

2001-2002 MASTER PLAN

Town of Boscawen, New Hampshire



Painting by Mabel Woodbury, 1995

Produced by the Boscawen Planning Board
Adopted February 12, 2002

With Assistance from the Central New Hampshire Regional Planning Commission

Town of Boscawen, New Hampshire

2001-2002 MASTER PLAN

ADOPTED
February 12, 2002

Produced by the:
Boscawen Planning Board and its
Master Plan Subcommittees
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TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS | 1 |
| CERTIFICATE OF ADOPTION | 2 |

CHAPTER I - INTRODUCTION

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-----|
| PURPOSE OF A MASTER PLAN | I-1 |
| BOSCAWEN'S MASTER PLAN HISTORY | I-1 |
| THE 2001-2002 MASTER PLAN | I-2 |

CHAPTER II – GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

| | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|------|
| 2001-2002 MASTER PLAN GOALS | II-1 |
| 2001-2002 MASTER PLAN CHAPTER-SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES | II-3 |
| PRIOR COMMUNITY GOALS: THE ADOPTED 1989 MASTER PLAN | II-7 |
| SUMMARY..... | II-8 |
| Map 1: Base and Topographic Map | |

CHAPTER III – HISTORY AND CULTURE

| | |
|-----------------------------------------------------|--------|
| INTRODUCTION | III-1 |
| OBJECTIVES OF THE CHAPTER AND RECOMMENDATIONS..... | III-2 |
| COMMUNITY SURVEY RESULTS | III-3 |
| BRIEF HISTORICAL PROFILE OF BOSCAWEN..... | III-4 |
| HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES | III-5 |
| HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES IN BOSCAWEN..... | III-8 |
| HISTORIC DISTRICT ZONING | III-10 |
| SUMMARY..... | III-11 |
| Map 2: Historic and Cultural Features Map | |

CHAPTER IV – POPULATION AND ECONOMICS

| | |
|----------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| INTRODUCTION | IV-1 |
| OBJECTIVES OF THE CHAPTER AND RECOMMENDATIONS..... | IV-2 |
| COMMUNITY SURVEY RESULTS | IV-5 |
| POPULATION | IV-6 |
| POPULATION TRENDS | IV-6 |
| POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS | IV-13 |
| ECONOMICS | IV-18 |
| EMPLOYMENT CHARACTERISTICS..... | IV-18 |
| INCOME CHARACTERISTICS | IV-21 |
| TOWN TAX RATES | IV-23 |
| SUMMARY..... | IV-24 |
| Map 3: Major Employers Map | |

CHAPTER V – HOUSING

| | |
|----------------------------------------------------|------|
| INTRODUCTION | V-1 |
| OBJECTIVES OF THE CHAPTER AND RECOMMENDATIONS..... | V-2 |
| COMMUNITY SURVEY RESULTS | V-4 |
| GENERAL HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS | V-6 |
| COST OF HOUSING IN BOSCAWEN..... | V-10 |
| HOUSING GROWTH TRENDS | V-14 |
| SENIOR HOUSING | V-17 |
| AFFORDABLE HOUSING..... | V-18 |
| EMERGENCY SHELTERS..... | V-22 |
| LAND USE CONTROLS | V-22 |
| SUMMARY..... | V-24 |

Map 4: Residential Building Permits Issued 1990-2001 Map

CHAPTER VI – CONSERVATION, PRESERVATION, AND OPEN SPACE

| | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| INTRODUCTION | VI-1 |
| OBJECTIVES OF THE CHAPTER AND RECOMMENDATIONS..... | VI-2 |
| COMMUNITY SURVEY RESULTS | VI-5 |
| INVENTORY OF NATURAL RESOURCES | VI-8 |
| CURRENT AND PROPOSED REGULATORY PRESERVATION MEASURES | VI-24 |
| NON-REGULATORY PRESERVATION MEASURES..... | VI-27 |
| USE AND PROTECTION OF NATURAL RESOURCES..... | VI-28 |
| POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES FOR CONSERVATION PROJECTS | VI-31 |
| CONSERVATION PLANNING REFERENCES | VI-33 |
| SUMMARY..... | VI-34 |

Map 5: Conservation and Public Lands Map

Map 6: Water Resources Map

Map 7: Agricultural Soils Map

Map 8: Viewsheds Map

CHAPTER VII – COMMUNITY AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES AND UTILITIES

| | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|
| INTRODUCTION | VII-1 |
| OBJECTIVES OF THE CHAPTER AND RECOMMENDATIONS..... | VII-2 |
| COMMUNITY SURVEY RESULTS | VII-7 |
| DISCUSSION OF POPULATION TRENDS | VII-10 |
| COMMUNITY FACILITIES | VII-13 |
| TOWN OFFICES | VII-13 |
| PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT..... | VII-16 |
| FIRE DEPARTMENT | VII-18 |
| FIRE DEPARTMENT – RESCUE DIVISION..... | VII-20 |
| POLICE DEPARTMENT..... | VII-22 |
| BOSCAWEN EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT | VII-24 |
| BUILDING INSPECTION/LIFE SAFETY/CODE ENFORCEMENT | VII-25 |
| HEALTH OFFICER..... | VII-26 |
| HUMAN SERVICES..... | VII-27 |
| REGIONAL SCHOOL SYSTEM..... | VII-28 |
| BOSCAWEN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL | VII-29 |
| ADDITIONAL MERRIMACK VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT (MVSD) FACILITIES AND SERVICES..... | VII-30 |
| PUBLIC LIBRARY..... | VII-32 |
| PENACOOK-BOSCAWEN WATER PRECINCT..... | VII-34 |
| TRANSFER STATION | VII-36 |
| TOWN CEMETERIES | VII-38 |
| POST OFFICE | VII-39 |
| RECREATIONAL FACILITIES..... | VII-40 |
| EXISTING RECREATIONAL RESOURCES | VII-40 |
| REVIEW OF FISCAL RESOURCES..... | VII-41 |
| BOSCAWEN’S RECREATION FACILITIES AND PROFESSIONAL PLANNING GUIDELINES..... | VII-42 |
| LAND REQUIREMENTS FOR SELECTED RECREATIONAL FACILITIES | VII-45 |
| TOWN-OWNED PROPERTY SUITABLE FOR FUTURE RECREATIONAL FACILITIES | VII-45 |
| SOURCES FOR FINANCING COMMUNITY AND RECREATIONAL FACILITY NEEDS AND IMPROVEMENTS..... | VII-47 |
| UTILITIES..... | VII-49 |
| TELEPHONE SERVICE | VII-49 |
| INTERNET..... | VII-50 |
| TELECOMMUNICATIONS..... | VII-50 |
| CABLE TELEVISION AND SATELLITE DISHES | VII-50 |
| WATER SUPPLIES | VII-50 |
| WASTEWATER TREATMENT – STORM DRAINS AND SEWER..... | VII-51 |
| ELECTRICITY..... | VII-52 |
| SUMMARY..... | VII-53 |
| Map 9: Community Facilities Map | |
| Map 10: Recreational Facilities Map | |
| Map 11: Utilities Map | |

CHAPTER VIII - TRANSPORTATION

| | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| INTRODUCTION | VIII-1 |
| OBJECTIVES OF THE CHAPTER AND RECOMMENDATIONS..... | VIII-2 |
| COMMUNITY SURVEY RESULTS | VIII-4 |
| BACKGROUND INFORMATION | VIII-8 |
| KING STREET CORRIDOR STUDY | VIII-15 |
| ACCESS MANAGEMENT..... | VIII-16 |
| BOSCAWEN'S TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM..... | VIII-21 |
| RECENT STATE AND LOCAL ROAD IMPROVEMENTS..... | VIII-30 |
| TRANSPORTATION FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES | VIII-32 |
| SUMMARY..... | VIII-34 |
| Map 12: Private Roads, Gravel Class V Roads, Scenic Roads and Bridges Location Map | |
| Map 13: Bicycle Infrastructure Map | |
| Map 14: Pedestrian Infrastructure Map | |
| Map 15: Accident Locations and Traffic Count Locations Map | |

CHAPTER IX – EXISTING AND FUTURE LAND USE

| | |
|----------------------------------------------------|-------|
| INTRODUCTION | IX-1 |
| OBJECTIVES OF THE CHAPTER AND RECOMMENDATIONS..... | IX-2 |
| COMMUNITY SURVEY RESULTS | IX-5 |
| EXISTING LAND USES..... | IX-6 |
| CURRENT LAND USE TRENDS | IX-10 |
| CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS..... | IX-13 |
| FUTURE LAND USE | IX-15 |
| SUMMARY..... | IX-25 |
| Map 16: Existing Land Use Map | |
| Map 17: Existing Zoning Map | |
| Map 18: Construction Materials Map | |
| Map 19: Development Constraints Map | |
| Map 20: Future Land Use Map | |

CHAPTER X - APPENDIX

| | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|------|
| INTRODUCTION | X-1 |
| BOSCAWEN COMMUNITY SURVEY RESULTS..... | X-2 |
| COMMUNITY SURVEY WRITTEN RESPONSES | X-10 |
| APRIL 14, 2001 COMMUNITY VISIONING SESSION RESULTS..... | X-35 |
| LIST OF AREA OR COMMUNITY GROUPS WITH BOSCAWEN PARTICIPANTS | X-46 |

INTRODUCTION

Chapter I



Silver's Farm, Water Street



Primitive Thymes, High Street



Town Library, King Street



Historical Society, King Street

Chapter I INTRODUCTION

"We believe our community is a special place. Our goal is to retain what is special while planning for balanced, orderly growth, keeping Boscawen liveable, enjoyable, safe, healthy, and affordable."

- Boscawen 2001-2002 Master Plan Steering Committee

PURPOSE OF A MASTER PLAN

The purpose of a municipal Master Plan, as stated in the New Hampshire Revised Statutes Annotated (RSA) 674:2, is to describe the "Planning Board's recommendations for the desirable development" of the Town. The information compiled for the Master Plan should include sections on a general statement of the intentions of the Master Plan, land use, housing, transportation, utilities, community facilities, recreation, conservation and preservation, and construction materials. The public is invited by the Planning Board to participate in the process. A Master Plan is typically updated every five to seven years. The Town's Master Plan is the basis upon which the Zoning Ordinance, Site Plan Review Regulations, and Subdivision Regulations are written and revised.

BOSCAWEN'S MASTER PLAN HISTORY

In 1988 and 1989, Boscawen produced a Master Plan with a Goals and Objectives Chapter, a Land Use Chapter, a Housing Chapter, a Transportation Chapter, and a Community Facilities Chapter. New methodologies and sentiment have changed how Master Plans are created, but each municipality has its own unique issues and needs. In Boscawen, the addition of a **POPULATION AND ECONOMICS CHAPTER**, a **CONSERVATION, PRESERVATION, AND OPEN SPACE CHAPTER**, and a **HISTORY AND CULTURE CHAPTER** in 2001-2002 will further guide the Town to achieve its goals. In 1989, a Capital Improvements Program and a set of Transportation and Land Use Maps rounded out the 1989 Master Plan. In 2001-2002, a series of detailed color maps were created using the newest Geographic Information System (GIS) technologies which did not exist in 1989.

A Master Plan should be a guide to what citizens want their Town to be like in the future as well as be a guide for the townspeople and Town Officials to determine which measures should be taken to accomplish goals outlined within these Chapters. Development of land and the Town's population will both expand over the coming years in order to meet increasing demands. To protect at the same time the character of a small, rural town as preferred by the majority of townspeople requires the ability to plan and regulate these demands before such uncontrolled changes have occurred.

In order to accomplish both an increase in economic activity and a preservation of small town character, a willingness to regulate development through land use and building requirements must be paired with strong volunteer commitments. Although changes will inevitably occur, it is up to the townspeople to lead these changes into the proper channels that preserve the Town's character without compromising its enterprising opportunities. This Master Plan makes a number of recommendations for the Town to act upon and to ensure that, as much as possible, Boscawen can retain its sense of identity and yet stimulate economic development.

THE 2001-2002 MASTER PLAN

The quotation on the first page, written by the 2001-2002 Master Plan Steering Committee, is a summation of the intricate issues that must be addressed and of the paradoxical growth versus preservation dilemma. The Steering Committee, comprised of the Planning Board, other Town Board and Commission Chairs and members, and interested citizens, felt it would be an appropriate theme for 2001-2002 Master Plan based upon the current sentiments and activities in Town.

The Planning Board contracted with the Central New Hampshire Regional Planning Commission (CNHRPC) to manage the Master Plan project in November 2000. The Master Plan process began shortly thereafter with the development of the Community Survey in January 2001. A Community Visioning Session was held in April 2001. After months of Subcommittee and Steering Committee work, the first five Chapters, the **HISTORY AND CULTURE, POPULATION AND ECONOMICS, HOUSING, TRANSPORTATION, and APPENDIX CHAPTERS** were adopted by the Planning Board at duly noticed public hearings on December 11, 2001. The last round of public hearings by the Planning Board heralded the adoption of the **INTRODUCTION, GOALS AND OBJECTIVES, CONSERVATION, PRESERVATION, AND OPEN SPACE, COMMUNITY AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES AND UTILITIES, and EXISTING AND FUTURE LAND USE CHAPTERS** on February 12, 2002 and concluded the adoption of the 2001-2002 Master Plan.

January 2001 Community Survey

After three months of developing questions specific to each Chapter of the Master Plan, the Steering Committee produced an eight-page Community Survey. The survey contained an extraordinary number of opinion questions that were objectively designed to assess the views of Boscawen residents and landowners.

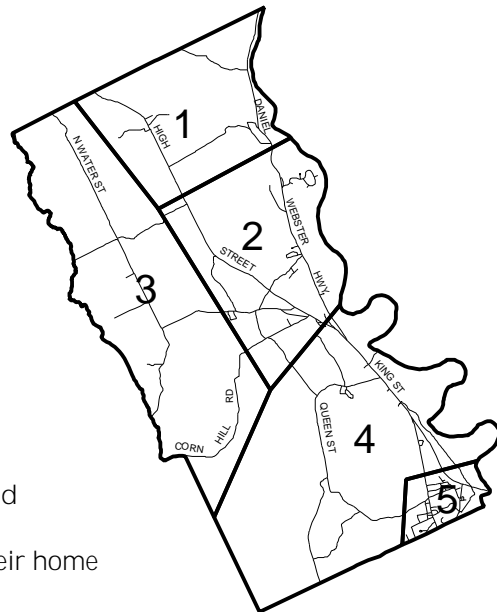
Because Boscawen shares its zip code with Penacook and Webster, the option of bulk-mailing to households was eliminated. The survey was distributed in January 2001 through three mediums. The process began with the distribution of 1340 surveys to all of the households in Boscawen via the *Newsvine*, to 181 out-of-town property owners via first-class postage, and to 50 Post Office Box holders for a total of 1571 surveys. Respondents had the option of replying on the Internet using an unique, anonymous code or by business reply mail. All responses were confidential. A total of 24.2% of the surveys were returned or answered on the Internet. The results were thoroughly tallied and are found in respective chapters of this Master Plan.

In general, the recurring themes from the survey included the protection of the Merrimack River, retention of a small town/rural atmosphere, the encouragement of more single family homes, the need for a community center for seniors and teens, and the reuse of the former Main Street School. These themes were integrated into the 2001-2002 Master Plan as it was being developed and also helped to form the 2001-2002 Goals and Objectives.

The January 2001 Community Survey, all calculated results, and extensive citizen comments are found in the **APPENDIX**. Following are excerpted statistics from the responses:

Demographic Statistics of Households Responding to the Survey

- ? 5% live in Area 1
- ? 24% live in Area 2
- ? 14% live in Area 3
- ? 25% live in Area 4
- ? 27% live in Area 5
- ? 45% have lived in Boscawen over 20 years
- ? 19% have lived in Boscawen less than 5 years
- ? 4% of respondents do not live in Boscawen but own land
- ? 77% live in a single family home; of those, 99% own their home
- ? 10% live in a manufactured or mobile home; of those, 88% own their home
- ? 26% are on the Town's sewage system



April 2001 Community Visioning Session

In April 2001, a Community Visioning Session was held with community residents and town officials. Sponsored by the Master Plan Steering Committee, the session was co-facilitated by the Central NH Regional Planning Commission and the UNH Cooperative Extension of Merrimack County.

Extension staff guided a discussion of how residents felt the Town of Boscawen was like now, in 2001. Residents identified a strong volunteer and social base, a lack of identity and town center, a significant amount of affordable housing, and perceived the Town as a through-way for commuters. In 2020, residents were asked how they would like to see Boscawen in the future. People wanted to see centralized services, a walkable community, more local businesses, and retention of open space.

CNHRPC staff facilitated Chapter-based discussion groups to identify key issues within each Chapter. Members of the Steering Committee, each of whom had volunteered to Chair a Subcommittee for a Master Plan Chapter, led their respective discussion group through a series of questions to help guide them to broad issues of concern. Later in the day, the Chairs presented the key issues identified through the Visioning Session and discussion groups pertinent to their particular Chapter. The full results of the Visioning Session are displayed in the **APPENDIX, CHAPTER X**.

2001 Community Visioning Session Highlights

Issues Excerpted from Discussion Groups

- Encourage agriculture and forestry
- Develop building codes and examine need for growth control
- Encourage alternate modes of transportation
- Consider rezoning for light industrial uses (avoiding conflict with the floodplain)
- Find a reuse for the former Main Street School
- Encourage the preservation of the historic character of King Street

Master Plan Creation Process

This Master Plan fulfills two purposes. The first purpose is to paint a broad picture of what Boscawen is, what it has to offer, what it looks like, and who the people are who live here. This perspective, this "inventory" of the Town, allows townspeople to then create the second purpose, a series of goals, objectives, and recommendations for the Town to accomplish. These recommendations have been based on the data collected, including from the Community Survey, through the Community Visioning process, and on statistical data. The goals and objectives for Boscawen are discussed in **CHAPTER II, GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**. The recommendations, or action items, are listed at the beginning of each Chapter.

Beginning in November 2000, the Master Plan Steering Committee members chaired Subcommittees which worked to document existing conditions within Town and to prepare a series of recommendations on all aspects of Boscawen. The result is a series of Chapters, also referred to as "elements", which categorize the findings into tangible sections:

| <u>Elements of the 2001-2002 Master Plan</u> | |
|----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| I | Introduction |
| II | Goals and Objectives |
| III | History and Culture |
| IV | Population and Economics |
| V | Housing |
| VI | Conservation, Preservation, and Open Space |
| VII | Community and Recreational Facilities and Utilities |
| VIII | Transportation |
| IX | Existing and Future Land Use |
| X | Appendix |

For the preparation of this Plan, many information sources were used. Information from the NH Office of State Planning, NH Department of Employment Security, previous Master Plan Elements, past and, where available, 2000 Census data, Town records and maps, and from Town staff and volunteers, in addition to the sources previously mentioned, comprises the bulk of the Plan. Additional data from various sources is also included and is appropriately cited.

Graphical depiction of many of the features inventoried was essential; therefore, a series of 20 maps was generated to assist with future planning:

Maps of the 2001-2002 Master Plan

- 1 Base and Topographic Map
- 2 Historic and Cultural Features Map
- 3 Major Employers Map
- 4 Residential Building Permits Issued 1990-2001 Map
- 5 Conservation and Public Lands Map
- 6 Water Resources Map
- 7 Agricultural Soils Map
- 8 Viewsheds Map
- 9 Community Facilities Map
- 10 Recreational Facilities Map
- 11 Utilities Map
- 12 Private Roads, Gravel Class V Roads, Scenic Roads, and Bridges Location Map
- 13 Bicycle Infrastructure Map
- 14 Pedestrian Infrastructure Map
- 15 Accident Locations and Traffic Count Locations Map
- 16 Existing Land Use Map
- 17 Existing Zoning Map
- 18 Construction Materials Map
- 19 Development Constraints Map
- 20 Future Land Use Map

All of these maps have been reproduced on color 11x17 pages and have been included with the appropriate Chapters within this document. In addition, the 20 maps have been produced as full-sized 24x36 color display maps that are available for public viewing at the Town Office.

For the preparation of the maps for this Plan, the primary source of data was from the NH GRANIT (Geographically Referenced Analysis Information and Transfer) system, which was then modified by CNHRPC. Other data layers or information were obtained from the NH Department of Environmental Services, the NH Department of Transportation, Society for the Protection of NH Forests, or digitized by the CNHRPC into maps.

Public Participation

Almost 25 residents of Boscawen actively participated in creating the 2001-2002 Master Plan over the 15-month process:

Rene Bollengier * (Housing)

Claire Clarke* (Comm. and Rec. Facil. and Util.)

James F. Colby* (Existing and Future Land Use)

Lyman Cousens* (Population and Economics)

David Croft

Thomas Danko

Pamela Davis

Anthony Fontaine

Rhoda Hardy* (History and Culture)

William Heinz

William Lambert* (Steering Committee)

Stephen Landry

Ann Lesmerises

Ronald McDaniel

William Murphy* (Transportation)

Charles Niebling

Kirsten Powelson

Raymond Powelson

Dorothy Sanborn* (History and Culture)

Derek Sawyer* (Comm. and Rec. Facil. and Util.)

Sherman Stickney

Michele L. Tremblay* (Cons., Pres., and Open Sp.)

Deborah Wentworth

**Denotes a Steering Committee member/Subcommittee Chair*

Coupled with the involvement of residents and landowners through the Community Survey response rate of nearly 24%, we are pleased to present the 2001-2002 Master Plan for the Town of Boscawen.



GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Chapter II



Community Park, King Street



Boscawen Historical Society, King Street



Town Hall and Congregational Church



Walker Pond, Chadwick Hill Road

Chapter II GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

"Setting attainable goals and objectives is important for our community. Implementing the Master Plan is vital to the future of Boscawen."

- Boscawen 2001-2002 Master Plan Steering Committee

2001-2002 MASTER PLAN GOALS

The definition of a "goal", for Master Planning purposes, is the general target to be reached through completing a series of tasks. These tasks are called "objectives" which are designed to meet the goal. Specific "recommendations" are made which accomplish the objective. Historically, the terms are used interchangeably and this Chapter attempts to synthesize the old material, where applicable, into an appropriate designation for ease of understanding and comparison.

The goals of a Master Plan not only direct the focus of the actual Master Plan preparation, they are also the basis for regulation changes, for capital improvements program funding, and for future planning priorities. In order to move forward with new recommendations for the Town, it is necessary to examine the past efforts and outcomes of previous Master Plan and community endeavors.

From looking at the past, we can help gauge our present and guide ourselves into the future. The answers to the 2001 Community Survey and Visioning Session gave the Steering Committee more insight into what the priorities and concerns of the public are. From there, from the previous findings, and from knowledge gained by collecting new statistical data about the Town, a set of 2001-2002 Master Plan Goals are being recommended as the culmination of this Plan:

2001-2002 Master Plan Goals

1. Provide safe and decent housing under the guidelines and recommendations outlined in this Master Plan and ensure that new development occurs in an orderly means while bearing its fair share of the costs for additional public facilities, services, and education.
2. Assess the adequacy of the Town's present municipal facilities, recreational opportunities, equipment, and services and anticipate expanded water and sewer services for future growth and development.
3. Assure the best and highest use for lands with respect and consideration for traditional uses such as agriculture and forestry, and maintain and enhance the rural character of the Town by revising ordinances and regulations in conjunction with Master Plan findings.
4. Maintain and enhance the Town's sense of community and identity.
5. Encourage the growth and diversification of the local economy, consistent with the character of the community, to provide local employment opportunities and to broaden the tax base of the Town.
6. Monitor the population growth and demographic age groups of the Town in order to provide the highest quality services and education available to meet the needs of Boscawen residents.
7. Provide for the smooth, safe, and efficient movement of various types of traffic through Town and between different areas of Town, and to encourage alternative modes such as walking and bicycling.
8. Maintain and enhance the working landscapes and natural resources of the Town for future generations using innovative and effective planning conservation techniques and educational tools.

2001-2002 MASTER PLAN CHAPTER-SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

Each Chapter of this Master Plan lists a series of Recommendations in order to meet the following Objectives set forth in the beginning of each Chapter. For reference only, the Objectives are listed with an a,b,c, sequence; therefore, no specific order should be implied.

Chapter III - History and Culture

- a) To preserve and protect historical resources in Boscawen, including old buildings, landmarks, cemeteries, and stone walls and to encourage their stewardship.
- b) To find and encourage an appropriate reuse of the historic Main Street School building.
- c) To balance the historic and village character along King Street with the needs of incoming development and changing land use.
- d) To continue to enrich the community of Boscawen and foster an understanding and appreciation of the history and uniqueness of the Town with historical and cultural events and activities.

Chapter IV - Population and Economics

- a) To accumulate and analyze the most accurate population numbers which will influence how the Town responds to the continuing residential growth.
- b) To provide a measure of reasonable growth so that informed decisions can be made to manage the impact so not to disrupt Town services, the school district, or the small town personality.
- c) To consider impact fees to offset the immediate impact of growth.
- d) To promote the quality of life that capitalizes on Boscawen's physical and natural resources.
- e) To examine the locations of potential future residential and commercial growth and to predict their effects on the community.
- f) To build on the theme of "Buy It In Boscawen."
- g) To promote businesses in the Mill Redevelopment District.
- h) To promote the creation of new retail businesses and professional offices accessible to King Street and in the Village.

- i) To promote local commercial and light-industrial enterprises in orderly, well-landscaped developments which take advantage of highway accessibility through the use of access roads and new or existing commercial/industrial parks.

Chapter V - Housing

- a) To manage and monitor new growth and development so that it bears its fair and equitable share of the costs for the Town's public facilities, services and school district needs.
- b) To expand affordable housing by encouraging the development of senior housing within the Town proper.
- c) To encourage new development of an emergency housing shelter to accommodate the Town's needs.
- d) To encourage residential growth to be retained at its present rate.
- e) To encourage good land and water conservation practices in residential development and to retain and preserve green space and a rural Town character.
- f) To develop and implement Building Codes for residential and commercial development to assure safe and quality construction of all new units.

Chapter VI - Conservation, Preservation, and Open Space

- a) To preserve the traditional, rural, and visual character of the Town of Boscawen by protecting its natural, historic, scenic, agricultural, forestry, and water resources.
- b) To promote the conservation, protection, and sound management of the Town's natural resources.
- c) To develop tools to be used with sound planning principles to conserve Boscawen's natural, historic, scenic, agricultural, forestry, and water resources.
- d) To raise the awareness of the citizens and officials in Boscawen of the importance of protecting the town's natural resources.
- e) To provide opportunities for recreational enjoyment of the Town's natural resources by Boscawen citizens.

Chapter VII - Community and Recreational Facilities and Utilities

- a) To assess the present condition of the Town's community facilities, equipment, and services and gauge the residents' opinions on how well they feel the Town is performing these services through recurrent themes of the 2001 Community Survey.
- b) To anticipate future demands on Boscawen's community facilities in consideration of future population growth and development.
- c) To inventory capital equipment or expenditures which can be placed into a Capital Improvements Program for planned replacement.
- d) To identify existing recreational facilities and opportunities within Boscawen and to determine if they meet the needs of the population.
- e) To determine potential locations for future recreational opportunities.
- f) To gauge the current and future capacity levels and locations of utility service, including telephone, cable, telecommunications, gas, electricity, and internet in Town.
- g) To raise awareness of the deficiencies in our public water and sewer systems.

Chapter VIII - Transportation

- a) To provide a highway and street system that allows for the safe and efficient movement of people and goods throughout Boscawen.
- b) To improve the non-motorized infrastructure and increase non-motorized safety and activity in Boscawen.
- c) To protect the village and historic character along Boscawen's local and major roads while maintaining their viability as travel corridors.

Chapter IX - Existing and Future Land Use

- a) To identify and evaluate the past, present, and future uses of the land in Boscawen.
- b) To review community opinion regarding the existing regulations and ordinances on the use of the land in Boscawen.
- c) To ensure harmonious and aesthetically pleasing development of the Town, including landscaping, to provide a rural atmosphere.
- d) To encourage agriculture and forestry as viable land uses to preserve the character of the community.
- e) To promote subdivision and development of land which would be beneficial to the health, safety, welfare, and prosperity of the community and to ensure the integrity of its natural resources.
- f) To assure the monitoring and enforcement of gravel pit permitting and reclamation of all operations.
- g) To examine the feasibility of establishing a commercial/industrial park to centralize or expand those land uses.
- h) To examine the locations of potential future residential and commercial growth and predict their effects on the community.
- i) To encourage the use of open space development to preserve open space and retain the town's rural character.

Objectives without specific Recommendations on how to accomplish them do not offer a means for achievement. At the beginning of each of the Chapters, a comprehensive list of Recommendations for each Objective is given. These Recommendations are the product of the data that was collected and its interpretation by the Subcommittee of each Chapter.

PRIOR COMMUNITY GOALS: THE ADOPTED 1989 MASTER PLAN**1989 Master Plan**

The 1989 Master Plan contained a Goals and Objectives Chapter, a Land Use Chapter, a Housing Chapter, a Transportation Chapter, and a Community Facilities Chapter. Also undertaken through the Central NH Regional Planning Commission, a Capital Improvements Program was developed along with several black and white transportation and land use maps before the use of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) mapping was employed.

The Master Plan process has changed significantly from 1989 and the type and amount of data collected and presented are different. Many Recommendations have been suggested from each individual chapter to meet the Objectives set forth in each chapter, listed earlier in this **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES CHAPTER**. Several new chapters have been added to address current needs and methodologies, such as **POPULATION AND ECONOMICS, HISTORY AND CULTURE, and CONSERVATION, PRESERVATION, AND OPEN SPACE**. Nonetheless, many of the same 1989 goals are generally applicable to this 2001-2002 document:

1989 Master Plan Goals

1. Ensure that new development bear its fair share of the costs of public facilities and services. Existing development should not subsidize additional facilities and services required to accommodate new development.
2. Protect the Town's ground and surface water resources from contamination.
3. Enhance the two villages of upper and lower Boscawen as community centers.
4. Provide for the smooth, safe, and efficient movement of traffic through Town and between different areas of Town.
5. Preserve and protect the open space qualities of the Town.
6. Preserve, protect, maintain and enhance the Merrimack and Contoocook Rivers and their environs as the two most unique and scenic natural features in Town. The rivers are the most important natural legacy to be preserved for future generations.
7. Provide for a sound, well-coordinated planning and land use regulation process for the Town.
8. Provide for safe and decent housing for a broad range of persons. Housing should be diversified in terms of needs and desires, price, size and type of units, and the locations within the overall guidelines of the Master Plan and the service constraints of the Town.
9. Maintain and enhance the Town of Boscawen's sense of community, sense of identity, and sense of place.
10. Encourage the growth and diversification of the local economy, consistent with the character of the community, to provide local employment opportunities and to broaden the tax base of the Town.

SUMMARY

Measures to implement the Recommendations should be taken as an immediate first step after the completion and adoption of this Master Plan by the Planning Board. Modifications to regulations and the zoning ordinance are proposed within the document. While the Planning Board can amend its subdivision and site plan review regulations with duly noticed public hearings, zoning ordinance changes can occur only through a vote at Town Meeting. Cooperation and delegation are essential for the new Master Plan to make a difference to Boscawen. The Board of Selectmen, Conservation Commission, Zoning Board of Adjustment, and Town Departments, Committees, and staff all need to play a role in ensuring the success of this Master Plan and its Recommendations through their daily or monthly activities.

Volunteer actions to enhance the quality of life for Boscawen's residents and to use land and water resources wisely become more tangible to accomplish because of the ideas produced in the Master Plan. Educating residents and businesses of the issues at hand is an important component and will help foster the community and social ties every small town requires. A single change in the thought processes of Town officials, volunteers, residents, and businesses on how they decide to lead their lives in Boscawen is an immeasurable achievement.

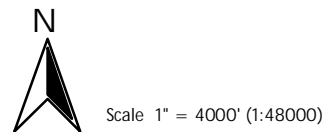
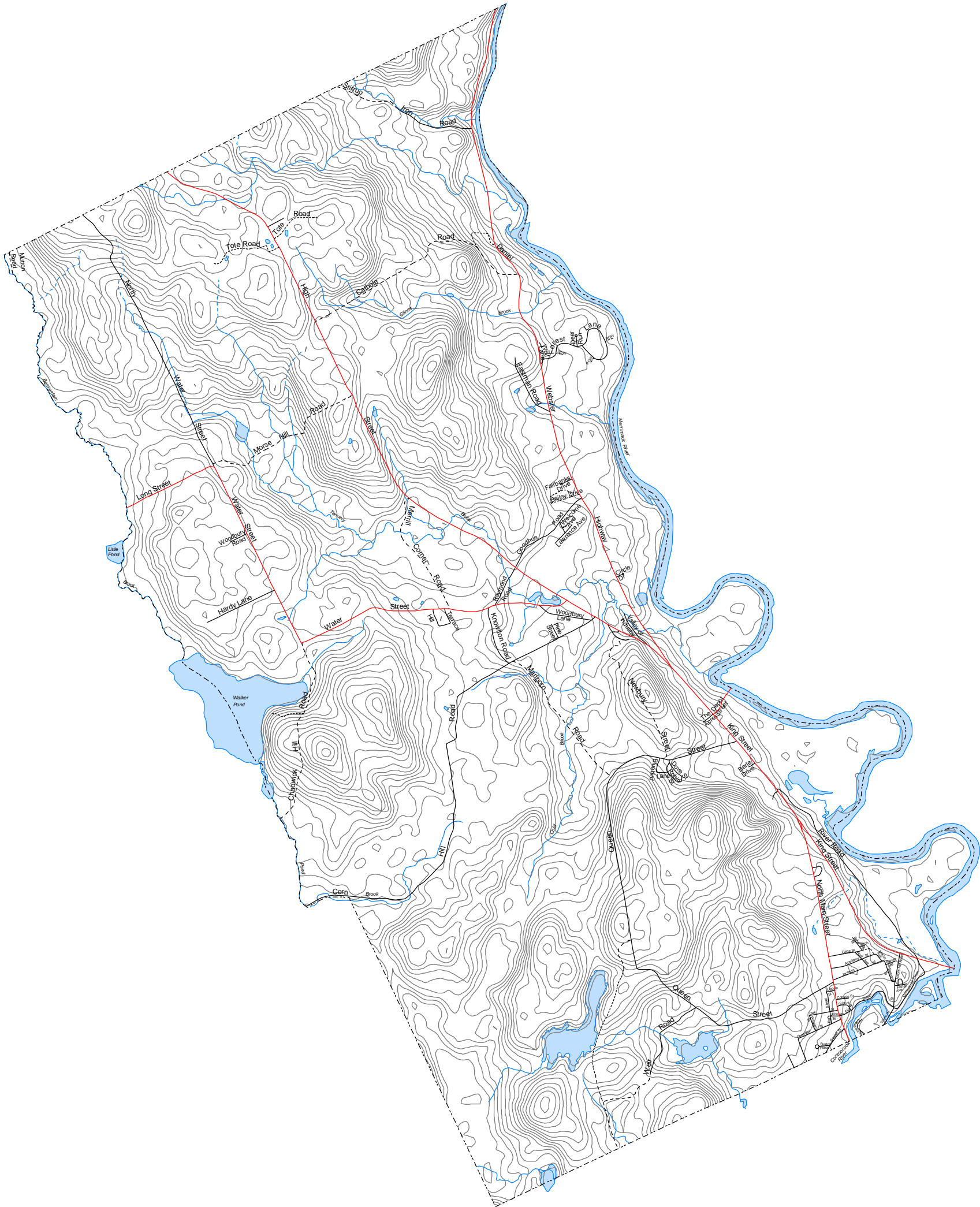
The history of community goals for the Town of Boscawen is extensive. Most goals are ongoing and require attention on a regular basis in order to keep pace with changing rules, regulations, and social conditions. With a thorough list of 2001-2002 Goals for Boscawen, Objectives for each Chapter, and a comprehensive inventory of implementable Recommendations, the 2001-2002 Master Plan is designed to be a document to shape the community for the coming years.

Town of Boscawen

2001-2002 Master Plan

Base and Topographic Map

Map 1



DISCLAIMER:
This map series is intended for use with the Boscawen Master Plan. The information presented is to be used for planning purposes and may not fully represent actual geographic conditions. Inaccuracies should be directed to the Town of Boscawen or to the Central NH Regional Planning Commission.

Data Sources for the Boscawen Master Plan Map Series:
USGS quadrangles through NH GRANIT (1:24000); Society for the Protection of NH Forests (1:24000); US Fish and Wildlife (1:24000); Natural Resources Conservation Service (1:24000); and CNHRPC (1:24000).
Corrections to existing layers by the Town of Boscawen and CNHRPC.

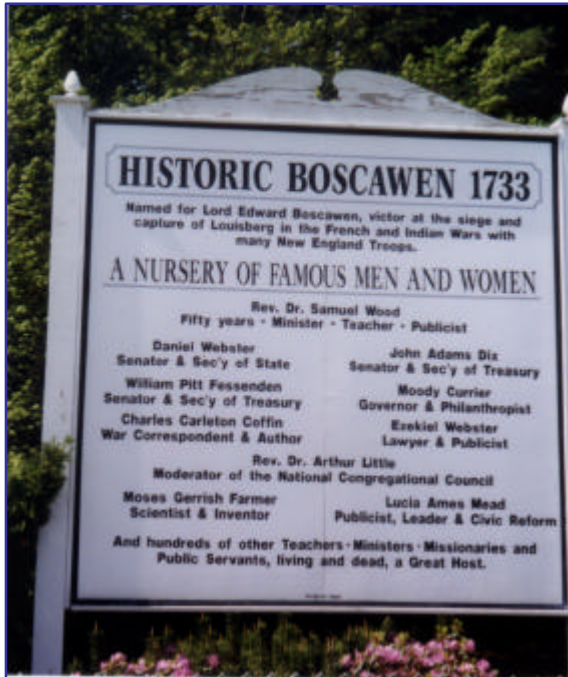


- Base Legend**
- Political Boundary
 - Class I & II Secondary State Highways
 - Class V Town Maintained Roads
 - Class VI Town Unmaintained Roads
 - Other Roads (Private, Future, Discontinued, etc)
 - USGS Topographic Contours, 20'
 - Rivers and Streams
 - Intermittent Streams
 - Water Bodies

This map was produced by the
Central New Hampshire Regional Planning Commission
for the Boscawen Master Plan, February 2002.

HISTORY AND CULTURE

Chapter III



Community Park Sign, High Street



Maplewood Cemetery, Water Street



Town Pound, North Water Street



*Hannah Dustin Memorial,
Contoocook / Merrimack Rivers Island*

Chapter III HISTORY AND CULTURE

"History has taught us many things – let it be our guide for the future. Only by understanding the past can we understand the future."

- History and Culture Subcommittee

INTRODUCTION

Town histories are an integral part of the character and ambiance of any small town. They remind us of how the small, self-sustaining community developed into the typical New Hampshire "bedroom" community of the 20th and 21st century dependent upon goods, services, and employment available in larger municipalities. A number of historic structures, cemeteries, and sites are located in Boscawen and are inventoried in this Chapter.

Equally important are the cultural events that are held in Boscawen. Not only do they serve to unite its residents to the community, they also bring the past back to life and enable people to appreciate the special, irreplaceable assets of yesteryear. Preservation of historical resources is a logical step in the process of retaining rural character in the face of development. As Boscawen's population will grow within the next 20 years, reasonable actions must be taken in the most expedited manner to protect the historical and cultural resources within Town and to educate upcoming generations of Boscawen residents of the unique beauty and value of old buildings and cemeteries.

The Town has an active Historical Society, Old Home Day Association, and many other community groups which serve to keep the community spirit burning. In 2001, the Old Home Day Association published "Boost Boscawen Businesses – Buy It in Boscawen", a publication promoting local businesses and listing residents' phone numbers. The Historical Society is working to renovate its building to make its museums more accessible to the public. Endeavors such as these work to weave the fabric of the community closer together and to encourage town pride.

At the April 2001 Community Visioning Session, participants identified a number of key issues to be addressed with respect to the historical and cultural opportunities within Boscawen. These issues included maintaining historical sites and markers, revitalizing the former tannery buildings, the concern of placement of modern buildings next to historic buildings, the need for transportation to cultural events, and the concern of King Street traffic. This Chapter will address many of these findings and make appropriate recommendations that can be implemented to solve these potential problems.

OBJECTIVES OF THE CHAPTER AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- To preserve and protect historical resources in Boscawen, including old buildings, landmarks, cemeteries, and stone walls and to encourage their stewardship.
 - ? Consider an amendment of the Subdivision and Site Plan Review Regulations to preserve the historic stonewalls in Town when developments threaten their locations.
 - ? Pursue funding mechanisms for the protection of historical resources.
 - ? Establish a landscape program with a common Boscawen theme for the entire Town.
 - ? Encourage an appropriate revitalization and reuse of the former tannery buildings.
- To find and encourage an appropriate reuse of the historic Main Street School building.
 - ? Continue the meetings of the Municipal Building Committee to determine potential reuses of the Main Street School Building.
 - ? Pursue funding through the Land and Community Heritage Investment Program (LCHIP) and other means for conversion of the building into a municipal use.
 - ? Pursue the nomination of the historic Main Street School for the National Register of Historic Places.
- To balance the historic and village character along King Street with the needs of incoming development and changing land use.
 - ? Implement the findings of the Boscawen US Routes 3&4 Corridor Study.
 - ? Establish a Village Overlay District to guide land use and appearance along King Street.
 - ? Develop a landscape program with a common Boscawen theme for King Street.
- To continue to enrich the community of Boscawen and foster an understanding and appreciation of the history and uniqueness of the Town with historical and cultural events and activities.
 - ? Encourage activities for all ages through the different organizations in Town.
 - ? Expand, enhance, and promote the Historical Society and other organizations to continue to hold open houses, programs, and special speakers for educational purposes.
 - ? Establish a volunteer program for the maintenance of local historic sites and markers.

COMMUNITY SURVEY RESULTS

Resident responses indicate a strong sentiment toward preserving historic resources (70%) and the reuse of existing facilities. Despite this strong showing, only 41% felt that Town money should be spent in order to meet these challenges. Residents also show tremendous appreciation for the Merrimack River and the values and character it brings to Boscawen. This opinion is shared by other answers gained from questions asked about the Merrimack River in other Chapters of the Master Plan.

Table III-1

Should the Town appropriate money to be used for historic and cultural resources?

| Town money for historic and cultural resources | Total | Percent |
|------------------------------------------------|-------|---------|
| Yes | 151 | 41% |
| No | 88 | 24% |
| Unsure | 95 | 26% |
| No Opinion | 33 | 9% |
| Grand Total | 367 | 100% |

Table III-2

Do you believe that historic places (or areas) should be preserved in the Town?

| Historic places preservation | Total | Percent |
|------------------------------|-------|---------|
| Yes | 257 | 70% |
| No | 45 | 12% |
| Unsure | 43 | 12% |
| No Opinion | 20 | 5% |
| Grand Total | 365 | 100% |

Table III-3

Do you feel that the Merrimack River is important to the character of Boscawen?

| Importance of Merrimack River to character | Total | Percent |
|--------------------------------------------|-------|---------|
| Yes | 330 | 90% |
| No | 17 | 5% |
| Unsure | 13 | 4% |
| No Opinion | 8 | 2% |
| Grand Total | 368 | 100% |

Table III-4a

Are you in favor of encouraging either of the following uses in the Main Street School?

| Senior center at Main St. School | Total | Percent |
|----------------------------------|-------|---------|
| Yes | 251 | 72% |
| No | 34 | 10% |
| Unsure | 44 | 13% |
| No Opinion | 19 | 5% |
| Grand Total | 348 | 100% |

Table III-4b

Are you in favor of encouraging either of the following uses in the Main Street School?

| Youth/teen center at Main St. School | Total | Percent |
|--------------------------------------|-------|---------|
| Yes | 233 | 68% |
| No | 43 | 13% |
| Unsure | 50 | 15% |
| No Opinion | 18 | 5% |
| Grand Total | 344 | 100% |

BRIEF HISTORICAL PROFILE OF BOSCAWEN

The first settlement in what is now Boscawen was in 1733, called the Contoocook Plantation. As it was laid out, the Town was almost seven square miles in size. From its establishment in 1733 until 1756, it was the last outpost of civilization until the Saint Lawrence River. In 1734, the first settlers arrived, 33 families in all. In 1737, a ferry across the Merrimack River was established at the bend above the junction with the Contoocook River. The first meetinghouse was built in 1739. It was actively used until 1767. A marker in the Plains Cemetery shows its location. The first attack by Native Americans occurred in 1744.

In 1760, the Town was incorporated and its name was changed to Boscawen. The Town is named for Lord Edward Boscawen, who led the victors at the Battle of Louisburg during the French and Indian War in 1758. The name Boscawen comes from the ancient Cornish language, and means "the house of the Elder Tree."

In 1761, the first school was opened in Boscawen. In 1786, construction started on the Woodbury Plains Meetinghouse, and was completed in 1792. A marker showing its location can be found near Maplewood Cemetery. In 1772, the first bridge was built across the Blackwater River. The first doctor to take up residence in Boscawen arrived in 1773. Also that year, the first schoolhouse was built on Water Street. In 1775, 20 men from Boscawen fought at Bunker Hill, and in 1777, 26 men fought at the Battle of Bennington. In 1791, the West Boscawen (now Webster) Meetinghouse was built. In 1798, the Woodbury Plains Meetinghouse and Water Street School were burned down by arsonists.

In 1804, Daniel Webster established his first law office in a small building attached to Timothy Dix's house. The first Boscawen Post Office was established in 1806 with Timothy Dix as Postmaster. In 1844, the Fisherville Post Office was established in Lower Boscawen. The next year, the Town formed the Fisherville Fire Engine Co., which was renamed Torrent Engine No. 1 in 1859.

The Northern Railroad began running through Boscawen in 1846, along King Street. It was one of the greatest thoroughfares in the State at that time. In 1860, Boscawen divided into Boscawen and Webster. In 1891, the Penacook-Boscawen Water Precinct was formed. In 1893, a second fire engine company was formed, called the Boscawen Hose Company No. 2, later renamed the Muchido Hose Company. Also that year, a library was opened in the Town Hall. In 1913, the Boscawen Public Library was dedicated.

The Boscawen Historical Society was organized in 1967. The Boscawen Police Department was organized in 1971, when previously it was comprised of volunteers.

HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

Many of the historical and cultural resources noted in this section are depicted on the *Historic and Cultural Features Map*.

National Register of Historic Places

Boscawen currently has four sites on the National Register. A large effort is required on the part of individuals to promote places of historic importance through applications to the National Historic Register. No additional protection is afforded through the federal designation of a site to the National Register, but local recognition of the site's importance is a powerful tool against any potential development or changes to the site which are detrimental to the historical character.

Table III-5
National Register of Historic Site Locations in Boscawen

| National Register Entry | Date Listed | Location |
|---------------------------------------------|-------------|---------------------|
| Boscawen Academy and Much-I-Do Hose House | 12/08/80 | King Street |
| Boscawen Public Library | 05/28/81 | King Street |
| First Congregational Church of Boscawen | 04/19/82 | King Street |
| Morrill-Lassonde House (NH Art Association) | 03/15/84 | East of King Street |

Source: National Register of Historic Places Database, 09/01

An application is currently being researched and written to place the former Main Street School on the National Register of Historic Sites in Boscawen. Elizabeth Durfee Hengen, architectural history consultant, is presently helping to prepare this application. The building was designed by Edward Dow and built in 1866. Its Italianate architecture is distinguishable, and it is hoped that the building will soon be rehabilitated and restored for Town Offices.

State of New Hampshire Markers

New Hampshire's state highway historical marker program is administered by the NH Division of Historical Resources (NH DHR). Marker requests are reviewed by the State Historic Preservation Officer; costs of the markers would be borne either by the Transportation Fund or the sponsoring municipality/organization. Requests for markers must include draft text for the marker, research and justification, and a petition signed by at least 20 persons. Within Boscawen, only one State Historical Marker is known to be present.

Table III-6
State Historical Markers in Boscawen

| New Hampshire Historical Markers | Location |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| Hannah Dustin Memorial | Junction of Commercial St and River Road |

Source: NH Historical Markers, 1989, NH Division of Historical Resources

Local Markers

Markers erected by townspeople celebrate the uniqueness of the community and its heritage. Often, a local marker is a boulder inlaid with a metal plaque at the site of an important event or historic location of a town. The Town of Boscawen, at its 1899 Town Meeting, appropriated money to mark historic sites within the Town limits as part of the Old Home week celebration. All of these monuments are listed below. In addition, other local historic markers have been placed in years since. All of these sites are located on the *Historic and Cultural Features Map*.

Table III-7
Local Historical Markers in Boscawen

| Local Marker | Location |
|----------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Town Pound | North Water Street |
| Site of First Fort, 1739 AD | King Street |
| Site of First Meeting House | Plains Cemetery, King Street |
| Birthplace of General John Adams Dix | King Street |
| Law Office of Daniel Webster | King Street |
| Site of William Pitt Fessenden Birth | King Street |
| Birthplace of Moody Currier | King Street |
| Residence of Reverend Samuel Wood | High Street |
| Woodbury Plains Meetinghouse | Water Street |
| Site of Charles Carleton Coffin Birth | Water Street |
| Dr Robert Graves Memorial Tennis Court | King Street (Community Park) |
| Houston Memorial Athletic Field | King Street (Community Park) |
| Penacook Academy | North Main St |

Sources: Subcommittee Input, Town Histories

Inventory of Historic Sites

Boscawen has literally hundreds of historic sites, buildings, schools, cemeteries, cellar holes, quarries, orchards, and the like. Comprehensive lists and maps can be located in the Town Histories of 1823, 1878, 1883, 1933, and 1983. For the purposes of this Master Plan, a few of the most unique or significant have been chosen for the Chapter. For a detailed listing of the historically significant homes in Boscawen, please consult the above-mentioned Town Histories.

Inventory of Cemeteries

As do many other small central NH region towns, Boscawen has a rich heritage and a strong connection to its past. Cemeteries, both Town and small, private family plots, are an important and personal link. A law was passed several years ago that allows municipalities to maintain any or all private cemeteries.

Table III-8
Public and Private Cemeteries

| Cemetery | Owner | Location |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|---------------------------------------|
| Maplewood (Getchell) Cemetery | Town | Water Street |
| Pine Grove Cemetery | Town | Pine Street / Corn Hill Road |
| Plains Cemetery | Town | King Street |
| Beaverdam Cemetery | Town | Webster Town Line, Long Street |
| NH Veterans Cemetery | State | Daniel Webster Highway |
| Unnamed Cemetery at County Jail | pub/private | behind Merrimack County Corr Facility |
| Gookin Family Cemetery | private | North Water Street |
| Elliott Family Cemetery | private | North Water Street |
| McClure Family / High Street Cemetery | private | High Street |
| Marden Family Cemetery | private | High Street |
| Call Family Cemetery | private | North Water Street |

Source: 1982 Map of Streets, Places and Cellar Holes of the Town of Boscawen, 1983 History of Boscawen

The Town is very proud to have the only Veteran's Cemetery in the State of New Hampshire. It was dedicated on Veteran's Day in 1998. A historical walkway is being developed for the cemetery to commemorate the State's military history.

Inventory of Historic Mill Sites

Boscawen was a well-industrialized town which took full advantage of the skills of its residents and the abundant water resources to create a series of mills over the years. Today, only remnants or passing memories remain of these incredible sites when this self-sufficient 19th century community was in its industrialized hey-day.

Table III-9
Historic Mill Site Remnants

| Name / Location | Location |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Jackman Mill | Marlboro Road |
| Burbank's Mill | Corn Hill Road |
| Pearson Fulling Mill | Valley of Industry |
| Grist Mill / Colby's Shingle Mill | Valley of Industry |
| Holmes Saw Mill | Fish Street |
| Whitney Mill | Stirrup Iron Road |
| Flanders Mill | Route 4 - Mill Brook |
| Shingle Mill | Route 4 - Mill Brook |
| Saw Mill | Route 4 - Mill Brook |
| Gerrish Nail Mill | Stream south of Stirrup Iron Rd |
| Chadwick Barn and Cider Mill | Water St south of Morse Hill Rd |

Source: 1982 Map of Streets, Places and Cellar Holes of the Town of Boscawen, 1983 History of Boscawen

HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES IN BOSCAWEN

Historical Society

The Boscawen Historical Society was incorporated in 1967, having acquired the former Boscawen Academy building from the Merrimack Valley School District. The Historical Society also owns the Muchido Hose Company structure, built in 1894, located on adjacent land and currently the home of the Boscawen Post Office. The Historical Society is open to the public on Sundays from 1 PM to 4 PM during the months of July and August.

The former Boscawen Academy, now the Boscawen Historical Society's headquarters, was built on land given by Joseph Chadwick in 1827. The building was built for \$1,136 and opened as the Boscawen Academy in April 1828. Daniel Webster donated the bell and the shingles were hand-shaved and given by the Reverend Dr. Samuel Wood. In 1856, the building was leased to Professor Jonathan Tenney, who for twenty years ran the Elmwood Literary Institute from it. The lease was cancelled in 1868 by mutual agreement. In 1872, the building was sold to the Boscawen School District for \$2,000 on the condition that the bell not be disposed of but to be kept in the building, where it remains today.

Old Home Day Committee

The purpose of this Committee is to "foster community spirit" and, with few exceptions, Old Home day activities have occurred in Boscawen since 1899. Presently, the Committee of about 10 to 15 people function year round, and plan activities throughout the year and especially for the last week in August.

With a starting appropriation from the Town, the Committee raises up to \$10,000 each year to defray the costs of a parade, a band concert in the park, children's games, and a chicken barbecue. An artists' reception, sponsored by Elektrisola, is held every year to honor the children, young adults, and adults in the community. This event has grown over the years, and around 350 pieces of artwork are judged and displayed at this reception.

Each year the Committee honors a segment of Town and community. In 1997, they honored the School System from 1761 to 1997. In 2001, the Committee honored businesses with a "Boost Boscawen Businesses - Buy It In Boscawen", a directory of Boscawen businesses which was hand-delivered to every home in Town.

Community Park

Owned by the Boscawen Congregational Church, UCC, Community Park (sometimes called "Bug Field" by the children in deference to the mosquito population) is a recreation center for all of the people of Boscawen. Two children's ball fields are maintained there, and they are constantly used during the spring and early summer for practice and games. Sixteen acres of parkland is available in the center of the community, at the junction of Routes 3 and 4.

During the summer, the BCC Crusaders from the Church compete with other churches in the area, and have wonderful times there. Many other groups use the playing fields and picnic areas throughout the warmer months. Hiking trails go from the Park up the ridge known as "Windyghoul", from which one can see for miles up and down the Merrimack River.

Jamie Welch Memorial Field

Dedicated in 1980 to the young ballplayer, Jamie Welch, this Field has playing fields on the north and south sides of Depot Street, on the banks of the Merrimack. There are excellent tennis courts, ball fields, a volleyball court and basketball court filling up 8.5 acres, and all are well-utilized during the warmer months.

The Recreation Program is conducted here during July and August, and in 2001 the program ran from 8:30 to 4:30 each weekday. Attendance was up this year because of the longer hours and the fact that parents could drop off and pick up their children and still get to work on time.

Boscawen Congregational Church, UCC

Physically as well as mentally, this Church has been united with the Town of Boscawen from very beginning. From 1734 with the arrival of the first settlers, the Town and Church were a unit, not two separate bodies. The Town was under obligation to support the preaching of the gospel, and the refusal to provide for the support of the minister would have been a forfeiture of the charter which had been granted to the proprietors in 1760.

The present Church and Town Hall was built in 1799 and at first faced north. The Town, having no meeting place, in March 1847 voted "to construct a town house under the meeting-house, with the understanding that said house should at all times be under the control of the Boscawen Religious Society except when wanted for town purposes..." Subsequent moves faced the building west, and then in 1940 when Route 3 was rerouted, the Church was placed in its present position, facing south.

The Church owns the floor under the sanctuary, and the Town owns the ceiling below it. The Town owns the land under the building and the Church the land around it. Cultural events in the Church are open to everyone, and some of the Pastors of the Church have been Chaplain to the Fire and Police Departments. The building is on the National Register of Historic Places.

Youth Organizations

There is presently the Earnest Workers 4-H Club and Cub Scout Pack #383 meeting throughout the year in Boscawen. 4-H'ers are active from 8 to 19 years old and have individual and club projects through the University of New Hampshire (UNH) Cooperative Extension Service, a part of the UNH land grant system. The Cub Scouts work with young boys and when they become Boy Scouts, they are part of the Troop in nearby Penacook.

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

This group meets in Boscawen, but has veterans from surrounding communities also. As the veterans have aged, there are very few at their meetings, and thus have consolidated.

NH Art Association

The NH Art Association inherited the Morrill-Lassonde property on King Street under the will of artist Omer T. Lassonde, one of the founders of the Association, who had served as NHAA president in 1948. This house is the first farmhouse built in Boscawen in 1769 by the Rev. Robie Morrill, who used timbers from the First Fort which had been on this site. The Art Association holds Children's Art Classes, and has a year-round gallery at this location.

Masonic Lodge

The Horace Chase Lodge No. 72, Free and Accepted Masons, received its charter June 12, 1861 and was organized and constituted on June 21, 1861. The lodge was named after a past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire, Horace Chase, the number 72 being his age in 1861. Presently, the Lodge has over 250 members.

The Horace Chase Lodge is located at the corner of North Main and Chandler Street in Boscawen, having relocated from downtown Penacook. This was also the site of the Former Second Congregational Church. The dedication ceremony was held on December 6, 1956 with an estimated 300 Masons, relatives, and friends in attendance.

Brother John Whitaker, one of the eight charter members and a prominent member of the community, was the person responsible for the wealth the Lodge enjoys to this day. He built and operated the first steamboat, "Modena" that ever sailed the Contoocook River. The vessel could accommodate 200 passengers on its six-mile excursions up the river.

Boscawen Elementary School, Merrimack Valley Middle School, and Merrimack Valley High School

Part of the Merrimack Valley School District since 1967, Boscawen's children start school in kindergarten at the Boscawen Elementary School and attend through the fifth grade. They then attend grades 6-8 at the Merrimack Valley Middle School, and grades 9-12 at the High School adjacent to it. Governed by a School Board with representatives from each of the member towns, Boscawen, Loudon, Penacook (Ward 1 of Concord), Salisbury, and Webster comprise the Merrimack Valley School District.

These schools provide ample opportunities for socialization of children and residents alike with their sporting events, special activities, and parent-teacher organizations.

HISTORIC DISTRICT ZONING

At the 1998 March Town Meeting, voters passed a warrant article to establish an Historic District Commission to be comprised of five members. In accordance with RSA 674:45-50, the Town can establish such a district with a vote at Town Meeting. The charge of this Commission would be to write a draft ordinance with specific boundaries for an Historic Overlay District for potential adoption at a special town meeting. The District would be to preserve historic, natural, and community character features along King Street by creating guidelines for current and new residential and commercial property owners to follow.

Public participation is crucial for any municipal decisions of this magnitude. Residents participated in the Historic District Commission efforts, and in the end, the motion to consider an Historic District Overlay and ordinance was defeated at a Planning Board public hearing in June of 1998. Resident opinion was so strong, the Planning Board decided not to further pursue this new district.

At the March 1999 Town Meeting, voters passed a warrant article to abolish the Historic District Commission as proposed by petitioners.

KING STREET CORRIDOR STUDY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR HISTORIC CHARACTER ALONG KING STREET

The recently completed King Street Corridor Study focused on aspects of traffic movement, access management, creation of a “village” center, aesthetics, and historical character. Routes 3 and 4 combine within Boscawen to create a busy, fast commuter system which significantly detracts from the original appearance and uses of yesteryear. The **TRANSPORTATION CHAPTER** covers many of the transportation issues surrounding King Street, but the roadway also has historical significance and a potential future “village center” value.

Techniques for improving the image of King Street and regaining the community “feel” include:

- Establishing community appearance guidelines to govern future non-residential development as well as additions/exterior renovations to existing non-residential development;
- Establishing a common signage for public buildings;
- Developing landscape, street tree and furniture programs with a common Boscawen theme;
- Creating pedestrian focal points with greenspace and/or river access;
- Creating a special node at Depot Street near at Jamie Welch Memorial Field to reinforce the heart of the Village; and
- Creating a “Village Overlay District” over King Street.

Several of these suggestions from the King Street Corridor Study were utilized as recommendations for this Chapter.

SUMMARY

The Town of Boscawen has a rich history and strong community spirit. Many different organizations actively foster ties with neighbors and friends through activities, events, and meetings. This Chapter provides the 2001 Master Plan with a series of broad objectives and specific recommendations in consideration of past history and existing culture not previously examined in the last Master Plan.

The importance of inserting this new Chapter reflects the changing times and the growing trend to attempt to revert to a simpler era before the population and development grew such that residents become isolated from one another and that sites significant to the Town’s history become lost to future generations. With these recommendations, the History and Culture Subcommittee hope to ensure that the children of Boscawen will remember, honor, and preserve the past.

“We are dedicated to collecting, preserving, and interpreting the regional past for present and future generations.”

- History and Culture Subcommittee

Town of Boscawen

2001-2002 Master Plan

Historic and Cultural Features Map

Map 2

Legend

- Historic Mill Site
- Historic Marker
- Cemetery
- National Register of Historic Places



Base Legend

- Political Boundary
- Class I & II Secondary State Highways
- Class V Town Maintained Roads
- Class VI Town Unmaintained Roads
- Other Roads (Private, Future, Discontinued, etc)
- Rivers and Streams
- Intermittent Streams
- Water Bodies

This map was produced by the
Central New Hampshire Regional Planning Commission
for the Boscawen Master Plan, February 2002.

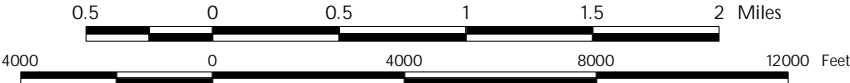
N
Scale 1" = 4000' (1:48000)

DISCLAIMER:
This map series is intended for use with the Boscawen Master Plan.
The information presented is to be used for planning purposes and may not
fully represent actual geographic conditions. Inaccuracies should be
directed to the Town of Boscawen or to
the Central NH Regional Planning Commission.

Data Sources for the Boscawen Master Plan Map Series:

USGS quadrangles through NH GRANIT (1:24000);
Society for the Protection of NH Forests (1:24000); US Fish and Wildlife
(1:24000); Natural Resources Conservation
Service (1:24000); and CNHRPC (1:24000).

Corrections to existing layers by the Town of Boscawen and CNHRPC.



POPULATION AND ECONOMICS

Chapter IV



Turgeon Upholstery, King Street



Group Photo, Old Home Day 1998



Children and Alumni Float, Old Home Day 1998



Elektrisola, High Street

Chapter IV
POPULATION AND ECONOMICS

"How shall we balance the future with increased needs for services for an increased population, yet maintain the frugality that has kept our taxes within a livable range? We shall do it as we've ever done with patience, community spirit, and a generosity of volunteerism when dollars fail."

- Population and Economics Subcommittee

INTRODUCTION

This Chapter focuses on the various facets and segments of the population of Boscawen, including migration patterns, historical trends, demographics, as well as projections for future growth. The information in this Chapter is presented so that it may be compared with other municipalities in the Central New Hampshire Region, Merrimack County, and the State. Information presented in this chapter has been derived from the Office of State Planning, United States Bureau of Census, the New Hampshire Bureau of Vital Statistics, and the New Hampshire Bureau of Employment Security.

With an actual population of 3,586 individuals in 1990 and an actual population of 3,672 in 2000, Boscawen experienced a 2.4% increase during that time period. However, population projections suggest that by 2010, the population will increase an additional 9.8% to a total of 4,033 residents.

The preliminary 2000 US Census data was available for the publication of this Master Plan, which was supplemented by estimates from the NH Office of State Planning for the recent years in between the decennial Census. In addition, the Community Survey results, representing over 24% of households and out-of-town property owners in Boscawen, yielded interesting numbers for comparison purposes.

The findings in the **POPULATION AND ECONOMICS CHAPTER** in particular, of all those in the Master Plan, have a profound effect on the rest of the Chapters because it becomes the basis upon which all others are written. Population growth creates pressure on Town services and facilities, the building of new homes, and the reduction of open space. Although the Recommendations stated in this Chapter are specific only to this Chapter, they have a direct influence on each of the remaining Chapters of the 2001-2002 Master Plan.

In order to grow in an economically practical manner and preserve the rural character desired by Boscawen residents, the promotion of quality of life economics is the key facet in this Chapter of the 2001-2002 Master Plan. By taking advantage of the natural resources in the Town to promote them to the public, they are in turn protected from further development and an appreciation for these assets is created. Retention of and promotion of the agricultural businesses in Town will foster the type of economy that will best preserve Boscawen's heritage and assist in preserving the rural character of the community.

At the Community Visioning Session held in April 2001, residents thought of Boscawen as a "commuter" town, where people traveled to other places to work and through which Routes 3 and 4 served as a corridor for regional transportation. Other themes important to population and economics included an active and growing senior community, having a transient population, and wanting to attract local businesses in Town instead of chain stores. In the future, residents envisioned having more light industrial and professional business growth and services to meet the needs of the youth and elderly populations.

OBJECTIVES OF THE CHAPTER AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- To accumulate and analyze the most accurate population numbers which will influence how the Town responds to the continuing residential growth.
 - ✍ Communicate with the Central New Hampshire Regional Planning Commission to obtain the most current statistics on growth.
 - ✍ Track housing starts through the Zoning Administrator.
 - ✍ Clarify Town regulations and ordinances in some areas to assist the Planning and Zoning Boards in order to make clear determinations on applications.
- To provide a measure of reasonable growth so that informed decisions can be made to manage the impact so not to disrupt Town services, the school district, or the small town personality.
 - ✍ Set up a working committee to evaluate current services and facilities to determine how much additional expansion capacity is currently available.
 - ✍ Acknowledge that water, sewer, Town Office staff time, road maintenance, and School District space are finite in quantity.
 - ✍ Develop a Capital Improvements Program after the Master Plan is adopted.
 - ✍ Examine the need for a Growth Management Ordinance.
 - ✍ Enact a limitation on building permits which reflect a proportionate increase in school population and the availability of Town services.

- To consider impact fees to offset the immediate impact of growth.
 - ✍ Develop impact fees based upon the Master Plan, Capital Improvement Program, and resulting growth of the Town.
 - ✍ Assess impact fees to offset the impact to the community and deposit into the appropriate capital reserve fund.
 - ✍ Consider placing conditions on new residential and commercial growth that are located outside of the parameters of the water and sewer systems.
- To promote the quality of life that capitalizes on Boscawen's physical and natural resources.
 - ✍ Encourage the use and preservation of resources, such as the Merrimack River, Town Forest, railroad corridor, and community parks, for social and recreational purposes.
 - ✍ Encourage an amendment to the Zoning Ordinance to preserve existing agricultural uses for future generations.
- To examine the locations of potential future residential and commercial growth and to predict their effects on the community.
 - ✍ Develop an industrial park to promote business growth in the appropriate location.
 - ✍ Recommend that the Planning Board establish a subcommittee to study the current zoning districts and make recommendations thereof.
 - ✍ Identify the resources prospective businesses would need to operate within Boscawen and investigate methods to obtain said resources.
 - ✍ Survey existing businesses to determine what changes they would like to see within the Town as necessary to improve the business climate.
- To build on the theme of "Buy It In Boscawen."
 - ✍ Establish traffic patterns that would enhance businesses in Boscawen and encourage shoppers to visit.
 - ✍ Focus on attracting small- to medium-sized businesses that would service the dual-income lifestyles of 21st century families.
 - ✍ Establish a chamber of commerce so that existing businesses would have a voice within the community.

- ✍ Make the public more aware of what Boscawen has to offer in these areas by utilizing various groups and media.
- ✍ Meet with potential businesses to reach a mutually beneficial partnership which would entice them to come to Boscawen.
- To promote businesses in the Mill Redevelopment District.
 - ✍ Encourage the reclamation and development of sites within the District.
 - ✍ Encourage the Planning and Zoning Boards' participation in the Boscawen-Concord Tannery Reuse Committee.
 - ✍ Consider tax breaks or deferments to businesses that are willing to locate to the old mill buildings.
 - ✍ Encourage the development of a business incubator to assist with small business start-up.
- To promote the creation of new retail businesses and professional offices accessible to King Street and in the Village.
 - ✍ Examine the Zoning Ordinances regarding professional office space and make recommendations for changes.
 - ✍ Inventory properties suitable for professional office space in those areas and communicate the results to the real estate community.
 - ✍ Encourage the establishment of a professional health care facility with adequate parking and consider offering tax deferments.
- To promote local commercial and light-industrial enterprises in orderly, well-landscaped developments which take advantage of highway accessibility through the use of access roads and new or existing commercial/industrial parks.
 - ✍ Consider establishment of aesthetic codes so future commercial buildings would be attractively landscaped.
 - ✍ Establish a light-industrial zone that also permits some commercial enterprises.
 - ✍ Attract businesses that would reduce residential property tax rates, be environmentally friendly, and would provide the services residents are frequently forced to obtain elsewhere.

COMMUNITY SURVEY RESULTS

Responses to the Community Survey's question regarding the preferred types of businesses or services in Boscawen are depicted in Table IV-1. People could choose as many of the enterprises they wanted. Of the types offered, respondents most highly favored the addition of day care/after school care (13%), health clinics (13%), and a major grocery store (10%). This indicates a lack of these types of enterprises, essential services, within Town. Residents must drive outside of Boscawen to meet these needs.

Restaurants also rated highly, at 11%, although Boscawen contains many restaurants. This may be indicative of the need for a variety of restaurants, since most of those existing are fast-food or pizzerias. Agricultural-related businesses (9%), although typically seasonal, were also popular choices.

Professional office parks (8%) and light industry parks (8%) rounded out the top desirable businesses to attract to Boscawen.

Table IV-1
Which of the following enterprises/services would you like to see in Boscawen?
Please check as many as you wish.

| Which of the following enterprises/services would you like to see in Boscawen? | Total | Percent |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|---------|
| Agricultural - related business | 109 | 9% |
| Conference Center | 31 | 3% |
| Day care/after school care | 160 | 13% |
| Health clinic/doctor's office | 156 | 13% |
| Heavy industry park | 31 | 3% |
| Hotels/motels | 44 | 4% |
| Light industry park | 97 | 8% |
| Major grocery chain | 122 | 10% |
| Professional office park | 94 | 8% |
| Recreational businesses | 74 | 6% |
| Restaurants | 131 | 11% |
| Retail shopping mall | 53 | 4% |
| Tourism - related businesses | 69 | 6% |
| None of the above | 61 | 5% |
| Grand total responses | 1232 | 100% |

POPULATION

The primary sources of information used for this segment of the Chapter were from the US Census, Town Reports, and the NH Office of State Planning. It is critical to know how many people have resided in Boscawen, how many are presently residents, and to have an understanding for how the Town may grow in the future. In short, over the last ten years between 1990 and 2000, the Town grew 2.4% according to the 2000 Census. This growth is the smallest in the Central New Hampshire Region, although in 2001, the applications before the Planning Board for new subdivisions have been unprecedented.

POPULATION TRENDS

An analysis of the actual population numbers from Boscawen from past to present will show trends of growth and decline. The trends are indicative of recent economic booms or recessions, or in the early years of Boscawen, of industrialization, war, and disease. By looking at historical and current data, predictions can be made for future population counts.

Historical Trends

Table IV-2 shows population growth in Boscawen, Merrimack County, and the State of New Hampshire since 1767.

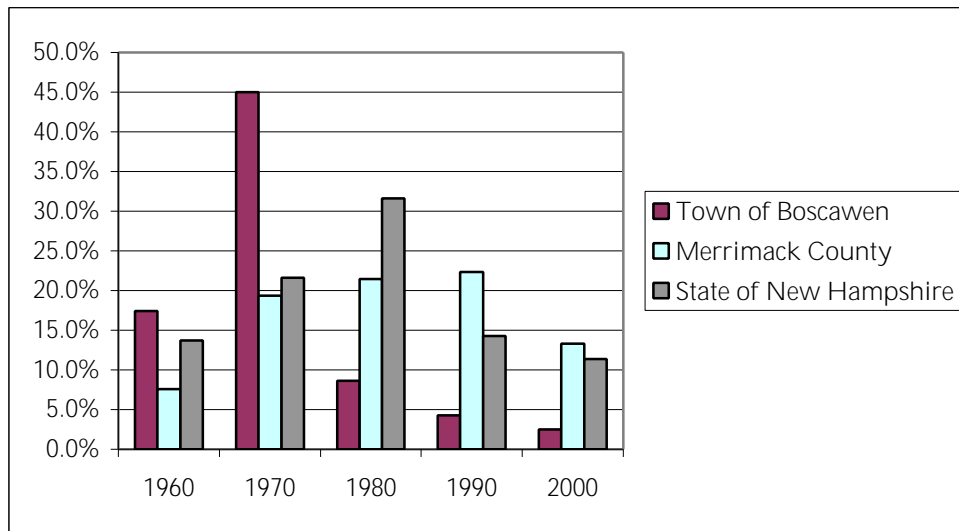
Table IV-2
Historical Population Trends 1767-2000

| Year | Town of Boscawen | | Merrimack County | | State of New Hampshire | |
|------|------------------|----------|------------------|----------|------------------------|----------|
| | Population | % change | Population | % change | Population | % change |
| 1767 | 285 | --- | 3,477 | --- | 52,672 | --- |
| 1773 | 504 | 76.8% | 6,715 | 93.1% | 73,097 | 38.8% |
| 1783 | 757 | 50.2% | 7,337 | 9.3% | 64,994 | -11.1% |
| 1790 | 1,108 | 46.4% | 17,869 | 143.5% | 141,217 | 117.3% |
| 1800 | 1,414 | 27.6% | 24,319 | 36.1% | 183,515 | 30.0% |
| 1810 | 1,829 | 29.3% | 29,032 | 19.4% | 214,201 | 16.7% |
| 1820 | 2,113 | 15.5% | 34,281 | 18.1% | 243,912 | 13.9% |
| 1830 | 2,093 | -0.9% | 36,490 | 6.4% | 268,977 | 10.3% |
| 1840 | 1,965 | -6.1% | 38,052 | 4.3% | 284,304 | 5.7% |
| 1850 | 2,063 | 5.0% | 42,225 | 11.0% | 317,785 | 11.8% |
| 1860 | 2,274 | 10.2% | 43,273 | 2.5% | 325,858 | 2.5% |
| 1870 | 1,637 | -28.0% | 42,947 | -0.8% | 318,090 | -2.4% |
| 1880 | 1,381 | -15.6% | 46,300 | 7.8% | 346,638 | 9.0% |
| 1890 | 1,487 | 7.7% | 49,435 | 6.8% | 376,175 | 8.5% |
| 1900 | 1,455 | -2.2% | 52,430 | 6.1% | 410,938 | 9.2% |
| 1910 | 1,240 | -14.8% | 53,335 | 1.7% | 430,376 | 4.7% |
| 1920 | 1,260 | 1.6% | 51,770 | -2.9% | 442,716 | 2.9% |
| 1930 | 1,359 | 7.9% | 56,152 | 8.5% | 463,898 | 4.8% |
| 1940 | 1,663 | 22.4% | 60,710 | 8.1% | 491,320 | 5.9% |
| 1950 | 1,857 | 11.7% | 63,022 | 3.8% | 533,110 | 8.5% |
| 1960 | 2,181 | 17.4% | 67,785 | 7.6% | 606,400 | 13.7% |
| 1970 | 3,162 | 45% | 80,925 | 19.4% | 737,681 | 21.6% |
| 1980 | 3,435 | 8.6% | 98,302 | 21.5% | 970,610 | 31.6% |
| 1990 | 3,583 | 4.3% | 12,0240 | 22.3% | 1,109,252 | 14.3% |
| 2000 | 3,672 | 2.5% | 13,6225 | 13.3% | 1,235,786 | 11.4% |

Sources: Historical US Census Data and Population Counts from Historical Record, NH Office of State Planning

Although historical data is interesting and important, the Subcommittee decided to focus on the current population increases from 1960 to present in order to gauge the impact to the community within the last two generations. Figure IV-1 depicts the percentage of growth of Boscawen, Merrimack County, and the State for comparative purposes:

Figure IV-1
Historical Population Growth Trends 1960-2000



Source: US Census 1960-2000

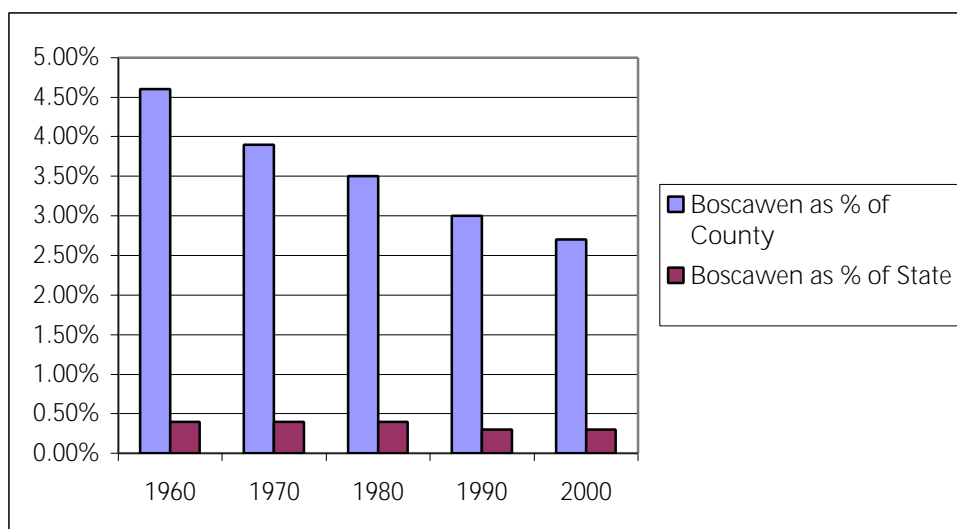
According to Figure IV-1, Boscawen experienced a population boom in the 1970's which quickly tapered off in comparison to both the County and State proportions.

