

Select Board Meeting

Monday, March 9, 2026 at 6:30 PM

Town Offices, Select Board Room

36 Bartlet Street, Andover, MA 01810

Meetings are televised on Comcast Channel 22 and Verizon Channel 45

RECEIVED
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

2026 MAR 09 PM 4:31

TOWN OF ANDOVER, MA

I. Call to Order – 6:30 P.M.

II. Opening Ceremonies

A. Moment of Silence/Pledge of Allegiance

III. Town Manager Report

IV. Communications/Announcements/Liaison Reports

V. Public Comment

VI. Public Hearings

A. National Grid – Lowell Junction Road

Board to review and consider voting to approve an application from National Grid and Verizon requesting permission to locate, erect and maintain poles, wires, and fixtures, including the necessary sustaining and protecting fixtures, along and across the public way hereinafter named in accordance with the plan filed herewith marked - Lowell Junction Road - Andover, Massachusetts.

VII. Regular Business

A. Opioid Settlement Funds

Board to receive opioid settlement fund recommendations and final report.

B. Amendments to Traffic Rules and Regulations

Board to discuss and consider voting on the following changes to the Traffic Rules and Regulations as proposed by the Andover Safety Officer.

1. Schedule 1, Article V, Section 2

Impose a parking restriction of No Parking on the South Side of Central Street from Chestnut Street to School Street during the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on school days for the purpose of maintaining a designated school pickup and drop off queue.

Location: Central Street South Side from Chestnut Street to School Street distance of 350 feet.

Establish a Pick Up / Drop Off Only Zone on the South Side of Central Street from Chestnut Street to School Street during the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on school days for the purpose of maintaining a designated school pickup and drop off queue.

Location: Central Street South Side from Chestnut Street to School Street distance of 350 feet.

C. Land Use Policy

Board to review and consider approval of revised Land Use Policy as presented by Town Counsel.

D. Annual Town Meeting Articles

Board to consider voting to take a position on the following articles:

P9	Financial Housekeeping F-H
P11	Dissolution of Revolving Funds
P21	Zoning Bylaw Amendment – Accessory Dwelling Unit Bylaw Adjustments
P25	Zoning Bylaw Amendment – Historic Mill Overlay District Dimensional Regulations
P32	Revoke Town Acceptance of Civil Service Status for Police Officers
P34	West Elementary Borrowing and Andover High School Improvements
P35	An Act Authorizing the Town of Andover to Prohibit the Use of Anticoagulant Rodenticides by Commercial Pesticide Applicators
P40	Amend District Agreement with Greater Lawrence Technical School to Permit Hangar Lease

VIII. Approval of Minutes

A. Board to approve minutes from the following meetings:

1. February 23, 2026

IX. Adjourn

If any member of the public wishing to attend this meeting seeks special accommodations in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, please contact Amy Heidebrecht in the Town Manager's Office at 978-623-8213 or by email at amy.heidebrecht@andoverma.us



TOWN OF ANDOVER

Town Clerk's Office
36 Bartlet Street
Andover, MA 01810
978-623-8230
www.andoverma.gov

NOTICE

You are hereby notified that a Public Hearing will be held by the Andover Select Board on February 23rd, 2026 in the Select Board Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Town Offices, 36 Bartlet Street, at 6:30PM.

This hearing is being held on the petition of National Grid and Verizon requesting permission to locate, erect and maintain poles, wires, and fixtures, including the necessary sustaining and protecting fixtures, along and across the public way hereinafter named in accordance with the plan filed herewith marked – “Lowell Junction Road – Andover, Massachusetts”:

#31223440 – Lowell Junction Road – National Grid to install 1 JO pole on Lowell Junction Road beginning at a point approximately 380 feet East of the centerline of the intersection of Lowell Junction Road and Connector Road. National Grid will install new pole, P8358-50 at approximately (42°36'47"N71°09'14"W), Andover, MA.

If you would like to obtain a copy of the plan(s) of the proposed work related to this utility petition, please email the Town Clerk's office at townclerk@andoverma.gov.

Representatives from the utility company will present their petition during the meeting and will also be available at 6:15 P.M. on the above date to answer questions you may have relating to the proposed work.

By order of the
Select Board

Austin Simko
Deputy Town Manager/Town Clerk

Plan No.: 31223440
Date: February 11, 2026

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TOWN OF ANDOVER, MASSACHUSETTS

JAN 20 AM 9:47

TOWN OF ANDOVER, MA



PRIVATE UTILITY PETITION CHECKLIST

TO BE FILLED OUT BY PETITIONER

COMPANY: ControlPoint Technologies # 31223440

PROJECT MANAGER NAME: Aaron Fernandes

PROJECT MANAGER CONTACT NUMBER: 781-384-2371

LIST OF ADDRESSES IMPACTED BY PROPOSED WORK:
15, 13, 18, (LOWELL JUNCTION RD, ANDOVER MA)

PETITIONER IS REQUIRED TO ATTACH PICTURES SHOWING AREA OF PROPOSAL

PICTURES HAVE BEEN ATTACHED YES

TO BE FILLED OUT BY TOWN OF ANDOVER STAFF

DPW

SUPPORT PROJECT (YES / NO) YES NO

SIGNATURE: *[Signature]*

TITLE: *Deputy Director DPW - Capital Projects*

COMMENTS:

POLICE DEPARTMENT

SUPPORT PROJECT (YES / NO) _____

SIGNATURE: _____

TITLE: _____

COMMENTS:

FIRE DEPARTMENT

SUPPORT PROJECT (YES / NO) _____

SIGNATURE: _____

TITLE: _____

COMMENTS:

ANDOVER TOWN CLERK
RCUD 2025 JAN 30 PM 2:24

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TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

TOWN OF ANDOVER, MASSACHUSETTS

2020 JAN 20 AM 9:47

TOWN OF ANDOVER, MA



PRIVATE UTILITY PETITION CHECKLIST

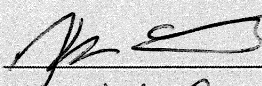
TO BE FILLED OUT BY PETITIONER

COMPANY:	ControlPoint Technologies	# 31223440
PROJECT MANAGER NAME:	Aaron Fernandes	
PROJECT MANAGER CONTACT NUMBER:	781-384-2371	
LIST OF ADDRESSES IMPACTED BY PROPOSED WORK:	15, 13, 18, (LOWELL JUNCTION RD, ANDOVER MA)	
PETITIONER IS REQUIRED TO ATTACH PICTURES SHOWING AREA OF PROPOSAL		
PICTURES HAVE BEEN ATTACHED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES	

TO BE FILLED OUT BY TOWN OF ANDOVER STAFF

<u>DPW</u>	
SUPPORT PROJECT (YES / NO)	SIGNATURE: _____
COMMENTS:	TITLE: _____

<u>POLICE DEPARTMENT</u>	
SUPPORT PROJECT (YES / NO)	SIGNATURE: _____
COMMENTS:	TITLE: _____

<u>FIRE DEPARTMENT</u>	
SUPPORT PROJECT (YES / NO)	SIGNATURE: 
COMMENTS:	TITLE: <u>Fire Chief</u>

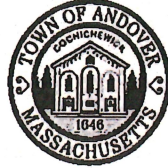
ANDOVER TOWN CLERK
RCUD 2023 JAN 27 AM 10:31

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2026 JAN 20 AM 9:47

TOWN OF ANDOVER, MA

TOWN OF ANDOVER, MASSACHUSETTS



PRIVATE UTILITY PETITION CHECKLIST

TO BE FILLED OUT BY PETITIONER

COMPANY:	ControlPoint Technologies	# 31223440
PROJECT MANAGER NAME:	Aaron Fernandes	
PROJECT MANAGER CONTACT NUMBER:	781-384-2371	
LIST OF ADDRESSES IMPACTED BY PROPOSED WORK:	15, 13, 18, (LOWELL JUNCTION RD, ANDOVER MA)	
PETITIONER IS REQUIRED TO ATTACH PICTURES SHOWING AREA OF PROPOSAL		
PICTURES HAVE BEEN ATTACHED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES	

TO BE FILLED OUT BY TOWN OF ANDOVER STAFF

<u>DPW</u>	
SUPPORT PROJECT (YES / NO)	SIGNATURE: _____
COMMENTS:	TITLE: _____

<u>POLICE DEPARTMENT</u>	
SUPPORT PROJECT (YES / NO)	SIGNATURE: <i>[Signature]</i>
COMMENTS:	TITLE: <i>Chief of Police</i>

<u>FIRE DEPARTMENT</u>	
SUPPORT PROJECT (YES / NO)	SIGNATURE: _____
COMMENTS:	TITLE: _____

ANDOVER TOWN CLERK
RCUD 2026 JAN 22 AM 11:54



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2026 JAN 20 AM 9:47
TOWN OF ANDOVER, MA

November 13, 2025

To the Board of Selectmen of Andover, Massachusetts

To Whom It May Concern:

Enclosed please find a petition of NATIONAL GRID and VERIZON, covering joint NATIONAL GRID-VERIZON pole location(s)

If you have any questions regarding this permit, please contact:

Aaron Fernandes (781) 384-2371 or afernandes@cpteng.com

Please notify National Grid's Jenn Iannalfo of the **hearing date / time** to Jennifer.Iannalfo@nationalgrid.com

If this petition meets with your approval, please return an executed copy to each of the above-named Companies.

National Grid: Jennifer Iannalfo, 1101 Turnpike Street; North Andover, MA 01845.

Very truly yours,

Dave Johnson

Dave Johnson
Supervisor, Distribution Design

Enclosures

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2026 JAN 20 AM 9:47

Questions contact Central Design - Aaron Fernandes (781) 384-2371 or afernandes@cpteng.com

TOWN OF ANDOVER, MA

PETITION FOR JOINT OR IDENTICAL POLE LOCATIONS

North Andover, Massachusetts

To the Board of Selectmen
of Andover, Massachusetts

Massachusetts Electric Company d/b/a NATIONAL GRID and Verizon New England, Inc requests permission to locate poles, wires, and fixtures, including the necessary sustaining and protecting fixtures, along and across the following public way:

Lowell Junction Road - National Grid to install 1 JO pole on Lowell Junction Road beginning at a point approximately 380 feet East of the centerline of the intersection of Lowell Junction Road and Connector Road. National Grid will install new pole, P8358-50 at approximately (42°36'47"N 71°09'14"W), Andover, MA.

Location approximately as shown on plan attached.

Wherefore it prays that after due notice and hearing as provided by law, it be granted a location for and permission to erect and maintain poles and wires, together with such sustaining and protecting fixtures as it may find necessary, said poles to be erected substantially in accordance with the plan filed herewith marked - Lowell Junction Road - Andover, Massachusetts.

No.# 31223440

Also, for permission to lay and maintain underground laterals, cables, and wires in the above or intersecting public ways for the purpose of making connections with such poles and buildings as each of said petitioners may desire for distributing purposes.

Your petitioner agrees to reserve space for one cross-arm at a suitable point on each of said poles for the fire, police, telephone, and telegraph signal wires belonging to the municipality and used by it exclusively for municipal purposes.

Massachusetts Electric Company d/b/a
NATIONAL GRID *Dave Johnson*

BY _____
Engineering Department

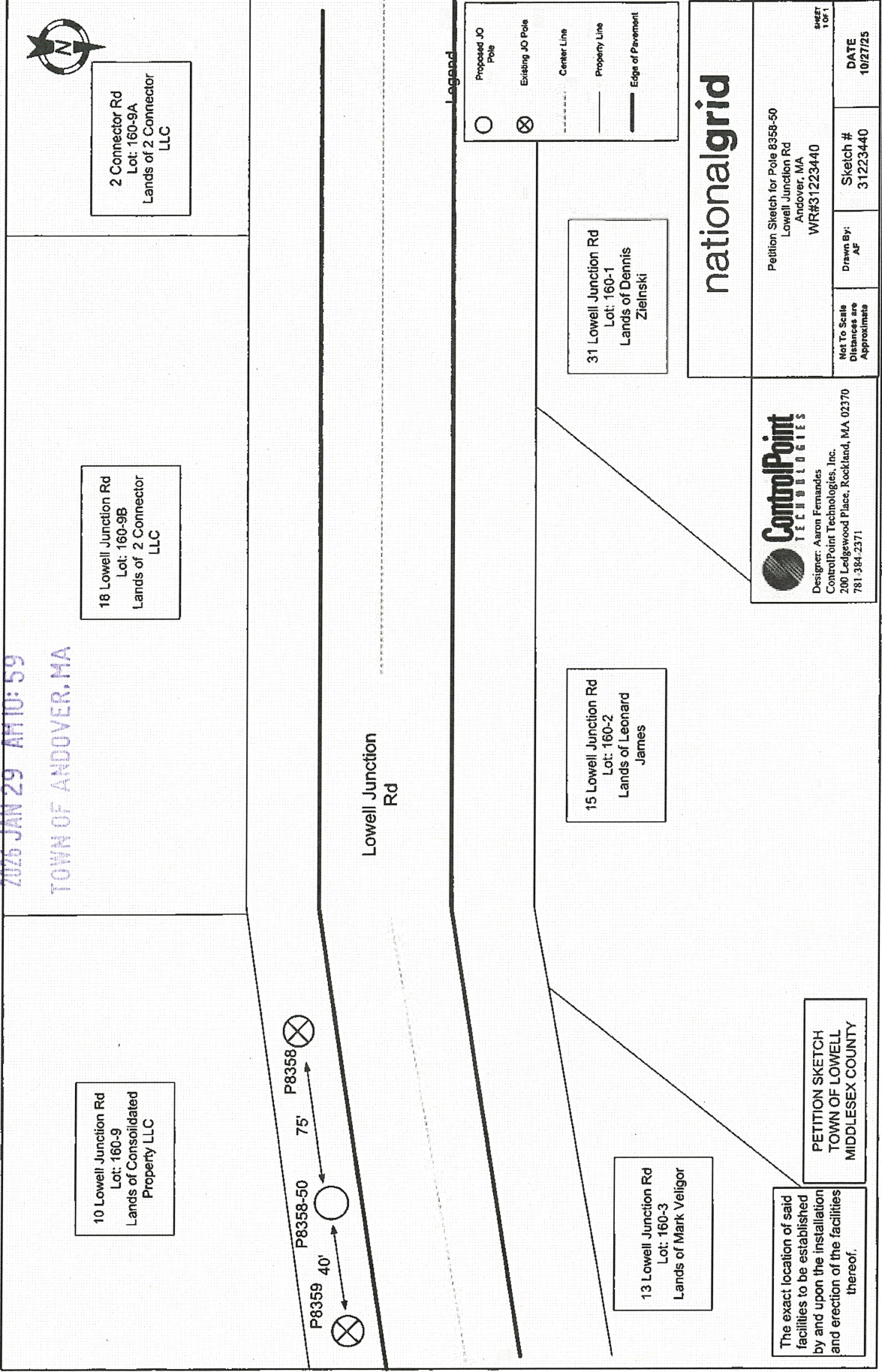
VERIZON NEW ENGLAND, INC.

BY *[Signature]* _____
Manager / Right of Way

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2025 JAN 29 AM 10:59

TOWN OF ANDOVER, MA



nationalgrid

ControlPoint
TECHNOLOGIES

Designer: Aaron Fernandes
ControlPoint Technologies, Inc.
200 Ledgewood Place, Rockland, MA 02370
781.384.2371

Petition Sketch for Pole 8358-50 Lowell Junction Rd Andover, MA WR#31223440		sheet 1 of 1
Not To Scale Distances are Approximate	Drawn By: AF	Sketch # 31223440
		DATE 10/27/25

THE EXACT LOCATION OF SAID FACILITIES TO BE ESTABLISHED BY AND UPON THE INSTALLATION AND ERECTION OF THE FACILITIES THEREOF.

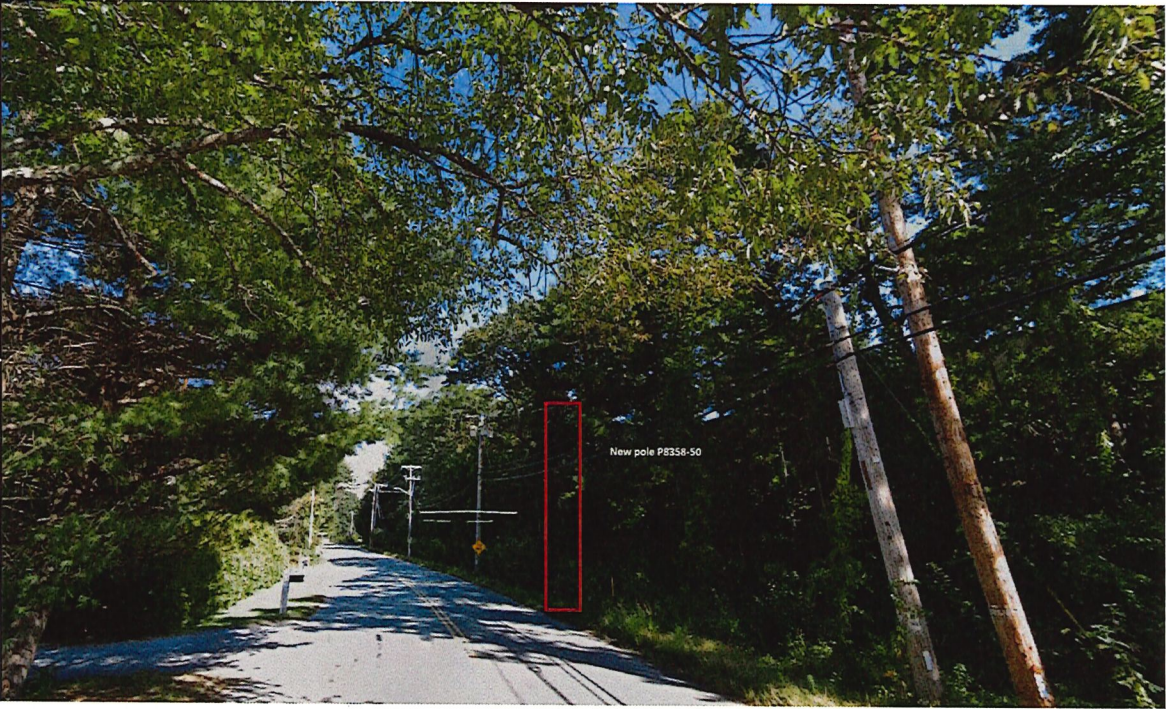
PETITION SKETCH
TOWN OF LOWELL
MIDDLESEX COUNTY



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2026 JAN 22 PM 2: 16
TOWN OF ANDOVER, MA



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2026 JAN 22 PM 2: 17
TOWN OF ANDOVER, MA



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2026 JAN 22 PM 2:17
TOWN OF ANDOVER, MA



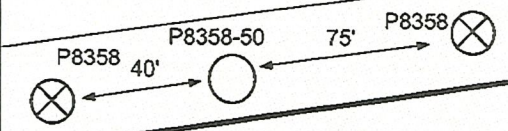
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2026 JAN 22 PM 2:17
TOWN OF ANDOVER, MA



10 Lowell Junction Rd
Lot: 160-9
Lands of Consolidated
Property LLC






18 Lowell Junction Rd
Lot: 160-9B
Lands of 2 Connector
LLC

2 Connector Rd
Lot: 160-9A
Lands of 2 Connector
LLC



Lowell Junction
Rd

Legend

-  Proposed JO Pole
-  Existing JO Pole
-  Center Line
-  Property Line
-  Edge of Pavement

13 Lowell Junction Rd
Lot: 160-3
Lands of Mark Veligor

15 Lowell Junction Rd
Lot: 160-2
Lands of Leonard
James

31 Lowell Junction Rd
Lot: 160-1
Lands of Dennis
Zielnski

The exact location of said facilities to be established by and upon the installation and erection of the facilities thereof.

PETITION SKETCH
TOWN OF LOWELL
MIDDLESEX COUNTY



Designer: Aaron Fernandes
ControlPoint Technologies, Inc.
200 Ledgewood Place, Rockland, MA 02370
781-384-2371



Petition Sketch for Pole 8358-50
Lowell Junction Rd
Andover, MA
WR#31223440

Not To Scale Distances are Approximate	Drawn By: AF	Sketch # 31223440	DATE 10/27/25
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SHEET
1 OF 1

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2025 JAN 20 AM 9:47
TOWN OF ANDOVER, MA



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TOWN OF ANDOVER, MA



RECEIVED
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2026 JAN 20 AM 9:47
TOWN OF ANDOVER, MA



Andrew P. Flanagan
Town Manager

TOWN OF ANDOVER

Town Manager's Office
36 Bartlet Street
Andover, MA 01810
978-623-8210
www.andoverma.gov

Please be informed that the Andover Select Board, at its meeting on Monday, March 9, 2026, will discuss the following proposed amendments to the Town of Andover's Traffic Rules and Regulations:

Schedule 1, Article V, Section 2

Impose a parking restriction of No Parking on the South Side of Central Street from Chestnut Street to School Street, during the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on school days for the purpose of maintaining a designated school pickup and drop off queue.

Location: Central Street South Side from Chestnut Street to School Street distance of 350 feet.

Establish a Pick Up / Drop Off Only Zone on the South Side of Central Street from Chestnut Street to School Street, during the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on school days for the purpose of maintaining a designated school pickup and drop off queue.

Location: Central Street South Side from Chestnut Street to School Street distance of 350 feet.

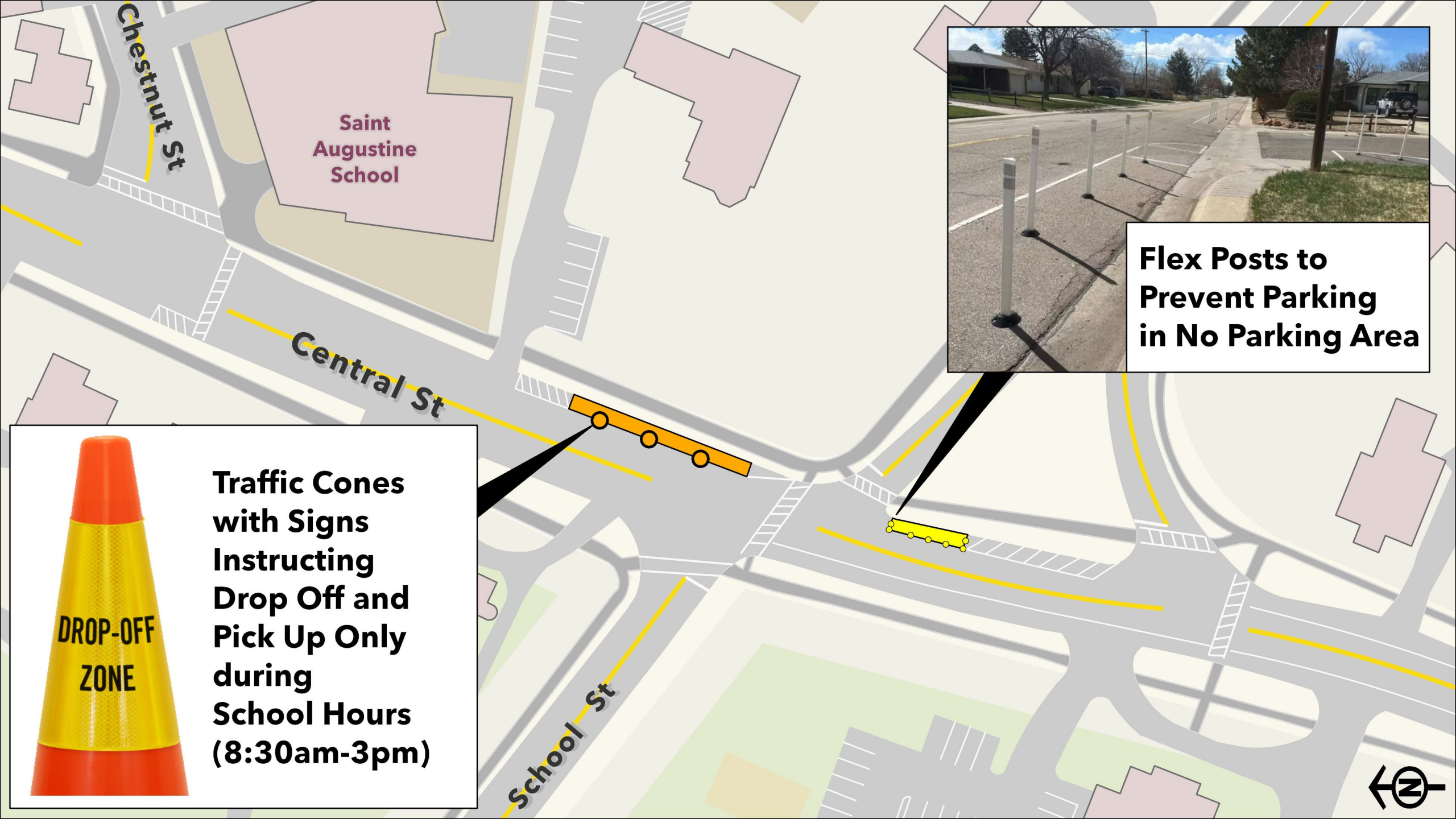
The Select Board's meeting will be held in the 3rd Floor Select Board Room of the Town Offices, 36 Bartlet Street, at 6:30 P.M.

If you have further questions regarding this discussion, please contact Andover Police Department Safety Officer Glen Ota at 978-623-3564.









Chestnut St

Saint Augustine School

Central St

School St



Flex Posts to Prevent Parking in No Parking Area



Traffic Cones with Signs Instructing Drop Off and Pick Up Only during School Hours (8:30am-3pm)





**Traffic Cones with Signs
Instructing
Drop Off and
Pick Up Only
during
School Hours
(8:00am-3:30pm)**





**Flex Posts to
Prevent Parking
in No Parking Area**

Select Board Land Use Policy Reference

Current Land Use Policy

IV. LAND USE

IV.1. REGULATIONS FOR USE OF THE PARK

The Park, bounded by Chestnut Court, Bartlet Street, Whittier Street, Whittier Court and the Municipal Buildings, is for the recreational enjoyment of all of the residents of Andover. Citizens are encouraged to use The Park for both quiet enjoyment and active use consistent with the regulations outlined below.

The use of The Park for events shall be by permit only. An event is defined as a municipal, cultural, educational, religious, social or charitable program, occasion or activity. There are three types of permits. Permits issued by the Town Manager's Office and Special Permits issued by the Select Board. These three types of permits are defined below:

A. Permits issued by the Town Manager's Office:

Permits for the following events are granted by the Town Manager's Office: 1) a wedding ceremony or photography session before or after a wedding; 2) day-time activities conducted by the Division of Community Services, other Town departments or a school. These permits are subject to the regulations in Section B.

B. Other Permits issued by the Town Manager's Office subject to the following Regulations:

1. Events in The Park are permitted for one (1) day and shall only take place between the hours of 7:00 A.M. and 9:00 P.M. The clean-up and/or tear-down after an event must be concluded by 11:00 P.M. If additional clean-up is needed, it can begin after 7:00 A.M. the following day and must be completed by 12:00 P.M. (Noon).
2. Playing of music is permitted but must be at a reasonable volume and cease at 9:00 P.M.
3. If a power generator is used, it must cease at 11:00 P.M. The Town reserves the right to designate the location of the generator so as to minimize the effects of noise and exhaust on abutting properties to the greatest extent possible.
4. Portable chemical toilets are not permitted.
5. Trash dumpsters are only allowed by special permit, granted by the Select Board. They can be located behind the Doherty Middle School in the parking lot by the track. They must be removed within 24 hours of the end of the event or the Town will remove them at the permittee's expense. Any dumpster 6 cubic yards or larger must also be permitted by the Health Division and Fire Department.
6. Permit holders shall be responsible for cleaning and restoring the entire area and proper disposal of trash/litter off the premises. Permit holders will be responsible for the cost to repair any damage to The Park as a result of their event.
7. Permit holders shall not obstruct or cause to be obstructed any public ways, fire lanes or egress of any emergency vehicle. Parking of vehicles or placement of rides or amusements is not permitted on the grass.
8. The use of alcoholic beverages in The Park is not permitted.

