



MEDWAY TOMORROW

A MASTER PLAN FOR
THE FUTURE

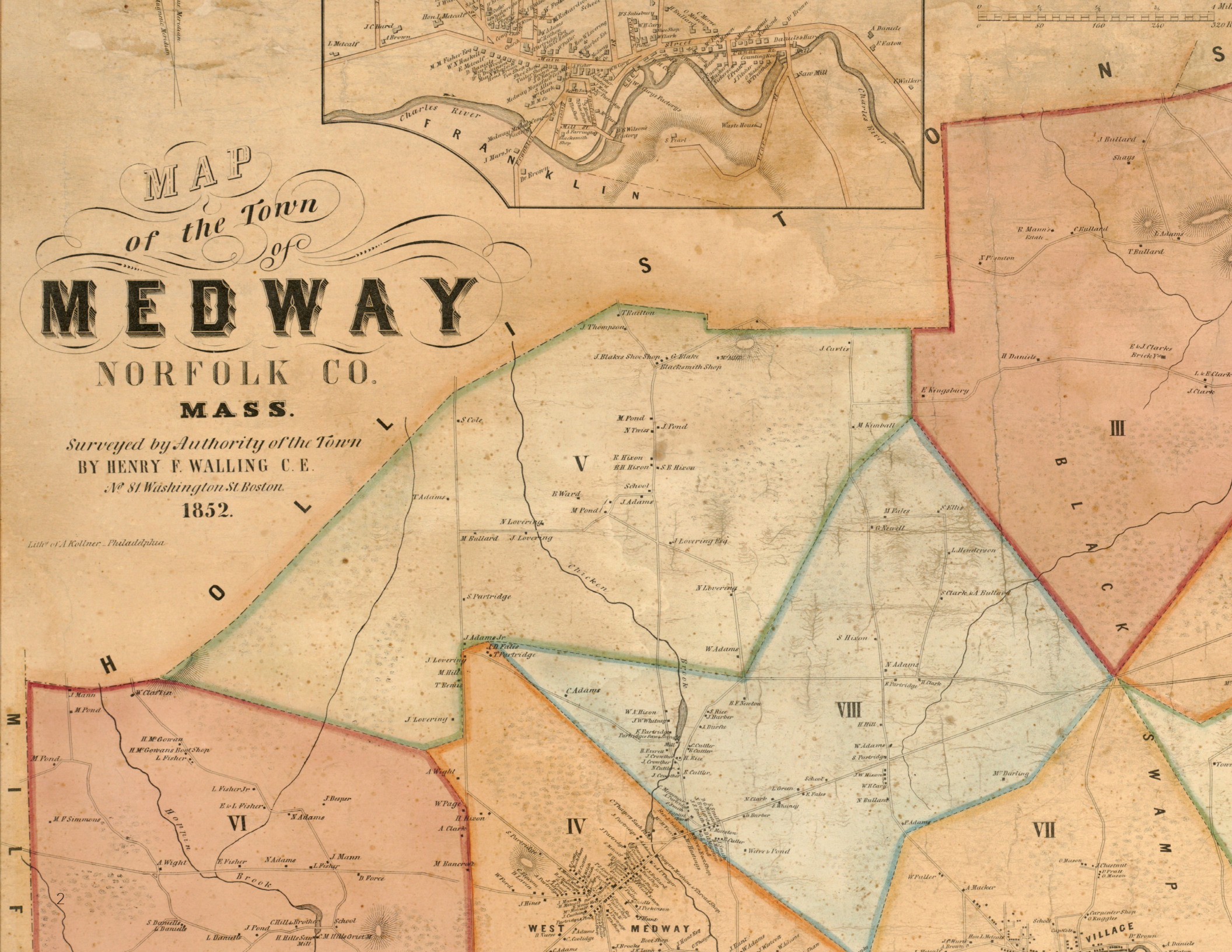
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BY HENRY F. WALLING C. E.

Nº 81 Washington St Boston.

1852.

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09/30/2022

Dear Medway community,

The Medway Planning and Economic Development Board is excited to share with you **Medway Tomorrow: A Master Plan for the Future**. This plan will carry the Town forward from today to 2032, with clear priorities and specific strategies to achieve the community's desired future.

We would like to thank the Medway community for sharing their vision and entrusting the Planning and Economic Development Board, with the advice of the Master Plan Committee and the Community and Economic Development Department, with this significant endeavor.

The Master Plan identifies four core themes: 1) Responsible and strategic growth, 2) Public infrastructure to support growth, 3) Conservation, resilience, and stewardship, and 4) A supportive community.

The Plan integrates and builds upon the Town's other planning work, and establishes a meaningful vision supported by realistic and fiscally responsible strategies. We look forward to working with local boards and committees, and the Medway community to achieve the community vision for Medway's future.

Matthew Hayes, Chair

Bob Tucker, Vice Chair

Richard Di Iulio, Clerk

Jessica Chabot, Member

Sarah Raposa, Member

Tom Gay, Associate Member

Cover: The Medway Sanford Mill

Left: Medway Historic Map



Choate Park in the Fall

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CHAPTER 1 INTRODUCTION: HOW DID WE GET HERE?

Medway is a maturing suburban town with a small-town feel, open space and farmlands, and a strong sense of community. When the Town's last Master Plan was completed in 2009 approximately 12,800 people were living in Medway (*U.S. Census Bureau*). Since that time, the town's population has grown roughly 2.5 percent (13,115)—adding about 315 residents¹. The 2009 Master Plan states that the town was experiencing issues with the quality and quantity of drinking water in addition to vehicular and pedestrian traffic safety.

PURPOSE

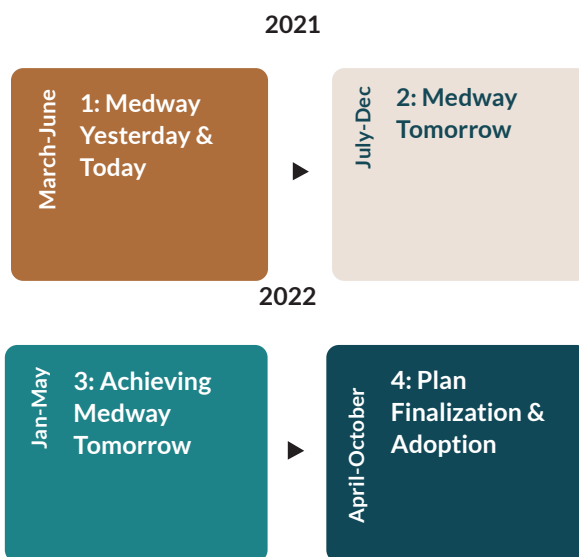
What has changed? What remains the same? What do community members value? How do they envision the Town's future?

The Medway Master Plan seeks to answer questions like these. It provides local policymakers with a road map to shape future development, prepare for future challenges, and preserve its existing community. With

A comprehensive master plan is a way to respond to change over time. It is a long-range (10-year) visionary plan for the community's physical evolution. This plan helps the community imagine—and create—a better future.

The project team's approach to the Medway Master Plan planning process is based on the belief that facilitating a meaningful, accessible, and inclusive process is as—or arguably more—important than the final plan report itself. Facilitating collaborative and highly interactive community engagement that utilizes a wide variety of engagement tools was critical to this planning effort.

The planning process consisted of four phases:



thoughtful-approach participation patriotic small-business sidewalks self-governed diverse enthusiastic transparency family-friendly verdant slow-paced residential welcoming safe peaceful friendly nature town volunteerism pretty agriculture smart education share comfortable small-town simple caring traditional farming location artistic walkable quiet small rural green warm schools family village conserving space casual charming relaxing giving step progressive participants quant historic close-knit pleasant engaged

1

2

3

4

A 5-Year implementation action plan

PHASE I: MEDWAY YESTERDAY AND TODAY

The Medway Master Plan process launched in March 2021 with a study of the community's key challenges and opportunities through an existing conditions analysis. The Town's consultant team reviewed relevant plans, studies, and current data – and held focus groups and interviews with key community members and town officials to understand and identify the community's sentiment, values, and priorities and set the direction for a community vision and goals developed during Phase II. Phase I also included the first community forum for the Master Plan to introduce the community to the master planning process and gather initial community feedback.

PHASE II: MEDWAY TOMORROW

Phase II took place June 2021 through January 2022.

