

## **Chapter III**

# **Community Services & Facilities**

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**CHAPTER III**  
**COMMUNITY SERVICES AND FACILITIES**

Community facilities are buildings, lands and services which serve the public, such as schools, libraries, police, fire, utilities, recreation and others. Inclusion of these facilities in the Comprehensive Plan is important because they provide the skeleton for servicing the community (water, sewer) and because land use and changes created by land use impact the community's services and facilities. Development tends to follow the location and quantity of public services, and advance planning of facilities should be coordinated with economic development, housing, transportation, open space and land use objectives. Elderly housing projects at Ashton Court, and Bradford Court, each provide a variety of support services for their residents.

**III.1 Existing Conditions, Trends and Projections**

This section presents information regarding the current condition of community (Town and other public) services, including emergency services, libraries, Town Hall, public works and the animal shelter. Map 1 depicts the various location of each facility within Town.

**III.1.a Emergency Services**

Emergency services in the Town of Burrillville include police, fire and rescue. The Town maintains a Civil Defense network consisting of the combined efforts of The Emergency Management Director, The Department of Public Works, and elected officials of the Town. With the assistance of the Emergency Management Director, the Town operates within the standards and guidelines set by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Accordingly, the Town of Burrillville recently updated its Emergency Operations Plan, 2005. The 2005 EOP is available for public review with copies located in the Department of Public Works, Police Department and Manager's Office. Located in Annex E of the EOP is a map depicting the two emergency shelter locations, which respectively are the Burrillville Middle School, located on Route 102 and Steere Farm Elementary School, located on Steere Farm Road. The police department is an arm of Town government, while fire and rescue are independent taxing districts.

**Fire and Rescue Services** - There are four fire districts in Burrillville (see Map 2):

- Pascoag Utility District (includes Wallum Lake Fire Department);
- Harrisville Fire District;
- Nasonville Fire District;
- Oakland-Mapleville Fire District;

**Table III-1  
Summary of Fire District Characteristics**

<b>Fire District</b>	<b>No. of Volunteers</b>	<b>Equipment/Age</b>	<b>No. of Units Served</b>	<b>No. of Calls in Aug 2001 – July 2002</b>
Pascoag Volunteer:	55+/- 50	75 ft. snorkel/ground/1972 Engine/Tanker/1990Engine.1 997	1,977	827 Rescue
Career:	5	1 pumper/1977 1 tank truck/1985 2 rescue trucks/2001, 1996 Salvage truck Air supply truck/2000 Forestry truck/1977 Chief's vehicle/1997		193 Fire
Harrisville Volunteer:	37 senior firefighters; 6 junior firefighters	Pumper/1992 Pumper/2002 Aerial ladder/1984	1,361(serve portion of Glendale District	500+/- rescue
Career:	3 firefighter/EM T's	Fire-medical/ 1989  Rescue truck/1997 Forestry 1999		125+/- fire
Nasonville	34	2001 Custom E-1 Fire Truck 1995 Custom KME Fire Truck 1999 Attack Truck Rescue truck/1989 Military Style Tanker Truck	792	70+/- rescue 40+/- fire
Oakland/ Mapleville	30	Engine/1979 Engine/1990 Engine/1998 Rescue/1988 Rescue/1999 Forestry/1972	> 585	265 EMS 106 Fire
Wallum Lake	25	Pumper, 1963 Tanker, 1967	NA	150+/- fire
<b>TOTAL, ALL DISTRICTS</b>	190		5,821	2,276+/-

The districts are independent taxing districts, in that residents who live within the district boundaries are taxed for the provision of fire services. Pascoag and Harrisville tax their districts separately to maintain public water within each district. Table III-1 presents basic information regarding each fire district.

Harrisville Fire District has a full time staff of 3 EMT/Firefighters, two of whom work a daytime shift –7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and one works the night shift 11:30 p.m. to 7:30 a.m.. There will be a future need to cover all shifts with a paid EMT to ensure that the emergency response will be ALS (advanced life support). Should the community consider establishing a full time, paid fire-fighting force, approximately two fire-fighters are required per shift, per 1,000 dwelling units, for a total of 20 to 30 fire-fighters.<sup>1</sup>

**Fire and Rescue Calls** - The number of calls each company responded to in 2002 is listed in Table III-1. Over all, the number of call increased 150% since 1990. However, the total number of personnel increased nearly 258% since that time –partly due to increased volunteers. The increase is believed to be due to more calls for minor emergencies or non-emergencies. Increase in transport for nursing home patients was noted as another reason for additional rescue calls.

Each company is a member of the Northern RI Firemen’s League, a 12-town mutual aid system, including three companies in Massachusetts, and companies in Gloucester, North Smithfield and Smithfield. Within the Town, there is good cooperation among districts in lending assistance on calls. There is some concern in regard to the future of Burrillville Ambulance Association and how this may affect the hiring of more paid personnel. To address the shortfall of personnel available during the day, the Fire Chiefs have set up policies that address using automatic mutual aid for some calls.

**Water Supply** - Four districts are served by hydrant systems, Pascoag, Harrisville, Glendale and Nasonville (small area). The remainder of the districts use the Town's ponds and rivers as water sources. Each is equipped with pumper trucks adequate to provide water supply for most fire emergencies, and mutual aid is relied upon in severe cases. The Nasonville District indicated concern for water supply in the northern section of the district, between East Ironstone and Mount Pleasant Roads –dry hydrants with pond access would be helpful in these areas. Future development in this area should be carefully reviewed to ensure that all steps are taken to provide adequate water supply for fire emergencies.

**Facilities and Equipment** - Each fire district company is housed in district owned and maintained headquarters. Each district indicated that current space conditions are suitable for existing staff and equipment, and do not anticipate expansion within the life of this Plan. As the Town

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<sup>1</sup> Impact of Growth, A Guide for Socio-Economic Impact Assessment and Planning, Larry W. Canter, Lewis Publishing, 1986.

continues to grow, however, there may be a need for the companies to add equipment and storage for that equipment. Some of the fire house sites may not be suitable for expansion due to adjacent land uses, and natural and other development constraints, particularly the Glendale site.

The most critical need the fire companies are experiencing is in updating and replacing equipment, particularly engines, pumpers and rescue vehicles. Most companies anticipate replacing at least one major piece of equipment during the next 5 to 10 years, as follows:

- Pascoag – 1 rescue vehicle and 1977 tanker to conform to ISO policies;
- Harrisville Fire District - replace 1984 Aerial Ladder within 5 years;
- Oakland-Mapleville Fire District - replace 1979 engine and 1998 rescue; and,

Equipment replacements are funded through a combination of company fund raisers as well as tax income from the district. Districts are required to meet standards set by the National Fire Insurance Underwriters in terms of equipment and replacements.

The National Fire Protection Association "1500" program was recently adopted by the State, and is to be enforced by the State Fire Marshal's Office. This program requires the fire districts to meet stringent standards in terms of fire station safety, equipment and apparatus safety and other elements. The compliance year is 1991.

**Hazardous Materials Response** - The districts have most members trained as first response teams for hazardous material emergencies. Once the fire fighters have assessed the emergency and cordoned off the area, hazardous materials specialists from Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management are contacted. In addition, the Town of Smithfield has a hazardous materials response team who are available to assist if needed. None of the districts anticipates expanding their abilities in this area. Harrisville Fire District possesses two pumper trucks with foam operation capabilities.

**Service Areas** - The National Board of Fire Insurance Underwriters recommends a maximum of 4 square miles for service to a fire district. All the fire districts meet this standard.

**Projected Needs** - Standards are unavailable for volunteer fire personnel, however, based on the standards for full time personnel presented in Table III-2, existing volunteer staffing levels appear to be adequate. This does not account for the limited availability of volunteers during daytime hours. To maintain this staffing level, the companies need to keep their volunteer levels high.

**Table III-2  
Projected Fire Staffing Needs**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Estimated/Projected Population (1)</b>	<b>Projected Dwelling Units (2)</b>	<b>Firefighters Needed (3)</b>
2000	15,796	5,744	28
2005	16,163	5,877	29
2010	16,469	5,988	30
2015	16,928	6,155	31
2020	17,439	6,341	32
2025	17,876	6,500	33
2030	18,195	6,616	33

Source:(1) Rhode Island Department of Administration, Division of Planning.

(2) 2.75 persons per dwelling unit.

(3) 5 full time firefighters per 1,000 dwelling units, Real Estate Research Corporation.

