

MEETING POSTING

TOWN OF NANTUCKET

Pursuant to MGL Chapter 30A, § 18-25

All meeting **notices and agenda** must be filed and time stamped with the Town Clerk's Office and posted at least 48 hours prior to the meeting (excluding Saturdays, Sundays and Holidays)

RECEIVED

2022 FEB 01 AM 09:51
NANTUCKET TOWN CLERK
Posting Number: T 099

Committee/Board/s | FINANCE COMMITTEE

Day, Date, and Time | Thursday, February 3rd, 2022 @ 4 PM

Location / Address | REMOTE PARTICIPATION VIA ZOOM
The meeting will be aired at a later time on the Town's Government TV YouTube Channel
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC-sgxA1fdoxteLNzRAUHIxA>

Signature of Chair or Authorized Person | Mariya Basheva

WARNING: IF THERE IS NO QUORUM OF MEMBERS PRESENT, OR IF MEETING POSTING IS NOT IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE OML STATUTE, NO MEETING MAY BE HELD!

AGENDA

Please list below the topics the chair reasonably anticipates will be discussed at the meeting

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85233016045?pwd=NnhIZGVKYk1xSEpidmV0UkRBUXY4UT09>

Meeting ID: 852 3301 6045

Passcode: 508885

1. Call to Order
2. Audio/Video Announcement
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Public Comment
5. Potential Adoption of Meeting Minutes from January 27th, 2022
6. Discussion of Article 38: Appropriate \$300,000 to purchase a shredder for solid waste recycle and MRF.
7. Discussion and review of FY2023 School Budget
8. Discussion of Article 80: Home Rule Petition: Amend the Historic District Commission enabling legislation to encourage the adoption of solar power and renewable energy systems
9. Discussion of Article 81: Home Rule Petition: Amend special act regarding the makeup of the Nantucket Planning and Economic Development Commission

10. Review and Discussion of FY2023 Finance Department Operating Budget

11. Committee Reports

12. Date of Next Meeting – Tuesday, February 8th, 2022 @ 4 PM

13. Other Business

14. Adjournment

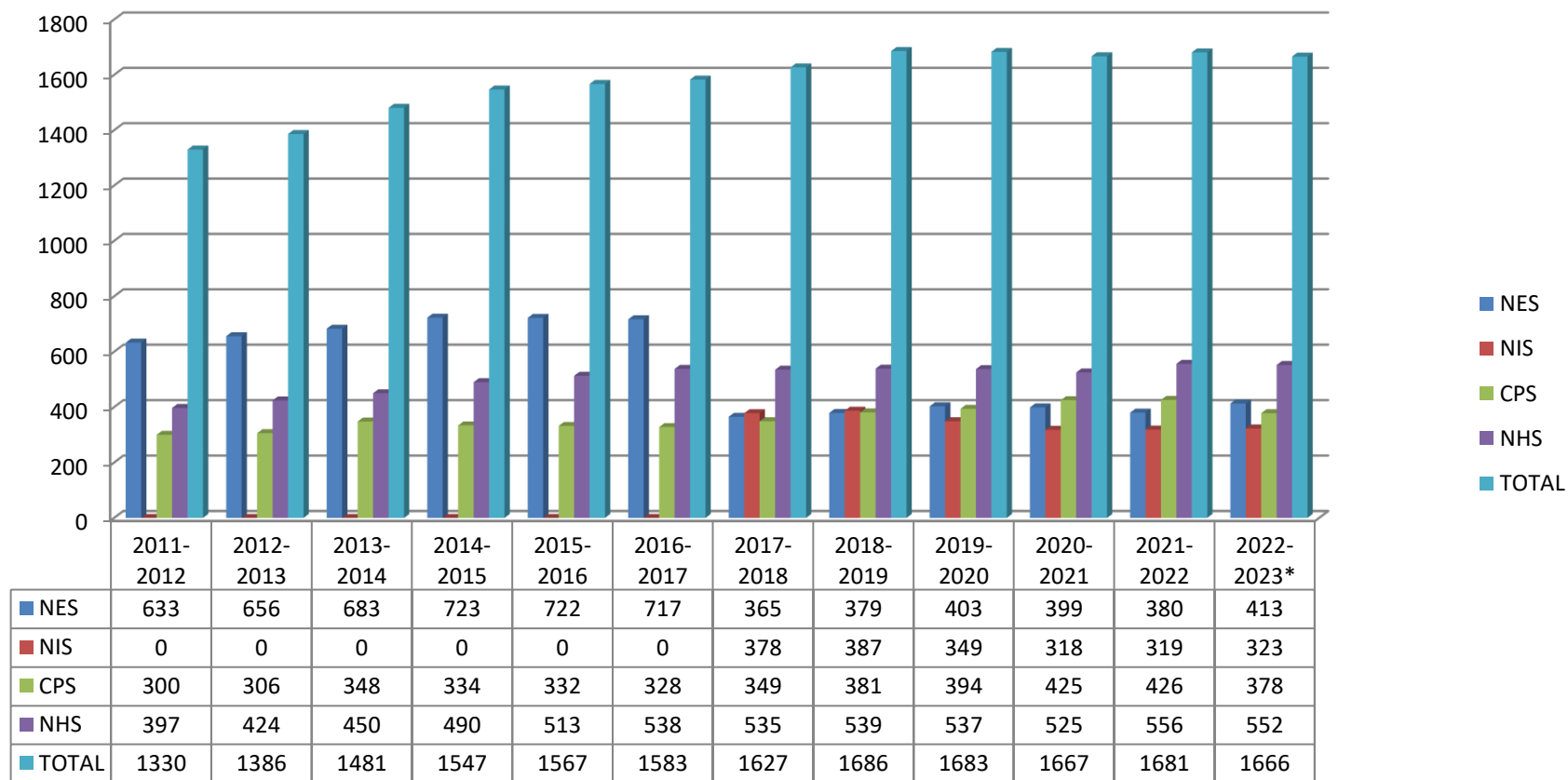
NPS BUDGET DEVELOPMENT FY 2023

Finance
Committee
Presentation
February 3,
2022



NPS Enrollment Summary

2011-2023



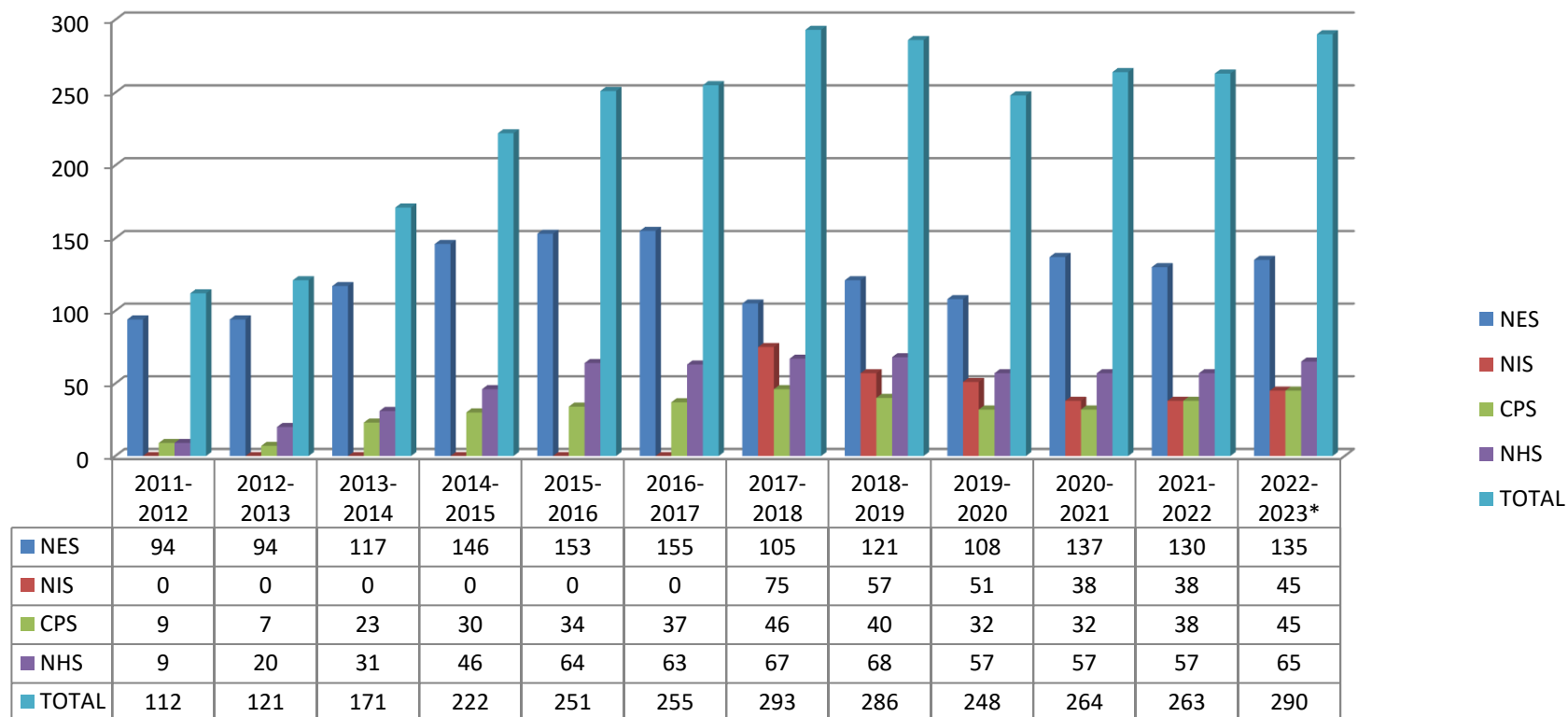
**2022-2023 represents a projection at this time.*

