

BOS NEWS

The newsletter of the Lincoln, Massachusetts Board of Selectmen

~~~Save the Date!~~~ Saturday, November 2nd State of the Town Meeting

Updates on BOS Priorities...



Oriole Landing is Underway!

Framing is well under way at Oriole Landing, a 60-unit rental apartment development currently under construction on Mary’s Way. 15 of the units (25%) will be designated as affordable, allowing all 60 units to be

eligible to be counted on the Town’s Subsidized Housing Inventory (SHI). Construction is scheduled to be complete by June of 2020.

South Lincoln Planning

The South Lincoln Planning and Implementation Committee (SLPIC) continues to be hard at work on several fronts:

The **Planning & Zoning subcommittee** is developing proposed zoning amendments and design guidelines for the Lincoln Station area which will encourage smart and equitable transit-oriented development (ETOD). This zoning would allow a

Inside:

- South Lincoln (pg. 1)
- Leaf Blower Bylaw Update (pg. 2)
- Housing (pg. 3)
- Property Tax Study Committee (pg. 3)
- Route 2A (pg. 5)
- New Complete Streets Grant (pg. 5)
- DPW News (pg. 5)
- Updated Building Fees (pg. 6)
- FY21 Budget Cycle (pg. 7)
- Lincoln School Project Update (pg. 7)
- Lincoln Public Schools (pg. 9)
- Lincoln-Sudbury High School (pg. 10)
- New Pierce House Manager (pg. 12)

variety of housing & commercial options and create a vibrant, active, walkable, and sustainable village center.

Zoning changes require Town Meeting approval, and the proposed amendments will be voted on at the March 2020 Annual Town Meeting. *Learn more by coming to the State of the Town Meeting on November 2nd!*

The **SLPIC MBTA subcommittee** is continuing its efforts to work with the MBTA to seek much-needed improvements to the Lincoln Station commuter rail stop. Upgrades would focus on accessibility, pedestrian shelters and seating, and possible relocation of the inbound stop to the westerly side of Lincoln Road so that both the inbound and outbound stops are on the same side of the road. Visit <http://www.lincolntown.org/507/South-Lincoln-SLPIC> for additional information and links to prior presentations.

Leaf Blower Bylaw Takes Effect

The Attorney General's Office recently approved the Leaf Blower Bylaw that was adopted by Town Meeting in March of this year, as Article XI, Section 19 of the Town's General Bylaws, a copy of which can be found on the Town's web site at <https://www.lincolntown.org/488/Leaf-Blower-Study-Group>. The overall purpose of the bylaw is to reduce noise and air pollution by limiting the use of gas-powered leaf blowers to certain times of the year and hours of the day.

The following is a summary of the Bylaw's key provisions:

1. Electric and battery-powered leaf blowers may be used all year, subject to time of day limitations in Section C.
2. Gas-powered leaf blowers may be used only from:
 - October 1st - December 20th, and from
 - March 20th - May 31st
 - Again, subject to the time restrictions in Section C.
3. The Bylaw carves out an exemption for public safety and emergency situations.
4. The Building Inspector has some limited discretion to grant one-day exemptions, but subject to a written application.



With regard to enforcement, we are hopeful that by making our residents and landscape professionals aware of the new Bylaw that the need for enforcement will be limited. Complaints will be investigated in a timely manner. When enforcement is required, warnings will be issued after a first violation, with a fine of \$100 for each subsequent violation.

Please feel welcome to contact the Building Inspector, Mark Robidoux (robidouxm@lincolntown.org or call (781) 259-2613) if you have questions about the Leaf Blower Bylaw and actions that need to be taken to comply. *Please remember that the ultimate responsibility for compliance rests with you, our homeowners.*

Lincoln Re-Joins Regional Housing Services Office

At the request of our three Housing Organizations (Housing Trust, Housing Commission and Lincoln Foundation), the BOS recently voted to re-join the Regional Housing Services Office (“RHSO”), of which the Town was a charter member back in 2011. The RHSO is presently comprised of 8 member towns (Concord, Wayland, Sudbury, Acton, Bedford, Burlington, Lexington, and Weston) and provides a range of housing services, including creating a comprehensive and accurate database of the Town’s Affordable Housing Inventory, annual monitoring and reporting of ownership and rental units, and technical expertise and support to the Town’s Housing Organizations. By partnering with the RHSO concerning these required, core services, our Housing Organizations will be better able to focus their collective energy on developing the Town’s housing policies and priorities for the next several decades.

Property Tax Study Committee

