

**Section VII**

**COMMUNITY FACILITIES PLAN  
ELEMENT**

## SECTION VII - COMMUNITY FACILITIES PLAN ELEMENT

### INTRODUCTION

This section presents an inventory of community facilities and services in West Windsor Township and focuses on the adequacy of these services. Where appropriate, facilities are evaluated based on current and future municipal needs as defined by current and projected populations. This analysis provides a framework with which to evaluate current and future land acquisition needs required to meet the service demands of the Township. Facilities and services addressed include public schools, administrative services, and public safety services including fire department, rescue squads, police department, library and public works. Parks and recreation facilities are located on the community facilities map, but are described separately in the Open Space and Recreation Element.

### GOAL/POLICY STATEMENT

*A. Goal: Provide a superior level and adequate range of community facilities and services, well located and adequate to serve existing and anticipated populations:*

#### **Policies**

1. Continue to plan for and provide adequate police, fire protection and emergency services for Township residents. Ensure appropriate facilities, human resources and equipment are distributed according to existing and future needs and development patterns.
2. Designate adequate land area and develop adequate facilities for needed expansion of public administrative facilities, public works and other government functions.
3. Work with School Board to identify potential school sites, as needed to effectively service existing and anticipated population centers. Promote the cooperative use of school facilities for recreational and community activities to the extent possible. Particular emphasis should be placed on continued development of the existing municipal complex site and expansion of this area as needed for centralized development of municipal services.
4. Broaden the range of facilities provided to meet the demands of a growing population with varied lifestyles, including consideration of facilities for seniors, community and youth groups and cultural activities
5. Require new development to pay its proportional share of any off-tract community facilities to the extent permitted by law.
6. Encourage efficiencies in the design of new residential development that will minimize public service costs.
7. Replace or adapt and reuse facilities that are obsolete or unable to meet future demands.
8. Review and update the Township's Capital Improvement Program where necessary to coordinate construction and installation of improvements to ensure that community facilities and related infrastructure are available when and where needed.
9. Encourage the coordination of emergency services with surrounding municipalities.

### RECENT CHANGES IN COMMUNITY FACILITIES

Significant progress has been made in broadening and updating facilities since the date of the last Master Plan, particularly at the municipal complex. Police and Court functions have been removed from the municipal building to a new structure. A new library has been added and post office

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relocated to the old library. In 1989, Senior and Social Services were removed from the municipal building and relocated to a new structure at the municipal complex where expanded services are now provided.

The creation of these new facilities made room in the existing municipal building for remaining departments and services to expand to the vacated areas of the municipal building. However, the rapid pace of new development is placing ever-increasing service demands on the community. While much of the community facility expansion has taken place on the municipal complex site, there have been changes in other portions of the Township as well, including such items as the development of the public works site on Southfield Road and the completion of the Community Park on Princeton-Hightstown Road.

### EXISTING AND PROJECTED POPULATION

Population projections provide the primary demand parameter for evaluating future community facility needs. In 1990, the population of West Windsor was 16,021 persons. A study conducted by the Department of Community Development places the current population at 21,572<sup>1</sup>. After all currently approved but not-yet-built projects are completed, it is estimated that population will rise by 6,668 persons, for a total of 28,240 persons<sup>2</sup>. For the purpose of this examination, this figure is being used as the projected 2010 population.

Finally, under current zoning, and excluding properties already purchased or under contract as part of the open space program, the total build-out population is estimated at 30,925 persons. For the purpose of this study, it will be assumed that no other identified open space parcels will be purchased. If all parcels identified for preservation were, in fact, preserved from future development, the potential build-out population would be reduced by approximately 2,685 persons, resulting in an estimated build-out population of 28,240 persons.<sup>3</sup>

### MAJOR FACILITY STATUS

Major community facilities are identified on the following "Community Facilities Plan Map," are listed on the following Table and are described on following page.

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<sup>1</sup> As of October, 1999.

