

**TOWN MANAGER'S
OPERATIONAL REPORT
JANUARY 3RD, 2025**



Succession Planning

The Town Manager Search Ad Hoc Committee met on December 19th to review the position profile drafted by Community Paradigm, LLC, the recruiter retained to assist in this process. The profile is used as a tool to inform prospective candidates about the Town including its history, organization, finances and opportunities, and challenges. It also draws upon the input gathered through meetings and surveys from elected and appointed officials and residents as to the background of the ideal candidate for the position and experience and traits will help the next Town Manager be successful. The Committee approved the profile, and the advertisements have been placed. It is anticipated that a new Town Manager would be selected in March 2025.

Hanson's Farm

A purchase and sale agreement to acquire the development rights to this farm has been executed by the Town and the owners. The owners and the Town are in the process of negotiating a conservation restriction on the property which is a requirement of using community preservation act (CPA) funds for the acquisition. The bulk of the cost of the acquisition will be paid by a \$3 million State Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) grant awarded to the Town for this purpose, to be matched with CPA funds. Staff are working with the owners and the Wildlands Trust (who will co-hold the restriction) to finalize this document so that the acquisition can be recommended by the CPA Committee to the Town Council for approval.

Library Building Assessment

The Town received six proposals in response to the RFP we issued for this project. The internal selection committee completed its review of the proposals, and we interviewed the top two ranked firms and conducted reference checks to determine which was best suited for the project. The work is designed to take a comprehensive look at the required upgrades and improvements to the library building, including site review, drainage, parking, building envelope, windows and doors, roofing, HVAC systems, electric and plumbing, water and sewer service, and energy. After years of appropriating funds for ascetic improvements while having a pay as you go approach to major repairs, the assessment will provide a comprehensive roadmap for a robust improvement plan. The Town Manager and Library Director have already worked with the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners to formulate a strategy for future grant funding, and the assessment will be the first step in a year's long effort to improve the Bridgewater Public Library. As the year draws to a close, we are negotiating a contract with the top ranked firm and hope to begin work early in the new year.

Town River Landing

Improvement to the Town River Landing is progressing which will result in the erection of a pavilion structure based on an existing bandstand structure in Abington. Utilizing the recent donation by MacDonald Industries of \$20,000 the design has been completed, Conservation Commission approval secured, and we are in the process of obtaining quotes to have the concrete pad for the structure installed and a trench dug to bring electrical service to the site. Going forward, the Town Manager's



office will work with Bristol Plymouth Regional Technical School to construct the multi-use pavilion structure on the concrete pad. B-P students will learn to read plans, how to plan a project, what the building process entails, and how to construct. They will have access to the BTV building for bathrooms and a place to have brief learning sessions while on site.

Parthenon Friezes

The focus of this project is to hang the restored friezes (plaster castings of Parthenon scenes) in the Academy building. The walls where the friezes are intended to be hung is not designed to hold the weight of the pieces and must be rebuilt to accommodate them safely. DPW and Engineering have worked with a consulting engineer to finalizing the contractor's work specifications and obtained a proposal for \$4,600 to make improvements to the structure of the wall. We are in the process of submitting an updated application to cover this cost to the CPC for their recommendation to the Town Council for funding. When this work is done, the restoration company can return to properly hang them in their new location.

Stiles & Hart Renovation Project

The Stiles and Hart project is nearing completion. Two parking lots have been created, trails have been improved, wetland crossings have been constructed, and accessible fishing platforms installed. The Town Council appropriated \$1.3 million of CPA funds to complete the project, and that will be offset by a federal National Park Service grant of \$480,000. Some work remains to complete guard rail and sidewalk improvements along Broad Street. While the project was scheduled to be completed by the end of the year, the owner of a landlocked piece of property has balked at the town's use of the sewer easement over the property as a trail. The Town has obtained an appraisal of the value of this parcel and has offered to purchase the property at the assessed or appraised value or will take the property by eminent domain. Next steps include resolving the trail routing around the landlocked parcel to keep the project progressing, as well as finalizing a conservation restriction on the Broad Street parcel where one of the parking lots is located. Our ability or inability to resolve that issue is in no way delaying completion of the project to meet our grant requirements.

Summer Street Park

The Town appropriated funds the eminent domain taking of the property at 46 Summer Street (aka the old Mobil Station, Summer Street Park) which was accomplished in February 2023, after which the town engaged a landscape architect, to develop a site plan sufficient to apply for state PARC grant funding. The town was awarded \$500,000 from this grant to fund the completion of design and renovation of the property into a park. We would anticipate work to commence around July of 2025. With funding in hand, more precise cost estimates need to be generated, an architect needs to be hired for the building renovation/refurbishment, and BSU's financial commitment needs to be documented. Ideally, no additional funds will be needed from the town's capital plan or additional Community Preservation funds, and we will work to determine that in the coming months. While we work towards the final plan for the park, we have accepted a donation of student assistance from BSU to do some preliminary cleanup of the parcel this fall so that it is less of an eyesore to those driving by.



Old State Farm Trail

Both the Town and the Natural Resources Trust of Bridgewater (NRTB) applied for and received funding last year to develop a 1.8-mile trail along the Taunton River on land currently owned by the State Dept. of Corrections. After a long process, an easement to allow the trail to be installed was granted from the State and accepted by the Town Council. Unfortunately, the approved easement contained language unfavorable to the Town, and we've provided an update to the State which we are waiting for them to review and approve. Once that happens the easement will be recorded at the Registry of Deeds. While we are awaiting this, we have re-assessed the details for the construction of the parking lots and will be seeking new proposals for this work since the work involved is beyond the scope of our Highway division to complete. That will enable Town staff and the NRTB to move forward to finalize the plans for the trail, parking lots and the two kiosks that will be installed along the trail. The NRTB has already done excellent work to complete preliminary planning and involving BSU students in the process.

Truck Exclusion

The Town's application to MA Department of Transportation to restrict heavy vehicle traffic on High Street has been approved. It was previously approved by the Select Board in East Bridgewater (a required step under the DoT's truck restriction process). With State approval in hand the Town Council will need to approve an ordinance to enable the Police Department to enforce it. We are in the process of drafting this to introduce at an upcoming meeting.

High Street Dam & Bridge Project

This multi-year project to remove the dam and replace the Bridge on High Street is largely complete with a few minor tasks such as loam & seeding that will happen in the spring. The Town has identified some further drainage improvements adjacent to the project on High Street that became apparent when the initially planned work was taking place. One of the federal grants has been extended to cover the cost of that work which will be scheduled for the spring of 2025, well ahead of the grant deadline of February 2026.

Board/Committee Vacancies

At present the Town has 29 different boards and committees to which it appoints volunteers to serve to contribute their time and expertise to various functions and priorities of the Town. Included with this report is a list of all the committees which have openings, which at present number 29. More details on the mission of each committee can be found on the Town's website at:

<https://www.bridgewaterma.org/198/Boards-Committees-Commissions>

and residents who would like to apply to be considered for appointment may fill out the online application at:

<https://www.bridgewaterma.org/FormCenter/Citizens-Advisory-Committee-9/BoardCommitteeCommission-Application-57>.



