

**Amherst Budget Coordinating Group  
Summary Points – September 17, 2009**

At its meeting on Thursday, September 17, 2009, the members of the Amherst Budget Coordinating Group agreed that the following points would be conveyed to our home boards and committees:

- That the strategy guiding our FY10 budget process had been to identify and pare down to our core, with the goal of protecting that core going forward, which begins now;
- That we agree on the definition of "level services" as meaning to roll forward unchanged exactly what we are doing this year, and recognizing that the cost to do so increases;
- That the Town, Schools and Libraries have agreed to coordinate and accelerate their individual budget calendars in preparation for an override question on the March 23rd Annual Town Election ballot, with details to be worked out in time for the Select Board to create the ballot language in early February;
- That these plans are consistent with the guidance provided by the FCCC report, which called for significant cuts and restructuring to achieve core budgets, and anticipated the need for an override in the not-distant future;
- That BCG will host a Four Boards Meeting to share projections and information on the FY11 budget Thursday, October 15th at 6:30 p.m. in the Town Room. (All boards should post this meeting accordingly.)