Community engagement efforts included pop-up events, independently organized Meeting-in-a-Box submissions, an online mapping survey, a community survey, and a survey for high school students. Through these efforts, the project team sought to understand the community's key assets, concerns, and challenges in addition to how residents envision the future and what they want to achieve as a community over the next ten years. Phase II concluded with a draft vision statement and a set of draft goals.

PHASE III: ACHIEVING MEDWAY TOMORROW

As the master plan entered Phase III, which took place January through June 2022, the project team took a deeper look into areas that require significant choices and substantive collaboration between Medway's leaders and organizations. Community engagement efforts included focus groups, independently organized strategy discussion

sessions, a public community forum, comments on the online strategy engagement platform, and a Department Manager's meeting to review strategy options. Through these efforts, the project team sought to understand the community's preferred strategies to achieve the community's goals over the next ten years.

PHASE IV: PLAN FINALIZATION AND ADOPTION

The draft Master Plan was released for public comment in July 2022 and vetted by the Master Plan Committee, town leadership, and key boards. The plan was locally approved by the Planning and Economic Development Board in October 2022 and filed with the Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD).

Strategy is about making choices, tradeoffs;
it's about deliberately choosing to be
different [than you are now]

- Michael Porter, Professor and World's Best Management Thinker





Pop-up Event at the Farmer's Market



Second Community Forum at the Medway High School



The online Community Survey had 818 responses

2021 Phase I: Medway Yesterday and Today (March -May 2021)

- 9 Focus Groups (67 people invited)
- 34 Interviews
- 93 attendees at first Community Forum
- Master Plan Committee meetings

2021 Phase II: Medway Tomorrow (June 2021 – January 2022)

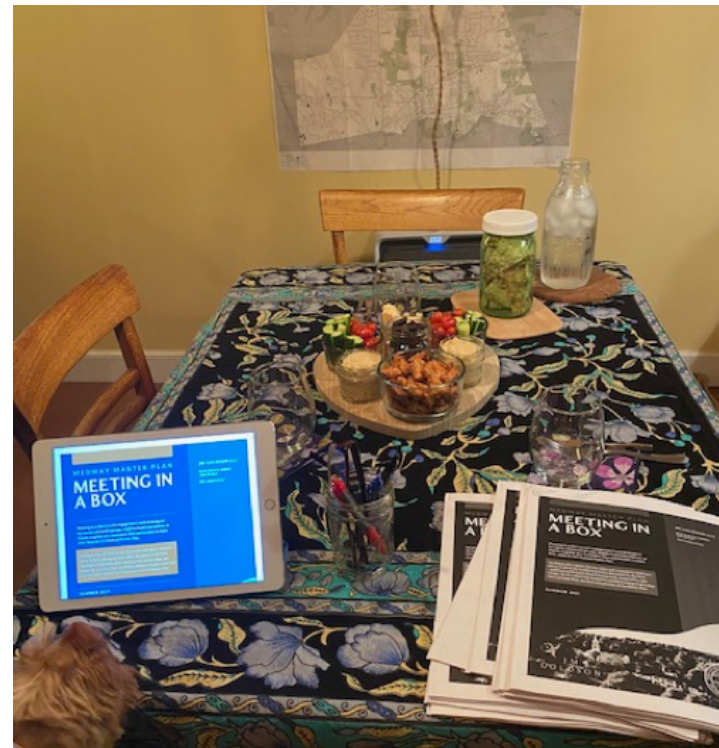
- 10 Pop-Up Events, 25 participants
- 9 Meetings-in-a-Box, 32 participants
- Crowd Map, 150 comments
- Community survey, 818 responses
- Survey for High School Students, 18 participants
- Clergy Meeting, 3 participants
- Individual Dialogues, 26 participants
- Master Plan Committee meetings

2022 Phase III: Achieving Medway Tomorrow (January – May 2022) - 406

- 4 focus groups, 75 participants
- 9 April Roadshow submissions, approximately 73 participants
- Community Forum, 37 participants
- Online strategy survey, 110 responses
- Department Manager's meeting, 16 participants
- Individual and Small Group Engagement, 24 participants
- Master Plan Committee meetings
- Medway Pride Day, 50 responses

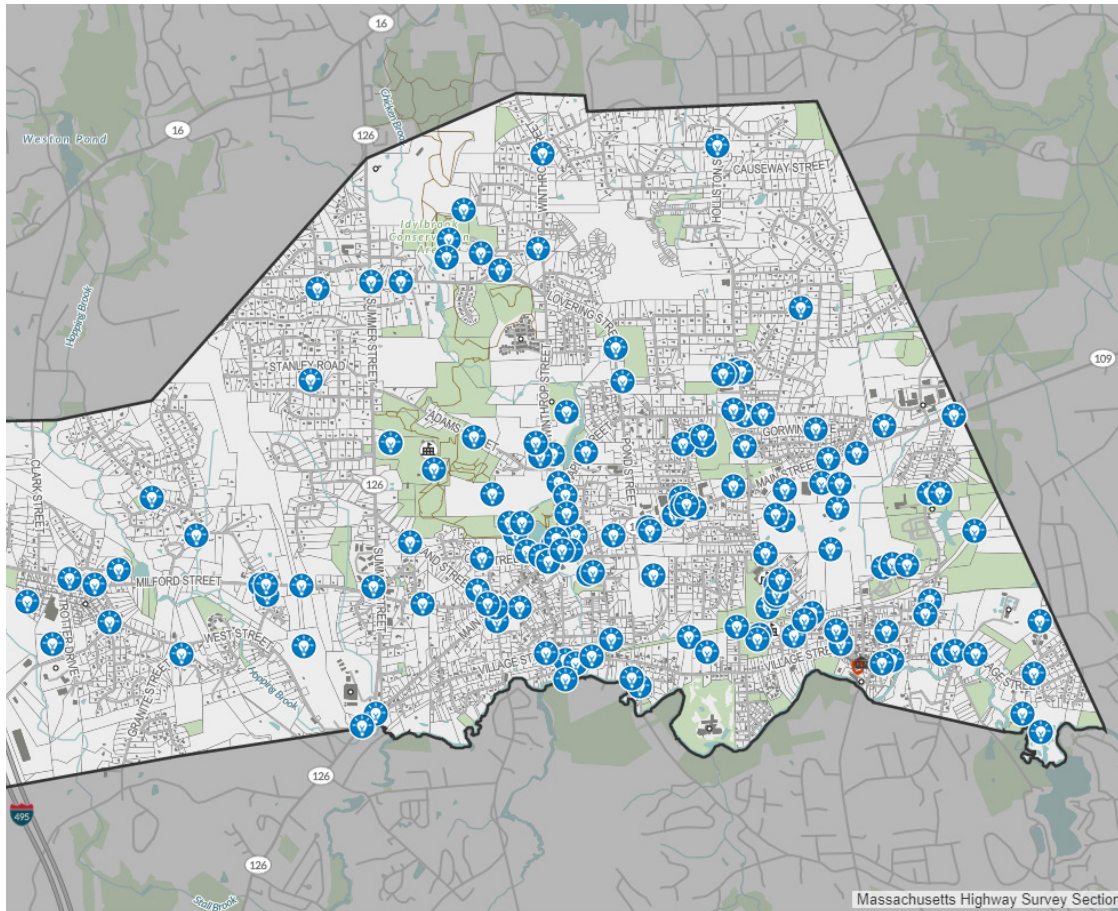


**Master Plan Committee
Meeting April 2021**



Meeting in a Box Materials

**Medway Vision Board from a
Pop Up Event**



Medway Crowd Map



Tabling at a Pop Up Event

MEDWAY IN CONTEXT

Medway is a suburban community located southwest of Boston between interstates 495 and 95 and bisected by Route 109 (Main Street). The community's proximity to these major transportation corridors is a critical driving factor of issues and opportunities for the community and the region, creating development opportunities, growth pressures, and demands on environmental resources. Medway is bordered by the Charles River and the towns of Holliston, Millis, Norfolk, Franklin, Bellingham, and Milford.

In the past 100 years, the town experienced two major periods of significant growth: between 1950 and 1970, the population more than doubled from about 3,700 to almost 8,000, and in the 20 years between 1980 and 2000, the population grew almost 50 percent from about 8,500 to almost 12,500. The Town of Medway has experienced some additional population growth over the last several decades and is presently home to 13,115 residents within its 11.5 square miles (2020).

