

CHAPTER 17

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION AND RESOURCES OF REGIONAL IMPORTANCE

- A Policy Document -

(Replacing Chapter 5 - A Research Document)

Endorsed by ATM - Art. 16 - 10 Apr 01

Prepared For
Local Planning Committee
And
Growth Policy Advisory Council
By
Planning Staff

**INTERGOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION AND RESOURCES OF REGIONAL
IMPORTANCE
CHAPTER 17
YARMOUTH COMPREHENSIVE PLAN**

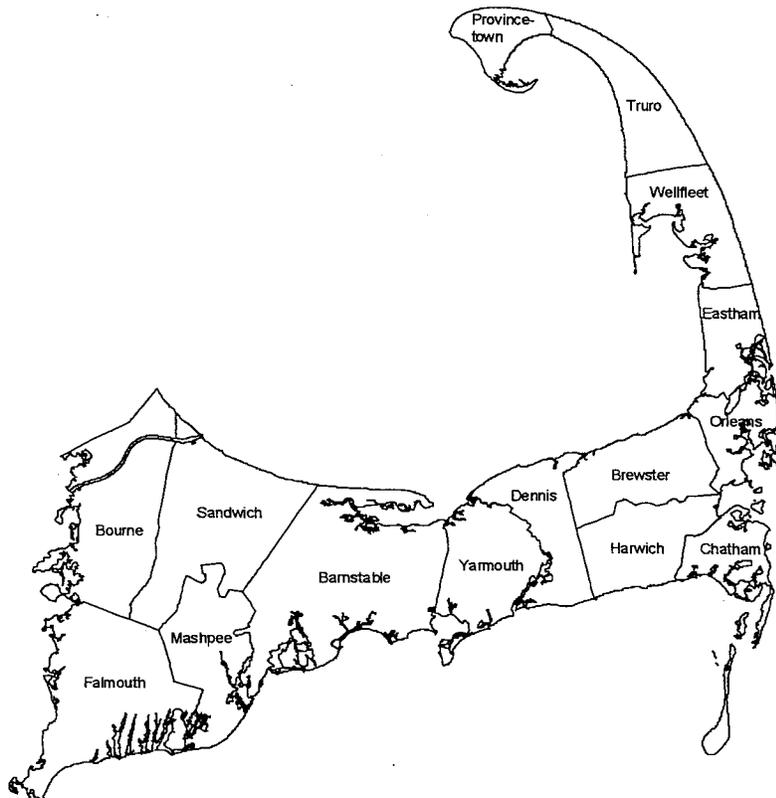
“SETTING THE SCENE”

- This chapter of the Comprehensive Plan is designed to be a section that includes policies for coordinating planning activities of various governmental units, and looks to identify and protect uses, sites and facilities that are located here and are of concern to more than one town.
- The Comprehensive Plan should contain not only plan proposals but an attempt to coordinate various activities that have been proposed. The Town should not duplicate existing efforts but complement them.
- This chapter of the Plan is designed to be a bridge for coordination of various planning-related efforts at the municipal county/regional, state and federal levels of government.

II. GOALS

- To achieve reasonable and adequate coordination of planning related activities at the local municipal level with those taking place at the regional/county, state and federal levels of government.
- To establish or enhance existing coordination mechanisms for effective coordination and to achieve better communication with, and knowledge of, impact of the proposals of concern to Yarmouth residents.
- To regularly update the inventory of resources of inter-municipal importance so that a better knowledge of a wide variety of inter-governmental activities can be obtained.
- To review the various protections afforded to these inter-governmental operations to see if impacts upon them are adequately buffered or ameliorated, through a variety of available techniques.

OUTLINE MAP OF BARNSTABLE COUNTY, MASSACHUSETTS



III. INTRODUCTION

- It is clear from reviewing the texts of the goals, policies and implementation actions contained in the adopted chapters of the Plan that a variety of coordinating efforts will need to be undertaken, both formally and informally. Many of those efforts are already existing or planned through various programs. The Town should not duplicate them but should supplement and re-enforce them.
- The contents of this particular Chapter have evolved over the past seven years from the texts of the 14 endorsed chapters. These were extensively reviewed by local, private and county/regional agencies. The Local Planning Committee and staff have attempted to incorporate the various proposals that were included in those chapters into one coordinating element designed to further the goals and policies of those chapters.

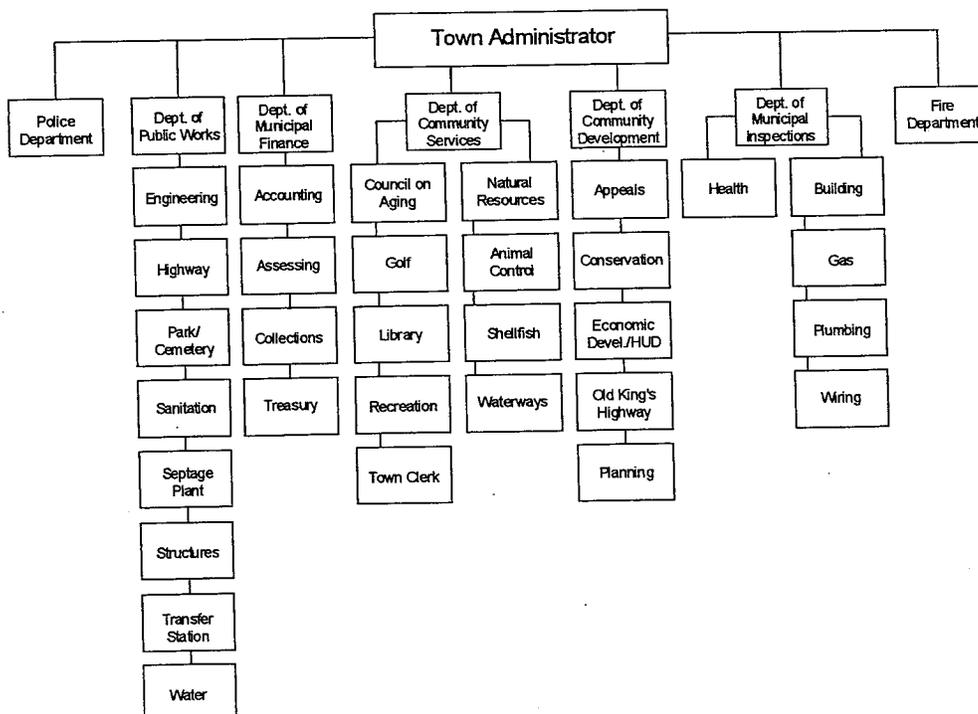
IV. OPTIONS FOR COORDINATION AND COMMUNICATION

- Coordination of policies and programs** - a variety of coordinating activities will be required which may vary from town to town, subject to subject: we are working with dynamic activities and they will require constant attention. Communication is an important factor.
- Coordination With Local Agencies** - Not only is the Planning Board acting as "the Local Planning Committee", but it has been found that "steering sub-committees" with membership from a variety of committees can help gain consensus here in Yarmouth.
- Coordination With Other Planning Efforts** - The possibilities of using Memoranda of Understanding (MOU's) between agencies have been put forward in numerous instances. These should be done for a variety of issues and agreements and regularly updated. The institution of "regional government" for Cape Cod should assist substantially in this coordination effort
- Regional Coordination** - Coordination not only is needed for plan implementation. We need regular contact with Federal, State, County/Regional agencies and their bodies to accomplish such purposes.
- Local and Inter-Municipal Coordination** - Not only are suggestions made about MOU's but rigorous scheduling of joint meetings needs to be a fixed operating procedure. We are updating our original Plan Chapter 5 on this subject to begin to assist in the formalization of these procedures and their regular update.

V. YARMOUTH'S GOVERNMENTAL STRUCTURE

- In May of 1995 a new and more efficient Table of Organization for Town departments/divisions came into effect. (Note the chart below.) The seven departments report to the Town Administrator, and he to the Board of Selectmen.
- The executive branch of Yarmouth's government is headed by an elected 5 member, part-time, Board of Selectmen.

TABLE OF ORGANIZATION FOR YARMOUTH GOVERNMENT



- In addition there is a large group of 46 appointed, standing, and ad hoc committees that report to the Selectmen and Town Administrator. Some of these boards are also required by law. About 400 citizens are involved.
- The heart of Yarmouth's government is its "open" Town Meeting. Annual Town Meetings are held in April following the election of Selectmen and certain other positions. One or two special Town Meetings are usually held during the year as needed.

At the 1997 Annual Town Meeting Yarmouth became one of the last municipalities in the Commonwealth to adopt a "home rule charter". This codified many existing practices and roles. It gives the Town certain flexibility in its operations as well.

VI. COUNTY GOVERNMENT/REGIONAL GOVERNMENT - RE-ORGANIZATION APPROVED!

- The basic structure of Barnstable County government was defined by its home rule charter which was approved by referendum in 1988. With that it became the 2nd of the state's 14 counties to update its system for government from the colonial structure. It is also significant to note that 8 others of those 14 have now ceased to exist.
- In November of 2000 the voters of Barnstable County were asked to revise their charter again into a "regional government" form. They did so by nearly a 2-1 margin. Every 5 years the charter must be reviewed. The County's legislative branch, the Assembly of Delegates, uses a weighted vote method so each representative has the percentage of votes that his population is to the whole county. Currently Yarmouth's is 11.35%, until the 2000 census figures are final.
- As a result County government is in the process of being re-organized. The functions of the House of Correction will be transferred to the state; the Registry of Deeds will remain with the County.
- The Regional government will provide significant services such as the Dept. of Human Services, County Dredge, Cape Cod Commission, County Resource Development Office, Cooperative Extension, Cape Light Compact, Children's Care, and several others.