Various Projects and Town-Wide Initiatives

Committee	Vacancies
Affordable Housing Trust	4
Agriculture Committee	2
Board of Health	1
Cable Advisory Committee	2
Conant Trust Fund Committee	1
D.E.I.B Committee	4
Elder Affairs Commission	1
Energy Commission	1
Finance Committee	1
Historical Commission	1
Housing Partnership	4
Open Space Committee	1
S.A.V.E Committee	1
Water and Sewer Board	2



As we close out 2024, we take a moment to celebrate a year of remarkable growth, collaboration, and team spirit. This year we are proud to have welcomed 38 (Thirty-Eight) new employees to our organization, each bringing unique talents and perspectives that enrich our community. At the same, we celebrated the remarkable career of 6 retirees, whose dedication and contributions have left a lasting legacy. We thank them for their service and wish them all the best in their next chapter. In this update, we shine a spotlight on new team members, celebrate career advancement, and share the success of a new holiday tradition that brought joy and gave back to the community. Let's take a moment to reflect on these accomplishments and the collective efforts that have made 2024 a year to remember. Here's to celebrating our achievements and embracing the opportunities 2025 will bring!

Welcoming New Team Members:



Joseph McEvoy (left)-Light Equipment Operator Water Department

We are excited to welcome Joseph McEvoy to our team as the new Light Equipment Operator in the Water Department. Joseph brings a wealth of experience as a laborer, and his skills and dedication make him a valuable addition to our team. We look forward to the expertise and enthusiasm he will bring to our operations. Welcome aboard, Joseph!



Andrew Nelson (Right)-Police Cadet we are excited to have Andrew join us as our newest Police Cadet. Andrew brings a strong passion for public service and a

commitment to upholding our department's values of integrity, respect and community engagement. His dedication to fostering positive relationships and ensuring the safety of those he serves makes him a valuable addition to our team.

Promotions and Transfers:

We are pleased to announce that Dawn Menard will be transitioning to the Finance Department in the new year, where she will take on the role of Business Unit Analyst. While Dawn leaves big shoes to fill in the Town Manager's Office, we are confident she will accomplish great things in her new role.

In the meantime, Dawn will continue to support the Acting Town Manager until a replacement is found, ensuring a smooth transition. Please join us in congratulating Dawn and wishing her the very best as she embarks on this exciting new chapter in her career!

Training and Recruitment:

Recruitment in Full Swing!

We've been working hard at filling open positions and are making great progress!

- Town Mechanic
- Office Coordinator Water and Sewer Department
- Executive Assistant Town Manager's Office

If you know someone who would be a great fit, please encourage them to apply! We're excited to continue building a talented and diverse team to support our community's needs.



Bridgewater
Massachusetts

Human Resources

66 Central Square
508-697-0971 / HR@bridgewaterma.org

JINGLE & *Mingle* Holiday Potluck



Our Jingle & Mingle Holiday potluck was a heartwarming celebration of togetherness, delicious food, and festive cheer. Employees from across departments shared favorite dishes, enjoyed music, and connected in a joyful atmosphere—a true reflection of our team’s camaraderie and creativity.

Beyond the fun, the event was an opportunity to give back. Thanks to the generosity of our team, we donated a significant amount of food and essentials to the Central Square Congressional Church Food Panty, brightening the holiday season for those in need.

Thank you to everyone who made this celebration so special and exemplified the true spirit of the season!





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We would like to extend our warmest birthday wishes to team members celebrating their special day in December.



Happy Birthday to:

Tomas R., Jonathan R., Theodore S., Michael M., Mark K., Michael C., Katelyn O., Christopher H., Justin K., Lawrence B., Robert G., Thomas N., David S., Vanessa E., David M., Cori H., Michelle B., Arthur W., Scott S.

Congratulations to those celebrating anniversaries in December:

Claudette P., Thomas L., Amy G., William M., Billy L., Joshua S., Carolyn B., David F., James C., Michael L., Julia M., Edward D., Richard C., James C., Vanessa E., Scott K., Kelly C., Jeffrey D., Antonio C., Michelle B., Jed P.



Should you have any questions or require assistance with any HR-related matters, please do not hesitate to reach out to us hr@bridgewaterma.org. Thank you for your continued dedication and support.



Bridgewater
Massachusetts

Bridgewater Fire Department

22 School Street

508-697-0900 www.bridgewaterfire.org

Fire Department – Objectives and Updates

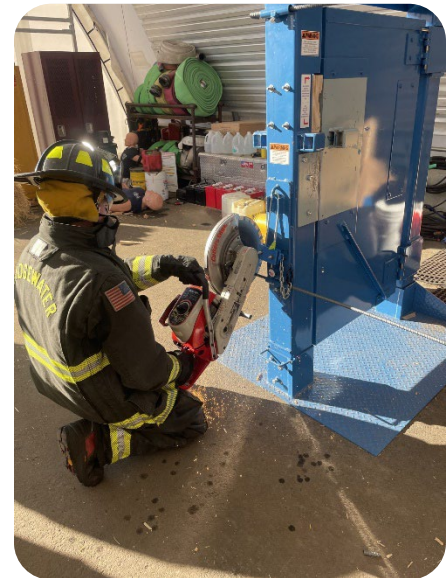
December 27, 2024

MCPOA Installation – Chief Christopher Delmonte – Chief Schlatz, Deputy Chief Grafton & Lt Peters attended the MCOPA Installation Ceremony of 2025 Officers that was held at Bridgewater State University. Congratulations to Chief Delmonte who was installed as the President of the Massachusetts Chiefs of Police Association!

Operation Santa - We want to thank everyone that makes Operation Santa possible! Thank you to the businesses & residents who made generous donations to this amazing program to help Bridgewater families! Thank you to Bren Ladino, Ursula Garfield & Anne Swarce for running this program & the countless hours that they have put in for so many years! Thank you to our Firefighters for volunteering their time to deliver the toys to families!

Training:

- **Rotary Saws** - The Bridgewater Fire Department owns and operates a multitude of hand and power tools. In this cache of equipment are three rotary saws, a gas-powered saw with a diamond blade, a large battery powered saw with a wood blade and a smaller battery powered saw with a cut-off wheel. Firefighters trained on the application and operation of all three saws utilizing the “Cut Station” that was included with our blue door forcible entry prop.
- **Forcible Entry of Padlocks** - Often when responding to emergencies, a padlock is used to lock a fence, access gate or door. Firefighters trained on different methods to “defeat” the padlock and gain access in a timely manner using both hand and power tools.





