

Concord Public Works
Director's Report
March 2026

HIGHWAY, GROUNDS, FLEET & CEMETERY

Highway

- **Winter Maintenance Update** – CPW crews have responded to twenty-two winter weather events in the 2025/2026 winter season, which is an 83% increase over last season. Responses have included roadway treatments, snow plowing operations, and snow removal operations. The Highway and Grounds crews worked almost daily in February on winter operations which included getting trucks ready for the emergency response, plowing sidewalks, hauling snow from intersections, and rehabbing trucks and equipment post operation. On Wednesday, February 25th, CPW crews completed snow removal operations in the business districts of Concord Center, Thoreau Depot, and West Concord. A total of 62.3” of snow has been recorded in Concord this season.

- **Roadway and Sidewalk Maintenance** – The Highway & Grounds Division continues to complete roadway and sidewalk repairs within the public right-of-way. CPW has deployed roadway maintenance crews daily as weather allows. The crews have performed maintenance, including pothole repair, throughout the roadway network, prioritizing main roads and roadway hazards which have been identified by staff or reported by motorists. During the month of February, roadway and sidewalk maintenance was completed on the following roadways:
 - Adin Drive
 - Barretts Mill Road
 - Bedford Street
 - Cambridge Turnpike
 - College Road
 - Commonwealth Avenue
 - Cottage Street
 - Elm Street
 - Fitchburg Turnpike
 - Hawthorne Lane
 - Laws Brook Road
 - Lowell Road
 - Main Street
 - Monument Square
 - Nashawtuc Road
 - Old Marlboro Road
 - Old Road to 9 Acre Corner
 - Pine Street
 - Powder Mill Road
 - Sudbury Road
 - Upland Road

Fleet

- **Vehicle & Equipment Maintenance**– The fleet maintenance team continues to maintain the Concord Public Works fleet to the highest level possible. Fifty-eight work orders and nine preventative maintenance activities were completed in the month of February.

Cemetery

- **Burial Information & Lot Sales** – During the month of February, there was one single grave interment and one cremation interment. Zero lots were sold.

Solid Waste & Recycling

- **Wreath Composting at Fowler Library** – CPW supported the Fowler Library on January 30th with their wreath composting event. Residents brought their wreaths and garlands to the Fowler Library where they were taken apart. The greenery was composted, forms were able to be reused, and any remaining trash was thrown away.
- **755 Walden Street Compost Facility** – The Compost Facility on Walden Street has been closed for the season and is expected to re-open to the public in the Spring of 2026. CPW anticipates reopening the facility beginning in April, weather dependent. The hours will be Saturdays from 9:00AM to 3:00PM and Wednesdays 3:00PM-6:00PM. This facility is used as the Town snow dump during the winter season.
- **General Permit Annual Certification Form & Report for Composting Operations**- Municipalities with public compost sites are required to submit a General Permit Annual Certification Form & Report for Composting Operations to MassDEP. The 2025 General Permit Annual Certification Form & Report for Composting Operations was submitted on February 11th, 2026. This permit includes information related to the Town’s composting facility, such as tonnage of yard waste and brush (686.2 tons) and invasive plants (36.14 tons) collected at the 755 Walden Street Compost Site during the previous calendar year.
- **2025 Recycling & Solid Waste Survey** - Massachusetts municipalities are required to submit annual Recycling & Solid Waste Surveys to MassDEP to qualify for grants and other programming. In addition to other statistics, these surveys include annual tonnage of municipal solid waste (2,128.02 tons) and recyclables (1,443.77 tons) collected in Town each calendar year. The Recycling & Solid Waste Survey, for calendar year 2025, was submitted to MassDEP on February 13th, 2026.
- **Spring DropOff/SwapOff Event** – The Spring DropOff/SwapOff event is scheduled for Saturday, May 16th, 2026. Additional information will be included in the municipal utility billing and shared on the Town website in the coming weeks.
- **Mattress Recycling** – Although the Compost Site is closed for the winter season, Concord residents can still schedule an appointment to drop-off their used mattresses or have them picked up. For details, please call Concord Public Works at 978-318-3240, or visit www.concordma.gov/mattress