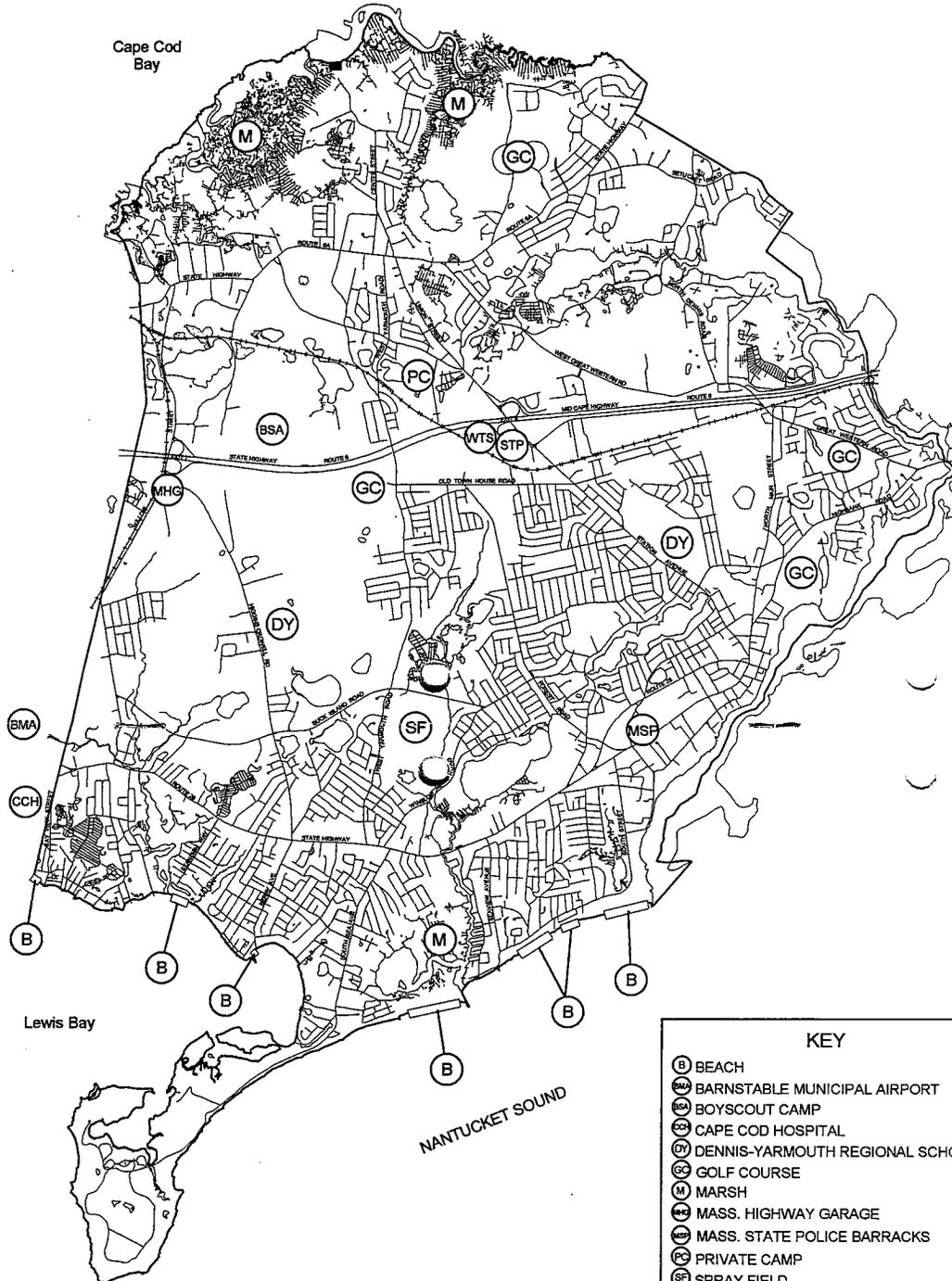
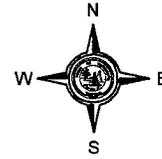
VII. INTERVIEW PROCESS AND USE OF QUESTIONNAIRE TO EXPLORE INTER-GOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION ISSUES AND NEEDS.

- In order to get an understanding of the need for intergovernmental coordination at the Town and County level an 11 question questionnaire was mailed to 23 persons or agencies. This was followed up by a series of personal interviews. These interviews are on-going at the present time.
- The questions dealt with both coordination and the needs of the current facilities and operations of the various departments. The purpose of the questionnaire was not meant to be exactly applicable for each operation but to enhance discussion. In that it was very successful! A measure of understanding was gained of their problems and needs that was very useful.
- This interview process led to several suggestions about coordination as shown below. A second part of the questionnaire dealt with operational and construction issues. It is described in the Resources section that follows. The coordination suggestions that were developed are:

VIII. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACCOMPLISHMENT OF GOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION

- ESTABLISHMENT OF A LOCAL PLANNING COMMITTEE** - a Local Planning Committee made up of the 7 member Planning Board was established in 1993 by the Board of Selectmen. The Growth Policy Advisory Council was added in November 1995 to assist with outreach and implementation. To this grouping have been added five steering sub-committees. Formation of an implementation committee for the Comprehensive Plan was also suggested.
- REVIEW OF LOCAL AND REGIONAL PLANS** - Also in November 1995 a MOU was finally signed with the Cape Cod Commission after a long period of negotiations. It describes the process for handling Developments of Regional Impact (DRI's). This agreement should be updated immediately as called for!
- FORMALIZATION OF STAFF ROLES** - Agreements need to be signed with a whole series of federal, state, regional, and local agencies to clarify staff and committee roles in dealing with coordinating various proposals.
- LIAISON WITH BARNSTABLE AND DENNIS- LOCAL PLANNING COMMITTEES (LPC'S) AND REGULAR UPDATED MOU'S** - At present the planning staff of the three towns are in active informal consultation on a variety of matters. By sharing information about various concerns better coordinated efforts can be developed. A regular updated MOU with each would be very helpful.
- REGULAR MEETINGS WITH BARNSTABLE, DENNIS(LCP's)** - During the long range planning process and beyond we have met occasionally with Dennis, but only once with Barnstable. Certainly an MOU setting up a regular meeting time with a fixed agenda of items is most important. We have many joint concerns and need to be talking with

**INTERGOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION AND
RESOURCES OF REGIONAL IMPORTANCE
CHAPTER 17
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KEY	
(B)	BEACH
(BMA)	BARNSTABLE MUNICIPAL AIRPORT
(CCH)	BOYSCOUT CAMP
(CCH)	CAPE COD HOSPITAL
(DY)	DENNIS-YARMOUTH REGIONAL SCHOOL
(GC)	GOLF COURSE
(M)	MARSH
(MHC)	MASS. HIGHWAY GARAGE
(MSP)	MASS. STATE POLICE BARRACKS
(PC)	PRIVATE CAMP
(SF)	SPRAY FIELD
(STP)	SEPTIC TREATMENT PLANT
(WTS)	WASTE TRANSFER STATION

**TOWN OF YARMOUTH
INTERGOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION
AND RESOURCES OF REGIONAL IMPORTANCE
CHAPTER 17**

April 5, 2001



a number of other town's agencies!

F. **REVIEW OF LOCAL PLANS FOR CONSISTENCY**- We need to review adjoining town's plans for consistency with Yarmouth along Town boundaries. Referral to the Cape Cod Commission alone will not do it completely, we still have some serious differences with each other.

RESOURCES OF REGIONAL IMPORTANCE

IX. BACKGROUND

- One of the prime purposes of this part of the Chapter on Inter-Governmental Coordination is to identify critical resources and management needs for the town's various natural, coastal, historical, recreational, and cultural resources, and in addition its economic resources, ground and surface water supplies, open space, and areas for agricultural, housing growth, and development activity.
- "Regional resources" for the purpose of this chapter are those considered to be significant to more towns than just Yarmouth, or that cross boundaries. They include both natural and manmade resources; they are areas that have public value, and that may be vulnerable to damage from uncontrolled or inappropriate development.
- This portion of the chapter attempts to identify needed management activities. The resources are identified on the preceding map wherever geographic presentation is appropriate. The Long Summary text identifies all by name as well.

X. LISTING OF RESOURCES OF INTER-MUNICIPAL IMPORTANCE

Numerous resources of inter-municipal importance have been identified and mapped. These include those on the following list. There is also a more extensive listing in the "long summary" portion of this chapter. A partial outline follows:

A. Wetland and Open Space - Related Resources

1. Re-charge areas - Public water supply wells - See Chapter 12 of the Comprehensive Plan
2. Re-charge areas - Coastal Embayments - See IEP Study & Chapter 7
3. Inland Wetlands - See Chapter 11
4. Coastal Wetlands - Chapter 11 + (Map)
5. Inland Lakes and Ponds - Chapter 12 +(Map)
6. Coastal Embayments - (Map)
7. Near-shore Marine Fisheries - See Chapter 7
8. Private Open Space - (Map)
9. Public Open Space - (Map)

B. Inter-Municipal Resources - Historic, Cultural and Economic Related

1. Historic Properties on the National and State Register - See Chapter 15
2. Bass River Historic District and Northside Historic District - See Chapter 15
3. Judah Baker Windmill - (Map)
4. Historic Village Centers - Yarmouthport, So. Yarmouth, See Chapter 15 + (Map)
5. Historic Cemeteries - See Chapter 15 + (Map)
6. Scenic Landscapes - See Chapter 15 - Scenic Vistas Portion
7. Archeological Resources - See Chapter 15
8. Sub-Regional Business District - A & P, - See Chapter 8

C. Other Key Inter-Municipal Facilities

1. Regional Transportation Corridors - Route 28, Route 6, Route 6A, Others (Map)
2. Airport (Map)
3. Transfer Station (Map)
4. Septage Treatment Plant (Map)
5. Regional Health Care Facilities - Cape Cod Hospital (Map)

6. D/Y Regional Schools - (Map)
7. Yarmouth Library Facilities - (Map)
8. Bay Colony Railroad (Map)
9. Mass Registry of Motor Vehicles. - South Yarmouth

QUESTIONNAIRE ON INTER-GOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION AND RESOURCES OF REGIONAL IMPORTANCE

As analysis of the interviews that followed-up this questionnaire yields some pertinent insights. Initially it is significant to note that at least 6 of the 11 discussion questions had a pattern of responses that appears to be useful. These six are as follows:

SUMMARY OF QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSES THAT APPEAR SIGNIFICANT

1. **Do you have on-going short and/or long range planning activities covering your operations?** Surprisingly only 7 reported active short or long-range planning studies were underway. Of those, 3 were related to the Comprehensive Plan's long range studies.
2. **Are these facilities vulnerable to "inappropriate development?"** Another surprise was that only one agency was concerned about encroaching development. The others felt they were buffered by their lot's size or other controls.
3. **Do you have what might be called "implementation" activities for your existing facility's Improvement or their operational needs!** This question engendered considerable discussion. Almost all undertook activities to support their program. Only 3 actively were working to carry out an existing plan as such.
4. **Coordination with other similar activities at the Town, regional, state or federal level? Please describe.** Almost all agencies had some sort of existing agreement with similar operations. These were far more extensive than expected. Several made suggestions for improvements that fit in with this chapter's proposals.
5. **Would you consider your facility's operation to be an appropriate subject for a new chapter of the Comprehensive Plan?** A group of six agencies all involved in social services in some manner, said such a chapter could be very helpful. Those providing physical services, such as roads, and water said no.
6. **Is there a need for your activity to be included in a "Community Services" chapter of the ?** Three said definitely yes at the present time, the other 3 at some time in the future, all thought this might be a chapter that could be expanded incrementally.

XII UPDATING OF THE "VISION" STATEMENT

- Work on the VISION Statement started as long ago as 1993. There were at least 11 public meetings held on its contents.
- In April 1994 Annual Town Meeting adopted the single-page version that is included on the following page. That statement has been in general use and has been well-received.
- When it was endorsed it was thought that updates of the VISION Statement would be undertaken every 5 years. In practice, given the situation in this community, its sprawling committee structure, staff involvement, and funding circumstances, the revisions are expected to be at 7 or 8 year intervals.
- It is now 7 years since the VISION Statement was originally adopted! It has been widely used by a number of agencies and received positive comments!
- We have reached the stage when the current version could and should be reviewed for needed improvements, and clarifications, and perhaps even deletions.
- The present time appears to be a good opportunity to expand and clarify the VISION Statement as we reach towards the end of the basic portion of the Town's Comprehensive Plan. The thrust of the document has been, and is, that we can improve and strengthen the way the Town has developed and enhance its character.
- Requests for comments were sent out to 15 involved persons and agencies; this work is an on-going process, but it is already clear that acceptance has been reached and that there is little interest in changing the basic document. There is considerable interest however in adding appendix statements on certain issues of critical importance. We have tried to do that as seen following..
- The "VISION" statement is not intended to be a static document, but will be revised, expanded, and/or clarified periodically to reflect changes in the community on a regular basis.

**THE TOWN OF YARMOUTH VISION STATEMENT FOR THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN
ADOPTED - APRIL 1994**

The purpose of this "VISION" statement is to chart the broad directions of our town. To be a meaningful guide the statement should embrace a respect for Yarmouth's rich history, and understanding of the values that are central to our quality of life and a willingness to meet new challenges ahead.

Our history is steeped in the democratic tradition, in civic pride and in the natural beauty of our town. Among the attributes that enhance our quality of life are: interpersonal communication, natural beauty, environmental protection, economic security and opportunity, physical safety and educational opportunity. Our capability to meet the challenges and undertake new ventures requires an informed and involved electorate committed to mutual understanding and cooperation on vital issues and supported by a forward looking municipal government.

