Appendices

A. Open Space and Recreation Plan Survey Results (2022)

B. ADA Accessibility Inventory and Transition Plan

C. Town of Stow Open Space Committee -- Open Space Ranking Criteria

D. Freedom's Way Landscape Inventory, Stow Reconnaissance Report: List of Areas Identified

E. Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Department of Food and Agriculture – Agricultural Land Mitigation Policy and Executive Order 193 – November 2001

F. Comments submitted on the Draft Open Space and Recreation Plan

1. Stow Select Board (attached)
2. Stow Planning Board (attached)
3. Metropolitan Area Planning Council (attached)
4. Massachusetts Division of Conservation Services (attached)
5. Public Forum Notes (attached)
6. Additional Text-Specific Comments not attached were received from Bruce Fletcher, Vin Antil, Laurie Burnett and incorporated into the Final Plan

G. Species of Birds, Mammals, Reptiles, Amphibians, Fish and Insects Found in Stow

Stow Open Space and Recreation Plan Survey

The Town of Stow is just beginning the process of updating its Open Space and Recreation Plan – the planning document that addresses the town's needs for conservation and recreation lands and facilities. The goal of this survey is to receive your feedback on how you use conservation and recreation areas in Town, and how you would like to use these areas in the future. We are also asking Stow residents for their views on possible future uses of the portion of the Stow Acres North Course that the Town has voted to purchase. Please share your suggestions and vision for the future of open space and recreation in Stow!

Responses are due by September 15, 2022.

If you would prefer to fill out a paper copy of this survey, you can pick one up in dedicated boxes at the Randall Library and Council on Aging or in the grey cabinet outside the Town Building front door. You can also mail completed surveys to the Stow Conservation Commission, 380 Great Road, Stow, MA 01775.

For more information, please contact the Stow Conservation Department at 978-897-8615 or the Stow Recreation Department at 978-637-2984 or visit our website at www.stow-ma.gov.

Thank you for your time and interest!

1. *What is your age?*

   Mark only one oval.

   - Under 18
   - 18-24
   - 25-34
   - 35-44
   - 45-54
   - 55-64
   - 65-74
   - 75+

2. *How long have you lived in Stow?*

   Mark only one oval.

   - Less than 1 year
   - 1-5 years
   - 6-12 years
   - 13-20 years
   - 21+ years
   - I do not live in Stow

3. *Which best describes your household?*

Mark only one oval.

- One person household
- Family without children in the house
- Family with children in the house
- Group household
- Other: _____

4. *What are the reasons that protected open space and conservation land in Stow are important to you? (check all that apply)*

Check all that apply.

- [ ] Maintains scenic and woodland views
- [ ] Offers places to walk, bike, and enjoy the outdoors
- [ ] Provides habitat for plants and wildlife
- [ ] Helps protect groundwater and surface water
- [ ] Protected farms are a place to buy local produce
- [ ] Maintains rural and small town character of Stow

5. *How often do you use Conservation/Recreation land or facilities in Stow?*

Mark only one oval.

- Almost every day
- Weekly
- 1-2 times/month on average
- Once a month on average
- A few times per year
- Never

6. *How often do you use or visit the following recreation and/or open space areas in Stow?*

Mark only one oval per row.

	Frequently	Occasionally	Never
Pine Bluff Fields at Lake Boon			
Pine Bluff Town Beach			
Town Center Park (Great Road)			
Stow Community Park (Old Bolton Rd)			
Memorial Field (Bradley Lane)			
Pompo Fields (behind Community Center/Fire Station)			
Stow Community Gardens (Tuttle Lane)			
Stow Town Forest/Gardner Hill (Bradley Lane)			
Other Town Conservation Land (Marble Hill, Flagg Hill, Heath Hen, Captain Sargent)			
Stow Conservation Trust land (Red Acre, Hale/Corzine, Leggett)			
Lake Boon Boat Ramp			
Assabet River National Wildlife Refuge			
Delaney Wildlife Management Area			
Assabet River (canoeing/kayaking)			
Private golf courses in Stow			
Private area Health Clubs or Pools			

Area farms (apple picking, produce)			

7. *Are there other areas you visit regularly for open space/recreation opportunities outside of Stow? If so, please list them.*

8. *In which of these activities do you or members of your household participate in Stow or elsewhere? (check all that apply)*

Check all that apply.

- [ ] School sponsored recreation activities/team sports
- [ ] Community/League activities (AVLL, youth soccer, etc.)
- [ ] Adult League activities
- [ ] Camp Stow
- [ ] Other Town Recreation Commission sponsored activities and programs
- [ ] Informal Individual or Group Exercise (walking, running, cycling, cross country skiing, snow shoeing)
- [ ] Dog walking on area conservation properties
- [ ] Competitive events (road races, etc.)
- [ ] Hunting/Trapping
- [ ] Use of Parks/Playgrounds/Picnic Areas
- [ ] Recreational boating
- [ ] Private/formal instruction (dance, karate, etc.)
- [ ] Bird watching/wildlife watching/nature study

9. *How do you get information about open space and recreation opportunities in Stow? (check all that apply)*

Check all that apply.

- [ ] Town website
- [ ] Recreation Department newsletter
- [ ] COA newsletter
- [ ] Stow Conservation Trust website
- [ ] Social media (Facebook, Next Door, Twitter, etc.)
- [ ] Friends/Word of mouth
- [ ] Local newspaper
- [ ] Other websites (All Trails, etc.)
- [ ] I don't – I just explore

10. *Below is a list of facilities. Please mark whether you think the current offerings in Stow are sufficient or if you would like to see more of this kind of facility in Town:*

Mark only one oval per row.

	Sufficient	Need More	Unsure or Don't Use
Additional formal playing fields – softball, baseball, soccer, field hockey			
Accessible walking trails (wheelchair, stroller friendly)			
Bike lanes along roadways			
Paved bicycle trails			
Unpaved bicycle/mountain biking trails			
Horseback Riding Trails			
Walking/Hiking Trails			
Sidewalks			
Picnic Areas			
Formal Children's Playground Areas – swings, slides, etc.			
Informal Children's Nature Play Areas			
Dog Park			
Neighborhood "pocket" parks			
Teen Center			
Expanded Community Center			
Tennis Courts			
Basketball Courts			
Pickleball Courts			
Skateboard Park			
Indoor swimming			

pool			
Spray/Splash Park			
Community Gardens			
Ice skating			
Camping Facilities			
Walking/Running Track			
Golf			
Disc/Frisbee golf			
Lawn Games – i.e. Bocce, horseshoes			
Outdoor performance space			
Farmer's Market			
Public access to water bodies for fishing, boating, swimming			

11. *How often do you travel to Stow's open spaces and/or recreation facilities by walking or biking (weather permitting)?*

    Mark only one oval.

    - Every day
    - Frequently
    - Occasionally
    - Never

12. *How important is it for you to be able to access Stow's open space and natural areas, trails, and/or recreation destinations by walking or biking?*

    Mark only one oval.

    - Very important
    - Moderately important
    - Not important

13. *The Town is currently in the initial stages of planning for the future use of the 110+ acres of conservation and recreation land that is being acquired at Stow Acres Country Club on Randall Road. Please select the* ***six*** *most important elements that you would like to see in the design of this community facility:*

Check all that apply.

- [ ] New Athletic Fields (soccer, baseball, etc.)
- [ ] Paved and Unpaved Walking/Cycling Paths
- [ ] Re-establishing wildlife habitat and stream corridors, tree planting
- [ ] Playgrounds and other formal play areas
- [ ] Formal playcourts (basketball, pickleball, volleyball)
- [ ] Recreation building with exercise facilities, swimming pool, etc.
- [ ] Off-Leash Dog Play Area/Dog Park
- [ ] Skateboard Park
- [ ] Water Play Areas (e.g. splash park)
- [ ] Adventure Play areas (e.g. climbing wall, ropes course)
- [ ] Picnic Tables and Shelter
- [ ] Disc/frisbee golf
- [ ] Farmer's Market and Community Event Space
- [ ] Canoe/kayak access to Elizabeth Brook
- [ ] Restrooms
- [ ] Other: _____

14. *What kinds of land should the town prioritize for continued open space protection? Please choose up to four.*

Check all that apply.

- [ ] Land for active recreation facilities
- [ ] Land for groundwater protection
- [ ] Land for wildlife habitat
- [ ] Land for trails
- [ ] Land that creates connections to other protected land
- [ ] Land abutting existing conservation areas
- [ ] Land for farming or that is in active agricultural use
- [ ] Land with scenic attributes
- [ ] Land that is important to mitigating the impacts of climate change (e.g. floodplains, river corridors)
- [ ] Land that provides public access to waterbodies
- [ ] Other: _____

15. *What is your favorite public open space or recreation facility in Stow? (please just list one)*

_____

16. *Do you have any suggestions for how this favorite place can be improved? (please just list one)*

_____

17. *Please identify one specific place (destination, roadway) you would like to be accessible by walking, but don't feel that you can get there safely (e.g. a school, store, neighborhood, conservation area, street name):*

18. *Please feel free to expand on any answer, or to comment on something we missed that you feel is important to consider as we update Stow's Open Space and Recreation Plan:*

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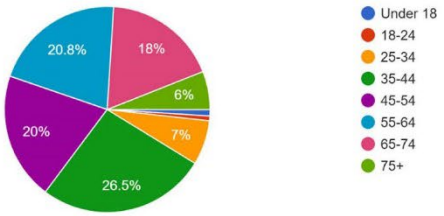
Google Forms

2/13/2023

1

Survey Demographics

What is your age?
400 responses

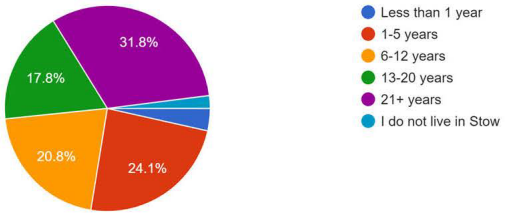


2

2/13/2023

Survey Demographics

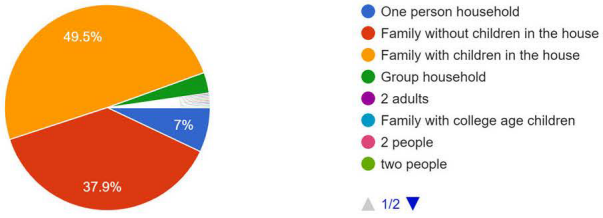
How long have you lived in Stow?
399 responses



3

Survey Demographics

Which best describes your household?
398 responses



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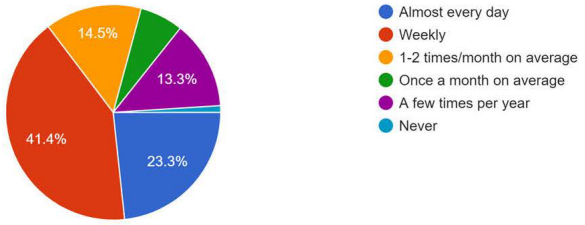
2/13/2023

How often do you use Conservation/Recreation land or facilities in Stow?

399 responses



5

Outdoor Recreation Participation Rates in Stow

High

- Informal Individual or Group Exercise – 65%
- Use Parks/Playgrounds/Picnic Areas – 64%
- Dog Walking on Conservation Land – 46%
- Bird Watching/Wildlife Watching Nature Study-44%

Medium

- Recreational Boating – 28%
- Community/Youth League Sports – 27%
- School Sponsored Recreation Activities/Team Sports – 26%

Low

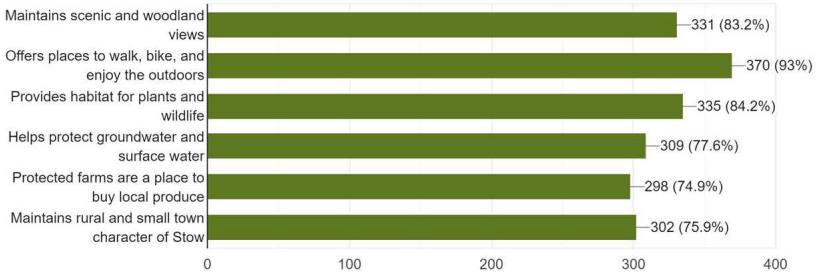
- Camp Stow (16%)
- Adult League Activities (6%)
- Rec Commission Programs (13%)
- Competitive Events (12%)
- Private/Formal Instruction(14%)
- Hunting & Trapping (4%)

6

2/13/2023

What are the reasons that protected open space and conservation land in Stow are important to you? (check all that apply)

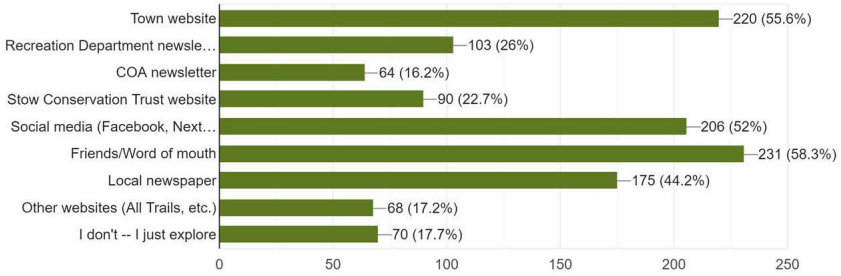
398 responses



7

How do you get information about open space and recreation opportunities in Stow? (check all that apply)

396 responses



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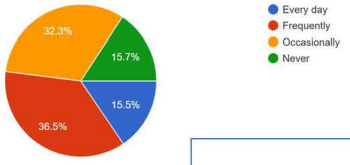
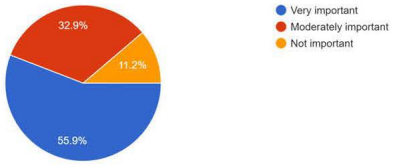
2/13/2023

How often do you travel to Stow's open spaces and/or recreation facilities by walking or biking (weather permitting)?
400 responses



How important is it for you to be able to access Stow's open space and natural areas, trails, and/or recreation destinations by walking or biking?
401 responses



9

Most Visited Sites (respondents self-report as "frequent" visitors)

- Area farms and orchards (223)
- Delaney (147)
- Stow Town Forest (108)
- Assabet River NWR (105)
- Other Town Conservation Lands (111)
- Stow Community Park (90)
- Pine Bluff Fields (74)
- Stow Conservation Trust Lands (68)

10

2/13/2023

Least Visited Sites (respondents self-report as "never" visitors)

- Private health clubs or pools (248)
- Lake Boon Boat Ramp (242)
- Stow Community Gardens (229)
- Private golf courses (224)
- Pompo Fields (219)
- Memorial Field (196)
- Assabet River Canoeing

11

Stow Acres Desired Uses

- **Paved and Unpaved Walking Trails – 272 (68%)**
- **Re-establishing Wildlife Habitat and Stream Corridors, Tree Planting – 243 (60.8%)**
- **Farmers' Market and Community Event Space – 226(56.5%)**
- **Restrooms – 181 (43.5%)**
- **Recreation Building with Exercise/Pool Space – 165 (41.3%)**
- **Picnic Tables and Shelter – 150 (37.5%)**
- **Canoe/kayak Access to Elizabeth Brook 149 (37.3%)**
- Off leash dog play area – 119 (29.8%)
- Playgrounds and other formal play areas – 114 (28.5%)
- Water play areas – 100 (25%)
- Adventure play areas (climbing walls, ropes course, etc.) – 96 (24%)
- Formal Play Courts (basketball, pickleball, volleyball) – 90 (22.5%)
- New Athletic Fields (soccer, baseball, etc.) – 72 (18%)
- Disc/Frisbee Golf – 48 (12%)
- Skateboard Park – 27 (6.8%)

Other Ideas Written In

-Running Track
-Ice Rink
-Golf
-Walking for Seniors, Parents
-Music Performance Area
-Unstructured Nature Play
-Trash Cans
-Elizabeth Brook Fishing
-Cross country skiing/snowshoeing
-Benches
-Horseback Trails
-Arts space
-Outdoor pool
-Gardens

12

2/13/2023

What Kind of Land Should be Prioritized for Future Acquisition?

- Land for Wildlife Habitat (60%)
- Land for Groundwater Protection (53%)
- Land Important to Mitigating the Impacts of Climate Change (49%)
- Land for Trails (44%)
- Land that Creates Connections to Other Protected Land (41%)
- *Lower scoring were land for active recreation, land abutting conservation land, ag land, scenic land, land providing access to water*

13

Places People Would Like to Walk

- Town Core – Schools, Library and extending outward
- Ericksons
- Four season sidewalk on 117
- Stow Community Park
- Route 62 & Gleasondale

- Red Acre Road to Lower Village
- West Acton Road & Shelburne Farm
- Hudson Road
- Marble Hill to Flagg Hill
- Sudbury Road/Pine Bluff; Honey Pot
- Harvard Road & Delaney
- Bradley Lane
- Whitman Street & Leggett
- Taylor Road
- Boxboro Road

Anywhere! And many say they are fine...

14

Favorite Conservation and Recreation Areas

- Stow Town Forest
- Stow Community Park
- Delaney WMA
- Town Center Park
- Assabet River NWR

15

Suggestions for Improvement

Stow Town Forest

- None – 40+%
- Trash/Dog Poop Collection
- Trailside benches
- More trails and better trail marking
- Require dogs to be leashed
- Parking lot grading/potholes

Delaney WMA

- None – 35%
- Better trail markings
- Invasive control
- Restrooms, trash cans, picnic tables
- Better leash enforcement vs. more off leash areas
- Control aquatic weeds, pave trails
- More respect for hunting mission/purpose vs. ban hunting

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Suggestions for Improvement

Stow Community Park	Town Center Park
• None – 35% • New facilities: pickleball, water play, pool, fields, bathroom, electric charging station • Allow dogs • More land to expand walking trail • Update/expand playground • Better maintenance	• None – 56% • Bird houses, better play equipment • Restroom • Paved parking lot and path to gazebo to increase accessibility • Trash can • Shade trees by play area • Tables • Enforce Dog Prohibition

17

Suggestions for Improvement

Assabet River NWR
• None – 35% • Better trail access to refuge • More trails at refuge/open a larger area • More Canoe Areas • Ban hunting • Boardwalk flooded areas

18

Open Space and Recreation Plan Survey Comments

- A dog park would be a great addition.
- A lot of people will probably say more sidewalks. As someone who has lived in Stow almost my whole life, I feel that people knew there were no sidewalks when they moved in and now expect we should put them everywhere. I would hate to see the esthetics of Stow change with sidewalks everywhere.
- A sidewalk on Hudson Road would allow traffic at same speed or slightly slower and kids could walk to stow town park or school.
- A swimming pool would be amazing. Apart from Camp Stow/gymnastics club in summer there is nowhere to go for kids to learn!!
- All the dog walkers who drive to the town forest create way too much traffic on Bradley Lane and the road is terribly maintained.
- Better invasives management, active forest management, concern about increasing taxes
- Beyond the Golf Course development let's focus on maintaining existing parks and facilities
- Boat ramp access to Lake Boon with proper trailer parking should be prioritized by the committee/town for future investments.
- Buildings are not the enemy of open space & recreation. With ING Academy coming, perhaps they would be interested in helping on the cost of the previously mentioned ice rink/curling club with cooperation on access.
- Can Stow Acres Course South/North provide canoe/kayak access to Assabet River and Elizabeth Brook?
- Change isn't always needed
- Climate change is most critical, so protecting existing trees is one of the best things we can do.
- Stow Community Park really needs updated playground equipment appropriate for multiple ages. Everything is too high and there aren't enough swings. The rocks alongside the slide at Town Center Park are a hazard if a kid falls while sliding. It would be amazing if there were sidewalks along Gleasondale Road to access Randall Library , Hale and Center school from that direction. It's a pity to live so close and have no way to safely walk or bike there with children. Bike lanes to Lake Boon would be great as well for the same reason. An outdoor town pool and splash pad would be amazing especially considering how frequently Lake Boon has to close for Algae blooms. It would be great to have a reliable summer swimming spot and not have to go to a private facility in another town just to use a pool.
- Compared to Surrounding Towns, Stow's facilities all look and feel very dated.
- Connect Assabet River Rail trail from Hudson to Maynard thru Stow
- Conservation is wonderful in this town but more importantly we need good water and to get rid of all the empty leasable space in lower village! How is this happening that we would lose 2 Dunkin Donuts. This should be an eye opener that our town is not headed in a direction that even DD wants to be a part of! We need to clean up the old gas station, figure out what is happening with the water situation at our schools and lower village - to me these are more important than more open space.
- Dogs should be allowed in many of our Parks and School grounds.
- Don't touch Track Road.
- Education around our town history and why it's important to protect land.
- Elizabeth Brook has limited water and should be left alone for wildlife habitat purposes.
- Emphasis on preserving rural character (agriculture, scenic views, support for farmers), preserving wildlife corridors and aquifers.
- Enforce rights-of-way through private property (where they exist) when property abuts public land. If there is no right-of-way then provide incentives for property owners to provide such. Case in point, the Melone property abutting the Town Forest. There's a nice trail that I used to walk from King's Cove on the Assabet to

the old Stowaway golf course and White Pond Road, but about ten years ago it was posted with No Trespassing signs.

