

City of Westfield

Open Space and Recreation Plan



2010

City of Westfield Open Space and Recreation Plan

2010

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Westfield Open Space and Recreation Plan

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SECTION 1: PLAN SUMMARY

This Open Space and Recreation Plan, completed in 2010, was developed with public input to continue coordination efforts of city departments, private organizations, landowners, and citizens on the protection of farmland, aquifer recharge areas, and sensitive habitats as well as management and acquisition of passive and active recreation lands and facilities. This plan updates Westfield's open space and recreation goals and objectives that were articulated in the 2004 Westfield Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP) and in prior OSRP's. This OSRP first reviews demographic and development trends confronting the City of Westfield and then assesses existing environmental features and characteristics. This assessment coupled with public input received at public meetings over the last year-and-a-half informed the identification of open space, conservation and recreational needs in the City of Westfield.

Westfield residents identified the long-term protection of surface and groundwater resources, assembling and protecting large blocks of open space in areas like Wyben, and managing unauthorized use of private lands for motorized recreation and dumping as critical issues throughout this planning process. Residents also desired greater connectivity to and awareness of existing resources. Residents are particularly excited about promoting arts, entertainment, and recreation uses in the downtown. Limited funding and availability of personnel are the top two needs relative to open space and recreation management in Westfield.

These needs informed the creation of five open space and recreation goals, which was the framework for the development of the City's Seven-Year Action Plan. These goals are:

- Goal 1: Drinking water supplies remain safe and abundant for future generations.
- Goal 2: Large, connected blocks of open space, including greenways and riverfront corridors, are protected from development to ensure habitat corridors for wildlife.
- Goal 3: Promote an inter-connected, city-wide transportation network that supports community identity.
- Goal 4: Recreational and open space facilities are available for residents of all ages, abilities and neighborhoods city-wide.

SECTION 2: INTRODUCTION

A. Statement of Purpose

The City of Westfield developed this plan to coordinate the efforts of city departments, private organizations, landowners, and citizens on the protection of farmland, aquifer recharge areas, and sensitive habitats as well as management and acquisition of passive and active recreation lands and facilities. Over the years, the city has lost natural resources and forgone recreational opportunities due to a lack of planning and deliberate action. Westfield residents began to take more serious action to protect, revitalize and connect existing resources with the passage of the Community Preservation Act in late 2002 and funds have been expended on open space, recreation, historic preservation and housing projects starting in 2004. City residents also supported the recent development of a downtown Westfield Plan “*Rethinking Downtown Westfield*” and Westfield Heritage Landscapes Reconnaissance Report, both of which addressed and responded to open space and recreation needs in the downtown. The 2010 Westfield OSRP Plan, which is an update of the City’s 2004 OSRP and prior OSRP’s, takes into consideration these recent planning successes and seeks to provide a framework for additional action.

B. Planning Process and Public Participation

Planning Process

The City of Westfield, cognizant that its 2004 Open Space and Recreation Plan was set to expire in February 2010, began to seek funding to update its plan in late 2008. Initially, City staff were not able to secure municipal funding for the development of a plan, so they sought to obtain public input on recreation and open space issues and needs through other methods. The City applied for and received funding under the state’s Heritage Landscape Program to identify and then prioritize natural and cultural landscapes within town that embody the community’s unique character. In addition, the City received \$75,000 under the state’s Gateway Action Plus Grant initiative to prioritize goals, strategies, and actions to guide downtown revitalization activities. Both of these planning processes included a substantial amount of public participation, which will be discussed in greater detail below.

In the spring of 2010, the City of Westfield received funding under the state’s District Local Technical Assistance (DLTA) program to contract the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission to assist with a comprehensive update of the City’s 2004 Open Space and Recreation Plan. The City of Westfield organized an Open Space Recreation Plan Committee (OSRP Committee), organized the community goal-setting workshop, developed all maps and associated map data, and conducted the ADA survey. The Pioneer Valley Planning Commission was tasked with: data collection and research related to the update of the Plan, facilitating OSRP committee meetings, facilitating a community goal-setting workshop, and overall plan development.

The planning project kicked-off with a review of Westfield most recent Open Space and Recreation Plan as well as the above mentioned plans. The PVPC, in conjunction with the Westfield OSRP Committee, held a public workshop on June 24th , 2010 to determine Westfield’s vision for open space and recreation and suggest goals,

objectives, and actions. Notice of the meeting was posted in a press release to the local newspapers, posted at city hall, and emailed to the board chairs and department heads for all boards, departments and committees within Westfield. Based on the comments received from the public visioning process as well as comments elicited during the development of the City's Heritage Landscapes Report and Downtown Action Plan, the PVPC completed a draft plan that was first reviewed by the OSRP Committee and then opened for public comment in July 2010. A press release regarding the comment period was issued and noted in the Westfield Evening News, a local newspaper. The final 2010 Westfield OSRP was completed in December 2010. This plan will be active for seven years. The plan is physically available at City Hall and the Athenaeum (Library) as well as on the city's website.

Public Participation

2010 Westfield OSRP Update

The ten member OSRP committee included representation from the Planning Department, Planning Board, Conservation Commission, Conservation Department, Park & Recreation Commission, Park & Recreation Department, City Council, Friends of the Greenway, and Stanley Park. All of the OSRP Committee meetings were held at City Hall and were open to the public. The committee met four times between May and July 2010 and these meetings were posted at city hall, and emailed to the Committee members, board chairs and department heads for all boards, departments and committees within Westfield.

The PVPC, in conjunction with the Westfield OSRP Committee, held a public workshop on June 24th, 2010 at North Middle School to determine Westfield's vision for open space and recreation and suggest goals, objectives, and actions. During this workshop, participants were asked to name important natural resources, open spaces, recreation areas and landmarks in Westfield and then identify associated issues or conflicts. Based on this conversation, participants then identified open space and recreational needs. The final exercise involved the drafting of goals and objectives and associated actions.

Rethinking Downtown Westfield Plan Public Participation

The "Re-Thinking Downtown Westfield" planning project was a community-involved planning process that began in February 2009 and ended in August 2009, although various city committees were created as a result of this planning process and continue to meet. This planning process engaged the whole city and especially the neighborhoods directly adjacent to the downtown target area as their quality of life affects and is affected by activities in the downtown. A map of the target area can be found in the Appendix.

The planning process began in February 2009 with the creation of a Downtown District Plan committee. The committee included representatives from: key city boards, commissions and departments; the business community; housing developers and advocates; Westfield State College; community groups, and residents. The committee met monthly, with a few ad hoc special meetings, to oversee the entire planning process, advising the consultants on all elements of civic engagement and reviewing draft materials including the strategic action plan and final project report. The City hired the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission to facilitate development of the plan. The Pioneer Valley Planning Commission engaged the Center for Design Engagement at the

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University of Massachusetts Amherst's Architecture + Design Program, Westfield State College Department of Geography and Regional Planning, and Northeastern University Center Urban and Regional Policy to assist with various components of the planning process.¹

Community engagement was a consistent characteristic of the planning process that shaped this downtown district action plan. The planning process provided the Westfield community with several opportunities to offer input into the development of a final plan between February and August 2009 through the following community outreach events:

- Community survey²
- Community / Stakeholder interviews
- Project website: www.westfielddowntownplan.com
- Focus group meetings (renters, Latino residents, high school students, & business owners)
- Visioning Meeting
- 4 days of Community Design Workshops (Charrette)
- Public comment period on draft plan

Through a dynamic planning process that began with a city-wide survey, included two weekends of downtown community design workshops, and continues with a monthly meeting of community leaders hosted by Westfield State College President Evan Dobbelle, the incorporation of meaningful public involvement was, and is, an important goal of the city's efforts to revitalize downtown. Based on the comments received through the above community outreach activities, the consultant team completed a draft Downtown Action Plan in July 2009 for the Downtown Advisory Committee's review and comment. In August 2009 the draft plan was posted on the plan website and on city and partner websites for public review and comment. The City and its consultants completed all planning activities and submitted a final report to the state at the end of August 2009 as required by the grant.

The final plan was framed around the four thematic categories of "LIVE, WORK, PLAY and CONNECT." "Live" initiatives involved housing strategies and the quality of Life downtown; "Work" projects involved downtown economic development; "Play" proposals include projects related to recreation, arts and entertainment; and "Connect" projects involved infrastructure, including sidewalks and bikeways. These themes evolved through an examination of key recurring issues, and developed as an important organizational tool for the remaining community engaged efforts and for the final recommendations. The 2010 Westfield OSRP incorporates all relevant information from this planning process.

¹ The University of Massachusetts team, under the direction of Architecture Professor Joseph Krupczynski, took the lead on citizen engagement and community outreach activities as well as the development of all visual materials. The Westfield State College team assisted in the development of the Downtown Westfield Survey and collected data for the development of maps and the future Downtown Action Plan. The Northeastern University Center for Urban & Regional Policy produced an economic development self-assessment survey the city used to evaluate how it compares to other communities across the Commonwealth. The Pioneer Valley Planning Commission performed all other work in addition to preparing the strategic action plan and final report on the project.

² Cognizant that the City needed to update its OSRP, the Community Survey asked a myriad of recreation questions related to the city as a whole and not just the downtown. Thousands of Westfield residents completed this survey and thoughts about what they would like to see in the downtown and elsewhere in the city are represented in the 2010 OSRP Update.

Westfield Heritage Landscapes Program Public Participation

The Westfield Planning Department, with assistance from the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission, organized a heritage landscape identification meeting in November 2008 during which residents and town officials identified and prioritized the natural and cultural landscapes within town that embody the community's unique character. This meeting was followed by a fieldwork session led by the project team, including the local project coordinator and staff of the PVPC, accompanied by interested community members. During the fieldwork session the Priority Heritage Landscapes were assessed and opportunities for preservation were explored and discussed. The final product for each community was an individualized Heritage Landscape Reconnaissance Report, which was completed in June 2009. This report outlines the community's landscape history, describes the priority heritage landscapes along with associated opportunities, issues, and recommendations, and concludes with implementation strategies. The 2010 Westfield OSRP incorporates all relevant information from this planning process.

SECTION 3: COMMUNITY SETTING

A. Regional Context

The City of Westfield is nestled at the foot of the picturesque Berkshires in Western Massachusetts. Comprised of over 47 square miles, Westfield is just northwest of the metropolitan area of Springfield, as well as 99 miles from Boston, and 134 miles from New York City. The city is bordered by West Springfield on the east, Southwick on the south, Granville on the southwest, Russell and Montgomery on the west, Southampton on the north and Holyoke on the northeast. The city is a mixture of residential neighborhoods, industrial development, and a commercial downtown, combining suburban and rural living with the services and amenities of a city.

Westfield is a regional commercial and industrial center. Over the past 25 years, the city's economic and employment growth have outpaced the population growth, an uncommon trend in the Pioneer Valley. The City has seen a number of major commercial and industrial businesses locate to Westfield since 2000. Manufacturing, education, health and social services and retail trade are the largest sources of employment. Westfield State College is located in the city, as well as two health care facilities, the municipally-owned Barnes Airport, and Stanley Park – one of the region's most outstanding parks. Even with these urban characteristics, the City maintains its rural roots and some agriculture is still carried on in parts of Westfield.

Due to the large an area encompassed by Westfield, thousands of people cross through Westfield each day on their way to live, work, shop, and play. Three major north-south and east-west state and federal highways converge (U.S. Route 20, U.S. Route 202, and MA Route 10) in downtown Westfield and the Interstate 90 interchange is just one and one-half miles north of the downtown, where it intersects with State Routes 10 and 202 at its Exit 3 interchange. The proximity of these major highways and crossroads, combined with the availability of land, makes Westfield a prime location for new residences, distribution warehouses and businesses. For these reasons, Westfield is under pressure for additional residential development, especially in its more rural areas surrounding the Center. Until very recently housing subdivisions have been going up steadily on its previously undeveloped land

A major regional feature in Westfield is the Barnes Municipal Airport, which encompasses 1,103 acres in the northeast quadrant of the city and occupies a large portion of the recharge area of another regionally significant feature – the Barnes Aquifer. Considered one of the most important groundwater supplies in the state, the aquifer is a primary source of drinking water for the municipality as well as for Holyoke, Easthampton and Southampton. The Barnes Aquifer Protection Advisory Committee (BAPAC) was established in 1988, to help the city develop and implement a water supply protection strategy for the region and is made up of representatives from Easthampton, Holyoke, Southampton, Westfield and the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission (PVPC). A conflict exists in the sense that this environmentally sensitive area has been the focus for new industrial or intensive commercial growth over the last decade. The City with the support of BAPAC is continually working to mitigate potential land use conflict through the implementation of best management practices.

The Westfield and Little Rivers are also prominent features, shared with many of the neighboring communities. Fed by reservoirs and streams flowing down from the Berkshires, the rivers have been a focal point of concern of nearby towns and residents. The most pressing concerns center on non-point source pollution, increased development in and near riparian zones, and a need for greenways along the rivers. The Westfield River and its watershed, supply the area with drinking water, provide habitat to many species (several of which are endangered), and affords diverse recreational opportunities, such as some of the best kayaking and whitewater in the Northeast. Its corridor is one of the largest tracts of wilderness devoid of roads in the state, and the local communities want to protect these features. As an indication of this, 43.3 miles of the upper reaches of the Westfield River were designated as a National Wild and Scenic River in 1993. Some property owners in neighboring towns have placed development restrictions on land abutting the Westfield River, yet threats remain for future development in places not yet protected. Now that salmon habitat restoration has begun on the waterway, there is an even greater concern to protect the river.

B. History of the Community

Westfield's history is one that evolved through its importance as a transportation corridor and manufacturing center. As western expansion occurred, routes were established to connect Boston to Albany, New York. Because of Westfield's strategic location between these cities and its available water resources, growth and development flourished. Canals were created for transportation of goods and materials from north and south, remnants of which can still be seen today.

Due to its alluvial lands, the inhabitants of this area were entirely devoted to agricultural pursuits for about 150 years. Monuments and gravestones in Westfield date back to the 1600's, some indicating participation in the Revolutionary and Civil Wars. The city's development patterns began with a compact industrial, commercial and residential core surrounded by fertile farm fields. People settled along the Westfield River, where farming and manufacturing blended to form traditional neighborhoods. Small villages, like Wyben and Mundale, which still exist today, were established at crossroads. Residents in these areas played a historic role in the community's development.

Early in the 19th century the making of bricks, whips, and cigars became the principal occupations. Other firms engaged in the production of bicycles, paper products, boilers and radiators, textile machinery, abrasives, wood products and precision tools. The establishment of industry in the community changed its character from agricultural to a thriving industrial city during the latter part of the 19th century. Rail lines were developed through Westfield, both north-south and east-west. This strengthened the city's importance as a transportation hub, and encouraged manufacturing. Although much of the early manufacturing has now left, the names and goods produced in the city leave a rich legacy. Some well known industries still remain, such as Columbia Bicycles, which owns a collection of bicycles worthy of a museum, and the Westfield Whip Company.

As manufacturing declined over the years, retail and distribution has increased, showing a continued reliance on Westfield's transportation corridors. Rail service has gradually been giving way to road service, thus giving Westfield the opportunity to determine future uses for abandoned rail lines. As noted above, the city is pursuing funding to

advance the redevelopment of the abandoned rail line that cuts through downtown Westfield into a bike path.

Although nowhere nearly as large as the central business districts of Springfield and Holyoke, Westfield's commercial center was fourth in retail trade in the Holyoke-Springfield area during the 1950s, with more than 275 retailers catering to local residents and out-of-town shoppers. But in the 1950s plazas and malls began to pull customers away from Westfield's downtown businesses. A gradual decline began that was exacerbated when construction of the Massachusetts Turnpike in the 1950s and Interstate Route 91 in 1967 encouraged traffic to bypass Westfield's commercial center. Starting in the 1970s, and continuing to this day, strip malls and big-box stores located just east of the downtown along Route 20 and this area is widely considered to be Westfield's main retail area.

The affect of these forces of modernization was a downtown with many fine buildings, such as the Rinnova Building and H.S. Eaton Building, containing storefronts that have been shuttered or are now occupied by non-commercial businesses. Some housing exists above some of the commercial buildings, but much of the existing commercial buildings contain underutilized, vacant upper-story space. The downtown has "good bones" and strategic efforts to build on this promising asset have significant potential to bear fruit in a revitalized downtown Westfield. Thousands of residents, workers, and students in Westfield participated in the interactive "Rethinking Downtown Westfield" planning process in 2009 that developed a downtown action plan focused on enhancing the downtown as a commercial and cultural destination and promoting additional housing opportunities. The four key downtown visions from this planning process were to: reclaim the riverfront along both sides of the Westfield River, develop a bike trail along the abandoned rail line, reuse underutilized spaces for arts and entertainment, and revitalize the Elm Street corridor.

The Great River Bridge construction project will create additional riverfront parks and improve landscaping and public infrastructure on both sides of the Westfield River when completed in late 2010. The Westfield River Trail, which currently runs along the Westfield River will take on new significance with the completion of the Great River Bridge project and associated parks. The Westfield River Trail will serve as an east-west connection between the new Great River Bridge Parks, Women's Temperance Park, and a new riverfront park connecting Whitney Park to the Great River Bridge parks. In addition, the Westfield River Trail will eventually link to the proposed north-south Columbia Greenway Bike Trail, which will run along the abandoned elevated railroad bed from downtown Westfield to the Westfield-Southwick border where it will join the existing rail trail that leads far into the state of Connecticut. The City and its partners have completed 25% to 75% of the design and engineering work for various segments of the rail trail and are still working to secure funding for this project. The City is also completing an infrastructure project on the Town Green (Park Square) to improve traffic circulation in the downtown as well as to provide pedestrian amenities and landscape improvements to the Town Green. Upon completion, the Town Green will be able to accommodate more community events.

Throughout the city, many of Westfield's significant historic properties have been listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Westfield currently has thirty-four properties on the National Register of Historic Places, seventeen of which are included in the Westfield Center Commercial Historic District. Two properties—the Dewey House and

Landlord Fowler Tavern—preservation restrictions placed on them. The Pioneer Valley Planning Commission worked with the Westfield Historical Commission in 2009 to expand the Westfield Center Commercial Historic District’s boundaries to include over 500 buildings, sites, structures and objects. The Historical Commission will continue to identify structures that meet the NRHD criteria and pursue local designation for additional buildings over time.

C. Population Characteristics

Population Growth Indicators

Westfield is a growing diverse city of over 42,000 residents. As this plan was written, the Open Space Committee took into account the needs of city areas in terms of population density. The City’s estimated population density in 2008 was 871.8 people per square mile, which places Westfield as one of the denser communities in the Pioneer Valley. The most populated parts of the city are the 812902 and 812500 census tracts, which make up the central urban core. The remaining areas of Westfield are similar to each other in population, but have varying densities due to the size of each census tract. In general, the tracts outside the central core of the city reflect the suburban or rural nature of these areas. Demographic trends parallel development trends and the population is dispersing into the rural reaches of the north, south and western sections of Westfield.

Table 1: Westfield Population Trends, 1930 through 2006-2008

Year	1930	1940	1950	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000	2006-2008
Population	16,684	18,793	20,962	26,302	31,433	36,465	38,372	40,072	42,101
Percent Change		13%	12%	25%	20%	16%	5%	4%	5%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau & 2006-2008 American Community Survey

The city’s most substantial periods of growth occurred before 1980, but the population has grown steadily since the 1980s. From 1980 to 2006-2008, Westfield added an estimated 5,600 residents, which was a fifteen percent population increase. During this same period, Hampden County and the state only grew by 4% and 13% respectively. The volume of residential construction over the last decade also suggests continued population growth. The Westfield Building Department issued over 1,100 building permits for new dwelling units from 1995 through 2009. In contrast to these population growth indicators, Westfield Public School District enrollment figures for the 2009/2010 school year show a nine percent decrease in student enrollment (586 students) from the 2000/2001 school year. Town officials attribute this enrollment decrease and contrasting city population increase to the fact that people are having fewer children as well as having children later in life. Based on these growth trends, the desirability of the community, and availability of undeveloped land in Westfield, the town should still expect to see moderate population growth over the next decade. It shall be noted that the densest areas of the city are Census Tracts 8127.01 and 8127.02, which is where the city’s environmental justice populations live.

Population by Age

The age distribution of a city's population affects the demand for open space and recreation as different age groups have different needs. Table 2 shows the population distribution for Westfield in years 2000 and 2006-2008 for comparative purposes. The median age in 2006-2008 was 37.2 years, which was slightly higher than the 2000 median age of 35.8 years. Over one-quarter of Westfield's population was under the age of nineteen in 2006-2008 and this percentage showed no increase since 2000. The percentage of residents age sixty-five years and older slightly declined over this same period to twelve percent in 2006-2008.

Table 2: Population By Age, 2000 and 2006-2008 Comparison

Age Category	2000	Percent of Total	2006-2008	Percent of Total
0 - 19 Years	11,385	28%	11,891	28%
20 -44 Years	14,649	37%	14,048	33%
45 - 65 Years	8,596	21%	10,853	26%
65 - 84 Years	4,778	12%	4,332	10%
85 years and over	664	2%	977	2%
<i>Total population</i>	<i>40,072</i>	<i>100%</i>	<i>42,101</i>	<i>100%</i>

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Decennial Census and 2006-2008 American Community Survey

Population by Race, Ethnicity & Ancestry

According to the 2006-2008 American Community Survey, over 90 percent Westfield residents are white. The city has seen a marginal increase in the number of Hispanic residents since the 2000 Census was taken from 5.0% in 2000 to 5.7% in 2006-2008. The 2006-2008 American Community Survey found that around two percent of Westfield's population was born in Puerto Rico, U.S. Island areas, or born abroad to American parents. The city also has a growing population of Russian and Ukrainian immigrants. The 2006-2008 American Community Survey showed that over seven percent of Westfield residents spoke a language within the Indo-European language family other than English. In total, a little over ten percent of the population speaks a language other than English at home. The majority of the city's non-English speaking residents and non-white population live in Census Tracts 8127.01 and 8127.02.

Table 3: Population by Race and Ethnicity, 2006-2008

Category	Estimate	Percent
White	39,179	93.1%
Black or African American	438	1.0%
American Indian and Alaska Native	113	0.3%
Asian	614	1.5%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	36	0.1%
Some other race	879	2.1%
Two or more races	842	2.0%

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Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	2,410	5.7%
Total population	42,101	42,101

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Decennial Census and 2006-2008 American Community Survey

Household Income & Poverty

Westfield's median household income in 2008 was estimated to be \$51,972, which was slightly higher than Hampden County's estimated median household income but over \$10,000 less than the state's. Over a quarter of Westfield households earned \$75,000 or more annually. As tables 4 and 5 show, not all Westfield households are affluent. The city-wide poverty rate for individuals in 2006-2008 was fourteen percent. The child poverty rate was much higher with over twenty percent of children under the age of 18 living in poverty.

Table 5: Westfield Households by Income Level, 2006-2008

Income Category	Number of Households	Percent of Total
Less than \$10,000	1,391	9.2%
\$10,000 to \$14,999	835	5.5%
\$15,000 to \$24,999	1,724	11.4%
\$25,000 to \$34,999	1,050	6.9%
\$35,000 to \$49,999	2,197	14.5%
\$50,000 to \$74,999	2,692	17.8%
\$75,000 to \$99,999	2,197	14.5%
\$100,000 to \$149,999	1,923	12.7%
\$150,000 to \$199,999	699	4.6%
\$200,000 or more	451	3.0%
Total households	15,159	15,159
Median household income	\$51,972	(X)

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2008 American Community Survey, in 2008 inflation adjusted dollars.

Table 4: Percentage of Peoples and Families whose was below the poverty level, 2006-2008

Category	Estimate
All families	9.6%
All people	14.1%
Under 18 years	21.0%
65 years and over	9.5%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2008 American Community Survey, in 2008 inflation adjusted dollars.

The City's poorest residents live in the densest parts of the city in neighborhoods within Census Tracts 8127.01 and 8127.02, which also contain the majority of the city's older housing stock, the greatest amount of renter households, and the largest concentration of non-english speaking residents. Map D highlights these two Census Tracts as having environmental justice populations. Community survey responses and stakeholder interviews conducted in the 2009 "Rethinking Downtown Westfield" planning process showed that residents within these neighborhoods strongly identify with their neighborhood. These residents expressed considerable interest in improving the aesthetic quality of these neighborhoods through stronger and more consistent enforcement of city ordinances and through additional opportunities for social interaction and community building within neighborhood boundaries. According to Police Department data this area is not experiencing disproportionately high crime rates, but

both neighborhood residents and city officials expressed a need to improve neighborhood quality and reinforce neighborhood identity to ensure the quality of life in these neighborhoods in the future.

Economic Character & Employment Trends

Westfield's economy is growing. Over twenty-five new businesses opened in the last decade; and, as a result, both the number of Westfield businesses and jobs increased over the period from 2001 through 2008 (Table 6). The city saw increased development activity along the Route 20 corridor in east Westfield and along the Route 10/202 corridors in northern Westfield. The city has also witnessed renewed interest in its historic downtown. A Business Improvement District (BID) formed in 2006. The BID provides supplemental services such as marketing, business retention and recruitment, and improved maintenance beyond those provided by the City to 190 properties in the downtown. The BID has become the catalyst for funding and marketing large events such as the Summer Concert Series on the Green. The City also has a Chamber of Commerce to which City Hall regularly refers interested businesses. Representatives from the Chamber and BID played an active role in the development of the "Rethinking Downtown Westfield Plan," which recognized the need for more recreational opportunities in the downtown.

