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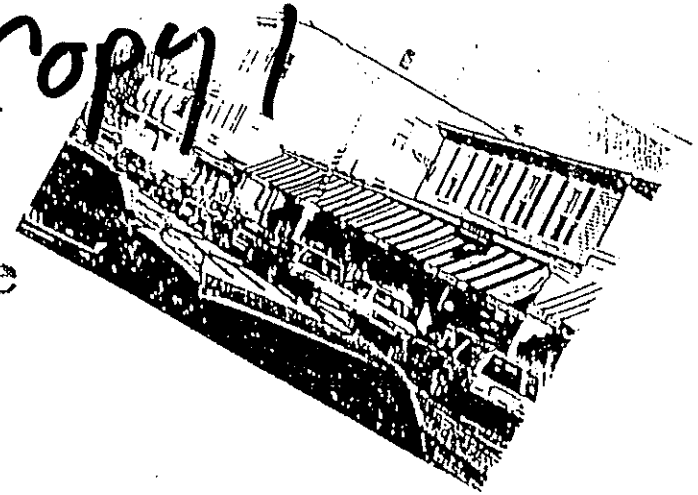
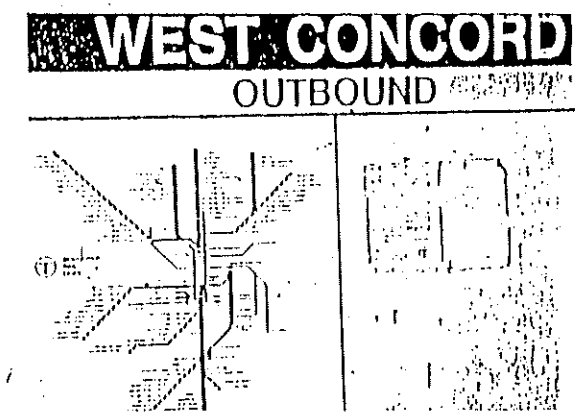


The West Concord Study Committee

Phase III Report

A Working Document for Planning and Action

The matrix format gives an overview of each issue, strategy, and objective, with a prioritized recommendation and action to assist in directing the future of West Concord Center



Town of Concord,
Concord, Massachusetts
December 1993

Phase III of the West Concord Study Committee Report

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Acknowledgements

A VISION STATEMENT FOR WEST CONCORD

Maintain the village atmosphere of West Concord, including the diversity of commercial, industrial, and residential uses, bearing in mind the scale and aesthetic character of the buildings, parks, and public areas.

Maintain and enhance a mix of family owned neighborhood businesses that fulfill the everyday needs of local residents.

Foster an economic base of light industrial / business uses for emerging manufacturing or small operations, family owned businesses, and small neighborhood businesses.

Preserve and enhance the natural features of Warners Pond, the Assabet River, and the brooks of West Concord by making them more accessible and visible to the public.

Educate people about the historic assets of West Concord, encourage their preservation and protection.

Improve the circulation in West Concord to serve local purposes and residents.

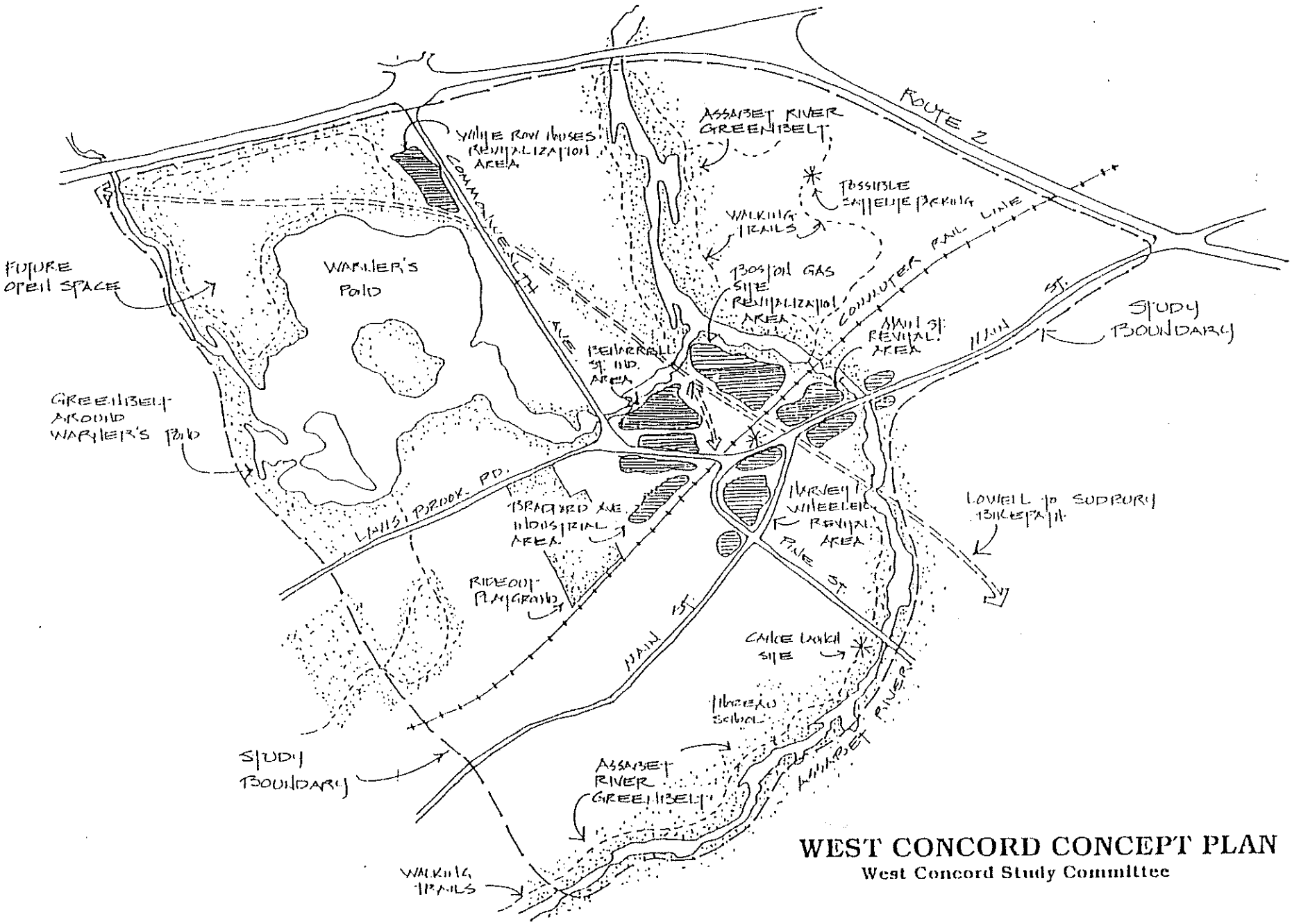
Promote the use of local streets and available parking facilities for local needs.