NPS Historical Enrollment by Grade

2000-2021

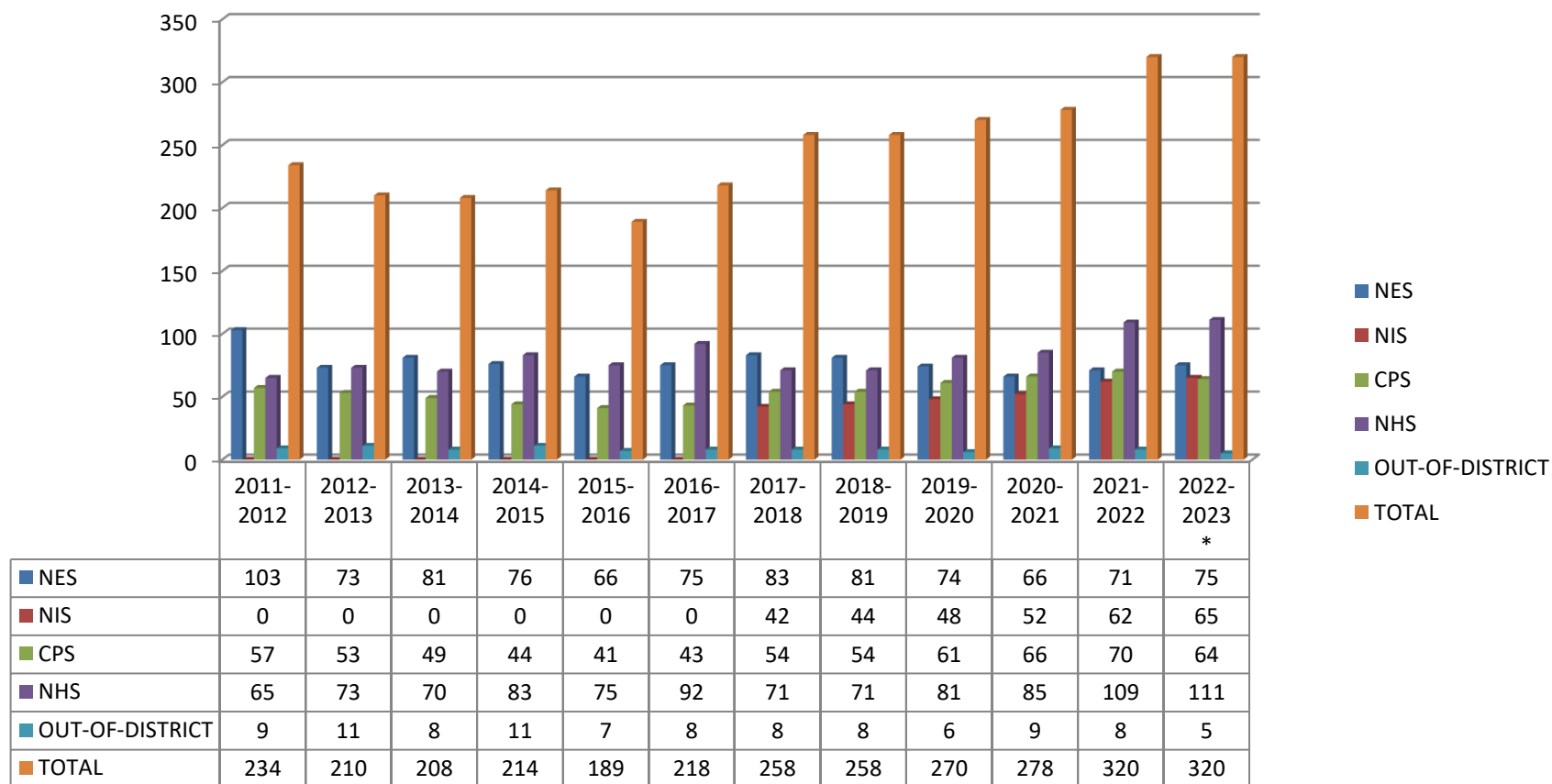
SCHOOL YEAR	PK	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	TOTAL	Subgroup %	Subgroup %	Subgroup %	Subgroup %
																WHITE	HISPANIC	AFRICAN AMERICAN	OTHER
2000-2001	19	69	94	89	95	98	103	100	103	83	95	95	76	82	1201	93.3	2.2	4.1	0.4
2001-2002	20	85	70	93	91	90	92	97	100	103	90	95	86	66	1178	90.2	3.8	5.1	0.9
2002-2003	19	74	83	76	86	84	90	84	94	97	109	76	93	76	1141	88.5	5.0	5.7	0.8
2003-2004	23	91	79	88	72	91	85	93	87	97	106	98	75	83	1168	85.4	4.8	8.6	1.2
2004-2005	37	91	96	84	87	81	95	88	98	91	113	100	95	67	1223	83.5	5.7	9.7	1.1
2005-2006	34	107	98	94	86	85	81	95	79	96	103	100	100	85	1243	85.3	4.7	9.2	0.8
2006-2007	38	101	104	101	96	88	89	83	104	90	112	109	98	95	1308	77.8	9.3	10.2	2.7
2007-2008	17	109	101	102	94	96	88	92	85	104	110	104	101	92	1295	75.0	10.3	11.0	3.7
2008-2009	44	83	112	93	97	97	89	92	86	84	112	101	95	93	1278	73.2	12.0	11.8	3.0
2009-2010	27	85	92	109	88	101	85	92	85	89	98	107	92	83	1233	70.7	12.5	13.0	3.8
2010-2011	27	94	96	89	108	96	104	95	96	92	110	85	107	90	1289	68.6	13.1	13.4	4.9
2011-2012	26	107	104	98	93	112	93	105	95	100	124	93	86	94	1330	66.5	14.7	13.6	5.2
2012-2013	28	106	111	104	105	89	113	104	106	96	130	108	103	83	1386	62.9	17.6	13.8	5.7
2013-2014	22	136	108	105	111	108	93	126	108	114	119	127	106	98	1481	61.8	20.3	12.3	5.6
2014-2015	23	124	134	110	110	113	109	94	132	108	136	130	123	101	1547	59.1	23.5	11.9	5.5
2015-2016	26	96	125	130	113	114	118	102	101	129	146	138	110	119	1567	58.1	25.3	10.6	5.9
2016-2017	35	84	117	121	134	112	114	120	103	105	144	144	137	113	1583	55.7	28.0	11.1	5.2
2017-2018	37	118	95	115	126	136	116	115	127	107	120	150	136	129	1627	53.6	30.5	10.6	5.2
2018-2019	51	112	123	93	117	128	142	123	122	136	137	121	151	130	1686	52.0	32.0	10.0	6.0
2019-2020	60	103	119	121	94	115	138	153	124	119	143	135	123	136	1683	50.2	29.5	12.3	8.0
2020-2021	57	112	115	115	114	88	116	146	149	130	132	140	137	109	1667	48.5	36.1	9.4	5.9

