

## PUBLIC FACILITIES AND SERVICES

### Introduction

This chapter identifies and analyzes the public facilities and public services of Union. Recommendations are made to improve town facilities and services. A list of future needs and estimated expenditures is contained in the Capital Investment Plan. [PURPLE TEXT IS FROM THE 2005 PLAN AND MIGHT BE WORTH RETAINING OR REVISING]

### State Goal

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

### Analyses

(1) *Are municipal services adequate to meeting changes in population and demographics?*

In general, Union has the capacity to provide basic and necessary municipal services to its citizens over the ten-year planning period. However, the Town should anticipate an increased demand for services for its growing elderly population, which could include a need for assisted living facilities. At this time, except for [the Union Corporation for Better Housing \(eight units at 146 Townhouse Rd\)](#), most of this type of housing is located nearby in Rockland, Thomaston, and Waldoboro. Due to development constraints in Union such as a lack of sewers to handle larger-scale multi-unit housing, this limitation on housing will most likely continue in the foreseeable future. See the Housing Chapter for more information.

(2) *Has the community partnered with neighboring communities to share services, reduce costs and/or improve services? In what ways?*

The following is a list of inter-municipal and regional efforts in which Union participates:

- Ambulance service mutual aid agreements with Northeast, Warren and Waldoboro Ambulance services to provide back up, and depending on who is closest to the scene.
- [Animal Control \(Appleton and Union.\)](#)
- Emergency dispatch through the Knox County Regional Communications Center.
- Fire and rescue participation in a mutual aid program with Appleton, Hope, Warren and Washington.
- Municipal solid waste disposal and recycling through an inter-local agreement with [the Tri-County Solid Waste Management Organization \(through Knox County, in cooperation with Lincoln and Waldo Counties\)](#). Through membership in the Municipal Review Committee, which serves 187 Maine municipalities, municipal solid waste has been transported to the Penobscot Energy Recovery Company, L.P. (PERC) waste-to-energy facility in Orrington. This is anticipated to be changed [in 2018 to Ecomaine, a Portland non-profit waste management company owned and operated by Maine municipalities.](#)
- Police protection through a contract with the Knox County Sheriff's Department.

- Midcoast Maine Community Action for social services for low income and at risk individuals and families.
  - Mid-Coast Regional Planning Commission for land use and transportation planning assistance.
  - Penquis CAP for social services for low income persons.
  - Public education as a member of RSU 40, which serves Friendship, Union, Waldoboro, Warren, and Washington.
  - Public transportation services through [Waldo Community Action Partners \(WCAP\)](#), a State of Maine designated Regional Transportation Provider. WCAP took over these services from Coastal Trans (CTI)/Methodist Conference Home, Inc. in mid-2016. They offer disabled and low-income residents transportation for medical appointments, and limited demand response service for the general public in the region.
  - [Public Works interlocal agreements for the sharing of equipment and ---](#).
  - Regional emergency training and disaster planning through the Knox County Emergency Management Agency.
  - Sand and salt countywide bidding process for winter road usage.
- (3) *If the community has a public sewer system, what issues or concerns are there currently and/or anticipated in the future? Is the sanitary district extension policy consistent with the Future Land Use Plan as required by (38 M.R.S.A. §1163), or will it be?*

The Town does not have a public sewer system.

There has been some consideration of developing a public sewer system, at least in the vicinity of the Union Common where a number of inadequate disposal systems have been replaced or upgraded under the Maine DEP's Small Communities Program. However, due to the excellent water quality in the St. George River, (Class A below the outlet of Sennebec Pond) and in the great ponds in the St. George River basin (all of which are Class GPA), there is no realistic possibility of any discharge of treated effluent into the St. George River system near Union.

- (4) *If the community has a public water system are any public water supply expansions anticipated? If so, have suitable sources been identified and protected? Is the water district extension policy consistent with the Future Land Use Plan?*

The existing water systems serve village residents and businesses. No public water expansions are anticipated for the ten-year planning period. However, the water district, the [Maine Water Company](#), improvement plan includes a new pump and new building on Barrett Hill Road in the next ten years. The water district's extension policy is consistent with [65-407 Maine Public Utilities Commission Chapter 65: Water Main Extension and Service Line Rule](#). Likewise, it is consistent with the Future Land Use Plan.