Curbside Program Monthly Statistics

Description	February 2026
Trash disposal-Tons	148.93
Mixed paper recycling-Tons	102.03
Percent recycled	41%
Compost site visits	Closed

WATER & SEWER DIVISION

Administration

State Revolving Fund (SRF): This past summer, Concord Water & Sewer submitted an application for MA SRF funding for \$4,252,000 to be used to perform necessary upgrades to our WWTP Trickle Filters. The list of approved projects was released on 2/20/2026. Projects are given a ranked and prioritized based on imminent public health threats, documented sanitary sewer overflows, permit violations and projects that address potential failure of components that have exceeded their useful life. The rating of the projects that were approved for SRF Funding ranged from 556 down to 522. Concord's proposed WWTP project was rated 217. Regrettably, our project did not rank high enough for funding.

- **Water & Sewer Rules and Regulations and Design & Construction Standards Update:** The Division continues to work through a detailed review and update of both Rules and Regulations as well as companion Design & Construction Standards.
- **Zero Reads:** Of the roughly 49 zero reads remaining, staff have been in communication with 6 properties to schedule meter replacements for the springtime. Administrative staff continue outreach to get these meters replaced by door hangers, letters, and phone calls.
- **Meter Replacement Project Update:** Concord Public Works is continuing the mandatory, community-wide Water Meter Replacement Program to modernize the Town's water-meter infrastructure. The upgraded meters improve billing accuracy, enhance customer service and water-conservation efforts, and provide more reliable monitoring of water usage.

The program is focusing on targeted neighborhoods of approximately 100–200 customers at a time. Outreach begins with door hangers, followed by emails, and then mailed letters,

phone calls from administrative staff, and in-person visits by operations staff when crews are working in the area. This has resulted in scheduled meter-exchange appointments for about 50% of targeted customers. Approximately 870 meters or 17% of the Town's system has been converted to Kamstrup meters. This approach maximizes efficiency while maintaining effective customer communication.

Outreach / Conservation

- **Drought Status:** Even though there was a significant amount of precipitation in January, the precipitation deficits since 2024 remain. The drought status in the Northeast Region remained at a Level 2 -Significant Drought at the February 2026 meeting of the Drought Management Task Force (DMTF). The next DMTF meeting is scheduled for Friday March 6th, to reassess current hydrologic conditions and evaluate any necessary updates to water use guidance.
- **Fenn School Presentation:** Division staff took a virtual walk through the History of Concord's Water System with 80 sixth grade students at Fenn School on February 29th as they reflect on the novel A Long Walk to Water by Linda Sue Park. They will continue their journey next month with a visit and tour of the WWTP.

Water Quality Monitoring

- Staff continue to perform routine water quality monitoring activities for regulatory compliance and treatment optimization at all operating stations and throughout the distribution system. There are no resulting water quality exceedances to report.

Operations

Water/Sewer Main & Service Activities

- **Water System Demand:** Daily water system demand is currently at typical seasonal levels of 1.1 to 1.3 MGD.
- **Water Main Break:** On Sunday, 2/8/26, at approximately 5:45 pm, Water/Sewer crews were alerted to a water main break located at 35 Ridge Rd. A two-foot section of cast iron pipe (circa 1923) was replaced, and the crew was off the road by 11:00 pm.
- **Water Meters Replacement Program:** One Hundred and Fifty-Three (153) Kamstrup Flow IQ 2200 water meters were installed in February 2026.
- **Lead Service Line Survey:** 76 customers with lead water service lines have received a survey link to judge willingness to help us satisfy sampling requirements and support grant funding to help offset the cost of lead service line replacements. Grant funding is currently not available, but we keep pushing at the State level to see what we can make happen. We will first attempt to contact individuals via email (44) then will follow up to

those without an email or who have not responded with a letter and eventually a phone call.