Table 6: Major New Westfield Commercial & Industrial Businesses

<p><u>2009</u> Home Depot RDC Roots Gymnastics Center Riverbend Medical Center</p>	<p><u>2005</u> Home Depot Home Improvement Center People's Bank E. Main St. Branch Westfield/Barnes Airport Terminal</p>
<p><u>2008</u> Union St. Medical Offices</p>	<p><u>2004</u> Webster Bank E. Main St. Branch Starbucks Advanced Auto Parts Specialty Restorations</p>
<p><u>2007</u> Hodell-Natco Industries, Inc. Holiday Inn Express Taco Bell Southampton Rd. Medical Office</p>	<p><u>2003</u> Wendy's KFC Hometown Structures</p>
<p><u>2006</u> Preferred Freezer Lowe's Flatbed Distribution Center Auto Zone Easthampton Savings Bank Broad St. Branch Westfield Savings Bank E. Main St. Branch United Bank Southampton Rd. Branch</p>	<p><u>2001</u> Westfield District Court Building</p>
	<p><u>2000</u> Stop & Shop</p>

Source: Westfield Planning Department, May 2010

State employment data shows that the following industry sectors employ the most workers in Westfield: manufacturing, retail trade, educational services, and health care and social services (Table 8). Major employers in Westfield who employ over 200 workers include:

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Air National Guard - Barnes Base
 Mestek
 Jen-Coat Inc.
 Noble Hospital
 Westfield State College

C & S Wholesale Grocers Inc.
 Big Y Foods Inc.
 National Envelope
 Western Massachusetts Hospital
 Savage Arms Inc

Manufacturing continues to be an important industry sector for Westfield. Jobs in the manufacturing sector, for example, offered an average weekly wage of \$1,010 in 2008 which made it one of the top industries by wage earning potential. Mestek, National Envelope, and Jen-Coat Inc. all employ over two-hundred workers and at least five other manufacturing companies employ over fifty workers. Manufacturing, though, carries a heavy environmental impact and therefore it will be important for the City to continue to work with employers to mitigate any potential conflicts.

Table 7: Westfield Employment & Wage Trends

Description	Number of Establishments		Average Monthly Employment		Average Weekly Wages	
	2001	2008	2001	2008	2001*	2008
<i>Total, All Industries</i>	952	1,059	16,290	17,100	\$751	\$771
Natural Resources and Mining	6	10	121	77	\$946	\$1,079
Construction	84	100	637	751	\$931	\$963
Manufacturing	106	95	3,519	3,274	\$1,002	\$1,010
Wholesale Trade	60	57	399	572	\$1,020	\$976
Retail Trade	141	130	2,071	2,050	\$422	\$452
Transportation and Warehousing	28	28	1,420	1,199	\$714	\$801
Information	10	10	232	242	\$922	\$891
Finance and Insurance	33	32	186	222	\$778	\$866
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	37	33	167	224	\$653	\$463
Professional and Technical Services	70	75	427	523	\$1,090	\$1,309
Management of Companies and Enterprises		4		163	\$0	\$1,500
Administrative and Waste Services	39	39	464	434	\$489	\$563
Educational Services	4	11	1,770	2,062	\$845	\$793
Health Care and Social Assistance	89	89	2,024	2,254	\$755	\$786
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	12	11	168	191	\$275	\$304
Accommodation and Food Services	61	76	1,045	1,177	\$239	\$259
Other Services, Ex. Public Admin	153	245	701	869	\$404	\$361
Public Administration	13	14	736	815	\$994	\$1,056

Source: Massachusetts Department of Labor & Workforce Development, Employment & Wages Data (ES-202), accessed April 2010 Wages adjusted to 2008 real dollars*

Business growth in industry sectors that offer low-paying jobs, such as Accommodation and Food Services, and a growing unemployment rate are two areas of concern that detract from this otherwise positive economic picture. The unemployment rate in Westfield, the region, and the state has drastically increased over the past three years due to the economic recession that started in late 2007 (Figure 5). The percentage of unemployed Westfield residents went from 4.6% in 2007 to 8.3% in 2009. The latest unemployment figures are comparable to the state's unemployment rate of 8.4%. Free or low-cost recreational activities will be important to struggling and poorer households.

D. Growth and Development Patterns

Patterns and Trends

Westfield historically grew around its industrial manufacturing center, and along parts of the Westfield River. Many older industries left the city because they could no longer use the compact spaces they once occupied. As a result, the center of Westfield was abandoned. New development has been occurring either in the more expansive lands once occupied by farms and forest, or situated over the aquifer.

Throughout the years, Westfield's development patterns have been affected by some natural features - particularly, the floodplains of the Westfield and Little Rivers. Many older neighborhoods were established to support the downtown area. As land in the downtown vicinity was built-out, developers sought new areas for homes and businesses. The new areas are generally detached from the older neighborhoods by the floodplains.

Infrastructure

Transportation: The city of Westfield is conveniently located at the junction of several major transportation routes, such as I-90, Routes 10 & 202 and Route 20; it is also a short distance to I-91. The city hosts a regional airport, the Barnes Airport, and two active railways, The Boston and Albany, which follow along the Westfield River and the Pioneer Valley Railroad, a short-haul line to Holyoke.

Two Pioneer Valley Transit Authority (PVRTA) bus lines run and connect in downtown Westfield: one provides weekday service from downtown Westfield to downtown Holyoke via Holyoke Community College, the other provides daily service from Westfield State College to downtown Springfield via downtown Westfield and downtown West Springfield. The PVRTA, the city, and private developers have been working to bring an intermodal transit center to downtown Westfield for a number of years, and the proposal has been rejuvenated in recent months, and is now under design.

Roadway infrastructure in downtown Westfield also includes sidewalks, which are being maintained and replaced by the city as needed. The 2009 Community Survey showed strong support for bike lanes and racks, sidewalk and accessibility improvements, benches and seating, street trees, pocket parks, flowers, and public art. There continues to be tremendous support for the bike path through the downtown along the elevated railroad bed, for enhancing pedestrian and recreational access to the Westfield River, and for improving infrastructure to enhance the pedestrian environment.

Water Supply: The Water Department provides city water to approximately 10,000 residences and businesses. There are an estimated 2,000 private wells in the city and the Health Department recently adopted new regulations to monitor and manage all privately owned wells.

The City of Westfield now receives water from several different sources. The two main sources are the Granville Reservoir and the Barnes Aquifer. The city also receives water from 6 active wells. Westfield is also authorized to withdraw up to 3.2 million gallons per day from the Springfield water system through an interconnection located off Shaker Road.

The distribution system loops around the city and includes over 200 miles of water mains. The system includes over 1,600 fire hydrants and 10,300 services, all of which are metered. The current potable water system in downtown Westfield is efficient and can accommodate a fair amount of population growth, so no capacity upgrades are planned at this time. The city administers ongoing projects to maintain pipes, and these projects, such as the proposed water pipe improvements in the Gaslight district, should move forward.

An area of concern is that private wells in the area of Route 10 and 202 in Westfield and Southamptton are being affected by winter road salting. The Barnes Aquifer Protection Advisory Committee, in cooperation with Smith College, completed a fourth round of private drinking water well sample analysis in Westfield and Southamptton.³ The study sampled 90 private drinking water wells on May 7, 2008. More than 40 percent of the samples (38 of 90) were found to be impacted by road salt, having sodium concentrations above the 20 mg/L guideline set by the Massachusetts Office of Research and Standards Guideline (ORSG). In addition, 10 percent of the samples (9 out of 90) had chloride concentrations above the 250 mg/L secondary maximum contaminant level (SMCL) set by the Environmental Protection Agency. Another 15 percent, or 17 of the 90 wells sampled, were found to have naturally high sodium levels due to the background geology of the area. Most of these wells were located in the Scenic Drive and Pheasant Drive neighborhoods of Westfield. Elevated sodium in drinking water may be considered a health concern for individuals on salt-restricted diets. Persons on low-sodium diets due to high blood pressure or other medical problems are often restricted to water containing less than 20 mg/L of sodium. Westfield must protect its wells, both public and private, to ensure a quality water supply in the future.

Sewage Systems: The city provides sewage services to approximately 7,100 residences and businesses, and there are approximately 4,600 private septic systems. Since 1973, the City has had its own Wastewater Treatment Plant. The plant was recently upgraded in 2005 to increase its hydraulic capacity from 4 four million gallons per day up to 6.1 million. The plant serves about 75% of the Westfield area. The Wastewater Treatment Plant removes 95% to 99% of the pollutants before being discharged into the Westfield River. The city recently conducted an assessment of the sewage mains, finding that most lines are in good condition, though there are some segments in need of replacement, such as those identified for improvement in the Gaslight district in downtown Westfield. These segments will be upgraded as road resurfacing projects occur, allowing access to belowground utilities. The City Council passed a storm water utility ordinance in May 2010

Westfield regularly assesses its stormwater system, and there are currently no capacity shortages, though there are, as in all cities, some defects in outfalls and other components of the system. In addition, there are isolated areas in which cross connections between sanitary sewers and storm drains still exist. These connections, known as combined sewer overflows, are places where sewage and stormwater mix. The resulting mixed water is conveyed to the wastewater treatment plant. However, when the sewers get too full during significant storm events, they overflow into the

³ Previous testing rounds were performed in December 2004, September 2005, and March 2006.

stormwater system and discharge into the Westfield River. This overflow provides a “safety valve” that prevents backups of untreated wastewater into homes and businesses, flooding in city streets, and bursting of underground pipes.

The City of Westfield is gradually separating the sanitary sewers from the stormwater system in all locations where combined sewer overflows still exist. Like sewage main upgrades, these projects are undertaken in conjunction with roadway replacement projects. The City of Westfield adopted a stormwater utility ordinance in May 2010, which will generate revenue based on a fee charged for the use of stormwater infrastructure. These funds will be used to help operate, maintain and upgrade the storm drain system.

Potential Effects of the City’s Infrastructure on Development: Increased infrastructure into current rural areas could mean more subdivisions being developed on prime agricultural lands, and a resultant decrease of both open space and farmland. The northwest section of Westfield is not supplied by municipal water or sewer, which helps to minimize residential expansion. However, if those services were to be offered there, it would virtually ensure more development. It is critical to consider these possibilities while creating an open space plan and Seven-Year strategy, to make certain there is a process for identifying the areas that are a priority for protection. The categorization of such lands can be coordinated with the city’s open space subdivision ordinance so that their undeveloped open spaces are of the quality and value that is important to both Westfield and the ecosystem.

Long-Term Development Patterns

Current and Foreseeable Development Patterns:

Westfield saw a good amount of residential, commercial and industrial development activity over the last ten years and the City expects this activity to continue over the next decade due to the availability of developable land. Table 8 shows that the City has a sizable amount of vacant land remaining for residential, commercial or industrial development. Map E portrays where this vacant land is located in the city.

Table 8: Vacant Land in Westfield by Number of Parcels and Acres

Land Use Type	Total Parcels	Total Acres
Residential		
Developable	327	1,266
Undevelopable	502	1,214
Commercial		
Developable	57	162
Potentially Developable	4	27
Undevelopable	20	61
Industrial		
Developable	58	823
Potentially Developable	4	7
Undevelopable	6	93

Source: Westfield Assessors Office

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Aerial photography of Westfield, taken in 1971, 1985, 1999, and 2005, as part of state effort to document land use changes, shows a loss of undeveloped land to developed land from 1971 to 2005.⁴ Some of the most noticeable changes during this period have been increases in residential development, commercial, and industrial development, highlighted by frontage lot development and small subdivision development along existing roads and the development of major industrial facilities in the northern part of Westfield and major commercial buildings in the eastern part of Westfield.

Table 9: Westfield Land Use and Land Use Changes

Land Use Category	1971	% of total	2005	% of total	Change in acres 1971 - 2005	Percent Change 1971 - 2005
Active Agriculture	3,545	12%	1,935	6%	-1610	-45%
Pasture	1,170	4%	966	3%	-204	-17%
Forest	16,481	54%	14,758	49%	-1724	-10%
Multi-Family	33	0%	583	2%	549	1643%
Residential less than 1/4 acre lot	1,403	5%	865	3%	-538	-38%
Residential 1/4 - 1/2 acre lot	1,922	6%	2,400	8%	478	25%
Residential greater than 1/2 acre lot	1,019	3%	2,502	8%	1482	145%
Commercial	364	1%	521	2%	157	43%
Industrial	395	1%	604	2%	209	53%
Total Acres	30,295		30,280			

Industrial development over the last decade has been concentrated along the Route 10/202 corridor in northern Westfield. A power plant is proposed just outside of the aquifer protection district and is currently in the MEPA review process. A regional shopping mall was recently proposed for land located just outside the aquifer protection district and near the airport, but the developer is no longer interested. Since a large percentage of land in this area of the city is zoned for industrial uses and still consists of vacant land, this environmentally sensitive area will likely continue to see growth pressures. The need to expand the City's tax base coupled with the need to protect this area from adverse development has already emerged as a conflict. The City and its partners such as BAPAC review all new development proposals to ensure the developer employs best management practices to mitigate any potential adverse affects.

Commercial development over the last three decades has been concentrated along the Route 20 commercial corridor in eastern Westfield as well as near the Interstate 90 interchange. Much of this development has resulted in large areas of impervious surfaces so there is a need for the City to continue monitoring stormwater runoff.

⁴ William MacConnell and the University of Massachusetts documented Land Use patterns in Massachusetts through aerial photography in the 1950s.

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City staff and city residents are enthused about renewed development interest in the downtown. Stop & Shop and CVS are two major businesses that opened new buildings in downtown Westfield this decade and a few restaurants opened in rehabilitated former commercial space. Domus Inc. – a local community development corporation—is renovating former upper-story space in existing commercial buildings into eighteen new residential units. Westfield State College announced plans in 2008 to develop up to 1,000 student housing units in the downtown. The College selected an existing downtown building to house approximately 216 students under a lease agreement and will seek additional locations as the need arises. An intermodal center is also proposed for the downtown. City staff expect development interest in the downtown to increase once the Great River Bridge project, Town Green project, and Columbia Greenway Bike Trail project are completed.

Westfield saw a good amount of residential development activity over the last ten years. The City Building Department issued over 1,100 building permits for new residential units and almost 100 permits for new commercial structures.

Table 10: Westfield Buildings Permits Issued 1995 through May 2010

Year	Single Family	Two-Family	Multi-Family	Commercial
2010 as of 5/19/20	4	3		
2009	24	6	1 (8 unit)	4
2008	17	4	3 (4 units each)	6
2007	36	5		8
2006	49	4	1 (4 unit)	9
2005	59	3	2 (4 units each) 2 (5 units each)	9
2004	65	2		8
2003	55	1		8
2002	101			2
2001	62	1	1 (3 unit)	5
2000	74		1 (5 unit)	7
1999	114	6		13
1998	106	3		3
1997	95	2		8
1996	104	4		3
1995	109	2		6
Total	1,074	46	11 (50 units)	99

Source: Westfield Building Department, 2010

The City also approved 21 subdivisions, which will include almost 260 housing units when built out (Table 8). Most of this growth occurred in the southwest and northwest corners of the City. Planning Department staff expects to see residential growth continue in the northwest (Wyben area) and southwest areas of town. There is a need for recreational facilities to be planned for areas that are now expanding, since not all residents have ample access to recreational opportunities.

Table 11: Westfield Subdivision Activity, 2000 through May 2010

YEAR	DEVELOPMENT	# LOTS
2007	Flynn Meadows	27
	Rose Estates/Violet Circle	7
2006	Canterbury Lane	8
	Nicholas Estates	6
	Pinewood Estate	18
	Aviator Estates	4
2005	Sylvan Drive (Ext)	8
	Terry Estates/Pajer Lane	7
2004	Woodbine Estates/Whispering Wind Rd	8
	Campanelli Drive	4
2003	Winding Ridge	53
	Jeremy Drive	10
	Montgomery Road Estates/St. Pierre Lane	6
	Hunter's Slope	8
2002	Sabrina Brook Ln.	15
	Watercrest Estates/Rita Mary Way	11
2001	Jeanne Marie Dr./Woodbrook Estates II	13
	Goose Hollow	5
2000	Talbot Estates/Willow Brook Ln	21
	Progress Ave.	4
	Camelot	16
Total	21	259

Source: Westfield Planning Department

Extensions to infrastructure are currently being made into the northwest quadrant of Westfield to provide for the proposed Berkshire Power Plant that may be developed there. Development of subdivisions in this area of the City would be made more feasible by the existence of municipal infrastructure so the City will want to revisit its land use and zoning controls to ensure proper planning and open space protection occurs.

Local Zoning:

Municipal zoning authority has an important influence on development patterns. Zoning regulations substantially determine the location, size, and type of commercial, industrial and housing uses in a community. The current Bylaw establishes twelve base zones and two overlay zones (MAP G):

- Five residential districts: Rural Residential, Residence A, Residence B, Residence C, Residence C-1 (Project);
- Two commercial districts: Commercial A - Neighborhood, Commercial Office Retail Enterprise (CORE);

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- Two business districts: Business A (General), Business B (Service);
- Two industrial districts: Industrial A, Industrial Park;
- One airport district: Airport; and
- Two overlay districts: Flood Zone, Water Resource Protection.

Although all appropriate zoning is relevant to protecting the health and safety of the City residents, two of Westfield's districts are specifically relevant to natural hazard mitigation:

- Flood Zone District - The flood zone overlay applies to those areas within the boundary of the one-hundred-year flood that are considered hazardous according to FEMA. It is derived from the FIRMs. It limits some uses in order to prevent potential flood damage.
- Water Resource Protection - The purpose of this overlay district is to protect and preserve Westfield's groundwater resources from potentially damaging pollution or environmental degradation by regulating certain uses within the district. The regulations state specific prohibited and restricted uses, regulates drainage, details special permit procedures.

Westfield currently has zoning in place for transfer of development rights, flexible development, aquifer protection, open space development, flood hazard districts, and a wetlands ordinance. The City recently adopted a stormwater utility ordinance in 2010.

While these zoning mechanisms are in place, there is resident concern about the inability to prevent harmful development from occurring on the aquifer, or to create effective and attractive residential subdivisions with open space. The aquifer protection zoning only prohibits certain hazardous uses, but still allows large-scale development, such as residential subdivisions and extensive impervious surfaces. Improvements need to be made to enhance project outcomes. The City's OSRD has not fulfilled the expectations of the city planners and has not preserved either open space or recreation areas in a strategic or useful manner. In addition, the City did not approve a single OSRD in the last ten years even though 21 traditional subdivisions were approved. Therefore, the Seven-Year Action Plan calls for the city to examine its current zoning ordinances in order to better guide growth and encourage appropriate levels of open space protection.

SECTION 4: ENVIRONMENTAL INVENTORY AND ANALYSIS

A. Geology, Soils and Topography

Topography: Westfield, at 30,000 acres, is the second largest city in size in Massachusetts. The west and southeastern areas of the city are characterized by mountain ridges that range from 1,111 feet along Ball Mountain, down to 100 feet where the Westfield River meets Agawam. The Westfield River bisects these ridges and flows in an easterly direction. The Little River enters the city in the southwest, and meets the Westfield River in the southeastern section of town. The two rivers form one of the largest flood plains in the Connecticut River system and are the source of the fertile farm soils. This is an asset for farming and recreation, but has potential for great flood damage. Dikes have been built across the rivers to prevent flood damage, and are often used informally for walking, jogging and nature viewing. Numerous small streams flow through the city also, providing a variety of recreation spots, and potential future recreational opportunities. The series of glacial kettle holes in the north-central part of Westfield are some of the city's most unique features, as well as a wildlife habitat area.

Soils: The soils in Westfield have an influence on the types of development, and other land use activities. For instance, the flood plain soils led numerous farmers to the area to take advantage of the deep, fertile, and stone-free qualities. The steep slopes and wetlands provide soils and other resources that attract wildlife and certain types of plant species, while the soils above the aquifer are sandy.

The following is a list of the general soil types found in Westfield. It will be important in both the present and the future to analyze the specific soil conditions before development takes place, and to identify important resources such as prime agricultural land.

Table 12: General Soil Types Found in Westfield

Type	Acres	Percent of Total Area
Cheshire-Charlton-Watchaug	3,650	12%
Hadley-Suncook-Podunk	2,738	9%
Hinckley-Windsor-Merrimac	13,360	44%
Ridgebury-Walpole-Rumney	1,825	6%
Woodbridge-Hollis-Wethersfield	3,346	11%
Total for survey area	24,919	83%
Area excluded	5,500	18%
Total	30,149	100%

Source: Soils and Their Interpretations for Various Land Uses, City of Westfield, and the US Natural Resources Conservation Service – formerly Soils Conservation Service

Cheshire-Charlton-Watchaug: Located in almost a circle at the edges of the city, these soils create moderate limitations for residential development; while commercial and industrial development would be severely constricted due to the poor yield in wells. For woodland and recreational use, these soils produce only slight limitations

Hadley-Suncook-Podunk: Commonly in large tracts in the southern portion of the city, these soils have formed in sediments left by floods. They tend to be extremely fertile and are best suited for farming and open space. Because these soils are usually in flood hazard areas, they indicate a severe limitation on residential, commercial and industrial development.

Hinckley-Windsor-Merrimac: Found in vast areas throughout the city, these soils occupy the largest category found in Westfield. They are well drained and suitable for most types of development, but the permeability can cause difficulty in the maintenance of plants and shrubs. Deep wells in these areas would yield large volumes of water.

Ridgebury-Walpole-Rumney: Mostly located in spots near wetlands and flood plains in various areas around the city, these soils are generally saturated with water for about eight to ten months of the year. They are suitable for wetland wildlife habitat, but severely limit any type of development due to the extreme wetness.

Woodbridge-Hollis-Wethersfield: Primarily in the western portion of the city, these soils tend to be extremely rocky with only a shallow depth until reaching bedrock. Such characteristics pose limitations on many types of land uses. Wells in these areas may only yield enough volume for individual water use. Only slight limitations exist for woodland, wildlife and recreational uses.

As mentioned above, these are general descriptions of the city's soil resources. A more detailed soil survey has been prepared for Westfield by the USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS). The descriptions above have been utilized in this study for the identification of wetlands, prime agricultural lands, and depth-to-water table information. However, they are most relative in identifying the locations and circumstances for which land should be considered open space or farmland.

Highly developable Hinckley soils are the most prominent type within Westfield, but they mostly occur in areas that are already built upon. Most of the land remaining open contains a mixture of soil types that would not likely limit development. These areas have some slope restrictions or use constraints, but are mostly agricultural, aquifer and open land with forest. Westfield's growth will not be slowed significantly by soil constraints.

B. Landscape Character

There are mountains to the east and west, many rolling hills, valleys, rivers and streams, and interesting geological features such as the kettle holes in Westfield. The city is also blessed with many scenic vistas, due in part, to the farming that has occurred here for generations.

According to 2005 state land use data, Westfield has an estimated 1,925 acres of agricultural land, which represents a loss of 1,651 acres since 1971. Current production varies from such crops as tobacco and vegetables, to pasture and woodlands. More and more of the farmlands are being taken out of production each year to allow for subdivisions and other developments. Seventeen properties, amounting to 878 acres, are currently enrolled in the state's Chapter 61A agricultural land tax program. The city is interested in protecting its remaining farmlands through several techniques including the state's APR program and the assistance of a new conservation land trust.

C. Water Resources

1. Surface Water

Approximately two percent of Westfield (573 acres) is covered by surface water.

Westfield River: The most significant of Westfield's water resources is the Westfield River and most of the other waterways in the city drain into the Westfield River. In its entirety, the Westfield River Watershed encompasses a total of 517 square miles in Hampshire, Hamden, and Berkshire Counties of western Massachusetts and, further west, is made up of three branches—the East, Middle and West Branches. The Westfield River that flows through the City is very shallow most of the time, navigable only by canoes and kayaks. There are several areas of access for boating and fishing, but no corridor for hiking or river appreciation exists. Areas along the river could be protected and connected to form a buffer or greenway. The River flows right through the heart of the city, but the river is hardly noticeable aside from when crossing the Great River Bridge in the downtown. The river could be a showpiece for the city if a concentrated effort was made to accentuate it. During the "Rethinking Downtown Westfield" public events, city residents voiced support for opportunities to interact with this important resource such as a formal trail along the riverfront and a canoe/kayak launch in the downtown. When the Great River Bridge construction project is completed in 2010, it will create additional riverfront parks and improve landscaping and public infrastructure on both sides of the Westfield River.

The Westfield River is designated as a National Wild and Scenic River the purpose of which is to "protect outstanding rivers from the harmful effects of new Federal projects." To be designated a National Wild and Scenic River, a river must have at least one "outstandingly remarkable" natural, scenic, or cultural value. The Westfield far surpasses that standard with "outstandingly remarkable" values encompassing scenic, geologic, historic, fishery, and recreational resources, water quality and flow, and rare and endangered species. The Westfield River also provides a fish ladder for salmon restoration. The river is at risk from non-point source pollution due to the proximity of roads, parking areas, and impervious catchments.

