

2006 NEWBURY MASTER PLAN

CHAPTER VI

TRANSPORTATION

Recommendations: Transportation

1. Require all developments to share the cost of road and other improvements that are required to accommodate any incremental traffic generated by their construction. Even if a new development road meets the Town's specifications, the roads in the area giving access to the new road may not be adequate to handle the increased traffic. In this case, the developer/subdivider must pay a proportion of the cost to upgrade off-site roads. The extent of these improvements must bear a rational connection to the needs created by, and the benefits conferred upon, the development.
2. Incorporate the cost of widening the three functionally obsolete bridges with acceptable sufficiency ratings on Mountain Road and the other bridge on Bowles Road into the Capital Improvements Program.
3. Only the bridge on Old NH Rte. 103 over Andrew Brook is eligible for replacement under NHDOT's current bridge replacement guidelines, given its low federal sufficiency rating. This bridge should be replaced as quickly as possible using Municipal Bridge Aid funds from NHDOT. The Town's share of these bridge replacement costs (20%) should be incorporated into the Capital Improvement Program.
4. Install high water overflow culverts, using municipal funds, on the west side of the Sutton Road bridge over Andrew Brook to relieve the water flow problems.
5. Now that the Town has secured approval of the necessary state permits, the Town should continue to coordinate with the developer (Robert Bell) who is required to replace the concrete box culvert on Cheney Road as a condition of subdivision approval to eliminate the road alignment and width problems.
6. Promote and encourage increased ridesharing. The active participation of Newbury's employers in the Region's two rideshare programs will reduce the number of commuting vehicles. The New Hampshire Department of Transportation NH Rideshare Program is based in Concord and can be contacted by calling 1-800-462-8707 or electronically at www.nhrideshare.com. The Upper Valley Rideshare Program provides rideshare services out of Hartford, VT and can be contacted by calling 1-802-295-1824 x 24 or

electronically at www.uppervalleyrideshare.com. Companies and Newbury need to encourage ridesharing, and discourage single-occupant vehicles by providing incentives to help make it happen.

7. Continue to develop a CIP or schedule for highway projects involving municipal funds.

8. Encourage alternative fuel sources.

9. Continue Newbury's present Road Surface Management System data base. The pavement management system targets roads for maintenance and reconstruction. Benefits of such a program are reduced long-term costs and establishment of a data base for the road network conditions.

10. Work with the UVLSRPC and NHDOT to construct bikeways using Enhancement Program and Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality funds. Areas to consider would include sections along NH Route 103 without paved shoulders and to construct a bikeway along NH Rte. 103A. Currently, NH Rte. 103A is a designated part of the NH State Bikeway System, yet is a very narrow and twisting road with numerous potentially unsafe locations for cyclists and pedestrians. Bikeways are a simple solution to the dangers of bicycle-vehicle conflicts. Another area to consider is providing bike lanes or paths in and out of South Newbury Village. A bike lane could be provided on South Road leading south to Bradford or west to Newbury Center via the reconstituted rail trail system. Encourage the location and installation of bicycle racks. The Newbury Recreation Committee and the Beautification Committee working together can determine numerous sites for possible new bicycle racks.

11. Work with the surrounding communities, NHDOT, and the UVLSRPC to designate NH Rte. 103A as a scenic byway. Facilitate New London's understanding of the benefits of this scenic byway designation for its business community and encourage New London to support the scenic byway designation for Route 103A.

12. Adopt driveway design specifications which ensure safe and controlled access to all roads in all seasons of the year. The Planning Board, with the assistance of the UVLSRPC, could revise the existing subdivision regulations to include specifications for driveway construction.

13. Scenic roads designated by the Town are provided special protections under RSA 231:157 & RSA 231:158. Recreational use, including biking and walking, should be encouraged on scenic roads.

14. Support the local match (money, volunteer time & labor) for an approved federal grant to fund sidewalk and related drainage, lighting and landscaping improvements in Newbury Harbor with construction anticipated in 2010.