Bridgewater
Massachusetts

Bridgewater Fire Department

22 School Street

508-697-0900 www.bridgewaterfire.org

Community Engagement/Events:

- **Ousemaquin Club Donation to Operation Santa (12/2/24)** – Thank you to the members of the Ousemaquin Club for the many toy donations for Operations Santa!
- **East Bridgewater Christmas Parade (12/7/24)** – Thank you to Lt. Sean Peters for volunteering his time to drive our engine in the East Bridgewater Christmas Parade!
- **Santa Ride Around Town (12/14 & 12/15/24)** – We had a lot of fun with our annual tradition of escorting Santa around Town in the fire engine. Thank you to our off-duty firefighters who volunteered their time to make this possible: Firefighters David Bradshaw, Andrew Daigle, Ryan Forant, Cori Handorff & Mike Murano!
- **Best Buddies Program at BRRHS Donation to Operation Santa (12/16/24)** – Thank you to the Best Buddies Club at BRRHS for the toy drive they did for Operation Santa! They had a successful toy drive & we were happy to help with the delivery! Thanks so much for supporting this amazing program!



Upcoming Events:

- **BRRHS Alumni Hockey Game** – The BR Hockey Alumni vs Bridgewater Police & Fire on 12/30/24 at 11:00 am at the Bridgewater Ice Arena

Calls for January – November of 2024:

	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24	Jul-24	Aug-24	Sep-24	Oct-24	Nov-24	YTD Totals
Fire	9	15	9	8	9	6	5	6	9	7	18	101
EMS	310	259	291	301	320	265	279	303	318	357	362	3365
False Alarm	28	52	45	29	62	52	77	81	68	59	37	590
Other	48	55	43	52	52	48	59	52	52	62	52	575
Totals:	395	381	388	390	443	371	420	442	447	485	469	4631



Bridgewater
Massachusetts

Bridgewater Police Department

220 Pleasant Street
508-697-6118 www.bridgewaterpolice.org

Events and Public Outreach

1. On December 5, we escorted talented local resident Sophia Bartkow and members of her 8th grade class to the State House in Boston. At the invitation of Senator Walter Timilty, Sophia sang the national anthem at the opening of the senate session.
2. On December 6, we attended an awards ceremony at FBI Boston Division headquarters for Officer Christopher Correia. Ofcr. Correia was recognized for his outstanding investigative work during this past year.
3. On December 12, Bridgewater State University hosted the annual installation of officers for the Massachusetts Chiefs of Police Association. I was honored to be elected President for 2025 and very much appreciate the local support I have received from our community.
4. On December 13, we hosted members of the Cops for Kids with Cancer organization as they made a financial donation to a local family battling cancer.
5. On December 17, eighteen residents graduated from our 27th Citizens Police Academy class. This is a 12-week program intended to familiarize residents with the operations of the department. All classes are instructed by Bridgewater police officers on a variety of police related topics. The program is coordinated by Sgt. Ryan O'Connell and Ofcr. Christopher Paze.
6. On December 18, we attended an orientation for the FBI National Academy. Lt. Scott Hile was selected to attend Session 293 scheduled to begin on January 5, 2025, in Quantico, VA. It is an honor to be selected for this 10-week professional development and advanced training program. Members of each session represent police agencies from the largest to the smallest departments across the United States and several foreign countries. Lt. Hile will be only the third member of our department selected to attend this highly respected program in the past 20 years.
7. On December 20, we attended the graduation ceremony for the 57th State 911 Telecommunicators Academy in Milford, MA. Police Cadet and graduate Alexander Mantalos was one of the keynote speakers at the ceremony. We also recently appointed Police Cadet Andrew Nelson who formerly served as a Dispatcher for the East Bridgewater Police Department.





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Bridgewater Police Department

220 Pleasant Street
508-697-6118 www.bridgewaterpolice.org





Finance Departments Update – Laurie Guerrini/Finance Director

Accounting Operational Update

The Accounting team has been busy with the Independent Audit firm preparing the Town's Audited Financials for Fiscal Year 2024. We are also working with the Assessing Division on the FY25 Tax Recap process, that will finalize the budget for FY2025. While busy with the regular operations of the Town, Accounting is continuing to assist with the financial planning, budgeting, and management of all the exciting Capital Projects ongoing, including the High St Dam, CH90, Water and Wastewater Treatment Plants, Water Well planning and engineering, New Fire Station project, Complete Street project on Main St, Stiles & Hart, DCR Mass Trails project, as well as assisting with all the grant and contract management. We continue to assist all departments.

Treasurer/Revenue Collecting Operational Update

Our Finance team operates smoothly and professionally behind the scenes daily, often without recognition. I am especially proud of the work ethic and team-oriented environment that exists in our Finance departments. Our staff is highly motivated, as well as constantly striving to improve their skills, and municipal work education. They interact daily with residents, vendors, banks, agencies, volunteers, and whomever may enter the Town Municipal Offices. I would like to recognize and thank them for all their hard work.

The Town continues to offer in-person payment and an online option for payment which can be accessed with the following link: <https://www.bridgewaterma.org/310/Online-Payment-Center>



Public Works

Engineering | Roadways 151 High Street

Water | Sewer 25 South Street

Transfer Station 1200 Bedford Street

Executive Summary - Azu Etoniru, P.E., P.L.S., Director

The Department of Public Works (DPW) and its Divisions (Administration, Engineering, Highway, Sewer, Water, and Facilities) continue to deliver engineering, highway, sewer, water infrastructure development and management services, and public buildings and facilities operations maintenance and management, with the health, safety, and welfare of the public being held paramount above all else.

As the month of December 2024 winds down, the DPW's Divisions are engaged with several projects that are aimed at advancing the welfare of the residents of Bridgewater and improving the quality of life. On an on-going basis, the Engineering Division continued with its technical reviews of site plans and subdivision plans for the Planning Board and the Conservation Commission. The staff continues to develop digital record as-built plans for the town's infrastructure, including stormwater conduits, sanitary sewer, and water conduits with their appurtenant structures; continues to participate in the OCPC water infrastructure meetings, as well as the transit and bike path discussion meetings; continues to coordinate the compilation of drainage infrastructure for digital as-built data that would augment the requisite GIS database for EPA's MS4 compliance submission and monitoring; reviewing and coordinating dam safety inspections for compliance with the requirements of the DCR Office of Dam Safety (tree removal work at South Brook dam has now been completed); and completed several surveys and engineering design for the reconstruction of roadways and drainage culverts on town roads. Currently, in conjunction with the Highway Division, the staff is overseeing the replacement of the deteriorated drainage pipes and catch basins and manholes that are in disrepair on Flagg Street, which is aimed at addressing several sinkhole outbreaks on the road over the past year or so. Participation in technical training, which allows the staff to sharpen their skills and stay current with advancements in application software for the design of public infrastructure works has been and continues to be a hallmark of the professional development activities of the DPW staff. The Engineering Division is overseeing the construction rehabilitation work on the concrete collar for the Great Hill water tower. The staff has successfully concluded its construction oversight for the High Street bridge replacement and dam removal project, and during a punch list site review with the project design engineers and the project contractor, identified several sections of the landscaping work that need reseeding, and drainage conveyance culvert along Wall Street that needs to be redone. The staff is in the process of conducting survey work which would aid the town's engineering design consultants to provide additional drainage system improvement work on



Public Works

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High Street, outside the limits of the work associated with the bridge replacement and dam removal work.