Medway has always had a close relationship to nature and to the land, from its long agricultural history to its tapping of the Charles River as a source of power,

to its current wealth of protected open spaces. According to the UMass Native American Trails Project, Medway is located near the border of the historic Nipmuc and Wampanoag tribal territories. Medway's colonial-era development began with its formation as an agricultural community and its subsequent growth and adaptation to the area's changing economic needs. Incorporated officially in 1713, what started as a small agricultural community expanded to include light industry, and the Town eventually established larger mills and factories.

The industrial expansion drove a housing boom and established village centers. However, as in many New England towns, times and economic needs changed and mills and their goods were no longer in demand. While many of the mills fell into disrepair or were destroyed by fire, some stand today to provide housing—the Sanford Textile Mill—or space for small businesses. Medway has evolved into a “bedroom community”, with many residents commuting to surrounding cities and towns for work. This was aided by the construction of I-495 in the 1960s and subsequent highways in the area that provided commuters easy access to nearby cities and towns.

While Medway has several nodes with commercial uses and historic buildings that provide primarily vehicular-oriented access via several major streets, it lacks a distinctive town center. Route 109 exhibits auto-centric sprawl patterns with 1950s-60s originated shopping plazas and strip mall commercial development. The density of future nodal development alternatives with mixed residential and commercial uses would consume less land, provide greater mobility alternatives including pedestrian and bicycling modes, and reduce energy consumption and emissions for a more sustainable land use pattern.

The Medway Master Plan's Existing Conditions Analysis (2021) included profiles for each of the following study areas: land use, housing and demographics, economic development, historic and cultural resources, natural resources, open space and recreation, transportation, and public facilities and services.



Housing and Demographics: Medway is challenged to diversify its housing stock with an increase in rental units, multi-family dwellings, and smaller units. Housing diversity is important to meet the needs of current residents of the community and to make the Town more welcoming and inclusive to all. Medway's population is also aging, indicating a need for an increase in smaller and more affordable units.



Historic: Medway has a wealth of historic resources, including antique Colonial and Federal homes that predate 1800 as well as 19th century and early 20th century resources. However, without any Local Historic Districts, which protect historic resources, combined with a strong real estate market, many historic resources are at risk of redevelopment despite a local demolition delay bylaw.²



Natural Resources: Medway's landscape offers a wide range of natural resources, each providing benefits to the people and wildlife that live here. The Town continues to make coordinated efforts to conserve and sustain these resources; however, pressure from development and population growth, and the uncertainty associated with climate change, will require continued vigilance to ensure the function of Medway's natural systems and resilience to future hazards.



Economic Development: The Town faces daytime population drain resulting from net negative commuter flows – approximately 3,600 more people leave Medway for work than come to town for work (these are based on pre-COVID figures). Increasing the number of jobs in Medway would help support commercial uses and amenities that serve residents, while diversifying a tax base that relies on single family residences (71 percent of all assessed value).



Cultural Resources: Medway has several cultural resources, including a well-loved community library with a makerspace, town-wide events, and many people dedicated to the arts. However, with a lack of event space and dedicated centers for arts and culture, access to the arts can be limited.



Open Space: Through the collective efforts of Town boards and committees and local volunteer groups, there has been significant progress in land conservation and trail development in the Chicken Brook corridor. Continuing to protect land can help prevent the loss of tree canopy and slow the increase in impervious surface area that can make the town more vulnerable to hazards. Medway currently has about 10.9 percent of land protected for open space and recreation. Compared to nearby communities, Medway has a lower proportion of protected open space.



Recreation: Medway has made significant investments to increase the capacity and diversity of athletic facilities, both on school properties and in Town parks. Organized outdoor activities require extensive coordination and ongoing maintenance, and management of these facilities require dedicated staff resources and funding. In addition, several of Medway's ball fields and playground areas need improvements and the community needs additional park facilities on the west side.



Public Facilities: Several local facilities, particularly the schools, public safety buildings, Town Hall, and the VFW hall need substantial repairs, expansions, or even new facilities. The water and wastewater infrastructure have significant needs including a new water treatment facility that is in progress and wastewater improvements including purchasing capacity from the district within two years.



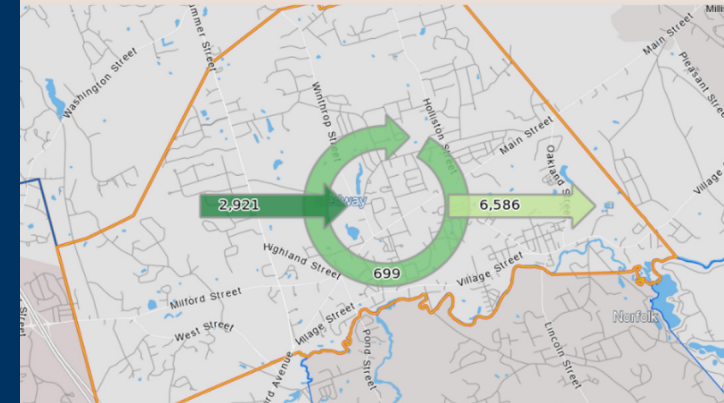
Transportation: Medway is a growing and changing community, and accounting for these demographic and physical changes is key to evolving the existing transportation system to serve all users safely and equitably. Changes to the transportation infrastructure and how it interfaces with land uses also provide opportunities to reduce energy consumption and emissions related to vehicle trips.



Services: Future residential growth will continue to place demands on town services, particularly those that serve the growing senior population. It is anticipated that call volumes and responses to medical requests will rise, as will demands on senior services such as transportation, wellness checks, and programming at the Senior Center.

Where do workers go?

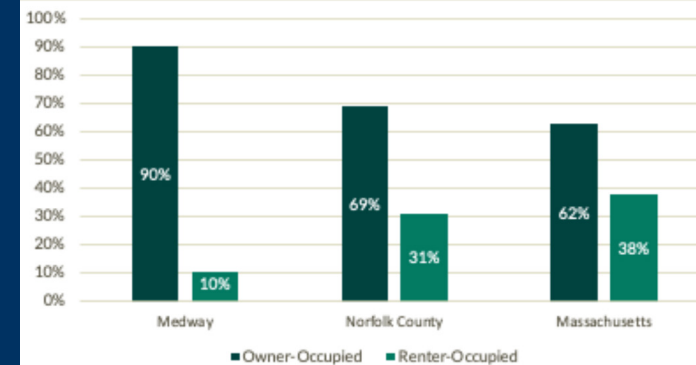
In Medway, about 6,500 people leave town to work each day, and almost 3,000 enter the town for work. Only about 700 people live and work in the town.



MEDWAY MASTER PLAN

Fewer renters live in Medway:

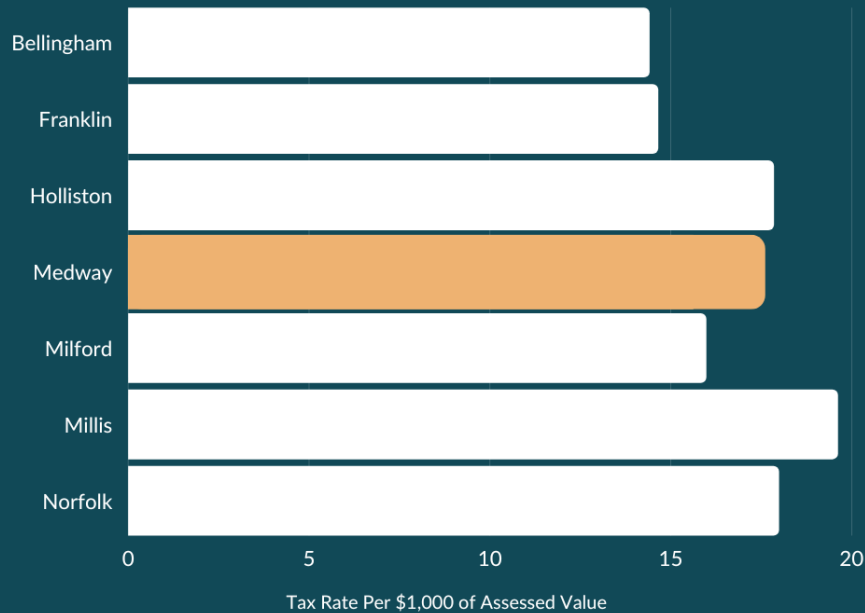
Medway is primarily occupied by homeowners. Renters occupy about 10% of housing, compared to 31% in the county and 38% in the state.



