

# **Chapter E**

## **Public Facilities and Services**

### **1. Purpose**

A town's future growth can be constrained or catalyzed by the public facilities and services available. This chapter provides a thorough analysis and understanding of current conditions for Brooksville and potential future needs and issues. Specifically, this chapter:

- a) identifies and describe Brooksville's public facilities and services; and
- b) assesses the adequacy of these services to handle current and projected demands.

### **2. Key Findings & Issues**

Solid waste management and recycling, while previously addressed in the 2006 Plan, has reemerged as an issue due to recent market changes and regional issues. Brooksville is not alone in facing solid waste and recycling challenges. Educational enrollment has remained stable at Brooksville Elementary. However, because of decreasing birthrates and school choice, enrollment may decline. As noted in the Housing chapter, housing affordability issues may also lead to staffing issues at the school.

### **3. Key Findings & Issues from the 2006 Plan**

In 2006, public works equipment was a key issue along with increased workloads on town officials, particularly the Code Enforcement Officer. Solid waste and recycling were important issues then. These issues were resolved while the recycling market was stable for a number of years, but have since come back to the forefront of important issues facing Brooksville and the region.

### **4. 2018 Public Opinion Survey Results**

Nearly 79% of survey respondents stated that town government was responsive to their needs, versus 3% for "not very responsive." Other topics pertinent to this chapter include favorable views of emergency medical services, 62%, secondary schools, 63%, health care quality, 61%, and favorable views of a range of services such as the cemeteries, elementary school, fire department at 75%, and very positive views of the public library. Some notable areas of concern were health care access, with 21% stating it needs improvement. Twenty-one percent also thought solid waste disposal needed improvement.

## **5. Town Government**

### **Current Conditions:**

Brooksville has a town meeting form of government with daily affairs tended to by three selectpersons. There is no full-time staff, with the Code Enforcement Officer, Tax Collector, Town Clerk, Treasurer, Road Commissioner and seven seasonal winter maintenance employees, all serving as part-time positions. The Town has a good website where all services are listed and kept up to date, along with much general information about Brooksville.

### **Current & Future Adequacy:**

Brooksville has experienced population decline of -1.7 % since 2000; but could experience future development in housing and industry which may result in population increase. This would place increased strains on town staff. Any increased regulation, whether state or local, would also place a greater burden on code enforcement and other town officers. Regional sharing or multi-town cooperation in, for example, code enforcement and assessing, might be both financially and logistically beneficial to Brooksville in the future. The Town website manager reports that the website is difficult to use: a different platform and upgrade should be considered.

## **6. Solid Waste Disposal & Recycling**

### **Current Conditions:**

Brooksville uses the Blue Hill-Surry Transfer Station for municipal solid waste disposal and recycling. Statewide, municipal solid waste recycling was 36.7% in 2016, far short of Maine DEP's goal of 50%. Few Maine towns in the Downeast area have had municipal recycling programs since the 2019 closure of Coastal Recycling in Hancock and the 2020 closure of the innovative and experimental Fiberight facility in Hampden. As of 2021, the Blue Hill-Surry Transfer Station recycles scrap metal and cardboard when market conditions permit. Some residents in Brooksville still sort their household waste to remove recyclables, but ultimately most of it is sent to Penobscot Energy Recovery Company (PERC) in Orrington for incineration. Plastics represent the greatest volume of potentially recyclable materials entering the general solid waste-stream. Waste disposal in landfills and incinerators could be greatly lessened if recycling services were available, and it is probable that Brooksville community members would respond favorably to this opportunity.

### **Current & Future Adequacy:**

Brooksville faces increasing costs associated with solid waste management and uncertainty regarding the future of the former Fiberight facility. This facility was shuttered due to operating difficulties and the bondholders are trying to sell it. The facility was originally championed by the Municipal Review Committee (MRC, a consortium of 115 municipalities in northern and eastern Maine, based in Orono), which retains a legal responsibility to the involved municipalities to protect their interest in the project. Currently, the closest household solid waste

recycling option is in Portland (i.e. “ecomaine”, which uses a traditional and proven single-sort technology), but transportation cost to that facility is prohibitive.

However, in a rural town like Brooksville, backyard composting is a way residents can divert some of their waste from the municipal waste stream. The Blue Hill-Surry transfer station accepts household food items and other compostable materials for general disposal (not composting). It does not accept industrial level shellfish wastes or other bulk compostables. One company, Maine Organics in Ellsworth, composts such waste (including mouse bedding from the Jackson Lab facility). If another facility that accepts household and other compostable waste were to be built near Brooksville, it could be a cost-effective solution for disposal of that part of the waste stream.

