

**Public Facilities and Services**

**State Goal:** *To plan for, finance and develop an efficient system of public facilities and services to accommodate anticipated growth and economic development.*

**Town Goal:**

<b>Policy</b>	<b>Strategy</b>	<b>Responsible Parties</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Budget</b>
<b><i>It is the policy of the town to plan for the maintenance and care of municipal facilities and buildings, and make improvements based on general government staff needs and capacity.</i></b>	Create a Municipal Buildings Master Plan that inventories the current space and uses of facilities in town, considers future maintenance and capacity needs, plans for periodic improvements, and appoints responsible staff for these tasks. Could include hiring a facilities manager or adding responsibility to current staff.	Town Council, Building Committee, Staff	Short Term	\$
	Engage current staff departments on facility space, capacity, and equipment needs and incorporate findings in the Municipal Buildings Master Plan.	Town Council, Building Committee, Staff	Immediate	N/A
	Evaluate the potential for providing space for local non-profits and volunteer organizations which provide recreation or cultural opportunities.	Town Council, Building Committee, Staff	Short Term	N/A
	Locate the majority of new municipal growth-related capital investments in designated growth areas.	Town Council, Staff	Ongoing	N/A
<b><i>It is the policy of the town, in partnership with the South Berwick Sewer District and the South Berwick Water District, to provide adequate water and sewer</i></b>	Evaluate the SBWD and SBSB fee structure to ensure that developers are bearing an appropriate share of future upgrades and improvements to the sewer and water systems.	Town Council, Planning Board, SBWD, SBSB	Short Term	N/A

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<b><i>infrastructure to meet the needs of current and future development.</i></b>	Encourage the extension of public water and sewer to newly developing areas adjacent to the existing sewer service areas when developers will pay the costs and where such extensions do not occur in environmentally sensitive areas.	Planning Board, Town Council, SBWD, SBSB	Long Term	N/A
	Consider water and sewer district needs and concerns in all zoning ordinance revisions.	Planning Board, Town Council, Staff	Ongoing	N/A
	Involve SBWD and SBSB in discussions of strategic infrastructure expansions in targeted areas of economic development.	Town Council, Economic Development Staff, SBWD, SBSB	Short Term	\$
	As public water expansion is anticipated, ensure protection of suitable water supply sources.	Town Council, SBWD, Conservation Commission	Long Term	\$\$
	Designate a council member to annually engage with the SBWD and SBSB for updates on facilities, water quality, costs, and other current issues or needs.	Town Council	Short Term	N/A
	Assess South Berwick water supply sources for PFAS contamination. If present, understand sources of contamination and seek guidance and funding from the State for remediation.	SBWD, Town Council	Short Term	\$
	<b><i>It is the policy of the town to provide adequate emergency services, and continuously improve those facilities and programs based on changing community needs.</i></b>	Monitor and participate in regionalization efforts for providing police, fire, and rescue services.	Town Council, Public Safety Staff	Ongoing
Evaluate the current level of service and monitor the extent to which the town's needs are met relative to national and state service standards.		Town Council, Public Safety Staff	Immediate	\$\$
Plan for the expansion and/or renovation of the Fire Station to accommodate the addition of more staff, increased training requirements, and community changes in the next ten years.		Town Council, Public Works Staff	Long Term	\$\$\$\$

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<b><i>It is the policy of the town to provide adequate solid waste disposal facilities and make continuous improvements to meet changing community needs.</i></b>	Address concerns of traffic flow and overcrowding at the transfer station, and periodically evaluate needs based on community changes.	Town Council, Public Works Staff, Building Committee?	Short Term	\$\$\$
	Consider whether regionalization of solid waste management may be more cost effective, efficient or resilient for South Berwick and surrounding communities.	Town Council, Staff	Long Term	\$\$-\$\$\$
	Provide public education and enforce mandatory recycling policies for paper, aluminum, plastics and other metals. Continue offering household hazardous waste disposal.	Public Works Staff, Town Council	Ongoing	\$
	Consider implementing other solid waste disposal options, such as a community composting program, to reduce overall waste to landfill.	Town Council, Public Works Staff	Short Term	\$\$
<b><i>It is the policy of the town to maintain an ongoing dialogue with MSAD #35 to collaborate on mutual long term planning goals.</i></b>	Meet with school officials on a regular basis to consider facility needs, to analyze the impact of school assessments on the tax rate and to analyze the implications of residential growth.	Town Council, School Board & Staff	Ongoing	N/A
	Explore new ways to work with the district to maximize the use of school facilities.	Town Council, School Board	Short Term	N/A
<b><i>It is the policy of the town to maintain and continuously improve government transparency and communications with residents.</i></b>	Create a welcome packet for new South Berwick residents that includes information on meeting times & places, website resources, services, etc.	Town Council, Staff	Immediate	\$
	Host a volunteer/engagement fair at Town Hall to introduce local non-profits, committees, and other organizations to the public.	Town Council, Staff	Short Term	\$
	Consider allocating funds to communications as its own budget item and/or providing funds to town committees to conduct outreach.	Town Council	Immediate	\$\$

	Consider the feasibility and need to hire communications staff, potentially shared with neighboring towns.	Town Council, Staff	Short Term	\$\$\$
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**Timeline Key**

Immediate = 2-3 years  
 Short Term = 5-8 years  
 Long Term = 10-15 years  
 Ongoing = Begin as possible, maintain ongoing

**Budget Key**

N/A = Does not necessarily have a cost component  
 \$ = One budget cycle, maybe mid-cycle allocation  
 \$\$ = One budget cycle, budgeted ahead of time  
 \$\$\$ = Two to three budget cycles  
 \$\$\$\$ = three or more budget cycles, maybe a reserve account