English Learner Population 2011-2023



**2022-2023 represents a projection at this time.*

Special Education Population 2011-2023



**2022-2023 represents a projection at this time.*

NPS FY 2023 Budget Development

FY 2022 Budget - \$32,726,987*

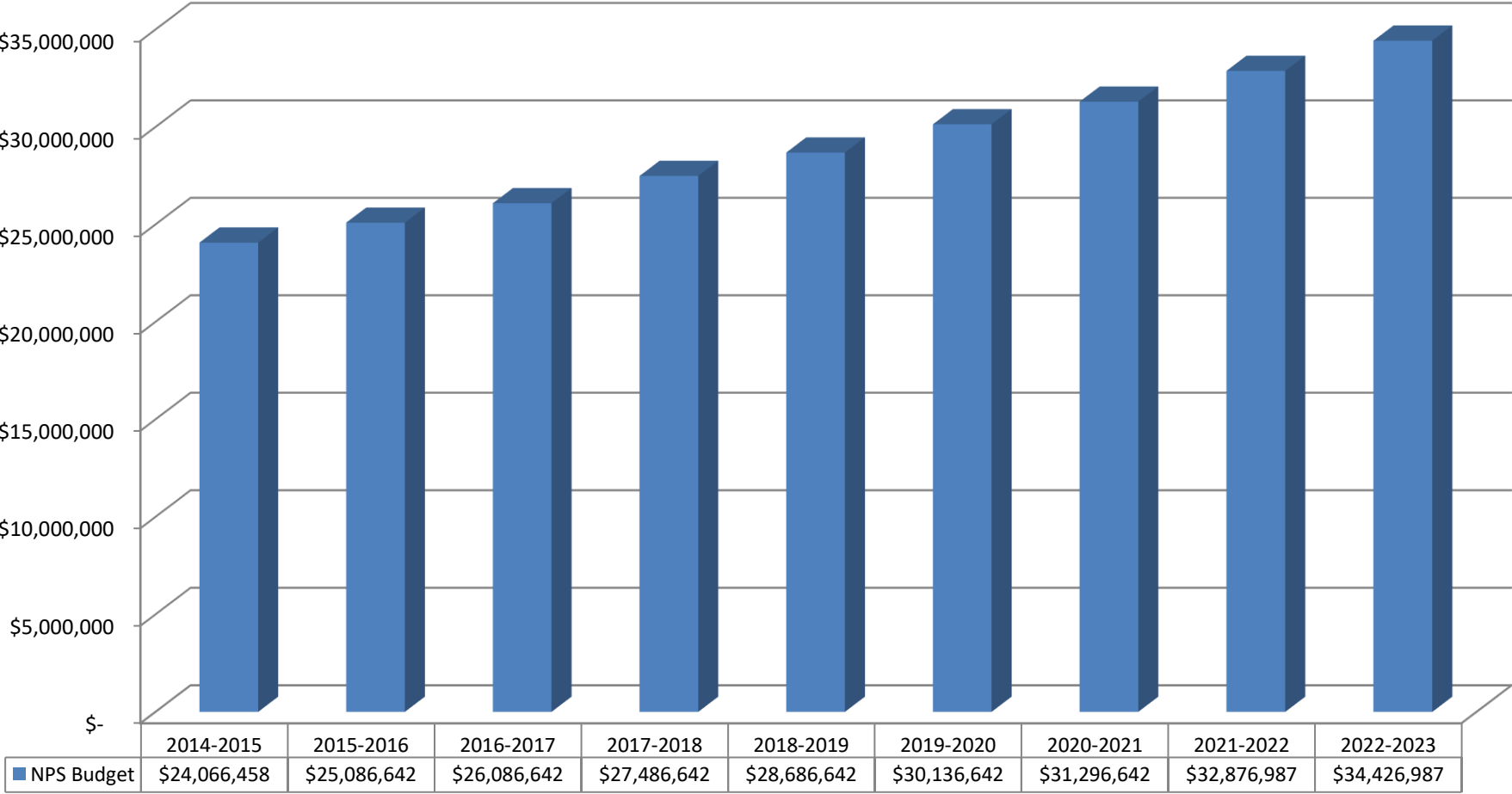
FY 2023 Budget - \$34,426,987

Projected Increase - \$1,700,000**

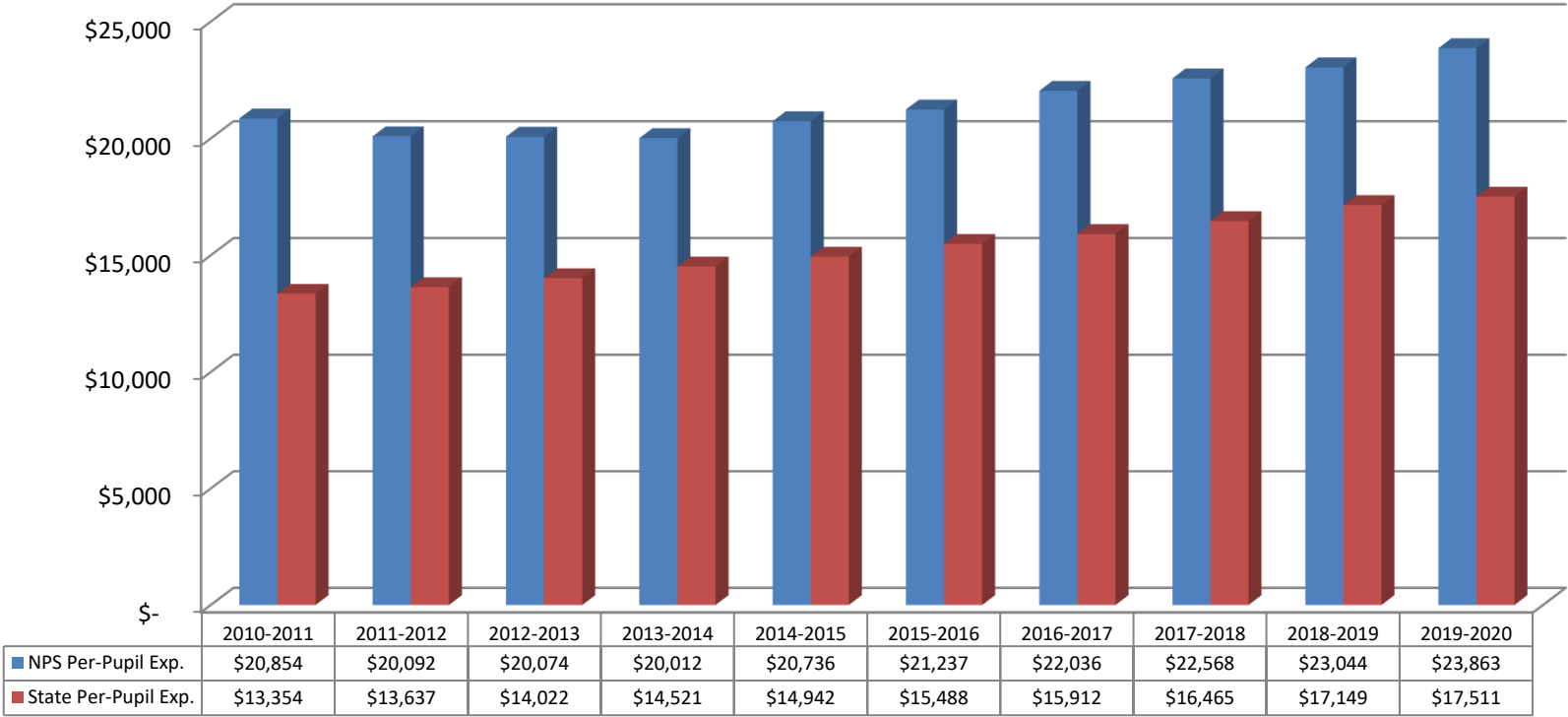
****FY2022 Budget was in total \$32,876,987, of which \$150,000 were for one-time expenses; the number above of \$32,726,987 is the adjusted number after removing the one-time increase of \$150,000***

*****\$1,500,000 of the FY2023 Projected Budget increase is for ongoing expenses and \$200,000 is for one-time expenses.***

