

7. Open Space, Conservation & Recreation

Introduction

The preservation of open space contributes, in large part, to the quality of life for Bristol residents. Bristol's open space and recreation areas enhance the Town's character and provide for the passive and active recreational needs of residents.

The community's dedication to open space preservation has led to the preservation of more than 96 acres of woodlands and active agricultural lands over the past five years. Town and state commitments have played a large role in the preservation of these properties. Preservation efforts reflect the Vision and Goals from previous Comprehensive Plans and other special planning efforts.

Bristol's dedication to open space preservation has led to preservation of more than 96 acres of land over the past 5 years.

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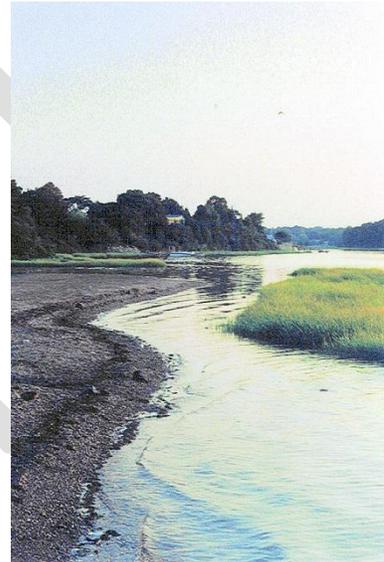
Accomplishments

The Town continues to protect important open space and agricultural properties consistent with the Open Space Element. Preservation of the Fales Farm and the Pagano Farm in 2011, via the purchase of conservation easements, was a

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cooperative effort by the Town, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), and the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (RIDEM). Funds from the Natural Resource Conservation Service were used to leverage the Town's Open Space Bond funds to purchase development rights through the conservation easements and ensured that a contiguous block of nearly 53 acres of land east of Metacom Avenue would remain in active agricultural use. (ADD PHOTO OF FALES FARM FROM PRESS RELEASE)

The Town was also able to acquire over 40 acres of undeveloped woodlands and meadow in the north-central part of town. This property, identified as the Perry Farm and St. Angelo properties, is contiguous to other open space parcels and its acquisition created a nearly 100 acre parcel of contiguous open space. The Perry Farm acquisition was completed in 2010 and was made possible in part from the Town's Open Space Bond funds and a grant from the RIDEM. The preservation of the Perry Farm property provides a crucial link in the Town's greenbelt system and links residential neighborhoods along Metacom Avenue to those on the western side of Bristol. The Town's Conservation Commission, with assistance from residents and volunteer have been working to clear trails on the property and invite the public to enjoy the land. A new timber footbridge was installed in the spring of 2014 across a stream located at the end of Elmwood Drive. The new bridge provides access to the Perry Farm property from the west and completes the east-west link.



Waypoyset Preserve

The Town adopted a conservation development zoning ordinance in 2010 which will be applied to protect important open space through the subdivision process. While this method of open space preservation is not as proactive as outright acquisition, it offers a method of preservation for important properties or natural features when these properties would otherwise be developed by provide land owners.

Map 10, Open Space and Recreation, shows the proposed Greenbelt and Path System that is envisioned throughout town. This system is designed to link Bristol's outdoor amenities, to increase their accessibility to residents and visitors, to be an outdoor amenity itself, and to "make getting



Entrance to Colt State Park

there half the fun". Parts of the system will be paved bike paths, parts will be wide sidewalks through neighborhoods and Downtown, and parts will be unpaved, shady walking paths through natural areas. One leg of the system is the East Bay Bike Path. Bristol is fortunate to be a part of the state bike path network. The Town will maximize this benefit by creating connections to the bike path. Portions of the proposed Greenbelt and Path System are already available for use by residents, including existing Town paths and ways, utility easements, or portions where permission for passage has been granted.

In addition to its many areas of natural open space, the Town offers a wide variety of recreation programs at a variety of facilities including parks, neighborhood playgrounds, recreation fields, and a newly acquired community center.

The Town continues to invest in the improvement and quality of the Bristol Town Beach and Sports Complex. In 2010 the Town began implementation of a multi-phased master plan of improvements to the beach and surrounding recreational facilities. Through the funding assistance of RIDEM and a loan from the State Revolving Fund and the RI Clean Water Finance Agency, the Town completed the design and construction of water quality improvements at the beach.