Table IV-3
Relative Shares of Population, 1767-2000

| Year | Boscawen Population | Boscawen as % of County | Boscawen as % of State |
|------|------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1767 | 285 | 8.2% | 0.5% |
| 1773 | 504 | 7.5% | 0.7% |
| 1783 | 757 | 10.3% | 1.2% |
| 1790 | 1,108 | 6.2% | 0.8% |
| 1800 | 1,414 | 5.8% | 0.8% |
| 1810 | 1,829 | 6.3% | 0.9% |
| 1820 | 2,113 | 6.2% | 0.9% |
| 1830 | 2,093 | 5.7% | 0.8% |
| 1840 | 1,965 | 5.2% | 0.7% |
| 1850 | 2,063 | 4.9% | 0.6% |
| 1860 | 2,274 | 5.3% | 0.7% |
| 1870 | 1,637 | 3.8% | 0.5% |
| 1880 | 1,381 | 3.0% | 0.4% |
| 1890 | 1,487 | 3.0% | 0.4% |
| 1900 | 1,455 | 2.8% | 0.4% |
| 1910 | 1,240 | 2.3% | 0.3% |
| 1920 | 1,260 | 2.4% | 0.3% |
| 1930 | 1,359 | 2.4% | 0.3% |
| 1940 | 1,663 | 2.7% | 0.3% |
| 1950 | 1,857 | 4.3% | 0.3% |
| 1960 | 2,181 | 4.6% | 0.4% |
| 1970 | 3,162 | 3.9% | 0.4% |
| 1980 | 3,435 | 3.5% | 0.4% |
| 1990 | 3,583 | 3.0% | 0.3% |
| 2000 | 3,672 | 2.7% | 0.3% |

Source: Historical US Census Data and Population Counts from Historical Records,
NH Office of State Planning and US Census 2000, April 2001

Figure IV-2
Boscawen's Relative Share of Population, 1960-2000



Source: US Census 1960-2000

Figure IV-2 indicates a downward population trend in Boscawen with respect to Merrimack County. The population of Boscawen becomes smaller proportionately as compared to the total population of Merrimack. This indicates that the Town is growing more slowly than any other town in Merrimack County.

Comparison to the State's population proportion shows that after 1980, Boscawen's population began to drop as compared to other towns in the State. Overall, Boscawen's population has not significantly increased or decreased between 1960-2000 when comparing to the other municipalities in New Hampshire because of the relatively small population size of Boscawen.

Table IV-4
Overall Population and Housing Growth Trends, 1960-2000

| Growth | Population | <u>Net Change</u> | | Housing Units | <u>Net Change</u> | |
|-------------------------------------------|------------|-------------------|-------|---------------|-------------------|-------|
| | | # | % | | # | % |
| 1960 (US Census) | 2,181 | --- | --- | na | --- | --- |
| 1970 (US Census) | 3,162 | +981 | 45.0% | 912 | na | na |
| 1980 (US Census) | 3,435 | +273 | 8.6% | 1,114 | 217 | 24.2% |
| 1990 (US Census) | 3,586 | +151 | 4.4% | 1,221 | 107 | 9.6% |
| 2000 (US Census) 1999 Housing (NH OSP) | 3,672 | +86 | 2.4% | 1,295 | 74 | 6.1% |
| Total Change from 1960 – 2000 | --- | +1,491 | 68.4% | --- | 398 | 44.4% |

Sources: 1960-1990 US Census CPH-2-31 Table 9 Population and Housing Unit Counts;
NH Office of State Planning Household Estimates 1999; US Census 2000 Data

Current Trends

Table IV-5 shows current population trends in Boscawen and the communities that border it. All areas have experienced growth in the last decade.

Table IV-5
Current Population Trends, 1990-2000
Boscawen and Abutting Communities

| | 1990 | 1991 | 1992 | 1993 | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 | 2000 |
|------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Boscawen | 3,586 | 3,561 | 3,566 | 3,586 | 3,552 | 3,572 | 3,629 | 3,616 | 3,607 | 3,614 | 3,672 |
| Canterbury | 1,687 | 1,708 | 1,700 | 1,717 | 1,730 | 1,748 | 1,771 | 1,800 | 1,800 | 1,847 | 1,979 |
| Concord | 36,006 | 36,059 | 36,364 | 36,762 | 37,010 | 37,290 | 37,850 | 37,925 | 38,180 | 38,318 | 40,687 |
| Franklin | 8,304 | 8,258 | 8,213 | 8,342 | 8,335 | 8,346 | 8,394 | 8,411 | 8,408 | 8,463 | 8,405 |
| Northfield | 4,263 | 4,301 | 4,314 | 4,362 | 4,415 | 4,452 | 4,503 | 4,509 | 4,517 | 4,548 | 4,548 |
| Salisbury | 1,061 | 1,066 | 1,071 | 1,072 | 1,085 | 1,091 | 1,103 | 1,125 | 1,137 | 1,143 | 1,137 |
| Webster | 1,403 | 1,402 | 1,403 | 1,405 | 1,417 | 1,426 | 1,447 | 1,478 | 1,498 | 1,541 | 1,579 |

Source: NH Office of State Planning 1991-1999 Population Estimates of NH Cities and Towns; *1990 US Census STF1A (P1); 2000 US Census

Table IV-6
Population Increase, 1990-2000
Boscawen and Abutting Communities

| | % Increase, 1990-2000 |
|------------|-----------------------|
| Boscawen | 2.4% |
| Canterbury | 17.3% |
| Concord | 13.0% |
| Franklin | 1.2% |
| Northfield | 6.7% |
| Salisbury | 7.2% |
| Webster | 12.4% |

Source: 1990 US Census & 2000 US Census, April 2001

Table IV-7
Population Density in Boscawen and Abutting Communities, 1960-2000

| Community | 2000 Population | Area in Square Miles (excluding water) | Persons per square mile | | | | |
|------------|-----------------|-------------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| | | | 1960 | 1970 | 1980 | 1990 | 2000 |
| Boscawen | 3,672 | 24.9 | 87.5 | 126.9 | 137.9 | 144.0 | 147.5 |
| Canterbury | 1,979 | 43.9 | 15.3 | 20.3 | 32.1 | 38.4 | 45.1 |
| Concord | 40,687 | 64.0 | 452.9 | 469.0 | 475.0 | 562.5 | 635.7 |
| Franklin | 8,405 | 27.7 | 243.3 | 263.2 | 285.2 | 299.7 | 303.4 |
| Northfield | 4,548 | 28.6 | 62.3 | 76.6 | 106.6 | 149.0 | 159.0 |
| Salisbury | 1,137 | 39.6 | 10.4 | 14.8 | 19.7 | 26.7 | 28.7 |
| Webster | 1,579 | 28.3 | 16.1 | 24.0 | 38.6 | 49.6 | 55.8 |

Sources 1960-1990 US Census STF1A (P1); 2000 NH OSP Total Land Area Figures for NH Cities and Towns

Table IV-8
Births and Deaths, 1960-2000

| Year | Births | Deaths | Natural Increase | Year | Births | Deaths | Natural Increase | Year | Births | Deaths | Natural Increase |
|------|--------|--------|------------------|------|--------|--------|------------------|------|--------|--------|------------------|
| 1960 | 62 | 79 | -17 | 1974 | 53 | 59 | -6 | 1988 | 37 | 134 | -97 |
| 1961 | 53 | 54 | -1 | 1975 | 37 | 78 | -41 | 1989 | 50 | 113 | -63 |
| 1962 | 38 | 96 | -58 | 1976 | 39 | 82 | -43 | 1990 | 39 | 84 | -45 |
| 1963 | 53 | 68 | -15 | 1977 | 45 | 75 | -30 | 1991 | 34 | 94 | -60 |
| 1964 | 54 | 73 | -19 | 1978 | 44 | 81 | -37 | 1992 | 26 | 84 | -58 |
| 1965 | 32 | 90 | -58 | 1979 | 46 | 85 | -39 | 1993 | 40 | 114 | -74 |
| 1966 | 50 | 79 | -29 | 1980 | 41 | 80 | -39 | 1994 | 27 | 88 | -61 |
| 1967 | 37 | 65 | -28 | 1981 | 53 | 80 | -27 | 1995 | 26 | 95 | -69 |
| 1968 | 43 | 79 | -36 | 1982 | 35 | 88 | -53 | 1996 | 28 | 92 | -64 |
| 1969 | 31 | 90 | -59 | 1983 | 45 | 98 | -53 | 1997 | 24 | 81 | -57 |
| 1970 | 57 | 83 | -26 | 1984 | 37 | 104 | -67 | 1998 | 24 | 73 | -49 |
| 1971 | 75 | 77 | -2 | 1985 | 32 | 93 | -61 | 1999 | 21 | 55 | -34 |
| 1972 | 63 | 72 | -9 | 1986 | 49 | 135 | -86 | 2000 | 16 | 64 | -48 |
| 1973 | 51 | 66 | -15 | 1987 | 38 | 117 | -79 | | | | |

Source: Town Reports and Other Sources

Since 1960, every year there has been a higher number of deaths than births within Boscawen. This is mainly attributed to the Merrimack County Nursing Home, and perhaps also to the slow in-migration growth rate of the Town.

Population Projections

While it is important for any community to plan ahead for an anticipated increase in population, which in turn increases pressure on community services and facilities, this section should be taken lightly as new population projections have not been produced by the Office of State Planning since the 2000 Census of population was released. Old figures, which are the numbers most currently available, were used in the creation of these comparisons.

In Table IV-9, projected future population growth was calculated based upon the community's historical share of the County's population. It shows the projected population for Boscawen and abutting communities.

Table IV-9
Population Projections, 2000-2020
Boscawen and Abutting Communities

| Towns | 2000 | 2005 | 2010 | 2015 | 2020 |
|------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Boscawen | 3,744 | 3,929 | 4,033 | 4,213 | 4,402 |
| Canterbury | 1,826 | 1,915 | 1,967 | 2,058 | 2,158 |
| Concord | 39,095 | 41,095 | 42,330 | 44,193 | 46,382 |
| Franklin | 8,654 | 9,060 | 9,285 | 9,665 | 10,069 |
| Northfield | 4,662 | 4,937 | 5,099 | 5,393 | 5,719 |
| Salisbury | 1,142 | 1,209 | 1,248 | 1,319 | 1,397 |
| Webster | 1,498 | 1,587 | 1,639 | 1,720 | 1,817 |

Source: 1997 NH Office of State Planning Municipal Population Projections 2000-2020

Note that the 2000 population figure for Boscawen in Table IV-9 was 72 persons higher than was actually counted during the 2000 Census. All projections should be reviewed with care as no methodology is perfect enough to predict what an actual future count would be. Tables IV-10 and IV-11 share similar inherent problems:

Table IV-10
Actual Population Growth and Projections, 1960-2020

| | Town of Boscawen | | Merrimack County | | State of New Hampshire | |
|------|------------------|------------|------------------|------------|------------------------|------------|
| Year | Population | % increase | Population | % increase | Population | % increase |
| 1960 | 2,181 | 17.4 | 67,785 | 7.6 | 606,400 | 13.7 |
| 1970 | 3,162 | 45 | 80,925 | 19.4 | 737,681 | 21.6 |
| 1980 | 3,435 | 8.6 | 98,302 | 21.5 | 970,610 | 31.6 |
| 1990 | 3,583 | 4.3 | 120,240 | 22.3 | 1,109,252 | 14.3 |
| 2000 | 3,672 | 2.5 | 136,225 | 13.3 | 1,235,786 | 11.4 |
| 2010 | 4,033 | 9.8 | 141,326 | 3.7 | 1,358,750 | 10.0 |
| 2020 | 4,402 | 9.1 | 156,115 | 10.5 | 1,527,873 | 12.4 |

Sources: 1960-1990 US Census STF1A (P1); US Census 2000, DP-1;
1997 NH Office of State Planning Municipal Population Projections 2000-2020

Table IV-11
Projected Population Density, 1999-2020
Boscawen and Abutting Communities

| Towns | Square Miles (excluding water) | Persons per Square Mile | | | | | |
|------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| | | Projected (*Actual 2000 Data) | | | | | |
| | | 1999 | 2000* | 2005 | 2010 | 2015 | 2020 |
| Boscawen | 24.9 | 145.1 | 147.5 | 157.8 | 162.0 | 169.2 | 176.8 |
| Canterbury | 43.9 | 42.1 | 45.1 | 43.6 | 44.8 | 46.9 | 49.2 |
| Concord | 64.0 | 520.6 | 635.7 | 642.1 | 661.4 | 690.5 | 724.7 |
| Franklin | 27.7 | 305.5 | 303.4 | 327.1 | 335.2 | 348.9 | 363.5 |
| Northfield | 28.6 | 159.0 | 159.0 | 172.6 | 178.3 | 188.6 | 200.0 |
| Salisbury | 39.6 | 28.9 | 28.7 | 30.5 | 31.5 | 33.3 | 35.3 |
| Webster | 28.3 | 54.5 | 55.8 | 56.1 | 57.9 | 60.8 | 64.2 |

Sources: 1999 NH OSP Population Estimates of NH Cities and Towns;
Municipal Population Projections 2000-2020; NH GRANIT System, 2000; *actual based on 2000 US Census

The accurate figures in Tables IV-10 and 11 are the year 2000 populations because the 2000 Census count was used for the resulting calculations. The tables can be used for comparison purposes, but again, outdated projections should not be taken literally.

POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS

Knowing not only the numbers of people living in Boscawen but also the characteristics of the residents is the key to adequately planning for Boscawen's future needs. These needs will include recreational opportunities, Town services, education, and support services.

Population by Age

The age of a population group is important in determining if sufficient means for daycare, schooling, housing, employment, and senior services exist within a community. According to Table IV-21, an aging population is found in Boscawen, with the Census 2000 35 to 44 age group moving steadily along through the previous decades and presumably into future census counts. In addition, recent new home development will bring additional school-age children to the Town, further pressuring existing facilities.

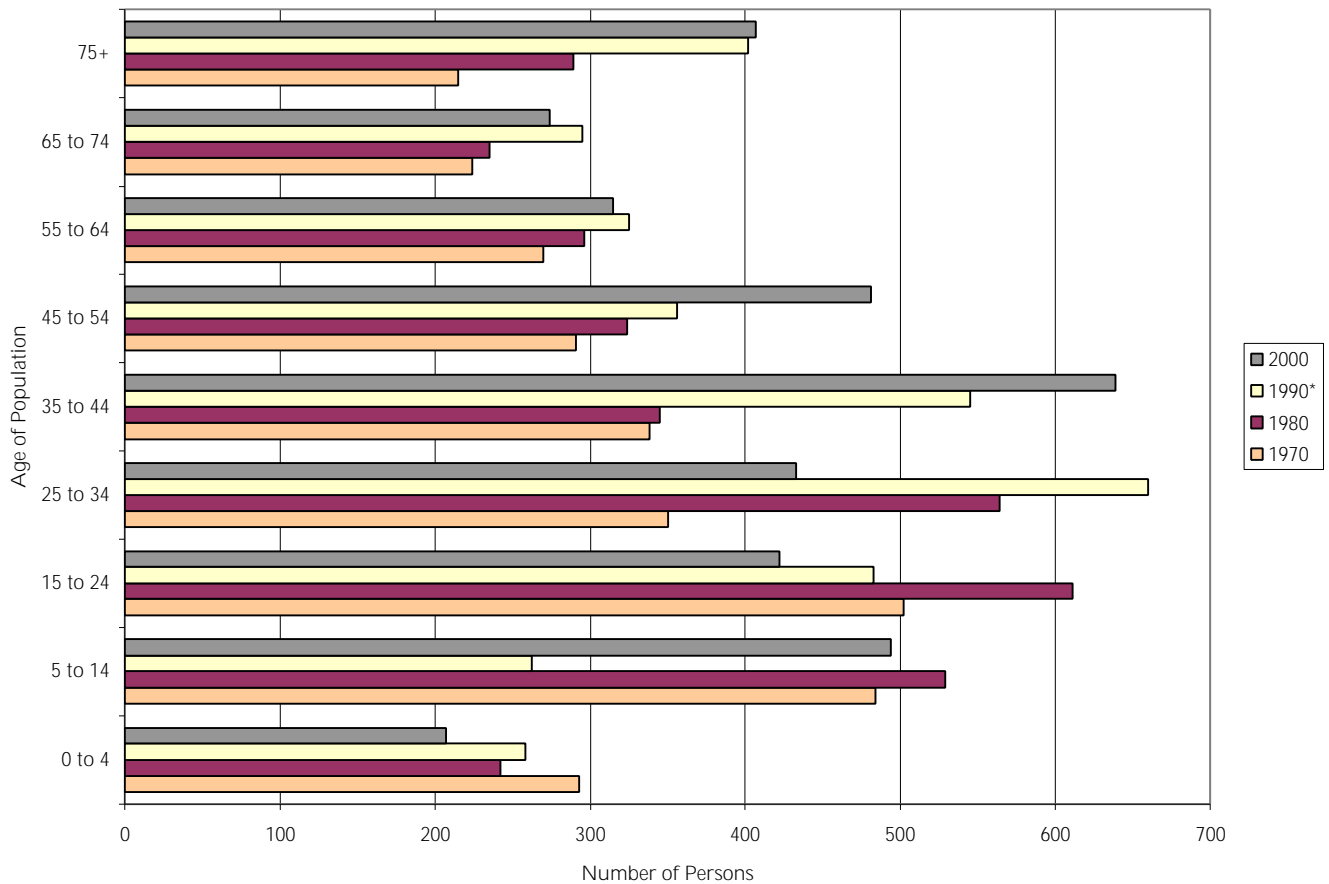
Table IV-12
Boscawen Population by Age

| Age Group | Number of Persons by Age | | | |
|-----------|--------------------------|------|-------|------|
| | 1970 | 1980 | 1990* | 2000 |
| 0 to 4 | 293 | 242 | 258 | 207 |
| 5 to 14 | 484 | 529 | 262 | 494 |
| 15 to 24 | 502 | 611 | 483 | 422 |
| 25 to 34 | 350 | 564 | 660 | 433 |
| 35 to 44 | 338 | 345 | 545 | 639 |
| 45 to 54 | 291 | 324 | 356 | 481 |
| 55 to 64 | 270 | 296 | 325 | 315 |
| 65 to 74 | 224 | 235 | 295 | 274 |
| 75+ | 215 | 289 | 402 | 407 |
| Total | 2967 | 3435 | 3586 | 3672 |

Source: OSP Comparison Binder of 70-80; 1970-90 US Census STF1A (P11 and P12)

* 1990 US Census CP-1-31 Gen. Pop. Characteristics Table 68, discrepancies found; 2000 Census DP-1

Figure IV-3
Boscawen Population Trends by Age Group, 1970-2000



Source: OSP Comparison Binder of 70-80; 1970-90 US Census STF1A (P11 and P12)

* 1990 US Census CP-1-31 Gen. Pop. Characteristics Table 68, discrepancies found; 2000 Census DP-1

Figure IV-3 illustrates the growing number of school children and middle-aged people. Within 10-15 years, there will be a substantial aging population which will require the appropriate services needed to sustain the elderly. In the meantime, a boom of 5-14 year old children is found; this may be the reason for the increased need of daycare and after school facilities.

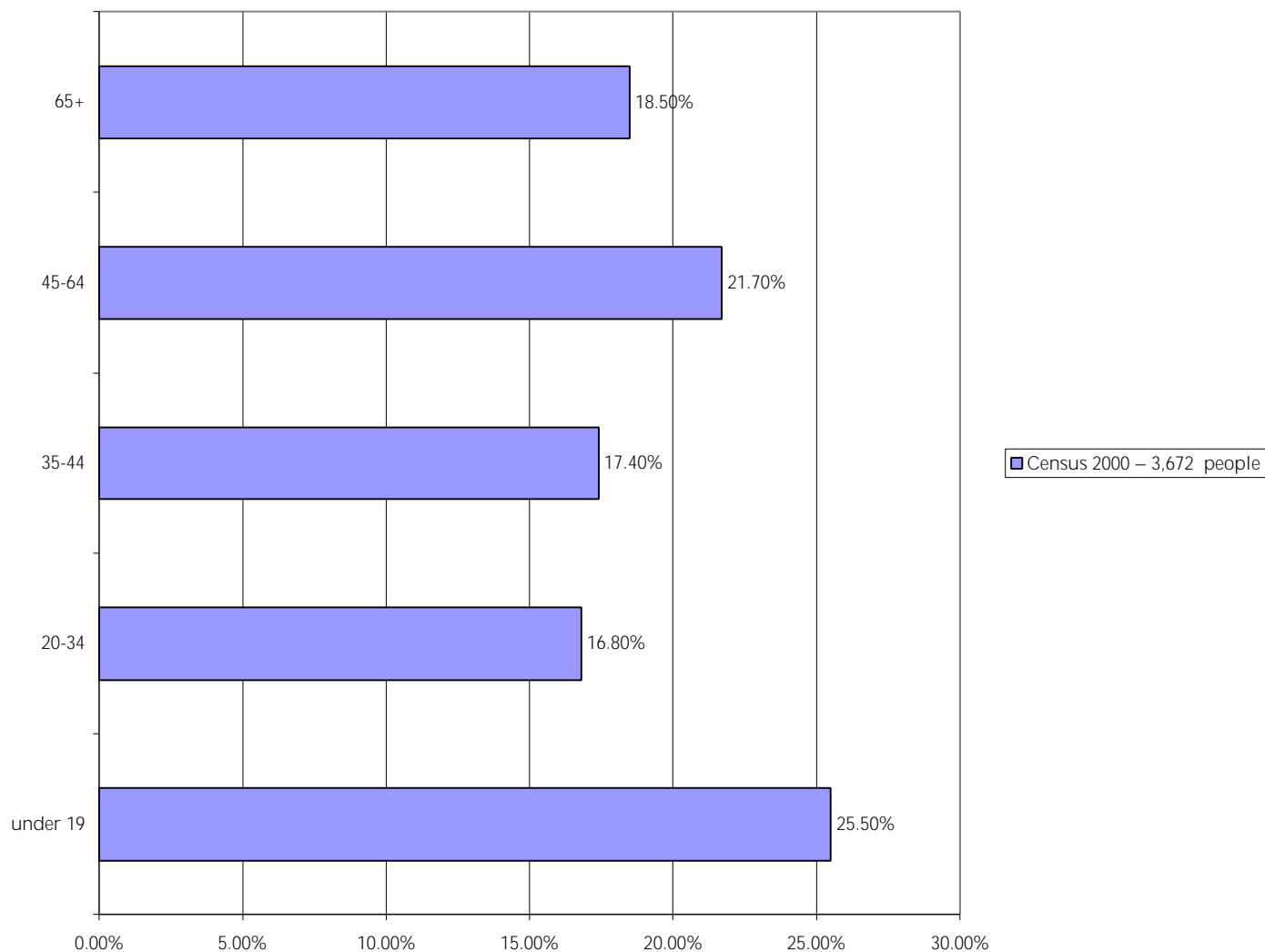
Table IV-13
Percentage of Population by Age Group, 2000

| Age Group | Census 2000 – 3,672 people |
|-----------|----------------------------|
| under 19 | 25.5% |
| 20-34 | 16.8% |
| 35-44 | 17.4% |
| 45-64 | 21.7% |
| 65+ | 18.5% |
| Total | 100% |

Source: 2000 US Census DP-1

According to the new 2000 Census, median age of a person in Boscawen is 39.4 years.

Figure IV-4
Percentage of Population by Age Group, 2000



Source: 2000 US Census DP-1

The age groups presented in Figure IV-4 are roughly broken up into either generations or logical groupings. Almost 40% of residents are over the age of 45 while approximately 25% are minors.

Table IV-14
Boscawen Elementary School Enrollment K-5, 1990-2001

| Year | Population | Growth % | Enrollment | Growth % | Pop/Pupil % |
|--------|------------|----------|------------|----------|-------------|
| 1990 | 3,586 | --- | 191* | --- | 5.3% |
| 1991 | 3,561 | -0.7% | 212* | 11.0% | 6.0% |
| 1992 | 3,566 | 0.1% | 216* | 1.9% | 6.1% |
| 1993 | 3,586 | 0.6% | 247* | 14.4% | 6.9% |
| 1994 | 3,552 | -0.9% | 247 | 0.0% | 7.0% |
| 1995 | 3,572 | 0.6% | 266 | 7.7% | 7.4% |
| 1996 | 3,629 | 1.6% | 277 | 4.1% | 7.6% |
| 1997 | 3,616 | -0.4% | 301 | 8.7% | 8.3% |
| 1998 | 3,607 | -0.2% | 283 | -6.0% | 7.8% |
| 1999 | 3,614 | 0.2% | 282 | -0.4% | 7.8% |
| 2000 | 3,672 | 1.6% | 291 | 3.2% | 7.9% |
| 2001 | 3,680 | 0.2% | 262 | -10.0% | 7.1% |
| Growth | 94 | 2.6% | 71 | 52.4% | |

Sources: CNHRPC Population Figures; 2001 Merrimack Valley School District Report;
Enrollment Reports provided by MVSD; *approximate number of pupils

The Boscawen Elementary School and Merrimack Valley Middle and High Schools are explored more in depth in the **COMMUNITY AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES AND UTILITIES CHAPTER**. From a quick glance at Table IV-14, it seems enrollment at the Elementary School averages to become fairly steady after some jumps and declines in enrollment over the past eleven years.

As of the time of this publication, numbers of Boscawen students in the Merrimack Valley Middle and High School grades 6-12 were not available.

Household Size

The number of persons per household is indicative of sprawl patterns, social constructs, and economic circumstances. After a 1990 boom, the trend since 1980 seems to indicate that the number of persons per household in Boscawen is decreasing.

Table IV-15
Average Household Size

| | 1970 | 1980 | 1990 | 2000 |
|-------------------------------|------|------|------|------|
| Average persons per household | na | 2.72 | 3.05 | 2.57 |

Source: 1980, 1990, 2000 US Census

Educational Attainment

Table IV-16 shows the educational attainment of Boscawen residents, residents of the communities that surround Boscawen, as well as the entire County.

Table IV-16
Educational Attainment, 1990

| | Population | Responses | | less than 9th grade | | 9th-12th grade (no diploma) | | H.S. diploma or GED | |
|---------------|------------|-----------|---------|---------------------|---------|-----------------------------|---------|---------------------|---------|
| | | number | percent | number | percent | number | percent | number | percent |
| Boscawen | 3,588 | 2786 | 77.6% | 315 | 11.3% | 488 | 17.5% | 1044 | 37.5% |
| Canterbury | 1,687 | 1231 | 73.0% | 29 | 2.4% | 109 | 8.9% | 349 | 28.4% |
| Concord | 36,006 | 27657 | 76.8% | 1285 | 4.6% | 3236 | 11.7% | 8956 | 32.4% |
| Franklin | 8,304 | na | na | 525 | 6.3% | 930 | 11.1% | 2122 | 25.5% |
| Northfield | 4,263 | na | na | 123 | 2.8% | 123 | 2.8% | 512 | 12.0% |
| Salisbury | 1,061 | 794 | 74.8% | 43 | 5.4% | 96 | 12.1% | 328 | 41.3% |
| Webster | 1,405 | 1025 | 73.0% | 42 | 4.1% | 72 | 7.0% | 413 | 40.3% |
| Merrimack Cty | 120,005 | 89589 | 74.7% | 4980 | 5.6% | 10883 | 12.1% | 29077 | 32.5% |

| | Some College (no degree) | | Associate's Degree | | Bachelor's Degree | | Graduate Degree | |
|------------------|--------------------------|---------|--------------------|---------|-------------------|---------|-----------------|---------|
| | number | percent | number | percent | number | percent | number | percent |
| Boscawen | 455 | 16.3% | 148 | 5.3% | 275 | 9.9% | 56 | 2.0% |
| Canterbury | 214 | 17.4% | 106 | 8.6% | 235 | 19.1% | 189 | 15.4% |
| Concord | 5416 | 19.6% | 2003 | 7.2% | 4442 | 16.1% | 2877 | 10.4% |
| Franklin | 722 | 8.6% | 349 | 4.2% | 493 | 5.9% | 149 | 1.7% |
| Northfield | 357 | 8.3% | 196 | 4.5% | 307 | 7.2% | 171 | 4.0% |
| Salisbury | 124 | 15.6% | 53 | 6.7% | 91 | 11.5% | 49 | 6.2% |
| Webster | 197 | 19.2% | 78 | 7.6% | 148 | 14.4% | 77 | 7.5% |
| Merrimack County | 17137 | 19.1% | 7006 | 7.8% | 13807 | 15.4% | 6879 | 7.7% |

Source: The 1990 Cities and Towns Fact Book from NH Employment Security; 1990 Census data

The Census question asked households to indicate the highest level of education each household member aged 25 and above had attained. Almost 38% of residents living in Boscawen have obtained their high school diploma or GED, a rate higher than that of the average for Merrimack County. However, 28.8% of Boscawen residents do not have a high school diploma. This figure is substantially higher than that of surrounding communities and the County average (17.7%). Boscawen also has a low rate of post-secondary education according to the 1990 Census (33.5%); the average for Merrimack County was 50%.

The reasons for Boscawen's lower educational attainment can only be speculated. The 2000 Census figures, when available, should be closely examined to see if a trend is present.

ECONOMICS

EMPLOYMENT CHARACTERISTICS

Boscawen is considered a “bedroom” community to nearby Concord and other small cities. Most of the residents are employed outside of Boscawen. Unemployment rates have remained average in comparison to abutting towns. In the Population section, tables depict the educational attainment of Boscawen residents in 1990. This level is generally lower than the averages for Merrimack County. Different employment and income characteristics of Boscawen residents will be examined in this section.

Commuting Patterns

The most current data available for much of the Economics section is from the 1990 Census. Nonetheless, it is difficult to dispute that most residents travel outside of Boscawen to their places of employment. Table IV-17's commuting patterns depict responses from residents that were 16 years of age and older.

Table IV-17
Boscawen Residents' Commuting Patterns, 1990

| | | |
|------------------------------------------------|-------|-------|
| Estimated Residents Working (population 3,586) | 1,649 | |
| Residents Commuting to Another Town | 1,362 | 82.6% |
| Residents Employed In Boscawen | 287 | 17.4% |

Sources: 1990 Census Social & Economic Characteristics (CP-2-31) Table 198

The distance to employers has an effect on the ability of residents to travel to their place of employment. The greater the distance, the greater the hardship on residents. This hardship, which may manifest in the form of lower income (see Table IV-25), can be reduced by shared transportation or by the availability of closer employment.

Table IV-18
Commuting Time for Area Residents, 1980 - 1990

| | 1980 Mean Travel Time to Work (minutes) | 1990 Mean Travel Time to Work (minutes) |
|------------------|-----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| Boscawen | 19.9 | 21.8 |
| Canterbury | na | 20.1 |
| Concord | 14.5 | 17.8 |
| Franklin | 21.0 | 21.3 |
| Northfield | 18.5 | 21.3 |
| Salisbury | na | na |
| Webster | na | na |
| Merrimack County | 18.9 | 21.5 |

Source: 1980 Census Table 156, 166 & 174 and 1990 Census Table 2, Social & Economic Characteristics

Between 1980 and 1990, the commuting times for all inventoried towns increased. This fact may be due to increased congestion and/or the inability to find a nearby job to suit the skills of residents.

Employment in Boscawen

Of the 3,672 persons counted in 2000, in 1999 2,020 (55%) were in the labor force. This figure does not include persons in the military or armed services, but does include most local, state, and federal governmental employees and residents aged 16 and over.

Table IV-19
Number of Civilians in the Labor Force

| | 1990 | 1991 | 1992 | 1993 | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 | % Change from '90- '99 |
|------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|------|--------|--------|--------|--------|------------------------------|
| Boscawen | 1,634 | 1,819 | 1,806 | 1,798 | 1,849 | na | 1,848 | 1,925 | 1,962 | 2,020 | 23.6% |
| Canterbury | 907 | 1,047 | 1,047 | 1,083 | 1,163 | na | 1,139 | 1,165 | 1,194 | 1,234 | 36.1% |
| Concord | 17,372 | 19,367 | 19,181 | 19,352 | 20,479 | na | 20,223 | 20,928 | 21,332 | 21,908 | 26.1% |
| Franklin | 3,865 | 4,242 | 4,179 | 4,087 | 4,055 | na | 4,340 | 4,428 | 4,495 | 4,593 | 18.8% |
| Northfield | 2,274 | 2,481 | 2,557 | 2,654 | 3,203 | na | 2,734 | 2,815 | 2,874 | 2,946 | 29.6% |
| Salisbury | 511 | 589 | 599 | 579 | 611 | na | 616 | 642 | 670 | 685 | 34.1% |
| Webster | 715 | 825 | 819 | 791 | 819 | na | 888 | 919 | 957 | 981 | 37.2% |

Source: NH Department of Employment Security City and Town Benchmark Data 1990-1999

For the purposes of this Chapter, Major Employers have been defined as those having five or more employees. These businesses or services are listed in Table IV-20 and are depicted on the *Major Employers Map*:

Table IV-20
Major Employers in the Town of Boscawen, 2001

| Company | Employees in Boscawen | Type of Business |
|----------------------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Town of Boscawen | 26 | Municipal government |
| Boscawen Elementary School | 55 | School |
| NH Bituminous Company, Inc | 12 | Paving |
| Steenbeke & Sons | 102 | Hardware and lumber store |
| Elektrisola, Inc | 210 | Manufacturing of copper wire |
| Coastal Concrete of NH / Wakefield Materials | 8 | Concrete |
| Kwik Stop / Sunoco | 7 | Gas and convenience store |
| Dunkin' Donuts | 10 | Fast food restaurant |
| KSD Custom Wood Products | 17 | Specialty windows and doors |
| Carl Matthews Equipment Co, Inc | 10 | Heavy equipment rentals |
| Marshall's Flowers & Gift Studio, Inc | 5 | Flowers and gifts |
| Daily Scoop | 10 | Seasonal snack bar |
| The Robin's Nest | 5 | Hair styling and personal grooming |
| Plaisted Landscape Supply & Country Store | 10 | Seasonal landscaping |
| Carey's Market | 5 | Convenience store |
| The Brodeur Group Integrated Marketing | 6 | Advertising |
| Architectural Specialties, Inc | 18 | Specialty door frames and hardware |
| Shady Pines Motel & Jim's Place Diner | 11 | Motel and restaurant |
| Bradley's Pizza | 18 | Restaurant |
| Kapelli's Pizzeria & Restaurant | 7 | Restaurant |
| Alan's of Boscawen | 30 | Restaurant |
| Ross Express, Inc | 102 | Trucking |
| Brigade Fire Protection | 10 | Installation of sprinkling systems |
| Prototek | 12 | Sheet metal work |
| Smith Steet | 10 | Installation of metal buildings |
| Colby Lumber | 12 | Lumberyard |
| NH Veterans' Cemetery | 7 | State cemetery |
| Merrimack County Nursing Home | 439 | County nursing home |
| Merrimack County Correctional Facilities | 60 | County jail |
| Cumberland Farms | 10 | Gas and convenience store |
| Riverside Veterinary Hospital | 35 | Animal hospital |

Sources: Town of Boscawen; Subcommittee Input; 2001 Merrimack Valley School District; and calls to businesses

The unemployment rate in Boscawen is currently among the highest of surrounding communities, although Franklin has had the largest fluctuations since 1990:

Table IV-21
Unemployment Rate Trends, 1990 to 1999

| | 1990 | 1991 | 1992 | 1993 | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 | Change from '90- '99 |
|------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|----------------------------|
| Boscawen | 4.9 | 6.3 | 4.8 | 5.0 | 3.3 | 2.9 | 2.7 | 2.8 | 2.4 | 2.3 | -2.6 |
| Canterbury | 4.4 | 5.4 | 3.3 | 3.4 | 2.2 | 1.9 | 2.7 | 1.4 | 1.5 | 1.7 | -2.7 |
| Concord | 5.4 | 7.0 | 6.5 | 4.7 | 3.2 | 2.6 | 2.8 | 2.4 | 2.3 | 1.9 | -3.5 |
| Franklin | 8.3 | 9.9 | 10.4 | 8.1 | 4.5 | 3.7 | 4.2 | 3.2 | 3.2 | 2.3 | -6.0 |
| Northfield | 4.5 | 5.7 | 5.7 | 4.8 | 3.1 | 2.7 | 3.1 | 2.6 | 2.5 | 1.9 | -2.6 |
| Salisbury | 4.5 | 3.9 | 5.0 | 1.6 | 3.1 | 1.7 | 1.9 | 2.2 | 2.8 | 2.0 | -2.5 |
| Webster | 2.7 | 3.8 | 3.3 | 2.4 | 2.4 | 1.2 | 3.0 | 2.3 | 2.6 | 2.0 | -0.7 |

Source: NH Department of Employment Security City and Town Benchmark Data 1990-1999

Occupations

In lieu of recent occupational data, 1990 Census data was utilized:

Table IV-22
Occupation of Employed Individuals over Age Sixteen, 1990

| | Number | Percent |
|----------------------------------------------------------|--------|---------|
| Employed individuals over age 16 | 1687 | |
| Managerial and professional specialty occupations | 345 | 20.5% |
| executive, administrative, and managerial occupations | 194 | 11.5% |
| professional specialty occupations | 151 | 9.0% |
| Technical, sales, and administrative support occupations | 410 | 24.3% |
| health technologists and technicians | - | |
| other technologists and technicians | 21 | 1.2% |
| sales occupations | 151 | 9.0% |
| administrative support occupations, including clerical | 238 | 14.1% |
| Service occupations | 297 | 17.6% |
| private household occupations | 7 | 0.4% |
| protective service occupations | 57 | 3.4 |
| service occupations, other | 233 | 13.8 |
| Farming, fishing, and forestry | 86 | 5.1 |
| farm operators and managers | 21 | 1.2 |
| farm workers and related occupations | 50 | 3.0 |
| Precision production, craft, and repair occupations | 284 | 16.8 |
| mechanics and repairers | 50 | 3.0 |
| construction trades | 115 | 6.8 |
| precision production occupations | 119 | 7.1 |
| Operators, fabricators, and laborers | 265 | 15.7 |
| machine operators, tenders, except precision | 68 | 4.0 |
| fabricators, assemblers, inspectors, samplers | 74 | 4.4 |
| transportation occupations | 31 | 1.8 |
| material moving operators | 22 | 1.3 |
| handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, laborers | 70 | 4.1 |

Source: 1990 US Census CP-2-31 Table 201

INCOME CHARACTERISTICS

As the heart of an economic structure within a town, the characteristics of the income of both a household and an individual tell a tale of the economic conditions within that community. Both Average Weekly Annual Wage (from Boscawen employers) comparisons and Household and Per Capita Income comparisons (from Boscawen and non-Boscawen employers) give indications of the economic health and employment opportunities within a town.

Wage Comparisons

These wages in Table IV-23 represent what employers in the respective towns are paying their workers. The workers reside in any municipality. From this table, one can see where the economic opportunities (i.e., highest-paying jobs) are located.

Table IV-23
Average Annual Weekly Wage - Private Industries and Government

| Town | 1993 | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 | Change, 1993-1999 |
|------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|----------------------|
| Boscawen | \$399 | \$455 | \$421 | \$463 | \$412 | \$440 | \$481 | 20.6% |
| Canterbury | \$378 | \$394 | \$391 | \$380 | \$374 | \$395 | \$497 | 31.5% |
| Concord | \$565 | \$557 | \$569 | \$574 | \$582 | \$576 | \$641 | 13.5% |
| Franklin | \$474 | \$472 | \$487 | \$514 | \$561 | \$571 | \$585 | 23.4% |
| Northfield | \$349 | \$337 | \$361 | \$334 | \$399 | \$413 | \$491 | 40.7% |
| Salisbury | \$388 | \$389 | \$359 | \$357 | \$424 | \$491 | \$458 | 18.0% |
| Webster | \$162 | \$252 | \$195 | \$243 | \$315 | \$377 | \$382 | 135.8% |

Source: NH Department of Employment Security – NNetwork website

Household and Per Capita Income Comparisons

While wage comparisons are helpful and important, they do not directly address the economic condition of Boscawen residents themselves. As with other tables, the old 1990 data presented here should be updated when the 2000 Census figures become available.

Table IV-24
Yearly Household Income, 1990

| Yearly gross household income in Boscawen | Number of households | Percent of total |
|----------------------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------|
| less than \$5,000 | 52 | 4.5% |
| \$5,000-\$9,999 | 65 | 5.6% |
| \$10,000-\$14,999 | 134 | 11.6% |
| \$15,000-\$24,999 | 231 | 20.1% |
| \$25,000-\$34,999 | 193 | 16.8% |
| \$35,000-\$49,999 | 258 | 22.4% |
| \$50,000-\$74,999 | 174 | 15.1% |
| \$75,000-\$99,999 | 39 | 3.4% |
| more than \$100,000 | 6 | 0.5% |
| Total households | 1,152 | 100.0% |
| Median income | \$31,304 | |
| Mean income | \$33,135 | |

Source: 1990 US Census Table 202, CP-2-31

Per capita incomes are helpful to see if any disparity exists between neighboring towns. The income is what the wage-earners from the respective towns bring home prior to taxes. More current information should be soon available, and the figures in Table IV-25 do not account for inflation:

Table IV-25
Per Capita Income

| Town | 1989 | 1996 | Change % |
|------------|----------|----------|----------|
| Boscawen | \$11,656 | \$14,166 | 21.5% |
| Canterbury | \$19,149 | \$23,755 | 24.1% |
| Concord | \$15,981 | \$18,129 | 13.4% |
| Franklin | \$12,095 | \$14,236 | 17.7% |
| Northfield | \$12,728 | \$16,329 | 28.3% |
| Salisbury | \$13,993 | \$17,127 | 22.4% |
| Webster | \$14,790 | \$16,257 | 9.9% |

Sources: 1990 US Census, NH Department of Employment Security

TOWN TAX RATES

An examination of the tax rates and town revenues also help to gauge the economic health of a community.

Table IV-26
Breakdown of Boscawen Tax Rates, 1995-2000

| Year | Municipal Rate per \$1000 | County Rate per \$1000 | School Rate per \$1000 | State Education Rate per \$1000 | Total Rate per \$1000 |
|------|------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1995 | \$4.37 | \$2.31 | \$19.32 | - | \$26.00 |
| 1996 | \$4.05 | \$2.04 | \$22.41 | - | \$28.50 |
| 1997 | \$4.40 | \$2.34 | \$22.07 | - | \$28.81 |
| 1998 | \$4.69 | \$2.21 | \$23.88 | - | \$30.78 |
| 1999 | \$6.70 | \$2.09 | \$10.96 | \$6.63 | \$26.38 |
| 2000 | \$6.69 | \$2.41 | \$15.01 | \$6.48 | \$30.59 |

Source: Boscawen Town Reports

Table IV-27
Tax Rates of Boscawen and Abutting Communities, 2000

| Community | Tax Rate per \$1000 | Equalized Tax Rate per \$1000 |
|------------|------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Boscawen | \$30.59 | \$26.21 |
| Canterbury | \$27.42 | \$21.22 |
| Concord | \$33.96 | \$25.42 |
| Franklin | \$32.02 | \$27.04 |
| Northfield | \$26.90 | \$24.27 |
| Salisbury | \$23.09 | \$17.77 |
| Webster | \$22.96 | \$20.51 |

Source: Town Reports, NH Department of Revenue Administration website

SUMMARY

Although this Subcommittee had to work primarily with 1990 Census data, some key 2000 Census numbers were available which indicate trends that must be monitored. Statistics show that the Town, up until 2000, has grown at a very slow rate. Recent activities in Boscawen, such as the number of proposed and recently approved subdivisions, indicate the Town will soon be pressured to manage a population boom as well as a change in demographics.

Within one generation, over 40% of current residents will be senior citizens. Within the same timeframe, another 25% will be of schooling age. To accommodate these changes in demographics and the pressures of growth, the Population and Economics Subcommittee presents a series of Recommendations intended to increase the non-residential tax base, to encourage new businesses, and to require new residential development to offset the costs of expanded community services.

While Boscawen's neighboring communities have experienced rapid growth over the past 10 years, Boscawen's growth has lagged behind. These other communities are now enacting control measures, which will make Boscawen a target for further development. Preservation of open spaces and agriculture are high priorities for residents, and a thorough examination of the Zoning Ordinance and Regulations must be undertaken. The Town must ensure future growth is channeled and controlled in such a way as to 1) maintain the community's character; 2) provide for the economic, housing and educational needs of Boscawen's citizenry and 3) develop and maintain a stable tax base.

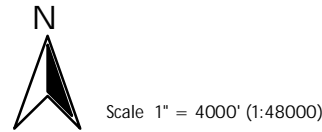
Town of Boscawen

2001-2002 Master Plan

Major Employers Map

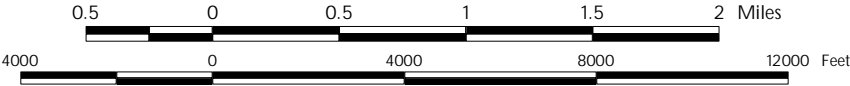
Map 3

Legend
Major Employer (Greater than 5 employees)



DISCLAIMER:
This map series is intended for use with the Boscawen Master Plan. The information presented is to be used for planning purposes and may not fully represent actual geographic conditions. Inaccuracies should be directed to the Town of Boscawen or to the Central NH Regional Planning Commission.

Data Sources for the Boscawen Master Plan Map Series:
USGS quadrangles through NH GRANIT (1:24000);
Society for the Protection of NH Forests (1:24000); US Fish and Wildlife (1:24000); Natural Resources Conservation Service (1:24000); and CNHRPC (1:24000).
Corrections to existing layers by the Town of Boscawen and CNHRPC.



Base Legend
Political Boundary
Class I & II Secondary State Highways
Class V Town Maintained Roads
Class VI Town Unmaintained Roads
Other Roads (Private, Future, Discontinued, etc)
Rivers and Streams
Intermittent Streams
Water Bodies

This map was produced by the
Central New Hampshire Regional Planning Commission
for the Boscawen Master Plan, February 2002.

HOUSING

Chapter V



Senior Housing, Boscawen Green



*Medium-Density Residential Area,
Circle Drive*



Historic Kenney House, King Street



Modern Home, Weir Road

Chapter V HOUSING

"The Webster dictionary defines 'house' as a 'building for human beings to live in' – it is more than that; it's a home, and it reflects the characteristics of a neighborhood, a way of life and social attitudes. These neighborhoods collectively define our Town and eventually how we and our Town are perceived by others."

- Housing Subcommittee

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of the housing Chapter in this Master Plan is to identify Boscawen's current housing inventory, short-term housing needs, and to develop long-range plans for single family, multi-family, and senior housing.

Safe, quality, and sanitary housing that reflects the rural atmosphere of the community is important to the long-term future of Boscawen. The housing character of any community is perhaps the most obvious indication of the quality of life in the community. Boscawen's housing stock consists largely of detached, single-family homes. Twenty percent of housing units are multi-family. The Town has twelve manufactured housing parks.

The vision for this chapter is to consider the character of the community and natural resources when planning for the future housing needs of a growing population. The concern for preserving Boscawen's resources gives rise to innovative opportunities. By creating a senior housing development in the Village area or along King Street, walkable access to services and amenities is granted. By encouraging open space development as an alternative option to conventional subdivisions, green space is preserved and neighborhoods are formed. Both strategies create a greater sense of heritage and connection to the community. The encouragement of innovative energy conservation measures when constructing new homes will further enhance the feel of self-sufficiency and interconnectedness with nature that residents cherish.

At the April 2001 Community Visioning Session, the Housing discussion group created a list of items of concern which will be addressed in this Chapter. They include the rate and type of growth, acceptable road access (location and design), retaining open/green space, and creating quality housing opportunities. The growth issues are among the more complex to address, since they bring together concerns such as the development of building codes, the review and updating of the Zoning Ordinance and Regulations, impact fees, and lack of senior and emergency housing. One common theme was that an initiative and process should be developed and adopted to assure new growth will absorb added cost for expanded Town services and education. Much of the land adjacent to Water Street, High Street, and Corn Hill Road has remained in agricultural use and/or is undeveloped. Appropriate measures should be undertaken to see that open space is retained as part of the rural character of the Town.

OBJECTIVES OF THE CHAPTER AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- To manage and monitor new growth and development so that it bears its fair and equitable share of the costs for the Town's public facilities, services and school district needs.
 - ? Encourage the Board of Selectmen to create an advisory Housing Committee to address the senior and emergency housing needs as identified in this Chapter.
 - ? Create a Town website to include Boscawen's ordinances and regulations so residents and developers are aware of restrictions and opportunities.
 - ? Consider re-zoning portions of the Town to encourage business or light industrial opportunities.
 - ? Encourage the Planning Board to develop, maintain, and utilize a database to monitor growth trends.
- To expand affordable housing by encouraging the development of senior housing within the Town proper.
 - ? Examine senior waiting lists to determine the need, level and timeliness of building senior housing.
 - ? Examine the locations for senior housing, potentially along North Main Street, King Street, in the new section of the former Main Street School, or closer to available services.
 - ? Pursue funding, including subsidies and grants, to build senior housing.
 - ? Consult with Concord Area Transit (CAT) to potentially expand their route system to accommodate Boscawen seniors and residents.
- To encourage new development of an emergency housing shelter to accommodate the Town's needs.
 - ? Consult with the Human Services Director to determine the needs and scope of emergency housing services, and upgrade the budget for immediate apartment rental needs if necessary.
 - ? Encourage the Housing Committee to explore options for the location and quantity of emergency housing, if needed.
 - ? Plan, locate, and/or construct emergency housing close to services.

- To encourage residential growth to be retained at its present rate.
 - ? Encourage the Board of Selectmen and Planning Board to complete and maintain a Capital Improvements Program.
 - ? Draft a Growth Management Ordinance to meet the above objective for adoption at Town Meeting.
 - ? Encourage the development of impact fees and place monies acquired into capital reserve funds.
 - ? Evaluate, revise, and initiate zoning changes to discourage high-density residential development in rural areas.
- To encourage good land and water conservation practices in residential development and to retain and preserve green space and a rural Town character.
 - ? Review the current Cluster Development Ordinance and revise as appropriate, such as examining the benefits of new cluster development in the R-1 and R-2 zoning districts.
 - ? Encourage open space preservation in all residential developments.
 - ? Set aside open space to be placed in permanent conservation easement or given to the Town of Boscawen for public use.
 - ? Adhere to Best Management Practices for land and water conservation and preservation and erosion control.
- To develop and implement Building Codes for residential and commercial development to assure safe and quality construction of all new units.
 - ? Encourage the Board of Selectmen to establish a method to develop and implement relevant building codes and present their recommendations to the Town.
 - ? Encourage voters at Town Meeting to adopt building codes for Boscawen.
 - ? Establish the means to provide building inspection and code enforcement to enforce said building codes.
- To review and update the Town's Zoning Ordinance, and Subdivision and Site Plan Review Regulations where necessary in order to fulfill these Objectives.
 - ? Encourage the Planning Board to annually review the Town's ordinances and regulations and prepare amendments in conjunction with Master Plan Objectives.
 - ? Utilize the Central New Hampshire Regional Planning Commission to review the current Zoning Ordinance and Regulations.

COMMUNITY SURVEY RESULTS

According to the community survey responses, the majority of residents live in single family homes (77%), and 15% live in apartments or manufactured homes. Community Visioning Session findings described Boscawen as being a “transient” location for many people as they search to buy a permanent home of their own. The vast majority of respondents were homeowners (93%) who believed that the Town was growing at an acceptable rate (65%), although 56% felt that the Town should implement ordinances to limit the number of new houses built.

Table V-1

What type of housing do you live in?

| Types of Housing | Total | Percent |
|--------------------------------|-------|---------|
| Single family home | 255 | 77% |
| Two family home | 10 | 3% |
| Multifamily home/ Apartment | 16 | 5% |
| Manufactured/Mobile home | 32 | 10% |
| Other | 4 | 1% |
| Non resident | 13 | 4% |
| Grand Total | 330 | 100% |

Table V-3

Would you hook up to Town sewage if it were available?

| Town sewage hook up | Total | Percent |
|---------------------|-------|---------|
| Yes | 106 | 29% |
| No | 104 | 28% |
| Unsure | 59 | 16% |
| No Opinion | 96 | 26% |
| Grand Total | 365 | 100% |

Table V-5

The number of annual residential building permits issued for new construction has increased at an average rate of about 1% per year between 1986 to 2000. In your opinion, which statement best describes Boscawen’s residential rate of growth?

| Residential growth rate | Total | Percent |
|-------------------------|-------|---------|
| Too fast | 86 | 23% |
| Too slow | 23 | 6% |
| Adequate | 243 | 65% |
| No Opinion | 20 | 5% |
| Grand Total | 372 | 100% |

Table V-2

Do you rent or own?

| Are you a (homeowner, etc) | Total | Percent |
|----------------------------|-------|---------|
| Homeowner | 324 | 93% |
| Renter | 26 | 7% |
| Grand Total | 350 | 100% |

Table V-4

Boscawen currently does not have any residential, commercial or industrial building codes (codes to regulate electrical, plumbing, framing etc). Do you believe the Town should adopt building codes?

| Adoption of building codes | Total | Percent |
|----------------------------|-------|---------|
| Yes | 143 | 39% |
| No | 138 | 38% |
| Unsure | 60 | 16% |
| No Opinion | 26 | 7% |
| Grand Total | 367 | 100% |

Table V-6

Should the Town implement ordinances to regulate the number of new housing units built in Town?

| Regulating number of new housing units | Total | Percent |
|----------------------------------------|-------|---------|
| Yes | 205 | 56% |
| No | 83 | 23% |
| Unsure | 66 | 18% |
| No Opinion | 14 | 4% |
| Grand Total | 368 | 100% |

Respondents had mixed feelings about the adoption of building codes, with 39% replying yes and 38% replying no. This split sentiment could be the result of a failed motion to create a Historic District on King Street in 1999, which would have resulted in more stringent controls over how residents could use or modify their homes.

Additionally, people had mixed opinions whether they would connect to a Town sewer if one were available. The reason for this lack of clarity could be that residents or landowners not living within a logical extension of the service area were answering the question.

Table V-7

What types of housing would you like to see encouraged or not encouraged in Boscawen?

| What types of housing would you like to see Boscawen encourage? | Highly Encouraged | Encouraged | No Opinion | Somewhat Encouraged | Not Encouraged | Total |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|------------|------------|---------------------|----------------|-------|
| Single family | 156 | 136 | 16 | 32 | 12 | 352 |
| Two-family/duplexes | 26 | 85 | 41 | 84 | 108 | 344 |
| Multi-family (3-4 units) | 10 | 30 | 27 | 38 | 228 | 333 |
| Elderly housing | 98 | 137 | 27 | 50 | 42 | 354 |
| Conversion of large home into apts. | 12 | 40 | 46 | 47 | 203 | 348 |
| Manufactured/mobile home parks | 6 | 16 | 44 | 45 | 238 | 349 |
| Condominium/town houses | 15 | 39 | 34 | 58 | 202 | 348 |
| Apartment buildings (5+units) | 8 | 10 | 33 | 24 | 277 | 352 |
| Emergency housing | 36 | 60 | 64 | 79 | 100 | 339 |
| Cluster developments (single family units on smaller lots with open space retained) | 20 | 73 | 42 | 62 | 148 | 345 |
| Grand Total Responses | | | | | | 3464 |

Of the various types of housing available to residents, the majority wanted to encourage single family and elderly housing. The least desirable types of housing to encourage in Boscawen were apartment buildings and manufactured home parks. Full percentage statistics are available for this and every survey question in the **APPENDIX**.

GENERAL HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS

Over the last thirty years, Boscawen's population has increased 16% while the number of housing units has increased by 42%. More houses are being built to accommodate a fewer number of individuals in each household.

Table V-8
Population and Housing Growth, 1970-2000

| Growth | Population | Net Change | | Housing Units | Net Change | |
|-------------------------------|------------|------------|-------|---------------|------------|-------|
| | | # | % | | # | % |
| 1970 (US Census) | 3,162 | na | na | 912 | na | na |
| 1980 (US Census) | 3,435 | +273 | 8.6% | 1,114 | +217 | 24.2% |
| 1990 (US Census) | 3,586 | +151 | 4.4% | 1,221 | +107 | 9.6% |
| 2000 (US Census) | 3,672 | +86 | 2.4% | 1,295 | +74 | 6.1% |
| Total Change from 1970 – 2000 | --- | +510 | 16.1% | --- | +383 | 42.0% |

Sources: 1990 US Census CPH-2-31 Table 9 Population and Housing Unit Counts;
2000 US Census Data

To place this in perspective, much of the Central NH Region has experienced population and housing growth in excess of 100% over the past 30 years.

Housing Stock and Supply

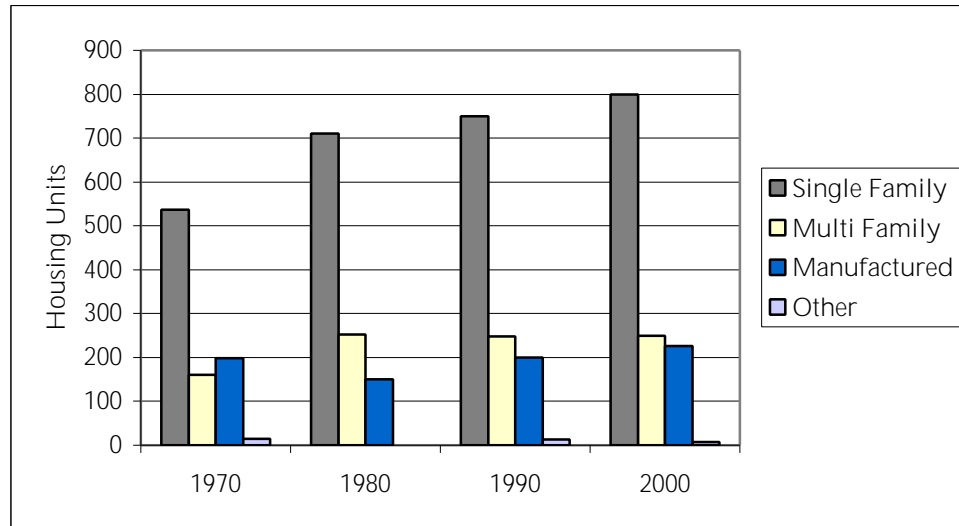
The amount and types of housing a community contains will influence property values, land use, and population growth. Trends can be charted that give direction to how a municipality should be handling its own unique housing situation.

Table V-9
Boscawen Housing Supply, 1970-2000

| Occupied Housing Units by Type | | | | |
|--------------------------------|------|-------|-------|-------|
| | 1970 | 1980 | 1990 | 2000* |
| Single Family | 537 | 711 | 750 | 800 |
| Multi-Family | 161 | 253 | 248 | 250 |
| Manufactured | 199 | 150 | 200 | 226 |
| Other | 15 | --- | 13 | 7 |
| Total | 912 | 1,114 | 1,221 | 1,283 |

Sources: 1970, 1980, 1990 US Census; 2000 Census as available at publication contained only Total housing unit;
*2000 Housing Unit Details provided by Town Files and does not equal Census findings of 1,295 units

Figure V-1
Boscawen Housing Supply, 1970 - 2000



Sources: 1970, 1980, 1990, 2000 Town Office Files

Since 1970, Boscawen's single family housing stock has slowly risen to approximately 800 units in 2000. Multi-family and manufactured homes have hovered at approximately 200 units each over the past thirty years.

Table V-10
Boscawen Housing Distribution, 1970-1998

| Occupied Housing Units by Type | | | | |
|--------------------------------|------|------|------|-------|
| | 1970 | 1980 | 1990 | 1998 |
| Single Family | 58.9 | 63.8 | 61.4 | 60.5 |
| Multi Family | 17.7 | 22.7 | 20.3 | 21.2 |
| Manufactured | 21.8 | 13.5 | 16.4 | 18.2 |
| Other | 1.6 | --- | 1.1 | --- |
| Total | 100% | 100% | 100% | 99.9% |

Sources: 1970, 1980, 1990 US Census

1998 Data from NH OSP Current Estimates and Trends in New Hampshire's Housing Supply, Update 1999

Interestingly, Boscawen has a high percentage of multi-family and manufactured homes, which is not a common occurrence in small New Hampshire towns. In 1998 (and similarly in 1990), single family homes constituted 61% of the housing distribution while multi-family and manufactured homes constituted almost 40% of homes. This correlates with the sentiment of a "transient" population voiced in the Community Visioning Session and with the Affordable Housing Assessment Needs Study displayed in Table V-22 and Figure V-9.

Knowing the ages of homes within a community can contribute information on the community character, tax base, and housing supply and opportunities. Historic homes that are well-kept are both an economic and historic asset to a town. Although the US Census has not yet released 2000 data on the ages of homes in Boscawen, Table V-11 gives a good sense of the age of housing stock in Boscawen:

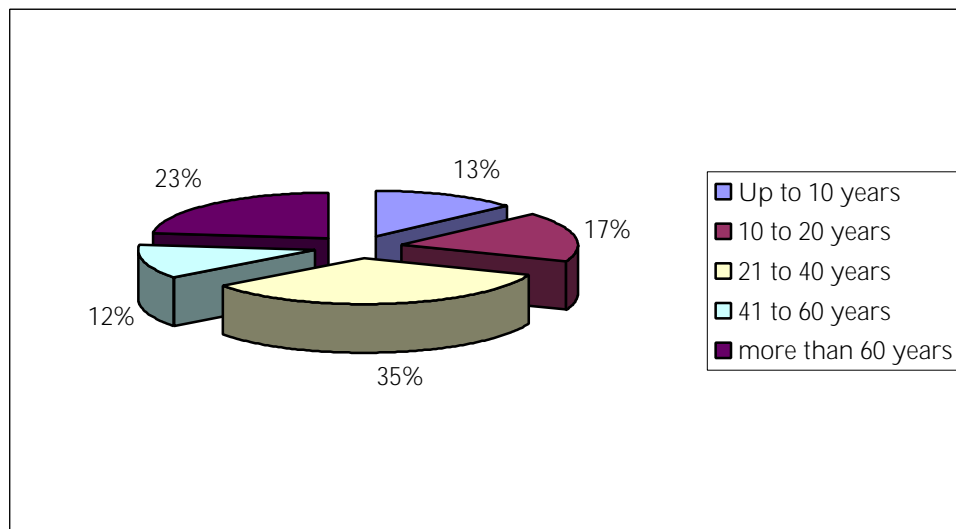
Table V-11
Age of Houses in Boscawen, 1990

| Age | Number of Houses |
|--------------------|------------------|
| Up to 10 years | 177 |
| 10 to 20 years | 232 |
| 21 to 40 years | 450 |
| 41 to 60 years | 163 |
| more than 60 years | 308 |

Sources: 1990 US Census CH-2-31 Table 92 Detailed Housing Characteristics

According to Table V-21, 85 new construction permits for homes, including manufactured homes, were issued between 1990 and 2000. One can assume an incremental increase in the Table V-11 above and roughly estimate that there are over twice as many more homes over the age of 30 years than there are newly constructed homes less than 30 years old. It can be extrapolated that Boscawen has an abundance of older homes, while newer homes are slower to be built.

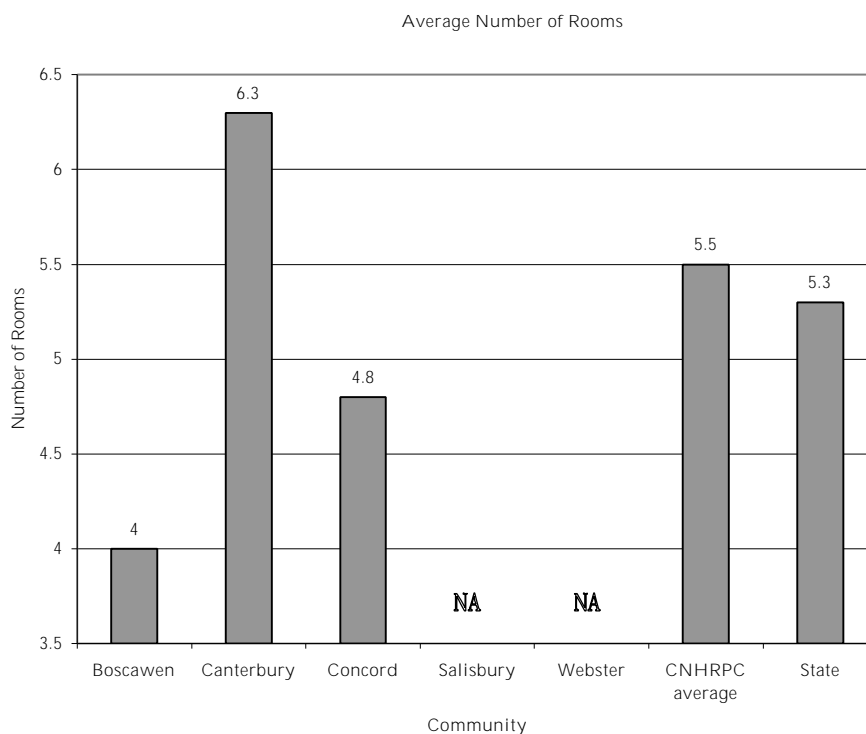
Figure V-2
Age of Housing Stock by Percentage, 1990



Sources: 1990 US Census CH-2-31 Table 92 Detailed Housing Characteristics

Figure V-2 illustrates that 70% of homes, in 1990, were at least 21 years of age.

Figure V-3
Median Home Size in Boscawen and Neighboring Communities



Sources: 1990 US Census CH-2-31 Table 102 Detailed Housing Characteristics

Compared to selected neighboring towns, the CNHRPC Region average, and the State average, Boscawen in 1990 had fewer rooms in their homes. This may be attributed to a larger number of manufactured homes, proportionally for the population, found in Boscawen than in any of the above towns. In general, homes were smaller in Boscawen in 1990 than other towns for which there was data.

Housing Density

Housing density is calculated by dividing the number of housing units by the square mileage of the area. It is a measure of how thickly settled an area is. Boscawen's number of square miles, excluding water, is 24.9 (15,916 land acres). Table V-12 below shows the average number of housing units per square mile for the Town of Boscawen from 1970 to 2000:

Table V-12
Change in Housing Density 1970-2000

| Year | Units | Density per Square Mile | % Change from previous decade | % Change from 1970 |
|------|-------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1970 | 897 | 36.0 | --- | --- |
| 1980 | 1,114 | 44.7 | 24.2% | 24.2% |
| 1990 | 1,221 | 49.0 | 9.6% | 36.1% |
| 2000 | 1,295 | 52.0 | 6.1% | 44.4% |

Sources: 1970-1990 US Census STF1A; 2000 Census Table DP-1

Table V-13
Changes in Housing Density in Boscawen and Abutting Communities, 1990-2000

| | Land Area (Sq. Miles) | Number of Dwelling Units, 1990 | Dwelling Units / Sq. Mile, 1990 | Number of Dwelling Units, 2000 | Dwelling Units / Sq. Mile, 2000 | Change in Density, 1990-2000 | Percent Change, 1990-2000 |
|------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Boscawen | 24.9 | 1221 | 49.0 | 1,295 | 52.0 | 3.0 | 6.2% |
| Canterbury | 43.9 | 724 | 16.5 | 838 | 19.1 | 2.6 | 15.4% |
| Concord | 64.0 | 15697 | 245.3 | 16,881 | 263.8 | 18.5 | 4.1% |
| Franklin | 27.7 | 3744 | 135.2 | 3,676 | 132.7 | -2.5 | -1.0% |
| Northfield | 28.6 | 1671 | 58.4 | 1,782 | 62.3 | 3.9 | 6.6% |
| Salisbury | 39.6 | 422 | 10.7 | 514 | 13.0 | 2.3 | 21.6% |
| Webster | 28.3 | 577 | 20.4 | 672 | 23.7 | 3.3 | 16.5% |

Sources: 1990 - 2000 US Census Data ST F1A; 2000 Census Table DP-1; NH GRANIT System 2000

Boscawen saw slower housing density growth than Canterbury, Salisbury, and Webster, all of which had a much larger population increase between 1990 and 2000 as depicted in Table V-14. The slower housing density Boscawen experienced should be directly related to its smaller population increase from 1990 to 2000 than every community listed with the exception of Franklin.

Table V-14
Population Increase, 1990-2000
Boscawen and Abutting Communities

| | % Increase, 1990-2000 |
|------------|-----------------------|
| Boscawen | 2.4% |
| Canterbury | 17.3% |
| Concord | 13.0% |
| Franklin | 1.2% |
| Northfield | 6.7% |
| Salisbury | 7.2% |
| Webster | 12.4% |

Source: 1990 US Census & 2000 US Census, April 2001

COST OF HOUSING IN BOSCAWEN

This section examines the costs of housing in Boscawen from both a rental and an ownership perspective. When the term *contract rent* is used, it indicates the price paid monthly by the tenant to the landlord. Contract rent is the advertised cost of the unit, and the utilities included in this payment vary from unit to unit. *Gross rent* indicates the sum of the contract rent and the prices of the utilities the tenant uses.

Rental Costs Versus Home Ownership Costs

In lieu of 2000 Census data which would allow for current analysis, Tables V-15 and V-16 depict 1990 data, or the most recent data available for housing costs derived from various sources.

The median is defined as the middle value when numbers are arranged in increasing (or decreasing) order. In the following tables, median values were taken directly from Census or other records. In fact, the median of all measures is considered the middle quartile, or the middle 50%, of all responses. A quartile is defined as one-fourth of a total, with the median

consuming two of the four available quartiles. For instance, the lower quartile referred to in the following tables is 25%, meaning that 75% of the responses are above the lower quartile. The upper quartile is 75%, meaning that only 25% of the responses are above the upper quartile. The median, or middle quartile, is indeed the middle response.

Table V-15
Boscawen's Monthly Gross Rent or Mortgage Payments and Relationship to Income, 1990

| | Renter Occupied | Owner Occupied |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Median Cost per Month | \$496 | \$746*, \$298** |
| Median Household Income/ Month | \$1478 | \$2921 |
| Median Annual Household Income | \$17,734 | \$35,054 |
| Payment as Percent of Income | 33.6% | 25.5%*, 10.2%** |

Source: 1990 US Census CH-2-31 Table 92 Detailed Housing Characteristics

*costs with a mortgage; **costs without a mortgage

The US Department of Housing defines affordable housing as that which does not exceed 30% of annual household income. As can be seen above, renter-occupied units in Boscawen were not considered affordable (33.6%) in 1990 while owner-occupied units with a mortgage were just barely considered affordable. Those homeowners who did not have a mortgage paid approximately 15% less in housing costs than those homeowners with a mortgage.

Table V-16
Value of Owner-Occupied Housing Units, 1990

| | Lower Quartile | Median | Upper Quartile |
|------------|----------------|-----------|----------------|
| Boscawen | \$85,100 | \$103,600 | \$120,100 |
| Canterbury | \$100,600 | \$128,300 | \$168,300 |
| Concord | \$103,700 | \$130,100 | \$159,800 |
| Franklin | \$74,700 | \$89,400 | \$109,800 |
| Northfield | \$81,200 | \$97,300 | \$121,700 |
| Salisbury | \$86,500 | \$109,000 | \$137,500 |
| Webster | \$94,600 | \$120,000 | \$147,400 |

Source: CPH-1-31 Table 10

Compared to abutting communities, Boscawen fell at the lower end of the value of owner-occupied housing units in 1990. Only Franklin and Northfield were consistently lower. This could be attributed to the number of manufactured homes within Boscawen.

Table V-17
Contract Rent Levels for Renter-Occupied Housing Units, 1990

| | Lower Quartile | Median | Upper Quartile |
|------------|----------------|--------|----------------|
| Boscawen | \$309 | \$415 | \$481 |
| Canterbury | \$225 | \$413 | \$613 |
| Concord | \$384 | \$485 | \$580 |
| Franklin | \$285 | \$405 | \$489 |
| Northfield | \$387 | \$452 | \$538 |
| Salisbury | \$300 | \$375 | \$500 |
| Webster | \$384 | \$519 | \$653 |

Source: 1990 US Census CPH-1-31 Table 11

Boscawen's rental housing units rented at the lower-to-middle range of those rents of abutting communities, with \$415 as Boscawen's median rent in 1990.

Rental Housing Costs

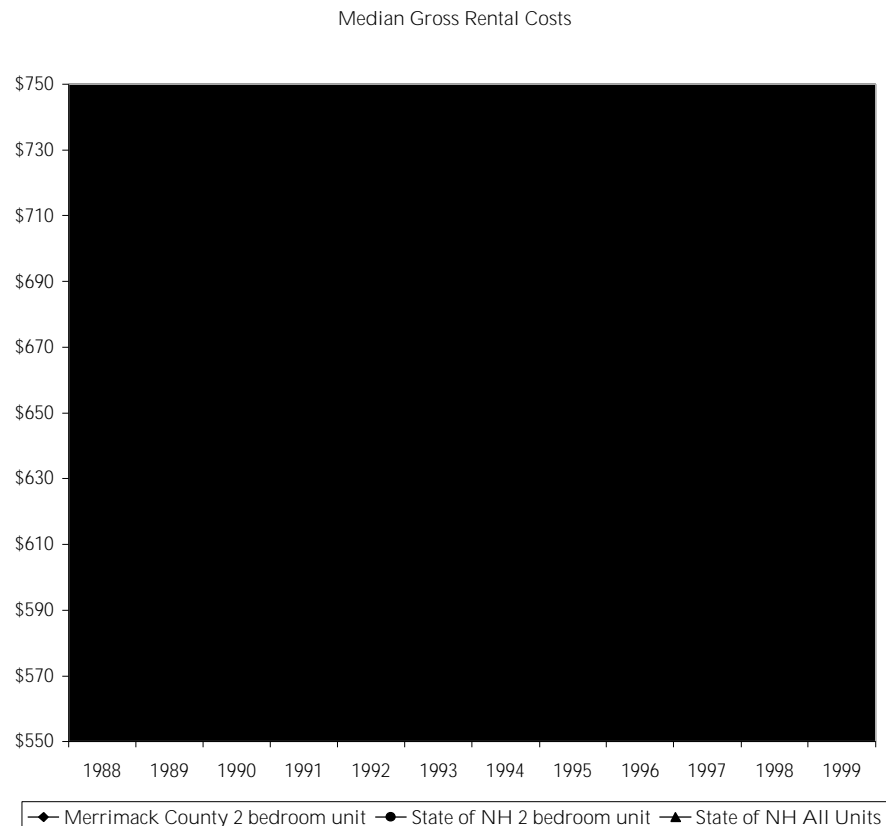
Table V-18 lists the median gross and contract rents by unit size for a 1999 sample of rental units in Merrimack County. No data specific to Boscawen was available. Where sample sizes were smaller than 20, the sample was not of sufficient size to provide a reliable calculation, and therefore the medians were not reported. However, the data for units in samples smaller than 20 were used in the calculation of medians for all units.