School Committee Operating Budget

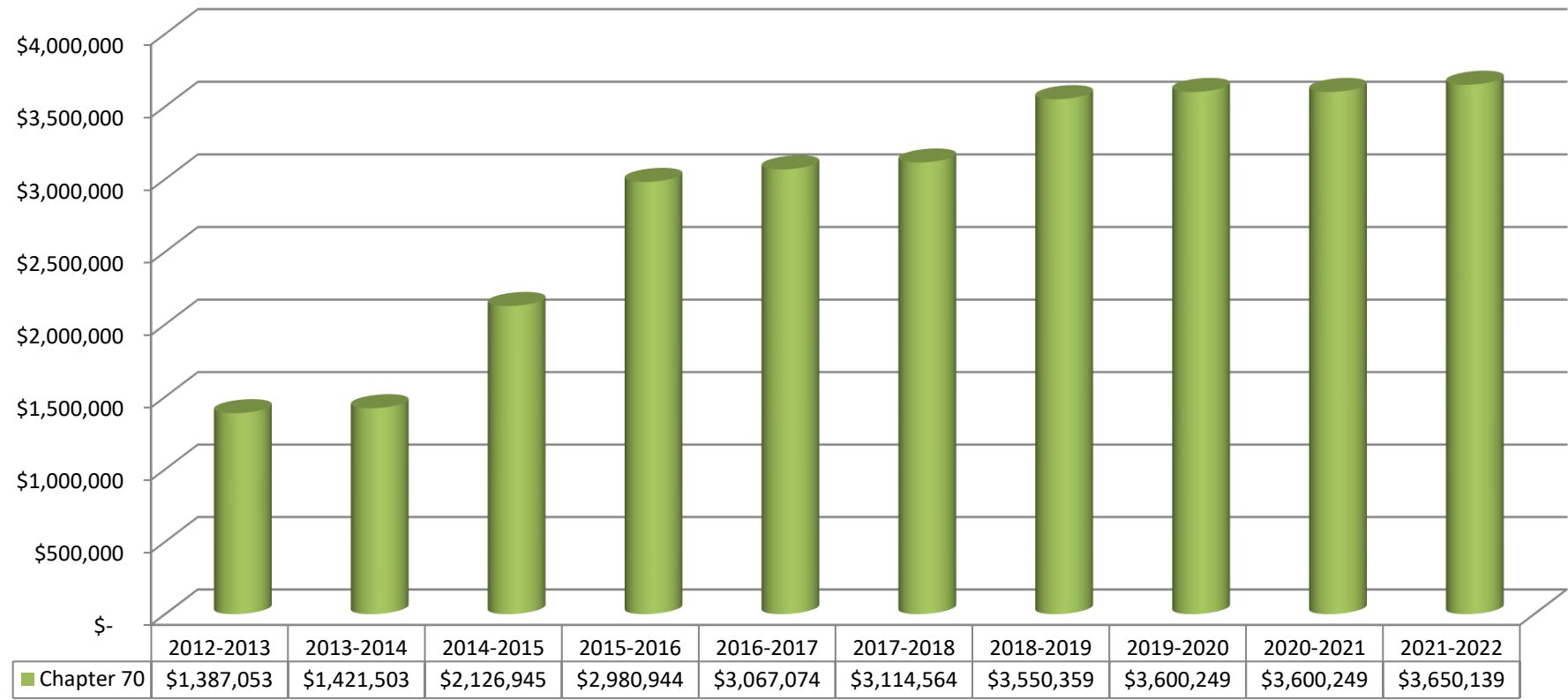


Per - Pupil Expenditure

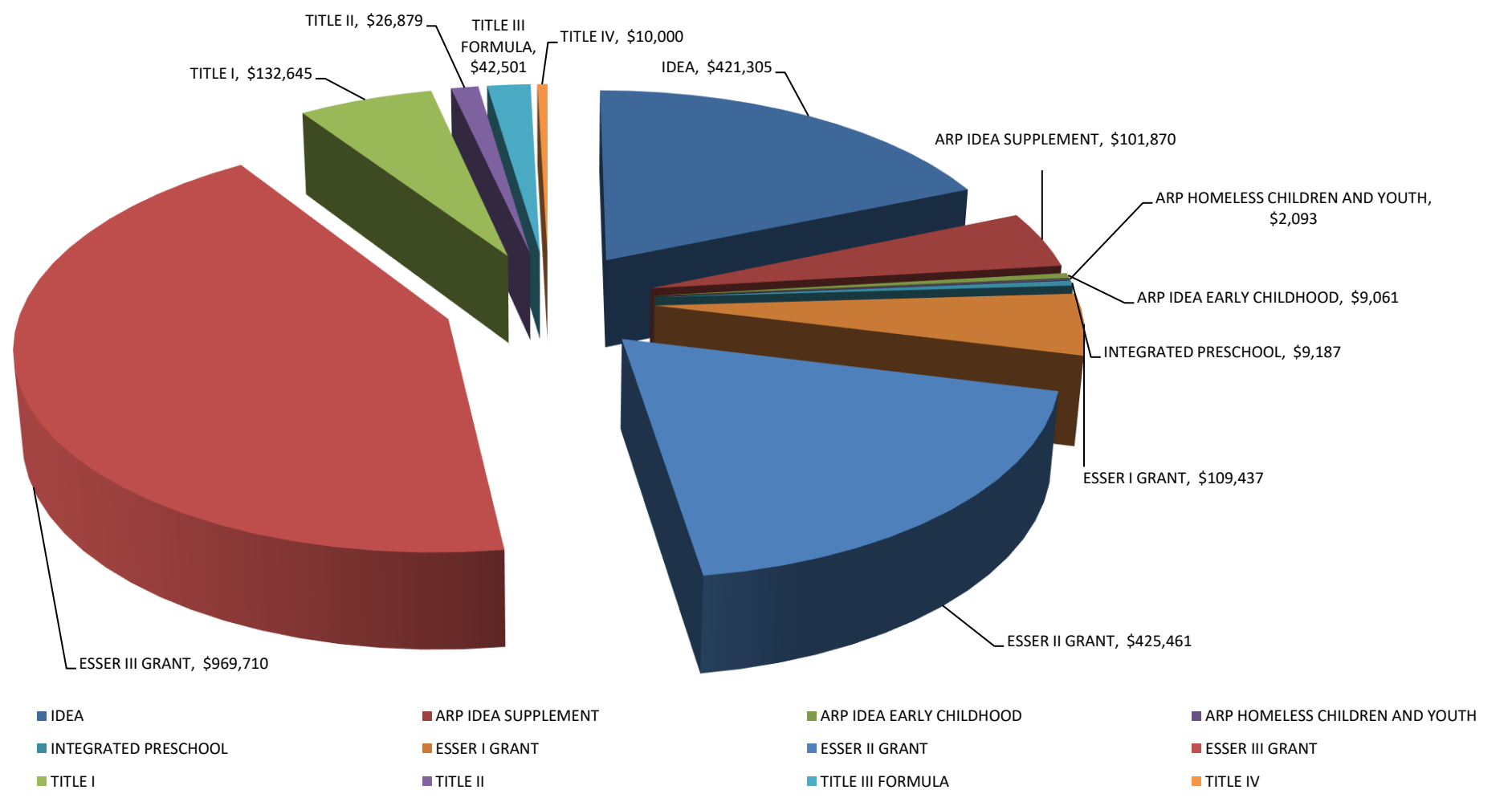


■ NPS Per-Pupil Exp. ■ State Per-Pupil Exp.