The most significant and visible improvement was the reconstruction of the paved parking lot. This lot covers several acres of land and provides parking for all beach and sports complex activities. Existing pavement was removed and the parking lot was redesigned to allow for better circulation and additional parking. In addition, six bio-retention rain gardens were installed between parking aisles to collect and filter runoff through native vegetation and soils before discharge to a detention system.

As part of the water quality project, the Town planted over 100 trees to beautify the park and discourage Canada geese and installed pervious paver walkways to replace impervious surfaces. Native plantings of shrubs and grasses also provide a buffer to the beach and help reduce erosion. Finally, an area of impervious recreational courts that were in very poor condition were replaced with two new basketball courts, an in-line skating rink, and two tennis courts, all with proper drainage and stormwater management.

Other significant improvements at the property include the replacement of lighting, including that which illuminates the largest softball field for night use, with energy efficient LED lights. Water quality at the Town Beach has been further improved with the design and construction of a stormwater retrofit project funded by the Town with assistance from a RIDEM Nonpoint Source Implementation Grant. This project included the construction of a gravel wet vegetated treatment system to capture and treat runoff from an existing 36-inch stormwater outfall pipe that discharged to Narragansett Bay just north of the Bristol Town Beach. (ADD PHOTO OF PARKING LOT FROM WALTER)

After several years of effort, the Town in 2013 took ownership of the former Quinta-Gamelin US Army Reserve Center located adjacent to the Bristol Town Beach and Sports Complex. This facility, now known as the Quinta-Gamelin

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Community Center is the new home of Bristol's Parks and Recreation Department. The community center building, with over 15,000 square feet of space, is already providing the public with a host of new recreational opportunities, including indoor space for health and fitness programs, meeting rooms, and a foul weather location for the Town's youth summer camp.

Bristol's most prominent natural feature as a peninsula affords residents with many recreational activities both in and along the water. Waterfront recreational amenities provide the public with many passive and active recreational opportunities. The Town is fortunate to have numerous public access points to the shoreline, including waterfront parks, boat ramps, piers, and docks.

In 2010, RIDEM completed upgrade to the existing state-owned boat ramp off Annawamscutt Drive, which provides public access and handicapped accessible docks, a boat ramp, and parking. This boat ramp is important for public access to Mt. Hope Bay and the Kickemuit River, and provides enhanced access to the waterfront for emergency response. Other waterfront improvements include significant repairs that were undertaken at the State Street Dock in 2012. This dock and its adjacent boat ramp is a popular recreational amenity and a crucial access point for the Town's commercial fisherman. Recent repairs include restoration of masonry walls and a concrete apron along the edges of the pier, installation of new pilings and decking, and safety improvements including guardrails.

The Town has also completed repairs and improvements to the waterfront Rockwell Park boardwalk and adjacent boat docks to improve access and safety to the many visitors and users of this recreational facility. Finally, the Town recently completed a master plan design for the downtown waterfront former Naval Reserve Armory and waterfront boardwalks. Implementation of this master plan began with the bidding of a design-build project to restore the Naval Reserve Armory into a maritime center to serve residents and visiting boaters. The Naval Reserve Armory building is the current home of the Town's Harbormaster's office and was until recently utilized as a community recreation center. (ADD PHOTOS OF STATE STREET DOCK OR NAVAL RESERVE ARMORY OR ROCKWELL DOCKS)

The Town continues to expand and improve upon its network of parks and active recreation facilities, including neighborhood play areas and local school athletic facilities. The Town recently received a grant from RIDEM to fund improvements to athletic fields at Mt. Hope High School. These funds will be used to reconstruct field surfaces and install improved drainage. It is expected that these improvements will also provide water quality benefits to Silver Creek which flows through the high school property. The Town has also undertaken improvements to create a new park on Town-owned open space near the mouth of Tanyard Brook. The new Tanyard Brook Park will create a gateway to downtown Bristol from the south and provide increased public recreational opportunities and public education about Tanyard Brook.

