

## **VII. Community Facilities**



**Town of Raymond Public Library**

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The provision of safe and adequate public facilities and services is a necessary function of local government. As the population and demographics of a community change, it is important that the municipality's facilities and services keep pace with growing demands and conditions.

Within the past decade, a number of improvements have been made to Raymond's public facilities and services, including new well development, park expansion, school improvements (i.e. the addition of temporary classrooms), new solid waste collection improvements (pay as you throw and privatization), as well as the continuing upkeep, purchase and replacement of new vehicles and equipment. Today, Raymond is pursuing for the first time funding and state approval to construct a new wastewater treatment plant to serve future development at Exit 4 and the downtown area.

Because Raymond's tax base is mostly residential, the town must balance its capital facility needs and services against its desires to maintain a reasonable tax rate now and in the future. Typically, while most large scale capital improvements in Raymond have required bond approval by town residents, the town has been successful in using Capital Reserve Funds as part of its Capital Improvement Program.<sup>52</sup> These funds help to save money ahead of a large purchase, thus avoiding the interest payment that comes with bonding. In addition, the town has adopted impact fees which are collected from new development to pay for new facility capacity.<sup>53</sup> Raymond is also fortunate to have many volunteers, which allows the town to continue to offer a wide range of services while remaining fiscally responsible.

The purpose of this report is to provide an overview of the town's existing community facilities as well identify the capital facility needs and improvements necessary to serve the town's future population. The information contained within this report was obtained through a Community Facilities Survey Questionnaire, which was completed by municipal department heads, staff, and school officials in the fall/winter of 2007.

In addition to this questionnaire, a community-wide master plan survey was conducted and a citizen-based Community Facilities/Infrastructure Topic Group was formed to identify and discuss the town's community facility needs. Also an Education and Youth Opportunity Topic Group was formed. The results of the master plan survey and the recommendations of both Topic Groups are summarized in the following Topic Group Reports.

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<sup>52</sup> The Town of Raymond's CIP was last adopted in 2008. It covers the projected capital improvements and purchases through 2017. There is also an online CIP which covers the years 2008-2021.

<sup>53</sup> Impact fees were adopted by the Town of Raymond on January 13, 2005 and went into effect February 13, 2005. See Article VII, Section 7.500 of the Town's Zoning Ordinance for more information.

## UNH Survey Results

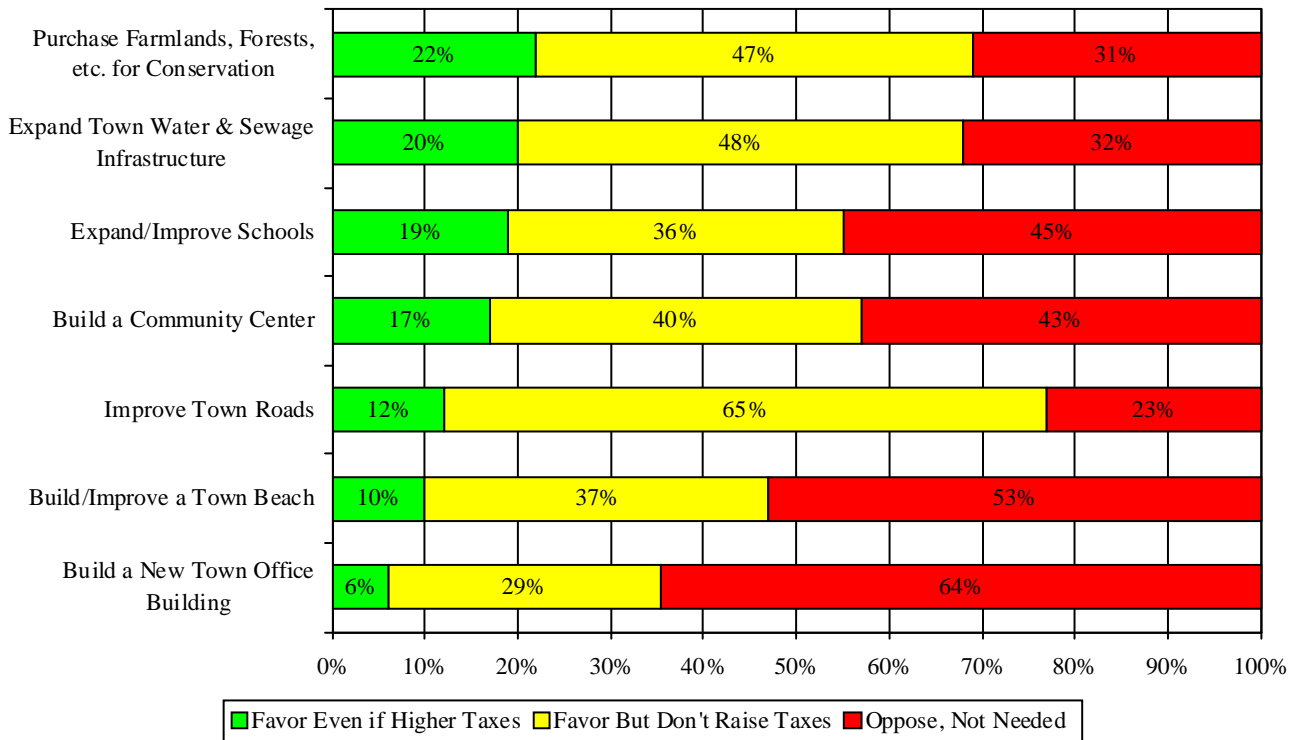
Between September and October 2007, the University of New Hampshire Survey Center conducted a community-wide master plan survey of the perceptions, interests and attitudes of residents about the Town of Raymond and future planning initiatives for Raymond. A total of 4,580 surveys were delivered to all Raymond postal patrons in the “On the Common” newsletter on September 14, 2007. In addition, a reminder (post card) was mailed on October 4, 2007.

A total of 409 Raymond residents responded to the survey representing a response rate of nine percent. The following responses were received to Questions 6, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12 regarding Raymond’s town government and community facility needs. An Executive Summary of the Master Plan Survey and a copy of the survey questionnaire are contained within the Appendix of this plan.

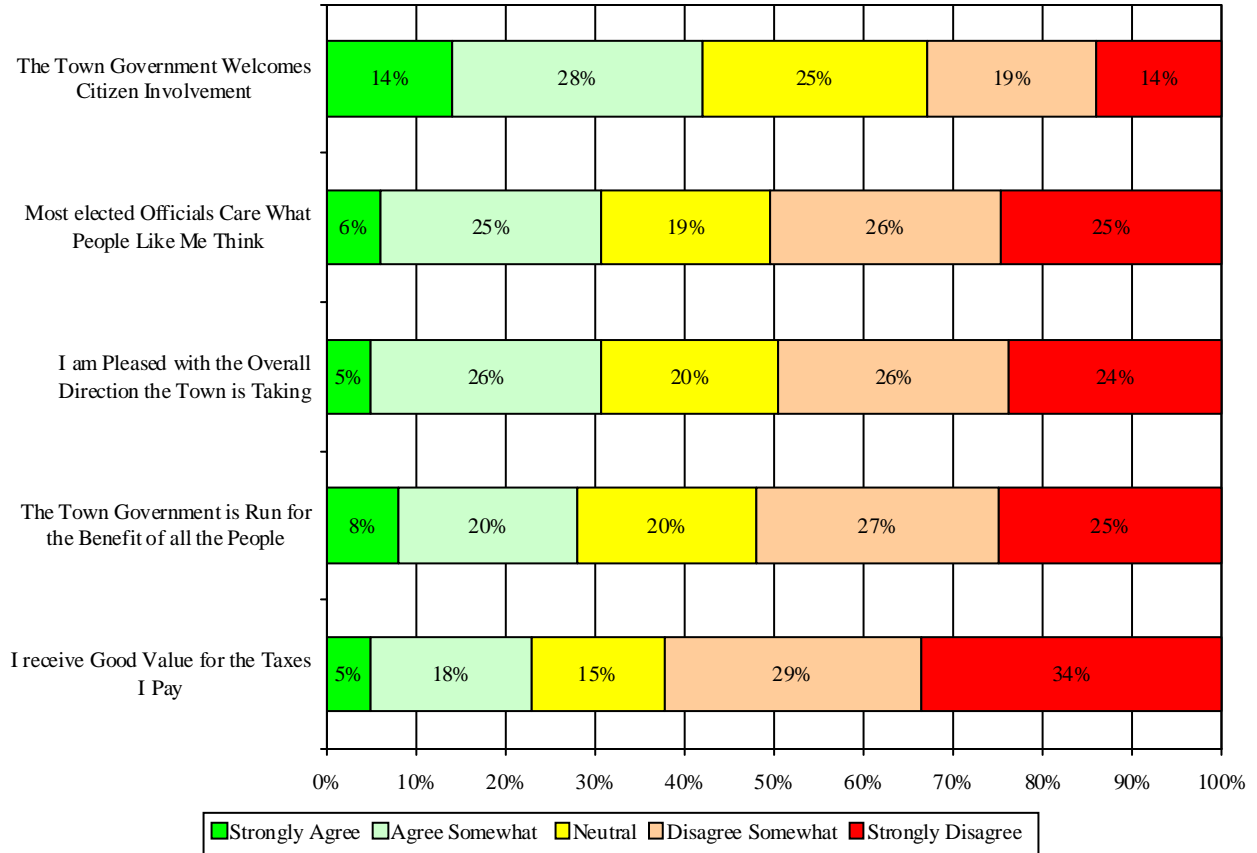
### Town Government and Community Facilities Related Questions

The following questions and responses were received regarding town government and Raymond’s community facility needs.

