

## VI. COMMUNITY FACILITIES PLAN ELEMENT

### INTRODUCTION

The Community Facilities Plan Element includes an inventory of existing community facilities, identifies areas for improvement of existing facilities, and proposes development of new facilities where warranted to meet the needs of New Brunswick's growing population and to respond to changes in the City's demographic and socio-economic composition.

### INVENTORY AND ANALYSIS

#### Educational Facilities

A wide array of educational facilities exist within the City of New Brunswick as shown in Table 1, below. The educational facilities within the City include state, county, municipal and parochial institutions. The *Educational Facilities* map identifies the location of existing educational facilities within the City.

Table 1: Educational Facilities

Key #	School	Location
<i>New Brunswick Public Schools</i>		
1	Existing Lincoln School	66 Bartlett Street
2	Lincoln Elementary School Annex	197 Somerset Street
3	Livingston School	207 Delavan Street
4	Lord Stirling Community School	101 Redmond Street
5	Lord Stirling Community School Annex	43 Carmen Street
6	McKinley Community School	35 Van Dyke Avenue
7	Paul Robeson Community School	199 Commercial Avenue
8	Redshaw School	216 Livingston Avenue
9	Roosevelt School	83 Livingston Avenue
10	Woodrow School	133 Tunison Road
11	New Brunswick High School	1125 Livingston Avenue
12	Alternate High School and Adult Learning Center	268 Baldwin Street
13	Health Science Technology High School	165 Bayard Street
14	Greater Brunswick Charter School	429 Joyce Kilmer Avenue
<i>Private and Parochial Schools</i>		
15	St. Ladislaus School	40 Plum Street
16	St. Mary of Mount Virgin School	192 Stanford Street
17	St. Peter's Elementary School	165 Somerset Street
18	St. Peter's High School	175 Somerset Street
19	Anshe Emeth Religious School	222 Livingston Avenue
20	Sacred Heart School	Commercial Avenue
<i>Other Educational Facilities</i>		
21	Rutgers University – College Avenue Campus	-

Key #	School	Location
22	Rutgers University – Cook/ Douglass Campus	-
23	Rutgers University – Downtown Facilities	-
24	Middlesex County College – New Brunswick Center	140 New Street
25	New Brunswick Theological Seminary	17 Seminary Place

### *New Brunswick Public Schools*

#### Existing Public Elementary Schools

- o Lincoln Elementary School and Lincoln Elementary School Annex
- o Livingston Elementary School
- o Lord Stirling Community School and Lord Stirling Elementary School Annex
- o McKinley Community School
- o Paul Robeson Community School
- o A.C. Redshaw Elementary School
- o Roosevelt Elementary School
- o Woodrow Wilson Elementary School

#### Existing Public Secondary Schools

- o New Brunswick High School
- o N.B. Health Sciences Technology High School
- o Alternate High School
- o Adult Learning Center

#### Summary of Needs and Issues

New Brunswick’s public school system has been designated a special needs district by the New Jersey Department of Education. The City benefits from this designation under the State Supreme Court’s Abbott v. Burke decision, which established the State’s constitutional requirement to provide a “thorough and efficient” education for all public school students including those enrolled in special needs districts such as the City’s. The remedies prescribed by the State Supreme Court in this case include increased State funding to “special needs” or Abbott districts for improved schools and educational facilities. Such funding is contingent upon the preparation of a Five Year Facilities Management Plan to be submitted to the New Jersey Department of Education. In response to this requirement, the New Brunswick Public School District prepared a Facilities Management Plan that was approved by the New Jersey State Department of Education on May 17, 2001. The Plan (now referred to as the Long Range Facilities Plan) outlined a number of improvements to address the School District’s needs and the issues facing the School District. Subsequent to the preparation of the 2001 Plan, a revised Long Range Facilities Plan (the LFRP) was prepared in 2003 in order to “better address its particularized needs.” In general, the LFRP identified the following needs and initiatives that it believes were critical to the LFRP:

- o Overcrowding and Class Size Reduction – The LFRP indicated that the District experiences overcrowding in its schools with class sizes in

excess of established standards. Enrollments in grades 6-12 have increased more than 30% in the last 5 years. In addition, enrollments are projected to increase by 23% in grades 6-8 and 34% in grades 9-12.