9. Permit holders are responsible for insisting on compliance with the parking rules and regulations established for adjacent streets and municipal parking lots in the area of The Park by the sponsors, event staff and vendors.
10. Permit holders of events permitted by the Town Manager must notify property owners on both sides of Chestnut Street from Main Street to Pasho Street, Bartlet Street from Barnard Street to Morton Street, Whittier Street from Park Street to Chestnut Street and all of Whittier Court with written notice within two (2) weeks but not less than forty-eight (48) hours prior to an event.
11. Amusement devices (carnival rides) in The Park or adjacent municipal parking lots are not allowed except by Special Permit of the Select Board.
12. A violation of these regulations may result in an immediate revocation of the permit or special permit and all activities suspended by the officer in-charge of the Police Department. Violations could result in the denial of any future requests for a permit or special permit. If additional costs are incurred by the Town in the enforcement of these regulations, then the permit holder shall be held responsible.
13. The Town Manager's Office may refer an applicant to the Select Board for their review and approval if it is felt it is in the best interest of the Town to do so.

C. Special Permit Issued by the Select Board

A Special Permit may be issued by the Select Board for an event that includes amusement devices (carnival rides), however, the organization must comply with (a) the Regulations for Use of The Park in Section B.; (b) other arrangements as specified by the applicant and approved by the Select Board; and (c) the requirements of the following Departments and Divisions:

- | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| ~ Police Department | ~ Fire Department |
| ~ Building Division | ~ Health Division |
| ~ Department of Public Works | ~ Plant and Facilities Department |
| ~ Community Services | ~ School Department |

To receive a Special Permit, an organization must apply to the Town Manager's Office four (4) months prior to the event. The Select Board will notify the property owners on Chestnut Street, Bartlet Street, Whittier Street and Whittier Court as defined in Section B. 10., place an advertisement in *The Andover Townsman* twice prior to the hearing date, hold a public hearing to consider the request and issue a decision within three (3) weeks of the hearing. If a public hearing is required, then the applicant must pay \$200.00 (if needed) to cover the cost of the notices, advertising and processing.

ANDOVER SELECT BOARD

Effective: September 13, 1999

Revised: December 2, 2013

IV.2. GOVERNING THE USE OF UNDEVELOPED TOWN-OWNED LAND

These regulations apply to all undeveloped areas in the Town of Andover owned by and under control of the Town of Andover, the Conservation Commission, the School Committee or other Town entity either by deed provision, easement, Town Meeting vote or informal arrangement with other entities.

These regulations are not limited to those areas with signs so indicating, but where possible, abbreviated versions of these rules will be posted.

- 1) The Town of Andover assumes no liability for injuries, damage to property or other loss to persons going on such areas. Users of these areas assume all risks involved.
- 2) No alcoholic beverages of any kind are allowed on Town property.
- 3) Hunting is prohibited except for deer hunting by bow and arrow in accordance with rules and regulations established by the Conservation Commission in conformity with the General Laws. [Amended 8-8-11]
- 4) Fishing is allowed under the provisions of applicable state law.
- 5) All persons are welcome to use Town facilities and open areas without permit from sunrise to sunset.
- 6) Overnight camping will be permitted only to Scouts and similar organizations having an adult leader present and responsible at all times. Every such group shall obtain a written camping permit from the Conservation Commission office and a fire permit from the Fire Department for campouts if open fires are planned.

The Fire Department will issue permits for open air fires only after the camping permit has been obtained. The Conservation Commission will designate the exact site to be used and will mandate what sanitary arrangements shall be made.

Said permits will be used for each twenty-four hour period. Any persons camping in Conservation land without said permit(s) shall be subject to prosecution and fines (see item 11). The Conservation Commission reserves the right to deny said permit.

- 7) Areas are meant to be preserved in a clean, neat manner. Cans, bottles, garbage, paper, plastic and any other debris whatsoever shall be placed in receptacles if provided by the Town or taken away if no municipal receptacles are on the site.

No trees, living or dead, no plants or flowers or soil material or rocks or animals of any sort whatsoever shall be removed from the Conservation areas, nor defaced, cut, painted or otherwise maimed, under penalties described in item 11. No wood, living or dead, shall be cut except as specifically authorized by the Conservation Commission for Conservation purposes only.

Dumping on any land in the Town of Andover is prohibited by Town By-Law.

- 8) Motor vehicles of any kind are prohibited except on roadways and specified parking areas.
- 9) Community gardening is allowed in those areas specified.

- 10) No trails, dams or markings are to be built, or any bridges installed without permission of the controlling entity.
- 11) Visitors are urged to leave areas cleaner than they were found and report violations to the appropriate authorities or the Andover Police Department. Violations hereof shall be punishable by fines up to \$200.00 for each offense. Every day of such offense shall be deemed to be a separate offense.
- 12) Permission for the use of school land should be addressed to the School Committee; Town lands to the Town Manager, and Conservation lands to the Conservation Commission. Requests for deviation from any of the above should be addressed to the controlling entity.

(9/13/85)

IV.3. OPEN SPACE

The Select Board feels that the Goals and Objectives as articulated in the “Report of the Recreation and Open Space Study Committee” form a good foundation upon which future Town decisions in this area can be based. As stated, these goals are a reaffirmation of a 1976 report and remain valid.

These **Goals and Objectives** follow:

Listed below and briefly described are the community’s aspirations for the preservation and utilization of its open space resources. These goals have not changed substantially since the preparation in 1975 and 1976 of the Recreation and Open Space Committee Report, which was intended to be a ten-year action program.

Therefore, the articulation of these Goals and Objectives started with the list of Goals on Page 17 of the 1976 “Report of the Recreation and Open Space Study Committee”. All of those involved in the preparation of this current plan reviewed these Goals and contributed suggestions.

GOAL #1 - PRESERVE ECOLOGICAL BALANCE

As the rapid urbanization of Andover proceeds, it is vital to its total well-being that the natural systems upon which all its citizens depend are not needlessly abused. This means protecting water supplies, both local and regional, guiding development away from sensitive areas like wetlands, floodplains and areas of poor soil capability, preventing degradation because of pollution and erosion, and preserving outstanding natural features, particularly water bodies, as well as endangered habitats and sites of historical or archeological significance.

OBJECTIVES

- a. Protect town water supplies by acquiring all of the remaining undeveloped Fish Brook and Haggetts Pond lowlands;
- b. Protect the remainder of the water supply watershed from harmful development by means of acquisition or special constraints on use;
- c. Identify and protect areas critically significant to the groundwater resources of the Town and its neighbors, which have present or potential or stand-by water supply capability;
- d. Continue strict enforcement of the Wetlands Protection Act;
- e. Refine and strictly enforce the erosion and sedimentation controls in the Town’s subdivision regulations;
- f. Define more specifically the means of protection of open spaces and natural features in the Town’s zoning and subdivision regulations. Review those regulations with the objectives of increasing environmental protection and decreasing the adverse environmental impacts of development;

- g. Develop a method of preserving adequate open space, wetlands and other outstanding natural features in and around industrial areas, for instance, a patch of laurel or a stand of native trees;
- h. Adopt more specific guidelines for the safe and clean discharge of storm drainage on the part of the Town; for example measures to prevent siltation and petroleum products pollution of streams and wetlands;
- i. Minimize the use of pesticides and herbicides;
- j. Explore the use of conservation land trusts and other land conservation techniques to preserve open space while guiding appropriate development;
- k. Encourage the acquisition of Conservation Easements by the Town and private open space groups.

GOAL #2 - ENCOURAGE OPEN SPACE ENJOYMENT AND UTILIZATION

Open space preservation should guide the Town's programs. The Town needs to expand the opportunities for outdoor recreation and enjoyment so that those opportunities are available to all citizens. Open spaces and recreation programs should be provided for all ages and groups.

OBJECTIVES

- a. Publicize this plan. Prepare and distribute more informational material relative to available public open space and active recreational opportunities and programs, such as brochures;
- b. Continue to implement long range plans for the Andover Recreation Park;
- c. Attempt to link open space areas by means of trails. Continue to try to establish a Town-wide trail network;
- d. Encourage appropriate open space uses while discouraging abuse. This means attempting to balance user needs so that no group is shut out and open space areas are not preempted unfairly;
- e. Support and encourage groups who use public open spaces appropriately and those who will voluntarily improve and enhance such areas such as scout troops, garden clubs and school children.

GOAL #3 - ENHANCE "THE TOWN BEAUTIFUL"

Andover's attractiveness and desirability as a place to live and work depend in large part on its "open" qualities. Every effort needs to be made to ensure green areas at critical locations and to guide the quality of development insofar as possible for visual enhancement.

OBJECTIVES

- a. Identify, protect and maintain by available means outstanding natural features, endangered habitats, archeologically important sites and green and open spaces at critical locations, such as traffic islands at intersections;
- b. Improve methods which the Planning Board can effectively use to design development within subdivisions so as to preserve not only natural features, such as wetlands and scenic areas but usable recreational open space;
- c. Initiate and/or support open space maintenance programs, such as beautification, through federal, state or local efforts.

GOAL #4 - PROTECT RIVER CORRIDORS

All of the above goals are well served by protection of and access to river corridors throughout the Town: not only the Shawsheen and Merrimack but especially Fish Brook, which is a substantial contributor to the Town's water supply and the Skug River, (part of the Ipswich River watershed), which contributes to the water supplies of downstream communities.

OBJECTIVES

- a. Acquire or protect by easement wherever possible the banks of the major rivers, streams and ponds of the Town;
- b. Establish and maintain trails along rivers where possible;
- c. Plan for utilization of accessible river banks. Boat launching facilities could be developed. Water sports programs could be devised.

GOAL #5 - BE RESPONSIBLE IN REGIONAL RELATIONSHIPS

The tendency to concentrate effort and attention on purely local concerns needs to be balanced. What we do in Andover may affect not only our immediate neighbors in the Merrimack Valley but potential open space users from the more densely populated Metropolitan Boston area. The Town needs to keep informed about regional problems and plans, and to work cooperatively with regional and state agencies.

OBJECTIVES

- a. Make Andover's representative on the Merrimack Valley Planning Commission aware of Andover's open space and recreation assets as well as its goals and objectives;
- b. Make Andover aware of regional open space recreation goals through its participation on or involvement in other regional environmental groups;
- c. Communicate Andover's open space assets regionally as well as locally.

GOAL #6 - MAKE GOOD USE OF SCARCE RESOURCES

This means better interagency planning and coordination as well as cooperation with other holders of open space available for public use such as AVIS, the Department of Environmental Management of the Commonwealth and the

Trustees of Reservations. The working relationships between these groups should continue to be cultivated. Joint planning for better protection and utilization of town resources should be developed.

OBJECTIVES

- a. Continue to facilitate the sharing of open space and recreation areas among the different agencies of the Town;
- b. Maintain and improve working relationships of Town agencies with other holders and managers of open space and active recreation facilities. Included are AVIS, Trustees of Reservations, State Department of Environmental Management, Phillips Academy, YMCA, the regional vocational school and local schools.

GOAL #7 - PROVIDE BETTER MANAGEMENT OF EXISTING AREAS

In this time of shrinking public financial support, funds for the care and maintenance are amongst the first items to be excised from the budget. Management strategies must be devised to close the gap. Otherwise increasing urbanization spells deterioration of existing facilities and open space qualities because of overuse, vandalism, litter and other abuses. Andover should protect its already considerable investment in open space.

OBJECTIVES

- a. Improve the maintenance program for the Town's active recreation areas such as playfields and playgrounds;
- b. Establish a maintenance fund for limited care of reservations. Support appropriate maintenance funding for Community Services facilities;
- c. Provide proper signs to identify conservation – recreation areas and to control uses;
- d. Continue efforts to develop better management strategies using volunteers wherever possible;
- e. Be alert to abuses such as litter and vandalism and employ appropriate enforcement techniques;
- f. Balance uses so as to provide maximum enjoyment and employment of open spaces;
- g. Try to make users of the Town's open space aware of their responsibility for its proper management.

GOAL #8 - BE FAIR

This goal means trying to achieve spatial balance of open space and recreational opportunities throughout the Town and means ensuring that all age and social groups are served. It means using open space acquisition to shape, provide context for and serve the demands development is bringing rather than to block

development.

OBJECTIVES

- a. Seek to acquire open space in neighborhoods where it is lacking or limited;
- b. Identify deficiencies in outdoor recreation opportunities and develop strategies to correct them;
- c. Try to provide opportunities for the enjoyment of open space by all groups and ages, including elderly and handicapped citizens.

GOAL #9 - PRESERVE FARMING

The Town should try to maintain farming at least at its current level and to encourage the preservation and agricultural use of suitable open land.

OBJECTIVES

- a. Encourage the few remaining active farmers to apply for Agricultural Preservation Restrictions, and to take advantage of other State, federal and private programs designed to preserve Massachusetts agriculture;
- b. Consider the establishment of a Farmers Market;
- c. Continue to encourage agricultural use of public land where appropriate and not incompatible with other legitimate uses.

Guide to Updates, Amendments, and Additions from Prior Policy to Proposed Policy

Public Amenity Space, Field and Land Use Policy

The policy was expanded from a narrow “Park and Undeveloped Land” framework to a comprehensive land use and public amenity space policy covering:

- Special Events on Town property
- Use of Undeveloped Land
- Field Rentals
- Public & Private Ways, Sidewalks & Shared Use Paths

The Open Space Goals section that came directly from the Town’s Open Space and Recreation Plan was removed as well as the Adopt-an-Island program that can be facilitated through the Department of Public Works.

Regulations for Use of The Park > Special Event Permitting Last Revised in 2013

The revisions expand the specific rules for The Park into a Town-wide Special Event Permitting Policy. It creates a framework for standard and special-permit events, shortens the filing timeline, and shifts approval from the Select Board to the Special Events Committee and the Town Manager’s Office for large events. Conditions are now set case-by-case rather than through fixed rules, abutter notification is determined administratively, and a new fee structure covers Town resource use. Alcohol may be allowed on Town property through a One-Day Liquor License issued by the Select Board.

Original:

- Applied only to The Park on Bartlet Street and detailed event regulations specific to that location
- Alcohol completely prohibited
- Fixed rules for dumpsters, generators, and portable toilets
- No defined review process by Town Departments
- Special Permit issued by Select Board (4 months advance) - required public hearing, newspaper ads, \$200 notice fee
- Abutter notification with defined street list

Key Changes:

- Policy now covers all Town-owned land.

- Defines a Special Event permitting framework for smaller standard events and larger special permit events.
- Application filing deadline shortened (2 months instead of 4 months).
- Select Board approval no longer required for special permit events. Special Permit Event applications now reviewed through the centralized Special Events Committee of Town staff, which provides a recommendation to the Town Manager's Office.
- The Town Manager's Office sets all conditions of approval based on the specific event and location. Fixed rules for dumpsters, generators, and portable toilets have been removed, so these conditions can be added only when needed.
- Abutter notice now determined by Town Manager's Office (not fixed street list).
- Added fee structure to cover the Town's administrative costs and the cost of use of Town Resources (Police, Fire, DPW, Facilities).
- Alcohol may now be permitted on Town property through a One-Day Liquor License issued under the authority of the Select Board.

Governing the Use of Undeveloped Town-Owned > Use of Undeveloped Land Last revised in 1985

The revisions keep the original structure but include updates to reflect current practice. It incorporates the Conservation Commission's changes to camping and hunting procedures on their properties.

Original:

- No alcoholic beverages allowed on Conservation property.
- Camping on Conservation land allowed only for Scouts or similar groups, limited to 24 hours with a permit required for any fires
- Fishing allowed only by brief reference to state law.
- Hunting allowed with limited detail.
- Motor vehicles prohibited except on roadways and parking areas.

Key Changes:

- Conservation Commission approval required before liquor license consideration on conservation land.
- Limited supervised camping allowed on designated Conservation areas, not open to the general public. Camping must be accompanied by Conservation staff or volunteers, with advance registration required.
- Eliminates fire permit requirement while adding fires are permitted only in provided communal pits.
- Fishing clarified as requiring license for age 15+, and cite M.G.L. Chapter 130.

- Hunting clarified as permit-only through the Conservation Division, with all other hunting prohibited.
- Electric bicycles and electric scooters added to the prohibited motorized-vehicle category except in designated areas.

Field Use Rental Policy > New Policy

New section covering:

- Rental eligibility
- Online application requirement
- 30-day submission timeline
- Insurance minimums
- Fee structure
- Extended licenses & leases (references M.G.L. c. 30B)
- Enforcement and oversight coordination

Public & Private Ways, Sidewalks & Shared Use Paths > New Policy

New section covering:

- Public ways
- Private ways
- Shared use paths
- Sidewalks
- E-bikes and scooters 15 mph speed limit on shared use paths
- Enforcement role of Andover Police

Public Amenity Space, Field and Land Use Policy

I. Purpose

This policy defines the use and management of all public lands within the Town of Andover relative to Select Board duties and authorities, including developed and undeveloped town and school properties, recreation areas, conservation lands, and other land overseen by the Town and the Andover Public Schools. It provides guidelines for the rental and responsible use of athletic fields, parks, and other recreational spaces within those matters governed by the Select Board. The overarching goal is to ensure equitable access, safeguard public safety, and preserve the integrity of Andover's shared spaces while encouraging meaningful community engagement.

II. Special Event Permitting

A. Definition of Special Events

A special event is any planned public or private activity including, but not limited to, cultural, educational, religious, charitable, or social gatherings that occur on Town property and may involve amplified sound, vendors, temporary structures & signage, or large public attendance.

B. Permit Classifications

- Standard Event Permit: Reviewed and issued by the Town Manager's Office for smaller-scale events without alcohol such as neighborhood block parties, charitable sidewalk sale, Town department programs, or school-organized activities.
- Special Permit: Reviewed by the Special Events Committee and issued by the Town Manager for large-scale events or those involving amusement rides, music, external vendors, temporary infrastructure, One-Day Liquor License on Town Property or events with street closures (excluding neighborhood block parties).

C. Application Process

- Submission, Review and Approval of Applications:
 - Standard Event Permit applications must be submitted to the Town Manager's Office no later than two weeks prior to the event.

- Special Permit applications must be submitted to the Town Manager's Office at least two months in advance of the event to allow for review.
 1. Special Permits on Town property are limited to non-commercial events. Events may include for-profit vendors, but should be organized for the purpose of promoting civic and community interests and open to the general public.
 2. Special permits are reviewed by the Special Events Committee and may also require an inter-departmental review depending on the size and scale of the event.
 3. If a Special Permit includes serving alcohol on Town property, the intent to apply for a One-Day Liquor License must be indicated within the Special Permit application. Please note that the One-Day Liquor License requires a separate application process, which is governed by its own set of rules and regulations. This process includes submitting additional documentation such as proof of insurance and any other materials required by the Town. Furthermore, any request for a One-Day Liquor License on Town property will require a public hearing conducted by the Select Board.
 4. Permit seekers are required to provide notice of the event with a contact person and phone number to neighboring property owners (as determined by the Town Manager's Office) at least two weeks before the event.

D. Fees

- Standard Permit: May require minimal administrative fee
- Special Permit: Fee is based on the cost of use of Town Resources (Police, Fire, DPW, Facilities).
- Additional fees apply for Electrical permit fee, Electrical Inspector detail, and a security deposit in the case of using the Gazebo

E. Compliance

- All events must adhere to Town regulations on sound limits, hours of operation (between 7:00 AM and 9:00 PM), alcohol prohibition if no permit has been granted, and environmental protection.

- Non-compliance may result in permit revocation or future denial.

F. Additional Licenses and Permits

Additional licenses and/or permits are required for specified types of events and/or activities. There may be associated fees for these licenses and permits. Organizers are responsible for contacting the appropriate Town departments to determine specific requirements and costs. These additional licenses and permits include but are not limited to:

- Raffles require a License issued by the Town Clerk's Office
- Tents over 10 sq. ft. and tents with sides require a Building Permit issued by the Building Department.
- Food service on Town Property requires a Temporary Food Permit issued by the Health Division.
- Alcohol service on Town Property requires a One-Day Liquor License on Town Property issued by the Select Board.

III. **Field Use Rental Policy**

A. Scope

This policy applies to athletic fields, courts, and open recreational areas located on Town property and Andover Public Schools property.

B. Rental Eligibility

Organizations, leagues, schools, or residents seeking to reserve fields for organized use (e.g., games, practices, tournaments) must submit a rental request through the Town's website. Preference will be given to residents of, and organizations based in or specifically benefitting the Town of Andover. Sub-leasing of fields is prohibited.

C. Application Process

- Submission Timeline
 - Online requests should be submitted at least 30 days in advance of the desired rental date(s).

- Requirements
 - Completed field rental application
 - Certificate of insurance for a comprehensive liability insurance policy including public liability and property damage in the minimum amount of \$1,000,000 and \$2,000,000 aggregate naming the Town of Andover as additional insured
 - Fee payment
- Fee Schedule
 - Fees may vary based on field type and duration of use
 - Priority is given to Town and school-sponsored programs and Andover-based non-profit youth organizations
- Limitations & Expectations
 - Field use is generally permitted from sunrise to sunset unless lights are provided and approved
 - No field or court may be used without approval from the Town
 - Rental does not imply exclusivity beyond reserved times
 - Damage to facilities or grounds must be reported and may result in additional charges or denial of future use

D. Extended Licenses & Leases

The Select Board may permit or enter into extended license or lease agreements with organizations or individuals for routine use of athletic fields, courts, and open recreational areas consistent with this policy and Massachusetts procurement law (G.L. c. 30B). To the extent permitted by law, Andover shall afford priority to local organizations and individuals benefitting utilizing fields, courts and open recreational areas for the benefit of Andover residents.

Interested parties should expect to demonstrate:

- Ability to effectively utilize field, court, or other recreational spaces for requested dates and times;

- Benefit to Andover residents;
- Communication with relevant Town departments; and
- Compliance with field, court, or recreation area-specific rules and requirements.

Extended license holders may be subject to additional fees based on Town costs of supporting extended use. Lessee pricing is site and scope specific and guided by c. 30B.

E. Enforcement and Oversight

The Town Manager's Office, Recreation Department and Facilities Department will coordinate oversight of all permitted activities.

- The Andover Police and Fire Departments may provide safety and compliance support where necessary.
- Permittees are expected to adhere to all federal, state, and local laws
- Any violations may result in fines, suspension of use, or legal enforcement under applicable Town bylaws

IV. **Use of Undeveloped Land**

This policy applies to all undeveloped land within the Town of Andover that is owned or managed by the Town, the Conservation Commission, the School Committee, or other municipal entities. This policy applies to all such lands regardless of signage.

A. General Use Guidelines

- Hours of Access
 - Undeveloped land is open to the public from sunrise to sunset. No permit is required for general daytime use.
- Assumption of Risk
 - The Town assumes no liability for injury, property damage, or loss incurred on undeveloped land. All users enter at their own risk.
- Alcohol Possession and Use
 - Alcohol possession or consumption on school grounds is not permitted.

- The Select Board, acting as the Local Licensing Authority, may issue a Special One Day Liquor License for outdoor events on Town property. However, this does not include school grounds, which remain off-limits for alcohol under all circumstances.
- Any event with alcohol that is to take place on Conservation land must first obtain permission from the Andover Conservation Commission. Only after their approval can the Select Board consider granting a Special One Day Liquor License for the event
- Motor Vehicle Restrictions
 - Motorized vehicles, including electric bicycles and electric scooters, are prohibited except on designated roadways and parking areas.
- Community Gardening
 - Permitted only in designated areas approved by the Town.
- Construction and Modifications
 - No trails, dams, bridges, or markings may be created or installed without written permission from the controlling entity.

B. Permitted and Regulated Activities

The activities listed below are either expressly permitted or permitted through applicable regulations. Any activity not listed is considered prohibited unless specifically authorized by the appropriate governing body.

- Hunting
 - Deer hunting on certain Conservation Lands by bow and arrow is facilitated through the Conservation Division, by permit only, and subject to regulations established by the Conservation Commission and in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws.
 - All other hunting is prohibited.
- Fishing

- The Town offers access to several water bodies where recreational fishing is popular, including the Shawsheen and Merrimack rivers and Poms Pond.
- Those age 15 years or older, must have a valid license or permit from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to fish recreationally or commercially. This includes freshwater and saltwater fishing.
- Massachusetts fishing laws are governed by M.G.L. Chapter 130.
- Camping
 - The Andover Conservation Commission permits limited, supervised camping on designated unimproved areas of Conservation Land along the Shawsheen River.
 - Camping is not open to the general public and is only allowed on specific dates approved by the Commission.
 - All camping activities must be accompanied by Conservation staff or designated volunteers.
 - Advance registration is required for all participants.
 - Fires are only permitted in the provided communal fire pits.

C. Environmental Protection and Cleanliness

Visitors to undeveloped land must maintain the cleanliness and integrity of all areas. The following are strictly prohibited:

- Littering (all waste must be placed in provided receptacles or removed from the site)
- Removal or defacement of trees, plants, flowers, soil, rocks, or wildlife
- Cutting or collecting wood without explicit Town and/or Conservation Commission approval
- Dumping of any materials

D. Enforcement and Violations

Visitors are encouraged to leave areas cleaner than they were found and report violations to the appropriate authority or the Andover Police Department. Violations are subject to fines of up to \$200 per offense. Each day a violation continues is considered a separate offense.

E. Permissions and Exceptions

Requests for the use of Land should be directed to the following:

- Use of School Department land: Contact the Office of the Superintendent of Schools
- Use of Town-owned land: Contact the Town Manager's Office
- Use of Conservation land: Contact the Conservation Division

Requests for exceptions to these regulations must be submitted to the appropriate governing entity. Permits may be subject to associated fees depending on the nature of the activity.

V. **Public and Private Ways, Sidewalks and Shared Use Paths**

This policy establishes guidelines for the use of public and private ways in the Town of Andover, including sidewalks, shared use paths, and other pedestrian and active transportation route. It aims to promote safe, equitable, and environmentally responsible transportation options for all users, pedestrians, cyclists, e-bike riders, skateboarders, and others, while preserving the character and integrity of Andover's neighborhoods and natural resources.

A. Definitions

- **Public Way:** A street accepted by Town Meeting and maintained by the Town for public use.
- **Private Way:** A street approved by a Board of Survey, but not accepted by Town Meeting nor maintained by the Town, but open for the general public to traverse and to abutters for further purposes such as parking.
- **Shared Use Path:** A paved or unpaved trail designed for multiple non-motorized users, including pedestrians, cyclists, and others.

- Sidewalk: A paved pedestrian path adjacent to a roadway.
- Personal transport devices: Includes bicycles, electric bicycles (e-bikes), skateboards, scooters, and similar small-scale personal transport devices.

