

# Memo

To: Board of Selectmen  
From: William G. Keegan, Jr., Town Administrator  
CC: Assistant Town Administrator  
Date: July 24, 2009  
Re: Town Administrator's Report

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Here is what's going on in our Office at this time:

1. Warrant Review- This past week we reviewed the various Warrant Articles with the Finance Committee in Preparation for Town Meeting in May. There are 39 Articles under consideration. The majority of the Articles were reviewed on Tuesday Night. The remaining Articles will likely be reviewed on Wednesday April 1 with the Finance Committee.
2. Dedham's I&I Program- Gained notoriety this past week when the Infrastructure Engineering Department's program for re-lining the Town's sewer system was featured. The Dedham's Cured-In-Place Pipe relining program was recently highlighted in a National Trade Journal known as Municipal Sewer and Water Magazine. The Article explained that the program has been a highly cost efficient method of reducing clean water infiltration into the Town's sewer system in which has taken the Town from the second highest leakiest systems in all of the MWRA District to ninth place in about one year's time frame. This system was employed two years ago as an alternative to the traditional cut, dig and replace method of sewer system improvement. That latter method is very expensive and disruptive and would take considerably more time to complete. The described solution has been accomplished in a little over a year's time and has removed nearly 25 % of the "clean" water from the system. This is a great accomplishment for this Department and for the residents of Dedham.
3. Contractors have been chosen for both the Ames Street Bride Bridge Repair project and for the Washington Street reconstruction project. Both projects are expected to start this Spring and are being managed by the Commonwealth.

4. Fiscal Stimulus- After returning from Washington D.C. this past week, I was able to obtain some direction on what we needed to do in order to get some of our Capital Projects into the realm of consideration for funding. There are a number of limitations placed on the funding that were not made clear in the initial stages of the funding program. The scope of issues is somewhat narrow in that funding for vertical construction is very difficult to obtain. Projects must be bid ready or “shovel ready” as has been described. We have spoken with the Massachusetts Stimulus Coordinator Jeffery Simon’s Office and have, based on the guidelines provided by the programs tried to prioritize our projects so that we could get some consideration for the federal funds. Projects that would be considered to fit under the narrow criteria would be the SMA Field Development Project, the Backlog of Roads under our Pavement Management Program and the Transportation Improvement Project located at Rustcraft Road and the MBTA Train Station. There are over 4,000 projects under consideration by the State at this time and we are taking active steps to try and secure some of the federal funding for the thirteen projects that Dedham submitted.
5. Some federal funding to support Education has been identified for Dedham, based on information we have received from the State this past week. The details of this federal aid program that may be used to offset Special Education costs is still being interpreted by Local, State and Federal Education officials at this time. More information about this funding will be made available, perhaps as early as next week, once it is better understood. The general observation that I have made in the past few months is that programs are being generated so quickly that the information is not always well distributed and understood at all levels of government. We look for this situation to improve in the weeks and months ahead as the communication channels become more clearly defined.