- o Student Retention – While enrollment data suggest that the School District has made significant improvements in student retention rates, the District indicates that this issue remains as a concern and a priority of the District. Reduction of class sizes and school capacity, as well as other initiatives being implemented are expected to further address this issue.
- o Individualized Educational Programs – The District proposes to provide more student-centered and individualized educational programs by providing greater choices in educational programs.
- o Establishment of Small Learning Communities – The District will development small learning communities at the middle and high school levels in order to enhance learning and improve student retention rates.
- o Community Schools – The School District is committed to the concept of schools as centers of community. The McKinley Community School and the Lord Stirling Community School were both designed to provide for the sharing of school facilities with the community. All new school projects will be designed and developed based on these principles.

The School District's current LRFP proposes a number of improvements to address the issues summarized above. After consideration of District needs and priorities the School District has proposed the following phasing of work:

Phase 1A:

- o New High School - The construction of a New Brunswick High School for approximately 1,750 students will allow the District to address one of its most urgent needs – retention of students in grades 9-12. It would also represent a significant increase in capacity over the existing high school. It would also allow the conversion of the existing high school into a new middle school as discussed below. The new High School is currently planned within the Route 27/Jersey Avenue Redevelopment Area along Route 27.
- o New Kindergarten Centers - Three new stand-alone Kindergarten centers will be constructed. It is anticipated that two new sites will need to be acquired for these facilities. Construction of these will provide immediate relief to overcrowding by moving more than 500 Kindergarten students out of District elementary schools.

Phase 1B:

- o Health, Science and Technology High School Expansion - Expansion of the existing Health Science and Technology High School will provide capacity for approximately 200 students in grades 9-12.
- o Paul Robeson Community School Additions and Alterations - Construction of various improvements including a new cafeteria, classroom additions and renovation of other facilities.
- o Woodrow Wilson School Additions and Alternations - Construction of various improvements including a new cafeteria, classroom additions and renovation of other facilities.
- o McKinley Community School - Limited scope of improvements.

Phase 2:

- o Conversion of Existing High School into a New Middle School (6-8) - Conversion of the existing New Brunswick High School to a middle school for approximately 1,500 students in grades 6-8 will provide relief to overcrowding in all elementary schools by housing the majority of the District's 6-8 graders. This project will also allow the District to move forward with restructuring its elementary school programs.

Phase 3:

- o Roosevelt Replacement School - Replacement of the existing school on the existing site.

- o Redshaw Elementary School - Replacement of the existing school on the existing site.
- o Lincoln Elementary School - Replacement of the existing school on the existing or another site.

Phase 4:

- o Livingston Elementary School Taken Out of Service

The table below shows the current and planned capacity of the School District's schools and provides a comparison to projected enrollment levels. The table shows the current capacity issues (i.e., capacity shortfalls of 4% at the K-8 level and 13% at the 9-12 level resulting in an overall capacity shortfall of 5%) and shows how the planned improvements (particularly the construction of the new high school, the conversion of the old high school into a new middle school, and construction of the new K centers) are anticipated to raise school capacities above projected enrollments starting in the year 2005-2006.

Table 2: Projected Enrollment vs. Capacity – New Brunswick City Schools

	'02-'03	'03-'04	'04-'05	'05-'06	'06-'07	'07-'08
<i>Elementary/Middle Schools (K-8)</i>						
District K Centers	-	-	-	543	543	543
Existing Lincoln School	571	571	571	571	571	-
New Lincoln School	-	-	-	678	678	678
Livingston School	396	396	396	396	396	-