Solid waste disposal costs could also be lessened by local actions and regulations. These include lessening dependence on plastics, diverting household compostables through a community composting organization, and through regional approaches to cost sharing the transportation of recyclable materials. Due to the possible cost increases in disposal of municipal solid waste, Brooksville, Brooklin and Sedgwick are studying the feasibility of establishing their own combined transfer station, although it may not be open for operation on the same schedule as the current Blue Hill-Surry Transfer Station.

## **7. Fire Protection**

### **Current Conditions:**

The Brooksville Volunteer Fire Department (BVFD) protects Brooksville. Mutual aid agreements with Sedgwick, Penobscot, Deer Isle and Blue Hill provide extra support for larger fires. An average response time to a fire is 15 minutes. The response time to the most remote part of town is 25 minutes. The Department is dispatched by the Hancock County Regional Communications Center.

Facilities: Presently, there are two fire stations in Brooksville and one pending:

Station #1, located at the corner of Townhouse and Coastal Roads, was built in 1990. The facility comprises several areas totaling 5,375 square feet within the same structure as the town office and Library. In addition to the four heated equipment bays of 2,752 sq. ft. are: the office (80 sq. ft.); the utility room (80 sq. ft.); a meeting room (640 sq. ft.); a locker/bathroom (240 sq. ft.); a small kitchen (63 sq. ft.); and a storage area (1036 sq. ft.).

Station #2, located at the corner of Varnumville and Bagaduce Roads, was transported to this location in 1978. The one-story facility is composed simply of two heated equipment bays of 864 sq. ft. total.

Station #3, will be located on Cape Rosier Road at the site of the old Grange Hall. This site was recently acquired by the BVFD to serve eventually as an ancillary fire station and provide protection to more remote parts of town. The existing building on site would

need to be removed before the Town would accept ownership of the property and issue a warrant article for the cost of the new station.

The three facilities would adequately house all of Brooksville's current firefighting equipment. However, the community is considering upgrades in several areas. A larger kitchen in Station #1 would be more practical for department activities. Significant renovations are being considered for Station #2, such as including taller doors to accommodate newer fire trucks in the future, and a new roof. Replacement of the building has also been discussed. The estimated cost for this is \$281,000.

*Staffing:* Brooksville has an all-volunteer fire department. Some officers receive a modest stipend from the department association (drawn from donations), and up to 25 annual training hours (per individual) are paid. The town budget allocation for the Fire Department was \$35,000 in 2019. Operating an all-volunteer company is increasingly difficult because of complex regulations that govern fire departments. Training in firefighting and other matters demands considerable time that many volunteers simply do not have. As of 2019, there were 14 volunteers in the department; 7 of these are available to respond to calls during the day; 6 members are qualified to perform interior attack. Sustaining enough volunteers is an issue of critical importance. The town may need to consider a paid force that is a shared resource between multiple towns.

*Response:* The Fire Department responds to a variety of types of calls each year, including, but not limited to structure fires, chimney fires, forest fires, grass fires, vehicular accidents, ambulance calls, miscellaneous rescue calls, and fire alarms. Calls for service are shown on Table E – 1. In addition to fighting fires and the other types of services, the department sponsors fire prevention programs at the Brooksville Elementary School. Fire permits for town residents are now issued by the Fire Chief, the Town Clerk, and online from the State.

**Table E – 1**  
**Brooksville Fire Department Calls for Service in recent years**

Year	Total Number of Calls
2011	41
2012	36
2013	62
2014	43
2015	38
2016	40
2017	31
2018	33
2019	53
<i>Source: Fire Department Records</i>	

*Equipment:* The current inventory of vehicles is shown in Table E -2. The department does not see the need for additional pieces of equipment in the near future as the current equipment is operational and could remain in service indefinitely with proper maintenance. However, the ideal lifespan of a fire truck is 10 – 15 years. Furthermore, some manufacturers no longer provide parts, and sourcing required parts for repairs can be challenging for a department with an aging fleet.