- Develop, budget, and execute a plan to remove large items of disused machinery from the Town Forest. There are several items on the trail by Elizabeth Brook that are now accumulating graffiti. Also, a bunch of junked cars on the red trail leading to Carver Hill.
- Even a simple walk along the road would be nice but we can't do it without a sidewalk.
- I think that the Town Center Park could be made an excellent walkable/bikeable location for students at Center and Hale School. Having an easily accessible outdoor location for students to utilize after school would give young children more opportunities for outdoor activities. It's proximity to the library also makes it an excellent option for those who enjoy reading outdoors.
- Folks cannot walk along 117 though all of Stow on a sidewalk, especially in the winter months because of unsafe conditions/impassable conditions. We need snow removal at least so people can walk outdoors.
- Fresh air, water and habitat protection are all important, Gleasondale needs more access to outdoor areas.
- Getting safely to the new property should be thoughtfully planned. There are children who will be traveling to this new property to use it, and the roads that lead there are busy, narrow and always have pedestrians. We would like to see sidewalks in this neck of the woods.
- Hudson Road Sidewalk
- I appreciate the focus on this, but honestly, focusing on the downtown areas, IMO, is the single most important thing this Town needs to focus on. If we want to improve our Town, we need to fix the downtown, make a park there, pretty it up. Buying more woods is not critical to my family, we only walk a few days a week in them, but we see and drive through downtown every single day. Any plan for open space should focus primarily on our downtown.
- I believe in keeping as much land virgin as possible. Trails are wonderful, we have a lot. It would be great to allow our native creatures peace without invading their homes with more.
- I believe there is beginning to be deer browse pressure in some areas of our forests. I know this is not easily addressed. However if the opportunity arises to build another exclosure with interpretive signage, where it is easily observed, this will help to inform the public of this increasing ecological challenge.
- I don't know if this pertains to the open space plan but since we've mentioned sidewalks...if we could allocate money to clear at least the 117 sidewalk in winter that would allow many more people to walk to things (community center, school, etc.) and have a safe space to walk/run rather than just at the side of the road. I would vote in favor of a tax increase to make that happen at town meeting if it were proposed (and I think a lot of other families would too).
- I feel very happy and lucky with the time I've lived in Stow. We moved here from Marlborough and while we lived on a main road there, we had plenty of access to sidewalks which made walking safe. I walk my dog multiple times a day and we are expecting our first child soon, I was excited to live on a slower/side street. I think with the speed that cars travel down Edson Street and Randall Road to get to the golf course is dangerous. I find myself driving to a neighborhood in Hudson with sidewalks to walk and I wish we would have sidewalks or speed bumps to make our area feel more safe while walking.
- I feel we have enough open space and need to work with the land we have now
- I like farmer's markets but would not want to hurt Applefield or any of the orchard business
- I live on Edson Street and it's currently used as a cut through for the golf course. People speed going down the street I worry about the new development and more cars. I'm fearful for my child's safety and when walking my dog. It would be nice to add speed bumps or other measures to have people slow down on this road.
- I live on Great Rd., across the street from the Stow Center Park, and there is no safe pedestrian crossing for the park or for the library or the UU Church. Why do we not have a WALK sign at the stoplight in the town center?
- I love all the trails. Keep up the great work!

- I rarely walk in Delaney conservation land because dogs are still running loose, and often poop is not picked up despite the rules, no enforcement seen.
- I think a paved trail/ bike path linking to others surrounding area ones would be great benefit.
- I think an outdoor pool would be amazing to have. Maybe an indoor one would get more use year round, but I think people want to be outside in the summer and I don't know if they would go to an indoor one.
- I think the marriage between stow open space areas and a cohesive plan for more community engagement opportunities (events, farmer's market, etc.) both stay true to Stow's rural beauty while also celebrating small community connections.
- I think you need to look at the surrounding communities and compare and adjust according to the surrounding towns. Example: playgrounds and sidewalks since stow already has the nature and hiking trails, it's time to bring the community together and other families to have a place in an open safe space such as those. And those places should be accessible via walking by sidewalks.
- I would like more of a focus on maintaining what we have and not adding much more except a portion (not all) of Pilot Grove Farm if it ever goes on the auction block. Focus on good maintenance and affordable housing. I think we pay too much in taxes already and we have more than enough protected space >25% of total Stow acreage when one also counts Delaney and Assabet Wildlife Refuge (which could use some serious maintenance work on its allowed bikeways!).
- I would like sidewalks on Old Marlborough & 62, and in the Gleasondale neighborhood so that we could access the future Stow Acres project safely by walking or biking.
- I would like there to be sidewalks on some of the major roads for people to walk on safely without conflicting with cars, bicyclists, or needing to walk in poison ivy.
- I would like to see a school-connected emphasis placed upon preservation of Stow history. An example: we could have created a pocket park on Hiley Brook around the historical marker for the second land grant for Stow. I would love to have the Stow school kids create small pocket areas commemorating Stow's history around town. On the historic marker on Hiley Brook is a section of barbed wire that is one of the oldest examples of barbed wire. The wire has been wrapped around the stone for so long (since mid 1800s) that the stone is eroded. Kids could learn about land grants that were offered in the early days of Stow, as well as learning history of how barbed wire changed our farming techniques and how livestock was managed. We could create these small areas all around Stow, illuminating our history and preserving our bits of the past scattered around town.
- I would like to see more safe walking, biking paths throughout the town. I would also love to see a Community Pool for summer.
- I would love to see additional space for kids, teens and adults who love to be outside. Would be great if we didn't have to leave town for some of the activities!
- I would really love to see an indoor swimming pool, in Stow, although that would be very expensive. Perhaps that could be listed as a future plan to keep it on the table
- I would really love to see the rail trail in Hudson on Wilkins Street connect to the formal Maynard/Acton trail via the road along Crow Island Airfield.
- I'd be happy to volunteer or help with Spindle Hill as a resident of the area. Otherwise please keep up the good work with conservation land! It's a big part of the reason why we moved here.
- Improved sidewalks all around please
- increase efforts to acquire protect larger parcels in private ownership
- Informal, small walk/bike access paths to interconnect 'safe access' (e.g. avoiding Rt 62/117. Expand shoulder width for cycling on Rt 117 by moving edge line closer to center line per existing engineering guidance for a road with that traffic density and speed limit. Make it easier for people to avoid auto use and we will! Consider 'intro to bicycling on roads' led by a League of American Bicyclists certified instructor.

- It is not enough just to provide public amenities. It is essential to enable access to those amenities by modes other than automobile. The lack of bike paths and sidewalks restricts the mobility of children, the elderly, and anyone without immediate access to vehicular transportation. This is not just true for recreation, but also for work opportunities and commerce. I would like my kids to be able to walk/bike to school, the shopping plaza, friend's houses, or work at local orchards or business, but they cannot safely do it. Schedules and opportunities of Stow residents of all ages are limited by the availability of a parent or friend to provide transportation, even to places nearby. This creates barriers to access, limits utilization of town resources, restricts economic opportunity. At the bare minimum, bicycle/walking paths along roadways would benefit not only our residents, but allow residents from neighboring towns to patronize our businesses, farms, and build a thriving and connected community.
- Love the idea of a community center that has a fitness facility, pool and gathering places. We have to leave and visit our neighboring towns for access to a lot of things. Would be nice to have a place to gather, workout and swim.
- Lower Village. No place to meet or congregate, no bike racks, no gazebo, no playground. Shopping Ctr.is a glorified strip mall. Lacks imagination. (see West Acton)
- Make it outdoors as much as possible with limited paving and large structures.
- More and easier access to waterways for kayaks. Similar to the Maynard launch by dam.
- Keep the developers away! Keep it wild and provide habitat for wildlife. End hunting in Stow.
- Kindly do not increase taxes.
- More sidewalks are needed
- More sidewalks and bike paths so we can cut down on cars
- My family has primarily shifted its exercise/outdoor activities (e.g., hiking, Nordic skiing, mountain biking, wildlife watching) to the Assabet Refuge. It's beautiful, not crowded, and free of aggressive dog behaviors. I used to love the Town Forest, however, we've had several scary dog confrontations and have been bitten more than once. We simply don't feel relaxed there anymore. There are a variety of fine places to walk dogs in Stow (like Delaney). I wish the crown jewel of our public park system (Town Forest) were reserved for human beings only.
- Nara Park in Acton would be nice model to aspire to, it is nice mix of activities that creates a 'lively' park that is used heavily.
- Need a balance between open space/wildlife preservation and public access/use
- Need to pickup the trash on a regular basis at Snow Park
- North Course of Stow Acres would be a great place for a Disc Golf course.
- Open space planning is great and important but public water should be piggybacked into any places we plan.
- It's important to work on accessibility throughout town. Sudbury has installed disability friendly playgrounds at all of their schools. I'd like to see something like that for our schools and parks as well. I'd also like to see a few more paved trails. Everyone should be able to have public access to the amazing things stow has to offer.
- Overall the list of facilities is sufficient. What stow desperately needs is more businesses, restaurants, shopping areas. It needs the water situation fixed at the Shaws plaza. Businesses are leaving, we need to do something about it!
- Part of the rural character of Stow are its farms, yet the needs of horse people are rarely considered in recreational planning. The ONLY reason I live in Stow is because I can have horses and ride directly onto conservation land. As a household that places little burden on the town (no kids), I would really appreciate more consideration - most of the other horse people in town that I know are in similar situations. We contribute to the town, but our needs are a low priority compared to providing services like play areas. Creating more horse friendly trails and suitable parking to go with them would help maintain Stow's country character while providing a valuable service to a section of Stow's population that is often overlooked.

- Pave Track Road like a rail trail
- Please don't let Masters academy take over the use of stow community park.
- Please keep in mind, when building low income housing, let's focus on the elderly rather than families. The elderly cannot move out of their homes as there is no place affordable to go. Single level designs would be very helpful!
- Please keep Stow green. We need more of this space.
- Please locate any new projects near affordable housing.
- Please minimize paving in any of your plans
- Please push back against people who want to develop Stow as a place to serve their recreational needs while destroying the rural character of the town. Once this happens Stow will no longer be the unique rural town they were drawn to in the first place. Hopkinton gave in to development pressure and see what happened there. Rural character is quickly disappearing.
- Please work with the Masters Academy to keep publicly-accessible walking trails around the former Bose property
- Red Acre Road needs a walking/running/biking trail along it, a stop sign at the limited-visibility Tuttle Road intersection, restrictions on the passage of large trucks, more aggressive tree maintenance, a decreased speed limit along the straightaway in front of Red Acre Farm, and overall better speed limit enforcement. So many cyclists use the roadway. So many great trails are located off of Red Acre, but accessing them is not easy or safe - for walkers/runners, cyclists, or drivers. So many people come to walk babies and dogs on our road, Farm Road, because it is safe and quiet, but making the loop requires going on Red Acre Road, which is downright treacherous. Creating safe passage here will also help Stow residents access the South Acton train station and the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail.
- Repair/replace/build sidewalks along 117, they are badly in need of repair, widening, and leveling.
- Research supposed need for playing fields. Not real. I had 4 kids in sports. No issues. Individual parents/sports like to say their sports are threatened. Not True! Please consider XC ski trails in open space:/fields (Stow Acres) rather than woods. Less chance of tree debris on trails (if it actually snows)
- Stow needs to expand/complete rail trail and also provide public municipal water to the town to further expand growth of local restaurants.
- Stow needs to fully utilize and maximize the use of all the land we have purchased in the last 40 years, we do not need to purchase any more land! Water for the business district and more businesses needed more urgently
- Stow's abundant conservation areas are why I live here!
- Stow's sidewalk/walkability situation is fairly dire. The sidewalks that do exist are not maintained, not cleared of snow, and have numerous signals and poles in the middle, making stroller use difficult. Beyond that, there are many roads that would benefit from sidewalks, or at least a widened, protected area to walk or bike (South Acton Road comes to mind). Connecting open space to walkable areas would be beneficial.
- Sudbury road has room for a paved footpath almost all the way from the beach to the state forest parking lot.
- Taking accessibility into consideration is critical when looking ahead to creating new spaces! Especially playgrounds, picnic areas, and some trails. Accessibility for wheelchairs, assistive walking devices, strollers, etc should all be not just taken into consideration, but prioritized.
- Taylor Road and Harvard Road need safe sidewalks
- Thank you for asking our preferences. Open community space that's outside in nature is precious.
- Thank you for putting out this survey and protecting our open space and recreation. My overall feeling is Stow has enough Open Space. We need to focus on bringing businesses to town in the Lower Village. All hands on deck - everyone should support businesses going in there (including a Starbucks) so the town can survive. I'm tired of paying so much in residential taxes to support farms and open space.

- Thank you for taking input from the town!
- Thanks for all that you're doing to protect this beautiful town!
- The shed on West Acton Rd could be better developed with a needed water crossing to Capt Sargent, and better trailhead info. This is a very central spot for several great areas. People just don't know.
- We desperately need sidewalks in town so kids can safely get to the parks, schools etc. There are no dog friendly parks in town!
- We don't need any more ball fields or paved play areas. Keep our natural land natural! Also don't urbanize Stow with sidewalks or cycle lanes
- We don't need any more conservation land , use what we have and introduce business opportunities to bring revenue to Stow.
- We don't need more green space. We need quality businesses.
- We need a better playground (bigger, more playscapes, no wood chips) and more safe walking roads.

- We need a moratorium on spending. My taxes increased 34% in 2 years. Nothing else on the planet has increased 34 % in 2 years. This out of control spending will drive people out of town, especially seniors.
- We need sidewalks please!
- We need sidewalks
- We need sidewalks, paved roads and to connect bike trail to surrounding towns
- We need to make walking around town safer
- We need to start investing in the children of stow. Families want new and updated playgrounds. Spray parks, activities for children.
- We want a Starbucks Drive-thru!
- We will never make Stow completely walking/biking accessible. And we cannot keep doing 1+ acre lots for private homes (we will have group areas). So whatever we have for "open space" where we can gather to take our breaks will require some reasonable parking and drive flow so we can manage access for all to enjoy.
- We're lucky to have so much well-tended open space. We all need to work to keep the balance of housing/business and natural habitat in favor of natural habitat. Thank you for doing this survey.
- What brought people through the pandemic was access to the outdoors AND access to art (books, movies, etc) - it would be wonderful if our conservation space could compliment our outdoor space with indoor capabilities for year-round enjoyment.
- When we moved to Stow, we were excited about the beauty and nature/outdoors access and experiences. But, Stow seems very stuck and unable to move forward - I am still shocked that there are literally no sidewalks. And that we have dangerous water - in home wells, schools, and the shopping center - because the town won't take action against PFAS, or regulate the fire academy, or consider town water via neighboring towns. I want to love Stow, but it doesn't seem like Stow has much of a future or plan.
- We need a gym with a pool, exercise areas, perhaps courts for racquetball or squash, etc.. There needs to be somewhere to do to (e.g. coffee shop, etc.)

- The town needs to put a greater emphasis on activities for the over 40 and 70 crowd.
- The town's open spaces are fabulous. I would hope that future plans would include proper maintenance of all areas. I hope to be able to return to my daily use of the forest again.
- There are too many spaces in town that are unfriendly towards unleashed dogs. I almost never walk trails in my own town anymore because the town and the Conservation Trust has created a hostile environment for dog owners. Those of us who have sport breed and gun dogs need for them to be off leash to run and

expend their energy. Stow styles itself as a rural town. We shouldn't required leashed dogs if we are "rural."

- This is all great and recreation and conservation are important. But I'm more concerned about attracting and retaining businesses in Stow and think our community needs to address the water issues the plaza on Great Rd has been suffering from. Losing Emmas and Dunks has been a blow, and it's critical that we turn this around. More investment is needed in the redesign of this plaza, and I'd love to see broadly a little less conservation and a little more development.

- This town is out of control buying land for no reason. There's plenty of open space. Stop spending taxpayer money I worked very hard for my money and you people just take it away.
- Unless you're in a neighborhood this town is not very family friendly. Please develop something for the kids.
- We desperately need sidewalks in town so kids can safely get to the parks, schools etc. there are no dog friendly parks in town!
- Whitman St provides access to conservation land Honey Pot and Assabet River, but it's a nightmare to walk/bike on. Parts of the road are very narrow and there are numerous blind spots and it sees a good amount of vehicle traffic.
- Widen the trails, please. Too often we're faced with poison ivy exposure. Also trails are needed for people with disabilities.
- Would be nice to connect with the neighboring town bike paths.
- Would like a bike path connection in Stow to neighboring towns that is safely accessible via sidewalks or bike lanes.
- Would like s sidewalk on Boxboro Road. Not a perfect straight one but one that flows with the road.

- Would like to see more paved biking trails. An easy one is to finish the Assabet River Rail Trail through Stow!
- Wildlife (plants and animals) are supremely threatened by Climate Change. Functionally connecting protected open spaces is a powerful/impactful strategy to facilitate necessary wildlife movement in response to Climate Change to increase changes of future survival. In many instances, those connections can also accommodate low impact trail access between existing protected open spaces by people.
- The Town needs to make Lower Village (i.e., existing commercial spaces in town) an economic engine for paying for these spaces. Stow can't just keep upping residential taxes to pay for these. I LOVE open space and fully support but there's a limit to what we can do as residents. Business revenue has to be part of the plan.
- There needs to be stricter enforcement of dog leash laws, especially as we are create new open space at Stow Acres. Inconsiderate dog owners have made some public spaces essentially unusable for anyone who doesn't want to encounter unleashed dogs (e.g., Town Forest).

Appendix B – Americans with Disabilities Act – Accessibility Self-Assessment

Introduction

The Stow Recreation Commission and Conservation Commission seek to accommodate people with disabilities, both physically and programmatically. In addition, we recognize that an increasing percentage of Stow residents are seniors who are likely to need appropriate access to open space and recreation areas, including trails with gentle grades and wider surfaces. This need was documented by the survey that was completed as part of this Open Space and Recreation Plan. The Section 504 (of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)) Self-Evaluation of Stow's park, recreation and conservation lands carried out by professional staff from the Conservation Dept and Recreation Dept. indicate that relatively few accommodations exist to provide full access to these areas for people with disabilities, although significant improvements have been made since the last Stow Open Space and Recreation Plan in 2016. All facilities were inventoried using the facility inventory form found in Appendix G of the Open Space and Recreation Planners Workbook. A disabled resident provided assistance with the evaluation of the feasibility of enhancing trail access at Stow Town Forest/Gardner Hill, one of our largest properties and the Council on Aging Director was also involved in the review. Full evaluation forms are included below for major Recreation Properties and summaries are provided for Conservation Properties with limited facilities. The evaluation results are shown below along with a transition plan for corrective action, if any.

Since 2016, the Town, through its Recreation Commission, has retrofitted the Pine Bluffs/Town Beach facility to expand accessibility, including creating a viewing platform at Town Beach and upgraded bathrooms. In addition, Town Center Park was created and opened in 2019 with an accessible parking lot and fully accessible ADA path down to Minister's Pond in a collaborative effort between the Recreation Department and the Conservation Department. In 2023, the Town Conservation Department used ARPA funds to create adaptive raised bed garden plots at the Town's Community Gardens at Captain Sargent Conservation Area. These garden plots are designed to be used by those with standing or other mobility issues – allowing gardeners to work from chairs and with a dedicated raised water supply pump and compost area. Together these three projects have significantly increased accessibility but we know that continued efforts are needed.

Some of the sites that offer potential for expanded accessibility include:

-the newly acquired Stow Acres North Course property – which offers opportunities for not just easier physical access but the design of facilities to accommodate a wide variety of disabilities, as well as provide interpretative materials in other languages.

-the Town Forest/Memorial Field Complex.

-the state-owned Delaney Complex also offers a great potential to provide universal access to the popular site. Relatively modest changes to the parking area and initial access to the walking paths could open the facility for use by many visitors with enhanced accessibility needs.

Delaney Complex, as well as the Sudbury Road Bridge, also offer potential water accessibility opportunities, something that is currently not available in Stow.

Evaluation Results

Section 504: Administrative Requirements

• The Town ADA Coordinator is Frank Ramsbottom, Building Commissioner as appointed by the Town Administrator. His appointment letter is included at the end of this Appendix.

• The ADA Grievance Procedure and Public Notice documents are attached to the end of this Appendix and posted on the Town of Stow website here: https://www.stow-ma.gov/town-administrator/pages/americans-disabilities-act-requirements.

