

## CHAPTER IV

### COMMUNITY FACILITIES & SERVICES AND RECREATION

Community facilities and services play an important role by contributing to the general welfare of residents, and add to the quality of life in a community. Naturally, the demand is far from static. Existing facilities may become inadequate because they are not cared for, because they do not satisfy current needs, and due to increased and often new demands which accompany population growth and changes in lifestyle. To plan for the community facilities which will be needed in the future, it is first necessary to determine the extent of existing facilities. This chapter serves as a review of these facilities and services. It should also be noted that the primary concern is with physical facilities and not with operating programs. The suitability of the existing facilities to meet future demands will also be considered.

The following plan for community facilities and services includes an inventory of facilities (see Map IV-13) and equipment, an analysis of relevant trends and needs, and recommendations to meet future demands based on the Town's anticipated growth. The plan is divided into separate sections, each addressing a specific community facility or service. They include:

- Fire Protection, FAST (First Aid Stabilization Team) and Ambulance Services
- Police Protection Service
- Communication Services
- Highway Department
- Transfer Station & Recycling Services
- Management of Town Government & Town Office Building
- Other Town Buildings
- Town Sewer & Water Services
- Electrical Service
- Recreation Facilities and Services
- Library Service
- Educational Services
- Social Services
- Cemeteries
- Sense of Community

## **FIRE PROTECTION, FAST (FIRST AID STABILIZATION TEAM) AND AMBULANCE SERVICES**

The Newbury Fire Department is a volunteer department consisting of a Fire Chief, an Assistant Chief, a Captain, four Lieutenants, and other volunteers, for a total of thirty members. Many of these volunteer firefighters also serve on the Town FAST Squad. Some members of the Fire Department and the Police Department have just recently completed training in underwater search and rescue, and have formed what is known as the Kearsarge Mutual Aid Dive Team, the first and only such rescue team in the area.

Currently, an inventory of the Fire Department equipment includes the following:

1. Stationed at the Blodgetts Landing Fire Station:
  - (1) 1964 International Pumper
2. Stationed at the Newbury Safety Services Building:
  - (1) 1978 Ford Pumper
  - (1) 1978 International Tanker
  - (1) 1983 Chevrolet Rescue Truck
  - (1) 1988 Sentinel Pumper
3. Stationed in Newbury Harbor:
  - (1) 1987 Winnighof Fire & Safety Boat

Additionally, the Fire Department has a 1942 Chevrolet Pumper they plan to restore for use as a parade truck.

As noted above, the Town has two fire stations currently. The main fire station, located at 952 Route 103 in Newbury Center, is part of the Newbury Safety Services Building. This wood-frame building with vinyl siding was constructed in 1985 and is in excellent condition. The fire station portion of the building includes about 4,000 square feet of space and has five (5) bays. This building houses the fire department equipment noted above, as well as the FAST Squad. The Police Department is housed in this building in an area which includes about 550 square feet. The Blodgetts Landing Fire Station, located at the corner of Post Office and Pine Streets, was refurbished in 1990. This wood-frame building measures about 20 feet wide by 30 feet long and has an addition on the rear measuring about 4 feet by 7 feet for propane gas storage.

Ambulance service to most of Newbury is provided by the Bradford Rescue Squad, an all volunteer organization. The Town of Newbury has contributed \$1,000 annually towards the Bradford Rescue operating budget. Additionally, Newbury has an agreement with Bradford Rescue to contribute one-

**MAP IV-13**

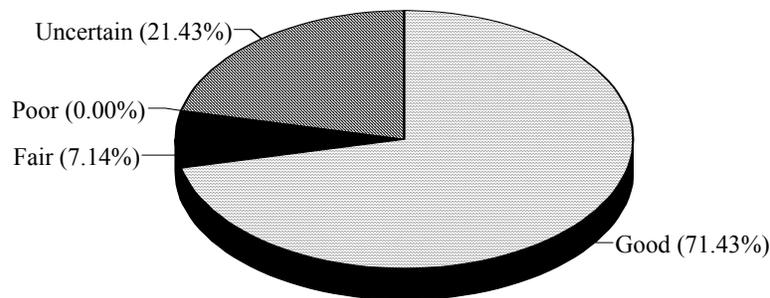
**Community Facilities & Services**

third of the cost for ambulance replacement. The northern part of the Town along Route 103A is served by the New London Ambulance Service. Since this is a private fee-for-service operation, the Town does not contribute directly. However, in the spirit of providing free ambulance service to all Newbury taxpayers, the Town will reimburse users for charges not covered by insurance.

Community Survey Results: Fire Protection & FAST Squad Services

Seventy-one percent (71%) of the total survey respondents rated the fire protection service as good, seven percent (7%) as fair, zero percent (0%) as poor and twenty-one percent (21%) were uncertain.

**FIGURE IV-1  
Fire Protection Service Rating**

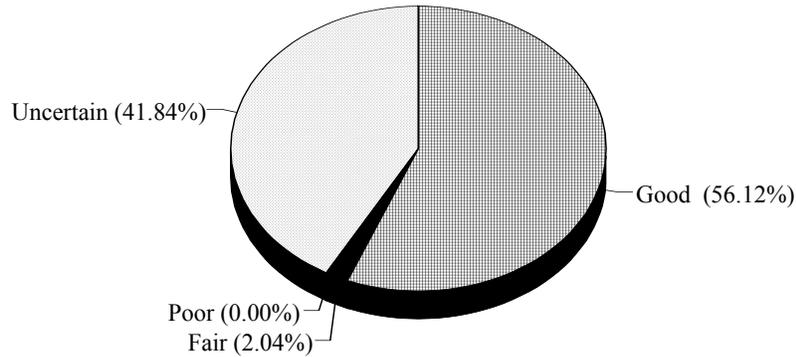


Year-round residents rated the fire protection service higher (79% good) than the seasonal residents (60% good). Only the solid waste transfer station service with a seventy-six percent (76%) good rating and the police protection service with a seventy-one percent (71%) good rating were rated higher than the fire protection service.

With regards to the FAST Squad service, fifty-six percent (56%) of those responding to the survey rated the FAST Squad service as good, two percent (2%) as fair, zero percent (0%) as poor and forty-two percent (42%) uncertain.

**FIGURE IV-2**

**FAST Squad Service Rating**

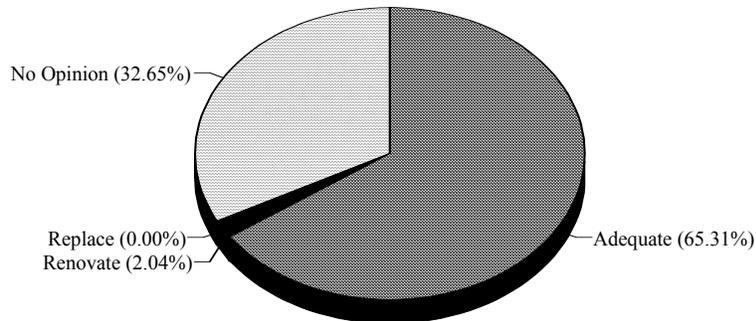


Of those familiar with the service, ninety-six percent (96%) rated the FAST Squad service as good. A higher percentage of year-round residents (73%) rated the service as good compared with seasonal residents (41%). Over half (55%) of the seasonal residents were uncertain about the service rating.

The community survey also inquired about the adequacy of the existing Safety Services Building. Sixty-five percent (65%) of those responding indicated the building was adequate, two percent (2%) said it needed renovations, zero percent (0%) thought it should be replaced and thirty-three percent (33%) had no opinion.

**FIGURE IV-3**

**Adequacy of Safety Services Building**



Issues:

### Fire Protection, FAST Squad and Ambulance Services

1. The Town currently has no organized program for planning and budgeting for the replacement of Fire Department and FAST Squad equipment and evaluating those needs in relation to other capital improvement needs of the community.
2. There is concern with the Fire Department and FAST Squad response time to serve South Newbury. Currently, the emergency vehicle response time to South Newbury is estimated to be about 12 to 14 minutes. An auxiliary fire station may be needed in that area in the future to provide that area of Town with improved service. The first response to much of this South Newbury area is from the Bradford Fire Department under the mutual aid agreement.
3. The demands on the Fire Department have increased considerably over the past ten years, based on data available in the Annual Town Reports. In 1985, the Newbury Fire Department and FAST Squad, consisting of the same number of volunteers as today, responded to 113 calls. In 1995, the number of calls had increased to 146 with the same number of personnel available. This is an increase of 33 calls annually or an increase in 1995 of 29% compared with the 1985 data. Information from the Fire Chief indicates that about two out of three calls involve the FAST Squad and the rest are fire calls. This growth in demand for emergency services wears out equipment faster, causes more expendable supplies to be used, and places an ever increasing demand and hardship on volunteer members. There is an increasing concern for the lack of availability of volunteer fire fighters during weekday business hours when most of the volunteer force are out of town working their regular jobs.
4. The Fire Department is concerned with the lack of available water supplies throughout the community which are accessible for fire-fighting purposes. The Town has no public water supply system to use for fire-fighting purposes.
5. The Town of Newbury does not have its own ambulance service and must rely on ambulance services provided by Bradford and New London.

### Recommendations: Fire Protection, FAST Squad and Ambulance Services

The following recommendations are made for the Newbury Fire Protection & FAST Squad Services:

1. In order to maintain low fire insurance rates and to ensure that reliable equipment is available to the fire fighters and FAST Squad members, the need to update and replace Fire Department and FAST Squad equipment should be incorporated into a comprehensive Town Capital Improvement Program (CIP). As one of the components, the CIP should identify the useful life expectancy and replacement cost for each piece of equipment needed by the Fire Department and FAST Squad. Using

this information, an annual allocation to a Fire Department and FAST Squad equipment capital reserve fund should be established to fund equipment replacement.

2. It is recommended that a committee be appointed to study the need and feasibility of establishing an auxiliary fire station in South Newbury. The study should take a comprehensive look at the emergency response service town-wide, including such areas as Bay Point Road and Chalk Pond. It should identify the number and type of emergency response calls in the various parts of the community and identify the number of homes and people to be served in the various areas of Town. It is suggested the committee consist of representatives from the Board of Selectmen, the Budget Committee, the Planning Board, the Fire Department, the FAST Squad, and property owners in South Newbury. One alternative for the committee to consider is reuse of the highway garage if the Town decides to establish the highway garage elsewhere. This is suggested to be studied as reflected in the Highway Department recommendations below. This committee should issue its report to the Town as soon as practical. If the decision is to move forward with an auxiliary fire station in South Newbury, then it should be incorporated into the Town Capital Improvement Program.
3. It is recommended that the Town study the cost and feasibility of having a limited number of full-time fire fighters, who are also rescue certified, to be available during weekday business hours.
4. In order to improve the availability of water supplies for fire fighting purposes in Town, the following recommendations are made:
  - A. The Fire Department should identify and map the locations of existing, available water supplies and where additional supplies are needed. When completed, this map should be incorporated into the Master Plan.
  - B. The Fire Department should then identify the costs associated with developing those additional water supplies (easement acquisition, driveway access or pull-off, dry hydrant, etc.) and incorporate those capital costs into the Capital Improvement Program.
  - C. For new developments not served by existing, improved water supplies, the Planning Board should require developers to provide a water supply for fire fighting purposes or provide their proportional fair share towards the development of a new water supply system.