**Table E – 2  
Fire Department Vehicles, 2019**

<b>Type</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Condition</b>	<b>Years of Service Left</b>
International Pumper/Tanker 1250 GPM pump with 1000 gallon tank	2012	operational	10 – 15
Chevrolet 3500 for fighting forest fires 300 Gallon tank	2016	operational	15 – 20
International Pumper/Tanker 1000 GPM pump with 1500 gallon tank	1990	operational	Replacement To Be Considered
Ford Tanker 500 GPM pump with 1800 gallon tank	1996	operational	Replacement To Be Considered
GMC 1-Ton Utility Truck	1999	operational	Replacement To Be Considered
<i>Source: Brooksville Fire Department, Fire Apparatus &amp; Emergency Equipment Magazine</i>			

**Current and Future Adequacy:**

Possible major capital needs facing the department are the fire station renovations mentioned previously. The department indicates that water supplies throughout town are generally adequate for fire-fighting purposes. While no emergency vehicle access problems have been reported on town roads, the department does report a problem with overly narrow private driveways. This is a problem with both summer and year-round dwellings. The new station when established at the Cape Rosier Grange location will allow shorter response times to the Cape and perhaps lower insurance premiums for the nearby homeowners. There is a need for paid clerical assistance to effectively deal with increased paperwork and regulatory compliance. This clerical activity is

not easily assumed by the volunteer members of the fire department. A paid, part-time position would address this need.

## **8. Law Enforcement**

### **Current Conditions:**

There is no municipal police department in Brooksville. Law enforcement is provided by the Hancock County Sheriff's Office, headquartered in Ellsworth, and the Maine State Police. Brooksville is served by the Hancock County Regional Communication Center, which is the Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) for emergency dispatch services (911).

There were 79 incidents recorded in 2019 by the Sheriff's Dept. Of these, 26 were false alarms from a residence or business (8) and from cell phone misdials (18). There were 8 traffic accidents with no injuries and 3 with personal injuries.

Troop J of the Maine State Police is responsible for providing professional, full service law enforcement services to Hancock and Washington Counties through two resource-sharing agreements that promote cooperation and maximize the effectiveness of limited law enforcement resources in rural areas. Their main office is located in Ellsworth. There is a field office in Jonesboro. Among their specialty services are defense tactics instruction, accident reconstruction, evidence collection, and firearm instruction. Among their members are two canine units.

In 2019, the State Police responded to a total of 63 incidents in Brooksville. The greatest numbers of these were: 21 for 911 Hang Up calls, 5 for alarms from residences or business, and 7 traffic accidents (2 non-reportable, 3 property damage only and 2 personal injury).

Opinion shifted from "needs improvement" in the 2006 Comprehensive Plan public opinion survey, to "good" in the 2018 survey. In 2018, 85% of respondents rated the service as "adequate or better".

### **Current & Future Adequacy:**

The formation of local police force is not necessary or feasible due to the rural nature of Brooksville. However, enforcement of moving traffic laws, such as speed limits and hands-free regulations, continues to be an issue. Low-cost and non-enforcement-based solutions to such topics could be addressed by temporary interventions and programing, as discussed in the transportation chapter.

## 9. Emergency Medical Services

### Current Conditions:

There are two EMS (emergency medical service) organizations serving Brooksville and other towns on the Greater Blue Hill Peninsula: Peninsula Ambulance Corps (PAC) and Life Flight of Maine.

Peninsula Ambulance Corps (PAC), with headquarters in Blue Hill, provides ambulance service to seven towns: Blue Hill, Brooklin, Brooksville, Castine, Penobscot, Sedgwick and Surry. Other ground services available are Northern Light in Bangor and Memorial Ambulance Service in Deer Isle.

PAC has approximately 30 full and part-time EMTs and Paramedics, who are paid based on their education/skills/years of service, and to whom it provides continuing education for mandated federal and state classes. Its three ambulances allow having one on duty 24/7 and a second on duty 12/7. The third ambulance is a spare to use when an ambulance needs to be serviced, and when one stands by at public events or is needed at times of high call volume.

PAC's largest customers are Medicare (federal government) and Medicaid/ Maine Care (state government), which pay only \$0.70 at best for each dollar invoiced. PAC decreases this deficit in three ways: with the support of its town governments, by individual donations to its annual appeal, and by using volunteer board members to accomplish administrative and fund-raising tasks.

Brooksville's voter-approved contribution to PAC in 2019 and 2020 was \$21,417, or \$22.93 per capita, of which \$18.50 was for PAC's operating budget and \$4.43 was for its ambulance reserve fund. The same amount is requested for 2021.