<sup>2</sup> West Windsor Department of Community Development estimates, October 1999

<sup>3</sup> Ibid

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Table VII-1 \*  
Exhibit Number and Description

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1	Municipal Complex (Municipal Building, Police Department, Municipal Court, Senior and Social Services Center, Mercer County Library, Post Office)
2	West Windsor Compost Facility
3	West Windsor Vehicle Maintenance Yard
4	West Windsor Public Works Facility
5	Twin "W" Rescue Squad
6	Princeton Junction Volunteer Fire Company
7	West Windsor Volunteer Fire Company
8	Proposed Fire Station/Rescue Facility
9	Maurice Hawk Elementary School
10	West Windsor/Plainsboro Regional High School
11	Dutch Neck Elementary School
12	Village Elementary School
13	Grover Middle School
14	Potential School Site, Block 16.12, Lot 23 and Block 15.03, Lot 46
15	Potential School Site, Block 14, Lots 5.02 and 6
16	Chamberlain Park
17	Community Park
18	Conover Fields
19	Coward Tract
20	Van Nest Park
21	Zaitz Park
22	Bennington Drive Park
23	Davenport Drive Park
24	Endicott Lane Park
25	Woodmere Way Park
26	Dutch Neck Park
27	Edinburg Road Park
28	Village Road Park
29	Sapphire Drive Park

\*This table is accurate as of April 2000.

### **MUNICIPAL COMPLEX**

Located at the intersection of Clarksville and North Post Road, and abutting Everett Drive, the West Windsor Municipal Complex includes various community facilities on a 43.2 acre site consisting of three adjacent lots. Community facilities at this site include the Municipal Building, the Police Department and Municipal Court, the Senior and Social Services Center, the West Windsor Branch of the Mercer County Library and the Post Office.

### **Municipal Building**

The Township Municipal Building was built and occupied in 1977. The Municipal Building contains 25,213 square feet, with an additional 973 square feet in attached trailers devoted to the Health and Recreation Departments. The current structure provides administrative space for: Township Administration, Township Clerk, Tax Assessor, Tax Collector, Finance, Emergency

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Services, Engineering, Planning and Zoning and Building Department. A trailer attached to the main structure also provides limited space for the Health Department, Recreation Department and Maintenance Department.

In all, these departments currently employ 59 full-time and six part-time staff. It is estimated that, at population build-out, the number of staff associated with municipal building would have to be increased between ten and twenty-five percent. The specific staffing recommendations within this element are based on staffing needs identified by the various Township department heads. These staffing projections are not endorsed by the Planning Board and are used only for estimating future space demands. The level of future staffing and other operational decisions rest with the Mayor and Township Council. The current structure has limited capacity to absorb this expansion. The degree to which it can will depend on the future division of programs and specified needs that cannot yet be determined. The municipality is also reviewing the possibility of expanding the existing structure to increase on-site capacity. Increased demands from other Township Departments may also require additional administrative space outside of the existing municipal structure.

Both the 1986 and 1992 Master Plan updates recommended the acquisition of an existing 16.71 acre parcel located immediately across Everett Drive and Clarksville Road to “solidify ample acreage and buffer areas to accommodate future expansions of the municipal complex.” The Township has acquired land located across Everett Drive to provide a location for a new Princeton Junction fire station, and this site may also be used to locate offices for other municipal functions as needed. For example, moving Health, Recreation and Maintenance functions to a separate building on the new site would allow these departments to accommodate the increased staff needed to serve West Windsor’s growing population. At the same time, this would free up space at the existing municipal building for the needed expansion of other departments. The new site may also be used for expanded public works and recreation facilities.

### **Police Department and Municipal Court**

The police department is located at the municipal complex adjacent to Everett Drive. Completed and occupied in 1994, the 25,000+ square foot building contains all police functions, Municipal Violations and Court. There are presently 44 sworn officers on staff, 9 dispatchers, and 9 other staff involved in records, school crossing, administrative, animal control and custodial functions. Since 1990, the number of sworn officers has risen from 36 to 44. During this same time, the number of incidents requiring police response has risen from 13,299 in 1990 to 32,697 in 1999. According to the Chief of Police, current staffing is adequate to accommodate existing development conditions. However, several of the officers currently on staff have been financed through 3-year grants received from the federal government. As these grants end, the municipality will have to address the funding shortfall.

