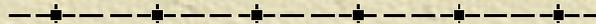


*Comprehensive Water
Resources Management Plan
Phase II Report*

A Framework for the Future...



Where did this all start?

- ✦ Town-wide study required by the State as a part of the South Acton Sewer Project
- ✦ Annual Town Meeting in 2000 voted to appropriate \$500,000 for the study
- ✦ The Town and the State agreed on the scope and the process the study would follow
- ✦ Entire Process Directed by the Citizens Advisory Committee

Citizens Advisory Committee

- ✦ Formed by the Board of Selectmen in 2001 to Direct the Study
- ✦ 15 Committee meetings
- ✦ 4 Public Information Meetings
- ✦ 15 Members
 - Cross-section of the community
 - Representatives of Boards, Committees, and Citizens' Groups

Process

✦ Phase I – Completed in 2004

- Definition of Needs
- Profile of Existing Conditions

✦ Phase II – Completed in 2006

- Evaluation of Solutions
- Prioritize Areas of Need
- Recommended Framework for the Future to address the Identified Needs

What is a “NEED”?

When a parcel’s current method of wastewater disposal presents an ENVIRONMENTAL RISK to Acton’s Water Resources

What Determines Need?

- ✦ High number failed systems
- ✦ Poorly drained soils
- ✦ Wetlands, flood plains, environmentally sensitive areas
- ✦ Small lots
- ✦ Aesthetic and environmental impacts
- ✦ High groundwater elevations

Where Did the “NEEDS” Data Come From?

✦ Town of Acton Health Department Records
(1995 – 2003)

- 3,507 Deep Test Holes
- 1,701 Percolation Tests
- 2,279 Septic System Construction Plans