- (5) *If the town does not have a public sewer or water system, is this preventing the community from accommodating current and projected growth?*

The lack of public sewer system has and will continue to inhibit large-scale or higher density growth. However, demand for this type of development has --- not been expressed. Projected

growth is modest based upon observed trends and assumes that sewer will remain unavailable for the Town during the ten-year planning period of this plan. The Town can accommodate the growth anticipated, predominantly residential in the form of mostly single-family detached housing units. If multi-unit development were sought, sewer or a community wastewater system would likely be needed, especially if such growth were to occur within or near shoreland areas.

- (6) *Are existing stormwater management facilities adequately maintained? What improvements are needed? How might future development affect the existing system?*

The drainage system in Union is a mix of public infrastructure installed over the years, and private stormwater management systems installed as part of subdivision and site plan regulated development. Ongoing maintenance of ditches, culverts and catch basins are crucial for these systems to continue to function properly. The areas where needed improvements might be required generally fall along the state maintained roads. Any future private land development should include an analysis of potential drainage changes and the impact on neighboring properties.

Without adequate stormwater management, the cumulative effect of small, piecemeal development (new buildings and impervious surfaces like parking lots), in addition to mid- and large-scale development, would threaten adjacent properties and roadways with increased flooding. Accordingly, the review of projects through the Union Land Use Ordinance, Subdivision Ordinance, and the Shoreland Zoning Ordinance includes drainage standards. Improvements to public stormwater facilities that are needed because of development projects should have a share of the cost for those improvements borne by the applicant. As well, State regulations for applicable projects address stormwater management.

- (7) *How do residents dispose of septic tank waste? Are there issues or concerns regarding septic tank waste?*

Property owners are responsible for the maintenance and disposal of their septic waste. The Town contracts with [Interstate Septic](#), a private firm for municipal facilities using septic systems. The Town is **not** aware of failing septic systems **within Union**. When individual systems fail, the Town has worked with property owners to address these issues while meeting all codes and ordinances. Septage is not disposed of within Union.

- (8) *Is school construction or expansion anticipated during the planning period? Are there opportunities to promote new residential development around existing and proposed schools?*

There is one school currently operating in Union. Union students also attend schools in surrounding communities. Given the decline in enrollments seen over the past decade, the decline in young families and with increases in the elderly population predominately, new school construction or expansion during the planning period is unlikely to be warranted for Union's share of the RSU 40s total enrollment or for the school district as a whole.

Funding cuts, which have occurred chiefly at the State level, will limit the amount of school improvements to be made over the planning period and might result in the closing of

underutilized facilities. Regionalization of education has been promoted by the State in an attempt to reduce education costs, especially administrative costs. The decisions on education spending will increasingly be made on a regional basis, not by any one municipality alone.

(9) *Is the community's emergency response system adequate? Are improvements needed?*

Union Ambulance Service meets --- current needs. It provides emergency response services to the Town and is staffed with trained professionals. Northeast, Warren and Waldoboro Ambulance services to provide back up, and depending on who is closest to the scene. Improvements needed include ---.

Union's Fire Department --- meets the needs of the community currently and is anticipated to do so for the ten-year planning period. Knox County town fire departments support each other when needed through mutual aid agreements.

No major improvements to existing facilities and buildings during the ten-year planning period are anticipated to be necessary. New or replacement vehicles (fire trucks and ambulances) are --- planned for during this same period. Fire Trucks are the most significant expenditure. They should be replaced or rehabbed on a regular basis; ideally with funding from a reserve account. See the Capital Investment Plan for cost estimates.

The Town contracts with the Knox County Sheriff's office for police protection. This service is deemed to be adequate currently and for the planning period.

(10) *Is the solid waste management system meeting current needs? Is the community reducing the reliance on waste disposal and increasing recycling opportunities? Are improvements needed to meet future demand?*

It is anticipated that the current arrangement will be changed to Ecomaine and will be able to handle projected growth during the ten-year planning period.

(11) *Are improvements needed in the telecommunications and energy infrastructure?*

All businesses require basic public services. In the current economy, access to markets far beyond Union is essential for many as well. Internet and telecommunications infrastructure in Union is sufficient in many parts of the community but could be improved (as technology advances) and expanded to fill the current gaps in coverage. See the Economy Chapter for more information.

(12) *Are local and regional health care facilities and public health and social service programs adequate to meet the needs of the community?*

Health care is provided at a regional level through Miles Memorial Hospital (Damariscotta) and Pen Bay Medical Center (Rockport), and Maine General Health (Augusta). Physician offices are located in Damariscotta, Rockland and Rockport. See the conditions and trends section below for more information. Locally, Union Ambulance provides emergency response. The current arrangement works --- well.

