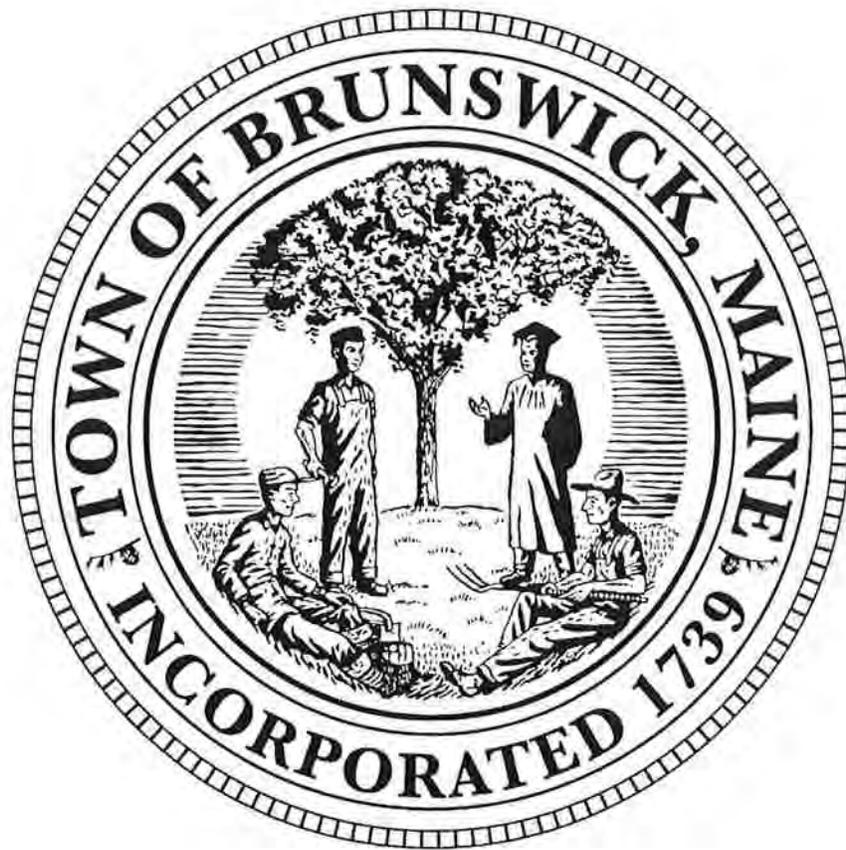


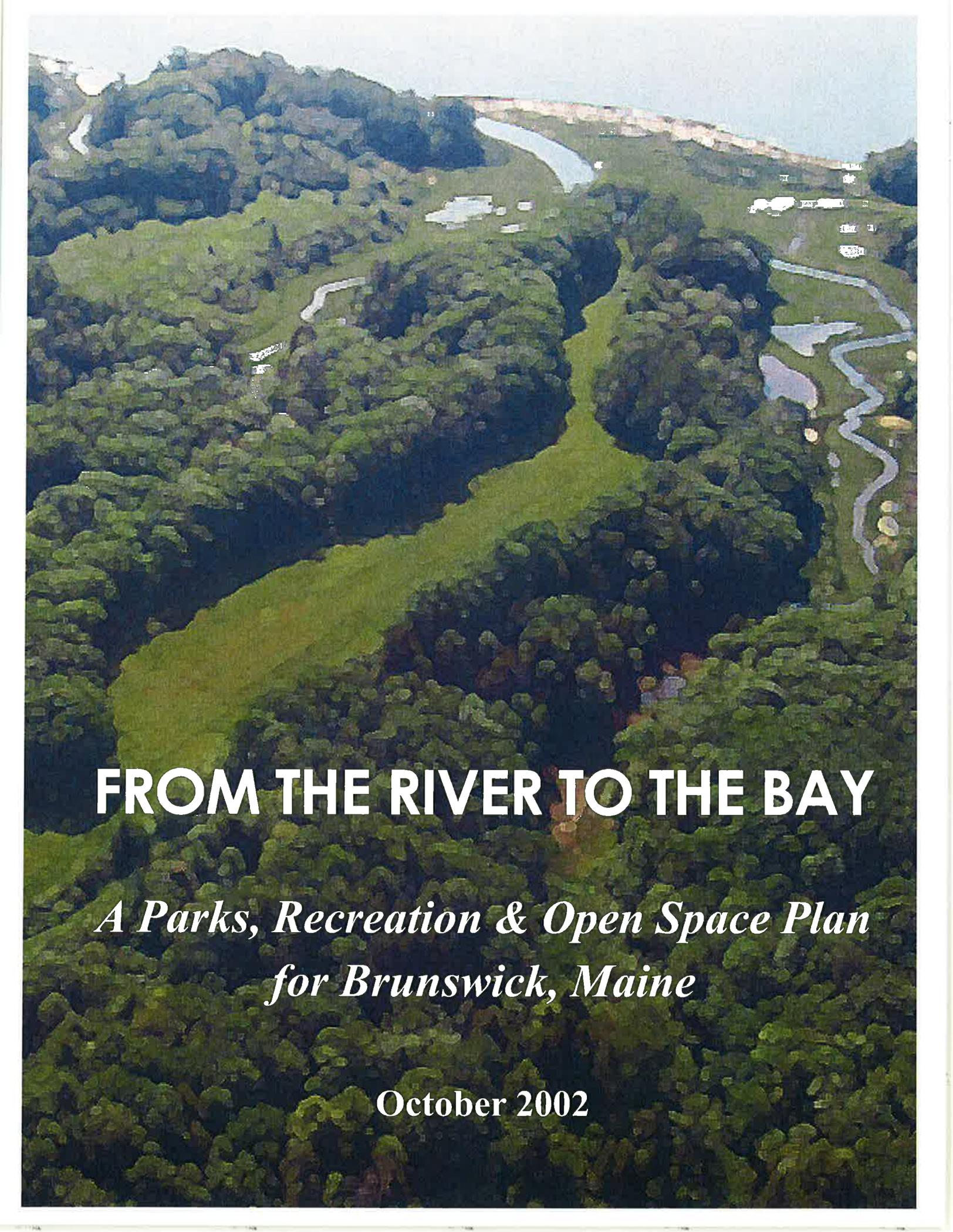
Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan 2002



Documents

1. Brunswick Parks and Recreation Open Space Plan
2. Action Chart
3. Population
4. Survey
5. Parks report
6. Council presentation
7. Farmland Document Archive – Rural Sustainability Questionnaire
8. Scenic Inventory Brunswick Maine – From the River to the Bay: A Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan
9. Appendix B-1, Memo Page 1
10. Appendix B-1, Memo Page 2
11. Appendix B-2
12. Appendix B-3, Scenic Vistas
13. (There is no Appendix B-4)
14. Appendix B5
15. Appendix B-6
16. Appendix B-7
17. Appendix B-8
18. Appendix C-1
19. Appendix C-2
20. (There is no Appendix C-3)
21. Appendix C-4
22. Appendix C-5

BPROS

An aerial photograph of a lush green landscape. A winding river flows through the center, surrounded by dense forest. The terrain is hilly, and the vegetation is vibrant green. The sky is clear and blue.

FROM THE RIVER TO THE BAY

*A Parks, Recreation & Open Space Plan
for Brunswick, Maine*

October 2002

Paula Adams, Charlotte Agell, Jack Aley, Ken Ames, Dana Anderson, James Ashe, Suzanne Astolfi, Cassandra Atwood, Joanne Avantaggio, Kristin Awsumb, Chris Balerna, John Balicki, Ken Ballard, John Bamforth, Brian Banton, Henry Baribeau Jr., Tony Barrett, Robert Becker, Rita Becker, Evelyn Belanger, Ruth & Ed Benedikt, Mr. & Mrs. Bevilacqua, Helene Bisson, David Blackburn, Jen Blais, Mayte Blasco, Lucille Boone, Sue Ellen Bordwell, Bill & Doreen Borens, Donna Borowick, Brian Bouchard, Bowdoin College, Phil Bozenhardt, Arlene Bradbury, Peter Brand, Don Brewer, Steve Brooke, David Brooks, Erika Brunner, Sue Brunner, Brunswick School Department, James Burbank II, Jennifer Burns, Tom Burns, Susan Caldwell, Tish Carr, Tim Carr, Dana Cary, Ed Catlin, Shirley Chase, Monica Chipman, Tom Civiello, Bruce Clark, Cheryl Clement, Barbara Coffin, Robert Coffin, Chris Cousins, Jane Crichton, Joyce Cronk, Harry & Marion Crooker, Ted Crooker, Pati Crooker-Mulligan, Liz Croston, Gerry Curtis, Curtis Memorial Library, Nancy Curtis-Strange, Brian Damien, Priscilla Davis, Kate Day, DeDe Desmarais, Marty Desmarais, Becca DeWan, Jarod Diels-Roll, Forrest Dillon, Holly Dominie, Elizabeth Dorsey, Beatrice Douglas, Inez Dudley, Alice Duquesnoy, Hugh Dwyer, Marilyn Dwyer, Ken Elowe, Mark Eyerman, Carolyn Farkas-Noe, Stewart Fefer, William Ferdinand Jr., Chris Fichtel, Cathryn Field, David Flaherty, Lilia Fortin, John Foster, Ruth Fraser, Carol Freshley, Krista Friedrich, Ashleigh Furrow, William Gardiner, George Glover, John Goran, Shirley Green, Holly Greene, Pamela Griffin, Tammy Grindle, Marjorie Gruber, Randy

Hamilton, Deena Hammond, Sherry Hansen, Louise Harding, John Harker, Ed Hawes, Margaret Hazlett, Denis Hebert, Benjamin Hemberger, John Henshaw, Deanne Herman, Henry & Alicia Heyburn, Chake Higgison, Bill Hitchcock, Dennis Hoey, Joan Hoppe, Alan Houston, Robert Houston, Padi Howard, Rich Howard, Chuck Huntington, Julie Isbill, Terry Jackson, Wendy Jacobs, John James, Todd Janeski, Rob Jarratt, Kurt Jendrek, Eric Jensen, Jeanne Johnson, Ryan Johnson, Roland Jordan, Josh Katz, Pat Keliher, Donna Keller, Warren & Jeannette

Many people in the community have helped us with this plan in large and small ways. Our heartfelt thanks goes to them all!

Kenney, Robert Knapp, Ed Knox, Sig Knudsen, Captain Keith Koon, Ed Laine, Dick Lancaster, Susan Laskey, Dick Leavitt, Todd Legare, Carol Lestock, Mike Lobikis, Gail & Peter Lowe & Family, John Luoma, Barry MacArthur, Mark Margerum, Fran Marquis, Robert Marshall, David Marstaller, Lisa Martin, Burnham Martin, Rhonda Mathy, James McCarthy, Robyn McCausland, Jim McGinley, Merrymeeting Wheelers, Frank Miles, Adele Miller, Rose Minott, Kathleen Montegut, Chris Montroy, Laura Moon, Terry Morgan, Bill & Jane Morrell, Robert Morrell, Peggy Muir, Michael Mulligan, Douglas

Niven, Charles Normand, Marilyn Nulman, Marybeth James & Brian O'Connor, Maureen O'Meara, Robert & Susan Ormsby, Anne Orr, Kathy Palmer, Sarah Palmer, Parkview Hospital, Parkwood Inn, Doris Parsons, Tracey Peck-Moad, Pejescot Historical Society, Steve Pelletier, Anne Pierce, Crystal Pietrowicz, John Piotti, Reginald Pitts, Ron Poitras, Charles Powers, Dick & Jean Powers, Etta McManus Powers, George & Harriet Price, Anthony Purinton, Wilbur (Bob) Purinton, Quaker Meeting House, Linda Rapoza, Karen Ray, Susan Rayfield, C.W. Ring, Walt Rosen, Tilly Rothwell, Mitch Rousseau, Patricia Ryan, Clayton Salem, Kari Schank, Pat Scully, Claudia Searles, Tom Settlemyre, Joan Shepherd, Anna Simmons, Peter Simmons, Sandy & Mary Sistaire, Charlie Small, Deborah Smith, Gary Smith, Owen Smith, Jill Snyder, Dick Soucy, Kathy Spangler, Edwin Springer, Prof. Randolph Stakeman, Millie Stewart, Jason Stockford, Thomas & Jema Sturtevant, Rip Swan, Gerald Talbot, Tim Taylor, Terrence DeWan & Associates, Yolanda Theunissen, Stella Thibeault, Dick Thompson, Times Record, William Torrey, Donna & Dana Totman, Mary Alice Treworgy, Bill Van Twisk, Charles Vaughan, Mark Verhey, Ron Vine, Carson vom Orde, Adrian Wadsworth, Robert Wagner, Patrick Wallace, Mark Waltz, Jeffrey Ward, Sandra Warner, David Watson, Patrick Watson, Marian Watts, Becky Way, Jim Wazlaw, Thomas Webster, Tom Weddle, Eric Welzel, Mike West, Marilyn Whitaker, Dr. Charles White, David White, David Whiteside, Warren Whitney, Steve Whitworth, Beth Wilcox, Lori Wilcox, Jessie Wilcox, Wild Oats Bakery, Helen Williams, Rick Wilson, Charles Woodman, Lisa Zlomke

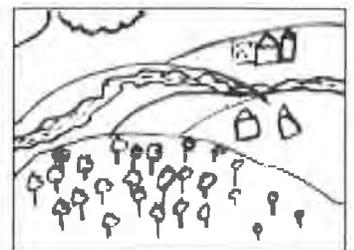
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 Theme 2: Take Care Of What We Already Have
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Cover Illustration: Rural scene off Bunganuc Road with Maquoit Bay in background

Sample of children’s artwork inspired by Brunswick’s natural resources.



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3. Inventory of Indoor Recreation Facilities: Ballard*King Associates
4. Inventory of Outdoor Recreation & Open Space Facilities:
Parks & Recreation Department
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Other Studies: Terrence J. DeWan & Associates

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NOTE: Complete copies of the Appendices are available at Curtis Memorial Library and Town Hall, Planning and Development Department.

October 2002

Dear Brunswick Citizen,

Welcome to *From the River to the Bay*, Brunswick's Parks, Recreation & Open Space Plan. This plan is a comprehensive vision of what the people of Brunswick have told us - a Town Council appointed task force - is important to them. The plan also spells out the steps we collectively need to take to retain the kind of town we enjoy today and hope to appreciate in the future.

Brunswick has always valued its parks, recreation and open space resources, dating back to 1719 when it established the Town Commons and 1826 when it created The Mall. This is the first time in the community's history, however, that such a wide-ranging plan focusing on *all* of these resources has been developed.

As Chairman of the Open Space & Recreation Task Force, I want to raise and address some questions as you review our report and recommendations.

Why was this plan necessary?

The task force was created by the council in 1999 in recognition of the fact that Brunswick citizens place a high value on the current rural character of our town which is represented by its open space, parks, and recreation features. These limited resources are facing increased pressure from the normal process of growth and development. Our charge was to develop a plan that represented what the community's priorities should be to preserve and enhance these important attributes.

How were citizens involved in the preparation of the plan?

From the very first day, the task force felt that broad input and participation from the public was a must for a truly successful plan. We hope we accomplished this in a variety of ways: through nine community discussions on a number of plan topics, three town-wide forums where we shared our work at various stages, several op-ed articles in the newspaper, 29 neighborhood meetings to hear what was important in one's backyard, a town-wide opinion survey, and our regularly scheduled meetings. Our plan was strongly shaped by this broad range of input and we are very appreciative of everyone's willingness to get involved.

Why so many different topics?

As you read the plan, you will undoubtedly notice that we have covered many different topics, some of which, when viewed on their own, might seem unusual. In their totality, we believe that these components work in harmony and with synergy. And, most importantly, considering them all gives us the opportunity to combine efforts and resources as appropriate for the best possible value and benefit.

What is the time-frame for this plan?

The task force had much discussion about how far into the future we should be looking. We concluded that there are a number of steps that should be taken with some urgency if we want to continue to preserve the essential character of our town. At the same time, there are many actions that can be accomplished over the long haul, as energy, support, and funding is available. Therefore, we expect that carrying out this plan may span the next several decades, up to 2050.

OPEN SPACE & RECREATION TASK FORCE

Councilor Forrest Lowe, Chairman
729-9775 (h)

Barbara Desmarais, Vice Chairperson
Citizen at large, 725-4827 (h)

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Olathe, Kansas

Planning Decisions, Inc.
South Portland, Maine

Woodlot Alternatives
Topsham, Maine

What about the plan's cost?

In addition to soliciting as much public input as possible, the other single biggest topic in our discussions was the potential cost of our plan. The combined cost of the recommendations may be as much as \$40 million dollars. Before anyone has "sticker-shock," let me be quick to remind you that we envision that this cost will be spread out over the life of the plan. Secondly, despite this time frame, a wide range of funding sources will need to be tapped to implement different aspects of the plan. There is no expectation that local taxpayers will fund this entire project by any stretch. Public-private partnerships will be key to its successful implementation.

There is one initial action that the task force feels needs to be accomplished with some urgency: establishing a "Land for Brunswick's Future" Board, similar to the one at the state level, and funding it with a \$2 million bond. Its purpose is to preserve key open spaces that are in imminent danger as well as secure a parcel of land in East Brunswick that eventually can be developed into playing fields.

As Brunswick citizens, we choose to make investments in important infrastructure that we value in our community. Recent examples of that include \$6 million for our library renovation and expansion, \$18 million for the new high school (with much help from the state), and the current plans to develop a new fire station. We are both hopeful and optimistic that Brunswick citizens will similarly support various investments in parks, open space & recreation as necessary to maintain the quality of life and unique character of our town.

Why do this during these tough economic times?

Every member of the task force is acutely aware of the challenging economic times we live in today and the pressures we all face in meeting our obligations. At the same time, planning for the future is important if we are to be thoughtful about caring for our town. We know there will probably be several economic ups and downs over the next 50 years and recognize that the town's ability and appetite to implement various parts of the plan will vary from year to year.

Through those times, however, it will be important to have a clear vision of what is important for Brunswick's future, a vision that will inspire many different people to actively participate in its realization: those in companies, non-governmental organizations, foundations, other governmental entities, as well as Brunswick citizens.

While the task force is enthusiastic and excited about finishing this plan and presenting it to the public, it is really just the beginning. Our hope is that in the pages that follow you will find a recommendation or topic that will move you to action for the benefit of all. If it does, we thank you for it.

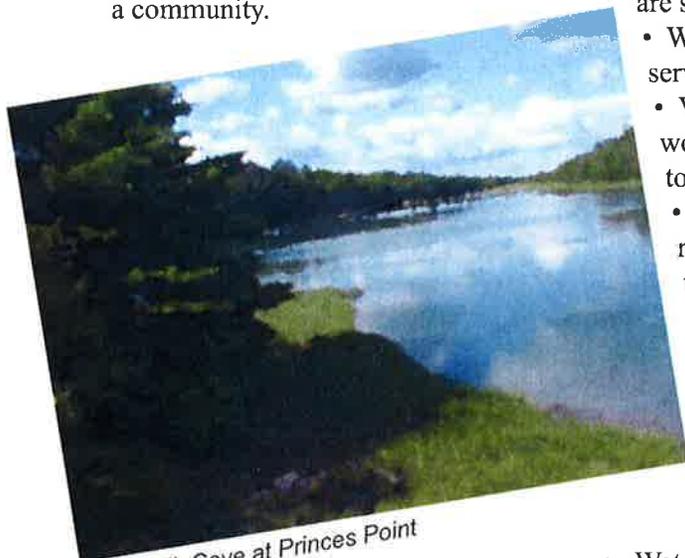
Sincerely,

Forrest Lowe
Chairman
Open Space & Recreation Task Force

OVERVIEW

Brunswick is blessed with significant natural beauty, a rich history, active and engaged residents and a strong sense of civic pride. People who reside here find it a highly “livable” community. It is a desirable place to raise a family, a pleasant place to work, and an attractive place to retire. Among the town’s many assets are two that stand out as being particularly special to the people of Brunswick:

- **open space** which provides scenic beauty and proximity to the natural world, and
- **recreational resources** that help foster personal health and fitness and opportunities to share experiences as a community.



Buttermilk Cove at Princes Point

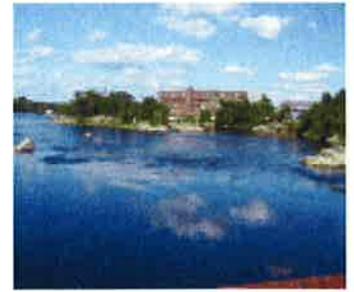
In 1999, the Brunswick Town Council established the Open Space and Recreation Task Force to assess existing open space resources and recreational facilities, identify long-term needs, and develop recommendations and a plan for the future. Over the past three years, Task Force members and consultants have devoted thousands of hours toward this purpose, producing this report as the summary of our work. Much of the work was done by subcommittees that addressed a host of issues

ranging from indoor and outdoor recreation to cemeteries and flora & fauna.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The Task Force has been guided by a set of principles that, after much interaction with the public, have evolved over the course of the study. The vision is proactive, far-reaching, and achievable over time. This plan envisions a future in which:

- Parks, recreation areas, and open spaces are used by the community as places for learning, wellness, and renewal, adding to our “quality of life.”
- Scenic quality and visual character are sustained.
 - Wildlife habitat is largely preserved.
 - Viable farms and well-managed woodlots are an active part of the town’s landscape and economy.
 - A variety of indoor/outdoor recreational programs, opportunities, and facilities are provided for all citizens.
 - There is a linked system of trails and walkways throughout the community.
 - Historic cemeteries are accessible and well maintained.
- Water access is provided for a variety of users and locations.
- There is a healthy community forest.
- There is a clear set of integrated priorities.
- Appropriate financial and human resources are allocated to maintain and enhance our parks, recreation areas, and open spaces.
- Citizens are engaged in the implementation of the plan.
- The plan is carried out through a variety of strategies, relying heavily on public/private partnerships.



Sustained scenic quality



Preserved wildlife habitat



Well-managed farmland



Variety of recreation programs



Townwide trail system



Illustrative overview of the Town of Brunswick by Jon Luoma.





Well maintained cemeteries



Good water access



Healthy community forest



Engaged citizens



Adequate resources allocated

This report charts a course for maintaining and enhancing the livability of Brunswick through a coordinated long-term program that envisions active participation by all sectors of our community: town government and the private sector, organized groups and individual residents, people interested in recreation and people interested in open space. The Task Force strongly believes that this sort of holistic effort is essential for maintaining the wonderful quality of life available in Brunswick.

A GUIDE TO THE REPORT

The report contains two main parts. The first part, **Recommendations**, is organized around *six themes*:

- Maintain Brunswick's Natural Character
- Take Care Of What We Already Have
- Invest In Land For The Future
- Improve And Expand For Tomorrow
- Develop Public-Private Partnerships
- Keep The Public Involved

The community's needs in each of these six areas are identified and recommendations for action by the community are described.

The second part, the **Action Plan**, is a large chart that lists some 140 specific actions by implementation priority. Within each grouping the actions are organized by the six themes stated above. For each of the actions a lead party and support organizations have been identified and references to subcommittee reports have been made. This is the proposed "road map" for community action.

Detailed information produced by the task force has been included in the **Appendix** section of the

report, rather than in its main body. Most of it can also be found on the project web site at:

www.curtislibrary.com/osrtf. The appendix contains the following:

Appendix A: Maps

A variety of maps were produced to show the distribution of open space and recreation features in Brunswick.

Appendix B: Community Involvement

The identified needs and recommended actions do not represent the opinions of the Task Force - they reflect the opinions and desires of the entire Brunswick community. They were developed through extensive interaction with Brunswick residents and interest groups. This included a series of community meetings, three large-scale community forums, an information fair, a written community survey, numerous small discussion groups on specific topics, a series of neighborhood meetings, and working subcommittees that involved interested parties in their deliberations.

Appendix C: Existing Facilities, Trends & Needs

Existing indoor and outdoor facilities were visited and their condition was catalogued. Population and recreation trends were also analyzed.

Appendix D: Subcommittee Reports

Each of the ten subcommittees produced a detailed report, stating the

research undertaken, issues identified and recommendations made. These reports include reference material and contact information.



Basketball game at Recreation Center



Aerial view of Board and Meadow Roads in Brunswick

INTRODUCTION

As the Task Force studied the issues involved through each of its ten subcommittees, it found there were common threads or “themes” that tied them together. Each of the six themes is introduced below.

Theme 1: Maintain Brunswick’s Natural Character

Brunswick’s sense of place is strongly influenced by its natural setting and resources. Residents cherish the town’s open spaces and scenic setting. Walking in the Town Commons, watching a sunset over Maquoit Bay, spotting a bald eagle above the Androscoogin River

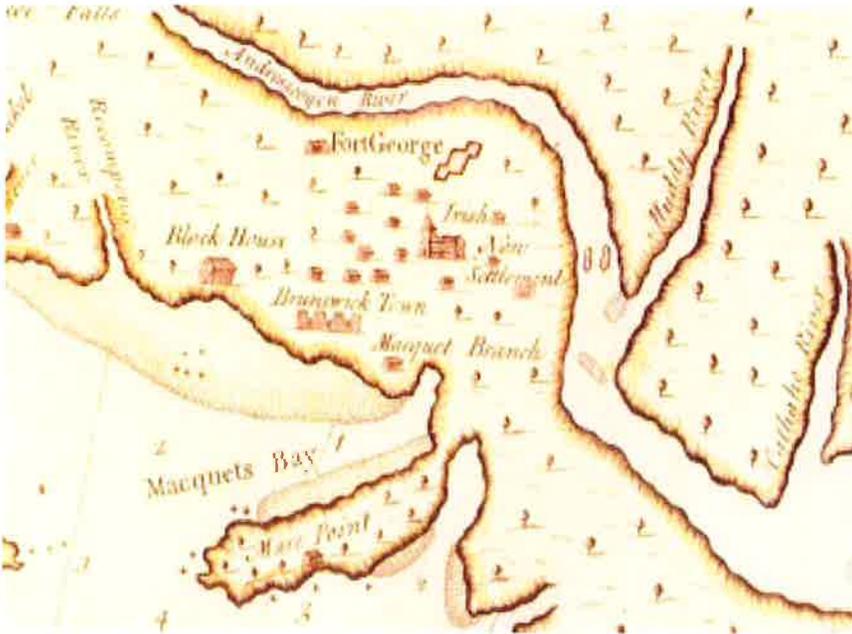
Bicycle & Pedestrian Path, enjoying a picnic lunch at The Mall, or identifying a deer through the mist along Pleasant Hill Road - experiences such as these are enjoyed by young and old alike, contributing to our town’s special ambience. **Maintaining this natural character** is essential in fostering the feeling that Brunswick is a great place to live.



Summer roses along Maquoit Road

“The entrance into Brunswick in every direction is peculiarly striking and novel. As you approach it from the north, when within about half a mile of the river, the villages of Topsham and Brunswick burst like magic upon your view. I know of no place I have seen that exhibits itself to so much advantage in an instant.”

1800’s Description of Brunswick in: *Letters by a Gentleman from South Carolina*, Joseph Griffen, Printer, 1820.



Detail of 1764 map by Southack *The Harbour of Casco Bay and Islands Adjacent* (courtesy: Osher Map Library, University of Southern Maine)

“As the village came into its own [in the late 1800’s], its physical appearance altered. In the outskirts they were dumping tin cans, boots, hats, and whatnots; and cutting down trees along many a woodland drive but inside the village they were building fine new residences....The streets took on a new urbanity. Brick walks and curbing were extended along Maine Street, granite street crossings were laid, electricity was substituted for the old oil and gas street lamps. The station grounds were graded and seeded; householders threw down their white fences when Tenney’s campaign against pasturing loose cows on the streets finally bore fruit and began mowing their lawns instead of haying them twice a year...On the lower Mall the pool, now a stinking nuisance, and the open drains were filled in and grassed; the young trees, large enough to cast a shade, were trimmed; and the whole was surrounded by a painted white fence.”

Edward Chase Kirkland,
Brunswick’s Golden Age, 1941,
Lewiston, Maine

Theme 2: Take Care Of What We Already Have

Prior generations have invested wisely in recreational facilities, parks, and open spaces. These assets are at the core of what makes Brunswick special. Our existing recreational facilities and open spaces play a major role in the individual lives and community relationships of Brunswick residents. For example:

- Hundreds of children and their families converge on the Recreation Center for basketball in the winter, Edwards Field for baseball in the spring, and Lishness Field for soccer in the fall.
- The Androskoggin River Bicycle and Pedestrian Path has exceeded all expectations as a resource for bicycling, walking, jogging, and rollerblading throughout the year.
- The town’s tennis courts, basketball courts, skateboard park, bicycle lanes,

and playgrounds are in constant use - demonstrating that Brunswick residents of all generations consider recreation - and just being outdoors - an important part of their daily lives.

Yet, as these facilities are heavily used, new requirements have emerged. Also, interest in various recreational pursuits continues to evolve. To preserve the value of these investments in our community, it is essential that we **maintain what we already have** and that we continue to invest in the upkeep of these facilities.



Androskoggin River Bicycle & Pedestrian Path

Theme 3: Invest in Land for the Future

Land is a limited resource. Decisions made decades or even centuries ago by our forefathers to invest in land for community uses helped to create the special quality of Brunswick that we all cherish today. Brunswick would be a less desirable community without, for example, The Mall (est. 1826) or the Town Commons (est. 1719).

Options to create the recreational facilities to serve future generations are being foreclosed by development. Natural habitats are being fragmented, neighborhood connections are being lost and access to the coast is limited.

The Task Force identified a strong interest throughout the community in protecting existing open spaces and

providing for future recreational needs, while at the same time allowing thoughtfully planned residential and commercial growth to diversify the town's tax base. The time to **acquire land to meet our future needs** is now while the opportunity still exists.



Navy property off Old Bath Road

Theme 4: Improve and Expand For Tomorrow

Brunswick continues to grow and change. More families now live in the outlying areas of the community where formal recreational facilities are limited or nonexistent and our population is becoming older.

Also, the community's recreational interests change. The Task Force found a desire for improved recreational facilities - such as an intergenerational community center - that could meet the town's needs for many years to come. People want new and expanded trails to connect neighborhoods, open space, and



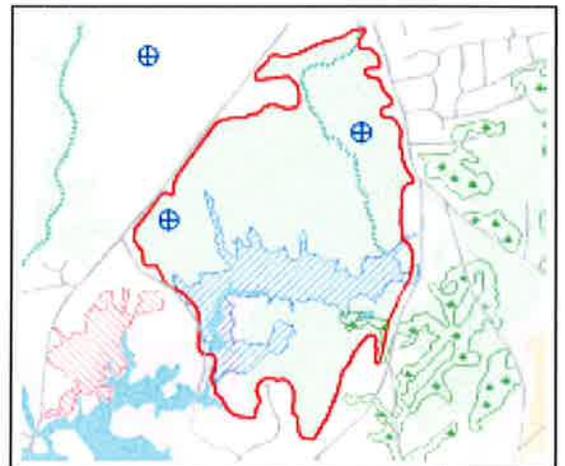
Coffin Pond Recreation Area

recreational facilities. There is strong support for improved water access, additional playing fields, and new approaches to protecting the town's wildlife and natural ecosystems. In sum, Brunswick residents are strongly interested in **enhanced open space and recreational facilities** that add value to the community, contribute to their daily experiences, enrich their lives, and provide for the future needs of our community.

Theme 5: Develop Public-Private Partnerships

The residents of Brunswick have joined together repeatedly to accomplish remarkable projects that have contributed significantly to the livability of this community while preserving important natural and cultural resources. For example:

- Crystal Spring Farm was protected through an award-winning land conservation campaign led by the Brunswick-Topsham Land Trust.
- The Androscoggin River Bicycle & Pedestrian Path would never have been built if not for strong support from the Town, individual residents, and civic groups including the Brunswick Rotary Club, working with the Maine Department of Transportation and the Parks and Recreation Department.
- Protection of 112 acres along the Brunswick-to-the-Ocean trail was made possible through a partnership



Sample from Flora & Fauna Map. See Appendix A for the complete map, its legend, as well as other maps.



The town now has high-definition digital photographs which will greatly assist our understanding of natural systems.

among the Town, the Friends of The Commons, Land for Maine's Future program, two major landowners, foundations, hundreds of households, and many businesses.

- A similar effort to preserve close to 100 acres of land surrounding the highest point in Brunswick in the western part of town is currently underway. This effort is led by the Town and Friends of Cox Pinnacle.

Recreation facilities also have benefited from partnerships involving citizens, businesses, and the town. Playgrounds at several Brunswick elementary schools have been completely replaced through the fundraising efforts of parents, while athletic facilities at the Brunswick High School also have been improved through local support.

Brunswick has demonstrated that it can accomplish significant projects that add to the resources of this town through partnerships such as these, partnerships that have become a significant source of civic pride. This **tradition of working in collaboration** is the cornerstone of the action plan. Successful implementa-

tion of this vision will require that all players in our community be partners in the future of Brunswick.

Theme 6: Keep the Public Involved

Maintaining our outstanding quality of life and enhancing our recreational facilities and open space will require the support and participation of an involved and well-informed public. It will also require that our Town Government maximize the effectiveness of its operations. There is a continuous need to inform the public about the relevance of open space and our natural/cultural heritage to the quality of life in Brunswick. Implementation of this plan cannot rest only with Town government. **It must involve informed citizens** in the efforts to maintain the parks, recreation facilities, and open spaces that make Brunswick a special place.

The next section states specific needs for each of these six themes and the resulting recommendations developed by the Task Force.



Citizens vote for new indoor recreation spaces at the Open Space Fair.



Kayaking on the Androscoggin River

NEEDS

There is a sense that Brunswick's natural heritage is at risk. Many special places have been lost to development. Footpaths that once connected neighborhoods, fields and woods that existed prior to certain housing projects, and scenic vistas have been lost or permanently altered. Over the past twelve years on average over 50 new housing units have been added each year. Brunswick has an unusually high concentration of rare and unusual natural features, many of which occur on highly buildable land. As the town grows, new residences continue to nibble away at important open spaces. Commercial development is transforming the gateways to

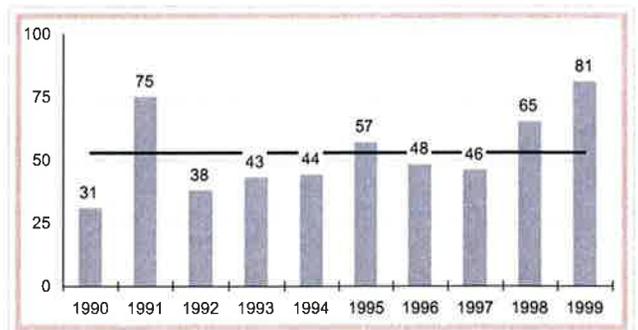
the community. These concerns are enhanced by the current building pattern that sees most of Brunswick's residential growth occurring in outlying areas of the community. At the same time, there is a tremendous sense of pride in the community and awareness of its physical appearance. Whereas building construction is not inherently "bad" and is needed to support the way we live, it needs to be proactively managed regarding its location and its character.



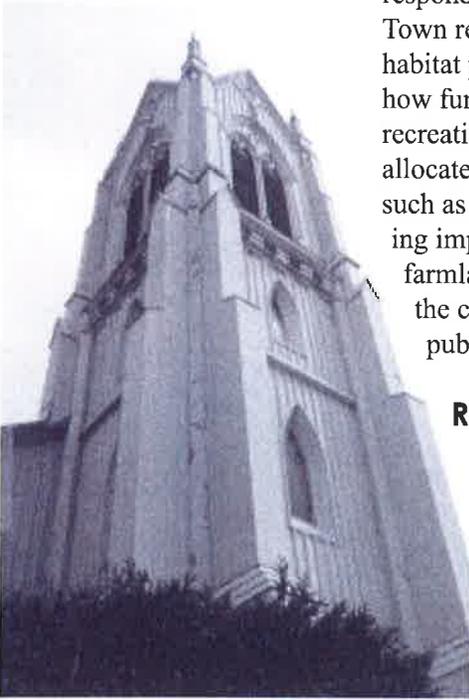
Brunswick's residents support action to maintain our natural environment. Almost three-quarters of the respondents to the community survey agreed with the position that "the Town should take an active role in preserving its natural resources" while almost two-thirds of

"We have scenic beauty and opportunities to enjoy nature that many towns have long since lost."

Comment from a town resident



New Housing Units by year: 1990 -- 1999. Note 1991 includes 41 units at Thornton Oaks. Source: Town Staff and Planning Decisions, Inc.



First Parish Church is recognized as one of the most significant landmarks in the community.

respondents supported “strengthening Town regulations for wetlands and habitat protection.” When asked about how funds should be spent for parks, recreation, and open space, respondents allocated over one-third to activities such as protecting scenic views, preserving important resources, and retaining farmland. This support was echoed in the community forums and various public meetings.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Work to promote and maintain farming. Create education programs to inform people about farming and interest young people in farming as a profession. Encourage purchase of local food for schools and institutions. Work with the

congressional delegation to continue funding for farm support programs. Advocate for repeal of estate tax on farms. Identify landowners interested in the potential sale of development rights of their land.

Recognize scenic areas such as community gateways, scenic roads, and vistas. Develop standards for improvements to scenic roads and gateways. Open up views to the water along scenic roads. Develop landscape improvement and clean-up plans for gateways. Maintain an inventory of scenic resources in Brunswick.



Farm along Highland Road

Create a Comprehensive Plan Advisory Committee and assign it to look at recreation impact fees, trails, the open space development process, landscaping and tree protection in subdivisions, ways to incorporate cultural features, such as ancient burial grounds and their historic context, into the site analysis process, wildlife habitat protection, farmland protection, and protection of scenic resources.

Protect and enhance the town’s tree resources. Plant new trees in built-up areas, and continue to replace trees as necessary. Establish a regular cycle for tree pruning and other maintenance work. Promote the use of licensed foresters to oversee harvest operations. Expand the tree inventory and start to utilize a Global Positioning System (GPS)-based system. Adopt a tree protection ordinance and a hazard tree policy. Develop standards for timber



Cattle grazing in a farm field along Highland Road

harvesting in areas that may affect scenic and ecologically sensitive resources. Develop a walking guide to unique intown trees.

Perform natural-resource studies to foster an awareness of Brunswick's unique natural heritage. Complete a community-wide stream survey. Perform studies on rare/unusual natural communities and rare/threatened/endangered plant species; old field habitat; high value forestland; and vernal pools. Identify wetland and ecological restoration opportunities. Address invasive plant species in existing open spaces and evaluate threats from adjacent areas. Study potential conflicts between recreational use and sensitive habitats.



Wharton Point

Address policy issues that may affect open space preservation and management. Coordinate habitat protection activities with abutting towns. Promote an ecologically-based approach to residential growth in rural areas. Coordinate a regional plan to preserve scenic resources. Add new map data to Geographic Information System (GIS) and coordinate it with the Maine Office of GIS.



Androscoggin River from Mill Street Portage

Scenic roads are roads that have recurring features such as 1) historic buildings and landscapes (farms, old schoolhouses and cemeteries), 2) attractive settings (mature shade trees lining the road, stone walls, open fields), 3) views of water or distant hills, 4) interesting road alignment (curves and grade changes), or 5) little traffic (i.e., they can be driven at a somewhat leisurely pace).

The Scenic Areas Subcommittee identified the following scenic roads in Brunswick:

- Adams Road
- Board Road
- Bunganuc Road *
- Casco Road *
- Federal Street
- Highland Road *
- Meadow Road
- Pennellville Road
- Pennell Way
- Pleasant Hill Road *
- Rossmore Road *
- Route 1 *
- Simpsons Point Road *
- Woodward Point Road

* denotes that only a portion of this road is included



Rural houselot for sale



Limited access to the coast

“Natural environments are more difficult to restore than man-made environments because we cannot cost-effectively accelerate the slow, natural processes by which they form. When have you heard of anyone plowing up houses to make way for a farm, forest, or wetland?”

Comment from Brunswick citizen



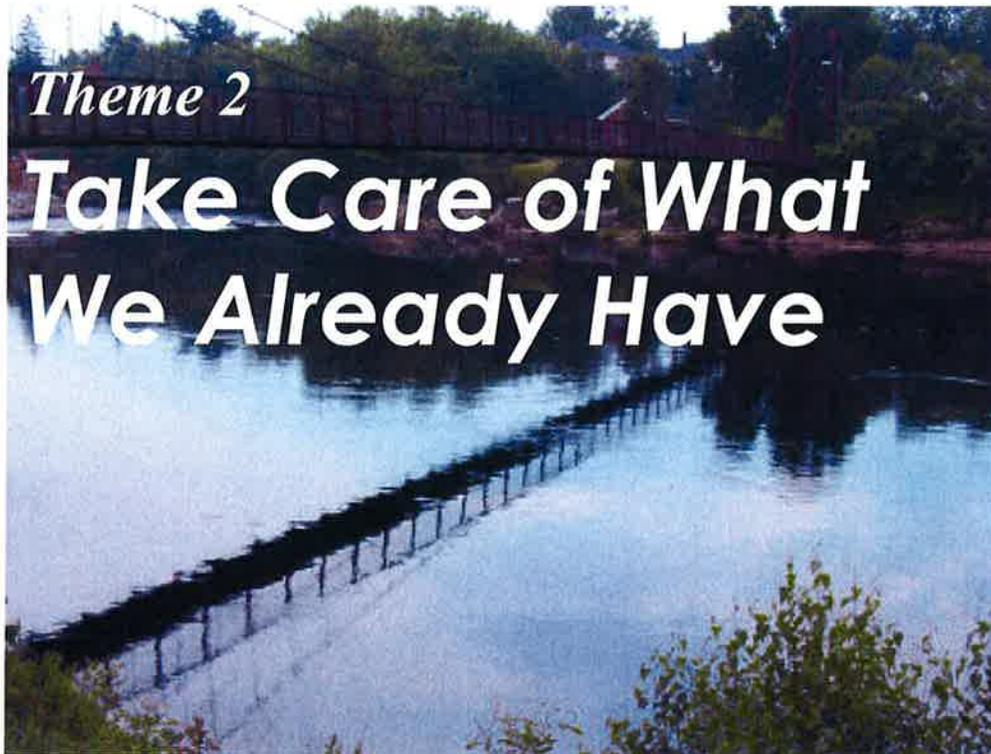
Tidal stream



Driscoll Islands in Androscoggin River.



Vernal pool



Theme 2

Take Care of What We Already Have

Pedestrian "Swinging" Bridge over the Androscoggin River between Topsham and Brunswick

NEEDS

Brunswick has a recreation center, many acres of parks, many recreational areas with a wide range of facilities, the new Androscoggin River Bicycle & Pedestrian Path, beautiful tree-lined streets, and significant open space such as the Town Commons. Each of these requires on-going maintenance as well as periodic reconditioning. Almost two-thirds of respondents in the community survey rated the physical condition of the Town's parks and outdoor recreation facilities as fair or good compared to one third that rated them as being in excellent condition.

There are still some Town facilities that do not meet federal requirements for handicapped accessibility and need to be upgraded. In addition, the Town is responsible for managing the natural

areas to balance their ecological values with human use. This requires systematic assessment of the best management approaches for these areas. Resources are required to manage and operate these facilities.

As more and more people use the woodlands and open space, there is continued pressure to develop additional trails, incorporate more facilities, and allow activities which may be in conflict with traditional uses. Management plans are needed to better understand the resources and the options to properly balance these often-competing needs.

One town resident observed:
"The lifeblood of Brunswick can be found at Lishness Field on any Saturday morning in the fall, as our kids play soccer and parents develop relationships that add to the fabric of our community."

RECOMMENDATIONS

Upgrade existing facilities throughout town, such as replace lighting at Lishness Field and the Old High School football field, add a staffed gatehouse at Sawyer Park, expand the playground at Davis Park, and evaluate the Longfellow School playground.

Make improvements to specific water access points: parking at Prince's Point, improvements at Barnes Landing, a dock system at the Water Street boat launch.

Bring the Recreation Center up to code and remodel it for town recreational uses. Improve The Mall according to the Mall Management Plan. Take on maintenance responsibilities for abandoned ancient burial grounds according to a cemetery management plan.

Repair or rebuild the suspension bridge over the Androscoggin River.

Groom cross-country ski trails at Crystal Spring Farm. Make all facilities compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Add staff for expanded program needs, such as a bicycle/pedestrian coordinator and staff for the Community Center.

Develop management plans for specific open space/natural resources, such as Town-owned forestland, ancient burial grounds, Coffin Pond property, and undeveloped Town/School land.



Recreation Center at Federal Street

Further research possible Town Right-Of-Ways at water access points and discuss establishing legal agreements as noted in the 1995 Shore Access Report.

Appoint committees/groups for specific issues: Cemetery Commission, Tree Committee, Farm Advisory Committee, Youth Advisory Board to Recreation Commission. Confirm the role of the Conservation Commission.



Winter fun on the Mall. Photo courtesy Pejepscot Historical Society.



Bertha May Stetson and her 1903 women's basketball team. Photo courtesy Pejepscot Historical Society.



Adams-Hinkley Cemetery



Theme 3

Invest in Land for the Future

Thomas Point Beach

NEEDS

Preservation of the key open spaces that contribute to our collective quality of life is not keeping pace with the increasing pressures to convert land in outlying areas to development. Important rare and unusual natural communities have been compromised, blocks of unfragmented habitat have become smaller in size and number, and significant wildlife breeding and stopover sites are being impacted. This trend will continue unless the community commits to expanding its stock of preserved conservation land.

While a few community partnerships, such as the Friends of The Commons and Friends of Cox Pinnacle, aided by the Brunswick-Topsham Land Trust, have sprung up and have been successful in acquiring open spaces in Brunswick, the current dominant pattern of residential growth in rural areas requires that the Town and the community

groups adopt a town-wide approach to identify key parcels containing important natural features to be acquired.

Furthermore, the Town has been able to do little to acquire land for future recreational facilities. The Town's 1988 *Comprehensive Plan for Parks and Recreation* identified the need to acquire land in East Brunswick for future park and recreation facilities, but this has not happened to date.

The respondents to the community survey reflected this concern. Almost one-quarter identified "open space near their home" as their most important recreational facility/green space, while 15% identified neighborhood parks. Almost one respondent in five reported that members

Brunswick citizens speak out...

"My biggest concern is urban sprawl. According to our Comprehensive Plan (10+ years ago) the residents almost unanimously agreed that downtown density should be increased and rural land left undeveloped as much as possible."

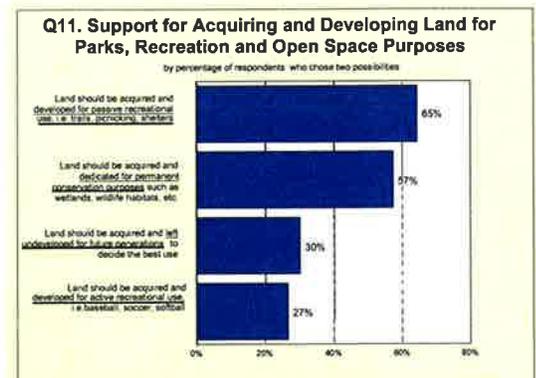
and:

"The problem lies in the way change happens so incrementally. No one pays much attention as each small piece of field or forest land is cleared for one house. Fifty years from now we will be dismayed and will have lost what made Brunswick special."

and:

"Middle Bay is still relatively undeveloped and should be targeted for protection – a great opportunity to work with Harpswell."