• Stow Town jobs are always advertised without discrimination as to age, sex, marital status, race, color, creed, national origin, handicap, veteran status, or political affiliation. All job ads are made available on the town website here: https://www.stow-ma.gov/human-resources/pages/current-employment-opportunities

Program Accessibility - Facility Inventories & Transition Plans

Facility name	Pompositticut Community Center
Owner/Manager	Town of Stow (COA and Recreation Dept and Fire Dept)
Location	509 Great Road
Acreage	
Activity	Offices, Meeting Rooms, Event Space
Site Amenities	Parking lot, Picnic Table

Facility Inventory **LOCATION:** Pompo Community Center

ACTIVITY	EQUIPMENT	NOTES
Picnic Facilities	Tables & Benches	Located adjacent to accessible paths
		Access to Open Spaces
		Back and Arm Rests
		Adequate number
	Grills	Height of Cooking Surface
		Located adjacent to accessible paths
	Trash Cans	Located adjacent to accessible paths
	Picnic Shelters	Located adjacent to accessible paths
		Located near accessible water fountains, trash can, restroom, parking, etc.
Trails		Surface material
		Dimensions
		Rails
		Signage (for visually impaired)
Swimming Facilities	Pools	Entrance
		Location from accessible parking
		Safety features i.e. warning for visually impaired
	Beaches	Location from accessible path into water
		Handrails
		Location from accessible parking
		Shade provided
Play Areas (tot lots)	All Play Equipment i.e. swings, slides	Same experience provided to all
	Access Routes	Located adjacent to accessible paths
		Enough space between equipment for wheelchair
Game Areas: *ballfield *basketball *tennis	Access Routes	Located adjacent to accessible paths
		Berm cuts onto courts
	Equipment	Height
		Dimensions
		Spectator Seating
Boat Docks	Access Routes	Located adjacent to accessible paths
		Handrails
Fishing Facilities	Access Routes	Located adjacent to accessible paths
		Handrails
	Equipment	Arm Rests
		Bait Shelves
		Handrails
		Fish Cleaning Tables
Programming	Are special programs at your facilities accessible?	Learn-to-Swim
		Guided Hikes
		Interpretive Programs
Services and Technical Assistance	Information available in alternative formats i.e. for visually impaired	
	Process to request interpretive services (i.e. sign language interpreter) for meetings	

LOCATION

SWIMMING POOLS – accessibility can be via ramp, lifting device, or transfer area			
Specification	*Yes*	*No*	*Comments/Transition Notes*
Ramp at least 34" wide with a non-slip surface extending into the shallow end, slope not exceeding 1:6 with handrails on both sides			NA
Lifting device			
Transfer area 18" above the path of travel and a minimum of 18" wide			
Unobstructed path of travel not less than 48" wide around pool			
Non-slip surface			

LOCATION

SHOWER ROOMS - Showers must accommodate both wheel-in and transfer use			
Specification	*Yes*	*No*	*Comments/Transition Notes*
Stalls 36" by 60" minimum, with a 36" door opening	X		
Floors are pitched to drain the stall at the corner farthest from entrance	X		
Floors are non-slip surface	X		
Controls operate by a single lever with a pressure balance mixing valve	X		
Controls are located on the center wall adjacent to the hinged seat	X		
Shower heads attached to a flexible metal hose	X		
Shower heads attached to wall mounting adjustable from 42" to 72" above the floor	X		
Seat is hinged and padded and at least 16" deep, folds upward, securely attached to side wall, height is 18" to the top of the seat, and at least 24" long	X		
Soap trays without handhold features unless they can support 250 pounds	X		
2 grab bars are provided, one 30" and one 48" long, or one continuous L shaped bar	X		
Grab bars are placed horizontally at 36" above the floor line	X		

LOCATION

PICNICKING			
Specification	*Yes*	*No*	*Comments/Transition Notes*
A minimum of 5% of the total tables must be accessible with clear space under the table top not less than 30" wide and 19" deep per seating space and not less than 27" clear from the ground to the underside of the table. An additional 29" clear space (totaling 48") must extend beyond the 19" clear space under the table to provide access	X		one outdoor table
For tables without toe clearance, the knee space under the table must be at least 28" high, 30" wide and 24" deep.	X		
Top of table no higher than 32" above ground	X		
Surface of the clear ground space under and around the table must be stable, firma nd slip-resistant, and evenly graded with a maximum slope of 2% in all directions	X		
Accessible tables, grills and fire rings must have clear ground space of at least 36" around the perimeter	X		

LOCATION

FLOORS, DRINKING FOUNTAINS, TELEPHONES			
Specification	*Yes*	*No*	*Comments/Transition Notes*
Floors			
Non-slip surface	X		
Carpeting is high-density, low pile, non-absorbent, stretched taut, securely anchored	X		
Corridor width minimum is 3 ft	X		
Objects (signs, ceiling lights, fixtures) can only protrude 4" into the path of travel from a height of 27" to 80" above the floor	X		
Drinking Fountains			
Spouts no higher than 36" from floor to outlet			NA
Hand operated push button or level controls			
Spouts located near front with stream of water as parallel to front as possible			
If recessed, recess a minimum 30" width, and no deeper than depth of fountain			
If no clear knee space underneath, clear floor space 30" x 48" to allow parallel approach			
Telephones			
Highest operating part a maximum 54" above the floor	X		
Access within 12" of phone, 30" high by 30" wide	X		
Adjustable volume control on headset so identified	X		
SIGNS, SIGNALS, AND SWITCHES			
Specification	*Yes*	*No*	*Comments/Transition Notes*
Switches, Controls and Signs			
Switches and controls for light, heat, ventilation, windows, fire alarms, thermostats, etc, must be a minimum of 36" and a maximum of 48" above the floor for a forward reach, a maximum of 54" for a side reach	X		
Electrical outlets centered no lower than 18" above the floor	X		
Warning signals must be visual as well as audible		X	
Signs			
Mounting height must be 60" to centerline of the sign	X		
Within 18" of door jamb or recessed	X		
Letters and numbers a t least 1¼" high	X		
Letters and numbers raised .03"	X		
Letters and numbers contrast with the background color	X		

NOTES

LOCATION

STAIRS and DOORS			
Specification	*Yes*	*No*	*Comments/Transition Notes*
Stairs			NA
No open risers			
Nosings not projecting			
Treads no less than 11" wide			
Handrails on both sides			
Handrails 34"-38" above tread			
Handrail extends a minimum of 1 ft beyond top and bottom riser (if no safety hazard and space permits)			
Handgrip oval or round			
Handgrip has a smooth surface			
Handgrip diameter between 1¼" and 1½"			
1½" clearance between wall and handrail			
Doors			
Minimum 32" clear opening	X		
At least 18" clear floor space on pull side of door	X		
Closing speed minimum 3 seconds to within 3" of the latch	X		
Maximum pressure 5 pounds interior doors	X		
Threshold maximum ½" high, beveled on both sides	X		
Hardware operable with a closed fist (no conventional door knobs or thumb latch devices)	X		
Hardware minimum 36", maximum 48" above the floor	X		
Clear, level floor space extends out 5 ft from both sides of the door	X		
Door adjacent to revolving door is accessible and unlocked			NA
Doors opening into hazardous area have hardware that is knurled or roughened		X	

NOTES

LOCATION

RESTROOMS – also see Doors and Vestibules			
Specification	*Yes*	*No*	*Comments/Transition Notes*
5 ft turning space measured 12" from the floor	X		
At least one Sink:			
Clear floor space of 30" by 48" to allow a forward approach	X		
Mounted without pedestal or legs, height 34" to top of rim	X		
Extends at least 22" from the wall	X		
Open knee space a minimum 19" deep, 30" width, and 27" high	X		
Cover exposed pipes with insulation	X		
Faucets operable with closed fist (lever or spring activated handle)	X		
At least one Stall:			
Accessible to person using wheelchair at 60" wide by 72" deep	X		
Stall door is 36" wide	X		
Stall door swings out	X		
Stall door is self closing	X		
Stall door has a pull latch	X		
Lock on stall door is operable with a closed fist, and 32" above the floor	X		
Coat hook is 54" high	X		
Toilet			
18" from center to nearest side wall	X		
42" minimum clear space from center to farthest wall or fixture	X		
Top of seat 17"-19" above the floor	X		
Grab Bars			
On back and side wall closest to toilet	X		
1¼" diameter	X		
1½" clearance to wall	X		
Located 30" above and parallel to the floor	X		
Acid-etched or roughened surface	X		
42" long	X		
Fixtures			
Toilet paper dispenser is 24" above floor	X		
One mirror set a maximum 38" to bottom (if tilted, 42")	X		
Dispensers (towel, soap, etc) at least one of each a maximum 42" above the floor	X		

NOTES

LOCATION

SITE ACCESS, PATH OF TRAVEL, ENTRANCES			
Specification	*Yes*	*No*	*Comments/Transition Notes*
Site Access			
Accessible path of travel from passenger disembarking area and parking area to accessible entrance	X		
Disembarking area at accessible entrance	X		
Surface evenly paved or hard-packed	X		
No ponding of water	X		
Path of Travel			
Path does not require the use of stairs	X		
Path is stable, firm and s lip resistant	X		
3 ft wide minimum	X		
Slope maximum 1:20 (5%) and maximum cross pitch is 2% (1:50).	X		
Continuous common surface, no changes in level greater than ½ inch	X		
Any objects protruding onto the pathway must be detected by a person with a visual disability using a cane	X		
Objects protruding more than 4" from the wall must be within 27" of the ground, or higher than 80"	X		
Curb on the pathway must have curb cuts at drives, parking and drop-offs	X		
Entrances			
Primary public entrances accessible to person using wheelchair, must be signed, gotten to independently, and *not* be the service entrance	X		
Level space extending 5 ft. from the door, interior and exterior of entrance doors	X		
Minimum 32" clear width opening (i.e. 36" door with standard hinge)	X		
At least 18" clear floor area on latch, pull side of door	X		
Door handle no higher than 48" and operable with a closed fist	X		
Vestibule is 4 ft plus the width of the door swinging into the space	X		
Entrance(s) on a level that makes elevators accessible	X		NA
Door mats less than ½" thick are securely fastened	X		
Door mats more than ½" thick are recessed	X		
Grates in path of travel have openings of ½" maximum			NA
Signs at non-accessible entrance(s) indicate direction to accessible entrance			NA
Emergency egress – alarms with flashing lights and audible signals, sufficiently lighted	X		

NOTES

LOCATION

PARKING			
Total Spaces		*Required Accessible Spaces*	
Up to 25		1 space	
26-50		2 spaces	
51-75		3 spaces	
76-100		4 spaces	
101-150		5 spaces	
151-200		6 spaces	
201-300		7 spaces	
301-400		8 spaces	
401-500		9 spaces	
Specification for Accessible Spaces	*Yes*	*No*	*Comments/Transition Notes*
Accessible space located closest to accessible entrance	X		
Where spaces cannot be located within 200 ft of accessible entrance, drop-off area is provided within 100 ft.	X		
Minimum width of 13 ft includes 8 ft space plus 5 ft access aisle	X		
Van space – minimum of 1 van space for every accessible space, 8 ft wide plus 8 ft aisle. Alternative is to make all accessible spaces 11 ft wide with 5 ft aisle.	X		
Sign with international symbol of accessibility at each space or pair of spaces	X		
Sign minimum 5 ft, maximum 8 ft to top of sign	X		
Surface evenly paved or hard-packed (no cracks)	X		
Surface slope less than 1:20, 5%	X		
Curbcut to pathway from parking lot at each space or pair of spaces, if sidewalk (curb) is present	X		
Curbcut is a minimum width of 3 ft, excluding sloped sides, has sloped sides, all slopes not to exceed 1:12, and textured or painted yellow	X		
RAMPS			
Specification	*Yes*	*No*	*Comments/Transition Notes*
Slope Maximum 1:12			NA
Minimum width 4 ft between handrails			
Handrails on both sides if ramp is longer than 6 ft			
Handrails at 34" and 19" from ramp surface			
Handrails extend 12" beyond top and bottom			
Handgrip oval or round			
Handgrip smooth surface			
Handgrip diameter between 1¼" and 2"			
Clearance of 1½" between wall and wall rail			
Non-slip surface			
Level platforms (4ft x 4 ft) at every 30 ft, at top, at bottom, at change of direction			

Facility name	Stow Community Park
Owner/Manager	Recreation Dept
Location	Old Bolton Road
Acreage	8-9
Activity	Walking, ice skating, field sports, basketball, tennis, accessible swings
Site Amenities	Parking lot, exercise station trail, picnic pavilion, recreational fields and courts

Facility Inventory **LOCATION:** Stow Community Park

ACTIVITY	EQUIPMENT	NOTES
Picnic Facilities	Tables & Benches	Located adjacent to accessible paths
		Access to Open Spaces
		Back and Arm Rests
		Adequate number
	Grills	Height of Cooking Surface
		Located adjacent to accessible paths
	Trash Cans	Located adjacent to accessible paths
	Picnic Shelters	Located adjacent to accessible paths
		Located near accessible water fountains, trash can, restroom, parking, etc.
Trails		Surface material
		Dimensions
		Rails
		Signage (for visually impaired)
~~Swimming Facilities~~	Pools	Entrance
		Location from accessible parking
		Safety features i.e. warning for visually impaired
	Beaches	Location from accessible path into water
		Handrails
		Location from accessible parking
		Shade provided
Play Areas (tot lots)	All Play Equipment i.e. swings, slides	Same experience provided to all
	Access Routes	Located adjacent to accessible paths
		Enough space between equipment for wheelchair
Game Areas: *ballfield *basketball *tennis	Access Routes	Located adjacent to accessible paths
		Berm cuts onto courts
	Equipment	Height
		Dimensions
		Spectator Seating
~~Boat Docks~~	Access Routes	Located adjacent to accessible paths
		Handrails
~~Fishing Facilities~~	Access Routes	Located adjacent to accessible paths
		Handrails
	Equipment	Arm Rests
		Bait Shelves
		Handrails
		Fish Cleaning Tables
Programming	Are special programs at your facilities accessible?	Learn-to-Swim
		Guided Hikes
		Interpretive Programs
Services and Technical Assistance	Information available in alternative formats i.e. for visually impaired	
	Process to request interpretive services (i.e. sign language interpreter) for meetings	

LOCATION

SWIMMING POOLS – accessibility can be via ramp, lifting device, or transfer area			
Specification	*Yes*	*No*	*Comments/Transition Notes*
Ramp at least 34" wide with a non-slip surface extending into the shallow end, slope not exceeding 1:6 with handrails on both sides			NA
Lifting device			
Transfer area 18" above the path of travel and a minimum of 18" wide			
Unobstructed path of travel not less than 48" wide around pool			
Non-slip surface			

LOCATION

SHOWER ROOMS - Showers must accommodate both wheel-in and transfer use			
Specification	*Yes*	*No*	*Comments/Transition Notes*
Stalls 36" by 60" minimum, with a 36" door opening			NA
Floors are pitched to drain the stall at the corner farthest from entrance			
Floors are non-slip surface			
Controls operate by a single lever with a pressure balance mixing valve			
Controls are located on the center wall adjacent to the hinged seat			
Shower heads attached to a flexible metal hose			
Shower heads attached to wall mounting adjustable from 42" to 72" above the floor			
Seat is hinged and padded and at least 16" deep, folds upward, securely attached to side wall, height is 18" to the top of the seat, and at least 24" long			
Soap trays without handhold features unless they can support 250 pounds			
2 grab bars are provided, one 30" and one 48" long, or one continuous L shaped bar			
Grab bars are placed horizontally at 36" above the floor line			

LOCATION

PICNICKING			
Specification	*Yes*	*No*	*Comments/Transition Notes*
A minimum of 5% of the total tables must be accessible with clear space under the table top not less than 30" wide and 19" deep per seating space and not less than 27" clear from the ground to the underside of the table. An additional 29" clear space (totaling 48") must extend beyond the 19" clear space under the table to provide access	X		
For tables without toe clearance, the knee space under the table must be at least 28" high, 30" wide and 24" deep.	X		
Top of table no higher than 32" above ground	X		
Surface of the clear ground space under and around the table must be stable, firma nd slip-resistant, and evenly graded with a maximum slope of 2% in all directions	X		
Accessible tables, grills and fire rings must have clear ground space of at least 36" around the perimeter			NA

LOCATION

FLOORS, DRINKING FOUNTAINS, TELEPHONES			
Specification	*Yes*	*No*	*Comments/Transition Notes*
Floors			NA
Non-slip surface			
Carpeting is high-density, low pile, non-absorbent, stretched taut, securely anchored			
Corridor width minimum is 3 ft			
Objects (signs, ceiling lights, fixtures) can only protrude 4" into the path of travel from a height of 27" to 80" above the floor			
Drinking Fountains			NA
Spouts no higher than 36" from floor to outlet			
Hand operated push button or level controls			
Spouts located near front with stream of water as parallel to front as possible			
If recessed, recess a minimum 30" width, and no deeper than depth of fountain			
If no clear knee space underneath, clear floor space 30" x 48" to allow parallel approach			
Telephones			NA
Highest operating part a maximum 54" above the floor			
Access within 12" of phone, 30" high by 30" wide			
Adjustable volume control on headset so identified			
SIGNS, SIGNALS, AND SWITCHES			
Specification	*Yes*	*No*	*Comments/Transition Notes*
Switches, Controls and Signs			NA
Switches and controls for light, heat, ventilation, windows, fire alarms, thermostats, etc, must be a minimum of 36" and a maximum of 48" above the floor for a forward reach, a maximum of 54" for a side reach			
Electrical outlets centered no lower than 18" above the floor			
Warning signals must be visual as well as audible			
Signs			
Mounting height must be 60" to centerline of the sign			
Within 18" of door jamb or recessed			
Letters and numbers a t least 1¼" high			
Letters and numbers raised .03"			
Letters and numbers contrast with the background color			

NOTES

LOCATION

STAIRS and DOORS			
Specification	*Yes*	*No*	*Comments/Transition Notes*
Stairs			NA
No open risers			
Nosings not projecting			
Treads no less than 11" wide			
Handrails on both sides			
Handrails 34"-38" above tread			
Handrail extends a minimum of 1 ft beyond top and bottom riser (if no safety hazard and space permits)			
Handgrip oval or round			
Handgrip has a smooth surface			
Handgrip diameter between 1¼" and 1½"			
1½" clearance between wall and handrail			
Doors			
Minimum 32" clear opening			NA
At least 18" clear floor space on pull side of door			
Closing speed minimum 3 seconds to within 3" of the latch			
Maximum pressure 5 pounds interior doors			
Threshold maximum ½" high, beveled on both sides			
Hardware operable with a closed fist (no conventional door knobs or thumb latch devices)			
Hardware minimum 36", maximum 48" above the floor			
Clear, level floor space extends out 5 ft from both sides of the door			
Door adjacent to revolving door is accessible and unlocked			
Doors opening into hazardous area have hardware that is knurled or roughened			

NOTES

LOCATION

RESTROOMS – also see Doors and Vestibules			
Specification	*Yes*	*No*	*Comments/Transition Notes*
5 ft turning space measured 12" from the floor			
At least one Sink:			NA
Clear floor space of 30" by 48" to allow a forward approach			
Mounted without pedestal or legs, height 34" to top of rim			
Extends at least 22" from the wall			
Open knee space a minimum 19" deep, 30" width, and 27" high			
Cover exposed pipes with insulation			
Faucets operable with closed fist (lever or spring activated handle)			
At least one Stall:			
Accessible to person using wheelchair at 60" wide by 72" deep			
Stall door is 36" wide			
Stall door swings out			
Stall door is self closing			
Stall door has a pull latch			
Lock on stall door is operable with a closed fist, and 32" above the floor			
Coat hook is 54" high			
Toilet			
18" from center to nearest side wall			
42" minimum clear space from center to farthest wall or fixture			
Top of seat 17"-19" above the floor			
Grab Bars			
On back and side wall closest to toilet			
1¼" diameter			
1½" clearance to wall			
Located 30" above and parallel to the floor			
Acid-etched or roughened surface			
42" long			
Fixtures			
Toilet paper dispenser is 24" above floor			
One mirror set a maximum 38" to bottom (if tilted, 42")			
Dispensers (towel, soap, etc) at least one of each a maximum 42" above the floor			

NOTES Portapotty on-site. Bring in ADA Restroom when have event at this site

LOCATION

SITE ACCESS, PATH OF TRAVEL, ENTRANCES			
Specification	*Yes*	*No*	*Comments/Transition Notes*
Site Access			
Accessible path of travel from passenger disembarking area and parking area to accessible entrance	X		
Disembarking area at accessible entrance	X		
Surface evenly paved or hard-packed	X		
No ponding of water	X		
Path of Travel			
Path does not require the use of stairs	X		
Path is stable, firm and s lip resistant	X		
3 ft wide minimum	X		
Slope maximum 1:20 (5%) and maximum cross pitch is 2% (1:50).	X		
Continuous common surface, no changes in level greater than ½ inch	X		
Any objects protruding onto the pathway must be detected by a person with a visual disability using a cane	X		
Objects protruding more than 4" from the wall must be within 27" of the ground, or higher than 80"	X		
Curb on the pathway must have curb cuts at drives, parking and drop-offs	X		
Entrances			
Primary public entrances accessible to person using wheelchair, must be signed, gotten to independently, and *not* be the service entrance			NA
Level space extending 5 ft. from the door, interior and exterior of entrance doors			
Minimum 32" clear width opening (i.e. 36" door with standard hinge)			
At least 18" clear floor area on latch, pull side of door			
Door handle no higher than 48" and operable with a closed fist			
Vestibule is 4 ft plus the width of the door swinging into the space			
Entrance(s) on a level that makes elevators accessible			
Door mats less than ½" thick are securely fastened			
Door mats more than ½" thick are recessed			
Grates in path of travel have openings of ½" maximum			
Signs at non-accessible entrance(s) indicate direction to accessible entrance			
Emergency egress – alarms with flashing lights and audible signals, sufficiently lighted			