- (13) *Will other public facilities, such as town offices, libraries, and cemeteries accommodate projected growth?*

The Town's public facilities, including the town office and community center, the fire station, and ---- generally have adequate capacity for the next ten-year period, with the exception of ----. Major capital needs identified include the possibility of renovating --- and building ---. See the Capital Investment Plan in the Fiscal Capacity Chapter for a list of proposed projects.

- (14) *To what extent are investments in facility improvements directed to growth areas?*

Most public facilities are located within and near the village, which is a designated growth area, and so funding for public facility improvements will benefit this growth area.

- (15) *Does the community have a street tree program?*

The Town does not have a formal street tree program.

### **Conditions and Trends**

*Minimum data required to address Analyses includes the identification of the following as applicable for the public facilities and services in 3.11 C (5) (a through i):*

- (1) *location of facilities and service areas (mapped as appropriate);*

See the map titled Public Facilities

- (2) *general physical condition of facilities and equipment;*

- (3) *capacity and anticipated demand during the planning period;*

- (4) *identification of who owns/manages the systems;*

For (2) through (4) see the responses below.

- (5) *estimated costs of needed capital improvements to public facilities; and*

See the Capital Investment Plan.

- (6) *the following information related to each of these public facilities and services:*

- a. *Sewerage and/or Water Supply – Identify number and types of users, and percent of households served*

Union has no public sewer. Residents and businesses depend upon subsurface waste systems. As of 2016, the Maine Department of Health and Human Services indicated that there are five public water systems (PWS) in Union as shown in the next table. The Maine Water Company, Union Division, serves much of the village area, about 113 houses. Nearly all other residents

and businesses in the Town outside of the village area depend upon private wells for drinking water.

Most properties in Union are served by private water sources, either drilled wells, dug wells, or lake/pond-drawn systems. The Common area of Union is served by **Maine Water Company**, formerly Aqua-Maine. This system services about 100 properties extending along parts of the Common Road, Depot Street, Burkett Road, Townhouse Road, and Sunk Haze.

The water source for the Common area consists of three drilled wells feeding into a 128,000-gallon concrete storage tank. This tank is located underground, and was built in the mid-1970s. Water treatment includes chlorine for disinfectant and phosphate for corrosion control.

The **Maine Water Company** has two other wells in Union. One is located on the property of Allen’s Blueberry Freezer at 72 Depot Street, and is currently used seasonally as needed. The second well is located on property owned by the **Maine Water Company** on the corner of Common Road and Fairgrounds Road. This well is not currently in use.

The **Maine Water Company** currently has --- plans for expansion of the water system.

<b>Union Public Water Systems</b>				
<b>Name/Owner</b>	<b>ID-Type</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Depth</b>	<b>Type</b>
Crawford Commons/ Seven Tree Manor	ME0095190	drilled well	NA	C
Maine Water Company - Union Division	ME0091537- 101	bedrock well (farthest from road)	306 feet	C
	ME0091537- 102	bedrock well (nearest to road)	307 feet	C
	ME0091537- 103	bedrock well (middle)	400 feet	C
	ME0091537- 504	cannery well (emergency use)	NA	C
Mic Mac Cove Campground	ME0003551	drilled well	125 feet	NC
RSU 40 Union Elementary and-Middle Schools	ME0000640	drilled well	220 ft	NTNC
Thompson Community Center and Town Office	ME0092377	well	NA	NC

Source: Maine Department of Health and Human Services, Drinking Water Program

Notes: C=Community, NC=Non-Community, NTNC=non-transient non-community

See the Water Resources Chapter for state assessments of public water systems in Union, for the most recent year(s) that the state provided.

- b. *Septage – Identify any community policies or regulations regarding septage collection and disposal.*

Union has no public sewer system and relies entirely on private on-site disposal systems, most commonly septic tanks and leach fields. The Town contracts with Interstate Septic Facility of Rockland to accept septic tank pumpage.

The Town follows State regulations regarding septage collection and disposal from municipal facilities. The Town enforces the State Plumbing Code regarding subsurface waste systems.

- c. *Solid Waste – Describe the community’s solid waste management system. Identify types and amounts of municipal solid waste and recycled materials for the past five (5) years.*

Union has a charter waste disposal agreement with Tri-County Solid Waste in Union (which serves Appleton, Liberty, Somerville, Union, and Washington). This facility had an adjusted recycling rate of 51% in 2001, with waste disposed at PERC in Orrington. Municipal Solid Waste expenses in Union have been --- increasing as they have statewide. The State did not provide five years of data as part of the community dataset prepared in 2015. Tri-County Solid Waste figures are not --- disaggregated by town. For Union and/or overall figures show that the amount of municipal solid waste and recycled materials has ---- for the past five years from --- to ---.