Maintain and expand pedestrian and bicycle connections within the West Concord village and between town centers.

Preserve and promote the diversity of housing opportunities for all income levels and age groups.

Promote cultural, educational, and recreational resources in West Concord.

Maintain public safety with adequate police and fire protection for West Concord.



WEST CONCORD CONCEPT PLAN

West Concord Study Committee

ISSUE	OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIES	RECOMMENDED ACTION PLAN/ RESPONSIBILITY / PRIORITIES
Beharrell Street	A. Improve access and circulation to the Beharrell Street Area.	A.1. Resolve circulation, parking and access problems in the Beharrell St area.	A.1. Prepare and implement a Circulation Plan for Beharrell St. as a component of a larger conceptual plan. *Action: BOS, TM, DPLM, DPW* *Priority: B $*
		A.2. Investigate opportunities for alternative access and egress for Beharrell Street.	A.2.a. Work with EOTC to determine the feasibility of acquiring and developing the railroad spur for multimodal use with a roadway to exit at Winthrop St. or Comm. Ave. *Action: TM, DPLM, EOTC* *Priority: A* A.2.b. If feasible apply for a grant to develop the railroad spur for multimodal use. *Action: TM, DPLM, ISTEA, EOTC* *Priority: A-B* A.2.c. Investigate acquiring the option to purchase a right of way. for a new point of access from Comm. Ave. to Beharrell St. *Action: TM, BOS, DPLM* *Priority: Ongoing $*

Key to Action Responsibility

AHC	*Affordable Housing Committee*	*CMLP*	*Concord Municipal Light Plant*	*MCI*	*Massachusetts Correctional Institute, Concord*
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ISSUE	OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIES	RECOMMENDED ACTION PLAN/ RESPONSIBILITY / PRIORITIES
Railroad Crossing	B. Improve the flow of traffic across the railroad crossing.	B.1. Redesign the railroad gate crossing system to eliminate back-up and congestion on Church Street and Commonwealth Ave.	B.1.a. Work with the MBTA in relocating the gate sensor for east bound train traffic. *Action: TM, DPW* *Priority: A* B.1.b. Review any plans for Intermodal facility at Fort Devens that would affect traffic and circulation in Concord. *Action: TM, DPW* *Priority: A*
		B.2. Study feasibility of redesigning the Church Street / Commonwealth Ave. intersection.	B.2. Collect data on Chuch/Comm Ave. intersection for feasibility. *Action: DPLM* *Priority: B*
	C. Create an alternate road system through West Concord on the railroad right-of-way by the Beharrell St. Industrial area.	C.1. Develop the railroad spur right-of-way from Commonwealth Ave. RR crossing to Winthrop Street or by MCI to be used for multi-modal transportation.	C.1. (See A.1.-A.2.)
Harvey Wheeler/ Church	D. Improve the sharing of parking, access, and circulation between Harvey Wheeler and Church.	D.1 Investigate various alternatives such as expanding the parking lot of the two buildings by relocating the tot-lot or expanding parking behind the Church.	D.1. Form a task force to develop specific alternatives for expanding parking at Harvey Wheeler and the Church. *Action: BOS, COA, Church, DPLM.* *Priority: A*

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ISSUE	OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIES	RECOMMENDED ACTION PLAN/ RESPONSIBILITY / PRIORITIES
Parking	E. Increase the use of existing off-street parking spaces.	E.1. Design and install special parking lot signs for public and private lots in West Concord.	E.1.a. Improve public parking signs with a uniform sign program which includes design and installation. *Action: TM, DPLM, ,DPW* *Priority: A*
			E.1.b. Signs for private parking spaces should be clearly marked and parking lots should be stripped to create as many spaces as possible. *Action: Owners, DPLM* *Priority: A*
		E.2. Eliminate the metered parking requirement on weekends.	E.2. Mark all parking meters for use between Monday-Friday only. *Action: Police Dept.* *Priority: A*
	F. Develop acceptable parking spaces for employees of West Concord.	F.1. Eliminate the use of short term close-in parking spaces on Derby St. and Maple Court by creating alternative spaces near-by.	F.1. Develop new satellite parking spaces for 20-30 employees. *Action: Merchants, Police, DPLM* *Priority: A*

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ISSUE	OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIES	RECOMMENDED ACTION PLAN/ RESPONSIBILITY / PRIORITIES
Parking (Continued)		F.2. Identify places for employees and other long term parking, such as the abandoned railroad bed (outside of the Lowell/Sudbury Bike Path) south of Main St. behind Derby St.F.3. Develop off-street parking behind buildings and improve vehicular access: a. Use additional parking behind buildings from Condons-Village Cleaners-Municipal lot. b. Coordinate and improve parking behind buildings on both sides of Comm. Ave. from Post Office to 5 & 10 and hardware store to Allen Chair building. c. Develop a design plan to consolidate parking lots and clear up easement issues on Bradford St.	F.2.a. Consider use of some of town parking space for employee use in MBTA lot and on Church St. *Action: BOS, DPLM, MBTA* *Priority: A* F.2.b. Develop and implement solutions to consolidate and expand parking behind buildings. *Action: Owners, Merchants, DPLM,* *Priority: B* F.2.c. Improve vehicular access to new or improved mid-block parking areas. *Action: Merchants, Owners, DPLM* *Priority: A*
		F.3 Discourage further expansion of commuter parking in West Concord.	F.3. Work with MBTA to extend line to Rte. 495 with commuter parking. *Action: BOS, TM, DPLM,* *Priority: A*

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ISSUE	OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIES	RECOMMENDED ACTION PLAN/ RESPONSIBILITY / PRIORITIES
Bicycle Amenities	G. Develop safe and protected bicycle parking areas to encourage more use.	G.1. Install covered bicycle storage areas at the depot.	G.1. Purchase and install bike racks and storage areas including bike lockers for the depot obtained through federal grants . *Action: TM, DPLM, DPW* *Priority: A* $
			G.2. Provide short-term bike racks in parking lots behind commercial buildings. *Action: Owners, Merchants* *Priority: A* $
	H. Develop the Lowell/Sudbury Bicycle Path on the abandoned railroad right-of-way to link residential neighborhoods with West Concord Center and the MBTA.	H.1. Encourage the implementation of the Lowel/Sudbury Bike Path in the reuse of the railroad right of way behind Derby St. and Main Street using the West Concord section as a pilot program.	H.1. Apply for "Greenways" funding for implementation of West Concord section of Lowel/Sudbury Bike Path. *Action: DPLM* *Priority: A-B*
Library Expansion	I. Increase on-site parking at the Fowler Library for the convenience of the patrons.	I.1. Include more parking and easier drop-off in the expansion plans for the Fowler Library.	I.1. Incorporate more parking in the library expansion plans. also see D.1. *Action: Library* *Priority: A*