Excerpted from several citizen survey responses



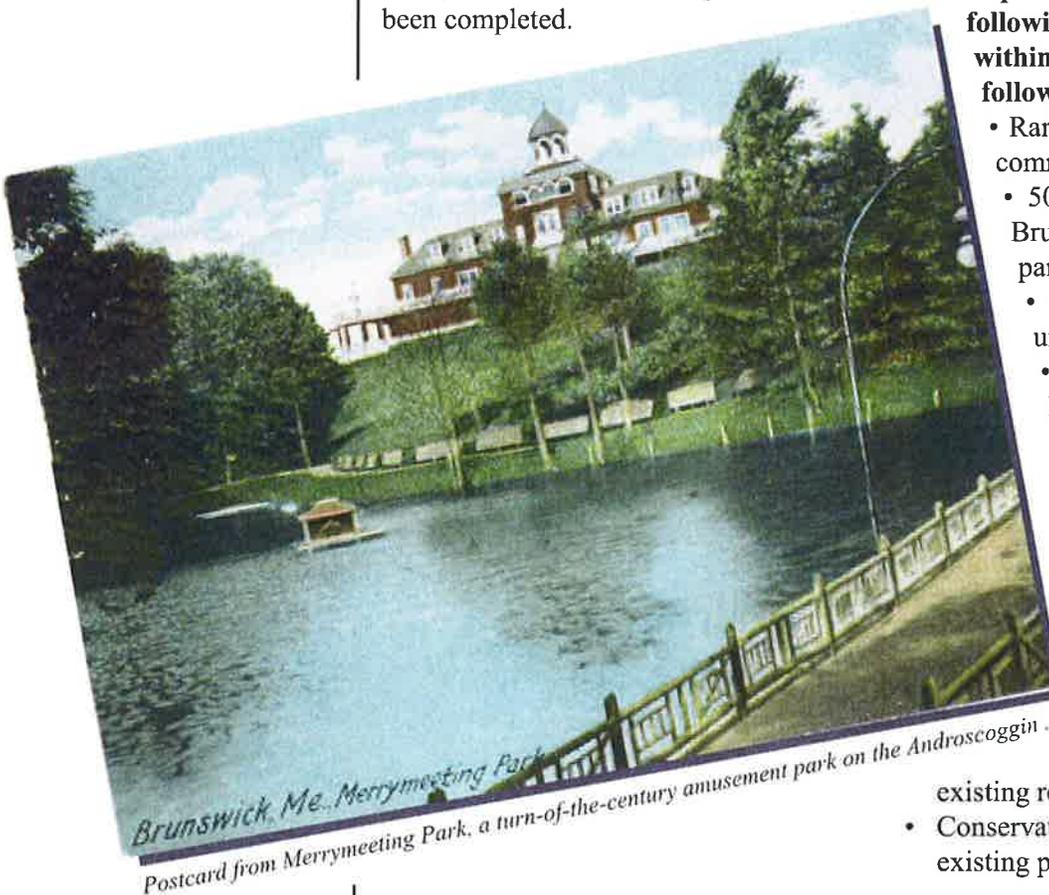
Excerpt from Leisure Vision Mail Survey



Land in East Brunswick with
Route 1 in foreground

of their household do not use Brunswick's parks and recreation facilities because they are not close to their home. Various participants in the public forums and meetings urged the Task Force to recommend a program of land acquisition to meet Brunswick's recreational and conservation needs in a balanced manner.

The Town Council has received numerous requests for assistance with the purchase and protection of specific open space sites. At the present time there is no mechanism to effectively evaluate the recreational, ecological, or scenic value of these properties, nor has a list of key lands that should be preserved been completed.



Brunswick, Me. Merrymeeting Park. a turn-of-the-century amusement park on the Androscoggin River.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Establish a "Land for Brunswick's Future" Fund to provide funds for critical land acquisitions that meet conservation and/or recreation needs of the community. Capitalize the fund with a \$2 million bond and create a board to recommend acquisitions to the Town Council. Develop a system to evaluate and prioritize land for possible acquisition by the town. This fund is modeled after the successful "Land for Maine's Future" program, but its advisory board, acquisition criteria and process should be adapted to meet Brunswick's needs.

Acquire from willing sellers the following specific sites and sites within areas that have the following characteristics:

- Rare and unusual natural communities.
- 50± acres of land in East Brunswick for a community park.
- Large blocks of unfragmented habitat.
- The former Merrymeeting Park on the Androscoggin River.
- Significant wildlife breeding and stopover sites.
- The right of first refusal on Thomas Point Beach.
 - More water access points.
 - Sites that meet existing recreational needs.
- Conservation land with proximity to existing protected areas.



Theme 4
**Improve & Expand
 for Tomorrow**

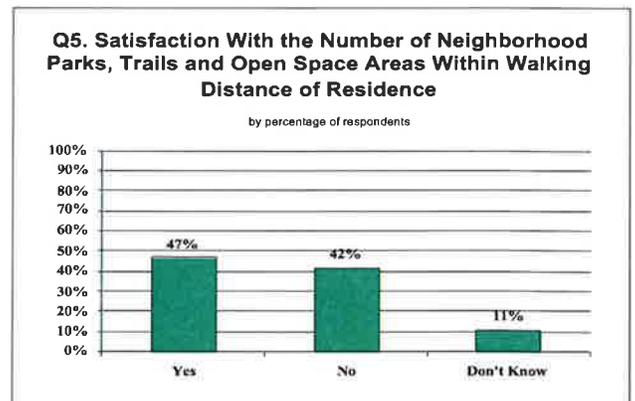
Androscoggin River Bicycle & Pedestrian Path

NEEDS

Brunswick’s outdoor recreational facilities are not meeting existing demand. Competition for tennis courts, soccer fields, and rink time is pushing recreation schedules to their limits. The town’s facilities are falling short of the evolving and expanding needs of the community. Residents in East Brunswick lack nearby playing fields, recreational facilities for senior citizens are significantly substandard, and residents must drive to neighboring towns for certain recreational activities.

Over 40% of respondents in the community survey said that they were not satisfied with the number of neighborhood parks, trails, and open space areas within walking distance of their residence. The Town will need to invest in significant additional recreational facilities over time to meet the needs of the future.

The community’s need for indoor recreational facilities is met by both public and private facilities including those provided by Brunswick Naval Air Station and Bowdoin College that are available to some members of the community. Based on a needs assessment conducted as part of the plan, the Task Force concluded that the current facilities are inadequate to meet present-day needs and that the development of new indoor recreation space is a high priority of the community. Because of increased activities, user fees to help pay for these improvements need to be considered.



*Excerpt from Leisure Vision
 Mail Survey*



Cross country skiing trail marker in Town Commons

"A major concern revolves around funding, of course. However, waiting until Brunswick can afford programs/initiatives, such as a community center, may be too late in addressing the need (...) especially for Brunswick's youth."

Citizen survey response

"The Bath people seem to appreciate the new bicycle path to Brunswick and many Bath riders have been taking advantage of it. Treasurer Fisher went to the Times office at Bath and had the fact bulletined. Sunday there was a steady stream of Bath riders and these fine days since have seen many more. One Bath wheelman claims to have made the distance to this place in 27 minutes, but we rather guess his watch is out of gear."

Brunswick Telegraph, October 8, 1897

RECOMMENDATIONS

Develop new outdoor recreation facilities to meet specific needs throughout the community: Build a community park in East Brunswick on a 50± acre tract of land that is to be acquired. This park could feature playing fields, basketball, tennis, a playground, and passive recreation.

Install new playgrounds at Lishness Field, Androscoggin River Bicycle & Pedestrian Path, and the Old High School. Build five new intown tennis courts at location to be determined. Create a second community garden for Brunswick citizens.

Create a wayfinding sign system for the parks. Develop an interpretive park on the Androscoggin River at the site of the former Merrymeeting Park.

Create an all-tide access point at Mere Point. Develop new water access facilities at several locations throughout the community.

Renovate and construct a multigenerational community center in phases at the site of the Old High School, including space for the 55+ Center. Acquire the Armory site and building adjacent to the Old High School and incorporate it into the center complex.

Establish a town-wide trail system that connects neighborhoods, schools, parks and open spaces, and commercial centers. Develop a master plan for trails, sidewalks, and bicycles facilities throughout the community. Establish a volunteer maintenance corps for the trails.

Extend the Androscoggin River Bicycle & Pedestrian Path to Bath to create an Androscoggin-to-the-Kennebec river link. Extend the path to Topsham via islands in the Androscoggin River.

Further develop and improve access to the Brunswick-to-the-Ocean Trail, and other trail linkages throughout the community.



Senior Gardens at Industry Road



Paul's Marina on Mere Point



Brunswick Rotary Club Monument at Androscoggin River Bicycle & Pedestrian Path.

NEEDS

The recommendations contained in this plan call for the Brunswick community to make substantial investments in upgrading the Town’s existing parks, recreation facilities, and open space, acquiring land to meet future needs, and developing new indoor and outdoor recreation facilities. Given the competing demands on the Town’s tax base, this package far exceeds the funding that can be reasonably expected to come solely from that source. This means that implementation of this plan, and the enhancement in our quality of life that will result from those investments in upgrades and expansions, will require that the community tap other potential sources of funding and resources. This includes state and federal grant programs but, more importantly, it will need to include the residents, businesses and organizations that are part of our community and region. The Town will

have to develop partnerships to get more people involved and to stretch the available resources.

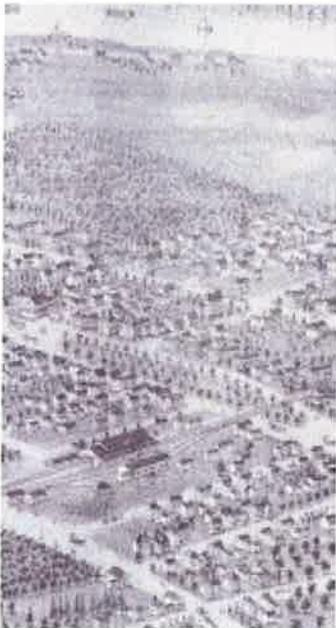
Recent successful partnerships include projects such as the Androscoggin River Bicycle & Pedestrian Path, Brunswick-to-the-Ocean Trail, and Cox Pinnacle.



Crystal Spring Farm has been protected through a community-wide effort.

“Undeveloped land offers the greatest potential enjoyment and benefit for the least money over time.”

Citizen survey response



1877 view of Brunswick with Mall in the foreground. Courtesy of Pejepscot Historical Society.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pursue alternative funding sources for all development and preservation activities to minimize reliance on Town funds.

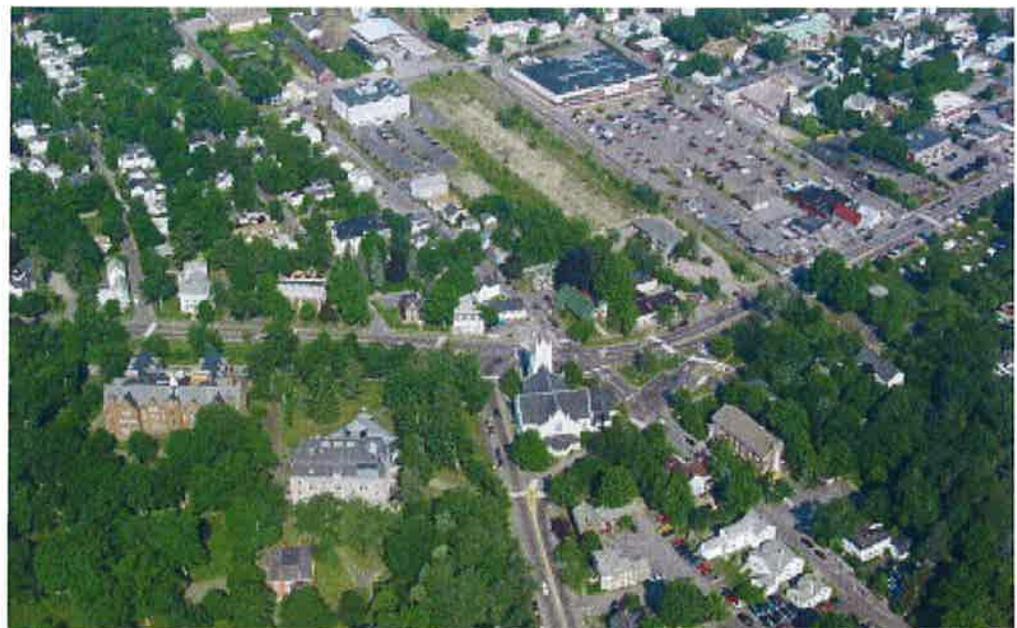
Encourage town/private partnerships to expand the town’s ability to preserve and maintain open space and make citizens active participants in the fundraising process.

Form a “Friends of the Parks” group to act as advocates for all of the Town parks and open spaces.

Promote land conservation through the use of tax programs, easements, and other voluntary efforts.



Public water access at Water Street



2002 aerial view of Brunswick. First Parish Church is in the center.



Citizens review and comment on map at Open Space Fair.

NEEDS

The Town’s elected and appointed officials, taxpayers, voters, business community, and interest groups will all need to support the investments envisioned in this plan for it to happen. These residents will need to understand the role of recreation and open space in Brunswick’s quality of life and be involved in carrying out the various activities. This requires an on-going effort to keep them interested and involved in the implementation process.

Such an effort was begun throughout the development of this plan. Communicating the content of this final plan is the next step. Existing and new citizen committees will be key in developing ways to interact with the public on specific components of the plan in the time to come.

Additional voices from Brunswick citizens (taken from mail survey):

“I am very happy to live in a community that values open space and harmony between people and nature.”

“I’m no planner or politician but wish I knew what to do to save our open space.”

“The more green spaces we can conserve the healthier will be the air. And the more aesthetically appealing the town as a whole will be.”

“Support increasing density downtown to preserve rural land from development.”



New features are added to map at Open Space Fair.

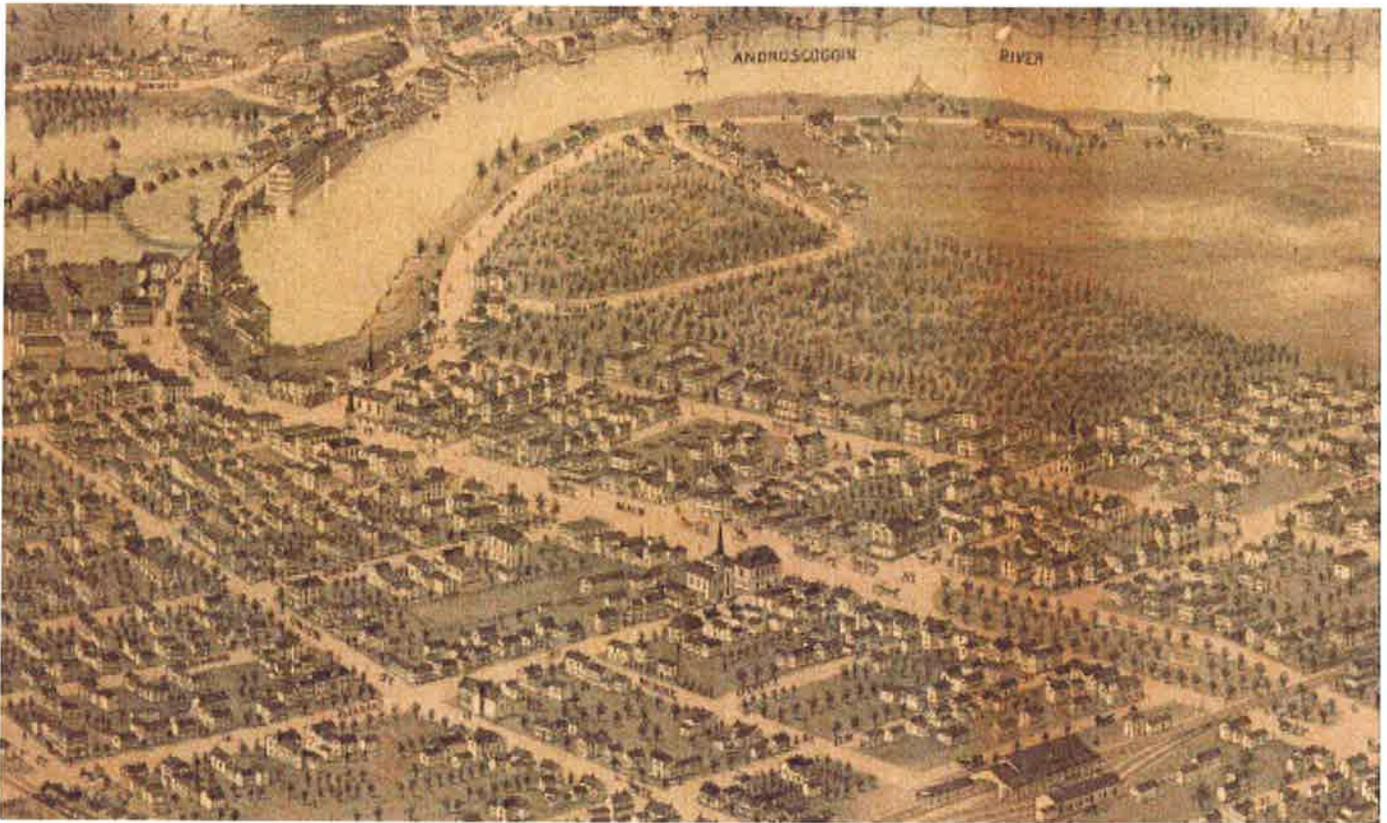
RECOMMENDATIONS

Develop community education programs to keep people informed about the significance of natural resources, open space, and recreation facilities in their lives.

- Create educational materials on a number of recreation and open space issues, from ice fishing, water access points, and trail etiquette to the value of, and best cutting practices for, trees and forests.
- Organize a variety of presentations on Brunswick's cultural environment, e.g., Scenic Brunswick; History of Farming; Where in Brunswick is this Place?
- Work with the school department to incorporate farming in classroom learning.



Citizens speak up at Open Space Fair



Detail of 1877 Brunswick & Topsham Map (Source: Pejepscot Historical Society)

THE NEXT STEPS

The Task Force identified nearly 140 steps to complete the Parks, Recreation & Open Space Plan. One wonders where to begin: what's most important, who should work on each action, and how to keep track of progress. We have created a long-range Action Plan to assign responsibility and importance to each step. To see these steps click on **Action Chart**.

We grouped the actions by priority. The first set, labeled Priority, consists of top priority actions that do not cost any money, can be implemented relatively quickly, and have been developed to enable subsequent actions to take place. The other priority sets are labeled: Essential, Very Important, Important, and Desirable. Remember that this Action Plan is a guide for implementing parties and that these parties may need to respond as other opportunities become available.

This plan is wide ranging and we identified a number of parties that may work together on each of these actions. Each action identifies a possible coalition of parties anticipated to appropriately resolve an issue. To help these coalitions get established, a lead party has been identified for each action.

For more information about the source of each of the actions, please consult the subcommittee reports that are referenced. Some of the subcommittee recommendations have been modified upon task force review and discussion and do not always exactly mirror the initial subcommittee work.

A periodic check-in of overall progress is recommended. It is anticipated that this plan warrants a comprehensive review and update at appropriate intervals. This will allow fine-tuning as the needs of the community evolve.

Please click on the pdf file ACTION CHART to see the long-range Action Plan.



New Meadows River and Adams Road

WHAT YOU CAN DO

This concludes *From the River to the Bay*. The big picture is now complete, and tasks ahead are hopefully clear and provide inspiration. Now, it's up to you.

What do you think of the plan? What ideas excite you, or what ideas are cause for concern? Much like we have done over the past three years, we want to continue to receive your feedback.

Secondly, we want to extend an invitation to you, an opportunity to help us realize this vision. Your help with the implementation of this plan is much needed, desired and appreciated.

If you feel so inclined, copy the next page of the plan and get your opinion and ideas back to us. Feel free to use additional paper.

Thank you!

F E E D B A C K F O R M

Please express the degree to which you support this plan as a whole (check box)

- Strongly support
- Support
- No opinion/neutral
- Oppose
- Strongly oppose

Are there any recommendations that concern you?

Are there any recommendations or issues that we have overlooked?

Are you interested in assisting with the implementation of this plan?

- Yes
- No

Are there specific activities you would like to do or have special expertise in?

Which of the following organizations (and/or activities) that will be involved in implementing the plan are you interested in helping? Check all that apply.

- Cemetery Commission
- Farm Advisory Committee
- Comprehensive Plan Advisory Committee
- Friends of the Parks Group
- Conservation Commission
- Recreation Commission
- Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee
- Scenic Areas
- Land for Brunswick's Future Board
- Tree Committee
- Natural Resource Field Work
- Multi-Generational Community Center
- Youth Advisory Committee
- Friends of The Commons
- Friends of Cox Pinnacle
- Trail Building & Maintenance

Any other comments or advice you have for us? Use extra paper if necessary.

Please give us your name, address, phone number, and email address if you are interested in helping in the future.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone # _____

Email _____

Thank you very much!

Please return to:
Town of Brunswick
Planning & Development Department
28 Federal Street
Brunswick, ME 04101

207/725-6660
holtwijk@brunswickme.org

Action Chart

ACTION PLAN

WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE

LEAD PARTY ■ SUPPORT ORGANIZATION ✓

VERY IMPORTANT ACTIONS

Maintain Brunswick's Natural Character

- 35 Prepare gateway landscape/cleanup plans at Outer Pleasant Street and Mill Street and make improvements to grass esplanades on Inner Pleasant Street
- 36 Establish a reg. maintenance cycle for tree pruning and the timely removal of hazard trees.
- 37 Plant new trees in built areas lacking a tree presence, such as Bank Street, Cook's Corner, Cumberland Street, Federal Street at Hawthorne, Outer Pleasant Street, Perryman Village, Sweet Street and between High School and Remington Estates
- 38 Initiate an invasive species identification and control program
- 39 Obtain Village Review Board recommendation re: which intown roads may be considered scenic
- 40 Increase monitoring of tree harvesting to promote Best Management Practices (BMP's) and enforce the Natural Resource Protection Zone (NRPZ) regulations
- 41 Develop standards for timber harvesting that may affect scenic resources and areas outside NRPZ
- 42 Increase technical assistance for forest management activities for private landowners.
- 43 Identify existing old field habitat that supports grassland breeding bird species
- 44 Identify high value forested wetlands/peatlands not protected under shoreland zoning.
- 45 Initiate a vernal pool survey and assign value ranking criteria
- 46 Meet with abutting towns to coordinate habitat protection and acquisition priorities on common borders.
- 47 Identify and assist potential farms interested in the Land for Maine's Future program with submission of application for acquisition of development rights to farmland by the State
- 48 Encourage purchase of local food for schools and local institutions. Develop pamphlet.
- 49 Enlist the support of Maine's Congressional delegation for continued funding for the program that gives money to seniors to spend at local farmers markets and farm stands.
- 50 Meet with farmers/state officials to discuss State farmland tax program and advocate for repeal of the estate tax for farmers
- 51 Identify private forest resources with high public value and begin dialogue with owners

Take Care of What We Already Have

- 52 Create a full-time bicycle/pedestrian coordinator position within the Planning & Development Department
- 53 Provide funding for annual maintenance and improvement of cemeteries where such is needed and desired.
- 54 Rebuild or repair the suspension bridge over the Androscoggin River
- 55 Develop a master plan for the Coffin Pond property
- 56 Evaluate Longfellow School playground for conformance with the Consumer Safety Performance Specifications.
- 57 Trim vegetation to allow more parking and address erosion at Prince's Point.
- 58 Install ADA compliant bleachers at Edwards Field, Lishness Field, and the Old High School.
- 59 Apply for "Tree City USA" designation
- 60 Make permanent improvements to identified local cemeteries in keeping with the management plan.
- 61 Encourage cooperative efforts with utilities and other municipal departments to ensure that all town trees receive necessary care and protection

COMPLETED

Town Council	Manager	Recreation Commission	Parks & Recreation Department	Planning Board	Department Planning & Develop.	Conservation Department	Commission	Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee	School Advisory Committee	Department School	Comprehensive Plan Advisory Committee	Farm Advisory Committee	Tree Committee	Land For Brunswick's Committee	Future Board	Non-Governmental Trails Organization	Public Works Department	Cemetery Commission	SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT REFERENCES (listed are either action item number or page number "p.")
	■		✓														✓		Scenic Areas, p 5-6
	✓		■										✓				✓		Community Forest-A1
			■										✓				✓		Community Forest-A3; Scenic Areas, p 5
			✓																Flora/Fauna-18
																			Scenic Areas, p 6
																			Woodlands-B4
																			Scenic Areas, p 5
																			Woodlands-B3
																			Flora/Fauna-5f
																			Flora/Fauna-3c
																			Flora/Fauna-5b
																			Flora/Fauna-4
	✓		✓									■			✓				Farmland, p 5
												■							Farmland, p 6
												■							Farmland, p 6
	✓											■							Farmland, p 5
																			Woodlands-B3
																			Trails-2
	■		✓																Cemeteries, p 4
	■		✓																Trails-6
	■		✓																Parks-10
	✓		✓																Parks-5
	■		✓																Water Access-p 3
	■		✓																Parks-13
	✓		✓																Community Forest-C4
	✓		✓																Cemeteries, p 4
	✓		✓																Community Forest-B2, 5, 6, 7

ACTION PLAN

WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE

LEAD PARTY ■ SUPPORT ORGANIZATION ✓

COMPLETED

Improve and Expand for Tomorrow

	Town Council	Town Manager	Recreation Commission	Parks & Recreation Department	Planning Board	Planning & Develop. Department	Conservation Commission	Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee	School Department	Comprehensive Plan Advisory Committee	Farm Advisory Committee	Tree Committee	Land For Brunswicks Committee	Future Board	Non-Governmental Trails Organization	Public Works Department	Cemetery Commission	SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT REFERENCES (listed are either action item number or page number "p.")
109	✓	■	✓	✓	✓	✓												Indoor Recreation-4
110	✓	■	✓	✓	✓	✓												Indoor Recreation-1k
111	✓	■	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓							✓			Water Access-p.3
112	✓	✓	✓	■	✓	✓		✓							✓			Parks-8; Trails-5
113	✓	✓	✓	■	✓	✓												Parks-18
114	✓	✓	✓	■	✓	✓												Parks-3
115	✓	✓	✓	■	✓	✓												Parks-3
116	✓	✓	✓	■	✓	✓												Parks-9
117	✓	✓	✓	■	✓	✓												Parks-9
118	✓	✓	✓	■	✓	✓		✓	✓						✓			Parks-16; Water Access-p.5
119	✓	■	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓									Parks-15
120	✓	■	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓						✓			Parks-23
121	✓	✓	✓	■	✓	✓									✓			Parks-23
122	✓	✓	✓	■	✓	✓			✓									Parks-11; Water Access-p.5-6
Develop Public-Private Partnerships																		
123	✓	✓	✓	■	✓	✓							✓				✓	Parks-22
124					✓	✓			✓		■							Farmland, p.4-5
125					✓	✓					■							Farmland, p.6
Keep the Public Involved																		
126	✓	✓	✓	■	✓	✓												Water access-1-4
127					✓	✓			✓		■							Farmland, p.6
128					■	■												Flora/Fauna-19, 22
129					■	■			✓									Flora/Fauna-21
130			✓		✓	✓		■							✓			Trails-9
131					✓	✓			✓		■							Farmland, p.5
132											✓							Farmland, p.6
133			■										✓					Community Forest-C3; Flora/Fauna-21

Population

Brunswick Population and Demographic Analysis

DRAFT

2-27-02

This chapter summarizes past population and demographic changes, projects future population growth and demographic trends, and assesses the impacts these changes could have on Brunswick's recreation and open space resources.

PART A. POPULATION CHANGE

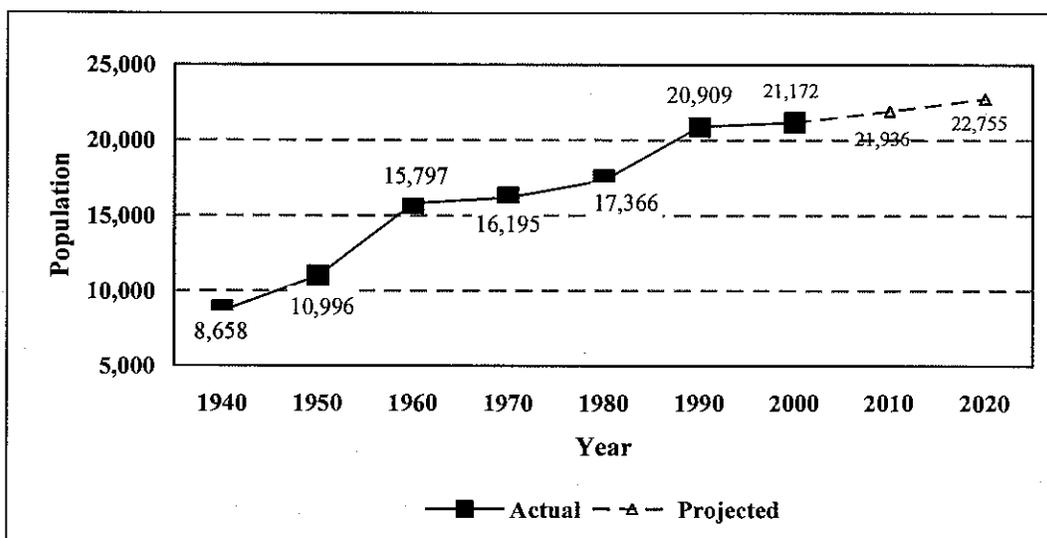
The United States Census divides population into two segments—household population and group quarters population. Brunswick's group quarters population is unusually large; it includes students living on campus at Bowdoin College, military personnel living in barracks at the Brunswick Naval Air Station, nursing home residents, and others. All residents not living in group quarters are considered part of the household population. Despite Brunswick's large group quarters population, its household population accounts for more than 90 % of the town's residents.

1. Population Growth, 1940 - 1990

A half-century of growth transformed Brunswick from a town of 8,658 in 1940 to one of 20,909 in 1990 (Figure A). In the 1950s, the town grew from 11,000 to 16,000 (45% increase) when the onset of the Cold War prompted the reopening of the Brunswick Naval Air Station (BNAS).¹ Growth moderated in the 1960s and 1970s, but rebounded in the 1980s as a real estate boom fueled an increase from 17,366 year round residents in 1980 to 20,909 in 1990 (20%).

¹ BNAS was established in 1943 during World War II. It closed in 1947 when the military scaled back after the war's end. The base reopened in 1951 as the Cold War intensified. The number of military personnel stationed at BNAS has remained relatively consistent around 4,500 to 5,000 personnel since the base reopened in 1951. Although a restructuring of the armed forces in the 1990s reduced the number of active squadrons from six to three, this reduction was offset by the relocation of three reserve squadrons from an anti-submarine warfare base in South Weymouth, Massachusetts. Despite the new top-down review of the military ordered by the Bush Administration, base officials are confident that BNAS, as the last active-duty military air base in New England, will remain open.

Figure A
Brunswick Population Change 1940 - 2020



Source: US Census; Planning Decisions, Inc.

Brunswick's household population is more than 90% of the town's total population and accounted for the majority of the population change between 1970 and 1990 (Table A). Within this time frame, the household population increased from 14,536 to 19,047 (or 31%). Most of this growth occurred during the real estate boom of the 1980s, when the household population grew by more than 3,500 residents (23%).

Table A
Components of Population Growth, 1970 - 1990

	1970	Change 70 - 80		1980	Change 80 - 90		1990
		#	%		#	%	
Household pop.	14,536	976	6.7%	15,512	3,535	22.8%	19,047
Group quarters pop.	1,659	195	11.8%	1,854	8	0.4%	1,862
Total pop.	16,195	1,171	7.2%	17,366	3,543	20.4%	20,909

Source: US Census

Between 1970 and 1990, the group quarters population increased from 1,659 to 1,862 (12%) (Table A). Most of this growth occurred in the 1970s when the group quarters population increased to 1,854 residents (12%). None of the group quarters population growth between 1970 and 1990 occurred at BNAS (724 group quarter residents in both Census reports). Students living on campus at Bowdoin College and counted as Brunswick residents increased from 813 to 933².

² Through a reporting loophole, the US Census figures from 1990 undercounted the number of Bowdoin College students living on campus. The Census reported 933 residents living on campus in 1990 (including fraternities) while the College reports 1,147 students living on campus in 1990 (including fraternities).

2. Household Population, 1990 - 2000

According to the US Census, the household population reached 19,107 by 2000, an increase of two percent in ten years (Table C). New housing units, a stable occupancy rate, and a significant decrease in the household size combine to account for this household growth.

a. Housing Unit Change

Brunswick had a 523 unit net increase in housing units between 1990 and 2000 to total 8,720. Planning Decisions estimates that 528 new housing units were constructed in Brunswick and 5 housing units were removed and not reconstructed (demolition, fire, etc). According to the US Census, 220 of the 8,720 housing units were for seasonal use.³

Housing development grew steadily throughout the 1990s as regional economic conditions and the interest rate environment improved (Figure B). Single family houses accounted for an estimated net increase of 356 units and mobile homes/others accounted for 104 units (Table B). More than one-half of the 63 new duplexes or multi-family units were added at the Thornton Oaks retirement community on Baribeau Drive.

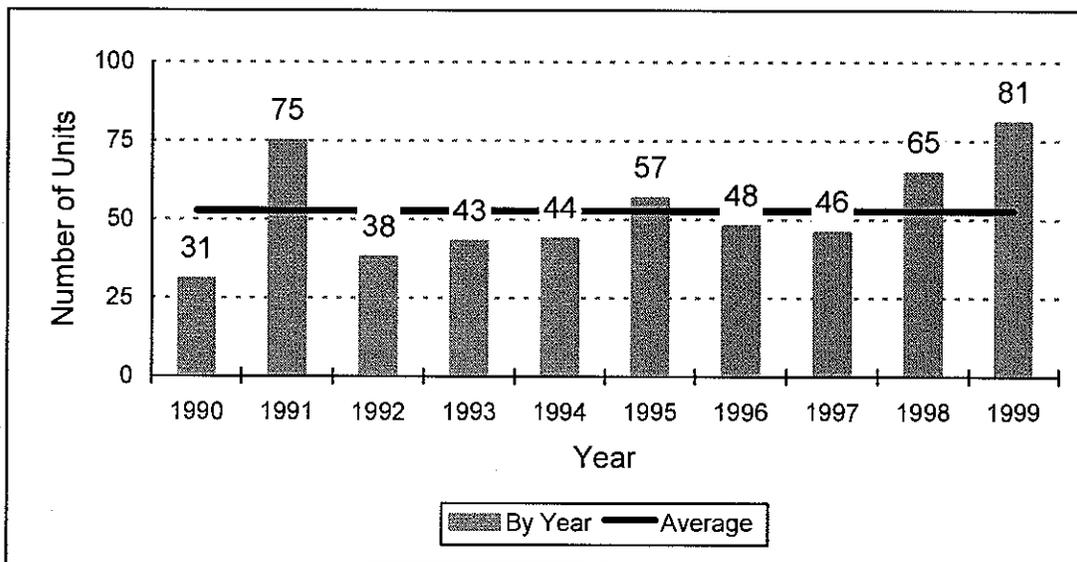
Table B
Housing Unit Growth by Type, 1980 - 2000

	1980 Units	% change 1980 - 1990	1990 Units	% change 1990 - 2000	2000 Units (est.)
Single family	3,806	20.4%	4,585	7.8%	4,941
Two units or more	1,579	49.1%	2,355	2.7%	2,418
Mobile/other	698	80.1%	1,257	8.3%	1,361
Total	6,241	31.3%	8,197	6.4%	8,720

Source: US Census; Planning Decisions, Inc; Town Staff

³ The increase in seasonal housing units can be explained by the construction of new seasonal housing units as well as the conversion of year-round housing units into seasonal housing units as aging owners become "snow-birds" and choose to spend the winter months (including the April Census count) in warmer climates.

Figure B
New Housing Units by Year, 1990 - 1999



Source: Town Staff, Planning Decisions, Inc.

Note: the decennial Census is taken on April 1990 and April 2000. Planning Decisions estimates for new units extend from January 1990 through December 1999.

b. Occupancy Rate Change

The occupancy rate did not change between 1990 and 2000; it remained at 96%. The combination of the strong economy, tight housing market, and more new homeowner units than rental units (homeowner units have higher occupancy rates) have been upward influences on Brunswick’s occupancy rate. Mitigating these upward influences are the timing of the Census count (April 1st excludes the growing “snowbird” population) and an aging housing stock (older units are more likely to be functionally obsolete, yet still counted by the Census).

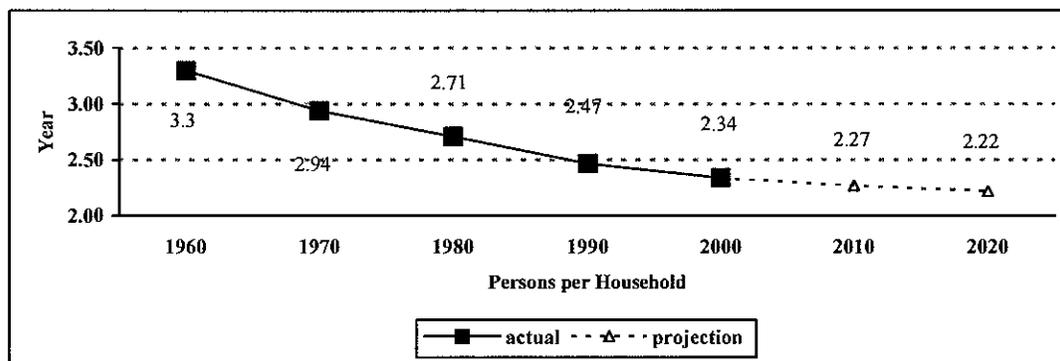
c. Household Size Change

Tempering the upward influence of new housing units is the trend towards smaller household sizes. Nationwide, this trend is explained by a tendency towards smaller families in the baby boom generation, the increased longevity and independence of seniors living alone, and increased divorce rates.

These national trends are compounded by local trends. Brunswick’s growing role as a senior-living center will continue to push down household sizes as more retirees and “empty-nesters” settle in town. High real estate values are a barrier for younger families looking to live in the region. In addition, the State’s strong economy tends to reduce the number of extended families living together. All of these trends exert downward pressure on the town’s average household size.

In 1960, Brunswick averaged 3.30 persons per housing unit (Figure C). By 2000, this number had fallen to 2.34, and by 2020 this number is projected to reach 2.22 persons per housing unit.

Figure C
Persons Per Household, 1960 - 2020



Source: US Census; Planning Decisions, Inc

Table C describes the interrelationship of new housing units, occupancy rates, and a decreasing household size. The 486 net increase in year-round housing units increased the town's year-round housing stock to 8,500. With an occupancy rate of 96%, the number of households was 8,447. Household sizes have decreased to 2.34 persons per housing unit, which results in a household population of 19,107.

Table C
Household Population, 2000

1990 total housing units	8,197
(minus) 1990 seasonal units	183
(equals) 1990 year-round units	8,014
(plus) new year-round units, 1990 - 2000	486
(equals) 2000 year round units	8,500
(multiplied by) estimated occupancy factor	0.96
(equals) 2000 estimated households	8,150
(multiplied by) 2001 estimated household size	2.34
(equals) 2000 household population	19,107

Source: US Census; Planning Decisions, Inc.

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3. Group Quarters Population, 1990 - 2000

The group quarters population is estimated to have increased from 1,862 in 1990 to 2,065 in 2000. This represents an increase of 11%, or 203 residents. Underlying this number is a dramatic shift from military personnel living in barracks to retirees living in assisted living and college students living in dormitories. Military personnel living in group quarters has decreased from 724 in 1990 to 361⁴ in 2000. Most of this occurred as the military downsized its personnel after the end of the Cold War. Offsetting this decrease is an increasing number of Bowdoin College students living on campus (from 933 in 1990 to 1,380 in 2000). Other group quarters populations are estimated to have increased dramatically from 196 residents in 1990 to 324 residents in 2000. Nearly all of this increase comes from the assisted living facility at Thornton Oaks.

7. Geographic Distribution of Growth 1990 - 2000

The geographic distribution of housing-unit growth varies across town. The town's rural areas (West Brunswick, Pleasant Hill, Pennellville/Mere Point, New Meadows Shore, and East Brunswick) (Figure D) grew by a total of 381 new housing units (78% of new housing unit growth). East Brunswick alone accounted for more than one-third of all housing unit growth in town. Meanwhile, the urban areas (Downtown, Downtown Fringe, and BNAS/Cook's Corner) grew by 105 units (22% of the total) (Table D).

Table D
Year-Round Housing Unit Growth, 1990 - 2000

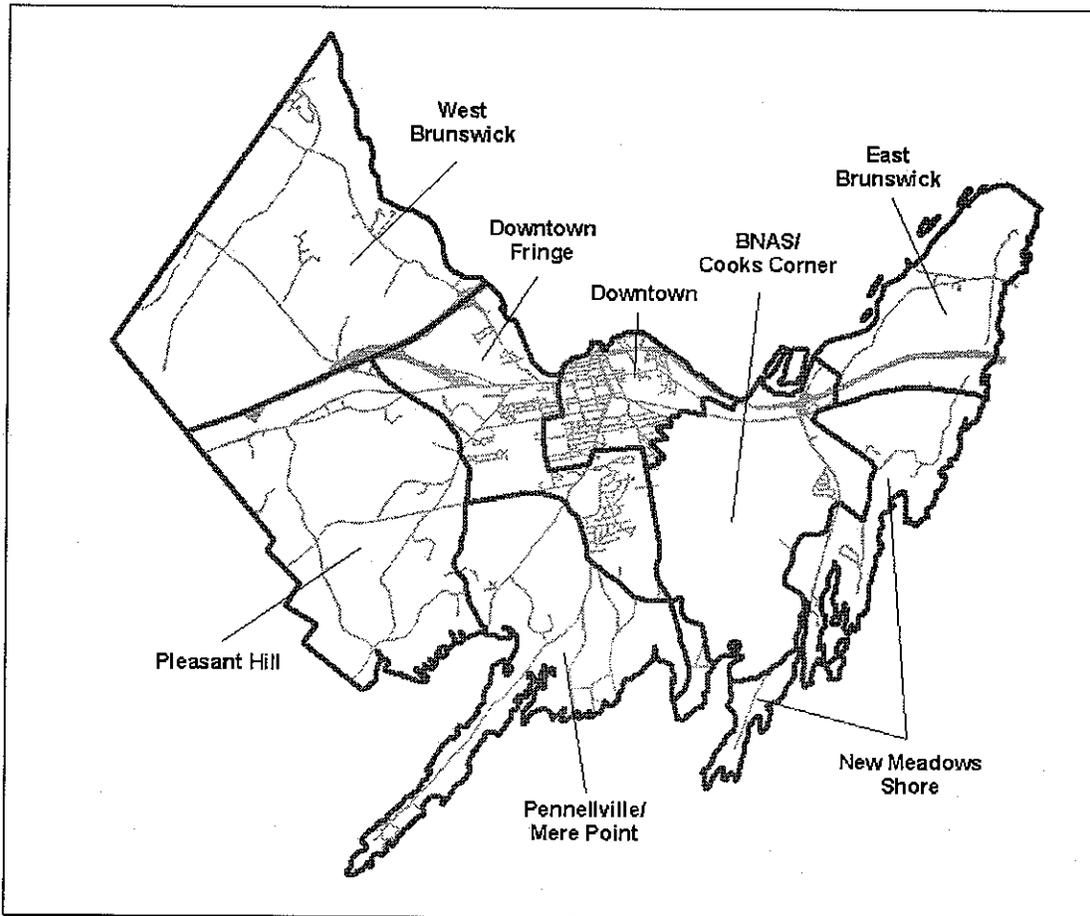
	1990 Housing Units	New Housing Units	% Total Growth	% Relative Growth	2000 Housing Units
West Brunswick	269	65	13.4%	24.2%	334
Pleasant Hill	291	46	9.5%	15.8%	337
Pennellville/Mere Point	743	39	8.0%	5.2%	782
New Meadows Shore	254	66	13.6%	26.0%	320
East Brunswick	797	165	34.0%	20.7%	962
BNAS/Cooks Corner	717	-40	-8.2%	-5.6%	677
Downtown	2,939	40	8.2%	1.4%	2979
Downtown Fringe	2,004	105	21.6%	5.2%	2109
Total	8,014	486	100.1%	6.1%	8500

Source: US Census, Planning Decisions, Inc.

Comparing the relative growth between these areas reinforces the demands for new housing in the town's rural areas. In relative terms, the rural areas grew by 16% while the urban areas grew by 2%.

⁴ A transient population—including precommissioning crews for Bath Iron Works vessels, survival training candidates, reservists, and others—lives in group quarters but aren't counted in the US Census as residents and don't participate in the community as year-round residents would.

Figure D
Brunswick Neighborhoods



Source: Planning Decisions, Inc.

The geographic distribution of population growth during the 1990s was more dramatic than the trends in housing unit development. Brunswick's urban areas lost 5% of their household population (Table E) while rural household populations grew by nearly 13%. The Downtown, BNAS/Cook's Corner, the Downtown Fringe, and Pennellville/Mere Point neighborhoods lost population. The Downtown lost 298 residents. Meanwhile, East Brunswick added nearly 300 residents, and the New Meadows Shore added 214 residents.

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Table E
Household Population Growth by Geography, 1990 - 2000

	1990			2000			Change 90 - 00		
	Hshld	Hshld Size	Pop	Hshld	Hshld Size	Pop	Hshld	Hshld Pop Δ	
								#	%
West Brunswick	257	2.95	759	330	2.71	893	73	134	17.7%
Pleasant Hill	282	2.87	808	333	2.85	949	51	141	17.5%
P.ville/Mere Point	729	2.25	1,642	723	2.20	1592	-6	-50	-3.0%
New Meadows Shore	229	2.53	580	302	2.63	794	73	214	36.9%
East Brunswick	771	2.45	1,892	897	2.41	2164	126	272	14.4%
BNAS/Cooks Cntr	689	3.01	2,077	651	2.90	1891	-38	-186	-9.0%
Downtown	2,822	2.16	6,096	2850	2.03	5798	28	-298	-4.9%
Downtown Fringe	1,932	2.69	5,193	2064	2.44	5026	132	-167	-3.2%
Total	7,711	2.47	19,047	8150	2.34	19107	439	60	0.3%

Source: US Census; Planning Decisions, Inc.

The distribution of growth between 1990 and 2000 suggests two major trends are at work in Brunswick. First, the data suggests that households with children are moving into the town's rural areas. The average household size in the town's rural areas was 2.43 persons per household, which is significantly above the urban area's 2.30 persons per household. Further evidence of this trend is in the age distribution between the rural and urban areas of town. Between 1990 and 2000, the number of Brunswick residents under 18 years of age increased from 4,845 to 4,871 (Table F). The number of residents under 18 in urban areas decreased by 8% while those in rural areas grew by 22%.

Table F
Population Under 18 Years of Age, 1990 - 2000

	1990		2000		Change: 90 - 00	
	#	% of Hshld Pop	#	% of Hshld Pop	#	% of Hshld Pop
West Brunswick	222	29.2%	253	28.3%	31	14.0%
Pleasant Hill	218	27.0%	286	30.1%	68	31.2%
P.ville / Mere Point	307	18.7%	298	18.7%	-9	-2.9%
New Meadows Shore	126	21.7%	207	26.1%	81	64.3%
East Brunswick	443	23.4%	561	25.9%	118	26.6%
BNAS / Cooks Corner	759	36.5%	702	37.1%	-57	-7.5%
Downtown	1,295	21.2%	1,199	20.7%	-96	-7.4%
Downtown Fringe	1,475	28.4%	1,365	27.2%	-110	-7.5%
Total	4,845	25.4%	4,871	26.0%	26	0.5%

Source: US Census

The second major trend is Brunswick's growing role as a senior-living center in Midcoast Maine. The inconsistency between 105 new year-round housing units in the urban areas and 657 fewer household residents is in part explained by a dramatic contraction in the average number of persons per housing unit (from 2.46 in 1990 to 2.30 in 2000). The primary variable driving down the household population is the urban area's aging

population and its growing role as a senior-living center. These numbers do not include an additional 200 seniors living in the main building at the Thornton Oaks retirement community (these residents are considered part of the group quarter population). This role is projected to continue, as elder residents are attracted to the convenience, services, and community in Brunswick's urban areas.