Hampton Ponds – Kettle Holes: The Hampton Ponds state park area is used extensively for recreation including swimming, motor boating, sailing and fishing. Eutrophication (the premature aging and filling in of a body of water, due to human impact) is occurring in some of the ponds. To address this, the city has funded grinder pumps and weed clearance through state grants, to remedy the problem. The kettle holes are located in the Barnes Aquifer recharge area.

Little River: A smaller waterway, which also runs west to east through the city, it merges with the Westfield River in the southeastern quadrant. It flows through some steep ravines, which provide animal habitats, and hinders development. It is accessible for informal hiking, and could benefit from a greenway as well. There is a short boardwalk along the Little River in Stanley Park.

Other rivers and brooks: Other rivers and brooks in Westfield include: Ashley Brook, Barry Brook, Cooley Brook, Great Brook, Jack's Brook, Manhan River, Munn Brook, Pond Brook, Powdermill Brook, and Sandy Mill Brook. These water resources mostly allow for passive recreation and scenic qualities throughout the city. The Pioneer Valley Planning Commission conducted monthly water quality monitoring in Westfield from April to November 2009 and the following rivers/brooks were found to have elevated E. coli counts: Ashley Brook, Jack's Brook, Little River, and Pond Brook. Temperature data collected at the two sites on Pond Brook indicated that the brook may not meet its proposed designation as a Cold Water Fishery. Daily temperature should be collected at these locations to ensure the site is suitable for such a designation. The Pioneer Valley Planning Commission applied for funding to conduct further monitoring at these locations.

2. Flood Hazard Areas

Flood hazard areas are located extensively throughout the city due to the many rivers and streams. In particular, the Westfield and Little Rivers have expansive flood plains, which considerably limit the amount of developable land in Westfield. (Please refer to the map in Appendix). There are approximately 3,558 acres of land within the FEMA mapped 100-year floodplain and 2,065 acres of land within the 500-year floodplain within the City of Westfield [approximately 18.5% of Westfield's total land area]. According to the Community Information System (CIS) of FEMA, there were 1,910 residential structures and 34 additional structures located within the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) in Westfield as of May 1999, the most current records in the CIS for the City of Westfield. Areas with significant development within the likely inundation zone of high risk dams located in Westfield or neighboring communities are those downstream from the Arm Brook, Powdermill, Granville and Montgomery dams. Also, significant portions of Westfield could be flooded if the Cobble Mountain Dam, located in Blandford, were to fail.

3. Wetlands

Westfield contains about 982 acres of wetlands, which are shown on the map in the Appendix. The city's local wetlands ordinance promotes protection of these areas by specifically restricting development activities within 100 feet of any such zone.

4. Aquifer Recharge Areas

The Barnes Aquifer recharge area (as shown on the map in Appendix A), lies beneath a major portion of the northeast quadrant of the city and generates a high water table. Located directly above the aquifer, are the airport and an industrial zone. As mentioned previously, the Barnes Aquifer is the primary source of drinking water for Westfield and has a capacity for withdrawal of more than 21 million gallons per day. Industrial development continues to occur at a rapid rate here, despite the aquifer protection zoning ordinance, which restricts many land uses and in some cases, requires protective measures. The Westfield River Five-Year Action Plan suggests additional ways to improve protection of the aquifer recharge area.

Many threats of contamination exist and monitoring wells are situated at strategic locations, information from them will be shared with the Westfield Water Department.

The Barnes Aquifer Protection Advisory Committee (BAPAC) is a regional committee established by Easthampton, Holyoke, Southampton, Westfield, and the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission. They work to promote awareness about the aquifer, the protection of it, and monitor developments having regional impact. The BAPAC has a web site, which provides important data about the aquifer, as well as local regulations for aquifer protection. Visit their site at: <http://www.pvpc.org/bapac/index.html>.

D. Vegetation

Lush and diverse vegetation is critical to the quality of life in Westfield. It provides aesthetic relief, clean air and barriers between different land uses within the city. There are numerous significant trees and forests throughout the city, as well as habitat areas for unique, threatened or endangered species. The City received an urban forestry grant in 2004 to develop a stewardship program and to improve the health and increase the number of trees in the city.

1. Forest Land

Westfield is a city with an abundance of trees and forests that are prominent even in the downtown and industrial areas. According to the most current land use data from 2005, forty-nine percent of Westfield is forested (14,758 acres). However, Westfield has lost an estimated 1,724 acres of forested land since 1970, when forested land amounted to sixty-one percent of Westfield. Most of the wooded sections are not managed as forest as only one property owner is enrolled in Chapter 61 the state's forest tax program (which requires a state approved forest management plan). The lack of participation in the state's Chapter 61 program shows a need for more education about the benefits of this program to property owners of the remaining substantial forestland tracts. Selective harvesting of timber products could also improve some locations for wildlife habitat, as well as provide additional income to the city.

2. General Inventory

The forests of Westfield are generally a mixture of hardwoods and softwoods, with straight hardwoods accounting for approximately 25% of the city's trees, and conifers for approximately 6%. The most common species include: beech, white birch, yellow birch, black birch, red oak, white oak, hemlock, white pine and pitch pine.

In January of 1998, the Office of Community Development and the Northeast Center for Urban and Community Forestry of the University of Massachusetts-Amherst conducted a statistical analysis of the condition, species and management needs for the street trees in Westfield. A random sample survey was performed and the findings indicated that there are approximately 16,000 trees growing along the public roads of the city. This equals 74 trees per square mile of roadway, or .42 trees per Westfield resident. The following 14 different genus types were found: Acer (57%), Quercus (10%), Pinus (9%), Gleditsia (5%), Malus (5%), Tsuga (5%), Betula (2%), Carpinus (1%), Picea (1%), Platanus (1%), Pseudotsuga (1%), Tilia (1%), Ulmus (1%) and Fraxinus (<1%).

The overall condition of the street trees was broadly categorized as 34% being good, 49% fair, 16% poor, 1% dead and <1% hazards. More specifically, 43% of them

exhibited weak forks, 42% had overhead wires, 41% contained significant deadwood, and 13% of the trees showed a cavity or trunk injury. The team also conducted a management needs assessment and found that 59% of the trees require a crown cleaning, 19% a crown raising, and 5% a crown reduction. This information has provided a baseline for the development of a more complete and comprehensive inventory of all the trees growing along the streets of Westfield.

3. Rare, Threatened and Endangered Species of Flora

According to the Massachusetts Natural Heritage Program listing, the following 13 vascular plant species are endangered or threatened in Westfield. Of note is that the bristly buttercup and climbing fumitory moved from “threatened” to “special concern” and the linear-leaved milkweed newly appeared on the “threatened list from 2004 to 2010.

Threatened

Purple Needlegrass
Linear-leaved Milkweed
Smooth Rock-cress

Endangered

Low Bindweed
Variable Sedge
Houghton's Flatsedge
Hairy Wild Rye
Long-leaved Bluet
Giant St. John's-wort

Special Concern

Climbing Fumitory
Purple Clematis
New England Blazing Star
Bristly Buttercup

E. Fisheries and Wildlife

1. Inventory

Only one Wildlife Management area, amounting to 227 acres, exists in the city. Therefore, there are not many wildlife habitat areas currently being protected in Westfield. Some open lands and parks have ponds or streams, but they are not necessarily set-aside as habitat. Deer, moose, bear, wolves, and mountain lions are known to live in this area of the region as well as smaller mammals, salamanders, snakes, turtles and birds. Bear have been sighted in rural western regions as well as in some urban, but remote spots at the airport. Moose have been sighted at least two times over the last year wandering around downtown Westfield.

2. Vernal Pools

There are currently eight certified vernal pools within the city of Westfield.

3. Corridors

The ridgelines to the east and west of the city are known passageways for animal travel and habitat. The Little and Westfield Rivers, as well as other brooks and streams in the city provide potential wildlife corridors. A fish ladder to aide with salmon restoration has been built in the Westfield River, and the US Fish and Wildlife Service have reportedly investigated the area for its potential role in the formation of the Conte wildlife refuge that would encompass the entire Connecticut River watershed.

4. Rare, Threatened and Endangered Species of Fauna

A list of known rare, threatened, endangered and unique species in Westfield is provided below. Of note, the spotted turtle, four-toed salamander, and elderberry long-horned beetle have moved off the state’s list since the 2004 OSRP.

Threatened	Endangered	Special Concern
Eastern Spadefoot	Upland Sandpiper	Jefferson Salamander
Marbled Salamander	Golden-winged Warbler	Pine Barrens Itame
Grasshopper Sparrow	New Jersey Tea Inchworm	Frosted Elfin
Vesper Sparrow	Agassiz's Clam Shrimp	American Clam Shrimp
Pine Barrens Zanclognatha	Dwarf Wedgemussel	Bridle Shiner
	Brook Floater (Swollen Wedgemussel)	Triangle Floater
		Creeper
		Wood Turtle
		Eastern Box Turtle

F. Scenic Resources and Unique Environments

The table on the following page is a list of the known scenic resources and unique environments found in the city (the columns on the right indicate whether the feature has scenic, geologic, cultural or environmental significance). This list was derived from public comments voiced during the Rethinking Downtown Westfield Plan, Heritage Landscapes Plan, and 2010 Westfield OSRP planning processes. In particular, Westfield citizens and City staff identified fifty-one heritage landscapes as part of the Westfield Heritage Landscapes program. The City Center, Rail Trail, Wyben Farmland Gateway, Stanley Park and Wildlife Sanctuary, Pine Hill Cemetery and the marble quarry on Northwest Road were selected as having the highest priority and for this reason have an asterisk next to their names on the list. According to the state, Westfield does not contain Areas of Critical Environmental Concern.

The 2009 Westfield Heritage Landscape Reconnaissance Report recommended three “top” strategies to protect these important scenic and cultural resources:⁵

- adopt an Agricultural Overlay District in Wyben to protect its rural nature and encourage the use of the APR among Wyben’s farmers;
- construct the rail trail and preserve the railroad structures as a means of bringing economic activity to the Center; and
- assist Pine Hill Cemetery through the Community Preservation Act to obtain funding for cemetery restoration.

The 2009 Rethinking Downtown Westfield Plan also supported the construction of the rail trail through the downtown as well as the construction of a riverfront park on the Westfield River, the preservation of historic streetscapes in the city center, increased use of downtown venues and existing open spaces for arts, entertainment and recreational events. The planning process also illuminated that many Westfield residents are unaware of all the great things happening in Westfield’s Downtown and therefore

⁵ Westfield Heritage Landscape Reconnaissance Report was the final product from participation in the state’s Heritage Landscapes Program.

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suggested a need for coordinating and disseminating information on existing resources and events.

Westfield has a strong advocate for preservation in the Western Hampden Historical Society and it has accomplished some important projects in the recent past. The Society has funded the nomination of Westfield Center to the National Register, and members were instrumental in preventing the demolition of an important Italianate style house and its reuse as a bank. They have been working on raising public awareness of its historic properties in annual events as well. Finally, individuals in Westfield have taken private measures to maintain their historic buildings and landscapes.

Table 13: Scenic & Unique Environments in Westfield

* signifies priority landscape as identified in the 2009 Westfield Heritage Landscape Planning process					
Area	Significance	Scenic	Geol.	Cult.	Env.
* Village of Wyben / Wyben Farmland Gateway	Mostly 19th century homes, a very picturesque area with open lands for farming and wildlife	Yes		Yes	Yes
Mundale Village section of Westfield	Similar to Wyben in historical value and beauty	Yes		Yes	Yes
Glacial potholes off Granville Road, across from the Springfield filter beds	Glacial river formations	Yes		Yes	Yes
Farms on Route 10/202 on north side of highway.	agricultural value	Yes		Yes	Yes
Pomeroy Farm Russellville Road	agricultural value	Yes		Yes	Yes
Maple Brook Farm on East Mountain Road	agricultural value	Yes		Yes	Yes
Hundred Acre Farm	agricultural value	Yes		Yes	
Indian Burial Site at unknown location off Route 20	Archaeological value			Yes	
Westfield Fairgrounds on Russellville Road	Archaeological value			Yes	
Falley Armory Home Site; Below Tekoa Reservoir dam	Burned down in the late 1920s but there are remains			Yes	
*Pine Hill Cemetery		Yes		Yes	
Burial ground at Russellville and North Roads		Yes		Yes	
*City Center	Scenic and civic value	Yes		Yes	
City Hall	Scenic and civic value	Yes		Yes	
Athenaeum	Scenic and civic value	Yes		Yes	
Village green and buildings around it	Scenic and civic value	Yes		Yes	
Residential side streets	Scenic and civic value	Yes		Yes	
Prospect Hill School	Recently rehabilitated and on National Register	Yes		Yes	
Franklin Street Armory		Yes		Yes	

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Westfield State College campus	Historic buildings, open space, walking and biking paths	Yes		Yes	Yes
Juniper Park Area south of old Sheraton Inn that is now demolished. On Route 20.		Yes		Yes	Yes
Chapin Pond		Yes	Yes		Yes
Vista down Little River		Yes	Yes		Yes
Feeding Hill Road vernal Pond		Yes	Yes		Yes
Little River Road aquifer pump station	Offers view	Yes			
Crane Mill Pond vista west from Cows Bridge		Yes			
Vista from Great River Bridge looking west to see old canal aqueduct and railroad bridge	This is the extant railroad bridge.	Yes		Yes	
Westfield River Corridor		Yes	Yes		Yes
Davies Home vista	Open Space vista/also Natural on Russell Road	Yes			
West Parish Orchard with vistas to UMass	Open Space vista	Yes			
Old City Island	Upstream from Whitney Field	Yes		Yes	
Grandmother's Garden	Also known as Chauncey Allen Park	Yes		Yes	
Robinson State Park - CCC, Native Americans, River buffer, bird migration	Very small portion of this park is actually in Westfield. It is better addressed as Agawam park.	Yes	Yes		Yes
*Stanley Park and Wildlife Sanctuary		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Shaker Country Club		Yes		Yes	
Bullens field grandstand	Built by WPA in 1938	Yes		Yes	
Whitney Field	First playground in town	Yes		Yes	
Tekoa Park	Old gravel quarry that in the 1850s became city park	Yes		Yes	
Cave on Honey Pot Road	Used to store gun powder during Revolutionary War, and possibly moonshine during Prohibition	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Salamanders on Honey Pot Road and Caitlin's Way	Known endangered species seen in vicinity -should be protected				Yes
Northwest Road near Little River	Site of marble cutting mill, some which was used in the Lincoln Memorial, Washington, DC			Yes	
Off General Knox Road	Atwater Marble Quarry	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Mundale Cemetery and Granville Road Cemetery on Granville Road	Gravestones from 1811 to 1881 - should be preserved and maintained	Yes		Yes	
Original Tekoa golf course	In area of Stanley Park athletic fields, near swan ponds (Gillette's Pond) – probably the first formal course in Westfield; photos at Tekoa Country Club	Yes		Yes	Yes
Crane's Pond and Wolf Pit Meadows area off Crane Road	Wetlands and endangered species habitat (birds and turtles) -should be protected	Yes			Yes
Russolillo property from Granville Road to Crane Road	Good open space; abuts Highland School that is city	Yes			Yes

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	owned				
Allen Park and Grandmother's Garden	Encourage more public use - should be maintained and protected	Yes		Yes	Yes
Tuller's Swamp off Linden Avenue	Wetland swamp area that should be protected				Yes
Ponders Hollow Road	Possibly the oldest road in Westfield – potential bicycle path	Yes		Yes	Yes
Tin Bridge / sand bank area	Potential recreation area and bicycle path	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Old burying ground on Mechanic Street	Historic cemetery from 1648 – is well documented			Yes	
Old Gas House on Sacket Street and Sibley Avenue	Historic site			Yes	
Woman's Temperance Union fountain	Across from Half Mile Falls Park – city owned	Yes		Yes	
Western Massachusetts Hospital on East Mountain Road	Historic site -tuberculosis sanitarium including its own farm with fresh produce	Yes		Yes	Yes
Area of old canal swimming pond – Union Street, Papermill Road and Springdale Road	Historic canal once supplied water to the mill – a popular swimming hole for several generations	Yes		Yes	Yes
Steven's Farm on Pochassic Road	Tree farm	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Westfield Sportsman's Club area	Rifle range – a recreation property that needs protection from development	Yes			Yes
Falley's Forge on Reservoir Avenue	Historic mill site where muskets were made for the Revolutionary War – now a cellar hole and stone foundation; should be protected	Yes		Yes	
Old Lead Mines in Wyben on Montgomery Road		Yes		Yes	
Old brickyard on Root and North Roads	Historic remains of two kilns – Westfield Brick Company and then	Yes		Yes	Yes
Bogs and kettle holes at Hampton Ponds	Interesting geologic formations within Barnes Aquifer recharge area	Yes		Yes	Yes
Metacomet-Monadnock Trail	West of East Mountain in Westfield along its eastern border – a hiking trail over East Mountain leads to Provin Mountain	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Old whip manufacturing site along Westfield River at Great Bridge, downtown	An old manufacturing site close to Whitney Park and accessible to the river, downtown and proposed rail			Yes	
HB Smith Company site	Adjacent to proposed rail trail			Yes	

G. Environmental Challenges

The following are problems as noted by members of The Open Space Committee and other city boards or departments:

1. Hazardous Waste Sites

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The Toxics Release Inventory (TRI), a publicly available EPA database that contains information on specific toxic chemical releases and other waste management activities reported annually by certain covered industry groups as well as federal facilities. According to TRI, there are 15 industries currently releasing hazardous materials within Westfield's city limits out of the 27 sites considered Tier II Hazardous Materials storage facilities (see Table 13). All sites are included on the Past & Potential Hazards/Critical Facilities Map in the Appendix. Hazardous materials are chemical substances, which if released or misused can pose a threat to the environment or health. These chemicals come in the form of explosives, flammable and combustible substances, poisons, and radioactive materials. Hazardous materials in various forms can cause death, serious injury, long-lasting health effects, and damage to buildings, homes, and other property. Many products containing hazardous chemicals are used and stored in homes and businesses routinely. These products are also shipped daily on the nation's highways, railroads, waterways, and pipelines.

Table 14: Tier II Hazardous Materials Storage Facilities in Westfield

Site Name	Site Address
104th Fighter Wing Barnes ANG Base	175 Falcon Drive
Amerigas Propane L.P.	216 Lockhouse Road
C&S Wholesale Grocers	53 Summit Locks Road
Columbia Manufacturing Inc.	1 Cycle Street
Comcast of Massachusetts II, Inc.	1110 East Mountain Road
Gulfstream Aerospace Services Corporation	33 Elise Street
International Paper	39 South Broad Street
Jen-Coat, Inc.	132 North Elm Street
John S. Lane & Son, Inc.	311 East Mountain Road
John S. Lane & Son, Inc.	931 Pochassic Road
LESCO Westfield Facility	140 Apremont Way
Maarng Oms #2	137 Franklin Street
Main USPS Post Office	8 West Silver Street
Qwest Westfield Amp	8 Williams Riding Way
Rinker Materials Hydro Conduit Division	69 Neck Road
Schwan's Home Service Inc.	125 Summit Lock Road
Southern States Cooperative	323 Lockhouse Road
Southwick Water Treatment Facility	Shaker Road
Star Gas Service	28 Arch Road
Verizon	22 Washington Street
WalMart Store #2174	141 Springfield Road
West Parish Filter, Springfield Water & Sewer Co	1515 Granville Road
Westfield Coatings Corporation	221 Union Street
Westfield Electroplating Co., Inc.	68 North Elm Street
Westfield Terminal	30 Summit Lock Road
Yellow Transportation	160 Falcon Drive

Westfield relies on its HazMat team for responding to incidents involving hazardous materials through a mutual aid agreement. There is no history of any major accidents involving some sort of oil or chemical spill, but transportation of chemicals and bio-hazardous materials by vehicle transport on Interstate 90, route 20, and routes 10-202 is a concern. Westfield also has an unusually high number of facilities using hazardous chemicals, both Tier II chemicals and less hazardous ones.

Hazardous waste sites in Westfield pose a major problem for the city, both environmentally and economically, due to the lack of rehabilitation and reuse of the properties. Pollutants may not necessarily be contained, and the abandonment of the property affects the municipal tax base. Over the past few decades, developers have been choosing to build on “greenfields” (agricultural and aquifer recharge lands) located outside the center of Westfield, instead of redeveloping older, contaminated sites within the city center, termed “brownfields.”

2. Landfills

Westfield closed its main landfill in April 1997, and has since been using it as a transfer station. The trash is hauled to a landfill in New York. The former landfill is not developable due to the potential damage to the plastic used to cap it. The City is considering erecting solar panels on the landfill.

3. Erosion

Erosion has not been identified as a widespread issue. Some erosion exists on private parcels, where slopes are subjected to motorized ATV use.

4. Development Impact

The impacts of development are often unclear until many years have passed. However, it is evident from the number of subdivisions and other major developments in Westfield, that much open land is being filled in with impervious surfaces, ultimately creating potential sources of non-point pollution. Those types of surfaces over the aquifer recharge area will prevent that ground water supply from receiving the direct infiltration of rainfall, and introduce polluted runoff into the aquifer. The continued residential build out in the remaining open lands in Westfield will tax the city’s ability to provide adequate public services, remove active farmlands from production and ultimately alter the character of the city forever.

5. Ground and Surface Water Pollution

Extensive development is taking place within the Barnes Aquifer recharge area, which could degrade the quality of the aquifer over time. Although currently in remediation, contamination at the Barnes ANG base could potentially have entered into the aquifer.

Several auto body and salvage establishments along the Westfield River could be releasing contaminants into the surface water. Golf courses that use fertilizers and pesticides could be releasing those substances into surface water (near Westfield River, Little River and Great Brook), or groundwater (near city wells). Salt storage facilities, one privately owned and the other state operated, could be the source of salt runoff into the Westfield River. Trap rock quarry silica dust drains into the Westfield River after every rainfall. (Please see Appendix for maps and locations.)

6. Environmental Equity

Westfield residents expressed concern about equal access to open space in all areas of Westfield. Developers have not constructed small pocket parks in new residential developments constructed over the last two decades. The higher density neighborhoods surrounding the downtown also lack access to open space given the concentration of population in that area.

7. Flooding, Sedimentation and Forestry

While chronic flooding, sedimentation, and forestry/deforestation issues are not considered to be issues or challenges faced by the city, the city is currently undertaking a \$730,000 program raising the Westfield River levy five feet.

SECTION 5: INVENTORY OF LANDS OF CONSERVATION & RECREATION INTEREST

INTRODUCTION

This section discusses all of the land of conservation or recreation interest, both private and public in Westfield. This inventory includes town-owned open space and conservation land, valuable natural resource areas such as watershed lands, historic and culturally important districts and landscapes, agricultural lands, and recreational facilities. In all, these areas define the character of Westfield and their loss would undermine the visual character, quality of life and sense of place for Westfield's residents and the region.

This inventory includes both protected and un-protected lands. Protected lands are public or semi-public parcels which are permanently committed for conservation purposes, which is not true for all public land. Other protected lands noted in this inventory include privately owned lands with a deeded conservation restriction or Agricultural Preservation Restriction. The unprotected land is a mixture of town-owned land (all town owned land not committed for conservation purposes) and private land (all land enrolled in MA General Law Chapter 61, 61A and B and other private lands). The Appendices contain a table of all town owned lands of conservation and recreation interest including its condition, zoning, degree of protection, public access, acreage, owner, manager and funds used for its purchase.

FROM 2009 Westfield Downtown Plan

The main open recreational space in the target area is The Green, a town common at the south end of downtown that is being re-organized and re-developed as a space for outdoor venues sponsored by the B.I.D and other community organizations. There are public spaces in the downtown but they are not well developed for public use. The downtown architecture and streetscape provide a sturdy backbone for developing a lively, walkable downtown. In addition, underutilized and empty lots provide opportunities for developing public spaces and pocket parks. There are several relatively underutilized recreational assets along the Westfield River, including Women's Temperance Park, Whitney Park, and the Westfield River Trail. Riverfront recreation will be significantly enhanced as part of the ongoing Great River bridge project. Very few neighborhood pocket parks serve the downtown neighborhoods. The existing parks are associated with schools and many are locked when the schools are closed.