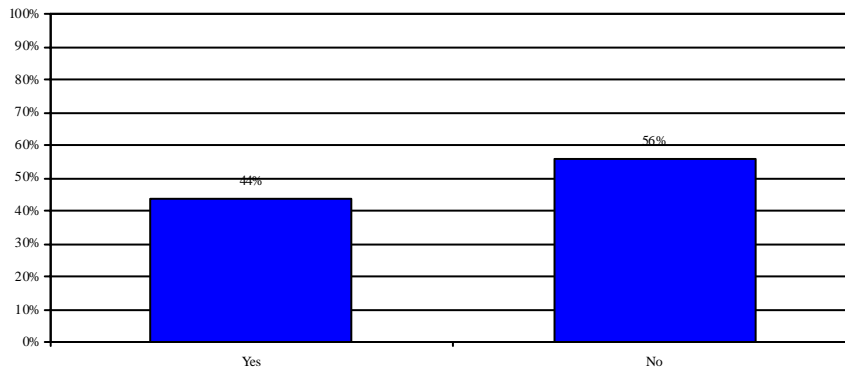
**Question 6 (a-g):** *Please indicate if you favor or oppose the following activities in Raymond and if so, are you willing to pay higher property taxes for them.*



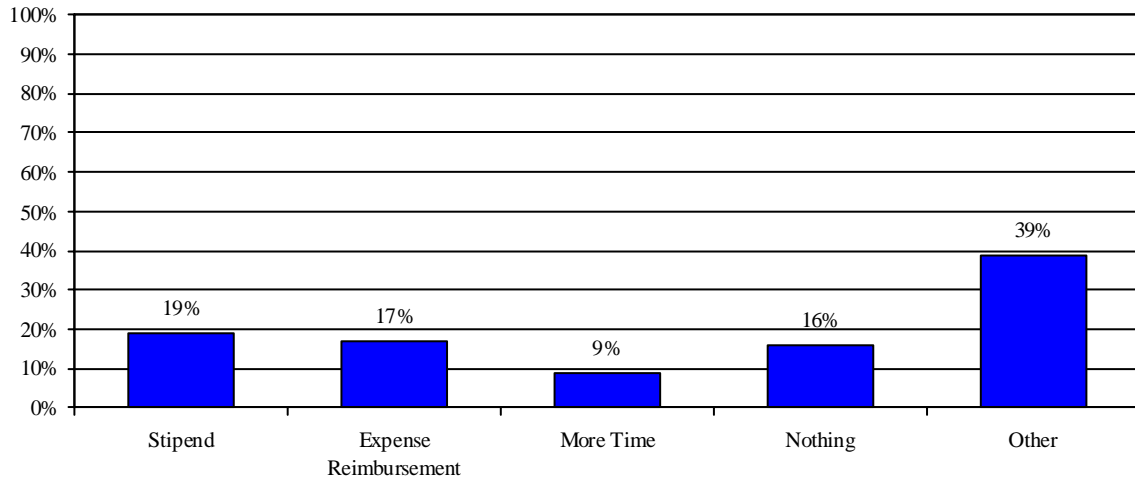
**Question 8 (a-e):** Please indicate whether you agree or disagree with the following statements about the Town of Raymond by circling the number most closely represents your opinion.



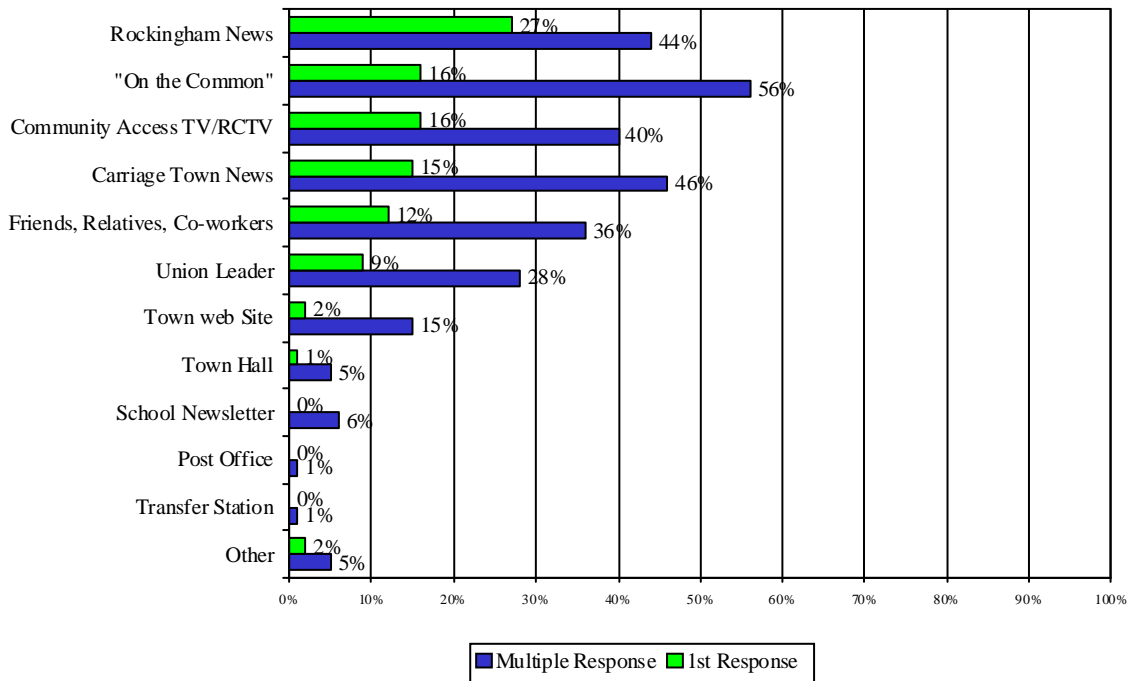
**Question 9:** Would you ever consider becoming involved in Town Government?



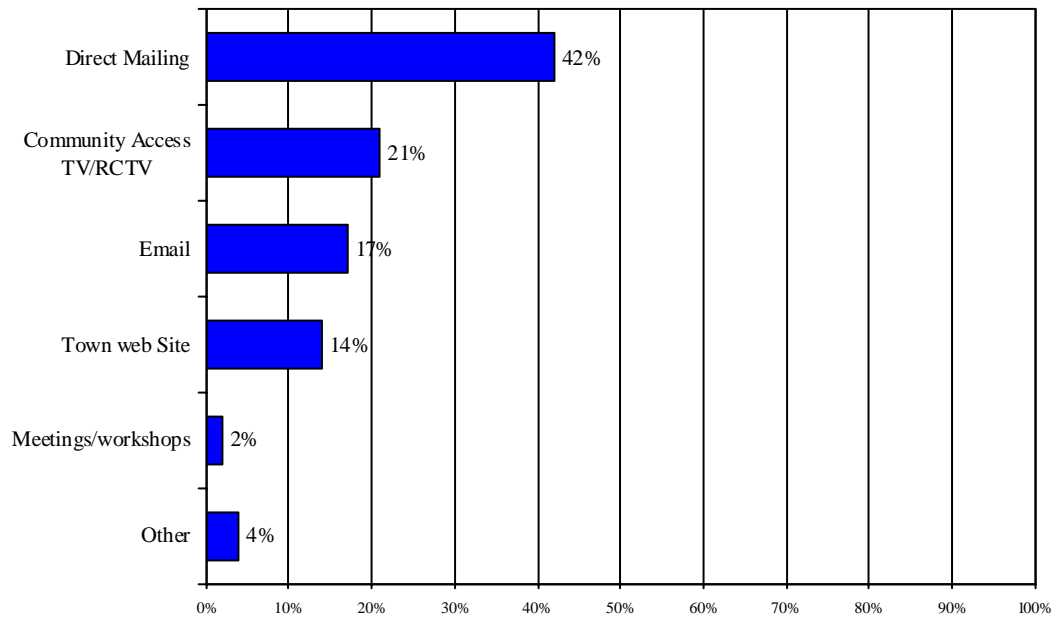
**Question 10:** Which of the following would be an incentive to get you involved in Town Government?



