



2024 OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION PLAN

BILLERICA, MA



DODSON & FLINKER
Landscape Architecture and Planning

2024 Open Space and Recreation Plan

Prepared by Dodson & Flinker Landscape Architecture & Planning for the Town of Billerica, MA

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1 Plan Summary

The 2024 Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP) is Billerica’s strategic framework for enhancing its open spaces and recreational programs, and in doing so, creating a more resilient, vibrant, and sustainable community. Billerica recognizes that capitalizing on the opportunities contained within the town’s open space is key to meeting the Town’s goals for economic vitality, historic preservation, sustainability, climate resilience, connectivity, and recreation. This planning process drew upon insights and local knowledge from extensive citizen and board participation, previous planning efforts, and the 2018 OSRP.

Billerica, located on the edge of the expanding Greater Boston Metropolitan Area and bordering the City of Lowell, has evolved from a predominately rural town into a fully built-out suburban community. While many areas that were once summer cottages or farmland are now fully developed communities, Billerica is still blessed with scenic landscapes such as the Concord and Shawsheen rivers. As the town continues to face development pressure, residents remain acutely aware of the need to balance economic and housing goals with preservation of open space to create a community that meets the needs of current residents and future generations.

This OSRP process identified the following seven goals:

Goal 1: Cultivate a vibrant and inclusive recreational system.

Goal 2: Provide safe, connected, and enjoyable walking and bicycle access throughout town, and beyond.

Goal 3: Steward existing recreation resources and ensure all Billerica residents are aware of and able to enjoy them.

Goal 4: Safeguard natural resources.

Goal 5: Facilitate nature connection for all Billerica residents.

Goal 6: Enhance climate resilience by conserving forests and riparian areas.

Goal 7: Build community by celebrating and protecting Billerica’s cultural landscape.

2 Introduction

A. Statement of Purpose

The 2024 OSRP is an update to the 2018 version. It will guide Billerica residents and government in enhancing the Town's open space and recreational assets over the next seven years. This plan aims to capture the resources, values, priorities of the town, and in doing so, focus attention on the investments which are most likely to improve the quality of life for present and future residents and safeguard the environment. By adopting this plan, the Town acknowledges that its open spaces are valuable assets that can be used to cultivate a vibrant, sustainable, and active community.

The Open Space and Recreation Committee (OSRPC), comprised of representatives from the Select Board, Recreation Commission, Planning Board, and Conservation Commission, oversaw the planning process for this update. The consultant Dodson & Flinker, Landscape Architecture & Planning was hired to lead the community engagement effort, analyze the town's resources, prepare maps, and compile this report. Municipal departments and local conservation, historic and cultural organizations contributed invaluable insights and firsthand knowledge.

This Open Space and Recreation Plan is informed by the regional and global issues facing Billerica. The high cost of housing in the Boston area is amplifying development pressure in outer ring suburbs like Billerica. Climate change is exacerbating environmental challenges, such as flooding, that affect the town year over year. The solutions to these issues are complex and far-reaching, but this OSRP is intended to help Billerica grapple with these present and future challenges.

In the six years since completing the 2018 OSRP, the Town has made notable progress on several fronts:

- The Town adopted the Community Preservation Act (CPA) in 2018.
- The Conservation Commission conserved land on Carter Avenue to create Katie Durand Memorial Park in honor of Katie Durand, a Conservation Department employee who passed away in 2018. The park features a pollinator garden, restored floodplain, and boat launch on the Concord River.
- Renovations to Peggy Hannon-Rizza were completed, making the park a true hub of active recreation in Billerica. The park now features numerous playing fields with lights, a picnic area, tennis and basketball courts, a fitness area, and a small games area with bocce, Connect 4, cornhole, and ping pong.
- Billerica received a MassTrails grant for engineering and design of the Yankee Doodle Bike Path. Construction of the trail is currently out to bid. The trail would span four miles and connect Billerica town center to the Narrow Gauge Rail Trail in Bedford. From there, the trail would connect to Minuteman Bikeway (which spans 18 miles) to West Cambridge and provide the opportunity to connect to trails such as the Charles River Bike Paths and Somerville Greenway that connect to countless other trail systems in the Boston Area.
- The Select Board has continued work on creating a boat launch at 250 Boston Road and is now in the environmental permitting phase on that project.

The Town purchased the 41-acre Cider Mill property with the goal of providing a combination of either municipal or private development with conservation land and a Bay Circuit Trail & Greenway connection. The discussion about the future use of the site is ongoing.

B. Planning Process and Public Participation

The 2024 OSRP has been overseen by the Open Space and Recreation Plan Committee (OSRPC), a committee comprised of representatives from the Select Board, Planning Board, Recreation Commission, Conservation Commission, Commission on Disability, and other appointed residents of Billerica, and supported by town staff. The OSRPC met monthly throughout the process. Dodson & Flinker hosted three public forums, which were advertised to the community, in which the OSRPC participated along with members of the public. All OSRPC meetings and public forums were open to the public and posted in accordance with Massachusetts Open Meeting Law.

In addition to the committee members listed below, Andrew Jennings (Billerica representative to the Lowell Regional Transit Agency), Dave Grubb (Recreation Director), Jessie Hampson (Assistant Recreation Director), and Isabel Tourkantonis (Director of Environmental Affairs) were instrumental in creating this plan.

Table 2-1. Open Space and Recreation Plan Committee Members

Name	Position
Michael Rosa	Chair, Select Board appointee
John Bartlett	Vice-Chair, Recreation Commission appointee
Marlies Henderson	Secretary, Planning Board appointee
Jack Bowen	Conservation Commission appointee
Justin Damon	Select Board appointee
Michael Parker	Select Board appointee
Catherine Shubin	Select Board appointee
Maria Martin	Select Board/ Commission on Disability appointee
Darlene Torre	Select Board appointee
Grace Tucci	Select Board/ Commission on Disability appointee
Erika Oliver Jerram	Ex-Officio, Director of Planning and Community Development
Katherine Malgieri	Senior Planner/ Interim Director of Planning and Community Development, OSRPC Ex-officio

Public input was critical in developing this OSRP. An online survey received 579 responses, and the three interactive public forums generated informative conversations. The first public forum was held on December 6th and focused on the existing conditions of Billerica’s open space and recreational programming. After a presentation, attendees circulated between three groups, divided by topic, to discuss what was and was not working well in Billerica. Attendees also wrote notes on large format maps of Billerica’s open spaces. Each attendee participated in each of the three stations. These conversations contributed to an understanding of how open space is currently being used in Billerica.

The second public forum was held on January 17th with an option to participate remotely on Zoom. This forum focused on the participants’ priorities and values for open space. Attendees rotated between stations, each of which focused on a different aspect of open space: recreation, bike/pedestrian connectivity, ecological resources, or historic/cultural resources. At each station, attendees wrote and shared what their top priorities were for that aspect of open space. For each priority, they also wrote the value that underlies each priority. For example, in the Bicycle and Pedestrian Connectivity station participants stated that safe routes to school should be a priority, and underlying value was freedom and independence for children to be able to move around town without adults. Attendees on Zoom covered all topics as one group and reported back to the rest of the attendees at the end of the meeting.

The third public forum, also in hybrid format, was held on March 20th and focused on refining an action plan that had been drafted by the OSRPC and consultant based off the public survey, feedback from the first two public forums, and the analysis of existing conditions. An overview of the public feedback, and a draft of the goals, objectives, and actions was presented by

Dodson & Flinker. Attendees rotated through three stations to discuss the seven draft goals and accompanying actions and objectives. Attendees provided comments and placed stickers on objectives that they most agreed with, or that they thought should be removed from the plan. Attendees also wrote about additional actions that should be added to accomplish the objectives. The breakout group on Zoom discussed all seven goals and their associated objectives and actions. All public forums were held in the Billerica Town Hall Auditorium.

Public outreach materials, agendas, and other materials from the public forums can be found in Appendix A.

The online survey received 579 responses from a diverse array of neighborhoods and family types in Billerica. The survey asked about how people currently use open spaces in Billerica, what if anything prevents them from visiting parks or conservation lands in Billerica, what the Town could do better, and what amenities they would most like to see. The survey also asked if respondents favored the Town spending more money on conservation and recreation, and what the Town's priorities should be. The survey showed that improving walking and biking infrastructure (including trails) was a top priority, as was creating more accessible parks and acquiring more conservation land. The survey responses can be found in Appendix B.

The OSRPC and Planning Department advertised the public and forums extensively. The success of this outreach effort is evidenced by the high number of responses to the survey and the attendance at public forums. The public forums and survey were advertised in the following ways:

- Flyers were posted at parks and other frequently visited parts of Town.
- Relevant information for the meetings and survey were included in each of the school's bi-weekly newsletters which are distributed to all families in the school system.
- Posts were shared by community members on social media.
- Meetings were advertised at all Council on Aging (COA) meetings.
- The Town maintained an OSRP webpage which was continuously updated.
- The Planning Department shared information about the OSRP at their bi-weekly mobile Office Hours initiative called "Ask a Planner," hosted at COA, the library, and other locations.

C. Enhanced Outreach and Public Participation for Environmental Justice Populations

Environmental justice (EJ) asserts that everyone has the right to live in a clean and healthy environment, free from environmental pollution. It involves ensuring that all individuals, regardless of background, are equally included in the creation, implementation, and enforcement of environmental regulations, laws, and policies.

In 1994, President Clinton issued Executive Order 12898, which aimed to address environmental injustices faced by minority and low-income populations. This order directed federal agencies to take action to rectify these disparities. Subsequently, and in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, states and municipalities have developed policies and programs to address environmental equity concerns and prevent minority and low-income communities from bearing a disproportionate burden of environmental hazards.

To further these efforts, the Commonwealth's Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA) established an Environmental Justice Policy. This policy seeks to alleviate the disproportionate environmental burdens faced by lower-income individuals and communities of color, who often lack environmental assets in their neighborhoods.

The policy is designed to help ensure their protection from environmental pollution as well as promote community involvement in planning and environmental decision-making to maintain and/or enhance the environmental quality of their neighborhoods.

Through its agencies and programs, EEA works to engage environmental justice populations in environmental decision-making through expanded and inclusive outreach, to minimize health risks through targeted environmental enforcement, and to improve environmental quality in all communities through initiatives that include reduction of pollutants and emissions, remediation and redevelopment of contaminated land, and investment in urban parks and greenspace.¹

As part of moving this effort forward, municipalities must identify areas of their communities where lower-income residents and other populations that are typically marginalized live and assess their access to open space and recreational opportunities. Cultural, economic, and social needs of these populations are important factors to consider when evaluating the type, quality, and quantity of resources available. Should disparities exist, the Open Space and Recreation Plan should work to correct these inequities. Marginalized populations do not typically participate in the planning process or other municipal efforts. There is usually a mistrust either socially or culturally of government. This makes it critical that the Town make special efforts to engage all residents through diverse approaches. Because these groups may not attend a public meeting, or have access to a computer, going to them in a safe and trustworthy way is important.

The Town made great efforts to advertise the OSRP through channels that would reach all Billerica residents. Flyers were posted at locations within Environmental Justice neighborhoods, and Town Staff distributed the draft action plan to community leaders in Environmental Justice communities. The survey and public forums were included in school newsletters, since the Billerica public schools serve a population that has a greater percentage of people of color than the overall population of the Town. Additionally, families with young children are often more likely to struggle with poverty and children are most at risk for ailments associated with pollution like asthma. The geographic results of the survey demonstrate that there was a robust response from Environmental Justice neighborhoods. For example, 33% of respondents were from North Billerica, an area largely classified as an Environmental Justice neighborhood. See Section 3.C. for more information on Environmental Justice populations in Billerica.

3 Community Setting

A. Regional Context

The Town of Billerica, Massachusetts is located within northern Middlesex County in the Greater Lowell region and is approximately 20 miles northwest of the City of Boston (Figure 3-1). The town is bordered by Lowell and Chelmsford to the north, Wilmington and Tewksbury to the east, Carlisle and Bedford to the west, and Burlington to the south. Billerica is a member of the Northern Middlesex Council of Governments (NMCOG).

Once a rural town of villages, agricultural fields and small mills, the town is now considered a mature, economically developed suburb, bolstered by industrial and commercial offerings. Approximately 26.39 square miles in area, the community is home to just over 42,119 residents, according to the 2020 U.S. Census. The town has become a major regional employment center and is home to several technology firms. The town's business sector currently employs approximately 25,000 people.

The town has convenient access to three major highways: U.S. Route 3, I-495 and I-95. While this access has benefited the town's economy, it has also created pressure on its municipal infrastructure and impacted land use practices and policies.

Billerica is divided almost evenly east-west between two watersheds: the SuAsCo (Sudbury-Assabet-Concord) (west) watershed and the Shawsheen watershed (east). A small section of the town on the eastern border exists within the Ipswich watershed. The Concord River and the Shawsheen River flow through town. The Concord River traverses a distance of 9.6 miles, roughly through the geographic center of town. In addition to being the Town's drinking water supply, the Concord River is a vital recreational resource for boaters, canoeists, anglers, bird watchers and wildlife enthusiasts and has been designated a Wild and Scenic River. To protect this important resource, Billerica's open space and recreation plan should address emerging environmental challenges, including threats identified in the Sudbury, Assabet, and Concord Wild and Scenic River Conservation Plan, 2019 update.

The Concord River is largely protected by the Great Meadows National Wildlife Refuge system which protects 3,850 acres along the Sudbury and Concord Rivers from Wayland to Billerica. This wildlife refuge is owned and managed by the US Fish & Wildlife Department. The refuge is broken into two non-contiguous areas. The southern section in Wayland and Sudbury runs along the Sudbury River, a tributary of the Concord River. The northern section runs along the Concord River in Concord, Carlisle, Bedford, and Billerica. While this water resource is shared with other towns, the Concord River is particularly important to Billerica as it serves as the town's primary water source.

The Shawsheen River passes north-south through the eastern portion of town. The banks of the river are bordered by wetlands that have, for the most part, prevented development in the floodplain. Multiple tributaries run into the Concord and Shawsheen Rivers. Major streams flowing into the Shawsheen River include Jones Brook, Content Brook, Webb Brook, Mixon Brook, and McKee Brook. Mill Brook is the major tributary running into the Concord River. In addition, Lubber Brook, located in the eastern corner of Billerica, flows into the Ipswich River in Wilmington.

As discussed later in this section, Billerica will be instrumental in the development of three regional connections: the Yankee Doodle Bikeway, the Bay Circuit Trail & Greenway, and the Middlesex Canal Greenway.

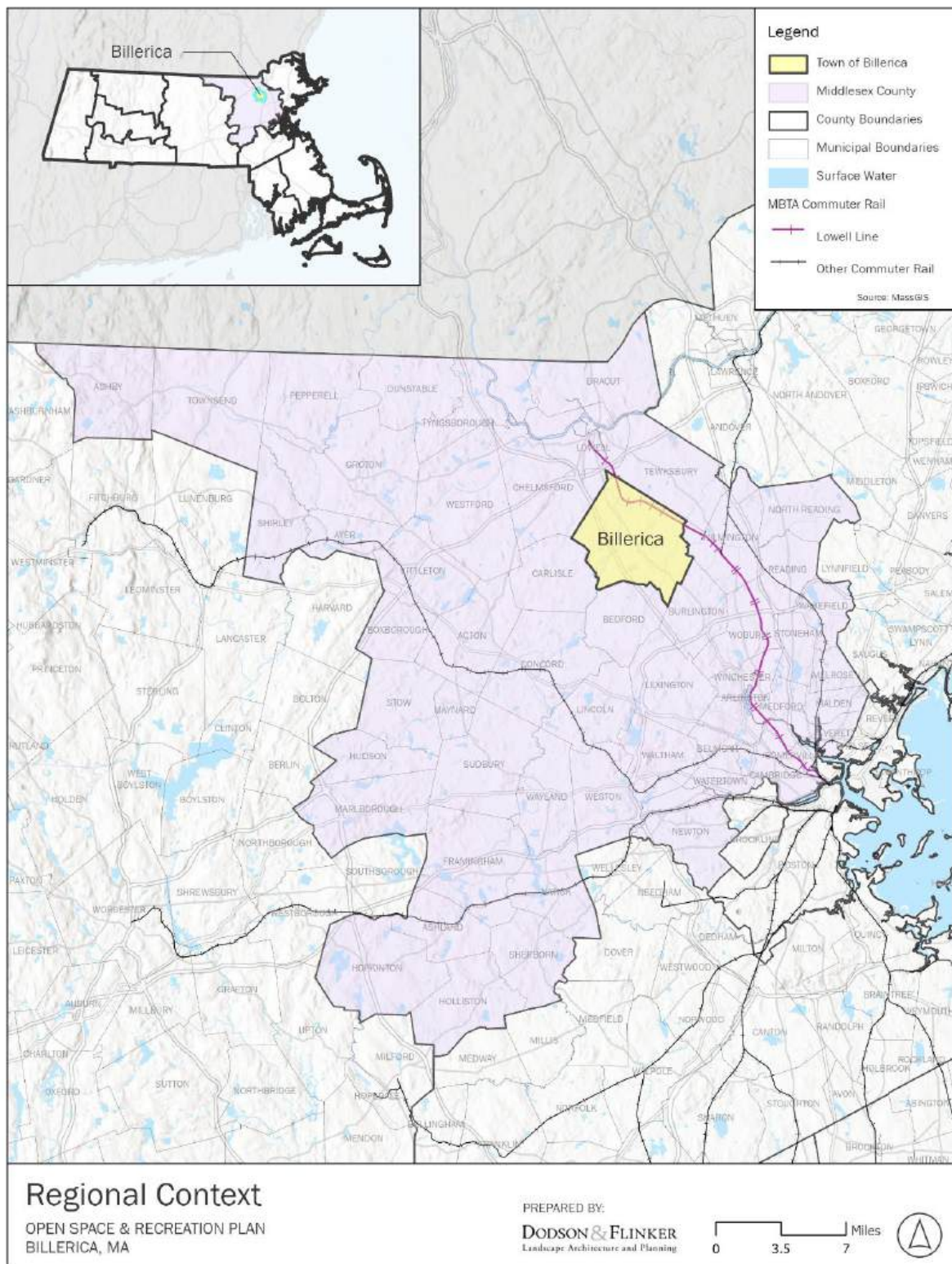


Figure 3-1. Regional Context

B. History of the Community

Billerica, named after Billericay, England, was known as Shawshin Plantation, a so-called Praying Town, until its incorporation in 1655. When first incorporated, the town included all or parts of Bedford, Carlisle, Lowell, Tewksbury, and Wilmington. The first European settlers arrived in 1637, displacing the Pawtucket peoples who had inhabited the area for unknown centuries. Eventually, the Pawtucket tribe was forced to relocate to a reservation at the mouth of the Concord River.

The Europeans considered the area to be wilderness, and newcomers were readily accepted and granted homesteads. Town records and historical maps document an initial plan of house lots in a central “township” with outlying farmsteads. If this was the intended plan, it was soon abandoned. The earliest land grants were both on and off the township along what is now Route 3A. A strip of land was initially set aside as “a common forever,” but only a portion of it survives today.

For two centuries, colonial and early republican Billerica primarily operated as an agricultural village with subsistence and market farms. Cash crops included apples, cherries and strawberries. The first saw and grist mill, built in 1660 by John Parker, marked an early milestone in the town’s development.

Billerica and its residents played important roles at the onset of the American Revolutionary War. In March 1775, a town meeting voted to raise a company of 50 minutemen. Thomas Ditson Jr., a Billerica farmer eager to join the minutemen, traveled to Boston to purchase a firelock. There, British soldiers tarred and feathered him to demonstrate their authority over the colonists. This incident inspired the song “Yankee Doodle,” sung to ridicule American colonial soldiers, with a verse dedicated to Mr. Ditson. The song was later embraced by American revolutionary soldiers with lyrics favoring the American patriot. In 2016, Billerica became the official “Yankee Doodle Town” after the mother-and-son team of Carol Rosa and Select Board member Michael Rosa successfully passed an article through Town Meeting and subsequently through the state legislature designating Billerica as such.

In April 1775, Mr. Ditson and over 100 Billerica minutemen joined patriots en route to Concord to confront British troops led by Lt. Colonel Francis Smith at Meriam’s Corner. This confrontation, involving an estimated 3,500 colonial militiamen and 1,700 British soldiers, marked the beginning of the American Revolution.¹ The Amos Wyman Estate provided shelter to colonial leaders John Hancock and Samuel Adams as they fled Boston to Concord.² On June 17, 1775, the Battle of Bunker Hill was fought, and Billerica resident Asa Pollard became the first fallen soldier in that battle.

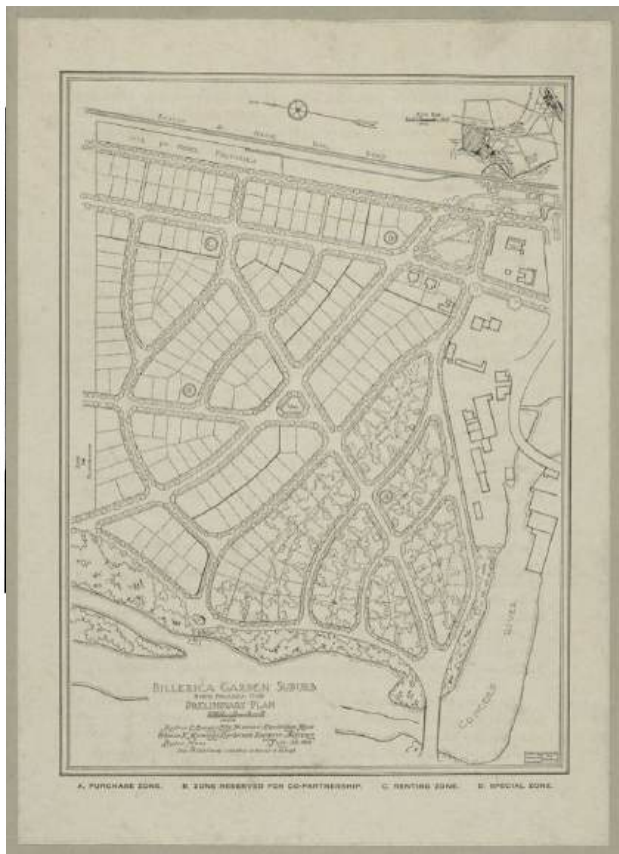
After the Revolutionary War, a period of prosperity and expansion ensued, marked by the construction of new and larger homes, including several around the Common.



Figure 3-2. Monument commemorating Amos and Kezia Kendall Wyman feeding and housing Samuel Adams and John Hancock at their home on April 19, 1775. (Source: geocaching.com/geocache/GCQF5K)

¹ <http://www.bcomm.us/statue.htm>; <http://revolutionaryday.com/usroute20/concord/default.htm>

² <http://www.billericahistory.org/amoswymansite.html>



In 1795, the first stagecoach passed through Billerica. Soon after, travelers began to patronize roadside taverns such as the Manning Manse on Chelmsford Road. The Middlesex Canal, the first major canal in the United States, opened in 1802. Stretching 27 miles and 30 feet wide by three feet deep, it connected the Merrimack River through the Concord River in North Billerica to the Charles River. The North Billerica area grew up around the dam and millpond. Intended mainly for freight, the canal faced financial challenges and was eventually sold in sections to local landowners in 1852, as the railroad grew to prominence. As late as 1839, parts of the canal were still in use, most notably by Henry David Thoreau. After camping in Billerica on the Concord River's Fox Island, Thoreau traveled the canal section between the Billerica Falls and the Merrimack River. In "A Week on the Concord and Merrimack Rivers," he described the journey: "While one ran along the tow-path drawing the boat by a cord, the other kept it off the shore with a pole..."

In 1875, a proposal was made to construct an 8.6-mile rail line between Boston and Lowell's station in North Billerica and Middlesex Central's Bedford Station to the south. Known as the Billerica and Bedford Railroad, it operated for only nine months in 1877. It featured a two-foot (narrow) gauge, requiring less land, smaller rolling stock, and less coal consumption.

Owing to the presence of the floodway and dam on the Concord River in North Billerica, the town evolved into a manufacturing center. In 1811, a woolen mill, the second of its kind in New England, began operating. Nearby, another mill focused on a leather splitting process critical in early leather manufacturing.

By the late nineteenth century, resort communities emerged along the pond and river shores in town. Billerica's role as a transportation center persisted beyond the Middlesex Canal, the Billerica and Bedford Railroad, and the Boston and Lowell Railroad, which had displaced the canal by the mid-nineteenth century.

In 1909, the Massachusetts Homestead Commission was appointed by the state to help workers acquire homes, and in 1912, the B&M Railroad (formerly the Boston and Lowell Railroad) decided to establish maintenance shops in North Billerica, with the encouragement of the Billerica Board of Trade. To avoid speculation and overcrowded tenements, the Board implemented the homestead commission's recommendation to designate a new town site in North Billerica primarily for railroad workers. The Board enlisted the commission's City Planner, Arthur C. Comey, and sought the help of landscape architect Warren H. Manning. The result was the incorporation of Billerica Garden Suburb two years later.

The garden suburb plan was the first of its kind in the United States. It blended the tradition of planned communities with state involvement and operated as a limited dividend corporation, allowing workers—even those earning \$10 to \$12 per week—to buy shares in housing co-ops. The community offered both home ownership and rental units on a 56-acre site, just 200 feet from the North Billerica rail station.

The construction of Route 3 and other limited-access highways set the stage for Billerica's suburban residential development and modern industrial growth during the second half of the 20th century. Over a span of fifty years, from 1950 to 2000, the population of Billerica quadrupled from 10,000 to nearly 40,000, transforming the town into a middle-class suburban

community. This growth saw the displacement of larger farms into residential subdivisions, and the conversion of summer cottages from previous decades into year-round residences.

Simultaneously, the town experienced an expansion of business and industry. Traditional mills in Billerica made way for a more diverse industrial landscape, with a notable influx of high-technology computer and telecommunications companies, along with medical technology firms. See Section 3.D. for more information on development trends in Billerica.

C. Population Characteristics

General Population Trends

After fifty years of continuous growth, Billerica is now a mature suburb nearing full build-out under current zoning, with limited vacant and buildable land remaining. Although Billerica’s overall population is not increasing as rapidly as that of the county or the state, it has seen steady growth since 1970. In the last decade, the town saw 4.7% growth, with a recorded population of 42,119 according to the 2020 Census. This constitutes 13.6% of the region’s population, positioning Billerica as the second most populous municipality in the region, after the City of Lowell.

In comparison, the Greater Lowell region³ experienced 8.0% growth over the past decade. Billerica’s relatively slower growth may be attributed, in part, to the growth of outlying suburban towns such as Tyngsborough, Westford, and others. Collaborative efforts with regional planning organizations such as NMCOG will be essential in formulating plans that account for both local and regional growth.

Population projections developed by the UMass Donahue Institute, as shown in Table 1, indicate a projected 4.3% increase from 2020 to 2030⁴. Beyond 2030, the projections suggest a deceleration in the growth trend. This trend, due to a combination of an aging population and shrinking household sizes, matches suburban communities across the state.

Table 3-1. Population Growth and Projections (1980-2050)

	1980	1990	2000	2010	2020	2030	2040	2050
Billerica	36,727	37,609	38,981	40,243	42,119	43,918	43,865	42,943
Growth	16.0%	2.4%	3.7%	3.2%	4.7%	4.3%	-0.1%	-2.1%
Greater Lowell region	235,052	263,659	281,225	286,901	310,009	320,695	322,799	316,493
Growth	6.8%	13.8%	6.7%	2.0%	8.1%	3.4%	0.7%	-2.0%

Sources: U.S. Census 1980-2020; projections courtesy of UMass Donahue Institute, 2022

3 The Greater Lowell region consists of the City of Lowell and its eight suburbs - Billerica, Chelmsford, Dracut, Dunstable, Pepperell, Tewksbury, Tyngsborough, and Westford.

4 The accuracy of the UMass Donahue Institute population projections is impacted by several factors specific to the timing of the projections. These include the COVID-19 pandemic, which altered short-term trends in births, deaths, migration, and immigration in Massachusetts and the U.S. While 2020 population data are included in the projections, it is uncertain whether residency choices made during the pandemic will persist. Additionally, delays in the release of detailed Census 2020 data have required the use of age distributions extrapolated from Census 2010, which lack the precision of a recent count.

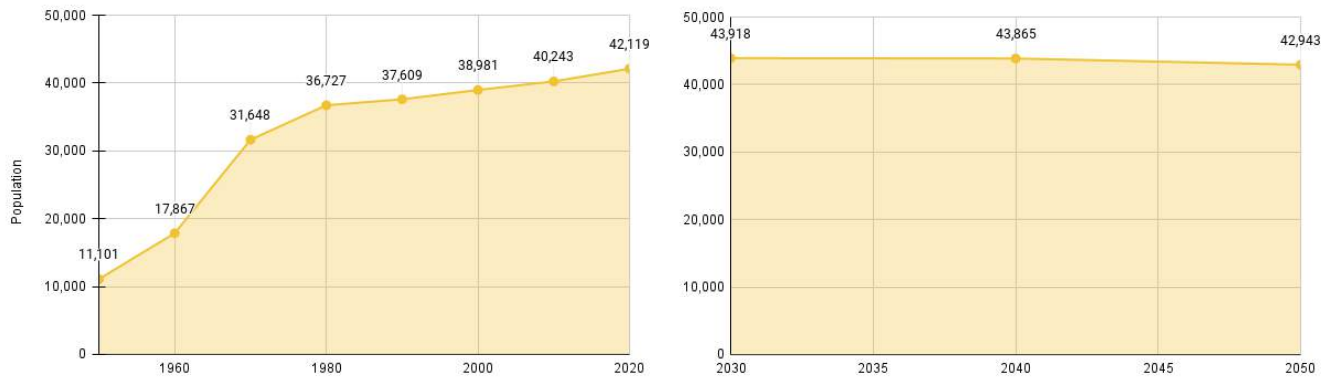


Figure 3-4. Billerica Total Population

Source: U.S. Census 1980-2020; projections courtesy of UMass Donahue Institute, 2022

Outside the City of Lowell, Billerica has the highest population density in the region, and the fourth highest housing density (Table 3-2). Both housing and population density in Billerica are very similar to Chelmsford, Dracut, and Tewksbury. Lowell is far more densely populated than any other municipality in the region.

Table 3-2. Population and Housing Density (2020)

Community	Population	Housing Units	Land Area (Sq. Mi.)	Population Density (Per Sq. Mi.)	Housing Unit Density (Per Sq. Mi.)
Billerica	42,119	14,481	26.32	1,646.9	550.2
Chelmsford	36,392	14,769	23.08	1,626.0	639.9
Dracut	32,617	12,325	21.44	1,577.6	574.9
Dunstable	3,404	1,098	16.75	203.2	65.6
Lowell	115,554	43,482	14.53	8,489.8	2,992.6
Pepperell	11,604	4,599	23.17	514.1	198.5
Tewksbury	31,342	12,139	21.15	1,512.4	573.9
Tyngsborough	12,380	4,669	18.5	736.9	252.4
Westford	24,643	9,237	31.36	814.8	294.5
Total	310,055	116,799	196.3	1,902.4 (average)	682.5 (average)

Source: U.S. Census 2020, Massachusetts Highway Survey Section, MassGIS

Population by Age Group

While the Town's population continues to grow, it is also aging. As shown in Table 3-2 and Figures 3-5 and 3-6, between 1990 and 2020, there has been a decrease in the population of individuals under the age of 17 and an approximately 9% increase in ages 18-44. The largest increase (36.7%) has occurred in the 65+ age group in the last decade. Overall, the median age has increased 10.3 years since 1990.

It is also important to note that Billerica's percentage of millennial residents is three times higher than the Middlesex County average. The 2022 Economic Development Data Update stresses that keeping these younger residents in Billerica will be important for the workforce, household spending, and the replenishment of an aging population. Open space planning could consider amenities and values that appeal to this age group.

In the coming decades, the age groups 45-64 and 65+ are expected to continue to increase in the coming decades, as the adult population ages 25-44 is projected to decrease (Figure 3-6). These demographic projections have important

implications for long-term open space and recreation planning, namely the importance of accessible and desirable recreational opportunities for an aging population. With a growing proportion of older residents, there may be an increased demand for accessible and age-appropriate recreational facilities, such as walking trails, senior-friendly fitness areas, and community spaces that cater to the interests of older adults.

Table 3-3. Population Change by Age Group

	1990 Count (%)	2000 Count (%)	2010 Count (%)	2020 Count (%)	% Change 2010-2020
Under 5	2,791 (7.4)	2,689 (6.9)	2,218 (5.5)	1,987 (4.6)	-10.4%
5-17	6,884 (18.3)	7,345 (18.8)	7,123 (17.7)	6,192 (14.3)	-13.1%
18-24	4,559 (12.1)	2,846 (7.3)	3,093 (7.7)	3,378 (7.8)	9.2%
25-44	13,597 (36.2)	13,484 (34.6)	10,965 (27.2)	11,971 (27.7)	9.2%
45-64	7,215 (19.2)	9,357 (24.0)	11,942 (29.7)	13,038 (30.1)	9.2%
65 +	2,563 (6.8)	3,260 (8.4)	4,902 (12.2)	6,708 (15.5)	36.8%
Total	37,609	38,981	40,243	43,274	
Median Age	31.2 years	35.9 years	40.1 years	41.5 years	

Source: U.S. Census 1990, 2000, 2010, and 2020

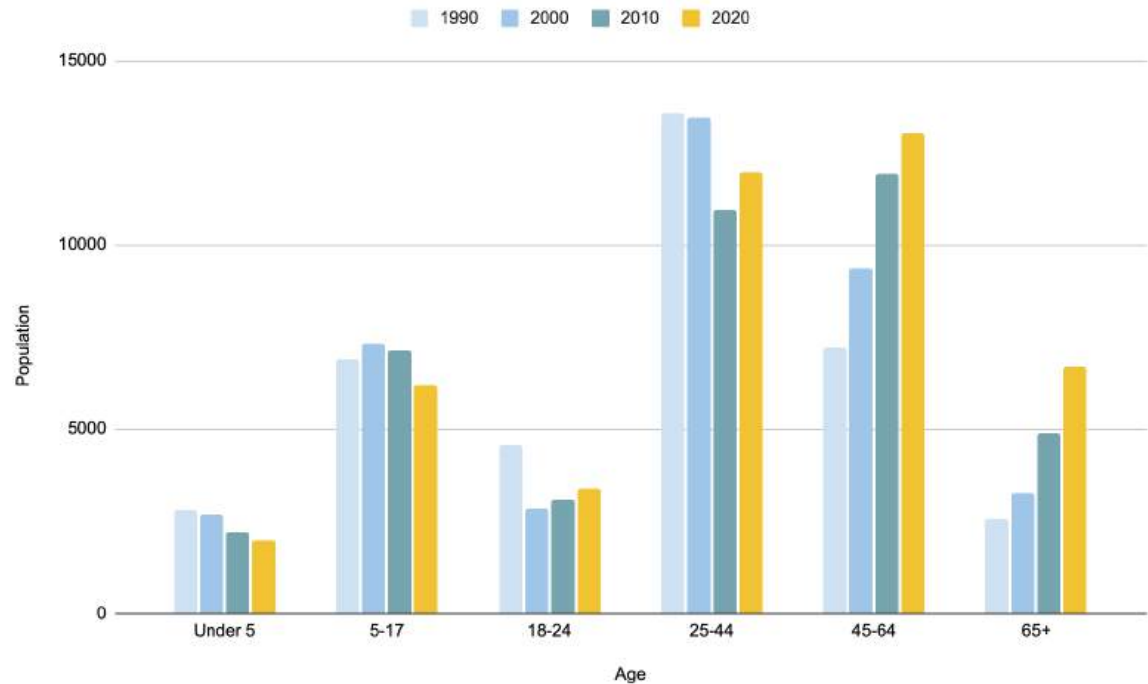


Figure 3-5. Population Change by Age Group

Source: U.S. Census 1990, 2000, 2010, and 2020

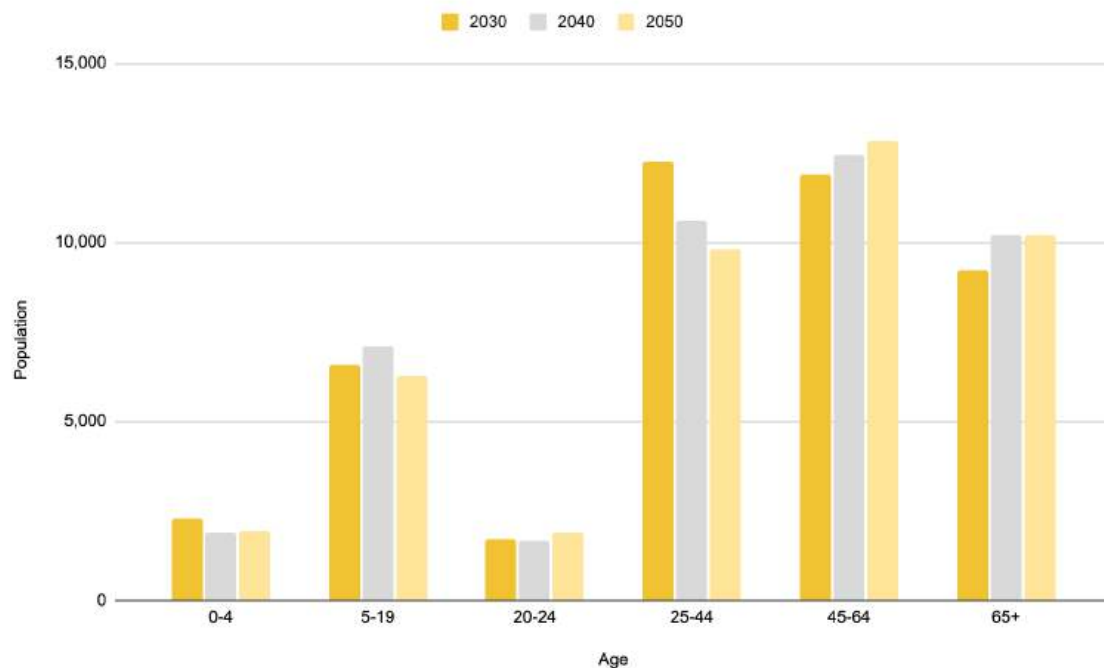


Figure 3-6. Population Projection by Age Group

Source: UMass Donahue Institute

Households

The total number of households in Billerica was estimated to be 15,498 in 2020. The number of total households has been increasing by the decade, but the average household size has declined, from 3.13 persons per household in 1990 to 2.71 in 2020, in tandem with national trends. As shown in Table 3-5, growth in the number of households slowed from 2000 to 2010, perhaps due to the 2008 Great Recession and mortgage crisis but returned to over 10% from 2010 to 2020. Billerica is also seeing an increase in nonfamily households with two or more unrelated people living together (roommates or unmarried couples).

Table 3-5. Households and Household Projections (1980-2022)

	1980	1990	2000	2010	2022 estimate
Billerica	10,645	11,687	12,961	14,034	15,468
Growth	-	9.8%	10.9%	8.6%	10.2%
NMCOG Region	74,923	90,191	99,342	104,022	113,727
Growth	-	20.4%	10.1%	4.7%	9.3%

Sources: U.S. Census 1980-2010; 2022 ACS 5-Year Data

Population with Disabilities

The American Community Survey (ACS)⁵, disseminated by the U.S. Census Bureau, reports estimate for residents with disabilities. Disabilities can be related to a physical, mental, or emotional condition and individuals can require different levels

⁵ The American Community Survey (ACS) is an element in the Census Bureau's decennial census program. The ACS collects information such as age, race, income, commute time to work, home value, veteran status, and other important data. Starting in 2010, the decennial census no longer collected this information. Yearly and multi-year estimates are published based on geographic areas and their population size.

of assistance for daily activities. As shown in Table 3-6, an estimated 9.8% of Billerica residents had a disability between 2017 and 2022. Given this, an inclusive approach to open space and recreation planning is crucial.

The Town does assess open space and recreational resources for compliance with the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), but beyond this, the Town can consider specific alternatives to meet local needs. For example, adaptive sports, nature trails with accessible features, and inclusive play areas may be beneficial for adults and children with ambulatory disabilities. Age-friendly and accessible facilities should also be prioritized given the higher prevalence of disabilities among seniors and the large percentage of the population that they comprise.

Community engagement can help reveal the specific needs of the community, ensuring that the planning process not only meets regulatory standards but also actively promotes accessibility and inclusivity for all residents.

Table 3-6. Population with a Disability by Age Group

	Total		With a disability		Percent with a disability	
	Estimate	MOE	Estimate	MOE	Estimate	MOE
Total population	40,791	±77	3,994	±542	9.80%	±1.3
With a hearing difficulty			1,078	±252	2.60%	±0.6
Population under 5 years	1,850	±320	0	±29	0.00%	±2.3
Population 5 to 17 years	5,938	±557	29	±46	0.50%	±0.8
Population 18 to 34 years	8,816	±829	56	±80	0.60%	±0.9
Population 35 to 64 years	17,512	±767	338	±169	1.90%	±1.0
Population 65 years and over	6,675	±586	655	±158	9.80%	±2.4
With a vision difficulty			585	±205	1.40%	±0.5
Population under 5 years	1,850	±320	0	±29	0.00%	±2.3
Population 5 to 17 years	5,938	±557	0	±29	0.00%	±0.7
Population 18 to 34 years	8,816	±829	26	±32	0.30%	±0.4
Population 35 to 64 years	17,512	±767	281	±173	1.60%	±1.0
Population 65 years and over	6,675	±586	278	±129	4.20%	±2.0
With a cognitive difficulty			1,496	±331	3.80%	±0.8
Population under 18 years	5,938	±557	118	±93	2.00%	±1.5
Population 18 to 34 years	8,816	±829	320	±135	3.60%	±1.5
Population 35 to 64 years	17,512	±767	505	±240	2.90%	±1.4
Population 65 years and over	6,675	±586	553	±157	8.30%	±2.3
With an ambulatory difficulty			1,765	±394	4.50%	±1.0
Population under 18 years	5,938	±557	49	±58	0.80%	±1.0
Population 18 to 34 years	8,816	±829	32	±36	0.40%	±0.4
Population 35 to 64 years	17,512	±767	730	±290	4.20%	±1.6
Population 65 years and over	6,675	±586	954	±242	14.30%	±3.6
With a self-care difficulty			476	±153	1.20%	±0.4
Population under 18 years	5,938	±557	28	±45	0.50%	±0.8
Population 18 to 34 years	8,816	±829	32	±36	0.40%	±0.4
Population 35 to 64 years	17,512	±767	142	±102	0.80%	±0.6
Population 65 years and over	6,675	±586	274	±99	4.10%	±1.5
With an independent living difficulty			1,267	±294	3.80%	±0.9
Population 18 to 34 years	8,816	±829	174	±103	2.00%	±1.2
Population 35 to 64 years	17,512	±767	408	±178	2.30%	±1.0
Population 65 years and over	6,675	±586	685	±171	10.30%	±2.8

Source: 2022 ACS 5-Year Data

Income Distribution

Household income influences where people live, their health care and quality of life, and the opportunities they can offer their children. In Billerica, the median household income of \$113,239 is 139% of the statewide median household income.

The U.S. Census and ACS report that Billerica's median income continues to grow and increased by an estimated \$47,732 (+/- \$7,400) from 2010 to 2022 (Table 3-7). This includes an approximately 43% increase in households earning between \$150,000 and \$199,999 and a 75% increase in residents earning over \$200,000.

Table 3-7. Household Income Distribution (1990, 2000, 2010, 2022)

	1990	2000	2010	2022	% MOE
Total households	11,687	12,961	13,567	15,468	
Less than \$10,000	6.00%	2.70%	1.8%	2.5%	±1.2
\$10,000-\$14,999	2.70%	3.10%	1.9%	1.3%	±0.8
\$15,000-\$24,999	7.70%	6.30%	4.3%	3.2%	±1.4
\$25,000-\$34,999	11.30%	6.80%	5.1%	2.0%	±0.7
\$35,000-\$49,999	21.80%	13.30%	10.0%	5.1%	±1.9
\$50,000-\$74,999	30.90%	25.60%	18.2%	10.6%	±1.9
\$75,000-\$99,999	14.20%	20.20%	19.3%	11.8%	±2.2
\$100,000-\$149,999	4.90%	16.20%	26.7%	22.1%	±2.9
\$150,000 or more	0.40%	5.80%	12.8%	41.6%	±2.6
Median Income	\$50,210 (1989 dollars)	\$67,799 (1999 dollars)	\$87,073 (2009 dollars)	\$134,805 (2022 dollars)	± \$5,836

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2022 ACS 5-Year Data

It is useful to identify the percentage of extremely low-income (30% of median income), low-income (50% of median income), and moderate income (80% of median income) populations, calculated by the U.S. Department of Housing (HUD) based on available ACS data. It is estimated that from 2011 to 2015, nearly 25% of Billerica households made less than 80% of the area's median income and 14% had low or extremely low incomes. Equity in open space planning involves ensuring that all communities, regardless of income level, have access to quality recreational areas.

Environmental Justice Populations

In order to evaluate the impacts of open space and recreation planning on marginalized communities, data provided by Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA) was used to identify environmental justice populations within Billerica and their access to local open space and recreation opportunities. In Massachusetts, an environmental justice population is defined as neighborhood where one or more of the following criteria are true:

1. The annual median household income is 65 percent or less of the statewide annual median household income;
2. Minorities make up 40 percent or more of the population;
3. 25 percent or more of households identify as speaking English less than "very well"; or
4. Minorities make up 25 percent or more of the population and the annual median household income of the municipality in which the neighborhood is located does not exceed 150 percent of the statewide annual median household income.

As shown in Figure 3-8, eight census blocks within Billerica qualify as environmental justice populations based on data collected in the 2020 U.S. Census. Two census blocks qualify under the second criteria and six qualify under the fourth criteria. There are also environmental justice communities in Chelmsford, Burlington, and Lowell which should be considered in the open space planning process in Billerica.

While a majority of residents identified themselves as white in 2020 (79.2%), racial and cultural diversity in Billerica has increased over the years. As Table 3-8 shows, the percentage of residents identifying as Asian increased from 5.5% to 8.5% from 2010 to 2020—the largest increase in a minority group—followed by increases in Hispanic/Latino populations, Black/African American, and those identifying as two or more races.

It is crucial that the open space and recreation planning process consider the needs and priorities of an increasingly culturally and racially diverse community and develop outreach strategies targeted to solicit feedback and participation from environmental justice communities.

Table 3-8. Racial Make-Up of Billerica (2000, 2010, 2020)

	2000		2010		2020	
	Population	%	Population	%	Population	%
Total population	38,981	-	40,243	-	42,119	-
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	600	1.5	1,035	2.6	1,782	4.2
Not Hispanic or Latino	38,381	98.5	39,208	97.4	40,337	95.8
One race	38,594	99	39,676	98.6	39,010	92.6
White	36,906	94.7	36,285	90.2	33,359	79.2
Black or African American	432	1.1	849	2.1	1,635	3.9
American Indian and Alaska Native	39	0.1	59	0.1	44	0.1
Asian	1,074	2.8	2,194	5.5	3,594	8.5
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	16	0	8	0	3	0.01
Some other race	127	0.3	281	0.7	375	0.9
Two or more races	387	1	567	1.4	1,327	3.2

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

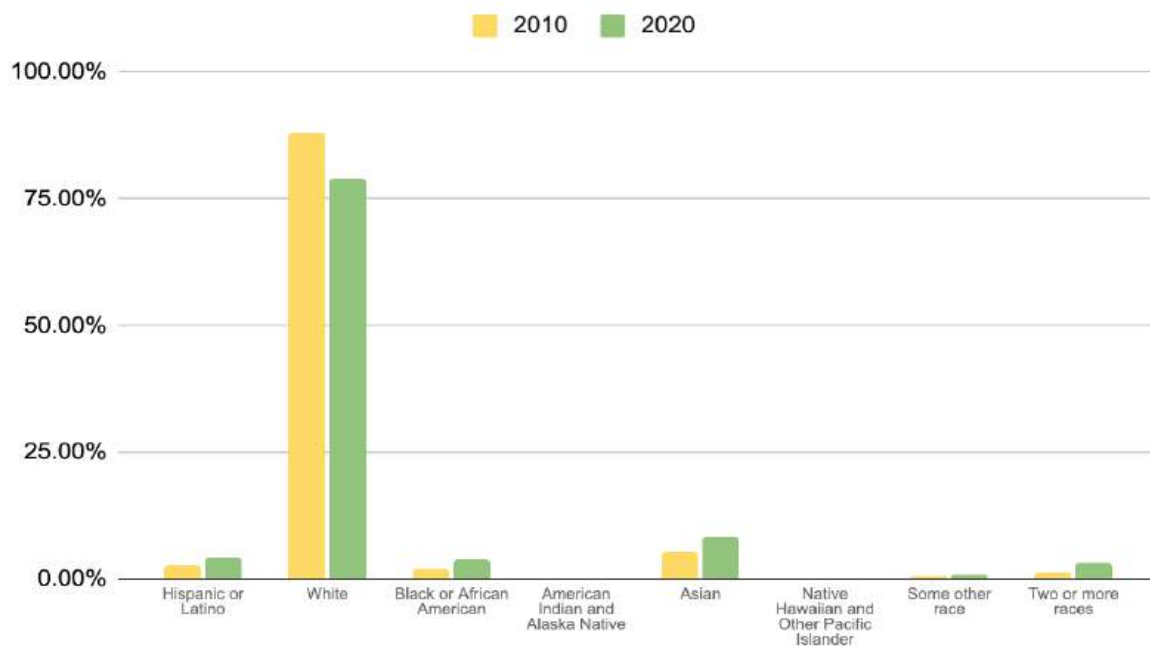


Figure 3-7. Racial Make-Up of Billerica (2010, 2020) Source: US Census Bureau

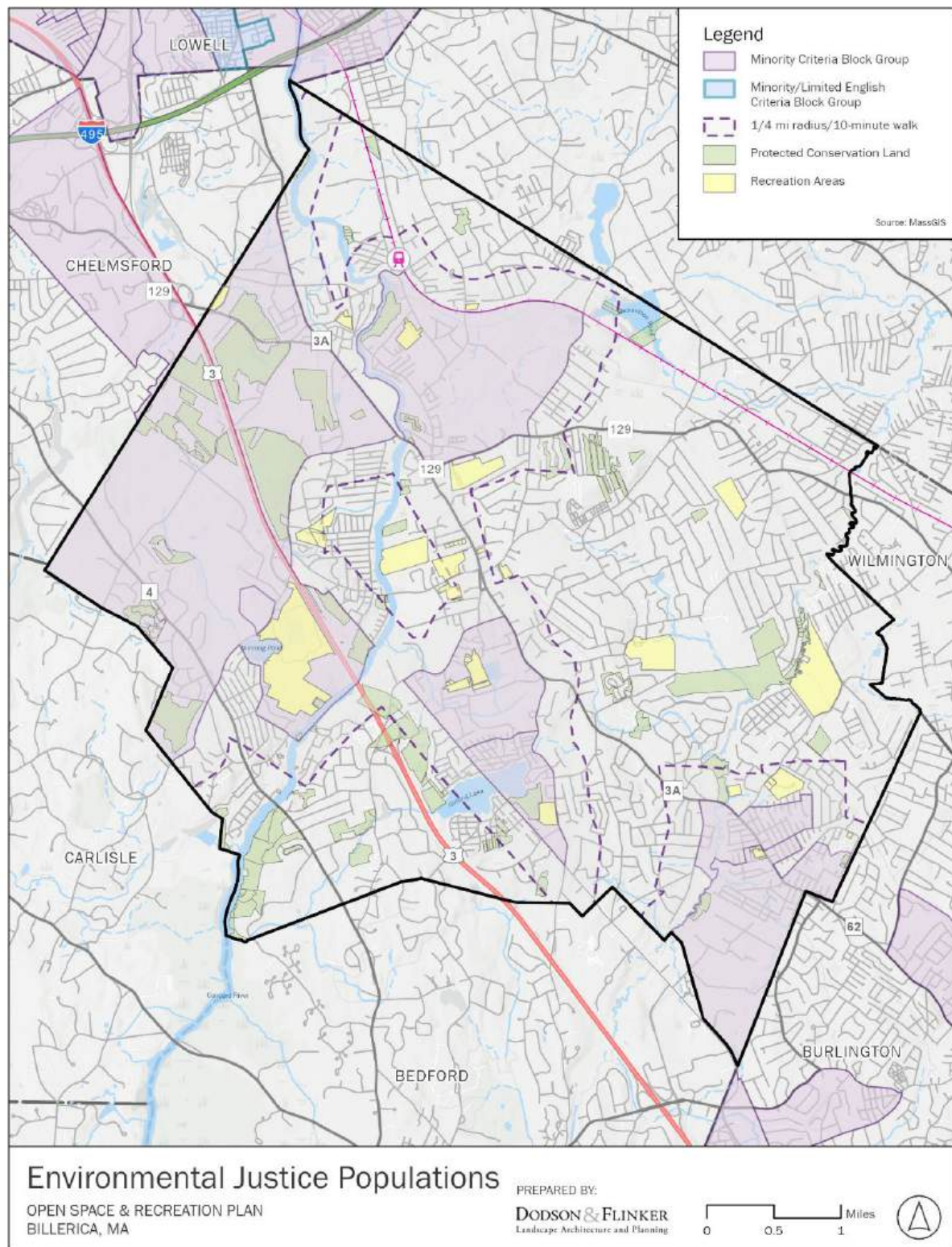


Figure 3-8. Environmental Justice Populations

Employment Trends

Table 3-9 below outlines the labor force, employment, and unemployment characteristics for the community from 2017 through 2023. Unemployment peaked in 2020 during the COVID-19 pandemic. Since then, the unemployment rate has returned to 2017 levels but not the pre-pandemic low in 2019.

Table 3-9. Billerica Labor Market

Year	Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed	Unemployment Rate
2023	24,348	23,525	861	3.5%
2022	24,284	23,466	818	3.4%
2021	24,258	23,183	1,075	4.4%
2020	24,491	22,359	2,132	8.7%
2019	25,214	24,524	690	2.7%
2018	25,209	24,399	810	3.2%
2017	24,671	23,804	867	3.5%

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS), MA Department of Economic Research (DER)

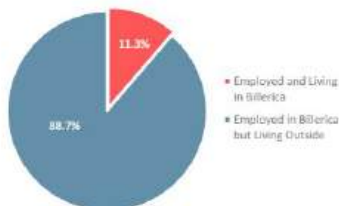
Industry Composition

According to the Economic Development Data Update prepared by RKG Associates for the Town in 2022 (Figure 3-9), industry sectors that remained stable or grew during the pandemic are drawing high-earning employees to Billerica. The town boasts prominent businesses such as Bruker, EMD Serrono, Lantheus, Quanterix, FLIR, Curriculum Associates as well as new entrepreneurial companies like E Ink, Seahorse Biosciences, ClearMotion, and Nuvera Fuel Cells.

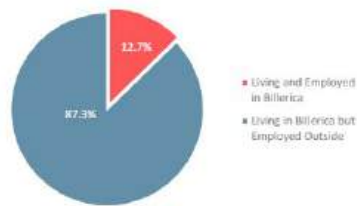
Manufacturing comprises the largest proportion of jobs in Billerica, followed by professional and business services. The biggest decrease in jobs since 2019 was in Accommodation and Food Services, followed by Educational Services and Wholesale Trade, likely due to the COVID-19 pandemic when many businesses shut down and were unable to rebound.

The 2022 Billerica Economic Development Update found that Billerica is a slight net importer of employees. As of 2019 there were nearly 3,000 more jobs in Billerica than there were working residents of Billerica. Only 12.7% of Billerica residents work inside Billerica, and only 11.3% of jobs in Billerica are done by Billerica residents. Residents who don't work in Billerica have jobs spread throughout the Greater Boston Area. The most common place of employment is Boston, where 8.5% of residents work, followed by Burlington with 7.4%. These figures pre-date the COVID-19 pandemic, and it is possible that commuting to Boston or other destinations has since decreased due to the rise of remote work.

**Employment Efficiency (All Jobs)
Among People Employed in Billerica**
Source: OnTheMap, 2019



**Labor Force Efficiency (All Jobs)
Among People Living in Billerica**
Source: OnTheMap, 2019



Labor Market Size (All Jobs)
Source: OnTheMap, 2019

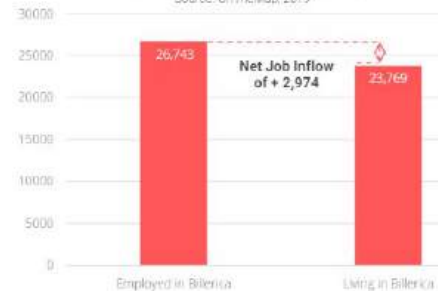


Figure 3-9. Economic Development Data

Source: RKG Associates, 2022

Table 3-10. Billerica Employment and Wages by Industry, 2023 Second Quarter Data

Type of Industry	No. of Establishments	Average Monthly Employment	Average Weekly Wages
Goods-Producing	379	8,910	\$2,059
Construction	262	2,916	\$1,815
Manufacturing	115	5,975	\$2,178
Service-Providing	1,040	16,965	\$1,630
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	251	4,114	\$1,276
Information	22	786	\$2,748
Financial Activities	54	278	\$2,116
Professional and Business Services	291	5,692	\$2,223
Education and Health Services	209	3,270	\$1,227
Leisure and Hospitality	92	1,160	\$556
Other Services	103	656	\$1,161
Public Administration	14	1,010	\$1,569
Total, All Industries	1,419	25,875	\$1,778

Source: MA Office of Labor and Workforce Development

D. Growth and Development Patterns

Patterns and Trends

Originating from the Native American village of Shawshin in the early 1630s and officially incorporated into a township in 1655, Billerica's evolution over the centuries has left a lasting imprint on its current landscape. In its initial 150 years post-incorporation, Billerica thrived as an agricultural community. The town gained significance in the early 19th century as an important stop on the Middlesex Canal, which stretched from present-day Lowell to Charlestown. The Talbot Dam, which created Summit Pond, provided water and powered the locks north and south of the pond along the Middlesex Canal towpath. After the rise of steam-powered railroads in the mid-1800s, the Concord River hosted a substantial mill complex, ushering in an era of industrialization.

At the turn of the 20th century, seeking summer respite from urban life, city dwellers flocked to rural towns like Billerica, giving rise to vacation cottages and camps around Nutting Lake, Winning Pond, and the Concord River.

Over the past six decades, Billerica's predominant development trend has been suburban. Between 1950 and 2000, the population of Billerica skyrocketed from 10,000 to over 40,000 residents. This surge prompted a transformation in the town's landscape, with large farms being replaced by residential subdivisions. Residential land development increased at a growth rate of 49.7% between 1971 and 2005. Subdivisions were built on available land, and the winterization of resort cottages allowed for year-round occupancy.

The industrial and business landscape underwent a significant shift, transitioning from traditional mills to a more diversified industry. From 1971-2011, the amount of land developed for commercial and industrial uses increased significantly. Commercial land increased by 75%, while industrial land grew by 54.5%, securing Billerica's prominent position in the industrial sector within the Greater Lowell region.

These developments have resulted in sporadic patterns as residential and industrial zones are now dispersed across the town. Retail strip development is largely concentrated along Boston Road (Route 3A). After half a century of robust growth, Billerica has limited vacant and buildable land available.

The largest percentage of land in Billerica is occupied by residential uses (42.3%), followed by open land (17.1%), and industrial (8.8%). Table 3-11 summarizes land use classifications based on 2016 MassGIS Land Use data and corresponds to Figure 3-10.

Table 3-11. 2016 Land Use

Land Use Category	Acres	Percent
Agriculture	140	0.8%
Commercial	576	3.4%
Forest	54	0.3%
Industrial	1490	8.8%
Mixed use, other	137	0.8%
Mixed use, primarily commercial	153	0.9%
Mixed use, primarily residential	180	1.1%
Open land	2888	17.1%
Recreation	43	0.3%
Residential - multi-family	679	4.0%
Residential - other	14	0.1%
Residential - single family	6432	38.2%
Right-of-way	1922	11.4%
Tax exempt	1410	8.4%
Unknown	328	1.9%
Water	396	2.4%
Total	16843	100.0%

Source: MassGIS, 2016

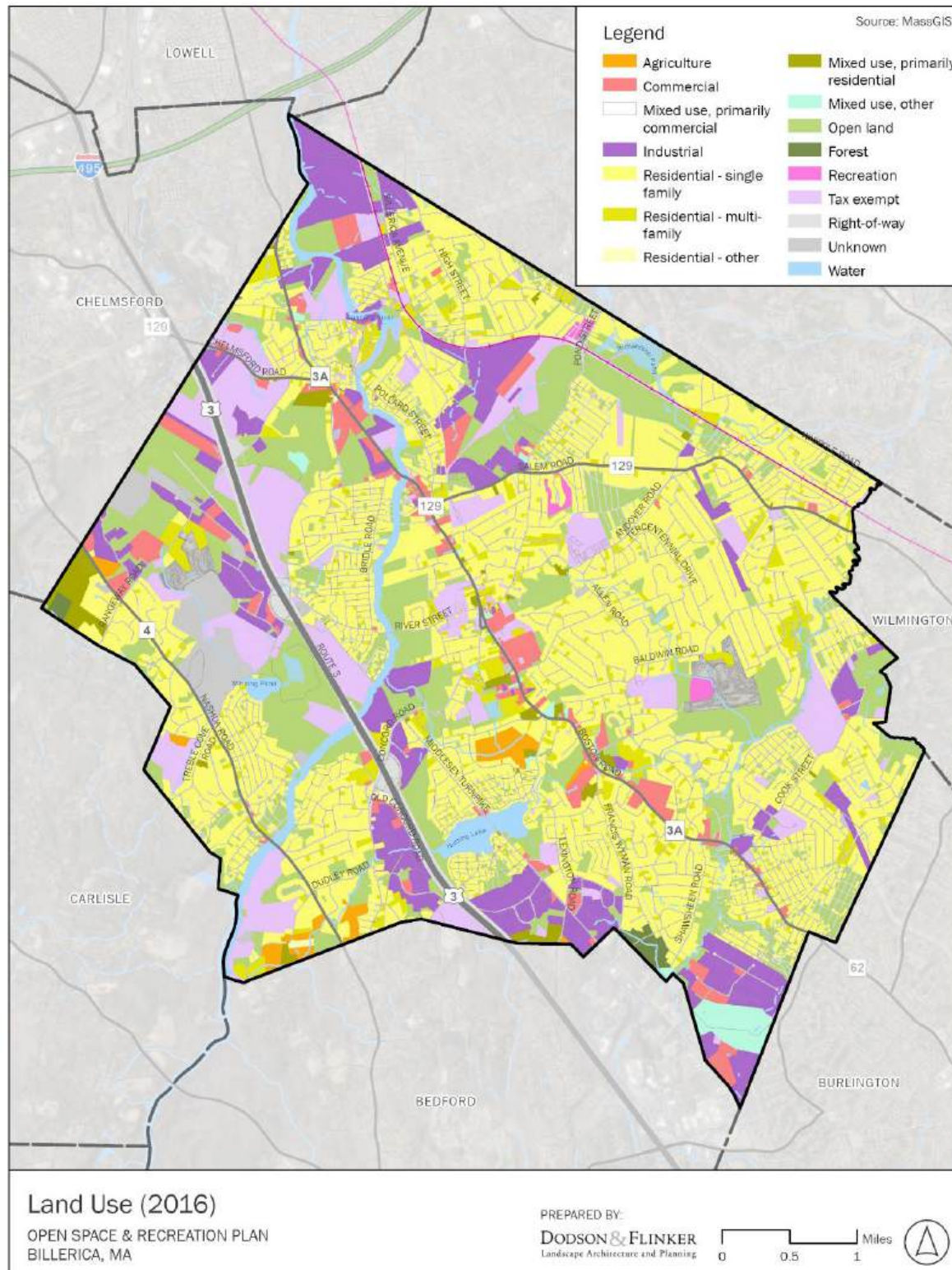


Figure 3-10. Land Use (2016)

Transportation Infrastructure

Roadways

The Town of Billerica is served by U.S. Route 3, a limited-access urban arterial that functions as an interstate by providing connections to I-495 and I-95. Highway access has played a significant role in the development of the town over time.

All roadways are classified by the State and Federal transportation agencies according to their function. Streets classified as arterials carry high volumes of traffic and provide vital connections to other major roadways and to adjoining communities. The streets classified as arterials in Billerica include:

- Route 3A (Boston Road) which runs north-south through Town and provides connections to Chelmsford and Burlington.
- Route 129 which runs east-west and provides connections to Chelmsford and Wilmington; and
- Route 4, which runs north-south and provides connections to Chelmsford and Bedford.

There are approximately 47 miles of roadway classified as collectors in the Town of Billerica, carrying residential traffic to the arterial roadway system. This classification includes roadways such as River Street in the center section of Town, as well as Concord Road, Andover Road, and Pollard Street.

Within Billerica, there are just over eleven miles of roadway under State jurisdiction, with the remainder of the roadway system under local jurisdiction. The Town has implemented traffic calming techniques at various locations throughout the Town on a trial basis with mixed results.

Commuter Rail

The Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA) commuter rail running from Lowell to North Station in Boston stops in North Billerica. The MBTA Station has parking.

Transit

Billerica is served by the Lowell Regional Transit Authority (LRTA). Three LRTA bus lines run through Billerica. The 3/4 bus is a loop route that connects the Billerica Commuter Rail stop with Southern Lowell, with several stops along Billerica Avenue and Boston Road. Routes 13 and 14 run from Lowell to Burlington through Billerica. Route 13 runs along Boston Road except for a small stretch along Talbot Avenue and Pollard Street connecting to the Talbot Mills area. Route 14 runs along Brick Kiln Road and Chelmsford Road past Warren Manning State Forest, and then along Boston Road to the Town Common. South of the Town Common it runs along Concord Rd and the Middlesex Turnpike past Nutting Lake and into Burlington where it makes its last stop at the Burlington Mall. All three bus routes run once hourly Monday through Saturday.

Many of Billerica's open space and recreation areas are not accessible by transit, including Bicknell Forest, Old Ditson School, a portion of Billerica State Forest and Gilson Hill (between Treble Cove Road and Rangeway Road), Dutile Park, Fox Hill Summit, Great Meadows and Dudley Park, Jones Forest, Locke Middle School, and Vietnam Veterans Park. Because LRTA does not have late evening or Sunday service, those without access to a vehicle cannot access any open space and recreation spaces at certain times. Open space considerations should be factored into transportation planning, and vice versa.

Bikes and Pedestrians

Walking trails, bike paths, and bike trails were voted as respondents' top recreation facilities needs in the 2018 OSRP. Billerica does not have continuous sidewalks on all streets, which means that in some areas, residents are forced to walk in the roads.

The Town plans to continue to make improvements to the bike and pedestrian network by developing the Yankee Doodle Bikeway, the Bay Circuit Trail & Greenway, and the Middlesex Canal Greenway:

- Phase 1 of the **Yankee Doodle Bike Path**, anticipated to begin construction in 2024, will provide a connection from the center of Billerica to the Minuteman Bikeway in Bedford, via the Narrow-Gauge Rail-Trail. The addition of this approximately 4-mile bike path will provide an accessible link between educational, recreational and conservation areas in the southern portion of the Town, with connections to many other surrounding communities.
- Billerica is also one of fifty communities located along the **Bay Circuit Trail & Greenway**. The Bay Circuit, also known as the outer Emerald Necklace, was envisioned in 1929 as a 100-mile long “green beltway,” extending from Plum Island on the north shore to Kingston Bay on the south shore. As now envisioned, the potential network of parks and open spaces will preserve a swath of cultural and natural resources surrounding greater Boston. Implementation of the Bay Circuit project will require connecting the soon-to-be-built Yankee Doodle Bike Path with trail connections in Tewksbury. Property acquisitions or easements will be necessary north of Fox Hill around Richardson’s Pond, and along sections of the Middlesex Canal.
- The historical Middlesex Canal spanned 27 miles and traveled through Billerica from Lowell to Boston. Today, approximately 70% of the five-mile route of the Middlesex Canal in Billerica remains visible. This historic route presents an opportunity to develop a greenway with both historical significance and alternative transportation benefits. The Middlesex Canal Association has done extensive work to memorialize, preserve, and create trails along the canal.

Water Supply and Distribution

The original Billerica Water Treatment Plant (WTP) was built in 1955 with a capacity of 3.5 million gallons per day (MGD), and there were plans to expand it to 7 MGD in the future. This plant initially drew water directly from the Concord River, replacing the well fields in use at the time. In 1967, the plant's capacity was increased to 7 MGD, and in 1976, it underwent another expansion to reach a capacity of 14 MGD. In 2006, a new WTP was constructed approximately two miles upstream, with the purpose of improving drinking water. It did not increase the amount of water withdrawn from the Concord River, and it maintained the intake structure as the withdrawal point. The new WTP also has a capacity of 14 MGD, equivalent to the final capacity of the old WTP. The WTP serves as the exclusive source of water for the town.

The WTP stores one million gallons of filtered water, and the combined capacity of the two steel standpipes is 8.5 million gallons. These standpipes are strategically located at higher elevations within the town, ensuring a consistent pressure supply throughout the system.

Wastewater Treatment Infrastructure

The construction of Billerica's first public sewer system and treatment plant began in 1966 and was designed to be able to expand to accommodate 50,000 residents by 2000. The Letchworth Avenue Wastewater Treatment Facility was initially designed to treat 0.8 million gallons per day (MGD) and was upgraded in 1975 to increase its capacity to 1.6 MGD.