5. The Town should continue to provide financial support for operating expenditures and use the ambulance services of the Bradford Rescue Squad. Additionally, the Town should continue the cooperative agreement on the capital cost of ambulance vehicle replacement with the Bradford Rescue Squad and incorporate this cost into the Town's Capital Improvement Program.

## **POLICE PROTECTION SERVICE**

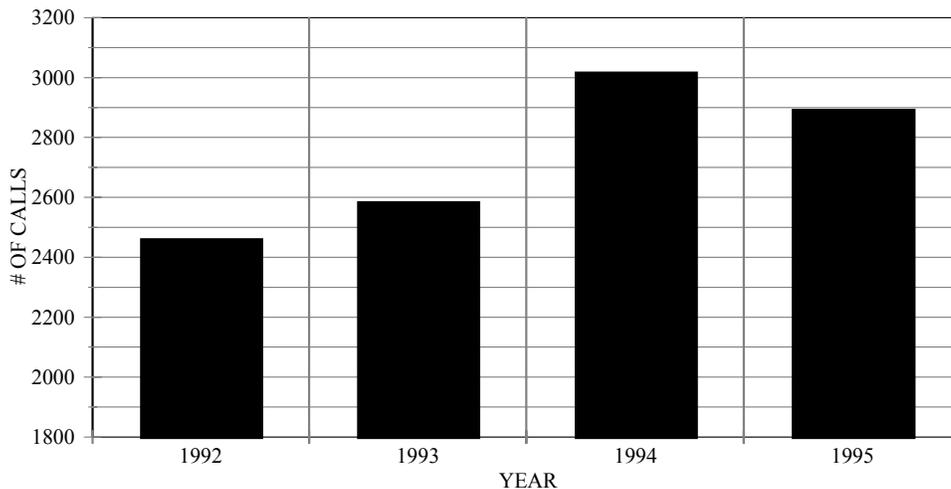
The Newbury Police Department is housed within the Newbury Safety Services Building located at 952 Route 103 in Newbury Center. The Police Department has an office occupying 550 square feet. The Police Department is currently served by a full-time police chief plus two full-time officers, four part-time officers and one part-time secretary.

The Police Department currently has the following vehicles:

- (1) 1994 Police Cruiser
- (1) 1993 Police Cruiser
- (1) 1991 Police Cruiser
- (1) 1977 Pickup Truck- 4 Wheel Drive

In 1992, the Police Department responded to 2462 calls for service. By 1995, the Police Department experienced an eighteen percent (18%) increase in calls for the same services. The following graph shows the increase in service demand over the past four years. Additionally, in 1995, the Police Department added vacant house checks (587 calls) and business checks (1508 calls), which are not included in Figure IV-4. The total number of calls for police service in 1995 was 4,989.

**FIGURE IV-4**  
**Police Department Service Calls**

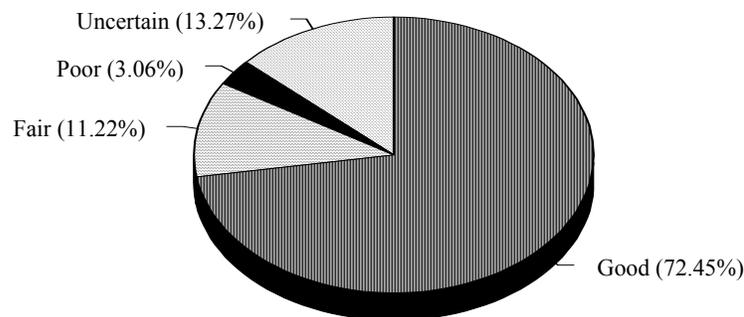


## Community Survey Results: Police Protection Service

The Police Department received a good rating from seventy-two percent (72%) of the survey respondents, a fair rating from eleven percent (11%), a poor rating from three percent (3%), and thirteen percent (13%) were uncertain.

**FIGURE IV-5**

### **Police Protection Service Rating**



## Issues: Police Protection Service

1. The steadily increasing number of service calls may place a strain on personnel and equipment to meet the service demands. Other factors affecting this issue include the seasonality of the demand for service, the availability of assistance from other police departments through mutual aid agreements and coverage by the State Police. A guideline suggested by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) is a police staffing level of two on-duty police officers per 1,000 population.
2. The Police Department area within the Safety Services Building does not provide adequate space for the Police Department. Evidence, supplies and records are currently stored in other rooms in the Safety Services Building and the Town Offices.
3. The Police Chief has identified the need to acquire video recording systems to install in the police cruisers over the next three years.
4. The Police Department vehicles need to be scheduled for regular replacement.

### Recommendations: Police Protection Service

1. The level of staffing in the Police Department needs to keep pace with the increase in service demand. The Selectmen need to monitor the service level to ensure that it continues to meet the community's needs in the future.
2. A committee appointed by the Selectmen should study the alternatives to provide an adequate Police Department facility to accommodate all of its needs for the next ten to fifteen years. The committee should present its preferred alternative to the Town. If supported, the cost of this improvement should be incorporated into the Town's Capital Improvement Program.
3. The Police Chief has suggested the following schedule for replacing the Police Department vehicles:

1991 Police Cruiser - Replace in 1997  
1993 Police Cruiser - Replace in 1999  
1994 Police Cruiser - Replace in 2000

This, or a modified replacement schedule, should be incorporated into the comprehensive Town Capital Improvement Program.

4. The Police Department should pursue federal grant monies and private donations to fund the acquisition of video recording systems for the police cruisers. If these funding sources prove insufficient, then the balance of the cost should be included in the Town Capital Improvement Program.

## **COMMUNICATION SERVICES**

### **Town Communications for Emergency and Highway Services**

The communication systems for the Emergency Services (Police, Fire, FAST) and Highway Departments are currently disjointed. The existing communications systems consist of two-way VHF Motorola radios. Currently, the Emergency Services can communicate with each other, but not with the Highway Department.

### **Telephone Service**

Telephone service in Newbury is provided by two companies: NYNEX serves about two-thirds of the community and Merrimack County Telephone (MCT) provides service to the remaining one-third. Both companies offer an array of telephone service options. The Communications Act deregulated the communications industry at the end of 1996, which enabled both companies to offer

Newbury a coordinated communications package.

MCT can now compete with NYNEX after installation of the latest state-of-the-art technology. In 1996, MCT installed a new central office switch which provides the most current software-based switching available.

MCT also provides access to the Internet through their T-1 service. This T-1 service provides fast and reliable service through local call rates.

MCT has applied to the Public Utilities Commission to install an "integrated services digital network" which will allow for the transmittal of voice and data simultaneously. This digital network allows for faster transmission and is "cleaner" technology which eliminates outside interference.

With these technological advances, MCT now is on equal footing with NYNEX. In addition, they offer an advantage, in that, in the event of an emergency interruption of service due to weather or an accident, their repair service facility is located only a few miles down the road.

### **Cable Television**

In 1988, the Town of Newbury entered into a cable service contract with MCT Cable. This non-exclusive contract is for fifteen (15) years. The Town committee negotiated with MCT Cable to determine the initial area where MCT Cable would provide service. The contract outlines three ways in which additional areas can be added. Two of the options involve the cost of expansion being borne by MCT Cable and the third is a customer-funded program.

MCT Cable keeps records on the number of homes that can be serviced with their existing system, the number of homes subscribing to the service and the number of miles of cable in the system. From this information, the number of subscribers per mile can be calculated and the "penetration rate" can be determined. The "penetration rate" is the percentage of homes which can be serviced that actually subscribe to the service. This information for the four towns serviced by MCT Cable is provided in the table below.

**TABLE IV-1**  
**MCT Cable Service**  
**1996**

Town	Total # Homes	# Subscribers	# Miles of Cable	Penetration Rate	# Subscribers per Mile
Warner	796	787	45.42	99%	17.3
Bradford	658	487	30.15	74%	16.2
Sutton	548	373	32.10	68%	11.6
Newbury	1006	657	41.70	65%	15.8

SOURCE: MCT Cable Company

Although Newbury has the second-highest number of subscribers, it has the lowest penetration rate and the second-lowest number of subscribers per mile. This becomes important because one of the three options for expanding the cable service area is based on the number of subscribers per mile of cable in the system. The contract indicates that if and when the Town has fifteen (15) or more subscribers per mile throughout the Town, MCT will install three (3) additional miles of cable at their expense for each increase of one subscriber per mile over the fifteen (15) subscribers per mile.

Issues: Communication Services

1. With the existing Town communication systems serving emergency and highway services and given the mountainous topography in town, there are several locations where communications are lost. Communication service may be extended throughout town by adding a relay station or booster antenna.
2. The Town lacks a coordinated communication system serving all the emergency and highway services.
3. Although similar telephone services are offered by both NYNEX and MCT, the two companies are competitors and, as such, do not coordinate the types of services to Newbury.
4. Cable service is not available throughout the community.

### Recommendations: Communication Services

1. The Police, Fire, FAST Squad and Highway Departments should cooperatively study and evaluate alternative solutions to providing a coordinated communication system linking all the various departments. It should provide uninterrupted service throughout the Town. This group should present a recommended communication system to the Selectmen and Budget Committee as soon as practical. Any capital improvements should be incorporated into the Capital Improvement Program.
2. With deregulation of the communication industry, Newbury will be able to choose between telephone service providers. A single service provided town-wide may be advantageous.
3. The Town should encourage non-subscribers along the existing cable network to hook up to increase the number of subscribers per mile. As noted above, for every additional subscriber per mile above fifteen (15), MCT Cable will add three miles to the cable system at their expense.
4. With deregulation of the communication industry, the Town should seek legal advice on the possibility of renegotiating the contract for cable service and/or seeking alternative cable service proposals which would speed up the provision of cable service throughout the Town.