Due to the nature of the police function, predictions of anticipated future facility need is based on a combination of variables such as population, commercial development, accident totals, summons issued, and the location of new development. As already approved commercial and residential developments are completed, there will be a need for increased staff. The Police Department currently estimates that by 2010, there will be a need for an additional 6 police officers, 4 school crossing guards, 2 dispatchers and 3 other support personnel. There will also be a need to increase the police fleet vehicles by about 4 vehicles within the next 6 years. A needs assessment of the structure is recommended for the year 2004. However, there is adequate space in the existing facility to accommodate present and near term needs. If at that time additional space is necessary, it can be added to the present structure. There is also adequate room to add additional

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parking, if necessary, to the side or rear of Police Headquarters.

The Municipal Court shares the Police Department building and is held every Tuesday throughout the day and evening and Thursday during the day. Currently there are five full time employees and one part time employee and, at this time, one additional full time employee is being sought. A judge and prosecutor also have part time offices. With the construction of the new building, there is adequate room for existing employees. The Court Director anticipates a need of two to three additional employees for the projected build-out population and indicates that these could be accommodated in the existing facility.

### **Senior and Social Services Center**

The Senior and Social Services Center is contained in an independent structure of approximately 5,600+ square feet and is operated by the Township of West Windsor. This facility was built in 1989. Prior to that, senior and social service activities were conducted in various schools, firehouses and the portions of the municipal building. The Center contains a main meeting room, kitchen and dining facilities and associated offices. The facility has two main functions. One is to provide social and educational programs and assistance to the senior community. The other is to provide social services required by the State and administered by Township Staff. The building also provides meeting space for the Township's nonprofit organizations.

A full range of senior services and activities are provided, including such items as health screenings, tax preparation, vaccination programs, meal preparation and telephone reassurance and transport for medical reasons. There are a variety of educational and social programs offered to all senior residents on a daily basis, as well as organized day trips. The programs and facilities are open to all West Windsor residents, the elder parents of residents living in West Windsor and to persons who may not live in West Windsor, but own property in the Township. Public welfare programs are also administered through this facility, including the Work First NJ Public Assistance Program, food stamp program, employment and housing assistance.

The Center is currently open Monday through Friday, 8 am to 4 pm. All activities are performed by a current paid staff of 3 full time and 3 part time, augmented by numerous volunteers that run the various senior activities and programs.

There is currently a need to expand the Center to accommodate additional office and storage space. Due to the confidentiality requirements of various social service programs, the current shared office space arrangement in the center is inadequate to address growing needs. The lack of an adequate amount of storage space has resulted in a chronic problem at this facility. Both senior and social services demands are expected to rise as the population of West Windsor increases. New senior residents and younger residents with senior parents will place additional demands on services. Specific space needs are not known at this time, but the center is capable of some expansion on its present site.

### **Mercer County Library**

The West Windsor division of the Mercer County Library is located at the municipal complex. Built in 1997, the 23,200 square foot library contains nearly 100,000 volumes on site, with access to nearly 600,000 additional volumes in the Mercer County system. Volumes from the larger system can be transported to West Windsor on a daily basis. The library has nine full time and seven part time staff and is open Monday through Saturday, with evening hours Monday through Thursday until 9PM. Special resources include four conference rooms, 2 quiet study rooms, a children's activity room and eight personal computer Internet stations. The conference rooms may be reserved for use by nonprofit organizations. The library was built to accommodate

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both local and surrounding populations and no physical expansion will be necessary to address West Windsor's anticipated build-out population. The only anticipated impact of an increased population may be a need to expand staff and hours of operation.

### **Post Office**

The post office is housed in the old library building and has occupied this space since 1998. Called the "Princeton Junction Post Office", the facility takes care of the post office delivery for two-thirds of West Windsor Township. (The remaining one-third of the population is handled by the Princeton Post Office at Carnegie Center in West Windsor Township.) The facility is approximately 8,800± square feet and is adequately sized to address the current population. Anticipating an additional 10,000 in local population at build-out, the post office has already designed a 2,200 square addition which it plans to begin in the next two years. This will provide adequate space on site to handle the anticipated build-out population. Existing employee and customer parking area needs to be redesigned to handle current and full build-out use and the circulation conflicts with the municipal complex.