Table V-18
Median Contract and Gross Rent Costs for Merrimack County, 1999

| Unit Size (Number of Bedrooms) | Sample Size | Median Contract Rent | Gross Rental Costs | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|-------------------------|--------------------|--------|
| | | | Rent Range | Median |
| 0 | 22 | \$324 | \$291-\$510 | \$410 |
| 1 | 321 | \$425 | \$303-\$733 | \$521 |
| 2 | 537 | \$595 | \$368-\$936 | \$748 |
| 3 | 43 | \$650 | \$628-\$1,033 | \$762 |
| 4+ | 14 | ---- | \$526-\$1,136 | ---- |
| All | 937 | \$555 | \$291-\$1,136 | \$643 |

Source: New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority, 1999 Residential Rental Cost Survey (p. 5)

Figure V-4
Trends of Median Gross Rents in Merrimack County and Statewide



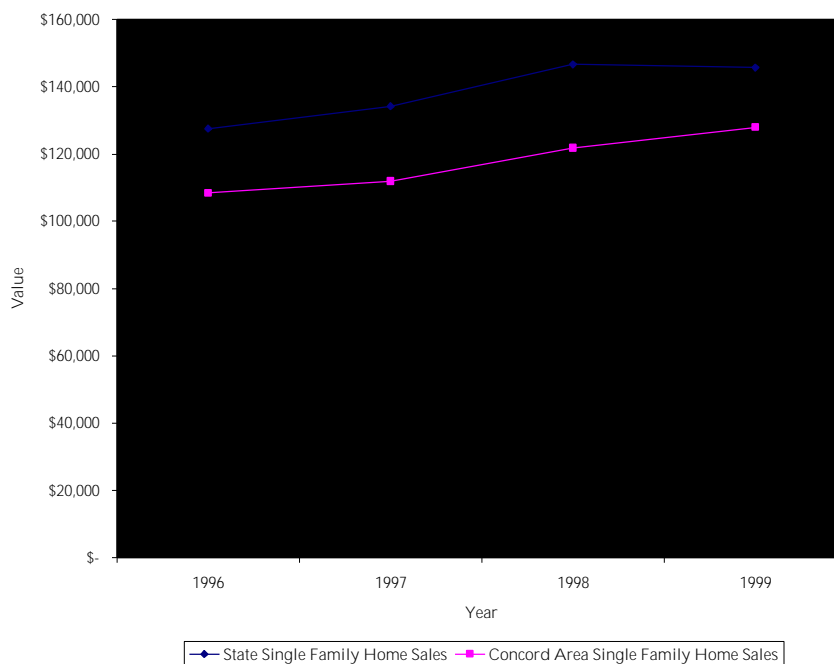
Source: New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority, 1999 Residential Rental Cost Survey

Area Single Family Home Selling Prices 1996–1999

The following two Figures depict averages of Concord-area and State home selling prices between 1996 and 1999:

Figure V-5

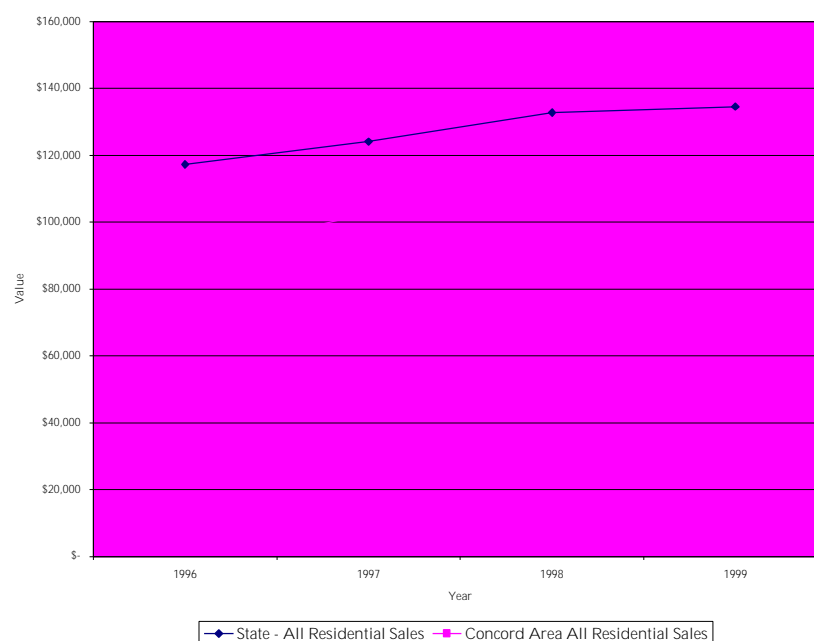
Comparison of Single Family Sale Prices in the Concord Area vs. NH, 1996-1999



Source: NH Association of Realtors

Figure V-6

Comparison of Sale Prices of all Home Types Combined in the Concord Area vs. NH, 1996-1999



Source: NH Association of Realtors

Current Single Family Selling Prices in Boscawen

Multiple Listing Service (MLS) records for single family homes sold in Boscawen between April 30, 2000 and March 26, 2001 yielded a \$112,000 average selling price for a total of 27 homes. Comparatively, the 17 manufactured homes in parks that were sold during the same time period were bought at an average of \$21,800.

With more current housing market conditions, single family homes in Boscawen according to the MLS between April and September 2001 were sold at an average of between \$140,000 and \$145,000. Nineteen homes were sold during this six-month period.

Over the period of a year, the average home price has jumped \$30,000. Although homes in different communities sell for different prices, this trend increase reflects the current regional housing market. Affordable housing, discussed later in this Chapter, is not difficult to obtain in Boscawen. However, affordable, permanent owner-occupied homes are not readily available.

HOUSING GROWTH TRENDS

How quickly a community is growing can be gauged by both population and by the number of households the community contains. Household size and the number of new residential building permits issued gives important information that directly relates to the capacity of Town services and provides information for future land use considerations.

Household Size

Household size statistics were gathered from a number of different sources. Despite differing methodologies in calculating the figures, it appears that the average number of people per household has begun to decline since 1990.

Table V-19
Average Household Size

| | 1970 | 1980 | 1990 | 2000 |
|------------------------------|------|------|------|------|
| Average number per household | n/a | 2.72 | 3.05 | 2.57 |

Source: 1980, 1990, 2000 US Census data

According to Table V-20, the 2000 population per owner-occupied unit (2.68) was slightly greater than the average population per unit (2.57). Renter-occupied units had a noticeably smaller population per occupied unit (2.25) than the average. One interpretation of this fact could be that smaller families are renting more than larger families because they are waiting to buy a home of their own before expanding their families.

Table V-20
Population per Occupied Unit, 2000

| Unit Types | Number of Units | Average Household Size |
|-----------------------|-----------------|------------------------|
| Owner-Occupied Units | 946 | 2.68 |
| Renter-Occupied Units | 314 | 2.25 |
| Total Occupied Units | 1,260 | 2.57 |

Source: 2000 US Census Table DP-1

Household size, seemingly a purely statistical measure, can have a direct influence on the community services a Town provides. The larger the household, the more services will theoretically be required in order to support that household's needs. According to Table V-20, renters occupy 25% of Boscawen's housing stock and owners occupy 75%.

New Residential Building Permits

The Town recently had a concerned caller advising of a house being built in Boscawen that did not meet building code requirements. The Town receives several calls each month inquiring about Boscawen's building codes or people wanting to speak with the building inspector. Generally, these are concerns or questions they have about their own house or a neighboring house being built. Banks call monthly to ask for Certificates of Occupancy, which the Town does not issue.

Most municipalities have adopted building codes and have at least a part-time building inspector or code enforcement officer. With recent and upcoming subdivision activity in Town, exploring this issue further is recommended.

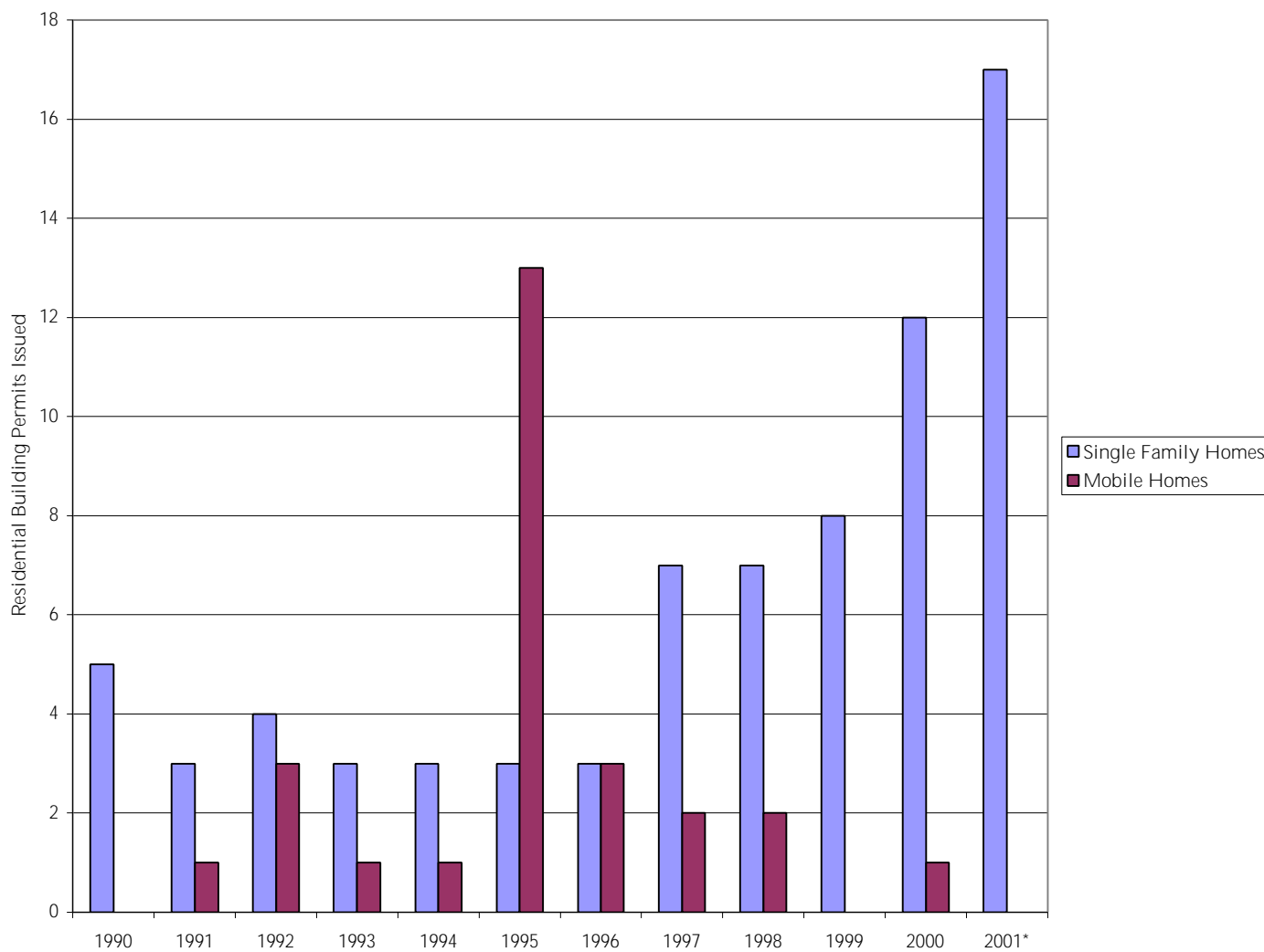
Table V-21
Residential Building Permits Issued by Housing Type, 1990 – 2001*

| Housing Type | 1990 | 1991 | 1992 | 1993 | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 | 2000 | 2001* | 12-Year Total |
|---------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------|---------------|
| Single Family Homes | 5 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 7 | 7 | 8 | 12 | 17 | 75 |
| Mobile | 0 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 13 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 27 |
| Yearly Totals | 5 | 4 | 7 | 4 | 4 | 16 | 6 | 9 | 9 | 8 | 13 | 17 | 102 |

Source: Town of Boscawen Planning and Zoning Office; *2001 figures through 11/27/01

Since 1997, the Town of Boscawen has approved 11 minor subdivision and two major subdivisions. The potential is great for much more development on High Street (Route 4), Water Street, DW Highway (Route 3), and Queen Street. There are still many large parcels of land in these areas. The *Residential Building Permits Issued 1990-2001 Map* documents the locations of permits issues over the last twelve years.

Figure V-7
Residential Building Permits Issued by Housing Type, 1990 – 2001*

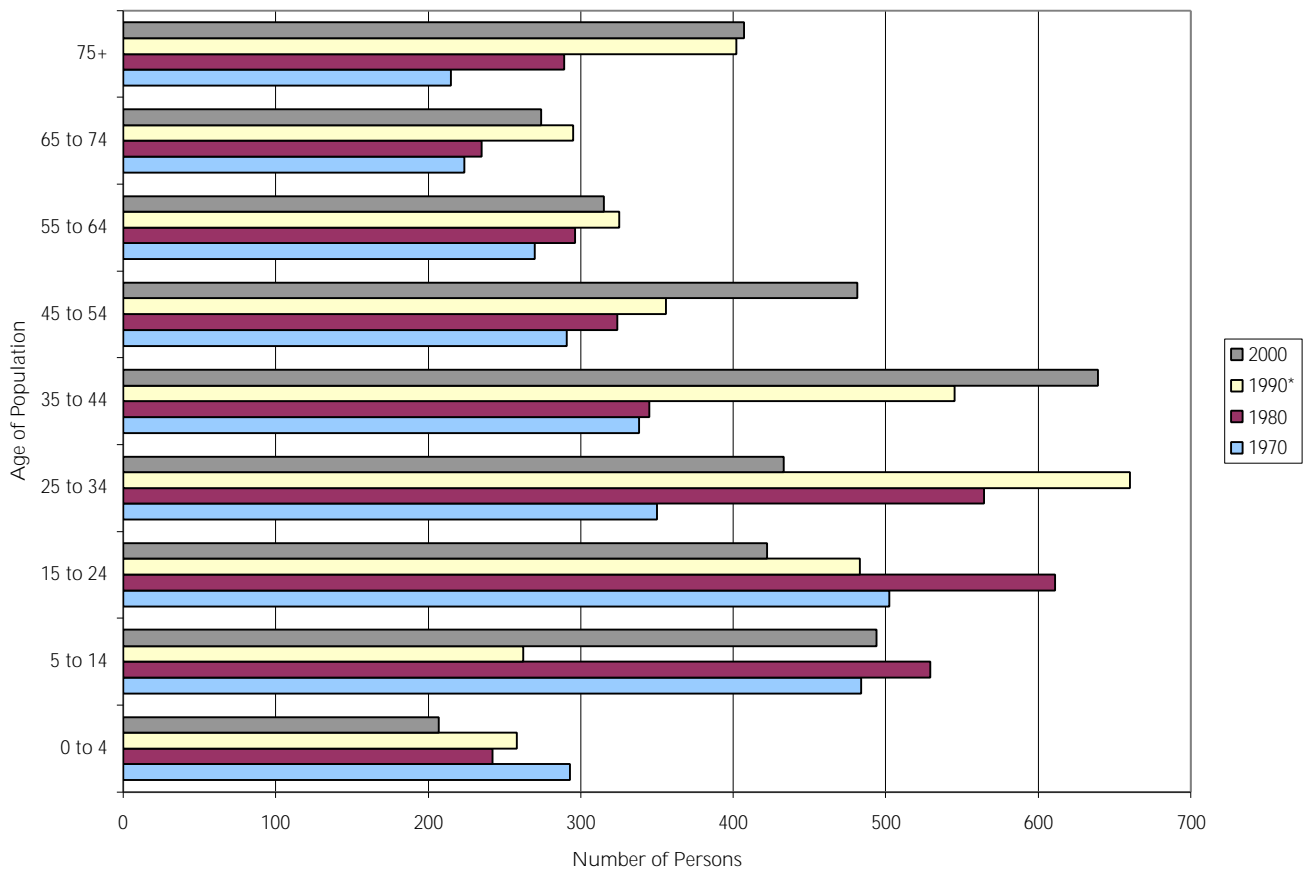


Source: Town of Boscawen Planning and Zoning Office; *2001 figures through 11/27/01

SENIOR HOUSING

Senior activities are important within any community for both social and practical purposes. Housing for seniors is crucial for those who cannot take care of themselves, afford taxes, or have the resources to upkeep their homes. Boscawen Green, a local senior housing development, is full to capacity. There is currently no additional senior housing available in Boscawen. The Community Survey responses indicated a favorable response to encouraging the creation of additional senior housing.

Figure V-8
Boscawen Population Trends by Age Group, 1970-2000



Source: State of New Hampshire Census Comparison 1970-1980; 1990 US Census Data CP-1-31

As shown in Figure V-8, the number of people ages 35 and over has been increasing steadily since the 1970s. Within one generation, there will be a need for more senior housing in Boscawen. There is a strong demand in the area for senior housing, evidenced by the waiting lists these facilities have in the State. The development of senior housing is a viable one for the Town of Boscawen, as it will add to the tax base without increasing the burden on schools.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) defines affordable housing as that which does not cost more than 30 percent of the annual household income, including mortgage payments, taxes, and utility costs. Affordable housing is a problem for renters and homeowners, young families and the elderly alike. In 1999, 45% of renters across New Hampshire could not afford the fair market rents in their area (*Feeling the Pinch*, The New Hampshire Housing Forum).

Any household spending more than 30% of its income on housing is considered cost-burdened. The standard does oversimplify reality in that some families find it harder to pay 30% of their income for housing than others, depending on total family income: low-income families are hit hardest. Thus, this oversimplification actually understates the housing problems of low-income families.

Another way to calculate the affordability gap between income and housing costs is to determine exactly what a family would need to earn to be able to afford housing in Boscawen. A "housing wage" is defined as the wage necessary to make a given housing arrangement affordable. A housing wage is calculated following the equation below:

$$\text{Housing Wage} = \frac{\text{monthly rent} \times 12 \text{ months} \times 100}{40 \text{ hours} \times 52 \text{ weeks} \times 30}$$

Affordable housing is an issue that is considered by all levels of government. The federal government has long been promoting affordable housing through various programs administered by the Department of Housing and Urban Development. State government has promoted affordable housing through passage of several laws requiring communities to provide affordable housing. Furthermore, the State has also created several commissions and departments, such as the New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority, to examine and foster the development of affordable housing opportunities.

As a result of growing concern over access to affordable housing, all regional planning commissions in the State have been charged by State law to develop affordable housing needs assessments for each community within their region every five (5) years.

Boscawen's Theoretical Share of the Regional Affordable Housing Stock

Based on the affordable housing need assessment conducted by the Central New Hampshire Regional Planning Commission (CNHRPC), Boscawen currently has more than its theoretical fair share of the affordable housing base for the Central New Hampshire Region. The formula used by CNHRPC encompasses several variables and indicates that Boscawen currently does not need to construct additional units of affordable housing to meet its theoretical fair share.

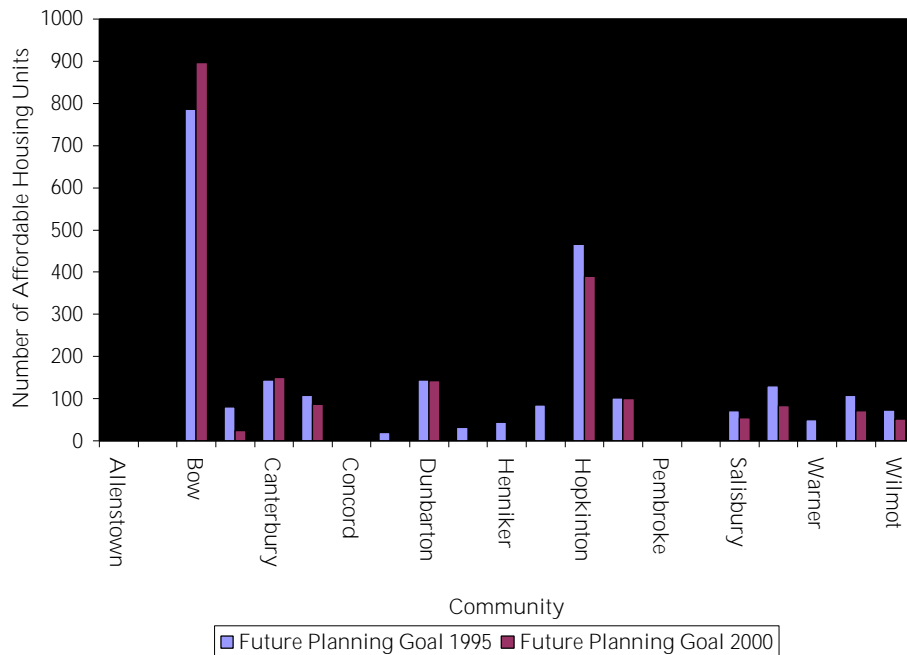
Table V-22
Summary of Affordable Housing Needs for the Central New Hampshire Region

| | Theoretical Community Share of Regional Affordable Housing Stock | Total Number of Existing Affordable Housing Units | Future Planning Goal (Number of Units Community Should Develop) |
|-----------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Allenstown | 392 | 1,054 | 0 |
| Boscawen | 308 | 490 | 0 |
| Bow | 1,072 | 176 | 896 |
| Bradford | 171 | 147 | 24 |
| Canterbury | 225 | 75 | 150 |
| Chichester | 236 | 149 | 87 |
| Concord | 6,150 | 8,849 | 0 |
| Deering | 167 | 192 | 0 |
| Dunbarton | 245 | 103 | 142 |
| Epsom | 415 | 448 | 0 |
| Henniker | 493 | 557 | 0 |
| Hillsborough | 563 | 648 | 0 |
| Hopkinton | 805 | 416 | 390 |
| Loudon | 502 | 402 | 100 |
| Pembroke | 735 | 996 | 0 |
| Pittsfield | 374 | 772 | 0 |
| Salisbury | 122 | 69 | 54 |
| Sutton | 190 | 107 | 83 |
| Warner | 310 | 317 | 0 |

Source: CNHRPC Affordable Housing Needs Assessment, 2000

Boscawen's future planning goal is 0 because of its apartments, multi-family houses, senior housing, and manufactured housing parks. Each of these types of housing is typically considered affordable. Nonetheless, Community Survey respondents were clear in their message to encourage more senior housing opportunities.

Figure V-9
Comparison of Affordable Housing Goals for Communities in the
Central New Hampshire Region, 1995 vs. 2000



Source: CNHRPC Affordable Housing Needs Assessment, 2000

Many communities in the CNHRPC Region should look to increase the number of affordable units available in their Town, particularly in light of substantial rent increases and lack of housing availability over the past few years. In Boscawen, the addition of a senior housing development would help the Region's current housing crisis.

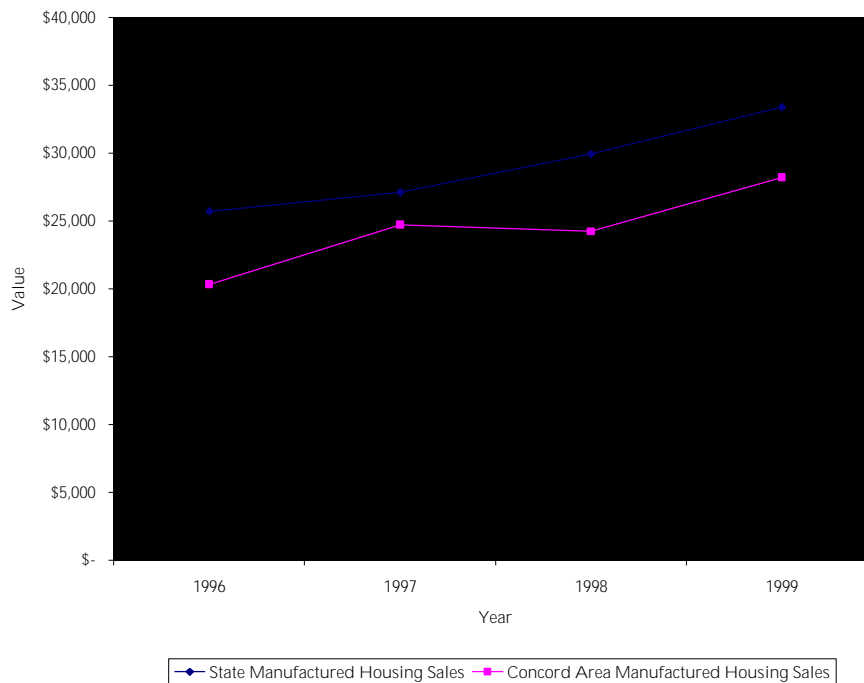
Manufactured Housing

For some of those priced out of the expensive home purchase market, the only viable option is manufactured housing ("manufactured housing" includes both single-family mobile homes and prefabricated homes set on permanent foundations, either of which having been transported to the home site in one or more sections). Manufactured housing can be organized in three types of locations - individually owned lots, investor-owned parks, and cooperatively-owned parks.

NH RSA 674:32 stipulates that all communities that have adopted land use regulations shall allow manufactured housing as an allowed use. Of the total land area zoned for residential use, manufactured housing must be permitted on a majority of that land area. The State has provided communities with two options for the development of manufactured housing. First, communities may permit the development of manufactured housing on individual lots. No special exception requirement is allowed for this type of development pattern, unless a special exception is required for the construction of traditional dwelling units on individual lots, or traditional subdivisions. Secondly, communities may encourage the development of manufactured housing in a park atmosphere. The law requires that reasonable densities and expansion potential must be permitted to these types of development. Communities need to ensure that no undue barriers to the development of affordable housing have been created by reviewing all special requirements of manufactured housing.

Like single family housing, the average selling price of new and existing manufactured homes in the Concord area has remained below the State average by approximately five thousand dollars over the past four years. See also Figures V-5 and V-6.

Figure V-10
Comparison of Manufactured Housing Sale Prices
in the Concord Area vs. State of New Hampshire, 1996-1999



Source: NH Association of Realtors

As manufactured homes are typically less expensive than the average new or existing home, they are usually considered "affordable" under the definitions described previously.

Housing Assistance

Numerous federal and state programs are available that provide direct housing assistance through rental subsidies. New Hampshire had 16,784 assisted units in 1999 - 3.7% of all occupied units in the state. About 26% of this assisted housing was in Public Housing programs (19.8% elderly-designated public housing, 6.5% family-designated public housing). Another 14% of assisted housing was administered through the USDA Rural Assistance programs (6.4% elderly and 7.4% family). Almost 42% of the assistance came through the Section 8 program (24.7% exclusively elderly, 2.0% exclusive family, and 14.9% in joint-designated elderly and family). Another 12% was non-Section 8 assistance administered by the New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority. Finally, approximately 6% went into disabled, group home, and miscellaneous categories (*1999 Directory of Assisted Housing*, NHHFA).

Other types of assistance include units receiving no direct rent subsidies but developed with public subsidies. About 90% of this assistance statewide is family-designated and 10% elderly-designated.

EMERGENCY SHELTERS

There is a definite need for emergency shelter in Boscawen. Additional details can be found in the **COMMUNITY AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES AND UTILITIES CHAPTER**. The Town should resolve to make an emergency shelter a reality by forming a committee to consult with Human Services staff and researching alternatives.

LAND USE CONTROLS

To plan for the orderly future development in Boscawen, regulatory measures should be considered. Maintenance of rural character and conservation of natural resources while fostering a community atmosphere were themes found within the Community Survey results. Several methods, discussed briefly here and more directly in the **EXISTING AND FUTURE LAND USE CHAPTER**, can assist with these overall goals. Some of these controls and methods are found in the Zoning Ordinance of Boscawen.

Table V-23
Current Population Trends, 1990, 1995, and 2000
Boscawen and Abutting Communities

| | 1990 | 1995 | 2000 |
|------------|--------|--------|--------|
| Boscawen | 3,586 | 3,572 | 3,672 |
| Canterbury | 1,687 | 1,748 | 1,979 |
| Concord | 36,006 | 37,290 | 40,687 |
| Franklin | 8,304 | 8,346 | 8,405 |
| Northfield | 4,263 | 4,452 | 4,548 |
| Salisbury | 1,061 | 1,091 | 1,137 |
| Webster | 1,403 | 1,426 | 1,579 |

Sources: NH Office of State Planning 1991-1999 Population Estimates of NH Cities and Towns;
1990 US Census STF1A (P1); 2000 US Census

With the exception of Franklin, abutting communities have grown at a more rapid rate than Boscawen since 1990. Residents are concerned that because development has not yet reached the Town, it will be soon in coming. As evidenced by the number of building permits issued to date in 2001 and the number of Major Subdivisions coming before the Planning Board, a building boom may soon occur in Boscawen.

Cluster Developments

The Zoning Ordinance has a section currently entitled Cluster Developments which is designed to reduce lot sizes and increase density in order to preserve a larger tract of land with natural features. The term "cluster" has negative connotations associated with it which include lower taxes, lack of privacy, and water and sewer concerns. A more positive term synonymous with cluster development is "open space development" or "conservation development". Such subdivisions, when done properly, are beneficial to the Town by generating the same tax revenue and by preserving open space or natural resources.

An answer to the sprawling landform created under conventional "cookie cutter" subdivisions is a new approach to subdivision design for rural areas, as outlined in the book entitled *Conservation Design for Subdivisions: A Practical Guide to Creating Open Space Networks*, by Randall Arendt (Island Press, 1996). In its most basic form, the conservation development process can be broken into six logical steps, which are not the typical steps taken for a conventional subdivision.

Under this approach, use existing minimum lot sizes as the basis for conventional residential density on the best soils, with reduced densities according to declining soil quality. The minimum lot sizes that are currently in place for residential uses should represent the maximum aggregate density on the best soils under the soils-based lot sizing approach. Lower quality soils would require lower density development. Primary conservation areas may include wetlands, steep slopes, aquifer recharge zones, and floodplains. Secondary conservation areas may include stonewalls, viewsheds, prominent vegetation, prominent landforms, prime agricultural soils, historic sites and features, archeological sites, and communities and species identified in the Natural Heritage Inventory. The **EXISTING AND FUTURE LAND USE CHAPTER** contains more details and recommendations on Open Space Development options.

Manufactured Housing Parks

Discussed fully in a previous section of this Chapter, the regulation of manufactured housing is a land use control that is exercised appropriately and fairly according to State laws. This opportunity permits families with a limited household income to own their homes on their own lots in a similar fashion as a more typical homeownership. Boscawen has twelve manufactured housing parks.

Emergency Access and Surface Water Runoff

Although addressed more fully in the **EXISTING AND FUTURE LAND USE CHAPTER**, these initiatives should be taken into consideration when granting site plan /subdivision review approvals and the issuance of building permits. Care should be taken to protect businesses and homeowners, the environment, and neighboring lots and rights-of-way.

Senior Housing Ordinance

Some communities have chosen to adopt a Senior Housing Ordinance as part of their Zoning Ordinance. This ordinance defines the area, density, and building types that a Town requires in the building of such a development. With a heavy emphasis on and interest in senior housing within Boscawen, the creation of a Senior Housing Ordinance may be in order. The extent of senior housing should be sufficient to meet the future requirements of the community.

Multi-Family Dwellings

Another housing control is the regulation of multiple-family (three or more families) dwellings. Currently, Boscawen has the Village Apartments on King Street and Woodlawn Commons on North Main Street. In addition, many units in older homes on Oak Street have been converted. A section of the former Main Street School could be investigated for its potential to house a few apartments.

Impact Fees

Existing development should not subsidize the need for additional facilities, services and educational requirements due to new growth. After the Master Plan is adopted, a Capital Improvements Program can be implemented as an additional advisory document to the Planning Board. With these two plans in place, a Growth Management Ordinance needs to be implemented by adoption at Town Meeting before an Impact Fee Ordinance can be voted upon, also at Town Meeting.

SUMMARY

The Town of Boscawen cherishes the rural character and small-town quality of life that is exemplified by the number of large agricultural or forested tracts of land throughout the community. Neighboring cities and towns have experienced rapid residential development over the past several years, and in the process have lost hundreds of acres of low-density agricultural land and undeveloped open space. For the most part, this trend has not reached the Town of Boscawen; however, the Town's good fortune may be nearing an end.

Residents and visitors have come to value the scenic vistas and undeveloped land in the outlying portions of Town. Much of the land adjacent to Water Street, High Street, and Corn Hill Road has remained in agricultural use and/or is undeveloped. These open tracts are part of the identity of the Town of Boscawen. Ironically, these same characteristics that people have come to value most make them particularly vulnerable to the potential for development.

This Chapter proposed a number of recommendations which can be undertaken to help retain Boscawen's rural character and sense of community. These include the focusing of new cluster development toward the R-1 and R-2 zoning districts (low and medium residential densities), the creation of senior housing, and examining the need for emergency housing. New development supporting the increased cost of municipal services, the establishment of building codes, a Capital Improvements Program, and a Growth Management Ordinance will further assist in assuring that Boscawen's future housing needs are adequately met while preserving the vistas and undeveloped lands that are so highly regarded.

Town of Boscawen

Residential Building Permits Issued 1990-2001 Map

2001-2002 Master Plan

Map 4

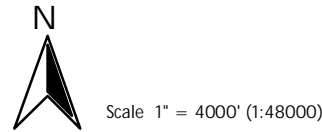
Legend

1990-2001 New Residential Construction Permits

Base Legend

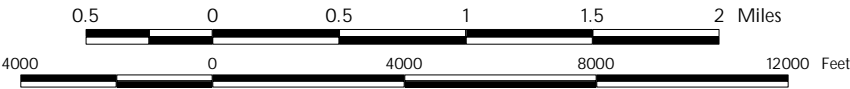
- Political Boundary
- Class I & II Secondary State Highways
- Class V Town Maintained Roads
- Class VI Town Unmaintained Roads
- Other Roads (Private, Future, Discontinued, etc)
- Rivers and Streams
- Intermittent Streams
- Water Bodies

This map was produced by the
Central New Hampshire Regional Planning Commission
for the Boscawen Master Plan, February 2002.



DISCLAIMER:
This map series is intended for use with the Boscawen Master Plan. The information presented is to be used for planning purposes and may not fully represent actual geographic conditions. Inaccuracies should be directed to the Town of Boscawen or to the Central NH Regional Planning Commission.

Data Sources for the Boscawen Master Plan Map Series:
USGS quadrangles through NH GRANIT (1:24000);
Society for the Protection of NH Forests (1:24000); US Fish and Wildlife (1:24000); Natural Resources Conservation Service (1:24000); and CNHRPC (1:24000).
Corrections to existing layers by the Town of Boscawen and CNHRPC.



CONSERVATION, PRESERVATION, AND OPEN SPACE

Chapter VI



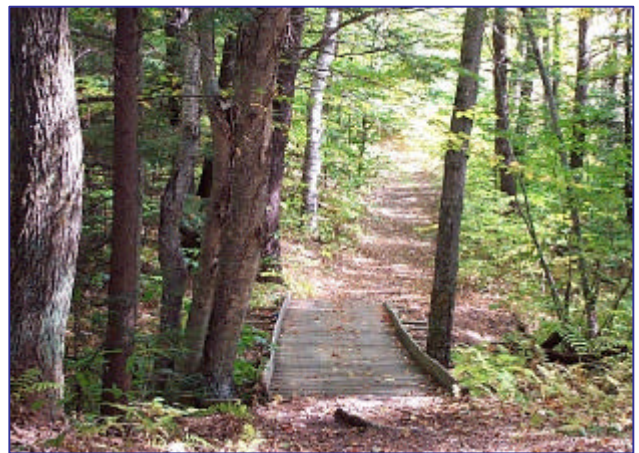
Silver Maples along Merrimack River



Silver's Farm Pasture, Water Street



Merrimack River from Bypass Bridge



Multi-use Trail near Glines Brook

Chapter VI
CONSERVATION, PRESERVATION, AND OPEN SPACE

"Progress must be balanced with a priority on conserving and preserving Boscawen's natural resources. The clean water, soil, and air of Boscawen are essential to its people and its future."

- Conservation, Preservation, and Open Space Subcommittee

INTRODUCTION

The last Master Plan, written in 1989, did not have a Conservation Chapter. Over the past twelve years, the sentiment of conservation and preservation of natural resources has changed dramatically and now is an essential characteristic of Boscawen.

Boscawen still considers itself a rural community, but development is moving in at a steadily increasing rate. Boscawen's proximity to Concord, seacoast, and mountains, along with its rural character, make it a much sought-after place to live and work. Large tracts of land that have been in single-family ownership for decades are becoming harder and harder to retain due to ever-increasing land values. Often, a developer is the only one who can afford these large parcels due to the quick economic return of development. In addition, the economic pressures facing agriculture have made it lucrative for farms to be sold for residential development. On a positive note, the residents of Boscawen have voiced their opinion about the future of their Town. They have overwhelmingly stated that they wish to see Boscawen remain quaint and rural, and to retain its agricultural character. The residents of Boscawen have expressed a great deal of respect for the land and an interest in conserving the rural character of the community.

The Community Survey taken in January 2001 and Community Visioning Session held in April 2001 yielded many ideas and identified critical resources that are incorporated into this Chapter. Although some of the properties that give Boscawen its rural character have already been conserved through various means, a great deal more needs to be protected, either through fee simple purchase, conservation easements, or outright donations. The data presented in this Chapter was collected from a number of sources including local, county, regional, state and federal agencies, local residents, existing reports, and maps.

The Merrimack River is a critical resource deserving protection and recognition for its contribution to the Town. The Town Forest and its adjacent parcels, including the Hirst Wildlife Management Area, is one example of an important economic and ecological resource. These two and many other resources are worthy of conservation. This Chapter will allow Boscawen to explore the opportunities available for their protection.

OBJECTIVES OF THE CHAPTER AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- To preserve the traditional, rural, and visual character of the Town of Boscawen by protecting its natural, historic, scenic, agricultural, forestry, and water resources.
 - ? Create and implement incentives for landowners to keep their land in active agriculture and forestry management.
 - ? Encourage cooperation of all Town Boards to take into consideration preservation of scenic views as detailed on the *Viewsheds Map*.
 - ? Implement ordinances to protect buffers along third order and lower streams and wetlands following guidelines of the Comprehensive Shoreland Protection Act.
 - ? Secure buffers, consistent with RSA 483, through acquisition of land or easements within a quarter-mile of the river corridor.
 - ? Secure through acquisition or easement wetlands on the northwestern boundary of the Town Forest.
 - ? Re-zone the Industrial section on the lower interval to an appropriate use such as A/R (Agricultural/Residential) and convert remaining R-1 (low-density Residential) sections along the Merrimack River to A/R.
 - ? Encourage the preservation of existing stone walls by producing an ordinance that protects walls along Town-owned roads.
- To promote the conservation, protection, and sound management of the Town's natural resources.
 - ? Conduct studies and inventories and participate in public outreach efforts with the results of the documents.
 - ? Implement actions and recommendations in the Upper Merrimack River Local Advisory Committee's *Management and Implementation Plan* [February 22, 1993].
 - ? Encourage citizens and Town officials to report sightings of threatened or endangered plants, animals, or natural communities to the NH Natural Heritage Inventory.
 - ? Acquire conservation easements on lands currently in public or utility ownership such as the Boscawen Town Forest and those of the Penacook-Boscawen Water Precinct.
 - ? Organize a Walker Pond group to participate in water quality monitoring and other conservation activities.
 - ? Obtain easements with willing landowners on land supporting significant natural resources.

- To develop tools to be used with sound planning principles to conserve Boscawen's natural, historic, scenic, agricultural, forestry, and water resources.
 - ? Conduct a thorough natural resource inventory of plants, animals, and other natural features.
 - ? Undertake a study to measure the costs of community services for Boscawen utilizing the UNH Cooperative Extension methodology.
 - ? Conduct a build-out analysis to create land use and development models.
 - ? Create overlay maps to identify significant natural resources and likely development areas.
 - ? Encourage implementation of Best Management Practices for agriculture, forestry, and residential land to reduce nonpoint source pollution, erosion, and runoff.
 - ? Create a Watershed Management Plan to address the needs and concerns surrounding one or more of the three watersheds in Boscawen.
 - ? Recommend that the Planning Board adopt a requirement for vegetated buffers along wetlands and streams in its Subdivision and Site Plan Review Regulations.
 - ? Mitigate the loss of land and water resources when new subdivisions are approved by requiring developers to set aside permanently conserved land.
 - ? Revise the Cluster Development Ordinance to standards that reflect current-day methodologies as described in the **EXISTING AND FUTURE LAND USE CHAPTER**.
 - ? Establish an annual limit on building permits to promote conservation and the preservation of natural resources.
- To raise the awareness of the citizens and officials in Boscawen of the importance of protecting the town's natural resources.
 - ? Organize semi-annual meetings of Town boards to facilitate collaboration and cooperation in managing the Boscawen's natural resources.
 - ? Establish a Town website with conservation and natural resource pages with links to grant programs, inventories, organizations, and other information.
 - ? Continue publishing the "Conservation Corner" column in the *Boscawen Newsvine*.
 - ? Produce brochures and newsletters and host events which inform citizens about local and state regulations regarding water, soil, agriculture, forestry, and Boscawen's other natural resources.

- ? Organize activities that focus around celebrating Earth Day each year.
- ? Encourage Boscawen schools to adopt curricula such as Interactive Lake Ecology, Project WET, Project Learning Tree, Protect WILD, and Food, Land & People.
- ? Encourage highway staff and relevant municipal officials to attend Best Management Practices workshops such as the Roads Scholar Program.
- To provide opportunities for recreational enjoyment of the Town's natural resources by Boscawen citizens.
 - ? Explore securing easements on greenways and connections among other conservation lands within and outside of Boscawen.
 - ? Conduct and host events to introduce citizens and area residents to natural resources and recreational opportunities.
 - ? Continue to expand multi-use trails in the Boscawen Town Forest.
 - ? Provide car-top and trail access to the Merrimack River and Walker Pond for wildlife viewing, hiking, biking, canoeing, kayaking, picnicking, and fishing.
 - ? Develop a non-paved, non-motorized/wheeled multi-use trail on the abandoned railway corridor.

COMMUNITY SURVEY RESULTS

The January 2001 Community Survey yielded favorable results supporting the preservation of natural resources. Eighty-four percent (84%) of respondents felt that preserving open space was a "very important" or "important" objective. Sixty-seven percent (67%) supported the acquisition of lands to meet this purpose.

Table VI-1

Please indicate how important the preservation of open space in Boscawen is to you:

| Preserving open space | Total | Percent |
|-----------------------|-------|---------|
| Very Important | 189 | 52% |
| Important | 113 | 31% |
| Somewhat Important | 42 | 12% |
| No Opinion | 12 | 3% |
| Not Important | 7 | 2% |
| Grand Total | 363 | 100% |

Table VI-3

Should wetlands protection be an important land management objective in Boscawen?

| Importance of wetlands protection | Total | Percent |
|-----------------------------------|-------|---------|
| Yes | 253 | 70% |
| Unsure | 49 | 14% |
| No | 43 | 12% |
| No Opinion | 15 | 4% |
| Grand Total | 360 | 100% |

Table VI-2

Do you support acquisition of lands for conservation purposes?

| Support acquiring conservation lands | Total | Percent |
|--------------------------------------|-------|---------|
| Yes | 243 | 67% |
| Unsure | 61 | 17% |
| No | 41 | 11% |
| No Opinion | 17 | 5% |
| Grand Total | 362 | 100% |

Table VI-4

Should Boscawen enact ordinances to maintain vegetated buffer areas along wetlands and streams?

| Buffer ordinances enacted for wetlands and stream | Total | Percent |
|---------------------------------------------------|-------|---------|
| Yes | 217 | 61% |
| Unsure | 71 | 20% |
| No | 49 | 14% |
| No Opinion | 21 | 6% |
| Grand Total | 358 | 100% |

In addition, the protection of water resources such as wetlands and streams was positively measured. When asked what should be the most important land conservation objective, respondents replied almost equally as depicted in Table VI-5. Since respondents used a 1-10 rating system for the listed objectives, all percentages are proportionately displayed. Those scoring highest, at 12%, were forests and rivers and streams. The lowest scores, at 7% and 8% respectively, were non-game conservation and aquifers.

Table VI-5

What are the most important land conservation objectives to you?
Please number in order of importance with 1 being the most important:

| Important land conservation objectives | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | Total | Percent |
|----------------------------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|-------|---------|
| Rivers/Streams | 87 | 80 | 56 | 37 | 21 | 7 | 6 | 5 | | | 299 | 12% |
| Forests | 65 | 47 | 46 | 46 | 39 | 23 | 13 | 3 | 1 | | 283 | 12% |
| Fish/Wildlife management | 69 | 39 | 31 | 29 | 24 | 26 | 17 | 19 | 14 | 6 | 274 | 11% |
| Agriculture/Fields | 78 | 30 | 24 | 19 | 33 | 20 | 33 | 13 | 8 | 4 | 262 | 11% |
| Ponds | 37 | 26 | 56 | 47 | 31 | 31 | 22 | 11 | 3 | 3 | 267 | 11% |
| Recreation | 33 | 19 | 26 | 23 | 12 | 33 | 36 | 23 | 26 | 13 | 244 | 10% |
| Wetlands | 28 | 25 | 20 | 27 | 29 | 25 | 21 | 23 | 13 | 5 | 216 | 9% |
| Scenic Views | 23 | 12 | 20 | 12 | 38 | 18 | 23 | 35 | 35 | 12 | 228 | 9% |
| Aquifers | 45 | 18 | 12 | 17 | 9 | 17 | 18 | 28 | 31 | 10 | 205 | 8% |
| Non-game | 10 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 9 | 5 | 5 | 20 | 34 | 71 | 162 | 7% |
| Grand Total Responses | | | | | | | | | | | 2,440 | 100% |

NOTE:

1 - Most important

10 - Least important

Table VI-6

What one special place in Boscawen
is most important to permanently conserve?

| Places for Permanent Conservation | Total | Percent |
|-----------------------------------|-------|---------|
| Merrimack River Area | 55 | 29% |
| Town Forest | 23 | 12% |
| Patenaude's Pond | 20 | 11% |
| Walker Pond | 20 | 11% |
| Between Corn Hill & Queen St | 11 | 6% |
| All forests | 9 | 5% |
| Farms | 10 | 5% |
| Parks | 9 | 5% |
| Area 3 | 3 | 2% |
| Church at 3/4 split | 3 | 2% |
| Creaser land | 4 | 2% |
| Hannah Dustin Island | 4 | 2% |
| Historical Sites | 3 | 2% |
| Wetlands | 4 | 2% |
| All of Boscawen | 2 | 1% |
| Crete Farm Land | 2 | 1% |
| Jamie Welch Memorial Field | 2 | 1% |
| King St | 2 | 1% |
| Silver farm | 2 | 1% |
| Weirs farm | 2 | 1% |
| Other suggestions (one vote each) | 35 | 18% |
| Grand Total Responses | 190 | |

When asked what the single most important resource is to preserve in Boscawen, almost 1/3 of replies, which were all write-ins, indicated that the Merrimack River and its immediate area were the priority. From Table VI-6, other places scoring highly include the Town Forest, Walker Pond, and Patenaude's Pond. In general, residents felt that the percentage of acres permanently protected from development should range from 5% to 20%, which averages significantly higher than the current rate of 4.6%. Preferred methods of funding the conservation of land were grants and private fundraising (Table VI-8). Residents enjoy hiking, wildlife observation, fishing, and canoe/kayaking within Boscawen (Table VI-9).

Table VI-7

There are 15,690 acres of land in Boscawen, 566 of which are permanently protected from development (3.6%). What do you feel is the ideal goal for permanent conservation land in Boscawen?

| Goals for permanent conservation lands | Total | Percent |
|----------------------------------------|-------|---------|
| 10.0% | 91 | 30% |
| 5.0% | 63 | 21% |
| 20.0% | 59 | 19% |
| 3.6% | 35 | 11% |
| 30.0% | 23 | 8% |
| 50.0% | 22 | 7% |
| 40.0% | 12 | 4% |
| other | 4 | |
| Grand Total Responses | 380 | |

Table VI-8

Which of the following methods would you support to fund land conservation purchase in Boscawen? (Please check all that apply).

| Funding methods for land conservation purchase | Total | Percent |
|------------------------------------------------|-------|---------|
| Government grants | 290 | 43% |
| Private fundraising | 220 | 32% |
| Warrant article at town meeting | 106 | 16% |
| Town budget line item | 62 | 9% |
| Grand Total Responses | 678 | 100% |

Table VI-9

In what ways do you enjoy Boscawen's recreational opportunities? Please check all that apply:

| Recreational opportunity enjoyment | Total | Percent |
|------------------------------------|-------|---------|
| Wildlife observation | 179 | 12.7% |
| Hiking | 170 | 12.0% |
| Fishing | 166 | 11.7% |
| Canoe/kayak | 141 | 10.0% |
| Bird watching | 126 | 8.9% |
| Boating | 118 | 8.3% |
| Hunting | 100 | 7.1% |
| Snowmobiling | 88 | 6.2% |
| Snowshoeing | 80 | 5.7% |
| Cross-country skiing | 69 | 4.9% |
| Mountain biking | 61 | 4.3% |
| ATV or four-wheel driving | 47 | 3.3% |
| Skiing | 24 | 1.7% |
| Horseback riding | 20 | 1.4% |
| Trapping | 11 | 0.8% |
| Other | 15 | 1.1% |
| Grand Total Responses | 1415 | 100% |

INVENTORY OF NATURAL RESOURCES

In order to establish the need for preservation, it is necessary to inventory the resources which define Boscawen's character. The majority of this information was taken from the 1999 *CNHRPC Natural, Cultural, and Historical Resources Inventory* and from mapped sources. A series of maps was developed which depict these resources of the Town.

Water Resources

The *Water Resources Map* details the water resources as noted here in this section.

Water Supplies

Currently, the Penacook-Boscawen Water Precinct is looking for additional wells that are free from iron and that match the quality of the Precinct's present #1 well. A Study was completed in June of 2000 to help evaluate the quality and quantity of water available for a future public water supply. Please see the **COMMUNITY AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES AND UTILITIES CHAPTER** for further detail on public water supplies.

Between 1984 and 2000, New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) issued 98 private well permits to residents of Boscawen. The majority of them occur on Queen Street (20) and Corn Hill Road (10), outside of the Precinct boundaries. These new well locations have been mapped by NHDES.

Ponds

Patenaude's Pond is approximately 70 acres and is located on a parcel of roughly 1000 acres. The average depth of the pond is 15 feet. Privately owned, there is no public access.

Until recently, Walker Pond served as the only source of the Penacook-Boscawen Water Precinct's water supply. Walker Pond, approximately 190 acres in size with an average depth of 18 feet, has a motorcraft restriction of six or fewer horsepower. Walker Pond is shared with Webster, with approximately half of the water acreage in each Town. The Water Precinct owns about 88 acres of land bordering Walker Pond and practices good forest management on its parcels.

Flanders Pond is approximately 15 acres in size, with an average depth of four feet. Flanders Pond is an impoundment of Tannery Brook.

County Farm Pond at the Merrimack County Farm is formed by an impoundment of Glines Brook which crosses Route 3 and flows into the Merrimack River.

The pond on the present owner's property was formerly known as Moore's. It is a manmade pond supplied by Choate's Brook and is approximately one acre in size.

Couch Pond, also known as Little Pond, is situated along Beaverdam Brook north of Walker Pond on the Webster border. The pond is 5.8 acres in size, although a minority of its area (1.4 acres) lies within Boscawen.

The pond on Morse Hill (also known as Moss Hill) Road was created by the Olsens and is about 15 acres in size. It is supplied by Tannery Brook.

Rivers

The Merrimack River, formed upstream by the confluence of the Pemigewasset and Winnepesaukee Rivers in Franklin, flows for 10.4 miles in Boscawen. Forming the boundary between Boscawen and Canterbury, the River is defined by diverse and abundant aquatic life along with physical characteristics that are unique in the Merrimack River watershed. The Merrimack River corridor in Boscawen remains relatively unspoiled and supports a wide variety of wildlife including bald eagles, osprey, herons, deer and mink as well as a healthy fish population comprised of smallmouth bass, rainbow trout and Atlantic salmon. The highest frequency of meanders on the Merrimack River also occurs in Boscawen and these intervals provide the foundation for some of the Town's most productive agricultural acreage and impressive viewsheds.

The Contoocook River flows for only 0.9 miles through Boscawen before joining the Merrimack on the southeastern border of Town. This small segment of the Contoocook River flows over a well-developed riffle area that holds abundant aquatic species and attracts a wide variety of wildlife. The river then flattens out, passes a boat launch, and the flow splits to form Hannah Dustin Island before the Contoocook reaches the Merrimack.

Brooks

Tannery Brook has the largest drainage area in Boscawen and it flows for 5.81 miles before entering the Merrimack River just north of the Routes 3 & 4 junction. Tannery Brook is a perennial stream that supports a coldwater fishery including brook trout.

Cold Brook is a major tributary of Tannery Brook and it receives a large volume of runoff from Knowlton Hill as it flows 3.2 miles northeast to its confluence with Tannery Brook.

So-called Moores Brook originates from the east side of High Street as an outlet from a pond at Burkes Orchard. The brook flows 0.97 miles before joining with the main branch of Tannery Brook.

Glines Brook begins east of High Street in steep ravines and flows east into an impoundment on Merrimack County land, under Route 3 into more steep ravines, and eventually meets the Merrimack River. The total length of Glines Brook is 2.38 miles.

Beaverdam Brook originates in Salisbury and flows south through Couch Pond, reforming as a stream to flow into Walker Pond. Beaverdam Brook outlets Walker Pond and flows through a series of marshlands before leaving Boscawen and entering Pillsbury Lake in Webster. Eventually the brook discharges into the Contoocook River. For much of its 6.98 mile length, Beaverdam Brook forms the majority of the Boscawen/Webster political boundary.

The main branch of Stirrup Iron Brook flows 1.18 miles through Boscawen before meeting the Merrimack River. Stirrup Iron Brook flows under Route 3 and the railroad corridor through an impressive stone arch bridge. The brook supports both warmwater and coldwater fish species including margined madtoms and eastern brook trout.

The South Branch of Stirrup Iron Brook flows on private land, through County and State land, and joins Stirrup Iron Brook. Near the line between private and county land, it flows through the ruins of an old nail mill and is joined by a small, seasonal brook flowing from the south. There it forms an impressive double cascade before it winds toward its main branch.

Cabot Brook originates east of High Street and flows east toward County land. Near the border between private and County land, the brook flows through the ruins of an old mill complex. The brook then flows through steep, bedrock lined ravines where an impressive cascade is formed as it picks up a seasonal tributary before flowing east under Route 3 and completing the 3.89 mile journey to the Merrimack River.

Hydric Soils

Out of the total acreage of Boscawen (16,256), 9.4% is comprised of hydric soils:

Table VI-10
Hydric Soils

| Hydric Soils | Acreag | Percentage |
|------------------------------------|--------|------------|
| Poorly Drained | 844 | 5.2% |
| Very Poorly Drained – organic base | 460 | 2.8% |
| Very Poorly Drained – mineral base | 190 | 1.3% |
| Marsh | 17 | 0.1% |
| Totals | 1,520 | 9.4% |

Source: Inventory of Soil Erosion and Agricultural Waste in Merrimack County with Wet Soils Delineations, Town of Boscawen, 1979 by Soil Conservation Service

Watersheds

The Town lies approximately 2/3 within the Upper Merrimack River watershed and 1/3 within the Blackwater watershed. Most of the eastern part of Town is located in the Upper Merrimack River watershed, while the western part of Town is located in the Blackwater River watershed. A very small area of Boscawen, southeast of the Merrimack River, is located in the Contoocook River watershed.

Stratified Drift Aquifer

A small portion of an aquifer underlies the southern portion of Town, near the Concord boundary line and the Contoocook River. A larger aquifer portion is located at the boundary of Boscawen and Webster along the Beaverdam Brook from Franklin to Beaverdam Brook headwaters. The Penacook-Boscawen Water Precinct wells tap into these water sources at various locations.

Wetlands

Wetlands inventoried, field-checked, and mapped by the US Fish and Wildlife Service between 1986 and 1990 dot the entire Town. Large areas of mapped wetlands which do not co-occur with ponds are found along Tannery Brook, off of Corn Hill Road, within the 1000-acre parcel containing Patenaude's Pond, and off of Queen Street.

Dams

The NHDES keeps an inventory of dams within the State. Boscawen has four known dams:

Flanders Pond
County Farm Pond
Walker Pond
Contoocook River

Protection from Nonpoint Source Pollution

The greatest threat to Boscawen's waterways is perhaps nonpoint source (NPS) pollution, also known as polluted runoff. Nonpoint source pollution is pollution that cannot be traced back to any specific source; it is the accumulated pollution resulting from everyday activities. Its effects are magnified by impervious surfaces, such as building roofs and paved surfaces. Water cannot infiltrate these surfaces, causing more water to run off over the land. As water washes over the land, it picks up oil, pesticides, nutrients, sediment, and other pollutants that have been placed into the environment by everyday activities. The runoff water flows into storm drains and sewer systems or directly into water bodies, carrying the pollutants that have been deposited. Sewers and storm drains are not the answer to this problem; they are direct lines to waterways, meaning that polluted runoff is being poured right into surface waters. As little as 10% impervious surface on a lot can begin to negatively impact a waterway. Thus, the more intensively used a piece of land is, the more nearby waterways are negatively affected by polluted runoff.

Land and Forestry Resources

The *Conservation and Public Lands Map* depicts the conservation lands noted here in this section.

Conservation Lands

In this context, tracts of land under conservation can be permanently protected from future development under the parcel's deed or they can be under temporary conservation where no such permanent restrictions are placed upon the future use of the land. In Table VI-11, those parcels which have been permanently protected from development have been identified.

Though sources differ, the generally accepted land acreage for Boscawen is 15,916, while water acreage is approximately 340. The total land and water acreage in Boscawen is 16,256. The total number of acres under both conservation categories amounts to approximately 19% of the entire Town. However, only 748.2 acres are permanently protected from development (4.6%). The following table breaks down the components:

Table VI-11
Conservation Lands and Permanently Protected Lands

| Conservation Land | Held by | Acres | Permanently Protected? | Public or Private Ownership |
|---------------------------------------------|--------------------|--------|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Merrimack County Farm | County | 600 | no | public |
| Cabot Forest | SPNHF | 56.9 | yes | private |
| Elliot (Cabot/Taylor) Forest Easement | SPNHF | 66.7 | yes | private |
| Woodman Forest | SPNHF | 115 | yes | private |
| Hirst Wildlife Management Area | State/NH F&G | 155 | no | public |
| Merrimack River State Forest | State/NH DRED | 57 | no | public |
| Sanborn Farm/Forestlands, N. Water St. | State/NH DA | 160.5 | yes | private |
| Sanborn Intervale, King St. | State/NH DA | 160.3 | yes | private |
| State Forest Nursery | State/NH DRED | 887 | no | public |
| Boscawen Elementary School Land | MV School District | 90 | no | public |
| Boscawen Town Forest | Town of Boscawen | 440 | no | public |
| Hannah Dustin Memorial | State / NH DRED | 1 | no | public |
| Cabot Easement | Town of Boscawen | 14.3 | yes | private |
| Emery Easement (Jones) | Town/LCIP Easement | 32.8 | yes | private |
| Fisher Parcel (Beaverdam Brook) | Town | 6 | no | public |
| Prince Pasture Easement | Town | 1 | yes | private |
| Water Precinct Parcels | Water Precinct | 88 | no | public |
| Sahlin Easement (Cummings) | Town/LCIP Easement | 140.7 | yes | private |
| Total Conserved Acres / Percent | | 3072.2 | 19% | |
| Total Permanently Conserved Acres / Percent | | 748.2 | 4.6% | |

Source: SPNHF Records, 2001; Subcommittee Input

Current Use

Property owners can file for reduced property taxes through the Current Use Taxation program. The current use value is the assessed valuation per acre of open space land based upon the income-producing capability of the land in its current use— not its real estate market value. This valuation shall be determined by the Town's assessor in accordance with the range of current use values established by the Current Use Board (CUB) and in accordance with the class, type, grade, and location of land. Owners of parcels of land which are not anticipated to be used for a different type of use in the future can apply at the Town Office for the following categories:

- ✍ "Farm land" means any cleared land devoted to or capable of agricultural or horticultural use as determined and classified by criteria developed by the Commissioner of Agriculture, Markets, and Food and adopted by the CUB.
- ✍ "Forest land" means any land growing trees as determined and classified by criteria developed by the State Forester and adopted by the CUB. For the purposes of this paragraph, the CUB shall recognize the cost of responsible land stewardship in the determination of assessment ranges.
- ✍ "Open space land" means any or all farm land, forest land, or unproductive land as defined by this section. However, "open space land" shall not include any property held by a city, town or district in another city or town for the purpose of a water supply or flood control, for which a payment in place of taxes is made in accordance with RSA 72:11.
- ✍ "Unproductive land" means land, including wetlands, which by its nature is incapable of producing agricultural or forest products due to poor soil or site characteristics, or the location of which renders it inaccessible or impractical to harvest agricultural or forest products, as determined and classified by criteria developed by the CUB. The CUB shall develop only one category for all unproductive land, setting its current use value equal to that of the lowest current use value established by the CUB for any other category.
- ✍ "Wetlands" means those areas of farm, forest and unproductive land that are inundated or saturated by surface water or groundwater at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions.

Approximately 10,106 acres, or 62% of the Town's total land and water area, were in current use as of December 31, 2000.

A land use change tax shall be levied when the land use changes from open space use to a non-qualifying use. At the 1999 Boscawen Town Meeting, residents voted for a 100% land use change tax allocation, with no cap, to be deposited into the Conservation Fund to support land conservation.

Table VI-12
Land Use Change Tax Collected, 1990-2000

| | Land Use Change Tax Collected |
|------|-------------------------------|
| 1990 | \$420 |
| 1991 | \$2,000 |
| 1992 | \$2,760 |
| 1993 | n/a or \$0 |
| 1994 | \$3,292 |
| 1995 | \$2,614 |
| 1996 | \$11,000 |
| 1997 | \$9,200 |
| 1998 | \$15,410 |
| 1999 | \$20,989 |
| 2000 | \$21,380 |

Sources: Boscawen Annual Reports and Town Files

Table VI-13
Current Use Acreages by Land Type, 1990-2000

| CU Acreage by Land Type | 2000 | 1999 | 1998 | 1997 | 1996 | 1995 | 1994 | 1993 | 1992 | 1991* | 1990* |
|-------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|---------|---------|
| Farm Land | 1,521.8 | 1,549.7 | 1581.9 | 1,635.8 | 1,781.6 | 1,817.7 | 1,863.7 | 1,967.4 | 2,122.4 | 1,617.5 | 1,610.6 |
| Forest Land | 7,835.3 | 7,852.5 | 7985.1 | 7,941.5 | 7,952.4 | 7,929.0 | 7,823.8 | 7,543.5 | 7,357.0 | 3,855.6 | 3,648.5 |
| Unprod. Land | 71.5 | 71.5 | 71.5 | 71.5 | 71.5 | 71.5 | 75.5 | 71.5 | 71.5 | n/a | n/a |
| Wet Land | 677.0 | 676.0 | 674.0 | 680.0 | 659.4 | 658.4 | 661.6 | 661.2 | 656.8 | 572.7 | 566.7 |
| Total CU Acres | 10,105.7 | 10,149.7 | 10,312.5 | 10,328.8 | 10,464.9 | 10,476.6 | 10,420.5 | 10,243.6 | 10,207.7 | 9,720.2 | 9,713.6 |

Sources: Boscawen Annual Reports, *data discrepancy in Town Reports

Table VI-14
Current Use Acreages Statistics, 1990-2000

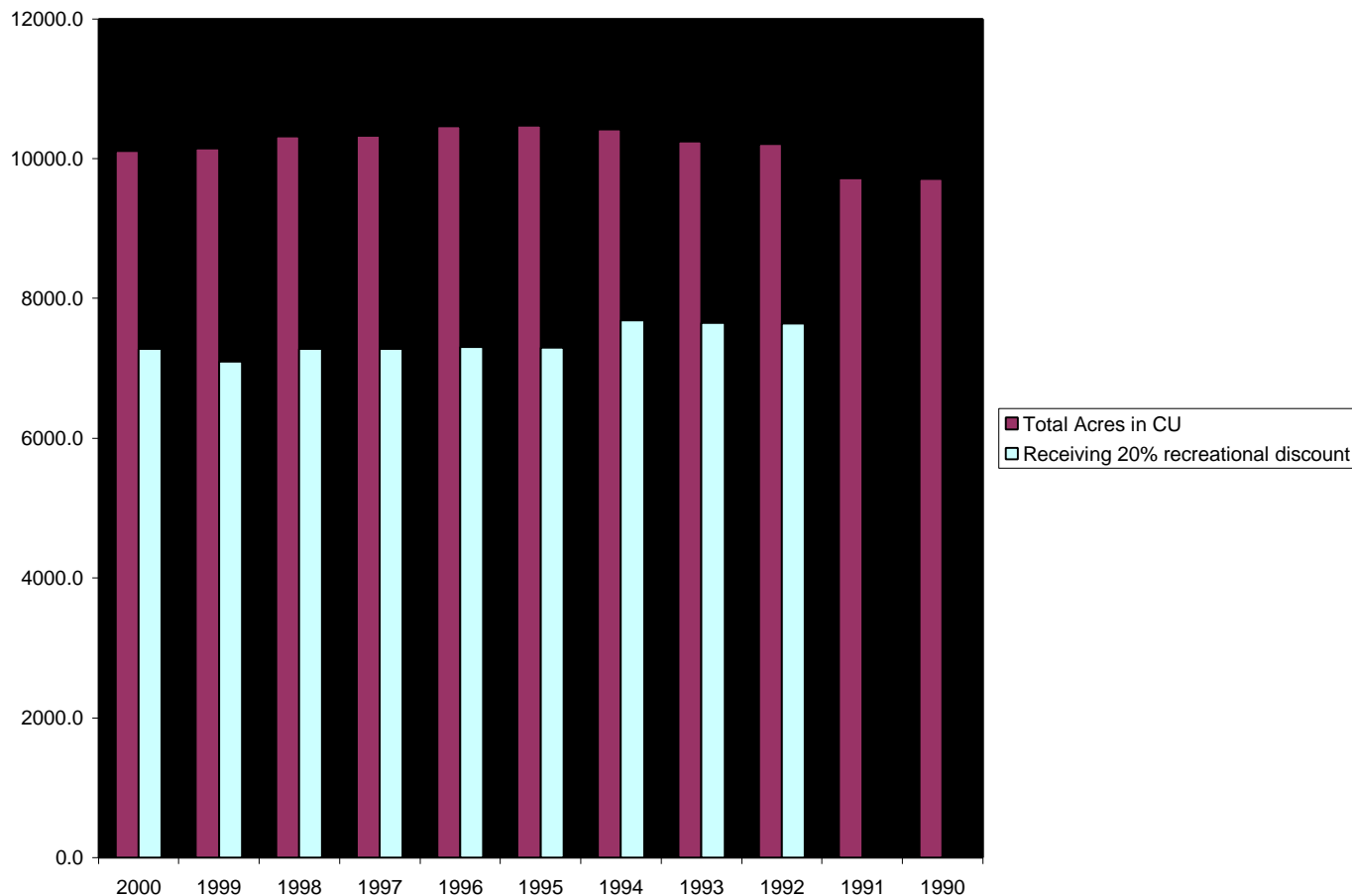
| Acreage Statistics | 2000 | 1999 | 1998 | 1997 | 1996 | 1995 | 1994 | 1993 | 1992 | 1991 | 1990 |
|-------------------------------------|----------|----------|---------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|---------|---------|
| Total Acres in CU | 10,105.7 | 10,149.7 | 10,318 | 10,328.8 | 10,464.9 | 10,476.6 | 10,420.5 | 10,243.6 | 10,207.7 | 9,720.2 | 9,713.6 |
| Removed from CU | 43.1 | 28.2 | 31.5 | 19.1 | 7.0 | 6.3 | n/a | n/a or 0 | 3.9 | 2.8 | 0.8 |
| Receiving 20% recreational discount | 7,279.5 | 7098.8 | 7,276.6 | 7,281.5 | 7,303.2 | 7,299.8 | 7,688.5 | 7,651.1 | 7,643.9 | n/a | n/a |

Sources: Boscawen Annual Reports

Since 1990, the current use acreages have remained fairly consistent. Slowly creeping up, the number of acres removed from current use has increased to 43.1 acres in 2000. Between 1990 and 2000, the total number of acres removed from current use is 142.7 acres, which represents less than 1% of the total acreage of the Town.

As documented in Figure VI-1, the majority of acres under current use are receiving a 20% discount for allowing the public to use their land for recreational purposes for twelve months of the year.

Figure VI-1
Current Use vs Recreational Discount, 1990-200



Sources: Boscawen Annual Reports

Agricultural Resources

The *Agricultural Soils Map* of Boscawen depicts the location of the best soils in Town for farming. Prime farmland soils, soils of statewide importance, and soils of local importance to Merrimack County are depicted using the 1965 Soil Conservation Service (now Natural Resources Conservation Service, the NRCS) Survey. A comprehensive update to the Merrimack County Soil Survey by the NRCS is underway and is anticipated to be completed by fall of 2002. This update should include a change from the alpha-categorization of soils, as shown here, to a numeric categorization.

Prime farmland soils are described nationally as land that has the best combination of physical and chemical characteristics for producing food, feed, forage, fiber, and oilseed crops and are also available for these uses. Most of the 1,062 acres found in Boscawen are concentrated in the Merrimack River intervals, north of Walker Pond, or along Daniel Webster Highway south of the Salisbury, Franklin, and Northfield town lines.

Table VI-15
Prime Farmland Soils in New Hampshire

| Map Unit Symbol | Map Unit Name and Slopes | Acres in Boscawen |
|----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------|
| AfA | Agawam Very Fine Sandy Loam, 0-3% | |
| AfB | Agawam Very Fine Sandy Loam, 3-8% | |
| BcB | Belgrade Silt Loam, 0-8% | |
| NnA | Ninigret Very Fine Sandy Loam, 0-3% | |
| Oh | Ondawa Fine Sandy Loam, high bottom | |
| PaB | Paxton Loam, 0-8% | |
| Po | Podunk Fine Sandy Loam | |
| WoB | Woodbridge Loam, 0-8% | |
| Ru | Rumney Fine Sandy Loam | |
| Of | Ondawa Fine Sandy Loam | |
| Total Prime Farmland Acres in Boscawen | | 1,062 |

Sources: Soil Conservation Service 1965; Natural Resource Conservation Service, October 2000

Categorized soils of Statewide importance, shown below in Table VI-16, have properties that exclude them from the prime farmland list. However, they are important to agriculture in the State of New Hampshire. They produce fair to good crop yields when properly treated and managed. As a general rule, erosion control and irrigation practices are necessary to produce high-yield crops. The areas of the 716 acres found in Boscawen are scattered throughout Town, but concentrations are found in the Valley of Industry and its outlying areas, along Queen Street, and along the northern portion of Daniel Webster Highway.

Table VI-16
Soils of Statewide Importance

| Map Unit Symbol | Map Unit Name and Slopes | Acres in Boscawen |
|-------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|-------------------|
| AcB | Acton Fine Sandy Loam, 0-8% | |
| GcB | Gloucester Sandy Loam, 3-8% | |
| GcC | Gloucester Sandy Loam, 8-15% | |
| HmB | Hermon Sandy Loam, 3-8% | |
| HmC | Hermon Sandy Loam, 8-15% | |
| MmC | Merrimac Sandy Loam, 8-15% | |
| PaC | Paxton Loam, 8-15% | |
| SgB | Shapleigh-Gloucester Sandy Loams, 3-8% | |
| SuA | Sudbury Fine Sandy Loam, 0-3% | |
| SuB | Sudbury Fine Sandy Loam, 3-8% | |
| WoC | Woodbridge Loam, 8-15% | |
| Total Soils of Statewide Importance Acres in Boscawen | | 716 |

Sources: Soil Conservation Service 1965; Natural Resource Conservation Service, October 2000

Soils of local importance are identified by County agencies within the State. These soils also support the production of food, feed, fiber, forage, and oilseed crops. These soils produce fair to good crops when managed properly. In Boscawen, 2,571 acres of the total land acreage of the Town (15,916) are identified as soils of local importance to Merrimack County. These soils are mainly found on top of the stratified drift aquifers (along the Merrimack River, in lower Boscawen, and north of Walker Pond). An additional concentration is found in the north-central part of Town along High Street.

Table VI-17
Soils of Local (Merrimack County) Importance

| Map Unit Symbol | Map Unit Name and Slopes | Acres in Boscawen |
|---------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|-------------------|
| AgA | Au Gres Fine Sandy Loam, 0-3% | |
| AgB | Au Gres Fine Sandy Loam, 3-8% | |
| AuB | Au Gres Loamy Sand, 0-8% | |
| CoA | Colton Loamy Sand, 0-3% | |
| CoB | Colton Loamy Sand, 3-8% | |
| DuB | Duane Fine Sandy Loam, 0-8% | |
| GrB | Gloucester Very Stony Sandy Loam, 3-8% | |
| HnB | Hermon Very Stony Sandy Loam, 3-8% | |
| HsA | Hinckley Loamy Sand, 0-3% | |
| HsB | Hinckley Loamy Sand, 3-8% | |
| Lm | Limerick Silt Loam, high bottom | |
| PnB | Paxton Very Stony Loam, 3-8% | |
| PnC | Paxton Very Stony Loam, 8-15% | |
| RbA | Ridgebury Loam, 0-3% | |
| RbB | Ridgebury Loam, 3-8% | |
| Sy | Suncook Loamy Sand | |
| WdA | Windsor Loamy Sand, 0-3% | |
| WdB | Windsor Loamy Sand, 3-8% | |
| WdC | Windsor Loamy Sand, 8-15% | |
| WvB | Woodbridge Very Stony Loam, 0-8% | |
| WvC | Woodbridge Very Stony Loam, 8-15% | |
| Total Soils of Local Importance Acres in Boscawen | | 2,571 |

Sources: Soil Conservation Service 1965; Natural Resource Conservation Service, October 2000

The following is a list of active farms and orchards in Boscawen, all of which are extremely important to protect from development or other change of use:

Table VI-18
Active Farms and Orchards in Boscawen

| Name(s) | Location | Products or Use |
|---------------------------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|
| Apple Ridge Farm & Orchard (LaRochelle & Cassidy) | Water Street | flowers, vegetables |
| Avaloch (Tauber) Farm | Hardy Lane | fruit |
| Bevens Orchard | High Street | apples |
| Black Forest Nursery | Forest Lane | trees, shrubs, flowers |
| Colby (Banks, Folsom, Choate & Gerrish) Farms | High Street | hay, pasturage, orchard |
| Corn Hill Farm, LLC (Towle & Callahan) | Corn Hill Road | deer |
| County Farm | Daniel Webster Highway | wood, hay, etc |
| Cummings (Sahlin) Farm | Water Street | hay, livestock |
| French Farm | Water Street | hay |
| Highway View Farm (Crete Farm) | River Road | active dairy |
| Jones (Fisher) Farm & Orchard | Water Street | stock |
| Jones (Emery) Farm | Goodhue Road | leased hay |
| Knowlton Farm | Knowlton Road | hay |
| Knoxland Farm (Rattee) | River Road | leased hay |
| Marshall Farm | North Main Street | pumpkins, corn |
| McKerley Farm | Daniel Webster Highway | deer |
| Morrill Farm | Water Street | hay, corn, pasture |
| Porter Farm | River Road | peppers |
| Raymond (Barvenick) Farm | High Street | hay |
| Richardson Farm | Water Street | flowers, vegetables |
| Raleigh Farm | North Water Street | leased corn |
| St. Jacques Horse Farm | Water Street | training horses |
| Silver Farms | Water Street | hay, corn, seasonal stock |
| Sunrise Knoll (Jaworski Farm) | Queen Street | hay, leased corn, syrup |
| Sweatt (Hall) Farm | Water Street | small fruit |
| Woodbury Farm | Water Street | stock, hay, syrup |

Source: Subcommittee input

Forest Resources

There are a number of certified Tree Farms in Town. They include those owned by the Town of Boscawen, the Society for the Protection of NH Forests, the NH Department of Fish and Game, and privately owned lands. Many additional properties in Boscawen have considerable timber value, including those mentioned above as farms and orchards.

