



TOWN *of* FRANKLIN
MASSACHUSETTS



ROADWAY CONDITION

Road Structural Ratings (RSR)

\$40.5m

Backlog
Cost of Repairs

2012

77.0

Average RSR by segment

2019

73.5

Average RSR by segment

2025

70.7

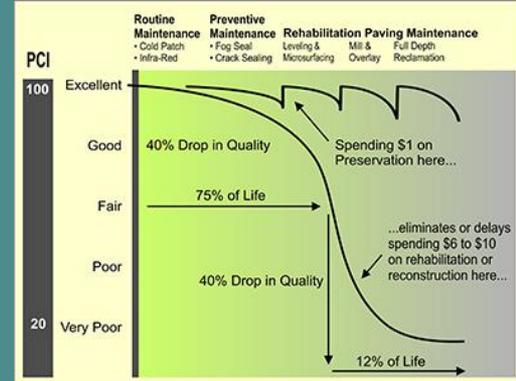
Average RSR by segment

Average Expenditure for Road Improvements has been steadily decreasing...
2019 around \$2.5M/year to 2025 around \$1.7/year

ROAD IMPROVEMENT COSTS

Highway Operating Budget \$1,369,588

- Past Average Annual Expenditure – \$2.5M per year
- Previous funding sources included:
 - Water Main Replacement Program
 - Ch 90
 - ARPA
 - MassWorks Grant
 - Town Capital Appropriations
- Total spend was \$1.7M in 2025, below plan
- Ch 90 funding for 2026 is \$1.7M
- Need to average \$3M per year just to get our RSR back to where we were 5 years ago (not including associated drainage, sidewalk, or ADA costs)



Roadway Forecast Model Franklin, MA

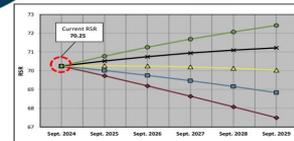
Managed by BETA



— Routine Maintenance
— Preventive Maintenance
— Mill & Overlay
— Rehabilitation and Pave

Community Profile

Road Miles = 143.24
Ch. 90 Allotment = \$939,828



Funding Scenarios

Scenario 1 \$13,500,000
Scenario 2 \$12,000,000
Scenario 3 \$2,500,000
Scenario 4 \$2,000,000

*Please Note: Unit pricing accounts for curb to curb improvements only; does not include drainage, sidewalk, ADA, grassed sub-base or utility improvements.
**Model Accounts for 3% Annual Inflation

Community Type: 1

Access

BETA

PROJECT COSTS

1. Sidewalks

- 126 miles: 76 asphalt, 50 concrete
- Sidewalk Condition Index (SCI) 67.42
- Repair Backlog \$18,505,829
- ADA Transition Plan
 - 1,253 ramps need improvements to meet current standards \$10,813,600

● Parking Lots

- 40.85 acres
- Repair Backlog \$943,991

● Quiet Zone(s) (6)

- Six crossings: \$7,700,000



\$37,963,420

Sidewalks, Parking Lots,
ADA Transition Plan,
Quiet Zone(s)

GROUNDS

Operating Budget: \$1,061,280

PARKS

All Town Parks
Sculpture
Community Garden
Disc Golf
Street Hockey
Tennis
Pickleball



FIELDS

Town & All Schools

Natural & Synthetic Turf (replacements needed)
Line Painting
Grooming
Fencing
Irrigation (replacements needed)

CENTRAL MOTORS

Operation Budget: \$1,153,358

218 Registered vehicles and equipment!

- Vehicle / Equipment maintenance and repair
- Winter operations related repairs
- Tires, oil, and parts inventory
- Vehicle and equipment sublet repairs
- Fuel and DEF
- Tool and diagnostic equipment upgrades



CURBSIDE TRASH & RECYCLING

Operating Budget: \$3,159,313

1. 9,780 curbside customers
2. Extremely low recycling-contamination rate
3. Contract for disposal (waste to energy) – negotiations ongoing.
4. Future waste bans... compost?
5. **Cart Replacement (past due) – life span is 10 years, currently at 15 years. 20,000 barrels, \$70 per barrel = \$1,400,000.00**



RECYCLING CENTER

Operating Budget: \$250,141

- 3,800 Recycling Center customers
- Recent significant cost increases:
Household Hazardous Waste, Rigid Plastic,
Latex Paint
- Increased volume = increased costs;
residents like to recycle!