TO THAT END WE SHALL ENDEAVOR:

1. To enhance, sustain and broaden the economic base of our community so as to provide employment opportunities and to expand the Town's tax base.
2. To recognize, preserve, revitalize and, where possible, replicate the distinctive and historic elements and areas of our Town which gives it character and identity.
3. To recognize and provide for the evolving educational, housing, recreational, health, and safety needs of all our citizens.
4. To foster a deeper sense of community among all residents of the Town, and to encourage interaction by an exchange of ideas on important civic issues so that we share a common bond through similar concerns and purposes.

Through the adoption of this "VISION" statement and the broad directions in which it is pointing we will have a basis to honor that valued past which has defined a desirable quality of life and which can be projected into a promising future for all the residents of the Town of Yarmouth.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS PROPOSED FOR ADDITION TO "VISION" STATEMENT AS AN APPENDIX

- **Affordable Housing** - It is our goal to promote the provision of fair, decent, and safe affordable housing for purchase or rental, that meets the needs of present and future Yarmouth residents. At a minimum the Town is seeking to raise the percentage of its year-round housing stock, which is classified as "affordable" to 10% of all the year-round units.
- It is our goal to seek out and provide support and encouragement to the development of innovative strategies designed to address the housing needs of Yarmouth residents, with particular attention to the needs of low and moderate income families and individuals.
- **Environment** - The Town of Yarmouth contains thousands of acres of unspoiled natural environment including wetlands, forests, rivers, lakes, beaches and salt marsh. Recognizing this fact, it becomes prudent to practice sensible environmental protection in order to preserve Yarmouth's unique niche upon the Cape Cod peninsula.
- Yarmouth's approach to this endeavor is documented in several chapters of its Local Comprehensive Plan. The Coastal Resources, Wildlife and Plant Habitat, Wetlands, and Water Resources chapters identify, define, plan mitigate and document the enormous amount of otherwise unconsolidated, valuable information. As a result, everybody benefits including our neighboring towns of Dennis and Barnstable. As many have said; "man is a direct product of his environment". The future environment must have present day to day vigilance in order to be of any value toward the future of humanity.

NOTE: Full copies of these statements can be found in the "Long Summary" for Chapter 17.

April 5, 2001

CHAPTER 17

YARMOUTH COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

INTER-GOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION
AND
RESOURCES OF REGIONAL AND INTER-MUNICIPAL
IMPORTANCE

April 10, 2001

Prepared by
The Department of Community Development
Town of Yarmouth, MA
Planning Division, Staff

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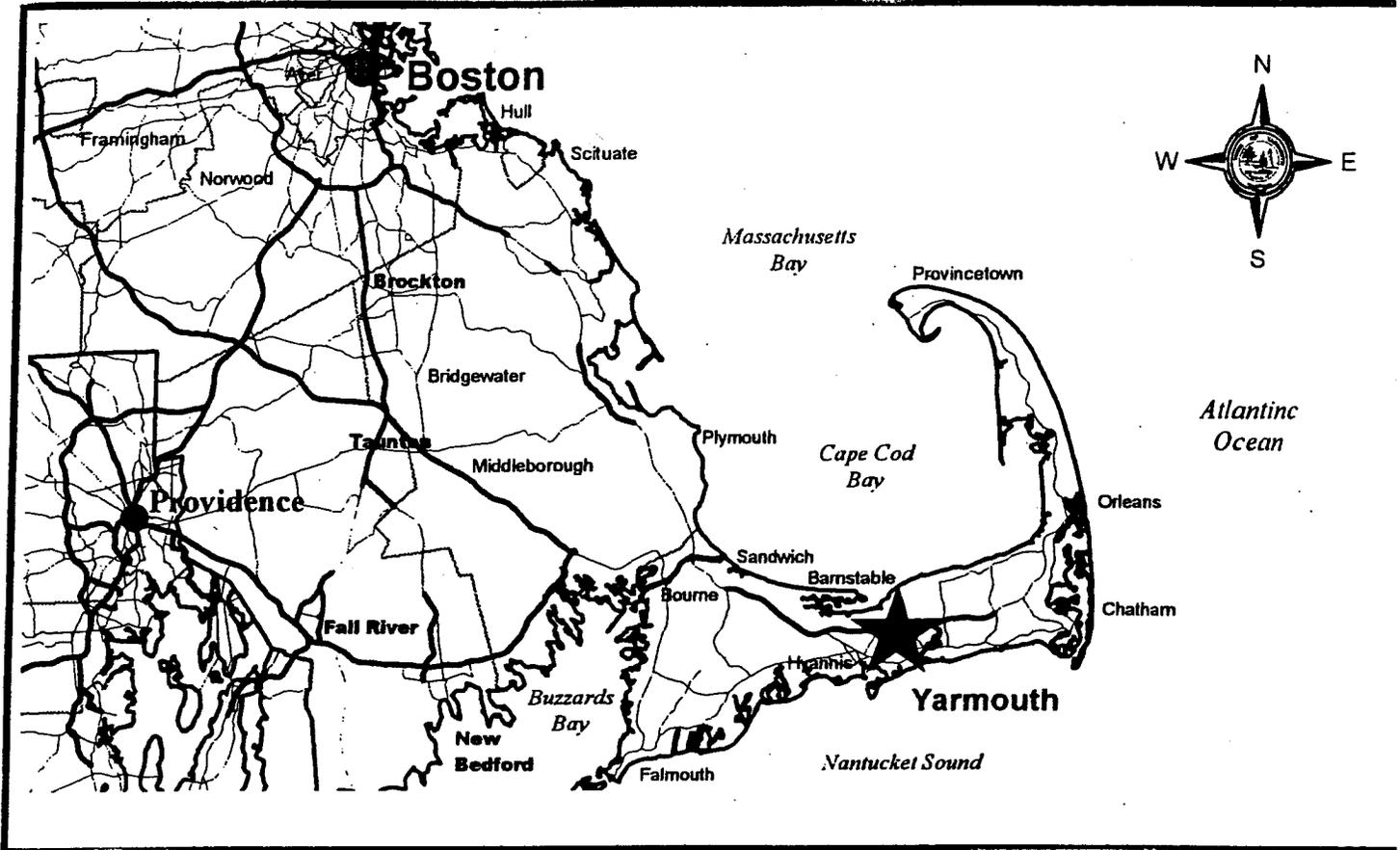
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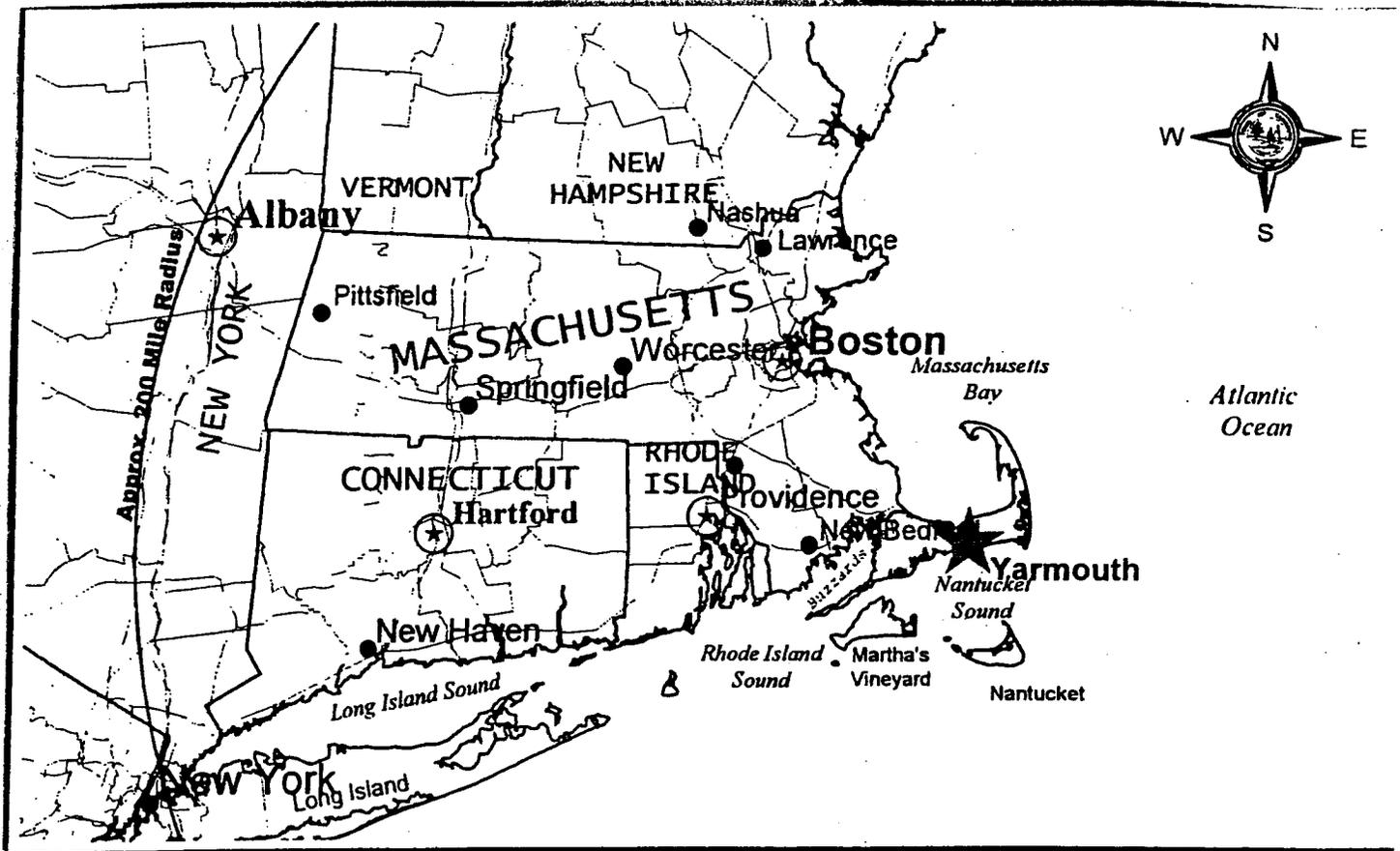
REGIONAL LOCATION MAP



Map 17-1 Regional Location Map - Here to New York City/Albany and Portland, Maine.

The importance of the Cape Cod location cannot be over-emphasized. Yarmouth lies on the Cape Cod neck some 22 miles out into the Atlantic Ocean on a spit of sand pushed up by the last glaciation approximately 50,000 years ago. It is both the best and worst of locations. On the one hand it is remote for some things and yet very accessible for others. Improved telecommunications have made it just that much more accessible.

SOUTHEASTERN MASSACHUSETTS MAP



17-2 Map of Yarmouth - In a southeastern New England location.

While the Cape was indeed an off-beat site for years, first the construction of the two bridges over the Canal in the early 1930's, and then the construction of the inter-state highway system in the mid - 1950's made it highly accessible for tourists and retirees.

The Cape has boomed as a result. But it is a boom that has been achieved at a price-traffic jams, pollution, over-crowding, noise, etc. Still this is a location that attracts high-tech trained business persons, especially in telecommunications and related businesses. However, that kind of business or industry, although dependent on rapid communication, will cause further growth and stress.

One of the main purposes of the Comprehensive Plan is to try to help deal with the dislocations related to this change.

