

MEMO

Date: February 1, 2011

To: Acton 2020 Committee

From: Jim Purdy, Daphne Politis

RE: Status of inventory chapters

As we will not be at the meeting this week, this is an update on the status of the inventory chapters.

1. Most of the chapters are done and proofread. They have been put in a parallel format for which Kristin has an outline and three chapters as examples. Before we finish, we would like to receive the Committee's comments on this formatting, including the introductory sections, the summary of key points, the highlighting of key points in the text, and the opportunities and challenges section at the end. We will make any necessary revisions before sending the final chapters to you. Please note that additional formatting can be done when the chapters are final to make them more interesting and exciting (if that word can apply to a planning inventory), e.g., addition of pictures, color, etc.
2. The transportation chapter, which had some significant shortcomings is being rewritten by Bill Schwartz, the head of our transportation group. It should be ready with the rest.
3. The sustainability chapter is in progress. Depending on whether we get the gas usage data from National Grid this week (many of their employees are on storm duty), we may need to submit it with a couple of gaps. It should be done next week.
4. The water resources sections of Facilities and Services have drawn some comments from the Water Resources Advisory Committee, primarily on how certain issues are treated. For example, people differ on how much risk is inherent to the protection of public groundwater wells: the Town's regulations and MADEP's do a good job of protecting the water supply, but some risks remain, such as that Massachusetts Avenue passes through the Zone I protection area of two of the wells. Town staff believe that the risks are minimal and the protection is adequate; some WRAC members believe the risks should be highlighted. Ultimately, it is the Committee's decision on how to address the concerns of other town committees, so this should be given some thought by everyone. We will include the comments we received along with the chapter.

The agenda for the meeting this week includes finalizing the Burning Issues list for the upcoming meetings in March. He hope you will find the words to hit the right tone to portray these issues: we think they should be a little bit provocative to stimulate interest and turnout to the meetings. Some examples should be included in the meeting publicity. We look forward to seeing what you come up with.