**Question 11:** In what ways do you get your information about news and events in Raymond?



**Question 12:** What is the *best* way for the Town of Raymond to better inform you about what it is doing?



### Overall Survey Results

The above master plan survey results identify a wide range of responses regarding various community facilities and town services as well as the need for balancing growth concerns with tax impacts.

Specifically, while a majority of respondents overwhelmingly favored improving town roads, purchasing farmlands and forests for open space/conservation purposes, expanding town water and sewer, and expanding and improving schools, these same respondents felt that these improvements should not be accomplished by raising property taxes. A majority of respondents also indicated that they would not support paying higher property taxes to build a new town office building or build/improve a town beach. Concerns about and paying higher property taxes for town facilities and services has been a consistent theme throughout the master plan survey, including the need for fiscal responsibility.

When asked the question “I receive good value for the taxes I pay” the majority of survey respondents indicated that they did not agree with this statement (34 percent strongly disagree and 29 percent somewhat disagree). In addition, many respondents noted that they were not pleased with the overall direction the town is taking. Additionally, many respondents indicated that the town government in general is not run for the benefit of the people or that most elected officials do not care what residents may think. These survey results indicate that the Town of Raymond has a significant challenge in the years ahead in maintaining and improving facilities and services while keeping taxes low.

It must be noted, however, that this master plan survey was conducted during a time period of very difficult economic conditions with high energy costs for home heating fuel and gasoline. In the past, the majority of Raymond residents have been willing to step up to the plate and to vote in necessary capital improvement projects when needed. Generally, Raymond's large capital improvement needs are addressed through bond referendums.

## **Summary of Topic Group Reports: Community Facilities /Infrastructure and Education and Youth Opportunities**

In addition to the UNH master plan survey results, the following topic group reports and recommendations were identified by town residents participating on the Community Facilities/Infrastructure Topic Group and the Education and Youth Opportunities Topic Group. These reports have been reviewed and updated by the Raymond Planning Board.

### **Community Facilities/Infrastructure Topic Group Report**

#### **A. Community Facilities**

Raymond's building needs were prioritized by the Topic Group as follows, beginning with the greatest need:

- #1 New Police Station
- #2 New Town Office (could be done in conjunction with expansion of the library and/or development of a community center) The new Town Office must have space for storing town records in a secure, fire-proof environment
- #3 Additional Public Works Space
- #4 Community Center (a community center for all ages could begin as a building for meetings, gatherings, performances, etc., and expand to include additional sports fields/courts, swimming pool, and playgrounds nearby or at various locations in town. Also, the community center could be space within a new town hall)
- #5 Larger Library (current library could expand into the present town hall)
- #6 Satellite Fire Stations (a cost analysis could be conducted to compare the cost or requiring sprinklers in new homes to the cost of building a satellite fire station)
- #7 Also, suggested uses of the old fire station were discussed (e.g. fire museum, office space, parking lot). No recommendation was made.

In reviewing in this Topic Group Report, the Raymond Planning Board identified the following community facility priorities:

Assess the feasibility of constructing, replacing or improving the following community facilities in the following order of importance and priority:

- Lamprey Elementary School;
- Community Center;
- Police/Fire Station/Safety Complex;
- New Town Office;
- Additional Public Works space; and
- Larger Library

Map 10 shows the location of all the Town of Raymond major public facilities, parks and schools.

## B. Infrastructure

### Beautification:

- Prior to the installation of sewers, designate and Preserve a “Village District” in the traditional village center around the Common and Main Street business district area through a new zoning ordinance.
- Consider property tax incentives, such as stepped assessment or other techniques, for buildings rehabilitated within the historic or village district.

There should be a concerted and immediate effort to designate a Village District in Raymond. RSA 79-E provides a mechanism for short-term property tax incentives for substantial rehab of qualified buildings in village centers and requires a vote of the townspeople; guidelines from the zoning ordinances should protect the appearance, character and scale of buildings. Also, there should be clarification as to whether buildings outside the designated Village District could be designated Historic District Overlay.

- In lieu of an ordinance for private property beautification/clean-up, have a “Town Clean-up Day” where residents can put cast-off items at the curb and others can take new-found treasures home. The Town of Raymond could then collect any remaining trash items a couple of days later.
- Allow residents to pre-pay for disposal of large items including appliances, furniture and place a sticker (indicating the pre-payment) on the item so it can be picked up by the Town or contracted disposal service; designated days might be advisable.





- ❑ Promote adoption of town roads for clean-up by local groups that will have a sign posted for their efforts.
- ❑ The Town should develop zoning for architectural standards to maintain the look and feel of Raymond’s rural character, for the establishment of a village district and for the preservation of historic buildings.

Sewer:

- ❑ Eight centralized sewer collection areas have been identified by the Wastewater Treatment Facility Feasibility Study completed by Wright-Pierce, 6/06/08. Order of installation would be dictated by need and efficiency of installation. The sewer collection areas are as follows:

Exit 4 West	Exit 4 East/Downtown	Epping Street	The Plains
Route 27 West	Governor’s Lake	Exit 5 North	Route 27 East

- ❑ Water lines should be installed as a joint project with sewer lines; water hook-ups could occur at a later date.

Water:

- ❑ New water mains are needed for Exit 4 and Industrial Drive (part of the TIF district) and at the Candia line (beginning along Route 27) which at a later date could then come back towards town and include Leisure Village, Fire Lake/Clearwater Estates, Scotland Drive and the commercial properties en route.
- ❑ Water and sewer hook-ups time table would be determined by the Sewer Commissioners and Board of Selectmen.

Roads:

- ❑ To maintain the Town’s rural character, there need to be more designated “Scenic Roads.”
- ❑ Vehicle speed on town roads could be controlled by having curved roads, narrow roads and speed tables or other traffic calming measures.
- ❑ More sidewalks/paved shoulders are desirable for pedestrian safety, particularly that of children. At a minimum, sidewalks would be desirable at IHG Middle School-Common, LR Elementary School-Common and Main Street (at Route 27)-Pecker Bridge.



**Riverside Park**

- ❑ Sidewalks and bike paths would also promote the health and well being of the community by encouraging people to exercise and would reduce pollution by providing a safe alternative to driving.

#### Utilities:

- ❑ Additional electrical transmission capacity is needed at the Safety Complex and Industrial Drive; and to support commercial and industrial growth. The Town Manager should address this issue.
- ❑ Additional cable and phone service will be needed by the Town; this could allow people to work from their homes as a way to enhance employment opportunities and quality of life by reducing commuting and associated pollution. The Town Manager should address this issue.
- ❑ Gas transmission was discussed, but no recommendation was made. The nearest known gas lines are East Kingston, Exeter, and Manchester.

### **Education and Youth Opportunities Topic Group Report**

This Topic Group was asked to look at two topics that were brought up at the first Master Plan workshop: 1) Improve school education system (e.g., preparation for college); and 2) More youth programs; expand opportunities for youth. Both of these topics were discussed at length among the group members and some school officials.

#### *Improve School Education System*

We talked with High School Guidance Counselor Brian Lister and High School Principal Kirk Beitler. The group discussed having a job fair at the high school once a year for graduating seniors who do not plan on going off to college. At one time there was a

program at the school for students to job shadow business people within the community; it was discussed that this be put into place again.

A concerned parent had approached a member of the committee and asked that the web site be more user friendly and more information be put on there as to when PSAT's and SAT's were occurring so that parents could be informed. Or maybe even a list serve that sends out e-mails to parents of information as mentioned. Also provide information to the parents as to what their child is required to have in order to graduate, an outline of what colleges are looking for in students when they are applying to colleges, and an up-to-date calendar of activities students can be involved in. (Since these meetings the school website has become more user friendly)

Celeste Clark worked with the students involved with Coalition for Youth and asked them several questions the group had come up with. When the students were asked what they enjoyed most about their education the response was that SST (Seacoast School of Technology) program. They were also asked if there was anything they would like added to their curriculum. The students didn't feel anything need to be added. The students did have some ideas as to what they felt would help them more if offered: Internships/job shadowing; a course on how to fill out college applications before senior year; have a job fair and college fair at the school or somewhere else with information on both so that a student can make an informed decision as to what is the right choice for her/him.