**Police Department**

The police department is headquartered at 1477 Victory Highway on a large parcel of Town-owned property. The department is staffed by 35 personnel, including:

<i>Personnel</i>	
Chief of Police - 1; Lieutenants - 3 Sergeants - 4; Detective(s) - 1 Prosecution Officer - 1 Part Time Animal Control - 1 Part Time Dispatcher - 1	Dispatchers - 4; Administrative Aide - 1; and, Janitor - 1. Resource Officer - 1 Animal Control Officer – 1 Assistant Animal Control Officer - 1 Patrolmen – 14;
<i>Equipment</i>	
Communications Equipment LO/JACK Computers Defibrillators	Live Scan (fingerprinting) Radar units Noise Detection Meter Crime / traffic accident equipment

The Department responded to approximately 10,000 + dispatch calls in 2002. Calls have increased over the past few years, primarily due to the increase in the Town's population. The growth in population has placed a greater demand upon the everyday services of the department, i.e., more accidents, breaking/entering/larceny, domestic problems, simple assaults etc. Building in remote areas of the Town makes it more difficult to keep response time to a minimum.

**Facility** - The police department is approximately 6,088 square feet in size. Standards indicate that approximately 250 square feet per employee is appropriate for communities of Burrillville's size, which would call for approximately 8,750 square feet of space. Problems with the current facility include:

- The overall building size does not suit the department at its present stafflevel.
- Lack of work space for officers, for report preparation, interviewing, etc.;
- The facility requires some interior space redesign for improved efficiency. The locker room areas are inadequate; the work area for officers and the records storage area are at opposite ends of the building; and other problems with interior space arrangement make it more difficult to carry out the daily activities of the department.
- The location of the facility is not optimal, particularly for responding to calls from Harrisville/Pascoag. Stillwater Mills would be an optimum location.
- The Department's computerized record keeping system is IMC (Information Management Cooperation).

Alternatives which have been considered in discussions regarding the future of police facility include expansion at the current site by converting the two car garage into work space; creation of a municipal campus on the existing police station site, including a repair facility for all Town vehicles.

The Department must replace at least two cruisers on an annual basis to effectively maintain its fleet. The used cruisers are usually recycled into use for other municipal purposes.

Federal standards indicate that a community of the size and character of Burrillville should have approximately two officers per 1,000 population, for a total of 31 sworn officers. Response time can vary from 5 to 10 minutes to an hour depending on the time of day, the location of the call, the number of staff on call at the time and number of officers needed for the particular service call. Calls of non-critical nature may be "stacked" until available police units clear from emergency calls.

**Projected Needs** - Based on the standards presented in Table III-3, there is an immediate need for nine (9) additional police personnel.

**Table III-3  
Projected Police Department Needs**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Projected Population (1)</b>	<b>Area Needed (Sq. Feet) (2)</b>	<b>Officers Needed (3)</b>
2000	15,796	8,000	32
2005	16,163	8,250	33
2010	16,469	8,250	33
2015	16,928	8,750	35
2020	17,439	8,750	35
2025	17,876	9,000	36
2030	18,195	9,000	36

Notes: (1) Rhode Island Department of Administration, Division of Planning, 1999 pop. projections.  
(2) 250 square feet per officer, Real Estate Research Corporation.  
(3) 1 officer per 500 population, Burrillville Police Department.

### **III.1.b Libraries**

Burrillville is served by two libraries, Jesse M. Smith Library at 14 Main Street, Harrisville, and Pascoag Public Library, 57 Church Street, Pascoag. Smith Library is open 53 hours per week (50 hrs/wk during July & August). The library system is funded by the Town, State and private donations, and its activities are overseen by the Board of Library Trustees and Board of Administration appointed by the Town Council.

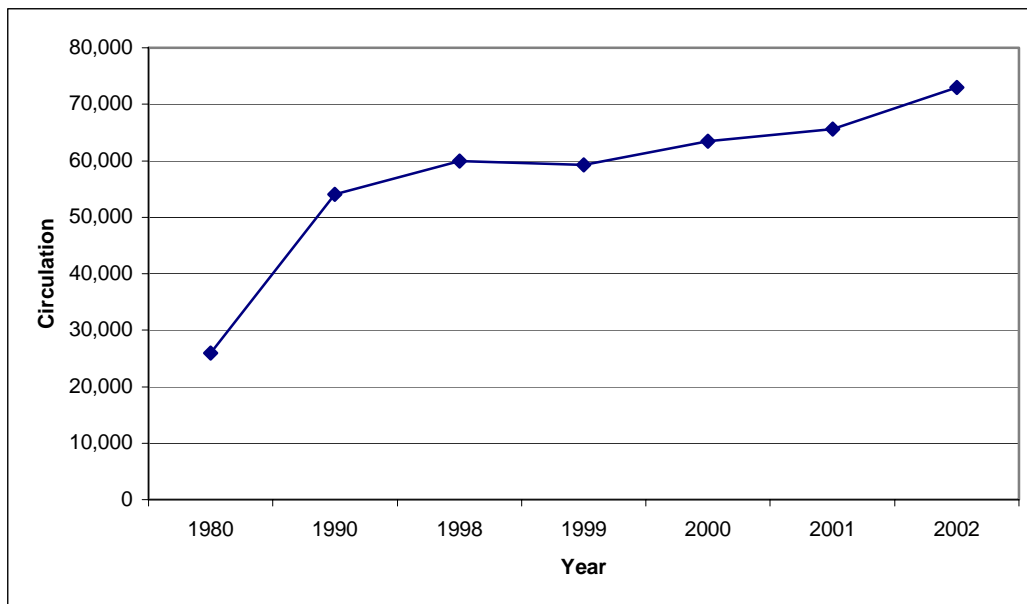
The Smith library was initiated in 1894 when Mary E. Smith bequeathed a sum of money and parcel of land to the Town to be held in trust until such time as a public library could be erected in memory of her husband Jesse M. Smith. The original library was housed in the Memorial Block, a three story commercial building which also was home for various businesses, town offices, and recreational facilities. In 1933, Austin T. Levy, local mill owner and philanthropist, undertook a town buildings project, razed the Memorial Block and built the present library. A reading room was added in 1944.

The Smith Library is 6,200 gross square feet in size, with 4,100 square feet of usable space. The library contains space for adult circulation, technical services, the library office, reference, a larger program room, and a children's room with study space. Parking at Smith Library is extremely limited, with only on street parking available.

The Pascoag Library is housed in a small structure built in 1924. The library is open five days per week for a total of 26 hrs/wk. It is a private non-profit organization governed by the Pascoag Ladies Library Association.

The Smith library has over 47,367 collection items including books and other types of materials (recordings, videotapes, audiotapes, puzzles, etc.), and an annual circulation of 72,920. There have been consistent increases in library circulation over the past decade (see Figure III-2), with a 38 percent increase between 1990 and 2000. In the January 2001 Building Program, consultant Marjorie Judd noted that the Smith library would require 162 percent more shelving space just to comfortably house it's 2001 collection.

**Figure III-2  
Circulation in Smith Library, 1980, 90 – 98' - 2002**



Source: Burrillville Library Director, 2003

At the Pascoag Public Library, circulation is approximately 12,000 volumes per year. Trends show circulation doubling within the past 3 to 4 years, and continuing to increase.

Smith Library has the following employees:

<i>5 Full Time (35 hrs.)</i>	<i>5 Part Time</i>
Director (MLS) 1	Technology Specialist/Administrative Assistant 1
Assistant Director/Children's Librarian 1	Circulation positions 3
Reference Specialist (MLS equivalent) 1	Page 1
Circulation Positions 1	

Since local population has not risen at the predicted rate, the Jesse Smith Library currently meets or exceeds most of Rhode Island's updated minimum standards for Public Libraries (effective October 2000). Therefore, the current staff of 10 meets the needs of the present faculty as well as exceeding the current minimum standard. The library finds it difficult to maintain its staffing level, as salaries are low in comparison to other library positions, i.e., school system libraries, etc. For more information, see RI Minimum Standards for Public Libraries (<http://www.lori.state.ri.us/plstandards/default.php>)

The current crowded facility is no longer able to satisfactorily meet the present needs of the community, nor can it be made to do so at its present location. A new, larger facility is required. The Library Facilities Committee is working on plans to construct a new library facility for the town to serve the needs of the community for the next 20 years. Town officials, including the Burrillville Redevelopment Agency will be working with the Committee to explore the potential for siting the new library in the Stillwater Mills Complex. Doing so would promote the revitalization of Stillwater Mills and refocus this area as a central point for Harrisville.

**Projected Needs** - The Burrillville library system meets the Rhode Island minimum standards for space, staff or collection size at the present time (see Table III-4).

**Table III-4  
Projected Library System Needs**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Projected Population (1)</b>	<b>Area Needed (Sq. Feet) (2)</b>	<b>Full Time Staff Needed (3)</b>	<b>Collection Size (4)</b>	<b>Linear Shelf Space (5)</b>
2000	15,796	11,057	5	31,592	3,949
2005	16,163	11,314	5	32,326	4,040
2010	16,469	11,528	5	32,938	4,049
2015	16,928	11,849	5	33,856	4,232
2020	17,439	12,207	5	34,878	4,359
2025	17,876	12,513	5	35,752	4,469
2030	18,195	12,736	5	36,390	4,548

- Notes:
- (1) Rhode Island Department of Administration, Division of Planning, 1999.
  - (2) 0.7 square feet per capita, American Library Association.
  - (3) 1 full time employee per 3,500 population, Minimum Standards for Rhode Island Libraries, 1983.
  - (4) 2.0 items per capita, Minimum Standards for Rhode Island Libraries, 1983.
  - (5) 1 linear foot of shelf space per 8 volumes, American Library Association.