ENGINEERING

• **Engineering Staffing** – Joe Cormier has been promoted to the position of assistant Town Engineer which was previously occupied by Justin Richardson. The vacant position of Senior Public Works Engineer has been advertised.

• **Roads Paving Program (2026-2027)** – Two road resurfacing contracts have been developed by Engineering, in consultation with IMEG Engineering Consultants. Contracts include both 2026 and 2027 road resurfacing projects identified in the five-year, twenty-five million dollar, road resurfacing plan developed by Stantec. The 5-year planned 2026–2030 Street Paving Map can be viewed as a GIS interactive map on Engineering Department’s website. Bids for the two resurfacing contracts were opened in February and Engineering plans to make an award in March. To be included in this program is the review of key roadway elements that can be efficiently improved upon during the resurfacing work to promote safer streets.

- Coordination for implementation of more comprehensive safety improvements projects, within the 2026-2027 road resurfacing limits will continue to be conducted in conjunction with the outcome of the pedestrian and bicycle safety review process undertaken by Stantec.

• **Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Projects** – Discussions continued with the working group involving Town staff (Police, DPLM and CPW), the chairs of PWC and TAC, and the selectboard liaison to the PWC and TAC on the status of work to advance the road safety program and the development of a plan to spend the \$2.5 Million appropriated for FY26-FY30. Stantec’s Asset Management engineering staff have developed further the process for handling resident requests and concerns regarding road safety. Stantec presented and discussed the evaluation method and criteria being used in the project prioritization tool with the Transportation Advisory Committee on February 17 and March 3, 2026. Under the roads resurfacing item mentioned above, coordination of IMEG’s work with Stantec has started to identify additional safety improvements that can be implemented as part of our pavement management projects.

• **Comprehensive Transportation Plan** – Under the management of the Director of Community Development, the Stantec planning group is preparing the final report on overall transportation strategies based on public feedback obtained at their two public workshops held last fall. A final public meeting to be hosted by the Transportation Advisory Committee is also being scheduled. Additionally, both Stantec’s planning and engineering groups have been commenting on the Town’s behalf at recent MassDOT meetings on the State’s planned improvements of Route 2 rotary and potential impacts to the MCI site.

2025 Pavement Management Projects – An award is being finalized for Indus to conduct Phase I work this construction season, consisting of fog sealing and micro-surfacing work. Phase

II work being conducted by Lazaro, consisting of traditional paving, was started in the fall with the remaining contracted work to be completed in 2026.

- **2024 Pavement Management Projects** – Indus, contracted to conduct fog sealing and micro surfacing under Phase I, has remaining contracted work planned to be completed this spring. For the Phase II contract with Lazaro, the remaining punch list work will be completed this construction season, in addition to added work pending any remaining funds in their contract.

- **2023 Pavement Management Phase III** – The majority of work has been completed under this contract. Punch list items, including additional work that may be added, is anticipated to be completed this year.

- **Main Street/Walden Street Intersection Improvements** – This project is fully completed. Due to this project being partially funded by MassDOT Shared Streets and Spaces grant program, Engineering is in the process of filing financial reimbursements for the funds expended on this project. The new infrastructure is being monitored for performance.

- **Walden Street Sidewalk** – This sidewalk extension on Walden Street from Magnolia Drive to Brister’s Hill Road is being designed by IMEG. They have been looking into the feasibility of including bike-friendly shoulders as part of the sidewalk project, while adhering to the Complete Streets budget and design standards. IMEG’s preliminary design shows conflicts with adjacent site access as well as impacts to wetlands that will need additional evaluations to determine the most feasible option forward.

- **Silver Hill Comprehensive Infrastructure Improvements Phase II** – Construction has been suspended for the winter. Prior to the shutdown, all underground potable water infrastructure was installed and completed. MDR plans to conduct road reconstruction in the spring. However, they continue to evaluate the weather for the potential to start drainage work earlier, if weather allows.