MEDWAY MASTER PLAN

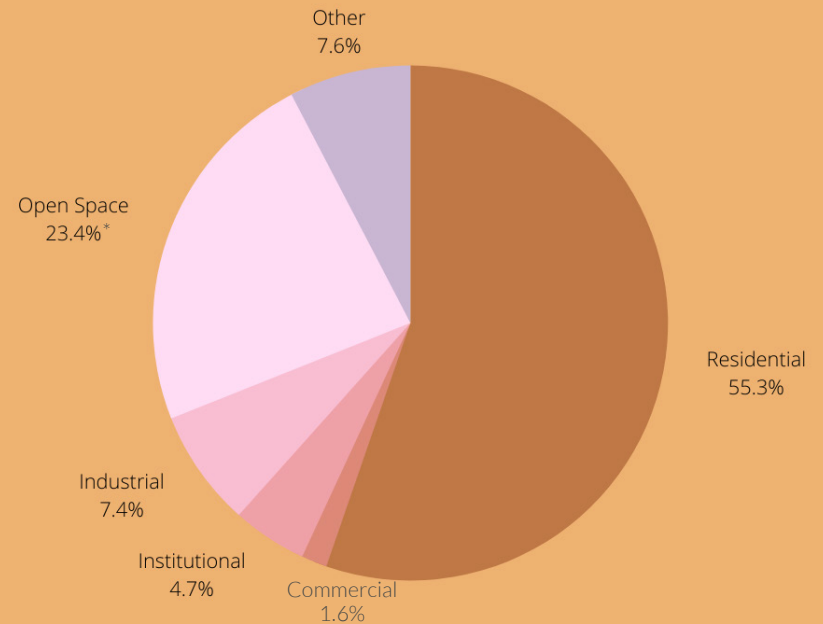
How do property taxes in Medway compare to other communities?

Residential property taxes in Medway are comparable to surrounding communities. In fact, the tax rate experienced the smallest increase between 2010 and 2021 of all seven communities.

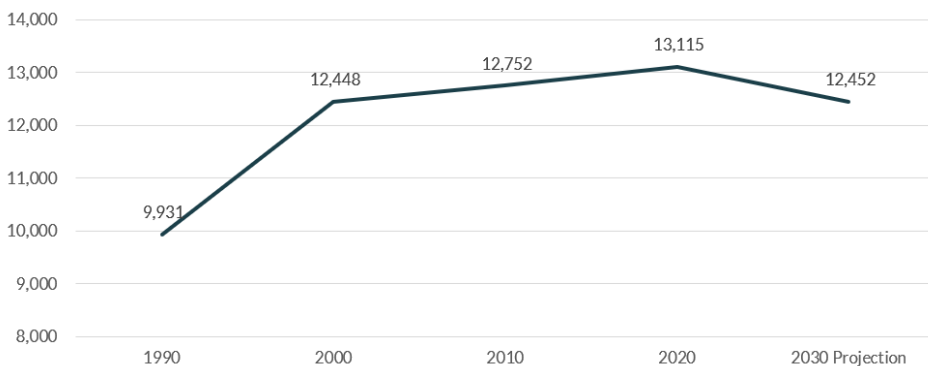


What does land use in Medway look like?

The majority of land in Medway is for residential use, followed by open space (public, private, and vacant).



* Note: Protected Open Space is 10.9%



CHAPTER 2

COMMUNITY

VISION: MEDWAY





VISION 2032

In 2032, Medway continues to be a financially stable, community- and family-oriented small town with active locally owned small farms and a thriving town center, that provides a welcoming atmosphere for all, protects the natural environment through town initiatives, and provides outstanding public facilities for the benefit of all residents.

IN 2032, MEDWAY...

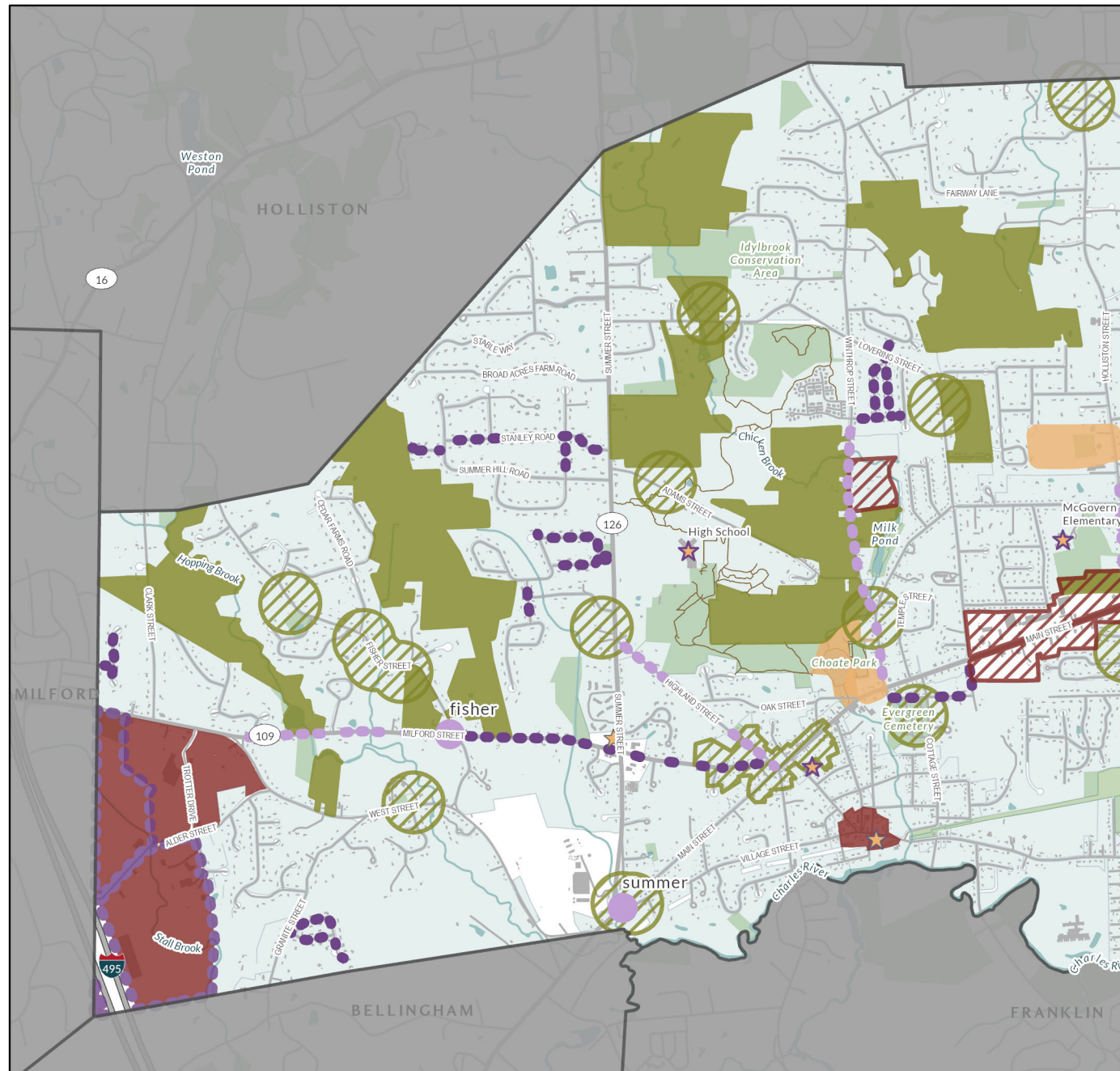
- Supports vibrant commercial areas and strategic, responsible residential, business, and industrial growth to promote local jobs and enhance local economic vitality
- Is well-run with professional, transparent, and fiscally responsible leadership that excels at delivering public services as well as maintaining and expanding infrastructure and assets with an eye to the future
- Protects natural resources to support clean and plentiful drinking water, local food production, agricultural heritage, scenic beauty, passive recreation, and promote carbon absorption
- Provides strong, modernized, and high-quality public schools and municipal facilities, including an interconnected trail system, a well-resourced senior center, community center for all ages, and library
- Is a peaceful, friendly, inclusive community whose residents take care of each other and welcome and embrace new residents of all ages, identities, and backgrounds