### **HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT SERVICES**

The personnel positions in the Newbury Highway Department include a road agent and a crew of five. An inventory of the Highway Department equipment currently includes the following:

- (1) 1977 Dodge Pick-up Truck
- (1) 1987 Loader
- (1) 1980 Vintage Grader (rebuilt in 1995)
- (1) 1986 Mack Dump/Plow Truck
- (1) 1993 Mack Dump/Plow Truck
- (1) 1996 Mack Dump/Plow Truck
- (1) 1990 Ford One-Ton Truck
- (1) Old Street Sweeper

The Highway Department garage is located in South Newbury at 20 Sutton Road near the intersection of Route 103. This block building is about 6,000 square feet in size and is thirty-six (36) years old. The highway garage has six (6) bays which can house all but one of the above pieces of highway equipment. The remaining piece of large equipment listed above, plus the snow plows and

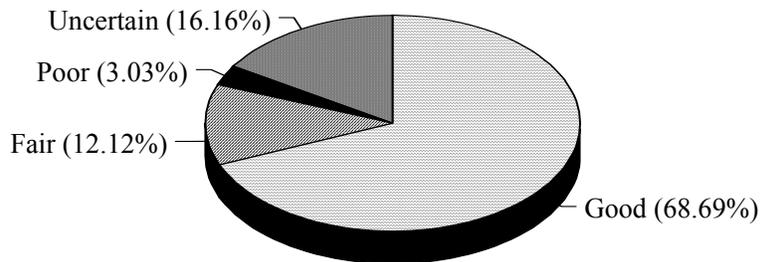
the tow sweeper, currently must be stored outside and, thereby, exposed to the weather. In addition, there is a covered pole barn for salt storage and a covered shed for storage of the sanders.

Community Survey Results: Highway Department Services

The 1994 Community Survey provided feedback on Highway Department snowplowing and road maintenance services. Sixty-nine percent (69%) of those responding to the survey rated the snowplowing service as good, twelve percent (12%) rated the service as fair, three percent (3%) rated the service as poor and sixteen percent (16%) were uncertain.

**FIGURE IV-6**

**Snowplowing Service Rating**

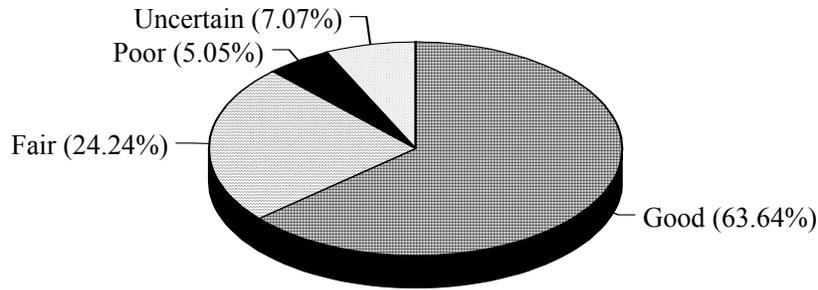


The snowplowing service received even higher marks from the year-round residents, with seventy-one percent (71%) rating the service as good, twenty-one percent (21%) as fair, five percent (5%) as poor and one percent (1%) as uncertain.

Sixty-four percent (64%) of all the people responding to the survey rated the road maintenance service as good, twenty-four percent (24%) rated the service as fair, five percent (5%) rated the service as poor and seven percent (7%) were uncertain.

**FIGURE IV-7**

**Road Maintenance Service**

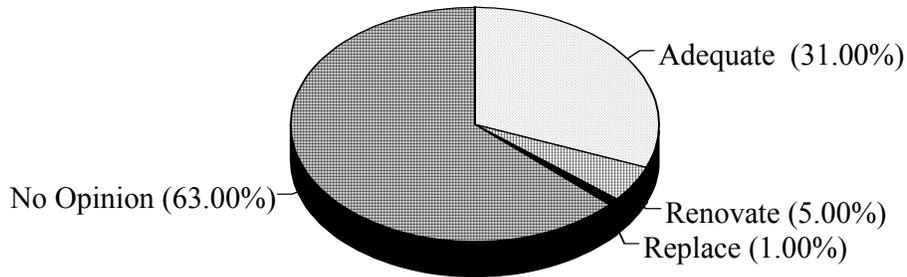


Year-round residents rated the road maintenance service lower, with fifty-nine percent (59%) giving it a good rating, thirty-one percent (31%) rating it fair, five percent (5%) rating the service as poor and two percent (2%) uncertain.

Thirty-one percent (31%) of the people responding to the Community Survey thought the Highway Department Shed was adequate, five percent (5%) thought it should be renovated, one percent (1%) thought it should be replaced and sixty-three percent (63%) had no opinion.

**FIGURE IV-8**

**Adequacy of the Highway Department Shed**



Issues: Highway Department Services

1. The Town currently has no organized program for planning and budgeting for the replacement of Highway Department equipment and evaluating those needs in relation to other capital improvement needs of the community.
2. As the mileage of Town-maintained roads increases, the need to add personnel and equipment grows accordingly. In 1986, the Town had fifty (50) miles of road to maintain. Ten years later, with the same amount of equipment and one additional employee, the Highway Department is responsible for maintaining and snowplowing sixty-two (62) miles of Town roads. This is a 25% increase in service demand with the same equipment and personnel to provide the service.
3. The Town Highway garage is inadequate. As noted above, several pieces of expensive Highway Department equipment cannot be parked inside the garage due to inadequate storage space. There is not adequate office space in the Town garage for the Road Agent.
4. The Town needs to develop objective ways to measure services such as snowplowing, and road and bridge maintenance.

Recommendations: Highway Department Services

1. The need to update and replace the Highway Department equipment should be incorporated into a comprehensive Town Capital Improvement Program (CIP). As one of the components, the CIP should identify the useful life expectancy and replacement cost for each piece of equipment needed by the Highway Department. Using this information, an annual allocation to a Highway Department capital reserve fund should be established to fund equipment replacement.

Table IV-2 outlines an initial proposal along these lines.

**TABLE IV-2**

**Replacement of Highway Department Equipment**

Equipment	Life Expectancy	Estimated Cost	Annual \$ to Replace
Pickup Truck	5 Years	\$20,000	\$4,000
Dump/Plow Truck	15 Years	\$100,000	\$6,667
Dump/Plow Truck	15 Years	\$100,000	\$6,667
Dump/Plow Truck	15 Years	\$100,000	\$6,667
Dump/Plow Truck	15 Years	\$100,000	\$6,667
Loader	10 Years	\$90,000	\$9,000
Grader	15 Years	\$120,000	\$8,000
One Ton Truck	5 Years	\$40,000	\$8,000
Chipper	10 Years	\$15,000	\$1,500
Back Hoe	10 Years	\$50,000	\$5,000
Sweeper	8 Years	\$30,000	\$3,750
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>\$65,916</b>

SOURCE: Newbury Highway Department

The table includes three new pieces of equipment: another dump/plow truck (see recommendation # 3 below), a chipper and a back hoe. The cost for replacement of the sweeper is based on purchasing a used one in relatively good condition (\$30,000) rather than purchasing a new sweeper estimated to cost about \$85,000. If these pieces of equipment are acquired by the Highway Department, then the Town should be allocating an annual capital reserve contribution for Highway Department replacement of \$65,918. Again, the need for acquiring these new pieces of equipment and the replacement of all the Highway Department equipment should be evaluated as part of a town-wide analysis of capital needs.

2. Efforts should be made to maintain five full-time Highway Department employees, all with a certified Commercial Driver's License, and to strive for stability and continuity in the Road Agent position. Additional part-time laborers could be hired in the summer months.
3. The Town should add an additional full-time Highway Department employee and dump/plow truck for each additional fifteen (15) miles of roads for which the Town assumes maintenance responsibility. Since 1986, the Town has taken over maintenance responsibility for twelve (12) more miles of public roads for a 25% increase in ten years. Following this recommendation, the Town should add another employee and another dump/plow truck after accepting another three miles of road to maintain. If the trend over the last ten years continues, then the Town will need to add another highway employee and dump/plow truck about every fifteen years.
4. A committee should be appointed to study the alternatives for replacing and increasing the size of the highway garage in order to be able to house all of the Department's equipment and provide an adequate office for the Road Agent. It is suggested the committee consist of representatives of the Board of Selectmen, the Budget Committee, the Planning Board, and the Road Agent. The Committee should present their recommendations to the Town and, if accepted, then any capital improvements should be incorporated into the Capital Improvement Program.
5. The Road Agent should work with the Administrative Assistant and the Selectmen to identify objective criteria which can be used to measure the snowplowing, road maintenance and bridge maintenance services. The RSMS (Road Surface Management System) study completed by the Transportation Planner with the Regional Planning Commission can be used as a starting point in measuring road maintenance efforts. The bridge evaluation study done every two years by the N.H. Department of Transportation can be used to assist with objectively determining bridge maintenance performance. The snowplowing service could be objectively evaluated by measuring the response times to different points along the plow routes.

## **TRANSFER STATION & RECYCLING SERVICES**

The Town of Newbury has a transfer station located at the old landfill site on Old Post Road for the collection of trash. Private trash haulers remove the trash and dispose of it at approved landfills or incinerators.

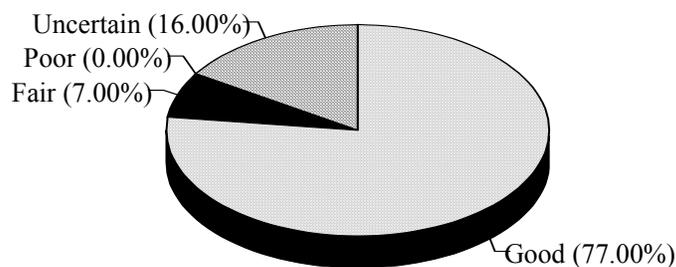
The transfer station also serves as a recycling center. Recyclable materials include: newspaper, cardboard, waste oil, metals including steel cans and aluminum cans. Additionally, glass is collected which is crushed and used for fill. Also collected at the recycling center are batteries, tires, drywall and burnable materials such as wood and brush.

Community Survey Results: Transfer Station & Recycling Services

As reflected in Figure IV-9 below, over three out of four people responding to the Community Survey thought the transfer station service was good. Seven percent (7%) thought the service was fair and sixteen percent (16%) were uncertain.

**FIGURE IV-9**

**Transfer Station Service Rating**

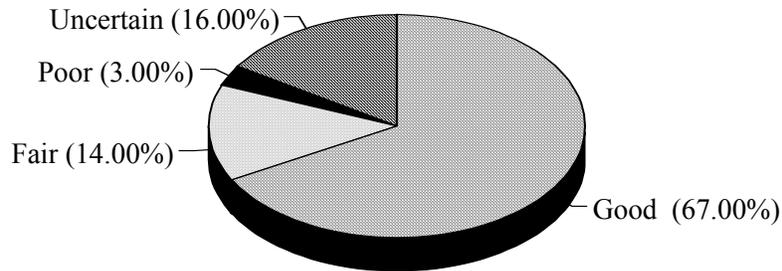


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Community Survey respondents thought the recycling service in Newbury was good, another fourteen percent (14%) thought it was fair, three percent (3%) thought it was poor and sixteen percent (16%) were uncertain, as shown in Figure IV-10 to follow.

**FIGURE IV-10**

**Recycling Service Rating**



Issues: Transfer Station & Recycling Services

1. Additional items such as paper and plastics could be recycled and the recycling of items such as cardboard and metals could be expanded.
2. Additional storage areas for waste oil, batteries and tires are needed in order to minimize potential adverse environmental impacts.
3. With other towns in the area charging a fee for the disposal of items such as appliances, batteries and tires, more of those items seem to be finding their way to Newbury's facilities.
4. Household hazardous waste disposal needs for the community are not being met.