- **Intersections of Main Street, Baker Avenue, and Cottage Street, and of Main Street, Old Bridge Road, and Crest Street** – Jacobs has been working on final design documents for the reconfiguration of this intersection and replacement of the obsolete signal system. In response to resident requests for better bicycle accommodations, Jacobs incorporated some modest design revisions. The plans have been shared with Stantec, to conduct a peer review focused on proposed pedestrian and bicycle safety accommodations to ensure such measures are appropriate and feasible given right of way constraints.

- **Stormwater Utility** – The second round of stormwater utility bills was issued with the February utility bills. CPW and CMLP Customer Service continue to receive a significant number of phone calls and emails at stormwater@concordma.gov related to start-up issues and errors in billing. Staff are attempting to address comments and concerns as promptly as possible.

Owners have been applying for a Stormwater Credit if best management practices are in place and submitting an Abatement application if they believe the impervious area listed on their bill is incorrect.

As of March 4, we have received:

- 34 Abatement applications
- 12 Credit applications
- 127 account-related errors

All 127 incorrect service orders associated with incorrect or wrongly assessed billing have been “cancelled” within the billing software (NISC) to avoid repeated notice and staff have started making administrative corrections to the customer account database associated with these properties.

•**Stormwater MS4 Permit** – Engineering continues to work on requirements for Year 8 of the permit. Below is an overview of the actions taken by the Town this year to fulfil these requirements.

- **Public Participation:** The Stormwater Management Plan (SWMP) has been made available on the town’s stormwater management webpage for public comment. Additionally, an educational event was organized in local elementary schools to raise awareness about the importance of preventing pollutants from entering our surface waters.
- **Community Outreach:** The Concord Public Works team successfully collaborated with Thoreau Elementary, Alcott Elementary, and Willard Elementary Schools to deliver presentations and engage students in interactive discussions about the Town's water and stormwater system infrastructure. The scheduled sessions were completed as follows: Willard Elementary on January 8, Alcott Elementary on January 15, and Thoreau Elementary on January 29.
- **Stormwater Site Inspections:** The Division also continues to conduct inspections and site visits to monitor compliance. These included pre-construction meetings, soil testing for septic and stormwater, periodic site visits, and final inspections. Pre-construction meetings focused on erosion controls, stormwater management, traffic control, and related requirements.
- **Catch Basin Inspections:** CPW continues to expand its effort in inspecting and cleaning catch basins which include the use of contracted help.
- **Street Sweeping:** The Highway and Grounds Division continued making a substantial effort on sweeping streets, ensuring that they remained clean and free from debris that could potentially affect stormwater runoff.
- **Wet Weather Sampling:** Comprehensive Environmental Inc. (CEI) conducted wet weather sampling in 2025, and a total of 55 outfalls were identified through the Specific Vulnerability Factors (SVF) analysis. CEI then completed the inspections and submitted a draft Wet Weather Outfall Inspection Report, which is currently under review. Upon completion of the review, a final memorandum will be submitted to the Engineering Division, and the results will be uploaded to the Town’s GIS database.

- **Subdivision Rules and Regulations Update:** The Concord Planning Division has hired the consulting team at BSC Group to conduct an audit of existing regulations and to work with Town staff on next steps moving forward. The Engineering Team received the Subdivision Regulations Working Draft from Planning on January 30, 2026 and has been reviewing the document to identify necessary adjustments and revisions. On February 19, 2026, the Engineering Team met with BSC Group representatives to discuss specific concerns and provide detailed feedback regarding the subdivision regulations. An updated draft reflecting the suggested revisions is expected to be provided for further review.

- **Concord MS4 Program Evaluation** – Comprehensive Environmental, Inc. (CEI) has reviewed available information and coordinated with Town staff regarding previously completed MS4 compliance activities. A draft memorandum summarizing CEI’s findings, recommended next steps, proposed schedule for completing required tasks, and associated budget estimates have been submitted for Engineering’s review. Once finalized, CEI’s recommendations and implementation strategies will be used to prioritize projects.