In collaboration with the Highway Division, the staff is working with the Town Manager's office to develop construction documents and specifications for a trail/parking project by the state lands off Conant Street and Summer Street. The staff is also assisting the Town Manager's office and the project architect on the Town River landing pavilion development project. The DPW continues to highlight the importance of safety and wellness to its staff, by focusing this month on OSHA's training regarding proper awareness of air quality in closed work areas, as well as maintaining vehicles in good operating conditions. the work environment and the proper use of work clothing/gear and equipment under various work conditions.

The Highway Division completed its preparatory work for the winter season in getting snow plowing and removal equipment serviced and ready, stockpiled deicing material, and managed a few snow removal and deicing of roads as the need arose. The staff have been active in removing falling trees and vegetation from the roads and trimming and cutting back bushes and tree limbs that pose hazard threat to the public along several roads. The Division successfully managed the removal of sediment materials from the river bed that were stockpiled within the Division's facility. The Division has started the installation of new signs at all town cemeteries. Two new mechanics have been hired within the Division, and they have proved to be welcome additions.

The Sewer Division continues its coordination, management, and oversight of the phase 1 redevelopment work at the Wastewater Treatment Plant, with all the parties involved receiving the weekly updates from Environmental Partners, the OPM for the project. The Division, aided by its OPM, is in the process of developing bid invitation documents for soliciting bids from qualified engineers for the Phase II phosphorous removal design work at the treatment plant.

The Water Division – Treatment Works

Work on the replacement of well #9 and well #5 continues.

Waterline Industries is still working on condensation issues and punch list items at the High Street Water Treatment Facility.

Water levels at Great Hill Tower and Sprague Hill Tower are trending in the right direction and they are stable



Public Works

Engineering | Roadways 151 High Street
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A contractor for the replacement of metering valves and the hydro-pneumatic tanks has been hired and is slated to commence work in January 2025.

o Lead and copper survey has been completed.

Distribution

Hydrant maintenance program continues.

Repairs and Replacements of water service lines and other system wide maintenance work continues.

Backflow testing has been completed

All the staff with hydraulic licenses have completed their mandatory continuing education training.

Facilities and Assets Division - The month of December featured several maintenance and repair work, as well as systems upgrade evaluations and assessments associated with heating systems and other building/facility infrastructure at the Academy Building, the Police Station, the Fire Station (Station 2), the Memorial Building, the library, and the Senior Center. Highlights include the repair of parking and street lamps at the Senior Center, emergency response work was performed at the library regarding the building elevator – the elevator shutdown but was successfully restored to service the same day, specialty parts for fixtures at the Academy Building were ordered and the fixtures are being addressed.



The Building Department
Monthly Statistics
December 2, 2024, through December 26, 2024

From December 2, 2024, through December 26, 2024, the Building Department saw a total of \$54,709.45 in revenue associated with the following:

Building Permits reviewed and issued – 84
Building Inspections performed – 77

Electrical Permits reviewed and issued – 42
Electrical Inspections performed – 175

Gas Permits reviewed and issued – 17
Gas Inspections performed – 21

Plumbing Permits reviewed and issued – 16
Plumbing Inspections performed – 26

	Permits	Inspections	Fees
Building	84	77	40,596.17
Electrical	42	175	8,618.28
Gas	17	21	2,870.00
Plumbing	16	26	2,625.00



Health Department: 12/2-12/30/24

Septic:

All day Percolation test- 885 South St.
Bottom hole/final review- 20 Stonybrook
Bottom hole/final review- 50 Bayberry
Bottom hole- Lot 6 Oak Meadow

Septic Plan reviews:

50 Bayberry
Final review 40 Oliver

Completed Food Inspections:

Gonzalez Mexican	Barretts Ale House
Casa Agave	Emma's Pub (Pleasant Street)
Citizen's Club	Ronnie's Waffles
49ers Club	Berniers Grocery
Polish Club	Bridge Mart
Lincoln AA	7-Eleven
Bean & Brew (New)	

General Housing complaints: (3)



Bridgewater Public Library

15 South Street

508-697-3331 www.bridgewaterpubliclibrary.org

Monthly Summary

Circulation

New Library Card Registrations: 96

New Items Added to the Collection and available to borrow: 352

Physical Item Check-Outs: 6559

Digital Item Check-Outs: 3383

Museum Passes Borrowed: 55

Visitors: 4670

Computer Users: 363 sessions/170 Hours

Website Visitors: 7932

Patronage

Adult Programs: 41 Adult Attendance: 1078

Youth Programs: 12 Youth Attendance: 176

Total Programs: 53

Total Attendance: 1254



Overview of December Holiday Programming at the Senior Center

The Senior Center was filled with festive cheer and meaningful activities throughout December as we celebrated the holiday season with our community. Our programming was designed to foster connection, reduce loneliness and isolation, joy, and engagement, ensuring that seniors felt the warmth and spirit of the season. Below are some highlights:

Holiday Parties

Holiday Luncheons: Hallmark events featuring homecooked meals, live holiday music, drag performance at the LGBTQ luncheon, and a visit from Santa. Over 130 participants, Representative Gallagher, Town Council Members, Chief Delmonte, Jeff Fowler, and countless volunteers joined us, sharing stories, winning raffles, laughter, and holiday cheer.

Boston Pops Annual Trip: Our most favorite trip of the year is generously funded through an anonymous donor, BSU, and COA private donations.

Social Day Holiday Celebration brought together a joyous staff from the Halifax COA and Bridgewater COAs, volunteers, interns, and family members. Roche Bros. provided a tremendous spread of goodies for all to enjoy while members reminisced over a photo-sharing program.

Cultural and Educational Programming

Craft Decorating Workshop: Seniors and the Director enjoyed a creative and interactive mini wreath making session to give away as gifts, promoting connection with new members and homebound seniors.

Seasonal Supper Club Workshops: Participants created roasted pork dinners in person, remotely at the Housing Authority, and with folks at home. This class teaches new chefs how to make wholesome meals for 1 or 2 using items from the food pantry.

Holiday History and Traditions: Informative talks exploring the origins and customs of various winter holidays, fostering cultural appreciation.

Senior Holiday Tech Sessions: Special sessions of our ongoing Tech Café program to help seniors connect virtually with loved ones during the holidays.





Community and Charity Initiatives

Holiday Giving: Our community came together to support seniors in need by fulfilling wish list items, sweet treats, holiday mugs, little necessities, bringing smiles to many. We connected multiple groups including OCES, the Lions Club, DTA, BR Regional Schoos, Josie's Village, Richie's Flowers, M&S Auto, anonymous individuals, and the Elder Affairs Commission to hundreds of Seniors in town.

Suspension of Bridgewater Cares Transit

It is with great regret that I inform you of the impending suspension of the Bridgewater Cares Transit service, effective December 31, 2024, due to a lack of sustainable funding to maintain operations.

Since its launch in April 2022, Bridgewater Cares Transit has served as a vital lifeline for our community, providing thousands rides and achieving a rider satisfaction rate exceeding 90%. This program has played a significant role in: Reducing social isolation for seniors and other transit-dependent individuals; Promoting independence, enabling access to essential services, medical appointments, and social opportunities; Easing financial burdens, offering a cost-effective alternative to on-demand ride services.

