

FY2015-FY2016 Board of Selectmen Goals

Adopted: August 19, 2014

1. Maximize the use of Town assets and ensure that Town and School services are housed in buildings that provide suitable and effective environments.

Continuing Strategies

- Update the Facility Master Plan.
- Participate in the evaluation of capital facilities and Regional Agreement for Minuteman School.
- Evaluate targeted options for property acquisition.

New Initiatives

- Update Facility Financing Plan.
- Develop a bridge inventory including ownership, status, and projected capital improvement costs.
- Pursue efforts to improve drainage capacity and reduce incidence of flooding in Needham.
- Develop a plan for beautification and improvement at the RTS facility.
- Pursue the placement of utility infrastructure underground in the business districts so long as the undergrounding is part of a long-term plan for the roadway.

2. Maintain and improve the vitality and economic success of the Town.

Continuing Strategies

- Improve the Needham Center streetscape and infrastructure.
- Complete the preferred renovation of Highland Avenue from Webster Street to the Charles River (State highway).
- Monitor implications of the add-a-lane project and assure that Needham's interests are addressed in the final design.
- Develop a consensus with Newton regarding transportation options along the Highland Avenue/Needham Street corridor.

New Initiatives

- Evaluate the possibility partnering with local businesses to relocate and/or consolidate private dumpsters in municipal lots.
- Explore the feasibility of implementing a permit parking program in Needham Heights.
- Develop a plan for snow removal in the business districts.
- Evaluate Sunday and holiday hours for package stores.

3. Expand energy efficient and environmentally sound operations for the Town and its residents and businesses.

4. Maintain and develop amenities that contribute to the desirability of Needham as a place to live and work.

Continuing Strategies

- Evaluate the impact of broadening the historical demolition delay By-law.
- Work with the Planning Board on zoning provisions relating to residential construction.
- Preserve the Town's interests in the Needham Mews project.
- Consider the merits of a tree removal by-law.
- Update the Town's Affordable Housing Plan
- Evaluate the status of paper roads in Needham.

New Initiatives

- Develop an inventory of American Flag locations with status and replacement methodology.
- Develop an inventory of memorial signs and plaques and a plan for cleaning and maintenance.
- Coordinate with DCR to encourage access to Cutler Park.
- Establish fishing areas at ponds and on the Charles River.
- Expand the hours of operation of the Senior Center.
- Evaluate the concept of constructing a hockey rink in a public/private partnership.

5. Maintain and enhance the Town's Financial Sustainability

New Initiatives

- Review special stabilization fund targets, specifically the Athletic Facility Fund.
- Work with the Finance Committee and School Committee to review the iPad 1:1 program in accordance with the resolution adopted at the 2014 Town meeting.
- Evaluate the impact of converting the Town's water supply to an all-MWRA model.

6. Evaluate Town Operations and Administration.

Continuing Strategies

- Develop a board and committee handbook.

New Initiatives

- Update and post Board of Selectmen policies.
- Develop a policy to promote the rotation of appointed board chairs.