

# Wellesley Select Board FY26 Work Plan

Approved: August 19, 2025

## **FY26 Select Board Priorities:**

### **Administrative:**

- Establish a standing Town Bylaw review committee
- Create a Town-wide Facilities Master Plan
- Develop Master Fire Station Plan

### **Financial:**

- Complete all Town bargaining unit negotiations and finalize all contracts
- Develop comprehensive town-wide capital planning process in conjunction with Facilities Master Plan
- Undertake budget review process and prepare separate presentations at ATM of Town and School budgets

### **Communications and Public Engagement:**

- Develop Communications Master Plan
  - Community Communication Survey
  - Develop semi-annual town-wide mailing
  - Website
    - Continue to expand ADA accessibility
    - Board to consider securing services of website consultant following communications survey
  - Social media - Develop town-wide social media policy from SB staff to advise departments, Boards, and committees
- Citizens' Leadership Academy – Commence inaugural class in Spring 2026

### **Housing**

- Joint SB/PB presentation of final strategic housing options and Board to acknowledge receipt

### **Economic Development:**

- Begin arts and culture Strategic Planning efforts with MAPC technical assistance
- Encourage shopping and accessing services locally to support merchants, institutions, and commercial entities
- Proactively and strategically evaluate potential development in town

## Wellesley, MA - General Government Services and Select Board Work Plan FY2026

<b>1. Administration</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Targeted Completion</b>
<b>Bylaw Review Committee</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop timeline, scope, membership, and charge</li> </ul>	Fall 2025
<b>Facilities Master Plan</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop town-wide Facilities (building and land) Master Plan</li> <li>• Work with FMD, DPW, Schools, and other key departments/stakeholders</li> </ul>	Start early Fall 2025
<b>Fire Station Master Plan</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Master Plan study underway</li> </ul>	Call volume analysis completed Next phase underway
<b>Investigate Expanded Use of AI</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Permitting and licensing</li> <li>• Infrastructure maintenance planning</li> <li>• Traffic and Parking management</li> <li>• Budget data analysis</li> <li>• Public Engagement/Feedback analysis</li> <li>• Virtual Customer Service</li> </ul>	Direct staff to form internal working group
<b>2. Finance</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Targeted Completion</b>
<b>Town-wide Union Negotiations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complete negotiations and finalize all town bargaining unit contracts</li> </ul>	Early 2026
<b>Finalize IT Department Class &amp; Comp</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complete the classification and compensation plan for IT Department</li> </ul>	Special Town Meeting – Fall 2025
<b>Hire Chief Financial Officer</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Interviews are scheduled</li> </ul>	ASAP
<b>Capital Planning Process</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work closely with ED, Finance staff, FMD and other stakeholders to develop comprehensive capital planning processes (Policy, Prioritization, Funding)</li> </ul>	Start early Fall 2025 – work is linked to the Facilities Master Plan work.
<b>Determine Article 8 Budget Motions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Select Board to coordinate discussions on splitting Town and School budget motions at ATM</li> </ul>	Begin Octboer 2025
<b>Revisit College Contributions to Town</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Babson College/Select Board meeting scheduled 10/7/25. Wellesley College/SB meeting TBD for Fall 2025.</li> <li>• Preview with Babson College administration the need to renegotiate PILOT in advance of the meeting.</li> <li>• Preview with Wellesley College scholarships/taxation structure.</li> </ul>	Fall 2025/Ongoing
<b>PFAS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Need to establish Special Revenue Fund</li> </ul>	Fall STM

<b>3. Communications and Public Engagement</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Targeted Completion</b>
<b>Draft and send pre-Town Meeting letters to Town residents</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Update financial status</li> <li>• Preview future financial outlook</li> <li>• Explain real estate tax bills and tax impact costs</li> <li>• Note facilities and other important updates</li> <li>• Include Communication Survey information that will inform Communications Master Plan</li> </ul>	Pre-Fall STM 25 and ATM 26
<b>Communications Master Plan</b>	Begin to design process to develop comprehensive communications plan	<b>Late fall-winter 2025-26</b>
<b>Citizens' Leadership Academy</b>	Commence inaugural class Spring 2026	
<b>Develop Social Media policy to guide boards and departments on appropriate and safe use</b>		<b>Late fall-winter 2025-26</b>
<b>4. Housing</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Targeted Completion</b>
<b>Strategic Housing Plan (SHP)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Joint PB/SB mtg September</li> <li>• SB will acknowledge receipt of plan</li> </ul>	September 2025
<b>5. Transportation/Mobility</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Targeted Completion</b>
<b>Weston/Linden Intersection Improvements</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Intersection reconfiguration, including land taking</li> </ul>	ATM 26
<b>Weston/Rt. 9 Intersection Study</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Study and redesign of Fells interchange in coordination with MassDOT District 6</li> <li>• Funded by \$600,000 State Earmark</li> </ul>	June 30, 2026
<b>6. Economic Development</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Targeted Completion</b>
<b>Develop Wellesley Square amenities plan</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public engagement process to be defined and led by Select Board (SB) Office;</li> <li>• Engagement to include merchants and other stakeholders.</li> </ul>	New RFP to be released September 2025 Funding request expected ATM 27
<b>7. Climate Mitigation and Resilience</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Targeted Completion</b>
<b>Hardy and Hunnewell Solar Installation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work with MLP, SC, and CAC to finalize the installation of solar panels on two new elementary schools</li> <li>• Funding to be through WECARE or Climate Leader Accelerator Grant</li> </ul>	

8. Town Projects	Description	Targeted Completion
<b>Comcast Cable License Agreement</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work underway with Epstein and August and on contract for proposal to Comcast.</li> </ul>	March 30, 2026
<b>Update MOA with Wellesley Media</b>		
<b>War Memorial and Clock Tower Improvements</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meet ADA requirements and consider expansion opportunities on War Memorial</li> <li>• Coordinate with NRC on Sprague Clock Tower to undertake the masonry work and secure the historic designations.</li> </ul>	Seek appropriation for schematic design at ATM 2026

<b>North 40:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conservation Restriction</li> <li>• Strategic plan</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Finalize land needs for Master Fire Station Plan;</li> <li>• Clarify vernal pool protections provided through existing Wetlands regulations;</li> <li>• Define land-use restrictions;</li> <li>• Determine entity to hold the CPC CR;</li> <li>• Review CR enforcement with Town Counsel;</li> <li>• Discuss beginning a Strategic Planning process;</li> <li>• Define public engagement process;</li> <li>• Discuss potential land swaps with the NRC, leaving maximum flexibility for potential future municipal uses, and advancing municipal use and land preservation goals</li> </ul>	
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