LANDFILL



Construct and Improve Recycling Center

- Redesign and reconstruct facility.
- Organics collection/staging area?

Officially “Cap” Old Landfill

- Test borings, surveying, design material/grading.



COST

Largely contingent on area that must be 'capped'

Approximate cost per acre = \$350,000

Site is approximately 10 acres

\$6-10 million!

DRINKING WATER

Operating Budget: \$8,131,339

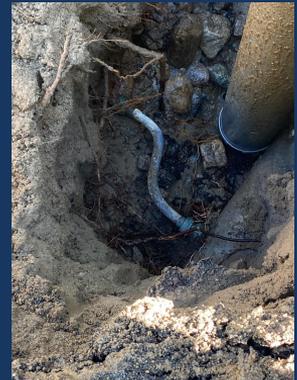
1. Completed Projects
 - Water Main Replacement – 20 years – \$22.5M
 - Grove St Water Treatment Plant – May 2021 – \$12.3M
 - Fales St Water Main Replacement – 2024 – \$250K
2. Currently Approved & Funded Projects
 - Franklin Ridge Booster Station – \$3.2M MassWorks Grant – completion February 2026
 - Well 7 PFAS Removal Addition – \$6.5M SRF loan – completion May 2026
 - Fisher St WTP upgrade & PFAS Removal Addition – \$25M SRF loan – completion February 2027



DRINKING WATER

Unfunded Project Costs

1. Water Main Replacement/Road Improvement Program renewal
\$12 million
2. Water Tank Replacement / Rehab – \$12.5 million
 - Hillside Tank replacement – \$10.5 million
 - Bald Hill & Forge Hill Tank rehab – \$3.2 million
3. Pleasant St Service area reconfiguration – \$7.0 million
4. PFAS – potential for \$50+ million for additional treatment



1888

Map of
downtown
Franklin in 1888

Hillside Tank is
visible





WATERLINE/ROADWAY 5+ YEAR IMPROVEMENT PLAN

1

Pine St and Beech St (frequent leaks/breaks)

2

Partridge St and Maple St

3

Park Rd, Hillside Rd, Moore and Pinehurst
(water quality)

4

Pheasant Hill Rd and Acorn Terrace

5

Meadow Parkway

Total Estimated Water Costs: \$12,000,000

Additional Areas of Concern

Phyllis Ln, Besso St, Woodside Rd, George Rd, Jimmy St, Brushwood Hill
Pleasant St (Church Sq to Dean Ave)
Crossfield Rd, Walker Rd, White Ave

Lincoln St (Daniels to Town line)
Union St (Washington to Loretta)

SEWER

Operating Budget: \$4,549,271

1. Beaver St Interceptor – \$33 million
2. I&L Lining Program
 - Over \$4.2M spent from 2005 to 2025
 - Phase 10 – Phase 13 Planned – \$2M
3. 23 Lift Stations: 1977 – 2004
 - Completed Asset Management Plan to prioritize improvements – grant funding!
 - Upgrade existing control systems – \$250k each year over the next 5+ years
 - GAP III Energy Improvement Grant – \$62k
 - GAP IV Energy Improvement Grant – Applied 2025
4. Collections System
 - Seeking grant for Phase 2 of Asset Management Plan





SEWER

Annual investigation, rehabilitation, and repair for pipes and manholes are required to mitigate current infiltration and proactively prevent future asset deterioration.