**III.1.c Town Hall**

The Town Hall is located on Harrisville Main Street and its 6,200+/- square feet includes administrative offices, records storage, and meeting space. Parking at the site is limited, with

approximately 25-30+/- spaces in the parking lot and 4+/- on-street spaces. There is no ability to expand parking or building on the existing lot.

#### **III.1.d Public Works Department**

The Town's Public Works Department is located at 65 Union Avenue in Harrisville. The responsibilities of the department include snow plowing, sanitary landfill operations, road and bridge maintenance, and maintenance of athletic fields and Town parks. The Department employs 15 personnel, including drivers, laborers, mechanics, clerical staff and management. Its equipment includes 14 dump trucks, 12 of which have sanding and snowplowing capabilities, 2 front-end loaders, 1 road grader, 1 bulldozer, 1 service truck and 3 management vehicles.

#### **III.1.e Animal Shelter**

The Town's animal shelter is located adjacent to the sanitary landfill off Route 102. It provides facilities for housing stray animals, as well as an animal burial area.

#### **III.2 Utility Services**

Burrillville is a "full service" municipality providing the majority of residents with a modern sewage collection system with advanced treatment, a high level of pollutant removal (see Wastewater Facilities Plan, July 2002); water distribution systems furnished by three of the town's five Fire Districts; and municipal control over the operations and maintenance of drainage facilities associated with municipal roads.

These services and their delivery systems are dynamic and are being managed to keep pace with community needs. There is some evidence that the development of the community in the past decade has resulted in some growing pains, but the overall picture is one of a community that has been in control.

Water supply is furnished by the Harrisville and Nasonville Fire Districts. The Pascoag Utility District is currently unable to provide potable water due to MTBE contamination of their main well system. The contamination forced Pascoag to tie into the Harrisville system in order to provide town-wide potable water to residents. Residents outside the service areas of these Fire Districts are served by on-site wells. There is a small community service in Oakland providing water service to approximately 20 units that was developed by Austin Levy in association with the mill complex. The water supply sources of the three distribution systems does not appear to be threatened, and the system capacities have proved adequate to meet demand. However, new sources should be identified for reserves, and to serve future growth. Protection measures should be implemented for existing and potential new sources.

There is a water system operated at Zambarano Hospital in the northwest section of Town on Wallum Lake. The Hospital draws water from Wallum Lake and it is treated at facilities at the power plant for distribution and use at the Hospital only. The Hospital also operates its own wastewater treatment facility which utilizes an on-site leaching field for effluent treatment and discharge. These hospital facilities are entirely self contained and are not available for community use.

The citizen survey conducted in May 1990, by the Comprehensive Plan Committee and Albert Veri & Associates, Inc., received responses which generally indicated residents' satisfaction with sewer and water service. Seventy percent of the respondents favored spending funds for exploring alternative water sources.

The buildout analysis for the Town of Burrillville, prepared by Albert Veri & Associates, Inc. for the Land Use Element projects growth well into 21st century. Over the next 20 years, that growth is estimated as follows:

<u>Residential</u>	<u>Additional Population</u>
1990 - 2000	1,800
2000 - 2010	1,000
<u>Commercial</u>	<u>Square Footage Floor Space</u>
1990 - 2000	45,471 SF
2000 - 2010	45,471 SF
<u>Industrial</u>	<u>Square Footage Floor Space</u>
1990 - 2000	75,182 SF
2000 - 2010	75,181 SF

The impact of the increase in development and added population on municipal services will be experienced across the Town, but localized affects will occur as well. The buildout estimates that 19 percent of the future residential development will occur in the Harrisville and Pascoag area., while 75 percent of the residential development will be dispersed on pockets of developable soils throughout the Town's F-5 zone.

Regardless of contamination of the Pascoag water system, the development in Harrisville and Pascoag will seek to connect both villages forcing the two water systems to remain connected. Development outside the Harrisville and Pascoag water districts will be more dependent on

individual wells and on-site sewage disposal. Outside Pascoag-Harrisville, exceptions to on-site services can be anticipated where there are planned sewer extensions and where connections to the Nasonville Fire District water system are feasible.

The continued development of commercial and industrial uses will also be influenced by and have an affect on municipal services. There are significant tracks of land along Route 102 that are zoned for commercial and industrial development. Not all of these areas are currently serviced by municipal sewer and water. However, the planned extension of sewers to Mohegan, Nasonville and Glendale will furnish wastewater collection to areas along Victory Highway and Douglas Pike.

The effects of the buildout will be experienced in increments. The new population of 1,800 persons to be added to the estimated 16,000 persons currently residing in the Town, will be added over the next decade at the average of 180 persons per year. This rate can be influenced by the general economy, zoning decisions that change allowable uses or development densities, specific economic events such as a major industrial relocation, regional growth and development and other factors. The following discussion examines existing conditions, trends, and projections for growth and development in Burrillville and the impact growth will have on solid waste management, sewer and water services, and drainage facilities.

### **III.2.a Solid Waste Management Facilities**

The Town is currently under a 4-year contract with Waste Management, which costs the Town approximately \$56,111 per month (including recycling). The cost for waste removal is expected to increase to \$65,666 by year 4. Tipping fees average \$17,000 per month and are an added cost to the Town. Waste is disposed at the Central Landfill in Johnston or other disposal facilities.

### **III.2.b Sewage Collection, Treatment and Disposal**

The Burrillville Sewer Commission recently completed and received RI DEM approval for a Wastewater Facilities Plan, July 2002. All pertinent information regarding sewage collection, treatment and disposal is contained within the plan, which shall be considered part of this plan by reference.

### **III.2.c Individual Sewage Disposal Systems**

The balance of the Town not serviced by sewers relies on Individual Sewage Disposal Systems (ISDS). These systems when properly designed, installed, and maintained are a reliable means of disposing wastewater. The R.I. Department of Environmental Management regulates the design

and installation of new systems, system repairs and alterations. Burrillville encourages the use of modern, technologically advanced ISDS systems, when used as an alternative to sewer, in effort to protect water quality.

### **III.2.d Water Service**

The Town is serviced by three water districts: (1) the Harrisville Fire District and (2) the Pascoag Utility District, and (3) the Nasonville Fire District. The waterlines transcend the actual fire district boundaries and are depicted on Map 3. Town-wide, collectively, there exists a total of 2130 service connections. Generally, residents outside the service areas rely either on individual wells or community well systems such as those in Oakland, Mohegan and Glendale. There are, however, residents inside the service areas whom rely on individual wells.

The Pascoag and Harrisville water systems have developed for the most part on their own. However, there is a history of coordination between the two. The Pascoag system was a private operation until 1934. At that time the system was purchased by the Harrisville and Pascoag Fire Districts. Historical accounts speculate that the residents of the Fire Districts wanted a more comprehensive supply and delivery system. Recently, during the fall of 2001, the Pascoag and Harrisville water districts physically merged the water delivery infrastructure when MTBE contaminated the Pascoag water system. It must be noted that although the water systems are merged, the departments remain separate entities, Pascoag is now a wholesale customer of Harrisville. Until the Pascoag Utility District either locates new wells or is able to remediate the existing wells, they will remain a wholesale customer of Harrisville.

The Nasonville Fire District water system is a new phenomenon resulting from community response to private well contamination in recent years caused by a landfill operation which is now closed.

**Harrisville Fire District Water System Supply** - This system is fed by six wells with a capacity of 1.2 million gallons per day.<sup>1</sup>

The water quality of the wells is generally good and meets current standards. There have been no known instances of well contamination. Table III-5 presents a list of potential sources of contamination.

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<sup>1</sup> Not required to disclose location of wells per HR Legislative Bill No. 3448 Bioterrorism Act of 2002 – Public Health Security, Bioterrorism Preparedness Response Act

**Storage** - There are two water storage facilities in the Harrisville Water System

**Fee Structure** - The basic rate is \$3.50 per quarter per 1,000 gallons of water consumed per residential unit. There is a .0292 per 1000-gallon charge for the state's water quality protection fund. Ten percent of the fee is retained by the district and the balance is deposited with the state.

**Use** - There are a total of 1057 service connections within the Harrisville District. The average daily demand has been steadily increasing according to the most recent data.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Consumption Gallons Per Day</u>
1986	190,898
1987	201,207
1988	250,000
2002	275,000

**Table III-5  
Existing Potential Contaminant Source  
Harrisville Fire District Water Supply**

<b>Site No.</b>	<b>Name of Property</b>	<b>Information Available</b>
6	Eagle Motors	Sunoco Gas Station with underground fuel storage

Source: Dufresne, Henry, Revised Water Protection Plan January 1990.