In 1982, a Wastewater Facilities Plan identified twenty areas in need of an alternative to individual septic systems. The Town initiated services to many of these areas through Town Meeting appropriations, resulting in the installation of 96 miles of sewer lines by 1988. The wastewater treatment facility was then expanded to treat 5.52 MGD. To address water quality issues, sewer services have been further expanded in recent years, and now service approximately 85% of the community.

The wastewater treatment plant's average daily flow is 3.9 MGD, and its design capacity is 5.52 MGD, set to increase to 5.5 MGD with an additional aeration tank. This includes 0.2 MGD of removable infiltration/inflow, with daily flow expected to rise as the town expands the sewer collection system.

Billerica has numerous industrial users contributing significant flows and pollutant loading to the wastewater treatment plant. Since 1985, the town has implemented an Industrial Pretreatment Program approved by the U.S. EPA, covering 22 industries with a total permitted flow of 461,770 gallons per day.

Long-Term Development Patterns

In 2001, NMCOG conducted a comprehensive build-out analysis for Billerica using a methodology developed by the EEA. The study, summarized in Table 3-12, outlined potential development scenarios for the town. The build-out analysis reflects the amount of development that could happen under current zoning. The full analysis and accompanying maps are available at the Billerica Planning Department.

Table 3-12. Summary Build-out Statistics

New Development and Associated Impacts	
Developable Land	109,552,093.20 sf or 2,515 acres
Total residential lots	1,748.0
Commercial/Industrial Buildable Floor Area	18,197,516 sf
Residential Water Use	412,650 gallons per day
Commercial/Industrial Water Use	1,364,814.0 gallons per day
Municipal Solid Waste- Recyclable	819.8 tons per year
Municipal Solid Waste- Non-recycled	2,007.0 tons per year
New residents	5,504
New students	1,580
New residential subdivision roads	36.7 miles

Source: Northern Middlesex Council of Governments using methodology developed by the MA EEA

According to the analysis, Billerica had the potential for nearly 1,800 new homes, accommodating 5,504 new residents. The ecological impacts of attaining maximum build-out are many, with an estimated 2,515 acres of land at risk of being lost to development, resulting in a significant loss of open space and habitat for wildlife and plant species. Such development would likely create substantial amounts of impervious surface, potentially increasing runoff, exacerbating existing flooding problems, and impacting water quality within the community.

Furthermore, the anticipated growth would increase water consumption by approximately 412,650 gallons per day. The introduction of 18 million square feet of commercial and industrial development could potentially require an additional 1.3 million gallons per day. Such growth would also generate an additional 2,819 tons per year of solid waste.

Since 2001, Billerica has continued to see residential development, characterized by small subdivisions, infill projects, and Chapter 40B⁶ projects. The Town's Housing Production Plan for 2021-2025, certified by the Department of Housing and Community Development, underscores the ongoing need for affordable and flexible housing. As of 2023, subsidized affordable housing units represented 10.79% of Billerica's housing stock, slightly above the 10% required to claim safe harbor in Chapter 40B projects.

It is anticipated that the remaining developable land in Billerica will be utilized principally for commercial or residential purposes. Billerica's Zoning Bylaw and Subdivision Regulations include provisions for open space subdivisions, regulation of building in the floodplain, and other protections against inappropriate development.

⁶ Chapter 40B is a state statute which enables local Zoning Boards of Appeals to approve affordable housing developments under flexible rules if at least 20-25% of the units have long-term affordability restrictions. (<http://www.mass.gov/hed/community/40b-plan/>)

Current zoning districts are shown in Figure 3-11. In 2023, the Town began a Zoning Recodification process to clarify and update the town's zoning. The Final Recodified Bylaw is expected in Spring 2025.

In anticipation of new development, such as MBTA Communities (MGL 40a, 3A), planning efforts should consider whether existing open space and recreation opportunities will be sufficient for this potential increase in population.

As part of the 2018 Master Plan, Billerica emphasized the importance of preserving open space and natural resources. Action items included preserving existing forests, collaborating with various stakeholders to expand trail networks, identifying opportunities for public access to riverfront areas, coordinating regionally for long-range land use strategies along river corridors, and identifying parcels to expand and connect existing open space and natural resources.

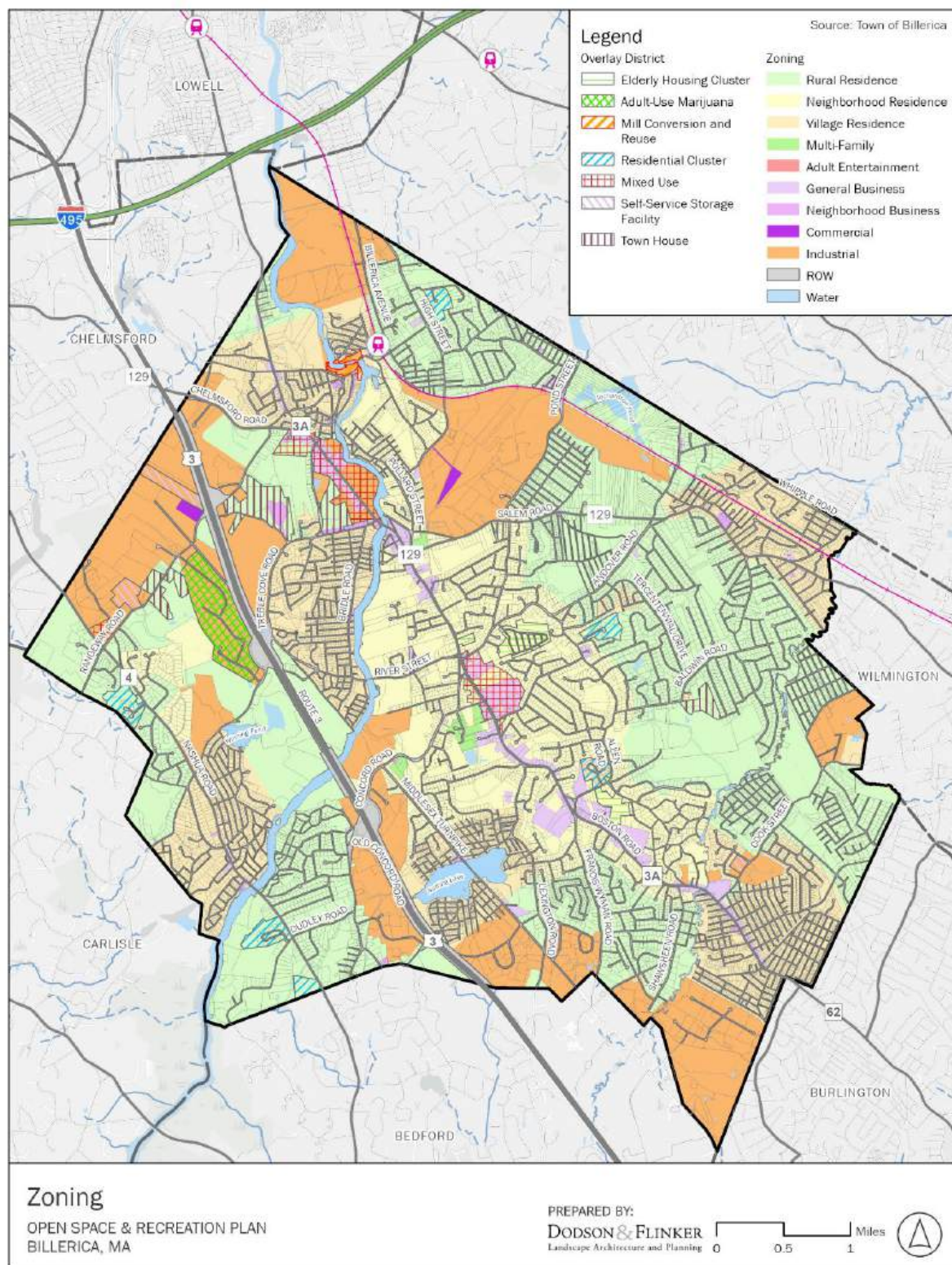


Figure 3-11. Zoning

4 Environmental Inventory and Analysis

A. Geology, Soils and Topography

Landforms

The landforms found in Billerica today are the result of forces acting on the landscape over millennia. Glacial action during the most recent ice age sculpted the landscape, eroding and displacing bedrock, realigning drainages, and depositing till, erratics, and glacial moraine. Today, Billerica's low hills are covered by the unsorted mixture of boulders, gravel, sand, silt and clay known as glacial till, and most of the town west of the Shawsheen River is underlain by till.

Flat outwash plains, comprising sediment deposited by glacier meltwater streams, are found adjacent to the Shawsheen River and west of the Concord River upstream of River Street. A natural bedrock dam on the Concord River underlies the man-made Talbot Mills Dam in North Billerica. North of this dam, bedrock and till formations rise gently.

Most of the Town lies at elevations between 80 and 150 feet, with only five percent of the Town at an elevation of more than 250 feet. Fox Hill, at 320 feet above sea level, and Gilson Hill, at 310 feet, are the highest points in town.

Bedrock Geology

The bedrock in Billerica consists of diverse types of gneiss, marble, and schist, with intrusions of granite. The first three are metamorphic rocks: these rocks were subjected to sufficient heat and temperature to change them from one type of rock to another. Some of the metamorphic rock in the town contains amphibolites, which produce somewhat more alkaline soils than other regional bedrocks. Four specific bedrock types are found in Billerica: Sillimite Schist and Gneiss, Andover Granite, Boxford Amphibolite, and Fish Brook Gneiss.

Throughout town the depth to bedrock varies greatly. The bedrock is covered by soil, subsoil, and surficial geologic deposits. In the Paxton-Woodbridge-Hollis soil association, described in the soils subsection of this report, the depth to bedrock is only one to three feet. Not coincidentally, West Billerica, where most of this soil association is found, is the least developed area of town.

Surficial Geology

During the most recent ice age, the landscape was covered by glaciers. The melting of those glaciers left behind a landscape dominated by glacial till, a heterogeneous mixture of rock particles ranging in size from clay to boulders deposited directly by the retreating ice, and by sand and gravel outwash, deposited by meltwater streams. The resulting landscape consists of kame terraces, outwash plains, and ground moraine. Other glacially formed landscape features occur in localized areas and include swamp deposits of partially decomposed organic material mixed with sand, gravel, and alluvium, and pockets of sorted sand, gravel, and silt.

The boulders, rocks, and other materials between the soil and the bedrock comprise an area's surficial geology. Surficial geology influences the properties of overlying soil associations, including drainage characteristics, suitability for different land uses, and the type of vegetation that can grow in them.

As seen in Figure 4-1, there are four basic types of surficial deposits in Billerica: sand and gravel; glacial till; floodplain alluvium; and organic deposits.

Broad belts of sand and gravel deposits straddle the Concord and Shawsheen Rivers, stretching across the northern third of the town. These deposits, often called “stratified deposits,” “outwash deposits,” or “fluvioglacial deposits,” were left by streams pouring off melting glaciers. The high speed of the melt waters segregated, or “stratified” particles, depositing the larger sand and gravel particles in layers.

Smaller particles – clay and silts – were washed further downstream. The sand and gravel deposits are very permeable, have poor water retention, and are vulnerable to drought. Due to their permeability and the absence of rocks, sand and gravel deposits present few constraints for establishing playing fields or farms. Pines, oaks, and other species able to tolerate dry conditions are prevalent in sand and gravel deposits. These are usually important to groundwater recharge, and are, therefore, undesirable locations for industries with the potential to pollute.

Glacial till is found in the central, south central, and western parts of Billerica (Figure 6). Glacial till is composed of mixed, unsorted deposits of glacial materials ranging in size from large boulders to silt and clay particles. Till often contains layers of clay and compressed silt that are relatively impermeable to water. These areas of dense basal till are called “hardpan,” and can create high water tables. Seasonally high water tables present difficulties in siting septic systems, and an abundance of rocks, stones, and boulders hinder the siting of playing fields and farms.

Floodplain alluvium along the rivers and larger streams in Billerica is the result of particles deposited over time by floodwaters. While these areas are often fertile for agriculture, they have severe development limitations due to frequent flooding and seasonally high water tables. In wetlands, where the water table is high throughout the year, decomposition of plant matter is delayed, and thick organic layers of mulch accumulate. These areas are unsuitable for most commercial use, although they are important for other values such as water quality, flood control, and wildlife habitat.

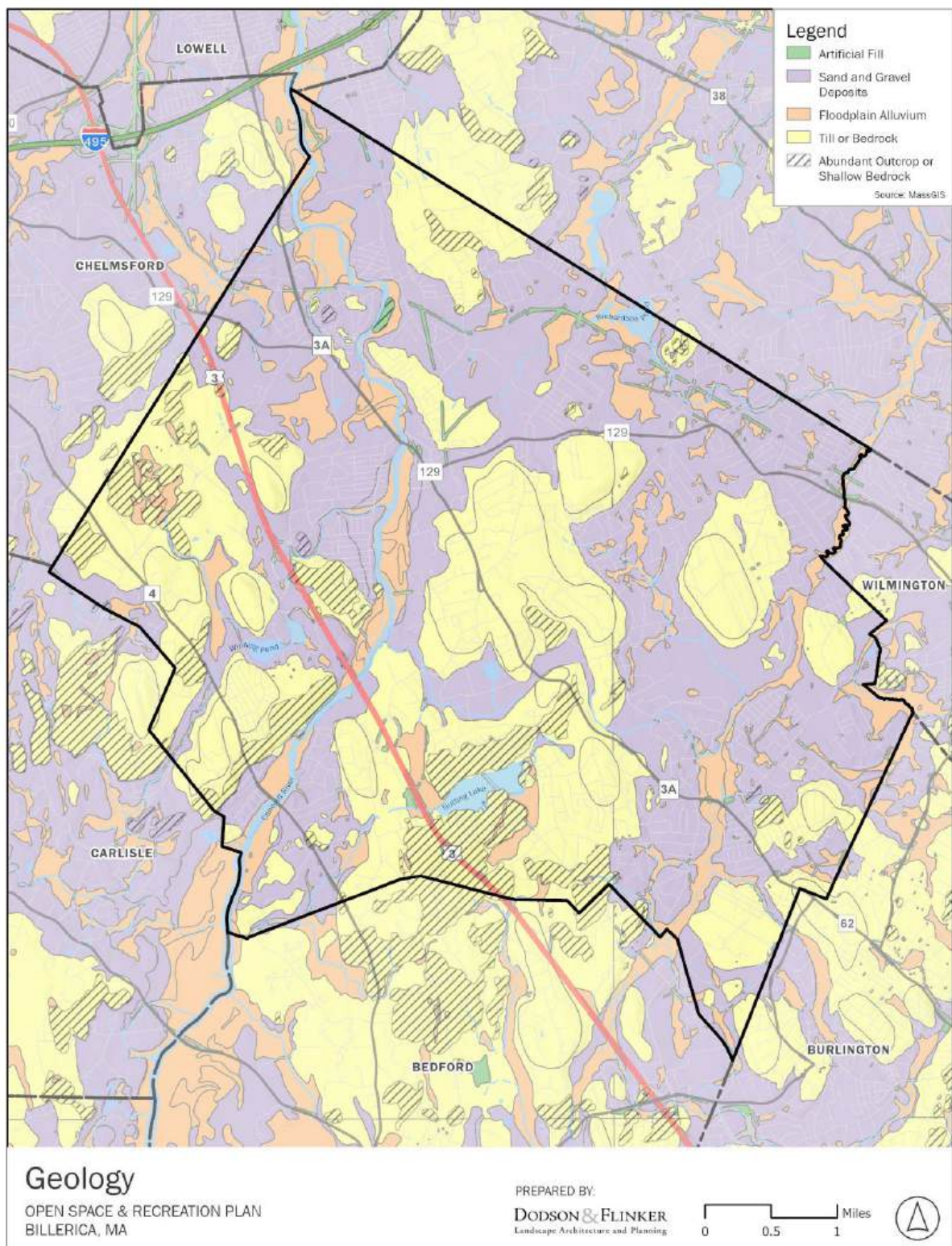


Figure 4-1. Geology

Soils

Soil composition has important implications for stormwater control, drainage planning, land use planning, groundwater resource protection, and siltation and erosion control. Soil conditions render about ten percent (10%) of Billerica largely unsuitable for development, and another fifty-five (55%) percent of the town unsuitable for development that relies on on-site sewage disposal methods.

Twenty soil classifications have been identified in Billerica and are grouped by similar characteristics into four basic associations: Windsor-Hinckley Association; Essex-Scituate Association; Paxton-Woodbridge-Hollis Association; and Muck-Fresh Water Marsh-Whitman Association. Figure 7 shows the various soil types within the Town. See Figure 4-2.

About forty percent (40%) of Billerica is covered by the Windsor-Hinckley Association, which is composed of sandy, gravelly, and well-drained outwash soils. Windsor and Hinckley soils are loose and porous, and water moves rapidly through them. These sand and gravel deposits are many feet deep in most places. However, along the Concord River Valley the deposits are only three to four feet thick and are underlain by slowly permeable, compact glacial till. Most of this soil association has slight limitations for residential, commercial or industrial uses. The soils tend to be rapidly permeable and have the capacity to absorb large quantities of sewage effluent. However, because these rapidly permeable soils have little filtering action, they have the potential to be sites of groundwater pollution. This association contains good commercial sources of sand and gravel. Water tables are usually at depths greater than ten feet, except in the Pinehurst area, where they are generally only five to ten feet below ground level.

The Essex-Scituate Association, present across approximately thirty-five percent (35%) of Billerica, contains glacial till soils that have hardpan near the surface. These soils are well-drained and moderately well-drained stony soils that developed in sandy, compact glacial till. The depth to hardpan is 1.5 to 2 feet deep/

Excess seepage water or a fluctuating water table within two feet of the surface of Scituate soils may keep them saturated with water for a significant period of time. This condition generally prevails during the winter and spring, but also occurs during prolonged periods of rainfall. The hardpan present in this soil association is slowly permeable, severely curtailing the ability of these soils to absorb sewage effluent. In addition to hardpan, the soils contain stones and boulders on and below the surface. These soils are unsuitable for development dependent on on-site disposal systems. They are valuable for woodland, wildlife habitat, and some kinds of recreation.

Comprising about fifteen percent (15%) of Billerica, the Paxton-Woodbridge-Hollis Association is composed of compact glacial till soils that have hardpan or bedrock close to the surface. They are well-drained and moderately well-drained stony soils that developed in loamy, compact glacial till, and shallow to bedrock soils. These soils contain slowly permeable hardpans 1.5 to 2 feet from the surface where excess seepage water or a fluctuating water table may keep them wet for significant periods of time. Hollis soils also contain many bedrock exposures or ledges. The soils contain stones on and below the surface. This association has severe limitations for industrial, commercial, or high-density residential uses that are dependent on on-site disposal systems.

Muck-Fresh Water Marsh-Whitman Association soils are very poorly drained organic and mineral soils on low-lying level terrain with water tables at or near the surface. About ten percent (10%) of Billerica contains these soils. The general soil area is beneficial for wetland wildlife, and is suitable for some kinds of recreational uses. It is not suitable for development. The vast majority of these areas are within protected wetlands.

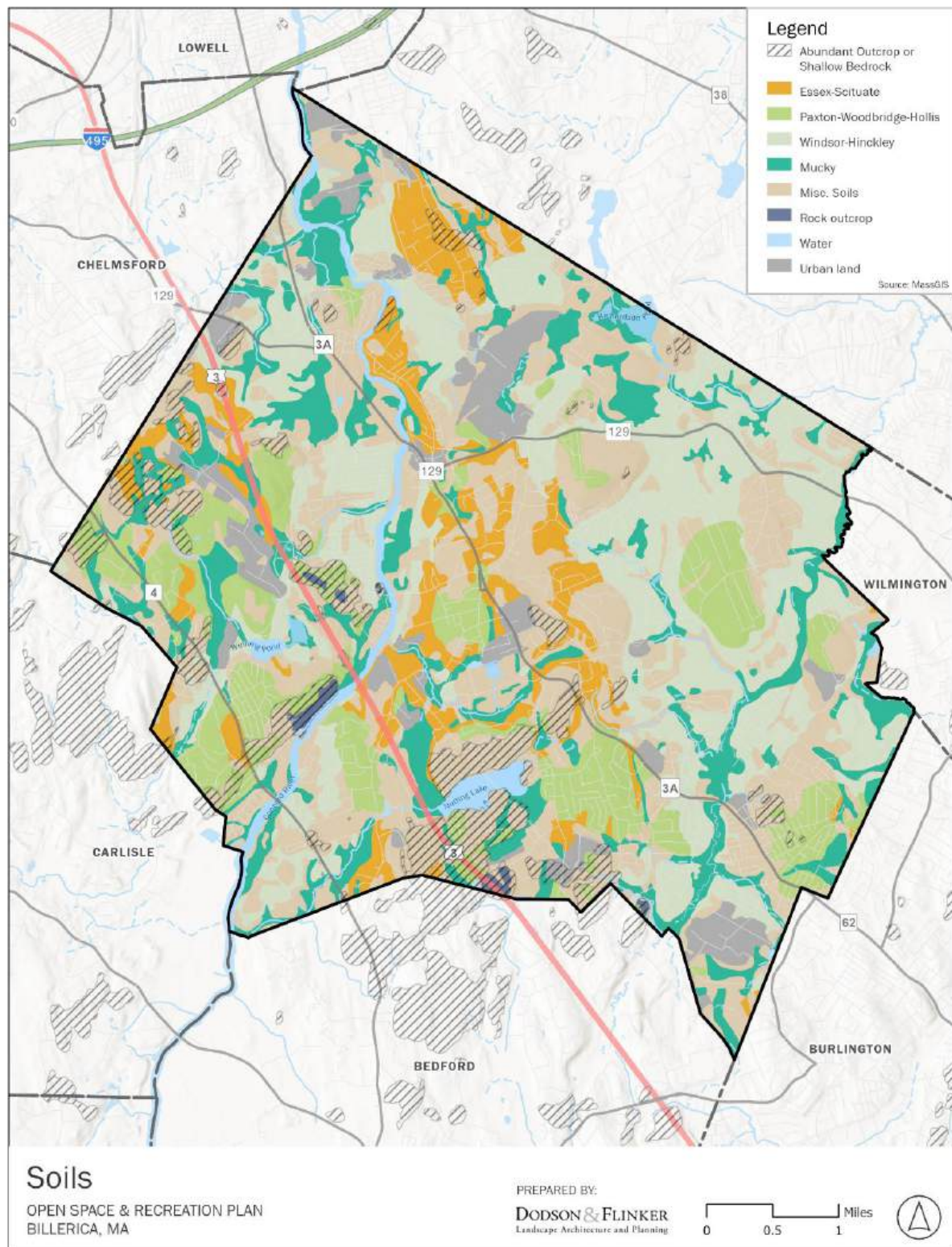


Figure 4-2. Soils

B. Landscape Character and Unique Features

Billerica's landscape is characterized by both natural and built environments. The most distinctive landscape features are Gilson Hill, Fox Hill, floodplains, and wetlands surrounding the Concord and Shawsheen Rivers, the rivers themselves, and the two major ponds: Nutting Lake and Winning Pond. Prior to the suburbanization of the past fifty years, Billerica was a town of farm and mill villages and waterfront vacation cottages and camps. Elements of that character remain in the town's historic districts and neighborhoods such as the Center District, the North Billerica Mill District, Nutting Lake, Pinehurst, and Winning Pond.

Figure 4-3 depicts the town's special landscape features and historic districts.

The wetlands that lie between the town's rolling hills provide pockets of open space between large nodes of residential development, generally on modest-sized lots. West of Route 3, residential development is generally less dense than in other sections of town.

Commercial and retail establishments typically stretch along major roadways such as Route 3A, Route 129 and the Middlesex Turnpike. The town center remains the heart of civic life within the community and includes the historic town common, the senior center, the town library, the post office, churches and some local businesses. In general, the built character of Billerica reflects the period of most intense development activity – the 1950s and 1960s – when automobile-dependent suburbs were first being created. Bicycle and pedestrian accommodations are lacking throughout most of town. Industrial facilities are typically clustered near the Route 3 interchange areas and along other major corridors.

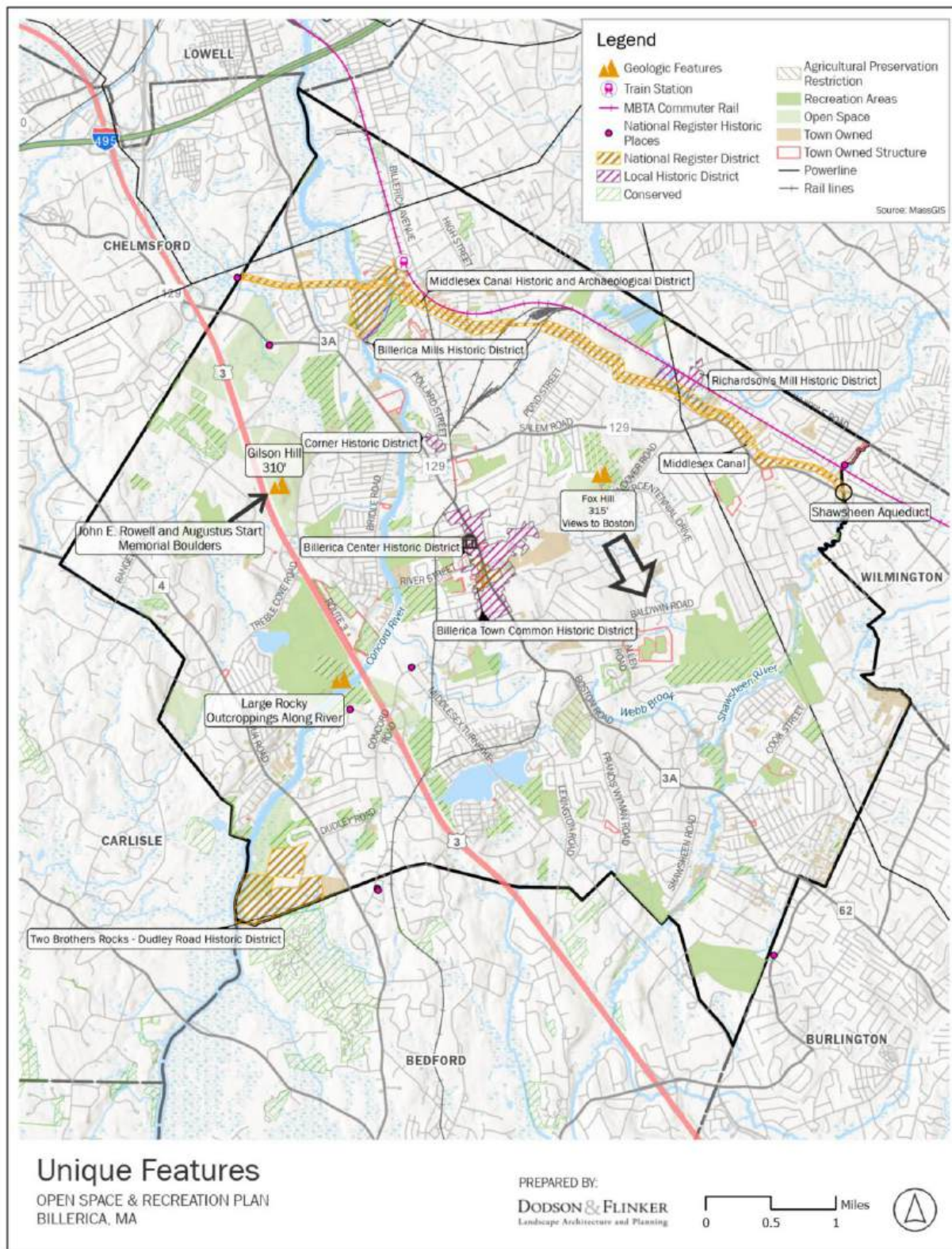


Figure 4-3. Unique Features

C. Water Resources

Watersheds

The Town's water resources are shown on Figure 4-4. The Town is part of three watersheds: the Shawsheen, the Sudbury-Assabet-Concord (SuAsCo), and the Ipswich. The Town is divided roughly in half east-west between the SuAsCo (West) and Shawsheen (east) watersheds. A small portion of the far eastern end of the Town is part of the Ipswich watershed.

The Shawsheen River Watershed has a total drainage area of approximately 78 square miles, including approximately 60 miles of named rivers and streams. It encompasses all or part of 12 Massachusetts municipalities.

The SuAsCo Watershed, consisting of the Sudbury, Assabet, and Concord Rivers, is a 377- square mile area encompassing, partially or wholly, 36 Massachusetts municipalities. Seventeen miles of the Sudbury River, four miles of the Assabet, and eight miles of the Concord are federally designated as "wild and scenic rivers" based on their free-flowing condition and outstanding scenic, recreational, wildlife, cultural, and historic values. It is also known as the Concord Watershed.

The Ipswich Watershed, made up of the land surrounding the Ipswich River and its 45 tributary streams, covers an area of 155 square miles. The Ipswich River Watershed includes all or portions of 21 Massachusetts municipalities.

Surface Water

Two major rivers, the Concord and the Shawsheen flow north through Billerica to the Merrimack River. Both rivers are popular paddler destinations. Surrounded by dense foliage and extending 9.6 miles, the Concord is Billerica's "Hidden River" because there is very little public awareness of access to the river. The river enters Billerica from Bedford, where an extensive, flat, freshwater marsh begins to narrow, and the Great Meadows National Wildlife Refuge extends along the river for about one mile into Billerica from Bedford. Dudley Park abuts the Refuge, preserving a greater expanse of open space for wildlife habitat. This southern portion of the Concord River, upstream of the Route 3 bridge in Billerica, along with the Sudbury and Assabet Rivers to the south, has been designated a Wild and Scenic River by the federal government.

About three miles of the nineteen miles of Concord shoreline in Billerica are permanently protected, including areas within Great Meadows Wildlife Refuge, Vietnam Veterans Park, Elsie Avenue Conservation Land, Virginia Park Conservation Land, a 20-acre parcel near the Fordway rapids, and Ralph Hill Conservation Areas, including Jug Island which is owned by the Sudbury Valley Trustees.

Billerica is the only town along the Concord that uses the river as a drinking water source, and it is the sole source for the town. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) classifies the water quality as Category "B" – safe for drinking (after treatment), fishing and swimming. The Talbot Dam, which is likely to be removed soon, is located downstream of the municipal water intake plant. Upstream, the banks of the river vary from wide marsh to steep slopes. However, low hills interspersed by floodplain are typical of most of the river bank, which has been extensively developed for residential purposes. Originally built as summer cottages and camps, many of the older buildings have been converted for year-round use and are connected to the town sewer system.

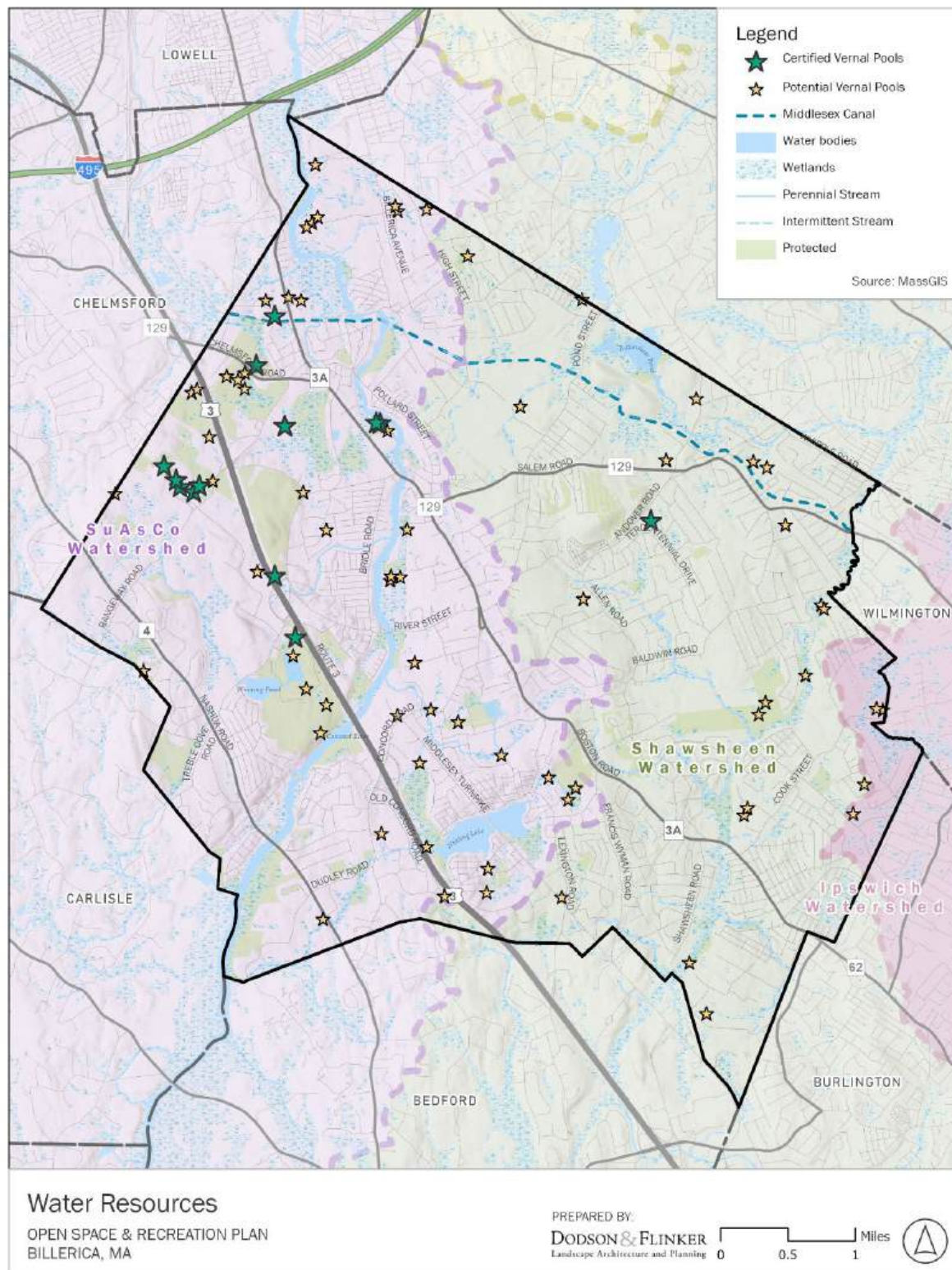


Figure 4.4. Water Resources

The Shawsheen River has a meandering course with a wide, marshy floodplain. The marshy banks of the river have prevented development directly on the riverside, except in the Pinehurst neighborhood where the river abuts higher land. Upland areas adjoining the floodplain and within the river's drainage area have significant residential and industrial development.

Of the ten miles of Shawsheen riverbank in Billerica, approximately three miles are permanently protected. This area includes the Jones Town Forest and Shaloo Meadow, Shawsheen Woods, and Akeson Fields. The Town of Burlington's main drinking water intake is on the Shawsheen River in Billerica. The EPA classifies the river as Category B, meaning that it is suitable for fishing, swimming, and water supply after treatment. The Jones, Content, Webb, and McKee Brooks flow into the Shawsheen, and Mill Brook is the major tributary to the Concord River in Billerica.

Nutting Lake and Winning Pond are both classified as Great Ponds (any pond or lake that contained more than 10 acres in its natural state) by the state, and both served as attractions for resort development at the turn of the century. Winning Pond is approximately twenty acres in size. Half the shoreline is residentially developed, and half is publicly owned in the town's Vietnam Veterans Park. Richardson Pond is a much smaller pond with no road access located in North Billerica along the Tewksbury border.

Nutting Lake's eighty acres are bisected by the Middlesex Turnpike. Most of the land surrounding the lake has been extensively developed and septic seepage from older cottages resulted in a serious water quality problem by the early 1970s. Since then, sewer lines were extended to the houses, the lake deepened, and water quality has generally improved, although a failing sewer pipe caused closure of the beach in the summer of 2023. A public swimming area, Micozzi Beach, opened in 1987 and water is tested weekly during the summer. In addition, there are 22 acres of protected wetlands abutting the lake.

Approximately 70% of the five-mile route of the Middlesex Canal in Billerica remains visible. While some parts of the canal were filled during the construction of the Iron Horse Industrial Park, many stretches are still open and serve as stormwater drainage basins. The Canal's route extends past the Iron Horse Park Superfund site.

Aquifer Recharge Areas

Because Billerica depends on the Concord River and its 346-square-mile watershed for its water supply, groundwater supplies have not attracted much attention. However, in the past, during low river flows in late summer, concerns about water quantity resulted in a search for alternatives.

Billerica has only one small section of high-yield aquifer, which is located on the Shawsheen River near the Bedford line. In addition, approved Wellhead Protection Areas (Zone II) for water supplies of neighboring communities extend into Billerica. These areas are shown in Figure 4-5.

Flood Hazard Areas

Flooding occurs along both the Concord and Shawsheen Rivers and their tributaries. Typically, the worst flooding occurs in spring, as a result of melting snow and ice, and in the late summer as a result of storm events. Although Billerica has instituted regulations to protect floodplains from excessive new development, many buildings were constructed in the floodplain before these regulations were put into effect. Billerica's floodplain zoning prohibits buildings within the floodplain district, unless a special permit is granted by the Zoning Board of Appeals and reviewed by the Board of Health and the Building Inspector. Approval is required for new fill or paving within the floodplain boundaries.

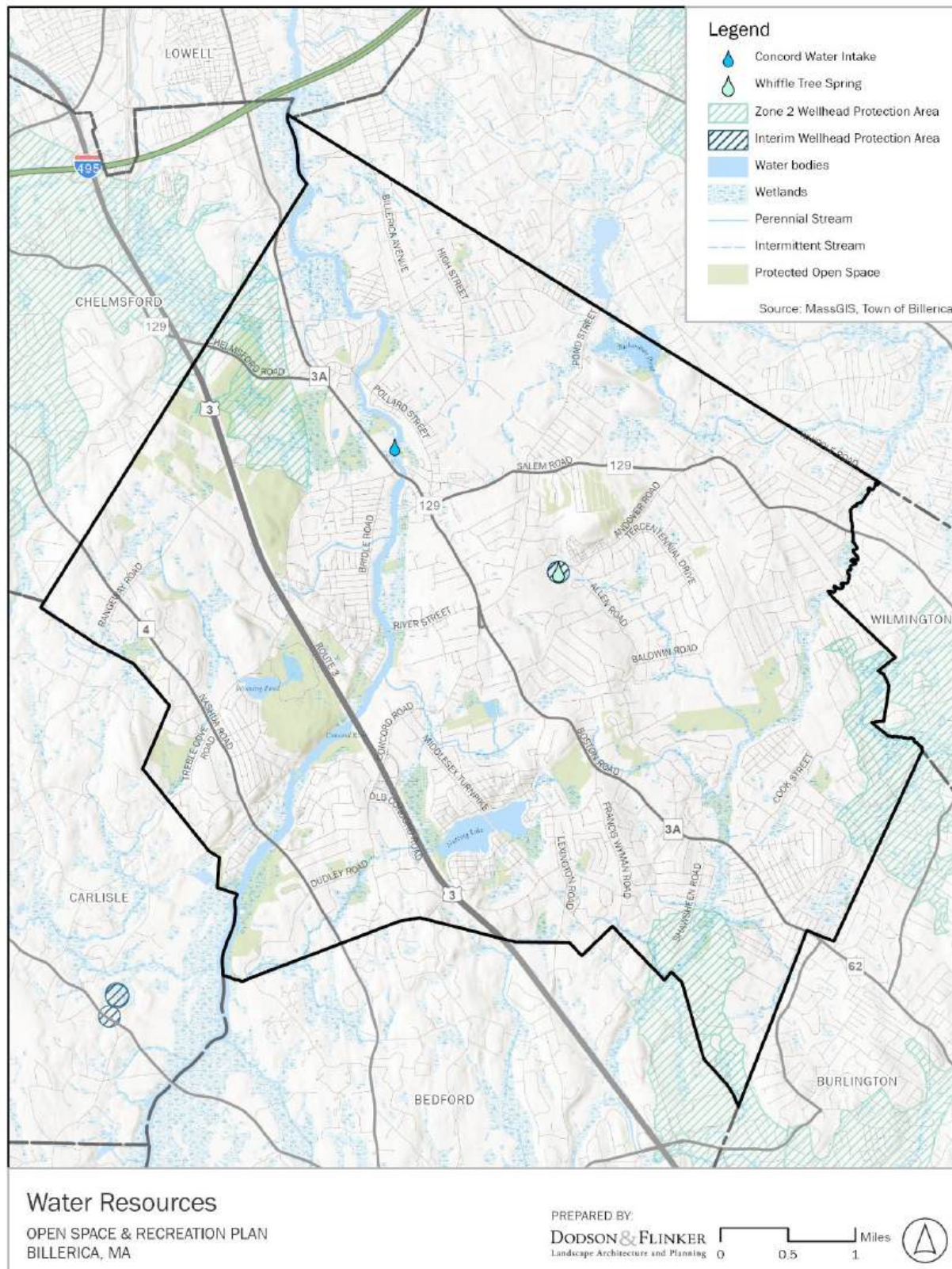


Figure 4-5. Drinking Water Supply Wells and Protection Areas

The boundaries of the Flood Plain Districts are defined by adjusted borders of the 1973 Green Engineering Floodplain Index Map, and include any land shown in the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Flood Insurance Rate Map revised July 7, 2014 (Figure 4-6). The Board of Health regulation prohibited new construction within 100 feet of the 100-year floodplain without a variance.

The extensive wetland marshes in the upper watershed of the Concord and the Sudbury Rivers slow the velocity of floodwaters from the Concord's watershed before they get to Billerica and delay the time of the flood crest. Due to the fact that the Concord River generally has a broad, flat floodplain, it is relatively slow to respond to flood events. The Concord generally crests at flood stage up to three days after the related rain event has ceased. This allows some time to react; however, the river also tends to stay at flood stage for a long period of time. In the flood of 1955, the river remained at a flood elevation of 117 feet for eight days. In the flood of 1936, it stayed at flood elevations for fourteen days. In 1979, flood elevation reached 118 feet in the vicinity of the town's water treatment plant. The River has reached or exceeded the 10-year flood elevation of 114 feet almost every year since 1957. Historically, the western bank of the Concord River, between Route 4 and Route 3A has been subject to flooding that affects residential development, especially in the area along Elsie Avenue.

The Shawsheen River passes through the eastern portion of town. The banks of the river are bordered by wetlands that have, for the most part, prevented development in the floodplain. Unlike the Concord River, however, the Shawsheen River is quick to react to rain events. Floodwater velocities in the main channel exceed hazardous levels. The Army Corps of Engineers estimated that during the October 1962 storm, maximum velocities of the Shawsheen River approached four feet per second in the channel. The most severe recent flood event was in March 2010, when the Shawsheen River reached a maximum discharge of 1,880 cubic feet per second, and a gauge height of 10.54 feet. This was measured at the "Near Wilmington" USGS station, located in Billerica near the Wilmington border. Since 2010, the Shawsheen river has exceeded flood stage at this station 10 times.

These high velocities are hazardous to structures close to the river channel. More importantly, they have a greater capacity to break loose and carry ice and debris, which can clog bridge openings and result in higher flood crests upstream. In January 1979, flood levels exceeded the 100-year flood elevation.

Billerica has more repetitive loss structures than any other community in the region. As of 2019, Billerica ranked ninth in the state in terms of National Flood Insurance Program repetitive flood loss properties. Fifty-one structures have experienced repetitive losses due to flooding, the highest of number of any non-coastal community.

Wetlands

Shown on Figure 4-4 are wetlands as well as Massachusetts Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program (NHESP) potential and certified vernal pools. The majority of the over 800 acres of wetlands in Billerica are located in the floodplains of the Concord and Shawsheen Rivers. The wetlands are characterized by a year-round high water table, sections of open marsh, and seasonal flooding. They are generally continuous with the streams traveling through them. There are few perched wetlands, which are maintained by water trapped above impermeable soils or bedrock. These wetlands are small, discontinuous, and wooded. Wetlands provide many essential ecological functions including:

- serving as natural drainage ways and minimizing flood damage;
- recharging groundwater;
- serving as siltation basins and purifying the air and water of pollutants; and
- providing essential wildlife habitat and functioning as a natural open space network.

Vernal pools are isolated, seasonally flooded depressions in the land that are critical to the survival of many species. Amphibians lay their eggs in vernal pools because they are free of fish predators. These animals migrate to and from vernal pools during seasonal breeding cycles. Many other species utilize these pools in addition to other permanent water bodies. The Town has 13 certified vernal pools and 71 potential vernal pools. Many vernal pools have been identified and certified in the past several years, and efforts continue to be made to protect these important natural environments. There are

potentially dozens more vernal pools in Billerica that have not yet been certified. Vernal pool certification in Massachusetts relies on volunteers. Guidelines for how citizens can get involved in vernal pool certification are available from the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife.⁷

⁷ <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/vernal-pool-certification#:~:text=This%20certification%20process%20relies%20on,evidence%20of%20vernal%20pool%20habitat>.

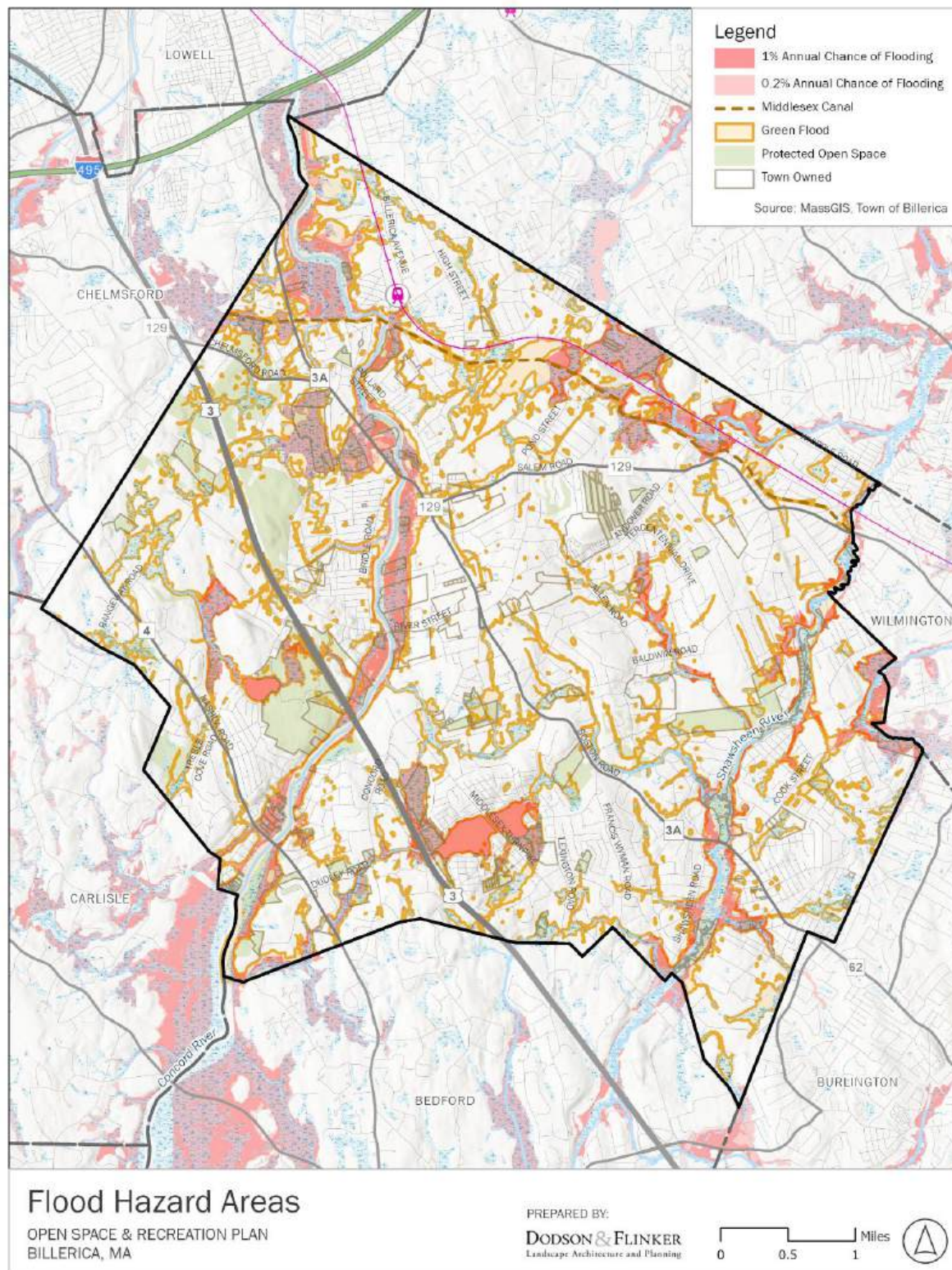


Figure 4-6. Flood Hazard Areas

D. Vegetation

Inventory

Billerica’s plant communities are marked by residential and commercial landscapes, fragmented open spaces and edges, forests, and riparian and wetland areas. The diversity of plant communities within the Town provides food and habitat for wildlife, in addition to many other benefits for residents.

Common introduced plant species found in Billerica include alder buckthorn, garlic mustard, oriental bittersweet, multiflora rose, great mullein, greater celandine, ground ivy, Japanese knotweed, bittersweet nightshade, purple loosestrife, wild carrot, and Japanese barberry.

Native plants include Northern starflower, pink lady’s slipper, Eastern skunk cabbage, American pokeweed, Canada mayflower, cinnamon fern, striped wintergreen, and partridgeberry. Common trees include Eastern white pine, red maple, swamp white oak, and Northern red oak, White Ash, and even American chestnut growing as an understory tree

Rare, Threatened and Endangered Species

Species that have been identified in Billerica by the NHESP and listed in the Massachusetts Endangered Species Act (MESA) as threatened, endangered, or of special concern are listed in Table 4-1.

Table 4-1. NHESP and MESA Special Status Plant Species

Common Name	Scientific Name	Taxonomic Group	MESA Status	Most Recent Observation
Adder's Tongue Fern	Ophioglossum pusillum	Vascular Plant	Threatened	1900
Britton's Violet	Viola brittoniana	Vascular Plant	Threatened	1915
Lion's Foot	Nabalus serpentarius	Vascular Plant	Endangered	1871
New England Blazing Star	Liatris novae-angliae	Vascular Plant	Special Concern	1917
Round-fruited Seedbox	Ludwigia sphaerocarpa	Vascular Plant	Endangered	1889
Tiny Cow-lily	Nuphar microphylla	Vascular Plant	Endangered	1883

Source: Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program

Forest Land

Given that the Town of Billerica is substantially developed, it has few wide expanses of forest, except for Warren Manning State Forest, wooded land in the town is highly fragmented. Billerica’s largest contiguous forest stands are mostly coniferous, and many of these consist entirely of white pine. Many upland pine stands grow in areas that were cleared within the last 50 years. White pine thrives in disturbed conditions, such as old fields, creating even-spaced, even-aged stands. If these areas remain undisturbed, hardwoods will eventually succeed white pine because the pine’s seeds need bare soil and sunlight to germinate. White pine also grows in softwood stands on the sand/gravel outwash adjacent to the Shawsheen River. The species composition of this area will likely remain stable over time because most other trees cannot tolerate dry conditions. Pines also thrive in the dry Windsor- Hinckley soil association found along the eastern bank of the Concord River near the Bedford town line. Additionally, many pines are found in pine-oak communities scattered throughout town.

The greatest percentage of forest cover in Billerica is hardwood. Many hardwoods exist in mixed softwood/hardwood stands. Upland till soils occupy much of the town’s undeveloped areas and provide the right conditions for hardwood growth. Hardwoods in Billerica include oak, maple, ash, hickory, and birch. Jones Forest has a substantial population of the once-

dominant American Chestnut which grows as an understory tree in that area. Wetland stands tend to be dominated by red maple.

Public Shade Trees

Billerica's urban forest consists of small forest patches and individual trees in backyards, along roads, in parking lots, and in town parks. As larger woodland patches become more fragmented and reduced in size, management of the urban forest becomes increasingly important. Public shade trees also provide the benefit of absorbing excess stormwater and pollutants and provide local cooling that reduces the heat island effect.

Public shade trees, including small forest patches and individual trees on public property, are managed by the Parks & Trees Division. The Parks & Trees Division is responsible for removing all dead trees on town property as well as those that are a danger to the public.

The Open Space and Recreation Committee piloted an Arbor Day tree-giveaway program in 2024. Hundreds of tree whips were distributed to residents to bolster the town's tree canopy.

E. Fisheries and Wildlife

Inventory

The major obstacle to fishing in Billerica is lack of access to the rivers. There are few public places to fish from riverbanks and no public boat ramps. According to the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife, the only fish-stocked water body in Billerica is the Shawsheen River, which is stocked with rainbow trout in the spring. The Concord River is fished by the public from boats, at informal fishing areas on shore, near the bridges (except the Route 3 bridge) and near the old Middlesex Turnpike bridge abutment ruins. Fishing from other shore areas and boats along the length of the river is also common. Brown trout, carp, largemouth bass, yellow perch, white perch, northern pike, sunfish, calico bass, and pickerel are among the larger fish that can be found in Billerica's streams and rivers.

Billerica has a number of different wildlife habitat types, but much potential habitat has been fragmented by development, affecting its value for wildlife. The most important wildlife habitats in town are in and near wetlands and along stream courses. Wetlands and open water bodies are important to all animal species. Although many come only to drink, access to clean water is a critical survival need.

Billerica residents have reported seeing a wide variety of the wildlife typically found in the edge habitat increasingly provided by suburban towns. Birds sighted include blue heron, wild turkeys, bald eagles, owls, warblers, white-breasted nuthatches, cardinals, blue jays, blue birds, woodpeckers, and hawks. Mammals include white-tailed deer, bobcat, black bear, grey and red squirrel, meadow vole, groundhog, white-footed mouse, star-nosed mole, chipmunks, coyote, shrew, beaver, fox, muskrat, and fisher cat.

Various amphibians have also been reported including eastern redback salamanders, spotted salamanders, gray treefrogs, American toads, green frogs, and wood frogs, along with a variety of reptiles including snapping turtle, ringneck snake, garter snake, wood turtle, and spotted turtle.

Water courses and their shores provide corridors for wildlife to move among different habitat areas. Great Meadows Wildlife Refuge, the Concord and Shawsheen floodplains, and brook corridors provide the framework for habitat networks within Billerica.

Suburban residential and office sites can be made more wildlife-friendly through appropriate landscaping. The edge between cleared areas and woodlands may be allowed to grow into shrubs. Plantings of native trees and shrubs in these areas, especially those that produce nuts and fruits, add a supplemental wildlife food source. Conservation restrictions and open space acquisition can link fragments of habitat into networks that support wildlife.

Rare, Threatened and Endangered Species

Species that have been identified in Billerica by the NHESP and listed in the Massachusetts Endangered Species Act (MESA) as threatened, endangered, or of special concern are listed in Table 4-2. The Blue-spotted Salamander (*Ambystoma laterale*) and Bridle Shiner (*Notropis bifrenatus*), a fish, are listed as species of special concern. Blanding's turtle (*Emydoidea blandingii*) is listed as threatened and the Eastern Box turtle (*Terrapene carolina*) is listed as a species of special concern.

Many listed species are difficult to detect even when they are present. The NHESP does not have the resources to be able to conduct methodical species surveys in each town on a regular basis. Therefore, the fact that the 'Most Recent Observation' recorded for a species may be several years old should not be interpreted as meaning that the species no longer occurs in a town. However, NHESP regards records older than 25 years as historic.

Table 4-2. NHESP and MESA Special Status Species

Common Name	Scientific Name	Taxonomic Group	MESA Status	Most Recent Observation
Blanding's Turtle	<i>Emydoidea blandingii</i>	Reptile	Threatened	2010
Blue-spotted Salamander (complex)	<i>Ambystoma laterale</i> pop. 1	Amphibian	Special Concern	2015
Bridle Shiner	<i>Notropis bifrenatus</i>	Fish	Special Concern	1961
Eastern Box Turtle	<i>Terrapene carolina</i>	Reptile	Special Concern	2016
Ringed Boghaunter	<i>Williamsonia lintneri</i>	Dragonfly/Damselfly	Threatened	2009

Source: Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program

BioMap, a conservation mapping tool produced by the NHESP with the support of the Nature Conservancy, provides a critical tool for managing biodiversity statewide. The focus of BioMap is to identify the larger, more intact, and more connected landscapes that are important to the whole state.

BioMap separates its habitat assessment into two complementary levels of importance: core habitat (critical for rare species and diversity of natural communities) and critical natural landscape (large intact natural areas that are not significantly impacted by development). The latest version, BioMap3, identifies Billerica's largest contiguous area of core habitat within Warren H. Manning State Park. BioMap3 also highlights the Great Meadows Wildlife Refuge for both Core Habitat and Critical Habitat in a large area extending southwest into Carlisle, Bedford, and Concord. BioMap3 Core and Critical Habitat, NHESP Prime and Estimated Habitat, and Certified and Potential Vernal Pools are mapped in Figure 4-7.

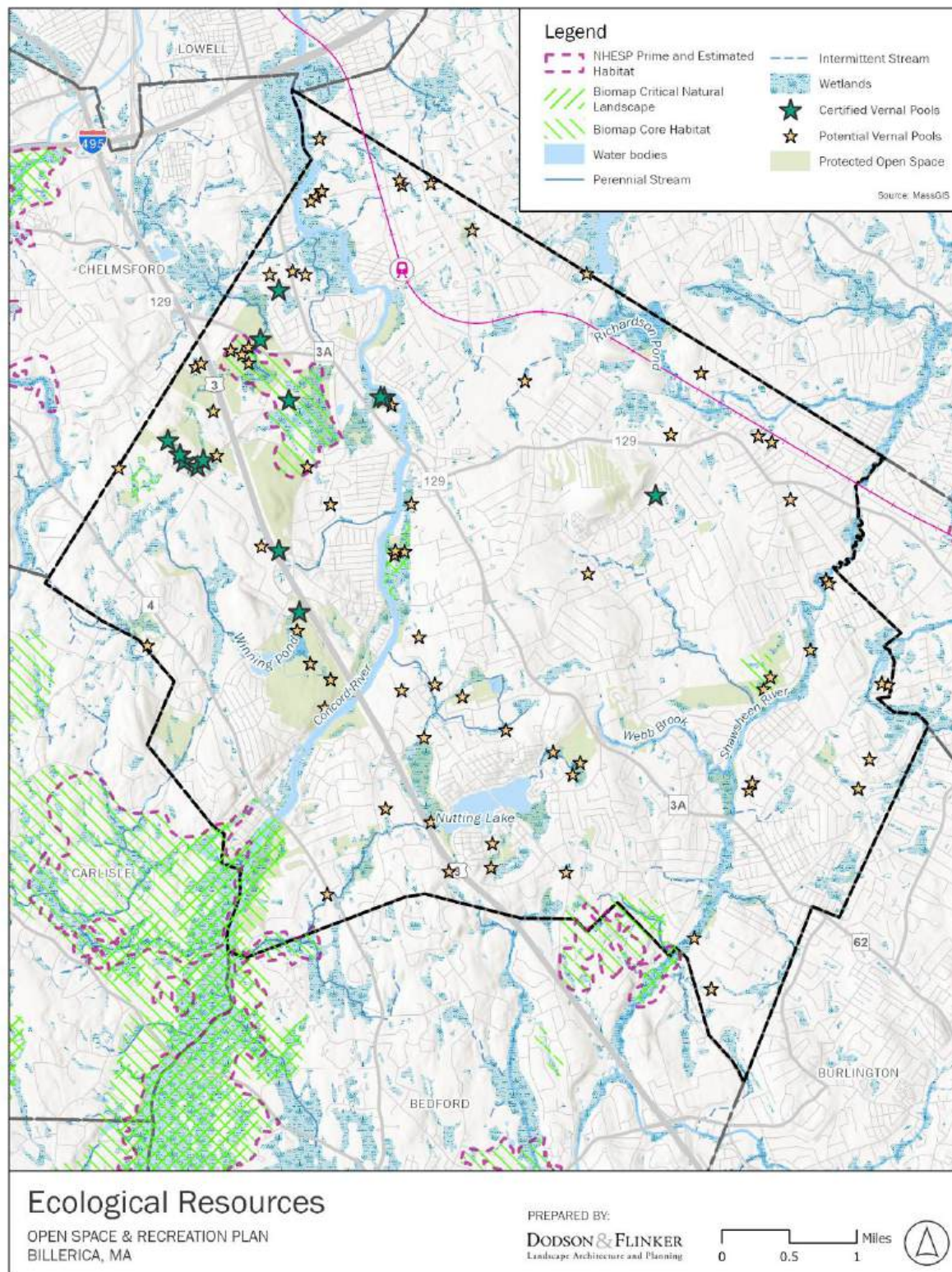


Figure 4-7. Ecological Resources

F. Scenic Resources and Unique Environments

Scenic Landscapes

Among Billerica's most important scenic places are the rivers. As the Concord enters South Billerica, it passes the Great Meadows National Wildlife Refuge, a high wildlife value area listed in the Massachusetts Scenic Place Inventory which extends into Bedford and Carlisle. In North Billerica, the Concord River just south of the Mills has four rapid flow areas at high flow. If the Talbot Dam is removed, the rapids are likely to become more prominent. The Shawsheen, with its lazy meander through a wide belt of wetlands, offers unique vistas but is not easily accessed by the public. The banks overlooking these rivers are among the most important scenic opportunities in Billerica. Ponds and wetlands provide refuge from the substantially developed character of the town. Fox Hill, the highest point in town, provides excellent viewpoints where one can see as far as Boston on a clear day. The small amount of remaining agricultural land in Billerica offers views of fields and meadows. Most of these farms are closely hemmed in by suburban residential development.

Major Characteristic or Unusual Geologic Features

Two major hills, Fox Hill and Gilson Hill, provide important scenic variety in the landscape. Gilson Hill is within the state forest and Fox Hill is partially protected. Because the town's topography is relatively undifferentiated, areas having hills or other steep slopes provide scenic quality. Trails exist throughout these hills, and updated trail mapping, wayfinding, and parking is needed to improve public access.

Cultural and Historic Areas

Incorporated as a municipality in 1655, Billerica contains historical resources representing nearly four hundred years of American history. Billerica's industrial past has created unique environments within its historic districts and particularly along the Middlesex Canal.

Billerica contains four districts that are on the National Register of Historic Places: the Billerica Mills Historic District, the Billerica Town Common District, Two Brothers Rocks-Dudley Road Historic District, and Middlesex Canal Historic and Archaeological District. The latter two are historic areas that cross multiple municipalities.

The town also has local historic districts, including the Billerica Center Historic District, Richardson's Mill Historic District, Corner Historic District, and Billerica Mills Historic District. Several of these districts overlap with the national historic districts.

The Billerica Mills Historic District encompasses 750 acres, contains 108 buildings, and is bounded by the Concord River, Treble Cove Terrace, Kohlrausch Avenue, Indian Road, Holt Street, Ruggles Street and Rogers Street. Kohlrausch Park, originally donated by the wife of Charles H. Kohlrausch in his memory, is located within the Mills Historic District and is on the National Register of Historic Places.

The Billerica Town Common District encompasses 20 acres, contains 14 buildings and is bounded by Cummings Street, Concord Road, and Boston Road.

The Two Brothers Rock-Dudley Road Historic District, located in both Bedford and Billerica, was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2010. It encompasses about 230 acres on the Bedford-Billerica town line. The district includes stone walls, wooded suburban parcels, agricultural fields, and conservation areas. About 40% of the district's acreage is open space. Dudley Road is a designated scenic road in both Bedford and Billerica. The district includes a large portion of the Great Meadows Wildlife Refuge, including the Two Brothers Rocks.

The Middlesex Canal is 27 miles long, and it historically connected Boston to the Merrimack River at Lowell. Freight and passengers were carried up and down the canal from 1803 until 1853, when it was superseded by the Boston & Lowell Railroad. The canal played an important role in the development of the region north of Boston as far as Concord, New Hampshire. The major unspoiled sections of the canal are located within Billerica. The North Billerica Summit Pond, featuring

the Faulkner Mill, Talbot Mill, an uncommon floating towpath, and the remarkable stonework of the Shawsheen Aqueduct—recognized as an American Engineering Landmark—is a distinctive and unique feature of the town. In addition, Dudley Road and Concord Road are locally-designated scenic roads.

In 1978, the Massachusetts legislature created the Middlesex Canal Commission. The Commission is charged with developing and implementing a plan to preserve, reuse or reconstruct the extant portions of the canal. Substantial portions of the canal have been built over or filled, but long stretches remain intact within the town. Some stretches contain water and others consist of a dry canal bed and towpath.

The Middlesex Canal Commission developed a master plan in 1980 that called for creating an interpretive trail and establishing an historic park and recreation area at the Mill Pond on the Concord River in North Billerica. A concept plan for the park was been developed since then, and the Canal Commission received easements from the Cambridge Tool and Manufacturing Company. Since the 2018 OSRP, the Middlesex Canal Association has acquired several parcels along the canal and restored a former woolen cloth warehouse to establish the Middlesex Canal Museum.

Preserving open space within or near these historic districts would serve to enhance the character of the districts and help create desirable destination points for residents and visitors. Some significant sections of the Middlesex Canal remain intact within Billerica, representing a valuable opportunity to create an historic greenway. Similarly, the Middlesex Turnpike, built in 1805, presents a unique opportunity for the community to recognize an historic transportation resource. The section of the turnpike north of the Concord River is abandoned and already used on an ad hoc basis for recreation. Along with contiguous lands, it would make an outstanding linear park with historic significance. The nearby abandoned B&M Rail Line will become the Yankee Doodle Bikeway in the future. These historic industrial corridors, which once brought economic prosperity to Billerica, could be used to form a network of recreational greenspaces.

Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC)

ACECs are places designated by the EEA because of the quality, uniqueness, and significance of their natural and cultural resources. There are no ACECs in Billerica currently.

G. Environmental Challenges

Climate Change

Billerica has already experienced altered climatic patterns because of climate change. In recent years, the town has experienced severe weather, inland flooding, and extreme winter weather events. Over 20 natural hazard incidents have triggered federal or state disaster declarations since 1991. Climate impacts will undoubtedly become more pronounced in the coming decades, likely causing major environmental risks and hazards, many of which will be difficult to predict.

In 2017, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts inaugurated the Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) program to assist municipalities in planning for and implementing strategies to adapt to our warming climate. The 2020 *Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness, Community Resilience Building Workshops – Summary of Findings* report uses the MVP framework to define the major risks and vulnerabilities facing Billerica and provides a prioritized list of actions to improve the town's resilience to these shocks.

The report reviewed natural hazards identified in the Massachusetts Hazard Mitigation and Climate Adaptation Plan (SHMCAP) and analyzed their history of occurrence in the town, probability, frequency, geographic extent, and severity of impact. Through this process, the top hazards for Billerica were determined to be severe winter storms/nor'easters and inland flooding. Drought, extreme temperature, tropical storms/hurricanes, severe weather (strong wind and high precipitation), and invasive species were also considered to be significant hazards.

The report also recommended a set of actions to improve resilience to these hazards. The actions pertaining to open space and recreation include:

1. Complete inventory of needs to facilitate improved management of Open Space;
2. Complete a Town-specific Conservation Plan/address conservation more directly in the next OSRP update;
3. Enhance the climate change discussion in the next update of the OSRP;
4. Consider changes to zoning – Billerica does not have open space zoning;
5. Revisit Billerica’s bylaws to explore development options that provide environmental benefits;
6. Explore strategies to protect current drinking water intake and area around intake in Concord River;
7. Continue acquiring land (for public ownership/maintenance) that has access to waterbodies, through CPA or other mechanisms;
8. Reduce the amount of impervious surface through education, town projects, and regulations; and
9. Educate public owners and/or municipal staff on wetland buffer zones, floodplains, vernal pools, and other conservation resource areas.

The open space and recreation planning process provides an opportunity to prioritize actions, such as those above, that will improve the town’s resilience to climate impacts.

Hazardous Waste Sites and Landfills

Billerica’s many industrial facilities, in combination with its relatively high level of commercial development, make it vulnerable to contamination from hazardous materials.

There is one Superfund site in Billerica, Iron Horse Park, located in North Billerica. The site encompasses a 553-acre industrial complex, and includes manufacturing and railyard maintenance facilities, open storage areas, the Shaffer landfill, and wastewater lagoons. A long history of activities at the site, beginning in 1913, resulted in the contamination of soil, groundwater and surface water. These activities have included an oil and sludge recycling area, a site sewage collection system and hazardous waste disposal area, asbestos sludge lagoons, an asbestos landfill, a chemical plant, and an open burning dump (Shaffer landfill). The Shaffer landfill portion of the site, approximately 60 acres, has been capped and redeveloped as a six-megawatt solar power facility. A portion of the site is being redeveloped as the MBTA Iron Horse Park Operations Control Center.

The Middlesex Canal runs along the length of the northern boundary of the site, and is drained by Content Brook, which runs through residential areas into the Shawsheen River east of the site. Richardson Pond lies north of the site and is also drained by Content Brook. An unnamed brook, which runs northerly through the site near wastewater lagoons, drains into a marshland near the asbestos landfill.

In September 2022, the EPA issued a Preliminary Close Out Report for the Superfund site. The Sixth Five-Year Report completed in 2023 found that the clean-up actions performed across the Superfund site have been protective of human health and the environment, although further actions will be necessary to ensure the site is safe in the long-term. As the site is decontaminated, Billerica can begin to plan for potential recreational corridors along the Middlesex Canal and Content Brook and for environmentally-sound redevelopment of the site.

In addition to the Superfund site, the DEP lists 199 sites in the town that have had reportable releases—38 since the 2018 OSRP.