YARMOUTH COMPREHENSIVE PLAN SCHEDULE OF PLAN ENDORSEMENTS

Chapter No.	Title	Type of Article	Town mtg. Type - Date	Article No.	Action
	Vision Statements	Policy <i>Additions</i>	ATM-27Apr94 ATM-10Apr01 ATM-10April02	Art. 24 Art. 16 Art. 24	Endorsed Endorsed Endorsed
1	Introduction to Comp.Plan	Research	--	--	Not Presented
2	Outreach Program	Research	--	--	Not Presented
3	Population Study and Forecasts, 1995-2015	Research	--	--	Not Presented
4	Economic Development Inventory	Research	--	--	Not Presented
5	Intergovernmental Coordination and Resources of Regional Importance	Research	--	--	Not Presented
6	Recreation and Open Space	Policy <i>Replacement</i>	ATM-10-Apr97 STM-27-Nov01	Art. 26 Art. 2	Endorsed Endorsed
7	Coastal Resources	Policy Replacement	ATM-10Apr97 ATM-10Apr02	Art. 27 Art. 24	Endorsed Endorsed
8	Land Use/Growth Management	Policy	STM-1Dec98	Art. 1	Endorsed
9	Transportation	Policy	ATM-11Apr00	Art. 15	Endorsed
10	Economic Development, Analysis and Plan	Policy	STM-11Jan00	Art 7	Endorsed
11	Wetlands	Policy	ATM-14Apr98	Art 14	Endorsed
12	Water Resources Plan	Policy <i>Replacement</i>	STM-29Jul97 STM-27Nov01	Art.2 Art. 2	Endorsed Endorsed
13	Wildlife & Plant Habitat	Policy	ATM-14Apr99	Art 2	Endorsed
14	Affordable Housing	Policy	STM-10Feb98	Art 2	Endorsed
15	Community Character Chapter -Scenic Vistas -Part 1 -Historic Preservation - Scenic Vistas - Part 2	Policy Policy Policy	ATM-10Apr01 ATM-10Apr01 ATM-10Apr02	Art. 15 Art. 15 Art. 24	Endorsed Endorsed Endorsed
16	Infrastructure Chapter -Solid & Liquid Waste	Policy	STM -27Nov 01	Art. 3	Endorsed
17	Intergovernmental Coordination and Resources of Regional Importance	Policy <i>Supersedes Chapter 5</i>	ATM-10Apr01	Art. 16	Endorsed
18	Implementation, Financial Information, and Capital Programming	Policy	STM -27Nov01	Art. 3	Endorsed
19	Community Facilities & Services - Energy Portion	Policy	STM-27Nov01	Art. 4	Endorsed

PROCESS OF PREPARING THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Contents of The Comprehensive Plan

The Yarmouth Comprehensive Plan contains an adopted "Vision Statement", and 5 research chapters that are designed as reference documents, and not require Town Meeting action, it is felt. These research chapters include such items as Population, Economic Development - Inventory, and Build-Out Analysis. The remaining 9 chapters have continued inventory, analysis, and implementation sections and have all been endorsed by Town Meeting. They include such items as Land Use and Growth Management Recreation and Open Space, Transportation, Economic Development, and Affordable Housing.

Who is Preparing the Comprehensive Plan?

Primary guidance for the Plan chapters comes from the Local Planning Committee (Planning Board), with assistance from the Growth Policy Advisory Council (GPAC). The public contact and coordination work is being done by the Planning Division staff. In this case much of the technical/professional work has been done by the Town Planner in consultation with Town staff members, and county agencies. Their written responses to a questionnaire submitted to them is summarized.

Presentation of the Plan Elements

One of the problems in presenting any town's comprehensive plan is that it is written basically for three different groups of people. The first wants only the basics, and not a lot of detail, thus we have used "executive summaries" for Town Meeting. A second group is concerned with more basic technical and planning information, as included in this document, the "long summary". Finally, a few want our more detailed research materials, or our consultant reports. We have prepared and used all three levels of report in our planning program.

Presenting an Incremental Town Plan

In preparing such a far-reaching and complicated plan at the municipal level, we realize there must be an extensive and continuous outreach program. In addition to the required public hearing, we are using workshops, press releases, graphics, radio, and have expanded our use of television. Each of the Plan's chapters is a "stand alone" document in itself, so that it can be used separately.

Use of the "Long Summary" Approach for Public Information

A middle-level of detail, as mentioned above, or the so-called "long summary", is the document we have used most as back-up to the Plan. This document is one of those. It is sufficient in detail to satisfy most interested persons, and to act as a reference for Town Meeting action. These documents are bound in loose leaf notebook form so that they may be added to, or amended, or deleted fairly easily. They are not on fancy, glossy paper on purpose! As far as we know we are the only Cape town using this approach!

Completion of the Comprehensive Plan

Our basic work program has been divided into 18 chapters. Fourteen (14) of those are now completed, and have been endorsed by Town Meeting, they are research in nature. Work is on-going on the remaining 4 chapters including this one. Those four are Community Character, Infrastructure, Capital Programing and of course this one, Intergovernmental Coordination.

Beyond that it now appears there may be several updates of Chapters such as Recreation and Open Space and Water Resources, and several new subjects relating to Waterways Management and Energy.

REGIONAL COORDINATION WITH OTHER PLANNING EFFORTS

Section 7(b) (4) of the Cape Cod Commission Act states that the Regional Policy Plan shall include a section that contains “a policy for coordinating regional and local planning efforts, including coordinating planning activities of private parties and local, state or federal governmental authorities.” A review of the goals and policies and implementation actions contained in the Regional Policy Plan makes it clear that a variety of coordinating efforts will need to be undertaken both formally and informally to carry out the purposes of the Plan. Many of these activities are already Planned or underway through public and private sector programs. The Cape Cod Commission should not duplicate existing efforts but should supplement these efforts and provide technical assistance where appropriate.

The contents of this Coordination section have evolved as various drafts of the Commissions’s Regional Policy Plan were reviewed by local, county, state and federal agencies. During this period the Commission has attempted to incorporate into the Plan a discussion of coordinating efforts that would be undertaken to further the goals and policies of the Regional Policy Plan. The Regional Policy Plan is not a static document, and cooperation among all levels of government will be a significant factor in the Commissions’s planning and regulatory program, and in future refinement and implementation of the Regional Policy Plan.

RESOURCES OF REGIONAL IMPORTANCE

Section 8(b)(1) of the Cape Cod Commission Act requires that the Regional Policy Plan identify Barnstable County’s critical resources and management needs including its “natural, scientific, coastal, historical, recreational, cultural, architectural, aesthetic, and economic resources, ground water and surface water supplies, available open space, and available regions for agricultural, aquacultural and development activity.” Regional resources for the purpose of the Plan are considered to be those resources which are significant to more than one town or cross jurisdictional boundaries. They include both natural and manmade resources; they are areas that have public value and that may be vulnerable to damage from uncontrolled or inappropriate development.

Key regional resources on Cape Cod include but are not limited to those listed below. Most of these areas have been mapped by the Commission on its computerized geographic information system. (GIS)

I. INTRODUCTION

A. It is clear from reviewing the texts of the goals, policies and implementation actions contained in the adopted chapters of the Plan that a variety of coordinating efforts will need to be undertaken, both formally and informally. Many of those efforts are already existing or planned through various programs. The Town should not duplicate them but should supplement and reenforce them.

II. OPTIONS FOR COORDINATION AND COMMUNICATION

A. Coordination of policies and programs - a variety of coordinating activities will be required which may vary from town to town, subject to subject. We are working with dynamic activities and they will require constant attention. Communication is an important factor.

B. Coordination With Local Agencies - Not only is the Planning Board acting as “the Local Planning Committee”, but it has been found that “steering sub-committees” with membership from a variety of committees can help gain consensus here in Yarmouth.

C. Coordination with Other Planning Efforts - The possibilities of using Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) between agencies have been put forward in numerous instances. These should be done for a variety of issues and agreements and regularly updated. The institution of “regional government” for Cape Cod should assist substantially in this coordination effort.

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E. Local and Inter-Municipal Coordination - Not only are suggestions made about MOU’s but rigorous scheduling of joint meetings needs to be a fixed operating procedure. We are updating our original Plan Chapter 5 on this subject in order to begin to assist in the formalization of these procedures and their regular updates.

“SETTING THE SCENE”

This chapter of the Comprehensive Plan is designed to represent a bridge between coordination at the County, regional, local levels and those being done and/or needed at the municipal level.

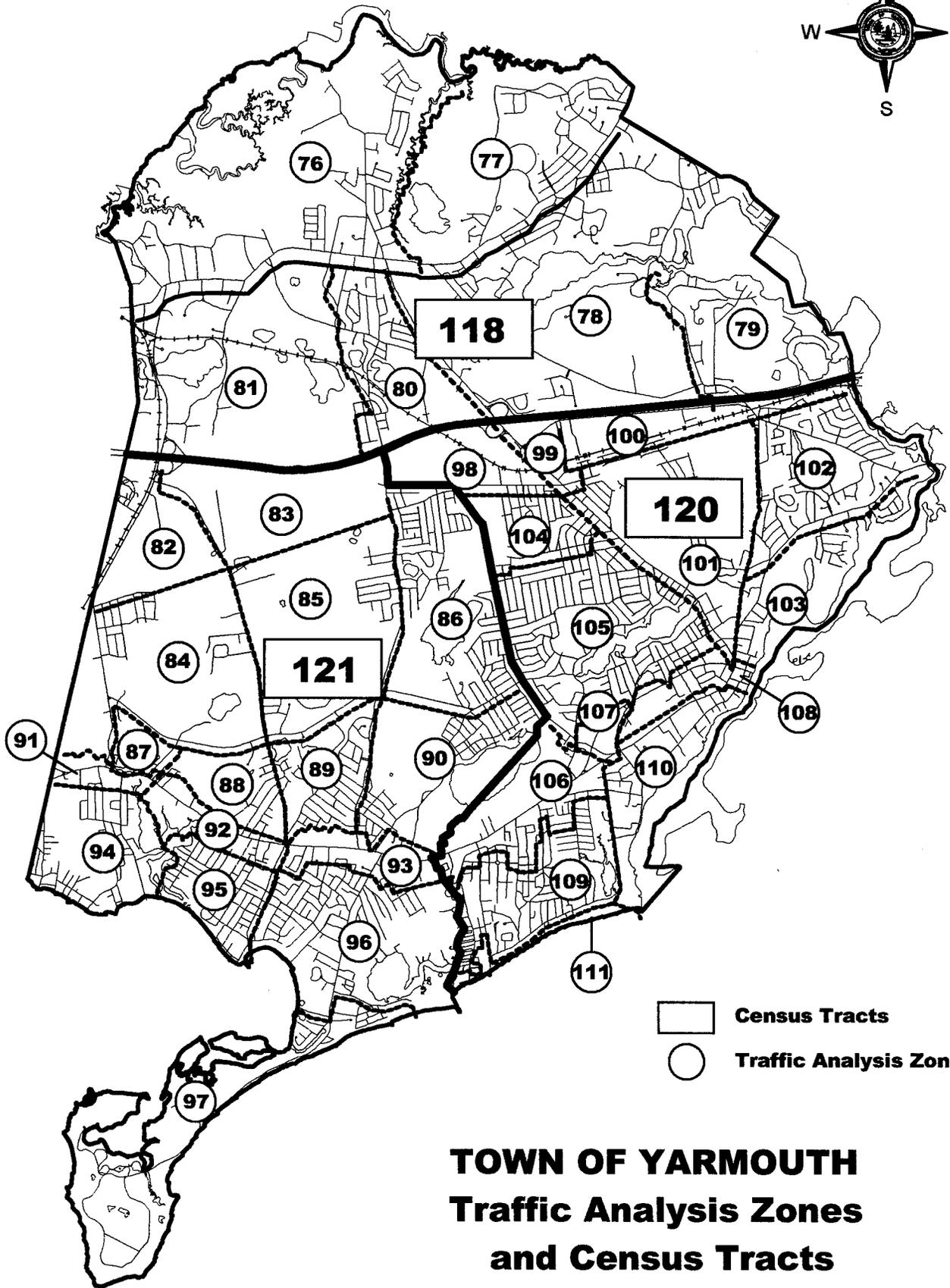
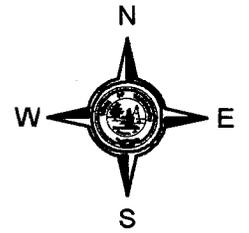
The contents of the Intergovernmental Coordination section of this Chapter have evolved over the past seven years from the drafts of the endorsed Chapters of the Yarmouth Plan. These chapters were extensively reviewed by local, private, and a counties agencies. During the review the Local Planning Committee has attempted to incorporate into this Plan Chapter a discussion of the coordinating efforts that would be undertaken to further the goals and policies of each subject chapter.