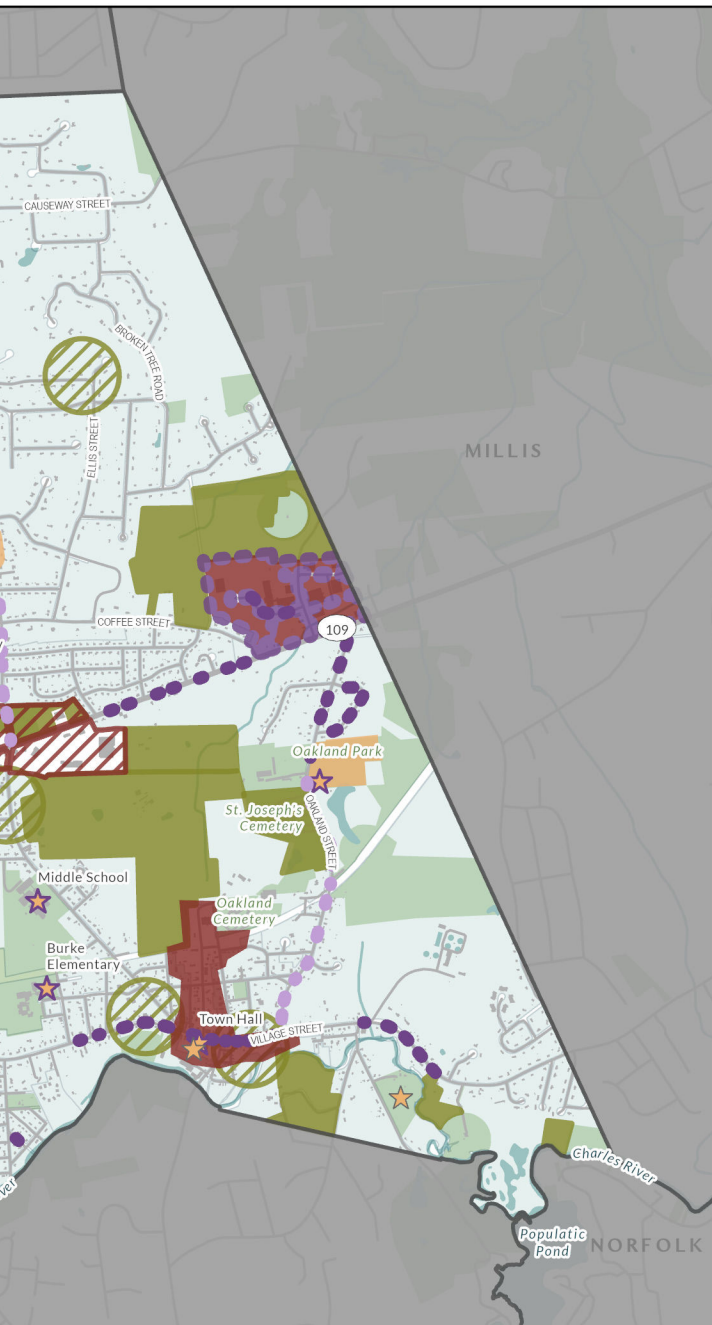
“I would like to look forward to a future of cautiously managed growth, investment in community center points such as the arts and outdoor space/ access, and support for residents who need special support, such as the elderly or otherwise disabled.”

– Survey Response

TOWN OF MEDWAY - FUTURE LAND USE MAP

Prepared by JM Goldson LLC





CONNECTIVITY IMPROVEMENT AREAS

Improve and expand local transportation options and make roads safe for all users including pedestrians, bicyclists, and drivers (Goal 7, Goal 11, Goal 12). Approved connectivity improvement areas are dark purple. Further desired connectivity improvement areas (not yet vetted) are light purple.



MUNICIPAL FACILITIES & SERVICES IMPROVEMENTS

Create new or updated facilities, and ensure ongoing stewardship of public assets. Purple outlines indicate facilities for connectivity improvement priority (Goal 4, Goal 10, Goal 12, Goal 14, Goal 20).



SERVICES ENHANCEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Provide efficient and outstanding public services, while maintaining the financial stable town budget (Goal 8, Goal 9, Goal 18, Goal 19, Goal 21, Goal 22, Goal 23, Goal 24).



ECONOMIC ENHANCEMENT AREA

Cultivate a diverse economic base that supports a strong local economy including in the East and West Business Parks and Oak Grove Redevelopment Area (Goal 2, Goal 3, Goal 5).



ECONOMIC ENHANCEMENT DESTINATIONS

Strengthen the economic and cultural vibrancy of the Town Center, local farms, and Village Commercial Districts. Expand and enhance the characteristics that attract visitors to Medway, including its natural, cultural, and historic environments (Goal 11).



CONSERVATION PRIORITY AREAS

Protect open space, natural resources, and local farms. Work towards increasing climate resiliency, natural stormwater solutions, and biodiversity (Goal 15, Goal 17).



HISTORIC PRESERVATION OPPORTUNITIES

Celebrate and honor local heritage by increasing local awareness and protecting historic resources including buildings, cemeteries, landscapes, archaeological resources, and other irreplaceable resources (Goal 16).



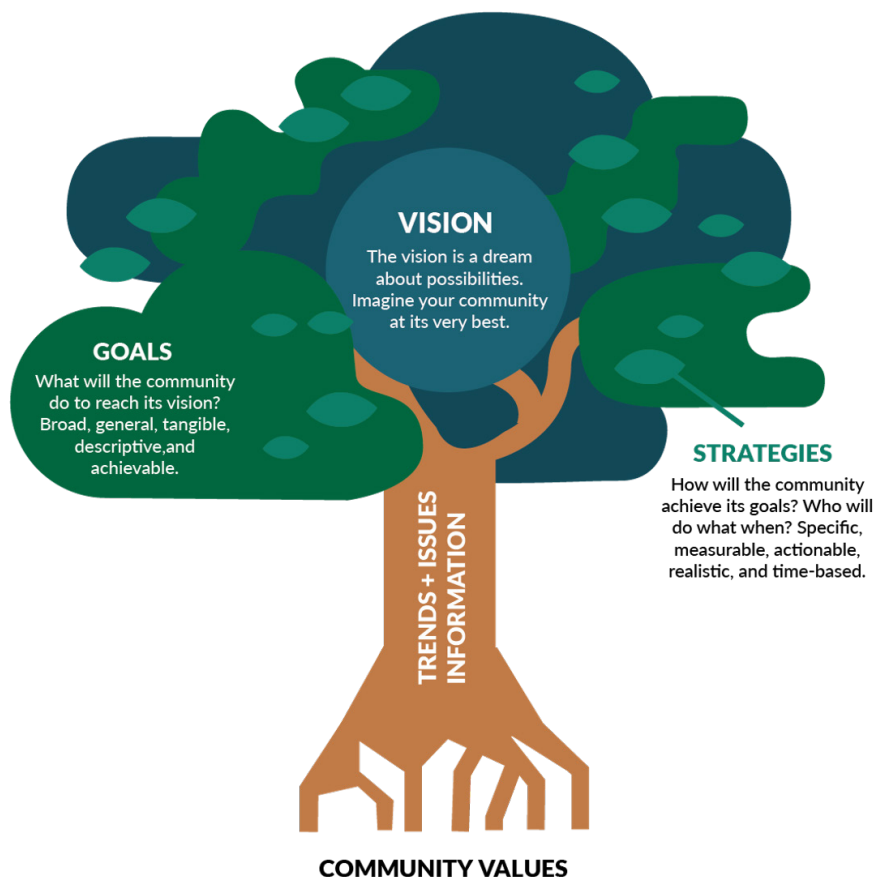
NEIGHBORHOOD CHARACTER AREAS

Provide a range of housing choices to foster a socio-economically diverse community. All residential neighborhoods in Medway are valued by the community for the scale of homes, including smaller, starter homes and traditional neighborhood features (Goal 6).

PLAN FRAMEWORK

To create a meaningful and effective Master Plan, the elements of the plan are not planned in silos, but rather integrated systematically so that they consider and reinforce one another – and support the overall plan's vision.

To best capture the synergies among the different community planning topics and reflect the community values and priorities that emerged from the planning process, this plan is organized by core themes that comprise the community's vision. Each core theme has associated goals and strategies.



1

Vision

An aspirational view of what residents hope the community will be like in the future, at its very best. Before a meaningful plan can be created, the community needs to imagine the future it is aiming for. The vision statement then becomes the driving force behind the plan.

4

Core Themes

Four core themes emerged through the planning process based on the community's values and priorities: 1) Balancing development with responsible and strategic growth, 2) Providing public infrastructure to support growth, 3) Sustainability through conservation, resilience, and stewardship, and 4) Building a supportive and welcoming community.