~~~NEXT PUBLIC FORUM: OCTOBER 15th @ 7:00pm, Location TBA~~~

The Study Committee held a public forum on June 18th. Using Lincoln’s vision statement as a framework, the Committee shared information about Lincoln’s demographics, available information about economic need, and the current utilization of existing tax abatement programs.

Clause	Type	Amount	Veteran	Spouse	Surviving Spouse	Surviving Parent	Cost to Town	# Residents	Local Discretion
22	Veterans with minimum 10% war service disability; Purple Heart recipients; Gold Star Parents; Surviving Spouses	\$824	X	X	Until remarriage	x	About \$4,100	10	Yes–Town doubled amount
22A	Veteran who lost one hand, foot or eye; or received a Congressional Medal of Honor, Distinguished Service Cross, Navy Cross, or Air Force Cross	\$1,500	X	X	X		\$0 currently	0	No
22B	Veterans who lost two hands or feet, or both eyes	\$2,500	X	X	X		\$0 currently	0	No
22C	Veteran with 100% disability and specially adapted housing	\$3,000	X	X	X		\$0 currently	0	No
22D	Surviving spouses of veterans killed in a combat zone	Total for 5 years, then \$2,500			X		\$0 currently	0	No
22E	Veterans with 100% disability	\$2,000	X		X		About 3,100	3	Yes–Town doubled amount
8A	Paraplegic veterans	Total	X		X		\$0 currently	0	No

Veterans Exemptions*

* These programs are only for homeowners

The Committee also introduced two additional programs the Town could consider pursuing:

1. Residential Exemption

- A local option property tax exemption set at 0% - 35% of the Town's average residential property value. This % gets translated into a fixed amount that is deducted from every eligible residential assessment before the tax rate is applied.
- Applies only to owner-occupied properties.
- The tax rate is then increased to make it revenue-neutral.
- All residential taxpayers (including owners of rental properties) pay the increased tax rate to keep the total tax levy the same; commercial properties are excluded.
- The effect is to reduce taxes on eligible properties with valuations below a break-even point; it raises taxes on properties above the break-even point.
- There are no age or income requirements.
- May be enacted by a vote of the Selectmen; no additional approval requirements.

Town of Lincoln Vision Statement

Lincoln is a town that cherishes its rural, agricultural character, its small town heritage, its open space, and its historical legacy. The town is committed to:

- Achieving a balance between preserving these values while making reasonable provision for citizens' safety and convenience;
- Fostering economic, racial/ethnic, and age diversity among its citizenry through its educational, housing, and other public policy;
- Excellence in its public educational system;
- The Town Meeting form of government and the traditions of civic leadership and volunteer public service.

2. A local extension of the Massachusetts Circuit Breaker Program

- Goal is to keep real estate taxes to no more than 10% of income.
- For the State program: Must be 65+; homeowners and renters are eligible; must meet income, asset, and property value limits. Current state benefit is a credit up to \$1100.
- In Lincoln and peer towns, the state benefit is often not enough to bring real estate taxes down to 10% of income. Concord, Sudbury, and Wayland have created extension programs that are aimed at closing the gap for *homeowners*. The Sudbury & Concord programs were able to establish a higher property value threshold than the MA program.
- There is a statewide bill in the legislature that mirrors the Sudbury program, but does not allow for a higher property value.
- Local programs are instituted by means of special state legislation, a process that starts with a Town Meeting vote.

Each program has positive aspects and challenges, and the Committee continues to wrestle with a number of questions:

1. Who would we be trying to help with a new program? Homeowners? Renters? Seniors? All ages?
2. What would be the cost to residents?

3. Should a new tax abatement program be a priority? Are there other needs that are more urgent?

The Committee seeks your input! Please take a look at the [Property Tax Public Forum slide deck](#), then take a [short survey](#).