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MCI Rotary	J. Improve traffic flow at the MCI rotary.	J.1. Study the benefits of traffic lights at Rte. 2 and Rte. 2A east bound that could be used in the morning rush hours. J.2. Study redesign of the rotary to minimize commuter traffic overflow through West Concord.	J.1. and 2. Work with state to determine feasibility of lights or other improvements to the MCI rotary. *Action: TM, DPW, State DPW, DPLM, Police Dept.* *Priority: B*
Main Street and Baker Ave.	K. Improve traffic safety.	K.1. Improve the signing and structure of the traffic island at Main and Baker Ave. Intersection to address vehicles turning into head on traffic.	K.1. Paint turning lanes on the roadway and improve signage at Main an Baker intersection. *Action: TM, PWC, DPW, Police* *Priority: A*
Pedestrian Circulation and Safety	L. Create sidewalks and pathways from key public facilities to link them with neighborhood and commercial areas.	L.1. Establish a Pedestrian Walkway Master Plan for West Concord linking paths, walkways, sidewalks, parking areas, public facilities, and retail businesses.	L.1.a. Develop a pedestrian master plan. *Action: BOS, DPLM, PWC* *Priority: B* L.1. b. Include the construction of the following walkways in the 5 Year Capital Improvement Plan: • Harvey Wheeler to Comm. Ave. • Conant St. from Domino Dr. to Rideout. • Bradford Street connecting Rideout to Commonwealth. *Action: TM, DPW, BOS, Twn Mtg* *Priority: A $*

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ISSUE	OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIES	RECOMMENDED ACTION PLAN/ RESPONSIBILITY / PRIORITIES
Pedestrian Circulation and Safety (Continued)	M. Ensure that sidewalks and crosswalks are safe, inviting, and visible for the pedestrian.	M.1. Improve the safety of the sidewalk at the bridges crossing the Assabet River at Main Street and Pine Street.	M.1. Include the improvement of sidewalk safety and design at bridges crossing the Assabet River at Main St. and Pine St. in the CIP. *Action: TM, DPW* *Priority: A-C* *$$*
		M.2. Provide better signals and signs for pedestrians at crosswalks and intersections to slow down traffic speed with measures such as portable signs for crosswalks.	M.2. Provide and maintain more portable signs for crosswalks. *Action: TM, DPW, Police Dept.* *Priority: A*
		M.3. Incorporate design and pedestrian amenities in new projects.	M.3. Consider installation of lights, overhangs, benches, and maps along the pedestrian ways when reviewing projects that require site plan approval. *Action: PB* *Priority: Ongoing*

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ISSUE	OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIES	RECOMMENDED ACTION PLAN/ RESPONSIBILITY / PRIORITIES
Pedestrian Circulation and Safety (Continued)	N. Create more walkways and footbridges that link conservation area to neighborhoods or commercial areas.	N.1. Provide a footbridge across the Assabet River linking Genrad and WC Center that links with walkway on Genrad property.	N.1. Initiate a public private partnership to create a walkway footbridge and park and ride lot on the Genrad property. *Action: Gen Rad, MBTA, DPLM* *Priority: B $* N.2. Investigate feasiblity of a footbridge across the Assabet River linking Cousins Park with town-owned farm land on Harrington Ave. *Action: DPLM, NRC, CLCT* *Priority: C* N.3. Provide a footbridge/bike path across the Assabet on the railroad right-of way that links with the Lowell/Sudbury Bike Path. *Action: DPLM, NRC, CLCT* *Priority: B Grant $*

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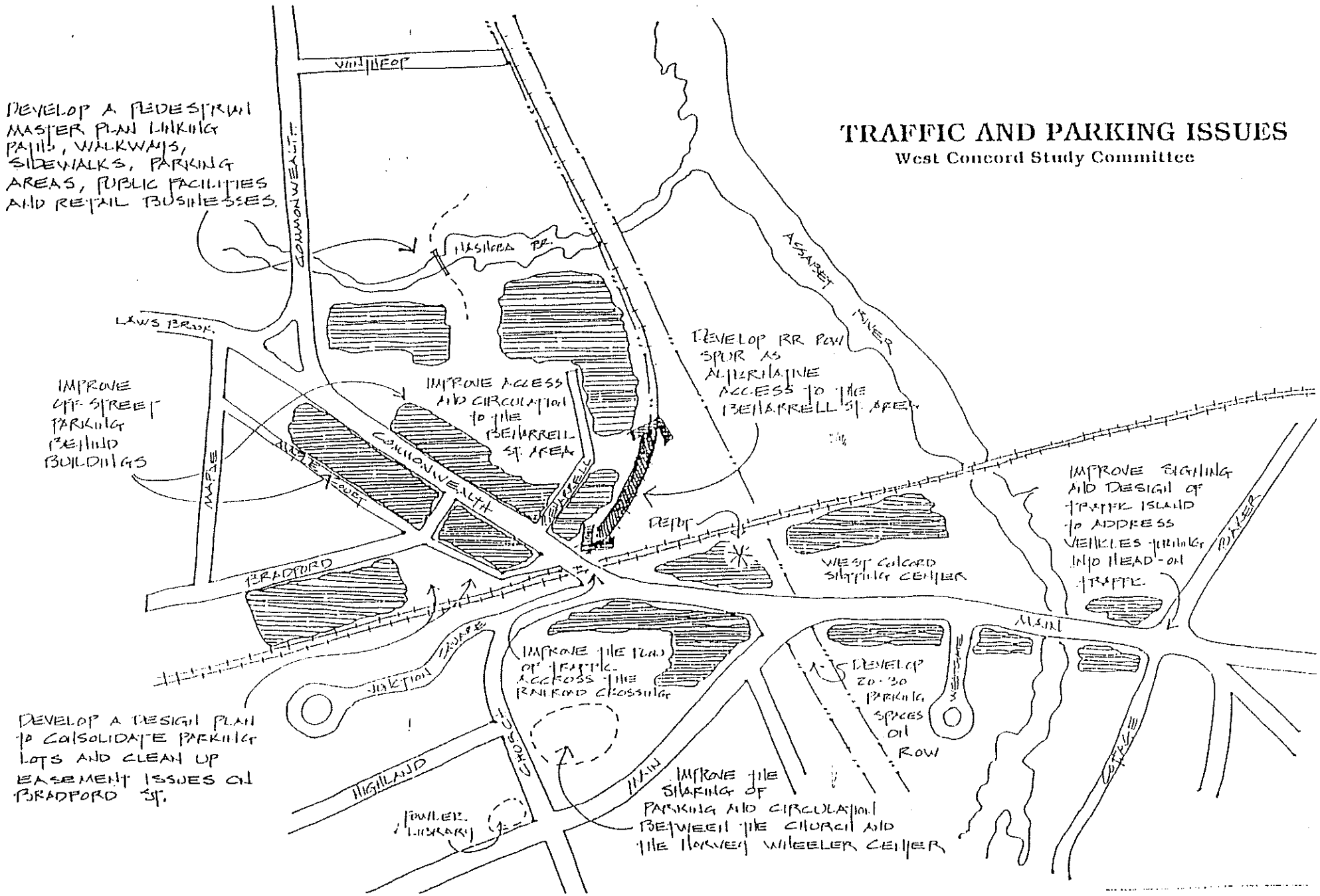
TRAFFIC AND PARKING ISSUES