Table VI-19
Timber Tax Collections, 1990-2000

| | Timber Tax Collected |
|------|----------------------|
| 1990 | \$5,314 |
| 1991 | \$4,928 |
| 1992 | \$4,084 |
| 1993 | \$21,930 |
| 1994 | \$37,549 |
| 1995 | \$34,049 |
| 1996 | \$13,790 |
| 1997 | \$32,905 |
| 1998 | \$23,500 |
| 1999 | \$32,084 |
| 2000 | \$14,899 |

Sources: Boscawen Annual Reports and Town Files

Table VI-20
Active Forest Management Areas

| Property Name(s) | Location | Type / Description |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| Colby Properties | High Street | softwoods, cordwoods |
| Morrill Farms | Water Street | softwoods |
| Niebling Property | Water Street | timber |
| Sanborn Property | Water Street | timber |
| Davis Property | Water Street | hardwood & hemlock |
| Colby (R) Property | Water Street | soft & hardwoods |
| Olsen Properties | Water Street | timber |
| Cummings Property | Water Street | timber |
| Jones Property | Water Street | timber |
| Avaloch Farms | Water Street | timber |
| Silver Farms | Water Street | timber |
| Larochelle Property | Water Street | timber |
| Millard Property | Water Street | timber |
| Knowlton Property | Water Street | timber |
| Wolf Property | Daniel Webster Highway | timber |
| McKerley Property | Daniel Webster Highway | timber |
| Holmes Property | Daniel Webster Highway | timber |
| Merrimack County | Daniel Webster Highway | timber |
| State of NH (Merr River State Forest) | Daniel Webster Highway | timber |
| Bartlett Property | Corn Hill Road | timber |
| French Property | Corn Hill Road | timber |
| Woodman Property | Corn Hill Road | timber |
| Russell Property | Queen Street | timber |
| Patenaude Property | Queen Street | timber |
| Town Forest | Queen Street | timber |
| NH Fish & Game | Queen Street | timber |
| Sumner Property | Queen Street | timber |
| Creaser Property | Queen Street | timber |
| Carey Property | Queen Street | timber |

Source: Subcommittee input

Table VI-21
Forest Soil Groups

| Forest Soils Type | Definition | Types of Wood |
|-------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1A | Deeper loamy soils, moderately- to well-drained | prime northern hardwood |
| 1B | Sandy or loamy soils, moderately- to well-drained | oak & beech |
| 1C | Outwash sands & gravels | white pine |
| 2A | 1A & 1B with limitations (very steep, shallow, or rocky) | northern hardwood |
| 2B | Poorly drained soils | northern spruce & fir |
| not considered | muck & peat, rock outcrop, gravel pits, marsh, etc | n/a |

The *Integrated Natural Resource Management Plan, Boscawen Town Forest* is currently being revised by an ad-hoc Committee of the Conservation Commission. The forest is managed cooperatively by the Boscawen Conservation Commission and the NH Department of Fish and Game. The cooperative agreement was executed November, 1990.

Geologic Resources

There are many other interesting natural geological features within Boscawen. They include a variety of gorges and eskers, glacial erratics between Routes 3 and 4, gravel pits at the gateway to the Town on Route 4 at Concord/Boscawen intersection, clay along Cold Brook, a cave on Colby Farm, cliffs along King Street and Route 4 on Colby Farm, and a soapstone mine on High Street.

The *Construction Materials Map* and the *Development Constraints Map* of the EXISTING AND FUTURE LAND USE CHAPTER depict the location of permitted gravel operations and slopes greater than 15%.

Surficial Geology

One of the most significant features is a drumlin in the southeastern part of Town, directly north of the Unnamed Pond. Various stratified gravel deposits lie in kame terraces and eskers, with corresponding outwash plains, in the Tannery Brook area. Stratified sand and silt from glacial outwash lie next to the Merrimack River just south of the Northfield town line.

A number of hills and mountains within Boscawen create a unique topography that serves to enhance the visual and scenic character of the Town. They are depicted on the *Viewsheds Map*.

Table VI-22
Hills and Mountain

| Name | Description or Location |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| Clark Hill (aka Crete Hill) | west side of Lower King St |
| Clay Hill | north bank of Corn Hill |
| Colby Hill (formerly Gerrish Hill) | north of Colby residence |
| Collins Hill | unknown (historical name) |
| Dagody Hill | southern boundary at Concord TL, 620' |
| Jackman Hill (aka Chadwick Hill) | Chadwick Hill Road |
| Knowlton Hill | upper Queen Street, 760' |
| Plummer Hill | off Corn Hill Road |
| Poplar Hill | between Daniel Webster Highway and High Street |
| Raleigh Hill | North Water Street to Salisbury line |
| The Mountain | west of King Street, section known as Windy Ghoul |
| Unnamed Hill | in Boscawen Town Forest, ledge outcropping |

Sources: Subcommittee input; CNHRPC 1999 Natural, Cultural and Historical Resources Inventory

Bedrock Geology

Two-thirds of Boscawen is underlain by the Littleton Formation of Undifferentiated Schists and Gneiss, which are comprised mostly of gray mica. The remaining one third of Town, in the northwestern section, is underlain by an unnamed pluton composed of Granodiorite-Biotite Quartz Monzonite (mostly quartz, some garnet). A vein of garnet extends north-south through the center of Boscawen.

Excavation Materials

Boscawen has several excavation operations in Town. A few are located near the Merrimack or Contoocook Rivers on the eastern side of Town, and a few others are dispersed throughout Boscawen, especially in the Morse Hill Road area. The specific locations and tax map and lot numbers can be found in the **EXISTING AND FUTURE LAND USE CHAPTER**.

Table VI-23
Selected Intent to Excavate Application Facts, 2001-2002

| | |
|-------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| Total Acreage Permitted to Excavate, 2001-2002 | 287.02 |
| Total Acres Previously Excavated on Lots as of 4/1/01 | 17.625 |
| Total Acres Reclaimed on Lots as of 4/1/01 | 2.5 |

Source: Town Files

Ecological Resources

NH Natural Heritage Inventory (NHI)

Several outstanding plant and animal species have been identified in Boscawen since the 1930s, as well as one outstanding natural community, and recorded NHI program's database. It is known that other species and communities do presently exist in Boscawen, and efforts should be made to report the information to the NHI.

The Flatstem Pondweed (*Potamogeton zosteriformis*) is threatened in New Hampshire, but not listed as such federally or globally. Only two locations in the State within the last twenty years have been reported to harbor this plant, with the last occurrence in Boscawen in 1946.

A natural community valued as extremely high in importance is the terrestrial community Floodplain Forest along the Merrimack River. The State has only twenty-three other such communities.

The invertebrate mollusk Brook Floater (*Alasmodonta varicosa*) is listed in the State as endangered. Only one occurrence in Boscawen within the last twenty years has been recorded.

The vertebrate Blanding's Turtle (*Emydoidea blandingii*), not a native species to New Hampshire, has been reported to be found in Boscawen only once within the last twenty years.

Although the Fowler's Toad (*Bufo fowleri*) is often sighted in the Merrimack River area of Boscawen, the Natural Heritage Inventory has not been recently alerted to its presence.

The Pied-Billed Grebe (*Podilymbus podiceps*) is listed as endangered in the State and has only been reported in Boscawen once within the last twenty years.

Corridors

Corridors and greenways are typically used not only by people for recreation or transportation, but also by wildlife to travel from one habitat to another. Maintaining viable and undeveloped corridors ultimately measures the biological success of the animals, particularly larger mammals, within an area. The following corridors have been identified in Boscawen:

A large riparian corridor is located along the Merrimack River which forms the entire eastern boundary of the Town, spanning 10.4 miles by meandering currents. The majority of the Merrimack corridor north of Jamie Welch Memorial Field is undeveloped, while the southern portion within Boscawen contains commercial, agricultural, or industrial activity combined with less developed habitat.

The abandoned Boston and Maine Railroad corridor, over seven (7) miles long and approximately 80' wide, follows the Merrimack River from Boscawen's southern Concord boundary to its northern Franklin boundary. The corridor is currently owned by the State of New Hampshire and managed by the NH Department of Resources and Economic Development. It is actively used in the winter by a local snowmobile club.

Class VI and discontinued roads, such as Merrill Corner Road, Morse Hill Road, Cat Hole Road, a portion of Weir Road, and Chadwick Hill Road, serve as corridors for animal movement. These old roads are often conduits for travel as the pathways have already been established and human activity is limited. Additional Class VI roads include Hale Road, Cross Street, the northern half of Stirrup Iron Road, Newbury Street, Mutton Road, and Marlboro Road.

Exemplary Natural Communities

Other special, undisturbed lands are essential for the biological diversity of plants and animals. The more biodiversity found within an area, the more valuable and self-sustaining the community becomes from both ecological and economic perspectives. The following natural communities have been identified in Boscawen:

Hirst Wildlife Marsh Area, owned by the NH Fish and Game, is critical habitat for freshwater wetlands species. It is managed cooperatively with the Boscawen Town Forest.

The 70-acre Patenaude's Pond, with its rare undeveloped shorefront, is situated within a nearly 1000-acre parcel in the southwestern part of Town. Abutting the Town Forest, the parcel itself is also undeveloped and supports a wide variety of plant and animal species.

Olsen Pond, Walker Pond, County Farm Pond (along Glines Brook), Stirrup Iron Pond, Tannery Brook, and Choate Brook are among the Town's significant natural water resource communities.

At this time, no heron rookeries have been identified in Town although several local marshes and wetlands may accommodate them. Herons are frequently sighted along the Merrimack, at Walker Pond, and at other waterbodies in Boscawen, including wetlands.

Egrets and mink have been spotted on the Merrimack River.

Colby and Fisher swamps between Route 4 and Water Street, Colby Swamp between Route 4 and Route 3, and the swamp on Corn Hill Road are important areas for maintaining Boscawen's biological and ecological diversity, as well as the State's diversity.

Viewsheds

A number of viewsheds have been identified on the *Viewsheds Map*. They include scenic views of the Merrimack River, neighboring towns, Mount Kearsarge, farmlands, and the White Mountains. Infrastructure should be designed to maintain these unrenewable assets to Boscawen.

CURRENT AND PROPOSED REGULATORY PRESERVATION MEASURES

There are many techniques available to assist with conserving natural resources. Regulatory protection measures are an important part of a Town's preservation toolkit.

Cluster Development Zoning

Boscawen's current Cluster Development Ordinance was written based upon older principles which do not fully address present-day needs and conflict with Zoning Districts themselves. A revision of the Cluster Development Ordinance should be undertaken using an approach which minimizes conflicts with surrounding land uses and considers the environmental opportunities of the sites, with the goal of maximizing open space and minimizing fragmentation. The revision should also address the appropriateness of cluster zoning relative to the zone and the site.

An answer to the sprawling landform created under conventional cookie cutter subdivisions is a new approach to subdivision design for rural areas, as outlined in the book entitled *Conservation Design for Subdivisions: A Practical Guide to Creating Open Space Networks*, by Randall Arendt (Island Press, 1996). Figures in the **EXISTING AND FUTURE LAND USE CHAPTER** show graphics from Arendt's book depicting the typical scenario for the development of a parcel under the conservation development design process. In its most basic form, the conservation development process can be broken into six logical steps, which are not the typical steps taken for a conventional subdivision:

1. Create a "yield plan" for the site that assesses the number of viable building lots on the site under a conventional subdivision design. This plan establishes the density for the conservation development design. Although a yield plan is conceptual, it must be consistent with Town ordinances and regulations already in place.
2. Prepare a conservation site analysis plan that identifies prominent open spaces and important natural features broken out into primary and secondary conservation areas. Primary conservation areas are those resources for which development should be excluded almost without exception. Secondary conservation areas are those that should not be developed, if at all possible.
3. After evaluating the primary and secondary conservation areas, locate the portions of the site most suitable for development.
4. Locate dwelling unit sites using innovative arrangements to maximize views of open space and resources.
5. Locate and design the road and pedestrian travel ways, maximize the protection of viewsheds and natural terrain in the design, and locate septic fields.
6. Delineate lot lines.

Under this approach, use existing minimum lot sizes as the basis for conventional residential density on the best soils, with reduced densities according to declining soil quality. The current minimum lot sizes for residential uses should represent the maximum aggregate density on the best soils under the soils-based lot sizing approach. Lower quality soils should require lower density development. Primary conservation areas may include wetlands, steep slopes, aquifer recharge zones, and floodplains. Secondary conservation areas may include stonewalls, viewsheds, prominent vegetation, prominent landforms, prime agricultural soils, historic sites and features, archeological sites, and communities and species identified in the Natural Heritage Inventory.

Large Lot Forestry and Agricultural Zoning

Planning theory states that dividing developing land, or potentially developing land, into larger lots will slow development and preserve open space and rural character. The goal of these two types of zoning is to provide large enough blocks of land that they can be managed for a specific resource value. If this technique is used, lot sizes that truly reflect the amount of land needed to allow for commercially viable use of the land and are related to the reality of the use of the land in the area must be established.

Overlay Districts

Overlay zoning districts can be used by communities to define and apply special regulations to a particular resource. Once resource areas of concern are identified, the Planning Board must establish what kind of special regulations apply to that particular resource.

Ground Water Protection Districts
Mountain Conservation Districts
Steep Slope Districts

Historic Districts
Forestry Districts
Agricultural Districts

Aesthetics-Based Land Use Regulations

Because the appearance of the community, including views of simple things like tree-lined streets, mixed farm land, forests, historic buildings and water resources that largely define Boscawen's traditional landscape, is so important to the fabric of the community, there must be a priority placed on preserving them. Planning regulations addressing lot size, placement of buildings, signage, as well as landscaping are typically used to address aesthetic elements of the community.

Environmental Science-Based Regulations

Environmental science-based land use regulations are based directly upon measurable characteristics of the land-base of the community, rather than on possibly arbitrary standards established by people. Regulations based on the characteristics of the land may reflect the actual ability of the land base to sustain development and are often easier to defend against legal challenges than those arbitrarily created.

Flexible Zoning

Flexible zoning is an alternative to traditional fixed zoning regulations. It allows for more latitude in adapting proposed land use changes to the desires of the community, the wishes of the developer, and the characteristic of the resource base. Extra care must be taken in designing these regulations, to ensure that both the intent of the zoning and the conditions that must be met to qualify for it are clear to the Planning Board, developer, and residents.

Urban Growth Districts

An urban growth district allows the community to define one or more areas where growth and development will be concentrated. This typically includes a downtown area and sometimes existing areas with higher concentrations of development. Desired growth will take place inside of the district, thus preserving open space in other parts of the Town. Development within the urban growth area can still be regulated by various zoning standards, but density regulations should be adjusted to accommodate a denser development pattern.

Phased Growth Plan

Towns may adopt regulations to control the rate of development. In certain rapid growth situations, slowing the rate of development can be a way to retain some open space from development for a short period of time, during which it may be possible to determine if there is a need or mechanism to preserve it permanently.

Limitations to the Number of Building Permits

One way to help conserve open space in the short-term in a community is to establish a maximum number of new building permits that will be allowed in any given year. The number of permits allowed annually needs to be correlated in some meaningful way with the growth pressure on the community. This type of growth control strategy needs to be carefully crafted to accurately reflect the goals of the community and to avoid the perception of creating "snob zoning."

Open Space/Village Design Planning

Rather than filling all available space with similar-sized houses centered on uniformly sized lots, this development strategy focuses the construction in a smaller portion of the total land being developed, and provides for permanent protection of the open space not used for construction. The land selected for permanent open space protection should be designed to fulfill the open space interests of the entire community.

NON-REGULATORY PRESERVATION MEASURES

Volunteer efforts to conserve land are recognizable and are often more appreciated than regulatory requirements. Hand in hand, regulatory and non-regulatory methods work together to serve the community's preservation interests.

Conservation Easement

A conservation easement is a permanent, legally binding agreement that ensures that certain uses will never be allowed on that property. Typically conservation easements prevent development of land uses such as construction, subdivision, and mining but allow uses such as agriculture, forestry, wildlife habitat, scenic views, watershed protection, and education. The agreement exists between a willing landowner and a qualified recipient, which can be the Town or State government or various conservation organizations. Each conservation easement is tailored to the interests of the landowner, the receiving entity, and the unique characteristics of the property. The land can be sold or deeded by the original owner and subsequent owners, but an easement is binding to all future owners.

Management Agreement

These management agreements are conservation easements applied to particular land uses. Each focuses on a particular open space value and a management agreement can be custom tailored to any specific situation.

Right-of-Way for Trails - The Town may protect open space along a recreational trail corridor area. The right-of-way could be arranged and exist as a legal agreement between the Town/nonprofit organization and the owner of the land where the trail is located.

Wildlife Corridors - Open space can be protected for its value in allowing wildlife to travel from one place to another safely. Working with maps indicating where certain species can be found, probable travel corridors could be recognized. Once areas are recognized, the Town could then create plans to acquire, protect, or manage these important corridors.

Buffers Between Uses - Buffers between incompatible land uses can ensure that development and growth within the Town does not have a negative impact on the rural and scenic qualities that the Town values.

Dollars and Sense of Open Space

New Hampshire studies, such as the *Dollars and Sense of Open Space* by the NH Wildlife Federation and *Does Open Space Pay* by the UNH Cooperative Extension show that open space brings in more revenue to a town than it requires in services. The general consensus is that less development, particularly residential development, means lower taxes. More houses require, among other community services, additional roads to maintain and the providing of more schooling for children. In Chester, it cost the community \$449,206 more to educate children from 117 new homes than those new residents paid in taxes. In Peterborough, the 188-home Pine Ridge Development cost the town \$128,124 more than it brought in taxes.

The Boscawen Conservation Commission has hosted the *Dollars and Sense of Open Space* presentation for area communities. Although it is not the intent of this Chapter, Master Plan, or Town to discourage growth, all growth and further use of land must be managed in a way which will be sustainable for future generations. A study to measure the costs of community services for Boscawen should be undertaken.

USE AND PROTECTION OF NATURAL RESOURCES

There are numerous mechanisms available for protecting and conserving a community's natural, scenic, historic and agricultural resources. A very effective, but costly method is fee simple purchase of the resource. Because of the limited funding available, this method is the most challenging for the Town. In the majority of the cases, fee simple ownership is not necessary to achieve effective protection of the resource.

In some instances, however, fee simple acquisition of a parcel may be the best alternative for protection. Some landowners may no longer be willing to own and manage their property. They may still want to insure that it will be protected and maintained for future generations, thus fee simple acquisition in these cases should be considered.

Easements provide another option of protection when the Town may want less than fee simple ownership. Purchase of the development rights would insure the continuation of, for example, agricultural use, while compensating the owner for the lost rights to develop the property at a cost significantly less than fee simple purchase. This could be accomplished through mechanisms such as the Land and Community Heritage Investment Program, through a municipal or regional land trust, or through the Farmland Protection Program, a federally funded program that is a 50/50 venture with communities.

Merrimack River

The water resources in Boscawen are important assets to the Town. The streams, rivers, ponds, wetlands and aquifers provide diverse wildlife habitats, numerous recreational opportunities, ground water recharge, water supplies, and many scenic views and vistas. It should be a priority for the Town of Boscawen to preserve and protect its water resources.

Conservation easements could be used to acquire development rights and public access to parcels with river frontage. Easements for a trail network that would allow public passage in existing developed areas could be used to complete the trail system. In addition, acquisition of key parcels may be required to allow for boat/canoe put-in and take-out areas, picnic areas and public parks linked by the trail system. Acquiring buffer strips along the Merrimack River should be a priority of the Town of Boscawen. The Comprehensive Shoreland Protection Act should also be incorporated directly into the Town's regulations as part of the effort.

Healthy watersheds are vital for a sound environment and economy by providing for drinking water, irrigation, industry, and habitat. Managing the Town's watersheds and other natural resources is an effective and efficient way to sustain the local economy and environmental health. The Town should create a Watershed Management Plan for one or more of its three watersheds.

Water quality should be protected through acquisition of land or easements or the adoption of land use regulations to avoid ground and surface water pollution and erosion and sedimentation. Once a body of water has been contaminated, the restoration of the ground and surface waters is costly, time consuming, and often a futile endeavor.

Zoning should be used to protect large, dispersed, critical environmental resources such as floodplains, wetlands, steep slopes, and aquifers. For example, it would be difficult, costly and inefficient for the Town to purchase all of its wetland areas when effective protection could be accomplished through zoning. A Wetlands Conservation District could be designed to restrict use of the wetland, to establish minimum setback requirements for structures, parking and other impervious areas, to establish minimum setbacks for agricultural, excavation, and forest activities, to require maintenance of a vegetative buffer strip, and to eliminate wetland areas from the overall calculation of minimum lot size. This District would adequately protect the wetland resource at no cost to the Town, and this means may also be used to protect wetlands not specific to a district. Principles of the Comprehensive Shoreline Protection Act should be used as guidelines.

Agriculture

Agriculture is another resource important to Boscawen. Historically, agriculture was the major land use in the Town. Many of the original agricultural fields have grown fallow and reverted to forests. Today, Boscawen contains some large, contiguous parcels of active farmland. Many of the existing agricultural conservation programs are concerned mainly with prime farmland soils and the productivity of the land. While these factors should not be ignored, they are not the only measures for evaluating the importance of agricultural areas. Farms provide open space for viewing fields and hillsides, hunting opportunities, habitat, as well as scenic views of the farm itself. The visual presence of the farm buildings, pastures, croplands, and orchards are essential to the character of Boscawen. Farms, in general, provide the variety of habitats-- fields, forests, streams, wetlands, and transitional areas-- essential for species diversity. Preservation of farmland aids in preservation of wildlife habitat. In addition, farmland preservation generally provides multiple benefits as mentioned earlier. Therefore, agricultural preservation should be a priority for the Boscawen. The Town should seek to acquire development rights and easements to agricultural lands to ensure the continuation of farming in the community.

Forestry

The forests of Boscawen have long been an important part of the Town's history. The early settlers used the forest as a source of building material, fuel, and food. By the mid-1800s, most of the once-majestic forests were cleared for farmland. However, much of the land proved unsuitable for agriculture, and the abandoned fields and pastures quickly reverted to forest. The drier, sandy plains tended to favor pine, while the hillsides favored a mixed forest of oak, maple, birch, pine, and hemlock. These forests are once again providing a source of sawtimber and firewood to the local population along with providing a place for recreation, wildlife habitat, and watershed protection. Publicly owned forests such as the State and Town Forests, as well as many private woodlots in the Town, are managed in a way to ensure that the forests remain a viable resource to help meet the future needs of the townspeople.

Recreational Opportunities

Working land that is actively managed for agriculture and forestry is maintained as open space. Properly managed open space is essential for wildlife habitat and contributes to maintaining clean soil and water. Open space provides a variety of recreational opportunities including wildlife viewing, hiking, cross-country skiing, cycling, and hunting. Scenic vistas or "viewsheds" not only enhance recreation and contribute to the quality of life of a community, but also develop a community's tourism opportunities. The Town Forest is an example of a variety of recreational opportunities within this context. An interpretive trail, hunting, wildlife observation, and other activities are commonly practiced. The Merrimack River is another opportunity. Private enterprises in Boscawen provide residents and visitors with outdoor activities. More recreational opportunities should be explored in conjunction with preservation of the land. Recreational needs and opportunities are further discussed in the **COMMUNITY AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES AND UTILITIES CHAPTER**.

Land Use

Open spaces are vital to a healthy local economy, a livable community, and responsible management of the natural resources of a municipality. Well-managed forestry and agricultural lands are an asset to the financial well-being of a community by creating a sustainable source of income for the owner, who pays taxes and fees to the community. A healthy community offers the diversity of agriculture and forestry as part of its commercial and industrial land uses. Conflicts of land use should be minimized and upheld within the Zoning Ordinance.

POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES FOR CONSERVATION PROJECTS

While the list of choices for funding conservation and preservation endeavors is ever-changing with respect to local, regional, state, and federal grant programs, municipal "income" opportunities remain relatively stable. In addition, a municipal dollar-match is most often required in order to obtain any type of grant funding.

Municipal Contributions to the Conservation Fund

Many Towns have created a separate Conservation Fund or an open space acquisition fund, through vote at Town Meeting, specifically for the purpose of paying for land acquisition or easements. Money for these funds may come from Town budget appropriations, land use change taxes, or proceeds from managing or selling Town property, just to name a few.

Appropriation from Town Budget - The Town can regularly set aside money for a Conservation Fund in their annual Town budgeting process. The land use change tax allocation to the Conservation Fund is an additional tool provided by a vote at Town Meeting.

Proceeds from Managing or Selling Town Property - Towns that have property or resources that they manage often can provide income to the Town as well as the Conservation Fund. This is frequently done through timber harvest operations on mature forest land owned by the Town. The proceeds from the sale of Town property can also be dedicated to the Conservation Fund.

Bond Issue - The Town may agree to borrow money for a conservation project through a municipal bond issue.

Town Surplus Funds - The Town can apply funds, if they are available, that are left over from prior years' budgets to fund conservation projects.

Tax Liens - When the Town acquires property because the owner has not paid all of the taxes on the property, the Town can keep and manage the land and include it in as part of the Town's conservation plan. On the other hand, if there is little resource value in the land, it could be sold and the revenue placed into the Conservation Fund.

Fines - Fines imposed for misuse of Town property could be allocated to the Conservation Fund by a vote at Town Meeting.

Land and Community Heritage Investment Program

This State fund is designed to assist communities that want to conserve outstanding natural, historic, and cultural resources. There is a requirement that the Towns match the State money from this fund with a 50% match from other sources, which can include an "in kind" match, as well as funds from other sources.

State of New Hampshire Funding Sources

The Departments of Environmental Services, Agriculture, Transportation, Resources and Economic Development, and many other State agencies offer grants on a matching basis to assist with conservation-related projects. Although not in a centralized listing, research can yield a number of grant opportunities to help offset the municipal costs of a project.

Federal Funding Sources

There are many potential funding sources at the federal level. Depending on the type of project to be undertaken, the federal government has an updated register of hundreds of grant programs located in the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance, currently at <http://aspe.os.dhhs.gov/cfda/ialph.htm>. The US Department of Agriculture office in Concord offers numerous free or low-cost services to municipalities.

In-Kind Services or Mini-Grants from Quasi-Public Entities

The UNH Cooperative Extension and the Central NH Regional Planning Commission offer a variety of free or very low-cost services to municipalities within their respective areas. They may be able to provide technical assistance to help a town pursue grant funds, research potential grant opportunities, or perform training or site inspections.

Grants from Foundations

The Town would need to research available grants and develop proposals to seek funding to conserve a particular piece of property or type of resource within the Town. Funding could be sought from foundations at the local, state, regional, and national level.

Cooperative Ventures with Private Organizations

When the interests of the Town to conserve open space correspond with the interests of a private organization, the potential for a cooperative partnership to protect land exists. This tactic will require some creative thinking and introductory discussions by Town officials with area organizations who have, or could develop, an interest in conserving open space.

CONSERVATION PLANNING REFERENCES

In order to assist the Planning Board, Conservation Commission, Board of Selectmen and other entities with implementing several of the recommendations listed in the beginning of the Chapter, a list of reference material has been compiled. This is merely a sampling of the vast number of resources available for conservation planning:

Alternative Techniques for Managing Growth, Irving Schiffman, Institute of Governmental Studies Press 1999.

Balancing Nature and Commerce in Gateway Communities, Jim Howe, Ed McMahon and Luther Post, the Conservation Fund and the Sonoron Institute.

Comprehensive Shoreland Protection Act, New Hampshire RSA 483:11.

Conservation Design for Subdivisions, Randall Arendt, Island Press 1996.

Conservation Easements for New Hampshire Farms: A Guide for Decision Making, NH Coalition for Sustaining Agriculture, UNH Cooperative Extension.

Does Open Space Pay?, Philip A Auger, University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension.

Identifying and Protecting New Hampshire's Significant Wildlife Habitat: A Guide for Towns and Conservation Groups, Nongame and Endangered Wildlife Program of the NH Department of Fish and Game.

Minimum Impact Development Partnership "MID Toolbox," The Jordan Institute,
<http://www.nhmid.org/toolbox.htm>.

New Hampshire's Vanishing Forests: Conversion, Fragmentation, and Parcelization of Forests in the Granite State, Society for the Protection of NH Forests 2001.

Open Space for New Hampshire: A Toolbook of Techniques for the New Millenium, NH Wildlife Trust Preserving Rural Character Kit, NH Coalition for Sustaining Agriculture, UNH Cooperative Extension.

Rural by Design, Randall Arendt et al, American Planning Association 1994.

[Upper Merrimack River] *Management and Implementation Plan*, Upper Merrimack River Local Advisory Committee.

Upper Merrimack Wild and Scenic River Study, Draft Report, Upper Merrimack River Local Advisory Committee with assistance from the National Park Service.

1999 Natural Cultural, and Historical Resources Inventory of the Central New Hampshire Region, Regional Environmental Planning Program of the Central NH Regional Planning Commission.

SUMMARY

The traditional land uses of agriculture and forestry are strong and important components of Boscawen's rural character. These working lands support Boscawen's economy, wildlife habitat, and open space. The Recommendations listed in the beginning of this Chapter resulted from the input of Boscawen citizens through the Community Survey, at the Visioning Session, and at subsequent meetings. The Recommendations should be implemented to create management tools that respect Boscawen's history and enhance its natural beauty.

Outreach is critical to assure that Boscawen citizens are aware of the many natural resources and features of their Town. The Boscawen Conservation Commission, the Upper Merrimack River Local Advisory Committee, and other volunteer groups should be supported in their continuing efforts to provide the Town with natural resource, recreation, and conservation information through the media, publications, curricula, and events.

Through the Survey and Visioning Session, the people of Boscawen voiced a strong desire for conservation. A full 95% indicated that conservation was "important" to them with over half of the respondents replying that it was "very important." Those surveyed indicated that they enjoy Boscawen's open spaces for a variety of outdoor activities. Many, 65%, indicated that they are concerned that development may make it difficult for them to access private lands for recreation. Despite the strong desire for open space— only 748.2 acres or 4.6% of Boscawen's lands— are permanently protected.

In the survey, 67% indicated that they support acquisition of lands for conservation purposes. Most respondents indicated that they believe that government grants and private fundraising should pay for conservation lands. The reality is that grant cycles for most funds occur once or twice a year and are highly competitive. Private fundraising is daunting for small towns and volunteer organizations.

Boscawen should invest in conservation commensurate with the desire and commitment expressed by its citizens. Funds raised through warrant articles and budget line items are a first step in Boscawen investing in and shaping its future. Additionally, these funds could potentially complement and leverage government grants and private fundraising where and when available. Because open space pays, the return to the citizens of Boscawen on their investment will be an improved quality of life with lower taxes, the maintenance of the Town's rural character, and economic prosperity.

Town of Boscawen

Conservation and Public Lands Map

2001-2002 Master Plan

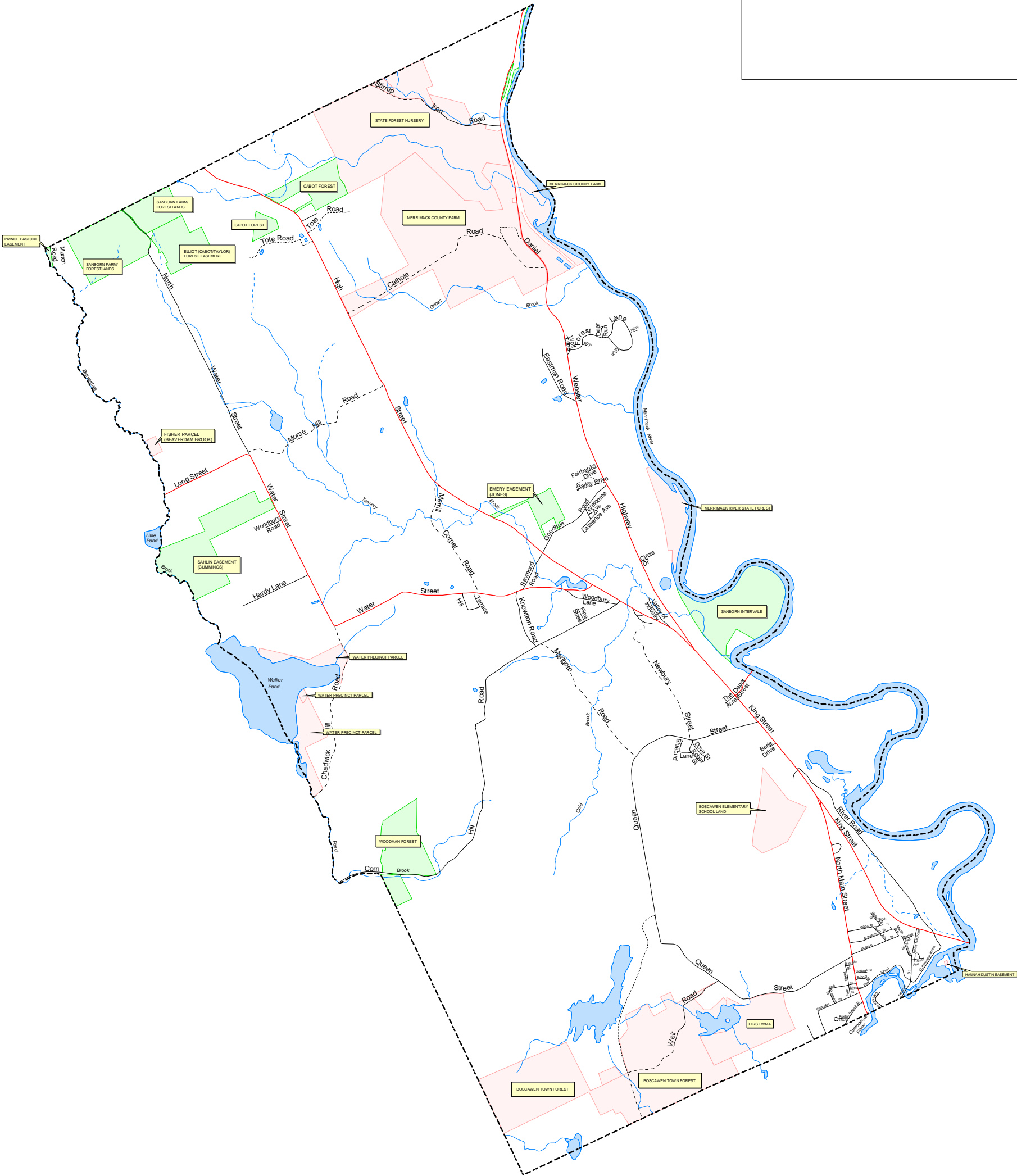
Map 5


Legend

Conservation Land

Not Permanently Protected

Permanently Protected





Scale 1" = 4000' (1:48000)

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Data Sources for the Boscawen Master Plan Map Series:

USGS quadrangles through NH GRANIT (1:24000); Society for the Protection of NH Forests (1:24000); US Fish and Wildlife (1:24000); Natural Resources Conservation Service (1:24000); and CNHRPC (1:24000).

Corrections to existing layers by the Town of Boscawen and CNHRPC.



Base Legend

Political Boundary

Class I & II Secondary State Highways

Class V Town Maintained Roads

Class VI Town Unmaintained Roads

Other Roads (Private, Future, Discontinued, etc)

Rivers and Streams

Intermittent Streams

Water Bodies

This map was produced by the
Central New Hampshire Regional Planning Commission
for the Boscawen Master Plan, February 2002.

Town of Boscawen

2001-2002 Master Plan

Water Resources Map

Map 6

Legend

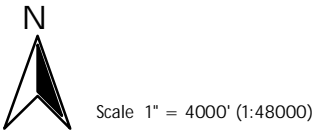
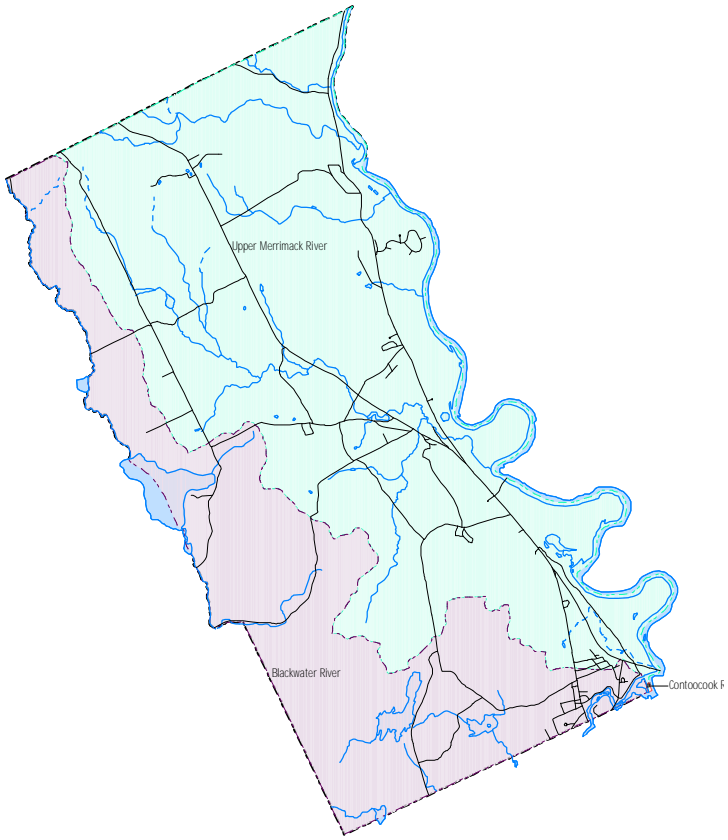
- Private Well Installed 1983-1998
- Public Water Supply

- National Wetlands Inventory
- Palustrine Wetlands
 - Lacustrine Wetlands
 - Riverine Wetlands

- Floodplains
- Floodway
 - 100-Year Floodplain
 - 500-Year Floodplain

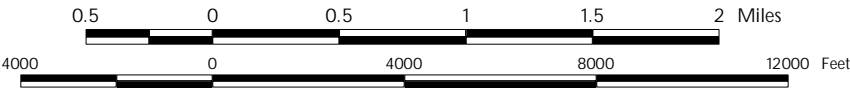
- Aquifer Transmissivity (feet squared per day)
- 0 - 1000
 - 1000 - 2000
 - 2000 - 4000
 - over 4000

Watersheds



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Corrections to existing layers by the Town of Boscawen and CNHRPC.



Base Legend

- Political Boundary
- Class I & II Secondary State Highways
- Class V Town Maintained Roads
- Class VI Town Unmaintained Roads
- Other Roads (Private, Future, Discontinued, etc)
- Rivers and Streams
- Intermittent Streams
- Water Bodies

This map was produced by the
Central New Hampshire Regional Planning Commission
for the Boscawen Master Plan, February 2002.

Town of Boscawen

2001-2002 Master Plan

Agricultural Soils Map

Map 7

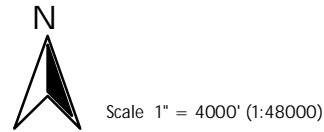
Legend

- Prime Farmland Soils
- Soils of Statewide Importance
- Soils of Local (Merrimack County) Importance

Base Legend

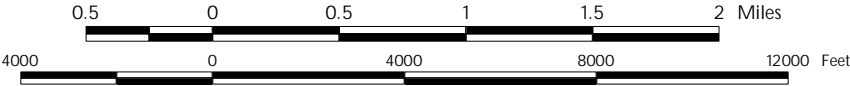
- Political Boundary
- Class I & II Secondary State Highways
- Class V Town Maintained Roads
- Class VI Town Unmaintained Roads
- Other Roads (Private, Future, Discontinued, etc)
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- Intermittent Streams
- Water Bodies

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Corrections to existing layers by the Town of Boscawen and CNHRPC.



Town of Boscawen

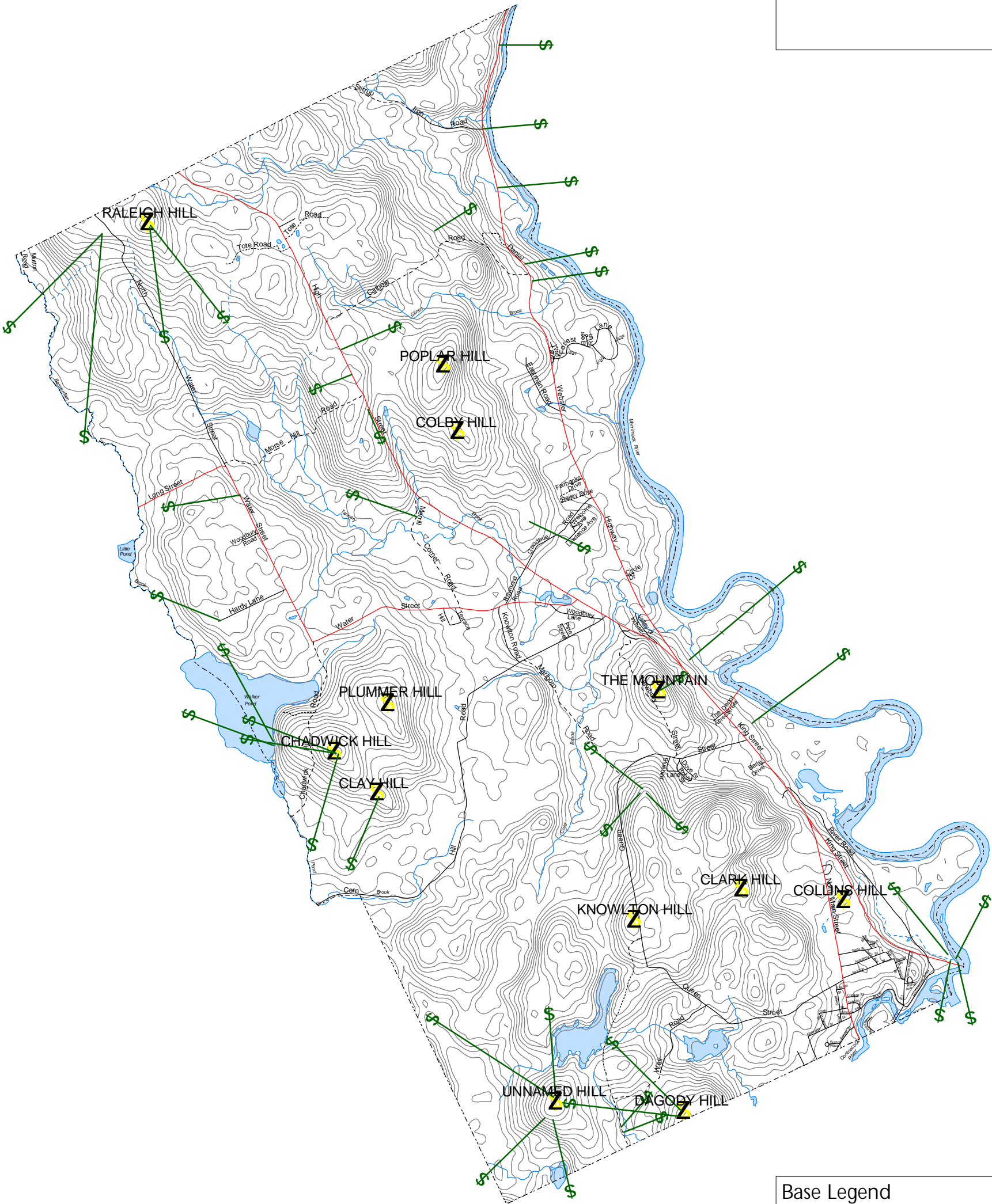
2001-2002 Master Plan

Viewsheds Map

Map 8

Legend

- Scenic Viewsheds
- Hills or Mountains



N
Scale 1" = 4000' (1:48000)

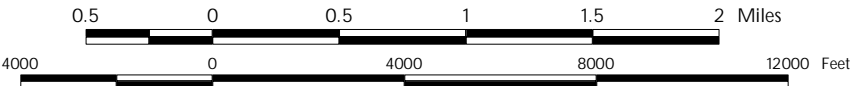
DISCLAIMER:
This map series is intended for use with the Boscawen Master Plan. The information presented is to be used for planning purposes and may not fully represent actual geographic conditions. Inaccuracies should be directed to the Town of Boscawen or to the Central NH Regional Planning Commission.

Data Sources for the Boscawen Master Plan Map Series:
USGS quadrangles through NH GRANIT (1:24000);
Society for the Protection of NH Forests (1:24000); US Fish and Wildlife (1:24000); Natural Resources Conservation Service (1:24000); and CNHRPC (1:24000).
Corrections to existing layers by the Town of Boscawen and CNHRPC.

Base Legend

- Political Boundary
- Class I & II Secondary State Highways
- Class V Town Maintained Roads
- Class VI Town Unmaintained Roads
- Other Roads (Private, Future, Discontinued, etc)
- Rivers and Streams
- Intermittent Streams
- Water Bodies

This map was produced by the
Central New Hampshire Regional Planning Commission
for the Boscawen Master Plan, February 2002.



COMMUNITY AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES AND UTILITIES

Chapter VII



Police Station, High Street



Jamie Welch Memorial Field, Depot Street



Former Main Street School, Main Street



Transfer Station, Marlboro Road

Chapter VII
COMMUNITY AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES AND UTILITIES

"It is better to look ahead and strive to provide quality services to the community than to look back and regret what might have been."

- Community and Recreational Facilities and Utilities Subcommittee

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this Chapter is to evaluate Boscawen's community facilities, recreational facilities, and utilities. Providing and maintaining the essential services of community and recreational facilities and utilities are jointly one of the primary functions of government. As the population and demographics of the community grow and change over time, it is important that the community make adjustments in its delivery of services to meet the needs of the changing community.

Historically, rural communities in New Hampshire have provided very limited community facilities and services. In many cases, community facilities were limited to only a Town Hall and later, public school. However, as the population of the state increased, more services have been required to meet the needs of the citizenry. Today, modern communities are expected to provide full-time police protection, fire protection, as well as highway crews, recreational facilities, and professional administrators to manage daily operations of Town government.

For community facilities, this Chapter will inventory and assess current Town facilities, identify publicly sponsored programs, identify and assess the adequacy of existing equipment, and also identify current and long-term staffing needs. In addition, recommendations on how to meet some of these needs are provided in the beginning and throughout the Chapter. Town Department heads were interviewed for a report on the status of their department's facilities, staffing, and equipment. They were also asked to provide an assessment of their current and anticipated future needs.

An important component to a high quality of life, recreation provides a much-needed means of stress reduction and physical well-being. Recreational facilities also provide residents with a place to interact and create a sense of community that is beneficial to people of all ages. In recent years, numerous studies have identified that recreational facilities and programs also give children and teenagers a place to go, thereby reducing delinquent activity by those sectors of the population.

Utilities inventoried within the town of Boscawen include electrical distribution, telephone, cable and wireless service, municipal water and public sewer. Utilities are the backbone of everyday life in small and large towns alike, and recommendations are proposed in order to enhance or expand their delivery.

In April 2001, the Community Visioning Session yielded the following key issues for the Community and Recreational Facilities discussion group: lack of recreational facilities, reuse of the former Main Street School, relocating/combining the libraries, expanding Town facilities and services to accommodate growth, and having a separate post office and zip code. This Chapter attempts to address these issues.

Recently in Boscawen, the Board of Selectmen sent out a survey to sewer users, which could lead to grant money that would enable the Town of Boscawen to stop having stormwater runoff treated in Concord at the sewage treatment plant. The future of the Main Street School is being investigated, and residents have drawn up tentative plans for its use as a Town Office and as a Police Department. The Penacook-Boscawen Water Precinct has also signed a contract with Emery and Garrett, who will seek out possible water supply sources to accommodate a growing demand on the Town's water supply.

OBJECTIVES OF THE CHAPTER AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- To assess the present condition of the Town's community facilities, equipment, and services and gauge the residents' opinions on how well they feel the Town is performing these services through recurrent themes of the 2001 Community Survey.
 - ✍ Determine new use(s) for the former Main Street School.
 - ✍ Create a Community Center for all ages.
 - ✍ Develop a Town website for information distribution and to enhance community ties (Utilities).
 - ✍ Examine the need for emergency shelters for clients of human services and find a suitable location (Human Services Department).
 - ✍ Comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act for handicapped access and restrooms (Library).
 - ✍ Complete minor safety renovations in the Historical Society Building (Post Office).
 - ✍ Anticipate the need for senior housing by establishing a Housing Committee to study the issue.
 - ✍ Encourage daycare and pre-school facilities.
 - ✍ Provide safe public access to the Merrimack River for swimmers, canoers, nature observers, and fishermen.

- To anticipate future demands on Boscawen's community facilities in consideration of future population growth and development.
 - ✍ Establish Boscawen's own Post Office and zip code (Post Office).
 - ✍ Combine the Fire and Rescue at the Fire Station (Fire Department & Rescue Division).
 - ✍ Expand the Fire Station to include living quarters/dormitory housing.
 - ✍ Consolidate the two Libraries into one facility (Library).
 - ✍ Expand the Police Station or construct or locate a new facility as appropriate (Police Department).
 - ✍ Expand the office hours for Town Office employees as needed (Town Office).
 - ✍ Hire an additional full-time employee to the Public Works Department (Public Works Department).
 - ✍ Increase the budget to pay staff more competitively (Fire Department).
 - ✍ Hire a full-time employee to the Fire Department (Fire Department).
 - ✍ Hire an additional full-time officer to the Police Department (Police Department).
 - ✍ Hire a Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Officer as one or more positions (Building Inspection).
 - ✍ Adopt Building Codes (Building Inspection).
 - ✍ Rent one or more apartments on an annual basis to include in the operating budget of the Town (Human Services Department).
 - ✍ Provide an enclosed office with a dedicated computer for Human Services personnel (Human Services Department).
 - ✍ Increase staff as student population increases (Boscawen Elementary School).
 - ✍ Relocate the Town Office to a location with appropriate space requirements for all Town Staff and Officers (Town Office & Health Officer & Building Inspection).
 - ✍ Improve access to the library resources through computerization of materials (Library).
 - ✍ Provide the facilities to recycle plastics (Transfer Station).
 - ✍ Add night hours for receiving solid waste once a week (Transfer Station).

- ✍ Find constructive uses for wooden pallets instead of burning as is now done (Transfer Station).
- ✍ Hire employees, possibly part-time, as more recycling or mandatory restrictions are adopted (Transfer Station).
- ✍ Increase the hours of operation of the Post Office to service residents (Post Office).
- ✍ Research the location for a larger postal facility (Post Office).
- To inventory capital equipment or expenditures which can be placed into a Capital Improvements Program for planned replacement.
 - ✍ Establish a program whereby Capital Improvements can be replaced on a rotating basis.
 - ✍ Replace equipment as necessary for the Public Works Department (Public Works Department).
 - ✍ Add a two-bay addition to the Town Shed (Public Works Department).
 - ✍ Replace the Hurst Tool/Jaws of Life (Fire Department-Rescue Division).
 - ✍ Replace the ambulance (Fire Department-Rescue Division).
 - ✍ Replace the utility generator (Fire Department-Rescue Division).
 - ✍ Replace the police cruiser and firearms (Police Department).
 - ✍ Plan for the second phase of facilities expansion of the Middle and High Schools to begin in fall of 2002 (Merrimack Valley School District).
 - ✍ Renovate the Middle School beginning in 2006 (Merrimack Valley School District).
 - ✍ Rehabilitate the High School beginning in 2006 (Merrimack Valley School District).
 - ✍ Acquire land next to Pine Grove Cemetery for future space (Cemeteries).

- To identify existing recreational facilities and opportunities within Boscawen and to determine if they meet the needs of the population.
 - ✍ Use the Jamie Welch Memorial Field (tennis courts) for ice-skating/skateboarding (Recreation Committee).
 - ✍ Improve the small beach area at the Merrimack County Nursing Home Fish & Game boat launch.
 - ✍ Create or sponsor teen programs (Recreation Committee and Merrimack Valley School District).
 - ✍ Expand recreational facilities, and encourage the use of the playground at the Elementary School (Boscawen Elementary School).
 - ✍ Expand the Town Forest to enlarge its recreational potential (Recreation Committee).
- To determine potential locations for future recreational opportunities.
 - ✍ Use the north side of the Main Street School for recreation.
 - ✍ Consider Walker Pond for recreational uses.
 - ✍ Consider a possible beach on the Merrimack River at eastern edge of Crete Farm fields with landowner permission.
 - ✍ Explore ways to utilize, publicize, and encourage the use of the Town Forest for recreational purposes.
 - ✍ Provide a swimming pool for residents.
 - ✍ Examine lands abutting the Merrimack River for potential purchase or landowner agreement for recreational uses.
 - ✍ Pursue landowner easements, agreements or purchases to access existing Town-owned parcels for recreational use (Recreation).

- To gauge the current and future capacity levels and locations of utility service, including telephone, cable, telecommunications, gas, electricity, and internet in Town.
 - ✍ Continue to provide choices for families for utility services.
 - ✍ Expand cable television to the Franklin, Salisbury, and Webster town lines.
 - ✍ Investigate the interest in expanding the natural gas lines.
 - ✍ Permanently protect areas of future water supplies (Utilities).
 - ✍ Monitor the use and expansion of utilities as Boscawen's population grows and react accordingly (Utilities).
- To raise awareness of the deficiencies in our public water and sewer systems.
 - ✍ Produce a study to determine whether or not Boscawen should have its own water and sewer systems.
 - ✍ Expand the water and sewer service as appropriate.
 - ✍ Separate the sewer from the stormwater runoff (Utilities).
 - ✍ Locate sources of potable water to meet current demand for water (Penacook-Boscawen Water Precinct).
 - ✍ Document additional water sources located through the Penacook-Boscawen Water Precinct's recent study.

COMMUNITY SURVEY RESULTS

The following community survey responses offer a number of suggestions and issues of concern to residents and property owners in Boscawen. Selected results include a desire to expand recreational opportunities, one or more reuses of former Main Street School, and an overall positive outlook on how well the Town performs services to its residents.

Table VII-1

How important is it for the Town to expand, provide, or improve each of the following:

| Importance of expanding, providing or improving the following | Very Important | Important | No Opinion | Somewhat Important | Not Important | Total |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|-----------|------------|--------------------|---------------|-------|
| Access to Walker Pond | 58 | 118 | 81 | 43 | 45 | 345 |
| Additional athletic fields | 45 | 82 | 64 | 69 | 78 | 338 |
| Basketball courts | 51 | 132 | 42 | 73 | 46 | 344 |
| Canoe/boat launch (Merrimack River) | 97 | 123 | 37 | 60 | 32 | 349 |
| Community center | 62 | 126 | 42 | 69 | 42 | 341 |
| Cultural activities | 30 | 97 | 72 | 85 | 52 | 336 |
| Elderly activities | 59 | 142 | 66 | 62 | 20 | 349 |
| Emergency housing or shelter | 66 | 101 | 52 | 81 | 42 | 342 |
| Ice/skateboard rink | 49 | 97 | 52 | 78 | 70 | 346 |
| Picnic areas | 53 | 126 | 39 | 92 | 37 | 347 |
| Playgrounds | 79 | 168 | 21 | 59 | 22 | 349 |
| Public swimming pool | 79 | 102 | 39 | 45 | 91 | 356 |
| Recreational trails (all types) | 83 | 138 | 36 | 55 | 33 | 345 |
| Senior center | 64 | 149 | 54 | 61 | 20 | 348 |
| Youth/teen center | 98 | 146 | 33 | 53 | 20 | 350 |
| Grand Total | | | | | | 5185 |

Table VII-2

Are you in favor of charging user fees to help pay for additional Town sponsored and owned recreational programs?

| User fees for Town recreational programs | Total | Percent |
|------------------------------------------|-------|---------|
| Yes | 200 | 55% |
| No | 88 | 24% |
| Unsure | 68 | 19% |
| No Opinion | 10 | 3% |
| Grand Total | 366 | 100% |

Table VII-3

Are you in favor of the School and/or Town sponsoring vacation and summer programs for school age children?

| School or town sponsored programs for school age children | Total | Percent |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|-------|---------|
| Yes | 224 | 60% |
| No | 71 | 19% |
| Unsure | 63 | 17% |
| No Opinion | 14 | 4% |
| Grand Total | 372 | 100% |

Table VII-5

Do you use the Merrimack River for any of the following activities? If so, how often?

| Amount of Merrimack River activity use | Weekly | Monthly | Yearly | Total | Percent |
|----------------------------------------|--------|---------|--------|-------|---------|
| Canoeing/boating | 23 | 59 | 95 | 177 | 26.0% |
| Fishing | 37 | 45 | 73 | 155 | 22.8% |
| Hunting | 9 | 12 | 38 | 59 | 8.7% |
| Nature observation | 46 | 63 | 56 | 165 | 24.3% |
| Swimming | 31 | 39 | 54 | 124 | 18.2% |
| Grand Total | | | | 680 | 100.0% |

Table VII-7

Where should a proposed new Public Library be located?

| Where should the new Public library be located? | Total | Percent |
|------------------------------------------------------|-------|---------|
| At the former Main St. School | 134 | 41% |
| On State land on Main. St. north of Woodland commons | 59 | 18% |
| The existing Library is sufficient | 115 | 35% |
| Other | 22 | 7% |
| Grand Total | 330 | 100% |

Table VII-4

Do you use the Merrimack River for any of the following activities? If so, how often?

| Merrimack River activity use | Yes | No | Unable | Total | Percent |
|------------------------------|-----|-----|--------|-------|---------|
| Canoeing/boating | 183 | 125 | 11 | 319 | 21.4% |
| Fishing | 160 | 143 | 7 | 310 | 20.8% |
| Hunting | 47 | 210 | 8 | 265 | 17.7% |
| Nature observation | 180 | 119 | 5 | 304 | 20.4% |
| Swimming | 122 | 164 | 9 | 295 | 19.8% |
| Grand Total | | | | 1493 | 100.0% |

Table VII-6

Would you like to see our Library Facilities improved and/or expanded?

| Improvement or expansion of library facilities | Total | Percent |
|------------------------------------------------|-------|---------|
| Yes | 188 | 51% |
| No | 55 | 15% |
| Unsure | 57 | 15% |
| No Opinion | 68 | 18% |
| Grand Total | 368 | 100% |

Table VII-8

Are you in favor of relocating the Town Office to the former Main Street School, now owned by the Town?

| Using Main St. school for Town Office | Total | Percent |
|---------------------------------------|-------|---------|
| Yes | 163 | 45% |
| No | 111 | 31% |
| Unsure | 57 | 16% |
| No Opinion | 30 | 8% |
| Grand Total | 361 | 100% |

Table VII-9

Please provide your opinion on how well you think the Town is performing the following services or activities and if the Town should reevaluate its level of spending on these services:

| Town Services | Good | Fair | Poor | No Opinion and No Answer | Total Responses |
|------------------------------------------|------|------|------|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| Animal Control | 162 | 66 | 28 | 95 | 351 |
| Cemetery care | 224 | 42 | 6 | 83 | 355 |
| Fire protection | 299 | 24 | 1 | 36 | 360 |
| Garbage disposal & recycling | 215 | 79 | 30 | 35 | 359 |
| Health regulations & enforcement | 93 | 86 | 13 | 147 | 339 |
| Library | 192 | 92 | 14 | 56 | 354 |
| Natural resource conservation | 144 | 105 | 11 | 84 | 344 |
| Parks & recreation | 146 | 132 | 25 | 44 | 347 |
| Planning regulation admin. & enforcement | 107 | 89 | 22 | 123 | 341 |
| Police protection | 307 | 34 | 6 | 15 | 362 |
| Rescue/ambulance service | 269 | 41 | 5 | 46 | 361 |
| Road maintenance | 231 | 95 | 20 | 13 | 359 |
| School system | 243 | 62 | 10 | 41 | 356 |
| Snow removal | 279 | 38 | 6 | 15 | 338 |
| Town sewer | 101 | 50 | 31 | 162 | 344 |
| Water precinct | 190 | 84 | 18 | 60 | 352 |
| Welfare | 80 | 49 | 13 | 195 | 337 |
| Zoning administration & enforcement | 108 | 99 | 23 | 112 | 342 |
| Grand total | | | | | 6,301 |

Table VII-10

| Town Spending | More | Same | Less | No Opinion and No Answer | Total Responses |
|------------------------------------------|------|------|------|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| Animal Control | 18 | 153 | 91 | 22 | 284 |
| Cemetery care | 18 | 187 | 76 | 5 | 286 |
| Fire protection | 62 | 168 | 54 | 4 | 288 |
| Garbage disposal & recycling | 33 | 190 | 47 | 14 | 284 |
| Health regulations & enforcement | 17 | 130 | 113 | 18 | 278 |
| Library | 77 | 144 | 56 | 8 | 285 |
| Natural resource conservation | 58 | 130 | 67 | 20 | 275 |
| Parks & recreation | 85 | 138 | 47 | 12 | 282 |
| Planning regulation admin. & enforcement | 23 | 129 | 98 | 27 | 277 |
| Police protection | 73 | 155 | 31 | 24 | 283 |
| Rescue/ambulance service | 65 | 171 | 42 | 6 | 284 |
| Road maintenance | 76 | 169 | 37 | 6 | 288 |
| School system | 44 | 159 | 43 | 37 | 283 |
| Snow removal | 32 | 221 | 41 | 7 | 301 |
| Town sewer | 31 | 93 | 127 | 27 | 278 |
| Water precinct | 25 | 167 | 70 | 17 | 279 |
| Welfare | 15 | 95 | 132 | 34 | 276 |
| Zoning administration & enforcement | 23 | 132 | 96 | 31 | 282 |
| Grand total | | | | | 5,093 |

DISCUSSION OF POPULATION TRENDS

When examining the community facilities, recreational facilities, and utilities of a municipality, it is essential to know if the population is being adequately served. This can be gauged by a number of measures, including the tracking of population trends and projections.

Communities need to be able to adequately service the needs of their residents and estimate what changes will be needed for future years.

Historic Trends

As a population, Boscawen has grown proportionately little since 1980. From 1960 to 1970, the Town grew by 45%, adding almost 1,000 residents during that decade. Between 1990 and 2000, per the US Census, the population grew only 2.4%. The number of housing units for each of the decennials increased at a rate of at least double than the population of the decade.

Table VII-11
Overall Population and Housing Growth Trends, 1960-2000

| Growth | Population | Net Change | | Housing Units | Net Change | |
|-------------------------------------------|------------|------------|-------|---------------|------------|-------|
| | | # | % | | # | % |
| 1960 (US Census) | 2,181 | --- | --- | na | --- | --- |
| 1970 (US Census) | 3,162 | +981 | 45.0% | 912 | na | na |
| 1980 (US Census) | 3,435 | +273 | 8.6% | 1,114 | 217 | 24.2% |
| 1990 (US Census) | 3,586 | +151 | 4.4% | 1,221 | 107 | 9.6% |
| 2000 (US Census) 1999 Housing (NH OSP) | 3,672 | +86 | 2.4% | 1,295 | 74 | 6.1% |
| Total Change from 1960 – 2000 | --- | +1491 | 68.4% | --- | 398 | 44.4% |

Sources: 1960-1990 US Census CPH-2-31 Table 9 Population and Housing Unit Counts;
NH Office of State Planning Household Estimates 1999; US Census 2000 Data

Current Trends

Table VII-12 shows current population trends in Boscawen and the communities that border it. All areas have experienced growth within the last decade.

Table VII-12
Current Population Trends, 1990-2000
Boscawen and Abutting Communities

| | 1990 | 1991 | 1992 | 1993 | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 | 2000 |
|------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Boscawen | 3,586 | 3,561 | 3,566 | 3,586 | 3,552 | 3,572 | 3,629 | 3,616 | 3,607 | 3,614 | 3,672 |
| Canterbury | 1,687 | 1,708 | 1,700 | 1,717 | 1,730 | 1,748 | 1,771 | 1,800 | 1,800 | 1,847 | 1,979 |
| Concord | 36,006 | 36,059 | 36,364 | 36,762 | 37,010 | 37,290 | 37,850 | 37,925 | 38,180 | 38,318 | 40,687 |
| Franklin | 8,304 | 8,258 | 8,213 | 8,342 | 8,335 | 8,346 | 8,394 | 8,411 | 8,408 | 8,463 | 8,405 |
| Northfield | 4,263 | 4,301 | 4,314 | 4,362 | 4,415 | 4,452 | 4,503 | 4,509 | 4,517 | 4,548 | 4,548 |
| Salisbury | 1,061 | 1,066 | 1,071 | 1,072 | 1,085 | 1,091 | 1,103 | 1,125 | 1,137 | 1,143 | 1,137 |
| Webster | 1,403 | 1,402 | 1,403 | 1,405 | 1,417 | 1,426 | 1,447 | 1,478 | 1,498 | 1,541 | 1,579 |

Sources: NH Office of State Planning 1991-1999 Population Estimates of NH Cities and Towns;
*1990 US Census STF1A (P1); 2000 US Census

Although Table VII-12 illustrates the raw population figures over the last decade, Table VII-13 more accurately depicts the increases each community has experienced. With the exception of Franklin, Boscawen is by far the slowest growing community in the area.

Table VII-13
Population Increase, 1990-2000
Boscawen and Abutting Communities

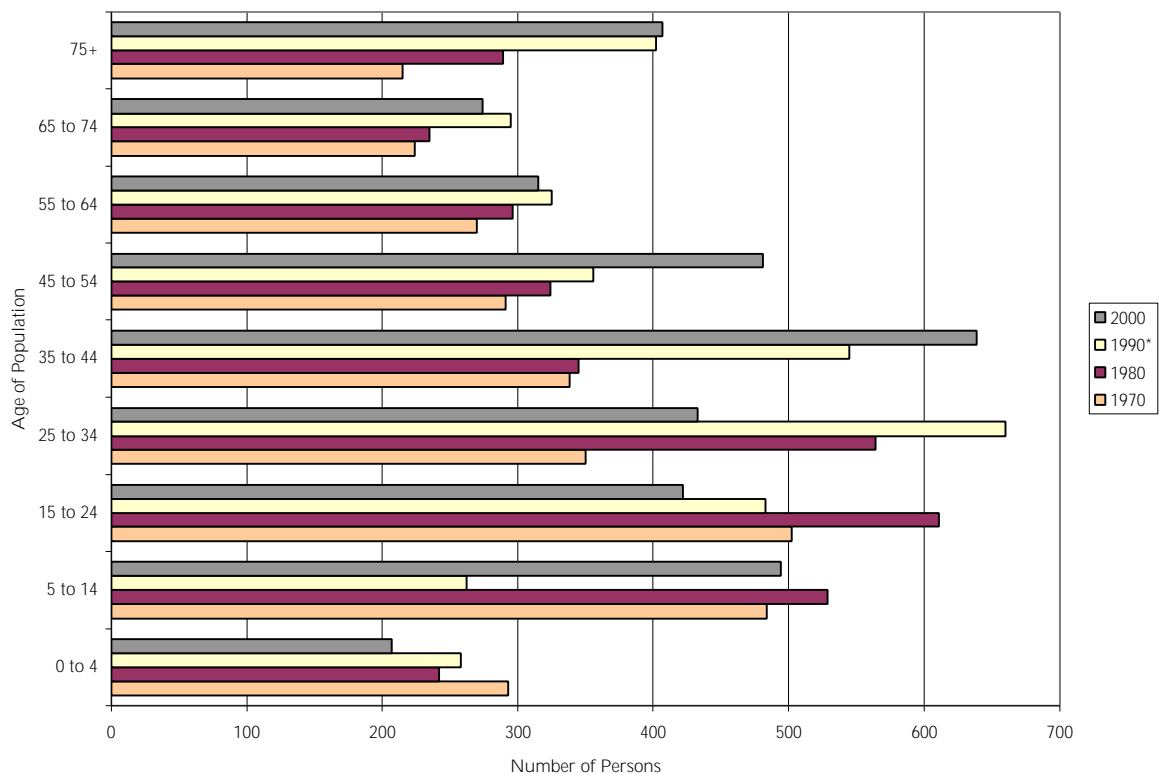
| | % Increase, 1990-2000 |
|------------|--------------------------|
| Boscawen | 2.4% |
| Canterbury | 9.5% |
| Concord | 6.4% |
| Franklin | 1.2% |
| Northfield | 6.7% |
| Salisbury | 7.7% |
| Webster | 9.7% |

Sources US Census 1990,2000;

NH Office of State Planning 1991-1999 Population Estimates of NH Cities and Towns

Figure VII-1 shows the Census population figures broken down into age groups. This reference is useful for determining the immediate needs of certain age groups, such as children and the elderly.

Figure VII-1
Boscawen Population Trends by Age Group, 1970-2000



Source: OSP Comparison Binder of 70-80; 1970-90 US Census STF1A (P11 and P12)

* 1990 US Census CP-1-31 Gen. Pop. Characteristics Table 68, discrepancies found; 2000 Census DP-1

Future Projections

While it is important for any community to plan ahead for an anticipated increase in population, which in turn increases pressure on community services and facilities, this section should be taken lightly as new population projections have not been produced by the Office of State Planning since the 2000 Census of population was released. Old figures, which are the numbers most currently available, were used in the creation of these comparisons.

Excerpted from the **POPULATION AND ECONOMICS CHAPTER**, Table VII-14, projected future population growth, was calculated based upon the community's historical share of the County's population. It depicts the projected population for Boscawen and abutting communities.

Table VII-14
Population Projections, 2000-2020
Boscawen and Abutting Communities

| TOWNS | 2000 | 2005 | 2010 | 2015 | 2020 |
|------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Boscawen | 3,744 | 3,929 | 4,033 | 4,213 | 4,402 |
| Canterbury | 1,826 | 1,915 | 1,967 | 2,058 | 2,158 |
| Concord | 39,095 | 41,095 | 42,330 | 44,193 | 46,382 |
| Franklin | 8,654 | 9,060 | 9,285 | 9,665 | 10,069 |
| Northfield | 4,662 | 4,937 | 5,099 | 5,393 | 5,719 |
| Salisbury | 1,142 | 1,209 | 1,248 | 1,319 | 1,397 |
| Webster | 1,498 | 1,587 | 1,639 | 1,720 | 1,817 |

Source: 1997 NH Office of State Planning Municipal Population Projections 2000-2020

Note that the 2000 population figure for Boscawen in Table VII-14 was 72 persons higher than was actually counted during the 2000 Census (Table VII-12). All projections should be reviewed with care as no methodology is perfect enough to predict what an actual future count would be. The **POPULATION AND ECONOMICS CHAPTER** of the Master Plan also adheres to taking these projections lightly until more reliable data is acquired.

COMMUNITY FACILITIES

An examination of each of the departments in Boscawen which serves the population will be undertaken in this section. Each department will be inventoried for its statistics, equipment, and staffing and facilities needs. A series of long- and short-term recommendations will be determined based upon the information compiled.

TOWN OFFICES

The Town Office is located between the Fire Station and the Police Station. See the Facility Needs section below for additional information.

Equipment Needs

Table VII-15
Town Office Equipment

| Name of Equipment | Type of Equipment | Condition | Year Acquired | Replacement Year | Replacement Cost | Priority |
|--------------------|-------------------|-----------|---------------|------------------|------------------|----------|
| Hewett Packard M70 | Computer | Excellent | 2001 | 2004-5 | 2,000 | 1 |
| Hewett Packard M70 | Computer | Excellent | 2001 | 2004-5 | 2,000 | 1 |
| Hewett Packard | Computer | Good | 1999 | 2002 | 2,000 | 1 |
| Panasonic FP 7728 | Copy Machine | Fair | 1996 | 2002 | 10,000 | 1 |
| Gateway 2000 | Computer | Fair | 1996 | 2002 | 3,000 | 1 |
| Hewett Packard | Computer (Server) | Good | 1997 | 2002 | 2,000 | 1 |

Source: Town Office

Staffing Needs

There are approximately 11 positions for seven departments at the Town Office. These positions include the Town Administrator, Assistant to the Town Administrator, Town Clerk, Deputy Town Clerk, Tax Collector, Zoning Officer, Planning and Zoning Secretary, Treasurer/Bookkeeper, Human Services Director, and a part-time Secretary/Receptionist during the summer months. In the next 5 to 10 years, it is anticipated that a full-time Secretary/Receptionist will be needed. It is also anticipated that the Planning and Zoning Secretary and the Human Services Director will need more working hours.

Facility Needs

Presently, the Town Office/Selectmen's Office is located at 17 High Street, next to the Boscawen Police Station. Total square footage is 3,200 square feet. However, effective use makes up only 1,800sf of that space. The present office space is lacking and insufficient. There is a desk outside of the men's bathroom, filing cabinets limit workspace, and there is no space for people to wait for the Town Clerk and Tax Collector so people line up in front of the receptionist's desk. The following list is of renovation needs: small conference room, waiting room for at least 6 persons, restrooms (at least one accessible to persons with disabilities), security (including security for employees with panic buttons), file room and storage space (current and cold/warm archival), large parking area, small kitchen for employees and serviceable for refreshments for groups up to 75 people, telephone system, and all areas accessible to persons with disabilities.

The goal for the Town Office is to renovate the Main Street School and consolidate Town Offices. The consolidation would include Board of Selectmen, Town Administrator, Assistant to the Administrator, Finance Department with combined Town Clerk/Tax Collector, Treasurer/Accountant, Human Services, large conference room with space in each of three corners for Planning Board, Zoning Board, and Conservation Commission, and Supervisors of the Checklist.

The space for the Board of Selectmen should include a small desk with files for each Selectman. One of the front classrooms on the second floor would be adequate for the current conference table and these desks. There is a need for privacy during interviews with clients, employees, etc.

The Town Administrator anticipates having a large corner desk with computer space in it. She also needs to have files for employees records, and any other confidential records within the office. Space is needed for two or three visitors, possibly at a small conference table. Current property records should be in an area where they are accessible to Town Administrator, the Assistant to the Administrator, and the Tax Collector. Archival storage space should be provided elsewhere for this position and for all others.

Until there are other personnel, the Assistant to the Administrator will also serve as a receptionist. There should be a desk in the front foyer, with seating for up to six people who might be waiting for the Town Clerk, Tax Collector, etc. Employee safety is important in this area.

The Town Clerk and Tax Collector have indicated they would like to be together with a common counter separating them from the public. There should be an area that is accessible both from a standing position and a seated position. There should be a space in each of their areas for their Deputy. They need space for current files in their area. They should utilize the small conference room for occasional privacy needs.

Presently, the Treasurer/Accountant works from home. Consideration should be given to incorporation into an eventual Finance Department; it would be efficient to have it near the Town Clerk and Tax Collector. A desk with a computer workstation and other support furniture and space for files is necessary. The small conference room may be used for occasional meetings.

There should be a space that fits two or three people so that the Human Services employees may meet with clients. There should be a desk with a computer space, current files, bookcase, etc. Since this is a part-time position, consideration should be given when it is placed as to who will need access to information in the absence of the Human Services Director. It is possible that the computer may be shared with the Checklist Supervisors.

The three Checklist Supervisors need the use of a computer to maintain their checklists and at least one desk. At present, they have a large oak desk, but it may be better to utilize another desk since there is a question as to whether it can be removed from the upstairs of the present Town Office.

The large conference room on the second floor of the former school could be used as a meeting room for Planning Board, Zoning Board and Conservation Commission meetings. These groups meet on a regular basis and anything pertinent to them should be in this area. For instance, space should be provided for all maps, and planning, zoning, and conservation's current files. Each group should have a space in the corners or on the sides of this large area, and they should be asked to help in planning their needs. In addition, other Town groups might utilize this room.

Department Summary

Short-term needs (2001 to 2006)

- ? Upgrade the computer system
- ? Addition of full-time Secretary/Receptionist
- ? Additional hours for the Planning and Zoning Secretary
- ? Additional hours for the Human Services Director
- ? Procure a larger Town Office building
- ? Expand the office hours of the Town Clerk

Long-term needs (2006 to 2011)

- ? Additional working space and offices to expand with anticipated growing needs of the community

Recommendations for the Town Offices

- ✍ Relocate the Town Office to a location with appropriate space requirements.
- ✍ Expand the office hours for town office employees as needed.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

The Public Works Department duties include, but are not limited to, road and sewer maintenance and parks and cemetery upkeep.

Equipment Needs

Table VII-16
Existing Public Works Department Equipment

| Name of Equipment | Type of Equipment | Condition | Number of Miles or Hours | Year Acquired | Anticipated Replacement Year | Estimated Replacement Cost | Priority |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|-----------|--------------------------|---------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|----------|
| 2001 International Dump Truck | Dump Truck | Excellent | | 2001 | | 69,000 | |
| Sterling L Series | Dump Truck | Excellent | 9,000 | 1999 | 2014 | | |
| Ford L Series | Dump Truck | Good | 30,000 | 1996 | 2011 | | |
| Ford F 250 | Pickup Truck | Fair | 86,000 | 1995 | 2002 | 30,000 | 1 |
| Highway Sander Bodies | | Fair | 10-16 Years | | | 9,000 – 10,000 | 3 |
| Jeep | Plows Sidewalks | Fair | 2,000 | 1982 | 1997 | | |
| INT 3444 | Tractor | Poor | | 1971 | | | |
| Galion | Grader | Fair | | 1962 | | | |

Note: Some of this equipment is also used at the Transfer Station

Staffing Needs

The Town Public Works Department is run by a Director, three full-time equipment operators, one part-time equipment operator and one laborer. All six employees run both the Public Works Department and the Transfer Station. When one employee is added, both departments benefit. An additional employee should be hired within the next few years.

