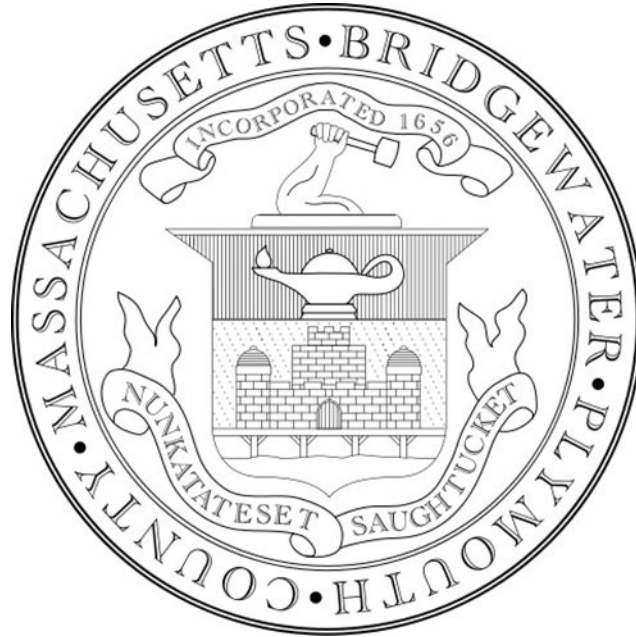


Town of Bridgewater

Public Safety Buildings – Next Steps



Presentation to Town Council
February 5, 2019

Agenda |

- Current Condition of Police Station, Fire Stations, and Roadways Barn
- Projected Life Expectancy of Current Buildings
- Anticipated Upgrades, Additions, Replacements
- Proposed Next Steps
- Questions / comments

Current Status

- Fire Headquarters and Station, School Street – parts of the building date to 1858 with four additions over the years.
 - Fire vehicles were smaller and pulled by hand or horse until the 1910s.
 - A handful of fire calls each year in the late 1800s through 1920s.
- Fire Station II – built in 2000
 - To provide coverage on the east side of the train tracks.
 - Is the only station which can house the ladder truck.
 - Annual fire and emergency medical services (EMS) calls totaled **3,000** in 2000.
- Today
 - fire trucks and ambulances barely fit through Station 1's doors.
 - the department handles close to **6,000** calls a year.



Fire Department

Headquarters and Station I



Fire Department Headquarters and Station I

Building leaks

Fire Department Headquarters and Station I

Inadequate working areas



Fire Department Headquarters and Station I


Sleeping quarters



Fire Department Headquarters and Station I

Inadequate storage for fire and medical supplies in a modern department



The background image shows the interior of a fire station, likely a garage or equipment bay. It features a high ceiling with a complex network of steel beams and pipes. A bright light source, possibly a window or a powerful lamp, is visible in the upper left corner, creating a strong glare. The overall color palette is muted, with greys, browns, and a hint of red from a fire hose or equipment in the lower left. A large, semi-transparent black circle is positioned on the right side of the image, containing white text.

Fire Department Headquarters and Station I

Structurally insufficient – Underbuilt for
modern loads and required equipment storage



Structural insufficiencies

Fire Department Headquarters and Station I



Fire Department Headquarters and Station I

Structural degradation due to age and
construction technique



Fire Department Headquarters and Station I

Confined spaces built to house horse drawn fire apparatus.