West Concord Study Committee



ISSUE	OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIES	RECOMMENDED ACTION PLAN/ RESPONSIBILITY/PRIORITIES
Zoning Controls	A. Preserve diversity of use and economic prosperity of small scale businesses.	A.1. Amend the Zoning By-law to reduce the potential density in the Industrial District and to support diversity of uses, including housing, in the Industrial District. (The Industrial District is only in West Concord.)	A.1. Draft a zoning amendment addressing density, use, and aesthetic issues for 1994 Town Meeting. *Action: PB, DPLM, BD* *Priority: A*
		A.2. Amend the Zoning By-Law to clarify and improve the ability to allow accessory uses in the Industrial District.	A.2. Draft a zoning amendment addressing accessory use and site plan issues for 1995 Town Meeting. *Action: PB, DPLM, BD* *Priority: B*
	B. Reduce potential overcrowding and intensification of development that could impact existing parking and traffic problems.	B.1. Improve the function of Site Plan Approval, particularly for nonconforming properties not undergoing significant changes.	B.1.a. Conduct on-going dialogue with WC business and industrial property owners regarding affect of amendments and possible future amendments. *Action: PB, DPLM, BD* *Priority: Ongoing* B.1.b. Consider the following actions as appropriate to improve Site Plan Approval: - Amend the Zoning By Law; - Amend the PB Rules & Regs; - Empower the BI to have discretion to approve minor changes. *Action: PB, DPLM, BD* *Priority: A*

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ISSUE	OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIES	RECOMMENDED ACTION PLAN/ RESPONSIBILITY/PRIORITIES
Boston Gas Site	C. Develop the Boston Gas site for municipal uses such as affordable housing, open space, or other community needs.	C.1. Assist Boston Gas to relocate its facility to another site.	C.1. Work with Boston Gas to acquire the entire site for municipal purposes. *Action: BS* *Priority: A*
		C.2. If under town ownership, utilize a phased circulation plan to access the site so that it can be developed as other development occurs on Beharrel Street and the railroad spur.	C.2. If under town ownership, include the BG site in any circulation plan for Beharrel St. *Action: DPLM, owners* *Priority: B*
	D. Provide visual and public access to the river by incorporating open space in the form of a park area and trail adjacent to the confluence of the Assabet River and Nashoba Brook.	D.1. Maintain a 100 foot setback along the property line on the upper bank of the river which could be used as a trail that connects to Warner's Pond.	D.1. Future development of the BG site should refer to the WCStudy for direction, information, and alternatives. *Action: DPLM, owners, developers* *Priority: When appropriate*
Land Use	E. Plan for the future of under-utilized or inefficient space in West Concord.	E.1. Study long term development scenarios for future uses in Beharrel Street, Bradford Street, and Harvey Wheeler.	E.1. Conduct planning studies for Beharrel Street, Bradford Street, and Harvey Wheeler. *Action: DPLM, property owners* *Priority: B*

