, historic landscapes, as well as potential archaeological sites, and cemeteries and graveyards which may be impacted by such development.

Evaluation of Known Threats to Historic Resources - Shifts in regional and local economies transformed Burrillville from a farming community to one dominated by manufacturing. Later changes in the national economy resulted in a geographic shift of manufacturing industries to Sun Belt states in the south leaving many of the mills in Burrillville vacant, and many of the once prominent mill villages underused and neglected. Residential development is the most recent prevailing growth to occur in Town. Many of the Town's historic resources are threatened by the combination of these forces and shifts in the economy and development patterns. A significant number of historic sites are threatened either by neglect or by development forces. Threatened resources fall into the following general categories:

1. Large mill complexes and associated mill housing;
2. Individual or isolated structures scattered throughout Burrillville;
3. Cemeteries and graveyards;
4. Historic landscapes and farms; and,
5. Town archives.

Mill Complexes - Historic mills and mill complexes in Burrillville comprise a large portion of the Town's historic resources. In some cases all that remains of these once imposing structures are foundations, dams or water works; other structures have been updated and changed over the years so that only remnants of the original buildings remain. Vacant mill structures are threatened unless they are put to a use that will ensure their survival. Marginal uses do not yield the type of revenue needed to protect the integrity of the structures. At some point, the land which these mills occupy may be more valuable without the buildings thus encouraging present or future owners to raze all or portions of the site. The condition of structures left vacant may disintegrate to the point where only massive public support will save them. Mill structures which may be in jeopardy include:

- Glendale Mills (west side of Branch River - Bruin Plastics);
- Harrisville Mill Complex/Stillwater Worsted Mills (Clear River south of East Avenue, east of Main Street);
- Mapleville Mills (on Chepachet River, north of Main Street - home to Boliden);
- Mohegan Mill (on Branch River - now home to Atlas Pallet)
- Nasonville Mill (on Douglas Pike, backing on Branch River - home to Turex); and,

Those buildings currently in active use tend to be better maintained, including Glendale Mills, Mapleville Mills, and Nasonville Mill. The Burrillville Redevelopment Agency has championed a Redevelopment Plan for the Stillwater Mill Complex, located in Harrisville. The plan includes housing and affordable housing, an expanded Town Library (Jesse M. Smith library), public open space and light retail/service uses to accommodate existing and proposed residential uses. For a copy of the Redevelopment Plan, see: http://www.burrillville.org/Public_Documents/BurrillvilleRI_EconDev/StillwaterMasterPlan.
Offering incentives to small scale manufacturing businesses and warehousing operations that are willing to occupy structurally sound mill structures is another viable method to reusing mill structures.

Individual or Isolated Structures - The following is a list of individual structures that are not part of potential districts. They are generally isolated from other historic structures and therefore are at some risk. This list is not intended to be all-inclusive; rather, it represents significant examples that typify preservation threats:

- **Esten Farm** - A 1 1/2-story farmhouse, built in two sections, like several other early Burrillville rural dwellings, with a traditional 5-bay, center entry, a center chimney section at the right, and higher, 2-bay end chimney section at the left. The house is set on a slight hilltop in the center of a large working farm, which includes a 20th century barn and fields divided by stone walls. The Estens were early settlers in this area. John Esten, who built this house, was a member of the first Town Council when the Town was incorporated in 1806; his family and descendants lived here into the 20th century. The property is one of Burrillville's last surviving working farms. The site of this house is threatened by lack of general upkeep, and development pressures.

- **Richardson Farm** - on West Ironstone Road, across from the lumber company. Currently an active farm, with an historic component in the form of historic house and outbuildings. Potential threat from development pressures.

- **Sweet's Hill Farm** - on East Avenue. House on site is in preservable condition, but the site has been the target of recent development proposals, and includes a large amount of land with limited constraints to development.

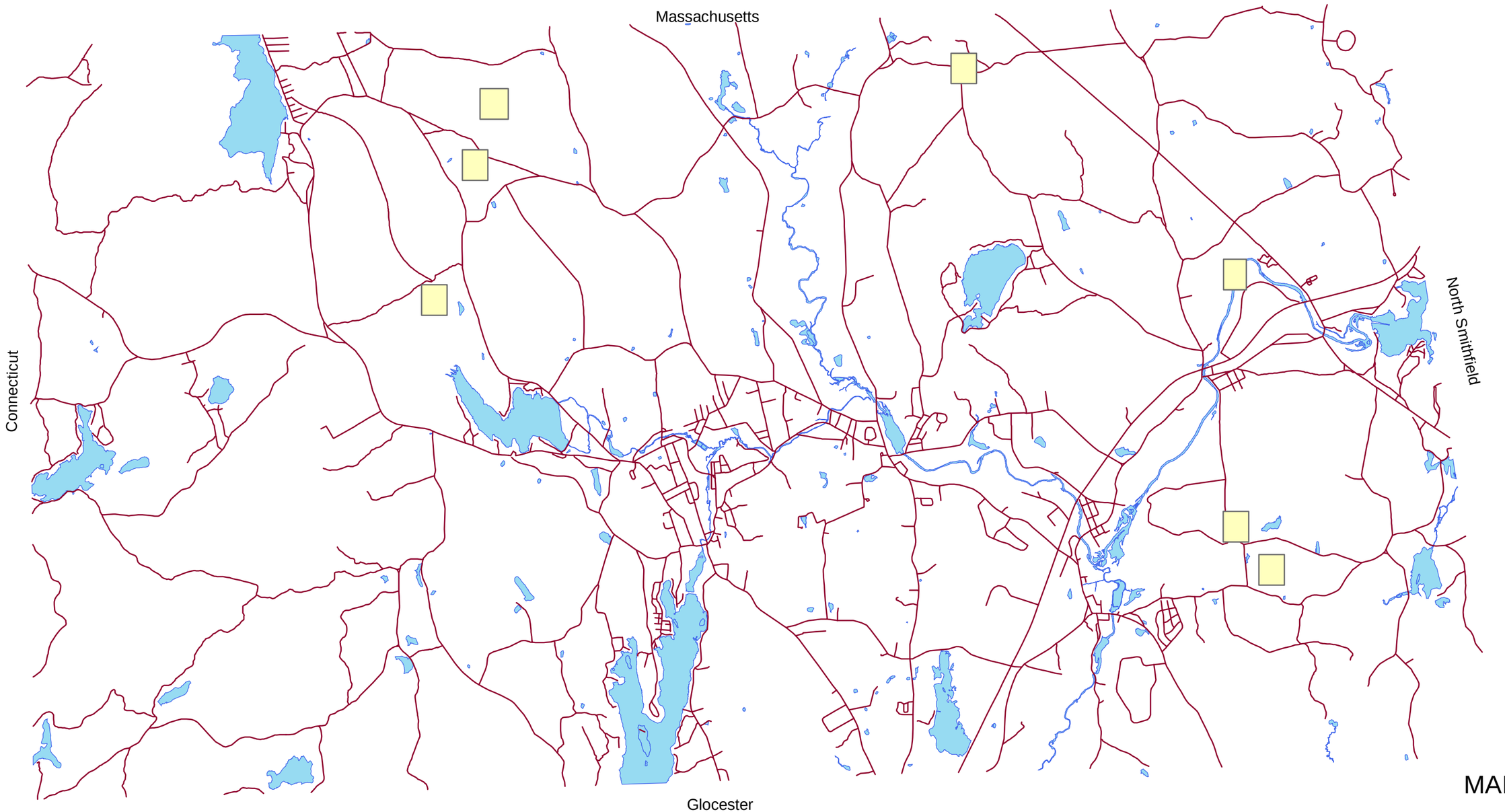
- **Star Farm** - between Wallum Lake Road, East Wallum Lake Road and Buxton Road - a cluster of buildings, including a school, tannery and others. Development pressures also jeopardize the future preservation of this site.

- **Angell Singleton Farm** - on Wallum Lake Road. Materials reviewed by the State suggest this site may be eligible for National Register listing. Considered in jeopardy due to lack of maintenance and development pressures.

Cemeteries and Graveyards - All historic cemeteries and graveyards are presently at risk, and hidden graveyards are at special risk. Burrillville developed as an agricultural community and many of its farmsteads incorporated family graveyards. While many farms have disappeared with the advance of suburban development, the graveyards remain and can be found today throughout the Town. These graveyards are claimed by no one, but exist as private rather than public property. While theoretically protected from development, they are threatened by the development of adjacent land, vandalism, and neglect.

Once vandalized, sites tend to draw more vandals who compound the damage. While volunteer efforts have been attempted to clear sites of rubbish and overgrowth, these efforts cannot deal with the problems posed by headstones, mausoleums, and walls damaged by vandals and the

Archeological Sites



MAP 7

Source; 1997, RIGIS

Legend

roads

water

Archeological Site

0 2,125 4,250 8,500 Feet

elements. The inventory indicates the sites of some known cemeteries and graveyards, but does not include so-called "hidden" graveyards (i.e. sites for which records no longer exist). For the purposes of this discussion, these "hidden" sites should be treated like archaeological sites, needing protection but difficult to protect since they are in many cases not clearly defined as to location. At one time, the Historical Society had a program to maintain historic cemeteries but funding was not available to maintain the program.

Historic Agricultural Landscapes - Farming has been an important character-defining activity in Burrillville well into the twentieth century, and farm complexes evolved over time are important in defining the Town's character. Barns, corncribs, sheds, stone walls, orchards, and open fields are among the agricultural resources common to the rural landscape.

Burrillville slowly experienced changes in its physical environment as farmland has been converted into residential subdivisions, as well as scattered commercial and industrial developments. Recent development has often focused on farmland, and Burrillville now retains only a few remaining farmsteads. These historic landscapes tell the story of the Town's agricultural past. All are threatened by encroaching development and escalating property values.

Historical Archives - Archives are threatened in that there is no central repository for archived material, there is no inventory of existing material and currently, archived material is stored at Historical Society member's homes.[26] A temporary storage facility was rented for some of the records. Loss of these valuable resources due to theft, vandalism, general neglect and poor climate conditions is inevitable unless a suitable structure with climate control is found. The BHS is actively seeking a suitable site but budget constraints have severely limited their options.

Archaeological Sites - The Historical Preservation Commission and the State Archaeologists' Office have identified six archaeological sites which are potentially eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (see Map 7). These sites include are of prehistoric or historic nature, and include Native American burial grounds. No archaeological sites in Burrillville are currently listed on the Register. The sites exist throughout the community and have been identified through archaeological surveys for State- or Federally-funded projects or through other historical evidence. There are likely many more archaeological sites which have not been identified or documented.

-[26] Archives are the property of the Burrillville Historical and Preservation Society.

Currently, an archaeological site is documented only if required by law as part of a Federally-funded project, such as a new roadway or power line. The Town has no means for identifying potential sites, or notifying property owners whether their land may have archaeological sensitivity. Archaeological resources are at risk in the absence of local authority to protect them. The Town must develop a clear policy and mechanism to identify and protect sites from destruction.

Extent of Preservation Planning with Overall Planning Context - The record of preservation planning from the early 1980's to the present reveals well-intentioned efforts by many people. Unfortunately these efforts were hampered by insufficient information, too much reliance on voluntary resources, and inadequate authority to protect historic resources. However, the identification and delineation of National Register sites and districts has been done to make preservation planning part of the Town's overall plan of development. In addition the Town now contains an active Land Trust, which may be used to assist with preservation and conservation development. The Town Council has entertained the idea of reactivating the Burrillville Historic District Commission and is currently taking citizen board member applications. The old proposal for historic district zoning may have to be modified, in hopes that the Town Council will find it more palatable.

Site plan review for new development in historically sensitive areas is a viable mechanism which the Town now employs. The BHS, Conservancy and proposed Historic District Commission need to become stronger advocates for historic resources of the Town. They need to educate the Town's other agencies, boards and commissions on the importance of historic resources to the landscape and economy, and the effect development has on the integrity and cultural value of these resources.

Priorities for Addressing Issues - The record of preservation planning in Burrillville has had many peaks and valleys throughout the years. It has been documented that the Town has been active in surveys and inventories and has a number of individuals and groups which are willing to devote a sizable amount of time and energy to preservation efforts. However, there is much to be accomplished and the Town needs to develop a strong program and an organized implementation strategy to accomplish the goals of preserving historical and archaeological resources. The previous section of this element provides specific preservation planning goals, policies and actions. Clearly, the Town will not be able to realize its goals all at once; therefore, a priority system will guide the selection of activities that should be undertaken over time.

Many activities can be undertaken concurrently, some with volunteers, existing Town staff, and others with outside consultants. As guiding principles, the following ought to be considered the order of priority:

1. Establish a formal Town-supported board/commission to develop the regulations necessary to preserve the Town's historic sites, structures and artifacts.

2. Establish land use regulations necessary to preserve the Town's historic sites, structures and artifacts.

3. Ensure the physical preservation of existing historical archives.

4. Expand the Town's knowledge and documentation of historical and archaeological sites and structures.

5. Promote the Town's rich historical heritage to attract tourism and other viable economic development activities.

II.5 Goals, Policies and Implementation Actions

The ultimate goal of this Plan is to preserve and protect the natural, historical, cultural and archaeological resources and natural heritage of the Town. The following goals, policies and implementation actions lead to the achievement of this vision.

II. Natural and Cultural Resource Goals	Policies	Implementation Actions
II.1 Promote a harmonious relationship between land development and natural resources.	II.1.a Foster new development which is designed sympathetically to site topography, watercourses and waterbodies, and unique natural features of the site. Encourage creative site design to preserve a site's natural assets while permitting reasonable development intensity.	II.1.a.1 Amend the Zoning Ordinance and Subdivision Regulations to require that structures (excluding single and two family dwelling units) be designed to blend with the natural surroundings of a site, and harmonize with the natural features of the area.
		II.1.a.2 Use of a particular site should be compatible with adjacent land uses.
II.2 Preserve agricultural activities and soils in concert with development.	II.2.a Direct development towards land less suitable for agricultural uses.	II.2.a.1 Establish a public land trust that can protect and preserve agricultural lands.
	II.2.b Ensure town ordinances support farm viability.	II.2.b.1 Consider a Transfer of Development Rights Ordinance to steer development to areas less suitable for farming.
		II.2.b.2 Promote the Farm, Forest and Open Space Program.
		II.2.b.3 Examine if the Town's composting site can be recycled to assist with local gardening initiatives.
	II.2.c Protect agricultural lands for their health and economic importance	II.2.c.1 Revise zoning ordinance to allow agricultural support uses and direct sale of agricultural products to consumers in appropriate areas.
	II.2.d Support agricultural and agricultural support uses and protect their infringement by surrounding non-compatible uses.	II.2.d.1 Assess feasibility of revitalizing vacant or underutilized publicly owned parcels as food resources, such as community gardens, incubator kitchens and permanent farmer's market facilities.
	II.2.e Support the consumption of locally grown foods at sponsored events and within the local schools.	

II.3	To consider the natural capacity of land to support future development and population.	II.3.a	Flood zones should continue to be protected from intensive development for the safety and protection of residents and the environment.	II.3.a.1 100-year flood zones should be reserved for open space, recreation or agricultural purposes. Areas flooded only rarely may be considered for limited development with adequate precautions.
		II.3.b	Wetlands, as critical elements of groundwater recharge, wildlife habitat, flood storage and recreational value will be maintained in their current state to the extent possible.	II.3.b.1 Wetlands will not be filled or built upon where reasonable avoidance measures may be taken. A permit must be obtained from the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management for any wetland alteration.
				II.3.b.2 Wetland areas should be excluded from zoning density calculations in standard subdivisions, cluster subdivisions, multifamily developments and nonresidential developments.
				II.3.b.3 The Town will identify and document (map) wetlands as defined by the Freshwater Division, RIDEM. This document will serve as a guide when reviewing permit applications at the Town level.
		II.3.c	Sloping land (15%+ slope) will be regarded as prohibitive to most standard construction, and site design will be required to comprehensively address such slope conditions.	II.3.c.1 Steep slopes, those exceeding 15 percent, should not be built upon.
				II.3.c.2 Drainage on sloping sites, including private home sites, will be designed to direct flow away from public roads.
				II.3.c.3 The Town's erosion and sedimentation ordinance will be enforced on a consistent and timely basis.
		II.3.d	The existing quality of surface water bodies will be maintained and improved.	II.3.d.1 Dredging of lakes, rivers and wetlands should be limited to reduce adverse effects of silting and bottom habitat damage.
		II.3.e	Utilize the RI Community Low Impact Design Site Planning and Design Guidance Manual to reduce the impacts of stormwater runoff.	II.3.e.1 Mitigate water quality impacts of stormwater runoff and provide for drainage controls in all new development. Post-construction site runoff should not exceed pre-construction runoff.

		II.3.e.2 The Town will conduct a study of design alternatives and best management practices for stormwater runoff controls.
II.4 To ensure that current and future development does not adversely affect natural or cultural resources, or the existing rural qualities of Burrillville, and that environmentally sensitive areas are protected, especially water supply and quality.	II.4.a Individual sewage disposal systems should be installed and/or maintained according to best management practices.	II.4.a.1 Technologically advanced ISDS systems should be installed per the State Department of Environmental Management requirements.
		II.4.a.2 Existing individual sewage disposal systems will be regularly maintained.
		II.4.a.3 Septic systems will not be installed closer than 200 feet from tributaries to drinking water supplies or any other lake, stream or standing surface water.
		II.4.a.4 Establish a town-wide public education program regarding the importance of septic system pumping and maintenance.
		II.4.a.5 Study the merits of establishing a municipal septic system inspection program.
		II.4.a.6 Septic systems should be inspected at the time of a house sale.
	II.4.b Maintain and improve the existing quality of drinking water in the community.	II.4.b.1 Mapping of groundwater aquifers and recharge areas as prepared by the Groundwater Division of the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management will be reviewed and adopted as the aquifer protection district boundaries.
		II.4.b.2 The Town will cooperate with the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management in their efforts to identify and inventory underground storage facilities.

		II.4.b.3 Establish a water resources management board, including representatives of all local water suppliers, to address the provision of water services on a town-wide basis. Composition of the Committee is to be determined cooperatively between the Town and the Fire Districts.
		II.4.b.4 The Water Resources Management Board will commission a study to determine the most appropriate course of action in managing its drinking water resources.
		II.4.b.5 The Town will work closely with the Fire Districts to acquire or otherwise protect the land surrounding Fire District wellheads.
		II.4.b.6 Reservoirs, ponds, lakes, rivers and streams in the Town will be managed to ensure a minimum water flow at all times.
		II.4.b.7 All salt piles and sand/salt mixtures shall be enclosed, with highest priority given to those within the Wallum Lake watershed, or within recharge areas of groundwater aquifers currently used for public water supply or with potential for public water supply development.
		II.4.b.8 The State and Town highway departments should minimize their use of road salt in winter road maintenance.
		II.4.b.9 Environmentally sensitive areas associated with present or potential ground or surface water supplies should be considered water resource protection areas, and special restrictions should be applied to the use of road salts in such areas.
		II.4.b.10 Limit intensive development to those areas served by public sewer systems which can provide for adequate collection and treatment of liquid wastes generated.
		II.4.b.11 Require pre-treatment of sewage by industrial operations where appropriate.
		II.4.b.12 Ensure that the Town's lakes, ponds, rivers and streams meet the water pollution levels set in the State's water quality classification plan.

		II.4.b.13 Require that industrial development causing other than domestic waste discharges occur only in areas served by public sewer systems.
		II.4.b.14 Require recycling of industrial wastes be undertaken whenever possible to conserve resources and reduce treatment problems.
		II.4.b.15 To preserve the village character found in areas of Town, small lots should be allowed where public water and sewers are available.
		II.4.b.16 To preserve the Town's rural character, promote low-intensity land use and protect high quality surface and groundwater the F-5 zone should continue as currently mapped in the Town's zoning ordinance.
		II.4.b.17 Development regulations should be related to the land's capability to support development, particularly soils capabilities.
		II.4.b.18 Require setbacks from surface and groundwater public water supplies compatible with State regulations.
		II.4.b.19 Require a natural buffer strip from the rainy season flow of a stream or the high water mark of a natural body of standing water compatible with State regulations.
		II.4.b.20 Land disturbance during construction should be minimized, and natural vegetation left intact to the greatest extent possible. If natural vegetation is removed, the area should be revegetated as soon as possible.
		II.4.b.21 Waterfront areas should be zoned for large lot or cluster type developments (except in F5 districts) to reduce runoff.

II.5 To preserve biological diversity by identifying, preserving and managing state forests and federally-listed rare, endangered and threatened plant and animal species and unique natural communities.	II.5.a Wildlife and vegetation are considered important natural and economic resources to be preserved.	II.5.a.1 Coordinate with the Rhode Island Natural Heritage Program on a regular basis to determine sensitive habitat locations.
	II.5.b Maintain strict accordance with RI State Forest Management Plan	II.5.b.1 Develop a series of protection and management recommendations for each identified habitat location in coordination with the Rhode Island Natural Heritage Program.
		II.5.b.2 Include the Rhode Island Natural Heritage Program staff in consultation on development proposals which may potentially impact an identified site.
		II.5.b.3 Incorporate a wildlife activity protection area within the site plan review process, as well as for the Recreation Commission to consider when applying for open space funding programs.
		II.5.b.4 Encourage Forest Resource Management, Sustainability, Information and Education, Health, Commercial Forest Products, Water Resources, Forest and Recreation and Tourism
II.6 To ensure that air quality in Burrillville meets national ambient air quality standards and maintain air quality levels in the Town higher than these standards.	II.6.a Encourage measures which reduce air pollution levels.	II.6.a.1 Work with local business to implement air pollution reduction measures including, but not limited to, commuter services, park and ride lots, bus transit, car pool/van pool programs, bicycle programs, variable work hours etc.
		II.6.a.2 Require that all new commercial and industrial developments meet or exceed national clean air standards.
		II.6.a.3 Lobby adjacent communities to quickly address potential air quality problems within their boundaries.

II.7 To identify and preserve Burrillville's historic sites, structures, documents and artifacts as representations of the Town's cultural heritage.	II.7.a. Establish a formal Town-supported board/commission to develop the regulations necessary to preserve the Town's historic sites, structures and artifacts.	II.7.a.1 Reestablish the Burrillville Historic District Commission (HDC) by enactment of the Town Council and add the Commission to the Town Charter through the amendment process. Ongoing
		II.7.a.2 Provide the HDC with meeting and storage space at the Town Hall or other appropriate Town-owned facility, and provide a suitable operating budget to enable it to carry out its functions as expressed by local ordinance.
		II.7.a.3 Through the HDC and establishment of an historic zoning district, gain Certified Local Government (CLG) status.[27]
	II.7.b. Establish land use regulations necessary to preserve the Town's historic sites, structures and artifacts, including but not limited to, cemeteries, stone walls and trees.	II.7.b.1 Working with the HDC, review historic district zoning regulations of other communities, designate those areas of the community which should be targeted for such preservation efforts and after holding required public hearing(s), prepare legislation to permit historic district zoning.
		II.7.b.2 The Town Planner, Planning Board, Town Council and HDC should cooperatively prepare design guidelines for adoption as part of the historic district regulations to enforce the purposes of historic district zoning.
		II.7.b.3 Establish an environmental review process within the subdivision regulations and site plan review process (once established) which will permit the Planning Board to request an on-site archaeological investigation if the State Archaeologist indicates there is potential for an archaeological site on the premises.

[27] CLG status allows a Town to secure preservation grants and loans to carry out preservation activities needed to protect historical resources.

		II.7.b.4 Identify known archaeological sites on a Town base map in a generalized manner, i.e., twenty-acre radius around one or more sites so as not to pinpoint a particular site. Maintain this map as a resource in the Planning Department to let property owners know locations which may have archaeological sensitivity.
		II.7.b.5 The Town's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) assisted housing rehabilitation program should give special consideration to historic structures, and require compliance with historic district guidelines, whenever appropriate.
	II.7.c. Ensure the physical preservation of existing historical archives.	II.7.c.1 Provide suitable climate-controlled space to archive historical Town records and materials.
	II.7.d. Expand the Town's knowledge and documentation of historical and archaeological sites and structures.	II.7.d.1 Urge the HDC, Burrillville Historical and Preservation Society and other groups to establish and expand the existing historic site inventory.
		II.7.d.2 The HDC should develop a standard list of criteria by which "significant" resources are recommended for further study.[28]
		II.7.d.3 Support professional and/or academically oriented archaeological investigations of known or potential pre-colonial and colonial sites, including projects by local colleges and universities.
		II.7.d.4 Request the HPC to review and document those sites considered potentially eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.
	II.7.e. Promote the Town's rich historical heritage to attract tourism and other viable economic development activities.	II.7.e.1 Support the development of a network of historic homes and sites which are open to the public for walking and interpretive tours to augment the sites and historic routes which already exist.
		II.7.e.2 Actively promote the Town as an area rich in historic resources of the 18th, 19th and 20th centuries. Focus on the mill villages throughout the Town.

[28] This is a potential CLG grants-funded project.

		II.7.e.3 Develop an adaptive reuse program for mill structures. Suggested reuses include Town government, mixed residential/office/retail use, industrial/commercial incubator, elderly housing, and library.
		II.7.e.4 Review land use regulations to encourage preservation and reuse of historic mill structures. Modify such regulations to achieve this objective, if necessary.
		II.7.e.5 Lobby for the inclusion of Burrillville's historic villages and mill districts in the Blackstone Valley National Heritage Corridor Master Plan.
	II.7.f Promote inter-office and inter-agency coordination and cooperation in historical preservation activities.	II.7.f.1 Once established, the HDC should receive agenda material from the Planning Board and Zoning Board of Review. Members of the HDC are encouraged to attend Planning and Zoning Board meetings and to testify on matters affecting historical and archaeological resources.
		II.7.f.2 Require advance property owner notification for all Department of Public Works projects requiring the removal of major trees from private property.
II.8 To promote an appreciation for and understanding of Burrillville's historic resources.	II.8.a. Educate the public about the importance of preserving historic resources.	II.8.a.1 Provide support through the Historical Society and other groups for public education on historic and cultural resources, including, but not limited to, activities such as workshops, forums, historic house tours, information packets and living and learning centers, etc.
		II.8.a.2 Encourage the schools to expand educational efforts and resources committed to teaching about local history such as promoting volunteer participation and other efforts.
		II.8.a.3 Form a coalition of local preservation interests, with the HDC as the core, to promote a public/private partnership in preservation.[29]

[29] Should include groups such as the Northwest Villages Conservancy, the Burrillville Historical and Preservation Society and other interested parties who wish to be represented.

Chapter III
Community Services & Facilities

CHAPTER III
COMMUNITY SERVICES AND FACILITIES

Community facilities are buildings, lands and services which serve the public, such as schools, libraries, police, fire, utilities, recreation and others. Inclusion of these facilities in the Comprehensive Plan is important because they provide the skeleton for servicing the community (water, sewer) and because land use and changes created by land use impact the community's services and facilities. Development tends to follow the location and quantity of public services, and advance planning of facilities should be coordinated with economic development, housing, transportation, open space and land use objectives. Elderly housing projects at Ashton Court, and Bradford Court, each provide a variety of support services for their residents.

III.1 Existing Conditions, Trends and Projections

This section presents information regarding the current condition of community (Town and other public) services, including emergency services, libraries, Town Hall, public works and the animal shelter. Map 1 depicts the various location of each facility within Town.

III.1.a Emergency Services

Emergency services in the Town of Burrillville include police, fire and rescue. The Town maintains a Civil Defense network consisting of the combined efforts of The Emergency Management Director, The Department of Public Works, and elected officials of the Town. With the assistance of the Emergency Management Director, the Town operates within the standards and guidelines set by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Accordingly, the Town of Burrillville recently updated its Emergency Operations Plan, 2005. The 2005 EOP is available for public review with copies located in the Department of Public Works, Police Department and Manager's Office. Located in Annex E of the EOP is a map depicting the two emergency shelter locations, which respectively are the Burrillville Middle School, located on Route 102 and Steere Farm Elementary School, located on Steere Farm Road. The police department is an arm of Town government, while fire and rescue are independent taxing districts.

Fire and Rescue Services - There are four fire districts in Burrillville (see Map 2):

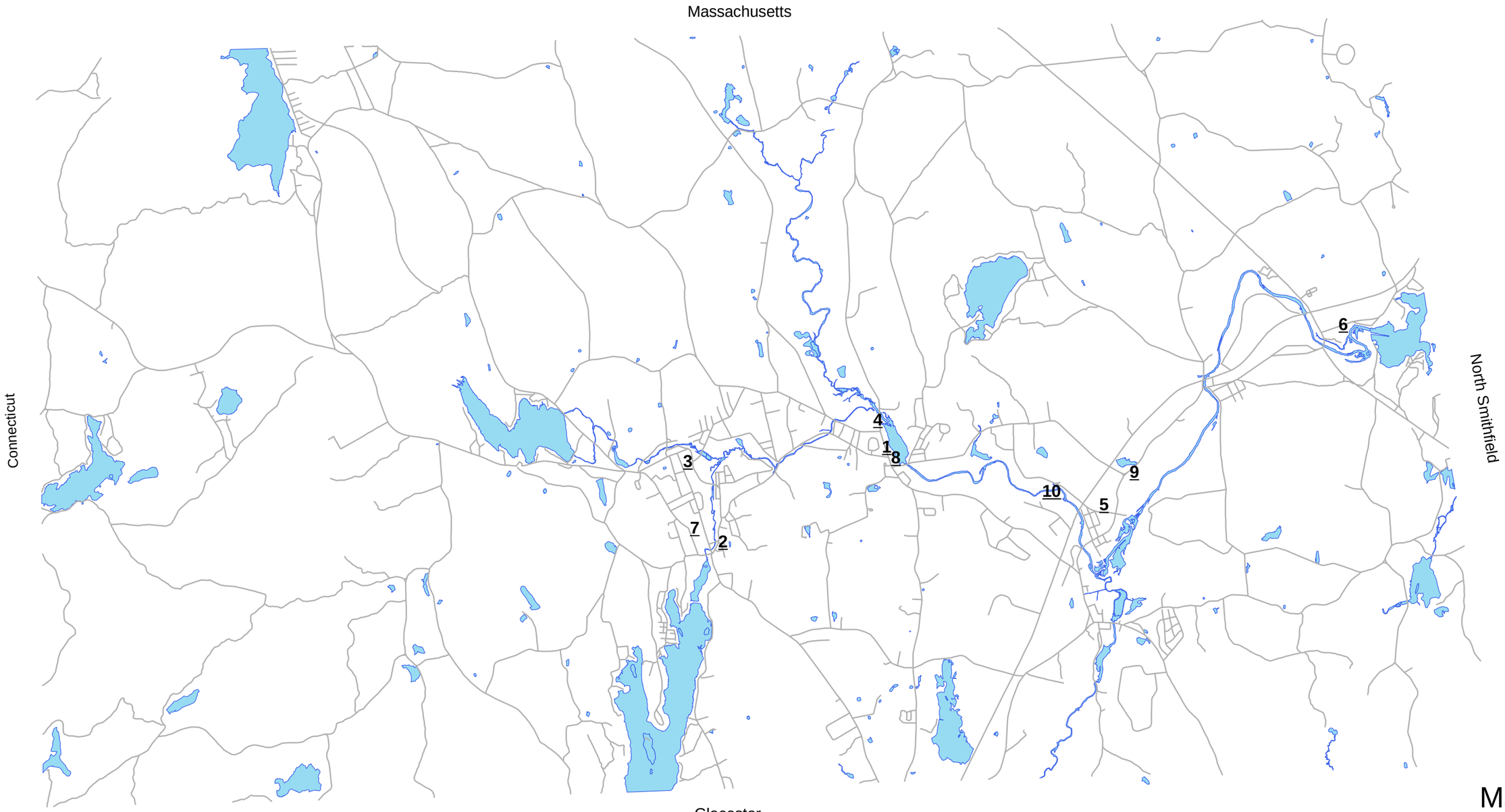
- Pascoag Utility District (includes Wallum Lake Fire Department);
- Harrisville Fire District;
- Nasonville Fire District;
- Oakland-Mapleville Fire District;

Table III-1
Summary of Fire District Characteristics

Fire District	No. of Volunteers	Equipment/Age	No. of Units Served	No. of Calls in Aug 2001 – July 2002
Pascoag Volunteer: Career:	55+/- 50 5	75 ft. snorkel/ground/1972 Engine/Tanker/1990Engine.1997 1 pumper/1977 1 tank truck/1985 2 rescue trucks/2001, 1996 Salvage truck Air supply truck/2000 Forestry truck/1977 Chief's vehicle/1997	1,977	827 Rescue 193 Fire
Harrisville Volunteer: Career:	 37 senior firefighters; 6 junior firefighters 3 firefighter/EMT's	Pumper/1992 Pumper/2002 Aerial ladder/1984 Fire-medic/ 1989 Rescue truck/1997 Forestry 1999	 1,361(serve portion of Glendale District	 500+/- rescue 125+/- fire
Nasonville	 34	2001 Custom E-1 Fire Truck 1995 Custom KME Fire Truck 1999 Attack Truck Rescue truck/1989 Military Style Tanker Truck	 792	 70+/- rescue 40+/- fire
Oakland/ Mapleville	 30	Engine/1979 Engine/1990 Engine/1998 Rescue/1988 Rescue/1999 Forestry/1972	 > 585	 265 EMS 106 Fire
Wallum Lake	25	Pumper, 1963 Tanker, 1967	NA	 150+/- fire
TOTAL, ALL DISTRICTS	190		5,821	2,276+/-

The districts are independent taxing districts, in that residents who live within the district boundaries are taxed for the provision of fire services. Pascoag and Harrisville tax their districts separately to maintain public water within each district. Table III-1 presents basic information regarding each fire district.

Community Facilities



Source: Burrillville Planning Dept., 2004

1 - Town Hall
2 - Pascoag Fire Station -Hose 1
3 - Pascoag Fire Station -Hose 2
4 - Harrisville Fire Station
5 - Oakland Mapleville Fire Station
6 - Nasonville Fire Station
7 - Pascoag Library
8 - Jesse M. Smith Library
9 - Police Station
10 - Wastewater Facility

Map 1

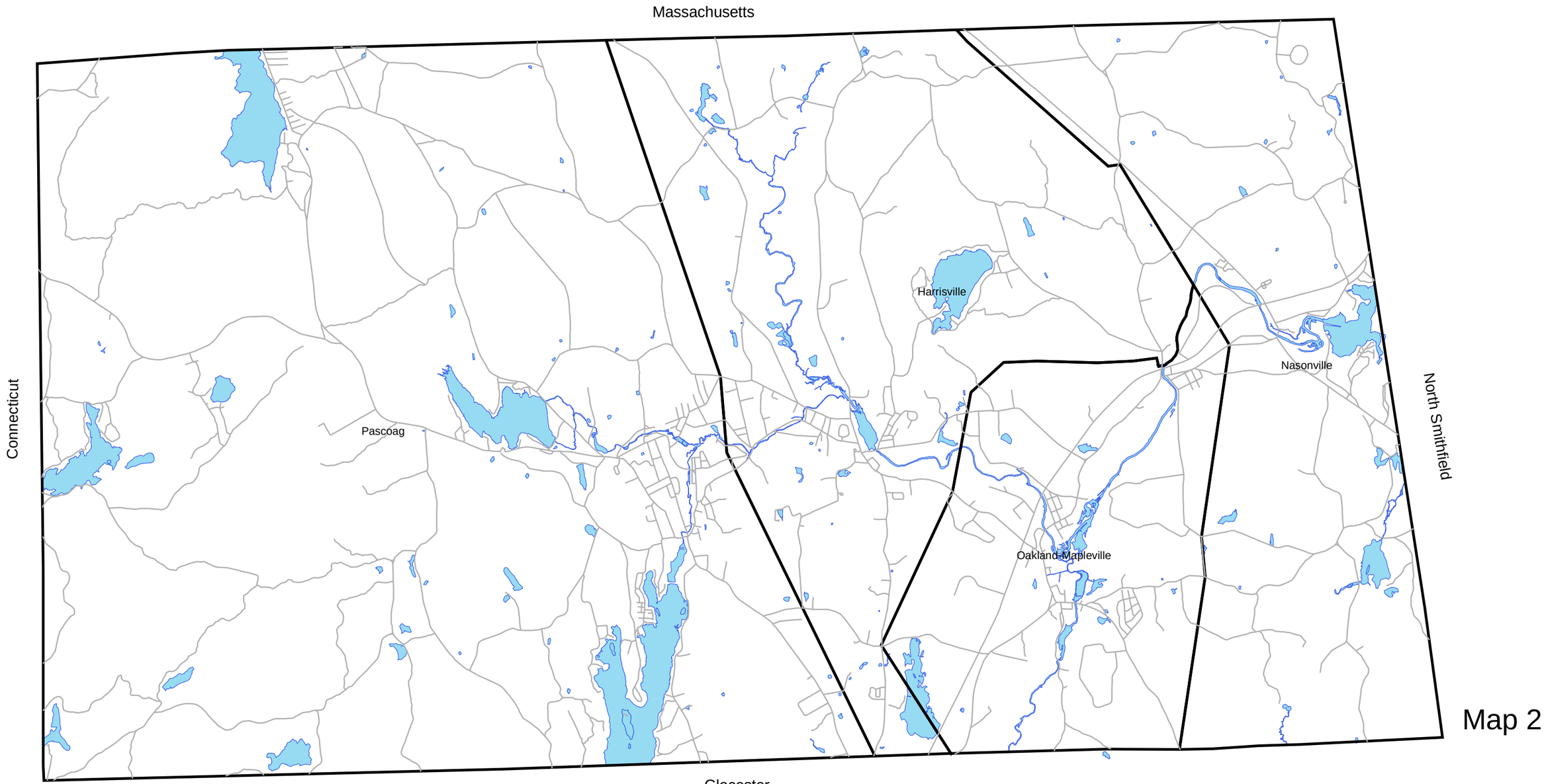
Legend

roads

water

0 0.35 0.7 1.4 Miles

Burrillville Fire Districts



Map 2

Source: Burrillville Planning Dept., 2004

Legend

- roads
- Fire_District
- water

0 0.35 0.7 1.4 Miles

Harrisville Fire District has a full time staff of 3 EMT/Firefighters, two of whom work a daytime shift –7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and one works the night shift 11:30 p.m. to 7:30 a.m.. There will be a future need to cover all shifts with a paid EMT to ensure that the emergency response will be ALS (advanced life support). Should the community consider establishing a full time, paid fire-fighting force, approximately two fire-fighters are required per shift, per 1,000 dwelling units, for a total of 20 to 30 fire-fighters.[1]

Fire and Rescue Calls - The number of calls each company responded to in 2002 is listed in Table III-1. Over all, the number of call increased 150% since 1990. However, the total number of personnel increased nearly 258% since that time –partly due to increased volunteers. The increase is believed to be due to more calls for minor emergencies or non-emergencies. Increase in transport for nursing home patients was noted as another reason for additional rescue calls.

Each company is a member of the Northern RI Firemen's League, a 12-town mutual aid system, including three companies in Massachusetts, and companies in Glocester, North Smithfield and Smithfield. Within the Town, there is good cooperation among districts in lending assistance on calls. There is some concern in regard to the future of Burrillville Ambulance Association and how this may affect the hiring of more paid personnel. To address the shortfall of personnel available during the day, the Fire Chiefs have set up policies that address using automatic mutual aid for some calls.

Water Supply - Four districts are served by hydrant systems, Pascoag, Harrisville, Glendale and Nasonville (small area). The remainder of the districts use the Town's ponds and rivers as water sources. Each is equipped with pumper trucks adequate to provide water supply for most fire emergencies, and mutual aid is relied upon in severe cases. The Nasonville District indicated concern for water supply in the northern section of the district, between East Ironstone and Mount Pleasant Roads –dry hydrants with pond access would be helpful in these areas. Future development in this area should be carefully reviewed to ensure that all steps are taken to provide adequate water supply for fire emergencies.

Facilities and Equipment - Each fire district company is housed in district owned and maintained headquarters. Each district indicated that current space conditions are suitable for existing staff and equipment, and do not anticipate expansion within the life of this Plan. As the Town continues to grow, however, there may be a need for the companies to add equipment and storage for that

[1] Impact of Growth, A Guide for Socio-Economic Impact Assessment and Planning, Larry W. Canter, Lewis Publishing, 1986.

equipment. Some of the fire house sites may not be suitable for expansion due to adjacent land uses, and natural and other development constraints, particularly the Glendale site.

The most critical need the fire companies are experiencing is in updating and replacing equipment, particularly engines, pumpers and rescue vehicles. Most companies anticipate replacing at least one major piece of equipment during the next 5 to 10 years, as follows:

- Pascoag – 1 rescue vehicle and 1977 tanker to conform to ISO policies;
- Harrisville Fire District - replace 1984 Aerial Ladder within 5 years;
- Oakland-Mapleville Fire District - replace 1979 engine and 1998 rescue; and,

Equipment replacements are funded through a combination of company fund raisers as well as tax income from the district. Districts are required to meet standards set by the National Fire Insurance Underwriters in terms of equipment and replacements.

The National Fire Protection Association "1500" program was recently adopted by the State, and is to be enforced by the State Fire Marshal's Office. This program requires the fire districts to meet stringent standards in terms of fire station safety, equipment and apparatus safety and other elements. The compliance year is 1991.

Hazardous Materials Response - The districts have most members trained as first response teams for hazardous material emergencies. Once the fire fighters have assessed the emergency and cordoned off the area, hazardous materials specialists from Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management are contacted. In addition, the Town of Smithfield has a hazardous materials response team who are available to assist if needed. None of the districts anticipates expanding their abilities in this area. Harrisville Fire District possesses two pumper trucks with foam operation capabilities.

Service Areas - The National Board of Fire Insurance Underwriters recommends a maximum of 4 square miles for service to a fire district. All the fire districts meet this standard.

Projected Needs - Standards are unavailable for volunteer fire personnel, however, based on the standards for full time personnel presented in Table III-2, existing volunteer staffing levels appear to be adequate. This does not account for the limited availability of volunteers during daytime hours. To maintain this staffing level, the companies need to keep their volunteer levels high.

Table III-2
Projected Fire Staffing Needs

Year	Estimated/Projected Population (1)	Projected Dwelling Units (2)	Firefighters Needed (3)
2000	15,796	5,744	28
2005	16,163	5,877	29
2010	16,469	5,988	30
2015	16,928	6,155	31
2020	17,439	6,341	32
2025	17,876	6,500	33
2030	18,195	6,616	33

Source:(1) Rhode Island Department of Administration, Division of Planning.
(2) 2.75 persons per dwelling unit.
(3) 5 full time firefighters per 1,000 dwelling units, Real Estate Research Corporation.

Police Department

The police department is headquartered at 1477 Victory Highway on a large parcel of Town-owned property. The department is staffed by 35 personnel, including:

Personnel	
Chief of Police - 1; Lieutenants - 3 Sergeants - 4; Detective(s) - 1 Prosecution Officer - 1 Part Time Animal Control - 1 Part Time Dispatcher - 1	Dispatchers - 4; Administrative Aide - 1; and, Janitor - 1. Resource Officer - 1 Animal Control Officer – 1 Assistant Animal Control Officer - 1 Patrolmen – 14;
Equipment	
Communications Equipment LO/JACK Computers Defibrillators	Live Scan (fingerprinting) Radar units Noise Detection Meter Crime / traffic accident equipment

The Department responded to approximately 10,000 + dispatch calls in 2002. Calls have increased over the past few years, primarily due to the increase in the Town's population. The growth in population has placed a greater demand upon the everyday services of the department, i.e., more accidents, breaking/entering/larceny, domestic problems, simple assaults etc. Building in remote areas of the Town makes it more difficult to keep response time to a minimum.

Facility - The police department is approximately 6,088 square feet in size. Standards indicate that approximately 250 square feet per employee is appropriate for communities of Burrillville's size, which would call for approximately 8,750 square feet of space. Problems with the current facility include:

- The overall building size does not suit the department at its present stafflevel.
- Lack of work space for officers, for report preparation, interviewing, etc.;
- The facility requires some interior space redesign for improved efficiency. The locker room areas are inadequate; the work area for officers and the records storage area are at opposite ends of the building; and other problems with interior space arrangement make it more difficult to carry out the daily activities of the department.
- The location of the facility is not optimal, particularly for responding to calls from Harrisville/Pascoag. Stillwater Mills would be an optimum location.
- The Department's computerized record keeping system is IMC (Information Management Cooperation).

Alternatives which have been considered in discussions regarding the future of police facility include expansion at the current site by converting the two car garage into work space; creation of a municipal campus on the existing police station site, including a repair facility for all Town vehicles.

The Department must replace at least two cruisers on an annual basis to effectively maintain its fleet. The used cruisers are usually recycled into use for other municipal purposes.

Federal standards indicate that a community of the size and character of Burrillville should have approximately two officers per 1,000 population, for a total of 31 sworn officers. Response time can vary from 5 to 10 minutes to an hour depending on the time of day, the location of the call, the number of staff on call at the time and number of officers needed for the particular service call. Calls of non-critical nature may be "stacked" until available police units clear from emergency calls.

Projected Needs - Based on the standards presented in Table III-3, there is an immediate need for nine (9) additional police personnel.

Table III-3
Projected Police Department Needs

Year	Projected Population (1)	Area Needed (Sq. Feet) (2)	Officers Needed (3)
2000	15,796	8,000	32
2005	16,163	8,250	33
2010	16,469	8,250	33
2015	16,928	8,750	35
2020	17,439	8,750	35
2025	17,876	9,000	36
2030	18,195	9,000	36

Notes: (1) Rhode Island Department of Administration, Division of Planning, 1999 pop. projections.
(2) 250 square feet per officer, Real Estate Research Corporation.
(3) 1 officer per 500 population, Burrillville Police Department.

III.1.b Libraries

Burrillville is served by two libraries, Jesse M. Smith Library at 100 Tinkham Lane, Harrisville, and Pascoag Public Library, 57 Church Street, Pascoag. Smith Library is open 53 hours per week (50 hrs/wk during July & August). The library system is funded by the Town, State and private donations, and its activities are overseen by the Board of Library Trustees and Board of Administration appointed by the Town Council.

The Pascoag Library is housed in a small structure built in 1924. The library is open five days per week for a total of 26 hrs/wk. It is a private non-profit organization governed by the Pascoag Ladies Library Association.

Jesse M. Smith Memorial Library

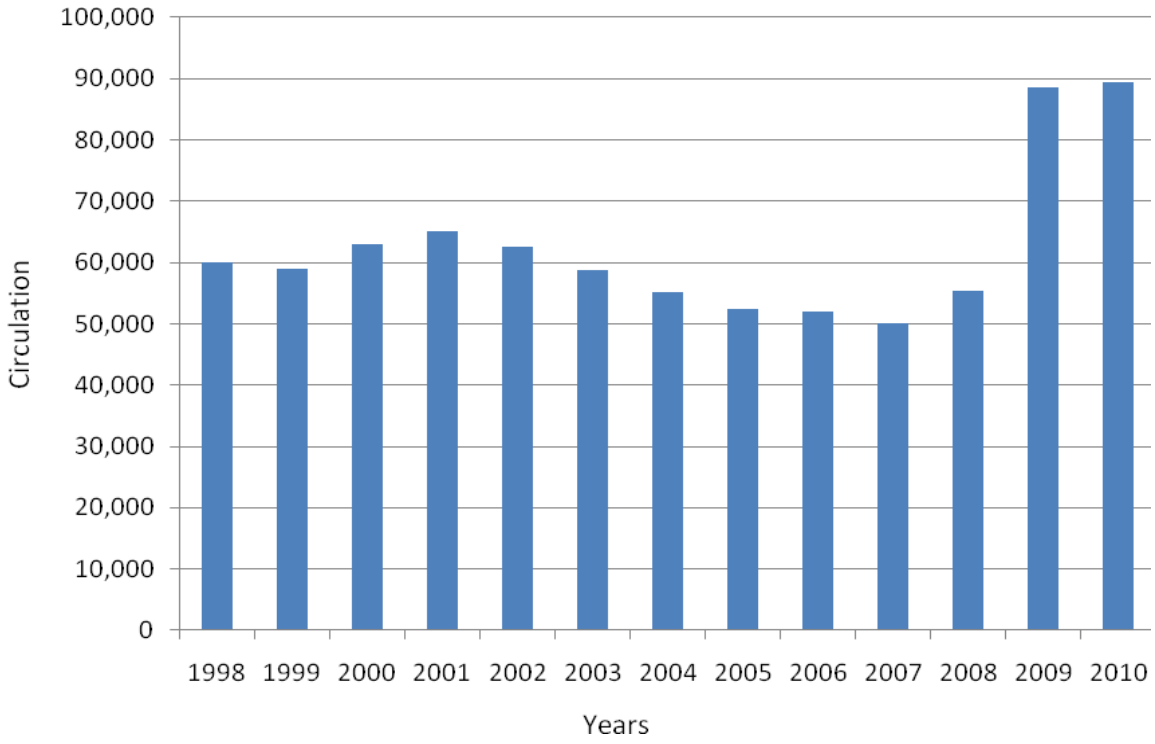
Smith Library collection size (FY10 annual report): 63,077

Besides books, magazines, audio and video/DVD materials and puzzles, the library also offers 24/7 access to downloadable e-books and e-audio through its Ocean State Libraries consortium membership in EZone, plus a wide variety of online databases through the consortium and the state funded AskRI links. An ever growing special collection of Local History materials is available for use by genealogists and others researching community and family history.

In addition, a wide variety of programs and displays are offered throughout the year from Babytimes, Toddler and Pre-School storytimes, school-age programming including the Summer

Reading Program to offerings for Young Adults and Adults ranging from movie presentations to speakers and craft programs. Exhibits include works of art and collections by locals as well as informational displays by community organizations plus historic displays and murals depicting the heritage of the library site.

Figure III-2
Circulation in Smith Library, 1998 - 2010



Source: Burrillville Library Director, 2003

Employees (as of July 2011- FY12)- total: 19

Full Time: 1 Director – MLS
(35hr) 1 Assist. Director /Reference/Young Adult Librarian- MLS
1 Reference Dept Head – MLS equivalent
1 Circulation Supervisor
2 Circulation III positions
1 Custodian

Part-time	2 Children's Librarians equaling 1 FTE MLS position
(vary from	1 Technology Specialist/Administrative Assistant
14 hr to	4 Circulation II positions
19.5h/wk)	1 paraprofessional for Children's Dept
	2 Adult Aides- 1 for Reference, 1 for Children's
	2 student pages

While current staffing levels meet or exceed the State Minimum Standards for Public Libraries, because the new building is so large, operations have, perforce, become much more departmentalized. With the library open 53hrs per week, when faced with unexpected illness or absences, it is often difficult to maintain full coverage in all areas with the result that non-public work becomes backlogged, staff must constantly shift their schedules to maintain adequate coverage and often some service areas do not have staff available with adequate skills for that particular function. This is a particular problem for circulation which requires extensive and constant training to perform efficiently.

Ideally, future staffing improvements will include making the Technology Specialist a full time position and hiring a part-time Administrative Assistant, adding at least one more part-time circulation position and a part-time 'floater' who could be trained in basic Reference and Children's Room duties to serve as back-up in those areas. Ultimately the Children's Librarian position would be filled by a Full Time MLS Librarian but hopefully the library could retain one part-time MLS Children's Librarian as well.

III.1.c Town Hall

The Town Hall is located on Harrisville Main Street and its 6,200+/- square feet includes administrative offices, records storage, and meeting space. Parking at the site is limited, with approximately 25-30+/- spaces in the parking lot and 4+/- on-street spaces. There is no ability to expand parking or building on the existing lot.

III.1.d Public Works Department

The Town's Public Works Department is located at 65 Union Avenue in Harrisville. The responsibilities of the department include snow plowing, sanitary landfill operations, road and bridge

maintenance, and maintenance of athletic fields and Town parks. The Department employs 15 personnel, including drivers, laborers, mechanics, clerical staff and management. Its equipment includes 14 dump trucks, 12 of which have sanding and snowplowing capabilities, 2 front-end loaders, 1 road grader, 1 bulldozer, 1 service truck and 3 management vehicles.

III.1.e Animal Shelter

The Town's animal shelter is located adjacent to the sanitary landfill off Route 102. It provides facilities for housing stray animals, as well as an animal burial area.

III.2 Utility Services

Burrillville is a "full service" municipality providing the majority of residents with a modern sewage collection system with advanced treatment, a high level of pollutant removal (see Wastewater Facilities Plan, July 2002); water distribution systems furnished by three of the town's five Fire Districts; and municipal control over the operations and maintenance of drainage facilities associated with municipal roads.

These services and their delivery systems are dynamic and are being managed to keep pace with community needs. There is some evidence that the development of the community in the past decade has resulted in some growing pains, but the overall picture is one of a community that has been in control.

Due to MBTE contamination of the Pascoag Water System, water supply is largely furnished by the Harrisville Water District which also supplies Pascoag. Harrisville operates under the guidance of a Water Supply System Management Plan which accounts for all projected growth center projects that are either under construction or within the Planning Board Approval Process. The executive summary is attached to this chapter as Appendix I. The MBTE contamination forced Pascoag to tie into the Harrisville system in order to provide town-wide potable water to residents of each village. Residents outside the service areas of these Fire Districts are served by on-site wells or small community well systems There is a small community service in Oakland providing water service to approximately 20 units that was developed by Austin Levy in association with the mill complex. The water supply sources of the three distribution systems does not appear to be threatened, and the system capacities have proved adequate to meet demand. However, new sources should be identified for reserves, and to serve future growth. Protection measures should be implemented for existing and potential new sources.

There is a water system operated at Zambarano Hospital in the northwest section of Town on Wallum Lake. The Hospital draws water from Wallum Lake and it is treated at facilities at the power plant for distribution and use at the Hospital only. The Hospital also operates its own wastewater treatment facility which utilizes an on-site leaching field for effluent treatment and discharge. These hospital facilities are entirely self contained and are not available for community use.

The citizen survey conducted in May 1990, by the Comprehensive Plan Committee and Albert Veri & Associates, Inc., received responses which generally indicated residents' satisfaction with sewer and water service. Seventy percent of the respondents favored spending funds for exploring alternative water sources.

The buildout analysis for the Town of Burrillville, prepared by Albert Veri & Associates, Inc. for the Land Use Element projects growth well into 21st century. Over the next 20 years, that growth is estimated as follows:

Residential	Additional Population
1990 - 2000	1,800
2000 - 2010	1,000

Commercial	Square Footage Floor Space
1990 - 2000	45,471 SF
2000 - 2010	45,471 SF

Industrial	Square Footage Floor Space
1990 - 2000	75,182 SF
2000 - 2010	75,181 SF

The impact of the increase in development and added population on municipal services will be experienced across the Town, but localized affects will occur as well. The buildout estimates that 19 percent of the future residential development will occur in the Harrisville and Pascoag area., while 75 percent of the residential development will be dispersed on pockets of developable soils throughout the Town's F-5 zone.

Regardless of contamination of the Pascoag water system, the development in Harrisville and Pascoag will seek to connect both villages forcing the two water systems to remain connected. Development outside the Harrisville and Pascoag water districts will be more dependent on individual wells and on-site sewage disposal. Outside Pascoag-Harrisville, exceptions to on-site

services can be anticipated where there are planned sewer extensions and where connections to the Nasonville Fire District water system are feasible.

The continued development of commercial and industrial uses will also be influenced by and have an affect on municipal services. There are significant tracks of land along Route 102 that are zoned for commercial and industrial development. Not all of these areas are currently serviced by municipal sewer and water. However, the planned extension of sewers to Mohegan, Nasonville and Glendale will furnish wastewater collection to areas along Victory Highway and Douglas Pike.

The effects of the buildout will be experienced in increments. The new population of 1,800 persons to be added to the estimated 16,000 persons currently residing in the Town, will be added over the next decade at the average of 180 persons per year. This rate can be influenced by the general economy, zoning decisions that change allowable uses or development densities, specific economic events such as a major industrial relocation, regional growth and development and other factors. The following discussion examines existing conditions, trends, and projections for growth and development in Burrillville and the impact growth will have on solid waste management, sewer and water services, and drainage facilities.

III.2.a Solid Waste Management Facilities

The Town is currently contracted with Coastal Recycling , which costs the Town approximately $64,000 per month (including recycling). Burrillville is making every effort to comply with the RI State Waste Management Plan's Primary Goal which reads as follows: "Environmentally sound management of solid waste that protects and preserves the environment and public resources, maximizes the useful life of the Central Landfill, and promotes the convenience, health comfort, safety, and welfare of the people of the state at reasonable cost including, in order of preference, 1) waste prevention, 2)sources separation and recycling, and 3) processing and disposal."

The summary below as provided by the Burrillville DPW, describes the Town's efforts regarding recycling:

The Town of Burrillville has approximately 16,000 residents, and 5,500 households. In 2010, the Town recycled 1,427 tons of recyclables and generated 4,277 tons of Solid Waste, and had a recycling rate of 25%, and a diversion rate of 31%. The Town generated .86 tons of trash per household served.

In an effort to improve the Town's recycling and diversion rates and in anticipation of the State mandated 35% recycling rate and 50% diversion rate in 2012, the Town Council appointed a Rubbish and Recycling Committee in August 2009. The Committee researches new ways to divert solid waste, and provides residents with up to date resources and information to help improve

recycling efforts throughout town. In March 2010, the Committee launched the "Strive for 35% Campaign" an aggressive advertising campaign that set forth to inform residents of the 2012 State mandates, and to provide them with suggestions to help attain those percentages.

The Town adopted a No Bin, No Barrel program on December 1, 2010, as a first step towards reaching the 35% recycling rate goal. The No Bin, No Barrel program was advertised in local publications throughout town, and all residents received an informational packet prior to its commencement. The program is running smoothly and residents are complying.

The Town also has a conveniently located Recycling and Compost Facility where residents can bring e-Waste, mattresses, glass, scrap metal, rigid plastic and tires to be recycled. The Facility also accepts lawn and yard waste, and Christmas trees to be composted. At the Public Works Department the Town offers residents the ability to recycled used motor oil and filters, clothing and batteries.

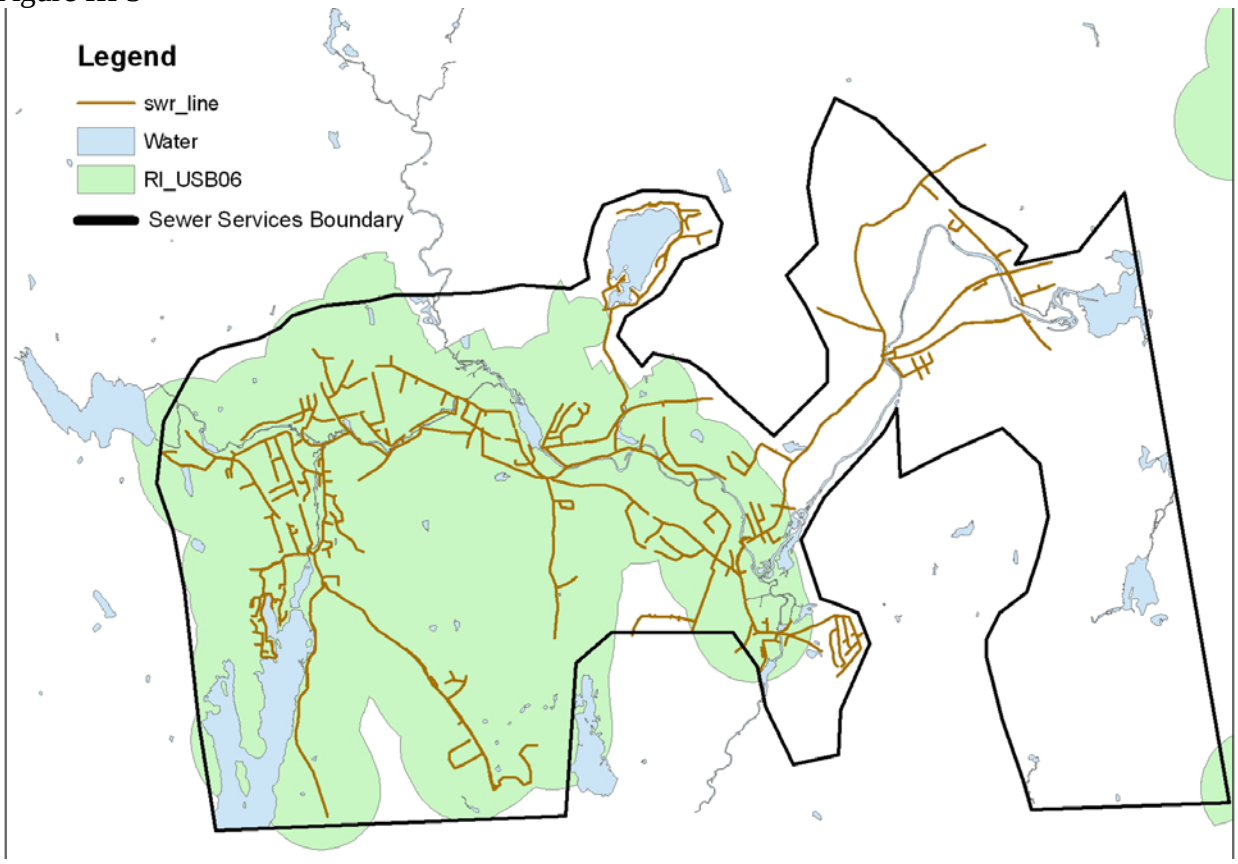
Options currently being explored by the Rubbish and Recycling Committee to help increase the Town's recycling and diversion rates are the possibility switching to a PAYT program in the future, as well as adding additional recycling options such as a cardboard dumpster, book bin, and swap shed. The Town also plans to hold a Shred-It event in 2011.

III.2.b Sewage Collection, Treatment and Disposal

The Burrillville Sewer Commission recently completed and received RI DEM approval for a Wastewater Facilities Plan, July 2002. All pertinent information regarding sewage collection, treatment and disposal is contained within the plan, which shall be considered part of this plan by reference.

The appropriate density of development for any given area of town should be directly related to the level of service available, particularly sewer. While the Waste Water Treatment Boundary is generally consistent with the Urban Services Boundary (USB), it seems to extend outside of the USB in the southeastern part of Burrillville in what is a very rural area known as Nasonville. See Figure III 3 on the following page

Figure III 3



III.2.c Individual Sewage Disposal Systems

The balance of the Town not serviced by sewers relies on Individual Sewage Disposal Systems (ISDS). These systems when properly designed, installed, and maintained are a reliable means of disposing wastewater. The R.I. Department of Environmental Management regulates the design and installation of new systems, system repairs and alterations. Burrillville encourages the use of modern, technologically advanced ISDS systems, when used as an alternative to sewer, in effort to protect water quality.

III.2.d Water Service

The Town is serviced by three water districts: (1) the Harrisville Fire District and (2) the Pascoag Utility District, and (3) the Nasonville Fire District. The waterlines transcend the actual fire district boundaries and are depicted on Map 3. Town-wide, collectively, there exists a total of 2130 service connections. Generally, residents outside the service areas rely either on individual wells or community well systems such as those in Oakland, Mohegan and Glendale. There are, however, residents inside the service areas whom rely on individual wells.

Burrillville Water lines

Massachusetts

Connecticut

North Smithfield

Glocester

SR100

SR96

SR98

SR107

SR100

SR98

SR102

Legend

- waterlin
- roads
- water
- Fire_District

Source; Burrillville Planning Dept., July 2004

Map 3

0 0.2 0.4 0.8 Miles

The Pascoag and Harrisville water systems have developed for the most part on their own. However, there is a history of coordination between the two. The Pascoag system was a private operation until 1934. At that time the system was purchased by the Harrisville and Pascoag Fire Districts. Historical accounts speculate that the residents of the Fire Districts wanted a more comprehensive supply and delivery system. Recently, during the fall of 2001, the Pascoag and Harrisville water districts physically merged the water delivery infrastructure when MTBE contaminated the Pascoag water system. It must be noted that although the water systems are merged, the departments remain separate entities, Pascoag is now a wholesale customer of Harrisville. Until the Pascoag Utility District either locates new wells or is able to remediate the existing wells, they will remain a wholesale customer or Harrisville.

The Nasonville Fire District water system is a new phenomenon resulting from community response to private well contamination in recent years caused by a landfill operation which is now closed.

Harrisville Fire District Water System Supply - This system is fed by six wells with a capacity of 1.2 million gallons per day.[1] Please see the Supply Management Plan, Executive Summary in Appendix I.

The water quality of the wells is generally good and meets current standards. There have been no known instances of well contamination. Table III-5 presents a list of potential sources of contamination.

Storage - There are two water storage facilities in the Harrisville Water System

Fee Structure - The basic rate is $3.50 per quarter per 1,000 gallons of water consumed per residential unit. There is a .0292 per 1000-gallon charge for the state's water quality protection fund. Ten percent of the fee is retained by the district and the balance is deposited with the state.

Use - There are a total of 1057 service connections within the Harrisville District. The average daily demand has been steadily increasing according to the most recent data.

[1] Not required to disclose location of wells per HR Legislative Bill No. 3448 Bioterrorism Act of 2002 – Public Health Security, Bioterrorism Preparedness Response Act

Year	Consumption Gallons Per Day
1986	190,898
1987	201,207
1988	250,000
2002	275,000

Table III-5
Existing Potential Contaminant Source
Harrisville Fire District Water Supply

Site No.	Name of Property	Information Available
6	Eagle Motors	Sunoco Gas Station with underground fuel storage

Source: Dufresne, Henry, Revised Water Protection Plan January 1990.

PASCOAG UTILITY DISTRICT

Background

The Pascoag Utility District's water system was developed from an artesian well system that was constructed in the 1800's. The well system consisted of two dug wells, two artesian wells and two shallow trenches acting as infiltration galleries. This well system and pumping facilities were located near the since abandoned Pascoag Railroad Station. System water storage was provided by a 0.235 million gallon (MG) water storage tank on Rock Avenue that has since been replaced by the 1.5 MG steel storage standpipe constructed in 1979. In approximately 1912, the nearby Harrisville Fire District was formed. A new supply well was constructed within Harrisville's service territory, which was then considered the main supply of water for both the Pascoag Utility District and the Harrisville Fire District (HFD).

Formerly under private ownership, the system was purchased by the then named Pascoag and Harrisville Fire Districts. The Districts continued to share the water supply well until approximately 1944 when the two systems were separated by a closed valve on Chapel Street. It was at this time that Pascoag elected to install its own drinking supply well termed Well No. 1. The continued expansion of the water system prompted Pascoag to build another storage tank on South Main Street with a capacity of 0.265 MG in 1968.

Subsequently, the District installed Wells No. 2 and 3 in the 1960's, which added to the existing supply capacity of Well No. 1. The District was forced to abandon Well No. 1 due to the existence of high levels of iron and manganese concentrations and the associated problems it created. Well No. 2 was also removed from service due to iron levels and reduced production capacity. Well No. 3 continued to stay online and Well No. 3A was installed in 1999 to serve as the primary supply well with Well No. 3 serving as the backup well supply for the system.

In the summer of 2001, the District detected high levels of methyl-tertiary-butyl ether (MTBE) in both wells No. 3 and 3A and subsequently was forced to shut down both supply wells. In response to the inactivation of these primary supply wells, the District began to purchase wholesale water from neighboring HFD. The District's two primary supply wells currently remain inactive.

Water System - General

The Pascoag Utility District (District) is a self-supporting, quasi-municipal public utility providing potable water to customers within its prescribed service territory. The operation of the water supply portion of the District is financed directly from the sale of metered water to District customers. The District is controlled and operated through a seven member part-time, Board of Utility Commissioners or Administrative Board that is primarily responsible for overall management and policies of the District. This includes but is not limited to defining critical aspects of policy and procedure, approving budgets, system expansion, establishing water rates, enforcing by-laws and establishing general system rules and regulations. The day-to-day operation and function of the water system is dependent upon the General Manager and assigned operation staff.

The District's water system is comprised of approximately 15 miles of water transmission and distribution mains, hydrants, water services, two well pump stations (currently inactive), a wholesale service connection, two storage tanks and appurtenances that serve approximately 2,977 persons through 1076 service accounts within the Village of Pascoag. In 2001, the average day demand (ADD) of the system was approximately 390,000 gallons while the maximum day demand was estimated at 930,000 gallons.

The Rhode Island Department of Health, Division of Drinking Water Quality has designated the District's water system as a "community water supply system". Currently, the water system maintains compliance with the Division of Water Quality with regard to standards and regulations for potable water supply.

Supply Source(s)

The District currently obtains 100 percent of its source water from an interconnection with neighboring Harrisville Fire District (HFD). This interconnection located on Main Street was installed in 2002 and consists of a 10 inch turbine meter located in a below grade concrete vault. In addition, the District maintains a secondary (non metered) emergency interconnection with HFD on Union Avenue.

The need for this permanent interconnection was due to a contamination event that occurred within the District's system in late summer of 2001 that directly impacted the District's primary supply wells number 3 and 3A. The detection of the chemical compound known as methyl-tertiary-butyl-ether (MTBE), a common additive in gasoline, was detected in both well supplies, which subsequently forced their shutdown. In response, the District sought an alternative supply from the HFD and began to purchase water on a wholesale basis. The HFD constructed additional well sources to augment this increase in demand.

Future Supply Source(s)

Recently, the District employed the services of HydroSource Associates, Inc. (HAI) to identify and develop new groundwater sources within the District. This is part of an aggressive capital improvement project aimed at identifying and developing groundwater supply sources within the service territory of the District. The intent shall be to provide a primary source of supply under operation and control of the District such that the reliance on wholesale water from Harrisville is reduced or relegated to an emergency source of supply.

Additional options are also being investigated which would include the potential reactivation of Well No. 3 and 3A and potentially Well No.2. Due however to the incidence of groundwater contamination of the aquifer in which these three wells are located any such efforts to reactivate these wells is on hold for an indefinite time period. It is likely that any efforts for well reactivation will be dependent upon remediation efforts within the aquifer that are ongoing by State regulatory agencies.

Storage

The District maintains two (2) water storage tanks of standpipe style construction. One is located along Rock Avenue and is 100 feet in height with a diameter of 51 feet and a nominal capacity of 1.5 MG. The second tank is located on South Main Street and is 50 feet in height with a diameter of 30 feet and nominal capacity of 0.265 MG. These tanks are designed to provide equalization storage to the water system as well as meet periods of peak demands and reserve fire storage. The water system is operated as one pressure zone with nominal system pressures in the range of 25 to 100 psi. Pressures are controlled by the elevation in the water storage tanks that are set at an overflow elevation of 590 feet Mean Sea Level (MSL).

Fee Structure

The District charges a base fee to all accounts for administration and billing services of $38.50 per quarter. Additional billings are based on water usage per account premised on the following rate schedule.

