Dunstable Master Plan Visioning Session



June 23, 2016



A Master Plan will help the community:

- Manage growth and change
- Provide for orderly and predictable development
- Protect environmental resources
- Strengthen community identity
- Create a framework for future policy decisions
- Provide guidance to residents, local boards, and permitting authorities

State Requirements:

- Under Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 41, Section 81D, the Planning Board is required to prepare the Master Plan.
- The Dunstable Master Plan Update will contain the following elements:
 - Vision Statement, Goals and Objectives
 - Land Use
 - Housing
 - Economic Development
 - Natural and Cultural Resources
 - Open Space and Recreation
 - Transportation
 - Implementation

What's in a Master Plan?

- Data Analysis
- Existing Conditions
- Trends, Estimates and Future Projections
- Goals, Policies and Actions
- Maps
- Implementation Strategy

How does the process work?

- Visioning Session
- Stakeholder interviews
- Survey
- Public Forums:
 - Economic Development, Land Use, Housing and Infrastructure (water, transportation, etc.) – September 2016
 - Natural and Cultural Resources/Open Space/Recreation-November 2016
 - Community Meeting on the Draft Master Plan Document-March 2016

Where are we today?

- Review and synthesis of past plans, studies and reports
- Data collection and analysis:
 - Demographic data
 - Economic data
 - Assessor information
 - Traffic counts and crash data
 - Town data and resources
 - Input from residents, town officials and local organizations

Where are we going and what do we need to affect change?

- Examine trends, estimates and projections
- Opportunities and challenges
- Analysis of options
- Develop consensus regarding strategy
- Outline Recommendations
- Create Implementation Plan
- Adopt Master Plan with consistency among elements

Adoption of Master Plan

- Although not required, communities may choose to have the Master Plan formally adopted by Town Meeting
- Master Plan must be adopted by majority vote of the Planning Board



What is a SWOT Analysis? How will your input be used?

SWOT Analysis Process

- SWOT stands for Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats
- SWOT analysis is a tool utilized by private industry and public agencies at the outset of a planning process
- Designed to capture your personal thoughts about Master Plan issues in Dunstable
- There are no right or wrong answers, and everyone is encouraged to express an opinion
- Your response will be recorded on a flip chart

What Happens Next?

- > At the conclusion of the SWOT Analysis, there will be a 15 minute break.
- During this time, you will be asked to place color coding dots on each flip chart to prioritize the ideas that you feel are most important.
- NMCOG staff will tally the results and summarize the findings as part of the Master Plan process.

Color Coding Priorities

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1^{st} priority = RED 2^{nd} priority = GREEN 3^{rd} priority = BLUE 4^{th} priority = YELLOW
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