Recommendations: Transfer Station & Recycling Services

1. The Town should encourage people in the community to maximize the amount and types of materials which are recycled. Consideration should be given to recycling additional items such as paper and plastics and expanding recycling of items such as cardboard and metals in order to increase revenues to offset operating costs, and to

reduce the quantity, cost and potential environmental impacts associated with waste disposal. Concurrent with this effort, the Town should plan for expanded facilities to accommodate additional quantities and types of recyclable materials. The capital cost of upgrading the transfer facility should be included in the Town Capital Improvement Program.

2. The Town should consider developing and adopting a fee schedule, particularly for those items and materials for which the cost of disposal far exceeds any revenues. Permits should continue to be required for use of the facilities.
3. The Town should cooperate with other surrounding communities in planning for and implementing household hazardous waste collections.

## **MANAGEMENT OF TOWN GOVERNMENT & TOWN OFFICE BUILDING**

The Newbury Town Office Building is located near the geographic center of Town on Route 103 south of the intersection with Route 103A. Originally built in 1909 as the Newbury School, it was converted for Town Office use in 1989. This one-story frame structure includes about 3,100 square feet of floor space on the ground level which is handicapped accessible and an unfinished basement which is suitable only for storage. The building is insulated and heated by an oil-fired forced hot air system. There are about twenty-two parking spaces located behind the building, with one space reserved for handicapped use.

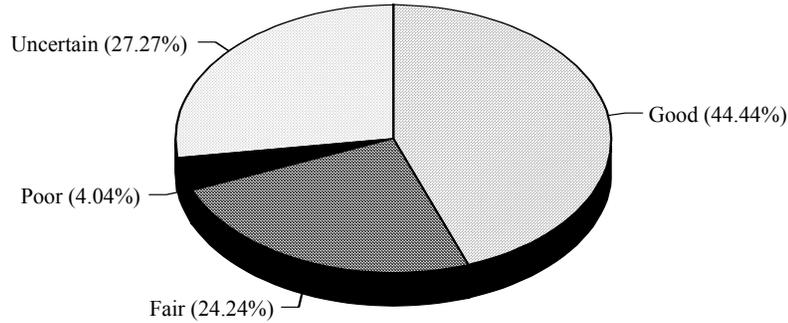
The building is divided internally to provide a large meeting room which can seat about sixty people on one end and small offices for the Selectmen, the Administrative Assistant, the Town Clerk/Tax Collector, Secretary/Receptionist and Building Inspector at the other end. Also, there is a small kitchen and three bathrooms, one of which is handicapped accessible.

### Community Survey Results: Management of Town Government & Town Office Building

Forty-four percent (44%) of those responding to the Community Survey thought the management of the Town Government was good, another twenty-four percent (24%) thought it was fair, only four percent (4%) thought it was poor, and twenty-seven percent (27%) were uncertain.

**FIGURE IV-11**

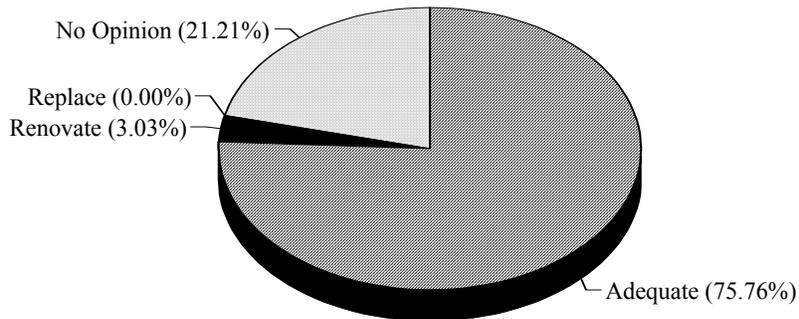
**Management of Town Government Service Rating**



As reflected in Figure IV-12 below, seventy-six percent (76%) of the people completing the Community Survey rated the Town Office Building as adequate, three percent (3%) thought it should be renovated, no one thought it should be replaced and twenty-one percent (21%) had no opinion.

**FIGURE IV-12**

**Adequacy of the  
Town  
Office  
Building**





Issue: Management of Town Government & Town Office Building

The Town Office Building is limited in space. Additional office space is needed now for the Planning Board, Zoning Board and Town Welfare Officer. As the Town population grows and with the likelihood of more state and federal programs, additional office space for the Town government will be needed.

Recommendation: Management of Town Government & Town Office Building

The long-term needs for Town Office space should be studied. The Selectmen should appoint a committee to identify the short- and long-term office space needs and then retain an architect to identify and evaluate alternative solutions and make recommendations to the committee. The committee should make recommendations for the Town to implement. The capital costs of meeting the long-term office needs should be added to the Town's Capital Improvement Program (CIP).

**OTHER TOWN BUILDINGS**

Other buildings owned by the Town include:

- Veterans' Hall;
- Town Hall;
- Sherman Hall;
- Train Station; and
- Hearse House

The Veterans' Hall is located on Route 103 in Newbury Center beside the Safety Services Building. This single story, wood frame building includes about 2,920 square feet of floor space. The building is currently unoccupied other than being used for some storage by the Fire Department. The structural soundness of the building is in question. No restroom facilities are available for the building.

The Old Town Hall located in South Newbury is a one story, wood frame building including 1,920 square feet of floor space. The building was used, as the name implies, for the Town Hall until 1986. It is now vacant and is not served by an on-site sewage disposal system.

Sherman Hall is a two story, wood frame building located in South Newbury which includes about 1,000 square feet of floor space. This building is home to the Newbury Historical Society.

The Train Station in Newbury Center is located on Route 103 adjacent to the Town Beach and Dock. The old Train Station, including about 492 square feet, was recently refurbished to include an information center and restrooms, and was acquired by the Town.

The Hearse House is located behind the Friendship House of the South Newbury Union Church in South Newbury. It was used in the past for the storage of the hearse for funerals. It presently is used for storage by the Highway Department.

#### Community Survey Results: Other Town Buildings

In general, uncertainty reigned with regards to the adequacy of these other Town buildings. With regards to the Veterans' Hall, only nineteen percent (19%) of the people responding to the survey thought the Veterans' Hall was adequate, fourteen percent (14%) thought it should be renovated, nobody thought it should be replaced and sixty-six percent (66%) had no opinion.

Thirty percent (30%) of those responding to the survey thought the Old Town Hall in South Newbury was adequate, sixteen percent (16%) thought it should be renovated, nobody thought it should be replaced, and fifty-two percent (52%) had no opinion.

With regards to Sherman Hall, twenty percent (20%) thought it was adequate, six percent (6%) thought it should be renovated, zero percent (0%) thought it should be replaced and seventy-two percent (72%) had no opinion.

The Town acquired the Train Station after the 1994 Community Survey, but the decision by the Town to acquire the property showed support for it.

The Hearse House was virtually unknown to those completing the survey since eighty-two percent (82%) had no opinion about its adequacy. Fourteen percent (14%) thought it was adequate, one percent (1%) thought it should be renovated and zero percent (0%) thought it should be replaced.

#### Issues: Other Town Buildings

1. The principal issue with most of these buildings is what to use them for in the future. This is the case for the Veterans' Hall, the old Town Hall and the Hearse House.
2. The structural soundness of the Veterans' Hall is in doubt.
3. The old Town Hall in South Newbury has no on-site wastewater disposal system to serve a future use.

#### Recommendations: Other Town Buildings

1. The Selectmen should appoint a broad-based committee to study the alternative future uses for these Town Buildings and make recommendations to the Town for their future use, as well as any recommendations on building and/or site improvements needed to accommodate those uses. A recent proposal to convert the

Veterans' Hall into a Recreation Center to be shared by teens, seniors and the Haunted House, sponsored by the Fire Department, would be a good place for this committee to start. If supported, the cost of those building and/or site improvements should be incorporated into the Town Capital Improvement Program.

2. The Town should retain an architect or structural engineer to evaluate the structural soundness of the Veterans' Hall building. For safety purposes, this study should be done before any new use is made of this building.
3. The Committee discussed in recommendation #1 above should evaluate the alternative options for providing wastewater disposal in conjunction with reuse of the old Town Hall.
4. The Town should retain the historical character of these buildings regardless of how they are used because they are a very important part of the cultural heritage of the community.

## **TOWN SEWER AND WATER SERVICES**

The Blodgetts Landing Sewer facility is the only public wastewater treatment facility operated by the Town of Newbury. This treatment facility was originally constructed in 1961 with the Croft Beach area on Bowles Road added in 1971. This wastewater treatment facility, consisting of an Imhoff tank and sand filter, has a design flow of 50,000 gallons per day and has subsurface disposal. Presently, this wastewater treatment facility is operating at capacity.

Homes and businesses located in other areas of the Town are served by on-site wastewater disposal systems. The potential adverse effect of many of these older, non-permitted septic systems on the water quality of the lakes and streams has been an ongoing concern.

At the present time, the Town of Newbury does not have any site in town approved for the disposal of septage from household septic systems. Septage from septic systems in Newbury is currently taken by private haulers for disposal at facilities elsewhere.

The Town of Newbury currently has no public water supply and distribution system. All of the homes and businesses are currently served by on-site wells.

### Community Survey Results: Town Sewer & Water Services

The Community Survey asked people if they thought certain areas of Newbury should be served by sewer collection and treatment systems. As reflected in their responses detailed in Table IV-3, there was a lack of consensus where sewers should be extended. The area receiving the most support from the Survey respondents for sewers was all shores of Lake Sunapee, with thirty-five percent (35%).

**TABLE IV-3**

**Community Survey Results:  
Areas Which Should Be Served By Sewer Systems**

Areas of Town	# of Responses*	% of Responses*
All Shores of Lake Sunapee	130	35%
Newbury Center	77	21%
No Areas	72	19%
Shore of Chalk Pond	70	19%
Shore of Lake Todd	67	18%
Bay Point Road Shore	52	14%
South Newbury	39	10%
Other	35	9%
Do Not Know	107	29%

\* A total of 365 people answered this question out of about 1,500 surveys which were distributed, for a 24% return rate. This was a multiple-choice question in which people could choose as many responses as they thought were appropriate. The percentages listed are percentages of the number of responses to a particular area as a percentage of the total number of responses to the question.

Issues: Town Sewer & Water Service

1. The life expectancy and capital needs associated with the Blodgetts Landing Sewer System are unknown at present.
2. There is no approved site in the Town of Newbury for the disposal of sludge from the Blodgetts Landing Sewer System or septage generated from individual on-site wastewater treatment systems in Town which is disposed of by private haulers.