LOWER RANGE (CUBIC FEET)	*UPPER RANGE (CUBIC FEET)*	*RATE TO BE CHARGED*
500.01	1500.00	0.01350
1500.01	2500.00	0.01500
2500.01	10000.00	0.01650
10000.01	9999999.00	0.01800

Source: Pascoag Utility District, 2003. (Rate charged based on greater than or equal to lower range and up to and including higher range. Readings and billings based on cubic feet of water use.)

In addition, the District levies a surcharge to cover costs associated with the purchase of wholesale water from the Harrisville. This rate is currently established at $0.225 per hundred gallons.

Water Use

It is estimated that the current population served via the 1,076 customer accounts is 2,977 persons with an estimate on the population to potentially be served at 3,000 (the difference accounts for those employing private wells within the service territory). Between 1995 and 1998 unaccounted water has ranged from 10 to 19 percent with an average of 14 percent. Due to the contamination event and an improperly reading master meter, unaccounted water for 1999 through 2002 is

unavailable. Historical average daily demand for the system is as follows. These values include unaccounted water volumes.

YEAR	*CONSUMPTION (GPD)*
2001	390,000
2000	N/A
1999	250,000
1998	290,000
1997	300,000
1996	310,000
1995	310,000
1994	360,000
1993	440,000
1992	430,000

Source: Pascoag Utility District, 2003

Population projections contained in the *Water Supply System Management Plan for the Pascoag Utility District, January 2003* indicate a service population of 3,180 and 3,720 for the five (2006) and twenty (2021) year planning periods, respectively. This represents a modest growth in customer accounts of approximately 1 percent per year. Based on current water usage patterns this corresponds to an anticipated future water demand estimate as follows.

	2006	*2021*
Average Day Demand	410,000 GPD	480,000 GPD
Maximum Day Demand	990,000 GPD	1,150,000 GPD

Source: Pascoag Utility District, 2003

It is envisioned that through a combination of consumer demand management strategies, reduction in unaccounted water volumes and potential alternative sources of supply, that the District will have sufficient capacity to meet the projected increase in consumer demand through the twenty year planning period.

Table III-6
Existing Potential Contaminant Sources
Pascoag Fire District Water Supply

Site No.	*Name of Property*	*Information Available*
1	Old Town Dump	Presently called Nelson's property used as a bus/car repair shop. Underground fuel storage tanks have been removed.
2	Moroney	An abandoned gas station/ garage. Underground fuel tanks have been removed.
3	Valliere Oil Company	Underground fuel storage.

5	Laverdiere	Gas station with underground fuel storage.
6	Tellier	Site of an abandoned gas station. Information on underground fuel storage not available.
7	Ledge Liquor	Site of an abandoned gas station with underground fuel storage. No information is available on fuel storage.
8	Hopkins	Presently an auto parts store. Site of an abandoned gas station with underground fuel storage. No information available on fuel storage.
9	D.J. Bread Basket	Site of an abandoned gas station with underground fuel storage. No information available on fuel storage.
10	Bill's Service Station	Site of an abandoned gas station. Underground fuel storage is still present.
11	Gilbrault	Residential home underground heating oil tank has been removed.
12	Blessington's	Site of an abandoned gas station with underground fuel storage. No information available on fuel storage.
13	Always Automotive	A gas station/garage with underground fuel storage. No information available on tanks.
14	Power Station	Electric company with above ground short-term storage of diesel fuel and PCB.
15	Sewer Line	Active trunk sewer line.

Source: Dufresne, Henry Revised Water Quality Protection Plan, October 23, 1989.

Nasonville Fire District Water System – A water system has been developed in the Nasonville section to serve 50-60 homes affected by the Western Sand & Gravel Landfill off Route 7. This system includes 1 well rated at 172,000 GPD, and a 100,000-gallon storage tank on Pulaski Road. The project is funded by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Aquifer Protection - The Town of Burrillville has an Aquifer Overlay District (APD) to ensure the integrity of the supply. Land in the APD is zoned for used in relation to its transmissivity. Prohibited land uses within the entire APD include storage and handling of road salt, incinerators, landfills, septage disposal, and the storage and use of hazardous substances. There is a one-cent per 100-gallon use charge mandated by state law to develop a land acquisition fund for protection of wells.

Future Requirements - The A.D. Little 1989 Report, Water Supply Analysis for the State of Rhode Island, projects the future population for the Harrisville and Pascoag Fire Districts water supply systems and observes that Harrisville needs to develop a water conservation program. These are demand side and supply side measures necessary to meet the following populations:

	1995	2010
Harrisville	3,227	3,324
Pascoag	3,963	3,973

The report finds that the northwestern Rhode Island area is likely to experience water shortages or overdraft situations requiring more water than supply and demand management initiatives can save. The most important supply management options generally include the maintenance or reactivation

of developed but threatened sources, watershed and wellhead protection initiatives, and emergency supply protection and redundancy improvements.

Demand management options include aggressive leak detection and repair programs, aggressive sanitary device retrofit programs, technical/ financial support for water saving investments by non-domestic users, guidelines for water service area expansion, and systematic drought management programs.

Sanitary device retrofits, that is the installation of low flow fixtures in all new and older homes in accordance with the state building code, has the potential to reduce residential water consumption by five to ten percent. However, the A.D. Little Report concludes that the development of new well fields in the Harrisville-Pascoag service area with a net safe yield of 4.0 to 8.0 MGDS may not be attainable because of geotechnical reasons. The limiting factor in the existing well fields is the transmissivity of the water bearing deposits. The well site near Round Top has not been tested to determine the potential average daily yield.

The Harrisville water system's current capacity is 1.140 mgd. New wells are expected to increase capacity to 1.5 mgd.

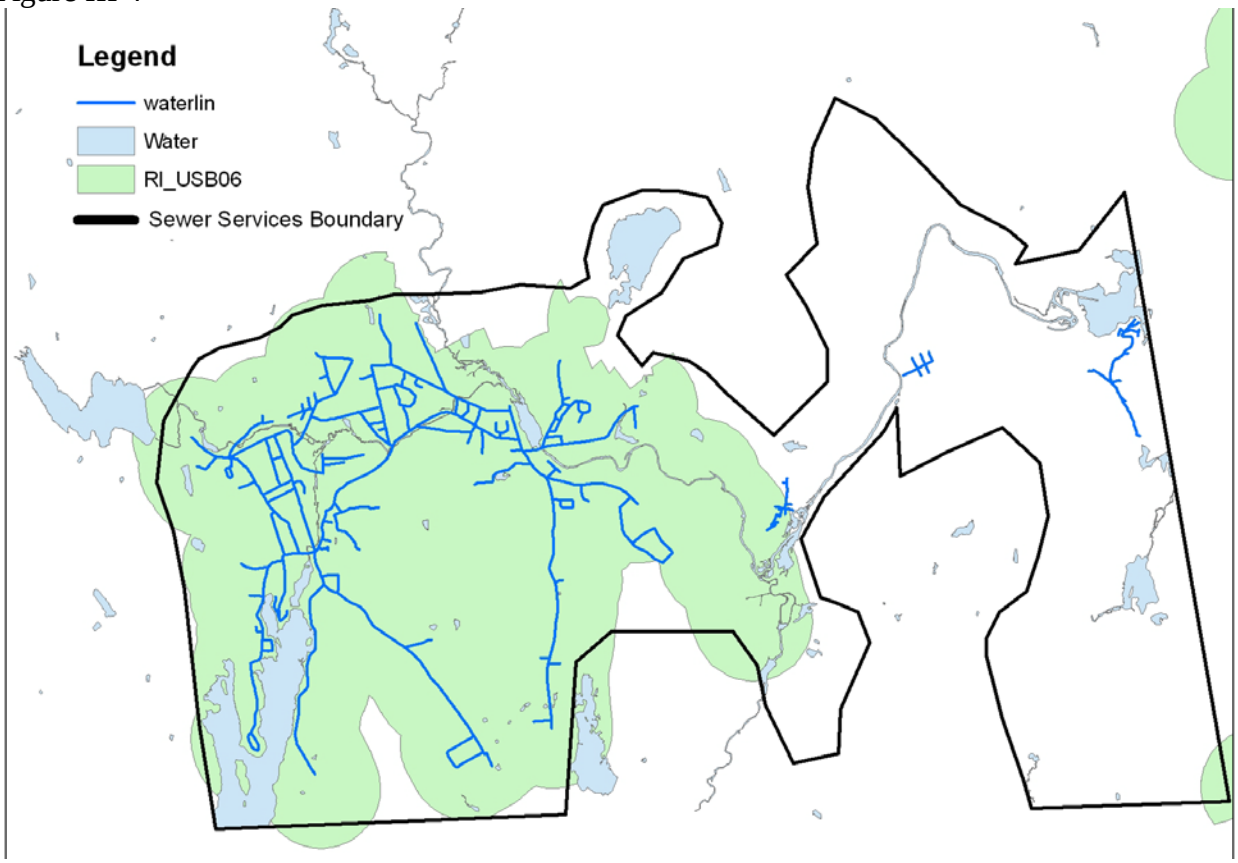
Similar to that of the Wastewater District, perhaps the Harrisville Water Department should consider establishing a services boundary of a similar boundary to that of the USB. See Figure III 4 on the following page which depicts the town's water system in relation to the town's USB.

III.2.e Drainage and Stormwater Management Facilities

There are only a few closed (piped) drainage systems in the Town which are inventoried at the Department of Public Works. By and large, stormwater runoff is collected by drainage swales or ditches parallel to the roadways. Runoff then either percolates into the ground or flows to the nearest discharge point into a water body. Incorporated into this chapter by reference, is the Burrillville Stormwater Management Plan (see attached SWMP, 2003). For more details regarding stormwater management, please reference the above plan.

Drainage system designs have evolved in accordance with the philosophy of the times. Before the water quality impacts of runoff became well understood and regulated, drainage systems were engineered to move stormwater away from streets and buildings as efficiently and as quickly as possible to prevent flooding of property and to protect public safety.

Figure III 4



Often this resulted in a network of drainage pipes and stormwater catchbasins with a direct discharge into ponds, streams or low lying wetland areas. This was particularly true in urbanized locales and often sewers and stormdrains were combined into a single system. Developing suburban and rural areas more often would rely on grading, roadside ditches or swales and drainage ways to channel stormwater away from streets and buildings.

Burrillville does not have a combined stormwater and sewage collection system. Stormwater is handled for the most part by drainage ditches and swales in the rural sections of Town. In the villages there are closed drainage systems and examples can be readily found of areas where drainage systems are comprised primarily of gutter flow. Regulations governing new development of subdivisions require storm drainage plans be designed by a registered professional engineer to handle runoff from up to the 25-year storm.

III.3 Community Services and Facilities Issues

The following issues have been identified through discussions with department directors or representatives of a particular agency. In many cases, the department completed a questionnaire regarding their department's activities and concerns, which was used to supplement the discussions.

III.3.a Fire Protection Services

- In general, the volunteer fire system in Burrillville is working well. The fire chiefs indicate no difficulties in securing volunteers, although many say that the daytime shift is becoming increasingly spare. To date, any shortfall of personnel during daytime hours is made up by members of other fire companies, through the mutual aid system. Most companies indicate that they have maintained the same number of volunteers for at least 10 years, and find the number of personnel adequate to handle the number of calls received. None anticipated having to add personnel, volunteer or otherwise, over the next ten years, barring a significant increase in development.
- The districts do not foresee the need to establish a full time, paid fire force within the life of this Plan. However, there is considerable interest (with the exception of Oakland Mapleville Fire District) in a Town-sponsored, full-time, 24 hour per day rescue service.[1]
- Most companies indicate that the number of fire and rescue calls has remained steady, or increased 5 to 10 percent annually for the past ten years. The increases have largely been rescue calls, which comprise 2/3 to 3/4 of the calls for each company. The increase is believed to be due to more calls for minor emergencies or non-emergencies. Increase in transport for nursing home patients was noted as another reason for additional rescue calls.
- The Nasonville District indicated concern for water supply in the northern section of the district, between East Ironstone and Mount Pleasant Roads. Future development in this area should be carefully reviewed to ensure that all steps are taken to provide adequate water supply for fire emergencies.
- Each fire district company is housed in district owned and maintained headquarters. Each district indicated that current space conditions are suitable for existing staff and equipment, and do not anticipate expansion within the life of this Plan. As the Town continues to grow, however, there may be a need for the companies to add equipment and storage for that equipment. Some of the fire house sites may not be suitable for expansion due to adjacent land uses, and natural and other development constraints, particularly the Glendale site.

[1] Discussions with and/or questionnaire responses of fire chiefs in the Nasonville, Glendale and Pascoag Fire Districts.

- The most critical need the fire companies are experiencing is in updating and replacing equipment, particularly engines, pumpers and rescue vehicles. Most companies anticipate replacing at least one major piece of equipment during the next 5 to 10 years, as follows:
    - Harrisville Fire District - replace 1949 pumper; rescue truck within 5 years;
    - Nasonville Fire District - replace 1971 engine within 5 years;
    - Oakland-Mapleville Fire District - replace 1972 pumper truck; and,
    - Glendale Fire District - rescue truck, need to replace within 5 years.

  Equipment replacements are funded through a combination of company fund raisers as well as tax income from the district. Districts are required to meet standards set by the National Fire Insurance Underwriters in terms of equipment and replacements.

- The National Fire Protection Association "1500" program was recently adopted by the State, and is to be enforced by the State Fire Marshal's Office. This program requires the fire districts to meet stringent standards in terms of fire station safety, equipment and apparatus safety and other elements. The compliance year is 1991.

III.3.b Police

- The citizen survey conducted in March/April, 1990 indicated that most Burrillville citizens (90+ percent) rate the police department as good or excellent. This response was consistent among all villages.
- Problems with the current police facility include:
    - The overall building size suits the department at present staffing levels, however, as the number of personnel increases, corresponding increases in space will be necessary;
    - Lack of work space for officers, for report preparation, interviewing, etc.;
    - The facility requires some interior space redesign for improved efficiency. The dispatch area is too large; the work area for officers and the records storage area are at opposite ends of the building; and other problems with interior space arrangement make it more difficult to carry out the daily activities of the department.
    - The location of the facility is not optimal, particularly for responding to calls from Harrisville/Pascoag.
    - There is no computer system for records keeping.

  Alternatives which have been considered in discussions regarding the future of police facility include expansion at the current site by converting the two car garage into work space;

creation of a municipal campus on the existing police station site, including a repair facility for all Town vehicles.

- There is a need for additional cruisers at the current staffing level, due to their almost constant use; the optimal would be one cruiser per officer. Vehicle maintenance is performed by private vendors, through a bidding process.
- Federal standards indicate that a community of the size and character of Burrillville should have approximately 1 officer per 500 population, for a total of 35 personnel. Presently it is difficult to maintain three officers per shift to cover the Town's three patrol areas (Main Street in Harrisville and north; Main Street in Harrisville and south; and a roving car).
- Recent development in the Town has placed an increasing burden on the Department's ability to respond to calls with the available numbers of personnel, and calls of non-critical nature may be "stacked" until available police units clear from more dangerous calls.
- In the short term future, there is a need for one additional patrol officer, the creation of a Detective Division (officers would be replaced by additional patrol officers), and a clerk typist to handle increasing paperwork. In the long term, there will be a need to add additional patrol officers.
- Traffic throughout the Town has significantly increased and placed a demand on traffic response needs. Specific safety and traffic problem areas include:
    - Church Street at High Street (by the CVS store);
    - East Avenue;
    - Main Street;
    - Route 102 at the Middle School- due to the truck lane, and passing on the right;
    - Callahan School - a turnoff should be built to accommodate buses when dropping/picking up students.
- Additional radar units are needed to control excessive speed on roadways through the Town.
- A shift in population composition (more former urban dwellers) has affected service calls, in that more crimes, such as drug problems and related crimes, that were not commonplace are becoming more so. A detective division would address this type of problem.
- The Chief of Police indicates the following projects or tasks need to be completed or are presently planned to cope with anticipated demands on the department:
    - **Short Term** - One additional patrol officer, create detective division, clerk typist, reorganization of department, computers to log data.
    - **Medium Term** - Additional patrol officers; additional building space;

- **Long Term** - Additional five patrol officers, more vehicles, radar units, equipment, etc.

III.3.c Elderly

In 1993, services for the elderly were limited to, yet successful in providing available housing for the Town's increasing aging population. In addition the Town provided a Para-transportation van that served the elderly as well as the handicapped. The following issues have been recognized by the Town and efforts to support the needs are in progress.

- The Town will continue to provide adequate an affordable housing for the elderly.
- Efforts to establish recreational activities and more social services for the Town's elderly residents.

III.3.d Libraries

- The citizen survey conducted in March/April, 1990 indicated that 63 percent of Burrillville citizens rate the library system as good or excellent.
- The addition to the Smith Library has addressed the severe space shortage the library has experienced in the past. Even with the addition/renovation to the existing library, it is expected that the space will be insufficient within 5 to 6 years.
- Parking will continue to be problematic at Smith Library, and the area is recognized as one of the more dangerous intersections in the Town.
- The Library is severely limited in the numbers of people which can be accommodated in the "program" room and have to seek alternative venues for larger scale family programs. Numbers wanting to sign up for programs consistently exceed the room's and staff's capacity.
- A feasibility study of the Pascoag Library indicates that expansion is not feasible on the present site. The library, however, is unwilling to move to a new site.
- The Smith Library's growth in physical size will allow for larger collections and more programs to be offered. Staffing at present levels is considered to be barely adequate to serve current demand.
- As reported by the libraries for fiscal 1992, Pascoag Library held 11,234 items and the Smith Library held 26,298 items for a total of 37,532 or 2.31 items per capita. (Population according to the 1990 census was 16,230)
- Based on a population of 16,230, Burrillville should have at least 5 full time staff members, and 1-2 professional librarians. Currently there is one full time library staff member, 6 part

time personnel, and two professional librarians (director and children's librarian). This staffing size does not meet Rhode Island's minimum required standards.

- The Library finds it difficult to maintain its staffing level, as salaries are low in comparison to other library positions, i.e., school system libraries, etc. As the library system becomes larger and more complex, an assistant director/business manager or adult services librarian position will likely be necessary.
- • The increased population of Burrillville contributed to the increased use of the Smith Library. Many newcomers to the Town are veteran library users who expect high quality service.
- Increased demand at the Smith Library has placed pressure on hiring additional staff to handle circulation alone. Reader's advisory services have been in high demand, and patrons' interests are broadening, particularly in the area of business materials.
- There has been an increasing number of young families and children, and large concentrations of patrons coming from new residential developments.
- As the population increases beyond 17,500, a threshold at which the community may reach within 5 to 10 years, the total hours of service the library provides must be increased from 45 to 60 hours. This represents additional staff time, as well as additional expenses in keeping the building open.
- The traffic at the East Avenue/Main Street intersection presents difficulties to library patrons in terms of safety and noise.
- In the short term the Smith Library will continue to search for added staff to fill vacancies, and continue progress toward renovation/addition campaign goal.
- At some point in the next 10 years, the library wants to complete additional renovation/addition to allow improvement of collections, expand automation in technical services, add technical service computer terminals, and provide computers, word processor, self service copier for public use, etc.
- In the long term future the library will become a full member of CLAN (Centralized Library Automated Network), a Statewide computerized library card system.
- The Town should be encouraged to consider new library construction.

III.3.e Town Hall

- The Town Hall is experiencing a space shortage, particularly for administrative offices.
- The new Charter provides for additional staff positions at the Town Hall, which will require more office and meeting space.
- The basement of the Hall, which has some usable office space, is not handicapped accessible, and cannot be used for purposes other than storage, lunch breaks and similar activi-

ties. Parking at the site is limited, with approximately 25-30+/- spaces in the parking lot and 4+/- on-street spaces. There is no ability to expand parking or building on the existing lot.

- A study of space needs at the Town Hall is expected to be initiated within the next year.

III.3.f Public Works

- Growth has resulted in increased maintenance of Town roads, particularly in areas which have experienced summer to year round conversions.
- Department staffing has decreased by 50 percent over the last 10 to 12 years.
- Anticipated future problems include more road improvement work, additional plowing and sanding in winter months, and additional sweeping resulting from new subdivisions, the industrial park development and the turnover of some State roads to the Town in the near future.
- Many sidewalks are in serious need of repair.
- Newcomers to Town expect a higher level of service than the Department can provide.
- The Public Works Department should be relocated to a more appropriate location, such as adjacent to the Police Station in Glendale.
- The Department has begun, but not completed a pavement management program. There is no local transportation improvement program.

III.3.g Animal Shelter

- This service will require expansion in the near future, both site and facilities.

III.3.h Utility Services

- The citizens of Burrillville have expressed the desire to maintain the rural quality that characterizes the Town today. These are the qualities that have attracted new residents in recent years, and will continue to attract residents in the years to come. The key is to balance the anticipated growth with the retention of these qualities.

  Townspeople believe that new residential development should also be accompanied by new industrial development to expand the tax base to relieve the local tax burden. Accompanying new development will be the need for municipal services. There will be added solid waste disposal requirements and new homes and businesses will require water service and wastewater disposal. The potential for adverse water quality impacts will increase and the rural attractiveness of the Town could be eroded. The issues associated with these community desires and development needs can be very simply stated.

III.3.i Solid Waste Management

- With the closure of the town's landfill, accommodations have been made to dispose of municipal solid waste at another facility. Currently, the Whipple Avenue site is used as a transfer station where rubbish is collected in large containers to be hauled to a landfill site.

  There is no other licensed landfill in Burrillville that can accept the trash, so it will continue to be transported to Johnston to the state Central Landfill. That facility was scheduled to be closed in 1994. This creates an uncertainty as to the future disposal options for Burrillville and many other Rhode Island cities and towns. These uncertainties cannot be resolved within the context of this plan.
- Because the Rhode Island Resource Recover Corporation is confronted with the loss of its landfill in Johnston in 1994 and not having on-line sufficient incinerator capacity to meet the state and substate regional demands for waste disposal, a very real prospect exists for new landfill development in Rhode Island. Anticipated land requirements necessitate locating sites with approximately 500 acres in area. At the current time, no sites have been selected by the State, although the site selection screening process has been underway for some time. Burrillville could be identified as a host community for a new landfill.

III.3.j Water Supply and Distribution

- The immediate question that comes to mind is whether there is sufficient supply to meet Burrillville's needs in the future decades. The A.D. Little Report and local concerns necessitate this question, but it would appear that local awareness is responsible for stimulating several initiatives which offer potential answers.

  There are supply studies and potential source tests proposed for the Pascoag and Harrisville Fire Districts. At the current time both Districts are looking to increase groundwater supplies. Potential future surface water supplies also exist, but must be studied. These both are in the Pascoag Fire District: Pascoag Reservoir and Wilson's Reservoir.
- In the interim, while new sources are being explored and perhaps developed, it is imperative that the water utilities conduct thorough leak detection and elimination programs to reduce and eventually eliminate losses. Water conservation measures should be implemented in residential, commercial and industrial development to reduce demand. This will stretch existing supplies and perhaps avert the need for costly new source development. Very importantly, existing sources must be assiduously protected.
- The key element to sound water supply and distribution management is to assure there are institutional mechanisms to coordinate the following entities: (1) Municipal Government; (2) Pascoag Fire Districts; (3) Harrisville Fire District; and (4) Nasonville Fire District. These coordinating mechanisms will best operate if they jointly develop service area

extension guidelines; review all development proposals and implement a review checklist to assure adequate supply and pressure to new connections; develop priorities for future source development investments and develop priorities for land acquisition and for the elimination of potential groundwater contamination sources. This coordinating mechanism can be focused in the Town Planner's office.

- Locations outside the Fire District water supply systems will continue to rely on on-site wells. The Zambarano Hospital Complex will continue to rely on Wallum Lake for its water source. Wallum Lake also supplies Wilson's Reservoir. The protection of groundwater resources throughout the Town is therefore of paramount concern, and the protection of surface water impoundments which currently supply or offer future supply potential is of equal importance.
- To this end, the Town government, which is the primary authority for land use decisions, must carefully review the siting of major facilities which have the potential for groundwater and surface water contamination; residential, commercial and industrial development; new highway and improved highway projects; and drainage facilities. As the permitting authority for new building and building renovation construction, the Town, through the building official's office, must assure that water conservation code requirements are enforced. Sewer service extensions should continue to those areas as dictated by the Waste Water Facilities Plan –particularly, those areas discussed in Chapter 7 “Collection System Expansion”. Industrial areas on Route 102 should be serviced by sewers rather than expect industry to rely on on-site sewage disposal.

III.3.k Stormwater Management

- The main issue relating to stormwater management during the next decade and beyond is the water quality impact of stormwater runoff. The State of Rhode Island Land Management Project has during the last two years published a series of fact sheets concerning land use and water quality. The following statement from Fact Sheet No. 1 succinctly expresses the theme:

  "Stormwater becomes a management problem when natural lands are converted to other land uses, especially those involving paving, or use of fertilizers and pesticides. A comprehensive stormwater management system provides flood protection, water quality protection, and erosion and sedimentation control."

  All new residential, commercial and industrial development and roadway drainage improvements design best management practices (BMP's) into the stormwater system.

These practices include techniques that retain and/or detain stormwater in basins that allow for infiltration and have wetland vegetation for pollutant removal; employ vegetated swales and buffers; and where large areas of impermeable surfaces are proposed such as commercial and industrial parking lots, employ oil/water separators to remove petroleum hydrocarbons before discharge into natural water courses."

III.3.l Social Services

Burrillville strives to provide a variety of social services to all of its citizens. Social service providers located directly in Burrillville are as follows:

- Marathon House is an adult treatment center for substance abusing persons and others with emotional difficulties.
- Northern Rhode Island Community Mental Health Center, Inc. serves people with acute or long-term mental health and substance abuse problems. Special contracts with the School Department result in home, school and center-based services for Burrillville students.
- Talbot Trans/LTC provides transitional long-term care for alcohol and drug abusers.
- The Burrillville Organization for Substance Abuse Prevention is a coalition of community organizations and systems including education, civic and volunteer groups, the media, recreational leagues and church leaders. This partnership collectively assesses community needs and attempts to develop the appropriate programs to meet the needs in the Town of Burrillville.
- Loaves and Fishes distributes food to needy families.
- The Calvary Emergency Relief Fund provides food, fuel, and rent assistance for those in emergency situations.
- Burrillville's Welfare Director services as a clearinghouse for these programs identified upon and others.

III.4 Goals, Policies and Implementation Actions

III. Community Facilities and Services Goals	Policies	Implementation Actions
III.1 To provide community facilities and services which maintain or improve existing quality in the most efficient manner to meet the existing and future needs of Burrillville's residents and businesses. Provide cost-effective, environmentally sound utility services which maintain and improve existing quality of life and accommodate the effects of future growth.	III.1.a Explore alternative financing arrangements for supplementing local property taxes, and State and Federal funding of Town services, such as, but not limited to, impact fees.	III.1.a.1 The Planning Department/Commission, in coordination with the Town Council, will review existing impact fee systems relating new development to municipal facilities and services and consider the merits of such a system for Burrillville.
		III.1.a.2 Should the results of the study described in III.1.a.1 indicate that an impact fee system would be beneficial to providing municipal services in Burrillville, prepare the necessary legal review and establish an impact fee system.
	Police Department III.1.b Maintain and improve the quality of the Town's police department through increased staffing, raising qualifications for law enforcement officers, and improving facilities and equipment.	III.1.b.1 Increase the number of police cruisers commensurate with the uniformed staffing level of the department.
		III.1.b.2 Work with the Chief of Police to determine the optimal uniformed and support staffing level for the Department to adequately serve existing and projected future population. Add officers as necessary.
		III.1.b.3 Investigate the feasibility of acquiring and/or developing a pistol and shotgun target range for qualifying police officers at least annually.

	Fire Districts III.1.c Maintain and support the high quality fire protection and emergency rescue services provided by the volunteer fire companies of the Town's Fire Districts.	III.1.c.1 In the short-term future, continue the present system of volunteer fire district companies.
		III.1.c.2 Consider merging the fire districts into a Townwide district (non-municipal), coordinating staffing, equipment, facilities and other operational activities. – (responsible parties) to be determined by the Fire Districts.
		III.1.c.3 Encourage the fire districts to coordinate equipment purchases.
		III.1.c.4 Create a public safety committee charged with the public discussion of fire, rescue, police and animal control issues. The committee shall be composed of municipal and fire district representatives.
	Libraries III.1.d Maintain and improve the quality of the Town's libraries as a critical cultural resource of the community.	III.1.d.1 Increase staffing at the Smith Library to levels commensurate with State library standards.
		III.1.d.2 Continue to support the libraries' efforts to expand its collections to meet and exceed State standards.
		III.1.d.3 Provide support to allow the library to join the CLAN system should its physical plant permit.
	Town Hall III.1.e Maintain Town Hall administrative office, meeting and storage space adequate to serve the population of the community.	III.1.e.1 Initiate a study of space needs of municipal government, including the potential for expansion of the existing Town Hall. If necessary, identify other buildings or lots with potential for a new Town Hall.
		III.1.e.2 Expand the existing Town Hall, including offices, meeting space, and storage space to allow for more efficient service delivery.
		III.1.e.3 Develop an up-to-date system of plat maps.

		III.1.e.4 Update the Town's computer system to comply with the recommendations of the 1990 Annual Audit.
		III.1.e.5 Ensure full handicapped accessibility to the existing Town Hall and plan for such access to the future Town Hall as required by law.
	III.1.f The Town shall publish and update on a regular basis a public policies manual.	III.1.f.1 The Town Clerk shall compile, publish and annually update the policies of the various departments, boards, committees, etc.
		III.1.f.2 The Public Policies Manual shall be made available at the Town Hall, Town libraries and Town Website.
	Public Works/ Animal Shelter III.1.g Maintain and expand public works facilities and operational capacity commensurate with the population of the community.	III.1.g.1 The Town Council should work with the Town Manager and Public Works Director to establish an optimal level of Public Works Department staffing.
		III.1.g.2 Relocate the Public Works Department to a more appropriate location.
		III.1.g.3 Request that the Public Works Department to review its annual program of sidewalk maintenance, and increase efforts to maintain and repair sidewalks in a systematic manner.
		III.1.g.4 Expand the animal shelter facilities and site, or consider relocating with the public works department.
		III.1.g.5 Require the Public Works Director to present to the Town Council an annual Public Works Plan.

Solid Waste Management III.2 Furnish Burrillville residents with a locally operated and maintained solid waste collection and disposal system that is supportive of the RI Solid Waste Management Plan, as amended that is cost efficient and environmentally beneficial.	III.2.a Periodically evaluate collection and disposal options including the existing curbside collection program as part of an ongoing assessment process to assure system efficiency and effectiveness, to identify changing community needs and requirements, and to develop responsive strategies for solid waste management.	III.2.a.1 Examine the feasibility of establishing a Town sponsored and operated recycling effort run by citizen volunteers. Educate residents and encourage them to recycle to the maximum extent possible.
	III.2.b Consider actions that support Objective 1, A thru G; Objective 2, B; and Objective 5, A and C of the RI Solid Waste Management Plan	III.2.b.1 Continue to work with the R.I. Solid Waste Management Corporation, the Department of Environmental Management and neighboring communities to develop a regional or statewide solution for solid waste disposal.
		III.2.b.2 Continue solid waste management needs programming and budgeting in the five-year municipal capital facilities program and the annual Town operating budget.
		III.2.b.3 Recommend to elected officials the repeal of state law prohibiting the export of tires for energy from Rhode Island.
Sewage Collection, Treatment and Disposal III.3 Recognizing the public health and environmental benefits derived from proper sanitary waste disposal, provide Burrillville with the appropriate wastewater collection, treatment and disposal systems sufficient to meet the community's needs for orderly residential, commercial and industrial development and to protect local groundwater and surface water.	III.3.a Expand municipal sewer service only in accordance with the approved wastewater facilities plan, and utilize on-site disposal systems where there are good soil conditions and no threat to drinking water supplies exists.	III.3.a.1 Continue to develop the municipal sewer system by extending sewers to Glendale, Nasonville and Mohegan in accordance with the July 1990 Wastewater Facilities Plan.

III. Community Facilities and Services Goals	Policies	Implementation Actions
		III.3.a.2 Continue to extend the sewer system into Oakland and Mapleville villages and expand the system in Harrisville-Bridgeton area as programmed in the Five-Year Capital Improvement Program.
	III.3.b Maintain and update as necessary the municipal facilities plan to meet the future needs of the community, emphasizing service area expansion only in accordance with the capacity of the wastewater treatment facility and based on the need to service business, industry and residential areas with problem on-site disposal systems and eliminate threats of pollution to the Town's water supply.	III.3.b.1 Recognizing the water quality benefits to be derived from pollution control, study the need and feasibility of extending the municipal sewer system, including the use of package treatment plants, to high density residential areas and nonserviced commercial and industrial development in close proximity to Wallum Lake, Pascoag Reservoir, Wilson Reservoir and Slatersville Reservoir.
		III.3.b.2 In accordance with the Town Subdivision Ordinance, continue to require development proposal review and certification by the Sewer Authority if sewer use is proposed.
		III.3.b.3 Consider the development of a sewage sludge-composting program for the long-term disposal of sludge, and evaluate the feasibility of including the sludge composting in the townwide-composting program.
		III.3.b.4 Encourage the establishment of a townwide wastewater management program to educate homeowners how to maintain and regularly pump out individual sewage disposal systems and to implement regular pumping schedules if necessary.
		III.3.b.5 Work with the Sewer Commission to shrink its service area to that of the USB as a means of limiting sprawl development.

	III.3.c Consider within the context of the Wastewater Facilities Plan, sewer service area extensions for the purpose of economic development.	III.3.c.1 Extend services to unserved commercial and industrially zoned land along Route 102, the Bronco Highway, as required to service development as it comes on line.
	III.3.d Recognize the regional economic and environmental benefits obtained from the Municipal Wastewater Treatment Facility.	
Water Supply and Distribution III.4 Provide the Town of Burrillville with sufficient potable water supply and the distribution system necessary to meet the community's residential, commercial, and industrial requirements, utilizing on-site well development where appropriate, while maintaining the Town's self-sufficiency.	III.4.a Protect existing groundwater sources from contamination to allow continued supply to the local water distribution systems.	III.4.a.1 Maintain, update as necessary, and continue to implement section 11-5.3 of the municipal zoning code, "Aquifer Zoning", to protect the Town's groundwater aquifers and water supply identified as areas of stratified drift and delineated on the Town of Burrillville Aquifer Overlay Map.
		III.4.a.2 Work with the Nasonville, Pascoag and Harrisville Fire Districts to fully implement the Water Quality Protection Plans of each district. Identification and testing of all underground fuel and other storage tanks, and the removal and proper disposal of abandoned, failing and unused tanks should be an immediate priority.
		III.4.a.3 Identify properties within 400 feet of the public water supply wells in Pascoag, Harrisville and Nasonville that are not in water district ownership and prioritize these parcels for acquisition by water districts.

III. Community Facilities and Services Goals	Policies	Implementation Actions
		III.4.a.4 To meet the supply and distribution requirements of this decade, prepare capital facilities/improvements plans for the Pascoag, Harrisville and Nasonville Fire Districts for the period of 1991-2000, and include in the planning yield testing of the potential groundwater resources at Round Top, the study of potential surface water supplies, and services extension to Glendale.
		III.4.a.5 Prepare service area extension guidelines and coordinate all new development proposals between the municipal planning department and the water districts to insure adequate supply and pressure.
		III.4.a.6 In accordance with the Town's subdivision ordinance continue to require review and certification by the appropriate water system authority as to the availability of water if use of the public water supply is proposed.
		III.4.a.7 Consider establishing a water service district in accordance with the town's USB as a means of limiting sprawl development.
III.5. Achieve and maintain consistency with RI Drought Management Plan, particularly Goals, Policies & Strategies: 03-03-02, 03-04-02, 03-04-03,and 03-04-04	III.5.a Conserve existing water supplies to eliminate the development of costly and unnecessary sources.	III.5.a.1 In accordance with the statewide report on Water Supply, develop water conservation guidelines and "tips" for business and industry and homeowners and implement through the building official's office the low flow water devices mandated by the state building code.
		III.5.a.2 Continue to implement a water system leak detection and elimination program within the Harrisville & Pascoag Fire Districts.
	III.5.b Support the identification and development, as necessary, of new groundwater and surface water supplies to augment existing sources.	III.5.b.1 Identify large industrial water users and encourage the implementation of recycling process water and where possible the use of local groundwater supplies for industrial processing.

III. Community Facilities and Services Goals	Policies	Implementation Actions
Drainage and Stormwater Management Facilities III.6 Manage stormwater runoff to prevent flooding and loss of life and property damage, to protect groundwater and surface water quality and to preserve the integrity of natural watercourses and wetlands.	III.6.a To maintain and improve groundwater and surface water quality, require the design and construction of Best Management Practices for stormwater management for all new residential, commercial, and industrial development, new and reconstructed roadways and highways, and drainage system improvements.	III.6.a.1 Erosion and sedimentation controls should be approved during the plan review process and inspected by the Town Building Official and/or the Director of Public Works during construction.
		III.6.a.2 Utilize the "RI Stormwater Standards and Installation Standards Manual, as amended"
		III.6.a.3 Continue to implement the RI Stormwater Standards and Installation Standards Manual, as amended.
	III.6.b Require all development including construction of stormwater drainage systems and development of single family house lots to establish erosion and sedimentation controls to prevent siltation of watercourses and waterbodies.	III.6.b.1 Where the maintenance of stormwater management facilities in residential developments becomes the responsibility of the municipality, the Department of Public Works shall develop a maintenance program. Consider the use of a one time fee to be paid by the developer and held in a restricted account to cover the cost of periodic maintenance.
		III.6.b.2 Require commercial and industrial on-site stormwater management system maintenance to be performed by the owner.
III.7 Serve and protect the townspeople better through improved communications.	III.7.a Develop a system by which the citizens of the Town can be addressed by municipal officials in time of emergency, and when it serves the public need or convenience.	III.7.a.1 Appoint a volunteer committee of townspeople to examine and identify communications resources and advise the Town Council as to how they might be organized to their highest and best use.
		III.7.a.2 Explore ways to expand the use of the Town's existing cable service.
		III.7.a.3 Arrange for the cablecasting of public meetings of municipal bodies.

		III.7.a.4 Explore possible illumination of a standard broadcast AM or FM band radio channel for municipal use.
		III.7.a.5 Investigate non-traditional communications systems such as equipping with VHF receivers (scanners) all buildings that have a designated secondary use as public shelter. Each of these receivers will then be in place and ready to pick up emergency announcements from officials at emergency management headquarters during times of crisis. This idea can be expanded to include publicizing the frequency to be used by conventional means during non-emergency times so citizens may also make arrangement to acquire and/or tune such a radio so they can receive emergency announcements in their homes.
		III.7.a.6 Develop a plan to maintain and improve, if possible, the traditional means of communication via print media (Woonsocket Call and Bargain Buyer) and existing out of town electronic media; www.burrillville.org
		III.7.a.7 Install and maintain an automatic "citizen's answer line" service at Town Hall. This unit may be as simple as a pre-recorded answer only message with the hours of Town Hall operations, or can be expanded to include the date, time and location of upcoming public meetings (as well as other announcements of interest) and could be further expanded to receive messages from townspeople in the form of questions or comments.

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30. The Land Management Project, "Land Use and Water Quality Series", Various Fact Sheets.

31. Town of Burrillville, Land Subdivision Ordinance of the Town of Burrillville, Revised 10-87.

32. Town of Burrillville, Proposed Five-Year Capital Improvements Program 1992-1996, February 21, 1991.

33. Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management, etc. al., Soil Erosion and Sediment Control Handbook, 1989.

34. Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management, Recommendations of the Stormwater Management and Erosion Control Committee Regarding the Development and Implementation of Technical Guidelines for Stormwater Management, June 1988.

Appendix I
Harrisville Water Department Water Supply System Management Plan, July 2006, updated November, 2007

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION

The prior version of the Harrisville Fire District Water Supply System Management Plan (WSSMP) was approved by the Rhode Island Water Resources Board (RIWRB) in 2001. This current WSSMP, submitted in July 2006, serves as an update to the 2001 plan. This WSSMP has been prepared in accordance with the Rules and Procedures for Water Supply System Management Planning dated October 2002 as required by the Rhode Island General Laws 46-15.3 as amended and titled "The Water Supply System Management Planning Act". These rules and regulations are under the auspices and legal authority of the RIWRB.

Under this legislation the Harrisville Fire District (HFD), as a water supplier, is responsible for the preparation and adoption of the WSSMP. It is required that the HFD periodically (every five years) update the WSSMP in accordance with the RIWRB rules and regulations.

The WSSMP is written consistent with the overall goals of the State, Town of Burrillville, HFD and with the State Guide Plan Element 721, "Water Supply Policies for Rhode Island". This WSSMP is designed to define the objectives of the HFD and to promote the effective and efficient conservation, development, utilization and protection of the HFD's resources in order to satisfy present and future needs of the HFD.

The WSSMP includes a description of the HFD's organizational structure, the distribution system components and their ability to meet the water demands of the community which the provide drinking water.

BACKGROUND

The HFD was incorporated by an Act of the General Assembly on March 14, 1906. Prior to and including this period, water had been supplied by the Pascoag Water System whose supply and distribution system date back to the early 1900's. At that time, the water system consisted of two (2) artesian wells and two shallow trenches that acted as infiltration galleries.

This entire system operated under private ownership until 1934, when the systems (Harrisville and Pascoag) were both taken over by the Fire Districts. The Fire Districts subsequently operated together for approximately ten (10) years, at which time the HFD installed its own 300,000 gallon elevated storage tank, and in 1947 Pascoag developed its first large capacity gravel packed well. The HFD and PUD have primarily acted separately since this point however historically emergency interconnections as well as personnel assistance agreements have been in place.

The (HFD) is a quasi-municipal public utility providing water and fire protection and was chartered in 1910 in the State of Rhode Island. The HFD Water Department (HFDWD) is financed directly through the sale of water. The HFD has the ability to distribute and sell water in the entire Town of Burrillville and includes any areas within or outside of the boundaries of the HFD. However, neither the HFD Charter, nor the Town of Burrillville identifies the HFD as the sole water supply provider in the Town.

WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM DESCRIPTION

The existing water supply for the HFD now consists of six (6) gravel packed wells. The water supply system Wells #1 through #3 are located approximately 1,000 feet east of the intersection of Central Street and Steere Farm Road. Water from Wells #1 and #3 are pumped through Pump Station #3. Water from Well #2 is pumped though Pump Station #2. Well #1 came online in 2001 and is a replacement well of the original Well #1.The water supply system Wells #4, #5 and #6 are located adjacent to Eccleston Field. These three (3) wells tie into a common header pipe before entering the Eccleston Field Pump Station. Wells #4, #5, and #6 came online in 2002. Treatment of all water is achieved with chlorine for disinfection purposes and potassium hydroxide for corrosion control of the distribution system.

The existing water storage system for the HFD consists of a 500,000 gallon elevated storage tank located off Cherry Farm Road and a 500,000 gallon elevated storage tank located off Steere Farm Road. Currently, the HFD has 19.3 miles of water distribution piping ranging in size from 1-1/4 inches to 12-inches. At the present time, the HFD's policy is that all distribution system piping is a minimum eight (8) inches in diameter. Thus, from an engineering standpoint, additions or upgrades to the water system should be at least 8-inch pipe. The current condition of the system is good, mainly due to the implementation of corrosion control in 1990. Master

meters are located at Pump Station #2, Pump Station #3 and the Eccelston Field Pump Station. They are tested and calibrated once a year. All service connections are metered for billing purposes.

WATER QUALITY PROTECTION

The HFD realizes that Water Quality Protection is an important aspect of sustaining the water supply. In March 2001 a Wellhead Protection Plan was prepared and submitted to the Rhode Island Resources Board. On the municipal level, the Town of Burrillville has adopted aquifer protection by-laws and has applied them to certain "Aquifer Zones". These Aquifer Zones were taken from the U.S. Geological Survey Water Resources Investigation 18-74 entitled "Availability of Ground Water in the Branch River Basin, Providence County, Rhode Island", December, 1974. These bylaws set requirements for the sewering of residences and businesses within these Aquifer Zones, consequently the majority of these zones are sewered.

The potential exists that a contamination event may occur at an individual household. This contamination event may not be a deliberate action, but rather be a result of not fully understanding the ultimate fate of the contaminant in the groundwater environment. It is believed that public education on the hydrologic cycle, the potential for aquifer contamination stemming from residential activities and the HFD groundwater withdrawal system is important. This knowledge may provide the basis from which decisions regarding the handling of household hazardous chemicals would be made. The HFD believes this public education tool to be a simple and economical tool through which public awareness of groundwater contamination could be increased.

SUPPLY MANAGEMENT

Tables ES-1 and ES-2 depict the recent water usage and the predicted future requirements. Future requirements are based on the population projections contained in the Town of Burrillville Comprehensive Plan Report of 2005. In this plan, a 4.21 percent growth rate was estimated between 2000 and 2010, while a growth rate between the years 2010 and 2020 was estimated to be 5.8 percent.

Stantec
Water Supply System Management Plan
Harrisville Fire District
Executive Summary

TABLE ES-1

Recent Water Usage (2001-2005)

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Volume Pumped (Master Meters)	90,000,000	264,856,590	227,302,010	200,688,870	198,868,930
Volume Billed	66,000,000	214,591,160	202,753,230	186,757,897	184,250,433
Fire Dept. Drills	Included in flushing	5,000,000	5,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000
Non-Billed Metered	Included in flushing	1,062,205	711,085	1,101,945	1,762,000
System Flushing	11,330,000	10,000,000	6,500,000	1,000,000	2,000,000
Unaccounted-For	12,670,000 (14%)	34,203,225 (13%)	12,337,695 (5.87%)	10,829,028 (5.40%)	9,856,497 (4.96%)

TABLE ES-2

Estimated Future Supply Requirements

Year	2005	2010	2015	2020	2025
Total Water Services (Harrisville)	1,055	1,100	1,132	1,164	1,198
Average Day Demand (Harrisville) (gpd)	207,245	246,400	253,568	260,736	268,352
Average Day Demand (Wholesale) (Pascoag Utility District) (gpd)	310,597	323,845	333,266	342,687	352,697
Average Day Demand (Total) (gpd)	517,842	570,245	586,834	603,423	621,049
Unaccounted for Water (gpd)	27,004	28,512	29,342	30,171	31,052
Total Average Day (gpd)	544,846	598,757	616,176	633,594	652,101
Total Max Day (gpd)	1,089,692	1,197,515	1,232,351	1,267,188	1,304,203

Note 2005 numbers are actual, other years are extrapolated based on 224 gallon/service (Harrisville) and 5% unaccounted for water

As can be observed by Table ES-1, the water use increased dramatically in the year 2002. Due to contamination of the PUD water supply sources, the HFD began pumping water to the entire village of Pascoag on January 10, 2002. The HFD placed new wells #4, #5, and #6 online at the same time. These wells were originally intended to provide the HFD with reserve capacity for the anticipated growth within the community. However, since 2002 the new sources have been used to supplement the system to supply the demand in Pascoag. In order to develop reserve capacity for maximum day demand and future growth of the community, the HFD has

ES-4

implemented a well exploration program. With these future sources in place, the new total capacity of the system is expected to meet the projected demand through 2025. The HFD recently completed that test well exploration program which identified two (2) potential well sites for the future. One site is referred to as Well #7 and is located near Eccleston Field and may be developed within the next two (2) years. The second site is located about one (1) mile to the east of the HFD's offices and may be developed within the next ten (10) years.

DEMAND MANAGMENT

The HFD provides Public Education and Information regarding water supply in a variety of methods and in conjunction with the Town of Burrillville. The HFD makes available to all customers the retrofit kits at no cost to residential users. The HFD produces an annual pamphlet with the intent on educating the general water consumer on the HFD. The pamphlet includes general information on the HFD wellfield and distribution system, leaks, sources of lost water, and the aquifer from which the water is withdrawn. Additionally, the pamphlet contains information on water consumption and daily activities which could contribute to contamination of the water system. Finally, the pamphlet addresses consumer concerns and consumer confidence in the HFD.

If water conservation is required, the HFD relies on advertisements and public service announcements in the local newspaper for notification of customers regarding water bans and user restrictions. The HFD would also notify the public by placing signs in public places in the Town of Burrillville.

SYSTEM MANAGEMENT

The purpose of the system management is to ensure that the physical components of the water system are properly operating and maintained. Since the last WSMP Report several system improvements have been made including construction of Wells #4, #5 and #6 and the Eccleston Field Pump Station, installation of system wide SCADA system, and construction of replacement Well #1, and several water main extensions. In addition part of the routine operation of the HFD includes operation activities that ensure the system is performing well which goes to extending the useful life of the system. These activities include inspecting the chemical feed and flow measuring devices, replacing water meters, completing system wide leak detection, hydrant flushing, cleaning wells and inspecting and cleaning the water storage

tanks. The HFD has made great strides in improving the percentage of water that is unaccounted for. The percentage of water has continually decreased from 14% in 2001 to 5% in 2005. It is generally understood that a certain volume of unaccounted for water is unavoidable and anticipated from the operation of a water system.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

The HFD has an Emergency Management Plan to respond to extraordinary and routine emergencies which threaten the water supply, treatment, pumping, storage and distribution system components of the HFD's system. In response to the Public Health and Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response Act of 2002 the HFD has performed a Vulnerability Assessment (VA) and Emergency Response Plan (ERP).

The HFD maintains a 24-hour per day staff that routinely monitors every major component of the water system, through the use of dial-up alarms. All HFD personnel have attended appropriate American Water Works Association (AWWA) training and seminars.

DROUGHT MANAGEMENT

The HFD has developed a policy which allows outdoor watering restrictions when certain well pumping thresholds have been met. The goal is to ensure that there is a sufficient water level in the well during pumping. Each well is equipped with a level transducer to provide real time data on each well's level. Four (4) out of the six (6) well pump motors utilize a Variable Frequency Drive (VFD) to control the pump speed, thus allowing the pump to operate to the maximum capacity without drawing the well down to critical levels.

The initial water restriction threshold is put in force when the combined pumping capacity of all sources is 800,000 GPD or more for three (3) consecutive days. This initial threshold is anticipated to reduce demand by about 10%. The second water restriction threshold is placed in force when the combined pumping capacity of all sources is 900,000 GPD or greater for three (3) consecutive days. This second threshold is anticipated to reduce demand by about 20%.

IMPLEMENTATION

In order to ensure the HFD's sustainability a capital improvement plan has been created to determine the small and large projects that the HFD plans to undertake over the next twenty

years. By establishing a schedule, the HFD can ensure that every part of the water system receives attention routinely. Some projects planned over the next five (5) years include:

a. Cleaning and redevelopment of existing wells on a regular basis
b. A tank inspection of the Steere Farm Road Water Storage Tank
c. Truck replacement
d. Infrastructure replacement
e. Land Acquisition and construction of a new water supply source

Some additional projects planned beyond the next five years include:

a. Well cleaning and redevelopment
b. Pump and motor replacement
c. Tank inspection, cleaning and painting
d. Truck replacement
e. Infrastructure replacement
f. Land Acquisition and construction of a new water supply source
g. Pump station upgrades

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

The HFD is a quasi-municipal public utility providing water and fire protection. All operations of the HFD are financed from water revenues in the form of user fees. All residential, commercial, industrial and government water users are subject to the same fees and rates. User fees and charges levied by the HFD are established by the HFD Operating Committee. The HFD has numerous options for financing projects and will seek the most cost-effective manner of financing future capital needs.

Currently, water rates established by the Operating Committee include a flat fee every quarter per service connection and a fee for every gallon of water used. The flat fee is $12.50/quarter/service and $0.00355/gallon used. The wholesale rate is $0.00234/gallon.

The HFD continue to make an effort to promote the effective and efficient conservation, development, utilization and protection of the HFD's resources in order to satisfy present and future needs of the HFD.

Chapter IV
School Facilities

CHAPTER IV
SCHOOL FACILITIES

The purpose of the School Facilities Element is to identify existing facilities and programs, assess their adequacy and project future needs. This element profiles existing facilities, enrollment, facilities needs and program needs.

IV.A Existing Conditions

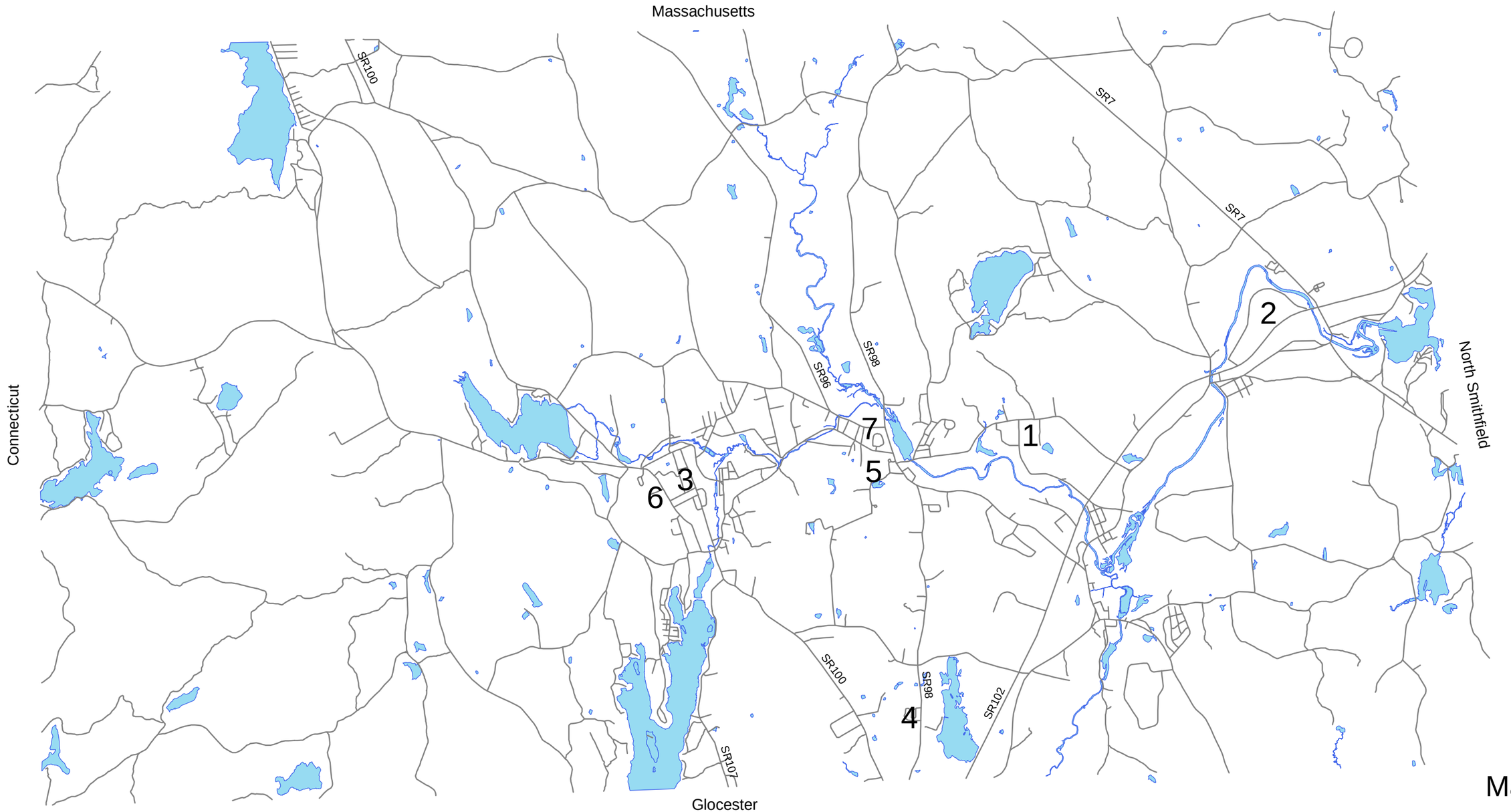
Information for this section was provided by the Superintendent of Schools, the New England School Development Council (NESDEC), and the State Department of Education. The Burrillville School system includes three elementary schools, one middle school and one senior high school. The names, location, current enrollments and other data on each school are presented on Table IV-1 (see Map 1). The School Department employs 236 teachers, 16 administrative personnel and 88+ other personnel.

Table IV-1
Existing School Facilities

Facility	Grades	Enroll-ment	School Capacity (1)	Site Acres	Square Footage	Recreational Facilities
Burrillville High School	9-12	899	1,490	10.2	230,000	Ball fields, tennis courts (owned by Town & maintained by School Department), playing fields under renovation, two gymnasiums
Burrillville Middle School	6-8	673	750	28.4	126,000	Outdoor athletic com-plex under construc-tion, gymnasium
A.T. Levy Elementary	Preschool, K, 1	350	475	2.4	42,600	Multipurpose room (cafeteria/gymnasium)
Steere Farm Elementary	2,3,4,5	420	907	5.5	76,000	(cafeteria/gymnasium)
Father Holland School	Pre-K-8	217	250	4.2	NA	Playground
Community Christian	Pre-K-8	90	NA	6.7	NA	Playground
Callahan Elementary	2,3,4,5	340	540	7.6	47,078	(cafeteria/gymnasium)
Total		2,682				

Note: Enrollment is as of October, 2002.
(1) Capacities are estimated based upon the number of rooms per school, 27 students per room, and 80 percent occupation. Excess capacity does not always indicate excess space, as spaces are often broken into smaller learning areas to accommodate special programs and activities.

Burrillville Public & Private Schools



Source; Burrillville Planning Dept., July 2004

Map 1

1 - High School
2 - Middle School
3 - Father Holland School (Private)
4 - Steere Farm Elementary School
5 - AT Levy Elementary School
6 - Community Christian School (Private)
7 - Callahan Elementary School

Legend

roads

water

0 0.375 0.75 1.5 Miles

IV.B Town-Related Factors

The preparation of enrollment forecasts is an integral part of the long-range planning process. Some of the factors to be considered in this effort pertain to the Town of Burrillville – specifically, its population size and age composition, growth and nature of housing units,number of births to residents, and in/out migration patterns.

Unless otherwise noted, the statistical information for the town in the following tables is from the 2000 Federal census. These data are augmented by information from the Town Hall, Building Department, School Department, and Town records as well as the Rhode Island Departments of Public Health and Education, and the Warren Group (*Banker and Tradesman*).

Population Size

As Table IV.2 demonstrates, a 2.7% (-434 persons) decline occurred in Burrillville's population between 1990 and 2000. This rate substantially reversed the 23.3% growt h rate between 1980 and 1990.

Table IV-2
Total Population
Town of Burrillville

		Population	# Change	% Change
1980		13,164		
1990		16,230	3,066	23.3%
2000		15,796	-434	-2.7%

Age Composition

Table IV.3 indicates that the number and percentage of Burrillville residents under the age of 18 shrank between 1990 and 2000. Meanwhile, the median age in Burrillville rose from 30.3 years in 1980 to 32.9 years in 1990 and to 37.3 years in 2000.

Table IV-3
Percentage of Population Under the Age of 18 and Median Age

		# under 18	% under 18	Median Age
1980		4,019	30.5%	30.3
1990		4,479	27.6%	32.9
2000		4,043	26.6%	37.5

Table IV.4 provides valuable information for helping to project the potential for future births as well as the potential for future turnover of housing units. The cohorts from ages 20-34, taken together, shrank 31.3%; it is the size of these cohorts which has the greatest impact on future births. The age cohort from 35-44 rose by 377 persons. Although women in this latter age group are now giving birth, the number of births in this age group remain statistically much smaller than the number of births to younger women. In the 1990's, the number of residents age 65 and above shrank by 233 persons. The 22.4% decrease in persons aged 60-64 indicates continued decline of the "over 65" population in the future.

Table IV-4
Burrillville Age Cohort Data

Age	1980	1990	2000	% Change 1990-2000
0-4	986	1153	886	-23.2%
5-9	1100	1320	1106	-16.2%
10-14	1165	1313	1271	-3.2%
15-19	1171	1132	1204	6.4%
20-24	972	952	796	-16.4%
25-34	2216	2924	1864	-36.3%
35-44	1283	2768	3145	13.6%
45-54	1266	1441	2500	73.5%
55-59	622	568	738	29.9%
60-64	581	626	486	-22.4%
65+	1802	2033	1800	-11.5%
Total	13,164	16,230	15,796	-2.7%

Table IV.5 indicates a K-12 Burrillville public school population that increased through the 1980's a bit less than the Town's growth and shrank during the 1990's by 169 students, a bit faster than the Town's decline.

Table IV-5
Percentage of K-12 Enrollment Population

		Population	Public K-12 Enrollment	% K-12 Enrollment in Population
1980		13,164	2,622	19.9%
1990		16,230	2,958	18.2%
2000		15,796	2,789	17.7%

Housing Growth

Table IV.6 indicates that Burrillville grew by 70 dwelling units (+1.2%) during the relatively affluent decade of the 1990's, compared with 1149 units added during the 1980's. At the time of the 2000 Census, 95.5% of all dwellings were occupied.

Table IV-6
Number of Dwelling Units and Persons per Unit

		# of dwelling Units	% Change	Persons per Unit
1980		4,602		2.9
1990		5,751	25.0%	2.8
2000		5,821	1.2%	2.7

Table IV.7 displays the number of K-12 Burrillville public school students per dwelling unit. This statistic, .57 per unit in 1980, had shrunk to .51 students by 1990, and .48 students n 2000. Roughly speaking, every other Burrillville dwelling unit houses a public school student, a statistic somewhat greater than the State as a whole (.36 public school students per dwelling unit). The number of Burrillville households with individuals under the age of 18 was 2195 (37.7%) in 2000. These include students in public, parochial, and vocational school, school dropouts, and those too young for school.

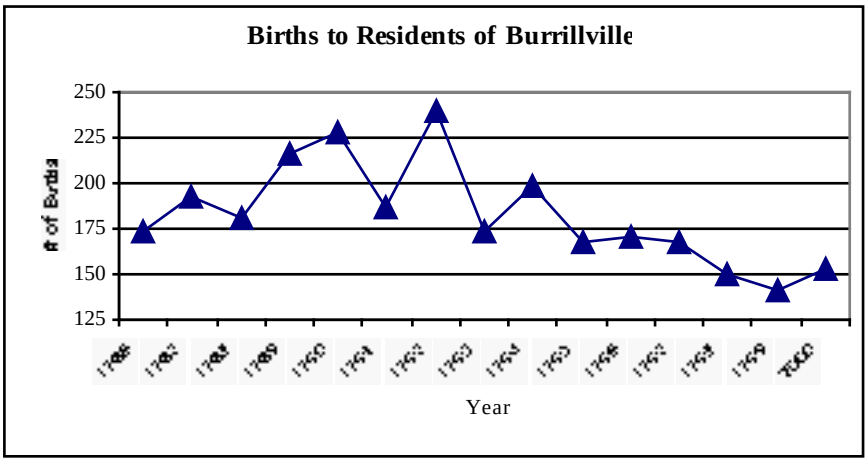
Table IV-7
Number of K-12 Students per dwelling Unit

		# of Housing Units	Public K-12 Enrollment	K-12 Students per Unit
1980		4,602	2,622	.57
1990		5,751	2,958	.51
2000		5,821	2,789	.48

Births

Table IV.8 displays the annual number of Burrillville births from 1986 to 2000 according to the Rhode Island Department of Public Health, which has not released its counts of births to Burrillville residents in 2001. Birth data also are available from Town Clerks or Town reports, although such numbers tend to be incomplete as not all births, particularly from remote hospitals, are reported to public officials. In the past 15 years, Burrillville births declined from an average of 198 per year (1986-1990) to 193 per year (1991-1995) to 157 per year (1996-2000).

Table IV-8

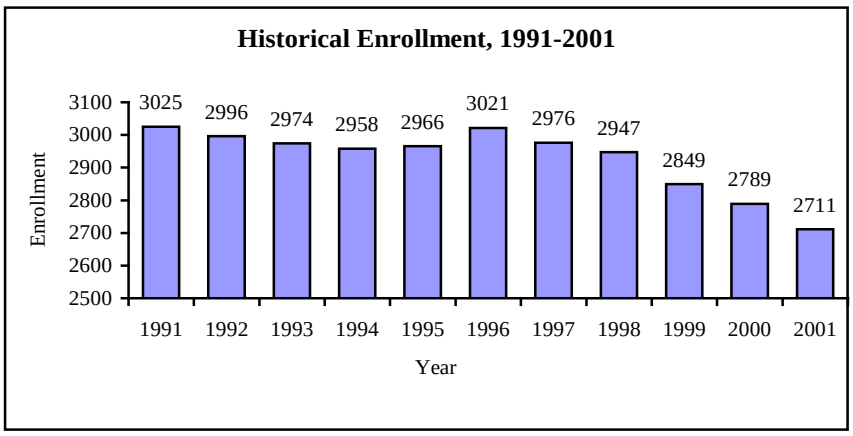


IV.C Historical Enrollment

Public Schools

The K-12 historical enrollment for the Burrillville Public Schools over the past eleven years is shown in Table IV.9.

Table IV.9



Historical enrollment is displayed in Table IV.10 by grade Preschool numbers are not included.

Table IV-10
Historic and Current School Enrollment Trends
in Burrillville Public Schools
1991-2002

YEAR	K-2	K-5	K-6	K-8	5-8	6-8	7-8	7-12	9-12
1991-92	716	1400	1636	2077	893	677	441	1281	840
1992-93	683	1369	1617	2087	916	718	470	1295	825
1993-94	644	1374	1607	2091	988	717	484	1311	827
1994-95	633	1326	1606	2075	981	749	469	1312	843

1995-96	618	1306	1550	2074	1014	768	524	1386	862
1996-97	628	1323	1579	2135	1060	812	556	1426	870
1997-98	612	1267	1530	2036	978	769	506	1424	918
1998-99	608	1251	1478	1979	959	728	501	1449	948
1999-00	581	1208	1436	1892	914	684	456	1413	957
2000-01	508	1151	1383	1837	884	686	454	1406	952
2001-02	497	1137	1340	1804	884	667	464	1371	907

Source: New England School Development Council

Burrillville classes generally grow by about 10% in Grade 1 (9% in fall, 2001), as additional students enter from private Kindergarten. Then the class has tended to grow in size by about 2% through Grade 10.

Sometimes there is a loss of students in high school, especially in Grades 11 and 12, a common high school phenomenon.

Non-Public Schools

The K-12 historical enrollment of Burrillville residents in private and parochial schools over the past eleven years is displayed in Table IV.11.

Table IV-11
Non-Public Regular Education Enrollments by Burrillville Residents

YEAR	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Total
1991-92	14	16	14	19	19	24	15	12	11	32	14	12	6	208
1992-93	31	24	24	22	24	20	24	25	22	23	38	23	16	314
1993-94	31	26	22	23	25	29	20	21	25	27	27	35	17	328
1994-95	26	24	23	17	20	22	25	27	19	34	31	23	36	327
1995-96	35	30	28	18	13	20	15	30	22	22	30	38	20	321
1996-97	38	30	22	23	13	15	18	19	26	18	15	24	21	282
1997-98	36	35	33	23	22	17	17	24	20	28	16	14	26	311
1998-99	32	30	33	31	20	22	20	14	18	12	21	11	12	276
1999-00	40	30	30	33	32	25	29	23	20	27	16	23	15	343
2000-01	27	30	27	20	24	26	23	29	18	18	26	11	12	291
2001-02	30	29	31	27	30	32	30	23	31	20	20	24	11	338

Decisions to attend private or parochial schools are driven by a number of factors, including family tradition; economics; and relative satisfaction/dissatisfaction with various schools, public and private. The reason for an increase in Grades 1-5 may be as simple as non-public schools offering what families are seeking. Dissatisfaction with the public schools in Grades 6-12 appears not to be a factor (there is no outflow at the high school level, the level at which dissatisfaction most commonly is evidenced. A policy question which needs to be asked is:

what would be our plans if the numbers of Burrillville students in Grades 1-8 currently attending private/parochial schools, should begin to return to the levels similar to those experienced in 1991-92 (an increase of 12-18 students per grade in Grades 1-8)?

IV.D Projected Enrollment

A modified cohort survival technique was used by NESDEC to prepare school enrollment forecasts. Percentages were calculated from the historical enrollment data to determine a reliable percentage of increase or decrease in enrollment between any two grades.

Also considered was the cumulative effect of a variety of factors, i.e., Migration, Retention, Programmatic Changes, Dropouts or Transfers, Births and Deaths, and Housing Growth.

Based upon a reasonable set of assumptions in regard to each of these factors, present/future trends were determined for each pair of grades or years. In the case of Burrillville, the assumptions were these:

1. the annual number of births to Burrillville residents from 2001 through 2011 will level off at about 148 per year;
2. the rate of housing growth over the next ten years will continue at approximately the same rate as that of the past ten years;
3. the pattern and numbers involved in the turnover of existing housing stock will not change appreciably from the recent past, however the lack of homes on the market and rising prices will make it somewhat difficult for some young families to purchase homes in Burrillville;
4. there will continue to be public Kindergarten registration at about 90% of the number born five years previous, about 10% growth in Grade 1, and the class total will grow by about 2% through Grade 10, then slightly decline in high school
5. the percentage of Burrillville students in non-public schools and in home-schooling will remain at present levels.

Reliability of Projections

While the reliability of projections, in general, is based on the soundness of the

assumptions made which produce the projections, there are degrees of reliability over the grades and the ten-year period shown. The enrollment projection in Table IV.12 below can be divided into three sections. The top and largest section represents the projections based on students who are already enrolled in the Burrillville Public Schools. This projection has the highest reliability. The projections based on children who have been born, but are not yet in school are somewhat less reliable. The projections for students who are not yet born are the least reliable projections.

Table IV.12
Enrollment Projections by Grade

School Year	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Total
2001-02	156	162	179	189	234	217	203	246	218	260	218	226	203	2711
2002-03	151	172	156	190	190	242	221	207	248	226	255	209	197	2664
2003-04	135	166	165	165	191	197	246	225	209	257	221	245	182	2604
2004-05	127	149	159	175	166	198	200	251	227	216	252	212	213	2545
2005-06	138	140	143	169	176	172	201	204	254	235	212	242	184	2470
2006-07	133	152	134	152	170	182	175	205	206	263	230	204	211	2417
2007-08	133	146	146	142	153	176	185	179	207	213	258	221	177	2336
2008-09	135	146	140	155	143	158	179	189	181	214	209	248	192	2289
2009-10	133	149	140	148	156	148	161	183	191	187	210	201	216	2223
2010-11	134	146	143	148	149	161	151	164	185	198	183	202	175	2139
2011-12	134	147	140	152	149	154	164	154	166	191	194	176	176	2097

It is worth stating, as well, that small schools/towns are the most difficult to project, as the in-/out-migration of only a few families makes a great difference.