24

Goals

This plan includes a total of 24 goals that describe conditions to aim for to achieve the community vision over time. Goals describe what the community wants to achieve.

89

Strategies

This plan includes 95 strategies describing how to achieve the community's goals. Strategies are ways that the town will work to achieve the goals. They are actionable and will involve funding, regulations, programs, and/or use of other town resources, such as staff or volunteer time.

MASTER PLAN STATUTORY ELEMENTS

The 2021 Existing Conditions Analysis included eight topics, which follow the typical master plan statutory elements: land use, housing and demographics, economic development, historic and cultural resources, natural resources, open space and recreation, transportation, and public facilities and services. However, unlike a typical master plan, this plan is organized by the core themes, not by the statutory elements. However, all statutory elements are covered in the substance of the plan and the report.

CORE THEMES

Chapter 3) Responsible and Strategic Growth

Goals: 7 Strategies: 27

Chapter 4) Infrastructure to Support Growth

Goals: 6 Strategies: 19

Chapter 5) Conservation, Resiliency, and Stewardship

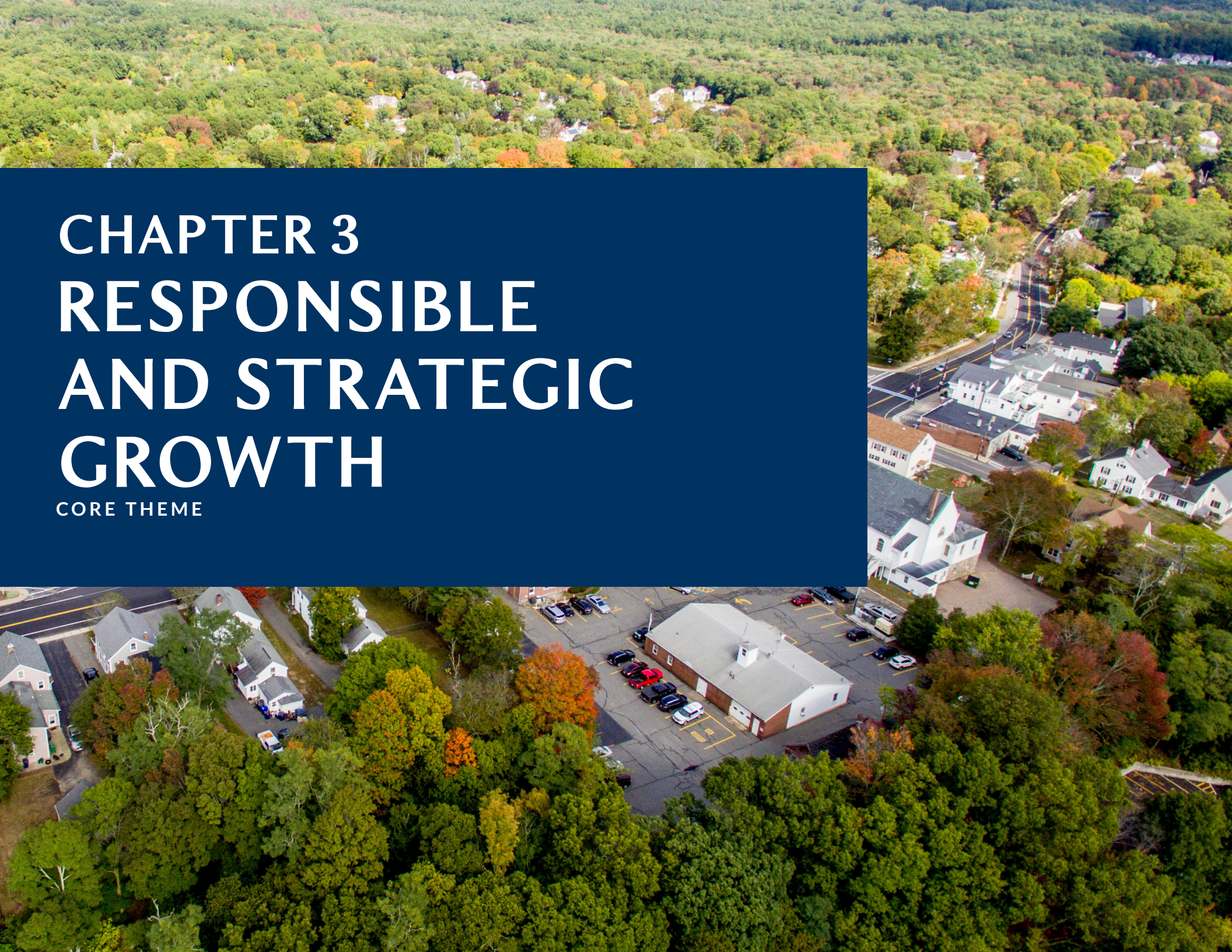
Goals: 4 Strategies: 19

Chapter 6) A Supportive Community

Goals: 7 Strategies: 24



Choate Park in the Spring

An aerial photograph of a suburban neighborhood. The top half of the image is dominated by a dense forest of trees with green and some autumn-colored foliage. Below the forest, a dark blue rectangular box contains white text. To the right of the text box, a winding road leads through more trees to a cluster of houses. In the bottom half of the image, there is a large parking lot with several cars parked, and a large, single-story building with a grey roof and white walls. The bottom half of the image is also filled with dense green trees.

CHAPTER 3 RESPONSIBLE AND STRATEGIC GROWTH

CORE THEME

In 2032, Medway has attractive, walkable commercial centers; thriving local businesses, strong commercial and industrial tax base, and employment opportunities; multi-generational, affordable, accessible, and smaller housing options; attractive placemaking; and well-preserved historic buildings.

Oak Grove supports a cluster of established companies and entrepreneurs in addition to new residential development, which has increased the commercial tax base and created new jobs as well as a prominent western gateway for Medway. Additional redevelopment plans are pending or underway as the Town realizes its vision for this important area.

Medway prioritizes and values not only small business development throughout the Town, but also the growth and formation of medium-sized businesses. New commercial and residential development in nodal centers throughout the Town benefit from expanded local and regional shuttle services, safe walkable sidewalks and crosswalks, and bicycle lanes and bike racks.