3. Concern has surfaced numerous times in Newbury over the issue of potential contamination of surface and ground water from older, non-permitted, individual, on-site wastewater treatment systems located along the shoreline of Lake Sunapee in particular.
4. The community has concerns about whether existing areas of concentrated development such as Newbury Center and South Newbury are adequately served by on-site wastewater treatment systems.

Recommendations: Town Sewer & Water Services

1. A study should be done to determine the life expectancy and capital improvement needs of the Blodgetts Landing Sewer System.
2. A study should be done to identify and evaluate alternative sites for sludge and septage disposal in Newbury and recommend a site for such use when the need arises. Any capital costs associated with acquisition and development of such a site should be incorporated into the Capital Improvements Program (CIP).
3. A study should be done of the potential for providing public water and/or sewer collection and treatment service for the shoreland areas around Lake Sunapee, including the Bay Point Road area, the Mt. Sunapee Ski Area, the State Park Beach, the Edgemont area, Newbury Center area, and the shoreland area along Route 103A. This study should evaluate alternative methods of providing these services, the projected costs associated with those alternatives and the potential environmental benefits and negative impacts associated with each alternative studied. One alternative which should be considered for those services would be to extend services from the Town of Sunapee.
4. The Selectmen should retain a civil engineer to study the feasibility and cost of providing sewer collection and treatment service to existing concentrations of development such as Newbury Center and South Newbury. This may be needed to provide adequate and sanitary disposal of wastes for existing development. The need will be even greater if these areas are to receive additional development, particularly if it is commercial in nature.

## **ELECTRICAL SERVICE**

Public Service of New Hampshire (PSNH) provides electrical service to the Town of Newbury. Electric power is supplied to the Town of Newbury from two electrical sub-stations:

1. the North Road Sub-station located in the Town of Sunapee - a three phase feeder line runs south from this sub-station along Route 103B to the traffic circle and then along Route 103 to Bradford; and
2. the Kings Hill Sub-station located in the Town of New London - a two phase feeder line runs south along Route 103A to the Chalk Pond Road and along this road to Chalk Pond.

Service distribution lines network off these main feeder lines to provide electrical service throughout Town. Circuit drawings of the PSNH electrical distribution system are on file in the Newbury Town Administrator's Office for reference.

Extension of single- or three-phase electrical service for the first three hundred feet or less is provided at PSNH's expense. Extension beyond that is at the individual landowner's expense. In the case of new subdivisions, the charges for extending electrical service is a matter of negotiation between the developer and PSNH.

PSNH representatives have indicated they have excess capacity and can meet any electrical service demand over the next fifteen years.

Issues: Electrical Service

No issues were identified since PSNH has the excess capacity to meet any service demand over the fifteen-year planning period.

Recommendations: Electrical Service

None.

## **RECREATION FACILITIES & SERVICES**

Recreation facilities and services in the Town of Newbury are offered by both the State of New Hampshire and the Town itself. Map IV-14 identifies the trails and recreation areas located in the Town of Newbury.

### **Mt. Sunapee State Park**

Without question, the dominant recreation facility in Newbury is the Mt. Sunapee State Park, operated by the State of New Hampshire and offering recreation activities in both winter and summer. Wintertime recreational activities based at the Mt. Sunapee Ski Area include downhill skiing, telemark skiing, snow-boarding, cross-country skiing and snowshoeing. With predominantly beginner and intermediate terrain, Mt. Sunapee is a popular family ski area with relatively affordable rates. The

**MAP IV-14**

**Trails and Recreation Areas**

mountain is served by five chairlifts and one surface lift. Recent improvements have provided snowmaking to most of the ski trails. Unlike most of the private ski areas around New England, Mt. Sunapee does not have the usual assortment of residential condominium and commercial development skirting the base of the ski area since this is publicly owned land. A limited amount of this type of development exists along Route 103. However, most of the people skiing at Mt. Sunapee are day trippers out of the Boston area and southern New Hampshire, which are conveniently accessible with the interstate highway system.

Mt. Sunapee State Park offers a variety of summertime recreation activities. First and foremost are the activities afforded by the State Park beach on Lake Sunapee. This is the largest and most popular beach in the entire Region and, like Mt. Sunapee, attracts enthusiasts from far and wide. In addition to swimming, canoe and paddle boat rentals are available at the beach. A boat launch serves small boats of all descriptions and is a favorite with sailboaters due to the protection offered by the launch site. Mt. Sunapee also offers a variety of summer recreational opportunities, including chairlift rides, hiking, mountain biking and picnicking. Camp sites are also available at the park, but only to organizations such as Boy/Girl Scouts or church groups. In addition to all this, throughout the summer months the State Park facilities are used for a variety of organized activities such as the annual Crafts Fair and Gem and Mineral Festival.

## **Town of Newbury Recreational Facilities & Services**

### Recreation Programs

The volunteer Newbury Parks and Recreation Department offers swimming lessons for youths five (5) years and older, as well as introductory Life Saving for older and more advanced swimmers. The Parks and Recreation Department is planning to establish a winter ice skating program on the small pond behind the Newbury Safety Services Building in Newbury Center. They also plan to organize a basketball program.

The volunteer Bradford/Newbury Youth Sports Committee provides soccer and baseball sports for area youth on fields available in Bradford.

### Town Beach and Dock

The Town beach and dock, located in Newbury Center, are the Town's most heavily used recreation facilities and, as such, are the Town's "crown jewels" of recreational facilities. This area offers a little something for everyone: docking for boaters, picnicking, sunbathing, fishing from the docks, and swimming for all ages.

A smaller version of the existing Town beach and dock existed prior to 1990. The 1990 Property Owner Opinion Questionnaire identified broad support for purchasing additional waterfront land for a Town beach. The Selectmen proposed and the Town subsequently approved acquisition and development of additional land adjacent to the existing Town

beach. Initial improvements to the beach area included additional beach area, a swimming deck, picnic areas, and landscaping. In 1995, the historic train station abutting the beach was refurbished for reuse as an information center. New washroom facilities were constructed in the old train station during the rehabilitation. A gazebo was added in 1995 which, among other things, offers a site for music, theater or small gatherings. Also planned is an extension of the deck around the peninsula for ten boat slips for canoes or rowboats.

### Town T-Ball Field

In recent years, the Town has improved the small field behind the Town Office Building in Newbury Center for use as a youth T-Ball field. The location is convenient, safe and central to the community. Due to its size limitations, the field has little potential for use for the next higher level of baseball, but is ideal for continued use for T-Ball. The site, with an improved surface, could also be used for youth soccer.

### Ice Skating Pond

The small pond located behind the Veterans Hall in Newbury Center has been used for ice skating in the winter. Plans are underway to provide a small warming hut adjacent to the pond.

### Play Structure

A new play structure designed for use by small children has been recently erected adjacent to the Town Office Building and T-Ball field. The play structure includes a small slide and climbing apparatus on a soft bed of landscape mulch.

### Basketball Backboards

The Town has two (2) moveable basketball hoops . One is stationed on the side of the paved parking lot behind the Town Office Building. The Parks and Recreation Department is looking for a site to place the other one somewhere near the Town Hall in South Newbury. Plans need to be made for permanent and more substantial facilities.

### Trails

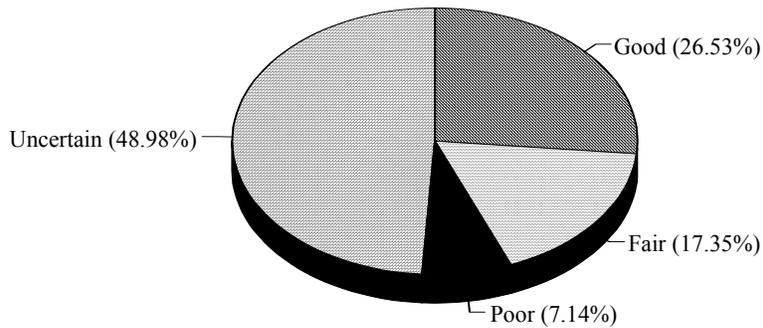
There is an abundance of trails in Newbury providing access to local points of interest, as well as interconnecting with regional and statewide trails and focal points. In recent years, through the efforts of the Sunapee-Kearsarge-Ragged Greenway Coalition, a network of trails has been developed circling Lake Sunapee and linking the summits of Sunapee, Kearsarge and Ragged Mountains, and connecting with local trails and the Sunapee-Monadnock Greenway.

It is hoped that Mt. Cardigan and the Appalachian Trail will someday be linked to this trail system as well.

All of these trails are suitable for hiking and some for mountain biking in summer. Some of the trails can be used for cross-country skiing and snowmobiling in the winter. Trails can be found in the Mt. Sunapee State Park, the Audubon Society forests, the Hay Estate forest, areas owned by the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests, and on private lands. The Newbury Conservation Commission has published a trail map guide available at the Town Offices. There are also other trail map guides available at some of the respective

**Figure IV-13**

**Recreation Services Rating**



areas that may show additional trails not shown on the Conservation Commission map. Maps showing the snowmobile routes are available at the local stores.

Community Survey Results: Recreation Facilities & Services

Compared with the other Town services, the Town recreation services received the third lowest rating. Of the total number of people responding to the survey, only twenty-six percent (26%) rated the service as good. Seventeen percent (17%) rated the service as fair, seven percent (7%) rated it as poor and forty-nine percent (49%) were uncertain. Obviously, about one-half of the respondents were not familiar with the services offered by the Parks and Recreation Department which is probably due, in large part, to the fact that they are a fledgling volunteer organization working on a shoe-string budget. About one-half of those

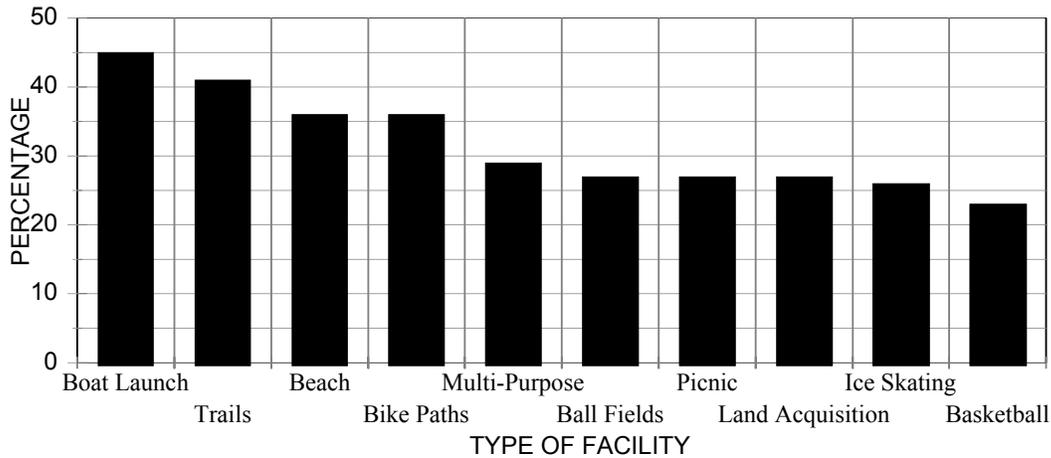
familiar with the recreation services rated the service as good.