NOTES

LOCATION

PARKING			
Total Spaces		*Required Accessible Spaces*	
Up to 25		1 space	
26-50		2 spaces	
51-75		3 spaces	
76-100		4 spaces	
101-150		5 spaces	
151-200		6 spaces	
201-300		7 spaces	
301-400		8 spaces	
401-500		9 spaces	
Specification for Accessible Spaces	*Yes*	*No*	*Comments/Transition Notes*
Accessible space located closest to accessible entrance	X		
Where spaces cannot be located within 200 ft of accessible entrance, drop-off area is provided within 100 ft.			NA
Minimum width of 13 ft includes 8 ft space plus 5 ft access aisle	X		
Van space – minimum of 1 van space for every accessible space, 8 ft wide plus 8 ft aisle. Alternative is to make all accessible spaces 11 ft wide with 5 ft aisle.	X		
Sign with international symbol of accessibility at each space or pair of spaces	X		
Sign minimum 5 ft, maximum 8 ft to top of sign			
Surface evenly paved or hard-packed (no cracks)	X		
Surface slope less than 1:20, 5%	X		
Curbcut to pathway from parking lot at each space or pair of spaces, if sidewalk (curb) is present			NA
Curbcut is a minimum width of 3 ft, excluding sloped sides, has sloped sides, all slopes not to exceed 1:12, and textured or painted yellow			NA
RAMPS			
Specification	*Yes*	*No*	*Comments/Transition Notes*
Slope Maximum 1:12			NA
Minimum width 4 ft between handrails			
Handrails on both sides if ramp is longer than 6 ft			
Handrails at 34" and 19" from ramp surface			
Handrails extend 12" beyond top and bottom			
Handgrip oval or round			
Handgrip smooth surface			
Handgrip diameter between 1¼" and 2"			
Clearance of 1½" between wall and wall rail			
Non-slip surface			
Level platforms (4ft x 4 ft) at every 30 ft, at top, at bottom, at change of direction			

Facility name	**Pine Bluffs and Town Beach**		
Owner/Manager	Recreation Department		
Location	Off Sudbury Road		
Acreage	31		
Activity	Swimming, picnicking, field sports		
Site Amenities	Beach, playground, playing fields, bathrooms, parking lot, accessible deck		

Facility Inventory **LOCATION:** Pine Bluff

ACTIVITY	EQUIPMENT	NOTES
Picnic Facilities	Tables & Benches	Located adjacent to accessible paths
		Access to Open Spaces
		Back and Arm Rests
		Adequate number
	Grills	Height of Cooking Surface
		Located adjacent to accessible paths
	Trash Cans	Located adjacent to accessible paths
	Picnic Shelters	Located adjacent to accessible paths
		Located near accessible water fountains, trash can, restroom, parking, etc.
Trails		Surface material Gravel / Dirt
		Dimensions 4ft wide
		Rails no
		Signage (for visually impaired) no
Swimming Facilities	Pools	Entrance
		Location from accessible parking
		Safety features i.e. warning for visually impaired
	Beaches	Location from accessible path into water
		Handrails
		Location from accessible parking
		Shade provided
Play Areas (tot lots)	All Play Equipment i.e. swings, slides	Same experience provided to all
	Access Routes	Located adjacent to accessible paths
		Enough space between equipment for wheelchair
Game Areas: *ballfield *basketball *tennis	Access Routes	Located adjacent to accessible paths
		Berm cuts onto courts
	Equipment	Height
		Dimensions
		Spectator Seating
Boat Docks	Access Routes	Located adjacent to accessible paths
		Handrails
Fishing Facilities	Access Routes	Located adjacent to accessible paths
		Handrails
	Equipment	Arm Rests
		Bait Shelves
		Handrails
		Fish Cleaning Tables
Programming	Are special programs at your facilities accessible?	Learn-to-Swim
		Guided Hikes
		Interpretive Programs
Services and Technical Assistance	Information available in alternative formats i.e. for visually impaired	
	Process to request interpretive services (i.e. sign language interpreter) for meetings	

LOCATION

SWIMMING POOLS – accessibility can be via ramp, lifting device, or transfer area			
Specification	*Yes*	*No*	*Comments/Transition Notes*
Ramp at least 34" wide with a non-slip surface extending into the shallow end, slope not exceeding 1:6 with handrails on both sides			NA
Lifting device			NA
Transfer area 18" above the path of travel and a minimum of 18" wide			NA
Unobstructed path of travel not less than 48" wide around pool			NA
Non-slip surface			NA

LOCATION

SHOWER ROOMS - Showers must accommodate both wheel-in and transfer use			
Specification	*Yes*	*No*	*Comments/Transition Notes*
Stalls 36" by 60" minimum, with a 36" door opening			NA
Floors are pitched to drain the stall at the corner farthest from entrance			
Floors are non-slip surface			
Controls operate by a single lever with a pressure balance mixing valve			
Controls are located on the center wall adjacent to the hinged seat			
Shower heads attached to a flexible metal hose			
Shower heads attached to wall mounting adjustable from 42" to 72" above the floor			
Seat is hinged and padded and at least 16" deep, folds upward, securely attached to side wall, height is 18" to the top of the seat, and at least 24" long			
Soap trays without handhold features unless they can support 250 pounds			
2 grab bars are provided, one 30" and one 48" long, or one continuous L shaped bar			
Grab bars are placed horizontally at 36" above the floor line			

LOCATION Pine Bluff

PICNICKING			
Specification	*Yes*	*No*	*Comments/Transition Notes*
A minimum of 5% of the total tables must be accessible with clear space under the table top not less than 30" wide and 19" deep per seating space and not less than 27" clear from the ground to the underside of the table. An additional 29" clear space (totaling 48") must extend beyond the 19" clear space under the table to provide access	X		
For tables without toe clearance, the knee space under the table must be at least 28" high, 30" wide and 24" deep.	X		
Top of table no higher than 32" above ground	X		
Surface of the clear ground space under and around the table must be stable, firma nd slip-resistant, and evenly graded with a maximum slope of 2% in all directions	X		
Accessible tables, grills and fire rings must have clear ground space of at least 36" around the perimeter	X		

LOCATION

FLOORS, DRINKING FOUNTAINS, TELEPHONES			
Specification	*Yes*	*No*	*Comments/Transition Notes*
Floors			
Non-slip surface			NA
Carpeting is high-density, low pile, non-absorbent, stretched taut, securely anchored			NA
Corridor width minimum is 3 ft			NA
Objects (signs, ceiling lights, fixtures) can only protrude 4" into the path of travel from a height of 27" to 80" above the floor			NA
Drinking Fountains			
Spouts no higher than 36" from floor to outlet			NA
Hand operated push button or level controls			
Spouts located near front with stream of water as parallel to front as possible			
If recessed, recess a minimum 30" width, and no deeper than depth of fountain			
If no clear knee space underneath, clear floor space 30" x 48" to allow parallel approach			
Telephones			
Highest operating part a maximum 54" above the floor			
Access within 12" of phone, 30" high by 30" wide			
Adjustable volume control on headset so identified			
SIGNS, SIGNALS, AND SWITCHES			
Specification	*Yes*	*No*	*Comments/Transition Notes*
Switches, Controls and Signs			NA
Switches and controls for light, heat, ventilation, windows, fire alarms, thermostats, etc, must be a minimum of 36" and a maximum of 48" above the floor for a forward reach, a maximum of 54" for a side reach			
Electrical outlets centered no lower than 18" above the floor			
Warning signals must be visual as well as audible			
Signs			
Mounting height must be 60" to centerline of the sign			
Within 18" of door jamb or recessed			
Letters and numbers a t least 1¼" high			
Letters and numbers raised .03"			
Letters and numbers contrast with the background color			

NOTES

LOCATION

STAIRS and DOORS			
Specification	*Yes*	*No*	*Comments/Transition Notes*
Stairs			
No open risers		X	
Nosings not projecting			
Treads no less than 11" wide			
Handrails on both sides			
Handrails 34"-38" above tread			
Handrail extends a minimum of 1 ft beyond top and bottom riser (if no safety hazard and space permits)			
Handgrip oval or round			
Handgrip has a smooth surface			
Handgrip diameter between 1¼" and 1½"			
1½" clearance between wall and handrail			
Doors			
Minimum 32" clear opening	X		AdA accessable Bathroom
At least 18" clear floor space on pull side of door	X		
Closing speed minimum 3 seconds to within 3" of the latch	X		
Maximum pressure 5 pounds interior doors	X		
Threshold maximum ½" high, beveled on both sides	X		
Hardware operable with a closed fist (no conventional door knobs or thumb latch devices)	X		
Hardware minimum 36", maximum 48" above the floor	X		
Clear, level floor space extends out 5 ft from both sides of the door	X		
Door adjacent to revolving door is accessible and unlocked			NA
Doors opening into hazardous area have hardware that is knurled or roughened			NA

NOTES

LOCATION

RESTROOMS – also see Doors and Vestibules			
Specification	*Yes*	*No*	*Comments/Transition Notes*
5 ft turning space measured 12" from the floor	X		
At least one Sink:			
Clear floor space of 30" by 48" to allow a forward approach	X		
Mounted without pedestal or legs, height 34" to top of rim	X		
Extends at least 22" from the wall	X		
Open knee space a minimum 19" deep, 30" width, and 27" high	X		
Cover exposed pipes with insulation	X		
Faucets operable with closed fist (lever or spring activated handle)	X		
At least one Stall:			
Accessible to person using wheelchair at 60" wide by 72" deep	X		
Stall door is 36" wide	X		NA
Stall door swings out			NA
Stall door is self closing			NA
Stall door has a pull latch			NA
Lock on stall door is operable with a closed fist, and 32" above the floor			NA
Coat hook is 54" high			NA
Toilet			
18" from center to nearest side wall	X		
42" minimum clear space from center to farthest wall or fixture	X		
Top of seat 17"-19" above the floor	X		
Grab Bars			
On back and side wall closest to toilet	X		
1¼" diameter	X		
1½" clearance to wall	X		
Located 30" above and parallel to the floor	X		
Acid-etched or roughened surface	X		
42" long	X		
Fixtures			
Toilet paper dispenser is 24" above floor	X		
One mirror set a maximum 38" to bottom (if tilted, 42")	X		
Dispensers (towel, soap, etc) at least one of each a maximum 42" above the floor	X		

NOTES

LOCATION

SITE ACCESS, PATH OF TRAVEL, ENTRANCES			
Specification	*Yes*	*No*	*Comments/Transition Notes*
Site Access			
Accessible path of travel from passenger disembarking area and parking area to accessible entrance	X		
Disembarking area at accessible entrance	X		
Surface evenly paved or hard-packed	X		Hard Gravel
No ponding of water	X		
Path of Travel			
Path does not require the use of stairs	X		only ft accessing Beach
Path is stable, firm and s lip resistant	X		
3 ft wide minimum	X		
Slope maximum 1:20 (5%) and maximum cross pitch is 2% (1:50).	X		
Continuous common surface, no changes in level greater than ½ inch	X		
Any objects protruding onto the pathway must be detected by a person with a visual disability using a cane	X		
Objects protruding more than 4" from the wall must be within 27" of the ground, or higher than 80"			NA
Curb on the pathway must have curb cuts at drives, parking and drop-offs			NA
Entrances			
Primary public entrances accessible to person using wheelchair, must be signed, gotten to independently, and *not* be the service entrance		X	not signed
Level space extending 5 ft. from the door, interior and exterior of entrance doors			NA
Minimum 32" clear width opening (i.e. 36" door with standard hinge)			NA
At least 18" clear floor area on latch, pull side of door			NA
Door handle no higher than 48" and operable with a closed fist			NA
Vestibule is 4 ft plus the width of the door swinging into the space			NA
Entrance(s) on a level that makes elevators accessible			NA
Door mats less than ½" thick are securely fastened			NA
Door mats more than ½" thick are recessed			NA
Grates in path of travel have openings of ½" maximum			NA
Signs at non-accessible entrance(s) indicate direction to accessible entrance			NA
Emergency egress – alarms with flashing lights and audible signals, sufficiently lighted			NA

NOTES

LOCATION

PARKING			
Total Spaces		*Required Accessible Spaces*	
Up to 25		1 space	
26-50		2 spaces	
51-75		3 spaces	
76-100		4 spaces	
101-150		5 spaces	
151-200		6 spaces	
201-300		7 spaces	
301-400		8 spaces	
401-500		9 spaces	
Specification for Accessible Spaces	*Yes*	*No*	*Comments/Transition Notes*
Accessible space located closest to accessible entrance	X		
Where spaces cannot be located within 200 ft of accessible entrance, drop-off area is provided within 100 ft.	X		
Minimum width of 13 ft includes 8 ft space plus 5 ft access aisle	X		
Van space – minimum of 1 van space for every accessible space, 8 ft wide plus 8 ft aisle. Alternative is to make all accessible spaces 11 ft wide with 5 ft aisle.	X		
Sign with international symbol of accessibility at each space or pair of spaces		X	
Sign minimum 5 ft, maximum 8 ft to top of sign		X	
Surface evenly paved or hard-packed (no cracks)	X		
Surface slope less than 1:20, 5%	X		
Curbcut to pathway from parking lot at each space or pair of spaces, if sidewalk (curb) is present			NA
Curbcut is a minimum width of 3 ft, excluding sloped sides, has sloped sides, all slopes not to exceed 1:12, and textured or painted yellow			NA
RAMPS			
Specification	*Yes*	*No*	*Comments/Transition Notes*
Slope Maximum 1:12			NA
Minimum width 4 ft between handrails			NA
Handrails on both sides if ramp is longer than 6 ft			
Handrails at 34" and 19" from ramp surface			
Handrails extend 12" beyond top and bottom			
Handgrip oval or round			
Handgrip smooth surface			
Handgrip diameter between 1¼" and 2"			
Clearance of 1½" between wall and wall rail			
Non-slip surface			
Level platforms (4ft x 4 ft) at every 30 ft, at top, at bottom, at change of direction			

Facility name	**Stow Town Forest and Memorial Field**		
Owner/Manager	Conservation Commission and Recreation Department		
Location	Bradley Lane		
Acreage	326		
Activity	Hiking, horseback riding, cross-country skiing, fishing, mountain biking, dog walking, playing fields		
Site Amenities	Hard packed gravel parking area, bulletin board, emergency call box, field with backstop and seats, bridges, seasonal portajohn.		
Transition Plan			
Barrier to Access	**Corrective Action**	**Scheduled Change**	**Authority**
No compliant parking	Modify public parking area to include handicap spaces with appropriate signage at trail head. Note: The parking area serves both the Town Forest and Memorial Field. New handicapped parking spaces would be needed in two locations.	Hire design consultant with CPA funds	Conservation Commission; Rec Dept; CPC
Trails are inaccessible due to slope/grades and surfaces	Design and construct a short accessible trail from parking lot along Elizabeth Brook on blue/red trail OR from entrance on Timber Edge which may have fewer grade challenges.	Hire design consultant with CPA funds	Conservation Commission; CPC

Facility Inventory **LOCATION:** Memorial Field (Bradley In)

ACTIVITY	EQUIPMENT	NOTES
Picnic Facilities	Tables & Benches	Located adjacent to accessible paths
		Access to Open Spaces
		Back and Arm Rests
		Adequate number
	Grills	Height of Cooking Surface
		Located adjacent to accessible paths
	Trash Cans	Located adjacent to accessible paths
	Picnic Shelters	Located adjacent to accessible paths
		Located near accessible water fountains, trash can, restroom, parking, etc.
Trails		Surface material
		Dimensions
		Rails
		Signage (for visually impaired)
Swimming Facilities	Pools	Entrance
		Location from accessible parking
		Safety features i.e. warning for visually impaired
	Beaches	Location from accessible path into water
		Handrails
		Location from accessible parking
		Shade provided
Play Areas (tot lots)	All Play Equipment i.e. swings, slides	Same experience provided to all
	Access Routes	Located adjacent to accessible paths
		Enough space between equipment for wheelchair
Game Areas: *ballfield *basketball *tennis	Access Routes	Located adjacent to accessible paths
		Berm cuts onto courts
	Equipment	Height
		Dimensions
		Spectator Seating
Boat Docks	Access Routes	Located adjacent to accessible paths
		Handrails
Fishing Facilities	Access Routes	Located adjacent to accessible paths
		Handrails
	Equipment	Arm Rests
		Bait Shelves
		Handrails
		Fish Cleaning Tables
Programming	Are special programs at your facilities accessible?	Learn-to-Swim
		Guided Hikes
		Interpretive Programs
Services and Technical Assistance	Information available in alternative formats i.e. for visually impaired	
	Process to request interpretive services (i.e. sign language interpreter) for meetings	

LOCATION

SWIMMING POOLS – accessibility can be via ramp, lifting device, or transfer area			
Specification	*Yes*	*No*	*Comments/Transition Notes*
Ramp at least 34" wide with a non-slip surface extending into the shallow end, slope not exceeding 1:6 with handrails on both sides			NA
Lifting device			
Transfer area 18" above the path of travel and a minimum of 18" wide			
Unobstructed path of travel not less than 48" wide around pool			
Non-slip surface			

LOCATION

SHOWER ROOMS - Showers must accommodate both wheel-in and transfer use			
Specification	*Yes*	*No*	*Comments/Transition Notes*
Stalls 36" by 60" minimum, with a 36" door opening			NA
Floors are pitched to drain the stall at the corner farthest from entrance			
Floors are non-slip surface			
Controls operate by a single lever with a pressure balance mixing valve			
Controls are located on the center wall adjacent to the hinged seat			
Shower heads attached to a flexible metal hose			
Shower heads attached to wall mounting adjustable from 42" to 72" above the floor			
Seat is hinged and padded and at least 16" deep, folds upward, securely attached to side wall, height is 18" to the top of the seat, and at least 24" long			
Soap trays without handhold features unless they can support 250 pounds			
2 grab bars are provided, one 30" and one 48" long, or one continuous L shaped bar			
Grab bars are placed horizontally at 36" above the floor line			

LOCATION

PICNICKING			
Specification	*Yes*	*No*	*Comments/Transition Notes*
A minimum of 5% of the total tables must be accessible with clear space under the table top not less than 30" wide and 19" deep per seating space and not less than 27" clear from the ground to the underside of the table. An additional 29" clear space (totaling 48") must extend beyond the 19" clear space under the table to provide access			NA
For tables without toe clearance, the knee space under the table must be at least 28" high, 30" wide and 24" deep.			
Top of table no higher than 32" above ground			
Surface of the clear ground space under and around the table must be stable, firma nd slip-resistant, and evenly graded with a maximum slope of 2% in all directions			
Accessible tables, grills and fire rings must have clear ground space of at least 36" around the perimeter			

LOCATION

FLOORS, DRINKING FOUNTAINS, TELEPHONES			
Specification	*Yes*	*No*	*Comments/Transition Notes*
Floors			NA
Non-slip surface			
Carpeting is high-density, low pile, non-absorbent, stretched taut, securely anchored			
Corridor width minimum is 3 ft			
Objects (signs, ceiling lights, fixtures) can only protrude 4" into the path of travel from a height of 27" to 80" above the floor			
Drinking Fountains			
Spouts no higher than 36" from floor to outlet			
Hand operated push button or level controls			
Spouts located near front with stream of water as parallel to front as possible			
If recessed, recess a minimum 30" width, and no deeper than depth of fountain			
If no clear knee space underneath, clear floor space 30" x 48" to allow parallel approach			
Telephones			
Highest operating part a maximum 54" above the floor			
Access within 12" of phone, 30" high by 30" wide			
Adjustable volume control on headset so identified			
SIGNS, SIGNALS, AND SWITCHES			
Specification	*Yes*	*No*	*Comments/Transition Notes*
Switches, Controls and Signs			
Switches and controls for light, heat, ventilation, windows, fire alarms, thermostats, etc, must be a minimum of 36" and a maximum of 48" above the floor for a forward reach, a maximum of 54" for a side reach			
Electrical outlets centered no lower than 18" above the floor			
Warning signals must be visual as well as audible			
Signs			
Mounting height must be 60" to centerline of the sign			
Within 18" of door jamb or recessed			
Letters and numbers a t least 1¼" high			
Letters and numbers raised .03"			
Letters and numbers contrast with the background color			

NOTES

LOCATION

STAIRS and DOORS			
Specification	*Yes*	*No*	*Comments/Transition Notes*
Stairs			NA
No open risers			
Nosings not projecting			
Treads no less than 11" wide			
Handrails on both sides			
Handrails 34"-38" above tread			
Handrail extends a minimum of 1 ft beyond top and bottom riser (if no safety hazard and space permits)			
Handgrip oval or round			
Handgrip has a smooth surface			
Handgrip diameter between 1¼" and 1½"			
1½" clearance between wall and handrail			
Doors			
Minimum 32" clear opening			
At least 18" clear floor space on pull side of door			
Closing speed minimum 3 seconds to within 3" of the latch			
Maximum pressure 5 pounds interior doors			
Threshold maximum ½" high, beveled on both sides			
Hardware operable with a closed fist (no conventional door knobs or thumb latch devices)			
Hardware minimum 36", maximum 48" above the floor			
Clear, level floor space extends out 5 ft from both sides of the door			
Door adjacent to revolving door is accessible and unlocked			
Doors opening into hazardous area have hardware that is knurled or roughened			

NOTES

LOCATION

RESTROOMS – also see Doors and Vestibules			
Specification	*Yes*	*No*	*Comments/Transition Notes*
5 ft turning space measured 12" from the floor			
At least one Sink:			NA
Clear floor space of 30" by 48" to allow a forward approach			
Mounted without pedestal or legs, height 34" to top of rim			
Extends at least 22" from the wall			
Open knee space a minimum 19" deep, 30" width, and 27" high			
Cover exposed pipes with insulation			
Faucets operable with closed fist (lever or spring activated handle)			
At least one Stall:			
Accessible to person using wheelchair at 60" wide by 72" deep			
Stall door is 36" wide			
Stall door swings out			
Stall door is self closing			
Stall door has a pull latch			
Lock on stall door is operable with a closed fist, and 32" above the floor			
Coat hook is 54" high			
Toilet			
18" from center to nearest side wall			
42" minimum clear space from center to farthest wall or fixture			
Top of seat 17"-19" above the floor			
Grab Bars			
On back and side wall closest to toilet			
1¼" diameter			
1½" clearance to wall			
Located 30" above and parallel to the floor			
Acid-etched or roughened surface			
42" long			
Fixtures			
Toilet paper dispenser is 24" above floor			
One mirror set a maximum 38" to bottom (if tilted, 42")			
Dispensers (towel, soap, etc) at least one of each a maximum 42" above the floor			

NOTES 1 Standard Portapotty onsite.