8. Population Projections, 2000 - 2020

Planning Decisions projects that Brunswick's population will reach 21,936 by 2010 and 22,755 by 2020 (Figure A, Table G). Except for a projected moderate increase in the student population living in dormitories at Bowdoin College, the majority of this growth is projected to be in the household population in rural areas of town.

a. Household Population Change, 2000 - 2020

An upward influence on household population is the continued addition of new housing units to the town's housing stock. An average of 60 new housing units per year has been added to the town's housing stock between 1995 and 2001. This rate is projected to moderate slightly through 2010. Between 2010 and 2020, the growth rate of new housing units is projected to decrease to 45 units per year. This decrease is the result of a projected stagnant population statewide and the increasing attractiveness of communities surrounding Brunswick. These rates of development are projected to net a total of 9,010 housing units in 2010 and 9,551 housing units in 2020 (Table G).

Occupancy rates and average household sizes will put downward pressure on population. The large number of rental units in Brunswick will hold occupancy rates around 96% through 2020. Average household sizes are projected to continue falling to 2.27 by 2010 and to 2.22 by 2020 (Table G), as Brunswick's growing role as a senior-living center and the aging of the baby boom generation continues to exert downward pressure on household sizes.

Combined, these variables result in household population projections of 19,636 in 2010 (3% increase from 2000) and 20,355 in 2020 (4% increase from 2010).

**Table G
Population Projections, 2000 - 2020**

	2000	2010 (proj.)	2020 (proj.)
Year Round Housing Units	8,500	9,010	9,551
Occupancy Rate	0.96	0.96	0.96
Households	8,150	8,650	9,169
Persons per Household	2.34	2.27	2.22
Household Population	19,107	19,636	20,355
Group Quarter Population	2,065	2,300	2,400
Total Population	21,172	21,936	22,755

Source: Planning Decisions, Inc.

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b. Group Quarters Population Change, 2000 - 2020

The large number of group quarters residents decreases the accuracy of projections because their numbers depend largely on policy decisions and are independent of established development patterns. National defense considerations or an expansion of the Bowdoin student population could significantly affect this component of Brunswick's population. This analysis projects that the group quarter population will increase to 2,300 residents by 2010 and will reach 2,400 residents by 2020 (Table G). These projected increases will be driven by an increasing student population at Bowdoin College and more elder-care facilities in Brunswick.

8. Geographic Distribution of Population, 2000 - 2020

Rural areas of town are projected to drive Brunswick's growth through 2020. Housing unit growth is projected to remain robust—although slightly lower than current levels—and household growth is projected to grow by 6% in each of the next two decades (Table H). Areas that are projected to receive most of Brunswick's future household growth include West Brunswick, Pleasant Hill, and the New Meadows Shore.⁵ These areas both contain large undeveloped parcels that have good environmental conditions for development (soils and slopes). Growth in the New Meadows Shore and East Brunswick will be stronger if the Cooks Corner Master Plan is successful in its attempt to reorient development around pedestrians.

**Table H
Projected Household Growth by Geographic Region, 2001 - 2020**

	2000	Change 2000 – 2010		2010	Change 2010 – 2020		2020
		#	%		#	%	
West Brunswick	330	89	27%	419	103	25%	522
Pleasant Hill	333	80	24%	413	89	22%	502
P.ville/Mere Point	723	56	8%	779	72	9%	851
N Meadows Shore	302	83	27%	385	61	16%	446
East Brunswick	897	128	14%	1,025	75	7%	1,100
BNAS/Cooks Crnr ⁶	651	99	15%	750	69	9%	819
Downtown	2,850	-77	-3%	2,773	-25	-1%	2,748
Downtown Fringe	2,064	42	2%	2,106	75	3%	2,181
Total	8,150	500	6%	8,650	519	6%	9,169

Source: *Planning Decisions, Inc.*

Between 2000 and 2020, development trends are projected to continue to reallocate Brunswick's population from the urban areas of town to the rural areas (Table D). The most robust household population growth is projected to occur in West Brunswick,

⁵ Projections assume no significant changes in the Zoning Ordinance.

⁶ BNAS is beginning a housing renovation project that will add an additional 16 housing units to its stock. This project will be complete by 2006.

Pleasant Hill, and the New Meadows Shore. Household populations in Brunswick's urban areas are projected to stagnate.

Table I
Projected Household Population Growth by Geographic Region, 2000 - 2020

	2000	Change 2000 – 2010		Proj. Pop. 2010	Change 2010 – 2020		Proj. Pop. 2020
		#	%		#	%	
West Brunswick	893	142	16%	1,035	149	14%	1,184
Pleasant Hill	949	133	14%	1,082	106	10%	1,188
P.ville/Mere Point	1,592	95	6%	1,687	57	4%	1,774
N Meadows Shore	794	143	18%	937	98	10%	1,035
East Brunswick	2,164	65	3%	2,229	72	3%	2,301
BNAS/Cooks Crnr	1,891	19	1%	1,910	16	1%	1,926
Downtown	5,798	-143	-2%	5,655	46	1%	5,701
Downtown Fringe	5,026	75	1%	511	145	3%	5,246
Total	19,107	529	2.8%	19,636	719	3.7%	20,355

Source: Planning Decisions, Inc.

Despite sluggish population growth, these development trends highlight two interesting issues regarding Brunswick's open space and recreation resources. The first issue, of particular interest for the town's open space resources, is the continued demand for housing units in the town's rural areas. This issue cannot be confined to a discussion about where development occurs; it must also consider how it occurs.

The second issue, of particular interest to the town's recreation resources, is the relocation of households with children from urban areas to rural areas and the growing role of Brunswick as a senior-living center. These two trends could influence the type, size, and location of future recreation resources.

PART B. DEMOGRAPHIC CHANGES

1. Age

Brunswick's population is getting older. In 1970 the median age of Brunswick residents was 24.3 years (Table J). By 2000 the median age had reached 35.5 years. This is a national trend that has been driven by increasing life expectancies and decreasing family sizes. The older age profile of the town's residents is projected to continue as life expectancies increase, the baby boom generation ages, and Brunswick develops its role as a major senior-living center for Midcoast Maine.

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Table J
Persons by Age, 1970 - 2000

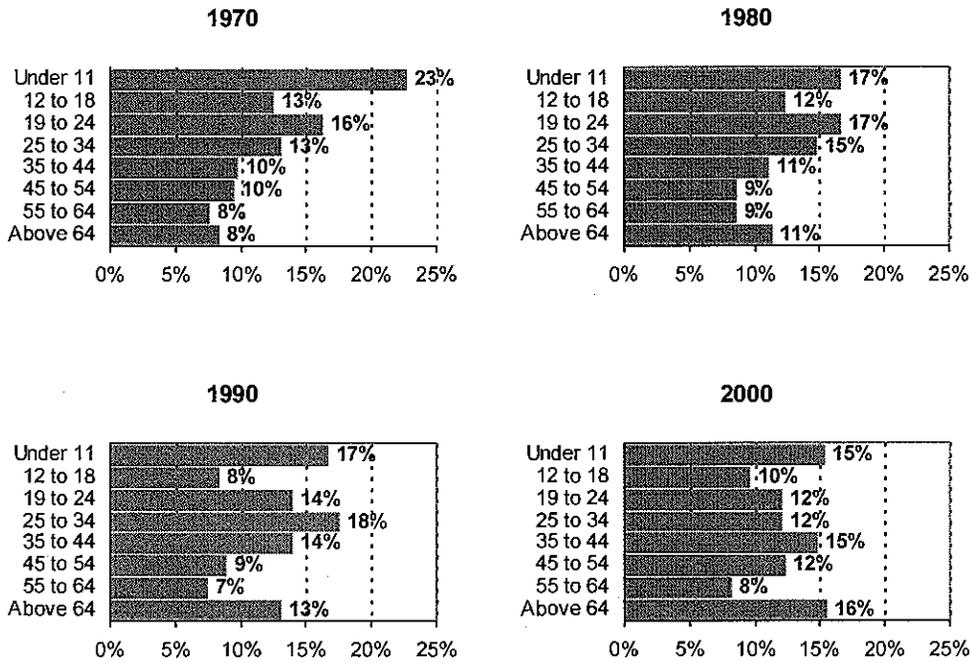
	1970		1980		1990		2000	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Under 6	1,801	11.1%	1,347	7.8%	1,847	8.8%	1,586	7.5%
6 - 11	1,879	11.6%	1,537	8.9%	1,657	7.9%	1,682	7.9%
12 - 14	864	5.3%	794	4.6%	640	3.1%	839	4.0%
15 - 18	1,169	7.2%	1,333	7.7%	1,109	5.3%	1,192	5.6%
19 - 24	2,640	16.3%	2,892	16.7%	2,912	13.9%	2,565	12.1%
25 - 34	2,125	13.1%	2,571	14.8%	3,661	17.5%	2,571	12.1%
35 - 44	1,577	9.7%	1,921	11.1%	2,928	14.0%	3,131	14.8%
45 - 54	1,534	9.5%	1,499	8.6%	1,857	8.9%	2,597	12.3%
55 - 64	1,234	7.6%	1,489	8.6%	1,545	7.4%	1,737	8.2%
65 - 74	814	5.0%	1,132	6.5%	1,554	7.4%	1,493	7.1%
75 - 84	439	2.7%	639	3.7%	894	4.3%	1,307	6.2%
Over 84	119	0.7%	212	1.2%	302	1.4%	472	2.2%
Total	16,195	100.0%	17,366	100.0%	20,906	100.0%	21,172	100.0%
Median	24.3		27.5		31.0		35.5	

Source: US Census; Claritas

Between 1970 and 1990, the number of persons over 64 increased from 1,372 to 2,750 residents (Figure E) and the number of persons between 19 and 44 increased from 6,342 to 9,501. The only age cohort that decreased included those 18 years and under.

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Figure E
Age Cohort as a % of the Total Population, 1970 - 2000



Source: US Census

The increasingly older profile of Brunswick's residents has several implications for the type of open spaces and recreational resources the town provides. Older age groups are becoming more involved in recreation activities. Nationwide, the most popular recreational activities for persons over 60 include walking, picnicking, bird watching, swimming, and freshwater fishing. With a stable population of residents younger than 18 years, there will be less demand for active recreation facilities.

2. Education

Brunswick's residents are becoming better educated. Between 1980 and 1990, the number of residents that received a high school degree (or its equivalent) increased to 84% from 70% (Table K). Similarly, the percent of residents with some college education increased to one-third in 1990 from one-fifth in 1980. This trend is expected to have continued through the 1990s.

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Table K
Educational Attainment, 1980 - 1990

	1980		1990	
	#	%	#	%
Persons 25 years and older				
Less than 9 th grade	1,493	15.8%	735	5.8%
9 th to 12 th grade, no degree	1,267	13.4%	1,364	10.7%
High school graduate	3,262	34.5%	3,975	31.2%
Some college, no degree	1,454	15.4%	2,497	19.6%
Bachelor's/associate degree	1,987	21.0%	2,911	22.9%
Graduate or professional degree			1,256	9.9%
Total	9,463	100.1%	12,738	100.1%

Source: US Census

Increasing education levels also leads to different interactions with recreation and open spaces. More educated persons are more likely to participate in walking, hiking, swimming, picnicking, and bicycling than those with lower education levels.

3. Occupation

Brunswick residents are becoming more white collar. The percent of residents that are employed in managerial or professional occupations increased to one-third from one-quarter between 1980 and 1990 (Table L). Offsetting this increase were decreases in every other occupational categories but most dramatically in blue collar jobs which decreased to 11% of the employed persons over 24 years from 17%. This trend is expected to continue, although service sector positions will likely increase through the 1990s.

Table L
Occupation
Brunswick, 1980 - 1990

	1980		1990	
	#	%	#	%
Employed persons over 24 yrs.				
Managerial and professional	1,540	23.4%	2,989	33.0%
Technical, sales, admin. support	1,992	30.3%	2,593	28.7%
Service occupations	1,118	17.0%	1,355	15.0%
Farming, forestry, and fishing	103	1.6%	124	1.4%
Precisions production	745	11.3%	962	10.6%
Operators, fabricators, and laborers	1,087	16.5%	1,026	11.3%
Total	6,585	100.1%	9,049	100.0%

Source: US Census

4. Income

Median incomes for Brunswick residents have increased (Table M). In 1969, median household incomes were \$8,584. Median Incomes are estimated to have risen to \$40,015

by 2000. After adjusting for inflation, median incomes have fluctuated between \$36,000 and \$43,000 per year.

Table M
Median Household Income, 1969 - 2000

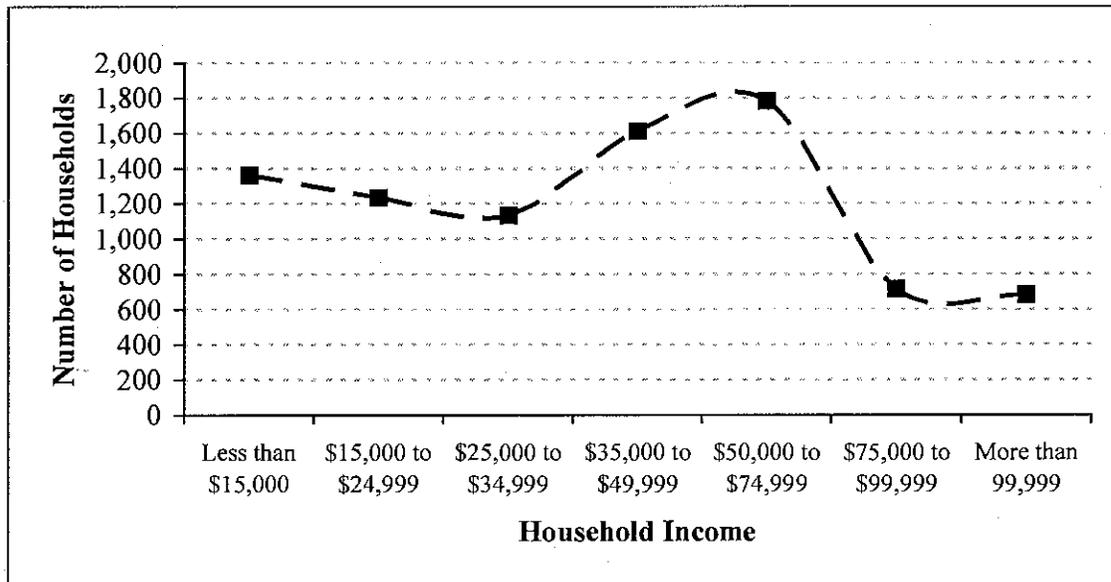
	Median Household Income	Adjusted for Inflation ¹
1969	\$8,584	\$41,066
1979	\$14,697	\$36,218
1989	\$30,896	\$43,101
2000 (estimate)	\$40,015	\$40,015

Source: US Census; Claritas, Inc.

¹ Adjusted to CPI-Urban for All Items in New England, 1982-1984 = 100

Between 1989 and 2000, the range of incomes in Brunswick has become more homogenous. What were roughly equal numbers of residents in lower income brackets have become more concentrated in the \$50,000 to \$74,999 income bracket (Figure F). The number of upper income households has increased, and the number of lower income households has decreased.

Figure F
Distribution of Estimated Household Income, 2000



Source: Planning Decisions, Inc, Claritas, Inc.

Wealthier households are more likely to participate in activities that require expensive travel or equipment. Swimming, running, and bird watching are activities in which wealthy people are more likely to participate.

Survey

Town of Brunswick, Maine

Household Survey

Methodology

Leisure Vision administered a community-wide survey for the Town of Brunswick, Maine during May-June of 2001. The purpose of the survey was to objectively measure citizen attitudes and priorities with a variety of usage, customer satisfaction, needs assessment and funding issues for the purposes of long range planning of improvements for parks and recreation services provided by Town of Brunswick Parks and Recreation Department. The survey was conducted as a key component for the Parks and Recreation Open Space Master Plan.

The statistically valid mail/phone survey was sent out to 1,105 randomly selected households in the Town of Brunswick. 95 of the surveys were non deliverable, with 1010 surveys being deliverable. The survey had a targeted goal for receiving completed surveys from 300 households, which was reached with a total of 303 returned surveys. The return rate for the surveys was 30%. The survey had a 95% level of confidence with a margin of error of +/-5.7%.

This report contains (1) an executive summary of the major findings; (2) charts depicting the overall results of the survey; (3) tabular data for the overall results to each question on the survey, including a breakdown of respondents by gender, geographic area, and age; and (4) a copy of the survey instrument.

National Benchmarks

Since 1998, Leisure Vision (a division of ETC Institute) has conducted household surveys for needs assessments, feasibility studies, customer satisfaction, fees and charges comparisons, and other parks and recreation issues in more than 20 states across the country.

The results of these surveys has provided an unparalleled data base of information to compare responses from household residents in client communities to "National Averages" and therefore provides a unique tool to "assist organizations in better decision making."

Communities within the database include a full-range of municipal and county governments from 20,000 in population through over 1 million in population. They include communities in warm weather climates and cold weather climates; mature communities and some of the fastest growing cities and counties in the country.

“National Averages” have been developed for numerous strategically important parks and recreation planning and management issues including: customer satisfaction and usage of parks and programs; methods for receiving marketing information; reasons that prevent members of households from using parks and recreation facilities more often; priority recreation programs, parks, facilities and trails to improve or develop; etc.

Results from household responses in Brunswick were compared to National Benchmarks to gain further strategic information. A summary of all tabular comparisons is shown in the Benchmarking Section of the Final Report.

Major Findings

Participation in Programs and Customer Satisfaction is High

38% of respondent households participated in a recreation program over the past 12 months. This level of participation is higher than the national average for community residents’ participation in parks and recreation programs and shows an active park system. Equally important, fully 94% of those who participated in programs rated the programs as excellent (46%) or good (48%). Again these numbers are higher than national averages of customer satisfaction. The percentage of respondents who rated programs they participated in as poor was less than 1%.

<u>Participation in Programs</u>	<u>National Benchmark</u>	<u>Brunswick</u>
Yes	29%	38%

<u>Rating of Program</u>	<u>National Benchmark</u>	<u>Brunswick</u>
Excellent	27%	46%
Good	54%	48%
Fair	12%	4%
Poor	2%	0%
Don=t know	5%	2%

Households Visiting Parks and Customer Satisfaction with Parks is High

67% of respondent households indicated they had visited a city park over the past 12 months. Of those who had visited parks, 37% rated the conditions of the parks as excellent and an additional 52% rated the condition of the parks as good. Only 11% rated the condition of parks as fair, with less than .4% rating them as poor.

The percentage of respondent households who visited city parks is very consistent with national benchmarking averages, while the ratings for conditions of parks is higher than national benchmarks.

<u>Visited Town Parks</u>	<u>National Benchmark</u>	<u>Brunswick</u>
Yes	29%	38%

<u>Rating of Park Conditions</u>	<u>National Benchmark</u>	<u>Brunswick</u>
Excellent	24%	37%
Good	49%	52%
Fair	16%	11%
Poor	4%	0%
Don't know	10%	0%

Satisfaction with Number of Neighborhood Parks, Trails and Open Space Areas

47% of household respondents feel there are enough parks, trails, and open space areas within walking distance of their residences. 42% indicated there were not enough of these areas, and 11% of respondents indicated Adon't know. Men were more likely to feel there was sufficient open space (51%) than females (41%).

Most Important Recreation Programs

Respondents were provided a listing of 21 program areas serving adults, youths and seniors and asked to indicate their top 4 most important programs. Based on a sum of their top 4 choices, the most important recreation program to respondents is town sponsored youth sports, with 28% of respondents rating this as one of their top 4 choices. While support for youth sports is high in many communities, this support is considerably higher than national benchmarking averages.

Other highly important programs in the Town of Brunswick included: adult arts/music/theater (25%); adult fitness/health programs (23%); and senior programs at 55 Plus Center (21%).

Following are some comparisons of most important programs in Brunswick to national benchmarking averages. A full listing of benchmarking comparisons is contained in the benchmarking section of this report:

<u>Recreation Programs</u>	<u>National Benchmark</u>	<u>Brunswick</u>
Town Sponsored Youth Sports	21%	28%
Adult Art/Music/Theater	18%	25%
Adult Fitness/Health Programs	22%	23%
Senior Programs at 55 Plus Center	16%	21%
Outdoor Adventure	15%	16%
Outdoor Swimming	21%	16%
Teen Program	10%	13%
Dance, Ceramics, Art Classes	10%	12%
Special Events	26%	11%
Swim Lessons	10%	11%

Most Important Parks, Trails, Open Space and Recreational Facilities

Respondents were provided a listing of 25 types of parks, trails, open space areas, wildlife and natural areas, and recreation facilities serving adults, youths and seniors and asked to indicate their top 4 most important types of parks and facilities.

Based on a sum of their top 4 choices, the most important passive (self directed) park or facility was walking and biking trails, with 46% of respondents rating this as one of their top 4 choices. Other highly important parks and facilities were open space near our homes (24%); nature trails (21%); neighborhood parks (15%); and playgrounds for children (14%).

Based on a sum of their top 4 choices, the most important active park or facility was cultural arts facilities/theater, with 19% of respondents rating this as one of their top 4 choices. Other highly important active parks and facilities were Senior Center (55 Plus Center), with (15%); indoor pools (13%); soccer/football/lacrosse fields (12%); and large multi-use park for both active and passive uses (11%).

While walking and biking trails, open space near our household, nature trails, and cultural arts facilities were clearly the top 4 choices, there were a number of parks, open space areas, trails, and recreational facilities that were grouped closely, indicating the need to take a multi-faceted approach to planning.

Several programs were rated as one of the most important by more respondent households in Brunswick than the national average. While 46% of respondents in Brunswick rated walking and biking trails as one of their top 4 choices, the national average was just 41%. Cultural arts facilities/theater (19%) and soccer/football fields (12%) also received higher ratings in Brunswick than the national averages of 10% for cultural arts facilities/theater and 16% for soccer/football fields.

Following are some comparisons of most important parks, open space, and recreation facilities in the Town of Brunswick to national benchmarking averages. A full listing of benchmarking comparisons is contained in the benchmarking section of this report:

<u>Parks, Trails, Open Space, and Recreational Facilities</u>	<u>National Benchmark</u>	<u>Brunswick</u>
Walking and Biking Trails	41%	46%
Open Space Near Our Household	21%	24%
Nature Trails	25%	21%
Cultural Arts Facilities/Theater	10%	19%
Senior Centers (55 Plus Center)	13%	15%
Playgrounds for Children	26%	14%
Indoor Pools	13%	13%
Soccer/Football Fields	8%	12%
Tennis Courts		

Reasons Keeping Respondents from Using Programs/Facilities More Often

The main reason impacting usage was do not know what is being offered (38%). Other frequently mentioned reasons included: we are too busy or not interested (29%); do not know locations (25%); members of my household use facilities provided by other organizations (24%); and location of facilities/programs not close to home (19%).

Only 2% of respondents indicated that the facilities were not well maintained and 2% also indicated that security is insufficient. The national benchmark for Afacilities not well maintained is 7% and for Asecurity is insufficient it is 9%. These are low numbers and speak to the value participants place on current programs and at the same time show opportunities for increases in programming and recreation facilities development.

Following are some comparisons of reasons that household members don't use parks and recreation facilities more often in the Town of Brunswick to national benchmarking averages. A full listing of benchmarking comparisons is contained in the benchmarking section of this report

Reasons Household Members Don't Use Parks & Rec Facilities More Often	National Benchmark	Brunswick
Do Not Know What is Being Offered	40%	38%
We Are Too Busy or Not Interested	34%	29%
Do Not Know Location of Parks/Facilities	16%	25%
Use Facilities Provided by Other Organizations	19%	24%
Location of Facilities Not Close to my Home	13%	19%
Hours of Operation are Not Convenient	7%	13%
Lack of Quality Programs	5%	4%
Fees are too Expensive	6%	4%
Security is Insufficient	9%	2%
Poor Customer Service by Staff	2%	1%

Support for Acquiring and Developing Land

Based on a sum of their top 2 responses, 66% of respondents indicated support for acquiring land for passive recreational uses, such as trails, picnicking and shelters. 57% of respondents indicated support for acquiring land and having it dedicated for permanent conservation purposes, such as wetlands, wildlife habitats, etc. 30% of respondents indicated support for acquiring land and having it left undeveloped for future generations to decide the best use. 27% favored support for acquiring land and having it developed for active recreational use, such as baseball, soccer, softball, etc.

Agreement with Various Issues To Be Considered by the Town of Brunswick

The following are levels of agreement and disagreement with various actions being considered, with don't know being eliminated.

- 69% of respondents agree that the Town should fund the planting and maintenance of street and park trees, with an additional 24% somewhat agreeing with the action. Only 4% of respondents disagree with the action.
- 73% of respondents agree that the Town should take an active role in preserving scenic resources, with an additional 18% somewhat agreeing with the action. Only 5% of respondents disagree with the action.

- 71% of respondents agree that the Town should identify existing trails and protect them for future use, with an additional 20% somewhat agreeing with the action. Only 4% of respondents disagree with the action.
- 55% of respondents agree that the Town should take an active role in preserving productive farms and farmland from future development, with an additional 29% somewhat agreeing with the action. 10% of respondents disagree with the action.
- 35% of respondents agree that the Town should manage its forests as a renewable resource and harvest wood on a sustained yield basis, with an additional 26% somewhat agreeing with the action. However, 24% of respondents disagree with the action.
- 15% of respondents agree that hunting and trapping should be allowed on town-owned wood lots and wild lands, with an additional 13% somewhat agreeing with the action. However, 59% of respondents disagree with the action.

Most Used Features for a Potential Community Center

Survey respondents were presented a list of 21 different features that could be included in a community center and asked to select the 4 features that would be used the most by their household. Based on a sum of the top 4 choices, the most used features to include in a possible indoor community center include: indoor running/walking track (30%); indoor pool for competitive/lap swimming (28%); weight room/cardiovascular equipment area (26%); gymnasium for volleyball, basketball, etc. (24%); and indoor pool with features such as water slides, etc. (24%).

Support for Old Brunswick Site Location for Community Center

Respondents showed strong support for locating a new indoor community center at the site of the old Brunswick High School. 84% of the respondents were either very supportive of the site (56%) or somewhat supportive of the site (28%). Only 7% were not supportive of the site with an additional 9% indicating not sure.

A Combination of Taxes/User Fees Is Preferred Choice for Funding Community Center Operations

Fully 71% of respondents favor some combination of taxes and user fees to fund operations of a new indoor community center. 45% of respondents favor taxes paying a majority of costs and user fees the remaining costs, with 26% favoring user fees paying a majority of costs and taxes the remaining costs. 17% of respondents felt all operating costs should be paid by users with 4% indicating all costs should be paid by taxes. 8% of respondents indicated don't know.

Support for Various Actions the Town of Brunswick Can Take

Respondents were presented a list of 5 potential actions the Town of Brunswick could take regarding parks, open space, conservation easements, and wetlands habitats and asked to indicate their level of support for the actions. For all actions, at least 60% of respondents were either very supportive or somewhat supportive of the Town implementing the action. However, for none of the actions were more than 50% of respondents very supportive. A summary of support is as follows: (Don't know responses have been eliminated)

- Town purchase of land for open space - 87% either very supportive (47%) or somewhat supportive (40%). 13% not supportive.
- Town conducting educational programs on open space - 88% either very supportive (48%) or somewhat supportive (36%). 16% are not supportive.
- Property tax reductions for placing conservation easements on open space - 84 % either very supportive (48%) or somewhat supportive (36%). 16% are not supportive.
- Town purchase of conservation easements on open space - 83% either very supportive (46%) or somewhat supportive (37%). 17% are not supportive.
- Strengthening of Town regulations for wetlands and habitat protection for future use on private lands - 74% either very supportive (46%) or somewhat supportive (28%). This potential action had the most respondents not supportive, with 26% being not supportive.

Permission to Use Bowdoin College and Brunswick Naval Air Station

Only 28% of respondent households had permission to use recreational facilities at Bowdoin College or Brunswick Naval Air Station.

How Additional Revenues Should Be Allocated

Respondents were asked to allocate \$100 towards various parks and recreation facilities. Respondents indicated that \$22 should go towards expanding trails for walking, biking, snowmobiling and linking recreation and open space areas. An additional \$17 should go toward developing additional indoor recreation facilities. \$14 should go towards preserving important wildlife habitats, woodlands, and wetlands and \$12 towards improving river and ocean access. \$9 should go towards developing in-town neighborhood parks and \$9 towards preserving scenic views. The remaining \$6 should go towards developing additional sports fields.

Willingness to Pay Additional Property Taxes for Improvements

More than eighty percent (84%) of respondents indicated they would be willing to invest some additional tax dollars for improvements to parks, open space and recreation facilities in the Town of Brunswick. 14% were willing to pay \$101 or more every six months. An additional 12% were willing to pay \$76-\$100 every six months and 17% were willing to pay \$51-\$75 every six months. 21% were willing to pay \$26-\$50 every six months and 22% were willing to pay \$1-\$25 every six months.

Further analysis showed that walking and biking trails was the most important open space or recreational facility for every breakdown of those who were willing to pay some property tax increase. Fully 23% of those who indicated they would pay \$101 or more every six months indicated walking and biking trails was their 1st most important open space and/or recreational feature (Question #9). Open space near our household was the 2nd most important open space and/or recreational feature to households who were willing to pay some property tax increase, followed by nature trails, and cultural arts facilities/theater.

Other high important open space and recreational facilities to those willing to pay some higher level of property taxes included: indoor pools (i.e. Bowdoin College), playgrounds for children, Senior Center (55 Plus Center), neighborhood parks, soccer/football/lacrosse fields, wildlife habitats, tennis courts, and baseball/softball fields.

When considering program spaces which would be used the most within a potential new community center (Question 14), many features received strong support from those willing to pay some level of higher property taxes. Those features which would be used the most and receiving the highest support from those willing to pay a higher level of property taxes included an indoor running/walking track, indoor pool for competitive and lap swimming, weight room/cardiovascular equipment area, indoor recreational pool, gymnasiums for basketball, volleyball, etc., and senior citizens area.

Gymnasiums for basketball, volleyball, etc, was the feature that would be used the most by those willing to pay \$100 or more every six months in property taxes and also for those willing to pay \$26-\$50 every six months. An indoor recreational pool was the feature that would be used the most by those indicating they would be willing to pay \$76-\$100 every six months and also those willing to pay \$25-\$50 every six months. An indoor recreational pool and a senior citizens area tied for the most used feature for those willing to pay \$1-\$25 every six months.

Parks Report

Parks, Playgrounds, Outdoor Athletics and Community Gardens Subcommittee Report

Draft Report: May 2, 2002

The Process We Used to Develop Recommendations:

- 1) Organized three community lectures as follows:
 - a. "Future Trends in Park Planning" with featured speaker Kathy J. Spangler, Director of National Programs for the National Recreation and Parks Association on May 4, 2000.
 - b. "Playgrounds as Places for Creative Learning" with featured speaker Thomas G. Civiello, former Superintendent of Recreation, City of Bangor Maine and current sales representative for M.E. O'Brien and Sons, Inc. on May 10, 2000.
 - c. "Outdoor Athletics: Working with State and National Standards" with featured speaker Dana R. Anderson, Director of Parks and Recreation, City of South Portland, Maine on May 25, 2000.

- 2) Subsequently published three editorials as follows:
 - a. "Future Trends in Park Planning"-"Balancing Needs and Our Limited Resources Will be Toughest Challenge" authored by Task Force Chair, Forrest Lowe which appeared in the Times Record December 8, 2000.
 - b. "Playgrounds and Creative Learning" authored by James A. Burbank, committee member and Chair of the Brunswick Recreation Commission, which appeared in the Times Record on December 29, 2000.
 - c. "More Outdoor Sports Facilities Needed" authored by committee chair John Murphy, which appeared in the Times Record on February 9, 2001.

- 3) With assistance of interns from the Bowdoin College Environmental Studies program which included Christopher Balerna, Mike West and Krista Frederick, conducted an inventory of existing public, quazi public and private outdoor parks, recreation and athletic facilities within Brunswick.

- 4) Met with staff from both the Brunswick Naval Air Station and Bowdoin College and toured all outdoor recreation spaces and outdoor athletic facilities at each location. Compiled a database of the various outdoor recreation spaces for each location. Also substantiated the limited degree of access that the public has to these facilities.

- 5) Met with the Superintendent of Brunswick Schools, Assistant Superintendent and all school principals to obtain an inventory of outdoor recreation and athletic facilities located at local schools and space allocation schedules for each facility. Parks and Recreation Department administrative staff toured each school facility and its outdoor recreation spaces, playgrounds and athletic facilities
- 6) Conducted three separate community focus group discussions regarding the current availability and supply of parks, playgrounds, athletic facilities and community gardens within Brunswick. Each group featured representatives from the Brunswick School Department, as well as a variety of citizens and affiliate organizations that rely on Brunswick outdoor recreation and athletic facilities to deliver their respective programs to the community. Participants provided feedback regarding perceived deficiencies that the Town currently has regarding parks, playgrounds, outdoor athletic facilities and community gardens. Focus groups and dates of respective meetings were as follows:
 - a) "Playgrounds", April 11, 2001
 - b) "Outdoor Athletic Facilities", April 18, 2001
 - c) "Community Gardens", April 25, 2001
- 7) In March 2001 conducted an informal poll of participants at the Task Force sponsored "Parks, Open Space and Recreation Fair" to determine people's current levels of satisfaction with the Town and School Department's supply and condition of parks, playgrounds, outdoor athletic facilities and community gardens. The committee solicited written comments from attendees by having the public record their responses on several flip charts that were staffed by committee members who could provide more detailed information regarding the current supply and condition of individual parks, playgrounds, outdoor athletic facilities and community gardens upon request.
- 8) Reviewed the capital facilities budget requests for parks, playgrounds, athletic facilities and community gardens for both the Parks and Recreation Department and Brunswick School Department for the past ten years to determine historical needs in these areas. Also reviewed corresponding requests vs. actual appropriations to meet expressed needs over the same time period.
- 9) Reviewed the "1984 Greenfields Report", commissioned by the Brunswick Town Council. The Greenfields Committee report was evaluated to determine both the committee's original findings as well as its recommendations and implementation plan as it pertained to an expansion of outdoor athletic facilities for Brunswick.
- 10) Reviewed the 1988 Comprehensive Plan for Parks and Recreation and the Town of Brunswick Comprehensive Plan for the 1990's to determine what progress has been made to date regarding implementation of each plans goals as they relate to parks, playgrounds, outdoor athletic facilities and community gardens.

- 11) Analyzed the zoning ordinance subdivision review requirements for recreation and open space. Also determined what recreation lands the Town had acquired and what recreation facilities have been constructed as a result of ordinance requirements. In addition, determined what impact fees have been collected and how such fees have been used by the Town to expand recreation facilities within the Town.
- 12) Analyzed the condition, use patterns, and code issues of the Town and School Department's inventory of parks, playgrounds, outdoor athletic facilities and community gardens.
- 13) Reviewed the current level of maintenance resources available to the Town and School Department, (in the form of labor, supplies and capital equipment), to care for the existing parks, playgrounds, outdoor athletic facilities and community gardens.
- 14) Reviewed the suggested outdoor facility development standards identified in the National Recreation and Park Association publication entitled "Park, Recreation, Open Space, and Greenway Guidelines" last updated in 1995 to assess how the Town and school facility inventories compare with these recommended standards.

Issues Identified:

- 1) The Town and School Department both have undeveloped acreage within their respective land inventories that may or may not be suitable for development as new parks, playgrounds, outdoor athletic facilities or community gardens. A detailed assessment of each property from a qualified engineer and or landscape architect would help determine the suitability and feasibility of these sites to support extended community recreation facilities.
- 2) There is an immediate need to site a community recreation area east of Cooks Corner, as there are currently no such facilities in the area, yet a large number of children residing in this section of Town. Both the 1988 Comprehensive Plan for Parks and Recreation as well as the Town's Comprehensive Plan for the 1990's identified land acquisition and development of active recreation facilities in East Brunswick as a priority. The Town has previously met with representatives from the Brunswick Naval Air Station as part of the "Dual Use Feasibility Process" and requested that the Navy transfer ownership of a portion or all of a 66-acre site, which served as a former transmitter location, to the Town. The Navy has indicated that it is not willing, at this time, to deed over any portion of the property to the Town until it determines what if any usefulness the property may have to them, (possibly to support military housing).
- 3) The Recreation Commission has been reviewing applications for proposed subdivisions since 1986. Following the recreation/open space requirements

outlined in the Town's zoning ordinance, the Commission has successfully negotiated with developers to protect open space for both active and passive recreation. The Commission in conjunction with certain developers was able to develop active recreation/athletic facilities within the Meadowbrook and Wildwood Subdivisions. It also successfully negotiated and collected fees, in lieu of land donations, from other developers. These proceeds were subsequently used to acquire additional open space or to construct new recreation facilities. In more recent times, the development community has been seeking to meet the recreation/open space requirement via donation of land for conservation purposes. The current ordinance language permits the developer to meet the open space requirement through land donation or development for the purpose of meeting an active recreation need or by setting aside land with significant ecological characteristics acceptable to the Conservation Commission. When the developer is able to meet the recreation/open space requirement via the conservation alternative there is no benefit to the Town in terms of helping to offset the additional burden that the residents of the new homes are going to have on the Town's limited recreation facility infrastructure. The Recreation Commission feels that recreation/open space requirement as set forth in the subdivision review process of the town's Zoning ordinance needs to be revised to include a minimum standard for both recreation and conservation as opposed to the current option of either meeting the requirement via land donation for recreation or conservation.

- 4) There is a current lack of outdoor athletic field space at certain times of the year to support all programs seeking use of such facilities to deliver their respective programs to the community.
- 5) There is not sufficient time to rest and renovate athletic fields on a rotational basis to insure optimum and safe playing turf surfaces. There is little if any down time for the Town and School's athletic fields.
- 6) Many sports have gone to expanded schedules and extended their respective seasons considerably. Some programs, which had traditionally taken place during a single seasonal season, are now operating year round programs.
- 7) Title IX legislation and the related growth in women's athletic participation in the past two decades has essentially doubled the use of Town and School owned athletic facilities.
- 8) The Parks and Recreation Department Maintenance Garage Facility is substantially undersized and in need of expansion and or relocation.
- 9) Outdoor recreation/athletic facilities at both Bowdoin College and the Brunswick Naval Air Station provide very limited access to Brunswick citizens unless individuals are affiliated with either institution by virtue of student, staff, faculty or military dependent status.

- 10) The Lishness Park facilities which include an outdoor lighted hockey rink, lighted softball field and adjacent multipurpose field, along with associated parking, storage, concession and restroom facilities are located upon property owned by the Brunswick Sewer District and leased to the Town of Brunswick. Should the Sewer District seek to expand its treatment facilities there will be a corresponding loss of certain public recreation facilities at this site.
- 11) The Town was recently informed that the Brunswick/Topsham Water District has voted to discontinue its lease of property to the Town, which is located on River Road. The Parks and Recreation Department has historically maintained three kilometers of groomed cross-country ski trails on the property, which is open seasonally to the public weather conditions permitting.
- 12) During the community outreach portion of our work it was mentioned at a number of meetings that the Thomas Point Beach property is a site the Town should consider owning should the current owners seek to sell the parcel.
- 13) Also during the focus group discussions sponsored by the committee there was strong consensus among participants that the Town should investigate the methods used to construct two large community outdoor recreation/athletic facilities in Harrison, Maine and at Oxford Hills High School. There was strong encouragement among participants that the Town should look to construct one large facility with multiple athletic fields and other recreation facilities. Others in the group cited Pickard Field at Bowdoin College as a model for the Town to attempt to replicate elsewhere.
- 14) Not all playgrounds located within the Town comply with the latest Standard Consumer Safety Performance Specifications for Playground Equipment for Public Use.
- 15) There is not a playground in Town currently designed for preschool aged children.
- 16) The public indicates a desire to have the Town install a playground along the Androscoggin River Bicycle Path, and to a lesser degree at the Old Brunswick High School.
- 17) The visual access into Nathaniel Davis Park from Cushing Street needs to be enhanced.
- 18) Safe Pedestrian and Bicycle linkages need to be made between the Town's existing parks and school properties.
- 20) During focus group discussions sponsored by the committee there was considerable discussion regarding expansion of teen park amenities similar to the

skatepark. People felt that the Town should pursue additional park development initiatives that could be of interest to teens.

- 21) The Town's parks do not currently feature consistent direction and informational signage.
- 22) There exists an opportunity to connect the Androscoggin River Bicycle Path to Topsham via the Great Island/Driscoll Island Chain. To do so would require acquiring properties that the Town does not currently own. This issue came up in many public forums and has been previously articulated in the Cook's Corner Master Plan as a recommendation.
- 23) The Town in conjunction with the 55 Plus Center currently manages and maintains public garden plots for use by people over the age of 55. In recent years the Town has seen an increase in requests from people under the age of 55 who would like a similar facility for their use.
- 24) Brunswick parks and other public spaces are for the most part void of flowers. In the community gardens focus group there was strong sentiment among participants that the Town should increase the number of flowers that it has upon its public landscapes.
- 25) The Town's Mall Management Plan dated April 2000 identified a series of steps necessary to establish a more formalized policy regarding programmed use of the property. In addition, the plan outlined a number of physical improvement recommendations, some of which have already been completed. The plan also contains a series of maintenance related recommendations that should be implemented.
- 26) The Town is currently researching the issue of pesticide and fertilizer use at its Edwards Field facility. The site is located within the Town's aquifer protection zone where use of such materials is not permitted. The Town discontinued use of pesticides and fertilizer in the maintenance of the Edwards Field in the fall of 2000. There is a high likelihood that without the use of pesticides and fertilizer the turf will be prone to stress and diseases that could render the fields unplayable. If this was to happen and a solution to the problem is not identified, the Town would be faced with discontinuing use of the Edwards Field athletic facilities. If this were to happen, new facilities would need to be constructed elsewhere in town to accommodate the loss of important field space, which at current levels is not sufficient to support user demand. The cost to build replacement facilities would be substantial.
- 27) The Androscoggin River Bicycle Path has received heavy use since its official opening in October of 1998. Since that time there has been ongoing interest expressed by the community to have the Town research the feasibility to extend similar facilities east to Bath, and from the end of the path at its Grover Lane

terminus to the Ames intersection at Bath Road. The Recreation Commission and the Brunswick Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee each support this effort.

- 28) The Stanwood Street Tennis Courts are now thirty years old. The Parks and Recreation Department has continued to maintain the courts to a safe and playable condition in recent years by investing approximately \$28,000 in Fiscal Year 1999-2000 to resurface the courts and to install new perimeter fence fabric. The current lighting fixtures are deteriorating and because of their age it is becoming increasingly more difficult to obtain replacement parts. The facility has been evaluated by several different tennis court construction firms and each has determined that there are significant structural problems with the courts which can be seen each spring as several new cracks and voids appear upon the asphalt playing surface. The site plan for the new high school located off Maquoit Road submitted by Harriman Associates to the Brunswick Planning Board in 1993 reflects five tennis courts to be built northeast of the existing football field/track complex. To date these courts have not been built.
- 29) The Coffin Pond Family Recreation Area located off River Road has long served the Town as an outdoor swimming area. The Town has offered a municipal swim facility at Coffin Pond dating back to the 1950's. The actual swimming area has undergone at least three renovations over past fifty years. The most recent renovation took place in 1984, which resulted in the current interior berm configuration and corresponding circulating chlorination system. The facility is open for approximately eleven weeks each summer and has an average summer attendance of about 11,000 users. The facility has limitations. In particular, water turbidity is an issue and the cost to install a suitable filtration system would be substantial, if at all possible, given the uniqueness of the design.
- 30) Most of the outdoor parks and playgrounds in Brunswick meet current accessibility standards. Areas of known deficiencies include lack of accessible bleacher seating at several athletic facilities, and the lack of accessible bathroom facilities at Edwards Field, and Coffin Pond. In addition, the gazebo on the mall does not meet current ADA standards.
- 31) During the 1990's the Town received a donation of eight acres of riverfront property along the Androscoggin River. The Town accepted title to the property on the condition that we would work to establish a public trailer boat launch at the site and name the facility in memory of Darrell Lamb the previous owner now deceased. The Town has approached the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife for assistance in developing the facility and has been informed that the State will not participate in the project until the site distance at the intersection of River Road at the S curve is improved. The Town is currently working on a redesign of River Road at this location.

Recommendations

The following recommendations are grouped in three priority levels – high, medium and low. Some of the recommendations require further work on the part of the consultant to establish accurate cost estimates. Where the subcommittee has identified costs, it is intended that the consultant evaluate the accuracy of the projections prior to the prioritization workshop and make any necessary adjustments.

HIGH PRIORITY

- 1) Establish a task force to review and examine the Brunswick Zoning Ordinance specifically section **519-Recreational Requirements for Residential Developments, Subsection 519.1-Reservation of Land, Subsection 519.2-Land Improvements, Subsection 519.3-Fee in Lieu of Land and Subsection 519.4 Recreation Land Ownership**. Research other Towns ordinances as they relate to recreation impact fees on a per unit basis to determine how each community determines their respective recreation fee per unit. Strengthen the current ordinance language to allow the Planning Board upon recommendation of the Recreation Commission to assess a per unit fee over and above any open space that the developer may want to dedicate in the event that the land does not meet an active recreation need. The fees collected would then be available to subsidize capital facilities and equipment costs identified in the Parks and Recreation Department's five-year capital improvement program.
- 2) Acquire a minimum of 30 and up to 50 acres of land in East Brunswick for an active recreation area that will support a series of athletic fields, outdoor tennis and basketball courts, playground, restroom facilities, concession and maintenance buildings, and passive use areas. Cost Estimate \$300,000 to \$500,000.
- 3) Initially, develop athletic fields upon the land to be acquired in East Brunswick. Subsequently develop courts, playground and other support facilities as funds permit. The initial phase of construction should include not less than three multi purpose athletic fields with minimum dimensions of 225' x 360' each and parking for at least 120 vehicles. This initial phase would warrant approximately ten acres of land. Cost estimate \$750,000. Adding a playground and a combined restroom, concessions, and maintenance storage facility to phase 1 would cost between \$250,000 and \$300,000. These facilities would require 2 additional acres. The balance of undeveloped acreage would be retained for future expansion of additional athletic fields when the need warranted.

The Town's current supply of outdoor athletic fields is not sufficient to meet current demand. Since 1985 the Town has added Crimmins, Shulman, Wildwood, an

expansion of field space at the Junior High School and three additional fields at the new high school to its inventory. In the fall of 2002 the Town will open its newest field along the bike path for public use. In the last fifteen years the Town and School combined have added eight new fields to the inventory and demand continues to surpass supply at certain times of the year. If we repeat the field development pattern of the past fifteen years we would look to construct seven additional fields by the year 2015. The East Brunswick site if sized correctly at 30 acres minimum could accommodate future development of nine athletic fields through the year 2020 with additional tennis, basketball courts and similar park amenities.