## **PASCOAG UTILITY DISTRICT**

### **Background**

The Pascoag Utility District's water system was developed from an artesian well system that was constructed in the 1800's. The well system consisted of two dug wells, two artesian wells and two shallow trenches acting as infiltration galleries. This well system and pumping facilities were located near the since abandoned Pascoag Railroad Station. System water storage was provided by a 0.235 million gallon (MG) water storage tank on Rock Avenue that has since been replaced by the 1.5 MG steel storage standpipe constructed in 1979. In approximately 1912, the nearby Harrisville Fire District was formed. A new supply well was constructed within Harrisville's service territory, which was then considered the main supply of water for both the Pascoag Utility District and the Harrisville Fire District (HFD).

Formerly under private ownership, the system was purchased by the then named Pascoag and Harrisville Fire Districts. The Districts continued to share the water supply well until approximately 1944 when the two systems were separated by a closed valve on Chapel Street. It was at this time that Pascoag elected to install its own drinking supply well termed Well No. 1. The continued expansion of the water system prompted Pascoag to build another storage tank on South Main Street with a capacity of 0.265 MG in 1968.

Subsequently, the District installed Wells No. 2 and 3 in the 1960's, which added to the existing supply capacity of Well No. 1. The District was forced to abandon Well No. 1 due to the existence of high levels of iron and manganese concentrations and the associated problems it created. Well No. 2 was also removed from service due to iron levels and reduced production capacity. Well No. 3 continued to stay online and Well No. 3A was installed in 1999 to serve as the primary supply well with Well No. 3 serving as the backup well supply for the system.

In the summer of 2001, the District detected high levels of methyl-tertiary-butyl ether (MTBE) in both wells No. 3 and 3A and subsequently was forced to shut down both supply wells. In response to the inactivation of these primary supply wells, the District began to purchase wholesale water from neighboring HFD. The District's two primary supply wells currently remain inactive.

### **Water System - General**

The Pascoag Utility District (District) is a self-supporting, quasi-municipal public utility providing potable water to customers within its prescribed service territory. The operation of the water supply portion of the District is financed directly from the sale of metered water to District customers. The District is controlled and operated through a seven member part-time, Board of Utility Commissioners or Administrative Board that is primarily responsible for overall management and policies of the District. This includes but is not limited to defining critical aspects of policy and procedure, approving budgets, system expansion, establishing water rates, enforcing by-laws and establishing general system rules and regulations. The day-to-day operation and function of the water system is dependent upon the General Manager and assigned operation staff.

The District's water system is comprised of approximately 15 miles of water transmission and distribution mains, hydrants, water services, two well pump stations (currently inactive), a wholesale service connection, two storage tanks and appurtenances that serve approximately 2,977 persons through 1076 service accounts within the Village of Pascoag. In 2001, the average day demand (ADD) of the system was approximately 390,000 gallons while the maximum day demand was estimated at 930,000 gallons.

The Rhode Island Department of Health, Division of Drinking Water Quality has designated the District's water system as a "community water supply system". Currently, the water system maintains compliance with the Division of Water Quality with regard to standards and regulations for potable water supply.

### **Supply Source(s)**

The District currently obtains 100 percent of its source water from an interconnection with neighboring Harrisville Fire District (HFD). This interconnection located on Main Street was installed in 2002 and consists of a 10 inch turbine meter located in a below grade concrete vault. In addition, the District maintains a secondary (non metered) emergency interconnection with HFD on Union Avenue.

The need for this permanent interconnection was due to a contamination event that occurred within the District's system in late summer of 2001 that directly impacted the District's primary

supply wells number 3 and 3A. The detection of the chemical compound known as methyl-tertiary-butyl-ether (MTBE), a common additive in gasoline, was detected in both well supplies, which subsequently forced their shutdown. In response, the District sought an alternative supply from the HFD and began to purchase water on a wholesale basis. The HFD constructed additional well sources to augment this increase in demand.

**Future Supply Source(s)**

Recently, the District employed the services of HydroSource Associates, Inc. (HAI) to identify and develop new groundwater sources within the District. This is part of an aggressive capital improvement project aimed at identifying and developing groundwater supply sources within the service territory of the District. The intent shall be to provide a primary source of supply under operation and control of the District such that the reliance on wholesale water from Harrisville is reduced or relegated to an emergency source of supply.

Additional options are also being investigated which would include the potential reactivation of Well No. 3 and 3A and potentially Well No.2. Due however to the incidence of groundwater contamination of the aquifer in which these three wells are located any such efforts to reactivate these wells is on hold for an indefinite time period. It is likely that any efforts for well reactivation will be dependent upon remediation efforts within the aquifer that are ongoing by State regulatory agencies.

**Storage**

The District maintains two (2) water storage tanks of standpipe style construction. One is located along Rock Avenue and is 100 feet in height with a diameter of 51 feet and a nominal capacity of 1.5 MG. The second tank is located on South Main Street and is 50 feet in height with a diameter of 30 feet and nominal capacity of 0.265 MG. These tanks are designed to provide equalization storage to the water system as well as meet periods of peak demands and reserve fire storage. The water system is operated as one pressure zone with nominal system pressures in the range of 25 to 100 psi. Pressures are controlled by the elevation in the water storage tanks that are set at an overflow elevation of 590 feet Mean Sea Level (MSL).

**Fee Structure**

The District charges a base fee to all accounts for administration and billing services of \$38.50 per quarter. Additional billings are based on water usage per account premised on the following rate schedule.

<i>LOWER RANGE (CUBIC FEET)</i>	<i>UPPER RANGE (CUBIC FEET)</i>	<i>RATE TO BE CHARGED</i>
500.01	1500.00	0.01350
1500.01	2500.00	0.01500

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2500.01	10000.00	0.01650
10000.01	999999.00	0.01800

Source: Pascoag Utility District, 2003. (Rate charged based on greater than or equal to lower range and up to and including higher range. Readings and billings based on cubic feet of water use.)

In addition, the District levies a surcharge to cover costs associated with the purchase of wholesale water from the Harrisville. This rate is currently established at \$0.225 per hundred gallons.

**Water Use**

It is estimated that the current population served via the 1,076 customer accounts is 2,977 persons with an estimate on the population to potentially be served at 3,000 (the difference accounts for those employing private wells within the service territory). Between 1995 and 1998 unaccounted water has ranged from 10 to 19 percent with an average of 14 percent. Due to the contamination event and an improperly reading master meter, unaccounted water for 1999 through 2002 is unavailable. Historical average daily demand for the system is as follows. These values include unaccounted water volumes.

<i>YEAR</i>	<i>CONSUMPTION (GPD)</i>
2001	390,000
2000	N/A
1999	250,000
1998	290,000
1997	300,000
1996	310,000
1995	310,000
1994	360,000
1993	440,000
1992	430,000

Source: Pascoag Utility District, 2003

Population projections contained in the *Water Supply System Management Plan for the Pascoag Utility District, January 2003* indicate a service population of 3,180 and 3,720 for the five (2006) and twenty (2021) year planning periods, respectively. This represents a modest growth in customer accounts of approximately 1 percent per year. Based on current water usage patterns this corresponds to an anticipated future water demand estimate as follows.

	<i>2006</i>	<i>2021</i>
Average Day Demand	410,000 GPD	480,000 GPD
Maximum Day Demand	990,000 GPD	1,150,000 GPD

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Source: Pascoag Utility District, 2003

It is envisioned that through a combination of consumer demand management strategies, reduction in unaccounted water volumes and potential alternative sources of supply, that the District will have sufficient capacity to meet the projected increase in consumer demand through the twenty year planning period.

**Table III-6  
Existing Potential Contaminant Sources  
Pascoag Fire District Water Supply**

<i>Site No.</i>	<i>Name of Property</i>	<i>Information Available</i>
1	Old Town Dump	Presently called Nelson's property used as a bus/car repair shop. Underground fuel storage tanks have been removed.
2	Moroney	An abandoned gas station/ garage. Underground fuel tanks have been removed.
3	Valliere Oil Company	Underground fuel storage.
5	Laverdiere	Gas station with underground fuel storage.
6	Tellier	Site of an abandoned gas station. Information on underground fuel storage not available.
7	Ledge Liquor	Site of an abandoned gas station with underground fuel storage. No information is available on fuel storage.
8	Hopkins	Presently an auto parts store. Site of an abandoned gas station with underground fuel storage. No information available on fuel storage.
9	D.J. Bread Basket	Site of an abandoned gas station with underground fuel storage. No information available on fuel storage.
10	Bill's Service Station	Site of an abandoned gas station. Underground fuel storage is still present.
11	Gilbrault	Residential home underground heating oil tank has been removed.
12	Blessington's	Site of an abandoned gas station with underground fuel storage. No information available on fuel storage.
13	Always Automotive	A gas station/garage with underground fuel storage. No information available on tanks.
14	Power Station	Electric company with above ground short-term storage of diesel fuel and PCB.
15	Sewer Line	Active trunk sewer line.