### **FIRE DEPARTMENT/RESCUE SQUAD**

Fire protection and emergency medical and related services are provided by a combination of volunteer and paid personnel who are members of one of four West Windsor Township organizations and a local medical center. Volunteers make up the bulk of the emergency service personnel. The Township also participates in reciprocal agreements with all surrounding municipal emergency service providers for shared emergency coverage. Township based facilities are as follows:

#### **Princeton Junction Volunteer Fire Company**

The Princeton Junction Fire Company #1, Inc. is located at 952 Alexander Road in Princeton Junction. This station houses seven major pieces of firefighting equipment. The station provides fire suppression services with its all volunteer staffing to a "first due" response area that includes Princeton Junction, Berrien City area, Penns Neck and the Route 1 Corridor.

#### **The West Windsor Volunteer Fire Company**

The West Windsor Volunteer Fire Company is located in the southern portion of the Township at 153 South Mill Road. The station houses 6 major pieces of equipment and provides fire suppression services with an all-volunteer staff. It serves as the primary response facility for the Dutch Neck, Edinburg, Old Trenton Road, Village Road and Cranbury Road areas.

#### **Twin "W" First Aid Squad**

The Twin "W" First Aid Squad operates out of one facility located at 21 Everett Drive. The station covers the entire Township and currently operates three ambulances, one first response vehicle and one chief's vehicle. The volunteer squad provides basic life support emergency medical services for the entire Township. Current membership is at 43, which has been adequate to handle the current level of calls in the Township. The present facility is able to accommodate all current vehicles without need for expansion. However, continued growth of the population may require future expansion of the present facility or additional space at another location.

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### **West Windsor Township Emergency Service**

To supplement the volunteer emergency services and ensure weekday coverage, West Windsor employs professional emergency service personnel through its Division of Emergency Services. In cooperation with the volunteer companies, the Emergency Service Division provides paid staff to assist with fire suppression, basic emergency medical services, hazardous materials, automobile extrication, specialized and tactical rescue services, and fire prevention related services. The Township employs two professional firefighters Monday through Friday to staff the Princeton Junction Fire Company. Another two professional emergency service personnel are also available seven days a week to provide emergency medical technical service. The staff operates fire and ambulance units housed in the fire companies and the Twin "W" rescue squad. The staff also assists fire service and building safety code inspections for business and multi-family dwellings. In all, the Division of Emergency Services has a rotating staff of 12 employees, including the Director.

### **Capital Health Systems At Princeton**

In addition to the Township's volunteer and paid emergency services staff, Capital Health Systems at Princeton operates a paramedic unit from the Princeton Junction Volunteer Fire Company Station. This unit is staffed by paid paramedics who serve the Township and the surrounding Mercer County area, providing pre-hospital advanced life support services.

### **Fire Service Expansion Needs**

In 1998, a Fire Station Location Study was conducted to determine the need for upgrade and/or relocation of existing fire stations to serve the present and future populations of the Township.<sup>4</sup> The study confirmed that there were a number of serious problems with the existing Princeton Junction facility on Alexander Road and that it was in need of relocation and replacement. After analyzing individual sites and reviewing response time factors related to adequate Township coverage, the study determined that a parcel located across from the municipal building (identified as the Censoni site) was the best currently available site for a new Princeton Junction Fire Station and recommended its immediate acquisition. The study further recommended the development of the station as a multi-use facility to meet the current and future needs of the: Princeton Junction Volunteer Fire Company, the Capital Health Systems Paramedic Unit, the West Windsor Township Division of Emergency Services and the Twin "W" First Aid Squad. The municipality is currently acquiring this site.

Regarding the West Windsor Fire Station on South Mill Road, the study concluded that, while the current location was appropriate to serve local requirements, the age of the structure and current facility needs require that the building be upgraded to meet current and future requirements. A needs analysis was conducted and plans for the facility were identified that would meet fire and EMS service delivery requirements for the foreseeable future.

The plan also called for the possible inclusion of a third fire station in approximately 7 to 10 years to be located in the vicinity of Carnegie Center (West). Although the plan concluded that a new substation was not needed at this time, it may eventually be needed to provide additional coverage for the increasing amount of nonresidential development existing and planned in and around the Route 1 Corridor. The need for a third station would also increase if any cross

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<sup>4</sup> Carol Buracker and Associates, Inc. "A Fire Station Location Study for West Windsor Township, New Jersey", February 1998.