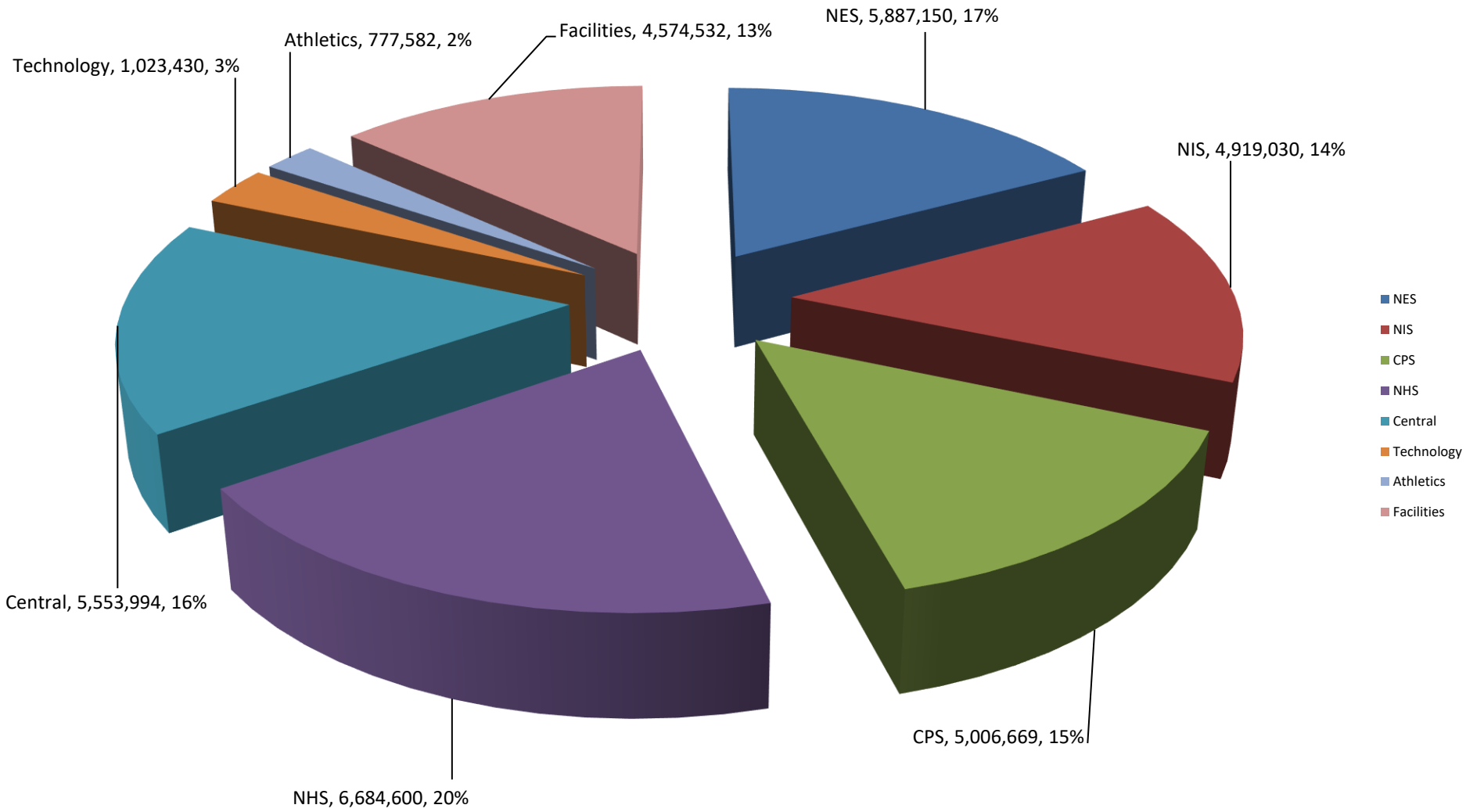
Chapter 70 Historical Comparison



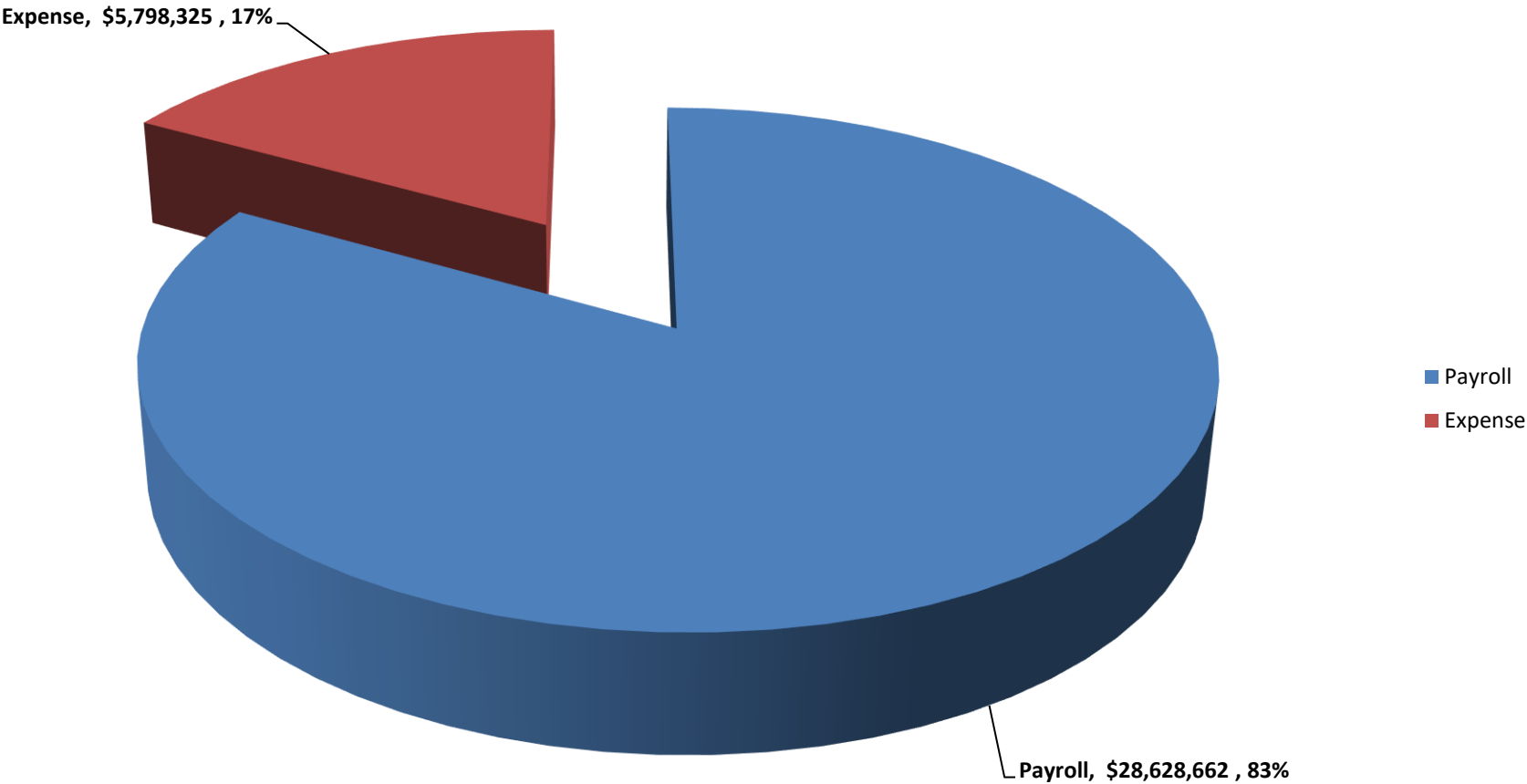
Federal Grants 2021 -2022: \$2,260,149



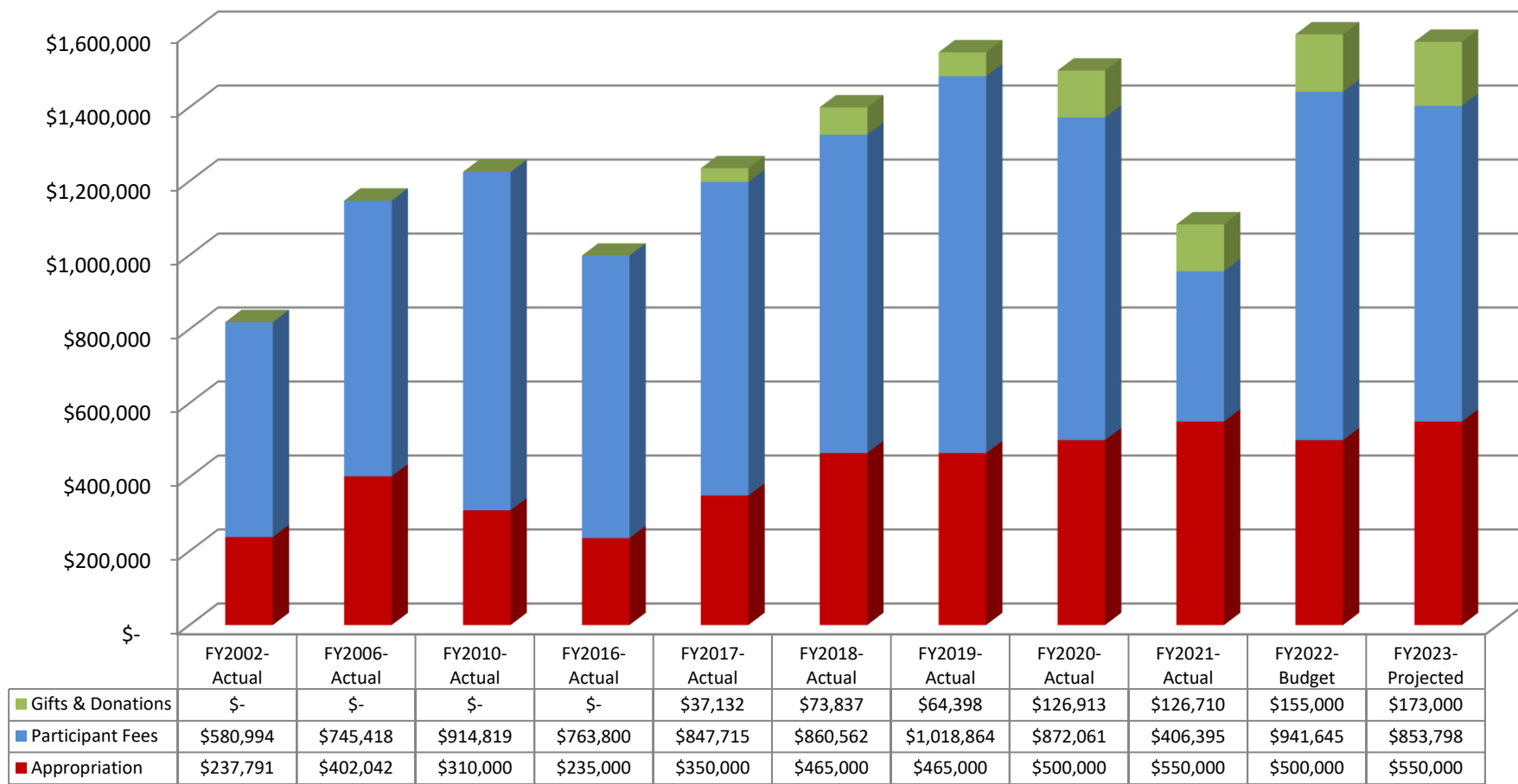
NPS FY 2023 Budget



NPS FY 2023 Budget



Community School Revenue Breakdown 2002-2023



NPS FY 2023 Budget Development

District Leadership Team: Parameters

- Recommend 2022-23 budget needs that are linked to district and school goals with particular attention to **access and equity for all students.**
- Expect that building budgets for 2022-2023 are based on projected enrollments, curricular needs and **extenuating circumstance due to COVID-19.**
- Ask building principals to identify essential services for their students.
- Continue to support programs that sustain the physical, social and emotional development of our children, especially considering **additional challenges presented by the current pandemic.**
- Develop all budgets to more closely reflect actual expenditures in the last three years.
- Tap revenue streams other than the operating budget (**federal and state grant opportunities**).
- Budget utility expenses to more closely reflect actual expenditures in the last three years.