A. PRIVATE RECREATION/CONSERVATION/OPEN SPACE LANDS

Map/ Parcel	Name	Ownership	Mngmnt Agency	Current Use	Condition	Recreation Potential	Grant Used	Public Access	Zoning	Degree Protect.
Agricul. Preserv. Restrict.										
67R-12	Kosinski	Private	APR	Agri	Good	Passive	APR	No	RR	APR-Full
68R-16 67R-54	Pomeroy	Private	APR	Agri	Good	Passive	APR	No	RR	APR-Full
53R-1	Hartley	Private	APR	Agri	Good	Passive	APR	No	RR	APR-Full
54R-21,76 47R-11	Baker	Private	APR	Agri	Good	Passive	APR	No	RR	APR-Full
32R-16 38R-33	Boisseau	Private	APR	Agri	Good	Passive	APR	No	RR	APR-Full
39R- 8,14,16,17	Bonnieventure	Private	APR	Asagri	Good	Passive	APR	No	RR	APR-Full
19R-18	Bailey	Private	APR	Agri	Good	Passive	APR	No	RR	APR-Full
6R-9,25	Kosinski	Private	APR-WRLC	Agri	Good	Passive	APR	No	RR	APR-Full
27R-14	Northern Nurseries Inc.	Private	APR	Tree Nursery	good	Passive		No	RR	APR-Full
15R-1	Fowler Farms	Private	APR	Agri	Good	Passive		No	RR	APR-Full
41R-20,33	Phelan	Private	APR	Agri	Good	Passive	CPA/APR	No	RR	APR-Full
24R-4	Davies	Private	APR	Agri	Good	Passive	CPA/APR	No	RR	APR-Full
17R-22,28	Arnold	Private	APR	Agri	Good	Passive	CPA/APR	No	RR	APR-Full
3R-2	Janisieski	Private	APR	Agri	Good	Passive	CPA/APR	No	RR	APR-Full
9R-5 1R-1,2	Tarnauskas	Private	APR	Agri	Good	Passive	CPA/APR	No	RR	APR-Full
Consv. Restrict.										
114-11	Walmart	Private	CR-WRLC	Wildlife	Good	Passive		Yes	RR	CR-Full
56R-29	Lowes Dist	Private	CR-WRLC	NHESA	Good	Natural		No	IA	CR-Full
17R-20	Winding River Land Conserv.	Private	WRLC	Wildlife	Good	Passive		Yes	RR	Full
3R-7	WRLC	Private	WRLC	Wildlife	Good	Passive		Yes	RR	Full
Open Space Subdv.										
	Hawks Nest OS subdv	Private	Homeowners Assoc.	Open Space	Good	Passive		No	RR	CR-Full
	Devon Manor OS Subdv	Private	Homeowners Assoc.	Open Space	Good	Passive		No	RR	CR-Full
70R-81,82	Scenic Ridge OS Subdv	Private	Homeowners Assoc.	Open space	Good	Passive		No	RR	CR-Full
62R- 127,128	Victoria CI OS subdv	Private	Homeowners Assoc.	Open Space	Good	Passive		No	RR	CR-Full
31R-33	Caitlin Way OS subdv	Private	Homeowners Assoc.	Open Space	Good	Passive		No	RR	CR-Full
4R-118, 120	Plantation Circle OS subdv	Private	Homeowners Assoc.	Open Space	Good	Passive		No	RR	CR-Full
4R-24	Radisson Hghts OS subdv	Private	Homeowners Assoc.	Open Space	Good	Passive		No	RR	CR-Full

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Map/Parcel	Name	Ownership	Mngmnt Agency	Current Use	Condition	Recreation Potential	Grant Used	Public Access	Zoning	Degree Protect.
Golf Courses										
68R-3	E. Mt. CC	Private		Golf Course	Good	Active		Yes	RR	61B-Temp
34R-4	Tekoa CC	Private		Golf Course	Good	Active		Yes	RR	61B-Temp
6R-8	Shaker Farms Country Club	Private		Golf Course	Fair	Active		Yes-Fee	RR	61B-Temp
Cemetery										
50R-13	St. Marys Cemetary	Spfld Diocese	St. Mary's	Cemetary	Good	Passive		Yes	RA	Temp
	Pine Hill Cemetary	Private	Trustees	Cemetary	Good	Passive	CPA	Yes	RA	Temp
Other										
25R-8,11 26R-4,5,6 54-17 77- 1,4,5,7, 8 81-26	Stanley Park	Private	Stanley Park Trustees	Passive park & gardens	Good	Passive		Yes	RR & RA	None
58-36	YMCA	Private	Board of Directors	Physical Fitness	Good	Active		Yes-Fee	CRB	None
24-28	Westfield Boys & Girls Club	Private	Board of Directors	Indoor pool & gym	Good	Active		Member-ship	BRB	None
24-28	Westfield Children's Museum	Private	Board of Directors	Indoor play and exhibits	Good	Active		Yes - Fee	BRB	None
24-28	Amelia Park Skating Rink	Private	Board of Directors	Skating Rink	Good	Active		Yes-Fee	BRB	None
35R-9	Golf Acres	Private		Driving Range	Good	Active		Yes-Fee	RR	None
47R-4	Westfield SportsmanClub	Private		Shooting Range	Good	Active		No	RR	None
Chapter 61, 61A & 61B, see Append-B										

B. PUBLIC/NON-PROFIT RECREATION/CONSERVATION/OPEN SPACE LANDS

CITY OF WESTFIELD

Map/Parcel	Name	Ownership	Mngmnt Agency	Current Use	Condition	Recreation Potential	Grant Used	Public Access	Zoning	Degree Protect.
Park&Rec Commis.										
707 S'ton Rd.	Apremont Park	City of Westfield	Park & Rec. Commiss.	Veteran's Memorial	Good	No		Yes	AD	Full
65-1	Chauncey Allen Park-Grandmothers Garden	City of Westfield	Park & Rec. Commiss.	Flower Gardens	Good	Passive		Yes	RA	Full
N.Elm & Holyoke Rd.	Clay Hill Park	City of Westfield	Park & Rec. Commiss.	Island Flowers	Good	None		Yes	CA	Full
45-13	Dowling Park	City of Westfield	Park & Rec. Commiss.	Lawn & flowers	Good	None		Yes	RA	Full
Broad St.	General Shepard Park	City of Westfield	Park & Rec. Commiss.	Island Memorial Statue	Good	None		Yes	CORE	Full

2010 Westfield Open Space & Recreation Plan

Map/ Parcel	Name	Ownership	Mngmnt Agency	Current Use	Condition	Recreation Potential	Grant Used	Public Access	Zoning	Degree Protect.
220-18	General Wareham Park	City of Westfield	Park & Rec. Commiss.	Memorial	Good	Passive		Yes	BA	Full
34-1	Holcomb Park	City of Westfield	Park & Rec. Commiss.	Island	Good	None		Yes	RA	Full
Elm & Meadow Sts	Kane Park	City of Westfield	Park & Rec. Commiss.	Island	Good	Passive		Yes	CORE	Full
Downtown Green	Park Square	City of Westfield	Park & Rec. Commiss.	Downtown Green	Good	Passive		Yes	CORE	Full
23-69	Parker Park	City of Westfield	Park & Rec. Commiss.	Veteran's Memorial	Good	Passive		Yes	RA	Full
1-1	Wojtkiewicz Park	City of Westfield	Park & Rec. Commiss.	Pocket Park	Good	Passive		Yes	CORE	Full
17R-9	Steiger Dr.	City of Westfield	Park & Rec. Commiss.		Undeveloped	Active	HUD	Yes	RA	Temp
50R-3,5	Arms Brook	City of Westfield	Park & Rec. Commiss.	Closed	Poor	Active		Yes	RA, RB, IA	Full
3-11	Chapman Play ground	City of Westfield	Park & Rec. Commiss.	Neighborhood Play ground	Poor	Active	Gateway City Parks PARC	Yes	RA	Full
14-75	Cross Street Play ground	City of Westfield	Park & Rec. Commiss.	Neighborhood Play ground	Fair	Active		Yes	RB	Full
72R-52	Hampton Ponds Play ground	City of Westfield	Park & Rec. Commiss.	Neighborhood Play ground	Fair	Active		Yes	RA	Full
120-2	Little River Play ground	City of Westfield	Park & Rec. Commiss.	Neighborhood Play ground	Poor	Active		Yes	RA	Full
68-26	Municipal Play ground	City of Westfield	Park & Rec. Commiss.	City Play ground	Good	Active	FY05 Urban Self Help CPA	Yes	RA	Full
44R-3	Paper Mill Play Ground	City of Westfield	Park & Rec. Commiss.	Neighborhood Play ground	Good	Active	Urban Self-Help	Yes	RR	Full
201-42	Sadie Knox Play ground	City of Westfield	Park & Rec. Commiss.	Neighborhood Play ground	Poor	Active		Yes	RA	Full
49R-1	Boardman Fields	City of Westfield	Park & Rec. Commiss.	Neighborhood Play ground	Good	Active	CPA	Yes	RR	Full
41R-15	Whitney Play ground	City of Westfield	Park & Rec. Commiss.	Softball Fields & Play-ground	Poor	Active		Yes	RR	Full
24-28	Skatepark	City of Westfield	Park & Rec. Commiss.	Skateboard Park	Fair	Active		Yes	BSMRB D	Full
72R-63 portion	Woronoco Soccer Complex	City of Westfield	Municipal Airport & Park & Rec. commiss.	Soccer fields	Good	Active	FAA	yes	AD	None

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Map/ Parcel	Name	Ownership	Mngmnt Agency	Current Use	Condition	Recreation Potential	Grant Used	Public Access	Zoning	Degree Protect.
Cemetery										
65R-24	East Mountain Cemetery	City of Westfield	Park & Rec. Commiss.	Cemetery	Good	None		Yes	RR	None
10-72	Mechanic St. Cemetery	City of Westfield	Park & Rec. Commiss.	Cemetery	Good	None	CPA	Yes	RC	None
68R-10	Middle Farms Cemetery	City of Westfield	Park & Rec. Commiss.	Cemetery	Good	None	CPA	Yes	RR	None
25R-13	Mundale Cemetery	City of Westfield	Park & Rec. Commiss.	Cemetery	Good	None		Yes	RR	None
Conserv. Open Space										
31R-1,2	Tekoa Park	City of Westfield	Park & Rec. Commiss.	Hiking Trails	Good	Passive		Yes	RR	Full
17R-14	Mary Noble Wildlife Sanctuary	City of Westfield	Park & Rec. Comm.	Wildlife	Good	Passive		Yes	RR	Full
11R-12,25,31,38	Honey Pot	City of Westfield		Wildlife	Good	Passive		Yes	RR	Full
45-8	Highland School Conserv. Area	City of Westfield		Conserv. Area	Good	Passive		Yes	RA	Full
54R-23		City of Westfield	Undetermined		Good	Passive			RR	Undetermined
63-46		City of Westfield	City Treasurer	Vacant	Poor	Passive		Yes	RR	None
36R-9		City of Westfield	Undetermined	Field & Forest	Good	Passive		Yes	RR	None
1-1,31,33 3-25,34, 48,50		City of Westfield	Flood Control Commiss.	Dike	Fair	Passive		Yes		None
Schools										
253-21	S'ton Rd. Elem. School	City of Westfield	School Dept.	Play-ground	Good	Active		Yes	RA	Full
56R-64	North Middle Sc	City of Westfield	School Dept.	Ballfields	Good	Active		Yes	RA/RR	Full
49R-3,5,6	High School	City of Westfield	School Dept.	Ballfields Tennis Courts	Poor	Active		Yes	RA/RR	Temp
49R-7	Twiss St.	City of Westfield	Health Dept.	Capped landfill	Good	Passive		No	RR	Temp
66-36	Franklin School	City of Westfield	School Dept.	Play-ground	Fair	Active		Yes	RB	Temp
68-26	Bullens Field	City of Westfield	School Dept.	Ball Fields	Good	Active		Yes	RA	Temp
220-72	Mosely School	City of Westfield	City Council	Play-ground	Poor	Active		Yes	RB & RC	Temp
17R-72	Munger Hill Elem. School	City of Westfield	School Dept.	Play-ground	Good	Active		Yes	RA	Temp
28-1	Abner Gibbs Elem. School	City of Westfield	School Dept.	Play-ground	Poor	Active		Yes	RA	Temp
24-25	South Middle School	City of Westfield	School Dept.	Athletic fields	Fair	Active		Yes	RA & RB	Temp
45-8	Highland School	City of Westfield	School Dept.	Play-ground,	Poor	Active		Yes	RA	Temp

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Map/ Parcel	Name	Ownership	Mngmnt Agency	Current Use	Condition	Recreation Potential	Grant Used	Public Access	Zoning	Degree Protect.
Water Dept.										
40R-187 58R-13	Chapin Pond & Dam	City of Westfield	Water Comm	Aquifer Protect	Good	Passive		No	RR	Full
19R-41,33		City of Westfield	Water Dept.	Water Supply	Good	Passive		No	RR	Temp
19R-34		City of Westfield	Water Dept.	Water Supply	Good	Passive		No	RR	Temp
22R-5,6		City of Westfield	Water Dept.	Public Water Supply	Good	Passive		No	RR	Temp
Other										
43R-1,11		City of Westfield	Water Comm.	Water Supply	Good	Passive		No	RR	Temp
	Columbia Greenway	City of Westfield	Park & Rec. Comm..	Former rail bed	Poor	Active Biketrail		No	Various	None
72R-8		City of Westfield	Municipal Airport	vacant	Poor	Active	FAA	No	BB	None
33R-10	Camp Togowauk	City of Westfield	School Dept.	Kid camp	Good	Active		No	BA	None

OTHER MUNICIPALITIES

7R-1		City of West Springfield	Water Dept.	Water Supply	Good	Passive		No	RR	None
7R-11		City of West Springfield	Water Dept.	Water Supply	Good	Passive		No	RR	None
20R-2 10R-2		City of Springfield	Water Works	Public water supply	Good	Passive		No	RR	Full
19R-19		City of Springfield	Water Dept.	Water Supply	Good	Passive	APR	No	RR	Temp

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

270-22 271- 5,6,7,8 272-7	Hampton Ponds State Park	Common Of MA	DCR	Swimming boating	Good	Active		Yes	BA	Full
41R-16	Westfield River	Common of Mass	MF&W	Wildlife	Good	Passive		Yes	RR	Full
30R-7,8	Robinson State Park	Common Of Mass	DCR	Wildlife open space	Good	Passive		Yes	RR	Full
10R-3 1R-8	Honey Pot	Common of Mass	MF&W	Wildlife	Good	Passive		Yes	RR	Full
2R-4, 74, 123,128	Honey Pot	Common of Mass	F&W	Wildlife	Good	Passive		Yes	RR	Full
5-147 3-1,24,49 2-11	Dikes	Common of Mass	DOT	Dike	Fair	Passive		Yes		
33R- 8,15,17 34R-9,12 84-16	Westfield State University	Common of Mass	WSU	Educational facility	Good	Active		No	RR/RA	None
36R-10	Western Mass Hospital	Common of Mass	EOHHS	Wildlife	Good	Passive		No	RR	None

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

11R-7	Honey Pot	USA	F&W	Wildlife	Good	Passive		Yes	RR	Full
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Public and Nonprofit Parcels

Passive recreation is allowed by permit, available from the Water Department, in the Zone B and C of the Granville Reservoir watershed. This is not posted at the reservoir and is known only to those people who take the initiative to contact the Water Department. The Massachusetts Department of Fish and Wildlife purchased a conservation restriction (CR) on the City owned lands in the Montgomery Reservoir watershed. This CR allows passive public access, hunting, and shoreline fishing. The Board of Water Commissioners is working with Westfield State College and the Westfield River Watershed Association to create a GIS map of roads and trails available for passive recreation. Once mapped, the Board intends to also provide trail markers to correspond to the map.

Passive recreation is also allowed at the Shaker Road wellfield. A section of the old Farmington Canal is preserved for public viewing there. The Historical Commission is in the process of preparing a monument to be located at the canal to commemorate this historic structure.

Both Granville and Montgomery Reservoirs have Forest Management Plans. The forests are managed to improve water quality and generate some revenue from timber harvesting.

SECTION 6: COMMUNITY VISION

A. Description of Process

Public input was sought over a one and a half year period to guide the development of this plan. The City first used the Department of Conservation & Recreation's Heritage Landscape Inventory program planning process to identify and prioritize the natural and cultural landscapes within town that embody the community's unique character. This was done through a public meeting and was followed by a fieldwork session led by the project team. The City then went through an extensive public planning process that resulted in a downtown action plan titled "Re-Thinking Downtown Westfield." This planning process, which began in February 2009 and ended in August 2009, provided the Westfield community with several opportunities to offer input into the development of a final plan through the following community outreach events:

- Community survey
- Community / Stakeholder interviews
- Project website: www.westfielddowntownplan.com
- Focus group meetings (renters, Latino residents, high school students, & business owners)
- Visioning Meeting
- 4 days of Community Design Workshops (Charrette)
- Public comment period on draft plan

The City of Westfield initiated the full-fledged update of its OSRP in the spring of 2010 by convening an OSRP Committee. The Open Space and Recreation Plan Committee included representation from a range of city departments, boards and community organizations including the Planning Board, Conservation Commission, Park and Recreation Commission, City Council, Community Development, Stanley Park and local business owners.

The PVPC, in conjunction with the Westfield OSRP Committee, held a public workshop on June 24th, 2010 at the North Middle School Cafeteria to determine Westfield's vision for open space and recreation and develop goals, objectives, and actions. Notice of the meeting was posted in a press release to the local newspapers, posted at city hall, and emailed to the board chairs and department heads for all boards, departments and committees within Westfield. The community vision reflects the comments received from the public visioning process as well as comments elicited during the development of the City's Heritage Landscapes Report and Downtown Action Plan.

The Draft Open Space and Recreation Plan was issued for public comment on July 15, 2010 for 30 days.

B. Statement of Open Space and Recreation Goals

Goal #1: Drinking water supplies remain safe and abundant for future generations.

Goal #2: Large, connected blocks of open space, including greenways and riverfront corridors, are protected from development to ensure habitat corridors for wildlife.

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Goal #3: Promote an inter-connected, city-wide transportation network that supports community identity.

Goal #4: Recreational and open space facilities are available for residents of all ages, abilities and neighborhoods city-wide.

SECTION 7: ANALYSIS OF NEEDS

A. Summary of Resource Protection Needs

The primary resource protection needs identified include the long-term protection of surface and groundwater resources, assembling and protecting large blocks of open space, and managing unauthorized use of private lands for motorized recreation and dumping.

As the primary source of drinking water for the City of Westfield, management of the aquifer recharge area, or Zone II, is critical to a sustainable water supply. The recharge area to the Barnes Aquifer is zoned for industrial and commercial uses. There is an inherent conflict between these uses and the protection of open space to function as recharge. Industrial and commercial land uses are often associated with large areas of impervious surfaces which prevent recharge. Winter de-icing chemicals can also be harmful to the aquifer. As previously noted, private wells in the northern portion of the aquifer in Westfield and Southampton are contaminated with road salt. Further, some types of industrial uses can involve chemicals that pose a threat to the aquifer, or produce them as a waste product, if released. Strict management and oversight of chemical use and disposal is necessary. Yet, pressure to bring new development to the region for economic growth remains strong. A balance between aquifer protection and development can only be achieved through thoughtful long-term planning.

In the Summer of 2009, some surface waters in Westfield were identified to have water quality issues. Several tributaries to the Westfield River were found to have *E. coli* values one or more times in excess of primary contact standards (235 MPN/100 mls, single sample) as part of study coordinated by the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission with funding provided by a MassDEP 604b Grant. Under the study, monthly monitoring for *E. coli* bacteria was performed from April to November 2009. Although there appears to be a correlation between wet weather and elevated *E. coli* counts for some sites, others (Little River, Jack's Brook, Ashley Brook, and Pond Brook) also tested high during dry weather events indicating the likelihood that there may be illicit connections, such as sanitary sewers, causing the elevated bacteria levels. Temperature data collected at two sites on Pond Brook indicated that the brook may not meet its proposed designation as a Cold Water Fishery. Daily temperature should be collected at these locations to ensure the site is suitable for such a designation. The PVPC has applied for additional funding to perform bacteria source tracking and look into the cause of the elevated *E. coli* levels.

Not uncommon to many urban areas, the City of Westfield lacks large contiguous blocks of protected open space. Local regulations implemented within the past decade such as the Open Space Residential Development Bylaw and Transfer of Developments Bylaw have not been effective at protecting open space that can be assembled into contiguous blocks or corridors. Often, the most undevelopable parcel within a development is designated as "open space". Isolated, these parcels often end up being a place to dump landscape debris. Blocks of contiguous open space have the potential to serve many functions such as wildlife habitat, passive recreation such as hiking or cross-country skiing, groundwater recharge, scenic landscapes, working farms and forest lands to name just a few. The City needs to reexamine its local regulations and consider opportunities for assembling protected land.

Local residents have expressed interest in utilizing local watershed lands for passive recreation. However, misuse of land by ATVs has caused erosion of existing trails as well as sensitive surrounding areas. Such behavior is very difficult to track and manage. Similar unauthorized use occurs on private property to the outrage of some land owners. Dumping of trash and landscape debris has also been an issue on private property as noted above. The City needs to work with local residents to develop a method for controlling and responding to unauthorized motorized use.

B. Summary of Community's Needs

Overall, two of the themes from the Westfield Downtown Master Plan ring true in this update of the Open Space and Recreation Plan: play and connect. These themes focus on heavily on promoting the arts, entertainment, and recreation in downtown Westfield. With the downtown centered to be the cultural hub of the community, rivulets branching from the city's heart flow into the four quadrants of the city, supporting neighborhood character and community pride. From the Great River Bridge Project, to the Columbia Greenway Rail Trail, pocket parks, playground renovations, traffic calming and sidewalks, and the agricultural fields in Wyben, play and connect form the foundation of open space and recreation planning in Westfield.

The City should continue to advance funding possibilities through MassHighway processes and use municipal ordinances to prevent actions that would make the proposed Rail Trail impassable/impracticable. Pursue phased development of the Columbia Greenway Rail Trail in order to build this critical pedestrian and bicycle connection from the Southwick border to the downtown and then to the Westfield River, where it will connect to the Westfield River Trail. This critical project will form the spine of a non-motorized transportation and recreation network through downtown Westfield. After each segment is complete, the City and the newly formed Friends of the Greenway community group can organize a trail cleanup and hold a "grand opening" event.

The City should also pursue neighborhood pocket parks in the downtown and adjacent neighborhoods, including the Orange Street Neighborhood, the Mechanic Street Neighborhood, Meadow Street Neighborhood, Downtown District, and the Pleasant Street Neighborhood. Seek sites that will be available to the general public (in addition to playgrounds attached to schools, which provide facilities mainly for people with children). Seek sites that are centrally located, offer the potential to connect different neighborhood areas to each other, and/or are well-located for attracting greater use and promoting a greater sense of neighborhood community.

The City needs to assure a safe and comfortable environment for all modes of transportation, especially pedestrians, along Elm Street. PVPC is in the process of studying traffic on Elm street—determine utility of this study to identify solutions to traffic congestion on Elm Street and if possible use study results to perform 'what if' scenarios on ideas proposed to solve traffic congestion on Elm Street, including but not limited to: traffic calming, "completing the street", angle parking, making select streets one-way, and road diets. Expand transportation options on Western Avenue between WSC and the Downtown, including bicycle lane striping, additional signage, and continued sidewalk maintenance and construction. Increase shuttle van or bus service—perhaps in a "trolley format"—from WSC to and from the Downtown. Western Avenue is a key connection between Downtown and the College. Participants in the Re-Thinking

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Downtown Westfield's planning process said they felt unsafe bicycling on Western Avenue. If the road accommodated multiple users, it could become much more appealing to students, faculty, staff and visitors to the College to not have to drive back and forth. Successful downtowns are walkable. They possess street level pedestrian scale and are well used. The city DPW should continue to replace pavement, streetscape, and treebelt on Maple, Morris, Sibley, Madison to stabilize neighborhoods surrounding the downtown.

The City and its partners should continue to increase use of downtown venues and open spaces for arts, entertainment and recreational events. Coordinate with Westfield State College's plans for relocating some of their arts and entertainment activities to the downtown. This will increase foot traffic and enhance street life in the downtown district. This strategy should build on current Westfield on Weekends (WOW) events and Westfield State College plans for a downtown arts presence. Existing vacant or underutilized spaces within the downtown, such as the Newbury Department Store lot, offer opportunity sites to hold events geared toward arts and entertainment, including but not limited to outdoor theatrical productions, live concerts, movie screenings on the sides of buildings, community picnics, community art and landscape installations, and public murals. These uses will bring activity to the downtown and will hopefully lead to permanent productive uses within these spaces.

The Massachusetts Turnpike (I90) bisects the City of Westfield from the east to the west at the northern end of the city. Turnpike Exit 3 is the last exit permitting access to the Hilltowns until Exit 2 in Lee, Massachusetts. At the junction of Routes 10, 202, and I91, Exit 3 provides important access to all points north, south, east and west at this location. The influx of commuter traffic through Westfield each day because of Exit 3 clogs the downtown, inhibiting Westfield's ability to cultivate community identity. The completion of the Great River Bridge project over the Westfield River will undoubtedly improve traffic and pedestrian mobility in the town center. However, it is important that Westfield continues to be mindful of the conflicts between traffic calming devices necessary within a town center and use of an important regional commuter network.

As part of the Massachusetts Heritage Landscape Inventory performed in 2010, the top three recommendations for Westfield remain applicable to open space and recreation planning including: 1. adopt an Agricultural Overlay District in Wyben to protect its rural nature and encourage the use of the APR among Wyben's farmers; 2. construct the rail trail and preserve the railroad structures as a means of bringing economic activity to the Center, which will help to preserve its historic buildings, structures and landscapes; and, 3. assist Pine Hill Cemetery through the Community Preservation Act to obtain funding for cemetery restoration. It was further recommended as part of the Westfield Reconnaissance Report that Wyben-West Farms be nominated to the National Register of Historic Districts beginning with the boundaries established in its Area Form. Among others, the Bush House on East Silver Street of 1740 should be listed on the National Register as should the Georgian house at 174 Main Street, ca. 1750 that remains. Designated landscapes recommended for listing included the Pine Hill Cemetery, Grandmother's Garden and Stanley Park. Westfield does not have any Local Historic Districts (LHD) in the City and it is recommended that Park Square be designated as an LHD.