	'02-'03	'03-'04	'04-'05	'05-'06	'06-'07	'07-'08
Lord Stirling Community School	459	459	459	459	459	459
McKinley Community School	659	659	659	659	659	659
Paul Robeson Community School	414	414	414	414	414	414
Redshaw School	890	890	890	890	-	678
Roosevelt School	745	745	745	745	-	678
Woodrow School	305	305	305	394	394	394
New Middle School (Old NBHS)	-	-	-	-	1,489	1,489
Temporary Facilities	300	300	300	-	-	-
<i>Total Grade K-8 Capacity</i>	<i>4,739</i>	<i>4,739</i>	<i>4,739</i>	<i>5,749</i>	<i>5,603</i>	<i>5,992</i>
<i>Projected K-8 Enrollments</i>	<i>4,916</i>	<i>5,040</i>	<i>5,073</i>	<i>5,255</i>	<i>5,357</i>	<i>5,335</i>
<i>Elementary School Capacity +/-</i>	<i>-4%</i>	<i>-6%</i>	<i>-7%</i>	<i>9%</i>	<i>4%</i>	<i>11%</i>
<i>High School (9-12)</i>						
Existing New Brunswick High School (NBHS)	723	723	723	-	-	-
New High School	-	-	-	1,754	1,754	1,754
Alternate High School	102	102	102	102	102	102
Health Science Technology High School (HSTHS)	150	150	199	199	199	199
<i>Total High School Capacity</i>	<i>975</i>	<i>975</i>	<i>1,024</i>	<i>2,055</i>	<i>2,055</i>	<i>2,055</i>
<i>Projected High School Enrollments</i>	<i>1,104</i>	<i>1,152</i>	<i>1,281</i>	<i>1,349</i>	<i>1,358</i>	<i>1,479</i>
<i>High School Capacity +/-</i>	<i>-13%</i>	<i>-18%</i>	<i>-25%</i>	<i>34%</i>	<i>34%</i>	<i>28%</i>
<i>Total K-12 Capacity</i>	<i>5,714</i>	<i>5,714</i>	<i>5,763</i>	<i>7,804</i>	<i>7,658</i>	<i>8,047</i>
<i>Total Projected K-12 Enrollments</i>	<i>6,020</i>	<i>6,192</i>	<i>6,354</i>	<i>6,604</i>	<i>6,715</i>	<i>6,814</i>
<i>Total +/- %</i>	<i>-5%</i>	<i>-8%</i>	<i>-10%</i>	<i>15%</i>	<i>12%</i>	<i>15%</i>

Source: Long Range Facilities Plan Amendment prepared by Vitetta for New Brunswick Board of Education

The School District's LRFP will benefit the entire community because it will upgrade facilities at existing schools and provide new schools in neighborhoods throughout the City. Residents will have access to

specialized school facilities including auditoriums, gymnasiums, playgrounds, pools and ballfields. The schools will also continue to host public meetings, community functions and recreation programs in their enhanced facilities. In doing so, it is anticipated that the relationship between schools and the local community will be enhanced and students will benefit from the interaction with, and support of, the local community.

*Private and/or Parochial Schools*

The City of New Brunswick's public school system is supplemented by a diverse range of private and parochial schools. The City has a strong tradition of support for such schools which provide a specialized or religiously-oriented education. They represent an important element of New Brunswick's educational system and their contribution is recognized. In addition to the public school system, the City of New Brunswick also benefits from the existence of the following parochial schools:

- o *St. Ladislaus School*: Grades K through 8, located at 40 Plum Street
- o *St. Mary of Mount Virgin School*: Grades K through 8, located at 192 Stanford Street
- o *St. Peter's Elementary School*: Grades K through 8, located at 165 Somerset Street
- o *St. Peter's High School*: Grades 9 through 12, located at 175 Somerset Street
- o *Anshe Emeth Religious School*: Located at 222 Livingston Avenue

*Higher Education*

The City of New Brunswick is a center of higher education. The City's colleges and universities are a significant presence in the City and have a public purpose that extends beyond their primary mission of higher education. The colleges and universities contribute to the City's artistic and cultural life, boost economic activity in the areas where they are located and provide an outlet for social interaction. They are currently experiencing enrollment growth and are planning to expand their facilities, which will reinforce and enhance their presence in the community. These important educational facilities within the City include:

- o *Rutgers University – College Avenue and Cook/ Douglass Campuses*
- o *UMDNJ Robert Wood Johnson Medical School*
- o *New Brunswick Theological Seminary*
- o *Middlesex County College - New Brunswick Center*

**Other Facilities and Services in the City**

The City of New Brunswick is served by various facilities and services provided by the City, by public and private institutions, and by civic and religious organizations. The community facilities in the City include public and private educational facilities, libraries, social services, hospitals, as well as police, fire and emergency services facilities. The City has continued to institute capital improvements to ensure that the City's public

facilities and infrastructure meet the needs of the City's population. The City will continue to assess the impact that new growth and development will have on the City's service requirements. The Community Facilities map shows the location of the community facilities within the City.