The Land Use Ordinance including Site Plan Review, has provisions for waste disposal in new commercial, industrial, office, institutional, municipal and multifamily residential developments. The Subdivision Ordinance has solid waste provisions for new developments in subdivisions.

- d. *Stormwater Management – Identify combined sewer overflows. For Municipal Separate Stormwater System (MS4) communities, describe plan and status of the major goals of the MS4 requirements.*

Union has no combined sewer overflows. The Town is not an MS4 community.

- e. *Power and Communications – Availability of 3-phase power, Internet (including broadband), and cable within the community.*

Limited high broadband internet access via DSL (high-speed fiber) and cable is available in portions of the Town, especially along state roads and in the village. Telecommuting opportunities will continue to be constrained until greater bandwidth Internet service becomes available.

Three-phase power is available along Old Route 17 from the Hope town line to Route 131 N, on portions of Route 17 (Heald Highway) to Payson Rd, to Common Rd, and to the power substation on Route 131, and could be extended. The current usage and future demand for three-phase power is not known.

- f. *Emergency Response System –Average call response times for fire, police, and emergency/rescue.*

### **Fire Department**

The Union Fire Department in 2015 responded to 450 calls with an average response time of --- minutes. The Fire Department staffing includes a chief, assistant chief, 2 captains, 3 lieutenants, 2 fire police, and 14 firefighters, --- who are volunteers and hold jobs in other occupations. Maintaining adequate staffing levels is an ongoing concern. There are efforts to attract additional volunteers.

The Union Fire Department has been a municipal department since the 1920s. In October 1987, the Union Fire Department moved into the new fire station located on Common Road. This building includes four doors (bays) for fire department vehicles, with space for three additional vehicles. One additional bay houses the Union Ambulance Service. Recently the second floor of the station that was an attic area has been completed for meeting areas and office areas. Currently the department is a paid, on-call service, with members alerted through the Knox County Regional Communications Center. Mutual aid agreements are in place with the surrounding communities.

The department continues to develop dry-hydrant agreements with landowners, should the use of water supplies be necessary for fire suppression. The department applies for grants, and has received such grants for various needs. Recent grants awarded to Union Fire Department include radios and equipment. Training for members is extensive, and requires many hours of commitment. Members are offered continuing education, and participate in many pre-planning incident scenarios and fire scene practices. Meetings are held monthly for training and organizational needs. **Training includes** hazardous materials recognition and handling. Motor vehicle accident extraction service is also a specialized function of the service.

The 2016 public opinion survey found about 33% very satisfied and 53% satisfied with the Union Fire Department.

### **Police**

Union has had no police department since 1977. The Town contracts with the Knox County Sheriff's Office for police protection. In 2015, the Knox County Sheriff's Office responded to 537 incidents in Union, of which 126 were property watch related, 142 traffic related (erratic vehicle, traffic hazard, traffic offence, radar detail, and traffic accidents), 76 not classified, 16 alarm response, 15 agency assistance and 14 well-being checks. The remainder was for other categories. The County did not calculate an overall average response time.

The town is served by the State Police from Troop D, based in Thomaston, and by the Knox County Sheriff's Department. Several troopers and deputies live in or near Union, which provides an additional measure of security

There have been informal studies sponsored by the Selectmen, in response to citizen concerns about speeding and other disturbances, to determine whether the Town should consider creating a local police unit of some type, but citizen opinion appears to be strongly against this action.

The 2016 public opinion survey found about 14% very satisfied and 54% satisfied with the County Police. By comparison, in the 2002 citizen survey, only 54 percent of respondents rated police services as adequate, showing that there are some concerns among Union residents. A supplemental survey conducted in 2003 and focused specifically on law enforcement issues indicated that speeding in the area of the Union Common and in residential areas is the predominant concern, with additional concerns expressed regarding theft and burglary, drug abuse, driving under the influence, and vandalism. However, a clear majority of respondents to both surveys indicated a perception that crime is lower in Union than in the State overall.

### **Ambulance Service**

In 2014, Union Ambulance Service responded to --- calls in Union with an average response time of --- minutes. In 2016, there were 7 paramedics, 5 EMTs Advanced, 9 EMT Basics, and 7 Drivers.

