

## WORKING VISION

A vision statement describes the kind of community where residents want to live. It is a broad-brush image of what a community values and sees as a desirable future. The following vision to guide Master Plan goals is based on initial input from the Planning Board and further input from the public.

### 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 AND CULTURAL RESOURCE AREAS:** Protect, promote, and enhance Groton's natural, historic, and cultural resource areas.

**OPEN SPACE AND 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 AND 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 AND 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 AND 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.