

**Acton 2020 Recommended Implementation Program**

**Working Draft**

| Strategy   | Action Steps  | Responsibility                                  | Timing/Priority         |
|--|---|---|-------------------------|
| <b>GOAL 6: Preserve and Enhance Town-owned Assets</b>                              |   |   |                         |
| <b>Objective 6.1: Protect Town-owned open space.</b>                               |   |   |                         |
| Support the implementation of the <i>Open Space and Recreation Plan</i> .          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Protect town-owned open space by applying a range of preservation and acquisition measures.</li> </ul>   | See Objective 1.1                               |                         |
| Preserve farmland.   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Conserve existing farming on town-owned land and support new and expanded agricultural activity and uses.</li> </ul>   | See Objective 2.4                               |                         |
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Support</b> Morrison Farm Committee plans.</li> </ul>   | See Objective 2.4                               |                         |
| <b>Objective 6.2: Support excellence in schools.</b>                               |   |   |                         |
| Ensure that school facilities are well-maintained and updated.                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Work through the Acton Leadership Group as enrollments decline and commercial development occurs to allocate increased fiscal capacity in an appropriate balance between educational improvements (such as reduced class size) and other priorities. (See also Objective 7.1)</li> </ul> | ALG   | Highest                 |
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Support</b> existing efforts to explore regionalization opportunities in the K-6 grades.</li> </ul>   | ALG   |                         |
| Continue to support and achieve the high educational standards of Acton’s schools. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Continue</b> to keep the school system up to date and achieve academic excellence, using standards and best practices as they are developed.</li> </ul>   | Schools   | Ongoing                 |
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Continue</b> to develop an active volunteer community to improve and maintain excellence in school activities.</li> </ul>   | Schools, PTSO                                   | Ongoing                 |
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Enhance community education programs ensuring they meet the needs and desires of Acton residents.</li> </ul>   | Community Education, Recreation, CoA, Libraries | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Highest |

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| <b>Objective 6.3: Manage the Town's Facilities Efficiently</b>                       |   |   |                         |
| Review and manage Town facilities in a manner that is pro-active and cost effective. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Continue</b> to apply preventive maintenance measures in order to extend the life of municipal and school buildings and grounds, and to ensure that they fully support the activities they house.</li> </ul>  | Municipal Facilities, School Department | Ongoing                 |
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Evaluate the condition and use of all buildings owned by the town (including schools) to determine their most effective use. Identify appropriate reuse for potentially surplus facilities and determine whether or not it is more cost-efficient to sell, lease, mothball or demolish.</li> </ul> | Municipal Facilities, School Department | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Highest |
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Create a 'one stop' mechanism for reserving spaces in either town or school facilities.</li> </ul>   | See Objective 4.3                       |                         |
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Continue</b> to improve energy efficiency in town and school buildings.</li> </ul>  | See Objective 2.3                       | Ongoing                 |
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Create a building that can accommodate the Senior Center and the larger community.</li> </ul>  | See Objective 4.1                       |                         |
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Continue</b> to improve and maintain accessibility for persons with disabilities.</li> </ul>  | See Objective 5.4                       | Ongoing                 |
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Implement sustainability strategies at the Transfer Center.</li> </ul>   | See Objectives 2.2 and 2.3              |                         |
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Support</b> improvements in Acton's water supply infrastructure, and protect groundwater quality.</li> </ul>  | See Objective 2.1                       |                         |
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Continue</b> to explore the most efficient and environmentally sensitive ways to implement the recommendations of the <i>Comprehensive Water Resources Management Plan</i> with respect to Acton's sewer system.</li> </ul>   | See Objectives 1.5, 2.1, and 7.2        | Ongoing                 |
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Continue</b> to manage, preserve, and replace Acton's street trees.</li> </ul>  | Municipal Facilities                    | Ongoing                 |

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| <b>Objective 6.4: Continue to provide high quality services that are responsive to Town needs.</b> |   |  |                 |
| Explore ways of providing Town services to address needs in a cost-effective manner.               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Consider</b> additional paid staff and volunteers at the Acton Memorial Library in response to increased circulation and need for programs. (See also Objective 4.4)</li> </ul>   | Town Manager, Memorial Library, FinComm, Volunteer Coordinating Cmte |                 |
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Continue</b> to support services for younger Actonians at the Skate Park and Danny’s Place.</li> </ul>  | Recreation, Community Resources                                      | Ongoing         |
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Explore</b> ways in which Town Hall can use more recent technology to provide services, including:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Updating the contents, aesthetics and access of the town website. (See also Objective 3.3 and 4.3)</li> <li>○ Setting up payments and notifications of taxes and other bills online for residents, thus making the transactions easier for residents and also cut down costs of labor and materials.</li> <li>○ Making the permitting process simpler by establishing online application forms, database and converting all files into digital records.</li> </ul>                             (See also Objectives, 3.3, 4.3, 5.3 and 7.3)                         </li> </ul> | IT, Town Manager, Department Heads                                   | Highest         |
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Enhance the level of services that the Town can provide by continually seeking operational efficiencies and by using federal, state, and private funding sources to supplement Town funds. (See Objective 7.1)</li> </ul>  | Town Manager, BoS  |                 |
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Develop, maintain, and encourage</b> the use of Acton’s recreational resources.</li> </ul>  | See Objective 4.2  |                 |
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Explore</b> regionalization opportunities to cut costs in service delivery, particularly police and fire dispatch services and ambulance services.</li> </ul>   | See Objective 7.1  |                 |

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| <b>6.5 Provide excellent Public Health and Safety Services</b>                          |   |                                 |                         |
| Ensure that public health and safety services respond to demographic and other changes. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Determine the most effective way to deliver public safety services (including dispatch) quickly and efficiently as the Town grows and its distribution changes. Explore options for regional cooperation.</li> </ul> | Town Manager, Fire, Police, BoS | Highest                 |
|   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Continue</b> to monitor the staffing levels of the police and fire departments and adjust appropriately as the population increases and ages.</li> </ul>  | Town Manager, Police, Fire, BoS | Ongoing                 |
|   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Evaluate the Acton Nursing Service to determine the most appropriate way of delivering this service, in light of an increasing elderly population.</li> </ul>  | Town Manager, Health, BoS       | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Highest |