- 4) Complete feasibility study to extend the Androscoggin River Bicycle Path to Bath. Consider alternative routes, proposed project estimates and corresponding phases as prepared by TY-Lin and Terrance DeWan and Associates for the Towns of Brunswick and Bath and prepare to submit a proposal to the Maine Department of Transportation for construction funding in the spring of 2002 to complete the preferred first phase of the project. Local share of project for first three mile phase approximately \$275,000. Depending where the first phase would be geographically located would determine which Town would bare the higher percentage of the local cost share of the project.
- 5) Evaluate the Longfellow School Playground for compliance with the latest Consumer Safety Performance Specifications for Playground Equipment for Public Use. With representatives from the Brunswick School Department and the Friends of Longfellow School examine future alternatives to bring the facility into compliance if necessary. The cost to replace the current playground with a comparable manufactured playground component system would be approximately \$100,000.
- 6) Approach the Brunswick/Topsham Land Trust regarding a partnership with the Town to use and groom the trails at Crystal Spring Farm during the winter for public cross-country ski use. This arrangement could allow for the continuance of a maintained cross country ski facility to replace the three kilometer trail lost when the Brunswick/Topsham Water District voted to end its lease of property to the Town at River Road for security reasons in light of the September 11th attack on America.
- 7) The Town should obtain the right of first refusal on the Thomas Point Beach property in the event that this land were ever to be put up for sale.
- 8) The Town should continue to pursue acquisition of waterfront properties above the Florida Power Dam to the Durham line. During the past ten years the Town has added a significant amount of waterfront property to its inventory in this area. It is conceivable that the Town could subsequently develop a riverfront pedestrian/bikeway from Fort Andros to the Mill Street Canoe portage on thru the Coffin Pond property to Interstate 95. As properties become available along the riverfront the Town should actively seek acquiring public access rights to such properties.

MEDIUM PRIORITY

- 9) Three new playgrounds should be installed; 1) Lishness Field 2) Old Brunswick High School and 3) along the Androscoggin River Bicycle Path. In addition, the existing playground at Davis Park should be expanded. Cost per new playground \$65,000 to \$90,000 each. Cost to expand Davis Playground \$35,000. If the Old High School becomes a community center and the preschool program moves from the Recreation Center to the Old High School facility a preschool aged playground should be installed at the site.

- 10) Develop a master plan for future use and or development of the Coffin Pond Property.
 - a. Assess the short and long term implications of continuing to operate the swimming area at Coffin Pond.
 - b. Improve pedestrian access to the riverfront at this location.
 - c. Evaluate the site for potential trail development and picnicking sites.
 - d. Determine pedestrian and bicycle routes from River Road through the property and connecting along the riverfront to the Lamb Property and on to the Mill Street Portage facility.
 - e. Determine an appropriate management plans for the trees on this property.
 - f. Evaluate the condition of existing buildings at the site and address accessibility needs.

- 11) When the River Road S curve problem is corrected, work with the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to construct a trailer boat access facility on the Lamb property. Funding would be through the Boating Facilities Development Fund at the Department of Conservation along with funding from DIFW. There may be a twenty percent match required of the Town. Suitable pedestrian access should be part of the design as the site links with Coffin Pond property upstream and the Mill Street canoe portage downstream. DIFW along with DOC would work with the Town to develop a preliminary site plan and cost estimate for the project.

- 12) Continue to implement Mall Management Plan recommendations that were endorsed by the Town Council June 19, 2001. Many of the recommendations have been completed. These are the significant recommendations that are still to be implemented.

Programmed use and policy

- a. Clarify the Town's existing policy of the use of the Mall so that it better describes acceptable activities on the Mall.
- b. Shift responsibility of Mall policy enforcement to the Parks and Recreation Department.

- c. Establish a fine system for members of the public, the Brunswick Farmers Market Association, and food vendors who do not adhere to Mall regulations.
- d. Establish a public education strategy for the Mall.
- e. Establish a short and long term policy for the location of the Farmers Market on the lower Mall.
- f. Review food vendor applications each year by the Village Review Board to ensure that vendor carts meet a certain level of aesthetic quality that corresponds with their visible location on the Lower Mall.
- g. Modify the permit application for special events on the Mall so that it gives the Town the ability to better assess the nature of the event and its impact on the Mall.
- h. Require a fee of all special event sponsors, to cover administrative and maintenance costs associated with the event.
- i. Require a flat fee of all special event sponsors requesting the use of Town electricity for their event.
- j. Provide the option to require a refundable performance bond for certain large event sponsors.
- k. Shift responsibility of special event permit application processing from the Town Clerk to the Parks and Recreation Department

Physical Improvements

- a. Install granite curbing at the entire perimeter of the Lower, Middle and Upper Malls. This work has been completed on a majority of the Lower and Middle Malls. The Upper Mall still has considerable granite curbing work still to be done. Cost to complete approximately \$65,000.
- b. Upgrade benches and trash receptacles at the Lower Mall. Cost \$25,000
- c. Provide additional benches at ice skating rink. Cost \$2,500
- d. Install an information kiosk at the Lower Mall. Cost \$5,000
- e. Consider replacing the gazebo structure. \$75,000
- f. Twenty-three new trees to be installed at Upper Mall. \$17,250.

Maintenance Improvements

- a. Outline an annual maintenance schedule for the Mall.
- b. Conduct a soil and vegetation analysis of the Mall every five years.
- c. Perform a more intensive maintenance at the ice skating/gazebo area.
- d. Undertake an Integrated Pest Management approach to landscape maintenance.

13) Complete ADA compliance improvements at the following facilities.

- a. Install ADA compliant bleachers at Edwards Field, Lishness Field, and the Old Brunswick High School. Cost \$100,000
- b. Make restrooms accessible at Edwards Field and Coffin Pond \$12,000
- c. Make the gazebo on the Mall accessible \$20,000.

- 14) Research the possibility of establishing pedestrian access to Davis Park via a through connection from Sage Hill through the existing park to Dunning Street. Work with the Maine Department of Transportation to eliminate bamboo growth along the State owned railroad adjacent to the park. This bamboo obscures visual access into the park from Cushing Street, which is a safety issue.
- 15) Encourage the Brunswick Community Complex Committee to begin work to raise funds and construct five lighted tennis courts at the new Brunswick High School off Maquoit Road. Approximate cost \$180,000.
- 16) Acquire the following parcels of land along the Androscoggin River adjacent to the Bike Path;
 - a. Map 41, Lot 6A Cost: to be determined
 - b. Map 41, Lot 6C Cost: to be determined
 - c. Map 41, Lot 9A Cost: to be determined

Acquisition of these parcels would enable the Town to connect the bicycle path to Topsham via the Driscoll/Great Island Chain and to create an interpretive park that would highlight the history of the former Merrymeeting Park which was partially housed on these properties.

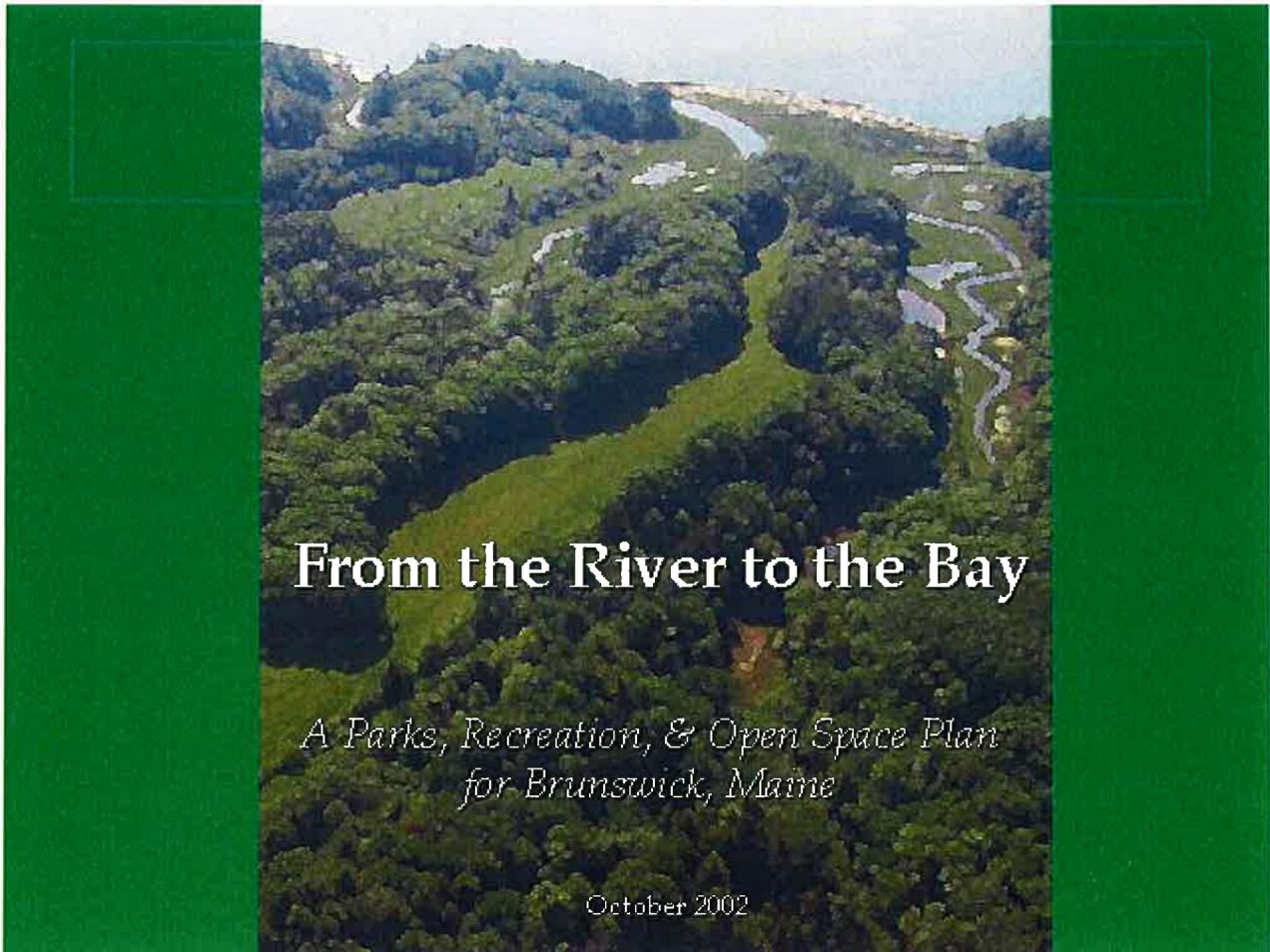
- 17) Work with the Recreation Commission, Brunswick Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee, Brunswick School Department, Planning Department and Department of Public Works to examine in greater detail a plan for linking schools and Town parks and playgrounds with improved bicycle/pedestrian facilities.

LOW PRIORITY

- 18) Create with assistance of a professional consultant a signage and way finding program for our public park system. Cost \$20,000
- 19) The Recreation Commission should create a youth advisory board that would provide input to the Department with regard to new recreation program alternatives or facility development projects. It would be beneficial to have the group made up of junior high and high school age youth, as this is traditionally a difficult group to engage in public recreation programming.
- 20) For the undeveloped lands within their respective inventories, the Town and School Department should engage the services of a professional engineer or landscape architect to evaluate these properties to meet active recreation needs of the community. For example, are there any current properties that have appropriate soils and square foot area to support new athletic fields, trails, tennis, basketball courts or playgrounds? Both entities should suggest that a limited number of their respective properties be evaluated on such a basis to determine what might be possible.
Cost: to be determined

- 21) The Town should identify a suitable site to develop a second community garden for people under the age of 55 on Town land if possible. An initial conversation should involve the Brunswick/Topsham Land Trust to see if there is any suitable land that might be available at the Crystal Spring Farm. The Town currently provides forty-four 20'x20' plots for people over the age of 55 on Town land off industry road. The Town rototills the plots twice yearly fertilizes each fall and provides water during the growing season for all gardeners. The total cost to maintain and operate the existing community gardens is less than \$1000 per year.
- 22) The Town should work with the Village Improvement Association to establish a "Friends of Brunswick Parks" program. Volunteers would work with the Parks and Facilities Manager to plant and cultivate flowers in Brunswick's parks
- 22) The Parks and Recreation Department needs to evaluate alternate locations for its maintenance facilities which are currently housed at the Edwards Field complex. There is a need to build additional garage bay capacity and there is very limited area to expand such facilities at the site. Costs associated with a new facility to be determined.

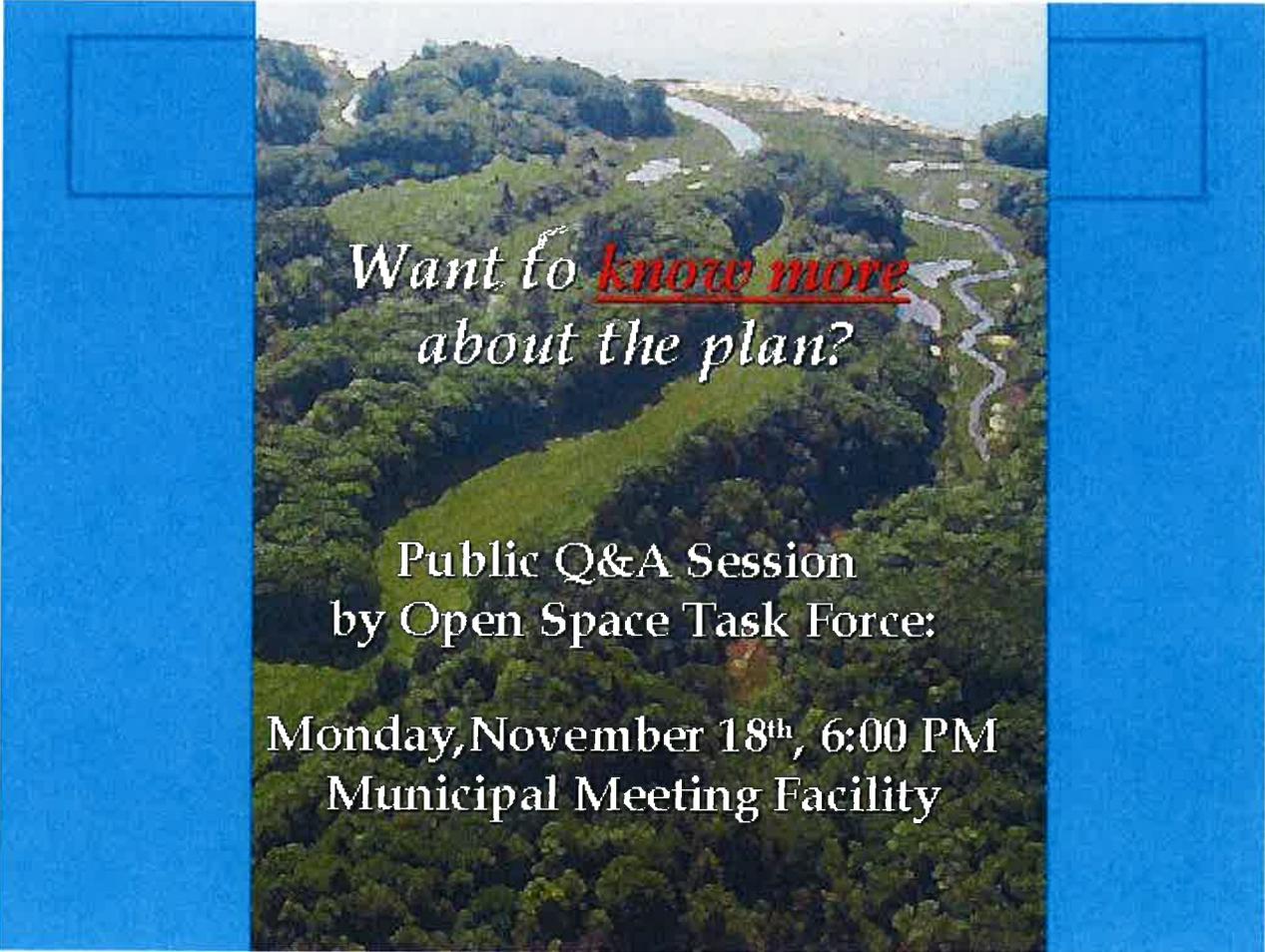
Council Presentation



From the River to the Bay

*A Parks, Recreation, & Open Space Plan
for Brunswick, Maine*

October 2002

An aerial photograph of a lush green landscape with a winding river or path. The image is framed by two vertical blue bars on the left and right sides. The text is overlaid on the central part of the image.

Want to know more
about the plan?

Public Q&A Session
by Open Space Task Force:

Monday, November 18th, 6:00 PM
Municipal Meeting Facility



An aerial photograph of a lush green forested area. A winding road or path is visible through the trees, leading towards a cluster of buildings on a hillside in the distance. The sky is clear and blue. The image is framed by yellow vertical bars on the left and right sides, each containing a small empty rectangular box at the top.

*Want to comment
on the plan?*

Public Hearing
by Brunswick Town Council:

Monday, November 18th, 7:30 PM
Municipal Meeting Facility

Farmland Document Archive

Rural Sustainability Questionnaire

Is Your Town Farm Friendly?

A Checklist for Sustaining Rural Character

Take
This
Test!

Practical Land Use Ordinances and Regulations

Does your town...

- Yes ...**have a detailed section on agriculture in the Town Master Plan?** The Master Plan is the big picture view of what land uses are encouraged, protected, or excluded within a town. Does your town's Master Plan refer to "maintaining rural character", but overlook agriculture as the primary component? Agriculture shouldn't be an afterthought!
- No
- Yes ...**allow agricultural uses in more than one zoning district?** Agricultural businesses are not the same as other commercial development. Some towns confine agricultural businesses to the commercial zone only, while other towns prohibit such uses in the commercial zone! Farm enterprises are often hybrids of several different uses; ordinances and regulations should allow farm businesses flexibility.
- No
- Yes ...**allow simpler design standards for Site Plan Review regulations on agricultural businesses limited to seasonal use?** Simpler standards for certain aspects of Site Plan Review regulations make sense for agricultural uses, such as parking requirements for seasonal retailing or events. When agricultural uses are limited in scope and impact, they need not be treated as if they were year-round permanent businesses. Does your town apply the same site design requirements to a seasonal farm stand as to a grocery store?
- No
- Yes ...**allow flexibility in regulations to accommodate the unusual needs of agricultural businesses?** Both the land use impact and the off-site impact of a seasonal farm business is much less than that of a full-time business. Pick-your-own strawberries or Christmas tree farm businesses can't be viable in a town that treats farms like all other retailers. Do your town's regulations provide for reduced restrictions such as expanded hours of business operation, temporary signs, parking near pick-your-own fields, or on street parking?
- No
- Yes ...**require buffer zones between farmland and residential uses?** The old saying "good fences make good neighbors" has a modern corollary that says "good buffer zones make new neighbors good neighbors." New development should not place the burden on existing farms to give up boundary land as a buffer zone between agricultural and residential uses. New residential development should provide for its own buffer zone and/or landscape plantings for screening when necessary.
- No
- Yes ...**provide for the agricultural use of open space land created by innovative residential subdivisions?** Many towns have adopted innovative subdivision regulations like cluster housing, which provide for setting aside open space land within the subdivision. Ideally, such land should be the most valuable agricultural land, be big enough for commercial agricultural purposes, and specifically allow long term agricultural use to provide consistent resource management. Smaller plots of set aside land could accommodate community gardens. Land set aside for open space can stay productive agricultural land and at the same time contribute to the ecological health and scenic quality of the area -- instead of becoming grown over with brush.
- No
- Yes ...**allow off-site signs to attract and direct farm stand customers?** Farm stands are often seasonal businesses that need to capture potential sales at harvest time. Signs that give directions to the farm stand and let customers know what's available (such as strawberries, corn, apples) are vitally important.
- No

- Yes ...allow accessory uses to agriculture? Remember, it's not just the farmland that makes farming possible: businesses related to agriculture (veterinarians, equipment and supply dealers, custom farm providers, feed milling and delivery, etc.) have to be close enough to serve farmers' needs.
- No

Fair Enforcement of Local Regulations

Does your town...

- Yes ...have a consistent policy approach for local land use procedures that deal with agriculture? Planning Boards, Zoning Boards, and Conservation Commissions have different responsibilities, but a common regulatory outlook is possible. Update your Master Plan to express the value agriculture contributes to your town's quality of life through open space, wildlife habitation, watershed purification and natural resource preservation. Establish a policy presumption that agriculture is of beneficial use in your town, and fairness will follow.
- No
- Yes ...have a good idea of how much agriculture there is in town? Consider having a Town appointed committee formulate an Agricultural Profile to demonstrate the economic, cultural, and resource stewardship value of agriculture in your Town. People often carry the misconception that "there's no agriculture in our town" if they don't see cows and red barns. Agriculture in New Hampshire stretches from apples and bees to yaks and zinnias!
- No
- Yes ...allow roadside stands or pick-your-own operations by right? Consider amending your Town's zoning ordinance so that certain agricultural operations don't need a Special Exception or Variance. Write flexibility into ordinances or regulations that may apply to agricultural land uses so the intent is clearly to promote such use, not to deny because the rules don't fit the unique situations that frequently arise with agricultural businesses.
- No
- Yes ...use zoning definitions such as "agricultural accessory uses"; in a broad and inclusive manner? "Agricultural accessory uses" refers to everything from machinery sheds to housing for seasonal workers. Various agricultural businesses have very different needs that can test the balance of rule and exceptions. Flexibility written into the ordinances and regulations can prevent many denials of the sort where "the rules don't fit".
- No
- Yes ...allow farm stands to sell produce purchased elsewhere? Many towns have rules that a certain percentage of farm stand produce be grown on the farm. The unintended consequence of such regulation is to penalize farm operators who have a crop failure! The rational basis for allowing a farm stand shouldn't only be how much is grown on the farm, but what benefit the farm provides to the town from the open space, wildlife habitation, watershed purification and natural resource preservation it accomplishes.
- No
- Yes ...properly assess specialized agricultural structures? Specialized structures such as silos, milking parlors, and permanent greenhouses depreciate in value over time. Providing assessors with depreciation schedules may enable more accurate valuations, which can lead to lower assessments. If your town frequently overvalues agricultural structures, this can have a chilling effect on all types of farm investment.
- No
- Yes ...allow non-traditional or retail-based farm businesses in an agricultural zoning district? Agricultural businesses don't all look alike. Trying to decide what constitutes an agricultural business can involve splitting hairs to make unfamiliar distinctions between what is "commercial" and what is "agricultural". Ordinances defining agriculture based on state law may be accurate, yet need local interpretation. Your town should recognize that newer types of farm businesses such as horse arenas, landscape nurseries, or greenhouses are more intensive in land use, but still carry valuable elements of rural character that benefit the town.
- No

- Yes ...address agricultural structures in building and safety codes? Building practices that are state of the art for a specialized use in agriculture may not fit the specifics of codes meant for housing or commercial structures. Bringing up to code agricultural buildings that are historic structures may destroy the very qualities that make them special.
- No

Understanding and Encouraging Farming
Does your town....

- Yes ...consider farmland a natural resource and encourage conservation easements, discretionary easements, and purchase of farmland? Easements and outright purchases of farmland ensure preservation of the natural resource base for agriculture. Once a town has applied these techniques, the benefits of keeping farmland in private ownership can be more clearly appreciated. By understanding and allowing for the peculiarities of agricultural land use, towns can encourage working farms that contribute to the town's well-being at no cost to the taxpayers.
- No
- Yes ...have any visible demonstration of the value of agriculture? Does your town have a county fair, an apple festival, or an Old Home Day parade? Making agriculture visible to the general public helps establish the economic, cultural, and resource stewardship value of having active farms in a town.
- No
- Yes ...respect the state Right to Farm law, which has specific exemptions for odor and noise? Local control is an important tradition for New Hampshire towns. The state Right to Farm law provides a backstop to farmers if local officials overreach their regulatory authority. Conflicts between agriculture and other land uses can be reduced when town officials are informed about Best Management Practices (BMP's) that may alleviate nuisance complaints. University of New Hampshire's Cooperative Extension Service writes BMP's about various agricultural practices based on sound scientific research.
- No
- Yes ...encourage farmers to use the Soil Productivity Index (SPI) calculations to reduce Current Use tax burdens? Using Soil Productivity Index (SPI) information may reduce the Current Use assessment on less productive agricultural land. By reducing the tax burden on agricultural land, towns can encourage the maintenance of open space at a relatively low cost.
- No
- Yes ...have farmers serving on local land use Planning and Zoning Boards, Conservation and Heritage Commissions? There are few better ways to incorporate agricultural concerns into local land use ordinances and regulations than having farmers serve. Help your town's land use boards keep a broad perspective by asking "Have you thought of the consequences...?"
- No
- Yes ...have farmers serving on the local Economic Development Committee? Agricultural businesses are frequently undervalued in terms of their effect on the community. Most of the economic activity generated by farms stays within the community. Negative impressions about the strength of New Hampshire agriculture may have a similar impact on the availability of credit to viable farm operations. Having successful farmers on Economic Development Committees can change these misperceptions.
- No
- Yes ...know where to go to get advice and assistance on farm questions? Make the connection to resources such as the Department of Agriculture, Markets and Food (industry regulator, statewide perspective); UNH Cooperative Extension (technical questions, BMP's); New Hampshire Farm Bureau (non-governmental farm lobby, broad experience); Natural Resource Conservation Service (land and water resource management).
- No

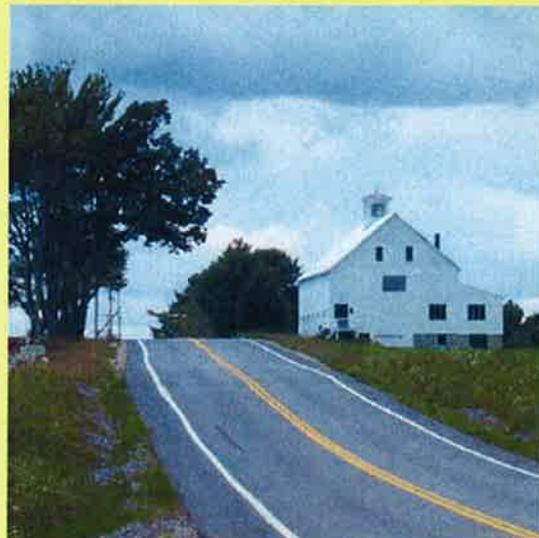
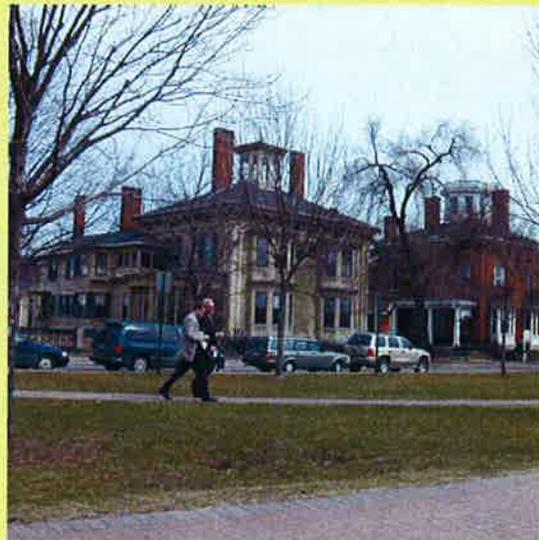
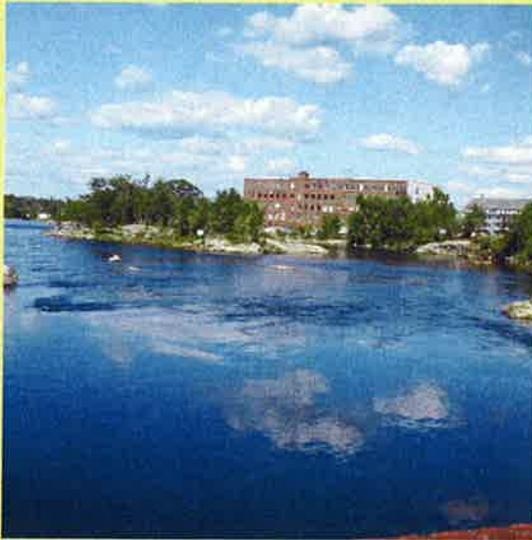
Enter your zipcode:

Submit your results to find out your town's "farm friendly" score:

Scenic Inventory Brunswick Maine

From the River to the Bay: A Parks,
Recreation and Open Space Plan

SCENIC INVENTORY BRUNSWICK, MAINE



FROM THE RIVER TO THE BAY
A Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Plan

April 2004

SCENIC INVENTORY BRUNSWICK, MAINE

an appendix of

FROM THE RIVER TO THE BAY
A Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Plan

Prepared for

Scenic Areas Subcommittee

Parks, Recreation & Open Space Task Force

Prepared by

Terrence J. DeWan & Associates

Landscape Architects

Yarmouth, Maine

April 2004

Background. The Scenic Inventory is the result of a volunteer effort to conduct an inventory of Brunswick's scenic resources. This work was carried out by the Scenic Areas Subcommittee and approximately two dozen individuals as part of the community effort to create "From the River to the Bay, A Parks Recreation & Open Space Plan" for Brunswick.

The inventory process consisted of a training program conducted by consultant Terry DeWan, driving assigned portions of the community, recording observations and taking photographs, and submission of a final report.

The resultant information was compiled into the Scenic Resources Map that is an integral part of the whole plan.

The views, features, and sites listed in this inventory are not an exhaustive listing of all the town's scenic resources, but rather a starting point in determining the cultural and aesthetic significance of roads, views, and individual parcels of land. It will be useful as a benchmark to compare future conditions in the community to a later time, as this is an era that is marked by increasing pressure on scenic resources.

This document starts to examine the scenic character of Brunswick as a series of eight "sub-areas." These are discrete parts of the community that are characterized by relatively similar physical features such as topography, views, water bodies, and cultural features. The boundaries

were determined by the consultant, with input from the Town staff. The boundaries are often places where there is a sharp distinction in landscape character, e.g., the fence that surrounds the Brunswick Naval Air Station, or the viewshed of the Androscoggin River. In other areas, the boundaries are much more fluid, and may actually change with time.

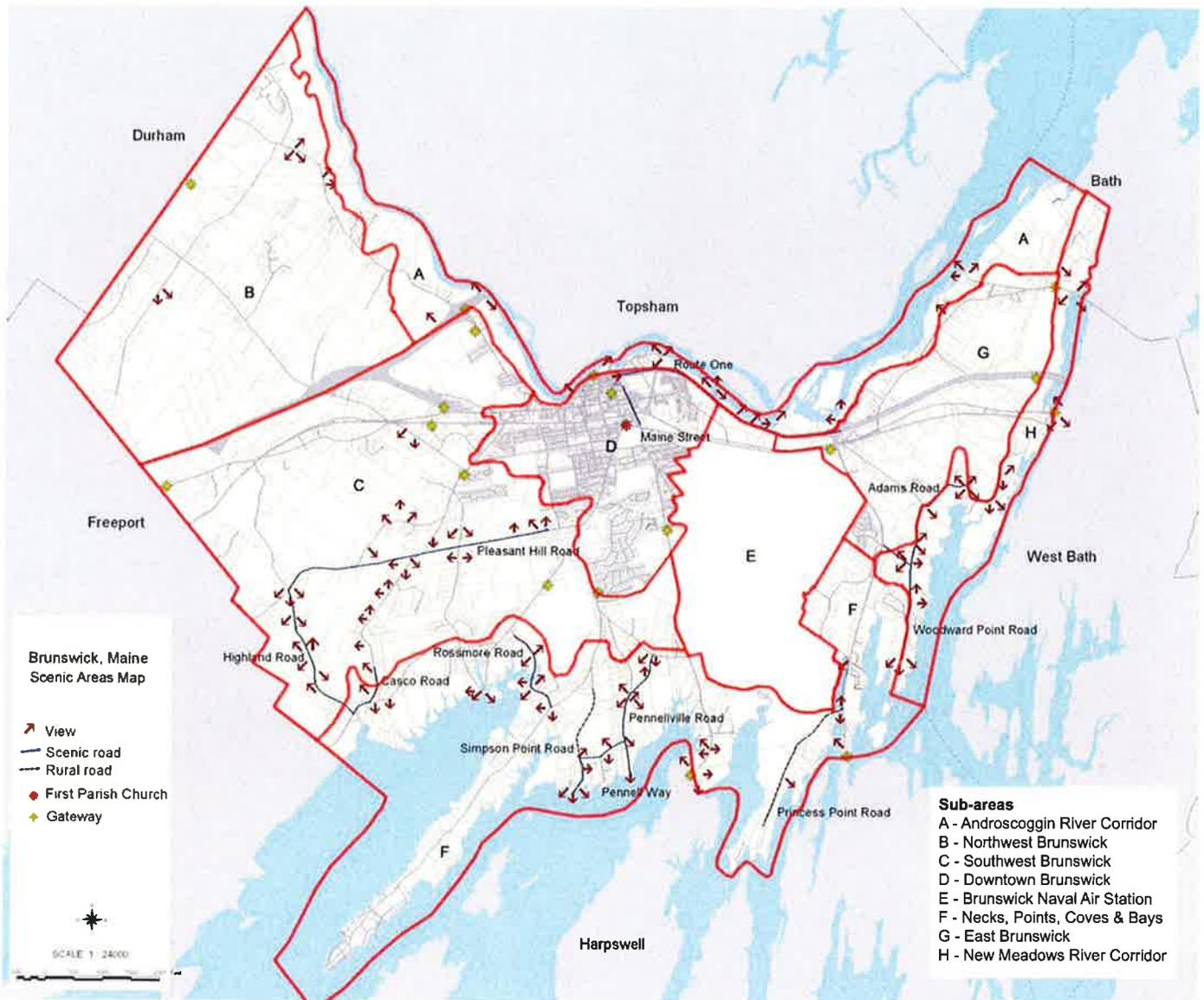
The inventory presents a two-page description of each sub-area, consisting of:

- A section of the Scenic Resources Map
- A description of the landscape character, as recorded by the volunteers
- A listing of the major scenic and cultural resources within the area
- A listing of the most prominent viewpoints within the area
- A selection of representative photographs that illustrate typical landscape conditions in the area.

The eight subareas are:

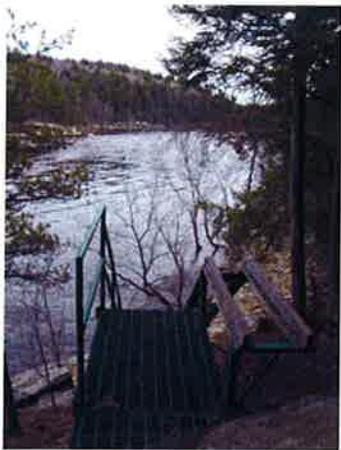
- A:** Androscoggin River Corridor.
- B:** Northwest Brunswick
- C:** Southwest Brunswick
- D:** Downtown Brunswick
- E:** Brunswick Naval Air Station
- F:** Necks, Points, Coves, Bays
- G:** East Brunswick
- H:** New Meadows River Corridor

A Glossary of Terms used in the Scenic Inventory is included at the end of this report.



**SCENIC RESOURCES
& SUB-AREAS
Town of Brunswick**

**AREA A
ANDROSCOGGIN
RIVER CORRIDOR**



Pejepscot Fishing Park



Footbridge along the Bike Path



Landscape Character

The Androscoggin River Corridor encompasses the viewshed of the Androscoggin River throughout Brunswick. Even though the river is one of the most prominent physical features of the community, it is largely invisible from public viewpoints throughout its length. Where it is visible, – e.g., from Mill Street, Bay Bridge Landing and Wetland, Interpretive Park, Downtown, and along the Bikepath – it provides a dramatic contrast to the rolling hills and a memorable setting for historic development patterns.

The views of the land from the river, and from across the river in Topsham, are significant regional resources.

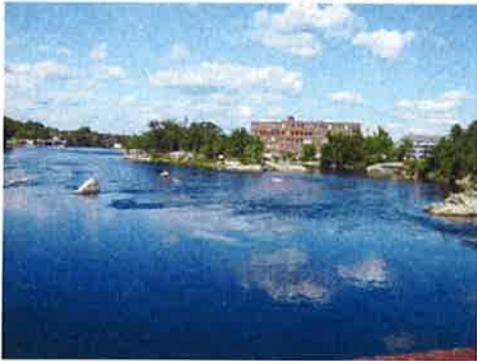
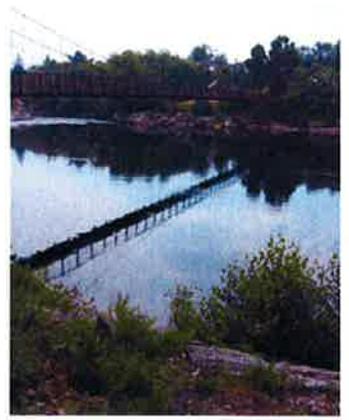
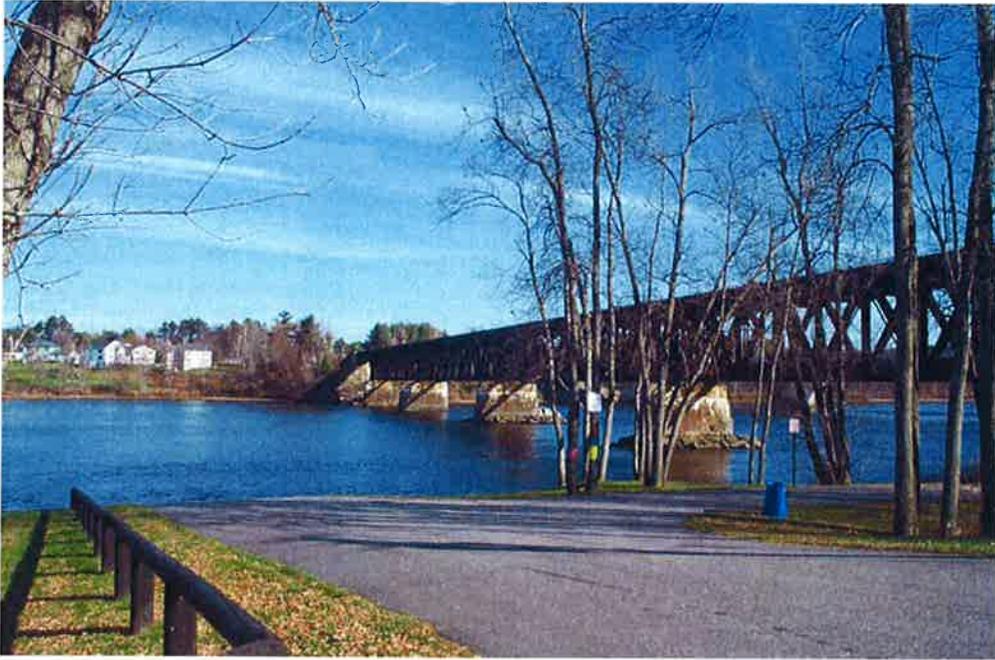
Major Cultural / Scenic Features

- Androscoggin River
- Green Bridge
- Views of Cow and Driscoll Islands
- Fort Andross

- 250th Anniversary Park
- Railroad Bridge as seen from Bowdoin Mill in Topsham
- Hydroelectric facility at the falls upstream from the Brunswick-Topsham Bridge
- Public boat launch at Water Street
- Androscoggin River Bike Path
- Bowdoin Mill in Topsham
- Riverside Cemetery
- Mill Street Canoe Portage
- Pejepscot Fishing Park

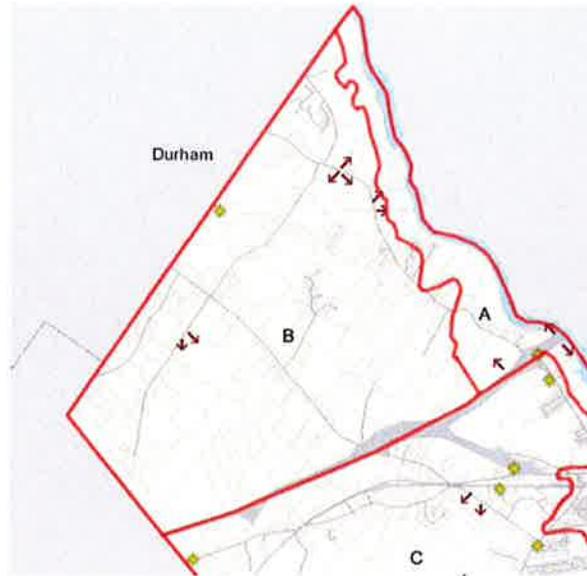
Significant Viewpoints

- Views along the Bike Path toward the river
- Fort Andross
- Walter Lonsdale Memorial Bench: view of Cow Island
- Old Bay Bridge access point



*TL: Water St. boat launch
ML: Fort Andross as seen from
Swinging Bridge
MR: Rest area along the
Androscoggin River Bike Path
B: Androscoggin River from Mill
Street Canoe Portage
T: Swinging Bridge*

AREA B NORTHWEST BRUNSWICK



Farmhouse along River Road



Footbridge at Cox Pinnacle

Landscape Character

Northwest Brunswick is the westerly portion of the community, bounded by I-95 on the south, Freeport on the west, Durham on the north, and the Androscoggin River Corridor on the east. The landscape is characterized by rolling woodland, occasional open fields, a few active farms, and individual homes on rural roads.

The rural character of Northwest Brunswick has been altered in recent years by residential development – condominiums and subdivisions – visible from the older roads. Despite its name, River Road has virtually no views of the Androscoggin River.

Major Cultural / Scenic Features

- Farms on Durham Road
- Rural character of undulating local roads
- Fraser farm and rolling fields on Collingsbrook Road
- Lunt Road farmhouse
- Hartwell and Little Yard Cemeteries
- Settlemire Farm
- Two Echo CoHousing and open fields on Hacker Road
- Coffin Pond

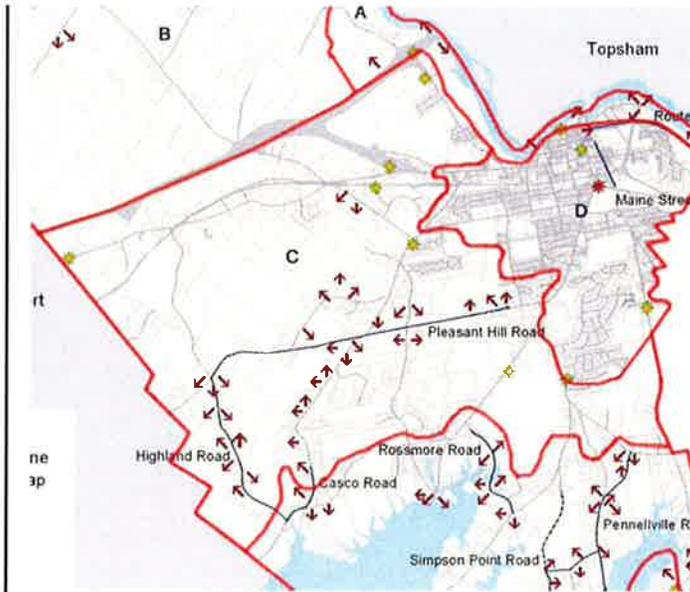
Significant Viewpoints

- Brackett Road: pond on both sides of road
- White's Beach
- Views of town from Rocky Hill



*TL: Hacker Road
ML: Settlemire Farm
MR: Two Echo Cohousing
BL: River Road
BR: Coffin Pond
T: Two Echo Road*

**AREA C
SOUTHWEST
BRUNSWICK**



Landscape Character

Southwest Brunswick is a largely undeveloped portion of the community characterized by rolling fields, mixed forestland, blueberry fields, and scattered homes. Many of the roads have an open horizon, giving the area a sense of expansiveness that is unique to Brunswick. In some areas farmland is giving way to successional second growth as fewer fields are being used for agriculture.

Development pressure is expected to remain intense, due to the area's proximity to downtown and its relative lack of constraints for home construction. The Brunswick-Topsham Land Trust has recently purchased Crystal Spring Farms in the geographic center of this area to preserve a significant piece of the town's agricultural history.

Major Cultural / Scenic Features

- Crystal Springs Farm, with its unique clock tower
- Granite Farm
- Town Commons

- Lower Highland Road: noteworthy farms; abandoned farmhouse; winding roadway
- Cattle farm at Highland Road and Pleasant Hill Road
- Several gateways into town
- Pleasant Hill Road: relative lack of development; panoramic views throughout much of its length

Significant Viewpoints

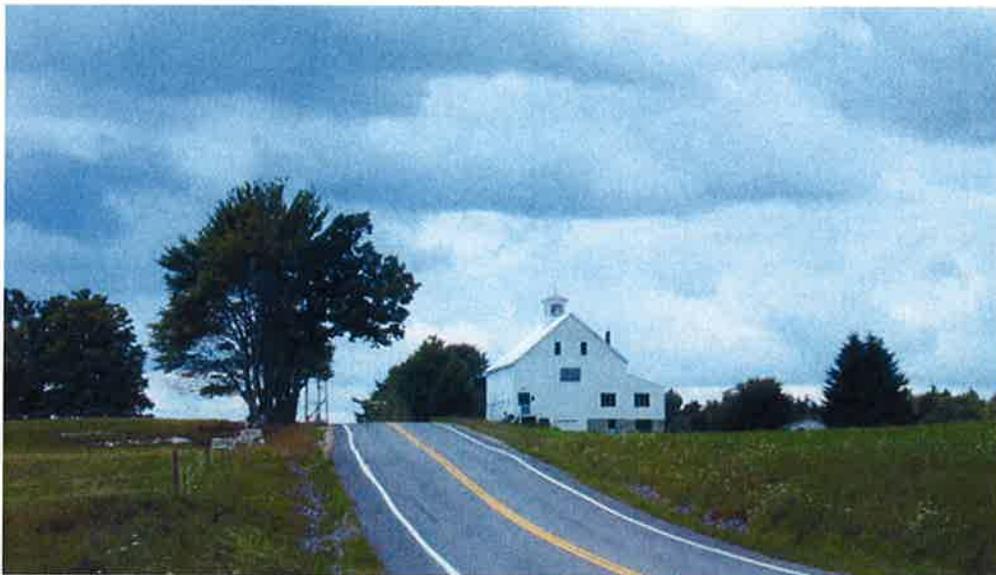
- Woodside Road: panorama at intersection with Pleasant Hill Road
- Church Road: panorama at Crystal Springs Farm, Granite Hill Farm; historic Growstown School and cemetery
- Raymond Road: wooded scenic landscape and open fields; generally undeveloped
- Pleasant Hill Road: vistas of rolling hills and distant ridge-lines, twisting roadway unique to Brunswick (which is largely flat); views to Lower Highland Road at the Bunganuc end.

Gateways are important places that tell us when we have crossed a boundary and are in Brunswick. Some of the most distinctive gateways in Brunswick include:

- Brunswick-Topsham Bridge
- Route One / Freeport town line
- Old Bath Road / Bath town line
- I-95 / Outer Pleasant Street
- Pleasant Hill Road / Freeport town line
- Harpswell Road / Harpswell town line



Lower Highland Road



TL/TR: Farmland along Lower Highland Road
ML: Pleasant Hill Road with the clock that used to grace old Town Hall
BL: Pleasant Hill Road farm scene
T: Town Commons
M: Crystal Springs Farm

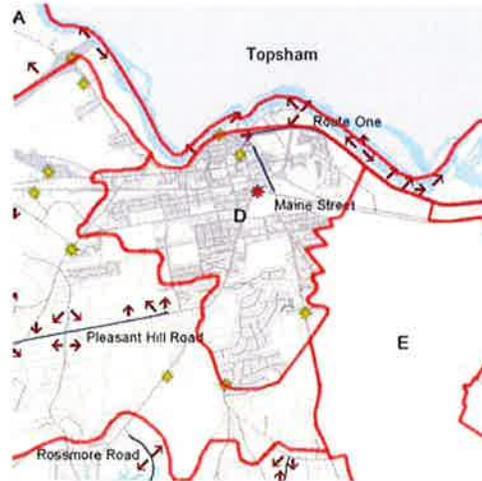
AREA D DOWNTOWN BRUNSWICK



First Parish Church is Brunswick's most recognized landmark.