Route 2A Update

At the Town's urging, the Massachusetts Highway Department (MHD) has commissioned a Route 2A Corridor Improvement Study to identify options for increasing pedestrian and cyclist safety and connectivity along the corridor, from I-95 to Route 2/Crosby's Corner. Some initial stakeholder meetings were held earlier this year to ensure that MHD's team understands the existing challenges and opportunities from the perspective of the host Towns, the National Park Service, Hanscom Air Force Base, Massport, and other corridor stakeholders. The MHD team is in the process of updating its traffic counts and developing conceptual design alternatives. We expect to receive an update this fall, followed by an opportunity to review and comment on the conceptual design options.

Town Awarded 2nd Complete Streets Grant

The Massachusetts Department of Transportation recently awarded Lincoln a second Complete Streets grant. The purpose of the program is to promote alternative transportation. The initial grant, in the amount of \$400,000, funded several roadway and roadside improvements including the new Route 117/Lincoln Road intersection improvements, a new roadside trail connecting the Baker Farm fields with existing trails that link to Walden Pond, the wayfinding sign program, and other improvements. The new \$132,000 grant was awarded to create a roadside path that will improve connectivity between Codman Road/Farm and the new pocket park located at the corner of the resident commuter lot in Lincoln Station. The new trail link is consistent with the revitalization planning that is taking place under the Planning Board's South Lincoln Planning Implementation Committee (SLPIC). This Year #2 grant award is particularly notable given the increasingly competitive nature of the Complete Streets program. Congratulations to the Town's staff for relentlessly pursuing this and other funding sources! The Town's Planning Staff will be initiating meetings with area property owners and businesses to finalize design details before soliciting bids. Under the terms of the grant, the project must be completed by December 31, 2020.

DPW News

Recycling Update

Given recent news about changes in China's acceptance of recycled materials, residents may wonder how to ensure that the items they recycle are really getting processed. They are - but it is important to understand the guidelines, and not engage in "wishful recycling." Following are a couple of resources for knowing what can be recycled curbside/at the Transfer Station, and where to recycle other types of items:

- * [Recycle Smart](#)
- * [Beyond the Bin](#)

NEW Compost Program

The [Department of Public Works](#), in partnership with the group [Mothers Out Front \(MOF\)](#), is introducing a town composting program using the company [Black Earth Compost](#). As of October 1st, residents will be able to take compostable materials to the Transfer Station. Curbside pickup could also be available if at least 30 residents commit to the service.

What are the benefits?

- * This program accepts items that go beyond what can typically be composted in backyard compost bins (e.g. pizza boxes, newspaper, meat, grains, dairy).
- * Lincoln is charged by the ton for trash incineration, and food waste typically makes up 25% of solid waste. Participating in the program could save the Town up to \$15K per year.



Fee Schedules for the Town of Lincoln Effective as of July 1, 2019

Building Permits:

Based on estimated cost of entire job, including plumbing and wiring, at \$12 per every \$ 1,000 of estimated cost or a \$50 minimum fee

Plumbing and/or Gas Permits:

Based on estimated cost of job at 2%, with a \$50 minimum fee for each

Wiring Permits:

Based on estimated cost of job at 4%, with a \$50 minimum fee

Additional Fees:

Lost/replaced building card.....	\$50
Certificate of Inspection.....	\$40
Temp. CO (60 days).....	\$50

Note: All inspectors have the right to charge a re-inspection fee of \$25, payable to the Town of Lincoln.

Work started without a permit is subject to a double permit fee.

Click on the following link to help MOF and the DPW learn more about residents' recycling/composting habits and interest in curbside compost pick-up:

[Recycling Questionnaire](#)

Building Fees

In June the BOS approved the first change in building permit fees since 1998. The fees have been simplified and are commensurate with those in peer towns. Thinking of starting a project? Visit the [Building & Engineering](#) page of the [Town Website](#)

FY21 Budget Cycle Begins

Now that FY20 has started, it is time to begin planning for FY21. The annual operating and capital planning cycle begins now in preparation for the March 21, 2020 Annual Town Meeting.