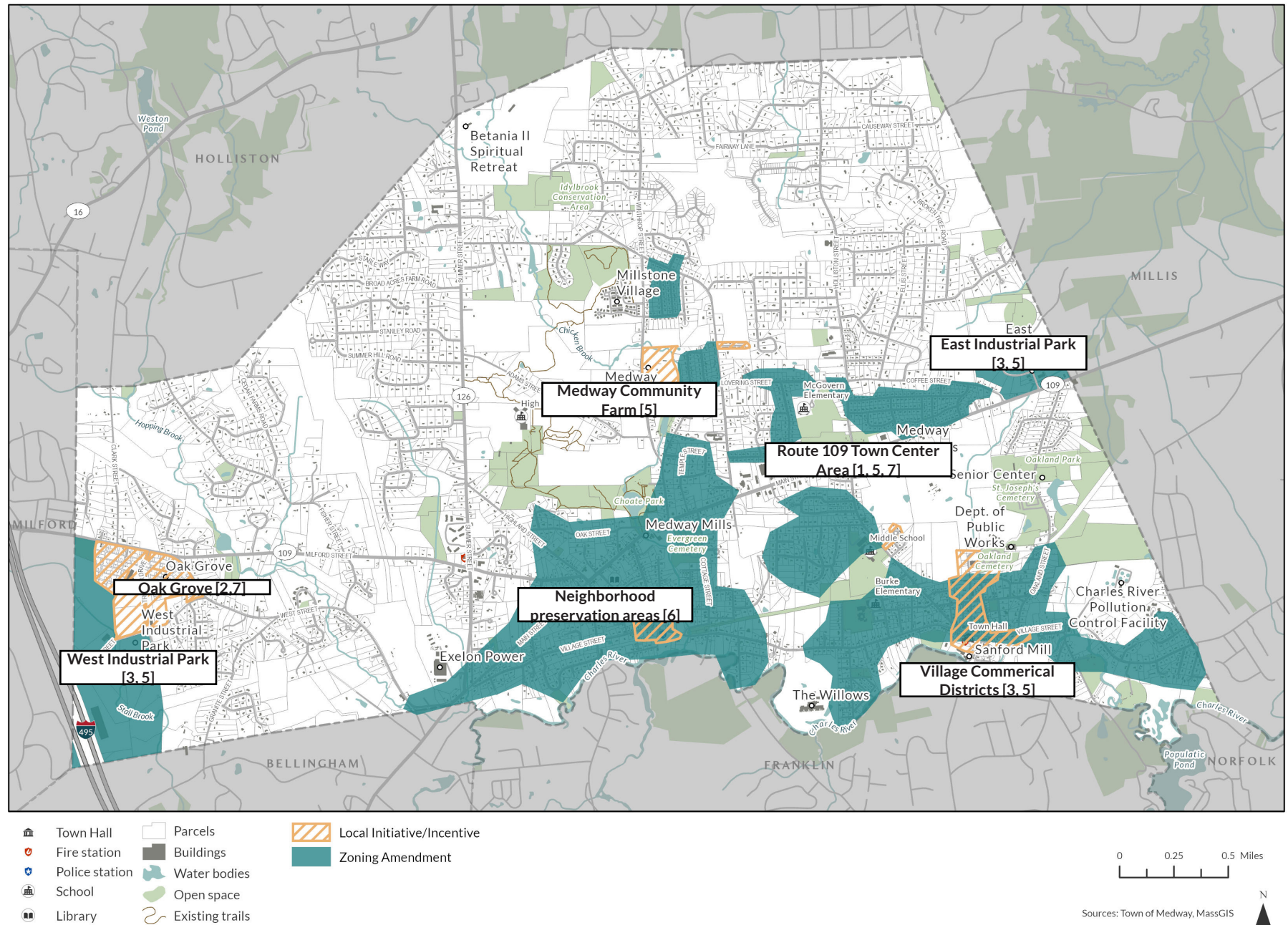
GOALS

1. Catalyze redevelopment of key properties on Main Street (Route 109).
2. Promote new development in the Oak Grove Area.
3. Promote commercial and industrial development expansion.
4. Continue to keep Town finances on solid footing and maintain town's favorable AAA bond rating.
5. Actively leverage financial, technical, and promotional support for the continued success of existing and new local businesses throughout Medway.
6. Foster accessible and affordable housing options.
7. Consider the needs of all residents when planning future transportation improvements.

TOWN OF MEDWAY - RESPONSIBLE AND STRATEGIC GROWTH

Prepared by JM Goldson LLC

J M GOLDSON



GOAL 1

CATALYZE REDEVELOPMENT OF KEY PROPERTIES ON ROUTE 109

to create a traditional, walkable Town Center with public facility investments, public/private partnerships, creation of cohesive visual district branding, coordinated marketing and promotion, and a net increase to the local tax base.

Strategies

- a. Build on Medway's recent streetscape improvements by leveraging public and private investment in placemaking improvements to the public realm to bring visual cohesion and interest to the district and to create an attractive identity as a Town Center.
- b. Explore adoption of an Urban Center Housing Tax Increment Financing (UCH-TIF) zone to promote private housing and commercial development in the Route 109 future Town Center area.

- c. Consider designating a portion of the Route 109 corridor as an Urban Renewal Area, if eligible, which would include all or a portion of the existing Central Business District (CBD) zoning district to promote private development consistent with the community's vision for a traditional Town Center as the CBD zoning allows.

Resources

Massachusetts Downtown Initiative
Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development
Rapid Recovery Planning Toolkits and Best Practices

(right) Medway Plaza on
Route 109



GOAL 2

PROMOTE NEW DEVELOPMENT IN THE OAK GROVE AREA

to realize the vision of the 2017 Oak Grove Urban Renewal Plan with a diverse mix of uses, including business, industry, open space, and housing and generate sustainable employment opportunities, provide opportunities for economic development, and deliver a net increase to the local tax base.

Strategies:

- a. Leverage funding and execute Phase I and Phase 2 activities of the Oak Grove Urban Renewal Plan including acquiring and assembling parcels, transportation safety improvements, coordinating with developers, and ensuring water and wastewater capacity as described in the Oak Grove Urban Renewal Plan.
- b. Create marketing materials highlighting opportunities in the Oak Grove area for future development. Include Medway's favorable tax rates, access to transportation corridors, streamlined development and permitting process, and more.

**Oak Grove Redevelopment
Concept Plan, Ted Brovitz
(2019)**



GOAL 3

PROMOTE COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT EXPANSION

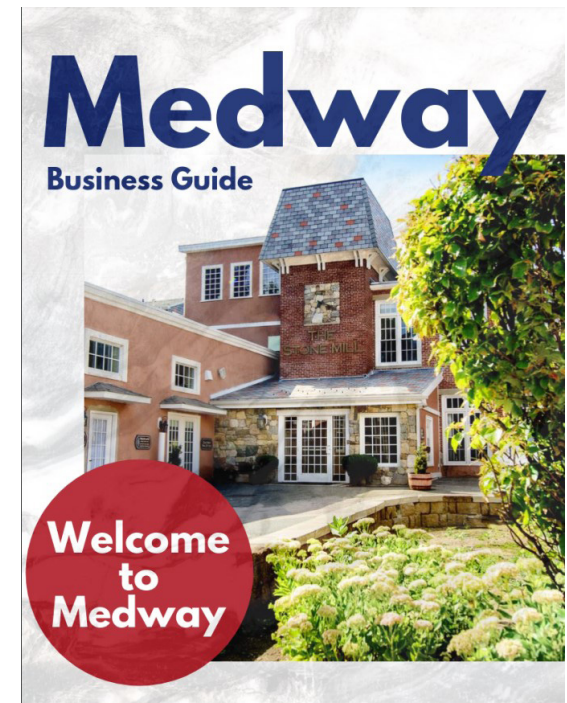
including medium-sized businesses to help minimize residential tax increases and increase local employment opportunities.

Strategies:

- Consider offering Economic Development Incentive Program (EDIP) Tax Increment Financing (TIF) to encourage redevelopment in key priority development areas for economic growth, such as the Business Industrial, East Industrial, and West Industrial districts.
- Encourage smaller-scale redevelopment at “Village” Centers around Medway (e.g., Village Commercial Zoning Districts).
- Analyze parcels of land in and around two industrially zoned areas in Medway (East Business Park and West Business Park) to determine if additional land could be rezoned for industrial use and if there are opportunities to modernize industrial zoning to attract more commercial development.

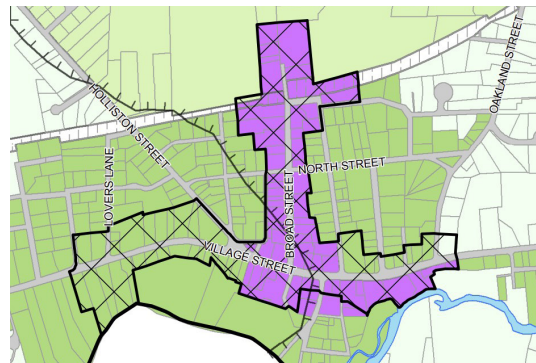
Economic Development Incentive Program

The Economic Development Incentive Program (EDIP) is designed to foster job creation and stimulate business growth. A company that participates in EDIP may receive state tax credits and/or local property tax incentives in exchange for a commitment to new job creation, existing job retention, and private investment in the project. There are many factors and criteria that the EDIP Review Team and Economic Assistance Coordinating Council (EACC) will consider throughout the process, chief among them being whether a project is unlikely to move forward without state and local government support.