Pleasant Street approaching Maine Street



Landscape Character

Downtown Brunswick is the heart of the community – the residential and commercial core that is an intrinsic part of its defining character. The downtown is a classic traditional village, with wide streets (Maine Street is the widest main street in the state), distinct walkable neighborhoods, interspersed green space, dramatic focal points, and tree-lined streets.

First Parish Church, occupying a prominent location at the head of Maine Street, is the most widely recognized landmark in town. Its steeple is visible from many outlying parts of the community, since the road network is based upon a loose radial pattern with the church in the center.

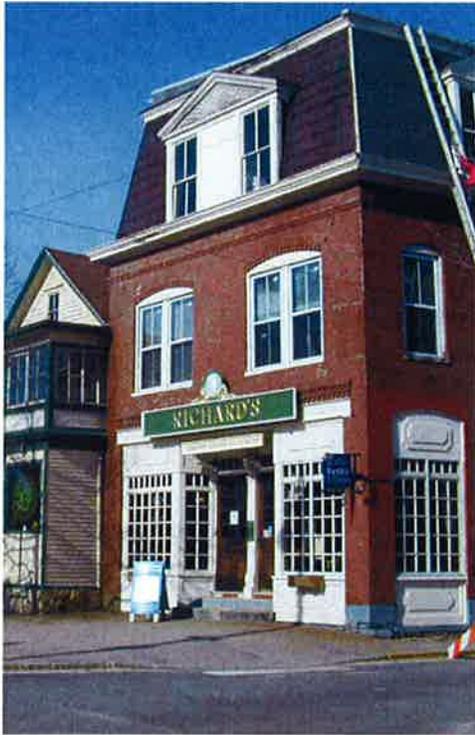
This subarea is bounded by Brunswick Naval Air Station on the east, newer residential neighborhoods on the south and west, and the Androscoggin River on the north.

Major Cultural and Scenic Features

- First Parish Church
- Maine Street
- Brunswick Mall
- Bowdoin College Campus
- Historic residential neighborhoods
- Parkview Adventist Medical Center pond and stream
- Pine Grove Cemetery
- Bowdoin Pines

Significant Viewpoints

- Brunswick Mall
- Maine Street
- Upper floor windows of many commercial buildings and Fort Andross
- Coles Tower
- Water Street high rise



*TL: Maine Street
TR: Federal Street
MRU: Upper Maine Street
opposite Bowdoin College
ML: Maine Street
MR: The Mall
B: Farmers' Market*

AREA E BRUNSWICK NAVAL AIR STATION (BNAS)



AREA E: BRUNSWICK NAVAL AIR STATION (BNAS)

Landscape Character

While Brunswick Naval Air Station occupies a very significant percentage of the Town, it generally is not considered part of the publicly accessible landscape. Issues of national security and the nature of land use at the base severely limit the public's ability to enter the property and utilize its resources. When the base is open, the most notable feature is the expansive runway and the absolutely flat landscape that surrounds it.

Most of the citizenry know BNAS by its edges: the dense woods on the east and west sides, the historic Town Commons, the undeveloped land along its southern boundary, the fence that separates the public from the P-3 Orion aircraft. In recent years the Navy has acquired and demolished several businesses along Bath Road that were within the flight path of the runway, creating a break

in the commercial development that used to connect Cooks Corner with downtown Brunswick.

Major Cultural and Scenic Features

- BNAS runways
- Dense woodlands abutting Bowdoin College, Town Commons, and several residential neighborhoods
- Tree-lined entrance drive within the base

Significant Viewpoints

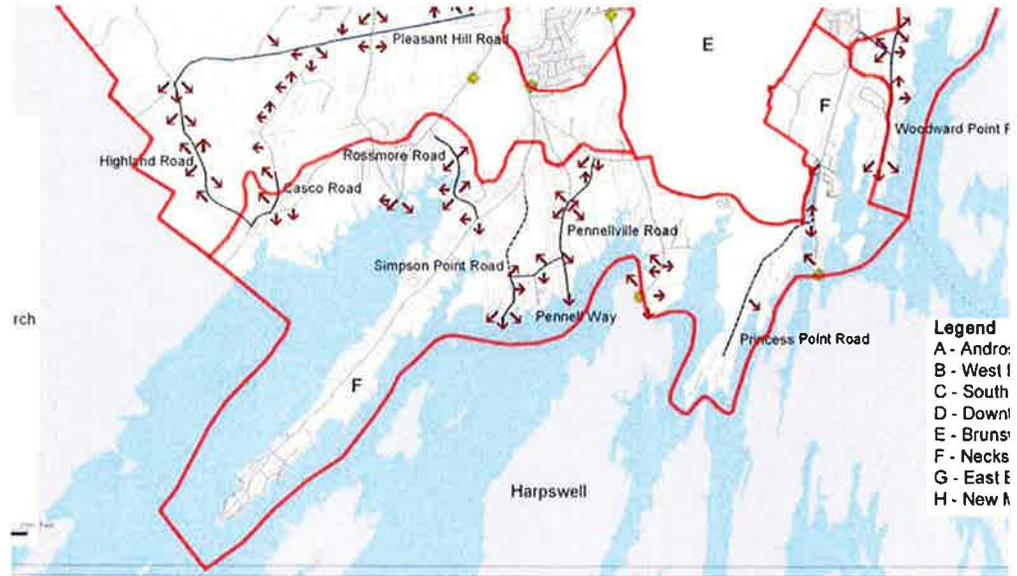
- Bath Road
- BNAS / Control Tower

Photo courtesy BNAS via Internet



*T: Brunswick Naval Air Station
B: Entrance to BNAS off Bath Road*

**AREA F
NECKS, POINTS,
COVES, AND BAYS**



T: Bunganuc Road
M: Penneville Road
B: Penneville Road

Landscape Character

The Necks, Points, Coves, and Bays of the Brunswick shoreline contain some of the most memorable, historic, and diverse landscapes in the community. Most of the land within this area is within walking distance of the waterfront or the numerous tidal streams that etch the land. The characteristic views are described by rolling hills, tidal flats, historic settlements, and highly scenic country roads.

While the land area is great, the amount of public access and publicly accessible viewpoints within this area is relatively small. As is typical of so much of coastal Maine, the majority of the land area is in private ownership. Many of the large grazing fields that once stretched from roadways to waters edge have been allowed to revert to forestland, blocking the views that once were common.

Major Cultural and Scenic Features

- Maquoit Bay
- Pennellville (National Historic District)

Significant Viewpoints

- Rossmore Road: views of Maquoit Bay.
- Maquoit Road.
- Harpswell Road: water views, open fields
- Pennellville Road: water views, Pennell House (1843), fields
- Pennell Way: Open fields.
- Simpson's Point: water and island views at end of road.
- Mere Point Road: hayfields, intermittent water views, Smith's Boatyard, stone walls
- Rossmore Road: fields with Thornton monument, oak tree, pond.
- Prince's Point Landing.
- Bunganuc Road: wooded and winding character; view of tributary of Maquoit Bay cutting through stand of pines; some open field views.



TL: Head of Maquoit Bay
 TR: Princes Point Road
 MUL: Simpson Point Road
 MUR: Woodside Road
 MLL: East side of Casco Road
 MLR: Smith Boatyard
 B: Princes Point Road

1: Rossmore Road
 2, 3, 4: Simpson Point Road

**AREA G
EAST
BRUNSWICK**



- Prince Point Landing.
- Board Road and Meadow Road:
 - open fields and water views (filtered) in all directions.
- Meadow Road near Johnson Way: open fields sloping to water; stands of tall hardwoods; open field split by hardwoods.
- Woodward Point Road: best scenery in the area. Water and island views below a sloping field; large, well-kept barn.
- Pine Ledge Landing: river views across private property.
- Meadow Road: large fields leading to water.

Significant Viewpoints

- Bull Rock Way: water view.
- Rolling fields and marsh at head of New Meadows River, as seen from Bridge Road
- Fields and views to river across Simpson Farm on Old Bath Road

Landscape Character

The characteristic natural landscape consists of relatively level topography, open fields, tall stands of trees. The roads portray a feeling of historic value, telling the story of the area's agricultural past. The area has generally been left untouched (except for Cook's Corner). Many of the best scenic areas are privately owned.

Major Cultural and Scenic Features

- Sawyer park / boat launch.
- Farmland and rolling pastureland on Peterson Lane
- Adams Road/Harding Road: very scenic area with interspersed views of streams and salt marshes.
- Church of Jesus Christ on Coombs Road



Board Road



*TL: Typical parking lot in area
TR: Bath Road
M: Harding Road
B: BNAS property north of
Route One
1: Harding Road*

**AREA H
NEW MEADOWS
RIVER CORRIDOR**



Landscape Character

The New Meadows River Corridor is a relatively small but significant component of the Brunswick landscape. The area encompasses the viewshed of the New Meadows River, which marks the boundary between Brunswick, Bath, and West Bath. The river also serves as a highly visible gateway for travelers on both Route One and Old Bath Road. The characteristic landscape is defined by gently to steeply sloping fields and forestland that drain down to the river. Despite its attractive mixture of water and farmland, the area remains relatively undeveloped.

Major Cultural and Scenic Features

- New Meadows River
- Farmland defined by mature pines

- Preserved homesteads
- Small private cemeteries
- Thomas Point Beach

Significant Viewpoints

- Sawyer park / boat launch.
- Helen's Way: view of open field with filtered views to water; active husbandry.
- Adams Road/Harding Road: very scenic area with interspersed views of streams and salt marshes.
- Woodward Point Road: water and island views below a sloping field.
- Meadow Road: large fields leading to water.
- Thomas Point Beach / Meadow Road.
- Old Bath Road Bridge: New Meadows River panorama



Woodward Point Road



*TL: Adams Road
TR: Woodward Point Road
ML: Adams Road
MR: Woodward Point Road
B: Meadow Road
1: Adams Road*

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Cultural Resources. The noteworthy man-made elements in the community which define its character and contribute to its sense of uniqueness. These can include historic structures, stone walls, focal points, working farmland, and similar memorable places.

Esplanade. The space between the edge of the curblin and the sidewalk, usually planted with grass and street trees.

Gateway. A place where a visitor realizes they have crossed a boundary into Brunswick. A gateway is a visual clue that has a recognizable identity associated with Brunswick.

Historic Resource, Architectural or Archaeological Significance. A site, structure, object or artifact that is listed, or is eligible to be listed on the National or Maine Register of Historic Places, or that contributes archaeologically, culturally or architecturally to the history of the Town of Brunswick.

Mitigation. Any action taken or not taken to avoid, minimize, rectify, reduce, or eliminate actual or potential adverse visual impact.

Natural Features. Non-built elements in the landscape that are notable for their unusual form, size, color, or other characteristics. Features might include ponds, waterfalls, streams, groups of trees, or geologic features.

Ridgeline. The linear crest of a hill. Ridgelines define the edges of valleys and give a sense of scale and enclosure to the landscape.

Rural Road. A right of way characterized by a general lack of development or discordant elements, with occasional views of scenic or cultural resources and a general lack of discordant elements.

Scenic Area. A defined geographic area that exhibits a high degree of variety, harmony, and contrast among the basic visual elements, resulting in an aesthetically pleasing, memorable landscape. Scenic areas are usually characterized by a combination of distinctive landforms, waterbodies, vegetation patterns, and cultural resources. In most cases they also lack obtrusive elements (e.g., transmission lines or junkyards) that would detract from the viewer's appreciation of the place.

Scenic Inventory. A compilation and description of the noteworthy scenic resources within a community, which is described in terms of scenic sub-areas (smaller areas within the community that are characterized by relatively homogenous physiographic patterns).

Scenic Resources. The noteworthy visual elements or places in the community, including views of water, scenic viewpoints, view corridors, beaches, marshes, open fields, rolling hills, historic structures, or other memorable places. A place visited by the general public for the express purpose of enjoying its scenic quality.

Scenic Road. A right of way characterized by a series of scenic or cultural resources always visible to the traveler, with no discordant land uses.

Specimen Tree. A noteworthy individual tree of sufficient size, girth, or form to attract individual attention.

View Corridor. A linear area that provides a view of a distant scene, usually defined by vegetation, landforms, or buildings.

View. The visible component of the landscape seen from a particular viewpoint.

Viewshed. The surface area visible from a particular viewpoint. Also, the surface area within which an object or viewpoint may be seen.

Vista. A distant view, usually encompassing the landscape several miles or more from the observer.

Visual Impact Assessment. A determination of how a proposed development could alter the visual landscape or the visual resources identified of a community. The goal of a visual impact assessment is to reveal potential impacts and to determine effective mitigation strategies, if appropriate.

“As the village came into its own [in the late 1800’s], its physical appearance altered. In the outskirts they were dumping tin cans, boots, hats, and whatnots; and cutting down trees along many a woodland drive but inside the village they were building fine new residences....The streets took on a new urbanity. Brick walks and curbing were extended along Maine Street, granite street crossings were laid, electricity was substituted for the old oil and gas street lamps. The station grounds were graded and seeded; householders threw down their white fences when Tenney’s campaign against pasturing loose cows on the streets finally bore fruit and began mowing their lawns instead of haying them twice a year...On the lower Mall the pool, now a stinking nuisance, and the open drains were filled in and grassed; the young trees, large enough to cast a shade, were trimmed; and the whole was surrounded by a painted white fence.”

Edward Chase Kirkland,
Brunswick’s Golden Age, 1941,
Lewiston, Maine

Appendix B-1

MEMO Page 1

MEMORANDUM

Date: March 5, 1999

To: Don Gerrish, Town Manager

From: Theo Holtwijk, Director of Planning & Development
Tom Farrell, Director of Parks & Recreation
Alan Houston, Natural Resources Planner

Re: **Proposed Brunswick Open Space Plan**

The Planning and Development Department's FY 1999-2000 budget contains a **\$25,000 request for professional services** to assist with the preparation of an open space plan. This is a request that is put forward jointly by the Planning & Development Department and Parks & Recreation Department. This memo details the background of the request and proposed action.

1. PREVIOUS BRUNSWICK PLANS

Several plans have addressed pieces of the open space "puzzle," but have not yet been put together. As a result, the town does not have a formal open space policy addressing issues that come before it, such as Planning Board development applications and land acquisition opportunities.

The **1988 Comprehensive Plan for Parks and Recreation** provided a "rationale for decisions related to the acquisition, development and maintenance of recreation facilities and programs."¹ The recommendations generally outline the needs to be addressed through the year 2005.²

The **1995 Shore Access Report**, prepared by Ed Hawes, consisted of an inventory of sites with historical and legal bases for rights-of-way to water, with the aim to "preserve, clarify or recover" them.³

The **1998 Brunswick Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvements Plan** reviewed existing bicycle and pedestrian conditions and prioritized proposed, site-specific improvements, including off-road paths, through 2009 which would foster these travel modes.

The **1998 Cook's Corner Master Plan** made recommendations with regard to parks, open space, and recreation, specifically regarding the need for a recreation facility in East Brunswick, acquisition of the Ormsby property (former Merrymeeting Park), and zoning and land use strategies.⁴

2. COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

The 1993 Comprehensive Plan sets forth some community-wide recommendations pertaining to open space and the preparation of an open space plan.

The Comprehensive Plan identified in its **Land Use section** a goal to "devise an integrated approach to the preservation and management of the natural resource base and open space amenities of the Town."⁵ It identified the need to "generate and adopt an **open space plan** . . . and

to provide improved availability of passive recreational opportunities, as well as protection of wildlife and scenic resources."⁶ The open space plan should:

- a. identify those areas that should be permanently protected by acquisition, easement or otherwise;
- b. establish priorities for permanent protection measures;
- c. recommend means of acquisition or protection;
- d. recommend management strategies.⁷

The timeframe identified for the preparation of the open space plan was "immediate."⁸

The 1993 Plan recommended in the **Public Facilities section** that the 1988 Comprehensive Plan be reviewed and amended "during the upcoming year."⁹ It also recommended that a "formalized **greenway plan** . . . that could provide for an interlinked system of walkways/bikeways that connects the various passive and active recreation areas throughout the Town" be prepared.¹⁰

3. RECENT DISCUSSIONS, ACQUISITIONS AND PHYSICAL IMPROVEMENTS

In the last year and a half, open space has frequently been a topic of discussion (as well as reason for community gatherings), which seems to reaffirm the need for an open space plan.

The **Zoning Ordinance Task Force** reviewed chapter 211 Natural Resource Protection Zone last year. Its December 1998 recommendations to the Town Council included the preparation of open space plan to address wildlife issues relevant to that chapter. The Task Force's current review of chapter 209 Coastal Protection Zone deals also with open space issues.

In March 1998 some 20 Brunswick elected and appointed officials and staff attended a **Public Parks conference** in Boston sponsored by the National Recreation and Park Association.¹¹ A citizens-in-the parks day was brainstormed as a local follow-up, but that did not happen as town officials got very busy with the completion of the Mill Street park and canoe portage, 250th Anniversary Park, the opening of Baybridge Landing Park, and the bicycle/footpath along the Androscoggin River.

Also in 1998, the **Brunswick Topsham Land Trust** completed its fundraising of Crystal Spring Farm, the **Town of Brunswick** purchased 12 acres of land (Coombs property) adjacent to the Coffin Swimming Pond, and received an 8 acre donation (Chow property) at the Coffin Ice Pond and another 13 acre donation (Lamb property). On the other hand, the Town was not able to respond to other potential open space opportunities, such as the Hearst property off River Road (30+ acres) and Chase/King property on Mere Point Road/Miller Creek (90+ acres).

More recently, in February 1999, an 8-member delegation of Town officials and staff attended a "**Smart Growth**" conference in Boston sponsored by EPA, which included a session on open space strategies. In February **Governor King announced a new \$50 million bond issue** for the acquisition of land by the Land for Maine's Future Board (LMFB). Fore example, two Bath parcels will benefit from \$375,000 in LMFB funding. Some of the new funding could be directed to Brunswick.

On February 16, the Town Council adopted a **1999 goal and objective** to "discuss a policy to establish a fund for acquisition of recreation and environmentally significant property and develop an open space ordinance including water access."

4. PROPOSED ACTION

*On February 10, a delegation of members of the **Conservation Commission, Recreation Commission and Planning Board** met to discuss a jointly-sponsored open space plan effort.*

The group agreed that:

- the need for an open space plan is high (the use of the town's recreation facilities is maximized and more open land is becoming developed);
- "open space" be further defined as part of the plan;
- the plan tackle conservation as well as recreation issues as a continuum of open space exists (i.e. expanding the parameters laid out in the Comprehensive Plan);
- an Open Space Plan Task Force be formed consisting of a representative range of interests ¹²;
- a consultant be hired to assist the Planning & Development and Parks & Recreation departments;
- the Planning & Development Department oversee the professional services budget for the open space plan, so it is not perceived to be a "conservation" plan or a "recreation" plan;
- community education be an important aspect of the preparation of the plan;
- open space plans by other Maine communities be reviewed for suitable "models."¹³

5. REQUESTED COUNCIL ACTIONS

As the next step, we recommend that the Town Council:

1. *appoint an Open Space Plan Task Force and*
2. *appropriate \$25,000 for this work in its budget process.*

Proposed Task Force Charge:

We propose that the Open Space Task Force be charged with the preparation of an open space plan for adoption by Brunswick Town Council. This open space plan shall address, at a minimum, the community's needs regarding:

- the acquisition, development and maintenance of passive and active recreation facilities and programs;
- the protection of wildlife and scenic resources;
- the development of an interlinked system of walkways/bikeways connecting community recreation areas.

Proposed Task Force Make-Up:

We propose that a 17-person Task Force be established comprising of representatives from the following boards/committees, all of which have a community-wide mission:

- Town Council: two (2) representatives
- Planning Board: two (2) representatives
- Recreation Commission: two (2) representatives
- Conservation Commission: two (2) representatives
- Bicycle/Pedestrian Committee: two (2) representatives
- Brunswick-Topsham Land Trust: two (2) representatives
- General public: five (5) representatives

We envision that the Task Force will act as a "Steering Committee" and create several subcommittees to work on the major components of the plan. These subcommittees will allow for direct participation by the broad range of interest groups that exist in the community and other interested citizens.

Staff Support

The following staff people have committed support throughout this project:

- Theo Holtwijk, Director of Planning & Development
- Tom Farrell, Director of Parks & Recreation
- Alan Houston, Natural Resources Planner

We will call on other Town staff persons on an as-needed basis.

Thank you.

cc. Planning Board; Recreation Commission; Conservation Commission; Bicycle/Pedestrian Committee; Brunswick-Topsham Land Trust

¹ 1988 Comprehensive Plan for Parks and Recreation, p. 1.

² Ibid, p. 3.

³ 1995 Shore Access Report, Cautionary Statement.

⁴ 1998 Cook's Corner Master Plan, p. 28.

⁵ 1993 Comprehensive Plan, p. 3-43.

⁶ Ibid., p. 3-47.

⁷ Ibid.

⁸ Ibid., p. 4-50.

⁹ Ibid., p. 4-16.

¹⁰ Ibid., p. 4-17.

¹¹ Brunswick attendees represented the Town Council, Conservation Commission, Planning Board, Recreation Commission, Bicycle/Pedestrian Committee, Tree Committee, Village Improvement Association and Brunswick-Topsham Land Trust.

¹² The group envisioned representation from the Town Council, Planning Board, Conservation Commission, Recreation Commission, Brunswick-Topsham Land Trust, Bicycle/Pedestrian Committee, Bowdoin College, developer/consultant interests, farm/forest interests, business/chamber of commerce interests, hunting/fishing interests, school/teacher/student interests, and the public-at-large.

¹³ The following plans have been identified thus far:

- Augusta, *Open Space, Public Access and Outdoor Recreation Plan* (1996);
- Falmouth, *Open Space Plan* (1990);
- Freeport, *Open Space and Public Access Plan* (1998 draft);
- Lewiston, *Parks and Recreation Comprehensive Plan* (1993);
- Portland, *Green Spaces, Blue Edges: An Open Space and Recreation Plan for the City of Portland* (1994);
- Scarborough, *Open Space Plan* (1999 draft).

Appendix B-1

MEMO Page 2

MEMORANDUM

Date: March 22, 1999

To: Don Gerrish, Town Manager

From: Theo Holtwijk, Director of Planning & Development
Alan Houston, Natural Resource Planner
Tom Farrell, Director of Parks and Recreation

Re: **Open Space Plan Task Force: *Proposed Alternative Make-Up***

In our March 10th memo we suggested a proposed size and make-up of an open task force task force. Our initial suggestion was a 17-person task force.

Upon reflection and discussion with others, we believe that a **9-member task force** may be more practical:

- Town Council: one representative (and one alternate)
- Planning Board: one representative (and one alternate)
- Recreation Commission: one representative (and one alternate)
- Conservation Commission: one representative (and one alternate)
- Bicycle/Pedestrian Committee: one representative (and one alternate)
- Brunswick-Topsham Land Trust: one representative (and one alternate)
- General Public: three representatives

We still envision that **subcommittees** will be created by the task force to allow additional community members to participate directly in the process. Furthermore, "**readers**" may also be recruited for this project: these are community members who are willing to read task force drafts and comment on them, but who do not want or need to participate in any meetings. Lastly, we expect that a **use and opinion survey** will be employed and that several **public forums** will be conducted.

cc. Town Council; Planning Board; Recreation Commission; Conservation Commission;
Bicycle/Pedestrian Committee; Brunswick-Topsham Land Trust

Appendix B-2

The Task Force organized an initial community forum at the Junior High School on February 10, 2000 to kick-off the open space planning process. About 130-140 people attended this event. Refreshments and pastries for this forum and the ones that followed were provided at reduced cost by Wild Oats Bakery. The Times Record produced at cost a 4 page newspaper insert, which included a fold-out map of all existing parks and open spaces in Brunswick.

The event opened with a brief presentation by the Task Force. The audience then worked in small groups on a series of assignments. The results of the first assignment were shared at the end. A written report was produced of this forum by Planning Decisions and was mailed to each participant. It was also posted on the task force website.

Attached are:

- [Times Record insert](#) (PDF 198KB)
- [Meeting agenda](#) (PDF 117KB)
- [Facilitator Instructions](#) (PDF 88KB)
- [Participant Survey](#) (PDF 159KB)

Parks, Recreation & Open Space Vision Being Sought in Brunswick

Public is Invited to Thursday February 10th Forum at Junior High School

The newly formed Brunswick Open Space & Recreation Task Force is seeking your input. This group of volunteers wants to know what you think is important regarding parks, recreation and open space facilities in the community. What facilities are needed to serve you best? What open space areas should be preserved? Join us on Thursday February 10th at the Junior High School on Columbia Avenue and Barrows Street from 7 to 9 PM. If the Brunswick schools are closed that day due to weather, the Forum will be postponed until Tuesday February 15th.

Open Space Forum Exercises

To prepare you for the February 10th Forum we have included here the exercises that we will conduct that evening. You may decide to get a head start and bring this sheet with you to the Forum. If you cannot come to the Forum, please feel free to fill out this insert and drop it off or mail it back at one of the following locations:

- Planning & Development Department, Town Hall, 28 Federal Street
- Parks & Recreation Department, 30 Federal Street
- Curtis Memorial Library, 23 Pleasant Street

Exercise #1 Brunswick's Special Places

We would like you to think about the parks, recreation and open spaces in the community and which ones are important to you. Using the maps of the town included in this insert, locate by number the special places that currently exist in Brunswick as well as the special places that no longer exist or that have been changed so they are no longer special.

For this exercise, a "special place" is defined as a park, open space or an outdoor recreational area that is essential to the character of Brunswick and which should be preserved for the future. A "special place" can be publicly or privately owned. Below identify the places you put on the map, and tell us why they are special to you and, where applicable, how they were lost or changed.

Existing special places:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Altered or lost special places:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

At the Forum we will prioritize, in small groups, the places that are most important to be preserved. We will put together two composite maps with a prioritized list of all groups of current special places and a list of past special places. The results will then be presented at the end of the Forum.

Exercise #2 What type of recreation and open space is important to you?

For this exercise you have been given ten (10) dollars to distribute as you wish among the categories of recreation and open space listed below to indicate what you would like to see as the priorities of the community. The categories cover both active recreational use and land preservation:

	Dollars
▪ development of additional sports/athletic fields	\$ _____
▪ improved deep water boat access	\$ _____
▪ improved beach access	\$ _____
▪ expanded trails for walking, biking, snowmobiling, cross-country skiing, etc.	\$ _____
▪ development of in-town neighborhood parks and playgrounds	\$ _____
▪ creation of links between recreation and open space areas	\$ _____
▪ access to the river for boaters and other users	\$ _____
▪ preservation of scenic views and scenic areas	\$ _____
▪ protection of important wildlife habitat	\$ _____
▪ retention of farms and farmland	\$ _____
▪ protection of woodlands	\$ _____
▪ protection of wetlands and other environmentally sensitive areas	\$ _____
▪ development of additional indoor recreation facilities	\$ _____

Total: \$ 10.00

At the forum we will total up the results by category for each small group and the results from each group will then be combined and presented at the end of the forum.

Exercise #3 Elements for the Plan's Success

Please write down in the space provided below what elements or ideas you believe the Open Space & Recreation Task Force must address for the plan to be successful for the community. What concerns do you have about the Parks, Recreation & Open Space Plan, the process, or proposals that may be developed that would jeopardize adoption or implementation of its recommendations? Use additional paper if required.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

4. _____
5. _____

Our Mailing List

If you are interested to receive future mailings on the Town's Parks, Recreation & Open Space Plan effort, please provide your name and address:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Town/Zip: _____

Thank you very much for your time and input.

For more information about the parks, recreation & open space initiative, please contact Theo Holtwijk, Director of Planning & Development at 725-6660 or holtwijk@gwi.net or Tom Farrell, Director of Parks & Recreation at 725-6656.

Background: Previous Brunswick Plans

Several plans have addressed pieces of the recreation and open space "puzzle," but have not yet been put together. As a result, the town does not have an up-to-date formal parks, recreation, and open space policy or vision addressing issues that come before it, such as Planning Board development applications and land acquisition opportunities.

- The 1988 *Comprehensive Plan for Parks and Recreation* provided a "rationale for decisions related to the acquisition, development and maintenance of recreation facilities and programs."¹ The recommendations generally outline the needs to be addressed through the year 2005.²
- The 1995 *Shore Access Report*, prepared by Edward Hawes, consisted of an inventory of sites with historical and legal bases for rights-of-way to water, with the aim to "preserve, clarify or recover" them.³
- The 1998 *Brunswick Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvements Plan* reviewed existing bicycle and pedestrian conditions and prioritized proposed, site-specific improvements, including off-road paths, through 2009 which would foster these travel modes.
- The 1998 *Cook's Corner Master Plan* made recommendations with regard to parks, open space, and recreation, specifically regarding the need for a recreation facility in East Brunswick, acquisition of the Ormsby property (former Merrymeeting Park), and zoning and land use strategies.⁴

1993 Comprehensive Plan

The 1993 *Comprehensive Plan* sets forth some community-wide recommendations pertaining to open space and the preparation of an open space plan.

The Comprehensive Plan identified in its Land Use section a goal to "devise an integrated approach to the preservation and management of the natural resource base and open space amenities of the Town."⁵ It identified the need to "generate and adopt an open space plan . . . and to provide improved availability of passive recreational opportunities, as well as protection of wildlife and scenic resources."⁶ The open space plan should:

- a. identify those areas that should be permanently protected by acquisition, easement or otherwise;
- b. establish priorities for permanent protection measures;
- c. recommend means of acquisition or protection;
- d. recommend management strategies.⁷

The timeframe identified for the preparation of the open space plan was "immediate."⁸

The 1993 plan recommended in the Public Facilities section that the 1988 Comprehensive Plan be reviewed and amended "during the upcoming year."⁹ It also recommended that a "formalized greenway plan . . . that could provide for an interlinked system of walkways/bikeways that connects the various passive and active recreation areas throughout the Town" be prepared.¹⁰

Recent Discussions, Acquisitions, and Improvements

During the last two years, parks, recreation, and open space has frequently been a topic of discussion (as well as reason for community gatherings), which seems to reaffirm the need for a parks, recreation, and open space plan.

In 1998-99 the Zoning Ordinance Task Force reviewed chapter 211 Natural Resource Protection Zone and chapter 209 Coastal Protection Zone. It requested that wildlife issues be addressed in an open space plan.

In March 1998 some twenty Brunswick elected and appointed officials and staff attended a Public Parks conference in Boston sponsored by the National Recreation and Park Association. A citizens-in-the parks day was brainstormed as a local follow-up, but that did not happen as town officials got very busy with the completion of the Mill Street park and canoe portage, 250th Anniversary Park, the opening of Baybridge Landing Park, and the bicycle/footpath along the Androscoggin River.

Also in 1998, the Brunswick Topsham Land Trust acquired Crystal Spring Farm (113 acres), the Town of Brunswick purchased 7 acres of land (Coombs property) adjacent to the Coffin Pond Recreation Area, and received an 6 acre donation (Chow property) at the Coffin's Ice Pond and another 8 acre donation (Lamb property). In October 1998 the 2.6 mile-long Androscoggin River Bicycle Path was officially opened. The path has made a significant stretch of the river accessible to the public and provides a safe route from downtown to Cook's Corner.

The same year the Town finished development of the 250th Anniversary Park, located at the north end of Maine Street overlooking the Androscoggin River. In the summer the Town opened Bay Bridge Landing, a new 4-acre wetland interpretive park at the head of Merrymeeting Bay.

In February 1999 an 8-member delegation of Town officials and staff attended a "Smart Growth" conference in Boston sponsored by EPA, which included a session on open space strategies. In February Governor King announced a new \$50 million bond issue for the acquisition of land by the Land for Maine's Future Board (LMFB). For example, two Bath parcels will benefit from \$375,000 in LMFB funding. Some of the new funding could be directed to Brunswick.

In 1999 a canoe portage facility was unveiled at Mill Street and the Town's first skate board park opened at the Old High School. In 1999 the Town also purchased the Eastbrook Timber Company property off River Road (30+ acres) and expanded Sawyer Park with another 7 acres (Crooker property). Also in 1999 the Town acquired additional river frontage on lower Water Street (0.25 acres) adjacent to the Town's original boat landing (St. Pierre property).

On February 16, 1999 the Town Council adopted a 1999 goal and objective to "discuss a policy to establish a fund for acquisition of recreation and environmentally significant property and develop an open space ordinance including water access."

In late 1999 a group of citizens met, and organized itself as "Friends of the Commons," to discuss steps to protect existing footpaths across private property between Bowdoin College, the Town Commons, and Middle Bay. In the 1990s the Town has been successful through the subdivision review process in protecting public access to certain parts of the existing trail system by using easements and acquiring critical trail segments.

Task Force Mission

On June 7, 1999 the Brunswick Town Council appointed an Open Space Task Force. The mission of the Task Force is the preparation of an open space and recreation plan for adoption by Brunswick Town Council.

This plan shall address, at a minimum, the community's needs regarding:

- acquisition, development and maintenance of passive and active recreation facilities and programs;
- protection of wildlife and scenic resources;
- development of an interlinked system of walkways/bikeways connecting community recreation areas.

The Task Force is acting as a "Steering Committee" and is expected to create several subcommittees to work on the major components of the plan. These subcommittees will allow for direct participation by the broad range of interest groups that exist in the community and other interested citizens.

Planning Process

The Task Force will use the information gathered at the February 2000 Forum to determine what issues should be included in the plan. The Task Force conducts working meetings on average once every two weeks at the Curtis Memorial Library. It will next develop a Request for Proposals for consultants to assist the Task Force with this project. Neighborhood meetings are expected to be organized where you will be able to discuss specific needs of your neighborhood. There will also be a periodic check-in with the public to report on the progress of the overall effort, which is expected to be completed sometime in 2001. In the end, the Task Force's report will be recommended to the Town Council for its adoption.

OPEN SPACE & RECREATION TASK FORCE

*c/o Department of Planning & Development, Town of Brunswick
28 Federal Street, Brunswick, Maine 04011*

Councilor Forrest Lowe
Chairman, 729-9775 (h)

Barbara Desmarais
Citizen at Large
725-4827 (h)

Forrest Dillon
Conservation Commission
729-7366 (w)

Peter Didisheim
Citizen at Large
622-3101 ext. 21 (w)

Tom Farrell
Director of Parks & Recreation
725-6656 (w)

Edward Hawes, Planning Board
729-5878 (h)

Theo Holtwijk, Director of
Planning & Development
725-6660 (w)

Joshua Katz, Bicycle & Pedestrian
Committee, 725-6301 (h)

Fred Koerber
Brunswick High School
798-5500 (w)

Ellen McPherson
Citizen at Large
729-3148 (h)

John Murphy
Recreation Commission
729-7853 (h)

Keisha Payson, Bicycle and Pedestrian
Committee
725-1274 (h)

Mitchell Rousseau
Recreation Commission
725-5022 (h)

Bill Smith, Planning Board
798-5836 (h)

Barbara Swisher
Brunswick School Board
729-1584 (h)

Lloyd Van Lunen, Brunswick
Topsham Land Trust
729-0584 (h)

Mary Wicklund
Conservation Commission
729-5745 (h)

Dear Brunswick Citizen:

Late last summer, the Brunswick Town Council appointed a task force to develop and recommend a long-term plan for the town that establishes priorities and policies for parks, recreation, and open space.

Over the last few months we have been busy beginning to understand the topic, reviewing what other towns have done, and seeing some of the parks, recreation, and open space assets that are currently part of Brunswick.

The first thing that has become very clear is that we need to actively pursue public input so that we have a good understanding of what is important to Brunswick citizens in the areas of parks, recreation and open space planning.

We would like to invite you to our first public meeting, or "forum" on Thursday, February 10th at the Brunswick Junior High School cafeteria from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. If the Brunswick schools are closed that day, the Forum will be postponed until Tuesday, February 15th.

We have designed what we think will be a fun and productive evening for you and we would very much appreciate it if you would attend and share your thoughts. It will be an interactive get-together with small group discussions and exercises that will help us to understand community priorities and issues. We will be sure to summarize and share the results.

Please call any of the Task Force members or myself, if you have any questions or suggestions. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Forrest Lowe, Chairman
Open Space & Recreation Task Force

¹ 1988 Comprehensive Plan for Parks and Recreation, p. 1.

² Ibid, p. 3.

³ 1995 Shore Access Report, Cautionary Statement.

⁴ 1998 Cook's Corner Master Plan, p. 28.

⁵ 1993 Comprehensive Plan, p. 3-43.

⁶ Ibid., p. 3-47.

⁷ Ibid.

⁸ Ibid., p. 4-50.

⁹ Ibid., p. 4-16.

¹⁰ Ibid., p. 4-17.

FORUM AGENDA

Thursday, February 10, 2000, 7:00 – 9:00 PM

Brunswick Junior High School

Parks, Recreation & Open Space Plan *Open Space & Recreation Task Force*

1. **Welcome and Introductions**
Forrest Lowe, Task Force Chair
2. **Overview of Parks, Recreation and Open Space Process**
Barbara Desmarais, Task Force member
3. **Objective of Tonight's Forum**
Keisha Payson, Task Force member
4. **Small Group Work**
 - **Introductions** 5 min.
 - **Exercise #1a: Special Places** 20 min.
 - **Exercise #1b: Special Places Lost or Altered** 10 min.
 - **Exercise #2: General Priorities** 15 min.
 - **Exercise #3: Elements for Success** 20 min.
 - **Fill Out Participant Survey** 5 min.
5. **Summary of Exercises #1a, 1b and 2**
Tom Farrell & Theo Holtwijk
6. **Summary of Exercise #3**
Group Facilitators
7. **Wrap-up**
Forrest Lowe, Task Force Chair

Revised
Instructions for the Small Group Leaders
Brunswick Open Space/Recreation Forum

1. Introduce yourself to the group
2. Go around the table and have each person introduce himself or herself.
3. Recruit a member of the group to be a recorder and write down things on the flip chart.

(The recorder should write down what people say using their own words. It is OK to shorten things using the respondent's own words but do not reword or clarify what the person said. This is important - make sure the recorder understands this and is doing this.)

Exercise #1 Special Places

4. Explain that this exercise is to help the committee understand if there are "special places" in Brunswick.
5. Ask people to get out their newspaper insert and look at Exercise #1.
6. Review the definition of a "special place" with the group; read it from the insert.
7. Ask the group to take a minute; think about what their "special places" in Brunswick are; and write them down in the space on the insert.
8. Give the group a couple of minutes to complete this.
9. Explain that now we are going to make a combined list of "special places" and to locate them on a map of Brunswick.
10. Tell people that once we have a place on the list and map, we don't need to repeat it.
11. Make a numbered list of the group's "special places". Ask one person for an item from their list. Have the recorder write it on the flip chart and call it number 1. Then put a sticky dot on the map to show where it is located and mark the dot #1.
12. Go around the group and add to the list & put numbered dots on the map for each "special place". Skip around but make sure everyone's "special places" get on the list. Remember to number the items on the list and the dots on the map.
13. Once you have the list completed, review it and make sure that people understand what each one is; clarify on the flip chart if necessary.

14. Give each person a strip of colored sticky dots.
15. Ask them to put a dot on the flip chart list next to the "most important" special places. They should put one dot on an item; no double dotting allowed.
16. When everyone has put their dots on the list, put a star or X on the ones that have the most dots.
17. Put the list and map on the floor to be picked up.
18. If time allows, take the second large map and do "lost" special places.
19. Ask the group if there are any "special places" that have been lost over the years.
20. Make a numbered list of the lost places and put a numbered dot on the second map. If possible, have the person tell why the place was special and write it on the flip chart.
21. Get everyone's "lost" special places on the numbered list and Map #2.
22. Put the "lost" map and list on the floor.
23. Go on to Exercise #2.

Exercise #2 General Priorities

24. Explain that the committee wants to hear what people's priorities are for open space and outdoor recreation.
25. Ask people to go to Exercise #2 in the newspaper insert and go through it with them. Review the categories or focus areas.
26. Tell them that they each have \$10 to spend on recreation and open space.
27. Explain again that they can "spend" all \$10 on one category or split it up anyway they want to show their priorities.
28. Have the group take a minute and allocate their \$10 to the categories in the insert.
29. Go through category by category, have participants tell you one by one how much they allocated to that category, and have the recorder write the results down on the large rating sheet category-by-category. Go through all of the categories.
30. Put the rating sheet on the floor to be picked up.
31. Go on to Exercise #3.

Exercise #3 Elements for Success

32. Ask participants to go to Exercise #3 in the newspaper insert.
33. Explain that we need to know what elements or ideas the committee needs to address for the plan to be successful for the entire community.
34. Have each person complete Exercise #3 individually.
35. Go through and make a list of everyone's "elements for success." Skip around and get everyone's items on the list.
36. Review the list and see if there are any that can be combined. If there are, cross out the original items and write the combined item on the list. Don't force this, but try to combine any that are close.
37. Go through and clarify the items if there are any questions about them.
38. Give everyone a strip of colored sticky dots and ask them to put them on the items that are most important. Again one dot per item; no double dotting.

That is it. Thank you!

**Participant Survey
Outdoor Recreation and Open Space Community Forum**

All Respondents

Cross Tabulations

March, 2000

Prepared by:

**Market Decisions
85E Street
S. Portland, ME 04106**

Verbatim

Q1 - What do you think is the most important outdoor recreation or open space need facing Brunswick in the next five years?

- Access to water, open dog run areas.
- Water access, hiking, bicycle and ski trails, picnic areas.
- Water access, rivers, the bay & the saltwater shores. We didn't act to acquire 20 years ago and the public has lost out. Acquire even small lots and hold till needed. After all we don't know what the interest will be in another 5 to 10 years.
- Upper river access (Cuffin pond - River Road, walking paths around commons, deep water boat access
- An area on Casco Bay deep water where the people of Brunswick can launch & boat or Kayak. That should include an area nearby for a parking spot. The launching area Simpson PT landing should be enlarged to accommodate a turning space for trailers and parking close by.
- Reservation of access - both visual and physical- to waterfront land
- Rights of way to water and passive recreation, open space.
- River and ocean access.
- Protection of open space along the Androscoggin River for hiking and fishing access.
- Undeveloped waterfront and unpolluted marine resources.
- Need to protect remaining open land, fields, woods, and farms from development. Population pressure and high dollar volume make these undeveloped spaces valuable. zoning regulations insufficient protection.
- Preservation of environmental sensitive areas up and of estuaries and wetlands, we don't realize how important these areas are and current regulations are too liberal and shortsighted.
- Keep intown green, Improve access to ocean shore and beach, need (indoor) public pool (large and clean), Keep Source of land at Meadow Road open - to hike and cross country ski and walk down to shore line along the new meadow.
- Preservation of remaining wetlands, woodlands, farmland and wildlife habitat in Brunswick.
- Watershed protection
- Preservation of scenic/habitat qualities of rural land through the public acquisition, conservation easements, cluster zoning.
- Protection of the "gateways" into town and the connection of those gateways to trails, bikeways and open space. Link town center to open space.
- Preserving scenic and wooded open spaces. Developing trails for walking skiing etc...connecting open spaces.
- Protecting the bays.
- Preservation of woodlands, farmlands and wetlands.
- Protection of the Androscoggin and New Meadows Rivers and bank.
- To protect our water boundaries which are 65% of our borders. Protection of Androscoggin River as a recreational source is of great importance to my wife and me.
- Developing a master plan for more walking/hiking paths, parks and preserved woodland and views of the bay. At present, we move forward in strokes - piecemeal fashion.

- Preservation of remaining large open space areas that are scenic, have trails, and close to town. Land north and south of Town commons and Dionne woods - behind Mid-Coast Hospital; access to Androscoggin but no housing developments along the river.
- Protect the trail and as much undeveloped land as possible from Bowdoin's athletic fields, thru commons, to middle Bay road and on to the bay thru Coleman farm.
- Public land acquisition and restriction on growth and control (SPRAWL)
- Preserving open space as well as allowing development of houses.
- Parks
- Winter sport activities - x country skiing, snowshoeing, downhill skiing.
- Recreational facilities
- Pool, tennis & b-ball courts in East Brunswick. Possibly incorporated into the same complex as a firestation.
- Public trail dept (w easements over private lands).
- Recreation: more opportunities for hiking/biking/sharing in places where there are no motorized vehicles. Open space: Wildlife habitat/protection of environmentally sensitive areas.
- Recreation away from traffic, but with parking
- Athletic field space indoor and out doors.
- Greenbelt linkage, public water access, funding.
- Green belt
- Indoor olympic swimming pool(development of indoor recreation facilities).
- We are in need of one community indoor ice arena such as the one in Falmouth that provided both indoor and outdoor free facilities.
- Completion of the sports complex at the new high school. More intown small parks or recreational spaces.
- Sports fields.
- Baseball and soccer fields.
- Swimming pool(public).
- Number of fields and indoor recreation areas.
- Playing fields. Preservation of mall as community gathering place.
- Continue the bike path through the Commons to the Bay. Maintain playing fields for youth sports.
- Athletic field space
- Green space for athletic fields. Waterfront access. Expand bike path.
- Protecting and fostering outdoor recreation spaces, primarily hiking/walking/running trails. Keeping open spaces open.
- Athletic fields maint. and development.
- Hockey and skating rinks. Playgrounds in walking distance of town residential areas.
- Athletic fields. Biking/pedestrian paths.
- Develop additional active recreation (all-purpose) fields.
- Recreational fields for young people.
- Balancing open space and growth.
- Maintenance of what we have. Bicycle aprons on highly traveled narrow roads.
- Use and maintain what you have, use what you have to emphasize educational side of plants/trees/soils - straight observation. Placards along paths and trails.

Farms

- Limit Suburban development in the farmland.
- Save the nature and personality of Brunswick by protecting open farm fields and wooded areas.
- Loss of habitat & open space due to fragmentation.
- Open space - it's sad that the two largest spaces the town owns are the two dumps. Awareness of the "costs" of development vs. cost of purchasing open space. Educate residents about how development(residential & commercial) impacts the tax rate: the cost of growth.
- Slowing of fragmentation of remaining open/undeveloped space.
- Control intensive development of present open space lands such as small lots. Residential growth greed; new major industrial development within town limits.
- How about a moratorium on development until we really figure this out?
- Avoiding more corridor blight like Pleasant Street and cook's corner.
- Open space being hacked and nibbled away by development
- How to respond to the continued development in our town, now identified as a service center in a way that is responsible-leaves a healthy legacy for future residents. Remember the charade clearly indicated where the citizens thought the town center began and ended.
- Simply keeping the land open - Stopping development.
- Development pressure consuming bits and pieces of town as well as major developments(commercial and residents).
- Loss of open space to development.
- Preservation of land from development(so called sprawl).
- Overdevelopment.
- Prevent urban sprawl. Prevent loss of wildlife habitat.
- Protection of open space from large new developments.
- Developing a way to limit sprawl, i.e. guidelines for new residential developments that preserve open space. Re-examination of zoning to better curtain retail and industrial development.
- Strengthening the Brunswick comprehensive plan's goal of balancing rural protection and the development of economic opportunities - controlling urban sprawl.
- Open space among new developments. Maintaining and expanding (or reconstituting) Town Commons. Maintain quality of the bays.
- Halting the decrease in recreation and open space in the town.
- Favor no youngsters. No direct access to Androscoggin River. Inadequate coordination of subdivision & PUD development. Use to implement smart growth. Coordinate with transportation planning.
- A comprehensive plan outlining target areas, easements and goals. A strong volunteer group for maintenance of open spaces(local stewards).
- Save space - Reserve for future uses not yet identified. Improve condition of sidewalks.
- Old high school area, tennis courts
- I am concerned about the land around the Town commons, it is in danger of being developed and think it is a high priority to preserve the land and its trails as open space as it is a unique and well located natural resource.
- Preservation of town commons.