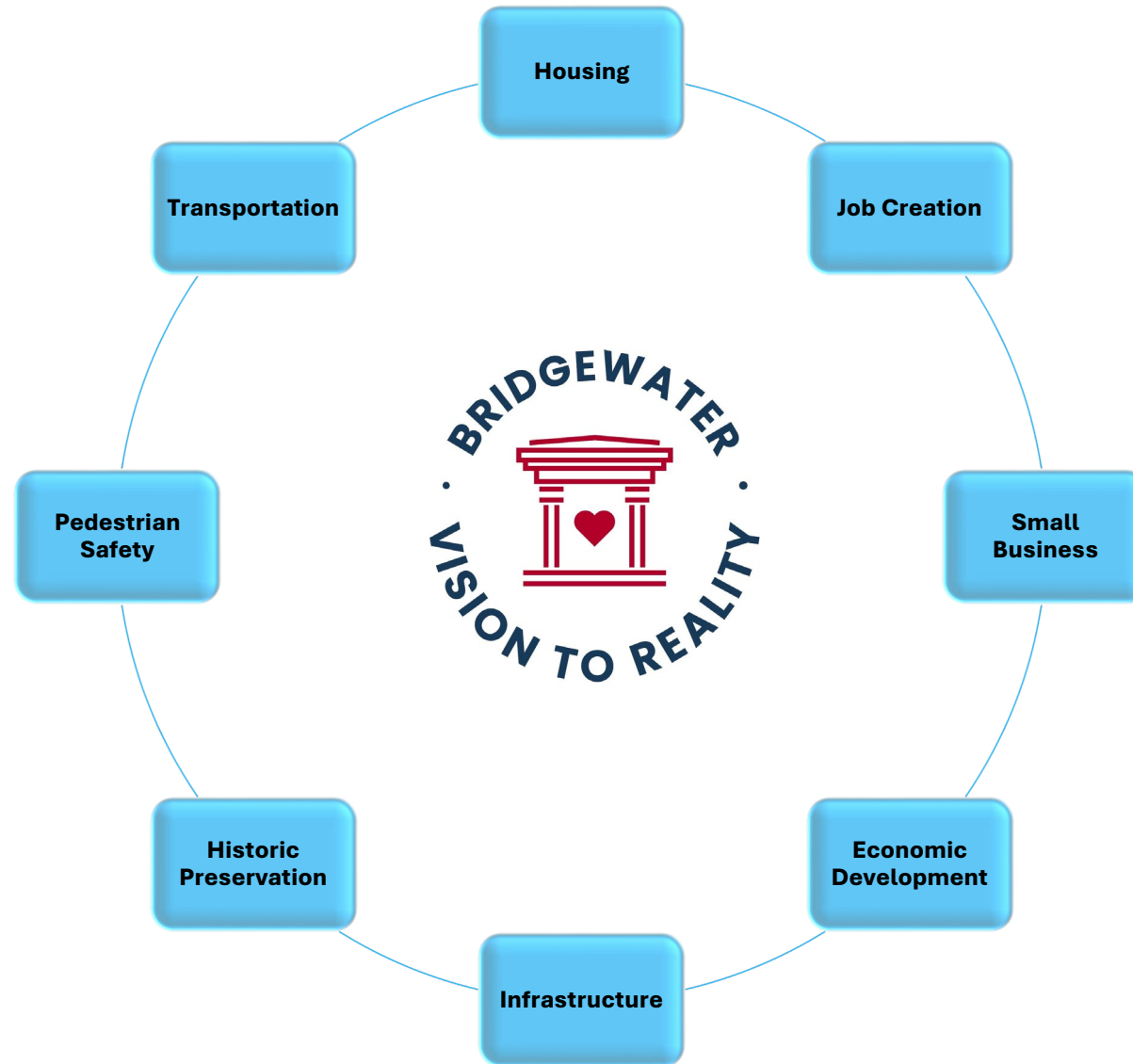
Despite its success, the program has faced increasing financial challenges as grant funds have been exhausted and additional sources of support have not yet been secured. Efforts to explore alternative funding options, including state and federal grants, sponsorships, and private contributions, are ongoing. However, these avenues have not provided the immediate resources needed to sustain operations. We understand the profound impact this suspension will have on our residents, particularly those who rely on the service to maintain their independence and quality of life. Additionally, we remain committed to finding solutions and will continue to pursue funding opportunities to reinstate the program as soon as possible. Town Council support will be critical as we work to address this issue. We welcome any suggestions or assistance in identifying potential funding sources or strategies to preserve this invaluable service for our community.

All of these events and programs wouldn't have been possible without the dedication of our staff, volunteers, and the generous support of our community partners. Together, we created an inclusive and joyful atmosphere, ensuring no senior felt alone or overlooked during this special time of year.

We look forward to continuing to provide meaningful experiences in the new year, strengthening our commitment to the wellbeing and enrichment of our senior population.

Bridgewater
Town Council
December
17, 2024





Under-utilized Properties



Perkins Foundry Site

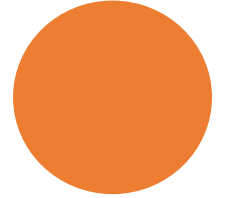
- Town Project Approvals Received
- Currently Under MEPA Review
- 150 Residential Units (10% Affordable)
- 22,062 SF Commercial Space
- Town to receive \$200K in unrestricted mitigation funds





60-88 Broad St

- 4 Parcels
- Owned by: Churchill James, LLC
- All sites currently vacant and underutilized
- Acreage: 2.3
- Zoning: Central Business District (CBD-R)
- Access to Sewer and Water
- 8 Town Homes
- 5736 SF of Commercial Space
- 66 Apartments (44-1 Bdrm, 22-2 Bdrm)





EXTERIOR | BROAD ST (PEDESTRIAN AREA)



EXTERIOR | DUPLEX UNITS



106 Hale St

One Parcel Under Common Ownership

Owned by: Commonwealth of MA c/o
Bridgewater State University

Current Use: Demolished Concrete
Construction Facility

Acreage: 1.55

Zoning: Central Business District (CBD-R)



Pathways to Progress

Central Square Road and
Pedestrian Improvements
Phase 1

Community Meeting #2

January 16, 2025
6:30 – 8:00 PM
Moakley Center
BSU



What Was Heard in September

In a few words, describe your vision for the future of Bridgewater?

A **roundabout on the northside**
intersection of Central Square is the best solution to make that crossing safe.

I would like Central Square to be less congested as a pass through roadway, with better opportunity for **walking, biking**, becoming an **inviting area for patronizing local businesses**.

Welcoming **family-friendly activities** and experiences

Walkable, safe, quaint

Turn School Street back to two-way to **encourage students to come to our downtown**

Safer for pedestrians and bikes, vibrant attractive businesses

Inviting attractive **space to gather**, shop and eat

Walkable, vibrant area where residents and visitors can shop, **relax and enjoy the outdoors**.

Safer driving and walking conditions.
A place businesses want to be.