Many of the regional recreation needs identified in the 2006 SCORP play out here in Westfield. The highest levels of dissatisfaction for the Connecticut River Valley region

were reported for golf courses and parks, then for lakes and ponds, followed by rivers and streams, and finally for bikeways. Residents report being most satisfied with historic and cultural sites, mountains, and trails and greenways resources.

In contrast to demand (or present use patterns), respondents in this region place the highest priority for new facilities on road biking (14.5%), walking (13.9%), swimming (13.8%), playground (11.3%), hiking (10.0%), and mountain biking (10.3%). A middle tier of priorities includes golfing (8.2%), tennis, picnicking and fishing (5.5%), and camping (5.3%). These facilities needs are converted into “Inferred” resource area needs, i.e. those natural or developed areas that can supply, and are conducive to, the desired recreation activities. Highest among these for the Connecticut Valley Region are rivers and streams, then parks and golf courses, then agricultural lands, followed by trails and greenways, and finally lakes and ponds. Note also that the regional needs for hiking, mountain biking (10.3%), and cross-country skiing (4.1%) rank higher than in any other region.

C. Management Needs, Potential Change of Use

Limited funding and availability of personnel are the top two needs relative to open space and recreation management in Westfield. The City recently adopted a Stormwater Utility which allows for the assessment of fees to be allocated to a designated fund for stormwater related services and projects.

Many of the actions identified in the Action Plan in Chapter 9 will require funding for implementation. Dedicated personnel to research grant funds for some of these projects will be needed. One such grant that should be pursued for the implementation of some of the actions related to bicycles are the International Mountain Bike Association and Bikes Belong grants for park and trail development between \$5,000 – 10,000.

Continued coordination between the Department of Public Works and the Parks and Recreation Department on the maintenance of recreation facilities needs to remain a high priority. The City will be submitting a PARC grant for renovations to Chapman Playground in July 2010.

The City should create a riverfront park connecting Whitney Park and the new parks that are part of the Great River Bridge development on existing City-owned land along the southern side of the Westfield River. This new park would improve connectivity along the river and provide additional parking for river access. Explore design and development options around the Whip Factory and existing affordable housing units in the area.

Relative to the maintenance of existing facilities and the creation of new ones, more active police patrols of park and recreation facilities are needed at night. The late night hours are usually when parks facilities are vandalized.

In an effort to promote sustainable forestry and agriculture, the City of Westfield could evaluate its own forest management practices on watershed lands and investigate other viable forestry products besides timber harvesting such as edible nut crops. Community gardening has become very popular in neighboring communities throughout the Pioneer Valley. City residents have expressed an interest in finding space suitable for this.

Partnering with a local food bank or soup kitchen provides community gardeners with an opportunity to pass along surplus food to those in need.

Last, proper management of land protected in perpetuity under some form of deed restriction needs to happen. Currently, there are a number of parcels with conservation restrictions owned by the Westfield Conservation Commission that are not monitored to ensure unauthorized uses are not occurring there. Continued coordination between the City Planner and the Conservation Commission Coordinator is key to assembling large contiguous blocks of protected open space. Likewise, improved coordination with the Winding River Land Conservancy, the Westfield River Watershed Association, Stanley Park and other conservation groups will improve the city's ability to achieve its goals for creating protected corridors of open space. The Open Space and Recreation Committee that has been formed to facilitate the update of this plan should remain active, overseeing the coordination of open space planning city-wide.

SECTION 8: GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Goal #1: Drinking water supplies remain safe and abundant for future generations.

Objective 1-1: Commercial and industrial growth over the Barnes Aquifer Zone II is well-controlled to prevent aquifer contamination and ensure abundant, clean recharge.

Action 1-1: Continue to participate in the Barnes Aquifer Protection Advisory Committee and review and comment on Developments of Regional Impact over the Barnes Aquifer.

Action 1-2: Require the Building Inspector to perform post-construction site visits to ensure all permitted stormwater treatment and recharge devices, structures, and systems are built to specification. Enforce against non-compliant property owners.

Action 1-3: Require commercial and industrial facilities to submit annual stormwater treatment device maintenance logs to Westfield Water Department, and enforce against those that do not.

Objective 1-2: Watershed lands remain healthy and are open to the public for passive recreation.

Action 1-4: A map of watershed roads and trails open for public access by permit is available from the Board of Water Commissioners.

Action 1-5: Work with the Springfield Water and Sewer Commission to open the land at the West Parish Filters to passive public recreation.

Objective 1-3: Preserve and protect undeveloped parcels in their natural condition in critical recharge areas in the Barnes Aquifer Zone II.

Action 1-6: Prioritize undeveloped parcels within the Zone II and seek funding for their acquisition and long-term preservation.

Objective 1-4: Prevent the contamination of the Barnes Aquifer from road salt.

Action 1-7: Support BAPAC's Road Salt Study and monitoring private wells in the vicinity of Routes 10 and 202 for road salt contamination.

Action 1-8: Encourage MassDOT to use alternative winter de-icing practices along Route 10.

Action 1-9: The Westfield DPW should continue to utilize environmentally friendly alternatives to sodium chloride on Route 202 and other city maintained roads in the Zone II.

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Goal #2: Large, connected blocks of open space, including greenways and riverfront corridors, are protected from development to ensure habitat corridors for wildlife.

Objective 2-1: Work with private land owners to encourage public access for passive recreation on their land.

Objective 2-2: Ensure local bylaws and regulations encourage the preservation of open space in a thoughtful and meaningful way to promote habitat corridor connectivity.

Action 2-1: Perform a review of the Transfer of Developments Rights Bylaw, Flexible Development Bylaw, and Open Space Residential Development Bylaw to ensure the provisions of these bylaws encourage the connectivity of large, protected blocks of open space.

Action 2-2: Revise the Open Space Residential Development Bylaw to incentivize over traditional subdivision development, and achieve the protection of critical parcels for ecosystem structure and function.

Objective 2-3: Promote the preservation of farm land and working landscapes.

Action 2-3: Promote Agricultural Preservation Restrictions on farmland and prioritize expenditures on APR lands for parcels with permanently protected land abutting.

Action 2-4: Work with property owners in Chapter 61, 61A and 61B to pursue permanent easements on their land.

Action 2-5: Encourage forest owners to participate in Chapter 61B and/or develop forest management plans for the long-term sustainable harvest of timber products.

Action 2-6: Adopt a Right-to-Farm Bylaw.

Objective 2-4: Surface waters meet designated water quality standards and function as important fishery and wildlife habitat as part of the larger Westfield River watershed.

Action 2-7: Perform bacteria source tracking on Ashley Broom, Pond Brook, Jack's Brook and the Little River.

Action 2-8: Perform temperature monitoring on Pond Brook to ensure it meets its proposed designation as a Cold Water Fishery.

Objective 2-5: Prioritize funding for land acquisition to create contiguous blocks of protected open space.

Action 2-9: Work with CPA Committee to adopt guidelines for spending money on land acquisition based on criteria for prioritization.

Goal #3: Promote an inter-connected, city-wide transportation network that supports community identity.

Objective 3-1: Support an alternative transportation network for active recreation along a green corridor.

Action 3-1: Continue to advance funding possibilities through MASSDOT processes and use municipal ordinances to prevent actions through would make the Columbia Greenway Rail Trail impassable/impracticable.

Action 3-2: Focus city and community efforts, and leverage community support by executing a public information campaign and creating a “Friends of the Columbia Greenway” community Group.

Action 3-3: Support protection and maintenance of the Metacomet Mondanock Trail.

Action 3-4: Support design and construction of the Columbia Greenway Rail Trail in the downtown, and ultimately connections with neighborhoods, neighboring communities and destinations.

Action 3-5: Connect to neighborhoods, city attractions and destinations with marked routes, share the road signage, sharrows, and “cyclist use full lanes” signage where applicable.

Objective 3-2: Ensure a safe and comfortable environment for all modes of transportation, especially pedestrians.

Action 3-6: Promote streetscape improvements on Elm Street and the city center.

Action 3-7: Continue to replace pavement, streetscape, and treebelt on Maple, Morris, Sibly, and Madison Streets.

Action 3-8: Develop a bike lane between downtown and Westfield State College.

Objective 3-3: Street trees are well-maintained and contribute to a positive community identity city-wide.

Action 3-9: Develop a comprehensive inventory of street trees in Westfield including a detailed management plan to ensure their maximum life expectancy.

Goal #4: Recreational and open space facilities are available for residents of all ages, abilities and neighborhoods city-wide.

Objective 4-1: Create a riverfront park connecting Whitney Park, Chapman Playground and the new parks that are part of the Great River Bridge Project on existing City-owned land along the southern side of the Westfield River.

Action 4-1: Seek funding for the design of a riverfront park along the southern side of the Westfield River connecting to the Great River Bridge Project.

Action 4-2: Coordinate riverfront park design with the dike elevation project.

Objective 4-2: Encourage the creation of pocket and neighborhood parks in the downtown and adjacent neighborhoods.

Action 4-3: Focus parks in the City Center and abutting neighborhoods with environmental justice populations.

Objective 4-3: Adequate financial resources are dedicated to the maintenance of existing park and recreation facilities.

Action 4-4: Establish and annual city parks cleanup day.

Action 4-5: Inventory municipal playground structures and prioritize facilities for improvements.

Action 4-6: Continue to support the Business Improvement District's (BID) sponsorship of local events such as the Summer Concert on the Green Series.

Objective 4-4: Utilize existing recreational facilities to the maximum extent possible.

Action 4-7: Submit PARC Grant for renovations to Chapman Playground.

Objective 4-5: Support the development of new facilities in coordination with municipal infrastructure projects.

Objective 4-6: Promote preservation and recreational use of waterways.

Action 4-8: Identify locations suitable for water-based recreation.

Action 4-9: Work with user groups to develop safe access and appropriate use of waterways at each location.

Objective 4-7: Provide recreational and open space facilities in underserved areas.

Action 4-10: Identify areas and neighborhoods underserved.

Action 4-11: Work with user groups and neighborhoods to develop constituency for new facilities.

SECTION 9: SEVEN-YEAR ACTION PLAN

2010 Westfield Open Space & Recreation Plan

ACTION		WHO	WHEN	FUNDING SOURCE
Goal #1: Drinking water supplies remain safe and abundant for future generations				
1-1	Continue to participate in the Barnes Aquifer Protection Advisory Committee and review and comment on Developments of Regional Impact over the Barnes Aquifer.	Water Resources Department, Planning Department, Conservation Commission	2010-2017	Staff time
1-2	Require the Building Inspector to perform post-construction site visits to ensure all permitted stormwater treatment and recharge devices, structures, and systems are built to specification. Enforce against non-compliant property owners.	Building Inspector	2010-2017	Staff time
1-3	Require commercial and industrial facilities to submit annual stormwater treatment device maintenance logs to Westfield Water Department, and enforce against those that do not.	Water Resources Department, Building Inspector	2010-2017	Staff time
1-4	A map of watershed roads and trails open for public access by permit is available from the Board of Water Commissioners	Water Resources Department, Board of Water Commissioners	2011-2012	Staff time
1-5	Work with the Springfield Water and Sewer Commission to open the land at the West Parish Filters to passive public recreation.	Water Department Resources , Board of Water Commissioners	2012-2014	Staff time, volunteer time, CPA funds for signage & materials
1-6	Prioritize undeveloped parcels within the Zone II and seek funding for their acquisition and long-term preservation.	Planning Board, Water Resources Department, CPA Committee	2010-2017	Staff time, volunteer time, CPA funds for acquisition & preservation
1-7	Support BAPAC's Road Salt Study and monitoring private wells in the vicinity of Routes 10 and 202 for road salt contamination.	DPW, Water Resources Department, Health Department	2010-2017	Staff time, volunteer time
1-8	Encourage MassDOT to use alternative winter de-icing practices along Route 10.	DPW, Water Resources Department, Health Department	2010-2017	Staff time, volunteer time
1-9	The Westfield DPW should continue to utilize environmentally friendly alternatives to sodium chloride on Route 202 and other city maintained roads in the Zone II.	DPW	2010-2017	Staff time, volunteer time, budget appropriation

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ACTION		WHO	WHEN	FUNDING SOURCE
Goal #2: Large, connected blocks of open space are protected from development to ensure habitat corridors for wildlife.				
2-1	Perform a review of the Transfer of Developments Rights Bylaw, Flexible Development Bylaw, and Open Space Residential Development Bylaw to ensure the provisions of these bylaws encourage the connectivity of large, protected blocks of open space.	Planning Department	2010-2011	Staff time, volunteer time, PVPC Local Technical Assistance Program, City budget appropriation for graduate student research project
2-2	Revise the Open Space Residential Development Bylaw to incentivize over traditional subdivision development, and achieve the protection of critical parcels for ecosystem structure and function.	Planning Department	2010-2011	Staff time, volunteer time, PVPC Local Technical Assistance Program, City budget appropriation for graduate student research project
2-3	Promote Agricultural Preservation Restrictions on farmland and prioritize expenditures on APR lands for parcels with permanently protected abutting land.	Planning Department, City Council, CPA Committee	2010-2017	Staff time, volunteer time, CPA funds for promotional materials and APR purchases, Conservation Partnership Grant funds, Federal Land and Water Conservation Funds, LAND – Local Acquisitions for Natural Diversity funds
2-4	Work with property owners in Chapter 61, 61A and 61B to pursue permanent easements on their land.	Planning Department, Conservation Commission, City Council	2010-2017	Staff time, volunteer time, CPA funds for promotional materials and purchase of conservation easements, Conservation Partnership Grant funds
2-5	Encourage forest owners to participate in Chapter 61B and/or develop forest management plans for the long-term sustainable harvest of timber products.	Planning Department, Conservation Commission, Water Resources Department	2011-2017	Staff time, volunteer time.
2-6	Adopt a Right to Farm Bylaw.	Planning Department, City Council, CPA Committee	2011	Staff time, volunteer time, PVPC Local Technical Assistance Program
2-7	Perform bacteria source tracking on Ashley Brook, Pond Brook, Jack’s Brook and the Little River.	Water Resources Department	2010-2012	Staff time, volunteer time, EPA Targeted Watershed grants
2-8	Perform temperature monitoring on Pond Brook to ensure it meets its proposed designation as a Cold Water Fishery.	MADEP	2010-2012	Staff time, volunteer time, EPA Targeted Watershed grants
2-9	Work with CPA Committee to adopt guidelines for spending money on land acquisition based on criteria for prioritization.	CPA Committee, City Council, Planning Department	2010-2012	Staff time, volunteer time, CPA funds for publication of guidelines

2010 Westfield Open Space & Recreation Plan

ACTION		WHO	WHEN	FUNDING SOURCE
Goal #3: Promote an inter-connected, city-wide transportation network that supports community identity.				
3-1	Continue to advance funding possibilities through MASSDOT processes and use municipal ordinances to prevent actions that would make the Columbia Greenway Rail Trail impassable/impracticable.	DPW, Engineering Department	2010-2017	Staff time, MASSDOT funds, CPA funds, Commonwealth of Massachusetts Gateway Parks Program Conservation Partnership Grant, for potential non-profit involvement in land acquisition Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund, LAND – Local Acquisitions for Natural Diversity fund, PARC – Parkland Acquisitions and Renovations for Communities fund, Recreational Trails Program fund.
3-2	Focus city and community efforts, and leverage community support by executing a public information campaign and creating a “Friends of the Greenway” community Group.	City Council	2010-2012	Staff time, volunteer time, Contributions from: Friends of the Greenway group, greenway cleanups, etc.
3-3	Support protection and maintenance of the Metacomet Mondanock Trail.	Planning Department, Conservation Commission, CPA Committee	2010-2017	Staff time, volunteer time, CPA funds, Contributions from: Friends of the Greenway group, greenway cleanups, etc.
3-4	Support design and construction of the Columbia Greenway Bike Trail in the downtown, and ultimately connections with neighboring communities.	Engineering Department, City Council, CPA Committee	2010-2017	Staff time, volunteer time, MASSDOT funds, CPA funds, Contributions from: Friends of the Greenway group, greenway cleanups, etc.
3-5	Connect to neighborhoods, city attractions and destinations with marked routes, share the road signage, sharrows, and “cyclist use full lanes” signage where applicable.	Engineering	2010-2017	Staff time, volunteer time, CPA funds
3-6	Promote streetscape improvements on Elm Street and the city center.	Engineering Department, City Council, Planning Department	2010-2017	Staff time, volunteer time, MASSDOT funds, CDBG funds

2010 Westfield Open Space & Recreation Plan

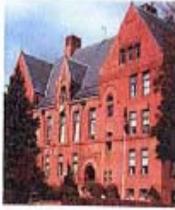
ACTION		WHO	WHEN	FUNDING SOURCE
3-7	Continue to replace pavement, streetscape, and treebelt on Maple, Morris, Sibly, and Madison Streets.	Engineering Department, City Council, Planning Department	2010-2017	Staff time, volunteer time, MASSDOT funds, CDBG funds
3-8	Develop a bike lane between downtown and Westfield State College.	Engineering Department	2012-2017	Staff time, volunteer time, MASSDOT funds
3-9	Develop a comprehensive inventory of street trees in Westfield including a detailed management plan to ensure their maximum life expectancy.	Planning Department, Engineering Department	2012-2017	Staff time, volunteer time, DCR grants when available
Goal #4: Utilize existing recreational facilities to the maximum extent possible and support the development of new facilities in coordination with municipal infrastructure projects.				
4-1	Seek funding for the design of a riverfront park along the southern side of the Westfield River connecting to the Great River Bridge Project.	Park and Recreation Department, Engineering Department	2011-2015	Staff time, Commonwealth of Massachusetts Gateway Parks Program fund, PARC – Parkland Acquisitions and Renovations for Communities Fund, CPA funds
4-2	Coordinate riverfront park design with the dike elevation project.	Engineering Department	2011-2015	Staff time,
4-3	Focus parks in the City Center and abutting neighborhoods with environmental justice populations.	Park and Recreation Department, Engineering Department, Planning Department	2011-2017	Staff time, Commonwealth of Massachusetts Gateway Parks Program fund, PARC – Parkland Acquisitions and Renovations for Communities Fund, CPA funds
4-4	Establish an annual city parks cleanup day.	Park and Recreation Department	2011	Staff time, volunteer time; municipal appropriation
4-5	Inventory municipal playground structures and prioritize facilities for improvements.	Park and Recreation Department; DPW	2011-2012	Staff time, volunteer time; municipal appropriation
4-6	Continue to support the Business Improvement District's (BID) sponsorship of local events such as the Summer Concert on the Green Series.	City Council; Park and Recreation Department	2010-2017	Staff time, volunteer time; municipal appropriation; Community Foundation of Western Massachusetts Westfield Arts Council Grants Massachusetts Cultural Council Grants Westfield State College

2010 Westfield Open Space & Recreation Plan

ACTION		WHO	WHEN	FUNDING SOURCE
4-7	Submit PARC Grant for renovations to Chapman Playground.	Planning Department, Parks and Recreation Department	2010	Staff time, PARC – Parkland Acquisitions and Renovations for Communities Fund
4-8	Identify locations suitable for water-based recreation.	Planning Department, Parks and Recreation Department, Conservation Commission	2011-2014	Staff time
4-9	Work with user groups to develop safe access and appropriate use of waterways at recreational locations.	Planning Department, Parks and Recreation Department, Conservation Commission	2011-2014	Staff time
4-10	Identify areas and neighborhoods that are underserved.	Planning Department, Parks and Recreation Department, Conservation Commission	2011-2014	Staff time
4-11	Work with user groups and neighborhoods to develop constituency for new facilities.	Planning Department, Parks and Recreation Department, Conservation Commission	2011-2014	Staff time

SECTION 10: PUBLIC COMMENTS

- A. *Planning Board Letter*
- B. *Mayor Letter*
- C. *Pioneer Valley Planning Commission Letter*



Westfield Planning Board

Municipal Building
59 Court Street
Westfield, MA 01085
Tel. (413) 572-6246
Fax (413) 568-6850



January 10, 2011

Re: 2010 Westfield Open Space & Recreation Plan

At our meeting on January 4, 2011 the Westfield Planning Board voted unanimously to support and approve this *2010-2016 Open Space & Recreation Plan* for the city of Westfield. Two members of the Board served on the Open Space and Recreation Plan Committee that developed it.

We find that the plan has done an admirable job in inventorying and analyzing the community's current open space and recreational facilities, and takes a pro-active approach in addressing the city's needs well into the future.

This plan is consistent with the city's other various plans and ordinances.

Respectfully,

Anthony Petrucelli
Chairman

2010 Westfield Open Space & Recreation Plan



City of Westfield



**DANIEL M. KNAPIK
MAYOR**

City Hall
59 Court Street
Westfield MA 01085

Telephone: (413) 572-6201
Fax: (413) 572-6274

Re: 2010 Westfield Open Space & Recreation Plan

I am please to support this most recent updated version of the city of *Westfield's 2010-2016 Open Space & Recreation Plan*.

In addition to the city's recently completed *Rethinking Downtown Westfield Plan* in 2009, the city undertook a very successful public participation process in developing this document. Over the last two decades Westfield has experienced unprecedented residential growth. Being a community with a very large geographic area, there is ample room for even greater anticipated growth. This plan not only helps the community address and prioritize our current open space and recreational needs, but also planning ahead to meet our needs into the next decade. This Plan not only highlights our desire to preserve our agricultural heritage and rural character but also protecting the Barnes Aquifer, one of the regions primary public water supplies. The plan also identifies our efforts to meet the needs of our Environmental Justice Neighborhoods as well as enhancing our urban areas with riverfront parks, streetscape improvements, pocket parks, the Columbia Greenway Rail Trail and expanding bike trails to connect our various neighborhoods.

This *2010 Westfield Open Space & Recreation Plan* represents a comprehensive assessment of our community's current and future open space and recreational needs, as well as a comprehensive analysis of how these needs can be met over the next decade.

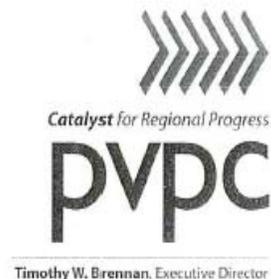
Yours,

Daniel M. Knapik
Mayor

2010 Westfield Open Space & Recreation Plan

December 17, 2010

Mayor Daniel M. Knapik
59 Court Street, Room 200
Westfield, MA 01085



RE: Westfield's 2010-2016 Open Space & Recreation Plan

Dear Mayor Knapik:

The Pioneer Valley Planning Commission has reviewed the draft Westfield 2010-2016 Open Space & Recreation Plan. The PVPC supports the City's wise stewardship and permanent protection of its natural, cultural and recreational resources as a strategy to promote a vibrant city center while preserving its outlying areas. The goals and objectives of the Plan are also consistent with Valley Vision 2, our regional land use plan.

As a growing community in the Pioneer Valley region, the need to preserve and expand the community's natural and cultural assets along with providing recreational opportunities becomes increasingly important. The Commission is pleased to see Westfield placing a priority on preserving its rural character in its outlying areas through protecting and enhancing its water resources, agricultural heritage, unique natural areas and wildlife habitat while providing greater variety of recreational opportunities. The PVPC completed a regional analysis of land protection efforts through use of Community Preservation Act funds in December 2010, which showed that the City is a regional leader in open space protection having preserved over 650 acres of land from 2001 through 2010.

Westfield's Seven Year Action plan shows that the City is committed to enhancing recreation opportunities in its city center through bike trail development and greater access to the Westfield River to address unmet recreational needs of all residents, but particularly the city's environmental justice populations. The goals and objectives of this Plan support strategies identified in Westfield's 2009 Rethinking Downtown Westfield Plan, which included a substantial public outreach process.

Westfield's understanding of the issues that affect preservation, land management, recreation, and accessibility will prove useful as they initiate strategies to preserve, protect, and expand its open spaces. The PVPC congratulates the City in this endeavor and support its efforts in planning for the protection of their natural resources and the provision of recreational opportunities to the entire community.

Sincerely,


Timothy Brennan, Executive Director

cc: Jeff Daley, PVPC Commissioner
Larry Smith, City of Westfield Planning Director

SECTION 11: REFERENCES

A Plan for Open Space and Recreation for Westfield, Massachusetts, 1978.

A Plan for Open Space and Recreation for Westfield, Massachusetts, 1991.

A Plan for Open Space and Recreation for Westfield, Massachusetts, 1998.

A Plan for Open Space and Recreation for Westfield, Massachusetts, 2004.

Application to the Massachusetts Highway Department for Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA) funding for a Westfield Rail Trail, FY1997.

City of Westfield Department of Engineering website, www.cityofwestfield.org

City of Westfield Department of Planning website, www.cityofwestfield.org

City of Westfield Department of Parks & Recreation, www.cityofwestfield.org

City of Westfield Conservation Commission website, www.cityofwestfield.org

City of Westfield Local Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan, Pioneer Valley Planning Commission, 2009

City of Westfield Water Conservation Plan, Pioneer Valley Planning Commission, 2005

MassGIS Landuse, 2005. <http://www.state.ma.us/mgis/lus.htm>

Metacomet Monadnock Mattabesett Trail System, Draft Report, National Park Service, 2006.