- Preservation of Town Commons land both private and public. Linking them together with a series of trails so you don't feel like you're trespassing. There is a place for development preferably in New Jersey, but does every piece have to be built on just because the housing market is hot.
- Protection of corridors and land around commons.
- Housing development.
- Lower Mall, train station.
- Linking new and existing open spaces together, provide access to river off Water Street for rowing club.
- Enhance access to open space and connect spaces to each other to provide in town trail experience and safe passage, especially for children.
- Preserving open space, preferably with links. In 1977 I could x-c ski in a ring around town. This is still almost possible today with some developed exceptions.
- Linking open spaces with greenways for animal movement. Hiking, Biking.
- The rights of property owners-cost/taxes.
- It is imperative that the town buy all the vacant land surrounding the new high school for future use in the next century. Another access road to school is needed. This can provide open space room for h.s. expansion if needed, recreational uses, visiting circuses, car shows, other schools.
- Preserve - Have town purchase land (the only way to ensure land is preserved).
- The need to protect undeveloped land along the shoreline either by out right purchase or by easement.
- Acquiring acres now before it is all under development.
- Put more land in the town's hands-Acquire.
- Spaces like the new bike path where families and communities can recreate with nature and learn to appreciate its value first hand. When your whole experience is city life, you forget about the importance of nature and then begin to not value it. I don't want to see that happen.
- Finishing bike path to Cook's Corner. Merry Meeting park to Island and Topsham. The mall needs less traffic.
- Safe bicycle paths for youngsters. Corridors for hikers - wildlife. Large contiguous undeveloped parcels for wildlife wetland protection.
- Safe bike/jogging paths connecting neighborhoods.
- In order to keep Brunswick a quality town, it is important to continue to build on bicycle and pedestrian issues. Let us minimize the use of cars. Keep our air and local environment clean. Use this as the backbone of or to other outdoor activities.
- Sidewalks, children's playground in East Brunswick; picnic tables in strategic locations.
- Making a commitment and enforcing it.
- Booker Road

Q#2 - Are there any issues that you hoped to talk about at the forum this evening that you didn't get a chance to discuss? What are they?

- Watershed protection.
- Landowner misunderstanding-regarding liabilities of trail easements. Town acceptance of policies, responsibilities on public trails & easement trails on private property.

- What step in the process is this? What are the next steps? What level of funding and sources are envisioned?
- Recreation for seniors. Sidewalks and walking paths for commutation as well as recreation. Coordination of path and sidewalk with transportation planning. Open space as tool for confining "smart growth" to presently developed urban area.
- Hockey rink, swimming pool, kite flying etc...(cross-country, running and ski, horse trails, all sorts of community activities). If this land is developed, the same problem that affected the old high school would prevail and the present leadership of this town would deserve the censure and criticism that future generations would levy.
- Indoor facilities for teenagers and young singles.
- Development of an ice hockey facility, capable of multiple uses. Swimming pool.
- Support of the proposal to link up recreational area with a townwide walking/bicycling trail and open space which includes a property acquisition program.
- Minimize impervious surfaces. Beautify Pleasant Street.
- I do not think to encroach on private shore property to gain access to water. Nobody ends up living happy.
- Special influences on town leaders from business community (i.e. real-estate developers)
- Don't let Brunswick's open spaces and natural feel succumb to developers.
- Traffic issues affecting important pedestrian crossings.
- Lack of facilities in East Brunswick - the fastest growing area of the town.
- I know there has been meetings lately on preserving the mall and what to do to improve it. I hope that you won't mean restructuring its use too much. I'd hate to see things like the family arts festival and summer concerts go away.
- Access to the Androscoggin River path is limited. One has to walk a mile or two of the way just to get to one end or the other.
- How do we balance development with preservation?
- Plans for Maine St. station and other land near the rail corridor there.
- Abandoned railways.
- Cow Island in Androscoggin river is owned by BTLT(see map).
- Access to open space.
- Exercise # 2 omitted opportunity to add other items. Promote existence of open spaces. Marina.
- The town should develop a saving account for purchasing open space etc...tax money each year should be set aside.
- If we want agricultural land we must not just preserve but provide opportunity for agriculture to be profitable-tax incentives(like we do for those in industrial park).
- We need to have many public forums just like this one to get every point of view.
- Hope we have an opportunity to react to final report.
- Rejuvenation of empty developed sites/brown fields.
- Making sure that any new development pays for the new infrastructure it requires.
- Need to prohibit all motorized vehicles on current and future trails, paths and greenways.
- Cut through from Sumac to Melden.
- If kids were part of the forum - this would be all about athletic fields.
- Having a balanced approach which does not unduly encroach on private property rights.

Additional Comments

- It seemed like many people needed/wanted background about the goals of this forum and its plan. Also many people in the group showed a curiosity to learn about places on the map. There was a desire for some sort of visual education about these places.

- The forum meeting was very helpful - keep it up!

- Very encouraging to see the variety (representative) of attendance.

- I applaud all efforts to include the community and to inform the community.

- Keep up the good work

- Great concept/follow up with action.

- Thank you for making it so public and trying to include all.

- Glad that the community is mobilizing around this issue - thanks

- Let's be aggressive about this before it's too late.

- Appreciate the effort that was made to have this forum.

- We are very appreciative that the community is thinking now about how to preserve and enjoy the wonderful natural assets Brunswick has to offer.

- Delighted that this project is underway and that people are thinking about how to preserve open space in Brunswick.

- Keep going!

- Great time, tons of good ideas, thanks folks.

- Thanks for the opportunity to participate.

- Very important effort if town is to remain a good place to live.

- Thanks for all your hard work. I feel encouraged that we might plan and preserve some of Brunswick's rural nature - as well as develop new recreation possibilities to enhance the quality of life in this wonderful town.

- Great initiative. I think town support will be very wide and strong. Thanks for your work.

- I think it is a step in the right direction.

- Thank you for your volunteer efforts and for involving the public.

- Great effort - this is an issue that needs to be addressed now, before it's too late.

- The town's children & teenagers should be a noticeable part of Brunswick community forum.

- Greenbelt planning - link with a good idea if needed. Importance of developing public and town council support.

- No indication that open space planning is being coordinated with other planning efforts (Cooks Corner, land use, transportation).

- I do think having an indoor community swimming pool could be an important asset to the town as access to Bowdoin's pool is very limited.

- Community needs an ice arena! (indoor)

- Little provision is given in this questionnaire to the indoor and outdoor recreational needs of the rapidly growing senior population.

- A community pool to replace Corfin Pond as summer outdoor gathering place. An indoor ice rink to complement the ice time made available by Bowdoin's ice rink.

- Take the time to define what is outdoor recreation? What activities will people most likely engage in on open spaces?

- Ask yourself, what are we providing the town here?

- Expand the bike path.

- Appeal to a large constituency. Explain why preserving open space is important to Brunswick. Anticipate resistance from developers and prepare a response; do a survey as other states/communities have done on if people willing to pay more to protect environment; preserve open space etc..
- Need to encourage or acquire easement or title. Open space designation of property. Tree growth lots and the farm. Town should commit by budget to build a "war chest" for open space acquisition. (not for parking lots)
- Let's retain Brunswick's character including a compact village surrounded by ample open space.
- The number of efforts underway in terms of planning is overwhelming. Coordination of efforts is essential, and money. This town seems to be able to spend an incredible amount of money on infrastructure, but little to protect the quality of our environment. The things that make Brunswick special.
- I think the bike path along the river is the best thing I've seen Brunswick do for its community in the four years I've lived here. I'd like to see more places right in our backyards where we can enjoy nature with friends and family and treasure all that we have.
- We are in a unique situation, still some beautiful open space still available for creating hiking, walking trails along the river. I hope somehow we can protect/provide a trail from Lisbon Falls to Brunswick.
- We have a beautiful town and it's worth preserving what we already have - saving open spaces from being parceled up into developments.
- The Natural Resource Protection Zone, The Aquifer Protection Zone and The Coastal Protection Zone impose substantial setbacks which should be considered as open space already mandated.
- I think we need to fund this. Buy development rights to critical properties. Indoor recreational facilities should be a separate plan.
- I enthusiastically support all efforts to achieve a comprehensive open space plan.
- We must preserve all remaining wetlands, open spaces and link as many as possible. Get back land from NAS Brunswick - they don't need it all.
- It is very difficult for most people to differentiate between a zoning control issue and an open space/recreation issue.
- Baybride landing park needs more publicity, can't find it.
- Yes, get some fresh blood on these hand picked tree huggers committees.
- Not familiar.
- It's too short-term
- Brunswick, Topsham and Harpswell need to think about the overall quality of life of the region. Brunswick is the "center" of it all.
- I'd like signs at the pleasant Hill Rd. Landfill taken down. Keep the gate. It's a beautiful piece of property with little use.
- Merry meeting Bay Park
- What ever happens with the results of the Cooks Corner meeting 2 to 3 years ago? Why is it happening all over again, when we already met and discussed the same issues then? Why did nothing change?

Appendix B-3

Scenic Vistas

May 30, 2000 Scenic Vistas with Holly Dominic, Landscape Architect and Maureen O'Meara, Town Planner, Cape Elizabeth

Holly Dominic

Brunswick's Visual Resources: whose business are they anyway? People aren't used to thinking of scenic resources as public business.

What are visual resources? Features that make up the visible landscape: vegetation, landform and sky, water, buildings, roads, other cultural elements.

Landscape continuum:

Special (where we go on vacation...so Maine is itself a special landscape)

Everyday (where we live, what we are surrounded by)

Abandoned (not a pleasant place to be)

Like any resource, visual resources can be exploited (National Scenic Byway) or depleted (Western Ave. in Augusta, outer Pleasant St. and Cook's Corner, Brunswick)

Why should anyone care about visual resources?

They drive the Midcoast Maine economy. If we take care of them, we ensure vibrant communities where we want to live. Scenic resources influence the human psyche.

Visual environment influences the human psyche: we are hard-wired to be affected by the environment. Studies have shown that patients who have an opportunity to view gardens, nature, recover faster and need less pain medication. Openness makes people feel secure (savanna from whence we came, recreated in our mowed lawns) Beauty increases energy and well-being. Same hospital study showed visual degradation promoted sluggishness, illness. Landmarks and openness are important. Places where people can orient themselves help them feel secure. (showed slide of First Parish Church)

It's about meaning, not elitism. Some people think lovely scenic vistas are the concern of the rich. Eighty (80) % of human perception is based on the visual environment. The visual environment creates meaning in our lives. It's about making sure things fit, that they don't replace the natural environment.

Isn't beauty in the eye of the beholder? Yes, we all have our own preferences, but most share similar preferences, at least at the extremes. Thirty years of research have shown that there is general agreement on the most and least scenic.

Visual preference:

1. Water is highly preferred.
2. Edges and mystery are important. The eye seeks out the edges, the meandering parts. We prefer mystery. (photo of Buttermilk Cove)
3. Trees make a big difference (Adams Road)
4. Rural is important to us, it's part of Maine's identity. Rural is defined as less than 50% of the visual space is developed. Brunswick has rural, coastal, village scenes. (Pennellville)

Examples of local visual resource projects; Cape Elizabeth, Islesboro, State Comprehensive Planning Goal.

Islesboro: the land trust wanted to use visual inventory to set priorities for acquiring key views. The plan included quantitatively ranked views, areas, and roads.

Process: land trust hired Dominic as consultant/coach. She trained local people to do the work. She developed methods tailored to Islesboro. Results were subject to peer review. The Island Institute was the intermediary, provided staff to help with methods (the ranking criteria). They did the field work and the report, which Holly reviewed.

Wiscasset & Woolwich: had Comprehensive Plan jitters. The state required visual resource information. They didn't want a visual resource inventory that would scare people. The content: local person took photos of views and presented them at meetings. The process: Dominic designed methodology, trained local volunteer who performed view selection, photography, and report.

Cape Elizabeth: purpose was for greater clarity in subdivision regulation decision making.

Content: scenic views from public spaces (quantitatively ranked) and special features. Process: Dominic was coach and more, created method, trained local person, analyzed results, report writing, presentation. A paid citizen did the inventory. A local committee provided guidance and decision making.

Cape Elizabeth process: committee identified feature types. CE had maps prepared showing features and view of features. Documentation was through photos, zoning code. Committee evaluated according to significance (state significance, how much people care about it), visibility (how dominant is the feature & how long can you see it), and sensitivity (is it seen on the main road to work or on a Sunday drive).

Types of special features:

cultural landmarks, activity centers (working farms & harbors, recreational areas), natural features, roads, gateways, state-documented scenic areas.

Cape Elizabeth's view ranking criteria: view duration (how long can see it), position of observer (research shows viewers prefer looking down on view), viewing distance (people prefer long distance views), presence of water, degree of naturalism/pastoralism (integrity of marsh area, rural character), land use edge & diversity (more elements make it more interesting, seasonal effect), number of special features (such as long distance and water view vs. near water view)

Maureen O'Meara, Town Planner, Cape Elizabeth:

The community ranked the Spurwink Marsh area as most important. Completed Visual Survey in 1989, 1990 was adopted as part of comprehensive plan. Their survey showed that the physical features of Cape Elizabeth were the #2 reason people moved to Cape Elizabeth. 98% of the town believed in scenic protection. In 1995 they rewrote the zoning ordinance, took the comprehensive plan to the council, which approved many parts of the comprehensive plan.

They created three overlay districts:

1. Scenic views of high value, overlay district included 12 - 14 views.
2. Scenic roads, highest value (noted that 50' ROW isn't much to protect a road, development near a road could change it's character)
3. Scenic areas (Spurwink Marsh)

The committee wrote up the regulations, mindful that public might feel they were regulating people's property to make it scenic and that this might be viewed as an economic hardship. The Town view was that the regulations would help prevent mistakes that would ultimately be economically harmful. They identified two key parcels in Town that would obscure the view of Spurwink Marsh if they were developed. They talked to the two owners, requesting permission to do a fiscal impact study. The consultant, who is a subdivision designer, studied the soils & topography, talked to bankers for financial information and came up with three options. The goal was to encourage the owner of both upland & wetland to develop the upland parcel and leave the wetland and a buffer zone unbuilt.

The three options were: 1, traditional subdivision, which would not have been particularly profitable, 2. modified cluster housing, which would have developed upland, left lowland as farm with conservation easement, this was more profitable, 3. most aggressive clustering, small lots, lots of open space. Because of lower infrastructure costs, the third option was actually the most profitable. (MO displayed maps showing these three options)

In 1997 the Zoning Ordinance Rewrite Committee created three scenic overlay districts. They had a forum with the affected landowners. The ordinances called for curb cuts to

have minimum impact to view, no driveway directly on scenic road, no clearcutting next to the road, and placement of buildings should be on the side or edge of a view.

At the public hearing, the largest property owner said he didn't want scenic in the ordinance. In the end they limited scenic road to Right of Way, narrowed scenic views to parcels already restricted by wetlands or owned by the town. Eventually the council removed everything scenic from the ordinances.

Maureen O'Meara: What have I learned? 1. We had a wonderful report. At every single meeting we should have shown slides. 2. Never regulate color or personal preference. 3. [To property owners] Scenic regulation equals stepping on people's property rights. Scenic regulation won't work until some really awful things have been built.

Community Discussion (paraphrased)

Pete Didisheim: Are you aware of places in the country where this has succeeded? Why did it work?

HD: Yes, Denver, and 5 state capitols. Where the special landscape counts, it's been most successful, where their bread and butter is the special qualities of the landscape. Sandoval Island, Florida; Teton, Jackson County, Wyoming included visual landscape in their city plan. Maine communities have incorporated in zoning plans provisions that have scenic effect. If Cape Elizabeth were zoning from scratch, they might have had another outcome. If they had created a scenic zone instead of an overlay zone that covered other zones...Martha's Vineyard developed zoning based on Visual Landscape types. Each part of the island has a different set of provisions: height, amount of development, location of development.. Where they address scenic from a regulatory point of view, they have more success than when it's retrofit.

MO: We have very restrictive wetland regulations. The town falls back on those regulations and says, "Well, the Marsh is protected anyway, do we really have to do more?"

Gent from Topsham: In Falmouth, the approach, starting in 1990 was to look at scenic resources, wildlife habitat, wetlands, and farmland,. The first 4 or 5 years was not a success. The last 4 or 5 years, there's been success in changing the zoning. Wrapping in wildlife habitat, any regulatory approach that addresses all natural resource issues seems to work better. The comprehensive approach is to put all resources in overlay zoning districts. They have a quantitative point system. The post development score has to equal at least 60% of the predevelopment score. It's mechanical and objective. It's been effective in making development more concentrated.

HD: Belgrade, for the first time adopted zoning last year from the full cast of natural resources. Here a very conservative community was able to sell clustering by providing guidelines everyone could live with.

MO: In Cape Elizabeth, 40% of the land must be set aside as open space, 30% of that must be dry. We were able to do a lot. In Cape Elizabeth development is really frowned upon. We were sued 3 times last year by abutters.. It's very important to have specific provisions and follow them. If they're too vague they're not useful, that's not getting us anywhere.

Forrest Lowe: Is that 40% of all lands in Cape Elizabeth?

MO: We created a medium density district and took the growth areas from the comprehensive plan. Clustering is mandatory. That's 40% of the gross area of development.

Fred Koerber: In Falmouth there's a peer review process to take the sting out. If you take out an old oak you have to put in a stone wall. *Quid pro quo*.

Topsham gent: They have to recover points.

HD: For their land-use guidance system, Teton County and Sanabel Island used this. I would be interested in seeing how you folks are using this. Regulatory? Acquisition? Land trust? What fronts do you think you want to work on?

Lloyd Van Lunen: All the above. We could have another set of talks on implementations. What are the tools? We plan to look at a whole range of those.

HD: Do you have public support?

LVL: We're talking about how to do that.

HD: In Freeport, for me, it was interesting to observe the politics there. When identifying priority areas, they wanted only quantitative places. The council passed it. When subdivisions came to Freeport, then people wanted more specific criteria. Crisis motivates people best.

LVL: In the historic village area, it's usually accepted. It seems to be a much different process to get it to spread to the countryside.

HD(?): Rockport, Massachusetts has specifics. The farm district is important to the whole community.

MO: When you are surveying, write specific questions. "Would you be willing to get a permit before you put in a new driveway?"

HD: We compared results we got using research with popular opinion survey. They had the answer right there. That was very warm and fuzzy. To what extent will people spend money or give up personal freedom to protect them?

MO: I never heard the death knell of public opposition. I heard, "This is too vague." I'm still a little perplexed. A faction decided it wasn't concrete. There were budget issues and they wanted it out. The conservation commission wants a copy of it, the maps. They want to coordinate their priorities with scenic areas. With regulations, you must be specific.

HD(?): Houston is a huge city that has no zoning. They do have view protection of the capitol dome. While they don't believe in basic land use regulation, they're protecting the view of the dome.

HD: You have public support where scenic resources equal big business. If you can quantify it, that it keeps the economy going, that you can get more profit if you build this way. Working with the land trust is really important.

Barbara Swisher: Did you prepare the town council along the way?

MO: My sense on the original report is it kind of just evolved. We created a committee, brought Holly on board. It was really the product of a citizen committee.

BS: A paid citizen committee?

MO: No. a woman who lived in the community came in as a paid intern. She wasn't paid for all the hours she put in.

HD: She came in afterward.

MO: The sense I got from the records was there were no public meetings, it just evolved.

HD: There wasn't any interest in making a broader outreach.

BS: Would you recommend that?

HD: Oh, yeah.

MO: Historic preservation advisor, councilor, planning board, member of the conservation commission, this is the working group, the town manager. Now we advertise that we have a specific charge.. We interview people, ask the conservation commission to send a representative. My sense, this group had none of this.

HD: They didn't have a reasonable budget to do a lot of public meetings.

BS: And yours was just scenic. We have tons of categories.

MO: I've worked with several committees. They're volunteers. They hate public meetings. The only thing worse than holding a meeting is not holding a meeting. Paper the walls with advertising. We use a web site, public access, local paper, mailings. The public gets more comfortable [with more education].

Topsham gent: At all these forums the same questions are being asked about getting support. I find the kind of public input depends on A: the kind of town government structure, B: what kind of an issue is it. Dana from South Portland said leave out government. That works for outdoor athletics, but with zoning you simply do not have existing latent constituency. Do more education, bring people in, public officials supporting from the beginning. There aren't one or two best ways.

FL: Of those who came here, do you have any particular ideas of what Brunswick should do?

Ellen McPherson: One thing I'll take away tonight is that picture of cluster development. We know Brunswick is a growing community. We have a lot of open land. I personally want us to be smart about how it changes over the years. I don't really know how to include this, but I want it discussed and weighed as an issue. One thing I was thinking about is how do you accomplish the goal?

HD: So you all agree with her?

Theo Holtwijk: I think people are getting familiar with the idea. It seems the studies deal with rural areas. I have two questions. 1: Can it be equally effective for the built-up part of town? and 2: How can we use this to create scenic views, such as for gateways like Pleasant Street, using this methodology?

HD: In Cape Elizabeth, members of the group didn't want to include architecture. They concentrated on harbors and farms, not the town center. Communities do work on visual aspects of development of the town. You've done that with the historic district. In the Rangely Lakes area I'm working on land use regulations, design review. We have the 7th generation of people who have lived in the woods. 1: They want more flexibility in making a living. 2: They're concerned with not having a neighbor's actions destroy the look of the area. We're proposing a couple things to them. Mass and roofline of buildings in an already existing neighborhood should be in character of what is there. Desecrated landscapes, Brownville is a good example of a town looking at abandoned land. Same with Augusta, they're trying to bring back Western Avenue. The plantings are the first step.

Shirley Green: One of my favorite views in Brunswick, don't have a clue how you'd preserve it. I think it's Church Road across the railroad tracks at night, you see the steeple of the First Parish Church. I think First Parish Church decided to do that (light) on its own. You can't really tell First Parish Church to keep the light on or the railroad to keep the track going that direction. If you look the other way, you see the sunset.

Barbara Desmarais: You could talk to the First Parish Church, write them a letter telling them how much you enjoy it. You could ask them how much it costs to do the lights and see if they need help with that.

HD: Talk to the railroad. They're very sensitive to the community. When you have the plan done, I would go to them and ask what they're planning.

Barbara and Fred are responsible for the photos in tonight's presentation. They volunteered their time to photograph scenes of Brunswick.

Debbie: On Pleasant Hill Road, where Casco Road intersects, Crystal Spring Farm...I hope the farmland is preserved. We go kayaking on Maquoit Bay. There are consistently people using that launch.

FK: We've looked at gateways from an asphalt perspective in general. We need to look at water travel and railroad travel. What are the qualities we're looking to preserve? If someone opens a road on a ridge, what does that do?

Tom Farrell: (describing Anniversary Park) From a historical perspective, it's important to celebrate one of our successes. In the early '90's, a group of citizens raised funds and took down the former Cumberland Farms by the green bridge. They restored the greenscape because people saw the value of the viewshed. That seemed to really mobilize people.

FK: The Androscoggin River was preserved because of the pollution. If you're out on the Bay there's a lot more traffic now. We need to preserve that.

HD: Are there large landowners in the group? You need to work with them from the beginning. In Rangely we created a zone for one of the large landowners, a public spirited person. Bring them into the process early.

MO: In Cape Elizabeth's experience, we met with the large landowner. We found he was opposed, not because he was confused by the ideas, he just didn't like it.

BS: Did that sort of sway the town council?

MO: I'm not convinced that's the reason. One councilor thought it was too cutting edge, that we were asking for a law suit. Some people just didn't want to, it was too new. When you write zoning, put something in that is controversial that they can throw away. How do you deal with abandoned lands? We were going to add a design piece which was supposedly controversial. It sailed right through.

HD: There's a different approach for every landowner. You can't put them in a lump.

MO: When we were doing the town center plan we invited the large landowner for a meeting. Sometimes you have to keep telling people your goals, that you care. You need an attraction for people to come to public meetings. You need to have something for them to react to; a speaker, a draft idea.

SG: An example of that, Falmouth, Massachusetts, all cars need to be left on the mainland and they take a ferry to Martha's Vineyard. The Ferry and others worked two years on a plan without public input. The goal was 5000 parking places. They worked out all the bugs. Then someone saw 2 ponds within the area. After \$300,000 worth of planning, the project was killed because wildlife advocates killed the project. They've just completed a 900 car project, they're still 4000 cars down.

Prepared by Barbara Desmarais

Appendix B-5

The Times Record and the Scenic Area Subcommittee of the Task Force teamed up to organize "My Favorite Brunswick!" This was a photographic project to celebrate the special landscapes in Brunswick as seen through the eyes of its residents. About 30 residents submitted photos along with optional descriptions as to why these were their favorite places.

Subcommittee members organized the images submitted into a narrated presentation which was held on February 12, 2001 at the Brunswick High School Auditorium. Approximately 80 people attended this event, which was also used to recruit people to assist the subcommittee in subsequent scenic inventory work (see subcommittee report).

The presentation was recorded and broadcast several times through Community Cable TV. The Times Record provided in-kind advertising support for this program and the managing editor wrote an op-ed piece about it.

- My favorite place in Brunswick
James M. McCarthy, Managing Editor, Times Record (no longer available)
- Public Presentation - February 12, 2001 (please contact the Planning Office)

Appendix B-6

A goal of the Open Space and Recreation Task Force has been to build upon the cooperative relationship that exists between school department and municipal departments. Shared resources and expertise will serve the Brunswick community by reducing costs, broadening awareness of local issues, and investing a new generation of citizens in the town's future.

Marquee events such as "Common Good Day," which have involved vast number of high school and college students have been augmented by a number of classroom and individual student activities. Longfellow School's "Reach Out" program is based on an annual school wide goal to connect Learning Results based student learning activities to community needs. The Town Natural Resource Planner and Town Arborist have provided students with insight on the community's fauna and flora as part of curricula studies.

The Service Learning Class led by Dick Leavitt of the Brunswick High School took a special interest in the work of the Task Force. Aided by a 3-year grant of the Maine Department of Education, it promoted the connection of Maine's Learning Results with service learning projects in the community. The class served as an active facilitator to connect the open space effort with various other classes throughout the school system.

Throughout the Task Force's work, students have been active participants assisting on scenic inventories, restoring a cemetery, hosting partnership workshops, and producing video and photo documentary materials. As the connections between municipal and educational services strengthen, the inherent citizen involvement, that is essential to the long-range sustainability of the Open Space & Recreation plan, will be enhanced.

- Community Service Ideas

“Community Service” Project Ideas

April 13, 2001

Interested in any of these projects? Contact: Theo Holtwijk, Director of Planning & Development, Town of Brunswick, 725-6660, holtwijk@brunswickme.org

Cemeteries

Goals: To gather information on Brunswick's cemeteries and compile it into a single source.

- Do research on the life of a specific person buried in one of Brunswick's cemeteries and write a biography of that person: what did he or she do, where did they live, etc. (a list of people by cemetery has already been compiled by Barbara)
- Adopt a cemetery and help to clean it up and maintain it
- Create Cemeteries Website
- Create picture catalog of the current state of Brunswick cemeteries.

Trails

Goals: To identify public trails or roads that currently have bicycle facilities and recommend community standards for new facilities.

- Help to identify trails in your neighborhood and map them on the Town's tax maps (a mapping form has already been prepared by Phil Carey in the Planning Dept.)
- Assess the general condition of local trails and aid in the identification of existing bikeways.

Farmland/Woodlot

Goals: To build support between the Town and farming community; focus on productive, working farms as a way to protect farmland.

- Produce a video with interviews with local farmers: what do they produce, where does it go, what do they do for kind of work.
- Help a farmer with his/her daily chores and learn what is involved in putting food on the table

Scenic Areas

Goals: To determine, document, and publicize the scenic areas of Brunswick.

- Aid in field photography of scenic areas in the community.

Water access

Goals: To determine available water facilities and to identify possible needs and deficiencies in order to develop necessary proposals.

- Conduct in-person surveys of people launching boats at the two Town-owned boat ramps; and write report on what was learned.

Community forest/street trees

Goals: To raise public awareness of the value of street trees and the Town Forest as a significant open space.

- Count total number of trees and measure their trunk width and height in some of the town's parks
- Help to develop an education program to inform the public and students about the benefits of street trees and the Town Forest.

Appendix B-7

After the initial Community Forum at the Junior High School, the Task Force organized two Open Space & Recreation Fairs and the Old High School on McKeen Street. Approximately 100 people attended each fair.

The first fair was held on March 27, 2001, a postponement from the planned date of March 22 due to weather. It featured display booths representing each of the ten subcommittees as well as a booth from the Service Learning class. The groups presented their work-in-progress and solicited comment from the participants in an informal, interactive manner. After an initial brief overview, visitors were invited to stop by at each booth and provide comment on what they saw. At the end of the meeting booth representatives gave brief synopses of the feedback they received. Feedback forms were provided for comment.

The second fair was held on May 2, 2002 and included the presentation of the draft plan as well as a roll-out of all ten subcommittee reports. Participants were invited to visit each of the booths, look at maps, pick up copies of the subcommittee reports of their interest. Feedback forms were provided for comment.

Both fairs were announced in full page newspaper inserts in the Times Record. Community cable TV recorded and broadcast portions of these events.

Appendix B-8

Two dozen neighborhood outreach meetings were held between June and November of 2001 throughout the community. The Open Space & Recreation Task Force sought input from citizens and organized groups. The intimate settings allowed for a free exchange between residents and Task Force members. The Task Force met as well with groups whose interest in open space or recreation is fundamental to their operation, such as: Brunswick Area Chamber of Commerce, Merrymeeting Realtors, 55 Plus Center.

Meetings started with a brief explanation of the Task Force's work to that date. Solicited discussion focused on what an open space and recreation plan should include, the needs of various neighborhoods or groups, as well as challenges presented by costs and regulations.

Dialogue was frank and revealing with each meeting being informative and enlightening. Meeting notes were generally prepared by Task Force members and distributed afterwards to the attendees. Feedback forms were also left at each meeting.

The outreach meetings served as a beacon to guide the Task Force's deliberations.

- Facilitator instructions
- Sample invitation letter
- Meeting handouts
- Schedule of meetings

PROGRAM FOR NEIGHBORHOOD MEETINGS

Pass out handouts, if people don't already have them. Map should be set up.

Scribe: Take notes as people speak. Don't worry about editing them.

Introduction: *Hi, I'm ----- and this is -----, who will be acting as our scribe this evening. The scribe is going to pass around this sign-in sheet so that we can have everyone's name and address to send you all the notes from tonight's meeting. (Thank host for helping to organize this meeting. Have each person introduce himself or herself and say why they came to the meeting.)*

What we've done and hope to do: *So far we've held a public forum, open space fair, and focus groups to gain public input. Most recently we mailed out surveys to Brunswick residents to learn more about what you all want in an open space and recreation plan. Now we're coming to you in small neighborhood groups to continue the conversation.*

What we hope to gain from the neighborhood meeting: *We're hoping that this meeting will allow us to focus on what's important to you in your neighborhood, whether it's more soccer fields, water access, or wildlife habitats.*

Questions to get the conversation going: (Remember to listen, let people speak, pass no value judgments. The neighborhood and people's reasons for coming will determine what question you start off with.)

- *What is the town doing right?*
- *What is missing in your neighborhood? Trails? Playing fields? Water access? Safe place for children to play?*
- *What would make your neighborhood more livable? More trees? Fewer trees for a better water view?*
- *What makes it hard to participate in activities in your neighborhood? Transportation? Lack of open space, trails, water access, playing fields? Too much traffic?*
- *Where do your children play? Is there a place they used to play that is no longer available because of new construction or fencing?*
- *Is it fun and safe to walk or bike ride in your neighborhood or is there too much traffic? Are there sidewalks?*
- *Do you and your children have safe and easy access to woods, playing fields, and playground? Do you have to drive there?*

- *Are you able to see the water views in your neighborhood or are trees and building in the way?*
- *Is there a place in your neighborhood that you think would be wonderful for some recreational purpose such as soccer fields or cross-country skiing?*
- *Are you concerned that wildlife habitats are dwindling in your neighborhood? Do you have ideas for saving them?*

Closing:

Thank everyone for their participation. Tell them that we will type up the notes and send them back to the participants, as well as forward concerns to the right staff person.

Next steps:

We will be studying the results of the town-wide survey and these neighborhood meetings very carefully. In the fall, after we have drafted our first set of recommendations we'll be holding another public meeting to present them and will ask for more public input at that time. If anyone is interested in a particular subcommittee as outlined on the handout, please call us or anyone on the task force and we'll gladly put you in touch with the right person.

Thank you for your wonderful input!

OPEN SPACE & RECREATION TASK FORCE

<http://www.curtislibrary.com/osrtf/>

*c/o Department of Planning & Development, Town of Brunswick
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November 21, 2002

Dear Neighbor:

We are inviting you to join us on _____ at _____ to provide your input on the **Brunswick Parks, Recreation & Open Space Plan** that is currently being developed by a citizen task force.

The task force is conducting meetings with small groups of Brunswick citizens in different neighborhoods to hear firsthand what's on people's minds on issues ranging from playgrounds, wildlife, water access, parks, farming, woodlots, street trees, athletic fields, indoor recreation facilities, scenic areas, trails, cemeteries, to community gardens.

The focus is on YOUR neighborhood as well as the town as a whole and ANY suggestion, comment or question will be welcomed. More information on the project will be handed out at the meeting or can be viewed on web site: <http://www.curtislibrary.com/osrtf/>.

This meeting will have a brief introduction on the plan by a task force member, followed by your comments on what you would like to see happen in Brunswick over the next 50 years on the topics listed above. It will probably last about an hour.

We hope you can come. Your input is really important to the task force in helping to shape a super plan for Brunswick! We hope the plan will be ready by the end of 2001 for review and adoption by the Brunswick Town Council.

If you have any questions about this meeting or project, please contact _____ (name of neighborhood contact), Tom Farrell, Director of Parks & Recreation (725-6656) or Theo Holtwijk, Director of Planning & Development (725-6660).

Thank you for your interest in your community!

P.S. If you have recently received a survey in the mail from us, please fill it out and send it back. That would be a tremendous help! Thanks.

OPEN SPACE & RECREATION TASK FORCE

<http://www.curtislibrary.com/osrtf/>

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WHO WE ARE, WHAT WE'VE DONE, AND WHERE WE'RE GOING!

Who we are:

- The Open Space and Recreation Task Force is a volunteer citizen group appointed by the Brunswick Town Council to look at Brunswick's open space and recreation needs for the next 20-50 years.

What we've done:

- We started out two years ago researching the topic by reading open space reports from other towns and cities, speaking with open space committees from neighboring towns, and speaking with experts in different areas.
- We held a public forum in February 2000 to learn what the community considered important.
- We divided ourselves into working groups to study in detail topics ranging from playgrounds, wildlife, water access, parks, farming, woodlots, street trees, athletic fields, indoor recreation facilities, scenic areas, trails, cemeteries, to community gardens.
- In the spring of 2000 we organized a series of 9 community discussions where we invited experts to speak to the community and to answer our questions. These were video taped and have been shown many times on our local cable TV station.
- From these discussions, we put together 9 op/ed pieces for the Times Record explaining what we learned and asking for more community input. We got a lot of phone calls from that series, which was what we were hoping for.
- Almost every subcommittee has since held an event where they've shared information with people interested in the subcommittee's topic. We've gotten a lot of valuable feedback from those events as well.
- In March we held an Open Space Fair where each subcommittee created a display with maps and handouts to share what we've learned with the public.
- We have developed a detailed written survey to ask Brunswick residents their opinions on open space and recreation issues.

Where we're going:

- We're currently finishing up our inventories of the different types of open space in Brunswick and trying to pinpoint issues as well as recommendations.
- Our open space and recreation survey has being mailed to 1500 randomly-selected homes throughout town.
- Via neighborhood meetings like this one, we're hoping to get feedback from people who didn't attend the forum or fair or who maybe didn't get a survey mailed to them. This way our plan and its recommendations will hopefully truly reflect the wishes and needs of all of our citizens.
- By the end of 2001 we hope to have a proposed open space and recreation plan ready to present to the Town Council. *Please join us!*

The Open Space and Recreation Task Force has created several **SUBCOMMITTEES** to study the many facets of parks, recreation, and open space. Below is a list of those subcommittees and their work:

Recreation Facilities - Indoor Athletics: This committee has inventoried available indoor facilities and conducted focus groups to identify Brunswick residents' issues about facilities use and programming needs. The committee will use information from the inventory, focus groups, the town-wide survey and neighborhood meetings to develop objectives and proposals to meet these needs.

Trails: The Trails Subcommittee presented its trails inventory at our March Open Space Fair. The subcommittee is building on previous recommendations of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee, as well as studying ways to link Brunswick's existing trails to our neighbors in Topsham, Freeport, and Bath.

Cemeteries: This subcommittee has inventoried and mapped Brunswick's ancient burial grounds, met with interested parties to study laws, gather historical data, and look to Brunswick's future burial needs. An on-going project is creating a single source of cemetery information and sharing the data via the Internet, Town Office, Library, and Pejepscot Historical Society.

Scenic Areas: Volunteers have mapped and photographed Brunswick's scenic areas. The town's scenic assets include water views, specimen trees and forests, farms and fields, historic buildings and cemeteries, and activity centers. To come is an informal survey to see which views are most important to residents and to learn how best to preserve these scenic assets.

Water Access: The Water Access Subcommittee has determined what facilities are currently available and will use input from the town-wide survey and neighborhood meetings to identify water access needs and deficiencies. Its goal is to develop objectives and proposals to meet these needs.

Flora and Fauna: Using maps prepared by the Maine Department of Wildlife and Inland Fisheries and information gathered by consultant Woodlot Alternatives, the Flora and Fauna Subcommittee is studying the relationship between wildlife habitats and land use. Its goal is to create recommendations to protect plant and animal habitat while accommodating development.

Farming: The Farming Subcommittee has met with local farmers to determine what tools and techniques can be used to protect farming as a way of life. A major goal is to build support between the Town and the farming community.

School-Town Partnership: Task Force members, teachers, and students have formed an on-going partnership to encourage and facilitate incorporation of open space topics in the curriculum and to facilitate long-term gathering of data relevant to open space issues. The data will be available to the public via the Internet.

Community Forest Street Trees: The goal of the Street Trees Subcommittee is to make the public aware of the value of the community's trees as they contribute to the character of the town. All the trees in town, whether publicly or privately owned, form the "community forest," which the subcommittee hopes to maintain through educational programs and policies.

Parks, Playgrounds, and Community Gardens: The inventory of outdoor facilities is nearly complete. The subcommittee will use information from the town-wide survey, focus groups, and neighborhood meetings to determine where future facilities are needed. The committee will also create recommendations to make sure facilities are up-to-date, maintained, and safe.

Woodlots: Under the direction of the Conservation Commission, this subcommittee has identified town-owned woodlots and is currently determining management recommendations for each site.

Website: This committee, with help of community volunteers, has created a website to make the work of the Task Force readily available to the public. Visit us at www.curtislibrary.com/osrtf.

Community Outreach Schedule 10/11/01

<i>Neighborhood/ Organization</i>	<i>Host/Contact and phone number/e-mail</i>	<i>Task force contact person</i>	<i>Location of meeting</i>	<i>Date/Time of meeting</i>	<i>Task Force attendees</i>	<i>Thank you/minutes sent</i>
1. Spring Street	Anne Orr 725-6861	B.D.	23 Spring Street	6/6 7:00pm	Barbara Desmarais	yes
2. Wildwood	Jenn Burns jburns2@gwi.net	C.M.	6 Aspen Street	6/11 7:00pm	Erik Hellstedt/Keisha Payson/Krista Friedrich	yes
3. NW/BNA	Sandra Warner 729-7761 George Glover	B.D.	Unitarian Church	6/20 7:00pm	Barbara Desmarais/Forrest Lowe	yes
4. Perryman Drive (BHA)	Donna Keller 725-9339 keller_donna@hotmail.com	T.H.	Community room	6/27 6:30pm	Barbara Desmarais/EllenMcPherson	yes
5. Kimberly Circle	Mary Beth J. O'Connor 798-5877 mbjoc@suscom-naine.net	B.S.	23 Kimberly Circle	6/27 7:00pm	Keisha Payson/Colleen McKenna	yes
6. Federal/Noble/side streets	Joan Shepherd 729-8401 Marilyn Nulman 729-6449	T.H.	Brunswick Rec. Center	6/28 7:00pm	Bill Smith/Barbara Desmarais/Krista Friedrich/Tom Farrell/Theo Holwijk	yes
7. West Brunswick - Collinsbrook/ Hacker/Dunham/Junt Rd.	Lisa Martin or Carol Freshley Martin@gwi.net 725-9436	C.M.	Quaker meeting house - Dunham	7/9 7:00pm	Colleen McKenna/Peter Didisheim/Fred Koerber/Krista	yes
8. Chamber of Commerce	Carolyn Farkas-Noe Carolynf@midcoastnaine.com	E.H.	New Meadows Inn	7/12 11:30-1	Erik Hellstedt/Barbara Swisher	yes
9. Woodlawn Towers/Water St.	BHA - Charlie Small 725-8711	T.F.	Woodlawn Towers 30 Water Street	7/17 7:00pm	Keisha Payson/Erik Hellstedt	yes
10. Merrymeeting Realtors	David Flaherty 729-5581	T.H.	Curtis Library - seminar room	7/18 11:30-1	Fred Koerber/Forrest Lowe/Theo Holwijk	yes
11. 55 Plus	Sig@55pluscenter.org	E.H.	55 Plus Center	7/18 1:30pm	Erik Hellstedt/Bill Smith	yes
12. Jordan Avenue	Dick Lancaster 729-6170	T.F.	Rec. center	7/19 7:00pm	Fred Koerber/Jack Murphy/Tom Farrell	yes
13. Storer Road/Grover Lane	Ted Crooker 729-4254	T.H.	barn-44 Storer Road	7/25 6:00pm	Forrest Lowe/Colleen McKenna/Krista Friedrich	yes
14. Maquoit/Woodside, Arrowhead, Pleasant Hill/Bungane	Hugh Dwyer 729-6279 Suzanne Astolfi	T.F./K.P.	Crystal Springs Farm milking room	7/26 7:00pm	Keisha Payson/Fred Koerber	yes
15. Columbia/Coffin school area/ Old high school area (Ben Swan)	Charlotte Agell 729-4546 Cagell@blazenetme.net	B.S.	Municipal meeting facility	8/16 7:00pm	Barbara Swisher/Barbara Desmarais/Theo Holwijk/Krista Friedrich	yes
16. Princes Pt. & Coombs Rd. Route #24	Tilly Rothwell 729-8055 rothwell@blazenetme.net Joanne Avantaggio 725-7809 taggio@gwi.net	T.F.	Parkwood Inn 71 Gurnet Road	8/23 7:00pm	Fred Koerber/Lloyd Van Lunen/Tom Farrell	yes

<i>Neighborhood/ Organization</i>	<i>Host/Contact and phone number/e-mail</i>	<i>Task force contact person</i>	<i>Location of meeting</i>	<i>Date/Time of meeting</i>	<i>Task Force attendees</i>	<i>Minutes sent?</i>
17. Trout Unlimited/ Coastal Conservation Association of Maine	Pat Keilher 846-1015 Pkeilher@ccmaine.org Dick Soucy 627-7399 (h) dick.soucy@indsys.ge.com	T.F.	Brunswick Recreation Center - 30 Federal St.	8/28 7:00pm	Colleen McKenna/Lloyd Van Lunen/Tom Farrell	n/a
18. Meadowbrook	Kathleen Montegut 729-0468 Amont@blazenet.net Donna & Dana Totman 725-8246, Ed Catlin 725-0355 ecattin@gwi.net, Rob Jarratt 798-4855 msmtrob@blazenetme.com	T.F.	Parkview Hospital Health Commons	9/5 7:00pm	Barbara Swisher/Jack Murphy/Tom Farrell	yes
19. Kiwanis	Mark Waltz	T.H.	New Meadows Inn	9/11 7:30am	Barb Swisher/Pete Didisheim	waiting on names/ addresses?
20. Parkview/Sandhill Drive	Jim Wazlaw 729-6727 wazlaw@gwi.net Pat Scully 729-9654 pscully@mainelaw.com	T.F.	Parkview Hospital Health Commons	9/13 7:00pm	Keisha Payson/Lloyd Van Lunen	yes
21. NE Old Bath Road/Baybridge Estates	Barry MacArthur (443-2251) barjo@suscom-maine.net Jim McGinley (443-2928) Ken Ames (725-9758)	T.H.	Crooker Construction Shop Office Building Located next to Bay Bridge Landing Wetland Park	9/20 7:00pm	Tom Farrell/Barbara Desmarais	yes
22. Merrymeeting Wheelers	Dana Cary	E.M.	Parkview Hospital	9/24 7:00pm	Ellen McPherson/Erik Helstedt	yes
23. Merrymeeting Audubon		K.P.	Curtis Memorial Library	9/25 7:00pm	Keisha Payson/Lloyd Van Lunen	no minutes prepared?
24. McKeen - Navy Housing	Rich Howard 921-2722 Howard@nasb.navy.mil Linda Rapoza 921-2911 Rapoza@nasb.navy.mil	T.F.	McKeen Street Housing Community Center 12 Windorf Circle	9/26 7:00pm	Ellen McPherson/Forrest Lowe	n/a
25. SW Old Bath Rd. & Maplewood	Bill & Doreen Borens 729-1572 Cheryl Clement 729-5428 Cherick@javanet.com Rhonda Matly 729-7836 Rematly@yahoo.com	T.F.	Fairhaven Church Earl French	10/11 7:00pm	Lloyd Van Lunen/Barbara Swisher	yes
26. Mere Point	Bill Morrell	F.L.	732 Mere Point Road	11/12 7:00 PM	Forrest Lowe/Ellen McPherson	yes

*Task Force member
participation count
(meetings completed and those signed up for):*

Pete (2)
Bill (2)
Jack (2)

Ellen (4)
Colleen (4)

Forrest (5)
Erik (5)
Fred (5)
Lloyd (5)
Barb S. (5)

Barb D. (6)
Keisha (6)

Appendix C-1

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Brunswick Population and Demographic Analysis

This chapter summarizes past population and demographic changes, projects future population growth and demographic trends, and assesses the impacts these changes could have on Brunswick's recreation and open space resources.

