

Groton Master Plan 2024 COMMUNITY FORUM #3

Thursday, June 20, 2024 Community Room, The Groton Center 163 West Main Street



Meeting Purpose

To bring the Groton community together to provide an update on the Master Plan process, and to solicit input on **Action Items** that will help achieve the overarching **Goals** of the Master Plan. The feedback from this meeting will help the Planning Board as they prepare to develop the **Implementation Program** for the 2024 Master Plan.

Staff Information

Staff Contact	Takashi Tada , Land Use Director / Town Planner ttada@grotonma.gov				
Project Consultants	Barrett Planning Group LLC:	Judi Barrett, Managing Director Jill Slankas, AICP, Principal Planner Tony Duong, Community Planner			
	Nitsch Engineering FXM Associates				

Agenda

AFTERNOON 2:30 - 2:35 PM 2:35 - 2:45 PM	EVENING 6:30 - 6:35 PM 6:35 - 6:45 PM	Welcome Presentation
		Master Plan Overview & TimelineSummary of Inventory & Assessment and Key IssuesNext Steps
2:45 - 3:25 PM 3:25 - 3:30 PM	6:45 - 7:25 PM 7:25 - 7:30 PM	Small Group Stations and Discussions Report Out

Project Timeline

Below is an anticipated project timeline (subject to change). For project updates, please visit https://www.grotonma.gov/government/boards-and-committees/planning-board/ or scan the QR code:

	Jun to Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24	Jul-24	Aug-24	Sep-24
Data Collection & Research										
Inventory & Assessment										
Key Issues										
Vision & Goals										
Implementation Program										
Final Plan										



Vision Statement

Groton is a town that...

- Promotes sustainable and strategic land use policies that balance growth and change with preserving Groton's charming New England village character along with the expansive rural and natural areas.
- · Protects and conserves Groton's natural resources, historic, and cultural sites for future generations.
- Maintains and expands accessible open spaces and recreational facilities that promote community well-being and outdoor enjoyment.
- Improves transportation infrastructure and promotes alternative modes of transportation, enhancing connectivity within Groton.
- Facilitates the development of diverse, affordable housing options that meet the needs of all residents.
- Cultivates a business-friendly environment that attracts new enterprises, supports existing businesses, and increases
 economic opportunities.
- Works to continually enhance municipal services and facilities to better serve all residents.
- Works to be more resilient to climate change through shared responsibility by government, residents, and businesses.

Master Plan Goals

LAND USE: Strive for a sustainable land use pattern in Groton by encouraging vibrant neighborhoods, mixed-use, and visually distinct activity centers that are welcoming, while preserving the bucolic character, scenic vistas, and open spaces throughout the town.

NATURAL & CULTURAL RESOURCE AREAS: Protect, promote, and enhance Groton's natural, historic, and cultural resource areas.

OPEN SPACE & RECREATION: Ensure that Groton's agricultural, forested, and recreational open spaces are protected, enhanced, expanded, and accessible for present and future generations.

TRANSPORTATION: Create a sustainable, accessible, and efficient transportation system that includes improving walkability, bike-ability, and expanding reliable mass transit options, while considering roadway characteristics and transportation demands.

HOUSING & RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT: Increase the range of housing types to meet the needs of people at various stages of life and increase the amount of housing that is affordable, accessible, and safe.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: Regularly explore and implement changes to enable business growth within identified areas of Groton, promoting agriculture, eco-tourism, education, retail, and health, while fostering a business-friendly environment.

COMMUNITY FACILITIES & SERVICES: Continue to assess and support Groton's municipal services, facilities, and infrastructure, prioritizing energy conservation and reducing reliance on fossil fuels, improved water quality, wastewater treatment, technological advancements, and universal accessibility (ADA compliance).

SUSTAINABILITY & RESILIENCE: Local government should engage in an action plan and specific steps to provide leadership for sustainability, climate change resilience, and educate, engage, and incentivize community members to do their part in accordance with meeting the Commonwealth's "NetZero by 2050" law and next generation climate policy.

Additional Comments:		