✦ Town of Acton Engineering and Natural Resources Departments

✦ United States Department of Agriculture

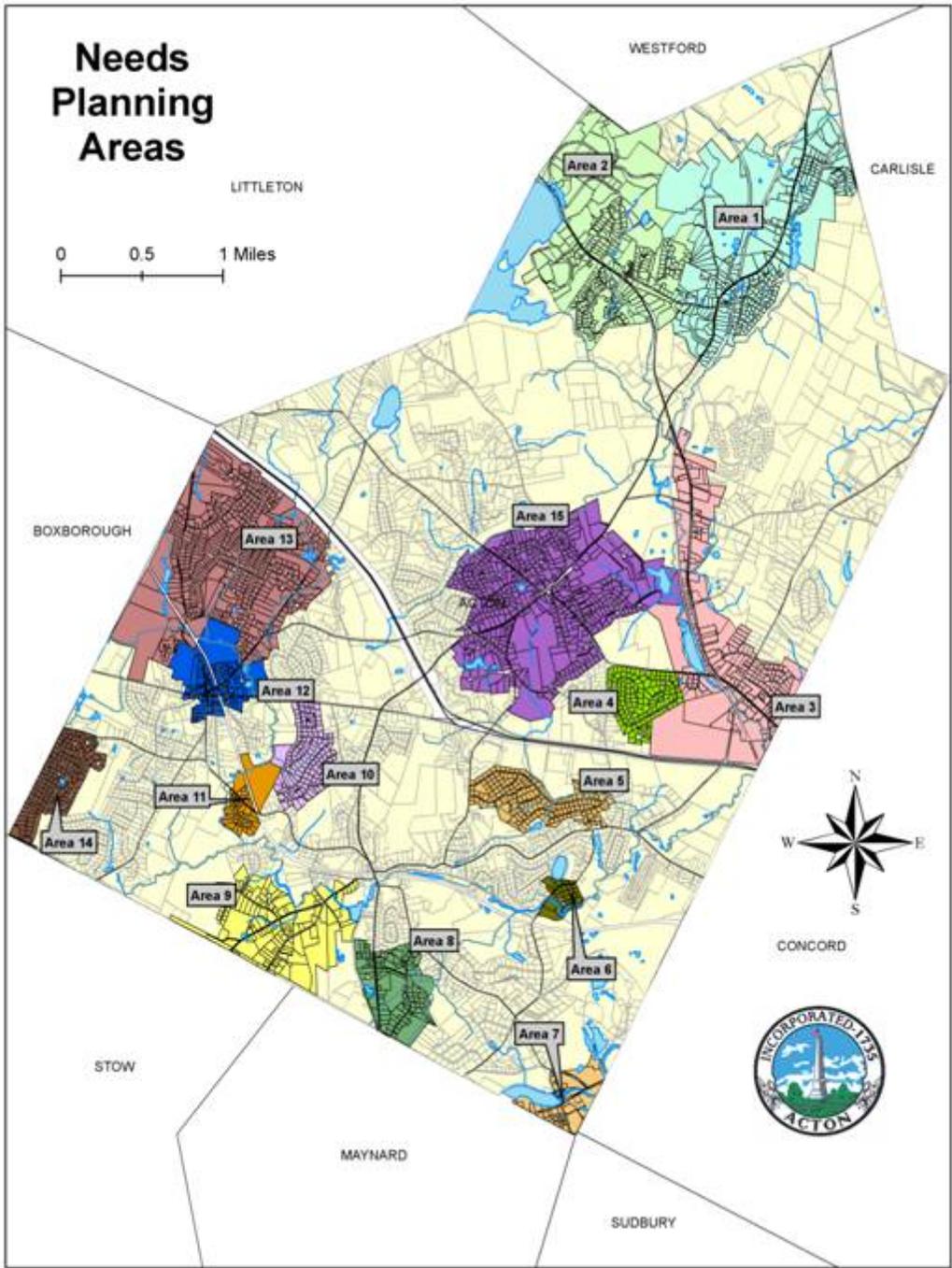
✦ United States Geological Survey

✦ Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection

✦ Massachusetts Geographical Information System

✦ Federal Emergency Management Agency

Needs Planning Areas



Priority Needs Areas

✦ Needs Areas Were Prioritized by the CAC

✦ Based on:

– Structural Factors

- Environmental impact of current systems
- Regulatory Non-compliance

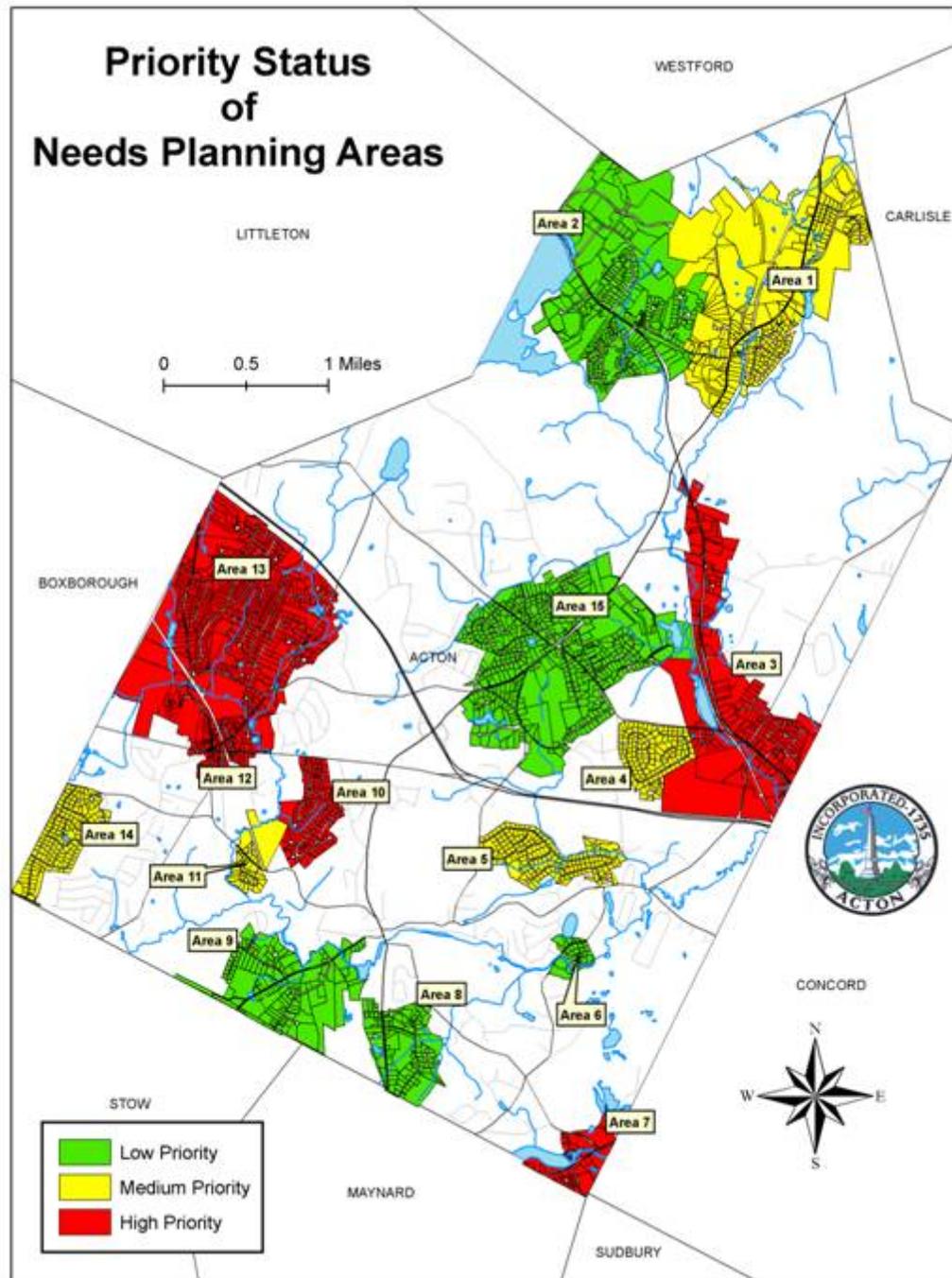
– Non-Structural Factors

- Ease of implementability
- Economic stimulus
- Political realities

High Priorities

- 1) Powdermill Plaza
 - Agreement signed with the Town, will connect
- 2) Spencer/Tuttle/Flint Neighborhood
- 3) West Acton Center
- 4) East Acton/Route 2A Corridor
- 5) Indian Village

Priority Status of Needs Planning Areas



Potential Solutions

***ALL NEEDS AREAS MUST
HAVE A SOLUTION!***

- ✦ Connect to Existing Sewer System
- ✦ Construct New Sewer System
- ✦ Construct Cluster/Neighborhood Systems
- ✦ Wastewater Management Districts

Wastewater Management District

An area where the greater level of environmental risk of septic systems must be addressed by additional levels of environmental protection through more involved management of individual systems



Recommended Solutions

*Please Remember that all of these
Recommendations would Require
Approval by Future Town
Meeting(s)*