*City Services*

A listing and brief description of each of the City's departments is described below:

- o Department of Administration - The Department of Administration is headed by the City Administrator and is made up of the following divisions: Inspections; Construction (which issues permits for all new construction and repair work, and performs all necessary inspections relating to building, electric, fire and plumbing); Housing (which enforces the City Property Maintenance Code); Personnel; Purchasing; and Data Processing.
- o City Clerk Department
- o Law Department - The Municipal Code establishes a Department of Law within the City of New Brunswick's municipal government. This department is directed by the city attorney who is appointed by the Mayor with the advice and consent of the City Council. The City Attorney serves as the legal advisor to the Mayor, the Council, and all department heads except as otherwise specified in the charter.
- o Department of Finance

- o Department of Public Works - The Department of Public Works is headed by the Director of Public Works and is made up of the following divisions:
  - *Division of Parks* – Responsible for the maintenance of the City's 272 acres of parks, playgrounds, passive areas, athletic fields, facilities, lawns and gardens.
  - *Division of Street Services* – Responsible for the street maintenance including the repair of pot holes, street paving, snow plowing, street sweeping and leaf removal.
  - *Clean Communities Bureau* – Administers the following programs and activities within the City: litter control; neighborhood clean-up projects; school/community education presentations; and Operation Clean Sweep.
  - *Bureau of Recycling* – Administers the City's recycling program including the curbside collection program. Other recycling programs include those related to: white goods; Christmas trees; tires; waste oil; scrap metal; paint; leaves; and brush.
  - *Division of Sanitation* – Responsible for the curbside collection of municipal residential and commercial solid waste.
  - *Bureau of Central Vehicle Maintenance* – Responsible for the service and repair of municipal vehicles and light trucks.
  - *Sewer Utility* – Responsible for the maintenance and repair of all public sewer lines (sanitary/storm), including cleaning of catch basins and manholes.
- o Department of Water Utility - The New Brunswick Water Utility is made up of the following six divisions:
  - *Director's Office* - Responsible for the day-to-day operations of all divisions.
  - *Distribution Division* - Responsible for maintenance and repair of the City's water mains and fire hydrants.
  - *Treatment Division* - Responsible for treatment and pumping of 13 million gallons of potable water daily.
  - *Pumping Division* - Responsible for pumping untreated water to the water treatment plant on a daily basis. This division is also responsible for the maintenance and repair of the four city owned dams as well as its two pumping stations.
  - *Billing and Meter Reading Division* - Responsible for billing and meter reading the city's 7900 active accounts. This division also has oversight of the meter installation and replacement section.
  - *Plant Maintenance Division* - Responsible for the maintenance and repair of the City's water treatment plant complex as well as the elevated water tanks located in the city.
- o Department of Social Services - This Department provides comprehensive social services to the residents of New Brunswick in areas including health, recreation, and vital statistics. The Department is made up of seven divisions:
  - *Health* - In conjunction with the Middlesex County Health Department, the Division of Health provides environmental health

investigations and inspections of all licensed food vendors in accordance with the New Jersey Sanitary Code. The Division also coordinates with the Middlesex County Department of Health and the New Brunswick Schools to provide immunizations, health screening sessions and health education programs throughout New Brunswick.

- *Recreation* - Administers various programs and services geared toward residents of and visitors to the City of New Brunswick. Programs include adult and youth athletic leagues in soccer, softball, baseball, and basketball, seasonal events including the Raritan River Festival and Summer Concert Series, and organized field trips. In cooperation with the Division of Parks, the Division of Recreation schedules and monitors the use of all parks throughout the City of New Brunswick. The Division of Recreation also manages the HUB Teen Center which provides New Brunswick residents ages 13-19 with a place to join together outside of the traditional school hours and includes homework assistance, computer labs and training, professional development skills workshops, and recreational programming.
- *Senior Resource Center* - A multipurpose facility designed to meet the social, recreational, and physical needs of its members. Programs offered at the Center include chartered trips to attractions throughout the New Jersey area, medical educational

and screening programs, breakfast and lunch programs, social service referrals.