Source: Dufresne, Henry Revised Water Quality Protection Plan, October 23, 1989.

**Nasonville Fire District Water System** – A water system has been developed in the Nasonville section to serve 50-60 homes affected by the Western Sand & Gravel Landfill off Route 7. This system includes 1 well rated at 172,000 GPD, and a 100,000-gallon storage tank on Pulaski Road. The project is funded by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

**Aquifer Protection** - The Town of Burrillville has an Aquifer Overlay District (APD) to ensure the integrity of the supply. Land in the APD is zoned for used in relation to its transmissivity. Prohibited land uses within the entire APD include storage and handling of road salt, incinerators, landfills, septage disposal, and the storage and use of hazardous substances. There is a one-cent

per 100-gallon use charge mandated by state law to develop a land acquisition fund for protection of wells.

**Future Requirements** - The A.D. Little 1989 Report, Water Supply Analysis for the State of Rhode Island, projects the future population for the Harrisville and Pascoag Fire Districts water supply systems and observes that Harrisville needs to develop a water conservation program. These are demand side and supply side measures necessary to meet the following populations:

	1995	2010
Harrisville	3,227	3,324
Pascoag	3,963	3,973

The report finds that the northwestern Rhode Island area is likely to experience water shortages or overdraft situations requiring more water than supply and demand management initiatives can save. The most important supply management options generally include the maintenance or reactivation of developed but threatened sources, watershed and wellhead protection initiatives, and emergency supply protection and redundancy improvements.

Demand management options include aggressive leak detection and repair programs, aggressive sanitary device retrofit programs, technical/ financial support for water saving investments by non-domestic users, guidelines for water service area expansion, and systematic drought management programs.

Sanitary device retrofits, that is the installation of low flow fixtures in all new and older homes in accordance with the state building code, has the potential to reduce residential water consumption by five to ten percent. However, the A.D. Little Report concludes that the development of new well fields in the Harrisville-Pascoag service area with a net safe yield of 4.0 to 8.0 MGDS may not be attainable because of geotechnical reasons. The limiting factor in the existing well fields is the transmissivity of the water bearing deposits. The well site near Round Top has not been tested to determine the potential average daily yield.

The Harrisville water system's current capacity is 1.140 mgd. New wells are expected to increase capacity to 1.5 mgd.

### **III.2.e Drainage and Stormwater Management Facilities**

There are only a few closed (piped) drainage systems in the Town which are inventoried at the Department of Public Works. By and large, stormwater runoff is collected by drainage swales or

ditches parallel to the roadways. Runoff then either percolates into the ground or flows to the nearest discharge point into a water body. Incorporated into this chapter by reference, is the Burrillville Stormwater Management Plan (see attached SWMP, 2003). For more details regarding stormwater management, please reference the above plan.

Drainage system designs have evolved in accordance with the philosophy of the times. Before the water quality impacts of runoff became well understood and regulated, drainage systems were engineered to move stormwater away from streets and buildings as efficiently and as quickly as possible to prevent flooding of property and to protect public safety.

Often this resulted in a network of drainage pipes and stormwater catchbasins with a direct discharge into ponds, streams or low lying wetland areas. This was particularly true in urbanized locales and often sewers and stormdrains were combined into a single system. Developing suburban and rural areas more often would rely on grading, roadside ditches or swales and drainage ways to channel stormwater away from streets and buildings.

Burrillville does not have a combined stormwater and sewage collection system. Stormwater is handled for the most part by drainage ditches and swales in the rural sections of Town. In the villages there are closed drainage systems and examples can be readily found of areas where drainage systems are comprised primarily of gutter flow. Regulations governing new development of subdivisions require storm drainage plans be designed by a registered professional engineer to handle runoff from up to the 25-year storm.

### **III.3 Community Services and Facilities Issues**

The following issues have been identified through discussions with department directors or representatives of a particular agency. In many cases, the department completed a questionnaire regarding their department's activities and concerns, which was used to supplement the discussions.

#### **III.3.a Fire Protection Services**

- In general, the volunteer fire system in Burrillville is working well. The fire chiefs indicate no difficulties in securing volunteers, although many say that the daytime shift is becoming increasingly sparse. To date, any shortfall of personnel during daytime hours is made up by members of other fire companies, through the mutual aid system. Most companies indicate that they have maintained the same number of volunteers for at least

10 years, and find the number of personnel adequate to handle the number of calls received. None anticipated having to add personnel, volunteer or otherwise, over the next ten years, barring a significant increase in development.

- The districts do not foresee the need to establish a full time, paid fire force within the life of this Plan. However, there is considerable interest (with the exception of Oakland Mapleville Fire District) in a Town-sponsored, full-time, 24 hour per day rescue service.<sup>1</sup>
- Most companies indicate that the number of fire and rescue calls has remained steady, or increased 5 to 10 percent annually for the past ten years. The increases have largely been rescue calls, which comprise 2/3 to 3/4 of the calls for each company. The increase is believed to be due to more calls for minor emergencies or non-emergencies. Increase in transport for nursing home patients was noted as another reason for additional rescue calls.
- The Nasonville District indicated concern for water supply in the northern section of the district, between East Ironstone and Mount Pleasant Roads. Future development in this area should be carefully reviewed to ensure that all steps are taken to provide adequate water supply for fire emergencies.
- Each fire district company is housed in district owned and maintained headquarters. Each district indicated that current space conditions are suitable for existing staff and equipment, and do not anticipate expansion within the life of this Plan. As the Town continues to grow, however, there may be a need for the companies to add equipment and storage for that equipment. Some of the fire house sites may not be suitable for expansion due to adjacent land uses, and natural and other development constraints, particularly the Glendale site.
- The most critical need the fire companies are experiencing is in updating and replacing equipment, particularly engines, pumpers and rescue vehicles. Most companies anticipate replacing at least one major piece of equipment during the next 5 to 10 years, as follows:
  - Harrisville Fire District - replace 1949 pumper; rescue truck within 5 years;
  - Nasonville Fire District - replace 1971 engine within 5 years;
  - Oakland-Mapleville Fire District - replace 1972 pumper truck; and,
  - Glendale Fire District - rescue truck, need to replace within 5 years.

Equipment replacements are funded through a combination of company fund raisers as well as tax income from the district. Districts are required to meet standards set by the National Fire Insurance Underwriters in terms of equipment and replacements.

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<sup>1</sup> Discussions with and/or questionnaire responses of fire chiefs in the Nasonville, Glendale and Pascoag Fire Districts.

- The National Fire Protection Association "1500" program was recently adopted by the State, and is to be enforced by the State Fire Marshal's Office. This program requires the fire districts to meet stringent standards in terms of fire station safety, equipment and apparatus safety and other elements. The compliance year is 1991.

### **III.3.b Police**

- The citizen survey conducted in March/April, 1990 indicated that most Burrillville citizens (90+ percent) rate the police department as good or excellent. This response was consistent among all villages.
- Problems with the current police facility include:
  - The overall building size suits the department at present staffing levels, however, as the number of personnel increases, corresponding increases in space will be necessary;
  - Lack of work space for officers, for report preparation, interviewing, etc.;
  - The facility requires some interior space redesign for improved efficiency. The dispatch area is too large; the work area for officers and the records storage area are at opposite ends of the building; and other problems with interior space arrangement make it more difficult to carry out the daily activities of the department.
  - The location of the facility is not optimal, particularly for responding to calls from Harrisville/Pascoag.
  - There is no computer system for records keeping.

Alternatives which have been considered in discussions regarding the future of police facility include expansion at the current site by converting the two car garage into work space; creation of a municipal campus on the existing police station site, including a repair facility for all Town vehicles.

- There is a need for additional cruisers at the current staffing level, due to their almost constant use; the optimal would be one cruiser per officer. Vehicle maintenance is performed by private vendors, through a bidding process.
- Federal standards indicate that a community of the size and character of Burrillville should have approximately 1 officer per 500 population, for a total of 35 personnel. Presently it is difficult to maintain three officers per shift to cover the Town's three patrol

areas (Main Street in Harrisville and north; Main Street in Harrisville and south; and a roving car).

- Recent development in the Town has placed an increasing burden on the Department's ability to respond to calls with the available numbers of personnel, and calls of non-critical nature may be "stacked" until available police units clear from more dangerous calls.
- In the short term future, there is a need for one additional patrol officer, the creation of a Detective Division (officers would be replaced by additional patrol officers), and a clerk typist to handle increasing paperwork. In the long term, there will be a need to add additional patrol officers.
- Traffic throughout the Town has significantly increased and placed a demand on traffic response needs. Specific safety and traffic problem areas include:
  - Church Street at High Street (by the CVS store);
  - East Avenue;
  - Main Street;
  - Route 102 at the Middle School- due to the truck lane, and passing on the right;
  - Callahan School - a turnoff should be built to accommodate buses when dropping/picking up students.
- Additional radar units are needed to control excessive speed on roadways through the Town.
- A shift in population composition (more former urban dwellers) has affected service calls, in that more crimes, such as drug problems and related crimes, that were not commonplace are becoming more so. A detective division would address this type of problem.
- The Chief of Police indicates the following projects or tasks need to be completed or are presently planned to cope with anticipated demands on the department:
  - **Short Term** - One additional patrol officer, create detective division, clerk typist, reorganization of department, computers to log data.
  - **Medium Term** - Additional patrol officers; additional building space;
  - **Long Term** - Additional five patrol officers, more vehicles, radar units, equipment, etc.