LOCATION

SITE ACCESS, PATH OF TRAVEL, ENTRANCES			
Specification	*Yes*	*No*	*Comments/Transition Notes*
Site Access			
Accessible path of travel from passenger disembarking area and parking area to accessible entrance	X		
Disembarking area at accessible entrance	X		
Surface evenly paved or hard-packed	X		
No ponding of water	X		
Path of Travel			
Path does not require the use of stairs	X		
Path is stable, firm and s lip resistant	X		
3 ft wide minimum	X		
Slope maximum 1:20 (5%) and maximum cross pitch is 2% (1:50).	X		
Continuous common surface, no changes in level greater than ½ inch	X		
Any objects protruding onto the pathway must be detected by a person with a visual disability using a cane	X		
Objects protruding more than 4" from the wall must be within 27" of the ground, or higher than 80"	X		
Curb on the pathway must have curb cuts at drives, parking and drop-offs			NA
Entrances			
Primary public entrances accessible to person using wheelchair, must be signed, gotten to independently, and *not* be the service entrance			NA
Level space extending 5 ft. from the door, interior and exterior of entrance doors			
Minimum 32" clear width opening (i.e. 36" door with standard hinge)			
At least 18" clear floor area on latch, pull side of door			
Door handle no higher than 48" and operable with a closed fist			
Vestibule is 4 ft plus the width of the door swinging into the space			
Entrance(s) on a level that makes elevators accessible			
Door mats less than ½" thick are securely fastened			
Door mats more than ½" thick are recessed			
Grates in path of travel have openings of ½" maximum			
Signs at non-accessible entrance(s) indicate direction to accessible entrance			
Emergency egress – alarms with flashing lights and audible signals, sufficiently lighted			

NOTES

LOCATION

PARKING			
Total Spaces		*Required Accessible Spaces*	
~~Up to 25~~		1 space	
26-50		2 spaces	
51-75		~~3 spaces~~	
76-100		4 spaces	
101-150		5 spaces	
151-200		6 spaces	
201-300		7 spaces	
301-400		8 spaces	
401-500		9 spaces	
Specification for Accessible Spaces	*Yes*	*No*	*Comments/Transition Notes*
Accessible space located closest to accessible entrance	X		
Where spaces cannot be located within 200 ft of accessible entrance, drop-off area is provided within 100 ft.	X		
Minimum width of 13 ft includes 8 ft space plus 5 ft access aisle	X		
Van space – minimum of 1 van space for every accessible space, 8 ft wide plus 8 ft aisle. Alternative is to make all accessible spaces 11 ft wide with 5 ft aisle.	X		
Sign with international symbol of accessibility at each space or pair of spaces		X	
Sign minimum 5 ft, maximum 8 ft to top of sign		X	
Surface evenly paved or hard-packed (no cracks)	X		
Surface slope less than 1:20, 5%	X		
Curbcut to pathway from parking lot at each space or pair of spaces, if sidewalk (curb) is present		X	NA
Curbcut is a minimum width of 3 ft, excluding sloped sides, has sloped sides, all slopes not to exceed 1:12, and textured or painted yellow		X	NA
RAMPS			
Specification	*Yes*	*No*	*Comments/Transition Notes*
Slope Maximum 1:12			NA
Minimum width 4 ft between handrails			
Handrails on both sides if ramp is longer than 6 ft			
Handrails at 34" and 19" from ramp surface			
Handrails extend 12" beyond top and bottom			
Handgrip oval or round			
Handgrip smooth surface			
Handgrip diameter between 1¼" and 2"			
Clearance of 1½" between wall and wall rail			
Non-slip surface			
Level platforms (4ft x 4 ft) at every 30 ft, at top, at bottom, at change of direction			

Facility name	Town Center Park	
Owner/Manager	Owner: Select Board; Manager: Recreation Department (Conservation owns the shoreline of Ministers Pond)	
Location	323 Great Road	
Acreage	4.0	
Activity	Walking, nature play, sitting (benches, gazebo), community events	
Site Amenities	Accessible parking area, accessible trail, gazebo, nature play area, picnic table, benches	

Facility Inventory **LOCATION:** Town Center Park

ACTIVITY	EQUIPMENT	NOTES
Picnic Facilities	Tables & Benches	Located adjacent to accessible paths
		Access to Open Spaces
		Back and Arm Rests
		Adequate number
	Grills	Height of Cooking Surface
		Located adjacent to accessible paths
	Trash Cans	Located adjacent to accessible paths
	Picnic Shelters	Located adjacent to accessible paths
		Located near accessible water fountains, trash can, restroom, parking, etc.
Trails	✓	Surface material
		Dimensions
		Rails
		Signage (for visually impaired)
Swimming Facilities	Pools	Entrance
		Location from accessible parking
		Safety features i.e. warning for visually impaired
	Beaches	Location from accessible path into water
		Handrails
		Location from accessible parking
		Shade provided
Play Areas (tot lots)	All Play Equipment i.e. swings, slides	Same experience provided to all
	Access Routes	Located adjacent to accessible paths
		Enough space between equipment for wheelchair
Game Areas: *ballfield *basketball *tennis	Access Routes	Located adjacent to accessible paths
		Berm cuts onto courts
	Equipment	Height
		Dimensions
		Spectator Seating
Boat Docks	Access Routes	Located adjacent to accessible paths
		Handrails
Fishing Facilities	Access Routes	Located adjacent to accessible paths
		Handrails
	Equipment	Arm Rests
		Bait Shelves
		Handrails
		Fish Cleaning Tables
Programming	Are special programs at your facilities accessible?	Learn-to-Swim
		Guided Hikes
		Interpretive Programs
Services and Technical Assistance	Information available in alternative formats i.e. for visually impaired	
	Process to request interpretive services (i.e. sign language interpreter) for meetings	

LOCATION

SWIMMING POOLS – accessibility can be via ramp, lifting device, or transfer area			
Specification	*Yes*	*No*	*Comments/Transition Notes*
Ramp at least 34" wide with a non-slip surface extending into the shallow end, slope not exceeding 1:6 with handrails on both sides			NA
Lifting device			
Transfer area 18" above the path of travel and a minimum of 18" wide			
Unobstructed path of travel not less than 48" wide around pool			
Non-slip surface			

LOCATION

SHOWER ROOMS - Showers must accommodate both wheel-in and transfer use			
Specification	*Yes*	*No*	*Comments/Transition Notes*
Stalls 36" by 60" minimum, with a 36" door opening			
Floors are pitched to drain the stall at the corner farthest from entrance			NA
Floors are non-slip surface			
Controls operate by a single lever with a pressure balance mixing valve			
Controls are located on the center wall adjacent to the hinged seat			
Shower heads attached to a flexible metal hose			
Shower heads attached to wall mounting adjustable from 42" to 72" above the floor			
Seat is hinged and padded and at least 16" deep, folds upward, securely attached to side wall, height is 18" to the top of the seat, and at least 24" long			
Soap trays without handhold features unless they can support 250 pounds			
2 grab bars are provided, one 30" and one 48" long, or one continuous L shaped bar			
Grab bars are placed horizontally at 36" above the floor line			

LOCATION

PICNICKING			
Specification	*Yes*	*No*	*Comments/Transition Notes*
A minimum of 5% of the total tables must be accessible with clear space under the table top not less than 30" wide and 19" deep per seating space and not less than 27" clear from the ground to the underside of the table. An additional 29" clear space (totaling 48") must extend beyond the 19" clear space under the table to provide access			1 ADA accessible picnic table
For tables without toe clearance, the knee space under the table must be at least 28" high, 30" wide and 24" deep.	X		
Top of table no higher than 32" above ground	X		
Surface of the clear ground space under and around the table must be stable, firma nd slip-resistant, and evenly graded with a maximum slope of 2% in all directions	X		
Accessible tables, grills and fire rings must have clear ground space of at least 36" around the perimeter			NA

LOCATION

FLOORS, DRINKING FOUNTAINS, TELEPHONES			
Specification	*Yes*	*No*	*Comments/Transition Notes*
Floors			NA
Non-slip surface			
Carpeting is high-density, low pile, non-absorbent, stretched taut, securely anchored			
Corridor width minimum is 3 ft			
Objects (signs, ceiling lights, fixtures) can only protrude 4" into the path of travel from a height of 27" to 80" above the floor			
Drinking Fountains			NA
Spouts no higher than 36" from floor to outlet			
Hand operated push button or level controls			
Spouts located near front with stream of water as parallel to front as possible			
If recessed, recess a minimum 30" width, and no deeper than depth of fountain			
If no clear knee space underneath, clear floor space 30" x 48" to allow parallel approach			
Telephones			
Highest operating part a maximum 54" above the floor			
Access within 12" of phone, 30" high by 30" wide			
Adjustable volume control on headset so identified			
SIGNS, SIGNALS, AND SWITCHES			
Specification	*Yes*	*No*	*Comments/Transition Notes*
Switches, Controls and Signs			NA
Switches and controls for light, heat, ventilation, windows, fire alarms, thermostats, etc, must be a minimum of 36" and a maximum of 48" above the floor for a forward reach, a maximum of 54" for a side reach			
Electrical outlets centered no lower than 18" above the floor			
Warning signals must be visual as well as audible			
Signs			
Mounting height must be 60" to centerline of the sign			
Within 18" of door jamb or recessed			
Letters and numbers a t least 1¼" high			
Letters and numbers raised .03"			
Letters and numbers contrast with the background color			

NOTES

LOCATION

STAIRS and DOORS			
Specification	*Yes*	*No*	*Comments/Transition Notes*
Stairs			NA
No open risers			
Nosings not projecting			
Treads no less than 11" wide			
Handrails on both sides			
Handrails 34"-38" above tread			
Handrail extends a minimum of 1 ft beyond top and bottom riser (if no safety hazard and space permits)			
Handgrip oval or round			
Handgrip has a smooth surface			
Handgrip diameter between 1¼" and 1½"			
1½" clearance between wall and handrail			
Doors			NA
Minimum 32" clear opening			
At least 18" clear floor space on pull side of door			
Closing speed minimum 3 seconds to within 3" of the latch			
Maximum pressure 5 pounds interior doors			
Threshold maximum ½" high, beveled on both sides			
Hardware operable with a closed fist (no conventional door knobs or thumb latch devices)			
Hardware minimum 36", maximum 48" above the floor			
Clear, level floor space extends out 5 ft from both sides of the door			
Door adjacent to revolving door is accessible and unlocked			
Doors opening into hazardous area have hardware that is knurled or roughened			

NOTES

LOCATION

RESTROOMS – also see Doors and Vestibules			
Specification	*Yes*	*No*	*Comments/Transition Notes*
5 ft turning space measured 12" from the floor			NA
At least one Sink:			
Clear floor space of 30" by 48" to allow a forward approach			
Mounted without pedestal or legs, height 34" to top of rim			
Extends at least 22" from the wall			
Open knee space a minimum 19" deep, 30" width, and 27" high			
Cover exposed pipes with insulation			
Faucets operable with closed fist (lever or spring activated handle)			
At least one Stall:			
Accessible to person using wheelchair at 60" wide by 72" deep			
Stall door is 36" wide			
Stall door swings out			
Stall door is self closing			
Stall door has a pull latch			
Lock on stall door is operable with a closed fist, and 32" above the floor			
Coat hook is 54" high			
Toilet			
18" from center to nearest side wall			
42" minimum clear space from center to farthest wall or fixture			
Top of seat 17"-19" above the floor			
Grab Bars			
On back and side wall closest to toilet			
1¼" diameter			
1½" clearance to wall			
Located 30" above and parallel to the floor			
Acid-etched or roughened surface			
42" long			
Fixtures			
Toilet paper dispenser is 24" above floor			
One mirror set a maximum 38" to bottom (if tilted, 42")			
Dispensers (towel, soap, etc) at least one of each a maximum 42" above the floor			

NOTES no Restroom onsite

LOCATION

SITE ACCESS, PATH OF TRAVEL, ENTRANCES			
Specification	*Yes*	*No*	*Comments/Transition Notes*
Site Access			
Accessible path of travel from passenger disembarking area and parking area to accessible entrance	X		
Disembarking area at accessible entrance	X		
Surface evenly paved or hard-packed	X		
No ponding of water	X		
Path of Travel			
Path does not require the use of stairs	X		
Path is stable, firm and s lip resistant	X		
3 ft wide minimum	X		
Slope maximum 1:20 (5%) and maximum cross pitch is 2% (1:50).	X		
Continuous common surface, no changes in level greater than ½ inch	X		
Any objects protruding onto the pathway must be detected by a person with a visual disability using a cane	X		
Objects protruding more than 4" from the wall must be within 27" of the ground, or higher than 80"	X		
Curb on the pathway must have curb cuts at drives, parking and drop-offs			NA
Entrances			
Primary public entrances accessible to person using wheelchair, must be signed, gotten to independently, and *not* be the service entrance			NA
Level space extending 5 ft. from the door, interior and exterior of entrance doors			
Minimum 32" clear width opening (i.e. 36" door with standard hinge)			
At least 18" clear floor area on latch, pull side of door			
Door handle no higher than 48" and operable with a closed fist			
Vestibule is 4 ft plus the width of the door swinging into the space			
Entrance(s) on a level that makes elevators accessible			
Door mats less than ½" thick are securely fastened			
Door mats more than ½" thick are recessed			
Grates in path of travel have openings of ½" maximum			
Signs at non-accessible entrance(s) indicate direction to accessible entrance			
Emergency egress – alarms with flashing lights and audible signals, sufficiently lighted			

NOTES

LOCATION

PARKING			
Total Spaces		*Required Accessible Spaces*	
Up to 25		1 space	
26-50		2 spaces	
51-75		3 spaces	
76-100		4 spaces	
101-150		5 spaces	
151-200		6 spaces	
201-300		7 spaces	
301-400		8 spaces	
401-500		9 spaces	
Specification for Accessible Spaces	*Yes*	*No*	*Comments/Transition Notes*
Accessible space located closest to accessible entrance	X		
Where spaces cannot be located within 200 ft of accessible entrance, drop-off area is provided within 100 ft.	X		
Minimum width of 13 ft includes 8 ft space plus 5 ft access aisle	X		
Van space – minimum of 1 van space for every accessible space, 8 ft wide plus 8 ft aisle. Alternative is to make all accessible spaces 11 ft wide with 5 ft aisle.	X		
Sign with international symbol of accessibility at each space or pair of spaces		X	
Sign minimum 5 ft, maximum 8 ft to top of sign	X		
Surface evenly paved or hard-packed (no cracks)	X		
Surface slope less than 1:20, 5%	X		
Curbcut to pathway from parking lot at each space or pair of spaces, if sidewalk (curb) is present		X	NA
Curbcut is a minimum width of 3 ft, excluding sloped sides, has sloped sides, all slopes not to exceed 1:12, and textured or painted yellow		X	NA
RAMPS			
Specification	*Yes*	*No*	*Comments/Transition Notes*
Slope Maximum 1:12			NA
Minimum width 4 ft between handrails			
Handrails on both sides if ramp is longer than 6 ft			
Handrails at 34" and 19" from ramp surface			
Handrails extend 12" beyond top and bottom			
Handgrip oval or round			
Handgrip smooth surface			
Handgrip diameter between 1¼" and 2"			
Clearance of 1½" between wall and wall rail			
Non-slip surface			
Level platforms (4ft x 4 ft) at every 30 ft, at top, at bottom, at change of direction			

Conservation Areas

Facility name	**Flagg Hill (W. Acton Rd and Trefry Lane entrances)**		
Owner/Manager	Conservation Commission		
Location	West Acton Road		
Acreage	243		
Activity	Hiking, Mtn. Biking, Horseback Riding		
Site Amenities	Parking lots (paved or reclaimed asphalt), trails, kiosks		
Transition Plan			
Barrier to Access	**Corrective Action**	**Scheduled Change**	**Authority**
Steep, hilly site. No universal access paths	None planned		

Facility name	**Flagg Hill (Boxborough entrance)**		
Owner/Manager	Boxborough Conservation Commission		
Location	Off Windemere Drive in Boxboro		
Acreage	243		
Activity	Hiking, Mtn. biking, horseback riding		
Site Amenities	Parking lot, trails, kiosks		
Transition Plan			
Barrier to Access	**Corrective Action**	**Scheduled Change**	**Authority**

Steep, hilly and wet entrance. No universal access paths	None planned		Town of Boxboro

Facility name	**Marble Hill Conservation Area & Pompo Playing Fields**		
Owner/Manager	Conservation Commission, Recreation Comm		
Location	Great Road		
Acreage	249		
Activity	Hiking, Mtn biking, active recreation (at field),		
Site Amenities	Paved and marked Parking lot, trails, exercise course, playing fields, kiosks		
Transition Plan			
Barrier to Access	**Corrective Action**	**Scheduled Change**	**Authority**
No universal access paths; entrance to facility was recently upgraded to make access easier for all users	Currently examining revitalizing exercise course with family and senior friendly facilities	Begin Summer 2023	Stow Conservation Commission
Parking lot does not have marked handicapped space for field trail users	Sign one of the 3-4 dedicated Marble Hill spaces closest to the field for handicapped parking	FY 25	Town of Stow

Facility Inventory **LOCATION:** Pompo Field

ACTIVITY	EQUIPMENT	NOTES
Picnic Facilities	Tables & Benches	Located adjacent to accessible paths
		Access to Open Spaces
		Back and Arm Rests
		Adequate number
	Grills	Height of Cooking Surface
		Located adjacent to accessible paths
	Trash Cans	Located adjacent to accessible paths
	Picnic Shelters	Located adjacent to accessible paths
		Located near accessible water fountains, trash can, restroom, parking, etc.
Trails		Surface material
		Dimensions
		Rails
		Signage (for visually impaired)
Swimming Facilities	Pools	Entrance
		Location from accessible parking
		Safety features i.e. warning for visually impaired
	Beaches	Location from accessible path into water
		Handrails
		Location from accessible parking
		Shade provided
Play Areas (tot lots)	All Play Equipment i.e. swings, slides	Same experience provided to all
	Access Routes	Located adjacent to accessible paths
		Enough space between equipment for wheelchair
Game Areas: *ballfield *basketball *tennis	Access Routes	Located adjacent to accessible paths
		Berm cuts onto courts
	Equipment	Height
		Dimensions
		Spectator Seating
Boat Docks	Access Routes	Located adjacent to accessible paths
		Handrails
Fishing Facilities	Access Routes	Located adjacent to accessible paths
		Handrails
	Equipment	Arm Rests
		Bait Shelves
		Handrails
		Fish Cleaning Tables
Programming	Are special programs at your facilities accessible?	Learn-to-Swim
		Guided Hikes
		Interpretive Programs
Services and Technical Assistance	Information available in alternative formats i.e. for visually impaired	
	Process to request interpretive services (i.e. sign language interpreter) for meetings	

LOCATION

SWIMMING POOLS – accessibility can be via ramp, lifting device, or transfer area			
Specification	*Yes*	*No*	*Comments/Transition Notes*
Ramp at least 34" wide with a non-slip surface extending into the shallow end, slope not exceeding 1:6 with handrails on both sides			NA
Lifting device			
Transfer area 18" above the path of travel and a minimum of 18" wide			
Unobstructed path of travel not less than 48" wide around pool			
Non-slip surface			

LOCATION

SHOWER ROOMS - Showers must accommodate both wheel-in and transfer use			
Specification	*Yes*	*No*	*Comments/Transition Notes*
Stalls 36" by 60" minimum, with a 36" door opening			
Floors are pitched to drain the stall at the corner farthest from entrance			NA
Floors are non-slip surface			
Controls operate by a single lever with a pressure balance mixing valve			
Controls are located on the center wall adjacent to the hinged seat			
Shower heads attached to a flexible metal hose			
Shower heads attached to wall mounting adjustable from 42" to 72" above the floor			
Seat is hinged and padded and at least 16" deep, folds upward, securely attached to side wall, height is 18" to the top of the seat, and at least 24" long			
Soap trays without handhold features unless they can support 250 pounds			
2 grab bars are provided, one 30" and one 48" long, or one continuous L shaped bar			
Grab bars are placed horizontally at 36" above the floor line			

LOCATION

PICNICKING			
Specification	*Yes*	*No*	*Comments/Transition Notes*
A minimum of 5% of the total tables must be accessible with clear space under the table top not less than 30" wide and 19" deep per seating space and not less than 27" clear from the ground to the underside of the table. An additional 29" clear space (totaling 48") must extend beyond the 19" clear space under the table to provide access			NA
For tables without toe clearance, the knee space under the table must be at least 28" high, 30" wide and 24" deep.			
Top of table no higher than 32" above ground			
Surface of the clear ground space under and around the table must be stable, firma nd slip-resistant, and evenly graded with a maximum slope of 2% in all directions			
Accessible tables, grills and fire rings must have clear ground space of at least 36" around the perimeter			

