VII. PUBLIC SERVICES AND FACILITIES

A. INTRODUCTION

The ability of public facilities and services to meet the needs of a community's population is directly related to the community's rate of growth and population change. Furthermore, the demand for specific services is dependent on the impact of change on a variety of functional areas of the community. The comprehensive planning process, therefore, must respect this relationship by providing the framework within which to forecast and anticipate the future demands of a community. Similarly, it is necessary to assess the community's ability to supply services at a level that is consistent with the stated goals of the community both now and in the future.

In 1990, the information contained in the Public Facilities and Services Element was based on interviews with Town Officials, research of technical documents, and data from a community survey. Similar methods were employed in this update: Department representatives and/or Commission members were interviewed concerning their respective public service activities, and both technical publications and facility plans were reviewed. The exception is the community survey; for this update community attitudes towards public facilities and services in the Town of Cumberland were ascertained from a series of public workshops. Results of these workshops were similar to that of the 1990 survey: Cumberland residents were overwhelmingly satisfied with the quality of community services and facilities. However, The Town is aware that expansion and upgrading of Town Hall office space and meeting facilities is necessary in order to continue to provide quality municipal services.

There is a growing recognition that the availability of services, such as water and sewer, has a direct impact on increased traffic and residential activity. The Town has been actively trying to manage growth for the past few years. The pressure on existing services, the cost of new services (compared to revenue collected), and the indirect impact of additional services are adversely impacting the Town's residents and character.

State Planning Act Requirements

According to the R.I. Comprehensive Planning and Land Use Regulation Act, the Services and Facilities Element shall "Provide an inventory of existing and forecasted needs for facilities and services used by the public such as, but not limited to, educational facilities, public safety, water, sanitary sewers, libraries and community facilities. The Policies and implementation techniques must be identified for inclusion in the implementation program element."

The Act also requires consistency with State Guide Plan Elements:

110 Goals and Policies
121 State Land Use Policies and Plan
171 Solid Waste Management Plan
721 Water Supply Policies for RI
722 Water Supply Plan for RI
723 Water Emergency Response Plan
724 Drought Management Plan
731 Nonpoint Source Management Plan

B. INVENTORY

This section contains a description of each of Cumberland's services and facilities; locations of these facilities can be seen in Figure VII-1. For each service and facility, personnel and equipment is inventoried. In addition, issues related to the facility or service are discussed, this includes issues identified in the original Plan as well as new issues that have arisen over the past decade.

1. Public Safety

Public safety in the Town of Cumberland is the responsibility of three entities: Police, Fire Departments, and Rescue Services. These entities work closely together; the degree to which they coordinate services will be documented in two Plans that are both close to

completion. The *Natural Hazard and Mitigation Plan* will include a natural hazard and risk analysis as well as mitigation strategies. The Plan, once adopted by the Town Council and approved by FEMA by November of 2004, will help the Town alleviate potential disasters or the damaging effects of such disasters. The Town's *Emergency Operations Plan* is in the process of being updated to include measures by which to protect the Town from terrorist and homeland security threats. More specifically, it will include an inventory of the resources we have in Town to handle such threats including: specialized equipment, medical facilities, vehicles, shelters, evacuation methods, and ways to communicate alerts and warnings. The RI Emergency Management Association has already provided preliminary approval of this document. Once finalized, both Plans will be adopted by the Cumberland Town Council and incorporated by reference into this Comprehensive Plan.

For each area of public safety, this section inventories personnel and equipment, summarizes changes that have taken place since the original Plan, and identifies areas of concern as well as future plans.

Police Department

The Cumberland Police Department is located on Diamond Hill Road. The Department recently received National Accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation of Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA), a distinction received by only one percent of the country's Police Departments. The Department is currently (2003) staffed with 56 personnel. This Includes the Chief of Police, a Deputy Chief, 3 Captains, 9 Sergeants, 12 Patrol Officers, 3 Detectives, 1 Juvenile Detective, a School Resource Officer, 2 Recruit Officers and 9 non-sworn staff. The Department operates 30 vehicles. The Department's "4 and 3" shift structure (four days on three days off) allows for staff overlap during peak hours - 9:30 P.M. to 1:30 A.M. The Department publishes an annual report including information about Departmental personnel and programs, as well as crime and accident statistics in the community.

The Police headquarters were expanded in 1989, nearly doubling the facility in size with the completion of a new 3,200 square foot second floor. The daily operations of the Police Department are consolidated on the first floor for ease of access. More recently, interior renovations have been completed to improve use and efficiency of the building.

The Department is involved in a variety of special programs. These include youth oriented programs such as the High School Career Academy, "Cops that Care" after school tutorial, Police Adopting Students and Schools (PASS), Eliminating Alcohol Sales to Youth (EASY), Drug Awareness Resistance Education (DARE); as well as Selective Traffic and Radar Enforcement for Safer Streets (STRESS), a traffic calming program, the Citizens Police Academy, and a Crimestopper program.

Issues: In 1991, Chief DiTano identified two short-range goals. One first was to improve Department training through implementation of the Law Enforcement Training Network (LETN), a satellite-operated series of training topics for law enforcement personnel. This network was implemented and resulted in improved training. However, since then new, more effective training techniques have been devised and use of the LETN has been discontinued. Chief DiTano's second short-term goal was the construction or modification of existing detention cells to provide adequate facilities for women. This has been accomplished; Chief Silva cited the stringent standards necessary for detention areas set forth by CALEA, all of which the Cumberland Police Department is in compliance with.
As a long-range goal, Chief DiTano discussed improvements to the communications system, as communications with patrol cars in several areas of Cumberland was poor. Several years ago the Department received a sizeable grant of funds for the implementation a new communication system; implementation of this system has greatly improved communications.

According to Chief DiTano, the primary long-term goal of the Cumberland Police Department was to ensure that the force size is equal to the growing needs of the community in order to maintain the current level of quality police service. Chief Silva believes this has not in fact occurred: the force has only increased by four officers (whose salaries are paid by Federal grants) over the past decade, while the population has increased significantly.

Other goals for the Cumberland Police department identified by Chief DeSilva include:

- Maintaining CALEA accreditation through proof of compliance with standards;
- complying with new training procedures and the Homeland Security Act;
- achieving any objectives in the Department's 1999 five-year strategic plan that have not been implemented, including the recruitment of an additional police

dispatcher and improving parking at the Police Department.

It should also be noted that the Policies, like Rescue Services and the Department of Public Works, have regular capital improvement needs, i.e., vehicles. A program should be instituted whereby those needs can be anticipated and met. In 2003, for example, 3 vehicles need replacement and the parking lot needs improvement.