Of the 1,448 calls made by PAC in 2019, (which include inter-hospital patient transports as well as 911 responses) 62 of them were to Brooksville—an increase of 8 more than in 2018. The average response time to a 911 call to Brooksville is 17 minutes; response time to the most remote part of town can be 35 minutes.

Of the respondents to the 2018 survey, 93% rated ambulance service as adequate to excellent. This percent was similar to results of the 2006 survey except that the percent rating service "excellent" increased from 14% to 29%.

With the approval of the State of Maine, PAC is now partnering with Healthy Peninsula and Northern Light Blue Hill Memorial Hospital to provide Community Paramedicine services to the communities it serves. The program enables PAC emergency medical staff to visit patients in their homes and provide services such as wellness checks, home safety evaluations, medicine reconciliation, vital sign checks and other procedures as requested by a patient's physician. PAC then provides reports to the patient's physician and caregivers.

Life Flight of Maine (whose parent organizations are Central Maine Healthcare and Northern Light Health and its aviation operator Seven Bar Aviation) provides critical care air transport

throughout Maine. Most of their transports (85%) are from small hospitals in rural areas to large hospitals; for example, in 2019 they transported 46 patients from Northern Light Blue Hill Memorial Hospital to larger hospitals in Bangor, Portland, and Boston. Since its formation in 1998, Life Flight has made a total of 37 landings in Brooksville, 3 of which were in 2019.

**Current & Future Adequacy:**

No substantive changes to Emergency Medical Services are necessary at this time.

## 10. Education

**Current Conditions:**

Brooksville Elementary School serves students from pre-K – 8, with an enrollment of 58 students for the 2020-21 school year. The original school was built in 1962 and renovations were completed in 1982 and 2006 to address capacity issues and accommodate more students. The gymnasium (3000 sq. ft.) was added in 1982 along with a storage area that has subsequently become the Music and Art classroom. An addition to house the library was completed in 2006, allowing the former library space to be transformed into an updated kitchen facility. While the building will be sixty years in age in 2022, the structure, especially post-renovation, remains solid and functional as a school. A new septic system is currently planned and a section of the roof will need replacing soon.

**Table E-3  
Student Enrollment 2005-2015**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Brooksville Elementary</b>	<b>Bay School</b>	<b>Home School</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>High School</b>	<b>Total Student Enrollment</b>
2005	72	7	11	2	47	139
2006	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2007	64	12	1	0	44	121
2008	61	15	1	0	34	111
2009	69	12	2	0	37	120
2010	68	14	2	0	27	111
2011	65	11	2	0	35	113
2012	65	14	3	0	31	113
2013	44	11	3	0	31	100
2014	59	9	7	4	35	114
2015	58	5	7	6	26	102
2016	56	7	5	0	27	95
2017	63	6	3	0	25	97
2018	64	9	7	0	36	116
2019	59	5	7	0	39	110
2020	58	2	11	0	37	108
2021	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD

*Source: Brooksville School*

### **Current & Future Adequacy:**

Population fluctuations and regionalization of services will impact school operations significantly in the future years. In addition, many rural schools face staffing shortages and a problem retaining qualified educators and staff. This leads to increased teaching staff turnovers that affect quality of instruction and impacts school culture. As fewer people choose education as a career choice, schools, including Brooksville's, will face issues of staffing and operations. Staffing and operation issues are also affected by the higher-than-county-average housing costs in Brooksville and the relatively low wages paid to public school educators in Maine.

### **Other Educational Organizations/Groups:**

*Brooksville Education Foundation:* The Brooksville Education Foundation ([www.brooksvilleeducationfoundation.org](http://www.brooksvilleeducationfoundation.org)) was started in 2000 by a group of volunteers for the purpose of expanding education opportunities for Brooksville residents. It does so primarily by offering scholarships to residents of any age who are pursuing post-secondary degrees or certificates. As of school year 2019-2020, it has provided over \$700,000 in financial aid to 140 students, helping 95 complete degrees and currently supporting an additional 23 in school. In recent years the average amount of Foundation scholarships has been \$2,500, with an additional \$1,000 awarded to students who are in the first generation of their immediate families to pursue post-secondary education.

To encourage early childhood literacy, the Foundation distributes monthly free, age-appropriate books to all Brooksville children from birth to age 5 enrolled in its "Project Read-up!" program. It also provides annual grants to the Brooksville Elementary School, totaling \$35,000 to date, for program enhancement across a broad range of educational activities.