MHC Reconnaissance Survey Town Report: Westfield, Massachusetts Historical Commission., typescript, 1982

Open Space Planners Workbook, Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs, Revised 2008.

Preserving Westfield's Farms, Robin Gorgone (Westfield State College), 1997. Westfield Open Space Committee Members and Associates, 1997 – 1998.

Reading the Land Massachusetts Heritage Landscape a Guide to Identification and Protection, Department of Conservation and Recreation, Executive Office of Environmental Affairs, 2008.

Rethinking Downtown Westfield: Comprehensive Downtown Housing & Economic Development Action Plan, Pioneer Valley Planning Commission, 2009.

Westfield River Greenway Plan, Pioneer Valley Planning Commission, 1993.

2010 Westfield Open Space & Recreation Plan

Westfield Reconnaissance Report, Connecticut River Valley Reconnaissance Survey, Massachusetts Heritage Landscape Inventory Program, prepared by the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission, June 2009.

Westfield River Five Year Watershed Action Plan, Pioneer Valley Planning Commission, 2006.

Westfield Urban Forestry Project, Pioneer Valley Planning Commission, 2004.

SECTION 12: APPENDIX

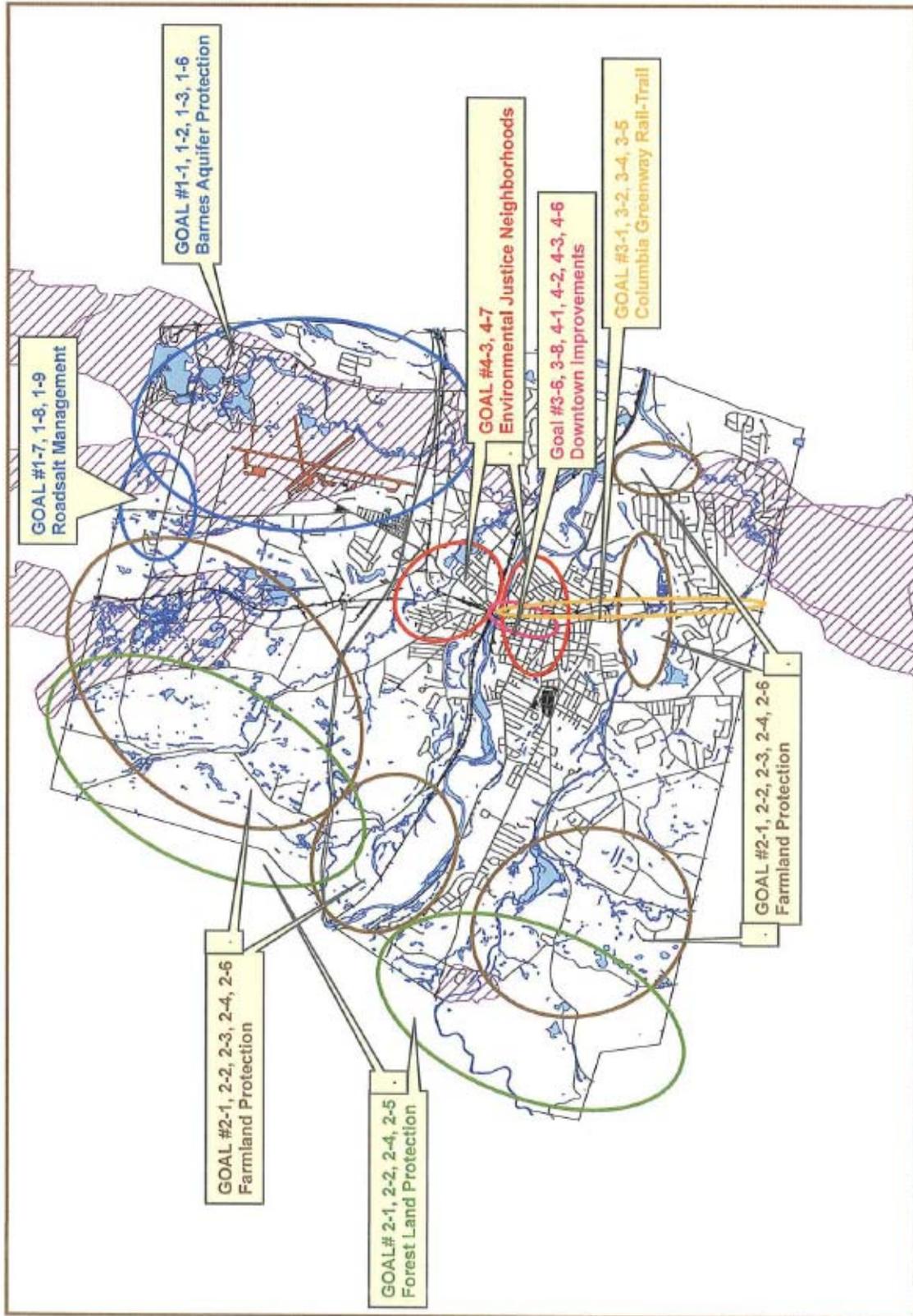
A. Maps

- *Seven Year Action Plan Map*
- *Open Space Map*
- *Regional Context Map*
- *Environmental Justice Map*
- *Zoning Map*
- *Vacant Lands Map*
- *Soils & Geologic Features Map*
- *Water Resources Map*
- *Historic Inventory, Scenic Resources & Unique Environments Map*
- *Rethinking Downtown Westfield Plan Target Area Maps*