B. Use Regulations

- Public Ways
 - All users must follow Massachusetts traffic laws and posted signage.
 - Public roads are intended for safe travel by motor vehicles, bicycles, and approved personal wheels.
 - Reckless driving, speeding, and disruptive behavior are prohibited and subject to enforcement.
 - Bicycles and Class 1 and 2 e-bikes may be used on public roads and must follow the same rules as motor vehicles.
 - Motorized scooters and skateboards may use public roads only where permitted by state law and local ordinance.
- Private Ways
 - The public has a right to pass or repass over most private ways; access may be restricted on private ways entirely comprised of private property and not approved by a Board of Survey.
 - Municipal trash and recycling collection is not guaranteed, unless authorized by Town Meeting. Residents on private ways which were not approved by the Board of Survey, or which are not maintained to a passable standard by waste management contractors may need to bring waste to the nearest serviced public way or arrange for private disposal.
 - Snow removal services will not be provided by the Town, unless authorized by Town Meeting.
 - Public safety services will be provided by the Town.
- Shared Use Paths

- Open to pedestrians, cyclists, e-bikes (Class 1 and 2), skateboards, and scooters unless otherwise restricted by posted signage.
- Speed limit of 15 mph for all wheeled devices unless otherwise posted.
- Users must yield to pedestrians and signal when passing.
- Sidewalks
 - Reserved primarily for pedestrians, strollers, and mobility aids.
 - Skateboards and scooters may be permitted if operated safely and respectfully.
 - E-bikes are prohibited on sidewalks

C. Enforcement

- Violations of road use regulations may result in fines or other penalties.
- The Andover Police Department will monitor compliance and respond to unsafe behavior.
- Educational outreach programs will be developed to promote safe and lawful use of roads and pedestrian and mobility corridors.

GOAL tonight: Select Board support for the campaign to limit Anticoagulant Rodenticides in Andover



First and Second Generation Anti-Coagulant Rodenticides (F/SGARs)

- A class of rodent poisons that prevents blood from clotting
- Which causes internal bleeding, organ failure, paralysis
- Without treatment, death.

Nobody wants mice/rats in their homes or places of business



Rodenticide applicators use SGARS because...

- They are effective at killing rodents
- No rodents are trapped inside that require disposal
- Low maintenance for applicators



Conservationists don't like Anticoagulants because...

- They kill slowly and painfully
- They move up the food chain
- They remain in the environment, including water sources
- They kill the predators that should be natural pest control
 - One owl or fox may remove 1000 rodents in a year, and they feed their babies these rodents!



This is Nature without SGARs



Andover

Fox Family in Andover

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OJtFA8cBd18&authuser=0>

This is Nature with SGARs



Andover

When a target animal is poisoned with anticoagulants they live for 5-10 days and return to the environment where a predator may eat them or feed them to offspring...



Wildlife Rescuers Agree

- Wildlife Rescue groups are finding evidence of anti-coagulant poisoning in nearly all hawks, eagles, owls, coyotes, and foxes that are brought in for care.
- None survive without serious medical treatment, and even with treatment, few survive.



Wildlife Rehabilitators' Association of
Massachusetts



Newhouse Wildlife Rescue - Chelmsford

SGARs were banned by Federal Government in 2015 for over-the-counter sales

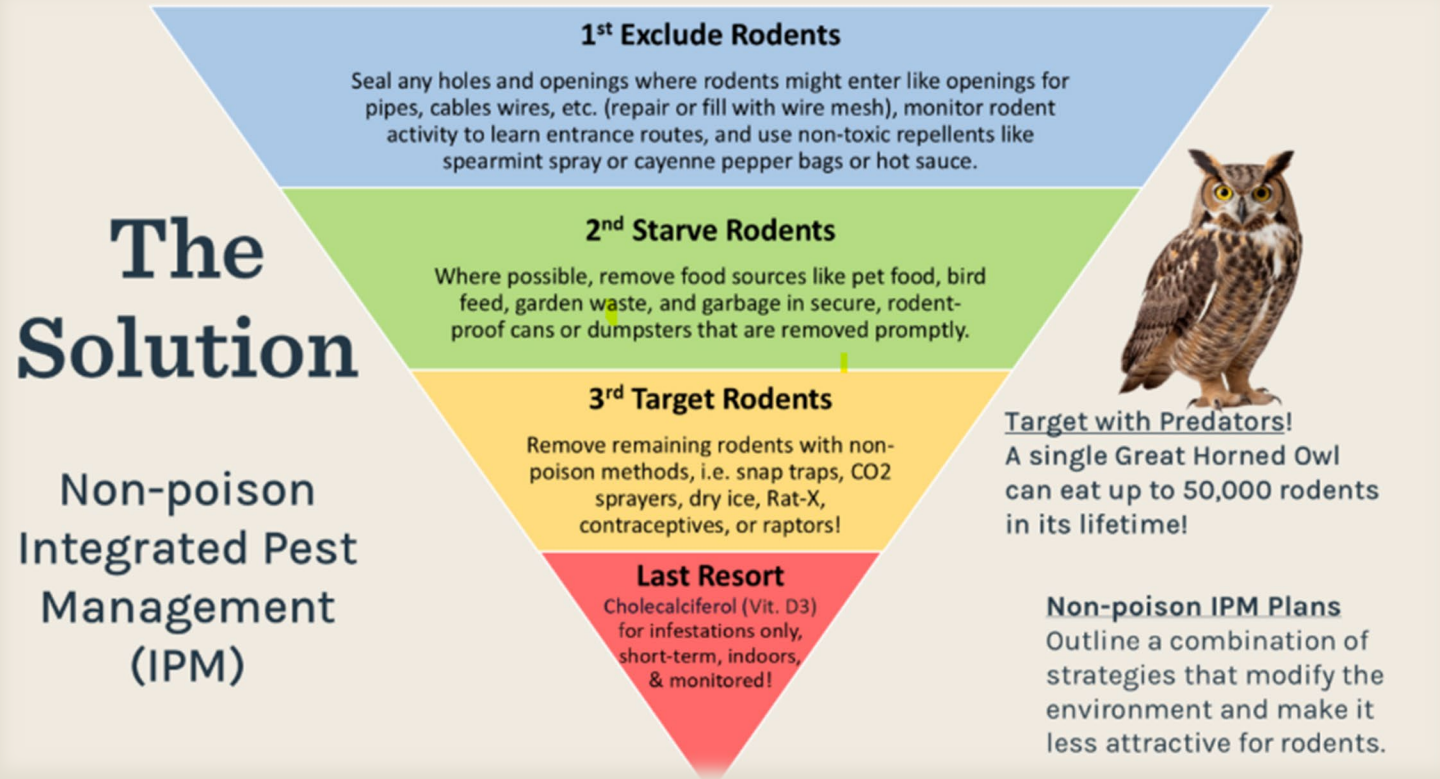
- Due to:
 - Non-target harm like non-rodent species
 - Cumulative effect on animals and water supplies
- As a result, only licensed pest control professionals are allowed to dispense ARs in tamper resistant bait stations
- So they are still in use

Mass.gov web site...

“Massachusetts residents, business owners, and building managers can choose from a variety of management options to prevent and resolve rodent problems. **By avoiding rodenticide, especially second-generation anticoagulant rodenticides (SGARs), you can greatly reduce the risk of harm to wildlife as well as pets.**”

<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/wildlife-and-rodenticide>

Alternative to Anticoagulant Rodenticides: Integrated Pest Management or IPM



IPM: Andover Already Does This

- The Town of Andover adopted IPM on municipal property after a study in 2003 and 2017
- However, without a By-law we can't enforce our policy on private property
- IPM has been documented as costing no more!

Massachusetts Legislative Effort

- Massachusetts is working on this at the state level.
- The H965 and S2721 are Bills in the Legislature that, at best, won't be in effect until 2028 (*An Act Restricting the use of Rodenticides in the Environment*)
- These efforts have failed in the past, at least in part, due to the pesticide applicators lobby

It's Time for Local Legislation

- Over 100 local towns and cities are working on SGAR campaigns
- We can only restrict SGARs locally by asking the Commonwealth for a Home Rule Petition that allows us to set more stringent local regulations.
- Only then can modify our By-Laws to restrict SGARs within our Town

Newton

- “...**SGAR's are proven to not actually result in a decrease in the rat population**, there's no end to their use. Therefore, if you do use them, you'll always use them. Using a combination of prevention, birth control, gassing burrows, and other non-SGAR options will actually reduce the rat population to a level where the predators can help maintain a reasonable rat population.”

Josh Morse

Public Buildings Commissioner - Newton

Boston

“Boston property owners/renters seem to believe the rat poison bait boxes placed around property and area perimeters will compensate and/or substitute for good trash practices. Sound science research, however, has shown this practice (SGARs), without the elimination of the rat’s food sources, essentially 100% ineffective.”

Dr. Robert M. Corrigan

Urban Rodentologist

Boston Rat Action Plan

Prepared for the City of Boston

Office of the Mayor, Michelle Wu

Dion Irish, Chief of Operations

2024

Lowell

- The city of Lowell has stopped using SGARS since Banner Pest Control learned the hazards they cause to wildlife. They are strong supporters of the movement to limit SGARS.
- The City of Lowell uses Integrated Pest Control methods now.
- Poisons are only used in cases of severe infestation.

2003 Pesticide Reduction Task Force



- In 2003 Andover Board of Health recommended actions that included pesticide reduction and Integrated Pest Management.
- They could not enact pesticide programs that affected private property so they focused on municipal property and *education* for the public.

Everett Penney
Director of Public Health

2017 Pesticide Reduction Task Force Review



- The Town of Andover agrees with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) that “all pesticides are toxic to some degree..., and the commonplace, widespread use of pesticides is both a major environmental problem and a public health issue.”

Tom Carbone
Director of Public Health

Board Of Health Statement on Pesticides in 2003 and 2017



“Now therefore, The Board of Health for the Town of Andover hereby commits itself to the goal of reduction of the pesticide use in the Town of Andover, both on public and private property.”

BOARD OF HEALTH STATEMENT 2003 and 2017



- Whereas pesticides are by nature poisons and exposure, **even at low levels, may cause serious adverse health effects**; and
- Whereas, due to a variety of physiologic and age—related factors, **children are at increased risk** of cancer, neuro-behavioral impairment and other health problems as a result of their exposure to pesticides; and
- Whereas, many of the ingredients in pesticide products, alone and in combination, are not tested for their long-term toxic effects on the brain and nervous systems, the endocrine system, or the immune system; **nor have they been tested with the unique vulnerability of children in mind**; and
- Whereas, in addition to their intended effects, pesticides can also **harm non-target organisms (such as humans, pets, beneficial insect, aquatic and other wildlife)** and the environment; and
- Whereas according to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) all pesticides are toxic to some degree, and the commonplace, widespread use of the pesticides is both **a major environmental problem and a public health issue, and represents a threat to our drinking water supply**; and
- Whereas the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency believes that **most pesticides, despite having an EPA registration, have not been adequately tested** to determine their effects on people or the environment; and
- Whereas, it is in the best interest of the community health for all residents to learn about the hazards of pesticides, and **to adopt alternative techniques and approaches to all pest-related problems**:

We understand that this will be implemented by the Health Division

We request the Select Board provide the Health Division with the support they need to:

- provide assistance to Andover citizens to stop the reliance on toxic chemicals,
- identify alternative methods using IPM,
- and enforce an approved by-law.

We ask for a YES vote on Article P35 from the Select Board and for their support of the Health Division for implementation





Select Board Meeting Minutes

Monday, February 23, 2026, at 6:30 PM

Town Offices, Select Board Room

36 Bartlet Street, Andover, MA 01810

Meetings are televised on Comcast Channel 22 and Verizon Channel 45

I. Call to Order – 6:30 P.M.

Chair Alex Vispoli called the meeting of February 23, 2026, to order at 6:30 P.M. The meeting was held remotely. Members Present: Alex Vispoli, Chair, Ellen Townson, Vice Chair Melissa Danish, Clerk, Laura Gregory and Kevin Coffey.

Also present: Town Manager Andrew Flanagan, Deputy Town Manager Mike Lindstrom, Deputy Town Manager and Town Clerk Austin Simko, Town Counsel, Doug Heim. Brittney Lavoie, Deputy Town Manager of Operations, Police Chief Keefe, and Phillip Geoffroy, Director of Communications.

II. Opening Ceremonies

A. Moment of Silence/Pledge of Allegiance

A moment of silence was observed followed by followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Kari Belson.

B. Recognition of Kari Belson, Eagle Scout from Troop 73

Mr. Vispoli introduced and spoke briefly of Kari's leadership and accomplishment at becoming the first female Eagle Scout in Andover. Her Troop Advisor, Mike Harvey spoke of her leadership, and Kari talked about her Eagle Scout project partnering with Challenge Inc. to produce videos on creative problem solving, while also being involved with community garden raised beds. Mr. Vispoli read a letter of Recognition from the Select Board, and Ms. Townson thanked Kari for being part of the scouting community which helps the town with various projects.

Mr. Vispoli thanked both Kari and Mr. Harvey.

III. Town Manager Report

Mr. Flanagan thanked DPW crews now in their 25th hour dealing with the snowstorm, and announced school will be cancelled tomorrow mainly due to sidewalks. Planning is ongoing as another storm due Wednesday. Thanked community for its patience. Noted fire hydrant shoveling for access. There has been a lot of staff turnover and use of contract workers, so Town will work to fix resident plowing issues as needed.

Positive news regarding West El, in addition to coming in under budget they attained the Lead Gold Certification, a noted Sustainable Building Design standard.

A public forum on redesign of town website will be held Tuesday March 10, at 5:30pm Town Seal Room. More information to follow.

Winter Fest was a success, this year over a thousand attendees over the day. Great collaboration between Conservation, Recreation and Youth Services.

Information meeting on synthetic turf issues on March 12 at 6:00 PM in the Select Board Room. Questions can be submitted in advance through the website.

A Weekend budget workshop will be held March 14th

Recruitment for three Director Level positions; Director of Conservation and Director of HR which are not in the final review stages, and a Director of Public Health to replace Tom Carbone. This position is complicated due to the changes in the field of municipal public health itself. It has been evolving beyond core needs within communities and services have likewise expanded. The fit needed is one where a job candidate can both meet existing job requirements and help grow the position into a broader scope going forward.

The Town contracted with BME, a firm specializing in local public health, to assess and improve the department with this broader scope in mind. As a result, there is renewed interest in this position due to clarity of the role and the support structure for it. Also, there will be an Interim Director, and the Select Board will have advice from Sigalle Reiss, former Brookline Health Department Head, leading up to Town Meeting.

Mr. Flanagan announced Phillip Geoffroy's title change from Director of Communications to Chief Communications Officer and explained some of the crossover functions within communications, technologies and HR Functions that will be better integrated. Mr. Geoffroy's strength in municipal communications will assist this process and in turn benefit the community. A Civil Media Division and Andover TV have led the way for further data input and communications.

Mr. Coffey asked about the role of the Director of Health regarding upcoming community discussions on PFAS in existing and proposed turf fields, and Mr. Flanagan said the new Health Director would be conversant in PFAS issues and will be available to interact with the community at the upcoming forums. Part of the hiring process involved a PFAS assessment to prioritize that assessment. Also, Sigalle Reiss, mentioned above, is one of the most experienced people in the area regarding PFAS.

A. [Update on Town's Coordination with National Grid](#)

Mr. Lindstrom gave an update on the reliability work National Grid has been working on. He said they have had a strong presence in Andover during these recent storms and were not available to be at tonight's meeting due to the weather. He showed a slide of recent Outages January 2024 to December 2025, and the seven neighborhoods identified at an earlier meeting in need of services which have now had tree trimming, fuse replacement, sensors called FLISRs installed to isolate outages, and other improvements which will finish in April.

Mr. Coffey asked about damage to residences and businesses over a month ago, and whether measures described in the update would have prevented that damage. Mr. Lindstrom responded that a private tree caused that earlier damage and he will share the official statement from National Grid with the Board.

Mr. Simko announced the Annual Town Election will be held one month from tomorrow, and the Clerk's office is preparing mail-in ballots for those requesting them and they will go out next week.

Ms. Nicosia said she supports Melissa Eusdon regarding a second reading on the proposed EV Policy.

IV. Communications/Announcements/Liaison Reports

Ms. Danisch noted the Tree Committee, in support of the 250th celebration, will be giving away free trees to the public on Arbor Day this April. Also, AYS is having its third annual job/ volunteer and career fair March 11 from 4-6PM. She also thanked all for keeping streets clear.

Ms. Townson thanked the Town for its departmental collaboration with the Winter Fest which went from 40 to nearly 1000 attendees just in the last year or so. She said it was a great success and is looking forward to next year's event.

Mentioned trees in reported in Tree Committee giveaway are bigger than the saplings given away last year.

Ms. Gregory gave kudos to those involved in Winter Fest and noted Mass Save is hosting a Program on Sustainability at 7 pm at the Memorial Hall Library, February 26, 2026.

Mr. Coffey the noted the street plowing in town and said there was very little traffic. He also suggested a committee be set up to respond to concerns in an email from Jesse Jacobson outlining ideas for reducing cut through traffic and improving safety in Andover. Mr. Vispoli said direct meetings with the person who wrote letter have taken place.

Mr. Vispoli noted the March 7,2026, Second Coffee with Select Board event at the Robb Center.

V. Public Comment

Michael Silverman 54 Tewksbury Street said the DPW did a good job with roads, but some plows today plowed only one side of the road and in some instances hit cleared asphalt. Mr. Vispoli will put Mr. Silverman in touch with Carlos Jaquez.

VI. Public Hearings

A. National Grid – Lowell Junction Road

Board to review and consider voting to approve an application from National Grid and Verizon requesting permission to locate, erect and maintain poles, wires, and fixtures, including the necessary sustaining and protecting fixtures, along and across the public way hereinafter named in accordance with the plan filed herewith marked - Lowell Junction Road - Andover, Massachusetts.

Mr. Simko said National Grid was not present tonight due to snowstorm; this item was kept on the agenda to continue to a date certain which would be the next Select Board meeting on March 9.

Ms. Townson moved to continue the National Grid-Lowell Junction Road Hearing to the Select Board Meeting on March 9, 2026. Ms. Gregory seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

Roll Call: Mr. Coffey, Y; Ms. Danisch, Y; Ms. Townson. Y, Ms. Gregory, Y; Mr. Vispoli, Y.

B. Eversource Gas – Kathleen Drive, Marie Drive, Highland Road and Summer Street

Board to review and consider voting to approve an application from Eversource Gas of Massachusetts to trench the length of Kathleen Drive, Marie Drive, and Highland Road from Summer Street to Kathleen Drive for the purposes of abandoning 4,714' of existing

bare steel and unprotected coated steel main and replacing it with 4,985' of HDPE gas main. All associated services will be replaced or tied over as part of the project.

Tanner Hyslop an Engineer with Eversource Gas, gave an update on this project. A slide of Eversource Energy Street Overview was shown. The gas mains of steel at Kathleen Drive and Marie Ave. are being replaced with high pressure plastic pipes. Summer and Highland are included in the permit as the pipes will go from those streets to Kathleen and Marie. Old mains will be deactivated and abandoned with service tied over to the main lines.

Mr. Vispoli asked about sequencing and Mr. Hyslop said this project is likely to get pushed to 2027 with an April start date. It will take most of the construction season and work with local police and residents to avoid hold ups. There is a lack of construction crews at this time.

Mr. Heim said he didn't think we had to act on approval within a specific timeframe since we are being given notice of delay. Mr. Vispoli asked how residents would be informed if the project is ongoing a year from now, and Mr. Hyslop said letters will go to residents.

Ms. Danisch asked about oversight to ensure there is not another construction project glitch like the gas explosions, but Mr. Hyslop responded those were caused by proximity to pressure regulation stations-- which is not a situation in this project. If pushed to next year all stakeholders will be involved.

Mr. Coffey asked whether leaving abandoning pipe in the ground was standard practice and it is for gas companies.

There was no public comment.

Miss Danish moved to approve the application from Eversource Gas of Massachusetts to trench the length of Kathleen Drive Marie Drive and Highland Road from Summer Street to Kathleen Drive for purposes of abandoning 4,714' of existing bare steel and unprotected coated steel main and replacing it with 4,985' of HDPE gas main. Ms. Townson seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

Roll Call: Ms. Townson, Y; Ms. Gregory, Y; Ms. Danisch, Y; Mr. Coffey, Y; Mr. Vispoli, Y.

Mr. Vispoli thanked Mr. Hyslop and asked to be informed when sequence of project is known.

C. De Minimis Impact Determination

Upon request of the Massachusetts Department of Transportation, Board to consider a De Minimis Impact Determination for the permanent and temporary easements on Shawsheen River Conservation Area adjacent to the Tewksbury Street Bridge since this parcel is protected under Section 4(f). Board to consider voting to approve position to support.

Sam Campbell, Environmental Department Head from Greenman-Pedersen, Inc. (GPI) and Michael Shustack, PE, Director of Structural Engineering & Project Manager from Mass DOT, gave a brief overview of the Tewksbury Street Over CSX Railroad Bridge Replacement Project. Mr. Shustack presented photos of the bridge built in 1980 and noted the poor condition of the underneath beams which now result in load restrictions. The new bridge will be safer, eliminating a dangerous sight

distance line. in the middle of the bridge, provide sidewalks add an extra travel lane. The process will be three years with construction taking two years, and bridge replacement will be done in stages for a minimum impact to the area.

Also, the Town is being asked for a letter of support for this project and a section 4f determination that use of easements to be placed on public-owned conservation land would be de minimis --meaning the conservation area would be only minimally impacted by easements for grading, erosion control and alterations to the property. Also, less than 1 % of the seven-plus acres would be impacted at the 126 Tewksbury Street project site formerly owned by Reichold Chemicals. Easement areas were highlighted on plans shown to the Board. Concurrence from the Board and signature from Board Chair in support are next steps.

Mr. Heim added there was a design hearing in May 2025, regarding this protected land. All town and other permissions must be in place to establish this small area for a permanent easement. Conservation Commission approvals will be sought at a later time. Mr. Vispoli noted that the Town purchased this land which then became Conservation Commission property through a dog park land swap. Erosion controls will be in place.

Mr. Coffey asked whether the Select Board should get Conservation Commission's position before rendering a Select Board position, and Mr. Heim said the matter of the de minimis finding is the narrow issue before the Board now. Conservation has been involved in this process. Access will not be impacted throughout and after this process is completed.

Ms. Danisch moved to authorize the Chair of the Select Board to transmit a letter of support for Massachusetts Department of Transportation's Tewksbury Street Bridge Replacement Project on behalf of the Board. Ms. Townson seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

Mr. Coffey, Y; Ms. Danisch, Y; Ms. Gregroy, Y; Ms. Townson, Y; Mr. Vispoli, Y

VII. Regular Business

A. Zero Emission First Vehicle Policy – 2nd Reading

Board to receive a presentation by Director of Sustainability and Energy and consider voting to adopt the Zero Emission First Vehicle Policy. Mr. Vispoli gave the second reading.

Mr. Flanagan said the proposed ZEV policy differed from existing policy, but it is likely only one in ten vehicles currently in the fleet would be subject to review for alternate electrified vehicles, and, from both cost and service levels, there would not be much impact. The vehicles would not involve emergency response vehicles, rather small transport vehicles such as meals on wheels vans might be impacted. Also, EV vehicles and charging stations might be available at no cost through grants. The Town Manager would still be able to review vehicles for an electric option.

Mr. Coffey asked about the estimated cost and placement of the proposed charging stations. Mr. Flanagan responded that charging stations might be placed at the public safety center and town yard for town vehicles grandfathered, and at this point there may be an opportunity for grant-funded municipal vehicles.

Mrs. Townson said she knows most vehicles in fleet that would not qualify but asked if there were initiatives for some of the bigger vehicles, and Melissa Eusdon said bucket trucks and other DPW vehicles are being electrified-- but this is a slow process.

Ms. Gregory moved to approve the Zero Emission First Vehicle Policy as presented. Ms. Danisch seconded. The motion passed 5=0.

Roll Call: Mr. Coffey, Y; Ms. Danisch, Y; Ms. Gregory, Y; Ms. Townson, Y; Mr. Vispoli, Y.

B. March 24, 2026 Annual Town Election Warrant

Board to consider voting to approve March 24, 2026, Annual Town Election Warrant.

Mr. Simko noted warrant in packet. The candidates are on the ballot.

Ms. Danisch moved to approve and vote to sign the March 24, 2026, Annual Town Election Warrant. Ms. Townson seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

Roll Call: Ms. Townson, Y; Ms. Gregory, Y; Ms. Danisch, Y; Mr. Coffey, Y; Mr. Vispoli, Y.

Mr. Simko said this warrant must be signed by Board members and he will email the Board a reminder.

C. Designation of Emergency Election Polling Place

Board to consider delegating to the Town Clerk the authority to designate an alternate election polling location(s) in the event of an emergency.

Mr. Simko said when Board approves the warrant and if polling place needed to be changed then Clerk can make the choice of an alternate polling place in the event of an emergency.

Ms. Townson moved to approve the Board's delegation to the Town Clerk, the authority to designate an alternate election polling location(s) for all the elections in 2026 in the event of an emergency. Ms. Danisch seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

Roll Call: Mr. Coffey, Y; Ms. Danisch, Y; Ms. Gregory, Y; Ms. Townson, Y; Mr. Vispoli, Y.