Table VII-17
Public Works Department Comparisons with Abutting Towns

| | Population, 2000 | Miles of Town Owned Road, 2000 (Class V and VI) | Total Highway Expenditures, 2000 | Highway Department Expenditures per Mile, 2000 | Number of FTE Highway Department Employees, 2000 | Number of Miles per Highway Department Employee, 2000 |
|------------|------------------|-------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| Boscawen | 3,672 | 30.1 | \$259,474 | \$8,620.40 | 4 | 7.5 |
| Canterbury | 1,979 | 51.2 | \$144,720 | \$2,826.56 | 2 | 25.6 |
| Concord | 40,687 | 68.1 | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a |
| Franklin | 8,405 | 48.7 | n/a | n/a | 17 | 2.9 |
| Northfield | 4,548 | 37.2 | n/a | n/a | 11 | 3.4 |
| Salisbury | 1,137 | 29.6 | \$118,908 | \$4,017.16 | n/a | n/a |
| Webster | 1,579 | 50.4 | \$129,207 | \$2,563.63 | 0 | 0 |

Sources: Town Annual Reports; NH DOT Roadway Mileage by Classification, January 2000; Calls to Highway Depts

The cities of Concord and Franklin cannot be adequately compared because their budgets encompass the entire General Services (Concord) or entire Department of Public Works (Franklin). Webster has contractual positions to fulfill their highway maintenance needs.

Facility Needs

The Public Works Department's Town shed is located on Woodbury Lane in Boscawen. The total square footage is 3,592 where the office is 192sf; the garages are comprised of 3,000sf; and the outbuildings are 400sf.

Department SummaryShort-term needs (2001 to 2006)

- ? Replacement of Jeep that plows the sidewalks
- ? Replacement of the Ford F 250 Pickup
- ? Two bay addition, 40'X38', to the Town Shed
- ? Addition of a full-time employee

Long-term needs (2006 to 2011)

- ? Replacement of Ford L Series Dump Truck

Recommendations for the Public Works Department

- ✍ Add an additional full-time employee.
- ✍ Add a two-bay addition to the Town Shed.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Boscawen is a member of the Capital Area Mutual Aid Fire Compact, an organization of 18 communities. The Fire Station is located on High Street next to the Town Office and Police Department.

Equipment Needs

Table VII-18
Existing Fire Department Equipment

| Name of Equipment | Type of Equipment | Condition | Number of Miles or Hours | Year Acquired | Anticipated Replacement Year | Estimated Replacement Cost | Priority |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|-----------|--------------------------|---------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|----------|
| Ford 1990 | Pumper - Tanker | Good | 10,837 | 1990 | | | |
| Ford 1985 | Pumper - Tanker | Good | 14,267 | 1985 | | | |
| Mack 1975 | Pumper - Tanker | Good | 33,226 | 1975 | | | |
| Ford 1988 4x4 P.V. | Forestry Truck | Poor | 77,832 | 1998 | | | |
| Dodge 1953 Military 4x P.V. | Forestry Truck | Poor | 23,706 | | | | |

Source: Fire Department

Facility Needs

The current Fire Department is located at 15 High Street. The total square footage is approximately 8,400. The garage is 4,800sf, the office is 400sf, the training room is 1,400sf, the dining room is 1,200sf, and the kitchen is 600sf.

The facility will continue to meet all of the Fire Department needs until new members are added or staffing becomes salaried instead of voluntary. If this were to occur, in-house living quarters would be needed and the present facility would no longer be adequate.

Staffing Needs

The Fire Department consists of 27, volunteer only, members and each member receives a stipend at the end of the year for his/her duty. The Chief and the Deputy Chief are both appointed officials and the Captain and three Lieutenants are elected by the members. It is increasingly more difficult to acquire new, volunteer members and in the years to come it is feared that staffing will weaken unless the Town decides to pay for full-time employees.

Table VII-19
Fire and Rescue Squad Calls, 1990-2000

| 1990 | 1991 | 1992 | 1993 | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 | 2000 |
|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| 129 | 127 | 109 | 111 | 136 | 142 | 161 | 156 | 149 | 185 | 168 |

Source: Boscawen Annual Town Reports

Table VII-20
Comparison of Fire/Rescue Department Budget per Capita, 2000

| | Population, 2000 | Total Budget Expended, 2000 | Budget per Capita |
|------------|---------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Boscawen | 3,672 | \$106,370 | \$28.97 |
| Canterbury | 1,979 | \$51,738 | \$26.14 |
| Concord | 40,687 | \$5,704,864 | \$140.21 |
| Franklin | 8,405 | \$733,631 | \$87.29 |
| Northfield | 4,548 | n/a | n/a |
| Salisbury | 1,137 | \$33,378 | \$29.44 |
| Webster | 1,579 | \$37,293 | \$23.62 |

Sources: 2000 Town Reports; US Census 2000

Table VII-21
Fire/Rescue Department Wage Comparisons with Area Towns

| Town | Approximate Starting Salary | Notes |
|-----------|--------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Boscawen | n/a | No full-time, paid employees; stipends only |
| Loudon | \$25,168 | 3 annual \$1.20 per hour increases planned to make wages more competitive Contract talks starting – will be increased New positions proposed with support of Selectmen |
| Hopkinton | \$28,154 | |
| Concord | \$29,352 | |
| Henniker | \$39,500 | |

Source: Area Fire Departments, 1999

It is difficult to compare salaries to surrounding towns because they differ in size from Boscawen and their positions vary. Note that few abutting communities are shown because most do not have the salaried personnel on staff.

Department Summary

Short-term needs (2001 to 2006)

? None

Long-term needs (2006 to 2011)

- ? Add a full-time employee
- ? Provide living quarters within the Station

Recommendations for the Fire Department

- ✍ Increase incentives to retain volunteers.
- ✍ Create a position for a full-time employee.

FIRE DEPARTMENT – RESCUE DIVISION

Served by the Penacook Rescue Squad, the Rescue Division is located separately from the Fire Department. Its garages are on Oak Street at the south end of Town. The Division is governed by a Board of Directors.

Equipment Needs

Table VII-22
Existing Rescue Squad Equipment

| Name of Equipment | Type of Equipment | Condition | Number of Miles or Hours | Year Acquired | Anticipated Replacement Year | Estimated Replacement Cost | Priority |
|----------------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------|--------------------------|---------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|----------|
| 64x2 1991 Ford E-350 Ambulance | Truck | Poor | 82115 | 1991 | 2001 | 100,000 | 1 |
| 64x1 1997 Ford F-series Rescue Truck | Truck | Good | 8754 | 1997 | 2006 | 100,000 | 2 |
| 64B1 1999 Quicksilver 380/Mercury 1999 | Boat | Excellent | N/A | 1999 | 2007 | 10,000 | 3 |
| Hurst Tools/Jaws | Auto Extrication | Poor | Many | | 2001 | 50,000 | 3 |
| Ferno | Ambulance Cot | Fair | Many | 1991 | 2004 | | 3 |
| 6401 Utility Generator/Lights | Utility gen/lights trailer | Poor | Many | | 2001 | 50,000 | 3 |
| Ferno Scoop Stretcher | Scoop Stretcher | Fair | Many | | | | 3 |
| Zoll M-series Defibrillator | Defibrillator | Excellent | N/A | 1999 | | 50,000 | 1 |
| Laerdal 30000R | Defibrillator | Good | N/A | | | 12,000 | 1 |
| Generai 4000XL | Generator Part | Excellent | N/A | 2000 | | 1,000 | 2 |

Source: Boscawen Fire Department

Department staff anticipate leasing a replacement of the Ford E-350 ambulance within the next fiscal year. Equipment of relative importance and needed replacement within the next year are the Hurst Tool/Jaws and the Utility Generator/Lights. Both will be purchased or potentially donated. Within the next ten years, the Ferno needs replacement as will the Quicksilver boat.

Staffing Needs

The Penacook Rescue Squad is a primarily volunteer Emergency Medical Service providing ALS services to Boscawen and Canterbury as well as to the Capital Area Mutual Aid Compact (MAU). Presently, there are 9 per-diem members and 18 volunteer members. New personnel are always needed and welcomed.

Facility Needs

The current Rescue Squad is located on 1 Oak Street in Boscawen. The facility total square footage is 1,123; 640sf are the office area, and 483sf are the garages. The Squad is planning on renovating the present building as well as moving to the adjacent space above the Branch Library. The plan is to use this area for training, office space, and additional equipment. After this move, the facility is projected to be adequate. If the Libraries become consolidated, they may also have the additional space previously used by the Branch Library.

Department SummaryShort-term needs (2001 to 2006)

- ? Replacement of Ford E-350 Ambulance
- ? Replacement of Hurst Tools/Jaws
- ? Replacement of Utility Generator/Lights
- ? Replacement of Ferno ambulance cot
- ? Replacement of 1997 Ford F-series Rescue Truck
- ? Renovation of present building and moving to space above the Library

Long-term needs (2006 to 2011)

- ? Occupy Library space for equipment storage
- ? Replacement of the Quicksilver 380 boat

Recommendations for the Fire Department-Rescue Division

- ✍ Replace the Hurst Tool/Jaws of Life.
- ✍ Replace the ambulance.
- ✍ Replace the utility generator.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Boscawen Police Station, built in 1973, is located at 19 High Street in the Town complex that houses the Fire Station and Town Offices.

Equipment Needs

Table VII-23
Existing Police Department Equipment

| Name of Equipment | Type of Equipment | Condition | Number of Miles or Hours | Year Acquired | Anticipated Replacement Year | Estimated Replacement Cost | Priority |
|-----------------------|-------------------|-----------|--------------------------|---------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|----------|
| 1998 Ford LTD Cruiser | Car | Poor | 99,000 | 1998 | 2003 | 28,000 | 1 |
| 1999 Ford LTD Cruiser | Car | Good | 45,000 | 1999 | 2004 | 30,000 | 1 |
| 2001 Ford LTD Cruiser | Car | Excellent | 7,000 | 2001 | 2005 | 31,000 | 1 |
| Firearms S/W .40 cal. | Firearms | Good | 7 Years | 1994 | 2003 | 6,600 | 2 |
| S/W Leather Gear | Holster Mag. | Fair | 7 Years | 1994 | 2003 | 2,500 | 2 |

Source: Boscawen Police Department

Department staff anticipate the replacement of all of their equipment within the next five years. Of top priority are the 1998, 1999, and 2001 Ford LTD Cruisers.

Summary of Calls

Table VII-24
Police Department Calls, 1990-2000

| 1990 | 1991 | 1992 | 1993 | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 | 2000 |
|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| n/a | 4,974 | 5,187 | 5,555 | 5,641 | 6,353 | 6,834 | 7,012 | 7,287 | 7,200 | 7,148 |

Source: Boscawen Annual Town Reports

The number of calls to the Police Department have slowly risen since 1991, which could roughly be attributed to the increase in population that Boscawen has experienced.

Table VII-25
Police Department Budget Comparison per Capita, 2000

| | Population, 2000 | Total Budget Expended, 2000 | Budget per Capita |
|------------|------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| Boscawen | 3,672 | \$261,792 | \$71.29 |
| Canterbury | 1,979 | \$145,974 | \$73.76 |
| Concord | 40,687 | \$5,228,436 | \$128.50 |
| Franklin | 8,405 | | |
| Northfield | 4,548 | | |
| Salisbury | 1,137 | 33,622 | \$29.57 |
| Webster | 1,579 | \$121,623 | \$77.03 |

Sources: 2000 Town Reports; US Census 2000

Staffing Needs

Currently the Police Department is at full-staff with a Police Chief, a Sergeant, three patrolmen, a dispatch/Secretary/Auxiliary Patrolman, an Auxiliary Corporal Patrolman, and four Auxiliary Patrolmen. It is anticipated that within the next five years the department will have to hire another police officer who would also act as a part-time detective. Another part-time administrative assistant will also most likely be needed within five years.

During the 6-10 year period, it is anticipated the department will have to make this part-time administrative office assistant a full time employee. It is also anticipated that around the 10-year mark the department will have to hire another full time patrolman.

Facility Needs

The current Boscawen Police Station is located at 19 High Street in Boscawen. The total square footage of the facility is 1,880; the upstairs office is 947sf, the cellar office is 947sf, the outbuildings are 226sf, and 158sf is elsewhere. The department is faced with an extreme safety and space problem at the current facility. Town engineers and the Police Commission are completing a cost analysis and feasibility study to determine the best route for the police to take at the present time with the present safety and space concerns.

Within the next year or two, the department should be building a new facility to address the safety and space dilemma.

Department Summary

Short-term needs (2001 to 2006)

- ? Replacement of 1998 Ford LTD Cruiser
- ? Replacement of 1999 Ford LTD Cruiser
- ? Replacement of 2001 Ford LTD Cruiser
- ? Replacement of S/W Firearms
- ? Replacement of S/W Leather Gear
- ? Hiring of a full-time police officer/ part-time detective
- ? Hiring of a part-time administrative assistant
- ? Construction of a new police facility

Long-term needs (2006 to 2011)

- ? Hiring of a full-time patrolman
- ? Replacement of part-time administrative assistant with a full-time administrative assistant

Recommendations for the Police Department

- ✍ Construct a new facility.
- ✍ Hire another full-time officer.
- ✍ Replace the cruiser and firearms.

BOSCAWEN EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

The emergency management department in Boscawen is located at the Town Office and is staffed by one part-time Director.

Equipment Needs

Table VII-26
Existing Emergency Management Equipment

| Name of Equipment | Type of Equipment | Condition | Year Acquired | Anticipated Replacement Year | Estimated Replacement Cost | Priority |
|-----------------------|-------------------|-----------|---------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|----------|
| Motorola - Base Radio | Base Radio | Excellent | 2000 | | | lowest |

Source: Emergency Management Director

Staffing Needs

Boscawen Emergency Management has one employee, the Director. The need for additional employees during the next 5 to 10 years is not anticipated.

Facility Needs

Boscawen Emergency Management is located at the Town Office on High Street in Boscawen, occupying 140 square feet of office space. This facility is adequate at the time, and no need for any additional space is anticipated in the next 5 to 10 years.

Department SummaryShort-term needs (2001 to 2006)

? None

Long-term needs (2006 to 2011)

? None

Recommendations for Boscawen Emergency Management

✍ None at this time.

BUILDING INSPECTION/LIFE SAFETY/CODE ENFORCEMENT

None of these positions currently exist in Boscawen. The Town receives several calls each month inquiring about Boscawen's building codes or people wanting to speak with the building inspector. Generally, these are concerns or questions they have about their own house or a neighboring house being built. Banks call monthly to ask for Certificates of Occupancy, which the Town does not issue.

Most municipalities have adopted building codes and have at least a part-time building inspector or code enforcement officer. With recent and upcoming subdivision activity in Town, exploring this issue further is recommended.

Until recently, the 1999 Building Officials and Code Administrators (BOCA) Codes were being considered by the Town. A 2000 International Code comprised of Mechanical, Building, Life Safety, and Plumbing Codes has been adopted by many towns in New Hampshire. The State Legislature is currently debating a statewide code closely adapted from the 2000 International Code. If and when the State Code is adopted by the end of the 2001 legislative session, it will become effective one year from its passage and will cover each municipality in New Hampshire. The Town of Boscawen chose to wait to adopt building codes in light of these new developments.

Staffing Needs

There are no staffing needs at this time. However, in the future this could become a full-time/part-time position if the Town adopts a building code or creates a position for an overall Code Enforcement Officer. Presently, several codes fall under the jurisdiction of other officials.

Facility Needs

The Life Safety officer works out of his home with a satellite location at the Boscawen Police Station. The total square footage of the office area at his home is 225sf. The office area at the Police Station is also 225sf. There are no facility needs as long as the present space at the Police Station remains available.

Department Summary**Short-term needs (2001 to 2006)**

- ? Incorporate or adopt appropriate codes as they become available
- ? Hire personnel as needed to enforce codes and answer questions

Long-term needs (2006 to 2011)

- ? Locate office space to accommodate any additions to personnel

Recommendations for Code Enforcement

- ✍ Hire a Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Officer as one or more positions.
- ✍ Adopt Building Codes.

HEALTH OFFICER

The Health Officer ensures that residents are in compliance with the health regulations set by the State. Duties include investigating health-related issues such as failed septic systems, foster home inspections, and health violations within apartment complexes. Investigations are by appointment only.

Staffing Needs

Presently, the Town of Boscawen has one part-time Health Officer. There are no future anticipated staffing needs unless the Town votes to self-inspect.

Facility Needs

The primary location is in the officer's home where he receives calls as needed. There is approximately 300 square feet of office space.

Department SummaryShort-term needs (2001 to 2006)

? Secure office space to meet the needs of the Health Officer.

Long-term needs (2006 to 2011)

? None

Recommendations for the Health Officer

✍ Provide office space in the Town Offices.

HUMAN SERVICES

The Director of Human Services has a desk and filing cabinets in the hallway at the Town Office. Some type of emergency housing is critical for clients when the need arises.

Staffing Needs

The present staffing, a Director, is felt to be adequate. The Director works part-time at the Town Office.

Facility Needs

The Human Services office is located in the Boscawen Town Office. The current facility has one desk and two filing cabinets, which is inadequate. Confidentiality is not always possible. In addition, clients often have no housing available when emergency situations arise. Clients are housed in local motels or at hotels in Concord at costs that are unpredictable to the Human Services' budget.

The projected facility need is approximately 150sf of office space with a desk, files, and a table for conferences.

Department Summary**Short-term needs (2001 to 2006)**

- ? Procure office space which provides privacy when dealing with clients
- ? Investigate obtaining emergency shelter for clients

Long-term needs (2006 to 2011)

- ? None

Recommendations for Human Services

- ✍ Examine the need for emergency shelters for clients of human services and find a suitable location.
- ✍ Rent one or more apartments on an annual basis to include them in the operating budget of the Town.
- ✍ Provide an enclosed office with a dedicated computer for Human Services personnel.

REGIONAL SCHOOL SYSTEM

Public education is a critical community service. Public education in Boscawen is provided by the Merrimack Valley School District (MVSD). This district is comprised of five communities, Loudon, Penacook, Webster, Boscawen, and Salisbury. Policy decisions are governed by a regional School Board, on which Boscawen has three representatives. Capital and operating expenses of the District are apportioned based upon average daily membership and equalized evaluation. Each member community within the District has its own local elementary school. These facilities are owned by the MVSD. Middle and High School education is provided to students by separate facilities located in Penacook.

Table VII-27
Existing Enrollment Ratios, 2000

| Grade | Number Enrolled- Boscawen, 2000 | Total District, 2000 | Boscawen Students as Percent of MVSD |
|-------|------------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| pre- | 23 | 23 | 100.0% |
| K | 40 | 164 | 24.4% |
| 1 | 48 | 199 | 24.1% |
| 2 | 36 | 184 | 19.6% |
| 3 | 51 | 192 | 26.6% |
| 4 | 44 | 208 | 21.2% |
| 5 | 49 | 203 | 24.1% |
| 6 | 60 | 218 | 27.5% |
| 7 | 38 | 178 | 21.3% |
| 8 | 47 | 219 | 21.5% |
| 9 | 57 | 243 | 23.5% |
| 10 | 42 | 217 | 19.4% |
| 11 | 37 | 212 | 17.5% |
| 12 | 30 | 183 | 16.4% |
| Total | 602 | 2,643 | 22.7% |

Source: MVSD Annual Report, 2000

By being a member of a cooperative School District, the community receives a certain economy of scale or level of service higher than what Boscawen and other communities could financially afford on their own. Communities are able to share resources, amenities, and facilities.

BOSCAWEN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

The elementary school, built in 1996, offers a technologically advanced, state-of-the-art learning facility and also boasts numerous programs for students. Programs include Odyssey of the Mind, the Chess Club, Young Inventor's Program, Junior Great Books, Band, Chorus, Library Club, Ski Club, DARE, and Artist in Residence. Students perform community services including visiting the Merrimack County Nursing Home, tutoring, and participating in Veterans Day activities.

In addition to the school hour curriculum, the Elementary School offers a variety of after school activities and programs for students. This program, established in 1999, includes many of the above-mentioned activities, a Geography Club, Destination Imagination, as well as a formal program that entails reading, art, and snacks. The program is run by two teachers and lasts two hours per day. This program is important as it broadens the education of students and gives students something positive to do after school. With increasing childcare issues in the central New Hampshire region, it is likely that more parents will have children take advantage of this program.

Staffing Needs

The degree of student population growth will determine staffing needs. Staff are hired as needed in cooperation with the Merrimack Valley School District School Board.

Table VII-28
Current School Staffing Levels

| | Number |
|--------------------|--------|
| Professional Staff | 31 |
| Support Staff | 24 |
| Total | 55 |

Source: Merrimack Valley School District Report, 2001

Facility Needs

The total square footage of the Boscawen Elementary school is 50,000sf. Grades kindergarten (K) through five (5) attend. Constructed in 1996, the administrative and instructional space at the school was determined to be adequate for the next 5 years. Student population growth will determine facility needs after five years.

Elementary School SummaryShort-term needs (2001 to 2006)

- ? Student population needs and staffing needs should be determined with the completion of the new Penacook Elementary School

Long-term needs (2006 to 2011)

- ? Continue to increase access to technology
- ? Offer additional programs and activities to allow for competitive learning experiences

Recommendations for Boscawen Elementary School

- ✍ Expansion of recreational facilities, such as a playground.
- ✍ Increase staff as student population increases.

ADDITIONAL MERRIMACK VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT (MVSD) FACILITIES AND SERVICES

In addition to the Elementary School, Boscawen students benefit from the education and programs afforded by the Middle and High Schools.

MVSD Middle School

The MVSD Middle School was built in 1987, and contains 80,000 square feet. The facility has capacity of 720 students, but has a current enrollment of 615 (c. 2000). The Middle School has a total staff of 96 members. This consists of 53 teachers, 4 guidance professionals, 4 occupational therapists, 4 custodians, 6 kitchen staff, 5 office staff, 2 administrators, 21 support staff, 1.5 nurses, and 2 librarians.

Because of overcrowding, two modular classrooms have been erected at the Middle School. Within the next five years, it is anticipated that an addition will be required to provide additional classroom space, specialty areas (art room, science labs, industrial arts facilities), as well as multipurpose space. It is anticipated that an addition will be sought for 2005, as the District will be retiring a long-term bond payment on previous expansions at other facilities. No cost has yet been determined for these needs.

MVSD High School

The MVSD High School is also located in Penacook. Originally constructed in 1967, the facility contains 120,000 square feet. The facility has not been expanded since its construction. The facility has a capacity of 1,000 students, and has a current enrollment of 855 students. Staffing consists of 100 individuals, including 59 teachers and 3 administrators.

As is the case with other facilities, the high school is also in need of renovation. Currently, the facility needs additional restrooms, science labs, art rooms, and administrative space. As is planned with the Middle School, a renovation and expansion is anticipated in 2005. No estimated cost for this expansion has yet been developed.

Pupil Transportation

The School District also provides student busing. The District owns a total of 23 vehicles (15 full-sized buses and five vans), and employs 23 drivers. Maintenance, dispatching, training, and routing are provided by contract with the City of Concord.

The District currently uses a program called "dual busing". Adopted in the early 1990s, this technique of busing requires each route to be traveled twice each day. Each route is first driven for high-school students, and then repeated for younger grades. By using this approach, younger students are segregated, thus reducing conflict between age groups. Though there are clearly positive benefits from this busing technique, this approach does create more wear on buses. In total, the fleet travels approximately 130,000 miles per year. Because of the high mileage traveled annually, the District has adopted an internal capital improvement plan related to buses, and generally replaces 3 vehicles per year.

School District Summary

Short-term needs (2001 to 2006)

- ? Prepare for the expansion of the Middle and High schools

Long-term needs (2006 to 2011)

- ? Renovate and rehabilitate the Middle and High schools as necessary

Recommendations for the Merrimack Valley School District Facilities and Services

- ✍ Plan for the second phase of facilities expansion of the Middle and High Schools to begin in fall of 2002.
- ✍ Renovate the Middle School beginning in 2006.
- ✍ Rehabilitate the High School beginning in 2006.

PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Boscawen Public Libraries have increased their services in the past ten years. Residents now have the option of visiting one of the libraries four days each week from 1-7 PM plus Saturdays from 8 AM to noon. A computer has been installed in each library with internet connections. Weekly story hours after school have attracted some youngsters as have special summer events. Investments have been made in videos, CD's, and books-on-tape. A copying machine was installed in the Main Library on King Street.

Staffing Needs

There are presently six positions at the two libraries: a Librarian, an Assistant Librarian, a Children's Program Director, two substitutes, a custodian, plus three volunteers. Altogether, the hours add up to about one full-time position.

Facility Needs

According to the Library Trustees, the present-day needs are identical to the needs mentioned in the 1989 Boscawen Master Plan. The previous Master Plan stated that "the Branch library is inadequate because of the lack of a bathroom and handicapped access. According to the Library Trustees, consolidation of both libraries should be considered, but such action is not necessary within the next ten years."

According to the Librarian, the updated figures on books and circulation since 1993 are as follows:

Table VII-29
Library Books and Circulation, 1993-2000

| | New Books | Circulation |
|------|-----------|-------------|
| 1993 | 663 | 11,190 |
| 1994 | 472 | 10,564 |
| 1995 | 624 | 9,818 |
| 1996 | 560 | 8,818 |
| 1997 | 656 | 7,448 |
| 1998 | 540 | 8,424 |
| 1999 | 593 | 8,678 |
| 2000 | 748 | 9,596 |

Source: Boscawen Town Librarian

Table VII-30
Library Budget, 1993-2000

| | Budget |
|------|----------|
| 1993 | \$12,623 |
| 1994 | \$13,176 |
| 1995 | \$23,635 |
| 1996 | \$21,069 |
| 1997 | \$20,059 |
| 1998 | \$19,455 |
| 1999 | \$26,155 |
| 2000 | \$34,542 |

Source: Boscawen Town Librarian

Department Summary

Short-term needs (2001 to 2006)

- ? Shelving
- ? Consolidate collections into one building
- ? Computerization of library resources
- ? Handicapped access
- ? Increased funds for new books

Long-term needs (2006 to 2011)

- ? Expand services and hours
- ? Meet state standards

Recommendations for the Boscawen Public Library

- ✍ Consolidate the two Libraries.
- ✍ Comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act for handicapped access and restrooms.
- ✍ Improve access to the library resources through computerization of materials.

PENACOOK-BOSCAWEN WATER PRECINCT

The Penacook-Boscawen Water Precinct is currently engaged in a study to locate an additional ground water supply within the limits of the Town. The Water Precinct Boundaries are depicted on the *Utilities Map*. At the present time, wells are used to supply water to the customers of the Penacook-Boscawen Water Precinct. Future plans include successfully locating additional water supplies to meet expected community growth and increase water quality while continuing to improve system efficiency and reduce losses. See also the Water Supplies section in UTILITIES for more detail.

Equipment Needs

Table VII-31
Existing Water Precinct Equipment

| Name of Equipment | Type of Equipment | Condition | Number of Miles or Hours | Year Acquired | Anticipated Replacement Year | Estimated Replacement Cost | Priority |
|-------------------|-------------------|-----------|--------------------------|---------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|----------|
| Ford F 350 | truck | excellent | | 2001 | 2008 | \$35,000 | low |
| Caterpillar 416B | backhoe | good | 2,367 | 1996 | 2017 | \$70,000 | medium |
| Joy | compressor | good | | 1968 | 2005 | \$40,000 | high |
| Marquette | welder | good | | 1977 | 2010 | \$20,000 | medium |
| Over-Lowe | light set | good | | 1999 | 2010 | \$20,000 | low |
| Micron | computer | good | | 1997 | 2002 | \$6,000 | high |
| Neptune | meter reader | good | | 1991 | 2003 | \$8,500 | highest |
| 40Kw Caterpillar | generator | excellent | | 1995 | 2040 | \$95,000 | low |
| 100Kw Caterpillar | generator | excellent | | 1995 | 2040 | \$145,000 | low |

Source: Penacook-Boscawen Water Precinct

Staffing Needs

There are presently four positions at the Penacook-Boscawen Water Precinct: the Superintendent, a laborer, a bookkeeper, and a billing clerk.

Facility Needs

The Penacook-Boscawen Water Precinct currently occupies three locations: the primary location on Woodbury Lane and two satellite locations, located on Raymond Road and the Daniel Webster Highway. The primary location consists of nearly 200 square feet of office space, a 1,260 square foot garage, and a 504 square foot outbuilding. The Daniel Webster Highway location is 500 square feet, and the Raymond Road location is 180 square feet.

Department Summary

Short-term needs (2001 to 2006)

- ? Locate sources of potable water to meet current demand for water

Long-term needs (2006 to 2011)

- ? Gravel pack wells

Recommendations for the Penacook-Boscawen Water Precinct

- ✍ Locate sources of potable water to meet current demand for water.

TRANSFER STATION

The transfer station was built in 1989 and receives solid waste from residents and most small businesses. A few large enterprises such as Steenbeke and Sons, Ross Express, and the Merrimack County Nursing Home deliver their own solid waste directly to the regional incinerator. Items currently recycled include scrap metal, cans, glass, clothing, mixed paper, corrugated cardboard, used motor oil, vehicle batteries, and large appliances such as refrigerators. A "Treasure House" operates as sort of a swap shop for items that are still usable. There is a fee schedule for large items.

A new recycling building was finished in 2001 to facilitate the baling of paper and cardboard plus probably plastics in the future. The Town owns a large truck to haul roll-off boxes of rubbish and recyclables to their ultimate destinations.

Equipment Needs

Table VII-32
Existing Transfer Station Equipment

| Name of Equipment | Type of Equipment | Condition | Number of Miles or Hours | Year Acquired | Anticipated Replacement Year | Estimated Replacement Cost | Priority |
|-------------------|-------------------|-----------|--------------------------|---------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|----------|
| Mack R-Series | Roll Off | Excellent | 8,000 | 2000 | 2020 | | |
| CAT 930 | Loader | Fair | | 1974 | 2004 | | |
| Bob CAT 2000 | Bucket - Loader | Good | | | | | |

Source: Town Highway Department

Staffing Needs

As stated in the Highway Department section, there are six members who alternate between public works and the transfer station. The transfer station does have one extra, part-time operator. By adding one full-time employee, both departments would benefit.

Facility Needs

The Transfer Station is located on Marlboro Road in Boscawen. The total square footage is 2,636 where the office is 144sf; the outbuildings are 832sf; and the new recycling buildings are comprised of approximately 1,560sf.

Department Summary

Short-term needs (2001 to 2006)

- ? Develop recycling of computers

Long-term needs (2006 to 2011)

- ? Mandatory recycling or pay-as-you-throw for rubbish by weight or volume

Recommendations for the Transfer Station

- ✍ Provide the facilities to recycle plastics.
- ✍ Add night hours for receiving solid waste once a week.
- ✍ Find constructive uses for wooden pallets instead of burning as is now done.
- ✍ Add employees, possibly part-time, as more recycling or mandatory restrictions are adopted.

TOWN CEMETERIES

Currently, Pine Grove Cemetery and Beaverdam Cemetery are the only Town cemeteries with space available. Excerpted from the **HISTORY AND CULTURE CHAPTER**, Boscawen has a rich heritage and a strong connection to its past. Cemeteries, both Town and small, private family plots, are an important and personal link. A law was passed several years ago that Towns can maintain any or all private cemeteries.

Table VII-33
Public and Private Cemeteries

| Cemetery | Owner | Location |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|---------------------------------------|
| Maplewood (Getchell) Cemetery | Town | Water Street |
| Pine Grove Cemetery | Town | Pine Street / Corn Hill Road |
| Plains Cemetery | Town | King Street |
| Beaverdam Cemetery | Town | Webster TL, Long Street |
| NH Veterans Cemetery | State | Daniel Webster Highway |
| Unnamed Cemetery at County Jail | pub/private | behind Merrimack County Corr Facility |
| Gookin Family Cemetery | private | North Water Street |
| Elliott Family Cemetery | private | North Water Street |
| McClure Family / High Street Cemetery | private | High Street |
| Marden Family Cemetery | private | High Street |
| Call Family Cemetery | private | North Water Street |

Source: 1982 Map of Streets, Places and Cellar Holes of the Town of Boscawen, 1983 History of Boscawen

The Town is very proud to have the only Veterans Cemetery in the State of New Hampshire. It was dedicated on Veteran's Day in 1998. A historical walkway is being developed for the cemetery to commemorate the State's military history.

Staffing Needs

There are no cemetery staff members. With the help and advice of Superintendent Richard Hollins, three trustees meet as needed on cemetery matters. There are no present or anticipated staffing needs.

Facility Needs

The cemetery has no equipment; hence there are no storing needs. There is only one file cabinet. Again, there are no present or anticipated facility or equipment needs.

Department Summary

Short-term needs (2001 to 2006)

? None

Long-term needs (2006 to 2011)

? Acquire land next to Pine Grove Cemetery for future space

Recommendations for Town Cemeteries

✍ Acquire land next to Pine Grove Cemetery for future space.

POST OFFICE

The Post Office is located at 228 King Street, in a building owned by the Historical Society. Services are contracted out and the hours of operation are minimal to serve the needs of the residents.

Staffing Needs

Although not a Town Department, postal services are a necessary service for the residents of Boscawen. Presently, there is one postal worker. However, there is need for another person to learn the operation of the office in case of an emergency. Since it is a contract postal station, it would be difficult to pay someone to learn the procedure. A volunteer position would be ideal unless another means of financing could be found.

Facility Needs

The office area is 12' x 27'. In the short term, the building needs to be better insulated and minor repairs are necessary. All equipment is provided by the Postal system or by personnel. The Historical Society, which provides the building the Post Office is housed in, does all the maintenance. Minor cosmetic improvements should be undertaken, and any improvements would have to be cleared by or performed by the Historical Society.

Recently, a new heater was placed in the Post Office and the exterior of the building was painted. A new door is to be installed as well as a storm window for the lobby. There is need for a new floor covering. Some trim needs to be finished inside where work has been done in the past and has not been completed. In the winter, the lighting is insufficient for people dropping mail or for people using the facility after dark. There is no outside light after the facility is closed.

Post Office SummaryShort-term needs (2001 to 2006)

- ? Increase hours of operation
- ? Obtain a separate zip code
- ? Complete minor safety renovations in the Historical Society Building

Long-term needs (2006 to 2011)

- ? Locate a separate, larger building for the Post Office

Recommendations for the Post Office

- ✍ Increase the hours of operation.
- ✍ Complete minor safety renovations in the Historical Society Building.
- ✍ Establish Boscawen's own zip code.
- ✍ Research the location for a larger post office facility.

RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

An important component to a high quality of life, recreation provides a much-needed means of stress reduction and physical well-being. Recreation facilities also provide residents with a place to interact and create a sense of community that is beneficial to residents of all ages. In recent years, numerous studies have identified that recreational facilities and programs give children and teenagers a place to go, thereby reducing delinquent activity by those sectors of the population.

EXISTING RECREATIONAL RESOURCES

Recreation opportunities are delivered to residents through a variety of organizations and businesses in the community.

Town Owned / Recreation Committee Maintained Facilities

The volunteer Park and Recreation Committee takes care of the tennis courts, basketball courts, and the skateboard/roller blade surface. The canoe launch and horseshoe pits are also maintained by the Committee volunteers. The house at the Jamie Welch Memorial Field, used for the summer programs, is supplied and maintained by the Committee.

The fields at Jamie Welch Memorial Field are used for youth soccer, little league softball and baseball, Babe Ruth baseball, and for general playground purposes. These are maintained by the Highway Department and the leagues that use them.

The recreation area north of the old Main Street School is used for soccer, football, and minor league baseball practices.

Merrimack Valley School District (MVSD)

Boscawen Elementary School and the Middle and High Schools offer numerous indoor and outdoor activities for children. These are more fully listed in Tables VII-36 and VII-37.

Conservation Commission

The Boscawen Town Forest offers users a variety of recreational opportunities. Hiking, mountain biking, an interpretive trail, horseback riding, cross-country skiing, snowmobiling, hunting, ATV'ing, and picnicking are just a few of the many activities residents and visitors can undertake in the 400+ acre Town Forest and adjacent Wildlife Management Area.

Private, For Profit/Non-Profit Recreational Resources

The Boscawen Congregational Church Park is a valuable resource to the Town. The fields are maintained by the baseball leagues that use them and the picnic area is maintained by volunteers.

REVIEW OF FISCAL RESOURCES

From 1996 to 1998, a Capital Reserve Fund was created to complete the tennis courts at Jamie Welch Memorial Field. The amount placed into the fund was \$15,000 per year until the courts were built. At that time, the Recreational Capital Reserve Fund was withdrawn at Town Meeting. Historically and presently, the majority of the Recreation Committee funds are used for the summer program salaries.

Table VII-34
Recreation Expenditures, 1992 - 2000

| Year | Recreation Committee Budget | Total Town Budget | Recreation as Percent of Total Budget |
|------|-----------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1992 | \$11,801 | \$1,105,602 | 0.010% |
| 1993 | \$14,341 | \$1,173,738 | 0.012% |
| 1994 | \$13,303 | \$1,194,568 | 0.011% |
| 1995 | \$12,040 | \$1,211,648 | 0.009% |
| 1996 | \$27,754 | \$1,219,300 | 0.023% |
| 1997 | \$34,079 | \$1,368,897 | 0.025% |
| 1998 | \$32,853 | \$2,354,446 | 0.013% |
| 1999 | \$19,792 | \$1,690,026 | 0.011% |
| 2000 | \$13,635 | \$1,732,280 | 0.007% |

Source: Boscawen Annual Reports, 1992-2000

In 1998, the budget was one million dollars higher than previous years because of a bond issue to cap the old landfill.

Table VII-35
Recreation Expenditures per Capita, 1992 - 2000

| Year | Recreation Committee Budget | Population | Expenditure per Capita |
|------|-----------------------------|------------|------------------------|
| 1992 | \$11,801 | 3,566 | \$3.31 |
| 1993 | \$14,341 | 3,586 | \$4.00 |
| 1994 | \$13,303 | 3,552 | \$3.75 |
| 1995 | \$12,040 | 3,572 | \$3.37 |
| 1996 | \$27,754 | 3,629 | \$7.65 |
| 1997 | \$34,079 | 3,616 | \$9.42 |
| 1998 | \$32,853 | 3,607 | \$9.11 |
| 1999 | \$19,792 | 3,614 | \$5.48 |
| 2000 | \$13,635 | 3,672 | \$3.71 |

Sources: NH Office of State Planning 1991-1999 Population Estimates of NH Cities and Towns;
*1990 US Census STF1A (P1); 2000 US Census; Town Reports

BOSCAWEN'S RECREATION FACILITIES AND PROFESSIONAL PLANNING GUIDELINES

It is important that all segments of the population are afforded the opportunity to participate in a variety of recreational programs and experiences. In an effort to better assist communities in understanding what basic levels of recreational programs and facilities are appropriate, guidelines have been developed by several professional recreation associations and planning organizations throughout the country. Standards used in this Chapter are general guidelines and commonly accepted standards published by recreation and planning professionals throughout New England for a community of 2,500 to 5,000 residents.

The following is a summary of existing recreational facilities in Boscawen as compared with commonly accepted facility standards.

Indoor Recreational Facilities Guidelines

Indoor recreational facilities are important to communities as they afford sheltered recreational opportunities to residents all year. Such facilities provide important places for year-round social interaction that helps to foster a sense of community. Table VII-36 details suggested guidelines for indoor recreational facilities for a community with a population similar to that of Boscawen. Notably, use of these standards indicates Boscawen should currently provide both a senior center and teen center and associated programs for each.

Table VII-36
Comparison of Indoor Facilities, Boscawen NH to Suggested Standards

| Indoor Facilities | Suggested Number of Indoor Facilities For Populations of 2,500 to 5,000 | Current Facilities, Population 3,672 (2000) | Location of Facility |
|--------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| School Facilities Available For Public Use | 1 | 1 | Boscawen Elementary School |
| Gym or Large Multiuse Room | 1 | 1 | Boscawen Elementary School |
| Auditorium or Assembly Hall | 1 | 1 | Town Hall |
| Art and Crafts Facilities | 1 | 1 | County Home |
| Teen Center | 1 | 0 | In Penacook |
| Senior Citizen Center | 1 | 0 | In Penacook |
| Public Library | 1 | 2 | Main Library and Branch Library |

Source: *Facility Guidelines, Maine SPO, Office of Comprehensive Land Use Planning, Dept of Economic and Community Development, 1989; Subcommittee Input*

Outdoor Recreational Facilities

Like indoor recreational facilities, out door recreational facilities are also very important to communities as they also provide a place to interact. Based upon the standards outlined in Table VII-37, the Boscawen should consider developing the following amenities:

Table VII-37
Comparison of Outdoor Facilities, Boscawen NH to Suggested Standards

| Outdoor Recreational Facility Guidelines | Facility Standard per 1,000 Population | Suggested Recreational Facilities for Boscawen 2000, Population 3,672 | Inventory of Existing Facilities in Boscawen 2000 | Existing Need, 2000 | Anticipated Need in 2010, Population 4033 |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| Community Recreation Facility, 12 - 25 acres in size, in a centralized location with ball fields, tennis courts, etc. | At least 1 | 3 | Jamie Welch (JW) Memorial Field (8 ac), Main Street School (2 ac) | Larger park | Expand JW Field south |
| Community Park, 100 + acres, largely undeveloped with walking & cross country ski trails | At least 1 | 3 | Boscawen Town Forest (400 ac) | None | More Town Forests, linkages |
| Baseball Field (90 Ft. Base lines) | 0.16 | 1 | 1 @ Jamie Welch Memorial Field | None | None |
| Softball / Little League Fields | 0.75 | 3 | 1 @ Jamie Welch Memorial Field & 1 @ Church Park | None | 1, possibly @ Boscawen Elem School (BES) |
| Basketball Courts | 0.5 | 2 | 1 @ JW Field | Renovate Main Street School Court | 1 outdoor court |
| Tennis Courts | 0.67 | 3 | 2 @ JW Field | None | None |
| Multi-purpose Field for Soccer, Football, and Field Hockey | 0.5 | 2 | 2 @ JW, 1 @ BES, 1 @ Church Park | None | None |
| Swimming Area to serve 5% of population (15 sq. ft. / person) | 750 square feet to serve 50 people | 2760 square feet to serve 184 people | Fish and Game Boat Ramp @ County Facilities | Town beach | None |
| Ice Skating Facility | 5,000 Sq. Ft. / 1,000 Population | 18500 Sq. Ft. Rink | None | Formal permanent facility | None |
| Play Grounds - Tot Lots (General) | 0.5 | 2 | 1 @ BES (after hours only) 1 @ JW Field | 1 @ Main Street School | None |
| Horse Shoe Court | At least 1 | 1 | 2 @ JW Field | None | None |
| Shuffle Board Court | At least 1 | 1 | None | None | None |
| Picnic Area equipped with tables and grills | 2 Tables / 1,000 population | At least 1 facility with 7 tables | 1 @ JW Field, & 1 @ Church Park | None | None |

Sources: Facilities Guidelines, Maine SPO, Office of Comprehensive Land Use Planning, Dept of Economic and Community Development, 1989; Subcommittee Input

Recreation Administration and Staffing

In addition to guidelines regarding the various types of recreational facilities a community should provide, staffing and programming guidelines have also been published. As recommended by these commonly accepted levels, Boscawen currently provides a Recreation Committee and shared facilities between School and the Town. However, based on the standards described in Table VII-38, Boscawen should consider providing the following opportunities.

These suggested guidelines also indicate that the Town should review the need and feasibility of hiring trained professional personnel, including a recreation director, to administer the daily operation of Boscawen's recreational programs and facilities. Furthermore, based on the guidelines outlined below, Boscawen should establish a community center with programs to serve the teenage and elderly populations of the Town.

Table VII-38
Comparison of Suggested Municipal Recreational Guidelines to
Existing Municipally Operated Programs in Boscawen, New Hampshire

| | Suggested Number of Facilities For Populations of 2,500 to 5,000 | Current Boscawen Facilities, Population 3,672 (2000) | Notes |
|-------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| ADMINISTRATION | | | |
| Recreation or Park Board | Yes | Yes | volunteer |
| Park and Rec. Committee | Yes | Yes | Public Works Dept help maintain |
| Combined School and Town Program | Yes | No | |
| STAFFING | | | |
| <i>Summer Programs</i> | | | |
| Swimming Instructor | Yes | No | |
| Summer Rec. Director | Yes | Yes | |
| <i>Winter Programs</i> | | | |
| Skating Rink Supervisors | 1 | No | |
| Program Supervisor (as needed) | 1 | No | |
| <i>Year Round Programs</i> | | | |
| Full-time Recreation Director | 1 | No | |
| Full-time Staff Person | 1 | No | |
| Part-time Program Specialists (as needed) | Yes | No | |
| <i>Other Programs</i> | | | |
| Swimming Lessons | Yes | No | |
| Supervised Play Ground Programs | Yes | Yes | At Jamie Welch in summer only |
| Senior Citizen Club / Center | Yes | No | Residents use Penacook Center |
| Teen Program | Yes | No | |
| Skiing Club | Yes | No | |
| Ice Skating | Yes | No | Informal use at fmr Main St Schl |
| Special Community Events | Yes | Yes | At Town Hall |
| Adult Recreation Program | Yes | No | |
| Dance Program / Lessons | Yes | Private | |
| Day Camp Program for Young Children | Yes | J Welch Field | |

Source: *Facilities Guidelines, Maine SPO, Office of Comprehensive Land Use Planning, Dept of Economic and Community Development, 1989.*

LAND REQUIREMENTS FOR SELECTED RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

Availability of suitable land is a crucial component for expanding community recreational facilities. Table VII-39 summarizes land requirements for the construction of selected outdoor recreational facilities. Please note that the minimum lot area does not include land for off-street parking, restrooms, or other facilities commonly associated with outdoor recreational amenities.

Table VII-39
Land Area Requirements for Selected Outdoor Recreational Facilities

| Type of Facility | Recommended Minimum Lot Area |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| Basketball Court | 5,040 Square Feet |
| Handball Court | 800 Square Feet |
| Tennis Court (Single Court) | 7,200 Square Feet |
| Tennis Court (2 Courts) | 12,240 Square Feet |
| Volleyball Court | 4,000 Square Feet |
| Baseball Diamond (Babe Ruth League) | 3 to 3.85 Acres |
| Horseshoe Pit | 1,400 Square Feet |
| Ice Hockey Rink | 22,000 Square Feet |
| Soccer (Adult) | 1.7 to 2.1 Acres |
| Soccer (Children's) | .8 to 1.4 Acres |
| Softball Field | 1.5 to 2 Acres |
| Touch / Flag Football | 41,200 Square Feet |
| Multi-purpose fields | Minimum area determined by type and number of facilities |

Source: NH Office of State Planning, "Design Standards for Recreational Facilities", 1997

TOWN-OWNED PROPERTY SUITABLE FOR FUTURE RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

Underutilized or vacant municipally-owned property can sometimes be used to expand recreational opportunities for residents of the community.

Table VII-40
Possible Future Recreational Uses of Town-Owned Property

| Map / Lot | Location | Acres | Existing Use | Potential Use |
|-----------|--------------------|-------|-------------------|----------------------------------------|
| 47/ 38 | Water Street | 8.0 | None | Hiking, hunting, x-country skiing |
| 81/ 19A | Behind Elem School | 25.0 | None - Landlocked | Hiking, hunting, x-country skiing, etc |
| 81/ 32 | Behind Elem School | 21.0 | None - Landlocked | Hiking, hunting, x-country skiing, etc |
| 183D/ 31 | Route 4 | 1.2 | None | None |

Sources: Assessor's Index, 2001

Boscawen has few Town-owned lands which might serve to increase the recreational potential for those outdoor or indoor programs which could be implemented. The eight acres behind Maplewood Cemetery (47/38) is rocky, hilly, and wet but may be needed for future cemetery space where feasible. Focus should be on the reuse of the grounds at the former Main Street School, the Boscawen Elementary School with permission of the School District, Jamie Welch Memorial Field, and the Town Forest. The linking of the Town Forest with the Elementary School property could be explored, particularly with the landlocked parcels mentioned above. These four existing sites have tremendous opportunity for recreational facilities and programs of all ages.

Future Recreation Needs Summary

Short-term needs (2001 to 2006)

- ? Create a swimming, canoe, and picnic area, possibly along Merrimack River or Walker Pond

Long-term needs (2006 to 2011)

- ? Create senior and teen centers, possibly within one Community Center
- ? Expand the Town Forest

Recommendations for Recreation in Boscawen

In conjunction with recreation-oriented recommendations from the **CONSERVATION, PRESERVATION, AND OPEN SPACE CHAPTER**, the following should be implemented to support recreation in Town.

- ✍ Create or sponsor teen programs.
- ✍ Develop a Community Center for all ages.
- ✍ Expand the Town Forest to enlarge its recreational potential.
- ✍ Pursue landowner easements, agreements or purchases to access existing Town-owned parcels for recreational use.

SOURCES FOR FINANCING COMMUNITY AND RECREATIONAL FACILITY NEEDS AND IMPROVEMENTS**Impact Fees**

The purpose of an impact fee ordinance is to collect funds from new development to help offset extra infrastructure needs associated with new development. In addition to financing new school additions and roadway projects, impact fees could also be collected to help pay for new recreational facilities. In the near future, the Planning Board should explore creating a set impact fee schedule for recreational needs created by new development. Impact fees can only be implemented after a Capital Improvements Program is prepared.

User Fees

During the 1980s, the concept of user fees for the funding of numerous public facilities and services were widely adopted throughout the nation. Several communities in New Hampshire help finance community facilities and programs through the adoption of user fees. Examples of user fees in New Hampshire include water district charges and transfer station fees.

License and Permit Fees

Fees, such as building permit, zoning application, and planning board subdivision and site plan fees, are all examples of permit fees. Such fees are highly equitable and are successful for minimizing the burden on taxpayers for specific programs such as building code enforcement.

Grants-in-Aid

New Hampshire communities are eligible for various grants-in-aid for financing school construction and improvements. Examples include:

- ? Foundation Aid to help schools provide minimum education
- ? Building Aid
- ? Handicap Education Aid
- ? Area Vocational School Tuition and Transportation Aid
- ? Sweepstakes Aid
- ? Nutrition Grants
- ? Driver Education

Community Development Block Grants

Depending on the location, social value, and functional use of a community facility, Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) can sometimes be a good source of financing. CDBG funds are allocated from the US Department of Housing and Urban Development and, in New Hampshire, are administered by the Office of State Planning. Each year, communities are invited to submit grant applications for funding of projects. Examples of projects funded by the CDBG program include Community Centers for the Towns of Pittsfield and Bradford. In 1999, New Hampshire received over 10 million dollars in CDBG funds that, through the grant process, were allocated to communities across the State.

Sale of Surplus Town Property and Land

Sale of town-owned property is another viable option for raising funds to pay for new community facilities. Parcels that should be liquidated include those that have no significant conservation or cultural value, or limited potential for future facilities.

Capital Reserve Funds

Capital reserve funds are similar to savings accounts, as they allow the Town to contribute money to a specific account for the purpose of purchasing or defraying the cost of significant items such as school additions, highway equipment, fire trucks, municipal facilities.

Bonds

Bonding is a popular method of raising revenue to construct or purchase Town equipment and facilities. Though viable, the Town should avoid encumbering too much debt, as it can limit the ability of the Town to purchase future, unidentified needs.

Private Foundations / Trusts

For years, communities have been the beneficiaries of trusts and donations created by private citizens and foundations. The Town should actively solicit such resources for assistance regarding the development or expansion of recreational facilities and programs.

TEA-21 Recreational Trails Program

A federal program administered in New Hampshire by the Department of Resources and Economic Development, Trails Bureau, funding is derived from the Federal Gas Tax. Annually, communities submit competitive grant applications for funds. Grant amounts are limited to a maximum of \$20,000 and require an "in-kind" community match of 20% of the grant amount. Acceptable forms of matching contributions include cash, materials, labor, and in-kind services. Projects eligible for this funding include trails for both motorized and non-motorized use. In 1999, New Hampshire received a total of \$472,741 for this program.

Town Appropriations

In addition to grants, community groups can also seek appropriations through the annual budget process to pay for the expansion of recreational or community facilities.

On-site Developer Exactions

The Planning Board, when reviewing large developments, has the ability to require developers to provide the community with the construction of a recreational facility or money for future construction of such facilities.

Regional Co-ops

Another option for defraying the cost of developing recreational facilities is co-ops among local communities in the region. Used for years for water, sewer, and solid waste facilities, co-ops among communities are rarely employed for recreational facilities. Boscawen should explore the possibility of creating a co-op with Penacook, Salisbury, and Webster to construct and staff recreational facilities.

Volunteers

Boscawen is fortunate to have a strong volunteer ethic among its residents. Boscawen should continue to seek the help of volunteers and publicly recognize their efforts.

UTILITIES

Utilities are also essential services that are delivered to residents through private companies. Population, density, and usage are driving forces which determine the level of services a municipality requires. This section will examine the current conditions of the utilities in Boscawen and propose measures to enhance or expand services if necessary. Selected Town utilities are depicted on the *Utilities Map*.

TELEPHONE SERVICE

Basic landline telephone service is an important part of everyday life. It has evolved over the past 60 years from mechanical switching centers and a fragmented network with party lines to digital switching systems and fiber optic networks. Universal service, once a distant vision, is now a reality. Telephone companies now offer wireless services, internet access, satellite television, and digital subscriber services (DSL) to many of their customers.

The 1996 Telecommunications Act has and will continue to have a profound impact on telecommunications services. The long distance service market was the first to be affected by the Telecommunications Act. Competition has reduced the price of long distance calls from twenty cents a minute to less than seven cents a minute. The Federal Communications Commission has been reducing access charges on long distance calls by regional phone companies. Long distance charges have been used in the past to subsidize local telephone line charges. This means that local telephone rates could increase to reflect actual costs as competition drives long distance charges out of the rate base. Regional telephone companies will be allowed to enter both the long distance telephone and cable television markets in the near future. All of these changes seem positive on the surface but the underlying consequences may have an impact on our lives in the next decade.

TDS Telecom

TDS Telecom, whose local office is in New London, New Hampshire, is a growing, national company that brings high quality, locally based telecommunications services to 900 rural and suburban communities across the U.S. With national headquarters in Madison, Wisconsin, TDS serves more than one million customers.

In Boscawen, TDS Telecom provides service to homes and businesses from the northern boundaries with Salisbury and Franklin to the traffic lights at the junction of North Main and King Streets.

Verizon Telephone Company

Verizon Telephone Company provides service to homes and businesses from this point southerly. Verizon is the newly formed company as a result of the recent GTE and Bell Atlantic merger. This is the fourth name change for the local telephone company since the break up of AT&T in 1982. Resulting from the merger of GTE and Bell Atlantic is a more vigorous company, poised to compete with cable television, computer companies, and satellite networks, and is able to deliver increased and better service to New Hampshire and Boscawen residents.

INTERNET

TDS Telecom and AT&T Broadband are the primary local internet providers in Boscawen. Residents can choose their own providers, including nation-wide carriers. The internet revolution is changing the way people communicate with the world and even small communities such as Boscawen are affected. A Town website should be developed in order to educate and inform residents about current activities and for hosting public announcements. Downloads can be made available of the Master Plan, Site Plan Review Regulations, Subdivision Regulations, the Zoning Ordinance, Town Reports, and minutes from meetings, which will lessen the burden on Town Office staff and reduce future printing costs.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

The Town adopted a Telecommunications Ordinance in 1998. One telecommunications tower is located in Boscawen on Robin Street. Co-location on the existing or any future towers is highly encouraged to maximize efficiency. Digital cellular service is an essential communications medium and provides quality telephone service and enhanced multimedia applications including high speed internet access.

CABLE TELEVISION AND SATELLITE DISHES

AT&T Broadband holds the current Boscawen franchise for distribution of cable television to Boscawen businesses and residents.

Boscawen cable subscribers now have increased services including high-speed internet access, telephone service, and greater channel selection delivered through a new hybrid fiber coaxial cable system completed in 1999. The new cable technology provides Boscawen subscribers with digital picture quality, better system reliability, improved audio quality, and internet access speeds up to 50 times the current dial-up modem capability.

The boundaries of the current cable network are depicted on the *Utilities Map*. Those households wishing to have access to television programming often utilize satellite dishes from the most popular providers which are nationally available.

WATER SUPPLIES

At the present time, as has been mentioned previously, wells are used to supply water to the customers of the Penacook-Boscawen Water Precinct. The water lines serve only half of the geographic size of the Town, but provide service to the vast majority of residents. The remaining households rely on private wells.

The former Precinct water supply, Walker Pond, is no longer used. In the period immediately following the termination of Walker Pond as a water supply, a community Committee was assembled to determine the long-term disposition of Precinct properties adjacent to the Pond. Webster was also represented on the Committee. The Precinct owns several hundred acres around Walker Pond. The Committee's primary recommendation was to maintain the properties in the public domain and to actively manage the properties. To date, this

recommendation has been practiced by the Precinct. One of the most important findings of the Committee was that "open space pays!"

Given the capacity of the existing wells for customers, there is currently very little excess capability. In order to prepare for growth and demand, the Penacook-Boscawen Water Precinct is currently engaged in a study to locate an additional ground water supply within the limits of the Town.

The distribution lines are currently large enough to provide for an increased demand. The Precinct's existing infrastructure is sufficient to sustain reasonable growth within the present Precinct boundaries. An unusually large development or unforeseen growth could, however, require a system upgrade depending on the individual circumstance. If the Precinct service area was to be extended "higher on Queen Street", significant additional infrastructure would be required primarily because of the area's elevation. In recognition of the burden of additional services placed on the Precinct, the rate structure was recently changed to significantly increase the cost of connecting to the system.

WASTEWATER TREATMENT – STORM DRAINS AND SEWER

The Town of Boscawen has two independent storm drain systems that keep the snow and rain runoff from affecting homes in the Town. Drainage ditches and culverts along all Town roadways serve the northern portion of Boscawen. The rain and snowmelt are carried via these conduits to many natural water areas such as rivers and streams, as well as ponds and small lakes within Town borders. These drainage systems are an integral part of Boscawen's road system and are maintained by the Town's Public Works Department. Without the proper functioning of these drainage facilities, many of Boscawen's homes and businesses would be in peril of flooding during periods of heavy rains and large amounts of melting snow. In the rural areas, this type of drainage is more than adequate to control the stormwater runoff.

The sewer lines are generally located from just north of Gage Street to the Contoocook River in the more densely populated southern portion of Boscawen. Within the southern area of Town, however, it is impractical to have drainage along the roads due to the proximity of buildings and the lack of open space to control the stormwater runoff. In this part of Town, as it was being built up in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, it was decided that storm drains would better serve that part of Town if the water was collected by the sewer system and disposed of initially through the system directly to the Merrimack River and then later through the Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTF) in Penacook. This system worked well in the early 1900s through the 1970s. When the tannery went on-line in the 1930s, this extra water assisted the process and contributed financially for the costs of treatment.

When the tannery closed in the late 1980s, the cost of treating the stormwater started to increase to the point where 75% of the water being treated was an unnecessary burden on the Town and on the sewer users. Many of the original conduits are still in place and because they were made of vitrious clay, the technology of the late 1800s and early 1900s, there is serious concern over the condition of these pipes. It will be necessary in the very near future to replace all of these pipes in the present storm drain system and in the sewer lines to the Penacook WWTF.

While it would be necessary to replace the lines, it is also felt that separating the storm drains from the sewer system would be in the best interest of the entire Town since the cost of the present system is very high relative to the amount of wastewater that needs to be treated. The cost of treating the wastewater (and stormwater) is borne by the entire Town populace and an additional cost is borne by the citizens who are served directly by the Penacook WWTF.

ELECTRICITY

Electricity in Boscawen is provided by Concord Electric, a subsidiary of Unitil, a public utility holding company doing business in New Hampshire and Massachusetts. There is every expectation this service will continue in the foreseeable future, as mandated by the New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission. Unitil authorities have advised that the community can anticipate no interruptions or curtailment of service.

Future Utilities Needs Summary

Short-term needs (2001 to 2006)

- ? Separate the sewer from the stormwater runoff
- ? Identify areas of future water supply and expansion of sanitary sewer to meet demand
- ? Develop a Town website

Long-term needs (2006 to 2011)

- ? Expand the cable television area to include lower-density areas of Boscawen
- ? Encourage telephone providers to create one calling prefix for the entire Town

Recommendations for Utilities in Boscawen

- ✍ Separate the sewer from the stormwater runoff.
- ✍ Permanently protect areas of future water supplies.
- ✍ Monitor the use and expansion of utilities as Boscawen's population grows and react accordingly.
- ✍ Develop a Town website for information distribution and to enhance community ties.
- ✍ Expand the public water and sewer as appropriate.

SUMMARY

The Town of Boscawen's community and recreational facilities include, but are not limited to, the Town Offices, the Fire, Police, and Public Works Departments, the Town Hall, the Library, the Town Forest, and the Post Office along with the Historical Society, the Jamie Welch Memorial Field and the Boscawen Elementary School. Based on Boscawen's community survey, space improvements and/or additional staff to the Town Offices, the Police Station and the Library were identified as priorities. Use of the Main Street School as a community center was also indicated. The production of a Capital Improvements Program should help keep the Department priorities in order and assist with the orderly purchase of required improvements over the next six years.

The utilities section include the telephone services, the telecommunication tower, internet services, cable television and satellite dishes, electricity and the Penacook-Boscawen Water Precinct. In the future, locating and protecting a potable water supply to serve the needs of the population will become a necessity. Separation of the sewer and stormwater runoff should be examined in order to reduce future costs.

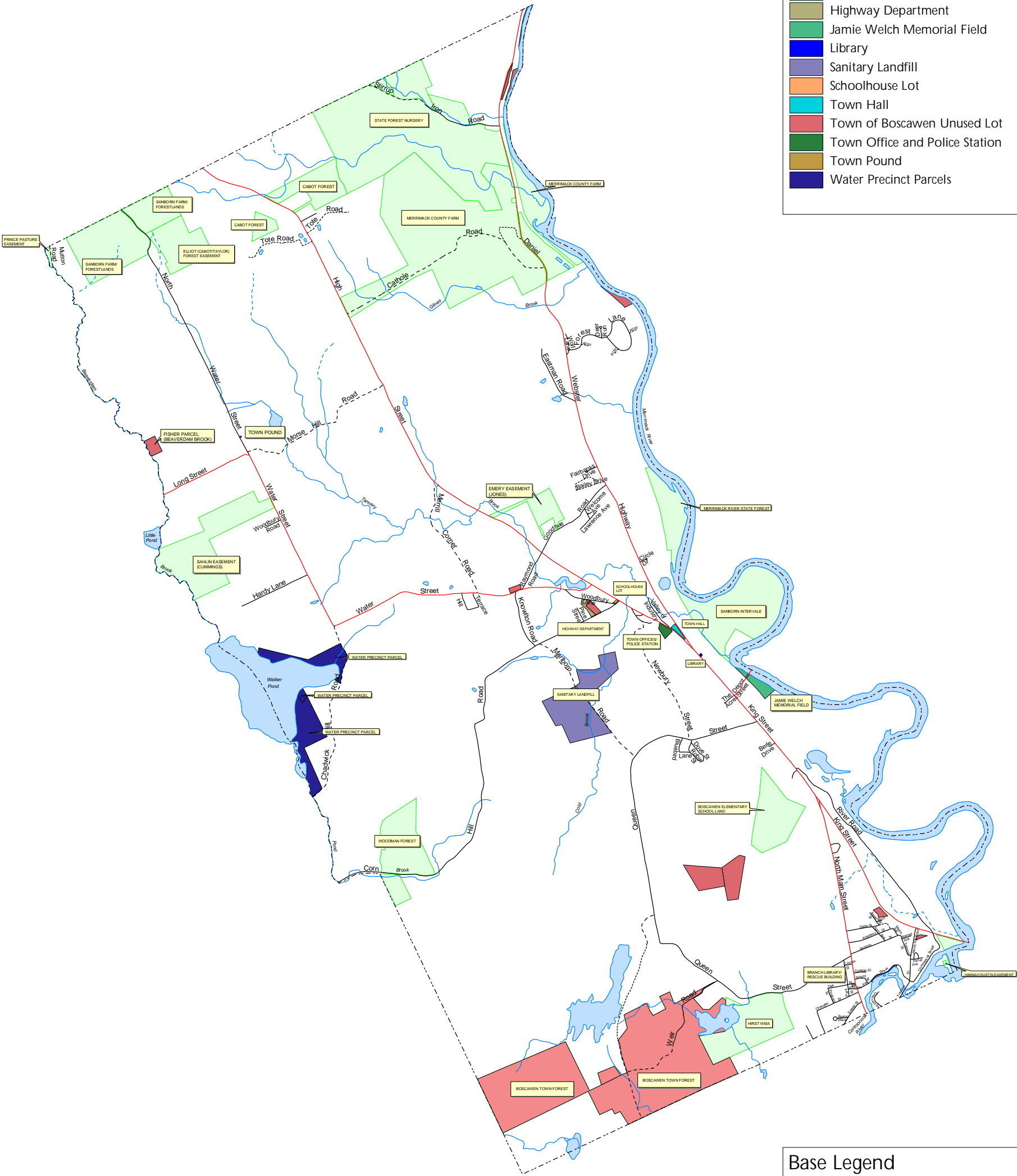
Included in this chapter are recommendations for these facilities and delivery of services in order to keep up with Boscawen's small but steady growth and future needs. This Chapter has also included sources (grants, fees, etc.) by which some of these community and recreational needs can be financed to assist with offsetting the costs to taxpayers.

Town of Boscawen

2001-2002 Master Plan

Community Facilities Map

Map 9



Legend

- Conservation Land
- Public Facilities
 - Boscawen Town Forest
 - Branch Library/Rescue Building
 - Highway Department
 - Jamie Welch Memorial Field
 - Library
 - Sanitary Landfill
 - Schoolhouse Lot
 - Town Hall
 - Town of Boscawen Unused Lot
 - Town Office and Police Station
 - Town Pound
 - Water Precinct Parcels

Base Legend

- Political Boundary
- Class I & II Secondary State Highways
- Class V Town Maintained Roads
- Class VI Town Unmaintained Roads
- Other Roads (Private, Future, Discontinued, etc)
- Rivers and Streams
- Intermittent Streams
- Water Bodies

This map was produced by the
Central New Hampshire Regional Planning Commission
for the Boscawen Master Plan, February 2002.

N
Scale 1" = 4000' (1:48000)

DISCLAIMER:
This map series is intended for use with the Boscawen Master Plan. The information presented is to be used for planning purposes and may not fully represent actual geographic conditions. Inaccuracies should be directed to the Town of Boscawen or to the Central NH Regional Planning Commission.

Data Sources for the Boscawen Master Plan Map Series:
USGS quadrangles through NH GRANIT (1:24000);
Society for the Protection of NH Forests (1:24000); US Fish and Wildlife (1:24000); Natural Resources Conservation Service (1:24000); and CNHRPC (1:24000).
Corrections to existing layers by the Town of Boscawen and CNHRPC.



Town of Boscaawen

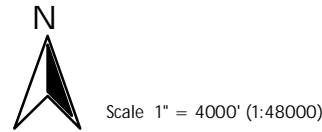
2001-2002 Master Plan

Recreational Facilities Map

Map 10

Legend

- ? Recreation Site
- Beach and/or Canoe Access
- ù Sports Fields
- Recreational Trails
- Snowmobile Trail along Railroad Right-of-Way
- Conservation Land



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Base Legend

- Political Boundary
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- Intermittent Streams
- Water Bodies

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TRANSPORTATION

Chapter VIII



*Water Street looking left at Silver's Farm,
Class II State-Maintained Highway*



*High Street approach to King Street,
Class II State-Maintained Highways (Rtes 3 & 4)*



*North Water Street from Salisbury Town Line,
Class V Gravel Town Road*



*Corn Hill Road,
Class V Paved Town Road*

Chapter VIII TRANSPORTATION

"Transportation is a vital link in the chain that is our way of life."

- Transportation Subcommittee

INTRODUCTION

The transportation system of a community serves to connect people to resources and to each other. It plays a large role in the development of a community and in defining a community's character. In Boscawen, the existing transportation system has begun to experience many of the stresses associated with an influx of commercial and residential development, not only in Boscawen, but in neighboring communities as well. This increased development is likely to continue, making management of the existing transportation system and planning for future transportation needs in Town increasingly important.

Effective management of the existing transportation system can help ensure its continued viability and may reduce the need for costly future expansions of the system or at least delay the need for such expansions. Planning for future needs and any construction of necessary improvements of roads is made easier when the existing system is managed effectively.

Steps toward managing the existing system might begin with as small and easy a step as traffic counts to monitor growth or accident reports to locate high incident areas. It could involve a simple road surface management program or become as detailed as being part of an extensive multi-year Transportation Improvement Program. Each community finds different solutions, but the underlying goal to manage and maintain the existing transportation system is truly a vital one.

Managing and maintaining the existing system will only take a community so far - the next necessary step is planning for the future of transportation in Boscawen. The Town should not only plan for future transportation needs according to anticipated growth, but should plan for future transportation desires and use the transportation system as a tool to help guide responsible development. With effective planning, Boscawen can help ensure that the transportation system continues to function and foster economic development, all in a manner that does not detract from the quality of life in Boscawen, but perhaps even improve it.

OBJECTIVES OF THE CHAPTER AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- To provide a highway and street system that allows for the safe and efficient movement of people and goods throughout Boscawen.
 - ? Minimize adverse traffic impacts of through traffic on residential streets wherever viable alternatives can be provided.
 - ? Review and evaluate the Planning Board's current road and driveway standards as to their appropriateness.
 - ? Design and plan residential streets to follow natural contours and preserve natural features whenever practical; minimize traffic speed, volume, noise, congestion, and hazards to pedestrians; and minimize the amount of paved area to reduce stormwater runoff, thereby protecting water resources and reducing construction costs.
 - ? Research aesthetic and landscaping requirements and incorporate them into the Town Road Construction standards.
 - ? Create a Roads Policy that would outline construction standards, maintenance standards, and conditions.
 - ? Research liability issues regarding Class VI Roads in regards to emergency services and access.
 - ? Clarify the Subdivision Regulations to ensure that any subdivision on a Class VI road will be deemed "scattered and premature" unless and until some provision is made, via a decision of the Selectmen, to improve it.
 - ? Consider establishing a local committee to help solicit ideas and create proposals for the various funding programs available in conjunction with the Board of Selectmen and the Central New Hampshire Regional Planning Commission.
 - ? Be proactive and creative in seeking State and Federal funding by working with the Central New Hampshire Regional Planning Commission to prepare a comprehensive transportation plan that includes funding availability for the desired projects and programs.
 - ? Review the US Routes 3 and 4 Corridor Study and pursue the recommendations therein.

- To improve the non-motorized infrastructure and increase non-motorized safety and activity in Boscawen.
 - ? Develop a local bicycle network that would connect significant areas of Town and important places (i.e. school, Town Hall, fire station) to the regional and state bicycle networks.
 - ? Investigate and pursue the development of a multi-use trail along the abandoned Northern Line rail corridor with linkages to King Street.
 - ? Identify areas where walking and bicycling trails could be improved or constructed in Boscawen.
 - ? Require developers working in Town, as part of the Site Plan Review Regulations, to provide for shared driveways and parking areas with neighboring buildings as well as to provide proper facilities for pedestrians.
 - ? Require new developments to create and/or extend the existing sidewalk network, in appropriate areas, to create an incremental expansion of the sidewalk network.
 - ? Identify and prioritize areas with existing pedestrian facilities for regular maintenance and support the creation of sidewalks.
 - ? Work with the NH Department of Transportation (NHDOT) regarding the placement and maintenance of crosswalks on State roads within Town.
 - ? Use innovative methods to increase safety, which could include such techniques as raised crosswalks, striped or colored sidewalks, increased signage, or walking paths separated from the road by landscaping.
 - ? Continue to support the limited public transportation service currently being offered within Town.
 - ? Further investigate if there is a need and interest in extending Concord Area Transit service into Boscawen.
- To protect the village and historic character along Boscawen's local and major roads while maintaining their viability as travel corridors.
 - ? Develop road and entrance standards for Boscawen's more rural and scenic roads to be consistent with the character of these roadways, balancing scenic characteristics, safety, and sight lines.
 - ? Investigate the designation of Class VI roads, that meet certain criteria, to Class A trails.

- ? Research the idea of having new roads in rural areas be consistent in road design with the rural collector roads to which they are connecting.
- ? Consider identifying roads with scenic vistas and aesthetic qualities, such as stone walls, historic buildings, and farms, and research methods of protecting and preserving such areas.

COMMUNITY SURVEY RESULTS

A vast majority, 83% of survey respondents, consider the roads in Boscawen to be in "good" or "excellent" condition, indicating that most residents are pleased with the level of road maintenance. A number of responses identified King Street, Route 3, and the US 3 & 4 junction as "hazardous for pedestrians". The Town with NHDOT might consider these locations for future improvements to increase pedestrian and vehicular safety.

Table VIII-1

In your opinion, what is the general condition of roads in Boscawen?

| Condition of roads | Total | Percent |
|--------------------|-------|---------|
| Very Poor | 2 | 1% |
| Poor | 38 | 11% |
| No Opinion | 19 | 5% |
| Good | 276 | 76% |
| Excellent | 26 | 7% |
| Grand Total | 361 | 100% |

Table VIII-3

Are there any sections of roadways or intersections that you feel are hazardous for pedestrians?

| Hazardous areas for pedestrians | Total |
|------------------------------------|-------|
| Anywhere without sidewalks | 8 |
| Corn Hill Rd | 3 |
| Crosswalks by Cumberland Farms | 2 |
| DW highway | 3 |
| Goodhue/Rte 4/Raymond intersection | 3 |
| Jackson St | 3 |
| King St | 27 |
| Main St | 7 |
| Queen St | 6 |
| Queen St/King St intersection | 2 |
| Rte 3 | 13 |
| Rte 4 | 7 |
| Water St | 6 |
| 3&4 intersection | 28 |
| Grand Total | 118 |

Table VIII-2

Are there any sections of roadways or intersections that you feel are hazardous for vehicles?

| Hazardous areas for vehicles | Total |
|-------------------------------------------|-------|
| Between traffic lights and Rte 3&4 split | 2 |
| Corn Hill Rd | 5 |
| Cumberland farms | 2 |
| DW Highway | 4 |
| Dunkin Donuts area | 12 |
| Dw Highway w/ High St | 4 |
| Eel St | 2 |
| Elm St | 2 |
| Forest Lane Rte 3 | 6 |
| Goodhue | 3 |
| High St | 3 |
| Intersection / split of Rte 3&4 at church | 89 |
| King St | 3 |
| King St w/ High St | 2 |
| King St w/ Queen St | 2 |
| Queen St | 5 |
| Raymond Rd | 14 |
| Rte 3 sharp curve at County farm | 2 |
| Rte 4 w/ Goodhue and Raymond | 52 |
| Tremont St | 3 |
| Water St (also frost heaves) | 7 |
| Grand Total | 224 |

Depicted in Table VIII-4, a number of responses regarding the need for additional sidewalks indicated the area adjacent to the Elementary School, including connecting Main Street with King Street. Several roads stand out in Table VIII-5 including Corn Hill Road, King Street, Route 3, Route 4, and Water Street as areas where residents sense travelers are speeding.

Table VIII-6 shows that most respondents are interested in some extension of Concord Area Transit into Boscawen.

Table VIII-4

Please identify any streets where you feel additional sidewalks are needed.

| Areas for additional sidewalks | Total |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| Around elementary school | 5 |
| Between Ross Express & Cretes Farm | 6 |
| Corn Hill Rd | 4 |
| Dw highway | 2 |
| Eel St | 2 |
| From elementary school to existing sidewalk on King St (near Cretes farm) | 5 |
| From King St to Main St | 3 |
| High St | 2 |
| Intersection Rte 3&4 | 6 |
| Jackson St | 3 |
| King St | 9 |
| King St to elementary school | 3 |
| Lower Boscawen | 3 |
| Main St | 8 |
| Main St to elementary school | 2 |
| Park St (for Welch Park) | 2 |
| Queen St | 8 |
| Rte 3 | 7 |
| Rte 4 | 4 |
| Tremont St | 4 |
| Water St | 4 |
| Grand Total | 92 |

Table VIII-5

Please identify any roads or streets where you feel vehicles travel at excessive speeds.

| Areas where travel is at excessive speeds | Total |
|-------------------------------------------|-------|
| Academy St | 7 |
| Chandler St | 4 |
| Corn Hill Rd | 22 |
| DW Highway | 13 |
| Eel St | 4 |
| Forest Lane | 3 |
| Gage St | 8 |
| Goodhue Rd | 6 |
| Harris Hill Rd | 2 |
| High St | 14 |
| Jackson St | 15 |
| King St | 29 |
| Main St | 11 |
| Oak St | 2 |
| Park St | 2 |
| Queen St | 27 |
| Rte 3 | 17 |
| Rte 4 | 28 |
| Rte 3&4 | 14 |
| Tremont St | 8 |
| Water St | 37 |
| Woodbury Lane | 5 |
| Grand Total | 278 |

Table VIII-6

Support for Concord Area Transit

| Do you support an extension of the Concord Area Transit (CAT) service into Boscawen? | Total | Percent |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|---------|
| Yes | 214 | 58% |
| No | 58 | 16% |
| Unsure | 63 | 17% |
| No Opinion | 34 | 9% |
| Grand Total | 369 | 100% |

In regards to public transit, Table VIII-7 shows that 48% of respondents are interested in enhanced service. A surprising proportion, roughly one-third, of respondents were unsure, perhaps indicating limited knowledge of what is available currently.