- *Vital Statistics* - Responsible for registering all births, marriages, and deaths in the City of New Brunswick.
- *Dial-A-Ride* - Provides transportation for all eligible residents to doctor's appointments and social service agencies within the Greater New Brunswick Area.
- *Youth Services System* - Provides comprehensive after school programming for New Brunswick residents ages 6-15. Activities provided through the Youth Services System include homework assistance, peer counseling, leadership training, athletic programming, and workshops in music, drama, and photography. The Youth Services System strives to bring together business leaders, social service agencies, community groups, and educators in an effort to offer programming which will be most beneficial to participants. The Youth Services System has also formed partnerships with several departments at Rutgers University to provide educational, training, and internship opportunities for Rutgers students as well as leadership, staffing, and financing for YSS participants.
- *Animal Control* - Works in a coordinated effort to protect both residents and pets and stray animals. The Division responds to calls in both Highland Park and New Brunswick, rents traps to New Brunswick residents to remove unwanted animals from

private property in a harmless way, and provides basic veterinary services to animals without owners. The Division of Animal Control licenses all pets and exotic animals kept in the City of New Brunswick. The Division also offers free educational information to residents on issues related to pet care and handling as well as rabies and neuter/spay programs.

- o Department of Planning, Community and Economic Development - The Department of Planning, Community and Economic Development is the liaison between the public and private sector for planning and development activities in New Brunswick. The Department coordinates economic development activities such as: redevelopment projects; two loan guarantee programs; financial assistance and training to small businesses; and facade improvement grants for business properties. The Department has assisted in the development of over \$1.3 billion of new construction and a 27% increase in the number of jobs in the city in the last 10 years. The Department also funds and coordinates community development activities for the City. Projects have included the rehabilitation of over 1,000 homes and the construction of over 400 new homes for low- or moderate-income families, as well as the construction of new sidewalks and community clean up projects. The Department's responsibilities also include administration of the Rent Control Office which regulates residential rent increases. The Department also manages the development and

updating of the City's Master Plan, administers local zoning regulations and develops redevelopment planning strategies to revitalize areas in the City in need of improvement. The New Brunswick Sister City Program has four sister city relationships with Ireland, Japan (2) and Hungary.

- o Department of Engineering - The Department of Engineering is headed by the City Engineer and is comprised of the following two divisions:
  - *Division of Engineering* – Provides the following services: (1) prepares plans and specifications for: infrastructure (storm and sanitary sewer) improvements; land development (i.e., parks and open space); road improvements; and traffic and signal improvements; (2) administers and manages construction and consultant contracts associated with utility and other municipal improvement projects; (3) provides technical assistance to other City Departments and Agencies including the Traffic Commission, Accident Review Board, Planning Board and Board of Adjustment; (4) makes recommendations on plans for future projects and City developments; (5) prepares street Maps, ward maps and drug-free zone maps; (6) prepares grant applications for funding of road improvements projects; (7) clean up of contaminated sites, park developments, etc.; (8) provides traffic reviews and recommendations on specific traffic related

problems; (9) oversees the preparation of Tax Maps; (10) issues permits for street openings, curb and sidewalk construction, crane placement, dumpster placement and the installation of fiber optic cable; and (11) reviews applications for encroachment on public rights-of-way, non-emergency street closings and traffic detour plans.

- *Division of Traffic & Lighting* - Maintains the City's traffic signal system and street signage inventory.

#### *Emergency Services*

The City provides emergency services to its residents in the form of police services, fire protection services, and first aid services. The locations of emergency service facilities are shown on the figure entitled "Community Facilities."

#### Police Department

The New Brunswick Police Department provides 24-hour protection of the City, consisting of foot and car patrols, as well as bicycle patrols during warmer months. The Department consists of about 140 paid Police Officers. Police Department headquarters is located in the Civic Square Public Safety Building completed on May 2000 on Kirkpatrick Street as part of the Civic Square II redevelopment project.

#### Fire Department

The Fire Department presently operates out of three locations:

- o Fire Headquarters on Joyce Kilmer Avenue houses the Administrative offices of the department, Engine Company #1, Ladder Company #1 and Rescue #3;
- o Engine Company #2 is located on Burnet Street in the Rutgers Village/Edgebrook section of the City; and
- o Engine Company #5 is located at the corner of Bartlett and Wyckoff Streets in the 6th Ward.