LOCATION

FLOORS, DRINKING FOUNTAINS, TELEPHONES			
Specification	*Yes*	*No*	*Comments/Transition Notes*
Floors			NA
Non-slip surface			
Carpeting is high-density, low pile, non-absorbent, stretched taut, securely anchored			
Corridor width minimum is 3 ft			
Objects (signs, ceiling lights, fixtures) can only protrude 4" into the path of travel from a height of 27" to 80" above the floor			
Drinking Fountains			
Spouts no higher than 36" from floor to outlet			
Hand operated push button or level controls			
Spouts located near front with stream of water as parallel to front as possible			
If recessed, recess a minimum 30" width, and no deeper than depth of fountain			
If no clear knee space underneath, clear floor space 30" x 48" to allow parallel approach			
Telephones			
Highest operating part a maximum 54" above the floor			
Access within 12" of phone, 30" high by 30" wide			
Adjustable volume control on headset so identified			
SIGNS, SIGNALS, AND SWITCHES			
Specification	*Yes*	*No*	*Comments/Transition Notes*
Switches, Controls and Signs			
Switches and controls for light, heat, ventilation, windows, fire alarms, thermostats, etc, must be a minimum of 36" and a maximum of 48" above the floor for a forward reach, a maximum of 54" for a side reach			
Electrical outlets centered no lower than 18" above the floor			
Warning signals must be visual as well as audible			
Signs			
Mounting height must be 60" to centerline of the sign			
Within 18" of door jamb or recessed			
Letters and numbers a t least 1¼" high			
Letters and numbers raised .03"			
Letters and numbers contrast with the background color			

NOTES

LOCATION

STAIRS and DOORS			
Specification	*Yes*	*No*	*Comments/Transition Notes*
Stairs			NA
No open risers			
Nosings not projecting			
Treads no less than 11" wide			
Handrails on both sides			
Handrails 34"-38" above tread			
Handrail extends a minimum of 1 ft beyond top and bottom riser (if no safety hazard and space permits)			
Handgrip oval or round			
Handgrip has a smooth surface			
Handgrip diameter between 1¼" and 1½"			
1½" clearance between wall and handrail			
Doors			
Minimum 32" clear opening			
At least 18" clear floor space on pull side of door			
Closing speed minimum 3 seconds to within 3" of the latch			
Maximum pressure 5 pounds interior doors			
Threshold maximum ½" high, beveled on both sides			
Hardware operable with a closed fist (no conventional door knobs or thumb latch devices)			
Hardware minimum 36", maximum 48" above the floor			
Clear, level floor space extends out 5 ft from both sides of the door			
Door adjacent to revolving door is accessible and unlocked			
Doors opening into hazardous area have hardware that is knurled or roughened			

NOTES

LOCATION

RESTROOMS – also see Doors and Vestibules			
Specification	*Yes*	*No*	*Comments/Transition Notes*
5 ft turning space measured 12" from the floor			
At least one Sink:			NA
Clear floor space of 30" by 48" to allow a forward approach			
Mounted without pedestal or legs, height 34" to top of rim			
Extends at least 22" from the wall			
Open knee space a minimum 19" deep, 30" width, and 27" high			
Cover exposed pipes with insulation			
Faucets operable with closed fist (lever or spring activated handle)			
At least one Stall:			
Accessible to person using wheelchair at 60" wide by 72" deep			
Stall door is 36" wide			
Stall door swings out			
Stall door is self closing			
Stall door has a pull latch			
Lock on stall door is operable with a closed fist, and 32" above the floor			
Coat hook is 54" high			
Toilet			
18" from center to nearest side wall			
42" minimum clear space from center to farthest wall or fixture			
Top of seat 17"-19" above the floor			
Grab Bars			
On back and side wall closest to toilet			
1¼" diameter			
1½" clearance to wall			
Located 30" above and parallel to the floor			
Acid-etched or roughened surface			
42" long			
Fixtures			
Toilet paper dispenser is 24" above floor			
One mirror set a maximum 38" to bottom (if tilted, 42")			
Dispensers (towel, soap, etc) at least one of each a maximum 42" above the floor			

NOTES No Restrooms at this location. Seasonal portapotty if needed

LOCATION

SITE ACCESS, PATH OF TRAVEL, ENTRANCES			
Specification	*Yes*	*No*	*Comments/Transition Notes*
Site Access			
Accessible path of travel from passenger disembarking area and parking area to accessible entrance		X	
Disembarking area at accessible entrance		X	
Surface evenly paved or hard-packed		X	
No ponding of water		X	
Path of Travel			
Path does not require the use of stairs	X		
Path is stable, firm and s lip resistant		X	
3 ft wide minimum	X		
Slope maximum 1:20 (5%) and maximum cross pitch is 2% (1:50).			Unknown
Continuous common surface, no changes in level greater than ½ inch		X	
Any objects protruding onto the pathway must be detected by a person with a visual disability using a cane		X	
Objects protruding more than 4" from the wall must be within 27" of the ground, or higher than 80"		X	
Curb on the pathway must have curb cuts at drives, parking and drop-offs		X	
Entrances			
Primary public entrances accessible to person using wheelchair, must be signed, gotten to independently, and *not* be the service entrance			NA
Level space extending 5 ft. from the door, interior and exterior of entrance doors			
Minimum 32" clear width opening (i.e. 36" door with standard hinge)			
At least 18" clear floor area on latch, pull side of door			
Door handle no higher than 48" and operable with a closed fist			
Vestibule is 4 ft plus the width of the door swinging into the space			
Entrance(s) on a level that makes elevators accessible			
Door mats less than ½" thick are securely fastened			
Door mats more than ½" thick are recessed			
Grates in path of travel have openings of ½" maximum			
Signs at non-accessible entrance(s) indicate direction to accessible entrance			
Emergency egress – alarms with flashing lights and audible signals, sufficiently lighted			

NOTES

LOCATION

PARKING			
Total Spaces		*Required Accessible Spaces*	
Up to 25		1 space	
26-50		2 spaces	
51-75		3 spaces	
76-100		4 spaces	
101-150		5 spaces	
151-200		6 spaces	
201-300		7 spaces	
301-400		8 spaces	
401-500		9 spaces	
Specification for Accessible Spaces	*Yes*	*No*	*Comments/Transition Notes*
Accessible space located closest to accessible entrance		X	
Where spaces cannot be located within 200 ft of accessible entrance, drop-off area is provided within 100 ft.		X	
Minimum width of 13 ft includes 8 ft space plus 5 ft access aisle		X	
Van space – minimum of 1 van space for every accessible space, 8 ft wide plus 8 ft aisle. Alternative is to make all accessible spaces 11 ft wide with 5 ft aisle.		X	
Sign with international symbol of accessibility at each space or pair of spaces		X	
Sign minimum 5 ft, maximum 8 ft to top of sign		X	
Surface evenly paved or hard-packed (no cracks)		X	
Surface slope less than 1:20, 5%		X	
Curbcut to pathway from parking lot at each space or pair of spaces, if sidewalk (curb) is present			NA
Curbcut is a minimum width of 3 ft, excluding sloped sides, has sloped sides, all slopes not to exceed 1:12, and textured or painted yellow			NA
RAMPS			
Specification	*Yes*	*No*	*Comments/Transition Notes*
Slope Maximum 1:12			NA
Minimum width 4 ft between handrails			
Handrails on both sides if ramp is longer than 6 ft			
Handrails at 34" and 19" from ramp surface			
Handrails extend 12" beyond top and bottom			
Handgrip oval or round			
Handgrip smooth surface			
Handgrip diameter between 1¼" and 2"			
Clearance of 1½" between wall and wall rail			
Non-slip surface			
Level platforms (4ft x 4 ft) at every 30 ft, at top, at bottom, at change of direction			

Facility name	**Captain Sargent Conservation Area/Stow Community Gardens**		
Owner/Manager	Conservation Commission		
Location	South Acton Road/ Tuttle Lane		
Acreage	153		
Activity	Hiking, Mtn. biking, agriculture, community gardens, picnic tables		
Site Amenities	Pervious Parking lot, trails, kiosks, garden plots, raised bed plots, picnic tables, new 300' boardwalk across wetland.		
Transition Plan			
Barrier to Access	**Corrective Action**	**Scheduled Change**	**Authority**
No universal access paths from main entrance, community gardens were just upgraded with raised beds and a dedicated water source for increased accessibility.	Investigate feasible of increasing accessibility from parking lot to boardwalk or create a single handicapped parking space at rear of community gardens	FY 26	Stow Conservation Department

Facility name	**Heath Hen Meadow Conservation Area**		
Owner/Manager	Conservation Commission		
Location	West Acton Road		
Acreage	52		
Activity	Hiking, mtn. biking, cross country skiing		
Site Amenities	Roadside parking, kiosks, trails, bridge		
Transition Plan			
Barrier to Access	**Corrective Action**	**Scheduled Change**	**Authority**

No universal access paths, wet site	Look at feasibility of reducing barriers to access at entry bridge when reconstructed.	TBD when bridge is replaced	Stow Conservation Dept.

Facility name	**Spindle Hill Conservation Area/Wheeler Pond**		
Owner/Manager	Conservation Commission		
Location	Gates Lane/Wheeler Road		
Acreage			
Activity	Hiking		
Site Amenities	Informal roadside, parking, trails, kiosk		
Transition Plan			
Barrier to Access	**Corrective Action**	**Scheduled Change**	**Authority**
No universal access paths, steep entry access	None planned		

Facility name	**Stow Acres North**		
Owner/Manager	Conservation Commission and Recreation Department		
Location	Randall Road		
Acreage	109		
Activity	TBD – Master Plan in progress		
Site Amenities	None at present; master planning underway for a major town conservation/recreation complex which will feature sustainability and accessibility, as detailed in plan. Construction of initial elements planned in 2025.		
Transition Plan			
Barrier to Access	**Corrective Action**	**Scheduled Change**	**Authority**
TBD			

Facility name	**Assabet Overlook Conservation Area**		
Owner/Manager	Conservation Commission		
Location	Off Joanne Drive		
Acreage			
Activity	Hiking		
Site Amenities	Roadside parking, kiosk		
Transition Plan			
Barrier to Access	**Corrective Action**	**Scheduled Change**	**Authority**
No universal access paths, difficult entry around detention basin	None planned		

Facility name	**Hallock Point Conservation Area**		
Owner/Manager	Conservation Commission		
Location	Hallock Point Road		
Acreage			
Activity	Hiking		
Site Amenities	Kiosk, picnic tables (2). Gravel parking lot controlled by DCR.		
Transition Plan			
Barrier to Access	**Corrective Action**	**Scheduled Change**	**Authority**
No universal access paths, steep slopes at point.	None planned		

Town of Stow
www.stow-ma.gov
380 Great Road
Stow, MA 01775
Tel: 978-897-2927

GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE UNDER THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

This Grievance Procedure has been established to meet the requirements of the American with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA). It may be anyone who wishes to file a complaint alleging discrimination on the basis of disability in employment practices and policies, or in the provision of services, activities, programs, or benefits by the Town of Stow.

The complaint should be in writing and contain information about the alleged discrimination such as name, address, phone number of complainant and location, date and description of the problem. Reasonable accommodations, such as personal interviews or a tape recording of the complaint will be made available for persons with disabilities who are unable to submit a written complaint.

The complaint should be submitted by the grievant and/or his/her designee as soon as possible but no later than sixty (60) calendar days after the alleged violation to:

ADA Coordinator
380 Great Road
Stow, MA 01775
building@stow-ma.gov
978-897-2193

Within fifteen (15) calendar days after receipt of the complaint, the ADA Coordinator, or their designee should they be unavailable, will meet with the complainant to discuss the complaint and possible resolutions. Within fifteen (15) calendar days after the meeting, the ADA Coordinator or designee will respond in writing and, where appropriate, in a format accessible to the complainant. The response will explain the position of the Town of Stow and, where possible, will offer options for substantive resolution of the complaint.

If the response by the ADA Coordinator or designee does not satisfactorily resolve the issue, the complainant and/or his/her designee may submit a written request for a hearing with the Selectboard within seven (7) calendar days of the transmittal of the written response of the ADA Coordinator.

The hearing shall be held not later than fifteen (15) calendar days after the receipt of the request. The ADA Coordinator shall be advised of the hearing. The Selectboard shall issue a written decision to the complainant and other parties as appropriate no later than fifteen (15) calendar days after the hearing. If the vote of the Selectboard is not unanimous, a minority report may be included in the decision.

The Chair of the Selectboard will inform the complainant that he/she has the right to pursue the complaint with the Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination of the courts at any time and shall provide the addresses and phone numbers of such agencies. All written complaints received by the ADA Coordinator, appeals to the Selectboard and responses, will be kept by the Town of Stow for a period of at least three years.

Town of Stow
www.stow-ma.gov
380 Great Road
Stow, MA 01775
Tel: 978-897-4515

THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

PUBLIC NOTICE

In accordance with the requirements of Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 ("ADA"), the Town of Stow will not discriminate against qualified individuals with disabilities on the basis of disability in its services, programs or activities.

Employment: The Town of Stow does not discriminate on the basis of disability in its hiring or employment practices and complies with all regulations promulgated by the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission under Title I of the ADA.

Modifications to Policies and Procedures: The Town will make all reasonable modifications to policies and programs to ensure that persons with disabilities have an equal opportunity to enjoy all of its programs, services and activities.

Equal Access to Public Meetings: All Town-sponsored public meetings and hearings must be held in locations that are accessible to persons with disabilities, including persons who use wheelchairs.

Effective Communication: Persons with disabilities who need either: (1) auxiliary aids and services for effective communication, or (2) written materials in alternative formats, or (3) reasonable modifications in policies and procedures, in order to access programs and activities of the Town of Stow, are invited to make their needs known to program staff or to the Town's ADA Coordinator. Requests should be made as soon as possible, but no later than fourteen (14) days before a scheduled event.

The Town of Stow will not place a surcharge on a particular individual with a disability or any group of individuals with disabilities to cover the cost of providing auxiliary aids/services or reasonable modifications of policy, such as retrieving items from locations that are open to the public, but are not accessible to persons who use wheelchairs.

Questions or requests for additional information may be sent to:

Frank Ramsbottom, ADA Coordinator
Building Commissioner Town of Stow
380 Great Road
Stow, MA 01775

Phone: (978) 897-2193
E-mail: building@stow-ma.gov

This notice is provided as required by Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and by Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. This notice is available in alternative formats from the ADA Coordinator and is posted in Town buildings and on the Town's website at: www.stow-ma.gov

Town of Stow
www.stow-ma.gov
380 Great Road
Stow, MA 01775
Tel: 978-897-2927

ADA Coordinator Designation Form

ADA Coordinator Name: Frank Ramsbottom

Name of Town Department the ADA Coordinator Works: Building Department

Job Title: Building Commissioner

E-Mail: building@stow-ma.gov

Phone: (978) 897-2193

Address: 380 Great Road, Stow, MA 01775

Date Appointed: January 23, 2024

Is this Appointment: **PERMANENT** or Acting

Does this ADA Coordinator report directly to the appointing authority? YES or **No**

Are the ADA Coordinator Duties Full-Time or **PART-TIME**

Direct Supervisor (Name and Title): Denise M. Dembkoski, Town Administrator

On Behalf of the Appointing Authority: Date: January 23, 2024

Corinni Frecha, Chair
Select Board

ADA Coordinator Signature: Date: January 23, 2024

Frank Ramsbottom
Building Commissioner

APPENDIX C

Revised Evaluation Criteria for Ranking Parcels – Stow Open Space Committee

What are the Evaluation Criteria?

About fifteen years ago, the Stow Board of Selectmen (BOS) appointed an Open Space Prioritization Committee to help provide greater insight as to the lands in Stow most deserving of protection. Of primary interest were those properties enrolled in the preferential tax assessment programs - Chapter 61(forestry), 61A (agriculture), and 61B (open space/recreation) - as by statute the Town was granted a Right of First Refusal when these lands were proposed to be sold for development. The Open Space Prioritization Committee was asked to develop a tool to allow the community to better assess the relative importance of a given property as a Right of First Refusal arose, to enable the Town to direct its limited resources most effectively.

To accomplish this, the Committee developed a weighted criteria ranking system. Under this framework, points were awarded based on attributes of a property, such as habitat significance, quality of agricultural soils, scenic qualities, historical significance, linkage with existing conserved lands, development potential, and others. The weighted criteria ranking system was then used to evaluate and rank many of the properties enrolled in the chapter programs considered to be of greatest significance to the Town. Results of that exercise matched well with the community's intuitive sense of importance - validating the function of this tool. Since that time, the criteria have been revised to better reflect our understanding of the importance of biodiversity protection and changing community open space priorities. The criteria have been revised into the form of a checklist for items to consider when evaluating potential parcels for acquisition.

Open Space Land Evaluation Factors	Criteria Met? (Yes/No)
1 Water Resources	
a. Site is in an aquifer zone (1977 IEP Study)	
b. Site is in a recharge zone (1977 IEP Study)	
c. Site enhances public access to water	
d. Preservation would contribute to protecting quality of adjacent water bodies (lakes, rivers, streams)	
e. Site is mapped as floodplain or is otherwise known to be flood prone	
2 Agriculture	
a. Site is currently productive or has been in production within 3 years	
b. Site contains prime soil types	
3 Cultural Preservation	
a. Site contains locally significant historic landmarks, buildings, or other features	
b. On or eligible for property listed on the national/state register	
c. Site has importance to indigenous people	
d. Site contains significant archeological resources	
e. Site contains important geological resources or features	

f. There are scenic views across the site or on the site	
4 Preserves Town Character	
a. Site contains features that have historically contributed to Stow's identity: farmland, fields, stone walls, architectural qualities of structures on site.	
b. Preservation would contribute to land use diversity in the area or neighborhood in which it is located (e.g. where land use change has begun to homogenize character that was formerly diverse)	
c. Site is located on or visible from narrow winding town road(s), whether public or private ways or is traversed by or runs alongside dirt roads, cart paths, ancient ways	
d. Preservation would contribute to maintaining the rural open space attributes of "outlying" Stow	
e. Preservation would contribute to retaining natural breaks between the towns' more densely developed core and rural elements along the edge.	
f. Preservation would or could contribute to the town's supply of civic open space areas in or near existing village center.	
5. Public Open Space	
a. Site is identified in OSRP as a priority	
b. Site is in an area underserved by conservation land	
c. Site will improve passive recreation opportunities	
d. Contiguous or near existing protected land	
e. Contributes to linkage with existing trails, paths, ancient ways, railroad beds, horse trails, etc.	
f. Acquisition would foster consistency with town and state open space planning documents.	
6 Natural and Ecological Resources	
a. Site contains water bodies (streams, ponds) and/or vegetated wetlands	
b. Site contains unique geologic features	
c. Site has potential for ecological restoration	
d. Site is of known wildlife corridor significance	
e. Diversity of vegetation	
f. Contains uncommon flora and fauna	
g. Site is mapped as BioMap Habitat of Statewide or Local Significance	
h. Site is mapped as important for climate resilience	
7. Municipal uses	
a. Location near town center, existing services	
b. Development suitability	
c. Access to/from major road	
d. Site has capacity for one or more identified recreation facilities (ballfields, ice rink, gym, pool, tennis courts, etc)	

e. Site contains existing facilities that respond to an active recreation need	
f. Site is in an area of town underserved by parks and recreation facilities	
g. Site has few or no development constraints and is near services, making affordable housing/elderly housing development feasible and appropriate	
8 Liabilities	
a. Hazardous waste contamination is known or likely based on land use history and practices	
b. Other dumping has occurred on the site	
c. There are encroachments from neighboring properties which need to be addressed	
d. Good title cannot be obtained/insured without difficulty	
e. There are other issues on the site which could expose the town to potential liability	
9 Development Potential/Impacts to the community if not protected	
10. Funding	
a. Potential for obtaining funding for this property is high	
b. The land is a good value with respect to current market prices	

Appendix D – Freedom's Way Landscape Inventory
Stow Reconnaissance Report: List of Areas Identified by the Town of Stow

APPENDIX: HERITAGE LANDSCAPES IDENTIFIED BY COMMUNITY

This list was generated by local participants at the Heritage Landscape Identification Meeting held in Stow on April 12, 2006 and the follow-up fieldwork on May 11, 2006. **There are undoubtedly other heritage landscapes that were not identified at the HLI meeting noted above and there are both inaccuracies in this information and changes to the list that have occurred since this time. Minor changes have been made to the list to correct factual inaccuracies.** The chart has two columns, the names and locations of resources are in the first; notes about resources are in the second.

Landscapes are grouped by land use category. Abbreviations used are listed below.

APR = Agricultural Preservation Restriction

CR = Conservation Restriction

LHD = Local Historic District

NR = National Register

PR = Preservation Restriction

* = Priority Landscape

+ = Part of a Priority Landscape

Agriculture

Apple Barn

Great Rd.

Stone building at the Center School used for storing apples on the Peter Larsen property before land was acquired for the school.

Applefield Farm

727 Great Rd. - Vegetable and flowers. Farm stand selling local products.

Carver Hill Orchard

Brookside Ave. Lord family farm since the 1850s. Orchard and vegetable farm with cider mill, farm store, hiking trails.

Derby Orchard

438 Great Rd.- Orchard and farm stand with 23 varieties of apples, cider and peaches.

Honey Pot Hill

144 Sudbury Rd. - Apple orchard as well as pears and blueberries. Farm store selling products (apples, cider, etc.) and pick-your-own fruit. Sunflower display in summer is of note. Whitman House built in 1810.