Here are key milestones:

- REVISED: September 30: Deadline for Community Preservation Act project funding proposals
- REVISED: October 2: Deadline for submitting Capital Planning requests. (*Eligible items are those that cost more than \$10,000 and have an expected useful life of at least 5 years.*)
- Mid-October: Finance Committee issues recommended budget guidelines
- **November 2: State of the Town Meeting**
- Mid-November: Preliminary operating budgets due to Finance Director
- REVISED: Early-mid December, 1st Budget Workshop, hosted by Finance Committee
- January 6: BOS votes to open Town Meeting Warrant
- January 27: *Deadline for warrant articles and citizens's petitions*; BOS votes to close Warrant
- REVISED: Mid-late January, Finance Committee Annual Budget Hearing
- **REVISED: March 28, 2020 – Annual Town Meeting**
- **REVISED: March 30, 2020 – Annual Town Election**

School Project Update

The project has started!
Get updates directly from the
School Building Committee:
Visit www.lincolnsbc.org
and click "Subscribe"!

As of September 11th, the Lincoln School project is at the end of the 60% Construction Documents phase (60% CD), and the project is on budget. During this phase the project components became specific, systems were planned in detail, and materials and equipment were chosen. In a complex project such as ours (75% renovation/25% new construction), a lot of planning goes into how the renovated and new portions of the building will tie together, and how the project will be

phased while keeping the school in operation.

At the end of each phase of the school project, there is a new round of cost estimates. At its August 28th meeting, the School Building Committee (SBC) learned that the latest estimates were about \$2.8M above budget. Given the amount of detail that is determined during 60% CD, it was not unusual to have a cost difference at the end of this phase. **To keep the project on budget, the SBC started a value engineering (VE) process that focused on the project's main goals: maximize educational value; make the building net zero; respect the look and feel of the campus; maximize the long-term value of the project. VE was completed on the 11th.**

Following is a brief synopsis of the project's cost history:

- **June 2018:** 5 project concepts, each with a different scope and budget, were presented to the Town at a Special Town Meeting. The Town chose option "L3" that

met the goals outlined above. The vote set the budget at \$93.9M. *Concept Phase ends; Schematic Design begins.*

- **September 2018:** At the end of Schematic Design, the cost estimate was \$104M, and the SBC went through an extensive round of VE to keep the project within the \$93.9M budget. *Schematic Design ends; Design Development begins.*
- **December 2018:** Project funding was approved by residents at a December 2018 Special Town Meeting and ballot vote.
- **April 2019:** At the end of Design Development, the cost estimates determined that the project remained on budget. *Design Development ends: 60% CD begins.*

Upcoming Project Milestones:

- As this newsletter goes to print, the modular units that will create the **temporary K-4 school** are being delivered from Hanscom to the Lincoln School campus. The units were used to house students while the new Hanscom schools were built. It will take several months to get the temporary school ready.
- **September - December 2019: 90% Construction Documents Phase.** *This is when details and drawings are finalized.* There will be one more round of cost estimates – If necessary, the SBC will go through a VE process. The 100% Bid Documents are prepared.
- **September 2020:** K-4 students move into the temporary school; 5-8 students move into the Smith School while Brooks undergoes renovation.
- **September 2021:** 5-8 students move into the renovated Brooks end; Renovations begin on Smith.
- **September 2022:** preK - 4 students move into the renovated school!

For the latest information, please go to www.lincolnsbc.org and click on the “subscribe” button!



Modular units ready to leave Hanscom to go to Lincoln School



Protecting trees @ Lincoln School

Preparing the site for the temporary school



Lincoln Public Schools

An Update from the LPS School Committee

The Lincoln School Committee consists of five voting members elected by the Town of Lincoln and liaisons from Hanscom AFB and METCO families. The committee evaluates the superintendent, sets policies & priorities, and proposes budgets for Lincoln Town Meeting and for the U.S. Department of Defense.