When asked to indicate which types of recreation facilities people would be willing to support through local property taxes, the top ten responses received, listed in descending order of preference, were:

- 45% Boat Launch for Residents
- 41% Hiking & Cross-Country Ski Trails
- 36% Additional Beach Area
- 36% Bike Paths
- 29% Multi-purpose Recreation Area
- 27% Softball/Baseball Fields
- 27% Picnic Area
- 27% Land Acquisition for Recreational Use
- 26% Ice Skating
- 23% Basketball Court

**FIGURE IV-14**

**Preferred Recreational Facilities**



When broken down by residents versus non-residents, these two groups chose virtually the same recreation facilities with a slightly different order of preference. The only difference between these two groups in the top-ten-rated recreation facilities to be developed was that the non-residents preferred a tennis court over a basketball court.

#### Issues: Recreation Facilities & Services

1. The Town currently has no organized program for planning and budgeting for the development of additional recreation facilities and evaluating those needs in relation to other capital improvement needs of the community.
2. Those responding to the 1994 Community Survey have identified the preferred recreation facilities they would like to see developed in the future.
3. The high level of support for development of additional hiking and cross-country skiing trails may be indicative of a lack of knowledge or awareness of the existing extensive trail system in and around the community. The real need may be educating the public about what trails exist before developing more. With increased use of existing trails, there may be a need to develop adequate parking facilities at trail heads.
4. The community lacks adequate recreation facilities to serve the elderly and handicapped.

#### Recommendations: Recreation Facilities & Services

1. The money needed to develop the recreation facilities preferred by the townspeople should be incorporated into a comprehensive Town Capital Improvement Program (CIP). As one of the components, the CIP should identify the cost for each recreation facility improvement, and an annual allocation to a Parks and Recreation Department capital reserve fund should be established to fund development of recreation facilities.
2. The Town should continue to work with all the interest groups around Lake Sunapee in identifying and developing a safe and environmentally sound boat launch site on Lake Sunapee.
3. The Conservation Commission and Recreation Department should try to improve the public awareness of the considerable network of existing trails in and through Newbury. One suggestion is to make the existing trail map available at other public recreation sites in the area such as the Mt. Sunapee State Park and the Hay Estate, as well as tourist-related businesses such as restaurants, motels and B & Bs.
4. The Town should be well represented in the Lake Sunapee Scenic and Cultural Byway Study and in pursuing funding to implement the recommendations of the study when completed. This may provide the opportunity to share the costs of funding (80% Federal, 10% State and 10% Local) for improvements such as bike paths and picnic areas. Additionally, funding may be available for information kiosks and brochures, including maps.

5. The Newbury Parks and Recreation Department has developed sketch plans for a typical multi-use recreation facility incorporating two (2) large fields for shared use for baseball and soccer, two (2) stand-alone smaller fields, three (3) tennis courts, a snack shack and a parking area. In total, it would take about eleven acres to accommodate this plan. The Parks and Recreation Department should continue to refine its plan for a multi-use facility, including a reassessment of the type and number of facilities to be included, given the feedback received from the Community Survey. The Town should actively identify potential alternative sites in Town and contact property owners relative to their interest in donating or selling their land for such a use.
6. The Parks and Recreation Department should identify and evaluate alternatives for meeting the needs for additional beach area in Town.
7. The Parks and Recreation Department should study alternatives to providing recreation facilities and/or programs to serve the elderly and handicapped.

## **LIBRARY SERVICE**

The Newbury Public Library is located next to the Town Office Building at 933 Route 103 in Newbury Center. The library has 710 square feet of floor space, 389 linear feet of shelf space, and a collection of approximately 4,300 volumes. There are two part-time librarians, who together work the equivalent of about one person half-time.

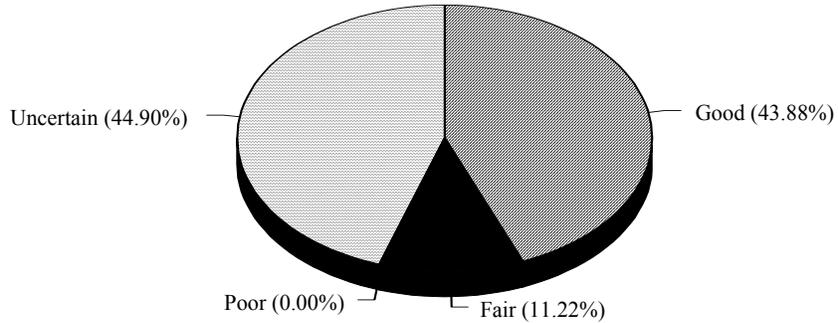
Since the American Library Association no longer publishes suggested minimum standards for libraries, there is no current standard for evaluating Newbury Public Library's size, services, etc.

### Community Survey Results: Library Service

Forty-four percent (44%) of the total survey respondents rated the library service as good, eleven percent (11%) rated the service as fair, zero percent (0%) as poor and forty-five percent (45%) were uncertain.

**FIGURE IV-15**

**Library Service Rating**

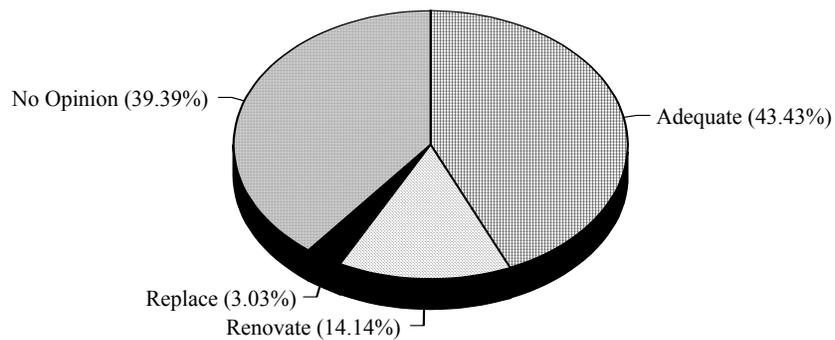


Of those familiar with the library service, seventy-eight percent (78%) rated the service good, twenty-one percent (21%) rated the service as fair, and one percent (1%) rated the service as poor.

The community survey also solicited input on the adequacy of the existing library building. Forty-three percent (43%) of the people responding said the existing library building is adequate, fourteen percent (14%) said the building should be renovated, three percent (3%) thought the building should be replaced, and thirty-nine percent (39%) had no opinion.

**FIGURE IV-16**

**Adequacy of Existing Library Building**



Those people responding to the Community Survey indicated the following priority of expectations for library services: 1) Access to books ordered from other larger libraries (221 responses = 67%); 2) Children's programs and activity areas (210 responses = 67%); Reference material locally (204 responses = 65%); 4) Computer access to reference material at other locations (154 responses = 49%); 5) Best sellers (147 responses = 47%); 6) Quiet reading space (123 responses = 39%); 7) Magazines (91 responses = 29%); and 8) Adult discussion groups (57 = 18%).

#### Issues: Library Service

1. The Newbury Public Library has limited space that necessarily restricts the nature and scope of services offered.
2. The library has no handicapped access. The library is attempting to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) by offering curb service and home delivery.
3. The present building is confined to a lot that will make adding on difficult, but not impossible. Problems include wetlands in the rear, Route 103 in the front, a minimal side lot area to the south, and the driveway and water/sewer connections to the north. The existing basement, however, is a potential source of additional functional space.

#### Recommendations: Library Service

The selectmen and library trustees should appoint a committee to study the options of expanding the existing library or developing a new facility. The objectives of an expanded or new library should be to offer more public services and provide handicapped access. The committee should recommend a preferred alternative to the selectmen and library trustees. If the community supports an expanded or new library, then the cost of developing either option should be incorporated into the Town Capital Improvements Program.

## **EDUCATIONAL SERVICES**

Educational services for Newbury's youth are provided by the Kearsarge Regional School District, a cooperative school district including the towns of Bradford, Newbury, New London, Springfield, Sutton, Wilmot, and Warner. Newbury's elementary students are taught at the Bradford Elementary School, grades 6-8 are taught at the Kearsarge Middle School in New London, and grades 9-12 attend the Kearsarge Regional High School in North Sutton.

Newbury's student enrollment history and forecast are shown in Table IV-4 and Figure IV-17 below.

**TABLE IV-4**

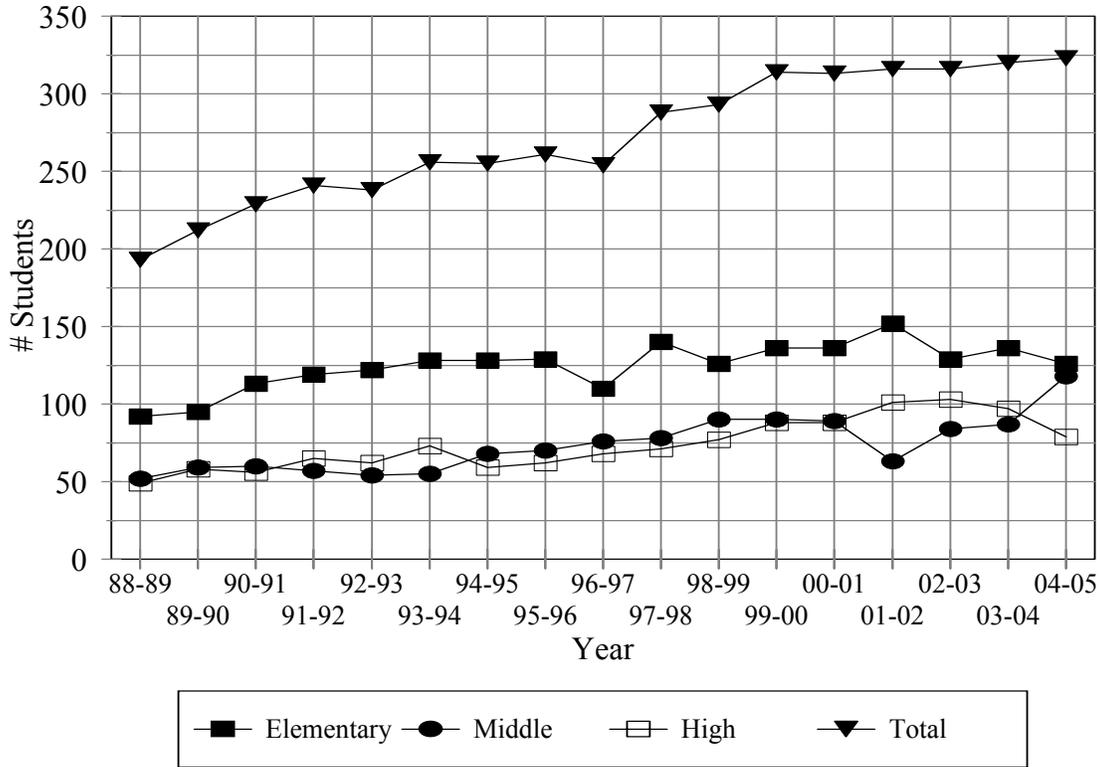
**Newbury Student Enrollment History & Forecast**

Year	Elementary	Middle	High	Total
1988-89	92	52	49	193
1989-90	95	59	58	212
1990-91	113	60	56	229
1991-92	119	57	65	241
1992-93	122	54	62	238
1993-94	128	55	73	256
1994-95	128	68	59	255
1995-96	129	70	62	261
1996-97	110	76	68	254
1997-98	140	78	71	288
1998-99	126	90	77	293
1999-00	136	90	88	314
2000-01	136	89	88	313
2001-02	152	63	101	316
2002-03	129	84	103	316
2003-04	136	87	97	320
2004-05	126	118	79	323

Note: Figures after 1995-96 are forecasts.