The Yarmouth Comprehensive Plan is not a static document, and cooperation among all levels of government will be a significant factor in the Town’s planning and regulatory program, and in future refinements and implementation of the Comprehensive Plan.

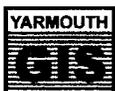
RESOURCES OF REGIONAL IMPORTANCE

This chapter of the Yarmouth Comprehensive Plan represents an attempt to identify local resources of concern to more than one town and to coordinate management of these activities.

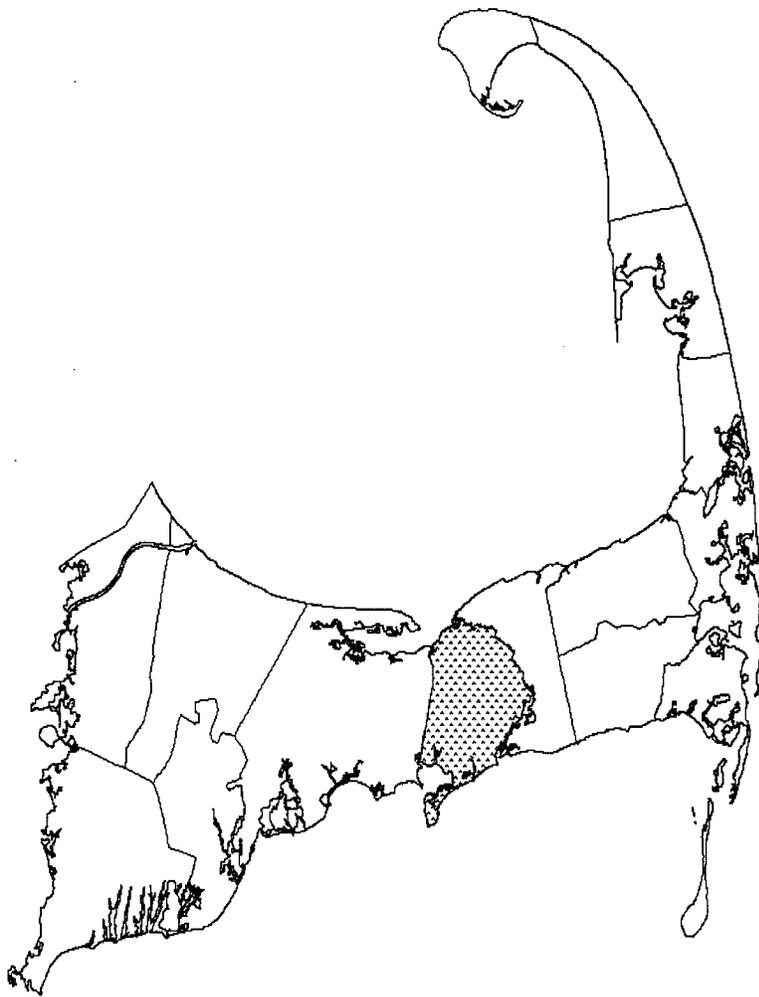
Key regional resources in Yarmouth include, but are not limited to those listed following. These areas have been mapped by the Town on its GIS (Geographic Information System). And are shown on the map included in the “Resources” section of this Plan chapter. They include, natural resources, economic, historic, and cultural resources, and key regional facilities.



**TOWN OF YARMOUTH
Traffic Analysis Zones
and Census Tracts
1990**



OUTLINE MAP OF BARNSTABLE COUNTY, MASSACHUSETTS
Map 17-4



Government Structures

Barnstable County

GOVERNMENTAL STRUCTURE - BARNSTABLE COUNTY

HISTORY

Barnstable County was created out of Plymouth County by an act of incorporation dated June 2, 1685. It is over 300 years old! The present structure of County government was defined by the Barnstable County Home Rule Charter which was approved by referendum in 1988. With the adoption of that charter by the electorate, Barnstable County became the 2nd of the state's 14 counties to update its system of governance from the original colonial structure. It is significant to note that 8 of those 14 counties have ceased to exist as units of government since 1988 as Massachusetts is making a major effort to make area-wide government more efficient responsible and economic. As a result Cape Cod has a true-area-wide regional government providing services with authority to tax the public.

As a result of that 1988 change, a legislative branch, the Assembly of Delegates, was added to the long-standing executive branch, the three-member Board of County Commissioners. The Assembly consists of one member from each of the 15 towns in Barnstable County. The vote of each Assembly delegate is proportionate to the percentage of total County population of his/her member town. The vote of the Yarmouth delegate counts 11.35 percent of each vote as the result. The percentages are based on the Federal census figures and will be updated after the 2000 Census totals become final.

Two other officers are elected at large. The Sheriff who supervises the County Jail, and the Register of Deeds who directs registration and recording of land deeds.

LIMITATION ON REGIONAL GOVERNMENT

Every five years the charter must be reviewed for the purpose of determining if any amendments or revisions are needed. That review took place and revisions to the Charter were recommended. In November 2100 the voters of Barnstable County were asked to approve them by a referendum article. They did so by nearly a 2-1 margin.

As a result of the vote Barnstable County-government will be reorganized into the "Cape Cod Regional Government"; the functions and financial obligations of the Jail and House of Correction will be transferred to the Commonwealth; it transferred the functions of the Advisory Board on County Expenditures to the Assembly; plus several administrative changes.

Note: This re-organization is now blocked in the General Court by political and financial issues.

SERVICES PROVIDED BY BARNSTABLE COUNTY

The County will, and is continuing to provide significant services through the following listed agencies:

1. Cape Cod Cooperative Extension
2. Barnstable County Dept. of Health and Environment
3. Cape Cod Commission
4. Barnstable County Resources Development Office
5. Cape Cod Economic Development Council
6. Cape Light Compact.
7. Barnstable County Department of Human Services
8. Children's Care: Cape Cod & Islands Child Advocacy Center
9. Barnstable County Dredge
10. Barnstable County Fire-Rescue Training Academy
11. Barnstable County Registry of Deeds

SUMMARY OF REVISIONS TO THE BARNSTABLE COUNTY HOME RULE CHARTER

In 1988 the Barnstable County Home Rule Charter went into effect after a majority vote of the electorate in Barnstable County and after approval was received from the State legislature. The Charter protects certain rights of home rule for Barnstable County and has increased citizen participation in County government. The Charter established a County legislative body with power to enact ordinances, and it maintained an Executive branch of County government through its County Commissioners. Since 1988 Barnstable County government has been able to increase the amount of services its provides to towns in Barnstable County, saving towns money.

Barnstable County is recognized as a model for providing regional services to its community and for being fiscally sound. Barnstable County government now proposes to reorganize into a **regional government** providing more efficiency in its governance. (This was voted by referendum)

WHAT THE CHARTER AND TRANSITIONAL AMENDMENTS WILL DO:

- Reorganize Barnstable County government into the Cape Cod Regional Government, known as Barnstable County.
- Transfer functions and financial obligations of the Jail and House of Correction to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. All existing County employees of the Jail and House of Correction will become employees of the state on July 1, 2001 (This has proven controversial)
- Allow the County to maintain reserve accounts similar to towns in the Commonwealth.
- Transfer the functions of the Advisory Board on County Expenditures to the Assembly of Delegates.
- Maintain the unfunded pension liability for existing retirees of the Jail and House of Correction and the existing employees of the Jail and House of Correction, up until the date they are transferred to the state, with the members of the Barnstable County Retirement System.

WHAT WILL NOT CHANGE:

- No new taxes will result from the proposed amendments
- Towns local authority will, be maintained
- Existing services and the ability to deliver regional services will continue
- The existing revenue stream for Barnstable County will be maintained

If the voters do not approve the proposed amendments, the existing Barnstable County Home Rule Charter shall remain in full force and effect. (This is what remains in effect.)

COUNTY GOVERNMENT/REGIONAL GOVERNMENT - RE-ORGANIZATION APPROVED!

- ❑ The basic structure of Barnstable County government was defined by the home rule charter which was approved by referendum in 1988. With that it became the 2nd of the state's 14 counties to update its system for government from the colonial structure. It is also significant to note that 8 others of those 14 counties have now ceased to exist!!
- ❑ In November of 2000 the voters of Barnstable County were asked to revise their charter again into a "regional government" form. They did so by nearly a 2-1 margin. Every 5 years the charter must be reviewed. The County's legislative branch, the Assembly of Delegates, uses a weighted vote method so each representative has the percentage of votes that his town population is to the whole county.
- ❑ As a result County government is in the process of being re-organized. The functions of the House of Correction will be transferred to the state; the Registry of Deeds will remain with the County.
- ❑ The Regional government will provide significant services such as the Dept. of Human Services, County Dredge, Cape Cod Commission, County Resource Development Office, Cooperative Extension, Cape Light Compact, Children's Care, and several others.
- ❑ No final approval of the approved transition has been approved by the State's legislature apparently for political and financial revisions. The future of "Regional Government" remains unclear at this time as a result!

**YARMOUTH'S GOVERNMENTAL
STRUCTURE

YARMOUTH**

GOVERNMENTAL STRUCTURE - TOWN OF YARMOUTH

HISTORIC

Yarmouth was first settled in 1639. For many years it was a rural community, with several distinct villages. Its economy was built upon fishing, agriculture, salt-evaporation, and shipping. The opening of a railroad link from Boston in the mid 1850's stimulated the Town's attraction to vacationers by the 1880's. While after World War II an increasing number of retirees have arrived to settle here.

Yarmouth is now a sizeable suburban town with a population of more than 25,000, and a varied economy and society. It is classified as a part of the Hyannis Metropolitan Area by the Bureau of Census.

Since Yarmouth is also a tourist resort center its population balloons by 2-5 time in the summer, stretching its facilities and accommodations to the maximum for a 60 day period.

HOME RULE CHARTER

At the 1997 Annual Town Meeting Yarmouth became one of the last towns in Massachusetts to adopt a "Home Rule Charter". This generally codified existing structures and practices. In the future it will give the Town a degree of freedom on making changes as needed.

Because of its sizeable population, Yarmouth is divided into 6 voting precincts of approximately equal population. When the 2000 census figures become available boundaries will be adjusted to allow the formation of a seventh precinct.

OPEN TOWN MEETING

The heart of Yarmouth's government is its open town meeting. The Annual Town Meeting is held on the second Tuesday of April and the election of local officials has recently been moved to May. Special Town Meetings are called as needed at other times of the year. The Town Meeting has a "0" quorum limit. The Town Moderator, is an elected position and he presides over the Town Meeting.