- **Drainage Improvements** – The Engineering Division and its consultant, IMEG continue to examine which limited drainage improvement projects such as puddles and erosion can be addressed with street paving projects. The construction of the drainage phase on the Silver Hill Improvements Phase II project was scheduled to begin in late February but has been pushed out because of winter weather. Drainage improvements are also included in the construction of the parking lot rehab projects at Church Street and Conant St scheduled for completion this year.

- **Spencer Brook Road Culvert** – This project to replace the deteriorated culvert and guardrail system is scheduled for construction this year. Both the Construction Phase Services contract with Wright-Pierce and the Construction contract with Kodiak Corporation have been executed. We are working with Kodiak on the exact construction schedule. It is CPW’s preference to start as early as possible given the culvert condition and the safety situation at the location.

- **Petition for Temporary Repairs to Private Ways: Dover Street & Darton Street** – Town Counsel has prepared a draft of the betterment agreement and an article to fund the project through borrowing has been prepared. Upon approval of the construction funding, the Engineering Division will proceed with finalizing bid documents for the construction of the project.

- **Landfill Gas and Water Monitoring** – The fourth quarter landfill gas monitoring was completed on December 10, 2025. Engineering has reviewed the inspection report, and it has been submitted to MassDEP through the ATC Group.

- **Baker Avenue Culvert Repair and Sinkhole Repair** – As of the end of December, the project has been substantially complete. Restoration of the sidewalk is outstanding along with finishing touches to the inside of the vault as well as stream bottom restoration. This work will resume when the weather allows. During the excavation it was determined that additional areas of the existing corrugated metal pipe (upstream from the recent repair), belonging to the abutting Concord Greene property, are showing additional deterioration. Wright-Pierce, the Town’s consultant, has determined the extent of the deterioration and has provided a recommendation for

repair. These recommendations will be forwarded to the Concord Greene Condominium representatives since the pipes belong to them.

- **West Concord MBTA Parking Lot Repairs** – Reconstruction of the parking lot, consisting of pavement resurfacing, along with resetting of some curbing and drainage is planned for the springs as part of a pavement management contract with Lazaro. The repairs are intended to be a short-term repair until the Assabet River pedestrian trail and bridge project is constructed in the next 4-5 years, which will include re-configuring/reconstruction of this parking lot.

- **Church Street Parking Lot Improvements** – The pavement in this parking lot requires repair, which is being addressed through a project designed to improve sustainability, accessibility, and community convenience. McClure Engineering has completed conceptual plans to enhance site layout, access and circulation, grading, drainage, and utility function. The project also includes improved stormwater management, landscaping, and the installation of EV charging stations and addresses feedback from other Town departments. The project has been approved by the Historic District Commission. Engineering is now working on finalizing the bidding documents, which will include this parking lot along with the Conant parking lot. Construction of the Church St lot will occur after the entrance improvements at the Harvey Wheeler Community Center is completed.

- **Conant Street Parking Lot Improvements** – Engineering staff are in the final design stages for the Conant Street parking lot rehabilitation project, with plans to put both this and the Church Street project out to bid together. For the Conant Street parking lot, the goal is to rehabilitate and maximize parking within the existing impervious area. A newly designed striping layout will improve traffic flow and create two additional parking spaces. To enhance the structural integrity and longevity of the lot, the design includes repairs to the catch basin and grading improvements. These measures will help control runoff, manage stormwater, and extend the lifespan of the pavement. Engineering is planning to have McClure help with the bidding and construction administration of both Conant and Church Street parking lots.

- **2026 Pavement Markings** – Engineering staff is working on getting the bid package ready for the 2026 Pavement Markings project. A request for bids will be solicited when the bid package is complete. The pavement marking locations selected are based on Engineering’s priority list for improvement that is primarily based on deterioration, traffic volume of the road, and low visibility areas.