Fire Department Headquarters and Station I

Updated façade covers antiquated build

Fire Station II



Fire Station
II

Systems Upgrades Needed

Roadways Barn



Roadways Barn

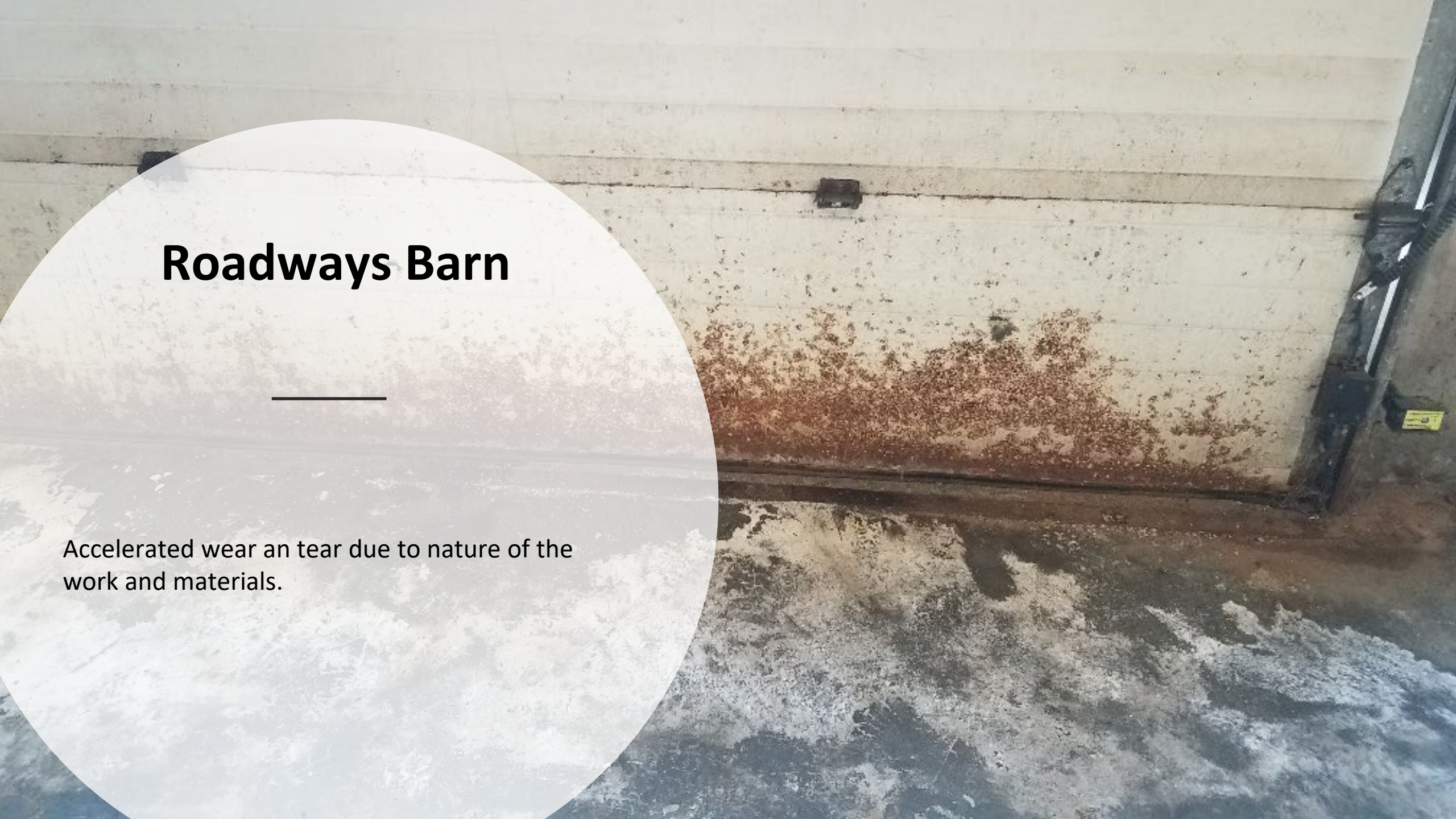
Some urgent repairs made over past two years using Green Communities Grant funding and Town's capital stabilization fund.



Roadways Barn

Roadways Barn

Accelerated wear and tear due to nature of the work and materials.





Environmental stresses

Roadways Barn

Police Station



Police Station – 17 years old

Police Station

Storage constraints.





Police Station

Changing data storage demands and updated 911



Police Station

25 Year old systems at the end of their life expectancies. New water heater in 2017.

Police Station

Storage needs for 21st century police work





Storage Shed

Police Station

Police Station

Trailer storage outside



Life Expectancy of Current Buildings

Fire Headquarters and Station: The Station has far exceeded its life expectancy.

Fire Station II: The Station is coming to the end of its construction bond in 2020. It is due for some building upgrades to extend its useful life another 15 to 20 years.

Police Station: The Station is coming to the end of its construction bond in 2020. While the building has been very well cared for, it is due for some major HVAC system upgrades to extend its life another 15 to 20 years, and may need an addition.

Roadways Barn: The Barn is coming to the end of its construction bond in 2020. The building needs major upgrades, including new skin, HVAC, roof, and doors. With additional efforts, the Town can extend the life of the building another 15 to 20 years.

Why should the Town address a new fire facility? Can it be repaired/refurbished?