EXECUTIVE BRANCH AND COMMITTEE STRUCTURE

The executive branch of Yarmouth's government is headed by an elected, part-time, five member Board of Selectmen. They are elected for staggered 3-year terms, at large.

In addition to the usual range of operating, enforcement, and advisory departments, Yarmouth has 46 specialized boards, committees, and commission. These are made up of over 400 citizen members who volunteer their time and advice to assist the Selectmen, Town Administrator, and staff in their efforts and interpretations. In nearly all cases these members are appointed by the Selectmen, reporting and consulting with them at least once annually.

The Town's chief executive officer is the Town Administrator. He is a full-time salaried professional appointed by the Selectmen.

TABLE OF ORGANIZATION

In May of 1995 a new and more efficient table of organization for Town departments and divisions came into effect. These departments report directly to the Town Administrator (see following chart) and the constituent divisions report to their department heads. There are seven departments, Fire, Police, Public Works, Municipal Inspections, Community Services, Community Development, and Municipal Finance.

Community Development includes divisions representing Planning, Conservation, Board of Appeals, Economic Development, and Historic/Old Kings Highway. There are of course a number of permanent and adhoc committees involved with these divisions.

TOWN ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATION

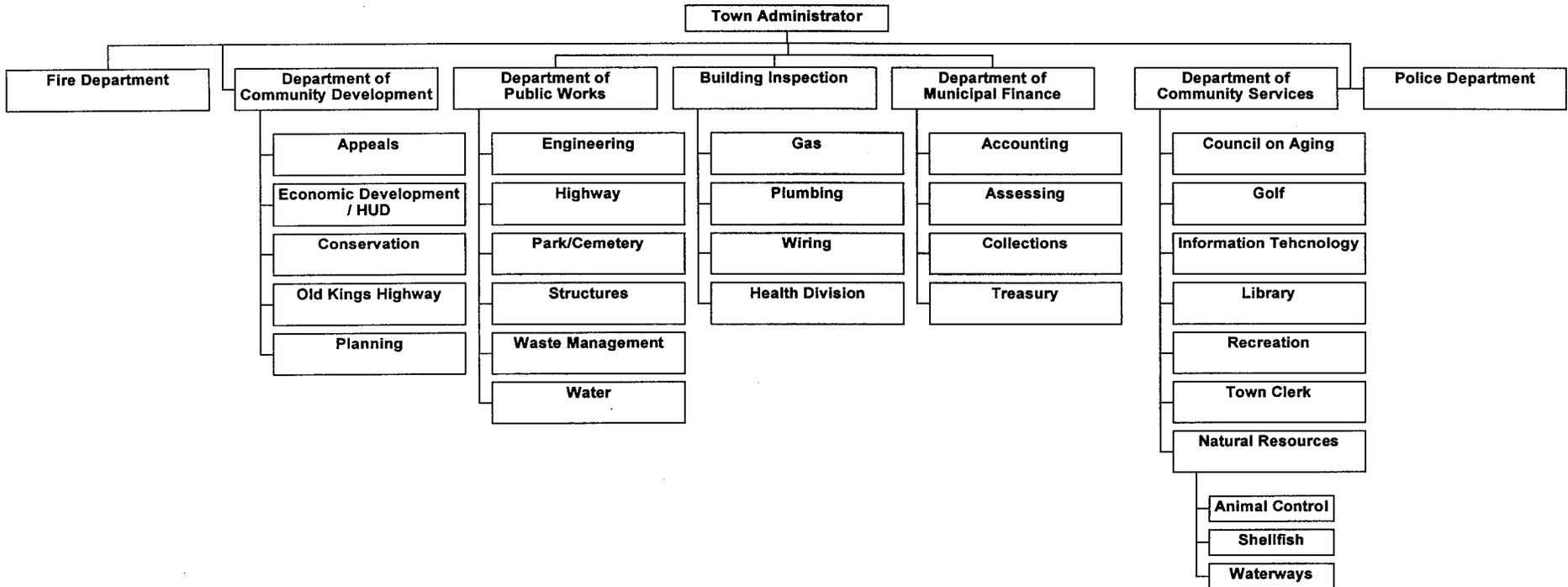


Chart 17-1

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACCOMPLISHMENT

OF

INTER-GOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION

A. COORDINATION WITH OTHER PLANNING EFFORTS

This section details the need for cooperation and coordination between local, county, and state agencies in the area of planning and a wide range of other issues. The possibilities of Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) between local and other inter-municipal and county agencies is promulgated as a means of coordinating various inter-municipal and regional programs now operating or proposed in the near future. We have also seen (November of 2000) a change in Barnstable County from county government to "regional government" as the result of favorable referendum vote.

B. LOCAL AND INTER-MUNICIPAL COORDINATION

Enumerated are examples of shared concerns with the neighboring towns, that reinforce the need to continue and expand shared information, planning or other, and look at experiences with joint operations. We are making a suggestion that an MOU would be helpful as a vehicle to finalize communication through regularly scheduled meetings and materials. As originally expected in 1997 therefore we are looking at updating the original Chap. 5, in Chap. 17, as we have gained more experience about coordination and communication needs. If we have learned anything during the comprehensive planning program it is that coordination sounds simple and easy, but is exceedingly difficult to achieve at any level of government.

C. COORDINATION WITH LOCAL AGENCIES

The Cape Cod Commission Act provides for the establishment of a "local planning committee" to develop local comprehensive plans for each town in cooperation with the Cape Cod Commission. Each community on the Cape has established such a committee and their committees have been meeting regularly for the most part. In some towns such as Yarmouth the Planning Board was appointed as the Local Planning Committee. In other towns a separate steering group was created comprised of representatives of various town boards within that particular community. In Yarmouth the Planning Board has been working in close cooperation with the Growth Policy Advisory Council (GPAC) and a group of steering sub-committees for each specific plan subject. The latter have representatives of from 4 to 6 other town boards, private agencies, and staff. This has proven a slightly different structure for us, but a good one for planning and zoning concerns.

Regardless of the formal composition of the local planning committees, it is clear that preparation of local comprehensive plans requires the participation of all relevant boards and agencies. The Yarmouth Local Planning Committee is encouraging the broadest possible input from within the community to develop the Yarmouth Comprehensive Plan. The Cape Cod Commission, the surplus State Lottery funds, surplus County funds, and several other Town boards have all provided substantial financial and technical assistance for the Town to help develop the Yarmouth plan. The Planning staff, other Town staff members, and consultants have worked on the development of portions of the Comprehensive Plan. The Cape Cod Commission has also assisted the Local Planning Committee and staff in the preparation of various planning subjects. There have been 6 Steering Sub-Committees formed to deal with a variety of subject matters, and one has had its role expanded to study an "activity center".

In addition to the planning efforts of the various local planning committees, the Cape Cod Commission has been coordinating with local boards on reviews of Developments of Regional Impact (DRI's). Commission decisions should be consistent with local by-laws and regulations as required by the Commission enabling legislation. However, the Commission may impose more stringent conditions on development than would be required by local reviews. In certain cases the Commission may recommend during its review of a project that a town consider waiving one or more local standards in the interest of attaining the intent of the enabling act. Such waivers are not mandatory, but they can be considered by the town during its local review process.

D. COORDINATION OF POLICIES AND PROGRAMS AFFECTING RESOURCES AND PLANS

A review of the goals and policies and local actions section of each chapter in the Yarmouth Local Comprehensive Plan makes it clear that a variety of coordinating efforts will be required. These efforts, both formal and informal, will be required to carry out the various purposes of the Comprehensive Plan. Many of these activities are already underway, or planned through public and private sector programs, or by Yarmouth's planning efforts. Yarmouth's planning efforts should not duplicate these efforts but rather complement them where possible. Staff assistance can be provided when appropriate.

The contents of this Coordination Chapter 17 are continuing to evolve as the various drafts of the Plan Chapters are prepared and discussed with local agencies, staffs, and individuals. A revised Coordination section is now being prepared at the end of the basic program. In each chapter as prepared there are incorporated a discussion of the coordinating efforts required to reach the goals, policies and objectives of that chapter.

E. REGIONAL COORDINATION OF PROGRAMS WITH SUGGESTED IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS

All our planning chapters have suggested numerous local actions. Each action must be coordinated not only at the local level, but at the inter-municipal level as well. Actions at the next higher level of government, the County, (or regional), will also require coordination. These coordination efforts will be described in the following sections.

Yarmouth now has formal agreements with the County concerning not only planning, but use of the dredge, Cape Light Compact, and Health Agent. As the regional planning of the government unfolds it may be possible to develop these sorts of agreements with other regional agencies. Except for the elected officials of state and federal government that represent this area, there is no existing coordination mechanism for planning at those levels. Therefore, the use of regular, informal, local, staff, and political contacts has been required. In this case as well, more formal agreements might be useful. The coordination role of the Cape Cod Commission is also very important.

F. ESTABLISHMENT OF A LOCAL PLANNING COMMITTEE USING THE PLANNING BOARD AND GROWTH POLICY ADVISORY COUNCIL

The Cape Cod Commission Act provides for the establishment of local planning committees to oversee the development of comprehensive plans in the towns of Barnstable County. Yarmouth's Selectmen designated its seven member Planning Board as such a committee in April 1991. In November of 1994 the Growth Policy Advisory Council (GPAC) was added to that function via a memo to the Board of Selectmen. Yarmouth is the only town on the Cape with such an organization as GPAC. The working agreement between the two boards has proven effective in obtaining the endorsement of the "VISION" statement, and the outreach and public relations process, and the gaining thus far of the endorsement by Town Meeting of fourteen (14) of the chapters of the Comprehensive Plan.

To further enhance activity and review coordination, the Town of Yarmouth and the Cape Cod Commission signed a MOU in November 1995. That document provides for coordinated and cooperative processing of DRI's. Other cooperative actions include submission of DRI's through the Planning Division staff as a "conduit", provisions for notices to local boards as to pending projects, receipt of local technical assistance from the Commission staff, and other coordination items. To date this has worked well, but the MOU needs updating and re-endorsement, especially as regards applicants going directly to the Cape Cod Commission.

G. REVIEW OF LOCAL AND REGIONAL PLANS WITH CAPE COD COMMISSION STAFF FOR CONSISTENCY WITH THE LOCAL COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AND THE REGIONAL POLICY PLAN

As mentioned before, there is an MOU between the Town and the Cape Cod Commission which was signed in November 1995. It deals with such items as discretionary referrals, DRI reviews, referrals of historic structures, identification of activity centers, changes in DRI thresholds, screening of industrial areas, revitalization of the Route 28 corridor, and requests for technical assistance. In addition there are commission staff contact persons for DRI's and for the Comprehensive Plan. These working relationships have been established already. But the MOU calls for review, update, and renewal every 3 years and that has not been done. *Such actions should be undertaken immediately, and the MOU should be re-adopted expeditiously.*

The reader has already been informed that as part of the Comprehensive Planning Program "long summary" drafts have been proposed for each of the Plan chapters. These are designed to provide information to the general public and will be reviewed with Cape Cod Commission staff as part of the Plan's preparation/presentation process.

The overall plan format has been adjusted to match the Commission's guidelines as much as possible, but there is an inherent diversity in Cape communities. Yarmouth may vary considerably in places from the Regional Policy Plan (RPP) in its goals, policies, minimum performance standards, and local actions. However, now that we are well into the program, it has been noted that there is not as much variation from th RPP as expected.

Yarmouth will try to underscore any matters at issue with the Cape Cod Commission positions, and demonstrate the unique and/or special local situation that would prevent use from inclusion of such a goal or objective.