Fire Protection

Cumberland's fire protection services are divided into four separate Fire Districts: Cumberland, Cumberland Hill, North Cumberland, and Valley Falls. Each is operated through state-chartered corporations and has individual taxing powers. The Stations employ a total of 56 full-time personnel and approximately 43 call/volunteer personnel. Combined, the fire stations operate 22 vehicles including 5 pumper trucks, 2 engines, 2 Quint ladder/pumps, 2 boats, 3 brush trucks; in addition, each Station has a Chief's vehicle.

Cumberland Fire District

The Cumberland Fire District was created in 1992 when the Ashton and Berkeley Fire departments merged. The headquarters of this new District is located in what was previously the Ashton Fire Station. The Station has two engines, a brush truck, and a Chief's vehicle. There are 14 full-time personnel and five on-call volunteers

Issues: In 1991 Vincent Hoyer, Chief of the Ashton Fire District, stated that improvements to individual house numbering was necessary, as homes were often missing proper identification numbers, or had stylized script markings that were difficult to see. Current Chief Garin noted that this problem has for the most part been eliminated through the implementation of a new Cumberland Town Ordinance, which requires clear and obvious addresses. Chief Hoyer also noted that fire hydrants installed prior to current codes are often too far apart. Chief Garin acknowledges this is still a problem in older development, but that in new subdivisions Fire Chiefs are consulted for the best siting of hydrants. Also in 1991, Chief Harry Audette of the Berkeley Fire District felt the greatest challenge facing the station was the recruitment of sufficient call personnel. This problem has been addressed by increasing the number of full-time paid Fire Department personnel.

One of the main issues now facing the Cumberland Fire Department is the inadequacy of current facilities. In 1991 the Station housed only three full-time staff. Despite renovations undertaken in 1992, there is not enough space for Station personnel. To remedy this deficiency the Fire District is working on purchasing property located on Angell Road to use as a combined Fire and Rescue Service headquarters.

Chief Garin is strongly in favor of consolidating the four Cumberland Fire Districts. In support of this, he cites the success of the Ashton-Berkeley merger. He feels that utilizing a phased-in approach to merging the Districts might be a solution to the increased costs associated with staffing a consolidated Fire Department.

Cumberland Hill Fire District

The Cumberland Hill Fire Station operates two pumper trucks, a brush truck, a utility vehicle, one command vehicle, and a boat. The station is staffed by 14 full-time personnel, including a fire prevention expert and Fire Marshall; as well as 13 call personnel.
Issues: In 1990**,** Chief Kenneth Sweich felt that the greatest issue facing the Cumberland Hill Fire Department was the possibility of consolidating the Department into one District with the potential of becoming a full-time, unionized fire department. The Chief felt that the system of utilizing call personnel to supplement full-time firefighters was far more cost-effective than any potential savings that would arise through consolidation of the Fire Districts. Current Chief Richard Susi agrees with this assessment, he cited a study which demonstrated that consolidation of Fire Departments would not in fact be cost effective for the Town. He believes that the current system works well, but that it may be necessary to reconsider consolidation in the future.

Due to the continued difficulty in recruiting volunteer, on-call personnel daytime shift staffing has been increased from two to three people per shift; this staffing level may need to be further increased.

The Cumberland Hill Fire Department is placing more emphasis on fire prevention via code inspection and enforcement; to this end a Fire Prevention Expert and Fire Marshall have been added to the staff.

While concerns about the lack of sufficient fire hydrants were discussed in 1991, Chief Susi

believes that placing hydrants in areas of the District that do not currently have them may lead to increased density of development.

North Cumberland Fire District

The North Cumberland Fire District operates one pumper truck, a Quint pump/ladder combination, a brand new brush truck, and a new utility trailer equipped with a boat and ice rescue sled for operations on the Diamond Hill and Arnold's Mills Reservoirs, and the Chief's vehicle. The station employs 14 full-time fire fighters and eight call personnel.

Issues: In the 1991 Plan, Chief Jesse Carpenter was most concerned with issues related to the overwhelming rural character of the District. Developments in areas with large lot zoning did not necessarily include public water service or hydrants. In order to provide adequate fire protection to these new developments the Chief felt it would be necessary to increase tank truck capacity and/or the construct another station in the North Cumberland District; or to require the installation of residential sprinklers in homes built without hydrant service. Despite the population growth over the past decade, this area of Town is still essentially rural and these difficulties remain. Parts of the District have no public water supply, and therefore must rely on tankers; this leads to longer response times then in areas where municipal water is available. According to Chief Rene Gendreau, the plan for District consolidation would have solved this problem as it would have redrawn the Fire Districts in order to reduce response times; time trials undertaken during the planning process support this assessment.

The Chief feels that cooperation between the Town's Fire Departments has improved dramatically in recent years. The four Departments, along with the Rescue Services, meet monthly to discuss issues facing the Town. The Departments now operate according to standard procedures, a Town-wide accountability system and new command structure have been developed, and the Departments train as a single unit. The Departments take turns hosting training, and share training grants among themselves. In addition, the Departments confer when personnel or vehicles are unavailable in order to ensure adequate protection is always available in the Town.

Unlike some of the other Districts, new fire codes will have little impact on North Cumberland as no facilities that serve alcohol are located within the District. However,

the Chief has some concerns about enforcing current codes when new ones are being developed at the State House.

Chief Gendreau is strongly in favor of consolidation of Cumberland's Fire Departments. He believes such an action would result in faster response times and therefore increased safety. Although the Fire Departments continue to operate as separate entities, he is pleased with the improvements in inter-departmental cooperation that has developed over recent years. He feels one of the most significant improvements is that Departments now respond to fires outside their own Districts if they are best able to respond.

Valley Falls Fire District

The Valley Falls Fire Station operates two pumper trucks, one quint ladder/pump combination vehicle, one utility truck, a Chief's vehicle, and a rescue raft and trailer. The station is staffed by twelve full-time personnel; two more will be added in January 2004. There are 17 volunteer call personnel.

Issues: In 1990 Chief John Burns did not believe consolidation of Cumberland's Fire Districts was necessary. Current Chief Ernest Cimino feels that consolidation is a "dead" issue at the moment but that it will one day be necessary, despite the advantages of operating several small Districts.

Chief Cimino states that the greatest obstacle facing the Valley Falls Fire District is that the tax base is not expanding fast enough to keep pace with cost increases. In the past decade population growth has lead to increased demand for fire services, to cope with this demand the District will be adding two new full-time personnel. In addition, Fire Districts are now required to pay for fire hydrants. While other Districts are in better financial situations at the moment, the Chief believes they will all eventually face the same situation; and alternate methods of fire protection financing will need to be examined.

The Chief feels that in recent months a great deal of important work has been done in the realm of code enforcement, as fire prevention is currently on the minds of many of the community's residents. However, this interest is already beginning to fade. Chief Cimino believes one of the main difficulties in ensuring compliance with fire codes is

that there is no real tool available for code enforcement.