In mid-2021 the Foundation had an endowment of approximately \$1,600,000 held in eight funds at the Maine Community Foundation, from which it draws annually for making grants. These monies are supplemented by the proceeds of the Foundation's annual appeal. In the coming decade, the Foundation aims to increase its endowment through gifts and bequests to \$2,000,000. Reaching that goal will allow grant making at current levels to become self-sustaining and make continued annual appeal donations available to fund increases in the size of scholarship grants.

## **11. Public Works**

### **Current Conditions:**

Road maintenance and other public works duties are the responsibility of the road commissioner with plowing performed by seven seasonal winter maintenance employees as of 2020. Paving is contracted out on a request-for-proposal basis, with no changes in the coming years.

The town owns the following road maintenance equipment: one tow-behind grader, purchased in the 1930s. It leases a backhoe-loader. Brooksville currently works with two other towns, Sedgwick and Brooklin, in cooperation on public works issues. The town also owns a storage

shed, called Empty Pockets Garage, located on Cape Rosier Road, that is used for additional storage of Public Works and other Town equipment.

**Current & Future Adequacy:**

Road salt and sand costs often fluctuate seasonally in the Northeast. The town currently has a salt/sand pile near the townhouse that is uncovered. To date, Brooksville has raised \$125,477.68 for a covered salt shed and an additional \$20,000.00 will be added in 2021. The town would like to purchase a power grader in the future. However, this purchase is not currently in the upcoming budget or in the transportation reserve account. This budget will require annual updates and adjustments based upon climate and weather predictions and other impacts on the local road system.

## **12. Town Office**

**Current Conditions:**

The current town office, within the public service building, was constructed in 1991 and consists of 2000 square feet. Major rooms include 560 sq. ft. of office space for the Select Board, Secretaries, and Code Enforcement Officer, a 730 sq. ft. meeting room and voting area, and 300 sq. ft. of offices for Town Clerk and Treasurer, respectively. Other rooms include the vault, bathrooms, kitchen, and general egress areas.

**Current & Future Adequacy:**

The Select Board has indicated the current townhouse is no longer sufficient to meet the demands of current public services, and there are plans to expand the existing facilities. The Select Board recommends building an addition on the East side of the large meeting room to add another 420 square feet. The town will also need to review hours of operations and resources provided to town officials to see if current needs are met.

## **13. Library**

**Current Conditions:**

Originally built in 1994 and housed in the Townhouse, the current facility is approximately 1,985 sq. ft. of floor and attic space, and contains a general circulation area, main room, and a 323 sq. ft. children's area. This library also has its own meeting room and librarian's office.

The library is staffed by two paid employees and supported by an abundance of enthusiastic volunteers. Brooksville Free Library is open Monday, Wednesday from 9 – 5, and Thursday evening, 6 – 8, with morning hours on Saturday from 9 – 12. In 2019 there were 2,800 volumes in circulation, and 9,765 patron visits, up from 5,501 in 2018.

### **Current & Future Adequacy:**

The library meets most standards and guidelines from the Maine State Library Association and no future upgrades or changes are required at this time.

## **14. Community Center**

### **Current Conditions:**

The Community Center is housed in an older structure in South Brooksville, near Buck's Harbor Store and Market. Recent expansions to parking have mitigated some congestion, however, parking remains an issue, along with the current state of the stairs to the main entrance. This topic is further discussed and described in Chapter F (Recreation & Health).

## **15. Summary of Forecast Capital Expenditures**

This section documents known capital expenditures planned by the municipality over the next ten years. These are defined as expenses exceeding \$10,000. and having a useful life beyond five years. They are separate from operational expenditures such as fuel, minor repairs, salary and benefits and other operating expenses.

Capital improvements are funded from several sources, such as appropriations on a town warrant, capital reserve funds, bonds, and loans. The other sources of income to fund these expenses are also grants – federal, state or private. Any combination of these may be used to cover capital investment costs.

Brooksville is anticipating significantly higher capital investments in the future, compared to previous years. Presently approved capital investments include planned dredging of Betsy's Cove and additional parking spaces at the adjacent parking lot, and expansions of the municipal offices and services building. Table E-4, shows capital investments for the coming fiscal year and future.