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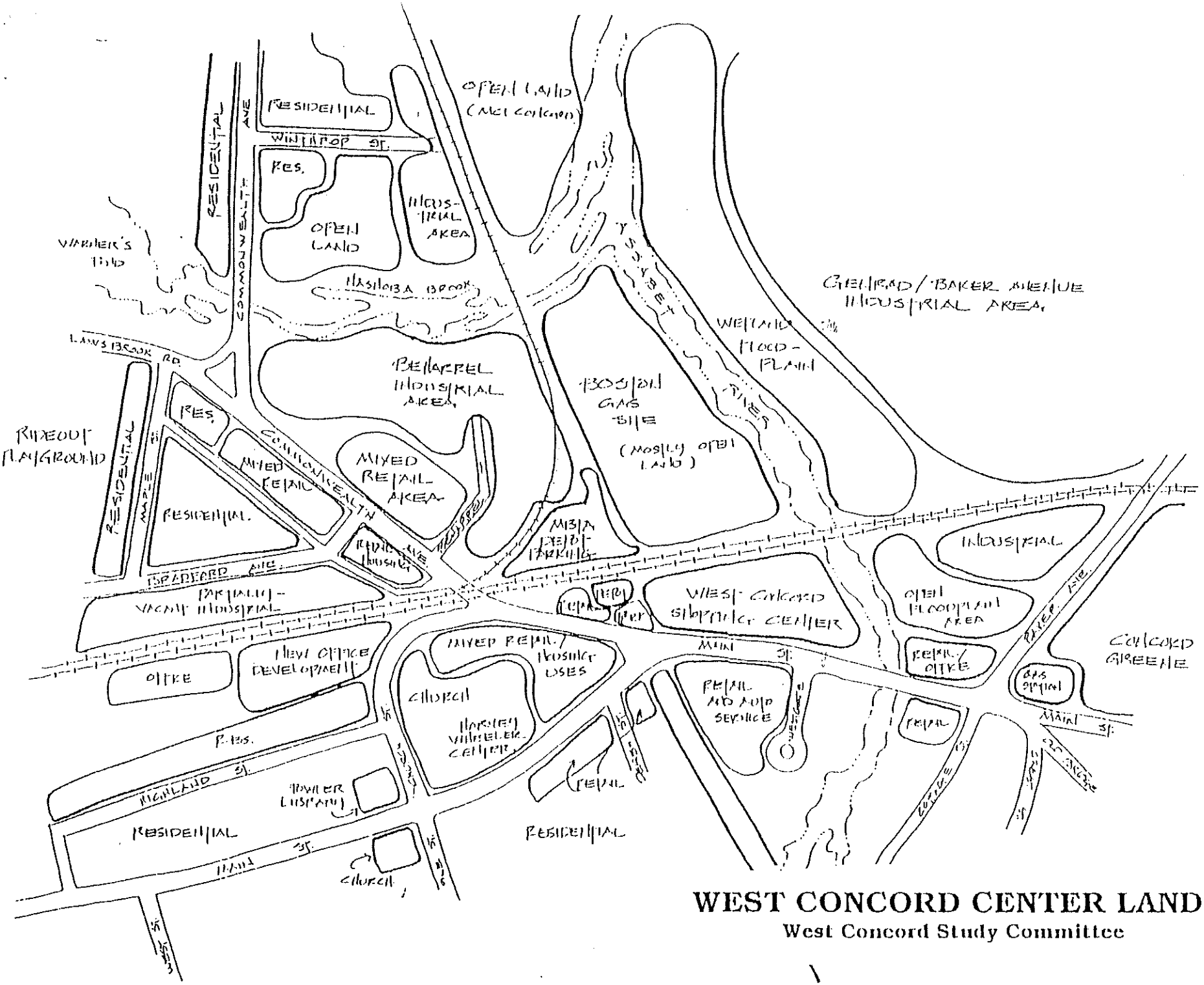
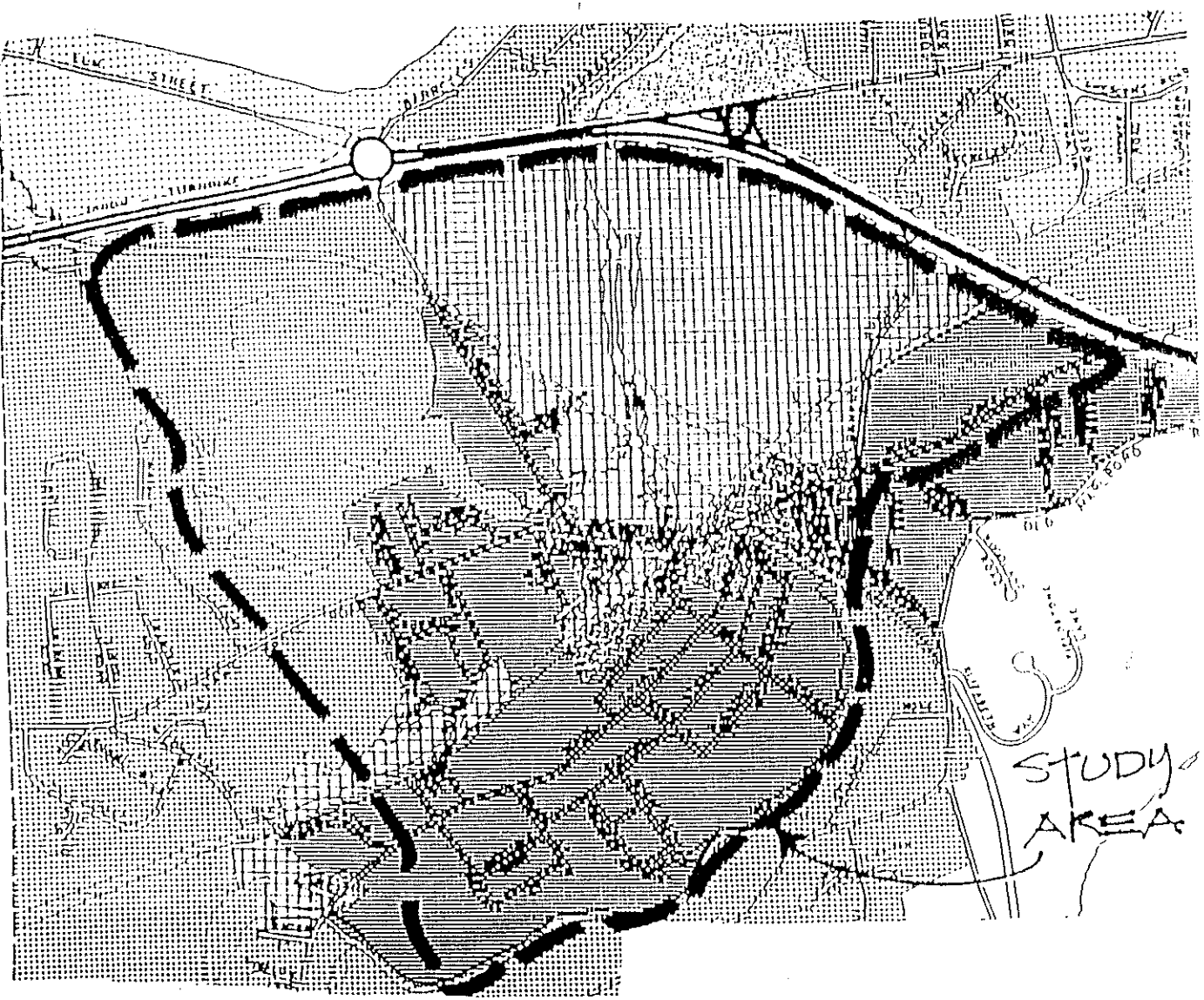


WEST CONCORD CENTER LAND USE

West Concord Study Committee



STUDY AREA ZONING

West Concord Study Committee

- Residence AA
- A
- B
- C
- Industrial
- Industrial Park
- Limited Industrial Park
- Business
- Limited Business
- Medical Professional
- By-Pass

ISSUE	OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIES	RECOMMENDED ACTION PLAN/ RESPONSIBILITY / PRIORITIES
Commercial Viability	A. Maintain and support the mix of locally owned commercial businesses that fulfill the everyday needs of Concord Residents.	A.1 Analyze and build on areas commercial strengths such as personal service, convenient parking. and mix of uses	A.1. Encourage efforts to survey customers, form focus and support groups to determine commercial needs in WC. *Action: Merchants and Owners* *Priority: A*
		A.2. Coordinate resources of local merchants to promote the West Concord Center as a destination and reduce costs for small business.	A.2. Consider efforts to coordinate merchant resources for promotional programs or purchasing coops (e.g. insurance, part-time labs, accounting services, etc.). *Action: WC Merchants* *Priority: A*
		A.3. Continue town involvement in public activities and planning that promotes West Concord.	A.3. Encourage appropriate forums for communication between merchants and town officials. *Action: WC Merchants, BOS* *Priority: B*
	B. Preserve retail and personal service uses in the existing Business District	B.1. Continue the pattern of accessible and visible retail uses from the sidewalk to foster the vitality of the shopping experience on Commonwealth, Main Street, and Church Street.	
Regulatory Issues	C. Assist property owners in complying with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).	C.1. Assist merchants in understanding and implementing provisions of ADA.	C1. Consider holding a workshop to inform merchants about ADA. *Action: BD, DPLM* *Priority: B*