A ten-year projection (which drops in reliability after the 5th year) is a very small window into the future. The "leveling" of the elementary enrollment which occurs in years 6-10 of the projections is caused by holding the births stable during that period. If the births should increase during that period (reversing the trend of the last several years), the Kindergarten class will increase, an increase which would ultimately spread to all the elementary grades. If the rate of housing growth were to increase dramatically from past levels, the projections would rise. At all grade levels, improved programs/facilities could lead to additional Burrillville residents attending (or remaining in) the public schools. Ten-year enrollment projections are just that — projections; they are not guarantees. In making plans, it should

take into account the possibility of a 10% swing either way in terms of enrollment at all grade levels.

Projections (2002-2011)

Total public school enrollment, K-12, is projected to shrink by about 60 students each year for the next 10 years. Table IV.13 displays the enrollment history of the Class of 2002, the present senior class. The combined effects of the many factors bearing upon student enrollment can be seen, in microcosm, in a single class.

Table IV.13
Class of 2002 – Burrillville High School

1984	Births	188		
Fall				
1989	Kindergarten	215	Public	+ 30 Private/Parochial
1990	Grade 1	253		+26
1991	Grade2	234		+24
1992	Grade3	215		+22
1993	Grade4	220		+25
1994	Grade5	232		+22
1995	Grade 6	244		+15
1996	Grade 7	259		+19
1997	Grade 8	264		+20
1998	Grade 9	243		+12 +3 Voc-Tech
1999	Grade 10	243		+16 +8
2000	Grade 11	242		+11 +3
2001	Grade 12	203		+11 +3

Although current enrollment projections reflect the loss of about 600 public school students, K-12, spread over the next ten years, the future is never certain. It is possible that the decline will not be as steep, and could even reverse. Although it is not likely that births to Burrillville residents will increase in the near term, additional construction of homes could occur at any time. Similarly, the creation of additional job opportunities such as the growth on Route 102, could attract families to Burrillville's pleasant natural setting. Within the school district, educational programs are being strengthened (Advanced Placement courses) and updated (Tech Prep, Web Page Design, careers in Information Technology, etc.) consistent with the Five-Year Strategic Goals/Plan. It is likely that the school program offerings will interest families in wanting their children to attend the Burrillville Public Schools.

IV.E Education Indicators

The following facts and figures in Table IV.14 prepared by the Rhode Island Department of Education illustrate the school system's characteristics from enrollment to funding that are especially useful for comparison with the State. Burrillville has a higher level of dropouts than the State as a whole, and a lower graduation rate. The Town tends to have fewer students in non-public schools, spend less tax dollars on education, and rely more on State funding. Burrillville is a member of the Northern Rhode Island Collaborative Communities, a group of towns which share information and maintain cooperative educational programs.[1] Within that group of nine communities, Burrillville ranks fifth in average per pupil expenditure. In a study of the top step teacher salary in 38 school units conducted by the Rhode Island Association of School Committees in 2001, Burrillville ranked 24th from the top. The following illustrates Burrillville's standing statewide for selected indicators:

Table IV.14

Indicator	Rhode Island	Burrillville
Graduation Rate	81.13%	77.44%
Student Attendance	92%	94%
Annual Dropout Rate	18.87%	22.56%
% Public School Enrollment	85.9%	87.6%
% Non-Public School Enrollment	14.1%	12.4%
Instructional Cost per Pupil	$8,264	$7,364
Total Cost per Pupil	NA	$8,834
% of budget from local taxes	70%	46%
% of budget from State	28%	51%
% of budget from Federal govt.	3.0%	3.0%

Source: Rhode Island Department of Education.

IV.F School Budget

As in most Rhode Island communities, the school department budget forms nearly three-quarters of the Town's total budgetary commitments. **Table IV-15** illustrates expenditure trends for the past five years.

[1] Includes North Providence, Pawtucket, Lincoln, Cumberland, Smithfield, North Smithfield, Woonsocket, Central Falls, and Burrillville.

Table IV-15
Municipal and School Department Expenditures FY01, FY02, FY03

	FY01		FY02		FY03*	
Category of Expenditures	Amount	% of Total	Amount	% of Total	Amount	% of Total
Municipal Govt	$6,356,488	23.1%	$6,479,182	22.8%	$7,217,712	24.2%
Public Schools **	$21,101,902	76.9%	$21,949,558	77.2%	422,540,772	75.8%
Total Expenditures	$27,458,390		$28,428,740		$29,758,484	

* FY01 and FY02 are Actuals; FY03 is Appropriations.
**Does not include school general obligation bonds or capital improvement expenditures.
Source: Municipal and School Financial Reports

Revenue sources for the school come primarily from local property taxes, followed by State grants, federal grants and school department generated funds, as shown on **Table IV-16.** Reliance on state aid has become more prevalent in recent years. This will require the Town to make a decision regarding increasing its support for school programs, capital improvements and other school-related activities which depend upon local funding for implementation.

Table IV-16
Trends in School Department Revenues

Budget Year	State Aid	Local Property Taxes	Appropriation (1)
FY01	$10,224,196	$10,645,667	$21,130,000
FY02	$11,158,077	$10,645,667	$22,055,000
FY03	$11,591,199	$10,649,573	$22,540,772

(1) Included in the appropriation are Other School Department generated revenues.

Table IV.17 reflects the additional support provided to the district by grant funding.

Table IV-17
Trends in Grant Funding

Budget Year	Carryover Funds	State/Fed Grants	Competitive Grants	Total Grant Funding
FY01	$133,930	$1,945,996	$66,197	$2,146,123
FY02	$196,900	$2,049,272	$194,337	$2,440,509
FY03	$266,696	$2,195,057	$202,179	$2,663,932

Sources: School Department Audit Report

IV.G School Facilities Issues

The School Department Perspective

- In 1998, the existing configuration of the 3 elementary schools (K-1, 2-3, 4-5) was changed to K-1, 2-5, 2-5, which was considered more educationally sound. There were relatively minor decreases in enrollment, which permitted better use of space and relief for some specialists who did not have permanent classrooms and service providers who had been situated in storage areas. Current enrollment permits efficient use of appropriate spaces allowing for possible changes anticipated as a result of changes in projections.

- Burrillville Middle School serves Grades 6-8 in six teams. Students remain within their team throughout the school day although their classes may not contain the same members of their team. In addition to basic academic subjects, students participate in exploratory classes, where they experience such special subjects as Art, Music, Technology, Consumer Science, Business, and Computers.

- Burrillville High School has just undergone a $13.5 million expansion and renovation. The town can be proud of the building, which provides a safe and healthy environment for an excellent and varied academic program.

Facilities

The athletic facilities are in need of upgrading. A new gym floor was recently installed at Burrillville Middle School. Use of the balance of the Building Project funds will enable the installation of a new floor and restoration or replacement of the bleachers at Burrillville High School. The athletic fields are in poor condition, partially because of the cost of maintaining them adequately and the inability to renovate a field completely because additional spaces are unavailable. **Staffing**

- Staffing has been reduced at the elementary level as a result of decreased enrollment while there have been compensatory increases at the high school to provide improved programming that meets increased graduation requirements and reduces the warehousing of students in unproductive study halls. Middle School staffing has been stable.

- Programs mandated by the State Department of Education continue to increase, placing demands upon staffing and space. State mandated pro**grams incl**ude

psychologists, school adjustment counselors, and English as a second language specialists, among others.

Financing

- Financing for school programs and operations is limited. State aid and both state and federal grant programs supplement local funding. Historically, local property taxes provided more than half of the school appropriation. However, in FY02, property taxes supplied 48% of school funding and, in FY03, it was 47%.

- In light of recent budget deficits at the state level, unless the Town assumes the responsibility for maintaining quality education, there will not be sufficient dollars available to provide the services required. The School Department will find it necessary to reduce or eliminate important programs and services.

- As a result of the funding made available from the agreement with Ocean State Power, the School Department has been able to maintain its facilities and restore credibility lost historically as it chose education over maintenance during periods of inadequate funding.

IV.H Activities/Plans to Address Anticipated Demands

The following School Department's plans and programs are designed to meet the above-mentioned needs. Short term activities are within one year, medium term are within 1 to 3 years, and long term are activities projected to occur after three years.

Short Term

- Complete the Athletic Fields Study currently being undertaken by a Subcommittee of the School Committee

- Continuation of maintenance work on facilities, roof repairs, major energy conservation projects, painting, window and door replacements, etc.

- Development of a separate capital improvement plan to the Town Council/Manager for the Community Rink.

- Continuation of work with the School Committee on policy development and review

- Continuation of curricula and staff development activities in specific areas;

- Analysis of district-wide enrollment trends to determine best short term solutions;
- Analysis of trends, if any, in out-of-district and private school enrollments to determine both immediate and long term needs.

Medium Term

- Monitor the school system's accomplishments to date in key result areas; make necessary revisions and corrections;
- Continuation of work on improvement of athletic fields;
- Continuation of work on all previously identified capital improvement projects, including completion of outstanding projects at Burrillville High School;
- Continuation of work on the School Department Action Plan including curriculum, staff development, assessment, upgraded performance appraisal system and district-wide program evaluations.

Long Term

- Annual update of School Department Action Plan.
- Evaluation of school district's accomplishments as related to School Department's Action Plan.

New students, new State mandates and new programs require the School Department to continuously monitor and address new needs. The Department's Action Plan, which is reviewed and updated annually, identifies the action the Department is taking to address necessary changes in direction. It is expected that in the future this plan, in combination with continuation of a multi-year effort to strengthen school management at the building level with principals, curriculum leaders and system-wide department chair-people will provide the requisite organizational structure to make "mid-course" corrections in direction.

IV.I Goals, Policies and Implementation Actions

The following draft goals and policies include pertinent State Guide Plan input, School Department recommendations and additional recommendations.

IV. School Facilities Goals	Policies	Implementation Actions
IV.1 To provide community facilities and services which maintain or improve existing quality in the most efficient manner to meet the existing and future needs of Burrillville's residents and businesses.	IV.1.a Promote a better understanding of school policies, programs and opportunities at a community-wide level.	IV.1.a.1 Administer a community survey (5-year cycle) aimed at obtaining accurate data on community expectations regarding the school system.
		IV.1.a.2 Ensure that a School Department Comprehensive Strategic Plan is in place for the School District, including short and long term goals and objectives for the district.
		IV.1.a.3 Communicate the school system's accomplishments to date in key result areas, make necessary revisions and corrections.
	IV.1.b The School Committee must recognize that facility maintenance and renovation is a priority concern.	VI.1.b.1Addition complete, facility maintenance ongoing
		IV.1.b.2 The Superintendent shall prepare an annual report to the School Committee regarding the condition, maintenance and renovation of school facilities.
		IV.1.b.3 Continue to update the 5-year Capital Improvement Plan to reflect current and future needs.
		IV.1.b.4 Continue work aimed at making the June Rockwell Levy Community Rink a financially self-supporting entity. Facility renovated, maintenance ongoing.
	IV.1.c Ensure that all school facilities provide the appropriate physical structure to promote equitable educational opportunities and services to all students.	IV.1.c.1 Continue maintenance work on facilities, roof repairs, major energy conservation projects, painting, window and door replacements, etc. as required.

		IV.1.c.2 Continue to assess enrollment trends as they affect educational and facilities needs.
		IV.1.c.3 Analyze trends, in out-of-district and private school enrollments to determine both immediate and long term needs.
		IV.1.c.4 Explore reorganization as a strategy to address enrollment changes.
	IV.1.d Ensure that the financial resources to be used in the construction, equipping, and maintenance of school buildings and facilities are adequate.	IV.1.d.1 Monitor development and population growth, State and Federal contributions to the school budget and maintain consistent levels of local property tax funding.
		IV.1.d.2 The School Department will continue to report use of appropriated capital improvement monies.
IV.1 To provide community facilities and services which maintain or improve existing quality in the most efficient manner to meet the existing and future needs of Burrillville's residents and businesses.	IV.1.e Promote sharing of information between the School Dept. and the Planning Dept., including popula-tion projections, school bus routes, computer databases, planned and potential residential development and other pertinent information.	IV.1.e.1 The Town Planner and School Department staff should coordinate on a regular basis to review data needs, development trends, population projections and other information as needed.
	IV.1.f Explore alternative financing arrangements for supplementing local property taxes, and State and Federal funding of the school system, such as, but not limited to, impact fees.	IV.1.f.1 The Planning Department/Board, in coordination with the School Board, will review existing impact fee systems relating new development to school facilities, and consider the merits of such a system for Burrillville.
		IV.1.f.2 Should the results of the study described in IV.1.f.1, indicate that an impact fee system would be beneficial to providing educational services in Burrillville, prepare the necessary legal review and establish an impact fee system.

	IV.1.g Ensure that new school facilities are located appropriately, with consideration to residential development and traffic patterns.	IV.1.g.1 Attempt to locate new school facilities in or proximal to existing neighborhoods.
		IV.1.g.2 Review school bus stop locations to ensure the safety of children.
	IV.1.h Improve the educational quality of the schools by improving curricula, expanding programs for the gifted and the slow learners, instituting additional experimental programs and reducing student-teacher ratios.	IV.1.h.1 Continue curricula and staff development activities in specific areas.

Sources:

Rhode Island Public Schools 2002 Information Works

Enrollment Projections, New England School Development Education Council, April 2002.

Chapter V
Housing & Affordable Housing Strategy

CHAPTER V
HOUSING & AFFORDABLE HOUSING STRATEGY

The following housing element is consistent with Rhode Island's Consolidated Plan for 2000 – 2005, particularly those sections relating to rural development, affordable housing and rehabilitation of existing housing, all of which are highly prioritized and relevant to the Town of Burrillville. The Affordable Housing Strategy, as contained herein, identifies specific steps taken by the Town to increase the supply of affordable housing and the resources and policies used in this regard. This plan serves as a clear statement as well as a guide for the housing development community as to the specific geographic location, number and type of affordable housing units necessary to meet the Town's diverse population needs.

This chapter is consistent with Chapter IX, Land Use and Rhode Island State Guide Plan Element 121, Land Use 2025, which sets forth the following key recommendations that relate to housing:

1. Sustain Rhode Island's unique character through use of an Urban Services Boundary, rural centers, and holistic approaches to planning;
2. Create permanent greenspace throughout the rural, urban, and waterfront areas;
3. Develop concentrated well-designed centers, neighborhoods, and special places;Create a diverse and affordable housing stock;
4. Coordinate public infrastructure with development.

The Comprehensive Planning and Land Use Regulation Act requires that local comprehensive plans identify and analyze existing and forecasted housing needs and objectives including programs for the preservation -including but not limited to- the preservation of federally insured or assisted housing, improvement and development of housing for all citizens. This housing element enumerates local policies and implementation techniques to provide a balance of housing choices, recognizing local, regional and statewide needs for all income levels and for all age groups –including but not limited to- the affordability of housing and the preservation of federally insured or assisted housing. At minimum, R.I.G.L. Title 45 Chapter 53 requires that all cities and towns maintain at least 10 percent of total housing units as affordable. At a minimum, the Town's housing policies and affordable housing strategies must include specific steps that address the following:

- Upgrading deteriorating and substandard housing;

- Providing new housing opportunities that are available to residents of varying income levels (i.e., 0-30% of MFI, 30 – 50% and 50-80% of MFI). ;

- Identify the number of affordable units needed to achieve the 10 percent affordable housing threshold as quantified in the most recent 'Low and Moderate Income Housing by Community" tabulation published by RIHMFC by type and tenure consistent with the consolidated plan.

- Identify the number and type of low and moderate income units (e.g. family, elderly, special needs) produced by these strategies in proportion to the unmet local and state housing needs identified in the housing element and consistent with the consolidated plan.

- Provide quantitative estimates of how each strategy will contribute to attainment of the threshold and the timeframe for implementation of each.

- Identify responsible parties and partners for each implementation strategy and identify resources that will be tapped to achieve those strategies.

The following components of housing which were reviewed include:

- Number and type of dwelling units;
- Trends in housing in Burrillville, 1980 – present;
- Age and condition of housing;
- Affordability of housing for a median income family in Burrillville;
- Characteristics, location and effective integration of affordable dwelling units;
- Characteristics of special needs housing (i.e., elderly renters, physically and/or mentally disabled); and,
- Housing programs

Existing Conditions, Trends, Projections and Cost

Burrillville is part of a larger "housing market area" defined by the State as including Glocester, Foster, Scituate, Coventry, West Greenwich and Exeter, all of which are rural-suburban communities. This housing market area is the least densely settled in the State, and includes several small urban areas centered on mill villages, leaving large areas in between thinly settled.

The Town is characterized by urban, suburban and rural types of housing development, generally becoming more rural moving from Pascoag outward to the north, east and west. The urban area (Pascoag/Harrisville), is composed of medium to high density single and multi-

family development on 12,000 to 20,000 square foot lots. Residential development is interspersed with commercial and industrial/manufacturing development.

The suburban area of the Town includes largely those areas outside of Pascoag/Harrisville, which front on arterials and collector roads such as Bronco's Highway (Route 102), East Avenue (Route 107), Douglas Pike and others. These areas are generally encompassed by the R20, R40, F2 and F5 zoning districts interspersed with some commercial, industrial and open space districts. They are primarily comprised of single family dwelling units at medium to low densities, largely on 40,000 square feet to two-acre lots.

The villages of Oakland, Mapleville, Glendale, Mohegan, and Bridgeton can also be characterized as suburban development, though Oakland and Mapleville are of higher densities similar to Pascoag and Harrisville. In many cases, these villages were built around mills, with associated housing for mill workers, such as that found along East Avenue. With respect to mill villages and associated redevelopment projects, the utmost care shall be taken at all times to ensure conversion of what may have been previously utilized at industrial or commercial property is environmentally investigated and remediated per RIDEM regulations; Stillwater Mill No. 4, located in Harrisville is one such example. Interspersed throughout these areas are farms, large State-owned tracts and facilities, and some small industrial and business uses, many longstanding, around which residential development occurred.

Between these more densely settled areas are the rural portions of the community. Public open space, forested areas, and rural residential compound subdivisions containing lots of 2 to 5 acres.

In terms of housing cost, Burrillville's housing stock –similar to northern Rhode Island's housing stock- has been steadily influenced over the past 10 years by Boston's Metro Area. The local housing market is responding to the out-migration of people from the Boston area who are in search of proportionately less expensive housing stock. In general, those people earn higher incomes than the local populous and are able to pay a higher premium for both existing housing stock, and new housing. Additionally, other factors have worked to limit local housing affordability as well as availability, such as:

- High land costs, aggravated by large minimum lot size and other requirements in excess of environmental or social need;
- High construction costs and resultant high rents or sales prices;
- Marginal funding from federal housing programs;

- Unemployment or under-employment;
- Lack of municipal facilities and services for potentially suitable housing and development sites;
- Increased number of low paying service sector jobs.

Needless to say, the credit market collapse and resultant recession has drastically affected not only housing price, but production has dropped off sharply since 2008.

Demographics - Burrillville's population was one of the few in Rhode Island to have decreased since 1990. To understand decennial growth trends, (see Table V-1).

Table V-1
Burrillville Population Trends, 2000

Year	Population	Percent Change	Number Change
1960	9,116	NA	NA
1970	10,087	10.7	971
1980	13,164	30.5	3,077
1990	16,230	23.3	3,066
2000	15,796	(2.7)	(434)

Source: U.S. Census of Population, 2000.

Despite the recent decrease, Burrillville's population is expected to continue to grow over time, although at a somewhat slower pace than the last 20 years. According to RI Statewide Planning 2000 census projections, (Table V-2) Burrillville is expected to increase by a total of 2,399 people by year 2030.

Table V-2
Population Projections for Burrillville

Year	Projected Population	Percent Change
2005	16,163	2.3
2010	16,469	1.8
2015	16,928	2.7
2020	17,439	3.0
2025	17,876	2.5
2030	18,195	1.8

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, 2000; RI Statewide Planning.

The median family income of Burrillville residents has risen over the past decade, 64.7 percent between 1990 and 2000 (see Table V-3)

Table V-3

Burrillville Median Family Income, 2000

Year	Median Family Income	Percent Change from Previous Decade
1970	$ 8,949	72.5
1980	$18,569	107.5
1990	$35,805	92.8
2000	$58,979	64.7

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, 2000.

The median sale price of single-family homes has increased 23.7 percent from 1990 to 2000. However, since 2000, the price of a single family home has risen from $146,000 to $197,950 as of year-end 2002, an increase of 36 percent in just two years, thus indicating a rapid cost inflation of the local housing market. As of year 2003 (Jan. 03' thru Sept. 03') the median sales price of a single-family home in Burrillville was $230,000[1], thus confirming a widening gap between housing price and income levels creating an affordability problem for Burrillville residents, who maintained a median family income of only $58,979 as of 2000. The median family income of 2000 would correlate to an average affordable housing price of +/- $157,500. The result is a $40,000 affordability gap between current median family income and single family housing price as of year 2002. The disproportionate rise of housing cost to income level has created a pressing need in Burrillville, as in many Rhode Island communities, to provide affordable housing units to residents of moderate incomes, such as families whose earnings are 120 percent of median family income.

According to the 2000 Census figures, nearly 40% of the town's families –of which there is an estimated 4,240- earn 80% or less than the median family income for Burrillville, which is $58,979. The above figures indicate that the need for affordable housing is already prevalent amongst our own residents.

At Risk Populations - In Burrillville, there are individuals and families who are unable to afford the high costs of housing, and rely upon subsidy programs for assistance. Identifying the at-risk group involves determining the number of individuals and/or families participating in public assistance programs. The total number of households receiving public assistance within the town is 186 or 3 percent. In addition to those groups listed above, seniors are

[1] 11-03' Rhode Island Housing "Statewide Multiple Listing Service"

considered at-risk due to fixed incomes. U.S. Census 2000 figures show that 193 of Burrillville's 5,544 total housing units receive some sort of supplemental security income.

Burrillville's age distribution compares interestingly to that of the state and may provide insight as to who is able to purchase newer housing stock. As of 2000, 28.2 percent of Burrillville's population was under the age of 18, while the state contained 27 percent. Burrillville had a slightly lower percentage of elderly residents than the State in 2000, 11.4 percent compared to 14.4 percent (see Table V-4). Yet, Burrillville's median age is slightly higher, which may be an indication that Burrillville has recently been a magnet for empty nesters.

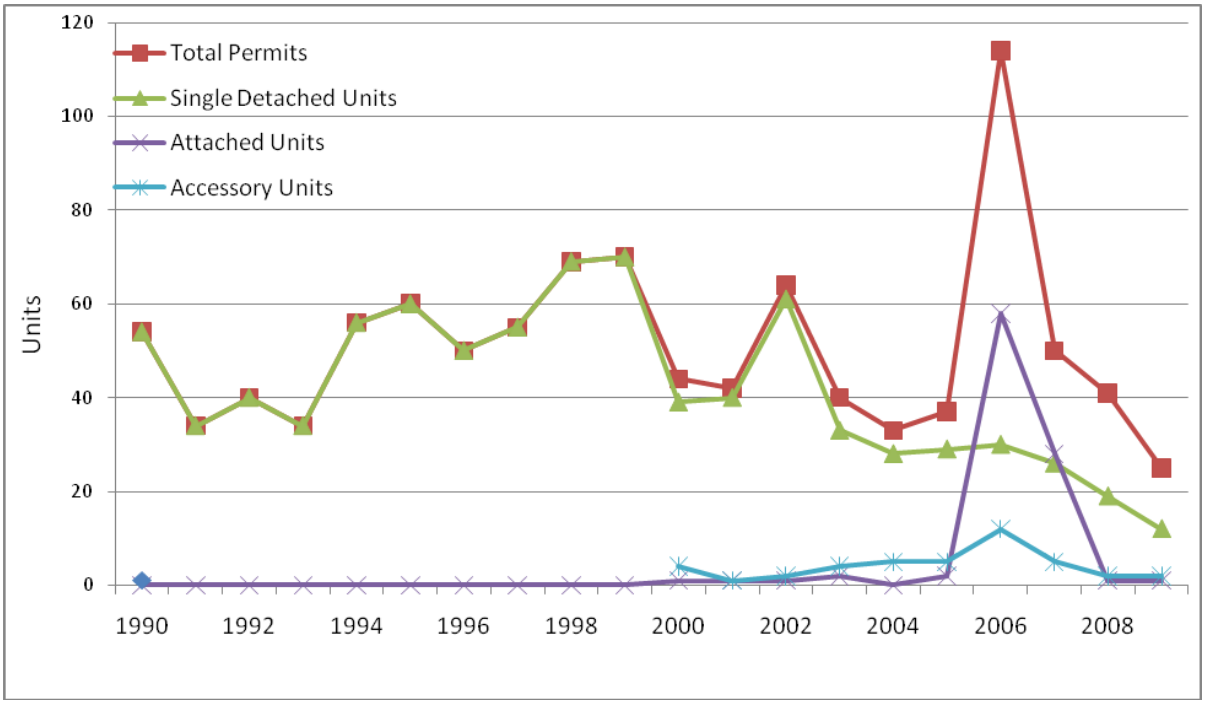
Table V-4
Age Distribution of Burrillville Population 2000

Area	Under Age 18 (1)	Age 64 and over (2)	Median Age
Burrillville	28.2 %	11.4 %	37.5
Rhode Island	27 %	14.5 %	36.7

Source: U.S. Census 2000.

Figure V-1
Housing Trends in Burrillville, 1990-2009

Source: 2003, Burrillville Building Department



Source: Planning, Building Dept., Town of Burrillville, 2-16-10

Housing Stock – According to Figure V-1, Burrillville has begun to reverse the trend from singly family detached housing to a mix of attached housing. This is a reflection of the town's efficient geo-spatial land use policies, which are beginning to take effect. Historically, many mill duplex units were constructed to house mill workers. Many of these units still exist today, represent the majority of the town's multi-unit dwellings, and anchor the villages' historic character. An opportunity exists for developers to incorporate such units into new housing developments as affordable units. Replicating these structures will enhance the villages' historic appeal as the Town grows.

According to Table V-6 below, Burrillville attains an adequate amount of nursing home beds and assisted living beds. However, a large demand exists for senior apartments, as is evident from a waiting list of 127 as of 2000. According to the 2000 HUD Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy Data, a number of elderly rental households with housing problems have been identified and is discussed later in the Affordable Housing Strategy section of this

chapter. The Burrillville Housing Authority currently administers 84 affordable housing vouchers.

In Burrillville, there are four housing developments which are insured and/or subsidized by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). These include Bradford Court on North Main Street, Stillwater Apartments and Stillwater Heights on Main Street, and Ashton Court Village on Chapel Street. This represents a total of 241 units (4.3 percent of the Town's total units), all of which are exclusively occupied by the elderly[2]. To qualify for these units, applicants' income must fall within certain HUD income limits.

Table V-6
Group Quarters Housing Units 2000
Nursing Homes, Affordable Senior Apartments, Assisted Living

Facility Name	Nursing Home	Assisted Living	Senior Housing Facility	# Units	# Beds	Section 8	Title 19	Vouchers	Wait List
Stillwater Apartments			X	15		X			12
Bradford Court			X	98		X			40
Ashton Court			X	76				84	308* (65 Town)
Overlook	X			100			X		0
Pine Grove	X			72			X		0
Bayberry Commons	X			105			X		0
Welcome Home		X			16				5
Stillwater Heights			X	52					

Source: 11-13-03 - Burrillville Housing Authority, Overlook, Bayberry and Pine Grove Nursing Homes, Promac Inc., (stillwater apartments), Bradford Ct
* Inflated, due to applicants applying to all facilities

Housing Units by Census Tract - Table V-7 illustrates the estimated number of housing units by census tract for Burrillville in 2000. The 2000 estimate is based upon the total 2000 census figure distributed by Census Tract based upon population distribution.

[2] 2003, Burrillville Housing Authority

Table V-7
Estimated Number of Housing Units by Census Tract, 2000

Census Tract	Units 1990	Units 2000
129	2,169	2,012
130.01	1,098	1,140
130.02	2,484	2,669
TOTAL	**5,751**	**5,821**

Sources: U.S. Census of Population, 2000.

Recent development patterns show a decentralized development pattern within the town according to the census tract data (1990 & 2000, U.S. Census). The percentage of housing units shows that a higher number of new units were built in the suburban and outlying rural areas of the community as opposed to Pascoag/Harrisville (CT 129 actually declined), which are by comparison, more urban. This may be affirmed by viewing U.S. Bureau of the Census, 2000, CDP data, which shows urban population concentrations. Burrillville's two CDP area designations, Pascoag and Harrisville, combine for a total population of 9,173, while the remaining portion of Burrillville –suburban to rural areas- contains 6,623 residents (2000 U.S. Census). The growing number of single-family housing units outside urban cores is due to a number of factors including parcel subdivision on outlying roadways and the desirability of the outlying areas of the community as a location choice as people continue to pursue the element of seclusion.

Occupancy – Seventy seven percent of the housing units in Burrillville are owner-occupied units (see Table V-8). As of 2000, 23 percent of all units in the Town were renter-occupied. Census tracts 129 and 130.02, which includes the village centers, (urbanized areas) accounted for 94 percent of the rented units within town. The remaining 6 percent is within census tract 130.01, which largely covers western Burrillville, and is comprised of State game lands. As is later discussed in the Affordable Housing Strategy section, an Inclusionary village overlay zone has been adopted to geographically control and promote orderly residential growth, conserve neighborhood cohesiveness and ensure an adequate number of affordable ownership and rental units.

Table V-8
Tenure, 2000

Census Tract	Owner Occupied	Percent of Tract	Renter Occupied	Percent of Tract
129	1,080	57	824	43
130.01	1,006	93	80	13
130.02	2,183	85	386	15
TOTAL	**4,269**	**77**	**1,290**	**23**

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, 2000

Age and Condition of Housing Units – Burrillville has a fair amount of older housing stock; as 44 percent of Burrillville's housing units were built before 1960. Not surprisingly, 73 percent of the total units that are 40 years old or older are within CT 129, again, the Town's urbanized area.(see Table V-9). Variations in the number and age of housing units within census tracts illustrate the development patterns throughout the community, with the Pascoag area, having the largest percentage of older housing (units 40 years or older).

Table V-9
Age of Housing Unit by Census Tract, 2000

Census Tract	40 Years[1] or Older	Percent of Total	20-39 Years	Percent of Total	1-19 Years	Percent of Total
129	1,467	73	461	23	84	4
130.01	428	38	613	54	99	9
130.02	1,267	47	1,024	38	378	14
Townwide	**2,561**	**44**	**2,699**	**46**	**561**	**10**

Source: U.S. Census of Population, 2000

Special Needs Housing

There is a pressing need in Burrillville, as in many older communities, to improve access to public facilities as well as throughout the Town at large. According to the 2000 Census, Burrillville's civilian non-institutionalized population 5 years and over with physical disabilities is 1,190 or 8% of the total population. Comparatively, the State of Rhode Island attains 7% with physical disability.

Response to special needs population

The Burrillville Building Inspector will continue to work with developers –particularly with regards to redevelopment- under the flexible building code to provide access for civilians with physical disabilities. In 1996, the Town revised its Zoning Ordinance to allow for accessory apartments within existing residential units; such units will allow families to better care for their elderly or disabled members. The Town will continue to identify alternative housing options through its Zoning Ordinance and Subdivision Regulations to better address the needs of Burrillville's special needs population.

Physical Resources - The rapid rise in the price of land is one of the greatest contributors to the recent inflation in the cost of building new homes. The Town must continue to find ways to lower the initial cost of housing development for purposes of providing affordable housing to town residents.

More specifically, as was previously identified within this chapter, affordable housing for senior citizens continues to be a priority and has been partly ameliorated through the development of Stillwater Heights; a fifty two unit elderly apartment complex. The development of the Stillwater Mill Complex Redevelopment District Plan shall continue to be redeveloped by the Town's Planning Board and Redevelopment Agency in a manner that seamlessly integrates affordably housing units into the historic fabric of Harrisville in keeping with the Federally recognized historic district.

Maximizing the number of redevelopment projects (e.g. brownfields or vacant buildings and sites) for potential affordable housing development is the highest priority for the Town of Burrillville, which views such as a recycling of neighborhood resources. This form of sustainable planning activity is in keeping with this and other sections of the Town Comprehensive Plan. Sustainable development reuses and or reactivates, in instances of vacant brownfields sites, existing infrastructure as opposed to extending new infrastructure and services to undeveloped rural areas in Town. Redevelopment projects therefore represent a most efficient use of land thereby conserving town resources through efficient maintenance. Two specific redevelopment projects (i.e. Stillwater Mill Complex and Pascoag Grammar School) are quantified later in the affordable housing strategy matrices.

Land owned by local non-profit groups may also be considered, as their interest and mission allows. The Town will work with non-profits to locate appropriate sites for affordable housing developments, prior to their acquisition of sites, to be sure development is commensurate with this and other elements of the Town Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Ordinance.

Social Resources - These may include private or public groups or individuals able to offer land, financing, technical assistance or social and political leadership.[3] The Town, churches, employers and social service organizations fit into this category. Among the activities which may be conducted or influenced by these entities is: offering technical assistance to developers in planning and processing applications (Town), providing social leadership (churches), offering temporary housing (social services agencies).

Financial Resources - There are a number of programs available to assist local residents in obtaining housing, including:

- Rhode Island Housing - provides financial and program support to create and preserve opportunities for quality, affordable housing for low and moderate income Rhode Islanders. Programs include low interest mortgages for first time homebuyers, low interest loans to create accessory apartments in a home, low interest mortgages to buy an older home and make substantial repairs, home equity conversion mortgages which enable older homeowners to remain in and retain ownership of their homes, among others.

- Farmers Home Administration - administers a rural housing site loan program which provides loans to public and private local nonprofit organizations for development of low and moderate-income family housing.

- Banks, Employers and Businesses - loans, and funds for down payments.

Management Resources - Management is necessary to control the resources necessary to construct or renovate affordable housing units; and to manage the units over time or administer the programs that maintain their affordability over time.[4] Control of the affordability of housing units in the long term may be addressed through deed restrictions on the property or by retaining the units in the control of a non-profit organization. Deed restrictions can give

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3 Affordable Housing Plan of The Town of North Kingstown, Submitted by the North Kingstown Affordable Housing Commission and The North Kingstown Planning Commission, LandUse, Inc., July, 1990.

4 Affordable Housing Plan of The Town of North Kingstown, Submitted by the North Kingstown Affordable Housing Commission and The North Kingstown Planning Commission, LandUse, Inc., July, 1990.

the Town or another entity the right of first refusal at the time of re-sale, or could limit the sale price of the unit without involving a third party. They may be written so that the property is restricted in perpetuity, or they may lapse after a given time, typically 30 years.

In Burrillville, housing resources, which receives annual funding from RI CDBG, is managed by the Town Planning Department and the Woonsocket Planning Department, which administers housing rehabilitation programs. The Burrillville Housing Authority oversees the Town's elderly housing and Section 8 Housing program. Management resources which could further the Town's housing objectives include an expanded role for the Housing Authority and establishment of a local non-profit housing corporation or trust.

Economic Development Resources

Aggressive economic development initiatives and the creation of jobs work to offset escalating housing costs. Burrillville's recently adopted Route 102 Development Management District Plan[5] sets aside nearly 100 acres of developable industrial property along the route 102 corridor for specific industrial sectors –mainly, the FIRE Industries and Manufacturing. The Route 102 plan consisted of rezoning nearly 50 properties and eliminating the Highway Commercial zone district for the sole purpose of utilizing the corridor for skilled to highly-skilled "career jobs" as opposed to those associated with the lower paying service/retail sectors. The former of which typically offers health benefits, a costly item that drastically eats into the incomes of all those families who do not receive health benefits.

Assuming the Town is successful in achieving a development split of 50/50 (acres) between the FIRE and Manufacturing Sectors, according to Table 212-02(1) Industrial Acreage Projections: Year 2020, of the State's Industrial Land Use Plan, the Town can expect to gain nearly 7,250 total jobs over the next twenty years. Of those jobs, 6,250 will be devoted to the FIRE Industries.[6] Even if merely 11 percent of those jobs went to those of affordable incomes, that would provide for nearly 800 jobs for LMI families. As learned later in this chapter, the town expects to create 732 units by year 2020.

Housing Issues

The following summarizes the major housing-related issues identified during this five-year plan update:

[5] http://www.burrillville.org/Public_Documents/BurrillvilleRI_EconDev/tableofcontents

[6] http://www.planning.state.ri.us/ed/Idlu/Pt2.PDF

- Median family income rose by 64.7 percent between 1990 and 2000, while median single-family home sales price rose 67.7 percent from 1990 to 2002. Median sales prices as of 3rd quarter end 2003, however, were $230,000, thus affirming a continued increase in housing costs that is outpacing median family income.

- The present economic recession has created a spike in foreclosures in Town and is negatively affecting revenue streams.

- Between 1990 and 2000 a higher number of new units were built in the suburban and outlying rural areas of the community than in Pascoag/Harrisville.

- Most housing units in Burrillville are single family, owner-occupied units.

- Nearly 45 percent of Burrillville's housing units were built before 1960, 73 percent of the housing units in CT 129, Pascoag Village, are 40 years old or older.

- The median contract rent in Burrillville according to the 2000 Census is $514. This is higher overall than the State averages for the same contract rent, which is $477.

  In terms of rent burden, an estimated 35 percent of the total renters in Burrillville expend more than 30 percent of their income to rent. The state averages are slightly higher at 37 percent.

- In Burrillville, there are individuals and families who are unable to afford the high costs of housing, and rely upon subsidy programs for assistance.

- Currently there is a waiting list for units at the Housing Authority's Ashton Court apartments (for the elderly).

- The Town Housing Authority's role is limited to overseeing the Ashton Court complex and the Section 8 program.

- There is no group, committee or agency directly responsible for the overall housing needs of the community. The following affordable housing strategy represents a policy to identify and address those needs.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING STRATEGY

Recent amendments to the Low and Moderate Income Housing Act (R.I.G.L. 45-53), mandate that Towns that do not conform to the Act find ways to encourage affordable housing development. Towns are required to maintain at least 10 percent of total housing stock as affordable housing stock. Communities that already maintain 10 percent of their total housing stock as affordable are exempt from the act. Currently, because of Burrillville's effective implementation of this plan, Burrillville's affordable housing stock is estimated to be between 10 and 11 percent (when considering plans currently pending before the Planning Board)

HOUSING PROBLEMS – A key component of this Affordable Housing Strategy is to clearly identify the housing needs of Burrillville's local population. Those populations in need will then be compared to the needs of the region and state.

Local needs - –Table V-10, Housing Problems Output for all Households, (2000 HUD CHAS data[7]) , identifies specific types of housing need within the town of Burrillville. Table V-10 depicts owners, renters, large and small families, and elderly. Data is also presented in the form of percentage with housing problems and/or cost burden. For example, there are households whose income earnings are between 30 and 80 percent of median family income for Burrillville. It also depicts the ranges between 30 to 50 percent and 50 to 80 percent. Household incomes greater than 80 percent of median family income are also shown. These data are key to understanding Burrillville's housing needs in order to determine what affordable housing strategies should be employed to address the specific need for the town's residents. The following definitions must be understood in order to interpret Table V-10:

1. Any housing problems: cost burden greater than 30% of income and/or overcrowding and/or without complete kitchen or plumbing facilities.
2. Other housing problems: overcrowding (1.01 or more persons per room) and/or without complete kitchen or plumbing facilities.
3. Elderly households: 1 or 2 person household, either person 62 years old or older.
4. Renter: Data does not include renters living on boats, RV's or vans. This excludes approximately 25,000 households nationwide.

[7] www.comcon.org/resources/chas/reports.asp

5. Cost burden: the fraction of a household's total gross income spent on housing costs. For renters, housing costs include rent paid by the tenant plus utilities. For owners, housing costs include mortgage payment, taxes, insurance, and utilities.

Need – Female headed households and homelessness

The Housing needs of Burrillville reflect a continued need for assistance programs. The success of Burrillville's Home Rehabilitation Grant Program (funded by the Community Development Block Grant program) serves to indicate that the Town has a number of households in need of assistance. The demographics of the grant recipients serve as an indication of those populations in need. Out of a total of 31 properties assisted between 1997 to present, there were 68 total beneficiaries, 22 were elderly and 15 were in female-headed households. The demographics of those who benefit from the Town's CDBG housing program have been cross-examined with a recent RI Emergency Shelter Report and there seem to be correlations concerning those populations who used shelters in Rhode Island with those in need, locally, with housing problems. Consistently high were the number of single female-headed households.

According to the RI Emergency Shelter Annual Report for July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008, the Rhode Island emergency shelter system provided shelter for 6,437 people during 2007-2008, third most since 1989. According to the shelter report's appendix, "city/town or last residence for shelter clients 2002-2003", .3 percent of Rhode Island's shelter clients last resided in Burrillville, which equated to 18 shelter clients. The report clearly indicates that Burrillville has a very small homelessness problem. Providence showed the highest percentage, statewide, at 32.7 percent, followed by the cities of Pawtucket, Woonsocket, and Newport 6.9, 5.7 and 5.4 percent respectively.

Response – Female headed household and the disabled

The Town will continue to explore funding opportunities from Rhode Island's Community Development Block Grant Program and HUD programs to specifically expand the housing base for physically and/or mentally disabled citizens, and female-headed households. Stillwater Heights, for example, will contain 14 units which will accommodate the disabled. Other populations are identified further in the Affordable Housing Strategy Section of this chapter.

Need - Elderly renter households

Analysis of Table V-10 shows that Burrillville attains a total of 5,487 households, of which 24.7 percent have some sort of housing problem. Equally alarming is the fact that 23.5 percent have a cost burden of greater than 30 percent, while 8.5 percent have a cost burden greater than 50 percent. In Burrillville, there are approximately 1,239 renters, which represent 23 percent of the total households. Of that 23 percent, 319, or 26 percent are elderly renters, and 266 households earn equal to or less than 80 percent of median family income. Of those 266 elderly renters, an estimated 150 have "any housing problems" (i.e., some sort of burden) that need to be rectified though this affordable housing strategy.

Continuing on the subject of elderly and analyzing the CHAS data further, Burrillville contains two CDP's (Census Designated Places); Pascoag and Harrisville. The total number of rental households in the Pascoag CDP is 511, of which 121 (24%) are elderly renters. The Harrisville CDP, while substantially smaller, attains 270 total rental households, however, the total number of elderly renter households is 112 or 41%.

Overall (i.e., Town wide), 71% of all elderly renter households less than or equal to area median income have a cost burden of greater than 50 percent, which means, 51 percent or more of their income goes to rent and utilities. This equates to 155 elderly units.

Response - Elderly renter households

In order to respond to the needs of Burrillville's elderly rental population, a population of substantial housing problems and burden, the Town Council and Burrillville Redevelopment Agency were successful in securing $5.9 million of HUD Section 202 funds to construct senior apartments within the Village of Harrisville. The figures discussed in the needs section above, legitimize the decision to locate approximately 52 elderly subsidized senior apartments in Harrisville where a substantial proportion of the elderly housing units need assistance. Specifically, the project is named Stillwater Heights, and is a key part of the Stillwater Mill Redevelopment Project. These 52 units will be constructed within the first 10 years of the implementation schedule and provide housing for a large chunk of the estimated 155 elderly renter households where there is a perceived need.

Table V-10
Housing Problems Output for -All Households

Name of Jurisdiction: **Burrillville town, Rhode Island**			Source of Data: CHAS Data Book			Data Current as of: 2000					
	Renters					Owners					
Household by Type, Income, & Housing Problem	Elderly 1 & 2 member households (A)	Small Related (2 to 4) (B)	Large Related (5 or more) (C)	All Other Households (D)	Total Renters (E)	Elderly 1 & 2 member households (F)	Small Related (2 to 4) (G)	Large Related (5 or more) (H)	All Other Households (I)	Total Owners (J)	Total Households (L)
1. Household Income <=50% MFI	**233**	**172**	**26**	**128**	**559**	**294**	**64**	**20**	**77**	**455**	**1,014**
2. Household Income <=30% MFI	170	109	18	78	375	134	14	0	38	186	561
3. % with any housing problems	64.7	78	100	82.1	73.9	66.4	100	N/A	73.7	70.4	72.7
4. % Cost Burden >30%	64.7	78	100	82.1	73.9	66.4	100	N/A	73.7	70.4	72.7
5. % Cost Burden >50%	47.1	59.6	77.8	56.4	54.1	29.9	100	N/A	63.2	41.9	50.1
6. **Household Income >30% to <=50% MFI**	63	63	8	50	184	160	50	20	39	269	453
7. % with any housing problems	60.3	54	100	50	57.1	25	80	100	100	51.7	53.9
8. % Cost Burden >30%	60.3	54	50	50	54.9	25	80	100	100	51.7	53
9. % Cost Burden >50%	6.3	0	0	0	2.2	6.3	80	0	51.3	26	16.3
10. **Household Income >50 to <=80% MFI**	33	164	22	54	273	145	410	139	129	823	1,096
11. % with any housing problems	12.1	8.5	63.6	7.4	13.2	17.2	42.7	60.4	89.1	48.5	39.7
12.% Cost Burden >30%	12.1	2.4	18.2	0	4.4	17.2	42.7	42.4	89.1	45.4	35.2
13. % Cost Burden >50%	0	0	0	0	0	0	12.2	0	34.9	11.5	8.7
14. Household Income >80% MFI	53	244	10	100	407	305	2,068	354	243	2,970	3,377
15. % with any housing problems	7.5	1.6	0	0	2	4.9	8.1	6.8	22.2	8.8	8
16.% Cost Burden >30%	0	0	0	0	0	4.9	7.7	6.8	22.2	8.5	7.5
17. % Cost Burden >50%	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.7	0	1.6	0.6	0.6
18. **Total Households**	319	580	58	282	1,239	744	2,542	513	449	4,248	5,487
19. % with any housing problems	48.9	23.6	69	33	34.4	22.7	15.6	25	52.6	21.9	24.7
20. % Cost Burden >30	47.6	21.2	44.8	31.6	31.5	22.7	15.3	20.1	52.6	21.1	23.5
21. % Cost Burden >50	26.3	11.2	24.1	15.6	16.7	6.7	4.7	0	20.7	6.2	8.5

Strategies to address housing needs -

The Affordable Housing Strategy Summary, (Table V-11), depicts Burrillville's implementation schedule for affordable housing development for future years 2010, 2015, 2020 and 2025. Burrillville has already adopted the zoning tools necessary to preclude the need for a 6-month to 1-year implementation schedule. In addition to prescribing policy changes for housing development, Table 11 projects the number of affordable housing units necessary to reach the 10 percent affordable housing goal as stated in R.I.G.L. 45-53. More specifically, Tables 12 and 13 depict the total growth including market rate units. Collectively, actions will address housing needs for all segments of the housing market, including, renters, homeowners, elderly, low and moderate income residents, large families, the homeless and special needs persons and groups.

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Table 11. Summary – Affordable Housing Strategy Summary

AFFORDABLE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AND REHABILITATION STRATEGIES								
Strategy / Action	Year 2010	Year 2015	Year 2020	Year 2025	**Total**	**Rental (Family, Elderly, Disabled)**	**Ownership (Family, Elderly, Disabled)**	**Income Group (% of MFI)**
Subdivision & Land Development Controls								
Require minimum of 20% affordable units in subdivisions of 10 or more units	4.34	4.34	4.34	4.34	17.36		17.36	<= 80%
Inclusionary Zoning – Village Planned Development Ordinance								
Require minimum of 20% affordable units in VPD Overlay Zone	24	24	24	24	96	32	64	<= 80%
Site-specific rehabilitation of existing properties								
Complete								
Complete								
Rehabilitation of Stillwater Mill Clock Tower Building into 60% affordable units Under Construction	36				36	30 (Family)		<= 60%
Woonsocket Neighborhood Development Corp. (O'Hearne Associates) Pre-app mtg with Planning Board complete	50	50			100	40	60	<= 80%
Burrillville Affordable Housing Strategy - TOTAL	**186.34**	**78.34**	**28.34**	**28.34**	**321.36**			

Zoning Strategies

A key component of this Affordable Housing Strategy is the adoption of a new zoning ordinance. Zoning ordinances are the tools by which land development is regulated and effectuated. Looking to Comprehensive Plan Chapter IX, Land Use, it was decided to implement action directive IX.2.a.1, which states "Promote the maintenance and expansion of R-12 and R-20 zones within the villages of Harrisville, Glendale, Oakland, Mapleville, Pascoag and Nasonville."

In February of 2004, the Burrillville Town Council adopted an Inclusionary overlay zone for the sole purpose of focusing and directing mixed-income housing unit growth towards existing village areas. The Inclusionary overlay zone is entitled "Village Planned Development – Land Development Project", and is Section 11-8.9 of the Burrillville Zoning Ordinance. As part of the land development application process Burrillville now offers an option to the development community –both non-profit and private- to put forth development proposals that may receive a density bonus if all the general performance standards of Section 11-8.9 are met, and 20 percent of the proposals are affordable. Allowing the VPD as an overlay zone enables the Town to maintain control over where growth takes place, while the property owner still maintains all rights associated with the underlying zone district. A density bonus is allowed and capped at the R-12 zone district density allowance. That is, regardless of the density of the underlying zoning, the density bonus associated with a VPD proposal shall not exceed that of an R-12 calculation (i.e. 12,000 sq. ft. minimum lot size). Henceforth, the density bonus varies dependent upon the density associated with the underlying zone district. Locating the VPD adjacent to existing village centers, in combination with the potential density bonus, is analogous to expanding the existing R-12 zone districts, which is simply a directive of the land use chapter. When viewed as a density bonus, the zoning tool becomes a stimulus for developing affordable housing by offsetting the development cost associated with affordable unit construction. The limited growth centers associated with the VPD Overlay Zone are depicted on Figure V-2.

Inclusionary Overlay Zone, Unit Calculation Methodology

For purposes of this Affordable Housing Strategy, it is necessary to forecast the total number of housing units –both affordable and market rate. To accomplish the unit forecast, existing RIGIS mapping data was utilized to calculate undevelopable soils areas. The soils data was layered over the town parcel data for purposes of calculating undevelopable soils area and developable soils areas (see Figure V-3 VPD Soils Map).

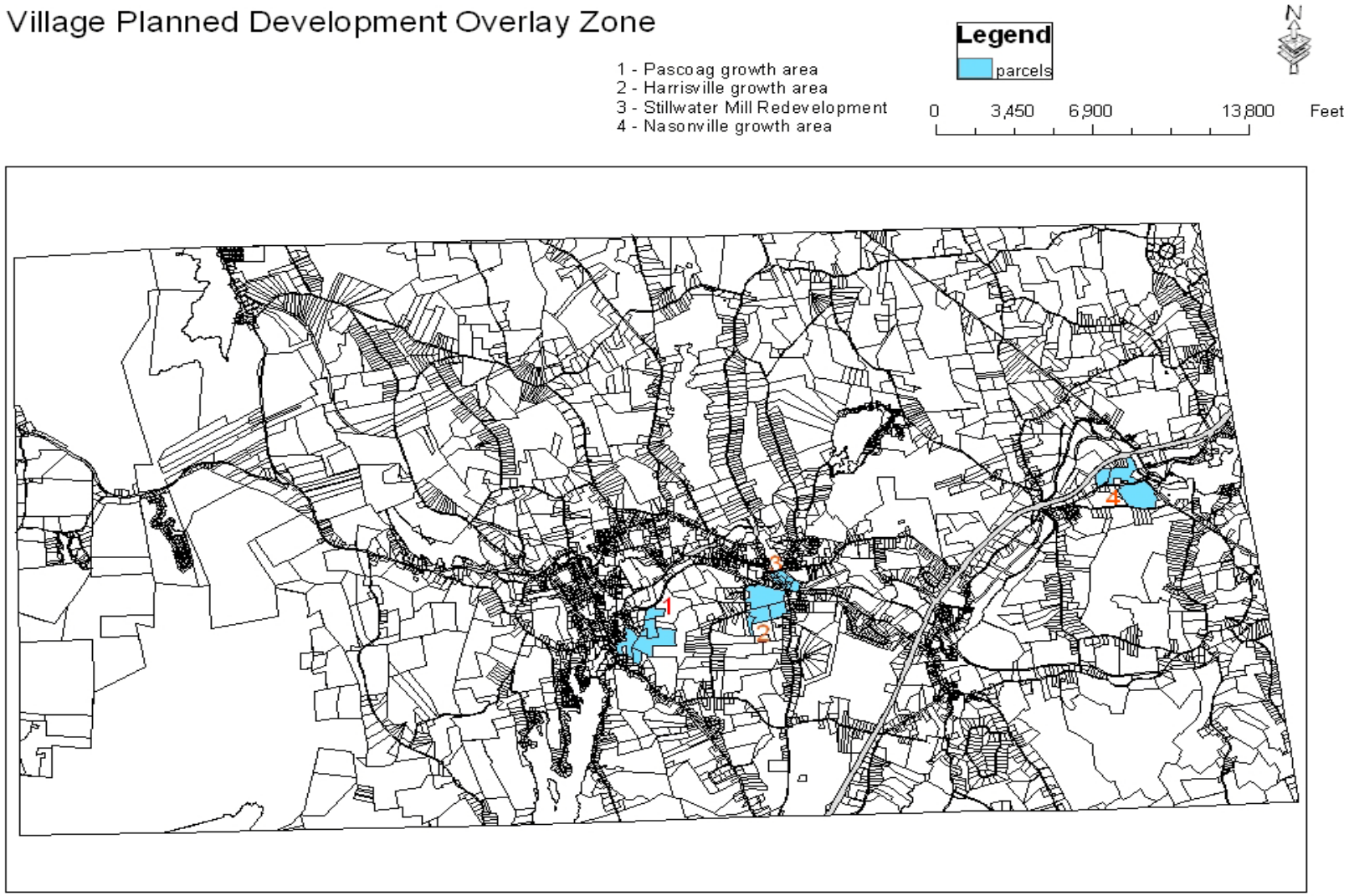
Table V-12 demonstrates each of the four growth areas, with Stillwater being a redevelopment project as well as subject to the VPD overlay zone. As indicated in Table V-12, the total acreage for each of the growth areas was calculated. The GIS effort revealed approximately 22 acres as soil not suitable for community development. Considering undevelopable soils, jurisdictional wetlands and stream setbacks, and open space exactions, 40 percent of the total land area was deducted from each growth area. The areas were then multiplied by 43,560 s.q. ft. / acre for purposes of converting the areas to square footage. All the growth areas were then divided by 12,000 square feet, which assumed each growth area would receive the total density bonus and the total number of lots or units was estimated at 573. In terms of the affordable units, a multiplication of .20 was necessary, as 20 percent of each growth area must be subsidized. Even though only 20 percent affordability is required, Stillwater accounts for a much higher percentage (i.e. 82 units out of a total 103 units), therefore, the actual affordable housing growth rate based on the zoning change is 31%.

Table 13 depicts a total affordable housing strategy build out over the next 20 years. The second important factor in stimulating the creation of affordable housing lies in mandating 20 percent affordable unit construction as a part of conventional growth not associated with the Inclusionary overlay zone. For this growth rate, a figure from Chapter IX, Table IX-5, Year 2025 subtotal residential build out of 868 units was used. Utilizing this figure, an average annual growth figure of 43.4 was calculated over the next 20 years. In order to account for conventional growth, an estimate for such growth had to be determined. The mean number of lots associated with major subdivisions in Burrillville over the past 10 years was calculated to be 21, or roughly half of the 43.4 average, -Lynmar Estates being the largest at 67 units. Burrillville's rural residential compound ordinance accounts for most subdivisions, which are minor in nature (i.e., 2 to 5 lots). Adopting a mandatory 20 percent affordability requirement for those conventional subdivisions will yield an estimated 17.36 units over the next 20 years, or 4.34 units annually, see Table 11.

Using the subtotal residential build out found in Chapter IX, Table IX-5, for year 2025, Burrillville can expect to see a growth rate of 43.4 units per year. As described in the previous paragraph, roughly half of those permits will be due to conventional subdivision activity. In terms of a 20-year projection, Burrillville is expected to add an additional 868 housing units to the town according to a normal growth rate of 43.4 units per year. The 2000 U.S. Census shows that Burrillville currently possesses 5,821 housing units, of which 417 are LMI according to RIHMFC. By 2025, the town can expect to maintain a total of 7,262 housing units. Other LMI units expected to come on line by 2025 are the 17.36 from

conventional subdivision, and 298 from the VPD Ordinance, Stillwater Mill Complex, Pascoag Grammar School Redevelopment Project and Woonsocket Neighborhood Development Corporation proposal, yielding a total LMI estimate of 732.36, see Table 13. As shown in Table V-12, the total number of units by 2025 according to the VPD Overlay Zone is expected to be 573. Adding 573 to 868 and the existing 5,821 units yields 7,262 total units, of which 732.36 is 10.08 percent.

Figure V-2. VPD Inclusionary Overlay Map



Source: Burrillville Planning Dept., November, 2003

Figure V-3. VPD Soils Map

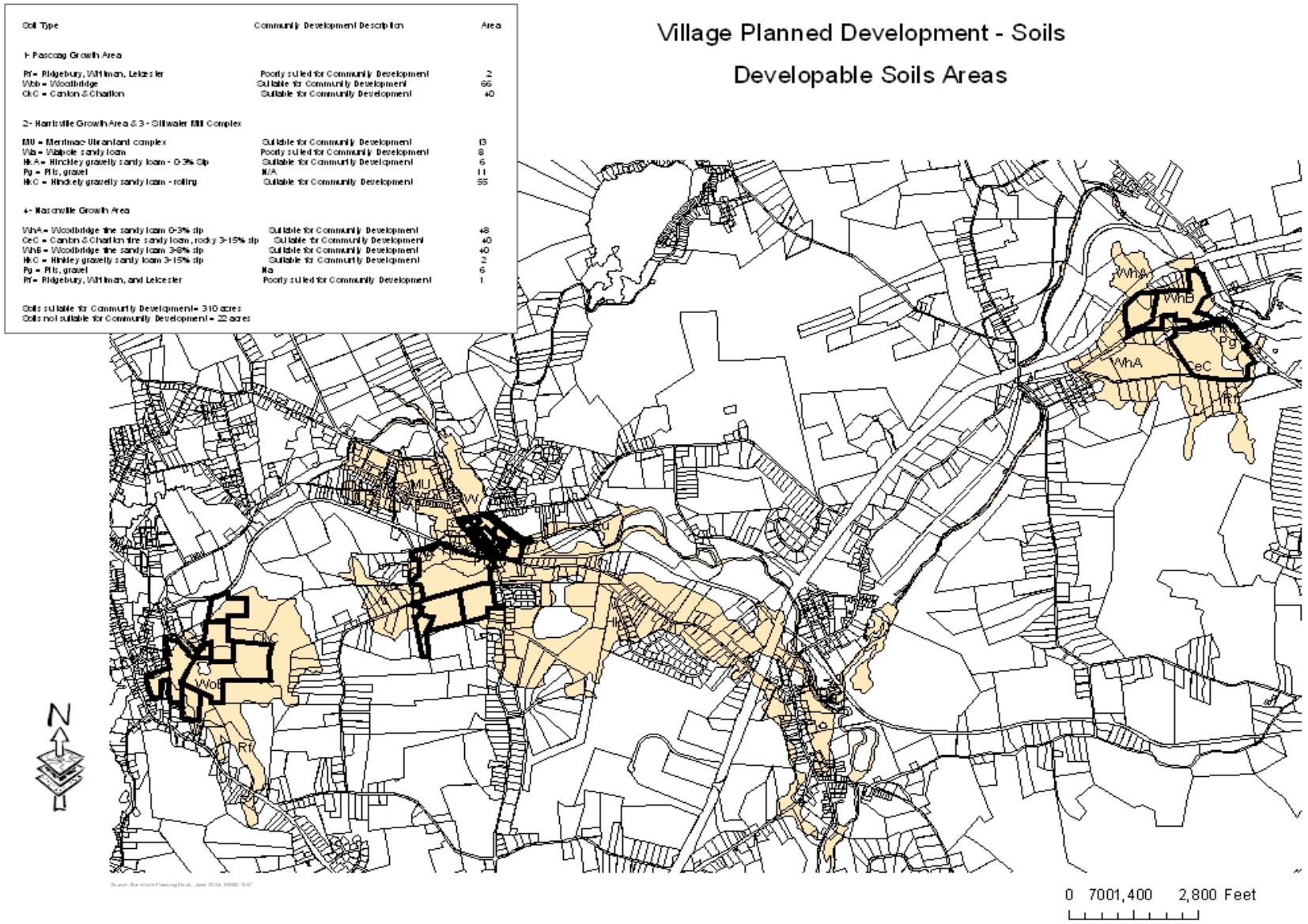


Table V-12 Inclusionary Overlay, Growth Projection

VILLAGE PLANNED DEVELOPMENT OVERLAY ZONE				
	1 - Pascoag Growth Area	2 - Harrisville Growth Area	3 - Stillwater Mill Redevelopment	4 - Nasonville Growth Area
Acreage	78.1	65.2	17.8	72.3
Development Constraints - wetlands & jurisdictional areas, open space, roads = deduct 40%	46.9	39.1	N/A	43.4
Square footage conversion = multiply 43,560 sq. ft.	2041221.6	1704067.2	N/A	1889632.8
Potential Lots per Density bonus **per compliance with Subdivsion & Land Development Regulations and VPD Ordinance Standards =** divide 12,000 sq. ft.	170.1018	142.0056	103	157.4694
Total lot / unit potential				**573**
Potential Affordable Units = multiply 20%	34	28	82	31
Total Affordable Units				**176**
Affordable unit growth rate based on proposed Town Housing Policy				**31%**

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, 2000; RIHMFC, 2003.

Table V-13 Total Affordable Housing Strategy Growth Forecast

TOTAL GROWTH FORCAST		
Growth rate per Land Use Chapter, Table IX-5, year 2025	43.4	868 units/ 20 yrs. = 43.4 units
Total housing units as of 2000	5,821	
Year 2025 housing unit projection	7,262	868 units + 5821 units + 573 units = 7,262 units
Total LMI units per Table V-11	315.36	
LMI units as of August 2002, (per RIHMFC)	417	
Total Affordable Units by 2025	732.36	
Projected LMI percent in year 2025	10.08%	732.36 units / 7262 units = .1008

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, 2000; RIHMFC, 2003.

The success of this plan and timeframe regarding its implementation is dependent upon financial commitments received from Rhode Island Housing Mortgage & Finance Corporation and their affordable housing programs (e.g. the HOME program, Neighborhood Revitalization Program, and LIHTC program). For example, several funding streams are necessary to effectuate the Stillwater Mill Redevelopment Master Plan, of which 80 percent of the total units are planned as affordable.

Need – Families

According to Table V-10, Burrillville attains 702 large and small family households with housing problems, 525 are ownership and 177 are renter households. Of the 177 renter households, 14 possess a cost burden that exceeds 50% of income.

Response – large and small families

As part of the town's effort to meet those needs, of the 702 households with housing problems, the zoning overlay, two redevelopment projects, conventional subdivision and WNDC proposal shall directly address 340 households over the next 20 years. The Stillwater Clock tower building will provide 12 housing units at or below 50%, which nearly erases the 14 households mentioned above.[8] The town will continue to monitor unit construction and incomes targeted as a result of the zoning overlay, which is expected to be driven by private developers, to ensure that area median incomes below 50% are being served.

Redevelopment Projects

Two Redevelopment projects offer opportunity to create affordable housing within the town; the former Stillwater Mill Complex and Pascoag Grammar School. The Stillwater project will account for 88 units of affordable housing, 52 of which will be directly targeted towards elderly earning less than or equal to 80 percent of median family income. The remaining 30 units will serve families earning 60% or less of AMI. The Stillwater development is reflected in the first 10 years of implementation (see Table V-11).

The former Pascoag Grammar School has been redeveloped into 19 units of affordable housing. Specifically, fourteen (14) three bedroom units are proposed along with five (5) two bedroom units and one studio apartment. Initially, the units will be rental units. The grammar school project is projected to adequately house a mix of fourteen large related and five small related families.

[8] July 16, 2003, Stillwater Mill Clocktower Redevelopment, HUD BEDI / 108 Loan Program Application, Burrillville Planning Dept.

State and regional housing need comparisons

The affordable housing strategy as contained herein, will respond in concert with state housing needs. Table V-10 shows that Burrillville contains a slightly higher ratio of ownership to rental family households (with some housing problem), which is to be expected because Burrillville is not an urban community. Typically, cities would have more rental family units with housing problems. Burrillville's owner to renter ratio is 2.97 to 1, while the Rhode Island's is 1.18 to 1.

In terms of elderly, Burrillville's total elderly (renter HH and owner HH containing some housing problem) comprises 6 percent of the total number of households in Burrillville, while that of the state is 8.7 percent.

Regional comparisons required extra effort, because the CHAS data is only available at the county level. Burrillville is within Providence County which is problematic for reasons stated above; Providence will skew the ratios and percentages and not give a true picture of Rhode Island's northwest region. CHAS datasets for Glocester, North Smithfield, Smithfield and Uxbridge, Massachusetts were therefore analyzed (See Tables V-14, 15, 16 and 17).

As predicted, the figures of the region are relatively consistent with what is happening in Burrillville. The mean percentage of total elderly with housing problems out of the total number of households, for all four towns, is 7 percent, while Burrillville is 6 percent. The ratio of ownership households –both small and large- to rental households –all with some housing problems- for all 4 towns, is 6.35 to 1. Burrillville maintains a much better balance at 2.97 to 1. North Smithfield, our neighbor to the east, maintained the highest ratio of 7.4 to 1, which is likely due to a small percentage of small-related family households with housing problems.