Stormwater Runoff

Stormwater, if not infiltrated into the soil runs across the ground and picks up and transports sediment and pollutants into streams, ponds, wetlands, lakes, rivers, and oceans. The pollution it carries can include trash and litter, sand, bacteria,

chemicals like fertilizers and herbicides from lawns, and oil and gas from cars. Some parking lots and streets in Billerica have storm drains that transport stormwater directly to nearby water bodies, with no filtration process. Stormwater management is a high priority for Billerica, as stormwater can have adverse impacts on the water bodies and recreational resources enjoyed by Billerica residents and necessary to local wildlife.

Billerica implements a local Stormwater Management Program to comply with the EPA's Small MS4 General Permit and reduce pollution in the town's waterbodies. Under the MS4 Permit, Billerica has worked to reduce pollution by inspecting outfalls that discharge to local waterways and implementing robust catch basin clearing and street sweeping programs. In 2023, the Town supplemented the Stormwater Management Program by establishing an Asset Management Program, a proactive approach to the operations, maintenance, and capital improvements for the Town's drainage system, with a focus on culverts.

The Town has adopted two stormwater bylaws; Article XXV - Stormwater Management Bylaw, and Article XXVI - Bylaw Governing Discharges to MS4. The Stormwater Management Bylaw regulates post-construction stormwater runoff for new and redevelopment projects, erosion and sediment control, and stormwater runoff for construction sites. The Discharge Bylaw made it illegal to put pollution such as pet waste, water from laundry, motor oil, antifreeze and other chemicals, paint, leaves, soapy water, and litter/trash into the storm drain or into water bodies. Section 2 of Article VII also requires dog owners to remove pet waste from public and private property, as pet waste can lead to adverse impacts in water bodies.

Erosion and Sedimentation

Heavy rains regularly cause sediment and rocks to wash up on roads throughout Billerica. There are also several gravel roads, including Shady Hill Avenue, South Madison Road, and Whitefield Avenue, all of which have had issues with erosion in recent years. Erosion can lead to sedimentation in streams and water bodies. The Town has identified Content Brook, Webb Brook and Rogers Brook as particular areas of concern.

Billerica requires erosion control plans for new construction and regularly inspects construction sites for compliance. The Conservation Commission reviews all work that is proposed in or within 100 feet of a wetland.. Other than these requirements, there are few regulations to control erosion. The Planning Board does not require an erosion control plan, although zoning and subdivision regulations do attempt to minimize erosion and sedimentation through protection of steep slopes from development, limits on clear cutting and vegetation removal, and minimizing areas of cut and fill. The Conservation Commission also recommends and pays for its members to receive a certification in erosion and sediment control from the Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissions.

Chronic Flooding

As previously mentioned in the section on Flood Hazard Areas, Billerica experiences periodic flooding from the Concord River and the Shawsheen River. Riverfront areas developed before the floodplain restrictions were put into effect are vulnerable to flooding. Additionally, as the impacts of climate change increase and precipitation events become more extreme, impacts of flooding through Billerica are likely to grow.

Development Impact

Suburban development tends to have a larger environmental impact than "smart growth" or urban infill projects due to fragmentation of habitat, traffic generation, reliance on automobiles, expansion of impervious surfaces, and other effects. While Billerica developed largely in a suburban fashion during the 1960s, the Town has since implemented stricter environmental regulations to reduce impacts from development but could do a lot more to reduce the footprint of new development. Current policies regarding impacts from development include:

- The Planning Board requires developers of large nonresidential projects to build surface parking lots in phases according to a demonstration of actual need for the number of parking spaces allowed.

- The Residential Cluster Overlay District allows reduced lot size requirements by Special Permit in developments that designate at least 40% of the area as open space. Clustering houses uses space more efficiently and reduces the amount of impervious surface.

The 2018 Master Plan stated the need for the Planning Board to adopt best management practices for stormwater as part of their design guidelines. Additional regulations which would further reduce the environmental impact of new development might include:

- Requiring native plant species in commercial and/or residential landscapes;
- Mandating the preservation of existing vegetation and mature trees;
- Adopting increased buffers around floodplains and wetlands; and
- Adopting the DEP Stormwater Standards for all new development.
- Encouraging a smaller development footprint by allowing and incentivizing increased density.

Ground and Surface Water Pollution

Water quality issues are often exacerbated during periods of drought, as Billerica experienced in 2022—the fourth drought in seven years. As river levels significantly dropped, the water quality in the river deteriorated, posing a challenge for the Town's Water Department.

In years past, groundwater pollution in Billerica has primarily been a result of malfunctioning and failing septic systems. In recent years, the Town obtained state funding to implement a comprehensive septic management program and has extended the sewer system to combat this issue. Non-point source pollution from stormwater runoff is particularly problematic in areas of older development. In addition, lack of town resources has hindered commercial and industrial pollution prevention programs. For example, Billerica has no hazardous materials management bylaw or program; no law regulating underground storage tanks nor any inventory of their location; and no inventory or comprehensive regulation of commercial/industrial floor drains. There is, however, a regular program to collect household hazardous waste and waste oil, tires, and batteries.

Invasive Species and Vegetation Management

Eutrophication is excessive plant growth (algae blooms, invasive species, and the growth of other vegetation) in water bodies resulting from excess nutrients. It is commonly the result of stormwater traveling over surrounding lands where human activities have introduced pollutants and/or fertilizers. Fertilizers and manure from landscaping or agriculture are the most common source of nutrients. Nutting Lake and the Concord River have seen eutrophication and water quality impairment in recent years and may benefit from stricter regulations in areas that drain to these water bodies.

Environmental Equity

Equal distribution of Town services is vital to the health and success of a Town's community. Ensuring equal access for all Town residents includes not only access to schools, health facilities, and safety services but also access to public lands and natural areas. Proximity to preserved natural spaces has been shown to increase physiological, psychological, and sociological well-being and these are benefits that all Billerica residents should enjoy. Further, it is important that the Town ensures that no part of the population is disproportionately exposed to an unhealthy environment that would cause health hazards or concerns.

As noted in Section 3.B.6, particular attention is paid to neighborhoods throughout the Commonwealth identified as Environmental Justice (EJ) communities, which often suffer environmental inequality. Environmental justice is based on the principle that all people have a right to be protected from environmental pollution, and to live in and enjoy a clean and healthful environment. Environmental justice is the equal protection and meaningful involvement of all people with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies and the equitable distribution of environmental benefits.

There are eight neighborhoods in Billerica identified as EJ communities, and several more EJ communities close to Billerica in Chelmsford, Lowell, and Burlington. The amount of open space in EJ neighborhoods varies significantly. The EJ neighborhood in central Billerica does not contain any conservation land. The two EJ areas in southeastern Billerica also contain notably little conservation land, and almost no recreation land. The EJ area near the commuter rail station has limited open space resources and would greatly benefit from the restoration of the Middlesex Canal Towpath, which could create a trail in that neighborhood and connect it to a larger open space network. There are other areas of Billerica, not considered to be EJ neighborhoods, that also lack access to open space and recreation resources. The neighborhoods east of Route 3A, and north of Billerica Country Club have very few open space and recreation resources. The neighborhood between the Concord River and Route 3A, known as South Billerica, has a number of conservation and passive recreation resources but does not have any active recreation resources. Open space and recreation planning should consider not only the EJ communities in Billerica, but also those in surrounding towns.

Billerica can play an important role in advancing environmental justice through land use planning that encourages public participation and through regulatory powers to obtain development results that balance the benefits and burdens of growth. Health risks for Billerica residents can be minimized through targeted environmental enforcement and environmental quality can be improved through initiatives that include reduction of pollutants and emissions, remediation and redevelopment of contaminated land, and investment in parks and open spaces.

5

Inventory of Lands of Conservation and Recreation Interest

Billerica's open space, defined as land that is mostly free of structures and impervious surfaces, includes forests, parks, recreation areas, and farms under public, non-profit, and private ownership.. Some open space is protected, meaning that there are legal or institutional mechanisms that prevent development. There are varying degrees and types of protection for open space. Some areas are protected based on their ownership. Lands owned by non-profits or government agencies with missions to conserve land are considered protected. This includes lands owned by conservation commissions, land trusts, or government agencies such as the Department of Conservation & Recreation or US Fish & Wildlife. Privately-owned open space can be protected through deed restrictions, which regulate the use of the land. Land is only considered protected if the means of protection are long-term or permanent. Lands with temporary protection that can easily be removed, like Chapter 61, are not considered protected.

Public recreation areas and open space provide a focus for community life and promote a unique and identifiable community character. In relatively high-density towns like Billerica, parks and open space greatly enhance the quality of residential life. Open space also has important economic benefits in that it protects and enhances the property values of nearby land and attracts business and investment. Proximity to recreation and open space can be an important factor in choosing the location of a small business, and quality of life is a consistently important factor in choosing the location of a large business.

Additionally, conservation land serves important environmental functions in a town, providing natural stormwater storage and wildlife corridors. Even small pockets of green space may serve an important function for migratory birds and butterflies. Open space can also reduce runoff and diminish the frequency and severity of flooding. Wooded open space helps to cool the town and improve air quality.

Although the Town of Billerica is a mature suburb and largely developed, a substantial amount of land has been set aside for open space and recreation. Approximately 11% of the Town's total land area, 1,900 acres, is permanently protected. There are another 635 acres of land that are undeveloped and under public ownership but have limited protection or no protection. In addition, there are 640 acres of privately held lands that are undeveloped and have limited or no protection. In total, there are approximately 3,200 of open space (19% of the town's land area) that are either permanently protected, have limited protection, or have no protection. Figure 5-1 depicts open space and recreational resources in Billerica, showing their ownership and level of protection from future development.

Please see Appendix C for a full inventory of all privately and publicly owned lands of conservation and recreation interest.

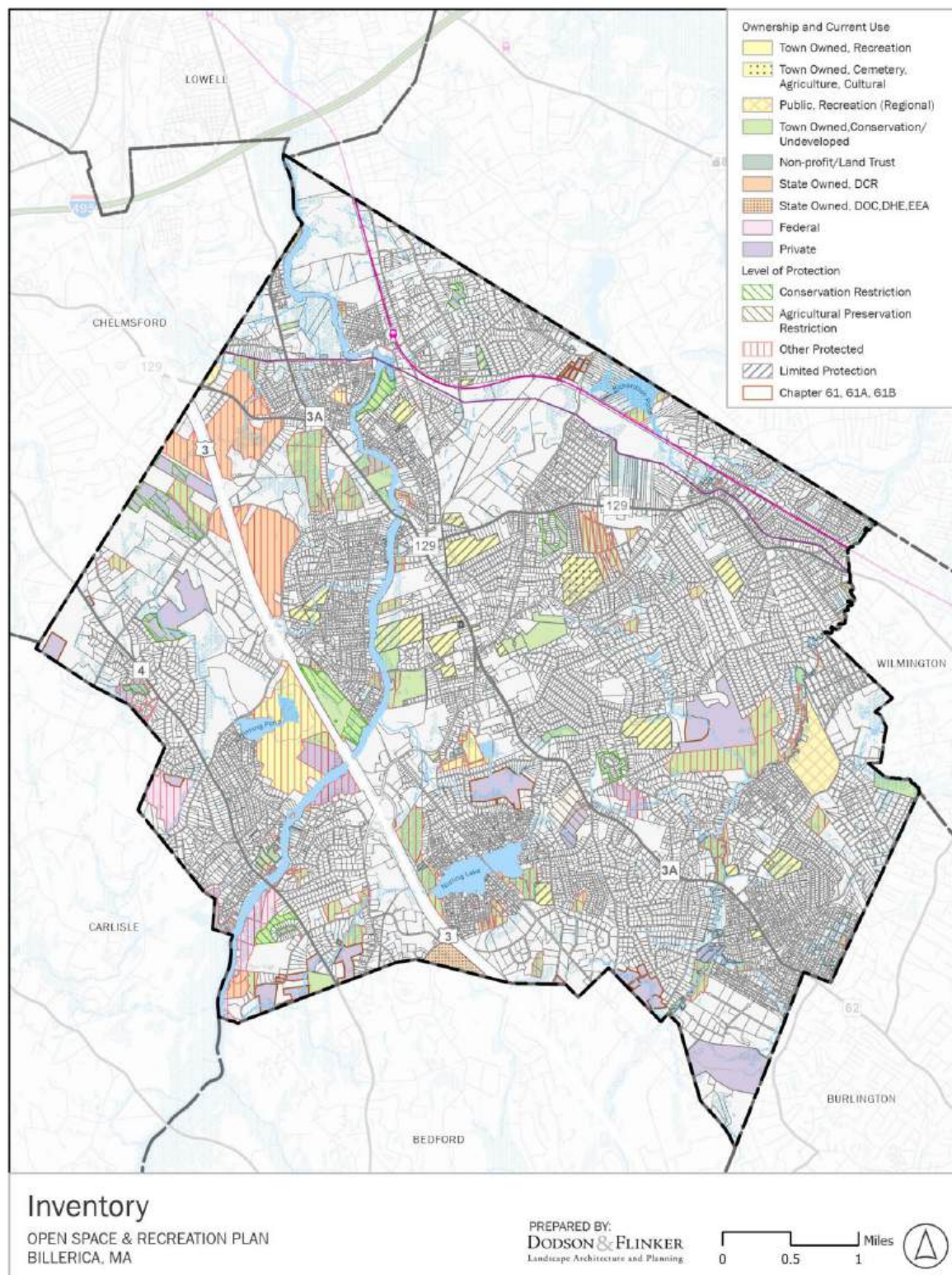


Figure 5.1 Inventory Map

A. Private Parcels

There are 24 private parcels totaling approximately 200 acres in the Chapter 61, 61A and 61B tax abatement programs.⁸ Under the Chapter 61 programs, a lien is placed on a property to ensure that undeveloped land continues to provide public benefits as forested land (Chapter 61), agricultural uses (Chapter 61A), or open space and recreation (Chapter 61B). If the property is sold or transferred and the new owner continues to enroll in the program, penalties will not apply. However, if the sold land is converted to a non-Chapter 61 use within 10 years of acquisition or earliest date of uninterrupted use, the landowner is responsible for either rollback taxes or conveyance taxes. Because there is a chance that the property could be used for other purposes (should the owner be willing to pay the required taxes), the property is considered to have limited protection. Among the most important of these parcels in Billerica are the Lexington Road Land, the Rear Nashua Road Land, the Woburn Sportsman Land, and the Billerica Rod + Gun Club Land.

Griggs Farm, protected by an agricultural preservation restriction, is nearly 26 acres and one of the few pieces of active agricultural land remaining in town. Significant unprotected private parcels include the Minuteman Sportsman's Club with 100 acres, the Swanson Meadows Golf Course with 52 acres, and the Country Club of Billerica with 98 acres.

B. Public and Nonprofit Parcels

Public and non-profit lands in Billerica include federal holdings such as Great Meadows National Wildlife Refuge and Kennelly Farm, state forests and parks, permanently protected municipal properties subject to Article 97 or a conservation restriction, and land held by non-profit entities such as the Middlesex Canal Association.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts owns 11 parcels comprising approximately 340 acres, the largest of which is the Billerica State Forest and Park, which is 322 acres. The Billerica Recreation Department manages and operates the Warren Manning State Park within this facility. In addition, the Commonwealth owns an additional 19 acres at the Governor Thomas Dudley Park along the Concord River.

The Town owns 164 parcels of protected land, comprising just over 1,000 acres. These lands include Town forests, Conservation Commission properties, and parkland. These parcels are dispersed throughout town and offer open space, conservation and recreation opportunities for the Town's many neighborhoods. The largest of the Town-owned parcels is Vietnam Veterans Park, which consists of 230 acres.

Non-profit entities such as the Sudbury Valley Trustees and Middlesex Canal Association also hold several parcels in town. The Sudbury Valley Trustees is a nonprofit land trust that owns five parcels (64 acres) on the Concord River in the southern section of Billerica, near the Great Meadows Wildlife Refuge.

Publicly owned lands with limited protection include properties owned by the Billerica School Department (schools and their associated playgrounds and fields), municipal cemeteries, and Contribution Park, owned by the Commonwealth Department of Public Works.

Unprotected public lands of conservation and recreation interest include lands that are held as open space or historic parcels, or used as recreation land, but do not have permanent or limited protection. Nearly 250 acres in Billerica are under public ownership but are not protected from future development. Much of this land is Shawsheen Regional Vocational Technical School, Billerica House of Corrections, and Middlesex Community College.

In addition to these properties, there are other large tracts of land that may be of interest to the Town for conservation or recreational purposes. The major institutional landowner is the Daughters of Saint Paul, which owns three parcels totaling

⁸ <http://www.mass.gov/eea/docs/dcr/stewardship/forestry/service/chapter-61-programs.pdf>

over 40 acres, including some with historic structures. This property is located in southern Billerica, close to the Great Meadows National Wildlife Refuge and Dudley Park.

C. Recreation Programs

The Billerica Recreation Department offers a diverse selection of high-quality programs and events for all ages and abilities. The Department operates with a goal of lifelong participation and inclusion. Program offerings include sports and athletics, dance, music, theater, martial arts, STEM, summer and school vacation camps, fitness classes, trips and tours, and educational programs for children, adolescents, and adults. They also offer therapeutic recreation and inclusion programs for children and adults with disabilities.

The Recreation Department also develops multi-generational and family events throughout the year. These include fishing festivals, annual summer bash, campouts at the parks, concerts on the Town Common, and annual Easter, Halloween and Christmas events.

In order to customize programming to accommodate everyone from pre-school to seniors of all abilities, the Recreation Department has formed partnerships with nonprofit organizations and philanthropic groups. There are over 20 nonprofit, volunteer run youth and sports organizations operating within the Town, including youth and adult soccer, baseball, lacrosse, football, softball, tennis, golf, hockey and basketball, as well as Little League, Special Olympics, Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts. Although the Recreation Department provides support for many of these programs, the organizations are not under the jurisdiction of the department.

The Recreation Department also oversees the lifeguards and activities at Micozzi Beach, located at Nutting Lake on the Middlesex Turnpike. The beach is open seven days per week during the summer months.

6 Community Vision

A. Description of the Process

The community vision and associated goals and objectives are the culmination of a series of public meetings, a public survey, regular OSRPC meetings, and conversations with Town staff and local stakeholders. The Committee had representation from town departments and boards, including the Board of Selectmen, Planning Board, Recreation Commission, Conservation Commission, and the Middlesex Canal Commission. Throughout the plan development process the OSRPC held monthly meetings which were open to the general public and posted in accordance with Massachusetts Open Meeting Law.

Public Meetings

Three public meetings were held at different stages of the process to gather input for different parts of the plan. The first public meeting, held on December 6, 2023 at the Town Hall Auditorium and attended by about 25 participants, focused on existing conditions. At breakout stations, participants identified existing assets and liabilities in the areas of recreation, ecological resources, and historic/cultural resources.

The second public meeting, held in a hybrid format on January 17, 2024 at the Town Hall Auditorium and over Zoom, was attended by approximately 25 participants. The meeting sought to define the community's priorities and values through a series of mapping and discussion activities. Participants marked up maps for recreational resources, cultural and historic resources, ecological resources, and bike and pedestrian connectivity with strengths and needs, and wrote down their priorities and values for each subject. This public forum revealed, among other things, residents' hopes for a safer and more connected bike/pedestrian network in Billerica, improved accessibility, greater awareness of what exists already in Billerica, more year-round recreation space, and a desire to connect people, especially young people, to nature.

A third and final public meeting was held in a hybrid format on March 20, 2024 at the Town Hall Auditorium and over Zoom, and was attended by approximately 21 participants. At the meeting, the draft goals, objectives, and actions were presented, and participants suggested revisions, additions, and deletions, and then ranked each objective and goal. This feedback informed the prioritization of the goals and objectives shown in Section 8.

Community Survey

The Community Survey was open between November 20, 2023 and January 28, 2024 on the online platform SurveyMonkey. 579 people completed the survey, 95% of whom were residents of Billerica, and 44% of whom have lived in Billerica for over 20 years.

The Town used a variety of means to publicize the survey and the public forums. Information was distributed to parents and children through the schools' email lists. Flyers were posted on playground and park kiosks and distributed at the library. Flyers with the survey link were posted on social media and amplified by various community leaders on their personal and community pages. Information about the survey and public forums were also available during the bi-weekly "Ask a Planner" information sessions at Billerica Library.

B. Statement of Open Space and Recreation Goals

Several themes emerged as priorities for the town and its residents from this process. These themes included: improving recreational opportunities, celebrating the natural, cultural, and historic resources of the community, and fostering community. More specifically, residents and Town staff prioritized building a diverse and inclusive recreational system, ensuring safe and accessible walking and biking routes, connection to open space and trails in neighboring communities, and preserving and promoting awareness of existing recreational assets. Additionally, the community aims to protect natural resources, promote connections with nature, increase climate resilience, and strengthen community ties by celebrating and preserving Billerica's cultural landscape. These goals collectively strive to create an open space and recreation system for all residents to enjoy. The OSRPC will be critical in the coming years in monitoring implementation of the OSRP and ensuring that many of these goals, objectives, and actions come to fruition.

7 Analysis of Need

Throughout the plan development process, many needs were identified through discussions with Town departments, from input received during the public forums, and through the community survey. These needs are described and outlined below, and were used as the basis for formulating the goals, objectives, and action plan outlined in Section 9.

A. Resource Protection Needs

The Town of Billerica contains many natural and historic resources that are at risk from future development. Attention should be paid to protecting areas with agricultural lands, historic properties and resources, steep slopes, forested lands, riverfront areas, water bodies and water resources, wetland resource areas, floodplains, and wildlife habitat. The Town has continued to make progress in protecting such areas through the purchase of the Cider Mill Land, “Lot 9,” the Masonic Lodge, and old Howe High School. The Town has also recently obtained numerous smaller parcels bordering the rivers. Significant regional historic and cultural resources are within or transect Billerica as well, including the Middlesex Canal. Future funding of the town’s land bank will allow for continued acquisition of land for open space, cultural, historic or recreation purposes.

Primary resource protection needs focus on:

- Surface and Groundwater Resources
- Historic and Cultural Resources
- Ecological Resources

Surface and Groundwater Resources

Water resource protection remains of critical concern to the community. Nutting Lake and Winning Pond are two water bodies that were highlighted in the community survey where water quality is a concern. The Shawsheen and Concord Rivers are also important resources. The Concord River is the sole source of drinking water for the community, and both rivers serve as cultural and recreational backbones of the community. Water quality in the rivers is threatened by the loss of riparian buffers, pollutants from roadways, fertilizers, septic tanks, and other sources of non-point source pollution. To ensure that water quality remains high, it is essential that wetland areas, buffer zones and floodplains be protected. Additionally, the Town’s federal National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Program Permit was renewed in 2018, invoking requirements to meet federal standards to manage the impacts of stormwater runoff. This requires the Town to frequently monitor water quality and mitigate the impacts of development on natural resources.

To prevent contamination of water bodies by runoff from neighboring communities, the Town may consider increasing public outreach and education around lawn care and landscaping best practices and by implementing best stormwater management practices on Town-owned properties. These strategies may include: bioretention basins and vegetated swales, discouraging excess fertilizers, promoting native plants, etc.

In addition to water quality concerns, flooding along the Concord and Shawsheen Rivers is a significant problem, as outlined in *The Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plan for the Northern Middlesex Region*, prepared by Northern Middlesex Council of Governments. Billerica has the ninth highest number of “repetitive loss structures” in Massachusetts, structures that have had damages exceeding \$1,000 twice within a ten-year period. To manage these risks, the Town’s Zoning Bylaw, Wetlands

Protection Bylaw, subdivision regulations, and Conservation Commission policies serve to supplement the state wetlands regulation by controlling development near wetlands, floodplains, streams, and rivers. The Town may also look for strategic opportunities to protect land along the rivers and look for opportunities to increase the flood storage capacity of Town-owned lands.

Many practices that reduce flood risk also protect water quality. Riparian buffers, green infrastructure, water catchment, and protection of wetlands are all viable ways to reduce runoff and thus reduce the risk of flooding and water contamination.

Improvements within and around water bodies are also needed to maintain healthy ecosystems, including vegetation/invasive species management, dredging, and management of conflicting users. Nutting Lake and Winning Pond continue to have water quality issues. Monitoring and management plans to identify pollutants and manage users can help minimize impacts.

Nutting Lake currently suffers from being segmented by Middlesex Turnpike with only a culvert connecting the two sides of the lake. The lack of connectivity restricts water flow and the movement of fish and other wildlife. In addition, stagnant water is more susceptible to eutrophication and invasive plants. Improving connectivity in the lake would have a positive effect on water quality, habitat value, and recreational opportunities.

Historic, Cultural, and Agricultural Resources

Many of the open space and recreational opportunities in Billerica are linked to historic and cultural resources, including the Middlesex Canal, the mill complexes in North Billerica, and historic homes. These resources provide rich historical context for Billerica within the region and its role in the early growth of our country. Protecting and enhancing these resources can build pride and recognition for Billerica residents and attract visitors. The Middlesex Canal Association is a great partner to protect and enhance these resources through better access to and maintenance of the Middlesex Canal. Specific projects can include developing and promoting walking tours, exploring the potential for public art in the historic mills district, and considering opportunities to enhance the recreation and scenic value of the Talbot Dams area if the dam is removed.

The Town may also want to promote and protect agriculture within Billerica, an aspect of the Town's landscape that has severely diminished in recent decades. The Town's larger agricultural properties have either permanent protection through an agricultural restriction easement or limited protection under the Chapter 61A tax abatement program. For properties enrolled in the Chapter 61A program, there are opportunities for the Town to acquire the land. Should the landowners decide to sell or develop the property, a municipality can exercise its right of first refusal, or alternatively, it may elect to assign this right to a non-profit conservation organization or the Commonwealth.

Likewise, a landowner who has property classified in Chapter 61, 61A or 61B must notify the Select Board, as well as the Board of Assessors, Planning Board, Conservation Commission, and State Forester, when all or a portion of land is being sold or converted to a disqualifying use. The Town should prioritize properties enrolled in Chapter 61 and 61A programs for acquisition or identify a non-profit that could acquire a property to ensure its preservation as an agricultural or forestry (Chapter 61) use.

Ecological Resources

Much of the Town's open space and recreation land is fragmented and isolated. Establishing linkages and connections between these parcels can strengthen the ecological networks within the town. Acquisition and protection of parcels adjacent to existing conservation and recreation lands and in areas recognized as important habitat by BioMap or NHESP can provide myriad benefits. Partnering with regional land trusts and other non-profits can support the stewardship of existing Town-owned lands and new acquisitions.

The Town should also be looking at larger, undeveloped properties that can provide habitat or protect important natural resources. There may also be opportunities to encourage developers of larger properties to dedicate areas for conservation or recreational uses. An example is the Cider Mill property. Development of the 41-acre site could incorporate a conservation

and passive recreation component. The Town should identify properties where opportunities exist for dedication or acquisition of land for conservation or recreation.

B. Community Needs

Connectivity

Enhancing pedestrian and biking connections was identified as the most important need in both public meetings and the OSRP survey. Specifically, adding more sidewalks and off-street bike paths was the number one priority for survey respondents: 50.8% of respondents considered it to be a high priority, and 31.8% considered it to be a medium priority. This aligns with the SCORP's finding that bike paths and trails are strongly desired by Massachusetts residents.

Many residents of Billerica are not able to safely walk or bike to any open space or recreational areas, or other important destinations in town, making residents reliant on automobiles for routine trips. Alternative transportation options contribute to quality of life for people of all ages. For older adults, being able to get around town without an automobile can facilitate aging in place. One example of this is the "Walking Wonders" program where seniors meet daily to go for walks near the senior center. This program is only available because of the sidewalk network in Billerica center. Seniors who live in other areas of town are not necessarily able to socialize and exercise together in the same way. For young adults, being able to get around town independently can increase the array of recreational opportunities available to them. People with disabilities would also benefit from greater connectivity, in that there may be fewer barriers to accessing recreation and open space.

Additional sidewalks, bike paths, and protected bike lanes would give residents another option for both transportation and passive recreation. The recently completed draft of the "Greater Lowell Vision Zero Plan" emphasized a need for additional bike lanes. Children or adults who cannot drive would have more independence, and increased walking and biking could also have local benefits for air quality, public health, and the economy.

Billerica currently lacks sidewalks on many roads and many of the sidewalks it does have are in disrepair or insufficient width. The gaps in the sidewalk network make it so that Billerica residents are not able to walk to many places or must walk on the road to do so. Identifying the most important gaps in the sidewalk network would be a crucial step to moving forward with building sidewalks that have the most benefit to the town.

There are also very few options for biking off or on-street. Billerica's only off-street bike path is a very small portion of the Narrow-Gauge Rail Trail that extends just over the border with Bedford. The Yankee Doodle Bike Path is the only new bike path planned for Billerica. The Yankee Doodle will connect Billerica center to the Minuteman Bikeway via the Narrow-Gauge trail. This will make Billerica part of one of the region's largest bike networks. However, this trail will be hard to access safely without the addition of new protected bike lanes, bike paths, or sidewalks that connect Billerica's neighborhoods with the new trail.

The Bruce Freeman Rail Trail (BFRT) in neighboring Chelmsford is another large regional bike path. MassDOT has identified several roadways and other corridors including a section of the Middlesex Canal in Chelmsford as priority areas for bike infrastructure. If new connections to the BFRT are created in Chelmsford, Billerica would have an opportunity to ensure its residents can also access that trail by adding new off-street bike paths and protected bike lanes that connect to trails in Chelmsford. Billerica and Chelmsford have an opportunity to work together to ensure these connections, which would allow residents in each town to access the larger trail systems, are made.

Billerica has numerous rail lines, utility rights-of-way, town-owned lands, and other corridors which could be utilized for new off-street shared-use paths. Forging partnerships with state agencies such as MBTA or private landowners such as utilities or individual residents will be crucial to building out a substantial bike network.

Recreation

Conversations with Town staff and the results from the OSRP survey highlighted a need for new types of recreational programming and upgrades to improve accessibility.

The highest priority item for active recreation is to build new indoor recreation facilities. Billerica does not have a YMCA, or other all-purpose indoor recreation area which leaves residents with few options for activities like swimming, adult basketball, fitness classes, or other activities that require specific indoor facilities. Building a new facility would allow the recreation department to provide a wide range of new programs to meet the needs of people of all ages and abilities. For example, given the growing percentage of seniors in Billerica (see Chapter 3, Section C), accessible facilities and programming suitable for seniors are essential. Furthermore, most of Billerica's recreational facilities do not currently meet ADA standards (see Appendix D: ADA Self-Evaluation). It is essential to provide adequate indoor recreational resources for the estimated 9.8% of the Billerica population who have a disability.

Maintaining and better utilizing existing outdoor recreation facilities was also highlighted. In addition, adding lights to playing fields to increase the hours that teams can play, and updating fields so they are useable for sports like cricket that are gaining in popularity would allow the recreation department to meet changing demand. This could help expand the recreational offerings for teens and young professionals, two demographic groups highlighted by survey respondents as needing more recreational opportunities.

The inaccessibility of existing parks was also identified as a top concern. Nearly 80% of survey respondents said that improving accessibility for mobility-impaired individuals should be a high or medium priority. As stated above, the ADA Self-Evaluation confirmed that many recreational facilities lack ADA accessible paths and other features necessary to comply with state and federal laws. Getting these facilities into compliance with ADA would benefit a wide range of users, including, of course, people with disabilities, but also stroller-users, seniors with reduced mobility, and others.

Massachusetts Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP)

The 2023 Massachusetts Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP), developed by the Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA), is a planning document that assesses the availability of recreational resources and the needs of residents throughout the state. It is also one way that states can meet multiple goals of the National Park Service and remain eligible for funding from the national Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF). In Massachusetts, EEA administers LWCF grants to Commonwealth communities with approved Open Space and Recreation Plans. Grants can be used for activities that address recreation and open space needs, including land acquisition for conservation or recreation purposes or park renovation. The development of the latest SCORP involved an extensive public outreach process, including surveys of residents and providers of recreation opportunities (municipalities and land trusts).

The SCORP survey revealed a high demand for passive recreation amenities. The top 12 amenities survey respondents wanted were passive recreation: beaches, nature preserves, hiking trails, picnic areas, historic sites, playgrounds, community gardens, and paved off-street paths. This was true in the Billerica survey as well, which revealed a strong interest in trails and water-based activities.

Through the public engagement process the SCORP identified four goals for outdoor recreation in Massachusetts:

1. Improve access to the beach and other water-based activities.
2. Support trail projects.
3. Create and renovate neighborhood parks, especially to benefit the underserved.
4. Create opportunities, especially for the underserved, to enjoy protected natural areas.

The community needs identified in the Billerica OSRP survey and public meetings have been largely consistent with the goals and findings of the SCORP. Passive recreation opportunities are prioritized in both. Trail activities such as hiking, biking, or walking ranked as the highest priority in the Billerica OSRP survey and ranked highly in the SCORP survey. Water-based activities like swimming, boating, and fishing are high priorities for Billerica. The need to create neighborhood parks in areas like West and South Billerica which lack publicly accessible green space was also noted in public meetings and conversations with Town staff.

C. Management Needs and Potential Changes of Use

Maintenance and Resource Management Needs

The Town's capacity to manage resources effectively relies on staffing, technical and financial resources, and organizational efficiency. Management plans are important to coordinate departments, resources, and funding. Management of open space is increasingly critical and challenging, as disruptions from climate change, invasive species, and pathogens create new problems that must be addressed.

One area where additional management is needed is on Town-owned conservation lands. The management of forested land is becoming more important, more difficult, and more unpredictable in an era of accelerated environmental change. Forest land must be managed to mitigate threats such as over-browsing by deer, invasive species, and pathogens that affect trees. In the past, healthy forests have regrown and thrived without much stewardship. Today, active restoration and management of forests is increasingly necessary to ensure that forests are regenerating, supporting wildlife, and stabilizing stream banks. Healthy forests are also more resilient to threats from extreme weather like flooding, erosion, or forest fire, which means their management is an investment in the safety and livability of the town.

Forest management can be labor intensive and may require time and expertise that Town staff cannot provide. Billerica may need to partner with Sudbury Valley Trustees or other conservation organizations who are already actively managing lands in the region. Volunteers will be critical to managing forest lands. As removing invasive species or planting native trees is very labor intensive, utilizing volunteers will likely be necessary.

A town-wide stormwater management plan is also a priority. While improving water quality in Nutting Lake is a specific priority, the larger connections between water quality, conservation and open space, and land development could be illuminated by a town-wide stormwater management plan. As required by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the Town has a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Program permit for the outfalls associated with its stormwater conveyance system. It is a federal mandate for the Town to have and renew this permit as needed, and to demonstrate compliance with the permit requirements. Developing a stormwater management plan can help meet some of those requirements and address specific water quality concerns.

Proactive planning and improvement to town-wide organizational structure could also help Billerica to maximize the value of existing facilities to the community. For example, schools have recreational facilities, particularly gymnasiums, which could be utilized more often after school hours. However, a lack of planning and resource sharing results in a system where the recreation department or other parties pay expensive hourly rates to use school facilities. These payments are needed to cover the extra time the custodial staff must stay in the building. Proactive planning which budgeted for after-hours use of school buildings for recreational programming could mitigate the expense of keeping the buildings open, allowing the Town to save money and/or offer more services.

Potential Change of Use

In 2020, the Town of Billerica purchased several parcels collectively known as the Cider Mill Property. The property is 41 acres with a mixture of fields and woodlands, located just behind Billerica Town Center. The property was purchased by the Town with conflicting views on what the parcel could be used for. Some in the town saw it as ideal for smart-growth development and advocated for senior or affordable housing to be built, some advocated for municipal buildings like a new high school or a

Council on Aging building, and others wanted the entire parcel to be used for conservation and passive recreation. In the spring of 2024, the Planning Department released a request for proposals soliciting a feasibility study for the site with the following goals in mind: creating affordable housing, making connections that enliven the historic Town Center, and providing open space and a potential connection to regional trail systems. However, at the May 2024 Town Meeting, the Select Board put forward a warrant article to build a new Council on Aging building in that location. The warrant article passed by one vote, but another vote to table the discussion indefinitely also passed, and the future of Cider Mill is now uncertain. One goal that seems to have broad support is a trail connection on the property which is critical for completing the Bay Circuit Trail & Greenway through Billerica. A future trail corridor should be at least 30 feet in width. The modest spatial requirements for a trail connection make it easy to imagine its inclusion in any future site plans for the property regardless of use.

Billerica Town Meeting recently voted to construct a new indoor recreation facility at the former Vining School Property. The new building would include a 12,180-square-foot double basketball court, a divisible multipurpose room, fitness rooms and community meeting rooms. Town Meeting approved \$20.3 million in funding for the project.

The Town owns several properties with additional recreational or conservation potential. Some sites have been previously developed and thus are not suitable for conservation. The Old Ditson School, also known as Pinehurst Park, is perhaps the most important of these sites. The Old Ditson School closed in 2001 and was demolished in 2020. The site is currently used for a farmers' market and playground. However, the site could be utilized to a much greater extent including the rebuilding of a whiffle ball field that was once at the site, or other recreational amenities. The Town has recently conducted some community outreach towards the goal of finding the best use for that property, and the Select Board has set aside \$400,000 for improvements.

Another notable Town-owned site is the agricultural land adjacent to Griggs Farm. This parcel is centrally located and is over 25 acres. Currently, the Town is leasing the land to a farmer who maintains it as hay field. Agricultural land in Billerica is very scarce and utilizing this field in a more productive way such as for community gardens, Community Supported Agriculture (CSA), leasing to several small incubator farms, or some combination of the three could provide more benefit to the town. Partnering with local organizations such as Lowell Grows, the Food Project, New England Small Farm Institute, and the Billerica Farmer's Market may reveal new opportunities for this property.

8 Goals and Objectives

The following list provides objectives to meet the general goals identified in Section 6 of this Plan. Goals and objectives are listed in order of priority as ranked by public forum participants and the OSRPC.

Goal 1: Cultivate a vibrant and inclusive recreational system.

- 1.1: Prioritize conservation and recreation on Town-owned lands.
- 1.2: Expand opportunities to meet the needs of all ages and abilities.
- 1.3: Increase accessibility of Town recreational programs and facilities.
- 1.4.: Ensure Billerica residents in all parts of town have access to recreation within a short distance.
- 1.5: Expand the town's current roster of recreational activities, offerings, programs and facilities to position Billerica as a recreational destination.

Goal 2: Provide safe, connected, and enjoyable walking and bicycle access throughout town, and beyond.

- 2.1: Identify and fill gaps in the bike/pedestrian network.
- 2.2: Complete the Bay Circuit Trail through Billerica.
- 2.3: Coordinate with other communities and NMCOG to explore regional trail connections.
- 2.4: Pursue rails-with-trails options to connect the Yankee Doodle bike path to North Billerica and beyond.

Goal 3: Steward existing recreation resources and ensure all Billerica residents are aware of and able to enjoy them.

- 3.1: Enhance Town staff capacity to manage and maintain Town assets through improved organizational structure.
- 3.2: Improve care and maintenance of facilities.
- 3.3: Facilitate use of recreation resources.
- 3.4: Increase awareness of existing recreation amenities.

Goal 4: Safeguard natural resources.

- 4.1: Protect water quality in the Concord River, Shawsheen River, Nutting Lake, ponds, and other water bodies.
- 4.2: Use local land development policies to incentive greater open space preservation, minimize paved/disturbed areas, and incentivize the use of environmentally friendly practices.
- 4.3: Manage invasive species on town-owned lands.
- 4.4: Build local capacity to finance conservation efforts.
- 4.5: Reduce pollution and protect the environment by implementing best practices in Town operations.

Goal 5: Facilitate nature connection for all Billerica residents.

- 5.1: Continue to increase access to the Concord and Shawsheen Rivers and conserved lands.
- 5.2: Improve trail conditions and wayfinding.
- 5.3: Facilitate nature connection for children and young adults.
- 5.4: Create linkages to expand trails through passive recreation areas, within town and to adjacent towns.

Goal 6: Enhance climate resilience by conserving forests and riparian areas.

- 6.1: Prepare Billerica to meet the challenges of a changing climate.
- 6.2: Steward valuable ecological resources.
- 6.3: Protect Billerica homes and businesses from flood risk.

Goal 7: Build community by celebrating and protecting Billerica's cultural landscape.

- 7.1: Promote and protect important agricultural land and activities.
- 7.2: Connect Billerica residents to the town's history

9 Seven-Year Action Plan

Timeframe refers to the suggested project initiation.

Short-term = 1-3 years

Medium-term = 3-5 years

Long-term = 5 or more years

See References section 11 for more information on funding sources

<i>Goal 1: Cultivate a vibrant and inclusive recreational system.</i>				
OBJECTIVE	ACTION	Responsible Party	Timeframe	Funding Source
1.1: Prioritize conservation and recreation on Town-owned lands.	1.1.1: Develop Master Plans for town-owned properties, including the Cider Mill Land and the Old Ditson School property.	Planning Department, Recreation Department, Select Board	Short-term	Parkland Acquisition and Renovations for Communities (PARC) Grant
	1.1.2: Explore the additional recreation potential for Department of Public Works/Recreation Department property (250 Boston Road)	Recreation Department, Select Board	Short-term	Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)
	1.1.3: Explore feasibility of creating pocket parks on Town-owned lands in neighborhoods currently lacking a park.	Planning Department, Select Board, Recreation Department	Medium/long-term	LWCF
1.2: Expand opportunities to meet the needs of all ages and abilities	1.2.1: Enhance recreation opportunities for the town's teen population.	Recreation Department, School Department	Medium-term	PARC
	1.2.2: Work with the Council on Aging to offer recreational programs for seniors.	Recreation Department, Council on Aging	Medium-term	No funding required/staff time only

1.3: Increase accessibility of Town recreational programs and facilities.	1.3.1: Develop more recreational programs for those with disabilities.	Recreation Department, Commission on Disabilities	Short-term	Municipal Americans with Disabilities Act Improvement Grant Program
	1.3.2: Modify/improve existing facilities for ADA compliance, starting with items identified in the ADA transition plan.	Facilities Department, Parks and Trees Division, Commission on Disabilities	Short-term	Municipal Americans with Disabilities Act Improvement Grant Program
	1.3.3: Work with Lowell Regional Transit Agency (LRTA) to improve public transportation options to Billerica open space and recreation areas.	LRTA Billerica Representative, Planning Department	Short-term	No funding required/staff time only
1.4: Ensure Billerica residents in all parts of town have access to recreation within a short distance.	1.4.1: Pursue new land acquisitions and/or develop existing Town-owned lands to establish parks within a ten-minute walk (0.5 miles) of every resident (Also see 1.1.5).	Planning Department, Recreation Department, Select Board, Parks and Trees Division	Long-term	LWCF
1.5: Expand the town's current roster of recreational activities, offerings, programs and facilities to position Billerica as a recreational destination.	1.5.1: Develop an indoor recreation facility with outdoor recreational amenities, at the former Vining School fields.	Recreation Department, Select Board	Short-term	Town appropriation
	1.5.2: Evaluate the feasibility of both indoor and outdoor swimming facilities.	Recreation Department, Select Board	Medium-term	Town appropriation
	1.5.3: Develop a separate fishing location at Nutting Lake to prevent conflicts with swimming area at Micozzi Beach.	Recreation Department, Conservation	Short-term	LWCF, Town appropriation
	1.5.4: Install lights at existing multi-purpose fields.	Recreation Department	Short-term	PARC, LWCF
	1.5.5: Develop recreational programs for new activities, such as cricket, adult softball, bocce, disc golf, and other activities requested in the OSRP Survey.	Recreation Department	Medium-term	Town appropriation
	1.5.6: Develop new recreational facilities such as playing fields as needed to keep up with an increase in demand for new or different types of recreation areas.	Recreation Department, Select Board	Long-term	PARC, LWCF
	1.5.7: Assess opportunities to expand the 9-hole disc golf course at Vietnam Veterans Park and/or assess other locations for disc golf opportunities if needed.	Parks and Trees Division, Recreation Department	Short-term	PARC, LWCF

Goal 2: Provide safe, connected, and enjoyable walking and bicycle access throughout town, and beyond.

OBJECTIVE	ACTION	Responsible Party		Funding Source
2.1: Identify and fill gaps in the bike/pedestrian network.	2.1.1: Adopt a bike/ped committee	Select Board, Planning Department, Yankee Doodle Bike Path Committee	Short-term	No funding required/staff time only
	2.1.2: Ensure completion of planned Yankee Doodle Bike Path, from the southern town line of Billerica up to River Street.	Yankee Doodle Bike Path Committee, Engineering Department	Short-term	MassTrails Grant (already funded)

	2.1.3: Develop a town-wide sidewalk and bike network plan.	Planning Department, Department of Public Works, Bike/Ped Committee	Short-term	Complete Streets Funding Program
	2.1.4: Improve the sidewalk network around Nutting Lake, particularly along the Middlesex Turnpike.	Department of Public Works	Medium-term	State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP)
	2.1.5: Investigate the potential for a trail or multi-use path within utility easements.	Planning Department, Department of Public Works, Bike/Ped Committee	Medium-term	Town appropriation, Solomon Foundation (they mostly fund projects closer to Boston, but worth contacting)
	2.1.6: Install bike racks at all publicly accessible Town-owned lands including municipal buildings and conservation/recreation areas	Department of Public Works, Facilities	Short-term	Community Connections Grant
	2.1.7: Add a bike path through Billerica Town Center.	Department of Public Works, Planning Department, Bike/Ped Committee	Medium-term	MassTrails
	2.1.8: Look for opportunities to connect existing open space and recreation areas with walking and bicycle routes.	Bike/Ped Committee, Planning Department, Department of Public Works	Medium-term	Complete Streets Funding Program
2.2: Complete the Bay Circuit Trail through Billerica.	2.2.1: Include Bay Circuit Trail connections in any future Cider Mill Master Plan.	Planning Department	Short-term	Funded through Cider Mill development
	2.2.2: Connect Cider Mill Land and Fox Hill by adding a sidewalk/crosswalk across Andover Road.	Planning Department, Department of Public Works	Short-term	Town appropriation
	2.2.3: Design and install paths through Fox Hill Conservation Land.	Planning Department, Conservation Commission, Department of Public Works, Bike/Ped Committee	Medium-term	CPA, MassTrails, LWCF
	2.2.4: Identify a viable connection and create a trail or walking path between Fox Hill and the Middlesex Canal Tow Path.	Planning Department, Department of Public Works, Bike/Ped Committee, Conservation Commission	Medium-term	Town appropriation
2.3: Coordinate with other communities and NMCOG to explore regional trail connections.	2.3.1: Work with the Town of Chelmsford and NMCOG to connect the Yankee Doodle Bike Path with the Bruce Freeman Rail-Trail by utilizing the Middlesex Canal Towpath	Planning Department, Bike/Ped Committee	Medium-term	No funding required/staff time only
	2.3.2: Improve bike safety on the portion of Lowell Street identified as a Bike/PED Priority Roadway by MassDOT.	Planning Department, Department of Public Works, Bike/Ped Committee	Medium-term	Complete Streets Funding Program

2.4: Pursue rails-with-trails options to connect the Yankee Doodle bike path to North Billerica and beyond.	2.4.1: Meet with MassDOT representatives to discuss the “Billerica Branch” Rails-with-Trails proposal (segment of existing rail from Heritage Road/Boston Road up to Rogers Street/Middlesex Canal).	Planning Department, Department of Public Works, Bike/Ped Committee	Short-term	No funding required/staff time only
	2.4.2: Pursue grant funding for planning and design of the “Billerica Branch” trail.	Planning Department, Bike/Ped Committee	Short-term	No funding required/staff time only

Goal 3: Steward existing recreation resources and ensure all Billerica residents are aware of and able to enjoy them.

OBJECTIVE	ACTION	Responsible Party	Timeframe	Funding Source
3.1: Enhance Town staff capacity to manage and maintain Town assets through improved organizational structure.	3.1.1: Conduct organizational assessment to evaluate if open space and recreation sites are managed appropriately and efficiently. Make organizational changes as needed.	Town Manager	Long-term	No funding required/staff time only
	3.1.2: Evaluate each Department’s capacity to manage town’s open space and recreation resources and seek funding for additional staff or training as needed.	Town Manager, Conservation Commission	Long-term	No funding required/staff time only
	3.1.3: Coordinate between the Recreation Department and School Department to share the use of their respective facilities for recreational programs.	Town Manager, Recreation Department, School Department,	Short-term	No funding required/staff time only
3.2: Improve care and maintenance of facilities	3.2.1: Strengthen enforcement and awareness of rules regarding littering, motorized vehicle use, and off-leash dogs.	Recreation Department, Conservation Department, Police Department	Short-term	No funding required/staff time only
	3.2.2: Undertake needed renovations for the Hallenborg Ice Rink.	School Department, Facilities	Medium/long-term	PARC
	3.2.3: Undertake needed renovations to Micozzi Beach.	Recreation Department, Facilities, Parks and Trees Division	Short-term	PARC
	3.2.4: Conduct regular playground safety audits to reduce the risk of injury or accidents.	Facilities	Ongoing	Town allocation
3.3: Facilitate use of recreation resources.	3.3.1: Install signage indicating allowed parking areas to facilitate ease of use.	Recreation Department, Conservation Department, Facilities, DPW	Medium-term	Town allocation
	3.3.2: Improve parking infrastructure at facilities currently lacking adequate and accessible parking, prioritizing those with greatest demand. Consider ways to connect users to existing parking facilities via shuttles or other transportation options at peak hours to reduce the expansion of parking in open spaces.	Recreation Department, Conservation Department, Facilities	Short-term	Town allocation

	3.3.3: Install restrooms at facilities where they are lacking.	Recreation Department, Facilities	Medium-term	PARC, Town allocation
	3.3.4: Work to improve shared use transportation options such as public transportation or shuttles to Billerica open space and recreation areas.	LRTA, Council on Aging, Recreation Department	Medium-term	No funding required/staff time only
3.4: Increase awareness of existing recreation amenities	3.4.1: Publicize recreation amenities through various channels, including newsletters, the Town website, and social media.	Town Managers Office, Recreation Department	Short-term	No funding required/staff time only
	3.4.2: Create a “Things to Do” webpage that links to various amenities and programs in Billerica.	Planning Department	Short-term	No funding required/staff time only
	3.4.3: Promote existing trails through community and youth groups.	Recreation Department, Conservation Department, School Committee	Medium-term	No funding required/staff time only

Goal 4: Safeguard natural resources

OBJECTIVE	ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	TIMEFRAME	FUNDING SOURCE
4.1: Protect water quality in the Concord River, Shawsheen River, Nutting Lake, ponds, and other water bodies.	4.1.1: Encourage and educate residents about greener lawn care and landscaping best practices to reduce stormwater runoff and pollution through web page, social media, and brochures.	Department of Public Works, Conservation Commission	Medium-term	No funding required/staff time only
	4.1.2: Develop a management plan to control pests and invasive species in the town’s water bodies.	Department of Public Works, Conservation Commission, Recreation Department, Board of Health	Medium-term	Lakes and Ponds Grants Programs, Department of Conservation Services Grants Program
	4.1.3: Identify and develop limitations to motorized boats in the Concord River.	Select Board, Conservation Department	Long-term	No funding required/staff time only
	4.1.4: Continue to protect inner riparian, flood plain, and buffer zone areas via implementation and continuation of the Wetlands Protection Bylaw.	Conservation Commission	Ongoing	No funding required/staff time only
	4.1.5: Work with MassDOT to explore the replacement of the Middlesex Turnpike over Nutting Lake with a bridge that would allow for the free flow of water and access to both sides of the lake for boaters.	Planning Department, Department of Public Works, Select Board	Long-term	No funding required/staff time

4.2: Use local land development policies to incentive greater open space preservation, minimize paved/disturbed areas, and incentivize the use of environmentally friendly practices.	4.2.1: Explore incentives that increase dedicated open space such as waivers to dimensional standards if it results in protection of areas that would otherwise be developed.	Planning Dept., Building Commissioner, Zoning Board, Planning Board	Short-term	No funding required/staff time only
	4.2.2: Revise site plan review criteria and develop design guidelines that preserve the character of the town and address open space, recreation, and conservation priorities and needs.	Planning Department, Building Commissioner, Zoning Board, Planning Board	Short-term	No funding required/staff time only
	4.2.3: Explore adopting a Tree Preservation Bylaw.	Select Board, Planning Board	Short-term	No funding required/staff time only
4.3: Manage invasive species on town-owned lands.	4.3.1: Partner with local organizations to monitor invasive species through regular assessments.	Parks and Trees Division, Conservation	Medium-term	No funding required/staff time only
	4.3.2: Partner with volunteers and local organizations to remove invasive species from Town-owned land.	Conservation, Parks, and Trees Division	Medium-term	No funding required/staff time only
4.4: Build local capacity to finance conservation efforts.	4.4.1: Continue to allocate funding to the land bank.	Select Board	Ongoing	Town allocation
	4.4.2: Explore potential partnerships with local land trusts such as Sudbury Valley Trustees, Lowell Parks & Conservation Trust, and Carlisle Land Trust to conserve additional land.	Conservation Department	Long-term	No funding required/staff time only
4.5: Reduce pollution and protect the environment by implementing best practices in Town operations.	4.5.1: Reduce air and noise pollution by pursuing electrification of Town-owned equipment.	Department of Public Works	Medium-term	Town allocation
	4.5.2: Implement best practices on Town-owned land to reduce stormwater runoff and pollution.	Department of Public Works	Short-term	Town allocation (minimal funding or possible cost savings)
	4.5.3: Consider ways to increase the use of native plants in public landscaping.	Department of Public Works, Select Board	Long-term	No funding required/staff time only

Goal 5: Facilitate nature connection for all Billerica residents

OBJECTIVE	ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	TIMEFRAME	FUNDING SOURCE
5.1: Continue to increase access to the Concord and Shawsheen Rivers and conserved lands	5.1.1: Map and add signage to denote existing boat launches and put ins.	Parks and Trees Division, Recreation Department, DPW, GIS, Planning Department	Short-term	Town allocation
	5.1.2: Explore potential for public access to conserved land adjacent to Talbot Dam Reservoir (Rear Call St, Parcel: 15-29-0).	Conservation Department, Conservation Commission	Long-term	No funding required/staff time only

	5.1.3: Explore public access to rivers on both sides of their banks.	Planning Department, Conservation Department, Conservation Commission, Parks and Trees Division	Medium-term	No funding required/staff time only
	5.1.4. Partner with the Town of Carlisle to establish parking on Billerica side of Greenough Land.	Planning Department, DPW	Short-term	No funding required/staff time only
	5.1.5. Complete planned boat launch for 250 Boston Road.	Select Board, Conservation Department, Conservation Commission	Short-term	MA Office of Fishing and Boating Access
5.2: Improve trail conditions and wayfinding.	5.2.1: Develop a management program for trails on Town-owned lands.	Parks and Trees Division, Conservation, Recreation	Long-term	Town allocation
	5.2.2: Add streetside signage and parking signs for trailheads.	Conservation Department, Conservation Commission, Parks and Trees Division, DPW	Medium-term	Town allocation
	5.2.3: Make maps accessible online and at trailheads.	Parks and Trees Division, GIS, Recreation Department, Planning Department	Short-term	Town allocation
	5.2.4: Educate residents and users of conservation areas regarding the rules of use, etiquette, and responsibility through signage and brochures for the area.	Parks and Trees Division, Conservation Commission	Short-term/ongoing	No funding required/staff time only
	5.2.5: Develop a trail book showing town hikes, walks, and areas of interest.	Recreation Department, Conservation Department, GIS, Planning Department	Short-term	No funding required/staff time only
5.3: Facilitate nature connection for children and young adults.	5.3.1: Develop educational nature programming for children and young adults.	Recreation Department, Parks and Trees Division, School Department	Short-term	No funding required/staff time only
	5.3.2: Create an Adopt-A-Park Stewardship Program to connect local organizations such as Scouts, Boys & Girls Club, or church youth groups to local parks.	Recreation Department, Parks and Trees Division, School Department, Town Manager, VSO, School Board	Short-term	No funding required/staff time only
5.4: Create linkages to expand trails through passive recreation areas, within town and to adjacent towns.	5.4.1: Partner with US Fish & Wildlife to build a boardwalk to connect Great Meadows Wildlife Refuge between Billerica and Bedford on parcel 101-4-2.	Conservation Department, Parks and Trees Division	Long-term	No funding required/staff time only
	5.4.2: Research methods of ensuring public access through “paper roads” throughout the town.	Town Legal Counsel, Planning Department, Department of Public Works	Medium-term	No funding required/staff time only
	5.4.3: Partner with Fortt (Friends of Regional Trails and Towpaths) to pursue development of Thoreau Towpath along Middlesex Canal from Billerica Falls through Chelmsford.	Planning Department, Conservation Department, Conservation Commission	Long-term	MassTrails
	5.4.4: Preserve connection between Rangeway Town Forest and Chelmsford Russell Mill Pond Town Forest.	Planning Department, Conservation Department, Conservation Commission	Medium-term	LWCF, PARC, CPA

	5.4.5. Explore the creation of a connection to Great Brook Farm in Carlisle.	Planning Department, Conservation Department, Conservation Commission	Medium-term	MassTrails
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Goal 6: Enhance climate resilience by conserving forests and riparian areas.

OBJECTIVE	ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	TIMEFRAME	FUNDING SOURCE
6.1: Prepare Billerica to meet the challenges of a changing climate.	6.1.1: Establish a climate resilience committee.	Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Core Team, Planning Department	Short-term	No funding required/staff time only
	6.1.2: Continue to facilitate an Arbor Day seedling give-away program. Reach out to local garden clubs, hardware stores, farmers markets, or other interest groups to increase participation.	Planning Dept., Parks and Trees Division	Ongoing	Town allocation
6.2: Steward valuable ecological resources.	6.2.1: Prioritize conservation of lands that are identified as having high wildlife value (reference BioMap, NHESP), are adjacent to existing conservation areas, contain or are near vernal pools, or are along waterways.	Conservation Department	Ongoing	No funding required/staff time only
	6.2.2: Continue to propose vernal pools for certification.	OSRP Committee, Conservation Department	Ongoing	No funding required/staff time only
	6.2.3: Encourage conservation restrictions and other strategies to protect natural areas on private property. Prioritize lands with critical habitat.	Planning Department, Conservation Department, Conservation Commission	Ongoing	No funding required/staff time only
	6.2.4: Develop a management strategy for Town-owned forests to mitigate risks associated with extreme weather such as forest fire, flash flooding, and erosion.	Parks and Trees Division, Conservation Commission, Fire Department, Police Department, MVP Core Team	Medium-term	Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) Grants Program, Town allocation
	6.2.5: Purchase lands participating in Chapter 61 that may become available, for the purpose of conserving or restoring valuable ecological resources and providing public amenities such as trails or biking paths.	Planning Department, Select Board, Conservation Commission	Ongoing	Town allocation, PARC, CPA
6.3: Protect Billerica homes and businesses from flood risk.	6.3.1: Conserve land along waterways.	Planning Department, Conservation Department, Conservation Commission	Ongoing	Town allocation, PARC, CPA

	6.3.2: Develop a guide for homeowners detailing the design and benefits of rain gardens, buffer zone protection, and other stormwater management best practices.	Conservation Department, Department of Public Works	Medium-term	Town allocation, MVP Grants Program
	6.3.3: Evaluate potential for Town-owned parks or other Town-owned land to act as temporary flood water storage areas.	Department of Public Works, Conservation Department, Select Board, Climate Resilience Committee, Recreation, Parks and Trees Division	Medium-term	Town allocation, MVP Grants Program

Goal 7: Build community by celebrating and protecting Billerica's cultural landscape

OBJECTIVE	ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	TIMEFRAME	FUNDING SOURCE
7.1: Promote and protect important agricultural land and activities	7.1.1: Evaluate the desirability of implementing a Right to Farm Bylaw and of establishing an agricultural commission.	Select Board, Town Meeting, Planning Department	Long-term	No funding required/staff time only
	7.1.2: Purchase lands participating in Chapter 61A that become available should uses change by existing or new property owners, taking advantage of the Town's right to first refusal.	Assessor's Office, Planning Department, Conservation Department, Select Board	Ongoing	Town allocation, PARC, CPA
	7.1.3: Increase agricultural activity on Town-owned land. Consider expanding community gardens on small properties or partnering with local organizations such as Lowell Grows, The Food Project, New Entry Food Hub, or Billerica Farmers Market to utilize larger town-owned parcels near Griggs Farm (79-322-0).	Planning Department, Select Board	Medium-term	Urban Agriculture Grants Program, Town allocation
7.2: Connect Billerica residents to the town's history	7.2.1: Advertise existing walking tours on the Town website and organize additional guided walks where there is interest.	Historic Commission, Historic Districts Commission, Planning Department, Volunteers	Short-term	No funding required/staff time only
	7.2.2: As discussions around the Talbot Dam removal continue, consider new opportunities to enhance recreation, scenic value, access, and historic preservation in the mills area, such as adding a footbridge connection at Mill Pond.	Planning Department, Historic Commission, Historic Districts Commission, Planning Department	Short-term	No funding required/staff time only
	7.2.3: Partner with historic and cultural organizations, including the Middlesex Canal Association and Billerica Historical Society, to connect recreational opportunities with celebration and interpretation of historic resources.	Planning Department, Historic Commission, Historic Districts Commission, Planning Department	Short-term	No funding required/staff time only
	7.2.4: Improve sidewalk network in the historic mills area.	Department of Public Works, Historic Districts Commission, Planning Department	Long-term	State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP)

	7.2.5: Partner with the Middlesex Canal Association to support the development of the Middlesex Canal Greenway.	Planning Department, Historic Commission, OSRP Committee, Historic Districts Commission, Planning Department	Short-term	No funding required/staff time only
	7.2.6: Explore the potential for public art in the historic mills district.	Historic Districts Commission, Planning Department	Long-term	No funding required/staff time only
	7.2.7: Develop connections between conservation and recreational resources and historic and cultural sites.	Conservation Department, Recreation Department, Historic Districts Commission, Middlesex Canal Association/Commission, Historical Society, Parks and Trees, Planning Department	Long-term	State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP)
	7.2.8: Monitor condition of historic structures and encourage responsible parties to keep them in good repair.	Building Department, Historic Commission, Historic Districts Commission, Planning Department	Ongoing	No funding required/staff time only

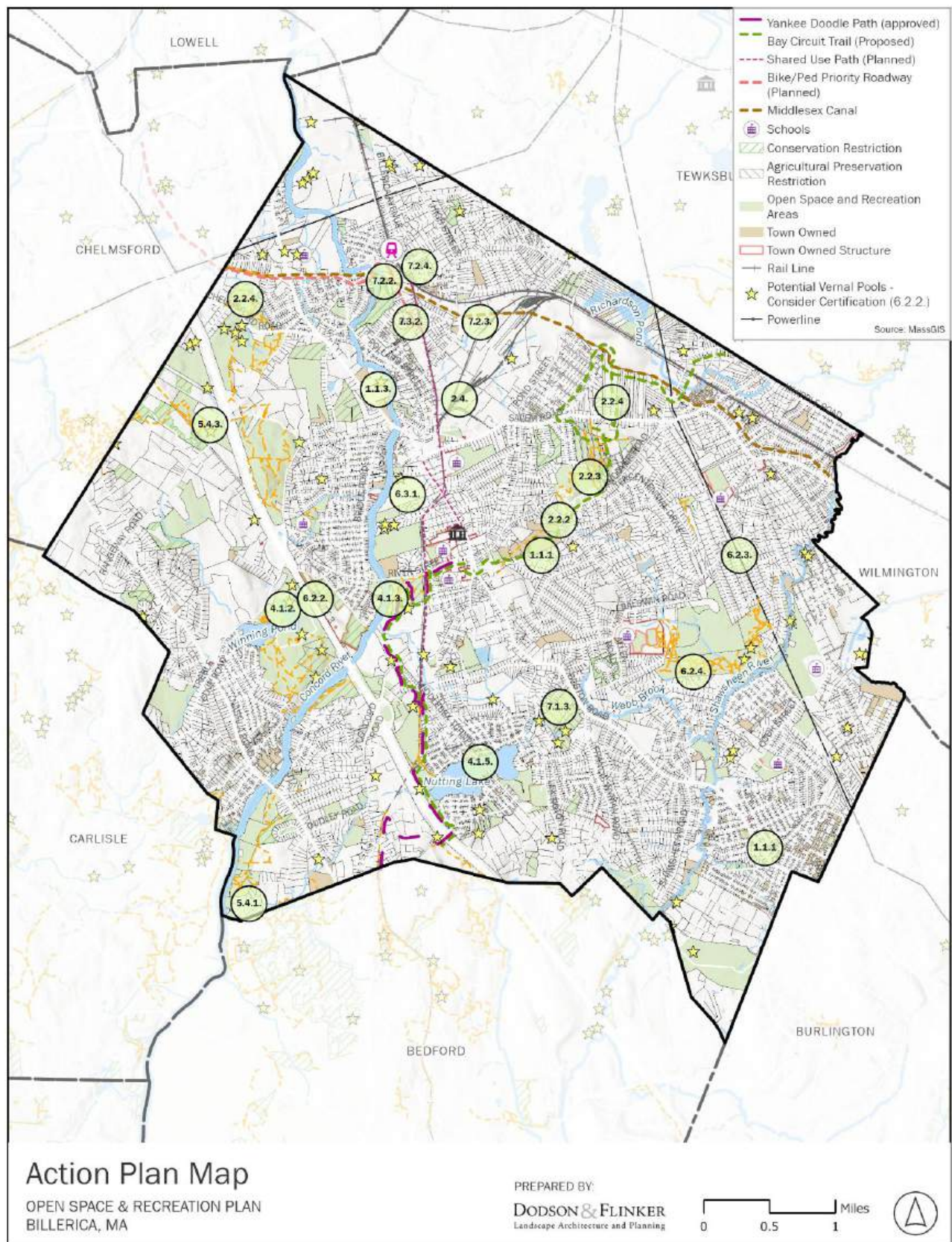


Figure 9-1: Action Plan Map

10 Public Comment



Town of Billerica

Clancy Main
Town Manager

Town Manager's Office
365 Boston Road
Billerica, MA 01821
Phone: 978-671-0942
cmain@town.billerica.ma.us

December 30, 2024

Melissa Cryan, Grants Program Supervisor
Division of Conservation Services
Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs
100 Cambridge Street, Suite 900
Boston, MA 02114

RE: Town of Billerica Open Space and Recreation Plan

Dear Ms. Cryan:

As Town Manager for the Town of Billerica, I have reviewed the 2024 Open Space and Recreation Plan completed by Dodson and Flinker and the Town of Billerica's Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP) Committee.

The updated OSRP includes in-depth input and the needs of Billerica residents. I appreciate the several hundred voices that went into it, especially where the Public Library, the School Administration and the Council on Aging Center were engaged to ensure a variety of ages were represented in our public survey. The outreach accomplished in this Plan has set a new standard for our Town.

We look forward to working with the Open Space and Recreation Plan Committee over the next seven years to implement the Action Plan of Section 9, such as our current PARC Grant for development of recreation at the former Ditson Elementary Property (Action Item 1.1.1).

Sincerely,

Clancy Main
Town Manager



SELECT BOARD
TOWN HALL
365 BOSTON ROAD
BILLERICA, MASSACHUSETTS 01821
978-671-0939
FAX: 978-671-0947

John J. Burrows, *Chair*
Dina M. Favreau, *Vice Chair*
Michael S. Rosa, *Secretary*
Kimberly J. Conway, *Member*
Michael A. Riley, *Member*

August 19, 2024

Melissa Cryan, Grants Program Supervisor
Division of Conservation Services
Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs
100 Cambridge St, Suite 900
Boston, MA 02114

RE: Town of Billerica Open Space and Recreation Plan

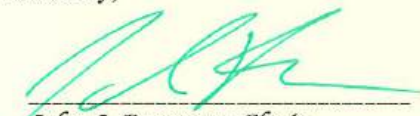
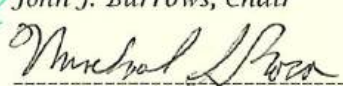
Dear Ms. Cryan,

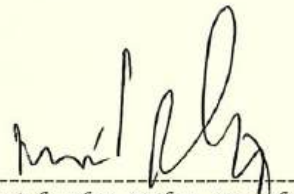
The Town of Billerica Select Board has reviewed the 2024 Open Space and Recreation Plan completed by Dodson and Flinker and the Town of Billerica's Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP) Committee.

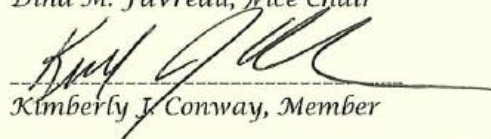
The updated OSRP includes in-depth input and the needs of Billerica residents and the Select Board unanimously voted to support this plan.

We look forward to working with the Open Space and Recreation Plan Committee over the next seven years to help complete these goals.

Sincerely,


John J. Burrows, *Chair*

Michael S. Rosa, *Secretary*


Michael A. Riley, *Member*


Dina M. Favreau, *Vice Chair*

Kimberly J. Conway, *Member*

America's Yankee Doodle Town



BILLERICA PLANNING BOARD

Town Hall
365 Boston Road Billerica, MA 01821
978-671-0962
978-670-9448 Fax

Michael Parker, *Chair*

Kelley Sardina, *Vice Chair*
Christopher Tribou
Edward Giroux

Marlies Henderson, *Secretary*
Blake Robertson
Evens Cimea

August 12, 2024

Melissa Cryan, Grants Program Supervisor
Division of Conservation Services
Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs
100 Cambridge St, Suite 900
Boston, MA 02114

RE: Town of Billerica Open Space and Recreation Plan

Dear Ms. Cryan,

The Town of Billerica's Planning Board has reviewed the 2024 Open Space and Recreation Plan completed by Dodson and Flinker and the Town of Billerica's Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP) Committee.