The Union Ambulance Service is a municipal department, converted from a volunteer service, and is housed in the Fire Station in the William Pullen Municipal Building. It serves Union as well as the Towns of Washington, and Appleton on a contract basis. The Ambulance Service and the Fire Department are members of the Knox County Mutual Aid Association and the Knox County Firemen's Association.

The Ambulance Service is served by six paramedics, nine emergency medical technicians (EMTs), eleven intermediate EMTs and seven drivers. It is dispatched from the Knox County Regional Communications Center. The Service responds to over 400 emergency calls per year. Core staffing is per diem Monday through Friday, 5:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M.

The Service is well equipped, and has earned a reputation for being one of the best for its size in the State. The service operates a 2009 Ford van-type modular ambulance, with drop-down automatic snow chains. The ambulance is fully equipped for advanced life support and advanced cardiac life support, with a monitor/defibrillator/pacer unit, an automatic transport ventilator, and an automatic external defibrillator. Five additional defibrillators are carried in the personal vehicles of members of the Service.

The 2016 public opinion survey found about 30% very satisfied and 39% satisfied with the Union Ambulance Service.

- g. *Education – Identify school administrative unit. Include primary/secondary school system enrollment for the most recent year information is available and for the ten (10) years after the anticipated adoption of plan.*

The Town is a member community of Regional School Unit (RSU) 40. Other member communities are Friendship, Waldoboro, Warren, and Washington. The voters of Union elect school board members to represent them on the School Board.

The next table shows school enrollments in RSU 40 in area schools 2016.

**RSU 40 Total School Enrollment by Grade in FY 2016**

Schools	PreK	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Total
Friendship		12	9	12	15	11	15	11							85
Miller	30	53	41	54	41	41	44	43							347
Prescott		12	20	17	14	15	15	16							109
Union	21	15	21	11	19	18	16	16							137
Warren	32	41	47	45	46	48	50	42							351
MMS									140	147					287
MVHS											172	117	151	125	565
<b>Total</b>	83	133	138	139	135	133	140	128	140	147	172	117	151	125	<b>1,881</b>
Total Grades Pre-K -6															1,029
Total Grades 7 - 8															287
Total Grades 9 - 12															287

Source: RSU 40

Enrollment projections for the next ten years for the RSU total and for the portion of Union resident students are not available from RSU 40. Trends from the past decade suggest slight declines are possible. However, fluctuations of total enrollment based upon the economy and housing market are probable, which inhibits definitive forecasting. Regionally, current facilities have capacity for growth but shifts in school use by grade may be required. The municipal membership of RSU 40 may change over the next decade as communities decide whether to remain or form new districts to meet the needs of their residents.

- h. Health Care - Describe major health care facilities (hospitals, clinics) and other providers serving the community. Identify public health and social services supported by the community through municipal subsidy.*

There are no hospitals or clinics located in Union. Miles Memorial Hospital (Damariscotta), a subsidiary of Lincoln County Healthcare and Pen Bay Medical Center (Rockport), a member of MaineHealth, provide a full range of medical services and offer affiliated home health and hospice services, public health nursing, physician offices and educational programs. The Town financially supports the Union Ambulance Service, which responded to over 450 calls in 2015. The Town supports a Health Officer who is a volunteer, and also provides subsidies for the following health-related organizations: Senior Citizens, The Coastal Workshop, New Hope for Women, Mid-Coast Human Resources Council, Mid-Coast Children’s Services, Coastal Transportation Inc., Know-Wal-Lin, Senior Spectrum, Come Spring Food Pantry, and American Red Cross.

- i. *Municipal Government Facilities and Services – Describe facilities and staffing for municipal administrative, enforcement, and public works operations.*

Union is governed by the Town Meeting/Selectmen form of government. The Town employs a Town Manager, Town Clerk, two Deputy Town Clerks, Tax Collector, two Deputy Tax Collectors, Treasurer, Deputy Treasurer, Fire Chief/EMA Director, Health Officer, Welfare Director, Code Enforcement Officer/Plumbing Inspector, and Animal Control Officer. Some positions are part-time. Some staff persons hold multiple positions. The Town contracts for some services including Certified Assessor and ---. See the lists below for elected and appointed officials.

The Town Office is open Monday through Thursday 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM and Friday 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM. The Town Office is open the 1st and 3rd Tuesday until 6:00 pm.