Rescue Services

The Town has two rescue companies. One is located in Ashton next to the Ashton Fire Station on Mendon Road, the other is located at the Valley Falls Fire Station. The rescue companies operate a total of four vehicles, two of which are fully telemetry capable for direct communications with area hospitals. One rescue vehicle is equipped with four-wheel drive for rough and off-road rescue as well as severe weather use. In addition, there is a dive rescue team. Rescue Services is staffed with 19 personnel, including both paramedics and emergency medical technicians (EMT's).

Issues: The Rescue Services currently has no plans for expansion. However, Chief Richard Susi of the Cumberland Hill Fire District is concerned that neither of the Town's two Rescue Services is located in the northern section of the Town, where the greatest increase in population has occurred. Additionally, one of the rescue vehicles is nearly twenty years old and requires replacement. Equipment and radio upgrades are also necessary.

Police and Fire Dispatching

The state-wide 911 emergency system is fully operational in Cumberland. Five trained dispatchers operate the combined Police and Fire dispatching duties from the Cumberland Police Station on Diamond Hill Road.

Issues: In 1990, Mr. Raymond Vallee stated that over 60 streets in Town had duplicate or near duplicate names, and that numbering on many streets was haphazard. These two situations added up to the possibility of confusing emergency reports and the danger of response to the wrong location. A draft Ordinance to standardize street name and numbering throughout the Town in an effort to clear up ambiguity and to set minimum standards for the location, type and visibility of house numbering had been written at the time of the original plan. This Ordinance was recently enacted, and has ameliorated the problem.

Despite the increase in Cumberland's population, the number of dispatchers has been decreased from seven to five. According to Police Chief Silva, other Towns with similar

populations have two dispatchers on duty at all times. Increasing dispatcher staffing would improve emergency response, however, the dispatch station is not currently equipped for two dispatchers. Fire Chief Richard Susi also noted inadequacy of Dispatch staffing.

2. Recreation

The Cumberland Recreation Department offers year round activities for residents of all ages. Activities include aerobics, arts and crafts, tennis, Town-wide day trips, children dance lessons, men's softball leagues, and various special events. A majority of the summer programs are sponsored for children. These include an 8-week day camp program, sports clinics, and tennis lessons. The Department also operates the Drop Zone Student Center. Recreation programs are also offered by the Boys Club, Girls Club, Christian Youth Organization (CYO), private clubs, schools and churches, and the Cumberland Youth Athletic Council. The Recreation Department is staffed with one full time Director, a part-time secretary and sixty part-time staffers, the majority whom are employed during the summer months. In addition, there is a part-time Director and twelve other part-time staff who are employed at the Drop Zone Student Center.

Issues: In 1991, Cheryl DaCosta, Recreation Director and Marie Walsh, Chairman of the Parks and Recreation Commission, identified the lack of adequate full-time staff, indoor facilities (halls, gyms, and auditorium), and programs for teens, elderly and special needs population. In 2003, Recreation Director Craig Letourneau believed that, in general, current staffing levels are adequate, however, it might be beneficial to have a full-time, rather than part-time Director at the Drop Zone. In addition, recreational programs for teens and the elderly population have improved; the Drop Zone provides recreational opportunities for teenagers, while the Senior Center provides service to the elderly. The Director states that indoor facilities are still inadequate, as are programs for the special needs populations. The 1991 Plan also mentioned specific maintenance issues at several School Department properties; all of these have since been addressed.

The Recreation Department is currently working on several Open Space and Recreational Grants for the Town of Cumberland. In addition, several improvements to recreational opportunities in Cumberland are currently under consideration. These include:

- Trail improvements at the Monastery and other Town-owned land,
- utilization of the (closed) Cumberland Landfill for recreation,
- improvements to Currier Park,
- construction of a skate park in the Northern section of Town,
- development of winter sport opportunities at Diamond Hill Town Park, and
- improvements to Tucker Field, including improved spectator amenities.

These suggestions, as well as proposals for other recreation improvements are further discussed in Section VIII – Recreation and Open Space.

3. Library

The Edward J. Hayden Library opened in 1975 in a former Cistercian Monastery, major renovations and an addition were completed in 2000. The library houses approximately 110,000 volumes, this includes both circulation and reference collections. The library has 10 full-time staff members including the Director, an Assistant Director/Technology Coordinator, Young Adult Librarian, Children's Librarian, Reference Librarian, Adult Services Librarian, Circulation Supervisor, Assistant Circulation Supervisor, Administrative Assistant, and a custodian. The library also has 26 part-time staff positions. There are 35 desktop and six laptop computers available for public use. The library hosts a number of programs for all age groups, and provides meeting space for other groups. The Cumberland Library belongs to CLAN (Coordinating Libraries Automated Network), a statewide program that provides on-line computer access to the collections of 47 other libraries with access to 4.1 million items.

Issues: The Library's "Long Range Plan 1989-1995", published in January 1989, identified several pressing issues regarding the library's size and management. The plan concluded that the Library facilities at the Monastery were inadequate. Due to the historic nature of the building, the addition of new wings to accommodate growth was considered undesirable. The long-range plan concluded that a new library, most likely on a new site, was the most desirable solution. A number of focus groups and public forums were held on the issue of Library relocation, and strong resistance was met from the community. Instead, extensive renovations and an addition were accomplished in order to provide adequate space for the Library's collection and programs.

In October of 2001, the Library conducted a community survey in order to assess satisfaction with the Library's new facilities and community needs. A very high level of satisfaction was expressed by survey respondents (93%). Survey respondents top priorities for the library were:

- More new materials,
- increased hours of service,
- additional programs (especially for children), and
- improved landscaping.

Results from this survey were incorporated into the Library's 2002-2006 Long-Range Plan. This Plan was published in January 2002, and identifies both physical/structural and programming plans for the Library's future. Major construction and rehabilitation needs include extensive repairs and renovations to the archives (that section of the building which formerly housed adult circulating collections and the Circulation Desk) and converting it into meeting space and an adult education center. Other priorities include landscaping the front lawn, building a lighted walkway from the southern parking lot to the front entrance, replacing the lights in the southern parking lot, replacing worn-out carpeting and installing new flooring in the front lobby, replacing old windows in the two large corridors on the first and second floor of the cloister, and expanding shelving for growing collections. Programming needs include additional children's programs, especially for the pre-kindergarten age group as there is currently great demand for such activities. In addition, the Library's staff has identified a need to establish literacy programs for adults and a program that teaches parents how to introduce books and reading to their newborns. The Library staff also want to improve community outreach, including providing service to the homebound as well as offering computer training and adult education classes. Adequate staffing for these programs is essential for the library to accomplish the various above mentioned tasks. Service orientation training for library employees, Based on the L.L. Bean and FISH! models, should also be implemented.