Table V-14 Glocester CHAS, 2000

Housing Problems Output for -All Households

Name of Jurisdiction: **Glocester town, Rhode Island**			Source of Data: CHAS Data Book			Data Current as of: 2000					
	Renters					Owners					
Household by Type, Income, & Housing Problem	Elderly 1 & 2 member households (A)	Small Related (2 to 4) (B)	Large Related (5 or more) (C)	All Other Households (D)	Total Renters (E)	Elderly 1 & 2 member households (F)	Small Related (2 to 4) (G)	Large Related (5 or more) (H)	All Other Households (I)	Total Owners (J)	Total Households (L)
1. Household Income <=50% MFI	56	54	10	20	140	166	110	24	34	334	474
2. Household Income <=30% MFI	27	4	10	8	49	93	51	10	12	166	215
3. % with any housing problems	70.4	100	100	50	75.5	62.4	92.2	100	66.7	74.1	74.4
4. % Cost Burden >30%	70.4	100	100	50	75.5	62.4	92.2	100	66.7	74.1	74.4
5. % Cost Burden >50%	55.6	0	100	50	59.2	41.9	76.5	100	33.3	55.4	56.3
6. **Household Income >30% to <=50% MFI**	29	50	0	12	91	73	59	14	22	168	259
7. % with any housing problems	0	70	N/A	66.7	47.3	11	93.2	28.6	36.4	44.6	45.6
8. % Cost Burden >30%	0	70	N/A	66.7	47.3	11	93.2	28.6	36.4	44.6	45.6
9. % Cost Burden >50%	0	20	N/A	33.3	15.4	5.5	59.3	28.6	36.4	30.4	25.1
10. **Household Income >50 to <=80% MFI**	29	54	0	24	107	74	245	34	37	390	497
11. % with any housing problems	0	7.4	N/A	0	3.7	33.8	61.2	70.6	89.2	59.5	47.5
12.% Cost Burden >30%	0	7.4	N/A	0	3.7	33.8	61.2	11.8	89.2	54.4	43.5
13. % Cost Burden >50%	0	0	N/A	0	0	0	10.2	0	21.6	8.5	6.6
14. Household Income >80% MFI	19	95	10	80	204	240	1,514	315	235	2,304	2,508
15. % with any housing problems	0	0	0	0	0	8.3	14.1	12.7	34	15.4	14.1
16.% Cost Burden >30%	0	0	0	0	0	8.3	14.1	6.3	34	14.5	13.3
17. % Cost Burden >50%	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.3	0	6.4	0.8	0.8
18. **Total Households**	104	203	20	124	451	480	1,869	373	306	3,028	3,479
19. % with any housing problems	18.3	21.2	50	9.7	18.6	23.1	24.9	20.9	42.2	25.9	24.9
20. % Cost Burden >30	18.3	21.2	50	9.7	18.6	23.1	24.9	10.2	42.2	24.6	23.8
21. % Cost Burden >50	14.4	4.9	50	6.5	9.5	9	5.5	3.8	11.4	6.4	6.8

Table V-15 North Smithfield CHAS, 2000

Housing Problems Output for -All Households

Name of Jurisdiction: **North Smithfield town, Rhode Island**			Source of Data: CHAS Data Book			Data Current as of: 2000					
	Renters					Owners					
Household by Type, Income, & Housing Problem	Elderly 1 & 2 member households (A)	Small Related (2 to 4) (B)	Large Related (5 or more) (C)	All Other Households (D)	Total Renters (E)	Elderly 1 & 2 member households (F)	Small Related (2 to 4) (G)	Large Related (5 or more) (H)	All Other Households (I)	Total Owners (J)	Total Households (L)
1. Household Income <=50% MFI	312	58	0	24	394	308	41	10	18	377	771
2. Household Income <=30% MFI	200	19	0	10	229	113	29	0	8	150	379
3. % with any housing problems	42.5	100	N/A	100	49.8	74.3	86.2	N/A	50	75.3	59.9
4. % Cost Burden >30%	42.5	100	N/A	100	49.8	74.3	86.2	N/A	50	75.3	59.9
5. % Cost Burden >50%	30	100	N/A	100	38.9	53.1	51.7	N/A	50	52.7	44.3
6. **Household Income >30% to <=50% MFI**	112	39	0	14	165	195	12	10	10	227	392
7. % with any housing problems	20.5	48.7	N/A	100	33.9	29.2	66.7	100	100	37.4	36
8. % Cost Burden >30%	20.5	48.7	N/A	100	33.9	29.2	66.7	100	100	37.4	36
9. % Cost Burden >50%	3.6	10.3	N/A	28.6	7.3	14.9	33.3	0	100	18.9	14
10. **Household Income >50 to <=80% MFI**	49	54	4	28	135	138	159	44	65	406	541
11. % with any housing problems	51	7.4	100	14.3	27.4	31.9	49.7	77.3	46.2	46.1	41.4
12.% Cost Burden >30%	51	7.4	0	14.3	24.4	31.9	49.7	45.5	46.2	42.6	38.1
13. % Cost Burden >50%	0	7.4	0	0	3	2.9	2.5	0	23.1	5.7	5
14. Household Income >80% MFI	79	140	10	44	273	229	1,614	280	190	2,313	2,586
15. % with any housing problems	5.1	0	0	0	1.5	12.7	10.5	5.4	31.6	11.8	10.7
16.% Cost Burden >30%	5.1	0	0	0	1.5	10.9	10.2	5.4	31.6	11.5	10.4
17. % Cost Burden >50%	0	0	0	0	0	0	1.9	0	7.9	1.9	1.7
18. **Total Households**	440	252	14	96	802	675	1,814	334	273	3,096	3,898
19. % with any housing problems	31.1	16.7	28.6	29.2	26.3	31.7	15.5	17.7	38.1	21.3	22.3
20. % Cost Burden >30	31.1	16.7	0	29.2	25.8	31.1	15.3	13.5	38.1	20.5	21.6
21. % Cost Burden >50	14.5	10.7	0	14.6	13.1	13.8	2.9	0	16.1	6.1	7.6

Table V-16 Uxbridge, Massachusetts CHAS, 2000

Housing Problems Output for -All Households

Name of Jurisdiction: **Uxbridge town, Massachusetts**			Source of Data: CHAS Data Book			Data Current as of: 2000					
	Renters					Owners					
Household by Type, Income, & Housing Problem	Elderly 1 & 2 member households (A)	Small Related (2 to 4) (B)	Large Related (5 or more) (C)	All Other Households (D)	Total Renters (E)	Elderly 1 & 2 member households (F)	Small Related (2 to 4) (G)	Large Related (5 or more) (H)	All Other Households (I)	Total Owners (J)	Total Households (L)
1. Household Income <=50% MFI	165	108	30	75	378	234	69	15	27	345	723
2. Household Income <=30% MFI	113	70	0	53	236	89	25	15	19	148	384
3. % with any housing problems	33.6	64.3	N/A	45.3	45.3	84.3	100	100	100	90.5	62.8
4. % Cost Burden >30%	30.1	50	N/A	45.3	39.4	84.3	100	100	100	90.5	59.1
5. % Cost Burden >50%	12.4	35.7	N/A	45.3	26.7	28.1	100	100	78.9	54.1	37.2
6. **Household Income >30% to <=50% MFI**	52	38	30	22	142	145	44	0	8	197	339
7. % with any housing problems	44.2	89.5	50	63.6	60.6	31	100	N/A	50	47.2	52.8
8. % Cost Burden >30%	36.5	89.5	50	63.6	57.7	31	100	N/A	50	47.2	51.6
9. % Cost Burden >50%	0	52.6	0	0	14.1	0	90.9	N/A	0	20.3	17.7
10. **Household Income >50 to <=80% MFI**	44	55	0	105	204	149	85	39	48	321	525
11. % with any housing problems	0	0	N/A	14.3	7.4	36.9	58.8	100	83.3	57.3	37.9
12.% Cost Burden >30%	0	0	N/A	14.3	7.4	36.9	58.8	100	83.3	57.3	37.9
13. % Cost Burden >50%	0	0	N/A	0	0	16.8	17.6	25.6	20.8	18.7	11.4
14. Household Income >80% MFI	19	195	0	74	288	169	1,640	375	245	2,429	2,717
15. % with any housing problems	0	7.7	N/A	0	5.2	2.4	10.4	13.3	16.3	10.9	10.3
16.% Cost Burden >30%	0	0	N/A	0	0	2.4	10.4	9.3	16.3	10.3	9.2
17. % Cost Burden >50%	0	0	N/A	0	0	0	0.9	0	0	0.6	0.6
18. **Total Households**	228	358	30	254	870	552	1,794	429	320	3,095	3,965
19. % with any housing problems	26.8	26.3	50	20.9	25.6	32.4	16.1	24.2	32.2	21.8	22.6
20. % Cost Burden >30	23.2	19.3	50	20.9	21.8	32.4	16.1	20.7	32.2	21.3	21.4
21. % Cost Burden >50	6.1	12.6	0	9.4	9.5	9.1	5.3	5.8	7.8	6.3	7

Table 17 Smithfield CHAS, 2000

Housing Problems Output for -All Households

Name of Jurisdiction: **Smithfield town, Rhode Island**			Source of Data: CHAS Data Book			Data Current as of: 2000					
	Renters					Owners					
Household by Type, Income, & Housing Problem	Elderly 1 & 2 member households (A)	Small Related (2 to 4) (B)	Large Related (5 or more) (C)	All Other Households (D)	Total Renters (E)	Elderly 1 & 2 member households (F)	Small Related (2 to 4) (G)	Large Related (5 or more) (H)	All Other Households (I)	Total Owners (J)	Total Households (L)
1. Household Income <=50% MFI	482	134	4	93	713	442	153	8	109	712	1,425
2. Household Income <=30% MFI	234	75	0	44	353	169	53	0	59	281	634
3. % with any housing problems	57.3	100	N/A	54.5	66	70.4	100	N/A	93.2	80.8	72.6
4. % Cost Burden >30%	57.3	100	N/A	54.5	66	70.4	100	N/A	93.2	80.8	72.6
5. % Cost Burden >50%	48.7	100	N/A	45.5	59.2	52.7	81.1	N/A	67.8	61.2	60.1
6. **Household Income >30% to <=50% MFI**	248	59	4	49	360	273	100	8	50	431	791
7. % with any housing problems	55.6	66.1	0	71.4	58.9	35.9	80	100	70	51.3	54.7
8. % Cost Burden >30%	55.6	66.1	0	71.4	58.9	35.9	80	100	70	51.3	54.7
9. % Cost Burden >50%	37.9	0	0	30.6	30.3	16.5	55	50	40	28.8	29.5
10. **Household Income >50 to <=80% MFI**	92	120	20	50	282	307	289	64	119	779	1,061
11. % with any housing problems	63	33.3	0	0	34.8	28.3	68.9	62.5	41.2	48.1	44.6
12.% Cost Burden >30%	58.7	25	0	0	29.8	28.3	65.4	62.5	41.2	46.9	42.3
13. % Cost Burden >50%	58.7	0	0	0	19.1	7.8	13.8	15.6	12.6	11.4	13.5
14. Household Income >80% MFI	81	140	4	260	485	598	2,639	445	465	4,147	4,632
15. % with any housing problems	45.7	7.1	0	0	9.7	8	9.4	11.2	20.4	10.7	10.6
16.% Cost Burden >30%	40.7	7.1	0	0	8.9	7.4	9.3	9	20.4	10.2	10.1
17. % Cost Burden >50%	23.5	0	0	0	3.9	0	0.4	0	2.2	0.5	0.8
18. **Total Households**	655	394	28	403	1,480	1,347	3,081	517	693	5,638	7,118
19. % with any housing problems	56	41.6	0	14.6	39.9	26.1	18.9	19	33.8	22.4	26.1
20. % Cost Burden >30	54.8	39.1	0	14.6	38.6	25.8	18.4	17	33.8	21.9	25.4
21. % Cost Burden >50	42.9	19	0	8.7	26.4	11.7	4.8	2.7	12.3	7.2	11.2

Goals, Policies and Implementation Actions

V. Housing Goals	Policies	Implementation Actions	Responsible Party
V.1 To encourage a range of housing opportunities to meet diverse individual and family income needs for purposes of achieve the 10% affordable housing goal established by R.I.G.L. 45-53.	V.1.a Stimulate development of a variety of housing, in terms of cost, size, location and design, to meet the broad range of needs and desires of homeowners and renters, and of all income groups and family sizes.	V.1.a.1 Through public and private actions, and joint public/private efforts, work to increase the variety of housing options, including a range of types, sizes and costs.	Town Council, BHA, BRA
	V.1.a Continue to identify and update zoning tools, such as incentive-based zoning ordinances, to encourage affordable housing development.	V.1.a.2 Give preference to redevelopment projects such as brownfields that include affordable housing components that achieve development of a variety of housing types, including single family, two family, duplexes, accessory apartments, 3 and 4 family structures, congregate housing and other alternatives for persons unable to live with complete independence.	BRA
		V.1.a.3 Require 20% affordable housing for subdivisions & LD projects of 10 or more units. Units must be affordable to households at or below 80% AMI for thirty years or more, and must be constructed with a qualifying subsidy as defined by R.I.G.L. 45-53-3(5).	Planning Board
	V.1.b Allow and encourage combination of affordable unit construction and commercial construction through the Village Planned Development process.	V.1.b.1 Amend the Zoning Ordinance to include the Village Planned Development provision to apply to specific geographical areas that are contiguous to existing high-density village neighborhoods.	Planning Dept., & Planning Board COMPLETE

	V.1.c Increase the options available to households with less than the Burrillville median income to keep the cost of housing at no more than 30 percent of household income.	V.1.c.1 Increase housing options affordable to households whose incomes are less than 50 percent of the local median income through public investment, subsidy and/or joint public/private efforts.	BHA, BRA
		V.1.c.2 Increase housing options affordable to households whose incomes are between 30 and 80 percent of the local median income through incentives to the private sector, joint public-private efforts and non-profit development.	BHA, BRA
		V.1.c.3 Evaluate affordable housing proposals according to the number of units which can be owned or rented at a cost of no more than 30 percent of the monthly income of the households to be served.	Planning Dept. and Planning Board ONGOING
		V.1.c.4 Expand the activities of the Town's Housing Authority to increase its ability to serve Burrillville residents, with special emphasis upon meeting the needs of families and elderly citizens.	Town Council
	V.1.d Increase the number of subsidized housing units in Burrillville.	V.1.d.1 Work with the Housing Authority to ensure that existing units are maintained and modernized as necessary.	Town Council

		V.1.d.2 The Town should continue (through the Housing Authority or non-profit agency) identify and secure parcels for redevelopment and provide additional subsidized housing to the extent State or federal programs make such development feasible.	BHA, BRA
		V.1.d.3 Support the Housing Authority's efforts to expand the number of Section 8 certificates through technical or other assistance.	Town Council
	V.1.e The Town's priority should be to meet the affordable housing needs of its local residents, employees, and directives per R.I.G.L. 45-53.	V.1.e.1 Whenever possible, require that affordable units be administered in a manner that gives preference to local residents.	Planning Board & BHA
	V.1.f Encourage and support optimum location of new housing in terms of its relationships to transportation, pollution control, water supply, education and other public facilities and services; employment opportunities and commercial and community services; adjacent land uses; and the suitability of the specific site for other land uses, including open space.	V.1.f.1 Promote higher density housing development within the villages, where services and other amenities are existing or planned except where there are other criteria which must be met or concerns that conflict with allowing higher density.	Planning Dept. & Planning Board
		V.1.f.2 Continue to require two to five acre minimum lot requirements in outlying areas of the community, where services and amenities are not available or planned.	Planning Dept., & Planning Board

V.2 To promote a safe, sanitary and well-constructed housing stock through new construction and renovation of existing structures.	V.2.a Encourage and support the optimum use of existing housing stock, existing neighborhoods and existing structures suitable for residential use, in meeting housing needs, including rehabilitation of historic buildings for housing.	V.2.a.1 Emphasize and preserve the identity of historic neighborhoods through Historic District Commission.	Town Council to Establish Historic District Commission Rejected by Town Council on 8-24-05
		V.2.a.2 Support the reuse and rehabilitation of mill buildings for housing use in those locations where access, parking, environmental concerns etc., preclude continued industrial use.	BRA
		V.2.a.3 Continue providing low interest loans and other assistance for home improvements for low and moderate-income persons.	Planning Department
	V.2.b Encourage and support more efficient use of the State's natural, energy, fiscal and other resources, and public services and facilities in residential structures and in residential development patterns.	V.2.b.1 Provide incentives for combining open space preservation efforts with new affordable housing construction, such as through cluster development.	Planning Board
		V.2.b.3 Specify in the Zoning Ordinance and other land use regulations that the impact of proposals on housing choice is a concern of the Town.	Planning Dept., & Planning Board COMPLETE
V.3 To encourage density and pedestrian friendly neighborhoods	V.3.a Encourage and support the improvement of existing highly dense village neighborhoods.	V.3.a.1 Allow and encourage the development or redevelopment of compatible small-scale affordable housing structures within existing neighborhoods.	BRA

		V.3.a.2 Require site plan review for all multifamily developments, large standard subdivisions, and cluster subdivisions.	Planning Board
		V.3.a.3 When reviewing applications for mixed market-rate and affordable-rate developments, require that exterior architectural treatment and site design be similar in nature for both types of homes.	Planning Board

Chapter VI
Circulation

CHAPTER VI
CIRCULATION

VI.1 Existing Conditions, Trends and Projections

Transportation access and circulation in the Town of Burrillville is primarily auto-oriented on **48 miles** of state highway and approximately **95 miles** of town and public ways. This information is derived from the Town's GIS and functional classification mileage as shown in Techincal Paper 155 (which shall serve as Table VI-1 herein) on the following website: http://www.planning.state.ri.us/transportation/155/text/burrillville.pdf. The 1966 Comprehensive Plan inventoried approximately 40 miles of state highway and 96 miles of local roads.

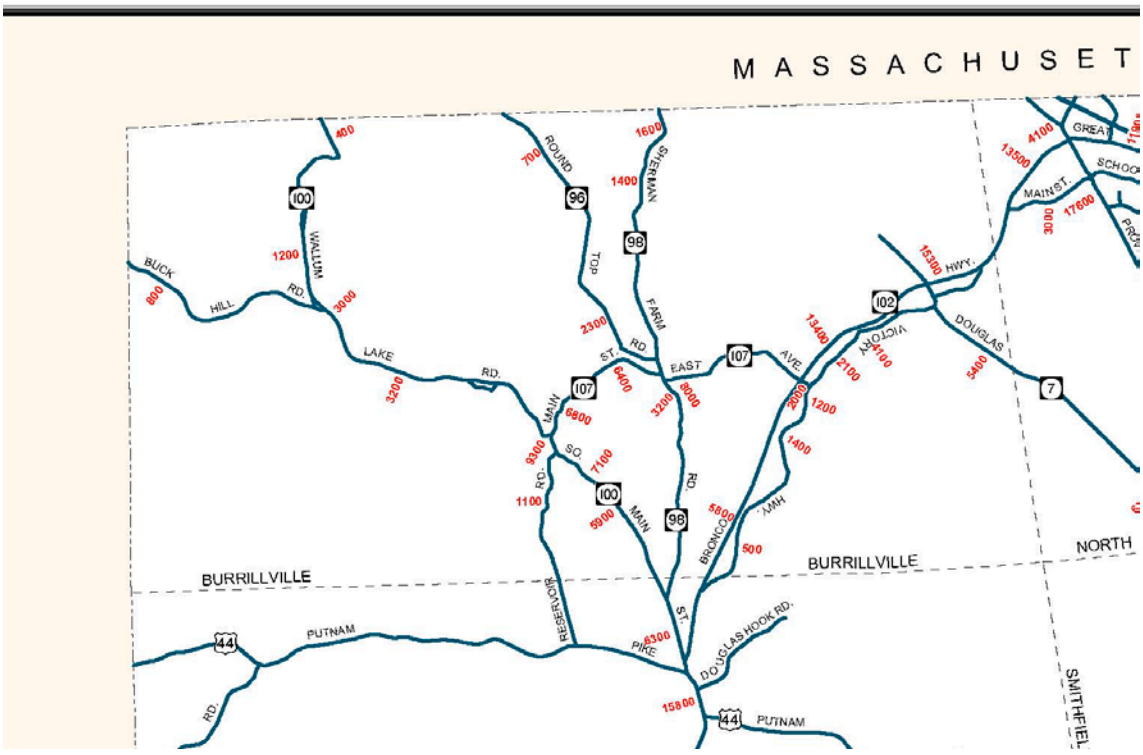
The primary orientation of the system is in a southeasterly direction toward Route 44 and in a northeasterly direction to Route 7 (Douglas Pike) or towards the Route 102/146 intersection as indicated in Figures 1 and 2. The major roadways are 2 lane state highways predominantly classified as urban collectors and rural major collectors. These are Steere Farm Road (Rte 98) and Sherman Farm Road (Rte 98), Round Top Road (Rte 96), Wallum Lake Road (Rte 100), and Old Victory Highway. The Bronco's Highway (Rte 102) is a rural principal arterial and the Douglas Pike (Rte 7) from the intersection at the Bronco's Highway south to the North Smithfield Town line is a minor rural arterial. Buck Hill Road is a rural major collector. Tarkiln Road, Cooper Road, and portions of Lapham Farm Road and Spring Lake Road are rural minor collectors.

For the Pascoag-Harrisville urban area, Wallum Lake Road (Rte 100) is a minor arterial; Route 107 from Pascoag to the Bronco's Highway and Route 100 (South Main Street) from Pascoag to Chepachet are principal arterials connecting links of rural principal arterials. Reservoir Road is a minor arterial.

Annual 24-hour average daily traffic data furnished by RIDOT for 2001 (www.dot.ri.gov/documents/gis/maps/SM02.pdf) confirms that the principal directions of travel are toward Glocester and North Smithfield. A total of 15,300 trips per day were recorded on the Bronco's Highway between the intersection at Route 107 and North Smithfield (13,400 of those trips were between Route 107 and Route 7); 5,800 trips per day were recorded between the intersection of Route 107 and the village of Chepachet in Glocester, and 5,900 trips per day were recorded between Pascoag and Chepachet (Map 1). This compares with only 800 trips per day at the Connecticut State Line on Buck Hill

Road and a total of 2,700 trips per day recorded at all three highways to Massachusetts (Wallum Lake Road, Round Top Road, and Sherman Road). Chapel Street, (Rt. 107) carries 6,400 trips between Harrisville and Pascoag.

Map 1 Traffic Flow Map, RIDOT 2009

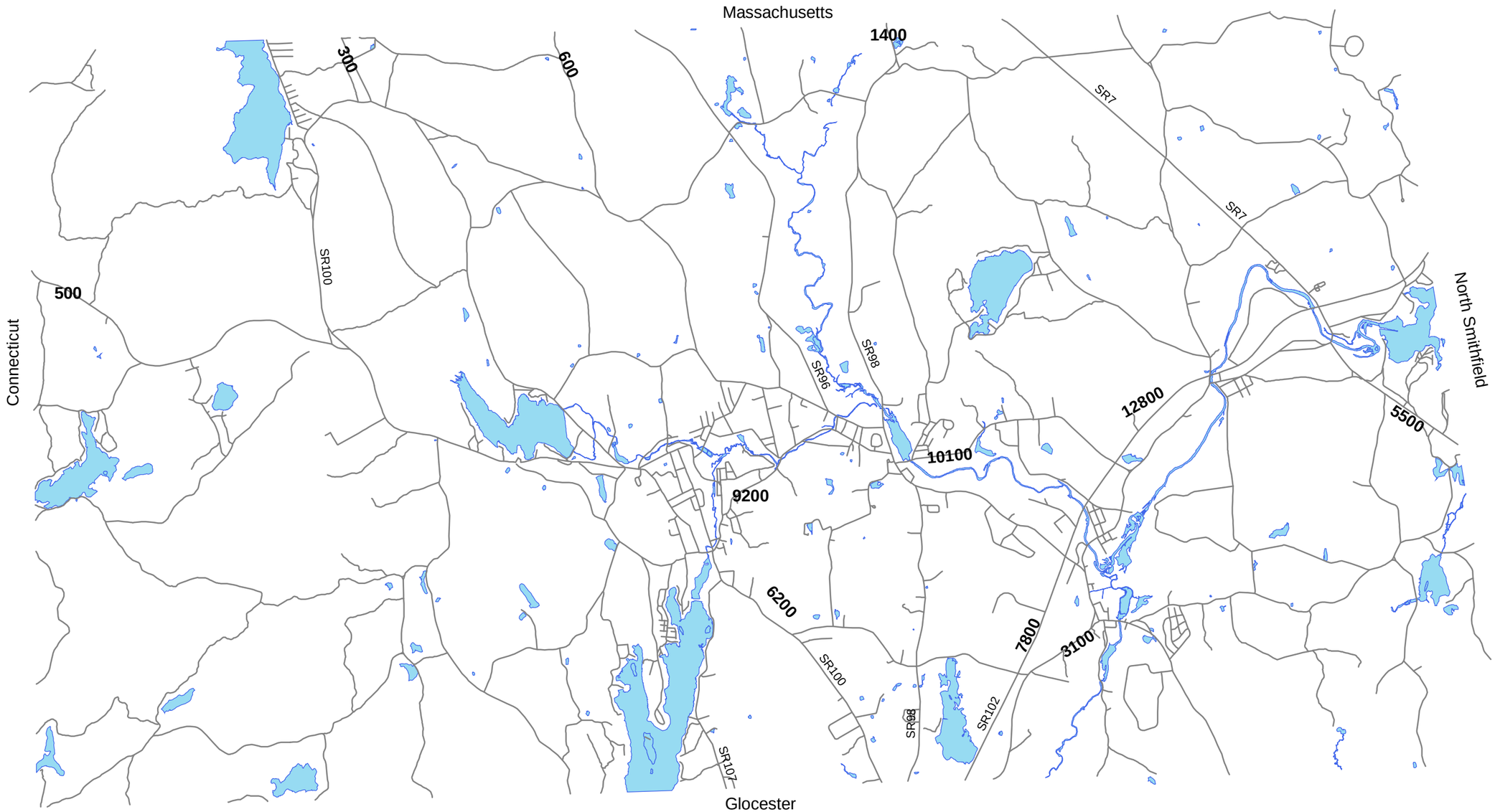


The Town is serviced by the Rhode Island Public Transit Authority with Route 9 from Providence at Kennedy Plaza to Harrisville and Pascoag on to Bridgeton on Route 100. There are no rail or airport facilities in the Town.

The Citizen Survey conducted in May, 1990 by the Comprehensive Plan Committee and Albert Veri & Associates, Inc. found that 15 percent of the town's residents have, second only to taxes, a high level of dissatisfaction with Burrillville's roads. Fifty three percent of those surveyed characterized street and road maintenance as below average, and seventy percent favored spending funds for sidewalk improvements.

Harrisville residents had the highest rate of response and dislike for road maintenance. A survey of the Department of Public Works conducted for the Comprehensive Plan Committee revealed that the DPW concurs with the need for sidewalk repairs. The Public

Burrillville Average Daily Traffic Flow - 2001



Source; Burrillville Planning Dept., July 2004; RIDOT, 2001 ADTF

Map 1

Legend

roads

water

0 0.45 0.9 1.8 Miles

Works Department is responsible for athletic field maintenance as well as road, bridge and drainage maintenance, and it cited the need for staff to meet the increased demand for services. One problem highlighted by the Department of Public Works is the new residential developments being constructed with access from unimproved Town roads. This increases pressure on the Department to maintain unimproved roads.

Roadway Network

The Town's population centers were born as village clusters around the mill complexes that developed on the principal waterways during the industrial revolution and subsequent decades. Today's road system connecting these village centers has been inherited from the earliest period of development. As a result the Town's highway network does not provide a cohesive network throughout the Town. There is an obvious lack of a defined east-west route through the community. As previously mentioned the roadway network evolved from the major village centers.

The Town Department of Public Works offers a street access permit application process for local roads only, otherwise the State PAP process prevails regarding state roads. Private streets may be created in the more rural parts of town through the Rural Residential Compound Ordinance. All local and state highway interchanges and signalization proposals must be reviewed by the State Traffic Commission.

The following is a summary of the Town's roadway network:

- Bronco Highway (Route 102) is a northeasterly/southwesterly principal arterial. It provides access to Route 146, Route 7, and Route 44.
- Route 7 runs northwesterly/ southeasterly and provides a link to Route 295.
- Route 44 provides links to Route 295, the shopping district in Smithfield, and an alternative link into the City of Providence.
- Routes 96 and 98 run north/south and provide a connection from the center portion of Burrillville to Massachusetts. Route 98 also extends south to South Main Street/Route 100.
- Route 100 is located in the western portion of Town and runs north/south. It provides links to Route 44, Route 102, Wallum Lake Road and Buck Hill Road.

Three state highways (Route 100, 98 and 102) provide access to Burrillville from the south (Glocester) Route 100 branches off toward the northwest to Pascoag and Route 102 traverses in a northeasterly fashion to Mapleville. Route 100 eventually reached

Massachusetts to the north and Route 102 junctions with Route 7 and continues into North Smithfield. Route 98 runs directly north to Harrisville and Graniteville and eventually crosses the Massachusetts State Line. Route 96, originates from the Graniteville area and also runs in a north-south fashion.

Although, the north-south routes appear to service the town in an efficient manner, there is a lack of a primary east-west connecting route. Lapham Farm Road provides a link between Route 100 and Route 102, but is a minor local street. The east-west roadways in the vicinity of Harrisville also connect (to the Town Hall area) in a haphazard fashion. The east/west corridor through the Town is comprised of East Avenue, Central Avenue, Route 107 and Buck Hill Road. This corridor is the major east/west connector within the Town and supplies access to the major north/south roadways in Burrillville. East Avenue and Central Avenue are residential and do not provide adequate sidewalks for pedestrians

Additionally, the system of roadways does not consistently perform the functions they were intended to serve. Route 98, for example, runs from north to south, essentially bisecting the Town, it acts as a minor collector in the northern portion, a principal arterial in the central portion and a collector in southern portion of the Town. This fragmentation or lack of consistency in terms of roadway character and function is familiar to many of the thoroughfares in Burrillville.

Summary

The historical purpose of the Transportation Network in the Town of Burrillville has been to connect the five villages of the Town together. Implemented over many years, these connections have been established, however, they do not currently provide an efficient north/south and east/west highway network throughout the Town. However, the north/south routes are the most effective because they provide an alternative means of access in a the event of a roadway incident. The current network does provide adequate connections to the major highways, such as Route 146, Route 295 and Route 395 and surrounding cities of Providence, Worcester, MA, and Hartford, CT.

Based on the information provided above a new east/west alignment should be evaluated that would provide a link between the major north-south highways An ideal location would be from the intersection of Central Avenue/Route 102 to Route 100 in Pascoag. This connection could also be extend to the west toward Connecticut. Another option

would be to connect Route 7 and Route 100 along a route north of Graniteville. This alignment would essentially run parallel to Whipple Road and East Avenue.

The implementation of the roadway alignments discussed above would require a detailed environmental review to determine the feasibility of such construction. Impacts to the community in terms of existing residential developments and commercial/industrial uses would also require substantial consideration. If the Town desires to pursue such a roadway, they should start acquiring the necessary right-of-way to improve the possibility of Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) consideration.

VI.2 Roads and Highways

Functional classification is the process of grouping streets and highways according to the character of their intended use. The basis of the system is the relationship between the roads and the functions they serve which generally are grouped into two fundamental services: a) access to property, and, b) travel mobility. Most roads perform in varying degrees each of these services and it is the combination of these services that determine which of the following type of roads they are classified as:

(a) Local road - emphasizes access to property
(b) Collector road - offers a balance between property access and travel mobility
(c) Arterial - emphasizes a high level of mobility for through movements

The classification is also based on the type of area served, based on the U.S. Bureau of the census definition, whether it is an urban area, a small urban area or a rural area, see RIDOT Functional Classification Map, www.planning.ri.gov/transportation/155/index.htm . The rules governing the federal aid highway classification system require that the urban area boundary must smooth out boundary irregularities, encompass fringe areas of residential, commercial, industrial, national defense, and transportation significance; include major highway interchanges where logical; and consider transit service areas. This system of classification is used by the state in developing long-range transportation plans and in determining federal aid funding categories. It is also used to determine jurisdiction for highway maintenance responsibility. Classification and eligibility under this system does not automatically mean that federal funds are available for improvements.

The Town of Burrillville is primarily rural, located outside the urban area boundary. The exception to this is the inclusion of the villages of Harrisville and Pascoag and their envi-

rons within the small urban area boundary. This coincides with 1980 census tract 129, modified to reflect the smoothing out of irregularities in accordance with federal aid highway classification requirements, noted above. Local roads, those subject to municipal jurisdiction, can be divided into sub classes based upon expected traffic flow and the nature of the area in which they are located. The Town recognizes 3 levels of traffic generation that developed by fewer than 6 dwellings. The Town also recognizes 4 different designations or neighborhood types: Village Residential, Suburban Residential, Farming Residential and Industrial Developments.

The Rhode Island 2005 – 2015 Highway Functional Classification Map dated April, 2003 may be viewed at: www.planning.ri.gov/transportation/155/maps/statewide.pdf The map depicts a functional classification breakdown of the roads in Burrillville. The relationship of functional classification to federal funding is shown in Table VI-2.

Table VI-2
Relationship of Functional Classification to the Federal-Aid System

Functional Classification	Federal-Aid Funding Category
URBAN AREA	
Interstate	Interstate
Principal Arterial-Connecting Link	Primary
Principal Arterial-Non-Connecting Link	Urban
Minor Arterial	Urban
Collector	Urban
RURAL AREA	
Interstate	Interstate
Principal Arterial	Primary
Minor Arterial	Primary
Major Collector	Secondary

Source: Rhode Island Division of Planning, Technical Paper Number 130, "Highway Functional Classification System for the State of Rhode Island, 1995-2005."

VI.3 State Scheduled Road Improvements

The Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) is a multi-year program of highway (including bicycle and pedestrian), transit (bus, rail, and water), airport, and freight rail projects. The State Planning Council, acting as the single statewide Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) in Rhode Island adopts it every two years. Once a project

is listed in the first two years (biennial element of the TIP), it is eligible to receive federal funding. Listing in the third or fourth year implies a priority and schedule for implementation but is not a reservation of funds.

The TIP is developed according to the State Planning Council's Rule IX, "Transportation Planning and Public Involvement Procedures," adopted in November 1994. The Statewide Planning staff prepares the TIP in cooperation with the Rhode Island Department Transportation (RIDOT) and the Rhode Island Public Transit Authority (RIPTA), with the participation of interested cities and towns.

Projects in the TIP are scheduled in accordance with their priority and their phase of development, whether it is preliminary engineering/ design, right-of-way acquisition, or construction.

Types of Projects - There are nine types of projects scheduled by the TIP.

1. Interstate - These connect principal metropolitan areas;

2. Interstate 4R - These maintain the existing interstate system;

3. Primary - These are to develop a system of main roads for interstate, statewide, and regional travel, consisting of rural arterial routes and their extension into and through urban areas. Activities eligible for federal funding in this category include the construction of bus lanes, highway traffic control devices, bus passenger loading areas and facilities, fringe and transportation corridor parking to serve mass transportation passengers, and programs for roadway resurfacing, restoration and rehabilitation (3R).

4. Urban - These are for the improvement of service to major centers of activities in urbanized areas. Activities that are eligible for funding typically are projects aimed at obtaining maximum highway efficiency through traffic engineering such as minor roadway widening, modernized traffic signalization, traffic channelization, and bus loading areas and facilities.

5. Rural Secondary - This category of funding is to assist state and local governments improve federal-aid secondary systems. Eligible activities include design, right-of-way acquisition and construction, and a portion of this funding category must be expended on 3R projects.

6. Highway Safety - This is for improving driver, vehicle and roadway safety. It includes driver education and motor vehicle inspection, and provides for design, construction and maintenance improvements which include activities such as

pavement marking, elimination of roadside obstacles and high hazard and road/rail crossing elimination.

7. Bridge Replacement - This program is for the replacement or rehabilitation of important highway bridges on any system, and at least 15 percent of the total expended statewide must be for "off system" bridges.

8. Urban Mass Transportation - This category provides capital and operating cost assistance for improvements to urban mass transportation systems. Eligible capital costs include buses, mini buses, garages, equipment and special equipment for elderly and handicapped bus transportation.

9. Airport Improvement - This program provides for planning, design, acquisition, and construction of airfield facilities such as runways, taxiways, lighting, public terminals, and safety equipment (e.g., fire trucks and garages). The funding is earmarked for different types of airports and programs, including noise abatement and noise mitigation for schools and residences.

TIP Projects Scheduled for the Town of Burrillville - The TIP projects scheduled for the Town of Burrillville are identified in Table VI-3.

Table VI-3
Transportation Improvement Program
2009 to 2012 Town of Burrillville

Study and Development Program

NW Regional Bike Path, Burrillville, Glocester, N. Smithfield Burrillville Bike Route Signage 2000

Bridge Program

Shippee Bridge #307	2012
Pascoag Bridge #198	2012

Source: www.planning.state.ri.us/tip/tip912.pdf

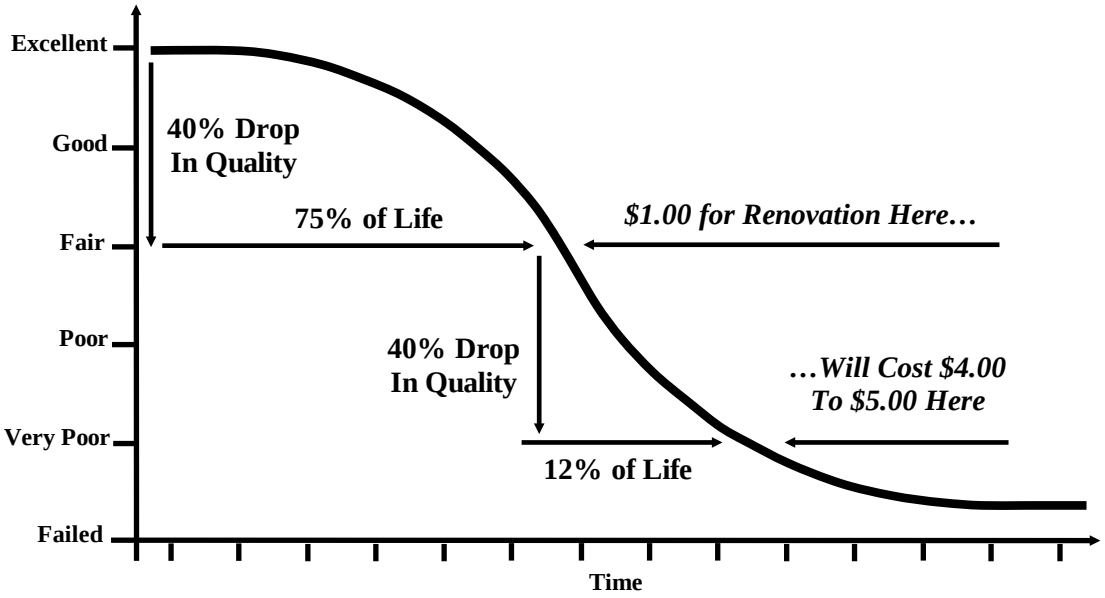
There are no railway crossing, commuter parking or airport improvement programs scheduled in the TIP for the Town of Burrillville, however, a regionalized application for bike paths was submitted on behalf of Burrillville, N. Smithfield and Glocester in February, 2002.

VI.4 Road Surface Management System

Burrillville's Department of Public Works has implemented a roadway management system (RMS) for its Towns roadways. This comprehensive road study was undertaken in order to develop an extensive roadway database describing and evaluating actual roadway infrastructure conditions in Burrillville and to better understand current and future roadway conditions at various funding levels. Before describing the RMS study scope and findings, an introduction to pavement management concepts and theory is offered. The product Burrillville selected for developing their system is called the Road Surface Management System (RSMS) developed by the University of New Hampshire Technology Transfer Center. The RSMS is directed toward achieving the best value for public funds. It is expected to provide and generate smooth, safe, economical road surfaces.

The development of a roadway management system is a formalized approach road officials use to cost effectively allocate road budgets. The theory of pavement management is based on predicting roadway deterioration. The following figure dramatically illustrates the key concept of making timely maintenance repairs, thereby averting the need for far more expensive and extensive structural repairs. The goal is to save money in both the short and long run by developing a road repair program that maximizes expenditures while meeting the overall road program goals set by community decision makers.

Pavement Deterioration Curve



The procedures is to collect, organize, and maintain a complete roadway database which describes a particular road system. The RSMS builds on the basic system by adding data on drainage, sidewalks, traffic and other roadway elements.

In either case the resultant RSMS database is used as a repository of historical and descriptive data on a community's road network. Data generated by the roadway database provides useful input for reporting on and evaluating current roadway conditions, forecasting costs for different maintenance and repair treatments, and developing annual and long range budgets and repair plans.

The system provides Burrillville with an opportunity to synthesize pavement inventory and condition data with other descriptive information on a host of related roadway elements such as drainage, and sidewalks.

The ongoing effort to establish a roadway management program is Burrillville's recognition that the Town has a major investment in its **95 mile** town/public road network. New construction and repairs to existing infrastructure are very costly, and prudent fiscal management suggests that is makes economic sense for a community to protect that investment over time for current and future residents.

RSMS Methodology

Starting in July, 1999 the Town collected two primary categories of data in Burrillville: roadway network inventory data describing roadway lengths, widths, segment start and end points, etc. (items that seldom change), and pavement condition data, providing a snapshot description of roadway conditions on the day of the survey – the severity and extent of such specific pavement distresses as potholing, alligator cracking, rutting and longitudinal/transverse cracking. The inventory also included collecting data on drainage and sidewalks. The majority of the pavement distress elements mentioned above are caused by inadequate drainage (including facilities), traffic volume, or weak sub-grade. Some distresses, such as rutting are a result of inadequate compaction during construction or by sub-grade consolidation. Longitudinal/transverse cracking is typically caused by insufficient pavement thickness, overloads, shrinkage or weak subgrade.

Following data collection, entry, and verification, future pavement conditions were projected assuming varying maintenance/repair alterations and cost levels. The Town can refine these projections annually by reviewing repair type unit costs and by updating the roadway database as improvements are made. Since each road project will differ as to its specific improvement elements, major drainage improvements or the construction of new sidewalks would have to be specifically budgeted during project level pavement management evaluation and cost estimating.

Capabilities/Results Summary

Burrillville's RSMS uses road inventory and roadway distress observations to develop an extensive database used for subsequent analysis and report generation. A complex rating system is built into the software for evaluating field observations. A rating is developed which tallies roadway serviceability and establishes performance criteria. A value is derived by recording actual field conditions for a variety of roadway elements; pavement surface, rideability, drainage, traffic etc. Ultimately a Pavement Condition Index (PCI) value is established for determining pavement repair priorities for each roadway segment. Sidewalks were rated in a more general fashion – Good, Fair, Poor. The majority of the sidewalks fell into the fair of poor category indicating a need to replace or improve the structural condition of the sidewalk.

The PCI was generated for each public roadway segment in Burrillville using the distress data collected by the Town. PCI is measured on a scale of one hundred to zero, with one

hundred representing a pavement in excellent condition and zero describing a road in extremely poor condition.

Broad treatment category ranges were utilized to assist in assigning repair alternatives. These "Treatment Repair Bands" are nationally accepted methods used to group the calculated values into five major improvement bands. The goal is to budget sufficient funds for each road repair category for a particular roadway. The database structure provides the Town with the flexibility to revise repair strategies accordingly for a single segment or a multitude of roadways.

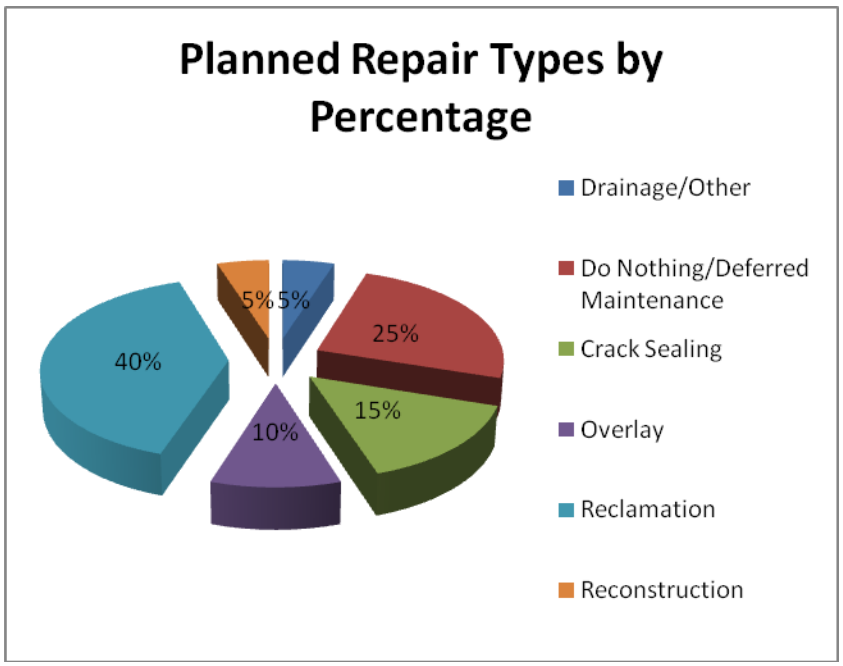
Broad Treatment Categories

Category	Description
Do Nothing	Segments in need of no maintenance
Routine Maintenance	Segments in need of routine maintenance maintenance (Crack Sealing/localized repair)
Preventive Maintenance	Segments in need of preventive maintenance (surface sealing/patching/crack sealing)
Structural Improvements	Segments in need of surface structural improvement/rehabilitation
Reconstruction	Segments in need of base improvement/reconstruction

Repair alternatives utilized for this project, in relation to the above table, includes the following.

- **Do Nothing**
- **Crack Seal (Routine Maintenance)**
- **Stone Seal (Preventive Maintenance)**
- **Overlay (Preventive Maintenance/Rehabilitation)**
- **Resurface (Rehabilitation)**
- **Reconstruction**

Percent of Network Length - By Repair Strategy as of 2011



The Town now has access to a roadway information database, which is based on road condition data and descriptive information collected in 1999. The Town is urged to fully utilize the considerable volume of data that exists. The Burrillville roadway database gives Town decision makers a picture of existing roadway infrastructure conditions, a dollar estimate to protect those pavements already in good condition, and a recommended capital improvement plan strategy to meet the Town's goals.

System Maintenance

To best manage and update the Burrillville roadway database, the following practices are suggested:

- **Post all annual road improvements into the RSMS. Both the pavement condition ratings and the repair history information should be entered.**
- **Add any new roadway network descriptions to the database as soon as the Town accepts the roadways. Pavement and related data can be added as it becomes available.**
- **Update repair type unit costs annually to provide accurate work plan reports.**
- **Assign one or more individuals with the responsibility of overseeing system upkeep. This individual should be responsible for requesting annual pavement condition survey updates.**

- **Undertake annual street surveys on at least 25% of the system. Roadways that have been repaired within the last season, or roadways that fell into the reconstruct category and have not been repaired, can be screened from the update mileage total.**
- **Review developments in pavement technology that might offer a more cost effective alternative to pavement maintenance or rehabilitation over the pavement's life cycle.**
- **Implement a sound Department quality control/assurance program with particular focus on major pay items.**

The roadway database should serve as a valuable tool to the Town and to community decision makers in their progressive approach to managing the Burrillville roadway infrastructure. Although maintenance/repair alternatives are provided, this report is a planning level tool and is intended to provide the foundation for managing the Town's roadway resources by combining local knowledge with professional engineering input.

VI.5 Storm Water Drainage System

Based on information provided by Town's Department of Public Works (DPW) Director, the Town's storm water system is operating in an efficient manner. Only a small percentage of the Town consists of a closed drainage system. These systems being located primarily in major villages of town; Pascoag, Harrisville and Mapleville. Each of the villages contain their own isolated system that discharges to localized streams and eventually to Clear River.

The DPW has not reported any major problems with the drainage systems currently in place. The only issues are with respect to providing adequate routine maintenance. This is primarily due to a lack of consistent staffing levels at the DPW. However, the DPW did indicate that the systems would operate more efficiently if routine maintenance were completed on a more regular basis. The Town recently crafted a detailed Stormwater Management Plan, March 2004, which was adopted by RIDEM. The SWMP shall be incorporated as part of this chapter by reference and may be reviewed at the Burrillville Planning Department.

One of the elements gathered as part of the roadway condition analysis (Road Surface Management System) completed by the Town was drainage deficiencies. Poor drainage

contributes to pavement distress, whether it be puddeling or roadside flooding. Specific drainage problem areas, not associated with the storm water system can be queried from the Road Surface Management System database.

VI.6 Bridges/Culverts/Dams

The Town of Burrillville owns and maintains the following bridges. These are identified in Table VI-4.

Table VI-4
Town of Burrillville
Locally Maintained Bridges

Centennial Street	Oak Valley (106)
Gazza Road (353)	Potter Bridgeway (315)
Grove Street	Railroad Avenue (354)
Laurel Ridge (222)	Sayles Avenue (512)
Mapleville (337)	Tarkiln Road (356)
North Road (412)	Warner Lane (355)

Source: Town of Burrillville, Department of Public Works/RIDOT
(XXX) RIDOT Bridge No.

During July 1999, BETA Engineering conducted bridge, culvert, and dam field review services to assist in the development of a town-wide transportation improvement program. The structures included in the program were identified by the Town's DPW for evaluation as town-owned bridges and major culverts. Mapleville Bridge was not included in the inspection program considering improvements were being developed under a separate project. The field reviews were cursory visual assessments of major structural components for the purpose of identifying their size, type and general condition in sufficient detail to prioritize any required rehabilitation and develop budgetary construction costs.

The twenty-five structures reviewed (10 bridges, 10 culverts, and 5 dams), as shown in on the following page, ranged in condition from poor to excellent. All structures were reviewed using a subjective rating system of the major structural components including foundation, framing deck and railing elements. Each feature is rated on a 1 – 5 scale, and an average rating score is given to each bridge, culvert, or dam. In some cases immediate

attention is required to ensure the safety of the general public. In other cases, further investigation is required to properly determine the amount of structural rehabilitation required.

A detailed report was prepared that summarizes the details of the field reviews, and the recommendations for each structure. Complete reports are available at Burrillville's Department of Public Works.

Bridges

Priority Ranking	Structure Name	Condition Rating (1-5)	Construction Cost	Design Cost[1]	Permitting Cost[1]
2	Warner Lane[2]	2.67	$380,000	$45,000	$5,000
4	Laurel Ridge Bridge	2.14	$40,000	$5,000	$500
5	Grove Street	3.43	$70,000	$6,000	$500
6	North Road	3.33	$40,000	$5,000	$500
7	Centennial Street[4]	5			
8	Railroad Avenue	3.83	$40,000	$5,000	$500
9	Sayles Avenue	4.57	$20,000	$2,500	$500
10	Potter Bridgeway	4.50	$2500	$800	$500
		Total	**$1,272,500**	**$159,300**	**$18,500**

Culverts

Priority Ranking	Culvert Name	Condition Rating (1-5)	Construction Cost	Design Cost[1]	Permitting Cost[1]
1	Tarkiln Road[4]	5			
2	Whipple Road	2.60	$130,000	$15,000	$5,000
3	E. Wallum Lake Rd 2	3.17	$50,000	$5,000	$5,000
4	E. Wallum Lake Rd 1	3.20	$20,000	$3,000	$5,000
5	Black Hut Road	3.33	$20,000	$3,000	$5,000
6	Nichols Road	3.40	$20,000	$3,000	$5,000
7	Centennial Street 1[4]	5			
8	Colwell Road	3.60	$20,000	$3,000	$5,000
9	Spring Lake Rd.	3.83	$30,000	$3,000	$5,000
10	Centennial Street 2[4]	5			
		Total	**$478,500**	**$53,800**	**$45,500**

Dams

Priority Ranking	Dam Name	Condition Rating (1-5)	Construction Cost	Design Cost[1]	Permitting Cost[1]
1	Tarkiln Dam 2[3]	2.67	$40,000	$5,000	$2,500
2	Tarkiln Dam 1[3]	3.00	$30,000	$5,000	$2,500
3	White Mill Park[3]	3.00	$2,500	$1,200	$500
4	Mill Pond Dam[3]	3.80	$2,500	$1,200	$500
5	Zam Dam[3]	4.00	$3,000	$1,200	$500

		Total	**$78,000**	**$13,600**	**$6,500**
		Total Improvement Cost	**$1,829,000**	**$226,700**	**$70,500**

Notes:
1. Estimated design and permitting costs are for budgetary purposes only. Projects designed in combination with other projects can reduce the overall design and permitting cost than if done individually.
2. Funding for construction could be explored with the Rhode Island Department of Transportation.
3. Funding for construction could be explored with the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management.
4. Improvements completed by DPW

The table above lists the reviewed structures by type, from highest to lowest priority. The estimated rehabilitation construction cost is noted for each structure.

The Warner Lane Bridge, scheduled for repair in 2010, is very narrow and potentially hazardous, however, it carries low traffic volume. Its condition is sufficiently good to warrant load ratings of 16 tons for 2 and 3 axle trucks and 27 tons for semi-trailer vehicles.

There are twenty-seven (27) state numbered bridges in Burrillville. All bridges in Rhode Island greater than 20 feet in lengths are assigned a number by the State Department of Transportation for the purposes of inspection. These bridges may not be state owned but they are inspected by the state. It is possible to have a bridge constructed and owned by the state but maintained by the local municipality. A bridge within the state highway line is state maintained. The listing of all state numbered bridges in Burrillville is shown in Table VI-5.

The State Department of Transportation has developed a Comprehensive Bridge Improvement Plan for the State's 705 bridges which is designed to assure that the bridges are properly maintained and those most in need of repair or replacement are assigned the highest priority for construction. The Plan utilizes five parameters for the priority assignments:

(1) structural adequacy;
(2) type of bridge;
(3) bridge posting;
(4) average daily traffic; and

(5) roadway classification

These parameters are weighted by the State Classification System so that those bridges that have the highest need of structural repairs, are the most likely to have a severe failure, are posted with the lowest capacity ratings, limiting their ability to provide for safe passage of emergency vehicles, school buses and the like, are heavily traveled and are highest in the Roadway Classification System are ranked highest in accordance with their need for work.

In accordance with this plan, one of the 27 bridges shown in Table VI-5 are scheduled for improvements by RIDOT.

Table VI-5
State Numbered Bridges

No.	Name	Route	Crossing
310	Burrill. World War Me.	Chapel Street	Pascoag River
353*	Gazza Road	Gazza Road	Brook
112	Glendale	Woon.-Chepachet VH	Branch River
308+	Granite Mill	Chapel Street	Pascoag River
309+	Granite Mill - Canal	Chapel Street	Mill Canal
306	Harrisville Mill	Sweets Hill Road	Pascoag River
672	Joslin Road	Route 102	Over Branch R. & Joslin Road
671	Lapham	Route 102	Over School St.
222*	Laurel Ridge	Laurel Ridge Road	Clear River
170	Leland	Wallum Lake Rd.	Leland Brook
673	Mohegan	Route 102	Branch River
337*+	Mapleville	Main Street	Chapachet River
110	Nasonville Conc. Arch	Woon.-Chepachet VH	Mill Canal
111	Nasonville Stone Arch	Woon.-Chepachet VH	Branch River
412*	North Road	North Road	Clear River
106*	Oak Valley	Douglas Pike	Fork of Branch River
105	Oakland	Victory Highway	Pascoag River
198	Pascoag	Wallum Lake Road	Pascoag River
670	Pascoag River	Route 102	Pascoag River
354	Railroad Ave.	Railroad Avenue	Stream
378	Round Top	Douglas Road	Pascoag River
512*	Sayles Ave.	Sayles Ave.	Brook
306	Harrisville	Route 107 (East Ave)	Clear River
307+	Shippee	Sherman Road	Pascoag River
356*	Tarkiln Road	Tarkiln Road	Tarkiln Brook
394	Unnamed Culvert	Buck Hill Road	Robbins Brook
102	Wallum Pond	Wallum Lake Road	Clear River
355*+	Warner Lane	Warner Lane	Brook

+ RIDOT currently developing design for replacement.
*** Not State maintained.**

It should also be noted that the Route 100 bridge located in Pascoag, also known as the CVS Bridge, is part of RIDOT's latest Statewide Bridge Improvement Program and has been selected for replacement in The Route 7/Victory Highway Bridge is no longer scheduled for replacement, it has been determined to be structurally sound and the weight posting has been recently removed.

Source: Rhode Island Department of Transportation, Bridge Engineering Section, February 2000.

VI.8 Accidents

Traffic accident data is recorded by the state in the following categories: Total accidents, fatal accidents, accidents resulting in injuries, accidents resulting in property damage, total fatalities and total injuries. Data shown in Table VI-7 compares Burrillville to the state for the 3 most recent years.

Table VI-7
Town of Burrillville
Accident Data 1995-1998

TOTAL ACCIDENTS	**2007**	**2008**	**2009**
Burrillville	369	318	348
State			
Percent of State			
FATAL ACCIDENTS			
Burrillville	1	2	2
State			
Percent of State			
INJURY ACCIDENTS			
Burrillville	81	69	64
State			
Percent of State			

Source: Burrillville Police Dept., February 25, 2010

Accident rates for the Town of Burrillville are at or below what might be expected based on a comparison of the Town's percentage of motor vehicles, accidents, injuries, and fatalities compared to the balance of the state. The number of accidents in Town has

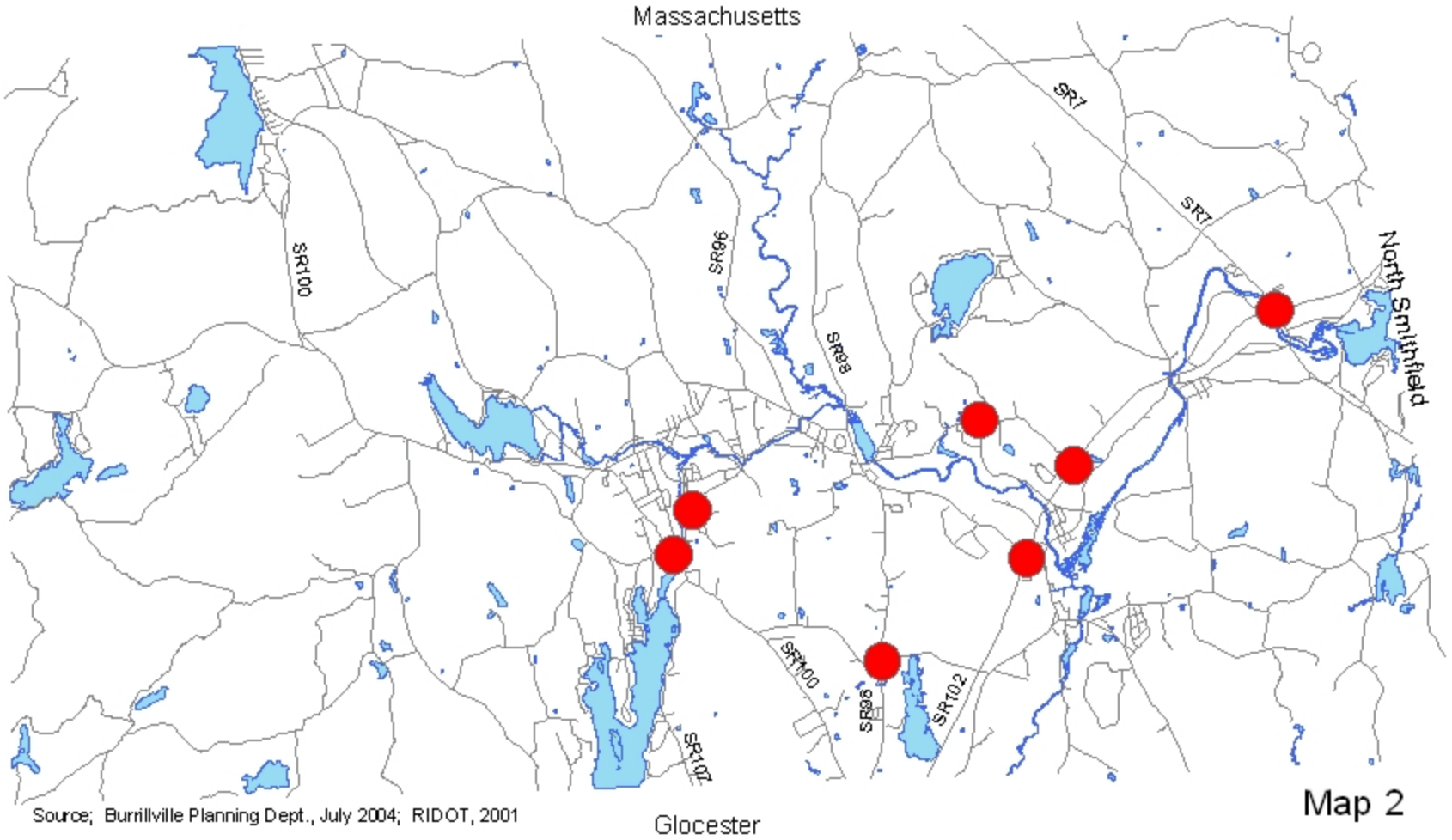
increased overall since 2001, however, decreased slightly since 2002 which reported 406 total accidents as compared to 404 in 2003. Locations with a noticeable frequency of accidents, based on Rhode Island Department of Transportation data are shown on Map 2. These locations do not necessarily have a high frequency of accidents, which is the hallmark of a problem area. The level of analysis required to determine if high frequencies exist is reserved for special studies and is outside the scope of the comprehensive plan. These locations are however, areas with high numbers of accidents in the most recent 3 years available (2001-2003) and probably represent dangerous locations.

Following a review of the most current accident data provided by the Department of Transportation, there were no obvious trends displayed in the data. There are many accidents dispersed throughout the more congested travel ways involving side streets. This is an indication of roadside distractions, curbside parking which obstructs visibility, possibly narrow travel lanes, or excessive speeds.

The Citizen Advisory Committee for the comprehensive planning process expressed the need for improved sidewalks in the Town. This desire is also reflected in the Citizen's Survey results. Generally, there is a lack of sidewalks forcing pedestrians to walk along the shoulder of the road in certain areas of town. This is seen by the community as a drawback to businesses, in the Pascoag area in particular. In relation to this, the Town has made a concerted effort to improve pedestrian conditions, with particular emphasis on compatibility with the American Disabilities Act (ADA). This is being accomplished as part of the townwide Pavement Management Program and on-going sidewalk projects.

Citizens were asked during the May 1990 survey to identify specific street and highway locations that they found to be dangerous. The most commonly identified locations are presented in Table VI-8. Most of the locations correspond to those identified through the review of Rhode Island Department of Transportation Accident Data.

High Accident Locations



Source; Burrillville Planning Dept., July 2004; RIDOT, 2001

Table VI-8
Town of Burrillville
Commonly Identified Highway Locations Considered Dangerous

- Route 102/Central Avenue
- Route 102/Route 7
- Main Street/East Avenue
- Route 107/North Main Street
- Hill Street/Round Top Road
- Route 102, in general
- Union Avenue/Emerson Street
- Lapham Farm Road/Steere Farm Road
- Route 100/Main Street
- Inman Street/Route 102
- East Avenue, in general
- Route 102/Entrance to the new middle school
- Downtown Pascoag, in general

Source: Citizen's Advisory Committee, Albert Veri & Associates, Inc.
Citizen Survey, May 1990 and RIDOT data (1995-1997)

VI.9 Town Scheduled Improvements

There are approximately 95 miles of local roads maintained by the Town Department of Public Works. The Town DPW budget for road maintenance is limited in scope and amount of available funding. There is a 5-year town transportation improvement plan and a preliminary pavement management program. The Town DPW has a computer and software for the development of a pavement management program. However, lack of funding has prevented the assignment of the necessary personnel to update the data for such a program. This type of program is considered valuable to the Town and it has been implemented in other communities. Estimates furnished by the University of Rhode Island suggest that an effective system may save four to five times the normal pavement renovation costs.

Pavement management encompasses the planning, design, construction, maintenance, evaluation, and rehabilitation of pavement. A pavement management system is the process of evaluating pavement conditions, assigning priorities for action and programming maintenance and improvements to keep the pavement serviceable.

The Department of Public Works has a Capital Improvement Program that calls for $4,090,000 in road, bridge and drainage improvements over the next five years. These are as follows:

			Fiscal Year		
Category	**2005**	**2006**	**2007**	**2008**	**2009**
Bridge/Culvert	$200(k)	$100(k)			
Replacement		$30(k)	$30(k)	$30(k)	$30(k)
Road Paving	$1,100,000	$600(k)	$700(k)	$700(k)	$600(k)

Source: DPW, July 16, 2004

This budget has been established without the benefit of the pavement management program. It is based on the personal knowledge and site inspections of the town's roadways and drainage facilities by the Director of Public Works and the Town Planner.

VI.10 Public Transportation

The Town of Burrillville is serviced by the Rhode Island Public Transit Authority For RIPTA Bus Route maps, see: http://www.ripta.com/schedules/view.php. Service is Monday through Friday on the Wallum Lake-Pascoag Route between Zambarano Hospital and Kennedy Plaza in Downtown Providence. Stops in Burrillville are located in Bridgeton, Pascoag, Harrisville and Mapleville. Total trip time is approximately 40 minutes from Zambarano Hospital to Kennedy Plaza. Other stops along the route are at Chepachet, Harmony, Greenville, the Apple Valley Mall, Graniteville, and Centerdale. The buses are equipped with wheelchair lifts on two-thirds of the trips.

For information regarding fare schedules, see: http://www.ripta.com/schedules/fares.php

Para-Transit Service - Para-Transit service can be a demand-response system or a scheduled service. The Town is served by one senior citizen's van that is dispatched through the Department of Public Works. It operates on a first come, first served basis and is used for medical and shopping trips and for transportation to meetings and recreational activities. The service does not provide handicapped access.

Table VI-9
Town of Burrillville
Para-Transit Service Data 2000 - 2005

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Citizens Served	1,067	1,121	1,089	1,207	1,090
Total Mileage	13,860	13,230	14,035	14,700	15,050
Total Trips	396	378	401	420	430
Medical	298	276	301	319	331
Meetings	0	0	0	0	0
Shopping/ Recreational	98	102	100	101	99

As shown in Table VI-9, demand for the service has ranged from a low of 396 trips in 2000 to a high of 430 trips in 2004. The annual average for the period 2000 through 2004 has been 405 trips. Nearly 75 percent of the trips are for medical purposes.

VI.11 Trails & Pedestrian Walkways

There are 31.5 miles of trail system in Burrillville located in the State Park and Management areas. These are Buck Hill Management area, Nipmuc Trail, Black Hut Management area, George Washington Management area and Casimir Pulaski State Park. The State of Rhode Island Recreation Conservation and Open Space Inventory of June, 1989 identifies a 1.8 mile horse trail and hiking trail on the old abandoned rail right-of-way from Harrisville to Route 102. During the 1988 cycle of recreation, conservation, and open space grants, the Town applied for funding to develop the trail section from Harrisville to Route 102 and to acquire the section from Pascoag to Harrisville. The project scored high in the state review process but was not funded due to limited resources.

It is interesting to note that the 1966 comprehensive plan recommended that the railroad right-of-way be preserved as an historic trail for hiking and horseback riding. The Town will continue to work with the John H. Chafee Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor Commission to partner, fund and design additional trails along the Town's abandoned rail road rights of way. Another 15 miles of trails are located in the Buck Hill Boy Scout Reservation.

VI.12 Municipal Parking

Municipal parking facilities are available at the Town offices on Harrisville Main Street and at the Pascoag Post Office. There are 18 spaces of municipal parking at the Post Office. There are 27 spaces at the Town Hall in Harrisville. Two of these spaces are for handicapped parking. The municipal spaces at the Town Hall are also used by persons going to the convenience store across the street and to the church next to the Town Hall. These uses are in occasional conflict.

The 1966 comprehensive plan focused on several aspects of the Town's circulation system which warranted improvement. Included in this was the identification of the need to expand parking opportunities in Pascoag from the 158 then available spaces to 500 spaces to provide better access to local businesses.

VI.13 Circulation Issues

The transportation system in the Town of Burrillville will be automobile dominated in the foreseeable future. The automobile is an integral part of the American culture; it is the principal means of mobility, and it is the mode that provides the traveler the greatest flexibility. Of all the transportation modes, it generally provides the highest degree of access to land uses and activities. Walking and bicycling also provide high levels of access and can access locations inaccessible by automobile, but these modes are limited by personal choice, habits, weather and time. These facts raise several issues for the Town.

Community sentiment, as expressed through the public attitude survey and workshops, values most highly the small town character, open space and the quiet peaceful nature of Burrillville. Residents, it appears, are supportive of the preservation of open space and farmland. As one workshop attendee stated, "we need to keep traffic down: it creates stress." Residents also favor industrial development to expand the town's tax base and to provide employment opportunities.

Traffic is a function of land use; the density of development and the types of land uses that occur can cause traffic congestion. If the density of development is too intense or the activities that occur are large traffic generators and the transportation systems that service the uses are in some way limited, then traffic congestion is likely.

Burrillville currently has a circulation or traffic flow problem that results from two facts. First, there is only one arterial roadway to convey traffic east to west (or west to east). This is the Route 100 and Route 107 roadway from Bridgeton to Pascoag to Harrisville to the Bronco's Highway (Map 3). Second, this roadway which measures approximately 5.5 miles from Eagle Peak Road to the Bronco's Highway, is characterized by its winding route, varying lane widths, lack of lighting, substandard curbing and drainage, lack of sidewalks, dangerous intersections, and land uses that vary from rural to urban. This route was identified in the 1966 Comprehensive Plan as needing improvements, but little has been accomplished over the last 25 years to effect the comprehensive improvements required for this roadway.

The Institute of Traffic Engineers (ITE), a national professional organization for traffic and transportation engineers, rates anticipated traffic generation according to major land use categories. Trip generation factors are typically taken from the "*Trip Generation Manual"* Informational Report 6th Edition, published by the ITE. The data provided in the ITE report is based on extensive traffic studies for various types of land uses (residential, commercial, industrial, etc.) This data has been found to be very reliable and provides a sound basis for estimating trip generation values.

Single-family detached housing generates 9.57 trips per average weekday, the highest generation rate for all forms of residential development. Burrillville can expect the majority of its residential growth to occur in the form of single-family units. In fact, under current zoning, Albert Veri & Associates, Inc. estimates that approximately 88 percent of the potential new residential development will occur as single-family units on land zoned R-20, R-40, F-2, F-5, and 0S.

Office building development generates a range of traffic volumes depending upon the types of office. Medical offices generate 34.17 trips per 1,000 square feet of office space, the highest rate for office buildings. Research centers generate only 8.11 trips per 1,000 square feet.

Retail uses are heavy trip generators. The trip generation is typically 56.63 trips per 1,000 square feet, depending on the size of the retail center. Industrial uses are relatively low traffic generators. An industrial park will generate 6.97 trips per 1,000 square feet, as will light industrial use, while warehousing, manufacturing and heavy industrial uses

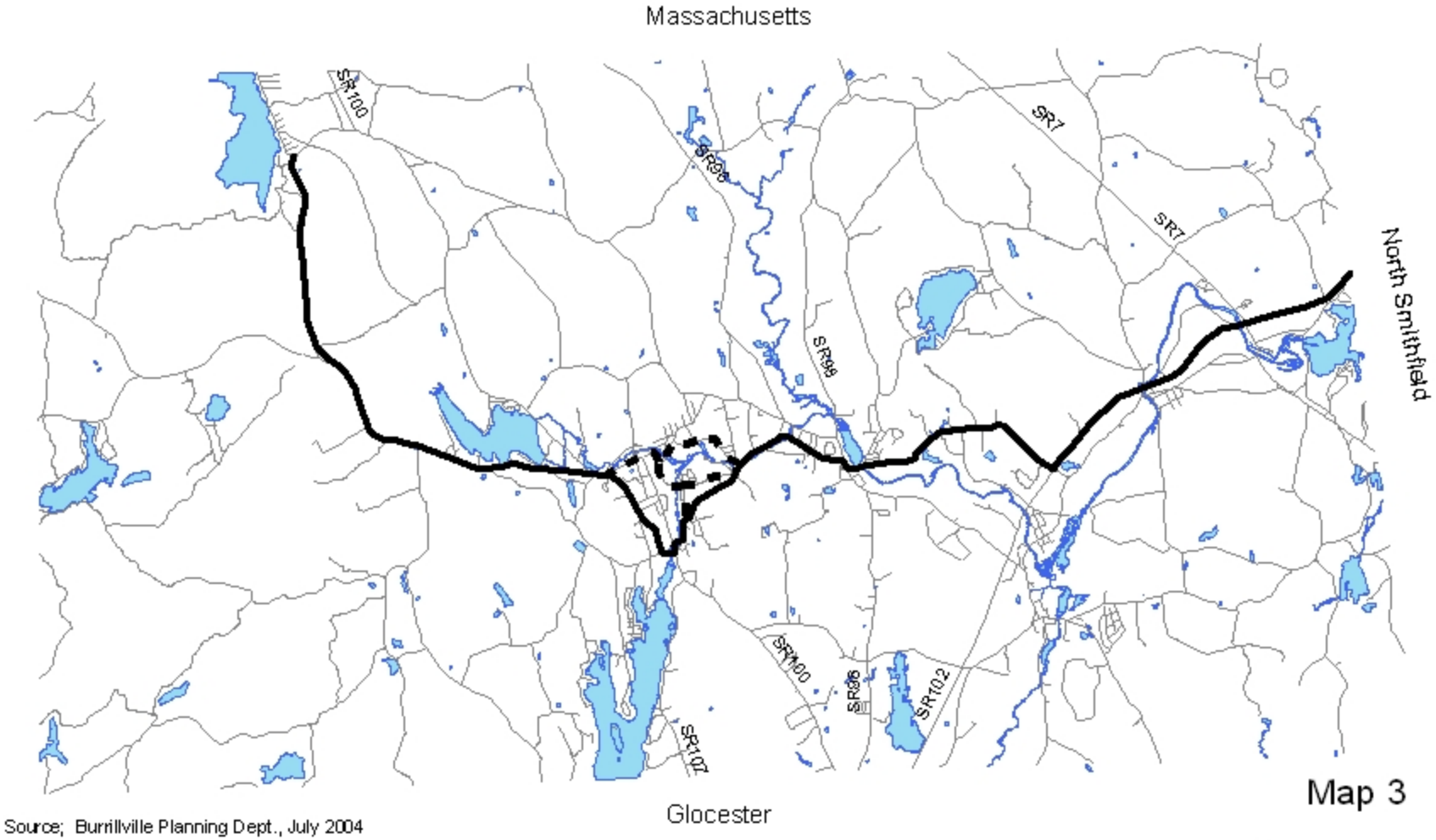
vary as trip generators. Heavy industry will generate as few as 1.50 trips per 1,000 square feet of manufacturing space.

Utilizing the ITE trip generation rates and the projected growth of residential, commercial and industrial development in Burrillville, an estimate can be made of the additional new traffic that will be experienced in the town's principal roadways. This estimate is based on existing zoning, and the build-out and population projections prepared for the Land Use Element of the Comprehensive Plan. (Please note the build-out figures utilized for this effort were completed by the University of Rhode Island in November 1999 and may not be included in the current Land Use Element.) No attempt has been made to distribute the trips on the state and local road network, although roadways that will be impacted are indicated in the analysis.

Based on the population projections through the year 2020, as well as the projected commercial and industrial space construction, trip estimates are formulated in Table VI-10 for the Town of Burrillville. The estimate provides a range of trips that may be generated because it is not possible to know what mix of activities will occur even within existing zoning.

The largest generator of new traffic will be continued residential growth in the Town, which will contribute 64 to 86 percent of all new traffic by the year 2020. Because 19 percent of the residential growth is expected in the Harrisville-Pascoag area, it can be assumed that a corresponding percentage of the traffic increase will also occur in that area, adding more than 1100 trips to the area's road network. Development north and west of Pascoag and Harrisville will increase traffic on Routes 100 and 107 as well as Routes 96 and 98. Even though Route 96 is in poor condition, it is not heavily traveled. It is also programmed for repair. Route 98 north of Harrisville is in good condition. The increased travel on these routes, however, will feed traffic into Harrisville, affecting Route 107 and probably Central Avenue. Route 98 south of Harrisville is a rural two-lane road, capable of handling additional traffic, but only at carefully controlled speeds because of narrow lanes and the obsolete horizontal and vertical alignments.