Union voters elect these officials:

1. Selectmen, Assessors, Overseers of the Poor (5 members)
2. Trustees of William Pullen Fund
3. Trustees of Cemetery Trust Funds
4. Budget Committee
5. Directors of MSAD/RSU 40 (3 members)
6. Moderator for Town Meetings

The Selectmen or [Town Manager](#) appoint these officials:

1. Town Manager/Road Commissioner/GA Administrator/Public Access Officer
2. Town Clerk/Tax Collector/Deputy Register and Treasurer
3. Registrar of Voters/Deputy Clerk and Tax Collector/Deputy GA Administrator and Treasurer
4. Deputy Town Clerk/Tax Collector
5. Assessor's Agent, contracted
6. Town Legal Counsel, contracted
7. Animal Control Officer, Alternate Animal Control Officer
8. Appeals Board Members
9. Civil Defense Director
10. Code Enforcement Officer/Licensed Plumbing and Building Inspector, Alternate Code Enforcement Officer/LPI
11. Comprehensive Plan Committee
12. Constable/Union Fair
13. Director of Cemeteries
14. Election Clerks, Election Warden, Deputy Warden
15. EMS Chief, Paramedics, EMTs Basic/Advanced, Drivers
16. Fire Department: Chief/EMA Director, Assistant Chief, Captains, Lieutenants, Fire Police, Firefighters
17. Founder's Day Committee
18. Health Officer, Alternate Health Office
19. Planning Board Members

20. Public Works Forman and Team Members
21. Recreation Committee
22. Recreation Complex Committee
23. Scholarship Committee
24. Sealer of Weights and Measures
25. Tri-County Solid Waste Representatives
26. Treasurer
27. Veteran's Monument Committee

Town volunteer committees advise and assist the Town boards and municipal staff to provide Town services. These committees allow residents a meaningful opportunity to have a say in what types of services the Town offers now and should offer in the future.

### Public Works

Public Works is under the direction of the Road Commissioner, who is appointed by the Selectmen and who at this time is also the Town Manager. There are four full-time employees, including a Highway Supervisor and three Driver / Operators. Part-time operators and laborers are hired on an as-needed basis, depending on the time of year and the nature of the work to be completed. In addition, contracted services are used, depending on the nature of the work including major excavations and road building.

The municipal sand and salt building, constructed in 1994-1995, and the equipment garage, constructed in 2000, are located on Town-owned land at 1142 Heald Highway, just east of the Union School. The municipal garage has radiant floor heat, office space, and a kitchen area. In addition, a full bath and storage area complete the amenities of the building. A small storage building is also located on the property.

As of June 2004, the inventory of equipment includes a 1989 7-yard-capacity plow truck, a 1996 7-yard-capacity plow truck, a 2002 -yard-capacity plow truck, a 1999 3-yard-capacity plow truck, a 1987 loader/backhoe (scheduled for replacement), and a 1979 loader/grader. In addition, a full complement of various hand tools and small equipment complete the department.

The 2016 public opinion survey found about 35% very satisfied and 55% satisfied with the road plowing. Almost 18% were very satisfied and 53% satisfied with road repair.

### Cemeteries

The Town of Union owns five cemeteries: Common Cemetery located on Ayer Hill Road, Lakeview Cemetery located on Overlock Hill Road, Sidelinger Cemetery located on Sidelinger Road, Skidmore Cemetery located on Skidmore Road, and East Union Cemetery located on Miller Road. Lakeview Cemetery, Skidmore Cemetery, and East Union Cemetery currently have burial plots available.

Ongoing maintenance includes fencing, road construction, and clearing of plant growth as needed. Stone cleaning and repair of all town cemeteries are scheduled in the town budget

on an annual basis. Maintenance of the cemeteries has been supported at least partly by interest earned from the perpetual care account. As interest rates have fallen dramatically over the last few years, maintenance funds have increasingly been drawn from general taxation.

**Summary of Municipal Buildings and Land**

Town-owned facilities are listed with their size, location, condition, and capacity/anticipated needs shown in the next table.