*More youth programs; expand opportunities for youth*

This topic wasn't discussed as much as education. We discussed having more playgrounds throughout town, not just at the schools. It was felt that the Recreation Department does a great job with their programs they offer now. It was mentioned that the Town should have a Community Center so more programs could be offered to citizens of all ages. (We were told that another group would be bringing this up also). The Town should consider low impact development of exterior, self-directed recreational opportunities in close proximity to the downtown as well as consider the creation of "pocket parks/playgrounds" throughout the Town.



**Restored Historic Train Depot Downtown**

## A. Municipal Buildings

### Town Office Building

There are currently eleven full time and one part time employee as well as volunteers working in the Town Office building located across from the Town Commons. These employees and volunteers represent various Departments such as the Town Clerk/Tax Collector, Finance Department, Assessing Department, Town Manager, Planning and Economic Development, and Code Enforcement. The hours of operation for these various Departments are as follows:

Town Clerk/Tax Collector	M 8 am-7 pm, T-F 8 am - 4:15 pm
Finance Department	M-F 8 am-4:30 pm
Assessing Department	M-F 8 am-4:30 pm
Town Managers Office	M-F 8 am-4:30 pm
Planning Department	M-F 8 am-4:30 pm
Economic Development	M-F 8 am-4:30 pm
Code Enforcement Office	M-F 8 am-4:30 pm

The construction of a new municipal building has been identified and discussed by town officials; however, there are currently no solid plans for construction. While the Town of Raymond's Capital Improvement Program (CIP) makes room for a plan to finance construction of a new facility, any bond or revenue measure would have to be passed by voters at a future Town Meeting. Since the previous Master Plan completed in 2002, there have been only a few minor changes to the building. An office space was added for the Coalition for Youth and a new roof was installed. Also a number of areas in the building have been subdivided into smaller offices.



**Raymond Town Offices**

While every Department currently has computers linked to a central network server located in the building, the consensus among town employees is that there is not enough office or storage space within the building and many of the existing offices are too small.

In addition, the Public Works Director has identified a number of current problems associated with the building. Specifically, the heating system while updated in the past is inefficient and the alarm system is antiquated, minimal, and not in conformance with current code. Also, the central server location is inadequate which causes problems with the server. At the present time, there are no plans to make any sizable improvements to the building.

## **Other Town Owned Buildings/Facilities**

Upgrades and improvements are also needed to many other town-owned buildings and facilities, particularly the former Fire House which is located directly adjacent to the Town Offices (see photo). This building is currently being used by the Recreation and Public Works Departments. While interior office space renovations have recently taken place, the building lacks a code compliant alarm and sprinkler system. In addition, the building is not fully handicapped accessible. Currently, the only town-owned buildings with compliant alarm and sprinkler systems are the Library and Safety Complex; all other town-owned buildings are inadequate and non-compliant. According to the Public Works Director, every town-owned building and Department requires additional space and/or some upgrade. At the present time, while there are no concrete plans for building improvements in the near future, the Town of Raymond's CIP does make room for funding as may be necessary.



**Former Fire House currently used by Recreation and Public Works Departments**

Raymond's existing CIP (available on Town website at <http://www.raymondnh.gov>) apportions funds for years 2008 through 2021. As a guiding document for future capital facilities, it identifies spending for a new Town Hall facility in the future, to be allocated at \$125,000 annually. In addition, it includes a \$15,000 annual allocation for general government building maintenance and improvements. There may be other unidentified building needs that arise in the future that could also have an impact upon the town's operating or capital budgets.

## **B. Highway Department**

There are currently a total of twelve full time public works employees in the Highway Department. These employees are divided into five separate divisions with a total of five employees in the highway division, two employees in maintenance, one employee for buildings, one for grounds, one for water, and two employees in administration.



In addition, there are currently a total of four part time employees in the Highway Department, but this number changes as the seasons and work loads change. The primary responsibilities of these employees are delineated by the division they work in which clearly defines job task and worker productivity expectations. Since the completion of the 2002 Master Plan, no major improvements or upgrades to the Highway Department building have occurred.



**Raymond Highway Department Building**

The Public Works Director has made available a vehicle and equipment inventory for the Highway Department which is provided in Table 48. The Public Works Director has established that an important future need for the Highway Department is more storage and building space. The state has offered to sell their surplus patrol shed located adjacent to the Highway Department facility, but to date the Town of Raymond has not moved to secure this property.



**Town Salt Storage Shed**

**Table 48  
Public Works Vehicle Replacement Program  
Highway Division Vehicles**

Year	Unit#	Make/Model	Year	Purch.	Replac.	Replac.	Serv.	VIN#	Plate #	Capacity
			Purch.	Price	Cost	Year	Life			
1965	Truck 10	Chevy C-60 Tanker	1965	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	HC6835B131771	G11991	24000
1984	Truck 4	Ford L8000 Dump	1984	\$30,372.00	\$0.00	2002	18	1FDYK0U9EVA6	G12603	35000
1984	Truck 3	Ford L8000 Dump	1984	\$34,273.00	\$0.00	2003	19	1FDYK80UXEVA2	G12604	35000
1987	Truck 6	Ford L8000 Dump	1987	\$30,963.00	\$0.00	2004	17	1FDYK80U1HVA6	G14303	35000
1988	Truck 7	Chevy 2500 4x4 P/U	1988	\$13,242.00	\$0.00	2001	13	2GCFK24K3J127	G14689	7200
1989	Truck 16	Ford f600 Bucket	1999	\$11,900.00	\$20,000	2008	9	1FDNF60H6KVA2	G09889	23200
2001	PWD Car #3	Ford Crown Victoria	2001	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	2FAFP71W91X15	G01204	4724
2000	Hwy Car #2	Ford Crown Victoria	2000	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	2FAFP71WYX1	G01991	4714
1996	Truck 11	Chevy Kodiak Lo-Pro	1995	\$48,989.00	\$110,000.00	2009	13	1GBJ6H1J7TJ100	G09531	25000
1997	Truck 13	Chevy C8500 Dump	1997	\$2,210.00	\$110,000.00	2010	13	1GBP7H1J0VJ11	G07820	33000
1999	Truck 14	Chevy 3500 HD Dump	1998	\$75,201.00	\$110,000.00	2012	13	1GBKC34F9XF01	G06278	15000
2000	Truck 15	Freightliner FL80 Dump	1999	\$79,992.00	\$110,000.00	2014	14	1FV6JJB7YHG3	G11625	36220
2001	Truck 17	Freightliner FL80 Dump	2000	\$80,000.00	\$110,000.00	2015	14	1FVABXAK61HH7	G01545	36220
2002	Truck 18	Ford F350 Utility	2001	\$45,000.00	\$55,000.00	2011	9	1FDWF37F42EA30771	G00700	11000
2003	Truck 19	Freightliner Fl80 Dump	2003	\$90,000.00	\$110,000.00	2018	15	1FVABXAK84HM92317	G17292	37780
2004	Truck 20	Ford F-450 Dump	2004	\$47,000.00	\$55,000.00	2013	9	1FDX47P94ED63523	G17627	15000
2005	Truck 21	Ford F-450 Dump	2005	\$52,638.00	\$55,000.00	2016	11	1FDXF47P06EA0	G18415	15000
2006	Truck 22	Freightliner M2 106V Dump	2006	\$110,066.00	\$110,066.00	2021	15	1FVAC3DJX7HY18528	NA	35000
2009	Truck 23	International 6 Wheel Dump	2009	\$125,000	\$125,000	2024	15	1HTWDAAR6AJ227113	G21386	33,000

Notes: (1) To be replaced by next fire apparatus put out of service (2) To be replaced with surplus police vehicles; Source: Raymond Public Works Department



### **C. Transfer Station and Recycling**

Since the completion of the 2002 Master Plan, the major change that has occurred in relation to the Transfer Station has been the privatization of the facility. The facility is currently operated by Bestway Disposal as a fee per use facility. The Town of Raymond offers a pay as you throw (PAYT) curbside collection program. It is a fee per bag system which offsets the Town of Raymond's collection, transportation, and disposal costs. The program also offers curbside collection of household rubbish and recyclables. Residents do not have to participate, and may elect to contract for their own curbside collection. The Transfer Facility does not accept household rubbish.