Source: Dean Bensley, Newbury Representative on the Kearsarge Regional School Board

**FIGURE IV-17**  
**Newbury Student Enrollment History & Forecast**



Note: Figures after 1995-96 are forecasts.

Source: Dean Bensley, Newbury Representative on the Kearsarge Regional School Board

The rapid growth in the elementary population has slowed in recent years as in-migration and new births have both decreased. However, the wave of elementary students has reached the middle school and is beginning to affect the high school. Future trends will be affected by the same factors that affect the total population, as discussed in Chapter I - Community Characteristics.

In 1996, the Kearsarge Regional School Board conducted a five-year review of all school facility needs in light of enrollment projections. The conclusion of this study confirmed the need for expansion of the High School, but concluded that the capacities of the existing elementary and middle schools would be adequate. The study also identified the need for modernization and maintenance of the Middle School, but concluded that this could be accomplished within the existing maintenance

budget. Thus, with the passage of the bond issue for expansion and refurbishment of the High School, no further bond issues would be required within the next five years.

### Community Survey Results: Educational Services

The Community Survey conducted in 1994 showed that twenty-eight percent (28%) of the permanent residents rated the educational system as good, thirty-two percent (32%) as fair, thirteen percent (13%) as poor and twenty-five percent (25%) were uncertain. Among the seasonal property owners, eighty-one percent (81%) were uncertain about the service.

Since 1994, a number of actions have been taken to improve these results. The establishment of the Non-residents Taxpayer Group has facilitated better communication between the School Board and this important group of property owners. In 1996, a Strategic Planning Process was begun in the School District which involves parents, community members, students, faculty and administrative staff in planning for educational improvement. The first phase of this effort has been completed and detailed action plans will be completed by the end of 1996.

Curriculum councils were established by Superintendent Jean Richards to review the program of study in the elementary, middle and high schools. They recommended a number of changes to eliminate duplication, assure consistency, and to strengthen course content, particularly in the core subjects. A number of methods are used to assess the School District's progress, including standardized tests. By all measures, performance is improving.

Achievement is measured by the California Achievement Test (CAT), showing substantial improvement across the District, with average results in the 70th percentile ranked nationally. District students also participate in a NH testing program which seeks to measure how well students can apply what they learn, as well as what they know in English and math. The Bradford Elementary School, which includes Newbury students, has shown dramatic improvement, scoring significantly above the State average in both language and mathematics as measured by both the CAT tests and the State third-grade testing program. A visit to Bradford Elementary will reveal other strengths: the atmosphere is warm and friendly; the students are interested and participating; and there are many volunteers helping the teachers.

Construction of the High School addition and refurbishment began in 1996, with completion of the entire project anticipated by the Fall of 1997. This project will eliminate the serious overcrowding, correct the noise and distraction problems with the existing "open" layout, provide expansion and upgrade of the athletic facilities, and correct major maintenance and safety problems.

Assisted by grant funding, a "School to Work" program has been established to improve the educational program for those students who do not find the traditional college preparatory courses relevant and to provide better opportunities for those students who will not go on to

attend college. A partnership has been formed with strong support of local businesses, which includes:

1. job shadowing available to middle and high school students wherein students spend a day with a local business person learning about their job;
2. longer one-week programs available to high school students where students can explore a job in greater depth; and
3. cooperative work programs available to high school students where students earn school credit for work at a particular job.

Additionally, the School District is expanding the number of courses available to students at the high school level in the vocational fields. If a student develops an interest in a particular vocational field and wants to seek further training, then they are encouraged to attend the programs available in either Claremont or Concord. It is not cost effective for the Kearsarge Regional School District to duplicate the facilities offered by these programs.

#### Issues: Educational System

1. The basis for apportioning the funding between the seven member towns of the Kearsarge Regional School District has been an ongoing debate. This, in turn, led to proposals to split the District. A compromise change in the funding formula was proposed and passed at the 1995 School District meeting, which resolved the issue for at least five years.

Two separate study groups were formed to consider the question of splitting the School District: one, a committee of Selectmen and School Board members, and the other, an effort directed by the New London Selectmen. Both groups used outside consultants. The result of both studies was the conclusion that splitting the School District was not economically feasible or educationally desirable.

2. Kindergarten schooling is made available to Newbury children by private organizations, which are coordinated with the elementary schools. The cost of kindergarten schooling has been supported by local property taxes since 1993 in the amount of \$2,500 annually. A study by the Kearsarge Regional School Board concluded that the private service meets the needs of most students and was a cost-effective solution. The Bradford/Newbury Kindergarten does not have a permanent facility. The State is considering various proposals for public kindergarten.
3. A substantial number of Newbury students complete their education with graduation from high school. These students would benefit from the increased efforts by the School District to provide additional vocational education opportunities.

#### Recommendations: Educational System

1. Continue participation by Newbury citizens in the Kearsarge Regional School District Strategic Planning Process and continue to monitor the situation.
2. The Town should assist the Bradford/Newbury Kindergarten in finding suitable facilities and should participate in efforts to study the effect of any available State funding.
3. The Kearsarge Regional School District should continue to improve the vocational training opportunities offered at the High School through the “School to Work” program and the addition of vocational courses.

## **SOCIAL SERVICES**

Social services to the residents of Newbury are provided primarily through State-assisted programs and, to a lesser degree, by direct financial assistance through the Town Welfare Department. Individuals and families residing in Newbury are eligible for direct financial assistance through the Town Welfare Department based on a simple formula of expenses versus income, as outlined in RSA 165. There are State guidelines for eligibility for State-sponsored support services which should be accessed first. A summary of the Town Welfare expenditures is outlined in Table IV-5 and shown graphically in Figure IV-18. The average yearly Town expenditure for Welfare Services over the past ten years has been \$9,746, but, as reflected in Figure IV-18, those annual expenditures have varied considerably.

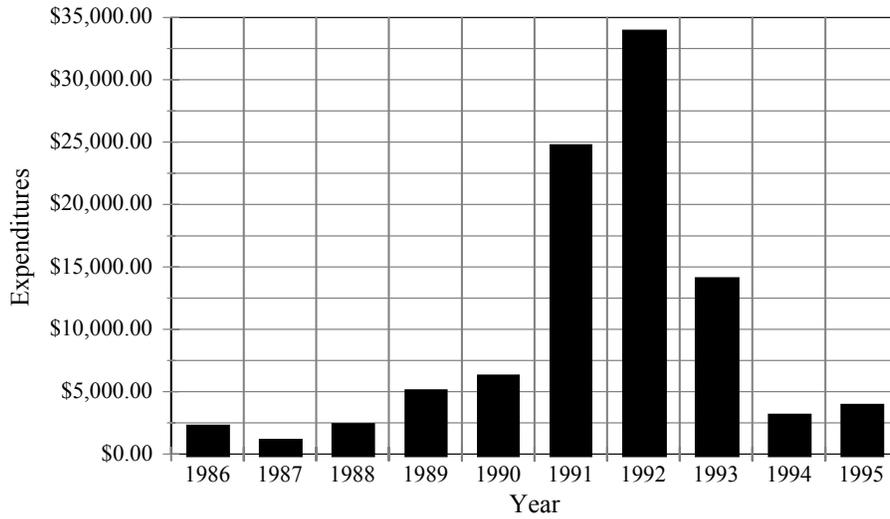
**TABLE IV-5  
Summary of Town Expenditures for Welfare & Health Services**

Year	Welfare	Health Agencies & Hospitals
1986	\$2,309.00	\$5,574.00
1987	\$1,177.00	\$4,158.00
1988	\$2,432.00	\$3,969.00
1989	\$5,143.00	\$5,954.00
1990	\$6,320.00	\$6,162.00
1991	\$24,789.00	\$6,022.00
1992	\$33,985.00	\$6,318.00
1993	\$14,133.00	\$5,192.00
1994	\$3,189.00	\$5,820.00
1995	\$3,978.00	\$5,445.00
<b>Average Expenditure/Year</b>	<b>\$9,746.00</b>	<b>\$5,461.00</b>

Source: Annual Town Reports

**FIGURE IV-18**

**Town Expenditures for Welfare**



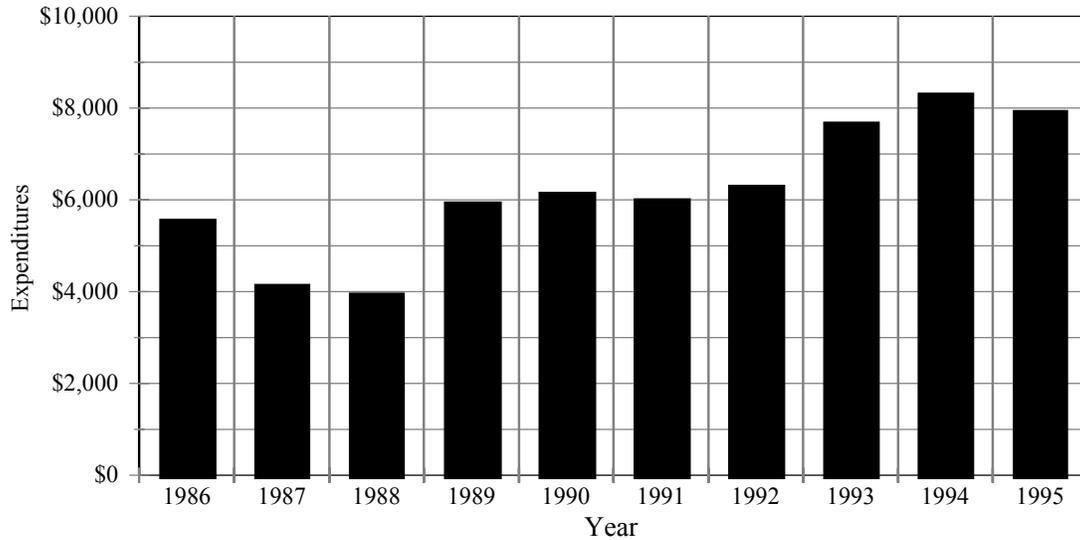
Source:

Annual Town Reports

The Town expenditures over the past ten years for Health Agencies and Hospitals is detailed in Table IV-5 and shown in Figure IV-19. The average Town expenditure over that time frame for Health Agencies and Hospitals has been \$6,211 and, like the Welfare expenditures, these expenditures have varied considerably from year to year, but reflect a fairly steady increase.