NPS FY 2023 Budget Increases Over Current Budget

Nantucket Elementary School

- * Add 0.5 fte ELL Teacher \$ 41,488
- * Add 2.0 fte Teaching Assistants \$ 64,000

Nantucket Intermediate School

- * Add a 1.0 fte 5th Grade Teacher \$ 80,588

Cyrus Peirce Middle School

- * Add 1.0 fte Guidance Counselor \$ 69,490
- * Increase funding in Various Supplies Lines \$ 19,754

Nantucket High School

- * Add 0.6 fte to a Landscape Environmental Science Teacher \$ 50,164
- * Add 1.0 fte Art Teacher \$ 80,558

NPS FY 2023 Budget Increases Over Current Budget

English Learner Department

* Increase Funding in Remediation Account	\$ 4,206
---	----------

Technology Department

* Increase Funding in Technology Seasonal Salaries	\$ 20,000
--	-----------

* Add 1.0 fte Educational Technology Specialist	\$ 72,800
---	-----------

Special Services Department

* Add 1.0 fte School Psychologist	\$ 80,558
-----------------------------------	-----------

* Add 1.0 fte BCBA	\$ 80,558
--------------------	-----------

*Add 0.5 fte Transition Program Specialist	\$ 40,279
--	-----------

NPS FY 2023 Budget Development

What will we accomplish with this budget?

- ☐ Additional attention to unfinished learning and social emotional needs of students due to the pandemic
- ☐ Stronger support with special education evaluations and services
- ☐ Increased staffing and assistance for students with disabilities at NHS
- ☐ Federal compliance for English Learner instruction at NES based on enrollment size
- ☐ Much needed classroom support at the Kindergarten level
- ☐ Additional vocational and visual arts choices for high school students
- ☐ More district-wide support with educational technology

QUESTIONS?

THANK YOU

CAPITAL PROJECT REQUESTS

FY 2023

NPS – Roof Replacements - \$250,000

FY23 request of \$250,000. We have several roofs that have reached the end of their useful life and are in need of replacement.



NPS – Building Improvements - \$300,000

FY23 Request of \$300,000 for assorted building improvements throughout campus. This is an annual request to keep our buildings and grounds properly maintained.



Campus Wide Master Plan – Phase 9 - \$16,400,000

The Campus Wide Master plan has been in place since 2013 with the successful implementation of Phases 1-8 to date.

Phase 1 – Construct new NES play structure, swings and relocate the Garden.

Phase 2 – construct the First Way parking lot and Cross Campus Drive.

Phase 3 – Construct the six (6) classroom addition to the Cyrus Peirce Middle School.

Phase 4 – Design, Engineer & Construct the Nantucket Intermediate School, the new NIS Parking lot, the new circulations at the front of NES & NIS and construct all new sidewalks to keep students and staff safe while crossing campus to the B&G Club.

Phase 5 – Design & Construct the Backus Lane Storage Facility.

Phase 6 - Construct the NIS Playground with Basketball courts.

Phase 7 – Design, Engineer & Construct the two retaining walls & security fencing in anticipation of a new Baseball Field.

Phase 8 – Design & Construct the new configuration of the Pool Parking Lot.

Phase 9 – All Athletic Improvements Campus Wide. These improvements include the addition of 62 parking spaces, a 400-meter 6/8 lane running track, two (2) multi-sport synthetic turf fields, new upgrades athletic lighting for one field, a 980-seat accessible grandstand, a press box, one (1) natural grass Baseball Field, five (5) post-tensioned concrete tennis courts, plaza space and circulation improvements.

These Athletic improvements must be completed in order to make space for a future new school when one is needed.

Overall NPS Campus Master Plan



Questions?

From: [Denice Kronau](#)
To: [Jill Vieth](#); [Christopher Glowacki](#); [Denice Kronau](#); [Joanna E. Roche](#); [Joseph Grause](#); [Peter McEachern](#); [Peter Schaeffer](#); [Stephen Maury](#); [George Harrington](#)
Cc: [Mariya Basheva](#)
Subject: Fw: My citizen's warrant article
Date: Monday, December 13, 2021 8:28:36 AM
Attachments: [NPEDCmemoGovtStJWNL_HHR Comments.docx](#)
[NPEDC FOR GSC\[1\].pdf](#)

Dear FinCom:

Please see attached the further information from Hillary.

Thanks,
Denice

From: Hillary Hedges Rayport <hrayport@mac.com>
Sent: Friday, December 10, 2021 10:07 AM
To: Denice Kronau
Cc: Brian Turbitt; Stephen Maury
Subject: Re: My citizen's warrant article

Hi Denice,

Thank you for the conversation yesterday. I'm writing to follow up regarding the committee's request for the correspondence with the Town Government Study Workgroup.

As I mentioned last night, I presented a whitepaper to the TGSC which compiled information on planning commissions, and requested discussion of the mission and composition of the NP&EDC. The Planning Staff and Chairs commented on the whitepaper. Both the whitepaper and the memo are attached for your interest. My responses are indicated in [blue text](#); however, an actual discussion of this memo with the TGSC did not occur.

As regards the actual article I subsequently developed; the NP&EDC and planning staff declined to comment when I shared a draft with them in early November. In any case, the article remains a living document and these coming months are the time when a community conversation may occur. Having this community conversation about long-range planning is one of the main objectives of my article.

I look forward to hearing your committee's further questions and attending future hearings.

Best wishes for a very happy holiday. And, please accept my condolences on the loss of your

friend, Judith Wegner. Even though I approached matters differently than Judith, she was a remarkable person who commands deep respect, and her untimely passing is a great loss for Nantucket.

Kind Regards,
Hillary

From: Denice Kronau <dkronau@nantucket-ma.gov>
Date: Tuesday, December 7, 2021 at 10:17 AM
To: Hillary Hedges Rayport <hrayport@mac.com>
Cc: Brian Turbitt <bturbitt@nantucket-ma.gov>, Stephen Maury <smaury@nantucket-ma.gov>
Subject: Re: My citizen's warrant article

Hi Hillary:

I am well and had a nice Stroll weekend; we definitely got lucky with the weather.

It's entirely up to you if you want to attend and present your article. I will be going through all of them in the order they're posted.

I will send you an email and invite you for a future meeting (in January or February, TBD) so it's up to you if you'd like to attend via Zoom on Thursday.

Kind regards,
Denice

From: Hillary Hedges Rayport <hrayport@mac.com>
Sent: Monday, December 6, 2021 2:38:18 PM
To: Denice Kronau
Cc: Brian Turbitt
Subject: Re: My citizen's warrant article

Sending again and including Brian...
Thank you
H.

From: Hillary Hedges Rayport <hrayport@mac.com>
Date: Monday, December 6, 2021 at 1:56 PM

To: Denice Kronau <dkronau@nantucket-ma.gov>

Subject: My citizen's warrant article

Hi Denice,

I hope this email finds you well and that you had a nice Stroll weekend (including fun staying away from town if that is not your thing!). It was wacky!

I've submitted a citizen's warrant article this year, proposing some changes to the Planning & Economic Development Commission. Can you let me know if the Fin Com will be discussing my article Thursday? If you are, I want to be sure I attend your meeting and have the opportunity to present my article and answer any questions.

Many thanks.

Best,
Hillary

This email was scanned by Bitdefender

The Nantucket Planning and Economic Development Commission was founded in 1973 by a special act.

This document sets forth the mission, composition, and powers of the NP&EDC, and a comparison to neighboring the Cape Cod Commission and Martha's Vineyard Commission.

The question at hand is could the NP&EDC be reformed and improved. Areas for improvement are:

- Governance and accountability
- Update mission to support balanced growth, the environment, and quality of life
- Align mission and powers with our neighboring Regional Planning Authorities: The Cape Cod Commission and Martha's Vineyard Commission

This briefing document is organized in two parts:

- Part I: Mission, responsibilities and powers of the NP&EDC including:
 - Characteristics
 - Past governance recommendations
- Part II: How does the NP&EDC compare to neighboring Planning Commissions?

Part I

Mission, Responsibilities, and Powers of the NP&EDC

The Nantucket Planning and Economic Development Commission (NP&EDC or the Commission) was established in 1973 by a Special Act. Since 1978, the Commission has been responsible for comprehensive planning on Nantucket (Source: 2019 Novak Consulting Group report on PLUS). The Commission's mission is:

- To plan for the orderly and coordinated development and protection of the physical, social and economic resources of the Island of Nantucket.

While the Planning *Board* is responsible for regulatory approvals as well as proposing, administering, and enforcing zoning matters, the Planning *Commission* is responsible for longer range plans and looking after the "physical, social and economic development of [Nantucket]." (source: The Special Act)

- The Commission makes recommendations to the responsible county and town agencies. The Commission has one regulatory power, which is to identify and permit Developments of Regional Economic Impact. This is accomplished through issuing, at its discretion, a "Development of Regional Economic Impact Permit. (DREIP)." The DREIP is in addition to zoning and MCD permits.
- The NP&EDC also operates as **Nantucket's Regional Planning Agency (RPA)**. Currently, there are 13 RPAs in the Commonwealth. The NP&EDC is the only RPA in the Commonwealth that serves a town, a county, an island, and a region.
- Since its creation, the NP&EDC has been responsible for the appointment and oversight of the Director of Planning through an employment agreement (this is not a requirement of the Special Act).