B. Chapter 61, 61A & 61B Properties

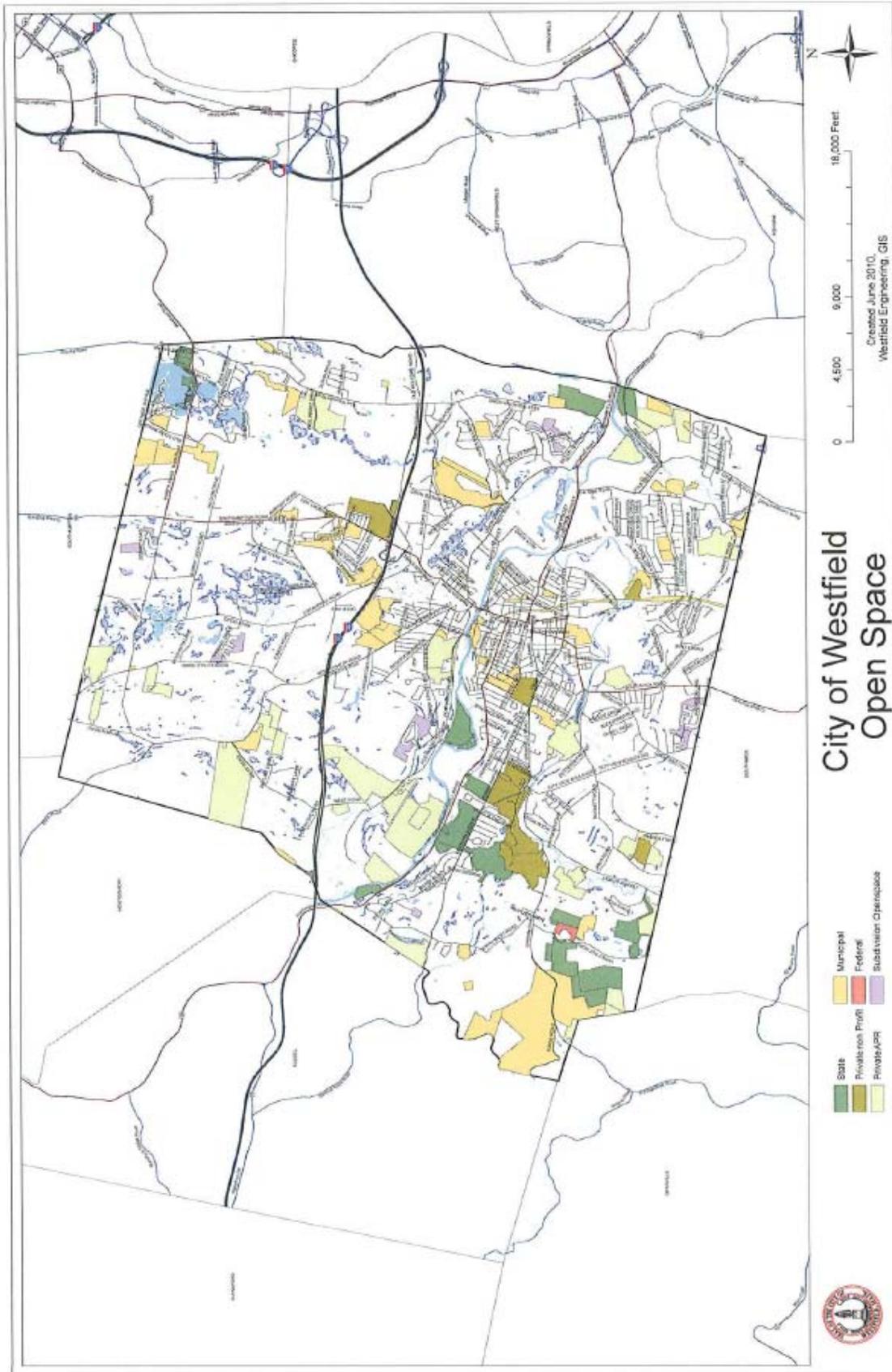
C. Public Workshop Agenda

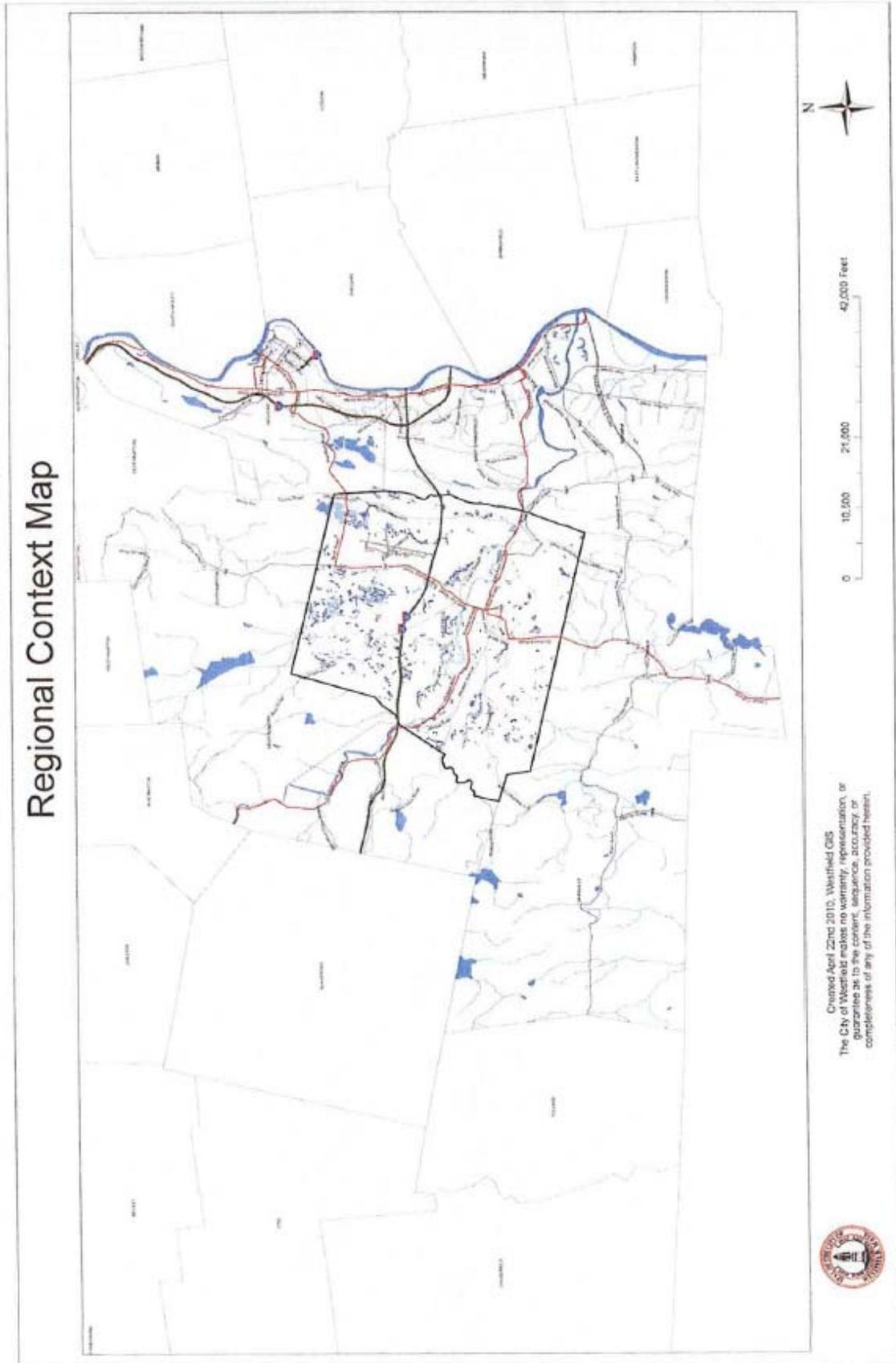
D. ADA Self-Evaluation

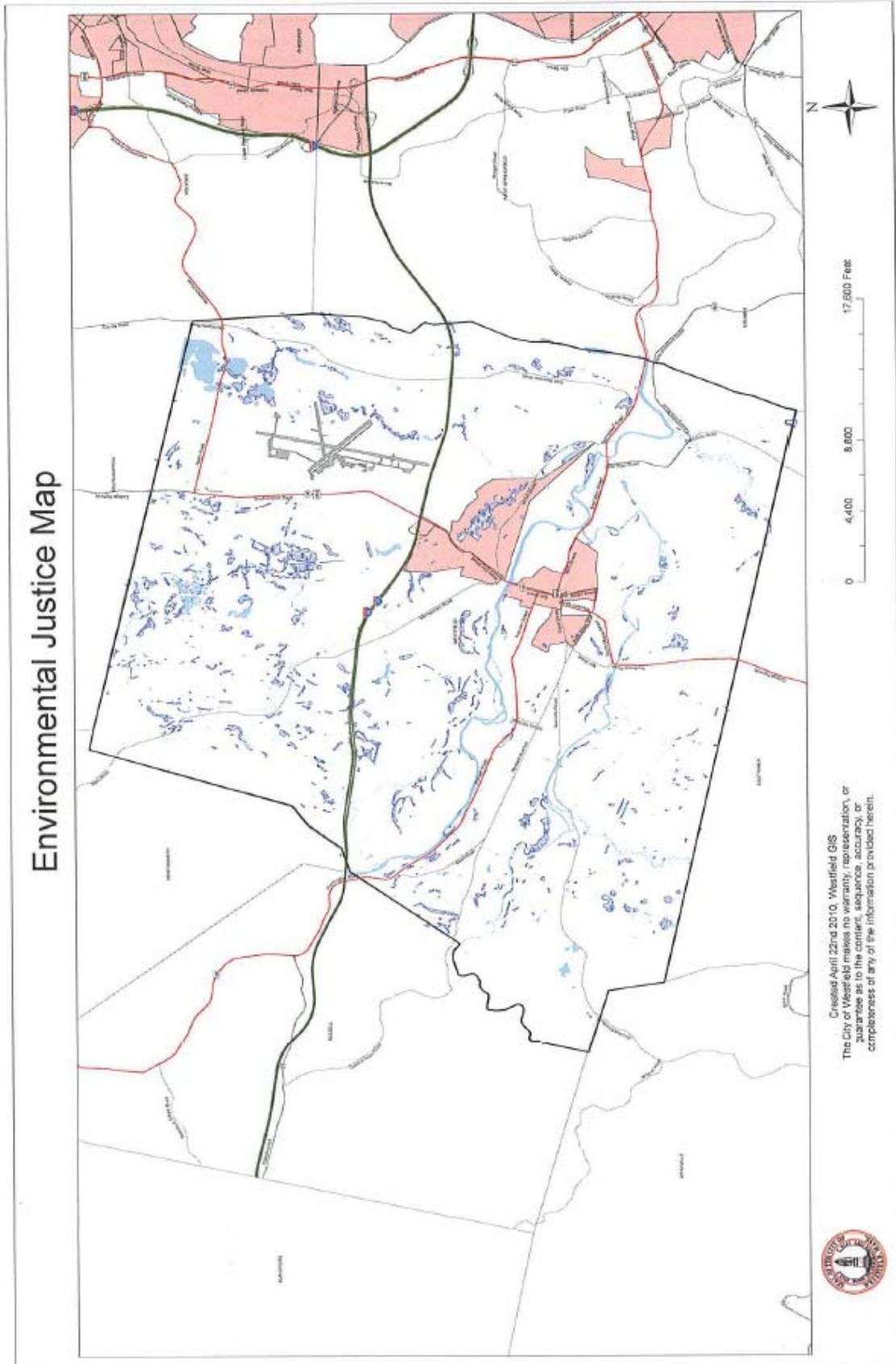


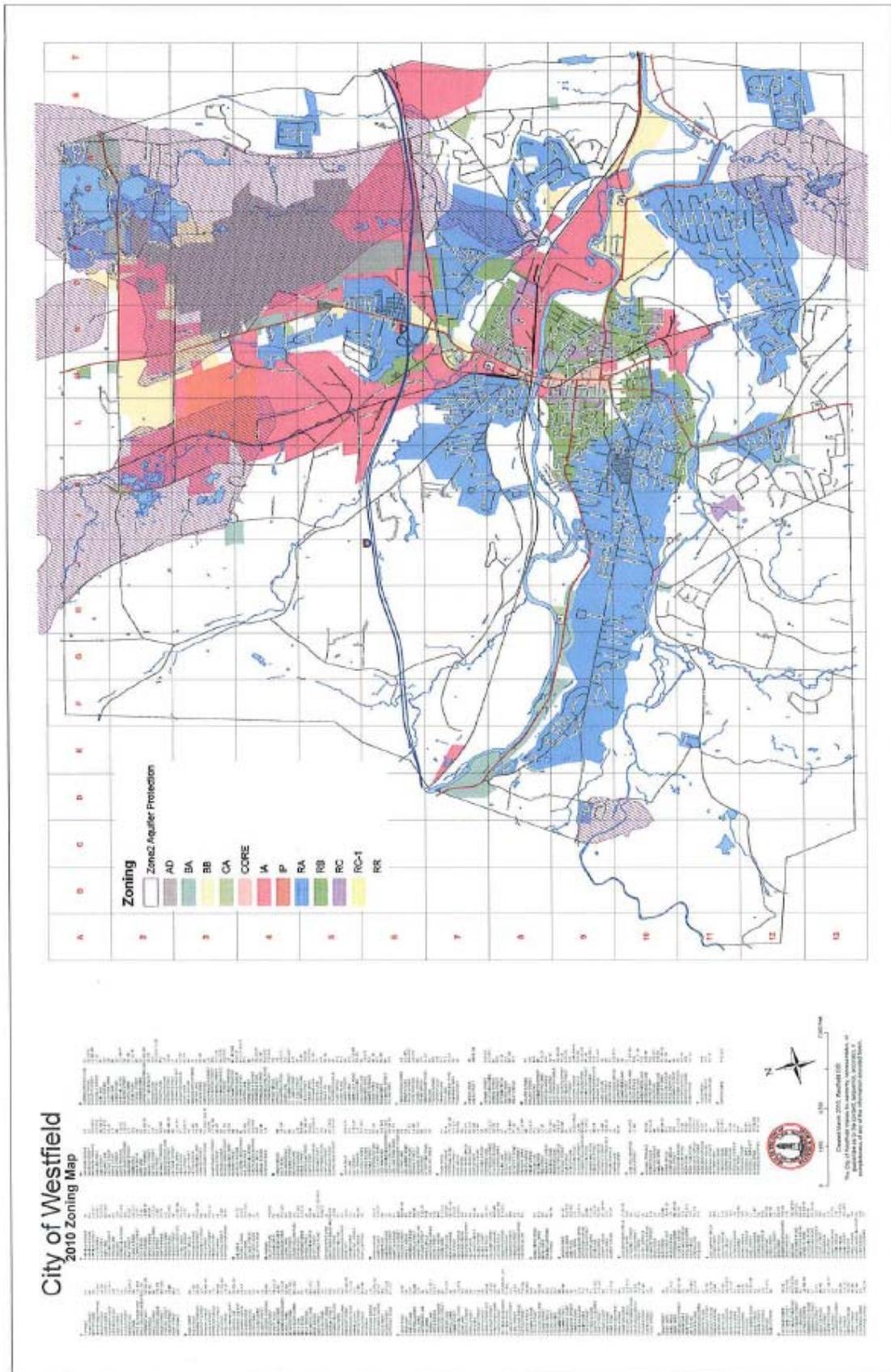
Approved 1/10

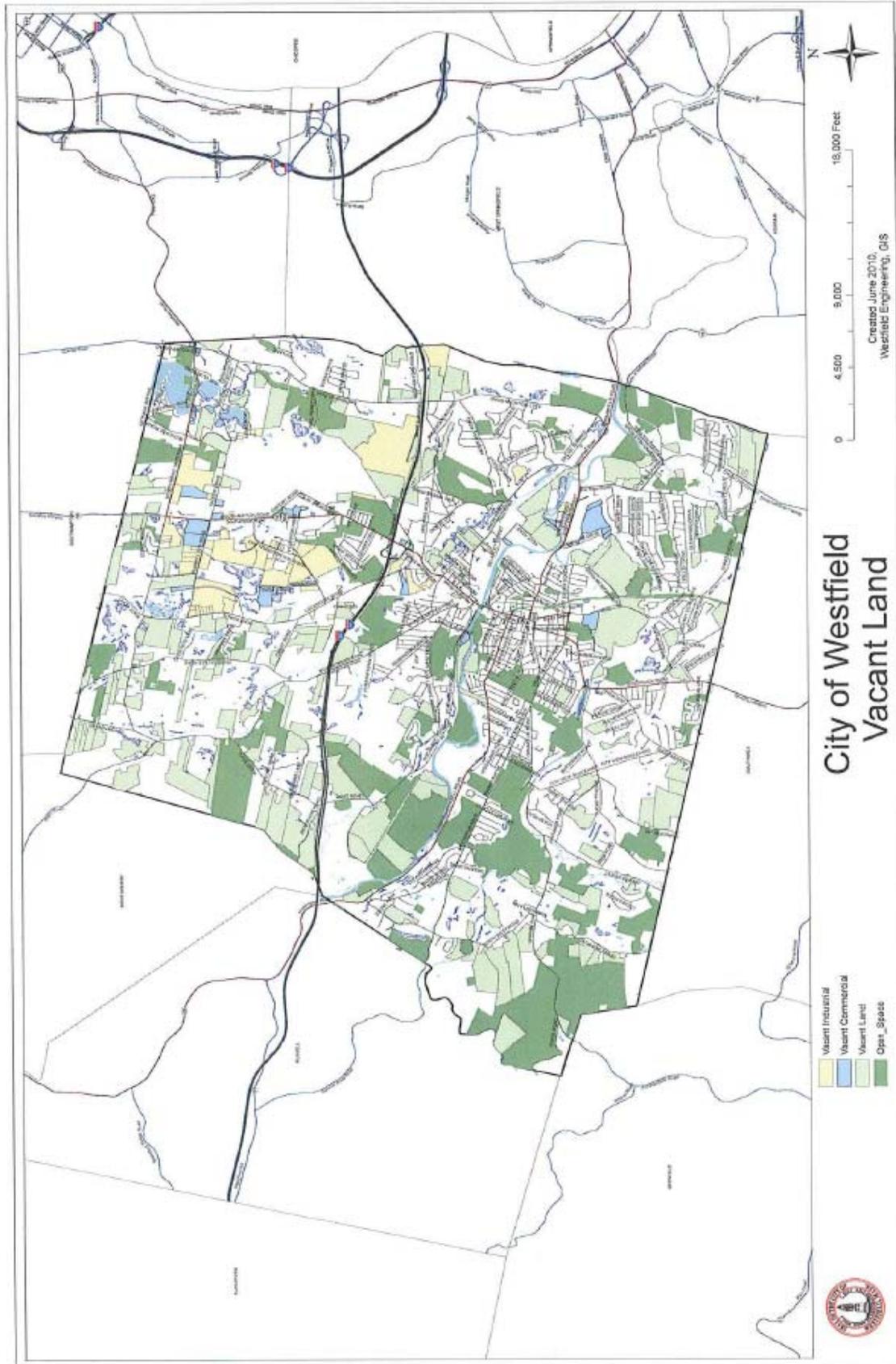
SEVEN-YEAR ACTION PLAN

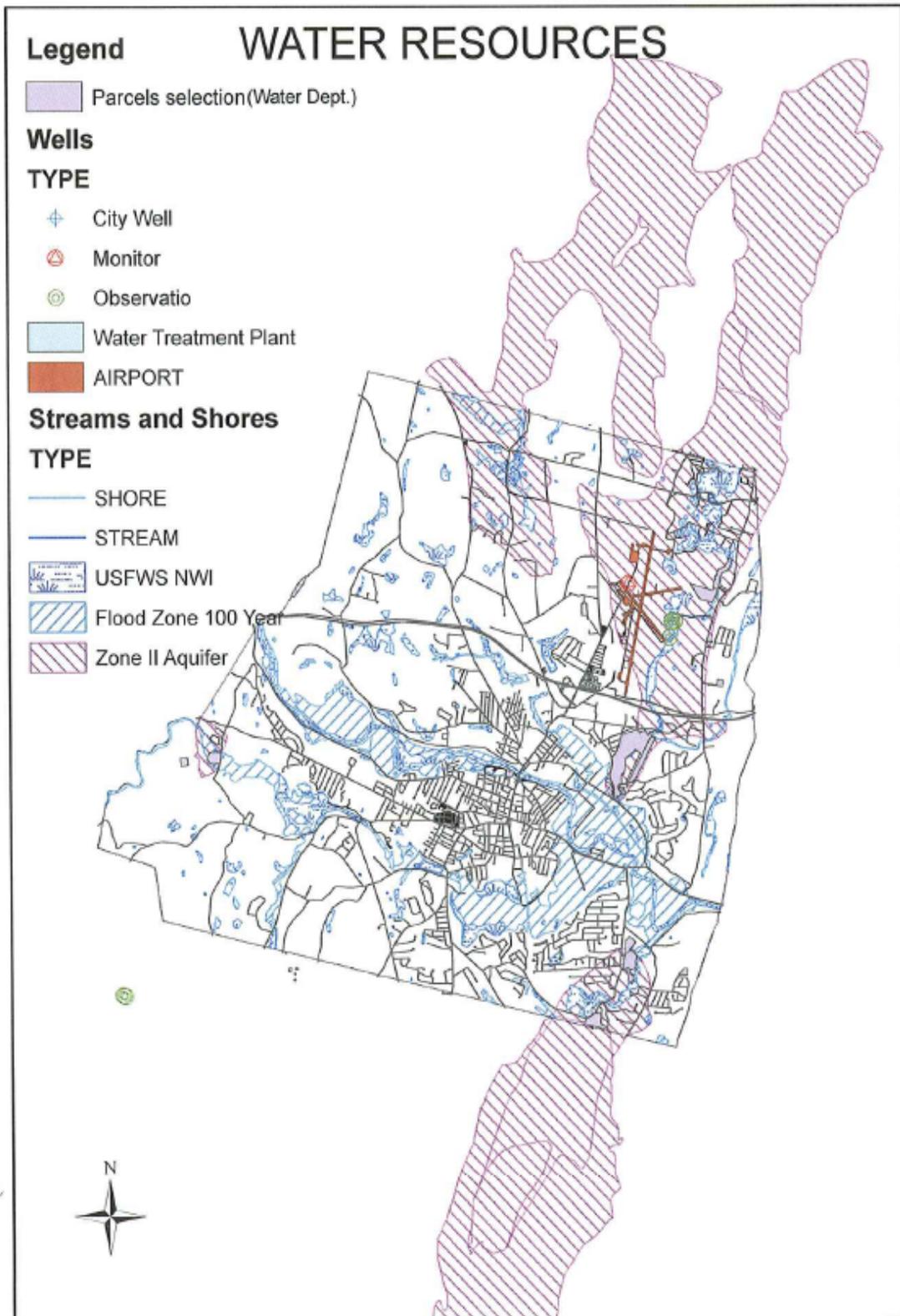


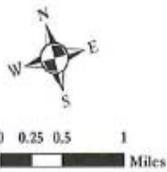
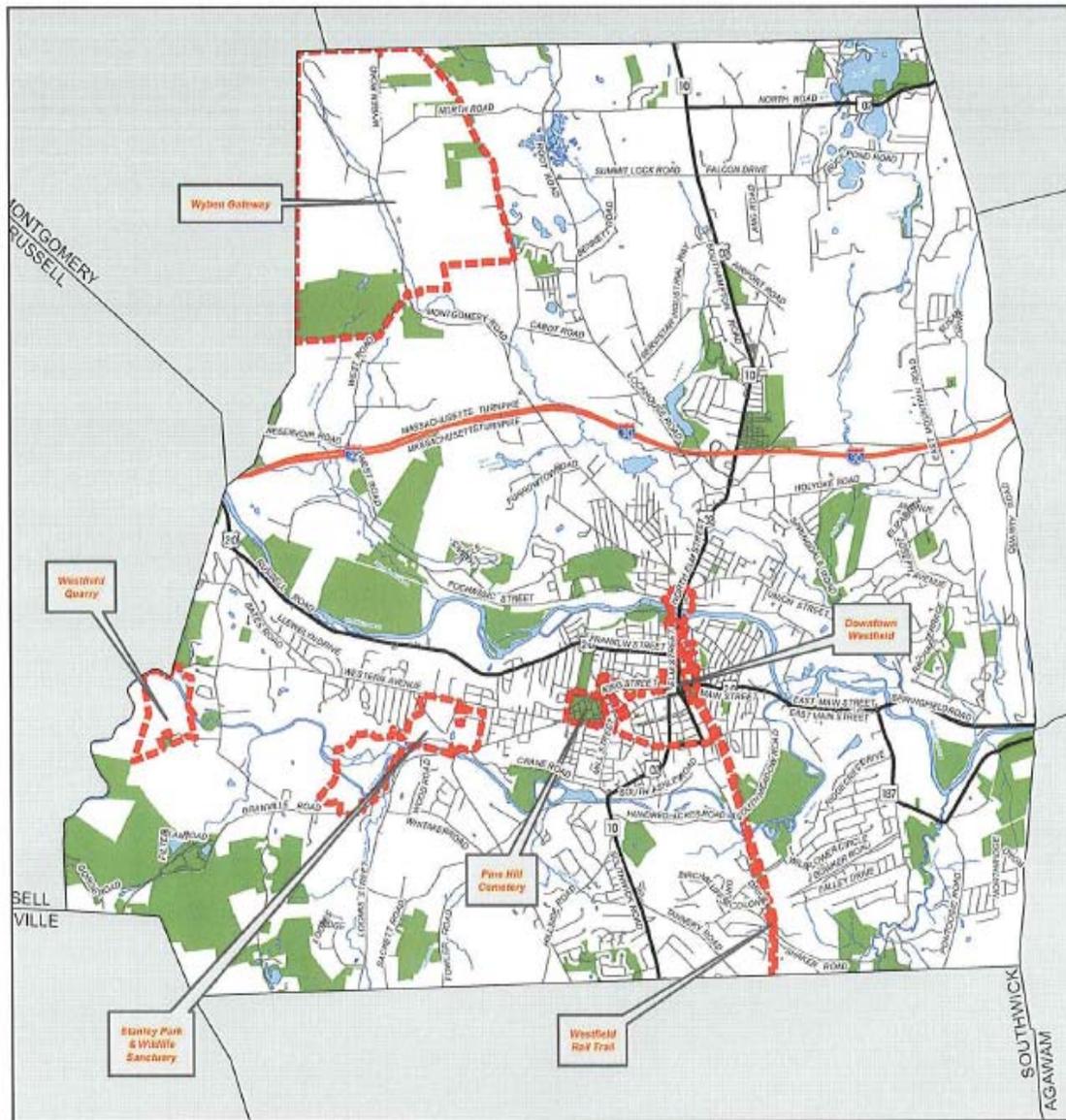












City of Westfield
Heritage Landscape Inventory Project,
Hampden & Hampden Counties



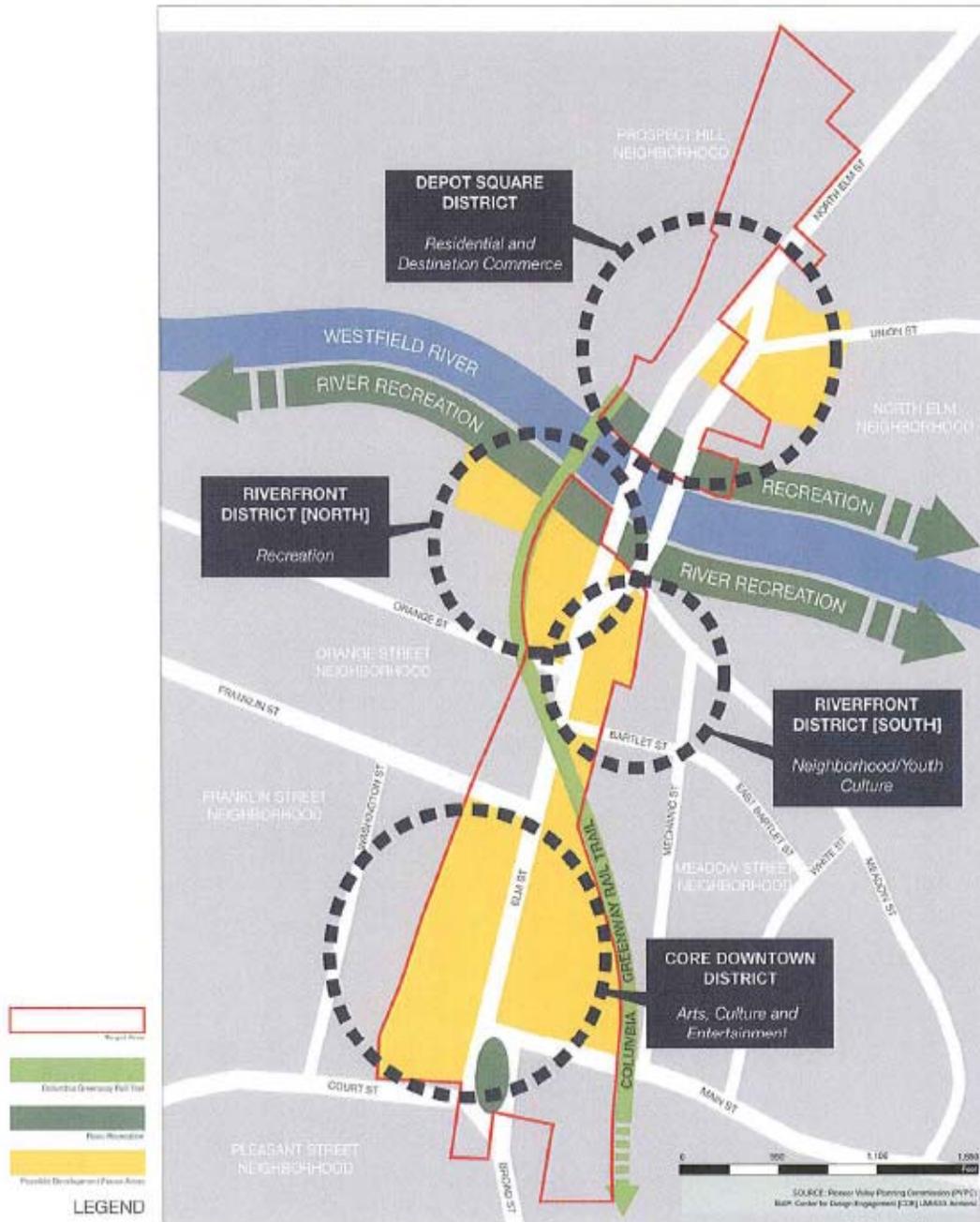
-  Historic Landscapes
-  Permanently Protected Open Space



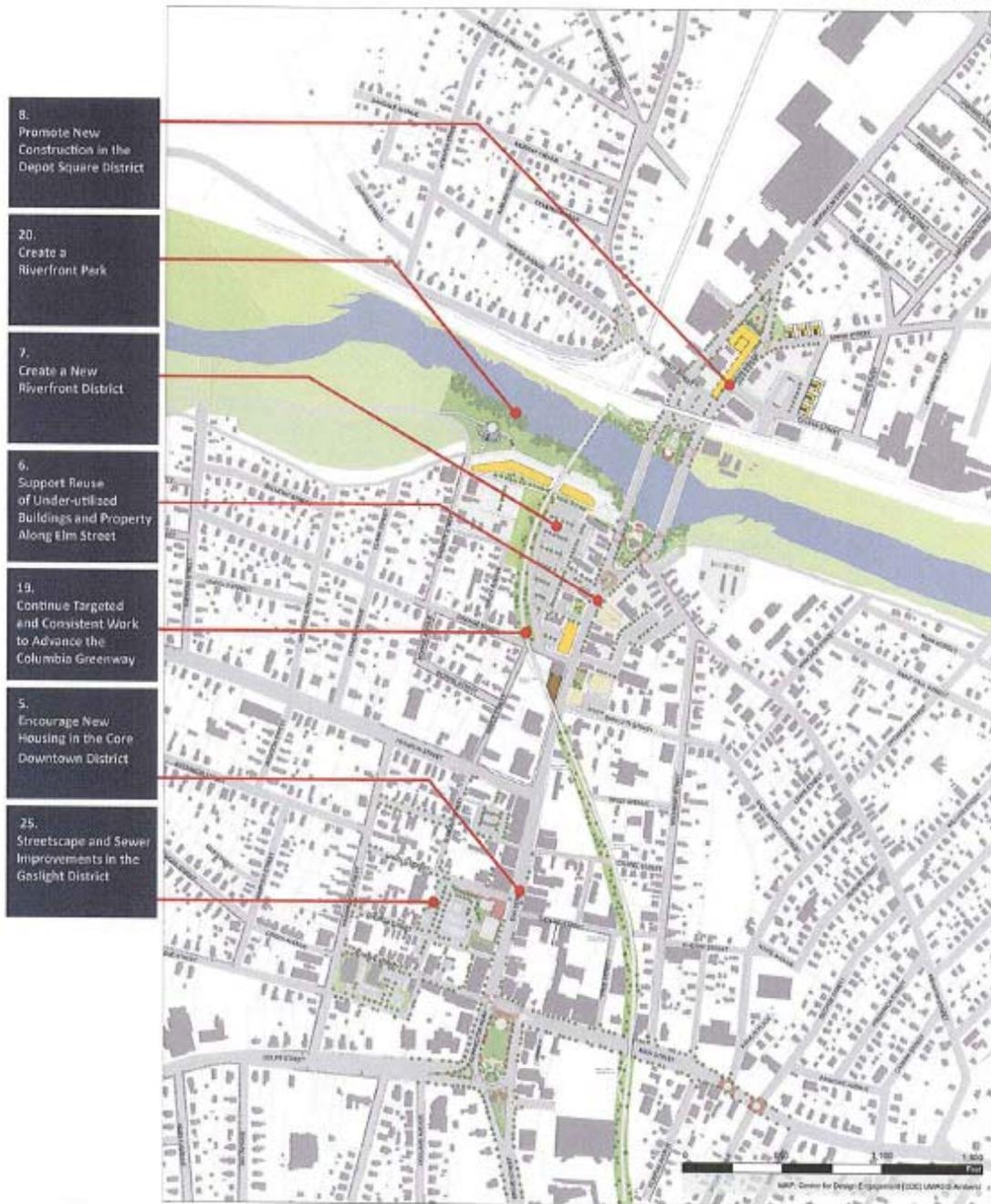
Map Sources:
Pioneer Valley Planning Commission, 2009.
Massachusetts Executive Office of Transportation, Massachusetts Highway Department,
and the Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and the Environment, MassGIS.

Funding:
The Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and the Environment
Department of Conservation Resources

DOWNTOWN WESTFIELD DOWNTOWN DISTRICTS



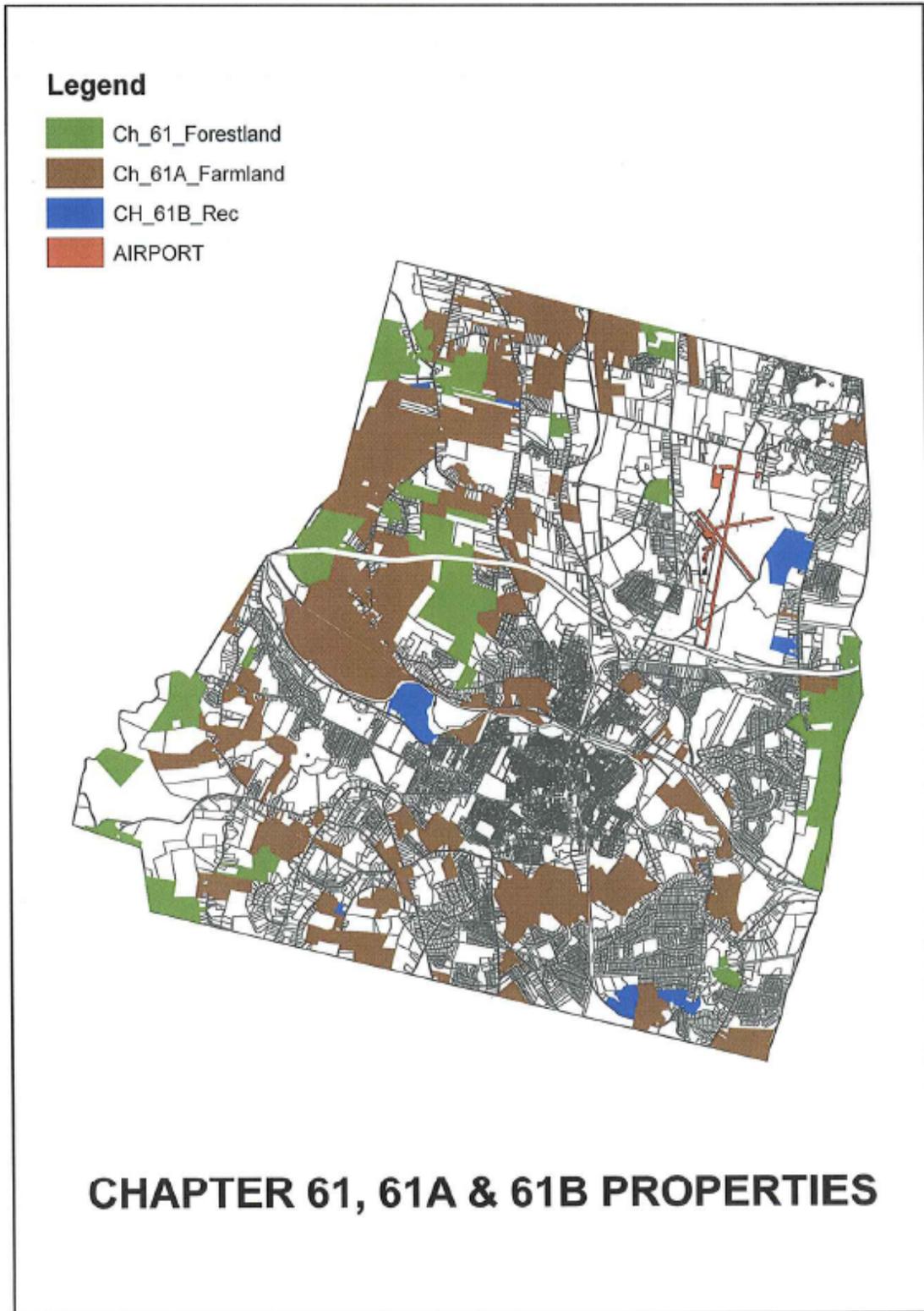
DOWNTOWN WESTFIELD KEY PROPOSED PROJECTS



DOWNTOWN WESTFIELD ONGOING PROJECTS & INITIATIVES



APPENDIX B. - Chapter 61, 61A & 61B Properties



2010 Westfield Open Space & Recreation Plan

CH61 FORESTLAND LIST BY OWNER

10/21/2009

M&PAR	LOCATION	OWNER NAME	RE-CERT DATE	SEE ALSO
67R-006	14 NORTH RD	ALLEN, ROBERT S FUNDING TRUST	BY 10-1-2015 FOR FY2017	
22R-2	0 WESTFIELD MT	ANTON, RAYMOND	BY 10-1-2019 FOR FY2021	
22R-3	0 WESTERN AV (OFF)	" " " "		
20R-3	WEST PARISH	BANNISH LUMBER	BY 10-1-2014 FOR FY2016	
52R-29	OLD HOLYOKE RD	BAUSH, GEORGE & JOAN	BY 10-1-2018 FOR FY2020	
52R-30	" " " "	" " " "	" " " "	
52R-32	" " " "	" " " "	" " " "	
52R-33	" " " "	" " " "	" " " "	
52R-57	" " " "	" " " "	" " " "	
19R-26	99 PONTOOSIC RD	CARMEL, GEORGE J & PAULINE A	BY 10-1-2017 FOR FY 2019	
19R-39	0 PONTOOSICE RD	CARMEL, GEORGE J & PAULINE A	BY 10-1-2017 FOR FY 2019	
45R-3	WEST RD	CLARKE REALTY TRUST	BY 10-1-2014 FOR FY 2016	
66R-2	MONTGOMERY RD	COLLINGWOOD, JOS III & LA REE ANNE	BY 10-1-2015 FOR FY 2017	
70R-32	SOUTHAMPTON RD	CONLIN, JARED D & MELISSA C	BY 10-1-2014 FOR FY 2016	61B
53R-6	198 WEST RD	DELFAVERO, ALAN B & MARIE C	BY 10-1-2012 FOR FY 2014	61A
66R-1	730 MONTGOMERY R	DIRATS, ELWYN & JACQUELINE & ETAL	BY 10-1-2012 FOR FY 2014	
66R-1-1A	0 MONTGOMERY RD	DIRATS, ERIC	" " " "	61B ***
2R-1	180 HONEY POT RD	EMMONDS, TODD W & ELLEN M	BY 10-1-2019 FOR FY 2021	61B
12R-20	0 LOOMIS ST	FLOREK, STANLEY & MCKEON, D & D	BY 10-1-2011 FOR FY 2013	
70R-14	SOUTHAMPTON RD	FOGGINTOWN, LLC (THE CONLIN'S)	BY 10-1-2014 FOR FY 2016	61B
70R-30	" " " "	FOGGINTOWN, LLC (THE CONLIN'S)	" " " "	
67R-31	669 MONTGOMERY	GUERTIN, WILLIAM L & MARY F	BY 10-1-2011 FOR FY 2013	
44R-19	E MOUNTAIN RD	JOHN S LANE & SONS INC	BY 10-1-2014 FOR FY 2016	
36R-12	700 E MOUNTAIN RD	" " " " "		
38R-04	931 POCHASSIC RD	" " " " "	" " " "	
44R-07	730 E MOUNTAIN RD	" " " " "	" " " "	
44R-18	E MOUNTAIN RD	" " " " "	" " " "	
44R-20	E MOUNTAIN RD	" " " " "	" " " "	
52R-35	E MOUNTAIN RD	" " " " "		
		37R-3 PART OF 36R-12		
66R-23	MONTGOMERY RD	KELSO, RICHARD L & JOANN C	BY 10-1-2013 FOR FY 2015	
46R-12	342 WEST RD	MARTINEAU, DEBORAH J & ROGER R	BY 10-1-2014 FOR FY 2016	ALL 61-A
47R-12	25 BAYBERRY LA EX	MCINTYRE, RITA M P & DAVID S	BY 10-1-2020 FOR FY 2022	
63R-10	SOUTHAMPTON RD	MICRO ABRASIVES CORP	BY 10-1-2019 FOR FY 2021	
63R-08	720 SOUTHAMPTON	MICRO ABRASIVES CORP	" " " "	
40R-48	PROSPECT ST EX	REINHOLD, RODNEY R & VIRGINIA	BY 10-1-2014 FOR FY 2016	
48R-85	0 MONTGOMERY RD	ROMANI, BERNARD III	BY 10-1-2015 FOR FY 2017	ALL 61A
54R-19	0 MONTGOMERY RD	ROMANI, BERNARD III	BY 10-1-2015 FOR FY 2017	ALL 61A
62R-15	ROOT RD	ROSELLI, NICHOLAS A & FRANCES A	BY 10-1-2013 FOR FY 2015	
01R-07	269 HONEY POT RD	SAMUELSEN, CRAIG R & DIANE	BY 10-1-2014 FOR FY 2016	
25R-03	1057 GRANVILLE RD	TARNAUSKAS, RALPH J	BY 10-1-2015 FOR FY 2017	
09R-04	GRANVILLE RD	TARNAUSKAS, JOHN J & JOHN E	BY 10-1-2015 FOR FY 2017	
09R-03	GRANVILLE RD	TARNAUSKAS, JOHN	BY 10-1-2015 FOR FY 2017	
01R-01	HONEY POT RD	TARNAUSKAS, PAUL N & JANICE M	BY 10-1-2015 FOR FY 2017	
01R-02	HONEY POT RD	" " " " "	" " " "	

2010 Westfield Open Space & Recreation Plan

M&PAR	LOCATION	OWNER NAME	RE-CERT DATE	SEE ALSO
09R-05	GRANVILLE RD	" " " " "	" " " "	
47R-13	BAYBERRY LANE	WALDO, GUY E & ELIZABETH	BY 10-1-2015 FOR FY 2017	NEW F06
46R-07	WEST RD	WALDO, GUY E & ELIZABETH	" " " "	NEW F06
25R-17	1065 GRANVILLE RD	WARREN, KENNETH	BY 10-1-2016 FOR FY 2018	
47R-04	135 FURROWTOWN	WESTFIELD SPORTSMANS' CLUB INC	BY 10-1-2016 FOR FY 2018	61B
40R-06	TRAINFIELD HILL	" " " " "	BY 10-1-2020 FOR FY 2022	