D. Annual Town Meeting Articles

Board to consider voting to take a position on the following articles:

P11	<p>Dissolution of Revolving Funds—Mr. Flanagan said every year Town Meeting reauthorizers existing revolving fund. Asking Town Meeting to dissolve professional development revolving fund as its limited use (specific curriculum) no longer needed. Interim Superintendent is on Board.</p> <p>Ms. Townson moved to recommend Town Meeting Approval of Article P11 "Dissolution of Revolving Funds". Ms. Danisch seconded. The motion passed 5-0</p> <p>Roll Call: Ms. Townson, Y; Ms. Gregory, Y; Ms. Danisch, Y, Mr. Coffey, Y; Mr. Vispoli, Y,</p>
P12	<p>Minor Financial Articles (A through E) Mr. Flanagan listed these articles which include overlay surplus, additional costs for 250th celebration, Spring Grove Care recommended \$106K with updated planning and capacity for perpetual care, Town meeting cost offsets for primaries, and multiple elections, Silverman fireworks ensure funds for 30-minute show.</p>

	<p>Mr. Coffey questioned the \$100K planning amount for Spring Grove cemetery and Mr. Flanagan will get more info to Board prior to Town Meeting to support DPW recommendation.</p> <p>Ms. Danisch moved to recommend Town Meeting Approval of Article P12 “Minor Financial Articles (A through E.) Ms. Gregory seconded. The motion passed 5-0.</p> <p>Roll Call: Ms. Townson, Y; Ms. Gregory, Y; Ms. Danisch, Y; Mr. Coffey, Y, Mr. Vispoli, Y.</p>
P18	<p>Water Treatment Plant Maintenance: Mr. Flanagan said P18 and P19 one water, one sewer, both annual articles. Maintenance for both funded in maintenance articles is \$650K total for water and \$350K for sewer.</p> <p>Ms. Danisch moved to recommend Town Meeting Approval of Article P18 “Water Treatment Plant Maintenance”. Ms. Townson seconded. The motion passed 5-0.</p> <p>Roll Call: Mr. Coffey, Y; Ms. Danisch, Y; Ms. Gregory, Y; Ms. Gregory, Ms. Townson, Y; Mr. Vispoli, Y.</p>
P19	<p>Sewer Collection System Maintenance—Mr. Flanagan appropriated from rates \$350K same amount as previous years.</p> <p>Ms. Danisch moved to recommend Town Meeting Approval of Article P19 “Sewer Collection System Maintenance.” Ms. Townson seconded. The motion passed 5-0.</p> <p>Roll Call: Ms. Townson, Y; Ms. Gregory, Y; Ms. Danisch, Y; Mr. Coffey, Y. Mr. Vispoli, Y.</p>
P20	<p>Indemnification of Public Safety Medical Costs—Mr. Flanagan said this is basically Public Safety worker’s comp and can vary in amount from year to year. Town pays medical expenses for public safety personnel. Mr. Coffey whether funds from levy and it is.</p> <p>Ms. Danisch moved to recommend Town Meeting Approval of Article P20 “Indemnification of Public Safety Medical Costs.” Mr. Coffey seconded. The motion passed 5-0.</p> <p>Roll Call: Ms. Townson, Y; Ms. Gregory, Y; Ms. Danisch, Y, Mr. Coffey, Y; Mr. Vispoli, Y.</p>
P23	<p>Bylaw Amendment – Soliciting Permits—Mr. Heim said P23 goes along with P24. Andover has an outdated Solicitation By-Law as it is too restrictive. No criteria for vendors who solicit door to door to sell goods/services, and this has been highlighted by some vendors. Updates would be straightforward and would address First Amendment concerns. Reason for solicitation can vary, and hours may need to be extended.</p> <p>Chief Keefe said he would be in favor of a “no solicitation list” to be given up front to solicitors. Ms. Danisch said difference between solicitation vs.</p>

	<p>canvassing and the Registry would not cover non-commercial purposes. Mr. Heim said to include language as to what Solicitation means.</p> <p>Mr. Coffey asked what the Registry would look like and how and when it would be updated operationally. Mr. Heim said voluntary list to be updated and electronic updates to reside with the Town Clerks Office. Electronic version to authorized vendors. Chief Keefe said there could be a reach out to towns that have such lists and see how they handle. Mr. Vispoli said this will bring the Town into compliance and thanked Chief Keefe and to Mr. Heim for putting the information together. Ms. Gregory asked about annual updates. New lists each season should be checked by solicitors.</p> <p>Ms. Gregory moved to recommend Town Meeting Approval of Article P23 "Bylaw Amendment -No Soliciting." It was seconded by Ms. Danisch. The motion passed 5-0.</p> <p>Roll Call: Ms. Townson, Y; Ms. Gregory, Y; Ms. Danisch, Y; Mr. Coffey, Y; Mr. Vispoli, Y.</p>
P24	<p>Bylaw Amendment – No Solicitation Registry Mr. Heim said this would allow collection of information on those who do not want solicitors at their house.</p> <p>Ms. Gregory moved to recommend Town Meeting Approval of Article P 24 "Bylaw Amendment No Solicitation Registry." Ms. Danisch seconded. The motion passed 5-0.</p> <p>Roll Call: Mr. Coffey, Y; Ms. Danisch, Y; Ms. Gregroy, Y; Ms. Townson, Y; Mr. Vispoli, Y.</p>
P31	<p>Home Rule Petition – Bylaw Amendment – Electric Bicycle Registry</p> <p>Mr. Heim explained that the Select Board could petition the General Court for a home rule petition for a bylaw to create an e-bike registry and explained how that would impact users including visitors to Andover. There is a sticker program indicating registry with the Town. A registry would be a useful tool to help with safety concerns raised by Chief Keefe about these bikes. Licenses are not needed unless e-bikes are modified to fall outside that classification and become more like motorbikes which do require licenses and insurance. There would also be an opportunity to educate the public about speed regulations and road use. Ms. Danisch submitted suggestions and noted a registry would assist the APD with enforcing rules and noted some e-bikes are used for commercial delivery service which falls outside the 14-day rule for visitors. Mr. Vispoli said this initiative complements some of the educational pieces undertaken in town such as Bike rodeos that emphasize safety. Ms. Gregory and Ms. Townson discussed whether a legal definition of bikes would be helpful. Chief Keefe agreed a definition should be in the bylaw and Mr. Heim said there is a state law definition of class 1 and 2 vehicles. Ms. Gregory said it would be a good idea to have this in the bylaw.</p>

<p>Ms. Townson moved to recommend Town Meeting Approval of Article P31 "Home Rule Petition-Bylaw Amendment-Electric Bicycle Registry." With the addition of comments discussed and agreed upon this evening. Ms. Danisch seconded and the motion passed 5-0.</p> <p>Roll Call: Mr. Coffey, Y; Ms. Danisch, Y; Ms. Gregory, Y; Ms. Townson, Y; Mr. Vispoli, Y.</p>

VIII. Approval of Minutes

- A. Board to approve minutes from the following meeting:
 1. February 9, 2026

Ms. Danish moved to approve the meeting minutes from February 9, 2026, Select Board Meeting. Ms. Townson seconded. The Motion passed 5-0.

Mr. Coffey, Y; Ms. Danisch, Y; Ms. Gregory, Y; Ms. Townson, Y; Mr. Vispoli, Y.

IX. Adjourn

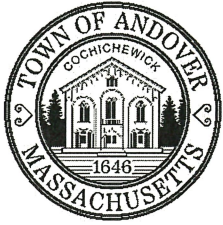
Mr. Coffey moved to adjourn the meeting AT 9:34pm. Ms. Danisch seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

Roll Call: Mr. Coffey, Y; Ms. Danisch, Y; Ms. Gregory, Y; Ms. Townson, Y; Mr. Vispoli, Y.

Summary of Town Manager Staff Appointments

The Town Manager is pleased to announce the following appointments:

Department	Name	Position	Date of Hire	Rate/Term
Administration & Finance/Human Resources	Julie Zielinski <i>(Christine Barraford)</i>	Administrative Coordinator	02/23/2026	\$81,000/year
Community Services	Molly Lowell <i>(Lisa Van Campen)</i>	Business Coordinator	02/23/2026	\$86,082/year
Community Services - Recreation	Laura Downs <i>(Hannah Wilen)</i>	Kid Care Programmer	03/02/2026	\$68,361/year



Select Board Meeting

Monday, March 9, 2026 at 6:30 PM

Town Offices, Select Board Room

36 Bartlet Street, Andover, MA 01810

Meetings are televised on Comcast Channel 22 and Verizon Channel 45

RECEIVED
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

2026 MAR 09 PM 4:31

TOWN OF ANDOVER, MA

I. Call to Order – 6:30 P.M.

II. Opening Ceremonies

A. Moment of Silence/Pledge of Allegiance

III. Town Manager Report

IV. Communications/Announcements/Liaison Reports

V. Public Comment

VI. Public Hearings

A. National Grid – Lowell Junction Road

Board to review and consider voting to approve an application from National Grid and Verizon requesting permission to locate, erect and maintain poles, wires, and fixtures, including the necessary sustaining and protecting fixtures, along and across the public way hereinafter named in accordance with the plan filed herewith marked - Lowell Junction Road - Andover, Massachusetts.

VII. Regular Business

A. Opioid Settlement Funds

Board to receive opioid settlement fund recommendations and final report.

B. Amendments to Traffic Rules and Regulations

Board to discuss and consider voting on the following changes to the Traffic Rules and Regulations as proposed by the Andover Safety Officer.

1. Schedule 1, Article V, Section 2

Impose a parking restriction of No Parking on the South Side of Central Street from Chestnut Street to School Street during the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on school days for the purpose of maintaining a designated school pickup and drop off queue.

Location: Central Street South Side from Chestnut Street to School Street distance of 350 feet.

Establish a Pick Up / Drop Off Only Zone on the South Side of Central Street from Chestnut Street to School Street during the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on school days for the purpose of maintaining a designated school pickup and drop off queue.

Location: Central Street South Side from Chestnut Street to School Street distance of 350 feet.

C. Land Use Policy

Board to review and consider approval of revised Land Use Policy as presented by Town Counsel.

D. Annual Town Meeting Articles

Board to consider voting to take a position on the following articles:

P9	Financial Housekeeping F-H
P11	Dissolution of Revolving Funds
P21	Zoning Bylaw Amendment – Accessory Dwelling Unit Bylaw Adjustments
P25	Zoning Bylaw Amendment – Historic Mill Overlay District Dimensional Regulations
P32	Revoke Town Acceptance of Civil Service Status for Police Officers
P34	West Elementary Borrowing and Andover High School Improvements
P35	An Act Authorizing the Town of Andover to Prohibit the Use of Anticoagulant Rodenticides by Commercial Pesticide Applicators
P40	Amend District Agreement with Greater Lawrence Technical School to Permit Hangar Lease

VIII. Approval of Minutes

A. Board to approve minutes from the following meetings:

1. February 23, 2026

IX. Adjourn

If any member of the public wishing to attend this meeting seeks special accommodations in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, please contact Amy Heidebrecht in the Town Manager's Office at 978-623-8213 or by email at amy.heidebrecht@andoverma.us



TOWN OF ANDOVER

Town Clerk's Office
36 Bartlet Street
Andover, MA 01810
978-623-8230
www.andoverma.gov

NOTICE

You are hereby notified that a Public Hearing will be held by the Andover Select Board on February 23rd, 2026 in the Select Board Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Town Offices, 36 Bartlet Street, at 6:30PM.

This hearing is being held on the petition of National Grid and Verizon requesting permission to locate, erect and maintain poles, wires, and fixtures, including the necessary sustaining and protecting fixtures, along and across the public way hereinafter named in accordance with the plan filed herewith marked – “Lowell Junction Road – Andover, Massachusetts”:

#31223440 – Lowell Junction Road – National Grid to install 1 JO pole on Lowell Junction Road beginning at a point approximately 380 feet East of the centerline of the intersection of Lowell Junction Road and Connector Road. National Grid will install new pole, P8358-50 at approximately (42°36'47"N71°09'14"W), Andover, MA.

If you would like to obtain a copy of the plan(s) of the proposed work related to this utility petition, please email the Town Clerk's office at townclerk@andoverma.gov.

Representatives from the utility company will present their petition during the meeting and will also be available at 6:15 P.M. on the above date to answer questions you may have relating to the proposed work.

By order of the
Select Board

Austin Simko
Deputy Town Manager/Town Clerk

Plan No.: 31223440
Date: February 11, 2026

RECEIVED
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

TOWN OF ANDOVER, MASSACHUSETTS

JAN 20 AM 9:47

TOWN OF ANDOVER, MA



PRIVATE UTILITY PETITION CHECKLIST

TO BE FILLED OUT BY PETITIONER

COMPANY: ControlPoint Technologies # 31223440
PROJECT MANAGER NAME: Aaron Fernandes
PROJECT MANAGER CONTACT NUMBER: 781-384-2371
LIST OF ADDRESSES IMPACTED BY PROPOSED WORK:
15, 13, 18, (LOWELL JUNCTION RD, ANDOVER MA)
PETITIONER IS REQUIRED TO ATTACH PICTURES SHOWING AREA OF PROPOSAL
PICTURES HAVE BEEN ATTACHED YES

TO BE FILLED OUT BY TOWN OF ANDOVER STAFF

DPW
SUPPORT PROJECT (YES / NO) YES NO SIGNATURE: *[Signature]*
TITLE: Deputy Director DPW - Capital Projects
COMMENTS:

POLICE DEPARTMENT
SUPPORT PROJECT (YES / NO) SIGNATURE: _____
TITLE: _____
COMMENTS:

FIRE DEPARTMENT
SUPPORT PROJECT (YES / NO) SIGNATURE: _____
TITLE: _____
COMMENTS:

ANDOVER TOWN CLERK
RCUD 2025 JAN 30 PM 2:24

RECEIVED
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

TOWN OF ANDOVER, MASSACHUSETTS

2023 JAN 20 AM 9:47

TOWN OF ANDOVER, MA



PRIVATE UTILITY PETITION CHECKLIST

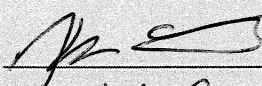
TO BE FILLED OUT BY PETITIONER

COMPANY:	ControlPoint Technologies	# 31223440
PROJECT MANAGER NAME:	Aaron Fernandes	
PROJECT MANAGER CONTACT NUMBER:	781-384-2371	
LIST OF ADDRESSES IMPACTED BY PROPOSED WORK:	15, 13, 18, (LOWELL JUNCTION RD, ANDOVER MA)	
PETITIONER IS REQUIRED TO ATTACH PICTURES SHOWING AREA OF PROPOSAL		
PICTURES HAVE BEEN ATTACHED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES	

TO BE FILLED OUT BY TOWN OF ANDOVER STAFF

<u>DPW</u>	
SUPPORT PROJECT (YES / NO)	SIGNATURE: _____
COMMENTS:	TITLE: _____

<u>POLICE DEPARTMENT</u>	
SUPPORT PROJECT (YES / NO)	SIGNATURE: _____
COMMENTS:	TITLE: _____

<u>FIRE DEPARTMENT</u>	
SUPPORT PROJECT (YES / NO)	SIGNATURE: 
COMMENTS:	TITLE: <u>Fire Chief</u>

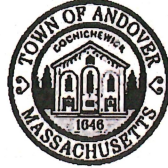
ANDOVER TOWN CLERK
RCUD 2023 JAN 27 AM 10:31

RECEIVED
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

2026 JAN 20 AM 9:47

TOWN OF ANDOVER, MA

TOWN OF ANDOVER, MASSACHUSETTS



PRIVATE UTILITY PETITION CHECKLIST

TO BE FILLED OUT BY PETITIONER

COMPANY:	ControlPoint Technologies	# 31223440
PROJECT MANAGER NAME:	Aaron Fernandes	
PROJECT MANAGER CONTACT NUMBER:	781-384-2371	
LIST OF ADDRESSES IMPACTED BY PROPOSED WORK:	15, 13, 18, (LOWELL JUNCTION RD, ANDOVER MA)	
PETITIONER IS REQUIRED TO ATTACH PICTURES SHOWING AREA OF PROPOSAL		
PICTURES HAVE BEEN ATTACHED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES	

TO BE FILLED OUT BY TOWN OF ANDOVER STAFF

<u>DPW</u>	
SUPPORT PROJECT (YES / NO)	SIGNATURE: _____
COMMENTS:	TITLE: _____

<u>POLICE DEPARTMENT</u>	
SUPPORT PROJECT (YES / NO)	SIGNATURE: <i>[Signature]</i>
COMMENTS:	TITLE: <i>Chief of Police</i>

<u>FIRE DEPARTMENT</u>	
SUPPORT PROJECT (YES / NO)	SIGNATURE: _____
COMMENTS:	TITLE: _____

ANDOVER TOWN CLERK
RCUD 2026 JAN 22 AM 11:54



RECEIVED
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE
2026 JAN 20 AM 9:47
TOWN OF ANDOVER, MA

November 13, 2025

To the Board of Selectmen of Andover, Massachusetts

To Whom It May Concern:

Enclosed please find a petition of NATIONAL GRID and VERIZON, covering joint NATIONAL GRID-VERIZON pole location(s)

If you have any questions regarding this permit, please contact:

Aaron Fernandes (781) 384-2371 or afernandes@cpteng.com

Please notify National Grid's Jenn Iannalfo of the **hearing date / time** to Jennifer.Iannalfo@nationalgrid.com

If this petition meets with your approval, please return an executed copy to each of the above-named Companies.

National Grid: Jennifer Iannalfo, 1101 Turnpike Street; North Andover, MA 01845.

Very truly yours,

Dave Johnson

Dave Johnson
Supervisor, Distribution Design

Enclosures

RECEIVED
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

2026 JAN 20 AM 9:47

Questions contact Central Design - Aaron Fernandes (781) 384-2371 or afernandes@cpteng.com

TOWN OF ANDOVER, MA

PETITION FOR JOINT OR IDENTICAL POLE LOCATIONS

North Andover, Massachusetts

To the Board of Selectmen
of Andover, Massachusetts

Massachusetts Electric Company d/b/a NATIONAL GRID and Verizon New England, Inc requests permission to locate poles, wires, and fixtures, including the necessary sustaining and protecting fixtures, along and across the following public way:

Lowell Junction Road - National Grid to install 1 JO pole on Lowell Junction Road beginning at a point approximately 380 feet East of the centerline of the intersection of Lowell Junction Road and Connector Road. National Grid will install new pole, P8358-50 at approximately (42°36'47"N 71°09'14"W), Andover, MA.

Location approximately as shown on plan attached.

Wherefore it prays that after due notice and hearing as provided by law, it be granted a location for and permission to erect and maintain poles and wires, together with such sustaining and protecting fixtures as it may find necessary, said poles to be erected substantially in accordance with the plan filed herewith marked - Lowell Junction Road - Andover, Massachusetts.

No.# 31223440

Also, for permission to lay and maintain underground laterals, cables, and wires in the above or intersecting public ways for the purpose of making connections with such poles and buildings as each of said petitioners may desire for distributing purposes.

Your petitioner agrees to reserve space for one cross-arm at a suitable point on each of said poles for the fire, police, telephone, and telegraph signal wires belonging to the municipality and used by it exclusively for municipal purposes.

Massachusetts Electric Company d/b/a
NATIONAL GRID *Dave Johnson*

BY _____
Engineering Department

VERIZON NEW ENGLAND, INC.

BY *[Signature]*
Manager / Right of Way

RECEIVED
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

2025 JAN 29 AM 10:59

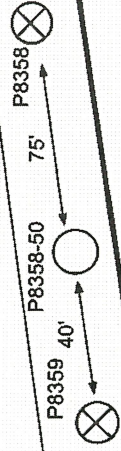
TOWN OF ANDOVER, MA



2 Connector Rd
Lot: 160-9A
Lands of 2 Connector
LLC

18 Lowell Junction Rd
Lot: 160-9B
Lands of 2 Connector
LLC

10 Lowell Junction Rd
Lot: 160-9
Lands of Consolidated
Property LLC



Lowell Junction
Rd

Legend

- Proposed JO Pole
- ⊗ Existing JO Pole
- Center Line
- Property Line
- Edge of Pavement

31 Lowell Junction Rd
Lot: 160-1
Lands of Dennis
Zielinski

15 Lowell Junction Rd
Lot: 160-2
Lands of Leonard
James

13 Lowell Junction Rd
Lot: 160-3
Lands of Mark Veiliger

nationalgrid

ControlPoint
TECHNOLOGIES

Designer: Aaron Fernandes
ControlPoint Technologies, Inc.
200 Ledgewood Place, Rockland, MA 02370
781.384.2371

Petition Sketch for Pole 8358-50
Lowell Junction Rd
Andover, MA
WR#31223440

Not To Scale
Distances are
Approximate

Drawn By:
AF

Sketch #
31223440

DATE
10/27/25

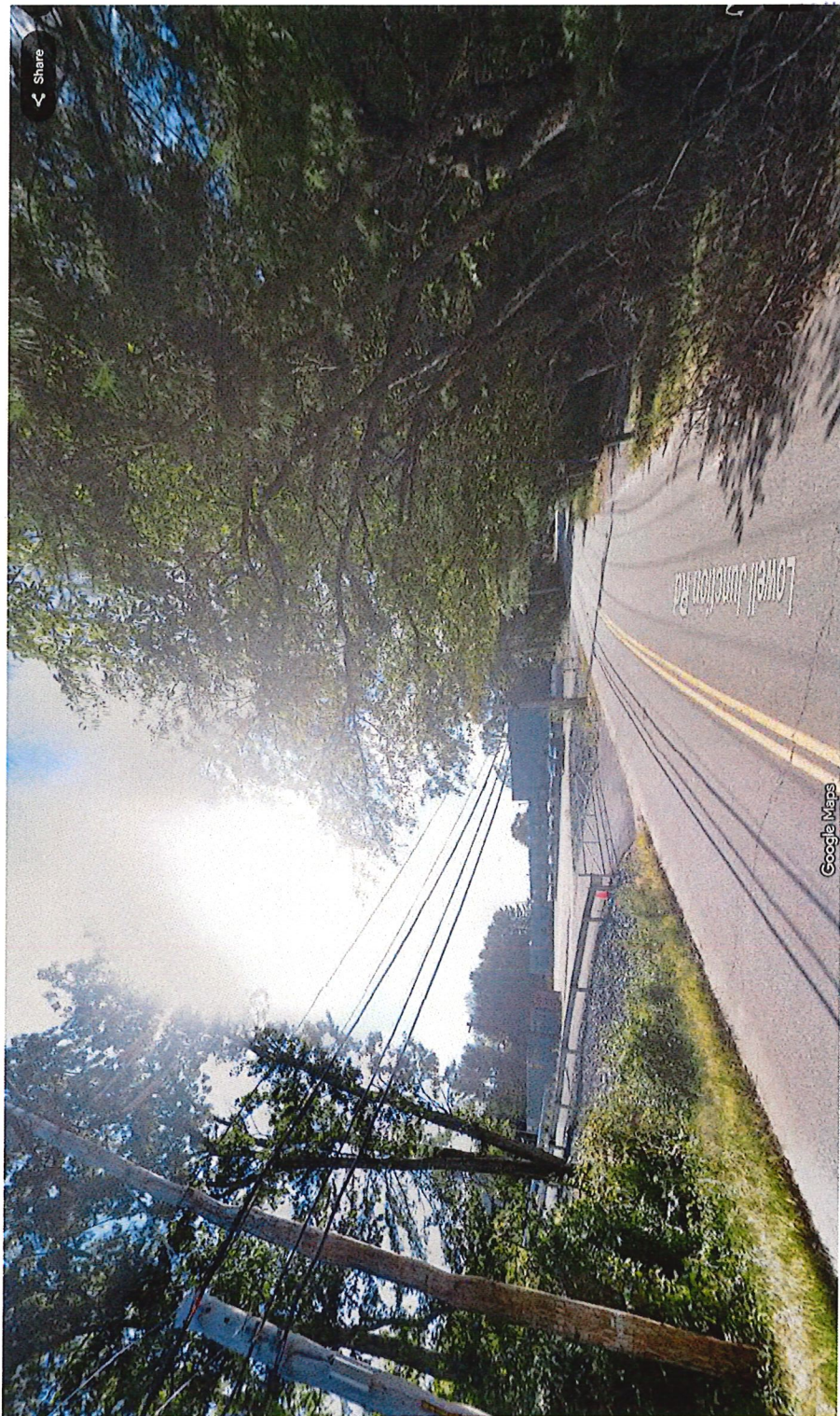
PETITION SKETCH
TOWN OF LOWELL
MIDDLESEX COUNTY

The exact location of said
facilities to be established
by and upon the installation
and erection of the facilities
thereof.

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2026 JAN 22 PM 2:16

TOWN OF ANDOVER, MA



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TOWN OF ANDOVER, MA



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TOWN OF ANDOVER, MA



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TOWN OF ANDOVER, MA

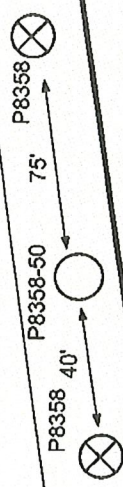




2 Connector Rd
 Lot: 160-9A
 Lands of 2 Connector
 LLC

18 Lowell Junction Rd
 Lot: 160-9B
 Lands of 2 Connector
 LLC

10 Lowell Junction Rd
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 Property LLC



Lowell Junction
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PETITION SKETCH
 TOWN OF LOWELL
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The exact location of said
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 TOWN OF ANDOVER, MA

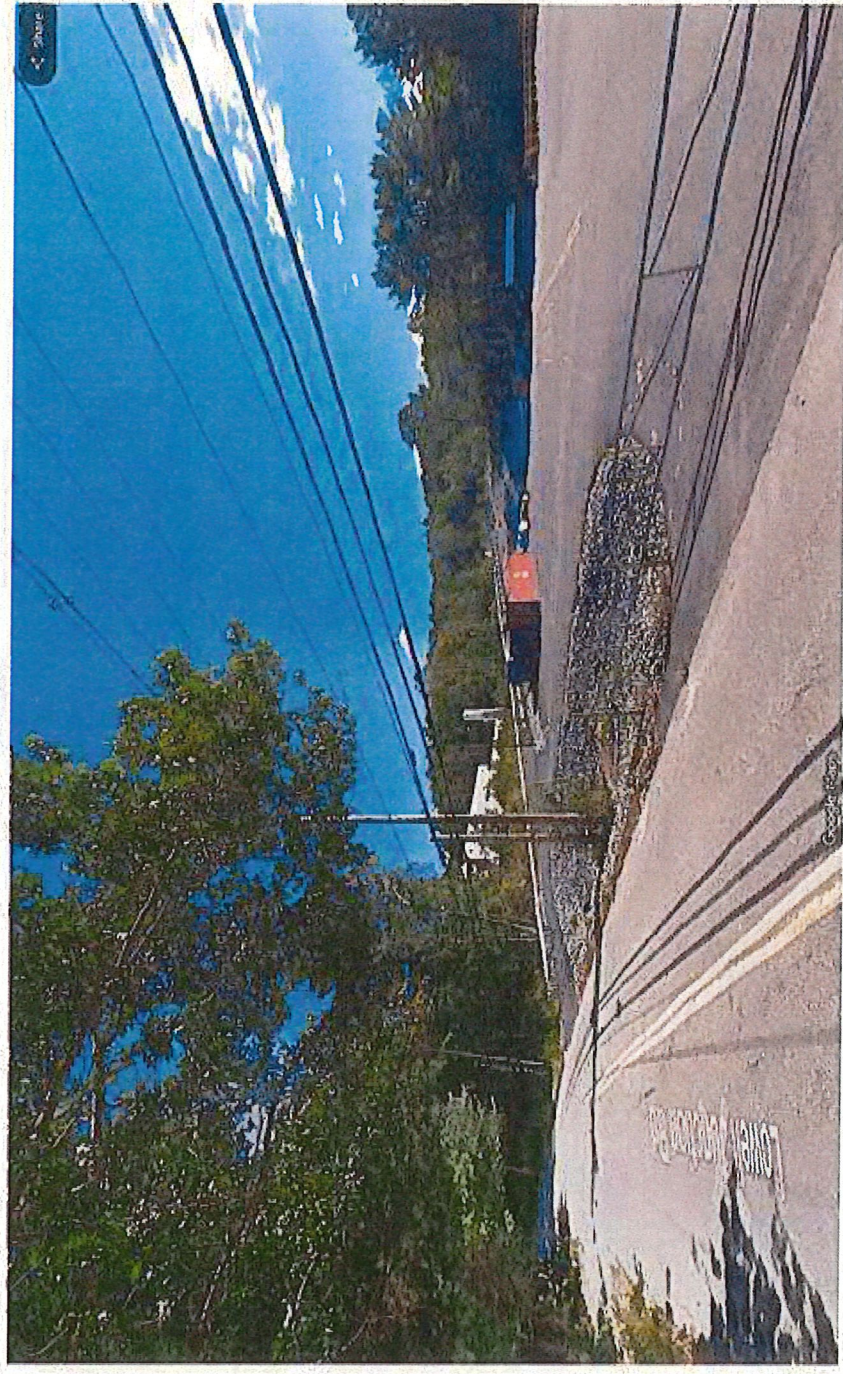
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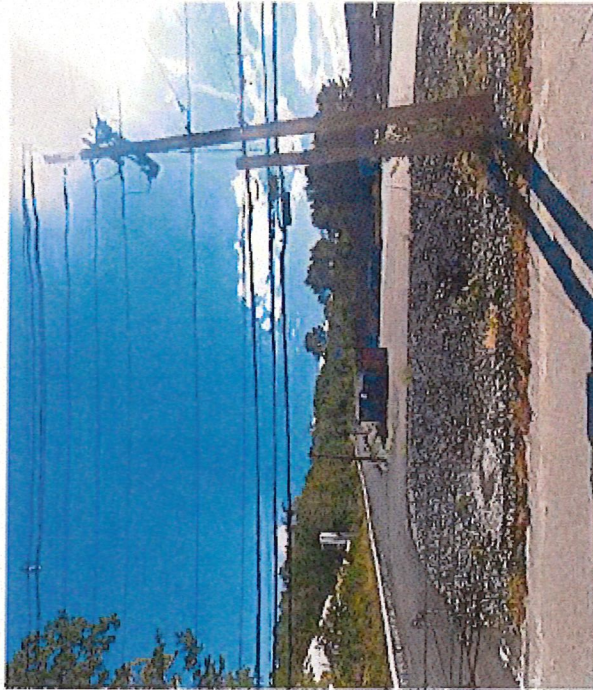
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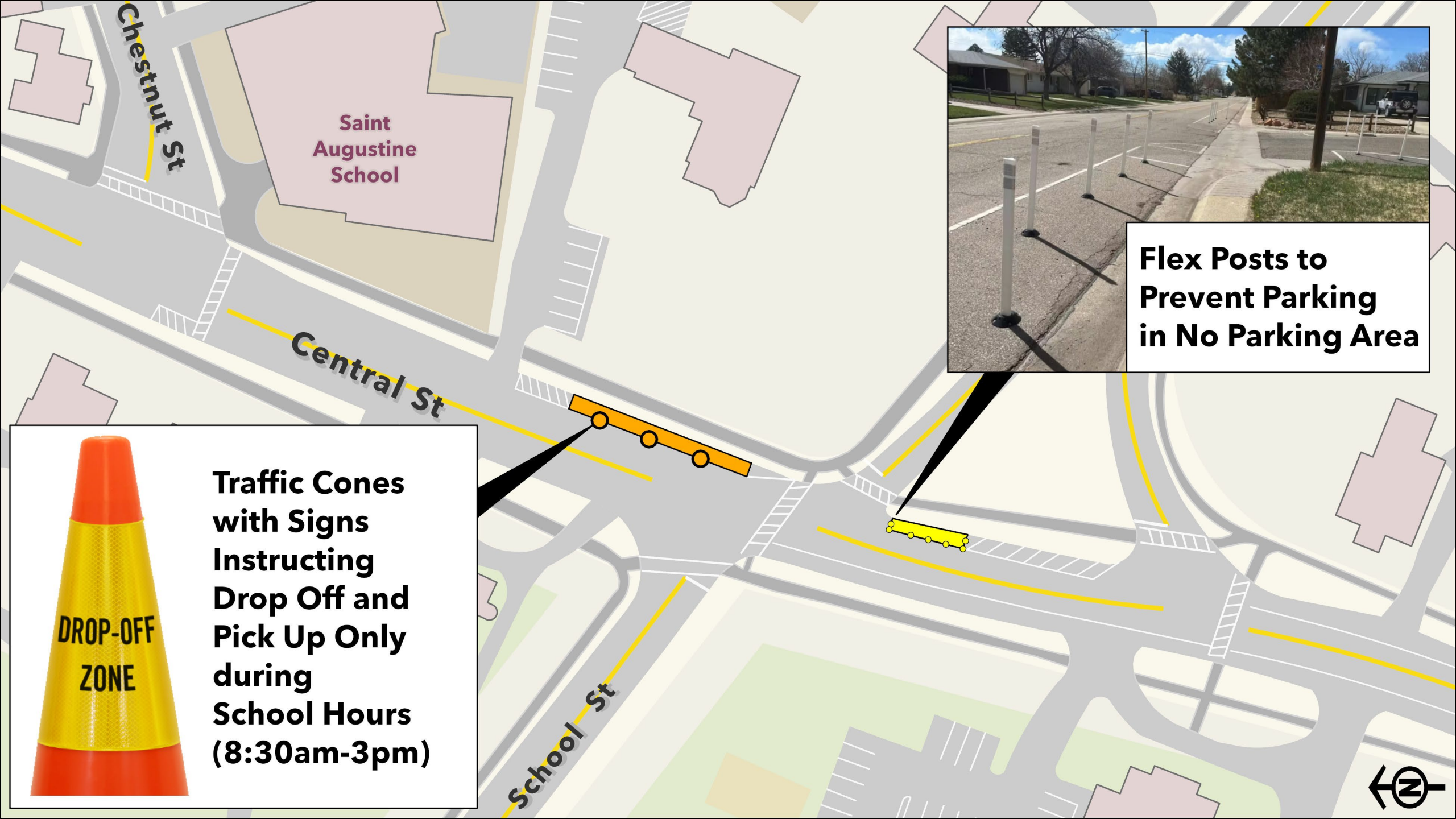
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TOWN OF ANDOVER, MA