4. Social Services

Senior Citizens

Cumberland has a large elderly population. While the proportion of this age group relative to the total population has remained stable over the past decade at slightly over 20 percent, the actual number of people over 60 in Cumberland has increased from 5,947 in 1990 to 6,473 in 2000. In addition, the past decade has seen a large percent increase in the 75-84 and 85+ age brackets, both these categories increased by over 50%percent since 1990, these groups now make up approximately 8 percent of Cumberland's population. This significant number of Seniors creates a need for activities, transportation, housing, and other services relating to this age group.

According to the 1991 Plan, Cumberland needed a Town-wide senior citizen center and a central base for senior services and programs; it recommended construction of a senior and multi-purpose center in Cumberland. The Cumberland Senior Center, in fact, opened in 1991. The Center provides a variety of services to Cumberland's elderly; these include a reduced-price lunch program; a Senior Van for excursions; pool room, meeting room, and Town gazebo; activities including art, exercise, education, and health; as well as both day and long-term trips. An Elder Information Specialist is available on a part-time basis, as well as a Senior Health Insurance Program (SHIP) coordinator.

There are 5 senior high rise apartments in Town: 1) Bear Hill; 2) One Mendon Road; 3) Chimney Hill; 4) Riverside Village; and 5) Flat Street. The total population in the apartments is over 500.

A variety of senior health and safety services are available in the elderly high rise buildings and Town-wide. The programs are described below:

- **Vial of Live -** A CVS program in which participants keep a plastic medicine bottle that contains a standard form with medical information (filled out by participant) such as doctor's name, address and phone; medical conditions; and prescriptions. The bottle is kept in the right top shelf of the refrigerator. A magnetized sticker is placed on the outside door of the refrigerator to alert assisting parties of the medical information contained inside.

- **R.U.O.K. Program (Are you O.K.?) -** Allows Seniors to provide information for an automated calling system that contacts the participant at a designated time; if the person does not respond a police officer is dispatched to their residence.
- **Elderly Affairs Program -** Initiated in 1992 by the Cumberland Police Department, this program consists of an Elderly Affairs Officer/Police Senior Advocate who develops programs for education and protection of Cumberland's seniors and serves as a liaison with social service organizations including the R.I. Department of Elderly Affairs.
- **Alzeimer's Alert Program** - Allows participants to register their name, address, and photograph with the Police Department so that they can be identified and returned home safely if they suffer memory loss. In 2003, this program is to be expanded to a nation-wide level.
- **Lines for Life -** In 2002, the Cumberland Police Department distributed cellular phones programmed to dial only 911 to interested Seniors.

Issues: Senior Center Director Lori Gagnon believes that the Senior Center is a vital resource for Cumberland's elderly population. The program has grown steadily since its initiation; there are currently 609 registered members. Many of these members serve as volunteers for the Center. Because of this growth, the most important issue facing the Center is lack of space in the building to provide activities that meet the needs of all members. The single multi-purpose room is used for the lunch program, exercise programs, arts and crafts, and bingo; this limits the number of activities that can be held. In addition, there is little room for storing supplies. The Director would like to increase the space available for Senior Center activities. Other goals documented in the Senior Center's five-year plan include procuring funding for a part-time social worker, coordinating with Meals on Wheels, instituting a formal evaluation plan of the program and activities via an automated sign-in mechanism, and instituting a computer training program. Additionally, the handicapped-accessible van that helps transport seniors is old and needs to be replacing

5. <u>Water Supply</u>

The Cumberland Water Department provides water to approximately 21,000 people within Cumberland, the remainder of Cumberland's population receives its water from

the Pawtucket Water Supply Board. The Cumberland Water Department services and maintains five storage tanks with a total storage capacity of 11 million gallons. The Department obtains water from four sources of supply, the largest being the Pawtucket Water Supply Board. On average, approximately two million gallons of water per day is distributed, with a peak daily consumption of 7 million gallons.

Sources

The public water supply for the Town of Cumberland is drawn from gravel packed wells, Sneech Pond Reservoir and the Pawtucket Reservoir; and is distributed via the Cumberland Water Department and the Pawtucket Water System. The Town of Cumberland provides water service to customers north of Marshall Avenue, while the City of Pawtucket owns and operates the water distribution system south of Marshall Avenue. The Pawtucket Water supply source consists of a series of surface reservoirs located within the Town of Cumberland. The water supply and distribution system is illustrated in Figure VII-2; Table VII-1 lists sources, yield, and capacity of Cumberland's water supply.

Table VII-1 Sources of Supply

Description	Operating Status	Type	Yield (MGD)	Capacity (MGD)
Manville #1	Active	Gravel-packed	0.54	0.54
Manville #2	Active	Gravel-packed	0.63 MGD	0.63
Abbott Run #2	Active	Gravel-packed	0.22 MGD	0.22
Abbott Run #3	Active	Gravel-packed	0.46 MGD	0.46
Sneech Pond	Active	Filter Plant		0.50
Marshall Ave.	Active	Pawtucket Connection		7.00 *
		TOTAL	**9.36**	**10.37**

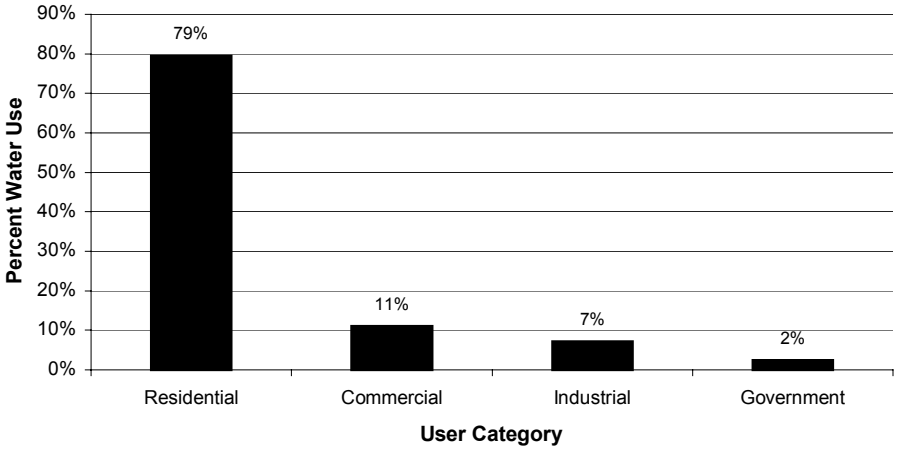
SOURCE: Hydraulic Gordon R. Archibald, Inc. July, 1989
*Increased from 1.00 MGD

Three of Cumberland's wells are inactive. Abbott Run #1 well was taken out of service when the Abbott Runs #2 and #3 wells were installed in 1985. The Lenox Street well was taken out of service in 1979 due to organic contamination. The Martin Street well was taken out of service in 1970 due to volatile organic chemicals and high iron and manganese levels.