The updated OSRP includes in-depth input and the needs of Billerica residents. We look forward to working with the Open Space and Recreation Plan Committee over the next seven years to help complete these goals.

Sincerely,

Town of Billerica Planning Board

Michael Parker, *Chair*

Kelley Sardina, *Vice Chair*

Marlies Henderson, *Secretary*

Christopher Tribou

Blake Robertson

Edward Giroux

Evens Cimea

Michael Parker
Kelley Sardina
Marlies Henderson
Christopher Tribou
Blake Robertson
E.G.
E.C.

Jennifer M. Raitt
Executive Director



Jayne Wellman
Chair

Northern Middlesex Council of Governments

A Multi-Disciplinary Regional Planning Agency Serving:

Billerica – Chelmsford – Dracut – Dunstable – Lowell – Pepperell – Tewksbury – Tyngsborough – Westford

August 5, 2024

Melissa Cryan
Grants Program Supervisor
Division of Conservation Services
Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs
100 Cambridge Street, Suite 900
Boston, MA 02114

Re: Review of and Support for Billerica Open Space and Recreation Plan

Dear Ms. Cryan,

The Northern Middlesex Council of Governments (NMCOG) reviewed the draft 2024 Open Space and Recreation Plan for Billerica, MA. The Plan is comprehensive and appears to meet all requirements based on the Division of Conservation Services' Open Space and Recreation Plan Workbook. NMCOG looks forward to supporting the Town in implementing the Action Plan in a number of ways.

NMCOG will continue to support and collaborate with the town in developing plans that accommodate both local and regional growth. Additionally, NMCOG looks forward to working with the Town on flood prevention and stormwater management efforts. Billerica is a long-standing member of the Northern Middlesex Stormwater Collaborative where these topics and other initiatives are discussed and advanced at the local and regional level.

It is clear from this OSRP that bicycle and pedestrian planning activities are critical; this was noted as a top need in 2018, and it remains a top priority to have a connected and accessible network. Over the next year, NMCOG will be leading the development of a regional Bicycle and Pedestrian plan and hopes that the Town will remain engaged throughout the development process. Additionally, NMCOG is in the process of developing a regional trail map with other regional planning agencies across the state. This process is certain to benefit from both the Town's bicycle and pedestrian network planning and improvements, as well as the regional bicycle and pedestrian plan that NMCOG will be advancing over the next year. It is important to highlight that the Northern Middlesex Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) programmed funding for the Yankee Doodle Bike Path on the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for FFY 2025-2029 for FFY 2025 and FFY 2026.

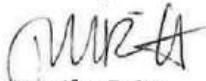
Lastly, age-friendly facilities and accessible facilities are also noted priorities in the draft plan, especially with nearly 10% of the community reporting to the Census that they have a disability.

Making connections to the Lowell Regional Transit Authority (LRTA) service is a key component of greater accessibility and access to amenities and recreational opportunities for all.

Thank you again for your consideration of our comments on the draft plan. Should you have any questions regarding this letter or require further information, please contact me at jraitt@nmcog.org.

We look forward to working collaboratively with the Town and the implementation team to achieve the plan's goals.

Sincerely,



Jennifer Raitt
Executive Director

cc: Dina Favreau, Billerica Select Board, NMCOG Council
Marlies Henderson, Billerica Planning Board, NMCOG Council
Mary McBride, Billerica Finance Committee, NMCOG Council Alternate
Clancy Main, Acting Town Manager, Town of Billerica
Billerica Planning and Community Development Department
Billerica Select Board
Billerica Planning Board
Billerica Conservation Commission

September 6, 2024

Melissa Cryan, Grants Program Supervisor
Division of Conservation Services
Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs
100 Cambridge St, Suite 900
Boston, MA 02114

RE: Town of Billerica Open Space and Recreation Plan

Dear Ms. Cryan,

The Sudbury, Assabet, and Concord Wild and Scenic River Stewardship Council (River Stewardship Council) has reviewed the 2024 Billerica Open Space and Recreation Plan completed by Dodson and Flinker and the Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP) Committee. The updated OSRP includes in-depth input and supports the needs of Billerica residents. The OSRP also reflects many of the goals and objectives of River Stewardship Council.

In 1999, Congress designated twenty-nine miles of the Sudbury, Assabet, and Concord Rivers as a component of the National Wild and Scenic River System. This federal designation recognizes the rivers' free-flow and nationally significant outstanding scenic, ecological, recreational, historical, and literary values. Comprised of representatives from local, state and federal governments, and local non-profits, the SuAsCo River Stewardship Council coordinates the protection and enhancement of the Wild and Scenic River segments and their associated "outstandingly remarkable values" as specified by the enabling legislation.

[The Sudbury, Assabet and Concord Wild and Scenic River Conservation Plan \(2019 Update\)](#), which is approved by the eight municipalities, including Billerica, with representatives on the River Stewardship Council, identifies priority strategies for open space and recreation including:

- Protect and enhance the Sudbury, Assabet and Concord Rivers' outstanding recreational resources.
- Support acquisition of additional access points by municipalities.
- Increase awareness of the rivers' recreational opportunities by developing new partnerships to build access and partnering with communities to develop recreation programs.

We look forward to working with the Open Space and Recreation Plan Implementation Committee over the next seven years to help achieve the overlapping goals of the OSRP and River Conservation Plan.

Sincerely,



Marlies Henderson, Chair
Sudbury, Assabet, and Concord Wild and Scenic River Stewardship Council



member organizations
Bedford, Billerica, Carlisle, Concord, Lincoln, Sudbury, Wayland, Framingham,
OARS, Sudbury Valley Trustees, Commonwealth of Massachusetts,
National Park Service, US Fish and Wildlife Service.

sudbury-assabet-concord.org



Town of Billerica Recreation Commission

11/18/2024

Melissa Cryan, Grants Program Supervisor
Division of Conservation Services
Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs
100 Cambridge St, Suite 900
Boston, MA 02114

RE: Town of Billerica Open Space and Recreation Plan

Dear Ms. Cryan,

The Town of Billerica Recreation Commission has reviewed the 2024 Open Space and Recreation Plan completed by Dodson and Flinker and the Town of Billerica's Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP) Committee. The updated OSRP includes in-depth input and the needs of Billerica residents. It reflects the goals of the Billerica Recreation Commission.

We look forward to working with the Open Space and Recreation Plan Committee over the next seven years to help complete these goals.

Sincerely,

John Bartlett, Chairperson



SHAWSHEEN RIVER WATERSHED ASSOCIATION
P . O . B o x 1 2 6 P i n e h u r s t , M A 0 1 8 6 6

Nov. 20, 2024

Melissa Cryan, Grants Program Supervisor
Division of Conservation Services
Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs
100 Cambridge St, Suite 900
Boston, MA 02114

RE: Town of Billerica Open Space and Recreation Plan

Dear Ms. Cryan,

The SRWA has reviewed the 2024 Open Space and Recreation Plan completed by Dodson & Flinker Inc. and the Billerica Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP) Committee. The updated OSRP includes in-depth input and the needs of Billerica residents and includes the Shawsheen River as one of its natural resources. The use aligns with the goals of SRWA as one of the town's open space gems.

We look forward to working with the Open Space and Recreation Plan Implementation Committee where these goals overlap with SRWA.

Respectfully,

Brian Henderson and the SRWA Board
SRWA President

Michelle Loftin
SRWA Secretary

11

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Appendix A: Public Forums

Public Meeting 1 Agenda – Existing Conditions

6:30-8:30 PM, Wednesday, December 6, 2023

Objectives

1. Introduce the project: background, process, and role of community input.
2. Identify key recreational assets and opportunities for improving recreation access and facilities.
3. Review existing open spaces and explore opportunities for protecting and celebrating Billerica's natural and cultural resources.
4. Discuss community priorities and values that will shape the vision for open space and recreation in Billerica.

Agenda

Time	Activity	Facilitator Notes
6:30	Introductions & Objectives	A. Welcome and Introductions B. OSRP Committee and consultants (Dodson & Flinker) C. Review meeting agenda and objectives
6:40	Project Background	A. Open Space & Recreation Plan purpose and process B. History of open space and recreation in Billerica C. Tasks and Timeline for the plan moving forward D. Role of public engagement
6:50	Existing Conditions and Trends	A. Community Setting - Regional context - Town history and development patterns - Demographic trends B. Open Space and Recreation Status - Map of open space and recreation properties. - Updates/progress since last plan - Recent acquisitions, ongoing projects, etc. C. Inventory - Ecology and environmental resources - Recreational facilities and programs - Cultural & historic resources, community life

Time	Activity	Facilitator Notes
7:00	Breakout Groups	Facilitated Stations A. Priorities & Values activity: a. Sticky Notes: What are your top priorities for open space & recreation? b. What are the values that underlie those priorities for you? c. Group priorities and values and discuss commonalities and conflicts. B. Recreation, connectivity, and accessibility mapping & priorities a. Where do you go for recreation and what do you do there/ b. What should priorities be for improving facilities or improving access and connectivity? Local or regional connections? C. Natural resource mapping & priorities a. What are the key ecological areas and corridors. b. Where are opportunities to expand and buffer protected areas and /or connect them together? D. Cultural resource mapping & priorities a. What are the features or places the contribute most to the scenic and historic character of the town – that embody local history and sense of place? b. What has been lost, and what would you miss if it were gone? c. What places need to be celebrated? What stories need to be told? d. Where are the critical gaps in protection?
8:10	Report Back and Closing	A. Brief report by facilitators from each station (2-3 minutes each) B. Next steps & Timeline - Planning Process - Community survey - Upcoming meetings in January and March C. Contact Info, website, etc.

Public Meeting 2 – Priorities and Values

6:30-8:30 PM January 17, 2023

Objectives

1. Introduce the project: background, process, and role of community input.
2. Present existing conditions, and changes since previous Open Space and Recreation Plan.
3. Present key preliminary results from the community survey.
4. Discuss community priorities and values that will shape the vision and goals the for Open Space and Recreation Plan.

Agenda

Time	Activity	Facilitator Notes
6:30	Introductions & Objectives	A. Welcome and Introductions - OSRP Committee and consultants (Dodson & Flinker) B. Review meeting agenda and objectives
6:40	Presentation	E. Open Space & Recreation Plan purpose and process F. Updates since previous Open Space and Recreation Plan G. Key takeaways from preliminary survey results H. Goals for the public forum I. Tasks and Timeline for the plan moving forward
7:10	Breakout Groups	Five (5) Stations (one online) D. Conservation and Ecological Resources a. What should Billerica’s goals and priorities be for Conservation? b. What are the values that underlie those goals? c. Mapping exercise with potential actions drawn out, receive feedback. E. Recreation, water access, and accessibility a. What should Billerica’s goals and priorities be for Recreation and accesibility? b. What are the values that underlie those goals? c. Mapping exercise with potential actions drawn out, receive feedback. F. Pedestrian and Bike connectivity a. What should Billerica’s goals and priorities be for Pedestrian and Bike Connectivity? b. What are the values that underlie those goals? c. What are the important destinations to connect with bike/ped infrastructure? d. Where are potential corridors for larger bike/ped systems? e. What are the barriers to adding more bike paths, bike lanes, and sidewalks? f. Mapping exercise with potential actions drawn out, receive feedback. G. Cultural Resources and Historic Preservation a. What should Billerica’s goals and priorities be for historic preservation?

Time	Activity	Facilitator Notes
		b. What should Billerica’s goals and priorities be for cultural resources? What cultural resources does Billerica lack? c. What are the values that underlie these goals? H. Online Zoom Group. a. Conservation and ecological resources priorities and values. a. Recreation priorities and values. b. Bike and pedestrian connectivity resources priorities and values. c. Cultural resources and historic preservation priorities and values. d. Which of these categories is personally most important to you? What should the town prioritize?
8:10	Report Back and Closing	D. Brief report by facilitators from each station (2-3 minutes each) E. Next steps & Timeline - Planning Process - Community survey - Upcoming meetings in March Contact Info, website, etc.

Public Meeting 3: Forum on Draft Vision, Goals and Action Strategy

Wednesday March 20, 2023, 6:30PM-8:30PM

Billerica Town Hall, Auditorium

Objectives

5. Review what was learned through the planning and engagement process
6. Review and get public comment on the objectives for open space and recreation
7. Review and get public comment on the Draft Action Strategy
8. Rank goals and objectives in order of priority

Agenda

Presentation: 20 minutes

- Planning Process: How did we get here?
- Goals and Objectives: What are they and why were they chosen?
- Next Steps

Break Out Groups (60-75 Minutes)

1. Recreation (Goals 1 and 2)
2. Connectivity, Historic, and Cultural Resources (Goals 3 and 4)
3. Natural environment and climate resilience (Goals 5,6, and 7)

Objectives/Action Discussion: and voting on objectives

1. Participants take five minutes to read the goals and objectives poster in their groups. (5 minutes). On an index card each participant should rank the three most important objectives for each goal. Staff are available to answer questions during this time.

2. As a group discuss if the goals and objectives reflect Billerica's needs. Which objectives are the most important and why? Are any additional actions needed to accomplish these objectives? (15 minutes).

3. Before rotating to the next group, each participant should place a sticker next to the three objectives in each goal that they think are most important. Participants should use one sticker of each color (2-5 minutes)

Green Sticker=Most Important

Blue Sticker = Second Most Important

Yellow Sticker = Third Most Important

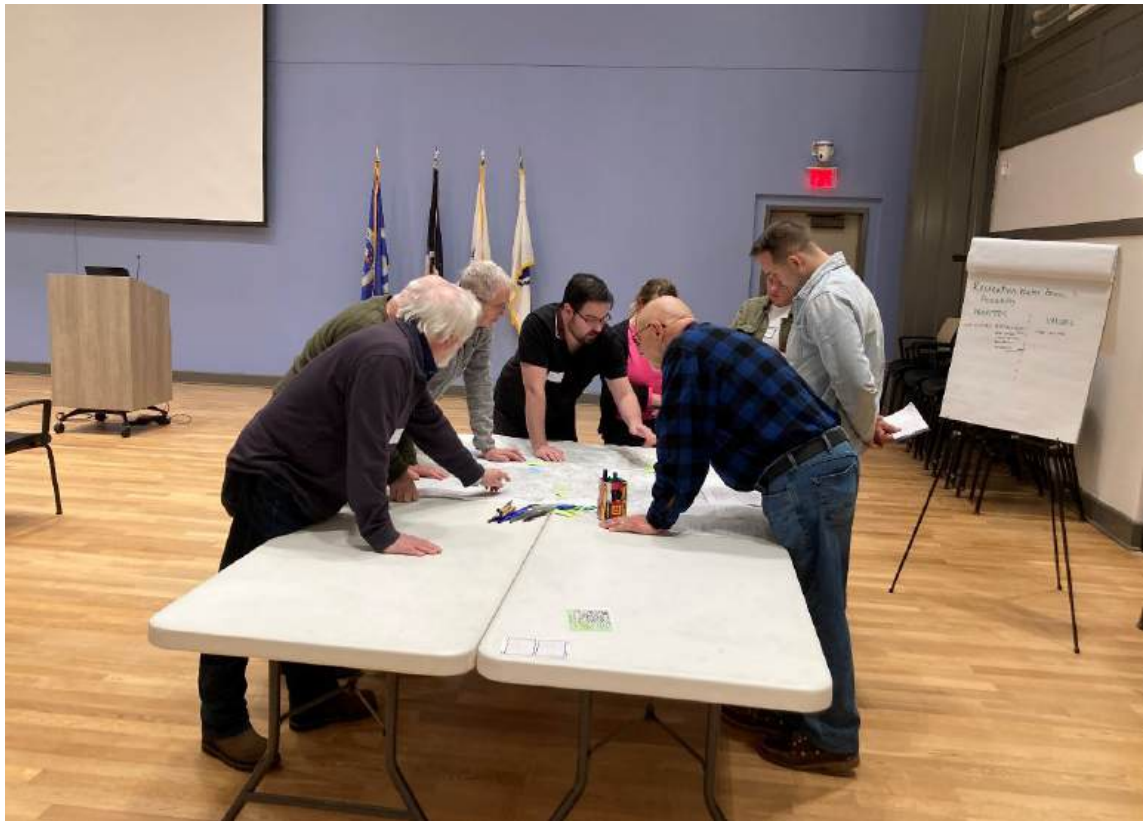
Red Sticker (optional)= I do not support this objective

Report back and Exit Survey and Sticker (10 min)

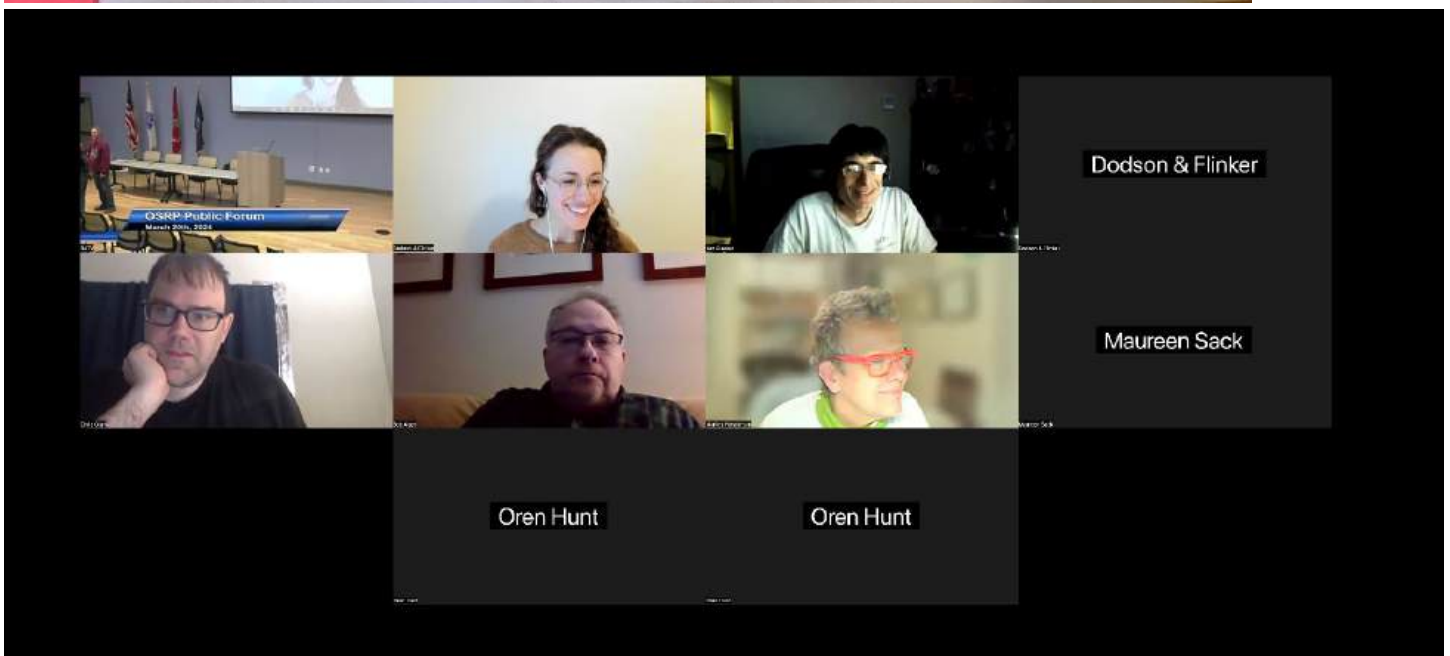
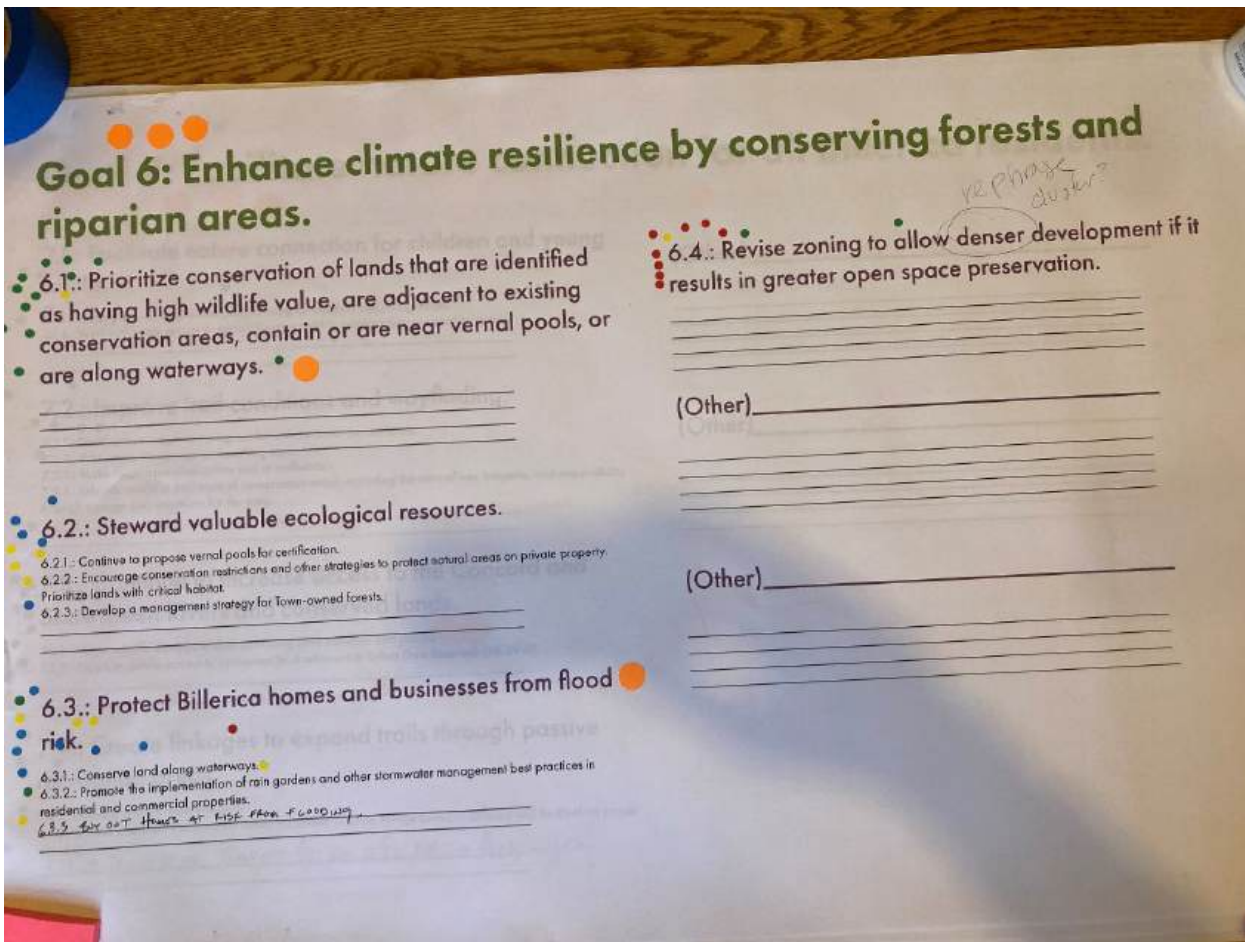
Everyone gathers in a circle for a report back.

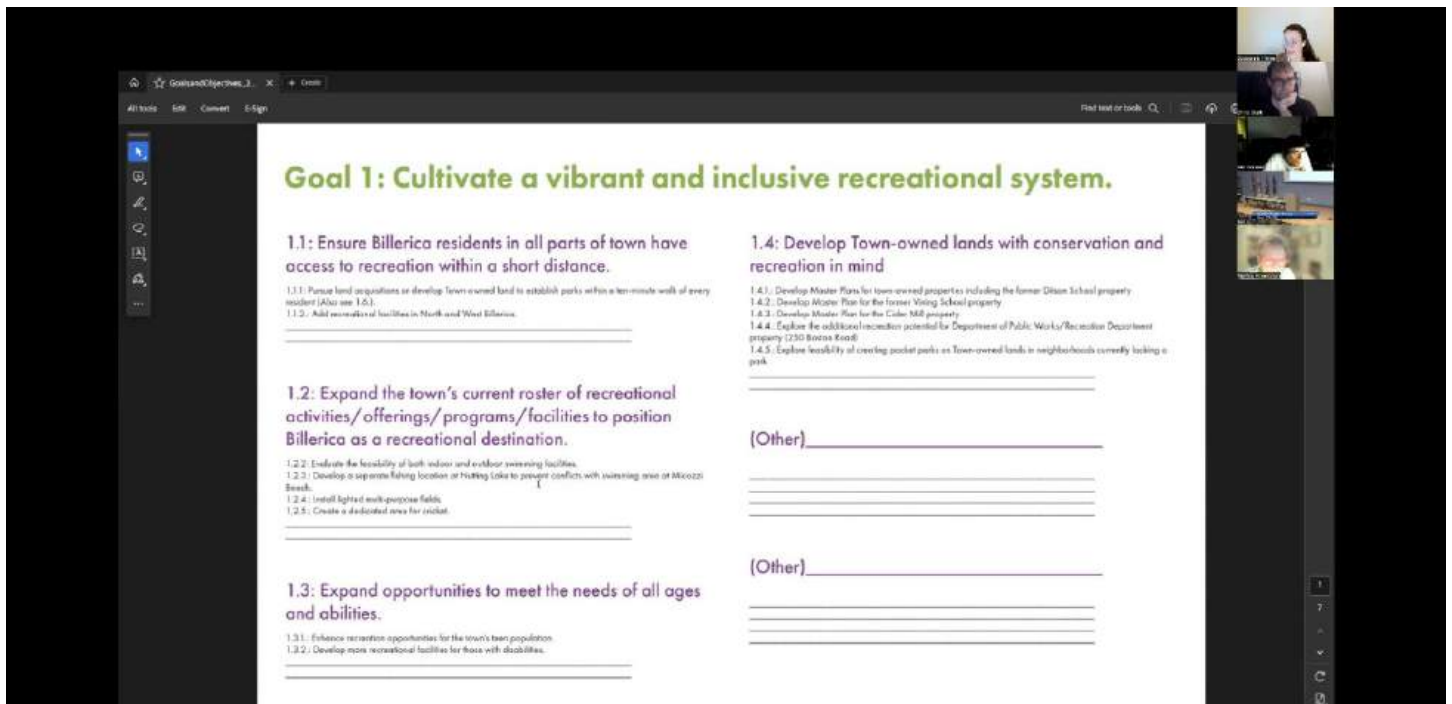
Participants complete exit survey. Each participant is given three large orange stickers to place on the goal(s) that they think are most important. The stickers can all be placed on one goal or divided between goals.







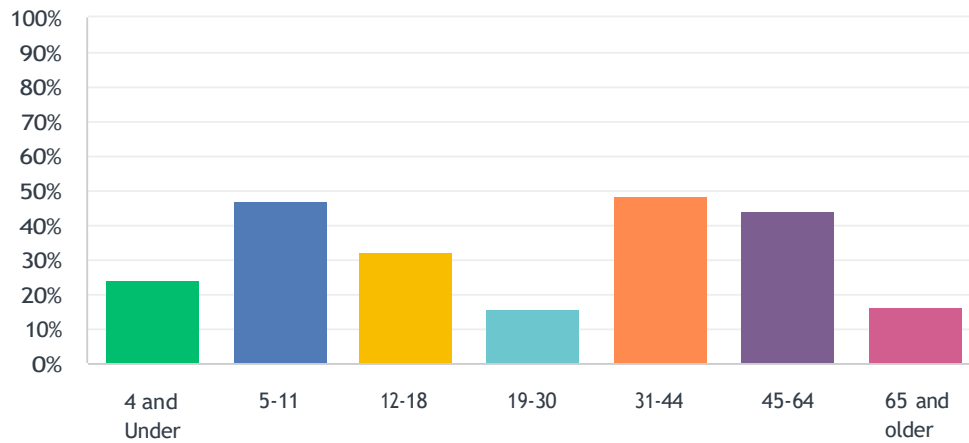




Appendix B: Online Survey Results

Q1 Check all the age groups that live in your household.

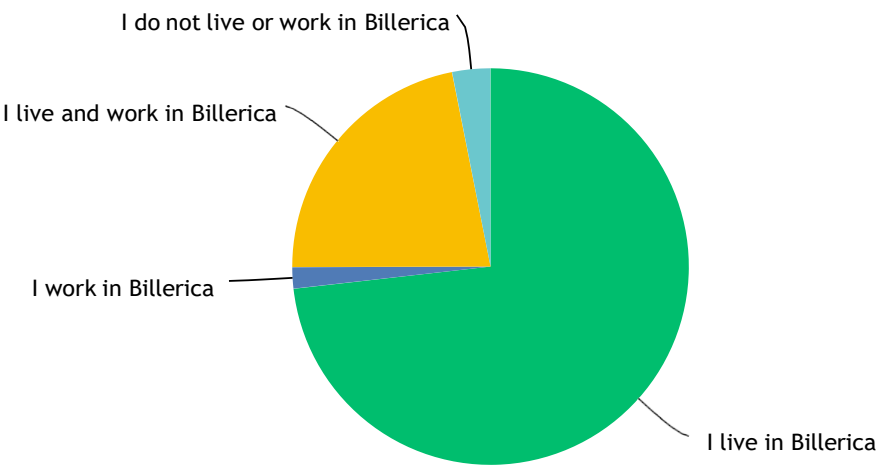
Answered: 579 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
4 and Under	24.18%	140
5-11	46.80%	271
12-18	31.95%	185
19-30	15.54%	90
31-44	48.19%	279
45-64	44.39%	257
65 and older	16.06%	93
Total Respondents: 579		

Q2 Which best describes you? (Select the best choice)

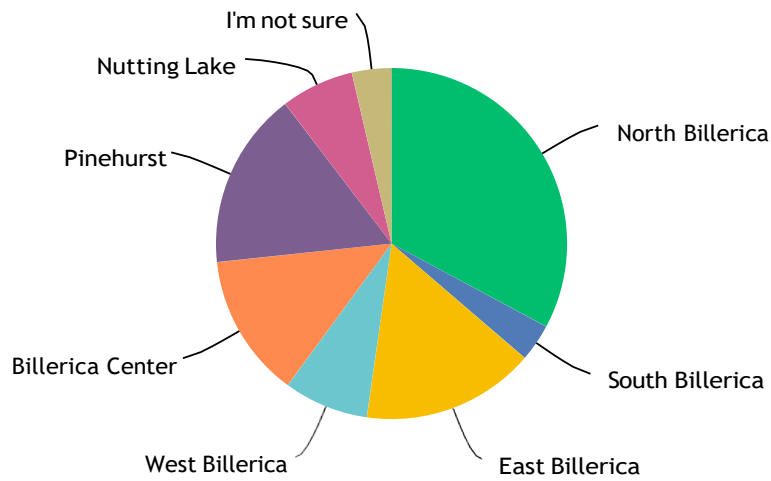
Answered: 579 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
I live in Billerica	73.23%	424
I work in Billerica	1.73%	10
I live and work in Billerica	21.93%	127
I do not live or work in Billerica	3.11%	18
TOTAL		579

Q3 Which part of Billerica do you live in?

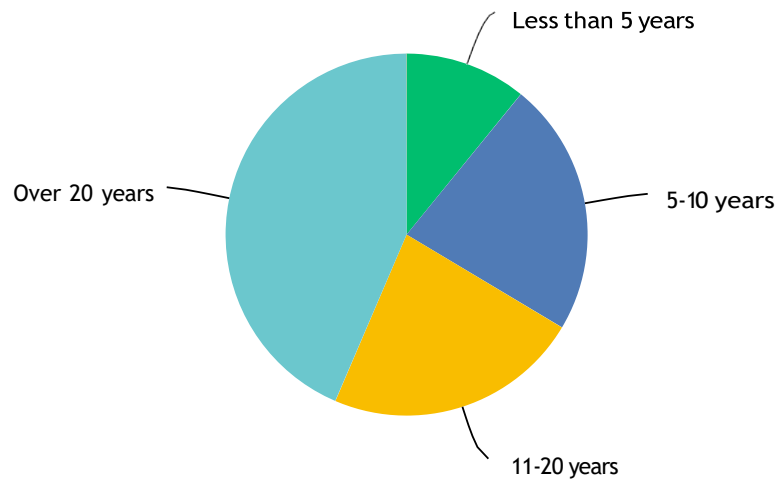
Answered: 551 Skipped: 28



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
North Billerica	32.85%	181
South Billerica	3.45%	19
East Billerica	15.97%	88
West Billerica	7.80%	43
Billerica Center	13.25%	73
Pinehurst	16.33%	90
Nutting Lake	6.72%	37
I'm not sure	3.63%	20
I don't live in Billerica	0.00%	0
TOTAL		551

Q4 How long have you lived in Billerica?

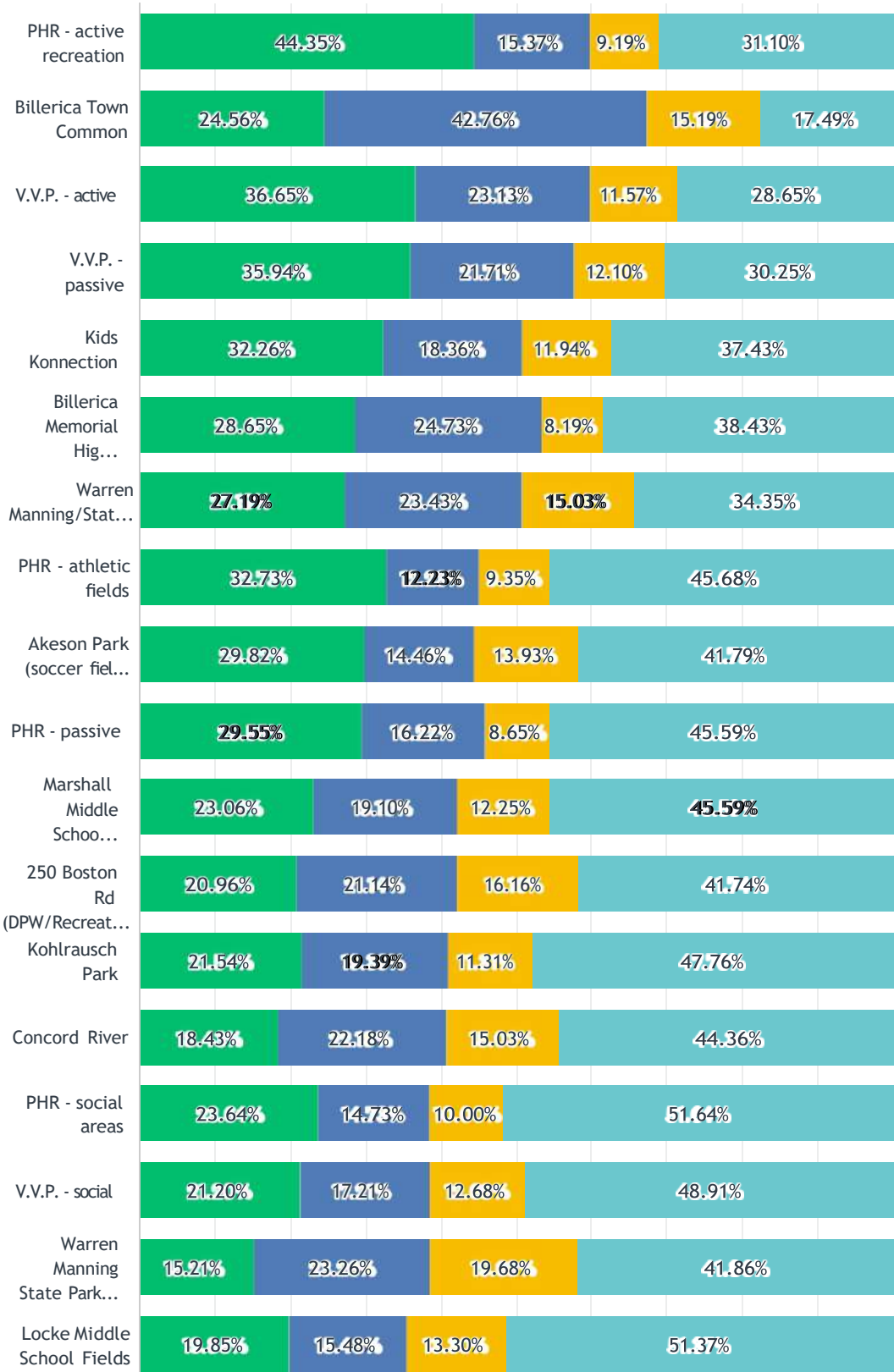
Answered: 551 Skipped: 28

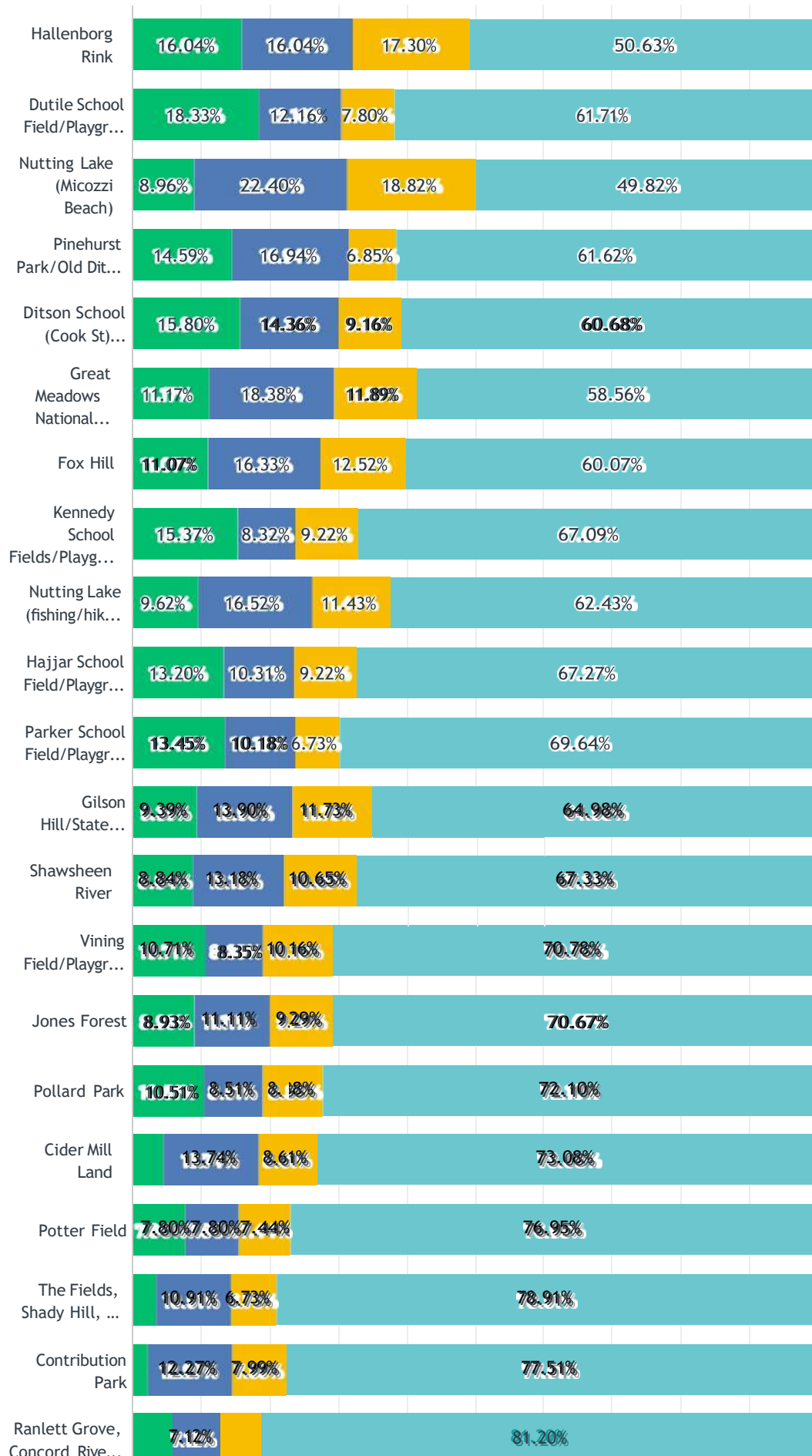


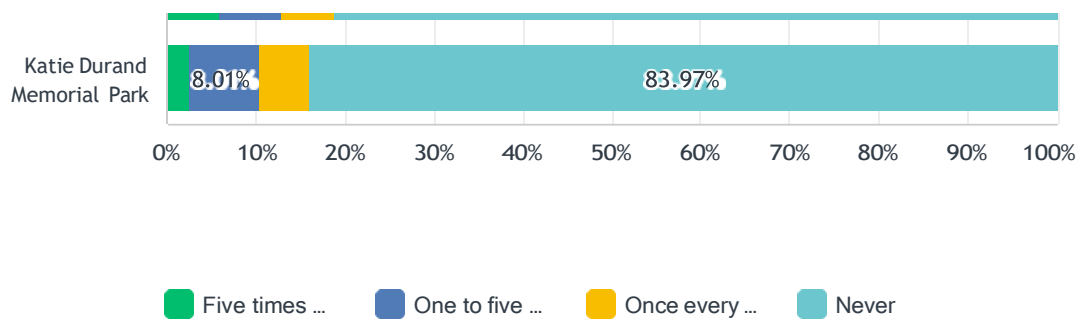
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Less than 5 years	10.89%	60
5-10 years	22.69%	125
11-20 years	22.87%	126
Over 20 years	43.56%	240
I don't live in Billerica	0.00%	0
TOTAL		551

Q5 How frequently do you, or someone in your household, currently visit the conservation areas, recreation facilities, or water bodies listed below?

Answered: 579 Skipped: 0







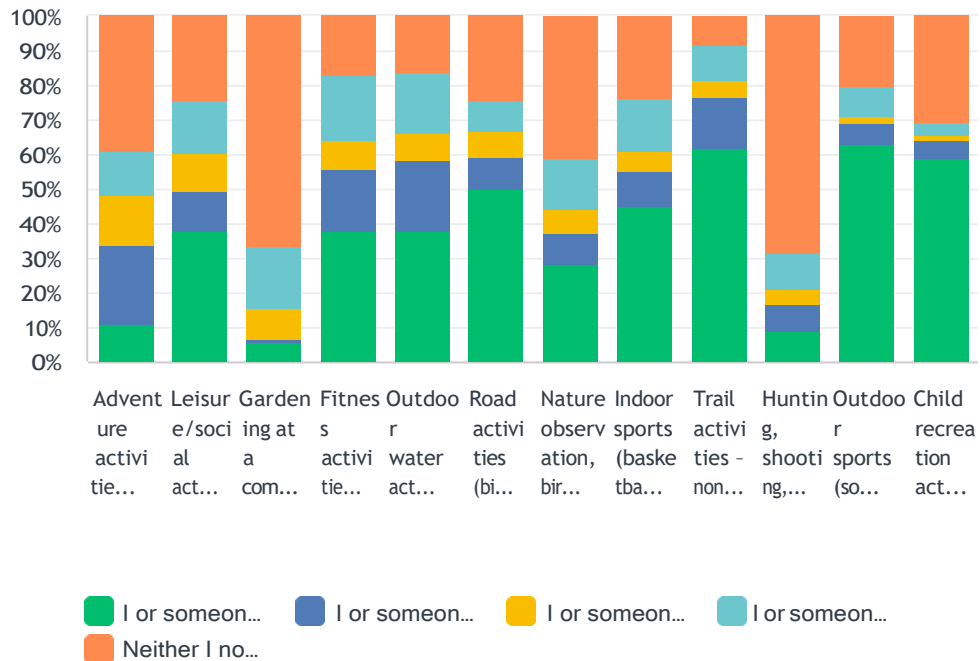
Other (please specify)
Manning park trails 3-4 times a month
Cabot Land
You missed Bartlett Landing, but had Ranlett Grove which no one knows about
I spent time at most of these places when my son was in elementary school so we appreciate them even if we don't currently use
Concord Conservation Land off Riveredge Road
Project Support playground
Never heard of many of these places, will look into them.
My kids are 15 and 20 now.. Nevers used to be more common, especially in elementary, middle school, Pop, Warner, etc...
Cabot Land trails and canoe/kayak launch.
I use the Cabot land frequently for hiking.
While I may not use them, I want them to exist so I can.
We are new to Billerica, but will be visiting a lot more in the next year(s)!!!

	FIVE TIMES A YEAR OR MORE	ONE TO FIVE TIMES A YEAR	ONCE EVERY FEW YEARS	NEVER	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
PHR - active recreation	44.35% 251	15.37% 87	9.19% 52	31.10% 176	566	2.77
Billerica Town Common	24.56% 139	42.76% 242	15.19% 86	17.49% 99	566	2.66
V.V.P. - active	36.65% 206	23.13% 130	11.57% 65	28.65% 161	562	2.64
V.V.P. - passive	35.94% 202	21.71% 122	12.10% 68	30.25% 170	562	2.57
Kids Konnection	32.26% 181	18.36% 103	11.94% 67	37.43% 210	561	2.28
Billerica Memorial High School Fields	28.65% 161	24.73% 139	8.19% 46	38.43% 216	562	2.26
Warren Manning/State Forest	27.19% 152	23.43% 131	15.03% 84	34.35% 192	559	2.21
PHR - athletic fields	32.73% 182	12.23% 68	9.35% 52	45.68% 254	556	2.10
Akeson Park (soccer fields and/or Timothy Garside Launch)	29.82% 167	14.46% 81	13.93% 78	41.79% 234	560	2.06
PHR - passive	29.55% 164	16.22% 90	8.65% 48	45.59% 253	555	2.05
Marshall Middle School Complex	23.06% 128	19.10% 106	12.25% 68	45.59% 253	555	1.85
250 Boston Rd (DPW/Recreation facility, including skating rink and river access)	20.96% 118	21.14% 119	16.16% 91	41.74% 235	563	1.84
Kohlrausch Park	21.54% 120	19.39% 108	11.31% 63	47.76% 266	557	1.77
Concord River	18.43% 103	22.18% 124	15.03% 84	44.36% 248	559	1.74
PHR - social areas	23.64% 130	14.73% 81	10.00% 55	51.64% 284	550	1.72
V.V.P. - social	21.20% 117	17.21% 95	12.68% 70	48.91% 270	552	1.70
Warren Manning State Park Splash Pads	15.21% 85	23.26% 130	19.68% 110	41.86% 234	559	1.65
Locke Middle School Fields	19.85% 109	15.48% 85	13.30% 73	51.37% 282	549	1.59
Hallenborg Rink	16.04% 89	16.04% 89	17.30% 96	50.63% 281	555	1.46
Dutile School Field/Playground	18.33% 101	12.16% 67	7.80% 43	61.71% 340	551	1.36
Nutting Lake (Micozzi Beach)	8.96% 50	22.40% 125	18.82% 105	49.82% 278	558	1.31
Pinehurst Park/Old Ditson School	14.59% 81	16.94% 94	6.85% 38	61.62% 342	555	1.31
Ditson School (Cook St) Field/Playground	15.80%	14.36%	9.16%	60.68%		

	88	80	51	338	557	1.31
Great Meadows National Wildlife Refuge and Governor Thomas Dudley Park	11.17% 62	18.38% 102	11.89% 66	58.56% 325	555	1.23
Fox Hill	11.07% 61	16.33% 90	12.52% 69	60.07% 331	551	1.17
Kennedy School Fields/Playground	15.37% 85	8.32% 46	9.22% 51	67.09% 371	553	1.11
Nutting Lake (fishing/hiking/conservation areas)	9.62% 53	16.52% 91	11.43% 63	62.43% 344	551	1.09
Hajjar School Field/Playground	13.20% 73	10.31% 57	9.22% 51	67.27% 372	553	1.06
Parker School Field/Playground	13.45% 74	10.18% 56	6.73% 37	69.64% 383	550	1.05
Gilson Hill/State Forest	9.39% 52	13.90% 77	11.73% 65	64.98% 360	554	1.00
Shawsheen River	8.84% 49	13.18% 73	10.65% 59	67.33% 373	554	0.94
Vining Field/Playground	10.71% 59	8.35% 46	10.16% 56	70.78% 390	551	0.89
Jones Forest	8.93% 49	11.11% 61	9.29% 51	70.67% 388	549	0.87
Pollard Park	10.51% 58	8.51% 47	8.88% 49	72.10% 398	552	0.87
Cider Mill Land	4.58% 25	13.74% 75	8.61% 47	73.08% 399	546	0.73
Potter Field	7.80% 43	7.80% 43	7.44% 41	76.95% 424	551	0.70
The Fields, Shady Hill, and Martina Gage Conservation Land	3.45% 19	10.91% 60	6.73% 37	78.91% 434	550	0.57
Contribution Park	2.23% 12	12.27% 66	7.99% 43	77.51% 417	538	0.56
Ranlett Grove, Concord River Access	5.84% 32	7.12% 39	5.84% 32	81.20% 445	548	0.56

Q6 Which recreational activities do you or your household enjoy? (Select all that apply)

Answered: 579 Skipped: 0



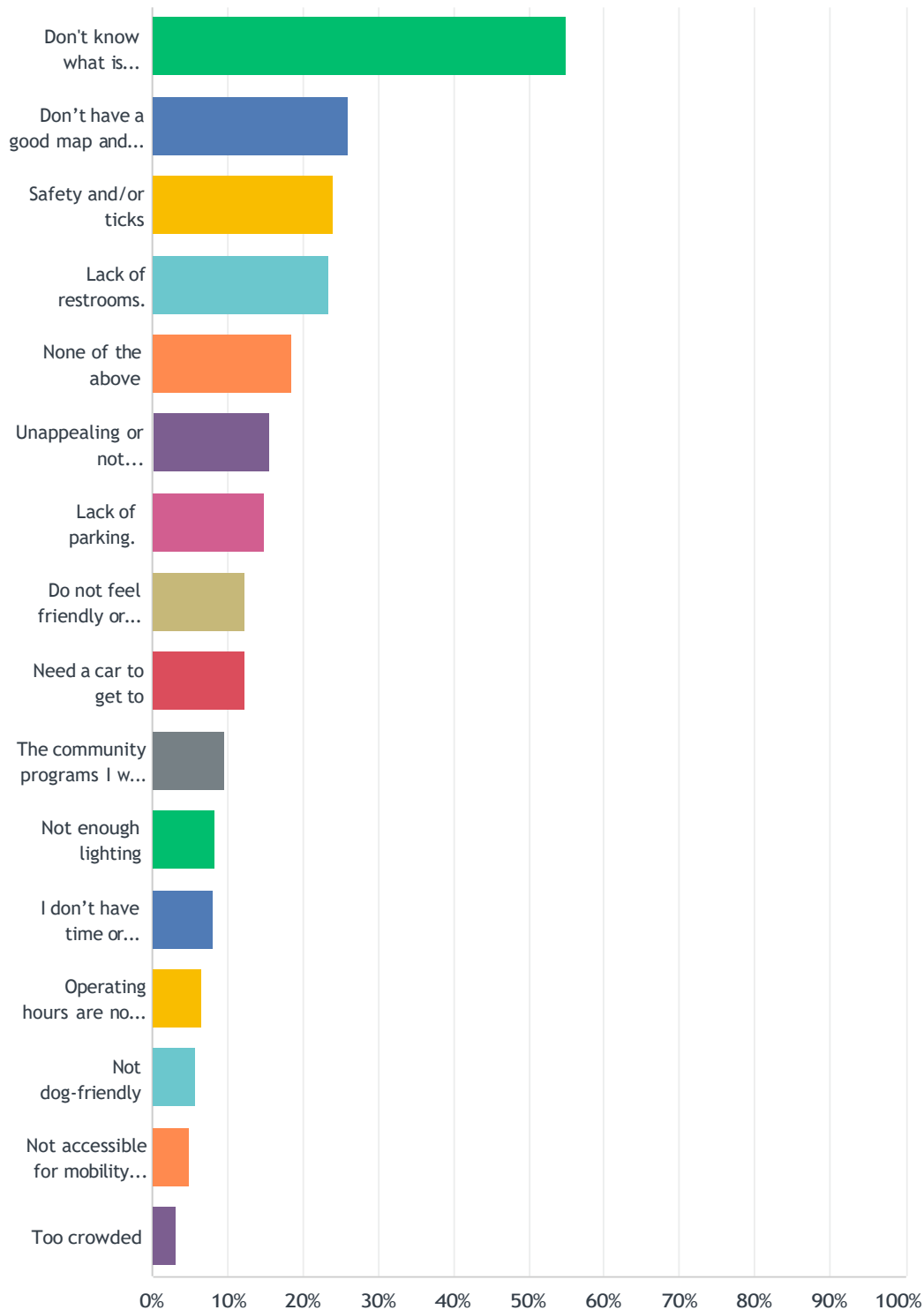
	I OR SOMEONE IN MY HOUSEHOLD DOES THIS ACTIVITY IN BILLERICA.	I OR SOMEONE IN MY HOUSEHOLD DOES THIS ACTIVITY IN ANOTHER TOWN.	I OR SOMEONE IN MY HOUSEHOLD WOULD LIKE TO DO THIS ACTIVITY BUT IT IS NOT AVAILABLE NEARBY.	I OR SOMEONE IN MY HOUSEHOLD IS INTERESTED IN THIS ACTIVITY BUT DOES NOT DO IT FOR SOME OTHER REASON	NEITHER I NOR ANYONE IN MY HOUSEHOLD IS INTERESTED IN THIS ACTIVITY.	TOTAL
Adventure activities (rock climbing, camping, orienteering, etc.)	11.23% 63	22.28% 125	14.80% 83	12.83% 72	38.86% 218	561
Leisure/social activities (picnics, meetups, art, etc.)	37.66% 209	11.89% 66	10.81% 60	15.32% 85	24.32% 135	555
Gardening at a community garden	5.78% 32	1.08% 6	8.84% 49	18.23% 101	66.06% 366	554
Fitness activities (yoga, machine exercise, weights, classes, etc.)	37.72% 212	18.33% 103	8.19% 46	19.04% 107	16.73% 94	562
Outdoor water activities (swimming, canoeing, kayaking, fishing, sailing, etc.)	37.92% 215	20.46% 116	8.11% 46	17.28% 98	16.23% 92	567
Road activities (bicycling, running, scootering, rollerblading, skateboarding, etc.)	50.09% 282	9.59% 54	6.93% 39	9.24% 52	24.16% 136	563
Nature observation, birding, or outdoor education	28.42% 160	9.06% 51	6.57% 37	15.10% 85	40.85% 230	563
Indoor sports (basketball, hockey, volleyball, swimming, etc.)	45.31% 256	10.09% 57	5.84% 33	14.87% 84	23.89% 135	565
Trail activities – non-motorized (walking, running, mountain biking,	62.06% 355	14.86% 85	4.90% 28	9.79% 56	8.39% 48	572

dog-walking, etc.)						
Hunting, shooting, or archery	8.94% 50	7.87% 44	4.47% 25	10.20% 57	68.52% 383	559
Outdoor sports (soccer, baseball/softball, football, tennis, ultimate, disc golf, etc.)	63.22% 361	5.78% 33	2.10% 12	8.93% 51	19.96% 114	571
Child recreation activities (playgrounds, water parks, etc.)	58.82% 330	5.53% 31	1.25% 7	4.10% 23	30.30% 170	561

Other (please specify)
fishing
Astronomy/Night Sky
Looking for more community space. Like down town plymouth. To meet have coffee along say a bike path or safe place
More Pickle ball courts/ general availability
Curling
I did more of these activities when my children were younger and plan to resume as my grandchildren get older
No fishing!
Recreation center needs to be done over I thought it was going where going school was? Currently there is nothing outside at our recreation dept. Needs updating/rebuilt
Billerica needs a community pool
I would have loved to have my kids bike around our neighborhood but it's not safe (no bike lanes or sidewalks, twisty roads where people speed)
I am in a Power Wheelchair, difficult to do any activity.
Robotics and engineering shops
I would love more trail groups for moms or women looking for new friends social groups like walking or park yoga or children meet up groups
I would like to find a group to do trail walks with (like Great Brook or town forests) that meets regularly but that I don't have to register for.
I love doing this at the old Ditson school.
Indoor walking area
Anything that brings community together
Where is the bike path? Will it be available before I die?
More activities and programs geared towards adults only.
River access, safe access to open space (lack of parking) is an issue in Billerica. There is no option to mark both open space in Billerica AND neighboring communities.

Q7 Do any of the following reasons prevent you or someone in your household from visiting conservation areas or recreation facilities in Billerica?

Answered: 579 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Don't know what is available or where to find them.	55.09%	319
Don't have a good map and/or I am concerned about getting lost.	25.91%	150
Safety and/or ticks	24.18%	140
Lack of restrooms.	23.49%	136
None of the above	18.48%	107
Unappealing or not well-maintained	15.54%	90
Lack of parking.	14.85%	86
Do not feel friendly or welcoming	12.26%	71
Need a car to get to	12.26%	71
The community programs I want are not available.	9.50%	55
Not enough lighting	8.29%	48
I don't have time or interest.	8.12%	47
Operating hours are not convenient.	6.56%	38
Not dog-friendly	5.70%	33
Not accessible for mobility impaired individuals	4.84%	28
Too crowded	3.11%	18
Total Respondents: 579		

Other (please specify)

I would like to see more dog friendly space. Many residents have dogs. And sadly, too many residents do not protect their dogs and you hear they are lost/running loose. Some of these dogs have hurt other people and other people's dogs. It is on Nextdoor all the time.
Still wary about Covid
I was not aware of all the conservation areas, recreation facilities, or water bodies listed
even though the fees for some of the parks is minimal, it still stops me from going on a regular basis
Lack of dark skies
Prefer company
to many bikers riding and cutting trails at Gilson hill
Need a safe place to gather. Not the center it's too busy
I do have the interest, I don't often have the time.
Lack of childcare options or lack of child activities while parents do sports. Also, lack of safe walking spaces off the street, such as a paved town bike path.
I don't know how to get to some of the locations mentioned
The sports my kids are interested in doesn't have a sporting complex so we go outside of Billerica.
Recreation dept needs updating; Vietnam veterans park is not easily accessible to soccer fields especially upper fields (or handicap accessible is not always available when gates are shut)
We are a soccer house yet it seems the PHR fields are only accessible to football or lacrosse.
Lack of side walks in town to walk to parks. I live on Pollard St and would love to walk to the near by parks with my kids but the road is too dangerous to walk on.
Restrooms are important, feeling like I can safely manage my small children in the space is important (appropriate fences around playgrounds, not too close to busy roads)
Have emailed school committee several times about use of high school track over the years and never received a straight answer about why it's not available. Lack of communication
personal time
Never even heard of most of these parks and fields
Poison ivy
I want to walk with at least one other person. I'm not comfortable doing trail walks by myself.
Hallenborg rink is embarrassing
Would love to have the old Ditson school land for recreational land.
Some of these places are creepy like the veterans park and the people {men} who frequent the woods. It has always been this way. It used to be patrolled by the officer on horseback or one on a trail bike.
Narrow Gauge Rail Trail is really really bad
Areas/Facilities don't support the activities I participate in
Life gets in the way but also sometimes I don't get the notices or if I do I don't know where to look! Maybe linking the Billerica residence page to all of this information would be great, but the moderators can't be deleting people from a town page because of their personal political beliefs and that is what they do.. internet is a huge area where people connect in this town..
Walking group fills up quick
Vietnam Veterans Park has a lot of dogs off leash ALL THE TIME. I feel very UNSAFE going there for walks in the woods with dogs running around as I have a fear of dogs. It really ruins it for me unfortunately
The areas I have looked up it's hard to determine what's actually allowed there. Water locations are unclear if you can paddle board there, parks don't make it obvious if you can bring dogs or not.
I also don't have enough time
I just need to make time.
Lack of accurate mapping is an issue, which is why I started guiding walks. Getting mapping or signage at trailheads takes YEARS

Billerica Open Space and Recreation Plan 2024 Survey
(Optional) If you identified any issues in the question above, please describe the issue(s) in more detail here.
I just don't know what is available so I sometimes go to activities in places where I used to live. But I would like to see more dog friendly activities and space.
I do not bike here because drivers often speed on winding roads and slip into my lane even when I am driving and ignore stop signs and lights.
I don't know where to enter or park for some conservation properties
Current walking areas are not well
Trash and litter are an ongoing problem in many open space areas.
Overflowing garbage at athletic fields, lack of facilities friendly to those with mobility or physical disabilities
I am not familiar with most of the outdoor conservation areas that were mentioned above.
I'm not sure where some of these areas are and what can be done on them. Am I allowed to play Frisbee with my dog on soccer field if not in use,?
I'd say my biggest concern is not knowing when and where activities are taking place. There needs to be more than just a website these days.
Very buggy in some trail areas (Manning)
The current Rec department is an abomination and building a new one at the PHR is an AWFUL idea- there are already parking nightmares and we are busting adding to it A new rec should be built at the Vining- END OF STORY
The town should provide more information regarding the available recreational facilities, address, and what activities are available in those facilities. Indoor soccer facilities would be very beneficial and welcome in our town
I like walking Jones Forest but there are a lot of dirt bikes and trash/homeless in the surrounding area. Also please invest in the Hallenborg ice rink! It really needs updating!
I don't often do indoor activities that I did pre pandemic. May resume in a year or so
I do not know where to find this information. I never recall seeing it on the recreation website or mailings that have been sent to my home.
I can go to the splash pad in Tewksbury for free and with fewer mosquitos instead of going to the one in Manning which is much closer.
Not enough dark sky places in town. Lights are on all night without regard for wild life or stargazing.
Parking areas
First example is the boat ramp at nuttings lake. SO EMBARRASSING!!!
Offer weekday programs
Better communication on outdoor activities and resources. Many of the parks and areas mentioned are 'local' and not broadcast in a location that easily accessible to non locals, or new to Billerica residents.
Need more well maintained porta potties
Seating in nature areas to sit wuietly to see what might show up
Walking through forest or wooded land could result in tick bites. Is anything done to lower this risk?
Bay Circuit Trail through Cider Mill Land is not consistently maintained or marked
I haven't found a women's ice hockey opportunity in town so I play in Bedford. I lead an outdoor children playgroup weekly. Parking makes it more convenient to meet outside of Billerica. I wasn't sure who to contact about parking questions near a conservation area and they were not able to answer if the area was a public parking space so I moved on and found a place with clear markings. Generally I feel that biking around this town is hard. I'd love to bike commute to more events. I feel it especially unsafe with children. I also feel that there could be some better walking spaces. I am so pleased to see sidewalks being included in road construction projects. Can we also consider adding bike lanes & bike routes?
Lack of time currently, is my issue.
Would like more areas that are more accessible. I avoid areas that are too overgrown with bad markers.
Avoid mosquito/tick peak times. Will note hike alone.

(Optional) If you identified any issues in the question above, please describe the issue(s) in more detail here.

Lack of restrooms is the #1 reason we do not take advantage of these areas.
The bikers at Gilson hill have cut down many many trees to make trails. They make a lot of noise and have dogs off lease even during hunting season and some no orange at all which is required by law.
does not address the issue of taxes and how everything gets paid for
Don't know where to find resources. The rec department homepage isn't very user friendly
The soccer fields are terrible since the town took over. There should be bleachers and nice areas to sit in, or spaces for the teams to gather or a snack shack. They are not Pop Warner but youth soccer has much more participation and deserve nice facilities too....a nice turf complex would be nice!
Handicap parking issues. Looking for a more travel and meeting spots not any scattered all over town
The trails I have gone to haven't been well groomed. I don't know where there are many trails in town.
I'd love to take more advantage of outdoor space but I don't often have time
No bike trail. 😞
Open restroom in park and athletic areas
For me, paths need to be paved
A good map that has everything on it
Am I supposed to pay a babysitter to watch my children while I do a recreational sport?
There isn't much info readily available about the time and facilities the general public can use a lot of the outdoor areas in Billerica.
I want more history and historical buildings restored
Kids Konnection park is horribly maintained and usually dirty (trash, etc), I've heard complaints so frequently about the Manning Splash Pad being so mosquito infested due to location that I haven't even bother taking my son; my son has participated in rec dept programs that meet on the rec dept lawn and the conditions are AWFUL - weeds, overgrown, goose poop EVERYWHERE, bees nests IN THE GRASS - toddlers are literally running and crawling through goose poop and bees nests which is baffling considering DPW is LITERALLY RIGHT THERE - can't they mow/rake once a week at least to get some of the poop out? Remediate the bees?
More sidewalks to safely expand access throughout town for the elderly, disabled and children
Would love a map
Educate the community so we know what's available.
Wasn't aware of some of the places mentioned above
Checking those checkboxes, I didn't even realize there were so many options!
It is inconvenient to bike to the Minuteman trail extension from where I live (River Pines) because it involves riding on busy roads.
While filling this survey out I was actually surprised about the number of parks/conservations areas that Billerica had that I was unaware of. Maybe if there was a way to provide a link/app that would allow residents the ability to find these spots I think that would be super helpful. Even an old fashioned flyer mailed out possibly might work too. Also, with some parks/lands the parking can be tricky and I didn't want to get towed or ticketed. Some cut outs on the roads didn't seem safe either.
More bike paths!
not sure what is kid-friendly/safe/what is available.
Need a better resource for getting information on using outdoor activities. Parking lot size is an issue at most current sites
safety issues worry me
Green space w/trees & benches - a simple nice green area
I go to the trails next to Vietnam Veteran's with my dog at least once a week. I'd like to try other spaces but I don't know where they are and if I do, I don't know where it is safe to park.
I need hip surgery which prevents active participation in manyu activities.
Reference is to micossi beach
Despite the dog-leashing laws in Billerica, everywhere I go there are off leash dogs running up to us, even on school grounds! I like dogs, but not off leash ones. This law needs to be aggressively enforced and fined before people will be able to safely enjoy and share public spaces in Billerica.
I never heard of most of these public places. It's OK though.

Ticks
Vietnam Veteran Park needs an updated and improved parking lot. It needs to be paved and lined. Cars should not be allowed to drive up to the fields unless it is an emergency. Safety issue
Recreation dept - rebuild/update/ new location
VVP soccer fields- not easily accessible especially to handicap when gates are closed
Not a clear map of what is available
Some of the locations previously listed I was not even aware of and I have been a part of this community for 14 years. I don't know how people hear about some of these locations.
Not sure of paths at different areas
we are a big soccer family but are limited by lighting. and the new fields at PHR that does have lights are rarely available to play. The Marshal and the high school are never available.
Ticks
Could use parking at intersection of route 3 and Rangeway, and across from Biagotti Way.
Billerica needs a community pool
I haven't heard of some of the conservation areas listed, others I have heard of but am not where they are or where to park.
Intramural Sports into the evenings would be helpful for parents when daylight is lost.
Need better parking at the Vietnam Veterans Park. Also have better lighting on the soccer fields so that teams can play later in the fall when the sun sets at 6PM
I just wasn't aware there were so many parks available in Billerica.
I have lived in Billerica for over 30 years and did not know that most of those places existed.
I wasn't familiar with most of the recreation areas in the list at the top, despite us moving to Billerica almost 20 years ago. We do love the trail at Manning Forest, but ticks and mosquitos are a constant concern.
It would be nice if our baseball fields had bathroom facilities
The rec center needs a better building and better offerings. Also I have no idea what is available in my town.
I wish the bathrooms were kept open at the new PHR complex outside of game times. I know that in Burlington at Simonds Park - they keep the bathrooms open certain hours outside of when games are going on.
Need better outdoor spaces and more bathrooms - no portable bathrooms
I need to take swimming classes and time is not
Ticks, Maintenance on playground (wood chips) / splash pad broken not inviting
The Bus that takes me to work at lifetime fitness does not go near any of them except for nuttings lake that i live right next too.
i've noticed poison ivy in the trail around PHR (makes it less appealing to me with small children); I've heard there's a lot of bugs at the water park at Manning and we haven't been yet even though we loved spray parks in Waltham
Many of the Billerica Playgrounds are in various states of disrepair at any given time. They do seem to eventually be repaired, but it could be months to a full summer later. Many areas also lack restrooms or portapotties, which makes it hard to take small children. Other areas have overgrown grass in tick season and yet others offer little to no parking.
I am always worried about ticks especially with kids and a dog. I also feel unsafe sometimes using conservation lands alone as a female.
No bathrooms at parks. Not a lot of side walks off main roads in billerica (route 4/ treble cove)
I love kolrauch park and the walking trail however it can be sketchy sometimeswith teenagers not using equipment appropriately or men hanging alone in cars alone in cars or trash overflowing in barrels or no dog litter bags. I think police cruisers would be nice sometimes because I get nervous jogging alone there or taking my children to park due to various reasons. I would love to see outdoor yoga or kickboxing there or young children age group activities
PHR complex - would go more if there was a set bathroom open schedule
I'm just learning about most of the options in our town from this survey.

(Optional) If you identified any issues in the question above, please describe the issue(s) in more detail here.