One Stack Farm

441 Great Rd.- Apple orchard with 12 varieties of apples, some peaches, cider made on-site.

Packard Farm

90 Packard Rd.- The Packard House at 90 Packard Rd. sits on this 47-acre site. More than 100 years ago apple orchards lined Packard Rd. on both sides. Now houses line the road. This farm is under 61A.

Orchard Hill Farm

Rockbottom Rd. In Gleasondale. Was a mill farm that produced food for mill workers. Located on drumlin above Assabet River.

Pilot Grove Farm

76 Crescent St. - Outskirts of Lower Village. The Federal farmhouse was constructed in 1808 (barn demolished). Today it is a sheep farm.

Red Acre Farm

254 Red Acre Rd. - Northern edge of Lower Village. The farmhouse was built after 1856 and became the summer house of Harriet Bird in 1902. Later she turned it into a haven for overworked and abused horses. More recently a medical research facility and hearing dog center were part of the operation.

Shelburne Farm

106 West Acton Rd. - Was known as the Old Elm Farm with house Federal/Greek Revival house built in ca. 1800. Apple orchards since the early 1900s. There is a conservation restriction on 48.3 acres of this orchard. Farm animals, hay rides, picnic areas, and The Apple Shop.

Small Farm

184 Gleasondale Rd. - On Route 62, farm stand and pick-your-own flowers, herbs and vegetables.

Nurseries

Two nurseries, Stow Branch Nursery and Village Nursery, serve the town.

Archaeological

Conant's Sawmill Site

Archaeological site in Town Forest. The foundation of a sawmill that operated from the mid 1660s to 1830.

Native American Sites

Various locations - 26 ancient sites have been documented in Stow.

Burial Grounds and Cemeteries

Brookside Cemetery

Gleasondale Rd. - Established in 1864 at the intersection of Gleasondale and Box Mill Roads. 5.7 acres.

Hillside Cemetery

Crescent St.- Established in 1812. Small burial ground of about 1.5 acres.

Lower Village Cemetery +Pompositticut Rd.- Oldest cemetery. Laid out in 1683. 3.5 acres.

Small Pox Cemetery

Lakewood & Wildwood Rds. - Graves of those who died in the 1840'sfrom small pox.

Civic

Gleasondale *

Stow's industrial village with Gleason houses, workers houses, boarding house, mill farm (now a horse farm), mill and dam. First mill and dam built prior to 1750. In 1813 the Rock Bottom Cotton and Woolen Mill established at Randall's Mill, hence the industrial village first known as Rock Bottom. Name change in 1898 to honor mid 19th century mill owners Benjamin Gleason and Samuel Dale.

Lower Village *

Great Road - The original town center laid out in the 1680s on Great Road (now Route 117) at Red Acre, White Pond, Samuel Prescott and Pompositticut Roads. Now the commercial center. Historic houses such as Hosmer's Folly and the Minister's Manse. The first meeting house was established here.

Upper Village

Also known as Stow Center or Town Center. Became the town center with Upper Common when the meetinghouse was relocated here in order to be more centrally located within Stow's borders. Site of the fourth First Parish Church in 1827 which burned and was replaced with current First Parish Church (1848). Also site of Town Hall (1848).

Industrial

Blacksmith Shop*

Shelburne Farm. - Located on the former Peter Larsen property, the building was moved from Maynard in 1914 and became a blacksmith shop there. Larsen kept it open into the 1950s thus it is the last blacksmith shop that was operated in Stow. Relocated to Shelburne Farm as part of the Center School expansion.

Box Mill Dam & Pond

At Carver Hill. Dam dates to 1850.

Gleasondale Mill & Dam +

In industrial village of Gleasondale. The Greek Revival mill was constructed in 1854 and the dam and canal in 1883.

Lake Boon Dam +

Built for the Assabet Mill in Maynard about 1850. Height increased in 1870's.

Institutional / Military

Center School

403 Great Rd. - Built in 1954 on property of Peter Larsen. The Colonial Revival style school serves as an elementary school.

Churches

First Parish (1848), the former Gleasondale Methodist-Episcopal Church (1898, 4 Marlboro Road), St. Isidore's Catholic Church (1961, 429 Great Rd.), Union Church (1905, 317 Great Road).

Fort Devens Annex

Sudbury, State & White Pond Rds.

The Annex was taken in 1942 from lands in Stow, Sudbury and Maynard. Much of the 2300 acres is in Stow. It was in active military use from World War II until 1995. Now operated by U.S. Fish and Wildlife as the Assabet River National Wildlife Refuge. Many historic farms were on the property taken, some of which still stand. Also, archeological sites.

Hale School

55 Hartley Rd. - 16.6 acres. Built in 1964. Expanded in late 1990's.

John Kettell Monument

Off Maple Street. One of two earliest recorded settlers.

Matthew Boone Monument

Off Barton Rd. Boon, one of the two earliest recorded settlers, who was killed by Indians in 1676 during King Philip's War.

Pompositticut School

511 Great Rd.- A modern school building housing Grades K-2. Built in 1968. Now serves as the Fire Station/Community Center.

Randall Library

19 Crescent St. - Built in 1892 in the Richardsonian Romanesque style. It was a gift from the estate of John Witt Randall by his sister, Belinda Randall. Historical Room donated in 1926 by Whitney family. There is a 1975 addition.

Stow Town Hall

Great Rd. & Crescent St. At Stow Center near the Upper Common. Greek Revival building constructed in 1848 with addition in 1895. Now used for meeting space and several town offices. The new town building (1989) is across Great Road from this town hall.

West School

Harvard Rd. - Built in 1825 on the foundation of a ca. 1739 school which was the first at this location. The brick one-room school house now is the Stow West School Museum, administered by the Stow Historical Society.

Miscellaneous

Cairn

74 West Acton Rd.- At Shelburne Farm. According to the Historical Commission this stone cairn dates to 1640.

Stone Walls

Along roads and in woods and fields.

Natural

Herons' Nests

Part of the Delaney Project.

Open Space /Parks

Assabet Wildlife Refuge

See Ft. Devens Annex. (Known locally as the “ammunition dump.") Refuge established in 1999.

Butternut Country Club

115 Wheeler Rd. - Public golf course operated by three generations of the Page family. It was built on an old farm that grew butternut squash.

Flagg Hill Conservation Area

West Acton Rd. - 286 acres in Stow and Boxborough protected through purchase by the two towns in 1998. Has trails, vernal pools, critical habitat and wildlife.

Lions Club Field

Great Rd. at Hudson Rd.

Lower Village Common +

First town center when laid out in 1680s.

Marble Hill Conservation Area

Taylor Rd. - Town owned property of 249 acres adjacent to the Pompositticut School with parking there or on Taylor Road (north end of property). Trails. Native American archeological sites have been identified.

Pine Bluffs Recreation Area +

Sudbury Road - Town-owned 35 acres on eastern shore of Lake Boon with town beach and recreation area established in 1971 from the Parker farm and cottage rental properties. Trails

Pilot Grove Hill

Public and private ownership of land on hill. Landmark reputed to have been used historically for sighting by ships coming into Boston Harbor.

Stowaway Golf Course

White Pond Rd. - 9-hole public golf course since 1960's. Formerly Assabet Country Club in the 1920's.

Stow Acres Country Club

58 Randall Rd. - Golf course (with two 18-hole courses) and historic Randall House built by John Randall, prominent Boston physician made his home in Boston and maintained the property with ca. 1800 Georgian style country retreat. It passed through generations of Randalls to Belinda Randall, sister of John Witt Randall who died intestate. Belinda gave money to many local causes in her family’s name. Circa 1920, the Randall property was purchased by Charles M. Cox, a wealthy grain merchant from Boston, who established a golf course here open to African Americans, who were unable to play elsewhere due to segregation practices. First known as Mapledale, this course hosted the first national black men's championship in 1926. Expanded to 36-holes in 1954 by Page brothers of Waltham. The clubhouse (the old Randall house) has been extensively renovated.

Town Forest

Bradley Ln. - Also known as Gardner Hill Land (324acres) purchased by the town in 1968. Near Lower Village. Was part of the C.D. Fletcher estate. Elizabeth Brook forms the northern edge. The foundation of Conant’s Mill, a sawmill, is within the Town Forest as is Little Bog Trail.

Wedgewood Pines Country Club

215 Harvard Rd.- Private country club with golf course, swimming pool, large clubhouse. 154 acres. Opened in 1996.

Residential

Boaz Brown House

172 Harvard Rd.

NR First Period Thematic Nomination. One of the oldest houses in Stow, built before 1699. Brown farmed this property and ran a tavern for some time. By the mid 18 th century it was part of a 143-acre farm. In 1764 the farm was sold to Stephen Stow.

Cottage Neighborhood +

Cottage neighborhoods around Lake Boon built from 1880's to 1930's are now being stressed by development and mansionization. See Lake Boon Priority Landscape.

Hapgood House

76 Treaty Elm Ln. - NR First Period Thematic nomination. The house was constructed of ca. 1726 for Hezekiah Hapgood.

Hosmer's Folly +

4 Red Acre Rd. - The Rufus Hosmer House was built in Lower Village in ca. 1789 in the Federal style. See Lower Village Priority Landscape

Lake Boon Neighborhood *

Located in southeast corner of Stow, Lake Boon was originally a small pond. Amory Maynard of the Assabet Mill in what was to become Maynard purchased rights in mid century to make a larger pond, which was done by building a dam at Bailey's Brook. This was later raised and the mill pond expanded. After the use of waterpower was discontinued, by 1900, the lake became a summer resort area. Transportation was provided by two train lines, a trolley and a steam boat from Maynard.

Minister's Manse +

9 Red Acre Rd. - A house was constructed for the first minister in 1686. This house, usually identified as the Minister's Manse is possibly somewhat later. See Lower Village Priority Landscape.

Randall-Hale House +

6 Sudbury Rd. - NR. This ca. 1710 house was built by Abraham Randall in Gleasondale. It displays First Period construction with Georgian detail. A large New England barn is on the opposite side of Sudbury Road at the intersection with Gleasondale Road.

Whitney Homestead

485 Great Rd. - Built in ca. 1843 in the Greek Revival style it shows signs of Victorian updating. It has served as a nursing home as well as a single family residence.

Whitney House

27 Whitney Rd. - Part of Whitney Homestead land. Built ca. 1760.

Walcott-Whitney House

137 Tuttle Lane.- NR First Period Thematic nomination. First Period construction with Georgian details built in ca. 1725.

Transportation

Assabet River Rail Trail

Planned trail along the Marlborough Branch Railroad line that was in operation from 1850 to 1980.

Maple Street

In the western part of town from Bolton northeast to Old Bolton Road. Scenic qualities.

Minuteman AirField

302 Boxboro Rd. - Airport established in 1963 with its first building housing the locally known restaurant constructed in 1968. Airport was opened to the public in 1969.

Red Acre Road +

Extends from Great Road at Lower Village north to Acton. Scenic qualities. Built in 1802.

Track Road

A road on private property that is part of the old railroad bed of the Marlborough Branch Railroad. Recreational easement negotiated and signed with Town of Stow and property owner of Track Road and Crowe Island for planned Assabet River Rail Trail.

Trolley Waiting Station

Great Rd. - Stone structure built in 1901 on the Concord, Maynard and Hudson Electric Railway route.

Tuttle Lane

Picturesque country road branching northwest off of Red Acre Road.

Walcott Street

In the southwest corner of Stow running from Hudson north to Hudson Road.

Whitman Street

Rural north-south road between Gleasondale Road on the north and Boon/Sudbury Road

on the south.

Waterbodies

Assabet River *

Flows through the southeastern part of Stow from Hudson to Maynard. View of Assabet from Sudbury Road Bridge. The Assabet River originates in Westborough and flows north and then northeast for 32 miles to its confluence with the Concord River. Crowe Island is a land form that juts into the Assabet, most is privately owned. It is reached by Track Rd. Assabet River once was known as Elizabeth River, the English version of the Nipmuc name for the river. The name, Assabet, also a version of this name became the name in ca. 1850 and means in Algonquin “the place where materials for making fishnets grow.” The current flow is largely processed sewage.

Delaney Project

Includes the herons’ nests. The Delaney Multiple Purpose Complex of the SuAsCo Watershed Project was established in 1968 by the U.S. Soil Conservation Service to control flooding from Elizabeth Brook, through the purchase of rights to store 4,000 acre-

feet of water along the brook above Delaney Pond in northwest Stow, Bolton and Harvard. The 22-foot Campbell dam was constructed as a flood control project to hold back the waters feeding the Elizabeth brook which are reported to be able to make a 12 inch difference in the Assabet River water level in Maynard during a 100-year storm.

Elizabeth Brook

Tributary of the Assabet River entering the river from the north. At one time this brook was known as Assabet Brook. At the same time the Assabet River was known as the Elizabeth River which is the English version of the Nipmuc name for the river.

Fletcher's Pond

Fed by Elizabeth Brook. A former mill pond.

Heath Hen Meadow Brook

Heath Hen Meadow Brook runs from Boxborough to Ft. Pond Brook in Acton. The brook flows through Heath Hen Meadow Brook Conservation Area, purchased by the town in 1997 and other conserved land.

Lake Boon

A Great Pond that straddles Hudson-Stow line. Once a millpond for the mills in Maynard, it is also referred to as Boon's Pond. Primary land use around perimeter is now residential with many former summer cottages. Lake has three sections connected by the Narrows and connected to the Assabet River by Bailey's Brook. Named after Matthew Boon who explored area in 1660s and was killed in King Philip's War in 1676.

Minister's Pond

North of Great Road at Stow Center. Flows south to Elizabeth Brook by manmade drainage stream built by an enterprising minister. The change created additional pasture land.

Sandy Brook

Tributary of the Assabet River.

APPENDIX E

Executive Order 193 and Agricultural Land Mitigation Policy

General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Mass. Executive Order #193
By His Excellency EDWARD J. KING
Governor
PRESERVATION OF STATE OWNED AGRICULTURAL LAND

Preamble

Agricultural land In Massachusetts is a finite natural resource that is threatened by competing land use pressure.

The natural resource qualities associated with agricultural land make state owned agricultural land an irreplaceable economic and environmental asset when utilized for food production. This land is part of the "common wealth" of Massachusetts citizens, and the wise use and conservation of state-owned agricultural land is of broad public value. As the loss of private agricultural land in the Commonwealth continues, the state-owned land will play an increasingly important role for the state's remaining farmers and young people who wish to enter farming. As the state-owned agricultural land decline in productivity and efficient utilization, so does the maximum return of benefit to the citizens, of the Commonwealth.

Furthermore, the loss of agricultural land has had a detrimental affect upon environment quality. Agricultural land reduces flooding by effectively absorbing precipitation, while replenishing critical ground water supplies. The open characteristic and natural vegetation of agricultural land helps purify the air; enhances wildlife habitat; provides for recreation; and maintains the landscape's aesthetic and historic quality. Therefore, it is essential to ensure that the Commonwealth's agricultural land remains available for present and future generations.

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth seeks to preserve the productive agricultural land base on which the Massachusetts agricultural industry and the people of the Commonwealth depend; and

WHEREAS, state acquisition programs administered by the Department of Environmental Affairs, pursuant to G.L.c. 132 A, secs 11A-11E and G.L.c. 184 secs 31-33, promote the preservation of private agricultural land; and

WHEREAS, it is the policy of the Executive Department of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to protect, through the administration of current programs and laws, the Commonwealth's agricultural land base from irreversible conversion to uses which result in its loss as an essential food production and environmental resource;

NOW THEREFORE, I, Edward J. King, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the Commonwealth, do hereby order and direct all relevant state agencies to seek to mitigate against the conversion of state-owned agricultural land and adopt the policies herewith:

1. State funds and federal grants administered by the state shall not be used to encourage the conversion of agricultural land to other uses when feasible alternatives are available.

2. State Agency actions shall encourage the protection of state-owned agricultural land by mitigating against the conversion of state-owned land to non-agricultural uses, and by promoting soil and water conservation practices.

3. The Secretary of Environmental Affairs shall identify state-owned land suitable for agricultural use according to the following criteria:

a. the presence of soil types capable of supporting or contributing to present or potential commercial agriculture

b. current and historic use for agriculture, and

c. absence of non-farm development.

4. State Agencies controlling state-owned land suitable for agricultural use shall coordinate agricultural land management policv with the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs. In managing said land, State Agencies shall be encouraged to allow for use on a multiple year basis for forage and food crops.

5. Surplus state-owned land, identified as suitable for agriculture by the Secretary of Environmental Affairs, shall remain available for agriculture when compatible with state agency objectives.

6. For purposes of this Executive Order, "agricultural land" shall be defined as land classified Prime, Unique, or of State and Local Importance by the USDA Soil Conservation Service, as well as land characterized by active agricultural use.

7. For the purposes of this Executive Order, "state-owned land" shall be defined as:

a. all land under the custody or control of a state agency,

b. all lands purchased in whole or in part with state funds or federal funds administered by the state.

Given at the Executive Chamber in Boston this 19th day of March in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and eighty one and of the Independence of the United States of American two-hundred and five.

Edward J. King Governor, Commonwealth of Massachusetts

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS
DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
LANCASTER FIELD OFFICE
142 OLD COMMON ROAD, LANCASTER, MA 01523 (508) 792-7711 FAX: (978) 365-2131

JANE SWIFT
Governor

BOB DURAND
Secretary

JONATHAN L. HEALY
Commissioner

AGRICULTURAL LAND MITIGATION POLICY

I. INTRODUCTION & STATEMENT OF POLICY

Article 97 of the Massachusetts Constitution guarantees the right of residents of the Commonwealth to the conservation, development and utilization of agricultural land. Protection of this right is declared to be a public purpose by Article 97. Pursuant to this mandate, therefore, it is the mission of the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs ("EOEA") and the Department of Food and Agriculture (the "Department"), as restated herein, to protect, preserve and enhance agricultural land, and its capacity to benefit and sustain the citizens of the Commonwealth, as a finite natural resource.

This mission has been accomplished, and shall continue to be accomplished, in part, by discouraging the conversion of viable units of agricultural land to non-agricultural uses. Further, by way of its Mitigation Policy, the Department requires that one acre of agricultural land of comparable or greater agricultural viability be permanently protected for future agricultural use, for every acre of agricultural land so converted, in the manner described herein or by use of an alternative mitigative tool described below.

II. POLICY BACKGROUND & IMPLEMENTATION

Agricultural land has become a ready target for non-agricultural development as a result of its adaptability and physical characteristics. Such development is subject to review and certification under the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act ("MEPA"). In addition, EOEA has designated agricultural land as a critical natural resource. As with other critical natural resources in the Commonwealth (e.g. wetlands, floodplains), a concerted effort has been and shall continue to be made by the Commonwealth to avoid the loss of agricultural land as a result of non-agricultural development. Where avoidance is not possible, Department policy requires mitigation for the loss of agricultural land in the manner described in Section III.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts for many years has actively promoted the preservation of agricultural land. Through the Agricultural Preservation Restriction ("APR") Program the Commonwealth invests significant funds, on a regular basis, to protect critical farmland resources by purchasing rights in agricultural land.

In addition, Executive Order 193 complements the APR Program as a protective tool through which state agencies are directed to avoid and to mitigate against the conversion of state-owned agricultural lands. In this regard, the Order states the policy that: "State Agency actions shall encourage the protection of state-owned agricultural land by mitigating against the conversion of state-owned land to non-agricultural uses…". The Order further provides, as a separate policy not restricted to state-owned agricultural land, that: "State funds and federal grants administered by the state shall not be used to encourage the conversion of agricultural land to other uses when feasible alternatives are available."

III. MITIGATION OPTIONS

Compensation for the loss of agricultural land resulting from conversion to non-agricultural uses may be accomplished in one or a combination of the following ways, upon consultation with the Department and approval by the Commissioner. A Financial Contribution shall be utilized only in circumstances when On-site and Off-site mitigation are not feasible. The following order of preference shall be followed:

"On-site Mitigation": The permanent protection, through the granting of an APR to the Commonwealth, on any contiguous agricultural land of equal or greater size, soil quality and agricultural viability to the agricultural land being lost to conversion, as determined by the Department and approved by the Commissioner.

"Off-site Mitigation": The permanent protection, through the granting of an APR to the Commonwealth, on a parcel of agricultural land of equal or greater size, soil quality and agricultural viability to the agricultural land being lost to conversion, as determined by the Department and approved by the Commissioner. Where feasible, the permanently protected piece of land shall be located either in the community within which the agricultural land being converted is located or within a contiguous city or town.

"Financial Contribution": For each acre of agricultural land being converted, a contribution of $10,000.00 per acre shall be made to the Commonwealth's APR Program, or to a qualified nonprofit farmland preservation organization or municipal farmland preservation program for the purpose of assisting the Commonwealth in permanently protecting agricultural land of equal or greater size and agricultural viability to the agricultural land being lost to conversion, as determined by the Department and approved by the Commissioner.

DEFINTIONS

"Agricultural Land": Land comprised of soils which are classified as Prime, Unique, or of State and Local Importance by the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, including land currently in active agricultural use, or suitable for active agricultural use, or land which has been in agricultural use within the 15 year time period prior to conversion.

"Agriculture": Agriculture as defined within the Massachusetts General Laws.

"Viable Unit": A parcel of agricultural land that is 5 acres or larger in size, or if fewer than 5 acres, a parcel that significantly contributes to the agricultural character of the community.

For additional information, kindly contact the Massachusetts Department of Food & Agriculture, 142 Old Common Road, Lancaster, MA 01523 (508) 792-7712.