Consumption

The Cumberland Water Department provides service to residential, commercial, industrial, and governmental users. Residential use consumes by far the most of the water supply (91 percent). Figure VII-3 shows water consumption by category in 1998; this distribution is similar to that of more recent years.

Figure VII-3 Water Use by User Category, 1998



Average Daily Demand: The adequacy of a water supply is determined by its ability to satisfy average daily demand, and is usually estimated by determining the average daily consumption of water per person per day and multiplying that number by the total population of residents to be serviced. Average daily consumption per resident is expressed in gallons per capita per day (GPCD). Over the past decade, Cumberland's average GPCD has ranged from 81-93; this range approximates both the Rhode Island and National averages. As previously mentioned, residential use accounts for the majority of water consumption; a more detailed analysis of residential water use can be seen in Table VII-2.

Table VII-2 Residential Water Use, 1994-1998

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	AVG
ANNUAL USE (MG)	519	570	479	555	502	**525**
DAILY USE (MG)	1.42	1.56	1.31	1.52	1.38	**1.44**
CONNECTIONS	6369	6455	6484	6541	6692	**6508**
GPCD	90	97	81	94	93	**89**

The original Comprehensive Plan forecasted water demand from 1990 to 2010 in order determine the adequacy of the water supply. These predictions were based on the population forecasts conducted in Section II – Demographic Analysis of the 1991 Plan. As previously noted, population has increased at a higher rate than predicted. Therefore Figure VII-3, which compares water use in 2000 to 1991 estimates shows both the 2000 and 2010 estimates, as Cumberland's 2000 population approximated the 2010 estimate. Daily water consumption in 2000 exceeded both the 2000 and 2010 estimates by over 400,000 gallons.

Table VII-3 Comparison of Predicted to Actual Water Use

	2000 WATER USE	2000 ESTIMATE	2010 ESTIMATE
POULATION	31,840	28,800	31,740
POPULATION SERVICED	21,000	20,517	21,321
DAILY WATER USE (G)	2,880,000	1,538,775	1,599,070

The 1991 Plan also forecasted increases in industrial and commercial water use; these were predicted to increase at a rate of one percent per year based on historical water use records for land uses in those categories. Instead, water use in these categories has actually declined over the past decade. In 1998 combined industrial, commercial, and governmental average use was just 0.36 MGD, a decrease from 0.45 MGD in 1987 (2000 estimate was 0.51 MGD).

Maximum daily demand: This measure is used determine the adequacy of the peak capability of pumping and transmission facilities. The maximum daily demand is the largest volume of water used over a single 24 hour period. It is determined from water use

records and is expressed as a ratio of the average daily use. Generally, maximum daily demand ranges from 1.4 to 2.0 of the average daily demand, according to American Water Works Association. In the year 2003, maximum daily demand was 3.5 times average daily demand. This rate is much higher than that predicted in the 1991 Plan (4.88 MG in 2000, 5.04 MG in 2005).

Issues: In 1991 the Cumberland's average daily capacity of 3.36 MGD was not capable of meeting the maximum daily demand of 4.29 MGD. Capacity of the water supply has been increased to 9.36 MGD, greater than the maximum daily demand of 7.00 MGD, and is 3.5 times greater than average daily demand. However, this increase in capacity was accomplished by increasing reliance on water purchased from the Pawtucket Water Supply Board. As population increased, the associated demand for increased water may further stress the water supplies.

Results of hydrant flow tests conducted by Gordon Archibald, Inc. in 1988 and computer analyses indicated that fire flow deficiencies existed in some areas of the distribution system, particularly in the industrial areas. The 1991 plan recommended reinforcement of the distribution piping system to eliminate fire flow deficiencies and to help maintain pressures and provide more reliable service. This issue has been resolved for the most part; however, there are still some deficiencies in the Lippitt Estate and Cumberland Hill areas.

The 1991 Plan stated that the water level in the Copper Mine tank lagged behind the low service tanks due to insufficient pipe capacity between the high and low service areas, this would be increased if the proposed connection to Woonsocket was implemented in the high service area, and that new sources of supply would be best located in the low service area where they are most needed. This connection has not yet been implemented, but is still under consideration; the Cumberland Water Supply Board has received grants that will be used for this plan.

In 1991, 20 percent of the total volume supplied for 1988 was non-account use. A leakage study and water audit to determine what steps were needed to reduce this percentage was recommended in the Comprehensive Plan. A leakage study was conducted in 1996, and the problem has recently been remedied. Currently, less then 8 percent of water consumption is unaccounted for.

The distribution piping is generally well looped; however, there are some areas which consist of small diameter pipe, much of which is unlooped. A looped system is more reliable and is preferred over a dead-ended system, since looped pipe can supply water for consumption and fire protection from more than one direction and it also prevents water from stagnating as may occur in a dead-ended pipe where circulation is limited. This is especially important in Cumberland where high levels of iron and manganese exist in the groundwater sources. Stagnation of water allows these constituents to come out of solution. This precipitate will become resuspended when flushing hydrants, resulting in numerous consumer complaints. In the past decade progress has been made in improving looping of the water system.

In 1991, development above 285 feet elevation from the low service area and 400 feet above high service areas could not be serviced. The plan recommended installation of booster pumping facilities. Booster pumps have been installed, improving service to these areas; however there is still some difficulty in providing adequate service to Mendon Road near 295, this problem is currently being addressed by the Cumberland Water Supply Board.

Currently, Cumberland's water supply and storage is adequate for meeting the needs of consumers. Increasing the capacity of the Marshall Avenue-Pawtucket connection reduced supply problems; no Town water bans have been implemented since this upgrade. In addition, a 3.3 million gallon storage tank has been constructed in the high service area, increasing storage capacity to 11 million gallons. However, as part of the Town's growth management initiative, consideration should be given toward an improved method by which tie-ins are approved or denied. Just because there is excess water available, does not necessarily mean that public water supply commitments should be made to all future subdivisions.

Plans for improving Cumberland's water supply include:

- Rehabiliting all water tanks through lead abatement, sandblasting, and re-painting;
- ameliorating existing hydraulic difficulties between the high and low service area,
- continuing looping of the distribution system,
- conducting a meter change out and utilizing new radio-read guns for metering, and
- purchasing an additional parcel of land adjacent to the Sneech reservoir.

6. Sanitary Sewer

Inventory: The Town of Cumberland has a municipally owned and operated wastewater collection system that is connected to three Narragansett Bay Commission (NBC) interceptors. The Blackstone Valley Interceptor follows the Blackstone River from the Woonsocket City line, the Abbott Run Valley Interceptor serves eastern Cumberland as far north as Interstate 295, and the Highland Industrial Park Interceptor that runs from the industrial park along the Blackstone River each convey the wastewater to treatment facilities at Bucklin Point. The NBC jurisdiction encompasses all municipalities whose wastewater enters the Narragansett Bay.