I would love to see more fields get lights so when the fall sports are affected by daylight savings, they can still play/practice without it being dark.
You need to cater to everyone, activities at hours during the day aren't convenient for working people
Lighting at vvp parking would make us feel safer when returning to cars after practice. List about available hiking trails would be wonderful
Please provide more portable toilets. Especially at fields. My family has had concerns with lack of toilet access at fields that host long running or double header softball games at hajar etc.
I had to look up most of the areas mentioned in the survey because I don't know where they are. It would be helpful if they were better advertised by the town. I tried to use Micozzi Beach and the splash pad during summer but they were often closed because they didn't work or the water quality was bad for swimming. After a while I stopped trying. Having good lighting would be great for using some of these areas later in the afternoon during the darker months.
Unfamiliar with the lust of areas to go
Perhaps the outdoor spaces could be included a community mailer.
There are a ton of parks listed above, that I assume are in Billerica, but I'm not aware of what or where they are. Would love more info/easier access? Lots to check out I guess!
Would like to see a recreation/ wooded area maps available to community including what is available for activity in those areas
Serious lack of communication about what is available and when it is available. Some of listed places aren't actually open.
There really is distinct lack of information and maps of all publicly accessible outdoor recreation areas and how to access them.
Have little kids and need more bathrooms. especially at our elementary schools. So many people stay after school to play and have to leave because our little ones are not allowed to use the schools bathroom and there's nothing around.
There were so many Rec areas identified in the previous sections that I wasn't even aware of. I wish this information was shared more often or used more in Rec programs so everyone knows they are there
A detailed map of all open spaces in billerica would be helpful. Especially water put ins/pull outs for river access. Its not clear what is private vs public sometimes for river access. Parking suggestions for these locations would also help.
Parking is a necessity so neighborhoods don't get upset and calm police. Tickets or towed.
9 of the places listed earlier I don't know where they are, or what they have to offer. Dogs seem to only be welcome at the dog park.
So many places I don't know where they are. So maybe visited but did not know name.
No sidewalks or trail accessibility for wheelchairs.
I moved to this town in 1986 and had no idea most of these places/sites existed. I can't be the only one- perhaps publish a yearly update much like the water department does? Also had no idea there are apparently many put in places for our Pond Prowler with electric motor- we wound up going into Carlisle!
The tick problem has become quite bad but this is certainly not the town's fault
I frequently uses recreational activities when with my Grandchildren who are not Billerica residents. Awareness allows me to plan fun options for them like the splash pad, playgrounds and hiking (learning trails)
I didn't know that many of these parks exist. I get nervous about not knowing where I'm going, where to park, if there are restrooms etc. Also, there are activities that I would like to participate in (outdoor education, guided hikes etc) that I can't currently participate in due to lack of childcare.
Maps are an issue. Also, for Shawsheen river, current river condition (e.g are there snags that present danger)
I never heard of Contribution Park and don't know where that is
Tennis courts at PHR are overcrowded so I tend to seek out courts in nearby towns (e.g. Tewksbury High)
I had no idea there were so many parks, not including the ones at schools.

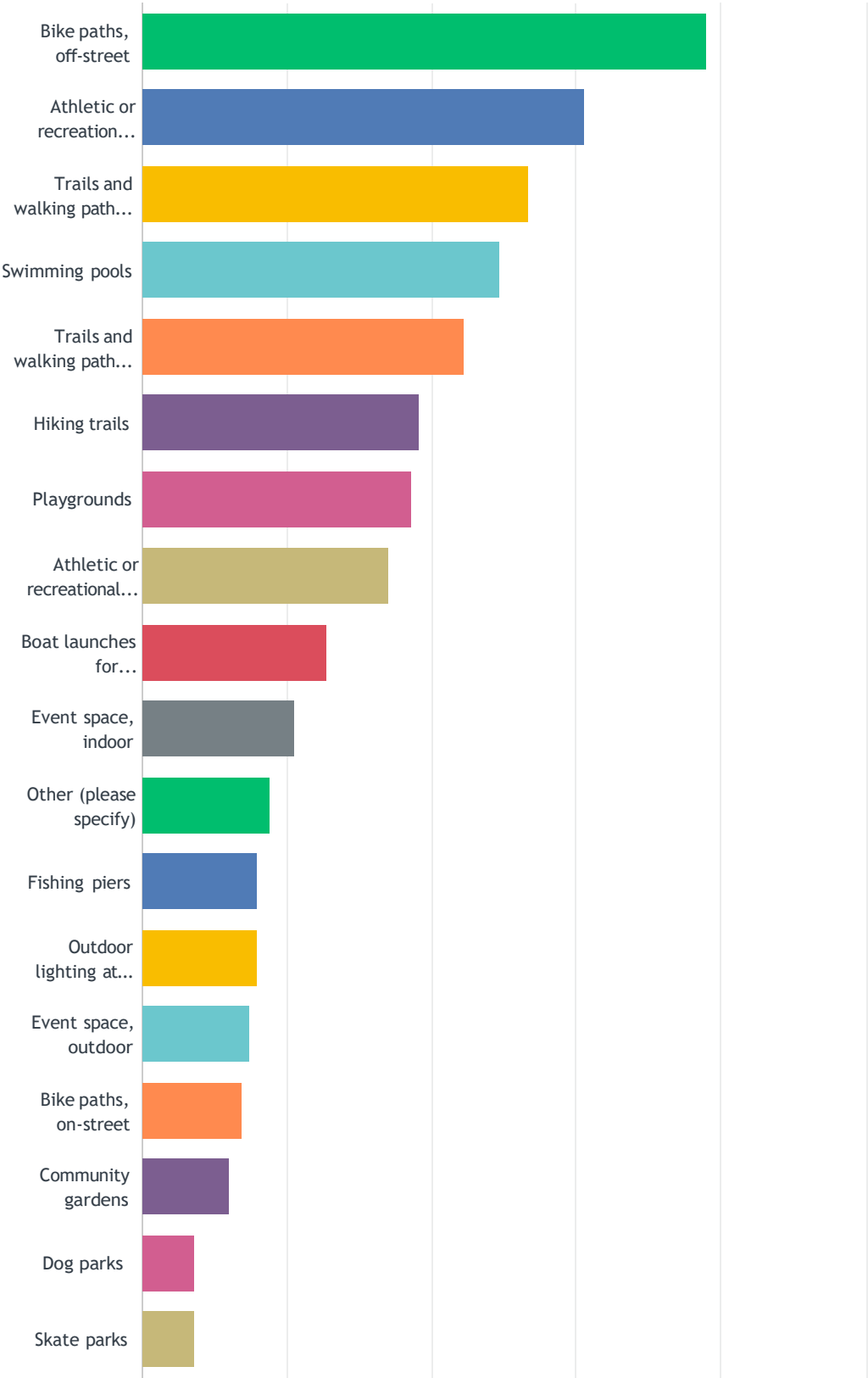
I would LOVE to have more bike paths or sidewalks in Pinehurst to be able to walk to places instead of walking along 3A with my toddler. There is some beautiful nature between the neighborhoods, but I don't know where it is ok to walk around, so I just walk on the road in my neighborhood. There are lots of kids in my neighborhood (Riverbank Terrace) who I think would benefit from being able to ride their bikes or skates, etc, on a path rather than on the roads. Having the farmers market on the old Ditson field was amazing!!! We walked there many times, and it was such a community feeling, a great place to spend time. Sometimes when we've gone to that playground without the farmers market, it feels kind of weird/sketchy being by the big road, although I really appreciate the fence and other precautions. And I think swings would be great to add there :)) But I do like it a lot!
Lack of enforcement of dog lease law may prevent me from visiting
The Hallenborg rink is in poor condition. Two of my kids play hockey. My 2 year old is at risk on the bleachers of falling through, making it difficult for my wife to view games not having a babysitter. The locker rooms smell and are too small even for an 8 year old team. The men's room hasn't had doors on the stalls in 2 years.
The rec center 250 Boston rd really needs repairs. I love the Zumba Groove course but the facility is small and run down.
It would be great to have real public restrooms at more of the parks. With little kids the porta potties are not appealing.
Maps would be helpful as well as lighting to feel safe using these.
Maps with labeled trails and parking and boat access points would help.
Would be handy to have a portapotty near Gilson Hill/BSF entrance (but not crucial...).
Narrow Gauge Rail Trail is really really bad. It's sandy and rutted and washed out.
I'm unsure if there is a mailing list or Facebook group for the rec dept, but I feel like there are a number of places that don't see use because people aren't aware of them.
When issue I have is we have a hard enough time having clean drinking water, the bromate bromide and manganese with our 100-year-old water mane. How would we have swimming in this town? How can we clean up our river so it is swimmable and clean?... We need to figure out where that bromate is coming from. Upstream! Bromide is a common antifungal anti-pest spray that is used in home gardening as well as local farming. I can understand the idea of that and then the ozone cleaning of the water but something has to change! We need to figure out why bromate is in constant violation.. We need to figure out why our waters are so dirty! I would love love love love to be able to just swim in any part of the river.. how amazing Would it be to see people parking along the side of the road like they do Walden pond and mosey and on down to a rock with a towel and enjoying the river for the day! My heart would explode with happiness! I know not all of this has a crazy relevance to this survey, but at the same time that is my biggest concern in this town. Personally 😊
Pinehurst does not have adequate outdoor public spaces besides the Old Ditson property, with no connectivity to other outdoor public spaces in town.
Many of these areas I was not aware of and don't know where they are. I am going to look them up now.
I wasn't aware that most of the parks and recreation spots listed existed after only living here for 6 months. I pay attention to the community - I've signed up with the rec department, go to the farmers markets, but I've never heard of most of those places.
Do not hike alone nervous to get lost.
Many of the named areas I didn't know existed and I don't know where they are. Manning state park parking is terrible and super limited. I can't get to anything without a car.
I visit the areas, bike path, Vet park, and PHR especially.
I had never heard of many listed areas.
Never heard of some of the above redreational areas i. Town and where to park etc
I wish leash laws would be enforced and posted more with repercussions. A dog off leash has come up to me every time I'm out at Vietnam Veterans Park. I have expensive camera equipment and don't want dogs jumping up on me but the owners don't seem concerned. I've limited the amount of time I spend there for that sole reason
Wish bathrooms at PHR were unlocked. Playgrounds need updates.

(Optional) If you identified any issues in the question above, please describe the issue(s) in more detail here.

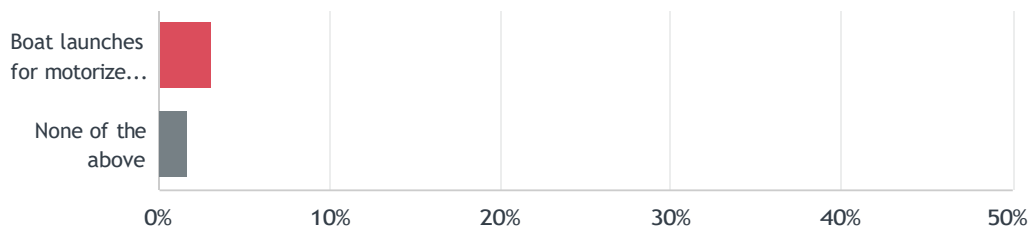
Need restrooms available, not porta potties. Love the new PHR but putting a rec building is going to limit already scarce parking for football.
Our recreation building is too small
No real indoor recreation space. Some parks are not well kept.
I would love to see which facilities/locations are stroller-accessible and have a parking lot (vs. side of street parking). Which trails are either well maintained or paved enough to take children in or out of a stroller. Would love to see a more detailed explanation of locations vs. just a name and address from the city website.
I think Billerica has a lot of great recreational places available for children, but beyond that is lacking. We have so many great athletic fields and parks for children and high schoolers, which I don't go to because I have aged out and don't have children, but most of the other areas described above I have never heard of and don't know where they are. I know Veterans Park well from sports in high school, but if I didn't, I don't know if or where maps are available and that applies to the other areas of town described above. Additionally, it seems like all that is available is areas to go for a walk, but you have to drive to get to them. I would rather walk around my neighborhood than drive to a destination that only offers flat land to walk around. It would be nice to see something like a mini golf course in Billerica, something that kids can enjoy but other community members also have the option to enjoy (I know there was once mini golf on the edge of town in North Billerica)
Family members are immune compromised and avoid areas with mosquitoes and ticks.
Time is difficult to dedicate. More locations near me would help me make walkable choices.
I don't know where most of the recreation areas that were listed earlier are located or how to access them
Access to Open Space is essential. Parking spaces (ADA where warranted), mapping, signage (including kiosks) are lacking, and there is no plan, process, or program to improve or update this (yet)

Q9 Which open space and recreation amenities would you most like to see more of in Billerica? Choose up to 3.

Answered: 579 Skipped: 0



BillERICA Open Space and Recreation Plan 2024 Survey



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Bike paths, off-street	39.03%	226
Athletic or recreation facilities, indoor	30.57%	177
Trails and walking paths, paved/accessible	26.77%	155
Swimming pools	24.70%	143
Trails and walking paths, unpaved/natural	22.28%	129
Hiking trails	19.17%	111
Playgrounds	18.65%	108
Athletic or recreational facilities, outdoor	17.10%	99
Boat launches for non-motorized craft (e.g. kayaks, canoes)	12.78%	74
Event space, indoor	10.54%	61
Other (please specify)	8.81%	51
Fishing piers	7.94%	46
Outdoor lighting at multipurpose fields	7.94%	46
Event space, outdoor	7.43%	43
Bike paths, on-street	6.91%	40
Community gardens	6.04%	35
Dog parks	3.63%	21
Skate parks	3.63%	21
Boat launches for motorized craft	3.11%	18
None of the above	1.73%	10
Total Respondents: 579		

Other (please specify)

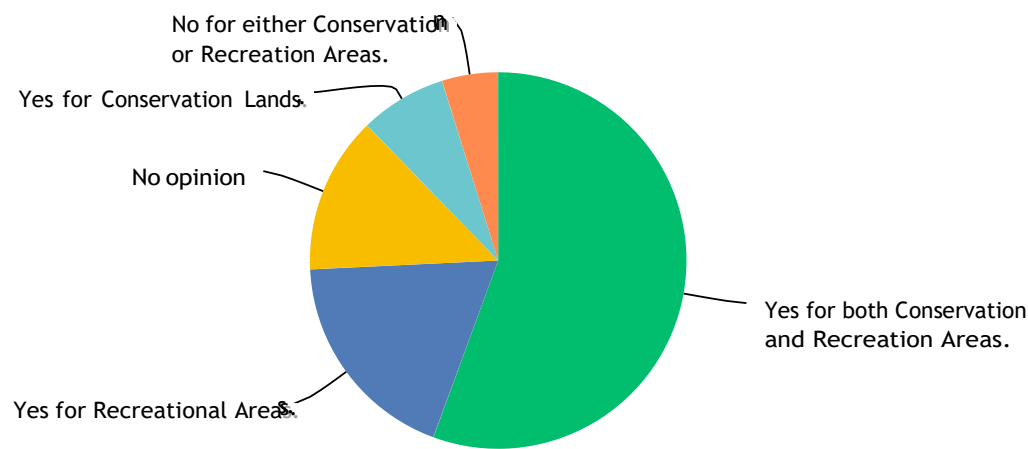
I would like to see more dog friendly space. Many residents have dogs. And sadly, too many residents do not protect their dogs and you hear they are lost/running loose. Some of these dogs have hurt other people and other people's dogs. It is on Nextdoor all the time.
Still wary about Covid
I was not aware of all the conservation areas, recreation facilities, or water bodies listed
even though the fees for some of the parks is minimal, it still stops me from going on a regular basis
Lack of dark skies
Prefer company
to many bikers riding and cutting trails at Gilson hill
Need a safe place to gather. Not the center it's too busy
I do have the interest, I don't often have the time.
Lack of childcare options or lack of child activities while parents do sports. Also, lack of safe walking spaces off the street, such as a paved town bike path.
I don't know how to get to some of the locations mentioned
The sports my kids are interested in doesn't have a sporting complex so we go outside of Billerica.
Recreation dept needs updating; Vietnam veterans park is not easily accessible to soccer fields especially upper fields (or handicap accessible is not always available when gates are shut)
We are a soccer house yet it seems the PHR fields are only accessible to football or lacrosse.
Lack of side walks in town to walk to parks. I live on Pollard St and would love to walk to the near by parks with my kids but the road is too dangerous to walk on.
Restrooms are important, feeling like I can safely manage my small children in the space is important (appropriate fences around playgrounds, not too close to busy roads)
Have emailed school committee several times about use of high school track over the years and never received a straight answer about why it's not available. Lack of communication
personal time
Never even heard of most of these parks and fields
Poison ivy
I want to walk with at least one other person. I'm not comfortable doing trail walks by myself.
Hallenborg rink is embarrassing
Would love to have the old Ditson school land for recreational land.
Some of these places are creepy like the veterans park and the people (men) who frequent the woods. It has always been this way. It used to be patrolled by the officer on horseback or one on a trail bike.
Narrow Gauge Rail Trail is really really bad
Areas/Facilities don't support the activities I participate in
Life gets in the way but also sometimes I don't get the notices or if I do I don't know where to look! Maybe linking the Billerica residence page to all of this information would be great, but the moderators can't be deleting people from a town page because of their personal political beliefs and that is what they do.. internet is a huge area where people connect in this town..
Walking group fills up quick
Vietnam Veterans Park has a lot of dogs off leash ALL THE TIME. I feel very UNSAFE going there for walks in the woods with dogs running around as I have a fear of dogs. It really ruins it for me unfortunately
The areas I have looked up it's hard to determine what's actually allowed there. Water locations are unclear if you can paddle board there, parks don't make it obvious if you can bring dogs or not.
I also don't have enough time
I just need to make time.
Lack of accurate mapping is an issue, which is why I started guiding walks. Getting mapping or signage at trailheads takes YEARS

Q9. Which open space and recreation amenities would you most like to see more of in Billerica?

expand the disc golf course at Vietnam Vets Park.
Disc Golf (expand the current 9 hole course or add a other)
More for 55+ would be great.
More benches, anywhere. Open up view of Winning pond by clearing the weeds around the pond.
Astronomy Club; Model RR club
Expanded disc golf course
Expanded disc golf course
Disc golf
Disc Golf
Disc golf
disc golf
Multi use park for kids and adults. Ditson school
Prefer NOT to see more outdoor lighting, the facilities we have are lit ALL the time until dawn. It's so wasteful to light fields no one is using.
Continue with the upgrades and expansion of the VVP Disc Golf Course
Disc Golf
Billerica Bike Path like they have in other towns!!! Why is this taking so long!!!
Nature education center.
Could only pick 3, but too many to choose, need paved trails for elderly, more marked trails, better river access for motorized and non motorized boats
Hunting access

Q10 Should the Town purchase additional land for conservation and/or recreation areas?

Answered: 579 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes for both Conservation and Recreation Areas.	55.61%	322
Yes for Recreational Areas.	18.65%	108
No opinion	13.47%	78
Yes for Conservation Lands.	7.43%	43
No for either Conservation or Recreation Areas.	4.84%	28
TOTAL		579

Q11. (Optional) Please list any parcels or area of land you think the Town should purchase or or permanently protect for new conservation and/or recreation land.

(Optional) Please list any parcels or area of land you think the Town should purchase or permanently protect for new conservation and/or recreation land.
Irish American Club (it is directly next to the Vining baseball fields & and play areas).
Old Ditson School should remain open space. Paved walking paths should be added along with beautification. Benches and a gathering area for outside events would be nice.
Any river frontage that is or becomes available. Also, any parcels that abut existing conservation land to create continuous corridors for wildlife.
Any available land abutting the existing Conservation or Recreation parcels or abutting the Concord or Shawsheen Rivers.
anything that becomes available !!
Not sure, there are many smaller undeveloped chunks in N Billerica
-Old Vining school -Marshall middle school football field that's not being used -Old Ditson
I'm not sure. I believe there is public land by Rte 3 that could be used.
Cider
I heard there was an issue with the land around the Locke/Jones forest - please do not let this be developed. Also please make the DPW area into a park/fishing pier
NONE you own enough land.. do something with the land you currently have!
the areas by the train tracks on Pond Street.
We should buy the convent lands on Dudley Road.
Fox Hill
Whatever land is even left in this town should be saved for our children and their children. To building on every postage stamp left in town!!!
Yes
Cider Mill land
The Ditson and Vining. With all the growth this town want, it's likely they will need another new Elementary school
Cider Mill Land
I often walk to and along the Shawsheen, behind the Tech. I would like to know the land is protected. I assume the school owns the parcel (which was once in my family) but would like to know it is truly protected. Lots of birds and even a beaver dam.
Treble cove rd, Billerica town forest
I am not very aware of spaces but anything along the rivers should be for public use. Also the land across from the Dutile school off of Treble Cove Rd
Keep the old Ditson land as open space PLEASE for the neighborhood and the farmers market. There are several little spots off of Plank street and connecting roads that have paths that connect but are badly overgrown and trashed by partying kids. Trails for the kids especially ones with motorized toys would have been great when my kids were younger...yes I mean dirt-bikes and such.
Pinehurst Park, abutter properties to town forests and rivers (trails and put ins).
I think the old Vining and the old Ditson areas should be used as recreation
Any land along our rivers , but they should also be used to protect our waterways so motorized boats.
water falls at north billerica mill

Along a bike path along the river any large area. Allow mom and pop shops and restaurants. Centrally located. We are to scattered all over town. Which is good but let's focus on pulling the community together
The land next to the Locke school
Am I supposed to know these options? Where are these listings? Can you convert abandoned buildings into less of an eyesore?
The old vining school land could be a huge asset to the the community. Something like friendship park in Chelmsford with walking path and an all inclusive playground
Area behind John Ryan's Pub, restoration of amphitheater for outdoor presentations (birding, gardening, nature, etc.) Old Ditson School/Pinehurst Park with walking trails, restroom facility, and natural garden features.
Let people take fallen down trees for fire wood off conservation land. It's fire Hazzard
No list available to determine. It does appear that Billerica has lots of land to utilize without buying more land
Not sure of specific, but generally feel we need to preserve outdoor space
Where the old vining was.
1. The 12 acres off of High St. 2. Land for sale on Treble Cove Rd near the on ramp of Rt 3. I believe it runs parallel to Rt 3 and could possible connect to the Town Forest. 3. Any thing possible to help preserve the health and beauty of our town.
old Ditson and Vining
Jones Forest
I'm not knowledgeable enough to have input.
the old ditson field
Open fields at Vining school. Open fields at old Ditson school Concord River bank for swimming, fishing & boating
land near rivers
Vining, Dotson - green space
I wish they had built a performance theater on the field where the Vining once stood. They would alos need to increase the parking spaces there.
Vining
If a golf course came up for sale, I would like the town to purchase and operate it.
Land along the canal in North Billerica. Acreage on High Street that has been on sale for years.
Is there any area near Veterans park we can utilize? Or off of route 3? Or the space near Wu Loom Ming in North Billerica? The Vining School area? All of those have access to highways which will make it easier for people to travel to.
I think the town has plenty of land and should use any funds to improve, such as turf fields for soccer fields seeing how all recent turf fields have been for football/lacrosse use. If you look at other towns, we are now falling behind in this area.
The land near Hajjar
Recreation dept rebuilt where Vining school was
Vining
Locke Pits
Somewhere alond rt 3
Private lot across from Biagotti way.

Q11. (Optional) Please list any parcels or area of land you think the Town should purchase or or permanently protect for new conservation and/or recreation land.

250 Boston Rd /DPW site - keep as recreation area
I believe Kids Konnection is the biggest playground in the area but unfortunately it's the least maintained.
The area of the "old" Ditson. Pinehurst has a lack of space for kids and this is a great area.
parcels near existing recreation or conservation space should be priorities
Open up archery hunting in the minnie reed conservation area
I'd love the overgrown/poorly maintained train tracks that go past Hajjar and the Marshall to become a bike/walking path. I don't think I've ever seen a train on that particular section of tracks.
I think areas near the river or the Middlesex canal would be great to have for walking. I live near the mills in North Billerica and people are always walking to the dam area, but there's no always sidewalks and busy traffic can make walking there unpleasant or unsafe especially with kids.
Not until the town sells small parcels in neighborhoods to use to fund the purchase of larger potential recreation areas
Old Ditson
I think the town should keep the downtown common as is. The old Ditson school park needs to be expanded and improved.
Nuttings Lake Byway that is in a horribly state of disrepair. Buy it fix it and my commuter will be a lot easier.
Griggs farm. Repossess it and you can do a ton of stuff with that space. About the only open spot left in town.
The area on high street right before the train tracks. Possible 16 High St area
I don't know what the town currently owns as far as conservation land so I can't say if they should buy more or not. I also don't know if the town owns enough recreational area or if more should be purchased or repurposed
Billerica state forest
The old vinning school
Any land available! Stop building apartments and overcrowding schools. Let us enjoy a life in Billerica for hiking and playing and community
Not familiar, but any the town seems good!
Cider Mill Land
I just want a public outdoor pool in Billerica
Old Ditson land, areas along the Shawsheen River, multiple open parcels thru Riverbank terrace and Pinehurst areas
Vining School, Billerica Mall
More of both or either that are easy to get to with ample parking or accessibility would be awesome.
Land off of Treble cover Rd next to Rt 3.
Behind 585 Boston rd including behind a beside Griggs farm. Parking would be great. Dog friendly.
The town owns multiple pieces of land, I'm sure some of them could be renovated or protected for conservation and recreation.
Canal museum and surrounding areas.
Any area along the rivers.
Any and all land gifted to the town of Billerica. Defunct school parcels to become strictly recreation areas
Old Ditson, Vinning, Cabot land, Cider Mill.
A recreational Building big enough to support all recreational events at the Peggy Hannon Rizza facility

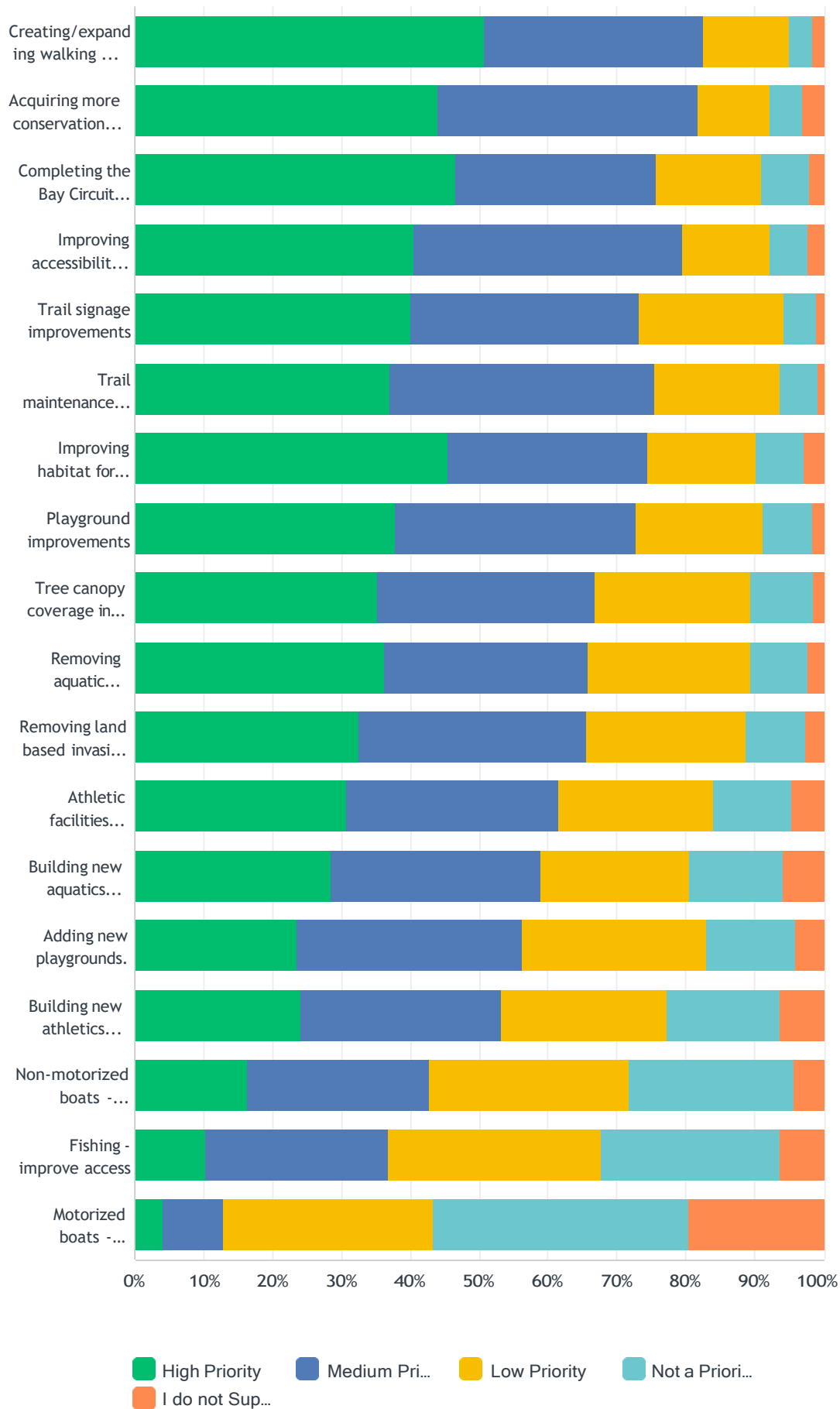
The Talbot Dam
I would like to see a community center for adults (vball, bball) and teens.
Could empty stores/office space be converted to indoor rec space?
Any land where you can make connections between already protected natural land
The old Dustin School land needs to be preserved. Pinehurst does not have open space
Old DITSON school area for recreation or a nice park. Love seeing families use it for family play and picnics in the summer. NO more condos .
The old Ditson school land
Old ditson site
Old Ditson field
I think the Old Ditson site should be protected for recreational purposes.
Old Ditson
Wooded parcels with acreage and wildlife habitat
The old Ditson School land
Griggs farm.
The Town currently has too much land. It is all under utilized or abused by abutters.
Vietnam veterans Park is a great spot and would benefit greatly from some additional attention
Current DPW yard on Boston Rd.
We need more green spaces in Pinehurst especially in the denser neighborhoods. The old Ditson field has been used well this year
Jones woods so little is available
The land off of high Street with a train tracks run.. We don't need more condos in there. We don't need whole new neighborhoods in there! The neighborhoods are dense enough in that area! Never mind disrupting our sewer system once again like they do pretty much every single week and ignore the town residents about the brown water. Never mind everything else that I explained above.
Cabot
-Acquire Daughters of Saint Paul (77 Dudley Road (93-47-7). Abuts Great Meadows National Wildlife Refuge and is in close proximity to Thomas Dudley State Park. Acquisition and protection may promote flood resilience, carbon sequestration, trail connectivity, and protection of Billerica's drinking water. Also meets conservation and recreation goals of the Town's Master Plan.
-Acquire parcel (79-296-2). This large parcel surrounded by Lexington Road, Glad Valley Drive, and Fardon Sreet, is in close proximity to the PHR Complex. It may provide opportunities for additional programming which could include hiking, nature observation, cross country skiing, and other activities. This land may also provide a safer means of transportation to and from PHR for the Lexington Road neighborhood via walking/bike paths, rather than roadside walking or using vehicles.
-Acquire 15 Webb Brook Road. This land and surrounding parcels (80-91-1-2) (80-91-1-1) (80-112-0) (80-111-0) (80-110-0) directly abuts Webb Brook and currently provides a meadow habitat with drinking water for wildlife. Acquisition may provide recreational opportunities for closed circuit walking paths and a neighborhood park.
-Acquire 9 Nashua Road (37-1-0) (46-3-0). This mostly forested land with frontage on Rangeway Road and Nashua Rd provides a wooded buffer between the Billerica/Chelmsford/Carlisle town lines and residential areas. Possible connectivity to Chelmsford's Thanksgiving Forest and Great Brook Farm State Park in Carlisle.
The Catholic retreat center on Dudley Road should be purchased for permanent passive recreation and conservation.
Griggs farm - for conservation
The Irish American Club land, due to its close proximity to the Vining fields, as well as it would be walkable from the neighborhoods in the area.

Q11. (Optional) Please list any parcels or area of land you think the Town should purchase or or permanently protect for new conservation and/or recreation land.

Any land currently for sale and any open, undeveloped property.
I would love to see the field at the old Ditson property stay a field with a more updated playground.
Old Ditson Land should be preserved for open gathering/recreation (not sports fields) and events.
There is an easement owned by national grid that would be ideal for a paved bike/walking path under the power lines.
Land currently for sale on Treble Cove Road that abuts the forest. The sand pit land next to the Jones Forest that was originally donated to conservation by they dropped the ball when that is their job...to protect the land. Keep the existing DPW property as town owned to create a waterfront park with boat ramp.
Old Vining
Preserve what you can and use what you have.
Cabot
I honestly don't know what areas are already owned or protected. Maybe the town could promote and/or enhance the existing areas to bring more awareness to what is already owned
dpw site, old ditson, maintain shane lane pond
The Old Ditson property
Cider Mill That land off Treble Cove That land off of High Street Any other available open space
.The Land the rec dept is now on, across from the old Iversen Ford. Lots of water frontage and we should always own it and use it for the residents
Not many left. We should have done this years ago like adjacent Carlisle did
Old ditson park, current dpw site, Cabot land
15 acres off Nashua road near Bedford line. Currently town owned but not protected
DeBenedictis 2-acres in Gilson Hill (buy), Daughters of St Paul (CR), and any other river front parcels. Clery Farm (CR)

Q12 Which of these actions should Billerica prioritize for open space and recreation?

Answered: 579 Skipped: 0



Billerica Open Space and Recreation Plan 2024 Survey

Creating/expanding walking and biking trails.	50.80% 286	31.79% 179	12.43% 70	3.37% 19	1.60% 9	563	2.25
Acquiring more conservation and/or recreation land.	43.98% 241	37.77% 207	10.40% 57	4.74% 26	3.10% 17	548	2.12
Completing the Bay Circuit Trail through Billerica.	46.67% 259	29.01% 161	15.32% 85	7.03% 39	1.98% 11	555	2.09
Improving accessibility for mobility-impaired individuals.	40.52% 220	39.04% 212	12.71% 69	5.52% 30	2.21% 12	543	2.08
Trail signage improvements	40.07% 218	33.09% 180	21.14% 115	4.60% 25	1.10% 6	544	2.05
Trail maintenance improvements	36.95% 201	38.60% 210	18.01% 98	5.51% 30	0.92% 5	544	2.04
Improving habitat for pollinators or other wildlife.	45.32% 247	29.17% 159	15.78% 86	6.79% 37	2.94% 16	545	2.04
Playground improvements	37.77% 207	35.04% 192	18.43% 101	7.12% 39	1.64% 9	548	1.99
Tree canopy coverage in parks and other open spaces	35.27% 194	31.64% 174	22.55% 124	9.09% 50	1.45% 8	550	1.89
Removing aquatic invasive species.	36.10% 196	29.83% 162	23.39% 127	8.47% 46	2.21% 12	543	1.87
Removing land based invasive species.	32.52% 173	33.08% 176	23.12% 123	8.65% 46	2.63% 14	532	1.82
Athletic facilities improvements	30.73% 165	30.91% 166	22.35% 120	11.36% 61	4.66% 25	537	1.67
Building new aquatics facilities.	28.52% 156	30.35% 166	21.76% 119	13.53% 74	5.85% 32	547	1.56
Adding new playgrounds.	23.57% 128	32.60% 177	26.89% 146	12.89% 70	4.05% 22	543	1.55
Building new athletics facilities.	24.12% 130	29.13% 157	24.12% 130	16.33% 88	6.31% 34	539	1.42
Non-motorized boats - improving access	16.42% 88	26.31% 141	29.10% 156	23.88% 128	4.29% 23	536	1.22
Fishing - improve access	10.30% 55	26.59% 142	30.71% 164	26.03% 139	6.37% 34	534	1.02

Motorized boats - improving	4.10%	8.77%	30.41%	37.13%	19.59%	536	0.21
access	22	47	163	199	105		

Q13. What do you like BEST about Billerica's environment and outdoor experiences?

What do you like BEST about Billerica's environment and outdoor experiences?
Trees & trails, ballparks, and playgrounds (we need more of all).
Clean, variety
Hiking trails, flora, fauna and large tracts of woodlands.
Availability of protected open space and access to water based outdoor activities.
Wildlife habitat.
Community
the amount of water in Billerica is great but there needs to be more access
That you're willing to change things
The new Lampson complex has been amazing (except for the parking). So many activities, well lit at night, great place for all ages to gather. The new parks are wonderful.
Fitness trail and Manning that allows dogs and is a nice loop. Concord river trail is nice too.
I like that there has been an effort to improve opportunities for outdoor activities through improving existing fields and parks.
Priority of building new athletic fields and maintaining them
Good open spaces
The trees.
New resident - don't know much about offerings and experiences
There are quite a few when you know about them
After just learning of all the available areas via this survey it appears there is a lot of areas to visit within our own town within close proximity
I think the trails and athletic areas are great.
That we have any left.
Many areas that are available for hiking and recreation
Grew up here. Raising my son here. Love what's left of the old town. It much left though
Hiking
Trails
Lots of sports facilities
Forested paths and trails
Wildlife
Love the new area at the phr
The openness of our town. It is getting so congested. Just because we have open space does not mean we have to put buildings on it. Especially large apartment complexes. We moved here because it wasn't like living in a city. Now it's working it's way toward that status.
There is great potential for the town to offer a robust set of facilities and recreational access if projects were completed faster and maintained better
Not sure
Access to health and wellness programs
good maintenance
Great waterways. There are lots of outdoor athletic facilities. Good playground areas.
Exploring
There are many locations.
I love the trees, large land for homes, and how people interact with one another. Everyone is very friendly.
Having programs
The variety: trails, parks, sports, lake, rivers
There are quite a few areas for the kids but there is the potential for more
The beauty
Multiple opportunities to get out in nature
that there is still a very few places that are natural habits
love to walk to falls with family sit and talk to the people that visit that area. such a historic area.
There are so many different things to do.
Good pest control via the state
None, they are all lacking. They don't feel safe or well maintained or are poorly advertised.
Meeting people
Some great areas around town!
Concord River
There are a variety of things
Peggy Rizzo Hanon complex
I don't know enough about any of them
The walking n paths

The mixed-use Peggy Hannon-Rizza complex is so great for my family. Everyone has something to do, from the playground to the walking trail to the skate park.
Billerica is a great place to live with many great recreational opportunities that I feel the general public doesn't know much about from the lake to manning park
Walking and nature, Griggs Farm gardening activities
Seeing people enjoying them
We're trying
It remains more rural than urban
Path around PHR field
Rec department tries to utilize them
I like that they exist. It's one of the reasons I've stayed in Billerica so long. I live right next to the Veteran's park walking trails in the woods, and we use them almost every weekend 6 months out of the year.
Good mix of things to do, good playgrounds to go to.
Not sure
What I like best is: 1. the variety of activities that is provided by the Rec Dept which allows residents to explore different areas of Billerica, 2. hiking trails that are in Vietnam Veterans, Warren Manning & the town forest. 3. The tree lighting at the center for the holidays. 4. Yankee Doodle events that took place at Vietnam Vets park. 5. Seeing family and friends use the pond at Vietnam Vets park for fishing and the disc golf course as well.
They're local
Watching our local wildlife.
I don't know.
disc golf, dog park, hiking trails
Some are within walking distance of my home
Community events such as farmers market and concerts on the common
Hiking at Vietnam Veterans park and kayaking on the concord river. When my kids were younger we loved Manning State park splash pool.
It is community friendly with a lot of programs for all ages
kids connection!
We have two rivers & Nutting Lake in Billerica. We need to maximize our use of these resources.
local
Playground at O'connors!!!!
Vining green space
Dotson green space
There are a variety of experiences available.
Child friendly
It still has some open space not being sold to builders
Availability
Very community oriented and potential for better exists
Quiet natural spaces sprinkled through the town.
Warren manning state park
Wooded areas and trails
The access to water for recreational purposes.
I like that the public parks are there, but not crowded. I do not want to improve everything, just so I can live in "New Arlington." Major Yuck.
I don't know enough to comment
Just think the town is getting over populated and we could reuse some already standing buildings for town uses
They are just OK.
A good mix of spaces for larger groups (e.g. soccer), small groups (tennis, disc golf), and individuals (trails)
None
Lots of good trails just need to be marked better.
I think there is plenty available, just not well kept.
Open lanx
Convenient. They are easy to get to.
There's a lot of parking
There are a lot of them
Billerica has more available than it would seem at first as the town is deceptively large.
Billerica has a lot to offer, but a bike path would be a great addition.
They are a good size
Walking trails and micozxi beach
Recreation spaces
The trails at VVP are really nice but I don't like the frisbee golf
What we have is well cared for
Boys and girls club new outdoor facility and fields

Q13. What do you like BEST about Billerica's environment and outdoor experiences?

Diverse community
Cleanliness
Hiking trails
We have very nice soccer fields and a nice playground. There are beautiful walking paths.
I like that I don't have to travel far to hike or be around nature. And I love the wildlife I can see in my backyard
Great space and lots of potential to be awesome
Sports facilities
Ok
The diversity in recreational opportunities that don't require individual investment to utilize.
Baseball fields
There are a lot of trails, I just am not familiar with them.
The children really enjoy the playgrounds.
Athletic programs and fields
Possibilities and land available
So much to do and so many spaces.
Town activities
Gets us out of the house
great to have availability to so many areas. from fishing to parks to open fields.
Pinehurst park
BMHS football team
Ease of access
Lots of trails and spaces
That it is safe
Nothing
Walking trails
Lots of options
Beach access
Family friendly
Variety
Variety
Manning Forrest
I love the recreation departments offerings and opportunities
I LOVE the new fields and amenities at the Peggy Hannon recreation department. The fields are beautiful and it's really nice to have the concession stand available. The updated basketball courts are beautiful.
kids konnection playground is nice, and we always have a nice experience with other families when we go there.
There is so much potential with the land in our town.
There is a good amount of decent green space.
I like the new fields and walking path at the Boys and Girls club.
The Hannon-Rizza Complex has been a great addition and update for Billerica.
Well thought out spaces
Peggy Hannon-Rizza Recreation Complex
I didn't know there were so many options. We love the playgrounds.
Brings together community
There are areas for families to meet and young kids to have playdates
There are many available and in pretty decent condition too!!
Recreation dept does a good job at communicating the opening of activities for kids
The new ones are well maintained
Just the fact that we have them!
I like that Billerica prioritizes nature and conservation.
There are a lot of options
Playgrounds
Great fields for sports!
Lots of nature, woods, access to lake and river
Many options
Billerica
The school system is great
Primarily mountain biking in Billerica State Forest and Warren Manning State Forest, I really enjoy the diversity of trails Billerica has to offer.
Lots of space to be in nature. Multiple locations throughout town for many to enjoy.
there are a lot of opportunities for outdoor recreation
It's a friendly and safe place.

family focused and lots to do
Every area I've been to is very well maintained.
It looks like the people doing the work actually care about these areas. Unfortunately you have people who don't care and leave their crap behind.
There is a variety of outdoor spaces for everyone.
Quality
Easy parking
It feels natural
The town offers a lot of choices.
The variety of places to get out into nature. When we had little kids, Kids Konnection playground was excellent because of the variety, size, and fencing.
PHR
So many options
The center
Options
I am lucky to live near the lake and it is beautiful but the beach is never open and is always locked
I like that there is a lot of variety for activities.
I like the varied outdoor activities in Billerica.
Easy access to facilities
Near by
Sounds like there is a lot to do out there that I was not aware of.
The river is a great amenity, lots of history especially by the Talbot dam, kid konnection playground is top class, kohlrusch is great quieter spot for walks and bringing kids
There are a good amount to choose from
We love Manning State Park
Variety
That we have some great options in town!
Having young kids, there are lots of options to take the kids and do some sort of activity during the warmer months - whether that be visiting one of the parks or enrolling in one of the rec department activities outdoor.
The soccer fields are great.
The community support
The air is clean
That the town has them, we could offer more but at least have have some.
Near my home
Lots of variety
Wish there were more sidewalks through town as well as exercise paths and trails
Family friendly
Playground
There is ample space to improve upon and make usable.
Nature!
Kids connection park is fabulous
Nice spaces
Is spacious
River and forrests
It is maintained but need improvement
Open space
Glad to have them
Family friendly and convenient
Kids Konnection park is great! It's nice and shady. The splash pad is great at Manning State Forest but there are other nearby splash pads that are free.
Lots of green space
The shade at some playgrounds and splash pad
the community
I like to see that Billerica cares about outdoor experiences and I have seen them invest funds in making them better for the community.
Sports facilities
The variety
No matter what part of town you are in, there's a trail or outdoor space close by.
People are friendly, parks are gated, natural looking
I like that there are hiking paths and open fields.
There is a lot to do if the programs picked interest you.
Natural beauty

Q13. What do you like BEST about Billerica's environment and outdoor experiences?

concord river
There are a lot of options in case we want to use them.
The Planned expansion of the minuteman bikeway to alewife via north billerica narrow gauge
options
The town has not been kept up. Looks very dirty unwelcoming
There are lots of options
There are a lot of facilities
Tons of land to utilize! Great outdoor trails. Lots of parks all around town.
There is a variety of activities to do outdoors in Billerica
Very community oriented
I like having playgrounds to take my kids to and nice soccer fields. I like that there are at a minimum portable restrooms at most playgrounds.
We need to get more business centric and attract more restaurants, clubs, mall etc.
Decent athletic fields
Available to public
Lots of conservation land access, but the best of it seems to be in surrounding towns like Concord.
Accessibility to home
Nature
The new fields
We have a good Parks and Recreation staff
I love how the town has maintained conservation lands and *most* recreational areas.
There are a lot of options
Outdoor playground
Not overcrowded.
Well maintained
Micozzy beach
sports field access
I love manning park and veterans park to walk trails to go with dogs and families. I love kolrauch park and would love to see more done to make it better
Marlies' Hendersons knowledge of the area and her hikes. Love that we have many varied trails/playgrounds.
Thr new fields
Green space, fresh air
The amount of them
I like that there are trails that I can walk on with my kids and we can see different creatures that spark their interest in nature.
A lot of options
The playgrounds and outdoor meetup places like the new outdoor sports complex.
Options
People
Scenic views during each season
Clean
Very clean
Billerica is big with a lot of land that can be used better for outdoor activities.
I like that they have a good amount of hiking trails.
we have some good playgrounds and I enjoy PHR areas as well as Vietnam Vet park. We have a lovely center area now without it being demolished. It's big and lovely and can be seen from afar. We should keep the rotary common. Other communities that are far more classy than Billerica are actually building rotaries and roundabouts for their common. Meanwhile, Billerica's elected officials have not kept up with the times.
The town does do a lot for the community and children
Enjoyable weather and people.
I'm not that into it so I don't want to say
Honestly, don't do anything outdoors in Billerica except go to my kids sports games. If I'm going to walk, I'd go to Horn Pond in Woburn or Lake Quannaponitt in Wakefield
In general, like the environment in Billerica.
Options
Hiking trails
I enjoy Billerica's many outdoor trails
Pretty
Low cost outdoor activities
lots of options- when the kids were younger now that they are in HS we don't frequent many of them.
the playgrounds
not overcrowded

Simple and quick hikes and can see Boston from certain areas!
Welcoming, lots of opportunity for outdoor exploration in Billerica however it's not accessible, not available
PHR is a great investment to the children and families of Billerica. My family has spend countless hours at this location for pop Warner and youth softball.
not sure
I love that I can walk from my Rio Vista neighborhood to the veterans park. I enjoyed taking my dog in the woods and my kids love hiking to the playground.
The availability to be in the nature.
The archery program
I loved the fact that there used to be more trees
Plenty of options. We just don't take advantage well.
The PHR space is very well layed out
Variety
Places for kids to go.
That the areas are pretty much left natural and untouched while being maintained
I like the variety of outdoor activities available
VVP disc golf
Billerica is very clean town
The open space and natural beauty.
Many playgrounds
Each area of town has something accessible
I have been pleasantly surprised by the amenities Billerica recreation department provides.
I love the new PHR complex.
Lots of playgrounds and parks and trails.
Free space
Location
I like that we have a decent amount of outdoor space.
Availability of hiking trails and preserved foresets
The new facility at boys and girls club
There are many options for outdoor activity
easy access, well maintained
Like enjoy fishing and wooded trail walks
I like that there are options for accessing the outdoors and experiencing it in different ways.
Vietnam veterans Park
The parks, exercise equipment.
Kohlrausch park has playground and walking path together
varied options
Playgrounds
The natural beauty of the town areas that are available.
Safe
Parks are decent
The great selection of sports and activities for the kids.
There are lots of good outdoor options, just have to know where to look.
There are many great playgrounds to choose from. I'd love to see more aquatics available for the summer months.
Walkable/paved paths for strollers/young children/ dogs would be great.
There is plenty of space in Billerica and options for families. It can only get better!
Outdoors
Lots of options for activities for kids
Variety of open space type.
Love PHR, wish there was more updated spaces like it.
The ones that we do have are easy to access
variety
Many options
There are more and more options
I like the playgrounds
Convenient locations
Visible investment.
There are ample spaces for outdoor recreation
The people.
Lots of open areas and trees
We have a lot of green open space to enjoy as well as a couple of rivers and a couple of ponds

Q13. What do you like BEST about Billerica's environment and outdoor experiences?

There is still a good amount of open space in town.
Lots of different options.
The trails have been improved a lot by veterans park and manning state park
Trees
All of the trees and Forrests
The areas that are available are open and have a wide variety of Wild life
The Town owns many parcels of land and utilizes them well. Various activities are spread out around Town and gives residents (and non-residents) plenty of recreation space.
Not much, I usually go to other towns to walk and hike
That there is still outdoor space available although the town seems to favor aggressive building only for much to remain vacant.
That there is a quite a lot of recreation! Just need equity across the different neighborhoods
That there really is a lot to choose from
Friendly people
I recently began playing pickleball. Happy to have courts at PHR. It would be great if there were other courts in town.
Playgrounds
That we have year round options
There's plenty of open space to explore and hike.
Walking trails and access to our rivers.
Lots of green trees and trails
Trees
Better than surrounding towns
I enjoy the semi-rural character of Billerica
I think the town has good sports fields and playgrounds
I like the fact that there are outdoor recreation opportunities in town.
I like walking with my dog and enjoying outdoor time with the kids
Open areas at the old Dotson and the old vining
I like Vietnam Veterans park. My son likes the playground and I like to walk and take in the scenery.
The difference in all of them while still all being in one town.
The upcoming bike trail
Billerica has a lot of fields for younger children.
Pickle ball at PHR is great. Please pave the parking area there.
That we have places to get away too
Get away from traffic.
Boys/girls club pickleball
An abundance of open space
Peggy Rizzo recreation is beautiful and well kept. Pinehurst needs more open space,
Lots to offer
Multiple options, but many more offered in bordering towns
Love playing the VVP Disc Golf Course. I would love for 9 more hole to be installed.
It's great to have community space for markets, fairs etc.
I am a big fan of the disc golf course at Vietnam Veterans Park. The disc golf community strongly supports this course, evidenced by the recent wonderful upgrades to all 9 tee pads.
Disc Golf
The amount of green spaces and trees.
Plenty of activities throughout Billerica for myself and my family!
It's beauty
Clean
The beautiful trees, the nature feeling, and meeting really great people. Also I visited PHR recently, and it's very exciting!
Disc golf course
Not a whole lot
Fresh air
The Vietnam Veterans Park disc golf course is very convenient for my family and is beginner friendly. The course volunteers that recently installed the teepads are awesome!
The wild life
Do not access much, in 80s and alone
I appreciate all of the trees in the outdoor spaces.
Manning forest
The new PHR Complex is great. I love the variety of things to do there. My kids love the skate park and playground.
It is largely untouched and pristine
Love the land at the old Ditson school, for open space. Farmers market. Play ground, picnic. Flower gardens.

There's so many but I don't know much about them
we enjoy the outdoor walking paths, but would love indoor space to walk, in case of inclement weather.
Cleanliness
There are lots of choices.
Fun summer activities for kids and families.
Remaining open space/woods that surrounding towns seem to be clearing. More effort needed to protect.
Our trails are beautiful - we should invest in some nice markers and trail maintenance.
My family loves walking and hiking
The variety & proximity.
Mountain biking in proximity to the highway
Access to some areas
The fields we have in town are great!
Athletic fields
Variety
Lots of it. Well maintained.
I really can't say because I haven't tried the trails listed here. I didn't know there was public access to some of them.
Really great mountain bike trails that are in good shape and well marked
Mountain bike trails in Billerica State Forest
Hiking trails
there is so much open land in every part of town
Great trails for mountain biking!
Really enjoy the off-road hiking/biking trails
Hiking and Biking trails
I currently hike, snowshoe and mountain/gravel bike in Billerica and surrounding towns. It is nice to have the accessibility that is currently there. The majority of trail users get along quite well and the trail network is very nice.
SO many great trails...
Lots of hiking trails, good playgrounds
No opinion
I enjoy that there are so many spaces, I just wish I was aware of what was available.
Mountain bike trails
Vietnam Veterans Park hiking and disc golf
Disc golf
the amount of choices
The land is in our own town so I do not have to travel. The peace and tranquility provided by our parks and open space.
we have a lot of green space and lots of hiking trails
I like that we DO have options to get outside.
They are spread out throughout the town and not concentrated in portion of town.
Solitude
Conservation land
I love that this town is big and you can go from one end to the other and just have all different sorts of wildlife to explore...
The fact that we have them
Hiking trails
The new improvements made - specifically Peggy Hannon Rizza Park.
Along with having the longest stretches of both the Shawsheen and Concord Rivers, Billerica also has multiple lakes and ponds. Outdoor experiences provided by our water resources alone make Billerica one of the most unique and enjoyable towns for recreation in the greater area. Billerica is doing a great job in approving and creating new river access points on both rivers. Examples include Carter Ave (Concord), Buckingham (Shawsheen), and eventually Sheridan (Shawsheen).
That we have any left. They are unique places and I am tired of them being used a political pawns for winning elections.
Manning park
Need more open space and less development
Nature
Billerica is beautiful once you get away from the construction.
We have a bmx track. Not many around.
I'm still new to Billerica so I'm not sure.
Thankful that the current options exist.
My family loves KidConnectuon playground. We'd go that that park even when we lived in a neighboring town.
Many beautiful nature areas with mature forest
We have some amenities, but I feel they are not maximized or growing/adjusting to meet the needs of new residents.
We have different kinds of waterways to look at.
They are good for sports.
The trails are great but lack bathrooms

Q13. What do you like BEST about Billerica's environment and outdoor experiences?

We have some very nice parks and forested areas. The rivers and lakes are beautiful too.
Nothing
Feel like there are always available options for outdoor - plus the new PHR site is so inviting for all
Beauty everywhere people need to experience it to live it
We like the mixed rec use at VVP and PHR.
I love the natural trails around Billerica and close to it. We love to go to Warren Manning and Veteran's Park to walk around the trails.
Not sure
With a lake and 2 rivers in town, we have a lot of water access opportunities
PHR and its trail are great. Also trails at Vet park are great.
Outdoor hiking. Love Vietnam Veterans Park.
They're fairly spread out throughout the town
New Rec Complex is great.
The amount of parks and varied terrain
Close to my home
Close to home
Variety
Warren Manning and Jones town forest
Lots of trees, a way to get out in nature and get fresh air
Easy and convenient to get away
High school fields
We have some available if you can find them.
The wide variety of options our town has that most should be able to find something that suits their activities.
Having places to play and walk.
Love the playground options. Great wooded trails.
Not much
Lots of space available, need to make sure people know what is there
I like that we have some trails.
Great trails, disc golf
The new PHR is great, nice to see everyone enjoying it.
Nothing
Water access
Friendly workers, fun activities for kids
Love all the trails.
Fun activities that are available.
Nice trees
Manning park
I unfortunately can't comment much here beyond the fact that I love how green and slightly wooded Billerica is
That they exist. I don't use them enough to provide good feedback, but I wish I could.
non-applicable
So many options!
Recent improvements to the Peggy Hanon complex and baseball fields have been great.
I honestly am struggling to answer this. The same as I said above, the town has great athletic fields and playground for children, but I don't have children so I can't utilize the best part of the town's outdoor experience.
I like being out in the environment and would like a place to sit and enjoy away from the noise of traffic
Trails
very sport accommodating
The hiking trails and enough open space to be able to take a walk to think and become one with nature.
I like the town's natural beauty and wildlife. I'd love to see more access to open space for passive recreation and protecting remaining open space in town.
There's already a lot of conservation and open land.
the variety
Lots of open land in town. Great rec programs.
They beautify the town
Town atmosphere with woods and trails
trails, rivers
The rivers, trails, nature and groups encouraging social meetups to enjoy them.
Close to home
The Hike Beautiful Billerica Program is great! I also love the disc golf course and hiking trails!
That it is nearby. No travel time

Responses
Billerica Open Space and Recreation Plan 2024 Survey
What would you CHANGE about Billerica's environment and outdoor experiences?
Protection of the wetlands, and water sources / areas.
Do not know enough. See answers above.
Parking needs improvement for some and better awareness of what is available
We need defined walking paths both paved and unpaved.
I would like to see a prohibition on motorized watercraft on the Concord River. Trash and litter is also an ongoing problem in many of the town spaces. Enforcement of existing regulation may help remedy this. Additionally, some sort of program educating residents about the importance of not littering may be helpful.
Increase the amount of Conservation land. Eliminate power boats from the Concord River.
More upkeep and additional restrooms as well as ADA friendly playground/field equipment
need to allow outboard motors of small size 15hp or less on nutting lake
Easier to know what and where things are.
Add more sports options and walking paths.
More views with hiking, nice loop trails.
I wish there were MORE opportunities to be outside and enjoy nature in both organized (fields, paths, athletic areas) and unorganized (nature areas).
MORE PARKING SPACES, especially at PHR
More access for clubs at little to no cost
Build sidewalk in my neighborhood. Increase indoor, biking, and swimming facilities
Better managed and monitored
have FREE areas where people can host outdoor birthday parties for kids.. picnic tables near parks etc.
New resident - don't know much about offerings and experiences
Publicity
I can not answer at this time since I have not visited all the areas and was unaware until now and I've lived in Billerica 12 years.
I wish there was a town beach.
I would set a goal of 25% conservation lands (not simply open space) by 2030.
Better trail signage
More for the kids and teenagers in this town. There is nothing for them outside of their organized sports
Improve & expand like Carlisle
signage, accessibility, clean, nearby bathroom facilities
More places for biking
More parking and signage to announce the venue entrance
Not handicap accessible
Continued maintenance and growth for all areas
Stop filling up the open space we have with buildings. Preserve more of our open space for use by the town people and the wildlife that are our inhabitants also. It is our responsibility to care for them also.
Provide more biking/walking options (bike paths/lanes, sidewalks, etc)
Would like to know how to volunteer to help. And not just on Facebook, which I don't use.
Better pedestrian safety
get more people out in nature
Native plantings in public lands and invasive removal. Better access by foot or bike.
Allowing/CREATING space for teenagers to explore and thrive. They have nothing in this town if they are not into sports
Would love to have areas to just relax outside that is not right on a busy road. Doing this survey showed there were many areas but I don't know of any that are easily accessible and cleared.

What would you change about Billerica's environment and outdoor experiences?

There are not enough restaurants. There should be more of a variety of places to dine. Also, there is almost no outdoor dining at all. We are right off of Rt. 3, so there should be more places to visit in Billerica. There should also be more high-end shopping stores.
The town needs a new center. You hardly ever see people walking around enjoying the center, sitting,...etc. The rotary is congested and unsafe. The store fronts are not welcoming. There needs to be more little shops for families to walk in and explore. The center is dated and boring.
Need more tours
Underutilized, not prioritized, not promoted. Decades ago Billerica was a destination spot. We will never have commercial appeal/success of highway communities (Burlington, Lynnfield) but we have recreation. If people come to use and play they will spend. And keep Billerica high in esteem via positive experiences. Natural recreation = financial growth.
I think you could add more for the kids and sports activities
We need to concentrate on passive recreational space, and less on organized sports space.
Expand group walking opportunities
more natural open space
much clean up could be done.
More things for tweens/teens. This has always been an issue, and not just here.
More outdoor shops and patio dining permits
Allow Billerica youth soccer to use the new athletic fields as they are a much bigger organization....my taxes paid for those fields too. Also the town soccer fields have been so poorly maintained since the town took over caring for them, I wish they cared about those spaces too. It seems like the town is more invested in football And lacrosse.
Large community areas. Coffee shops store walk alongs
I wish there was a splash pad for our toddler that was not in the woods, we never go there due to concerns of mosquitos and ticks
More of it! Trails that are stroller accessible, more indoor sports areas, more playgrounds.
Safe bike paths to get around town and to connect with other communities. I'd love a safe way to get to the Town Center and to the Minuteman Bike Trail. Also more sidewalks so I can walk around town and to local businesses.
Better maintain. More attention to tree health. More attention to maintenance.
Increase play areas through neighborhoods
A map
Make adequate parking, update structures (such as playgrounds), add lighting, pave walking trails, more mixed use spaces.
There needs to be more protected areas and better info to the public about what is in fact available in these areas
Overpriced and high-maintenance organized sports.
There's nowhere to just go hang out in a communal or hold most town events AND not enough events - PHR is a start in terms of space but the communal hangout space is still lacking. We need somewhere that's comfortable all seasons (fire pits, shade, etc) and serviced (not just open games, serves food and drinks, maybe a bar, actual staff!) We are also lacking in events that other towns have (presumably partially related to space) Reading does a great job with Oktoberfests, Beer gardens w live music in the summer and similar - we go to theirs since we don't have any. Burlington has many events from those days to kids events (sorry but a Yankee Doodle parade is not cutting it nor remotely interesting for people that didn't grow up here) Wilmington has the great 4th of July and added a Fall Fest this year. The programs the rec department has done (like Halloween, Christmas, etc) are nice but it's the same 5 inflatables + a craft + decorate a cookie every time.
Information about all that is available
I have lived in Billerica over 40 years and I am unaware of most conservation & Recreation areas or programs. Please develop a communication plan to inform residents of the towns valuable resources.
Availability of information for general public
I'd like to know more about available spaces. Especially bike trails.
More bike infrastructure that links to other trails (Bruce Freeman, Minuteman)
We have fantastic hiking trails but I strongly feel we need one paved trail for all citizens to use no matter their age or how mobile one is. The rail trail is a great way to promote a healthy lifestyle while making it accessible for all. Plus, it is much safer option for walking and especially for riding a bike. Families can now ride together with out worrying about their children's safety as well as theirs.

More offerings for children and families.
Less invasive species and litter.
Have the two new outdoor tracks (Shawsheen and BMHS available for public use. Get the bike trail finished! I run on the Bruce Freeman rail trail. It is great for the local businesses on the trail.
better maintained existing sidewalks and more sidewalks
More outdoor gatherings
More hiking trails
I would like to see investments in recreational facilities to keep in town interest in sports/activities
When doing research perhaps compare with the Town of Acton NARA park, which offers a combo of options
Add 1 or 2 more Splash Pads in park areas.
better signage
Better maintenance- more green
Make it clearer where trail access is and where parking is available
Ticks
Clean up/improve current areas for recreation like the one near boys n girls club. Add a community water park. Pool. Slides concessions. Run by the town for revenue.
Have more options available and keeping the town notices to the people informed and finding people to work that really have a passion for the respective needs that people want
Greater access to recreation without cars. More bike and walking paths.
There should be a bike path
More bike lane and walking trails
I think we should preserve land instead of over-building it. The aquatic spaces (Micozzi Beach, water chesnuts in the Concord) need the most attention, IMO.
Actually being able to use the resources at the new high school would be nice start. Why is the gate locked to the soccer field where the track is? Why can't we use it?
Minimally create a list of the areas with descriptions on the Billerica website. I've lived in town since 2005 and I had not heard of many of the areas mentioned in this survey. When I tried to look them up, I could not find much info, if any.
Some bike paths would be great, we would use those. We tend to go to Minute Man Park or other places.
Better trail signage
equal funding and improvements across all sports fields.
More up to date and modern
The upkeep of some walking trails and parks could be better.
They need to be better maintained. There are a lot of times when the grass is very high & could harbor ticks & other pests. Also, it would be great to have seating added around the soccer fields
Better scheduling of lights. The lights are on too long when the fields are not being used. Some towns use a token system. Leagues that rent the field get a token to put in that turns the lights on and it is good for a couple hours. This would reduce the light pollution.
I would like to see some field turf options for the travel soccer program at the older levels (Grades 5+) to prevent the many rain outs we experience during the spring and fall sessions.
We need a bike path, and some playgrounds need updating.
More parking and lights for VVP soccer fields
Places to park/maps for existing hiking trails
Town pool
Better parking
More lights at athletic fields bc it gets so dark so early in the fall.
Most outdoor recreational/sports areas are lacking amenities and fields are not up to par compared with other local towns. They are uneven, grass is often too long, bathrooms are dirty and or non existent, lack of snacks and drinks to be purchased, parking is scarce or non marked esp at the veterans field.
More recreational indoor facilities
Easier to bike ride for children
More intentional space that is designed well. Like the Acton arboretum

What would you change about Billerica's environment and outdoor experiences?

An outdoor pool available to restaurants would be great. There is definitely a lack of locations where Billerica children can attend swimming lessons.
Better trails
Add more of them
Unusable conservation land. Purely drives up housing prices.
Town center
More signage, walking groups
Add more
More capital investment for maintenance, more messaging of available services pertaining to outdoor recreation
More information for sure and more engagement. Like a one atop shop calendar for all yhat is happening whether it is town related on not.
Better recreation department space
adding lighting to playing fields and better maintenance of fields such as the Locke and Dutile. also improve the parking space at the VVP fields
Love the farmers market
More River front access
Ticks!!!
Publication of walking trails
Build new rec center
Night lights for fields Especially soccer.
More awareness and signage for conservation areas
Safety, lighting and restrooms
An outdoor pool
Add lights to sporting fields
I really wish the Nutting Lake "beach" was better maintained and safer to swim in. I also wish there was more shaded areas for hot days.
It would be nice to have more paths/connectedneess between rec areas in downtown, near where the new town center is being built. We are often in Bedford at the library/school complex and love how close together eerything there is. It's much safer for my son to run around on his own. we find ourselves leaving billerica to spend time at bedford's facilities.
We are a soccer family. I understand Billerica Soccer has very high numbers yet when asked when soccer will get access to the new turf, I'm told they are 3rd in line due to football and lacrosse. That is unfortunate as we all pay the same amount of taxes and should get equal chance of playing on new fields. If you will not allow soccer more space, at least keep the Akeson and VVP maintained and provide lighting
Improve the athletic fields, add more field lighting, repair the fields that have lighting so that they can be used.
Updates and improved maintenance.
Enforce illegal atv usage
more recreation complex like Peggy Hannon-Rizza Recreation
Add restrooms as long as they'll be maintained.
More information about what's available
We need more places with restrooms and access for all residents not just specific parts of town
Maybe increase publicity to residents
More for kids and families
More things to do
Overall upkeep
More information about what is available.
I would love for the old Diston site to have a better childrens playground and field space.
Pool, hiking trails
Making people more aware about what is available to them in their own town.
Maintained sports fields.
More restroom facilities, lighting and treat for ticks

Lighting, parking
better or more playgrounds
I'm not sure. My kids are grown now but we utilized many areas (playgrounds, sport areas, hiking trails, water park, beach). As long as areas are well cared for, I'm happy.
As I am an avid mountain biker/hiker, I think tying into other trail networks in surrounding towns will be a great way to increase access for people to experience Billerica outdoors.
More accessible for mobility challenged residents. MORE pollinator plants, native plants. Invasive plants, aquatic and land removal.
though there are a lot of opportunities for outdoor recreation (passive and active) they are not well connected and sometimes difficult to get to, with or without a car
Improve the maintenance.
things seem great!
As a hunter and bowhunter ed instructor it would be nice if more areas opened to hunting especially areas that allow for the 500' setback law. As a hunter you are also a watchdog while your out there and can also report on what you see going on .
Make them more inviting. Add restrooms. Keep them maintained.
Create more awareness
Allow access to HS fields and track to the community
More opportunities
The town needs to do a better job getting the word out on what activities and opportunities for people in the current open space areas.
I'd love a public swimming pool in the northern half of Billerica. I grew up with several public swimming pools and wish my kids could have/have had one nearby.
Label trails and have maps online.
More sidewalks
They should be more connected or easier to find. We have some nice areas but not much is done to maintain them and keep them clear of junk.
I would increase the amount of green space and a bike trail through town.
I would make Nutting Lake and the Sprinkler Park free for Billerica Residents (Wilmington does this with their lake). It is under utilized and would be better utilized if it was free vs paying for entry. Nutting Lake needs a BETTER playground and SHADE. Also a snack bar, picnic benches, etc. Look at the parks/playgrounds/areas in some of the towns around. It would be better utilized if it had these pieces to it.
Have more of them
More tree shade at playgrounds, bike paths that are not on roads with cars, public swimming pool
More handicapped accessible.
Safer biking, bike paths, more sidewalks for safer walking, more access to the river - would be lovely to have something like they did at Wamesit Falls in Lowell where you can walk safely by the river. Public outdoor swimming pool and splash pad would be great too. And more shade at the playgrounds
More paved off street bike and walking paths
I would like more visibility to the spaces in the town, where to park to use the land/trails, maps of trails or spaces in town. I would love for Billerica to add a bike path, we go to Chelmsford now to use their space. I wish there was more access to the rivers.
Access and parking
More options that are accessible. And a pool!
Having multiple playgrounds across the town is both a blessing and a curse. In some regards, no one playground seems to have it all. One playground may not have a swing set while the others may. Another playground would have some open space to run, while another may be quite small. It just seems that as a town we may be better served improving quality rather than focusing on the quantity of playgrounds.
More walking paths
Parking/bathroom access
Need safer roads to bike/walk
More paved walking trails
We need a swimming pool

What would you change about Billerica's environment and outdoor experiences?