Flex Posts to Prevent Parking in No Parking Area



Traffic Cones with Signs Instructing Drop Off and Pick Up Only during School Hours (8:30am-3pm)



**Traffic Cones with Signs
Instructing
Drop Off and
Pick Up Only
during
School Hours
(8:00am-3:30pm)**





**Flex Posts to
Prevent Parking
in No Parking Area**



Andrew P. Flanagan
Town Manager

TOWN OF ANDOVER

Town Manager's Office
36 Bartlet Street
Andover, MA 01810
978-623-8210
www.andoverma.gov

Please be informed that the Andover Select Board, at its meeting on Monday, March 9, 2026, will discuss the following proposed amendments to the Town of Andover's Traffic Rules and Regulations:

Schedule 1, Article V, Section 2

Impose a parking restriction of No Parking on the South Side of Central Street from Chestnut Street to School Street, during the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on school days for the purpose of maintaining a designated school pickup and drop off queue.

Location: Central Street South Side from Chestnut Street to School Street distance of 350 feet.

Establish a Pick Up / Drop Off Only Zone on the South Side of Central Street from Chestnut Street to School Street, during the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on school days for the purpose of maintaining a designated school pickup and drop off queue.

Location: Central Street South Side from Chestnut Street to School Street distance of 350 feet.

The Select Board's meeting will be held in the 3rd Floor Select Board Room of the Town Offices, 36 Bartlet Street, at 6:30 P.M.

If you have further questions regarding this discussion, please contact Andover Police Department Safety Officer Glen Ota at 978-623-3564.

Select Board Land Use Policy Reference

Current Land Use Policy

IV. LAND USE

IV.1. REGULATIONS FOR USE OF THE PARK

The Park, bounded by Chestnut Court, Bartlet Street, Whittier Street, Whittier Court and the Municipal Buildings, is for the recreational enjoyment of all of the residents of Andover. Citizens are encouraged to use The Park for both quiet enjoyment and active use consistent with the regulations outlined below.

The use of The Park for events shall be by permit only. An event is defined as a municipal, cultural, educational, religious, social or charitable program, occasion or activity. There are three types of permits. Permits issued by the Town Manager's Office and Special Permits issued by the Select Board. These three types of permits are defined below:

A. Permits issued by the Town Manager's Office:

Permits for the following events are granted by the Town Manager's Office: 1) a wedding ceremony or photography session before or after a wedding; 2) day-time activities conducted by the Division of Community Services, other Town departments or a school. These permits are subject to the regulations in Section B.

B. Other Permits issued by the Town Manager's Office subject to the following Regulations:

1. Events in The Park are permitted for one (1) day and shall only take place between the hours of 7:00 A.M. and 9:00 P.M. The clean-up and/or tear-down after an event must be concluded by 11:00 P.M. If additional clean-up is needed, it can begin after 7:00 A.M. the following day and must be completed by 12:00 P.M. (Noon).
2. Playing of music is permitted but must be at a reasonable volume and cease at 9:00 P.M.
3. If a power generator is used, it must cease at 11:00 P.M. The Town reserves the right to designate the location of the generator so as to minimize the effects of noise and exhaust on abutting properties to the greatest extent possible.
4. Portable chemical toilets are not permitted.
5. Trash dumpsters are only allowed by special permit, granted by the Select Board. They can be located behind the Doherty Middle School in the parking lot by the track. They must be removed within 24 hours of the end of the event or the Town will remove them at the permittee's expense. Any dumpster 6 cubic yards or larger must also be permitted by the Health Division and Fire Department.
6. Permit holders shall be responsible for cleaning and restoring the entire area and proper disposal of trash/litter off the premises. Permit holders will be responsible for the cost to repair any damage to The Park as a result of their event.
7. Permit holders shall not obstruct or cause to be obstructed any public ways, fire lanes or egress of any emergency vehicle. Parking of vehicles or placement of rides or amusements is not permitted on the grass.
8. The use of alcoholic beverages in The Park is not permitted.

9. Permit holders are responsible for insisting on compliance with the parking rules and regulations established for adjacent streets and municipal parking lots in the area of The Park by the sponsors, event staff and vendors.
10. Permit holders of events permitted by the Town Manager must notify property owners on both sides of Chestnut Street from Main Street to Pasho Street, Bartlet Street from Barnard Street to Morton Street, Whittier Street from Park Street to Chestnut Street and all of Whittier Court with written notice within two (2) weeks but not less than forty-eight (48) hours prior to an event.
11. Amusement devices (carnival rides) in The Park or adjacent municipal parking lots are not allowed except by Special Permit of the Select Board.
12. A violation of these regulations may result in an immediate revocation of the permit or special permit and all activities suspended by the officer in-charge of the Police Department. Violations could result in the denial of any future requests for a permit or special permit. If additional costs are incurred by the Town in the enforcement of these regulations, then the permit holder shall be held responsible.
13. The Town Manager's Office may refer an applicant to the Select Board for their review and approval if it is felt it is in the best interest of the Town to do so.

C. Special Permit Issued by the Select Board

A Special Permit may be issued by the Select Board for an event that includes amusement devices (carnival rides), however, the organization must comply with (a) the Regulations for Use of The Park in Section B.; (b) other arrangements as specified by the applicant and approved by the Select Board; and (c) the requirements of the following Departments and Divisions:

- | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| ~ Police Department | ~ Fire Department |
| ~ Building Division | ~ Health Division |
| ~ Department of Public Works | ~ Plant and Facilities Department |
| ~ Community Services | ~ School Department |

To receive a Special Permit, an organization must apply to the Town Manager's Office four (4) months prior to the event. The Select Board will notify the property owners on Chestnut Street, Bartlet Street, Whittier Street and Whittier Court as defined in Section B. 10., place an advertisement in *The Andover Townsman* twice prior to the hearing date, hold a public hearing to consider the request and issue a decision within three (3) weeks of the hearing. If a public hearing is required, then the applicant must pay \$200.00 (if needed) to cover the cost of the notices, advertising and processing.

ANDOVER SELECT BOARD

Effective: September 13, 1999

Revised: December 2, 2013

IV.2. GOVERNING THE USE OF UNDEVELOPED TOWN-OWNED LAND

These regulations apply to all undeveloped areas in the Town of Andover owned by and under control of the Town of Andover, the Conservation Commission, the School Committee or other Town entity either by deed provision, easement, Town Meeting vote or informal arrangement with other entities.

These regulations are not limited to those areas with signs so indicating, but where possible, abbreviated versions of these rules will be posted.

- 1) The Town of Andover assumes no liability for injuries, damage to property or other loss to persons going on such areas. Users of these areas assume all risks involved.
- 2) No alcoholic beverages of any kind are allowed on Town property.
- 3) Hunting is prohibited except for deer hunting by bow and arrow in accordance with rules and regulations established by the Conservation Commission in conformity with the General Laws. [Amended 8-8-11]
- 4) Fishing is allowed under the provisions of applicable state law.
- 5) All persons are welcome to use Town facilities and open areas without permit from sunrise to sunset.
- 6) Overnight camping will be permitted only to Scouts and similar organizations having an adult leader present and responsible at all times. Every such group shall obtain a written camping permit from the Conservation Commission office and a fire permit from the Fire Department for campouts if open fires are planned.

The Fire Department will issue permits for open air fires only after the camping permit has been obtained. The Conservation Commission will designate the exact site to be used and will mandate what sanitary arrangements shall be made.

Said permits will be used for each twenty-four hour period. Any persons camping in Conservation land without said permit(s) shall be subject to prosecution and fines (see item 11). The Conservation Commission reserves the right to deny said permit.

- 7) Areas are meant to be preserved in a clean, neat manner. Cans, bottles, garbage, paper, plastic and any other debris whatsoever shall be placed in receptacles if provided by the Town or taken away if no municipal receptacles are on the site.

No trees, living or dead, no plants or flowers or soil material or rocks or animals of any sort whatsoever shall be removed from the Conservation areas, nor defaced, cut, painted or otherwise maimed, under penalties described in item 11. No wood, living or dead, shall be cut except as specifically authorized by the Conservation Commission for Conservation purposes only.

Dumping on any land in the Town of Andover is prohibited by Town By-Law.

- 8) Motor vehicles of any kind are prohibited except on roadways and specified parking areas.
- 9) Community gardening is allowed in those areas specified.

- 10) No trails, dams or markings are to be built, or any bridges installed without permission of the controlling entity.
- 11) Visitors are urged to leave areas cleaner than they were found and report violations to the appropriate authorities or the Andover Police Department. Violations hereof shall be punishable by fines up to \$200.00 for each offense. Every day of such offense shall be deemed to be a separate offense.
- 12) Permission for the use of school land should be addressed to the School Committee; Town lands to the Town Manager, and Conservation lands to the Conservation Commission. Requests for deviation from any of the above should be addressed to the controlling entity.

(9/13/85)

IV.3. OPEN SPACE

The Select Board feels that the Goals and Objectives as articulated in the “Report of the Recreation and Open Space Study Committee” form a good foundation upon which future Town decisions in this area can be based. As stated, these goals are a reaffirmation of a 1976 report and remain valid.

These **Goals and Objectives** follow:

Listed below and briefly described are the community’s aspirations for the preservation and utilization of its open space resources. These goals have not changed substantially since the preparation in 1975 and 1976 of the Recreation and Open Space Committee Report, which was intended to be a ten-year action program.

Therefore, the articulation of these Goals and Objectives started with the list of Goals on Page 17 of the 1976 “Report of the Recreation and Open Space Study Committee”. All of those involved in the preparation of this current plan reviewed these Goals and contributed suggestions.

GOAL #1 - PRESERVE ECOLOGICAL BALANCE

As the rapid urbanization of Andover proceeds, it is vital to its total well-being that the natural systems upon which all its citizens depend are not needlessly abused. This means protecting water supplies, both local and regional, guiding development away from sensitive areas like wetlands, floodplains and areas of poor soil capability, preventing degradation because of pollution and erosion, and preserving outstanding natural features, particularly water bodies, as well as endangered habitats and sites of historical or archeological significance.

OBJECTIVES

- a. Protect town water supplies by acquiring all of the remaining undeveloped Fish Brook and Haggetts Pond lowlands;
- b. Protect the remainder of the water supply watershed from harmful development by means of acquisition or special constraints on use;
- c. Identify and protect areas critically significant to the groundwater resources of the Town and its neighbors, which have present or potential or stand-by water supply capability;
- d. Continue strict enforcement of the Wetlands Protection Act;
- e. Refine and strictly enforce the erosion and sedimentation controls in the Town’s subdivision regulations;
- f. Define more specifically the means of protection of open spaces and natural features in the Town’s zoning and subdivision regulations. Review those regulations with the objectives of increasing environmental protection and decreasing the adverse environmental impacts of development;

- g. Develop a method of preserving adequate open space, wetlands and other outstanding natural features in and around industrial areas, for instance, a patch of laurel or a stand of native trees;
- h. Adopt more specific guidelines for the safe and clean discharge of storm drainage on the part of the Town; for example measures to prevent siltation and petroleum products pollution of streams and wetlands;
- i. Minimize the use of pesticides and herbicides;
- j. Explore the use of conservation land trusts and other land conservation techniques to preserve open space while guiding appropriate development;
- k. Encourage the acquisition of Conservation Easements by the Town and private open space groups.

GOAL #2 - ENCOURAGE OPEN SPACE ENJOYMENT AND UTILIZATION

Open space preservation should guide the Town's programs. The Town needs to expand the opportunities for outdoor recreation and enjoyment so that those opportunities are available to all citizens. Open spaces and recreation programs should be provided for all ages and groups.

OBJECTIVES

- a. Publicize this plan. Prepare and distribute more informational material relative to available public open space and active recreational opportunities and programs, such as brochures;
- b. Continue to implement long range plans for the Andover Recreation Park;
- c. Attempt to link open space areas by means of trails. Continue to try to establish a Town-wide trail network;
- d. Encourage appropriate open space uses while discouraging abuse. This means attempting to balance user needs so that no group is shut out and open space areas are not preempted unfairly;
- e. Support and encourage groups who use public open spaces appropriately and those who will voluntarily improve and enhance such areas such as scout troops, garden clubs and school children.

GOAL #3 - ENHANCE "THE TOWN BEAUTIFUL"

Andover's attractiveness and desirability as a place to live and work depend in large part on its "open" qualities. Every effort needs to be made to ensure green areas at critical locations and to guide the quality of development insofar as possible for visual enhancement.

OBJECTIVES

- a. Identify, protect and maintain by available means outstanding natural features, endangered habitats, archeologically important sites and green and open spaces at critical locations, such as traffic islands at intersections;
- b. Improve methods which the Planning Board can effectively use to design development within subdivisions so as to preserve not only natural features, such as wetlands and scenic areas but usable recreational open space;
- c. Initiate and/or support open space maintenance programs, such as beautification, through federal, state or local efforts.

GOAL #4 - PROTECT RIVER CORRIDORS

All of the above goals are well served by protection of and access to river corridors throughout the Town: not only the Shawsheen and Merrimack but especially Fish Brook, which is a substantial contributor to the Town's water supply and the Skug River, (part of the Ipswich River watershed), which contributes to the water supplies of downstream communities.

OBJECTIVES

- a. Acquire or protect by easement wherever possible the banks of the major rivers, streams and ponds of the Town;
- b. Establish and maintain trails along rivers where possible;
- c. Plan for utilization of accessible river banks. Boat launching facilities could be developed. Water sports programs could be devised.

GOAL #5 - BE RESPONSIBLE IN REGIONAL RELATIONSHIPS

The tendency to concentrate effort and attention on purely local concerns needs to be balanced. What we do in Andover may affect not only our immediate neighbors in the Merrimack Valley but potential open space users from the more densely populated Metropolitan Boston area. The Town needs to keep informed about regional problems and plans, and to work cooperatively with regional and state agencies.

OBJECTIVES

- a. Make Andover's representative on the Merrimack Valley Planning Commission aware of Andover's open space and recreation assets as well as its goals and objectives;
- b. Make Andover aware of regional open space recreation goals through its participation on or involvement in other regional environmental groups;
- c. Communicate Andover's open space assets regionally as well as locally.

GOAL #6 - MAKE GOOD USE OF SCARCE RESOURCES

This means better interagency planning and coordination as well as cooperation with other holders of open space available for public use such as AVIS, the Department of Environmental Management of the Commonwealth and the

Trustees of Reservations. The working relationships between these groups should continue to be cultivated. Joint planning for better protection and utilization of town resources should be developed.

OBJECTIVES

- a. Continue to facilitate the sharing of open space and recreation areas among the different agencies of the Town;
- b. Maintain and improve working relationships of Town agencies with other holders and managers of open space and active recreation facilities. Included are AVIS, Trustees of Reservations, State Department of Environmental Management, Phillips Academy, YMCA, the regional vocational school and local schools.

GOAL #7 - PROVIDE BETTER MANAGEMENT OF EXISTING AREAS

In this time of shrinking public financial support, funds for the care and maintenance are amongst the first items to be excised from the budget. Management strategies must be devised to close the gap. Otherwise increasing urbanization spells deterioration of existing facilities and open space qualities because of overuse, vandalism, litter and other abuses. Andover should protect its already considerable investment in open space.

OBJECTIVES

- a. Improve the maintenance program for the Town's active recreation areas such as playfields and playgrounds;
- b. Establish a maintenance fund for limited care of reservations. Support appropriate maintenance funding for Community Services facilities;
- c. Provide proper signs to identify conservation – recreation areas and to control uses;
- d. Continue efforts to develop better management strategies using volunteers wherever possible;
- e. Be alert to abuses such as litter and vandalism and employ appropriate enforcement techniques;
- f. Balance uses so as to provide maximum enjoyment and employment of open spaces;
- g. Try to make users of the Town's open space aware of their responsibility for its proper management.

GOAL #8 - BE FAIR

This goal means trying to achieve spatial balance of open space and recreational opportunities throughout the Town and means ensuring that all age and social groups are served. It means using open space acquisition to shape, provide context for and serve the demands development is bringing rather than to block

development.

OBJECTIVES

- a. Seek to acquire open space in neighborhoods where it is lacking or limited;
- b. Identify deficiencies in outdoor recreation opportunities and develop strategies to correct them;
- c. Try to provide opportunities for the enjoyment of open space by all groups and ages, including elderly and handicapped citizens.

GOAL #9 - PRESERVE FARMING

The Town should try to maintain farming at least at its current level and to encourage the preservation and agricultural use of suitable open land.

OBJECTIVES

- a. Encourage the few remaining active farmers to apply for Agricultural Preservation Restrictions, and to take advantage of other State, federal and private programs designed to preserve Massachusetts agriculture;
- b. Consider the establishment of a Farmers Market;
- c. Continue to encourage agricultural use of public land where appropriate and not incompatible with other legitimate uses.

Guide to Updates, Amendments, and Additions from Prior Policy to Proposed Policy

Public Amenity Space, Field and Land Use Policy

The policy was expanded from a narrow “Park and Undeveloped Land” framework to a comprehensive land use and public amenity space policy covering:

- Special Events on Town property
- Use of Undeveloped Land
- Field Rentals
- Public & Private Ways, Sidewalks & Shared Use Paths

The Open Space Goals section that came directly from the Town’s Open Space and Recreation Plan was removed as well as the Adopt-an-Island program that can be facilitated through the Department of Public Works.

Regulations for Use of The Park > Special Event Permitting Last Revised in 2013

The revisions expand the specific rules for The Park into a Town-wide Special Event Permitting Policy. It creates a framework for standard and special-permit events, shortens the filing timeline, and shifts approval from the Select Board to the Special Events Committee and the Town Manager’s Office for large events. Conditions are now set case-by-case rather than through fixed rules, abutter notification is determined administratively, and a new fee structure covers Town resource use. Alcohol may be allowed on Town property through a One-Day Liquor License issued by the Select Board.

Original:

- Applied only to The Park on Bartlet Street and detailed event regulations specific to that location
- Alcohol completely prohibited
- Fixed rules for dumpsters, generators, and portable toilets
- No defined review process by Town Departments
- Special Permit issued by Select Board (4 months advance) - required public hearing, newspaper ads, \$200 notice fee
- Abutter notification with defined street list

Key Changes:

- Policy now covers all Town-owned land.

- Defines a Special Event permitting framework for smaller standard events and larger special permit events.
- Application filing deadline shortened (2 months instead of 4 months).
- Select Board approval no longer required for special permit events. Special Permit Event applications now reviewed through the centralized Special Events Committee of Town staff, which provides a recommendation to the Town Manager's Office.
- The Town Manager's Office sets all conditions of approval based on the specific event and location. Fixed rules for dumpsters, generators, and portable toilets have been removed, so these conditions can be added only when needed.
- Abutter notice now determined by Town Manager's Office (not fixed street list).
- Added fee structure to cover the Town's administrative costs and the cost of use of Town Resources (Police, Fire, DPW, Facilities).
- Alcohol may now be permitted on Town property through a One-Day Liquor License issued under the authority of the Select Board.

Governing the Use of Undeveloped Town-Owned > Use of Undeveloped Land Last revised in 1985

The revisions keep the original structure but include updates to reflect current practice. It incorporates the Conservation Commission's changes to camping and hunting procedures on their properties.

Original:

- No alcoholic beverages allowed on Conservation property.
- Camping on Conservation land allowed only for Scouts or similar groups, limited to 24 hours with a permit required for any fires
- Fishing allowed only by brief reference to state law.
- Hunting allowed with limited detail.
- Motor vehicles prohibited except on roadways and parking areas.

Key Changes:

- Conservation Commission approval required before liquor license consideration on conservation land.
- Limited supervised camping allowed on designated Conservation areas, not open to the general public. Camping must be accompanied by Conservation staff or volunteers, with advance registration required.
- Eliminates fire permit requirement while adding fires are permitted only in provided communal pits.
- Fishing clarified as requiring license for age 15+, and cite M.G.L. Chapter 130.

- Hunting clarified as permit-only through the Conservation Division, with all other hunting prohibited.
- Electric bicycles and electric scooters added to the prohibited motorized-vehicle category except in designated areas.

Field Use Rental Policy > New Policy

New section covering:

- Rental eligibility
- Online application requirement
- 30-day submission timeline
- Insurance minimums
- Fee structure
- Extended licenses & leases (references M.G.L. c. 30B)
- Enforcement and oversight coordination

Public & Private Ways, Sidewalks & Shared Use Paths > New Policy

New section covering:

- Public ways
- Private ways
- Shared use paths
- Sidewalks
- E-bikes and scooters 15 mph speed limit on shared use paths
- Enforcement role of Andover Police

Public Amenity Space, Field and Land Use Policy

I. Purpose

This policy defines the use and management of all public lands within the Town of Andover relative to Select Board duties and authorities, including developed and undeveloped town and school properties, recreation areas, conservation lands, and other land overseen by the Town and the Andover Public Schools. It provides guidelines for the rental and responsible use of athletic fields, parks, and other recreational spaces within those matters governed by the Select Board. The overarching goal is to ensure equitable access, safeguard public safety, and preserve the integrity of Andover's shared spaces while encouraging meaningful community engagement.

II. Special Event Permitting

A. Definition of Special Events

A special event is any planned public or private activity including, but not limited to, cultural, educational, religious, charitable, or social gatherings that occur on Town property and may involve amplified sound, vendors, temporary structures & signage, or large public attendance.

B. Permit Classifications

- Standard Event Permit: Reviewed and issued by the Town Manager's Office for smaller-scale events without alcohol such as neighborhood block parties, charitable sidewalk sale, Town department programs, or school-organized activities.
- Special Permit: Reviewed by the Special Events Committee and issued by the Town Manager for large-scale events or those involving amusement rides, music, external vendors, temporary infrastructure, One-Day Liquor License on Town Property or events with street closures (excluding neighborhood block parties).

C. Application Process

- Submission, Review and Approval of Applications:
 - Standard Event Permit applications must be submitted to the Town Manager's Office no later than two weeks prior to the event.

- Special Permit applications must be submitted to the Town Manager's Office at least two months in advance of the event to allow for review.
 1. Special Permits on Town property are limited to non-commercial events. Events may include for-profit vendors, but should be organized for the purpose of promoting civic and community interests and open to the general public.
 2. Special permits are reviewed by the Special Events Committee and may also require an inter-departmental review depending on the size and scale of the event.
 3. If a Special Permit includes serving alcohol on Town property, the intent to apply for a One-Day Liquor License must be indicated within the Special Permit application. Please note that the One-Day Liquor License requires a separate application process, which is governed by its own set of rules and regulations. This process includes submitting additional documentation such as proof of insurance and any other materials required by the Town. Furthermore, any request for a One-Day Liquor License on Town property will require a public hearing conducted by the Select Board.
 4. Permit seekers are required to provide notice of the event with a contact person and phone number to neighboring property owners (as determined by the Town Manager's Office) at least two weeks before the event.

D. Fees

- Standard Permit: May require minimal administrative fee
- Special Permit: Fee is based on the cost of use of Town Resources (Police, Fire, DPW, Facilities).
- Additional fees apply for Electrical permit fee, Electrical Inspector detail, and a security deposit in the case of using the Gazebo

E. Compliance

- All events must adhere to Town regulations on sound limits, hours of operation (between 7:00 AM and 9:00 PM), alcohol prohibition if no permit has been granted, and environmental protection.

- Non-compliance may result in permit revocation or future denial.

F. Additional Licenses and Permits

Additional licenses and/or permits are required for specified types of events and/or activities. There may be associated fees for these licenses and permits. Organizers are responsible for contacting the appropriate Town departments to determine specific requirements and costs. These additional licenses and permits include but are not limited to:

- Raffles require a License issued by the Town Clerk's Office
- Tents over 10 sq. ft. and tents with sides require a Building Permit issued by the Building Department.
- Food service on Town Property requires a Temporary Food Permit issued by the Health Division.
- Alcohol service on Town Property requires a One-Day Liquor License on Town Property issued by the Select Board.

III. **Field Use Rental Policy**

A. Scope

This policy applies to athletic fields, courts, and open recreational areas located on Town property and Andover Public Schools property.