Figure VII-2 illustrates the areas in Cumberland that are currently provided with sanitary sewer service. As this figure demonstrates, approximately 45 percent of Cumberland's total land area has sewer service; this is an increase from 1991 when only 20 percent of the Town was sewered. This represents service for approximately 14,200 residents (44.6 percent of total resident population) in 6,000 households (49.2 percent of households); in addition, there are 257 commercial and industrial users. The rest of the Town is serviced with Individual Sewage Disposal Systems (ISDS). Table VII-5 shows the 1995-1999 average daily disposal of wastewater by user classification.

Table VII-4 Wastewater Disposal

SOURCE	DOMESTIC (MGD)	COMMERCIAL (MGD)	INDUSTRIAL (MGD)	TOTAL (MGD)
PUBLIC DISPOSAL	1.083	0.311	0.096	1.490
SELF-DISPOSAL	0.700	N/A	0.232	0.932

A Town Ordinance requires ties-ins to the sewer system, however, this Ordinance ought to be reviewed from a Growth Management Policy perspective. If a property can be serviced with an ISDS, perhaps this should be encouraged rather than tie-ins and extensions to the sewer system, which may in turn result in the development of more land for residential purposes as well as the reduction of water available for recharge to aquifers.

In 1983 a Facilities Plan was prepared for the Town, the Plan was updated in 1993. This Plan examined the wastewater disposal needs for all areas in the Town. In this study, a

priority ranking for areas to be sewered was developed based on soil conditions, septic system failures, and land use densities. Table VII-5 lists these areas and their priority ranking from each of the two plans.

Table VII-5 Summary of Sewage Needs

NUMBER	AREA NAME	1983 Need	1993 Need
1	Valley Falls	High	High
2	" "	High	High
3	England Street	------	High
4	Marshall, Alan, Pocasset Aves.	Moderate	High
5	Ashton-Berkeley	Mod/High	High
6	" "	Mod	Low
7	Angell Road	Moderate	Moderate
8	Monastery Heights	Moderate	Moderate
9	Chapel Area	Low	Moderate
10	Orchard Drive	Low	Moderate
11	Lippitt Estates	Low	Low
12	Broadview	High	High
13	Industrial Park	N/A	Moderate
14	Diamond Hill Road (remaining)	Moderate	Moderate
15	" "	None	Low
16	" "	None	Moderate
17	" "	None	Low
18	Arnolds Mills	Low	Low
19	" "	Low	Low
20	" "	Low	Low
21	Diamond Hill	Low	Low
22	" "	Low	Low
23	Cumberland Hill (remaining)	High/Mod	High
24	Rolling Acres (remaining)	High/Mod	High
25	West Sneech Brook	High	High
26	" "	High	Moderate
27	West Sneech Brook	High	Moderate
28	Forest Dale	High	High
29	" "	High	High

SOURCE: 1993 Facility Plan Reaffirmation, Water Works Engineering and Associates, Inc.
1983 Facilities Plan, Anderson-Nichols & Co., Inc. and Gordon Archibald, Inc.

Issues: The Step I - Facilities Study for the Cumberland Sanitary Sewer program and its 1993 reaffirmation identified areas where sewer service should be provided. The issue of sanitary sewer extension demands considerable attention and deliberation by town officials and residents. Sanitary sewer service is important in Cumberland since most of its land area is located in the watersheds or zone of contribution to municipal water supply sources. However, the extending sanitary sewer service to additional areas will allow for parcels to be developed which would otherwise not be allowed because of wastewater

disposal problems, leading to increased population density. Therefore, the Town should be extremely cautious in planning sanitary sewer extensions. The emphasis should be on protecting public health and water quality by servicing those areas where septic systems are likely to have a negative impact.

As there are no immediate plans to expand Cumberland's sewer system, wastewater management alternatives such as septic system management and water conservation should also be examined. These alternatives are management strategies which individuals may use to remedy or minimize wastewater problems.

7. Public Schools

Inventory: The Town of Cumberland School Department currently operates five elementary schools, two middle schools and one high school. Table VII-6 identifies the schools, the year of original construction and any additions, site acreage, and the type of school. Elementary schools serve Pre-Kindergarten through fifth grade, middle schools serve sixth through eighth grades, and high schools serve grades nine through twelve.

Since the original Comprehensive Plan was adopted, the B.F. Norton Elementary School was constructed. Central and St. Patrick's are no longer used as Cumberland Middle Schools. The School at the Monastery is currently leased by the Northern Rhode Island Collaborative, and is used as a special education school for several towns.

Table VII-6 Cumberland School Buildings

SCHOOL	SITE ADDITIONS	ACRES	TYPE
ASHTON	1959, 1966	9.30	Elementary
B.F. NORTON	1993		Elementary
COMMUNITY	1928. 1954, 1961, 1963	4.38	Elementary
CUMBERLAND HILLS	1654, 1969	17.00	Elementary (2-5)
(annex) ST. JOANS	1930 – Leased	0.45	Elementary (K-1)
GARVIN MEMORIAL	1930, 1950 1965	7.79	Elementary
CUMBERLAND MIDDLE	1969, 2002	18.4	Middle
NO. CUMBERLAND MIDDLE	1971, 1993	34.74	Middle
HIGH SCHOOL	1961, 1964, 1969, 1971	26.50	High

SOURCE: School Facilities Need Assessment, KLQ, Inc.
Educational Facilities Study and Long-Range Facilities Plan, L.A. Torrado

School enrollment is a function of population growth and in-migration resulting from new

residential construction. The 1991 Plan cited a study prepared by KLQ of Norwood, MA. (*School Facilities Need Assessment*, 1990) that predicted enrollment levels would increase between 1990 and 1999. The estimate for the 1999-2000 academic year placed total public enrollment at 5,229 or a 30 percent increase in the ten year period; actual enrollment was 5,135; slightly less then the estimate. The study's short-term forecast also slightly overestimated enrollment; 1995-1996 enrollment was 4,750, compared to an estimate of 4,796.