Membership and Appointment

The NPEDC consists of 11 members:

- The five members of the Planning Board
- One representative from the Nantucket Housing Authority
- One representative of the County Commissioners of Nantucket County
- One representative of the Conservation Commission
- Three at-large members with staggered terms, appointed by the NP&EDC.

Prior to 2017, the NPEDC had 12 members, with the 12th being the Director of the DPW. This seat was removed via a revision to the Special Act, adopted at Town Meeting.

Funding

The Commission appropriates funds from the Treasury of the Town of Nantucket. The RPA designation allows Nantucket to access state and federal grants to fund transportation, transit, economic development, and planning. Programs include 3C Transportation Planning Activities, Highway Safety Improvement Program, District Local Technical Assistance, the annual Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) funds (awarded based on a five-year listing of Federal and State Highway and Transit projects), CARES act funds, and other development funds.

Governance and Past Recommendations

The NPEDC is responsible for the Town's planning efforts, but the ultimate decision-making authority for the Town and County rests with the Select Board. The Novak Consulting Group reviewed PLUS in 2019, and observed a natural tension as to who is responsible for establishing a vision or directing the Town's planning activity and staff.

The Novak Group observed that the Town has grown and evolved its government structure over the past nearly 50 years – principally by creating and then expanding the role of Town Manager and defined its executive functions. The 2007 amendment to the Town Charter further consolidated the ZBA, Historical Commission, Historic District Commission, Conservation Commission, and Planning Board as part of Town Administration.

Importantly, the NP&EDC is neither elected by the people nor appointed by the Select Board.

The Novak Group recommended the Town consider an alternative structure for its RPA:

... As the Town's population and economic and environmental landscape change, it may be appropriate to evaluate the following: (1) whether the NPEDC is the appropriate agency to serve as the RPA for Nantucket; and (2) should it have hiring authority and determine conditions of employment for employees who report to Town Administration...An alternative structure for the RPA could provide both efficiencies and clarity within PLUS by consolidating Planning functions under a single Board and, subsequently, reducing the number of Boards and Commissions and the amount of time spent providing administrative and staff support. (May 2019 report on PLUS)

The Novak Group did not make a specific recommendation about where the RPA should live nor did they recommend elimination of the NP&EDC.

Part II

How does the Nantucket Planning & Economic Development Commission compare to neighboring Planning Commissions?

The Nantucket Planning Commission differs from The Cape Cod Commission and Martha's Vineyard Commission in three important ways:

- Composition
- Mission
- Powers

Composition

- Nantucket is the only Regional Planning Commission that is comprised of only one town. It has 11 Commissioners:
 - All five members of the Planning Board (elected by the voters)
 - One representative from the Nantucket Housing Authority
 - One representative of the County Commissioners of Nantucket County
 - One representative of the Conservation Commission
 - Three at-large members with staggered terms, appointed by the NP&EDC.
- The Cape Cod Commission (Barnstable County) has 19 Commissioners:
 - 15 members, one each appointed by the Select Board of each of 15 towns
 - One county commissioner appointed by the board of the county commissioners
 - One Native American appointed by the board of county commissioners
 - one minority appointed by the board of county commissioners
 - one minority appointed by the governor, serving in an advisory role only
 - The 18 voting members each have one vote
- Martha's Vineyard (Dukes County) has 21 Commissioners
 - One Selectman or a resident registered to vote from each town, appointed by the board of selectmen from that town
 - Nine persons elected at large island wide, provided that there shall not be less than one person nor more than two persons elected from each town on Martha's Vineyard
 - One county commissioner or designee of the board of county commissioners
 - one member of the cabinet, or his designee, appointed by the governor;
 - four persons whose principal residence is not Martha's Vineyard to be appointed by the governor, said persons to have a voice but not vote in deciding matters before the commission.

Observations

Nantucket is unique in several ways:

- Neighboring Commissions do not include members of Planning Boards, unless as designees of the select boards.
- Nantucket has no advisory appointees and no governor's appointee
- sitting members of the NP&EDC appoint the at-large members. In other counties, the select boards of towns have right of appointment.
- Nantucket gives a right of appointment to the conservation commission and the housing authority. Other commissions give the right of appointment to the select boards, or in the case of MV, 9 commissioners are elected.

Mission

The Martha's Vineyard Commission Act says:

- The purpose of the commission created by this act shall be to further protect the health, safety and general welfare of island residents and visitors by preserving and conserving for the enjoyment of present and future generations the unique natural, historical, ecological, scientific, and cultural values of Martha's Vineyard which contribute to public enjoyment, inspiration and scientific study, by protecting these values from development and uses which would impair them, and by promoting the enhancement of sound local economies.

The Cape Cod Commission Act says:

- The purpose of the Cape Cod commission shall be to further: the conservation and preservation of natural undeveloped areas, wildlife, flora and habitats for endangered species; the preservation of coastal resources including aquaculture; the protection of groundwater, surface water and ocean water quality, as well as the other natural resources of Cape Cod; balanced economic growth; the provision of adequate capital facilities, including transportation, water supply, and solid, sanitary and hazardous waste disposal facilities; the coordination of the provision of adequate capital facilities with the achievement of other goals; the development of an adequate supply of fair affordable housing; and the preservation of historical, cultural, archaeological, architectural, and recreational values.

The Nantucket Planning & Economic Development Commission Act says:

- In order to plan for the orderly and coordinated development and protection of the physical, social and economic resources of the Island of Nantucket, there is hereby established the Nantucket Planning and Economic Development Commission. The Commission shall be responsible for the preparation of comprehensive plans for the physical, social and economic development of said county and town and shall make recommendations for action to implement said plans to the responsible county and town agencies.

Observations

The CCC and MVC specifically seek balanced and/or sustainable growth, specifically plan for protection of the environment and environmental resources, cultural resources, and quality of life. The CCC also highlights planning for affordable housing.

Powers

The Cape Cod and Martha's Vineyard Commission are both RPAs which, like Nantucket, create transportation plans, apply for transportation and development grants, administer TIP funds, and create a variety of plans (development, housing, etc) for the region.

- All three commissions have the ability to identify, designate, and regulate Developments of Regional Impact (Nantucket calls these DREIs) but differ in how they define these.
- The MV and CC Commissions have an additional power, which is to designate and regulate Districts of Critical Planning Concern (DCPC). This power is granted by the Commonwealth because of fragile regional environments or extraordinary cultural landscapes and historic towns.
- DCPCs are used by the CCC and MVC to guide growth
- DCPCs allow CCC and MVC to ban fertilizer use outright (Nantucket does not have the ability to ban fertilizer use).

- DCPCs allow the Commissions to pause development while necessary planning tools that address critical concerns are implemented. If zoning or other regulatory changes are adopted, these override pre-existing unexercised grandfathered rights.

Observations

The powers granted by the Commonwealth to the CCC and MVC are unique among RPAs in the state and allows. Because Nantucket has only one town, it does not need to coordinate among multiple towns' zoning and permitting laws. Nonetheless, there are attractive elements to the ability to designate DCPCs.

Resources and References

<https://www.mvcommission.org/dcpcs>

<https://www.capecodcommission.org/about-us/ccc-act>

<https://ecode360.com/15338757>

<https://www.nantucket-ma.gov/306/Planning-Economic-Development-Commission>

<https://www.nantucket-ma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/29539/Nantucket-PLUS-Study---Project-Report---Revised1?bidId=>

MEMORANDUM

TO John Brescher, Chair, Nantucket Government Study Committee, john@gliddenandglidden.com
Members: Rick Atherton, rickatherton@comcast.net; Curtis Barnes, barnesack@comcast.net; Kristi Ferantella, kferrantella1@gmail.com; Tucker Holland, acktownconsultant@gmail.com; Campbell Sutton, ccoastpaper@gmail.com ; Linda Williams, czarinalinda@comcast.net

FROM: NatLowell,natlowell@comcast.net,ChairNPEDC;JudithWegner,judithwegner@gmail.com, Chair, Nantucket Planning Board

RE: Discussion of Nantucket Planning and Economic Development Commission (NPEDC) DATE: April 12, 2021

Dear Members of the Nantucket Government Study Committee:

We have heard informally that the Study Committee has or might plan to engage in discussion of restructuring or other modification of the NPEDC. In our view, the information that we understand you have received to date fails accurately to characterize the Commission's mission or its structure, among other flaws. For now, we want simply to set the record straight on these two points, without giving undue significance to the views of a single individual who has asserted the virtues of major reforms. We would ask that we have the opportunity to be involved in any further discussion, if in fact you intend to pursue this issue further.

