

TOWN COUNCIL GOALS

School Improvements

The Town Council is supportive of the School Committee's goal to build a new middle school and make improvements to the East Greenwich High School and other school facilities in order to maintain its full accreditation. Council supports a system wide plan in order to assess school infrastructure needs.

In addition to the academic improvements, the continued development of the former River Sand & Gravel site and high school fields to meet the needs of expanded school athletic use needs to be integrated into the total school improvement project. These improvements need to be completed as expeditiously as possible. The Council is supportive of the Fields Committee recommendation in achieving this goal. The Council will support the School Committee's goal while maintaining sound financial practices for the Town.

Infrastructure and Facility Needs

- A. **Sewer Expansion** – Continue the policy of expanding the municipal sewer system east of Route 2 and of completing infiltration/inflow (I/I) improvement projects to increase the available capacity and reduce the operational expense of the Wastewater Treatment Plant.
- B. **Police Station** – Complete the construction of the new police station at 176 First Avenue with minimal disturbance to the neighborhood.
- C. **Town Garage** – Explore the benefits of expanding the existing garage to house vehicles now stored outdoors and of maintaining a joint facility with the school maintenance operation that is currently leasing space elsewhere.
- D. **Road Re-surfacing** - review the road re-surfacing program now that the sewer expansion project is nearly complete and work toward a town wide pavement management program.
- E. **Landfill** – complete the capping of the landfill and maintain/create wildlife habitat along the slopes of the site.

Senior Services

Recognizing that seniors are an expanding segment of the town now comprising approximately 20% of the population of East Greenwich, an area of commitment should be a Senior/Community Center. Pursue a multi-purpose community/senior center at Swift Gym to provide a five-day per week meal site and a location for delivery of medical, social and community services. This project should be coordinated with the Senior Advisory Committee, Senior & Human Resources Director and Parks & Grounds Department.

Management and Efficiency

Continue to examine the service delivery system of the Town's departments, and conduct periodic reviews of the existing school and municipal functions, consolidating where possible, and considering new programs. Assure that municipal staff maintain proficiency in required areas of technology and are provided with current technology. Effectively use the boards and commissions for development of Town goals. Review municipal financial statements monthly including school warrants. Maintain fiscal policies and practices (maintenance of adequate reserves, adoption of an annual capital improvements plan and financial policies, reallocation of funds for unbudgeted expenditures, etc.) that encourage retention and improvement to the Town's bond rating. Proactively manage Town expenditures to live within the tax cap, unless expenditures are within allowable exemption categories. Further expand upon cooperative efforts with the E.G. Fire District, i.e., quarterly tax billing, accounts payable, etc. The Town should develop a stronger relationship with our legislators to work toward alternative revenue sources and to secure adequate and equitable state funding for education.

Accessible Government

To provide the highest levels of service to the community, maintain open and accessible government, assure that staff maintain and improve communications with citizens, and especially utilize the town's website to its fullest advantage for the dissemination of information, agendas, minutes of meetings, reports and communications, and decisions by the Town Council and the town's boards and commissions.

Growth Management

Examine growth management strategies so as to manage open space, growth and development in the town in a sustainable fashion and not create negative impacts on the community. Strategies for managing growth may include utilizing the Comprehensive Community Plan, the Zoning Ordinance, Development and Subdivision Review Regulations, and the Affordable Housing Plan (this may include Town sponsored development of affordable housing). Implement the strategies of the recently adopted Access Management Plan for the Route 2 corridor from Frenchtown Road north. The preceding should be implemented in a manner to preserve the quality of life enjoyed by residents and the character of the town.

Continued Revitalization of Main Street and the Waterfront

Continue to work with the Planning Board on the downtown/waterfront initiative. Also include the Historic District Commission, the Cove Commission and business and civic organizations. As part of this initiative, the Council will examine greenways, parking, improvements to First Avenue and development of the former landfill site for passive recreation.