

TO: Planning Board
FROM: Sue Brown
SUBJECT: Planners Report, Project Updates
DATE: April 11, 2022

Open Space and Recreation Plan Update

- The only item needed to finalize plan and resubmit to State for approval is the letter of review from BOS - to be voted on 4/19.

Western Woods Preservation

- Agreement with Forester has been cancelled due to inability to complete the project on time.
- A new Forester has been identified and will complete the Assessment and Report within the Fiscal Year.

Local Rapid Recovery Plan

- To date the Town has been unsuccessful in its grant applications due to the intense competition and lack of funds to support all applications.
- We have followed up on each to receive feedback that will help us in subsequent applications and or rounds.

Downtown Parking Study

- Memorandum outlining Scope and Management has been sent to pertinent Boards, Committees and Departments.
- MAPC visited the downtown on March 29 to begin data collection.
- Downtown Improvement Committee is working on a survey for businesses and multi-family rentals to collect information about parking availability, use, and need. The results will be used by DIP to identify preliminary recommendations that may be implemented this summer and will be shared with MAPC for consideration in developing its recommendations.

Blasting Guidelines

- Due to Board of Health response to proposed draft (below), I recommend eliminating the BOH requirements.
The Board of Health office is not currently conducting work related to blasting or blasting permits.
We have not designed notification forms for blasting nor have we reviewed information on the composition of a blasting agent.
We do not currently have someone in house that is qualified to review Safety Data Sheets to see if information is missing or in the absence of the Safety Data Sheet, determine if listed blasting agents are appropriate or acceptable.
I do not think the requests are specific enough nor do we have the staffing to properly cover this proposed work.