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connections with the Princeton Junction Station (the Alexander, Clarksville or Washington Road bridges), were eliminated or access further limited. If needed, the substation would be a one or two bay station.

Like most suburban communities at this time, a major issue is the staffing of fire stations. Most residents work outside the community and are unable to volunteer or to commit to the rigorous training required to be an active volunteer. At present the Township is making up some of the difference with paid personnel, and it is likely that this trend will continue as more staff is needed.

### **PUBLIC WORKS**

The offices of the Department of Public Works are located at the Stanley Perrine Public Works Facility on Southfield Road, adjacent to Route 571. This is the main public works site. Facilities include four truck bays, office space, one salt dome, two large storage structures, ten smaller storage sheds, a locker and bath facility and parking area for public works vehicles, heavy equipment and employee parking. The Township also leases a second site on Alexander Road, where the Public Works Department maintains the Township compost facility. This site is only used for this purpose. The current compost dump is inappropriately located adjacent to the most densely built-up single-family residential neighborhood in West Windsor Township.

The department currently has 26 full time and 6 part time employees. It is responsible for the maintenance of all township parks, athletic fields, tot lots and park facilities, the two firehouse sites, the rescue squad site, and the two veteran monument sites. The department is also responsible for the maintenance of all township roads, snow clearance, street cleaning, maintenance of township drainage facilities, public landscaping and signage. It is also responsible for maintaining all municipal buildings and structures and for the maintenance of all municipal vehicles.

The department reports adequate staff to meet current needs, but indicates that as approved developments are completed and as new parks and open space are acquired and developed, staffing needs will correspondingly rise. As of February 2000, the department reports a need for 11 additional dump trucks in order adequately address current maintenance requirements.

### **SCHOOLS**

Public school services for residents of West Windsor Township are provided by the Board of Education for the West Windsor – Plainsboro Regional School District. The Regional School District operates nine schools. Four elementary schools include Dutch Neck, Maurice Hawk, Village and Wicoff (K through 3), Upper Elementary (4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grades), Community Middle School and Thomas R. Grover Middle School (grades 6 through 8) and High Schools North and South (grades 9 through 12). Schools located in West Windsor include: Dutch Neck, Maurice Hawk, Village, Thomas R. Grover, and High School South. Districting means that residents of one community may attend school in another community, depending on both geographic and socio-economic mix, therefore all schools must be considered in any analysis of facility needs. Current enrollments for the various schools in the District are indicated below:

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**Table VII-2  
School Enrollments**

<b>Name</b>	<b>1999/2000 Enrollment</b>
Dutch Neck School Village Road East Grades K-3	392 661
Maurice Hawk 303-305 Clarksville Road Grades K-3	677
Village School 601 New Village Road Grades K-3	722
Wicoff Plainsboro Road Grades K-3 (Plainsboro)	454
Upper Elementary School 75 Grovers Mill Road Grades 4-5	1,354
Community Middle School 55 Grovers Mill Road Grades 6-8 (Plainsboro)	926
Thomas Grover Middle School 10 Southfield Road Grades 6-8	1,057
High School South 346 Clarksville Road Grades 9-12	1,313
High School North 90 Grovers Mill Road Grades 9-11 (Plainsboro)	822

The School system has undergone significant recent improvement in capacity through the development of the Village School (Elementary) and the Thomas R. Grover School (Middle) on New Village Road in West Windsor. A third school is planned for construction within the next two years in Plainsboro. Currently named the "Town Center School," it will add capacity for another 700-750 K-5 students.

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### Future Enrollment and District Capacity

The West Windsor - Plainsboro School District has projected public school demand based on build-out population projections for both communities, anticipating a total population of approximately 55,000. At this time, the District is using a build-out projection of between 31,000 and 32,000 for West Windsor and 23,000 for Plainsboro. District studies indicate that the public school population generally represents 17% to 19% of the total. Using these percentages, the anticipated number of students for the total projected population for both communities is estimated to be between 9,350 and 10,450 students.<sup>5</sup>

After construction of the Town Center School, total student capacity for the district will be about 10,500 students.<sup>6</sup> With the completion of the Town Center school, the District anticipates it will be able to meet both present and total build-out student populations for West Windsor and Plainsboro. The school district does not presently own or have options on any other property. With the construction of the Town Center School, the current and planned facilities should be able to accommodate all anticipated population growth without the need for new school sites.