### **III.3.c Elderly**

In 1993, services for the elderly were limited to, yet successful in providing available housing for the Town's increasing aging population. In addition the Town provided a Para-transportation van that served the elderly as well as the handicapped. The following issues have been recognized by the Town and efforts to support the needs are in progress.

- The Town will continue to provide adequate an affordable housing for the elderly.
- Efforts to establish recreational activities and more social services for the Town's elderly residents.

### **III.3.d Libraries**

- The citizen survey conducted in March/April, 1990 indicated that 63 percent of Burrillville citizens rate the library system as good or excellent.
- The addition to the Smith Library has addressed the severe space shortage the library has experienced in the past. Even with the addition/renovation to the existing library, it is expected that the space will be insufficient within 5 to 6 years.
- Parking will continue to be problematic at Smith Library, and the area is recognized as one of the more dangerous intersections in the Town.
- The Library is severely limited in the numbers of people which can be accommodated in the "program" room and have to seek alternative venues for larger scale family programs. Numbers wanting to sign up for programs consistently exceed the room's and staff's capacity.
- The Pascoag Library presents concerns in terms of its size and need for additional expansion. There is limited land area at the present facility.
- A feasibility study of the Pascoag Library indicates that expansion is not feasible on the present site. The library, however, is unwilling to move to a new site.
- The Smith Library's growth in physical size will allow for larger collections and more programs to be offered. Staffing at present levels is considered to be barely adequate to serve current demand.
- As reported by the libraries for fiscal 1992, Pascoag Library held 11,234 items and the Smith Library held 26,298 items for a total of 37,532 or 2.31 items per capita. (Population according to the 1990 census was 16,230)
- Based on a population of 16,230, Burrillville should have at least 5 full time staff members, and 1-2 professional librarians. Currently there is one full time library staff member, 6 part time personnel, and two professional librarians (director and children's librarian). This staffing size does not meet Rhode Island's minimum required standards.

- The Library finds it difficult to maintain its staffing level, as salaries are low in comparison to other library positions, i.e., school system libraries, etc. As the library system becomes larger and more complex, an assistant director/business manager or adult services librarian position will likely be necessary.
- The Minimum Standards for Rhode Island Public Libraries require that libraries serving a population of between 10,500 and 21,000 shall have a minimum of 2.0 items per capita. The Burrillville library system meets this requirement, with approximately 1.5 items per capita.
- The increased population of Burrillville contributed to the increased use of the Smith Library. Many newcomers to the Town are veteran library users who expect high quality service.
- Increased demand at the Smith Library has placed pressure on hiring additional staff to handle circulation alone. Reader's advisory services have been in high demand, and patrons' interests are broadening, particularly in the area of business materials.
- There has been an increasing number of young families and children, and large concentrations of patrons coming from new residential developments.
- As the population increases beyond 17,500, a threshold at which the community may reach within 5 to 10 years, the total hours of service the library provides must be increased from 45 to 60 hours. This represents additional staff time, as well as additional expenses in keeping the building open.
- The traffic at the East Avenue/Main Street intersection presents difficulties to library patrons in terms of safety and noise.
- In the short term the Smith Library will continue to search for added staff to fill vacancies, and continue progress toward renovation/addition campaign goal.
- At some point in the next 10 years, the library wants to complete additional renovation/addition to allow improvement of collections, expand automation in technical services, add technical service computer terminals, and provide computers, word processor, self service copier for public use, etc.
- In the long term future the library will become a full member of CLAN (Centralized Library Automated Network), a Statewide computerized library card system.
- The Town should be encouraged to consider new library construction.

### **III.3.e Town Hall**

- The Town Hall is experiencing a space shortage, particularly for administrative offices.

- The new Charter provides for additional staff positions at the Town Hall, which will require more office and meeting space.
- The basement of the Hall, which has some usable office space, is not handicapped accessible, and cannot be used for purposes other than storage, lunch breaks and similar activities. Parking at the site is limited, with approximately 25-30+/- spaces in the parking lot and 4+/- on-street spaces. There is no ability to expand parking or building on the existing lot.
- A study of space needs at the Town Hall is expected to be initiated within the next year.

**III.3.f Public Works**

- Growth has resulted in increased maintenance of Town roads, particularly in areas which have experienced summer to year round conversions.
- Department staffing has decreased by 50 percent over the last 10 to 12 years.
- Anticipated future problems include more road improvement work, additional plowing and sanding in winter months, and additional sweeping resulting from new subdivisions, the industrial park development and the turnover of some State roads to the Town in the near future.
- Many sidewalks are in serious need of repair.
- Newcomers to Town expect a higher level of service than the Department can provide.
- The Public Works Department should be relocated to a more appropriate location, such as adjacent to the Police Station in Glendale.
- The Department has begun, but not completed a pavement management program. There is no local transportation improvement program.

**III.3.g Animal Shelter**

- This service will require expansion in the near future, both site and facilities.

**III.3.h Utility Services**

- The citizens of Burrillville have expressed the desire to maintain the rural quality that characterizes the Town today. These are the qualities that have attracted new residents in recent years, and will continue to attract residents in the years to come. The key is to balance the anticipated growth with the retention of these qualities.  
Townpeople believe that new residential development should also be accompanied by new industrial development to expand the tax base to relieve the local tax burden. Accompanying new development will be the need for municipal services. There will be added solid waste disposal requirements and new homes and businesses will require water

service and wastewater disposal. The potential for adverse water quality impacts will increase and the rural attractiveness of the Town could be eroded. The issues associated with these community desires and development needs can be very simply stated.

### **III.3.i Solid Waste Management**

- With the closure of the town's landfill, accommodations have been made to dispose of municipal solid waste at another facility. Currently, the Whipple Avenue site is used as a transfer station where rubbish is collected in large containers to be hauled to a landfill site.

There is no other licensed landfill in Burrillville that can accept the trash, so it will continue to be transported to Johnston to the state Central Landfill. That facility was scheduled to be closed in 1994. This creates an uncertainty as to the future disposal options for Burrillville and many other Rhode Island cities and towns. These uncertainties cannot be resolved within the context of this plan.

- Because the Rhode Island Resource Recover Corporation is confronted with the loss of its landfill in Johnston in 1994 and not having on-line sufficient incinerator capacity to meet the state and substate regional demands for waste disposal, a very real prospect exists for new landfill development in Rhode Island. Anticipated land requirements necessitate locating sites with approximately 500 acres in area. At the current time, no sites have been selected by the State, although the site selection screening process has been underway for some time. Burrillville could be identified as a host community for a new landfill.

### **III.3.j Water Supply and Distribution**

- The immediate question that comes to mind is whether there is sufficient supply to meet Burrillville's needs in the future decades. The A.D. Little Report and local concerns necessitate this question, but it would appear that local awareness is responsible for stimulating several initiatives which offer potential answers.

There are supply studies and potential source tests proposed for the Pascoag and Harrisville Fire Districts. At the current time both Districts are looking to increase groundwater supplies. Potential future surface water supplies also exist, but must be studied. These both are in the Pascoag Fire District: Pascoag Reservoir and Wilson's Reservoir.

- In the interim, while new sources are being explored and perhaps developed, it is imperative that the water utilities conduct thorough leak detection and elimination programs to reduce and eventually eliminate losses. Water conservation measures should

be implemented in residential, commercial and industrial development to reduce demand. This will stretch existing supplies and perhaps avert the need for costly new source development. Very importantly, existing sources must be assiduously protected.

- The key element to sound water supply and distribution management is to assure there are institutional mechanisms to coordinate the following entities: (1) Municipal Government; (2) Pascoag Fire Districts; (3) Harrisville Fire District; and (4) Nasonville Fire District. These coordinating mechanisms will best operate if they jointly develop service area extension guidelines; review all development proposals and implement a review checklist to assure adequate supply and pressure to new connections; develop priorities for future source development investments and develop priorities for land acquisition and for the elimination of potential groundwater contamination sources. This coordinating mechanism can be focused in the Town Planner's office.
- Locations outside the Fire District water supply systems will continue to rely on on-site wells. The Zambarano Hospital Complex will continue to rely on Wallum Lake for its water source. Wallum Lake also supplies Wilson's Reservoir. The protection of groundwater resources throughout the Town is therefore of paramount concern, and the protection of surface water impoundments which currently supply or offer future supply potential is of equal importance.
- To this end, the Town government, which is the primary authority for land use decisions, must carefully review the siting of major facilities which have the potential for groundwater and surface water contamination; residential, commercial and industrial development; new highway and improved highway projects; and drainage facilities. As the permitting authority for new building and building renovation construction, the Town, through the building official's office, must assure that water conservation code requirements are enforced. Sewer service extensions should continue to those areas as dictated by the Waste Water Facilities Plan –particularly, those areas discussed in Chapter 7 “Collection System Expansion”. Industrial areas on Route 102 should be serviced by sewers rather than expect industry to rely on on-site sewage disposal.