STORMWATER

Operating Budget: \$1,128,150

Phosphorus Control Plan (PCP)

\$30m

5 Year Cost to be in
compliance

(July 2023 – July 2028)

\$60.30

to

\$350

Increase in average annual cost
of residential Stormwater Utility
fee to meet compliance funding
levels

\$120m

20 Year Cost to be in
compliance

(\$6M/year through 2038)

STORMWATER

What we need to do:

- More frequent street sweeping, catch basin cleaning
- Maintain and repair existing infrastructure
- Maintain and upgrade detention basins
- Construct new infrastructure
- Use science to our advantage



Target Milestones	Reduction Required	Reduction Provided by Existing SCMs	Estimated Load Reduction Gap
Phase 1-Year 8 Reduction Requirement July 2026	20% (499.1 lbs/year)	14.5% (362.8 lbs/year)	5.5% (136.3 lbs/year)
Phase 1-Year 10 Reduction Requirement July 2028	25% (623.8 lbs/year)	14.5% (362.8 lbs/year)	10.5% (261.0 lbs/year)
Total 20-Year Permit Reduction Requirement July 2038	100% (2,495.3 lbs/year)	14.5% (362.8 lbs/year)	85.5% (2,132.5 lbs/year)

GIS (Geographic Information System)

PAST: Separate consultants maintaining separate sets of data

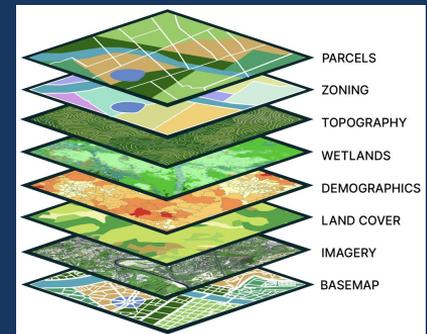
- Expensive
- Lack of continuity
- Long response times for updates
- Always out-of-date

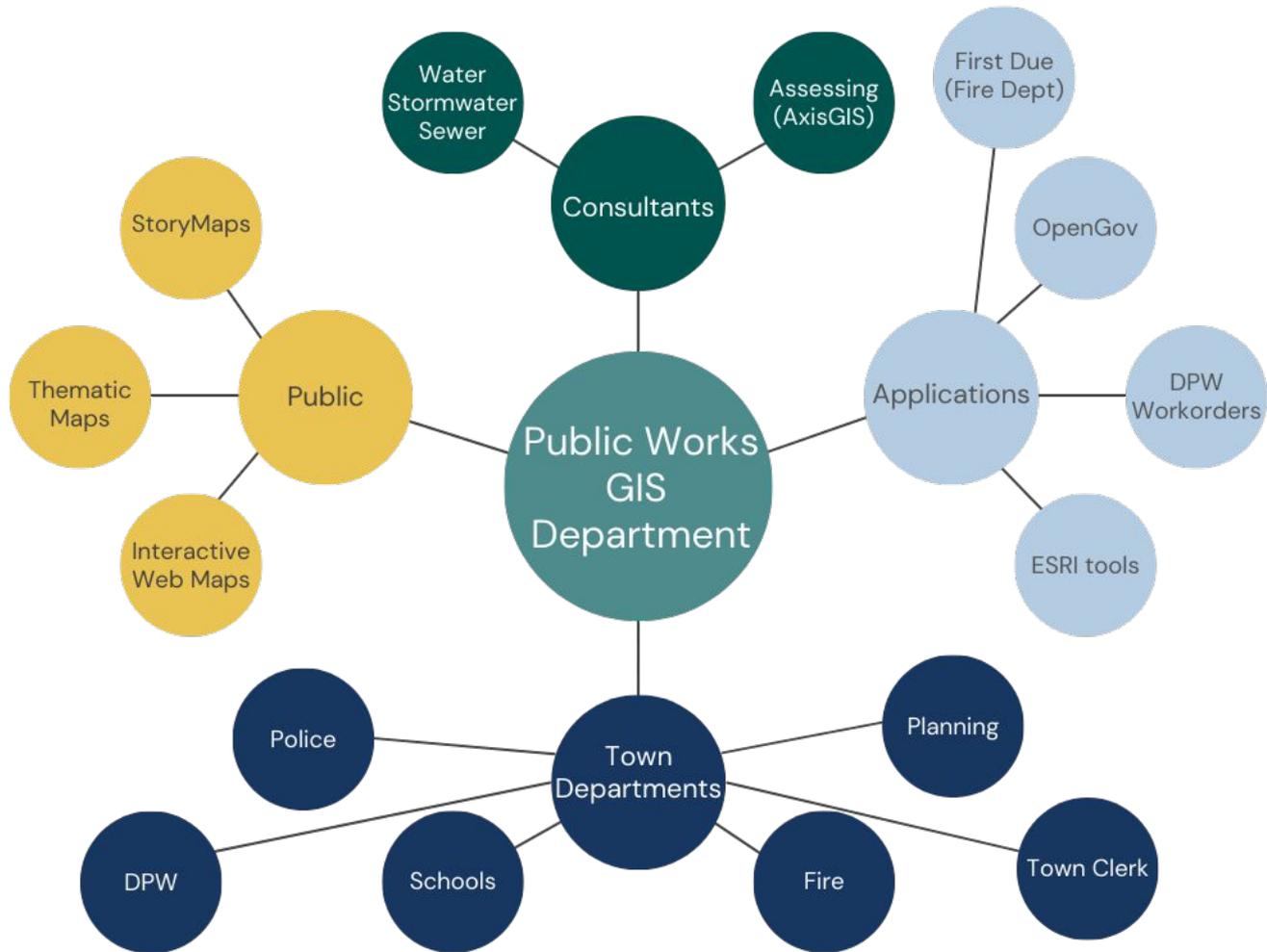
PRESENT: Franklin's data is maintained internally (parcels excluded)