<b>Municipal Buildings and Land</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Size (Acres)</b>	<b>General Condition</b>	<b>Sufficient Capacity</b>	<b>Anticipated Uses</b>
Municipal Public Works Garage, Sand and Salt Building	114 Heald Highway	2.58			Successful as is.
Town Office	Common Rd	20.0			
Fire Dept, Public Safety	Common Rd				
Thompson Community Ctr	S Union Rd		Fair/Poor		
Prior Park	S Union Rd	0.28			
Ayer Park	Depot St	1.0			Remain as is.
Union Common	Common Rd	3.0			Remain as is.
East Union Cemetery	Miller Rd	1.0			Remain as is.
Sidelinger Cemetery	Sidelinger Rd	0.5			Remain as is.
Lakeview Cemetery	Overlock Hill Rd	1.0			Remain as is.
Skidmore Cemetery	Skidmore Rd	0.77			Remain as is.
Common Cemetery	Ayer Hill	1.0			Remain as is.
Undeveloped	Stone Rd	25.0		NA	Former waste site. May be tested and converted into gravel pit or sold if no gravel found.
Old landfill	Bump Hill Rd	16.0		NA	Must remain as is, undisturbed in accord with Maine DEP Closure Standards.
Undeveloped	Bump Hill Rd	85.0		NA	May be used as part of a trail System. Land Trust might accept a Conservation Easement proposal. Former gravel pit, will likely be reused, and dilapidated house razed.
Undeveloped	North Union Rd	2.6		NA	Could sell to neighboring property owners. Land Trust informally rejected Conservation Easement proposal.
Undeveloped	Ayer Hill	2.24		NA	Restrictive covenant limits uses.

See the map titled Public Facilities for the locations of town-owned and non-municipal community facilities that are open to the public.

**Policies**

- (1) To efficiently meet identified public facility and service needs.
- (2) To provide public facilities and services in a manner that promotes and supports growth and development in identified growth areas.

**Strategies**

<b>Public Facilities and Services: Strategies</b>	<b>Responsible Parties</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>
(1) Identify any capital improvements needed to maintain or upgrade public services to accommodate the community’s anticipated growth and changing demographics.	See the Capital Investment Plan for specific strategies, responsibilities, and timeframes.	
(2) Locate new public facilities comprising at least 75% of new municipal growth-related capital investments in designated growth areas.		
(3) Encourage local sewer and water districts to coordinate planned service extensions with the Future Land Use Plan.		
(4) If public water supply expansion is anticipated, identify and protect suitable sources.	None anticipated.	
(5) Explore options for regional delivery of local services. Including these services: ---	Selectmen, Town Voters, Long term	See also the Regional Coordination Plan.

[PURPLE TEXT THAT FOLLOWS IS FROM THE 2005 PLAN AND MIGHT BE WORTH RETAINING OR REVISING AND PLACING IN THE TABLE ABOVE, WITH PROJECTS/PURCHASE RECOMMENDATIONS ADDED TO THE CAPITAL INVESTMENT PLAN TABLE]

**Ambulance Strategies**

It is recommended that the Selectmen and Budget Committee continue to work with the Ambulance Service Director to be sure the ambulance, support equipment, and staffing remain at their present high standard. (Selectmen, Ambulance Service Director, Budget Committee, Town Meeting) Ongoing

**Fire Department Strategies**

Continue to support the development of dry-hydrant locations strategically located throughout Union, in surrounding towns near to the Union town line, and in mutual aid towns.

Budget appropriately for apparatus and equipment reserves, and for replacement as new technologies and operating procedures become available.

Continue to provide ongoing training for members, as classes become available.

(Fire Department, Town Meeting) Ongoing

### **Water Supply Strategies**

It is recommended that the Town of Union continue to maintain good communication with Aqua Maine concerning construction and replacement of water lines during any road construction. In addition, should grants become available, the Town of Union and Aqua Maine should work together to the benefit of all parties. (Town Manager) Ongoing

### **Wastewater Strategies**

It is recommended that the Town encourage proper maintenance by homeowners and businesses, and closely monitor the water quality of its ponds and water courses to detect malfunctioning systems. Subdivisions and individual home sites should be inspected prior to issuing plumbing permits and close attention paid to installations. (Local Plumbing Inspector, Health Officer, Selectmen) Ongoing

### **Stormwater Management Strategies**

Institute and maintain “Best Management Practices” for storm water management along Town roads, which will reduce the amount of pollutants reaching watercourses. This may include constructing storm water detention basins, reseeding after ditches are cleaned, and other methods. (Selectmen, Road Commissioner, Public Works Director) Ongoing

Reexamine the Subdivision Ordinance against current State recommendations (model ordinances) to require that the rate of storm water runoff after development not increase phosphorous and other pollutant concentrations. This can be achieved through a variety of standard practices, and is in addition to storm water erosion control measures normally used during construction of roads, houses and other improvements. (Planning Board, Town Meeting) Immediate

### **Public Works Strategies**

It is recommended that the current paving and road maintenance schedule be continued. In addition, the upgrading of Town roads and equipment should be completed as needed. It is further recommended that all public works personnel receive continuing education as new technologies and techniques become better known, as better-trained employees will reduce work-time injuries, increase effectiveness, and contribute to overall cost containment. (Road Commissioner, Highway Supervisor) Ongoing