- **2025 Guardrail Project** – The 2025 Guardrail Replacement project contract has been awarded to the Steelco. The project consists of approximately 3,000 ft of guardrail sections on Sudbury Road, ORNAC, Powder Mill Road, Monument Street and Harrington Avenue. Steelco has received their materials and hopes to start work during mild days this winter and finish in the spring of 2026.

- **2026 Guardrail Project** – Bid documents are being prepared for the 2026 Guardrail Replacement project. The guardrail locations selected for the project will be based on Engineering’s priority list for improvement and is primarily focused on deterioration and traffic volume of the road the guardrail protects. Vehicle damage continues to be an expensive part of

the guardrail replacement program. Additionally, Engineering staff continue to reassess the roadside safety program because of deficiencies in design and lifespan of existing guardrail systems in many parts of the town.

- **2026 Crack Sealing** – Engineering staff are working on getting the bid package ready for the 2026 Crack Sealing project. A request for bids will be solicited when the bid package is complete. This project is developed by the Engineering Division as the annual crack sealing program designed to target roads in good condition with minimal to moderate cracking to inhibit water penetration into the asphalt, thereby extending the service life of the roadway. The work entailed sealing of the random cracks formed in the asphalt surface, by first removing debris, water, and vegetation and applying a rubberized sealant over the cracks.
- **2026 Signs and Lines Grant – Alcott School** – The design will be prepared by AECOM and staff will review the recommendations and comment as necessary. Staff will then engage a contractor to perform the work before July 1, 2026.
- **Keyes Road Lighting Project** – The street lighting component of this project along Keyes Road was completed by CMLP and Engineering had the sidewalk restored by a contractor. The contractor will return in the spring to construct the ADA ramp out of concrete to meet Town standards.
- **2025 Pavement Markings** - The 2025 Pavement Markings project awarded to K5 Corporation is planned for completion in the spring and summer of 2026.
- **2026 Traffic Signal Maintenance** - The 2026 Traffic Signal Maintenance contract bid documents were prepared and put out to bid. Bids were opened on February 5 and have been reviewed, and the contract is being executed. The work under this contract is to provide service, maintenance and emergency repair of the traffic signals, traffic signage, traffic control equipment and alterations including outage repairs, emergency pre-emption repair and adjustments, video camera detection repair and adjustments, signal head adjustments, LED lighting retrofits to signal heads, pedestrian pushbutton installation, repair and adjustments, pedestrian signal head installation, repair and adjustments, electrical cable repair and/or replacement, synchronization, controller troubleshooting and maintenance, etc.
- **Harvey Wheeler Community Center Entrance Improvements** – The construction of the entrance improvements by JJ Phelan is in winter shutdown. However, some minor work was recently completed. Work will resume when weather conditions are better. Changes to the project are being reviewed and change orders processed in the meantime.
- **Community Development Project Reviews** – Engineering continued to perform reviews through an iterative process on application plans, calculations, and reports submitted for proposed developments and redevelopments in Town. The more significant and complex private development projects are typically performed by third parties and paid for by the respective applicants. Also, Engineering staff certify that conditions of approval pertinent to CPW are satisfied.

• **Utility Coordination** – Engineering continued to provide utility coordination with private utility companies performing work within the Town’s rights-of-way (ROW). Monthly coordination meetings with National Grid are held because of the number of upgrade and pipe replacement projects on their capital plan as well as the extent of their leak repair program. A National Grid project to highlight is the relocation of a significant regulator station from the corner of Main St and Cottage St. National Grid started the construction of the new station at 1200 Main St last fall and ran into a major underground conflict. They are now designing the station to be located at the intersection of Old Bridge Rd and Crest St. An additional coordination to note is that utility companies have been informed of the streets selected for paving to give them the opportunity to perform improvements prior to the paving.