- ★ To learn more about the District, visit www.lincnet.org
- ★ The District goals for 2019/2020 can be found by going to the Superintendent’s page and clicking on “District Strategic Plan.” (<https://www.lincnet.org/Page/3503>)

2019 Lincoln School Committee and Administrative Team:

School Committee standing:

Adam Hogue, Laurel Wironen (Hanscom) Trintje Gnazzo, Kim Mack (METCO), Peter Borden, Susan Taylor, Tara Mitchell (Chair).

Admin Team seated: Rob Ford (Technology), Superintendent Becky McFall, Asst. Superintendent Jess Rose, Buckner Creel (Finance) Not pictured: Mary Emmons (Student Services.)

Schools Count!

- 1 District Superintendent, Dr. Rebecca McFall
- 2 Campuses:
 - Lincoln Schools (preK -8, Ballfield Road)
 - Hanscom Air Force Base (preK - 8). NOTE: Federal funds cover Hanscom’s costs.
- 3 New school buildings:
 - Hanscom Middle, opened in 2016
 - Hanscom Primary, opened this Sept. 2019
 - Lincoln (PreK-8), projected completion Sept 2022
- 4 School Principals:
 - Sarah Collmer, LPS K-4
 - Sharon Hobbs, LPS 5-8
 - Julie Vincentsen, HPS
 - Erich Ledebuhr, HMS
- 7 PreSchool Classrooms
 - 2 in Lincoln
 - 5 in Hanscom Primary
 - Director Lynn Fagan
- 1,229: Enrollment Oct 2018
 - 556 Lincoln K-8
 - 583 Hanscom K-8
 - 90 PreK
- 86 Boston-resident students enrolled in Lincoln School through METCO, a state program
- \$29 M Operating Budget
 - \$13M Lincoln
 - \$16M Hanscom
- Average class sizes:
 - 17.7 - Lincoln K-5
 - 18.2 - Lincoln 6-8
 - 16.9 - Hanscom K-5
 - 17.8 - Hanscom 6-8
- 2,200 lunches served in typical week

Create a Profile of a 21st Century Learner

What does excellent PreK-Grade 8 education look like today?

Join us on Oct 1st!

We are retooling school, and we want your input!

- ★ Lincoln and Hanscom Schools have begun to implement innovative ways of teaching and learning that make the most of our newly designed schools and help students address a changing world.
- ★ From PreK to Grade 8, our children are developing strategies, skills, and knowledge they will need to innovate, investigate, create, collaborate, and communicate, with social, emotional and physical wellbeing and respect for others. Tools they will need to build the future.
- ★ Our Profile of a Learner will guide this evolution. Support from parents and the communities of Lincoln and Hanscom is essential in preparing our children to thrive beyond school years.
- ★ For 2020, our School Committee and District Administration have set ambitious educational goals that focus on high-quality instructional practices including collaborative teaching, cultural proficiency, and student-engaged assessment. Our guidebook will be Leaders of Their Own Learning by Ron Berger.

Come learn and build a next generation’s Profile of a Learner.

Tuesday Oct 1 from 12:45-2:45 pm

Hartwell Multipurpose Room, Ballfield Rd. Lincoln

Back to School: Lincoln-Sudbury High School

Lincoln-Sudbury High School (L-S) kicked off the 2019-20 school year on August 27th (grade 9) and August 28th (grades 10-12). With athletics having commenced for many teams during the prior week and many other co-curricular activities such as theater, music, and student clubs having begun alongside academic classes, the year is already well

Lincoln - Sudbury by the Numbers:

# Students (2019/20 projected)	1569
Median Class Size Range	20 - 22
Operating Budget	\$32,257,714
Debt Service Budget	\$628,700
World Languages Taught	5
Sports	31 Sports/60+ teams
Student Clubs	100+

underway for the L-S community. Using a four-house system, administrators and staff are focused on orienting 9th graders and their families, as well as welcoming back 10th-12th graders and their families. In the classrooms, faculty are engaging and challenging students within an alternate-week block-scheduling model and providing students with academic rigor as well as support.