In addition to the preservation of existing agricultural properties noted above, Bristol has witnessed an increase in interest and activity related to community farms and local agriculture. These activities require suitable open space and provide

nutritious produce for local residents. Farmers markets have been operating for several years at Colt State Park and Mt. Hope Farm. In addition, new and previously existing active agricultural operations have expanded to several additional properties, including that which is operated by the Rhode Island Community Food Bank on private property located off Poppasquash Road.

The following is a current inventory of Town parks and recreation areas:

Table 1 Park Inventory of the Town of Bristol

Park Name	Location	Size	Amenities / Facilities
Town Beach and Sports Complex	Asylum Road	27.15 acres	beach with seasonal lifeguards, playground, picnic tables, beach volleyball court, pavilion, parking, five baseball/softball fields, basketball court, roller hockey arena, three soccer fields, two large multipurpose fields, cross country fitness trail, skate park, and a seasonal concession stand.
Town Common	High and Wood Streets	7.08 acres	bandstand, three lighted tennis courts, basketball court, softball/baseball field, and a large playground.
Rockwell Park	Thames Street	1.2 acres	harbor side park with boat docks, a playground, a boardwalk and benches.
Firefighters Memorial Park	Thames Street		park honors all deceased members of the Bristol Fire Department.
Veteran's Memorial park	Wood Street	8.1 acres	Two little league baseball fields, a basketball court, playground, picnic tables, a parking lot, and two buildings contain bathrooms, storage and concessions.
Cedarcrest Park	Fatima Drive	1.6 acres	neighborhood park features a playground, basketball court and a baseball field.
Coelho Park	Jenny Lane	3.2 acres	neighborhood park featuring two playground areas, a basketball court, soccer field, walkway, pond, a pavilion, benches, and picnic tables.
Independence Park	Thames Street	4 acres	Waterfront park located at the head of the East Bay Bike Path featuring a board-walk, walkways, fountain, municipal boat ramp with parking for boat trailers.
Paull Park	Chestnut Street	20 acres	Wooded wetland conservation area with walking trails, a baseball field and parking area.
Sowams Park	Sweeney Lane	1.4 acres	neighborhood park featuring a playground, basketball court and pavilion.
Thomas Park	Hope Street	3.9 acres	Silver Creek shoreline, walking paths, gardens.

Walley Beach Park	Hope Street	1.3 acre	Waterfront access, beach, benches.
Union Street Beach Park	Hope Street		Waterfront access, picnic tables, benches, beach.
Manny Sousa Park	Thames Street		Waterfront park with benches and picnic tables.
Mosaico Park	Wood Street		Downtown street corner park with benches.
Legion Square	Hope Street		Downtown street corner park (a.k.a. Loafer's Corner) with benches.
Narrows Boat Ramp	Annawamscutt Drive		Boat ramp and fishing area with parking.

The following open space parcels have been preserved since 2008:

Table 2 Open Space Inventory of the Town of Bristol

Name	How acquired	Acreage	Ownership
Perry Farm	Purchase with Town and RIDEM grant funds	34 acres	Town
St. Angelo	Purchase with Town and RIDEM grant funds	6.3 acres	Town
Narrows Road	Purchase with Town funds	2+ acres	Town
Poppasquash Road	Purchase with Town funds	30,150 sq. ft.	Town
Sunrise Drive	Purchase with Town funds	10,000 sq. ft.	Town
Fales Farm	Conservation Easement by Town and USDA	36 acres	Private
Pagano Farm	Conservation Easement by Town and USDA	16.5 Acres	Private

Statement of Goals and Policies

Provide open space and recreation programs and facilities to serve the full range of present and future residents' needs. Include policies that (a) ensure access to the waterfront and bays that surround the town, and (b) increase and/or improve land areas reserved for recreation, conservation, and open space. Sustainable plans for recreation, conservation, and open space can be achieved by using a coordinated approach to include multiple uses of single sites, and diverse forms of ownership, management, and financing mechanisms to ensure benefits for future generations.

Based upon the issues described in the introduction and the overarching goal stated above, this section presents the goals and policies developed by the Town of Bristol to guide its open space and recreation planning.

Goal 1. Maximize the public's ability to gain access to, and enjoy, the waterfront and bay areas that surround the Town.