H. FORMALIZATION OF STAFF ROLES IN REGULAR CONTACTS BETWEEN TOWN AND COUNTY

As noted, the staff roles between Town and County are defined only in the MOU with the Cape Cod Commission. Other County agencies where similar agreements might provide useful include the County Health Department, Social Services, Sheriff Services, Fire Services, and any policy affecting services. MOU's with these agencies might well be appropriate.

Agreements with associated Federal and State agencies would also be an interesting possibility. These might include the Extension Service of the Dept. of Agriculture, the Mass. Coastal Zone Management Program and the Mass. Bays Program.

The effects of the various take-overs by the Commonwealth of the state's 14 counties has already resulted in the absorption of 8 of them. Barnstable, with its locally adopted Home Rule Charter, will probably be spared. A "regional government" form was endorsed by a 2 to 1 vote in the November 2000 general election. Section III of this report describes that change-over in some detail, and as a result, agreements with the former County agencies could be critical to coordinating day to day operating questions.

I. LIAISON WITH BARNSTABLE AND DENNIS LPC'S AND SCHEDULING REGULAR MEETINGS

Our neighboring towns of Barnstable and Dennis share concerns arising from common geographic features, common transportation systems, and shared public facilities and services. By sharing information about such concerns during the development of their local comprehensive plans, these towns can better coordinate their efforts and can better develop the regional coordination programs

required by the Cape Cod Commission Act. Almost certainly a regular updated MOU with them would also be helpful

At present the planning staffs of Yarmouth, Barnstable and Dennis are in active consultation on a variety of matters, such as transportation, refuse, septage, coastal embayments, and school facilities. This contact provides a continuity of professional familiarity with jointly held concerns of these mid-Cape towns.

J. REGULAR MEETINGS WITH BARNSTABLE AND DENNIS LPC'S

During the long range planning process and beyond, the Local Planning Committees (LPC's) of Yarmouth, Barnstable and Dennis should meet regularly to identify issues of common concern and mechanisms for coordination. The Yarmouth LPC and the Growth Policy Advisory Council have met several times with Dennis during the course of the program, but basically our only contacts with Barnstable have been during the Transportation Planning exercise. Possibly an MOA or MOU would be appropriate to schedule these meetings on a regular basis.

This section will also be expanded after practical experience is gained in presenting the various Comprehensive Plan chapters. But even now it is clear that a fixed agenda should be prepared with emphasis on issues along town boundaries being the most important.

K. REVIEW OF LOCAL PLANS FOR CONSISTENCY AND COORDINATION WITH ADJOINING TOWNS

Part of any Memorandum of Agreement (MOA or MOU) with adjoining towns should be a mechanism for providing the review of local plans for their consistency and coordination with each other. In part through a steering sub-committee this type of coordination could exist with Barnstable and Dennis. A more formal process should be useful as well, leading to a method whereby differences of opinion might be resolved.

The above-mentioned MOA could also provide a the structure for regular meetings with other similar operational agencies such as Health, Conservation, Recreation, or Public Works. The demands of finding meeting times to accomplish this are probably the biggest detriment to accomplishing this.

This section will be revised and expanded after practical experience is gained in presenting the Plan's various chapters.

L. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACCOMPLISHMENT OF GOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION

A. ESTABLISHMENT OF A LOCAL PLANNING COMMITTEE - A Local Planning Committee made up of the 7 member Planning Board was established in 1993 by the Board of Selectmen. The Growth Policy Advisory Council was added in November 1995 to assist with outreach and implementation. To this grouping have been added six steering sub-committees. Formation of an implementation committee for the Comprehensive Plan was also suggested.

B. REVIEW OF LOCAL AND REGIONAL PLANS - Also in November 1995 a MOU was finally signed with the Cape Cod Commission after a long period of negotiations. It described the process for handling Developments of Regional Impact (DRI's). This agreement should be updated immediately as called for!

C. FORMALIZATION OF STAFF ROLES - Agreements need to be signed with a whole series of federal, state, state, regional, and local agencies to clarify staff and committee roles in dealing with coordinating various proposals.

D. LIAISON WITH BARNSTABLE AND DENNIS - LOCAL PLANNING COMMITTEES (LPC'S) AND REGULARLY UPDATED MOU'S -At present the planning staffs of the three towns are in active

informal consultation on a variety of matters. By sharing information about various concerns better coordinated efforts can be developed. A regular updated MOU with each would be helpful.

E. REGULAR MEETINGS WITH BARNSTABLE, DENNIS (LPC'S) - During the long range planning process and beyond we have met occasionally with Dennis, but only once with Barnstable. Certainly an MOU setting up a regular meeting time with a fixed agenda of items is most important. We have many joint concerns and need to be talking with a number of other towns' agencies.

F. REVIEW OF LOCAL PLANS FOR CONSISTENCY - We need to review each adjoining towns' plans for consistency with Yarmouth along Town boundaries. Referral to the Cape Cod Commission alone will not do it completely, because we still have some serious differences with each other.

RESOURCES OF REGIONAL AND
INTER-MUNICIPAL IMPORTANCE

RESOURCES OF REGIONAL IMPORTANCE

A. BACKGROUND

For Comprehensive Plan purposes, regional, and inter-municipal resources located in Yarmouth are considered to be those resources which are *significant to more than one town*, or which cross jurisdictional boundaries.. They include both natural and man-made resources. They are areas that have public value, and that may be vulnerable to damage from uncontrolled or inappropriate development.

This chapter, No. 17 of the Comprehensive Plan, is designed to identify Yarmouth's critical resources and management needs, including economic resources, recreational and conservation uses, coastal areas, wetland and water resources, and agricultural locations including cranberry bogs.

The Cape Cod Commission Act requires that their Regional Policy Plan identify Barnstable County's critical resources and management needs. At the town level, that is here in Yarmouth, the same effort is being undertaken for local resources and management needs, and these are being incorporated into the Comprehensive Plan.

These critical resources include coastal, historic, recreational, wetland, architectural, aesthetic, and economic resources. Also included are ground water and surface water supplies, available open space, and areas for developmental activities.

Key regional resources in Yarmouth are not limited to those listed in the local Comprehensive Plan, but may include others covered by adjoining comprehensive plans of various government levels.

B. LISTING OF RESOURCES OF INTER-MUNICIPAL IMPORTANCE

Numerous resources of inter-municipal importance are inventoried and mapped in this section. These include water bodies, wetlands, coastal resources, and open spaces. Physical resources of concern are listed, such as the hospital, airport, and highway transportation. The two significant inter-municipal agreements relating to solid waste and septage, plus regional schools are emphasized because of their impact on Yarmouth's infrastructure.

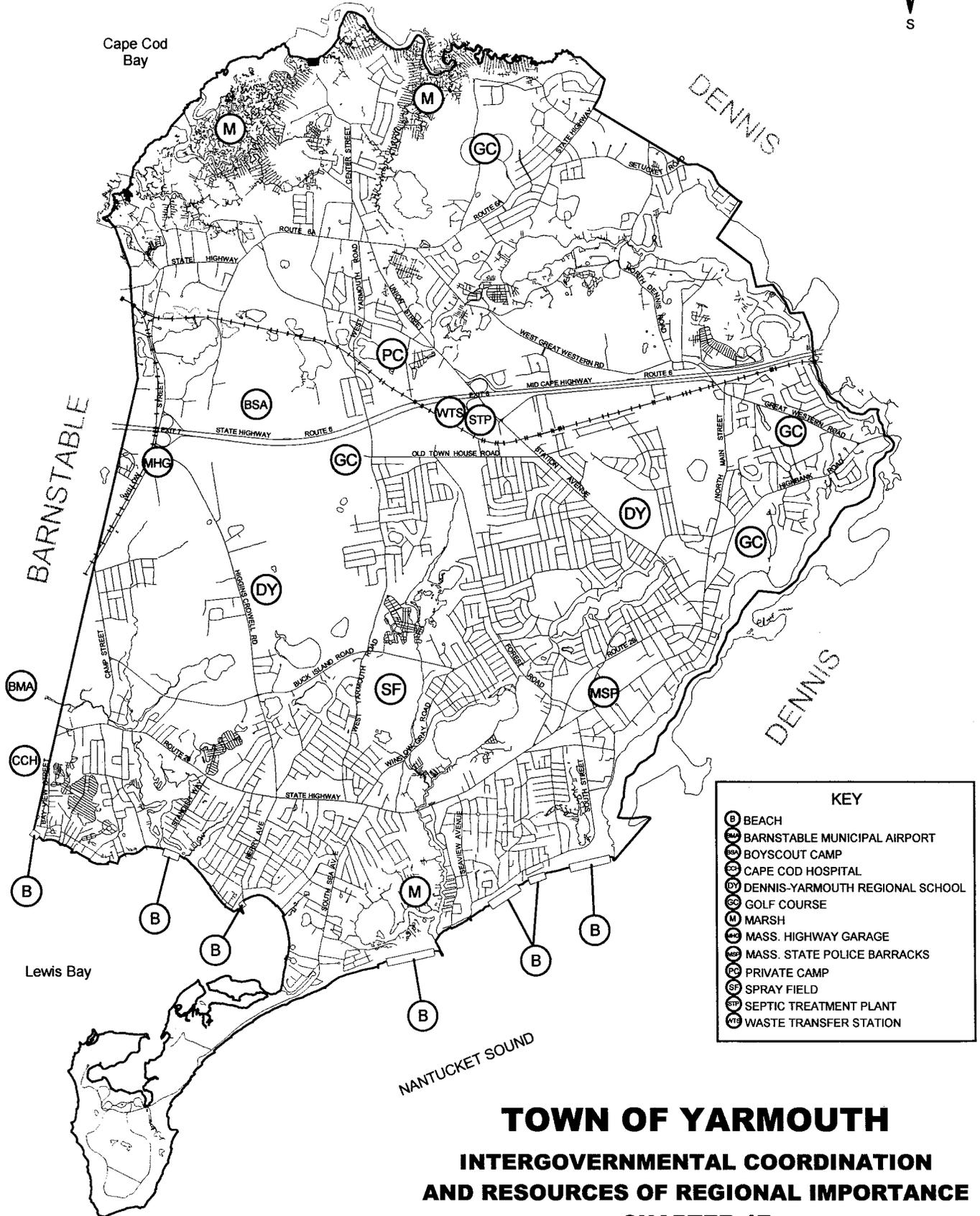
Regional and inter-municipal resources in Yarmouth therefore include, but are not limited to, those listed on the following pages. Most of these sites, uses and buildings have been, or will soon be mapped by the Yarmouth Geographic Information System (GIS).

