



TOWN OF
DEDHAM
MASSACHUSETTS

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Memo

To: Board of Health, Building Department, Conservation Commission, Dedham Westwood Water District, Facilities Department, Fire Department, Stormwater Division, and Department of Public Works

From: Water Resource Advisory Committee
Jessica Porter, Chair
Dimitria Sullivan, Vice Chair

Date: November 5, 2025

Re: Water Resource Advisory Committee (WRAC) Final Report

On behalf of the Water Resource Advisory Committee, we are pleased to share the enclosed *Water Resource Advisory Committee Final Report* to the departments, boards, and committees with a role in the regulation of water in the Town of Dedham. The WRAC will be presenting its findings to the Select Board on November 20, 2025 and conclude the work of the committee.

Background

The Water Resource Advisory Committee (WRAC) was established by the Select Board in 2024 to gain a better understanding of the policies and practices affecting the Town's drinking water. The committee was charged with assessing the need for additional studies and identifying opportunities to ensure the sustainability of the Town's drinking water resources and reporting those findings to the Select Board.

The nine member committee is comprised of:

Nathan Gauthier	Member	Conservation Commission Member
Shaw McDermott	Member	Select Board Appointee
James O'Brien	Member	Planning Board Member
Kesley Pieper	Member	Select Board Appointee
Jessica Porter	Chair	Planning Board Member
Dimitria Sullivan	Vice Chair	Select Board Member
Dennis Teehan, Jr.	Member	Select Board Member
Meredith LaBelle	Ex-Officio	Conservation, Town of Dedham
Blake Lukis	Ex-Officio	Executive Director, Dedham-Westwood Water Department

The WRAC held a total of eleven (11) public meetings from June 2024 to May 2025, culminating in the Committee's unanimous approval of the final report on May 19, 2025.

Final Report

The final report documents the following WRAC findings:

- 1) The Committee has found that the Town of Dedham, based on evidence presented by Dedham Westwood Water District (DWWD), has the necessary predicted drinking water supply to handle future growth and associated water demand. Specifically, the Committee finds that DWWD has adequate capacity, both through the treatment of groundwater supply and purchase of MWRA (Massachusetts Water Resource Authority) water, to address the water demand associated with future development in the Town.
- 2) No additional studies are recommended to be funded by the Town of Dedham to address the demand, supply, and quality of Dedham's drinking water at this time. However, the Committee does recommend the following continued efforts:
 - Pursue any potential grants regarding water conservation, stormwater infrastructure, and soil conditions;
 - Engage with MWRA and other local utilities to understand studies that these utilities have conducted to learn from their efforts; and
 - Participation with regional communities and non-profits to ensure Dedham's drinking water is a viable source of drinking water for decades to come.
- 3) The Committee identified 27 actions, grouped into categories that could be taken by various boards, committees or departments to support the continued quality and quantity of the Town's drinking water.

Next Steps

WRAC encourages all the relevant Town of Dedham departments, boards and committees to review the report and proposed strategies for potential future implementation.