Table VII-7 Cumberland School Enrollment

	1990-1991 Capacity	2000-2002 Capacity	10-year Change	10-year % Change
1. Elementary Schools (90% utilization ratio)				
a. ASHTON	365	389	24	7%
b. B.F. NORTON	----	521	52-	-----
c. CENTRAL GRAMMER	186---		-186	-----
d. COMMUNITY	352	668	236	55%
e.CUMBERLAND HILL	352	475	123	35%
f. GARVIN MEMORIAL	365	444	79	22%
g. ST. JOAN'S	187	194	7	4%
h. ST. PATRICK'S	221	-----	-221	----
i. MONASTERY	----	189	189	----
TOTALS	**2,108**	**2,491**	**772**	**18%**
2. Middle Schools (85% utilization ratio)				
a. CUMBERLAND M.S.	593	633	40	7%
b. NO. CUMB. M.S.	528	822	94	56%
TOTALS	**1,114**	**1,455**	**334**	**30%**
3. High School (80% utilization)	**1,672**	**1,707**	**35**	**2%**

The 1990 KLQ study examined the existing school buildings to determine if they adequately house the educational programs. This study examined the adequacy of number of classrooms with respect to such functions as art, music, and physical education. It also examined the adequacy of the size of the classroom space based on RI State Department of Education standards. Its principle conclusions were that all kindergarten rooms were grossly undersized, most classrooms built since 1960 were at least 84% of the State space guidelines while the earlier classrooms were less than 76% of these same guidelines, most

resource areas were makeshift arrangements of former storage rooms or had been cut from

existing areas; offices, guidance, and especially health areas were inadequate; and Libraries, gyms and/or cafeterias fall far short of the state guidelines, except for the multi-purpose area at Cumberland Hill. The L.A. Torrado Architect report in 2000 identified many of the same issues, however, progress has been made in improving school facilities and will continue in the future.

Capacity of school buildings in 1990 and 2000 were obtained from the KLQ and L.A. Torrado reports. Based on classroom size requirements, the use of space in the 1989-90 and 2000-2001 school years the enrollment capacity of Cumberland's school's were calculated; this capacity can be seen in Table VII-8.

Issues: In the 1991 Comprehensive Plan Section II – Demographic Analysis discussed the population estimates prepared by CACI; these indicated there would be a slowing down of population growth from 1990-2010. The long-term population forecast prepared for the study predicated an increase of 2,900 persons between 1990 and 2010, indicating a need to increase capacity for approximately 400 students. The Plan recognized this demand could be higher or occur sooner if development was allowed to take place at a rate higher than is assumed. According to 2000 US Census Data, Cumberland's rate of population growth increased rather than decreased in the 1990's; with 2,802 additional people residing in Cumberland in this decade. This trend is expected to continue, and the school enrollment forecast prepared by L.A. Torrado Architects estimates an additional 370 students will be enrolled in Cumberland Public Schools by 2005.

As cited in Section II-Demographic Analysis, L.A. Torrado Architects' preliminary report on an Educational Facilities Study and Long-Range Facilities Plan for Cumberland Public Schools in August, 2001 included short-term enrollment forecasts for public schools, predicting enrollment for each grade through the 2005-2006 school year. According to this report, elementary school enrollment is expected to increase by 20 students. The estimate of middle school enrollment is 1,275 students, an increase of approximately 100 students from 2000-2001; this increase is well within the middle school capacity. The highest increase in number of students is at the high school level, expected enrollment for 2005-2006 is 1,702; 253 more students then were enrolled in the 2000-2001 school year. This estimate is only slightly below Cumberland High School's capacity, and indicates that increasing capacity at the high school level will likely be necessary in the near future.

The 1991 Plan recommended that the physical plant of Cumberland's schools should be

improved to accommodate short-term growth in school enrollment as the outmoded conditions of many of Cumberland's schools documented by the KLQ study were less than an ideal setting for learning. Changes have been made to address these deficiencies, including construction of a new elementary school as well as new additions to both middle schools.

One of the most exciting projects in Town is the Cumberland High School 2010 planned improvements, which feature, among other things, an innovative wellness Center that will serve not only a a resource for the students, but for the entire community. Cumberland is positioning its schools to become "schools of choice" once the federal voucher system is put in place.

8. Solid Waste

The Town provides solid waste and recycling pick-up services through private contractors who pick up and haul solid waste and recyclables to the Central Landfill in Johnston. With some exceptions, service is only available to residential dwellings with four or fewer units per building, larger buildings utilize private dumpsters.

Issues: The State Solid Waste Management Corporation has placed a cap on the amount of solid waste the Town may dispose of at a subsidized rate. This cap is adjusted periodically, and is currently 14,900 tons, an increase from the 1991 cap of 13,215 tons. In 1991 this equaled 0.455 tons per person per year in 1991, and in fiscal year 89-90 Cumberland exceeded its cap by approximately 1,000 tons. The Town was therefore charged a higher rate on the tonnage over their allocation. The original Plan recommended that the Town should take aggressive actions in order to reduce solid waste generation since disposal of solid waste was becoming increasingly difficult and expensive. Currently the average amount of waste permitted per person is only slightly higher than in 1991, 0.47 tons. However, exceeding the permitted amount of waste is no longer an issue due to implementation of a recycling program, as recycled waste is not included in calculation of the Town's annual permitted waste disposal.

C. FINDINGS

Town Hall has just about maximized its space for employees and the records it must keep. Additionally, the Hall is located at the most southern tip of Town. Consideration ought to be given to moving Town Hall to a more central location, perhaps near Chapel Four Corners. In addition, a Geographic Information System should be developed, and improved record keeping software should be installed in the Town Clerk's Office.

Public Safety – Cumberland residents are very satisfied with public safety. The Police Department has recently become CALEA certified. However, additional staffing will likely be necessary to adequately provide service to Cumberland's population, the current staff is 56, compared to and average of 83 police staff in other towns with similar populations. Unlike in 1990, each Fire Chief views consolidation of the Fire Districts favorably, this issue will need to be addressed in the coming years. Like the Police force, police and fire dispatch staffing have not kept pace with population growth, additional dispatchers will be necessary to handle increased volume of calls.

Recreation - Cumberland's Recreation program has expanded over the past decade, new facilities have been obtained and older facilities have been improved, in addition, new programs such as the Student Center have been developed. General upkeep and maintenance is needed at most recreation areas and a specific maintenance program/schedule should be developed.

Library - The recent addition to the Library provided adequate space for collections and programs for the future. However, demand for programs is currently higher then can be met.

Social Services – Since the original Plan was written, the Cumberland Senior Center was opened. The Center has been highly successful, however, space is inadequate for proving enough programs to meet the needs of its members.

Water Supply - Long-term water supplies are still adequate to meet both average and maximum daily demand. Although industrial and commercial use has declined, this decrease in demand is overshadowed by a high rise in residential demand. To meet this demand, the Cumberland Water System has to rely on Pawtucket's drinking water

resources. This demand will increase as Cumberland's population grows, providing a strong basis for implementing a growth management plan. In addition, the average daily use of water has increased since 1991, therefore water conservation needs to be encouraged.

Sanitary Sewer - Extension of sanitary sewer service is needed in areas of high-density development and poor soil conditions. These areas should be given priority for sanitary sewer extensions. However, sewers should not be extended to undeveloped sections of the Town or areas where soils are suitable for ISDSs; as such extensions will lead to increased residential development. For those areas serviced by individual on-site systems, maintenance and rehabilitation of these systems is be essential to protect public health and water resources.