West Windsor's recent and continuing efforts to preserve open space and farmland will also help to ensure that additional school construction is not necessary. Recent acquisitions of open space and open space already under contract already have reduced the total projected population in West Windsor by about 557 persons and the number of potential new students by 106. Further acquisitions will continue to reduce pressure on the school system. The resulting increase in capacity should provide a cushion against density increases in Plainsboro, miscalculations in projected school population or new state education program requirements. Also, modular additions may be added to existing schools to address capacity shortfalls of between 100 and 300 additional students. Such structural additions have already been added to Maurice Hawk and High School South.

Although the school district does not presently anticipate a need, it has identified four sites within West Windsor that it feels would be potential candidates for new school construction, should this become necessary. These are currently identified as Block 14, Lots 5.02 and 6, located at the end of Rabbit Hill Road and Block 15.03, Lot 46 and Block 16.12, Lot 23, located at the corner of North Post Road and Village Road.

These sites are currently identified for open space purchase in the Land Use Plan and Open Space Plan. For the purpose of meeting potential future need, they are also identified in the Community Facility Plan as potential future school sites.

### OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION

Developed parkland is shown on the Community Facilities Map. These sites, however, along with other existing and proposed municipal Open Space and Greenbelt lands are discussed in detail in the Open Space and Recreation Element of the Master Plan, which has been developed to specifically address these facilities and relevant issues. The adequacy of parks and recreation facilities to meet current and future demand is examined in the Open Space and Recreation Element. The status and policy of the Greenbelt and Greenbelt Plan are also indicated in this document.

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<sup>5</sup> Per conversation with Stan Katz, Board of Education liaison to the Planning Board.

<sup>6</sup> Per the Board of Education, actual capacities will vary yearly based on program requirements, shifts in classroom size and other factors.

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### RECOMMENDATIONS

The municipal services provided by the Township are an important asset to the community and necessary to maintain the public safety and overall quality of life. The strength of these services should be maintained and, where possible, enhanced. The ability of these services to meet the future needs of the community have been reviewed with the following findings/recommendations:

#### 1. Municipal Administrative Facilities –

This Plan Element continues to support the acquisition of land adjacent to the municipal complex for expansion needs. Adding the Censoni property to municipal lands will provide adequate room for expansion of various municipal facilities on a site particularly well suited to meet this need. Its size and adjacency to existing municipal services make it ideal for this purpose.

#### 2. Police Department and Municipal Court

It appears that there will be adequate space in the existing building to accommodate increases in staff necessary to meet future population needs for both police and municipal court functions. In the future there may be need to expand the parking lot to accommodate additional patrol cars. If necessary, additional parking may be accommodated through expansion of the existing parking lot.

#### 3. Fire Department and Rescue Squad –

At present, the main issue facing the fire department is the relocation and development of a new Princeton Junction Station which the Community Facilities Plan supports. With the acquisition of additional land next to the existing municipal complex, a suitable location for this company will be provided, closing the present gap in service. As the population increases it is likely that more pressure will be placed on the Township to provide professional staff to provide fire and rescue squad service, expanding the Division of Emergency Services.

When determining the fire company structural needs, additional consideration should be given to increasing the size and function of the proposed building to accommodate other potential emergency service functions and other municipal needs. For example, the new structure could incorporate space for first aid, the Township Division of Emergency Services, or other related facilities. A multi-purpose structure could also be designed capable of providing other municipal office space to provide expansion and or relocation capability for other Township departments. Another alternative would be to site and design the structure so that it is capable of being enlarged for this purpose. The Township should plan for the upgrade of the West Windsor Fire Station in order to meet current and future facility requirements.

Should staffing problems continue, the Township should consider strengthening reciprocal service agreements with surrounding communities in order to increase coverage. This may include a more regional approach to the addition of paid staff.

A third fire station in the Route 1 vicinity is not needed at this time. However, significant increases in development or changes in access to the Princeton Junction area may increase the need for a substation along with the possible addition of rescue squad space in this area. Call loads should continue to be monitored to access the need for an additional facility. The Fire Location Study recommends that the Township consider acquiring, possibly through developer donation, a one to two acre site in the vicinity of Carnegie Center for this purpose. In the event that such a facility is eventually needed, it will likely need to be staffed by paid personnel.