B. Rental Eligibility

Organizations, leagues, schools, or residents seeking to reserve fields for organized use (e.g., games, practices, tournaments) must submit a rental request through the Town's website. Preference will be given to residents of, and organizations based in or specifically benefitting the Town of Andover. Sub-leasing of fields is prohibited.

C. Application Process

- Submission Timeline
 - Online requests should be submitted at least 30 days in advance of the desired rental date(s).

- Requirements
 - Completed field rental application
 - Certificate of insurance for a comprehensive liability insurance policy including public liability and property damage in the minimum amount of \$1,000,000 and \$2,000,000 aggregate naming the Town of Andover as additional insured
 - Fee payment
- Fee Schedule
 - Fees may vary based on field type and duration of use
 - Priority is given to Town and school-sponsored programs and Andover-based non-profit youth organizations
- Limitations & Expectations
 - Field use is generally permitted from sunrise to sunset unless lights are provided and approved
 - No field or court may be used without approval from the Town
 - Rental does not imply exclusivity beyond reserved times
 - Damage to facilities or grounds must be reported and may result in additional charges or denial of future use

D. Extended Licenses & Leases

The Select Board may permit or enter into extended license or lease agreements with organizations or individuals for routine use of athletic fields, courts, and open recreational areas consistent with this policy and Massachusetts procurement law (G.L. c. 30B). To the extent permitted by law, Andover shall afford priority to local organizations and individuals benefitting utilizing fields, courts and open recreational areas for the benefit of Andover residents.

Interested parties should expect to demonstrate:

- Ability to effectively utilize field, court, or other recreational spaces for requested dates and times;

- Benefit to Andover residents;
- Communication with relevant Town departments; and
- Compliance with field, court, or recreation area-specific rules and requirements.

Extended license holders may be subject to additional fees based on Town costs of supporting extended use. Lessee pricing is site and scope specific and guided by c. 30B.

E. Enforcement and Oversight

The Town Manager's Office, Recreation Department and Facilities Department will coordinate oversight of all permitted activities.

- The Andover Police and Fire Departments may provide safety and compliance support where necessary.
- Permittees are expected to adhere to all federal, state, and local laws
- Any violations may result in fines, suspension of use, or legal enforcement under applicable Town bylaws

IV. **Use of Undeveloped Land**

This policy applies to all undeveloped land within the Town of Andover that is owned or managed by the Town, the Conservation Commission, the School Committee, or other municipal entities. This policy applies to all such lands regardless of signage.

A. General Use Guidelines

- Hours of Access
 - Undeveloped land is open to the public from sunrise to sunset. No permit is required for general daytime use.
- Assumption of Risk
 - The Town assumes no liability for injury, property damage, or loss incurred on undeveloped land. All users enter at their own risk.
- Alcohol Possession and Use
 - Alcohol possession or consumption on school grounds is not permitted.

- The Select Board, acting as the Local Licensing Authority, may issue a Special One Day Liquor License for outdoor events on Town property. However, this does not include school grounds, which remain off-limits for alcohol under all circumstances.
- Any event with alcohol that is to take place on Conservation land must first obtain permission from the Andover Conservation Commission. Only after their approval can the Select Board consider granting a Special One Day Liquor License for the event
- Motor Vehicle Restrictions
 - Motorized vehicles, including electric bicycles and electric scooters, are prohibited except on designated roadways and parking areas.
- Community Gardening
 - Permitted only in designated areas approved by the Town.
- Construction and Modifications
 - No trails, dams, bridges, or markings may be created or installed without written permission from the controlling entity.

B. Permitted and Regulated Activities

The activities listed below are either expressly permitted or permitted through applicable regulations. Any activity not listed is considered prohibited unless specifically authorized by the appropriate governing body.

- Hunting
 - Deer hunting on certain Conservation Lands by bow and arrow is facilitated through the Conservation Division, by permit only, and subject to regulations established by the Conservation Commission and in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws.
 - All other hunting is prohibited.
- Fishing

- The Town offers access to several water bodies where recreational fishing is popular, including the Shawsheen and Merrimack rivers and Poms Pond.
- Those age 15 years or older, must have a valid license or permit from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to fish recreationally or commercially. This includes freshwater and saltwater fishing.
- Massachusetts fishing laws are governed by M.G.L. Chapter 130.
- Camping
 - The Andover Conservation Commission permits limited, supervised camping on designated unimproved areas of Conservation Land along the Shawsheen River.
 - Camping is not open to the general public and is only allowed on specific dates approved by the Commission.
 - All camping activities must be accompanied by Conservation staff or designated volunteers.
 - Advance registration is required for all participants.
 - Fires are only permitted in the provided communal fire pits.

C. Environmental Protection and Cleanliness

Visitors to undeveloped land must maintain the cleanliness and integrity of all areas. The following are strictly prohibited:

- Littering (all waste must be placed in provided receptacles or removed from the site)
- Removal or defacement of trees, plants, flowers, soil, rocks, or wildlife
- Cutting or collecting wood without explicit Town and/or Conservation Commission approval
- Dumping of any materials

D. Enforcement and Violations

Visitors are encouraged to leave areas cleaner than they were found and report violations to the appropriate authority or the Andover Police Department. Violations are subject to fines of up to \$200 per offense. Each day a violation continues is considered a separate offense.

E. Permissions and Exceptions

Requests for the use of Land should be directed to the following:

- Use of School Department land: Contact the Office of the Superintendent of Schools
- Use of Town-owned land: Contact the Town Manager's Office
- Use of Conservation land: Contact the Conservation Division

Requests for exceptions to these regulations must be submitted to the appropriate governing entity. Permits may be subject to associated fees depending on the nature of the activity.

V. **Public and Private Ways, Sidewalks and Shared Use Paths**

This policy establishes guidelines for the use of public and private ways in the Town of Andover, including sidewalks, shared use paths, and other pedestrian and active transportation route. It aims to promote safe, equitable, and environmentally responsible transportation options for all users, pedestrians, cyclists, e-bike riders, skateboarders, and others, while preserving the character and integrity of Andover's neighborhoods and natural resources.

A. Definitions

- **Public Way:** A street accepted by Town Meeting and maintained by the Town for public use.
- **Private Way:** A street approved by a Board of Survey, but not accepted by Town Meeting nor maintained by the Town, but open for the general public to traverse and to abutters for further purposes such as parking.
- **Shared Use Path:** A paved or unpaved trail designed for multiple non-motorized users, including pedestrians, cyclists, and others.

- Sidewalk: A paved pedestrian path adjacent to a roadway.
- Personal transport devices: Includes bicycles, electric bicycles (e-bikes), skateboards, scooters, and similar small-scale personal transport devices.

B. Use Regulations

- Public Ways
 - All users must follow Massachusetts traffic laws and posted signage.
 - Public roads are intended for safe travel by motor vehicles, bicycles, and approved personal wheels.
 - Reckless driving, speeding, and disruptive behavior are prohibited and subject to enforcement.
 - Bicycles and Class 1 and 2 e-bikes may be used on public roads and must follow the same rules as motor vehicles.
 - Motorized scooters and skateboards may use public roads only where permitted by state law and local ordinance.
- Private Ways
 - The public has a right to pass or repass over most private ways; access may be restricted on private ways entirely comprised of private property and not approved by a Board of Survey.
 - Municipal trash and recycling collection is not guaranteed, unless authorized by Town Meeting. Residents on private ways which were not approved by the Board of Survey, or which are not maintained to a passable standard by waste management contractors may need to bring waste to the nearest serviced public way or arrange for private disposal.
 - Snow removal services will not be provided by the Town, unless authorized by Town Meeting.
 - Public safety services will be provided by the Town.
- Shared Use Paths

- Open to pedestrians, cyclists, e-bikes (Class 1 and 2), skateboards, and scooters unless otherwise restricted by posted signage.
- Speed limit of 15 mph for all wheeled devices unless otherwise posted.
- Users must yield to pedestrians and signal when passing.
- Sidewalks
 - Reserved primarily for pedestrians, strollers, and mobility aids.
 - Skateboards and scooters may be permitted if operated safely and respectfully.
 - E-bikes are prohibited on sidewalks

C. Enforcement

- Violations of road use regulations may result in fines or other penalties.
- The Andover Police Department will monitor compliance and respond to unsafe behavior.
- Educational outreach programs will be developed to promote safe and lawful use of roads and pedestrian and mobility corridors.

GOAL tonight: Select Board support for the campaign to limit Anticoagulant Rodenticides in Andover



First and Second Generation Anti-Coagulant Rodenticides (F/SGARs)

- A class of rodent poisons that prevents blood from clotting
- Which causes internal bleeding, organ failure, paralysis
- Without treatment, death.

Nobody wants mice/rats in their homes or places of business



Rodenticide applicators use SGARS because...

- They are effective at killing rodents
- No rodents are trapped inside that require disposal
- Low maintenance for applicators



Conservationists don't like Anticoagulants because...

- They kill slowly and painfully
- They move up the food chain
- They remain in the environment, including water sources
- They kill the predators that should be natural pest control
 - One owl or fox may remove 1000 rodents in a year, and they feed their babies these rodents!



This is Nature without SGARs



Andover

Fox Family in Andover

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OJtFA8cBd18&authuser=0>

This is Nature with SGARs



Andover

When a target animal is poisoned with anticoagulants they live for 5-10 days and return to the environment where a predator may eat them or feed them to offspring...



Wildlife Rescuers Agree

- Wildlife Rescue groups are finding evidence of anti-coagulant poisoning in nearly all hawks, eagles, owls, coyotes, and foxes that are brought in for care.
- None survive without serious medical treatment, and even with treatment, few survive.



Wildlife Rehabilitators' Association of
Massachusetts



Newhouse Wildlife Rescue - Chelmsford

SGARs were banned by Federal Government in 2015 for over-the-counter sales

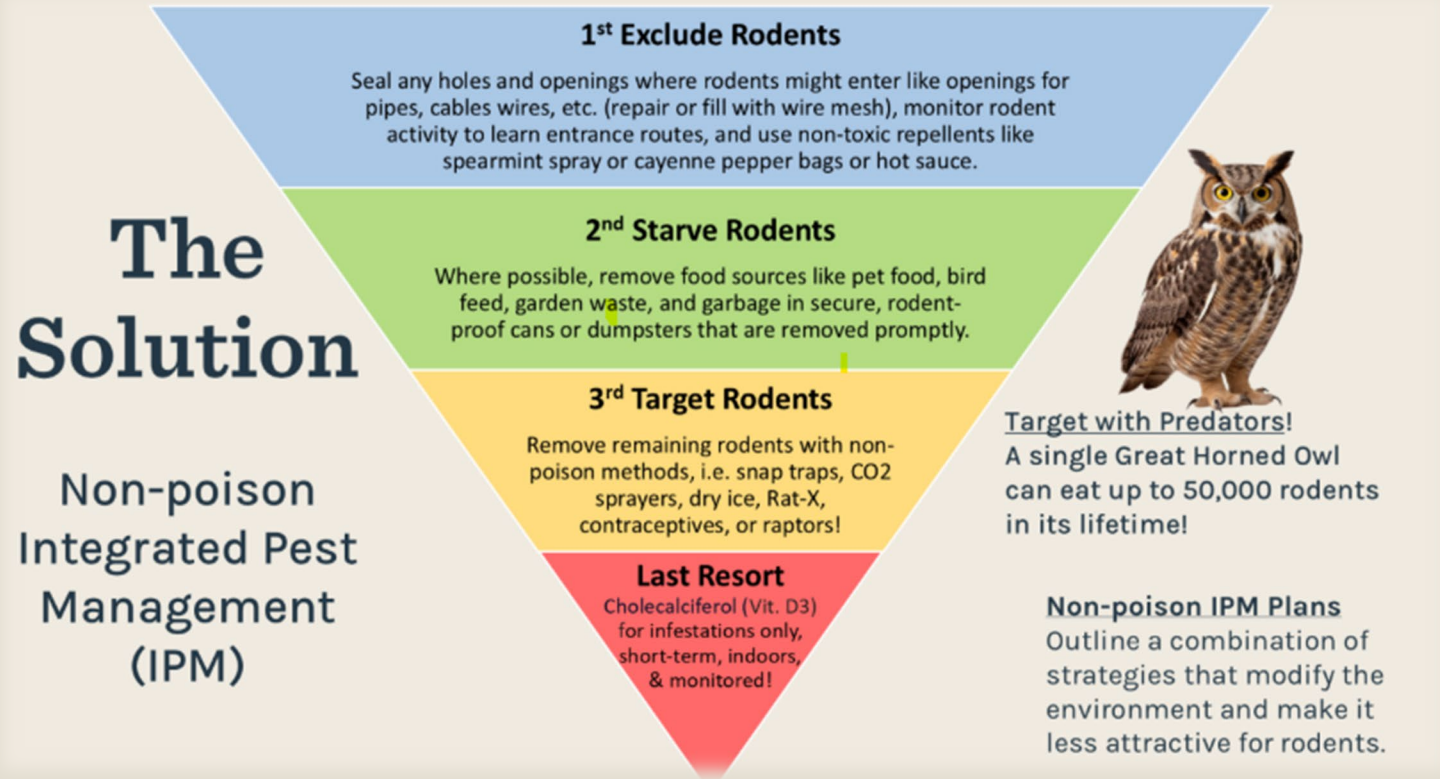
- Due to:
 - Non-target harm like non-rodent species
 - Cumulative effect on animals and water supplies
- As a result, only licensed pest control professionals are allowed to dispense ARs in tamper resistant bait stations
- So they are still in use

Mass.gov web site...

“Massachusetts residents, business owners, and building managers can choose from a variety of management options to prevent and resolve rodent problems. **By avoiding rodenticide, especially second-generation anticoagulant rodenticides (SGARs), you can greatly reduce the risk of harm to wildlife as well as pets.**”

<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/wildlife-and-rodenticide>

Alternative to Anticoagulant Rodenticides: Integrated Pest Management or IPM



IPM: Andover Already Does This

- The Town of Andover adopted IPM on municipal property after a study in 2003 and 2017
- However, without a By-law we can't enforce our policy on private property
- IPM has been documented as costing no more!

Massachusetts Legislative Effort

- Massachusetts is working on this at the state level.
- The H965 and S2721 are Bills in the Legislature that, at best, won't be in effect until 2028 (*An Act Restricting the use of Rodenticides in the Environment*)
- These efforts have failed in the past, at least in part, due to the pesticide applicators lobby

It's Time for Local Legislation

- Over 100 local towns and cities are working on SGAR campaigns
- We can only restrict SGARs locally by asking the Commonwealth for a Home Rule Petition that allows us to set more stringent local regulations.
- Only then can modify our By-Laws to restrict SGARs within our Town

Newton

- “...**SGAR's are proven to not actually result in a decrease in the rat population**, there's no end to their use. Therefore, if you do use them, you'll always use them. Using a combination of prevention, birth control, gassing burrows, and other non-SGAR options will actually reduce the rat population to a level where the predators can help maintain a reasonable rat population.”

Josh Morse

Public Buildings Commissioner - Newton

Boston

“Boston property owners/renters seem to believe the rat poison bait boxes placed around property and area perimeters will compensate and/or substitute for good trash practices. Sound science research, however, has shown this practice (SGARs), without the elimination of the rat’s food sources, essentially 100% ineffective.”

Dr. Robert M. Corrigan

Urban Rodentologist

Boston Rat Action Plan

Prepared for the City of Boston

Office of the Mayor, Michelle Wu

Dion Irish, Chief of Operations

2024

Lowell

- The city of Lowell has stopped using SGARS since Banner Pest Control learned the hazards they cause to wildlife. They are strong supporters of the movement to limit SGARS.
- The City of Lowell uses Integrated Pest Control methods now.
- Poisons are only used in cases of severe infestation.

2003 Pesticide Reduction Task Force



- In 2003 Andover Board of Health recommended actions that included pesticide reduction and Integrated Pest Management.
- They could not enact pesticide programs that affected private property so they focused on municipal property and *education* for the public.

Everett Penney
Director of Public Health

2017 Pesticide Reduction Task Force Review



- The Town of Andover agrees with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) that “all pesticides are toxic to some degree..., and the commonplace, widespread use of pesticides is both a major environmental problem and a public health issue.”

Tom Carbone
Director of Public Health

Board Of Health Statement on Pesticides in 2003 and 2017



“Now therefore, The Board of Health for the Town of Andover hereby commits itself to the goal of reduction of the pesticide use in the Town of Andover, both on public and private property.”

BOARD OF HEALTH STATEMENT 2003 and 2017



- Whereas pesticides are by nature poisons and exposure, **even at low levels, may cause serious adverse health effects**; and
- Whereas, due to a variety of physiologic and age—related factors, **children are at increased risk** of cancer, neuro-behavioral impairment and other health problems as a result of their exposure to pesticides; and
- Whereas, many of the ingredients in pesticide products, alone and in combination, are not tested for their long-term toxic effects on the brain and nervous systems, the endocrine system, or the immune system; **nor have they been tested with the unique vulnerability of children in mind**; and
- Whereas, in addition to their intended effects, pesticides can also **harm non-target organisms (such as humans, pets, beneficial insect, aquatic and other wildlife)** and the environment; and
- Whereas according to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) all pesticides are toxic to some degree, and the commonplace, widespread use of the pesticides is both **a major environmental problem and a public health issue, and represents a threat to our drinking water supply**; and
- Whereas the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency believes that **most pesticides, despite having an EPA registration, have not been adequately tested** to determine their effects on people or the environment; and
- Whereas, it is in the best interest of the community health for all residents to learn about the hazards of pesticides, and **to adopt alternative techniques and approaches to all pest-related problems**:

We understand that this will be implemented by the Health Division

We request the Select Board provide the Health Division with the support they need to:

- provide assistance to Andover citizens to stop the reliance on toxic chemicals,
- identify alternative methods using IPM,
- and enforce an approved by-law.

We ask for a YES vote on
Article P35 from the Select
Board and for their
support of the Health
Division for
implementation





Select Board Meeting Minutes

Monday, February 23, 2026, at 6:30 PM

Town Offices, Select Board Room

36 Bartlet Street, Andover, MA 01810

Meetings are televised on Comcast Channel 22 and Verizon Channel 45

I. Call to Order – 6:30 P.M.

Chair Alex Vispoli called the meeting of February 23, 2026, to order at 6:30 P.M. The meeting was held remotely. Members Present: Alex Vispoli, Chair, Ellen Townson, Vice Chair Melissa Danish, Clerk, Laura Gregory and Kevin Coffey.

Also present: Town Manager Andrew Flanagan, Deputy Town Manager Mike Lindstrom, Deputy Town Manager and Town Clerk Austin Simko, Town Counsel, Doug Heim. Brittney Lavoie, Deputy Town Manager of Operations, Police Chief Keefe, and Phillip Geoffroy, Director of Communications.

II. Opening Ceremonies

A. Moment of Silence/Pledge of Allegiance

A moment of silence was observed followed by followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Kari Belson.

B. Recognition of Kari Belson, Eagle Scout from Troop 73

Mr. Vispoli introduced and spoke briefly of Kari's leadership and accomplishment at becoming the first female Eagle Scout in Andover. Her Troop Advisor, Mike Harvey spoke of her leadership, and Kari talked about her Eagle Scout project partnering with Challenge Inc. to produce videos on creative problem solving, while also being involved with community garden raised beds. Mr. Vispoli read a letter of Recognition from the Select Board, and Ms. Townson thanked Kari for being part of the scouting community which helps the town with various projects.

Mr. Vispoli thanked both Kari and Mr. Harvey.

III. Town Manager Report

Mr. Flanagan thanked DPW crews now in their 25th hour dealing with the snowstorm, and announced school will be cancelled tomorrow mainly due to sidewalks. Planning is ongoing as another storm due Wednesday. Thanked community for its patience. Noted fire hydrant shoveling for access. There has been a lot of staff turnover and use of contract workers, so Town will work to fix resident plowing issues as needed.

Positive news regarding West El, in addition to coming in under budget they attained the Lead Gold Certification, a noted Sustainable Building Design standard.

A public forum on redesign of town website will be held Tuesday March 10, at 5:30pm Town Seal Room. More information to follow.

Winter Fest was a success, this year over a thousand attendees over the day. Great collaboration between Conservation, Recreation and Youth Services.

Information meeting on synthetic turf issues on March 12 at 6:00 PM in the Select Board Room. Questions can be submitted in advance through the website.

A Weekend budget workshop will be held March 14th

Recruitment for three Director Level positions; Director of Conservation and Director of HR which are not in the final review stages, and a Director of Public Health to replace Tom Carbone. This position is complicated due to the changes in the field of municipal public health itself. It has been evolving beyond core needs within communities and services have likewise expanded. The fit needed is one where a job candidate can both meet existing job requirements and help grow the position into a broader scope going forward.

The Town contracted with BME, a firm specializing in local public health, to assess and improve the department with this broader scope in mind. As a result, there is renewed interest in this position due to clarity of the role and the support structure for it. Also, there will be an Interim Director, and the Select Board will have advice from Sigalle Reiss, former Brookline Health Department Head, leading up to Town Meeting.

Mr. Flanagan announced Phillip Geoffroy's title change from Director of Communications to Chief Communications Officer and explained some of the crossover functions within communications, technologies and HR Functions that will be better integrated. Mr. Geoffroy's strength in municipal communications will assist this process and in turn benefit the community. A Civil Media Division and Andover TV have led the way for further data input and communications.

Mr. Coffey asked about the role of the Director of Health regarding upcoming community discussions on PFAS in existing and proposed turf fields, and Mr. Flanagan said the new Health Director would be conversant in PFAS issues and will be available to interact with the community at the upcoming forums. Part of the hiring process involved a PFAS assessment to prioritize that assessment. Also, Sigalle Reiss, mentioned above, is one of the most experienced people in the area regarding PFAS.

A. [Update on Town's Coordination with National Grid](#)

Mr. Lindstrom gave an update on the reliability work National Grid has been working on. He said they have had a strong presence in Andover during these recent storms and were not available to be at tonight's meeting due to the weather. He showed a slide of recent Outages January 2024 to December 2025, and the seven neighborhoods identified at an earlier meeting in need of services which have now had tree trimming, fuse replacement, sensors called FLISRs installed to isolate outages, and other improvements which will finish in April.

Mr. Coffey asked about damage to residences and businesses over a month ago, and whether measures described in the update would have prevented that damage. Mr. Lindstrom responded that a private tree caused that earlier damage and he will share the official statement from National Grid with the Board.

Mr. Simko announced the Annual Town Election will be held one month from tomorrow, and the Clerk's office is preparing mail-in ballots for those requesting them and they will go out next week.

Ms. Nicosia said she supports Melissa Eusdon regarding a second reading on the proposed EV Policy.

IV. Communications/Announcements/Liaison Reports

Ms. Danisch noted the Tree Committee, in support of the 250th celebration, will be giving away free trees to the public on Arbor Day this April. Also, AYS is having its third annual job/ volunteer and career fair March 11 from 4-6PM. She also thanked all for keeping streets clear.

Ms. Townson thanked the Town for its departmental collaboration with the Winter Fest which went from 40 to nearly 1000 attendees just in the last year or so. She said it was a great success and is looking forward to next year's event.

Mentioned trees in reported in Tree Committee giveaway are bigger than the saplings given away last year.

Ms. Gregory gave kudos to those involved in Winter Fest and noted Mass Save is hosting a Program on Sustainability at 7 pm at the Memorial Hall Library, February 26, 2026.

Mr. Coffey the noted the street plowing in town and said there was very little traffic. He also suggested a committee be set up to respond to concerns in an email from Jesse Jacobson outlining ideas for reducing cut through traffic and improving safety in Andover. Mr. Vispoli said direct meetings with the person who wrote letter have taken place.

Mr. Vispoli noted the March 7,2026, Second Coffee with Select Board event at the Robb Center.

V. Public Comment

Michael Silverman 54 Tewksbury Street said the DPW did a good job with roads, but some plows today plowed only one side of the road and in some instances hit cleared asphalt. Mr. Vispoli will put Mr. Silverman in touch with Carlos Jaquez.

VI. Public Hearings

A. National Grid – Lowell Junction Road

Board to review and consider voting to approve an application from National Grid and Verizon requesting permission to locate, erect and maintain poles, wires, and fixtures, including the necessary sustaining and protecting fixtures, along and across the public way hereinafter named in accordance with the plan filed herewith marked - Lowell Junction Road - Andover, Massachusetts.

Mr. Simko said National Grid was not present tonight due to snowstorm; this item was kept on the agenda to continue to a date certain which would be the next Select Board meeting on March 9.

Ms. Townson moved to continue the National Grid-Lowell Junction Road Hearing to the Select Board Meeting on March 9, 2026. Ms. Gregory seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

Roll Call: Mr. Coffey, Y; Ms. Danisch, Y; Ms. Townson. Y, Ms. Gregory, Y; Mr. Vispoli, Y.

B. Eversource Gas – Kathleen Drive, Marie Drive, Highland Road and Summer Street

Board to review and consider voting to approve an application from Eversource Gas of Massachusetts to trench the length of Kathleen Drive, Marie Drive, and Highland Road from Summer Street to Kathleen Drive for the purposes of abandoning 4,714' of existing

bare steel and unprotected coated steel main and replacing it with 4,985' of HDPE gas main. All associated services will be replaced or tied over as part of the project.

Tanner Hyslop an Engineer with Eversource Gas, gave an update on this project. A slide of Eversource Energy Street Overview was shown. The gas mains of steel at Kathleen Drive and Marie Ave. are being replaced with high pressure plastic pipes. Summer and Highland are included in the permit as the pipes will go from those streets to Kathleen and Marie. Old mains will be deactivated and abandoned with service tied over to the main lines.

Mr. Vispoli asked about sequencing and Mr. Hyslop said this project is likely to get pushed to 2027 with an April start date. It will take most of the construction season and work with local police and residents to avoid hold ups. There is a lack of construction crews at this time.

Mr. Heim said he didn't think we had to act on approval within a specific timeframe since we are being given notice of delay. Mr. Vispoli asked how residents would be informed if the project is ongoing a year from now, and Mr. Hyslop said letters will go to residents.

Ms. Danisch asked about oversight to ensure there is not another construction project glitch like the gas explosions, but Mr. Hyslop responded those were caused by proximity to pressure regulation stations-- which is not a situation in this project. If pushed to next year all stakeholders will be involved.

Mr. Coffey asked whether leaving abandoning pipe in the ground was standard practice and it is for gas companies.

There was no public comment.

Miss Danish moved to approve the application from Eversource Gas of Massachusetts to trench the length of Kathleen Drive Marie Drive and Highland Road from Summer Street to Kathleen Drive for purposes of abandoning 4,714' of existing bare steel and unprotected coated steel main and replacing it with 4,985' of HDPE gas main. Ms. Townson seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

Roll Call: Ms. Townson, Y; Ms. Gregory, Y; Ms. Danisch, Y; Mr. Coffey, Y; Mr. Vispoli, Y.

Mr. Vispoli thanked Mr. Hyslop and asked to be informed when sequence of project is known.

C. De Minimis Impact Determination

Upon request of the Massachusetts Department of Transportation, Board to consider a De Minimis Impact Determination for the permanent and temporary easements on Shawsheen River Conservation Area adjacent to the Tewksbury Street Bridge since this parcel is protected under Section 4(f). Board to consider voting to approve position to support.

Sam Campbell, Environmental Department Head from Greenman-Pedersen, Inc. (GPI) and Michael Shustack, PE, Director of Structural Engineering & Project Manager from Mass DOT, gave a brief overview of the Tewksbury Street Over CSX Railroad Bridge Replacement Project. Mr. Shustack presented photos of the bridge built in 1980 and noted the poor condition of the underneath beams which now result in load restrictions. The new bridge will be safer, eliminating a dangerous sight

distance line. in the middle of the bridge, provide sidewalks add an extra travel lane. The process will be three years with construction taking two years, and bridge replacement will be done in stages for a minimum impact to the area.