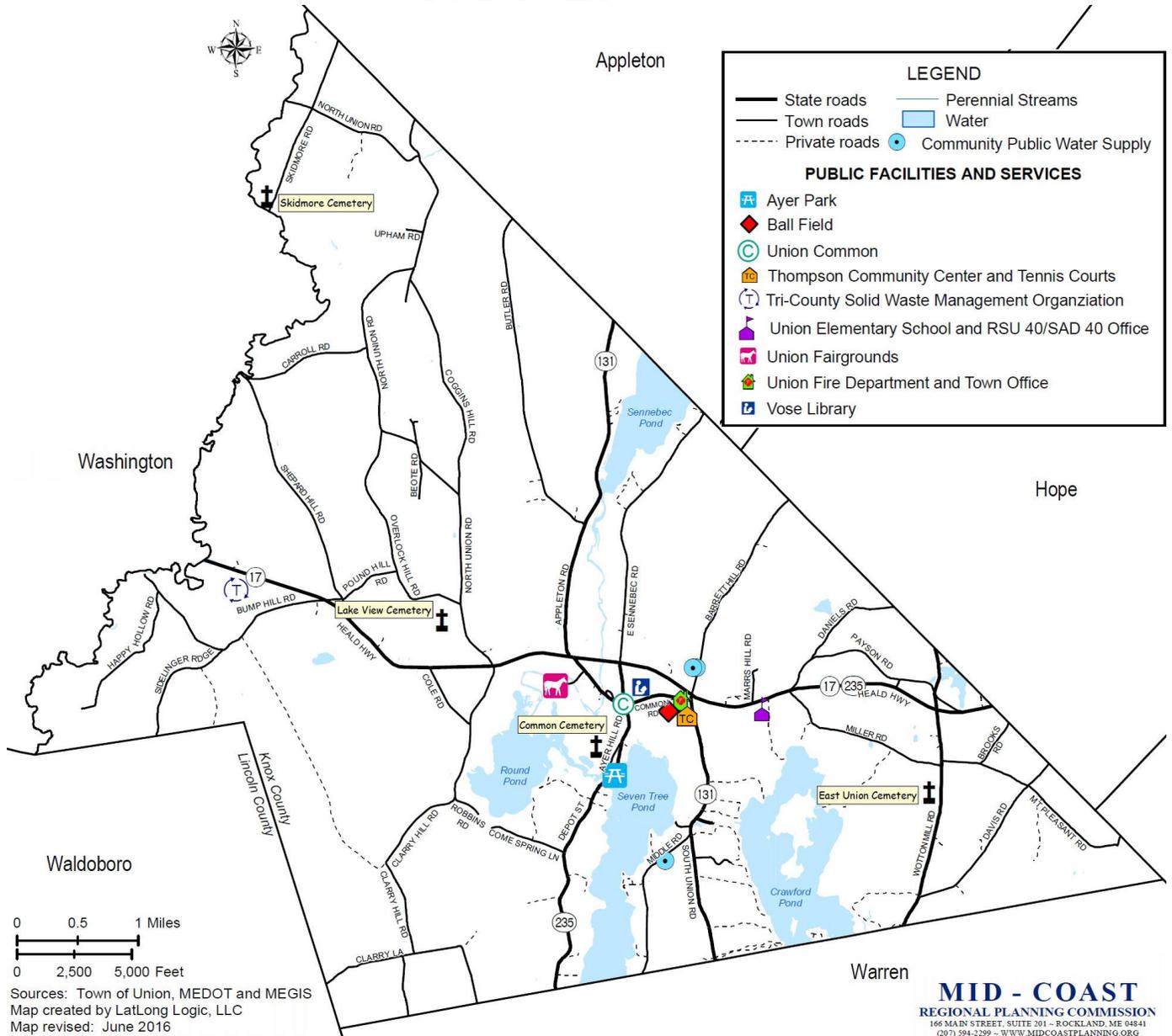
### **Other Strategies**

It is recommended that the Town continue to support those organizations that render significant services to Union residents, since the services are of high value to the citizens and the Town could not provide comparable services at lower cost. (Selectmen, Budget Committee, Town Meeting) Ongoing

### **Cemeteries Strategies**

It is recommended that the records of the cemeteries be updated and cataloged for future generations. It is suggested that, in addition to the fees for burials, owners of the burial plots be encouraged to donate to the perpetual care account. (Cemetery Committee) Ongoing

## Public Facilities



Sources: Maine GIS and Town of Union

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