The New Brunswick Fire Department is comprised of 1 Director, 5 Deputy Chiefs, 8 Captains, 8 Lieutenants and 56 Firefighters. The Fire Prevention Bureau is comprised of 1 Fire Official, 2 Fire Prevention Specialists, and a dog trained to detect flammable liquids. In 2001 the department responded to 3,500 incidents.

In addition to fighting fires, the City's Fire Department provides first responder emergency medical service that supplements the ambulance service provided to the City under contract by Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital. Every new firefighter since 1989 has become an emergency medical technician, providing first response for all medical emergencies. Seventy five percent of the City's firefighters are now EMT's and certified in defibrillation. The department has four defibrillators for cardiac emergencies.

First Aid

The City of New Brunswick provides first aid services to its residents via a contractual arrangement with Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital. The hospital responds to medical emergencies by providing first aid and ambulance services to City residents. In addition, as indicated above, the New Brunswick Fire Department supplements first aid services by providing first provider emergency medical services.

*Library Services*

The New Brunswick Free Public Library, located at 60 Livingston Avenue, provides educational, informational, cultural and recreational resources and services to the people in New Brunswick. Information access is provided through print, video, audio, and electronic materials selected, organized, and maintained so as to be accessible and relevant to the present and future needs of the community it serves. In this effort, the New Brunswick Free Public Library cooperates with other libraries, and with other educational, and governmental institutions. Special emphasis is placed on service to youth. All residents and taxpayers of New Brunswick are eligible for free membership at the library. Those who work or attend school in New Brunswick but do not live in New Brunswick can use their hometown library card if New Brunswick Free Public Library has a borrowing agreement with that library. New Brunswick Free Public Library has agreements with many public libraries in Middlesex, Union and Somerset Counties, entitling residents who hold a New Brunswick

Library card to borrow materials from those libraries. The library has staff members specially trained in children's, adult, and young adult services to handle questions and requests for materials. The Library subscribes to print and electronic indexes that provide citations to newspaper and magazine articles on a variety of subjects. The meeting rooms of the New Brunswick Free Public Library may be reserved for public gatherings when they are not being used for library programs. Meeting rooms are available at no charge during the hours that the library is open.

*Places of Worship*

The City of New Brunswick is served by numerous places of worship of various denominations. Many of these churches are located in the older, centrally located sections of the City while others are located in the City's residential neighborhoods.

*Health Care and Social Services*

The City contains the country's largest medical school, two premiere academic hospitals, the country's largest public health sciences university, University of Medicine & Dentistry of New Jersey; two premier teaching hospitals, Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital and St. Peter's University Hospital; and, a nationally accredited cancer care center, The Cancer Institute of New Jersey.

Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital, one of the nation's leading academic health centers, is the principal hospital for UMDNJ-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School and is home to the Heart Center of New Jersey, the Vascular Center of New Jersey, and central New Jersey's only Level I Trauma Center. The Cancer Institute of New Jersey is the only one in the State designated by the National Cancer Institute (NCI), and one of only 13 NCI designated clinical cancer centers in the nation.

The Robert Wood Johnson Medical School (RWJMS) is an academic unit of the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey (UMDNJ) which is the state's university of the health sciences. UMDNJ is the state university of the health sciences and the nation's largest institution of its kind. Robert Wood Johnson Medical School is one of eight schools of the UMDNJ. The school has over 2,500 faculty and is ranked among the top fifty primary care medical schools in the United States. The Eric B. Chandler Health Center is one of the health care facilities of UMDNJ. It is a comprehensive, family oriented community health care center dedicated to medical care conveniently located on George Street in downtown New Brunswick.

The Cancer Institute of New Jersey's facility, located across the street from Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital, serves as the nucleus of the most innovative cancer treatment and research centers in the state. The Cancer Institute of New Jersey is the only site in New Jersey to be

designated a Comprehensive Cancer Center by the National Cancer Institute. The state-of-the-art cancer facility opened in November 2002, adding 92 beds and bringing the hospital's existing cancer services under one roof. Features of the 200,000 square foot facility include private rooms for medical oncology patients and the relocation of the Bone Marrow Transplant Unit from the CORE Pavilion. An expanded Radiology Oncology Department will include a magnetic resonance imaging machine, two linear accelerators and simulator with additional space to add three additional linear accelerators based on future patient needs. A new two-story entrance and lobby, an expanded emergency department and a new cafeteria are also part of the new construction.