Also, the Town is being asked for a letter of support for this project and a section 4f determination that use of easements to be placed on public-owned conservation land would be de minimis --meaning the conservation area would be only minimally impacted by easements for grading, erosion control and alterations to the property. Also, less than 1 % of the seven-plus acres would be impacted at the 126 Tewksbury Street project site formerly owned by Reichold Chemicals. Easement areas were highlighted on plans shown to the Board. Concurrence from the Board and signature from Board Chair in support are next steps.

Mr. Heim added there was a design hearing in May 2025, regarding this protected land. All town and other permissions must be in place to establish this small area for a permanent easement. Conservation Commission approvals will be sought at a later time. Mr. Vispoli noted that the Town purchased this land which then became Conservation Commission property through a dog park land swap. Erosion controls will be in place.

Mr. Coffey asked whether the Select Board should get Conservation Commission's position before rendering a Select Board position, and Mr. Heim said the matter of the de minimis finding is the narrow issue before the Board now. Conservation has been involved in this process. Access will not be impacted throughout and after this process is completed.

Ms. Danisch moved to authorize the Chair of the Select Board to transmit a letter of support for Massachusetts Department of Transportation's Tewksbury Street Bridge Replacement Project on behalf of the Board. Ms. Townson seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

Mr. Coffey, Y; Ms. Danisch, Y; Ms. Gregroy, Y; Ms. Townson, Y; Mr. Vispoli, Y

VII. Regular Business

A. Zero Emission First Vehicle Policy – 2nd Reading

Board to receive a presentation by Director of Sustainability and Energy and consider voting to adopt the Zero Emission First Vehicle Policy. Mr. Vispoli gave the second reading.

Mr. Flanagan said the proposed ZEV policy differed from existing policy, but it is likely only one in ten vehicles currently in the fleet would be subject to review for alternate electrified vehicles, and, from both cost and service levels, there would not be much impact. The vehicles would not involve emergency response vehicles, rather small transport vehicles such as meals on wheels vans might be impacted. Also, EV vehicles and charging stations might be available at no cost through grants. The Town Manager would still be able to review vehicles for an electric option.

Mr. Coffey asked about the estimated cost and placement of the proposed charging stations. Mr. Flanagan responded that charging stations might be placed at the public safety center and town yard for town vehicles grandfathered, and at this point there may be an opportunity for grant-funded municipal vehicles.

Mrs. Townson said she knows most vehicles in fleet that would not qualify but asked if there were initiatives for some of the bigger vehicles, and Melissa Eusdon said bucket trucks and other DPW vehicles are being electrified-- but this is a slow process.

Ms. Gregory moved to approve the Zero Emission First Vehicle Policy as presented. Ms. Danisch seconded. The motion passed 5=0.

Roll Call: Mr. Coffey, Y; Ms. Danisch, Y; Ms. Gregory, Y; Ms. Townson, Y; Mr. Vispoli, Y.

B. March 24, 2026 Annual Town Election Warrant

Board to consider voting to approve March 24, 2026, Annual Town Election Warrant.

Mr. Simko noted warrant in packet. The candidates are on the ballot.

Ms. Danisch moved to approve and vote to sign the March 24, 2026, Annual Town Election Warrant. Ms. Townson seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

Roll Call: Ms. Townson, Y; Ms. Gregory, Y; Ms. Danisch, Y; Mr. Coffey, Y; Mr. Vispoli, Y.

Mr. Simko said this warrant must be signed by Board members and he will email the Board a reminder.

C. Designation of Emergency Election Polling Place

Board to consider delegating to the Town Clerk the authority to designate an alternate election polling location(s) in the event of an emergency.

Mr. Simko said when Board approves the warrant and if polling place needed to be changed then Clerk can make the choice of an alternate polling place in the event of an emergency.

Ms. Townson moved to approve the Board's delegation to the Town Clerk, the authority to designate an alternate election polling location(s) for all the elections in 2026 in the event of an emergency. Ms. Danisch seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

Roll Call: Mr. Coffey, Y; Ms. Danisch, Y; Ms. Gregory, Y; Ms. Townson, Y; Mr. Vispoli, Y.

D. Annual Town Meeting Articles

Board to consider voting to take a position on the following articles:

P11	<p>Dissolution of Revolving Funds—Mr. Flanagan said every year Town Meeting reauthorizers existing revolving fund. Asking Town Meeting to dissolve professional development revolving fund as its limited use (specific curriculum) no longer needed. Interim Superintendent is on Board.</p> <p>Ms. Townson moved to recommend Town Meeting Approval of Article P11 "Dissolution of Revolving Funds". Ms. Danisch seconded. The motion passed 5-0</p> <p>Roll Call: Ms. Townson, Y; Ms. Gregory, Y; Ms. Danisch, Y, Mr. Coffey, Y; Mr. Vispoli, Y,</p>
P12	<p>Minor Financial Articles (A through E) Mr. Flanagan listed these articles which include overlay surplus, additional costs for 250th celebration, Spring Grove Care recommended \$106K with updated planning and capacity for perpetual care, Town meeting cost offsets for primaries, and multiple elections, Silverman fireworks ensure funds for 30-minute show.</p>

	<p>Mr. Coffey questioned the \$100K planning amount for Spring Grove cemetery and Mr. Flanagan will get more info to Board prior to Town Meeting to support DPW recommendation.</p> <p>Ms. Danisch moved to recommend Town Meeting Approval of Article P12 “Minor Financial Articles (A through E.) Ms. Gregory seconded. The motion passed 5-0.</p> <p>Roll Call: Ms. Townson, Y; Ms. Gregory, Y; Ms. Danisch, Y; Mr. Coffey, Y, Mr. Vispoli, Y.</p>
P18	<p>Water Treatment Plant Maintenance: Mr. Flanagan said P18 and P19 one water, one sewer, both annual articles. Maintenance for both funded in maintenance articles is \$650K total for water and \$350K for sewer.</p> <p>Ms. Danisch moved to recommend Town Meeting Approval of Article P18 “Water Treatment Plant Maintenance”. Ms. Townson seconded. The motion passed 5-0.</p> <p>Roll Call: Mr. Coffey, Y; Ms. Danisch, Y; Ms. Gregory, Y; Ms. Gregory, Ms. Townson, Y; Mr. Vispoli, Y.</p>
P19	<p>Sewer Collection System Maintenance—Mr. Flanagan appropriated from rates \$350K same amount as previous years.</p> <p>Ms. Danisch moved to recommend Town Meeting Approval of Article P19 “Sewer Collection System Maintenance.” Ms. Townson seconded. The motion passed 5-0.</p> <p>Roll Call: Ms. Townson, Y; Ms. Gregory, Y; Ms. Danisch, Y; Mr. Coffey, Y. Mr. Vispoli, Y.</p>
P20	<p>Indemnification of Public Safety Medical Costs—Mr. Flanagan said this is basically Public Safety worker’s comp and can vary in amount from year to year. Town pays medical expenses for public safety personnel. Mr. Coffey whether funds from levy and it is.</p> <p>Ms. Danisch moved to recommend Town Meeting Approval of Article P20 “Indemnification of Public Safety Medical Costs.” Mr. Coffey seconded. The motion passed 5-0.</p> <p>Roll Call: Ms. Townson, Y; Ms. Gregory, Y; Ms. Danisch, Y, Mr. Coffey, Y; Mr. Vispoli, Y.</p>
P23	<p>Bylaw Amendment – Soliciting Permits—Mr. Heim said P23 goes along with P24. Andover has an outdated Solicitation By-Law as it is too restrictive. No criteria for vendors who solicit door to door to sell goods/services, and this has been highlighted by some vendors. Updates would be straightforward and would address First Amendment concerns. Reason for solicitation can vary, and hours may need to be extended.</p> <p>Chief Keefe said he would be in favor of a “no solicitation list” to be given up front to solicitors. Ms. Danisch said difference between solicitation vs.</p>

	<p>canvassing and the Registry would not cover non-commercial purposes. Mr. Heim said to include language as to what Solicitation means.</p> <p>Mr. Coffey asked what the Registry would look like and how and when it would be updated operationally. Mr. Heim said voluntary list to be updated and electronic updates to reside with the Town Clerks Office. Electronic version to authorized vendors. Chief Keefe said there could be a reach out to towns that have such lists and see how they handle. Mr. Vispoli said this will bring the Town into compliance and thanked Chief Keefe and to Mr. Heim for putting the information together. Ms. Gregory asked about annual updates. New lists each season should be checked by solicitors.</p> <p>Ms. Gregory moved to recommend Town Meeting Approval of Article P23 "Bylaw Amendment -No Soliciting." It was seconded by Ms. Danisch. The motion passed 5-0.</p> <p>Roll Call: Ms. Townson, Y; Ms. Gregory, Y; Ms. Danisch, Y; Mr. Coffey, Y; Mr. Vispoli, Y.</p>
P24	<p>Bylaw Amendment – No Solicitation Registry Mr. Heim said this would allow collection of information on those who do not want solicitors at their house.</p> <p>Ms. Gregory moved to recommend Town Meeting Approval of Article P 24 "Bylaw Amendment No Solicitation Registry." Ms. Danisch seconded. The motion passed 5-0.</p> <p>Roll Call: Mr. Coffey, Y; Ms. Danisch, Y; Ms. Gregroy, Y; Ms. Townson, Y; Mr. Vispoli, Y.</p>
P31	<p>Home Rule Petition – Bylaw Amendment – Electric Bicycle Registry</p> <p>Mr. Heim explained that the Select Board could petition the General Court for a home rule petition for a bylaw to create an e-bike registry and explained how that would impact users including visitors to Andover. There is a sticker program indicating registry with the Town. A registry would be a useful tool to help with safety concerns raised by Chief Keefe about these bikes. Licenses are not needed unless e-bikes are modified to fall outside that classification and become more like motorbikes which do require licenses and insurance. There would also be an opportunity to educate the public about speed regulations and road use. Ms. Danisch submitted suggestions and noted a registry would assist the APD with enforcing rules and noted some e-bikes are used for commercial delivery service which falls outside the 14-day rule for visitors. Mr. Vispoli said this initiative complements some of the educational pieces undertaken in town such as Bike rodeos that emphasize safety. Ms. Gregory and Ms. Townson discussed whether a legal definition of bikes would be helpful. Chief Keefe agreed a definition should be in the bylaw and Mr. Heim said there is a state law definition of class 1 and 2 vehicles. Ms. Gregory said it would be a good idea to have this in the bylaw.</p>

<p>Ms. Townson moved to recommend Town Meeting Approval of Article P31 "Home Rule Petition-Bylaw Amendment-Electric Bicycle Registry." With the addition of comments discussed and agreed upon this evening. Ms. Danisch seconded and the motion passed 5-0.</p> <p>Roll Call: Mr. Coffey, Y; Ms. Danisch, Y; Ms. Gregory, Y; Ms. Townson, Y; Mr. Vispoli, Y.</p>

VIII. Approval of Minutes

- A. Board to approve minutes from the following meeting:
 1. February 9, 2026

Ms. Danish moved to approve the meeting minutes from February 9, 2026, Select Board Meeting. Ms. Townson seconded. The Motion passed 5-0.

Mr. Coffey, Y; Ms. Danisch, Y; Ms. Gregory, Y; Ms. Townson, Y; Mr. Vispoli, Y.

IX. Adjourn

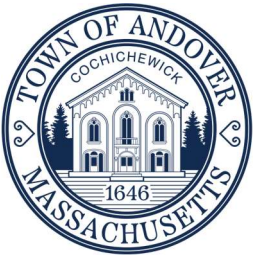
Mr. Coffey moved to adjourn the meeting AT 9:34pm. Ms. Danisch seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

Roll Call: Mr. Coffey, Y; Ms. Danisch, Y; Ms. Gregory, Y; Ms. Townson, Y; Mr. Vispoli, Y.

Summary of Town Manager Staff Appointments

The Town Manager is pleased to announce the following appointments:

Department	Name	Position	Date of Hire	Rate/Term
Administration & Finance/Human Resources	Julie Zielinski <i>(Christine Barraford)</i>	Administrative Coordinator	02/23/2026	\$81,000/year
Community Services	Molly Lowell <i>(Lisa Van Campen)</i>	Business Coordinator	02/23/2026	\$86,082/year
Community Services - Recreation	Laura Downs <i>(Hannah Wilen)</i>	Kid Care Programmer	03/02/2026	\$68,361/year



Andrea Dimitriadis
Town Accountant

TOWN OF ANDOVER

Accounting
36 Bartlet Street
Andover, MA 01810
978-623-8920
www.andoverma.gov

To: Select Board
Finance Committee
School Committee

From: Andrea Dimitriadis, Town Accountant

CC: Andrew Flanagan, Michael Lindstrom, Austin Simko, Brittney Lavoie, Hayley Green,
Keith Taverna, Martha Sybert, Tara Bicknell, Town Website

Date: March 9, 2026

Re: ***FY 2026 Financials***

The attached reports summarize the Town's financial position through January 31, 2026.
Included are the following:

- Executive Summary
- Budgeted versus Actual Revenues – General Fund and Enterprise Funds
- Revenue Comparison Graphs
- Personal Services and Other Expenditures by Department
- Reserve Account and Compensation Fund Analysis
- Chapter 44 § 53 E ½ Revolving Funds
- Capital Projects status – FY20 – FY26

Feel free to contact me, should you have any questions regarding the reports.

The attached reports of the Town Accountant summarize FY 2026 revenues and expenditures for the General Fund, Enterprise Funds, Reserve Fund, Revolving Funds and Capital Projects through January 31, 2026.

General Fund

The total general fund receipts of all sources collected through January 31, 2026 are ahead of the annual projections through the first seven months of the year. FY 2026 local receipts are \$1,109,541 greater than FY 2025 collections through the same period. Primary drivers of the increase include one large tax title that was redeemed in July 2025 and large building permits issued throughout the year. In FY 2026 off-set receipts for public facilities rentals were moved to a revolving fund, leaving a single contracted lease revenue in that account. Excluding the rentals, off-set receipts collections are \$160,305 less than FY 2025 collections throughout the same period and are slightly below current year projections. This is mainly due to decreased ambulance receipts in December and January, which are expected to pick up in February.

General fund personal services are below FY 2026 projections through January 2026. Other expenses are in line with FY 2026 projections through January 2026. Encumbrances are adjusted throughout the year.

Water Enterprise Fund

The total water enterprise fund collections are exceeding projections through January 2026. The user charges receipts are \$374,403 more than FY 2025 through the same period due to increased rates and consumption. Water personal services and other expenses are in line with FY 2026 projections through January 2026.

Sewer Enterprise Fund

The total sewer enterprise fund collections are in line with projections through January 2026. The user charges receipts are \$311,753 more than prior year receipts through the same period due to increased rates and consumption. Sewer personal services and other expenses are below with FY 2026 projections through January 2026.

Reserve Fund

Town Meeting approved a reserve fund balance of \$200,000. This money has not been used through January 2026.

Compensation Fund

Town Meeting approved a compensation fund balance of \$1,135,000. This money has not been used through January 2026.

Revolving Accounts

Town Meeting voted to approve 19 revolving funds with a total spending limit of \$3,780,000. The Finance Committee and Select Board will consider adjustments to spending limits in the Spring.

Capital Projects

These projects are part of the Town's capital improvement plan voted at Town Meeting from taxation. There is a balance of \$3,184,897 available for the most recent seven years of approved projects.

Town of Andover
FY 2026 General Fund Year-To-Date Revenue Report
Budgeted vs. Actuals 1/31/2026 and 1/31/2025

	FY 26 Budgeted Receipts	FY 26 YTD Revenues	% Collected	FY 25 Budgeted Receipts	FY 25 YTD Revenues	% Collected	Change in Budgets	Change in YTD Receipts
Local Receipts								
Motor Vehicle Excise	6,000,000	1,033,563	17.2%	5,822,661	1,179,984	20.3%	177,339	(146,421)
Hotel/Motel/Meals	2,565,000	1,892,612	73.8%	1,869,326	1,861,090	99.6%	695,674	31,521
Penalties and Interest on Taxes and Excises	480,000	1,115,949	232.5%	480,000	325,343	67.8%	-	790,606
Fees	31,000	230,881	744.8%	61,000	15,004	24.6%	(30,000)	215,878
Payments in Lieu of Taxes	491,129	-	0.0%	479,150	-	0.0%	11,979	-
Other Departmental Revenues	213,586	116,443	54.5%	276,586	77,602	28.1%	(63,000)	38,841
Other Departmental Revenues - School Medicare	200,000	234,771	117.4%	200,000	146,598	73.3%	-	88,174
Non-Recurring Revenues	-	2,761	N/A	-	-	N/A	-	2,761
Licenses and Permits	2,620,308	2,341,984	89.4%	2,391,502	1,870,143	78.2%	228,806	471,841
Fines & Forfeits	137,500	142,918	103.9%	118,766	164,712	138.7%	18,734	(21,793)
Investment Income	505,000	2,283,608	452.2%	222,552	2,645,473	1188.7%	282,448	(361,864)
Special Assessments	-	39	N/A	-	40	N/A	-	(2)
Total Estimated Receipts	13,243,523	9,395,530	70.9%	11,921,543	8,285,989	69.5%	1,321,980	1,109,541
Off-Set Receipts								
Recreation	655,500	219,785	33.5%	498,531	191,477	38.4%	156,969	28,308
Elder Services	106,000	61,305	57.8%	120,000	71,690	59.7%	(14,000)	(10,385)
Public Facilities - Rental Receipts	-	14,833	N/A	105,000	62,372	59.4%	(105,000)	(47,539)
Cemetery - Interment Fees	60,000	30,101	50.2%	76,000	38,576	50.8%	(16,000)	(8,475)
Public Safety - Police Detail Fees	70,000	110,707	158.2%	55,000	47,435	86.2%	15,000	63,271
Public Safety / Fire - Ambulance Receipts	1,900,000	1,031,015	54.3%	1,768,000	1,264,039	71.5%	132,000	(233,024)
Total Off-Set Receipts	2,791,500	1,467,745	52.6%	2,622,531	1,675,589	63.9%	168,969	(207,844)
Other Revenues								
Property Taxes (inc. Tax Titles)	197,885,008	139,427,679	70.5%	191,831,670	135,358,644	70.6%	6,053,338	4,069,035
State Aid	18,035,727	10,521,850	58.3%	17,181,262	10,039,520	58.4%	854,465	482,330
Total Other Revenues	215,920,735	149,949,529	69.4%	209,012,932	145,398,164	69.6%	6,907,803	4,551,365
Total Revenues	231,955,758	160,812,803	69.3%	223,557,006	155,359,742	69.5%	8,398,752	5,453,062

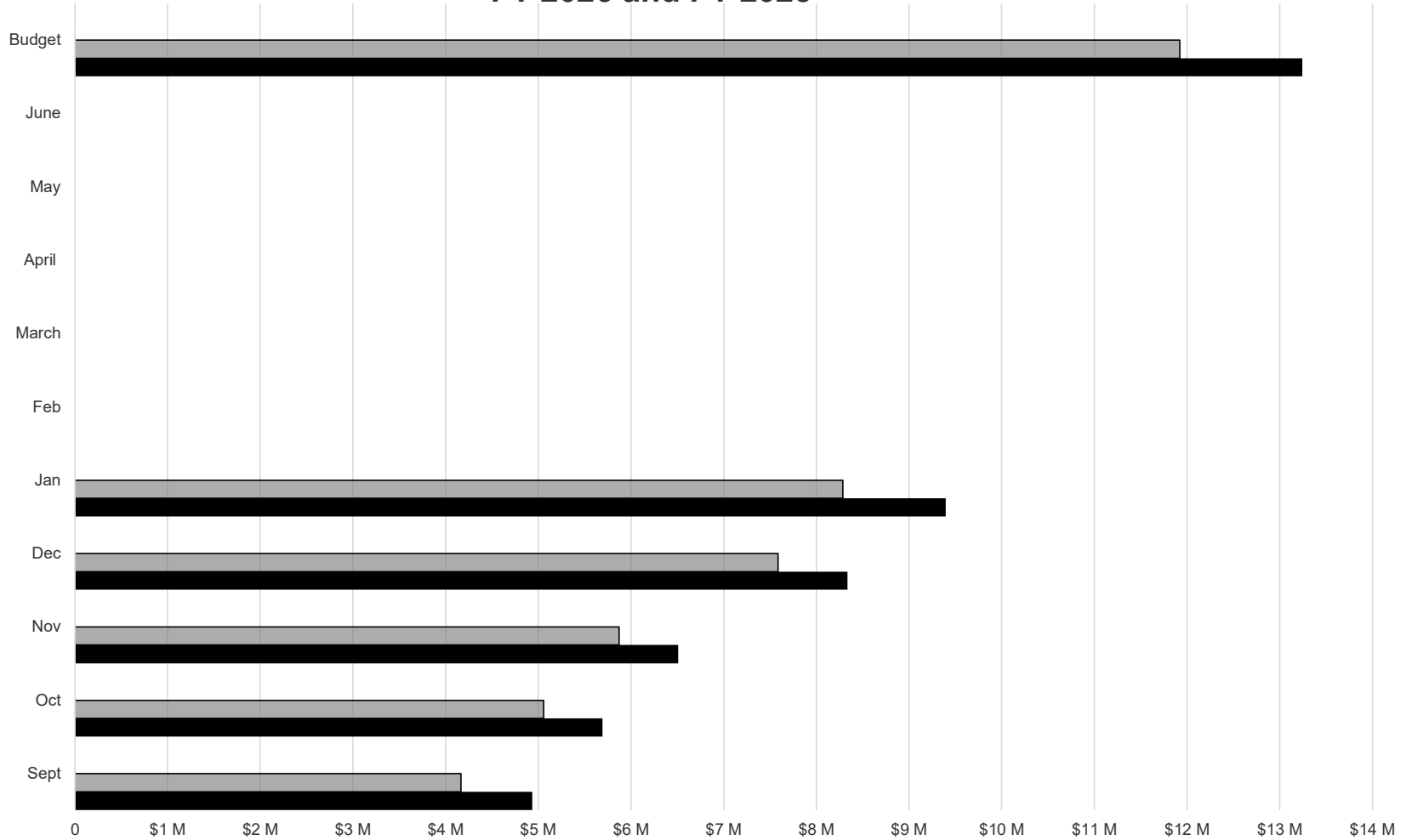
Town of Andover
FY 2026 Enterprise Funds Year-To-Date Revenue Report
Budgeted vs. Actuals 1/31/2026 and 1/31/2025

Water Fund	FY 26 Budgeted Receipts	FY 26 YTD Revenues	% Collected	FY 25 Budgeted Receipts	FY 25 YTD Revenues	% Collected	Change in Budgets	Change in YTD Receipts
User Charges - Andover	12,005,359	7,854,774	65.4%	9,823,064	7,480,371	76.2%	2,182,295	374,403
User Charges - North Reading	2,394,401	1,557,963	65.1%	2,251,154	1,391,209	61.8%	143,247	166,753
Water Connection	15,000	6,290	41.9%	15,000	8,177	54.5%	-	(1,887)
Water Testing Fees	22,000	4,830	22.0%	20,000	9,646	48.2%	2,000	(4,816)
Meter Installations	9,000	4,955	55.1%	9,000	4,275	47.5%	-	680
Fire Flow Test	6,000	5,001	83.4%	6,000	4,273	71.2%	-	728
Special/Final Reads	25,000	10,535	42.1%	25,000	10,907	43.6%	-	(371)
Backflow/Cross Connection Fees	95,000	81,084	85.4%	55,000	41,900	76.2%	40,000	39,184
Water Tap	-	150	N/A	-	600	N/A	-	(450)
Liens	80,000	46,233	57.8%	80,000	48,142	60.2%	-	(1,909)
Fire Services	290,000	160,466	55.3%	290,000	334,433	115.3%	-	(173,967)
Interest /Misc Revenue	-	1,459	N/A	-	397	N/A	-	1,063
Non-Revenue Interest	26,445	33,164	125.4%	26,445	20,021	75.7%	-	13,144
Total Water Receipts	14,968,205	9,766,904	65.3%	12,600,663	9,354,349	74.2%	2,367,542	412,555

Sewer Fund	FY 26 Budgeted Receipts	FY 26 YTD Revenues	% Collected	FY 25 Budgeted Receipts	FY 25 YTD Revenues	% Collected	Change in Budgets	Change in YTD Receipts
User Charges	5,918,365	3,549,858	60.0%	5,061,671	3,238,105	64.0%	856,694	311,753
Committed Interest/Income	75,000	22,088	29.5%	80,000	38,857	48.6%	(5,000)	(16,769)
Liens	49,174	21,346	43.4%	65,000	36,138	55.6%	(15,826)	(14,792)
Apport Assmnts	290,000	157,706	54.4%	300,000	165,685	55.2%	(10,000)	(7,979)
Interest /Misc Revenue	-	1,658	N/A	-	445	N/A	-	1,213
Non-Revenue Interest	45,000	37,955	84.3%	20,000	31,088	155.4%	25,000	6,868
Total Sewer Receipts	6,377,539	3,790,612	59.4%	5,526,671	3,510,317	63.5%	850,868	280,294