**CHAPTER 61-A FARMLAND
LIST BY OWNER - FY2011**

X	M&P	NAME	CHPTR	FILED	CHNGD
X					
X					
X	69R-16	ALDO, BRUCE D	61-A	7/24/2009	SAME
X	66R-013	ALLEN, HELEN A & ETAL, TRUSTEES	61-A	N/A 8/25/09	APR
X	66R-038	ALLEN, HELEN A & ETAL, TRUSTEES	61-A	N/A ---	APR
X	67R-006	ALLEN, HELEN A & ETAL, TRUSTEES	61-A	N/A 8/25/09	APR
X	35R-012	ATLANTIC TREE NURSERY	61-A	10/1/2009	SAME
X	35R-013	ATLANTIC TREE NURSERY	61-A	10/1/2009	SAME
X	35R-028	ATLANTIC TREE NURSERY	61-A	10/1/2009	SAME
X	108-104	ATLANTIC TREE NURSERY INC	61-A	10/1/2009	SAME
X	112-005	ATLANTIC TREE NURSERY INC	61-A	10/1/2009	SAME
X	19R-018	BAILEY, PAUL J.	61-A	2/9/2009	SAME
X	47R-011	BAKER, ROBERT A	61-A	9/30/2009	SAME
X	54R-021	BAKER, ROBERT A	61-A	9/30/2009	SAME
X	54R-076	BAKER, ROBERT A	61-A	9/30/2009	SAME
X	29R-003	BANNISH, DONALD, JOSEPH & JOHN	61-A	9/23/2009	SAME
X	29R-004	BANNISH, DONALD, JOSEPH & JOHN	61-A	9/23/2009	SAME
X	29R-006	BANNISH, DONALD, JOSEPH & JOHN	61-A	9/23/2009	SAME
X	29R-007	BANNISH, DONALD, JOSEPH & JOHN	61-A	9/23/2009	SAME
X	04R-019	BANNISH, LAWRENCE	61-A	9/30/2009	SAME
X	08R-002	BANNISH, THOMAS L JR	61-A	9/22/2009	SAME
X	70R-012	BARLOW, PHILLIP A JR & LOIS J	61-A	8/14/2009	SAME
X	03R-014	BASHISTA, ANDREW	61-A	9/30/2009	SAME
X	03R-021	BASHISTA, ANDREW	61-A	9/30/2009	SAME
X	03R-036	BASHISTA, ANDREW	61-A	9/30/2009	SAME
X	13R-007	BEAUREGARD, TERRY W	61-A	9/28/2009	SAME
X	60R-014	BEDNAZ, BENJ. A JR & SHARON A	61-A	10/1/2009	SAME
X	48R-027	BISHOP, DENNIS L	61-A	9/16/2009	SAME
X	08R-001	BISI, ROGER J	61-A	9/17/2009	SAME
X	01R-003	BOGDAN, DOUGLAS	61-A	9/29/2009	X
X	02R-002	BOGDAN, DOUGLAS	61-A	9/29/2009	SAME
X	41R-028	BOGUSIEWSKI, DAVID	61-A	9/29/2009	SAME
X	40R-017	BOGUSIEWSKI, DAVID B	61-A	9/29/2009	SAME
X	40R-055	BOGUSIEWSKI, DAVID B	61-A	9/29/2009	SAME
X	40R-056	BOGUSIEWSKI, DAVID B	61-A	9/29/2009	SAME
X	41R-008	BOGUSIEWSKI, DAVID B	61-A	9/29/2008	SAME
X	32R-016	BOISSEAU, HAROLD D & PAULINE	61-A	N/A 9/29/2009	APR
X	38R-024	BOISSEAU, HAROLD D & PAULINE	61-A	N/A 9/29/2009	APR
X	38R-033	BOISSEAU, HAROLD D & PAULINE	61-A	N/A 9/29/2009	APR
X	45R-004	BOISSEAU, JOSEPH P & DARLENE A	61-A	9/29/2009	SAME
X	32R-035	BOISSEAU, MURIEL E & RICHARD J.	61-A	9/24/2009	SAME
X	34R-016	BOISSEAU, MURIEL E & RICHARD J	61-A	9/24/2009	SAME
X	38R-005	BOISSEAU, MURIEL E & RICHARD J	61-A	9/24/2009	SAME

2010 Westfield Open Space & Recreation Plan

X	M&P	NAME	CHPTR	FILED	CHNGD
X					
X	38R-022	BOISSEAU, MURIEL E & RICHARD J	61-A	9/24/2009	SAME
X	39R-019	BOISSEAU, MURIEL E & RICHARD J	61-A	9/24/2009	SAME
X	39R-022	BOISSEAU, MURIEL E & RICHARD J	61-A	9/24/2009	SAME
X	40R-046	BOISSEAU, MURIEL E & RICHARD J	61-A	9/24/2009	SAME
X	40R-070	BOISSEAU, MURIEL E & RICHARD J	61-A	9/24/2009	SAME
X	45R-012	BOISSEAU, RICHARD J.	61-A	9/24/2009	SAME
X	46R-005	BOISSEAU, RICHARD J.	61-A	9/24/2009	SAME
X	46R-006	BOISSEAU, RICHARD J.	61-A	9/24/2009	SAME
X	46R-009	BOISSEAU, RICHARD J.	61-A	9/24/2009	SAME
X	67R-009	BOISSEAU, WILLIAM W	61-A	8/25/2009	SAME
X	68R-009	BOLDUC, LEO C	61-A	10/1/2009	SAME
X	39R-008	X BONNIEVENTURE FARMS	61-A	N/A	APR
X	39R-014	X BONNIEVENTURE FARMS	61-A	N/A	APR
X	39R-015	X BONNIEVENTURE FARMS	61-A	N/A	APR
X	39R-016	X BONNIEVENTURE FARMS	61-A	N/A	APR
X	39R-017	X BONNIEVENTURE FARMS	61-A	N/A	APR
X	46R-011	X BONNIEVENTURE FARMS	61-A	N/A	APR
X	70R-002	BRODEUR, SYDNEY G & LAURIE J	61-A	10/1/2009	CHANGE
X	55R-015	BULL, DAVID	61-A	10/1/2009	SAME
X	61R-013	BULL, DAVID S & JENNIFER L	61-A	10/1/2009	SAME
X	60R-009	BULL, FLOYD M	61-A	7/9/2009	SAME
X	61R-012	BUZZEE, GEORGE J & ETAL	61-A	9/29/2009	SAME
X	099-005	BUZZEE, GEORGE J & ETAL	61-A	9/4/2009	SAME
X	67R-11-2C	CARIGNAN, MILDRED J	61-A	8/20/2009	SAME
X	70R-031	CARL, KATE MILLER	61-A	9/29/2009	SAME
X	29R-008	CARMEL, GEORGE J & PAULINE A	61-A	9/9/2009	SAME
X	23R-004	COOK, MARION E & IRENE M	61-A	9/30/2009	SAME
X	68R-001	COOPER, JOHN & NATALIE L	61-A	9/29/2009	SAME
X	61R-017	COWLES, WAYNE J	61-A	10/1/2009	SAME
X	62R-002	COWLES, WAYNE J	61-A	10/1/2009	SAME
X	15R-003	D A FARMS INC LLC	61-A	9/30/2009	SAME
X	15R-3-1C	D A FARMS INC LLC	61-A	9/30/2009	SAME
X	15R-3-1D	D A FARMS INC LLC	61-A	9/30/2009	SAME
X	55R-004	DANDY REALTY LLC	61-A	7/21/2009	SAME
X	53R-006	X DELFAVERO, ALAN B & MARIE C	FY07	4.38 ACS Removed	
X	66R-1-1A	DIRATS, ERIC E	61--	NO 61B FILED	
X	69R-020	FIELD, PATRICIA	61-A	9/9/2009	SAME
X	73R-006	FINI, ALAN W & HENRY J JR	61-A	9/24/2009	SAME
X	73R-011	FINI, ALAN W & HENRY J JR	61-A	9/24/2009	SAME
X	12R-040	FLOREK, JASON	61-A	9/30/2009	SAME
X	12R-010	FLOREK, JOHN X & JESSICA A	61-A	9/30/2009	SAME
X	12R-014	FLOREK, STANLEY	61-A	7/14/2009	SAME
X	12R-025	FLOREK, STANLEY	61-A	7/14/2009	SAME
X	54R-020	GAGNE, KARA J TRUSTEE	61-A	10/1/2009	SAME
X	13R-102	GAIDO, DENNIS J & LAURIE	61-A	9/9/2009	SAME
X	13R-101	GAIDO, WALTER W & PATRICIA	61-A	9/9/2009	SAME
X	66R-015	GARY, CHARLES B & NORMA C	61-A	9/14/2009	SAME
X	68R-006	GARY, GEORGE	61-A	9/10/2009	SAME
X	55R-025	GARY, GEORGE C	61-A	9/10/2009	SAME
X	55R-066	GARY, GEORGE C & PEGGY L	61-A	9/10/2009	SAME
X	56R-100	GARY, GEORGE C & PEGGY L	61-A	9/10/2009	SAME
X	68R-012	GARY, GEORGE C & PEGGY L	61-A	9/10/2009	SAME
X	24R-014	GOGAL, JAMES J & SANDRA F	61-A	9/29/2009	CHANGE

2010 Westfield Open Space & Recreation Plan

X	M&P	NAME	CHPTR	FILED	CHNGD
X					
X	61R-009	GORENC, ANDREW L	61-A	9/15/2009	SAME
X	53R-001	HARTLEY, GEORGE S & CLARA B	61-A	N/A	APR
X	60R-002	X HAYDEN, EARL J & ELSIE S	61-A	N/A	APR
X	60R-004	X HAYDEN, EARL J & ELSIE S	61-A	N/A	APR
X	60R-015	X HAYDEN, EARL J & ELSIE S	61-A	N/A	APR
X	15R-3-1B	HINCKLEY, ROBERT C JR & MELISA	61-A	10/1/2009	SAME
X	41R-010	HINCKLEY, ROBERT C JR & MELISA	61-A	10/1/2009	SAME
X	67R-011	HORKUN, DONNA & STEVEN	61-A	10/1/2009	SAME
X	69R-006	HUTKOSKI, JOHN JR	61-A	9/29/2009	SAME
X	03R-002	JANISIESKI, ROBERT A & JAMES J	61-A	10/1/2009	CHANGE
X	46R-001	JOHN S LANE & SON INC	61-A	9/30/2009	SAME
X	58R-016	JOHNSON, T & G TRUSTEES	61-A	9/11/2009	SAME
X	58R-039	JOHNSON, T & G TRUSTEES	61-A	9/11/2009	SAME
X	66R-023	KELSO, RICHARD L & JOANN C	61-A	9/22/2009	SAME
X	35R-003	KIELBASA, CHARLES M & MELISSA I	61-A	9/29/2009	SAME
X	42R-011	KIELBASA, JOSEPH W & JANE A	61-A	9/29/2009	SAME
X	226-001	KIELBASA, JOSEPH W & JANE A	61-A	9/29/2009	SAME
X	68R-013	KOCAL, THEODORE	61-A	9/30/2009	CHANGE
X	67R-012	KOSINSKI, GENE M & SUSAN J	61-A	9/30/2009	SAME
X	67R-018	KOSINSKI, GENE M & SUSAN J	61-A	9/30/2009	SAME
X	06R-009	KOSINSKI, MICHAEL G & ROBYN E	61-A	N/A 9/30/2009	APR
X	06R-025	KOSINSKI, MICHAEL G & ROBYN E	61-A	N/A 9/30/2009	APR-SAME
X	14R-016	KOTOWSKI, JAMES & DONNA S	61-A	9/21/2009	SAME
X	69R-16-1A	LABRIE, EUGENE	61-A	9/30/2009	SAME
X	69R-017	LABRIE, EUGENE R & KERRY S	61-A	9/21/2009	SAME
X	71R-008	LAFRENIERE, KENNETH & KATHLEEN	61-A	1/27/2009	SAME
X	54R-026	MAJKA, ANTHONY J & ABINA	61-A	9/22/2009	SAME
X	54R-027	MAJKA, ANTHONY J & ABINA	61-A	9/22/2009	SAME
X	46R-012	MARTINEAU, ROGER & DEBORAH	61-A	9/30/2009	SAME
X	12R-009	MCKEON, DANIEL M & JENNIE	61-A	9/25/2009	CHANGE
X	15R-001	MCLAUGHLIN, THOMAS J	61-A	N/A	APR
X	17R-027	MCLAUGHLIN, THOMAS J	61-A	N/A	APR
X	28R-006	MCLAUGHLIN, THOMAS J	61-A	N/A	APR
X	24R-015	NACEWICZ, STEVEN & MARGARET	61-A	9/24/2009	SAME
X	27R-014	X NORTHERN NURSERIES, INC	61-A	N/A	APR
X	24R-051	OLEKSAK, STEPHEN P & SUSAN M	61-A	6/26/2009	SAME
X	53R-005	O'MALLEY, MARK E & EWA C	61-A	9/24/2009	CHANGE
X	53R-007	O'MALLEY, MARK E & EWA C	61-A	9/24/2009	SAME
X	38R-017	PALMER, TERRY L	61-A	9/22/2009	SAME
X	39R-003	PALMER, TERRY L	61-A	9/22/2009	SAME
X	39R-026	PALMER, TERRY L	61-A	10/1/2009	SAME
X	12R-030	PEREZ, BRENDA L	61-A	10/1/2009	SAME
X	12R-031	PEREZ, BRENDA L	61-A	10/1/2009	SAME
X	41R-033	PHELON, JAMES F	61-A	10/1/2009	SAME
X	41R-017	PHELON, JAMES F	61-A	10/1/2009	SAME
X	41R-005	PHELON, JAMES F & SHEILA M	61-A	10/1/2009	SAME
X	41R-020	PHELON, JAMES F	61-A	10/1/2009	SAME
X	21R-008	PITONIAK, JOHN	61-A	9/29/2009	SAME
X	21R-009	PITONIAK, JOHN	61-A	9/29/2009	SAME
X	21R-010	PITONIAK, JOHN	61-A	9/29/2009	SAME
X	22R-004	PITONIAK, JOHN	61-A	9/29/2009	SAME
X	23R-012	PITONIAK, JOHN	61-A	9/29/2009	SAME
X	67R-054	POMEROY, K LEWIS & SETH	61-A	9/23/2009	SAME
X	68R-016	POMEROY, L HARLOW JR & ETAL	61-A	9/23/2009	SAME

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X	M&P	NAME	CHPTR	FILED	CHNGD
X					
X	60R-008	PORTER, DAVID C & KATHLEEN M	61-A	10/1/2009	SAME
X	31R-015	QUILL, CHRIS & ROUVELLAT, DAVID	61-A	10/1/2009	SAME
X	61R-024	RADLE, CLEMENT J & JUDITH M	61-A	10/1/2009	SAME
X	53R-3-1A	REED, JAMES S	61-A	9/29/2009	CHANGE
X	53R-003	REED, JOHN R & JAMES S	61-A	9/29/2009	SAME
X	48R-020	REED, MARIE H & JAMES W	61-A	9/29/2009	SAME
X	48R-029	REED, MARIE H & JAMES W	61-A	9/29/2009	SAME
X	48R-030	REED, MARIE H & JAMES W	61-A	9/29/2009	SAME
X	48R-002	REED, WILLIAM F	61-A	9/29/2009	SAME
X	230-013	REED, WILLIAM F	61-A	9/29/2009	SAME
X	230-021	REED, WILLIAM F	61-A	9/29/2009	SAME
X	54R-57-1A	REED, WILLIAM F	61-A	9/29/2009	SAME
X	55R-008	REED, WILLIAM FRANCIS	61-A	9/29/2009	SAME
X	48R-085	ROMANI, BERNARD J III	61-A	8/21/2009	SAME
X	54R-19	ROMANI, BERNARD J III	61-A	8/21/2009	SAME
X	225-004	ROMANSKI, H & ETAL	61-A	10/1/2009	SAME
X	225-005	ROMANSKI, H & ETAL	61-A	10/1/2009	SAME
X	14R-001	SANFORD, DAVID & MARCIA S	61-A	10/1/2009	SAME
X	14R-007	SANFORD, DAVID & MARCIA S	61-A	10/1/2009	SAME
X	27R-018	SANFORD, DAVID & MARCIA S	61-A	10/1/2009	SAME
X	55R-005	SIMONOWICZ, FRANK & ETAL	61-A	9/23/2009	SAME
X	39R-021	X STEVENS, GEORGE	61-A	N/A	APR
X	45R-001	STRASFELD, MARK J & EVELYN R	61-A	9/9/2009	SAME
X	116-023	STREAMFIELD LLC	61-A	7/21/2009	SAME
X	48R-001	STREETER, ROY L & ESTELLE J	61-A	9/29/2009	SAME
X	15R-3-1A	STUART ARNOLD REAL ESTATE LLC	61-A	10/1/2009	SAME
X	17R-022	STUART ARNOLD REAL ESTATE LLC	61-A	10/1/2009	CHANGE
X	17R-028	STUART ARNOLD REAL ESTATE LLC	61-A	10/1/2009	SAME
X	68R-045	SUNSTROM, GEORGE C & LUANNE	61-A	8/13/2009	CHANGE
X	24R-021	SWIATEK, DONALD W	61-A	9/30/2009	SAME
X	09R-005	TARNAUSKAS, PAUL & JANICE	61-A	8/25/2009	SAME
X	25R-003	TARNAUSKAS, RALPH J	61-A	10/1/2009	CHANGE
X	52R-34	TIERNEY, MICHAEL	61-A	4/24/2009	SAME
X	69R-14	TOMASKO, EDMUND & MADELEINE	61-A	9/9/2009	SAME
X	69R-20-1A	TOMASKO, EDMUND & MADELEINE	61-A	9/9/2009	SAME
X	31R-19	WAGNER, ROBERT A & KAREN M	61-A	9/15/2009	SAME
X	102-001	WHEELER, MARY E	61-A	9/10/2009	SAME
X	27R-005	ZELEZ, JOSEPH J & VALERIE J	61-A	7/27/2009	SAME
X	27R-012	ZELEZ, JOSEPH J & VALERIE J	61-A	7/27/2009	SAME
X	27R-020	ZELEZ, JOSEPH J & VALERIE J	61-A	7/27/2009	SAME
X	27R-022	ZELEZ, JOSEPH J & VALERIE J	61-A	7/27/2009	SAME

CH 61-B LAND FY2011

NAME	M & P	FY 2011	SEE ALSO
ADAIR	60R-13	10/1/2009	
CONLIN, MICHAEL & JUDITH MILLER	70R-30	9/23/2009	CH 61
EAST MOUNTAIN COUNTRY CLUB	58R-03	10/1/2009	
EMMONDS	02R-01	10/1/2009	CH 61

2010 Westfield Open Space & Recreation Plan

NAME	M & P	FY 2011	SEE ALSO
LOWE, I & D. WZOREK	52R-06	9/25/2009	
LOWE, I & D. WZOREK	52R-58	9/25/2009	
MANN NO (GOLF ACRES)	35R-09	9/30/2009	
PHETTEPLACE	61R-19	10/1/2009	
SHAKER FARMS (WESTERN BRONZE)	06R-08	9/30/2009	
FIRST TEE LLC (TEKOA)	34R-04	5/7/2009	
WESTFIELD SPORTSMANS CLUB	47R-04	9/28/2009	61 & 61-B
	48R-82	9/28/2009	ALL 61- B
	40R-06	N/A	ALL 61
ZEPKO, N	06R-10	10/1/2009	
ZEPKO, N	07R-03	10/1/2009	
CONLIN'S 70R-014 IS ALL CH 61 FORESTLAND		N/A	

APPENDIX C. - Public Workshop Materials

PUBLIC EVENT
Westfield Open Space and Recreation Plan



**What do you love about
Westfield?**

**Westfield's Open Space
Committee wants to know.**

**Come participate in a community
visioning session to help us
identify goals for Westfield's
Open Space and Recreation Plan.**

**Thursday, June 24th
7:00 – 9:00 pm
North Middle School
350 Southampton Road**

Event will be in the Cafeteria

**For more information: Jayne Bernhard-Armington, Pioneer
Valley Planning Commission (413) 781-6045
or Larry Smith, City of Westfield (413) 572-6246**

City of Westfield
Open Space and Recreation Visioning Workshop
June 24, 2010
7pm-9pm
North Middle School Cafeteria

6:45 -7:05 Register, make a name tag, review handouts, poster boards, etc.

7:05-7:15 Welcome/Overview of Workshop & Open Space and Recreation Plan

- What is an Open Space and Recreation Plan?
- What is "open space"?
- What is recreation – passive vs. active?
- Why is Westfield creating an Open Space and Recreation Plan now?
- Who are the Open Space Planning Committee and what are their roles?

7:15-7:45 Cognitive Mapping Exercise

Step 1: Each table has a copy of an enlarged map of Westfield and markers. Identify by drawing on the map your answers to the following questions:

- Where do you live?
- Where do you work?
- Where do you play?
- Are there distinct neighborhoods or districts within Westfield?
- What are the important natural resources and landmarks in Westfield?
Examples: features, farm land, historic landmarks, scenic corridors, etc.
- What are the important recreational facilities in Westfield?
- What issues/conflicts are occurring with open space and where?
- What issues/conflicts are occurring with recreational facilities or uses, both passive and active recreation?

Step 2: Each group has 2-3 minutes to present and explain their maps to everyone.

7:45-8:15 Open Space and Recreation Needs Analysis

Step 1: As a large group discuss the results of the Cognitive Map and Assets/Liabilities Analysis and identify strengths and weaknesses.

Step 2: Given the identified strengths and weaknesses, identify open space and recreational needs.

8:15-8:45 Identify 2010-2017 OSRP Goals and Objectives

Step 1: Identify Open Space and Recreation goals and objectives based on previous discussions.

Step 2: Seek comment or discussion about listed goals & objectives.

Step 3: Seek consensus on keeping/omitting any.

2010 Westfield Open Space & Recreation Plan

8:45- 9:00 Developing an Action Plan

Step 1: Each member of the group should finish the following statement: "If I were king/queen for a day I would....."

Step 2: From this statement, and based on previous discussions, identify actions to address specific goals and objectives.

Westfield Open Space and Recreation Plan Public Meeting Thursday, June 24, 2010 North Middle School 7-9 pm

NAME	ADDRESS	EMAIL	PHONE
William F. Reed	237 Montgomery Pl.		413 5626113
Jim Blasca	17 Gladwin Dr		413-883-5527
Joe Giffune	49 Colony Drive		568-8738
Jeffrey Gosselin	29 Union St. 2FL		568-4807
John Podolski	317 Birch Bluffs Dr		5687514
Dou Podolski	317 Birch Bluffs Dr	DOUPODOLSKI@GMAIL.COM	413 296 5859
Alex Hibert	57 Holland Ave	alhibs9@verizon.net	413-454-4350
Rob Bristow	211 Hillside Rd.	rbristow@wsc.ma.edu	413-572-5215
Mike O'Connell	45 S. Maple St		562-9197
Jeff Lalley	19 Lois St.		562-6559
Charles Darling	61 King St	c.darling@cityofwestfield.org	572-6270
Rich Roy	55 St. James Ave Westfield 01085	royrich100@aol.com	562-2684
Frank O'Brien	36 Day Ave	Perpetude@aol.com	375-3451
Mark Cressotti	26 Furrow St.	m.cressotti@cityofwestfield.org	572-6219

Westfield Open Space and Recreation Plan Public Meeting Thursday, June 24, 2010 North Middle School 7-9 pm

NAME	ADDRESS	EMAIL	PHONE
Barbara Rokosz	272 Leafhouse		413-528-9962
Mary MacAdam	34 Orchard St	Marymacadam@gmail.com	
Jake MacAdam	34 Orchard St	jake.macadam@gmail.com	562-9511
Trent MacAdam	34 Orchard St	trentmacadam@gmail.com	562-9511
Sabine Prother	123 Sackett Rd	pioneerplanner2@yahoo	949.3914

2010 Westfield Open Space & Recreation Plan

Westfield Open Space and Recreation Plan Public Meeting Thursday, June 24, 2010 North Middle School 7-9 pm

NAME	ADDRESS	EMAIL	PHONE
LARRY SMITH	Cty Hall		
Anne Capra	PVPC	acapra@pvpc.org	781-6045
Don Nicoletti	Con Com	donicdn29@comcast.net	
Bill Storzak	71 Barbara St.	wstorzak@pb.com	413-575-9484
CARLOS L. NUÑEZ	150 SACKETT RD.	NUNEZC75@HOTMAIL.COM	413-454-3287
VIN OLINSKI	34 1/2 Noble Ave	volinski@yahoo.com	413-568-4395
Zech Hiest	30 Maple St	z.hiester@hotmail.com	413-579-1828
DONNA TADLOCK	Carl Keir 9 HOWARDS ST	donnatadlock@hotmail.com	413-563-0143
Christian Knapp	50 Gary Drive	christ.knapp@gmail.com	(413) 262-2887
Lynn Bannon	68 Mountain View	—	413-454-5264
MARY ANN PASINSKI	114 ROGERS AVE	mababinski@comcast.net	413-568-8562
Raph Figg	53 Brookline Ave	rfigg@comcast.net	413-883-3527

APPENDIX D. - ADA Self-Evaluation