Connect to Existing Sewers

- ✦ Powdermill Plaza
- ✦ Spencer/Tuttle/Flint Neighborhood
- ✦ West Acton Center

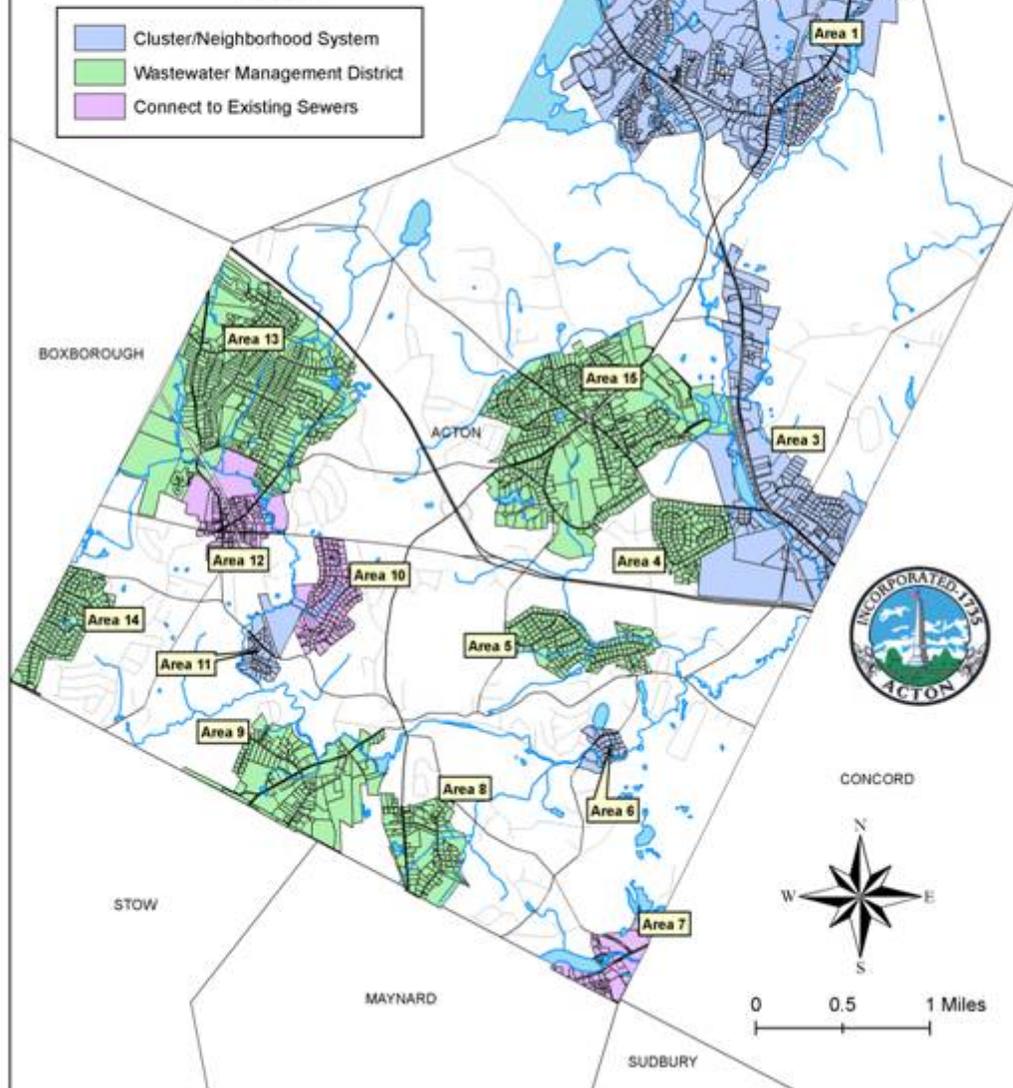
Cluster/Neighborhood Systems

- ✦ North Acton (Route 27)
- ✦ Brookside Apartments area
- ✦ Nagog Woods, North 2A
- ✦ Nash/Downey/Dover Heights
- ✦ East Acton Village

Wastewater Management Districts

- ✦ Robbins Park – Alcott Street, etc..
- ✦ Brucewood Estates
- ✦ South Main Street (near Maynard)
- ✦ Billings/Stow/Liberty Neighborhood
- ✦ Acton Center/Patriot's Hill
- ✦ Indian Village
- ✦ Flagg Hill/Forest Glen

Recommended Solutions For Needs Planning Areas



Summary

- ✦ CWRMP IS COMPLETE
- ✦ PROVIDES A FRAMEWORK FOR THE FUTURE
 - A menu of options to protect Acton's Water Resources
- ✦ A VOTE TO ACCEPT DOES NOT BIND THE TOWN TO IMPLEMENTATION OF ANY ONE SOLUTION
- ✦ ANY PROPOSED SOLUTIONS WILL REQUIRE FUTURE TOWN MEETING APPROVAL



**ANY
QUESTIONS?**