Policies to achieve Goal 1:

- A.** Acquire additional beach and/or waterfront frontage along Bristol's shoreline.
- B.** Improve and maintain public boat launch sites along Bristol Harbor, Narragansett Bay, Mount Hope Bay, and the Kickemuit River, including small areas for kayaks.
- C.** Wherever possible, protect or regain the public's ability to view the bays and walk to the water's edge.
- D.** Maintain and publicize existing public rights of way and public access points throughout the Town.

Goal 2. Increase and improve land area reserved for passive recreation, conservation, and open space.

Policies to achieve Goal 2:

- A.** Acquire additional land in appropriate areas for passive recreation and trails (walking, biking, bridle, etc.) to enhance the quality of life of Bristol's increasing population.
- B.** Acquire additional land for purely conservation purposes, to be left in its original pristine state and also to protect diminishing ecologically sensitive areas.

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- C. Protect areas which provide greenbelts, open space, and relief from development — including Town-owned parks and open space parcels — through various layers of protection, such as conservation easements.
- D. Continue efforts to increase, acquire, and protect existing areas of the Silver Creek Watershed Area.
- E. Dedicate various Town-owned lots for sustainable and organic community gardens for the community's use. These gardens offer a sense of pride in one's community, help offset rising food costs, and give the opportunity for residents without yards to connect with the land.

Goal 3. Create active recreation programs and facilities to serve the full range of Bristol residents.

Policies to achieve Goal 3:

- A. Ensure accessibility to open space and recreation areas for a diverse segment of the population.
- B. Maintain emphasis upon a variety of imaginative new programs for recreation.
- C. Support recreation's role as a community activity that brings people together.
- D. Recreation Department should develop a master facilities plan which includes long range (5 year) plans, goals, and needs, keeping in mind the individual athletic associations currently in town.
- E. Continue to encourage fair and equitable use of Town recreation facilities for all community groups through sensitive scheduling and sharing of facilities.
- F. Acquire additional land for active recreation to enhance the quality of life of Bristol's increasing population.
- G. Develop additional small neighborhood parks and open spaces in residential areas.

Goal 4. Plan for recreation and conservation of open space by using a coordinated approach -- to include multiple uses of a site, and diverse forms of ownership, management, and financing.

Policies to achieve Goal 4:

- A. Coordinate public and private recreational opportunities to avoid duplication and to ensure efficient and cost effective use of recreational facilities.
- B. Cooperate and coordinate with the State of Rhode Island, particularly in regard to the future of the state-owned Colt Park and the Veterans' Home property.

- C. Develop recreation complexes rather than single purpose facilities, for example through combining education and recreation, or linking active recreation areas with quiet enjoyment of conservation lands or passive recreation. This would require coordination with the school and recreation departments.
- D. While respecting the privacy of residences, connect recreation areas, neighborhoods, and as many other Town facilities as possible with a system of walkways, hiking trails, bikeways, greenbelts, and bridle trails.
- E. Continue to use the Town budget process to acquire and open space parcels and develop recreation facilities within the financial capabilities of the Town, but use funds more effectively, particularly in accommodating the needs and responsibilities of different agencies. Possibilities include, utilizing private, other local, and state agencies, as appropriate to receive and manage contributions designated for the purchase of land, easements, or development rights and to partner with the Town on the acquisition of properties for open space preservation.
- F. Contact owners of private parcels that are important potential open space and recreation amenities in town, and discuss how these amenities might be conserved over time. Other options, such as conservation easements, purchase of development rights, right of first refusal, tax incentives, grants, zoning ordinances, conservation development, wetlands protection, and other regulations, should be used in addition to outright purchase for obtaining and preserving recreation, conservation, and open space sites.
- G. Continue to act upon the options for acquiring dedicated open space lands through the Subdivision Rules and Regulations including impact fees.
- H. Explore the potential recreation opportunities resulting from the closure of the Minturn Farm Area Landfill.
- I. Continue to acquire and/or protect land in the area of Mount Hope through local, State and Federal monies, through local and State regulations, and through private foundations and land donations.
- J. Use all available resources to purchase development rights for preservation of the last remaining farms in Bristol.
- K. Consider potential recreational uses for decommissioned downtown school buildings.
- L. Consider the recreation needs of students in future school facility plans.