Parking is ridiculous and **dangerous**.
Need speed bumps for traffic going through the square

Historic, **walkable**, small town feel

Design Concepts

Alternative 1: Existing Condition



Alternative 2: Signalized



Alternative 3: Roundabout





Alternative 2: Signalized

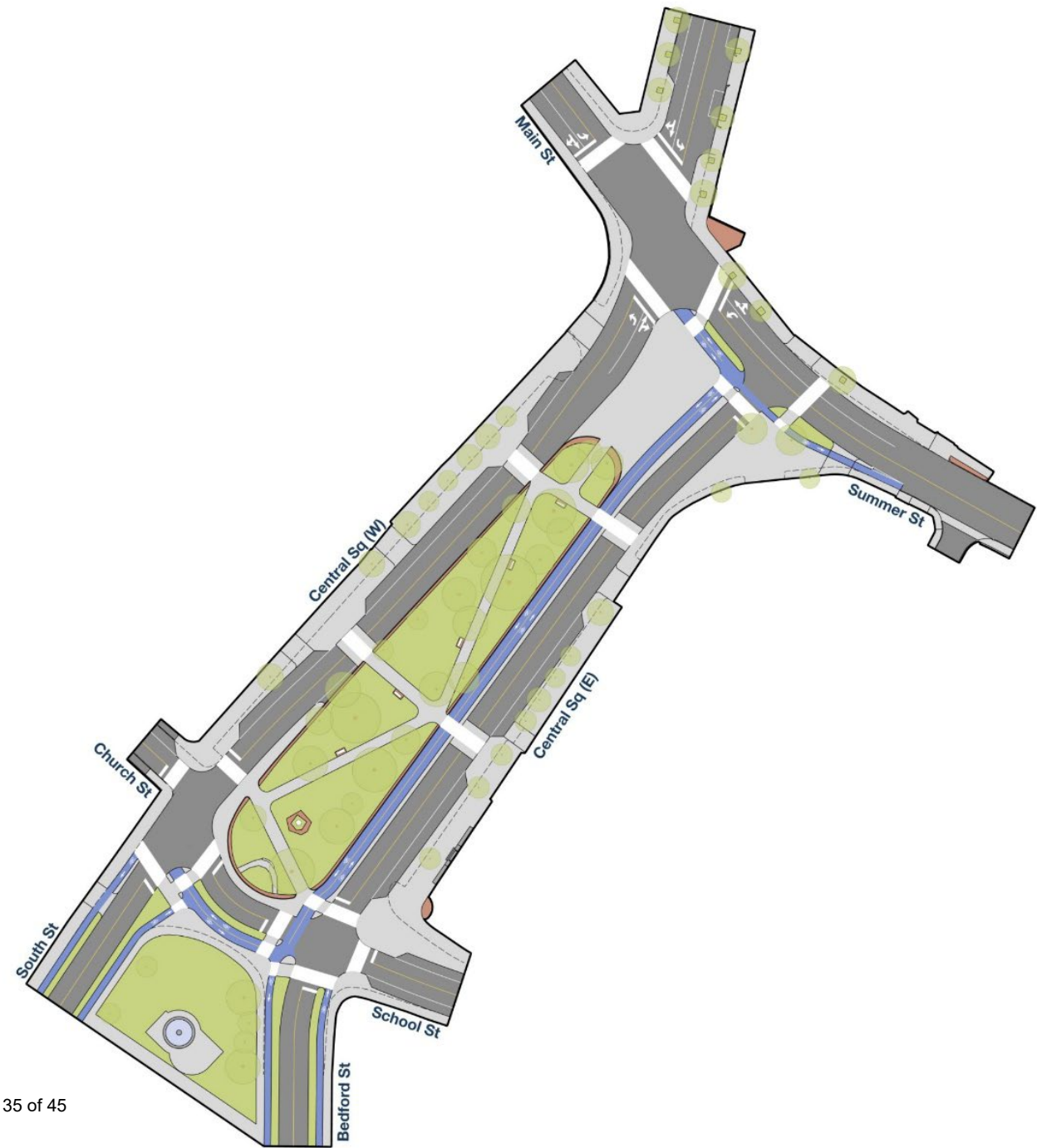
- **North**
 - Signalized at Main, Broad, Summer, Central Sq W
 - Central Sq E @ Summer, stop controlled
- **South**
 - Dual 4-way stops
- **Central Sq**
 - Dual 2-way streets
- **School St**
 - 2-way



Alternative 2: Signalized

Benefits

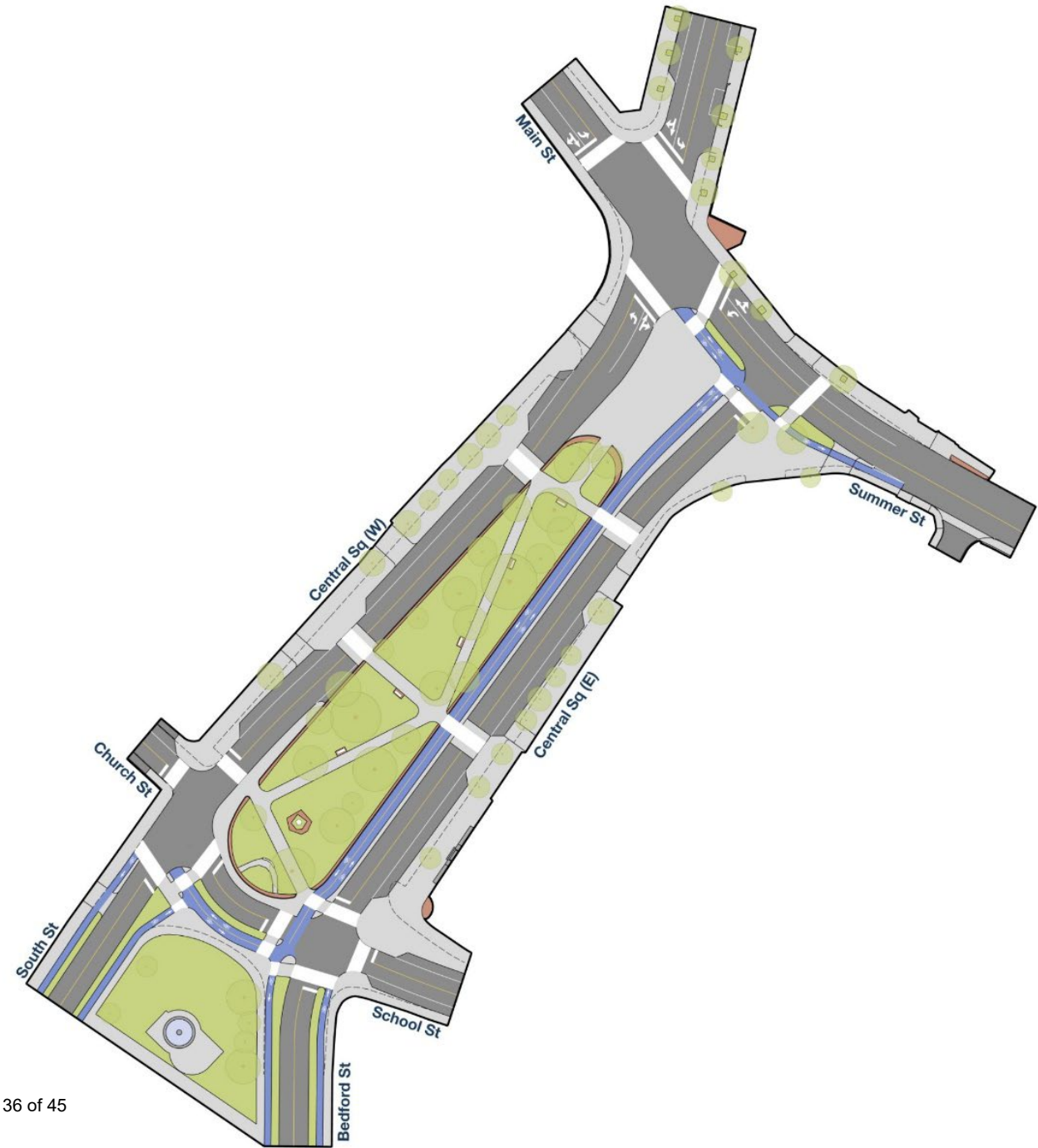
- **Pedestrians**
 - Some crossing lengths reduced, greater visibility, increased sidewalk space
- **Bicyclists**
 - Family-friendly bikeways from Summer to Town Hall
- **Open Space**
 - Common extended to North, increased connectivity to Town Hall green