LISTING

C. INTER-MUNICIPAL RESOURCES OF SIGNIFICANCE- (SEE MAP # 17-5)

1. Re-Charge areas- Existing and future public water supply wells.
Note: Zoning Map and see IEP Study 1987-88 (Zone 1's and Zones of Contribution)
2. Re-Charge Areas- Coastal Embayments and Inland Ponds
See IEP Study and Cape Cod Commission Studies
3. Inland Wetlands- See Water Resources- Chapter 12
Also note- cranberry bogs
4. Coastal Wetlands - Salt Marshes - See Wetlands - Chapter 11
 - Northside Areas
 - Chase Garden Creek
 - Parker's River - South side

**INTERGOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION AND
RESOURCES OF REGIONAL IMPORTANCE
CHAPTER 17
YARMOUTH COMPREHENSIVE PLAN**



KEY	
(B)	BEACH
(BMA)	BARNSTABLE MUNICIPAL AIRPORT
(BSA)	BOYSCOUT CAMP
(CCH)	CAPE COD HOSPITAL
(DY)	DENNIS-YARMOUTH REGIONAL SCHOOL
(GC)	GOLF COURSE
(M)	MARSH
(MHG)	MASS. HIGHWAY GARAGE
(MSP)	MASS. STATE POLICE BARRACKS
(PC)	PRIVATE CAMP
(SF)	SPRAY FIELD
(STP)	SEPTIC TREATMENT PLANT
(WTS)	WASTE TRANSFER STATION

**TOWN OF YARMOUTH
INTERGOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION
AND RESOURCES OF REGIONAL IMPORTANCE
CHAPTER 17**

April 5, 2001

MAP 17-5



5. Inland Lakes and Ponds more than 10 acres - See Water Resources - Chapter 12
 - Long Pond
 - Swan Pond
6. Coastal Embayments - See Coastal Resources - Chapter 7
 - Cape Cod Bay
 - Lewis Bay
 - Nantucket Sound
 - Bass River
7. Near shore Marine & Fisheries and Their Habitat
 - Includes shellfish areas - see map #17 -5
8. Private Open Space
 - Kingsway Golf Course
 - Blue Rock Golf Course
 - Camp Greenough - (Boy Scout Camp)
 - Camp Kirkland-Wingate (Summer Camp)
9. Public Open Space - See Open Space & Recreation - Chapter 6
 - Bayberry Hills Golf Course - Town of Yarmouth
 - All Town of Yarmouth Beaches open to public (7)
 - Flax Pond and Sandy Pond Recreation areas - Open to public
 - Various Conservation Trails - open to public.

D. INTER-MUNICIPAL RESOURCES OF SIGNIFICANCE, HISTORIC, CULTURAL AND ECONOMIC RELATED (see Map #17-5 and see Chapter 15, Community Character)

1. Properties listed or eligible for listing on National or State Register of Historic Spaces, including sites on Route 6A - Northside Historic District
2. Including sites on southside - Bass River/South Yarmouth Historic District
3. Judah Baker Windmill, Baxter Grist Mill, and Bray Farm
4. Historic Village Center, Yarmouthport, Hallet Store Area
5. Historic Cemeteries (7)
6. Scenic Landscapes (38+) - See Chapter 15 - Community Character, also see Coastal Resources - Chapter 7
 - Bass Hole
 - Old Main Street - Bass River
 - Scenic Vistas from - Bass River Golf Course and Bayberry Golf Course
 - Route 6A Corridor
7. Archeological Resource Areas - see Chapter 15 - Community Character
 - Sites of Historical Significance - Vikings' Landing
 - Early Indian Camp Grounds
8. Sub-Regional Business District - Station Avenue and the A&P Area
 - Route 28 Corridor - Segment

E. OTHER KEY REGIONAL OR INTER-MUNICIPAL FACILITIES

1. Regional Transportation Facilities
 - U. S. Route 6 (limited access) - Exits 7 & 8
 - State Route 6A - Scenic Road
 - Route 28 Corridor - Commercial Uses
 - Buck Island Road
 - Willow Street, West Yarmouth
2. Secondary Airport for Cape Cod - Scheduled Air Services - Barnstable Municipal Airport (HYA)
 - Periphery of Map

3. Inter-Municipal Use - Barnstable/Yarmouth Transfer Station - South Yarmouth
4. Inter-Municipal Use - Dennis/Yarmouth Septage Treatment Facility- South Yarmouth
5. Regional Health Care Facilities - Cape Cod Hospital (Periphery of Map)
-Doctors' Offices - Adjacent to Hospital and on Station Avenue, South Yarmouth
6. D/Y Regional School District - High School, Station Avenue Elementary School, Lawrence MacArthur Elementary School, South Yarmouth; Mattacheese Middle School, M.E. Small School, West Yarmouth
7. Town of Yarmouth Library Facilities (inter-municipal usage) - South Yarmouth, West Yarmouth, Yarmouthport
8. Massachusetts Registry of Motor Vehicles, South Yarmouth
9. Bay Colony Railroad, including spine to Dennis and access to Hyannis

RESOURCES OF REGIONAL IMPORTANCE

BACKGROUND

One of the prime purposes of this part of the Chapter on Inter-Governmental Coordination is to identify critical resources and management needs for the town's various natural, coastal, historical, recreational, and cultural resources, and in addition its economic resources, ground and surface water supplies, open space, and areas for agricultural, housing growth, and development activity.

"Regional resources" for the purpose of this chapter are those considered to be significant to more towns than just Yarmouth, or that cross boundaries. They include both natural and manmade resources; they are areas that have public value, and that may be vulnerable to damage from uncontrolled or inappropriate development.

This portion of the chapter attempts to identify needed management activities. The resources are identified on the preceding (?) map wherever geographic presentation is appropriate. The Long Summary text identifies all by name as well.

LISTING OF RESOURCES OF INTER-MUNICIPAL IMPORTANCE

Numerous resources of inter-municipal importance have been identified and mapped. These include those on the following list. There is also a more extensive listing in the "long summary" portion of this chapter. A partial outline follows:

A. Wetland and Open Space - Related Resources

1. Re-charge areas - Public water supply wells - See Chapter 12 of the Comprehensive Plan
2. Re-charge areas - Coastal Embayments - See IEP Study & Chapter 7
3. Inland Wetlands - See Chapter 11
4. Coastal Wetlands - See Chapter 11 + (Map)
5. Inland Lakes and Ponds - See Chapter 12 + (Map)
6. Coastal Embayments - (Map)
7. Near-shore Marine Fisheries - See Chapter 7
8. Private Open Space - (Map)
9. Public Open Space (Map)

B. Inter-Municipal Resources - Historic, Cultural, and Economic Related

1. Historic Properties on the National and State Register - see Chapter 15
2. Bass River Historic District and Northside Historic District - See Chapter 15
3. Judah Baker Windmill - (Map)
4. Historic Village Centers - Yarmouthport, South Yarmouth See Chapter 15 +(Map)
5. Historic Cemeteries - See Chapter 15 +(Map)
6. Scenic Landscapes - See Chapter 15 - Scenic Vistas Portion
7. Archeological Resources - See Chapter 15

8. Sub-Regional Business District - A&P, - See Chapter 8

C. Other Key Regional Inter-Municipal Facilities

1. Regional Transportation Facilities - Route 28, Route 6, Route 6A, Others (Map)
2. Airport (Map)
3. Transfer Station (Map)
4. Septage Treatment Plant (Map)
5. Regional Health Care Facilities - Cape Cod Hospital (Map)
6. D/Y Regional Schools (Map)
7. Yarmouth Library Facilities - (Map)
8. Bay Colony Railroad (Map)
9. Massachusetts Registry of Motor Vehicles - South Yarmouth

PUBLIC OUTREACH
AND
INTERVIEW PROCESS

PUBLIC OUTREACH AND INTERVIEW PROCESS

In order to get a better understanding of the various needs for intergovernmental coordination at the town and county level an 11 question questionnaire was mailed to 23 staff members and 9 other agencies as well. This was followed up by a series of 16 personal interviews, 15 in all over a two month period from mid January 2001 to Mid March.

The questions dealt with both "coordination" and the needs of current facilities and operation of various departments. The purpose of the questionnaire was not meant to be exactly applicable to each operation, but to enhance discussion between those agencies. In that it was very successful and a measure of understanding was gained of this problems and needs that was very useful.

Copies of the introductory letter and the questionnaire follow. In the past year several requests to follow up on this outreach effort have been received.



TOWN OF YARMOUTH

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Telephone (508) 398-2231, Ext. 275 — Fax (508) 398-2365

DEPARTMENT
OF
COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT

TO: Interested Boards, Committees, Staff Members and Individuals

FROM: David H. Kellogg, Director *D.H.K.*
Department of Community Development

DATE: February 13, 2001

SUBJECT: Interviews With Town Planner About the Need for Inter-Governmental
Coordination Relating to Your Particular Area of Concern

-
- ◆ The Local Planning Committee (Planning Board) and the Town Planner are trying to complete the four remaining chapters of the Comprehensive Plan. One of those four is a brief element about Inter-Governmental Coordination and Resources of Regional Importance.
 - ◆ We are trying to interview some 20 local and regional agencies as to internal and external coordination, and what needs these facilities and their operation might have of an inter-municipal nature.
 - ◆ Attached is a rough outline of the questions that are being asked in order to enhance such an interview. These questions may or may not be adequate to describe your operation so that if you wish to raise other points please do not hesitate to say so and we will try to include your concerns in our report.
 - ◆ Please read through these items to see if you have any comments you wish to include. If you think the outline sufficient we will try to stick with that. At any rate, we are trying to alert you as to the content of the interview in advance.
 - ◆ I hope to be able to talk with you for about 20 minutes to clarify the various points raised.
 - ◆ Please call me or Jeanne Bullock at 398-2231, ext. 275, and we will try to set an interview time.



QUESTIONS CONCERNING INTER-GOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION AND RESOURCES OF REGIONAL IMPORTANCE

1. What facilities or uses do you or your agency operate that you consider of at least inter-municipal importance, and whose operation has regular needs for coordination with other similar uses/or facilities?
2. What are their/your needs for improvements on a short-term basis (5 year) and what long term needs do you foresee (15 - 20 years)?
3. Do you have ongoing short and/or long-range planning activities covering your operations?
4. Are these facilities vulnerable to "inappropriate development"?
5. What protection is needed for these facilities?
6. Do you have what might be called "implementation" activities for your existing facilities' improvement or their operational needs?
7. Coordination with other similar activities at the Town, Regional or County, State, Federal Level!
 - A - Existing agreements - Please describe.
 - B - Improvements/changes needed in your various coordinated activities?
 - C - Coordination/communication activities currently being undertaken
8. Biggest "road block" to coordinating your activities?
9. Would you consider your facilities operation to be an appropriate subject for a new chapter of the Comprehensive Plan?
10. Is there a need for your activity to be included in a "Community Services" Chapter of the Comprehensive Plan?
11. What other items/subjects might be covered by such a chapter?

QUESTIONNAIRE ON INTER-GOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION AND RESOURCES OF REGIONAL IMPORTANCE

- An analysis of the interviews that were under-taken as a result of the questionnaire has yielded some pertinent insights. The initial section was that it was significant to note that at least 6 of 11 discussion questions had a pattern of responses that appeared to be useful.
- Since several of these questions were essay-type it was only possible to generally categorize them, however the general pattern to be as follows:

SUMMARY OF QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSES THAT APPEARED SIGNIFICANT

1. **Do you have onl-going short and/or long range planning activities covering your operations?** Surprisingly only 7 reported active short or long-range planning studies were underway. Of those, 3 were related to the Comprehensive Plan's long range studies.
2. **Are these facilites vulnerable to "inappropriate development?"** Another surprise was that only one agency was concerned about encroaching development. The others felt they were buffered by their lot's size or other controls.
3. **Do you have what might be called "implementation" activities for your existing facility's Improvement or their operational needs!** This question engendered considerable discussion. Almost all undertook activities to support their program. Only 3 actively were working to carry out an existing plan as such.
4. **Coordination with other similar activities at the Town, regional, state or federal level? Please describe. Please describe.** Almost all agencies had some sort of existing agreement with similar operations. These were far more extensive than expected. Several made suggestions for improvements that fit in with this chapter's proposals.
5. **Would you consider your facility's operation to be an appropriate subject for a new chapter of the Comprehensive Plan?** A group of six agencies all involved in social services in some manner, said such a chapter could be very helpful. Those providing physical services, such as roads, and water said no.
6. **Is there a need for your activity to be included in a "Community Services' chapter of the?** Three said definitely yes at the present time, the other 3 at some time in the future, all thought this might be a chapter that could be expanded incrementally.

Note: Copies of the questionnaire responses were retained and stored in the Comprehensive Plan files.