I would like to have the common park bigger
Make them useable.
More programs for all age groups. Yoga and other fitness facilities/activities.
A little more maintenance there are some screws missing at the park
More options
Finish bike path
More signage and maintenance
Need side walks
Wish you could access easily by walking or riding a bike safely
Extended micozzi beach hours
Continue bike path/make more bike paths off the roads. More sidewalks - stroller walks are nearly impossible.
Need space for STEM programs such as HS Robotics Team
More options for kids with mobility challenges
Socialize them more where and what
the center' traffic
I would like more awareness, sometimes I don't know what the town has to offer.
Lighting at fields for more opportunities. Another ice rink to help facilitate all the interest and need for practices and games.
The maintenance
New to the town, but enjoy evoking. It would be awesome to be able to have access to paved trails in town. And if applicable here, bike lanes that lead to schools, parks, and shopping plazas around Billerica.
Quality, in working order, just more activities for kids all around. School playgrounds also very dated
Invest in a new recreation center, schools and drinking water.
More options for things to do and more inclusive options for all groups.
more trails for bikes and walking
Bike path
Make sure they are kid friendly
Make it look not run down.
lack of sidewalks, clear parking
Clean it up
More paved or gravel paths and bigger playgrounds. And a new rec center
Stop allowing new structures and taking away land.
Update the parks around town.
Provide more access to bike paths and make Billerica more walking/biking friendly.
We need more options
I feel like the playground spaces have sparse wood chips/mulch. Kid Connection is a great space but it gets so muddy. It would be nice to have more wood chips so there's less visible dirt that makes mud puddles everywhere. It would also be nice to have one park that has spongy artificial ground--but wood chips are ok if there are more of them. I like how other towns have a paved walking/bicycle/kid scooter path around the park--it makes a safe place to go exercise with small kids on their wheels and a stroller with a baby and then end at the park. The only one I know of that comes close to this is PHR. It's not paved for bikes and scooters and easy strollers and it had poison ivy by the path last we went in the summer. I'd recommend putting a paved walking/multi-use (non-motorized) path around some of the athletic fields
We need to get more business centric and attract more restaurants, clubs, mall etc.
More sidewalks
Provide more info
Better maintained kid-friendly areas (like playgrounds and fields) with bathroom / porta-potty facilities (year-round)
Keep the place clean and keep away ticks
Cleaner paths and more tick control
More bike/walking path
Playgrounds need to be updated

I wish there was more of a social media presence, and more advertising of programs available in town.
We need a town pool and a recreation center. The one we have now is ridiculous. So many missed opportunities because of the building
Need more sidewalks
More trees and manicured spaces.
Would like to see outdoor swimming pool and outdoor ice skating rink (larger than the existing rink)
Free access for residents, charge for non-residents
They need to be better known
more sidewalks
More bike trails
Stop with all the sports and get back to nature. Let the kids live a simple life to escape technology. I would love a greatbrook farm vibe in Billerica!!!
More updated playgrounds, better hiking.
Nore shade at playgrounds
More walking trails
Updated.
I would like a few more options, better signage and clearer trails.
More information about what is available and is happening
More information on how to access.
More green space
Publicity
Wish some of the walking trails, like Cider Mill land were better maintained
Have more family events
outdoor activities like hiking, picnic areas, bike path, etc need more attention and more improvement in Billerica.
Having maps more accessible.
Regular, reliable, and caring maintenance for all.
Gear something for every age group
Walking paths and indoor athletics facilities
I'd like something to be finished
NO bike paths on street. Can't stand this in other towns. Build off-street paths. Streets are too crowded and people are too distracted by their phones to pay attention to bike riders.
Clearly can't change what's already been done. But, would like to see more conservation and recreation areas. Tired of all the apartment buildings being built. Ruining the small town feel.
More spaces
Make improvements to the alumni field at the high school. It is still a much needed practice space but with the condition of the field makes it unsafe.
I wish more of the trails were accessible for strollers
More access fields
Having a complex of sports fields all together would be fabulous. Other towns have this and it's great for families who are participating in activities there (ie. better baseball fields)
Outdoor pool please please please (preferably in pinehurst)
more trails
I'd like to see upgrades at micozzi beach
Offering clearer signage for parking areas and more portable toilets at facility that host long running sports games
Better access and maintenance to hiking, biking and walking trails that run/span continuously thru-out/across town.
I would like to see the much talked about bike and walking trail that has been in the works for decades!
Add a bike park with a pump track somewhere
Improve the quality of the existing sports fields (soccer/baseball)
Better signage and information for where to find things.
Less building and more interest in preserving natural habitat. Limiting the amount of trees that are cut down

What would you change about Billerica's environment and outdoor experiences?

Somehow advertise options more.
More shade areas at playgrounds
Parking availability at places like VVP during peak times.
Change
Need more walking paths
add to the opened space
Better signage
More support from town for disc golf
Parking lots in some playgrounds need some work done
Make it more pedestrian and bike friendly
Access to bathrooms
Bathrooms
I would love to see more green space. I would love to see an aquatic building with a public pool and swimming lessons.
I'd love to see more playgrounds- natural looking, shaded, with opportunities for outdoor education.
Better upkeep to playgrounds and fields.
Need renovation
Clean winnings pond
More usable green spaces, track
More upkeep or management of the space to keep it usable.
Less cutting down trees. More tree canopies
Lighting at veterans park fields
Maybe do an annual town wide trail cleanup in participation with Beautify Billerica.
Awareness, multicultural events publicized and promoted
Modernize and offer outdoor activity spaces like surrounding towns have! There are zero indoor recreational facilities open to the public(not the boys club) kids need a space to play during all seasons!
Increase space, mapping, accessibility
I feel like some areas are difficult to find information about. For example how do we access the Billerica State Forest? Where can you park? Clear information on some of the more obscure places would be appreciated!
More
Adaptive programs for kids with disabilities like autism.
Add bikes paths and updated playgrounds with sprinkler parks (not in the woods)
add more
More bench's and shaded areas at the Dutile playground
Better trails and information. More Hunting Friendly areas and clear information about regulations.
Bigger/ better splash pad where it's not mosquito infested.
Honestly not a lot needs to change. More basketball courts would be wonderful. Including indoor ones and public access to them
Biking access. Our family would bike all over town if there were safe ways to do this with kids. Right now there are limited shoulders on many roads and no bike lanes. Very dangerous for kids to bike.
More swimming and walking opportunities for young children.
Just add more places for families to enjoy outdoors.
have more green space where small children to young adults can enjoy with shading.
Include an outdoor pool for community members. Offer pool access to nearby towns for higher price (keep cost low for those who live in the town.
THis will give Teenagers and young adults jobs for lifeguarding and keep a food stand as well.
Bike paths
Fields to play
More walking/running areas
I wish there were more bleachers at the softball fields
Expand accessibility and hours

To add more to the area
more awareness/events
Paved nature trails
more athletic fields that are taken care of on a regular basis
The playgrounds could be better maintained and have more sun and lighting
We need additional indoor spaces as well as a pool
Parking at Vetrans field. Needs cones or lines or something.
Improve playgrounds- updated equipment & improved accessibility.
More maintenance keep ticks at bay. More parking off street.
Add more recreation fields and another community garden
I don't like that I have to cross a very busy street when hiking at Manning State Park. Could we put a pedestrian bridge or tunnel there or something?
Clean up existing hiking trails and potentially add new (paved) ones.
More walk/bike friendly. It is hard to do anything without a car. And even then parking is often limited or challenging.
Wish i had any clue where peggy hanons fields were never heard of any of those places.
Bugs
I'd remove bike paths on Allen road. Road is too narrow and bikers abuse it. 129, Andover Rd, Allen Rd and parts of Boston Rd - from mall to pinehurst need sidewalks.
more handicapped accessibility
Updating playgrounds. Utilizing open space (e.g Kolrausch Park). Improving safe walking spaces around town, not just in designated recreation areas.
Publicize it more.
Those in decision making positions need to stop working only in the present and start incorporating future needs or they will have cut down all the trees and surrounding vegetation. Boston Road is an abysmal embarrassment 200 + year old trees can't be replaced by a sapling.
Better maintenance for all public areas and especially for playgrounds
Better signage
More lighting
A simple thing that could be done is to put walking trails maps on line
More safe paved walking trails
Some play grounds need updating.
More parking
Stop Polluting our waterways.
Updated Rec dept.
too much trees everywhere
Boating
Make the Concord River more accessible.
not sure where to go for walking trails - need to have better info about access
I'd like them to be better publicized.
Getting others to respect the spaces. Stop littering and defacing public property
Have some more areas for handicapped access
I would like to see better accessibility and clearer accessibility information on the website.
increased communication about available experiences
More spaces for people to hang out and spend time.
Provide connector bike trails to allow safer travel. e.g. Clear a bike lane on Wyman St to Middlesex Turnpike. And cut a short path from Manning Road to Orchard Rd to open the upcoming Yankee Doodle path to other neighborhoods.
I would like to see a website with user friendly identification of options available.
Provide flush toilets at PHR
better signage on trails

What would you change about Billerica's environment and outdoor experiences?

More peaceful spaces.
Need beautification, especially along Boston Rd which is the face of out town. Also hold businesses accountable for the property upkeep along 3A.
More recreation utility within open spaces
Need for more recreation area in Pinehurst.
Make all public access to bodies of water clear with signage. People should carry out trash with them, but since they don't, incorporate trash barrels and removal program into a town position.
Better maintained trails
More/better information about the existing outdoors spaces available to the public and what activities they offer.
Trashy signs posted around town.
Expand disc golf course.
Make more progress with spaces already in Billerica control.
More art from local artists and trash pick ups in natural town maintained green spaces. Also, more sidewalks to improve the walkability of the town.
I wouldn't change a thing just add to the already beautiful Billerica environment
Please make isomer trails handicap accessible
Bathrooms
I would add lots of sidewalks and bike paths not too close to the road, so people can feel more safe walking and enjoy the scenery
Expand veitnam veterans disc golf course to 18 holes
More recreational areas in neighborhood. Pinehurst area surrounding old Ditson needs better playground.
Cleanliness
The Vietnam Veterans Park disc golf course needs another 9 holes to make it a full 18, and it needs some longer/ advanced teepads on a few of the shorter front 9 holes to make it more fun and challenging for intermediate and experienced players.
More awareness for locations. So people would know what is available.
Can not answer honestly, as I do not access much being I am in my 80s and alone
Better restroom situations.
More welcoming, accessible
It would be great to have more shade and real public restrooms with running water. The porta potties are not ideal for young children and moms.
It is poorly managed and people abuse it: dirt bikes, unleashed dogs, evidence of encampments
More of it.
Exposure. Where are they? What's the accessibility level?
More for 55+ would be great.
Having to look at useless signage along Boston Rd.
Some of the parks and playgrounds are showing their age. Splash Pad is sometimes impossible to enjoy because of mosquitos.
Need to address sidewalk access by clearing overgrowth. Easier access to information about Billerica's recreation locations and ways people can help maintain and join groups dedicated to that task.
I would make the old Ditson/Pinehurst park a designated park and put a walking trail around the perimeter and through the center (stone dust is fine). Upgrade the existing playground to one that is accessible. Do this in such as way that the farmers market can still use the space. Pinehurst needs a permanent park.
Make town more bike / walking friendly
Create a central resource to house info so people know what's available.
Knowledge of how to use multi use areas
More
Bike trail/walking paths well lit.
Introduce a better level of restaurant. Too many Chinese restaurants and pizza places. A nice seafood and/or Italian restaurant in this town would be so refreshing! I suspect this is not exactly what the question meant, but that's my answer.

More bike trails
Nothing
Bike path would be amazing
Raking the gilson hill trails in the fall for riding
More mountain bike trails
More well maintained trails
Give up some of the smaller under utilized parcels to fund more important projects
add more trails?
Better maintenance of bike paths and roads.
Increasing signage and trail etiquette would be terrific. Every once and awhile it would be nice to see the towns conservation officer at trailheads/parking lots engaging in conservation with users. I find it goes a long way with everyone.
Better signage on trails
New rec center building needed badly, sidewalks needed to get to outdoor activities
Nothing
Maintenance and upgrading existing facilities
Additional access for off road biking. Improved/expanded disc golf course
More open space
More disc golf
night access or over night camping
Better access, maintenance and awareness
More green space in Pinehurst
I think it would be helpful for the Town to better document the existing opportunities that do exist. For example, I think there are trails on Fox Hill but I am unsure of how to access them.
Availability of real restrooms, porta potties ore ok but a lot of towns provide true facilities especially in highly utilized areas.
Adding sidewalks in Pinehurst USA priority for safety reason and for disabled. Not walking in street.
The water! I would prioritize our town water! It is critical that the compliance plan doesn't just stay where it is! When we have lawyers and firms involved, it feels like a PG&e cover letter to cover their butts! It's clean water in our rivers, ponds and to our sewers in our homes! I would like to see our town be able to utilize the ponds, lakes and rivers as if we were up in New Hampshire! It's a shame we have such deplorable water that people don't even want to use our town beach and they would rather go to silver lake in Wilmington!
More of them and a pool
Make hiking trails pedestrian accessible (sidewalks)
Stop removing trees and woods areas, stop building! Our wildlife is being threatened.
Bike path connected to Bedford and potentially Tewksbury and Chelmsford.
Water pollution. Untreated stormwater runoff is the number one cause of impairment of waterways in the Commonwealth. Billerica's future approach to stormwater management will play a major role in the improvement of water quality across both watersheds and promote the health and safety of those who enjoy our water resources for boating, fishing, and swimming.
Increase protected land by 50% by 2030 and restore the tree canopy to double current coverage by 2030.
More for smaller children. Safer playgrounds
Need access to maps of the areas
More trees
Every single thing preventing us with mobility issues from doing anything outdoors!!! Difficult parking (if any), a paved path, sidewalks for those in chairs or scooters to safely get around without being ON the roads.
Need more fishing access in Nutting lake and Concord river.
Unsure at this time
More education about what's available. I didn't know where a lot of the places were that were mentioned in this survey.
Just getting people to know about them, putting the word out that they exist and how people can access them.

What would you change about Billerica's environment and outdoor experiences?

Increased awareness of existing nature areas (signage, etc) and ease of access through marked parking at trail heads. Also, can hear loud highway noise while in most forested areas.
Overall improvement - with access and programming.
It is VERY hard to access the water with a kayak or anything like that. There isn't parking near the few access points we have. And the areas near the river and lake are not a place you can go hang out.
We need more of them in the neighborhoods (withing walking distance of the neighborhoods).
Make it easier for groups to meet up outdoors regularly without requiring a permit
I'd love more paved walking paths, especially alongside bodies of water. Easier access and more awareness of where things are located would be nice too, along with more parking.
Better marked trails and get the junkies off them
More info on town site of where to go & what's open/where. Always pleasantly surprised when finding events but often isn't publicized well
Better accessibility to water and hiking and walking paths like surrounding towns have
We live right by the Nutting Lake boat launch and it is poorly maintained. In general, maintenance should be better.
Better parking and access. More visibility as to what is available would be great as well.
I would love the bike path to be finished!! Also, the playgrounds to be more updated, selfishly the old Ditson site playground as its near-by.
Safer places for running, walking, and biking
Few common gathering spaces (but hopefully new common will change that)
Would live to see some beautification to the entrance of the VVP fields.
I don't really know much about the options. Also not always sure where to park.
State a forest trails are not well marked.
A walking trail to connect the town
Make a better list of available places. Many I don't know about.
Online maps and parking areas
Inconsistent quality
I wish I could experience them more often through events in these spaces. I had no idea until this survey just how many park areas there are in Billerica.
More hiking and hiking options
Reinforcing leash laws for dogs or provide places fenced in for them to go so people can enjoy walking in nature without fear of being attacked by a dog off leash
Better field maintenance
More playgrounds and events at the existing locations to make people aware of them.
Increase land maintenance as our parks and passive recreational areas are not cared for as much as the ball fields. Make a solid plan to create neighborhood parks at the former Ditson and Vining school sites, these should be similar to Kohlraush Park with a walking path, a playground and a mix of courts or fields but not overburden the site. Work with volunteer groups that already exist for land maintenance and playgrounds. The best way to get a community together is to work together!
Upgrade most of the playgrounds. Splash Pad is fun but breaks alot and too many bugs in the woods.
Need more places in the outer regions of town. Everything is always about centralized locations that are focused on the center of town.
Bike path
More woods less condos
Outdoor pool
We need a walking trail or bike path like the Bruce Freema Rail Trail. We also need more sidewalks!
Better access to the concord river
Never too many!
Stop building
More town events that bring awareness
Some locations look rundown. Playgrounds need updated.

This is probably not your department but Billerica needs to be cleaned up. Riding down Boston Rd there are many areas that are a mess. Clean it up! Plant flowers. Fix signs. The center looks better but much more needs to be done. There are so many landscapers in town that they should each pick a island that could be maintained. I've seen it in other towns. Why not in Billerica? Also , wrap the big utility units that are around town with picture wraps. The town needs spiffing up!!! It needs to look like people care and are proud to live here!
Not enough space for everyone.
More safe options for outdoor running and biking
Fishing pier, kayak launch
Nothing
I just have a lot of trouble finding information on the outdoor opportunities. So I'd like all that information to be more accessible and easy to find.
How do I find out about what I can use? Where can I park to use them?
non-applicable
Online information about which sites can take a stroller or wheelchair; which are paved; which have parking lots; which have bathrooms; etc. Would love a website/app that could share all of this info with us! I didn't even know about a lot of these places and I sought out searching for environment/outdoor experiences by using Google maps. Couldn't find more than a list of names of places and addresses from the city site.
Adding additional walking and biking trails
Beautify and add more diverse options. Of course everything can always be improved, but athletic fields, athletic facilities and playgrounds have been continuously improved while it feels like other areas are abandoned and unadvertised
I would have more walking trails and provide more opportunities for outside activities
Signs marking trails also maintaining them
trail markers
I would spread the focus to all of Billerica, not just the PHR. I was a town meeting rep and voted against funding improvements to PHR. The facility was fine before. The \$ should have been spread out to other areas of town.
Better access and signage and more awareness of what's available and where it's located.
Invest in improving existing facilities and conservation lands with better parking, trails, and more routine maintenance and cleanups.
the boating program that used to be in the rec dept. I would start it up again, we have the boats and the interest. Lets paddle
I wish each neighborhood had a playground they could walk to (without crossing major road). And I wish we had a trail circuit through town that connected a lot of amenities.
Make them more easily accessible
Less pavement and more natural material
Marked trails, kayak rentals elsewhere besides micozzi,
Enforcement of no dirt bike rules and enforcement of no hunting in forests where prohibited. As a neighbor, I can hear both in the Jones Forest.
More access
Preserve the town common!
Signage. Mapping. Connectivity.

What are the most important open space or recreation actions the Town should take in the next 5 years?

Responses
Billerica Open Space and Recreation Plan 2024 Survey
What are the most important open space or recreation actions the Town should take in the next 5 years? For example, do you have ideas for a new program, or property for the town to acquire, or are there existing facilities or programs that need attention?
Acquire the Irish American Club land = it is directly next to the Vining ballfields and play areas.
Bike and walking paths, picnic areas if there is a nice view for it. Dog park quality and maintenance with poop stations. And helping any animal with mange as there is no need for them to suffer if residents are allowed to help and it could also hurt our pets if they catch it from them like mine did even though he had a flea and tick collar that was new.
Fis veterans Park parking lot so half isn't flooded with every rainstorm, especially during soccer seasons
Complete the bike trail! Landscape the old Ditson School open space with paved walking paths, landscaping including trees, benches, gathering area. It's great that it is open but need to make it welcoming and finished!!
Protection of open space through new acquisitions. Completion of the Minuteman bike path through Billerica.
Acquire more open space for Conservation purposes. Build the bike path and extend it beyond the currently planned path.
Update playground equipment for all children and community members to access, increase lighting for activities to continue after dark in more areas than 1
we need a boat launch on the concord river for motor boats. there is not a lot of land left the town should protect as much as possible.
Less pickleball and more active sports with night lighting. Most of our soccer fields can't be used in the early spring/mid-fall.
There's a HUGE need for an indoor sports arena in this town. The lacrosse program is paying big bucks to rent indoor facilities in other towns. It would be very beneficial to have this option in our own town. Also, the Pop Warner program could really use some indoor space, as there's not enough space at the middle school to accommodate the cheerleaders. We had around 350 kids registered in the program last year, so space is becoming an issue as the program grows each year. Also, finding indoor basketball courts is very challenging. We could use more outdoor courts in addition to more indoor courts. This is another youth program this is growing, and space is not easy to get. Lastly, youth wrestling is also in desperate need of space. This is another program that has been growing each and every year, and these 100+ kids need a nice open space to practice. Moving from the Boys and Girls Club to the Marshall Middle School was challenging, and while it does work, it's not ideal.
Bike paths, swimming at nutting lake beach (safe water)/shade
Complete the bike trail!
Bike Path
We need a new rec dept built at the Vining We need more meeting space for clubs
Please, please update the Hallenborg ice rink! Billerica, as well as surrounding towns use this and it truly is a diamond in the rough. It was the only facility that didn't get updated with money used for the new HS and is used a lot more than the football stadium by the town.
I would like to see a public indoor pool with small wading area for toddlers, where residents can enjoy year round. ie not the boys and girls club
New resident - don't know much about offerings and experiences
Take care of what we have
Increase sidewalks on Boston Rd to make recreation center more accessible. Increase public transportation to these areas to make them more accessible.
It would be great to have an outdoor swimming area/public pool. I don't trust the cleanliness of the water at the Nutting Lake beach for my kids to swim.
Bring guided forest therapy programs and junior rangers programs into town. Would also enjoy a stargazing night with telescopes available for people to use.
More conservation land less building
Save as much land and as many trees as possible.
Acquire property

New outdoor and indoor swimming pools
More trails and areas for kids to bike
1.Expand nature/hiking trails, signage, seating, regular maintenance and parking. 2.Get connected to the Bay Circuit Trail 3.Grow something agricultural or floral on the conservation land next to Griggs Farm.
Redevelopment of Billerica Recreation for increased access to healthy activities for our youth. Consider adding a junior rangers program for the conservation/ activities areas.
It would be great if the town had a public pool that could be tented in the winter so it was available year round. A pool is very beneficial therapy for those with mobility issues and is great exercise for everyone.
Complete the Yankee Doodle Bike Path Maintain the Bay Circuit Trail through Cider Mill Land Allow community usage of track at BMHS
Better communication to residents about available adult activities. Better advertising
Talbot Dam Removal
Bike path that connects communities. An evaluation of residential areas that are cut off from walking or biking access to other areas and identify crosswalks/paths that could connect these areas.
We need more full size gyms. There is not enough availability for any other activities because BYB takes any available spaces.
We need a large, clean recreation center for families and kids.
gardens
Bay Circuit Trail breaks off in Billerica. Paved bike rail path also breaks off in Billerica and is an overdue promise. Pinehurst Park (with real rest rooms and paved walkway) kept as picnic area/natural park/farmers market with real bathrooms. Bennett Library needs parking to be more utilized. Local shuttle transportation to make events around town (farmers market, Yankee Doodle, fireworks etc) more accessible.
Do not sell off the areas currently owned or have potential to be owned for more apartments, condos, stores/store fronts
Purchase more land especially riverfront property on both rivers. Build something in Pinehurst the residents have been deprived long enough
Teach kids about nature by getting them out in it. Learning about animals, plants, etc
save the lands that are not developed. stop the building
stop destruction of the falls
Use the vining school space for recreation department stuff. And create more things that interest tweens/teens, spaces for them to use.
Outdoor shopping complexes (like third ave) and more information about what is available
Build an indoor facility for year round sports like in Tygsboro that is open to ALL and not just Pop Warner. Maybe an NFL flag football league (real flag, not the rec department one). Make walking biking trails safer. Many towns have beautiful indoor sports facilities...we have the space, let's use it (I.e the old DPW space once the new facility is built), the old Vining property, or these industrial places that sit half empty or empty.
A new facility for the recreation department, and a larger variety of programs
Bike paths and sidewalks
Be smarter about planning
Neighborhood play grounds and areas for kids to be constructive. Art music programs and less multi unit housing. Attract business such as stores and eating establishments that isn't Dunkin's, Chinese or pizza. Nice restaurants, breweries and please stores.
More outside activities for seniors
Veterans place
The Boys and Girls swimming facility is disgusting. It's old, outdated, and the showers are gross. They should offer a rinse off shower setup like Goldfish facilities. We also need more mixed use spaces for FAMILIES with many age ranges to utilize. Have restrooms open, fully stocked, and clean. Have spaces for picnics without risk of beestings. Have trash and recycling receptacles and empty frequently.
Vinning and ditson land should be utilized as an outdoor space for the whole community to use. All inclusive playgrounds as well as walking paths, work out stations etc would be a great addition to the town I.E friendship park in Chelmsford. Instead they will most likely sit mostly empty for years to come
Prevention of razing of older buildings and Incorporating historical buildings and landmarks into passive recreation areas and parks.

What are the most important open space or recreation actions the Town should take in the next 5 years?

To listen when Marlies Henderson speaks.
Pretty thoroughly covered above but another point not covered there is registration for rec programs should open for residents FIRST before becoming available to non- residents - it's odd to give both groups access the same day and time when there's not even enough space in some programs for residents
Preserve open space
Improvement of existing facilities. Build/connect bike bath to Bedford. Expand Recreation (for active programs) inventory and Conservation land inventory. Build Community Center with outdoor program space & walking trails adjacent to facility.
Kohlrauch park is under utilized. Keep walking track Add pickle ball / tennis courts. Space is too small for the ball fields that are there
I think it should complete initiatives it's started, ensure accessibility to impaired people, and ensure overall safety.
Leave the center alone
The most important is definitely the rail trail. Some other spaces with some ingenuity could be turned into something unique and fun are the Middlesex Canal, Nutting Lake and other ponds in town. The Middlesex canal for example, if it was cleaned up and somehow made functional it could be possibly be used for kayaking while providing tours or lessons. Paddleboarding or paddle boats maybe could work at Nutting Lake as well as the pond at Vietnam Vets park. I'm not sure what the restrictions are with the Concord River but there could be some possibilities with that too. I feel very strongly that Billerica has such potential with the amount of beautiful natural resources it has that with some planning and long term visions the benefits to the citizens are unlimited.
Rec department that is more accessible for the whole town to use, indoor swimming access.
Cleaning up the Concord River would be nice - especially with it being our water source.
Keep the old Ditson and Vining available for recreational or athletic use.
I would like to see Memorial Field utilized more (the one below the new High School) and perhaps better parking to access same.
Outdoor music events, bike trails
conserve as much green space as possible
No more athletic fields.
Finish Bike Trail connections Approve & construct the proposed Senior Center & Recreation Center
conservation land
Bike path!!! Council on aging replacement- asap!!!
Improved access for people with disabilities
Playgrounds
Make micossi beach back into what it was back then... having a concession stand... live music.. volleyball... Clean the lake, if possible, to make it what it once was.
Bike path!!
Build a bike path
Perhaps an open air theatre space
A new Recreation Center. Accessibility of current fields and playgrounds.
Focus on land conservation, connecting the bike path, and things that people living in Billerica actually / already like to do (hunt, hike, fish). It doesn't serve the town well to try and build in order to satisfy an imaginary citizen, which I feel like the current administration is doing. This disenfranchises everyone who already tries to contribute positively to the community. Rather, do things for the people who already live in this town, and love it. The off leash dogs everywhere are becoming a big problem.
Make sure playgrounds are safe
Vacant building repurpose
We need a sports complex in Billerica. We travel 25-30 mins to other towns to use their sports complex.
Maybe places for kids to practice. Soccer fields are locked or require permits, so extra drill time is hard to do. Or even pick up games with friends. Bike paths on the streets would be great, too. I can't seem to get my kids to bike to a friends' house the way we did when we were kids.

Add a red department center for indoor and outdoor activities for town residents
VVP field needs better parking, lights and potential turf fields.
New hockey rink, lights at soccer fields
I wish they recreation department would bring back a few programs like the "learn to ski" and "kids night out" programs.
Creating Indoor athletic facility. It is cold most of the year & it would be great to have a space where sports such as soccer can be played year round. We usually need to travel to other towns. Same for yoga studios. There are none in Billerica & I ended up signing up at a different town bc it was not available
Better promotion of existing areas. Maintenance on existing areas (there is a lot of trash during nice weather)
As mentioned previously either outdoor or indoor turf options for the travel soccer program at the older grade levels.
Adding a bike path
Town public pool, lights at VVP, improvements to public playgrounds
Town pool
Indoor soccer and basketball facility
Outdoor education space. Please. Some place kids can learn outdoors away from screens and chargers and all that.
The parking lot at Veterans Memorial Park should be paved, there are huge rocks and holes all over the parking lot
Kennedy school playground needs updating
Recreation dept new location/new building/outdoor areas
VVP needs better fields access
Updated recreational sports parks/areas, updated parks for kids and additional trail and bike riding spaces.
Larger indoor rec facility that can accommodate daytime activities for college, middle age & elderly
Public pool or swimming lessons at Nutting. Better advertisement of facilities available to Billerica residents.
I would love to see an indoor athletics facility that is open to residents and students and a bike path that is safe for kids .
Outdoor walking and hiking trails
Add indoor turf fields
Increasing indoor town owned recreational facilities
We need an indoor sports complex. Like a bubble with soccer and/or baseball fields. Even better would be a large indoor complex to draw in baseball, soccer, football, and basketball teams from other towns to train here.
Walking groups at different times.
The town should acquire every bit of undeveloped land it can.
Complete off road bike/recreation path
It would be huge to have indoor sports facilities, currently our soccer players travel to acton to play, why can't we have a space like teamworks, it will pay for itself and it will increase our players skill and confidence. It may be a franchise opportunity or a town managed facility.
New recreation department
Bike path
Better Soccer facilities if the Town program can not get access to the High school fields.
The common could be updated
BMHS
Making the old ditson an outdoor recreation facility; basketball courts, better park
The hockey rink and getting rid of all the algae and invasive plants. Living directly on the lake I see this everyday. The Hallonberg is falling apart. It houses two high schools and BHA and figure skating. The snack shack is never open missing out on opportunities. Many hockey games have been cancelled due to ice issues. The bleachers are unsafe and the entrance of one way in and out is ridiculous
Maybe say more about It in the journal
Elderly housing, then conservation land.
Build new rec center
Billerica needs a community pool
Just some lights on soccer fields and better checks of kids parks being safe and fully functioning

What are the most important open space or recreation actions the Town should take in the next 5 years?

More opportunities for activity/hobby introduction and exploration for all ages. Beginner is usually for younger kids and if an older kid wants to try something they are expected to be a higher level or it isn't offered for their age group. There should be opportunities to try new things for all ages.
Sidewalks everywhere. And underground power and electricity to clean up seeing wires all over.
Keep up the great work
Reorganize how the town maintains its land for recreation without raising taxes.
I would love to see all of the playgrounds updated and instead of wood chips, we could update the ground to the turf-like material. If there was something the town could do to help minimize the mosquitos at the splash pad, that would be more desirable.
1. More access given to other town sports at PHR. 2. Lighting at all sports fields. 3. Add facility for indoor sports.
Lighting at the Dutile Soccer Field; Lighting at the Vietnam Veterans Park (both upper and lower soccer fields)
The geese poop at various fields is disgusting.
I think the quality of a playground is more important than creating new playgrounds. The Kennedy school's playground is in need of an update as well as Kids Konnection. I also think poison ivy, overgrowth, and trash, have made the local playgrounds less appealing. Castle Park is Carlisle is one of the best playgrounds in the area and seems to even draw residents from Billerica.
Create a bicycle infrastructure using old unused rail lines and open space to connect with commuter rail and public transit
have indoor soccer recreation center like teamworks
I'm not sure. Is it feasible to purchase more land?
Paved walking paths
I think we need to keep the vining and ditson as open spaces that can be used for residents, we should not have anymore multi-purpose uses or apartments being built.
Improving the usability of the Old Ditson field. I think a walking path with benches and a refresher of the playground area would be a value add to the neighborhood
The Nutting Lake Beach (launch point) has been damaged by heavy rains. I would like to see the "road" smoothed out and maybe repair or replace the picnic table there. My children and I enjoy walking there.
The town needs to invest time and money to help support parents with afterschool programs for kids - extended day programs like fun clubs. Not enough spaces available for families
Bike and walking path
Public pool would be great. Indoor and outdoor. Central location. One that offers lessons and free swim.
The town center renovation is a great project and I can't wait to see it complete.
I think the rec dept needs a new building STAT
Indoor recreation center
Better fields
public swimming pools
playgrounds
I think a facility that people could rent for events and the town could offer would be a nice addition
Non-native invasive species of plants in public areas should probably be addressed. This past year I also noticed a significant increase in poison ivy in Billerica State Park and Warren Manning State Park.
I am part of a few state/community groups that help with invasive plant removal in the Concord and Shawsheen waterways. I would LOVE to see and help develop a Billerica group that identifies and organizes removal of aquatic and land invasive plants. I do this in my own yard. There is a big group of people who do this in Billerica and have learned how to properly do this. This has profound results. I am so happy the town hired an arborist to identify invasive/damaged trees and such for the new center project!! This is amazing.
The Town should build the new recreation building and focus on improving bicycle and pedestrian access to open space and recreation opportunities.
Playgrounds
I think it would be nice to allocate funds for a nice aquatics facility for swim teams and maybe update the ice rink. The kids come first!
Indoor recreation space with basketball courts. Basketball is such a huge program in Billerica and there is lack of space in the schools.

Have a bigger and more updated building for the recreational department.
I think the town should focus mostly on what they currently have. Improvements at the school fields and the hockey rink would be huge. Maintain what we currently have and then maybe add down the road.
I have no thoughts on direction (though I support getting rid of Faulkner Mill Dam to make way for fish migration, and that would make a lovely riverside park once the millpond is drained).
Bike trail
Vining school should be a multi sport complex with rest rooms and snack facility. Locke and Marshall fields need bathroom facilities.
More side walks, more cheap activities for kids, making the community safer
Finish the bike path and improve the rec center
Adding a bike trail and more access to public pools.
I would like to see a connection to the bike path in Billerica. I would like to see improvements at Nutting Lake. I would also love to see improvements at the Skate Park where for years it has been talking about improving it. Instead of always improving things for popular groups of kids (field for sports) - improving activities for more alternative crowds (skate boarding) would be a positive thing for the town.
Add on to the disc golf course
Bike path needs priority, and Bay Circuit Trail.
Adding shade to the playgrounds would allow them to be used more in the warmer months. Adding ways to access the centers of Billerica or North Billerica and the recreation amenities therein by foot or bike safely
More paved off street bike and walking paths
There seems to be a lot of focus on athletic spaces (new fields at BHMS, PHR Revamp) would love to see more of focus on natural/conservation spaces, non-motorized boat launch, bike path, etc.
Better advertising
#1 priority: get a new rec facility!!! The dept provides great programs but their facility is pathetic. Imagine what they could do with the right physical facility and improved outdoor facilities!!!!
Finish the bike path.
CAN THE BOAT RAMP - it's not a priority and I'm tired of hearing about it.
Consider a pool - there's unfulfilled demand at the boys club and the tech...we need another option.
Our family often goes to Friendship park in Chelmsford. We go there because the layout of the park meets the needs of our kids. The activities are nuanced but still safe and the park is far enough removed from traffic. Additionally, there is open space if the kids want to throw the ball around or play soccer. It also helps that there is a local business nearby so as a family we can sit down and have a small bite before going home. The parks I visit often in Billerica just do not have the same feel.
Pool and splash pads not in the woods
Bike and walking path
Offering summer camps to residents FIRST. They filled up too quickly this year (under 15 minutes.
Indoor pool and event spaces
I would like a hockey rink that is open to the public, and more paved walking trails
Bike path completion
Swimming pool
Fixing the Common park
Improve existing play spaces for kids and have a nice pool/splash pad for the summer
Whatever will prevent the slowing of more condos being built. I'd rather see local shops. North billerica has no good facilities or recreational spaces. Playgrounds are okay but no good programs for adults.
More low income programs for toddler aged kids
Biking paths, more walking trails and walk accessible roads
Add robotics and engineering shops. The high school has little to no support for any advanced students. STEM is highly important for new residents, most of my neighbors are engineers. Please help.
Improving roads and side walks
Add more toddler programs and afternoon timings
Just bringing the bike path into Billerica. If you could put sidewalks on Andover Rd. that would be very helpful! More swim lessons would also help - they fill up too quickly for many to access them. Overall I think Billerica is doing well with outdoor activities though!
STEM programs have very limited resources

What are the most important open space or recreation actions the Town should take in the next 5 years?

Walking and biking path
More for young kids. Family driven
basketball courts, football fields, arcade fun stuff
Finishing the bike path and then investing in an indoor workout and training facility.
Another ice rink. Lighting more fields.
Playgrounds with sun coverage and turf to support play after heavy rain (current playgrounds become too muddy for play)
New to the town so still getting an understanding of how things are run. I've noticed a lot of parents asking about swim lessons or ISR lessons for kids. As a parent it would be nice to have classes that promote safety and skills, like swim lessons, more available and accessible.
Playground, splash pad need serious rehab. Trails severely overgrown. Mainly Maintenance and upkeep lacking. Would love something similar to Simonds park Burlington
Recreational center needs to be updated.
redo the canal system so it is passable for canoes?
The new town common will be an area for people to walk and have fun
It's always a good idea to secure conservation lands if possible. Beyond that, I think any activity that improves the environment, supports native species, and alleviates the effects of global warming is important.
Yaanke Doodle Bike Path and repairing the narrow gauge. It has a bunch of sand traps and i am forced to take concord road which is dangerous with drivers pulling 45 MPH a foot away from me.
Repossess Griggs Farm, do something like they have in Lincoln at Codman farms
Indoor swimming
Playgrounds, outdoor basketball hoops and other things, water play for kids
The hallenbourg DEFINITELY needs help
Building a community rec center. Adding sidewalks so people can walk/run safely around town. Turn the lock pits into a great sports complex. Soccer fields, new baseball/softball fields. Be able to host more sport tournaments and make a name for Billerica in sports again
Create the Bike Path.
We need events for teens
Maintain and upkeep playgrounds and parks so families & kids can play safely and have welcoming places to meet and picnic and gather in the beautiful outdoors
We need to get more business centric and attract more restaurants, clubs, mall etc.
Water facility needs attention
safer biking trails for commuting without having to ride on our bike death-trap roads.
Remove poison ivy from Kids Konnection
Bike trail, walking trails, boat launch site
More recreational spaces and no new houses
Top priority for Recreation planning should be building a real recreation center for kids and families to have a place for more programs.
Billerica desperately needs an indoor athletic recreation building. There are hardly any adult fitness programs offered, and I'm assuming it may be because a lack of space and/or equipment for these programs. I have come to realize that there are not many affordable fitness programs/facilities for parents with youth children in the immediate area. If the town could add adult programs occurring during youth programs in the same facility, it could make health and fitness more accessible for part of our population here. Adding a new, or revamping a current facility that can house these programs would be greatly beneficial for the community.
In addition Kids Konnection is an amazing playground, but something has to be done about the water saturation in the area. A new playground at the old ditson location would also be amazing for the children/families in the Pinehurst area. We live in Pinehurst, and usually go to burlington playgrounds instead.
Need a new rec center
More programs for kids
Would like to see outdoor swimming pool and outdoor ice skating rink (larger than the existing rink)
Expanding summer programs for kids, making more spots available.
Finish the bike trail
We love so many of the recreation department activities and classes, but their space is currently inadequate for the size of this town. A new recreation department is greatly needed in this town!

The hallenborg needs to be redone and I'd like to see an indoor facility for athletics so we do t have to go to other towns to use their facilities
indoor sports complex
Need more space for youth activities. Especially cheerleading.
Billerica recreation does so much! Renovate the building and offer more especially for young children!! I would love yo see yoga and Pilates or a space for teenagers THat is safe.
VVP playground needs updating. Lots of poison ivy covering our towns hiking trails.
Better access to town pool
Recreation Center
I think that maintenance of fields is important to making them more appealing for outdoor activities. For example, the field in front of the rec department is more weeds than grass and covered in goose feces. I wasn't thrilled having my kids take part in activities that were held there.
Aquatic center
Added hockey rink and update to existing rink. Aquatic center
Sports programs and swim lessons for special needs children.
Don't sell town land to developers
Walking areas in North Billerica
Walking/biking trails and a new splash pad. Not in the woods.
Ensuring Cider Mill Land is protected as conservation land
More space for teens or fun activities
Improving hiking trails, making bike path, having more picnic areas
Having lights put in on fields where practices are held would be a top priority for me where my kids play soccer and it gets dark before practice is over after daylight savings.
Continuous sidewalks on 3A end-to-end. Removing the double telephone poles everywhere in town so it's easier to use sidewalks and visually improved. Getting rid of Japanese knotweed and other horrible invasives. As far as a new program/recreation, how about indoor pickleball courts.
POOL! 5AM-Late night Need to cater to all!
Do something athletic wise with the old Vining. Get a good bike/walking path.
We need an indoor facility for sports like basketball/lacrosse/soccer. We are such a sports oriented down yet land like the old peanut factory on Cook Street went to a storage facility or building apartments instead of something like this.
Would like a some bike and walking trails.
An indoor sports facility would be amazing in this town. Especially since Billerica is so sport oriented and have to go to other towns to use indoor facilities
Keep the center as is
A playground to include equipment for children with disabilities.
Swimming pools
Increase outdoor recreation for teens
A sports complex of baseball, soccer, lacrosse fields all together
Public swimming pool
Creating a public pool preferably in the space where the old Diston was. Make it only available to Billerica residents/if they're w/ Billerica residents. Include restrooms/changing rooms. FUN FUN FUN
Create a town aquatics facility. An outdoor pool for summertime activities, that could have a bubble over it for the winter. Can provide swim lessons, Sr aquatics, lap swim, multiple swim teams, Lifeguard instruction. Options and revenue are endless.
We need additional parking for baseball at vining fields
Improve parking at the old Ditson consider a permanent toilet facilities structure and expanded playground to help make the farmers market and other town needs more accessible on the space
It would be great to have better use and access to the Shawsheen River, possibly a trail along the River and outdoor space development of the Old Ditson school possibly having it as a connecting/access point for bike/ walking trails (down to shawsheen river or up to nutting lake & connect with bike path)

What are the most important open space or recreation actions the Town should take in the next 5 years?

Indoor sports complex similar to the Bedford Edge or Tyngsboro sports complex. This would generate revenue for the town and prevent Billerica youth sports from having to rent space in other towns. We robust youth sports here in this town and our kids deserve a space like this close to home.
bike trail
Making sure we have enough shade and water management in all of our spaces
Having an outdoor public pool would be amazing!
Rent space for adults to play sports (i.e. soccer)
Not sure...but maybe put more effort into maintaining easements...ensuring proper draining
Somehow advertise options more.
Lighting at VVP, Akesson. Turf at Marshall Middle. Acquire High Street Property. Indoor turf facility.
More playgrounds , swimming pools
Train track walking path.
perhaps get some actual parking on treble cove rd to access town forest trails
An aquatic facility would be amazing!
Disc golf and maybe ping pong or pickleball
Should have more side walks in some busy roads like Andover rd and Salem rd.
Clear parking and trail head locations. Good access boat kayak and canoe launches
Recreation group activities
Prioritize girls sport fields.
To increase recreation offerings!
Town should acquire an indoor sporting area. Most other towns have indoor facilities. Our schools are older and gyms are run down. Also, most surrounding towns have a town pool or wading areas. The splash pad is in the woods and not easily accessible. It is used by camps often as well so not able to be used by public.
More indoor playgrounds and renovation of the library
Winnings Pond clean up
Parking lot for veterans park
Off-road bike space for kids and just overall outdoor space that's in nature but open too (with a paved path around the outside) like Nara Park in Acton or the new(er) park on 62 in Burlington.
Planting trees. Preserving natural outdoor space.
We would love to see parking options for many of the open spaces listed. We would also love to have clearly marked Kayak/canoe launches. The recreation department does not appear to be maintained well. Hoping to see the ice rink again this year though! Thank you.
-Bike-friendly roads throughout the town.
-Fund proposals that utilize the space in a public manner (competitions, education, themed festivals)
Fix the town center it's horrible and could be utilized so much better! Add more public playgrounds, common areas to eat in the center, and create safe walking/bike trails. There is nothing to do in Billerica. Everyone has to go outside of town to enjoy outdoor activities and outdoor dining.
Increased space for rec center
I would like to see an updated and larger indoor recreation space available for public use.
Make high school track more accessible. Work on bike trails to connect with Minuteman path and pave it
Adaptive programs for kids. I only see them offered for adults. For example my son has autism and it's hard for him to participate in the activities offered without any accommodations. Smaller groups, special classes, support staff or allowing parents to participate with kids who need help. Same for summer camp.
Update playgrounds
more lights for the kids sports field
Let people know what we already have.
More stroller friendly walking paths. Improved playgrounds.
Adding/completing major bike trails.
Invest in the beautification of the town. Billerica is up and coming and has ample time to create a safe, enjoyable outdoor space for moving about and enjoying nature.
A new outdoor pool with splash adjacent to it.
Fields to play

Better splash pad that is not in the woods were you get eaten alive.
Better playgrounds
Boat launch and docks for fishing would be my number 1 fix.
Public swimming pools/ kid splash pads
pickleball
Paved trails near river
Update existing facilities and playgrounds. They could purchase a space to create a useable rec center for older kids to use
We need to have a functioning indoor pool as well as additional indoor playing spaces.
Aquatics facilities. Currently only real option is the Boys and Girls club.
Kid connection playground
Bike trail
Maintenance
A large indoor recreation space would be great at the Vining, where there are already outdoor fields and a playground.
Please acquire the giant parcel of land on High St that abutts Hajjar and leave it undeveloped. I understand it's an undesirable location due to having a lot of wetlands so it just sits on the market - but at some point someone with enough resources might want to turn it into a Walmart.
More walking options.
Continue to improve/expand existing open/recreation spaces and make them accessible.
Bike paths and sidewalks to get there.
Need more indoor recreation space
Sidewalks
I'd say regardless of dam removal keeping the area preserved. Or maybe adding some trails around the area maybe a foot bridge
Adding sidewalks to major roadways lacking them. Being able to walk with children for a short amount of time safely in certain areas of town is a need not met (e.g Pollard Street - 7-11/Wendys to Call Street)
Many of the existing areas I do know about have space for community gardens and pollinator plantings, also butterfly/Monarch friendly bushes. The lack of any community gardens is unacceptable.
Should create a mix of recreation and conservation on all and any land gifted to the town.
Prioritizing open space usage for all
Invasive species removal,
Indoor fitness center
More safe walking trails
More awareness of options and some more work / adult friendly classes
Build an indoor rec facility for indoor athletics like basketball or winter lacrosse, cheer, baseball etc.
Don't clear cut any woods to build new developments
Don't build on Cider Mill, Old Ditson or the Vinning or The Cabot Land.
Paved walking paths near lakes , swimming pool
Built something like the Woburn Village - this definitely will attract any age group to hang out in
Boating
Build a brand-new Recreation center and sports building
Safeguard the future of Talbot Dam.
kids are grown so it is less priority now
It would be helpful to have sports opportunities for children of various levels/abilities who want to learn and play a sport for fun, rather than for competition. Our family's experience of youth sports through the Rec Dept is that they are more competition- and advancement-based rather than fun-based.
Maintain and improve areas we have. Keep open green spaces undeveloped
We need more space for seniors
Even with the number of swim lesson programs available locally, it's been hard to enroll my son because they fill up so quickly. If Billerica Rec could offer additional swim programs it would benefit lots of kids in the community, esp if there is income-based assistance available. Aside from being important for safety, learning how to swim gives kids more options for recreation/play/exercise.

What are the most important open space or recreation actions the Town should take in the next 5 years?

would love low cost option for swimming
Anything mentioned above!
Provide connector bike trails to allow safer travel. e.g. Clear a bike lane on Wyman St to Middlesex Turnpike. And cut a short path from Manning Road to Orchard Rd to open the upcoming Yankee Doodle path to other neighborhoods.
adult friendly indoor areas (pool, volleyball and basketball courts)
I would like to get involved in trail maintenance. I'd like to be part of a hiking / maintenance group that can schedule via a team-reach app.
Have another hiking group with shorter hikes for people unable to do the long hikes
More peaceful trails.
Do not develop the land where the old Dotson School was located.
Additional tennis/pickleball courts to meet demand
Improved playgrounds and expanded walking paths in North Billerica
Park and recreation facility at Old DITSON area.
Clean and maintain what we have. Lighting, landscape, signage, trash
Fixing town square to help flow of traffic. Also expanding open space as much as we can
VVP offers many activity options
Teen rec center, give the kids somewhere to hang out rather than parking lots.
preserve land for conservation. recreation, hiking.
Complete the Disc Golf course.
Preservation of native plants and wildlife and ensuring natural spaces remain trash free. Besides that, I think improving access to bike paths and sidewalks.
I think they should purchase the old Ditson school land make a better park and keep using it for the farmers market
Handicap accessibility to programs
Need to keep the open space in pinehurst open!
I think if there was one thing, I would do a big project in sidewalks and bike paths and make the old Ditson field a nice community center, with the farmers market still able to be there, and with restrooms, accessibility, safety, activities :)))
Expand veitnam veterans disc golf course to 18 holes
The Hallenborg needs to be a priority. With the number of children playing hockey, we need a first class hockey facility suited for the 21st century.
Clean up and improve playgrounds. Get kids riding their bikes on safe biking paths instead of busy streets.,
To me the most important thing is what I stated in question 12: The Vietnam Veterans Park disc golf course needs another 9 holes to make it a full 18, and it needs some longer/advanced teepads on a few of the shorter front 9 holes to make it more fun and challenging for intermediate and experienced players. It would also be awesome to add an additional 9 or 18 hole disc golf course on another existing Billerica land parcel that isn't already heavily used for other activities.
Protecting the old Ditson site for residents to enjoy. I would like to see an outdoor pavilion so people can meet up there. Maybe update the basketball court there and playground.
Old Ditson should be used as playground, there are lots of children in that area.
250 Boston road really needs repairs and expansion.
More walking paths, sidewalks. Make the town more walkable. Connect to one of the bike paths
Shade the playgrounds
Preserve open space in densely populated areas so all of us have a good quality of life not just the rolling green lawn crew
We need to stop allowing builders to encroach so closely to our waters edges. That monstrosity on Middlesex turnpike is so close to the pond beside it that used to house otters and cranes. Not for long once the residents there encroach on their habitat- really shameful allowing that
The old Ditson school.
Stop building. Leave nature alone
Indoor office and program space.
Indoor pickle ball, yoga, pilates, swimming exercises.

Cut down weeds and invasive bushes and vines around Winning pond so we can view the pond, not just at the fishing access.
We need indoor recreation space. Please build a community center for more rec programs and sports.
Hire professional arborist to address Town's apparent arbitrary removal of trees, especially the few remaining old growth.
Designate the old Ditson land as a permanent park. Put a better, accessible playground on it. Put a walking path (stone dust) with benches there. Do this in such a way that the farmers market can still use it.
Stop letting people subdivide properties and allowing people to build on lots that are smaller than the town rules allow
Publicity & regular maintenance.
Mountain biking and hiking trails
Invasive species, more land conserved
Bike path
As mentioned earlier, Astronomy club, Model RR club.
Pave the roads if you want Billerica to be a progressive citizen forward town then pave the miles of dirt roads.
Acquire more open space.
Bike path please
Trail expansion in Billerica state forest would be great
More mountain bike trails
More teen friendly spaces
Need a home for the recreation department
not sure
Narrow Gauge Rail Trail, please fix.
Increase recreation space.
Continue to build multi-use trails, people are using them. Maintain old trails and if a trail is too damaged reroute it.
Expand disc golf course
I really wish I could put my motorized boat in the water in Billerica, but I'm not aware of anywhere that I can. Public outreach and maintaining the spaces we have are my biggest items to address.
More public use of open space
More disc golf
disc golf leagues, night time glow leagues
keeping the DPW yard for the town of Billerica use.
Remove mercury from the Concord River and the invasive species that are damaging native keystones. Our focus should be on building a resilient ecosystem
My personal top two, expansion of sidewalks/bike paths including connecting Billerica to Narrow Gauge extension in Bedford. Secondly, I would love to have an option to swim laps in Billerica instead of having to drive to the YMCA in Lowell.
The recreation center is in dire need of updating, there is so much more the town can be offering with a larger more updated facility.
boat ramp connect to bike trails
Ditson school land should be kept as some open space with playground
Water lol I will literally repeat myself forever lol haha
Swimming pool
Acquire land for recreation and conservation
Stop building
Land beyond Parket Street, any land along waterways to increase recreational access and create paved and unpaved walking trails and paths. St. Mary's Property. Pinehurst would benefit from more recreational space. Water access to Shawsheeb Rivet at the end of Sheridan Street in Pinehurst

What are the most important open space or recreation actions the Town should take in the next 5 years?

Improved stormwater regulations and infrastructure to protect our recreational water resources. A tree planting program to restore Billerica's tree canopy in our most needed areas. Completion of the Bay Circuit Trail in conjunction with the bike path. Begin discussions about acquiring large parcels for protection/restoration and designating portions for affordable housing. Examples include Billerica Country Club and Minute Man Sportsman's Club. Acquire land directly abutting or in close proximity to water resources as they enter the real estate market, similar to the Carter Avenue purchase. Examples include Nuttings Lake and Winning Pond waterfront properties. Strategically acquire parcels, small or large, that directly abut already protected town, state, and federal lands. Permanently protect the Cabot and Cider Mill Lands. Billerica Center has the unique and fortunate quality of being surrounded by two forests to the east and west, totaling close to 85 acres. Protection will meet the goals of the Town's Master Plan for conservation and alternate forms of transportation via Bay Circuit Trail, and may promote flood resilience, carbon sequestration, habitat preservation, protection of Billerica's drinking water, and other climate mitigation measures.
We need a tree corps of youth planting trees to restore our carbon offsets. We need more community gardens and a permaculture food forest. And we need to finish the Bay Circuit Trail through town, it's kind of embarrassing that it has taken this long.
Safer playgrounds
Limit development and condos
More programs for kids after school or on weekends to make it easier for working parents.
Whatever projects, just make sure they are physically accessible to EVERYONE
Right of way for fishing along the Concord river. Like new project at corner of Bridge street and Boston road
Paved, well-lit paved walking options would be nice
There should be some outreach done to residents to let them know what Billerica has to offer. Have more updated website info and a booth at the farmers market. Maybe a stamp program to get people to visit all the parks and rec areas.
I would like to see a nice bike path or more hiking trails. We go to neighboring communities frequently for outdoor walking, hiking
A town swimming facility - with indoor and outdoor opportunities. Nature-based programming for children of all ages and abilities - adults too! Bike path - finish it, period. Partner with a vendor to provide paddle board, kayak rentals, etc. Build a new rec dept facility - the existing one is an embarrassment (my family participant in many rec dept programs!!!). Offer fitness classes - indoor and outdoor. Expand (and support!) the community garden. Make all playgrounds accessible.
Preserving open space in a way that doesn't harm the people who live near it. Typically when you install a new park you add parking and lights ... Lights that spread to all the properties around it. So now all those people can't look for fireflies in their yard, can't look at the stars, can't enjoy a s'mores party. And this is just because they were foolish enough to buy a home near a place that you wanted to "improve" - and you ignored what it does to the neighbors.
Please acquire the Irish American Club land, and add on to the Vining baseball fields with more outdoor (and indoor if needed) sporting activities, as well as nurturing the wetlands on this property).
Secure a company which provides outdoor education to the youth of the community, both weekdays and on weekends.
I'd love to see more land and tree preservation along with more non-athletic recreation activities. We do need a new rec center and like I said before, we need more programs and spaces for adults.
Stop building apartments, we have more than enough already and for gods sakes lower the water rates, it is disgusting.
Improving the Middle school areas for higher engagement
Better access to Rivers more places to put in kayaks and canoes better maintained access points
Build a new larger recreation department facility so they can host more indoor programs throughout the year including expanded summer camp offerings. 2nd goal - complete the dang bike path
The vacant buildings by Milanos look terrible, the town should purchase to improve the appear of town as people are driving in from 129. It's embarrassing. It's also horrendous that we have recreation programs for toddlers run on the grassy area in front of the rec so close to the street. We don't sign up for outdoor programs if they're being held there anymore. We need a much better recreation facility to hold our programs at.
As I said before, the bike path to be finished and the old Ditson playground to be updated/revamped.

Many of the non-school playgrounds could use some updates. Increasing access, maintenance and knowledge/documentation of hiking and biking trails so people can find out what is available and where and have parking access. Finish the bike path!!
Completing Bay Circuit Trail and Yankee Doodle Bike Path
Bike path completion is vital. If ONLY the Billerica part of the Narrow Gauge could be completed I would be so pleased. To TRY to bike that section with the ruts, roots, rocks, and SAND is SO dangerous. Thank you.
Continue to update and repair existing facilities. Would love to see an additional community pool.
Accessibility should be high on the list. Wheelchairs, people with strollers, etc
I suggest the town consider making a bike trail behind Bicknell Rd. under the power lines.
Better programs for teens
I would love the ability to have more types of classes that you can register in advance for but also be able to show up day of. Exercise programs like yoga come to mind. I also think it's important to have these events or classes at times that are also friendly to people who work during the weekday.
Bike path completion and tie-in to other trails. Improve quality of existing trails system.
I would LOVE to see more recreation activities that aren't sports related. Arts, painting, watercolor, drawing, paint nights, etc. Recreation to me means more than sports and it's VERY hard to find any programs other than sports/fitness in town
Up grade skatepark
New facility! Instructors and residents deserve it. See Burlington for reference.
Increase capacity for events with the rec dept so more people can participate. Relocate the events to nicer/more nature filled locations not right on the main road.
Get everyone to work together...the town and school should not draw lines in the sand...the parks & trees department needs to do a better job with the passive recreation land maintenance & upgrades and schedule work with the Recreation Department not leave them out of the process...
Our kids take many classes through the recreation department but the facility is in poor shape and too small. Please give families a better place for indoor activities.
Focus on maintenance and repairs of the properties already owned and develop programs that promote social/emotional health and wellness and work life balance.
The recreation department is very sad looking and has very limited activity options. Would love a YMCA or something like that.
Use what we have better
New rec center, indoor space for elementary/middle school kids
Bike path or hiking/running trail. And sidewalks.
More Disc Golf!
Community hall, theater, rec center in the old Vining lot
Nothing. Our taxes are pushing us out. You are over building and have no plan to help taxpayers keep their homes.
We really need places and activities for teens. They have nowhere to hang out or be together
We take a lot of programs through the town Recreation office but their building is horrible. Need to prioritize a real recreation center.
Building a community center building should be the highest priority.
Outdoor town pool
Protecting open space and the nature in it
Maybe there should be some sort of newsletter sent out to the town every so often detailing what's available? This seems especially relevant if there's going to be new additions made or new things built.
Unfortunately since I am ignorant of what's available now, it's hard for me to provide useful feedback.
I've lived in Billerica for my entire life, and now that there's no town paper, I don't know how to get information about what's going on in town. Going to the town website on my phone I can't quickly figure out where any of these locations are. Googling Billerica Recreation takes me to a website where I have to make an account to learn anything.
non-applicable

What are the most important open space or recreation actions the Town should take in the next 5 years?

Would love for the Recreation Center on Boston Road to be updated— ideally with a pool and indoor (and/outdoor) gym/athletic options. From the street, I would not think to go there for anything as it looks almost abandoned.
Improving parking and access to trails
Education and advertisement of what is existing. Other than the athletic fields, almost all of the places listed in question 5 I have never heard of. I'm 25, I have lived in Billerica my whole life, and consistently my friends and I have said "there is nothing to do in town", but we weren't even aware of all those places to go explore. Maybe there could be a program for high schoolers to learn about the town, something like a career fair but it's a Billerica fair
i would like to see a place for an outdoor/indoor farmers market. More attention to sustaining our farming land develop a community farm similiar to Lexington Farms
To many to list here
trails maps are confusing, no outdoor picnic pavilions in quite areas, splash pad thats not in the woods
Create a common like feel for the old Ditson property. Rebuild the mini ball park, plant trees, dig a pond with fountain lights, walking paths.
I'd like to see more preservation of open space and trees. I'd like to see open space zoning and a tree bylaw. I'd also love to see more native plants used in local landscaping and more focus on protecting pollinators. I'd love to see more nature programs and awareness for all ages. I'd also like to see more programs aimed at adults. I think the Old Ditson School site should be turned into a park and playground and should be renamed for longtime Ditson principal Bill Downing.
Once the new DPW is completed, convert the old DPW area by the Concord River into conservation land with a nature education center and onsite parking. Costs can be shared by Parks and Recreation and Schools.
more boat use in the 2 rivers we have. Hikes we need to do more of them and get more residents involved
1. Identify neighborhoods that dont have playgrounds within safe walking distance. Then identify townowned lots in those areas and earmark them for parks/playgrounds. Then get the funding and build the parks!
2. Also, adopt tree protection bylaw for residents and landscape maintenance requirements for businesses.
Acquisition of land and accessibility
Preserve land from development
Old ditson park, make it like wildwood park in Burlington. That section of town is always left out and needs open space. Turn dpw suite to a boat launch, pavillion area and park
The health of our rivers and tributaries is very important. Enforcement of waterway protection zones.
Actively manage forests
Increase conservation land!
Mapping, signage.