The Bristol-Myers Squibb Children's Hospital (BMSCH) at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital is New Jersey's largest free-standing state-designated, acute care children's hospital. The hospital's partnership with UMDNJ-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School and Children's Specialized Hospital, an affiliate member of the Robert Wood Johnson Health System, brings the full spectrum of comprehensive pediatric specialties and subspecialties and nationally recognized services to pediatric patients throughout the state. The hospital is home to the region's first pediatric intensive care unit and the only Level I Trauma Center with a pediatric commitment. Ground has been broken for the construction of the medical school's UMD-Child Health Institute of New Jersey to be built adjacent to the children's hospital. The institute will be a comprehensive

biomedical research center focusing on the genetic, environmental and behavioral factors in human growth and development with an emphasis on the prevention, treatment and cure of childhood diseases.

St. Peter's University Hospital provides ground-breaking medical research and technology. Saint Peter's is also a regional specialist in minimally invasive surgery, diabetes, and oncology. With primary health care services offered at numerous locations, Saint Peter's offers a comprehensive range of health care services for people of all ages. Saint Peter's University Hospital has long been recognized as New Jersey's leading health care center for infants and children. It is one of only eight children's hospitals and one of only eight regional perinatal centers in the state and is the only hospital in central New Jersey designated by the state to serve both seriously ill children and high-risk newborns. The Children's Hospital at Saint Peter's cares for more children and babies than any other children's hospital in New Jersey. More than 9,000 children are hospitalized at Saint Peter's every year, and more than 45,000 seek care in our emergency and outpatient facilities annually.

The City's Board of Education has recently established two health and wellness centers to serve the health care needs of New Brunswick Public School students. The Wellness Centers are expected to offer well-child care; immunizations; sports physicals; student evaluations for Child Study

Team classifications; disease prevention; physicals for student working papers; and referrals for free eyeglasses. Dental services will also be provided at the sites, including dental screenings (inclusive of x-rays), fluoride treatments, dental sealants, fillings and tooth extractions.

Healthier New Brunswick 2010 is another new initiative also designed to improve the delivery of health care services to our residents. New Brunswick Tomorrow, as the managing entity of a large collaboration of health care providers and social service and government agencies, is spearheading a joint effort to develop solutions to the health concerns of the City's residents. The Healthier New Brunswick 2010 initiative is creating comprehensive plans to make our City and its residents healthier.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

New Brunswick is a nearly fully developed City. Most future changes in the provision of community facilities and services will thus not likely result from new development. For example, since the City is already developed the expansion of municipal services, such as expansion of sewer, water, roadways, etc., into previously undeveloped areas of the community is not an issue in the City of New Brunswick. However, this is not to say that a community services and facilities are still not an important component of the City's planning. The provision of community services

and facilities must continue to be evaluated in light of the following considerations:

- o *Changes in population, demographic characteristics and employment levels* – Even though the City is essentially fully developed (and as been so for quite some time now), the City’s demographic characteristics continues to evolve. The Community Profile section contained in the Housing Element demonstrated a number of key demographic changes that occurred in the City just within the 10 year period between the 1990 and 2000 censuses, including the following:
  - The City’s population increased by 6,862 (17%) despite only a 3% increase in the number of housing units caused mostly by the 20% increase in median household size;
  - Increase in the number of children under 5 years of age (increased by almost 1,000) and an increase in the number of children between the ages of 5 and 14 (which increased by 1,355 persons);
  - The notable increase in the Hispanic/ Latino population which increased by 10,884 persons during the 1990’s (a 135% increase over 1990) and which raised their representation within the City from 19% in 1990 to 39% in the year 2000; and,

- The continued increase in the number and percentage of foreign-born residents, which raised from 6,989 persons (17%) in 1990 to 16,215 (33%) in 2000.

The City must continue to evaluate and respond to changing needs for community services and facilities resulting from changes in the City’s population. The level of service provided by City, the School District, and other service providers should be continually monitored and adjusted as necessary in response to any additional changes in demand resulting from changes in the City’s population. For example, the increase in the number of school children (together with projected future increases) guided the facility proposals contained in the School District’s Long Range Facilities Plan. Obviously, the School District will need to continue to monitor and evaluate the City’s population and demographic changes and plan accordingly, as will the City and other service providers in the provision of services and facilities they provide to the City.