Tables VIII-8 and VIII-9 show that a majority of survey responses are in favor of reconstructing the bridge off Depot Street for either/both vehicular and/or recreational purposes.

Table VIII-7

Do you believe there is a need to enhance senior transit services in Boscawen?

| Enhancement of senior transit services | Total | Percent |
|----------------------------------------|-------|---------|
| Yes | 176 | 48% |
| No | 24 | 7% |
| Unsure | 123 | 34% |
| No Opinion | 43 | 12% |
| Grand Total | 366 | 100% |

Table VIII-9

Would you support the reconstruction of the bridge between Boscawen and Canterbury off Depot Street for recreational purposes?

| Reconstruction of Boscawen/Canterbury bridge for recreational use | Total | Percent |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|---------|
| Yes | 176 | 55% |
| No | 70 | 22% |
| Unsure | 50 | 16% |
| No Opinion | 24 | 8% |
| Grand Total | 320 | 100% |

Table VIII-8

Would you support the reconstruction of the bridge between Boscawen and Canterbury off Depot Street for vehicular use?

| Reconstruction of Boscawen/Canterbury bridge for vehicular use | Total | Percent |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|-------|---------|
| Yes | 177 | 51% |
| No | 93 | 27% |
| Unsure | 51 | 15% |
| No Opinion | 24 | 7% |
| Grand Total | 345 | 100% |

Table VIII-10

Please identify any areas where you think the creation of an alternative transportation trail (such as for commuting by bicycle, etc) should be further pursued.

| Alternative transportation areas | Total |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| A north-south corridor connecting Franklin-Boscawen-Penacook and Concord would be ideal | 1 |
| Along the Merrimack River | 7 |
| Around the elementary school | 1 |
| Between Water Street, Corn Hill Road, and Queen Street (away from King Street); something parallel to King Street, near Merrimack River | 1 |
| Bike lane or path between Boscawen & Penacook | 2 |
| Bike trail close to the River | 2 |
| Bike trails would be nice | 3 |
| Could something be done with the already existing snowmobile trails without hurting them? | 1 |
| Hannah Dustin area | 1 |
| High Street; King Street | 1 |
| How about the Train stopping in Town again? | 1 |
| I would like to see a bike trail - like the one in East Concord by the River | 1 |
| In conservation areas but specify no motorized vehicles of any type | 1 |
| Kids and young Adults use the sidewalks to use their bikes - there should be a place for them to ride - so that walking pedestrians don't have to move when they are on the sidewalks together | 1 |
| Main St | 1 |
| No Hearsay | 1 |
| No opinion | 4 |
| None | 16 |
| None - let's not waste any more money on ideas like this. Look at the State's bike paths off I-89 - never used. | 2 |
| Not in the Boscawen Town Forest | 1 |
| Railroad Bed | 8 |
| Railroad tracks | 10 |
| Route 3 | 8 |
| Route 3 & 4 | 5 |
| Route 4 (High St) | 2 |
| Route 4 | 1 |
| The Canterbury Boscawen bridge. Could detour traffic off Route 3 King Street One way Road | 3 |
| The snow mobile trail needs to be cut | 2 |
| Trail for bikes in Town Forest would be nice. | 1 |
| Trails for horses; bridge on Chadwick | 1 |
| Unknown | 10 |
| Grand Total | 103 |

These respondent write-in opinions indicate a mixed sentiment about alternative transportation. This is also evidenced by the low response rate to the question.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Functional Highway Classifications

A method by which public roadways are classified, relevant to long-range planning of roadway improvements, is on the basis of primary function, type of service, or the roadway's relation to the community transportation system as a whole. These divisions are used to determine roadway design standards and to locate funds that may be used for needed roadway improvements. In order to be eligible for some types of improvement funds, highways must be a certain level of functional class. The five basic functional classifications are described below.

Principal Arterial

Principal arterial roadways form the basic framework of the State roadway system. They primarily function as the main routes for interstate commerce and traffic. In addition, they also link major geographic and urban areas to economic districts of the State. Ideally, access to these roads by abutting parcels is not permitted or is highly restricted. Although no principal arterials exist in Boscawen, NH 106 in Loudon is an example of one in a nearby community.

Minor Arterial

These roadways serve as long distance traffic movements, and are secondary to primary arterials in that minor arterials tend to serve as links between major population areas or between distinct geographic and economic regions. US Routes 3 and 4 to the south of King Street are classified as minor arterials.

Major Collector

These roadways differ from arterials due to size and general service area. Collectors serve traffic in a specific area, whereas as arterials generally serve traffic moving through an area. Thus, average trip lengths on collectors are shorter than trips on arterial. Furthermore, collectors gather traffic from local roads and streets and distribute them to arterials. US Routes 3 & 4 along King Street and continuing northerly are examples of major collectors.

Minor Collector

These roads provide access to smaller communities within a geographic area or economic region. They may link locally important trip generators, such as shopping centers to surrounding rural areas. They also serve as links between two or more major collectors. Two local examples are Water Street and Long Street in Boscawen.

Local Roads

These roads and streets are used primarily to provide access to adjacent properties. These roads have numerous turning movements in and out of abutting driveways and curb cuts. Queen Street, Depot Street, River Road, and Jackson Street are some examples of local roads in Boscawen.

State Aid Highway Classifications

Another system used to classify roadways in New Hampshire is the State Aid Highway Classification System. This system was created under the requirement set forth by RSA 229-231 to determine the responsibility for the reconstruction and maintenance of roadways located in the State. This system is also used to determine the eligibility of roads for State funding. Classifications are comprised of six categories (Class I through Class VI highways).

Class I, Trunk Line Highways

This classification consists of all existing and proposed highways on the primary state system, except all portions of such highways within the compact sections of communities, providing said sections are Class I highways. Examples nearby include Interstates 93, 89, and 393.

Class II, State Aid Highways

This classification consists of all existing and proposed highways on the secondary state systems, except those in compact sections of cities and towns. All sections of these roadways must be improved to the satisfaction of the NHDOT Commissioner and are maintained and reconstructed by the State. The Town must maintain all unimproved sections of these roadways, where no state or federal monies have been expended, until they are improved to NHDOT satisfaction. All bridges maintained with state or federal funds shall be maintained by the State, while all other bridges shall be the responsibility of the municipality. The two major roads in Boscawen, US Routes 3 and 4, are Class II highways.

Class III, Recreational Roads

This designation is assigned to all roads leading to, and within, state reservations designated by the NH Legislature. The NHDOT assumes all responsibility for construction and maintenance. There are no local or nearby examples of this classification.

Class IV, Urban Highways

This designation is assigned to all highways within the compact areas of municipalities listed in RSA 229:5, V. The compact section of any city or town shall be the territory within such city or town where the frontage on any highway, in the opinion of the DOT Commissioner, is mainly occupied by dwellings or buildings where business is conducted, throughout the year. No highway reclassification from Class I or II to Class IV shall take effect until all rehabilitation needed to return the highway surface to reputable condition has been completed by the State. Boscawen's neighbor to the south, Concord, has a designated compact area.

Class V, Rural Highways

This classification consists of all traveled highways which the town or city has the duty to maintain regularly, paved or unpaved. Queen Street is a major Class V roadway in Boscawen.

Class VI, Unmaintained Highways

Roads under this category consist of all other public ways, including highways subject to gates and bars, and highways not maintained in suitable condition for travel for more than five (5) years. Newbury Street and the northern section of Stirrup Iron Road are local examples of Class VI roads.

Highway Capacity Analysis

One of the most simplistic ways to evaluate and summarize Highway Capacity is using the Level of Service measure. Level of Service (LOS) is a term that denotes the type of congestion that occurs along a roadway or an intersection for a given period of time, generally one-hour peak conditions. This is a qualitative measure of the combined effect of a number of factors, including roadway geometrics, travel delay, freedom to maneuver, and safety. Level of service categories are discussed below:

Level of Service A

LOS-A represents free flow with operating speeds of 60 miles per hour or higher being attainable, where permitted by the roadway design and speed limit. Individual users are virtually unaffected by the presence of other vehicles in the traffic stream. About 75% of passing maneuvers can be accomplished with little or no delay.

Level of Service B

LOS-B is a stable range of flow, but the presence of other motorists in the traffic stream becomes noticeable. Freedom to select desired speeds is relatively uninhibited. This LOS is not typical for urbanized areas.

Level of Service C

LOS-C is also in the range of stable flow, but denotes the beginning of noticeable increases in congestion. High operating speeds are still possible, but some traffic congestion occurs due to slowing and turning traffic. Level of C is still a desirable level of service.

Level of Service D

LOS-D represents high density, stable flow. The speed and freedom of movement is restricted and motorists feel some inconvenience and below average comfort. Delay is experienced up to 75% of the time. Small increases in traffic flow will cause operational problems at a LOS-D.

Level of Service E

LOS-E represents operating conditions near or at capacity level. All speeds are low but uniform. Freedom of maneuverability is severely limited, and is accomplished by forcing other vehicles to yield. Congestion and delay levels are high.

Level of Service F

LOS-F is a forced or breakdown of flow with unpredictable characteristics. This is the least desirable level of service.

Traffic Counts

The New Hampshire Department of Transportation conducts traffic counts at hundreds of locations around the State on a three-year cycle. In many cases, counts at a specific location may go back ten or more years, providing a sense of how traffic has changed over the years. For some time now, the CNHRPC has conducted a municipal traffic counting program. This program enables municipalities to request traffic counts at a few specific locations around a town. Between the counts collected by the NHDOT and the CNHRPC over the years, there exists a wealth of traffic count data for the Town of Boscawen.

Table VIII-11
Traffic Counts, 1992-2000

| Site Code | Road | Location | 1992 | 1993 | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 | 2000 |
|-----------|-----------------|-------------------------|-------|--------|-------|--------|-------|--------|-------|-------|-------|
| 049029 | Chandler St. | West of Park St. | | | | | 280 | | | | |
| 049500 | Corn Hill Rd. | At High St. | | | | | 1,073 | 1,074 | 1,039 | | |
| 049501 | Corn Hill Rd. | W. of Marlboro St. | | | | | | | 957 | | |
| 049033 | Corn Hill Rd. | Webster TL | 350 | | | | 330 | | | | |
| 049026 | East St. | West of US 4 (Spur Rd.) | 4,300 | 5,700 | | | 5,500 | | | | |
| 049031 | Goodhue Rd. | East of US 4 | 440 | | | | 480 | | 916 | | |
| 049504 | Jackson St. | At Tremont | | | | | 747 | 747 | | | |
| 049503 | Jackson St. | E. of North Main | | | | | 658 | 648 | | | |
| 049034 | Long Hill Rd. | Webster TL | | | | | 890 | | | | 475 |
| 049505 | Marlboro Rd. | S. of Corn Hill Rd. | | | | | | | 253 | | |
| 049506 | North Water St. | Off Water St. | | | | | | 164 | | | |
| 049509 | Queen St. | At North Main St | | | | | | | | | 681 |
| 049507 | Queen St. | Off King St. | | | | | | 587 | | | |
| 049024 | Queen St. | West of Park St. | | | | | 510 | | | | |
| 049508 | Raymond Rd. | Off High St. | | | | | | | 181 | | |
| 049022 | US 3 | N of US 4 | | 4,385 | 4,415 | 4,722 | 4,576 | 4,673 | 4,649 | 4,974 | 5,034 |
| 049030 | US 3 | North of Gage St. | | | | | 4,300 | | | 4,600 | |
| 049027 | US 3 & 4 | South of Queen St. | | 10,000 | | 11,000 | | 11,000 | | | |
| 049023 | US 4 | N. Of US 3 | | 5,479 | 5,560 | 5,939 | 5,983 | 5,926 | 5,992 | 6,067 | 6,287 |
| 049032 | US 4 | North of Tannery Brook | 2,800 | | 3,000 | 3,100 | | | 3,200 | | |
| 049001 | US 4 | South of North Main St. | 6,600 | | 4,900 | | | | 7,500 | | |

Source: both CNHRPC and NHDOT traffic counts

Regular monitoring of sites during peak months is critical in the planning process, as accurate projections are required for logical transportation and land use planning. Unfortunately, few multiple-year traffic counts for local roadways are available, thus trends for traffic on some roads could not be established.

Table VIII-12
Multi-Year Trends at Same Location

| Road | Location | Years | Total Change (%) | Annual Change (%) |
|----------|-------------------------|-------------|------------------|-------------------|
| US 4 | South of North Main St. | 1992 - 2001 | 28.0% | 3.1% |
| US 3 & 4 | South of Queen St. | 1993 - 2001 | 43.8% | 5.5% |
| US 4 | North of Tannery Brook | 1992 - 2001 | 33.9% | 3.8% |
| US 3 | N of US 4 | 1993 - 2000 | 14.8% | 2.1% |

Source: NHDOT and CNHRPC traffic counts

This data should be utilized to begin to identify corridors that may become threatened in the future by current development trends. In locations where traffic has increased significantly, land use trends and access management policies should be closely examined and modified to best maintain and promote an efficient transportation network.

Accident Analysis

One of the most useful and obvious methods of identifying where transportation improvements may be needed is to analyze the location, frequency, and type of accidents that occur at various locations in the community. For the period of 1995 to 2000, a total of 372 accidents occurred in Boscawen involving 591 vehicles.

Table VIII-13
Traffic Accidents, 1995-2000

| Road | Closest Major Location(s) | # of Accidents | Major Types of Accidents |
|------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| Corn Hill Rd | Knowlton/Woodbury | 14 | Lost control-slide off rd/large loads pulling utility lines |
| King St | Depot St | 16 | Rear ending |
| | Queen St | 10 | Rear ending, turning conflicts |
| | N. Main St | 8 | Rear ending |
| | Other Locations | 35 | Mixed |
| Queen St | N. Main/ Weir/ Marlboro | 8 | Lost control, Deer, Fallen Tree |
| River Rd | King St/ Commercial | 4 | Lost control |
| Tremont St | US 4/ Eel St | 10 | Rear ending, turning conflicts |
| Daniel Webster Highway | Goodhue Rd | 11 | Rear ending, turning conflicts, intersection |
| | Stirrup Iron Rd | 16 | Lost control, US 4 approach |
| | Other Locations | 39 | Lost control, Deer, Mixed |
| North Main St | Chandler St | 7 | Turning conflicts, Mixed |
| | King St | 8 | Lost control/ sliding, Rear ending |
| | Other Locations | 25 | Mixed |
| High St | Goodhue Rd | 15 | Lost control, Rear ending |
| | King St | 11 | Rear ending |
| | Merrill Corner Rd | 6 | Lost control, Deer |
| | Moss Hill Rd | 14 | Lost control |
| | Salisbury Line | 13 | Lost control |
| | Water St | 7 | Rear ending, Lost control |
| | Other Locations | 17 | Mixed, Lost control |
| US 4 / Hoit Rd | Harris Hill Rd | 9 | Mixed, Rear ending, Lost control |
| | Other Locations | 9 | Mixed |
| Water St | Chadwick Hill/ Other | 16 | Lost control, Rear ending, Mixed |

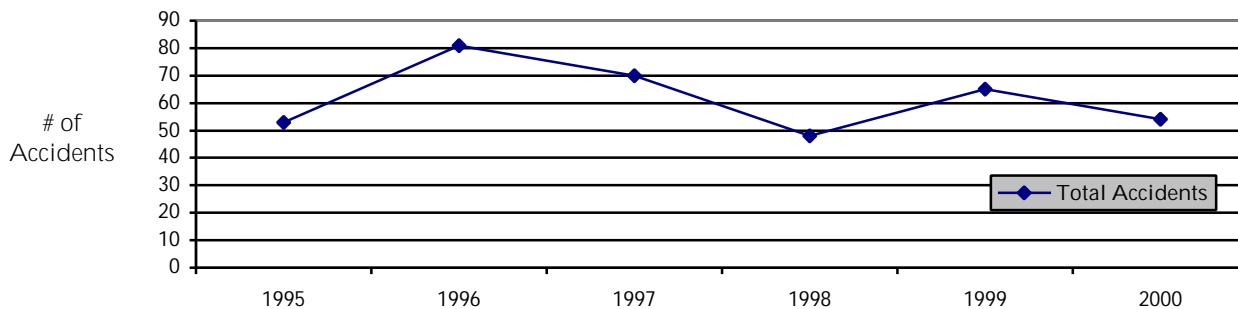
Source: Accident data - Boscawen Police reports processed by CNHRPC

Table VIII-14
Total Number of Accidents, 1995-2000

| | 1995 | 1996 | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 | 2000 |
|-----------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Total Accidents | 53 | 81 | 70 | 48 | 65 | 54 |

Source: Accident data - Boscawen Police reports processed by CNHRPC

Figure VIII-1
Total Number of Accidents, 1995-2000
Source: Accident data - Boscawen Police reports processed by CNHRPC



Accident Data and Analysis

Accident data serves as one tool in identifying potential hazardous intersections, however, it is only a piece of the overall picture. Local knowledge is of key interest to understanding why intersections work the way they do and why some are more dangerous than others.

Several survey respondents identified the Daniel Webster Highway as a potentially hazardous section of roadway. These responses are reinforced by accident data showing 66 accidents along the portion of the DW Highway in Boscawen from 1995-2000. The majority of these accidents were loss-of-control in nature and drivers avoiding deer. This is a fairly high-speed section of roadway with various grade changes and curves.

The area of US Route 4, Goodhue, and Raymond Roads was noted in 69 of 224 survey responses. This was the location of a fatal accident several years ago and is in the New Hampshire Ten-Year Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP) for intersection improvements. The project has, however, been delayed several years from the initial start date and is now scheduled for construction to begin in 2007.

King Street and several of the intersections along it were also identified in the survey responses. The majority of the 69 accidents along King Street are rear-end collisions and turning collisions, typical of many roadways with numerous left-hand turning movements.

The junction/split of US Routes 3 & 4 at the northerly portion of King Street is probably the most obvious potentially dangerous intersection in Boscawen and was noted in 89 out of 224 survey responses. This intersection handles a large amount of traffic throughout the day and is controlled by a yield sign which acts more as a merge sign. Vehicles traveling south on US Route 3 climb a hill while decelerating from 55mph down to 35mph as they approach the intersection. This combination of higher speeds and limited sight distance makes it particularly difficult for vehicles traveling south on US Route 4 to merge with traffic on US Route 3. The current situation also creates a hazardous movement for vehicles traveling north on the common section of US Routes 3 and 4 to split and continue on US Route 4 north.

Commuting Patterns

In Boscawen, as with many smaller communities in the region, most of the workforce (83%) commutes to other towns and cities for work. A large majority of those commuters travel to Concord and to other points south, traveling on US Routes 3 and 4 through Boscawen to Interstate 93 and to Penacook. Added to the traffic generated by the residents of Boscawen is commuter traffic from Salisbury, Andover, Franklin, and other communities to the north.

Table VIII-15
Commuting Patterns, 1990

| Commute To | Commute From | | | | | |
|--------------|--------------|-----------|---------|----------|---------|---------|
| | Boscawen | Salisbury | Andover | Franklin | Concord | Webster |
| Boscawen | 287 | 26 | 27 | 120 | 161 | 18 |
| Concord | 825 | 171 | 155 | 795 | 12,159 | 353 |
| Andover | 0 | 0 | 326 | 53 | 0 | 0 |
| Franklin | 57 | 51 | 135 | 1,464 | 0 | 21 |
| Salisbury | 0 | 57 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 93 |
| Hopkinton | 0 | 35 | 0 | 0 | 164 | 49 |
| Manchester | 126 | 29 | 17 | 107 | 1,747 | 39 |
| Bedford | 0 | 18 | 0 | 0 | 290 | 14 |
| Bow | 78 | 17 | 0 | 0 | 456 | 13 |
| Pembroke | 60 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 259 | 0 |
| Out of State | 7 | 4 | 5 | 47 | 477 | 32 |

Source: 1990 US Census

KING STREET CORRIDOR STUDY

As US Routes 3 and 4 travel through Boscawen, they are merged as King Street for a distance of approximately 1.3 miles. During the winter and spring of 2001, the Town and the Central NH Regional Planning Commission worked with a consultant, Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc., to develop the Boscawen US Routes 3 and 4 Corridor Study. The Study was made possible through a funding program created by the NH Department of Transportation.

King Street in Boscawen serves two basic purposes. This corridor is the major transportation route between I-93 and communities northwest of Boscawen, and it also serves as one of Boscawen's local "Main Streets". The Study examined the corridor from a traffic, development, historic, and aesthetic standpoint and made recommendations that would help strike a balance between the development and traffic demands and the desire to preserve King Street's character. The Boscawen US Routes 3 and 4 Corridor Study made a number of recommendations regarding traffic and pedestrian safety, image and aesthetics, land use, and linkages.

In the realm of traffic and safety, the Study made four recommendations involving pedestrians, signals, speed limits, and intersection storage capacity. The Study made recommendations to reduce the posted speed limit along King Street to 30mph and to establish clearly demarcated pedestrian crosswalks at intervals along the corridor. Currently, no pedestrian crosswalks exist along King Street. A minor recommendation was made to increase the lane storage at the southerly US 3 and US 4 junction to accommodate projected traffic increases. A final recommendation was made regarding improvements to the northerly US 3 and US 4 junction. The Study suggested realigning US 4 to a T-intersection with US 3, creating a stop sign or signal-controlled 90° intersection.

The Study made recommendations regarding land use along the corridor, particularly the creation of a Village Overlay District. A portion of this recommendation relates to using such a district and associated site plan guidelines to better manage access to King Street from adjacent properties.

Finally, two recommendations were made regarding linkages along King Street. The first involves the addition of a sidewalk along the westerly side of King Street, suggesting a phased installation beginning with the portion between Queen Street and Depot Street. The second recommendation is the development of a bikeway/pedestrian-way along the abandoned rail corridor to the east of King Street with linkages to King Street.

While King Street was the focus of the Corridor Study, many of the findings can be generalized and applied to other locations in Boscawen. Topics along the lines of traffic control, safety, pedestrian access, road improvements, and access management as well as historic preservation, landscaping, aesthetics, building design guidelines, and recreational opportunities were all discussed regarding King Street as part of the Corridor Study. However, they will also be related to the Town as a whole in this **TRANSPORTATION CHAPTER** and in other Master Plan Chapters.

ACCESS MANAGEMENT

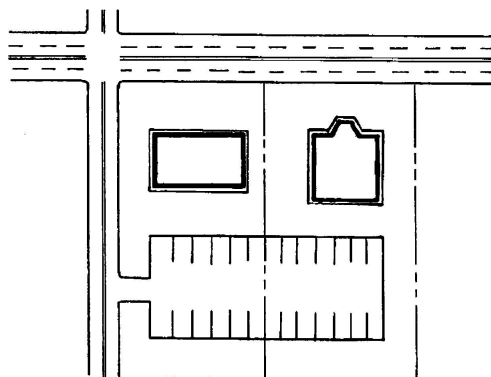
The goals of access management are to reduce congestion, increase safety, and implement coordinated land use and transportation plans. Often access management can be improved by focusing on smaller site improvements, like defined entryways and exits, shared driveways, and connections between adjacent subdivisions. These types of facilities are easiest to implement as part of a new development and are sometimes required by a municipality. Improvements to existing facilities can also greatly enhance the capacity and character of a roadway, but a more cooperative approach is required between the Town and the landowner to plan, fund, and complete the improvements.

Other opportunities exist to enhance access management by better coordinating planning efforts like a Master Plan, Zoning Ordinances, Subdivision Regulations, and impact fee ordinances. The Master Plan can set the stage for improvements by clearly identifying goals for the transportation network. Zoning Ordinances can further aid in the process by tailoring frontage requirements, lot sizes, signage and architectural standards, and possibly by identifying overlay districts. The Zoning Ordinance can also depart from the normal strip zoning along roadways and adopt a nodal approach. In the nodal approach, development is focused in denser areas along a roadway, with open space or less traffic-intensive development between nodes. Using Subdivision Regulations, a community can further improve access management by having provisions for shared driveways and connector roads between subdivisions.

Shared Access Points

All new site plans on heavily traveled roadways could have shared access points with abutting parcels. This will reduce the number of driveways (curb cuts) on major roadways, and improve traffic movement and safety conditions.

Figure VIII-2
Shared Access Points

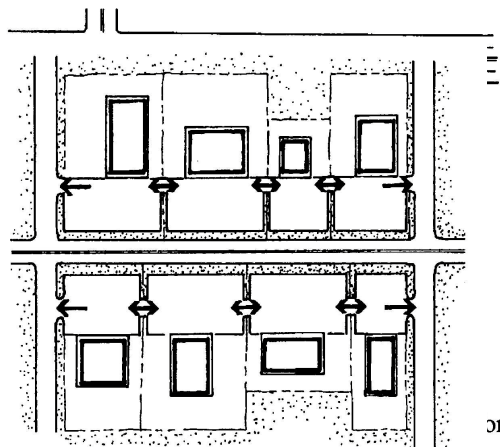


A single access point from a collector road for two adjacent businesses

Interconnected Sites

Developers could provide rights-of-way to connect commercial and multi-family sites, thus creating parallel access roads along major roadways. This will help to reduce congestion and slow the need to expand highway capacity.

Figure VIII-3
Interconnected Sites

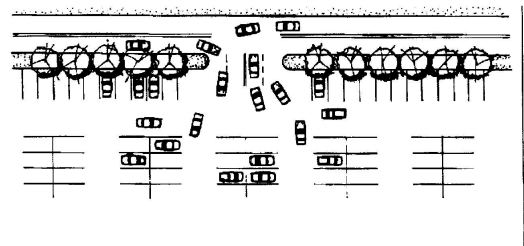


Interconnecting commercial sites

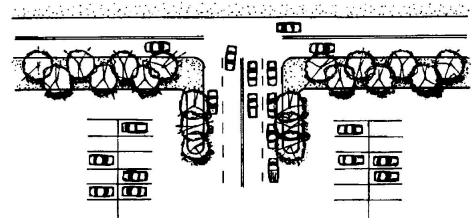
Minimum Driveway Throat Lengths

A minimum driveway throat length could be defined for commercial and large multi-family developments in order to help better define internal traffic movements at those sites.

Figure VIII-4
Minimum Driveway Throat Lengths



A short throat length can cause confusion and danger at the entrance to a site.

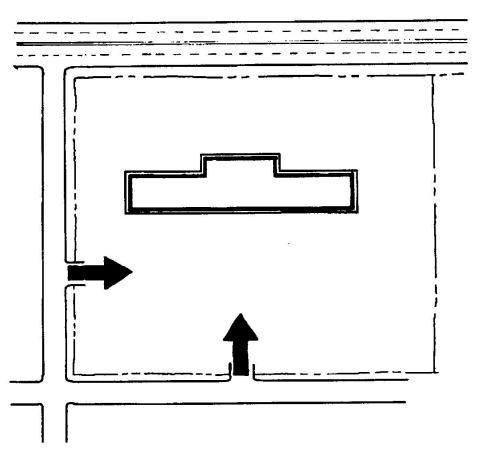


A appropriate throat length allows vehicles to enter and exit a site in an orderly and safe fashion.

Corner Lot Access Points

All corner lots fronting a major road could be accessed from the adjacent local or collector road, not the major roadway. Again, this will reduce congestion and improve safety

Figure VIII-5
Corner Lot Access Points

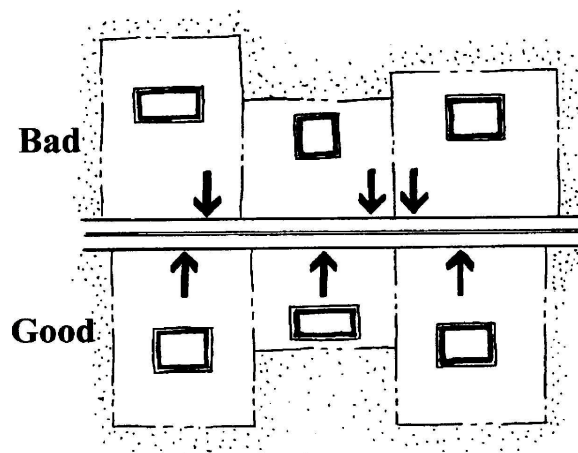


Access to a corner lot should be from a local or collector road instead of an arterial

Distance Between Driveways

A minimum distance between commercial and multi-family driveways on major roadways could be set in order to better streamline turning movements and improve safety.

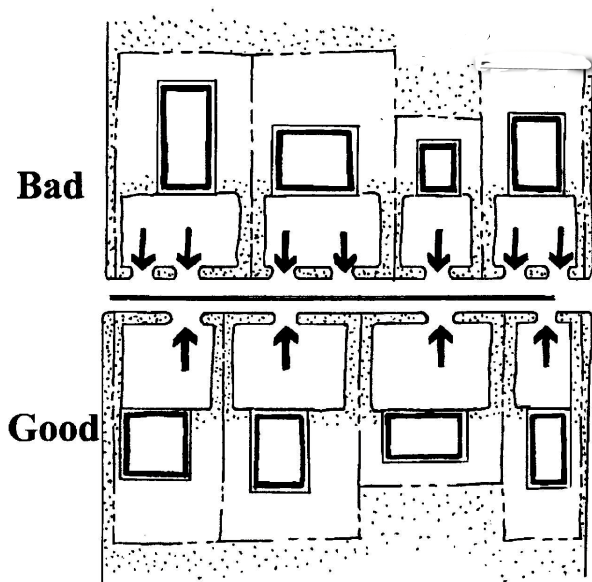
Figure VIII-6
Distance Between Driveways



Number of Driveways Per Lot

The Planning Board should limit the number of driveways for parcels fronting major collector or arterial roadways. Furthermore, continuous, undefined driveways should be prohibited, as such driveways often confuse drivers and contribute to accidents.

Figure VIII-7
Number of Driveways Per Lot



Sight Distances

For all access points, the Planning Board could require the following American Association of State Highway Transportation Officials (AASHTO) standards be applied:

Table VIII-16
Highway Standards

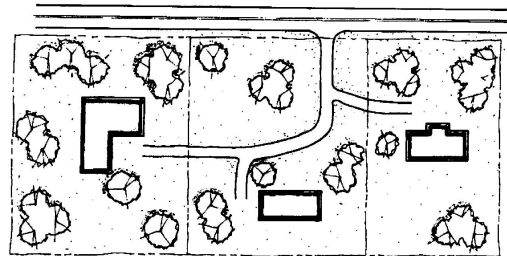
| Type of Road | Posted Speed Limit or Typical Speed of Traffic | Minimal Safe Sight Distance |
|---------------|------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Minor Roads | 30 mph or lower | 200 feet |
| Through Roads | 31 to 40 mph | 275 feet |
| Through Roads | 41 to 50 mph | 350 feet |
| Major Roads | 51 to 60 mph | 475 feet |

Source: American Association of State Highway Transportation Officials (AASHTO)

Shared Driveways

Shared driveways should be constructed for subdivisions on major roadways. This would improve traffic flow and safety conditions of the roadway. The Planning Board, when reviewing developments proposing shared driveways, should require all proper easement and maintenance agreements to be incorporated into the deed of each parcel.

Figure VIII-8
Shared Driveways

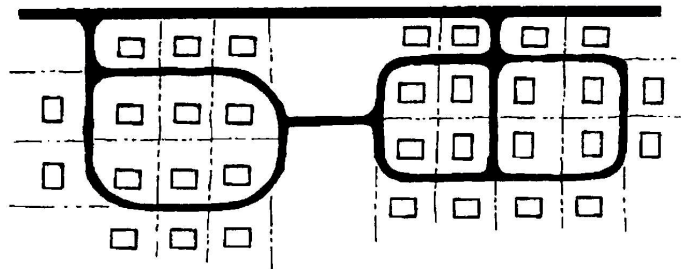


A single access point for three residences

Connect Adjacent Roadways

Developers could design subdivisions to connect with other public roadways in other subdivisions.

Figure VIII-9
Connect Adjacent Roadways



Interconnecting residential developments

Impact Fees

The Planning Board should consider using impact fees to mitigate the costs of right-of-way, drainage, paving, widening, traffic signaling, and other applicable roadway improvements to existing roadways in proportion to the size, scale, and impact of the proposed development and surrounding area.

BOSCAWEN'S TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM

Pedestrian Infrastructure

Pedestrian facilities, such as paved sidewalks and gravel walking paths, are critical features for roadways with high volumes of traffic or high speeds. The primary purpose of a sidewalk is to improve safety for pedestrians by separating them from the travel lanes of roadways. In addition to this, sidewalks can also serve as a source of recreation for residents, serve to beautify an area, or stimulate economic activity in rural and village settings.

Speed limits have been the usual method of improving pedestrian safety and other non-motorized modes of travel. In both rural and urban areas, the minimum speed limit a municipality can impose is 25 miles per hour. Limits can be made lower at intersections (RSA 265:63, (a)) and in school zones (265:60, II (a)). Crosswalks on local streets are a form of traffic regulation and therefore must be approved by the Board of Selectmen. Crosswalks located on State roads must be installed and approved by NHDOT, but are maintained by the Town.

Many communities in the United States are now exploring further means beyond sidewalks that place pedestrians and other non-motorized modes of travel on a more even level with motorized traffic. These measures, collectively called traffic calming, use the physical design of the roadway to prevent inappropriate automobile speeds. Most often they are used in residential or downtown areas where residents see the road as part of their neighborhood and a place where walking, recreation, and social interaction can safely coexist with motorized traffic.

Traffic calming suggests road design techniques using active or physical controls (lumps, barriers, curves, rumble strips, etc.) and passive controls such as signs and traffic regulations to reduce speeds. Traffic calming measures foster safer and quieter streets that are more hospitable to cyclists, pedestrians, and joggers. The potential benefits of traffic calming include reduced traffic speeds, reduced traffic volumes by discouraging "cut-through" traffic on residential streets, and often improved aesthetic quality of streets. An example of some traffic calming techniques include:

Speed Humps, Speed Tables, and Raised Crosswalks: All of these techniques involve raising the height of the pavement in a more subtle fashion than with a speed bump, allowing vehicles to pass over them at the intended speed of the road, but preventing excessive speeds and alerting drivers to the existence of non-motorized users.

Chicanes or Medians: These effectively narrow road width and slow down traffic by placing a physical impediment either in the middle of the road (median) or on the side of the road (chicane). These lend themselves to landscaping and improve the visual experience for all users of the road, as well as reducing speeds. Both techniques can provide additional safety for crossing pedestrians. Medians may serve as a refuge by allowing pedestrians to cross one lane of travel at a time, while chicanes provided at crosswalks (curb bulbs) reduce the overall distance from one side of the road to another and slow down traffic at those crossings.

Modern Roundabout:: Not to be confused with a traditional high-speed rotary or traffic circle, this is an intersection treatment that forces motorized traffic to slow down to speeds under 25 mph in order to negotiate a center island that can be landscaped. Such speeds allow pedestrians to safely cross around the perimeter of the roundabout and cyclists to safely become a part of the circulating traffic.

The *Pedestrian Infrastructure Map* shows Boscawen's existing crosswalks and sidewalks, recommended locations for crosswalks and sidewalks, and areas of Town that may benefit from traffic calming measures. A solid pedestrian infrastructure can greatly improve the quality of life within a community.

Existing Sidewalks

Boscawen has a number of existing sidewalks located throughout the southern half of Town. Below is a list of the existing sidewalks and their approximate locations:

- ? A fairly long sidewalk in decent condition exists along the entire easterly side of King Street;
- ? From the Canterbury Town Line on the southerly side of US Route 4 turning onto Harris Hill Road and shifting from the southerly side to the northerly side as Harris Hill Road becomes Tremont Street. These sections of sidewalk are in very good condition;
- ? A small sidewalk along the northerly side of Chandler Street in southern Boscawen;
- ? A lengthy stretch of sidewalk in reasonable condition exists along the easterly side of Main Street/US Route 3; and
- ? A smaller section of sidewalk, ranging from reasonable to very poor condition, exists along the westerly side of Main Street/US Route 3.

Proposed Future Sidewalks

Sidewalk construction is not an inexpensive endeavor, however; if carefully planned, the cost can be justified by potential far-reaching benefits to pedestrian safety and aesthetics. Boscawen already has an equally or more substantial sidewalk system than most communities of similar size in the area. There is of course, always room for improvement and in Boscawen there are some gaps in the existing pedestrian infrastructure. The *Pedestrian Infrastructure Map* illustrates the following proposed sidewalk expansions:

- ? Along the easterly side of Main Street/US Route 3, continuing from where the existing sidewalk ends to the intersection with US Route 4/King Street; and
- ? Connecting with the addition suggested above, along the easterly side from the southerly US Routes 3 and 4 junction continuing northerly to meet the existing sidewalk.

If these suggested sidewalks were to be completed, the centers of the historic central and southern Boscawen would be connected, not just with roads for vehicles, but with sidewalks for pedestrians. The continuation of the sidewalk along Main Street/US Route 3 would also provide the opportunity for children to walk and from school when and if the school property is made more pedestrian friendly and a "safe" crossing is established.

Crosswalks

Unlike sidewalks, crosswalks need not be expensive to create and when they are constructed properly and if the location was chosen with care, they can dramatically improve pedestrian safety. However, crosswalks do not stop vehicles and if they are striped without the utmost caution, they can be more hazardous to pedestrians and vehicles than not having designated crossing areas at all.

Boscawen, while having a fairly extensive system of sidewalks, has no existing crosswalks. Two areas of Town have a substantial amount of pedestrian traffic, Main Street near Penacook and King Street. In both cases there are multiple locations where pedestrians often cross without the benefit of a well-designed crosswalk. The *Pedestrian Infrastructure Map* shows the following locations of proposed crosswalks along King Street and Main Street:

- ? At the northerly end of King Street in the vicinity of the US Routes 3 and 4 junction;
- ? Along King Street near the intersection of Depot Street;
- ? Between Queen Street and Berle Drive along King Street;
- ? If the Town and School District wish to encourage children to walk to school, a crosswalk should be located adjacent to the school across Main Street; and
- ? Across Main Street north of the Concord City Line.

Any desire Boscawen might have for the addition of a crosswalk would need to be submitted for review to the NH Department of Transportation's Bureau of Traffic and as all of the proposed locations are along State roadways, they would be installed and maintained by the Department. The proposed crosswalks provide vital links between residential areas and the safety of sidewalks as well as to neighboring recreational and commercial attractions.

Bicycle Infrastructure

Planning for a bicycle network requires a different approach from that of motorized transportation planning. Bicyclists have different needs than those of motorists, including wider shoulders, more sensitive traffic control at intersections, and stricter access management. Often, roadways are designed solely with motor vehicles in mind and Boscawen is no exception to this. In some cases, consideration for bicycles may not actually be beneficial to all users. For example, wider shoulders might encourage higher vehicle travel speeds and may not be appropriate in a village or downtown setting.

There currently exists a Statewide and a Regional Bicycle Route System with components in Boscawen. The Statewide System was established to link commuting nodes throughout the State with one another; for example, connecting Concord to Hooksett to Manchester. In the most recent revision of the System (2000), the NH Department of Transportation departed from the previous versions and began utilizing local roads where appropriate as routes. The Regional System was designed to link community centers to each other and to the Statewide System; for example, connecting Salisbury to northern Boscawen to Webster. The overall system really serves two functions. The first is to guide bicyclists to use roadways that might be safer given speeds, traffic volumes, shoulder width, and the second is to provide a source for local officials to reference when improving a roadway so that perhaps extra attention can be paid to the shoulder width and quality. The locations of State and Regional bicycle routes in Boscawen are depicted on the *Bicycle Infrastructure Map*.

Boscawen could expound upon the Statewide and Regional bicycle systems and create a local route system utilizing existing paths and Class VI roads. With a fairly small investment, the Town could choose to sign a local bicycle recreational loop or a small commuting network to connect neighborhoods with the State and Regional systems. In a small community like Boscawen where most local roads experience low levels of traffic, bicycles can usually safely share the road with motorists and a signage plan could go a long way. Over time, some road improvements could be made along select curves, slopes, or blind drives, further improving bicycle safety. By creating a local bicycle infrastructure, members of the community have the ability to travel within Town for employment, shopping, and recreational purposes without driving.

Private Roads

Private roads are roads that have been constructed but, for various reasons, are not maintained by the Town or considered Town-owned roads. There is currently very limited Town adopted policy regarding private roads, their construction, maintenance, or the Town's acceptance of them. There have been cases in recent history where conditions on a private road in Boscawen were a concern to residents and officials. This can lead to a necessary costly investment by the community to assume control of a private road and reconstruct it to standards. Emergency services also have concerns about their ability and duty to respond to calls for assistance from residents on private roads.

The *Private Roads, Gravel Class V Roads, Scenic Roads, and Bridge Location Map* illustrates the locations and names of private roads known to be found in Boscawen.

Gravel and Scenic Roads

A major component of a Town's rural character can be its gravel and scenic roads. These roads help to retain a sense of history and rural quality that residents have indicated a strong desire to maintain within Boscawen.

In New Hampshire, communities have the ability to protect the character of specific scenic roads by enacting the provisions of RSA 231:157 at annual Town Meeting. Any Class IV, V, or VI highway can be designated a Scenic Road using the procedure in RSA 231:157. Ten people who are either Town voters, or who own land abutting the road (even though not voters) may petition. The voters of the Town may, at any annual or special Town Meeting, by vote designate the road as a Scenic Road. A municipality may rescind its designation of a scenic road using the same procedure.

The effect that Scenic Road designation has is to legally require a hearing, review and written permission by the Planning Board before the Town or a public utility, can remove (or agree to the removal of) stone walls or can cut and remove trees with a circumference of 15 inches, at 4 feet from the ground (basal height). However, the Planning Board requirement has many exceptions. For example, the Planning Board may be bypassed - and only Selectmen permission is needed - if the Highway Agent wishes to cut trees that have been declared a "nuisance" under RSA 231:145-146, or which, in the Road Agent's opinion, "pose an imminent threat." Moreover a public utility can cut the trees for the "prompt restoration of service" without the permission of any town representatives (RSA 231:158, II).

The Scenic Road law does not prohibit landowners from the cutting of trees or the removal of stone walls (RSA 231:158, IV). The only sure way to prevent owners or abutters from cutting trees is for the Town to acquire title to the highway strip, or by taking tree rights under the "Tree Warden" law (RSA 231:154). The law on stone walls as boundary markers (RSA 472:6) applies the same to landowners, whether or not the road is designated a Scenic Road.

In recognition of the fact that State law itself is not very stringent, the New Hampshire Legislature added RSA 231:158, V, in 1991 which gives a municipality broad power to impose scenic road regulations that are different from, or in addition to, those contained in the State law. These additional regulations could include giving protection to smaller trees or by inserting criteria for the Planning Board to use in deciding whether to grant permission. Though some critics of the law believe it to be too weak, RSA 231:157 remains one of the few techniques available for the preservation of culturally important and scenic roads.

The Town of Boscawen, although it contains many roads with scenic attributes that would be good candidates for Scenic Road designation, does not currently have any designated Scenic Roads.

The Town of Boscawen has a small mix of paved and gravel roads on which to travel, although to a lesser extent than many adjacent communities. Still, this diversity allows Boscawen to retain another link to its historic past while, to some extent, acknowledging growth and infrastructure needs. The preservation of gravel roads can help to ensure that the Town honors its history and original design. *Private Roads, Gravel Class V Roads, Scenic Roads, and Bridge Location Map* identifies gravel Class V roads in Boscawen of which there is only one, a small portion of North Water Street.

Class VI Roads and Trails

Class VI roads are roads that are not maintained by the Town, may be subject to gates and bars, and are almost always gravel or unimproved dirt. A Class V road can become a Class VI road if the Town has not maintained it for five years or more.

The Town of Boscawen does not expressly address Class VI roads differently from other classes of roadways, instead, identifying that "all streets within a subdivision shall be designed to provide safe vehicular travel. In the case of existing streets, this could require reconstruction or at least that the difference in width between that of the existing street and that of a typical cross-section outlined in the Subdivision Regulations be dedicated as right-of-way. All typical cross-sections include, at the minimum, a sixty-foot right-of-way and two eleven-foot paved lanes.

State Statute also addresses Class VI roads and any potential building along them in RSA 674:41. Under this RSA, section I(c), for any lot whose street access (frontage) is on a Class VI road, the issue of whether any building can be erected on that lot is left up to the "local governing body" (Town Selectmen) who may, after "review and comment" by the Planning Board, vote to authorize building along that particular Class VI road, or portion thereof. Without such a vote, all building is prohibited. Even if the Board of Selectmen does vote to authorize building, the law states that the municipality does not become responsible for road maintenance or for any damages resulting from the road's use. The purpose of RSA 674:41, I(c) is to prevent scattered and premature development.

In the spring of 2000 at Town Meeting, voters in Boscawen reclassified portions of a Class VI road in the southwestern area of Town and a portion of Marlborough Road as Class A and B Trails. This was a very successful first conversion of a Class VI Road to a trail in the Town of Boscawen.

Across the State, many communities are beginning to look at Class VI roads as candidates for designation as Class A Trails because they have little or no development associated with them, are scenic, have no inherent liability concerns, public access is already allowed, and also serve to connect large areas of open space, conservation, and/or agricultural lands. By reclassifying certain roadways that meet these criteria to Class A Trails, the community could be taking a step in creating a community-wide system of greenway trails. Unlike Class VI roads that the Town does not maintain, Towns, at their option, may conduct maintenance on Class A Trails.

It is important to stress that reclassification of Class VI roads to Class A Trails will not inhibit the access rights of landowners along the roadways. In the case of a Class A trail, landowners can continue to use the trail for vehicular access for forestry, agriculture, and access to existing buildings. However, under such classification, new building development as well as expansion, enlargement, or increased intensity of the use of any existing building or structure is prohibited by New Hampshire Statute. The Town and owners of properties abutting Class VI roads are not liable for damages or injuries sustained to the users of the road or trail.

Class VI roads are an important component of a Town's transportation infrastructure because they personify the community's rural character and provide vast recreational opportunities. The *Private Roads, Gravel Class V Roads, Scenic Roads, and Bridge Location Map* will provide information as to where current trails exist, where Class VI Roads are located, and which Class VI Roads may be good candidates for Class A Trail designation.

Railroad Corridor Opportunities

With the development of the interstate system, New Hampshire witnessed a dramatic decline in the number of viable and active railroad lines throughout the State. In recent years, however, there seems to be a renewed interest in redeveloping railroad lines for freight and tourism in the north and commuter rail in the south.

The Northern Line runs the entire length of Boscawen from Penacook to Franklin, adjacent to the Merrimack River on the eastern side of Town. It has recently been designated by the Federal Government as a high speed rail corridor, with potential to provide a rail link from Boston to Montreal. Any timeframe for such an endeavor is entirely unknown, although both Massachusetts and Vermont are eager to see such a line completed. There also exists the potential to revitalize the rail from Boscawen south for freight use, possibly serving some of Boscawen's industrial uses located near the track. Currently, a study is being planned to evaluate the reconstruction of this corridor and should begin sometime in 2002.

Until rail returns to the corridor, it can function as a recreational resource for the Town. The line is abandoned and owned by the NH Department of Transportation, but is managed by the Department of Resources and Economic Development's Bureau of Trails. Many other communities around the State have had tremendous success creating trails, paved, packed, or gravel, along abandoned rail corridors. In many of those cases, the corridors were not in such an opportune location as this corridor in Boscawen because of its proximity to King Street and the Merrimack River.

Parking and Public Transportation

Parking and public transportation are usually the two issues that most towns spend the least time planning, studying, or regularly setting aside money for, yet they are the very issues that most residents will identify as services in Town that need improvement.

In Boscawen, parking is not much of a concern at the moment; new businesses are required to provide adequate parking and most existing businesses seem to have enough. There have been examples in recent history where commercial parking issues have caused major safety concerns, but these have been, for the most part, resolved in a safe and reasonable manner.

Boscawen does still have some parking concerns involving community and recreational facilities. There is limited parking available for the Jamie Welch Memorial Field located off Depot Street and at the Church's Community Park near the northern US Routes 3 and 4 junction. Larger events held at the Town Hall and Fire Station sometime leave vehicles parked along US Route 4. Although only an annual event, Old Home Day draws a large number of visitors with their vehicles, often requiring some creative parking measures.

Another parking consideration might include reviewing the existing guidelines in the Boscawen Zoning Ordinance. For example, there is currently no separation of drive-through versus fast-food type establishments, requiring less parking, but drive-through queue considerations, from sit-down restaurants, usually requiring more parking. Also, in the case of restaurants, parking per seat or table as opposed to by square feet, as is currently outlined, might be more suitable.

Potential parking off of King Street and Main Street may also need to be considered differently. Some flexibility built into the regulations could allow the Planning Board and Zoning Board to work with a developer to tailor parking to fit the site in a suitable and aesthetic manner.

There is a Park and Ride lot located in Boscawen just north of the Merrimack River on US Route 4. This facility is very popular during the day, particularly during the warmer months as it also serves the historic Hannah Dustin Memorial. Plans are in the works to reevaluate the facility as part of the planned reconstruction of the US Route 4 bridge over the Merrimack River.

Public transportation is already an issue of concern and interest in Boscawen. Results from the Master Plan Survey show that 58% of respondents are interested in an extension of Concord Area Transit into Boscawen and 48% desire enhanced senior transit.

Currently, various paratransit services extend into Boscawen, but those services, for the most part, operate independently from one another and to request a service someone must know what agency to contact. There are efforts underway to help centralize and coordinate some of these operations with the overall goal of improving service in the County.

Due to the proximity of Boscawen to Concord, as extension of Concord Area Transit into Boscawen *is* a possibility. Currently the service extends into Penacook, fairly close to the southwestern portion of Boscawen. However, any extension of a fixed-route service is difficult because to be successful, they must operate on a rather tight schedule with minimal wait times. Concord Area Transit is no exception and is always working to improve the schedule and reduce or limit waiting times. There is the potential that Concord Area Transit might operate a smaller shuttle to outlying areas or work with paratransit providers to establish exchanges at fixed-route stops.

The ability for all residents to move freely around Boscawen and to adjacent municipalities encourages a greater sense of community as well as fostering economic development and vitality. Any lack of adequate and safe parking or the ability of all residents to get around Town, can inhibit economic growth and weaken the overall transportation infrastructure.

Bridge Network

Bridges are a vital component of the highway system, as they connect road segments across streams, lakes, rivers, and other roads. Bridges are the most expensive sections of roads and the lack of adequate bridges creates transportation bottlenecks. Currently, there are a total of 13 bridges in the Town of Boscawen.

The NH Department of Transportation maintains an inventory of all bridges in New Hampshire using Federal Sufficiency Ratings (FSR), a nationally accepted method for evaluating bridges. A FSR represents the relative overall effectiveness of a bridge as a modern day transportation facility. A FSR higher than 80 indicates that the bridge is in good condition overall. A bridge having an FSR between 50 and 80 is eligible for bridge rehabilitation funding from Federal sources. A bridge with an FSR less than 50 is eligible for either Federal bridge replacement or rehabilitation funding.

Functionally Obsolete (FO) refers to a bridge with substandard deck width, under clearance, approach roadway alignment or inadequate waterway. Structurally Deficient (SD) refers to a bridge with one or more deteriorated components whose condition is critical enough to reduce the safe load carrying capacity of the bridge.

Most of the bridges located in Boscawen, both owned by the Town and by the State, are in reasonably good condition. There are six bridges with an FSR below 80, three of which are also below 50. However, two of the bridges with an FSR below 50 are no longer in use, one being the span from Depot Street and the other the Railroad bridge that no longer spans the Merrimack near Hannah Dustin. The remaining bridge with a substandard FSR is the US Route 4 bridge over the Merrimack River between Boscawen and Canterbury. This bridge received some minor work in the 1999 and 2000 and is slated for rehabilitation and reconstruction in 2007, although that date may shift depending on funding constraints. The NH Department of Transportation is carefully watching this bridge. With a narrow and long span, fairly high levels of traffic, and a very low FSR, this bridge will be difficult to rehabilitate and could become a maintenance concern.

The Depot Street bridge in Boscawen represents a unique situation in Boscawen. Having fallen into disrepair, the bridge, once a link to Canterbury, is no longer useable. The Master Plan Survey asked two questions regarding this bridge: Would you support the reconstruction of the bridge for vehicular use? For recreational use? From the survey responses, 51% support the reconstruction for vehicular use and 55% support it for recreational use; 27% were against reconstruction for vehicular use and 22% for recreational, with the remaining responses being unsure or no opinion. The responses demonstrate fairly strong support for, at the very least, investigating further the reconstruction of the bridge for both vehicular and recreational uses. Certainly, further study would need to include traffic impacts, costs, and liability concerns as well as substantial discussion with the Town of Canterbury.

The Table VIII-17 below, as well as the *Private Roads, Gravel Class V Roads, Scenic Roads, and Bridge Location Map*, provides more detailed information on the thirteen bridges in Town.

Table VIII-17
Boscawen Bridges

| Location | Crossing | Owner | SD/FO | FSR |
|-------------------|--------------------|-------|-------|------|
| Corn Hill Rd | Pond Brook | Town | | 91.5 |
| Water St | Beaver Dam Brook | State | | 79.6 |
| US 4 | Tannery Brook | State | | 92.5 |
| Raymond Rd | Tannery Brook | Town | | 97.0 |
| US 4 | Tannery Brook | State | | 90.9 |
| US 4 | Tannery Brook | State | | 93.5 |
| US 3 | Tannery Brook | State | | 80.2 |
| Tremont St | Contoocook River | State | | 69.5 |
| Bypassed Historic | Merrimack River | Town | SD | 30.1 |
| US 3 | Stirrup Iron Brook | State | | 78.4 |
| US 4 | Commercial St./ RR | State | | 95.4 |
| Bypassed Historic | Merrimack River | Town | SD | 29.5 |
| US 4 | Merrimack River | State | SD | 14.8 |

Source: NHDOT 1996 Mini Bridge List

RECENT STATE AND LOCAL ROAD IMPROVEMENTS

State Improvements

The NH Department of Transportation and the State as a whole has adopted a long-range planning approach to the development and funding of transportation projects throughout the State. This process and resulting document is the statewide Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). A TIP is a comprehensive program that involves municipalities, regional planning commissions, the New Hampshire Department of Transportation, the Governor's Advisory Council on Intermodal Transportation (GACIT), the Governor and Legislature of New Hampshire, and the federal government.

The TIP process typically starts at the regional planning commission level, although it is beneficial if the process is first initiated at the municipal level. All regional planning commissions within New Hampshire prepare a TIP every two years based on input from local municipalities, NHDOT, and each planning commission's Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC). The NHDOT then takes the regional TIPs and incorporates the projects with the highest level of support into the 10-Year STIP, adding their own input and specific projects. From NHDOT, the Governor's Advisory Committee on Intermodal Transportation (GACIT), the Governor, and the Legislature review the 10-Year STIP. After final approval, the 10-Year STIP then becomes the transportation project guide for the upcoming years.

The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) reviews the 10-Year STIP and provides comments to NHDOT. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) review the first three years of the 10-Year STIP. Upon review of the document, these agencies verify that the projects meet all of the federal regulations and approve them for implementation.

Table VIII-18
Boscawen Projects in the STIP

| Year | Project | Cost |
|-----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| 2002-2007 | US 4 - Reconstruct the intersection with Goodhue and Raymond Roads | \$0.575 million |
| 2001-2004 | US 4 - Over Merrimack River, Bridge widening and rehabilitation | \$5.140 million |

Source: STIP, 12/28/95; STIP, 1/2000

Local Improvements

Boscawen's Public Works Department maintains and improves the local roads around Town. There is not a formal timetable of improvements with outlined budgets, but instead the Road Agent assesses needed improvements on a priority basis. This arrangement has both positive and negative aspects. On the positive side, the Road Agent can more easily attend to urgent needs than if the improvements had been scheduled out and budgets had been approved. One potential negative aspect is that the funding for these necessary improvements could vary from year to year, making it difficult to plan even a few months in advance, though fortunately the budget has been rather stable. Taking into considerations these and additional pros and cons, the Town should review the current system of road maintenance and road improvements to ensure that it is as efficient and reliable as it can be. The Community Survey results demonstrate that a large majority of respondents are pleased with the current condition of roads in Boscawen, perhaps indicating that the current system is working rather well.

In the recent past the Public Works Department has made improvements to many of the local side streets in southern Boscawen, all of Queen Street, and has nearly completed improvements on Corn Hill Road. Planned upcoming projects include major improvements to North Water Street, likely taking four to five years to complete and an imminent need to repair and reclaim River Road.

TRANSPORTATION FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Transportation includes bicycle lanes, bridges, trails, as well as roads and is a very important part of a community. The creation, maintenance, and improvement of these systems are necessary for Boscawen to meet the needs of its residents and to provide a reliable transportation network. The following programs and options should be reviewed by the Town as potential opportunities to meet the transportation goals set out in this Chapter of the Master Plan.

Federal Programs and Resources

Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21)

Enacted in June of 1998, this multi-billion dollar federal legislation authorizes the Federal Surface Transportation Programs for highways, highway safety, and transit for a six-year period (1998-2003). Essentially, this act served to reauthorize and expand ISTEA, which expired in 1997. TEA-21 is the parent legislation that funds a variety of transportation programs including the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Improvement Program and the Transportation Enhancement (TE) Program.

Transportation Enhancement Funds (TE)

The Transportation Enhancements Program (TE) is another viable source for improving roads in communities. Funding for the TE program is slightly more than \$3 million dollars in the State annually. These funds are provided in an 80/20 match, with the State paying for the majority of the project cost. Typical examples of projects eligible for TE funds include:

- ? Facilities for bicyclists and pedestrians;
- ? Safety and education activities for bicyclists and pedestrians;
- ? Acquisition of scenic easements and scenic or historic sites;
- ? Scenic or historic highway programs;
- ? Rehabilitation and operation of historic transportation buildings, structures, and facilities;
- ? Preservation of abandoned railway corridors; and
- ? Establishment of transportation museums.

Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Funds (CMAQ)

The Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality program (CMAQ) is another viable source for improving roads in communities. Funding for the CMAQ program is in the vicinity of \$10 million dollars in NH biennially. These funds are also provided in an 80/20 match, with the State paying for the majority of the project cost. Projects applying for CMAQ funds must demonstrate a benefit to air quality and often include sidewalk, transit, and rail projects.

Federal Aid Bridge Replacement Funds

These funds are available for the replacement or rehabilitation of Town-owned bridges over 20 feet in length. Matching funds are required and applications for funding are processed through the NHDOT's Municipal Highways Engineer.

State Funding Sources

Highway Block Grants

Annually, the State apportions funds to all cities and towns for the construction and maintenance of Class IV and V roadways. Apportionment "A" funds comprise not less than 12% of the State Highway budget and are allocated based upon one-half the total road mileage and one-half the total population as the municipality bears to the state total. Apportionment "B" funds are allocated in the sum of \$117 per mile of Class V road in the community. Block grant payment schedules are as follows: 30% in July, 30% in October, 20% in January, and 20% in April. Any unused funds may be carried over to the next fiscal year.

State Bridge Aid

This program helps to supplement the cost to communities of bridge construction on Class II and V roads in the State. Funds are allocated by NHDOT in the order in which applications for assistance are received. The amount of aid a community may receive is based upon equalized assessed valuation and varies from two-thirds to seven-eighths of the total cost of the project.

Town Bridge Aid

Like the State Bridge Aid program, this program also helps communities construct or reconstruct bridges on Class V roads. The amount of aid is also based upon equalized assessed valuation and ranges from one-half to seven-eighths of the total cost of the project. All bridges constructed with these funds must be designed to support a load of at least 15 tons. As mandated by State Law, all bridges constructed with these funds on Class II roads must be maintained by the State, while all bridges constructed on Class V roads must be maintained by the Town. Any community that fails to maintain bridges installed under this program shall be forced to pay the entire cost of maintenance plus 10% to the State Treasurer.

Local Sources of Transportation Improvement Funds

Local Option Fee for Transportation Improvements

New Hampshire RSA 261:153 VI (a) grants municipalities the ability to institute a surcharge on all motor vehicle registrations for the purpose of funding the construction or reconstruction of roads, bridges, public parking areas, sidewalks, and bicycle paths. Funds generated under this law may also be used as matching funds for state projects. The maximum amount of the surcharge permitted by law is \$5, with \$.50 allowed to be reserved for administering the program.

Impact Fees

Authorized by RSA 674:21, communities can adopt an impact fee ordinance to offset the costs of expanding services and facilities that must be absorbed when a new home or commercial unit is constructed in Town. Unlike exactions, impact fees are uniform fees administered by the building inspector and are collected for general impacts of the development, as opposed to exactions that are administered by the Planning Board and are collected for specific impacts unique to new site plans or subdivisions on Town roads. The amount of an impact fee is developed through a series of calculations. Impact fees are charged to new homes or commercial structures at the time a building permit is issued. When considering implementing an impact fee ordinance, it is important to understand that the impact fee system is adopted by amending the Zoning Ordinance. The law also requires that communities adopting impact fees must have a current Capital Improvements Program (CIP). Lastly, State law also stipulates that all impact fees collect by a community must be used within 6 years from the date they were collected, or else they must be refunded to the current property owners of the structure for which the fee was initially collected.

Capital Reserve Funds

This is a popular method to set money aside for future road improvements. RSA 35 V mandates that such accounts must be created by a warrant article at Town Meeting. The same warrant article should also stipulate how much money will be appropriated to open the fund, as well as identify which Town entity will be the agent to expend the funds. Once established, communities typically appropriate more funds annually to replenish the fund or to be saved and thus earn interest that will be put towards large projects or expenditures in the future.

SUMMARY

The overall goal of this chapter is to maintain a transportation network that is efficient and safe for all potential modes of travel while enhancing the rural and historic character that is Boscawen's heritage. Bearing in mind the commitment to the preservation of the rural and open space aesthetic character of Boscawen and the disruption to the quality of life that comes from vehicular congestion, this Chapter supports the principle that maximizes incentives for the use of alternative transportation modes and routes. This commitment takes form in the support for traffic calming, slower speeds, preservation of the character of roads with scenic attributes, development of bicycle and pedestrian facilities, proper consideration of road networks as part of neighborhoods, and pedestrian paths and passageways. Careful and thoughtful movement in Boscawen in all of these directions would result in the improvement of the transportation infrastructure and the protection and preservation of the open space and rural aesthetic character valued by the community, all without adversely impacting individual landowner rights.

This Transportation Chapter is not complete by itself; instead, it is a piece of a larger puzzle. The Master Plan is a vision for Boscawen, an opportunity for the community to articulate what they, the residents of Boscawen, want for the coming years. The effort of this Transportation Chapter is to identify what the residents of Boscawen want regarding mobility and safety, although everything in this Chapter needs to be considered as part of the entire 2001-2002 Master Plan for the desires of the community to be wholly recognized.

Town of Boscawen

2001-2002 Master Plan

Utilities Map

Map 11

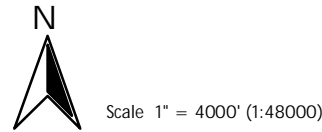
Legend

- Utility Lines
- Gas Lines
- Water Lines
- Water and Sewer Lines
- Water Precinct District
- Water Storage Tank
- Telecommunications Tower
- Cable Hub
- Cable Service Area

Base Legend

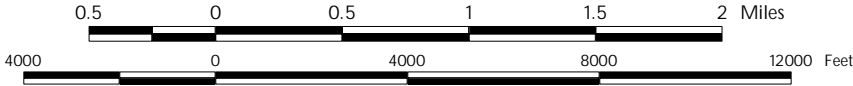
- Political Boundary
- Class I & II Secondary State Highways
- Class V Town Maintained Roads
- Class VI Town Unmaintained Roads
- Other Roads (Private, Future, Discontinued, etc)
- Rivers and Streams
- Intermittent Streams
- Water Bodies

This map was produced by the
Central New Hampshire Regional Planning Commission
for the Boscawen Master Plan, February 2002.



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USGS quadrangles through NH GRANIT (1:24000);
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Corrections to existing layers by the Town of Boscawen and CNHRPC.



Town of Boscawen

2001-2002 Master Plan

Private Roads, Gravel Class V Roads, Scenic Roads, and Bridges Location Map

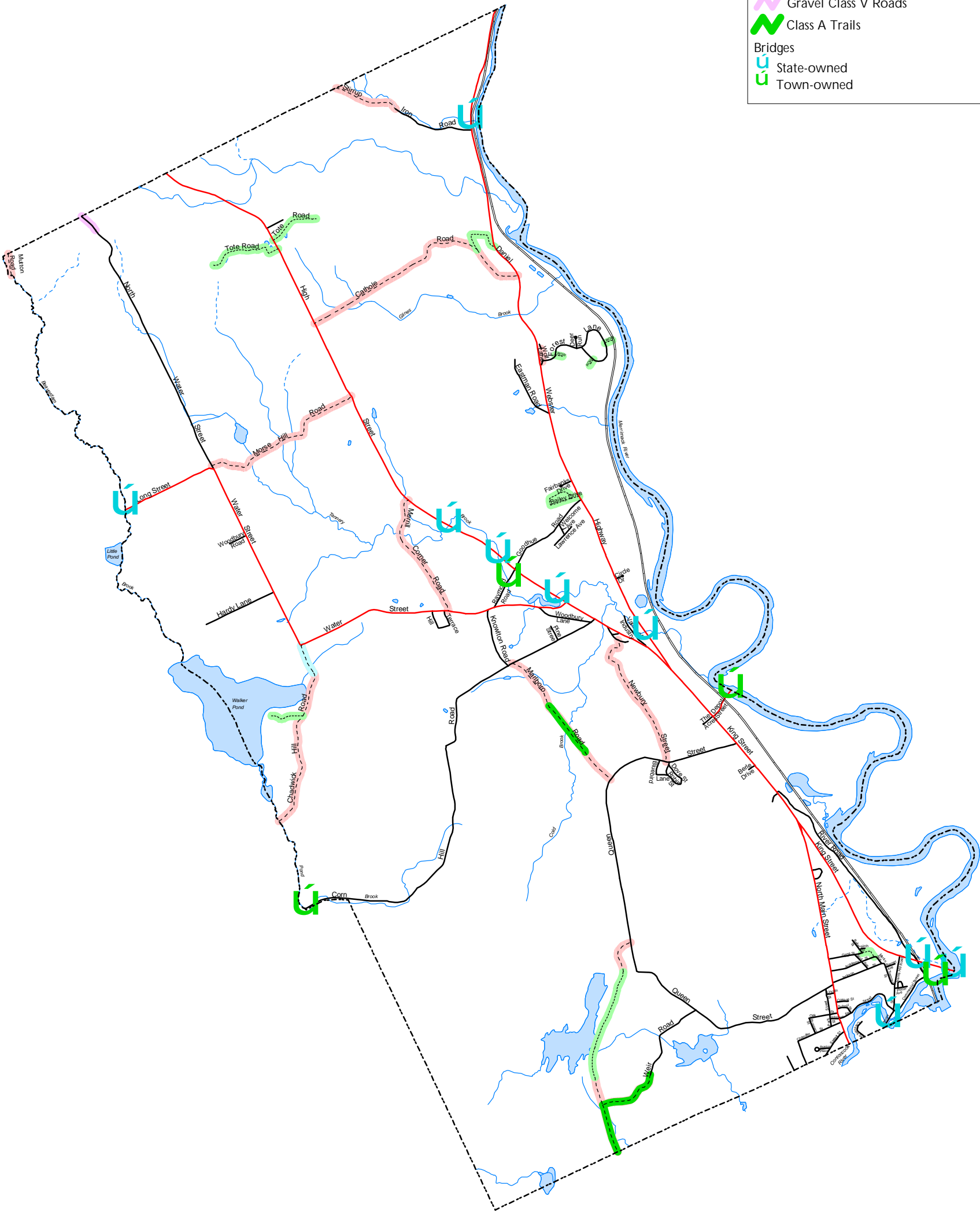
Map 12

Legend

- Private Roads
- Paved Class VI Roads
- Class VI Roads
- Gravel Class V Roads
- Class A Trails

Bridges

- State-owned
- Town-owned



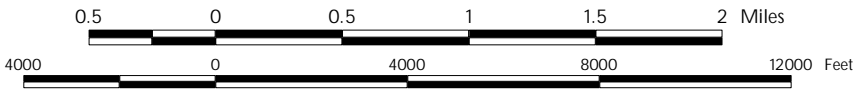
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Base Legend

- Political Boundary
- Class I & II Secondary State Highways
- Class V Town Maintained Roads
- Class VI Town Unmaintained Roads
- Other Roads (Private, Future, Discontinued, etc)
- Railroad Bed
- Rivers and Streams
- Intermittent Streams
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Town of Boscawen

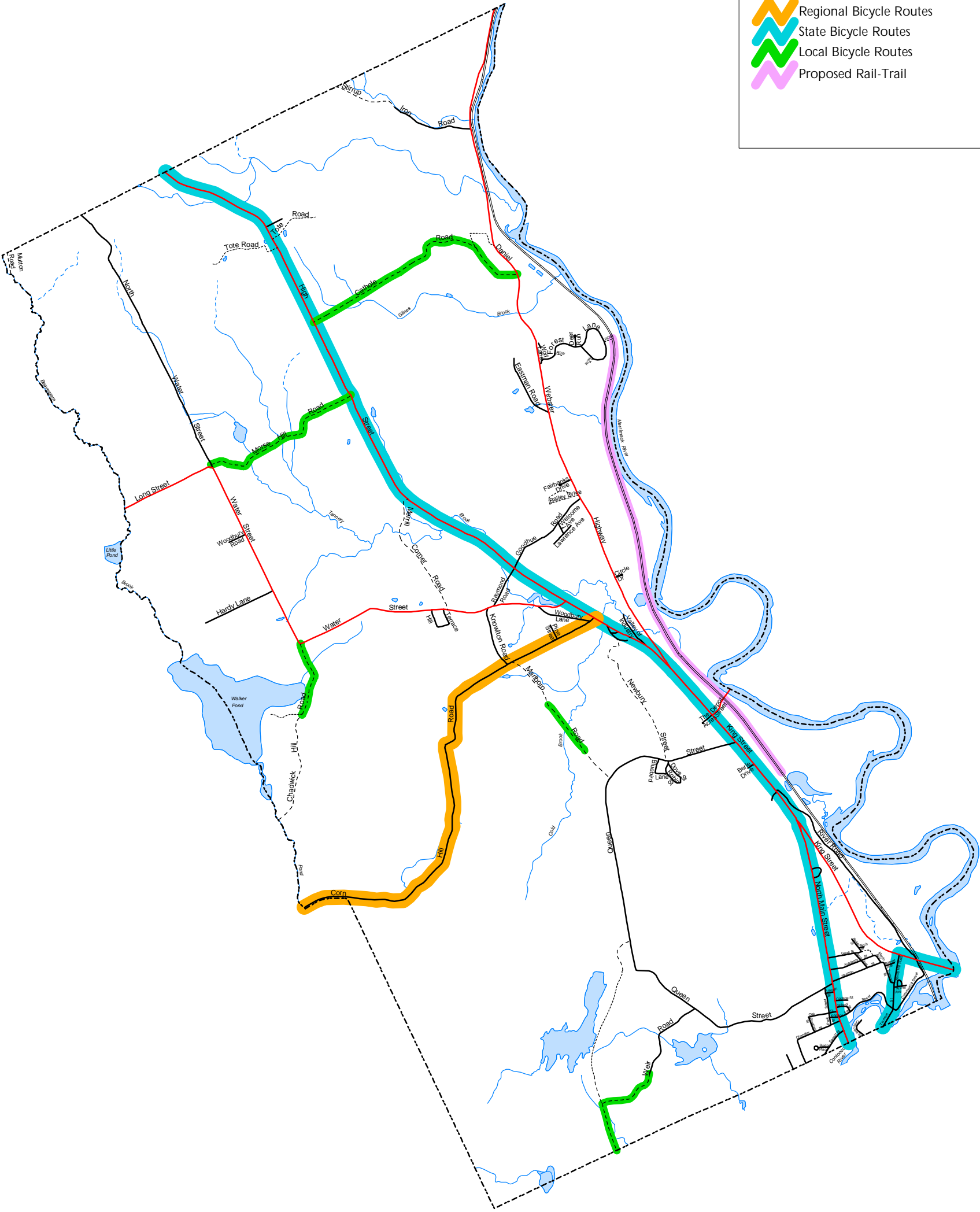
2001-2002 Master Plan

Bicycle Infrastructure Map

Map 13

Legend

- Regional Bicycle Routes
- State Bicycle Routes
- Local Bicycle Routes
- Proposed Rail-Trail



Scale 1" = 4000' (1:48000)

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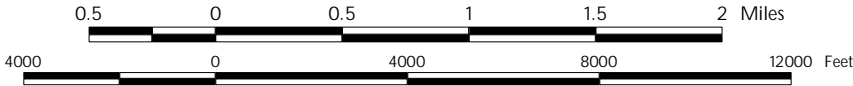
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- Political Boundary
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Town of Boscawen

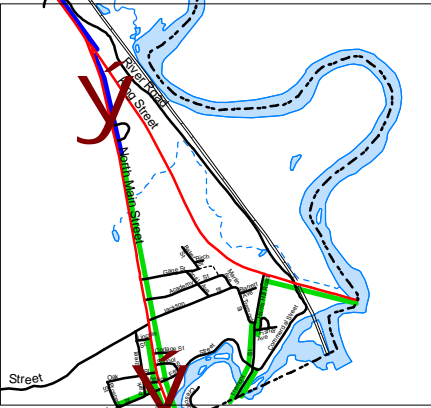
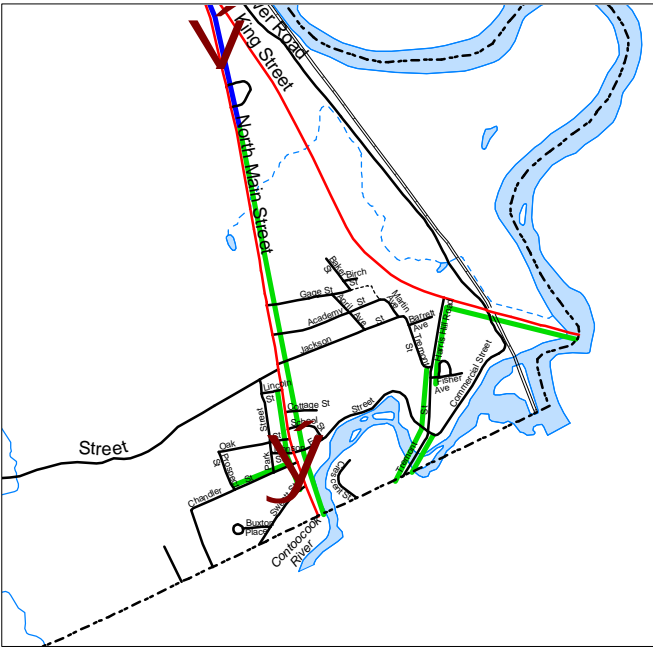
2001-2002 Master Plan

Pedestrian Infrastructure Map

Map 14

Legend

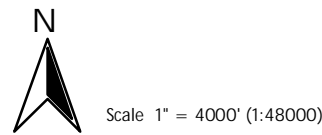
- Railroad Bed
- Potential Rail-Trail
- Class A Trails
- Proposed Shoulder Improvements
- Existing Sidewalk
- Proposed Sidewalk
- Proposed Crosswalk



Base Legend

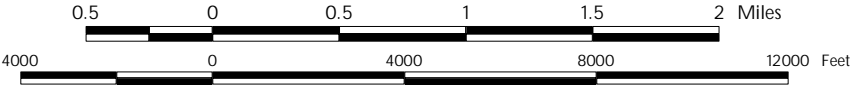
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Service (1:24000); and CNHRPC (1:24000).
Corrections to existing layers by the Town of Boscawen and CNHRPC.