**FIGURE IV-19**

**Town Expenditures for Health Services**



Source: Annual Town Reports

The Kearsarge Valley Community Action Program, part of the Community Action Program Belknap Merrimack Counties, Inc., has been the focal point for the delivery of social services in this area for the past seventeen years, providing help when needed to the income eligible and elderly, as well as the community at large. Support for the Kearsarge Valley Community Action Program is derived from a combination of federal appropriations and local tax dollars. It provides a variety of social services to Newbury residents, including:

1. Meals-On-Wheels Program which provides the delivery of nutritionally balanced hot meals to homebound elderly or adult residents five days per week;
2. Congregate Meals Program which provides hot, nutritious meals to all senior citizens, as well as social/recreational activities and special events;
3. Rural Transportation Program which provides regularly scheduled transportation for shopping, medical appointments and congregate meals;
4. Fuel Assistance Program which provides fuel assistance to income-eligible households, with

priority given to the elderly and disabled;

5. Women, Infants & Children (W.I.C.) Program which provides nutrition counseling, screening clinics and food vouchers for income-eligible children under five years of age, pregnant women, and nursing and postpartum mothers at nutritional risk;
6. Surplus and Commodity Foods Program which provides surplus foods to income-eligible households, as well as food pantries and meals programs;
7. Weatherization Program which provides materials and labor to homeowners and renters, allowing them to become self sufficient;
8. Clothing Assistance Program which provides donated clothing to families in need;
9. Emergency Food Pantry Program which provides food for up to three days for persons facing temporary food crises;
10. Headstart Program which provides disadvantaged children with a child development program through both classroom and in-home learning services; and
11. Neighbor Helping Neighbor Fund Program which provides emergency energy assistance up to \$250 for those persons not eligible for fuel assistance.

Table IV-6 and Figure IV-20 identify the level of support provided to Newbury residents through the Belknap Merrimack Counties, Inc. Community Action Program. The average level of support over the past ten years has been \$26,925 per year. The amount of support has fluctuated from a high of \$31,643 in 1991 to a low of \$15,333 in 1995. Since 1992, there has been a steady decline in the level of support provided to Newbury residents due to an improved economy, reductions in allowed assistance and elimination of some programs.

**TABLE IV-6**

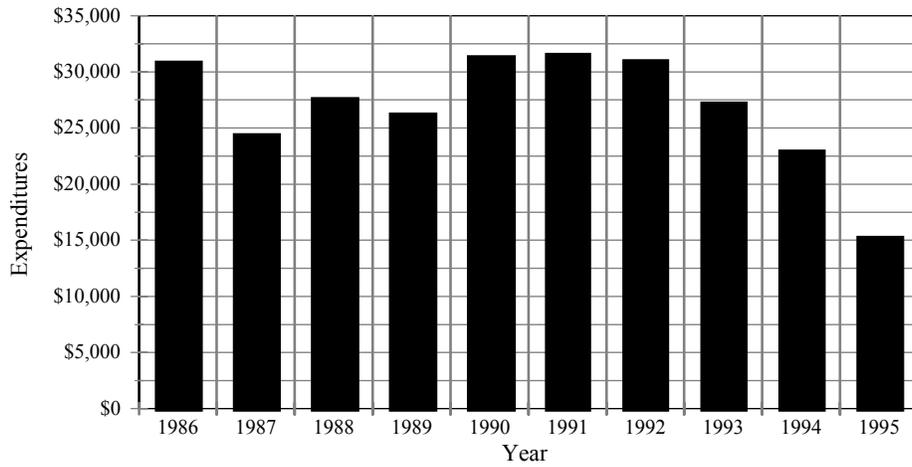
**Summary of Support to Newbury Residents from the  
Community Action Program**

Year	Level of Expenditures
1986	\$30,950.00
1987	\$24,479.00
1988	\$27,706.00
1989	\$26,314.00
1990	\$31,427.00
1991	\$31,643.00
1992	\$31,066.00
1993	\$27,298.00
1994	\$23,032.00
1995	\$15,333.00
Average Expenditure/Year	\$26,925.00

Source: Annual Town Reports

**FIGURE IV-20**

**Summary of Support to Newbury Residents from the  
Community Action Program**



Source: Annual Town Reports

The Lake Sunapee Region Visiting Nurse Association provides home health services to Newbury residents. These services include nursing, rehabilitation, home aide/maker, adult clinics and child clinics. As reflected in Table IV-7 below, the number of home health visits to Newbury residents has fluctuated over the years from a low of 727 visits in 1989 to a high of 1,756 visits in 1992.

**TABLE IV-7**

**Home Health Care Visits to Newbury Residents by the  
Lake Sunapee Region Visiting Nurse Association**

Year	Type of Service					Total Visits
	Nursing	Rehabilitation	Home Aide/Maker	Adult Clinics	Child Clinics	
1986	342	127	548	31	36	1084
1987	245	42	413	14	36	750
1988	184	50	668	10	89	1001
1989	118	5	544	29	31	727
1990	300	37	1044	41	113	1535
1991	347	93	531	63	96	1130
1992	340	228	987	58	143	1756
1993	321	88	983	65	129	1566
1994	266	160	1042	108	90	1666
1995	539	367	2532	113	98	3649
1996	558	160	2204	128	71	3126

Source: Lake Sunapee Region Visiting Nurse Association

Issues: Social Services

1. With the advent of the 'Welfare Reform', Newbury, along with other communities in the area, can expect the level of expenditures by the Community Action Program to increase and, in following years, the costs per town for the operation of the C.A.P. office to increase. There is concern that with 'Welfare Reform' the Town will become more responsible for social and welfare costs currently subsidized by State and federal funding sources. Funding support for some social programs is declining and, in some cases, being eliminated.

2. Currently, the Town does not provide an office and telephone for the Welfare Officer to interview, meet with needy residents or make confidential telephone calls. The Welfare Officer presently often meets with needy families at their place of residence, which necessitates the accompaniment of a police officer for the protection of the Town employee. If an office was available on a scheduled basis, then families could apply on their own and the expense of having a police officer present would not be necessary.
3. The greatest need cited by social service providers was transportation for the elderly and disadvantaged. Because Newbury is very rural in nature, transportation is needed to and from virtually all services and activities, including shopping, medical, legal, professional, social and recreational. There is concern whether or not the Rural Transportation Program provided by the Community Action Program is adequate to meet the needs of Newbury residents.

Recommendation: Social Services

The office needs for the Town's Welfare Officer may be met in the short-term in the Town Office Building or elsewhere which provides private space for confidential meetings with clients. Any capital expenses associated with this conversion should be added to the Town's Capital Improvement Program (CIP).

## **CEMETERIES**

The Town of Newbury has eight municipal cemeteries with burial lots still available in all of them. Newbury's cemeteries include the following:

1. Baker Hill Cemetery (Tax Map Reference: 27-463, 396), which is located on Baker Hill past the Digilio farm on the right hand side of the road going east toward Stoney Brook Road;
2. Bean Cemetery (Tax Map Reference 27-222, 333), which is located about 30 feet north of the Baker Hill Road just before it gets to Stoney Brook Road. (Please note this cemetery is not included on the Land Use Map.);
3. Booth Sherman Cemetery (Tax Map Reference 35-178, 540), which is located at the corner of South Road and Pleasant View Road;
4. Bly Hill Cemetery (Tax Map Reference 31-357, 541), which is located at the old town site on Bartlett Road near Old Province Road;

5. Chandler Cemetery (Tax Map Reference 07-537, 127), which is located on Route 103B at the Mount Sunapee traffic circle;
6. Lakeside Cemetery (Tax Map Reference 20-125, 373), which is located on Route 103A near the junction of Route 103;
7. Marshall Cemetery (Tax Map Reference 35-274, 021), which is located in the southwest corner of Town on Newell Road near the end of South Road; and
8. South Newbury Union Church Cemetery (Tax Map Reference 43-408, 162), which is located by the church on Village Road in South Newbury.

As noted above, all of these Town cemeteries have burial lots available. With the number of remaining burial lots available in the existing Town cemeteries, the Town does not need additional land over the next fifteen years to develop for additional cemeteries.

In addition to these Town cemeteries, there are three non-municipal burial grounds located in Town, as follows:

1. Twiss Burial Ground which is located on Old Post Road;
2. Gillingham Burial Ground which is located on Gillingham Drive; and
3. Johnson Burial Ground which is located off Old Province Road near the State Park.

#### Issues: Cemeteries

With an adequate supply of burial lots available in the existing Town cemeteries for the next fifteen years, no issues were identified relative to the Town cemeteries.

#### Recommendations: Cemeteries

None.

## **SENSE OF COMMUNITY**

One of the issues identified early on in the process of updating the Master Plan was that Newbury needs to improve its sense of community. There are several factors which contribute to a feeling of disconnectness. First of all, the lakes and topography of Newbury have created numerous small neighborhoods which are not easily interconnected and remain relatively isolated. Compounding the isolation created by the natural conditions, the Town of Newbury is broken up into several service areas for telephone and mail service. Additionally, with the closing of the Newbury Elementary School, the Town no longer has that focal point for the community. Finally, the

population fluctuations from season to season make it difficult to maintain a cohesive community.

In recent years, some strides have been made in making Newbury Center more of a focal point for community services and facilities. Converting the former Newbury Elementary School into use for the Town Offices has made Newbury Center the governmental service center. Additionally, recreational improvements in Newbury Center such as the acquisition of additional land and expansion of the Town Beach, improvements to the Town Docks, acquisition of the former railroad station and development of the area behind the Town Office Building for T-Ball and a play structure all contribute to making Newbury Center more of a focal point for the community.

#### Community Survey Results: Sense of Community

The 1994 Community Survey asked people to indicate which suggestions they would support to help foster an improved sense of community. Those responding to the survey indicated the following:

- 66% A small periodic Town Newsletter similar to the Bradford Bridge
- 54% Strategically located bulletin boards around Town
- 41% Cultural events like concerts or lectures
- 30% Periodic community information discussions on local events sponsored by the Town boards and community organizations
- 27% A parents and/or citizens organization to administer Town athletic programs
- 27% An outing club to plan and foster tourist and local community activities
- 20% More use of local cable for announcements

#### Issue: Sense of Community

As discussed above, the Town lacks a sense of community for the reasons cited.

#### Recommendations: Sense of Community

1. The Town should encourage and support the creation of a small periodic Town Newsletter.
2. The Town should construct and strategically locate bulletin boards around Town.