**Transfer Facility**

Currently, the Town of Raymond generates approximately 1500 tons of rubbish per year. Rubbish is transported to a turnkey landfill located in Rochester, NH; the tipping fee is \$76.60 per ton. Participation in Raymond's curb side recycling program is approximately 39 percent or approximately 900 tons per year. These recyclables also are transported to Rochester, but have no associated tipping fee.

With the privatization of the Transfer Station and implementation of the PAYT program, the Town of Raymond has eliminated much of its solid waste problems. Raymond's future needs and goals for solid waste disposal are to continue to fine tune the PAYT program and to secure approval to accept municipal solid waste at the transfer center.

### **D. Sewer and Septage Services**

The Town of Raymond's wastewater planning efforts began in the 1970s in response to a growing number of failing septic systems in the developed areas of the town, coupled with rapid population growth throughout the community. Although the 1978 Wastewater Facilities Plan did not recommend the installation of a centralized wastewater collection

system at that time, the Town of Raymond has continued to experience growing numbers of failing septic systems and increasing growth pressures.

As a result, Raymond commenced a second study in 2004 to re-evaluate the feasibility of providing centralized wastewater collection and treatment for the community. This wastewater feasibility study was prepared by Wright-Pierce Civil and Environmental Engineering Services in July 2007 and is available to the public at the Raymond Planning Department Office.

The study examines Raymond's wastewater needs and treatment/disposal alternatives, and recommends phased installation of wastewater collection facilities beginning with service to the Exit 4 area (including providing sewer service for the Town's Public Safety Complex and Elementary School along Old Manchester Road) and within 5 to 10 years (or sooner depending upon demand) providing wastewater collection for Exit 4 East Downtown, Epping Street, The Plains, and outlying areas (see following Sewer Collection Master Plan with identified sewer sheds prepared by Wright Pierce). The study also recommends initial construction of a 250,000 gal/day Membrane Bioreactor advanced wastewater treatment facility with groundwater disposal, expandable to 500,000 gal/day.

As part of this study, the Town of Raymond also initiated work in concert with a proposed major development at Exit 4 to develop a Tax Increment Financing (TIF) District to fund the capital portion of the recommended wastewater project. With a positive vote at a Special Town Meeting held in October 2006 to proceed with the TIF District, a \$12M bond article was approved at the March 2006 Town Meeting and voter approval was granted to proceed with the planning, design and construction of the recommended treatment plant, disposal site and collection system. The annual debt service for this bond is to be paid for via an incremental increase in town tax revenues generated by the new residential, commercial and industrial growth within the TIF District.

In addition to the TIF District, design and construction costs for Raymond's new wastewater treatment and collection facility are eligible for NH DES funding assistance under the low-interest State Revolving Loan Fund and/or State Aid Grant programs. However, DES-funded projects are subject to certain bidding/contract procedures including a requirement that the Town of Raymond develop and implement an approved Sewer Use Ordinance and User Charge System to preserve the fiscal viability and operational integrity of the system. Funding from NH DES is also contingent upon the town securing town meeting approval to accommodate service to at least a portion of the core village. This approval was recently granted at the 2008 Annual Town Meeting which will allow the Town of Raymond to participate in the State revolving loan and grant aid programs.

The estimated cost for these improvements as outlined in the 2007 Wastewater Feasibility Study is \$11,400,000 with an estimated annual operation and maintenance cost of \$280,000 for years one through five, and \$430,000 for years ten through fifteen.

Completion of Raymond's new centralized wastewater system will also protect the Lamprey River and Governor's Lake from possible present and future contamination due to failing septic systems; protect public groundwater and private water supply wells; promote quality growth and development in the more densely populated Town center; and promote more dense future growth and development in other areas adjacent to the Town center.

As required by state law there are no septage lagoons located within the Town of Raymond. The vast majority of septage pumped from existing septic systems in Raymond is currently transported to the Epping or Manchester Wastewater Treatment Plants for treatment and disposal. This cost is ultimately passed on to consumers and residents through septic tank pumpers and haulers and is carried out pursuant to a NH DES approved written agreement between the Town of Raymond and the Town of Epping and the City of Manchester for septage disposal and treatment. Because the Town of Raymond is currently dependent upon other municipalities for septage disposal, it is important that the Town of Raymond carefully monitor its septage disposal needs now and in the future.

## **E. Water Supply**

Drinking water for the Town of Raymond is currently provided through a combination of town-owned wells and individual property owner wells. The location of existing and potential future town-owned wells with corresponding source water "wellhead" protection areas is shown on Water Supply and Distribution, Map 12.

The Raymond Water Department owns and operates two potable water supply wells (PW-1 and PW-2 as shown on Map 12) as well as a backup production well PW-3. The wells are located west of the downtown area, and along the Lamprey River and are roughly 53 feet in depth and approximately 200 feet apart. According to the most recent studies (2003), the independent pumping capacities of production wells PW-1 and PW-2 are estimated at 240 and 340 gpm, respectively. With both pumps operating at the same time, the combined short-term pumping rate is about 484 gpm. The combined pumping rate for all three wells in operation is approximately 507 gpm, which represents the maximum yield for the well field.



**Raymond Well (PW- 1) and Pump House**





The Town of Raymond currently treats this water with a green sand filter facility to remove iron and manganese. Treatment also consists of pH adjustments for corrosion control and chlorination for disinfection. The water treatment plant is sized for 500 gpm and is not expandable. The Town of Raymond has identified an area for future water resource development located west of the current wells along the Lamprey River. This area is shown as future wells on Map 12. While the water supply capacity of this area is not known at this time, it will be important that the Town of Raymond addresses this need and begin to protect the groundwater supplies in the area from future contamination through appropriate land use regulations. It is assumed that Raymond will also need a separate or expanded water treatment facility associated with these new wells.

The Town of Raymond currently has three water distribution facilities. They are the Orchard Street Standpipe at 119,000 gallons, the Route 156 Standpipe at 606,000 gallons and the Long Hill Road Tank at 560,000 gallons. The existing service area is shown on Map 12 which represents approximately a quarter of the town and approximately 1,000 service connections. Basically the existing system serves the center of town and east to the Epping and Fremont town line. Two of the three public schools in Raymond are also served by the system, including all town-owned buildings.

The Public Works Director reports that the water pressure in the system is adequate and there are few problems associated with the water distribution system. The Town of Raymond currently supplies about 275,000 gpd as an average daily demand. According to Town staff, the average maximum peak daily demand is approximately 450,000 gpd.



**Existing Water Treatment Plant**

The Town of Raymond also sells water to a residential development in the Town of Fremont and also to Green Hill Estates in Raymond. There is the potential in the future for the Town of Raymond's water system to grow to Exit 4 and Exit 5 areas and areas northwest of Raymond along NH Route 27.



In addition, to the Town of Raymond's water treatment system, there are roughly twenty two community water systems of varying size in town. These community systems include: Green Hills Estates, Englewood Park, Clear Water Estates, Riverview Apartments/Condos, Pine Acres, Liberty Tree Acres, Westgate Estates, Clearwater Estates, Branch River Apartments, Will-Lyn Trailer Park, Raymond High School, Walnut Hill Seminar House, Zion Camp, New Life Assembly, Onway Lake Village, Eaglebrook Christian Church, Pines Seafood Restaurant, Stone Post Circle, Raymond Sportsman's Club, Wellstone House Nursing Home, Pawtuckaway Farms, Hill Top Mobile Home Park, and Leisure Village

The most important short term needs of the Town of Raymond's water system will be to secure a new water supply source to provide adequate capacity to meet the anticipated future growth of the community.

The Public Works Director believes that the Town of Raymond needs to secure this new water supply source within the next several years. To address long term needs, the Town of Raymond has begun to explore the potential of using Onway Lake as a drinking water supply (see 2006 Yield



Estimate for Water Supply Onway Lake prepared by Stantec). Onway Lake is currently protected from certain development by the State Comprehensive Shoreland Protection Act which helps to mitigate runoff into the lake from harmful substances.

## **F. Recreation and Community Services Department**

The Recreation and Community Services Department has a total of two full-time employees, the director and assistant, and one permanent part-time office manager. The Recreation and Community Services Department also has over twenty five part-time employees including summer camp staff, office clerks, special events staff, and newsletter clerks. Citizen-volunteers also supplement the work of employees in various ways throughout the year.