Alternative 1: Signalized

Drawbacks

- **Traffic**
 - Significant increase in vehicle queues at Broad and Main
- **Access**
 - Sidewalk expansion along Summer and Main limited
 - No bike connections along Summer and Main





Alternative 3: Roundabout

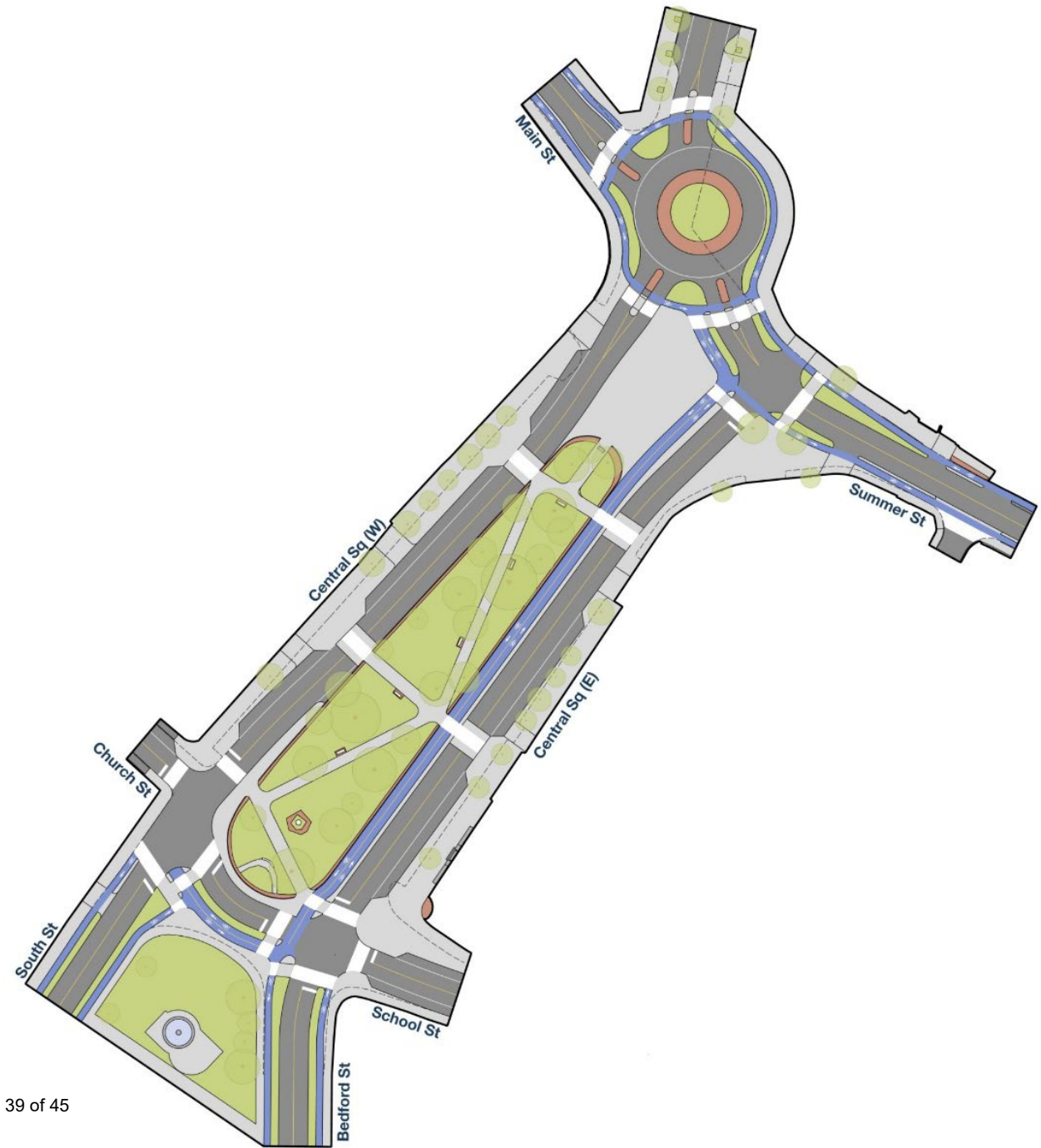
- **North**
 - Roundabout at Main and Broad
 - Central Sq (E) at Summer St stop controlled
- **South**
 - Dual 4-way stops
- **Central Sq**
 - Dual 2-way streets
- **School St**
 - 2-way