### **III.3.k Stormwater Management**

- The main issue relating to stormwater management during the next decade and beyond is the water quality impact of stormwater runoff. The State of Rhode Island Land Management Project has during the last two years published a series of fact sheets concerning land use and water quality. The following statement from Fact Sheet No. 1 succinctly expresses the theme:

"Stormwater becomes a management problem when natural lands are converted to other land uses, especially those involving paving, or use of fertilizers and pesticides. A comprehensive stormwater management system provides flood protection, water quality protection, and erosion and sedimentation control."

All new residential, commercial and industrial development and roadway drainage improvements design best management practices (BMP's) into the stormwater system. These practices include techniques that retain and/or detain stormwater in basins that allow for infiltration and have wetland vegetation for pollutant removal; employ vegetated swales and buffers; and where large areas of impermeable surfaces are proposed such as commercial and industrial parking lots, employ oil/water separators to remove petroleum hydrocarbons before discharge into natural water courses."

**III.3.1 Social Services**

Burrillville strives to provide a variety of social services to all of its citizens. Social service providers located directly in Burrillville are as follows:

- Marathon House is an adult treatment center for substance abusing persons and others with emotional difficulties.
- Northern Rhode Island Community Mental Health Center, Inc. serves people with acute or long-term mental health and substance abuse problems. Special contracts with the School Department result in home, school and center-based services for Burrillville students.
- Talbot Trans/LTC provides transitional long-term care for alcohol and drug abusers.
- The Burrillville Organization for Substance Abuse Prevention is a coalition of community organizations and systems including education, civic and volunteer groups, the media, recreational leagues and church leaders. This partnership collectively assesses community needs and attempts to develop the appropriate programs to meet the needs in the Town of Burrillville.
- Loaves and Fishes distributes food to needy families.
- The Calvary Emergency Relief Fund provides food, fuel, and rent assistance for those in emergency situations.
- Burrillville's Welfare Director services as a clearinghouse for these programs identified upon and others.

**III.4 Goals, Policies and Implementation Actions**

<b>III. Community Facilities and Services Goals</b>	<b>Policies</b>	<b>Implementation Actions</b>
<p>III.1 To provide community facilities and services which maintain or improve existing quality in the most efficient manner to meet the existing and future needs of Burrillville's residents and businesses. Provide cost-effective, environmentally sound utility services which maintain and improve existing quality of life and accommodate the effects of future growth.</p>	<p>III.1.a Explore alternative financing arrangements for supplementing local property taxes, and State and Federal funding of Town services, such as, but not limited to, impact fees.</p>	<p>III.1.a.1 The Planning Department/Commission, in coordination with the Town Council, will review existing impact fee systems relating new development to municipal facilities and services and consider the merits of such a system for Burrillville.</p>
		<p>III.1.a.2 Should the results of the study described in III.1.a.1 indicate that an impact fee system would be beneficial to providing municipal services in Burrillville, prepare the necessary legal review and establish an impact fee system.</p>
	<p><b>Police Department</b></p> <p>III.1.b Maintain and improve the quality of the Town's police department through increased staffing, raising qualifications for law enforcement officers, and improving facilities and equipment.</p>	<p>III.1.b.1 Provide the funding to plan, design and build an addition to the existing police station which will give adequate office, storage and meeting space for the existing and future police force.</p>
		<p>III.1.b.3 Increase the number of police cruisers commensurate with the uniformed staffing level of the department.</p>

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<b>III. Community Facilities and Services Goals</b>	<b>Policies</b>	<b>Implementation Actions</b>
		III.1.b.4 Work with the Chief of Police to determine the optimal uniformed and support staffing level for the Department to adequately serve existing and projected future population. Add officers as necessary.
		III.1.b.5 Investigate the feasibility of acquiring and/or developing a pistol and shotgun target range for qualifying police officers at least annually.
	<p><b>Fire Districts</b></p> <p>III.1.c Maintain and support the high quality fire protection and emergency rescue services provided by the volunteer fire companies of the Town's Fire Districts.</p>	III.1.c.1 In the short-term future, continue the present system of volunteer fire district companies.
		III.1.c.2 Consider merging the fire districts into a Townwide district (non-municipal), coordinating staffing, equipment, facilities and other operational activities. – (responsible parties) to be determined by the Fire Districts.
		III.1.c.4 Encourage the fire districts to coordinate equipment purchases.
		III.1.c.5 Create a public safety committee charged with the public discussion of fire, rescue, police and animal control issues. The committee shall be composed of municipal and fire district representatives.
	<p><b>Libraries</b></p> <p>III.1.d Maintain and improve the quality of the Town's libraries as a critical cultural resource of the community.</p>	III.1.d.1 Increase staffing at the Smith Library to levels commensurate with State library standards.

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<b>III. Community Facilities and Services Goals</b>	<b>Policies</b>	<b>Implementation Actions</b>
		III.1.d.2 Replace the existing library facilities with one large library as the Town's population approaches 18,000 persons (within ten years). Work with the library boards to identify and secure appropriate uses for the Smith and Pascoag Library buildings.
		III.1.d.3 Utilize the Stillwater Mill complex as an alternative site for a future Town library, with appropriate parking, central in the community, and with adequate space for on-site expansion in the future.
		III.1.d.4 Continue to support the libraries' efforts to expand its collections to meet and exceed State standards.
		III.1.d.5 Provide support to allow the library to join the CLAN system should its physical plant permit.
	<p><b>Town Hall</b></p> <p>III.1.e Maintain Town Hall administrative office, meeting and storage space adequate to serve the population of the community.</p>	<p>III.1.e.1 Initiate a study of space needs of municipal government, including the potential for expansion of the existing Town Hall. If necessary, identify other buildings or lots with potential for a new Town Hall.</p>
		III.1.e.2 Expand the existing Town Hall, including offices, meeting space, and storage space to allow for more efficient service delivery.
		III.1.e.3 Develop an up-to-date system of plat maps.
		III.1.e.4 Update the Town's computer system to comply with the recommendations of the 1990 Annual Audit.
		III.1.e.5 Ensure full handicapped accessibility to the existing Town Hall and plan for such access to the future Town Hall as required by law.
	III.1.f The Town shall publish and update on a regular basis a public policies manual.	III.1.f.1 The Town Clerk shall compile, publish and annually update the policies of the various departments, boards, committees, etc.

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Community Services and Facilities**

<b>III. Community Facilities and Services Goals</b>	<b>Policies</b>	<b>Implementation Actions</b>
		III.1.f.2 The Public Policies Manual shall be made available at the Town Hall, Town libraries and Town Website.
	<p><b>Public Works/ Animal Shelter</b></p> <p>III.1.g Maintain and expand public works facilities and operational capacity commensurate with the population of the community.</p>	III.1.g.1 The Town Council should work with the Town Manager and Public Works Director to establish an optimal level of Public Works Department staffing.
		III.1.g.2 Relocate the Public Works Department to a more appropriate location.
		III.1.g.3 Request that the Public Works Department to review its annual program of sidewalk maintenance, and increase efforts to maintain and repair sidewalks in a systematic manner.
		III.1.g.5 Expand the animal shelter facilities and site, or consider relocating with the public works department.
		III.1.g.6 Require the Public Works Director to present to the Town Council an annual Public Works Plan.
<p><b>Solid Waste Management</b></p> <p>III.2 Furnish Burrillville residents with a locally operated and maintained solid waste collection and disposal system, within the context of the overall state program, that is cost efficient and environmentally beneficial.</p>	<p>III.2.a Periodically evaluate collection and disposal options including the existing curbside collection program as part of an on-going assessment process to assure system efficiency and effectiveness, to identify changing community needs and requirements, and to develop responsive strategies for solid waste management.</p>	<p>III.2.a.1 Examine the feasibility of establishing a Town sponsored and operated recycling effort run by citizen volunteers. Educate residents and encourage them to recycle to the maximum extent possible.</p>