Implementation Actions

Overview of Action Strategy

The implementation of Bristol's open space and recreation goals and objectives focuses on the following concerns:

- the existing and projected needs for outdoor recreational facilities, primarily playground and athletic field facilities
- maximizing the use and potential from existing recreational facilities by increased maintenance and upgrading, as necessary in cost effective manner
- the protection of environmentally sensitive and unique parcels of land
- the preservation of open space
- increasing the public's convenient access to outdoor amenities by locating them near neighborhoods and by linking them with a Town-wide path 'green-belt' system.

Implicit in this plan is the recognition that as development increases in the community, the amount of open space remaining will diminish. A failure to respond to the recreation, conservation, and open space needs of the community may foreclose opportunities to achieve the type of town Bristol residents envision for the future.

The Town has acquired a number of open space sites and developed recreational facilities in many parts of the community. A high priority for the Town will be to maintain and improve existing recreation and open space facilities so that townspeople may get the most use and enjoyment possible from these assets. The Town plans to commit Town resources to this end and also to help mobilize volunteer efforts that tap one of the most important resources enjoyed by the community: the energetic care and concern of citizen groups and local businesses.

Acquisitions and Development

Recommendations for land acquisition and site development reflect the Town's commitment to meeting its outdoor recreational needs. The recommended acquisitions and development proposals reflect an increased awareness of the potential impacts from the development of sensitive environmental areas, of sites unique to Bristol and its culture, and of areas of open space and recreation that have historically defined the community.

A critical component of a solid acquisition strategy will be input from the Open Space Committee Is this the Conservation Commission now? (YES) to prioritize and advise town leaders on purchase decisions.

#	ACTION	TIME FRAME ¹				RESPONSIBLE AGENT
		S	M	L	O	
OSCR-1	The Town should develop a comprehensive recreational plan to identify long and short term needs for properties and facilities The plan must include ongoing maintenance and be environmentally responsible.	√				Recreation Department, Community Development Department, Recreation Board.
OSCR-2	Improve existing recreational fields at Mt. Hope High School to provide additional recreational opportunities and improve and manage drainage and runoff into Silver Creek in an environmentally sustainable manner in order to maximize the usage of the existing athletic fields. Create a Master Plan of the area to include potential improvements for drainage as well as recreational areas.	√				School Department, Recreation Department, Department of Community Development, Town Administrator.
OSCR-3	Seek to acquire land area between Sherman Avenue and Kickemuit Road for playlot/neighborhood park facilities. There is a vacant town lot on Lisa Lane that might be appropriate.		√			Planning Board, Community Development Department.
OSCR-4	Seek to upgrade existing open space parcels in the Mason Farms neighborhood so that they are more usable recreation parcels. This could include simply clearing and seeding so that children have an area to throw a football or fly a kite.		√			Recreation Department, Town Administrator.
OSCR-5	Seek to acquire land for a neighborhood playground in the Kickemuit-Narrows Road area.			√		Town Council, Town Administrator.
OSCR-6	Assess the conditions and potential alternate uses of the existing Bristol Golf Course including improvements to the land for natural habitat, wetlands, and flood protection as it relates to Silver Creek.	√				Town Administrator, Planning Board, Town Council, Recreation

¹ S: short-term; M: medium-term; L: long-term; O: ongoing

#	ACTION	TIME FRAME ¹				RESPONSIBLE AGENT
		S	M	L	O	
						Department, Department of Community Development
OSCR-7	Require best management practices to preserve wetlands, flood plains and other environmentally sensitive areas in proposed land development projects.	√				Planning Board, Community Development Department
OSCR-8	Improve the existing recreational facilities at Guiteras Field to make them more versatile and maximize its usage.		√			School Department, Recreation Department, Town Administrator.
OSCR-9	Continue to develop the Quinta-Gamelin community center as an indoor, multi-purpose community recreation center including, if feasible, swimming pools.	√				Recreation Department, Community Development Department, Town Administrator, Town Council.
OSCR-10	Incorporate the need for neighborhood recreation into plans for the use or reuse of school sites.				√	School Department, Recreation Department.
OSCR-11	Incorporate picnic sites into park and recreation areas.	√				Recreation Department.
OSCR-12	Pilot a program to create community gardens within high density residential neighborhoods and school yards.	√				Department of Human Services, Community Development Department.
OSCR-13	Consider supplementing existing Town-wide tree planting program to include fruit trees as an additional source of food for residents ("edible	√				Tree Commission, Department of