Dated: November 30, 2001

Jonathan L. Healy, Commissioner

Appendix F

Comments on Draft Open Space and Recreation Plan

Town of Stow
Select Board
380 Great Road
Stow, MA 01775
Tel: 978-897-4515
selectboard@stow-ma.gov

July 11, 2023

Kathy Sferra
Conservation Director
Stow Conservation Department
380 Great Road
Stow, MA 01775

Dear Kathy,

Thank you for providing a copy of the 2023 Open Space and Recreation Plan to the Board for review and comment. We have reviewed the Plan and the Select Board voted on July 11, 2023, to send this letter of support.

The plan contains a wealth of information about Stow's natural environment and provides well thought out recommendations for maintaining and enhancing Stow's conservation and recreation space. The recommendation in the Plan will continue to build upon our tradition of conserving and protecting important scenic, natural, and agricultural properties. It will also serve as a great resource for Town boards and departments and will help inform the next update of Stow's Comprehensive (Master) Plan.

We applaud the efforts of those in the Open Space and Recreation Plan Working Group. It is evident how much thought and work has gone into this update. In addition to our overwhelming support of the Plan, please let the Board know how we may assist in the implementation of the recommendations identified.

On behalf of the
STOW SELECT BOARD,

Cortni Frecha, Chair

MAPC
METROPOLITAN AREA PLANNING COUNCIL

SMART GROWTH AND REGIONAL COLLABORATION

August 7, 2023

Melissa Cryan
Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs
100 Cambridge St. – Suite 900
Boston, MA 02114

Dear Ms. Cryan:

The Town of Stow's 2023 "Open Space and Recreation Plan" was recently submitted to the Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC) for review.

The Division of Conservation Services (DCS) requires that all open space plans be reviewed by the applicable regional planning agency. This review is advisory and only DCS has the power to approve a municipal open space plan. While your office reviews open space plans for compliance with your guidelines, MAPC reviews these plans for their attention to regional issues generally and more specifically for consistency with *MetroCommon 2050*, the regional policy plan for the Boston metropolitan area.

Consistency with MetroCommon 2050 – *MetroCommon 2050* is the official regional plan for Greater Boston, adopted in 2021 in accordance with the requirements of Massachusetts General Law. The plan includes a series of goals and detailed objectives that will be used to measure progress towards accomplishing these goals. We encourage all communities within the MAPC region to become familiar with the plan by visiting www.mapc.org/get-involved/metrofuture-our-regional-plan.

The Stow OSRP directly references consistency with *MetroCommon 2050,* and its role in focusing regional support for our local efforts. In particular, the plan highlights the Town's efforts to protect natural and agricultural landscapes, conserve natural resources, enhance trail networks, expand cycling and pedestrian opportunities, and promote accessibility to regional resources. Additionally, the Seven-Year Action Plan includes objectives specifically focused on addressing climate change impacts and action steps for increasing climate resiliency. In addition to the open space and recreational resource inventory maps, the plan includes a section on regional coordination and an assessment of key open space and recreational resources in surrounding communities.

MAPC
METROPOLITAN AREA PLANNING COUNCIL

SMART GROWTH AND REGIONAL COLLABORATION

Surrounding Communities – The OSRP explores Stow's open space needs and also considers the town's connections with neighboring communities. It highlights various regional resources for recreational activities and open space, such as the Delaney Wildlife Management Area, which covers 580 acres and straddles the towns of Bolton, Harvard, and Stow. Other resources include the Assabet River Rail Trail, the Assabet River National Wildlife Refuge (shared with the Town of Maynard), and the Flagg Hill Conservation Area, which is jointly managed by Stow and the Town of Boxborough. Additionally, the plan emphasizes the significance of regional watersheds and wildlife corridors.

The Stow Open Space and Recreation Plan is very comprehensive and should serve the Town well as it continues its efforts to preserve open space and provide for the recreational needs of its residents.

Thank you for the opportunity to review this plan.

Sincerely,

Mark Racicot
Land Use Planning Director

cc: Kathy Sferra, Conservation Director, Stow Conservation Commission

Planning Board
380 Great Road
Stow, MA 01775
Tel: 978-897-5098
Fax: 978-897-2321

Town of Stow
Planning Board

Memo

To: Kathy Sferra – Conservation Director
From: Planning Board
CC: Open Space Committee and Working Group
Date: July 12, 2023
Re: Open Space and Recreation Plan | Planning Board Recommendation & Comments

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On July 11, 2023 the Planning Board voted 5-0 unanimously in favor of recommending approval of the 2023 Update to the Open Space and Recreation Plan. The Planning Board offers several considerations for review prior to finalization.

1. Page 6- Progress Made Since 2016 Update: A note could be added to this list to indicate the Town's successful completion of the MVP Community Resilience Building Workshop and Report in 2018.
2. Page 8- 2022 Open Space and Recreation Survey: Consider noting areas with low usage, as it may be useful if trying to promote them for future upgrades or if they should be a priority area in the plan.
3. Page 11- Regional Context: Suggestion to add reference in the fourth paragraph to note commercial properties along White Pond Road.
4. Page 29- Infrastructure- Transportation Systems: Suggestion to add reference to the GO Stow Microtransit program. The Town of Stow offers free and subsidized transportation to eligible residents through the GO Stow program, including a taxi service and the Stow Council on Aging's van service. The Planning Department is looking to further enhance microtransit services in future years.
5. Page 31- Discussion of build-out studies: This section appears to emphasize growth impacts related to schoolchildren, and this is something the Planning Board hears from residents when concerned with new development and growth. The Board suggests this impact is balanced with other demographic changes seen, such as the increase of the share of the population of aging adults. Does the increase in the school age or older adult population call for more recreation opportunities? Would additional school services or COA services need to be built on conservation land?
6. Page 79-81 (Table 5-8) Are the conditions of these facilities needed? If not in good condition, this could help highlight areas that need capital improvements.

7. Given the discussions within the plan regarding rural character and the benefits of tree canopies, the Planning Board suggests adding a recommendation to consider adoption of a Tree Protection Bylaw.
8. In alignment with Goal A, the Committee may consider including a recommendation of undertaking a study to better understand and prioritize the implementation of nature-based solutions town-wide. The MVP project 'Apple Country Natural Climate Solutions Project" provided the communities of Harvard, Bolton, and Devens each with around a dozen priority projects to undertake. While a number of these projects were located on Town-owned Open Space, others referenced unprotected private property, thereby allowing those communities to incorporate requests for implementation of nature based solutions at the time of future development or change in use.
9. Within the discussion of the highest priority community needs in Section 7B, the plan could note the planning process around MAPC's Landline Project, which is anticipated to provide signage for a regional bicycle route titled the Nashoba Regional Greenway. In Stow, this route is intended to pass through the northern portion of Stow. This could be incorporated into Action B3.
10. Regarding the discussion 7C Highest Priority Management Needs, item 1, a future study on the net benefit to the Town could include the following questions to understand the impact of recent acquisitions: Has the Town seen positive impacts on water quality? Raised property values from being located next to conservation areas? Decreased wear and tear on roadways due to a decrease in vehicle traffic because of trail connections?
11. Within the discussion of action items on page 117 related to Action B6, suggestion to add an additional walking/bicycle connection between Track Road/ Assabet River National Wildlife Refuge to the Lower Village Business District to the Red Acre Woodlands.
12. Page 117- Action B.2: Clarify whether this goal relates more to the conversion of existing open space to include all-persons accessibility or if an additional action item is needed to create new open space to meet this goal. Consider prioritizing placement of near existing or proposed Active Adult Neighborhoods or utilizing trails to create needed links to local destinations.
13. Page 118- Action B.8: This item could be expanded upon to include any background study needed to understand Stow's recreational facility needs with population and demographic changes. A study could consider residents' reported recreational interests, as discussed on page 8, and balance that data with our understanding of Stow's future needs given large developments under permitting.
14. Consideration of the inclusion of an additional map that contains overlays of all priority parcels. It may be particularly powerful to convey the message of conservation value to review a map that shows, for example, that one parcel could meet 8/10 conservation priorities. It may be undesirable to highlight specific parcels, however a map that shows generalized areas could make this clearer.

15. Scrivener Comments
    - Page 17-18 (between pages) Delete additional "settlers."
    - Page 18 (first full paragraph) "laid claim to lands within its bounds"
    - Page 20 (first sentence) No sidebar provided
    - Page 20 (last full paragraph) Note that Juniper Hill subdivision is off Gleasondale Road
    - Page 21 (6th line) remove extra 't' to read "though it was tucked away"
    - Page 23 (Population Characteristics) Could be confusing that Stow's 2020 population differs between the 2020 Census and ACS 5-year estimates
    - Page 25 Consider insertion of language to read "The Planning Board is currently working to revitalize the Lower Village area in part through the recent adoption of mixed use zoning"
    - Page 25 (second line from bottom) Change "as" to "are" single family detached
    - Page 27 (second line from bottom) Change "five" to "three" larger developments
    - Page 29 (third line from top) Delete "By comparison"
    - Page 29 (Income Characteristics) Delete second "$" in front of "$167,832"
    - Page 30 (5th line from top) Change to "a feasibility study commenced in 2022"
    - Page 30 (2nd paragraph) Indicate this is referring to the 2010 Master Plan
    - Page 30 (2nd paragraph) The Water Resource Protection district is shown on Map 7
    - Page 31 (End of middle paragraph) Missing word- "...residents have continued to voice their strong support for these measures"
    - Page 32 (Map 3) Suggestion that Map 3 shows the current townwide Zoning as of the May 13, 2023 Town Meeting.
    - Page 34 (2nd paragraph) Change "on the right" to "on page 33"
    - Page 34 (3rd paragraph) Suggestion to add another identifier to "Kane property" so that it is more easily understood by residents, such as a map and parcel number.
    - Page 38 (2nd line from top) change "looking" to "look"
    - Page 40 (Map 6) Suggestion to clarify that the areas of sand and gravel are those that are more likely to meet the requirements of a high yield aquifer.
    - Page 41-42 (Maps 7 and 8) The water bodies layer appears changed between 2006 and 2022. Map 7 may warrant updating, if the Committee chooses. The differences are most notable in the northern half of Stow.
    - Page 54 Discussion of Orchard Hill- Suggestion to note that it is also visible from the School Lot in Gleasondale and Stow Acres' South Course.
    - Page 59 (3rd paragraph) Change "two—ear" to "two-year"
    - Page 64-69 (Table 5-1) Clarify the Area is listed in acres. Clarify the rating system related to Condition.
    - Page 74-75 (Table 5-5) Clarify whether the blank rows in the Area column are intended to be part of the row above.

- Page 82 (Map 15) Consider the addition of the School Lot
- Page 108 (Inset Map) Consider lengthening the highlighted area to include Gleasondale Village, as noted in the accompanying narrative. Alternatively, the box could be turned into a polygon that more precisely shows the underserved quadrant of Stow.
- Page 110 (Mass Central Rail Trail) Change reference to Wilkins Street in Gleasondale to Hudson. Consider stating that there is no entry point to the CRRT within Stow.
- Page 116 (Action A.5) Consider adding the Complete Streets Committee and the Planning Board as responsible parties.
- Page 118 (Action B.9) Consider changing the state to "Medium/Ongoing"
- Page 120 (Action D.6) Suggestion to change "MBTA affordable housing sites" to "MBTA multi-family housing district"

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs
100 Cambridge Street, Suite 900
Boston, MA 02114

Maura T. Healey
GOVERNOR

Kimberley Driscoll
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

Rebecca L. Tepper
SECRETARY

Tel: (617) 626-1000
Fax: (617) 626-1081
http://www.mass.gov/eea

July 7, 2023

Kathy Sferra, Conservation Director
Stow Conservation Commission
380 Great Road
Stow, MA 01775

Re: Open Space and Recreation Plan

Dear Ms. Sferra:

Thank you for submitting the draft Open Space and Recreation Plan for Stow to this office for review and compliance with the current Open Space and Recreation Plan Requirements. This plan has been conditionally approved through July 2030. Conditional approval will allow the town to participate in DCS grant rounds through July 2030, and a grant award may be offered to the town. However, no final grant payments will be made until the plan is completed.

Once the following items are addressed, your plan will receive final approval:

1. Water Resources – where in the town are wetlands and aquifer recharge areas located?
2. Fisheries and Wildlife – a general inventory should be added, along with information on where wildlife corridors can be found in town.
3. Section 5 – the table that lists town-owned conservation and recreation land should list specific types of grant (if any) received to acquire or develop the site in that column ("state/federal funds" is not sufficient) and in the current uses column, are those six items the only types of recreational amenities available on all conservation and recreation properties in the town? If not, this column should list specific amenities available at each site, such as trails, kayak launch, tennis courts, etc. DCS highly recommends against listing specific parcels of land that the town is interested in acquiring as it is a good way to put an owner on notice and drive up the asking price. Therefore, we highly recommend removing Maps 17-26 from the OSRP.
4. Analysis of Needs – the Community's Needs section should include recreation needs for teens.
5. Goals and Objectives – this section should include only the goals and objectives. What you have here is more like the Action Plan.

6. Action Plan – what is proposed here is quite ambitious. I want to caution against proposing so many actions for the town to undertake in this timeline. If you feel it's possible to complete them all, feel free to include them.
7. Letters of Review – letters from the regional planning agency, planning board, and chief municipal officer are needed.
8. Maps – the Water Resources map should include surface water, aquifer recharge areas, and watersheds. The Unique Features map should include unusual geologic features. On Map 14, is open space just town-owned conservation land or does it also include recreation land? If it includes recreation land as well, please denote the difference between the two. On Map 15, please rename the protected open space lands layer as it makes it sound like the recreation department's lands are not protected.
9. ADA – this section does not include all three required sections. More information on the ADA requirements can be found in the Open Space and Recreation Planner's Workbook Appendix G. Facility inventory forms from the Workbook must be included for all town-owned recreation and conservation properties.

Congratulations on undertaking such an important task! Please contact me at melissa.cryan@mass.gov if you have any questions or concerns, and I look forward to reviewing your final plan.

Sincerely,

Melissa Cryan

Melissa Cryan
Grant Programs Supervisor

Open Space and Recreation Plan Forum

June 29, 2023, 7 pm, Via Zoom

Notes from Public Comment Session

Tom Payne, Kingland Road

- Compliment the folks who worked on this plan.
- Liked the focus on the biking. Sudbury Road has become a "biking nightmare." Dangerous at best.
- Focus on biking and trail access was something appreciated. He is a biker but prefers trail biking.
- Getting bikes safety from Hudson Road to Boon Road to Sudbury Road to 117 is a priority
- Focus of plan seems to be in the right direction.
- Spends time with grandson at Pine Bluff and on the bike trails with his bike. Likes the Assabet trails. Grandson likes kayaking along the Assabet River.

Marcus

- How do we prioritize which projects the town will be taking on? Kathy explained that Section 8 shows what level of priority they are and who's responsible for doing them.
- Agrees with Tom's comment about the biking. Significant amount of biking in Stow. Noticed many, especially in groups. Safety issue – doesn't want to see anyone get hurt.

Vickery Trinkhaus-Randall, Wheeler Road

- Agrees with the focus on biking. Wondering if we are going to implement the new 4 foot rule?
- Are we going to be a part of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail? And where is it coming from in from Sudbury? What is larger rail trail network?
- SCT does Bike for the Woods. Can we expand this to other areas? It's been the same for the last 10-15 years, but the number of kids has diminished.

Laura's response – Any information, please send it along and the recreation department will try to send it to the kids. Laura also stated that if it's a community activity, the recreation department will promote where they can.

Appendix G

Species of Birds, Mammals, Reptiles, Amphibians, Fish and Insects Found in Stow, MA

BIRDS

Canada Goose
Mute Swan
Mallard
Bufflehead
Common Goldeneye
Wood Duck
American Black Duck
Northern Pintail
Ring-necked Duck
Common Merganser
Hooded Merganser
Mourning Dove
Ring-billed Gull
Wild Turkey
Rock Pigeon
Virginia Rail
Sora
Herring Gull
Great Blue Heron
Bald Eagle
Red-tailed Hawk
Cooper's Hawk
Sharp-shinned Hawk
Red-shouldered Hawk
Broad-Winged Hawk
Eastern Screech-Owl
Great Horned Owl
Barred Owl
Northern Saw-Whet Owl
Fish Crow
Belted Kingfisher
Red-bellied Woodpecker
Downy Woodpecker
Hairy Woodpecker
Pileated Woodpecker
Spotted Sandpiper
Solitary Sandpiper
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker
Brown Creeper
Merlin
Northern Shrike
American Crow
Common Raven
Black-capped Chickadee
Tufted Titmouse
White-breasted Nuthatch
Red-breasted Nuthatch
Carolina Wren
Winter Wren
Marsh Wren
House Wren
Golden-crowned Kinglet
Ruby-crowned Kinglet
Eastern Bluebird
American Robin
Northern Mockingbird
Cedar Waxwing
European Starling
American Goldfinch
House Finch
Common Redpoll
Song Sparrow
Barn Swallow
Tree Swallow
Swamp Sparrow
American Tree Sparrow
White-throated Sparrow
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker
Eastern Towhee
Northern Flicker
Blue Jay
Gray Catbird
Hermit Thrush
Wood Thrush
Swainson’s Thrush
Fox Sparrow (Red)
Dark-eyed Junco
Red-winged Blackbird
Rusty Blackbird
Northern Cardinal
House Sparrow
Chipping Sparrow
Purple Finch
Red Crossbill
Pine Siskin
Brown-headed Cowbird
Common Grackle

Ruby-Throated Hummingbird
Baltimore/Northern Oriole
Bobolink
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher
Great Crested Flycatcher
Rose-Breasted Grosbeak
Indigo Bunting
Scarlet Tanager
Common Nighthawk
Chimney Swift
Herring Gull
Warbling Vireo
Red-eyed Vireo
Yellow-throated Vireo
Blue-headed Vireo
Common Yellowthroat
Pine Warbler
Blackpoll Warbler
Yellow-rumped Warbler
Yellow Warbler
Black and white Warbler
Blackburnian Warbler
Parula Warbler
Palm Warbler
Black-Throated Blue Warbler
Black-Throated Green Warbler
Chestnut-sided Warbler
Magnolia Warbler
Cape May Warbler
Prairie Warbler
Blue-winged Warbler
Northern Water Thrush
Brown Creeper
Ovenbird
Eastern Wood Pewee
Killdeer
[Quail]
[Guinea fowl]
Purple Finch
Eastern Phoebe
Turkey Vulture
Ruffed Grouse
American Woodcock
Eastern Wood-Pewee
Eastern Kingbird
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher
Veery
Eastern Towhee
American Redstart
Osprey

MAMMALS

American Black Bear
North American River Otter
Eastern Grey Squirrel
American Red Squirrel
Eastern Chipmunk
Fisher
Eastern Coyote
Red Fox
Grey Fox
Bobcat
Virginia Opossum
Raccoon
Eastern Striped Skunk
White-tailed Deer
Muskrat
American Mink
Short-Tailed Weasel
Long-Tailed Weasel
Groundhog
American Beaver
Northern Short-Tailed Shrew
Eastern Cottontail
Eastern Meadow Vole
North American Deer Mice
White-footed Mouse
Southern flying squirrel
Star-nosed Mole
Big Brown Bat
Small Brown Bat

REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS

Painted Turtle
Common Snapping Turtle
Spotted Turtle
Pond Slider
Eastern Box Turtle
American Bullfrog
Wood Frog
Pickerel Frog
Green Frog
Grey Treefrog
Spring Peeper
Northern Water Snake
Eastern Milk Snake
Eastern Garter Snake
Ring-necked snake
Red-bellied snake
American Toad

Spotted Salamander
Eastern Newt
Eastern Red-Backed Salamander

INSECTS
Asian Beauty
Pandorus Sphinx
Lupine Bug
Locust Borer
Chinese Mantis
European Mantis
Berkeley's Polypore
Larger Empty Oak Apple Wasp
Thread-Waisted Sand Wasps
Mottled Tortoise Beetle
American Dog Tick
Eastern Black-Legged Tick
Ebony Jewelwing
Monarch
Spring Field Cricket
Powdered Dancer
Lancet Clubtail
Carpenter Ant
Carpenter Bee
Honey Bee
Bald-Faced Hornet
Fireflies
Great Spangled Fritillary
Red Admiral
Eastern Tiger Swallowtail
Black Swallowtail
Canadian Tiger Swallowtail
Mourning Cloak
Spicebush Swallowtail
Red Spotted Purple
Grey Hairstreak
Peck's Skipper
Silver-spotted Skipper
American Snout
Milbert's Tortoiseshell
Compton's Tortoiseshell
Milkweed Tussock Moth
Spring Azure
Harvester
Pearl Crescent
Prominent Pink
Common Wood-Nymph
Painted Lady
Hummingbird moth (Clearwing)
Red Admiral
Cicada
Blinded Sphinx
Brown Angleshades
Viceroy
Zabulon Skipper
Spicebush Swallowtail
White Spring Moth
Common Looper Moth
White-spotted Sawyer
Appalation Brown
Western Conifer Seed Bug
Brown Marmorated Stink Bug
Emerald Moth
Giant Leopard Moth

FISH
Chain Pickerel
Bluegill
Eel
Crayfish
Pumpkinseed
Largemouth Bass
Common Carp
Black Crappie
Brown Bullhead
Blacknose Dace
Yellow Perch
White Perch
Catfish