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ISSUE	OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIES	RECOMMENDED ACTION PLAN / RESPONSIBILITY/ PRIORITY
Roadways	A. Maintain existing road way system in West Concord.	A.1. Review the streets in WC for inclusion in the Pavement Management Program.	A.1. Repave Winthrop Street and continue pothole maintenance on all streets. *Action: DPW* *Priority: Ongoing (Winthrop was reconstructed 11/93)*
	B. Improve the circulation of existing roadways and sidewalks.	B.1. Review the use and circulation of collector, arterial and local streets, and sidewalks in West Concord and prioritize improvements as identified.	B.1. Apply for appropriate grant monies for circulation priorities. *Action: DPLM, PW, ISTEA* *Priority: B ; Study*
	C. Improve the aesthetics and safety of the right-of-ways.	C.1. Create more greenery along the right-of way in WC, particularly in WC Center.	C.1. Incorporate right-of-way shoulder maintenance such as mowing and pruning into a program. *Action: TM, DPLM, DPW* *Priority: A , Ongoing* C.2. Incorporate replacement of public shade trees within the right-of-way into the pavement management program wherever possible. *Action: TM, DPLM, BOS* *Priority: A , Ongoing*

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ISSUE	OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIES	RECOMMENDED ACTION PLAN / RESPONSIBILITY/ PRIORITY
Sewer	D. Create sewer availability in areas that need it.	D.1. Make sewers available on Prairie/Francis Street as identified in the 1984 Sewer Facilities Plan.	D.1. Identify actions and a prioritized timeframe for implementation regarding sewers on Prairie/Francis Street. *Action: TM , DPW, Owners* *Priority: B*
	E. Provide information on sewer availability for new development.	E.1. Inform developers of new office complexes in Baker Avenue Industrial Park that they will need to extend their part of the sewer system by originating at Genrad because of the configuration of the existing system and topographical constraints.	E.1. Provide information to property owners regarding Baker Ave. sewer system. *Action: Owners, PB, DPW* *Priority: Ongoing*
	F. Require buildings to connect with the sewer system if there are problems with the septic system.	F.1. Require new development in the Beharrel Street area to connect with available sewer lines.	F.1. Inform developers of sewer system needs in new development that requires site approval. *Action: DPLM, PB, Owners, BOH* *Priority: Ongoing*
	G. Expand the sewer capacity for the West Concord study area.	G.1. Investigate the potential for a closer sewage treatment facility in the WC area.	G.1. Work with MCI regarding sewage treatment and sludge disposal in WC. *Action: TM, DPLM, DPW, DOC* *Priority: B,*
		G.2. Plan for the eventual upgrading of the sewer pipe under the Assabet River at Main Street.	G.2. Obtain funding and apply for permitting from Army Corps of Engineers. *Action: TM, DPW* *Priority: B*

Key to Action Responsibility

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ISSUE	OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIES	RECOMMENDED ACTION PLAN / RESPONSIBILITY/ PRIORITY
Water	II. Upgrade water infrastructure in West Concord.	II.1. Replace old water pipes in WC per water system replacement schedule and as needed.	II1. Maintain West Concord's water needs on schedule. *Action: DPW* *Priority: Ongoing*
		II.2. Monitor, on a routine basis, Harvey Wheeler, and any other town-owned buildings in WC for presence of lead in the drinking water.	II.2. Monitor water lines and repair as necessary. *Action: BOH, TM, DPW,* *Priority: A, Ongoing, $$*
Electricity	I. Implement the undergrounding of overhead wires in West Concord Center consistent with townwide Policy.	I.1. Make completion of undergrounding of wires in WC Center a priority.	I.1.a. Coordinate undergrounding construction with DPW and others. *Action: CMLP, DPW,DPLM* *Priority: A*
			I.1.b. Underground wires on Main St. and Harrington Ave. *Action: CMLP, DPW* *Priority: A Underway*
			I.1.c. Investigate tundergrounding wires on Beharell St. *Action: CMLP, DPW, DPLM, BOS* *Priority: C $$*
		I.2. Inform homeowners of the availability of assistance for undergrounding electrical service.	I.2. Improve communication about electrical service to homeowners and businesses by such means as: Light Lines, Site Plan Permits, Electrical Inspection Permits. *Action: TM, CMLP, BI, DPLM,* *Priority: B*

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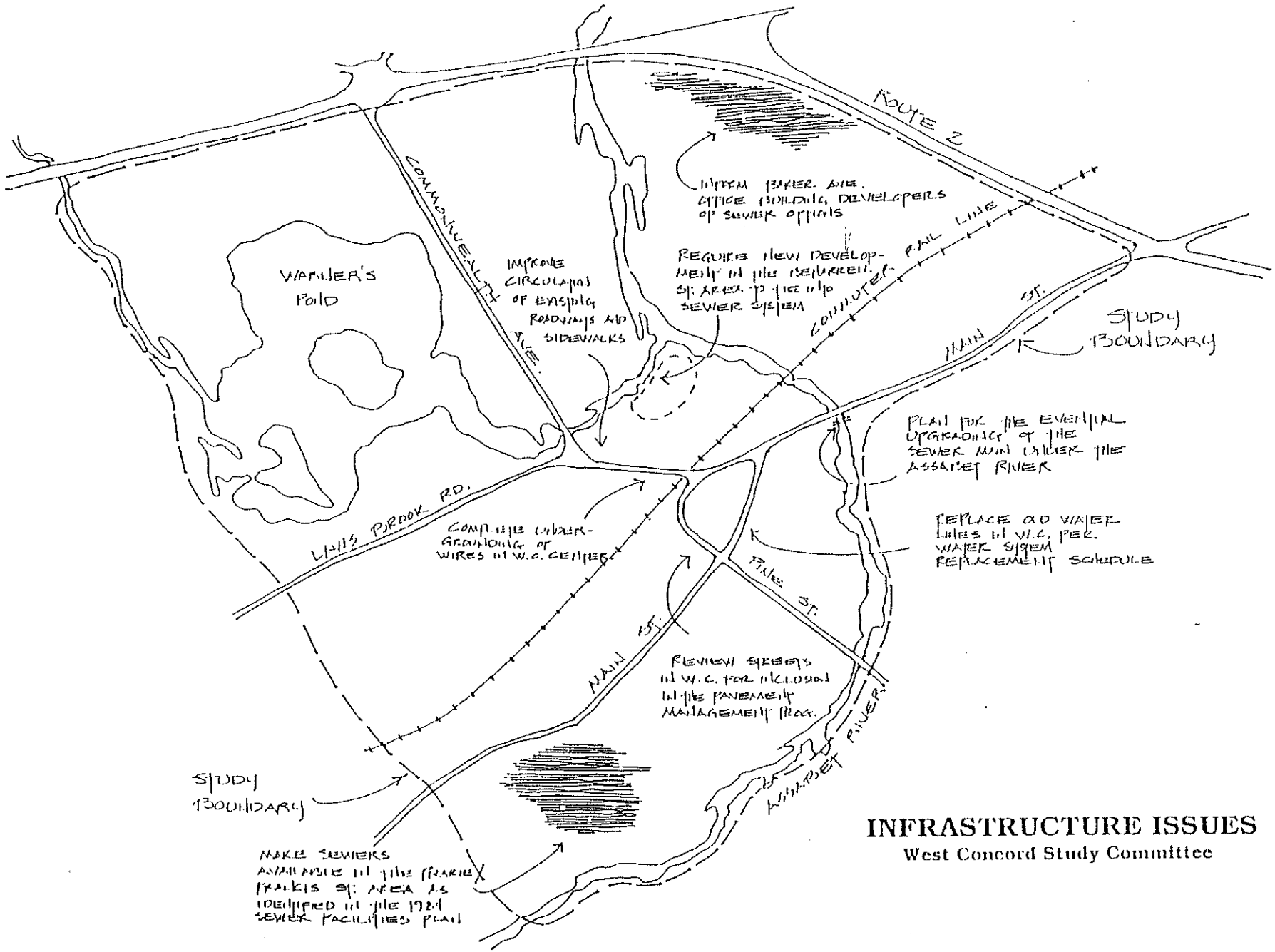