East - West Circulation



Source; Burrillville Planning Dept., July 2004

Table VI-10
Town of Burrillville Build-Out Analysis:
Future Trip Estimates to Year 2020

Residential	**Trip Generation Rate**	**2000-2010 Additional Units**	**Additional Trips**	**2010-2020 Additional Units**	**Additional Trips**	**Total 1990-2010**
Single Family[1]	9.57	580	5,551	580	5,551	11,102
Multi-Family[2]	NA	0	0	0	0	0
Subtotal		580	5,551	580	5,551	11,102
Commercial	**Trip Generation Rate**	**2000-2010 Additional Square Ft.**	**Additional Trips**	**2010-2020 Additional Square Ft.**	**Additional Trips**	**Total 1990-2010**
C-1[3]	11.42-40.67	7,445	85-303	7,445	85- 303	170-606
C-2[4]	8.11-56.63	45,471	369-2,575	45,471	369-2,575	738-5,150
Subtotal		52,916	454-2,878	52,916	454-2,878	908-5,756
Industrial	**Trip Generation Rate**	**2000-2010 Additional Square Ft.**	**Additional Trips**	**2010-2020 Additional Square Ft.**	**Additional Trips**	**Total 1990-2010**
M-1[5]	6.97	14,619	102	14,619	102	204
M1-2[6]	1.50	60,563	91	60,563	91	182
Subtotal		75,182	193	75,182	193	386
TOTAL			6,198-8,622		6,198-8,622	12,396-17,244

Notes:
1) Additional Units were estimated using Burrillville Build Out Analysis and Single Family Building Permits information for the years 1994 through 1998. The Town of Burrillville supplied the Building Permit information.
2) The Burrillville Buildout Analysis assumed no multi-family dwellings due to the fact that no multi-family building permits have been issued since 1993.
3) Assumes a mix with a range between specialty retail at 40.67 trips per 1,000 square feet and an office park with 11.42 trips per 1,000 square feet.
4) Assumes a mix with a range between retail discount store at 56.63 trips per 1,000 square feet and a research center at 8.11 trips per 1,000 square feet.
5) Light industrial at 6.97 trips per 1,000 square feet.
6) Heavy industrial at 1.50 trips per 1,000 square feet.

The commercial and industrial development projected for the Town will not generate volumes of traffic similar to the residential growth. Most of this development can be expected to occur in the Bronco's Highway Corridor where there are large undeveloped tracts of land zoned for commercial and industrial use, which have or will eventually have access to municipal sewers.

Based on the data presented above, is apparent that the Town's roadway network could experience a significant increase in traffic over the next several decades. Taking this into

consideration, the Town should further evaluate improving the existing circulation network. Particular attention should be focused on east-west traffic flow through the center of Town. Lack of consistency in terms of roadway character and function associated with several thoroughfares in Town could also become an issue if build-out estimates are reached.

Another element to further expand related to impacts on the roadway related to increased traffic is the Road Surface Management System (RSMS). This system, as previously discussed, is currently being utilized by the Town to manage its roadway infrastructure. As traffic volumes increase in town, it is going to become more imperative that the RSMS database is updated on a regular basis in order to provide the most accurate and up-to-date depiction of pavement conditions on a townwide basis.

The relevance of this to the community perception that improvements are needed on the Route 100, Route 107 link through Pascoag and Harrisville is that as the decade progresses, the perception will be reinforced by increased traffic. It is not realistic to think that alternative modes of transportation can or will make a significant contribution to the reduction of traffic. As currently assessed, alternative modes have important but limited roles in the Town of Burrillville.

Public transportation on the Rhode Island Public Transit Authority route will continue to service the Town on a limited basis as long as there is a willingness by the state to subsidize the route. Operating subsidies for RIPTA have almost always been a fact of life and system-wide levels of ridership continue to decline. Since 1981, there has been a 40 percent decrease in the number of revenue passengers on the RIPTA system, even as the number of route miles has remained constant. The operating deficit for RIPTA increased from $1.88 per mile in 1988 to $2.02 per mile in 1989. These usage declines reflect national trends.

Para Transit is limited to the elderly and handicapped who meet eligibility requirements. This service is valuable to the client base, but it cannot draw riders from the non-eligible population. The level of service will probably be required to expand as the service population increases.

There is no rail service in Burrillville. Therefore, all bulk transportation requirements for business and industry in Town must be met through the use of trucks. However, old rail grades offer the potential for another form of transportation - the bicycle.

The bicycle has not developed nationally as a mode of transportation. But, there is a trend in Rhode Island and elsewhere in the nation for more bicycle use on dedicated bikeways such as the East Bay Bikeway in Barrington, Warren, Bristol and East Providence. The Rhode Island Department of Transportation plans to extend the East Bay Bikeway to the Providence "East Side" where it will connect with the Blackstone Valley Bikeway now in design. The Blackstone Valley Bikeway is part of the Blackstone Valley Heritage Corridor, a fact with significant implications for the Town of Burrillville.

RIDOT is also conducting bikeway studies in Narragansett, North Kingstown, South Kingstown, Block Island and Northwest Rhode Island including Glocester, North Smithfield and Burrillville. The primary focus of many of these facilities is former rail rights-of-way that have fallen into disuse as rail corridors. These rights-of-way are often ideal for dedicated bikeways, but they do not necessarily have to be the sole component of a bikeway.

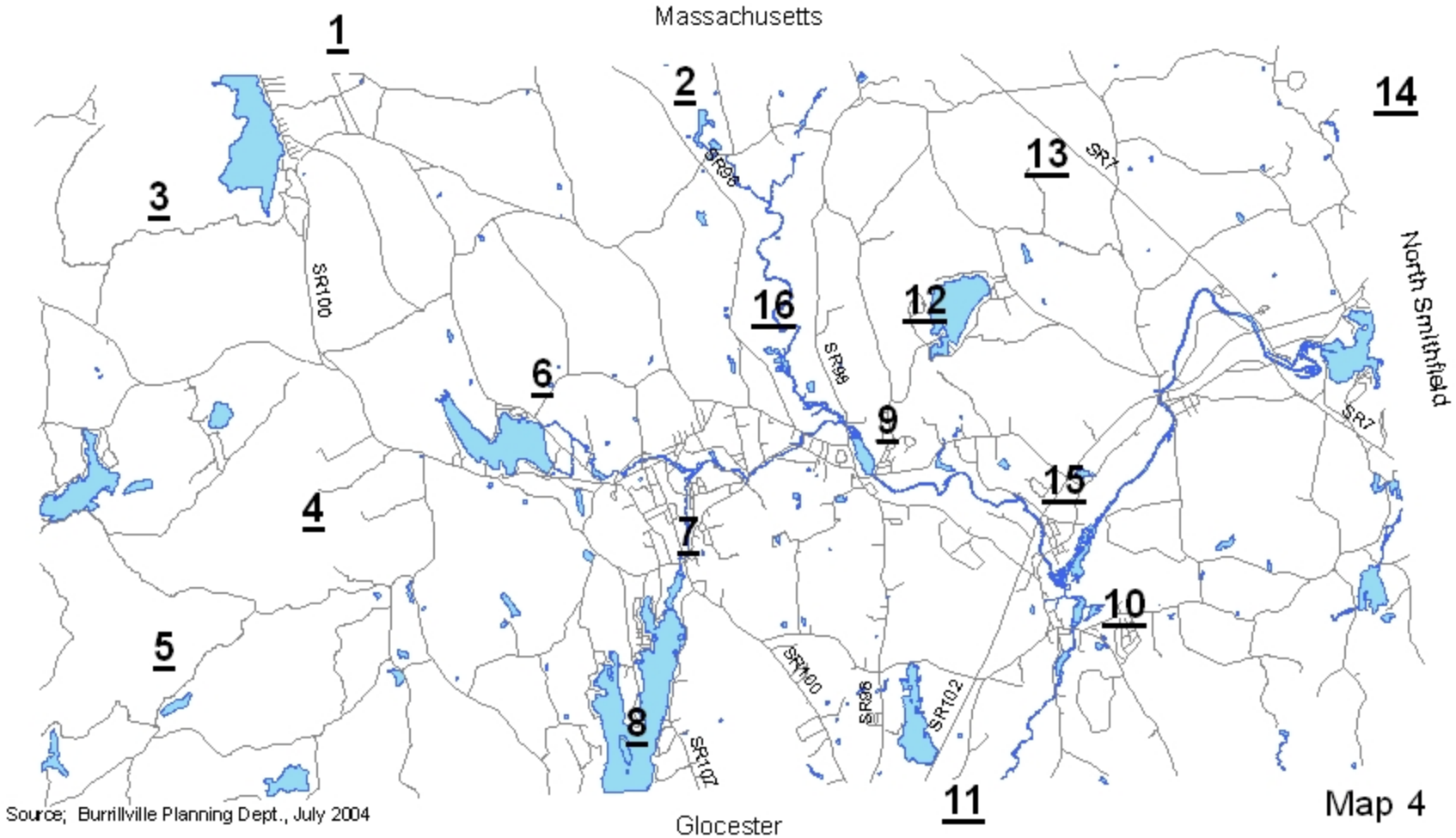
Bikeways can be developed on local streets and rural roadways through the use of signing and striping. When this technique is coupled with the use of dedicated bikeways and utilized to connect recreation areas, parks, scenic areas, commercial centers and tourist attractions, a potentially very beneficial recreation and transportation feature can blossom in the community. It can also be a potent economic force for Burrillville.

Utilization of parts of the former rail grade for a bikeway and hiking trail, linked to the State management areas and park system in Burrillville and throughout the northwest region and the Blackstone Valley, could provide a stimulus to recreational based tourism. The ideas of promoting tourism, use of the State parks and management areas, and bikeway linkages to Blackstone Valley Heritage Park were expressed by citizens at the Advisory Committee level and by the Blackstone Valley Tourism Council, Inc. Map 4 indicates activity centers that could be linked by a bikeway-walkway network. Properly designed and managed, the network could be utilized on a year round basis, providing cross-country ski trails during the winter months. Development of a system of this type is ongoing and feasibility studies are in the works to examine routes and the potential of dedicated bikeways.

Pedestrian movement in the villages of Pascoag and Harrisville can be facilitated through the installation of sidewalks. The lack of sidewalks in Town, especially along the heavily traveled routes, was often mentioned in the Advisory Committee meetings and public workshops. Greater freedom of movement and safety for pedestrians can reduce vehicular traffic in a neighborhood level and in the village centers.

Parking requirements appear to exceed need in Pascoag and Harrisville. The Town should conduct a specific parking needs study for Pascoag and Harrisville. These studies should consider planned developments in each village.

Bikeway - Walkway - Activity Centers



VI.14 Goals, Policies and Implementation Actions

VI. Circulation Goals	Policies	Implementation Actions
VI.1 To provide and maintain a safe, convenient and cost-effective transportation system.	VI.1.a Promote cooperative State/local efforts in transportation planning.	VI.1.a.1 Maintain and prioritize the list of projects for inclusion in the State Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Seek letters of support for submitted projects.
		VI.1.a.2 Actively participate in planning of State and regional transportation systems. Hold a planning board public hearing to get public comment on TIP submission to State.
	VI.1.b Ensure that development minimizes dependence on motor vehicles, and promote development of alternative modes of transportation, such as bus, bicycle, and pedestrian access, including handicapped accessibility.	VI.1.b.1 Coordinate development of circulation systems with the planned development of the community.
		VI.1.b.2 Continue implementation of the findings of RIDOT's NW RI Bike Path Feasibility Study
	VI.1.c Endeavor to maintain the Town's rural qualities through participation in the State's roadway design process.	VI.1.c.1 Recognize the importance of Burrillville's outstanding historic manmade and natural landscape by protecting to the maximum extent possible shade trees, stone walls, historic buildings and structures, and natural features during the planning, design and construction of new and reconstructed roadways as well as the maintenance of existing roads. Amend the subdivision regulations to accomplish the same. COMPLETE

	VI.1.d Provide a well-maintained system of roads, bridges and highways linking residential areas, village centers and places of employment, and connecting to major arterials to facilitate daily commerce in the Town of Burrillville.	VI.1.d.1 Develop and implement a local TIP to evaluate and prioritize improvements of Town roadways, drainage systems, bridges, dams, culverts and sidewalks..
		VI.1.d.2 Coordinate the proposed installation of sewers and other underground utilities with local road improvements.
		VI.1.d.3 Place a high priority on working proactively with RIDOT to improvements to Route 107 from Fountain Square to Harrisville (Phase II of Route 107, 1R), emphasizing the need for sidewalks, street trees, improved lighting, improved drainage, signing, intersection alignments and signalization.
		VI.1.d.4 Conduct a needs assessment and feasibility study of utilizing Laurel Hill and Grove Streets as an alternative circulator through Pascoag.
		VI.1.d.5 Work with the Rhode Island Department of Transportation to achieve workable designs on TIP projects in keeping with the rural and village character of Town.
		VI.1.d.6 Consider utilization of street lighting fixtures in new residential, commercial and industrial development that complements the village character of Town.
		VI.1.d.7 Furnish the Department of Public Works with adequate equipment and personnel to maintain the roadways, for snow removal, street sweeping and drainage system maintenance. Require continued development of a ten-year transportation improvement programs for the Department of Public Works.

		VI.1.d.8 Work with the Department of Transportation to develop designs for the repair of the Harrisville Bridge over the Clear River that are faithful to the materials and texture of the existing stone arch bridge.
		VI.1.d.9 Require preparation of a Traffic Impact Analysis for development projects. These studies will form the components of a network of traffic information. Guidelines for a Traffic Impact Study are contained in Appendix VI-A.
	VI.1.e Provide a residential roadway network that relates to the ultimate density and character of the neighborhood	VI.1.e.1 Amend the subdivision regulations to accomplish the same. COMPLETE
	VI.1.f Maintain and where necessary expand the public transportation bus system servicing the Town of Burrillville.	VI.1.f.1 Encourage the Public Transit Authority to maintain and where possible expand the fixed route bus system servicing the Town of Burrillville.
		VI.1.f.2 Focus highest density development along existing fixed bus routes.
		VI.1.f.3 Maintain the townwide Para transit service to the elderly and handi-capped.
		VI.1.f.4 Review and evaluate system capacity and service eligibility requirements for Para transit service to ensure that levels of service are commensurate with needs.
	VI.1.g Increase the availability of trails, walkways and bikeways to promote alter-native transportation modes to Town residents and to enhance the tourist and recreational values of the Town.	VI.1.g.1 Require the consideration of trails, walkways and bikeways in federal, state, local and private development projects. Include townwide bicycle facility development in requests to the RIDOT in the Town's TIP.
		VI.1.g.2 In accordance with Section 10-6.3 of the Municipal Code governing the construction of subdivisions, require the design and installation of side-walks in all new subdivisions of land.

		VI.1.g.3 Consider establishing a bike path linking the villages in the Town with other planned regional bike paths. Where feasible, the old railroad right-of-way should be examined for feasibility as a location for portions of the bike path. In concept, the bike path would link Smithfield to Wallum Lake and connect eventually with other paths in northern Rhode Island and the Blackstone Valley National Heritage Corridor.
		VI.1.g.4 Require sidewalks to be constructed along new and reconstructed state and local roadways where there is an identified existing or projected need to furnish adequate and safe pedestrian movement to residential, commercial and industrial activities or community facilities such as libraries, schools, governmental buildings, places of worship and recreational facilities, with areas adjacent to schools receiving the highest priority.
		VI.1.g.5 Consider development of a village history theme focusing on historical attractions, village shops, inns, tours and other activities, capitalizing on a townwide and regional bikeway and/or trail system.
	VI.1.h Provide sufficient parking for employees and visitors at municipal offices to allow for normal routine governmental functions.	VI.1.h.1 Review proposals for new or expanded municipal office space to assure the provision of adequate parking to meet the requirements of the office.
	VI.1.i Furnish sufficient parking at the commercial, industrial and municipal centers to meet parking demand.	VI.1.i.1 Study the need for parking for commercial and governmental activities in Harrisville and for commercial activities in Pascoag.
		VI.1.i.2 Work with local businesses to develop parking supply and demand solutions.
		VI.1.i.3 Work with RIDOT and RIPTA to conduct a needs assessment and preliminary feasibility study of providing a Park & Ride lot in Burrillville.

		VI.1.i.4 Consider the utilization of off street parking to reduce traffic hazards along the heavily traveled route from Pascoag to Harrisville.
VI.2 To ensure that air quality in Burrillville meets ambient air quality standards and maintain air quality levels in the Town higher than these standards.	VI.2.a. Encourage measures which reduce air pollution levels	VI.2.a.1 Work with local business to implement air pollution reduction measures including, but not limited to, commuter services, park and ride lots, bus transit, carpool programs, bicycle programs, variable work hours.
		VI.2.a.2 Require that all new commercial and industrial developments meet or exceed national clean air standards.
		VI.2.a.3 Lobby adjacent communities to quickly address potential air quality problems within their boundaries.

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Chapter VII
Economic Development

CHAPTER VII
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The Economic Development Element "shall include the identification of economic development policies and strategies either existing or proposed by the municipality, in coordination with the land use plan element. Such policies should reflect local, regional and statewide concerns for the expansion and stabilization of the economic base and the promotion of quality employment opportunities. The policies and implementation techniques must be identified for inclusion in the implementation program element."[1]

Consistency with State Guide Plan Elements

This chapter is consistent with state guide plan elements 211 and 212, which respectively are the Economic Development Policies & Plan and Industrial Land Use Plan. Additionally, this chapter is sympathetic to state Land Use element 121, Land Use 2025, which is a new growth centers policy. In short, Burrillville is rather rural compared to other areas of Rhode Island and withholds a unique opportunity to maintain its rural appeal while growth occurs.

The Route 102 Development Management District and Village Planned Development Overlay Zone Ordinances represent the key zoning tools that will encourage economic development in a manner sympathetic to the existing village areas. As directed by the Burrillville Comprehensive Plan, (as approved 1998) the Town has crafted and implemented the above two ordinances in order to preserve Burrillville's village centers while maximizing the industrial development potential of Route 102. Several objectives of State Elements 211 & 212 to which this plan is consistent:

211 - Objectives

A – Provide at least 34,200 new employment opportunities for Rhode Island residents, by the year 2020, achieving and maintaining full employment and reducing underemployment;

B - Facilities - Work with economic development practitioners to encourage sustainable industrial and commercial development that advances the long-term economic and environmental well-being of the state, and is consistent with the State Land Use Policies and Plan, the Industrial Land Use Plan, and other applicable elements of the State Guide Plan;

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C – Maintain a business environment conducive to the birth, sustenance and growth of sustainable industry and commerce;

212 – 02 Goals

This chapter encourages the eight industry groups that typically site operations on industrial land: construction, manufacturing, transportation, communications, utilities, wholesale trade, finance, insurance and real estate (FIRE), and services.

1. Place sufficient land in reserve to sustain economic growth without compromising the state's quality of life.

2. Employ "mixed use" as a strategy for industrial land use wherever economically and environmentally feasible, using industrial performance standards to commingle related industries while at the same time protecting neighboring uses.

212 - 03 Policies

D. Zoning

1. Encourage cities and towns to make greater use of modern zoning tools, such as performance standards and mixed-use districts.

G. Marketing and Developing Sites

1. Encourage the EDC to continue the marketing of sites statewide, emphasizing the principle of "matching the plant to the land" (the client's needs to the property), and coordinating with local and regional marketing efforts.

The economic development element of the Comprehensive Plan must consider the following:

- Requirements of the projected population for goods and services;
- Requirements of the projected population for employment opportunities;
- Ability of local infrastructure to provide facilities and services essential to the operation of economic enterprises;
- Effect of economic development on the region and on neighboring uses of land in the municipality;
- Availability of suitable raw sites and the types of economic development best suited for such sites, taking into account soils capabilities, sensitive environmental factors and local or regional infrastructure;

- Availability of existing building space and type of economic development best suited to such space, with due consideration for compatibility with surrounding land uses;
- Possible incentives and assistance to expand economic development.

The condition of the local economy is one of the key factors influencing the quality of life for Burrillville's citizens. The availability of good-paying jobs, for example, affects one's ability to pay for housing, taxes and other goods and services.

A healthy economy is characterized by a low and stable unemployment rate, economic growth which is proportional to population growth, a strong tax base and jobs with good wages and opportunities for advancement. On the other hand, an economically depressed area is often characterized by a high unemployment rate, low wages, poor community facilities and services (people unwilling to pay high taxes), lack of shopping opportunities and, in general, a low standard of living.

Economic indicators evaluated in this chapter include income levels, poverty, commuting patterns, employment and unemployment characteristics, availability of industrially zoned land, the local property tax base and shopping opportunities. Each of these indicators is judged by comparative means to determine the relative soundness of the local economy. Burrillville's economy is considered healthy by meeting the following criteria:

- Income levels equal regional averages;
- Poverty levels are below average;
- Commuting patterns indicate an adequate number of employment opportunities within a reasonable distance;
- Employment is concentrated in stable economic sectors which pay relatively good wages;
- The unemployment rate is below the State average;
- The property tax rate is moderate and in keeping with the ability of residents to pay; and,
- There are adequate shopping opportunities for local residents.

Data used in this chapter is from a number of sources, including the Rhode Island Department of Economic Development, the Rhode Island Department of Employment and Training, the

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, the U.S. Department of Commerce, the Rhode Island Department of Administration, Division of Planning, and the Burrillville Tax Assessor and Finance Department.

VII.1 Existing Conditions, Trends and Projections

The following data profiles Burrillville's economic condition through various indicators, including: labor force, education and income levels, occupations of residents, employment opportunities and projections, commercial and industrial development, and retail sales trends. Fiscal data is also presented, including revenues and expenditures, tax rates, and tax base data.

Labor Force - The total labor force in Burrillville increased 35.0 percent from 1980 to 2009, as shown in Table VII-1, from 6,471 to 9,960.

Table VII-1
Labor Force, Participation Rate and Employment, 1980, 1985, 1989, 2000

Year	Total Pop.	Total Employed Persons	Total Unemployed Persons	Unemp. Rate	Overall LF Partic. Rate	Total Labor Force
1980	13,164	6,089	382	5.9	49.2	6,471
1985	14,693	7,188	353	4.7	51.3	7,541
1989	16,230	7,720	276	3.5	49.3	7,998
2000	15,796	8,069	497	5.8	54.2	8,566
2009	15,796	8,741	1,219	12	63.0	9,960
Percent Change 80-09'	16.6	30.3	68.6	50.8	21.9	35.0

Note: Total population in 1985 - RI Dept. of Administration, Division of Planning. Total population in 1989 - U.S. Census of Population.
Sources: http://www.dlt.ri.gov/lmi/laus/town/burrillville.htm, RI Dept. of Administration, Division of Planning. RI Dept. of Economic Development.

The percent of total population actively participating in the labor force is currently 63 percent. Employment increased at a rate higher than population growth, indicating a healthy employment base.

Education - Approximately 80.3 percent of the Burrillville population over age 25 had completed high school and 26.0 percent had completed some form of college as of 2000. Statewide, 88.0 percent of residents over age 25 in the region had completed high school as of 2000, and 32.6 percent had completed some form of college as of 2000.

Occupations - As shown on Table VII-2, the most substantial occupation of Burrillville in 2007 was Health Care & Social Assistance (507). The second largest occupational category within Burrillville was Accommodation & Food Services at (418).

Table VII-2
Occupational Categories of Employed Persons, 1990-2000

	2002	2007
Total, Private Sector	2,318	2,319
Construction	227	278
Manufacturing	578	380
Wholesale Trade	114	42
Retail Trade	162	164
Transportation & Warehousing	*	13
Information	*	24
Financial Activities	31	33
Professional & Technical Services	48	54
Administrative & Waste Services	26	85
Educational Services	*	32
Health Care & Social Assistance	531	507
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	42	52
Accommodation & Food Services	331	418
Other Services	98	176
All Other Employment	81	61

Source: http://www.dlt.ri.gov/lmi/pdf/stateofstate.pdf

The Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training forecast the largest number of job openings Statewide through 1995 will be in the Service Sector.

Income Levels - In 2000, median family income in Burrillville was $58,979. Median family incomes for other towns in the region are as follows: Glocester - $62,679, North Smithfield - $67,331, Woonsocket - $38,353. The Statewide median family income in 1990 was $52,781.

Employment comparisons between the Town and State – Table VII-3 illustrates the state trends and forecasts in employment by major job category from 2000 to 2010.

According to Table VII-2, the businesses employing the largest number of employees in Burrillville since 1980 have been in the manufacturing, retail and wholesale trade, government and service industries. This trend is expected to mirror that of the state, including a rise in service and FIRE industries while manufacturing is expected to decrease.

Table VII-3

2000 - 2010
State Employment Projections by
Major Industry Sector
Download (**xls**) (**pdf**)

Industry Title	*2000 Estimated Employment*	*2010 Projected Employment*	*Numeric Change*	*Percent Change*
Total All Industries	503,390	553,533	50,143	10.0%
Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing	3,479	4,124	645	18.5%
Mining	223	267	44	19.7%
Construction	18,339	21,221	2,882	15.7%
Manufacturing	71,858	61,905	-9,953	-13.9%
Transportation and Public Utilities	20,810	22,997	2,187	10.5%
Wholesale and Retail Trade	109,268	120,143	10,875	10.0%
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	29,046	35,301	6,255	21.5%
Self-Employed and Unpaid Family Workers	32,574	33,025	451	1.4%
Services	187,602	223,280	35,678	19.0%
Government	30,191	31,270	1,079	3.6%

Source: 2000, Rhode Island Department of Labor & Training
Source: http://www.dlt.ri.gov/lmi/proj/majorindproj.htm

Manufacturing has historically been the mainstay of employment in the Town, and continues to remain an important contributor to the Town's economic base. However, the Health Care and Social Assistance Sector is now the largest private sector employer. (see Table VI 2.)

Government has been the largest employer for the past twenty years, and is projected to continue to be the largest employer in Burrillville through the year 2000. While manufacturing was the second largest employment category in 2000, it lost nearly 500 jobs since 1970. Projections indicate that manufacturing employment will continue to decline, but at a slower rate, through the year 2010. Burrillville is expected to parallel the RI job projections and gain FIRE and Service jobs over the next ten years. The aforementioned two job sectors are linked to a continued growth in Burrillville's residential real estate market.

In addition to these private firms, the State of Rhode Island employs approximately 340 people in Burrillville, most of who work at Zambarano Hospital.

Commercial and Industrial Construction - New commercial and industrial construction is an indicator of shifts in the Town's economic condition. Through the past ten years, commercial and industrial building has been limited. The Town has worked to extend limited sewer and water service areas to serve the new Burrillville Commerce Park and Clear River Drive park, both located on Route 102. The Town has chosen to confine the areas zoned for commercial and industrial activity along Route 102 to preserve and enhance the light commercial/retail development within the Town's village centers (see Attached Route 102 Development Management District Overlay Zone Plan, Feb., 2003).

Recently, the Town has worked feverishly to retain existing manufacturing companies, such as Daniele Prosciutto, Inc. Nearly 250 acres of General Industrial Zoned property was purchased by the Town for future industrial development. Other sites that offer future commercial space to serve Burrillville's residential market include:

- The Stillwater Mill complex – Once, an underutilized historic mill complex consisting of seven buildings has been transformed into a new town center for Harrisville. Phase IV of Master Plan calls for light retail and service uses that can compliment surrounding residential uses.
- The 70,000-sf mill at the end of Oakland School Street was severely damaged by fire in 1995. The remains of the building are in the process of being demolished. The building was located on a 32-acre site, which could accommodate additional buildings and necessary parking in the future.

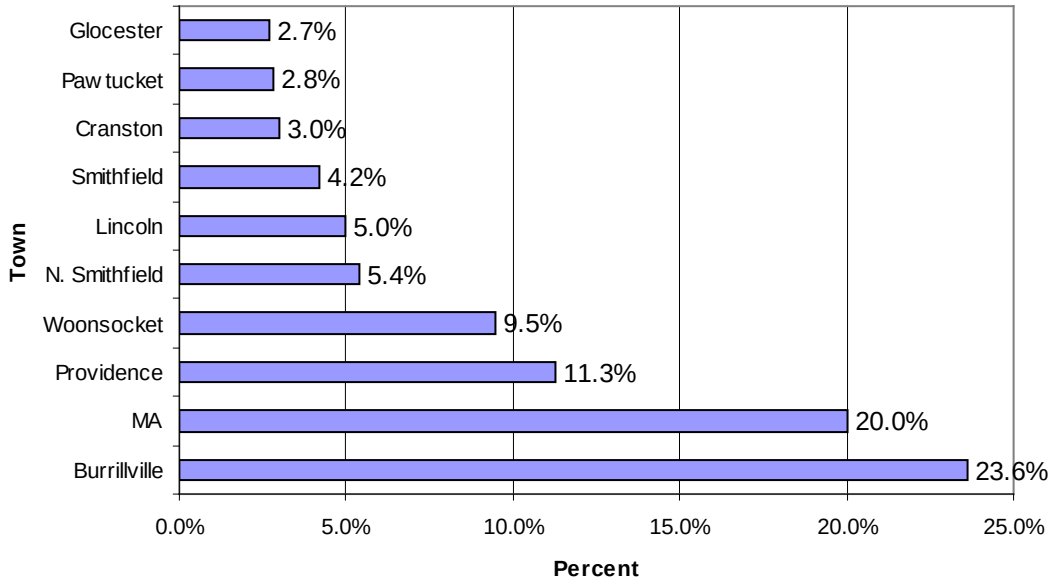
Journey to Work - In 2000, most Burrillville residents commuted to jobs within Burrillville and Massachusetts, 23 and 20 percent respectively, followed by Providence, 11 percent, and Woonsocket, at 9 percent. (see Figure VII-1). North Smithfield, Lincoln, Smithfield, Cranston, Pawtucket and Glocester rounded out destinations greater than one percent. Considering these travel patterns, there appears to be sufficient job opportunities for local residents within a reasonable commuting distance of 30 minutes (i.e., the mean travel time to work for Burrillville residents is 29.8.

Retail Sales - Retail sales are another indicator of the Town's economic base. Figure VII-2, shows relatively steady sales for the years between 1990 and 1999.[2] Between 1990 and 1992,

[2] http://www.riedc.com/files/BURRILLVILLE_MONO_SHEET.pdf

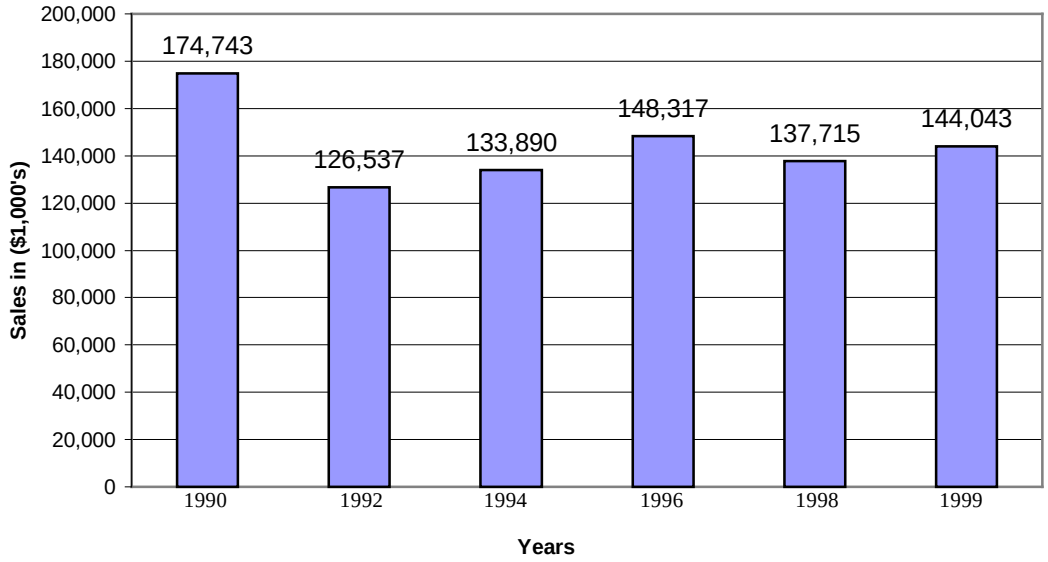
retail sales in the Town decreased significantly, which was likely due to Rhode Island's RISDIC (Rhode Island Share Deposit Insurance Corporation) credit union crisis of the time.

Figure VII-1
2000 Journey to Work for Burrillville Residents



Source: http://www.dlt.ri.gov/lmi/pdf/commute.pdf

Figure VII-2
Gross Retail Sales in Burrillville, 1990 - 1999



Source: http://www.riedc.com/files/BURRILLVILLE_MONO_SHEET.pdf

Existing Economic Development - The following types of economic development currently exist in Burrillville:

- Industrial development in existing mill buildings;
- Industrial development in new buildings along Route 102 or in the industrial park;
- Retail, service and residential development centered in Pascoag, Harrisville, Oakland, Mapleville, and Glendale (See Route 102 Development Management Plan, February 2003);
- Home occupations at scattered sites;
- Recreation-related businesses;
- Large private utilities, including gas and electric companies and associated distribution and transmission lines; and,
- Tourism-related uses.

Burrillville's economic development history has revolved around agriculture, and the mills and mill villages. Agriculture as a viable economic activity in the Town has fallen, as agricultural lands submit to development pressures, and the nature of the farming business changes. Many of the Town's mill buildings built in the 1800's and early 1900's remain today, and house various manufacturing and warehousing establishments.

In an attempt to increase economic activity in Town -as well as dictate the location of such development- Burrillville has close ties to the New England Economic Development Services and has adopted an overlay zone for Route 102 that prohibits traffic intensive uses along Route 102. The Route 102 Development Management Plan works in tandem with Chapter V, Housing and associated Village Planned Development – Land Development Project Ordinance to nurture Burrillville's existing village centers (i.e., Pascoag, Harrisville, Oakland, Mapleville) or establish new centers (i.e., Nasonville) for the sake of preserving the Town's overall rural character.

The Town is a member of the Northern Rhode Island Chamber of Commerce. The Town's Industrial Foundation was created specifically to develop the Burrillville Industrial Park, located on Route 100, and currently functions to facilitate the development of individual parcels for industrial purposes. The Town has also developed the Burrillville Commerce Park,

located on Route 102, which is now home to Daniele Prosciutto Inc.'s $26 million food manufacturing facility. With the Town's recent renewed interest in economic activity, the Town has been working closely to help facilitate the Foundation's efforts. Community Development Block Grants have also been used to improve the Town's economic status; for example, CDBG funds have been used to expand the Town's infrastructure as well as seed private redevelopment within the Village of Pascoag.

Zoning for Economic Development - The Town has one zoning district which permits commercial development, and two which permit industrial development, shown in Table VII-4. Other uses may be permitted by special exception. As part of the Route 102 planning effort, several spot zone changes (HC *1 and GC –1) were eradicated to further "clean up" the town's zoning map and bring it into conformance with this plan. Additionally, strip zone Highway Commercial (HC) was rezoned to R-40 in areas adjacent to R-40 to eliminate the potential for strip commercial development along Route 102. All remaining HC was rezoned to General Commercial (GC) with mixed-use buildings being allowed by right to encourage buildings sympathetic to the villages historic character. Allowing mixed-uses by right will act to discourage the potential for big box retail development, which, if allowed, would adversely affect the service and retail sectors of the town's villages centers, thereby violating the many goals and policies of this plan which propose to redevelop existing villages. Many of the larger commercialized chains will consider scaled down outlets that 'fit in' with historic neighborhoods.

Table VII-4
Non-residential Zoning Districts and Uses Permitted by Right

District	District Name & Location(s)	Uses Permitted by Right
GC	General Commercial Pascoag, Harrisville and along Route 102	Commercial nursery with retail outlet Conservation area, wildlife refuge, reforestation area or wood lot Nursing or convalescent home, home for the aged or indigent School conducted as a private gainful business for teaching such subjects as dancing, singing, music etc. Rest home or nursing home Municipal or government building (except penal) Fire or police station Public recreation hall Professional office in a dwelling (for use by a resident of the premises) Professional office Temporary real estate (one year renewal) Bank, credit union or office building Office for wholesale or manufacturing use Lunchrooms or restaurant not including entertainment Tavern or cafe (no entertainment) Theater or concert hall Personal convenience service, including but not limited to the following: barbershop, shoe repair, cleanser, laundry pickup Specialty services, including but not limited to the following: printing and photostat shop, photo studio, interior-decorating shop, tailor, catering services, etc. Radio or television studio Vehicle rental agency General retailing activities, including but not limited to the following: grocery, specialty goods, drug, hardware, variety, general merchandise... Package liquor store Retail outlet for a wholesale or storage use Laundry or dry cleaning plant Accessory use customarily incidental to a use permitted in the district and located on the same site Mixed-use Buildings
GC	General Commercial Bronco's Highway in Nasonville and Glendale, Bronco's Highway and Lapham Farm Road, Pascoag downtown, sites in Harrisville and Oakland	Commercial nursery with retail outlet Conservation area, wildlife refuge, reforestation area or wood lot Hotel Motel Church or other places of worship Clubs, lodges, social and community center buildings provided that they are nonprofit organizations School conducted as a private gainful business for teaching such subjects as dancing, singing, music etc. Charitable institution (no commercial activity) Hospital Municipal or government building (except penal) Mixed-use Buildings

Table VII-4 cont.
Non-residential Zoning Districts and Uses Permitted by Right

District	District Name & Location(s)	Uses Permitted by Right
GC	General Commercial Bronco's Highway in Nasonville and Glendale, Bronco's Highway and Lapham Farm Road, Pascoag downtown, sites in Harrisville and Oakland	Fire or police station Public recreation hall Professional office in a dwelling (for use by a resident of the premises) Professional office Temporary real estate (one year renewal) Bank, credit union or office building Office for wholesale or manufacturing use Lunchrooms or restaurant not including entertainment Lunchrooms or restaurant including entertainment Tavern or cafe (no entertainment) Nightclub Indoor commercial recreation Drive-in restaurant Personal convenience service, including but not limited to the following: barbershop, shoe repair, cleanser, laundry pickup Specialty services, including but not limited to the following: printing and photostat shop, photo studio, interior-decorating shop, tailor, catering services, etc. Mortuary or funeral home Radio or television studio Veterinary office or animal hospital Vehicle rental agency General retailing activities, including but not limited to the following: grocery, specialty goods, drug, hardware, variety, general merchandise... Package liquor store Auto or truck sales in a building (including repairs) Commercial off-street parking facility Rail or motor freight terminal Rail or bus passenger station Retail outlet for a wholesale or storage use Laundry or dry cleaning plant Accessory use customarily incidental to a use permitted in the district and located on the same site Mixed-use Buildings

Table VII-4 cont.
Non-residential Zoning Districts and Uses Permitted by Right

District	District Name & Location(s)	Uses Permitted by Right
LI	Limited Industrial Sites on, Route 7 at Bronco's Highway and off Tarkiln Road in Mapleville	Storage of equipment and materials used in and for the agricultural uses permitted in this section Conservation area, wildlife refuge, reforestation area or wood lot Municipal or government building (except penal) Fire or police station Temporary real estate (one year renewal) Bank, credit union or office building Office for wholesale or manufacturing use Lunchrooms or restaurant not including entertainment Vehicle rental agency Auto or truck sales in a building (including repairs) Auto or truck sales in an open lot Trailer sales and service Commercial off-street parking facility Rail or motor freight terminal Rail or bus passenger station Wholesale business and storage of nonflammable and nonexplosive material in a building Open lot storage of new building material and machinery Retail outlet for a wholesale or storage use Laundry or dry cleaning plant Auto body or paint shop Blacksmith, machine or welding shop The manufacture, compounding, processing or packaging or bakery goods, candy, cosmetics, drugs, food products (not including meat, fish, yeast, vinegar, and the rendering of fats and oils) and other similar operations The manufacture or assembly of articles using bone, shell, cellophane, leather, precious metals or stones, wood, textiles or tobacco and other previously prepared products The manufacture or assembly from prepared materials of musical instruments, clocks, toys, novelties, electrical appliances, electronic devices, light sheet metal products, machine tools and machinery (not requiring the use of drop hammers or punch presses of over one hundred tons) and other products Boat storage and repair Retail outlet for an industrial use Accessory use customarily incidental to a use permitted in the district and located on the same site

Table VII-4 cont.
Non-residential Zoning Districts and Uses Permitted by Right

District	District Name & Location(s)	Uses Permitted by Right
GI	General Industrial Sites on Route 102 north of Lapham Farm Road, South Main Street, along the Pascoag River north of Central Avenue, Route 7 at the North Smithfield Tow line.	Storage of equipment and materials used in and for the agricultural uses permitted in this section Conservation area, wildlife refuge, reforestation area or wood lot Municipal or government building (except penal) Fire or police station Temporary real estate (one year renewal) Office for wholesale or manufacturing use Lunchrooms or restaurant not including entertainment Vehicle rental agency Wholesale business and storage of nonflammable and nonexplosive material in a building Open lot storage of new building material and machinery Retail outlet for a wholesale or storage use Auto body or paint shop Blacksmith, machine or welding shop The manufacture, compounding, processing or packaging or bakery goods, candy, cosmetics, drugs, food products (not including meat, fish, yeast, vinegar, and the rendering of fats and oils) and other similar operations The manufacture or assembly of articles using bone, shell, cellophane, leather, precious metals or stones, wood, textiles or tobacco and other previously prepared products The manufacture or assembly from prepared materials of musical instruments, clocks, toys, novelties, electrical appliances, electronic devices, light sheet metal products, machine tools and machinery (not requiring the use of drop hammers or punch presses of over one hundred tons) and other products The manufacture or compounding or acetylene gas, alcohol products, ammonia products, bleach, carbon black, chemicals, pryoxlin or plastics, potash, soap sodium compounds and similar processes of manufacture and compounding Processes involving fission The manufacture of automobiles and trucks, boats, machinery or machine tools, bricks, tile, cement, terra-cotta or cinder block The smoking, canning or curing of meat and fish products Processes involving fusion Textile dyeing or finishing Boat storage and repair Retail outlet for an industrial use Accessory use customarily incidental to a use permitted in the district and located on the same site

Table VII-5
Characteristics of Existing Industrially-Zoned Land
Burrillville, Rhode Island

Site No.	Location	Description	Total Acres	Ind. Acres	Other Acres	Vacant Acres	Utilities
1	South Main St., 3/4 mile south of Lapham Rd.	Burrillville Industrial Park. 80% occupied, no apparent constraints to remaining 20%. Site has a 10,000 square foot spec building. High potential.	83	64	4	15	Electric Water Sewer
2	Rte. 102 between Central Ave. and Lapham Farm Road	Burrillville Commerce Park (Town-owned) Largest industrial zone in Town, home to Daniele Prosciutto, Inc. Soil conditions are generally favorable, although there is some stoniness. The major impediment to development is lack of natural gas. Site is served by public sewer and water. High potential.	232	0	0	232	Electric Water Sewer
3	South of intersection of Tarkiln and Cooper Road	Boliden Metech, Inc.	6	4	0	2	Electric Sewer
4	Intersection of Tarkiln and Cooper Roads	Boliden Metech, Inc.	5	2	0	3	Electric Sewer
5	Northwest intersection of new Rte. 102 and Central Avenue	Clear River Industrial Park High potential.	50	0	0	50	Electric Water
6	Joslin Road between Spring Lake Road and Rte. 102	Bruins Plastic, Inc.	3	1	0	2	Electric
7	Douglas Pike 1/4 mile south of Tarkiln Road	Supreme Mid-Atlantic, Inc.	10	6	4	0	Electric Nasonville Water District Service

Source: June 2004, Burrillville Planning Dept.

Industrial Land - There are 477+/- acres of industrially zoned property in the Town of Burrillville, 1.3 percent of the Town's total acreage (36,670+/- acres). Thirty four percent of the acreage is developed for industrial uses. The remaining acreage is vacant, and a challenge to develope due to environmental and utility constraints, as noted in Table VII-3. Most of this property is located in the Clear River Industrial Park, various mill buildings, Burrillville

Commerce Park, and in the Burrillville Industrial Park. Table VII-5 indicates the characteristics of existing industrially zoned land, and Map VII-1 shows the approximate location of each site.

Although it would appear that there are a significant number of vacant parcels in Burrillville that are zoned for commercial or industrial purposes, most of these parcels can, in fact, not be used for such purposes because of the location of the aquifer and the Town's Aquifer Overlay Ordinance. The Branch River Basin aquifer lies under many of the Town's major thoroughfares. Additionally, similar to many mill towns, many of Burrillville's industrial areas are in close proximity to the Clear River (a surface expression of the aquifer). The Aquifer Overlay District restricts and often prohibits commercial and industrial uses in certain areas. As the Town is trying to balance the needs of water protection with the desire to attract more industry and thereby stabilize its residential tax rate, the Town must be realistic about the areas zoned for commercial and industrial activities.

Most of the properties zoned for industrial purposes are built out, i.e., Turex, Metech, Bruins Plastic, Atlas Pallet, the cement manufacturer on the northern end of Route 102. The following are properties zoned for industrial purposes, which are a minimum of 5 acres::

Plat-Lot	Acres	Constraints
178-5	18.3	Aquifer Zone, Clear River Dr. is not a Town-accepted road (Industrial Foundation - vacant)
179-103	16.7	Aquifer Zone, Clear River Dr. is not a Town-accepted road (Clear River Industrial Park)
149-15	20	Aquifer Zone, Superfund site (Supreme Mid-Atlantic, Inc.)
212-1	287	Some wetlands (Burrillville Commerce Park)

Areas that are currently zoned for commercial uses, are not in an Aquifer zone, and are over 5 acres in size are as follows:

Plat-Lot	Acres	Current Zoning	Location
231-23	5.1	GC	Bronco's Highway
213-7	18.8	GI	Bronco's Highway

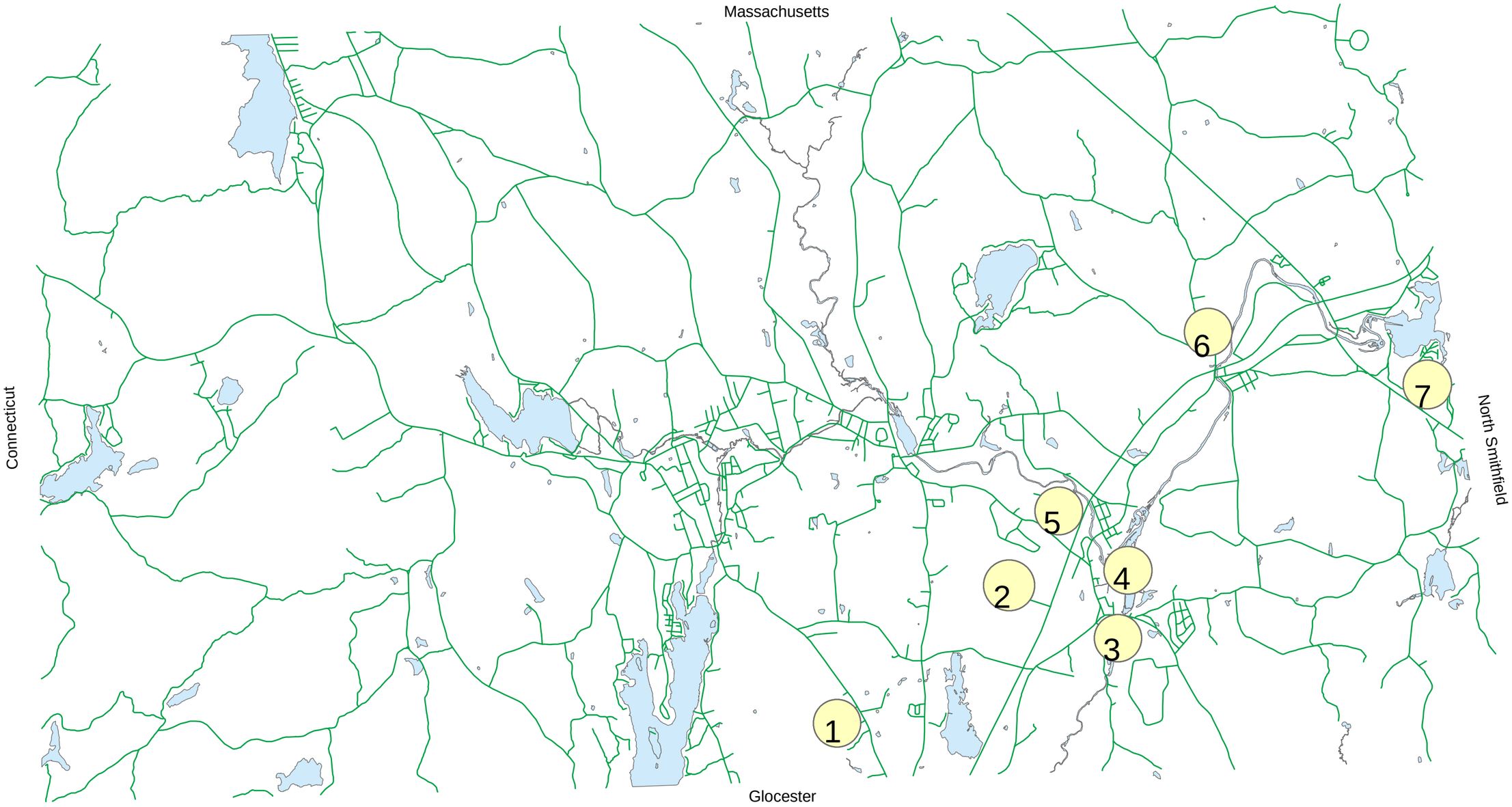
Economic Development Program Elements - The following organizations, boards, commissions and individuals are involved in some manner in the economic development process in Burrillville:

- Town Manager - guidance;
- Town Council - guidance;
- Planning Board - review of plans;
- Zoning Board - if variance is necessary;
- Town Planner - guides developer through regulatory process, reviews plans, advises Planning Board, prepares grants applications;
- Local utilities - sewer, water, electric;
- Industrial Development Commission - site availability;
- Northern Rhode Island ; and,
- Downtown Pascoag & Neighborhood Association.

Economic Development Strengths - Burrillville has certain characteristics which should be considered advantages in promoting economic development, among others, as follows:

- Natural and cultural resource base - large amount of public open space, ponds and lakes, scenic areas, historic character;
- Existing mill buildings which could support certain types of economic development;
- High quality of life - good schools, strong housing stock;
- Availability of business/industrial zoned land;
- Availability of some industrial sites in the Burrillville Commerce Park;
- Select areas of Town are sewered;
- Selected areas served by private water systems;
- Inexpensive land costs in comparison to other areas in the regional market;
- Convenient access to Route 102, an important regional arterial highway;
- Large tracts of undeveloped land;

Locations of Industrial Sites



Source: Town of Burrillville Planning & Economic Development Dept., June 2004; Arcview 9.0.

1 - Burrillville Industrial Park
2 - Burrillville Commerce Park
3 - Boliden Metech, Inc.
4 - Remington Lumber site
5 - Clear River Industrial Park
6 - Bruin Plastics, Inc.
7 - Supreme Mid Atlantic, Inc.

Map 1

0 0.3 0.6 1.2 Miles

Legend

roads

water

- Potential for hydropower;
- Presence of large utility companies, and electric, and associated distribution and transmission lines; and,
- Available and diverse workforce.

The Town should target economic development activities which can take advantage of these benefits, such as tourism-related activities, mixed commercial and industrial uses in existing mill buildings, incubator businesses, home occupations and cottage industries, and recreational-related businesses.

Constraints/Barriers to Economic Development - Along with its advantages, the Town has certain constraints and barriers to economic development:

- Geographical position of Town in terms of major employment centers;
- Limited traffic circulation system, particularly in terms of regional connections;
- No Townwide water system - working with the fire district system is difficult;
- Natural gas line utility expansion is limited due to lack of resources.
- Central business district in decline, showing signs of public and private disinvestment –due to nearby regionalized retail development;
- Poor regional development climate;

Land Considerations for Economic Development - Site attributes which are favorable/unfavorable for siting commercial and industrial facilities are varied depending upon the type of use. They include, but are not limited to, the following:

Favorable Conditions	**Unfavorable Conditions**
Favorable topography - no steep slopes	Slopes greater than 10-15 percent
Good soil conditions relative to ability to support building and road construction, suitable percolation, low potential for erosion	Poor soil conditions - high water tables, erosion-prone, unsuitable for construction purposes, etc.
No or limited wetland areas	Presence of wetlands
Depth to water table of 10'+	Depth to water table less than 10'
Depth to bedrock of 10'+	Depth to bedrock less than 10', outcroppings
Absence of floodplain	Presence of floodplain
Absence of surface water, eg. streams, ponds	Presence of surface water bodies

Removed from groundwater reservoir and recharge areas.	Location within groundwater reservoir or recharge areas.
Good access to major roads, proximity to highway interchange, strong system-wide connections	Location away from major roadways, travel on local roads, multiple curb cuts, poor system-wide connections
Availability of parking	Limited area for parking
Available, adequate public sewer lines/treatment capacity	Lack of sewer tie in
Available, adequate water lines	Lack of water service
Compatibility with surrounding land uses	Surrounding area includes residential or other low intensity land uses

These are some of the elements that were considered by the Route 102 Study Committee while drafting the Route 102 Development Management District Plan in addition to reviewing the Town's zoning ordinance in terms of its provision for commercial and industrial development. In addition to site considerations, other attributes taken under consideration that are important from the community's point of view for commercial and industrial development include:

- Employment opportunities;
- Tax base diversification;
- Visual impacts; and,
- Shopping opportunities.

Fiscal Resources

Data used in this section was obtained primarily from the Burrillville Assessing, Treasury and Finance Departments.

Tax Revenues - For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2003, total revenues received in Burrillville were $37,800,652. The composition of this revenue was as follows:

Table VII-6
Burrillville Revenue Sources
FYE 2002 - 2003

Revenue Source	***FYE 2002***	***FYE 2003***	***% Change***
Property Taxes	$19,948,671	$20,241,627	1.47%
Intergovernmental Revenue	$16,268,399	$16,631,165	2.23%
Departmental Revenue	$462,811	$798,498	72.53%
Interest Income	$177,111	$129,362	(26.96%)
Total Revenues	**$36,856,922**	**$37,800,652**	**2.56%**

Source: Annual Financial Report, June 30, 2003

Burrillville, as with most other Rhode Island communities, has historically relied upon property taxes and State grants for the bulk of its revenues.

Property Taxes - Burrillville levies the same annual property tax rate on all categories of land use. Taxes are based on the assessed value of property. Property tax rates (tax per thousand dollars assessed valuation) have changed as follows:

Table VII-7
Burrillville Tax Rates
1995 to 2003

Year	Tax Rate
1995	18.80
1996	19.00
1997	19.60
1998	20.50
1999	20.80
2000	21.20
2001	22.00
2002	18.90
2003	18.90

The dramatic change in the tax rate in 2002 was due to a revaluation which reduced the rate by approximately 14.1 percent. Although the rate was reduced by 14.1 percent, assessed property values were increased in order to more closely approximate market values. The Town is mandated to undertake another revaluation in 2004, which it has, however, the revaluation was not yet complete as of this plan's compilation.

Equalized tax rates (effective tax rates) are a measure of the local property tax burden and can be compared between municipalities since they are based on comparable property values which adjusts for the date a municipality last revalued its property. Burrillville's equalized tax rate has remained relatively consistent through the 1990's, suggesting that tax burden on property has remained fairly static. Based on the most recent data available for comparison, Burrillville ranks 25th out of 39 municipalities in equalized tax rate, with a 2002 rate of 18.84 (1 = high, 39 = low). For comparison, Glocester ranked 13th with a rate of 22.11, Woonsocket ranked 5th with a rate of 26.72 and North Smithfield ranked 17th with a rate of 20.80.

Real and Personal Property - The total assessed value of real property (land and buildings) in Burrillville, as of December 31, 2003 was $1,417,651,885. The residential component of that was approximately $1,184,266,374, including one family residences, two family residences, apartments, residential condominiums and vacant residential land. Table VII-8 illustrates recent trends in contributions to the tax roll for real and personal property. All real property sectors remained relatively constant in their effective contribution to the tax roll since from 2001 to 2004.

Table VII-8
Sources of Tax Revenue, Fiscal Years 2001 – 2004

Year	2001	2002	2003	2004
Residential	76.24	75.00	75.68	79.82
Comm./Ind.	8.69	8.08	7.25	5.96
Utilities	3.56	4.51	na	na
Motor Veh.	11.11	11.63	11.47	10.90
Other	.38	.78	na	na
Tangible	na	na	5.60	3.32
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

Source: www.muni-info.state.ri.us/newpage3.htm Town of Burrillville, Assessor, July, 2004

Residential contribution continues to increase and outpace commercial/industrial contributions, a trend that is exacerbated by powerful market forces imposed from Boston's housing market inflating the price of local housing stock. Motor vehicles remained relatively constant over the past four years. Figure VII-4 illustrates the distribution of contributions to the tax roll for 2004, with residential uses contributing 80 percent of the total revenue.

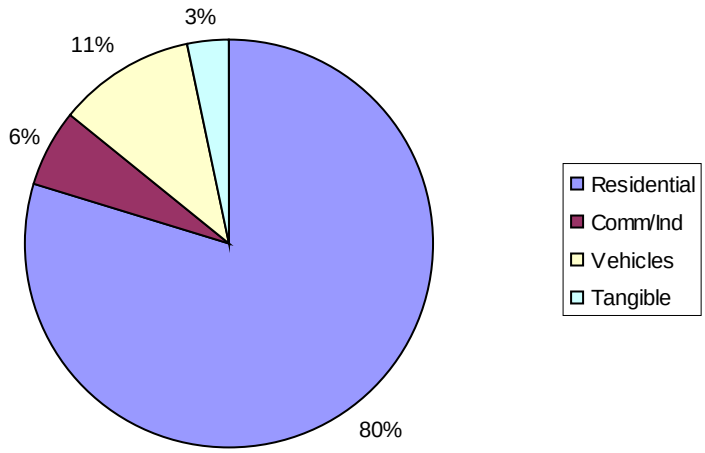
Revenue Sources - In fiscal year 2003, total Town revenues for Burrillville were $37,800,652. Locally generated revenues accounted for 56 percent of this total, with the remaining 44 percent contributed by federal and state sources. The largest portion of locally generated revenues generated is from property taxes, which contributed approximately 42.56 percent or about $16,090,403 of the Town's total revenues, while state aid contributed 43.99 percent or $16,631,165.

As indicated previously, state government funding accounted for the largest percentage of total Town revenues. This includes revenue sharing, highways, public assistance, library aid, school aid, school debt, fire and police aid and utility tax money. High reliance on state or

federal aid to fund the budget generally describes a "poor" community, while low amounts indicate "wealthy communities," and Burrillville falls between these categories.

Revenues earned from interest on taxes and invested funds accounted for only .82 percent of total 2003 revenues. Miscellaneous charges for Town services, including Town Clerk's fees, Planning and Building Department fees etc., provided 2.1 percent of total revenues.

Figure VII-4
Tax Base Contributions, 2004
Burrillville, Rhode Island



Source:Burrillville Assessing Department, July, 2004.

Table VII-9 presents property tax revenues as a percentage of total revenues for years 1999 to 2003. Property tax as a percentage of total revenues shows a decreasing trend, which will likely continue until the next revaluation.

Table VII-9
Revenues and Property Tax 1999 to 2003

Year	Total Revenues	Property Tax	Tax as a Percent of Revenues
1999	31,518,923	15,233,664	48.33
2000	32,640,926	15,324,439	46.95
2001	34,736,309	15,793,364	45.47
2002	36,856,992	16,039,545	43.52
2003	37,800,652	16,090,403	42.57

Source: Town of Burrillville Assessing Department, June, 2004

Municipal Expenditures - Burrillville is typical of smaller size suburban communities regarding municipal budget expenditures in that the majority of expenditures are for the school system. Table VII-10 shows trends in budget expenditures for major categories. It indicates an increasing general government budget, and a increase in the school system budget as a percentage of the total budget. As of FYE 02' and 03', the largest increase was in general services, at 23.83 percent Total expenditures increase .35 percent.

Table VII-10
Municipal and School Department Expenditures
by Service Category, 2002 and 2003

Expenditures	*FYE 2002 ($)*	*FYE 2003 ($)*	*% Change*
Education	22,055,000	22,540,000	2.20
General Government	1,112,139	1,248,979	12.30
Public Safety	1,796,314	1,792,755	(.20)
Public Works	846,938	953,132	12.54
Recreation & Social Services	167,649	169,053	.84
Special Appropriations	310,717	330,477	6.36
Debt Service	5,613,605	4,805,587	(14.39)
General Services	1,000,036	1,233,861	23.38
Capital Improvements	1,576,679	1,164,996	(26.11)
Insurance & Benefits	1,245,389	1,404,007	12.74
Other Financing (Sources) Uses-Transfer from Fund Balance	(1,707,762)	(2,418,791)	
Net Bond Refunding Activity	0	(1,996)	

Transfer In	0	(801,756)	
Transfer In/Out	(300,000)	1,759,298	
Transfer Out – Wastewater Treatment	87,669	0	
Transfer Out – Special Revenue	1,492,238	1,239,337	
Total Expenditures (Net of Transfers)	**35,296,611**	**35,418,939**	**0.35**
Excess of Revenues over Expenditures – Budgetary Basis	**1,891,563**	**2,381,713**	**25.91**

VII.2 Economic Development Issues

The following are identified as issues relating to economic development in Burrillville:

1. The existing private, three-district water system places limitations on the ability to expand water service for commercial and/or industrial growth.
2. Over 70 percent of respondents to the citizen survey indicated that it was important to encourage the development of shops, stores and restaurants. The high percentage of respondents supportive of future development of shops, stores and restaurants is borne out by the number of respondents mentioning the lack of retail stores as one of aspects of Town they liked the least.

3. Most respondents would prefer that the location for future retail development be along Route 102 (48 percent), while 16 percent felt it should be located in Pascoag center. Other locations mentioned for future retail development included Route 100, the villages, along East Avenue, and combinations of Pascoag center, Harrisville center and Route 102.

4. In the citizen survey, office development was viewed as less important than retail development, with over one-half of respondents indicating that encouraging such development was unimportant. Respondents felt that if office development were to occur, it should be directed toward Route 102. The reasons for this lack of interest in office development appear to be related primarily to the perception that office development does not contribute as much to the tax base as industrial and retail development, and that there are available office spaces in Pascoag which have been vacant for long periods of time.

5. Seven of ten people interviewed in the citizen survey indicated that the Town should encourage development of manufacturing businesses. Respondents felt that manufacturing development should be located along Route 102, in the existing industrial park, in Pascoag center or along Route 100.

6. A number of business and industrial uses have developed as nonconforming uses in residential zoning districts in the Town over the years, creating concerns for adjacent property owners such as loss of visual quality and increased potential for pollution of wells, etc.

7. Business and industry should develop in a manner consistent with the rural character of the community, particularly in terms of sensitivity to the surrounding environment, visual quality, natural resources, and adjacent land uses.

8. The Town should take advantage of its natural and cultural resources in terms of promoting tourism and recreational opportunities.

9. The existing natural gas distribution system to serve in-town concerns is weak.

10. Electric rates in Town are not competitive.

11. Industry should be limited to those areas served or likely to be served by water and sewer, and which have access to an arterial roadway.

12. Commercial and industrial development should be sufficiently buffered from adjacent land uses, particularly residential uses.

13. The central business district of the Town, Pascoag, suffers from a lack of public and private investment. It is difficult to attract new businesses to this area, largely due to rapid expansion of regionalized retail centers of neighboring communities.

14. Lack of distinction between commercial zoning districts, C-1 and C-2.

CONCLUSIONS

All of the above issues result in constraints to the rapid economic development of the Town. Burrillville needs to strengthen economic development and will most

likely lean towards commercial support rather than industrial. The Town recognizes the physical barriers which include: relatively poor highway access and infrastructure; lack of public water supply in some areas; low profile and lack of regional recognition of Burrillville by other communities. The Route 102 Development Management District Plan will work to focus future commercial/retail development within existing village areas where utilities exist, while confining industrial development to Route 102. As stated previously, the Town will continue to work with its Industrial Foundation , the New England Economic Development Services , and Economic Development Corporation in order to overcome these constraints and attract non-residential development.

VII.3 Goals, Policies and Implementation Actions

VII. Economic Development Goals	**Policies**	**Implementation Actions**
VII.1 To broaden the sources of Town revenue through development in the industrial and commercial sectors in order to ensure a sound financial future and assist in funding the achievement of Town goals.	VII.1.a Maintain industrial and commercial sector growth at a rate adequate to support the Town's population in a manner consistent with the Town's labor characteristics, land capabilities and environmental objectives.	VII.1.a.1 Create a Town Economic Development Commission and support their activities to promote economic development in the community.
		VII.1.a.2 The Economic Development Commission shall develop and implement a growth development strategy for existing industry in concert with local business leaders.

		VII.1.a.3 The Economic Development Commission shall attract and assist those types of industry and commerce which are most suitable for, and potentially most beneficial to the Town in terms of employment need, needs of firms, resources, fiscal soundness and other objectives.
		VII.1.a.4 Conserve and enhance desirable existing industrial areas to maximize the investment and utilization of existing infrastructure. Prevent their preemption by or conversion to less intense uses.
	VII.1.b. Support the use of renewable energy for both commercial and residential interests.	VII.1.b.1 Amend town regulations as necessary to allow for renewable energy with particular standards being applied to large mechanisms that can affect view sheds.
		VII.1.b.2 Coordinate with the Town's Sewer Commission and various water districts to ensure that these services are or will be available to sites zoned for industrial development.
		VII.1.b.3 Rezone selected existing industrial zones which are not appropriate from a land use and environmental viewpoint.
		VII.1.b.4 Amend the Zoning Ordinance (Section 11.5, Section 12, Industrial Uses) to delete the "Processes involving fission" and Processes involving fusion" and other inappropriate or overly broad uses from the list of permitted uses.

		VII.1.b.5 Redevelop older commercial areas, particularly those in the villages of Pascoag, Harrisville, Glendale, Oakland and Mapleville.
		VII.1.b.6 Allocate adequate areas for commercial use suitable for neighborhood/village oriented and community-oriented retail centers.
		VII.1.b.7 Explore other avenues of economic development, including recreational and geo-tourism-related activities.
		VII.1.b.8 Prohibit the spread of strip commercial development along major arterials such as Route 102 through zoning. (Route 102 Development Management Plan adopted February, 2003.)
		VII.1.b.9 Promote revitalization of the small village commercial center through zoning.
		VII.1.b.10 Rezone selected existing commercial zones which are not appropriate from a land use and environmental viewpoint.
		VII.1.b.11 Require minimum lot sizes for commercial zoning districts.
		VII.1.b.12 Establish a Planned Development District for mixed-use commercial and residential developments on large tracts of land, except in the F5 district.

VII.2 To recognize the importance of recreation, open space, public access to water bodies, and historic resources to the Town's economy, to tourism development, and to attracting and retaining industry, and endeavor to protect and enhance these resources in economic development siting and design.	VII.2.a Promote economic development which is sited and designed to fit within the rural village character of Burrillville, and harmonizes with environmental surroundings and adjacent land uses. Discourage the development of adversely competitive light retail/service uses along the Route 102 Corridor.	VII.2.a.1 Enact development controls and performance standards in the zoning ordinance to mitigate conflicts between commercial and industrial development and other uses. These include, but are not limited to: • Buffers to side and rear lots; • Landscaping; and, • Compliance with State and federal air, and water quality regulations. • Maintenance of noise levels compatible with accepted standards.
		VII.2.a.2 Encourage design of commercial developments which are compatible with the surrounding neighborhood in appearance, with varied rooflines, alternative construction materials, scaled down signage etc.
	VII.2.b To maintain and enhance the historical and cultural resources which contribute to the Town's overall economic development opportunities.	VII.2.b.1 Find viable economic reuses for historic buildings that can contribute to the economy through support of financing programs and preferential tax policies. Encourage creative adaptive reuse of the Town's historic homes and buildings when properly zoned.
		VII.2.b.2 Encourage private historic interior house tours.
		VII.2.b.3 Encourage enactment of voluntary Historic Districts to protect the Town's historic sites and districts. Ongoing

		VII.2.b.4 Encourage the protection and interpretation of the community's unique place in history.
		VII.2.b.5 Revise the Zoning Ordinance to include flexible mixed-use requirements to promote mill reuse.
	VII.2.c Support geo-tourism development as an alternative form of economic development.	VII.2.c.1 Support active recreation such as natural challenge courses in expansive undeveloped areas as a means of bolstering day trip tourism.
		VII.2.c.2 Encourage the school system to develop a curriculum promoting understanding of the historic development of the Town and its resources.
		VII.2.c.3 Coordinate with the Blackstone River Valley National Historic Corridor planners to take advantage of spinoffs from tourism opportunities in surrounding communities.
		VII.2.c.4 Develop historic walking tours and bike tours through the villages of the Town.
		VII.2.c.5 Continue to support promotional activities of the Blackstone Valley Tourism Council. The Town should join the Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor.
		VII.2.c.6 Consider broadening home occupation uses in residential districts in the Zoning Ordinance, to encourage such uses as antique shops, arts and crafts shops and other similar uses which can benefit from the Town's rural/historic environment.

	VII.2.d Encourage natural resource based industry, including forestry, agriculture, and recreation.	VII.2.d.1 Maintain farming zoning districts (F5) in areas of the Town, which include prime agricultural soils or State important agricultural soils.
		VII.2.d.2 Encourage good forest resource management practices on privately owned forestlands.
		VII.2.d.3 Identify valuable, unique and ecologically sensitive forestlands so that they may be protected.
		VII.2.d.4 The Economic Development Commission should work with the local Chamber of Commerce or other groups to develop a map of public and private recreational sites throughout the Town. Print and distribute copies of the map at tourist-stops.
		VII.2.d.5 Support development of private recreation establishments in appropriate areas.

NOTE:
In reference to Action VII. 1.a.6
The Town worked cooperatively with the Sewer Commission and Harrisville Water Department to extend utilities to the new Burrillville Commerce Park on Route 102. A local company, Daniele Prosciutto, Inc. was retained from leaving Burrillville, RI for another state and has since constructed a $26 million facility in the park. The town has made efforts to attract additional investment to these sites through marketing and liaison with The Rhode Island Department of Economic Development.

Chapter VIII

Open Space, Conservation and Recreation

CHAPTER VIII
RECREATION, CONSERVATION AND OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION

The Town of Burrillville is located within the sphere of the moving of population from the central cities of Providence, Pawtucket, and Woonsocket. In 1960, the population of the Town was 9,119 and in 1970 it increased to 10,087, which represented an increase of 968 or 10.6 percent. In 1980, the Town's population reached 13,164, in the year 1990, 16,230, and 15,796 as of year 2000.