Primary initiatives for the 2019-20 year include:

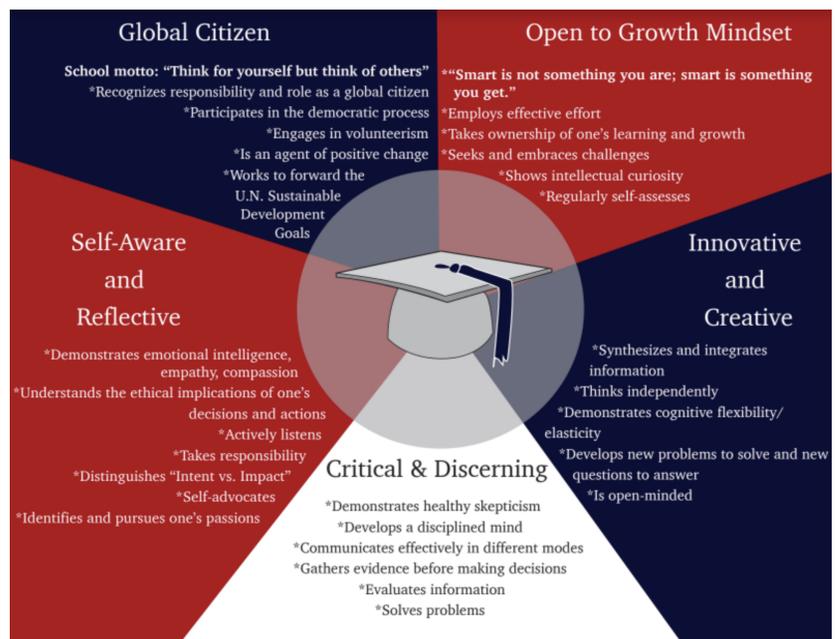
- An integrative strategic planning effort, led by the L-S Strategic Planning Steering Committee. Comprised of school committee, administrator, faculty, staff, and student voices, much of this committee's work will flow from previous 2018-19 collaborations, including a yearlong self-reflection process
- Ongoing work of the Racial Climate Task Force, with a Gender Climate Task Force being discussed for the future as well.
- Continued work related to last year's creation of the **L-S Portrait of a Graduate**, which defines priority competencies for all L-S graduates (see image). These competencies are related to the four L-S Core Values of: fostering caring and cooperative relationships; respecting human differences; pursuing academic excellence, and; cultivating community.

Global Citizen
School motto: "Think for yourself but think of others"
*Recognizes responsibility and role as a global citizen
*Participates in the democratic process
*Engages in volunteerism
*Is an agent of positive change
*Works to forward the U.N. Sustainable Development Goals

In conjunction with emphasis on social-emotional growth aspects, L-S continues to offer a rigorous multi-level program of study that meets the needs of the full range of students. L-S students may choose to participate in the Global Scholars program which offers cultural, linguistic, and historical study along with immersion travel experiences that provide students with a global perspective and appreciation of cultural diversity.

Coming Next Year: In the Fall of 2020, the L-S school start-time will shift to 8:25am (currently it is 7:50am) This change is in alignment with broad evidence-based recommendations by many national and state medical agencies, and consistent with peer districts. The June 11, 2019 LSSC vote to approve the change followed 4 years of careful consideration, collaboration and community input.

The L-S School Committee (LSSC) will again convene Listening Sessions throughout the school year (dates TBA). These are opportunities to directly connect with LSSC members. Further information regarding LS is available at the newly revamped website: www.lsrhs.net. Happy 2019-20 school year!
– LS School Committee





Welcome, Victoria Otis, Pierce House Manager

The BOS extends its gratitude and best wishes to former Pierce House Manager, Nancy Beech, who retired at the end of June. In July, Victoria Otis came on board and immediately took over a busy summer season. Victoria is a graduate of Johnson & Wales, and she comes to Lincoln after working as the Events & Bar Manager at the Stevens Estate at Osgood Hill in North Andover.

Lincoln Board of Selectmen
Jonathan Dwyer
James Craig
Jennifer Glass, Chair
16 Lincoln Road
Lincoln, Massachusetts 01773

Pre-Sorted Standard
US POSTAGE PAID
Lincoln, MA
Permit #11

ECR-WSS
Postal Patron
Lincoln, Massachusetts 01773