<b>III. Community Facilities and Services Goals</b>	<b>Policies</b>	<b>Implementation Actions</b>
		III.2.a.3 Continue to work with the R.I. Solid Waste Management Corporation, the Department of Environmental Management and neighboring communities to develop a regional or statewide solution for solid waste disposal.
		III.2.a.4 Continue solid waste management needs programming and budgeting in the five-year municipal capital facilities program and the annual Town operating budget.
		III.2.a.5 Recommend to elected officials the repeal of state law prohibiting the export of tires for energy from Rhode Island.
<p><b>Sewage Collection, Treatment and Disposal</b></p> <p>III.3 Recognizing the public health and environmental benefits derived from proper sanitary waste disposal, provide Burrillville with the appropriate wastewater collection, treatment and disposal systems sufficient to meet the community's needs for orderly residential, commercial and industrial development and to protect local groundwater and surface water.</p>	<p>III.3.a Expand municipal sewer service only in accordance with the approved wastewater facilities plan, and utilize on-site disposal systems where there are good soil conditions and no threat to drinking water supplies exists.</p>	<p>III.3.a.1 Continue to develop the municipal sewer system by extending sewers to Glendale, Nasonville and Mohegan in accordance with the July 1990 Wastewater Facilities Plan.</p>

<b>III. Community Facilities and Services Goals</b>	<b>Policies</b>	<b>Implementation Actions</b>
		III.3.a.2 Continue to extend the sewer system into Oakland and Mapleville villages and expand the system in Harrisville-Bridgeton area as programmed in the Five-Year Capital Improvement Program.
	III.3.b Maintain and update as necessary the municipal facilities plan to meet the future needs of the community, emphasizing service area expansion only in accordance with the capacity of the wastewater treatment facility and based on the need to service business, industry and residential areas with problem on-site disposal systems and eliminate threats of pollution to the Town's water supply.	III.3.b.1 Recognizing the water quality benefits to be derived from pollution control, study the need and feasibility of extending the municipal sewer system, including the use of package treatment plants, to high density residential areas and nonserved commercial and industrial development in close proximity to Wallum Lake, Pascoag Reservoir, Wilson Reservoir and Slatersville Reservoir.
		III.3.b.2 In accordance with the Town Subdivision Ordinance, continue to require development proposal review and certification by the Sewer Authority if sewer use is proposed.
		III.3.b.3 Consider the development of a sewage sludge-composting program for the long-term disposal of sludge, and evaluate the feasibility of including the sludge composting in the townwide-composting program.
		III.3.b.4 Encourage the establishment of a townwide wastewater management program to educate homeowners how to maintain and regularly pump out individual sewage disposal systems and to implement regular pumping schedules if necessary.
	III.3.c Consider within the context of the Wastewater Facilities Plan, sewer service area extensions for the purpose of economic development.	III.3.c.1 Extend services to unserved commercial and industrially zoned land along Route 102, the Bronco Highway, as required to service development as it comes on line.

<b>III. Community Facilities and Services Goals</b>	<b>Policies</b>	<b>Implementation Actions</b>
	<p>III.3.d Recognize the regional economic and environmental benefits obtained from the Municipal Wastewater Treatment Facility.</p>	
<p><b>Water Supply and Distribution</b></p> <p>III.4 Provide the Town of Burrillville with sufficient potable water supply and the distribution system necessary to meet the community's residential, commercial, and industrial requirements, utilizing on-site well development where appropriate, while maintaining the Town's self-sufficiency.</p>	<p>III.4.a Protect existing groundwater sources from contamination to allow continued supply to the local water distribution systems.</p>	<p>III.4.a.1 Maintain, update as necessary, and continue to implement section 11-5.3 of the municipal zoning code, "Aquifer Zoning", to protect the Town's groundwater aquifers and water supply identified as areas of stratified drift and delineated on the Town of Burrillville Aquifer Overlay Map.</p>
		<p>III.4.a.2 Work with the Nasonville, Pascoag and Harrisville Fire Districts to fully implement the Water Quality Protection Plans of each district. Identification and testing of all underground fuel and other storage tanks, and the removal and proper disposal of abandoned, failing and unused tanks should be an immediate priority.</p>
		<p>III.4.a.3 Identify properties within 400 feet of the public water supply wells in Pascoag, Harrisville and Nasonville that are not in water district ownership and prioritize these parcels for acquisition by water districts.</p>

<b>III. Community Facilities and Services Goals</b>	<b>Policies</b>	<b>Implementation Actions</b>
		III.4.a.4 To meet the supply and distribution requirements of this decade, prepare capital facilities/improvements plans for the Pascoag, Harrisville and Nasonville Fire Districts for the period of 1991-2000, and include in the planning yield testing of the potential groundwater resources at Round Top, the study of potential surface water supplies, and services extension to Glendale.
		III.4.a.5 Prepare service area extension guidelines and coordinate all new development proposals between the municipal planning department and the water districts to insure adequate supply and pressure.
		III.4.a.6 In accordance with the Town's subdivision ordinance continue to require review and certification by the appropriate water system authority as to the availability of water if use of the public water supply is proposed.
	III.4.b Conserve existing water supplies to eliminate the development of costly and unnecessary sources.	III.4.b.1 In accordance with the statewide report on Water Supply, develop water conservation guidelines and "tips" for business and industry and homeowners and implement through the building official's office the low flow water devices mandated by the state building code.
		III.4.b.2 Continue to implement a water system leak detection and elimination program within the Harrisville & Pascoag Fire Districts.
	III.4.c Support the identification and development, as necessary, of new groundwater and surface water supplies to augment existing sources.	III.4.c.1 Identify large industrial water users and encourage the implementation of recycling process water and where possible the use of local groundwater supplies for industrial processing.

<b>III. Community Facilities and Services Goals</b>	<b>Policies</b>	<b>Implementation Actions</b>
<p><b>Drainage and Stormwater Management Facilities</b></p> <p>III.5 Manage stormwater runoff to prevent flooding and loss of life and property damage, to protect groundwater and surface water quality and to preserve the integrity of natural watercourses and wetlands.</p>	<p>III.5.a To maintain and improve groundwater and surface water quality, require the design and construction of Best Management Practices for stormwater management for all new residential, commercial, and industrial development, new and reconstructed roadways and highways, and drainage system improvements.</p>	<p>III.5.a.1 Erosion and sedimentation controls should be approved during the plan review process and inspected by the Town Building Official and/or the Director of Public Works during construction.</p>
		<p>III.5.a.2 Utilize the "Standard Requirements for Subsurface Stormwater Disposal Systems within Residential Developments and Roadways" (RIDEM) contained in Attachment 2, The Land Management Project, "Land Use and Water Quality Series", contained in Attachment 3, and the 1989 <u>Rhode Island Soil Erosion and Sediment Control Handbook</u> for design guidance for all new and improved drainage systems.</p>
		<p>III.5.a.3 Continue to implement minimum flood control standards specifying no increase in the predevelopment peak discharge rates for the two year and twenty five year 24 hour storm. Where downstream impacts of the post development 100-year storm is deemed to be significant, no increase above the predevelopment peak discharge should be allowed.</p>

**CHAPTER III  
Community Services and Facilities**

<b>III. Community Facilities and Services Goals</b>	<b>Policies</b>	<b>Implementation Actions</b>
	III.5.b Require all development including construction of stormwater drainage systems and development of single family house lots to establish erosion and sedimentation controls to prevent siltation of watercourses and waterbodies.	III.5.b.1 Where the maintenance of stormwater management facilities in residential developments becomes the responsibility of the municipality, the Department of Public Works shall develop a maintenance program. Consider the use of a one time fee to be paid by the developer and held in a restricted account to cover the cost of periodic maintenance.
		III.5.b.2 Require commercial and industrial on-site stormwater management system maintenance to be performed by the owner.
III.6 Serve and protect the townspeople better through improved communications.	III.6.a Develop a system by which the citizens of the Town can be addressed by municipal officials in time of emergency, and when it serves the public need or convenience.	III.6.a.1 Appoint a volunteer committee of townspeople to examine and identify communications resources and advise the Town Council as to how they might be organized to their highest and best use.
		III.6.a.2 Explore ways to expand the use of the Town's existing cable service.
		III.6.a.3 Arrange for the cablecasting of public meetings of municipal bodies.
		III.6.a.4 Explore possible illumination of a standard broadcast AM or FM band radio channel for municipal use.
		<p>III.6.a.5 Investigate non-traditional communications systems such as equipping with VHF receivers (scanners) all buildings that have a designated secondary use as public shelter. Each of these receivers will then be in place and ready to pick up emergency announcements from officials at emergency management headquarters during times of crisis.</p> <p>This idea can be expanded to include publicizing the frequency to be used by conventional means during non-emergency times so citizens may also make arrangement to acquire and/or tune such a radio so they can receive emergency announcements in their homes.</p>

<b>III. Community Facilities and Services Goals</b>	<b>Policies</b>	<b>Implementation Actions</b>
		III.6.a.6 Develop a plan to maintain and improve, if possible, the traditional means of communication via print media (Woonsocket Call and Bargain Buyer) and existing out of town electronic media; www.burrillville.org
		III.6.a.7 Install and maintain an automatic "citizen's answer line" service at Town Hall. This unit may be as simple as a pre-recorded answer only message with the hours of Town Hall operations, or can be expanded to include the date, time and location of upcoming public meetings (as well as other announcements of interest) and could be further expanded to receive messages from townspeople in the form of questions or comments.

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