



Dedham Open Space and Recreation Plan Goals/Objectives/Actions

Recreation Area Planning and Maintenance

(2010 Open Space and Recreation Plan...EXISTING)

Goals/Objectives:

1. **Provide recreation facilities and programs that serve the needs of the Town.**
 - a. Seek opportunities to increase Town recreational lands and facilities.
 - b. Cooperate with private landowners to allow responsible public access to private lands or facilities.
 - c. Maintain a high standard of quality for all recreation areas.
2. **Provide universal access to recreation properties and recreational programs.**
 - a. Produce comprehensive guides and signage to open space and recreation resources.
 - b. Cooperate and coordinate with State recreation planning efforts.
 - c. Make improvements necessary to comply with ADA standards for all Town lands and facilities.
 - d. Create and extend pedestrian and bicycle paths and trails.
 - e. Improve access to waterways.

Actions:

- 1 Create a strategic plan for Town recreation facilities and maintenance. Annually update a list of needed improvements. **17**
- 2 Provide funding for needed park improvements and equipment. **13**
- 3 Continue to seek new funding opportunities for park maintenance and improvements. **6**
- 4 Add more tennis courts. **8**
- 5 Partner with institutions to help improve and maintain Town parks and fields. **11**
- 6 Make improvements to Gonzalez Park access: provide clear directions and signs for parking. **3**
- 7 Increase availability of multi-use fields for youth recreation programs. Work with youth leagues to identify needs. **12**
- 8 Explore Northeastern track availability for Town sports programs and general public use. **11**
- 9 Plan and attract special events to Town to generate revenue and provide a variety of events and activities for all ages: (Special Olympics, Masters Programs, Bike race/tour). **2**
- 10 Create a bike task force (coordinate with Livable Communities Task Force). **6**
- 11 Require new development/redevelopment of sites and buildings to create/provide access for non-motorized transportation (including pedestrian and bike amenities) and public transit. **4**
- 12 Encourage existing commercial property owners to add bicycle and pedestrian accommodations (sidewalks, bike paths, bike racks). **12**
- 13 Create/extend sidewalk connections at the following locations: Connecting Legacy Place and Enterprise Drive, completing sidewalks on Rustcraft Road, creating safe crossing/cross over for Providence Highway/Route 1, create connections within Dedham Mall. **44**
- 14 Improve signage for on-road bicycle right-of-ways. **2**
- 15 Continue adding bike racks at key locations around town. **4**
- 16 Create/expand bike routes/paths, consider: Abandoned rail line to Dedham Square, Bridge St. to Dedham Rotary, Dedham Square to Legacy Place. **71**
- 17 Sign and Improve access to Dedham's waterways; restore and improve public landings along the Charles River at Motley Pond, Mother Brook and Pine Island, Improve access for on-shore fishing, improve access for non-motorized boats. **14**
- 18 Improve Wigwam and Little Wigwam: enforce cleanup by abutting landowners, implement measures to protect water areas from development activities at borders, improve access to Wigwam Pond at Quabish Road, connect Little Wigwam to Wigwam via a walking trail. **13**
- 19 Explore multiple uses for waterways: ice-skating at Little Wigwam, outdoor classroom at Mother Brook (Mill Pond), historic water trail along Charles River. **20**
- 20 Implement plans for the permanent dog park at Manor Fields. **4**



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(2017 Open Space and Recreation Plan...PROPOSED)

Goals/Objectives:

Goal #2 revision...Increase access to and availability of recreation properties and recreation programs.

New Goal: Develop Maintenance Plan Standards to create sustainable recreation areas. 5

New Goal: Develop a formal marketing and communications plan for Parks and Recreation.

Mountain biking trails at Town Forest **1**

Develop/Maintain Rail Trail **5**

Actions:

1. Review the websites of the Town and Recreation Department (The Sportsman) and consider improvements to increase visibility and access to information about open space and recreational resources and programming. (Steering Committee, Public Workshop #1, Online Survey) **9**
2. Establish a revolving schedule of Dedham open space and recreation facilities 'profile sheets' in coordination with area newspapers that serve the Town to highlight a different park, playground, recreation area or open space each week. Include photos, location, how to get there and who to contact for more information. This should be coordinated with a new communication plan for programs/services/facilities by the municipality to residents. (HW)
3. Propose projects to the annual Capital Improvement Program for facilities upkeep and maintenance. (HW) **10**
4. Confirm that all commissions, committees, boards and pertinent municipal staff identified in this plan receive a copy of it and understand their role in implementation. Investigate if software/app can be purchased to tag people associated with different actions and connect people who may not know each other. (SR) **5**
5. Investigate the potential of adding lights to fields used for sports to enhance their use after daylight hours have passed. Include listing of fields evaluated with conceptual cost estimates for implementation. Consider the feasibility of water-power where applicable. (Stakeholder Interviews, Public Workshop #1, Online Survey) **4**
6. Report on the status of responsible action items completed to the Open Space and Recreation Committee annually. (HW) **3**
7. Meet with neighboring towns to coordinate open space acquisition and management along town borders and waterways. (Open Space and Recreation Committee) **5**
8. Establish a 'Dedham PROS (Parks, Recreation, Open Space)' working collaborative to include municipal departments (Parks and Recreation, Environmental, Council on Aging, etc.) in addition to various community groups/organizations (Dedham Community House, Endicott Estate, and various neighborhood associations) to better understand what each group offers, future plans for expansion, and how each can complement each other to efficiently provide services to Dedham residents. (Stakeholder Interviews) **8**
9. Collaborate with the Dedham Council on Aging to investigate funding opportunities/mechanisms that consider public health and recreation opportunities for new/expanded programming. (HW) **4**
10. Develop a plan to provide Universal Access to recreation facilities, parks, and trails. (Master Plan 2017 Update) **8**
11. Make the Open Space and Recreation Committee more effective by clearly communicating its roles/responsibilities to the public, holding it accountable for its initiatives, and giving it a more visible role within Town government. (Master Plan 2017 update) **1**
12. Town Forest: Expand trails, create trail map, figure out parking. (Steering Committee, Public Workshop #1, Online Survey) **9**
13. Continue efforts to develop the Manor Fields site for recreational use. (Master Plan 2017 Update, Open Space and Recreation Committee, Public Workshop #1, Online Survey) **21**
14. Improve cycling and pedestrian infrastructure to support all forms of transportation. Implement a Complete Streets program to increase safety and accessibility for all modes of transportation in Dedham. (Master Plan 2017 Update) **22**
15. Consider addressing recreational needs identified in the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP). Needs include swimming, road biking, walking, playground and tennis facilities. (HW) **5**
16. Investigate the feasibility of expanding recreational offerings identified as gaps from public outreach (i.e., municipal ice skating rink/hockey rink, splash pad/park, programming for adults and seniors. (Online Survey, Public Workshop #1) **6**
17. Improve communication between and among volunteer Boards and Committees and coordinate efforts with professionals in associated Town Departments. Increase civic engagement by improving technology and communications processes for Town Departments, Boards and Committees. (Master Plan 2017 Update) **6**
18. Strengthen enforcement of existing no-parking regulations on sidewalks. (Master Plan 2017 Update) **3**
19. Maintain sidewalks and keep them free and clear for pedestrians. (Master Plan 2017 Update) **11**
20. Review implications of changing demographics on Town services and Departments including Housing, Transportation, Health, Parks and Recreation. (Master Plan 2017 Update). **3**
21. Look for opportunities to link neighborhoods, shopping areas, and open spaces. (Master Plan 2017 Update) **12**
22. Adopt the Community Preservation Act or establish a permanent fund within the Town's Budget to fund the projects that would have been funded if the CPA had passed (Steering Committee) **2**
23. Install small historically and culturally appropriate play structures on Town land in Dedham Village, similar to an 'ABC' based structure at the library, or something historically appropriate on the Town Common. (SR) **1**



Dedham Open Space and Recreation Plan Goals/Objectives/Actions

Recreation Area Planning and Maintenance

(2017 Open Space and Recreation Plan...WHAT'S MISSING?)

Goals/Objectives:

Actions:

Restrooms/Port-o-pots, or access to school facilities **5**

Add community garden space **1**

Construct athletic field house, then use as rental to generate revenue **1**

Need rectangular fields **1**

Offer tax credits to businesses/property owners that will create/develop ballfields/trail connectors **1**

Defibrilators on every field/at every sporting event **3**

Establish gondola rides on Mother Brook, include water fire elements **1**

Opportunities for walkability for seniors **1**

Construct walking trails at edge of all parks/playing fields, and allow dogs on edges **1**

What do other towns do for programming? **1**

Coordinate with neighboring towns & MAPC to connect active transportation facilities to regional trail networks (Bus Rapid Transit) **1**

Develop non-park space/rec. space to create better overall maintenance **5**

Maintain existing basketball courts/develop new ones **3**

Stop calling athletic fields parks unless they have amenities for all ages **2**

Design new facilities and retrofit existing for climate preparedness/flood resistance **1**

Expand Endicott Estate **1**

Explore MassDOT funding opportunities to support projects to reduce driving (like the Rail Trail) **1**

Improved, safe parking at fields and parks **1**

Playgrounds are needed on the northwest side of Town **1**

Implement the Rail Trail **8**

Determine reuse of old Capen School property connection to Striar **2**

Do not implement the Rail Trail **4**

Host Special Olympics/community events in coordination with Police/Parks and Rec. **1**