Alternative 2: Roundabout

Benefits

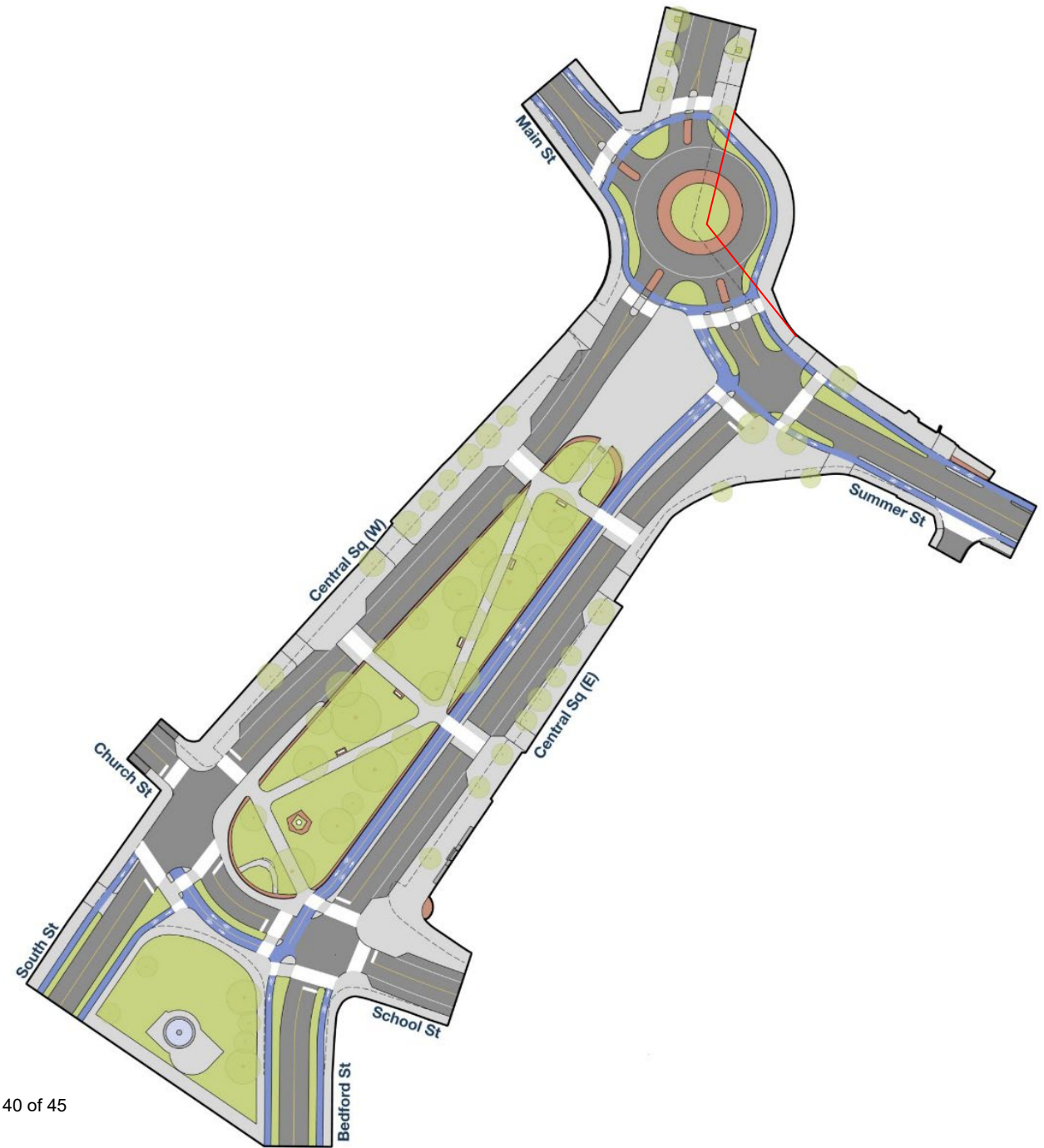
- **Vehicles**
 - Reduced delay at intersections, slow and steady travel through the Square
- **Pedestrians**
 - Reduced crossing lengths, greater visibility, decreased delay, increased sidewalk space
- **Bicyclists**
 - Family-friendly bikeways throughout
- **Open Space**
 - Common extended to North, increased connectivity to Town Hall green, increased space for vegetation



Alternative 2: Roundabout

Drawbacks

- ROW taking required to fit roundabout ~5500ft²





Water & Sewer Capital Expenses

- Assumptions:
- Projected costs and estimates not adjusted for inflation
- Assumes no new development
- Water capacity marginally increased

Water	Sewer
FY 24-25	FY 25-30
\$3,742,000	\$50,000,000 (est.)
FY 26-30	
\$63,006,000	
\$66,748,000	

Estimated DIF Revenues

Year	End of Fiscal Year	Tax Revenue	Deposit to General Fund	DIF Revenues	Cumulative DIF Revenues
1	2028	\$354,798	\$106,439	\$248,359	\$248,359
2	2029	\$709,596	\$212,879	\$496,717	\$745,076
3	2030	\$1,064,394	\$319,318	\$745,076	\$1,490,152
4	2031	\$1,419,192	\$425,758	\$993,435	\$2,483,587
5	2032	\$1,773,990	\$532,197	\$1,241,793	\$3,725,380
6	2033	\$1,773,990	\$532,197	\$1,241,793	\$4,967,173
7	2034	\$1,773,990	\$532,197	\$1,241,793	\$6,208,967
8	2035	\$1,773,990	\$532,197	\$1,241,793	\$7,450,760
9	2036	\$1,773,990	\$532,197	\$1,241,793	\$8,692,553
10	2037	\$1,773,990	\$532,197	\$1,241,793	\$9,934,347
11	2038	\$1,773,990	\$532,197	\$1,241,793	\$11,176,140
12	2039	\$1,773,990	\$532,197	\$1,241,793	\$12,417,933
13	2040	\$1,773,990	\$532,197	\$1,241,793	\$13,659,727
14	2041	\$1,773,990	\$532,197	\$1,241,793	\$14,901,520
15	2042	\$1,773,990	\$532,197	\$1,241,793	\$16,143,313
16	2043	\$1,773,990	\$532,197	\$1,241,793	\$17,385,106
17	2044	\$1,773,990	\$532,197	\$1,241,793	\$18,626,900
18	2045	\$1,773,990	\$532,197	\$1,241,793	\$19,868,693
19	2046	\$1,773,990	\$532,197	\$1,241,793	\$21,110,486
20	2047	\$1,773,990	\$532,197	\$1,241,793	\$22,352,280

Add a community and district name to your output:

Assumptions:

- 20-year term
- 70% of eligible revenue
- No tax rate increase

Route 104 Corridor Study – Old Colony Planning Council

Tasks	Steps	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24	Jan-25	Feb-25	Mar-25	Apr-25	May-25	Jun-25	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25
Project Initiation	Initial interview with community, MassDOT and regional partners												
	Develop Scope of Work, plans for the studies												
	Review previous studies, plans and documents												
Public and Community Engagement	Formation of OCPC Study Team and Community Work Group												
	Initial stakeholders interview meeting												
	General public user preference survey												
	Community, stakeholders meetings												
	JTC, or MPO project update meetings												
	Public Meetings												
Data Collection	ATR count, TMC count												
	Collect and review speed regulation, signal permit and timing plans												
	Road inventory studies, on-line and field audit												
	Multi-modal planning data collection												
	Environmental data collection												
Mapping and Data Analysis	Develop GIS base and operational data maps												
	Capacity analysis (LOS, delay and air quality)												
	Safety analysis (collision cause and countermeasures)												
	Multi-modal planning analysis (bicycling, walking, transit and etc)												
Existing Condition Assessment	Intersection operational evaluation												
	Corridor planning and operational evaluation												
	Transportation safe system analysis												
	Climate change and environmental review												
Future Projection and Assessment	Estimate background traffic growth and conditions												
	Compile site specific land use and road development plans												
	Identify future deficiencies												
Plan Design Alternatives Assessment	Alternatives analysis and comparison												
	Development recommendations												
Draft Report	Circulate draft report for review												
	Solicit comments and suggestions for updating draft report												
	Provide project development coordination in various funding resources												
Final Report	Circulate the final report												
	Final Document and archive												

*The Project Development Timeline provides estimated time for completion of each task and it is recommended to use it as a reference.



Questions and/or
Comments?