Burrillville, similar to other Rhode Island suburban/rural communities, has enjoyed the feeling of open space for a number of years. However, with the increases in population, more and more land is being utilized for homes, business, industry and roads. In some instances the spacious feeling has begun to disappear. Since the early 1980's, the Town, along with the rest of the State, has been in the midst of an upswing in building activity. The number of single-family residential building permits rose from 47 in 1982, to 228 in 1986. The latest trend, years 2001 thru 2003, show a drop-off to an average of 47 single-family residential building permits per year. This growth in building activity not only increases the demand for recreational and open space facilities, but at the same time, reduces the amount of available land for such activities. Some small benefit was gained from this growth in that developers donated land and/or money for recreational and open space purposes pursuant to Town requirements for such donations.

Notwithstanding this surge in development, Burrillville still has a significant amount of un-developed land and must continue its effective program of land and water acquisition for recreation, conservation and open space purposes.

Although Burrillville is largely undeveloped, major portions of the Town are zoned either open space or five-acres per dwelling unit, the social problems facing the community are urban in nature. Population centers and economic activity are concentrated in a series of villages separated by open farmland and woods. Suburban style subdivision development in and immediately surrounding the villages is fairly intensive. Residential growth along Burrillville's numerous arterial roads has thinly spread residential development in a consistent manner, making the geographic placement of recreation development difficult.

Indoor Recreation

Despite the focus on outdoor recreation, indoor recreational needs are not forgotten. The 5 year open space recreation plan explores the development of a community swimming pool as well as an indoor teen/recreation center within year 2007 of Implementation.

Burrillville is dotted with ponds and lakes of various sizes. Surrounding many of these are summer colonies previously held in single ownership. The single owners leased small parcels on which were constructed seasonal homes. Recently, many of the small parcels have been sold and seasonable homes converted to year-round structures. This situation presents both recreational and environmental problems. First, access to natural resources is limited to a few private landowners; secondly, the small lots could and do permit an intensive form of development resulting in the pollution of said ponds and lakes.

Burrillville should attempt to prevent the continuation of the above-described practice through its zoning and subdivision ordinances. The same land use regulations should be used to ensure that land is preserved for both conservation and recreation purposes.

The Town of Burrillville has had a rather unique physical-social characteristic which includes the presence of a number of farms, orchards and wooded areas. These lands have and will continue to be subject to the pressures for development. When development occurs, the open or spacious characteristic of the Town will continue to diminish. Although land for agricultural use, as opposed to open space or conservation use, does not come within the purview of this study, it does demonstrate one of the physical-social characteristics of the community which is disappearing due to the encroachment of development. In a sense, the environmental quality of spaciousness associated with farms and orchards serves to illustrate that the Town of Burrillville should acquire lands to attempt to preserve its rural feeling and this can be accomplished through a conservation program.

It is therefore recommended that land and water bodies be acquired for passive recreational and/or conservation purposes in addition to land acquired for intensive recreational activity and, where appropriate, farmlands and orchards be included in this acquisition program.

The Town of Burrillville has an existing open space plan (1999), and is supplemental to this comprehensive plan. The inventory of open space facilities is more fully presented

and discussed in the Town's Conservation, Recreation and Open Space Plan which is adopted and made part of this plan. This comprehensive plan is designed to document and cross-reference previously completed plans rather than to duplicate them.

VIII.1 Existing Conditions, Trends and Projections

The Town of Burrillville, for the purposes of this report, has been divided into three planning districts as illustrated on Map -1. The planning districts are delineated conform to the U.S. Census tract lines of 2000.

Planning Districts	Census Tract	Neighborhoods
I	130.02	Glendale, Nasonville, Tarkiln, Mohegan, Spring Lake
II	130.01	Wallum Lake, Buck Hill, Jackson
III	129	Harrisville and Pascoag Villages

Existing Resources - In the spring of 1987, a complete update of the inventory of all outdoor recreation facilities located in the Town was undertaken. Each facility was identified and separate inventory sheets were used for each one, indicating the name of the facility, its location, type of facility, service area, ownership, and acreage. Table VIII-1 on the following pages, presents the data in summary form, by planning district.

The information presented in Table VIII-1 and Maps 1 and 2 show that 7,968.2 acres of land are committed for recreation and conservation purposes in the Town. Of this amount, 7,909 acres are actually developed and utilized. Table VIII-2 summarizes this information by the type of facility, its expected service area and its location, by planning district. It should be noted that the type of facility listed is based upon its major category, and that a facility may contain more than one use. The following is a list of terms, their definitions and their suggested standards which are used in this section.

Facility Type	Description
Playlot	Active neighborhood play area intended for children of pre-school age. They are essentially a substitute for home yard areas and are normally provided for in high population density areas. In a rural area, it may be desirable to include the playlot function within a recreational facility such as a neighborhood playground.

Playground	Active neighborhood play area for recreation needs of the 5 to 12-year age group. The playground is the chief center of outdoor play for children and in most instances they are developed in conjunction with neighborhood schools. Features include: field area for games and informal play activities; apparatus areas, passive areas; and areas for court games.

Recreational Planning Districts

Massachusetts

Connecticut

North Smithfield

Glocester

SR100

SR7

SR98

SR96

SR102

SR107

Map 1

Source; Burrillville Planning Dept., July 2004

Legend

- roads
- water
- District II
- District I
- District III

0 0.45 0.9 1.8 Miles

Facility Type	Description
Playfield	Active recreation area which usually serves more than one neighborhood and provides for varied forms of activities for young people and adults. A portion of the playfield is usually developed as an athletic field for highly organized team sports. Features of the playfield include: area for court games, including tennis, volleyball, basketball, sports fields for men and women for games such as softball, baseball and football; and areas including picnic areas. They may also include a field house, running track and outdoor swimming pool.
Neighborhood Park	The neighborhood park is primarily an area for sitting and quiet relaxation. When practical it should be in conjunction with a playground or playfield.
Major Park or Reservation	They are generally considered to be large city parks which are recreational complexes combining all types of recreational facilities.
Conservation Area	The unique natural resources which a community possesses. There is no quantitative measure which can be used as a guide.
Special Areas	Areas developed for a special use such as municipal beach, golf course, etc.

Table VIII-1
Outdoor Recreation and Conservation Facilities Inventory

MAP NO.	FACILITY	DEVE-LOPED	UNDEVE-LOPED	TYPE	SERVICE AREA	OWNER-SHIP
PLANNING DISTRICT I						
1	Country View Country Club	125.0	0.0	Special	Regional	Private
2	Mapleville Little League Field	5.0	0.0	Special	Town	Private
3	Police Station Area	0.0	5.0	Undeveloped	Town	Town
4	Middle School Site	77.0	0.0	Open Area	Town	Town
	(Branch River Park)			Playfield	Town	Town
5	Round Top Fishing Area	134.0	0.0	Conservation	Regional	State
6	Black Hut Mgt. Area	1263.0	0.0	Conservation	Regional	State
7	Spring Lake Beach	50.0	0.0	Special	Regional	State
8	Woonsocket YMCA Day Camp	23.0	0.0	Special	Regional	Private
9	Wallum Lake Rod & Gun Club	170.0	0.0	Special	Regional	Private
10	Spring Lake Access	0.5	0.0	Special	Regional	State
11	Screech Hole Bog	50.0	0.0	Conservation	Regional	State
12	Sherman Pond	0.6	0.0	Conservation	Regional	State
13	Block 26, Lot 11	70.0	0.0	Conservation	Regional	State
14	Crystal Lake Golf Course	239	0.0	Special	Regional	Private
15	Oakland Triangle	10.0	0.0	Open Area	Neighborhood	Private
16	Block 24, Lot 15	0.0	0.3	Undeveloped	Neighborhood	Town
17	Block 14, Lot 26B	0.5	0.0	Sewer Station	Neighborhood	Town
18	Burrillville High School	10.0	0.0	Playfield	Town	Town
19	Burrillville Tennis Courts	1.0	0.0	Special	Town	Town
20	Berean Baptist Church	0.3	0.0	Playground	Regional	Private
21	Townsmen's Club	15.0	0.0	Special	Regional	Private
22	Episcopal Conference Center	180.0	0.0	Special	Regional	Private
	TOTAL	2,423.8	5.3			

PLANNING DISTRICT II

23	Echo Lake Campground	83.0	0.0	Special	Regional	Private
24	Wilsons Reservoir Access	0.5	0.0	Special	Regional	State
25	Casmir Pulaski State Park	100.0	0.0	Special	Regional	State
26	George Washington Mgt. Area	2,941.0	0.0	Special	Regional	State
27	Buck Hill Mgt. Area	1,291.0	0.0	Conservation	Regional	State
28	Wakefield Pond Access	0.5	0.0	Special	Regional	State
29	Wallum Lake Terrace Assoc.	1.0	0.0	Special	Neighborhood	Private
30	Pascoag Reservoir Assoc.	0.5	0.0	Special	Neighborhood	Private
31	Zambarano Memorial Hospital	0.4	0.0	Special	State*	State
32	Buck Hill Boy Scouts Res.	1,094.0	0.0	Special	Regional	Private
	TOTAL	5,511.9	0.0			

PLANNING DISTRICT III

33	Harrisville Assembly	1.0	0.0	Neigh. Park	Town	Town
34	River Street Property	0.2	0.0	Conservation	Regional	State
35	Bicentennial Park	1.0	0.0	Neigh. Park	Town	Town
36	Austin T. Levy School	10.0	0.0	Playground	Town	Town
37	William L. Callahan School	0.0	1.0	Open Area	Town	Town
38	Eccleston Field	8.0	0.0	Playfield	Town	Town
39	R.R. ROW	0.0	36.0	Undeveloped	Town	Town
40	Harrisville Mill Pond Access	0.5	0.0	Special	Regional	State
41	White Mill Property	0.0	13.4	Undeveloped	Town	Town
42	Pascoag Bridgeway	0.0	1.0	Undeveloped	Neighborhood	Town
43	Block 18, Lot 72	0.0	0.1	Undeveloped	Neighborhood	Town
44	Block 19, Lot 71 & 94	0.0	1.1	Undeveloped	Neighborhood	Town
45	Hauser Memorial Field	9.0	0.0	Playfield	Town	Town
46	Beckwith Bruckshaw Memorial	1.0	0.0	Play Area	Town	Private
47	Union Pond Access	0.5	0.0	Special	Regional	State
48	Community Baptist Church	1.3	0.0	Playground	Regional	Private
49	Block 18, Lot 12	0.0	0.5	Undeveloped	Neighborhood	Town
	TOTAL	32.5	53.1			
GRAND TOTAL		**7,968.2**	**58.4**			

* Staff and Clients Only
Source: Burrillville Planning Department, 2004.

Table VIII-3
Recreation Property by Type of Ownership

Planning District	Town	State	Private	Total
I	88.5	1,568.1	767.3	2423.9
II	0	4,333.4	1,179.4	5,511.9
III	28	1.2	2.3	31.5
TOTALS	**116.5**	**5,902.7**	**1,949**	**7,968.2**

Source: 1988 Burrillville Recreation, Conservation and Open Space Plan.

Population - The Town of Burrillville has and will continue to experience the pressure of the suburban movement of people from the core cities in the Providence Metropolitan area. Burrillville is located just outside the urban core and has been absorbing a part of the population losses experienced by the cities of Providence, Pawtucket, Central Falls and Woonsocket because of the desire of people to move from the older cities to the more attractive amenities associated with the suburbs.

Burrillville's population has grown by over 7,000 people since 1960, adding approximately 78 percent more residents than lived in Town in 1960. Between 1960 and 1970, the Town added under 1,000 new residents. Between 1970 and 1980, and 1980 and 1990, over 3,000 new residents have moved to Town each decade, however, the 2000 census shows a decrease from 16,230 of 1990 to 15,796 as of year 2000 (see Table VIII-4).

Table VIII-4
Burrillville Population Trends, 1960-1990

Year	Population	Percent Change	Number Change
1960	9,116	NA	NA
1970	10,087	10.7	971
1980	13,164	30.5	3,077
1990	16,230	23.3	3,066
2000	15,796	(2.7)	(434)

Source: U.S. Census of Population.

Burrillville has an older population than the State as a whole, with a median age of 37.5 years compared to the State's 36.7 years. In 2000, 28.2 percent of the Town's population was under age 18, compared to 27.0 percent Statewide. Burrillville had a lower percentage of elderly residents than the State in 2000; 11.3 percent compared to 14.5 percent (see Table VIII-5). This may indicate that Burrillville has seen a recent influx of empty nesters since 1990.

Table VIII-5
Age Distribution of Burrillville Population

Area	Under Age 18 (1)	Age 64 and over (2)	Median Age
Burrillville	28.2 %	11.3 %	37.5
Rhode Island	27.0 %	14.5 %	36.7

Source: Rhode Island Department of Administration, Division of Planning, 2000

Population in Burrillville is expected to continue to grow, although at a somewhat slower pace than the last projection of 1990. Table VIII-6 shows the estimated projections.

Table VIII-6
2000 Population Projections for Burrillville

Year	Projected Population	Percent Change
2000	15,796	
2005	16,183	2.45
2010	16,469	1.76
2015	16,928	2.78
2020	17,439	3.01
2025	17,876	2.50
2030	18,195	1.78

Source: 2000, Rhode Island Department of Administration, Division of Planning projections.

Population Distribution - In order to better understand where the population is living in Burrillville, an analysis of housing unit distribution was performed. Based on census tracts and planning districts described earlier, the distribution is shown on Table VIII-7.

Table VIII-7
Estimated Number of Housing Units by Census Tract, 2000

Planning District	Units 1990	Units 2000
I	2,484	2,669
II	1,098	1,140
III	2,169	2,012
TOTAL	**5,751**	**5,821**

Sources: U.S. Census of Population, 2000.

The boundaries of the Planning Districts in this Plan were redrawn from those used for the 1990 data. The new recreational planning districts coincide with Burrillville's three Census Tracts: 130.02, 130.01 and 129. The previous method went so far as to split the census tract's blocks up and apportion blocks into various districts. Since 1990, the 2000 census data categorizes block groups differently and it is no longer possible to update the populations as previously constructed. Moreover, splitting census tracts and their respective block group areas randomly into districts does nothing for trying to establish levels of service for each respective district. The new method is provides an accurate

picture of the town, by grouping the town's two main villages of Harrisville and Pascoag into census tract 129, while the remaining two tracts: 130.01 and 130.02 respectively split the town from west to east along route 98. Additionally, the new method will be less prone to statistical error by simplifying the data collection and analysis process.

VIII.2 Recreation, Conservation and Open Space Issues

The following presents issues relating to recreation, conservation and open space preservation in Burrillville.

Recreational Analysis and Standards - There has been an increased demand for outdoor recreational facilities throughout the United States during the past decade. Factors identified which have created the additional demand are: population increase, the increased amount of leisure time, the rising standard of living, the interest to preserve the natural landscape and the preservation of open space to separate intensive development.

Burrillville, similar to many Rhode Island communities, has experienced the impact of increased population due to the mobility of population from the central core cities of Rhode Island.

Population to be served is the basis used to determine recreational needs. Also, because of the increased concern for the environment and with ecology, there are areas in Burrillville, which have been designated to be preserved for conservation and open space purposes. Thus, outdoor recreational facilities for the Town of Burrillville shall use as criteria the demand created by the local population and the preservation of open space for environmental and ecological objectives.

The standards published in the *Recreation Conservation and Open Space Planning Manual*, as amended (see Table VIII-8) for playgrounds, play fields and neighborhood parks are used in this study, to determine the need for these facilities. The standards require that for each 1,000 persons, 6.25 acres of land be utilized for the above listed recreational facilities.

Standards for playlots, play areas and major parks listed in the above mentioned report do not readily apply to special conditions in the Town of Burrillville, due to low density and rural character. However, as the Town continues to grow, care must be taken to monitor the recreation functions of playlots, play areas and major parks to insure that they meet the

recreation needs of Burrillville's residents. For example, play lots and play areas can be located within playfields and playgrounds where such areas are dictated by neighborhood requirements. The provision of a major park, as described in the planning manual, does not appear to be necessary in the Town of Burrillville within the scope of this plan. Within the mill village and surrounding area, the standards for playlots, parks and recreational sites are applicable to meet the needs of Burrillville's residents. However, these type of facilities are less critical and the standards less applicable in the more rural areas, where a substantial portion of homes are located on large lots, and there remains vast areas of undeveloped fields and woodland available for informal play by children.

Table VIII-8
General Standards for Recreational Facilities

Type of Facility	Acres Per 1,000 Population	Size Range (In Acres)	Preferred Service Radius	Area Served
Playlot	Varies with population density	1/8 to 1/4 acres	¼ to ½ mile	Several Blocks
Playground	1.25 acres	4 to 7 acres	1/4 to 1/2 mile	Neighborhood
Playfield	1.25 acres	12 to 20 acres	1/2 to 1 mile	Several Neigh.
Neighborhood Park	2.50 acres	1/2 to 25 acres	1/2 mile	Neighborhood
Large Park or Reservation	5.00 acres	Over 100 acres	Community-wide	Community
Conservation Area	Based on Availability		Community-wide	Community
Special Area	Based on Activity (requires Special Description)		Community-wide	Community

Source: Mertes, James and Hall, James, 1995, NRPA – Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Guidelines. Recreation, Conservation and Open Space Planning Manual, Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management and Rhode Island Statewide Planning Program.

Also included, is the recognition of the requirements of State Building Codes and the Americans with Disabilities Act. The Town includes these regulations in development of new facilities, parks, as well as rehabilitation of existing facilities.

Existing and Future Requirements by Planning District - Table VIII-9, illustrates the present and projected area needs for playgrounds, playfields and neighborhood parks, based upon the standard of 6.25 acres per 1,000 persons. The amount of land (119.3 acres) used in this table represents only Town-owned property presently developed for

recreational purposes. Not included in the computation of area needs is approximately 58.4 acres of land owned by the Town, but not presently developed for recreational purposes.

Table VIII-9
Recreational Needs By Planning District

Year	Population	Land Required to Meet Standards	Existing Property	Deficit/ Surplus
Planning Dist. I				
1990	7429	46	88.5	42.5
2000	7402	46	88.5	42.5
Planning Dist. II				
1990	3317	21	0	(21)
2000	3358	21	0	(21)
Planning Dist. III				
1990	5484	34	28	(6)
2000	5036	31	28	(6)

Source: U.S. Census of population, 2000; Burrillville Planning Department, 2004.

As shown in Table VIII-9, the Town of Burrillville has been divided into three planning districts. These districts are used to evaluate existing facilities in relation with the population and to project future recreation area needs by planning district through the 15-year planning period.

The figures shown in Table VIII-9 indicate that Planning Districts 2 and 3 are deficient in land needed for recreation purposes. Specific recommendations by Planning District are included in Appendix VIII-A.

As stated in the opening paragraph of this section, the figures in Table VIII-9 include only presently developed Town-owned land. The inventory of recreational facilities show that there are approximately 7,851.7 acres of recreation land in either state or private ownership. This property is intended to serve the recreational needs of not only Burrillville residents, but also regional and even statewide needs. Most of the private and state-owned areas are included by the State in determining recreation needs on the State level. Therefore, for the purposes of this report, only those areas and needs under the jurisdiction of the Town of Burrillville are considered.

Conservation and Open Space - The emphasis in the prior section of this report was placed on a quantitative analysis of active outdoor recreation facilities. In addition to active recreation facilities, the Town should and does recognize environmental quality and

passive recreation opportunities as an important component of the outdoor recreation experience.

A greater portion of the Town of Burrillville is presently undeveloped. In fact, there are 7,401 acres of land classified as conservation and open space areas. There are also several fine lakes and streams which should be protected from the encroachment of urbanization and pollution. Proposed Open Space and Recreation areas are shown on Map - 2.

Conservation and open space needs must be measured by a quantitative standard, but must be based upon a community policy to protect the natural resources which exist in the Town. Such areas can also serve to provide relief from flooding, particularly in those areas designated as swamps or wetlands. A policy to protect, or acquire where necessary, all existing wetlands is in order where opportunities for such action is available.

The above figure for conservation includes the George Washington Management Area, the Buck Hill Boy Scouts Reservation and Casmir Pulaski Park, which total 4,315 acres. While the areas are mainly conservation in nature, they also function as more active recreation areas and have been put into the use classification of Special Uses.

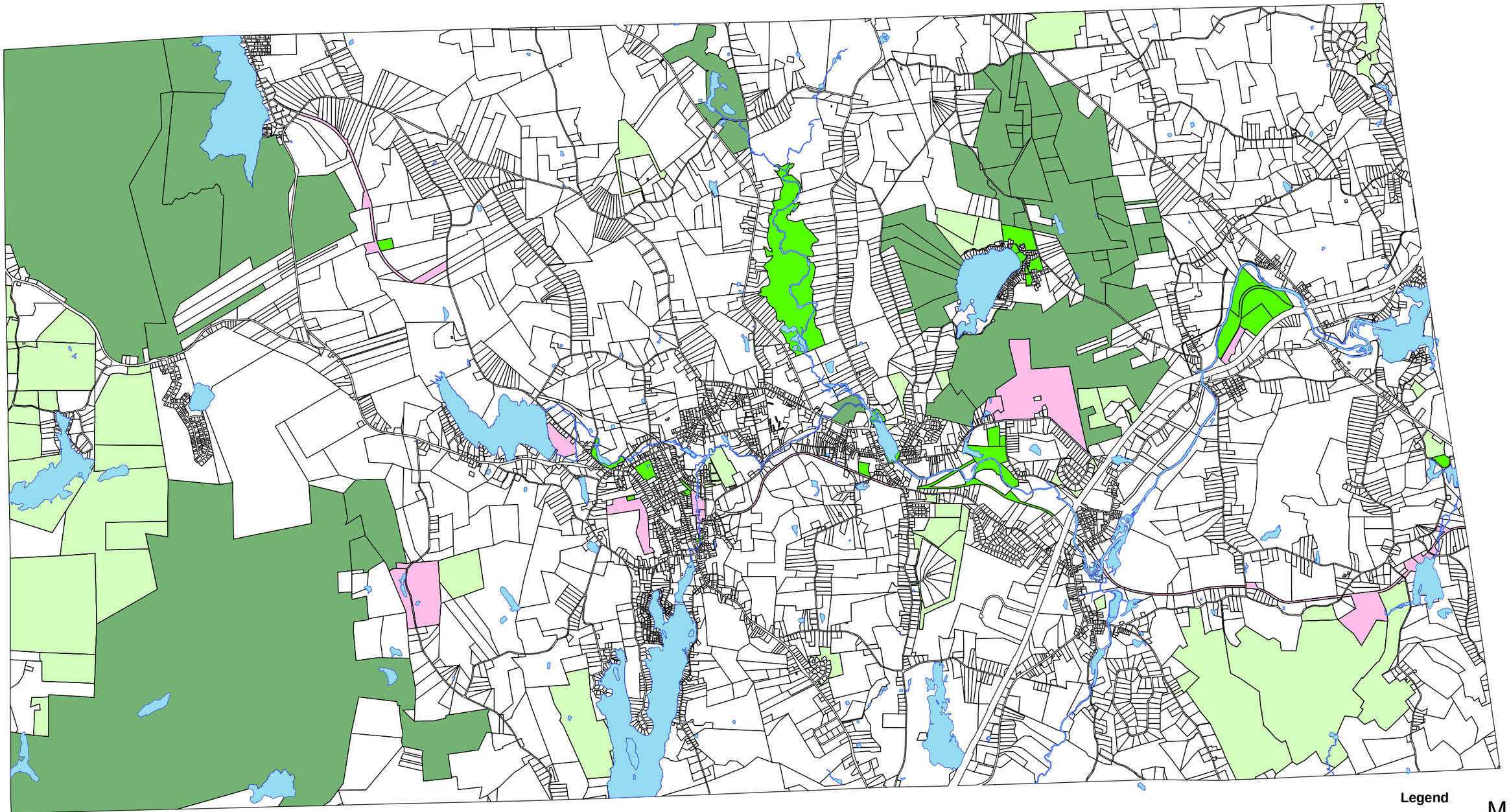
VIII.3 Goals, Policies and Implementation Actions

The Town of Burrillville has had the foresight to make significant acquisitions of land to insure that recreational, conservation and open space opportunities will be available to all residents of the Town.

The Town should develop existing sites within a comprehensive coordinated framework to insure that facilities are developed based upon usage. This can be best accomplished by frequent review of studies and development of priorities within the financial capabilities of the Town.

One of the most feasible methods to insure comprehensiveness with respect to planning and its implementation is through utilization of an effective Recreation Capital Improvements Program. In this manner, there is sufficient amount of time for the community to determine the needs, make adjustments if necessary, establish priorities, and find the means of implementation. In some instances, implementation of the Recreation, Conservation and Open Space Plan means that the local financial resources will have to be

Existing & Future Recreation
Conservation & Open Space Parcels - 2004



MAP 2

Source: Burrillville Planning Dept., 2004

made available. Thus, through a realistic and effective Recreation Capital Improvement Program, the Town will know how many local funds could be allocated for this purpose.

The Town should continue its efforts to acquire or control water bodies, wet areas, and streams. In addition, it is recommended that as much land surrounding these natural features be either acquired or preserved.

The following represents the Town's goals, policies and implementation actions relating to recreation, conservation and open space preservation. Figure Map -2 illustrates the recreation, conservation and open space goals.

VIII. Recreation, Conservation and Open Space Goals	Policies	Implementation Actions
VIII.1 To provide park and recreation facili--ties and programs which will meet the passive and active recreational needs of Burrillville's residents.	VIII.1.a Planning for recreation, conservation and open space will be done within a comprehensive approach with consideration for development trends and demands of the community.	VIII.1.a.1 Develop more recreational complexes rather than single purpose recreational facilities to serve all segments of the population.
		VIII.1.a.2 Through the Recreation Capital Improvement Program, the Town will schedule, in a systematic manner, the acquisition and development of recreation facilities within its financial capabilities.
	VIII.1.b Increase effective utilization of existing facilities by the development of additional facilities to relieve overuse and provide for present and future needs.	VIII.1.b.1 As demand dictates, explore the development of existing Town-owned properties in addition to identifying and acquiring additional sites for recreational development.
		VIII.1.b.2 Work with the School Department to coordinate its recreation programs and properties with Town activities.
	VIII.1.c Explore additional means for obtaining and preserving recreation, conservation and open space besides out-right purchase.	VIII.1.c.1 Methods to be considered include easements, zoning and other land use and development regulations.
		VIII.1.c.4 Encourage private investment in recreational areas and facilities.
		VIII.1.c.5 Require land dedication or fees in lieu of land expressly for recreational purposes in all subdivisions and major non-residential developments.
		VIII.1.c.6 Land dedicated to the Town under Section 10-5.7 "Conveyance of Land for Recreational Purposes" should be considered for both its recreational and open space characteristics, and appropriately designated. Efforts should be made to coordinate the land dedicated in the subdivision process to form interconnected greenbelts, and larger areas of protected open space for habitat preservation.

		VIII.1.c.7 Form a land trust committee to establish land trusts in Burrillville. COMPLETE
	VIII.1.d Ensure that the needs and recreational interests of residents of all social and age groups and abilities are considered to the fullest extent possible in developing recreational facility plans.	VIII.1.d.1 Improve access to all types of recreation facilities.
	VIII.1.e Relate the type and size of recreational facilities to the pertinent characteristics of the service area.	VIII.1.e.1 Base acquisition and development programs on up-to-date studies of demand and usage.
	VIII.1.f Make maximum use of waterbodies for recreation and other purposes wherever possible in a manner consistent with the characteristics and uses of the water bodies themselves and with the standards governing water supplies established by the Rhode Island Water Resources Board.	VIII.1.f.1 Preserve lands along Wallum Lake, Wakefield Pond, Pascoag Reservoir, Wilson Reservoir, Spring Lake, Branch River and other smaller water bodies and tributaries; for conservation and preservation of natural open spaces and to help protect the environment through acquisition of rights-of-way to the water bodies and through other conservation programs.
		VIII.1.f.2 Make acquisition of sites on or providing access to water bodies a priority in future acquisition programs.
		VIII.1.f.3 Improve and expand opportunities for recreational swimming and beach usage by maintaining and upgrading existing beach facilities, by encouraging the protection of small lakes and ponds which have traditionally accommodated swimming, and developing opportunities where feasible and appropriate.
		VIII.1.f.4 Promote the management of reservoirs and their watersheds for multiple purposes, including appropriate forms of public recreational access and use.

VIII. Recreation, Conservation and Open Space Goals	Policies	Implementation Actions
	VIII.1.g Seek to improve the opportunities for bicycling as an alternative transportation mode and recreational activity throughout the Town.	VIII.1.g.1 Consider establishing a bike path linking the villages in the Town with other planned regional bike paths. Where feasible, the old railroad right-of-way should be examined for feasibility as a location for portions of the bike path. In concept, the bike path would link Smithfield to Wallum Lake and connect eventually with other paths in northern Rhode Island and the Blackstone Valley National Heritage Corridor.
	VIII.1.h Recognize the importance of the Town's recreational and open space resources, and ensure that their development is carefully integrated with efforts to promote Burrillville to visitors.	VIII.1.h.1 The Economic Development Commission should work with the local Chamber of Commerce or other groups to develop a map of public and private recreational sites throughout the Town. Print and distribute copies of the map at tourist-stops.
		VIII.1.h.2 Support development of private recreation establishments in appropriate areas.
		VIII.1.h.3 The Town has applied to become a member of the Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor. COMPLETE
VIII.2 Ensure that open space is retained as a resource for active and passive recreation opportunities, while also providing protection for the physical and natural environment.	VIII.2.a Preserve the Town's natural resources by working to save the best representatives of the ecosystem types found in Burrillville, and protecting rare and endangered plants, animals, and unique geologic or other natural features.	VIII.2.a.1 Work toward prevention or mitigation of adverse impacts of human activities on wildlife habitat.

VIII. Recreation, Conservation and Open Space Goals	Policies	Implementation Actions
	VIII.2.b Endeavor to create open space systems and corridors which protect complete ecologic units, provide structure and character to the built environment and provide recreation and open space opportunities close to developed areas.	VIII.2.b.1 Preserve, and where necessary, restore rivers and their adjacent shorelands for recreational use, wildlife habitat, water supply and the open space corridors they provide.
		VIII.2.b.2 Manage floodplains to protect their natural functions and minimize flood hazards to life and property.
		VIII.2.b.3 Protect wetland areas through acquisition of lands which protect their biological and hydrological integrity, provide opportunities for public access and usage, and enhance the proper management of wetland systems.
		VIII.2.b.4 Retain open spaces large enough to serve as wildlife habitat, store flood waters, abate air and water pollution, provide a sense of openness, and serve as buffers and aesthetic amenities to existing development.
		VIII.2.b.5 Continue efforts to preserve the Town's best farmland for active agricultural use.
	VIII.2.c Increased emphasis will be placed on preserving valuable natural resources such as streams and wetlands and the protection of the environment through a conservation and open space program.	VIII.2.c.1 The Town shall go on record as endorsing vigorous enforcement of all environmental protection laws and programs.
		VIII.2.c.2 Cooperate with the Department of Environmental Management of the State of Rhode Island in its conservation and recreation programs, especially since the State presently owns nearly 6,000 acres of recreation property in the Town of Burrillville.

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Town of Burrillville is located within the sphere of the out-migration of population from the central cities of Providence, Pawtucket, and Woonsocket. Similar to other Rhode Island suburban/rural communities, it has enjoyed the feeling of open space for many years. However, with the increases in population, more and more land is being utilized for homes, business, industry and roads. In some instances, the spacious feeling has begun to disappear.

In 1960, the population of the Town was 9,116 while in 1970 it increased to 10,087, which represented a 10.6 percent increase. Since the early 1980's, the Town, along with the rest of the State, has been in the midst of an upswing in building activity. The number of single-family residential building permits rose from 47 in 1982, to 228 in 1986. In 1980, the Town's population reached 13,164, an increase of 3,077 or 30.5 percent from 1970, while by 1990 the population reached 16,230 for an increase of 3,066 or 23.3 percent. More recently, however, the 2000 census showed Burrillville to actually decrease by 2.7 percent down to 15,796 from 1990. The town views the decrease as a minor fluctuation in the overall growth of the State, and will continue to aggressively provide adequate recreational opportunities for future populations.

Notwithstanding development, Burrillville still has a significant amount of undeveloped land and must continue its effective program of land and water acquisition for recreation, conservation and open space purposes. Burrillville is rich in natural resources: valuable wetlands for flood control, groundwater aquifers and recharge areas, high quality surface water, and unique historical areas. The Town's natural environment adds immeasurably to its property values and quality of life. Additionally, open space lands contribute revenue to the Town, whereas the services required by residential development actually cost more than the tax revenues generated by residential land uses. Although many large areas of undeveloped land exist in Burrillville, the environment is experiencing direct and indirect impacts from residential and other forms of development. Proper use and protection of natural resources may require greater initial expense, but it is generally far less costly to anticipate environmental problems and take measures to avoid them than to correct past mistakes.

Although Burrillville is largely undeveloped, population centers and economic activity are concentrated in a series of villages separated by open farmland and woods. Suburban style subdivision development in and immediately surrounding the villages is fairly intensive. Thus, in providing for the recreational needs of its residents, the Town is confronted by both urban and rural situations. This context complicates the issue of developing rational open space and recreation standards for the Town.

There are a number of farms, orchards and forested areas in Town that are rapidly deteriorating by either: not being worked by newer generations or being consumed for residential development. These lands have been, and will continue to be, subject to the pressures for development. When development occurs, the spacious characteristics of the Town will diminish. Agricultural land uses improve our community's quality of life and are among the reasons that Burrillville's tourist economy is growing.

This Recreation Conservation & Open Space Plan is intended to serve as a rational guide for

future decisions on meeting the Town's recreation and open space needs. It is part of, or a sub-component of, the Town's Comprehensive Plan and should be viewed in that context. It was also prepared to maintain Burrillville's eligibility in State and Federal outdoor recreation and open space grant programs. Most importantly, the Plan was prepared to promote the protection of the Town's natural resources, to provide meaningful recreation opportunities in the villages and the rural portions of Town, to enhance the rural character of our community, and to improve the overall quality of life for Town residents and the tourists that enjoy visiting Burrillville.

II. PHYSICAL & SOCIAL CONTEXT

Location - The Town of Burrillville is located in the extreme northwestern corner of Rhode Island. It abuts the Towns of Thompson, Connecticut to the west, Douglas and Uxbridge, Massachusetts to the north, North Smithfield, Rhode Island to the east and Glocester, Rhode Island to the south. Burrillville is approximately 22 miles from Providence and 25 miles from Worcester, Massachusetts. The Town is influenced by regional, not just Rhode Island, growth trends.

Land Use Patterns - Burrillville experienced an early agricultural phase, industrialization in the nineteenth century, and continued residential and industrial growth in the twentieth century. Topography played a major role in Burrillville's development. Glacial deposits, scouring of the soil as glacier retreated, and long periods of erosion gave Burrillville an irregular topography, which impacted settlement patterns and land use. A number of streams and small rivers cross the Town, and small bodies of water include a number of natural lakes and several man-made reservoirs. The presence of moving water across the Town's landscape encouraged settlement and played an important role in industrial development before the advent of steam. The higher, rugged areas remained more thinly populated than the lower, broader, river valleys.

The eighteenth century settlement pattern of the Town was characterized by a rural population scattered about the Town with farms located on land best suited for cultivation. Farming continued into the twentieth century, and farm complexes remain important in defining the Town's character. Barns, corncribs, sheds, stone walls, orchards, and open fields are among the agricultural resources common to the rural landscape.

As agriculture prevailed in the eighteenth century, industry dominated in the nineteenth century. Aided by improvements in transportation and technology, sleepy hamlets became bustling mill villages that saw dramatic changes in physical form. Improvements in transportation began in 1805 with the construction of Douglas Pike (Route 7). Railroad service, from Providence in 1873 and from Woonsocket in 1893, came later, and, indeed, its late arrival may well have limited the Town's growth potential in the nascent years of industrialization. Greater access to Burrillville followed the advent of the automobile and an improved road network, including the Victory Highway (1922 et seq., Route 102), the refurbished Louisquisset Pike (Route 146), and Interstate Highways 95 and 195 to the south and east.

In addition to the mills, the villages that grew around them included mill offices and other auxiliary structures, dams, raceways, bridges, shops, institutional buildings, workers' housing, mill

superintendent's housing, and occasionally mill owner's housing. Most of these villages remain, but many of the early mills themselves have been lost to fire.

The Town's rural character attracted new institutional use, including a tuberculosis hospital (now the Zambarano Hospital Complex) at Wallum Lake in the 1890's; Casmir Pulaski Memorial State Park in the 1930's, and the creation of several State Management Areas. Burrillville continued to develop in the twentieth century. The presence of Austin T. Levy and his Stillwater Worsted Company had a profound effect on the Town. Not only did Levy purchase and operate existing mills, but also built large amounts of new worker's housing. Levy also recast the Village of Harrisville in a "New England Village" mode through his contributions of the Town Hall, The Assembly, and the Jesse M. Smith Library.

As the State underwent extensive suburbanization after World War II, Burrillville became home to a large number of new suburban residents. The construction of new houses, most of which are strung out along the Town's many roads, is a trend dissimilar to the strong village settlement pattern which characterized Burrillville's historic development.

Recent Land Use Trends – As Burrillville continues to suburbanize, the total acreage dedicated to land uses such as residential should increase. As shown on Table VIII-1, a substantial amount of Burrillville remains largely undeveloped and forested. However, the demands associated by large lots and frontages within the F-5 zoning district leave little land for development 'by-right' without having to file dimensional variance petitions. The F-5 zone district therefore limits the potential for access to land locked parcels which may be prime for recreation development, which reinforces the continued need for access easements.

The newer 2004 Land Use data was calculated utilizing RIGIS Land Use (Code95). The RIGIS data was then compared to Land Use data obtained from the Town Assessor's 2004 CAMA Data. Both data sets were compared to 1990 in effort to find comparable measures. Local GIS parcel data is aggressively updated and considered most accurate. Roughly 30 percent of the Town's land area is currently utilized as residential, which increased 10.2 percent since 1990. Nearly 25 percent of the town's land area is utilized as conservation land; a large percentage of which RIDEM Game lands in addition to local Farm Forest and Open Space.

Table VIII-1
Land Use Trends 1990 to 2004

1990		Percent of Total	2004		Percent of Total	Percent Change
Residential (1)	10,313	28.1	Residential (1)	9,258	30.6	(10.2)
Commercial	563	1.5	Commercial (2)	828	2.7	47.1
Industrial	148	0.4	Industrial (3)	120	.4	(18.9)
Gov't/Institutional	1,459	3.9	Gov't/Institutional (4)	178	.6	(87.8)
Recreation (2)	1,916	5.2	Recreation (5)	3,122	10.3	62.9
Conservation (3)	7,355	20.0	Conservation (6)	7,401	24.5	06
Agriculture (4)	1,006	2.7	Agriculture (7)	1,499	5	49
Undev'd Land	11,014	30.0	Undev'd Land (8)	5,259	17.4	(52.3)
Streets	900	2.4	Streets (9)	872	2.9	(3.1)
Other (5)	1,998	5.4	Other (10)	1,695	5.6	(15.2)
Total	36,672	100.00	**Total**	30,232		(17.6)

1990 Notes:

(1) In zoning districts with five-acre minimum lot sizes, full parcel acreage was counted, i.e., if a parcel of 20 acres was zoned for five acre minimum lot size, the full 20 acres was included In the above calculations.

(2) Per the 1987 Recreation, Conservation, Open Space Plan.

(3) Includes land taxed under the Farm, Forest and Open Space Act.

(4) Observation indicates there is more agricultural land than is included on the tax roll.

(5) Other category includes utilities and tax classification "other improved land."

2003 Notes:

(1) Burrillville Tax Assessor, 2004 RI State Codes: 01, 02, 03, 11, 23 and 97. (1966 figure was 768, the 1990 figure was incorrect –not data source could be found.

(2) Burrillville Tax Assessor, 2004, RI State Codes: o4, 05 and 06.

(3) RIGIS Land Use, Data set Code95.

(4) RIGIS Land Use, Data set Code95

(5) RIGIS Land Use, Data set Code95 – included lakes.

(6) Burrillville Tax Assessor, 2004, RI State Code: 33 – includes all FFOS properties

(7) RIGIS Land Use, Data set Code95

(8) Burrillville Tax Assessor, 2004, RI State Codes: 13, 14, and 15.

(9) Burrillville GIS Parcels Map, 2004.

(10) RIGIS Land Use, Data set Code 95

According to Table 1 above, recreational land uses increased by over 1,200 acres between 1990 and 2004. This large differential may be due to different methodologies used in either the 1990 compilation or RIGIS Code95 Land Use compilation.

Population - The Town of Burrillville has and will continue to experience the pressure of the suburban movement of people from the core cities in the regional Metropolitan area despite the recent decrease in population as of 2000. Burrillville has been absorbing a part of the population losses experienced by the cities of Providence, Hartford, Worcester and Woonsocket. This loss is,

in part, due to the desire of people to move from the older cities to the more attractive amenities associated with the suburbs.

Burrillville's population has grown by 6,680 people since 1960, adding approximately 73 percent more residents than lived in Town in 1960. Between 1960 and 1970, the Town added fewer than 1,000 new residents. Between 1970 - 1980, and 1980 - 1990, over 3,000 new residents moved to Town each decade. However, a slight decrease in population leaves the town at 15,796 as of 2000. (Table 2).

Table 2
Population Growth
1960-2000

Year	Population	Percent Change	Numeric Change
1960	9,116	n/a	n/a
1970	10,087	10.7	971
1980	13,164	30.5	3,077
1990	16,230	23.3	3,066
2000	15,796	(2.7)	434

Population in Burrillville is expected to continue to grow, although at a somewhat slower pace than the last 20 years. Table 3 shows the estimated projections.

Table - 3
2000 Population Projections for Burrillville

Year	Projected Population	Percent Change
2000	15,796	
2005	16,183	2.45
2010	16,469	1.76
2015	16,928	2.78
2020	17,439	3.01
2025	17,876	2.50
2030	18,195	1.78

Source: 2000, Rhode Island Department of Administration, Division of Planning projections

Burrillville has an older population than the State as a whole, with a median age of 37.5 years compared to the State's 36.7 years. In 2000, 28.2 percent of the Town's population was under age 18, compared to 27.0 percent Statewide. Burrillville had a lower percentage of elderly residents than the State in 2000; 11.3 percent compared to 14.5 percent (see Table 4). This may indicate that Burrillville has seen a recent influx of empty nesters since 1990.

Table 4
Age Distribution of Burrillville Population

Area	Under Age 18 (1)	Age 64 and over (2)	Median Age
Burrillville	28.2 %	11.3 %	37.5
Rhode Island	27.0 %	14.5 %	36.7

Source: Rhode Island Department of Administration, Division of Planning, 2000

The boundaries of the Planning Districts in this Plan were redrawn from those used for the 1990 data. The new recreational planning districts coincide with Burrillville's three Census Tracts: 130.02, 130.01 and 129. The previous method went so far as to split the census tract's blocks up and apportion blocks into various districts. Since 1990, the 2000 census data categorizes block groups differently and it is no longer possible to update the populations as previously constructed.

Moreover, splitting census tracts and their respective block group areas randomly into districts does nothing for trying to establish levels of service for each respective district. The new method is provides an accurate picture of the town, by grouping the town's two main villages of Harrisville and Pascoag into census tract 129, while the remaining two tracts: 130.01 and 130.02 respectively split the town from west to east along route 98. Additionally, the new method will be less prone to statistical error by simplifying the data collection and analysis process.

For planning purposes, the Town of Burrillville has been divided into three districts as illustrated on Map 1. These planning districts, as shown below, were delineated to conform to the U.S. 2000 Census tract lines.

Planning Districts	Census Tract	Neighborhoods
I	130.02	Glendale, Nasonville, Tarkiln, Mohegan, Spring Lake
II	130.01	Wallum Lake, Buck Hill, Jackson
III	129	Harrisville and Pascoag Villages

These districts realistically represent existing neighborhood and village identity. While the 2000 population of these districts is somewhat less than that of 1990, it is expected that the outlying areas will grow at a rapid rate along with Harrisville and Pascoag which are subject to the new village planned development overlay zone.

Population Distribution - In order to better understand where the population is living in Burrillville, an analysis of population distribution was performed. Based on census tracts and planning districts described earlier, the distribution is shown on Table 5.

Table 5
Summary of Population by Planning District
1990 and 2000

Year	Population
Planning Dist. I	
1990	7429
2000	7402
Planning Dist. II	
1990	3317
2000	3358
Planning Dist. III	
1990	5484
2000	5036

III. RESOURCE INVENTORY & ASSESSMENT

Conservation, Open Space and Recreational Resources – The Town's parcel-specific Geographic Information System (GIS) was utilized to prepare the inventory of open spaces for recreation and conservation purposes. The two earlier Recreation, Conservation and Open Space Plans relied upon discussions with the owners of facilities to identify the name of the facility, its location, type of facility, service area, ownership, and acreage. The Town's GIS, populated with the Assessor's database and updated on a weekly basis is more accurate than previous means used. However, because an alternative system was used, we cannot provide accurate statistical data comparing the amount of land currently available as open space to the amount previously available.
The following five categories are used in this Plan to classify conservation, open space and recreation facilities and areas.

Recreation Area - This type of facility includes major public parks, neighborhood parks, mini-parks, playfields, playgrounds, tot lots, and large private recreational facilities such as campgrounds and golf courses. The major emphasis is on active recreation.

Water Access Area - This type of facility includes beaches, fishing areas, boat access, marinas and right-of-ways to the water.

Open Space/Conservation Areas – These areas include forestlands, rare plant/wildlife preservation areas, and multi-purpose management areas.

Wellhead Protection - This type of facility includes land owned by Water Districts or Associations specifically for wellhead protection purposes.

Other Areas - This type of facility includes school sites, historic sites, scenic areas, roadside rests, commercial recreation facilities and facilities which do not fit another category.

The information presented in Table 7 shows that 10,467.1 acres of land are committed for recreation and conservation purposes in the Town. Of this amount, 679.7 acres are actually developed for recreational purposes. The balance, 9,787.4 acres, is undeveloped recreation or conservation land. Table 7 on the following pages, presents the data in summary form by planning district.

Table 7
Outdoor Recreation & Conservation Facilities Inventory
(Active and Passive Land Areas Identified in Acres)

PLANNING DISTRICT I

Site	Map & Lot No.	Facility or Location	Active Area	Passive Area	Type	Service Area	Owner
1	113-2 113-4 113-7	Branch River Park	18.9	45.7	Recreation	Town	Town
2	93-2 93-6 93-40 93-41 93-77 93-127	Spring Lake Beach	6.8	17.2	Water Access/Recreation/Camping Vacant-used for parking OS/Conservation	Region	Town
3	110-5	Spring Lake Boat Ramp	0.2	0.0	Water Access/Recreation	Region	State
4	---	Black Hut Mngmnt Area	0.0	1188.2	OS/Conservation	State	State
5	26-1	Audubon Society lot	0.0	64.6	OS/Conservation	Town	Private
6	12-5 29-29 46-1	Screech Hole Bog	0.0	38.7	OS/Conservation	Private	Private
7	27-11	Iron Mine Road lot	0.0	0.1	OS/Conservation	Town	Town
8	132-5 149-23	Nasonville Water District	0.	17.1	Wellhead Protection	Neighborhood	Private
9	130-50	Glendale Association	0.0	.1	Wellhead Protection	Neighborhood	Private
10	166-10	Snizek Property Donation	0.0	4.9	Water Access/Recreation	Town	Town
1	162-50	Police Station Area	0.0	18.6	OS/Conservation	Town	Town
2	196-69	Burrillville Little League	4.1	0.0	Recreation	Town	Private
21	126-4	Preservation Society lot	0.0	6.5	OS/Conservation	Private	Private
11	39-1 39-6	Round Top Fishing Area	108.0	26.5	Water Access/Recreation	Region	State
13	23-2, 40-1,	Wallum Lake Rod & Gun Club	69.0	177.3	Recreation OS/Conservation	Region	Private

	40-2, 40-3, 40-4, 40-5						
20	39-2	Round Top Road lot	0.0	.1	OS/Conservation	Town	Town
3	236-4	Country View Country Club	132.4	0.0	Recreation	Region	Private
4	197-3 198-14 199-34 233-31	Addeville Game Farm	0.0	943.2	Recreation	Region	Private
2	144-22 144-31 161-5	Burrillville High School	10.0	36.0	Recreation	Town	Town
3	144-26	Burrillville Tennis Courts	1.0	0.0	Recreation	Town	Town
9	161-6 161-15	RR ROW (Clear River Drive)	0.0	44.4	Other	Town	Town
10	248-1	Steere Farm Road lot (next to Steere Farm Elementary)	0.0	.9	OS/Conservation	Town	Town
12	160-45 160-188 177-25 177-42 178-43	Harrisville Fire District	0.0	43.0	Wellhead Protection	Neighborh'd	Private
16	162-83 162-84 162-84	Whitney Estates	0.0	6.1	OS/Conservation	Neighborh'd	Private
17	177-57	Hemlock Farms	0.0	39.1	OS/Conservation	Neighborh'd	Private
18	177-44	Hemlock Farms-land dedication	0.0	6.8	OS/Conservation	Town	Town
5	232-14	Maureen Circle-Donation	0.0	2.4	OS/Conservation	Neighborhood	Town
6	271-2	Girl Scouts of RI	0.0	9.5	OS/Conservation	Private	Private
7	230-14	Crystal Lake Golf Course	239	0	Recreation	Region	Private
TOTAL			**589.4**	**2737.0**			

***5.6 ac. are owned by Harrisville Fire District for Wellhead Protection.**

PLANNING DISTRICT II

Site	Map & Lot No.	Facility or Location	Active Area	Passive Area	Type	Service Area	Owner
8	244-8 244-9 245-1	Echo Lake Campground	125.6	0.0	Recreation	Region	Private
8	108-1	Nipmuc River Flowage Lot and Trail	0.0	229.7	OS/Conservation	Town	Town
4	225-22	Casmir Pulaski State Park Geo Washington	0.0	2970.0	Recreation OS/Conservation	State	State

		Mngmnt Area					
5	224-1	Land Abutting State Mngmnt Area	0.0	2.1	OS/Conservation	Town	Town
6	100-1 118-1 51-1 68-1 68-2	Buck Hill Management Area	0.0	1905.6	OS/Conservation	State	State
7	150-5	Wakefield Pond Boat Ramp	0.3	1.0	Water Access/Recreation	Region	State
8	51-15	Zambarano Memorial Hospital	0.0	340.0	Recreation-Other	State	State
9	---	Buck Hill Family/Boy Scouts Campgrnd/Feinstein Camp	175.0	1443.7	Recreation	Region	Private
10	---	State of RI/Angell Street lot	0.0	2.5	OS/Conservation	State	State
11	189-1	Brown University lot	0.0	53.4	OS/Conservation	Private	Private
12	---	South Shore Road lot	0.0	20.6	OS/Conservation	Town	Town
13	86-1	Lot off East Wallum Lake Road	0.0	5.0	OS/Conservation	Town	Town
14	135.4	Stag Head Drive lot	0.0	.2	OS/Conservation	Town	Town
19	19-3	Douglas Town line (sliver lot)	0.0	.6	OS/Conservation	Town	Town
1	156-59	White Mill Park	1.5	22.2	Recreation	Neighborhood	Town
TOTAL			**302.4**	**6996.6**			

PLANNING DISTRICT III

Site	Map & Lot No.	Facility or Location	Active Area	Passive Area	Type	Service Area	Owner
1	143-30	Freedom Park	2.0	0.0	Recreation	Neighborh'd	Town
4	142-7	Eccleston Field*	9.3	0.0	Recreation/Wellhead	Town	Town/ Private
5	142-100	William L. Callahan School	0.0	1.0	Recreation/Other	Town	Town
6	159-25 160-10	Austin T. Levy School	4.0	.5	Recreation-Other	Town	Town
7	160-183	Assembly Bldg/Library	0	.5	Other	Town	Town
15	140-54	Fairbanks Avenue lot	0.0	.1	OS/Conservation	Town	Town
1	157-78	Hauser Memorial Field	9.1	0.0	Recreation	Town	Town
2	157-36	Beckwith-Bruckshaw Lodge	1.0	0.0	Recreation: Community Rec. Center	Town	Town
	175-29	Veteran's Memorial Park	0	.21	Recreation	Town	Town
4	174-117 175-30	Pascoag Bridgeway	0.0	1.1	OS/Conservation	Neighborhood	Town
10		Harrisville Mill Pond	0.5	0.0	Water	Region	State

		Ramp			Access/Recreation		
	TBD	Harrisville skate park	.2	0	Outdoor recreation	Region	Town
6	---	Pascoag Fire District	0.0	28.9	Wellhead Protection	Neighborhood	Private
7	191-113	Union Pond Boat Ramp	0.0	2.2	Water Access/Recreation	Region	State
14	126-3	Fiddler's Green-Phase I	0.0	13.0	OS/Conservation	Neighborh'd	Private
15	143-18	Fiddler's Green-Phase II	0.0	3.5	OS/Conservation	Neighborh'd	Private
2	139-19	Wilson's Reservoir Ramp	0.5	0.0	Water Access/Recreation	Region	State
3	139-23	Land Abutting Boat Ramp	0.0	.2	Water Access/Recreation	Region	State
9	175-81	Spring Street lot	0.0	.1	OS/Conservation	Town	Town
TOTAL			**26.6**	**51.31**			

GRAND TOTAL FOR 1999	**918.4**	**9784.91**	

Recreational Resources - In order to better assess the quantitative and qualitative value of the resources identified in the inventory process, we have broken the data into three groupings. The first consists of active recreational resources available primarily to Town residents at no cost. The second group is a listing of open space and recreational resources utilized by more than just the citizens of Burrillville and may involve an entry fee. These are identified as Regional Facilities. Finally, we have compiled a Listing of Conservation and Open Space Lots once again aimed at the local residents.

These listings will become more important in later sections of this Plan where we identify and analyze conservation, open space and recreation needs.

While Table 7 may give the impression that Burrillville has a substantial amount of recreational land and facilities, in fact the number of Town-owned active recreational facilities available at no cost is limited. Table 8, below, identifies these areas by the type of facility and its expected service area. It should be noted that the type of facility listed is based upon its major category, and that a facility may contain more than one use.

Table 8: Recreational Facilities by District			
	Active Area	**Type Facility**	**Service Area**
Planning District I			
Branch River Park	18.9	playfield	Town
Burrillville High School	10.0	playfield	Town
Burrillville Tennis Courts	1.0	tennis	Town
Burrillville Little League	4.1	playfield	Town
Total	**34**		
Planning District II			
White Mill park	1.5	playlot/park	Town
Total	**1.5**		
Planning District III			
Freedom Park	2.0	playlot	Neighborhood
Hauser Memorial Field	9.1	playfield	Town
Beckwith-Bruckshaw Lodge*	1.0	indoor facility	Neighborhood
Eccleston Field	9.3	playfield	Town
Skateboard Park	.2	Outdoor facility	Town
Austin T. Levy School	4.0	playground	Neighborhood
Total	**25.4**		
Grand Total	**61.1**		

* The Beckwith-Bruckshaw Lodge is the Town's Community Recreation Center.

Compared to the 61.1 acres of active recreational areas, the Town owns a considerably larger amount of land for conservation or passive recreational purposes. More specifically, as previously listed in Table 7, the Town owns 461.01 acres of undeveloped open space for conservation purposes.

Existing Natural Resources – Burrillville is rich with natural resources as the following sections discussing vegetation and wildlife, surface and ground waters, and visual resources illustrate. This section also includes a discussion of how these resources are managed/maintained.

Vegetation and Wildlife - The current vegetation and animal populations of Burrillville's uplands reflect the past use of the land, and the past uses were determined largely, by the underlying soils. Forests were cleared in areas where the soils were suitable for crop and livestock. These areas are mainly found in the valleys. Stone walls found in second growth forests are evidence that much of Burrillville's land had once been cleared for agricultural uses.

Farming has not been a staple of the Burrillville economy since the early 19th century. Despite a current, small agrarian population, the protection of farms was rated highly in a public opinion poll performed in 1990 under the Town's Comprehensive Planning efforts. Therefore, it is important for the Town to look upon farming as something other than a transient use, soon to be replaced by urban development.

The interspersion of forests and fields increases the value of each for wildlife. Stonewalls dividing

fields are often lined with native trees and shrubs, becoming narrow ribbons of woodland crisscrossing the agricultural land. These field borders, and upland areas associated with them, support a variety of wildlife including pheasants, quail, red tail hawks, sparrow hawks, doves, and woodcock.

In addition to avian species, these areas are also inhabited by a number of mammals common to Rhode Island, i.e., fox, rabbit, skunk, woodchuck, deer, etc. Wetlands and the land immediately surrounding them are often left in their natural state and provide another valuable type of wildlife habitat. Animals utilizing these habitats include wood ducks, black ducks, mallards, snipe, rails, herons, kingfishers, marsh hawks, muskrats, mink and otter. The safe movement of wildlife throughout the Town is of concern, especially as the outlying areas become more developed.

Rare and Endangered Species and Habitats - The status of species of plants and animals suspected of being rare or declining has been monitored for the past two decades by the Rhode Island Natural Heritage Program (NHP). There are approximately 48 species of plants and animals in Burrillville which the NHP has cataloged and considers current. Species are assigned to one of seven status categories. The Federally Endangered and Federally Threatened species are given the highest status in regard to protection, followed by State Endangered, State Threatened, State Interest, Species of Concern and State Extirpated species. There are no known Federally Endangered or Federally Threatened species in Burrillville. However, there are a number of state status species in the Town.

The Natural Heritage Program has inventoried habitats where rare species are found and have made management recommendations to ensure their continued survival in those habitats. Sites of particular importance in Burrillville include:

- The Clear River area provides habitat for a number of state-listed rare plants and animals. In fact, one of the State's most rare freshwater turtles has been known to inhabit the Clear River and has been found in the Town's Nipmuc Drainage property.

- The wetland in Leeson Brook, contained within the Buck Hill Management Area, is a site for nesting Great Blue Herons.

- The Pulaski/Washington State Forest Complex provides a large, relatively undisturbed forest habitat for several rare birds and amphibians.

- The wetland just west of the North Smithfield line and contiguous to the Massachusetts border, generally known as Screech Hole Bog, contains a rare Level Fen community, several rare plant occurrences, and one of the few remaining populations of a rare invertebrate.

- The Cedar Swamp Pond and Croff Farm Brook complex represents one of the most significant areas of biological diversity in Rhode Island. At least 15 state listed rare species have been identified in this area including such species as Black Spruce, American Larch, and Creeping Snowberry, commonly found much farther north. These species co-occur with Inundated Homes Rush and the Horsetail Spike-Rush, a regionally rare Coastal

Plain Species which range southward to the Gulf Coast.

All of the sites listed above would benefit from additional protection in the form of protective zoning, placement of conservation restrictions, or acquisition of buffer zones.

Surface Water Resources - Burrillville is included in the Blackstone River Basin, one of three major drainage basins in Rhode Island. Portions of western Burrillville are in the Five Mill River sub-basin which is part of the larger Thames River Basin. The majority of land area in Burrillville drains to the Clear River or to brooks which eventually flow into the Clear River. The flow from the Clear and Chepachet Rivers join in eastern Burrillville to form the Branch River which flows generally easterly out of Burrillville and joins the Blackstone River in North Smithfield.

While much of the Clear River in Burrillville is classified as A or B (good quality), several reaches of the Clear River in Burrillville are contaminated by wastewater discharges. In fact, according to DEM's 1998 inventory of waterbodies impaired by pollution, the Branch River, Clear River and Tarkiln Brook are impaired. The Branch River contains biodiversity impacts, pathogens, and metals (Cu,Pb); the Clear River contains biodiversity impacts, nutrients, and metals (Pb); and Tarkiln Brook is adversely impacted by a nearby hazardous waste site. DEM has determined that these waters do not meet Rhode Island Water Quality Standards and that a strategy to address the two Rivers is planned by DEM for the future (approximately in the years 2005-2010). A solution for attaining water quality standards has been determined and is underway for the Brook; however, DEM predicts that the standards will not be met within the next two years.

There are several small brooks in Town, most of which originate in wetlands or ponds and flow into neighboring towns in Rhode Island, Connecticut and Massachusetts. Several of these brooks have been given water quality classifications of A or B.

Table 9 Small Brooks & Watercourses			
Name of System	**Origin**	**Destination**	**Class**
Chockalog River	Cedar Swamp & Green River, Mass.	Nipmuc River	A
Croff Farm Brook	Wetlands System in Buck Hill	Whitman Pond, CT	B
Keech Brook & Pond	Pond & Wetlands in Glocester & Burrillville	Quaddick Reservoir, CT	B
Tarkiln Brook	Paine Brook & Wetlands in Glocester & Burrillville	Slatersville Reservoir	B
Leeson Brook	Wetlands in Buck Hill Management Area	Cold Spring Brook & Croff Farm Brook	A
Cold Spring Brook	Wetlands in Buck Hill Management Area	Wallum Lake	A
Dry Arm Brook	Round Pond	Clear River	B
Iron Mine Brook	Wetlands Pulaski State Forest	Clear River	B
Leland Brook	Wetlands near Pulaski State Forest	Wilson's Reservoir	B
Mowry Brook	Wetlands north of Stone Dam Road	Clear River	B
Round Top Brook	Chase Pond, Mass.	Nipmuc River	A
Herring Brook	Spring Lake	Clear River	B
Hemlock Brook	Wetlands in Mass.	Clear River & Tinkerville Brook	A
Tuckey Brook	Wetlands east of Black Hut Management Area	Branch River	B

Source: Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management, Water Resources Division.

Burrillville's landscape is dotted with lakes and ponds. Most are manmade, but some are natural water bodies left by the receding Laurentide glacier. The Pascoag Reservoir is the largest water body, approximately 424 acres in Burrillville. None of these surface water bodies are utilized for drinking water supply. They are used for a variety of other purposes including boating, fishing, swimming and other active and passive types of recreation. Unfortunately, because many waterbodies were created to power the mills and involved creating dams and flooding land, Burrillville will continue to face property rights issues. A prime example involves Pascoag Reservoir, where the owner of the land under water is contesting the rights of the people who use the water's surface. While this matter remains unresolved as this document is being completed, it serves to document an issue that the Town will need to ultimately address.

Below is a list of water bodies two acres or larger in size.

Table 10 Major Water Bodies		
Water Body	**Area (acres)**	**Water Quality Class**
Pascoag Reservoir	424	B
Wallum Lake	275	A
Wilson's Reservoir	109	B
Spring Lake	95	B
Wakefield Pond	76	B
Slatersville Reservoir	67	B
Sucker Pond	55	B
Unnamed Water Bodies	54	B
Wilbur Pond	23	B
Round Pond	15	B
Peck's Pond	13	B
Big Round Top Pond	7	A
Ross Pond	4	B
Chapham Pond	3	B
Gilleran Pond	3	B
Little Round Top Pond	2	B
Tarkiln Pond	n/a	B
Total Area	**1225.0**	**n/a**

Source: Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management, Water Resources Division.

Groundwater Resources - The Town of Burrillville is underlain by the Upper Branch River Groundwater Reservoir, an extensive primary recharge aquifer with a water-saturated thickness of ten feet or greater. This groundwater aquifer is classified by RIDEM as GAA, indicating "groundwater resources that are known, or presumed, to be suitable for drinking water use without treatment."

Burrillville is one of 14 Rhode Island communities which depend entirely upon groundwater for its drinking water source. There are three production wells in the Harrisville Fire District, which draw water from the Clear River Aquifer. The Pascoag Fire District also has two operating wells in the Clear River Aquifer. The balance of the Town is dependent upon private wells.

Burrillville's Aquifer Overlay District governs uses and lot size dimensions over the Town's aquifer. To date, the District has served as an effective tool for protecting water quality. The Town is currently exploring the expansion of the District to include the wellhead protection areas.

Visual and Aesthetic Resources - The Town of Burrillville is characterized by areas of unique natural beauty. Views of rural areas, ridges, historic districts, farmlands, wetlands and wooded areas, together with rivers, ponds, reservoirs, and streams give the Town its special character. An inventory of the Town's scenic landscapes was compiled as part of a Statewide study by the RIDEM Planning and Development Department. Approximately 4,800 acres on eight sites were

identified by the State as noteworthy or distinctive within Burrillville. These sites include:

- Hospital and grounds around Wallum Lake;
- The sequence of old farms and fields on East Ironstone Road;
- Views of woods around Round Lake;
- Pine forests and shoreline of Wakefield Pond;
- East Wallum Lake Road at Wilson's Reservoir with its surrounding pine forests and interesting shoreline; and
- The noteworthy vegetation and residential development on Colwell Road.

Other important views and vistas not identified in the State's inventory include:

- The view from Benson Mountain located within the Buck Hill Management Area;
- The area along Knibb Road and Jackson Schoolhouse Road;
- The mill pond and waterfall at East Avenue in Harrisville;
- The entire length of East Avenue (the State's consultant has suggested that East Avenue likely meets all the criteria associated with a Scenic Roadway);
- The ledges and Clear River in the historic Village of Pascoag;
- The view of Spring Lake from the Overlook Deck at the Spring Lake Beach Recreation Facility;
- White Mill Park located at the intersection of Route 100 and East Wallum Lake Road in Pascoag, and continuing north along East Wallum Lake Road;
- Route 102 in its current, undeveloped state is a scenic highway; and further development of the highway should maintain, to the extent possible, the currently existing scenic vistas;
- The Oakland Triangle (corner of Whipple Avenue and Victory Highway); and,
- The Snake Hill ledges in Mapleville as seen from the Mapleville Bridge looking north.
- Garvy Ledges (Reservoir Road, across from Union Pond boat ramp

Additional scenic landscapes found off the beaten path are recognized to exist throughout the Town, and should receive equal treatment to those identified above on a case-by-case basis in terms of future preservation efforts.

Property and Program Management Resources - Historically, the Town has had little input as to how the State Management areas are operated. However, because such large amounts of land have already been taken off the Town's tax role, Burrillville will be requesting that the State allow the Town to convert several small parcels of land from passive to active recreational uses. Similarly, unless private recreational areas or land dedicated as open space cause complaints from the neighbors, the Town does not get involved with the operations of those properties either. The Town's primary responsibility concerns active recreational areas owned by the Town.

Public access is encouraged on land, especially parks and playgrounds owned by the Town.

Attached is Table 11, identifying uses permitted on public, private and state-owned areas. Generally, the following uses are not permitted on Town-owned land: all-terrain vehicles, including mountain bicycles and snowmobiles, open fires, and overnight camping.

Table 11. Activities Permitted in Town-owned Parks & Open Spaces intended for Public Use

Location/Facility	tennis	basketball	use of play structures	jogging/walking	football	soccer	golf	horseshoes	picnic benches/tables	baseball/softball	volleyball	swimming	fishing	hunting	picnic w/o fire	ice skating	skateboarding	horseback riding	cross-country skiing	bicycling	rollerblading/skating	canoe/kayak launch	indoor programs	handicap accessible	wellhead/water protection	conservation	all terrain vehicles
White Mill Park			X	X				X	X						X									X			
Branch River Park	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	X									X					X			
Hauser Field		X	X	X						X														X			
Spring Lake Beach											X	X			X							X		X			
Eccleston Field		X			X	X				X							X										
Freedom Park			X						X															X			
Gazebo/Town Common									X															X			
Snizek Park									X				X														
A.T. Levy School			X							X														X			
Steere Farm School			X		X	X				X														X			
High School	X			X	X	X			X	X						X			X					X			
Mapleville Little League Field				X					X	X																	
Nipmuc Park				X											X							X					
Wallum Lake Property (Neri)				X									X		X							X					
Beckwith-Bruckshaw Lodge																							X	X			
Activities permitted in State-owned Parks & Open Spaces Intended for Public Use																											
Spring Lake Boat Ramp													X									X					
Black Hut Management Area				X										X												X	
Harrisville Mill Pond Ramp													X									X					
Round Top Fishing Area				X					X				X									X				X	
Union Pond Boat Ramp													X									X					
Wilson's Reservoir Ramp													X									X					
Casmir Pulaski State Park				X					X				X							X		X					
Geo Washington Mngmnt				X					X									X	X	X						X	
Buck Hill Management				X					X				X	X				X								X	
Wakefield Pond Boat Ramp													X									X					
Zambarano Memorial Hospital																									X		
Angell Street lot on Wallum Lk													X									X					

Table 11. Activities Permitted in Privately-owned Parks & Open Spaces intended for Public Use

Location/Facility	tennis	basketball	use of play structures	jogging/walking	football	soccer	golf	horseshoes	picnic benches/tables	baseball/softball	volleyball	swimming	fishing	hunting	picnic w/o fire	ice skating	skateboarding	horseback riding	cross-country skiing	bicycling	rollerblading/skating	canoe/kayak launch	indoor programs	handicap accessible	wellhead/water protection	conservation	all terrain vehicles
Audubon Society Lot																										X	
Screech Hole Bog																										X	
Nasonville Water District																									X	X	
Glendale Association																									x	X	
Casino Park										x																	
Country View Golf Club							X																				
Addeville Game Farm														x												X	
Girl Scouts of RI																										X	
Harrisville Fire District																										X	
Wallum Lake Rod & Gun Club													X	X												X	
Fiddler's Green Phase I																										X	
Fiddler's Green Phase II				X									X									X				X	
Whitney Estates				X																						X	
Hemlock Farms																										X	
Burrillville Historical Society Lot																										X	
Pascoag Fire District																									x	X	
Echo Lake Campground				X								x	X							x		X					
Buck Hill Family Campground		x	x	X					X	X	x	X	X							X		X	X	x	X	X	
Boy Scouts		X	X	X					X	X	X	X	X		x				x	X		X	X	X	X	X	
Feinstein Youth Camp			X	X	x	X			X	x	X	X	x										x	X		X	
Brown University Lot																										X	
Crystal Lake Golf Course							x																			X	

Source: Burrillville Department of Parks & Recreation, July 2004
Note: The following activites are NOT permitted in any Town-owned Park or Open Space: picnic w/fire, snowmobiling, all-terrrain vehicles , motorboat launch

The Town's Department of Parks and Recreation is responsible for recreational functions, activities, assets, and resources within the Town of Burrillville and not under the control of the School Department. In order to better anticipate intensive usage of the parks, larger groups are required to complete and submit application forms indicating when and how a park will be used. Additionally, regulations for park usage have been promulgated involving the use of alcoholic beverages, property damage and cleanup, and the need for a police officer to manage traffic at the site. The Town's Recreation Commission, comprised of Town Council-appointed citizens, oversees and recommends policies to the Director of Parks and Recreation. Together, the Director and Commission are responsible for the Town's comprehensive recreation program and, along with the Department of public works, the maintenance and operation of the Town's recreational facilities.