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### 4. Library and Post Office-

The Mercer County Library can meet current and future needs within the existing facility with minor additions to staff and hours of operation. Any small structural changes may be accommodated on the existing site.

### 5. Public Works –

The existing public works sites are adequate to meet the functional needs of the Department. Additional equipment, as needed, should be obtained. There is adequate room to store this equipment on existing public works sites. A study of alternative location sites for the Township Compost Dump should be undertaken to enable the relocation of the facility from the current inappropriate location.

### 6. Senior and Social Services -

Senior and Social Services are currently cramped with regard to office and storage space. This is likely to get worse as the senior population of the Township continues to grow. It is also likely that local social service demands will also increase as the population grows and as State decentralization of social services places more pressure on individual municipalities. The center should be evaluated for specific expansion needs and potential. However, there appears to be adequate room behind the center to expand the existing building if needed.

### 7. Schools -

Based on discussion with the School Board, there appears to be adequate land and facilities, once the Town Center School is complete, to accommodate anticipated increases in population for the West Windsor-Plainsboro District. Given West Windsor's current emphasis on open space and farmland preservation, pupil population estimates may require downward revision as more open space is preserved. Plainsboro has also been pursuing farmland protection, and these combined efforts will help to ensure the adequacy of existing and planned school capacity. In addition, increased capacity may be gained through the use of modular additions to the Village School, Thomas Grover School and Town Center School, in the same manner that this was accomplished at Maurice Hawk and High School South.

Although additional school sites are not currently considered necessary, it remains prudent to identify potential future school sites in the event such sites are necessary to meet changing demographic patterns. The school board has identified two sites it considers suitable to this purpose. The first is a dual site located at the northern end of Rabbit Hill Road. This site, originally identified in the 1986 Master Plan for this purpose, is made up of Block 14, Lots 5.02 and 6 and contains a total of 49.84 acres. The second site is located at the intersection of Village Road and North Post Road. These sites are also identified on the Land Use Plan and in the Open Space and Recreation Elements for open space acquisition. If they are acquired, it is recommended that the Township consider using funding sources that do not constrain the site from municipal facility or school development.

### 8. Community Center/Recreation Center –

New housing already approved or anticipated will increase the overall population, the number of school age children and elderly citizens. As the community matures, additional

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accommodations may be desired for an independent community and/or youth center to provide additional meeting and recreation space to address increasing participation and number of civic groups and recreation activities. The existing senior center is already facing growth pressures and the Township Recreation Department is currently dependent on the schools for all of its indoor activities. This dependence is problematic in that the facilities can only be used when not required for school functions. It is recommended that a space needs/feasibility study be conducted to determine the need for amount and type of community/recreation space needed to meet current and future requirements. If such a facility is needed, it may be accommodated on the new municipal facility site. The siting of the new firehouse should consider the potential placement and development of such facilities on the Censoni site.

The current Princeton Junction Fire Station has been mentioned in association with the idea of a community center. This structure is probably too small to meet the community center needs for the entire Township, but may be used as a smaller center for the more immediate Princeton Junction area. As with any proposal for this site, however, the issue of parking and compatibility with the adjacent residential neighborhood must be considered. To enhance Princeton Junction's identity as a community civic and cultural focal point, the Master Plan recommends acquisition of the old firehouse for an appropriate community use.