Town of Boscawen

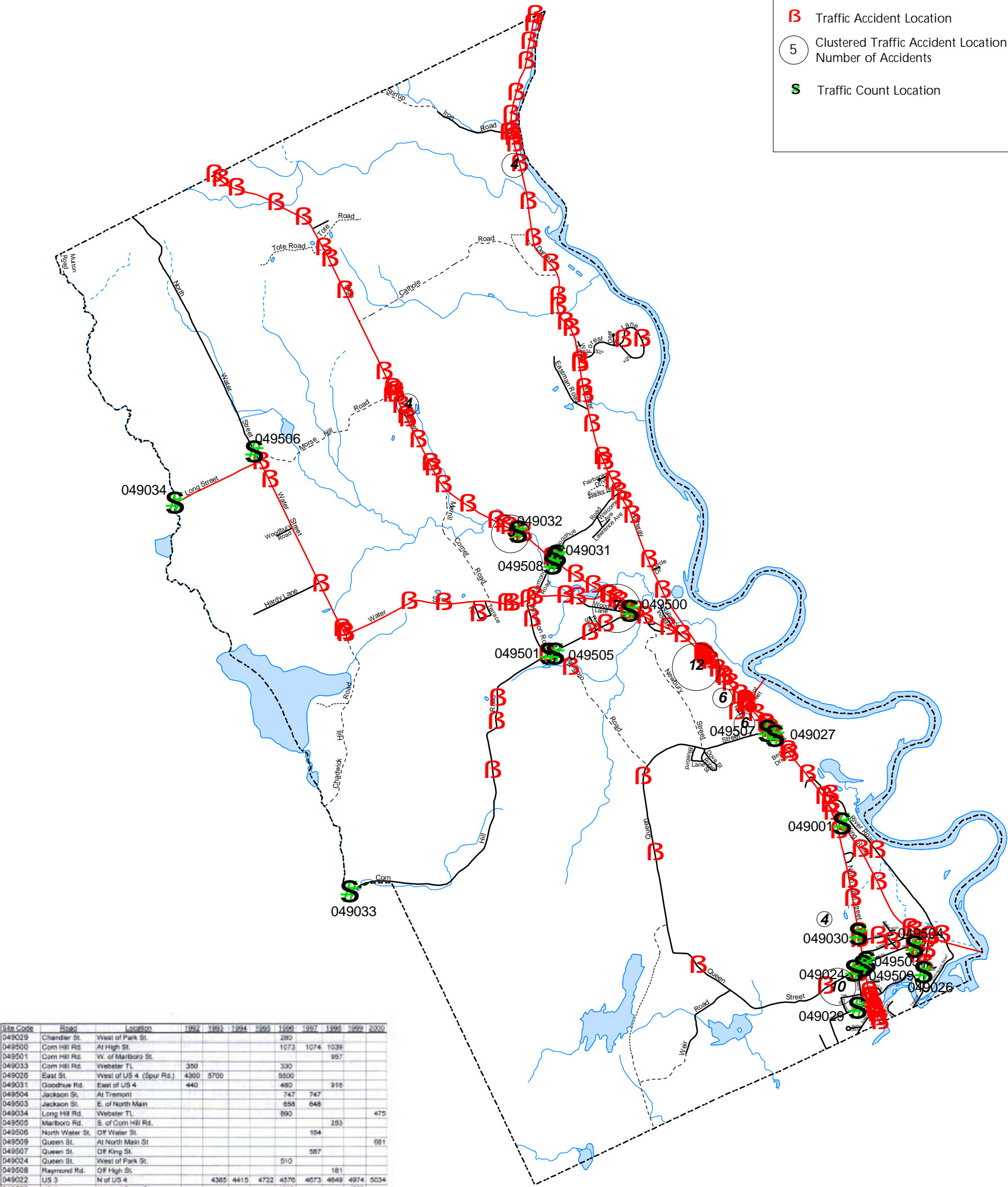
2001-2002 Master Plan

Accident Locations and Traffic Count Locations Map

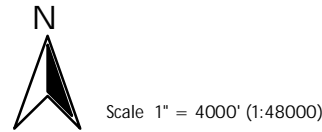
Map 15

Legend

-  Traffic Accident Location
-  Clustered Traffic Accident Location with Number of Accidents
-  Traffic Count Location











| Site Code | Road | Location | 1992 | 1993 | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 | 2000 |
|-----------|-----------------|-------------------------|------|-------|------|-------|------|-------|------|------|------|
| 049029 | Chandler St. | West of Park St. | | | | | 280 | | | | |
| 049500 | Com Hill Rd. | At High St. | | | | | 1073 | 1074 | 1038 | | |
| 049501 | Com Hill Rd. | W. of Marlboro St. | | | | | | | 957 | | |
| 049033 | Com Hill Rd. | Webster TL | 350 | | | | 330 | | | | |
| 049026 | East St. | West of US 4 (Spur Rd.) | 4300 | 5700 | | | 5500 | | | | |
| 049031 | Goodhue Rd. | East of US 4 | 440 | | | | 480 | | 918 | | |
| 049504 | Jackson St. | At Tremont | | | | | 747 | 747 | | | |
| 049503 | Jackson St. | E. of North Main | | | | | 658 | 648 | | | |
| 049034 | Long Hill Rd. | Webster TL | | | | | 890 | | | 475 | |
| 049505 | Marlboro Rd. | S. of Com Hill Rd. | | | | | | 253 | | | |
| 049506 | North Water St. | Off Water St. | | | | | | 154 | | | |
| 049509 | Queen St. | At North Main St | | | | | | | | 681 | |
| 049507 | Queen St. | Off King St. | | | | | | 587 | | | |
| 049024 | Queen St. | West of Park St. | | | | | 510 | | | | |
| 049508 | Raymond Rd. | Off High St. | | | | | | | 181 | | |
| 049022 | US 3 | N of US 4 | | 4305 | 4415 | 4722 | 4576 | 4673 | 4648 | 4974 | 5034 |
| 049030 | US 3 | North of Gage St. | | | | | 4300 | | | 4600 | |
| 049027 | US 3 & 4 | South of Queen St. | | 10000 | | 11000 | | 11000 | | | |
| 049023 | US 4 | N. of US 3 | | 5479 | 5590 | 5999 | 5983 | 5926 | 5992 | 6067 | 6287 |
| 049032 | US 4 | North of Tannery Brook | 2800 | | 3000 | 3100 | | | 3200 | | |
| 049001 | US 4 | South of North Main St. | 9600 | | 4800 | | | | 7500 | | |



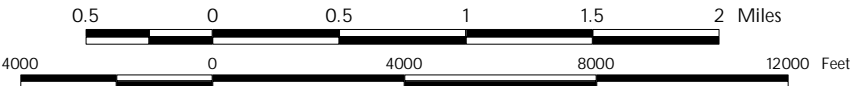
DISCLAIMER:
This map series is intended for use with the Boscawen Master Plan. The information presented is to be used for planning purposes and may not fully represent actual geographic conditions. Inaccuracies should be directed to the Town of Boscawen or to the Central NH Regional Planning Commission.

Data Sources for the Boscawen Master Plan Map Series:
USGS quadrangles through NH GRANIT (1:24000);
Society for the Protection of NH Forests (1:24000); US Fish and Wildlife (1:24000); Natural Resources Conservation Service (1:24000); and CNHRPC (1:24000).
Corrections to existing layers by the Town of Boscawen and CNHRPC.

Base Legend

-  Political Boundary
-  Class I & II Secondary State Highways
-  Class V Town Maintained Roads
-  Class VI Town Unmaintained Roads
-  Other Roads (Private, Future, Discontinued, etc)
-  Rivers and Streams
-  Intermittent Streams
-  Water Bodies

This map was produced by the
Central New Hampshire Regional Planning Commission
for the Boscawen Master Plan, February 2002.



EXISTING AND FUTURE LAND USE

Chapter IX



Highway View Farm, River Road



Class VI Cathole Road



Merrimack River looking toward Boat Launch



Merrimack County Farm

Chapter IX EXISTING AND FUTURE LAND USE

“The future of Boscawen lies in the respect for the traditional land uses that built the Town. We are stewards of what has gone before and what will be passed on to those after us.”

- Existing and Future Land Use Subcommittee

INTRODUCTION

Increased population growth, evolving housing needs, as well as changing social and economic trends discussed throughout the Master Plan have had a direct impact on the landscape of the community. Because land is a finite resource, thoughtful use of land is a critical issue for all communities. How Boscawen utilizes its land has a direct impact on aesthetics, community character, transportation infrastructure, housing affordability, as well as the tax base.

The purpose of this Chapter is to identify and explore land use trends in Boscawen, discuss how regulations impact such trends, as well as offer recommendations as to what regulatory steps should be taken in the future to meet the growing housing and economic needs of the community.

The Community Visioning session held in April 2001 found that issues of importance include the conflict of industrial-zoned land on the floodplain and prime agricultural land; the need for an industrial park; designation of wetlands for protection; and ensuring that a high percentage of lands remain in active agricultural and forestry use. The Community Survey Results discussed later in the Chapter also offer important citizen opinions to guide the objectives and recommendations of the **EXISTING AND FUTURE LAND USE CHAPTER**.

Over the years, Boscawen has undertaken several land use initiatives with the purpose of maintaining and preserving Boscawen’s historical and scenic atmosphere. The Town formed an open space committee in the early 1990s to pursue a Land Conservation Investment Program (LCIP) grant to preserve some of Boscawen’s open spaces. The Town is currently examining the feasibility of applying for a Land and Community Heritage Investment Program (LCHIP) grant to protect land adjacent to the Hannah Dustin Memorial area. In addition, 100 percent (with no cap) of the Town’s land use change tax is put into a land acquisition fund for the Conservation Commission to be used to purchase lands that will be permanently protected from development. In addition, the Upper Merrimack River Local Advisory Committee (UMRLAC) has worked with Local Advisory Committees for other rivers in the area to increase shoreline protection of the Merrimack and Contoocook Rivers. The Boscawen Conservation Commission and Board of Selectmen have committed to protecting shoreline in Boscawen.

Recently, the completion of the US Routes 3 and 4 King Street Corridor Study helped tie transportation needs in with existing land uses along King Street by suggesting a number of measures that can be undertaken to improve the conditions.

OBJECTIVES OF THE CHAPTER AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- To identify and evaluate the past, present, and future uses of the land in Boscawen.
 - ? Create a baseline methodology and monitor ongoing land use changes.
 - ? Track trends in land use.
- To review community opinion regarding the existing regulations and ordinances on the use of the land in Boscawen.
 - ? Provide a forum for community input via meetings or surveys.
 - ? Undertake a comprehensive review of the current zoning districts in Town.
 - ? Encourage the Planning Board to annually review the regulations and ordinances.
 - ? Establish Building Codes and a method for enforcing them.
- To ensure harmonious and aesthetically pleasing development of the Town, including landscaping, to provide a rural atmosphere.
 - ? Encourage regulatory bodies to enact landscaping standards and green spaces.
 - ? Explore traffic calming measures such as sidewalks and green spaces.
 - ? Review other Towns' standards for enacting such measures.
 - ? Enact commercial and industrial design guidelines to ensure new development is consistent with the rural character of the Town.
- To encourage agriculture and forestry as viable land uses to preserve the character of the community.
 - ? Enact agriculture and forestry incentives including those for developers to maintain working lands.
 - ? Examine the current State agricultural protection measures and enact them in Town.
 - ? Examine the current State forestry protection measures and enact them in Town.

- To promote subdivision and development of land which would be beneficial to the health, safety, welfare, and prosperity of the community and to ensure the integrity of its natural resources.
 - ? Ensure that development plans provide for the water supply, satisfactory drainage, adequate transportation, or other public services that would not require excessive expenditure of public funds to provide such services.
 - ? Commission a Cost of Community Services Study to compare the impact of future development versus open space on community facilities.
 - ? Consider Town funding of the purchase of development rights with willing landowners.
 - ? Require that all site plans have an engineered and well-designed plan for handling surface water runoff as not to damage or endanger brooks, streams, rivers, or ground water.
 - ? Require that new subdivisions not disrupt existing drainage along road rights-of-way.
- To assure the monitoring and enforcement of gravel pit permitting and reclamation of all operations.
 - ? Develop a system of collaboration among the Planning Board, Conservation Commission, Zoning Board of Adjustment, and Board of Selectmen to monitor and enforce gravel operations.
 - ? Encourage the Board of Selectmen to develop policies, monitor the repermitting of gravel excavation and reclamation activities, and collect fines through RSA 155:E.
- To examine the feasibility of establishing a commercial/industrial park to centralize or expand those land uses.
 - ? Review the existing zones for compatibility of uses and availability of expansion.
 - ? Conduct an inventory of existing industrial uses with respect to supporting infrastructure.
 - ? Investigate the need for and potential locations for an industrial park.

- To examine the locations of potential future residential and commercial growth and predict their effects on the community.
 - ? Make a provision for a buildout analysis based on development constraints.
 - ? Produce more public infrastructure as necessary to meet demands.
 - ? Follow the sequence of adopting this Master Plan and producing a Capital Improvements Program to establish impact fees and determine the need for growth management.
- To encourage the use of open space development to preserve open space and retain the town's rural character.
 - ? Revise the Town's Cluster Development Ordinance to reflect current open space development practices, such as is identified in this Chapter, to get the maximum benefit for the Town and its natural features.
 - ? Revise the Cluster Development Ordinance to be restricted from the Agricultural/Residential zoning district.

COMMUNITY SURVEY RESULTS

Tables IX-1 through IX-8 ask a number of questions related to the use of land in Boscawen. An overwhelming number of responses (75%) indicated that agriculture and forestry were important to address in the Master Plan, although opinions were split 30% (yes, no, and unsure) as to whether residents would support ordinances which would help preserve this same land. This important distinction may indicate that education of the public on the tools available to accomplish these preservation goals should be undertaken.

Table IX-1

Are you concerned that developments and subdivisions may make it more difficult for you to access land – especially private land – for the outdoor activities indicated in question 27?

| Development hindering access to outdoor activities | Total | Percent |
|----------------------------------------------------|-------|---------|
| Yes | 203 | 65% |
| No | 52 | 17% |
| Unsure | 43 | 14% |
| No Opinion | 12 | 4% |
| Grand Total | 310 | 100% |

Table IX-3

Would you support locally – developed land use ordinances that might restrict a property owner's ability to fully develop their land if these ordinances helped to conserve undeveloped land?

| Restricting development to conserve undeveloped lands | Total | Percent |
|-------------------------------------------------------|-------|---------|
| Yes | 120 | 33% |
| No | 121 | 34% |
| Unsure | 108 | 30% |
| No Opinion | 12 | 3% |
| Grand Total | 361 | 100% |

Table IX-5

Should Boscawen encourage commercial/industrial growth to broaden its tax base?

| Commercial/Industrial growth to broaden tax base | Total | Percent |
|--------------------------------------------------|-------|---------|
| Yes | 210 | 58% |
| No | 74 | 21% |
| Unsure | 71 | 20% |
| No Opinion | 5 | 1% |
| Grand Total | 360 | 100% |

Table IX-2

Is maintaining agriculture and forestry as economically viable land uses in Boscawen an important objective of the Master Plan?

| Maintaining agriculture and forestry land for economical uses | Total | Percent |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|-------|---------|
| Yes | 268 | 75% |
| No | 15 | 4% |
| Unsure | 47 | 13% |
| No Opinion | 27 | 8% |
| Grand Total | 357 | 100% |

Table IX-4

Should Boscawen provide incentives for property owners if new land use ordinances limit their ability to fully develop their land?

| Incentives if new land use ordinances limit full development | Total | Percent |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|-------|---------|
| Yes | 200 | 57% |
| No | 52 | 15% |
| Unsure | 81 | 23% |
| No Opinion | 20 | 6% |
| Grand Total | 353 | 100% |

Table IX-6

Should the Town establish standards for the following?

| Stormwater runoff standards | Total | Percent |
|-----------------------------|-------|---------|
| Yes | 176 | 50% |
| No | 56 | 16% |
| Unsure | 93 | 27% |
| No Opinion | 24 | 7% |
| Grand Total | 349 | 100% |

Table IX-7

Should the Town establish standards for the following?

| Groundwater protection standards | Total | Percent |
|----------------------------------|-------|---------|
| Yes | 260 | 74% |
| No | 29 | 8% |
| Unsure | 46 | 13% |
| No Opinion | 17 | 5% |
| Grand Total | 352 | 100% |

Table IX-8

Should the Town establish standards for the following?

| Emergency vehicle access standards | Total | Percent |
|------------------------------------|-------|---------|
| Yes | 228 | 65% |
| No | 34 | 10% |
| Unsure | 65 | 19% |
| No Opinion | 22 | 6% |
| Grand Total | 349 | 100% |

Respondents have indicated that groundwater (74%) and emergency vehicle access (65%) are high priorities and should have standards produced.

EXISTING LAND USES

The Town of Boscawen first adopted zoning in 1973. Thereafter, modifications to the Zoning Ordinance have been made at Town Meetings as needs arose. The Zoning Ordinance was last amended at Town Meeting in 1999.

Zoning Districts

The Agricultural-Residential (A-R) zone was designed to preserve land for agriculture, forestry, and related uses with adequate provisions for transition to unrelated uses. Land in the zone is usually unsubdivided with a minimum of roads and public services. The A-R zone is intended to discourage the scattered intrusion of uses not compatible with a rural environment.

The Residential-Low Density (R-1) zone's purpose is to maintain primarily single-family housing on large lots with provisions for further development of single-family neighborhoods, related land uses, and limited land uses unrelated to single-family neighborhoods.

The Residential-Medium Density (R-2) zone is intended to provide a suitable environment for single- and multi-family residential neighborhoods. Adequate provisions are made for home occupations and related uses, but non-residential activities are generally prohibited. Land in the zone is generally serviced or planned to be serviced by both municipal water and sewer.

The Commercial (C) zone is intended for both individual business establishments and for unified developments of commercial and office centers. Land in the zone is typically located on or having good access to major arterial roads and is generally serviced or planned to be serviced by both municipal water and sewer.

The Industrial (I) zone is intended to accommodate a variety of business, warehouse, and light industrial uses. Residential uses are generally prohibited in the zone. Land in the zone is typically located on or having good access to major arterial roads and is generally serviced or planned to be serviced by both municipal water and sewer.

The Mill Redevelopment District (MRD) zone was established in 1998 to accommodate a variety of commercial and industrial uses and to encourage redevelopment of formerly industrial properties and related land and buildings in the area along the Contoocook River. Designated lots are specified in the Zoning Ordinance for the Mill Redevelopment District.

Table IX-9
Land Use Controls

| Town Zoning Districts | Town-Adopted Provisions or Regulations |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| Agricultural-Residential | Sign Regulations |
| Residential – Low Density | Off-Street Parking Requirements |
| Residential – Medium Density | Nonconforming Uses, Structures and Lots |
| Commercial | Cluster Developments |
| Industrial | Floodplain Development Ordinance |
| Mill Redevelopment District | Telecommunications Ordinance |
| | Sexually Oriented Businesses Ordinance |

Source: Town of Boscawen Zoning Ordinance, March 1999

Though sources differ, the generally accepted land acreage for Boscawen is 15,916, while water acreage is approximately 340 acres. The total land and water acreage in Boscawen is 16,256.

Table IX-10
2001 Zoning District Land Acreages

| Cataloged Land Uses for 15,916 acres (Total Land Acreage) | Acres | Total % of Land Area* |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|--------|--------------------------|
| Agricultural-Residential | 11,887 | 73.1% |
| Residential – Low Density | 3,034 | 18.6% |
| Residential – Medium Density | 824 | 5.0% |
| Commercial | 155 | 1.0% |
| Industrial (includes gravel) | 305 | 1.8% |
| Mill Redevelopment District | 43 | 0.2% |
| Total Land Area* | 15,916 | |
| Water Area | 340 | |
| Total Town Acreage | 16,256 | 100% |

Source: Boscawen Tax Map GIS, 1997

Land Use Regulations

In 1967, the Town adopted Subdivision Regulations to establish guidelines for the growth of the Town. The latest revisions to the Subdivision Regulations were adopted by the Planning Board in 1996. Site Plan Review Regulations were first adopted in 1981 to provide standards for commercial growth. They were last amended by the Planning Board in 1996.

Past Land Uses

The 1989 Master Plan identified the following land uses in 1987 utilizing the tax maps and a windshield survey:

Table IX-11
1987 Land Use

| Category | Acres | % of Total Land Area |
|-------------------------|----------|----------------------|
| Low Density Residential | 1,080.9 | 6.7% |
| Multiple Family | 22.3 | 0.1% |
| Manufactured Housing | 102.8 | 0.6% |
| Commercial | 85.9 | 0.5% |
| Industrial | 78.1 | 0.5% |
| Institutional | 1,308.0 | 8.1% |
| Open Space/Recreational | 1,362.6 | 8.4% |
| Rights-of-Way | 357.0 | 2.2% |
| Undeveloped Land | 11,806.8 | 72.9% |
| Subtotal | 16,204.4 | 100.0% |
| Water Area | 435.6 | |
| Total Acres | 16,640.0 | |

Source: 1989 Boscawen Master Plan

There are differences with this method which make the data not comparable to present-day 2001 land uses. Firstly, the total acres in Town are generally accepted to be 16,256 acres through perambulation and Geographic Information System (GIS) calculations, with 15,916 acres of land and 340 acres of water. Secondly, land use data is now collected in a more generalized fashion such that the categories are consistent with current planning practices. In addition, the method of calculating residential uses has been modified and is explained below.

2001 Estimated Land Use

The *Existing Land Use Map* was created using numerous methods. The tax maps were utilized with a windshield survey technique to ascertain which primary type of use each parcel fell into according to Table IX-12. Residential acreage was assumed to use a maximum of two acres per lot and is reflected as such on the Map. The other types of uses, however, are assumed to utilize the entire lot, and are thus depicted on the *Existing Land Use Map*. The Subcommittee's local knowledge and input in identifying the primary land use for each parcel was essential. Using GIS technology and identification of uses on the tax maps, approximate acreage calculations were completed:

Table IX-12
2001 Estimated Land Use

| Cataloged Land Uses for 15,916 acres | Acres | Total % of Land Area* |
|-----------------------------------------|---------------|--------------------------|
| DEVELOPED LAND | | |
| Residential | 1,202 | 7.6% |
| Commercial | 331 | 2.1% |
| Industrial (includes Excavation Sites) | 505 | 3.1% |
| Excavation Sites | --- | -- |
| Public Land / Institutional Facilities | 2,035 | 12.7% |
| Total | 4,073 | 25.6% |
| UNDEVELOPED LAND | | |
| Utilities (Water Precinct Holdings) | 81 | 0.5% |
| Agricultural Land | 2,522 | 15.8% |
| Conservation Land | 880 | 5.5% |
| Forested | 8,360 | 52.5% |
| Total | 11,843 | 74.4% |
| Total Land Area | 15,916 | 100.0% |
| Water Area | 340 | |
| Total Town Acreage | 16,256 | |

Source: Windshield survey correlated with Tax Maps

Boscawen has retained almost 75% (over 11,800 acres) of its land as undeveloped. Forested parcels are located in the southwestern and south-central portions of Town between Queen Street and Corn Hill Road, on the eastern side of Queen Street, and on both sides of North Water Street. In 1989, approximately 73% of land was undeveloped according to that particular methodology. Active and agricultural lands (almost 16%) and permanently conserved parcels (5.5%) are also undeveloped according to 2001 methodologies.

The industrial acreage is shown as being higher than expected (3.1%, or 505 acres) because gravel excavation parcels were included within this category. True industrial uses are primarily found on High Street north of the Valley of Industry and off of Commercial Street. Commercial land uses (2.1%, or 331 acres) are concentrated along King Street and North Main Street, but utilize few acres. Scattered commercial enterprises are found off of High Street and Daniel Webster Highway; these uses comprise the bulk of the commercial acreage.

A large amount of land (12.7%, or over 2,000 acres) considered to be Public Land / Institutional Facilities is mainly comprised of the Merrimack County Farm (600 acres), State Nursery (887 acres), the NH Veterans Cemetery, and other county-owned facilities and parcels. Town-owned land is also incorporated into this category, such as the Boscawen Town Forest (440 acres), which is not permanently protected from development.

Few residential parcels with road frontage remain unbuilt; subdivision of larger parcels and the creation of new roadways are inevitable and will infringe upon previously undeveloped land in order to meet a demand for single-family housing.

Current Use

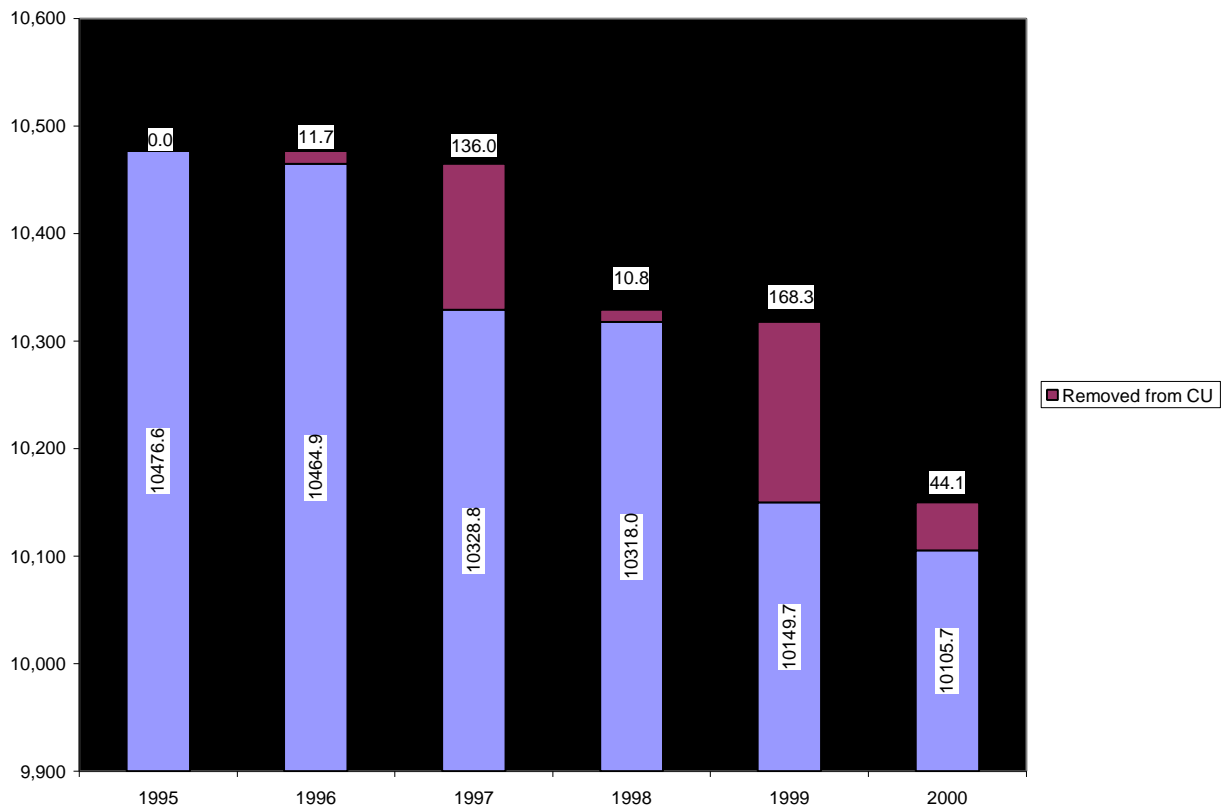
In 1973, the New Hampshire State Legislature enacted RSA 79-A:1 as a result of increased awareness by the State that preservation of open space was in the public interest and that the tax structure was often an obstacle to preservation. Financial burdens were being placed on individuals with large open space land holdings, since property taxation was based on the highest and best use of the land. Thus, the Legislature approved the Current Use tax assessment of property, which allows open land to be assessed at a lower tax rate than the other land uses with the stipulation that the land remain as open space. Any change that disqualifies the land from the Current Use assessment would result in a penalty equal to ten percent of the fair market value of the property. This legislation has been an important element in the preservation of open space and has made it possible for many individuals to retain their property as open space.

In 2001, Boscawen passed a warrant article at Town Meeting to allocate current use land change tax funds to the Conservation Fund for land or easement purchase.

CURRENT LAND USE TRENDS

Between 1995 and the end of 2000, Boscawen has slowly been losing acreage out of current use as depicted in Figure IX-1:

Figure IX-1
Acres in Current Use vs. Removed from Current Use, 1995-2000



Source: Boscawen Annual Town Reports for Current Use Acreage, with Acres Removed calculated by year

Tables IX-13 through IX-16 indicate an increase in the residential population of Boscawen. The result of this increase, although smaller than the majority of its abutting communities, has been the creation of more residential lots and subdivisions over the past decade.

Table IX-13
Population Increase, 1990-2000
Boscawen and Abutting Communities

| | % Increase, 1990-2000 |
|------------|-----------------------|
| Boscawen | 2.4% |
| Canterbury | 17.3% |
| Concord | 13.0% |
| Franklin | 1.2% |
| Northfield | 6.7% |
| Salisbury | 7.2% |
| Webster | 12.4% |

Source: 1990 US Census & 2000 US Census, April 2001

While the population in Boscawen increased 2.4% from 1990 to 2000, neighboring Concord, Canterbury, and Webster experienced population growth of over 12 percent.

Table IX-14
Dwelling Unit Increase, 1990-2000

| Building Permit Period of Analysis | 1990 | 2000 | % Increase |
|-------------------------------------|-------|-------|------------|
| Total Number of Single Family Units | 742 | n/a | --- |
| Total Number of Manufactured Units | 213 | n/a | --- |
| Total Number of Multifamily Units | 266 | n/a | --- |
| Total Number of Dwelling Units | 1,221 | 1,295 | 6.1% |

US Census 1990, 2000 DP-1

Although Boscawen's population increased 2.4%, the number of dwelling units increased 6.1%. This could be attributed to apartments or larger family sizes.

Table IX-15
New Residential Building Permits Issued by Housing Type, 1990 – 2001*

| Housing Type | 1990 | 1991 | 1992 | 1993 | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 | 2000 | 2001* | 12-Year Total |
|---------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------|---------------|
| Single Family Homes | 5 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 7 | 7 | 8 | 12 | 17 | 75 |
| Mobile | 0 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 13 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 27 |
| Yearly Totals | 5 | 4 | 7 | 4 | 4 | 16 | 6 | 9 | 9 | 8 | 13 | 17 | 102 |

Source: Town of Boscawen Planning and Zoning Office; *2001 figures through 11/27/01

Excerpted from the **HOUSING CHAPTER**, Table IX-15 indicates that 102 new residential permits were issued for a period of almost 12 years. Upon investigation, it appears that not all permits issued were utilized. Nonetheless, this helps account for small acreage residential growth since the 1989 Master Plan if the two existing land use charts could be compared appropriately.

Table IX-16
Type of Structure as Total Percent of Development

| | Boscawen | Canterbury | Concord | Salisbury | Webster | CNHRPC Region Average |
|-------------------------------------------------|----------|------------|---------|-----------|---------|-----------------------|
| Single Family Units as % of Total Development | 45% | 97% | 67% | 91% | 84% | 74% |
| Multifamily Units as % of Total Development | 19% | 0% | 31% | 2% | 0% | 10% |
| Manufactured Units as % of Total Development | 34% | 2% | 3% | 7% | 16% | 13% |
| Commercial Structures as % of Total Development | 1% | 0% | n/a | n/a | 0% | 2% |
| Industrial Structures as % of Total Development | 1% | 1% | n/a | n/a | 0% | 1% |

Source: CNHRPC Residential, Commercial, and Industrial Development Trends, 1990-1998

Compared to abutting towns, Boscawen has more manufactured housing units and fewer single-family housing units. The percentage of commercial and industrial structures in Boscawen (about 1%) are about the average as found in the Central NH Region.

Development Constraints

When planning developments, many natural features of the land must be taken into account, such as aquifers, surface water and wetlands, locations of floodplains, and the presence of steep slopes and hydric soils. These constraints to development, as well as land permanently protected from development, are illustrated on the *Development Constraints Map*. As shown on the map, much of Boscawen's land area has one or more development constraints. Existing development and development constraints combine to leave very little land suitable for development.

Hydric soils are soils that are poorly or very poorly drained and are not suitable for development. Although not available in digital form for depiction on the *Development Constraints Map*, the locations of very poorly drained soils strongly correlate with the locations of wetlands as determined by the National Wetlands Inventory. There is also a very strong correlation between the location of hydric soils and watercourses. In many cases, the hydric soils and wetlands drain into water bodies, streams, and intermittent streams.

The presence of small pockets of stratified drift aquifers, a large proportion of steep slopes, many extensive wetlands, and surface waters in Boscawen make the siting of developments, especially industrial operations, a sensitive environmental issue. Pollutants could leak from developed areas, meaning that a location near the aquifer, hydric soils, wetlands or waterbodies could cause degradation of water quality and pollution of groundwater. Steep slopes are also a constraint to development because of loss of vegetation and the consequent erosion and sedimentation that occurs when slopes are cleared for development.

Development constraints are also discussed in the **CONSERVATION, PRESERVATION, AND OPEN SPACE CHAPTER**.

CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS

RSA 674:2 paragraph VIII recommends that Master Plans contain a "Construction Materials" section, consistent with RSA 155-E. This section shall identify all known sources of sand and gravel deposits, the location, and the estimated extent of permitted excavations. In addition, the construction materials section must contain the reports filed with the Planning Board by the owners of the grandfathered excavation sites.

A *Construction Materials Map* has been produced showing the permitted excavation operations throughout Boscawen. It is very important to determine where there are active excavation operations, also to determine the impact to the natural resources on those sites and how the depleted sites should be reclaimed.

Gravel Excavation

A few sand and gravel deposits lie in Town in various locations. The stratified drift aquifers in Boscawen are located along Beaverdam Brook, under the southwestern most parcel of the Boscawen Town Forest, under the Boscawen/Penacook Village area, and span about one mile west from the Merrimack River. The aquifers and excavation areas are indicated on the *Construction Materials Map*. A list of the filed intents to excavate is charted under Table IX-17.

Table IX-17
Filed Intents to Excavate, April 1, 2001 to March 31, 2002

| Map # | Lot # | Location | Total Parcel Acreage | Permitted Acres to Excavate | Acres Excavated as of April 1 | Acres Reclaimed as of April 1 |
|-------|-------|---------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 81A | 19 | Depot St. | 4.5 | 1.0 | 0.125 | 0 |
| 47 | 40A | Morse Hill | 50 | 6 | 0.5 | 2.5 |
| 183D | 134 | Commercial St | 13.02 | 13.02 | 4 | 0 |
| 47 | 40A | 226 Water St. | 35+ | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| 81 | 24 | Queen St | 250 | 250 | 11 | 0 |
| 94 | 23 | Route 4 | 141 | 15 | 0 | 0 |

Source: Town Files

Chapter 155:E of the New Hampshire Revised Statutes Annotated was enacted August 24, 1979. Although it has been revised considerably since then, the substance of the law remains the same: the municipality is responsible for the regulation of excavation of earth materials to be used as construction aggregate.

The law states that permits are required for any excavation operation unless the operation was active in the 2-year period before the law was enacted August 24, 1979, if it is used for highway construction, or if it is attached to a stationary manufacturing plant.

Grandfathered operations (operations which produced material of sufficient weight or volume that was commercially useful in the 2-year period before August 24, 1979) are subject to the operational and reclamation standards laid out in the law, and they also must apply for a permit if they wish to expand their operation. In order for a grandfathered operation to retain its status, it must have filed an Excavation Report with the Planning Board no later than August 4, 1991. Failure to do so results in loss of grandfathered status, and a permit must be requested in order to continue work. The permit requires more stringent standards than the ones that must be complied with in order to run an excavation operation without a permit.

Excavation operations being used exclusively for State or local highway construction do not need a permit; however, the Planning Board must have on file an agreement between the pit owner and the State or local government. This type of excavation must not operate in violation of local zoning, unless an exemption has been granted.

A permit is not required for an excavation operation that on August 4, 1989 was contiguous to or on land contiguous to a stationary manufacturing plant that was in operation as of August 24, 1979 and used earth from the excavation site. No additional permits are required for excavation sites connected to stationary manufacturing plants for which permits had been issued by state or local government since August 24, 1979. These operations are subject to the standards set forth in the permits issued to them for their operation.

Table IX-18 documents those gravel pits which are so grandfathered in Boscawen:

Table IX-18
Grandfathered Gravel Permits

| Map # | Lot # | Location |
|-------|-------|---------------------------------|
| 81A | 19A | Depot St |
| 81D | 10 | Route 3 at Plaisted Landscaping |
| 47 | 29A | High Street |
| 47 | 40A | Morse Hill |

Source: Town Files

FUTURE LAND USE

Responses to the Community Survey can be used to gauge how the community would receive certain types of potential land use changes. As depicted on pages IX-5 and IX-6, Tables IX-1 through IX-8 offer resident opinion on how Boscawen's land should be used. Sixty-five percent (65%) of respondents felt that developments and subdivisions would make it more difficult to access land for outdoor activities, indicating a need for more conservation easements to public or non-posted recreational areas. Yet, 33% replied yes and 34% replied no when asked whether they supported land use regulations which might restrict landowners' ability to develop their land even if the same regulations help conserve undeveloped land. Seventy-five percent (75%) felt that maintaining agriculture and forestry as economic land uses should be encouraged and should be a focus of this Master Plan. Fifty-eight percent (58%) felt that commercial and industrial growth should be encouraged to broaden the tax base. Table IX-12 indicates that only 2.1% and 3.1%, respectively, are active uses in Boscawen. Most respondents felt that performance standards for stormwater runoff, groundwater protection, and emergency vehicle access should be enacted. The summary of community sentiment was that although land preservation measures should be undertaken, existing property owners are resistant to further regulation of their land and that commercial and industrial enterprises should be encouraged to help reduce residential property taxes.

The Future Land Use Map

A *Future Land Use Map* is intended to guide future decisions regarding potential zoning and land use changes in order to preserve the assets of the Town and make consideration for elements such as businesses, homes, and industries already established. As illustrated by the *Existing Land Use Map*, much of Boscawen's existing road frontages have been developed with single-family homes. A great deal of land is used for agricultural purposes and large lots remain in the northwestern corner of Town. Some land is conserved to various degrees throughout Boscawen, but only 4.6% have been permanently protected from development. The Town is fortunate to have many scenic and untouched areas. These observations are challenging to the creation of a visionary *Future Land Use Map*.

With these considerations, the *Future Land Use Map* in this Chapter focuses on areas which are or should be used for agricultural purposes, proposed linkages of conservation land, three industrial "nodes", and two commercial/residential "strips". The industrial nodes are generally located where existing industry is present to encourage the future location of new industries in the areas already occupied by that particular use. The commercial/residential strips are located along King Street and the southern portion of North Main Street, again to encourage future commercial development in these existing commercial areas of Town that are also occupied by residential homes. Future residential use was not addressed on this Map because it is found throughout Town; nonetheless, measures should be taken to ensure that future residential development is managed in a manner consistent with the values and character of the Town.

Beyond the designation of certain areas as specific uses on the *Future Land Use Map*, additional tools and suggestions within this section can be used to guide future land use decisions within Boscawen. They take the form of examining current zoning districts, proposing changes to the Zoning Ordinance and Site Plan Review and Subdivision Regulations, and illustrating how different land uses affect one another.

Performance Zoning

In a future revision of the Zoning Ordinance, the Town could consider the implementation of performance zoning for commercial, industrial, and multi-family developments. Performance zoning establishes both the standards that must be met by development, as well as the process that measures the effect that the impact of development would have on the community.

Performance standards establish definite measurements that determine whether the effects of a particular use will be within permissible levels. Performance standards commonly employed include standards related to noise, vibration, smoke, odor, runoff, illumination, signs, groundwater, road impact (i.e. number of trips generated by a use), landscaping, multi-family and commercial building aesthetics, and school impact. Communities that have adopted performance standards for commercial and industrial development include the Towns of Bow and Bedford, New Hampshire.

Incentive Bonuses

Often employed as part of a performance zoning ordinance, incentives encourage developers to build projects above and beyond baseline standards included in the Zoning Ordinance. Incentive zoning is a voluntary exchange of development incentives for public benefits between a community and a developer. There are three basic categories of incentive bonuses: (1) intensity incentives, (2) use incentives, and (3) inclusionary incentives.

Intensity incentives allow developers a greater or more intensive use of the property. Such incentives usually allow developers to construct more units on a property, have greater amounts of impervious surface, or more square footage for commercial buildings. A typical example of an incentive usually included in this type of ordinance could be a density bonus in exchange for setting aside open space in a development for public use, construction of trails, or construction of recreational facilities.

Land use incentives permit mixing of uses in a development or provide for unspecified uses. For example, a convenience store may be permitted in a housing development, or residential units may be allowed as part of a retail development. In exchange for such benefits, developers are usually required to provide the Town with construction of public infrastructure, such as parks, boat ramps, swimming areas, recreational facilities, pedestrian infrastructure, public parking spaces, or open space.

Open Space Development

An answer to the sprawling landform created under conventional cookie cutter subdivisions is a new approach to subdivision design for rural areas, as outlined in the book entitled *Conservation Design for Subdivisions: A Practical Guide to Creating Open Space Networks*, by Randall Arendt (Island Press, 1996). The Figures below show graphics from Arendt's book depicting the typical scenario for the development of a parcel under the conservation development design process. In its most basic form, the conservation development process can be broken into six logical steps, which are not the typical steps taken for a conventional subdivision.

Under this approach, use existing minimum lot sizes as the basis for conventional residential density on the best soils, with reduced densities according to declining soil quality. The minimum lot sizes that are currently in place for residential uses should represent the maximum aggregate density on the best soils under the soils-based lot sizing approach. Lower quality soils would require lower density development. Primary conservation areas may include wetlands, steep slopes, aquifer recharge zones, and floodplains. Secondary conservation areas may include stonewalls, viewsheds, prominent vegetation, prominent landforms, prime agricultural soils, historic sites and features, archeological sites, and communities and species identified in the Natural Heritage Inventory.

The six steps are as follows:

Figure IX-2
Step 1 of Open Space Development

1. Create a "yield plan" for the site that assesses the number of viable building lots on the site under a conventional subdivision design. This plan establishes the density for the conservation development design. Although a yield plan is conceptual, it must be consistent with Town ordinances and regulations already in place.



Figure IX-3
Step 2 of Open Space Development, Part 1

2. Prepare a conservation site analysis plan that identifies prominent open spaces and important natural features broken out into primary and secondary conservation areas. Primary conservation areas are those resources for which development should be excluded almost without exception.

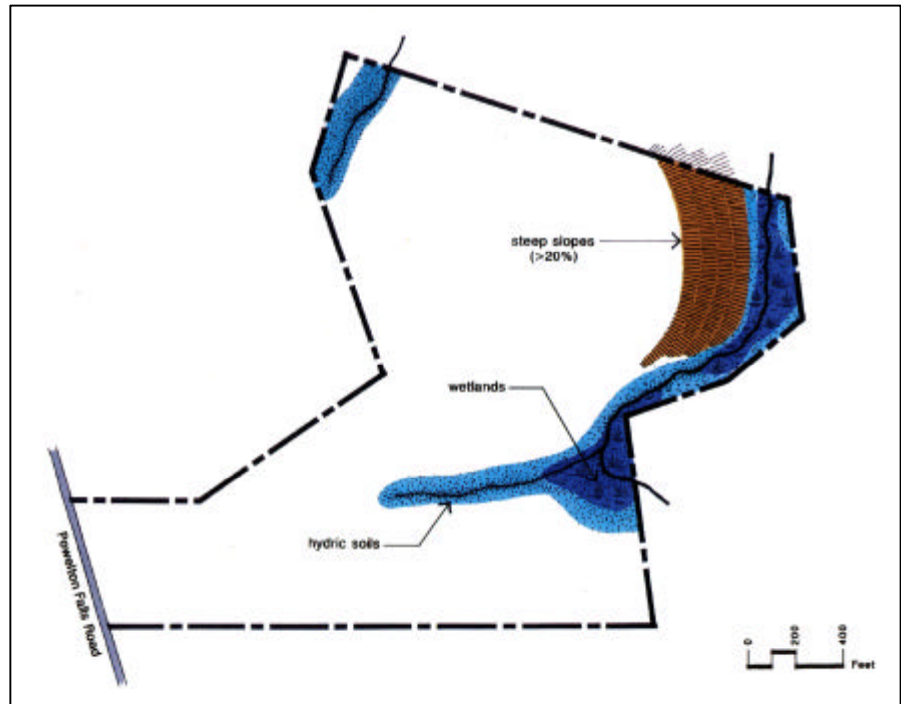


Figure IX-4
Step 2 of Open Space Development, Part 2

Secondary conservation areas are those that should not be developed, if at all possible.



Figure IX-5
Step 3 of Open Space Development

3. After evaluating the primary and secondary conservation areas, locate the portions of the site most suitable for development.



Figure IX-6
Step 4 of Open Space Development

4. Locate dwelling unit sites using innovative arrangements to maximize views of open space and resources.

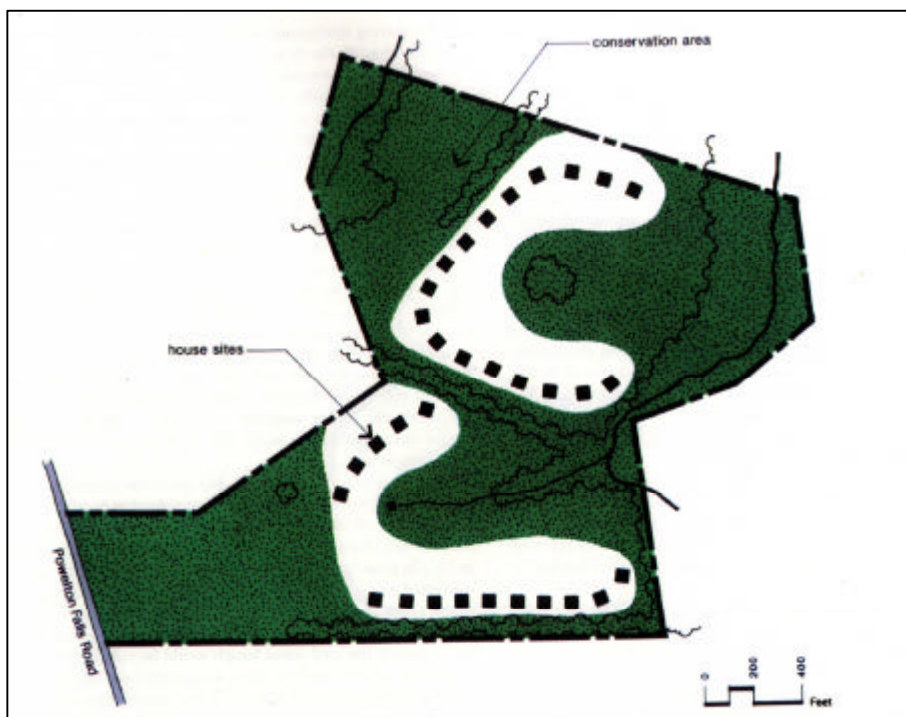


Figure IX-7
Step 5 of Open Space Development

5. Locate and design the roadway and pedestrian travel ways. Maximize the protection of viewsheds and natural terrain in the design. Locate septic fields.

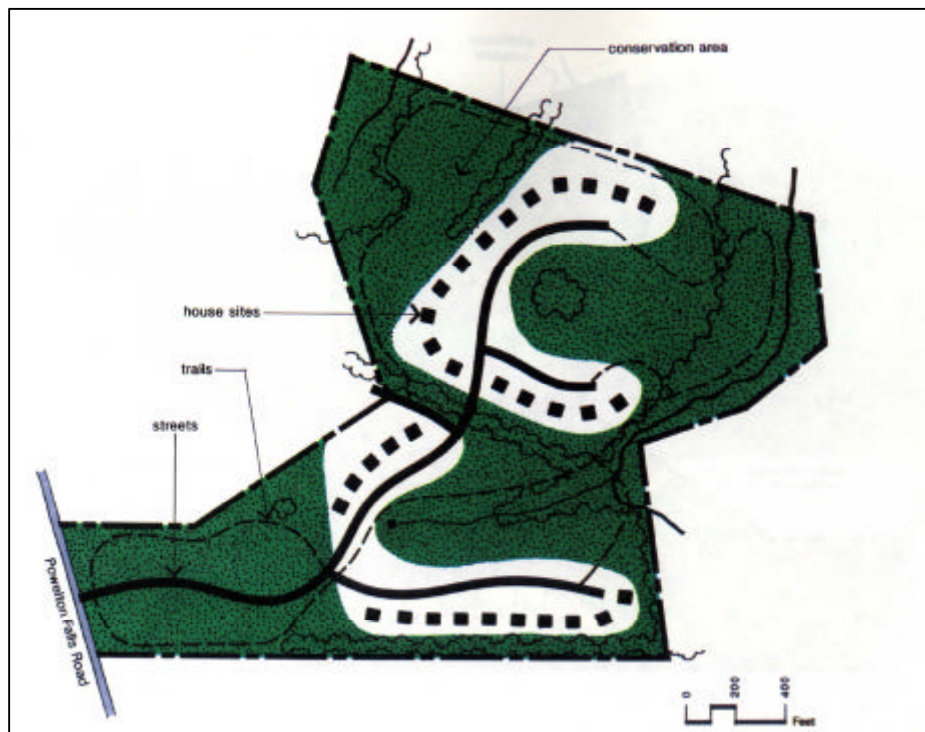


Figure IX-8
Step 6 of Open Space Development

6. Delineate lot lines.



Driveway Regulations

Long driveways have a tendency to cut unnecessarily through woodlands and frequently cross streams. With houses farther apart and a lesser sense of community, driveways can contribute to sprawl. Because of increased residential and other types of development in the community, the issue of safe and adequate access to homes has become an important one to address.

Communities have the ability to regulate driveway access points under RSA 236, Sections 13-14. In order to ensure safe access to properties for fire fighting and public safety, as well as to develop safe intersections with local roadways, standards should be adopted by the Town, including having a 400' site distance. The following suggestions should be considered by the Planning Board as amendments to the Zoning Ordinance and/or Regulations:

1. For driveways with a grade in excess of 10%, a flat landing area of at least 20 feet in length approaching the street is required.
2. Driveways shall be graded in order to allow reasonable access by emergency vehicles. The minimum width of a driveway must be 12 feet at a road intersection.
3. In order to ensure emergency access, it is recommended that property owners construct driveways with grades less than 15% with inside curve radii of more than 22.5 feet.
4. In the case of dirt driveways exiting onto paved roadways, a paved apron as wide as the driveway and at least 10 feet in depth must be provided.
5. Driveways should be graded so that water does not flow onto the street. Commercial lots located above the street may require a grate across the driveway entrance in order to divert the water and prevent it from adversely affecting the road or right-of-way. Any driveway located over a culvert shall slope to drain into the culvert. All curbed driveways must have catch basins at the back of the sidewalk.
6. All culverts must be at least 15 inches in diameter and have 12 inches of cover.
7. The maximum width of a driveway shall not exceed 20 feet.
8. Driveways shall intersect with the street at a 90 degree angle whenever feasible. In no case shall the angle of intersection be less than 60 degrees.
9. Driveways shall be sited in order to maximize sight distance per best management practices and the discretion of the Highway Agent.
10. Driveways shall be no closer than 5 feet to property lines, except in the case of driveways shared between two abutting parcels.

Aquifer Protection

Protection of the Water Precinct aquifers and of any future-located drinking water supplies cannot be over-emphasized. Each year, the Precinct is requested to inspect all lands lying within the aquifer, including all residential or commercial buildings, to monitor whether there are contaminants such as oil, grease, gasoline and diesel fuels being released into the ground. These hazards to the water supply must be contained so as to prevent pollution of drinking water. Education of landowners with respect to utilizing best management practices should be an integral part of each inspection.

Forest Management

With a great deal of land in Boscawen covered with trees, forestry is an important, traditional land use. Responsible timber management maintains open spaces, rural viewsheds, and viable income from land without permanently developing it into other uses such as housing.

While voluntary, the implementation of Best Management Practices (BMPs) should be encouraged and supported to assure that soil is conserved and water quality is maintained. Large lot zoning with tax incentives should be considered to encourage landowners to keep parcels under timber management. Incentives should be provided to those owners who responsibly manage their forestlands and implement Best Management Practices.

Agriculture

Agriculture is another one of the traditional land uses in Boscawen. Agriculture allows for self-sufficiency in food production, helps maintain the traditional cultural and visual character of the Town, and promotes the conservation of open space.

The NH Legislature has recognized the right to farm as an important component of preserving farmland. Zoning and land-use regulations should be structured to encourage responsible and well-managed agricultural operations. These operations should implement BMPs. While voluntary, the implementation of BMPs should be encouraged and supported to assure that soil is conserved and water quality is maintained. Large lot zoning with tax incentives should be considered to encourage landowners to use their land for active agricultural management. Incentives should be provided to operations that responsibly manage their agricultural lands and implement Best Management Practices.

Commercial and Industrial Uses

Currently, zoning allows commercial uses to occur along King Street following parcels from just north of Depot Street south to River Road, and on the westerly side of North Main Street at its junction with Queen Street. It is logical to place commercial enterprises along main thoroughfares and to encourage future traffic-generating businesses in the same areas as existing commercial uses. These areas are also shared by a residential population, and the encouragement of new businesses in these areas, such as day-care facilities, general stores, restaurants, or health clinics will encourage residents to walk to obtain services. However, the lack of sidewalks interconnecting the medium-density residential areas to the nearby commercial businesses impact safety and discourage the neighborhood atmosphere. The commercial opportunities available in Boscawen should serve the residents as well as people traveling through Town.

There are a handful of large industrial enterprises in Town which are located on High Street and North Main Street. The tannery buildings in the Mill Redevelopment District, which has not yet been fully utilized, represent an opportunity for future expansion of the industrial tax base. Zoning should be reconsidered to designate locations for industrial uses, notably excluding the current industrial zone along both sides of River Road. The maps included with this Chapter and with the **CONSERVATION, PRESERVATION, AND OPEN SPACE CHAPTER** will assist with that process.

Residential Uses

As indicated previously from the *Existing Land Use Map*, most of the intended residential lots in Boscawen have been built upon. The existing roadways can sustain more single-family housing for the next few years, but large undeveloped or agricultural parcels will increasingly become targeted for subdivision in the future to meet the demand for single-family housing. Preserving these large parcels while still meeting development needs will be challenging. However, many tools are available to assist with this process as discussed earlier in the Chapter. Concentrating cluster development to certain areas of Town will be necessary (such as the R-1 and R-2 districts), as will be the employment of performance zoning and incentives. Residential growth cannot and should not be discouraged, yet proper guidance of this growth will help retain Boscawen's rural character and unfragmented landscape.

Erosion and Sedimentation Control

During site preparation of a residential or commercial development, pollution loads can increase, sometimes dramatically, as sites are excavated and developed. Soil is exposed during development as vegetation is removed and excavation takes place. Bare soil particles are dislodged by rainfall and can be carried downslope as sediment to streams, lakes, and wetlands. Runoff can increase and have a greater ability to transport pollutants and constructed impervious surfaces (roofs and pavements) reduce infiltration and can modify flow patterns. Higher runoff rates can result in flooding and erosion of previously stable streams and act as a vector for delivering much larger quantities of pollutants.

Erosion control and prevention plans should be submitted for subdivisions and site plans for verification that specific conditions will be met prior to the issuance of a building permit. The review and verification process for submitted plans will also determine whether or not a Site Specific Permit is required from DES. RSA 485-A:17, known as the Alteration of Terrain Program or "Site Specific Program," requires a permit from DES for any earth disturbance greater than 100,000 square feet, or 50,000 square feet within the protected shoreline area. The permit involves both temporary erosion control measures during construction and permanent controls on the impacts of stormwater effects following construction.

At a minimum, developers and contractors need to demonstrate that they will provide pollutant control by professional planning, design, construction, and implementation of BMPs. Designs and site plans should demonstrate measures to retain natural vegetation where possible, especially at waterbodies, wetlands and steep slopes. Developers and contractors should not only have a commitment to integrating BMPs into overall development plans but also for monitoring practices and adjusting, maintaining, and repairing periodically and after every storm.

Protection / Buffers / Setbacks from the Merrimack River

Walker Pond and Couch Pond are included in the State's Comprehensive Shoreland Protection Act (CPSA). However, only public lakes and ponds exceeding ten acres are included in the Act. Since 1999, the Merrimack and Contoocook Rivers have been included in the CSPA. These rivers are included in the program because they are fourth order streams. Currently, there are many streams and wetlands in Boscawen that do not enjoy this protection because they are of smaller orders. Not only are these brooks tributaries of the larger rivers, but they support a diverse and important variety of habitat including plants and wildlife. Boscawen should build on the protections offered to larger water bodies by the CSPA and enact similar ordinances for smaller brooks and wetlands. These ordinances should maintain vegetated buffers including trees in shore areas and establish building, land clearing, and fertilization setbacks.

Landscaping to Avoid Conflicts with Neighboring Uses

Boscawen has an opportunity to utilize King Street for economic development while retaining the character the Town desires by employing techniques such as buffer and landscaping standards. The King Street Corridor Study identified a number of recommendations that, if implemented, will complement the historic surroundings with existing and future commercial structures. Techniques such as screening parking lots from view or situating them behind the buildings are recognized as valuable tools and should be considered in Boscawen when reviewing site plan review applications. In addition, appropriate plantings and landscaping should be required of the developer at both the subdivision and site plan review stage in order to mitigate the disruption of the natural landscape. Alternative landscaping scenarios can be proposed by the developer which would be more aesthetically pleasing, help retain the rural character of the Town, discourage strip development and chain stores, encourage nodal or clustered development, and propose combined access locations. The **TRANSPORTATION CHAPTER** addresses these and similar techniques.

Potential Changes to the Zoning Districts

The *Existing Zoning Map* contains examples of “spot” zoning which were retroactively applied after certain developments or land uses occurred. Examples include Ross Express, zoned industrial in the middle of the R-1 and R-2 zones, and Marshall’s, zoned commercial also in the middle of the R-1 and R-2 zones. Instead of reacting to future, and often desirable, developments, the limitation of certain uses to specific districts should be undertaken.

Proactive zoning could occur in Boscawen to group complementing uses together and dissuade uses in areas that are detrimental to the environment or character of the community. An example of a potentially harmful area is the industrial zone in the southern-most Merrimack River intervale along River Road. This area is actively utilized for agriculture, is within the floodplain, and an industrial use could damage the aquifer underlying the River. Complementary uses are already found along King Street, which is zoned Commercial, Industrial (off of Depot Street), Low-Density Residential, and Medium-Density Residential. Instead of the array of zones, one mixed-use district of commercial and residential, as depicted on the *Future Land Use Map*, would simplify the zoning, encourage more traffic-calming measures, and encourage the redevelopment of existing historic buildings into businesses providing services to residents and travelers. If the Mill Redevelopment District, which is industrial-oriented, is not functioning as originally thought, perhaps it could be modified and rezoned to industrial.

Overlay districts such as a cluster development district, groundwater protection district, mountain conservation district, steep slope district, historic district, forestry district, agricultural district, or wetlands district should be considered to protect the natural and cultural heritage of the community. These types of districts would afford additional protection while still allowing the specific uses permitted in each existing zoning district. The maps of this Chapter and those of the **CONSERVATION, PRESERVATION, AND OPEN SPACE CHAPTER** should help the Planning Board to make determinations of what districts are best for the Town.

SUMMARY

Boscawen lies just north of Concord and may be the next town to feel the growth that has befallen its southern neighbors. Although the Town is very fortunate to have several large tracts of land owned by people concerned about the future and do not want to develop, there are several parcels that are ripe for development. Boscawen contains several tracts of land under permanent conservation, but several other parcels that are considered conservation land and are owned by the State or County may one day be sold or developed.

Therefore, this Chapter has tried to identify how the Town is currently utilizing its land and how it should look in the future if residents want to preserve the rural character of Boscawen. Specific ideas, which cross many Chapters in this Master Plan, include protection of the water supplies, monitoring and possible control of development, permanent conservation of land, and attraction of small and large industries to help offset the taxes paid by residents. The key is preserving what Boscawen now has and planning wisely for future generations with respect to land use.

Town of Boscawen

2001-2002 Master Plan

Existing Land Use Map

Map 16

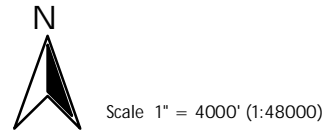
Legend

- Agricultural
- Commercial
- Conservation
- Industrial/Gravel Excavation
- Public/Institutional
- Residential
- Utility
- Undeveloped/Wooded
- Parcels

Base Legend

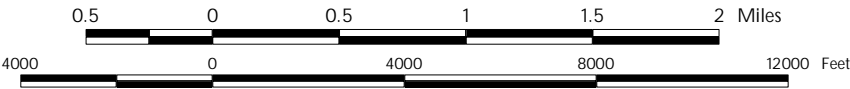
- Political Boundary
- Class I & II Secondary State Highways
- Class V Town Maintained Roads
- Class VI Town Unmaintained Roads
- Other Roads (Private, Future, Discontinued, etc)
- Rivers and Streams
- Intermittent Streams
- Water Bodies

This map was produced by the
Central New Hampshire Regional Planning Commission
for the Boscawen Master Plan, February 2002.



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Service (1:24000); and CNHRPC (1:24000).
Corrections to existing layers by the Town of Boscawen and CNHRPC.



Town of Boscawen

2001-2002 Master Plan

Existing Zoning Map

Map 17

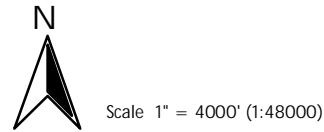
Legend

- Agricultural/Residential
- Commercial
- Industrial
- Low Density Residential (R-1)
- Medium Density Residential (R-2)
- Mill Redevelopment

Base Legend

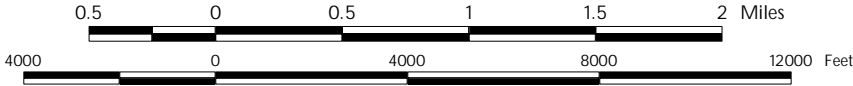
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Town of Boscawen

2001-2002 Master Plan

Construction Materials Map

Map 18

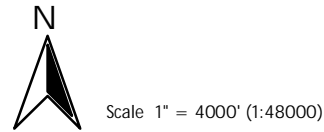
Legend

- Permitted Gravel Operations, 2001-2002
- Stratified Drift Aquifer

Base Legend

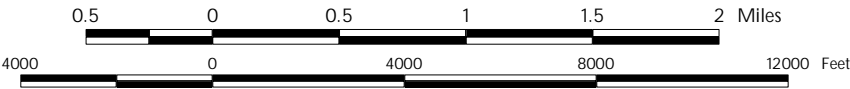
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Town of Boscawen

2001-2002 Master Plan

Development Constraints Map

Map 19

Legend

National Wetlands Inventory

- Palustrine Wetlands
- Lacustrine Wetlands
- Riverine Wetlands

Floodplains

- Floodway
- 100-Year Floodplain
- 500-Year Floodplain

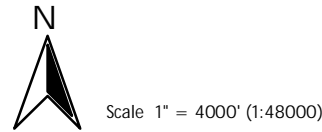
Steep Slopes

- 15 to 24 percent
- 25 percent or greater
- Conservation Land

Base Legend

- Political Boundary
- Class I & II Secondary State Highways
- Class V Town Maintained Roads
- Class VI Town Unmaintained Roads
- Other Roads (Private, Future, Discontinued, etc)
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Town of Boscawen

2001-2002 Master Plan

Future Land Use Map

Map 20

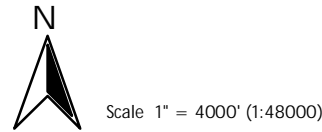
Legend

- Agricultural
- Conservation
- Commercial/Residential
- Industrial
- Existing Permanently Protected Lands

Base Legend

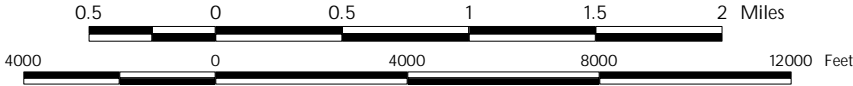
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APPENDIX

Chapter X



Boscawen Elementary School, Aerial View



*NH Fish and Game Boat Launch,
Merrimack River at County Facilities*



King Street Cemetery



Woodland Commons, North Main Street

Chapter X **APPENDIX**

INTRODUCTION

This **APPENDIX** contains supporting documentation for the Master Plan. The majority of information comes directly from the January 2001 Community Survey Results and the commentary provided by the people who responded to the survey. Results of the April 2001 Visioning Session are also included. These two components formed the basis for the public input of the Master Plan and had a profound effect upon how the Plan was designed. The last component of the Appendix includes a short listing of active community groups which contribute to the character and community spirit of the Town.

The Community Survey was delivered via the Boscawen Newsvine to every household within the Town and mailed to out-of-town landowners. Out of the 1571 surveys distributed, 380 replies were gained. This represents a 24.2% return rate. The Survey was generally comprised of sections pertinent to the appropriate sections of the Master Plan, and the survey results were incorporated into these Chapters.

The following is the Boscawen Community Survey, with results, in its entirety:

BOSCAWEN COMMUNITY SURVEY - JANUARY 2001

Final Survey Results

- ? 380 Replies
- ? 1571 Surveys Mailed
- ? 24.2% Response Rate - Note that results represent %'s of the # of responses received for each individual question, not the % of 380 possible replies
- ? All Percentages +/- 2%

General

1. Please indicate which Area of Town you live in using the appropriate Area number on the map:

Area # _____ 1-5% 2-24% 3-14% 4-25% 5-27%

2. If you live in Boscawen, how long have you been a resident?

19% Less than 5 years 11% 5-10 years
 21% 10-20 years 45% Over 20 years
 4% Do not live in Boscawen

3. Is there any Area where you feel growth should be restricted?

47% Yes 22% No 22% Unsure 9% No opinion

If yes, which Area? _____ 1-54 2-60 3-80 4-84 5-46

4. Please rate **each** of the following features for their importance to you:

| | Very Important | Important | No Opinion | Somewhat Important | Not Important |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------|-----------|---------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| Small town / rural atmosphere | 61% | 31% | 3% | 4% | 1% |
| Employment opportunities | 19% | 26% | 11% | 21% | 22% |
| Educational system | 54% | 31% | 3% | 5% | 6% |
| Location | 32% | 42% | 16% | 7% | 2% |
| Natural resources | 45% | 39% | 8% | 7% | 2% |
| Town services | 34% | 46% | 3% | 14% | 3% |
| Scenic areas | 33% | 42% | 7% | 13% | 4% |
| Historic character | 26% | 38% | 12% | 18% | 6% |
| People / community spirit | 37% | 47% | 6% | 8% | 2% |
| Community and recreational facilities | 27% | 48% | 6% | 16% | 4% |
| Other: _____ | ? | ? | ? | ? | ? |



Housing

5. What type of housing do you live in? Do you... Rent or Own?

| | | |
|-------------------------------|-----|-----|
| 77% Single family home | 1% | 99% |
| 3% Two family home | 42% | 58% |
| 5% Multifamily home/Apartment | 69% | 31% |
| 10% Manufactured/Mobile home | 13% | 88% |
| 1% Other _____ | | |
| 4% Do not live in Boscawen | | |



6. Would you hook up to Town sewage if it were available?

29% Yes 28% No 16% Unsure 26% Already on Town system

7. Boscawen currently does not have any residential, commercial or industrial building codes (codes to regulate electrical, plumbing, framing etc.). Do you believe the town should adopt building codes?

39% Yes 38% No 16% Unsure 7% No opinion

8. The number of annual residential building permits issued for new construction has increased at an average rate of about 1% per year between 1986 to 2000. In your opinion, which statement best describes Boscawen's residential rate of growth?

23% Growing too fast 6% Growing too slowly 65% Growth is adequate 5% No opinion

9. Should the Town implement ordinances to regulate the number of new housing units built in Town?

56% Yes 23% No 18% Unsure 4% No opinion

10. What types of housing would you like to see encouraged or not encouraged in Boscawen?

| | Highly Encouraged | Encouraged | No Opinion | Somewhat Encouraged | Not Encouraged |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|------------|---------------|------------------------|-------------------|
| Single family | 44% | 39% | 5% | 9% | 3% |
| Two-family / duplexes | 8% | 25% | 12% | 24% | 31% |
| Multi-family (3-4 units) | 3% | 9% | 8% | 11% | 68% |
| Elderly housing | 28% | 39% | 8% | 14% | 12% |
| Conversion of large homes into apts. | 3% | 11% | 13% | 14% | 58% |
| Manufactured / mobile home parks | 2% | 5% | 13% | 13% | 68% |
| Condominium / town houses | 4% | 11% | 10% | 17% | 58% |
| Apartment buildings (5+ units) | 2% | 3% | 9% | 7% | 70% |
| Emergency housing | 11% | 18% | 19% | 23% | 29% |
| Cluster developments (single family units on smaller lots with open space retained) | 6% | 21% | 12% | 18% | 43% |

Transportation

11. In your opinion, what is the general condition of roads in Boscawen?

| Excellent Condition | Good Condition | No Opinion | Poor Condition | Very Poor Condition |
|------------------------|-------------------|---------------|-------------------|------------------------|
| 7% | 76% | 5% | 11% | 1% |

12. Are there any sections of roadways or intersections that you feel are hazardous for vehicles?

Of 243 responses: 37% indicated the US 3/4 Split/Junction near the Church and 21% indicated the intersection of Goodhue/Raymond Roads with US 4. All remaining locations were under 10%.

13. Are there any sections of roadways or intersections that you feel are hazardous for pedestrians?

Of 135 responses: 26% indicated the US 3/4 Split/Junction near the Church, 20% indicated King Street in general, and 11% discussed Main Street. All remaining location were under 10%.

14. Please identify any streets where you feel additional sidewalks are needed.

Of 98 responses: the locations with the highest percentages (over 5%) include: Main Street, King Street, Queen Street, and the Junction/Split of Routes 3/4.

15. Please identify any roads or streets where you feel vehicles travel at excessive speeds.

Of 284 responses: 13% indicated Water Street, 10% indicated King Street, 10% indicated Route 4, 10% indicated Queen Street, 8% identified Corn Hill Road, and 6% indicated Route 3. All remaining locations totaled not more than 5%.

16. Do you support an extension of the Concord Area Transit (CAT) service into Boscawen?

58% Yes 16% No 17% Unsure 9% No opinion

17. Do you believe there is a need to enhance senior transit services in Boscawen?

48% Yes 7% No 17% Unsure 9% No opinion

18. Would you support the reconstruction of the bridge between Boscawen and Canterbury off Depot Street?

| | | | | |
|----------------------|---------|--------|------------|---------------|
| for Recreational use | 55% Yes | 22% No | 16% Unsure | 8% No opinion |
| for Vehicular use | 51% Yes | 27% No | 15% Unsure | 7% No opinion |

19. Please identify any areas where you think the creation of an alternative transportation trail (such as for commuting by bicycle, etc) should be further pursued.

Several comments mentioned along the Merrimack and along the Railroad.



Conservation, Preservation, and Open Space & Existing and Future Land Use

20. Please indicate how important the preservation of open space in Boscawen is to you:

| | | | | |
|-------------------|-----------|---------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| Very Important | Important | No Opinion | Somewhat Important | Not Important |
| 52% | 31% | 3% | 12% | 2% |



21. Do you support acquisition of lands for conservation purposes?

67% Yes 11% No 17% Unsure 5% No opinion

22. Should wetlands protection be an important land management objective in Boscawen?

70% Yes 12% No 14% Unsure 4% No opinion

23. Should Boscawen enact ordinances to maintain vegetated buffer areas along wetlands and streams?

61% Yes 14% No 20% Unsure 6% No opinion

24. What are the most important land conservation objectives to you? Please number in order of importance with 1 being most important: *Percentage of listing in the top 3 choices*

| | | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------|-------------|
| 12% fields/ agriculture | 7% aquifers | 15% forests | 1% non-game |
| 7% recreation | 21% rivers/ streams | 5% scenic views | |
| 13% fish/wildlife management | 11% ponds | 7% wetlands | |
| 1% other, please explain _____ | | | |

25. There are 15,690 acres of land in Boscawen, 566 of which are permanently protected from development (3.6%). What do you feel is the ideal goal for permanent conservation land in Boscawen?

11% 3.6% 21% 5% 30% 10% 19% 20% 8% 30% 4% 40% 7% 50%
 ? other, please indicate _____%

26. Which of the following funding methods would you support to fund land conservation purchase in Boscawen? (Please check all that apply).

16% warrant article at town meeting 9% town budget line item 32% private fundraising
 43% government grants ? other _____

27. In what ways do you enjoy Boscawen's recreational opportunities? Please check all that apply:

| | | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------|------------|
| 3% ATV or four-wheel driving | 9% Bird-watching | 8% Boating | 12% Hiking |
| 10% Canoe/kayak | 5% Cross-country skiing | 12% Fishing | 2% Skiing |
| 1% Horseback riding | 4% Mountain biking | 7% Hunting | |
| 6% Snowmobiling | 6% Snowshoeing | 1% Trapping | |
| 13% Wildlife observation | ? Other, please explain _____ | | |

(If you did not check any of the above, please proceed to question 29)

28. Are you concerned that developments and subdivisions may make it more difficult for you to access land-especially private land-for the outdoor activities indicated in question 27?

65% Yes 17% No 14% Unsure 4% No opinion

29. Is maintaining agriculture and forestry as economically viable land uses in Boscawen an important objective of the Master Plan?

75% Yes 4% No 13% Unsure 8% No opinion

30. What one special place in Boscawen is most important to permanently conserve?

Of the 190 responses, 29% identified the Merrimack River, 12% the Town Forest, 11% Walker Pond, and 11% Patenaude's Pond.

31. Would you support locally-developed land use ordinances that might restrict a property owner's ability to fully develop their land if these ordinances helped to conserve undeveloped land?

33% Yes 34% No 30% Unsure 3% No opinion

32. Should Boscawen provide incentives for property owners if new land use ordinances limit their ability to fully develop their land?