Since the completion of the 2002 Master Plan, a new park, Riverside Park was built in Raymond in 2004. The park includes horseshoe pits, walking/hiking, trails, a dog park, community gardens, picnic area and an open playing field. The Recreation Department is also in the process of adding an outdoor basketball court at the middle school and a new soccer field at the Cammett Recreation area. Many small improvements have been made at the Skateboard Park, and

field areas. The Department has also added a variety of new programs and activities for all ages. Some of these programs include yoga, vacation camps, holiday parade, breakfast with the Easter Bunny, touch-a-truck, concerts on the common, and ballroom dance.

The Recreation Department's main operational issues are primarily associated with the lack of adequate indoor facility space. The Department currently utilizes all three schools in Raymond. During the winter season, the gymnasiums are filled to capacity. Often the recreational youth and adult programs are bumped from the facilities. The Department also has limited daytime space and would like to be able to offer additional programming during the day.

While the Department offers a variety of programs for all ages, the largest participation is from school-age children and their families. Future needs for recreational facilities and improvements are concentrated on a community center with gymnasium, and an indoor pool. Additional field space is needed for football, baseball, soccer, and future athletic facilities. Future programs are expected for lacrosse and field hockey.



**Skateboard Park**



## G. Police Department

As of 2009 there are currently seventeen full time police officers and three part time officers on patrol in the Police Department. In administration, there is one full time prosecutor/attorney, one executive secretary, and one part-time secretary. For dispatch, there are six full time dispatchers, and three part-time dispatchers. The Town of Raymond has made one significant change to police facilities since the completion of the 2002 Master Plan. In 2004, the Department's evidence storage container was placed in the parking lot.



**Existing Police Department at Safety Complex**

The Town of Raymond is divided into North and South Sectors in terms of patrol areas. The response times for emergency calls vary according to location and environmental factors. The number of calls between 2002 and 2008 is shown in Table 49. The Police Department currently staffs all shifts with a minimum of two officers.

**Table 49  
Police Response Calls  
2002-2008  
Town of Raymond, NH**

Year	Number of Calls
2002	19,778
2003	20,382
2004	24,467
2005	25,885
2006	23,024
2007	21,184
2008	22,545

Source: Raymond Police Department

Mutual Aid agreements are an important part of any community's emergency response plan and the Town of Raymond's Police Department has Mutual Aid Agreements in place with all its neighboring communities. The Department also recently signed a Mutual Aid Agreement with all other Rockingham County communities through the Rockingham County Attorney's Office. In addition, the Department provides twenty-four hour emergency response as well as dispatch service for the Town of Fremont's Fire and Rescue. The Department's inventory of vehicles is provided in Table 50.

**Table 50**  
**Police Department Vehicles Inventory**  
**2008**

**Town of Raymond, NH**

Year	Model	Purchase Price	VIN Number
2000	Ford Taurus	\$8,900	1FAFP53U2YA107242
2001	Ford Econoline E-Series	\$17,500	1FTNE2401HA98691
2003	Ford Crown Victoria	\$42,684	2FAHP71WX3X200597
2005	Ford Crown Victoria	\$23,780	2FAHP71W65154771
2006	Ford Crown Victoria	\$23,275	2FAHP71W76X156000
2006	Ford Crown Victoria	\$23,275	2FAHP71W76X156001
2006	Ford Expedition	\$28,850	1FMPU16566LA45040
2007	Ford Crown Victoria	\$23,035	2FAHP71WX7X144750
2008	Ford Crown Victoria	\$23,439	2FAHP71V28X167853
2008	Ford Crown Victoria	\$23,439	2FAHP71V28X167854

Source: Raymond Police Department

The Police Department currently occupies the lower level of the Town's Public Safety Complex, consisting of approximately 4,500 square feet. This area also includes the Dispatch Department. The Department has identified the following items as future concerns and needs:

- An adequate evidence storage area
- A temporary holding facility
- A juvenile holding area that meets RSA requirements
- Adequate storage space for records
- Adequate parking facilities
- An interview room
- Sufficient office space
- Enough storage space for equipment

The Police Department's current citizen to police ratio is 1.7 officers per one thousand population. The national citizen to police average as published by the FBI, Crime in the United States 2006, for communities of Raymond's population size is 1.9 officers per one thousand population.

Raymond's existing police facility was originally designed for approximately nine full time Police Officers and Dispatch personnel with limited expansion potential. In the short-term (2010), the facility needs to be modernized to accommodate the current staff of the department. The short term needs for personnel are to continue to fund existing positions, while keeping pace with Raymond's growth, both residential and commercial. The long-term goal (2015) should be to develop a facility that will house the Police & Dispatch Departments through the next 25-50 years as the Town of Raymond continues to grow.

The Town of Raymond is geographically situated in the southern tier of the state in close proximity to several larger towns and cities. These towns and cities have substantially larger and more complex governmental services including larger Police Departments with expanded services needed to meet crime trends and statistics. Being located between these, the Town of Raymond is seeing tremendous growth in all areas including the level of crime and expected services. As a result, the level of funding needed to maintain these services is often spread out among other town departments and services. Thus, the Raymond Police Department feels that it is not appropriately equipped to deal with these issues of growth as readily as the larger agencies.

## **H. Fire Department**

As of 2009, there are thirty eight active paid on call Firefighters in the Town of Raymond. Two of Raymond's Firefighters are full time. There is also a full time Fire Chief and one full time Deputy Chief. Most of Raymond's on call Firefighters only get paid for calls at a 1 hour minimum rate. Meetings, training, parades, funerals, and fire prevention are not paid by the Department. This arrangement has provided noticeable savings to the Town of Raymond. The Raymond Fire Department does not have a secretary so all administrative duties are shared by the four full time employees. On call officers cover night and weekend responsibilities.

The Fire Chief also acts as the Town's Forest Fire Warden and was last appointed in March of 1988. All the Department's full time officials also act as Deputy Wardens and take turn writing burn permits during weeknight and weekend duty. All Raymond Firefighters are certified NH forest fire fighters. Volunteers for the Department carry pagers toned by the full time dispatch. The siren on the old fire station is used for structure fires.



**Existing Fire Department at Safety Complex**

Since the completion of the 2002 Master Plan, there have been a few notable changes to Fire Department facilities and infrastructure. First, the Water Department has built a new water tank on Long Hill Road; a 10,000 gallon cistern on Strawberry Lane; and a 30,000 gallon tank on Bald Hill Road. Second, several dry hydrants have been added as well as six new hydrants on existing water mains.

Raymond currently has one central fire station, the Town’s current Safety Complex which was built in 1990. The station is centrally located and manned in the day time with four full time fire department personnel. Since 1990, the Department has updated four of twelve doors at the station with electric door openers and safety electric eyes and replaced roof top furnaces. In addition, there have been two major equipment upgrades: the addition of a Crimson 1500 GPM 1000 tank as well as a Freightliner 18 foot walk-in Rescue truck.

Currently, Raymond is split into six fire zones, Zone 5 includes hydrants and Zone 6 includes the Wal-Mart Distribution Center. Response times and travel distance to each zone vary during day and night depending upon the situation. Some town lines are four to five miles from the station and the long travel distance to town lines slows fire equipment response.

Fortunately, the Town of Raymond participates in an interstate emergency mutual aid response with another forty-five towns and all neighboring towns are members. The Department’s response calls between 2002 and 2008 are provided in Table 51.

**Table 51**  
**Fire Department Response Calls: 2002-2008**  
**Town of Raymond, NH**

Year	# of Calls
2002	509
2003	457
2004	395
2005	461
2006	569
2007	615
2008	645

Source: Raymond Fire Department

The Fire Chief has identified several problems areas with respect to the Department’s ability to respond to fires or to conduct daily operations. First, very few businesses within the community let on call Firefighters leave their work to respond during daytime work hours. The first level of Fire certification required for Firefighters is 190 hours and this is a very difficult requirement for most people to donate that much time.

Second, the number of structure fires is on the decrease while the number smaller calls are increasing within the town. This means on call Firefighters are required all hours of the night to respond to an increasing number of less important calls. The reduction of structure fires is better for the community, but the end result is that it causes the firefighter to have less experience dealing with larger emergencies.

Third, economic concerns caused the removal of the fire secretary's position within the Department forcing active personnel to assume these duties. Fourth, there are no firefighters in the station between the hours of 1730-0730. Fifth, there are limited water mains and hydrants which limit the ISO rating of 4 to ¼ of the town. Extension of water mains to the towns of Candia and Chester would be very beneficial for commercial expansion and improvement of Raymond's ISO rating.