• **Right-of-Way/Driveway Permitting** – Right-of-Way (ROW) permitting is officially closed for the winter. Permits that come in during the winter will be reviewed and ready for approval when the construction season re-opens. One exception is a permit has been given to National Grid to do exploratory work during the winter for the relocation of the regulator station mentioned above. The construction season will officially reopen on April 1, 2026, pending weather.

FACILITIES

Administration:

- One of custodial staff has earned the ability to advance his career by moving into the Highway & Grounds Division where he will serve as an Equipment Operator. In the interim the Facilities Division will need to revise service coverage across the entire town to continue to ensure at least a “minimal” acceptable level of cleaning. The vacancy has been posted in an attempt to fill this position as soon as possible.
- In support of Seasonal Winter Maintenance activities, one member of the facilities team has been assisting Highway & Grounds on town-wide winter storm response and snow removal activities.

Building Structures:

- **Police and Fire - Station 1 (Walden Street)** – No new issues since the last report.
- **Rideout Park Fieldhouse** –Closed for the season with minor renovation work planned.
- **Beede Recreation Center:** The contract with WPI Roofing has been completed and as trat date is TBD soon. A roof restoration/repair project, with consultation from our Facilities team, has been advanced by the Recreation Department with contract awarded to WPI Roofing. Work is planned to be performed this spring.
- **Barrett’s Mills Farmhouse:** Site walk with Concord Housing to inspect the property and ascertain if they would be interested in taking over the active management of the property from the town.

- **Marshall Farm:** Ricky Marshal has notified us he will be asking to construct a new workshop in the spring, allowed under the lease.
- **Peabody School:** - The team has completed the shop build-out using on hand materials. We now have a safe, clean and functional workshop for the first time since the department was created. A big thank you to Steve, Jon G and the others for getting this done.
- **Council on Aging/Harvey Wheeler** – Based on feedback a third handrail with extensions was added to the new entrance to better assist visitors to the building, installation pending weather. Stair & Entry renovation is approximately 50% complete. At this time, work has been temporarily placed on hold to be completed in spring. Work completed to date includes replacement of the entrance and new ADA ramp.

Building Systems:

Preventative Maintenance:

Seasonal Restroom Facilities

- Gerow Recreation Park– Closed for the season on October 31st - which was extended 2 weeks longer than originally planned based on seasonal conditions/needs
- Rideout Park Restrooms – Closed for the season. New flooring, FRP wall covering, new windows and fresh paint will all be completed before the season opening.
- Doug White Field: Closed for the season on November 13th. Continued outsourcing of custodial will be performed this year. Additionally the building and garage are in need of attention and will require some investment this year, assuming the funding to come from the same source as the outsourced cleaning.

HVAC:

- Continued preventative maintenance is ongoing and has resulted in improved indoor air quality and lower energy use.

Energy/Sustainability:

Meeting to combine town and school under one natural gas provider to improve the rates and allow access to the service providers built in ESCO program.

Taking small measures over the winter such as LED upgrades where needed, installing occupancy sensors in spaces not equipped and other savings measures in a continual effort to reduce operating costs.

Non-Routine Facilities Repairs/Replacements

Public Works (133/135 Keyes Road)

- Roof replacement is set to occur early in 2026 due to timing issues in completing architectural documents.
- 135 Heating/cooling issues were resolved in February. Based on recent assessment activities, it has been determined that the rooftop heating and cooling units will need to be replaced if these building are to remain occupied for an extended period. The existing units are old and parts are nearly impossible to find any longer.

55 Church Street

- New glass divider wall in basement has been installed to provide a new meeting space for the town. See images included here.

Town House:

- Carpet for the meeting room and first floor lobby has been selected, and a vendor is being sourced to perform the work asap. This will greatly help the acoustics in the affected areas. Once complete further sound control measures will be evaluated on an as needed basis.
- Chiller startup will be scheduled for end of March or early April to finish the installation started last year.
- Responding to a request made to define and execute safety & security needs. Will be confirming with other involved parties to create a scope of work.
- Acoustic treatment alternatives have been reviewed with a preferred plan identified and priced out.