Public Schools - Enrollment over the past decade has been higher than predicted by the 1991 Plan. Currently, school capacity is sufficient. However, as Cumberland's population continues to growth capacity will need to be increased, especially at the high school level.

Solid Waste -The Town's recycling program has reduced the amount of solid waste transported to the Central Landfill, Cumberland has not exceeded its waste cap over the past several years. Currently, approximately 18 percent of residential solid waste is recycled, an increase in this number should be encouraged.

D. GOALS, POLICIES, AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Goals and policies for services and facilities have been formulated based upon the inventory and analysis of the previous sections.

State Planning Act Goal

- To promote orderly growth and development that recognizes the natural characteristics of the land, its suitability for use and the availability of existing and proposed public and/or private services and facilities.

Cumberland Public Services and Facilities Goals

Goal FS.1 PUBLIC SAFETY: Maintain the high level of public safety in the Town as well as the existing high level of public satisfaction with these services.

Policy FS.1.1 Maintain and improve the high level of fire protection in the Community.

Action FS.1.1.1 Revisit the issue of fire department consolidation, central phasing of service, and Town oversight.

Action FS.1.1.2 Continue providing Fire Chiefs with the opportunity to comment on the fire prevention issues related to new developments within the Town.

Policy FS.1.2 Maintain the proper level of personnel and equipment in pace with the Town's growth.

Goal FS.2 RECREATION: Maintain, identify, and improve the quality and accessibility of recreational programs and facilities for the Town.

Policy FS.2.1 Develop a recreational Capital Improvement Program for identifying and scheduling future recreational projects.

Policy FS.2.2 Continue to maintain and improve the Town's existing recreational programs and facilities, including passive recreation facilities.

Policy FS.2.3 Maintain a dedicated and experienced recreation staff.

Goal FS.3 MUNICIPAL SERVICES: Maintain the high level of municipal services as well as the high level of public satisfaction with these services.

Policy FS.3.1 Develop new municipal facilities consistent with the Town's need and financial ability.

Action FS.3.1.1 Develop a systematic program of public building improvements and capital equipment acquisition in order to upgrade and improve existing facilities and to accommodate needs necessitated by any anticipated development and possibly including compensatory development impact fees for capital improvement (CPB 1998 resolution).

Policy FS.3.2 Develop additional municipal building facilities which are sensitive to the historical value of the existing Town Hall.

Policy FS.3.3 The Town should study its computer needs and continue to develop its information technology enhancement; including the installation of a Geographic Information System.

Policy FS.3.4 Relate municipal personnel needs of the Community to population growth.

Action FS.3.4.1 Perform a Departmental Baseline Evaluation and regular staff reviews to determine whether goals are being met and how Departments can improve.

Policy FS.3.5 Improve the Town's visual and aesthetic quality.

Action FS.3.5.1 Initiate a proactive effort with State and private organizations on litter reduction.

Action FS.3.5.2 Enforce existing Zoning Regulations on litter and clutter.

Goal FS.4 LIBRARY: Maintain and improve Cumberland's library services, in recognition of them as valuable cultural resources of the community.

Policy FS.4.1 The Town should strive to continue the high quality of service and to meet the current and projected library needs.

Goal FS.5 SOCIAL SERVICES: Maintain the quality and delivery of social services; help facilitate, as appropriate, those services which are privately provided.

Policy FS.5.1 Continue support of the Senior Center and its programs.

Policy FS.5.2 Continue to provide public support for privately operated human services vell as encourage private service.

Goal FS.6 WATER SUPPLY: Provide a safe, high quality and sufficient drinking water supply to the Town.

Policy FS.6.1 Protect the surface water bodies and aquifers that contribute to the Town's water supply.

Action CS6.1.1 Adopt a Watershed Protection Ordinance.

Policy FS.6.2 Continue water supply partnerships with the es of Pawtucket, Woonsocket, and Lincoln.

ion FS.6.2.1 Have a Cumberland board member serve on Pawtucket's Water Board.

Action FS.6.2.2 Establish emergency water system interconnections with Lincoln and Woonsocket.

Policy FS.6.3 Expand and manage the water system as necessary to support existing and planned development.

Action FS.6.3.1 Conduct an assessment of Cumberland's water system needs.

Action FS.6.3.2 Develop a water supply management plan including a land use classification and development of mitigation measures.

Policy FS.6.4 Encourage water demand modification programs; consider the effects of mandatory tie-ins on the Town's Growth Management Initiative.

Action FS.6.4.1 Continue encouraging water conservation.

Goal FS.7 SANITARY SEWER: Provide for effective wastewater management which is sensitive to environmental concerns and growth management.

Policy FS.7.1 Provide sanitary sewer service to areas with wastewater disposal problems due to poor soils and high density development.

Action FS.7.1.1 Develop a systematic program of sanitary sewer expansion to service those areas where wastewater disposal needs cannot be met by individual on-site systems.

Policy FS.7.2 Coordinate the expansion of sanitary sewer service with existing and planned growth and desired density levels.

Policy FS.7.3 Recognize wastewater management alternatives to sewers, including individual sewage disposal systems (ISDS) in low-

density residential areas.

Action FS.7.3.1 Examine the feasibility of adopting a Waste Water Management District within the Cumberland and Pawtucket Watershed Reservoirs to monitor and regulate septic system maintenance within watershed areas.

Policy FS.7.4 Assist owners of individual on-site disposal systems in maintaining and reconstructing these systems.

Goal FS.8 PUBLIC SCHOOLS: Maintain the high quality of public education and high level of public satisfaction with education in the community

Policy FS.8.1 Provide a quality educational environment for all students.

Policy FS.8.2 Continually assess school building requirements as the community grows.

Action FS.8.2.1 Develop a program of public school improvements and renovations to accommodate the anticipated increase in capacity required by increased development.

Action FS.8.2.2 Evaluate and consider innovative methods of financing such as compensatory development impact fees for capital development (CPB 1998 resolution).

Action FS.8.2.3  ate a Bond Oversight Committee

Acton FS.8.2.4 Mandate faster physical building improvements.

Policy FS.8.3 Incorporate Town recreational facilities into new school construction programs.

Policy FS.8.4 Continue to reflect the changing educational needs of the

community and student population in educational programs.

Goal FS.9 SOLID WASTE: Ensure the proper disposal of solid waste and continuing high level of participation in recycling.

Policy FS.9.1 Continue to encourage solid waste reduction through source reduction, reuse and recycling.

Action FS.9.1.1 Establish a strong education program for recycling.

Action FS.9.1.2 Provide ample facilities to make recycling relatively easy for all citizens.

icy FS.9.2 Improve town-wide solid waste collection.

Action FS.9.2.1 Regularly schedule collection of large items to avoid unsightly curb deposits.

Action FS.9.2.2 Provide a community grass and clipping collection area.