#	ACTION	TIME FRAME ¹				RESPONSIBLE AGENT
		S	M	L	O	
	landscapes”).					Community Development
OSCR-14	Create a Master Plan of proposed improvements to the drainage, seating and overall appearance of the Town Common, recognizing its role as a focal point of downtown Bristol and its historical significance as Rhode Island’s first Town Common.	√				Recreation Department, Town Administrator.
OSCR-15	Consider the passive and active recreational needs of all Bristol residents by querying facilities such as Franklin Court, Benjamin Church Manor and others as to the needs of their populations. Possible additional recreational sites might include bocce courts, handicap accessible foot paths, etc.	√			√	Recreation Department, Recreation Board.
OSCR-16	Develop “pocket-parks” at the Aaron Avenue and Gibson Road public shoreline access points. These should include small neighborhood parks with benches and possibly playground equipment. These areas currently do not have any park amenities.			√		Community Development Department, Recreation Department, Recreation Board.
OSCR-17	Continue to acquire or purchase land, development rights and/or conservation easements in the Mount Hope Area, including the portion owned by Brown University. This site provides an excellent opportunity to learn about the history of our region while enjoying an important natural conservation area.			√		Town Administrator, Town Council, Community Development Department.
OSCR-18	As part of a program of limited, flexible development in the Mount Hope Planning Area, protect the maximum possible amount of land for conserved open space, placing priority on a beach area, and on woods and fields that are not wetlands and that add links to the Path System.			√		Planning Board, Community Development Department.
OSCR-19	Continue to acquire additional acreage along the west and east branches of the Silver Creek watershed to add to the Town’s greenbelt path system, protect sensitive wetlands and prevent development from increasing flood and storm	√	√			Community Development Department, Town Administrator, Town Council,

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#	ACTION	TIME FRAME ¹				RESPONSIBLE AGENT
		S	M	L	O	
	damage potential.					Conservation Commission.
OSCR-20	Consider dedicating real estate conveyance tax funds to open space conservation and recreation facility maintenance.				√	Town Council, Finance Department.
OSCR-21	Property management plans should be developed for all Town-owned open space and recreation parcels.		√			Conservation Commission, Department of Community Development, Recreation Department, Town Administrator
OSCR-22	Continue to consult and coordinate with the Conservation Commission on expenditures of open space funds and implementation of the Open Space Plan.				√	Community Development Department, Town Council.
OSCR-23	Pursue the acquisition of conservation or development easements to the Columban Fathers and Sisters of St. Dorothy properties.		√			Community Development Department, Town Administrator, Town Council.
OSCR-24	Expand the Greenbelt and Path System by exploring the acquisition of land or easements (some of which may be available from subdivision dedications) in the following areas: a) Silver Creek, west branch to Gooding Avenue b) Silver Creek, east branch from downtown to the high school and the golf course c) Land north from golf course to Warren town line d) Northern trail connecting the East Bay Bike Path and the Kickemuit River through Perry Farm. e) Trail along Mount Hope Bay from the			√		Planning Board, Community Development Department.

#	ACTION	TIME FRAME ¹				RESPONSIBLE AGENT
		S	M	L	O	
	northern trail, through the Haffenreffer Estate, and on south to connect with the Roger Williams University shoreline path					
	f) East/west connections between eastern neighborhoods and the Silver Creek link, and between Mount Hope and the historic Downtown and Waterfront.	√				
	g) The Harbor's Edge Walk along the downtown waterfront to link existing boardwalks and park properties to the East Bay Bike Path.	√				
OSCR-25	Work with the state to continue the path system through the State Park Planning Area.			√		Recreation Department
OSCR-26	If feasible, build and maintain a public swimming facility. With Bristol's geographic location as a peninsula it is important to provide swimming safety education to all residents.	√				Recreation Department, Town Council, Town Administrator
OSCR-27	Improve and maintain existing neighborhood playgrounds (Cedarcrest, Sowams, Coelho, and Town Common) and playground equipment. Consider other residential locations where appropriate.		√			Recreation Department, Community Development Department
OSCR-28	New subdivisions should have a recreational component similar to open space conservation developments.		√			Community Development Department, Planning Board
OSCR-29	Develop an overall recycling plan for Town parks and recreational facilities.	√				Recreation Department, Department of Public Works, Bristol Recycles
OSCR-30	Improvements to Town-owned Leahy Pond open space for passive recreational activities including walking trails and improved water quality.			√		Recreation Department, Department of Community Development