- Real-time updates pushed across multiple platforms
- Immediate response for updates
- Up-to-date
- Efficient
- Allows for collaboration both internally and externally

A picture is
worth a
thousand
words...

...but a map is
worth a
million.





ADDITIONAL CHALLENGES

Personnel

- Shortage of workers
- Outsourcing
- Snow Plow contractors

Global Warming

- Flooding
- Extreme Events

Construction Costs





The Good Stuff, Roadwork:

- Reconstructed over 80 miles of roadway
- Rehabilitated / constructed over 33 miles of sidewalks
- Established a proactive maintenance program to extend the life expectancy of roadway surfaces from 20 years to 40+ years



The Good Stuff, Parks and Grounds:

- Replaced 2 turfgrass fields
- Created and built two new parks
- Created and built a dog park
- Created and built a community garden
- Improved the Town Common / Veterans Memorial



The Good Stuff, Water Work:

- Replaced 45.9 miles of water mains
- Rehabilitated / Rebuilt / Improved three major water treatment plants
- Reduced our average daily use from over 70 gallons per person per day to 46 in 2024.
- Unaccounted for water reduced from over 15% to 6.5% in 2024



The Good Stuff, Sewer:

- Lined 13.75 miles of Sewer mains
- Lined and sealed up over 500 manholes
- Reduced our average daily flow to the Charles River Pollution Control District by 1.2 Million Gallons

Select residential bill and monthly consumption amount

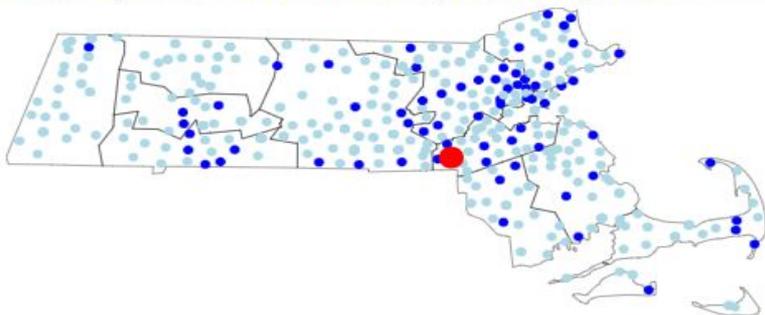
Water Bill Sewer Bill Water + Sewer Bill