PART A. POPULATION CHANGE

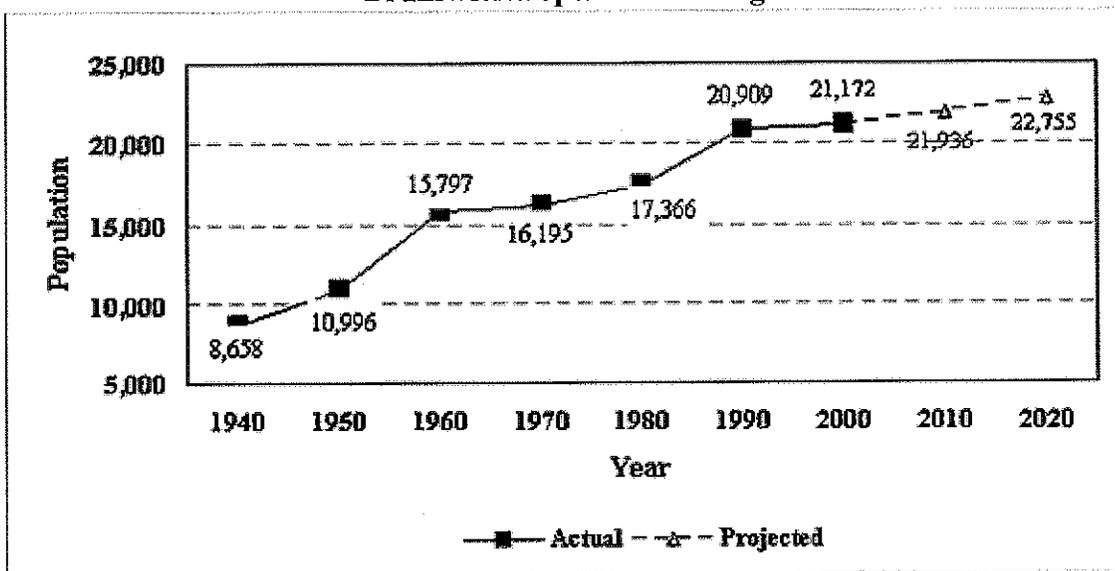
The United States Census divides population into two segments—household population and group quarters population. Brunswick's group quarters population is unusually large; it includes students living on campus at Bowdoin College, military personnel living in barracks at the Brunswick Naval Air Station, nursing home residents, and others. All residents not living in group quarters are considered part of the household population. Despite Brunswick's large group quarters population, its household population accounts for more than 90 % of the town's residents.

1. Population Growth, 1940 - 1990

A half-century of growth transformed Brunswick from a town of 8,658 in 1940 to one of 20,909 in 1990 (Figure A). In the 1950s, the town grew from 11,000 to 16,000 (45% increase) when the onset of the Cold War prompted the reopening of the Brunswick Naval Air Station (BNAS).^[1] Growth moderated in the 1960s and 1970s, but rebounded in the 1980s as a real estate boom fueled an increase from 17,366 year round residents in 1980 to 20,909 in 1990 (20%).

Brunswick's household population is more than 90% of the town's total population and accounted for the majority of the population change between 1970 and 1990 (Table A). Within this time frame, the household population increased from 14,536 to 19,047 (or 31%). Most of this growth occurred during the real estate boom of the 1980s, when the household population grew by more than 3,500 residents (23%).

Figure A
Brunswick Population Change 1940 - 2020



Source: US Census; Planning Decisions, Inc.

Table A
Components of Population Growth, 1970 - 1990

	1970	Change 70 - 80		1980	Change 80 - 90		1990
		#	%		#	%	
Household pop.	14,536	976	6.7%	15,512	3,535	22.8%	19,047
Group quarters pop.	1,659	195	11.8%	1,854	8	0.4%	1,862
Total pop.	16,195	1,171	7.2%	17,366	3,543	20.4%	20,909

Source: US Census

Between 1970 and 1990, the group quarters population increased from 1,659 to 1,862 (12%) (Table A). Most of this growth occurred in the 1970s when the group quarters population increased to 1,854 residents (12%). None of the group quarters population growth between 1970 and 1990 occurred at BNAS (724 group quarter residents in both Census reports). Students living on campus at Bowdoin College and counted as Brunswick residents increased from 813 to 933^[2].

2. Household Population, 1990 - 2000

According to the US Census, the household population reached 19,107 by 2000, an increase of two percent in ten years (Table C). New housing units, a stable occupancy rate, and a significant decrease in the household size combine to account for this household growth.

a. Housing Unit Change

Brunswick had a 523 unit net increase in housing units between 1990 and 2000 to total 8,720. Planning Decisions estimates that 528 new housing units were constructed in Brunswick and 5 housing units were removed and not reconstructed (demolition, fire, etc). According to the US Census, 220 of the 8,720

housing units were for seasonal use.^[3]

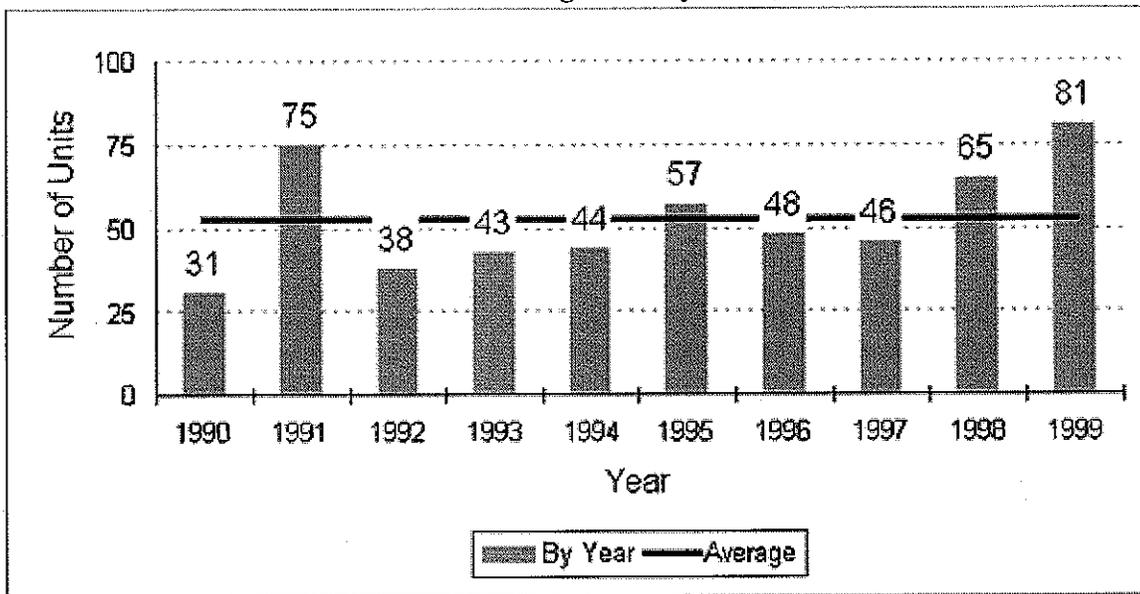
Housing development grew steadily throughout the 1990s as regional economic conditions and the interest rate environment improved (Figure B). Single family houses accounted for an estimated net increase of 356 units and mobile homes/others accounted for 104 units (Table B). More than one-half of the 63 new duplexes or multi-family units were added at the Thornton Oaks retirement community on Baribeau Drive.

Table B
Housing Unit Growth by Type, 1980 - 2000

	1980 Units	% change 1980 - 1990	1990 Units	% change 1990 - 2000	2000 Units (est.)
Single family	3,806	20.4%	4,585	7.8%	4,941
Two units or more	1,579	49.1%	2,355	2.7%	2,418
Mobile/other	698	80.1%	1,257	8.3%	1,361
Total	6,241	31.3%	8,197	6.4%	8,720

Source: US Census; Planning Decisions, Inc; Town Staff

Figure B
New Housing Units by Year, 1990 - 1999



Source: Town Staff, Planning Decisions, Inc.

Note: the decennial Census is taken on April 1990 and April 2000. Planning Decisions estimates for new units extend from January 1990 through December 1999.

b. Occupancy Rate Change

The occupancy rate did not change between 1990 and 2000; it remained at 96%. The combination of the strong economy, tight housing market, and more new homeowner units than rental units (homeowner units have higher occupancy rates) have been upward influences on Brunswick's occupancy rate. Mitigating these upward influences are the timing of the Census count (April 1st excludes the growing "snowbird" population) and an aging housing stock (older units are more likely to be functionally obsolete, yet still counted by the Census).

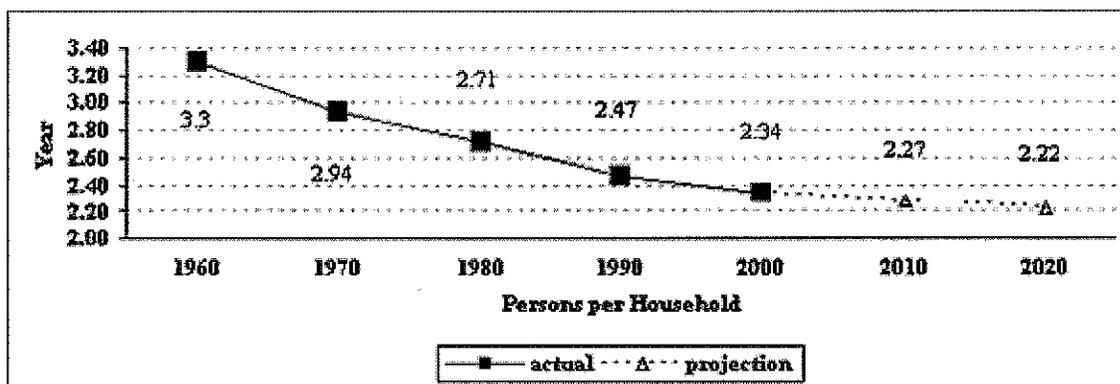
c. Household Size Change

Tempering the upward influence of new housing units is the trend towards smaller household sizes. Nationwide, this trend is explained by a tendency towards smaller families in the baby boom generation, the increased longevity and independence of seniors living alone, and increased divorce rates.

These national trends are compounded by local trends. Brunswick's growing role as a senior-living center will continue to push down household sizes as more retirees and "empty-nesters" settle in town. High real estate values are a barrier for younger families looking to live in the region. In addition, the State's strong economy tends to reduce the number of extended families living together. All of these trends exert downward pressure on the town's average household size.

In 1960, Brunswick averaged 3.30 persons per housing unit (Figure C). By 2000, this number had fallen to 2.34, and by 2020 this number is projected to reach 2.22 persons per housing unit.

Figure C
Persons Per Household, 1960 - 2020



Source: US

Census; Planning Decisions, Inc

Table C describes the interrelationship of new housing units, occupancy rates, and a decreasing household size. The 486 net increase in year-round housing units increased the town's year-round housing stock to 8,500. With an occupancy rate of 96%, the number of households was 8,447. Household sizes have decreased to 2.34 persons per housing unit, which results in a household population of 19,107.

Table C
Household Population, 2000

1990 total housing units	8,197
(minus) 1990 seasonal units	183
(equals) 1990 year-round units	8,014
(plus) new year-round units, 1990 – 2000	486
(equals) 2000 year round units	8,500
(multiplied by) estimated occupancy factor	0.96
(equals) 2000 estimated households	8,150
(multiplied by) 2001 estimated household size	2.34
(equals) 2000 household population	19,107

Source: US Census; Planning Decisions, Inc.

3. Group Quarters Population, 1990 - 2000

The group quarters population is estimated to have increased from 1,862 in 1990 to 2,065 in 2000. This represents an increase of 11%, or 203 residents. Underlying this number is a dramatic shift from military personnel living in barracks to retirees living in assisted living and college students living in dormitories.

Military personnel living in group quarters has decreased from 724 in 1990 to 361^[4] in 2000. Most of this occurred as the military downsized its personnel after the end of the Cold War. Offsetting this decrease is an increasing number of Bowdoin College students living on campus (from 933 in 1990 to 1,380 in 2000). Other group quarters populations are estimated to have increased dramatically from 196 residents in 1990 to 324 residents in 2000. Nearly all of this increase comes from the assisted living facility at Thornton Oaks.

7. Geographic Distribution of Growth 1990 - 2000

The geographic distribution of housing-unit growth varies across town. The town's rural areas (West Brunswick, Pleasant Hill, Pennellville/Mere Point, New Meadows Shore, and East Brunswick) (Figure D) grew by a total of 381 new housing units (78% of new housing unit growth). East Brunswick alone accounted for more than one-third of all housing unit growth in town. Meanwhile, the urban areas (Downtown, Downtown Fringe, and BNAS/Cook's Corner) grew by 105 units (22% of the total) (Table D).

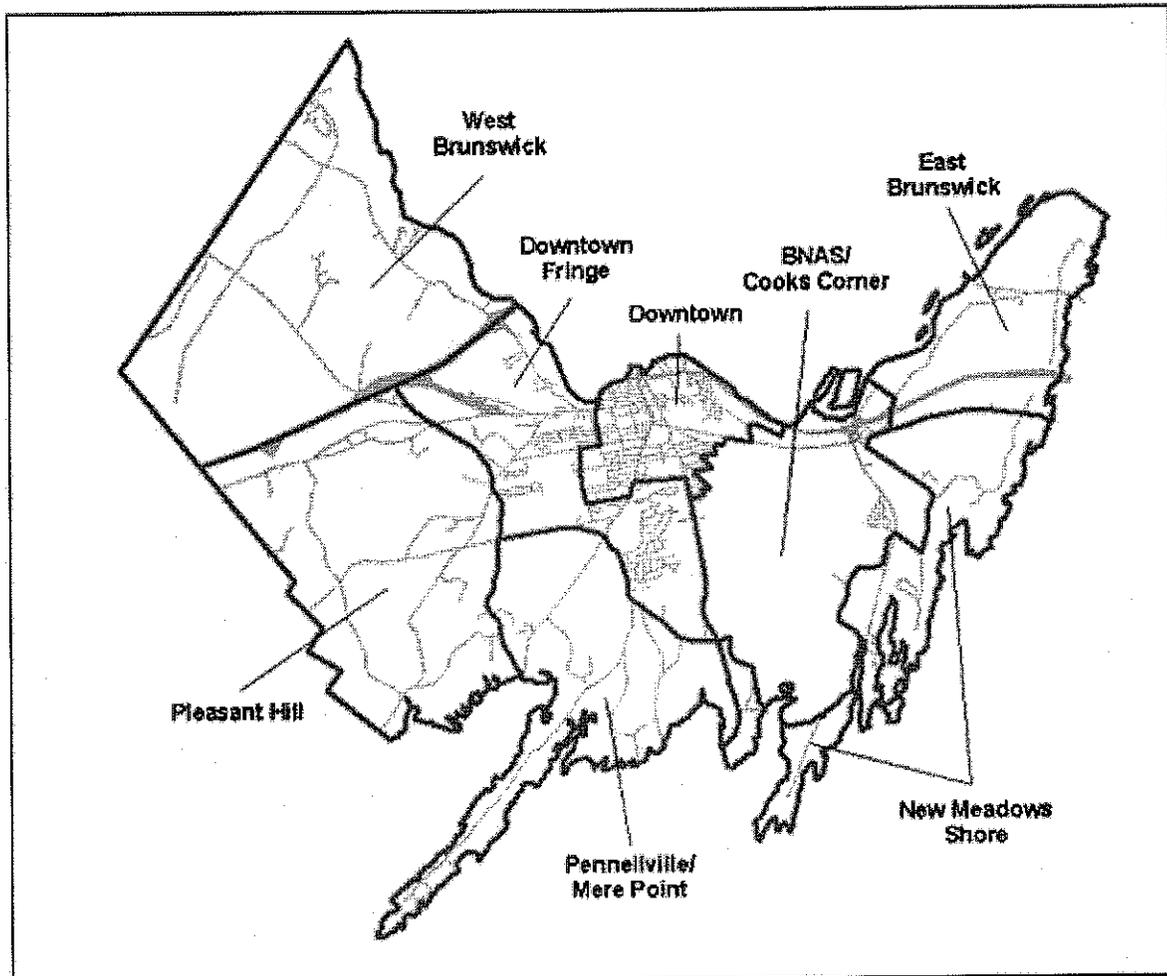
Table D
Year-Round Housing Unit Growth, 1990 - 2000

	1990 Housing Units	New Housing Units	% Total Growth	% Relative Growth	2000 Housing Units
West Brunswick	269	65	13.4%	24.2%	334
Pleasant Hill	291	46	9.5%	15.8%	337
Pennellville/Mere Point	743	39	8.0%	5.2%	782
New Meadows Shore	254	66	13.6%	26.0%	320
East Brunswick	797	165	34.0%	20.7%	962
BNAS/Cooks Corner	717	-40	-8.2%	-5.6%	677
Downtown	2,939	40	8.2%	1.4%	2979
Downtown Fringe	2,004	105	21.6%	5.2%	2109
Total	8,014	486	100.1%	6.1%	8500

Source: US Census, Planning Decisions, Inc.

Comparing the relative growth between these areas reinforces the demands for new housing in the town's rural areas. In relative terms, the rural areas grew by 16% while the urban areas grew by 2%.

Figure D
Brunswick Neighborhoods



Source: Planning Decisions, Inc.

The geographic distribution of population growth during the 1990s was more dramatic than the trends in housing unit development. Brunswick's urban areas lost 5% of their household population (Table E) while rural household populations grew by nearly 13%. The Downtown, BNAS/Cook's Corner, the Downtown Fringe, and Pennellville/Mere Point neighborhoods lost population. The Downtown lost 298 residents. Meanwhile, East Brunswick added nearly 300 residents, and the New Meadows Shore added 214 residents.

Table E
Household Population Growth by Geography, 1990 - 2000

	1990			2000			Change 90 - 00		
	Hshld	Hshld Size	Pop	Hshld	Hshld Size	Pop	Hshld	Hshld Pop Δ	
								#	%
West Brunswick	257	2.95	759	330	2.71	893	73	134	17.7%
Pleasant Hill	282	2.87	808	333	2.85	949	51	141	17.5%
P.ville/Mere Point	729	2.25	1,642	723	2.20	1592	-6	-50	-3.0%
New Meadows Shore	229	2.53	580	302	2.63	794	73	214	36.9%
East Brunswick	771	2.45	1,892	897	2.41	2164	126	272	14.4%
BNAS/Cooks Cmr	689	3.01	2,077	651	2.90	1891	-38	-186	-9.0%
Downtown	2,822	2.16	6,096	2850	2.03	5798	28	-298	-4.9%
Downtown Fringe	1,932	2.69	5,193	2064	2.44	5026	132	-167	-3.2%
Total	7,711	2.47	19,047	8150	2.34	19107	439	60	0.3%

Source: US Census; Planning Decisions, Inc.

The distribution of growth between 1990 and 2000 suggests two major trends are at work in Brunswick. First, the data suggests that households with children are moving into the town's rural areas. The average household size in the town's rural areas was 2.43 persons per household, which is significantly above the urban area's 2.30 persons per household. Further evidence of this trend is in the age distribution between the rural and urban areas of town. Between 1990 and 2000, the number of Brunswick residents under 18 years of age increased from 4,845 to 4,871 (Table F). The number of residents under 18 in urban areas decreased by 8% while those in rural areas grew by 22%.

Table F
Population Under 18 Years of Age, 1990 - 2000

	1990		2000		Change: 90 - 00	
	#	% of Hshld Pop	#	% of Hshld Pop	#	% of Hshld Pop
West Brunswick	222	29.2%	253	28.3%	31	14.0%
Pleasant Hill	218	27.0%	286	30.1%	68	31.2%
P.ville / Mere Point	307	18.7%	298	18.7%	-9	-2.9%
New Meadows Shore	126	21.7%	207	26.1%	81	64.3%
East Brunswick	443	23.4%	561	25.9%	118	26.6%
BNAS / Cooks Corner	759	36.5%	702	37.1%	-57	-7.5%
Downtown	1,295	21.2%	1,199	20.7%	-96	-7.4%
Downtown Fringe	1,475	28.4%	1,365	27.2%	-110	-7.5%
Total	4,845	25.4%	4,871	26.0%	26	0.5%

Source: US Census

The second major trend is Brunswick's growing role as a senior-living center in Midcoast Maine. The inconsistency between 105 new year-round housing units in the urban areas and 657 fewer household residents is in part explained by a dramatic contraction in the average number of persons per housing unit (from 2.46 in 1990 to 2.30 in 2000). The primary variable driving down the household population is the urban area's aging population and its growing role as a senior-living center. These numbers do not include an additional 200 seniors living in the main building at the Thornton Oaks retirement community (these residents are considered part of the group quarter population). This role is projected to continue, as elder residents are attracted to the convenience, services, and community in Brunswick's urban areas.

8. Population Projections, 2000 - 2020

Planning Decisions projects that Brunswick's population will reach 21,936 by 2010 and 22,755 by 2020 (Figure A, Table G). Except for a projected moderate increase in the student population living in dormitories at Bowdoin College, the majority of this growth is projected to be in the household population in rural areas of town.

a. Household Population Change, 2000 - 2020

An upward influence on household population is the continued addition of new housing units to the town's housing stock. An average of 60 new housing units per year has been added to the town's housing stock between 1995 and 2001. This rate is projected to moderate slightly through 2010. Between 2010 and 2020, the growth rate of new housing units is projected to decrease to 45 units per year. This decrease is the result of a projected stagnant population statewide and the increasing attractiveness of communities surrounding Brunswick. These rates of development are projected to net a total of 9,010 housing units in 2010 and 9,551 housing units in 2020 (Table G).

Occupancy rates and average household sizes will put downward pressure on population. The large number of rental units in Brunswick will hold occupancy rates around 96% through 2020. Average household sizes are projected to continue falling to 2.27 by 2010 and to 2.22 by 2020 (Table G), as Brunswick's growing role as a senior-living center and the aging of the baby boom generation continues to exert downward pressure on household sizes.

Combined, these variables result in household population projections of 19,636 in 2010 (3% increase from 2000) and 20,355 in 2020 (4% increase from 2010).

Table G
Population Projections, 2000 - 2020

	2000	2010 (proj.)	2020 (proj.)
Year Round Housing Units	8,500	9,010	9,551
Occupancy Rate	0.96	0.96	0.96
Households	8,150	8,650	9,169
Persons per Household	2.34	2.27	2.22
Household Population	19,107	19,636	20,355
Group Quarter Population	2,065	2,300	2,400
Total Population	21,172	21,936	22,755

Source: Planning Decisions, Inc.

b. Group Quarters Population Change, 2000 - 2020

The large number of group quarters residents decreases the accuracy of projections because their numbers depend largely on policy decisions and are independent of established development patterns. National defense considerations or an expansion of the Bowdoin student population could significantly affect this component of Brunswick's population. This analysis projects that the group quarter population will increase to 2,300 residents by 2010 and will reach 2,400 residents by 2020 (Table G). These projected increases will be driven by an increasing student population at Bowdoin College and more elder-care facilities in Brunswick.

8. Geographic Distribution of Population, 2000 - 2020

Rural areas of town are projected to drive Brunswick's growth through 2020. Housing unit growth is projected to remain robust—although slightly lower than current levels—and household growth is projected to grow by 6% in each of the next two decades (Table H). Areas that are projected to receive

most of Brunswick's future household growth include West Brunswick, Pleasant Hill, and the New Meadows Shore.^[5] These areas both contain large undeveloped parcels that have good environmental conditions for development (soils and slopes). Growth in the New Meadows Shore and East Brunswick will be stronger if the Cooks Corner Master Plan is successful in its attempt to reorient development around pedestrians.

Table H
Projected Household Growth by Geographic Region, 2001 - 2020

	2000	Change 2000 – 2010		2010	Change 2010 – 2020		2020
		#	%		#	%	
West Brunswick	330	89	27%	419	103	25%	522
Pleasant Hill	333	80	24%	413	89	22%	502
P.ville/Mere Point	723	56	8%	779	72	9%	851
N Meadows Shore	302	83	27%	385	61	16%	446
East Brunswick	897	128	14%	1,025	75	7%	1,100
BNAS/Cooks Crnr [6]	651	99	15%	750	69	9%	819
Downtown	2,850	-77	-3%	2,773	-25	-1%	2,748
Downtown Fringe	2,064	42	2%	2,106	75	3%	2,181
Total	8,150	500	6%	8,650	519	6%	9,169

Source: *Planning Decisions, Inc.*

Between 2000 and 2020, development trends are projected to continue to reallocate Brunswick's population from the urban areas of town to the rural areas (Table I). The most robust household population growth is projected to occur in West Brunswick, Pleasant Hill, and the New Meadows Shore. Household populations in Brunswick's urban areas are projected to stagnate.

Table I
Projected Household Population Growth by Geographic Region, 2000 - 2020

	2000	Change 2000 – 2010		Proj. Pop. 2010	Change 2010 – 2020		Proj. Pop. 2020
		#	%		#	%	
West Brunswick	893	142	16%	1,035	149	14%	1,184
Pleasant Hill	949	133	14%	1,082	106	10%	1,188
P.ville/Mere Point	1,592	95	6%	1,687	57	4%	1,774
N Meadows Shore	794	143	18%	937	98	10%	1,035
East Brunswick	2,164	65	3%	2,229	72	3%	2,301
BNAS/Cooks Crnr	1,891	19	1%	1,910	16	1%	1,926
Downtown	5,798	-143	-2%	5,655	46	1%	5,701
Downtown Fringe	5,026	75	1%	5,111	145	3%	5,246
Total	19,107	529	2.8%	19,636	719	3.7%	20,355

Source: *Planning Decisions, Inc.*

Despite sluggish population growth, these development trends highlight two interesting issues regarding Brunswick's open space and recreation resources. The first issue, of particular interest for the town's open space resources, is the continued demand for housing units in the town's rural areas. This issue cannot be confined to a discussion about where development occurs; it must also consider how it occurs.

The second issue, of particular interest to the town's recreation resources, is the relocation of households

with children from urban areas to rural areas and the growing role of Brunswick as a senior-living center. These two trends could influence the type, size, and location of future recreation resources.

PART B. DEMOGRAPHIC CHANGES

1. Age

Brunswick's population is getting older. In 1970 the median age of Brunswick residents was 24.3 years (Table J). By 2000 the median age had reached 35.5 years. This is a national trend that has been driven by increasing life expectancies and decreasing family sizes. The older age profile of the town's residents is projected to continue as life expectancies increase, the baby boom generation ages, and Brunswick develops its role as a major senior-living center for Midcoast Maine.

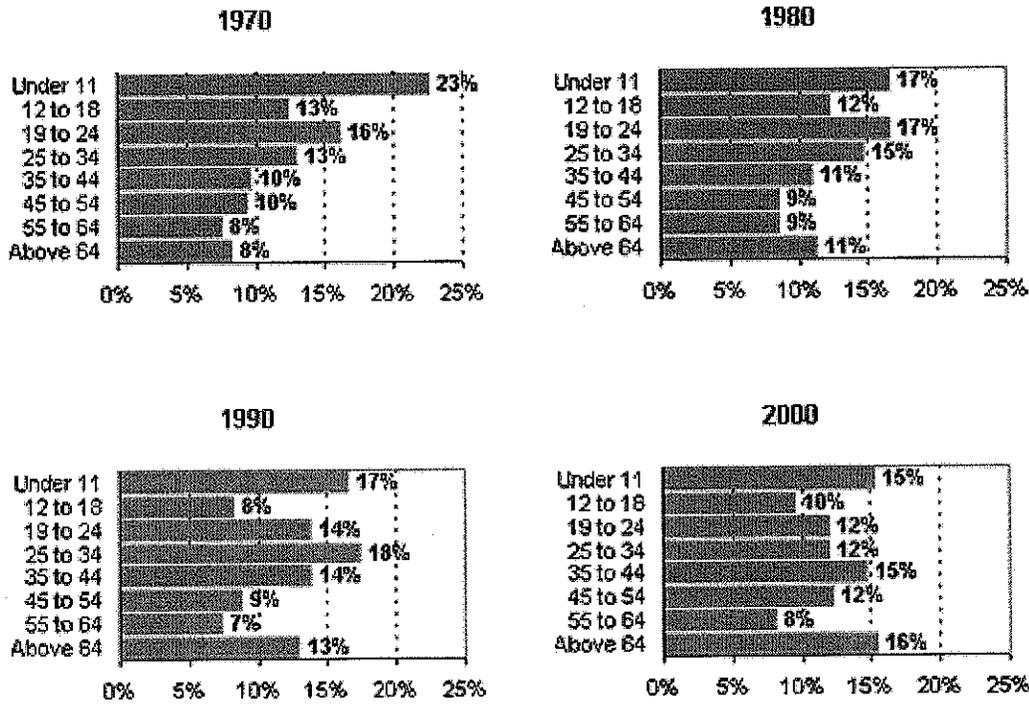
Table J
Persons by Age, 1970 - 2000

	1970		1980		1990		2000	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Under 6	1,801	11.1%	1,347	7.8%	1,847	8.8%	1,586	7.5%
6 - 11	1,879	11.6%	1,537	8.9%	1,657	7.9%	1,682	7.9%
12 - 14	864	5.3%	794	4.6%	640	3.1%	839	4.0%
15 - 18	1,169	7.2%	1,333	7.7%	1,109	5.3%	1,192	5.6%
19 - 24	2,640	16.3%	2,892	16.7%	2,912	13.9%	2,565	12.1%
25 - 34	2,125	13.1%	2,571	14.8%	3,661	17.5%	2,571	12.1%
35 - 44	1,577	9.7%	1,921	11.1%	2,928	14.0%	3,131	14.8%
45 - 54	1,534	9.5%	1,499	8.6%	1,857	8.9%	2,597	12.3%
55 - 64	1,234	7.6%	1,489	8.6%	1,545	7.4%	1,737	8.2%
65 - 74	814	5.0%	1,132	6.5%	1,554	7.4%	1,493	7.1%
75 - 84	439	2.7%	639	3.7%	894	4.3%	1,307	6.2%
Over 84	119	0.7%	212	1.2%	302	1.4%	472	2.2%
Total	16,195	100.0%	17,366	100.0%	20,906	100.0%	21,172	100.0%
Median	24.3		27.5		31.0		35.5	

Source: US Census; Claritas

Between 1970 and 1990, the number of persons over 64 increased from 1,372 to 2,750 residents (Figure E) and the number of persons between 19 and 44 increased from 6,342 to 9,501. The only age cohort that decreased included those 18 years and under.

Figure E
Age Cohort as a % of the Total Population, 1970 - 2000



Source: US Census

The increasingly older profile of Brunswick’s residents has several implications for the type of open spaces and recreational resources the town provides. Older age groups are becoming more involved in recreation activities. Nationwide, the most popular recreational activities for persons over 60 include walking, picnicking, bird watching, swimming, and freshwater fishing. With a stable population of residents younger than 18 years, there will be less demand for active recreation facilities.

2. Education

Brunswick’s residents are becoming better educated. Between 1980 and 2000, the number of residents that received a high school degree (or its equivalent) increased to 88% from 70% (Table K). Similarly, the percent of residents with some college education doubled, from 21% in 1980 to 41% in 2000.

Table K
Educational Attainment, 1980 - 2000

	1980		1990		2000	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Persons 25 years and older						
Less than 9 th grade	1,493	15.8%	735	5.8%	608	4.6%
9 th to 12 th grade, no diploma	1,267	13.4%	1,364	10.7%	995	7.5%
High school graduate	3,262	34.5%	3,975	31.2%	3,602	27.1%
Some college, no degree	1,454	15.4%	2,497	19.6%	2,693	20.3%
Bachelor's/associate degree	1,987	21.0%	2,911	22.9%	3,402	25.6%
Graduate/profess. degree			1,256	9.9%	1,974	14.9%
Total	9,463	100.1%	12,738	100.1%	13,274	100.0%

Source: US Census

Increasing education levels also leads to different interactions with recreation and open spaces. More educated persons are more likely to participate in walking, hiking, swimming, picnicking, and bicycling than those with lower education levels.

3. Occupation

Brunswick residents are becoming more white collar. The percent of residents that are employed in managerial or professional occupations increased to 40% from 23% between 1980 and 2000 (Table L). Offsetting this increase were decreases in every other occupational categories, but most dramatically in blue collar jobs which decreased to 9% from 17%. This trend from natural resource-based industries to information and service-based industries is projected to continue.

Table L
Occupation
Brunswick, 1980 - 2000

	1980		1990		2000	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Employed persons over 24 yrs.						
Management, Professional	1,540	23.4%	2,989	33.0%	3,723	40.0%
Sales, Office	1,992	30.3%	2,593	28.7%	2,380	25.6%
Service	1,118	17.0%	1,355	15.0%	1,517	16.3%
Farming, Fishing, Forestry	103	1.6%	124	1.4%	66	0.7%
Construction, Maintenance	745	11.3%	962	10.6%	781	8.4%
Production, Transportation	1,087	16.5%	1,026	11.3%	845	9.1%
Total	6,585	100.1%	9,049	100.0%	9,312	100.1%

Source: US Census

Note: The method used to classify occupations was altered in the 2000 Census. The names of each classification were altered, for example "technical, sales, and administrative support" became "sales and office occupations."

4. Income

Median incomes for Brunswick residents have increased (Table M). In 1969, median household incomes were \$8,584. Median Incomes are estimated to have risen to \$40,402 by 1999. After adjusting for inflation, median incomes have fluctuated between \$36,000 and \$43,000 per year.

**Table M
Median Household Income, 1969 - 1999**

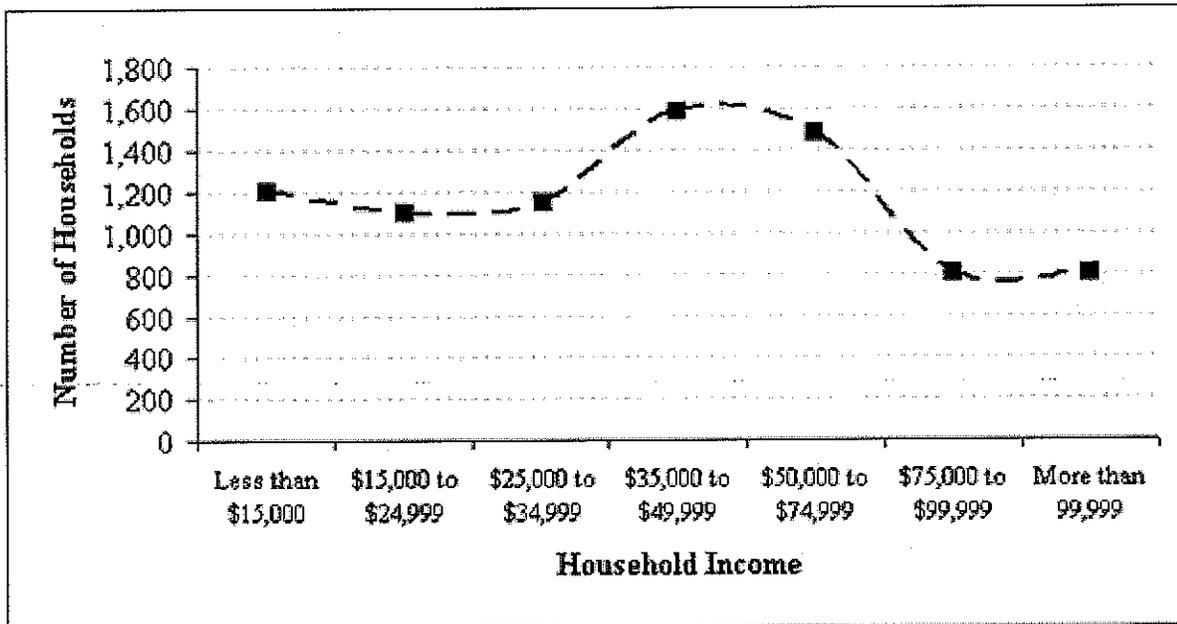
Year	Median Household Income	Adjusted for Inflation ¹
1969	\$8,584	\$41,066
1979	\$14,697	\$36,218
1989	\$30,896	\$43,101
1999	\$40,402	\$40,402

Source: US Census

¹ Adjusted to CPI-Urban for All Items in New England, 1982-1984 = 100

Between 1989 and 1999, the range of incomes in Brunswick has become more homogenous. What were roughly equal numbers of residents in lower income brackets have become more concentrated in the \$50,000 to \$74,999 income bracket (Figure F). The number of upper income households has increased, and the number of lower income households has decreased.

**Figure F
Distribution of Estimated Household Income, 1999**



Source: Planning Decisions, Inc, Claritas, Inc.

Wealthier households are more likely to participate in activities that require expensive travel or equipment. Swimming, running, and bird watching are activities in which wealthy people are more likely to participate.

[1] BNAS was established in 1943 during World War II. It closed in 1947 when the military scaled back after the war's end. The base reopened in 1951 as the Cold War intensified. The number of military personnel stationed at BNAS has remained relatively consistent around 4,500 to 5,000 personnel since the base reopened in 1951. Although a restructuring of the armed forces in the 1990s reduced the number of active squadrons from six to three, this reduction was offset by the relocation of three reserve squadrons from an anti-submarine warfare base in South Weymouth, Massachusetts. Despite the new top-down review of the military ordered by the Bush Administration, base officials are confident that BNAS, as the last active-duty military air base in New England, will remain open.

[2] Through a reporting loophole, the US Census figures from 1990 undercounted the number of Bowdoin College students living on campus. The Census reported 933 residents living on campus in 1990 (including fraternities) while the College reports 1,147 students living on campus in 1990 (including fraternities).

[3] The increase in seasonal housing units can be explained by the construction of new seasonal housing units as well as the conversion of year-round housing units into seasonal housing units as aging owners become "snow-birds" and choose to spend the winter months (including the April Census count) in warmer climates.

[4] A transient population—including precommissioning crews for Bath Iron Works vessels, survival training candidates, reservists, and others—lives in group quarters but aren't counted in the US Census as residents and don't participate in the community as year-round residents would.

[5] Projections assume no significant changes in the Zoning Ordinance.

[6] BNAS is beginning a housing renovation project that will add an additional 16 housing units to its stock. This project will be complete by 2006.

[[close window](#)]

Appendix C-2

Leisure Vision, Inc. of Kansas, a nationally recognized firm that specializes in obtaining and analyzing public opinion regarding recreation and open space issues, conducted a mail survey to 1,105 randomly selected households in Brunswick in 2001. The survey yielded a response rate of 30%.

The methodology used and results obtained are described in the attached excerpts from the final report. Of special note is that the Brunswick results have been compared to national benchmarks to gain additional information.

Highlights of the survey were reported to the community in a special Times Record insert that also announced a workshop the Town Council held with the consultant. This workshop was broadcast several times on community cable TV.

- Excerpts from Leisure Vision report
- Original survey instrument
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Parks and Recreation Citizen Survey

(Draft Report)

Conducted as a component of the

Open Space & Recreation Facilities Master Plan Town of Brunswick, Maine

By

Leisure Vision

(a division of ETC Institute)

725 W. Frontier Circle

Olathe, Kansas 66061

Town of Brunswick, Maine

Household Survey

Methodology

Leisure Vision administered a community-wide survey for the Town of Brunswick, Maine during May-June of 2001. The purpose of the survey was to objectively measure citizen attitudes and priorities with a variety of usage, customer satisfaction, needs assessment and funding issues for the purposes of long range planning of improvements for parks and recreation services provided by Town of Brunswick Parks and Recreation Department. The survey was conducted as a key component for the Parks and Recreation Open Space Master Plan.

The statistically valid mail/phone survey was sent out to 1,105 randomly selected households in the Town of Brunswick. 95 of the surveys were non deliverable, with 1010 surveys being deliverable. The survey had a targeted goal for receiving completed surveys from 300 households, which was reached with a total of 303 returned surveys. The return rate for the surveys was 30%. The survey had a 95% level of confidence with a margin of error of +/-5.7%.

This report contains (1) an executive summary of the major findings; (2) charts depicting the overall results of the survey; (3) tabular data for the overall results to each question on the survey, including a breakdown of respondents by gender, geographic area, and age; and (4) a copy of the survey instrument.

National Benchmarks

Since 1998, Leisure Vision (a division of ETC Institute) has conducted household surveys for needs assessments, feasibility studies, customer satisfaction, fees and charges comparisons, and other parks and recreation issues in more than 20 states across the country.

The results of these surveys has provided an unparalleled data base of information to compare responses from household residents in client communities to "National Averages" and therefore provides a unique tool to "assist organizations in better decision making."

Communities within the database include a full-range of municipal and county governments from 20,000 in population through over 1 million in population. They include communities in warm weather climates and cold weather climates; mature communities and some of the fastest growing cities and counties in the country.

“National Averages” have been developed for numerous strategically important parks and recreation planning and management issues including: customer satisfaction and usage of parks and programs; methods for receiving marketing information; reasons that prevent members of households from using parks and recreation facilities more often; priority recreation programs, parks, facilities and trails to improve or develop; etc.

Results from household responses in Brunswick were compared to National Benchmarks to gain further strategic information. A summary of all tabular comparisons is shown in the Benchmarking Section of the Final Report.

Major Findings

Participation in Programs and Customer Satisfaction is High

38% of respondent households participated in a recreation program over the past 12 months. This level of participation is higher than the national average for community residents’ participation in parks and recreation programs and shows an active park system. Equally important, fully 94% of those who participated in programs rated the programs as excellent (46%) or good (48%). Again these numbers are higher than national averages of customer satisfaction. The percentage of respondents who rated programs they participated in as poor was less than 1%.

<u>Participation in Programs</u>	<u>National Benchmark</u>	<u>Brunswick</u>
Yes	29%	38%

<u>Rating of Program</u>	<u>National Benchmark</u>	<u>Brunswick</u>
Excellent	27%	46%
Good	54%	48%
Fair	12%	4%
Poor	2%	0%
Don’t know	5%	2%

Households Visiting Parks and Customer Satisfaction with Parks is High

67% of respondent households indicated they had visited a city park over the past 12 months. Of those who had visited parks, 37% rated the conditions of the parks as excellent and an additional 52% rated the condition of the parks as good. Only 11% rated the condition of parks as fair, with less than .4% rating them as poor.

The percentage of respondent households who visited city parks is very consistent with national benchmarking averages, while the ratings for conditions of parks is higher than national benchmarks.

<u>Visited Town Parks</u>	<u>National Benchmark</u>	<u>Brunswick</u>
Yes	29%	38%

<u>Rating of Park Conditions</u>	<u>National Benchmark</u>	<u>Brunswick</u>
Excellent	24%	37%
Good	49%	52%
Fair	16%	11%
Poor	4%	0%
Don't know	10%	0%

Satisfaction with Number of Neighborhood Parks, Trails and Open Space Areas

47% of household respondents feel there are enough parks, trails, and open space areas within walking distance of their residences. 42% indicated there were not enough of these areas, and 11% of respondents indicated "don't know". Men were more likely to feel there was sufficient open space (51%) than females (41%).

Most Important Recreation Programs

Respondents were provided a listing of 21 program areas serving adults, youths and seniors and asked to indicate their top 4 most important programs. Based on a sum of their top 4 choices, the most important recreation program to respondents is town sponsored youth sports, with 28% of respondents rating this as one of their top 4 choices. While support for youth sports is high in many communities, this support is considerably higher than national benchmarking averages.

Other highly important programs in the Town of Brunswick included: adult arts/music/theater (25%); adult fitness/health programs (23%); and senior programs at 55 Plus Center (21%).

Following are some comparisons of most important programs in Brunswick to national benchmarking averages. A full listing of benchmarking comparisons is contained in the benchmarking section of this report:

<u>Recreation Programs</u>	<u>National Benchmark</u>	<u>Brunswick</u>
Town Sponsored Youth Sports	21%	28%
Adult Art/Music/Theater	18%	25%
Adult Fitness/Health Programs	22%	23%
Senior Programs at 55 Plus Center	16%	21%
Outdoor Adventure	15%	16%
Outdoor Swimming	21%	16%
Teen Program	10%	13%
Dance, Ceramics, Art Classes	10%	12%
Special Events	26%	11%
Swim Lessons	10%	11%

Most Important Parks, Trails, Open Space and Recreational Facilities

Respondents were provided a listing of 25 types of parks, trails, open space areas, wildlife and natural areas, and recreation facilities serving adults, youths and seniors and asked to indicate their top 4 most important types of parks and facilities.

Based on a sum of their top 4 choices, the most important passive (self directed) park or facility was walking and biking trails, with 46% of respondents rating this as one of their top 4 choices. Other highly important parks and facilities were open space near our homes (24%); nature trails (21%); neighborhood parks (15%); and playgrounds for children (14%).

Based on a sum of their top 4 choices, the most important active park or facility was cultural arts facilities/theater, with 19% of respondents rating this as one of their top 4 choices. Other highly important active parks and facilities were Senior Center (55 Plus Center), with (15%); indoor pools (13%); soccer/football/lacrosse fields (12%); and large multi-use park for both active and passive uses (11%).

While walking and biking trails, open space near our household, nature trails, and cultural arts facilities were clearly the top 4 choices, there were a number of parks, open space areas, trails, and recreational facilities that were grouped closely, indicating the need to take a multi-faceted approach to planning.

Several programs were rated as one of the most important by more respondent households in Brunswick than the national average. While 46% of respondents in Brunswick rated walking and biking trails as one of their top 4 choices, the national average was just 41%. Cultural arts facilities/theater (19%) and soccer/football fields (12%) also received higher ratings in Brunswick than the national averages of 10% for cultural arts facilities/theater and 16% for soccer/football fields.

Following are some comparisons of most important parks, open space, and recreation facilities in the Town of Brunswick to national benchmarking averages. A full listing of benchmarking comparisons is contained in the benchmarking section of this report:

<u>Parks, Trails, Open Space, and Recreational Facilities</u>	<u>National Benchmark</u>	<u>Brunswick</u>
Walking and Biking Trails	41%	46%
Open Space Near Our Household	21%	24%
Nature Trails	25%	21%
Cultural Arts Facilities/Theater	10%	19%
Senior Centers (55 Plus Center)	13%	15%
Playgrounds for Children	26%	14%
Indoor Pools	13%	13%
Soccer/Football Fields	8%	12%
Tennis Courts		

Reasons Keeping Respondents from Using Programs/Facilities More Often

The main reason impacting usage was do not know what is being offered (38%). Other frequently mentioned reasons included: we are too busy or not interested (29%); do not know locations (25%); members of my household use facilities provided by other organizations (24%); and location of facilities/programs not close to home (19%).

Only 2% of respondents indicated that the facilities were not well maintained and 2% also indicated that security is insufficient. The national benchmark for facilities not well maintained is 7% and for security is insufficient it is 9%. These are low numbers and speak to the value participants place on current programs and at the same time show opportunities for increases in programming and recreation facilities development.

Following are some comparisons of reasons that household members don't use parks and recreation facilities more often in the Town of Brunswick to national benchmarking averages. A full listing of benchmarking comparisons is contained in the benchmarking section of this report

Reasons Household Members Don't Use Parks & Rec Facilities More Often	National Benchmark	Brunswick
Do Not Know What is Being Offered	40%	38%
We Are Too Busy or Not Interested	34%	29%
Do Not Know Location of Parks/Facilities	16%	25%
Use Facilities Provided by Other Organizations	19%	24%
Location of Facilities Not Close to my Home	13%	19%
Hours of Operation are Not Convenient	7%	13%
Lack of Quality Programs	5%	4%
Fees are too Expensive	6%	4%
Security is Insufficient	9%	2%
Poor Customer Service by Staff	2%	1%

Support for Acquiring and Developing Land

Based on a sum of their top 2 responses, 66% of respondents indicated support for acquiring land for passive recreational uses, such as trails, picnicking and shelters. 57% of respondents indicated support for acquiring land and having it dedicated for permanent conservation purposes, such as wetlands, wildlife habitats, etc. 30% of respondents indicated support for acquiring land and having it left undeveloped for future generations to decide the best use. 27% favored support for acquiring land and having it developed for active recreational use, such as baseball, soccer, softball, etc.

Agreement with Various Issues To Be Considered by the Town of Brunswick

The following are levels of agreement and disagreement with various actions being considered, with don't knows being eliminated.

- 69% of respondents agree that the Town should fund the planting and maintenance of street and park trees, with an additional 24% somewhat agreeing with the action. Only 4% of respondents disagree with the action.
- 73% of respondents agree that the Town should take an active role in preserving scenic resources, with an additional 18% somewhat agreeing with the action. Only 5% of respondents disagree with the action.

- 71% of respondents agree that the Town should identify existing trails and protect them for future use, with an additional 20% somewhat agreeing with the action. Only 4% of respondents disagree with the action.
- 55% of respondents agree that the Town should take an active role in preserving productive farms and farmland from future development, with an additional 29% somewhat agreeing with the action. 10% of respondents disagree with the action.
- 35% of respondents agree that the Town should manage its forests as a renewable resource and harvest wood on a sustained yield basis, with an additional 26% somewhat agreeing with the action. However, 24% of respondents disagree with the action.
- 15% of respondents agree that hunting and trapping should be allowed on town-owned wood lots and wild lands, with an additional 13% somewhat agreeing with the action. However, 59% of respondents disagree with the action.