Total Enterprise Revenues	21,345,744	13,557,516	63.5%	18,127,334	12,864,667	70.97%	3,218,410	692,849
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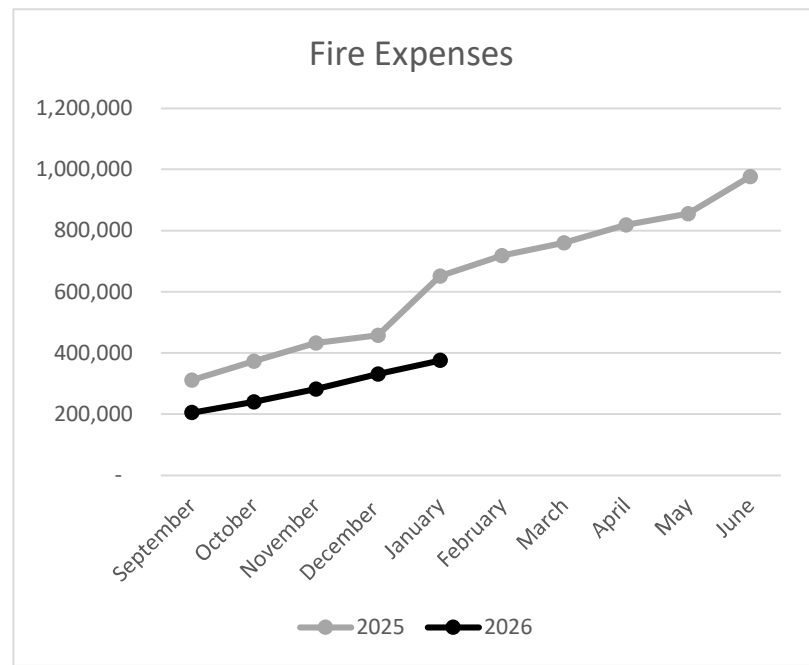
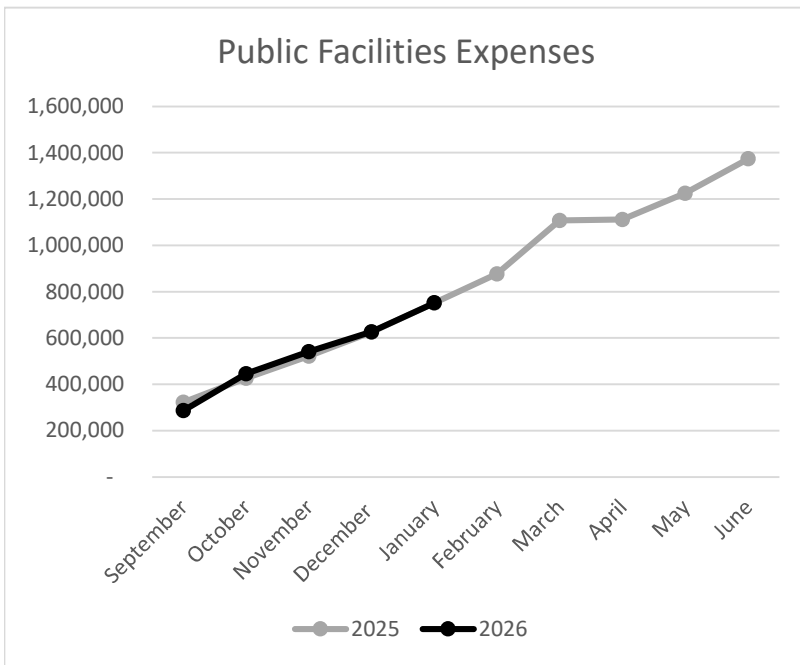
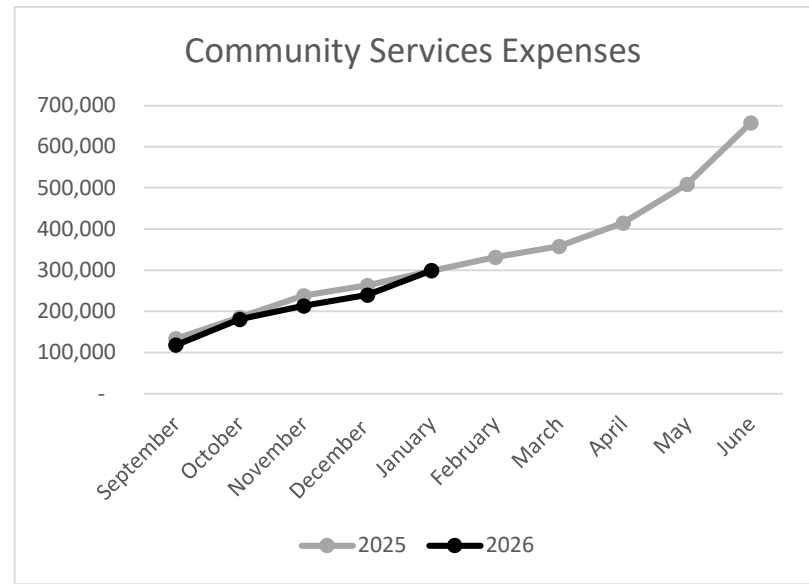
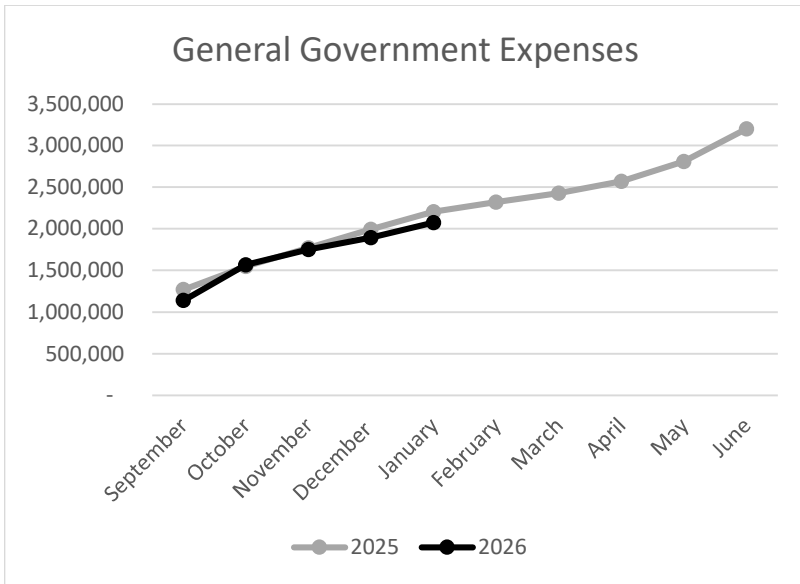
Town of Andover Local Receipts FY 2026 and FY 2025



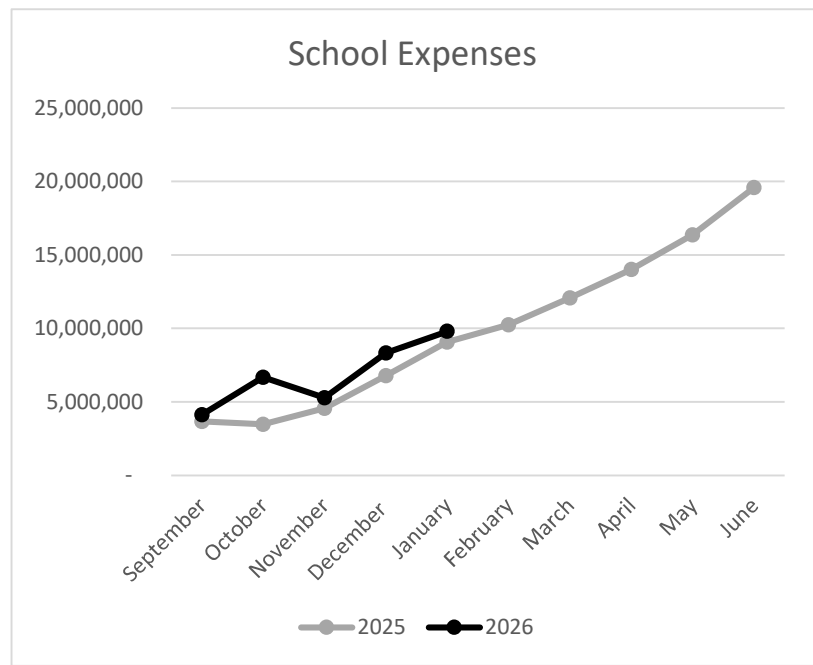
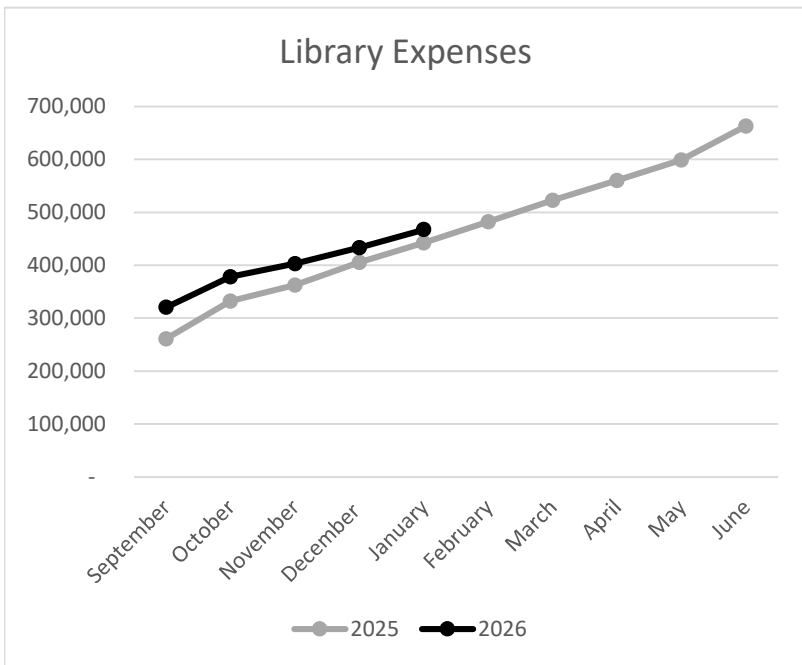
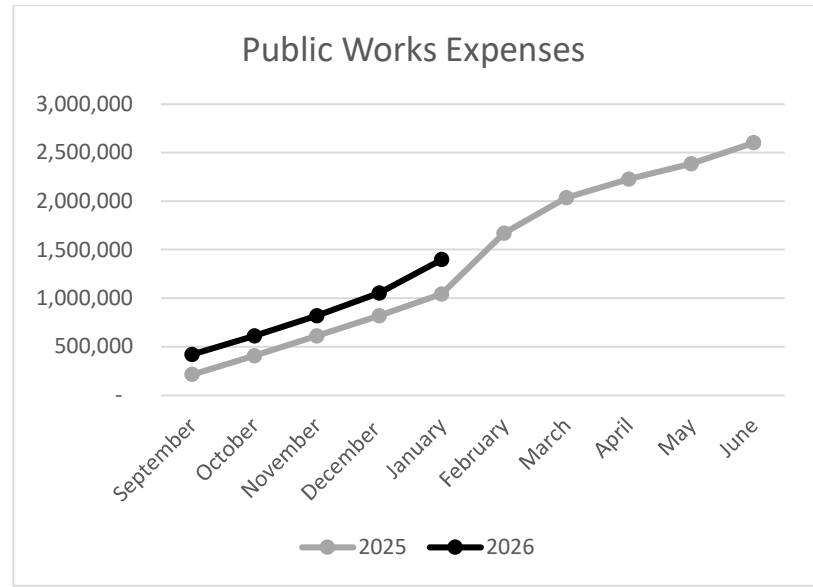
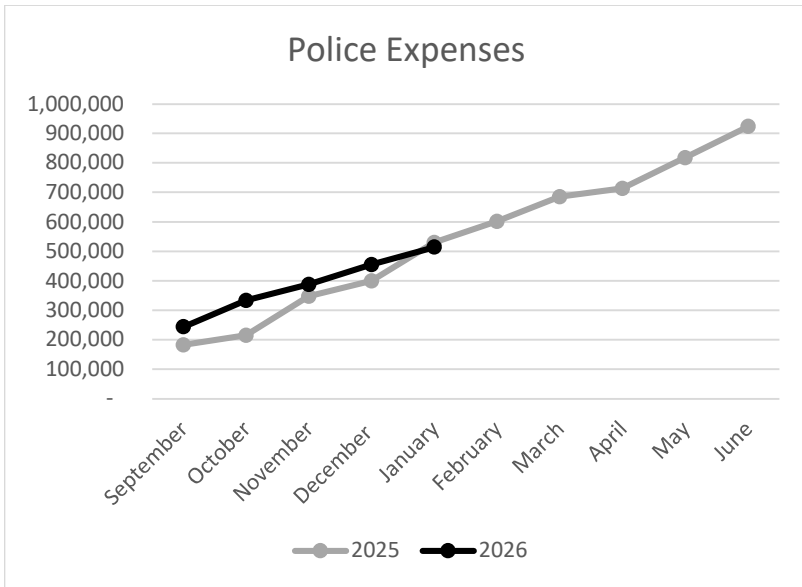
	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	Budget
■ FY 2025 % of Budget	34.9%	42.4%	49.3%	63.6%	69.5%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%
■ FY 2026 % of Budget	37.3%	43.0%	49.1%	62.9%	70.9%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%
■ FY 2025 Receipts	\$4,165,383	\$5,057,731	\$5,872,141	\$7,586,509	\$8,285,989	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$11,921,543
■ FY 2026 Receipts	\$4,934,701	\$5,692,721	\$6,508,286	\$8,335,984	\$9,395,530	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$13,243,523

Town of Andover
FY 2026 Year-To-Date Budget Report
Personal Services and Other Expenditures thru 1/31/2026

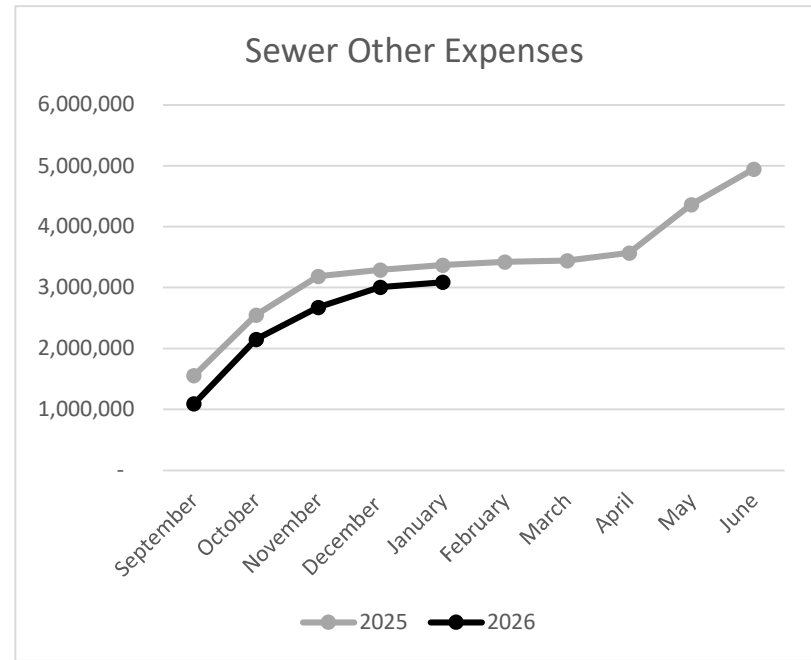
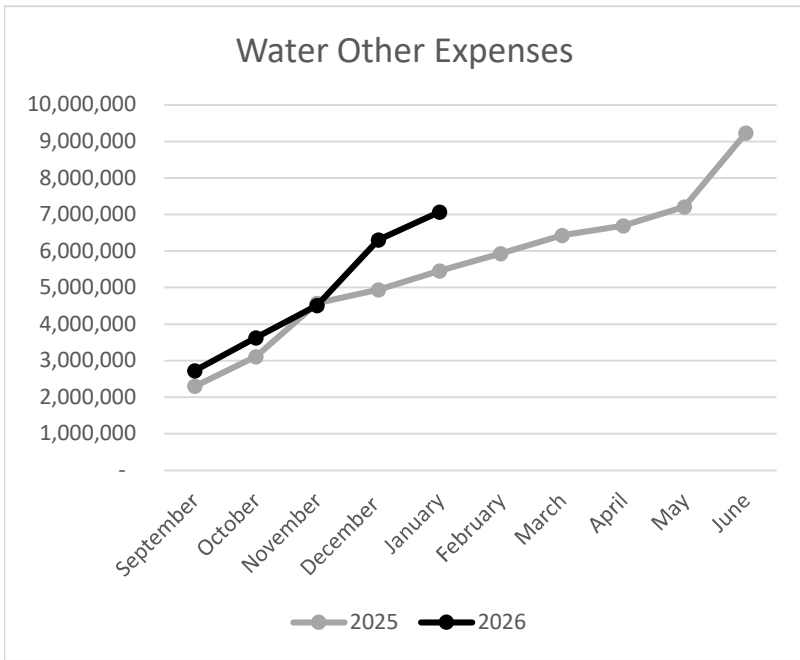
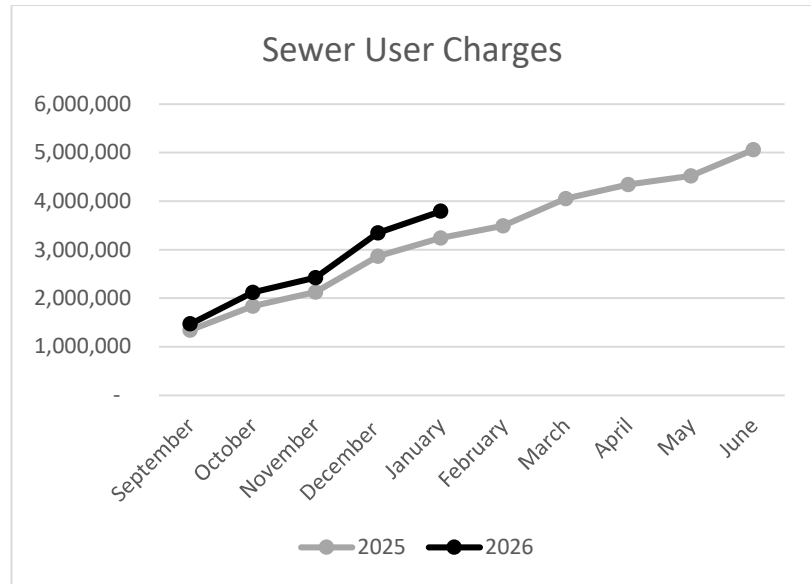
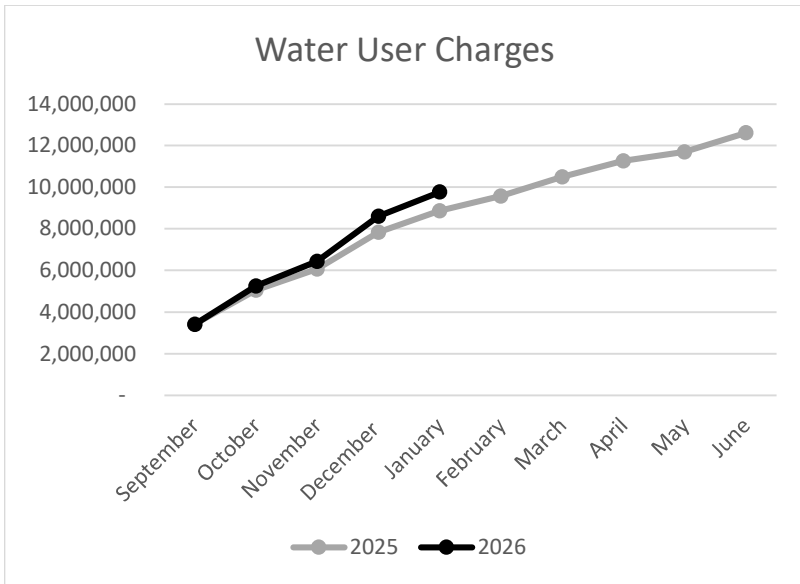
	Original Appropriation	Transfers/ Adjustments	Revised Budget	YTD Expended	Encumbrances	Available Balance	% Expended & Encumbered	% Expended
Personal Services								
General Government	8,271,986	49,993	8,321,979	4,772,027	-	3,549,953	57.3%	57.3%
Community Services	1,749,507	-	1,749,507	1,149,261	-	600,246	65.7%	65.7%
Public Facilities	2,904,536	-	2,904,536	1,698,611	-	1,205,925	58.5%	58.5%
Public Safety - Fire	9,904,032	-	9,904,032	6,154,142	-	3,749,890	62.1%	62.1%
Public Safety - Police	8,964,141	64,289	9,028,430	5,228,168	-	3,800,261	57.9%	57.9%
Public Works	3,812,649	-	3,812,649	2,417,175	-	1,395,474	63.4%	63.4%
Library	2,445,706	-	2,445,706	1,448,311	-	997,395	59.2%	59.2%
Solid Waste	110,337	-	110,337	65,690	-	44,647	59.5%	59.5%
School	85,692,573	-	85,692,573	39,891,258	43,610,023	2,191,292	97.4%	46.6%
Compensation Fund	1,135,000	-	1,135,000	-	-	1,135,000	0.0%	0.0%
Total Personal Services - General Fund	124,990,467	114,282	125,104,749	62,824,641	43,610,023	18,670,084	85.1%	50.2%
Water Enterprise	2,487,559	-	2,487,559	1,408,422	-	1,079,137	56.6%	56.6%
Sewer Enterprise	471,432	-	471,432	196,511	-	274,921	41.7%	41.7%
Total Personal Services - Enterprise Funds	2,958,991	-	2,958,991	1,604,933	-	1,354,058	54.2%	54.2%
Other Expenses								
General Government	3,068,616	169,215	3,237,831	2,075,548	403,599	758,684	76.6%	64.1%
Community Services	738,500	21,577	760,077	299,401	194,362	266,314	65.0%	39.4%
Public Facilities	1,533,650	71,678	1,605,328	752,206	524,565	328,557	79.5%	46.9%
Public Safety - Fire	749,000	74,673	823,673	375,659	179,705	268,310	67.4%	45.6%
Public Safety - Police	1,048,300	31,045	1,079,345	514,672	279,915	284,758	73.6%	47.7%
Public Works	2,640,429	423,709	3,064,138	1,398,858	1,515,927	149,353	95.1%	45.7%
Library	694,235	8,053	702,288	467,440	201,749	33,099	95.3%	66.6%
Solid Waste	4,193,563	406,861	4,600,424	2,374,993	2,282,685	(57,254)	101.2%	51.6%
School	20,904,562	1,797,931	22,702,493	9,813,101	10,663,683	2,225,709	90.2%	43.2%
Technical Schools	1,392,135	-	1,392,135	636,297	636,296	119,542	91.4%	45.7%
Debt Service	28,397,652	-	28,397,652	22,677,621	-	5,720,032	79.9%	79.9%
Insurance	1,429,675	12,898	1,442,573	1,366,099	96,880	(20,406)	101.4%	94.7%
Health Insurance	27,649,530	-	27,649,530	9,659,770	-	17,989,760	34.9%	34.9%
Unemployment	126,610	-	126,610	110,258	16,352	-	100.0%	87.1%
Retirement	7,855,142	-	7,855,142	7,855,140	-	2	100.0%	100.0%
Reserve Fund	200,000	-	200,000	-	-	200,000	0.0%	0.0%
OPEB Appropriation	1,964,349	-	1,964,349	1,964,349	-	-	100.0%	100.0%
Total Other Expenses - General Fund	104,585,948	3,017,641	107,603,589	62,341,411	16,995,717	28,266,461	73.7%	57.9%
Water Enterprise	10,939,693	774,264	11,713,957	7,070,901	1,451,577	3,191,478	72.8%	60.4%
Sewer Enterprise	5,522,623	411,538	5,934,161	3,091,082	1,662,076	1,181,003	80.1%	52.1%
Total Other Expenses - Enterprise Funds	16,462,316	1,185,802	17,648,118	10,161,983	3,113,653	4,372,482	75.2%	57.6%
Total - General Fund	229,576,415	3,131,922	232,708,337	125,166,053	60,605,740	46,936,545	79.8%	53.8%
Total - Enterprise Funds	19,421,307	1,185,802	20,607,109	11,766,916	3,113,653	5,726,540	72.2%	57.1%



*Expenses vary from year to year due to timing and departmental needs, but can still be on budget.



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Town of Andover
FY 2026 Revolving Accounts
(M.G.L. CH. 44, § 53 E1/2)
As of 1/31/2026

	CD & P Legal Notices Acct 5550	Library Lost/Damaged Materials Acct 5631	CD & P Health Services Clinics Acct 5557	Recreation Special Services Acct 5552	Youth Services Acct 5553	Facilities Field Maintenance Acct 5622	Elder Services Acct 5554	Police Antenna Uses Acct 5653	School Photocopy Fees Acct 4510	Facilities Compost Program Acct 5666	DPW Solid Waste Fees Acct 5667	CD & P Stormwater Management Acct 5668	Fire Emergency Billing Acct 5669	Health Services Inspections Acct 5670	School Professional Development Acct 4500	Student Technology Rentals Acct 4260	Public Space Rentals Acct 5546	Conservation Land Acct 5545	Town Events Acct 5544
Balance thru 6/30/2024	34,163	20,468	114,169	1,691,031	639,859	155,362	230,244	64,211	53,632	21,741	67,395	0	681	207,663	3,184	67,214	N/A	N/A	N/A
Receipts thru 6/30/2025	19,421	2,672	29,648	2,339,847	376,918	85,383	180,080	10,652	3,331	27,484	30,496	0	0	56,430	0	47,580	0	N/A	N/A
Expenditures thru 6/30/2025	20,859	82	26,492	2,220,000	320,144	113,547	110,405	0	0	31,318	18,377	0	0	26,476	0	58,130	0	N/A	N/A
Balance thru 6/30/2025	32,724	23,059	117,326	1,810,878	696,633	127,197	299,919	74,863	56,963	17,907	79,513	0	681	237,617	3,184	56,664	0	0	0
Receipts thru 1/31/2026	13,503	1,514	19,366	1,688,590	227,347	78,434	110,574	1,280	4,198	7,316	152,923	0	0	47,363	0	13,720	48,919	39,096	0
Expenditures thru 1/31/2026	10,631	2,551	21,902	1,198,695	256,362	97,331	68,721	0	0	13,916	44,901	0	0	2,910	3,184	38,390	780	12,511	0
Balance thru 1/31/2026	35,596	22,021	114,790	2,300,773	667,617	108,300	341,772	76,143	61,161	11,307	187,535	0	681	282,070	0	31,994	48,139	26,585	0

Spending Authorization	\$35,000	\$20,000	\$60,000	\$2,125,000	\$400,000	\$150,000	\$225,000	\$50,000	\$10,000	\$60,000	\$40,000	\$5,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$50,000	\$200,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000
Y-T-D % Spent	30.38%	12.76%	36.50%	56.41%	64.09%	64.89%	30.54%	0.00%	0.00%	23.19%	112.25%	0.00%	0.00%	2.91%	6.37%	19.20%	1.56%	25.02%	0.00%

Town of Andover
Capital Projects
1/31/2026

	<u>FY20</u>	<u>FY21</u>	<u>FY22</u>	<u>FY23</u>	<u>FY24</u>	<u>FY25</u>	<u>FY26</u>	Total Available
Budget	1,011,600	1,150,000	1,185,000	1,271,500	1,338,000	1,210,000	1,285,000	
Expended	1,011,600	1,150,000	1,185,000	1,125,174	1,037,390	608,368	239,186	
Encumbered	-	-	-	27,474	144,270	248,245	27,336	
Total School								
Available	-	-	-	118,852	156,339	353,387	1,018,478	1,647,057
Budget	1,069,098	902,108	137,000	150,000	95,000	60,000	144,528	
Expended	1,013,408	902,108	133,583	120,687	52,874	29,200	13,138	
Encumbered	25,000	-	130	2,810	-	-	13,707	
Total General Government								
Available	30,690	-	3,287	26,503	42,126	30,800	117,683	251,090
Budget	10,000	50,000	-	-	-	-	-	
Expended	10,000	50,000	-	-	-	-	-	
Encumbered	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Total Library								
Available	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Budget	1,303,000	468,000	1,180,000	1,165,000	1,130,000	1,209,000	1,055,000	
Expended	1,303,000	468,000	1,179,999	1,071,199	874,470	674,772	147,294	
Encumbered	-	-	-	54,920	141,975	446,992	187,473	
Total Facilities								
Available	-	-	1	38,881	113,555	87,235	720,233	959,904
Budget	195,000	195,000	255,000	-	40,000	65,000	-	
Expended	195,000	195,000	254,948	-	40,000	53,047	-	
Encumbered	-	-	52	-	-	-	-	
Total Police								
Available	-	-	-	-	-	11,953	-	11,953
Budget	-	96,000	88,000	-	185,000	-	-	
Expended	-	96,000	88,000	-	-	-	-	
Encumbered	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Total Fire								
Available	-	-	-	-	185,000	-	-	185,000
Budget	400,000	-	165,000	170,000	102,000	80,000	119,000	
Expended	399,119	-	165,000	170,000	82,000	60,000	29,988	
Encumbered	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Total DPW								
Available	881	-	-	-	20,000	20,000	89,012	129,893
Budget	2,977,098	1,711,108	1,825,000	1,485,000	1,552,000	1,414,000	1,318,528	
Expended	2,920,527	1,711,108	1,821,531	1,361,886	1,049,344	817,019	190,420	
Encumbered	25,000	-	182	57,730	141,975	446,992	201,180	
Total Town								
Available	31,571	-	3,288	65,384	360,681	149,989	926,928	1,537,841
Budget	3,988,698	2,861,108	3,010,000	2,756,500	2,890,000	2,624,000	2,603,528	
Expended	3,932,127	2,861,108	3,006,531	2,487,059	2,086,734	1,425,386	429,606	
Encumbered	25,000	-	182	85,204	286,245	695,238	228,516	
Grand Total								
Available	31,571	-	3,288	184,236	517,020	503,376	1,945,406	3,184,897