Monthly Water & Sewer Bill: \$107.39

Select comparison group:

Comparing to utilities also with 3,000 to 10,000 accounts



70 rate structures compared

Effects of raising rates by:

Bill Comparison

Water & Sewer Bill at

5,000 gallons
Median: \$111.63



Min \$37.58 Max \$217.29

Conservation Signal

Water & Sewer Price/1,000
gallons, after 10,000 gallons
Median: \$21.72



Min \$2.36 Max \$51.95

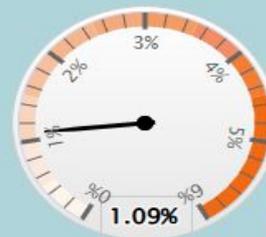
Cost Recovery

Operating
Ratio Incl. Deprec.



Median Affordability

Annual Water & Sewer Bills as
% MHI





PLANNED & PROJECTED TOTAL INFRASTRUCTURE COSTS

FUNDED

\$67.7m

Franklin Ridge Booster Station (\$3.2m – grant)

Well 7 PFAS Removal (\$6.5m – SRF loan)

Fisher St WTP Upgrade & PFAS Removal (\$25m – SRF loan)

Beaver St Interceptor (\$33m – SRF loan)



PLANNED & PROJECTED TOTAL INFRASTRUCTURE COSTS

BARELY FUNDED

\$64.35m

Parking Lot Improvements (\$950k)

Roadway Improvements (\$39m)

Sidewalk Improvements (\$19m)

Turf Fields (3) Carpet Replacement (\$5.4m)



PLANNED & PROJECTED TOTAL INFRASTRUCTURE COSTS

UNFUNDED

\$85.7m

Stormwater PCP (\$30m)

ADA Transition Plan (\$10m)

Closing Landfill & New Recycling Center (\$8m)

Quiet Zones (\$7.7m)

Water Main Replacement/Road Improvement (\$12m)

Water Tank Replacement/Rehab (\$12.5m)

Pleasant St Service Area Improvements (\$5.5m)



WHAT IS AT STAKE?

TOP 5 THREATS!

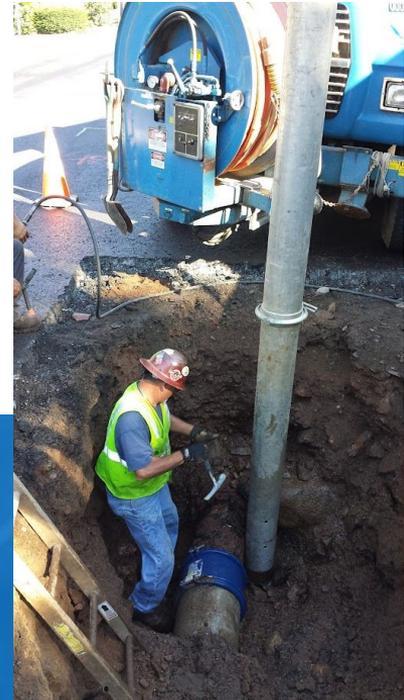
Roadways

- If the projected maintenance / improvement timeline continues, we will have “D” grade roads in 5–9 years!
- Road repair cost will be substantially higher



Waterlines

- Pre 2005 averaging 45+ water breaks/year; currently averaging 4.
- Without continuing the waterline replacement program, breaks will increase, water quality will be reduced, and galvanized services lines will not get replaced.





Water Tanks

- Hillside tanks were built in 1888 & 1928.
- Need to be replaced to prevent catastrophic failure.



A close-up photograph of a stone plaque with embossed text. The text is arranged in two lines: "EAST BOSTON" on the top line and "MASS. 1888" on the bottom line. The stone is light-colored and shows signs of weathering and discoloration.

Stormwater

- Non-compliance could result in a Consent Decree
- Ex: Quincy MA: \$115k civil penalty, \$100+m by 2034.



Landfill / Recycling Center

Timely action avoids

State-imposed costs & timelines.





“This is the most existential
threat facing Franklin...”

-Former Town Councilor

Questions?