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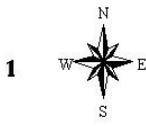
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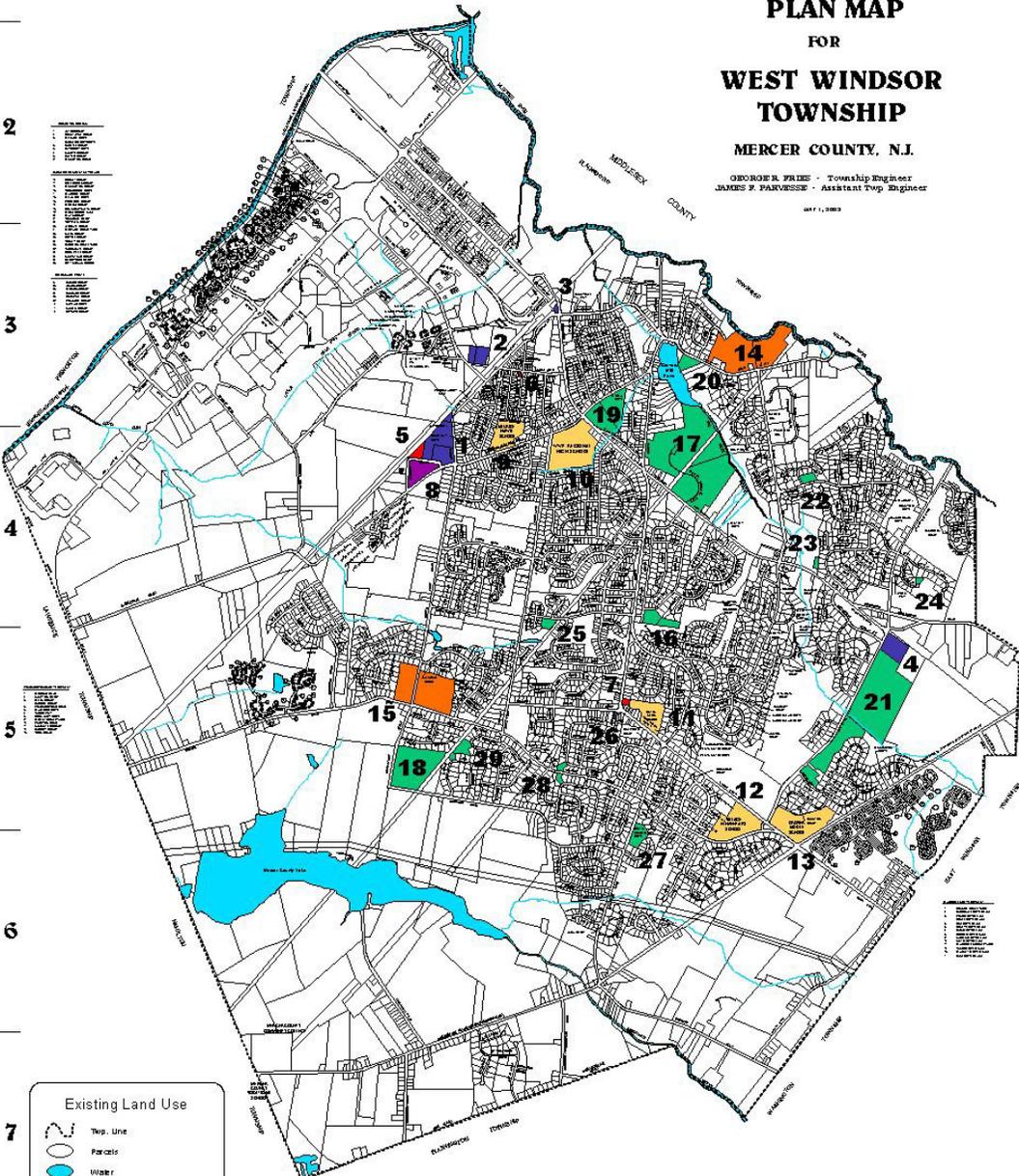
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# COMMUNITY FACILITIES PLAN MAP FOR WEST WINDSOR TOWNSHIP

MERCER COUNTY, N.J.

GEORGE R. FRIE - Township Engineer  
JAMES P. PARVESSE - Assistant Top Engineer  
MAY 1, 2003



**SYMBOLS**

**EXISTING**

**WATER**

**ROADS**

**UTILITIES**

**LAND USE**

**PLANNED**

**PROPOSED**

**Existing Land Use**

- Top. Use
- Parcels
- Water

**Community Facilities**

- Municipal Facilities
- Existing Fire Station / Rescue
- Existing Local School
- Existing Community Park
- Potential Fire Station / Rescue
- Potential School Site

**NOTES :**  
 1. EXISTING AND PROPOSED GREENBELT AND OTHER OPEN SPACE - SEE OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION PLAN.  
 2. NUMBERS CORRESPOND TO TABLE VII-1 IN TEXT.

SCALE: 1 inch = 3280 feet

A

B

C

D

E

F

G