



Town of Brookline

Massachusetts

Planning Board

Strategic Asset Plan Subcommittee

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Robert Cook, Chair
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Dear residents of Brookline:

For many years now, planning for future facilities and services in Brookline has been embodied in the creation of the annual Capital Improvement Program (CIP), a budgetary process that projects Town expenditures for the next five years. Over the past five years, dramatically changing public school enrollment projections have triggered a need for a longer-term planning horizon of fifteen to twenty years in addition to the short-term CIP.

The Director of Planning and Community Development, along with residents serving on Boards and Commissions, called for a special planning effort unrelated to schools, to address two essential questions about the future. First, will existing Town facilities that support current services to its residents be sufficient for the longer-term future or will new facilities be required to maintain and improve this level of service? Second, under current zoning, how are parcels of land greater than two acres and with common ownership likely to change in the future in ways that might fundamentally alter the unique character of the Town?

To answer these questions, the Town contracted a team of two firms, Sasaki Associates and RKG Associates, to create two planning documents: the Strategic Asset Plan and the Major Parcel Study. The Town asked its Planning Board to establish a Subcommittee of six individuals to supervise this project. As a member of the Planning Board, I was appointed Chair of the Subcommittee and I worked closely with Kara Brewton, Economic Development Director.

Throughout the project, questions and comments were solicited from Town staff and from many residents of Brookline through interviews and public hearings. Together these two documents will provide the Town with a strategy for future facility management and a comprehensive set of land use planning tools to guide policy and zoning-related discussions about the future of Brookline.

Sincerely,

Bob Cook

Planning Board member, Strategic Asset Plan Subcommittee Chair