INFRASTRUCTURE ISSUES

West Concord Study Committee

ISSUE	OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIES	RECOMMENDED ACTION PLAN / RESPONSIBILITY / PRIORITIES
Water Resources	A. Protect Assabet River	A.1. Obtain public control of river frontage wherever possible, particularly upstream of Main St. west of Baker Ave., through restrictions, acquisition, or other protection measures.	A.1.a. Prepare river protection plan that investigates acquisition or restrictions of critical parcels along the Assabet River. *Action: NRC* *Priority: B* A.1.b. Consider River setback bylaw along Assabet. *Action: NRC, PB* *Priority: A* A.1.c. Support the completion of Wild and Scenic River Study. *Action: PB, NRC, other* *Priority: A*
	B. Protect Warner's Pond	B.1. Promote public control of shoreline and islands of Warner's Pond.	B.1. Encourage formation of a Warner's Pond advisory group to assess needs and develop a plan for protection of pond frontage and open space. *Action: NRC, CLCT* *Priority : B*

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ISSUE	OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIES	RECOMMENDED ACTION PLAN / RESPONSIBILITY / PRIORITIES
Water Resources (Continued)	B. Protect Warner's Pond, (Continued)	B.2. Optimize water quality, watershed protection, and management of vegetation of Warner's Pond	B.2.a. Prepare a watershed and vegetation protection plan. *Action: NRC* *Priority : B* B.2.b. Improve visibility and access to open space at Warner's Pond dam site including the possibility of a park. *Action: NRC, Advisory Group, Property Owners* *Priority: B*
	C. Protect Nashoba Brook and other local streams and brooks including floodplains and wetlands.	C.1. Delineate flood plains and wetlands and enforce all town and state regulations and prevent encroachment.	C.1. a. Consider starting "Adopt a Brook" program. *Action: NRC* *Priority : B* C.1. b. Update Water Resource Maps for flood plains and wetlands bylaws *Action: TM* *Priority: B* $$$
		C.2. Keep all brooks and rivers free flowing and free of debris.	C.2. Continue waterway cleanup using volunteers. *Priority: Ongoing*

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ISSUE	OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIES	RECOMMENDED ACTION PLAN / RESPONSIBILITY / PRIORITIES
Open Space	D. Protect large open space areas near West Concord Center.	D.1. Secure ownership, easements, or restrictions on MCI open space areas. D.2. Secure ownership, easements, or restrictions on Genrad open space.	D1. and 2. Open lines of Communication with appropriate officials to obtain better protection of river frontage and open space. *Action: TM, DOC, Genrad,, NRC, DPLM, CLCT* *Priority: Ongoing*
		D3. Preserve flood plains between WC Shopping Center and river at corner of Assabet River and Main St.	D3. Contact owner to investigate acquiring fee interest in parcel and develop management plan for protecting all resource values and opening up river views. *Action: NRC, DPLM* *Priority: B*
	E. Provide open space corridors and trails between existing open space area.	E.1. Secure section of abandoned railroad right-of-way as natural corridor between areas of open space.	E.1.a. Coordinate implementation of a Lowell/Sudbury Bike Path and Open Space Greenbelt. *Action: TM, EOTC, DPLM, NRC* *Priority: B Grant $$$* E.1.b. Begin development of the bike path in West Concord Center. *Action: DPW, NRC* *Priority: C Grant $$ $$ other*

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ISSUE	OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIES	RECOMMENDED ACTION PLAN / RESPONSIBILITY / PRIORITIES
Open Space (Continued)	F. Provide and protect scenic vistas.	F.1. Develop plan of scenic vistas in West Concord including methods and resources for protection.	F.1.a. Identify scenic views and vistas within West Concord. F.1.b. Open-up views of Assabet River and Warner's Pond. F.1.c. Develop an overlook at confluence of Assabet River and Nashoba Brook (the Boston Gas Site). *Action: NRC, CLCT* *Priority: A* F.1.d. Clean up the sand and debris caused by dumping at the Boston Gas site *Action: DPW* *Priority: A*
	G. Improve existing conservation land and open space.	G.1. Improve aesthetics and maintenance of town-owned land in West Concord	G.1.a. Develop a management plan for relandscaping and improving maintenance of town conservation and open spaces. *Action: NRC, DPLM, Conservation Crew, Green People* *Priority: B* H.1.b. Implement improvements recommended in the management plan. Action: NRC, DPW Priority: B Grant $

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ISSUE	OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIES	RECOMMENDED ACTION PLAN / RESPONSIBILITY / PRIORITIES
Recreation Sites	H. Provide canoe launching on the Assabet River.	H.1. Provide seasonal launch sites for canoeing at the following sites: • Improve Pine Street on school land. • Create areas at Baker Ave. or the Boston Gas site.	H.1.a. Investigate and plan for canoe launch sites. *Action: NRC, DPLM* *Priority: B* H.1.b. Get rights to land and develop sites *Action: NRC, DPLM, Town Meeting* *Priority: B Grant $*
	I. Maintain and enhance sports fields at Rideout Playground.	I.1. Improve parking facilities at Rideout.	I.1. Reconstruct parking facilities at Rideout. *Action: TM, DPW, RC* *Priority: B $*
		I.2. Develop a long term facilities maintenance plan for Rideout including landscaping, fields, playground, and tennis courts. Comply with Americans with Disabilities Act.	I.2.a Restore perimeter trees and landscaping. I.2.b. Maintain condition of playing fields. *Action: RC, DPW, Town Meeting* *Priority: B $* I.2.c. Improve the playground facilities and consider making them handicapped accessible. *Action: RC, DPW, Playground Committee* *Priority: A $ Grant $*