Harvey Wheeler / COA Facility

- Acoustic improvement has been defined and cost estimates established. Funding is being identified in an effort to move this need forward this summer/fall

Operations and Support of Town-Wide Functional Activities:

- Continued assistance in the ongoing task related to space planning and relocation of town departments as illustrated in the 2020 Master Plan and MCI planning tasks as required.

Sustainability/Energy Updates:

- ESCO (Energy Service Company) Contract Services: ESCOs are characterized by their performance-based contract, meaning their compensation is directly tied to the actual energy savings they achieve for a client. They provide services like energy audits, retrofits, and the installation of efficient equipment,
 - Attempting to become members of a commodity group that provides access to an established ESCO team – bypassing the time and cost of procurement saving time and money to get into place.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH & SAFETY PROGRAM

Administration: Our Environmental Health & Safety Manager, Kimberly Sullivan, has accepted an new opportunity that will bring her skill-set back into the private sector. Over a relatively short period of time, Kim has helped advance both awareness and compliance with a number of programs which have meaningful impact on our operations crew and staff. This has included various training, education and communication sessions.

As the season transitions, we will continue to work to emphasis season-appropriate awareness and training opportunities. Efforts over the past month included:

CPW Training and Outreach

- Scheduling inspections with a 3rd party vendor to inspect all CPW chains, wire rope, and synthetic slings to ensure compliance with OSHA 1910.184.
- Completed summary of 2025 injuries and incidents to create DART (Days away, Restricted, Transfer) rate which is a lagging performance indicator.
- Hazardous waste management/disposal for Deaconess facility (WS operation).
- Fleet safety continues to improve safety operations to avoid injuries and vehicle damage.
- EHS Manager is working to ensure all applicable items have appropriate labeling/placarding.
- CPW Safety Committee continues to meet regularly.
- Routine Environmental Compliance Activities
- S1 Vapor Recovery Program inspections (weekly)
- The above ground storage tanks were successfully inspected as required by an external party.
- All fire extinguishers received annual external inspections and continued inspections at both 133 and 135 Keyes Rd (Monthly) – no issues
- Maintenance of First aid supplies throughout CPW – on going
- On-going WWTP inspections.
- Monthly support/maintenance for licensing/training.
- Water/Sewer employees attended a Trenching and Excavation training in February

The Massachusetts Department of Labor Standards (DLS) Inspection/Audit: DLS enforces OSHA workplace safety regulations for the protection of public employees. DLS responds to incidents involving public employees in a number of ways, including onsite inspections and requests for information from public employers. On March 3, 2026, CPW was contacted by DLS about an employee who had an incident while operating a specialized piece of equipment while performing emergency winter response activities. DLS expressed their intention in providing a workplace safety and health inspection at our operations center located at 133 Keyes Road on March 4, 2026. The purpose of the inspection was to prevent future work-related injury and illness and evaluate compliance with OSHA safety and health regulations.

While the inspection was directly related to the incident that occurred on the specialized piece of equipment, their scope expanded during the inspection. Management and non-management employees were interviewed. The inspector requested information be provided on the following topics: Job Hazard Analysis of work activity, injury reporting, fire extinguishers use/training, OSHA recordkeeping (OSHA 300 summary), ladders, respiratory protection, the process to report incidents and injuries, cemetery work, specific to digging graves as relative to the Trenching and Excavation standard, Personal Protective Equipment assessment and various other items.

The inspector requested to walk through the 133 Keyes Rd shop at which time he observed items such as electrical panels; proper clearance, labeling, etc. The inspector used this opportunity to cite multiple occasions of which employees from various municipalities in the state suffered serious injuries such as crushing, falls from heights and amputation. At the conclusion of the inspection, we were informed that he was satisfied with the information provided and determined there be no further actions taken or Civil Citations issued.