Appendix C: Inventory of Lands of Conservation and Recreation Interest

Ownership	Protection	Site Name	Owner/Manager	Map Par ID	Address	Acreage	Zoning	Current Use	Condition	Recreation Potential	Access	Deed Restriction	Public Grant
Federal	P	Kennelly Farm	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	66-4-1-2	30-REAR WEST ST	52.62	VR, RR	AGRICULTURE	GOOD	PASSIVE	PUBLIC		
Federal	P	Great Meadows NWR	USA FISH + WILDLIFE SERVICE	101-4-2	REAR DUDLEY RD	5	RR	TRAILS	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		
Federal	P	Great Meadows NWR	USA FISH + WILDLIFE SERVICE	101-5-4	REAR DUDLEY RD	2.2	RR	TRAILS	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		
Federal	P	Great Meadows NWR	USA FISH + WILDLIFE SERVICE	101-5-6	REAR DUDLEY RD	1	RR	TRAILS	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		
Federal	P	Great Meadows NWR	USA FISH + WILDLIFE SERVICE	85-261-1	NASHUA RD	15.44	RR	TRAILS	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		
Federal	P	Great Meadows NWR	USA FISH + WILDLIFE SERVICE	93-45-1	NASHUA RD	16.1	RR	TRAILS	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		
Federal	P	Great Meadows NWR	USA FISH + WILDLIFE SERVICE	93-47-2	REAR DUDLEY RD	17.9	RR	TRAILS	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		
Federal	P	Great Meadows NWR	USA FISH + WILDLIFE SERVICE	93-54-0	REAR DUDLEY RD	8.5	RR	TRAILS	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		
Non-profit	N	Boys and Girls Club of Greater Billerica	BOYS CLUB OF BILLERICA	69-127-0	CAMPBELL RD	0.69	NR	REC	GOOD	YES	PRIVATE - PUBLIC OK		
Non-profit	N	Boys and Girls Club of Greater Billerica	BOYS CLUB OF BILLERICA	69-128-0	CHARLES TR	0.94	NR	REC	GOOD	YES	PRIVATE - PUBLIC OK		
Non-profit	N	Boys and Girls Club of Greater Billerica	BOYS CLUB OF BILLERICA	69-74-0	CHARLES TR	0.47	NR	REC	GOOD	YES	PRIVATE - PUBLIC OK		
Non-profit	N	Boys and Girls Club of Greater Billerica	BOYS CLUB OF BILLERICA	69-75-0	CHARLES TR	0.57	NR	REC	GOOD	YES	PRIVATE - PUBLIC OK		
Non-profit	N	Middlesex Canal Association	MIDDLESEX CANAL	35-263-0	DIGNON RD	0.3	VR	HISTORIC	GOOD	YES	PRIVATE - PUBLIC OK		
Non-profit	N	Middlesex Canal Association	MIDDLESEX CANAL	35-264-2	DIGNON RD	2	VR	HISTORIC	GOOD	YES	PRIVATE - PUBLIC OK		
Non-profit	N	Middlesex Canal Association	MIDDLESEX CANAL ASSOC INC	10-234-0	ROGERS ST	0.94	NR	HISTORIC	GOOD	TRAILS	LIMITED		
Non-profit	N	Middlesex Canal Association	MIDDLESEX CANAL ASSOC INC	34-8-3	REAR SALEM RD	2.53	RR	HISTORIC	GOOD	TRAILS	PRIVATE - PUBLIC OK		
Non-profit	N	Middlesex Canal Association	MIDDLESEX CANAL ASSOC INC	15-26-0	WILSON ST	1.79	VR	HISTORIC	GOOD	TRAILS	NONE		
Non-profit	N	Middlesex Canal Association	MIDDLESEX CANAL ASSOC INC	25-57-3	REAR SALEM RD	9.1	VR	HISTORIC	GOOD	YES	PRIVATE - PUBLIC OK		
Non-profit	N	Middlesex Canal Association	MIDDLESEX CANAL ASSOCIATION	9-256-0	LOWELL ST	1.38	RR	HISTORIC	GOOD	YES	PRIVATE - PUBLIC OK		
Non-profit	P	Middlesex Canal Association	MIDDLESEX CANAL ASSOC INC	15-27-0	REAR CALL ST	3.36	NR	HISTORIC	GOOD	TRAILS	NONE	CR	
Non-profit	P	Ralph Hill Homestead	SUDBURY VALLEY TRUSTEES INC	68-3-0	RIVERHURST RD	28	I, VR	CONS	GOOD	PASSIVE	PUBLIC		
Non-profit	P	Ralph Hill Wood Lot 2	SUDBURY VALLEY TRUSTEES INC	67-188-	REAR REXHAME ST	3.27	RR	CONS	GOOD	PASSIVE/RIVER ACCESS	PUBLIC		
Non-profit	P	Ralph Hill Woodlot 1	SUDBURY VALLEY TRUSTEES INC	68-14-0	REAR CONCORD RD	31.08	RR	CONS	GOOD	PASSIVE	PUBLIC		
Non-profit	P	Jug Island	SUDBURY VALLEY TRUSTEES INC	76-35-0	REAR PELHAM ST	1.25	RR	CONS	GOOD	PASSIVE	PUBLIC		
Non-profit	P	Riverhurst Road Conservation Land	SUDBURY VALLEY TRUSTEES INC	77-155-2	RIVERHURST RD	0.31	RR	CONS	GOOD	PASSIVE	PUBLIC		
Non-profit	P	Om Temple Land	VISHWA HINDO PARISHAD OF AMERICA	22-19-0	240 BOSTON RD	10.8	I	RELIGIOUS	GOOD	PASSIVE	PRIVATE	CR	
Private	Chapter 61	Rear Nashua Road Land	MACDONALD DONALD F	46-3-0	REAR NASHUA RD	15.17	RR	FORESTRY	GOOD	POSSIBLE	PRIVATE		
Private	Chapter 61	Woburn Sportsman Land	WOBURN SPORTSMANS ASSOC INC	105-3-1	SHAWSHEEN RD	4.5	I	REC/ FORESTRY	GOOD	YES	PRIVATE - PUBLIC OK		
Private	Chapter 61	Woburn Sportsman Land	WOBURN SPORTSMANS ASSOC., INC.	104-13-1	ALBION RD	3	I	REC/ FORESTRY	GOOD	YES	PRIVATE - PUBLIC OK		
Private	Chapter 61	Woburn Sportsman Land	WOBURN SPORTSMANS ASSOC., INC.	104-7-0	ALBION RD	2.12	I	REC/FORESTRY	GOOD	YES	PRIVATE - PUBLIC OK		
Private	Chapter 61	Woburn Sportsman Land	WOBURN SPORTSMANS ASSOC., INC.	105-2-1	ALBION RD	20.38	I	REC/ FORESTRY	GOOD	YES	PRIVATE - PUBLIC OK		
Private	Chapter 61	Woburn Sportsman Land	WOBURN SPORTSMANS ASSOC., INC.	104-6-6	ALBION RD	8.84	RR	REC/FORESTRY	GOOD	YES	PRIVATE - PUBLIC OK		
Private	Chapter 61A	Dudley Road Land	CARD ANDREW T JR	101-1-3	100 DUDLEY RD	27.9	RR	AGRICULTURE	GOOD	POSSIBLE	PRIVATE		
Private	Chapter 61A	Dudley Road Land	CARD ANDREW T., JR.	101-7-2	DUDLEY RD	1.15	RR	AGRICULTURE	GOOD	POSSIBLE	PRIVATE		
Private	Chapter 61A	Dudley Road Land	CARD ANDREW T., JR.	101-7-3	DUDLEY RD	1.15	RR	AGRICULTURE	GOOD	POSSIBLE	PRIVATE		
Private	Chapter 61A	Nashua Road Land	CARD ANDREW T.,JR.	94-2-6	NASHUA RD	5.82	RR	AGRICULTURE	GOOD	POSSIBLE	PRIVATE		

Ownership	Protection	Site Name	Owner/Manager	Map Par ID	Address	Acreage	Zoning	Current Use	Condition	Recreation Potential	Access	Deed Restriction	Public Grant
Private	Chapter 61A	Dudley Road Land	CARD CRYSTAL A	102-21-3	96-A DUDLEY RD	5.15	RR	AGRICULTURE	GOOD	POSSIBLE	PRIVATE		
Private	Chapter 61A	West St Land	CARILLI CHRISTINE	66-4-1-3	30 WEST ST	5.66	RR	AGRICULTURE	GOOD	POSSIBLE	PRIVATE		
Private	Chapter 61A	Lexington Road Land	CLERY MICHAEL C JR	79-296-2	LEXINGTON RD	53.27	GB, NR, VR	AGRICULTURE	GOOD	POSSIBLE	PRIVATE		
Private	Chapter 61A	Nashua Road Land	LANE THOMAS R	37-5-3	NASHUA RD	1.38	I	AGRICULTURE	GOOD	AGRICULTURE	PRIVATE		
Private	Chapter 61A	Cable St Land	MARCHANT ROBERT W.	94-13-1	CABLE ST	17	RR	AGRICULTURE	GOOD	POSSIBLE	PRIVATE		
Private	Chapter 61A	Lexington Road Land	OCONNOR MARY M	104-11-0	LEXINGTON RD	1	I, RR	AGRICULTURE	GOOD	POSSIBLE	PRIVATE		
Private	Chapter 61B	Billerica Rod + Gun Club Land	BILLERICA ROD + GUN CLUB INC	12-71-1	POND ST	2.18	RR	REC/CONS	GOOD	YES	PRIVATE - PUBLIC OK		
Private	Chapter 61B	Billerica Rod + Gun Club Land	BILLERICA ROD + GUN CLUB INC	12-80-0	DALTON ST	1.91	RR	REC/CONS	GOOD	YES	PRIVATE - PUBLIC OK		
Private	Chapter 61B	Billerica Rod + Gun Club Land	BILLERICA ROD + GUN CLUB INC	12-88-3	GOFFE ST	0.68	RR	REC/CONS	GOOD	YES	PRIVATE - PUBLIC OK		
Private	Chapter 61B	Billerica Rod + Gun Club Land	BILLERICA ROD + GUN CLUB INC	12-90-1	VERSHIRE ST	1.49	RR	REC/CONS	GOOD	YES	PRIVATE - PUBLIC OK		
Private	Chapter 61B	Billerica Rod + Gun Club Land	BILLERICA ROD + GUN CLUB INC	12-83-2	NORFOLK ST	2.07	RR, GB	REC/CONS	GOOD	YES	PRIVATE - PUBLIC OK		
Private	Chapter 61B	Billerica Rod + Gun Club Land	BILLERICA ROD + GUN CLUB INC	12-84-2	VERSHIRE ST	1.43	RR, GB	REC/CONS	GOOD	YES	PRIVATE - PUBLIC OK		
Private	Chapter 61B	Billerica Rod + Gun Club Land	BILLERICA ROD + GUN CLUB INC	17-29-0	POLARIS RD	0.6	RR, GB	REC/CONS	GOOD	YES	PRIVATE - PUBLIC OK		
Private	Chapter 61B	Country Club of Billerica Land	COUNTRY CLUB OF BILLERICA, INC	63-63-0	BALDWIN RD	15.5	RR	REC/CONS	GOOD	YES	PRIVATE - PUBLIC OK		
Private	L	Shady Hill Ave Conservation Land	BILLERICA 2011 LAND TRUST	87-264-0	REAR GLIDE CT	1.47	VR	CONS	GOOD	PASSIVE	PRIVATE		
Private	L	Shaloo Meadow Conservation Land	CRISAFULLI ELENA	81-100-1	MARSHBROOK RD	0.8	NR	CONS	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		
Private	L	McCarthy Conservation Land	MCCARTHY WILLIAM E	106-334-0	REAR WILDCREST AV	0.03	RR	CONS	GOOD	PASSIVE	PRIVATE		
Private	L	McCarthy Conservation Land	MCCARTHY WILLIAM E	106-202-1	HARNDEN RD	0.71	VR	CONS	GOOD	PASSIVE	PRIVATE		
Private	L	McCarthy Conservation Land	MCCARTHY WILLIAM E.	98-271-0	RIVERBANK TR	0.98	VR	CONS	GOOD	PASSIVE	PRIVATE		
Private	L	Pasho Conservation Land	PASHO GEORGE (ESTATE OF)	98-263-0	REAR SHAWSHEEN RD	3.5	RR, VR	CONS	GOOD	PASSIVE	PUBLIC		
Private	N	Swanson Meadows Golf Course	SWANSON MEADOWS GOLF COURSE INC	38-5-10	216-1/2 RANGEWAY RD	52.4	RR	RECREATION	GOOD	YES	PRIVATE		
Private	N	Joseph Carvalho Trust	BILLERICA 2011 LAND TRUST	82-26-0	MOSELEY ST	0.22	RR	CONS	FAIR	NO	PRIVATE		
Private	N	Joseph Carvalho Trust	BILLERICA 2011 LAND TRUST	106-324-1	WILDCREST AV	0.23	VR	CONS	FAIR	NO	PRIVATE		
Private	N	Joseph Carvalho Trust	BILLERICA 2011 LAND TRUST	79-222-0	BLACK ST	0.06	VR	CONS	FAIR	NO	PRIVATE		
Private	N	Joseph Carvalho Trust	BILLERICA 2011 LAND TRUST	87-200-0	REAR MASSACHUSETTS AV	0.14	VR	CONS	FAIR	NO	PRIVATE		
Private	N	Joseph Carvalho Trust	BILLERICA 2011 LAND TRUST	87-264-0	REAR GLIDE CT	1.47	VR	CONS	FAIR	NO	PRIVATE		
Private	N	Joseph Carvalho Trust	BILLERICA 2011 LAND TRUST	88-33-0	BURT RD	0.03	VR	CONS	FAIR	NO	PRIVATE		
Private	N	Joseph Carvalho Trust	BILLERICA 2011 LAND TRUST	95-132-0	MALLARD ST	0.06	VR	CONS	FAIR	NO	PRIVATE		
Private	N	Boys and Girls Club of Greater Billerica	BOYS CLUB OF BILLERICA	69-56-0	19 CAMPBELL RD	0.9	NR	REC	GOOD	YES	PRIVATE - PUBLIC OK		
Private	N	Country Club of Billerica Land	COUNTRY CLUB OF BILLERICA, INC	63-64-6	51 BALDWIN RD	98.08	RR	COUNTRY CLUB	GOOD	TRAILS, RECREATION	PRIVATE		
Private	N	Minuteman Sportsman Club	MINUTEMAN SPORTSMAN CLUB	108-2-0	56 REAR FRANCIS WYMAN RD	100.45	I	SHOOTING RANGE	GOOD	PASSIVE	PRIVATE		
Private	P	Carlisle Conservation Foundation	CARLISLE CONSERV FOUND INC	93-1-0	PAULINE RD	8.22	VR	CONS	GOOD	PASSIVE	PRIVATE		
Private	P	Timber Creek Trust Land	COPPINGER PETER M.ETAL TRS.	94-112-0	TIMBER CREEK LN	2.57	RR	CONS	GOOD	NO	LIMITED	CR	
Private	P	Timber Creek Trust Land	COPPINGER PETER M.ETAL TRS.	94-97-0	TIMBER CREEK LN	0.27	RR	CONS	GOOD	NO	LIMITED		
Private	P	Anjuman E-Ezzi	DAWAT-E-HADIYAH	47-74-0	246 RANGEWAY RD	19.91	RR	CHURCH	GOOD	CHURCH	PRIVATE	CR	
Private	P	Fox Hollow Estates	FOX HOLLOW HOMEOWNERS ASSOC	33-145-23	REAR STONEHEDGE CR	16.08	NR, RR	REC/CONS	GOOD	YES	PRIVATE	CR	
Private	P	Griggs Farm LP APR	GRIGGS FARM LTD PARTNERSHIP	80-6-1-6	BOSTON RD	5.87	GB, NR	AGRICULTURE	GOOD	AGRICULTURE	PRIVATE	APR	
Private	P	Griggs Farm LP APR	GRIGGS GILBERT W.	80-6-1-3	599 BOSTON RD	19.7	GB, NR	AGRICULTURE	GOOD	AGRICULTURE	PRIVATE	APR	

Ownership	Protection	Site Name	Owner/Manager	Map Par ID	Address	Acreage	Zoning	Current Use	Condition	Recreation Potential	Access	Deed Restriction	Public Grant
Private	P	Webb Brook CR	P&D REALTY TRUST	71-12-1-MU	159 ALLEN RD	10	NR	CONS	GOOD	PASSIVE	PRIVATE	CR	
Private	P	Rangeway Partners LLC CR	RANGEWAY PARTNERS LLC	29-12-2	147 RANGEWAY RD	32.8	I	CONS	GOOD	PASSIVE	PRIVATE	CR	
Private	P	Ricca Farm Open Space	RICCA FARM HOMEOWNERS ASSOC	57-15-17	REAR RICCA FARM RD	6.1	RR	CONS	GOOD	PASSIVE	LIMITED	CR	
Private	P	Ricca Farm Open Space	RICCA FARM HOMEOWNERS ASSOC	57-15-18	OPEN SPACE RICCA FARM RD	15.55	RR	CONS	GOOD	PASSIVE	LIMITED	CR	
Private	P	Finnegan Acres Conservation	ROGERS DAVID G., JR., TR.; HOLMES DEBORAH A TR	6-57-19-15	SUZANNAH RD	9.25	RR	CONS	GOOD	PASSIVE	PUBLIC	CR	
Private	P	Nolan Conservation Area	SS MAMHOH LLC	20-2-1	129 RANGEWAY RD	18	RR	CONS	GOOD	PASSIVE	PUBLIC	CR	
Private	P	Baha CR	WEBB BROOK COMM. ASSOC	71-8-42	REAR JENNIFER CR	9.09	VR	CONS	GOOD	PASSIVE	PUBLIC	CR	
Private	P	Aspen Conservation Area		29-12-1	147 RANGEWAY RD	37.84	I	CONS	GOOD	PASSIVE	PUBLIC		
State Owned	L	Contribution Park	COMMONWEALTH OF MASS	31-90-0	BOSTON RD	0.8	GB	REC	GOOD	RIVER ACCESS	PUBLIC		
State Owned	N	Chelmsford Forum	COMMONWEALTH OF MASS	13-1-0	2 BRICK KILN RD	7.11	I, GB, VR	REC	GOOD	SKATING RINK	PUBLIC		
State Owned	N	Middlesex Community College	COMMONWEALTH OF MASS	95-35-1	SPRINGS RD	33	RR	COLLEGE	GOOD	YES	PUBLIC		
State Owned	N	House of Correction	HOUSE OF CORRECTIONS	49-437-0	RIVER STREET EX	3	I, RR	AG LAND	GOOD	YES	RESTRICTED		
State Owned	N	House of Correction	HOUSE OF CORRECTIONS	58-1-1	269 TREBLE COVE RD	64.77	VR, RR	JAIL	GOOD	YES	RESTRICTED		
State Owned	N	House of Correction	HOUSE OF CORRECTIONS	59-71-0	NESTER AV	1.38	VR, RR	JAIL	GOOD	YES	RESTRICTED		
State Owned	N	Shawsheen Regional Vocational Technical School	SHAWSHEEN VALLEY REGIONAL	82-115-0	100 COOK ST	91.75	RR	REC	GOOD	YES	PUBLIC		
State Owned	P	Manning State Forest	COMMONWEALTH OF MASS	20-3-0	ROUTE 3	33	I	DCR	GOOD	TRAILS, CAMPING	PUBLIC		
State Owned	P	Manning State Forest	COMMONWEALTH OF MASS	29-21-0	RANGEWAY RD	6.42	I	DCR	GOOD	TRAILS, CAMPING	PUBLIC		
State Owned	P	Manning State Forest	COMMONWEALTH OF MASS	29-7-0	WINNING RD	1.23	I	DCR	GOOD	TRAILS, CAMPING	PUBLIC		
State Owned	P	Manning State Forest	COMMONWEALTH OF MASS	14-1-0	CHELMSFORD RD	100.38	I, RR	DCR	GOOD		PUBLIC		
State Owned	P	Manning State Forest	COMMONWEALTH OF MASS	14-277-0	CHELMSFORD RD	30	I, VR	REC/CONS	GOOD	TRAILS, CAMPING	PUBLIC		
State Owned	P	Manning State Forest/Gilson Hill	COMMONWEALTH OF MASS	30-78-0	TREBLE COVE RD	135	I, VR	DCR	GOOD	TRAILS, CAMPING	PUBLIC		
State Owned	P	Governor Thomas Dudley Park	COMMONWEALTH OF MASS	101-5-3-7	REAR DUDLEY RD	4.5	RR	DFW	GOOD	PASSIVE	PUBLIC		
State Owned	P	Governor Thomas Dudley Park	COMMONWEALTH OF MASS	101-5-5-14	REAR DUDLEY RD	14	RR	DCR	GOOD	PASSIVE	PUBLIC		
State Owned	P	Carter Ave Conservation Land	COMMONWEALTH OF MASS	85-151-0	CARTER AV	0.41	VR	DFW	GOOD	PASSIVE	PUBLIC		
State Owned	P	Manning State Forest	COMMONWEALTH OF MASS	14-278-0	CHELMSFORD RD	5.96	VR, RR	REC/CONS	GOOD	TRAILS, CAMPING	PUBLIC		
State Owned	P	Manning State Forest	COMMONWEALTH OF MASS	14-279-0	CHELMSFORD RD	10.04	VR, RR	REC/CONS	GOOD	TRAILS, CAMPING	PUBLIC		
Town Owned	L	Old Ditson School	TOWN OF BILLERICA	99-167-0	REAR BOSTON RD	0.1	GB, I	PLAYGROUND, BALL FIELDS, COURTS	GOOD	PLAYGROUND, BALL FIELDS, COURTS	PUBLIC		
Town Owned	L	Old Ditson School	TOWN OF BILLERICA	99-96-0	793 BOSTON RD	2.94	GB, I	PLAYGROUND, BALL FIELDS, COURTS	GOOD	PLAYGROUND, BALL FIELDS, COURTS	PUBLIC	PARC	None
Town Owned	L	Akeson Park	TOWN OF BILLERICA	90-195-0	774 BOSTON RD	4.4	GB, I, NR	BALL FIELDS, FISHING	GOOD	BALL FIELDS, FISHING	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	L	Memorial High School	TOWN OF BILLERICA	50-30-0	RIVER ST	19.4	GB, NR	PLAYGROUND, BALL FIELDS, COURTS	GOOD	PLAYGROUND, BALL FIELDS, COURTS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	L	Pinedale Park	TOWN OF BILLERICA	100-127-0	PINEDALE AV	0.92	I	MULTIUSE FIELDS	GOOD	MULTIUSE FIELDS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	L	Ditson Elementary School baseball fields	TOWN OF BILLERICA	91-346-0	COOK ST	1.42	I	BALL FIELDS	GOOD	BALL FIELDS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	L	Ditson Elementary School baseball fields	TOWN OF BILLERICA	91-347-0	COOK ST	1.42	I	BALL FIELDS	GOOD	BALL FIELDS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	L	Old Ditson School	TOWN OF BILLERICA	99-100-0	BOSTON RD	0.53	I	PLAYGROUND, BALL FIELDS, COURTS	GOOD	PLAYGROUND, BALL FIELDS, COURTS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	L	North Cemetery	TOWN OF BILLERICA	32-3-0	FLOYD ST	6	I, NR	HISTORIC	GOOD	NO	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	L	Hajjar School	TOWN OF BILLERICA	16-138-1	59 ROGERS ST	15	NR	PLAYGROUND, BALL FIELDS, COURTS	GOOD	PLAYGROUND, BALL FIELDS, COURTS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	L	Pollard Park	TOWN OF BILLERICA	51-121-1	ANDOVER RD	3.8	NR	PLAYGROUND, BALL FIELDS	GOOD	PLAYGROUND, BALL FIELDS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	L	Cabot Corp Land	TOWN OF BILLERICA	60-80-1	RIVER ST	39.68	NR	UNIMPROVED	GOOD	TRAILS, RIVER ACCESS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	L	Old South Cemetery	TOWN OF BILLERICA	69-135-0	CONCORD RD	1.55	NR	HISTORIC	GOOD	NO	PUBLIC		None

Ownership	Protection	Site Name	Owner/Manager	Map Par ID	Address	Acreage	Zoning	Current Use	Condition	Recreation Potential	Access	Deed Restriction	Public Grant
Town Owned	L	Marshall Middle School	TOWN OF BILLERICA	32-127-0	33 FOX HILL RD	37.16	NR, GB	BALL FIELDS, FOOTBALL, SOCCER, HOCKEY	GOOD	BALL FIELDS, FOOTBALL, SOCCER, HOCKEY	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	L	Bicentennial/Old North Cemetery	TOWN OF BILLERICA	31-293-0	POLLARD ST	0.75	NR, I	HISTORIC	GOOD	NO	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	L	Burnham Road Recreation Area	TOWN OF BILLERICA	11-60-0	BURNHAM RD	6.8	RR	UNIMPROVED	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	L	Potters Park	TOWN OF BILLERICA	16-142-0	HIGH ST	2.49	RR	BALL FIELDS	GOOD	BALL FIELDS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	L	Job Hill Cemetery	TOWN OF BILLERICA	94-6-0	NASHUA RD	1	RR	HISTORIC	GOOD	NO	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	L	Fox Hill Cemetery	TOWN OF BILLERICA	42-47-1	130 ANDOVER RD	56.12	RR, NR	HISTORIC	GOOD	NO	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	L	Talbot Mills Oval	TOWN OF BILLERICA	15-202-0	TALBOT AV	0.64	VR	TRAILS	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	L	Parkway Recreation Area	TOWN OF BILLERICA	31-228-0	PARKWAY AV	0.31	VR	TRAILS	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	L	Clifton Street Beach	TOWN OF BILLERICA	87-157-0	LAKEVIEW DR	0.3	VR	FISHING	GOOD	LAKE ACCESS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	L	Ditson Elementary School	TOWN OF BILLERICA SCHOOL DEPT.	91-334-2	39 COOK ST	20.21	I, RR	PLAYGROUND, BALL FIELDS	GOOD	PLAYGROUND, BALL FIELDS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	L	Parker School	TOWN OF BILLERICA SCHOOL DEPT.	50-48-0	RIVER ST	0.21	NR	PLAYGROUND, MULTIUSE FIELDS	GOOD	PLAYGROUND, MULTIUSE FIELDS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	L	Memorial High School	TOWN OF BILLERICA SCHOOL DEPT.	50-55-0	REAR BOSTON RD	43	NR	PLAYGROUND, BALL FIELDS, COURTS	GOOD	PLAYGROUND, BALL FIELDS, COURTS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	L	Memorial High School	TOWN OF BILLERICA SCHOOL DEPT.	50-68-0	REAR BOSTON RD	0.07	NR	PLAYGROUND, BALL FIELDS, COURTS	GOOD	PLAYGROUND, BALL FIELDS, COURTS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	L	Old Howe School	TOWN OF BILLERICA SCHOOL DEPT.	51-24-0	390 BOSTON RD	0.99	NR	HISTORIC	GOOD	NO	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	L	Parker School	TOWN OF BILLERICA SCHOOL DEPT.	60-1-0	36 RIVER ST	8	NR	PLAYGROUND, MULTIUSE FIELDS	GOOD	PLAYGROUND, MULTIUSE FIELDS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	L	Parker School	TOWN OF BILLERICA SCHOOL DEPT.	60-10-0	PAGES CT	0.22	NR	PLAYGROUND, MULTIUSE FIELDS	GOOD	PLAYGROUND, MULTIUSE FIELDS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	L	Parker School	TOWN OF BILLERICA SCHOOL DEPT.	60-9-0	PAGES CT	0.17	NR	PLAYGROUND, MULTIUSE FIELDS	GOOD	PLAYGROUND, MULTIUSE FIELDS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	L	JF Kennedy School	TOWN OF BILLERICA SCHOOL DEPT.	44-61-0	20 KIMBROUGH RD	26.34	RR	PLAYGROUND, BALL FIELDS, COURTS, MULTIUSE FIELDS	GOOD	PLAYGROUND, BALL FIELDS, COURTS, MULTIUSE FIELDS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	L	Vining Elementary School	TOWN OF BILLERICA SCHOOL DEPT.	88-101-0	LEXINGTON RD	13	RR	PLAYGROUND, BALL FIELDS, COURTS	GOOD	PLAYGROUND, BALL FIELDS, COURTS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	L	Locke Jr High School	TOWN OF BILLERICA SCHOOL DEPT.	62-14-1	110 ALLEN RD	49.54	RR, NR	BALL FIELD, MULTIUSE FIELDS	GOOD	BALL FIELD, MULTIUSE FIELDS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	L	Dutile Park	TOWN OF BILLERICA SCHOOL DEPT.	39-7-1	BANIULIS RD	9.89	VR	BALL FIELD, SOCCER	GOOD	BALL FIELD, SOCCER	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	L	Fred J. Dutile School	TOWN OF BILLERICA SCHOOL DEPT.	39-91-0	10 BIAGIOTTI WY	7.4	VR	PLAYGROUND	GOOD	PLAYGROUND	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	L	Fred J. Dutile School	TOWN OF BILLERICA SCHOOL DEPT.	39-92-0	BRIARWOOD AV	1.7	VR	PLAYGROUND	GOOD	PLAYGROUND	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	L	Fred J. Dutile School	TOWN OF BILLERICA SCHOOL DEPT.	49-380-0	SHEDD RD	5.98	VR	PLAYGROUND	GOOD	PLAYGROUND	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	N	Shawsheen River Floodplain	TOWN OF BILLERICA	105-83-0	OLD WYMAN RD	1.49	I	CONS	GOOD	NO	PRIVATE		None
Town Owned	N	250 Boston Rd	TOWN OF BILLERICA	22-18-0	250 BOSTON RD	14	I	RECREATION DEPT/DPW	GOOD	TRAILS, RIVER ACCESS, INDOOR RECREATION	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	N	Concord River Floodplain	TOWN OF BILLERICA	22-20-0	BOSTON RD	5	I	UNIMPROVED/CONS	GOOD	RIVER ACCESS	NONE		None
Town Owned	N	Concord River Floodplain	TOWN OF BILLERICA	31-12-0	BOSTON RD	4.95	I	UNIMPROVED	GOOD	TRAILS, RIVER ACCESS	NONE		None
Town Owned	N	Concord River Floodplain	TOWN OF BILLERICA	50-54-6-17	RIVER ST	11.3	NR	UNIMPROVED/CONS	GOOD	NO	NO		None
Town Owned	N	Cider Mill Land	TOWN OF BILLERICA	51-54-3	CIDER MILL WY	8.92	NR	UNIMPROVED	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	N	Cider Mill Land	TOWN OF BILLERICA	51-60-27	CIDER MILL WY	27.74	NR	UNIMPROVED	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	N	Cider Mill Land	TOWN OF BILLERICA	51-74-0	CIDER MILL WY	4.72	NR	UNIMPROVED	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	N	Cider Mill Land	TOWN OF BILLERICA	51-75-0	CIDER MILL WY	4.39	NR	UNIMPROVED	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	N	Cabot Corp Land	TOWN OF BILLERICA	60-80-3	RIVER ST	28.92	NR	UNIMPROVED	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None

Ownership	Protection	Site Name	Owner/Manager	Map Par ID	Address	Acreage	Zoning	Current Use	Condition	Recreation Potential	Access	Deed Restriction	Public Grant
Town Owned	N	Webb Brook Floodplain	TOWN OF BILLERICA	62-161-0	REAR WHITTIER RD	8.76	NR	UNIMPROVED/CONS	GOOD	NO	NO		None
Town Owned	N	Webb Brook Floodplain	TOWN OF BILLERICA	70-7-0	REAR PURCELL DR	2.69	NR	UNIMPROVED/CONS	GOOD	NO	NO		None
Town Owned	N	Grampy's Land (Andrew Card)	TOWN OF BILLERICA	102-1-0	NASHUA RD	15.85	RR	TRAILS	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	N	Shawsheen River Floodplain	TOWN OF BILLERICA	105-85-0	REAR SHAWSHEEN RD	3.5	RR	UNIMPROVED/CONS	GOOD	NO	NONE		None
Town Owned	N	Shawsheen River Floodplain	TOWN OF BILLERICA	64-5-0	NEWBURY ST	3.5	RR	UNIMPROVED/CONS	GOOD	NO	NO		None
Town Owned	N	Lubbers Brook Floodplain	TOWN OF BILLERICA	74-19-0	BURNS ST	25	RR	UNIMPROVED/CONS	GOOD	NO	NO		None
Town Owned	N	Shawsheen River Floodplain	TOWN OF BILLERICA	105-84-0	RIDGEWAY AV	4.5	VR	UNIMPROVED/CONS	GOOD	RIVER ACCESS	NONE		None
Town Owned	N	Shawsheen River Floodplain	TOWN OF BILLERICA	36-107-0	REAR GARNET RD	0.13	VR	UNIMPROVED/CONS	GOOD	NO	NO		None
Town Owned	N	Shawsheen River Floodplain	TOWN OF BILLERICA	36-234-2	31B GEORGE BROWN ST	3.45	VR	UNIMPROVED/CONS	GOOD	NO	NO		None
Town Owned	N	Shawsheen River Floodplain	TOWN OF BILLERICA	45-8-0	SPRINGWELL RD	1.43	VR	UNIMPROVED/CONS	GOOD	RIVER ACCESS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	N	Concord River Floodplain	TOWN OF BILLERICA	76-37-0	PELHAM ST	0.33	VR	UNIMPROVED/CONS	GOOD	RIVER ACCESS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	N	Concord River Floodplain	TOWN OF BILLERICA	76-38-0	PELHAM ST	0.27	VR	UNIMPROVED/CONS	GOOD	RIVER ACCESS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	N	Concord River Floodplain	TOWN OF BILLERICA	76-39-0	PELHAM ST	0.32	VR	UNIMPROVED/CONS	GOOD	RIVER ACCESS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	N	Concord River Floodplain	TOWN OF BILLERICA	76-65-0	PELHAM ST	0.17	VR	UNIMPROVED/CONS	GOOD	NO	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	N	Concord River Floodplain	TOWN OF BILLERICA	76-66-0	PELHAM ST	0.23	VR	UNIMPROVED/CONS	GOOD	NO	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	N	Colby Street Conservation Land	TOWN OF BILLERICA	76-67-0	COLBY ST	0.46	VR	UNIMPROVED	GOOD	NO	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	N	Concord River Floodplain (gas easement)	TOWN OF BILLERICA	8-51-0	ROUTE 3A	3.9	VR	UNIMPROVED	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	N	Concord River Floodplain	TOWN OF BILLERICA	85-50-0	PELHAM ST	0.28	VR	UNIMPROVED/CONS	GOOD	NO	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	N	Larchwood St Conservation Land	TOWN OF BILLERICA	85-54-0	LARCHWOOD ST	1.77	VR	UNIMPROVED	GOOD	TRAILS, RIVER ACCESS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	N	Larchwood St Conservation Land	TOWN OF BILLERICA	85-55-0	LARCHWOOD ST	2.94	VR	UNIMPROVED	GOOD	TRAILS, RIVER ACCESS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	N	Concord River Floodplain	TOWN OF BILLERICA	85-58-1	IVY ST	2.33	VR	UNIMPROVED/CONS	GOOD	NO	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	N	Concord River Floodplain	TOWN OF BILLERICA	85-60-0	PEMBROKE ST	0.96	VR	UNIMPROVED/CONS	GOOD	NO	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	N	Old Ditson School	TOWN OF BILLERICA	99-60-0	GROVE ST	0.58	VR	PLAYGROUND, BALL FIELDS, COURTS	GOOD	PLAYGROUND, BALL FIELDS, COURTS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	N	Old Ditson School	TOWN OF BILLERICA	99-91-0	A ST	0.2	VR	PLAYGROUND, BALL FIELDS, COURTS	GOOD	PLAYGROUND, BALL FIELDS, COURTS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	N	Billerica Memorial High School	TOWN OF BILLERICA SCHOOL DEPT.	50-24-0	GOOD ST	0.58	NR	PLAYGROUNDS, BALL FIELDS, MULTIUSE FIELDS, HOCKEY	GOOD	PLAYGROUNDS, BALL FIELDS, MULTIUSE FIELDS, HOCKEY	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	N	Billerica Memorial High School	TOWN OF BILLERICA SCHOOL DEPT.	50-25-0	GOOD ST	0.58	NR	PLAYGROUNDS, BALL FIELDS, MULTIUSE FIELDS, HOCKEY	GOOD	PLAYGROUNDS, BALL FIELDS, MULTIUSE FIELDS, HOCKEY	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	N	Billerica Memorial High School	TOWN OF BILLERICA SCHOOL DEPT.	50-26-0	GOOD ST	0.58	NR	PLAYGROUNDS, BALL FIELDS, MULTIUSE FIELDS, HOCKEY	GOOD	PLAYGROUNDS, BALL FIELDS, MULTIUSE FIELDS, HOCKEY	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	N	Billerica Memorial High School	TOWN OF BILLERICA SCHOOL DEPT.	50-27-0	GOOD ST	0.57	NR	PLAYGROUNDS, BALL FIELDS, MULTIUSE FIELDS, HOCKEY	GOOD	PLAYGROUNDS, BALL FIELDS, MULTIUSE FIELDS, HOCKEY	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	N	Billerica Memorial High School	TOWN OF BILLERICA SCHOOL DEPT.	50-28-0	GOOD ST	0.57	NR	PLAYGROUNDS, BALL FIELDS, MULTIUSE FIELDS, HOCKEY	GOOD	PLAYGROUNDS, BALL FIELDS, MULTIUSE FIELDS, HOCKEY	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	N	Billerica Memorial High School	TOWN OF BILLERICA SCHOOL DEPT.	50-55-0	REAR BOSTON RD	43	NR	PLAYGROUNDS, BALL FIELDS, MULTIUSE FIELDS, HOCKEY	GOOD	PLAYGROUNDS, BALL FIELDS, MULTIUSE FIELDS, HOCKEY	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Fox Hill	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMM	34-69-3	ANDOVER RD	3.7	RR	TRAILS	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		DCS-SH3
Town Owned	P	Bellflower Conservation Land	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMM	55-5-0	BELLFLOWER RD	0.55	VR	UNIMPROVED	GOOD	RIVER ACCESS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Bellflower Conservation Land	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMM	55-6-0	BELLFLOWER RD	0.79	VR	UNIMPROVED	GOOD	RIVER ACCESS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Shaloo Meadow Conservation Land	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	90-224-0	BOSTON RD	6.5	GB, I, NR	TRAILS	GOOD	LAKE ACCESS	PUBLIC		None

Ownership	Protection	Site Name	Owner/Manager	Map Par ID	Address	Acreage	Zoning	Current Use	Condition	Recreation Potential	Access	Deed Restriction	Public Grant
Town Owned	P	Fortune Dr Conservation Land	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	103-2-0	REAR FORTUNE DR	3.06	I	UNIMPROVED	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Rangeway Town Forest	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	29-4-0	RANGEWAY RD	25	I	TRAILS	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Lot 9	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	37-11-3-6	LOT 9 SULLIVAN RD	8.41	I	CONS	GOOD	NO	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Prall Conservation Land	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	77-93-0	ROUTE 3	0.68	I	CONS	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Fortune Dr Conservation Land	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	96-136-2-2	REAR FORTUNE DR	1.27	I	UNIMPROVED	GOOD	NO	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Fortune Dr Conservation Land	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	96-147-2	REAR FORTUNE DR	3.32	I	UNIMPROVED	GOOD	NO	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Shaloo Meadow Conservation Land	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	90-233-0	INTERVALE RD	10.5	I, NR, GB	TRAILS	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Progress Road Conservation Land	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	105-86-1	REAR PROGRESS RD	9.2	I, RR	CONS	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	128 Trust Conservation Land	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	96-108-0	REAR HICKS RD	3.7	I, VR	UNIMPROVED	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Pearl Road Conservation Land	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	96-109-0	HICKS RD	2.16	I, VR	CONS	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Pearl Road Conservation Land	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	96-132-0	CHERRY RD	2.92	I, VR	CONS	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Pearl Road Conservation Land	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	96-43-0	DAN POWERS RD	1.32	I, VR	CONS	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Pearl Road Conservation Land	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	96-47-0	AREY ST	0.99	I, VR	CONS	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Pearl Road Conservation Land	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	96-48-0	AREY ST	0.96	I, VR	CONS	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Pearl Road Conservation Land	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	96-58-0	COLUMBIA RD	0.92	I, VR	CONS	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Pearl Road Conservation Land	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	96-59-0	COLUMBIA RD	1.15	I, VR	CONS	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	The Fields Conservation Land	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	78-282-1-1	MIDDLESEX TP	31.1	I, VR, RR	UNIMPROVED	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Trantanella/Boston Road Conservation Land	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	15-237-2	BOSTON RD	17.1	NR	UNIMPROVED	GOOD	TRAILS	LIMITED		None
Town Owned	P	Stoney Drive Conservation Land	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	31-114-0	STONEY DR	0.17	NR	UNIMPROVED	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Swift Conservation Land	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	40-113-0	SIMMONS LN	2.6	NR	UNIMPROVED	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Swift Conservation Land	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	40-115-1	SIMMONS LN	2.1	NR	UNIMPROVED	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Etta Road Conservation Land	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	40-341-0	REAR ETTA RD	8.24	NR	CONS	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Cabot Corp Land	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	60-80-2	RIVER ST	10.83	NR	CONS	GOOD	TRAILS, RIVER ACCESS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Kindred Conservation Land	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	69-71-0	REAR GLAD VALLEY DR	7.96	NR, GB	UNIMPROVED	GOOD	POND ACCESS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Elsie Ave Conservation Land	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	60-100-0	ELSIE AV	0.25	NR, VR	CONS	POOR	RIVER ACCESS	RESTRICTED		None
Town Owned	P	Elsie Ave Conservation Land	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	60-152-0	ELSIE AV	0.25	NR, VR	CONS	POOR	RIVER ACCESS	RESTRICTED		None
Town Owned	P	Manning Conservation Land	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	22-15-0	REAR BOSTON RD	3	ROW	UNIMPROVED	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Governor Thomas Dudley Park	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	101-5-3-8	DUDLEY RD	7	RR	TRAILS	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None

Ownership	Protection	Site Name	Owner/Manager	Map Par ID	Address	Acreage	Zoning	Current Use	Condition	Recreation Potential	Access	Deed Restriction	Public Grant
Town Owned	P	Glen Garriff Conservation Land	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	18-99-3	GLENGARRIFF CR	16.78	RR	UNIMPROVED	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	McDonald Knowles Cons Land (Mock Meadow)	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	22-1-0	TREBLE COVE RD	55	RR	TRAILS	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Mc Donald Knowles ext.1 (Harley Davidson)	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	22-16-1	TREBLE COVE RD	18.11	RR	UNIMPROVED	GOOD	TRAILS	NONE		None
Town Owned	P	McDonald Knowles Cons Land (Mock Meadow)	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	30-126-0	TREBLE COVE RD	1.08	RR	TRAILS	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		DCS-SH2
Town Owned	P	Manning Cons Land ext. (George Allen)	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	31-2-0	REAR BRIDGE ST	5.5	RR	UNIMPROVED	GOOD	TRAILS	NONE		None
Town Owned	P	Fox Hill	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	33-158-0	SUNNY ST	1.6	RR	TRAILS	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		DCS-SH3
Town Owned	P	Fox Hill	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	33-159-0	QUILL WY	1	RR	TRAILS	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		DCS-SH3
Town Owned	P	Fox Hill	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	33-161-0	STEDMAN ST	7.17	RR	TRAILS	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		DCS-SH3
Town Owned	P	Fox Hill	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	33-162-0	SUNNY ST	5.96	RR	TRAILS	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		DCS-SH3
Town Owned	P	Fox Hill	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	33-163-0	QUILL WY	4.2	RR	TRAILS	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		DCS-SH3
Town Owned	P	Fox Hill	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	33-164-0	AIKEN ST	4.4	RR	TRAILS	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		DCS-SH3
Town Owned	P	Fox Hill	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	33-170-0	GAIL ANN DR	1.02	RR	TRAILS	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		DCS-SH3
Town Owned	P	Fox Hill	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	33-173-0	ESSEX ST	0.59	RR	TRAILS	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		DCS-SH3
Town Owned	P	Fox Hill	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	33-214-0	BROWNSTONE RD	0.11	RR	TRAILS	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		DCS-SH3
Town Owned	P	Fox Hill	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	33-226-0	OLD SALEM RD	1.02	RR	TRAILS	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		DCS-SH3
Town Owned	P	Fox Hill	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	43-143-0	DELWOOD DR	4.9	RR	TRAILS	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Fox Hill	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	43-145-2	DAVIS ST	1.67	RR	TRAILS	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Fox Hill	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	43-148-2	DRESDEN LN	3.13	RR	TRAILS	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Fox Hill	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	43-149-0	ALLENHURST RD	4.66	RR	TRAILS	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Marshall Orchard Conservation Land	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	44-29-0	FRANCESCA WY	4.69	RR	UNIMPROVED	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Jefferson Street Conservation Land	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	55-18-1	JEFFERSON ST	1.36	RR	UNIMPROVED	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Jones Forest Conservation Land	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	64-6-0	LITTLE JOHN DR	15	RR	TRAILS	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Jones Forest Conservation Land	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	72-11-0	REAR WINSOR RD	77	RR	TRAILS	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Bicknell Road Town Forest	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	82-99-0	BICKNELL RD	15	RR	TRAILS	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Ranlett Grove Beach Association	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	85-171-0	QUAKER LN	0.08	RR	CONS	GOOD	RIVER ACCESS	NO		None
Town Owned	P	Ranlett Grove Beach Association	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	85-172-0	QUAKER LN	0.54	RR	CONS	GOOD	NO	NO		None
Town Owned	P	Ranlett Grove	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	85-222-1	QUAKER LN	0.28	RR	CONS	POOR	BEACH, RIVER ACCESS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Duserick Conservation Land	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	86-15-4	CONCORD RD	1.16	RR	UNIMPROVED	GOOD	NO	PUBLIC		None

Ownership	Protection	Site Name	Owner/Manager	Map Par ID	Address	Acreage	Zoning	Current Use	Condition	Recreation Potential	Access	Deed Restriction	Public Grant
Town Owned	P	Matthew Dr Conservation Land	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	89-59-0	REAR LINDSAY RD	3	RR	UNIMPROVED	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Black Raven Dr Conservation Land	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	94-12-3	CONCORD RD	12.05	RR	UNIMPROVED	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Robbins/Riverbank Terrace	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	106-116-0	27 RIVERBANK TR	0.53	VR	UNIMPROVED	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Kohlrausch Park	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	15-187-2	KOHLRAUSCH AV	1.4	VR	UNIMPROVED	GOOD	PLAYGROUND, BALL FIELD, TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Virginia Park Conservation Land	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	31-15-0	HAYDEN RD	5.15	VR	UNIMPROVED		no trails	encroached		None
Town Owned	P	Costello Conservation Land	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	35-188-0	TOW PATH DR	0.34	VR	UNIMPROVED	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Shawsheen River Floodplain	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	45-9-0	SPRINGWELL RD	2.81	VR	UNIMPROVED	GOOD	RIVER ACCESS	NONE		None
Town Owned	P	Hughes Lane Cons Land	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	5-42-0	HUGHES LN	0.75	VR	UNIMPROVED	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Seven Oaks Rd Ext Cons Land	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	5-43-0	SEVEN OAKS ROAD EX	0.78	VR	UNIMPROVED	GOOD	RIVER ACCESS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Seven Oaks Rd Ext Cons Land	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	5-44-0	SEVEN OAKS ROAD EX	0.79	VR	UNIMPROVED	GOOD	RIVER ACCESS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Seven Oaks Rd Ext Cons Land	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	5-45-0	SEVEN OAKS ROAD EX	1.79	VR	UNIMPROVED	GOOD	RIVER ACCESS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Elsie Ave Conservation Land	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	59-101-0	ELSIE AV	0.08	VR	CONS	ENCROACHED	NO	NO		None
Town Owned	P	Elsie Ave Conservation Land	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	60-99-0	ELSIE AV	4.5	VR	CONS	GOOD	NO	NO		None
Town Owned	P	Colby Street Conservation Land	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	76-57-0	COLBY ST	0.22	VR	UNIMPROVED	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Thoreau Street/Walden Street Conservation Land	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	76-69-0	WALDEN ST	0.34	VR	UNIMPROVED	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Lake Street	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	79-299-1	LAKE ST	0.14	VR	TRAILS	GOOD	ACCESSORY TO LAKE ACCESS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Carter Avenue	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	85-153-0	CARTER AV	0.31	VR	UNIMPROVED	GOOD	RIVER ACCESS	PUBLIC		Grant from River Stewardship Council
Town Owned	P	Katie Durant Memorial Park	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	85-57-1	8 CARTER AVE	1.26	VR	CONS	GOOD	NO	NONE		None
Town Owned	P	McClennan Way	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	8-6-11	MCCLENNAN WY	12.73	VR	UNIMPROVED	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Shady Hill Ave Conservation Land	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	87-22-0	SHADY HILL AV	0.14	VR	TRAILS	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Shady Ave Conservation Land	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	87-248-0	REAR BLACKWOOD AV	9	VR	TRAILS	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Shady Ave Conservation Land	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	87-249-2	REAR DEERFIELD ST	2.56	VR	TRAILS	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Shady Ave Conservation Land	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	87-258-1	REAR BLACKWOOD AV	4.39	VR	TRAILS	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Martina Gage Conservation Land (Gage Meadow Town Forest)	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	87-262-0	REAR BAKER ST	5	VR	TRAILS	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Nutting Lake Conservation Land	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	88-100-0	MIDDLESEX TP	172	VR	TRAILS, BEACH	GOOD	LAKE ACCESS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Ox Road Conservation Land	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	88-194-0	OX RD	4.02	VR	CONS	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Pearl Road Conservation Land	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	88-311-0	CHERRY RD	0.23	VR	CONS	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Dan Powers Road	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	88-32-0	DAN POWERS RD	0.05	VR	UNIMPROVED	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None

Ownership	Protection	Site Name	Owner/Manager	Map Par ID	Address	Acreage	Zoning	Current Use	Condition	Recreation Potential	Access	Deed Restriction	Public Grant
Town Owned	P	Pearl Road Conservation Land	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	88-42-0	HOWARD AV	0.11	VR	CONS	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Nutting Lake Conservation Land	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	88-91-0	566 MIDDLESEX TP	0.96	VR	TRAILS, BEACH	GOOD	LAKE ACCESS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Edgehill Road Conservation Land	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	93-29-0	PAULINE RD	1.9	VR	CONS	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Edgehill Road Conservation Land	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	93-31-0	EDGEHILL RD	0.48	VR	CONS	GOOD	NO	NO		None
Town Owned	P	Edgehill Road Conservation Land	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	93-33-0	EDGEHILL RD	0.73	VR	CONS	GOOD	NO	NO		None
Town Owned	P	Edgehill Road Conservation Land	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	93-34-0	EDGEHILL RD	0.68	VR	CONS	GOOD	NO	NO		None
Town Owned	P	Edgehill Road Conservation Land	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	93-35-0	EDGEHILL RD	0.74	VR	CONS	GOOD	NO	NO		None
Town Owned	P	Edgehill Road Conservation Land	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	93-36-0	EDGEHILL RD	1.03	VR	CONS	GOOD	NO	NO		None
Town Owned	P	Edgehill Road Conservation Land	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	93-37-0	EDGEHILL RD	0.16	VR	CONS	GOOD	NO	NO		None
Town Owned	P	Cullen Conservation Land	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	93-40-0	EDGEHILL RD	0.26	VR	UNIMPROVED	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Edgehill Road Conservation Land	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	93-40-0	EDGEHILL RD	0.26	VR	CONS	GOOD	RIVER ACCESS	LIMITED		None
Town Owned	P	Edgehill Road Conservation Land	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION	93-41-0	EDGEHILL RD	0.1	VR	CONS	GOOD	RIVER ACCESS	LIMITED		None
Town Owned	P	Timber Creek Estates Conservation Land	BILLERICA CONSERVATION COMMISSION)	93-53-4	NASHUA RD	14.24	RR	TRAILS	GOOD	TRAILS	LIMITED	CR	None
Town Owned	P	Furdon Conservation Land	FURDON WILLIAM J-RITA E FURDON	98-13-0	MELODY LN	0.11	NR	UNIMPROVED	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Town of Billerica APR	TOWN OF BILLERICA	79-322-0	BOSTON RD	25.73	GB, NR	AGRICULTURE	GOOD	AGRICULTURE	PUBLIC	APR	None
Town Owned	P	Indian Acres	TOWN OF BILLERICA	15-29-0	REAR CALL ST	18.9	NR	UNIMPROVED	POOR	TRAIL, RIVER ACCESS	LIMITED	CR	None
Town Owned	P	Town Common	TOWN OF BILLERICA	51-120-0	BOSTON RD	3	GB, NR	HISTORIC	GOOD	PASSIVE	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Shawsheen Woods Conservation Land	TOWN OF BILLERICA	81-199-16	BANKSIDE DR UNIT REAR	8.46	I	TRAILS	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Pearl Street Conservation Area	TOWN OF BILLERICA	96-124-0	PEARL RD	0.11	I	UNIMPROVED	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Schaffer Conservation Land	TOWN OF BILLERICA	22-111-3	FERNCREST WY	0.41	NR	UNIMPROVED	GOOD	RIVER ACCESS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Peggy Hannon-Rizza Recreation Complex	TOWN OF BILLERICA	69-48-0	FRENCH ST	0.52	NR	BALL FIELDS, MULTIUSE FIELDS, COURTS, TRAILS, SKATEBOARD	GOOD	BALL FIELDS, MULTIUSE FIELDS, COURTS, TRAILS, SKATEBOARD	PUBLIC		PARC
Town Owned	P	Peggy Hannon-Rizza Recreation Complex	TOWN OF BILLERICA	69-49-0	MAXWELL RD	0.64	NR	BALL FIELDS, MULTIUSE FIELDS, COURTS, TRAILS, SKATEBOARD	GOOD	BALL FIELDS, MULTIUSE FIELDS, COURTS, TRAILS, SKATEBOARD	PUBLIC		PARC
Town Owned	P	Peggy Hannon-Rizza Recreation Complex	TOWN OF BILLERICA	69-57-0	CAMPBELL RD	0.23	NR	BALL FIELDS, MULTIUSE FIELDS, COURTS, TRAILS, SKATEBOARD	GOOD	BALL FIELDS, MULTIUSE FIELDS, COURTS, TRAILS, SKATEBOARD	PUBLIC		PARC
Town Owned	P	Peggy Hannon-Rizza Recreation Complex	TOWN OF BILLERICA	69-58-0	CAMPBELL RD	0.23	NR	BALL FIELDS, MULTIUSE FIELDS, COURTS, TRAILS, SKATEBOARD	GOOD	BALL FIELDS, MULTIUSE FIELDS, COURTS, TRAILS, SKATEBOARD	PUBLIC		PARC
Town Owned	P	Peggy Hannon-Rizza Recreation Complex	TOWN OF BILLERICA	69-59-0	CAMPBELL RD	0.46	NR	BALL FIELDS, MULTIUSE FIELDS, COURTS, TRAILS, SKATEBOARD	GOOD	BALL FIELDS, MULTIUSE FIELDS, COURTS, TRAILS, SKATEBOARD	PUBLIC		PARC
Town Owned	P	Peggy Hannon-Rizza Recreation Complex	TOWN OF BILLERICA	69-60-1	FRENCH ST	7.13	NR	BALL FIELDS, MULTIUSE FIELDS, COURTS, TRAILS, SKATEBOARD	GOOD	BALL FIELDS, MULTIUSE FIELDS, COURTS, TRAILS, SKATEBOARD	PUBLIC		PARC
Town Owned	P	Peggy Hannon-Rizza Recreation Complex	TOWN OF BILLERICA	69-65-0	BRAINERD RD	0.56	NR	BALL FIELDS, MULTIUSE FIELDS, COURTS, TRAILS, SKATEBOARD	GOOD	BALL FIELDS, MULTIUSE FIELDS, COURTS, TRAILS, SKATEBOARD	PUBLIC		PARC

Ownership	Protection	Site Name	Owner/Manager	Map Par ID	Address	Acreage	Zoning	Current Use	Condition	Recreation Potential	Access	Deed Restriction	Public Grant
Town Owned	P	Peggy Hannon-Rizza Recreation Complex	TOWN OF BILLERICA	69-66-0	BRAINERD RD	1.16	NR	BALL FIELDS, MULTIUSE FIELDS, COURTS, TRAILS, SKATEBOARD	GOOD	BALL FIELDS, MULTIUSE FIELDS, COURTS, TRAILS, SKATEBOARD	PUBLIC		PARC
Town Owned	P	Peggy Hannon-Rizza Recreation Complex	TOWN OF BILLERICA	69-67-0	CAMPBELL RD	0.4	NR	BALL FIELDS, MULTIUSE FIELDS, COURTS, TRAILS, SKATEBOARD	GOOD	BALL FIELDS, MULTIUSE FIELDS, COURTS, TRAILS, SKATEBOARD	PUBLIC		PARC
Town Owned	P	Peggy Hannon-Rizza Recreation Complex	TOWN OF BILLERICA	69-68-0	20 CAMPBELL RD	13.41	NR	BALL FIELDS, MULTIUSE FIELDS, COURTS, TRAILS, SKATEBOARD	GOOD	BALL FIELDS, MULTIUSE FIELDS, COURTS, TRAILS, SKATEBOARD	PUBLIC		PARC
Town Owned	P	Peggy Hannon-Rizza Recreation Complex	TOWN OF BILLERICA	69-72-0	SYMONDS ST	2.47	NR	BALL FIELDS, MULTIUSE FIELDS, COURTS, TRAILS, SKATEBOARD	GOOD	BALL FIELDS, MULTIUSE FIELDS, COURTS, TRAILS, SKATEBOARD	PUBLIC		PARC
Town Owned	P	Shaloo Meadow Conservation Land	TOWN OF BILLERICA	81-101-2	7 MARSHBROOK RD	0.55	NR	TRAILS	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Riverdale Road Conservation Land	TOWN OF BILLERICA	81-177-0	RIVERDALE RD	0.84	NR	UNIMPROVED	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Riverdale Road Conservation Land	TOWN OF BILLERICA	81-178-0	RIVERDALE RD	0.96	NR	UNIMPROVED	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Nashua Road Conservation Land	TOWN OF BILLERICA	85-62-0	NASHUA RD	0.43	NR, NB	UNIMPROVED	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Pasho Conservation Land	TOWN OF BILLERICA	105-118-0	REAR SHAWSHEEN RD	4	RR	UNIMPROVED	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Bowman Land	TOWN OF BILLERICA	18-2-5	POND ST	2.81	RR	UNIMPROVED	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Bowman Land	TOWN OF BILLERICA	18-2-6	POND ST	2.48	RR	UNIMPROVED	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	O'Mahony Conservation Land	TOWN OF BILLERICA	25-35-0	TOMAHAWK DR	0.11	RR	UNIMPROVED	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Bunker Conservation Land	TOWN OF BILLERICA	2-6-1	REAR BOSTON RD	2.76	RR	UNIMPROVED	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Horan Conservation Land	TOWN OF BILLERICA	26-62-0	KING AV	0.11	RR	UNIMPROVED	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Horan Conservation Land	TOWN OF BILLERICA	26-84-0	KING AV	0.34	RR	UNIMPROVED	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	McDonald Knowles Cons Land (Mock Meadow)	TOWN OF BILLERICA	30-122-0	TREBLE COVE RD	4	RR	TRAILS	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Fox Hill	TOWN OF BILLERICA	33-166-0	OLD SALEM RD	0.09	RR	TRAILS	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		DCS-SH3
Town Owned	P	Fox Hill	TOWN OF BILLERICA	33-167-0	ESSEX ST	0.23	RR	TRAILS	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Fox Hill	TOWN OF BILLERICA	33-168-0	BROWNSTONE RD	0.69	RR	TRAILS	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		DCS-SH3
Town Owned	P	Fox Hill	TOWN OF BILLERICA	33-171-0	ESSEX ST	0.11	RR	TRAILS	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		DCS-SH3
Town Owned	P	Fox Hill	TOWN OF BILLERICA	33-174-0	QUILL WY	0.84	RR	TRAILS	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		DCS-SH3
Town Owned	P	Miller Farm Road Conservation	TOWN OF BILLERICA	52-7-18	OPEN AREA MILLER'S FARM RD	9.98	RR	UNIMPROVED	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Jonasson & Stahl Conservation Land	TOWN OF BILLERICA	55-18-3	28 JEFFERSON ST	1.81	RR	UNIMPROVED	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Ricca Farm	TOWN OF BILLERICA	57-15-15-2	RICCA FARM RD	0.05	RR	UNIMPROVED	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Jones Forest Conservation Land	TOWN OF BILLERICA	64-125-0	REAR BUCKINGHAM DR	7.8	RR	TRAILS	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Jones Forest Conservation Land	TOWN OF BILLERICA	64-58-0	BUCKINGHAM DR	0.81	RR	TRAILS	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Jones Forest Conservation Land	TOWN OF BILLERICA	64-59-0	BUCKINGHAM DR	0.69	RR	TRAILS	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Jones Forest Conservation Land	TOWN OF BILLERICA	64-60-0	BUCKINGHAM DR	0.69	RR	TRAILS	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Jones Forest Conservation Land	TOWN OF BILLERICA	64-61-0	BUCKINGHAM DR	0.69	RR	TRAILS	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Jones Forest Conservation Land	TOWN OF BILLERICA	64-62-0	BUCKINGHAM DR	0.69	RR	TRAILS	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Billerica Water Works	TOWN OF BILLERICA	68-21-0	REAR CONCORD RD	0.32	RR	RESOURCE PROTECTION	GOOD	NO			None

Ownership	Protection	Site Name	Owner/Manager	Map Par ID	Address	Acreage	Zoning	Current Use	Condition	Recreation Potential	Access	Deed Restriction	Public Grant
Town Owned	P	Jones Forest Conservation Land	TOWN OF BILLERICA	73-105-0	BUCKINGHAM DR	0.73	RR	TRAILS	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Bartlett's Landing Conservation Land	TOWN OF BILLERICA	76-1-0	56 MORGAN RD	1.07	RR	UNIMPROVED	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Quaker Lane Conservation Land	TOWN OF BILLERICA	85-159-0	270 NASHUA RD	0.38	RR	UNIMPROVED	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Algonquin Drive Conservation Land	TOWN OF BILLERICA	85-215-0	ALGONQUIN DR	0.23	RR	UNIMPROVED	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Algonquin Drive Conservation Land	TOWN OF BILLERICA	85-248-0	ALGONQUIN DR	0.25	RR	UNIMPROVED	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Quaker Lane Conservation Land	TOWN OF BILLERICA	85-255-0	QUAKER LN	0.11	RR	UNIMPROVED	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Matthew Dr Conservation Land	TOWN OF BILLERICA	88-279-0	MATTHEW RD	0.3	RR	UNIMPROVED	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Duserick Conservation Land	TOWN OF BILLERICA	94-115-1	CONCORD RD	18.7	RR	UNIMPROVED	GOOD	NO	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Vietnam Veterans Park	TOWN OF BILLERICA	67-189-1	TREBLE COVE RD	200	RR, VR	MULTIUSE FIELDS, TRAILS, COMMUNITY GARDENS, BMX, BOCCE, DISC GOLF, DOG PARKS	GOOD	MULTIUSE FIELDS, TRAILS, COMMUNITY GARDENS, BMX, BOCCE, DISC GOLF, DOG PARKS	PUBLIC		DCS-SH2
Town Owned	P	Vietnam Veterans Park	TOWN OF BILLERICA	68-12-0	ROUTE 3	13	RR, VR	TRAILS	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Praise Street Conservation Land	TOWN OF BILLERICA	100-44-0	PRAISE ST	0.22	VR	UNIMPROVED	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Surette Conservation Land	TOWN OF BILLERICA	100-68-0	SUMMIT RD	0.4	VR	UNIMPROVED	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Surette Conservation Land	TOWN OF BILLERICA	100-76-0	HIGHVIEW ST	1.61	VR	UNIMPROVED	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Robbins/Riverbank Terrace Conservation Land	TOWN OF BILLERICA	106-118-0	RIVERBANK TR	2.84	VR	UNIMPROVED	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Kohlrausch Park	TOWN OF BILLERICA	15-187-1	COLSON ST	6.2	VR	PLAYGROUND, BALL FIELD, TRAILS	GOOD	PLAYGROUND, BALL FIELD, TRAILS	PUBLIC		Self-Help
Town Owned	P	Durban Conservation Land	TOWN OF BILLERICA	26-108-0	WATERWHEEL LN	0.11	VR	UNIMPROVED	GOOD	TRAILS			None
Town Owned	P	Whipple Rd Conservation Land	TOWN OF BILLERICA	36-84-0	WHIPPLE RD	0.08	VR	UNIMPROVED	GOOD	RIVER ACCESS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Whipple Rd Conservation Land	TOWN OF BILLERICA	36-85-0	WHIPPLE RD	0.05	VR	UNIMPROVED	GOOD	RIVER ACCESS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Colby Street Conservation Land	TOWN OF BILLERICA	76-58-0	PELHAM ST	0.24	VR	UNIMPROVED	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Colby Street Conservation Land	TOWN OF BILLERICA	85-51-0	COLBY ST	0.33	VR	UNIMPROVED	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Shady Hill Ave Conservation Land	TOWN OF BILLERICA	87-220-0	COLUMBIA RD	0.42	VR	TRAILS	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	O'Mahony Conservation Land	TOWN OF BILLERICA	33-5-0	NEEDHAM RD	0.23	VR, RR	UNIMPROVED	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Robbins/Riverbank Terrace Conservation Land	TOWN OF BILLERICA-	106-115-0	RIVERBANK TR	0.98	VR	UNIMPROVED	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Robbins/Riverbank Terrace Conservation Land	TOWN OF BILLERICA-	106-117-0	RIDGEWAY AV	0.73	VR	UNIMPROVED	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Billerica Water Works DPW HQ	TOWN OF BILLERICA-C/O TOWN MANAGERS OFFICE	59-111-0	347 OLD MIDDLESEX TP	68.01	RR	WATER SUPPLY, JAIL	GOOD	RIVER ACCESS	PUBLIC	CR	None
Town Owned	P	Quaker Lane Conservation Land	TOWN OF BILLERICA-SEWAGE PUMPING STATION	85-158-0	QUAKER LN	0.14	RR	UNIMPROVED	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Nutting Lake Conservation Land	TOWN OF BILLERICA-SEWAGE PUMPING STATION	88-307-0	570 MIDDLESEX TP	0.31	VR	TRAILS, BEACH	GOOD	TRAILS, BEACH	PUBLIC		None
Town Owned	P	Ridge Road Conservation Land	TOWN OF BILLERICA-WATER TOWER	85-163-8-1	11 RIDGE RD	4.29	RR	UNIMPROVED	GOOD	TRAILS	PUBLIC		None

Appendix D: ADA Self-Evaluation

One of the requirements for a complete Open Space and Recreation Plan is an assessment of how accessible a community's open space and recreation properties and programs are to persons with disabilities. Under Federal and State laws, no disabled person shall, on the basis of disability, be denied the benefits of programs or activities that receive financial assistance.

The below Self-Evaluation can assist Billerica in recognizing shortcomings in the built environment and programming at open space and recreation sites, enabling it to undertake efforts to make the sites/programs meet federal and state requirements. Meeting these requirements not only assists people with disabilities but makes these areas safer and more comfortable for all users. The term "universal access" is used to acknowledge this.

Part I: Administrative Requirements

Designation of an ADA Coordinator

Mark LaLumiere, Building Commissioner, is designated as the ADA Coordinator for the Town of Billerica. Arthur Torrey serves as the Chairman of the Commission on Disabilities.

Part II: Program Accessibility

Facility Inventory

A facility inventory of all facilities under the purview of the Recreation Department and Conservation Commission can be found below. The inventory was completed by Nathan Burgess, ASLA, Helena Farrell, and Shaine Meulmester (Dodson & Flinker) with assistance from Town Staff on March 5, 2024. This inventory will be utilized as part of an assessment of all Town-owned facilities by the COD.

Transition Plan

The following are the highest priority recommendations for accessibility upgrades at public recreation facilities. Some sites were not listed because there were no actionable issues identified or are already slated for major renovations in the near future.

Ackerson Park

- Install accessible paths from the access road to the field.

Contribution Park

- Maintain accessible stone dust paths to be free of woody debris and leaves.
- Add accessible paths that go to picnic areas and benches.
- Install a handicap parking space.

Dutile Elementary School

- Install access mats that lead to swings.
- Add ramp to concrete platforms at school entrances.

Hajjar Elementary School

- One access mat can be inaccessible due to muddy conditions and should be improved.
- Install accessible paths from the parking lot to the playground and to the baseball field.

Kennedy Elementary School

- Clear woodchips from access mats

Kids Konnection Playground

- Add accessible picnic tables or replace some inaccessible picnic tables with accessible ones.
- Improve entrance to Kids Konnection which is no longer accessible due to erosion.

Kohlrausch Park

- Remove obstructions to the playground area and add access mats.
- Improve sidewalks that have cracked and are no longer accessible.

Locke Middle School

- Add accessible paths to baseball field seating and basketball courts.

Marshall Middle School

- Add accessible paths to bleachers and fields.

Micozzi Beach

- Add curb cuts in parking area to access sidewalks.
- Resurface pathways with cracks.

Parker Elementary

- Clear woodchips from access mats.

Potter Field

- Designate a handicap only parking space.
- Add accessible paths from parking area to baseball field seating.

Vietnam Veterans Park

- Install accessible path to bleachers in BMX area.
- Designate handicap spaces in all parking areas.
- Add a raised garden bed plot at the community garden that would be accessible for a wheelchair user.
- Ensure that the lip to the slab of the gazebo for the RC Flyers is wheelchair accessible.

Part III: Employment Practices

Billerica has an equal employment opportunity policy that states that the Town “does not discriminate against any applicant because of race, color, religion, sex, marital status, national origin, age, disability, sexual orientation or any other class protected by federal, state, or local law.” It also states: “Any person who needs assistance in fully participating in the application process should contact Billerica Town Manager’s office”.



Town of Billerica

Clancy Main
Town Manager

Town Manager's Office
365 Boston Road
Billerica, MA 01821
Phone: 978-671-0942
cmain@town.billerica.ma.us

November 20, 2024

Mark LaLumiere
Director of Permitting Services
Town Hall
365 Boston Road
Billerica, MA 01821

Dear Mark:

It is my pleasure to inform you that I have appointed you as the Town of Billerica's ADA Coordinator. This is a three-year appointment which expires June 30, 2027.

Please report to the Town Clerk's office to be sworn into the duties of this position. In order for your appointment to become valid, you must be sworn in within 30 days of receipt of this letter.

Congratulations and best wishes on your appointment.

Sincerely,

Clancy Main
Town Manager

CM/sjm

cc: Select Board
Town Clerk
Katherine Malgieri

ACTIVITY	EQUIPMENT	NOTES	Akeson Park	Bicknell/Ditson Elementary	Contribution Park	Dutile Elementary	Hajjar Elementary	Katie Durand Memorial Park	Kennedy Elementary	Kids Konnection	Kohlrausch Park	Korean War Veterans Memorial	Locke Middle School	Marshall Middle School	Micozzi Beach	Parker Elementary	Peggy Hannon-Rizza Complex	Pinehurst Park	Potter Field	Talbot Oval	Town Common	Vietnam Veterans Park – Dog Park	Vietnam Veterans Park – other	Vining Field	Warren Manning State Forest	
Facilities	Tables & Benches	Located adjacent to accessible paths	none	No	No paths	N/A	No	✓	✓	No	✓	✓	N/A	N/A	No, on beach	Varies	✓	No	Bleachers - No	✓	N/A	✓	No	2B, 2 game tables – not accessible	8T/4B	
		Clear space for transfer/approach	N/A	-	No	N/A	✓	✓	✓	No	✓	✓	N/A	N/A	-	No	✓	No	No	✓	N/A	✓	No	-	none	
		Back and Arm Rests	N/A	-	No	N/A	No	✓	No	No	No	No	✓	N/A	N/A	Back	Back	✓	No	No	✓	N/A	✓	No	-	backed
		Adequate number accessible?	no	-	No	N/A	No	✓	No	No	No	✓	✓	N/A	N/A	No	No	✓	No, none	No	✓	N/A	✓	No	-	yes
	Grills	Height of Cooking Surface	none	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A	27”	N/A	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	varies
		Located adjacent to accessible paths	N/A	-	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	No	N/A	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	yes*
	Trash Cans	Located adjacent to accessible paths	none	N/A	No paths	N/A	No	N/A	None	✓	✓		N/A	N/A	Seasonal	None	✓	-	No	None	✓	N/A	No	Seasonal	yes	
	Picnic Shelters	Located adjacent to accessible paths	none	N/A	N/A	N/A	No	N/A	✓	No	No	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A	No	✓	✓	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No	N/A	1 PS
		Located near accessible water fountains, trash can, restroom, parking, etc.	none	-	N/A	N/A	No	N/A	No	No	No	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	No	✓	✓	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No	N/A	yes
Trails		Surface material	None – natural grade	N/A	No – grass	N/A	✓	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Dirt path around lower fields	N/A	Packed dirt/ clear	N/A	-	None, N/A	N/A	N/A	Concrete	N/A	Natural grade	Asphalt path to beach	stone dust, dirt*	
		Dimensions	N/A	-	N/A	N/A	✓	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Varies	N/A	Varies 3 – 5’	N/A	-	N/A	N/A	N/A	3’	N/A	Varies	-	varies	
		Rails	N/A	-	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No	N/A	No	N/A	-	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No	-	no	
		Signage (for visually impaired)	N/A	-	No	N/A	N/A	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No	N/A	No	N/A	-	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	No	N/A	No	-	no
Swimming Facilities	Pools	Entrance	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
		Location from accessible parking	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
		Safety features i.e. warning for visually impaired	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Beaches	Location from accessible path into water	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	-	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
		Handrails	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
		Location from accessible parking	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Near	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
		Shade provided	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Trees	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Play Areas	All Play Equipment i.e. swings, slides	Accessibility of equipment (ground level, elevated with transfer platforms)	N/A	Ground level	N/A	Ground level	Ground level	N/A	Ground level	Ground level	Ground level	N/A	N/A	N/A	Not accessible – sand surface	Ground level	Older equipment	Ground level	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Ground level	Inaccessible	ground level	
	Access Routes	Accessible safety surfacing	N/A	EWF + Rubber Mats + PIP	N/A	EWF + Rubber Mats + PIP	EWF + Rubber Mats + PIP	N/A	EWF + Rubber Mats	EWF – needs replenishment	EWF. Rubber mats needed.	N/A	N/A	N/A	No	PIP + EWF	EWF	No route to playground	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No – muddy	EWF	concrete splash pad	
		Located adjacent to accessible paths	N/A	✓	N/A	✓	✓	N/A	✓	✓	✓	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	No	✓	Adjacent but fenced	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No	✓	yes

		Enough space between equipment for wheelchair	N/A	✓	N/A	✓	✓	N/A	✓	✓	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A	No	✓	✓	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	✓	yes
Game Areas: *ballfield *basketball *tennis	Access Routes	Located adjacent to accessible paths	natural grass	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A	✓	✓	✓	N/A	No	No	✓	N/A	✓	No	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	No	✓	N/A
		Berm cuts onto courts	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A	Courts in grass	Varies	✓	N/A	✓	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Equipment	Height	Typ.	N/A	N/A	N/A	Typ.	N/A	Typ.	Typ.	Typ.	N/A	-	-	Typ.	N/A	New equipment	-	-	N/A	N/A	N/A	-	-	N/A
		Dimensions	Typ.	N/A	N/A	N/A	-	N/A	Typ.	Typ.	Typ.	N/A	-	-	-	N/A	-	-	-	N/A	N/A	N/A	-	-	N/A
		Spectator Seating	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	None	N/A	No	✓	✓	N/A	Not on access path	-	None	N/A	Bleachers/ grandstand	Benches	-	N/A	N/A	N/A	-	Bleachers – accessible	N/A
Boat Docks	Access Routes	Located adjacent to accessible paths	N/A	N/A	No	N/A	N/A	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
		Handrails	N/A	N/A	No	N/A	N/A	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	-	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Fishing Facilities	Access Routes	Located adjacent to accessible paths	N/A	N/A	No paths	N/A	N/A	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Path not continued	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
		Handrails	N/A	N/A	No	N/A	N/A	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Equipment	Arm Rests	N/A	N/A	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
		Bait Shelves	N/A	N/A	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
		Handrails	N/A	N/A	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
		Fish Cleaning Tables	N/A	N/A	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Programming	Are special programs at your facilities accessible?	Youth Fitness/Sports	soccer	School sports	N/A	N/A	Youth sports	N/A	-	Youth sports	Youth sports	N/A	Youth sports	Youth sports	Volleyball program	-	Recreation programs	N/A	Youth sports	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Youth sports/baseball	Youth camps at splash pad
		Guided Hikes	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Saturday hike
		Interpretive Programs	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Summer Camp with walk to beach	
Services and Technical Assistance	Information available in alternative formats i.e. for visually impaired			N/A	N/A	-	No												N/A	N/A					
	Process to request interpretive services (i.e. sign language interpreter) for meetings				N/A	N/A	-	N/A												N/A	N/A				

NOTES:

- Akeson: this is a grass soccer/multipurpose field with an informal dirt/gravel parking area adjacent. Only equipment present included soccer goals.
- Vining Fields: Batting cages are not accessible.
- Warren Manning State Forest: primary path surface between parking and splash pad and picnic shelter is a firmly compacted stoned dust surface, reasonably wheelchair accessible in most areas, but with eroded areas and roots in some locations limiting full access to the site and amenities. Splash pad is concrete and reasonably level but can get problematically slick. Surrounding stone dust is eroded creating a transition >1/2” in many locations. Additional trails extend into adjacent forest areas that are rough, dirt trails with variable slope – not accessible.