#	ACTION	TIME FRAME ¹				RESPONSIBLE AGENT
		S	M	L	O	
OSCR-31	Promote and develop bicycle and pedestrian friendly streets and infrastructure to encourage visitors using the East Bay Bike Path to explore further into downtown Bristol.	√				Community Development Department, Recreation Department, Department of Public Works Town Council
OSCR-32	Explore increased recreational bow hunting opportunities.		√			Recreation Department, Town Council
OSCR-33	Waterfront recreational facilities such as docks and boardwalks should be constructed and/or reconstructed with higher tides and storm surges in mind (ex. higher pilings for docks)			√		Recreation Department, Harbor Master, Department of Community Development
OSCR-34	Facilities at the Bristol Town Beach should be sited and renovated with higher tides and storm surges in mind.			√		Recreation Department
OSCR-35	Recreational facilities should utilize energy efficient practices, such as efficient lighting, and clean energy sources.		√			Recreation Department
OSCR-36	Review and amend zoning ordinance and development review regulations to encourage agriculture related retail activities such as farm stands and related items.	√				Department of Community Development, Planning Board, Town Council
OSCR-37	Maintain the downtown docks and ramps for commercial and recreational fishing and boating.				√	Harbor Department, Town Administrator, Town Council.
OSCR-38	Pursue improvements to boat ramp out halls within State Street ramp riparian rights.	√				Harbor Department, Harbor

#	ACTION	TIME FRAME ¹				RESPONSIBLE AGENT
		S	M	L	O	
						Commission
OSCR-39	Maintain existing rights of way to the shore to keep them clear and safe for pedestrians.				√	Harbor Commission, Recreation Department.
OSCR-40	Acquire land along the shore of the Mount Hope Bay, and maintain existing waterfront public access points.			√		Town Administrator, Community Development Department, Town Council, Recreation Department.
OSCR-41	Publicize existing public waterfront access points throughout town, as well as land and water paths and trails. Continue support of the CRMC Adopt-an-Access Program.	√				Town Administrator, , Harbor Commission, Recreation Department.
OSCR-42	Continue to maintain a path along the South Lane Right of Way, extending it down to the water's edge access point.			√		Community Development Department, Harbor Commission, Recreation Department.
OSCR-43	Extend the Harbor's Edge Walk that connects the public parks and access points between Independence Park and the Coast Guard Station through easements and acquisitions during the development approval process.	√				Community Development Department, Planning Board, Town Administrator, Town Council.
OSCR-44	Redesign improvements to the entrance, boat launch, and add amenities such as kayak racks to Independence Park to better serve residents and visitors	√				Community Development Department, Recreation Department, Harbor

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#	ACTION	TIME FRAME ¹				RESPONSIBLE AGENT
		S	M	L	O	
						Department, Town Council.
OSCR-45	Promote recreational fishing opportunities including public education and the development of facilities such as fishing piers.	√				Harbor Commission, Harbor Department Recreation Department, Community Development
OSCR-46	Promote Bristol's natural settings and resources as a means of increasing tourism and economic development.	√				Town Administrator, Town Council, Recreation Department
OSCR-47	Explore the feasibility of a shallow man-made open air skating rink.	√				Recreation Department, Town Administrator
OSCR-48	Explore the feasibility of an indoor skating/hockey rink. Consider a regional facility in partnership with Roger Williams University or other neighboring towns.		√			Recreation Department, Town Administrator, Town Council
OSCR-49	Explore the possibility of improving the areas around ponds currently used for skating such as Leahy and Gibson Ponds.		√			Community Development Department, Recreation Department.