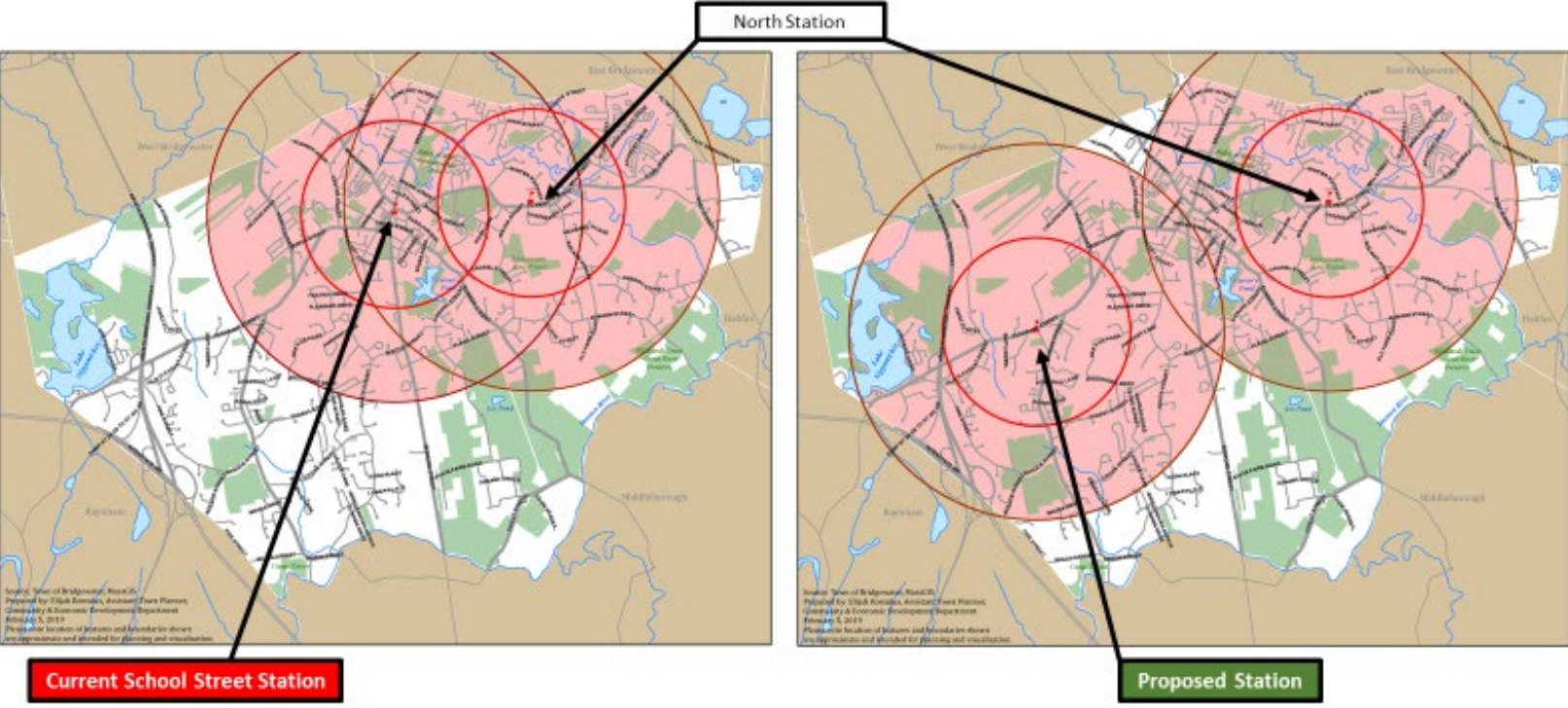
- Initial studies conducted in 2010 pointed out that emergency responses to parts of Bridgewater are significantly delayed due to their distance from the Fire Department Headquarters and Station I.
- Federal and state medical regulations drive space needs requirements for ambulance services.
- Recent and projected development on west side of Town.
- Incentive: 2018 - Opportunity Zone designation granted by the US Treasury Department for property on which Central Fire Station sits. Property is better used for private development.

Where would a new fire station be located?

- The initial studies recommend: On the west side of Town.
- Improve response times to west and south side of Bridgewater, and provide coverage for the areas where more calls originate – Route 24, new developments, and Bridgewater State University.
- Evaluation of possible sites would be part of the feasibility study. Under consideration would be areas around the High School, Mitchell at the Middle, softball fields, Police Station, Routes 24 and 104 area.
- Possible co-location. Possible separation of fire headquarters and station. Part of the scope for the feasibility study.

Fire Station

Current vs. Proposed Station



Next Steps– Summer 2019 Town Council Vote to Fund Feasibility Study for New Fire Station – \$75,000

Once funds are approved, the Town would contract with a consultant to prepare a feasibility study to review the need for a new Fire/Ambulance Headquarters and Station. The feasibility study would include:

- Space requirements for the department's programs based upon
 - interviews with Bridgewater Fire Department staff
 - extensive review of historical call volumes and locations
 - a review of current state and national standards for emergency response times
 - a review current federal and state space requirements for paramedic services
- Identification of realistic potential sites
- A conceptual design and floor plans
- Preliminary cost estimates.

Next Steps– Spring 2019 Town Council Funds Creation of Town Building Maintenance and Improvement Plan – \$20,000

Once funds are approved, the Town would contract with a consultant to prepare a town building maintenance and improvement plan which would include:

- Regular maintenance needs of each major Town building
- Replacement schedules for capital items such as roofs, furnaces, exterior painting, etc.
- Review of compliance with federal, state, and local accessibility requirements.
- Review of space needs for DPW and the Police Department to identify any enlargement of the current Roadways Barn and Police Station.

How much would improvements cost?

- Fire Headquarters and Station I: A very preliminary estimate is \$10 million to \$15 million. The feasibility study would help refine that estimate. We currently carry \$10 million in the capital plan.
- Fire Station II: *Rough* estimate of \$1.5 million to bring systems and building up to today's standards with additional space. The feasibility study would help refine that estimate. We carry \$100,000 for design work, but no building cost yet.
- Police Station: Relatively minimal expense to bring station up to current standards, but does not address additional space needs.
- Roadways Barn: *Rough* estimate of \$1 million to add space to accommodate DPW departments and replace any rotten/rusted skin and windows and doors. We currently carry \$700,000 in the capital plan.