While the Department of Parks and Recreation determines infrastructure and maintenance needs, the Town's Department of Public Works is responsible for the implementing the improvements. Similar to other municipalities, Burrillville's School Department has its own maintenance staff. Burrillville recognizes the opportunity for improved coordination of playing fields maintenance and use between the Department of Parks and Recreation, Department of public works and School Department, and will be reinitiating discussions for improvement through a Fields Study Committee.

Burrillville's Conservation Commission is primarily involved in the management of the undeveloped Nipmuc Property and Town-owned land abutting Wallum Lake.

The Town of Burrillville Police Department is responsible for the general surveillance of the entire Town's active and passive recreational facilities and properties.

IV. NEEDS ANALYSIS

There has been an increased demand for outdoor recreational facilities throughout the United States during the past decade. Factors identified which have created the additional demand are: population increase, the increased amount of leisure time, the rising standard of living, the interest to preserve the natural landscape and the preservation of open space to separate intensive development. Recent surveys have shown that the "quality" of the recreational experience is becoming more important.

Recreational Standards and Analysis - The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) standards published in the Recreation, Conservation and Open Space Planning Manual, as amended, for playgrounds, playfields and neighborhood parks were examined for this study, to determine the need for these facilities. These standards range from 6.25 to 10.5 acres of developed open space per 1,000 population. In this Plan, Burrillville has again (similar to the 1993 Plan) adopted the 6.25 acres per 1,000 persons as a standard. One of the reasons why the lower standard was adopted was for financial reasons – Burrillville continues to struggle to stabilize its tax rate and cannot afford to put aside any more money than it currently does to purchase and maintain open space. Another reason for using the lower standard is Burrillville's

setting. The NRPA standards are best suited for homogenous urbanized or suburbanized areas. Burrillville's old mill villages, with their relatively dense development, need public recreation and open spaces per the NRPA recommendations, but the outlying rural areas with large lots and informal use of privately owned fields, trails, and swimming holes do not fit well with national standards. Mini-parks and playlots are needed in the older villages but not in the other parts of Town. As the Town continues to grow, however, care must be taken to insure that the recreation functions of play lots, play areas and major parks are provided to meet to recreation needs of future residents. For example, play lots and play areas can be located within playfields and playgrounds where such areas are dictated by neighborhood requirements.

Burrillville, similar to many Rhode Island communities, has experienced the impact of increased population due to the movement of people from the core cities of Rhode Island. Population to be served is the basis used to determine recreational needs. In addition, because of the increased concern for the environment and with ecology, there are areas in Burrillville that are preserved for conservation and open space purposes. Thus, outdoors-recreational facilities for the Town of Burrillville shall use as criteria the demand created by the local population and the preservation of open space for environmental and ecological objectives.

Recreation Needs by Planning District - Table 12, illustrates the present and projected area needs for playgrounds, playfields and neighborhood parks, based upon the standard of 6.25 acres per 1,000 persons. The amount of land used in this table, 61.4 acres, represents only Town-owned property available for use at no charge presently developed for active recreational purposes.

Private or State-owned property is intended to serve the recreational needs of not only Burrillville residents, but also regional and even statewide needs. Most of the private and state-owned areas are included by the State in determining recreation needs on the State level. Therefore, for the purposes of this report, only those areas and needs under the jurisdiction of the Town of Burrillville are considered.

Based on the standard of 6.25 acres per 1,000 people, Table 12 identifies the Town’s projected recreational needs by planning district as of year 2000.

Table VIII-12
Recreational Needs by Planning District

Year	Population	Land Required to Meet Standards	Existing Property	Deficit/ Surplus
Planning Dist. I				
1990	7429	46	119	73
2000	7402	46	119	73
Planning Dist. II				
1990	3317	21	0	(21)
2000	3358	21	0	(21)
Planning Dist. III				
1990	5484	34	30.5	(4.5)
2000	5036	31	30.5	.5

Source: U.S. Census of population, 2000; Burrillville Planning Department, 2004.

The figures shown in this Table indicate that Planning Districts 2 and 3 are deficient in land needed for recreation purposes.

While the above analysis shows a significant need for additional recreational facilities, there are a number of Recreation, Conservation and Open Space facilities and areas in Town, which are identified as "regional" facilities. These were not included in the "town" side of the ledger however, their existence must be recognized. While they cannot be conveniently calculated into our Needs Assessment, Burrillville residents do utilize these facilities. Again, this is one of the reasons why the Town has adopted a recreation standard at the lowest end of the scale. Planning District II for example, is of low density residential (rural) and contains two of the town's largest State Management Forests, which makes its deficit of 21 acres misleading.

Conservation and Open Space Needs - The emphasis in the prior section of this report was placed on a quantitative analysis of active outdoor recreation facilities. In addition to active recreation facilities, the Town recognizes environmental quality and passive recreation opportunities as an important component of the outdoor recreation experience.

A greater portion of Burrillville is presently undeveloped. In fact, the Town's Comprehensive Plan identified approximately 12,660 acres of land as conservation lands or undeveloped as of 2004. Based on the Town's Geographic Information System and as identified in Table 7, the State owns 6,518.4 acres of forest, park or wildlife management areas in Town. While these areas are principally conservation areas by nature, they also function as action recreation areas for hikers, horseback riders and mountain bike enthusiasts. Another 3,388.8 acres are privately owned and used for conservation, including wellhead protection, purposes.

Conservation and open space needs cannot be measured by a quantitative standard, but must be based upon a community policy to protect the natural resources which exist in the Town. Such areas can also serve to provide relief from flooding, particularly in those areas designated as swamps, riverbanks or wetlands. A policy to protect, or acquire where necessary, all existing

wetlands is in order, where opportunities for such action is available. Similar to open space land, wetlands and watercourses provide essential open space in forested or urbanized environments. Rivers and their banks serve also as greenway corridors both for recreational uses of the river and conservation functions as wildlife corridors.

Burrillville is dotted with ponds and lakes of various sizes. Surrounding many of these are summer cottage colonies previously held in single ownership. The tenants leased small cabins or cottages for summer use. Recently many of the small cottages have been sold and seasonal structures converted to year-round homes. This situation presents both recreational and environmental problems. First, access to natural resources is limited to a few private landowners. Secondly, the small lots could and do permit an intensive form of development resulting in the pollution of the ponds and lakes.

In addition to the open space and rural character issues, water resources have special inherent characteristics that have been documented as providing highly valued visual experiences. Steps must be taken to preserve the natural and aesthetic values these water resources offer and make them accessible to the public.

A detailed inventory and evaluation of Burrillville's visual resources is beyond the scope of this study. Such an endeavor requires a separate comprehensive study that should be, undertaken in the future. However, for the purpose of developing a Town policy toward visual quality, a generalization of important elements is provided.

Visual resources, simply defined, are represented by the character of the physical environment and the perception we have of that particular environment. Research into human perception has established that visual quality in the environment makes a significant contribution to a community's overall quality of life. The character and interplay between topographic features, natural and manmade landmarks, the form of open space and development, as well as historic and culturally meaningful structures and sites, creates a community identity or "sense of place".

Open space is especially critical in Burrillville to:

- Provide cleared undeveloped open spaces in a landscape dominated by forested or urbanized areas;
- Create unique edges between forests and cultivated or pastured fields;
- Maintain the rural character that is Burrillville's visual and cultural heritage; and
- Provide visual counterpoint to the urbanized image generated by commercial development.

Too often, concern for the visual environment has been dismissed as being a nonessential issue in land use decision-making. Such an attitude is both archaic and unresponsive to public need. This fact is clearly demonstrated by citizen outcry against development projects that fail to fit into the character of the Burrillville landscape. Additionally, the erosion of the visual and cultural character of a community can have not only psychological impacts, but also very real economic impacts through depreciated real estate and failing marketability to prospective new businesses and residents.

The citizen survey indicated that the characteristics of Burrillville which people liked best were visual qualities: its small town character and natural beauty.

Protection of visually important spaces may be achieved through a variety of techniques, including purchase, easement, tax incentive programs and development regulations.

V. RECREATION, CONSERVATION AND OPEN SPACE GOALS & OBJECTIVES

The following represents the Town's goals and objectives relating to recreation, conservation and open space preservation:

GOAL: Provide for active and passive recreational areas and activities to meet the needs of Burrillville's residents.

- Develop more recreational facilities and programs in response to the Town's increasing population
- Maintain and expand existing recreational facilities and programs
- Coordinate recreational planning efforts between the Schools, Conservation Commission, Department of Public Works, Parks and Recreation Department and Planning Department
- Link recreational facilities through pedestrian-friendly greenway corridors
- Ensure that the needs and recreational interests of residents of all social and age groups and abilities are considered to the fullest extent possible in developing recreational facility plans
- Maximize the use of water bodies for recreational activities
- Provide recreational opportunities in proximity to all residential areas in Town

GOAL: Encourage the use of regional recreation and conservation facilities as a means of promoting the growth of the tourism economy in Burrillville.

- Support the development of private and state recreational establishments in appropriate areas
- Maintain natural aesthetic amenities around dams, water bodies, buildings, etc.
- Maintain scenic roadways and vistas
- Preserve farmlands
- Disseminate information that identifies the location of properties that can be used for passive or active recreational purposes, and how and when they can be used
- Coordinate efforts to promote use of recreational facilities with the Blackstone Valley Tourism Council, the Blackstone Valley National Heritage Corridor Commission and other regional or statewide organizations

GOAL: Protect natural resources.

- Plan for the protection of complete ecological units
- Preserve flora and fauna species and habitats through the development of contiguous greenway corridors
- Preserve undeveloped lands around waterbodies
- Improve surface and groundwater quality
- Preserve unique geological and natural features
- Maintain representative elements of the natural environment while developing the built environment
- Limit development in wetlands, floodplains and on soils not suitable for development
- Assist the State with the enforcement of environmental protection regulations

VI. ACTION PROGRAM

The Town of Burrillville has had the foresight to make significant acquisitions of land to ensure that recreational, conservation and open space opportunities will be available to all residents. This effort must be continued.

The Town should develop existing sites within a comprehensive coordinated framework to insure that facilities are developed based upon usage. This can be best accomplished by frequent review of studies and development of priorities within the financial capabilities of the Town.

One of the most feasible methods to ensure comprehensiveness with respect to planning and its implementation is through utilization of an effective Recreation Capital Improvements Program. In this manner, there is sufficient amount of time for the community to determine the needs, make adjustments if necessary, establish priorities, and find the means of implementation. In some instances, implementation of the Recreation, Conservation and Open Space Plan means that the local financial resources will have to be made available.

The Town should continue its efforts to acquire or control water bodies, wetlands, and streams. The State Guide Plan Element 155, Report #84 titled "A Greener Path … Greenspace and Greenways for Rhode Island's Future" (dated November 1994) contains a compendium of acquisition and regulatory strategies useful in preserving land for recreation and conservation purposes; the listing is contained in Appendix X of this Plan.

Of the various land protection tools available, the Town does currently offer Cluster Zoning and Residential Compounding as alternatives to Conventional Zoning. Additionally, persons wishing to subdivide their property are required to dedicate land for the provision of recreation, open space or conservation. If the developer cannot dedicate land, the Planning Board may require the

developer instead to pay a fee in lieu of land. Developers have historically chosen to not dedicate land and the Town has chosen not to accept land (due to anticipated maintenance and liability issues). However, in anticipation that the Town may wish to create small play areas, or in order to preserve environmentally sensitive areas (when applicable), the Town should consider the acceptance of land dedications.

It is recommended that land and water bodies be acquired for passive recreational and/or conservation purposes in addition to land acquired for intensive recreational activity and, where appropriate, farmlands and orchards be included in this acquisition/preservation program.

As identified in Section IV, the following needs have been identified by district:

- ***Planning District I, Glendale-Nasonville, Oakland-Mapleville***, currently maintains a 42.5-acre surplus of land. Branch River Park, Spring Lake beach and the High School facility are the largest areas which help to satisfy the district's LOS from a population perspective; yet, all three sites are more than ½ mile from the Villages of Oakland and Mapleville.

- ***Planning District II, Bridgeton-Wallum Lake,*** currently has a 21-acre deficit that is somewhat misleading in terms of need due to low-density population on large lots over a large area in addition to the Buck Hill Management and George Washington Management Areas.

- ***Planning District III, the Pascoag and Harrisville areas***, have a shortfall of six acres. The development of the Harrisville Skate Park will alleviate the shortfall by providing much needed active recreation.

Burrillville's greatest active recreational needs are in Districts II and III.

Five Year Action Plan – The actions proposed to meet the goals and objectives identified in the previous section are identified below. Based on the Town's experience with its previous Plan, we have found that certain activities require a significant amount of time to fully implement. Therefore, Year One of the Action Plan contains the greatest amount of proposed items and Year Five the least, with the assumption that certain items initiated in Year One may only be realized in the latter years of this Plan.

Year One Action Items – Year 2005

1. Acquire Peck's Farm (Boys & Girls Club) adjacent to the Beckwith-Bruckshaw Lodge - to be funded with grants (*Planning District III*) ONGOING
2. Initiate discussions with the State regarding the possible development of State-owned land for active recreational purposes (*Planning Districts I II*) ONGOING
3. Initiate discussions with the YMCA in order to have one of their facilities located in Town (*All Districts*) (COMPLETED)
4. Re-institute the Fields Study Committee and implement their recommendations (*All*

Districts) COMPLETED

5. Request that the R.I. Canoe and Kayak Association create a map of canoeable rivers (*All Districts*)
6. Resurface the tennis courts at the High School (*Planning District I*) COMPLETE
7. Complete the on-going, funded projects – construction of the Hauser Field walking path (*Planning District III*), Spring Lake Beach (*Planning District I*) ONGOING
8. Assist the Conservation Commission in creating trails on the Nipmuc property (*Planning District II*) COMPETE
9. Facilitate the creation of a land trust (*All Districts*) COMPLETE
10. Explore acquiring land abutting Branch River Park in order to develop additional multipurpose recreational facilities (*Planning District I*)
11. Request that the Wild Plant Society (or similar organization) inventory endangered wildflowers (*All Districts*)
12. Explore acquiring the Neri property on Wilson's Reservoir (*Planning District II*) On-going
13. Explore acquiring Sweet's Hill on East Avenue (*Planning District I*) Ongoing
14. Realign Mowry Road (Snizek Park) to create a passive park near Tarklin Pond with a handicapped accessible fishing area (*Planning District I*) ONGOING
15. Identify & develop a roller blade/skateboard park/ramp facility (Planning *District III*) ONGOING

Year Two Action Items - Year 2006

1. Convert the Pascoag Fire District land on North Main Street into a pedestrian park (*Planning District III*)
2. Explore recreational opportunities for the land donated by the State to the Town at Spring Lake (*Planning District I*) COMPLETE
3. Install lights at the tennis courts at Branch River Park (*Planning District I*)
4. Create an Adopt-a-Spot program (*All Districts*) ONGOING

Year Three Action Items - Year 2007

1. Creating an active recreation facility near the Police Station (*Planning District I*) ONGOING

Year Four Action Items - Year 2008

1. Develop an all purpose gym (Senior/Teen center) next to the Beckwith-Bruckshaw Lodge (*Planning District III*) ONGOING

Year Five Action Items - Year 2009

In addition to these items, the Town will continue to pursue the following efforts that were deemed "ongoing", i.e., to begin implementation in Year 1 and to be completed by the fifth year of this plan.

- Continue to pursue the creation of a bike path (*All Districts*) ONGOING
- Create handicapped accessible canoe/kayak "put-ins" and "take-outs" (*All Districts*)
- Continue implementing the recommendations of the Scituate Reservoir Watershed Zoning Study to implement creative zoning techniques to protect natural resources (*All Districts*)

Beyond the five year implementation program, the following other needs were identified:

- Explore acquiring (or having DEM purchase development rights) the "Ronzio lot" on Knibb Road (*Planning District II*)
- Acquire the Schofield/Gillis property along Jackson Schoolhouse Rd. Map 188, Lots: 7,10 and 3 *(Planning District II)*
- Acquire the Oakland Triangle (*Planning District I*) ONGOING – to preserve through private development
- Explore acquiring the Brothers of the Sacred Heart property (*Planning District I*)
- Explore the Knights of Columbus property (*Planning District III*)
- Construct a swimming pool (*All Districts*) – Acquiring land adjacent to Beckwith/Bruckshaw Lodge.

Chapter IX
Land Use

CHAPTER IX
LAND USE

Land use is both the determinant of, and a response to, the character of a community. Existing land use patterns are the physical expression of numerous public and private decisions which have been made in the past; in turn, patterns of existing land use have a substantial impact on the rate, location and type of growth which will occur in the future.

Land use considerations are closely related to virtually every other facet of community planning. Each piece of the Comprehensive Plan, which addresses population, housing, the local economy, community services and facilities, and transportation, relates in some way to land use. For example, the economic development strategy is in part, a land use recommendation since it recommends the allocation of land for industrial and commercial purposes. The land use plan is a synthesis of land use considerations and recommendations of the Plan.

Much of Burrillville's planning and future decision-making revolves around the proper use of manmade and natural resources. Manmade resources include public water and sewer systems, the road network, public and private buildings, parking areas and community facilities. The Town's natural resources include its forests, surface and groundwater, scenic views, clean air, wildlife, minerals and soils. They present both opportunities and constraints to development, and must be conserved or used with care, so as not to preclude their continued use. Historically, development has shown that some areas are naturally more suitable for a particular use than others. If Burrillville is to protect its natural resources and provide a high quality of life for its citizens, the capability of its natural resources to accommodate development must be respected.

IX.1 Existing Conditions, Trends and Projections

The following sections describe historic land use patterns, recent land use trends, and projections for the future land use of the community. The Town has consulted and coordinated with all its abutting neighboring towns in Rhode Island, Connecticut, and Massachusetts.

Historic Land Use Patterns - Burrillville experienced an early agricultural phase, industrialization in the nineteenth century, and continued residential and industrial growth in the

twentieth century.[1] Topography is important to understanding Burrillville's development. Glacial deposits, scouring of the soil as glacier retreated, and long periods of erosion gave Burrillville an irregular topography, which informed settlement patterns and land use. A number of streams and small rivers cross the town, and small bodies of water include a number of natural lakes and several man-made reservoirs. The presence of moving water across the Town's landscape encouraged settlement and played an important role in industrial development before the advent of steam. The higher, rugged areas remained more thinly populated than the lower, broader, river valleys. Burrillville's natural resources, moreover, are important for recreation and leisure use and their aesthetic qualities.

The eighteenth century settlement pattern of the town was characterized by a rural population scattered about the Town with farms on the most arable land. Farming continued into the twentieth century, and farm complexes evolved over time are important in defining the Town's character: barns, corncribs, sheds, stone walls, orchards, and open fields are among the agricultural resources common to the rural landscape.

As agriculture prevailed in the eighteenth century, industry dominated in the nineteenth century. Aided by improvements in transportation and technology, sleepy hamlets became bustling mill villages that saw dramatic changes in physical form. Improvements in transportation began in 1805 with the construction of Douglas Pike (Route 7). Railroad service, from Providence in 1873 and from Woonsocket in 1893, came later, and, indeed, its late arrival may well have limited the Town's growth potential in the nascent years of industrialization. Greater access to Burrillville followed the advent of the automobile and an improved road network, including the Victory Highway (1922 et seq., Route 102), the refurbished Louisquisset Pike (Route 146), and Interstate Highways 95 and 195 to the south and east.

In addition to the mills, the villages that grew around them included mill offices and other auxiliary structures, dams, raceways, bridges, shops, institutional buildings, worker's housing, mill superintendent's housing, and occasionally mill owner's housing. Most of these villages remain, but the early mills themselves have been lost to fire; though extensive rebuilding has occurred on original industrial sites.

[1] Prepared by Mack Woodward, Rhode Island Historical Preservation Commission, August 1990.

The town's rural character attracted new institutional use, including a tuberculosis hospital (now the Zambarano Hospital Complex) at Wallum Lake in the 1890's; Casmir Pulaski Memorial State Park in the 1930's, and the creation of several Management Areas.

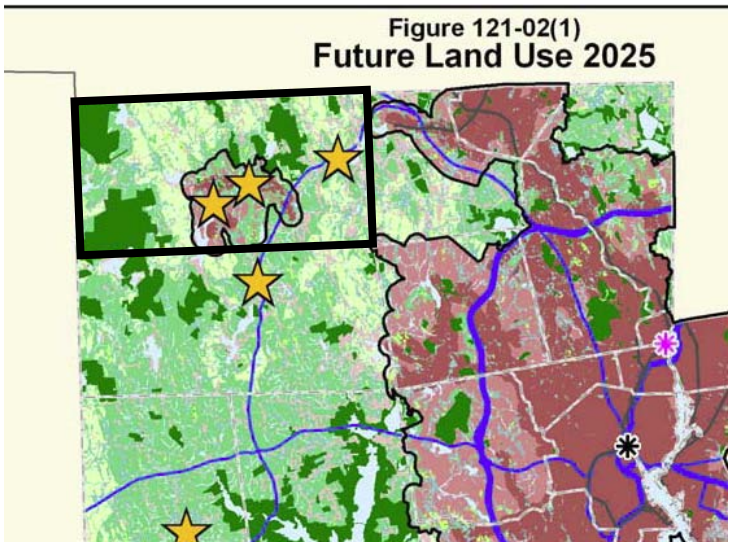
Burrillville continued to develop in the twentieth century. The presence of Austin T. Levy and his Stillwater Worsted Company had a profound effect on the town. Not only did Levy purchase and operate existing mills, but also built large amounts of new worker's housing. Levy also recast the village of Harrisville in a "New England Village" mode through his contributions of the Town Hall, The Assembly, The Ninth District Court, and the Jesse M. Smith Library.

As the State underwent extensive suburbanization after World War II, Burrillville received large numbers of new suburban residents. The construction of new houses, most of which are strung out along the Town's many roads, is a trend dissimilar to the strong village settlement pattern which characterized Burrillville's historic development.

This plan intends to reverse that trend of suburban development and refocus on land use in Burrillville's urban centers. Moreover, this chapter and accompanying chapters is consistent with Rhode Island's Land Use Plan 2025 which sets forth the following key recommendations that relate to land use:

1. Sustain Rhode Island's unique character through use of an Urban Services Boundary, rural centers, and holistic approaches to planning;
2. Create permanent greenspace throughout the rural, urban, and waterfront areas;
3. Develop concentrated well-designed centers, neighborhoods, and special places; Create a diverse and affordable housing stock;
4. Coordinate public infrastructure with development.:

The picture below depicts several stars in the area of Pascoag, Harrisville and Nasonville which are consistent with where Burrillville is focusing its land use efforts, mainly in terms of mill and or brownsfield redevelopments.

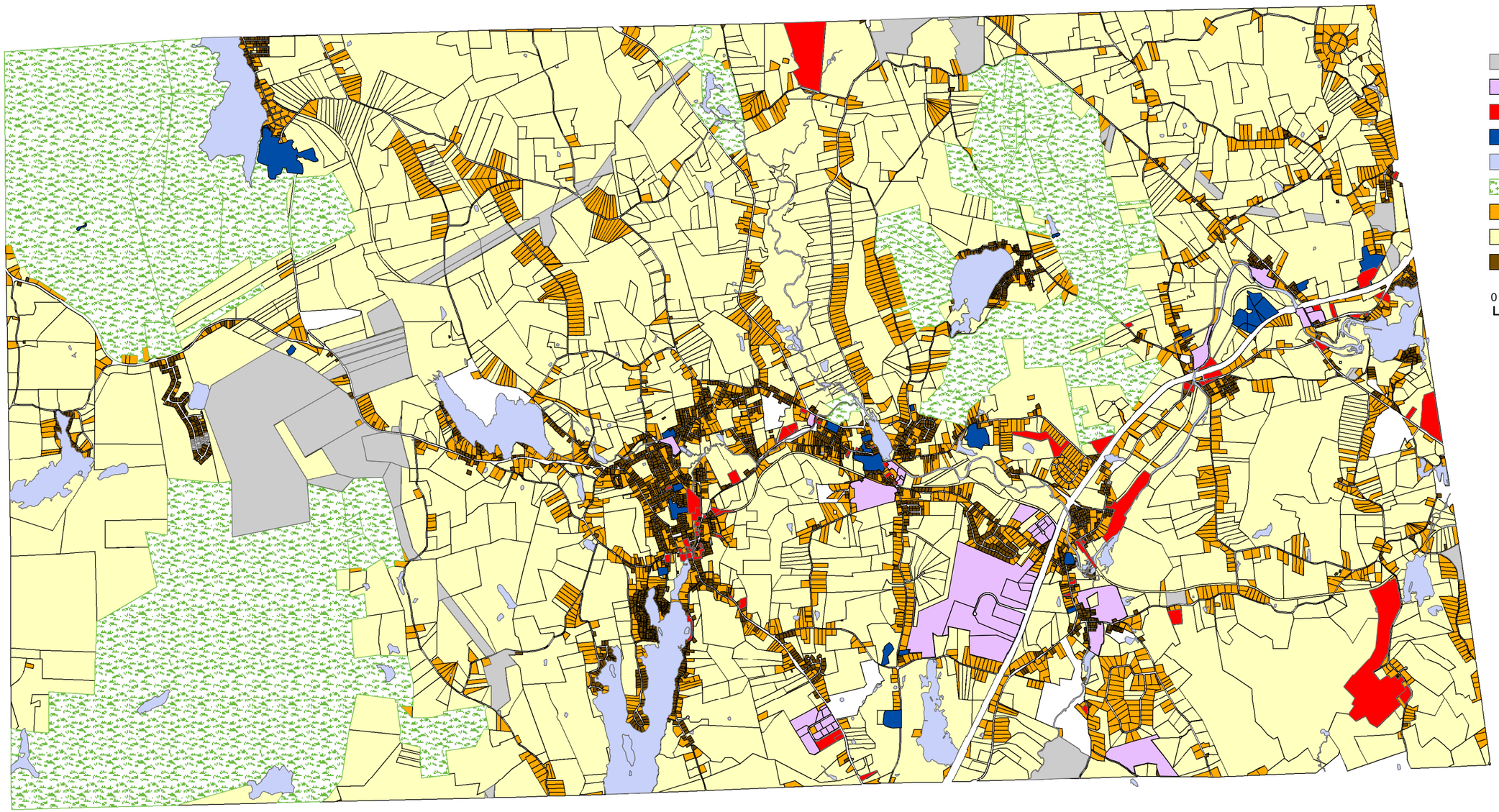


Two of the stars within the urban services boundary, represent Harrisville and Pascoag. The Burrillville Redevelopment Agency established a redevelopment district in each village with the Stillwater Mill Redevelopment District in Harrisville being most successful. The Pascoag Redevelopment District contains many more private, smaller properties, and while there have been small success stories in Pascoag in terms of rehabilitating individual buildings, the large number of stakeholders and environmental constraints of the Pascoag River demands more attention, time and permitting versus that of Harrisville.

Recent Land Use Trends –As Burrillville continues to suburbanize, the total acreage dedicated to land uses such as residential should increase. As shown on Table IX-1 and Map 1, a substantial amount of Burrillville remains largely undeveloped and forested. With respect to Land Use Maps 1and 2, to understand residential density, low density is all lots 2.5 acres and greater, moderate density is one half acres to 2.5 acres, and high density represents all lots one half acre or less in size. The demands associated by large lots and frontages within the F-5 zoning district leave little land for development 'by-right' without having to file dimensional variance petitions. Therefore, despite a vast amount of undeveloped land area in town, a majority is already legally subdivided.

The newer 2004 Land Use data was calculated utilizing RIGIS Land Use (Code95). The RIGIS data was then compared to Land Use data obtained from the Town Assessor's 2004 CAMA Data. Both data sets were compared to 1990 in effort to find comparable measures. The 1990 data was properly cited, but hard copies were not located, which leaves its methodology in question. For example, the 2004 data utilized local parcel information to

Burrillville Land Use Map
2004



Legend

- Utilities
- Industrial
- Commercial
- Institutional
- water
- Recreation/Conservation
- moderate density residential
- low density residential
- high density residential

0 0.35 0.7 1.4 Miles

Map 1

Source: RIGIS, 1997; Burrillville Assessing Dept, 4-04 CAMA State Codes

create a total street area which is slightly less than the 1990 data –a difference of negative 28 acres-. Burrillville's local parcel data is aggressively updated and considered most accurate. Upon comparing the data, it is believed that the 1990 data was also a combination of RIGIS Data and local data which was submitted as part of the 1998 Comprehensive Plan.

Roughly, 30 percent of the Town's land area is currently utilized as residential, which increased 10.2 percent since 1990. Nearly 25 percent of the town's land area is utilized as conservation land; a large percentage of which is RIDEM Game lands in addition to local Farm Forest and Open Space.

Table IX-1
Land Use Trends, 2000-2004

1990		Percent of Total	2004		Percent of Total	Percent Change
Residential (1)	10,313	28.1	Residential (1)	9,258	30.6	(10.2)
Commercial	563	1.5	Commercial (2)	828	2.7	47.1
Industrial	148	0.4	Industrial (3)	120	.4	(18.9)
Gov't/Institutional	1,459	3.9	Gov't/Institutional (4)	178	.6	(87.8)
Recreation (2)	1,916	5.2	Recreation (5)	3,122	10.3	62.9
Conservation (3)	7,355	20.0	Conservation (6)	7,401	24.5	06
Agriculture (4)	1,006	2.7	Agriculture (7)	1,499	5	49
Undev'd Land	11,014	30.0	Undev'd Land (8)	5,259	17.4	(52.3)
Streets	900	2.4	Streets (9)	872	2.9	(3.1)
Other (5)	1,998	5.4	Other (10)	1,695	5.6	(15.2)
Total	36,672	100.00	**Total**	30,232		(17.6)

1990 Notes:
(1) In zoning districts with five-acre minimum lot sizes, full parcel acreage was counted, i.e., if a parcel of 20 acres was zoned for five acre minimum lot size, the full 20 acres was included In the above calculations.
(2) Per the 1987 Recreation, Conservation, Open Space Plan.
(3) Includes land taxed under the Farm, Forest and Open Space Act.
(4) Observation indicates there is more agricultural land than is included on the tax roll.
(5) Other category includes utilities and tax classification "other improved land."

2003 Notes:
(1) Burrillville Tax Assessor, 2004 RI State Codes: 01, 02, 03, 11, 23 and 97. (1966 figure was 768, the 1990 figure was incorrect –not data source could be found.
(2) Burrillville Tax Assessor, 2004, RI State Codes: o4, 05 and 06.
(3) RIGIS Land Use, Data set Code95.
(4) RIGIS Land Use, Data set Code95
(5) RIGIS Land Use, Data set Code95 – included lakes.
(6) Burrillville Tax Assessor, 2004, RI State Code: 33 – includes all FFOS properties
(7) RIGIS Land Use, Data set Code95
(8) Burrillville Tax Assessor, 2004, RI State Codes: 13, 14, and 15.
(9) Burrillville GIS Parcels Map, 2004.

(10) RIGIS Land Use, Data set Code 95

When comparing Figures IX-1 and IX-2 several changes can be noted that are consistent with the town's normal growth trends. For example, the total developed residential land area increased 3 percent from 1990 to 2004. The percentage of undeveloped land decreased by 14 percent, while the percentage of conservation land area increased slightly, up 4 percent. The conservation land area increase is consistent with RIDEM's acquisition of 167 acres of forest land located on the western lake shore of Spring Lake since 1990. Other privately owned parcels have been sold to RIDEM in addition to the Spring Lake acquisition.

Figure IX-1
Burrillville Land Use
1990

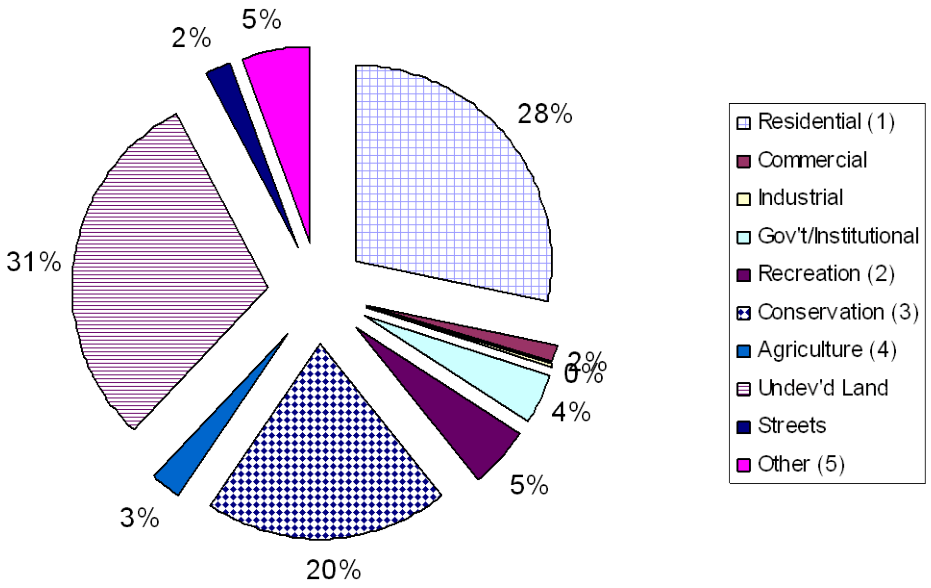
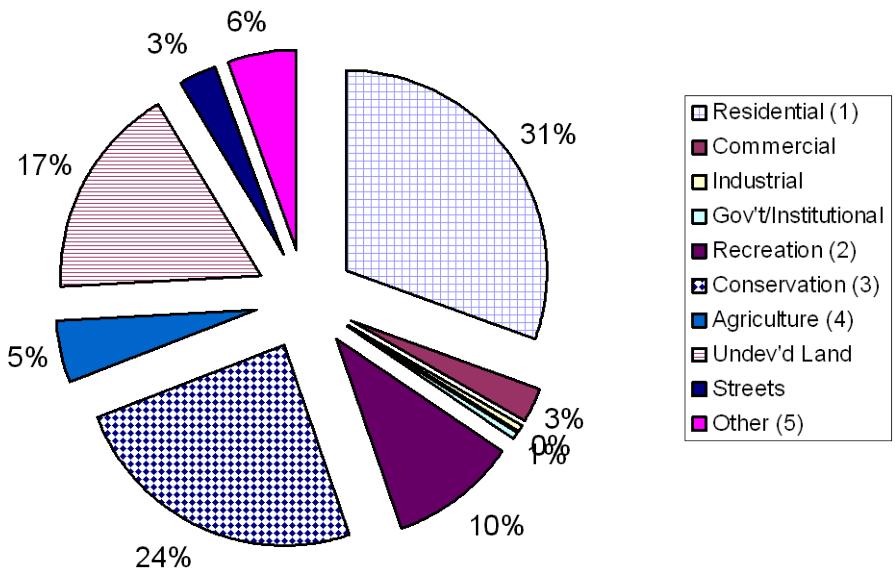


Figure IX-2
Burrillville Land Use
2004



Land Use Map - An existing land use map was prepared for the Comprehensive Plan and based upon the Tax Assessor's land use database (which is broken down according to the Rhode Island State Tax Code) and RIGIS Code95 Land Use Data. A generalized version of this map is shown on Map 1. Appendix IX-A shows the metadata land use code which was developed by RIGIS. Subcategories from the State's uniform tax code were aggregated into categories for ease of use.

Land Capability Analysis - The land capability analysis is a method of determining how much development is feasible in a given area based on different zoning scenarios and combinations of environmental constraints. Every community has a carrying capacity for development. Theoretically, that capacity is reached when every buildable parcel of land is subdivided so that it satisfies the minimum zoning requirements. Once the land is subdivided, residences and businesses are assumed to be constructed on the developable parcels according to the zoning ordinance.

It is possible for towns to reach this theoretical capacity; however, it is unlikely because some developable land can be expected to remain in lower intensity uses, such as recreation, agricultural, open space etc.

With historical building records and a series of assumptions, it is possible to estimate when a town will reach its development capacity. For example, if it is determined that build-out will be reached with the addition of 3,000 housing units, and an average of 150 permits for new residences were issued per year in the last decade, it is estimated that it will take approximately 20 years to reach build-out (3,000 units/150 units per year = 20 years). Factors such as the economy, technology and environmental regulation will affect the development rate, and no amount of historical analysis will enable an accurate depiction of the rate at which development will occur in the future. In any given decade there are likely to be peaks and valleys in the economy which will affect the development rate. The period of the mid 1980's to early 1990's serves as a good example of how swings in the economy effect the rate at which development occurs. The boom economy of the mid 1980's saw sharp increase in residential development, by the early 1990's, which was characterized as a crisis economy; residential building rates had decreased dramatically.

The ability to predict the amount of development that can occur in a town is vital for a town that is attempting the long-range planning of services. Reliable information regarding the development potential of the town is essential for the various departments to plan for increases in service demand. The great expense associated with capital improvements make it necessary for towns to start budgeting for them well in advance of the actual need. Understanding the potential future population of the town based on the land capability analysis will allow a town to avoid making costly incremental decisions regarding capital improvements.

The land capability analysis considers existing land use, undeveloped land, developable land, number of single and multi-family residential units, and square feet of industrial and commercial space permitted by current zoning, other zoning ordinance requirements, and the natural capability of the land to support development. Based upon the amount of available land, the number of housing units or square feet of commercial or industrial space, which could potentially develop in a specified area, was estimated.

Assumptions - The following assumptions were employed in this analysis.

1. All land (lots) not currently actively developed was defined as undeveloped land. Prime agricultural land is included as undeveloped land because of its unprotected nature and generally good development conditions.

2. To determine development potential of the undeveloped land described in Assumption 1 above, various environmental conditions were considered, including steep slopes, soils with limited development capability, flood zones, wetlands and associated jurisdictional buffers. These areas were extrapolated from mapping prepared by the Rhode Island Geographic Information System (RIGIS) and provided by the Rhode Island Department of Administration, Division of Planning. Upon analysis, a development constraint of 33 percent was assumed. This constraint figure was merged with a 7 percent roads, utility easement and open space deduction yielding a modest, but realistic, 40 percent development constraint –the same constraint amount was used for Chapter V's Affordable Housing Strategy, which is included in this build out.

3. It was assumed that multifamily development would occur in R-12 and R-20 zoning districts. However, the number of units is still calculated according to minimum lot area requirements and for environmental purposes.

4. The Village Planned Development – Land Development Project Inclusionary Overlay Zone Ordinance (Section 11-8.9 of the Burrillville Zoning Code) and associated lot potential density bonuses, which expand the R-12 zone district to several lots zoned R-40, F-2 and F-5, was applied to the saturation figures (see Chapter V for specific details on VPD Overlay and Affordable Housing Strategy). The measure's of Chapter V must be incorporated into the build out analysis.

5. Current population is assumed to be 15,796 persons (per the 2000 census). There are approximately 5,821 existing housing units with 100 percent occupancy assumed.

6. Current household size is therefore assumed to be 2.71 persons (16,000 persons / 5,368 housing units = 2.71 persons per household).

7. Current minimum lot sizes, and lot coverages were assumed in determining the potential number of housing units and square footage of commercial and industrial space. These are as follows:

Zone District	Minimum Lot Area (Acres or Sq. Feet)	Lot Coverage (Percent)
F-5	5 Acres	20
F-2	2 Acres	15
R-40	40,000	15
R-20	20,000	25
R-12	12,000	25
VC	20,000	30
GC	20,000	25
LI	20,000	25
GI	NA	25
O-1	5 Acres	

Source: Burrillville Zoning Regulations, 2004

8. To determine the estimated development trends over the life of this Plan, projections were made, assuming a more recent annual growth rates. Annual rates computed for residential uses were based on a recent residential building permit trend. For the period 2000 to 2003, 47 +/- new units per year are estimated. This same rate was utilized for Chapter V and associated Affordable Housing Strategy, which utilized zoning overlay tools as a mechanism for affordable housing growth. The above-mentioned affordable housing strategy accounts for additional unit construction through density bonuses that were applied to the town's growth rate and saturation figures as determined by the 2000 census baseline population data and build out as prescribed in this chapter.

Methodology

The land capability analysis involves the following steps:

1. Mapping soils which are indicative of wetlands, steep slope or limiting to on-site septic systems - Soil types as defined by the U.S. Department of Agriculture Soil Conservation Service (SCS) were mapped on computer by RIGIS, and then were digitally measured by the Town Planning Department to determine the areas of various soil constraint. Soils are considered limiting for individual sewage disposal systems (ISDS) due to high groundwater table, slow percolation rates, susceptibility to flooding, presence of rocks and boulders and excessive permeability. The areas defined by the SCS need to be verified on a site by site basis, but provide a good guideline as to areas which could pose potential environmental problems. In addition, soils with slope limitations (more than 15 percent) were included. The levels of constraint are as moderate, high and severe, defined as follows:

Moderate - Areas with moderate constraints are those which are generally suited to residential development. These soils are considered fully developable in this analysis, i.e., parcels located on these soils can be built to the maximum density allowed by zoning.

Some soils in this group have constraints to development and evaluations must be made on a case-by-case basis. The constraints consist of: 1) very rapidly permeable soils which have a higher potential for groundwater contamination; 2) slowly permeable soils which tend to have greater septic system failure rates and 3) extremely stony soils, which are expensive to excavate and grade for residential development. Also included are disturbed areas which are often suitable for residential development, but which need site-specific evaluation. Examples include gravel pits, cut and fill areas, and paved areas.

Prime agricultural soils are defined as those best suited for producing food, fee, forage, fiber and oilseed crops, and also available for these uses. These soils are considered fully developable in this analysis.

High - Areas with high constraints to development are those which have a seasonal high water table (19 inches to 42 inches depth), bedrock (shallow soils, rock outcroppings), or slopes greater than 15 percent (15 feet of vertical rise over 100 feet of horizontal distance). Steep slopes increase the potential for soil erosion during construction, and make construction of on-site septic systems difficult. Shallow soils, and rock outcrops impair the construction of roads, buildings, buried utilities and on-site septic systems.

A percentage of these areas has been developed in the past and will continue to be developed in the future. For the purposes of this analysis, severe constraints (i.e., wetlands, buffers, etc., account for 33% development constraints). Many of these soils have additional constraints to development, such as slow permeability or, in a few instances, very rapid permeability.

Severe - Areas with severe constraints are hydric soils (wetlands), which have a high water table (0" - 18") year-round, or those soils which are excessively rocky or sandy. As previously stated, these areas not considered developable in the future.

3. Mapping vacant developable land - The next step involved creating a map which illustrates vacant, developable land. This involved overlaying the undeveloped land areas with the environmental constraint maps to indicate which areas had moderate, high or severe limits to development. Assessor's data was used to identify all vacant land.

4. Mapping zoning districts - The Town's zoning map is superimposed upon the vacant developable land map, and forms the basis for calculating the potential number of dwelling units, commercial and industrial space and population that the Town can accommodate.

5. Measurement of vacant developable land by zoning districts - Each area of vacant developable land is measured. These areas are then totaled to give an indication of vacant developable land in each zoning district. Thirty three percent of the area considered by RIGIS to be highly constrained is subtracted from the vacant developable category.

7. Subtraction of a percentage for roads and infrastructure - In order to estimate future development potential, a factor must be subtracted to account for land that would be used for roads, sidewalks, service easements and municipal uses, as well as nonconforming lots and thus would not be available for development. A factor of seven percent was used.

8. Calculation of the number of dwelling units - Once total developable land is calculated, the next step is to determine the number of dwelling units per residential zoning district. This is based upon the minimum lot requirements as specified by the zoning regulations.

9. Calculation of square feet of commercial and industrial space - This is determined in the same manner as residential land, taking into account maximum lot coverage as allowed by the Burrillville Zoning Ordinance

10. Calculation of potential build-out population - The build-out population is calculated based on the total number of new dwelling units that can potentially be built. This number is multiplied by the Town's average household size to give the total saturation or build-out population. The additional number of dwellings and population is then

added to the 2000 figures. This can be used to estimate the need for future facilities, services and infrastructure.

Results - The Town has approximately 26,974acres of residentially zoned land, 400 acres of commercial-zoned land and 700 acres of industrial-zoned land (see Summary Table IX-2).

Residential Land - Of the existing residential-zoned land, about 2.9 percent is zoned R-12, 4.5 percent is zoned R-20, 6 percent is zoned R-40, 9.5 percent is zoned F-2 and 77 percent is zoned F-5.

Approximately 56 percent of existing residential-zoned land is currently developed. Of the 11,856 undeveloped acres, 33 percent are developable (3,915 acres). This could potentially yield 1,893+/- housing units based on the assumptions of this analysis.

It is estimated, based on historic annual growth rates and recent state and local subdivision policies, that approximately 47+/- new housing units, on average, will be built annually over the next ten years.

Approximately 23 percent of the future residential development can be expected in the Harrisville and Pascoag area in the R-12, R-20, R-40 and F-2 zones. Seventy-seven percent of future development will be in the F-5 zone where dispersed pockets of undeveloped, un-constrained soils are found. These figures are based on land area which obscures the effort to focus growth according to the smart growth policies prescribed herein and in Chapter V – Housing. Those policies are expected to bring the above percentages into a more equal balance

Table IX-2
Land Capability Analysis
Summary Table - Town wide Data

Zoning District	Total Acres	Developed Acres	Undeveloped Acres	Developable Acres	7% Design Factor for Roads etc.	Total Developable Acres	Potential Development
Notes	1	1	1	2	3		4
Residential	**26,974**	**15,109**	**11,865**	**3,915**	**274**	**3,641**	(Housing Units)
F-5		10,717	10,038	3,313	232	3,081	616
F-2		1,697	876	289	20	269	135
R-40		1,169	458	151	11	140	152
R-20		925	294	97	7	90	196
R-12		601	199	66	5	61	221
VPD Overlay Zone (see Chapter V)						129.4 (*)	573
Subtotal							1,893
Commercial (GC and VC)	400	179	221	73	5	68	
Industrial GI and LI)	700	336	364	120	8	112	
Total	**28,074**	**15,624**	**12,450**	**193**	**13**	**200**	**1,893**
Total residential units / commercial & industrial sq. ft.						**2,395,800**	**20,926**

Notes:
1 Assessor's Database, 7/19/04
2 Deduct 33% average
3 Deduct 7% average
4 Extrapolate zone district minimums
5 Use average building lot coverage % 27.5
*** Does not include area for redevelopment projects**

Population Saturation - Population saturation is defined as the number of people the Town could support if all its developable land were developed under existing zoning regulations. Based upon the number of new housing units predicted, the current average household size and future population projections, for Burrillville, the ultimate saturation population was estimated to be 19,373 +/- people (see Table IX-5). If the VPD-LDP Overlay Zone is utilized to the fullest extent possible, an estimated population of 20,926 is projected.

Commercial Land – There are approximately 88 acres of developable commercially zoned land in the Town, of which 30 percent developable area would yield a potential 1,149,984 square feet of commercial space. Village Commercial district areas, which encompass the villages of Harrisville and Pascoag, are included in this estimate.

A Route 102 Development Management District Plan was adopted to control commercial development along Route 102 and fashion its intensity in such a way as to not compete with the mixed-use commercial/residential uses within the village areas. Per recommendation of the Route 102 Study Committee, the Route 102 Plan rezoned all C-1 and C-2 and spot zoned C*'s to General Commercial, with a provision that allows mixed use buildings by right. In addition, HC, Highway Commercial, was deleted from the zoning ordinance for purposes of discouraging big box retail from Route 102.

Table IX-5
Burrillville Residential Land Capability Analysis
Estimated Timing of Future Residential Development and Population

Zoning District	Potential New Development	W/in Five Years	W/in Ten Years	W/in 15 Years	W/in 20 Years	W/in 25 Years	W/in 30 Years	Remainder
	(Houses)	(Houses)	(Houses)	(Houses)	(Houses)	(Houses)	(Houses)	(Houses)
F-5	616	102	204	306	408	510	612	4
F-2	135	22	44	66	88	110	132	3
R-40	152	25	50	75	100	125	150	2
R-20	196	32	64	96	128	160	192	4
R-12	221	36	72	108	144	180	216	5
Subttl Res.	1,320	217	434	651	868	1085	1302	18
Total Pop.	19,373 (1)	16,751 (2)	17,645 (3)	18,692 (4)	19,791 (5)	20,816 (6)	21,723 (7)	19,373 (8)
With VPD-LDP Overlay - Chapter V	**573**	Estimate is based on potential density bonus that may or may not be exacted though overlay zone ordinance. The number is derived from 4 Growth Areas and is above and beyond the estimates derived from conventional zoning						
Subttl Res. (1320+573)	**1893**	Estimate based on (1,320 + 573)						
Total Pop.	**20,926**	Estimated total saturation population if VPD –LDP Overlay Zone is utilized 100% : ((1,893 *2.71)) + 15,796						

Notes: 1: ((1320 *(2.71)) + (15,796)
2: ((217 *2.71)) + (16,163)
3: ((434 *2.71)) + (16,469)
4: ((651 *2.71)) + (16,928)
5: ((868 *2.71)) + (17,439)
6: ((1085 *2.71)) + (17,876)
7: ((1302 *2.71)) + (18,195)
8: ((1320 *2.71)) + (15,796)

Based on recent land use growth trends within Rhode Island's decreasing office space market, it is estimated that existing commercial space would not be built out until well after 2020.

Industrial Land - There are 112 acres of developable industrial-zoned land in Burrillville, to which a maximum percent lot coverage of 25 percent would yield approximately 1,219,680 potential square feet of additional industrial space. The largest area of developable industrial land is in the newly developed Burrillville Commerce Park, located on Route 102. The Town acquired the property for purposes of retaining a local manufacturing concern, Daniele Prosciutto, Inc. – a tenant of Burrillville for nearly 30 years. Remaining land exists in the Clear River Industrial Park, if property along Clear River Drive, and existing redevelopment mill sites.

Summary - Two factors will control the Town's residential development in the future: 1) the natural constraints which will limit the extent of development (33 percent of the undeveloped residentially zoned land is considered developable) and 2) the extensive area of large lot zoning (F-5). Over 20,000 acres of land in the Town is zoned as F-5, of which less than 34 percent is considered developable.

This shows the influence that large lot zoning will have upon the Town's growth in the future. There are 26,974 acres of residentially zoned land in the Town, with 11,865 undeveloped acres. Of the 11,865 acres, 10,038 acres is zoned for a five-acre minimum lot size (F-5), translating to approximately 1,100 new housing units. This in itself is a controlled growth mechanism, which will help the Town minimize future costs associated with providing services for new residents. However, it is not without its own inherent problems - long narrow frontage lots carved along public roads detracting from the overall rural atmosphere of the Town, long driveways potentially creating erosion problems, dispersed development of less energy efficiency, higher costs associated with police patrols in servicing the larger developed area, etc. Recently adopted policy, with regards to providing additional village-type development and creating site development guidelines for large lot zones is expected to relieve these concerns.

The land capability analysis looks at the Town in a selected moment in time, and cannot account for changing economic, social or governmental conditions. The priorities of the Town in terms of providing affordable housing and economic development opportunities have been

incorporated into the analysis. The expansion of the R-12 district will result in a larger number of housing units and a greater population base. These, in turn, will affect the Town's need to provide services. It is critical that the Town relates its development patterns to its ability to provide services to residents. The R-12 districts can be expanded to provide additional housing opportunities, but should be directed toward areas served by or planned for public sewers and water. The VPD as explained adequately addresses the above. The School Department's ability to accommodate additional students should also be considered.

The Town's zoning districts as they exist today are not necessarily the most suitable for their particular environmental conditions, accessibility or adjacent land uses. The CPC should review the zoning map in conjunction with the natural constraints mapping to determine which zones may require amendment in the future. The most problematic zone is the aquifer overlay zone, which was superceded by the VPD Overlay Zone in order to properly focus growth in areas served by existing utilities. The future land use map, Map 2 depicts the increased land use density within the village areas in order to create consistency between this plan and the VPD Overlay Zone, which is part of the zoning ordinance. Additionally, to protect the rural character and water quality of the Towns lakes and ponds, including but not limited to Pascoag Reservoir, Wilson's Reservoir and Wallum Lake, the future land use map supports the maintenance of low density rural land use intensity around those water bodies located outside the village centers.

IX.2 Land Use Issues

The following issues have been identified as important to the Town's planning process over the next five years, and beyond.

Substandard Areas

It is found that there exists blighted and substandard areas at and near the following sites: **Harrisville Village:** the Stillwater Mill Complex, bound by East Avenue, Clear River and Harrisville Main Street; the former Granite Mill Site, bound by River Street, Chapel Street and Callahan School Street; Chapel Street, from Foster Street to Harrisville Main Street; **Oakland Village:** the former Remington Lumber Mill Site, bound by Victory Highway, East River Street and Oak Street; the former Cove Manufacturing Mill site located at the end of Mill Street; **Pascoag Village District A:** beginning at intersection of South Main Street and Reservoir Road to High Street, including the block of Pascoag Main Street including Bridge

Way, Sayles Avenue and Pascoag Main Street; **Pascoag Village District B:** western side of North Main Street, both sides of Grove Street and a portion of Centennial Street (See Redevelopment District Maps, Addendum A, and Documented Photographs Addendum B).

These areas exhibit one or more of the following deficiencies: inappropriate platting and street configuration, functional obsolescence and deterioration of site improvements, all of which are impairing each of the villages' revitalization and growth. Said deficiencies are perpetuating deterioration to the point where natural market forces alone, fail to function as a redevelopment mechanism. In addition, low morale and complex ownership issues are prevalent and contributing to village decline yielding community liabilities in some cases, specifically within abandoned mill sites, requiring redevelopment in the interest of the health, safety, morals and general welfare of the Town of Burrillville and its residents. It is recommended that the areas above be designated for redevelopment.

Comprehensive Plan Consistency

Recognizing these substandard areas as areas that warrant redevelopment support the comprehensive plan, which contains goals and policies that promote village revitalization efforts, pedestrian-scale developments and tourism. The idea is to employ sensible growth, "smart-growth" techniques, to preserve the residents' natural and cultural resources. It is recommended that a Redevelopment Agency be established to work closely with the Town's Planning Board, Town Council and various State Agencies such as the Historic Preservation Commission to allow future development to utilize existing utilities and infrastructure.

General Growth and Development

- The understanding and acceptance that some growth is inevitable in the future, the plan is focused with the goal of maintaining the existing quality of life characterized by the rural qualities of the Town. For example, low density, mostly wooded land with historic stone walls. Due to low level of development, most roads are two lanes with minimum right-of-way clearing. The Village Centers are small and dominated by municipal buildings and /or service/retail stores.

- A need for a balanced tax base which will support the Town's nature as a largely residential community.

- Ensuring that borderland uses are compatible with those of adjacent communities.

- Two factors will control the Town's residential development in the future: 1) the natural constraints which will limit the extent of development, and 2) the extensive area of large lot zoning (F-5).

- Under current zoning conditions, the Town could grow to a population of 21,000 +/-.

- For a balanced tax base, the Town should strive to achieve a contribution of 15 percent of its property tax revenues from commercial and 15 percent from industrial uses. Currently, the distribution is approximately 70 percent from residential uses, 9 percent from commercial uses and 1 percent from industrial uses.

Commercial Uses

- Elimination of the potential for strip commercial along the major arterials of the community, particularly State Route 102. COMPLETE – See Route 102 DMD Plan, attached.

- Provision of areas for adequate future commercial development primarily associated with the existing villages.

- Promoting sensitivity to surrounding land uses and the environment in general, and encouraging and overall high quality of design in all commercial developments through a new site plan review process. ONGOING

Industrial Uses

- Maintenance of appropriate areas for industrial development, where public services and adequate transportation access exists or is planned. See Route 102 DMD Plan, attached

- Promoting sensitivity to surrounding land uses and the environment in general, and encouraging and overall high quality of design in all industrial developments through a new site plan review process.

- Provide for mixed uses, such as mixed residential and commercial within existing mills which are surrounded by typical Village development. The objective shall be to allow for the reuse of these structures compatible with the Village uses.

Residential Uses

- Improving the design and layout of residential subdivisions through the use of planning tools such as planned unit development and cluster development. ONGOING

- Promoting sensitivity to surrounding land uses and the environment in general, and encouraging and overall high quality of design in large residential developments through a new site plan review process. ONGOING

- Ensuring the integrity of zoning districts and existing land uses by a system of vegetated buffers.

- Providing for higher density residential uses to promote housing affordability where public services and adequate transportation facilities are available or planned, largely within the villages. See Chapter V

- Continuing to maintain a rural residential area outside of the villages, where services are not available or planned.

Public and Semi-Public Uses

- Promoting sensitivity to surrounding land uses and the environment in general, and encouraging and overall high quality of design in public utility developments through a new site plan review process. ONGOING

- Relating future municipal use sites to the existing village layout, availability of services, population density and overall traffic pattern of the community.

- Providing adequate municipal recreational sites, for active and passive development, to serve the anticipated population as determined in the projections (Chapter I, Introduction).

- Providing appropriate sites for the anticipated future expansion of municipal services, including the library, school facilities, Town Hall, public works department, animal shelter, solid waste disposal, recycling, and others as indicated in Chapter III, Community Services and Facilities.

Preservation

- Preservation of the Town's rural character, defined as:
  - The village atmosphere and identity, including the mills and mill housing around which each village grew;
  - The rustic landscape, including forested areas, open fields, farmland, rural roads, stone walls and other similar landscape features; and,
  - The lakes, ponds, rivers and streams found throughout the Town.

(See the VPD-LDP and Route 102 Overlay District Ordinances).

- Protection and maintenance of the high quality natural resources of the community, including surface water, groundwater, wetlands, prime farmland soils, unique ecological features, forested areas, open fields, wildlife and other areas that are considered fragile.

- Protection of active agricultural lands where possible.

- Preserving the quality visual aspects of the community.

- Preservation of the historical and cultural elements of the community.

IX.3 Goals, Policies and Implementation Actions

IX. Land Use Goals	Policies	Implementation Actions
IX.1 To provide a land use pattern which is capable of meeting present and future community needs in an efficient, environmentally sound, economic, equitable and aesthetically pleasing manner.	IX.1.a Develop residential, commercial, industrial and mixed-use areas which are compactly grouped, attractive and compatible with the ability of land and water resources to support the development.	IX.1.a.1 Promote low overall residential densities in those areas where public services are currently unavailable or not planned to be available.
		IX.1.a.2 Reserve sites and buildings suitable for commercial and industrial development which are served by, or planned to be served by, public sewer and water, have adequate access to major arterial roadways, and will not intrude upon less intensive land uses.
		IX.1.a.3 Prevent the preemption of undeveloped commercial and industrial sites by limiting their conversion to uses with less demanding locational requirements, such as residential uses. (Does not include mill sites within Village)
		IX.1.a.4 Consider the location of planned industrial and commercial districts when planning new or expanded public sewer and water services and highway improvements.
		IX.1.a.5 Develop a site plan review process to address potential impacts on surrounding land uses and the environment in general, and to encourage an overall high quality of design in all nonresidential and large residential developments as determined by the Town. COMPLETE
		IX.1.a.6 Require commercial and industrial developments to meet a series of performance standards to be determined by the Town regarding site layout and design, landscaping, parking, lighting and other related site elements. ONGOING

	IX.1.b Relate the use of land to its natural characteristics and varying suitability for development.	IX.1.b.1 Promote clustering of residential and commercial development where possible, particularly in the R-12, R-20, R-40 and F2 districts.
		IX.1.b.2 Develop and implement a Planned Unit Development section in the Zoning Ordinance which permits a parcel of land, except in the F5 district, to be planned and developed as one unit, and contains a mix of residential and commercial uses and common open space. Developer may vary building location and density within a larger tract of land.
		IX.1.b.3 Work toward eliminating nonconforming uses through enforcement of current zoning laws, recognizing the need for changes in regulations where warranted.
		IX.1.b.4 Limit the use of land along water bodies to water dependent uses, or to mixed-use development in which a water dependent use is combined with other uses.
IX.2 To maintain and improve the small village character of the Town.	IX.2.a Encourage continuation of the village development pattern through zoning.	IX.2.a.1 Promote the maintenance and expansion of R-12 and R-20 zones within the villages of Harrisville, Glendale, Oakland, Mapleville, Pascoag and Nasonville.
	IX.2.b Relate the use of land to the level of public facilities and services available, or planned to be available.	IX.2.b.1 Promote the establishment of higher residential densities and smaller lot frontages in the village center areas, where public water and sewer service is present or planned.
		IX.2.b.2 Encourage the Sewer Authority and Fire Districts to provide needed infrastructure in the villages, and limit expansion of public facilities to outlying areas.
		IX.2.b.3 Establish a Redevelopment Agency for the purpose of establishing Redevelopment Districts within specifically distressed village areas. Coordinate this action with action IX.1.b.2 to encourage multi-use/mix-use land use patterns within the villages, creating compact traditional village land use patterns.

		IX.2.b.4 Consider formally adopting the Urban Services Boundary from Land Use 2025 as a means to establish the limits of public infrastructure extensions, except where necessary to address existing public health concerns.
	IX.2.c Preserve historic buildings, districts and archaeological sites.	IX.2.c.1 Further the identification and strict protection of state and national register historic properties and districts as an integral part of preserving Burrillville's cultural landscape.
	IX.2.d Preserve and enhance the economic development opportunities within the villages of Harrisville, Glendale, Oakland, Mapleville, Pascoag and Nasonville.	IX.2.d.1 Encourage local participation in federal and state business district revitalization programs.
		IX.2.d.2 Establish and support an organization of business people in the Town of Burrillville to improve the overall business climate.
		IX.2.d.3 Encourage investment by the public and private sectors that will stabilize and improve economic opportunities in downtown Pascoag, including preservation and reuse of historic buildings.
		IX.2.d.4 Provide an adequate and safe system of pedestrian walkways and sidewalks in village centers.
		IX.2.d.5 Ensure the regular maintenance of pedestrian walkways and sidewalks.
		IX.2.d.6 Provide and maintain safe, easy-to-find, and well-lit public parking areas in the village centers.
		IX.2.d.7 The Town should study the feasibility of future commercial expansion in these areas.
	IX.2.e Stimulate the expansion of economic development activities, including cultural, recreational and educational, in the down-town Pascoag and Harrisville areas.	IX.2.e.1 Attempt to locate new schools and other community facilities in or near village centers.

		IX.2.e.2 Tie historic preservation and revitalization efforts in with economic development and promotion of tourism in the Town.
		IX.2.e.3 Utilize the powers of the Redevelopment Agency to expedite the relocation of the Jesse M. Smith Library to the former Stillwater Mill Complex.
IX.3 To establish a balance between residential, commercial, industrial, recreational, public facility, agricultural and conservation land uses that service the needs of the community.	IX.3.a Strive to achieve equity between the costs and benefits of new development.	IX.3.a.1 Relate the location of residential developments and neighborhoods to employment and commercial centers, community facilities and services, and mass transit corridors.
		IX.3.a.2 Promote neighborhood development by locating housing, recreation and education facilities, and shopping areas in close proximity to one another, with provision for safe pedestrian movement.
		IX.3.a.3 Conserve and enhance desirable existing industrial areas, shopping areas and concentrations of service activities to maximize the investment and utilization of existing infrastructure.
		IX.3.a.4 Relate industrial and commercial development to overall land use by promoting use of development controls and performance standards that mitigate conflicts with other land uses and activities.
		IX.3.a.5 Prepare and circulate a developer's information handbook, including information on subdivision regulations, utilities, zoning, erosion and sedimentation controls, groundwater aquifers regulations, Planning Board meeting schedule and time deadlines, and the Comprehensive Plan.

	IX.3.b Recognize the importance of recreation, open space, public access to water bodies, and historic resources to the Town's economy, in tourism development and in attracting and retaining industry, and endeavor to protect and enhance these resources in economic development siting and design activity.	IX.3.b.1 Create open space systems and corridors that protect complete ecologic units and provide structure and character to the built environment.
		IX.3.b.2 Retain open space spaces large enough to serve as wildlife habitat, store flood waters, abate air and water pollution, provide a sense of openness, and serve as buffers and aesthetic amenities to existing development.
		IX.3.b.3 Form a land trust committee to establish land trusts in Burrillville. COMPLETE
		IX.3.b.4 Preserve, and where necessary restore, rivers, and water bodies and their shorelands for recreational use, wildlife habitat, water supply and open space corridors.
		IX.3.b.5 Expand public access to water bodies by preserving existing recorded public access ways, seeking to maximize the access potential of existing committed shore lands, acquiring key access points, and stipulating access opportunities in new shoreline developments.
IX.4 Promote the preservation, and enhancement of the characteristics of Burrillville's traditional New England environment and land use patterns.	IX.4 a Preserve and support existing agricultural endeavors	IX.4.a.1 Utilize methods such as purchase of development rights, and permitting limited, clustered residential development, except in the F5 district, at the edges of large agricultural properties toward preserving agricultural lands.
	IX.4.b Recognize the Town's scenic rural landscapes, roads and vistas as important cultural and economic resources, and act to preserve them.	IX.4.b.1 Designate certain roads in the Town as "rural roads" and prepare a rural road ordinance or policy which will serve to protect the visual qualities of these corridors, including stone walls, trees and other unique features.

		IX.4.b.2 In future applications for open space grant funds, consider for acquisition or other forms of protection, those areas having unique visual qualities as identified in the Natural and Cultural Resources Element (Chapter IXI).
	IX.4.c Encourage the resurgence of renewable energy like that used during previous agricultural and industrial periods.	IX.4.c.1 Amend town regulations as necessary to allow for renewable energy with particular standards being applied to large mechanisms that can affect view sheds.
IX.5 Recognize the important role the Town plays as a host to major energy suppliers, and ensure that the interests of the Town and its residents are maintained in the forefront of future siting decisions.	IX.5.a Develop adequate location and siting criteria within the Town's land use policies for power generating plants. These criteria shall be used to negotiate with power plant developers and State Energy Facility Siting Council.	IX.5.a.1 Amend the Zoning Ordinance to adequately address power generating plants, including consideration of a floating zone, performance standards, and site plan review.
	IX.5.b Minimize the adverse impacts of power generation and transmission facilities on the environment.	IX.5.b.1 Discourage incompatible land uses in areas adjacent to power generating facilities, and require a minimum vegetated buffer between such facilities and adjacent properties with special concern given to high-energy electromagnetic fields.
IX.6 The Town recognizes the importance of regional developments and issues on its future. Therefore, the Planning Board and the Town Council shall make an effort to meet with their counterparts in abutting communities on an annual basis to encourage communication and discussion of regional issues.	IX.6.a The Town of Burrillville is opposed to the development of any regional airport in the communities of Douglas and Uxbridge, Massachusetts. A regional airport is contrary to the economic development objectives of the Town of Burrillville, its efforts toward historic preservation and its long-term land use plan which preserves open space resources and the low-density character of the community.	IX.6.a.1 The Town will pursue various avenues to register its opposition to any regional airport site, including working closely with State officials.
		IX.6.a.2 The Burrillville Planning Board and Town Council should meet on an annual basis with abutting communities to encourage regional communication with abutting states.

	IX.6.b The Town of Burrillville is opposed to the development of any regional landfill and/or incinerator within the Town's boundaries or within abutting towns where they may affect Burrillville. Any regional landfill and/or incinerator facility is contrary to the Town's economic development strategy of promoting tourism and the use of open space and recreational resources in that effort. The Town considers any landfill a potential source of pollution to public drinking water supplies.	IX.6.b.1 The Town will continue to actively voice its opposition to the siting of a regional landfill and/or incinerator facility within its boundaries or within abutting towns but located where they may affect Burrillville.

IX.4 Future Land Use Plan Map

The planned future land use of the Town of Burrillville is illustrated on Map 2 (See map at the end of this document.) This map is a graphic representation of the Town's goals and policies relating to land use, natural and cultural resources, open space preservation and recreation, economic development, housing, and community services and facilities.

A number of areas have been suggested for future study and/or for proposed changes in zoning, as follows (keyed to map):

1. Examine area between Chapel Street and Hill Road, currently zoned M-1 and C-2, for potential change to high density residential and village commercial to reflect actual use of land and reduce nonconforming uses. COMPLETE

2. Study area between Mowry Road and Steere Farm Road, currently zoned as M-1, for potential zone change to medium density residential. COMPLETE

3. Study area between Central Avenue and the Clear River currently zoned M-2 for potential zone change which is more compatible with existing surrounding land uses and the environmental character of the land. COMPLETE

4. Examine area on south side of Bronco's Highway in Glendale at the intersection of Joslin Road/Snake Hill Road for suitability of C-2 zoning. SEE ROUTE 102 DMD PLAN

5. When sewers are installed, consider rezoning portions of Joslin Road from F5 to R20 to 1) reflect the land's ability to accommodate higher density and 2) to reflect the intensity of development already existing.

6. Study possibility of rezoning small section of M-1 zoned land in southeast quadrant of Route 102/Route 7 intersection to village commercial toward the objective of reestablishing the village of Nasonville. SEE VPD & ROUTE 102 DMD PLAN

7. Examine the suitability of M-1 zoning in an area fronting the north side of Slatersville Reservoir, south of Victory Highway.

8. Study the potential of rezoning an M-2 zone at the juncture of Route 7 and the North Smithfield Town line (gravel bank/EPA Superfund site). SUCCESSFULLY REUSED

9. Rezone undeveloped section of land fronting on Wilson and Pascoag Reservoirs from R20 to R40 and R20 to F2 respectively in order to protect water quality.

10. Rezone undeveloped strip of land, currently zoned C-1, on Broncos Highway extending from Lapham Farm Road to the Glocester line to R-40. COMPLETE ROUTE 102 DMD PLAN

Chapter X
Implementation Program

CHAPTER X
IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM

X.1 Introduction

Each element of this Comprehensive Plan includes a series of goals, policies and actions recommended to implement these objectives. This chapter summarizes these actions, and presents a strategy to achieve them.

The implementation program accomplishes the following:

- Assigns responsibility within local government for each action;
- Sets a general schedule for accomplishing each action; and,
- Establishes legislative and regulatory actions, new or improved public services, and capital improvements.

The following matrix presents the suggested implementation program for the Burrillville Comprehensive Plan. The key to the matrix is as follows:

Reference	To locate the action statement within an individual element, use the following key: Chapter, Goal, Policy, Action
Action	Recommended implementation action as presented within each element.
Responsibility	The agency, individual, board or commission responsible for implementing the action.
Timing	Priority = Recommended to occur within 1-2 years of Plan adoption; Intermediate = Recommended to occur within 2-5 years of Plan adoption; Long Term = Recommended to occur within 5-20 years of Plan adoption; Ongoing = currently underway and recommended to continue.
Cost	Estimate of project or capital cost; $10,000 = to be determined
Remarks	Other factors which may affect the action.

Each implementation action is keyed to a specific goal and policy which are presented within each plan element. They are referenced as the first three figures in the four-figure reference identifier.