Recently, the Town hired MMI of Massachusetts to assess the Fire Department for staffing and fire apparatus. They suggested fire apparatus replacements and increase in staff. As a result of this assessment, three of the Department's trucks have been replaced and the two full time firefighters were increased to four full time. The Fire Department, Water Department, and Dispatch were also reviewed by Stephen C, Pearson B.S. in 2001. This study suggested a number of improvements are needed to enhance Raymond's ISO rating.

The Insurance Standards Office also reviewed the Fire Department in 2003. With the additional six new hydrants and dry hydrants, Raymond's ISO Rating improved from a 6 to a 4 in the hydrant district and from a 9 to an 8 outside the district. The Fire Marshall does not review municipal departments; only private fire companies. The Fire Standards and Training Bureau sets the standards for all departments.

The short term needs identified for the Fire Department include replacement of service vehicles and a need to find housing for the state's logistics trailer that is on loan to the Department.

The long term needs identified for the Department include a substation, particularly if the ambulance is not moved out of the central station; replacement of the Tower as well as replacement of the 1974 Engine. If Raymond continues to grow at a strong rate in the future then additional manpower may be needed.

A current inventory of the Department's vehicle and equipment is provided in Table 52.

**Table 52**  
**Fire Department**  
**Vehicle and Equipment Inventory**  
**Town of Raymond, NH**

Item	Replacement Date
2007 Rescue 1 Van GMC	2016
1974 International Pumper Engine #1	2012
1990 Engine III Pumper	2015
1952 Forestry Tank & Pump	2017
1976 Forestry Tank & Pump	2015
1979 Forestry Tank & Pump	2018
1994 Mack Tank	2019
1982 Tower 1	2014
2007 Pumper Engine 4	2031
Rescue Boat	2016
2009 Chevy Tahoe Command Vehicle	2018

Source: Raymond Fire Department

## I. Rescue Squad

Raymond Ambulance Incorporated is contracted by the Town of Raymond to provide emergency medical response. This ambulance service handles first aid calls with three fulltime daytime help and one secretary. At night and on weekends, there are two callers on duty. The Department's Firefighters provide technical assistance, lifting and driving to the RAI. The number of rescue squad response calls between 2003 and 2008 is provided in Table 53.

**Table 53**  
**Rescue Squad Response Calls: 2003-2008**  
**Town of Raymond, NH**

Year	# of Calls
2003	1,286
2004	1,333
2005	1,522
2006	1,643
2007	1,640
2008	1,696

Source: Town of Raymond

The Rescue Squad is currently located in the Raymond Safety Complex. There are a total of four ambulances. Space for three of the ambulances is provided within two bays at the Safety Complex and the fourth ambulance is stored off site. Only one room is available as an office for RAI at the Safety Complex and they could use a great deal more room to operate more efficiently.

The Town of Raymond also currently contracts with the Seacoast Chiefs Fire Officers association START team. The Town pays a fee for Hazardous Materials response and participates in the Interstate Emergency Unit Fire Mutual Aid which has forty towns from Candia and Deerfield to Amesbury and York Maine. Seacoast Chiefs Fire Officers association START team has twenty towns mostly along the coast and provides Haz-mat response.

The average response time varies due to situational factors, but service is provided twenty four hours a day. Daytime response is provided by fulltime Paramedics and EMT's. Nighttime response is from volunteers' homes. Existing and future needs identified for the Rescue Squad include more office and bay space.

## **J. Library**

The Town of Raymond's Dudley-Tucker Library celebrated its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary throughout 2008 and has a rich history of public service and the pursuit of education, information, research, and recreation. As early as 1797, a group of Raymond men formed the Social Library Company of Raymond. A free public library, with a town appropriation of \$25.00, was formed in 1892. All the books (except 9 that were out on loan) were destroyed in a fire.<sup>54</sup>



**Raymond Town Library**

<sup>54</sup> <http://www.raymondnh.gov/library/library.php> accessed on September 15, 2009

In 1902, plans began for a separate library building. Mr. Gilman Tucker, founder and publisher of the American Book Company, was the local contact to Andrew Carnegie, noted philanthropist. Mr. Carnegie awarded \$2,000.00 to Raymond for the construction of a library with the stipulation that the town, when accepting the money, agree to appropriate money annually for its support. The library was opened in September, 1908, as the Dudley-Tucker Library. The building remained structurally unchanged until 1993 when construction began to enlarge the library and to make the building handicap accessible.<sup>55</sup>

The Dudley-Tucker Library currently has three full time staff consisting of the Director, Assistant Director, and Children’s Librarian as well as four part time staff consisting of two aides, one combined aide and Story Time Coordinator, and one custodian. There is also one volunteer who manages newspaper archives.

**Table 54**  
**Patron Library Use Per Year: 2002-2008**  
**Town of Raymond, NH**

Year	Number of Patrons
2002	18,984
2003	17,568
2004	18,144
2005	17,832
2006	17,652
2007	18,494
2008	19,932

Source: Town of Raymond Library Director

Library Hours:

M 1:00 pm to 8:30 pm  
 Tu 10:00 am to 8:30 pm  
 W 10:00 am to 5:00 pm  
 Th 1:00 pm to 8:30 pm  
 F 10:00 am to 5:00 pm  
 S 10:00 am to 1:00 pm  
 Summer hours: Closed on Sundays

Since the completion of the 2002 Master Plan, there have been a few changes to the library. In 2004, new siding was installed and in 2006, new carpeting was installed throughout the building. There have been no programmatic changes since 2002.

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<sup>55</sup> Ibid.



## K. Raymond School Facilities

The Town of Raymond provides education for school aged children at its three separate facilities, the Lamprey River Elementary School, the Iber Holmes Gove Middle School, and Raymond High School. The appropriated and actual expenditure of public funds (property tax revenues) from the Town of Raymond for the years 1999-2008 are provided in Table 55.

**Table 55**  
**School District Budget Expenditures**  
**Town of Raymond, NH**

School Year	(MS-22) Appropriated Expenditures	(DOE-25) Actual Expenditures
1999-2000	\$12,829,444	\$12,805,585
2000-2001	\$14,388,914	\$14,513,235
2001-2002	\$15,645,450	\$15,619,018
2002-2003	\$16,022,127	\$16,394,031
2003-2004	\$17,995,875	\$16,684,998
2004-2005	\$17,809,436	\$17,864,749
2005-2006	\$19,564,630	\$19,659,563
2006-2007	\$22,056,357	\$21,071,449
2007-2008	\$21,948,230	NA

Source: Raymond School District

Both appropriated and actual school district budget expenditures have nearly doubled in the period 1999-2008. Property taxes have risen in this period as well to help cover the rising costs of local educational facilities as population expands and facilities meet higher needs. Actual expenditures for the period 2007-2008 are not available at this time.



**Iber Holmes Gove Middle School**

School enrollment for Raymond's three schools has remained fairly constant, not rising or dropping sharply from year to year. Future enrollment projections, however, are predicting gradual year after year decline in enrollment in the middle school and high school and relatively flat enrollment for the elementary school. Table 56 summarizes school district enrollment through 2008, and Table 57 and Figure 12 provide future projected enrollments at Raymond schools through 2014 and 2017.