Mission:

- Regional planning agencies are created pursuant to state legislation. Nantucket's NPEDC was created by special legislation after being authorized by a home rule petition voted affirmatively at town meeting. As a result, changes would have to proceed once again through town meeting and the state legislature. Other regional planning agencies are typically much larger, better funded, with more staff, and with responsibilities associated with coordinating among adjacent locales including multiple municipalities. For example, the Vineyard's Commission is responsible for an area that includes six separate towns. Nantucket is an island with only a single town, so the particulars of the NPEDC are in important ways distinctive. It would be a mistake to assume that what works for the Boston or Cape Cod or even the Vineyard regional commissions applies readily here.

The stated purpose of the whitepaper is to explore other planning commissions and see if any elements are relevant to Nantucket.

- Among other things, NPEDC and other regional planning agencies operate as "metropolitan planning organizations" (MPO) mandated by federal law as a means of facilitating transportation and transit planning and tapping federal and state funds for eligible projects within their jurisdictions. We believe Nantucket is fortunate to have been allowed to have its own regional planning organization since otherwise any available state and federal funding for transportation purposes would only be allocated if approved through another larger MPO that likely would not understand local needs and would likely allocate funding to other competing communities within its jurisdiction. The proponent of reform does not seem interested or aware of these consequences.

The whitepaper states that the NPEDC is an RPA. It is true that the Nantucket RPA functions as an MPO for transportation planning and funding purposes. I'm aware of this and also aware that adjusting the mission and changing the composition of the NPEDC will not change its ability to be an RPA/MPO.

The Planning Board is authorized by state statute (chapter 41, section 81D) to develop the community's master plan. It works with the NPEDC which in turn, pursuant to its authority coordinates work on small area plans for different parts of the island where there is need and desire by residents to address targeted issues relevant to the overall Master Plan. The NPEDC is not the ultimate authority for planning on the Island, but was constituted to include all elected members of the Planning Board to facilitate coordination on planning.

The NPEDC is charged with much more than "coordinating work on small area plans". It is supposed to prepare comprehensive community plans, which is by definition a continuous process. The Comprehensive Plan should be accepted by the voters at Town Meeting. Preparation of comprehensive plans by the NPEDC is especially important, because other boards and commissions require well researched recommendations.

Structure

- The NPEDC is primarily composed of elected officials. Planning Board members are elected on Nantucket with the understanding that they serve both on the Planning Board itself and on the NPEDC. Other members are designated by elected officials in other elected bodies (Select Board/County Commissioners which designates one of their members to serve on the NPEDC), the Housing Authority (an elected board which designates a representative), the Conservation Commission (a board appointed by the Select Board with a member designated by the Select Board to serve on the NPEDC), for a total of 8 out of 11 members. Three members at large members are elected by the Commission, following an open application process, to provide additional relevant perspectives. Thus the characterization you have had that the NPEDC is not composed of elected representatives is flatly incorrect and misleading. The NPEDC as currently composed reflects the Nantucket view that there should be close accountability of key town government entities to the electorate. The regional commissions that have been proposed as "superior" to the current NPEDC cover much larger areas, and have multiple towns, so they lack the opportunity to maintain that kind of close connection to the electorate.

None of the members of the NPEDC are elected directly to the NPEDC. Each of eight appointees are on the Commission because of other duties they were elected or appointed for. Having a commission appoint its own at-large members is unique. The whitepaper does not propose any other body as "superior" merely that differences should be considered by the TGSC.

- The relationship between the NPEDC and the town is incorrectly described in the information provided to you to date. There is a memorandum of understanding in place that governs the role of the NPEDC on behalf of the town and the relationship of the Town Manager and Planning Director. The NPEDC does NOT appropriate funds from the Treasury of Nantucket. The characterization of the Novak Consulting Report is incorrect in that that report only suggested further consideration of the question of the relationship between the town and NPEDC and clearly did not recommend a change. This matter was indeed discussed with town administration after the submission of that report. It is surprising to see someone wholly

uninvolved in these discussions try to cite the report as reaching definitive conclusions to the contrary.

All evidence and examples in the whitepaper were excerpted from official documents. I stand by the accuracy of what was compiled. The whitepaper is a compendium of relevant information. Its only recommendation was that further consideration by the TGSC is warranted.

In our shared experience, the following considerations should be borne in mind. We are one town and have regulatory boards in place that work together. There is a fantastic balance of different perspectives from those boards represented on the NPEDC. The 2012 memorandum of understanding with the town creates an effective working matrix. The current arrangement provides key financial support to the town, covering the salary of a transportation manager and leveraging available state and federal funding for transit. Changing the mission or structure of the NPEDC would likely require action at town meeting and by the state legislature, and would deny the town of an effective means of collaboration and needed funds. We ask that you bear these factors in mind as you decide whether, and under what auspices, you might recommend action changing the NPEDC as it currently exists.

I believe that by appointing three of its own members, the NPEDC insulates itself from voters. Changing the mission or structure of the NPEDC would NOT “deny the town of an effective means of collaboration and needed funds”. This is evidenced by past changes to the Act (in 2011, to add a regulatory power to declare a DREIP, and in 2016, to remove the Director of the DPW). As before, should Town Meeting vote to change the Act, the NPEDC would function as is until the revised Act is approved by the State. Funding opportunities would remain unchanged.

Sincerely,

Nat Lowell, Chair, NPEDC Judith W. Wegner, Chair, Nantucket Planning Board

Importantly, this letter does not comment on the fact that CCC and MV have powers that allow them to regulate fertilizers, while Nantucket does not, which is another important observation of the whitepaper

The whitepaper has one error: it says issuing a DREIP is discretionary, when in fact it is an obligation. And yet, a DREIP has never been issued – including for the Stop & Shop. Regardless, the DREIP is largely duplicative of the MCD power of the Planning Board.

From: [Denice Kronau](#)
To: [Christine Sanford](#)
Cc: [Mariya Basheva](#); [Brian Turbitt](#); [Stephen Maury](#)
Subject: Re: Warrant article :An Act Amending the Nantucket Planning and Economic Development Commission
Date: Monday, January 31, 2022 2:50:56 PM

Dear Christine:

Thank you for your email and your comments in respect of article 81.

We will take your comments into consideration when we next discuss this article.

Many thanks,

Denice

From: Christine Sanford <ccsanford48@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, January 30, 2022 10:09 AM
To: Denice Kronau; Stephen Maury; Christopher Glowacki; Joseph Grause; pmeachern@nantucket-ma.gov; Peter Schaeffer; Jill Vieth
Subject: Warrant article :An Act Amending the Nantucket Planning and Economic Development Commission

To The Finance Committee ;
In support of Hillary Hedges Rayport's Citizen Warrant Article.

I have thoroughly read through this article , as well as the supplemental information she attached that clearly explains how these proposed changes for the structure of the NP& EDC would improve both the transparency and efficacy of the Commision .

I am grateful for Ms. Rayport's diligence in creating such a detailed and clearly worded article that will help educate Town voters about the need to improve the NP&EDC to become a more "well-rounded , more transparent and more accountable Nantucket Planning Commision ."

PLEASE SUPPORT THIS ARTICLE

Thank you
Christine Sanford
3 Mill Street
Nantucket , MA 02554

This email was scanned by Bitdefender

Town Admin

<https://stories.opengov.com/nantucketma/published/ss9AM8W6X>

IT

<https://stories.opengov.com/nantucketma/published/tFwfKgb2q>

HR

<https://stories.opengov.com/nantucketma/published/9crG3sCiU>

Fire

<https://stories.opengov.com/nantucketma/published/uDGI1AQg->

DPW

<https://stories.opengov.com/nantucketma/published/QXhrKqLDL>

Natural Resources

<https://stories.opengov.com/nantucketma/published/HENVaOnJx>

Health & Human Service

<https://stories.opengov.com/nantucketma/published/KxgRO4Wrp>

Culture & Tourism

<https://stories.opengov.com/nantucketma/published/HkNcAdjso>

Town Clerk

<https://stories.opengov.com/nantucketma/published/yFRgFXupM>

Police & Marine

<https://stories.opengov.com/nantucketma/published/mnKGWRW2X>

Finance

<https://stories.opengov.com/nantucketma/published/7SYyAMKpi>

PLUS

<https://stories.opengov.com/nantucketma/published/26HkOYcmd>

Housing Department

<https://stories.opengov.com/nantucketma/published/EN7laJ-pD>

Sewer

https://stories.opengov.com/nantucketma/published/CdTXeCd_9

Our Island Home

<https://stories.opengov.com/nantucketma/published/TtHzeMyp3>

Nantucket Water Department

<https://stories.opengov.com/nantucketma/published/fkFShh87q>

Airport

<https://stories.opengov.com/nantucketma/published/9PH6zS8qE>

Solid Waste

<https://stories.opengov.com/nantucketma/published/mOfnf8MJh>