X.2 Element I - General

Reference/Action	I.1.a.1 Higher density development should occur in areas served by or planned to be served by public water and sewer.
Responsibility	Planning Board/Town Council/Planning Department
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	I.1.a.2 Lower density development should occur in outlying areas where public sewer and water service is not available, and/or with poor soils.
Responsibility	Planning Board/Town Council/Planning Department
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	I.1.a.3 The Town will conduct a study of impact fees as a growth control measure.
Responsibility	Planning Board/Town Council/Planning Department
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	I.1.a.4 Review and update the Comprehensive Community Plan at five-year intervals, and ensure that changing public needs are met.
Responsibility	Planning Board/Town Council/Planning Department
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost ($10,000 printing costs)
Reference/Action	I.2.a.1 Higher density development should occur in and around the established villages.
Responsibility	Planning Board/Town Council/Planning Department
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	I.2.a.2 Lower density development should occur in the rural outlying areas of the community and should be controlled through zoning measures.
Responsibility	Planning Board/Town Council/Planning Department
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	I.2.a.3 The site plan review process should include an environmental assessment for major projects which will estimate the number of new residents the project will generate.
Responsibility	Planning Board/Town Council/Planning Department
Timing	Priority Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	I.3.a.1 Review age group projections for students when planning for new or upgraded school, library and recreational facilities.
Responsibility	Planning Board/Town Council/Planning Department/School Board/Recreation Committee
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	I.3.a.2 Review projections for labor force age groups when reviewing plans for new nonresidential development.
Responsibility	Planning Board/Town Council/Planning Department
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	I.3.a.3 Consider establishing a task force to monitor the needs of the Town's growing elderly community.
Responsibility	Planning Board/Town Council/Planning Department
Timing	Intermediate
Cost	No direct cost

X.3 Element II - Natural and Cultural Resources

Reference/Action	II.1.a.2 Use of a particular site should be compatible with adjacent land uses.
Responsibility	Planning Board/Planning Department/Town Council
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	II.1.a.10 Amend the Zoning Ordinance to require an environmental assessment process for all-nonresidential development, and residential development including clusters, multifamily developments, and standard subdivisions as determined necessary by the Planning Board.
Responsibility	Planning Board/Planning Department/Town Council
Timing	Priority
Cost	No direct cost (Environmental Consultant $2,500/yr)
Reference/Action	II.2.a.1 100-year flood zones should be reserved for open space, recreation or agricultural purposes. Areas flooded only rarely may be considered for limited development with adequate precautions.
Responsibility	Planning Board/Planning Department/Town Council
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	II.2.b.1 Wetlands will not be filled or built upon where reasonable avoidance measures may be taken. A permit must be obtained from the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management for any wetland alteration.
Responsibility	Conservation Commission/Town Council
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	II.2.b.2 Wetland areas should be excluded from zoning density calculations in standard subdivisions, cluster subdivisions, multifamily developments and nonresidential developments.
Responsibility	Planning Board/Planning Department/Town Council
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	II.2.b.3 The Town will conduct a study leading to a process to identify wetlands prior to issuing any Town permits.
Responsibility	Planning Board/Planning Department/Town Council
Timing	Intermediate
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	II.2.c.1 Steep slopes, those exceeding 15 percent, should not be built upon.
Responsibility	Planning Board/Planning Department/Town Council
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	II.2.c.2 Drainage on sloping sites, including private home sites, will be designed to direct flow away from public roads.
Responsibility	Planning Board/Planning Department
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	II.2.c.3 The Town's erosion and sedimentation ordinance will be enforced on a consistent and timely basis.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Building Inspector
Timing	Priority
Cost	No direct cost (Consultant costs borne by developer/Owner)

Reference/Action	II.2.d.1 Dredging of lakes, rivers and wetlands should be limited to reduce adverse effects of silting and bottom habitat damage.
Responsibility	Planning Board/Planning Department/Town Council/Conservation Commission
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	II.2.d.2 Mitigate water quality impacts of stormwater runoff and provide for drainage controls in all new development. Post-construction site runoff should not exceed pre-construction runoff.
Responsibility	Planning Board/Planning Department/Town Council
Timing	Priority
Cost	No direct cost (Environmental Consultant $2,500/yr)
Reference/Action	II.2.d.3 The Town will conduct a study of design alternatives and best management practices for stormwater runoff controls.
Responsibility	Planning Board/Planning Department/Town Council
Timing	Intermediate
Cost	$10,000+/-
Reference/Action	II.3.a.1 Septic systems should be installed per the State Department of Environmental Management requirements.
Responsibility	Building Inspector
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	II.3.a.2 Existing Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems (OWTS) will be regularly maintained.
Responsibility	Property owners
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Remarks	Need to consider which governmental agency should bear the responsibility of ensuring this is done.
Reference/Action	II.3.a.3 OWTS will not be installed closer than 200 feet from tributaries to drinking water supplies or any other lake, stream or standing surface water.
Responsibility	Planning Board/Planning Department/Building Inspector/Town Council
Timing	Priority
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	II.3.a.4 Establish a Townwide public education program regarding the importance of OWTS maintenance.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Town Council
Timing	Intermediate
Cost	$1,000 annually
Reference/Action	II.3.a.5 Study the merits of establishing a municipal OWTSinspection program.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Town Council
Timing	Intermediate
Cost	No direct cost
Remarks	See Action II.3.a.2
Reference/Action	II.3.a.6 OWTS should be inspected at the time of a house sale.
Responsibility	Building inspector
Timing	Priority
Cost	No direct cost

Reference/Action	II.3.b.1 Mapping of groundwater aquifers and recharge areas as prepared by the Groundwater Division of the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management will be reviewed and adopted as the aquifer protection district boundaries.
Responsibility	Planning Board/Planning Department/Town Council
Timing	Priority
Cost	$5,000 Aquifer Overlay Study
	Complete, ongoing
Reference/Action	II.3.b.3 The Town will cooperate with the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management in their efforts to identify and inventory underground storage facilities.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Town Council
Timing	Priority
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	II.3.b.4 Establish a water resources management board, including representatives of all local water suppliers, to address the provision of water services on a Townwide basis. Composition of the Committee is to be determined cooperatively between the Town and the Fire Districts.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Town Council/Fire Districts
Timing	Priority
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	II.3.b.5 The Water Resources Management Board will commission a study to determine the most appropriate course of action in managing its drinking water resources.
Responsibility	Water Resources Management Board
Timing	Priority
Cost	$100,000
Reference/Action	II.3.b.6 The Town will work closely with the Fire Districts to acquire or otherwise protect the land surrounding Fire District wellheads.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Town Council/Fire Districts
Timing	Priority
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	II.3.b.7 Reservoirs, ponds, lakes, rivers and streams in the Town will be managed to ensure a minimum water flow at all times.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Town Council/Fire Districts
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	II.3.b.8 All salt piles and sand/salt mixtures shall be enclosed, with highest priority given to those within the Wallum Lake watershed, or within recharge areas of groundwater aquifers currently used for public water supply or with potential for public water supply development.
Responsibility	Town Council/Public Works Department
Timing	Priority Complete
Cost	$175,000-200,000 Salt Storage Shed with drainage system and sitework.

Reference/Action	II.3.b.9 The State and Town highway departments should minimize their use of road salt in winter road maintenance.
Responsibility	Town Council/Public Works Department
Timing	Priority
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	II.3.b.10 Environmentally sensitive areas associated with present or potential ground or surface water supplies should be considered water resource protection areas, and special restrictions should be applied to the use of road salts in such areas.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Town Council/Public Works Department
Timing	Priority
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	II.3.b.11 Limit intensive development to those areas served by public sewer systems which can provide for adequate collection and treatment of liquid wastes generated.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Planning Board/Town Council/Sewer Commission
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	II.3.b.12 Require pretreatment of sewage by industrial operations where appropriate.
Responsibility	Sewer Commission
Timing	Priority
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	II.3.b.13 Ensure that the Town's lakes, ponds, rivers and streams meet the water pollution levels set in the State's water quality classification plan.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Planning Board/Town Council/Conservation Commission
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	II.3.b.14 Require that industrial development causing other than domestic waste discharges occur only in areas served by public sewer systems.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Planning Board/Town Council/Sewer Commission
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	II.3.b.15 Require recycling of industrial wastes be undertaken whenever possible to conserve resources and reduce treatment problems.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Town Council/Sewer Commission
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	II.3.b.16 To preserve the village character found in areas of Town, small lots should be allowed where public water and sewers are available.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Planning Board//Redevelopment Agency/ /
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost (Facilities designed to meet these flows)
Reference/Action	II.3.b.17 To preserve the Town's rural character, promote low-intensity land use and protect high quality surface and groundwater the F-5 zone should continue as currently mapped in the Town's zoning ordinance.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Planning Board/Town Council
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost

Reference/Action	II.3.b.18 Development regulations should be related to the land's capability to support development, particularly soils capabilities.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Planning Board/Town Council
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	II.3.b.19 Require setbacks from surface and groundwater public water supplies compatible with State regulations.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Planning Board/Town Council
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	II.3.b.20 Require a natural buffer strip from the rainy season flowline of a stream or the high water mark of a natural body of standing water compatible with State regulations.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Planning Board/Town Council
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	II.3.b.21 Land disturbance during construction should be minimized and natural vegetation left intact to the greatest extent possible. If natural vegetation is removed, the area should be revegetated as soon as possible.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Planning Board/Town Council
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	II.3.b.22 Waterfront areas should be zoned for large lot or cluster type developments (except in F5 districts) to reduce runoff.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Planning Board/Town Council
Timing	Priority
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	II.4.a.1 Coordinate with the Rhode Island Natural Heritage Program on a regular basis to determine sensitive habitat locations.
Responsibility	Planning Department
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	II.4.a.2 Develop a series of protection and management recommendations for each identified habitat location in coordination with the Rhode Island Natural Heritage Program.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Conservation Commission
Timing	Priority
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	II.4.a.3 Include the Rhode Island Natural Heritage Program staff in consultation on development proposals which may potentially impact an identified site.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Planning Board
Timing	Priority
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	II.4.a.4 Incorporate a wildlife activity protection area within the site plan review process, as well as for the Recreation Commission to consider when applying for open space funding programs.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Planning Board/Town Council
Timing	Priority
Cost	No direct cost

Reference/Action	II.5.a.1 Work with local business to implement air pollution reduction measures including, but not limited to, commuter services, park and ride lots, bus transit, carpool/vanpool programs, bicycle programs, variable work hours etc.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Planning Board/Town Council
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	II.5.a.2 Require that all new commercial and industrial developments meet or exceed national clean air standards.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Planning Board/Town Council
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	II.5.a.3 Lobby adjacent communities to quickly address potential air quality problems within their boundaries.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Planning Board/Town Council
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	II.6.a.1 Reestablish the Burrillville Historic District Commission (HDC) by enactment of the Town Council, and add the Commission to the Town Charter through the amendment process. Educate Town residents on the purposes and functions of the HDC.
Responsibility	Town Council
Timing	Long term
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	II.6.a.2 Provide the HDC with meeting and storage space at the Town Hall or other appropriate Town-owned facility, and provide a suitable operating budget to enable it to carry out its functions as expressed by local ordinance.
Responsibility	Town Council
Timing	Long term
Cost	No direct cost (Budget $2,500/yr for Commission support)
Reference/Action	II.6.a.3 Through the HDC and establishment of an historic zoning district, gain Certified Local Government (CLG) status.
Responsibility	Historic District Commission/Town Council
Timing	Long term
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	II.6.b.1 Working with the HDC, review historic district zoning regulations of other communities, designate those areas of the community which should be targeted for such preservation efforts and after holding required public hearing(s), prepare legislation to permit historic district zoning.
Responsibility	Historic District Commission/Town Council
Timing	Long term
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	II.6.b.2 The Town Planner, Planning Board, Town Council and HDC should cooperatively prepare design guidelines for adoption as part of the historic district regulations to enforce the purposes of historic district zoning.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Planning Board/Historic District Commission/Town Council
Timing	Long term
Cost	No direct cost

Reference/Action	II.6.b.3 Establish an environmental review process within the subdivision regulations and site plan review process (once established) which will permit the Planning Board to request an on-site archaeological investigation if the State Archaeologist indicates there is potential for an archaeological site on the premises.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Planning Board
Timing	Intermediate
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	II.6.b.4 Identify known archaeological sites on a Town base map in a generalized manner, i.e., twenty-acre radius around one or more sites so as not to pinpoint a particular site. Maintain this map as a resource in the Planning Department to let property owners know locations which may have archaeological sensitivity.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Planning Board
Timing	Intermediate
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	II.6.b.5 The Town's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) assisted housing rehabilitation program should give special consideration to historic structures, and require compliance with historic district guidelines, whenever appropriate.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Historic District Commission/Town Council
Timing	Long term
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	II.6.c.1 Provide suitable climate-controlled space to archive historical Town records and materials.
Responsibility	Historic District Commission/Town Council
Timing	Long term
Cost	$10,000
Reference/Action	II.6.d.1 Urge the HDC, Burrillville Historical and Preservation Society and other groups to establish and expand the existing historic site inventory.
Responsibility	Historic District Commission/Town Council
Timing	Long term
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	II.6.d.2 The HDC should develop a standard list of criteria by which "significant" resources are recommended for further study.
Responsibility	Historic District Commission
Timing	Long term
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	II.6.d.3 Support professional and/or academically oriented archaeological investigations of known or potential pre-colonial and colonial sites, including projects by local colleges and universities.
Responsibility	Historic District Commission/Town Council
Timing	Long term
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	II.6.d.4 Request the HPC to review and document those sites considered potentially eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.
Responsibility	Historic District Commission
Timing	Long term
Cost	No direct cost

Reference/Action	II.6.e.1 Support the development of a network of historic homes and sites which are open to the public for walking and interpretive tours to augment the sites and historic routes which already exist.
Responsibility	Historic District Commission/Town Council
Timing	Long term
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	II.6.e.2 Actively promote the Town as an area rich in historic resources of the 18th, 19th and 20th centuries. Focus on the mill villages throughout the Town.
Responsibility	Economic Development Commission/Historic District Commission/Town Council
Timing	Long term
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	II.6.e.3 Develop an adaptive reuse program for mill structures. Suggested reuses include Town government, mixed residential/office/retail use, industrial/commercial incubator, elderly housing, and library.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Planning Board/Historic District Commission/Town Council
Timing	Long term
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	II.6.e.4 Review land use regulations to encourage preservation and reuse of historic mill structures. Modify such regulations to achieve this objective, if necessary.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Planning Board/Historic District Commission/Town Council
Timing	Long term
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	II.6.e.5 Lobby for the inclusion of Burrillville's historic villages and mill districts in the Blackstone Valley National Heritage Corridor Master Plan.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Planning Board/Historic District Commission/Town Council
Timing	Long term
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	II.6.f.1 Once established, the HDC should receive agenda material from the Planning Board and Zoning Board of Review. Members of the HDC are encouraged to attend Planning and Zoning Board meetings and to testify on matters affecting historical and archaeological resources.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Planning Board/Historic District Commission/Zoning Board
Timing	Long term
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	II.6.f.2 Require advance property owner notification for all Department of Public Works projects requiring the removal of major trees from private property.
Responsibility	Public Works Department
Timing	Priority
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	II.7.a.1 Provide support through the Historical Society and other groups for public education on historic and cultural resources, including, but not limited to, activities such as workshops, forums, historic house tours, information packets and living and learning centers, etc.
Responsibility	Historic District Commission/Town Council
Timing	Long term
Cost	No direct cost

Reference/Action	II.7.a.2 Encourage the schools to expand educational efforts and resources committed to teaching about local history such as promoting volunteer participation and other efforts.
Responsibility	School Department/Historic District Commission
Timing	Long term
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	II.7.a.3 Form a coalition of local preservation interests, with the HDC as the core, to promote a public/private partnership in preservation.
Responsibility	Historic District Commission/Town Council
Timing	Long term
Cost	No direct cost

X.4 Element III - Community Services and Facilities

Reference/Action	III.1.a.1 The Planning Department/Commission in coordination with the Town Council will review existing impact fee systems relating new development to municipal facilities and services and consider the merits of such a system for Burrillville.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Planning Board/Town Council
Timing	Priority
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	III.1.a.2 Should the results of the study described in III.1.a.1 indicate that an impact fee system would be beneficial to providing municipal services in Burrillville, prepare the necessary legal review and establish an impact fee system.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Planning Board/Town Council
Timing	Priority
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	III.1.b.1 Provide the funding to plan, design and build an addition to the existing police station which will give adequate office, storage and meeting space for the existing and future police force.
Responsibility	Town Council
Timing	Long Term
Cost	$250,000
Reference/Action	III.1.b.2 Expand the role of the Town's police department to include a detective division.
Responsibility	Police Department/Town Council
Timing	Intermediate
Cost	$25,000
Reference/Action	III.1.b.3 Increase the number of police cruisers commensurate with the uniformed staffing level of the department.
Responsibility	Police Department/Town Council
Timing	Intermediate
Cost	$75,000
Reference/Action	III.1.b.4 Work with the Chief of Police to determine the optimal uniformed and support staffing level for the Department to adequately serve existing and projected future population. Add officers as necessary.
Responsibility	Police Department/Town Council

Timing	Intermediate
Cost	No direct cost ($25,000/officer added when needed)
Reference/Action	III.1.b.5 Investigate the feasibility of acquiring and/or developing a pistol and shotgun target range for qualifying police officers at least annually.
Responsibility	Police Department/Town Council
Timing	Intermediate
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	III.1.c.1 In the short-term future, continue the present system of volunteer fire district companies.
Responsibility	Fire Districts/Town Council
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	III.1.c.2 Consider merging the fire districts into a Townwide district (non-municipal), coordinating staffing, equipment, facilities and other operational activities.
Responsibility	Fire Districts/Town Council
Timing	Intermediate
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	III.1.c.3 Within two years, study the feasibility of establishing a full-time, Town-operated emergency rescue service.
Responsibility	Fire Districts/Town Council
Timing	Priority
Cost	No direct cost
Remarks	In house study.
Reference/Action	III.1.c.4 Encourage the fire districts to coordinate equipment purchases.
Responsibility	Fire Districts/Town Council
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	III.1.c.5 Create a public safety committee charged with the public discussion of fire, rescue, police and animal control issues. The committee shall be composed of municipal and fire district representatives.
Responsibility	Fire Districts/Town Council
Timing	Priority
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	III.1.d.1 Increase staffing at the Smith Library to levels commensurate with State library standards.
Responsibility	Library/Town Council
Timing	Complete
Cost	$350,000
Reference/Action	III.1.d.4 Continue to support the libraries' efforts to expand its collections to meet and exceed State standards.
Responsibility	Library/Town Council
Timing	Priority
Cost	No direct cost

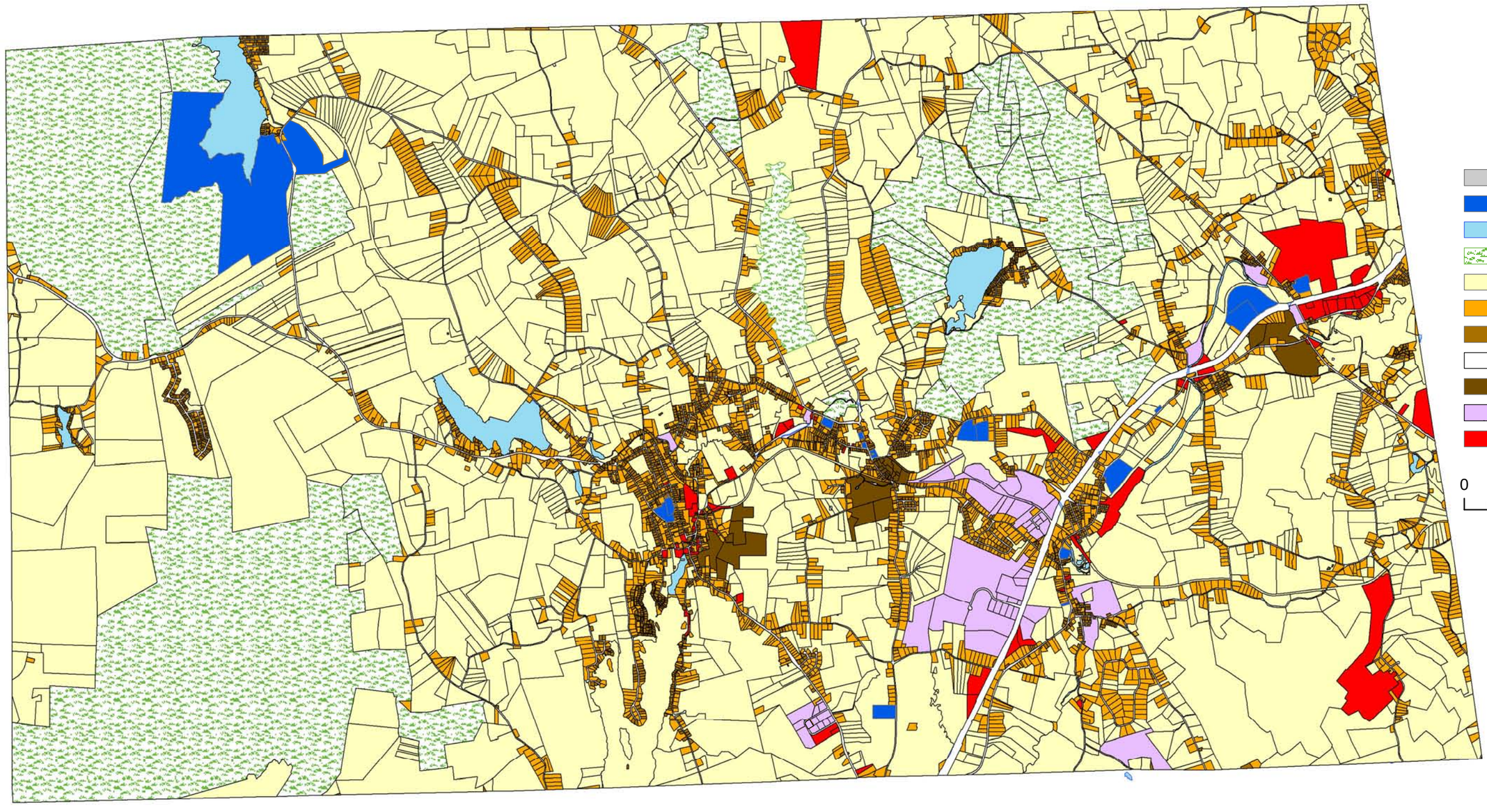
	Complete
Reference/Action	III.1.e.1 Initiate a study of space needs of municipal government, including the potential for expansion of the existing Town Hall. If necessary, identify other buildings or lots with potential for a new Town Hall.
Responsibility	Town Council
Timing	Priority
Cost	$5,000
Remarks	In house study. Later architectural studies should be performed by an outside consultant.
	Complete
Reference/Action	III.1.e.3 Develop an up-to-date system of plat maps.
Responsibility	Town Council
Timing	Priority
Cost	$250,000
Reference/Action	III.1.e.4 Update the Town's computer system to comply with the recommendations of the 1990 Annual Audit.
Responsibility	Town Council
Timing	Intermediate
Cost	$200,000
	Complete
Reference/Action	III.1.f.1 The Town Clerk shall compile, publish and annually update the policies of the various departments, boards, committees, etc.
Responsibility	Town Clerk
Timing	Priority
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	III.1.f.2 The Public Policies Manual shall be made available at the Town Hall and Town libraries.
Responsibility	Town Clerk
Timing	Priority
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	III.1.g.1 The Town Council should work with the Town Manager and Public Works Director to establish an optimal level of Public Works Department staffing.
Responsibility	Town Council/Town Manager/Public Works Department
Timing	Priority
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	III.1.g.2 Relocate the Public Works Department to a more appropriate location.
Responsibility	Town Council/Town Manager/Public Works Department
Timing	Intermediate
Cost	$150,000

Reference/Action	III.1.g.3 Request that the Public Works Department to review its annual program of sidewalk maintenance, and increase efforts to maintain and repair sidewalks in a systematic manner.
Responsibility	Town Council/Town Manager/Public Works Department
Timing	Priority
Cost	$25,000
Reference/Action	III.1.g.4 Develop a pavement management program for local roads.
Responsibility	Public Works Department
Timing	Intermediate Complete - Ongoing
Cost	$50,000
Reference/Action	III.1.g.5 Expand the animal shelter facilities and site, or consider relocating with the public works department.
Responsibility	Town Council/Animal Shelter
Timing	Intermediate
Cost	$5,000
Reference/Action	III.1.g.6 Require the Public Works Director to present to the Town Council an annual Public Works Plan.
Responsibility	Public Works Department/Town Council
Timing	Priority
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	III.2.a.1 Examine the feasibility of establishing a Town sponsored and operated recycling effort run by citizen volunteers. Educate residents and encourage them to recycle to the maximum extent possible.
Responsibility	Town Council
Timing	Intermediate
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	III.2.a.2 Develop a townwide residential compost program by educating residents to compost leaves and grass clippings where possible at home or at the transfer station site if necessary; include, if feasible, composting of sewage sludge.
Responsibility	Public Works Department/Planning Department
Timing	Intermediate
Cost	$25,000
Reference/Action	III.2.a.3 Continue to work with the R.I. Solid Waste Management Corporation, the Department of Environmental Management and neighboring communities to develop a regional or statewide solution for solid waste disposal.
Responsibility	Town Council/Planning Department
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	III.2.a.4 Continue solid waste management needs programming and budgeting in the five-year municipal capital facilities program and the annual Town operating budget.
Responsibility	Town Council/Planning Department
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	III.2.a.5 Recommend to elected officials the repeal of state law prohibiting the export of tires for energy from Rhode Island.
Responsibility	Town Council
Timing	Priority
Cost	No direct cost

Reference/Action	III.3.a.1 Continue to develop the municipal sewer system by extending sewers to Glendale, Nasonville and Mohegan in accordance with the July 1990 Wastewater Facilities Plan.
Responsibility	Town Council/Planning Department/Sewer Commission
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	Estimated at $5,000,000 for three-phase construction program.
Reference/Action	III.3.a.2 Continue to extend the sewer system into Oakland and Mapleville villages and expand the system in Harrisville-Bridgeton area as programmed in the Five-Year Capital Improvement Program.
Responsibility	Town Council/Planning Department/Sewer Commission
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	$500,000
Reference/Action	III.3.b.1 Recognizing the water quality benefits to be derived from pollution control, study the need and feasibility of extending the municipal sewer system, including the use of package treatment plants, to high density residential areas and unserviced commercial and industrial development in close proximity to Wallum Lake, Pascoag Reservoir, Wilson Reservoir and Slatersville Reservoir.
Responsibility	Town Council/Planning Department/Sewer Commission
Timing	Intermediate
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	III.3.b.2 In accordance with the Town Subdivision Ordinance, continue to require development proposal review and certification by the Sewer Authority if sewer use is proposed.
Responsibility	Town Council/Planning Department/Sewer Commission
Timing	Intermediate
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	III.3.b.3 Consider the development of a sewage sludge-composting program for the long-term disposal of sludge, and evaluate the feasibility of including the sludge composting in the townwide-composting program.
Responsibility	Town Council/Planning Department/Sewer Commission
Timing	Intermediate
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	III.3.b.4 Encourage the establishment of a townwide wastewater management program to educate homeowners how to maintain and regularly pump out individual sewage disposal systems and to implement regular pumping schedules if necessary.
Responsibility	Town Council/Planning Department
Timing	Intermediate
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	III.3.c.1 Extend services to unserved commercial and industrially zoned land along Route 102, the Bronco Highway, as required to service development as it comes on line.
Responsibility	Town Council/Planning Department/Sewer Commission
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	$15,000
Reference/Action	III.4.a.1 Maintain, update as necessary, and continue to implement section 11-5.3 of the municipal zoning code, "Aquifer Zoning", to protect the Town's groundwater aquifers and water supply identified as areas of stratified drift and delineated on the Town of Burrillville Aquifer Overlay Map.
Responsibility	Town Council/Planning Department/Planning Board
Timing	Priority
Cost	No direct cost

Reference/Action	III.4.a.2 Work with the Nasonville, Pascoag and Harrisville Fire Districts to fully implement the Water Quality Protection Plans of each district. Identification and testing of all underground fuel and other storage tanks, and the removal and proper disposal of abandoned, failing and unused tanks should be an immediate priority.
Responsibility	Town Council/Planning Department/Fire Districts
Timing	Priority
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	III.4.a.3 Identify properties within 400 feet of the public water supply wells in Pascoag, Harrisville and Nasonville that are not in water district ownership and prioritize these parcels for acquisition by water districts.
Responsibility	Town Council/Planning Department/Fire Districts
Timing	Priority
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	III.4.a.4 To meet the supply and distribution requirements of this decade, prepare capital facilities/improvements plans for the Pascoag, Harrisville and Nasonville Fire Districts for the period of 1991-2000, and include in the planning yield testing of the potential groundwater resources at Round Top, the study of potential surface water supplies, and services extension to Glendale.
Responsibility	Town Council/Planning Department/Fire Districts
Timing	Priority
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	III.4.a.5 Prepare service area extension guidelines and coordinate all new development proposals between the municipal planning department and the water districts to insure adequate supply and pressure.
Responsibility	Town Council/Planning Department/Fire Districts
Timing	Priority
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	III.4.a.6 In accordance with the Town's subdivision ordinance continue to require review and certification by the appropriate water system authority as to the availability of water if use of the public water supply is proposed.
Responsibility	Town Council/Planning Department/Fire Districts
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	III.4.b.1 In accordance with the statewide report on Water Supply, develop water conservation guidelines and "tips" for business and industry and homeowners and implement through the building official's office the low flow water devices mandated by the state building code.
Responsibility	Building Inspector
Timing	Priority
Cost	No direct cost

Future Burrillville Land Use Map
Year 2025



Legend

- Utilities
- Institutional
- Water
- Recreation/Conservation
- low density residential
- moderate density residential
- high density residential
- Parcels
- high density mixed use
- Industrial
- Commercial

0 0.35 0.7 1.4 Miles

N

Map 2

Source: RIGIS, Land Use Code 1995; Planning Dept., 2004; Tax Assessor - CAMA State LU Codes, 2004

Reference/Action	III.4.b.2 Implement water system leak detection and elimination programs in the Harrisville Fire District and especially in the Pascoag Fire District where nearly 50 percent of the daily yield is lost through leakage.
Responsibility	Fire Districts
Timing	Priority
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	III.4.c.1 Identify large industrial water users and encourage the implementation of recycling process water and where possible the use of local groundwater supplies for industrial processing.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Fire Districts
Timing	Intermediate
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	III.5.a.1 Erosion and sedimentation controls should be approved during the plan review process and inspected by the Town Building Official and/or the Director of Public Works during construction.
Responsibility	Town Council/Planning Department/Building Inspector/Public Works Department
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	III.5.a.2 Utilize the "Standard Requirements for Subsurface Stormwater Disposal Systems within Residential Developments and Roadways" (RIDEM), The Land Management Project, "Land Use and Water Quality Series", and the 1989 Rhode Island Soil Erosion and Sediment Control Handbook for design guidance for all new and improved drainage systems.
Responsibility	Town Council/Planning Department/Public Works Department
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	III.5.a.3 Continue to implement minimum flood control standards specifying no increase in the predevelopment peak discharge rates for the two year and twenty five year 24 hour storm. Where downstream impacts of the post development 100-year storm is deemed to be significant, no increase above the predevelopment peak discharge should be allowed.
Responsibility	Town Council/Planning Department/Planning Board
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	III.5.b.1 Where the maintenance of stormwater management facilities in residential developments becomes the responsibility of the municipality, consider the use of a one time fee to be paid by the developer and held in a restricted account to cover the cost of periodic maintenance.
Responsibility	Town Council/Planning Department/Planning Board
Timing	Priority
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	III.5.b.2 Require commercial and industrial on-site stormwater management system maintenance to be performed by the owner.
Responsibility	Town Council/Planning Department/Planning Board
Timing	Priority
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	III.6.a.1 Appoint a volunteer committee of townspeople to examine and identify communications resources and advise the Town Council as to how they might be organized to their highest and best use.
Responsibility	Town Council

Timing	Priority
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	III.6.a.2 Explore ways to expand the use of the Town's existing cable service.
Responsibility	Communications committee
Timing	Intermediate
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	III.6.a.3 Arrange for the cablecasting of public meetings of municipal bodies.
Responsibility	Town Council/Communications committee
Timing	Intermediate Complete
Cost	$2,500
Reference/Action	III.6.a.4 Explore possible illumination of a standard broadcast AM or FM band radio channel for municipal use.
Responsibility	Town Council/Communications committee
Timing	Long term
Cost	$10,000
Reference/Action	III.6.a.5 Investigate non-traditional communications systems such as equipping with VHF receivers (scanners) all buildings that have a designated secondary use as public shelter. Each of these receivers will then be in place and ready to pick up emergency announcements from officials at emergency management headquarters during times of crisis. This idea can be expanded to include publicizing the frequency to be used by conventional means during non-emergency times so citizens may also make arrangement to acquire and/or tune such a radio so they can receive emergency announcements in their homes.
Responsibility	Town Council/Communications committee
Timing	Long term
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	III.6.a.6 Develop a plan to maintain and improve, if possible, the traditional means of communication via print media (Woonsocket Call and Bargain Buyer) and existing out of town electronic media.
Responsibility	Town Council/Communications committee
Timing	Long term
Cost	$500
Reference/Action	III.6.a.7 Install and maintain an automatic "citizen's answer line" service at Town Hall. This unit may be as simple as a pre-recorded answer only message with the hours of Town Hall operations, or can be expanded to include the date, time and location of upcoming public meetings (as well as other announcements of interest) and could be further expanded to receive messages from townspeople in the form of questions or comments.
Responsibility	Town Council/Communications committee
Timing	Long term
Cost	$1,000

X.5 Element IV - School Facilities

Reference/Action	IV.1.a.1 Develop and administer a community survey aimed at obtaining accurate data on community expectations regarding the school system.
Responsibility	School Department/Planning Department
Timing	Intermediate
Cost	$10,000+/-
Remarks	Could be performed in house at lower cost.
Reference/Action	IV.1.a.2 Continue School Department preparation of the comprehensive strategic plan for the School District, including short and long term goals and objectives for the district.
Responsibility	School Department
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	IV.1.a.3 Monitor the school system's accomplishments to date in key result areas, make necessary revisions and corrections.
Responsibility	School Department
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
	Affordable housing complete
Reference/Action	IV.1.b.2 Continue maintenance work on facilities, roof repairs, major energy conservation projects, painting, window and door replacements, etc. as required.
Responsibility	School Department
Timing	Ongoing/Priority
Cost	Undetermined
Remarks	Preventive maintenance of all school facilities should be a priority.
Reference/Action	IV.1.b.3 The Superintendent shall prepare an annual report to the School Committee regarding the condition, maintenance and renovation of school facilities.
Responsibility	School Department
Timing	Priority
Cost	No direct cost
	Completed 2000
Reference/Action	IV.1.b.6 Based on the enrollment study, determine an immediate solution for housing students while long-term housing plans are being made.
Responsibility	School Department
Timing	Priority
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	IV.1.b.7 Completion of work on all capital improvement projects identified during the 1989-90 school year. Prepare updated list of future projects.
Responsibility	School Department
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	Undetermined

Reference/Action	IV.1.b.8 Continue work aimed at making the June Rockwell Levy Community Rink a financially self-supporting entity.
Responsibility	School Committee/Town Council
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	IV.1.b.9 Develop a capital improvement plan for the Community Rink.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Town Council
Timing	Priority
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	IV.1.c.1 Complete the first phase of work on district-wide grade level re-organization.
Responsibility	School Department/School Committee
Timing	Priority
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	IV.1.c.2 Conduct an analysis of district-wide enrollment trends to determine best short-term solutions.
Responsibility	School Department
Timing	Priority
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	IV.1.c.3 Analyze trends in out-of-district and private school enrollments to determine both immediate and long term needs.
Responsibility	School Department
Timing	Priority
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	IV.1.c.4 Prepare system for re-organization brought about by renovations and/or new construction.
Responsibility	School Department/School Committee
Timing	Priority
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	IV.1.d.1 Monitor development and population growth, State and Federal contributions to the school budget and maintain consistent levels of local property tax funding.
Responsibility	School Department/Planning Department/Town Council/School Committee
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	IV.1.d.2 The School Department must note where all appropriated capital improvement monies are used during the year.
Responsibility	School Department/Planning Department/Town Council/School Committee
Timing	Priority
Cost	No direct cost

Reference/Action	IV.1.e.1 The Town Planner and School Department staff should coordinate on a regular basis to review data needs, development trends, population projections and other information as needed.
Responsibility	School Department/Planning Department
Timing	Priority
Cost	No direct cost
Remarks	Regular meetings to keep the School Department apprised of future development and potential new students.
Reference/Action	IV.1.f.1 The Planning Department/Board, in coordination with the School Board, will review existing impact fee systems relating new development to school facilities, and consider the merits of such a system for Burrillville.

Responsibility	School Department/Planning Department/Planning Board
Timing	Priority
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	IV.1.f.2 Should the results of the study described in IV.1.f.1, indicate that an impact fee system would be beneficial to providing educational services in Burrillville, prepare the necessary legal review and establish an impact fee system.
Responsibility	School Department/Planning Department/Planning Board
Timing	Priority
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	IV.1.g.1 Attempt to locate new school facilities in or proximal to existing neighborhoods.
Responsibility	School Department/Planning Department/Planning Board/Town Council
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	IV.1.g.2 Review school bus stop locations to ensure the safety of children.
Responsibility	School Department/Planning Department
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	IV.1.h.1 Continue curricula and staff development activities in specific areas.
Responsibility	School Department
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost

X.6 Element V - Housing

Reference/Action	V.1.a.1 Through public and private actions, and joint public/private efforts, work to increase the variety of housing options, including a range of types, sizes and costs.
Responsibility	Town Council/Burrillville Housing Authority/Burrillville Redevelopment Agency
Timing	Priority - ONGOING
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	V.1.a.2 Give preference to redevelopment projects such as brownfields that include affordable housing components that achieve development of a variety of housing types, including single family, two family, duplexes, accessory apartments, 3 and 4 family structures, congregate housing and other alternatives for persons unable to live with complete independence.
Responsibility	Burrillville Redevelopment Agency
Timing	Priority
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	V.1.b.1 Amend the Zoning Ordinance to include Village Planned Development provision to apply to specific geographical areas that are contiguous to existing high-density village neighborhoods. Administer as necessary.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Planning Board/Town Council
Timing	COMPLETE VPD-LDP
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	V.1.c.1 Increase housing options affordable to households whose incomes are less than 50 percent of the local median income through public investment, subsidy and/or joint public/private efforts.

Responsibility	Burrillville Housing Authority/Burrillville Redevelopment Agency
Timing	COMPLETE
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	V.1.c.2 Increase housing options affordable to households whose incomes are between 30 and 80 percent of the local median income through incentives to the private sector, joint public/private efforts and nonprofit development.
Responsibility	Burrillville Housing Authority/Burrillville Redevelopment Agency
Timing	ONGOING
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	V.1.c.3 Evaluate affordable housing proposals according to the number of units which can be owned or rented at a cost of no more than 30 percent of the monthly income of the households to be served.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Planning Board
Timing	ONGOING
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	V.1.c.4 Expand the activities of the Town's Housing Authority to increase its ability to serve Burrillville residents, with special emphasis upon meeting the needs of families and elderly citizens.
Responsibility	Town Council
Timing	Intermediate
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	V.1.d.1 Work with the Housing Authority to ensure that existing units are maintained and modernized as necessary.
Responsibility	Town Council
Timing	Priority
Cost	No direct cost (funded by grants)
Reference/Action	V.1.d.2 The Town should continue (through the Housing Authority or non-profit agency) identify and secure a parcel suitable for the development of additional subsidized housing should State or federal programs make such development feasible.
Responsibility	Burrillville Housing Authority/Burrillville Redevelopment Agency
Timing	ONGOING
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	V.1.d.3 Support the Housing Authority's efforts to expand the number of Section 8 certificates through technical or other assistance.
Responsibility	Town Council
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	V.1.e.1 Whenever possible, require that affordable units be administered in a manner that gives preference to local residents.
Responsibility	Planning Board/Burrillville Housing Authority
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	V.1.f.1 Promote higher density housing development within the villages, where services and other amenities are existing or planned except where there are other criteria which must be met or concerns that conflict with allowing higher density.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Planning Board
Timing	COMPLETE
Cost	No direct cost

Reference/Action	V.1.f.2 Continue to require two to five acre minimum lot requirements in outlying areas of the community, where services and amenities are not available or planned.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Planning Board
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	V.2.a.1 Emphasize and preserve the identity of historic neighborhoods through Historic District Commission.
Responsibility	Town Council (to establish Historic District Commission)
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	V.2.a.2 Support the reuse and rehabilitation of mill buildings for housing use in those locations here access, parking, environmental concerns etc., preclude continues industrial use.
Responsibility	Burrillville Redevelopment Agency
Timing	COMPLETE VPD-LDP Ordinance
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	V.2.a.3 Continue providing low interest loans and other assistance for home improvements for low and moderate-income persons.
Responsibility	Planning Department
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	V.2.b.1 Provide incentives for combining open space preservation efforts with new affordable housing construction, such as through cluster development, except in the F5 district.
Responsibility	Planning Board
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	V.2.b.3 Specify in the Zoning Ordinance and other land use regulations that the impact of proposals on housing choice is a concern of the Town.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Planning Board
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	V.3.a.1 Allow and encourage the development or redevelopment of compatible small-scale affordable housing structures within existing neighborhoods.
Responsibility	Planning Board/Burrillville Redevelopment Agency
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	V.3.a.2 Require site plan review for all multifamily developments, large standard subdivisions, and cluster subdivisions.
Responsibility	Planning Board
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	V.3.a.3 When reviewing applications for mixed market-rate and affordable-rate developments, require that exterior architectural treatment and site design be similar in nature for both types of homes.
Responsibility	Planning Board
Timing	COMPLETE – ONGOING See VPD-LDP Ordinance
Cost	No direct cost

X.7 Element VI - Circulation

Reference/Action	VI.1.a.1 Maintain and update the list of projects for inclusion in the State Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).
Responsibility	Planning Department/Planning Board/Town Council
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	VI.1.a.2 Actively participate in planning of State and regional transportation systems.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Planning Board/Town Council
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	VI.1.b.1 Coordinate development of circulation systems with the planned development of the community.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Planning Board/Town Council
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	VI.1.c.1 Recognize the importance of Burrillville's outstanding historic manmade and natural landscape by protecting to the maximum extent possible shade trees, stone walls, historic buildings and structures, and natural features during the planning, design and construction of new and reconstructed roadways as well as the maintenance of existing roads.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Planning Board/Town Council
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	VI.1.d.1 Develop and implement a pavement management program to evaluate and prioritize improvements of Town streets. Include in the program the evaluation of drainage and sidewalk conditions.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Public Works Department/Town Council
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	VI.1.d.2 Coordinate the proposed installation of sewers and other underground utilities with local road improvements.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Public Works Department/Town Council
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	VI.1.d.3 Place a high priority on improvements to Route 100 from Ross Road to Fountain Square (Route 107) in Pascoag, and to Route 107 from Fountain Square to Harrisville, emphasizing the need for sidewalks, street trees, improved lighting, improved drainage, signing, intersection alignments and signalization.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Public Works Department/Town Council
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	$1.5 million per mile
Reference/Action	VI.1.d.4 Conduct a needs assessment and feasibility study of utilizing Laurel Hill and Grove Streets as an alternative circulator through Pascoag.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Public Works Department/Town Council
Timing	Intermediate
Cost	No direct cost

Reference/Action	VI.1.d.5 Consider establishing a Citizen Advisory Committee process for the development of future Transportation Improvement Program Projects.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Public Works Department/Town Council
Timing	Priority
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	VI.1.d.6 Work with the Rhode Island Department of Transportation to achieve workable designs on TIP projects in keeping with the rural and village character of Town.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Public Works Department/Town Council
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	VI.1.d.7 Consider utilization of street lighting fixtures in new residential, commercial and industrial development that complement the village character of Town.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Planning Board/Town Council
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Remarks	Could be achieved through development of design standards.
Reference/Action	VI.1.d.8 Furnish the Department of Public Works with adequate equipment and personnel to maintain the roadways, for snow removal, street sweeping and drainage system maintenance. Require continued development of five-year capital improvement programs for the Department of Public Works.
Responsibility	Public Works Department/Town Council
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	$100,000/yr
Reference/Action	VI.1.d.9 Work with the Department of Transportation to develop designs for the repair of the Harrisville Bridge over the Clear River that are faithful to the materials and texture of the existing stone arch bridge.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Historic District Commission/Public Works Department/Town Council
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	VI.1.d.10 Require preparation of a Traffic Impact Analysis for development projects. These studies will form the components of a network of traffic information.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Planning Board/Town Council
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Remarks	Guidelines for a Traffic Impact Study are contained in Appendix VIII-C.
Reference/Action	VI.1.e.1 Encourage the Public Transit Authority to maintain and where possible expand the fixed route bus system servicing the Town of Burrillville.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Town Council
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	VI.1.e.2 Focus highest density development along fixed bus routes.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Town Council
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	VI.1.e.3 Maintain the townwide para transit service to the elderly and handicapped.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Town Council

Timing	Ongoing
Cost	$25,000/yr
Reference/Action	VI.1.e.4 Review and evaluate system capacity and service eligibility requirements for para transit service to ensure that levels of service are commensurate with needs.
Responsibility	Town Council/Planning Department
Timing	Intermediate
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	VI.1.f.1 Require the consideration of trails, walkways and bikeways in federal, state, local and private development projects.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Planning Board/Town Council
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	VI.1.f.2 In accordance with Section 10-6.3 of the Municipal Code governing the construction of subdivisions, require the design and installation of side-walks in all new subdivisions of land.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Planning Board/Town Council
Timing	Priority
Cost	No direct cost
Remarks	
Reference/Action	VI.1.f.3 Consider establishing a bike path linking the villages in the Town with other planned regional bike paths. Where feasible, the old railroad right-of-way should be examined for feasibility as a location for portions of the bike path. In concept, the bike path would link Smithfield to Wallum Lake and connect eventually with other paths in northern Rhode Island and the Blackstone Valley National Heritage Corridor.
Responsibility	Recreation Committee/Planning Department/Town Council
Timing	Intermediate
Cost	$100,000 per mile for construction
Reference/Action	VI.1.f.4 Require sidewalks to be constructed along new and reconstructed state and local roadways where there is an identified existing or projected need to furnish adequate and safe pedestrian movement to residential, commercial and industrial activities or community facilities such as li-braries, schools, governmental buildings, places of worship and recreational facilities, with areas adjacent to schools receiving the highest priority.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Planning Board/Town Council
Timing	Priority
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	VI.1.f.5 Consider development of a village history theme focusing on historical attractions, village shops, inns, tours and other activities, capitalizing on a townwide and regional bikeway and/or trail system.
Responsibility	Recreation Committee/Historic District Commission
Timing	Intermediate
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	VI.1.g.1 Review proposals for new or expanded municipal office space to assure the provision of adequate parking to meet the requirements of the office.
Responsibility	Planning Department//Town Council
Timing	Priority
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	VI.1.h.1 Study the need for parking for commercial and governmental activities in Harrisville and for commercial activities in Pascoag.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Town Council

Timing	Priority
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	VI.1.h.2 Work with local businesses to develop parking supply and demand solutions.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Town Council
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	VI.1.h.3 Work with RIDOT and RIPTA to conduct a needs assessment and preliminary feasibility study of providing a Park & Ride lot in Burrillville.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Town Council
Timing	Intermediate
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	VI.1.h.4 Consider the utilization of off street parking to reduce traffic hazards along the heavily traveled route from Pascoag to Harrisville.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Planning Board/Town Council
Timing	Priority
Cost	TBD

X.8 Element VII - Economic Development

Reference/Action	VII.1.a.1 Create a Town Economic Development Commission and support their activities to promote economic development in the community.
Responsibility	Town Council/Economic Development Commission
Timing	Priority
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	VII.1.a.2 The Economic Development Commission shall develop and implement a growth development strategy for existing industry in concert with local business leaders.
Responsibility	Economic Development Commission/Town Council
Timing	Priority
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	VII.1.a.3 The Economic Development Commission shall attract and assist those types of industry and commerce which are most suitable for, and potentially most beneficial to the Town in terms of employment need, needs of firms, resources, fiscal soundness and other objectives.
Responsibility	Economic Development Commission/Town Council
Timing	Priority
Cost	No direct cost
Remarks	Those industries to be determined in the development of the economic growth strategy.
Reference/Action	VII.1.a.4 Conserve and enhance desirable existing industrial areas to maximize the investment and utilization of existing infrastructure. Prevent their preemption by or conversion to less intense uses.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Planning Board/Economic Development Commission/Town Council
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost

Reference/Action	VII.1.a.5 Zone sufficient industrial sites which provide a range of parcel sizes and essential utility and transportation services for industrial development.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Planning Board/Economic Development Commission/Town Council
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	VII.1.a.6 Coordinate with the Town's Sewer Commission and various water districts to ensure that these services are or will be available to sites zoned for industrial development.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Planning Board/Economic Development Commission/Town Council/Sewer Commission/Water District representatives
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
	Complete

Reference/Action	VII.1.a.8 Amend the Zoning Ordinance (Section 11.5, Section 12, Industrial Uses) to delete the "Processes involving fission" and Processes involving fusion" and other inappropriate or overly broad uses from the list of permitted uses.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Planning Board/Town Council
Timing	Priority
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	VII.1.a.9 Conserve and enhance desirable existing shopping areas and concentrations of service activities to maximize the investment and utilization of existing infrastructure.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Planning Board/Economic Development Commission/Town Council
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	VII.1.a.10 Stabilize and enhance older commercial areas, particularly those in the villages of Pascoag, Harrisville, Glendale, Oakland and Mapleville.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Economic Development Commission/Town Council
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Remarks	Work to access grant funding and other monies which could be used to assist local businesses. Consider public/private partnerships.
Reference/Action	VII.1.a.11 Allocate adequate areas for commercial use suitable for neighborhood/village oriented and community-oriented retail centers.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Planning Board/Town Council
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	VII.1.a.12 Explore other avenues of economic development, including recreational and tourism-related activities.
Responsibility	Economic Development Commission/Town Council
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	VII.1.a.13 Prohibit the spread of strip commercial development along major arterials through zoning.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Planning Board/Town Council

Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	VII.1.a.14 Promote revitalization of the small village commercial center through zoning and discourage competitive land uses along Route 102.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Planning Board/Town Council
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	VII.1.a.15 Rezone selected existing commercial zones which are not appropriate from a land use and environmental viewpoint.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Planning Board/Town Council
Timing	Priority
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	VII.1.a.16 Require minimum lot sizes for commercial zoning districts.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Planning Board/Town Council
Timing	Priority
Cost	No direct cost

Reference/Action	VII.1.a.17 Establish a Planned Development District for mixed-use commercial and residential developments on large tracts of land, except in the F5 district.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Planning Board/Town Council
Timing	Priority
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	VII.2.a.1 Enact development controls and performance standards in the zoning ordinance to mitigate conflicts between commercial and industrial development and other uses. These include, but are not limited to: • Buffers to side and rear lots; • Landscaping; • Compliance with State and federal air, and water quality regulations; • Maintenance of noise levels compatible with accepted standards.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Planning Board/Town Council
Timing	Priority
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	VII.2.a.2 Encourage design of commercial developments which are compatible with the surrounding neighborhood in appearance, with varied rooflines, alternative construction materials, scaled down signage etc.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Planning Board/Town Council
Timing	Priority
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	VII.2.a.3 Enact a system for site plan review with accompanying design guidelines for new commercial and industrial development.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Planning Board/Town Council
Timing	Priority
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	VII.2.b.1 Find viable economic reuses for historic buildings that can contribute to the economy through support of financing programs and preferential tax policies. Encourage creative adaptive reuse of the Town's historic homes and buildings when properly zoned.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Historic District Commission/Economic Development Commission/Planning Board/Town Council
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	VII.2.b.2 Encourage private historic interior house tours.

Responsibility	Historic District Commission/Economic Development Commission
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	VII.2.b.3 Encourage enactment of voluntary Historic Districts to protect the Town's historic sites and districts.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Historic District Commission/Planning Board/Town Council
Timing	Priority
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	VII.2.b.4 Encourage the protection and interpretation of the community's unique place in history.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Historic District Commission/Town Council
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost

Reference/Action	VII.2.b.5 Revise the Zoning Ordinance to include flexible mixed-use requirements to promote mill reuse.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Historic District Commission/Planning Board/Town Council
Timing	Priority
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	VII.2.c.1 Study the feasibility of developing a walk-in visitor center and an easily accessible public restroom facility maintained seven days per week.
Responsibility	Town Council
Timing	Intermediate
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	VII.2.c.2 Encourage the school system to develop a curriculum promoting understanding of the historic development of the Town and its resources.
Responsibility	Historic District Commission/School Department
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	VII.2.c.3 Coordinate with the Blackstone River Valley National Historic Corridor planners to take advantage of spinoffs from tourism opportunities in surrounding communities.
Responsibility	Economic Development Commission/Town Council
Timing	Priority
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	VII.2.c.4 Develop historic walking tours and bike tours through the villages of the Town.
Responsibility	Historic District Commission/Recreation Committee
Timing	Intermediate
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	VII.2.c.5 Continue to support promotional activities of the Blackstone Valley Tourism Council.
Responsibility	Town Council
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Remarks	The Town has applied for membership in the Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor.

Reference/Action	VII.2.c.6 Consider broadening home occupation uses in residential districts in the Zoning Ordinance, to encourage such uses as antique shops, arts and crafts shops and other similar uses which can benefit from the Town's rural/historic environment.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Planning Board/Town Council
Timing	Priority
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	VII.2.d.1 Maintain farming zoning districts (F5) in areas of the Town, which include prime agricultural soils or State important agricultural soils.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Planning Board/Town Council
Timing	Priority
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	VII.2.d.2 Encourage good forest resource management practices on privately owned forestlands.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Conservation Commission
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost

Reference/Action	VII.2.d.3 Identify valuable, unique and ecologically sensitive forestlands so that they may be protected.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Conservation Commission
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	VII.2.d.4 The Economic Development Commission should work with the local Chamber of Commerce or other groups to develop a map of public and private recreational sites throughout the Town. Print and distribute copies of the map at tourist-stops.
Responsibility	Recreation Committee/Economic Development Commission
Timing	Intermediate
Cost	$5,000+/-
Remarks	Potentially could be paid for through advertisements along border of map.
Reference/Action	VII.2.d.5 Support development of private recreation establishments in appropriate areas.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Planning Board/Town Council
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost

X.9 Element VIII - Recreation and Open Space

Reference/Action	VIII.1.a.1 Develop more recreational complexes rather than single purpose recreational facilities to serve all segments of the population.
Responsibility	Recreation Committee/Planning Department/Town Council
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	VIII.1.a.2 Through the Recreation Capital Improvement Program, the Town will schedule, in a systematic manner, the acquisition and development of recreation facilities within its financial capabilities.
Responsibility	Recreation Committee/Planning Department/Town Council
Timing	Ongoing

Cost	TBD
Reference/Action	VIII.1.b.1 As demand dictates, explore the development of existing Town-owned properties in addition to identifying and acquiring additional sites for recreational development.
Responsibility	Recreation Committee/Planning Department
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Remarks	Regularly update the Town's Recreation, Conservation and Open Space Plan. This encompasses this type of evaluation.
Reference/Action	VIII.1.b.2 Work with the School Department to coordinate its recreation programs and properties with Town activities.
Responsibility	Recreation Committee/Planning Department/School Department
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Remarks	Review of facilities and programming should take place on an annual basis, in addition to regular coordination. Charges for facility use should be evaluated.
Reference/Action	VIII.1.c.1 Methods to be considered include easements, zoning and other land use and development regulations.
Responsibility	Recreation Committee/Planning Department
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	VIII.1.c.4 Encourage private investment in recreational areas and facilities.
Responsibility	Recreation Committee/Planning Department/Town Council
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	VIII.1.c.5 Require land dedication or fees in lieu of land expressly for recreational purposes in all subdivisions and major non-residential developments.
Responsibility	Recreation Committee/Planning Department/Planning Board
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	VIII.1.c.6 Land dedicated to the Town under Section 10-5.7 "Conveyance of Land for Recreational Purposes" should be considered for both its recreational and open space characteristics, and appropriately designated. Efforts should be made to coordinate the land dedicated in the subdivision process to form interconnected greenbelts, and larger areas of protected open space for habitat preservation.
Responsibility	Recreation Committee/Planning Department/Planning Board
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	VIII.1.c.7 Form a land trust committee to establish land trusts in Burrillville.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Planning Board/Town Council
Timing	Intermediate
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	VIII.1.d.1 Improve access to all types of recreation facilities.
Responsibility	Recreation Committee/Planning Department
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	VIII.1.e.1 Base acquisition and development programs on up-to-date studies of demand and usage.
Responsibility	Recreation Committee/Planning Department
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost

Reference/Action	VIII.1.f.1 Preserve lands along Wallum Lake, Wakefield Pond, Pascoag Reservoir, Wilson Reservoir, Spring Lake, Branch River and other smaller water bodies and tributaries; for conservation and preservation of natural open spaces and to help protect the environment through acquisition of rights-of-way to the water bodies and through other conservation programs.
Responsibility	Recreation Committee/Planning Department/Planning Board/Town Council
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	VIII.1.f.2 Make acquisition of sites on or providing access to water bodies a priority in future acquisition programs.
Responsibility	Recreation Committee/Planning Department
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	TBD
Reference/Action	VIII.1.f.3 Improve and expand opportunities for recreational swimming and beach usage by maintaining and upgrading existing beach facilities, by encouraging the protection of small lakes and ponds which have traditionally accommodated swimming, and developing opportunities where feasible and appropriate.
Responsibility	Recreation Committee/Planning Department/Town Council
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	$1.2 million
Reference/Action	VIII.1.f.4 Promote the management of reservoirs and their watersheds for multiple purposes, including appropriate forms of public recreational access and use.
Responsibility	Planning Board/Planning Department/Town Council
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	VIII.1.g.1 Consider establishing a bike path linking the villages in the Town with other planned regional bike paths. Where feasible, the old railroad right-of-way should be examined for feasibility as a location for portions of the bike path. In concept, the bike path would link Smithfield to Wallum Lake and connect eventually with other paths in northern Rhode Island and the Blackstone Valley National Heritage Corridor.
Responsibility	Recreation Committee/Planning Department/Town Council
Timing	Intermediate
Cost	$100,000 per mile (construction costs)

Reference/Action	VIII.1.h.1 The Economic Development Commission should work with the local Chamber of Commerce or other groups to develop a map of public and private recreational sites throughout the Town. Print and distribute copies of the map at tourist-stops.
Responsibility	Recreation Committee/Economic Development Commission
Timing	Intermediate
Cost	$5,000+/-
Remarks	Potentially could be paid for through advertisements along border of map.
Reference/Action	VIII.1.h.2 Support development of private recreation establishments in appropriate areas.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Planning Board
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Remarks	Review Zoning Ordinance and map to see if there are appropriate provisions for private recreational establishments.

Reference/Action	VIII.1.h.3 The Town has applied to become a member of the Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor.
Responsibility	Planning Department/Planning Board
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Remarks	Review Zoning Ordinance and map to see if there are appropriate provisions for private recreational establishments.
Reference/Action	VIII.2.a.1 Work toward prevention or mitigation of adverse impacts of human activities on wildlife habitat.
Responsibility	Conservation Commission/Planning Department/Planning Board
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	VIII.2.b.1 Preserve, and where necessary, restore rivers and their adjacent shorelands for recreational use, wildlife habitat, water supply and the open space corridors they provide.
Responsibility	Conservation Commission/Planning Department/Planning Board
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	VIII.2.b.2 Manage floodplains to protect their natural functions and minimize flood hazards to life and property.
Responsibility	Conservation Commission/Planning Department/Planning Board
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	VIII.2.b.3 Protect wetland areas through acquisition of lands which protect their biological and hydrological integrity, provide opportunities for public access and usage, and enhance the proper management of wetland systems.
Responsibility	Conservation Commission/Planning Department/Planning Board
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	$1,000-10,000/acre wetlands and uplands.
Remarks	Acquisition could be through the subdivision open space dedication process.
Reference/Action	VIII.2.b.4 Retain open spaces large enough to serve as wildlife habitat, store flood waters, abate air and water pollution, provide a sense of openness, and serve as buffers and aesthetic amenities to existing development.
Responsibility	Conservation Commission/Planning Department/Planning Board
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	VIII.2.b.5 Continue efforts to preserve the Town's best farmland for active agricultural use.
Responsibility	Conservation Commission/Planning Department/Planning Board
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	VIII.2.c.1 The Town shall go on record as endorsing vigorous enforcement of all environmental protection laws and programs.
Responsibility	Conservation Commission/Planning Department/Planning Board
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	VIII.2.c.2 Cooperate with the Department of Environmental Management of the State of Rhode Island in its conservation and recreation programs, especially since the State presently owns nearly 6,000 acres of recreation property in the Town of Burrillville.
Responsibility	Conservation Commission/Planning Department/Planning Board
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost

X.10 Element IX - Land Use

Reference/Action	IX.1.a.1 Promote low overall residential densities in those areas where public services are currently unavailable or not planned to be available.
Responsibility	Planning Board/Planning Department/Town Council
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	IX.1.a.2 Reserve sites and buildings suitable for commercial and industrial development and or redevelopment, such as those found in the substandard areas, which are served by, or planned to be served by, public sewer and water, have adequate access to major arterial roadways, and will not intrude upon less intensive land uses.
Responsibility	Planning Board/Planning Department/Town Council/Redevelopment Agency
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	IX.1.a.3 Prevent the preemption of commercial and industrial sites and buildings by limiting their conversion to uses with less demanding locational requirements, such as residential uses.
Responsibility	Planning Board/Planning Department/Town Council
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	IX.1.a.4 Consider the location of planned industrial and commercial districts when planning new or expanded public sewer and water services and highway improvements.
Responsibility	Planning Board/Sewer Commission/Water Districts/Public Works Department/Planning Department/Town Council
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	IX.1.a.5 Develop a site plan review process to address potential impacts on surrounding land uses and the environment in general, and to encourage an overall high quality of design in all nonresidential and large residential developments as determined by the Town.
Responsibility	Planning Board/Planning Department/Town Council
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	IX.1.a.6 Require commercial and industrial developments to meet a series of performance standards to be determined by the Town regarding site layout and design, landscaping, parking, lighting and other related site elements.
Responsibility	Planning Board/Planning Department/Town Council
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	IX.1.b.1 Promote clustering of residential and commercial development where possible, particularly in the R-12, R-20, R-40 and F2 districts.
Responsibility	Planning Board/Planning Department/Town Council
Timing	Priority
Cost	No direct cost

Reference/Action	IX.1.b.2 Develop and implement a Planned Unit Development section in the Zoning Ordinance which permits affordable housing and mill reuse within or contiguous to existing village centers , to be planned and developed as one unit, and contains a mix of residential and commercial uses and common open space.
Responsibility	Planning Board/Planning Department/Town Council
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	IX.1.b.3 Work toward eliminating nonconforming uses through enforcement of current zoning laws, recognizing the need for changes in regulations where warranted.
Responsibility	Planning Board/Planning Department/Town Council
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	IX.1.b.4 Limit the use of land along water bodies to water dependent uses, or to mixed-use development in which a water dependent use is combined with other uses.
Responsibility	Planning Board/Planning Department/Town Council
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	IX.2.a.1 Promote the maintenance and expansion of R-12 and R-20 zones within the villages of Harrisville, Glendale, Oakland, Mapleville, Pascoag and Nasonville.
Responsibility	Planning Board/Planning Department/Town Council
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	IX.2.b.1 Promote the establishment of higher residential densities and smaller lot frontages in the village center areas, where public water and sewer service is present or planned.
Responsibility	Planning Board/Planning Department/Town Council
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	IX.2.b.2 Encourage the Sewer Authority and Fire Districts to provide needed infrastructure in the villages, and limit expansion of public facilities to outlying areas.
Responsibility	Planning Board/Planning Department/Town Council
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	IX.2.c.1 Further the identification and strict protection of state and national register historic properties and districts as an integral part of preserving Burrillville's cultural landscape.
Responsibility	Planning Board/Planning Department/Historic District Commission/Town Council
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	IX.2.d.1 Encourage local participation in federal and state business district revitalization programs.
Responsibility	Planning Board/Planning Department/Economic Development Commission/Town Council
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost

Reference/Action	IX.2.d.2 Support an organization of businesspeople in the Town of Burrillville to improve the overall business climate.
Responsibility	Planning Board/Planning Department/Economic Development Commission/Town Council
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Remarks	Coordinating this effort should be a duty of the Economic Development Commission.
Reference/Action	IX.2.d.3 Encourage investment by the public and private sectors that will stabilize and improve economic opportunities in downtown Pascoag, the Town's village centers including preservation and reuse of historic buildings.
Responsibility	Planning Board/Planning Department/Burrillville Redevelopment Agency/Town Council
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	IX.2.d.4 Provide an adequate and safe system of pedestrian walkways and sidewalks in village centers.
Responsibility	Planning Board/Planning Department/Public Works Department/Town Council
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	IX.2.d.5 Ensure the regular maintenance of pedestrian walkways and sidewalks.
Responsibility	Public Works Department/Town Council
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	IX.2.d.6 Provide and maintain safe, easy-to-find, and well-lit public parking areas in the village centers.
Responsibility	Public Works Department/Town Council
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	IX.2.d.7 The Town should study the feasibility of future commercial expansion in these areas.
Responsibility	Planning Board/Planning Department/Town Council
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	IX.2.d.7 Continue development and implementation of Redevelopment District Plans within substandard areas – Stillwater Mill Area and Pascoag Village are of continued high priority
Responsibility	Burrillville Redevelopment Agency/Planning Department/Town Council/Planning Board
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	$100,000 +
Reference/Action	IX.2.e.1 Locate new schools and other community facilities in or near village centers.
Responsibility	Planning Board/Planning Department/Town Council
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	IX.2.e.2 Tie historic preservation and revitalization efforts in with economic development and redevelopment and promotion of tourism in the Town.
Responsibility	Planning Board/Planning Department/Burrillville Redevelopment Agency/Town Council

Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	IX.3.a.1 Relate the location of residential developments and neighborhoods to employment and commercial centers, community facilities and services, and mass transit corridors.
Responsibility	Planning Board/Planning Department/Town Council
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	IX.3.a.2 Promote neighborhood development by locating housing, recreation and education facilities, and shopping areas in close proximity to one another, with provision for safe pedestrian movement.
Responsibility	Planning Board/Planning Department/Town Council
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	IX.3.a.3 Conserve and enhance desirable existing industrial areas, shopping areas and concentrations of service activities –particularly within the village's substandard areas - to maximize the investment and utilization of existing infrastructure.
Responsibility	Planning Board/Planning Department/Town Council/Redevelopment Agency
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	IX.3.a.4 Relate industrial and commercial development to overall land use by promoting use of development controls and performance standards that mitigate conflicts with other land uses and activities.
Responsibility	Planning Board/Planning Department/Town Council
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	IX.3.a.5 Prepare and circulate a developer's information handbook, including information on subdivision regulations, utilities, zoning, erosion and sedimentation controls, groundwater aquifers regulations, Planning Board meeting schedule and time deadlines, and the Comprehensive Plan.
Responsibility	Planning Board/Planning Department/Town Council
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	$500
Remarks	Could charge a nominal fee for this handbook to offset printing costs.
Reference/Action	IX.3.b.1 Create open space systems and corridors that protect complete ecologic units and provide structure and character to the built environment.
Responsibility	Planning Board/Planning Department/Town Council
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	IX.3.b.2 Retain open space spaces large enough to serve as wildlife habitat, store flood waters, abate air and water pollution, provide a sense of openness, and serve as buffers and aesthetic amenities to existing development.
Responsibility	Planning Board/Planning Department/Town Council/Conservation Commission
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	IX.3.b.3 Form a land trust committee to establish land trusts in Burrillville.
Responsibility	Planning Board/Planning Department/Town Council
Timing	Intermediate
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	IX.3.b.4 Preserve, and where necessary restore, rivers, and water bodies and their shorelands for recreational use, wildlife habitat, water supply and open space corridors.

Responsibility	Planning Board/Planning Department/Town Council/Conservation Commission
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost

Reference/Action	IX.3.b.5 Expand public access to water bodies by preserving existing recorded public access ways, seeking to maximize the access potential of existing committed shorelands, acquiring key access points, and stipulating access opportunities in new shoreline developments.
Responsibility	Planning Board/Planning Department/Town Council/Conservation Commission
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	IX.4.a.1 Utilize methods such as purchase of development rights, and permitting limited, clustered residential development, except in the F5 district, at the edges of large agricultural properties toward preserving agricultural lands.
Responsibility	Planning Board/Planning Department/Town Council
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	IX.4.b.1 Designate certain roads in the Town as "rural roads" and prepare a rural road ordinance or policy which will serve to protect the visual qualities of these corridors, including stone walls, trees and other unique features.
Responsibility	Planning Board/Planning Department/Town Council
Timing	Long Term
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	IX.4.b.2 In future applications for open space grant funds, consider for acquisition or other forms of protection, those areas having unique visual qualities as identified in the Natural and Cultural Resources Element (Chapter II).
Responsibility	Planning Board/Planning Department/Town Council/Conservation Commission/Recreation Committee
Timing	Long Term
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	IX.4.b.3 In the development review process, work closely with the developer to properly site the structures, parking areas and landscaping to minimize the visual impacts, and to maximize the coordination of the development with the adjacent landscape.
Responsibility	Planning Board/Planning Department/Town Council
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	IX.5.a.1 Amend the Zoning Ordinance to adequately address power generating plants and implement the Route 102 Development Management District Overlay Zone site plan standards.
Responsibility	Planning Board/Planning Department/Town Council
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	IX.5.b.1 Discourage incompatible land uses in areas adjacent to power generating facilities, and require a minimum vegetated buffer between such facilities and adjacent properties with special concern given to high-energy electro-magnetic fields.
Responsibility	Planning Board/Planning Department/Town Council
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost

Reference/Action	IX.5.b.1 Discourage competitive commercial/retail land uses between the villages and Route 102 by continued implementation of the Route 102 Development Management District Plan.
Responsibility	Planning Board/Planning Department/Town Council
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	IX.6.a.1 The Town will pursue various avenues to register its opposition to any regional airport site, including working closely with State officials.
Responsibility	Planning Board/Planning Department/Town Council
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	IX.6.a.2 The Burrillville Planning Board and Town Council should meet on an annual basis with abutting communities to encourage regional communication with abutting states.
Responsibility	Planning Board/Planning Department/Town Council
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost
Reference/Action	IX.6.b.1 The Town will continue to actively voice its opposition to the siting of a regional landfill and/or incinerator facility within its boundaries or within abutting towns but located where they may affect Burrillville.
Responsibility	Planning Board/Planning Department/Town Council
Timing	Ongoing
Cost	No direct cost