PARKING	Akeson Park	Bicknell/Ditson Elementary	Contribution Park	Dutile Elementary	Hajjar Elementary	Katie Durand Memorial Park	Kennedy Elementary	Kids Konnection	Kohlrausch Park	Korean War Veterans Memorial	Locke Middle School	Marshall Middle School	Micozzi Beach	Parker Elementary	Peggy Hannon-Rizza Complex	Pinehurst Park	Potter Field	Talbot Oval	Town Common	Vietnam Veterans Park – Dog Park	Vietnam Veterans Park – other	Vining Field	Warren Manning State Forest
Number of spaces / accessible spaces	none*	✓	none	✓	✓	✓	✓	No	✓	No		No	✓		✓	No – no marked spaces	No – 1 space needed	N/A	No	✓	No marked space	✓	26-50/none*
Accessible space located closest to accessible entrance	N/A	See below*	N/A	See below	✓*	✓	No*	✓	✓	No	✓	See below	✓		✓	No	N/A	N/A	No spaces	✓	None	✓	no
Where spaces cannot be located within 200 ft of accessible entrance, drop-off area is provided within 100 ft	N/A	N/A	✓	✓	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A	✓	N/A		N/A	No	✓	N/A	No drop-off area	N/A	N/A	N/A	no
Minimum width of 13 ft includes 8 ft space plus 5 ft access aisle	N/A	✓	N/A	✓	✓	✓	✓	N/A - unmarked	✓	N/A	✓	✓	No – one space lacks an access aisle		✓	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A	✓	no
Van space – minimum of 1 van space for every accessible space, 8 ft wide plus 8 ft aisle. Alternative is to make all accessible spaces 11 ft wide with 5 ft aisle.	N/A	✓	N/A	✓	✓	✓	✓	No	✓	N/A	Not signed but sufficient width	Not signed but sufficient width	Not signed but sufficient width		✓	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A	Not signed but sufficient width	no
Sign with international symbol of accessibility at each space or pair of spaces	N/A	✓	N/A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	N/A	One sign doesn't indicate van	✓	One sign doesn't indicate van		✓	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A	✓	no
Sign minimum 5 ft, maximum 8 ft to top of sign	N/A	✓	N/A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	N/A	No (< 8')	✓	✓		✓	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A	No – one sign <5'	N/A
Surface evenly paved or hard-packed (no cracks)	no	✓	N/A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Cracked	No, significant cracks		Cracked	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	✓	✓	yes
Surface slope less than 1:20, 5%	uneven/eroded surface	✓	N/A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	✓	✓	yes
Curbscut to pathway from parking lot at each space or pair of spaces, if sidewalk (curb) is present	N/A	✓	N/A	✓	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A	N/A	✓	Not accessible		✓	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	flush / no curb
Curbscut is a minimum of 3 ft, excluding sloped sides, has sloped sides, all sides not to exceed 1:12, and textured or painted yellow	N/A	✓	N/A	✓		N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A	N/A	✓	No, 3 ft		✓	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

NOTES:

- Akeson Fields—fields have informal gravel/dirt parking only (no marked spaces) with seasonal gated vehicular access off of a private office park parking lot
- Bicknell/Ditson School – There are accessible spaces by the basketball court but not by the playground. The parking space by the basketball court do not have a space marked as a van space.
- Contribution Park – shared parking lot with strip mall. No accessible spaces.
- Dutile – There are no parking spaces marked as accessible near the playground. There are accessible spaces near the school entrance, but a step between the school and playground presents a barrier to entry.
- Hajjar School – accessible parking spaces are located nearest to school entrance.
- Kids Konnection – only one marked accessible space in the large capacity parking lot. No van space.
- Kennedy School – accessible parking spaces are located nearest to school entrance.
- Korean War Veterans Memorial – parking lot is shared with Kids Konnection and baseball diamond. There are no marked accessible spaces near the entrance to the Korean War Veterans Memorial. For the parking lot as a whole, there are too few ADA spaces.
- Marshall Middle School – an additional ADA parking space is required. Spaces are located closest to the school entrance.
- Micozzi Beach – Improvements are needed to pavement condition, van signage, and curb cuts.
- Peggy Hannon-Rizza – the six older accessible parking spaces were not marked Talbot Oval – no parking surrounding the park
- Town Common – No accessible spaces were observed.

- Vietnam Veterans Park (other) – There are no marked accessible spaces. The Community Garden/RC Fliers parking lot is muddy and eroded.
- Warren Manning State Forest –asphalt parking area is level and adequate space exists for accessible spaces adjacent to both the restrooms and the entrance to the picnic area, though no spaces are marked with signage or striping. Recommend restriping for at least one accessible space at restroom and close to entrance to picnic shelter.

RAMPS	Akeson Park	Bicknell/Ditson Elementary	Contribution Park	Dutile Elementary	Hajjar Elementary	Katie Durand Memorial Park	Kennedy Elementary	Kids Konnection	Kohlrausch Park	Korean War Veterans Memorial	Locke Middle School	Marshall Middle School	Micozzi Beach	Parker Elementary	Peggy Hannon-Rizza Complex	Pinehurst Park	Potter Field	Talbot Oval	Town Common	Vietnam Veterans Park – Dog Park	Vietnam Veterans Park – other	Vining Field	Warren Manning State Forest
Slope maximum 1:12	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Minimum width 4 ft between handrails	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No – 45”	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Handrails on both sides if ramp is longer than 6 ft	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Handrails at 34” and 19” from ramp surface	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No lower rail	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Handrails extend 12” beyond top and bottom	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Handgrip oval or round & smooth surface	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Handgrip diameter between 1 ½” & 2”	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Clearance of 1 ½” between wall and wall rail	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Non-slip surface	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Level platforms (4’ and 4’) at every 30 ft, at top, bottom, direction change	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

SITE ACCESS, PATH OF TRAVEL, EXTRANCES	Akeson Park	Bicknell/Ditson Elementary	Contribution Park	Dutile Elementary	Hajjar Elementary	Katie Durand Memorial Park	Kennedy Elementary	Kids Konnection	Kohlrausch Park	Korean War Veterans Memorial	Locke Middle School	Marshall Middle School	Micozzi Beach	Parker Elementary	Peggy Hannon-Rizza Complex	Pinehurst Park	Potter Field	Talbot Oval	Town Common	Vietnam Veterans Park – Dog Park	Vietnam Veterans Park – other	Vining Field	Warren Manning State Forest
Site Access																							
Accessible path of travel from passenger disembarking area & parking area to accessible entrance	No*	✓	N/A	✓	No*	✓	✓	No*	No*	✓	No	No	No – 1”+ relief at sidewalk adjacent to parking	✓	✓	No building, no route to play areas	No	No	No	✓	No	✓	✓*
Disembarking area at accessible entrance	no	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	No	✓	No	✓	✓	No	No	No	No	✓	No	N/A	Not marked
Surface evenly paved or hard-packed	no	✓	✓	✓	No	✓	✓	No	No	✓	✓	No	✓	✓	✓	No – grass only	No	✓	No	✓	Varies	✓	✓
No ponding of water	✓	✓	N/A	✓	No	✓	✓	✓	No	✓	✓	✓	No	✓	Slight ponding	No	No	✓	No	✓	No	✓	✓
Path of Travel																							
Path does not require use of stairs	✓	✓	N/A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	N/A	✓	✓	✓	✓	No path	No path	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Path is stable, firm, and slip-resistant	no	✓	No path. Surface is grass.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	N/A	No - grass	✓	✓	✓	No	N/A	✓	✓	✓*	No	✓	✓
3 ft wide minimum	✓	✓	N/A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	N/A	No	✓	✓	✓	N/A	N/A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Slope maximum 1:20 (5%) and maximum cross pitch is 2% (1:50)	no*	✓	N/A	✓	No*	✓	✓	✓	No	✓	N/A	No	✓	✓	✓	N/A	No	✓	✓	✓	No – 6%	✓	✓
Continuous common surface, no changes in level greater than ½”	N/A	✓	N/A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	No	✓	N/A	No – cracks in paving	No – cracks and transitions	✓	✓	No	No	✓	Cracks in pavement	No*	No – uneven	✓	½” + multiple locations
Any objects protruding onto pathway must be detected by person with visual disability, using cane	N/A	✓	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A	✓	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	✓	Obstructions on path to Snack	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A	✓	N/A	✓	Branches , water fountain
Object protruding more than 4” from wall must be within 27” of ground, or higher than 80”	N/A	✓	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	✓	Obstructions on path to Snack	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A	✓	N/A	✓	low branches
Curb on pathway must have curb-cuts at drives, parking, & drop-offs	N/A	✓	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	✓	N/A	N/A	-	✓	✓	No	N/A	No	✓	N/A	N/A	✓	Flush/no curb
Entrances*																							
Primary public entrances accessible to person using wheelchair, must be signed, gotten to independently, and <i>not</i> be the service entrance												✓	✓		✓							*	
Level space extending 5 ft. from the door, interior and exterior of entrance doors												✓	✓		✓								
Minimum 32” clear width opening (i.e. 36” door with standard hinge)												✓	✓		✓								
At least 18” clear floor area on latch, pull side of door												✓	✓		✓								
Door handle no higher than 48” and operable with a closed fist												✓	No – latch		✓								

Vestibule is 4 ft plus the width of the door swinging into the space											✓ Door swings out	✓		✓									
Entrance(s) on a level that makes elevators accessible											N/A	N/A		N/A									
Door mats no less than ½” thick are securely fastened											N/A	N/A		N/A									
Door mats more than ½” thick are recessed											N/A	N/A		N/A									
Grates in path of travel have openings of ½” maximum											✓	N/A		✓									
Signs at non-accessible entrance(s) indicate direction to accessible entrance											N/A	N/A		N/A									
Emergency egress – alarms with flashing lights and audible signals, sufficiently lighted											N/A	N/A		✓									

Notes:

- Entrances are recorded for structures with common interior spaces—restrooms with doors to exterior recorded in “restrooms, doors, floors” sections.
- Ackeson Park: informal parking and route to fields is gravel and eroded lawn, uneven and varying in slope – not wheelchair accessible.
- Contribution Park is surfaced with lawn. Passengers may disembark at the entrance, however, no accessible path through the site exists.
- Dutile School: The parking lot near the playground was evaluated as a drop-off location. A ramp is needed from the school to prevent the landing step from being a barrier.
- Hajjar School: Site Access - evaluated conditions entering the playground from the parking lot (not through school); the asphalt at this entrance is washed out and requires repair. Path of Travel - the pathway to the pavilion exceeds maximum slope. A handrail should be added at the entrance to the pavilion. No accessible path to baseball diamond. Wood mulch surfacing on playground is not stable, firm, and slip-resistant.
- Katie Durand: Path of travel to water’s edge is uneven natural terrain and not accessible by state and federal ADA standards.
- Kids Konnection: Entrance path is not currently accessible due to erosion impacts. Repair needed to make path accessible.
- Kohlrausch Park: Path from parking lot curb cut to sidewalk exceeds 5% slope. Consider adding handrail or decreasing slope. Asphalt path from parking to playground is cracked, uneven, and ponding. Repairs needed to make accessible. The step from the asphalt path to the playground entrance presents a barrier as well. Consider replenishing EWF to decrease drop from asphalt.
- Marshall Middle School: No accessible pathway to fields. Entrance to ice hockey rink not accessible due to paving degradation. Concession stand Is accessible if passenger is dropped off.
- Pinehurst Park: Grass only between parking and basketball.
- Potter Field: no accessible path from parking lot to field or bleachers.
- Talbot Oval: Paths exit directly to the road with no shoulder, sidewalk, or crosswalk, creating unsafe routes into/out of the park.
- Town Common: Upcoming renovations should help address unsafe entry points into the park (ponding, uneven surfaces).
- Vietnam Veterans Park - Dog Park: At the entrance gate to the park there is a > 1” grade change which requires correction. Some paths need repair to create even surface.
- Vietnam Veterans Park (other): No accessible path to community gardens or RC Fliers Pavilion. Path to soccer fields is steep and uneven. Path to playground is obstructed by a step. Playground surfacing is muddy and uneven.
- Vining Field: Snack Shack not accessible
- Warren Manning State Forest: surface in primary path of travel is compacted stone dust that is reasonably stable, firm and slip-resistant though impacted by erosion and roots in multiple locations.

STAIRS AND DOORS	Akeson Park	Bicknell/Ditson Elementary	Contribution Park	Dutile Elementary	Hajjar Elementary	Katie Durand Memorial Park	Kennedy Elementary	Kids Konnection	Kohlrausch Park	Korean War Veterans Memorial	Locke Middle School	Marshall Middle School	Micozzi Beach	Parker Elementary	Peggy Hannon-Rizza Complex	Pinehurst Park	Potter Field	Talbot Oval	Town Common	Vietnam Veterans Park – Dog Park	Vietnam Veterans Park – other	Vining Field	Warren Manning State Forest
Stairs	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
No open risers															✓								
Nosings not projecting															N/A								
Treads no less than 11” wide															✓								
Handrails on both sides															No								
Handrails 34”-38” above tread															N/A								
Handrail extends min. of 1 ft beyond top & bottom riser (if no safety hazard & space permits)															N/A								
Handgrip oval or round, has a smooth surface, & has diameter between 1 ¼” & 1 ½”															N/A								
1 ½” clearance between wail & handrail															N/A								
Doors	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	<i>Meeting room and Snack</i>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Minimum 32” clear opening												✓	✓		✓								✓
At least 18” clear floor space on pull side of door												✓	✓		✓								✓
Closing speed minimum 3 seconds to within 3” of latch												✓	✓		✓								not self closing
Maximum pressure 5 lbs interior door												No – door sticks	✓		✓								✓
Threshold maximum ½” high, beveled on both sides												✓	No – not beveled		✓								½” not beveled
Hardware operable with closed fish (no conventional door knobs or thumb latch devices):												✓	No – not operable		✓								No*
Hardware minimum 36”, maximum 48” above floor												✓	No – 32” – pull bar		✓								✓
Clear, level floor space extends out 5 ft from both sides of door												✓	No – interior is 40”		✓								✓
Door adjacent to revolving door is accessible and unlocked												N/A	N/A		N/A								N/A
Doors opening into hazardous area have hardware that is knurled or roughened												N/A	N/A		N/A								N/A

- Schools: Only the playground/outdoor recreation areas were assessed as part of this self-evaluation.
- Warren Manning State Forest: door not self-closing and lock is difficult/not openable with closed fist.

RESTROOMS – also see DOORS AND VESTIBULES	Akeson Park	Bicknell/Ditson Elementary	Contribution Park	Dutile Elementary	Hajjar Elementary	Katie Durand Memorial Park	Kennedy Elementary	Kids Konnection	Kohlrausch Park	Korean War Veterans Memorial	Locke Middle School	Marshall Middle School	Micozzi Beach	Parker Elementary	Peggy Hannon-Rizza Complex	Pinehurst Park	Potter Field	Talbot Oval	Town Common	Vietnam Veterans Park – Dog Park	Vietnam Veterans Park – other	Vining Field	Warren Manning State Forest
	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	No	N/A	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓
5 ft turning space measured 12” from the floor												✓	No		✓								✓
<i>At least one Sink:</i>																							✓
Clear floor space of 30” by 48” to allow a forward approach												✓	✓		✓								✓
Mounted without pedestal or legs, height 34” to top of rim												✓	No – 32” to top		No								✓
Extends at least 22” from the wall												✓	No – 18” from wall		No								no*
Open knee space a minimum 19” deep, 30” width, and 27” high												✓	No – bottom of sink 2’		✓								no*
Cover exposed pipes with insulation												✓	No		✓								no
Faucets operable with closed fist (lever or spring activated handle)												✓	✓		✓								✓
<i>At least one Stall:</i>																							no stall
Accessible to person using wheelchair at 60” wide by 72” deep												✓	✓		✓								no*
Stall door is 36” wide												✓	✓		No – 34”								N/A
Stall door swings out												No	No		No								N/A
Stall door is self closing												No	No		✓								N/A
Stall door has a pull latch												✓	No		✓								N/A
Lock on stall door is operable with a closed fist, and 32” above the floor												✓	No – not operable		No – 42”								N/A
Coat hook is 54” high												✓	N/A		✓								N/A
<i>Toilet</i>																							
18” from center to nearest side wall												✓	✓		✓								✓
42” minimum clear space from center to farthest wall or fixture												✓	✓		✓								✓
Top of seat 17”-19” above the floor												✓	✓		✓								✓
<i>Grab Bars</i>																							✓
On back and side wall closest to toilet												✓	✓		✓								✓
1¼” diameter												✓	✓		✓								1.5”D
1½” clearance to wall												✓	✓		✓								✓
Located 30” above and parallel to the floor												✓	No		✓ - 36”								no, 36”
Acid-etched or roughened surface												✓	No		✓								no
42” long												✓	No		✓								✓
<i>Fixtures</i>																							no
Toilet paper dispenser is 24” above floor												✓	No		No – 21”								no
One mirror set a maximum 38” to bottom (if tilted, 42”)												✓	N/A		No – 40”								no, 40”

Dispensers (towel, soap, etc) at least one of each a maximum 42" above the floor											✓	No		✓								no
--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	---	----	--	---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	----

Notes:

- Schools: Only the playground/outdoor recreation areas were assessed as part of this self-evaluation.
- Warren Manning State Forest: Men’s and women’s restrooms have same dimensions. Sinks are 18” deep by 18” wide. 45” from toilet to front wall.

FLOORS, DRINKING FOUNTAINS, TELEPHONES	Akeson Park	Bicknell/Ditson Elementary	Contribution Park	Dutile Elementary	Hajjar Elementary	Katie Durand Memorial Park	Kennedy Elementary	Kids Konnection	Kohlrausch Park	Korean War Veterans Memorial	Locke Middle School	Marshall Middle School	Micozzi Beach	Parker Elementary	Peggy Hannon-Rizza Complex	Pinehurst Park	Potter Field	Talbot Oval	Town Common	Vietnam Veterans Park – Dog Park	Vietnam Veterans Park – other	Vining Field	Warren Manning State Forest
	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Floors															Meeting Room + Snack								
Non-slip surface												✓	✓		✓								✓
Carpeting is high-density, low pile, non-absorbent, stretched taut, securely anchored												N/A	✓		N/A								N/A
Corridor width minimum is 3 ft												✓	✓		✓								N/A
Objects (signs, ceiling lights, fixtures) can only protrude 4” into the path of travel from a height of 27” to 80” above the floor												✓	✓		✓								✓
Drinking Fountains												N/A	N/A		Snack								
Spouts no higher than 36” from floor to outlet															bottle filler - 44”								✓
Hand operated push button or level controls															✓								✓
Spouts located near front with stream of water as parallel to front as possible															✓								✓
If recessed, recess a minimum 30” width, and no deeper than depth of fountain															N/A								N/A
If no clear knee space underneath, clear floor space 30” x 48” to allow parallel approach															✓								✓
Telephones												N/A	N/A		N/A								N/A
Highest operating part a maximum 54” above the floor																							
Access within 12” of phone, 30” high by 30” wide																							
Adjustable volume control on headset so identified																							
SIGNS, SIGNALS, AND SWITCHES															Meeting Room and Snack								
Switches, Controls and Signs																							N/A
Switches and controls for light, heat, ventilation, windows, fire alarms, thermostats, etc, must be a minimum of 36” and a maximum of 48” above the floor for a forward reach, a maximum of 54” for a side reach												✓	-		✓								
Electrical outlets centered no lower than 18” above the floor												✓	-		✓								
Warning signals must be visual as well as audible												-	-		N/A								
Signs															Meeting Room/R estroom /Snack								

Mounting height must be 60” to centerline of the sign											No	No		✓								no, 70”
Within 18” of door jamb or recessed											No	✓		✓								on door
Letters and numbers at least 1¼” high											No	No		No – 3m								no
Letters and numbers raised .03”											No	No		✓								no
Letters and numbers contrast with the background color			N/A	N/A							✓	✓		✓								✓

SWIMMING POOLS – accessibility can be via ramp, lifting device, or transfer area	Akeson Park	Bicknell/Ditson Elementary	Contribution Park	Dutile Elementary	Hajjar Elementary	Katie Durand Memorial Park	Kennedy Elementary	Kids Konnection	Kohlrausch Park	Korean War Veterans Memorial	Locke Middle School	Marshall Middle School	Micozzi Beach	Parker Elementary	Peggy Hannon-Rizza Complex	Pinehurst Park	Potter Field	Talbot Oval	Town Common	Vietnam Veterans Park – Dog Park	Vietnam Veterans Park – other	Vining Field	Warren Manning State Forest
Ramp at least 34” wide with a non-slip surface extending into the shallow end, slope not exceeding 1:6 with handrails on both sides	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Lifting device	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Transfer area 18” above the path of travel and a minimum of 18” wide	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Unobstructed path of travel not less than 48” wide around pool	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Non-slip surface	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Ramp at least 34” wide with a non-slip surface extending into the shallow end, slope not exceeding 1:6 with handrails on both sides	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

SHOWER ROOMS – must accommodate both wheel-in and transfer use	Akeson Park	Bicknell/Ditson Elementary	Contribution Park	Dutile Elementary	Hajjar Elementary	Katie Durand Memorial Park	Kennedy Elementary	Kids Konnection	Kohlrausch Park	Korean War Veterans Memorial	Locke Middle School	Marshall Middle School	Micozzi Beach	Parker Elementary	Peggy Hannon-Rizza Complex	Pinehurst Park	Potter Field	Talbot Oval	Town Common	Vietnam Veterans Park – Dog Park	Vietnam Veterans Park – other	Vining Field	Warren Manning State Forest
Stalls 36” by 60” minimum, with a 36” door opening	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Outdoor shower	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Floors are pitched to drain the stall at the corner farthest from entrance	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Floors are non-slip surface	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Controls operate by a single lever with a pressure balance mixing valve	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Controls are located on the center wall adjacent to the hinged seat	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Shower heads attached to a flexible metal hose	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Shower heads attached to wall mounting adjustable from 42” to 72” above the floor	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Seat is hinged and padded and at least 16” deep, folds upward, securely attached to side wall, height is 18” to the top of the seat, and at least 24” long	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Soap trays without handhold features unless they can support 250 pounds	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

2 grab bars are provided, one 30” and one 48” long, or one continuous L shaped bar	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Grab bars are placed horizontally at 36” above the floor line	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

PICNICKING	Akeson Park	Bicknell/Ditson Elementary	Contribution Park	Dutile Elementary	Hajjar Elementary	Katie Durand Memorial Park	Kennedy Elementary	Kids Konnection	Kohlrausch Park	Korean War Veterans Memorial	Locke Middle School	Marshall Middle School	Micozzi Beach	Parker Elementary	Peggy Hannon-Rizza Complex	Pinehurst Park	Potter Field	Talbot Oval	Town Common	Vietnam Veterans Park – Dog Park	Vietnam Veterans Park – other	Vining Field
A minimum of 5% of the total tables must be accessible with clear space under the table top not less than 30” wide and 19” deep per seating space and not less than 27” clear from the ground to the underside of the table. An additional 29” clear space (totaling 48”) must extend beyond the 19” clear space under the table to provide access	N/A	One table, not accessible	N/A	N/A	No*	No*	✓	No	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	No	✓	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	✓	3 of 8 tables end-accessible*
For tables without toe clearance, the knee space under the table must be at least 28” high, 30” wide and 24” deep.	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	✓	No	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A	✓	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	✓	✓
Top of table no higher than 32” above ground	N/A	✓	N/A	N/A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	✓	✓	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	✓	✓
Surface of the clear ground space under and around the table must be stable, firm and slip-resistant, and evenly graded with a maximum slope of 2% in all directions	N/A	✓	N/A	N/A	✓	✓	✓	No	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	✓	✓	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	✓	no
Accessible tables, grills and fire rings must have clear ground space of at least 36” around the perimeter	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	✓	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	No	N/A	✓	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	✓	2 yes, 2 no

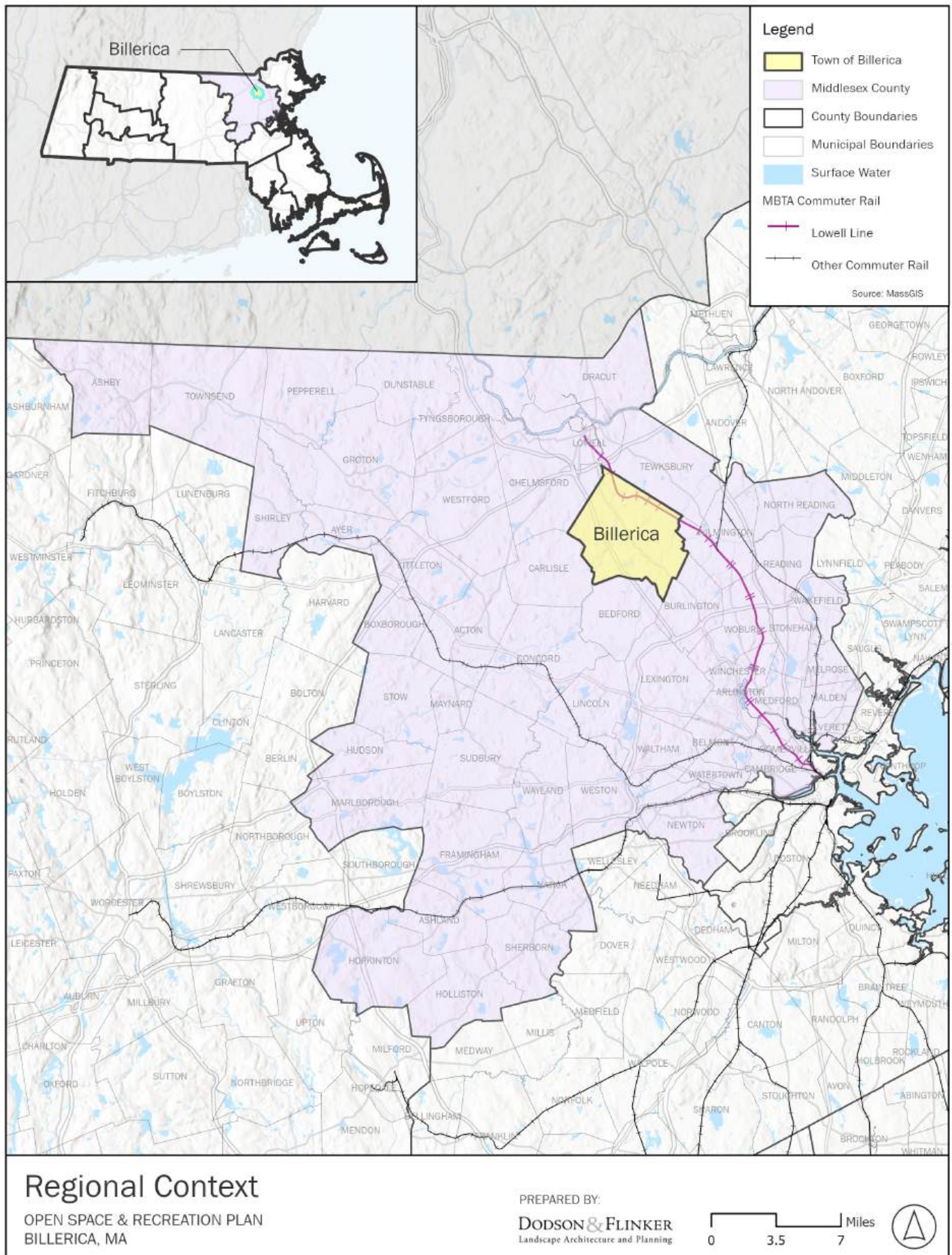
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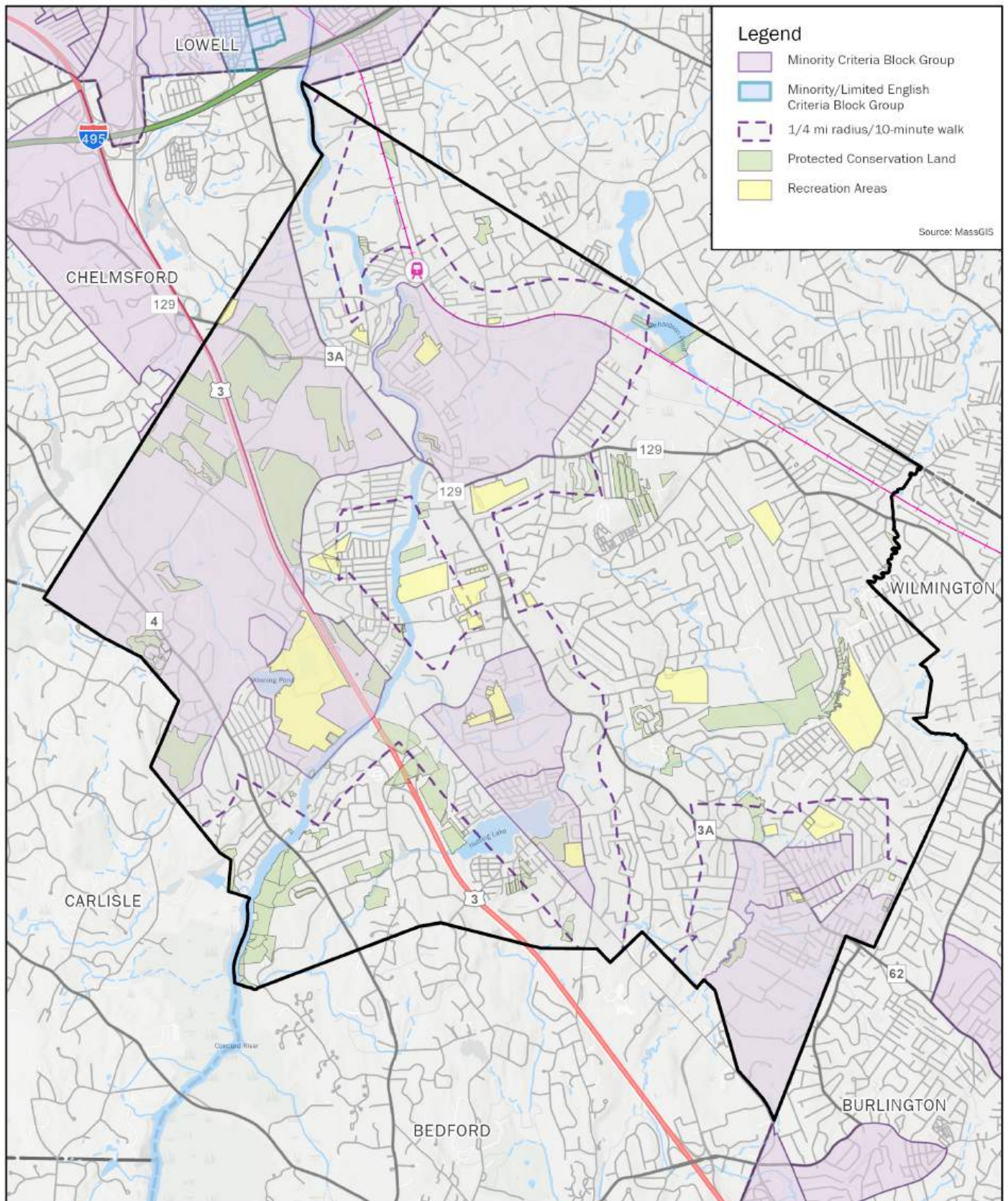
- Hajjar School: Picnic tables do have a minimum of 5% of clear space under the table top.
- Katie Durand: Clear space under picnic table top is less than 30” wide (23”)
- Kids Konnection: Two picnic tables are tucked under trees, where slope and tree roots make them inaccessible. Other tables are under the pavilion with inadequate clearance around the table. Consider moving tables to level grade, open areas, and providing a table with clear space under the tabletop for a wheelchair.
- Kohlraush Park: Picnic tables do not have 5% clear space and there is not enough knee space for tables without toe clearance. Grills do not have 36” clear around the perimeter.
- Pinehurst Park: No accessible tables.
- Warren Manning State Forest: 3 of 8 tables end-accessible, however debris in picnic areas need to be cleared. Stone dust surface or compacted dirt under tables is reasonably firm and slip resistant in many cases, but subject to erosion and washout. Material uneven or loose in multiple locations limiting wheelchair movement to all tables.

Other:

- Engineered wood fiber surfacing in playgrounds is not interpreted by MAAB to be an accessible surface unless rubber access mats are provided.
- Playgrounds generally lack universal design play equipment (for example, a ground accessible spinner that includes both seats and space for a wheelchair, or ground-level music instruments on accessible routes that can be equally enjoyed by all

Appendix E: Maps





Environmental Justice Populations

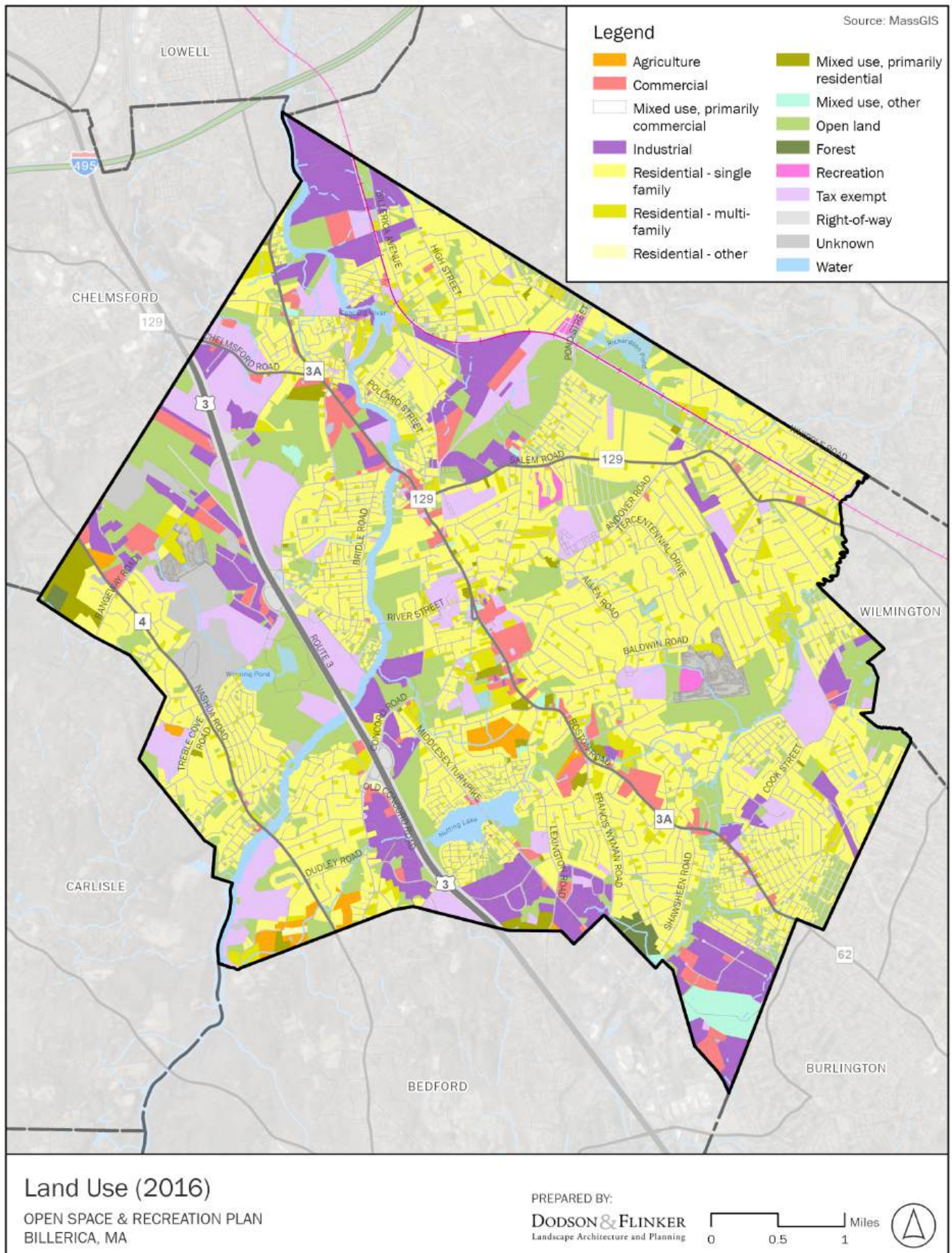
OPEN SPACE & RECREATION PLAN
BILLERICA, MA

PREPARED BY:

DODSON & FLINKER
Landscape Architecture and Planning

0 0.5 1 Miles





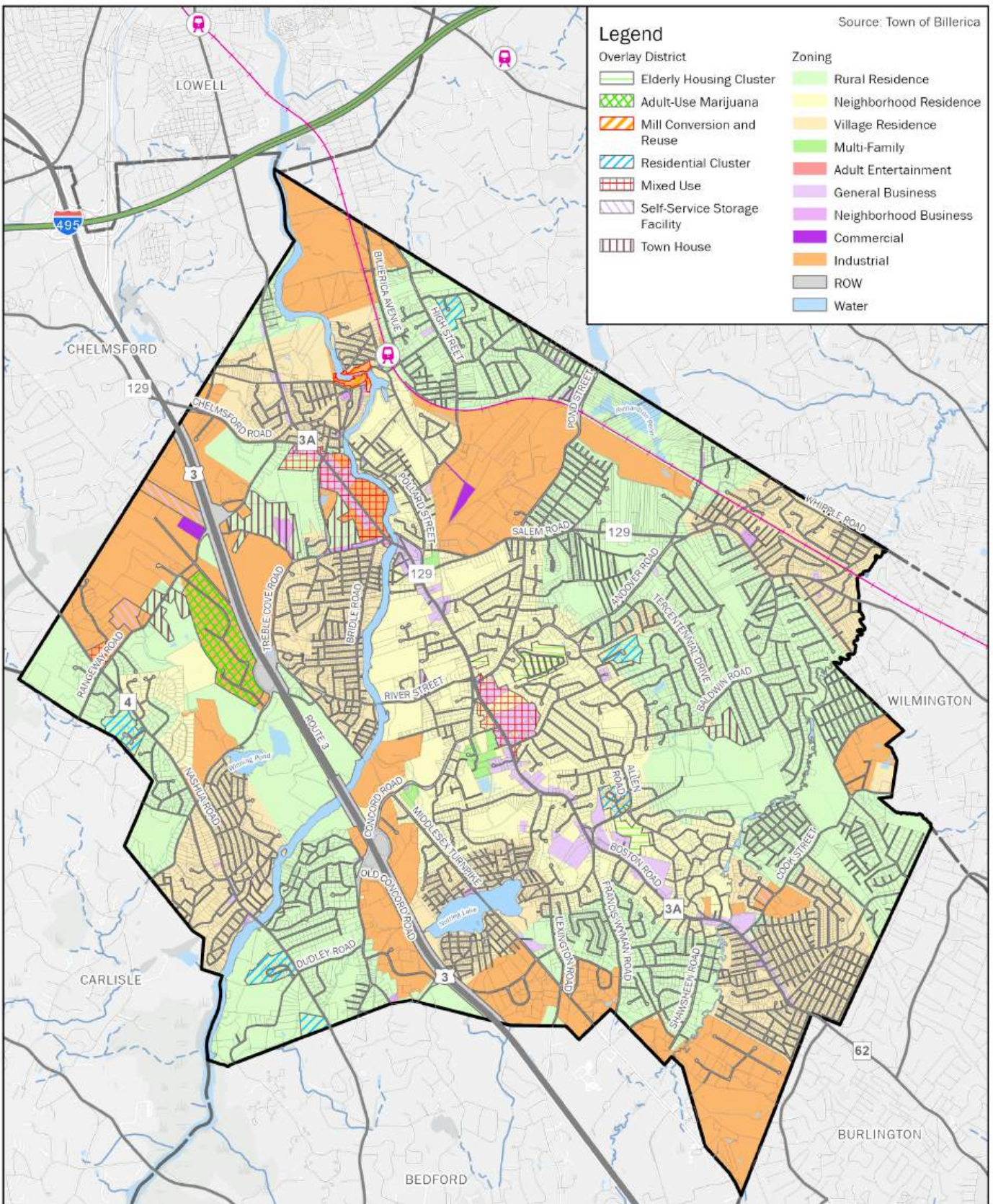
Legend

Overlay District

- Elderly Housing Cluster
- Adult-Use Marijuana
- Mill Conversion and Reuse
- Residential Cluster
- Mixed Use
- Self-Service Storage Facility
- Town House

Zoning

- Rural Residence
- Neighborhood Residence
- Village Residence
- Multi-Family
- Adult Entertainment
- General Business
- Neighborhood Business
- Commercial
- Industrial
- ROW
- Water



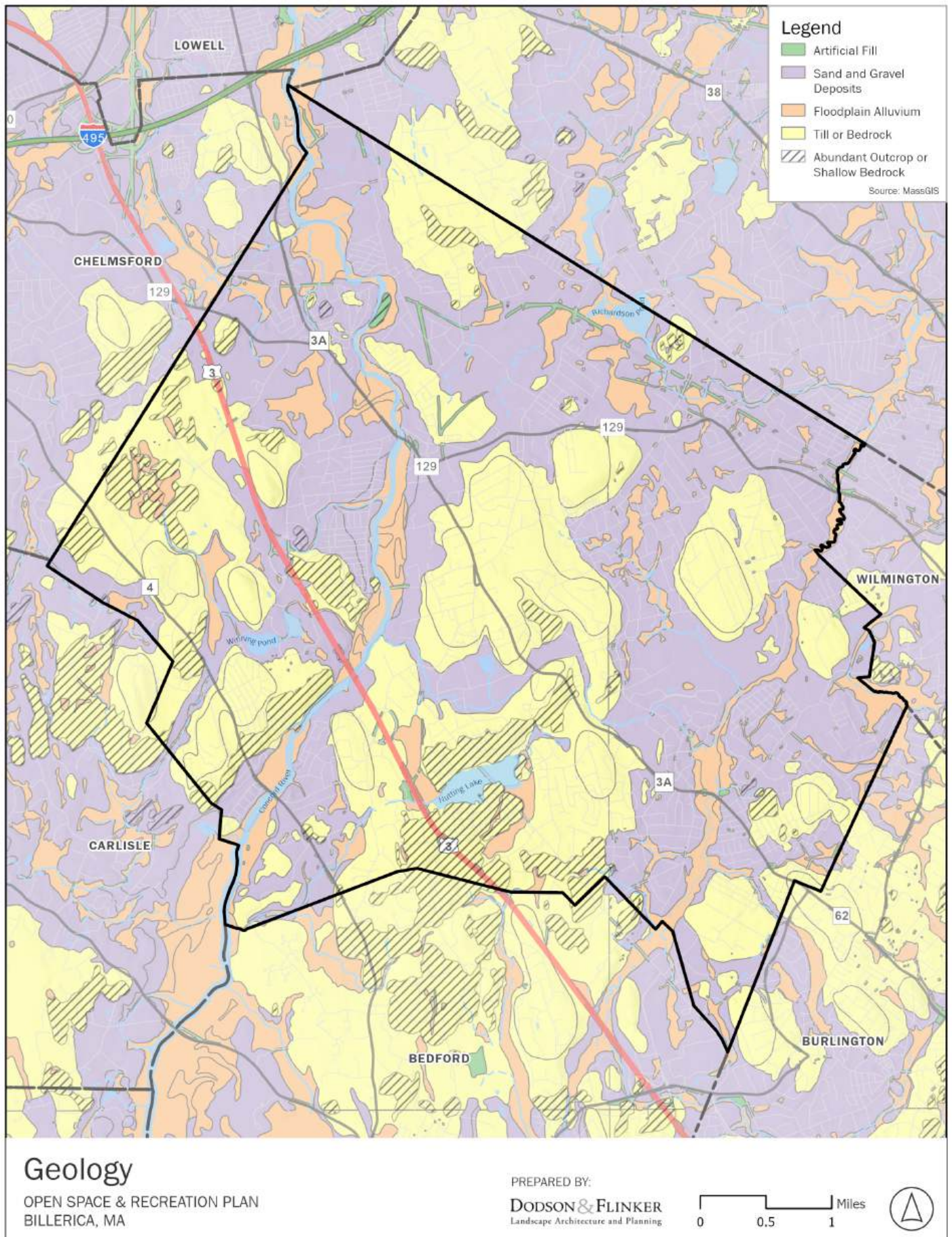
Zoning

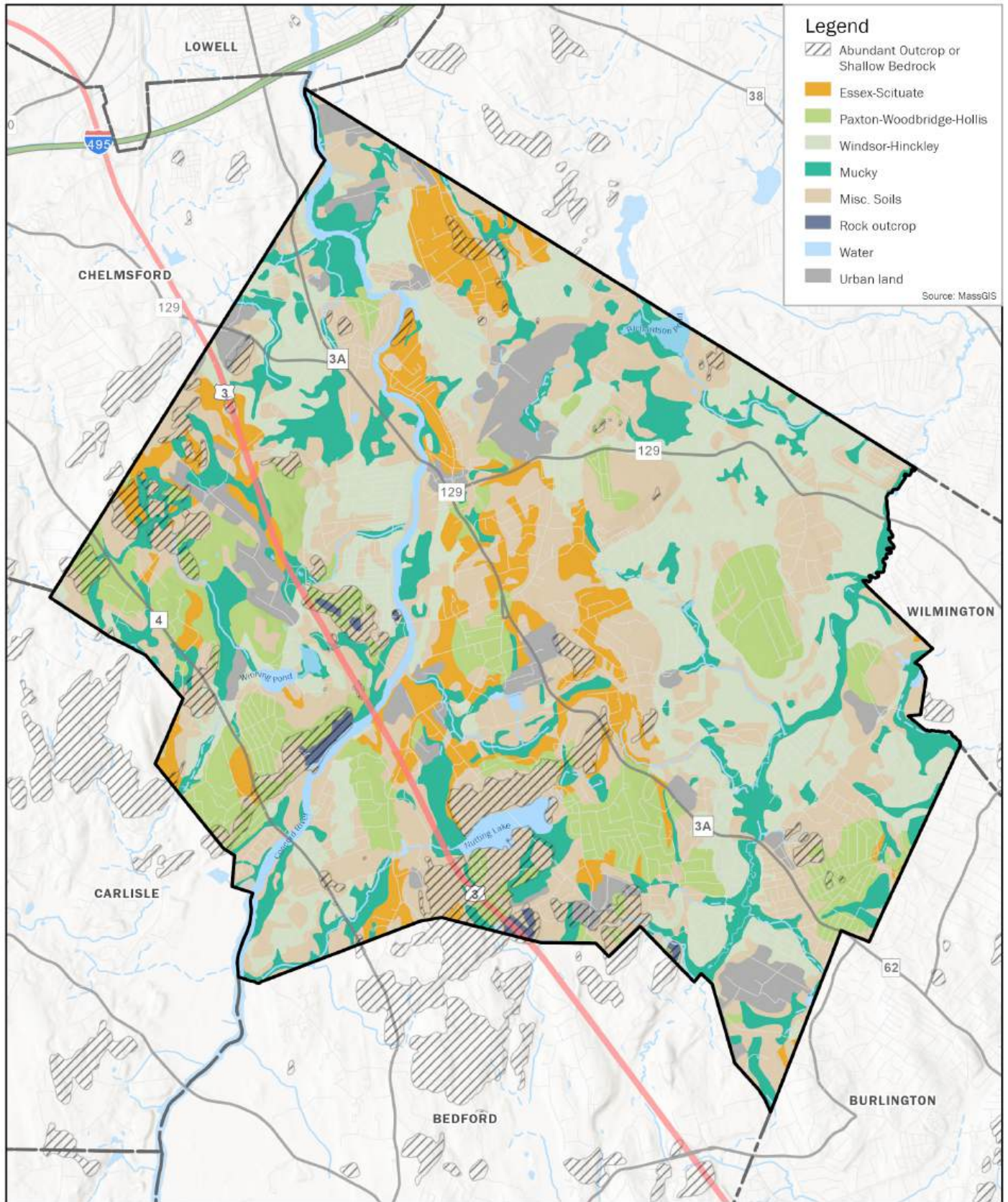
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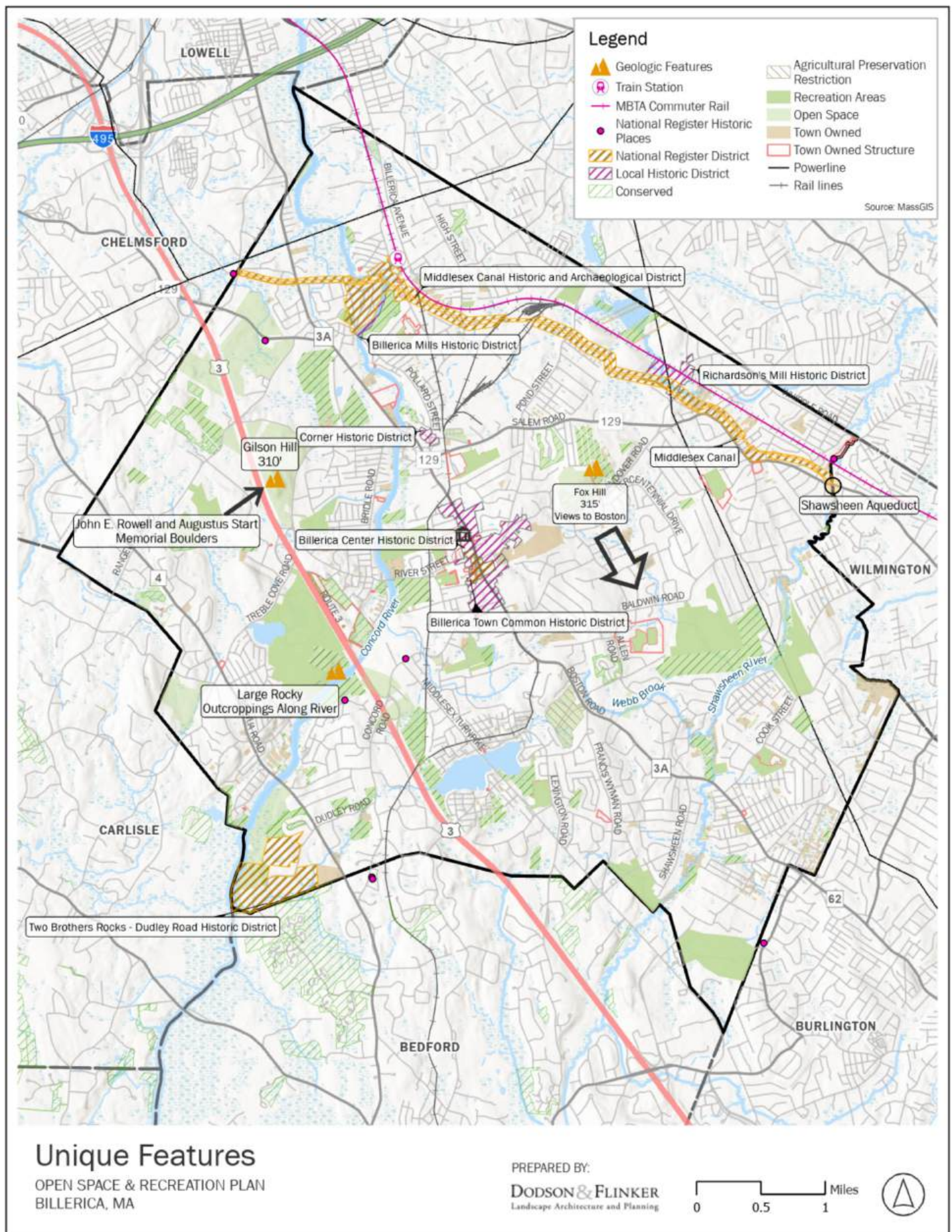
Soils

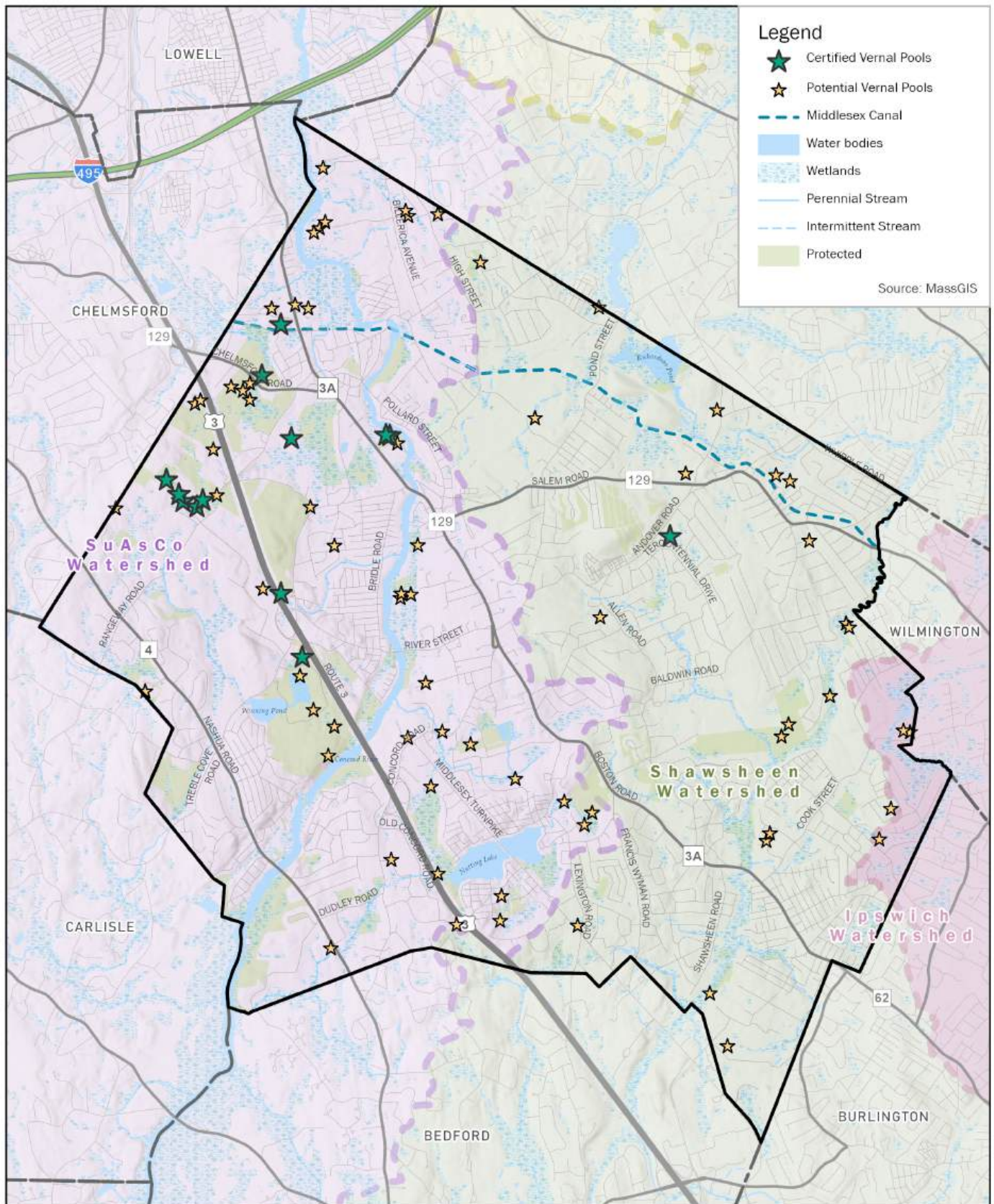
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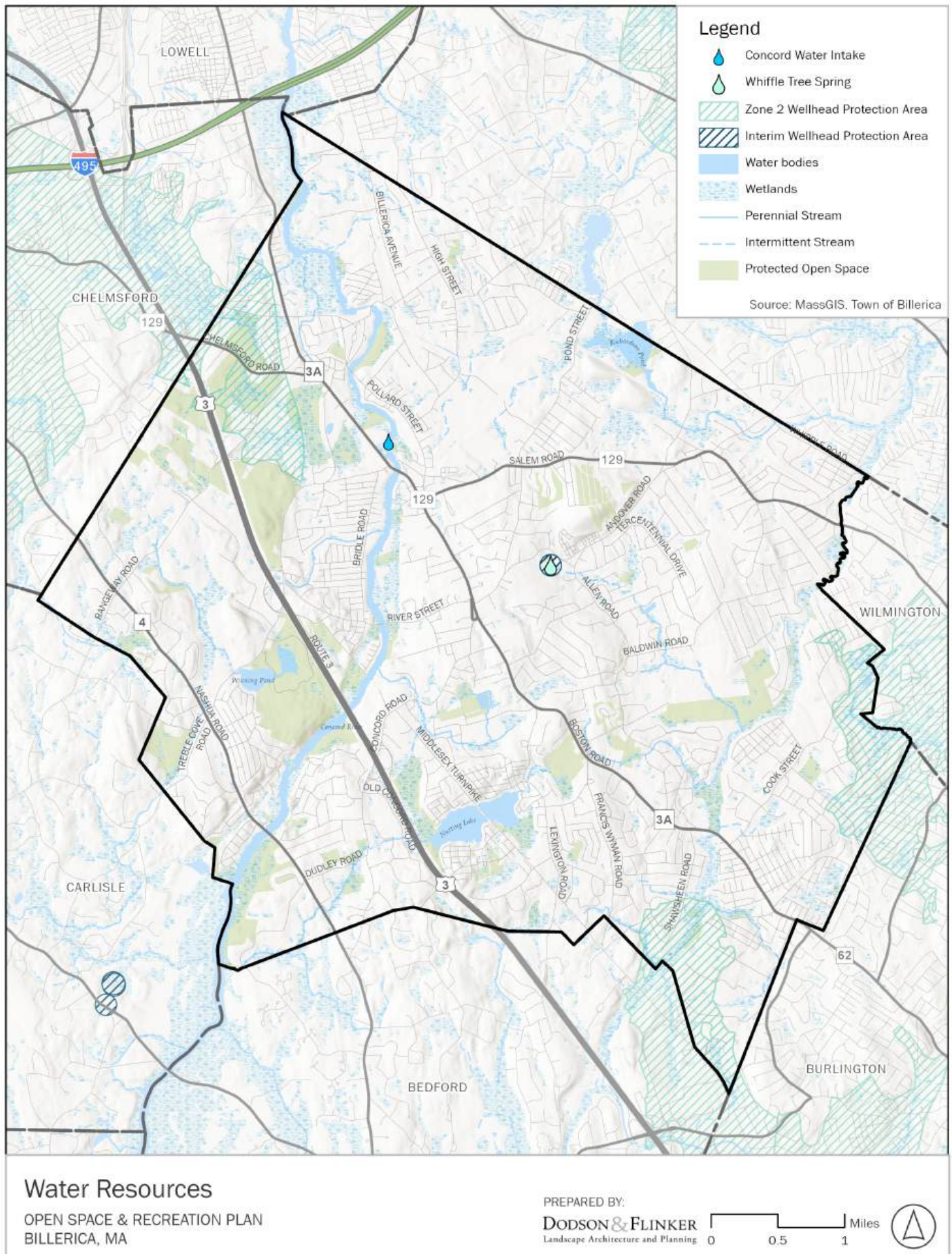
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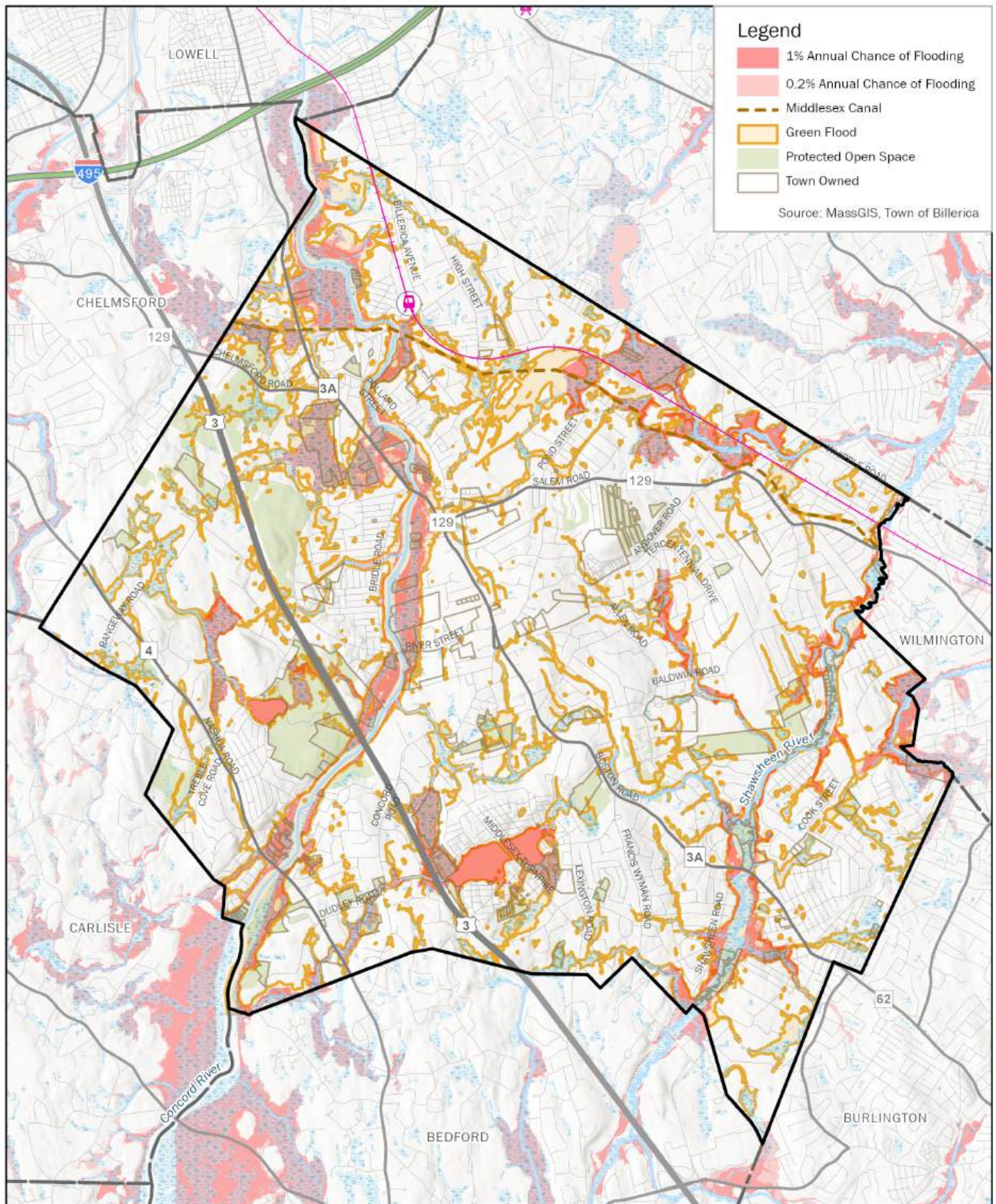
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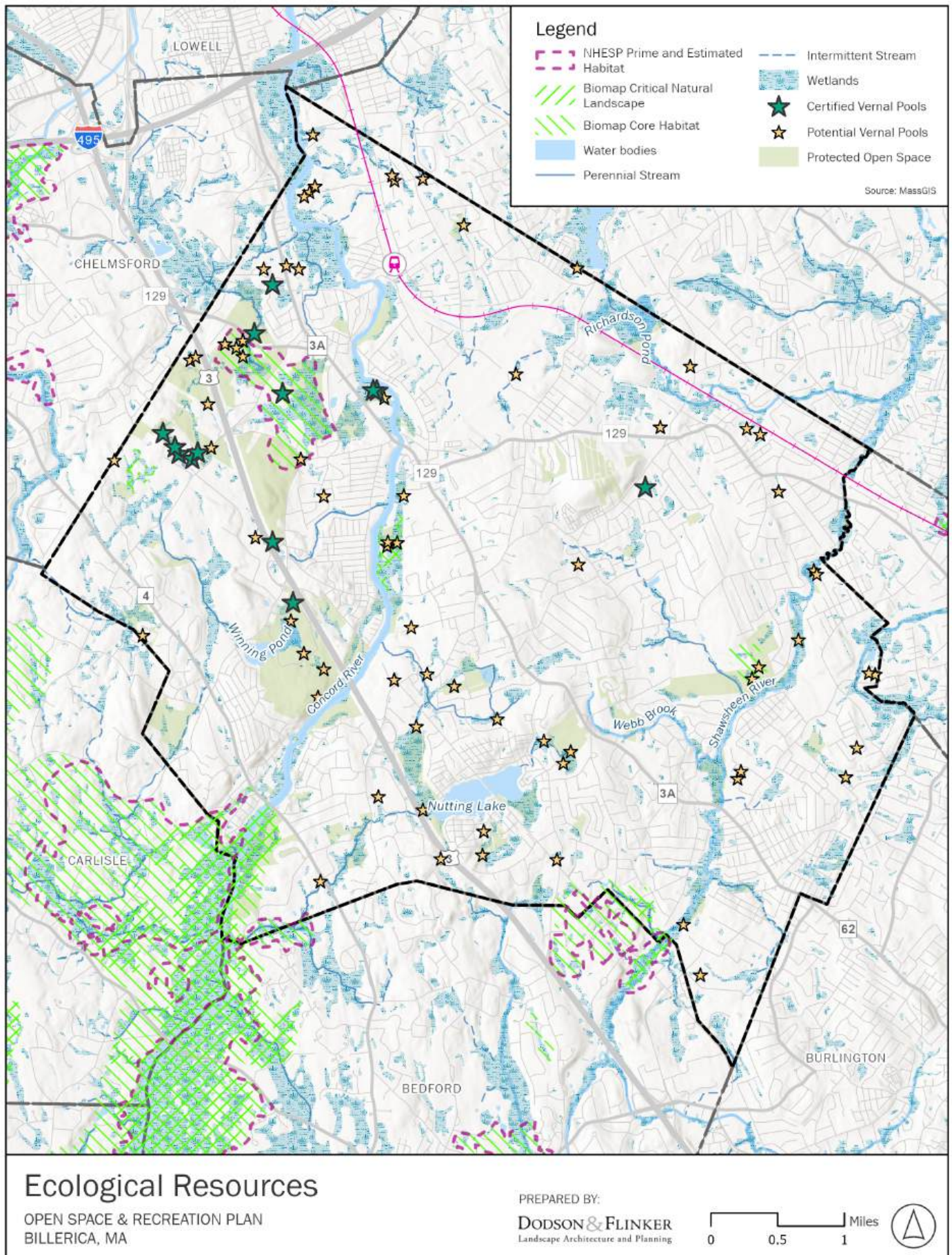
Flood Hazard Areas

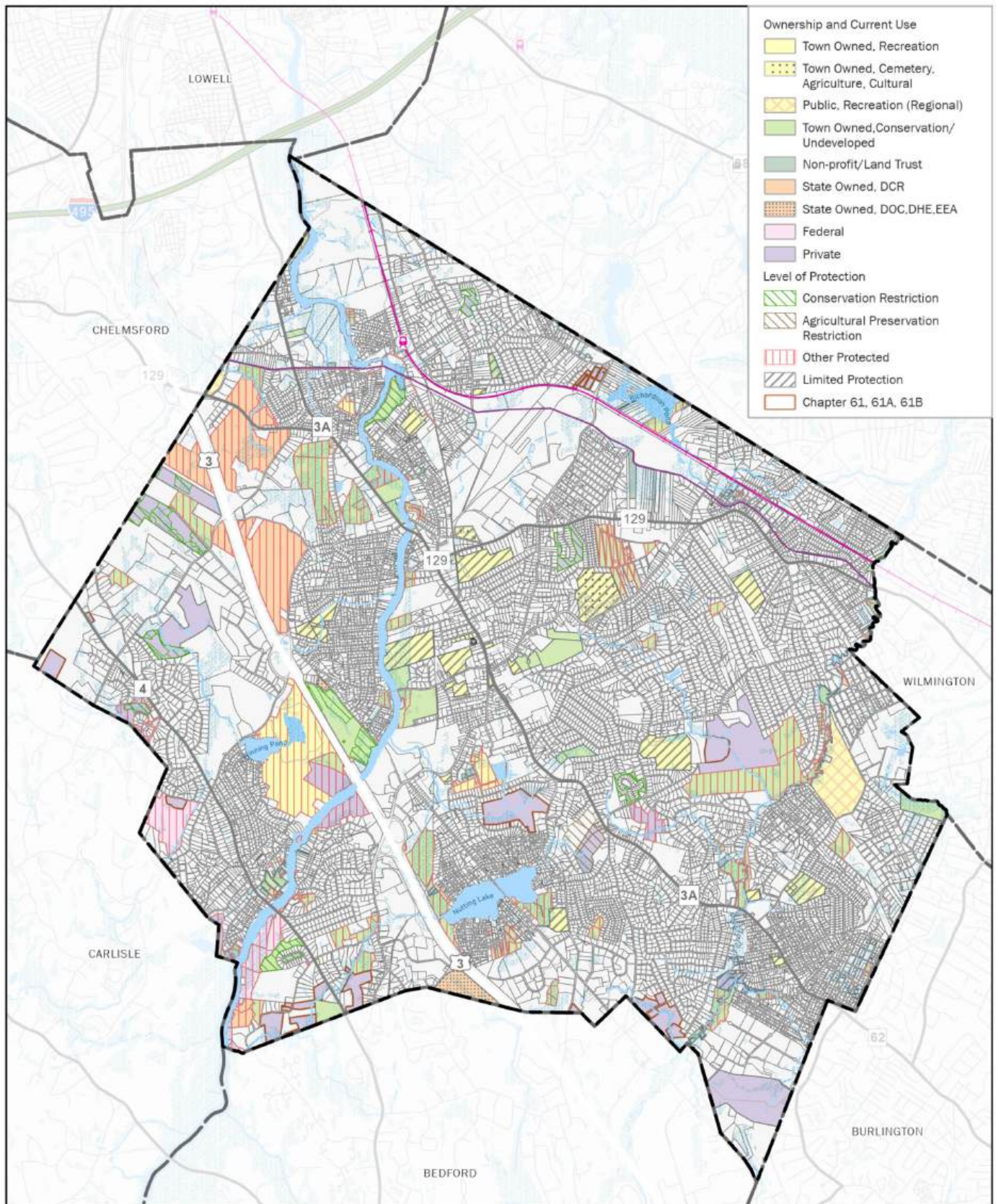
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Inventory

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