Most Used Features for a Potential Community Center

Survey respondents were presented a list of 21 different features that could be included in a community center and asked to select the 4 features that would be used the most by their household. Based on a sum of the top 4 choices, the most used features to include in a possible indoor community center include: indoor running/walking track (30%); indoor pool for competitive/lap swimming (28%); weight room/cardiovascular equipment area (26%); gymnasium for volleyball, basketball, etc. (24%); and indoor pool with features such as water slides, etc. (24%).

Support for Old Brunswick Site Location for Community Center

Respondents showed strong support for locating a new indoor community center at the site of the old Brunswick High School. 84% of the respondents were either very supportive of the site (56%) or somewhat supportive of the site (28%). Only 7% were not supportive of the site with an additional 9% indicating not sure.

A Combination of Taxes/User Fees Is Preferred Choice for Funding Community Center Operations

Fully 71% of respondents favor some combination of taxes and user fees to fund operations of a new indoor community center. 45% of respondents favor taxes paying a majority of costs and user fees the remaining costs, with 26% favoring user fees paying a majority of costs and taxes the remaining costs. 17% of respondents felt all operating costs should be paid by users with 4% indicating all costs should be paid by taxes. 8% of respondents indicated don't know.

Support for Various Actions the Town of Brunswick Can Take

Respondents were presented a list of 5 potential actions the Town of Brunswick could take regarding parks, open space, conservation easements, and wetlands habitats and asked to indicate their level of support for the actions. For all actions, at least 60% of respondents were either very supportive or somewhat supportive of the Town implementing the action. However, for none of the actions were more than 50% of respondents very supportive. A summary of support is as follows: (Don't know responses have been eliminated)

- Town purchase of land for open space - 87% either very supportive (47%) or somewhat supportive (40%). 13% not supportive.
- Town conducting educational programs on open space - 88% either very supportive (48%) or somewhat supportive (36%). 16% are not supportive.
- Property tax reductions for placing conservation easements on open space - 84 % either very supportive (48%) or somewhat supportive (36%). 16% are not supportive.
- Town purchase of conservation easements on open space - 83% either very supportive (46%) or somewhat supportive (37%). 17% are not supportive.
- Strengthening of Town regulations for wetlands and habitat protection for future use on private lands - 74% either very supportive (46%) or somewhat supportive (28%). This potential action had the most respondents not supportive, with 26% being not supportive.

Permission to Use Bowdoin College and Brunswick Naval Air Station

Only 28% of respondent households had permission to use recreational facilities at Bowdoin College or Brunswick Naval Air Station.

How Additional Revenues Should Be Allocated

Respondents were asked to allocate \$100 towards various parks and recreation facilities. Respondents indicated that \$22 should go towards expanding trails for walking, biking, snowmobiling and linking recreation and open space areas. An additional \$17 should go toward developing additional indoor recreation facilities. \$14 should go towards preserving important wildlife habitats, woodlands, and wetlands and \$12 towards improving river and ocean access. \$9 should go towards developing in-town neighborhood parks and \$9 towards preserving scenic views. The remaining \$6 should go towards developing additional sports fields.

Willingness to Pay Additional Property Taxes for Improvements

More than eighty percent (84%) of respondents indicated they would be willing to invest some additional tax dollars for improvements to parks, open space and recreation facilities in the Town of Brunswick. 14% were willing to pay \$101 or more every six months. An additional 12% were willing to pay \$76-\$100 every six months and 17% were willing to pay \$51-\$75 every six months. 21% were willing to pay \$26-\$50 every six months and 22% were willing to pay \$1-\$25 every six months.

Further analysis showed that walking and biking trails was the most important open space or recreational facility for every breakdown of those who were willing to pay some property tax increase. Fully 23% of those who indicated they would pay \$101 or more every six months indicated walking and biking trails was their 1st most important open space and/or recreational feature (Question #9). Open space near our household was the 2nd most important open space and/or recreational feature to households who were willing to pay some property tax increase, followed by nature trails, and cultural arts facilities/theater.

Other high important open space and recreational facilities to those willing to pay some higher level of property taxes included: indoor pools (i.e. Bowdoin College), playgrounds for children, Senior Center (55 Plus Center), neighborhood parks, soccer/football/lacrosse fields, wildlife habitats, tennis courts, and baseball/softball fields.

When considering program spaces which would be used the most within a potential new community center (Question 14), many features received strong support from those willing to pay some level of higher property taxes. Those features which would be used the most and receiving the highest support from those willing to pay a higher level of property taxes included an indoor running/walking track, indoor pool for competitive and lap swimming, weight room/cardiovascular equipment area, indoor recreational pool, gymnasiums for basketball, volleyball, etc., and senior citizens area.

Gymnasiums for basketball, volleyball, etc, was the feature that would be used the most by those willing to pay \$100 or more every six months in property taxes and also for those willing to pay \$26-\$50 every six months. An indoor recreational pool was the feature that would be used the most by those indicating they would be willing to pay \$76-\$100 every six months and also those willing to pay \$25-\$50 every six months. An indoor recreational pool and a senior citizens area tied for the most used feature for those willing to pay \$1-\$25 every six months.

OPEN SPACE & RECREATION TASK FORCE

<http://www.curtislibrary.com/osrtf/>

*c/o Department of Planning & Development, Town of Brunswick
28 Federal Street, Brunswick, Maine 04011*

MEMORANDUM

Councilor Forrest Lowe
Chairman, 729-9773 (h)

Barbara Desrosiers
Citizen at large
725-8827 (h)

Peter Dicksheim
Citizen at large
632-3101 ext. 21 (w)

Tara Farrell
Director of Parks & Recreation
725-6656 (w)

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Conservation Commission
724-0170 (h)

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Ellen McPherson
Citizen at large
729-3148 (h)

John Murphy
Recreation Commission
729-7833 (h)

Keisha Payson, Bicycle and
Pedestrian Committee
725-1374 (h)

Bill Smith, Planning Board
728-5826 (h)

Barbara Swisher
Brunswick School Board
729-1584 (h)

Lloyd Van Linsen, Brunswick
Topsham Land Trust
729-0584 (h)

Date: May 2001
To: Brunswick Citizens
From: Councilor Forrest Lowe
Chairman, Open Space & Recreation Task Force
Re: Parks, Open Space & Recreation Survey

As you may know, the Brunswick Open Space & Recreation Task Force is currently developing a long-term plan for the town to establish priorities and policies for open space and recreation. The Task Force was established by the Town Council to assist with the development of the Master Plan, so that it can be shaped by our citizens.

We are now at the point where we need your help through your completion of this survey questionnaire. Since only a limited number of households in the community were selected at random to receive the survey, it is very important that you participate. Your opinions will help shape our recommendations regarding parks, open space, and recreation facilities.

The survey should only take 10-15 minutes to complete. If possible, please fill-out the survey and return it sometime during the next two weeks. This will allow us to incorporate your input into the next phase of the process.

We have been working with Leisure Vision/ETC Institute, a nationally recognized survey development consultant, to help us with the survey and process the returns. Please return your completed survey in the enclosed return-reply envelope addressed to: ETC Institute, 725 W. Frontier Circle, Olathe, KS, 66061.

In the meanwhile, if you have any questions or would like to contribute to our work, please feel free to contact any of the task force members listed on the left.

We will be holding a town-wide forum in a few months to share our initial recommendations for citizen discussion and feedback. After incorporating what we learn from the public, we then hope to present our refined plan to the Town Council this fall. Please watch for notices and plan to attend!

Thank you in advance for taking a few minutes to provide us with your thoughts in this survey. Your input will be of great assistance.

The Town of Brunswick would like your input to help determine parks, recreation, and open space priorities for our community. This survey will take about 10-15 minutes to complete. When you are finished, please return your survey in the enclosed postage-paid, return-reply envelope. We greatly appreciate your time.

1. Counting yourself, how many people live in your household? _____
2. How many persons in your household (counting yourself) are?

Under 5 years _____	15 - 19 years _____	35 - 44 years _____	65 - 74 years _____
5 - 9 years _____	20 - 24 years _____	45 - 54 years _____	75 + years _____
10 - 14 years _____	25 - 34 years _____	55 - 64 years _____	
3. Have you or other members of your household participated in any parks and recreation programs offered by or through Brunswick's Parks and Recreation Department during the past 12 months?
 - ____ (1) Yes (please answer questions question #3a)
 - ____ (2) No, but I am aware that the Town offers parks and recreation programs (go to Q#4)
 - ____ (3) No, I did not know that Town offered programs (go to question #7)

3a. Overall, how would you rate the recreation programs offered by the Parks and Recreation Department?

____ (1) Excellent	____ (3) Fair	____ (9) Don't know
____ (2) Good	____ (4) Poor	
4. Have you or any members of your household used any of the Town's parks and outdoor recreational facilities during the past year?
 - ____ (1) Yes. Which ones? (please write the name or location of the parks or outdoor recreational facilities)
 - (a) _____ (b) _____ (c) _____
 - ____ (2) No, but I know where the Town's parks and outdoor recreation facilities are located
 - ____ (3) No, because I do not know where Town's parks and outdoor recreation facilities are located

4a. Overall, how would you rate the physical condition of the Town's parks and outdoor recreation facilities you have visited?

____ (1) Excellent	____ (4) Poor (need many improvements)
____ (2) Good	____ (5) Don't know, I have not visited a Town park or outdoor facility recently
____ (3) Fair (need some improvements)	
5. Do you feel there are enough neighborhood parks, trails and open space areas within walking distance of your residence?
 - ____ (1) Yes
 - ____ (2) No
 - ____ (3) Don't Know

5. Using a five-point scale where '1' means "Very SATISFIED" and '5' means "Very DISSATISFIED," please indicate your overall satisfaction with the following types of recreation programs in the Town of Brunswick community by circling the corresponding number.

Please indicate if you or other members of your household have participated in Town of Brunswick Parks and Recreation programs or recreation programs run by other affiliate groups during the past two years.

	Satisfaction with Programs in the Town of Brunswick					Have you or any member of your household participated in this program during the past 2 years?		
	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied	Know	YES	NO
(A) Summer playground program	1	2	3	4	5	9	YES	NO
(B) Teen programs	1	2	3	4	5	9	YES	NO
(C) Youth Arts/ Crafts programs	1	2	3	4	5	9	YES	NO
(D) Pre-school programs	1	2	3	4	5	9	YES	NO
(E) Town sponsored youth sports (i.e. basketball, baseball, ponytail softball, soccer, etc.)	1	2	3	4	5	9	YES	NO
(F) Non Town sponsored recreation programs (i.e. Cal Ripken baseball/softball, Brunswick Youth Football, Mid Coast Youth Hockey, etc.)	1	2	3	4	5	9	YES	NO
(G) Youth after school programs	1	2	3	4	5	9	YES	NO
(H) Youth nature education programs	1	2	3	4	5	9	YES	NO
(I) Swim lessons	1	2	3	4	5	9	YES	NO
(J) Swimming at Coffin Pond	1	2	3	4	5	9	YES	NO
(K) Special Events	1	2	3	4	5	9	YES	NO
(L) Youth concerts	1	2	3	4	5	9	YES	NO
(M) Youth ski/snowboard lessons	1	2	3	4	5	9	YES	NO
(N) Adult Sports leagues	1	2	3	4	5	9	YES	NO
(O) Adult Fitness/Health programs	1	2	3	4	5	9	YES	NO
(P) Adult arts/music/theater	1	2	3	4	5	9	YES	NO
(Q) Senior Programs at 55 Plus Center	1	2	3	4	5	9	YES	NO
(R) Dance, ceramics, arts classes	1	2	3	4	5	9	YES	NO
(S) Outdoor adventure (i.e. kayaking)	1	2	3	4	5	9	YES	NO
(T) Youth or adult open gym	1	2	3	4	5	9	YES	NO
(V) Youth music and theatre programs	1	2	3	4	5	9	YES	NO

7. Which **FOUR** of the programs listed in Question # 6 are most important to the members of your household? [Please write in the letters below for your 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th choices using the letters from the list in question #6 above.]

1st 2nd 3rd 4th

8 Using a five-point scale where '1' means "Very SATISFIED" and '5' means "Very DISSATISFIED," please indicate your overall satisfaction with the condition, location and supply of the following types of recreational facilities and open spaces in the Town of Brunswick by circling the corresponding number.

Then, please indicate if you or other members of your household have visited or used the following facilities in the Town of Brunswick during the past two years.

	Satisfaction with Facilities and Open Spaces						Have you or any member of your household used over past 2 years?	
	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied	Don't Know	YES	NO
(A) Baseball and softball fields	1	2	3	4	5	9	YES	NO
(B) Soccer/Football/Lacrosse fields	1	2	3	4	5	9	YES	NO
(C) Tennis courts	1	2	3	4	5	9	YES	NO
(D) Neighborhood parks	1	2	3	4	5	9	YES	NO
(E) Nature Center (Bay Bridge Landing)	1	2	3	4	5	9	YES	NO
(F) Sports complex (Lishness Field)	1	2	3	4	5	9	YES	NO
(G) Recreation Center/30 Federal St.	1	2	3	4	5	9	YES	NO
(H) Wildlife habitats	1	2	3	4	5	9	YES	NO
(I) Golf course	1	2	3	4	5	9	YES	NO
(J) Playgrounds for children	1	2	3	4	5	9	YES	NO
(K) Picnic facilities	1	2	3	4	5	9	YES	NO
(L) Walking and biking trails	1	2	3	4	5	9	YES	NO
(M) Boat launch facilities	1	2	3	4	5	9	YES	NO
(N) Indoor pools (i.e. Bowdoin College)	1	2	3	4	5	9	YES	NO
(O) Outdoor recreational beach	1	2	3	4	5	9	YES	NO
(P) Outdoor swimming pools	1	2	3	4	5	9	YES	NO
(Q) Scenic views and vistas	1	2	3	4	5	9	YES	NO
(R) Nature trails	1	2	3	4	5	9	YES	NO
(S) Hunting and fishing areas	1	2	3	4	5	9	YES	NO
(T) Indoor ice-rinks	1	2	3	4	5	9	YES	NO
(U) Cultural arts facilities/theater	1	2	3	4	5	9	YES	NO
(V) Skateboard park	1	2	3	4	5	9	YES	NO
(W) Large multi use parks for both active and passive recreation	1	2	3	4	5	9	YES	NO
(X) Open space near our household	1	2	3	4	5	9	YES	NO
(Y) Senior Center (55 Plus Center)	1	2	3	4	5	9	YES	NO

9. Which **FOUR** of the facilities and open spaces listed above are most important to the members of your household? [Please write in the letters below for your 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th choice using the letters from the list in question #8 above.]

1st 2nd 3rd 4th

10. Please CHECK ALL the reasons that keep you or other members of your household from using Brunswick Recreation and Parks Department parks and recreation facilities.

- (01) Facilities are not well maintained
- (02) Facilities do not have the right equipment
- (03) Security is insufficient
- (04) Hours of operation are not convenient
- (05) The location of facilities are not close to our residence
- (06) Fees are too expensive
- (07) Lack of transportation
- (08) Members of our household use facilities provided by other organizations
- (09) Poor customer service by staff
- (10) We do not know locations of parks/facilities
- (11) Lack of quality programs
- (12) We are too busy or not interested
- (13) We do not know what is being offered
- (14) Registration for programs is difficult

11. The Town of Brunswick has many options regarding acquiring and developing land for parks, recreation, and open space purposes. From the following list, please check the TWO options that you and members of your household would support THE MOST.

- (A) Land should be acquired and dedicated for permanent conservation purposes such as wetlands, wildlife habitats, etc.
- (B) Land should be acquired and left undeveloped for future generations to decide the best use
- (C) Land should be acquired and developed for passive recreational use, i.e. trails, picnicking, shelters
- (D) Land should be acquired and developed for active recreational use, i.e. baseball, soccer, softball, etc.

12. Following is a listing of open space preservation, wildlife conservation, and resource utilization issues currently being faced by the Town. Please indicate whether you agree, somewhat agree, disagree, or don't know about each statement by circling the corresponding number.

	Agree	Somewhat Agree	Disagree	Don't Know
(A) The Town should manage its forests as a renewable resource and harvest wood on a sustained yield basis	1	2	3	9
(B) The Town should take an active role in preserving scenic resources	1	2	3	9
(C) The Town should take an active role in preserving productive farms and farmland from future development.	1	2	3	9
(D) The Town should fund the planting and maintenance of street and park trees	1	2	3	9
(E) The Town should identify existing trails and protect them for future use	1	2	3	9
(F) Hunting and trapping should be allowed on town-owned wood lots and wild lands.	1	2	3	9

13. If the Town of Brunswick was to consider developing a new indoor community center, please indicate whether you think it is very important, somewhat important, or not important for the Town to provide the following features in the community center by circling the corresponding number.

Feature	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not Important	Don't Know
(A) Gymnasiums for basketball, volleyball, etc.	1	2	3	9
(B) Dance rooms	1	2	3	9
(C) Multipurpose space for classes, meetings, etc.	1	2	3	9
(D) Aerobics/fitness space	1	2	3	9
(E) Arts and crafts rooms	1	2	3	9
(F) Senior citizens area	1	2	3	9
(G) Game room	1	2	3	9
(H) Indoor recreational pool with features such as water slides, zero depth entry, water sprays, etc.	1	2	3	9
(I) Weight room/cardiovascular equipment area	1	2	3	9
(J) Racquetball/handball/wallyball courts	1	2	3	9
(K) Indoor running/walking track	1	2	3	9
(L) Preschool program space	1	2	3	9
(M) Indoor pool for competitive/lap swimming	1	2	3	9
(N) Teen area	1	2	3	9
(O) Indoor stage/performing arts areas	1	2	3	9
(P) Child care area to enable parents to recreate while their younger children are supervised by staff	1	2	3	9
(Q) Adult day care facilities	1	2	3	9
(R) Indoor ice skating/hockey rink	1	2	3	9
(S) Rock climbing wall	1	2	3	9
(T) Outdoor area for special events, concerts, etc.	1	2	3	9
(U) Adjacent outdoor pool	1	2	3	9

14. Which FOUR features from the list above would you and members of your household be most likely to use? Write in the letters below for your 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th choice using the letters from the list in question #13 above.

Use #1 Use #2 Use #3 Use #4

15. If the Town of Brunswick was to consider developing a new indoor community center, please indicate whether you would be very supportive, somewhat supportive, not supportive or not sure to use the Old Brunswick High School as the location for a new indoor community center.

- ___ (1) Very supportive
- ___ (2) Somewhat supportive
- ___ (3) Not supportive
- ___ (4) Not sure

16. The following are various ways that the costs of operations of a community center could be funded. Please check the ONE statement which best represents how you feel the costs of operations of a new community center should be funded.

- (1) 100% through taxes (no fees to be charged to users)
- (2) Taxes should pay the majority of costs and fees from users should pay the remaining costs
- (3) Fees from users should pay the majority of costs and taxes should pay the remaining costs
- (4) 100% through user fees (no taxes should be used to pay for operations)
- (9) Don't know

17. Please indicate your level of support for each of the following actions the Town of Brunswick could take by circling the corresponding number.

	<u>Very</u> <u>Supportive</u>	<u>Somewhat</u> <u>Supportive</u>	<u>Not</u> <u>Supportive</u>	<u>Don't</u> <u>Know</u>
(A) Town purchase of land for open space	1	2	3	9
(B) Town purchase of conservation easements on open space	1	2	3	9
(C) Strengthening Town regulations for wetlands & habitat protection for future use on private lands	1	2	3	9
(D) Property tax reductions for placing conservation easements on open space	1	2	3	9
(E) Town conducting educational programs on open space	1	2	3	9

18. Please check ALL of the following recreation facilities you and members of your household have permission to use.

- (1) Brunswick Naval Air Station
- (2) Bowdoin College

19. If an additional \$100 were available for Town of Brunswick parks, recreation facilities, and open space, how would you allocate the funds among the categories of funding listed below. (please be sure that your allocations add up to \$100):

- \$ _____ (A) Expand trails for walking, biking, snowmobiling, and linking recreation/open space.
- \$ _____ (B) Retain farms and farmlands
- \$ _____ (C) Preserve important wildlife habitats, woodlands, and wetlands
- \$ _____ (D) Preserve scenic views and scenic areas
- \$ _____ (E) Develop in-town neighborhood parks
- \$ _____ (F) Develop additional sports/athletic fields
- \$ _____ (G) Develop additional indoor recreation facilities
- \$ _____ (H) Improve river and ocean access (usage for boaters, beach access, deepwater boat access)
- \$ 100 TOTAL

20. From the following list, please indicate the **MAXIMUM** amount of property tax revenues you would be willing to pay in your twice annual tax bill to fund the types of parks, open space, trails and recreation facilities you and members of your household **MOST PREFER**.
- (1) \$101 or more every six months
 (2) \$76-\$100 every six months
 (3) \$51-\$75 every six months
 (4) \$26-\$50 every six months
 (5) \$1-\$25 every six months
 (6) None

DEMOGRAPHICS

21. How many years have you lived in Brunswick? _____ years
22. What is your age? _____ years
23. Please check the **ONE** description below that best represents the location of your residence.
- (1) West Brunswick
 (2) Pleasant Hill/Bunganuc
 (3) Mere Point/Pennellville
 (4) Gurnet Road
 (5) East Brunswick
24. Please write in below the approximate number of acres of land you own in Brunswick
- _____ acres of land owned
- _____ none, do not own any acres of land in Brunswick.
25. What is your total annual household income?
- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> (1) Under \$15,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> (4) \$35,000 to \$49,999 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (2) \$15,000 to \$24,999 | <input type="checkbox"/> (5) \$50,000 to \$74,999 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (3) \$25,000 to \$34,999 | <input type="checkbox"/> (6) \$75,000 or more |
26. Your gender (check one)
- (1) Male (2) Female

This Concludes The Survey. We Thank You For Your Time.
Please Return Your Completed Survey in the Enclosed Return-Reply Envelope Addressed to:
Leisure Vision/ETC Institute, 725 W. Frontier Circle, Olathe, KS 66061

Appendix C-4

The Open Space & Recreation Task Force has been compiling, with the help of interns and our consultant, an inventory of approximately 140 parks and recreation sites in the community. A sample of this inventory showing the type of data collected is included in this appendix.

The full inventory with details similar to those on the sample "Edwards Field" inventory document is anticipated to be completed in August of 2003.

- Edwards Field
 - Part 1
 - Part 2
 - Part 3

EDWARDS FIELD

Jordan Avenue
Brunswick, ME 04011

EDWARDS FIELD

Jordan Avenue

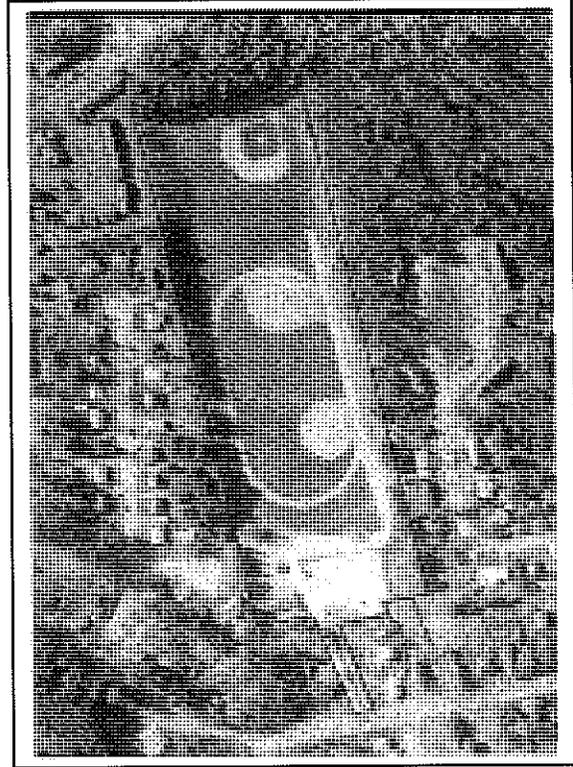
Lot size - 11 Acres

Owner -Town of Brunswick

Town Map U-6, Lot 37

This property consists of developed and maintained playing fields located across the street from the Jordan Acres School in a residential area.

History. Otto H. Rossner conveyed property to the Town of Brunswick in 1927 and again in 1937 to make up what is known today as the Edwards Field Recreation Area . The deeds for these two parcels are housed in the Cumberland County Registry of Deeds and can be found in Book 1265, Page 47 and Book 1514, Page 423 respectively. The property has a long history as an active outdoor recreation area, stretching back to Brunswick High School's use of a track and ballfields that existed on the site in the late 1920's. The property was further developed as a WPA project in the mid 1930's into one of the better recreation and athletic facilities in the state. *"Though it was originally designed for baseball and high school football, the use of the fields has changed with the growing popularity of softball and soccer"* (Greenfields II Committee, Report and Recommendations, dated Sept 5, 1984). Rosaire and Venise LaChance sold the Town another small parcel in 1980 to help widen and improve the main access road to the facility. The deed for this smaller parcel can be found at the



Cumberland County Registry of Deeds in Book 4716, Page 298.

Edwards Field is maintained by the Department of Parks and Recreation.

Access. Access to this site is from Jordan Avenue on a paved road 212 ft long and 18 ft wide, marked by a high wooden sign. A paved sidewalk runs parallel to the access road. A chain link gate marks the end of the access road. The gate is opened at 6:30 a.m. and closed at dusk daily. The main gravel parking lot holds approximately 75 cars. A smaller gravel parking lot is located adjacent to one of two maintenance buildings which houses the fleet of vehicles and maintenance equipment by the Parks and Recreation

Department. The main pedestrian and motor vehicle access to the site is via Jordan Avenue.

Landscape: This site a flat site surrounded on three sides by residential backyards, and on the south side by land owned by Bowdoin College. In addition there exists a 10-acre forested wetland area that is to be deeded to the Town associated with the development of the abutting Jordan Courts subdivision. A chain link fence marks the perimeter of the property. The edges of the property are also lined with a mix of mature evergreens and hardwoods. The site is rectangular with a narrower access road at the northern end that exits to Jordan Avenue.

The main parking area, a paved basketball court, and one maintenance garage are found at the northern end. The upper garage has attached restrooms with water and sewer hookup. Chain link fencing encloses the two softball fields and one baseball field at the site. Seasonally, soccer fields are lined and set up in the outfields of the softball and baseball fields. A removable chain link fence between two of the softball fields allows for easy conversion. A one quarter mile running track surrounding the softball fields includes a 100 yard straight-away that extends from the lower garage to the baseball field. There is a playground along the west side of the backstop of the Edwards B softball field.

Facilities.

- 2 maintenance/storage garages
- 2 softball fields: Edwards "A" and Edwards "B" fields
- 1 baseball field
- 2 soccer fields in the outfields of the softball and baseball ball fields(set up seasonally)
- 1 paved outdoor basketball court
- 1 quarter mile stone dust surfaced track
- 1 shotput circle
- 1 commercial manufactured playground
- 1 concession stand
- 1 storage building behind the baseball field
- 4 sets of bleachers
- 8 soccer goals
- 1 public telephone
- 10 trash barrels
- 1 dumpster
- 8 portable benches
- 1 portable toilet
- 1 54-cubic-foot water supply enclosure
- 2 water fountains
- 2 concrete block dugouts at the baseball field
- 1 bicycle rack
- 3 scoreboards
- 1 public pay phone

Edwards A. The northern softball field has two portable benches, a set of bleachers with a 100-seat capacity, and a scoreboard next to the backstop. It also has a 54 CF water supply enclosure storage which houses the water service and backflow preventer used in providing irrigation to the athletic turf. This unit is located just outside the playing area behind the left center field fence. The softball field has a stone dust infield and a mixture of portable and permanent chain link fencing that defines the outfield. The distances from home plate down the 1st base, center field, and 3rd base line all measure 280 feet.

Edwards B. The second softball field has a set of bleachers along the 3rd base line with a 95 seat capacity. It has a

scoreboard next to the backstop along the 1st base line. There is a flagpole behind the backstop as well. The infield has a stone dust surface and a mixture of portable and permanent chain link fencing to define the outfield. The distances from home plate to the 1st baseline, centerfield line, and 3rd baseline are 245 feet, 280 feet, and 270 feet respectively.

Soccer fields. The first soccer field (318 feet x 210 feet) is in the outfields of the two softball fields, though it encroaches upon the infields. The second (300 feet x 160 feet) is in the outfield of the baseball field and encroaches upon the infield. There are practice soccer goals in the extra spaces around the softball fields and baseball field.

Baseball field. This field has a high backstop and a storage building. It is used primarily for storage and concessions. There are two covered concrete dugouts, a set of bleachers along the 3rd baseline with a 100-seat capacity, and a set of bleachers along the 1st baseline with a 42-seat capacity. There is a drinking fountain near the backstop. There is a scoreboard midway down the 1st baseline. The infield has a clay loam surface. The backstop is approximately 25 feet high. The distances from home plate down the 1st baseline, centerfield line, and 3rd baseline are 320 feet, 435 feet, and 320 feet respectively.

Playground. The 4200 sq ft playground, located between the west property line and the track, has a soft wood carpet surface. There is a swing set with 6 swings, 1 swinging bench, 1 spring seesaw, 1 track ride, and 1 jungle gym apparatus with attached plastic slide

winder, S curved horizontal ladder, fire pole, chain ladder, and corkscrew. The playground and all of the play elements in it were installed in the summer of 1996.

Basketball Court. The court (4250 sq ft) has an asphalt surface, painted lines and two backboards.

Track. The one quarter mile running track is 15ft wide with a stone dust surface and a 100 yard, 22 ft wide straight away. There is also a shotput area. The track was renovated and resurfaced in 1980.

Garages. These garages are the primary storage and maintenance facilities for the Parks and Recreation Department. Additions were made to the upper garage in 1988 and the lower garage in 1996. Both were re-roofed in 1995. The two-bay upper garage (1840 sq ft) has an attached workshop. It is currently used to store a GMC rack body 1 ton truck and a John Deere 4600 tractor, and miscellaneous park equipment. It also stores equipment for the Brunswick Youth Soccer League and the Summer Recreation Programs. This garage has men's and women's restroom facilities attached which are served by both water and sewer.

The lower garage (1625 sq ft) is currently used to store a GMC truck, a 7500 John Deere Tractor, 3 commercial riding mowers, an 8 foot wide top dresser, a bushhog, a flail mower, 2 aerators (48 inches and 78 inches), a sod cutter, a tractor mounted fertilizer spreader with a 500 lb capacity, and a 250 gal spray tank for various turf maintenance applications. There is a

public telephone on the outside of the building.

Users/Programs. The facilities are heavily used for the following programs:

Baseball field (spring/summer)

- Junior High Baseball Program
- Babe Ruth Baseball
- Senior Babe Ruth baseball

Softball fields (spring/summer)

- Brunswick Men's Softball League (8 teams)
- Brunswick Women's Softball League (7 teams)
- Department of Parks and Recreation Junior Baseball Program (6 teams)
- Department of Parks and Recreation Department T-Ball Program (4 teams)
- Cal Ripken Baseball and softball teams
- 8 weekend softball tournaments
- Non-scheduled softball use

Soccer fields (fall)

- Brunswick Youth Soccer League (12 teams)
- Major League Soccer Camps (one week youth skills class)
- Coastal Soccer Club (7 teams)
- Soccer Day Camp
- Non-scheduled soccer use

The playground is used in the fall and spring by the Department's preschool program (120 children) in addition to use by the general public.

Currently no organized activities occur on either the basketball court or track. The track is used primarily by residents for walking, running and other types of

exercise. The basketball court receives use for pick up games on a regular basis. Edwards Field is also used for elementary school field days, the recreation department pre-school and for various forms of scheduled and non-scheduled public use.

EDWARDS FIELD

Jordan Avenue
Brunswick, ME 04011



Playground facilities are located adjacent to the athletic fields.



An outdoor basketball court is located next to the parking area at the northern end of the site.



This view is looking from the parking lot toward the outfield fence line of Edwards "A" softball field.



This view is looking toward the left field fence from the infield of Edwards "B" field. (Soccer Goals have been installed and a portion of the outfield fence removed).

BRUNSWICK PARKS & RECREATION

Jordan Avenue
Brunswick, ME 04011



View looking toward home plate from left field foul territory at Edwards Baseball Field



A view from the parking lot looking toward one of the two maintenance garage buildings at the site.



Another view looking in toward home plate from the outfield on Edwards "A" Softball field.



Looking across the parking lot toward the upper maintenance garage at Edwards Field.

Appendix C-5

Two other documents have been reviewed as they pertain to issues raised in this plan.

The first one is federal law: the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990. The attached report contains excerpts as to how this law applies to recreation facilities of various types. Brunswick sites with ADA deficiencies have also been noted.

The second document is the statewide comprehensive outdoor recreation plan (SCORP) from the Maine Department of Conservation. This plan analyzes supply and demand for outdoor recreation facilities on a statewide basis. It has enabled Maine to tap into federal funds of the Land and Water Conservation Fund. The attached report highlights excerpts from this program.

- ADA
- SCORP

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

Local Compliance

The Brunswick Parks and Recreation Department has made a concerted effort over the past decade to make all indoor and outdoor facilities in conformance with the guidelines of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Most of the outdoor parks and playgrounds in Brunswick meet current accessibility standards. There are a few areas of known deficiencies, which are being addressed in the Action Plan. These include:

- Accessible bleacher seating at Edwards Field, Lishness Field, and the old High School.
- Accessible bathroom facilities at Edwards Field. and Coffin Pond.
- Provisions to make the gazebo on the mall accessible.

Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA)

The following information is taken from the website of the Access Board: www.access-board.gov.

The ADA recognizes and protects the civil rights of people with disabilities and is modeled after earlier landmark laws prohibiting discrimination on the basis of race and gender. The ADA covers a wide range of disability, from physical conditions affecting mobility, stamina, sight, hearing, and speech to conditions such as emotional illness and learning disorders. The ADA addresses access to the workplace (title I), State and local government services (title II), and places of public accommodation and commercial facilities (title III). Regulations issued under the different titles by various Federal agencies set requirements and establish enforcement procedures. To understand and comply with the ADA, it is important to follow the appropriate regulations.

Under titles II and III of the ADA, the Access Board, an independent Federal agency, develops and maintains accessibility guidelines for buildings, facilities, and transit vehicles and provides technical assistance and training on these guidelines.

New Accessibility Guidelines for Recreation Facilities: An Overview

On September 3, 2002, the Access Board published new guidelines that address access for persons with disabilities to a variety of recreation facilities. The guidelines specify the minimum level of accessibility required in the construction or alteration of amusement rides, boating facilities, fishing piers and platforms, golf courses, miniature golf courses, sports facilities, swimming and wading pools, and spas. The Board issued these guidelines under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), which ensures access to a wide range of facilities in the private and public sectors. The Board is also making these guidelines applicable to facilities covered by the Architectural Barriers Act (ABA), which requires certain federally funded facilities to be accessible.

The new guidelines supplement the Board's ADA Accessibility Guidelines (ADAAG) by adding a new chapter specific to recreation facilities. ADAAG, as originally published, covered many types of buildings and facilities but did not specifically address recreation facilities in particular detail. The Board had determined that specific guidance was needed on how to achieve access at recreation facilities. The published guidelines provide new requirements for such facilities and also clarify how existing requirements in ADAAG are to be applied. New provisions take into consideration certain design features unique to the facilities covered.

The Board developed these guidelines based on recommendations prepared by an advisory committee established by the Board. The Recreation Access Advisory Committee, which represented recreation associations and trade groups, disability organizations, designers, and others, submitted its recommendations to the Board in the form of a report, which the Board made widely available as a source of guidance pending the development of these guidelines. In July 1999, the Board published the guidelines in proposed form and made them available for public comment for six months. During the comment period, the Board held public hearings on the proposed guidelines in Dallas and Boston. The Board received approximately 300 comments on the proposed guidelines. Comments were submitted by operators of amusement parks, recreation and sporting associations, disability groups, designers, and others. In an effort to provide the public with an additional opportunity for input on the rule before it was finalized, the Board published a summary of changes it intended to make to the guidelines based on its review of comments. The Board held public meetings in Washington, D.C. and San Francisco on the planned revisions. The Board finalized the guidelines based on the additional input it received from commenters.

As issued by the Board, the final guidelines are not mandatory on the public. Instead, they set the minimum baseline for enforceable standards maintained by the Department of Justice (DOJ) under the ADA and other agencies under the ABA. In the interim, the public may use the new guidelines as a resource in addressing access to the types of facilities covered until they are made part of the standards used to enforce the ADA and ABA.

Chapter 15. Recreation Facilities

The guidelines for recreation facilities add a new chapter (15) to the Board's ADA Accessibility Guidelines (ADAAG), which cover access to the built environment in new construction and alterations. The guidelines also supplement or amend existing sections in ADAAG. For example, definitions are included for terms used in the new guidelines, such as "amusement ride" and "area of sports activity," which supplement ADAAG's definition section. Added requirements and exceptions clarify the application of certain ADAAG requirements, including those for accessible routes and player seating areas in sports facilities. New provisions also supplement criteria for accessible dressing, fitting, and locker rooms, including the minimum number of lockers required to be accessible. The guidelines also add provisions to ADAAG covering benches, saunas and steam rooms.

Amusement Rides (15.1)

The guidelines address access to amusement rides for persons with disabilities, including those who use wheelchairs. Specifications require provision of either a wheelchair space on the ride or a ride seat or device designed for transfer to the ride. The guidelines also address access at loading and unloading areas and provide specific criteria for wheelchair spaces, ride seats designed for transfer, and transfer devices. Certain exceptions are provided for rides that are: set up temporarily, such as at a traveling carnival, designed primarily for children, controlled or operated by the rider, or not equipped with seats.

Boating Facilities (15.2)

Boating facilities, such as piers and docks provided at marinas to serve recreational vessels, are covered by the guidelines. The dynamic interface between land and water presents unique and significant challenges in providing access to floating facilities. Criteria for gangways connecting floating facilities take these constraints into account. The guidelines apply ADAAG requirements for accessible routes and ramps, but provide exceptions to criteria for maximum rise and slope, handrail extensions, and level landings. The key challenge to slope is the considerable vertical changes that gangways must span at times. The guidelines generally require an accessible slope for gangways (1:12 maximum), but provide an exception so that gangways do not have to be longer than 80 feet. The guidelines also address the minimum number of accessible boat slips required to be accessible. This number is based on a table according to the total amount of boat slips provided at a facility.

Fishing Piers and Platforms (15.3)

This section addresses railings and edge protection on fishing piers and platforms. Railings, guardrails, and handrails are not required by the guidelines. However, where they are provided, a portion (at least 25%) cannot be more than 34 inches high so that the railings do not obstruct fishing for people using wheelchairs. An exception permits the use of a guard complying with the International Building Code where required by other authorities. Lowered railings are required to be dispersed throughout a fishing facility. Edge protection at least 2 inches high is also addressed to prevent the wheels of mobility aids from slipping over the edge.

Golf (15.4)

The guidelines recognize that access to golf courses is typically achieved through the use of golf cars. Golf car passages are permitted in lieu of accessible routes throughout golf courses. To comply, courses must be designed so that golf cars can access teeing grounds and putting greens. Modified accessible routes are required to serve practice putting greens and driving ranges since they often are not located within the boundary of a course. Technical specifications are provided for golf car passages, accessible routes, teeing grounds, putting greens, and weather shelters.

Miniature Golf (15.5)

The guidelines address miniature golf courses and require at least half of the holes to be served by an accessible route. Specifications for accessible routes take into account

design conventions for miniature golf courses, such as carpeted surfaces and curbs. All level areas of an accessible hole where a ball may come to rest must be within the reach of golf clubs (36 inches) from accessible routes.

Play Areas (15.6)

The Board previously issued guidelines for play areas in October 2000 in a separate rulemaking. The play area guidelines comprise a subsection of the new chapter on recreation facilities. They cover the number of play components required to be accessible, accessible surfacing in play areas, ramp access and transfer system access to elevated structures, and access to soft contained play structures. The guidelines address play areas provided at schools, parks, child care facilities (except those based in the operator's home, which are exempt), and other facilities.

Exercise Equipment and Machines, Bowling Lanes, and Shooting Facilities (15.7)

Provisions for exercise equipment, bowling lanes, and shooting facilities are included in the guidelines. The guidelines do not affect the design of exercise equipment and machines, but instead require one of each type to be on an accessible route and to provide transfer space for persons using wheelchairs. Access is also required to a portion (at least 5%) of bowling lanes and shooting facilities.

Swimming Pools, Wading Pools, and Spas (15.8)

The guidelines address access to swimming pools, wading pools, and spas. Specifications are provided for various means of providing pool access, including pool lifts, sloped entries, transfer walls, transfer systems, and stairs. Access to swimming pools can be achieved by sloped entries or pool lifts. For larger pools (those with 300 or more linear feet of pool wall), a secondary means of access is required. Stairs, transfer systems, or transfer walls can be used instead of lifts or sloped entries for this secondary means of access. Specific provisions are also provided for wading pools, spas, as well as wave action pools and other types of pools where user access is limited to one area.

Enforcement

The ADA design standards are developed in a two step process. They are first published by the Access Board as a minimum guideline for the Department of Justice (DOJ). DOJ is responsible for adopting enforceable standards that are consistent with the Board's minimum guidelines. Currently, these final guidelines are not yet part of DOJ's enforceable standard. However, people may wish to consult the guidelines in the interim since the current enforceable standard does not specifically address the types of recreation facilities covered. (The absence of specific provisions in the current standards does not mean that recreation facilities or play areas are exempt from the provision of access; rather, it means that these facilities and areas are not held to a specific level of access under the current standard). The guidelines will also become part of standards used to enforce the ABA that are maintained by other agencies.

STATEWIDE COMPREHENSIVE OUTDOOR RECREATION PLAN (SCORP)

The following information is taken from the Maine Department of Conservation website on the current SCORP: www.state.me.us/doc/parks/programs/SCORP/WorkProg.htm

Background

Each state is required by law (the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965) to produce a Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) every five years. The LWCF is a source of funding, administered by the National Park Service, for the planning, acquisition, and development of outdoor recreation facilities throughout the United States. Each state must have a SCORP to enable it to spend allocated funds under this program. Since 1965 Maine has received over \$34 million of L&WCF monies.

Historically, LWCF money was allocated to the states annually, and the SCORP was routinely updated every 5 years. However, from 1996 to 1999, no federal LWCF money was allocated to the states, and Maine's 1993 plan was not updated. In 2000, LWCF money was restored to the states, and an updated SCORP was again required. As an interim measure, Maine's 1993 SCORP, with a number of more current reports appended, was approved through 2002. This enabled Maine to continue to receive LWCF money for outdoor recreation projects and provided time to update the 1993 document.

In addition to meeting federal requirements for receipt of LWCF money, SCORP serves other functions as well: to foster public support for park, recreation, and open space issues; to develop long-range planning strategies for meeting recreation needs and protecting the resources upon which recreation depends; to support the need for additional funding, or policy and legislative initiatives; and to serve as a basic reference on outdoor recreation supply and demand for government agencies and the private sector. State law has long required the bureau to periodically report to the Governor on the status of outdoor recreation in Maine. In 2001, the law was amended to require similar reporting to the state legislature at 5-year intervals. SCORP will fulfill these requirements.

The federal Recreational Trails Program (RTP), administered by BP&L under agreement with the Maine Department of Transportation, requires that trail projects be identified in, or further a specific goal of, a recreational trails plan, or a SCORP. This SCORP work program addresses trail facilities and issues and incorporates a special trail component to address some of the specific planning needs of that program.

The Supply of Outdoor Recreation Areas and Facilities

Outdoor recreation land and facility data are inventoried and entered into the bureau's PARKALL database on a periodic basis. Data can be sorted and displayed in report form by minor civil division, county, planning and development region, and tourism region.

PARKALL data are provided to municipalities on request to aid in the preparation of comprehensive plans to meet the state's growth management planning requirements.

PARKALL currently includes about 5,000 records of public and private outdoor recreation areas and facilities. The database (Microsoft Access) is being upgraded to be more efficient and more responsive to user needs, and major government, nonprofit and other provider data will be updated.

The description of Maine's supply of recreation areas and facilities will characterize the resource base, public recreation lands, and private lands available to the public; summarize areas and facilities by type and provider; describe the distribution of areas and facilities among municipalities and regions; and include a comparative per capita analysis of areas and facilities by town and region to indicate relative supply.

Outdoor Recreation Demand: 2003 SCORP

Demographic information, recent household and customer surveys, public use and trend data will be used to indicate general recreation demand and where possible, regional variations. These references include but are not limited to the 1990 US census; 1991/92 household survey; 1994 and 1995 household walking and bicycling surveys; on-going customer surveys of users of State Parks, State Historic Sites, and the Allagash Wilderness Waterway; a 1996 sport fishing survey; and public use trends for State Parks and Historic Sites, the Allagash and West Branch Penobscot rivers, North Maine Woods, Baxter State Park, Acadia National Park, and the White Mountain National Forest. Findings of the state Land Acquisition Priority Committee will be referenced. Major growth and non-growth recreation activities will be identified.

Outdoor Recreation Issues of Statewide Importance: 2003 SCORP

Recreation issues/subjects to be addressed during the planning process include the following list, subject to modification as a result of facilitated group and Steering Committee deliberations and public input. Issue discussions will consider important state policy and program changes since 1993 that affect recreation, including efforts to control sprawl and preserve compact neighborhoods and communities, and initiatives to improve visitor and alternative transportation.

- **Availability of Outdoor Recreation Opportunities.** Addressing Recreation Needs/Demands; Recreation Opportunities on State Lands; The Availability of Private Lands for Public Recreation.
- **Community Outdoor Recreation Needs and Smart Growth.** Types of Areas/Facilities Needed by Municipalities; Integrating Areas/Facilities with Neighborhoods and Downtowns.
- **Recreation/Public Access in the Northern Forest.** Implications of Changing Land Ownership; Maintaining Remote Recreation Opportunities.

- **Trail Recreation.** Off-Road Recreational Vehicle Use; Managing Use on Popular Land and Water Trails; Managing Multiple/Shared Use Trails.
- **Tourism and Public Recreation Facilities.** Implications of State Travel, Tourism, and Planning Initiatives; Visitor Opportunities/Capacities at Public Areas/Facilities; Public and Private Sector Roles.

A background paper for each issue will be prepared and reviewed with facilitated groups composed of individuals who are knowledgeable in each subject area. Based upon findings from the group meetings, a final paper will be prepared for each issue and reviewed with the Steering Committee prior to incorporation into the final draft of SCORP.

One subject addressed in the 1993 SCORP that will not be a focus of the groups meetings is "Access to Public Waters." This topic was the subject of a ten-year "Strategic Boating Plan," prepared jointly by BP&L and the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife in 1995 and updated with a "Supplement" in 2000. Also in 2000, the State Planning Office Coastal Program and the Department of Marine Resources completed "Coastal Water Access Priority Areas for Boating and Fishing." The findings of these planning efforts will be summarized in SCORP.

Goals of 1993 SCORP

The 1993 SCORP contains a number of high-priority goals to enhance the availability of recreation resources at the local level. The following are directly applicable to the Brunswick Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Plan:

Goal 1: Increase planning for and development of community open space and recreation facilities.

Goal 2: Identify and utilize financial, technical, community and volunteer resources to help provide quality recreation facilities and programs.

Goal 3: Identify existing facilities with renovation and/or improvement needs and incorporate facilities needs into the Town's long-range Capital Improvement Plan.

Goal 4: Improve education and training of recreation personnel and volunteers.