**Table 56**  
**School District Enrollment Figures: 2001-2008**  
**Town of Raymond, NH**

Years	Lamprey River Elementary School	Iber Holmes Gove Middle School	Raymond High School	Totals
2001	400	699	636	1,735
2002	512	562	588	1,662
2003	484	529	585	1,598
2004	554	481	625	1,660
2005	594	454	534	1,582
2006	608	422	549	1,579
2007	539	426	549	1,514
2008*	589	420	519	1,528

Source: Raymond School District

Grade 4 enrollment was counted in the Iber Holmes Gove Middle School figures for 2001, but then for the Lamprey River Elementary figures for all following years

\*Note: 2008 Enrollment figures as of October 08

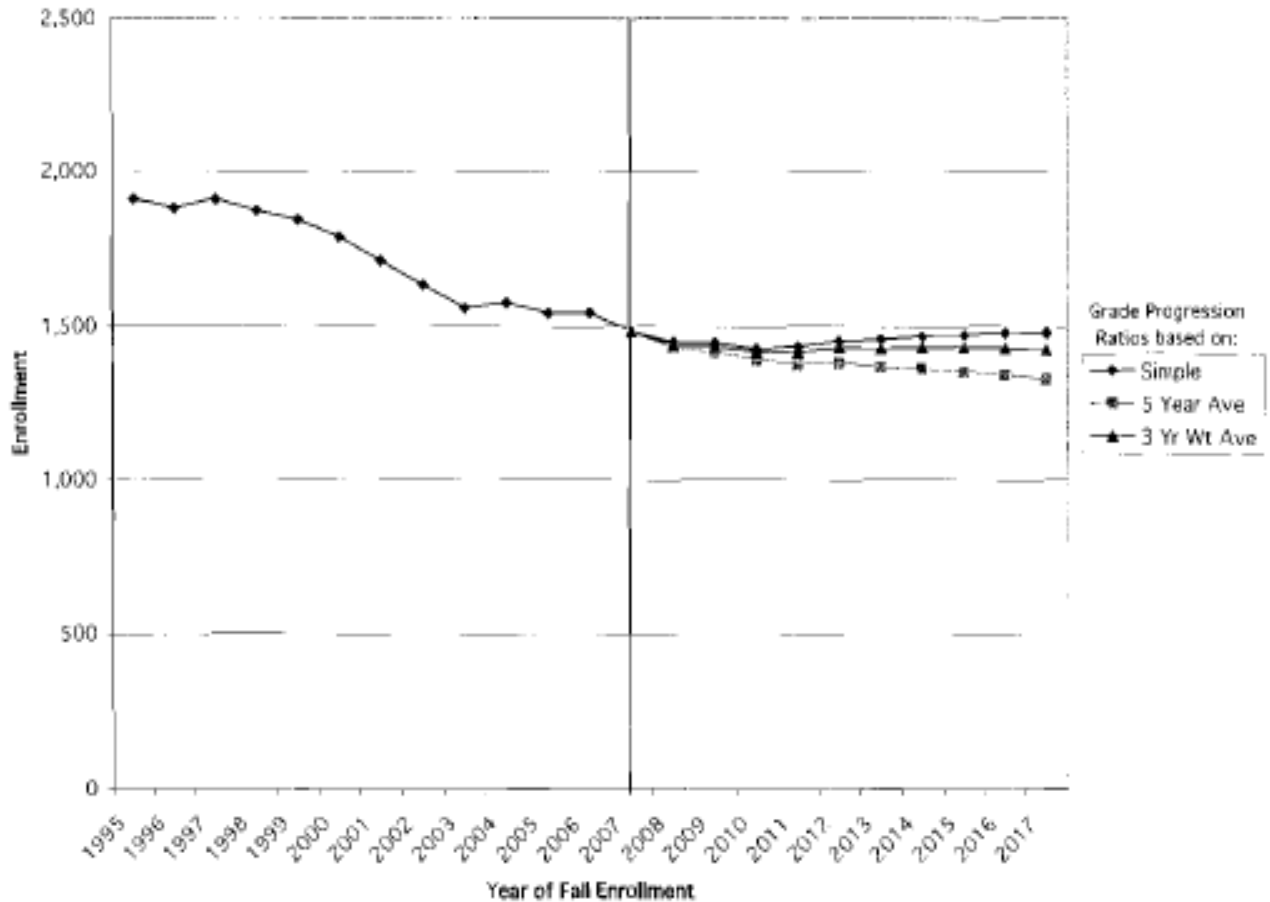
**Table 57**  
**Raymond School District Enrollment Projections: 2008-2014**

Years	Lamprey River Elementary School	Iber Holmes Gove Middle School	Raymond High School	Totals
2008	443	426	545	1,414
2009	433	420	535	1,388
2010	420	431	495	1,346
2011	424	419	473	1,316
2012	432	415	463	1,310
2013	440	404	454	1,298
2014	448	391	468	1,307

Source: Raymond School District

\* Enrollment data was produced in 2004

**Figure 12**  
**School District Enrollment with Projections**



Source: NHSBA 1/2/08

Raymond schools are currently close to capacity in most rooms and space will be an issue for the school district in the future. Room utilization rates at Raymond High School for the period 2001-2008 are provided in Table 58.

**Table 58**  
**Room Utilization Rates for Raymond High School: 2001-2008**  
**Town of Raymond, NH**

Years	Non-Lab Rooms	Lab Rooms
2000-2001	96%	77%
2001-2002	96%	83%
2002-2003	97%	89%
2003-2004	93%	87%
2004-2005	94%	86%
2005-2006	93%	84%
2006-2007	94%	85%
2007-2008	89%	83%

Source: Raymond School District



**Lamprey Elementary School**

The SAU states that currently, the original Lamprey Elementary School building, plus the kindergarten addition, is estimated to have a capacity of 530 students. The middle school building was designed for a total capacity of 750 students. The SAU also estimates the high school to have the same capacity of 750 students.

Future requirements will be based on enrollment projections not yet received, but there is an obvious need for more space as the elementary school is currently lacking in adequate space. The state defines space expectations as follows:

Kindergarten: grade 2 25 students or fewer per teacher, provided that each school shall strive to achieve the class size of 20 students or fewer per teacher

Grades 3- 5: 30 students or fewer per teacher, provided that each school shall strive to achieve the class size of 25 students or fewer per teacher

Middle and Senior High School: 30 students or fewer per teacher; or these class size requirements may be exceeded for study halls, band and chorus, and other types of large group instruction, including but not limited to, lectures, combined group instruction, and showing of educational television and films.

The NH Department of *Education's Planning and Construction of School Buildings 2006* report also has recommendations for spatial expectations and pupil density's. Provided below are recommended space allowances for New Hampshire Schools.

The minimum sizes below are the recommended minimum amount of space for the smallest programs. In most cases the SF/Pupil number multiplied by the largest expected number of pupils in one class period should govern the total size. Spaces such as gymnasiums, music rooms, etc... may also be used for co-curricular activities which may require a larger size space than necessary for academic instruction.

<b><u>Subject</u></b>	<b><u>SF/Pupil</u></b>	<b><u>Minimum Total SF</u></b>
General Purpose Classroom		
Elementary & Middle School	36*	900*
High School	32*	800*
Separate Science Laboratory	45*	900*
Combination Science Lab/Classroom	60*	1200*
Library/Media Center (40sf/pupil for 10% of design capacity)		
Art		
Elementary	36	900
Middle/High	60	1200
Music		
Instrumental	25	1000
Choral	15	800
Physical Education		
Elementary	110	7000
Middle	125	3800
High	150	5000
Technology Education Laboratories	75	1500
Family and Consumer Sciences	75	1500
Computer Laboratory	30	750

The current conditions for Raymond's community school buildings are generally good. Since the completion of the last Master Plan in 2002, there have been some changes to the town's school facilities. The Lamprey River Elementary School is in fair condition, but in need of more space.

The Iber Holmes Gove Middle School is essentially brand new, while Raymond High School is in good shape, but also in need of more space for various activities. There have been no improvements to Raymond High School since the completion of the 2002 Master Plan.

As part of the planning process for future needs at Raymond's school facilities, the Town requested citizens help in being a part of a long range planning committee for the Raymond School District. The idea for the committee is an extension of a school board goal from 2006. The Town is actively seeking volunteers to join this committee and interested individuals were being chosen for the committee throughout December and January of 2007. Superintendent Michael Shore is looking for a cross-section of residents for the new committee – school personnel, parents of school children, and people without children in the schools.<sup>56</sup>

The future needs of the Raymond school district are itemized in the Raymond School District Capital Improvement Plan which identifies four major capital spending areas: 1) District-Wide Textbooks 2) District-Wide Food Service Equipment 3) District-Wide Technology 4) District-Wide Equipment, Facilities, Maintenance, and Replacement. Total textbook requirements for the next ten years are expected to cost \$247,995 with an annual CIP request of \$28,125. The District Wide Food Service capital costs cover a range of items such as dishwashers, convection ovens, ice machines, stainless steel tables, and 3 Bay Sinks. The total capital cost for the next ten years are expected to be \$173,000 for food service requirements, with an annual CIP request of \$18,448.

The District Wide Technology capital costs cover items such as multimedia in the classroom, server redundancy, cable upgrades, anti-virus software, and online classroom learning. The total capital cost for technology for the next ten years are expected to be \$283,822 with an annual CIP request of \$59,726.

Finally, District Wide maintenance for the school district is expected to cost \$1,555,069 over the next ten years and cover items such as boilers, air conditioning systems, electrical systems, security cameras, flooring, roofing, and parking.

The annual CIP request for these items is \$252,743.



**Raymond High School**

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<sup>56</sup> Source: Kathleen Bailey, Union Leader