Changes in the characteristics of the City’s population may necessitate changes in community services and facilities provided to the City’s residents. For, example, the significant increase in the Latino/Hispanic population may suggest a need for services geared towards that segment of the population. The continued increase in the number of foreign-born residents as well may suggest a need for

services geared towards that segment of the population. For example, the fact that approximately 20% of the City's population live within "linguistically isolated households" (which is defined by the Census Bureau as a household in which all members over 14 years of age have at least some difficulty with English) points to the need for services geared towards that population.

The substantial increase in the median household size within the City is likely to have an impact on the provision of certain community services and facilities as well. While infill development and redevelopment projects have helped increase the residential population in certain areas of the City (e.g., the downtown area), the majority of the City's population increase was due to the increase in the median household size in the City. It is likely that certain neighborhoods, such as those experiencing an influx of foreign-born residents or students, has experienced a greater increase in median household size than other areas of the City. The resulting increases in population in those areas of the City may result in the need for new or improved services and/or facilities in those areas. For example, as discussed in the *Circulation Plan Element* increased median household size has created parking capacity issues in certain issues. The creation of neighborhood parks was recommended in the *Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan Element*.

- o *Changes in priorities and preferences* – Changes in priorities and preferences for certain services in favor of others may suggest a need for changes in community services and facilities. Just like any other community, the wants, needs and desires of the City's populace are likely to change over time. New services and facilities may come into favor over time; while other services and facilities may become decreasingly sought after by City residents. As result, the City must continually seek to understand the wants, needs and desires of its residents and seek to address such wants, needs and desires to the greatest degree practicable in light of economic, fiscal and practical (e.g., facility siting, redundancy with services provided by others, etc.) considerations.

As discussed in the *Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan Element*, the City has responded in earnest within the last few years to an expressed desire for more active recreation facilities through the development of a number of new active recreation facilities including the Youth Sports Complex and Alice Jennings Archibald Park, as well through improvements to existing City parks. In addition, the *Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan Element*, endorses improvements to the City's existing soccer facilities due to increases in demand for such facilities. The City's creation of additional active recreation facilities is but one example of how the City has recently responded

to the changing needs of its populace and how it should continue to do so.

It is likely that the desire for new community services and facilities will come to light in the future. One such desire that has recently come to the forefront has been the desire for a new community center. As discussed in greater detail in the *Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan Element*, in January 2004, the New Brunswick Community Center Task Force, issued a report that recommended that the City pursue the development of additional community and recreational facilities, particularly the development of a community center that includes a swimming pool and space for community meetings as well as facilities and equipment for fitness, weight training, dancing and other similar activities as possible.

- o *Other factors that would improve the provision of community services and facilities to City residents.*
  - Changes in technology. Where improved technology can improve the provision of City services, the City should seek to use such technology. For example, the City has budgeted funds through its capital improvement program to develop a geographic information system (GIS) to provide more reliable property data in the City, public infrastructure and the environment. The GIS will allow this data to be more accessible

through a computer network to enable City staff to have better information when making decisions and to make more accurate information available to the public. The City and its consultant are in the process of developing a parcel map of the City and GIS layers of basic infrastructure. Other City services, such as police, fire protection and administrative services, will likely implement new technology in order to provide better service and/or to provide existing service more efficiently and effectively.

- Work with other service providers. Where possible and appropriate, the City should cooperate and coordinate with other service providers in the provision of services to City residents. The New Brunswick Community Center Task Force's report recommended that the City actively seek creative and alternative means to fund the development and operation of the community center discussed above, including partnerships (e.g., the report recommended that the City explore opportunities to share facilities with other organizations such as the Board of Education and Rutgers University since the sharing of facilities may reduce the funding burden on local residents and create additional site opportunities). Also, the Civic Square II redevelopment project brought together the city, the county, and the federal government, as well as public and private developers. The houses the New Brunswick Police Department,

New Brunswick Municipal Courts as well as the U.S. Postal Service and the offices of the Middlesex County Prosecutor. The City should participate in other such endeavors that result in the provision of City services and facilities in an efficient and cost-effective manner.