**Table E-4  
Capital Investment Projections**

Item	Current Balance 12/30/2021	Budget 2021	Estimated Budget (1)		
			Within 5 Years	5-10 Years	Beyond 10 Years
Betsy's Cove Dredging and Parking Space Addition: \$615,000 estimate with Maine DOT participation by grant of \$250,000		\$60,000	\$310,000		
School Roof Upgrades	\$5,000		\$30,000		
Highway Equip. exp, New Grader					\$300,000
Salt Shed (2)	\$125,973	\$20,000		\$425,000	
Public Services Building Addition (3)	\$20,000	\$5,000		\$350,000	
EV Charging Stations (3 planned) (4)	\$10,000		\$50,000		
School Septic (5)	\$35,000	\$10,000	\$50,000		
Led Light Upgrades – Community Center (6)			\$8,000		
Fire Department LED Light Upgrades			\$5,000		
North Brooksville Fire Station (7)	\$55,000	\$10,000	\$281,000		
Cape Rosier Fire Station	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Broadband (8)			Unknown		
Municipal Revaluation	\$45,000	\$10,000	\$150,000		
Fire Truck	\$50,000	\$5,000			350,000
School Bus	\$42,500			Unknown	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$345,973</b>	<b>\$120,000</b>	<b>\$884,000</b>	<b>\$775,000</b>	<b>\$650,000</b>

**Notes:**

(1) Indicates year when the investment is projected to be made. Time frame can be sooner depending on availability of grants and/or donations. Several of the listed items have reserve accounts that are accumulating annually.

(2) The total cost for the salt shed is likely to be less than \$400,000. Of that amount, \$146,000 has been raised in a reserve account, at a rate of about \$20,000 per year. At that rate it will take more than 10 years to raise the full amount.

(3) Has a reserve account: as of 2021 it has accumulated \$25,000

(4) to be funded partly by an anonymous gift to the Town - \$10,000

(5) Has a reserve account: currently stands at \$35,000

(6) Has a reserve account: currently stands at \$15,000

(7) Has a reserve account: currently stands at \$55,000

(8) It is currently unknown if the Town will have to raise capital for broadband. A survey presently underway indicates that residents are receptive to that, if it proves necessary. The Broadband Committee is exploring all possible options to avoid capital outlays by the Town

## 16. Goals & Objectives

<b>GOAL: Advance the health, safety, and welfare of Brooksville by ensuring the provision of government services in a fiscally responsible manner.</b>			
<b>Policy</b>	<b>Strategy</b>	<b>Responsible Party(ies)</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
Ensure the townhouse can meet the needs of the public and municipal employees and officials.	Expand townhouse to accommodate for increased programming and functions.	Select Board	Ten Years
Explore staffing/duty options for certain municipal services and authorities.	Explore feasibility of changing from elected to appointed for some positions/offices	Select Board	On-going
Explore opportunities for --and feasibility of -- intermunicipal provision of services such as fire and police protection and other services.	Communicate, coordinate, and fund cooperative opportunities with neighboring municipalities	Select Board, their designees, HCPC	On-going
Mitigate the amount of waste entering the solid waste stream and reduce municipal costs for garbage disposal.	Increase inter-town cooperation to explore alternative options and methods for solid waste disposal.	Select Board, their designees, HCPC	On-going
Ensure that plant and equipment required for road maintenance keep pace with evolving needs for road maintenance, repairs, and regulations.	Research alternative materials and methods and adjust as needed. Monitor and maintain current equipment for longevity.	Select Board, their designees	On-Going
Ensure fire protection is available and adequate for all residents of Brooksville while not becoming an overly burdensome tax expense.	The fire department will work with the town to communicate all needs, facilities, equipment, or training, and ensure that these needs are included in capital improvement plans.	Brooksville Volunteer Fire Department, Select Board	On-going
	Recognize that maintaining adequate fire protection will entail additional investment in plant and equipment and addressing the difficulty of basing fire protection solely on volunteers.	Brooksville Volunteer Fire Department, Select Board	On-going

*Table continues on next page*

<b>Policy</b>	<b>Strategy</b>	<b>Responsible Party(ies)</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
Ensure educational facilities are adequate and properly maintained.	Work with the school department to prioritize and address issues with the roof, septic system and technology upgrades.	Brooksville School Department, Select Board	On-going
Ensure food security for all Brooksville students, while providing place-based educational opportunities through local agriculture participation (farm-to-school).	Expand the development and cooperation between the school and local farms through community involvement and coordination with the Town.	Brooksville School Department, Select Board	On-going
Ensure that the Town website continues to be an important resource for posting information about Brooksville for use by residents and others	Study options for upgrading the website to make it easier to use and maintain	Brooksville webmaster	Immediate and ongoing