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ISSUE	OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIES	RECOMMENDED ACTION PLAN / RESPONSIBILITY / PRIORITIES
Passive Recreation	J. Develop the Lowell-Sudbury Rail trail as a bikeway in West Concord.	J.1. Develop plans and investigate resources for building the Bikeway.	J.1. Work with state to acquire and develop right-of way for bikeway starting in West Concord working north and south to complete the route. *Action: DPLM, PB, NRC,* *Priority: B $ Grant $*
		J.2. Provide a river crossing for bikes/pedestrians across the Assabet River and a crossing at Route 2.	J.2. Construct a bike/ped bridge across the Assabet River using existing abutments also study Route 2 crossing. *Action: TM, NRC* *Priority: C Grant $$*
	K. Provide walking trails along the Assabet River.	K.1. Secure easement and public access along Assabet River to connect with WC Center (from Route 2 to Main St.)	K.1. Layout and develop river way walking trails along the Assabet River and to WC Center. *Action: NRC* *Priority: C*
	L. Provide easy walking access to designated town owned lands.	L.1. Provide improved access and trails to town-owned conservation land and other open space.	L.1. Provide signage for natural and open space areas in West Concord. *Action: NRC* *Priority: B $*
		L.2. Create a walkway in and around Warner's Pond.	L.2. Layout and develop walking trails in and about Warner's Pond. *Action: NRC* *Priority: C*

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ISSUE	OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIES	RECOMMENDED ACTION PLAN / RESPONSIBILITY / PRIORITIES
Agriculture	M. Preserve existing agriculture in West Concord	M.1. Enhance protection of reformatory farmland through conservation or agriculture restrictions.	M.1. Investigate further options with state officials for protection and long term viability of MCI farmlands. *Action: TM, DPLM, NRC, DOC* *Priority: B*
		M.2. Support and encourage community garden program.	M.2. Publicize and encourage full usage of community gardens at Cousins field. *Action: NRC* *Priority: Ongoing*
		M.3. Provide an outlet for locally grown produce in West Concord Center.	M.3. Initiate a farmers market in West Concord Center. *Action: NRC* *Priority: A*
Plant and Wild Life	N. Protect extant wildlife and flora.	N.1. Document areas of important habitat and location of significant species.	N.1. Prepare documentation of extant species and habitat. *Action: NRC, DPLM* *Priority: B*

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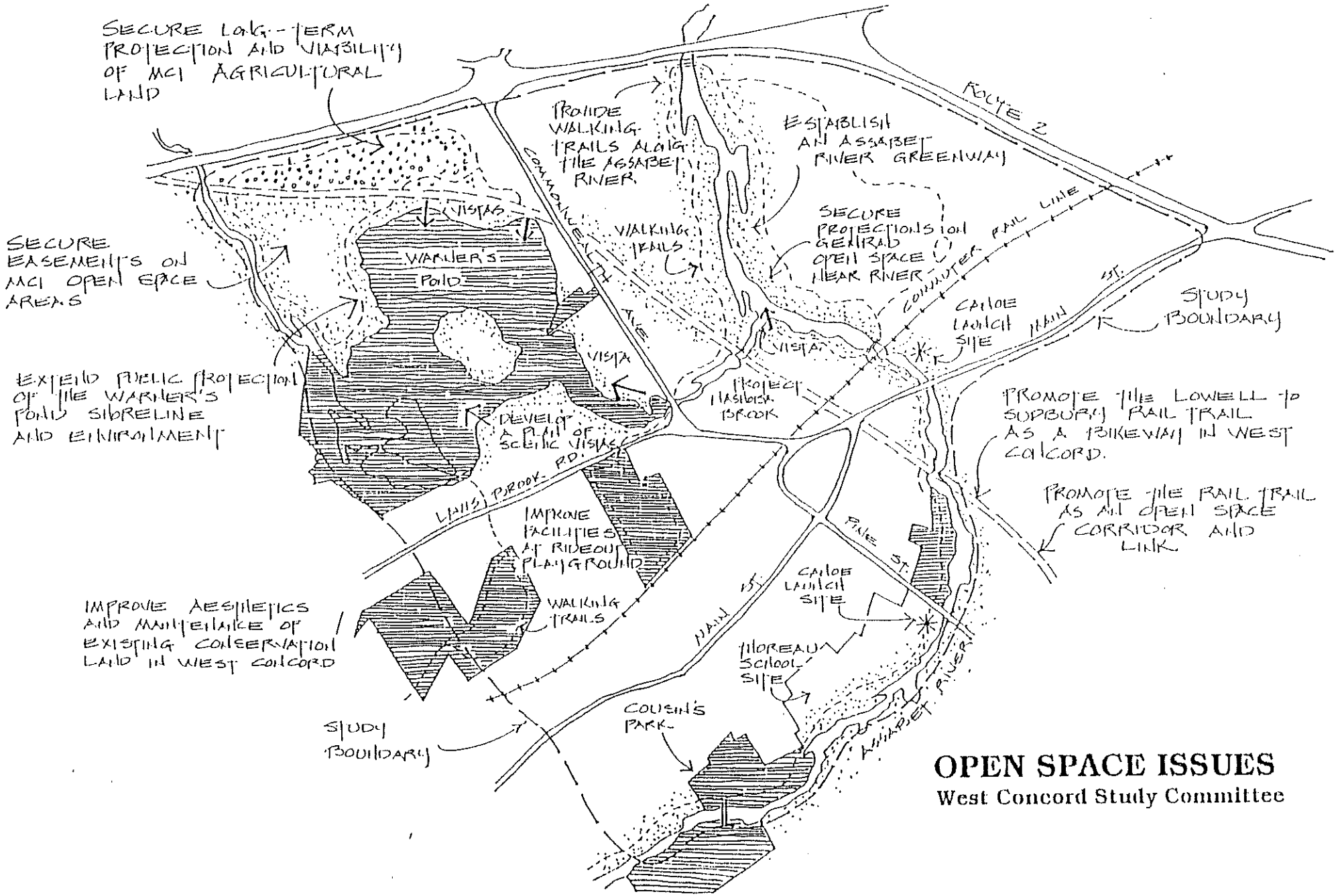

OPEN SPACE ISSUES

West Concord Study Committee