57% Yes 15% No 23% Unsure 6% No opinion

33. Should Boscawen encourage commercial/industrial growth to broaden its tax base?

58% Yes 21% No 20% Unsure 1% No opinion

34. Should the Town establish standards for the following?

| | | | | |
|--------------------------|---------|--------|------------|---------------|
| Storm water runoff | 50% Yes | 16% No | 27% Unsure | 7% No opinion |
| Ground water protection | 74% Yes | 8% No | 13% Unsure | 5% No opinion |
| Emergency vehicle access | 65% Yes | 10% No | 19% Unsure | 6% No opinion |

Historical and Cultural

35. Should the Town appropriate money to be used for historic and cultural resources?

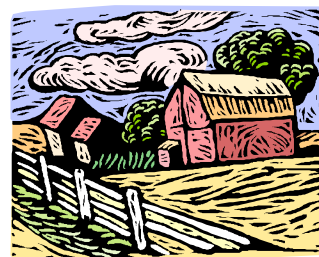
41% Yes 24% No 26% Unsure 9% No opinion

36. Do you believe that historic places (or areas) should be preserved in the Town?

70% Yes 12% No 5% Unsure 12% No opinion

37. Do you feel that the Merrimack River is important to the character of Boscawen?

90% Yes 5% No 4% Unsure 2% No opinion



38. Are you in favor of encouraging either of the following uses in the former Main Street School?

| | | | | |
|---------------------------------------------|---------|--------|------------|---------------|
| Senior Center and/or Senior Day Care Center | 72% Yes | 10% No | 13% Unsure | 5% No opinion |
| Youth / Teen Center | 68% Yes | 13% No | 15% Unsure | 5% No opinion |

39. Do you have any other historical or cultural comments?

Community and Recreational Facilities

40. How important is it for the Town to expand, provide, or improve each of the following:

| | Very Important | Important | No Opinion | Somewhat Important | Not Important |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------|-----------|---------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| Access to Walker Pond | 17% | 34% | 23% | 12% | 13% |
| Senior Center | 18% | 43% | 16% | 18% | 6% |
| Elderly activities | 17% | 41% | 19% | 18% | 6% |
| Youth / Teen Center | 28% | 42% | 9% | 15% | 6% |
| Public swimming pool | 22% | 29% | 11% | 13% | 26% |
| Picnic areas | 15% | 36% | 11% | 27% | 11% |
| Playgrounds | 23% | 48% | 6% | 17% | 6% |
| Basketball courts | 15% | 38% | 12% | 21% | 13% |
| Additional athletic fields | 13% | 24% | 19% | 20% | 23% |
| Community Center | 18% | 37% | 12% | 20% | 12% |
| Canoe / boat launch (Merrimack River) | 28% | 35% | 11% | 17% | 9% |
| Recreational trails (all types) | 24% | 40% | 10% | 16% | 10% |
| Cultural activities | 9% | 29% | 21% | 25% | 15% |
| Ice / skateboard rink | 14% | 28% | 15% | 23% | 20% |
| Emergency housing or shelter | 19% | 30% | 15% | 24% | 12% |
| Other: _____ | ? | ? | ? | ? | ? |

41. Are you in favor of charging user fees to help pay for additional Town sponsored and owned recreational programs?

55% Yes 24% No 19% Unsure 3% No opinion

42. Are you in favor of the School and/or Town sponsoring vacation and summer programs for school age children?

60% Yes 19% No 17% Unsure 4% No opinion



43. Please provide your opinion on how well you think the Town is performing the following services or activities and if the Town should reevaluate its level of spending on these services:

| | <i>Please "rate" these Town services.</i> | | | | <i>How much money should the Town spend on each service?</i> | | | |
|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|------|------|------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|------|------|------------|
| | Good | Fair | Poor | No Opinion | More | Same | Less | No Opinion |
| Animal control | 46% | 19% | 27% | 8% | 6% | 54% | 8% | 32% |
| Cemetery care | 63% | 12% | 23% | 2% | 6% | 65% | 2% | 27% |
| Fire protection | 83% | 7% | 10% | 0% | 22% | 58% | 1% | 19% |
| Library | 54% | 26% | 16% | 4% | 27% | 58% | 3% | 20% |
| Natural resource conservation | 42% | 31% | 24% | 3% | 21% | 47% | 7% | 24% |
| Parks & recreation | 42% | 38% | 13% | 7% | 30% | 49% | 4% | 17% |
| Police protection | 85% | 9% | 4% | 2% | 26% | 55% | 8% | 11% |
| Rescue / ambulance service | 75% | 11% | 13% | 1% | 23% | 60% | 2% | 15% |
| Road maintenance | 64% | 26% | 4% | 6% | 26% | 59% | 2% | 13% |
| School system | 68% | 17% | 12% | 3% | 16% | 56% | 13% | 15% |
| Snow removal | 83% | 11% | 4% | 2% | 11% | 73% | 2% | 14% |
| Garbage disposal & recycling | 60% | 22% | 10% | 8% | 12% | 67% | 5% | 17% |
| Water precinct | 54% | 24% | 17% | 5% | 9% | 60% | 6% | 25% |
| Town sewer | 29% | 15% | 47% | 9% | 11% | 33% | 10% | 46% |
| Welfare | 24% | 15% | 58% | 4% | 5% | 34% | 12% | 48% |
| Planning regulation admin & enforcement | 31% | 26% | 36% | 6% | 8% | 47% | 10% | 35% |
| Zoning administration & enforcement | 32% | 29% | 33% | 7% | 8% | 47% | 11% | 34% |
| Health regulations & enforcement | 27% | 25% | 43% | 4% | 6% | 47% | 6% | 41% |
| Other: _____ | ? | ? | ? | ? | ? | ? | ? | ? |

44. Do you use the Merrimack River for any of the following activities? If so, how often?

| | <i>Activity Use</i> | | | | <i>Amount of Usage</i> | |
|--------------------|---------------------|-----|--------|--------|------------------------|--------|
| | Yes | No | Unable | | Monthly | Yearly |
| Fishing | 52% | 46% | 2% | Weekly | 29% | 47% |
| Swimming | 41% | 56% | 3% | | 31% | 44% |
| Canoeing/boating | 57% | 39% | 3% | | 33% | 54% |
| Nature observation | 59% | 39% | 2% | | 38% | 34% |
| Hunting | 18% | 79% | 3% | | 20% | 64% |
| Other: _____ | ? | ? | ? | | ? | ? |

45. Would you like to see our Library Facilities improved and/or expanded?

51% Yes 15% No 15% Unsure 18% No opinion

46. Where should a proposed new Public Library be located:

41% At former Main Street School

18% Proposed site on State land on North Main Street immediately north of Woodland Commons

35% The existing Library is sufficient

7% Other: Most comments focused on expanding the existing library.

47. Are you in favor of relocating the Town Offices to the former Main Street School, now owned by the Town?

45% Yes 31% No 16% Unsure 8% No opinion

Economics

48. Which of the following enterprises / services would you like to see in Boscawen? Please check as many as you wish.

8% Professional office park

3% Heavy industry park

11% Restaurants

4% Hotels / motels

6% Tourism-related businesses

9% Agricultural-related businesses

5% None of the above

? Other : _____

8% Light industry park

4% Retail shopping mall

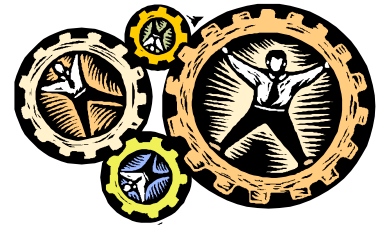
6% Recreational businesses

10% Major grocery chain

3% Conference Center

13% Health clinic / doctor's office

13% Day care / after school care



THANK YOU FOR FILLING OUT THIS COMMUNITY SURVEY!

Please comment on any issues you believe are important to Boscawen:

Would you like to participate in the Master Plan process?
For more information, please contact the Town Office at 796-2426.

COMMUNITY SURVEY WRITTEN RESPONSES

Respondents had the opportunity to write in their opinions and suggestions in many sections of the survey. Following is a comprehensive list of the unedited responses from the survey. They are also categorized by the appropriate section in order of the survey itself. Responses have been alphabetized for easier reference, and where duplicate answers occurred, a number in parentheses after the comment indicates the number of additional times the comment was given.

GENERAL SECTION
Survey Comments - January 2001
 General Questions

3. Is there any Area where you feel growth should be restricted?

- ? 1 (6)
- ? 2 (7)
- ? 3 (22)
- ? 4 (29)
- ? 5 (14)
- ? All (21)
- ? 1+3
- ? 2+3
- ? 2+4 (2)
- ? 3+2
- ? 3+4 (1)
- ? 4+1
- ? 4+2
- ? 4+3 (1)
- ? 4 or 3
- ? 4+5 (3)
- ? 1-2-3 (8)
- ? 1-2-4
- ? 2-4-5 (1)
- ? 3-4-5 (1)
- ? 5-1-3
- ? 1-2-3-4 (7)
- ? 4-3-2-1
- ? 1,2,3,4 [in that order] primarily north and north west areas of Boscawen
- ? 1 and 3 and parts of 2 and 4 (1)
- ? 3 and parts of 1,2,4
- ? 3; Farms; Walker Pond
- ? 3+4, more and more growth is taking away hunting and fishing areas
- ? Agricultural
- ? All rural/agricultural zones
- ? All. Growth should be limited, but not forbidden.
- ? All areas except route 3 and 4
- ? Along the river bed and railroad tracks, also forest areas need to be restricted.
- ? Along King St. and residential areas
- ? Apartment buildings/trailer parks (1)
- ? King St. (2)
- ? King St. and lower
- ? King St.; DW Highway; Main corridor of town

- ? King St.; Queen St.; Water St.; and Main St.
- ? Mobile homes
- ? Patnots pond area off of Queen St.
- ? Queen St. (1)
- ? Queen St. near Patenaude's
- ? Queen St./Town Forest area #4
- ? Riverside
- ? Town forest
- ? Town forest, Patenaude Pond, Merrimack River area
- ? Weir Rd., town forest area, Queen St.
- ? Whale town

4. Please rate each of the following features for their importance to you:

Other:

- ? A pool for are young people
- ? Bible teaching and believing churches
- ? Business
- ? Church
- ? Clean environment
- ? Crime
- ? Drinking water
- ? High quality education
- ? Hunting
- ? Industrial & Commercial
- ? Industry
- ? Keep the town small and rural
- ? Lack of sprawl
- ? Land used for hunting recreation
- ? Need more industry to lower tax base
- ? No planning; Planning precedes serfdom & theft of property rights & freedom
- ? None
- ? Open space (1)
- ? Police and Fire
- ? Promote quality development downtown
- ? Recreational place for youth (1)
- ? Revitalizing the tannery property
- ? Small government
- ? Town pool w/swim lessons
- ? Town Sewage
- ? Use of town buildings
- ? We don't want to be another Loudon Rd.
- ? Woods
- ? Youth center at old elementary school
- ? Youth center for kids
- ? Zoning; minimize tract homes

HOUSING SECTION
Survey Comments - January 2001
Housing Questions

5. What type of housing do you live in?

Other

- ? Camp
- ? Elderly housing
- ? Land
- ? One person apt.
- ? Rented property

TRANSPORTATION SECTION
Survey Comments - January 2001
Transportation Questions

12. Are there any sections of roadways or intersections that you feel are hazardous for vehicles?

- ? 456 High St driveway (very sharp corner- hard to see vehicles)
- ? All of King St
- ? All year intersection of Rt 3 and 4; Lower end of Queen St
- ? At the fork of Rt 3 and 4 (31)
- ? It's been cured - Black Forest moved
- ? Between the traffic lights and Rt. 3&4 split
- ? The blind corner at Rt 4 & Goodhue Rd.
- ? By the Dunkin Donuts is becoming hazardous (1)
- ? Corn Hill Rd (1)
- ? Corn Hill Rd from Rt. 4 to where the town left off repairs especially the 1st left-hand corner.
- ? Rte 4 on Corn Hill Rd is pitched wrong and it has a very large drop off that should be built up.
- ? Corner of Goodhue Rd. and Rt 4 and Main St, Rt 3 and 4 intersection.
- ? Corner of Sweat St. and Elm St. and the intersection of Rt 3 and 4.
- ? Dunkin Donuts and Sunco
- ? DW Highway Rt. 3, the speed limit is too fast.
- ? Eel St; Tremont St; intersection of Rt 3 & 4 near the Town Hall
- ? Elm St, River Rd
- ? First turn on Water St
- ? Forest Lane has many frost heaves. Turning on to Rt 3 from Forest Lane is very dangerous because of the hill to the right.
- ? Frost heaves on Water St, etc
- ? Goodhue Rd and High St (2)
- ? Goodhue Rd, Cornhill Rd
- ? Goodhue Rd (crosses over Rt. 4); Dunkin Donuts; Rte. 3 & 4 intersection by the church
- ? Goodhue Rd and Rt. 4 intersection (8)
- ? Goodhue Rd with Raymond and High St; Goodhue Rd with DW highway
- ? Goodhue Rd; High St; junction of Rt 3&4 (4)
- ? Goodhue Rd & Rt 4 intersection - Rt3 and Rt4 split (7)
- ? Goodhue Rd and Rt 4 and Raymond Rd Intersection (4)
- ? High St./King St. intersection (1)
- ? A light is needed by Water St/High St because it's a very dark area.
- ? I think when the police park down by the lights (on the grass in the middle of the Rd) that is very hazardous.
- ? Intersection of 3&4; Dunking Donuts area (1)

- ? Intersection at the Highway View Farm
- ? Intersection next to main library and intersection of Rt 4 and Goodhue Rd
- ? Intersection of church Rt 3 and 4 needs a yellow blinking light to get traffic 4 to yield to 3 (1)
- ? Intersection of DWH-High & King St
- ? Intersection of Goodhue Rd. - High St - 90 degree corner on Water St x2 (see from picture)
- ? Intersection of Queen St and King St, Rt 3 and 4 at the church and by Dunkin Donuts at the entrance.
- ? Intersection of Raymond and High St
- ? Intersection of Rt 3 and 4 near Library
- ? Intersection of Rt 3 and Rt 4 - DW Highway should reduce the speed limit
- ? Intersection Rt 4 and DW Highway
- ? Intersection Rt 3&4; Goodhue/Rt4; Forest Lane/Rt 3 (1)
- ? Intersection Rt 3&4; Goodhue Rd & Rt.4; Water St and Rt.4
- ? Jackson St needs a street light at the end on Main St
- ? JCT
- ? Junction 3 and 4 Goodhue Rd
- ? Junction of High St & Goodhue Rd even with blinker Junction of High & King St (consider traffic light?)
- ? The visibility at the junction of Park St. and Queen St. is very restricted.
- ? Junction of Rt 3 and 4 for vehicles traveling north to take left onto Rt 4
- ? Junction of Rt 4 and Goodhue Rd grade should be lowered on Rt 4; it's a blind crossing.
- ? Junction of upper Queen and King St. Heavy truck traffic down Queen St.
- ? Junction Queen and Main St
- ? King St and North Main
- ? King St. at Dunking Donuts; entering Johnson St. from Park St.
- ? King St and Queen St
- ? Lower Tremont St.
- ? Mostly no. Maybe the intersection of Goodhue Rd., Raymond Rd. and High St
- ? Near Boscawen Church - Intersection of 3 and 4 heading south cars come up from gully.
- ? No (24)
- ? No more than any other town
- ? No stop sign at the corn hill and Knowlton
- ? North Water St should be paved to this line notby one person or family
- ? North Water St.
- ? Parts of Water St.
- ? Queen St, Eel St
- ? Raymond Rd (7)
- ? Raymond Rd and High St
- ? Raymond Rd. crossing D.W. Hwy.
- ? Raymond Rd/Queen St; Rt 4/Raymond/Goodhue Rd
- ? Raymond Rd; DW highway; intersection of Rt 3&4 at church
- ? Raymond Rd; Rt 3&4 by library
- ? Raymond Rd & North Water St
- ? Raymond Rd and Goodhue Rd; Rt 3 and 4 split; DW Highway and Forest Rd
- ? Raymond Rd and Goodhue Rd and High St
- ? Raymond Rd, I'm familiar with road and intersection on to Rt 4
- ? Raymond Rd is very poorly surfaced and maintained. The intersections at Raymond Rd
- ? Raymond Rd with Rt 4
- ? River Rd
- ? Roads that are full of lumps-potholes and the sides of the roads that just drop off into deep holes
- ? Rt 3 - intersection Rt 3&4 to town line - speed limit 40mph- Forest Lane to County Home -35mph
- ? Rt 3 & Rt 4 at Church; Dunkin Donuts; Cumberlands; Jct to Penacook near Hannah Dustins
- ? Rt 3 and Forest Lane
- ? Rt 4 and Rt 3A

- ? Rt 4-West of intersection Rt 3 North
- ? Rt 3 & 4 intersection and in front of Dunkin Donuts when vehicles park on the Rd.
- ? Rt 3&4 connection; Raymond Rd cross over Rt 4
- ? Rt 3&4 junction – southbound especially, no sidewalks, pedestrian hazard
- ? Rt 4 west due to speeding
- ? Same as 13
- ? Some back Roads
- ? Sweatt St Hill is a blind spot - vehicles should be warned to stay right
- ? The curve on Rt 3 about 3 miles north of the split of Rt 3&4 in Boscawen
- ? The fork at the church; Queen St; Dunkin' Donuts/Sunoco section of High St.
- ? The intersection of Goodhue Rd and Rt 3; almost all of King St, especially in front of Dunkin Donuts; split of 3 and 4 in front of the town hall
- ? The mailbox at Cumberland Farms is plowed in such a way that it is hard to see traffic on Rt. 4 if you are in an average car
- ? Tremont St before crossing bridge
- ? Unknown (3)
- ? Upper Queen St
- ? Upper end of Queen St - 4 corners of Goodhue and Raymond Rd
- ? Upper Queen St bears watching when Edmunds kick into high gear in the summer and spring of 2001
- ? Upper Queen St Junction with King St
- ? Water St (1)
- ? Water St; intersection Rt 3&4 at church
- ? Water St at 90 degree turns at Walker Pond and No. Main St; King St at Congregational church; US 3 at sharp curve south of County farm
- ? Where Rt 4 feeds into Rt 3, drivers can't see that yield sign
- ? Where Rt 3 and 4 divide in town at town hall. People are just too aggressive going both north and south. Also where Goodhue Rd. crosses Rte. 4 it is very, very dangerous with that hill coming up from
- ? Steenbakes.
- ? Yes - King St - speed limit should be 30mph; High St & Goodhue Rd intersection - remove hump
- ? Yes Corn Hill Rd at intersection of Rt 4 going south on Rt 4 to enter Corn Hill Rd
- ? Yes King and Goodhue Rd
- ? Yes lower Corn Hill Rd but especially a short Rd that connects lower Water St with Rt 4.
- ? Yes on DW High Way in winter people speed and are not cautious of children.

13. Are there any sections of roadways or intersections that you feel are hazardous for pedestrians?

- ? Goodhue Rd. and Route 4 is very dangerous (blind hill and curve)"
- ? A side walk is absent from about where the Boscawen Elementary school drive is to the intersection with the sidewalk onto King St by the Crete Farm.
- ? Academy St, April Ave people drive too fast, speed limit is 25mph in this neighborhood ENFORCE IT!!!
- ? After the lights on Route 3 and Route 4
- ? All no sidewalks. Cross walks not repainted when Main Street was paved.
- ? All of King St; Rt 3&4
- ? All of King Street; section of road between Ross Express and Crete's Farm (needs a sidewalk)
- ? All of Route 4
- ? All of Routes 3 and 4 (1)
- ? Any road except where there are sidewalks
- ? Any section is hazardous if there are no printed cross walks and if the side walks aren't kept in good repair
- ? Anywhere you walk without sidewalks
- ? At 3&4 split by library & church & Water St
- ? Becoming harder to cross Route 3 in Lower Boscawen (by Branch Library)

- ? Beginning of Water Street
- ? Below
- ? Continue of sidewalks from lower Boscawen to Cretes Farm the above is answer to no. 14
- ? Corn Hill Rd.
- ? Corn Hill Road speeders Ledges on Route 4
- ? Corner of Goodhue Road and Route 4
- ? Crossing King Street (1)
- ? Crossing King Street (anywhere); Water Street west of Raymond Road; Water St west of Raymond Rd
- ? Crossing King Street and see below
- ? Crossing the intersection of Route 3 and Route 4 especially walking with children
- ? Daniel Webster Highway (1)
- ? Depot w/ King; Jackson w/ North Main
- ? Difficult to see road if someone doesn't know where Jackson St
- ? Dunkin Donuts
- ? DW Highway Rt 3
- ? Everyone should be careful about walking on secondary roads. I'm sure Boscawen has a few with fast moving vehicles.
- ? Everywhere except King St
- ? Exit 17 west confuses those leaving Interstate 93 - they panic when they see traffic from Hoyt Rd
- ? Fork at route 3 and 4 (9)
- ? From 180 North Main to the sidewalk by Crete's
- ? Hannah Dustin and Sweat Street
- ? Highly traveled Jackson and Tremont Streets
- ? I would like crosswalks by Carey's Market across Route 3.
- ? I'd like to see the crosswalk repainted at Queen St. and Jackson St. still used by kids getting off the bus and walking up Queen and Park St. Also across walk in front of Carey's Market near the mail box is needed.
- ? Intersection 3 and 4 people crossing to walk on sidewalk along King Street.
- ? Intersection of Route 3 and Route 4 at "v" by Fire station - King St at Cumberland Farms and Black Forest - all side roads
- ? Intersection route 4 and Goodhue Rd.
- ? JCT route 3 and 4 (by church); Rte 4 between Police Station and Corn Hill Rd
- ? Junction of King St; North Main St and Rt 3 bypass
- ? Junction of Queen St. and King St including the length of upper Queens Street due to heavy truck traffic. Crossing King St.
- ? King & High St should have sidewalks on both sides of street
- ? King and Main St - Route3 and Route4
- ? King St (8)
- ? King St and North Main (1)
- ? King St at intersection w/ Rt 3&4
- ? King St. near park/library could use a crosswalk there with warning coming south. Help Cumberland and teams crossing during games.
- ? King Street with all of the different businesses no cross walks
- ? Lights at intersection of Routes 3 & 4
- ? Lower King Street to North Main Street crossing
- ? Lower Queen
- ? Main St; King St
- ? Maybe we need a couple of crosswalks by Post Office and Cumberland Farms.
- ? Most
- ? Most roadways are without sidewalks or adequate right of ways for pedestrians
- ? Most sections have curvy roads and not sidewalks, also hazardous for bikers
- ? Most side roads
- ? N/A I live at a very small dead end so I am not sure of the rest of the town.

- ? Near Boscawen church Route 3 and 4 intersection going in the south direction.
- ? No (32)
- ? North Main St
- ? No Opinion
- ? None Known (2)
- ? Possibly the intersection of King St with 93 access road
- ? Probably are some but I am not aware - the pedestrian has some responsibility too
- ? Queen St.
- ? Queen St; Jamie Welch Park Rd; all roads to all parks
- ? Raymond Rd
- ? River Road
- ? Route 3 and 4 junction at the Church and along Route 3, 3 and 4 North of the junction needs sidewalks.
- ? Route 3 and Queen Street
- ? Route 3 near Alan's Restaurant and Boscawen Green
- ? Route 3 Sanborn Farm to Church
- ? Route 3/4 intersection where it becomes King Street. It is hard, as a runner or bicycle, to get through intersection. Also sidewalks to new school location. Part of it is in, but there is a part missing.
- ? Route 3A
- ? Route 4 between Police Station and Salisbury
- ? Rt 3
- ? Rt 3 north of church
- ? RT 3 to Rt 3&4 split
- ? Rt 3&4
- ? Same
- ? Same as #12 (4)
- ? Same as above, there is bound to be a serious accident maybe a sign would help
- ? Same as above (4)
- ? The Corner at Steenbeke and Water Street. There should be parts because of the low spots to turn corners.
- ? There needs to be a crosswalk at Carey's Market; very dangerous at hill
- ? Town roadways not very conducive to pedestrians
- ? Upper Queen and King Streets, intersection of Route 3 and 4 near Congregational Church.
- ? Water St (road needs to be wider and the road needs major repair)
- ? Water Street and Corn Hill Road
- ? We need more sidewalks especially in the more heavily traveled areas.
- ? We would all like sidewalks
- ? West side of King St - near Town Offices and Church Field
- ? Where Route 3 and Route 4 split at end of town need traffic lights
- ? Yes and there always will be
- ? Yes, crossing the street from Goodhue Rd to Raymond Rd. It is impossible to see the traffic coming from the south.
- ? Yes, King Street by the lights at Cretes Farm. People walk in the brake down lanes to get up to Route 3 or to Route 4 Corn Hill Road
- ? You don't have much pedestrian movement in town. They are usually walking in the sidewalk.

14. Please identify any streets where you feel additional sidewalks are needed.

- ? A sidewalk up the driveway to Boscawen Elementary (1)
- ? Area near traffic lights at intersection of Routes 3 & 4
- ? Area number 5
- ? Being an avid walker, any sidewalks being built would be an improvement. Many times I walk in Concord because they have sidewalks
- ? Between Ross Express and Cretes Farm (3)
- ? By school
- ? Continue sidewalk on King St to "Crete" Farm/winter months/ from School to King St
- ? Corn Hill Rd (1)
- ? Corn Hill Road to "Dump" Road
- ? DW Highway (1)
- ? End of Rt 3 where it meets king from school to farm.
- ? Extend Main Street and King Street through intersection with lights.
- ? Fire station and Church to Steenbeke
- ? From King St to the elementary school
- ? From river south on King then Main Street to connect with sidewalk from lower end
- ? High St
- ? High Street from 3 and 4 Intersection to town buildings on East Side of road so one can walk to town offices.
- ? Jackson (1)
- ? Jackson & Tremont Streets (1)
- ? King Street (1)
- ? King and Main St - Route3 and Route4
- ? King St sidewalks needed along the street opposite Boscawen library
- ? Lower Queen St
- ? Lower Queen St off Main St
- ? Main Street- where it does not exist
- ? Most
- ? Most in lower Boscawen
- ? NA
- ? None (14)
- ? North Main St (1)
- ? North Maine St from lights south to existing side walk
- ? North Main to King St continuing King; Eel St
- ? No opinion (2)
- ? No. Actually, the sidewalks are properly placed and maintained. Many people safely walk along King St through the Plains.
- ? None Known (3)
- ? None. Reduce truck traffic.
- ? North Main Street to Elementary School
- ? Not familiar with Boscawen yet
- ? Not sure - maybe below
- ? On King Street from River Road up to where the sidewalk begins going towards Penacook. On King Street from River Road straight through the lights up Route 4 to where sidewalks begin.
- ? Plow sidewalk from Crete's Farm to Daily Scoop Route 4 (between police station and Cornhill Rd.)
- ? Police station to Flanders Road (Route 4)
- ? Queen St (3)
- ? Queen St. (upper) Depot St. (for Icids) to Park (Welch)
- ? Queen St. lower
- ? Queen, Rts.3/4 from Dunkin Donuts area to past Nurseries
- ? Route 3

- ? Route 3 by Ross Express
- ? Route 3 from intersection of 3 and 4 to Franklin Line
- ? Route 3 needs sidewalks to new school location.
- ? Route 3 north of junction and Route 4 north of junction.
- ? Route 3A
- ? Route 4
- ? Route 4 north as far as Elektrisola - Route 3 south into Penacook
- ? Rt 3; side streets in lower Boscawen such as Eel St
- ? Same as above (5)
- ? Same as above plus Corn Hill Road much traffic on Saturday morning because of dump.
- ? Same as number 13 (1)
- ? School - elementary
- ? Sidewalk on King St needs repairs
- ? Sidewalks extended to Route 3 and Route 4 especially for children with bicycles
- ? The link between King St(upper village) & North Main St(lower village)
- ? Traffic lights at Route 3
- ? Tremont
- ? Tremont - Academy- Gage- Water- basically any street where pedestrians hone to walk - I am a Senior and walk for exercise - every time I go walking I have to step off the road onto someone's lawn - as there are always cars
- ? Water St (1)
- ? Water Street; south end of King Street; High Street to Water Street; US 3 North of Congregational church
- ? Welch Field area
- ? You don't take care of the ones you have

15. Please identify any roads or streets where you feel vehicles travel at excessive speeds.

- ? Academy St
- ? All
- ? All of King St
- ? Any street will be traveled at excessive speed if the person driving - thinks he can get away with it!
- ? April Ave; Jackson; Academy & Gage
- ? Chandler St
- ? Chandler St; Center of town
- ? Chandler Street - there are a lot of little kids and cars on occasion going too fast to stop should a child been in the road.
- ? Corn Hill Rd =insane on Wednesdays and Saturdays Water St- Queen St
- ? Corn Hill Rd (6)
- ? Corn Hill Rd - especially the larger trucks which go fast and when hit the bumps they shake your house
- ? Corn Hill Rd and Rt 4 (1)
- ? Corn Hill Rd; Woodbury Lane
- ? Corn Hill Rd; Woodbury Lane; Water St
- ? Corn Hill Road and King Street Route 4
- ? Corn Hill Rd; Chandler St; Water St
- ? D.W. Highway; King St; High St
- ? Daniel Webster Highway (4)
- ? Daniel Webster Highway from the church northward towards Franklin
- ? Depot St & Welch Park; King St; Main St
- ? Do not know (1)
- ? DW Highway Rt 3
- ? Eel St

- ? Elm Street
- ? Everyone is afraid to speed
- ? Forest Lane (1)
- ? Gage Street (1)
- ? Gage Street and Academy Street and Jackson Street
- ? Going north coming through the lights in town.
- ? Good police coverage
- ? Goodhue Rd; King Street; Water Street; Daniel Webster highway
- ? Goodhue Road is a problem. Many cars travel too quickly up and down the two hills. They often exceed the posted speed limit of 30 miles per hour.
- ? Harris Hill Rd and Tremont St
- ? High St (4)
- ? High Street from Goodhue Road to intersection of routes 3 and 4
- ? I can only speak for Water Street being windy as is and yes it does have a few fast vehicles on it but thank you to our policeman I do see them often.
- ? Jackson and Gage and Academy
- ? Jackson St (5)
- ? Jackson Street and Eel Street despite posted limit of 25 MPH
- ? Jackson Street road in front of Alan's restaurant
- ? Jackson-Queen-Tremont
- ? Junction of Water St & High Street through junction of Goodhue Rd & High St
- ? King and Queen St (1)
- ? King St (5)
- ? King St. & High St.
- ? King St; Route 3 (2)
- ? King St; DW highway (1)
- ? King St; Rt 4; Rt 3 (1)
- ? King Street - highly congested, should be 30mph
- ? King Street; Corn Hill Rd; High St
- ? King street through lights. Police also travel at excess at lights towards town. Cars/people would not be able to get out of their way.
- ? Lower Queen coming off of hill (2)
- ? Lower Queen St (1)
- ? Lower Tremont
- ? Main St (2)
- ? Main Street and King Street and Water Street and Cornhill Road and Route 3
- ? Main Street between Marshall's Farm & Ross Express
- ? Main Street Route 3 and 4 intersection. Do not slow down for yield sign as required by law.
- ? Most
- ? Most Streets
- ? Most streets (existing speed limits are not followed)
- ? No (7)
- ? North Main St
- ? North Water and Water St
- ? Nothing blatant
- ? Oak St
- ? Occasionally on upper Queen St
- ? On DW Highway - I fear pulling out and the safety of my children worries me - nobody does 50 mph
- ? On Main Road by Gary's Market
- ? On the flats, Jackson Academy, and Gage St since the school closed
- ? Our police do that
- ? Park and Oak St

- ? Park Street in the summer
- ? Queen St (8)
- ? Queen St and King St - North Main St
- ? Queen St; Academy – Gauge & Jackson St
- ? Queen St; Main St
- ? Queen St; Tremont St
- ? Queen Street, Corn Hill Road, Water Street
- ? Queen Street coming off hill to Main St
- ? Raymond Road. Recommend reducing limit to 30 MPH
- ? River Road
- ? Route 12 from Goodhue Road to fire station and Route 3 from Fairbanks Drive to Davis garage.
- ? Route 3 (4)
- ? Route 3 and 4 (4)
- ? Route 3 and Route 4 and Main St
- ? Route 3 down by Jim's Restaurant passing zone
- ? Route 3 from Junction of routes 3 and 4 north
- ? Route 3 from Sanborns' to Franklin line and Route 4 from Goodhue Rd to Salisbury.
- ? Route 3 in Lower Boscawen (see #13) difficult to get out of side streets because cars come along too fast
- ? Route 3 intersection Route 3 & Route 4 to town line - Speed limit 40mph - Forest Lane to County Home 35mph
- ? Route 3 past Veterans Cemetery
- ? Route 3A
- ? Route 3-North of intersection Route 4 West
- ? Route 4 (4)
- ? Route 4 (High Street) between down town Boscawen and Sailisbury
- ? Route 4 and Goodhue Road and Route 3 southbound entering Route 3 and 4 split North End.
- ? Route 4 from Goodhue Rd to Cornhill Roads
- ? Route 4 from lights east to flashing light at road to Penacook
- ? Route 4 High Street
- ? Route 4 nearing Salisbury. Passing zones are becoming dangerous as residence leave driveways
- ? Route 4 outside Town
- ? Route 4; Route 3; King Street and Water Street; Goodhue Road
- ? Route 4; Route 3; Water Street (1)
- ? Route 4; Water St
- ? Route 4 from Colby Hill into town - Corn Hill Road - Water street
- ? Rt.4, but I feel BPD has done an excellent job establishing their presence on our highways
- ? Rt 3 and Queen St
- ? Rt 3 between Davis Auto Body and the Merrimack County Home
- ? Rt 3 towards Franklin
- ? Rt 3; Eel St
- ? Rt 4 south
- ? Salisbury traffic coming down through Colby Hill
- ? See number 13, Academy; Gage; Jackson; Harris Hill
- ? Several connecting streets to main roads
- ? Sweatt St; Chandler St; Corn Hill rd; Queen St; Eel St
- ? The dump trucks in particular on upper Queen St
- ? The North end of Tremont
- ? Tremont between East Street and Harris Hill
- ? Tremont St (1)
- ? Trucks on High St
- ? Water St (9)
- ? Water St - Goodhue Rd - High St.

- ? Water St, King St near Cumberland's
- ? Water St. Rt 3 from church to Franklin town line; Rt. 4 from church to Salisbury town line
- ? Water St; High St; DW Highway; North Water St
- ? Water St; King St
- ? Water St; Rt 3&4 north
- ? Water Street and Corn Hill Road (1)
- ? Water Street and Route 3 by Jim's Place
- ? Water Street and Route 4 High Street through Goodhue Road intersection and Route 3.
- ? Water Street and stretch to Hartfords corner.
- ? Water Street and upper and lower
- ? Water Street; Woodbury Lane (1)
- ? Water Street, especially in the morning while children are waiting for the bus.
- ? Water Street, King Street, High Street
- ? Water Street; Goodhue Road; Forest Lane
- ? What road doesn't have excessive speeds?
- ? Woodbury Lane

19. Please identify any areas where you think the creation of an alternative transportation trail (such as for commuting by bicycle, etc) should be further pursued.

- ? 1-2-4 areas
- ? A biking walking trail following Route 3 onto King Street
- ? A good idea, but I don't have a clear idea for locations
- ? A north-south corridor connecting Franklin-Boscawen-Penacook and Concord would be ideal
- ? A rebuilt bridge off Depot St will open (restore?) some nice size bicycle loops and could open access to Both sides of the river.
- ? All along Rt 3 and 4
- ? Along High Street
- ? Along King Street Old RR Tracks
- ? Along Merrimack River (3)
- ? Along railroad beds along Route 3
- ? Along Route 3 to county nursing home.
- ? Along Rt 3 from Forest Lane to Penacook; Rt 4 from Water St to Penacook
- ? Along the River
- ? Along the river (from Welch Park to old tannery)
- ? Around the elementary school
- ? Around Walker Pond; town forest or along Merrimack River
- ? Between Water Street, Corn Hill Road, and Queen Street (away from King Street); something parallel to King Street, near Merrimack River
- ? Bicycle trail along some areas would be nice for recreation
- ? Bike lane or path between Boscawen & Penacook
- ? Bike path along the river
- ? Bike trail close to river between Franklin and Concord
- ? Bike trail on the bridge
- ? Bike trails would be nice
- ? Boscawen to Penacook
- ? Bypass Depot St to Welch Park
- ? Can't think of any
- ? Convert old rail lines into trails
- ? Could something be done with the already existing snowmobile trails without hurting them?
- ? Depot Street across the bridge into Canterbury.

- ? Don't know (3)
- ? From Franklin line along old railroad bed to Hannah Dustin Monument
- ? Hannah Dustin area
- ? High St; King St; Main St; D.W
- ? How about the Train stopping in Town again?
- ? I don't know where, but I sure would welcome an area for my family to ride bicycles
- ? I recommend a bike lane on High Street and Route 3 and King Street and North Main Street with sufficient shoulder width.
- ? I think a nice bike and walking trail would be very nice. (1)
- ? I would like to see a bike trail - like the one in East Concord by the River
- ? In conservation areas, but specify no motorized vehicles of any type
- ? Kids and young Adults use the sidewalks to use their bikes - there should be a place for them to ride - so that walking pedestrians don't have to move when they are on the sidewalks together
- ? Main St
- ? Maybe, but what is going to be included in the etc.-part?
- ? None (14)
- ? No Heseary
- ? No opinion (3)
- ? None - let's not waste any more money on ideas like this. Look at the State's bike paths off I-89 - never used. (2)
- ? Not in Boscawen town forest
- ? Not sure, possibly Route 3
- ? Rail trail
- ? Railroad bed (2)
- ? Railroad bed from Forest Lane to Penacook
- ? Railroad bed from Hannah Dustin North
- ? Railroad tracks (5)
- ? Railroad tracks - Boscawen to Concord; North to Franklin
- ? Route 3 (1)
- ? Route 3 & 4
- ? Route 3 & Route 4 through Town toward Penacook
- ? Route 4 (High St)
- ? Section of Route 4 going toward the nursing home
- ? Shoestring up Route 3 to Franklin
- ? Should not be done
- ? Sidewalk & bike paths along sides of Route 3 & Route 4 (1)
- ? Snowmobile
- ? The Canterbury/Boscawen bridge. Could detour traffic off Route 3 King Street One way Road
- ? The snowmobile trail needs to be cut.
- ? Trail for bikes in Town Forest would be nice.
- ? Trails for horses; bridge on Chadwick Hill Rd
- ? Unknown-but would like to see it happen
- ? Use railroad right of way/ track bed as bicycle, roller blades, walking, or jogging path

CONSERVATION, PRESERVATION, AND OPEN SPACE & EXISTING AND FUTURE LAND USE SECTION

Survey Comments - January 2001

Conservation, Preservation, and Open Space Questions

24. What are the most important land conservation objectives to you? Please number in order of importance with 1 being most important:

Other:

- ? All are very important (1)
- ? Boscawen should stay much as it is
- ? Each projector conservation objective should be looked at and debated over
- ? Hunting/fishing
- ? Keeping large tracts of land in an unfragmented, undeveloped state to support all of the above
- ? Land management
- ? Large tracts of undeveloped land
- ? Parks and common
- ? They all attract tourists and they are all free to enjoy
- ? They are equally important

25. There are 15,690 acres of land in Boscawen, 566 of which are permanently protected from development (3.6%). What do you feel is the ideal goal for permanent conservation land in Boscawen?

Other:

- ? 0 (1)
- ? 7
- ? 8
- ? 15 (4)
- ? 15-18
- ? 25 (1)
- ? 75
- ? 100
- ? 10-May
- ? 20-Oct (1)

26. Which of the following funding methods would you support to fund land conservation purchase in Boscawen? (Please check all that apply).

Other:

- ? Anyway to get the job done
- ? Bequeaths; donation; private organizations like The Nature Conservancy
- ? Dedication of revenues from management of current town lands
- ? From BCC funds
- ? Get \$ anyway possible
- ? If less than fee land conservation recommend serious look at transfer of developments rights.
- ? Impact fees and other revenues from those who develop lands
- ? Land Conservation is already funded through land use change tax. That is enough public money.
- ? Lottery
- ? No opinion
- ? None (1)
- ? Not sure

- ? SPNHF / LCIP cooperative
- ? Whatever is available and feasible

27. In what ways do you enjoy Boscawen's recreational opportunities? Please check all that apply:

Other

- ? Camping
- ? Do not reside here
- ? I have not yet explored the opportunities Boscawen has to offer.
- ? I love to park my motor home at the boat-launching ramp for the day.
- ? Parks and swimming in the river
- ? Picnicking
- ? Running
- ? Running and cycling on back roads
- ? Searching for endangered plants
- ? Swimming
- ? Tennis
- ? Tennis; Park
- ? Use none, but like to know it is available for others
- ? Walking (3)
- ? Walking and biking
- ? Walking on sidewalks and along Rivers
- ? Welch Park

30. What one special place in Boscawen is most important to permanently conserve?

- ? 1 zone trail
- ? 1000 Acre- Martha Stuart Found
- ? 15690 ACRES
- ? Access to use the River
- ? All along the Merrimack River (21)
- ? All along the river prohibiting agricultural waste
- ? All of it
- ? All open lands and woods should be left alone
- ? Along the Pond and River
- ? Along the river (3)
- ? Along the river, Patenaude's pond
- ? Any Indian burial grounds or related Indian subjects
- ? Area #4
- ? Area 3 (1)
- ? Area around Patenaude's Pond and heading down towards town forest.
- ? Area around Water Street and Walker Pond
- ? Area by Merrimack River; Walker Pond.
- ? Areas 1 and 2 and 3 town map
- ? Attempt to add Tamposi & Creaser land (not suitable for building) contents to present conservation land
- ? Between Corn Hill Road and Queen Street
- ? Between Queen St & Corn Hill (gravel pit) gravel is needed
- ? Boscawen hunters land (gun club)
- ? Boscawen St Forest along Merrimack River
- ? Cabot Memorial Forest
- ? Church at junction of 3&4

- ? Church area across from town offices
- ? Combine Town Office & Library & Historical into one at Old Main Street School
- ? Conservation area off lower Queen St.
- ? Creaser property on Queen Street and Patenaude Pond area, also Water Street
- ? Create farm land
- ? Don't know (4)
- ? DW Highway; all border town lines
- ? Either side of Colby Hill
- ? Farm lands (1)
- ? Farms
- ? Farms on Water Street (1)
- ? Floodplains
- ? Forested Areas (3)
- ? Forests and wetlands
- ? Gerrish Station
- ? Hannah Dustin (2)
- ? Hannah Dustin Island - town recreation fields and community park
- ? High Street
- ? Hirsh marsh; Patenaude's pond area; along the Merrimack River area; Stirrup Iron Rd pond and brook
- ? Historical sites and buildings (1)
- ? Historical Society Building
- ? I would love to see King St from the Church to the traffic lights have Elm trees as it once did.
- ? Jamie Welch Park
- ? Jamie Welch Park by the river for canoeing
- ? King St.
- ? Land must be able to generate income if it is to remain undeveloped
- ? Merrimack County Forest
- ? Merrimack River should be no home development along banks
- ? Merrimack River frontage (1)
- ? My Home
- ? National Forest
- ? Natural resources; forests; rivers; etc
- ? Near county home
- ? No Opinion
- ? None (1)
- ? Not sure, but would like to see open land stay that way
- ? Open Agricultural lands along Water Street (1)
- ? Park downtown
- ? Parks (4)
- ? Patenaude's Pond area (9)
- ? Patenaude's Pond and surrounding area on Queen St (3)
- ? Patenaude's Pond area - lands between Routes 3 and Route 4 to Town Lines
- ? Patenaude's Pond; Creaser lot; River front area
- ? Patenaude's Pond; Queen St.
- ? Queen Street Area (1)
- ? River (2)
- ? River and Crete's Farm land
- ? River Basin
- ? River front (4)
- ? River on Eel St.
- ? River way
- ? Section of land between upper Queen St and Corn Hill Road

- ? Silver Farm; Open spaces; Walker Pond
- ? Silver property on Water St; Creaser property on Queen St
- ? Small farms
- ? Species preservation; future generations
- ? Stanley Silver's farm
- ? Stirrup Iron Rd. and area brook pond
- ? The areas along the river, also the beautiful old homes on King Street
- ? The center of town - the look and feel of Boscawen hinges on "downtown" - what everyone sees!
- ? The Highway farm and its lands
- ? The historical area around the Congregational Church
- ? The land on Queen St and Silver's Farm area; Jones' farm
- ? The Merrimack River, Boat Launchings
- ? The park on Corn Hill Road
- ? The Town Forest (12)
- ? The views along the two Rivers - especially the Contoocook River(N Main to Harris Hill)
- ? Town Forest and adjacent areas
- ? Town Forest and any large tracts the town can acquire
- ? Town Forest and borderline land; Merrimack River; River basin
- ? Town Forest and surrounding wetlands.
- ? Town Forest off Weir Road (1)
- ? Town forest; Patreay pond
- ? Town Forest; Queen Street area
- ? Town Forest with expansion and acquisition to Concord Line, and areas on upper Queen
- ? Town Hall
- ? Trail system of the Town Forest.
- ? Upper Queen St; Land owned by town
- ? Walker Pond (10)
- ? Walker and Couches Pond
- ? Walker Pond Area (3)
- ? Walker Pond watershed
- ? Walker Pond watershed and shoreline/Cathole
- ? Water St and North Water St
- ? Waterways
- ? Weir farm area
- ? Weirs farm land now owned by town
- ? Wetlands along Corn Hill Rd
- ? What should be the route 4 historic district
- ? Wildlife preserve on lower Queen St.
- ? Windy Ghoul Ridge and Walker Pond area
- ? Windygool? (probably misspelled)
- ? Wooded areas in general
- ? You already took it away with the State Veterans Cemetery!

HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL SECTION
Survey Comments - January 2001
 Historical and Cultural Questions

39. Do you have any other historical or cultural comments?

- ? An inventory of all the historic markers in town should be made.
- ? Boscawen historical past needs to be... . Also, the historic needs to be restricted as to remodeled or demolished.
- ? Bronze Plaque should be afforded by the town for Daniel Webster's homes on King St.
- ? Crucial to preserve the Town's historical character and introduce vigorous zoning limits.
- ? Cultural Events sponsored by Friends of the Library
- ? Designate King St a Historic District.
- ? Development in vicinity of the church should be discouraged.
- ? Do not tell people living in historical houses how they will have to maintain them.
- ? Don't let history interfere with present day living. Let's all live in the same world.
- ? Don't lose the remaining beauty of King St.
- ? Explore scenic road designations and encourage preservation of stone walls and other artifacts of Boscawen's agrarian past.
- ? For # 38- police -yes
- ? Get Cumberland farms to refinish their buildings to conform to some sort of cultural theme.
- ? I am afraid our King St will eventually be an extension of Fisherville Rd with poor zoning. Where is our beautiful main drag going?
- ? I am not sure if Hannah Dustin is a Boscawen area, but if it is I would like to see that area beautified.
- ? I love the quaintness of Boscawen. The older homes down King Street really make it. Please keep Boscawen small and quaint. It's beautiful.
- ? I think the former Main St school should be made into a preschool. There are far from enough preschools in this area!
- ? I would like to see more boat launching and Picnic areas along the Merrimack River.
- ? Important to maintain Hannah Dustin Monument and the Lassonde house now owned by NH Art Association.
- ? It is a travesty that the Town did not enact a Historical District or Zone on King St in 1920 or 1930. This town's valuations would be like Hopkinton's if we had. Many out of state visitors have commented on what an ideal 18th, 19th century townscape King St would be if the gas station, retail, etc were moved to other areas. The town should develop a long range plan to buy these out or facilitate their move to a nearby site out of the view of King St
- ? It is important to protect historic sites.
- ? Keep its historical look as much as possible –especially Main and King St
- ? The library and historical society do good work
- ? Main St school could be both. Down stairs with pool tables, Ping-Pong and TV for teens. We need both teens and seniors, mostly teens.
- ? Main Street school should be given away to someone with the money to fix it or remove it. Not a tax expense to me.
- ? Moved to town for rural setting. We would like to see it maintained.
- ? None (14)
- ? Not at this time
- ? Preserve some, use some, invest in the future, and progress with some; seek balance; all extremes are dysfunctional.
- ? Preserve stone walls and cellar holes through scenic road designation.
- ? Preserve the old homes without undue restrictions upon owners.
- ? Protection of King St becoming more of a commercial strip
- ? Some sort of community center at Main St. School (maybe like Penacook Community Center)

- ? Support should come through grants & fundraising, not tax dollars.
- ? We could afford to spend less time worrying about these issues and more effort and money on today's needs like welfare and housing
- ? We need to be careful that King St doesn't end up looking like 30 Pines! At least keep facades of homes and other buildings.
- ? We need to do more in this area! King Street with its commercial zoning is a great risk. I think we should grandfather existing commercial activity and change King Street back into residential, agricultural, and home businesses. Put the commercial strip on North Main Street to attract more Penacook business as well as those passing through.
- ? We should find a way to encourage preservation of the historic character around King Street and some of the older farms without placing the burden solely on the property owner.
- ? We wish that people would stop covering historical old houses on King St and destroying their historical and community character. We believe that historical ordinances should and can be enacted.
- ? While the historic district is a dead issue, we are still vulnerable along King St. and the Lower end of town. We need to explore ways to encourage future developers to preserve the buildings.
- ? Yes, should development occur, implement requirements that force industry, etc. to purchase a minimum of three acres. Also, zone permanent right of way and encourage good landscape appearances.

COMMUNITY AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES SECTION
Survey Comments - January 2001
 Community and Recreational Facilities Questions

40. How important is it for the Town to expand, provide, or improve each of the following:

Other:

- ? Affordable daycare
- ? Beach town
- ? Bike trails (mountain)
- ? Daycare/after-school care
- ? Daycare/after-school care center
- ? Horseshoe Pits
- ? Ice skating rink
- ? Racquetball Courts
- ? Relating to items one and eleven above: primitive-only access to river and ponds
- ? Sidewalks
- ? Small (20 Persons) clubs meeting room
- ? Some place for the kids to skateboard and scooter ride

43. Please provide your opinion on how well you think the Town is performing the following services or activities and if the Town should reevaluate its level of spending on these services:

Other:

- ? Historical
- ? Is there a Health regulations & enforcement?
- ? Land conservation
- ? Snow removal line didn't allow choices for quality and spending. Spending should be the same.
- ? Tax rate due to school

44. Do you use the Merrimack River for any of the following activities? If so, how often?Other:

- ? Camping (2)
- ? Do not reside here
- ? During summer months
- ? Scenic View
- ? Snorkel [pretty much weekly except during the winter]
- ? Trapping
- ? Walking
- ? Weekly in summer

46. Where should a proposed Public Library be located:Other

- ? Add on to existing building (1)
- ? Addition on existing building, but keep historic look
- ? Addition on to existing library (2)
- ? Addition to existing or Main St School
- ? Encourage Boscawen residents to establish its own community center day care
- ? Expand existing library, acquiring additional land for that purpose
- ? First choice would be to expand present site, acquiring more Sanborn land; Second choice would be Main St School.
- ? Go after federal funding first
- ? If not Main Street School on land by school
- ? Keep it at DWH
- ? More info is necessary Town Mtg. flyers questionnaire/info
- ? Need cost studies
- ? No need for new library
- ? No opinion (2)
- ? On King St (geologically more centrally located)
- ? Only if asbestos free
- ? Refurbish existing library / expand
- ? Something else
- ? Taxes are high enough
- ? Upgrade lighting & painting & furniture

ECONOMICS SECTION
Survey Comments – January 2001
Economics Questions

48. Which of the following enterprises/services would you like to see in Boscawen? Please check as many as you wish.

Other:

- ? Activity area geared toward 10 through 15 year olds
- ? All of the above if done in moderation with town needs
- ? Anything more commerce higher tax base and less property taxes.
- ? Bank (2)
- ? Bank & Coffee shop & Pastry B
- ? Build any of them and I'll move
- ? Convert old tannery into mall or office
- ? Drive in movies
- ? Emergency Housing
- ? Hobby shop (1)
- ? Invite big business to town
- ? Light industrial park [planned for and contained as such]
- ? None
- ? None without details and cost
- ? Preschool, preschool, preschool
- ? Senior care center
- ? Teen Activity
- ? Town pickup for garbage

ADDITIONAL SURVEY COMMENTS
Survey Comments – January 2001
 Additional Survey Comments

Please comment on any issues you believe are important to Boscawen:

- ? Lower speed limit on DW Highway Rt 3 Boscawen - Franklin
- ? #41 - if more space is needed and if utilizing the Main St School would be what would be done with existing town office building
- ? Ask not what Boscawen can do for its citizens; ask what Boscawen can do to make it easier for citizens to be independent. For example, schools won't go away but home schooling can be encouraged and cost little money. This also provides competition which is good. If the town offers a swimming pool you can be sure a private company will not. The town development should provide things impractical for private enterprises and should encourage private development. My comments regarding road conditions are for the rural roads. The major roads are in good shape.
- ? Boscawen needs factory jobs for Boscawen residents first; heavy long-term debt during economic slowdown is bad.
- ? Boscawen needs to expand the tax base we should become more business friendly. We should encourage small and low impact businesses to succeed this should be done by careful creative regulation not simply over regulation we should have a can do attitude not a you can't do that attitude.
- ? Bring the Old Home Day Parade back to King St where it belongs
- ? Commercial and industrial businesses should be invited into the town to help the tax base and add employment opportunities -
- ? Community Center - more things for kids to do; swimming pool - put old elementary school to use for the community
- ? Control and regulate development on all levels - particularly the large tracts of land and don't be too quick to grant all variances and special exceptions that will jeopardize the rural atmosphere
- ? Cooperation with the city of Concord, especially with the Penacook village. Historically lower Boscawen & Penacook have had a working relationship and that needs to continue avoiding duplication.
- ? Definitely do not want any tax increase
- ? Don't want growth on King St
- ? Encourage Industry and limit residential growth. Protect agricultural open space. Teen Center gymnasium and emergency housing.
- ? Encouraging "light" business can serve to reduce the terribly high property tax. I pay less property tax in a different area on a 9,000 square home on a lake with three acres than my 2,000 square home in Boscawen.
- ? Expansion is death for Boscawen as we know it.
- ? Find another way to pay the school tax. My taxes are too high. Taxes are unfair. Makes you want and believe renters are right. Have the taxpayers take it on the chin. I want it fair. Renters should have little or no say on this survey. Who's going to fund this? Renters? I don't think so. Nice to want things but be fair about it. Find other funding besides taxes.
- ? First of all I was again disappointed in the rise of our property tax this year. It caused our mortgage to go up 75 dollars per month as our taxes are escrowed for us. They went down last year once and now what's the deal. Why couldn't they have just stayed steady instead of going up always more?
- ? Help church maintain the park. Important to community for many non-church activities
- ? I am interested in seeing Boscawen grow within limits. I feel that we have adequate mobile home parks and apartments. We need to grow at a level that we can provide the children with a quality education. Quality to me means 18 children to a class, not 30. The current middle school is busting at its seams. The elementary school is well on its way to needing an addition. We need to grow responsibly.
- ? I am not a resident, but own rental property in town. I did grow up in this town and my parents lived here until they passed away. I couldn't answer some of the questions because of being non-resident but did my best on the others.
- ? I am opposed to most growth and development of Boscawen. We like the small town atmosphere and love living in a rural setting. We do not wish to see developments, condos, or more trailer parks.

- ? I believe commercial/industrial growth to broaden our tax base would be good on side streets but not in the area from the church south to the traffic lights.
- ? I believe keeping property taxes within reason is important. Elderly and others on fixed incomes suffer with any increase. Keeping the small town environment is also important.
- ? I believe we need full time Board of Selectmen. I believe we should incorporate the water precinct into the towns public works department.
- ? I come from a small town in Mass. that back in the 30's was much like Boscawen is now. I had a wonderful childhood and wanted my children to have the same as I did. To see Boscawen ruined by over development as has happened to my old childhood town. Have been a Boscawen homeowner for 50 years. It is a great town and I would hate to see it spoiled.
- ? I don't think Concord should have sole authority over housing developments that affect the Merrimack Valley school system.
- ? I don't think this could happen in Boscawen because I don't know of any cement roads where this is reference to Boscawen. Fisher Road is a disaster are a continue bump one after the other some one should know by now that it isn't the right thing to do.
- ? I don't want anything that will increase my taxes. My taxes went up over 1,000 dollars this year. That is a big increase for 1 year. Also I moved here from NJ. We moved here because we like the rural atmosphere. It is being built up more everyday. If I wanted to live in Concord I would have bought a house there.
- ? I strongly believe in maintaining as much forest and open land as we can. Suburban sprawl is ugly and has already ruined much of the southern half of NH. Boscawen is a friendly, safe, rural community and I know that if we use what we have wisely (forests for skiing and nature hikes - rivers for recreation birding picnicking etc and existing buildings for businesses) we can keep Boscawen's historical quality alive. We need to respect nature. We need the trees and wildlife to survive. Everything must be balanced.
- ? I think all issues are important to Boscawen.
- ? I think the Dunkin Donuts and the Sunoco area is a mess. It took so much away from the area. Boscawen is a beautiful little town; why make it look commercial? I think the buildup of that area did enough harm to this community.
- ? I think the select people (men & women) do a great job! I love Boscawen, but laws and rules are taking over our lives. Soon other people will pick what color we paint our homes.
- ? I would be in favor of opening the Old Main St School for several reasons - but the one that is most needed is a safe recreational place for our young people to release their energy - they have nothing - so are prone to hanging on the streets - give them a place to rent as long as it is somewhat supervised and the kids can take part in it's success- give them some responsibility and some part in the community
- ? I would like to see more business-related development in town. I believe the King St corridor could handle a bank and grocery store and still entertain an attractive but commercial community look.
- ? I would love to see a swimming pool. So we don't have to pay to go to Community. Our children share the same school, why not the same pool? I also think there should be teen center and daycare.
- ? If the need exists for a new library - why not buy Roger Sanborn's property and add onto the old library - one of the most if not the most beautiful buildings in Boscawen
- ? Improvement of water supply and sewer systems. Restrict growth to maintain rural/small town atmosphere. Maintain the historic areas of towns and encourage maintaining historic residences in helping with tax rebates and federal grants in historic properties.
- ? It is important that Boscawen keep Boscawen a part of old New England.
- ? It is nice to see you are asking the residents their opinions - nice job on the survey!
- ? It is ridiculous that the tax rate dropped last year because of the State school tax & this year it climbed over \$4.00 per
- ? It would be nice to have a supervised recreation building (alcohol and drug free) for the youth where they could enjoy themselves and stay out of trouble and off the streets and apply themselves to a constructive enjoyable atmosphere.
- ? It's important to the children to have a place to play that isn't just being used for sports or the summer program. Many times we've gone to Jamie Welch and it's been occupied by a scheduled event. The kids need a pool since Rolfe Park is not longer available.

- ? Keep Boscawen a small town. Keep out retail outlets, major chain restaurants, or grocery chains. If I wanted to live in a big city with what entails a big city, I would have not moved to Boscawen. Keep the growth down. Keep the trees up!
- ? Keep our history alive and integrate it into the town's foundation through different activities at different times of the year. Small community atmosphere w/many chances for all members to participate no matter the status socially or economically.
- ? Keep taxes down; lower them.
- ? Keep the small town, rural setting. Preserve the forests, natural resources.
- ? Leave the supermarket at Ward 1 or the rest of Concord. Concord not this town is the area where roads converge and is the logical site for malls and retail. Anything Boscawen would attract in retail would be 3rd rate. Consider agricultural and open space easements; especially the River - Boscawen and Canterbury might cooperate in planning Merrimack River Conservation.
- ? Less silly police traps and more local patrols. My barn has been vandalized twice. Walker Pond area is full of wild kids drinking, littering and carrying on in the summer. They don't make any new land once there are houses on it; we're a suburb. Controlling growth around Walker Pond. No outboard (gas) motors; keep 3 hp limit.
- ? Major need is sewage along King St. and up Queen St. To be cost effective, present system needs expanding to include a larger number of additional users.
- ? Mandatory recycling
- ? Many of these questions are sufficiently covered by state law.
- ? More hours for dump. Two days not enough.
- ? More thoughtful approaches to guiding inevitable growth where development already exists and minimizing encroachments on existing undeveloped open space.
- ? My wife and I do not live in Boscawen. We own property on King Street. A business exists on our property and the opinions indicated represent our preference as senior citizens and experience from living in 3 other communities in the USA and Canada.
- ? Need new library. Better enforcement of existing zoning regulations.
- ? Need to keep quality of rural life up, regulations down. Encourage farms, dairies, hay fields, and horse farms not factory farms or processors. Need to assure Boscawen is affordable for farmers or they will sell to developers who will use more services and increase the cost of running the town.
- ? New Police Station
- ? No more storage facilities please! What an eyesore coming into town.
- ? No sludge on fields it shouldn't be allowed, health hazard. Expand the Police building by joining it to the current town office building its in a good location now next to the Fire Station
- ? Old Main St School and land should be where a teen center, community, and rec. center should be built. Basketball courts, ice rink and skate board park
- ? One issue that should be looked at is developing the tannery facilities into possibly elderly housing. We certainly should have the bridge between Canterbury and Boscawen.
- ? Open up access to the river through the Veterans Cemetery. This was not supposed to be effected when the project was approved! Now there is a gate and the forest has been cut bad move for the town!
- ? Our family moved to Boscawen in early 1999. The main reason we came was to improve our quality of life. Boscawen is a small sleepy town with a lot of character and good people. We wanted to raise our little boy away from the city and the problems that over crowding and over developing brings. We would like to see the small town, safe town atmosphere maintained and protected. Thank you.
- ? Overall we live in an excellent town. Keep taxes low and maintain services and everyone wins. Let Concord have all the problems associated with big business and apartment complexes.
- ? Please leave this nice little town alone. We don't need any new libraries or schools or police stations. Leave us alone.
- ? Police station relocation and improvement; Main St School for town community use
- ? Preserve Hannah Dustin and Veterans Cemetery
- ? Preserving and conserving open space and rural atmosphere.
- ? Promote more home building
- ?

- ? Property owners should not be allowed to keep unregistered vehicles or junk cars, old appliances or general trash in their yards. Unsightly properties devalue properties in close proximity. Ordinances are needed to enforce clean up of such properties. Unleashed dogs are running loose, threatening people walking. The leash law should be enforced.
- ? Publicize meetings so all residents are aware of nature and importance of meetings time and place, not just in the newspaper.
- ? Reduce size of Police dept. The size of Boscawen does not merit the size.
- ? Relocation of town related offices (library-police station-town office) should first consider using former Main Street School before any money is spent on new facilities
- ? School system, the community
- ? Selectman meetings should be scheduled no earlier than 7pm weekday evenings. The current time schedules
- ? Small towns in New Hampshire used to be about agriculture, forestry, and community colored with a strong culture and appreciation of history. Boscawen has an opportunity to preserve these important facets of its quality of life without having to sacrifice safety or economic sustainability. We must work together to craft a plan that puts Boscawen's goals first so that we are not seen as a "pushover" for developers who think that we have weak ordinances and enforcement.
- ? Snowmobiles destroy the solitude and use of Recreation areas for everyone else as do dirt bikes
- ? Swimming pool for children
- ? Taxes are too high. We need to get some other forms of property income such as businesses to help pay for the school portion. One home trailer or condo does not begin to pay for one student. We need to find ways to spend less money such as funding more efficient ways or just waiting until the budget can handle finding more efficient ways or just waiting until the budget can handle an additional expense without increasing the tax rate.
- ? The once peaceful town of Boscawen, with helpful neighbors and friendly atmosphere, is slowly changing by the never-ending swarm of city folks moving to the country. They want country living with big city government and city services at a low price. We need to restrict large developments and demand larger lots for all housing. Industry is a must to help tax bases. Conservation along with long term planning can get this done. When people's taxes are higher than their mortgages something is truly wrong.
- ? There is a monetary incentive for landowners to sell to developers. This should be monitored and discouraged.
- ? There is too many police officers for a small town. I would like to see the old elementary school turned into something for the children of Boscawen plus their own public pool so the residence of Boscawen and children don't need to pay money for use of a public pool.
- ? This survey is not applicable to Boscawen Elementary School or the Merrimack Valley School District.
- ? This Town needs a town center. It will take conscious action and long term planning but it may be the most important thing we can do. Any future development on King Street ought to be toward this goal while also retaining historic integrity of street.
- ? To keep the Town's rural character as much as possible. To keep and conserve our natural resources.
- ? To support more housing and maybe even emergency shelter for families. I stress the shelter because of the housing crisis in New Hampshire as well as Merrimack County.
- ? Town needs to move into the 21st century. Time to make changes for the benefit of others not what you've always done. Example: employee benefits need to be evaluated with what the real world does. Have landfill open later at night and more often. Drive through for registering vehicle later at night or Saturday until 3 or 5. Have voting so it's open at 6 or 7 am.
- ? Town sewage available to all. Conserve heritage and historical buildings.
- ? Unite community through activities - use old school for lots of stuff - save Patenaude's - raise interest of town forest - invite small private businesses - make Old Home Day rock again
- ? We do not need more mobile home parks; we definitely have our share.
- ? We don't need more people, commercial development, town buildings, low income housing, etc. We need to take care of what we have!
- ? We need something to help lower property tax. They are way too high.
- ? We need zoning to prevent industry/business to be built in housing areas. Along King St. and North Main for business unless interfere with King St. historical homes. Give tax break to farming land in use.

- ? We really should have more business in our town. It creates jobs and helps on the tax base. We've lived in town 41 years. As we get ready to retire we're really concerned about taxes. (whether we can keep our home we've worked for 41 years) We need help!
- ? We should have "impact" for new development to help off set costs to town services
- ? Welch Park was a poorly planned area for a park. It is out of the way of everything and too secluded. Areas like this tend to be traps for children and are most likely to attract criminals. Adults in Boscawen need to know this danger. We have a good police department, but they can't be everywhere at once. It is when they are not there that a criminal will be.

These comments, provided by respondents of the Community Survey in January 2001, indicate a need for changes recommended in the Master Plan. None of these comments were edited except to correct obvious spelling errors and to omit personal information such as phone numbers identifying the respondent, but otherwise were faithfully transcribed as written.

APRIL 14, 2001 COMMUNITY VISIONING SESSION RESULTS

A Saturday morning was utilized by the Town, the Central NH Regional Planning Commission, and the UNH Cooperative Extension to invite residents to voice their opinions on community issues. With the process more fully explained in the **INTRODUCTION CHAPTER**, the following are the final transcription notes from Community Visioning Session:

Boscawen Visioning - NOW (2001)

- Involved (church/PTA/Old Home Day)
 - sports
 - church suppers
 - mile walk
 - complaining
- Active Police Department
- Senior community
- Bocawen Green
- Town Forest
- Rural (character)
- Commuter (work elsewhere)
- Friendly
- Lack identity
- Church/Town Hall
- Town services (together)
- Poor town/receiving (schools)
- Historic character
- Believe in education
- Cheap
- Dump (place to be)
- Transient population (six months)
- River community
- Affordable housing (large percentage)

- Limited roads
- Lots of back land
- Agricultural character
- Drive-through Town (all come to town)
- Cohesive
- Interested in youth (activities/community center)
- Frugal community
- Lack of "identification", "03303"
- Volunteer base is strong-personal
- Strip development (no center of town)
- Riverfront community
- Good elementary school
- Historical figures/identity
- County facilities are located in town (nontaxable lands)
- Church suppers
- Active Fire Department (social structure)
- Gathering place for kids in summer

Boscawen Visioning - FUTURE (next generation or two)

- Bike trails
- Supermarket
- Moving sidewalk
- Centralized services
- Park and Rides (3/4)
- Temporary emergency housing
- Encourage industry
- Non-chain/local social establishments - Historic District
- Clean air
- Clean water supply
- Full-time post office
- New Town Office
- More sidewalks
- Extension of CAT/other
- Mobility without car
- Encourage neighborhood development
- Retain open space
- Continue to support/encourage agriculture
- Realistic recreation program that supports working schedules
- More recreational paths/town-wide system
- Solve afternoon/morning traffic rash
- Professional business center/health center
- More public access to River
- Limited building
- Library

- Improve walkability/bike trails
- Adequate recreational facilities
- Keep flavor of Boscawen (now)
- Create a community center
- More affordable housing
- Elderly center
- Gathering places for all ages
- Natural resource protection
- Set aside land for industrial purpose
- Permanent conservation land
- Traffic rush

Boscawen Visioning - Key Issues of Discussion Groups

Key Issues of Conservation, Preservation, and Open Space Discussion Group

(Education on all five key issues on existence and responsible use)

1. Encourage agriculture and forestry for open space, economic viability, and cultural value
2. Encourage more local education forest use of natural resources and recreational resources
3. Keep water quality safe, preserve wetlands (through buffers)
4. Historical/cultural infrastructure
5. Encourage more permanent land protection

Key Issues of Land Use Discussion Group

1. Conflict of industrial zone on floodplain/prime agricultural land
2. Industrial park (need)
3. No more trailer parks
4. Designate wetlands for protection
5. Ensure high percentage of lands to remain in agricultural/forestry use

Key Issues of Housing Discussion Group

1. Rate of growth
 - control/direct housing and industrial
 - develop building codes
 - update/review zoning regulations
2. Type of growth
 - single units, emergency and senior housing
 - affordable housing = value equal to cover costs of town expenditures
 - look at supply and demand
 - impact fees
3. Road access - acceptable location and design
4. Provide open/green space
5. Create quality housing opportunities

Key Issues of Transportation Discussion Group

1. King Street (traffic, safety, character preservation)
2. Alternate (non-motorized) transportation (bikes, pedestrian)
3. Maintain current local maintenance practices-developed road improvements policy with flexibility
4. Improve access for economic development (River Road/US 4/Harris Hill Road)
5. Develop/encourage access management strategy

Key Issues of Community and Recreational Facilities Discussion Group

1. Rescue Squad
2. Use Main Street school
3. Library
4. Possibility of major housing development
5. Recreational facilities

Key Issues of Historic and Cultural Discussion Group

1. Maintaining historical sites and markers
2. Former Tannery buildings
3. Placement of modern buildings next to historic buildings
4. Need for transportation to cultural events
5. King Street traffic

Key Issues of Population and Economics Discussion Group

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

Conservation, Preservation, and Open Space Discussion Group

Strengths and Weaknesses

1. Agriculture and forestry (open space and rural character)
2. Surface water (ponds, rivers)
3. Current use (open space/access to lands)
4. Wetlands
5. Encourage use of natural resource recreational opportunities
6. Preserve historic sites and buildings
7. Scenic/gravel roads
8. Stone walls
9. Cemeteries (named)
10. Sidewalk access
11. Few roads
12. Preserve town complex

1. Disadvantage to single housing (industrial development)
2. Advantage to desirable rural character

1. Too many people (without sensibilities/apathy)
2. Multi-family housing
3. Lack of knowledge of zoning, current use, and other laws
4. Poor vision/planning
5. Poor construction practices

Opportunities and Concerns

1. All farmland - too few (farmers)
2. Town forest - too few/small
3. All forest land - adequate
4. Parks - too few/larger
5. Rivers - too little/need better access
6. Ponds - too little/need better access
7. Wetlands - too little/need better access
8. Rail corridor - adequate

Open Space Preservation and the Future of Boscawen

1. Encourage lower tax on current use lands
2. Promote industrial park vs. sprawl
3. Conservation easements (solicit)
4. Old barn easements
5. Education (landowners and public)
6. Agriculture/forestry incentives (right to farm - manure spreading and other agricultural & forestry practices with landowners and public education)

*Need more local publicity of natural resource opportunities

*Stabilize access points (such as Jamie Welch and Walker Pond)

*Patenaude Pond (private)

*Town Forest (link trails with Concord)

*Rails-to-Trails (more user-friendly surface)

Yes (No. 5) regarding officials vs. public

Key Issues of Conservation, Preservation, and Open Space Discussion Group

(Education on all five key issues on existence and responsible use)

1. Encourage agriculture and forestry for open space, economic viability, and cultural value
2. Encourage more local education forest use of natural resources and recreational resources
3. Keep water quality safe, preserve wetlands (through buffers)
4. Historical/cultural infrastructure
5. Encourage more permanent land protection

Land Use Discussion Group

| Land Use | Encourage | Neutral | Discourage |
|----------------------|-----------|---------|------------|
| single-family | x | | |
| multi-family | | x | |
| agriculture/forestry | x | | |
| industrial park | | x | |
| commercial | x | | |
| chain commercial | | | x |
| conservation | x | | |
| parks/public | x | | |
| State/County | | | |
| mobile home parks | | | x |

King Street

1. Ordinances that encourage open space
2. Encourage conservation easements

Key Issues of Land Use Discussion Group

1. Conflict of industrial zone on floodplain/prime agricultural land
2. Industrial park (need)
3. No more trailer parks
4. Designate wetlands for protection
5. Ensure high percentage of lands to remain in agricultural/forestry use

Transportation Discussion Group

Strengths and weaknesses:

1. King Street sidewalk, Good maintenance, Town forest trails
2. Raymond and Goodhue intersection . ¾ Split North. Harris Hill/Tremont.
3. ? Thru increases traffic on local streets
4. Yes. State should consider community goals.
5. Quality-Good, need more sidewalks and bike paths.

Opportunities and Concerns:

1. Slow traffic speeds on King Street. Fix problem intersections.
2. Increase speeds to move commuter traffic, too much hig traffic development.
3. Regional traffic, poor maintenance.
4. Large developments, residential and commercial
5. Water Street, Cornhill Road, parts of Rte 127/Long Street. Yes.
6. No. River Road, Depot,?
7. River Road to Main Street, Main Street both sides.

Transportation and Boscawen's Future:

1. ? Slow Traffic. Access Meeting on Collector. Flexible road imp. Policy.
2. No
- 3.
- 4.
5. 3-4 Split, Goodhue Road/4, Canterbury Br, Harris Hill, River Road Access.

Key Issues of Transportation Discussion Group

1. King Street (traffic, safety, character preservation)
2. Alternate (non-motorized) transportation (bikes, pedestrian)
3. Maintain current local maintenance practices-developed road improvements policy with flexibility
4. Improve access for economic development (River Road/US 4/Harris Hill Road)
5. Develop/encourage access management strategy

Housing Discussion Group

Key Issues of Housing Discussion Group

1. Rate of growth
 - control/direct housing and industrial
 - develop building codes
 - update/review zoning regulations
2. Type of growth
 - single units
 - emergency and senior housing
 - affordable housing = value equal to cover costs of town expenditures
 - look at supply and demand
 - impact fees
3. Road access - acceptable location and design
4. Provide open/green space
5. Create quality housing opportunities

Community and Recreational Facilities Discussion Group

Strengths

- Police Department
- Fire Department
- Town services (includes public works)
- Library
- County nursing home, correctional facilities
- State Forest Nursery
- Athletic fields
- Community park
- Church with activities
- Town Hall

Weaknesses

- Rescue squad (need more funding?)
- No Community Center (youth, senior center, in-betweeners)
- Recreational facilities (swimming pool, public beach, River, Walker Pond)
- Relocating library (and combine two)

Concerns

- Rescue and Fire combination
- Library solution
- Clean up Walker Pond
- Possibility of major housing developments (limited number of building permits per year)

Future

- Depending on growth, expand Town services/Police Department/Fire Department
- Have own post office and zip code
- Use Main Street school for Community Center, swimming pool, Library, etc.

Key Issues of Community and Recreational Facilities Discussion Group

1. Rescue Squad
2. Use Main Street school
3. Library
4. Possibility of major housing development
5. Recreational facilities

Historic and Cultural Overview Discussion GroupStrengths

- NH Art Association
- Historical Society
- Historic houses
- Church
- Community park
- Library
- Hannah Dustin
- Welch Field
- County nursing home
- Gerrish area
- Veterans' and other cemeteries

Weaknesses

- Too few duplexes
- No emergency housing
- Maintenance of historic sites
- Lack of cultural events
- Placement of modern buildings next to historic buildings

Concerns

- King Street traffic
- Former tannery buildings
- While allowing new developments, keep rural aspect
- Maintaining historical sites and markers
- Limit developments/business on King Street
- Need for transportation to cultural events

Future

- Library solution

Key Issues of Historic and Cultural Overview Discussion Group

1. Maintaining historical sites and markers
2. Former Tannery buildings
3. Placement of modern buildings next to historic buildings
4. Need for transportation to cultural events
5. King Street traffic

Population and Economics Discussion Group

Strengths and Weaknesses

1. Proximity to Concord and 93, small businesses, lack of assistance to development
2. Just right.
3. Professional, small businesses, service related
4. Lack of retail and professional
5. Hi-Tech, wood products, no smokestacks

Opportunities and Concerns

1. More spread out
2. Need to control the planning and zoning
3. Assist with approvals
4. No
5. Yes
6. N/A

Population, Economic Development, and the Future of Boscawen

1. 4,000 Moderate growth
2. Light manufacturing-professional
3. Info on web site, Possible development planning
4. Control over utilities
5. Why not more building in Boscawen, affordable housing, attract more young people

Key Issues of Population and Economics Discussion Group

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

LIST OF AREA OR COMMUNITY GROUPS WITH BOSCAWEN PARTICIPANTS

Boscawen is comprised of a solid group of volunteers who work tirelessly for the greater good of their Town. Even youth get involved when the opportunities present themselves. More community activities should be oriented to the younger generations to motivate them through school and to encourage them to become civic-minded adults. These groups and their Boscawen members truly fight to keep the Town spirit and character alive to foster social ties with neighbors and to protect the community they love. Following is an abbreviated list of groups that Boscawen residents participate in to help their fellow residents and to help the Town better itself.

- ✍ Board of Selectmen
- ✍ Planning Board
- ✍ Zoning Board of Adjustment
- ✍ Conservation Commission
- ✍ Budget Committee
- ✍ Library Trustees and Friends of the Library
- ✍ Cemetery Trustees
- ✍ Penacook-Boscawen Water Precinct
- ✍ Parks and Recreation Committee
- ✍ Police Commission
- ✍ Fire Auxiliary
- ✍ Police Auxiliary
- ✍ Historical Society
- ✍ Old Home Day Committee
- ✍ Penacook Academy Review Committee
- ✍ Boscawen Congregational Church, UCC
- ✍ Sovereign Grace Church
- ✍ Earnest Workers 4-H Club
- ✍ Cub Scout Pack #383
- ✍ Boscawen Police Explorer Post
- ✍ B.E.S.T. Afterschool Program
- ✍ Parent-Teacher Associations of the Boscawen Elementary School, Merrimack Valley Middle School, and Merrimack Valley High School
- ✍ Masonic Lodge, Eastern Star, and affiliated groups
- ✍ Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
- ✍ NH Art Association
- ✍ Regional Resource Conservation Committee
- ✍ Central NH Regional Planning Commission
- ✍ Upper Merrimack River Local Advisory Committee
- ✍ Merrimack County Cooperative Extension – University of New Hampshire
- ✍ Townline Trail Dusters
- ✍ Boscawen Woman's Club
- ✍ NH Trappers Association