(top) Medway Business Guide is located on the Town's website

(bottom) One of two Village Commercial Districts



Resources

Program Guidelines from the Economic Assistance Coordinating Council
Economic Development Incentive Program (EDIP)

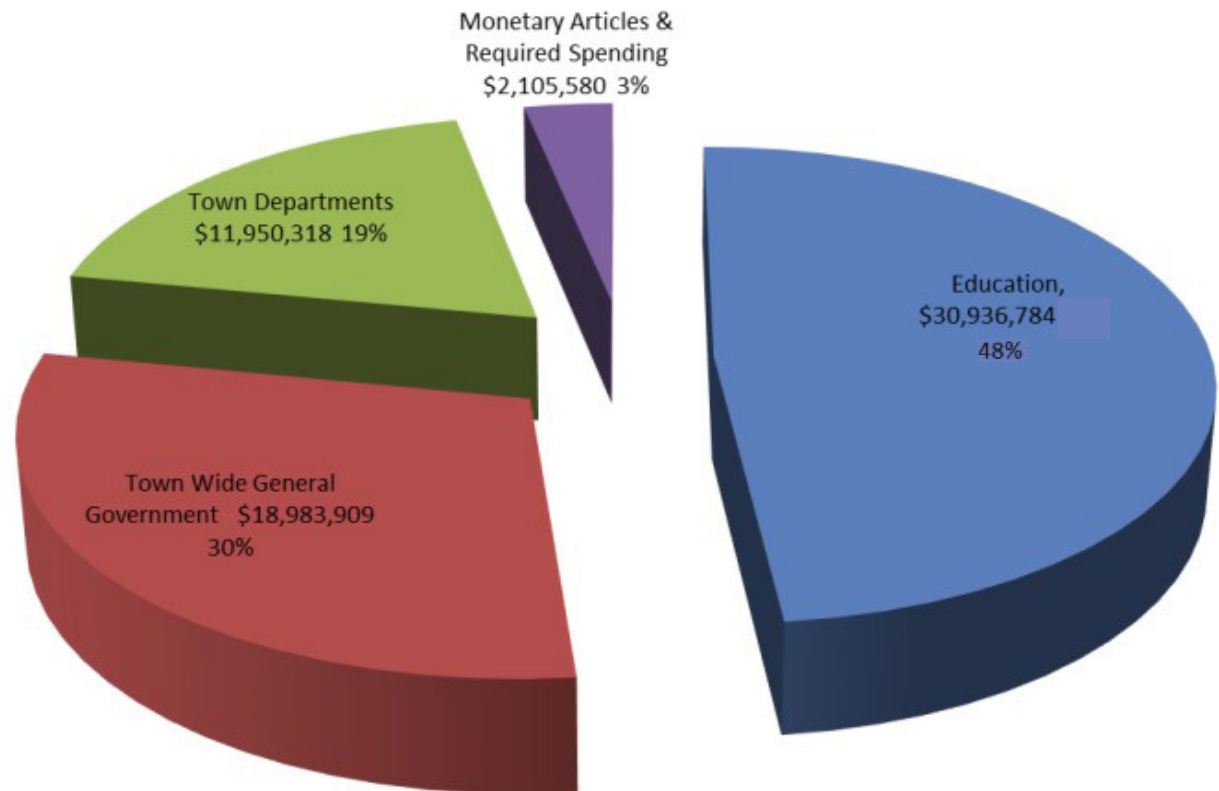
GOAL 4

CONTINUE TO KEEP TOWN FINANCES ON SOLID FOOTING AND MAINTAIN TOWN'S FAVORABLE AAA BOND RATING.

Strategies:

- a. Municipal leadership will continue to formally monitor financial and economic conditions impacting the Town.
- b. Municipal leadership maintains a long-range financial forecast regarding debt affordability, liabilities such as pensions, OPEB (Other Post-Employment Benefits), economic development strategies, reserve policies, and asset management strategies.
- c. Municipal leadership maintains a Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) to maintain community assets with optimal service, preserve and improve existing infrastructure, and invest in future needs.
- d. Medway successfully meets spending parameters and target balances. For example, debt service as a percentage of the operating budget target is 5% to 8% and the unassigned fund balance as a percentage of the total Town Meeting budget target is 10% - 16%.

FY23 General Fund Expenditures Total Budget = \$63,976,591



(left) Medway Town Hall

(right) FY23 General Fund Expenditures

GOAL 5

ACTIVELY LEVERAGE FINANCIAL, TECHNICAL, AND PROMOTIONAL SUPPORT FOR THE CONTINUED SUCCESS OF EXISTING AND NEW LOCAL BUSINESSES THROUGHOUT MEDWAY.

Strategies:

- a. Create initiatives and collaborations to promote agri-entrepreneurs to unlock untapped business potential, such as farm-to-table initiatives, and review zoning provisions for areas with active farms to allow such business uses and programs to support the financial stability of local farms.
- b. Expand the Farmer's Market, which is an avenue for local businesses to educate the public and sell their products and promote its utilization.
- c. Create a place in the Town Center for shared community gathering place and incubator for pop up businesses. This could be a large shed as a "storefront" on town-owned land, or in a private-public partnership with a vacant storefront or lot, where businesses can test-drive their market and residents can come together, like Ashland's "Corner Spot".
- d. Allow for and encourage shared co-working spaces and home-based businesses through programmatic or zoning methods.
- e. Consolidate information on business resources, technical assistance, and networking and engagement events in one location on the Town's website.

- f. Work with the Medway Business Council to host and promote more peer-to-peer collaboration, mentoring, and networking events for the Medway business community.
- g. Clearly communicate to the business community who the point of contact is in Medway for helping new and existing businesses with any town-related processes.
- h. Consider working with the Medway Business Council to create or support a job posting board for local businesses.



(Bottom) Medway Business Council provides a directory on their website.

(Top) Medway Farmer's market is an avenue for local businesses to sell their products



GOAL 6

FOSTER ACCESSIBLE AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING OPTIONS,

including affordable homes and options for low- and middle-income households, in strategic locations that enable residents to thrive in the community and support the needs of an aging population, young families, young adults, special needs, and a socioeconomically diverse population.

Strategies:



a. Rezone residential neighborhoods to match the prevailing existing development patterns more closely to help preserve these types of smaller housing options, such as the Brentwood neighborhood and other neighborhoods with modestly sized housing stock on smaller lots.

b. Revise zoning provisions for accessory apartments, infill bylaw, multi-family overlay, affordable housing provisions; consider other zoning revisions to promote greater variety of housing types including senior, accessible, and affordable options in accordance with the most current Housing Production Plan.

c. Support and promote the modernization and rebuilding of Housing Authority properties, especially at Lovering Heights and Kenney Drive, to continue to provide safe, decent, accessible housing for low-income elderly and individuals with disabilities by leveraging federal and state funding with local seed funds.

d. Promote the creation of affordable homes, congregate housing for individuals with special needs including older adults, and other supportive housing options through collaborations between the Medway Affordable Housing Trust, Housing Authority, mission-based developers, and other entities.



(Top) Example of “missing middle” market-rate housing in Medway

(Bottom) Kenney Drive Housing Authority property

Resources

AARP – Future of Housing: Addressing Housing Challenges Across the U.S.

MassHousing Partnership

Citizens Housing and Planning Association

GOAL 7

CONSIDER THE NEEDS OF ALL RESIDENTS WHEN PLANNING FUTURE TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENTS

with land use planning and regulatory changes that encourage focused residential or commercial growth.

Strategies:

a. Consider adopting a Complete Street Policy to provide safe and accessible options for all travel modes – walking, biking, transit, and vehicles – for people of all ages and abilities (where feasible), which allows design solutions to be context sensitive and complement the community.

b. Consider an on-demand shuttle system that connects village centers and emerging economic development areas on Route 109 and Oak Grove.

c. Explore regional shuttle options for Medway commuters who use the MBTA commuter rail facilities and the public who would benefit from expanded transit options. For example, through the Greater Attleboro and Taunton Regional Transit Authority (GATRA).

(Left) Greater Attleboro and Taunton Regional Transit Authority (GATRA) bus.

(Right) The Crosstown Connect (Acton, MA) is a regional model of on-demand shuttle transportation.





CHAPTER 4 INFRASTRUCTURE TO SUPPORT GROWTH

CORE THEME

In 2032, Medway's decades of strategic investment in public infrastructure have benefited the whole community. A new water treatment facility, along with measures to protect the Town's aquifer from contaminants and replenish it by limiting impervious surfaces and emphasizing infiltration of stormwater, have helped ensure that Town residents have safe and reliable drinking water. The expansion of the Town's sewer capacity supports thoughtful, responsible commercial growth and appropriately sized residential development.

New or upgraded public safety facilities, a new Town Hall, and the Town's on-going program of capital improvements and maintenance for other Town and school facilities provide for efficient delivery of local services. These investments by the Town support responsible growth that provide municipal tax revenue and maximizes protection and health of Town residents, as well as natural habitats.

The Town's commitment to improving and maintaining its streets has resulted in accessible sidewalks and crosswalks, bicycle facilities, electric vehicle infrastructure, and access to a variety of local and regional mobility options for all ages that connect residents to employment and education opportunities, as well as parks, grocery stores, restaurants, healthcare facilities, and gathering places. Aging residents feel supported by accessible mobility infrastructure. Improvements on major roadways have reduced stormwater pollution to surface and groundwater sources and provided more attractive streetscapes with vegetation to help capture and treat run-off. These also reduce heat island effects in summer and help to mitigate flooding.

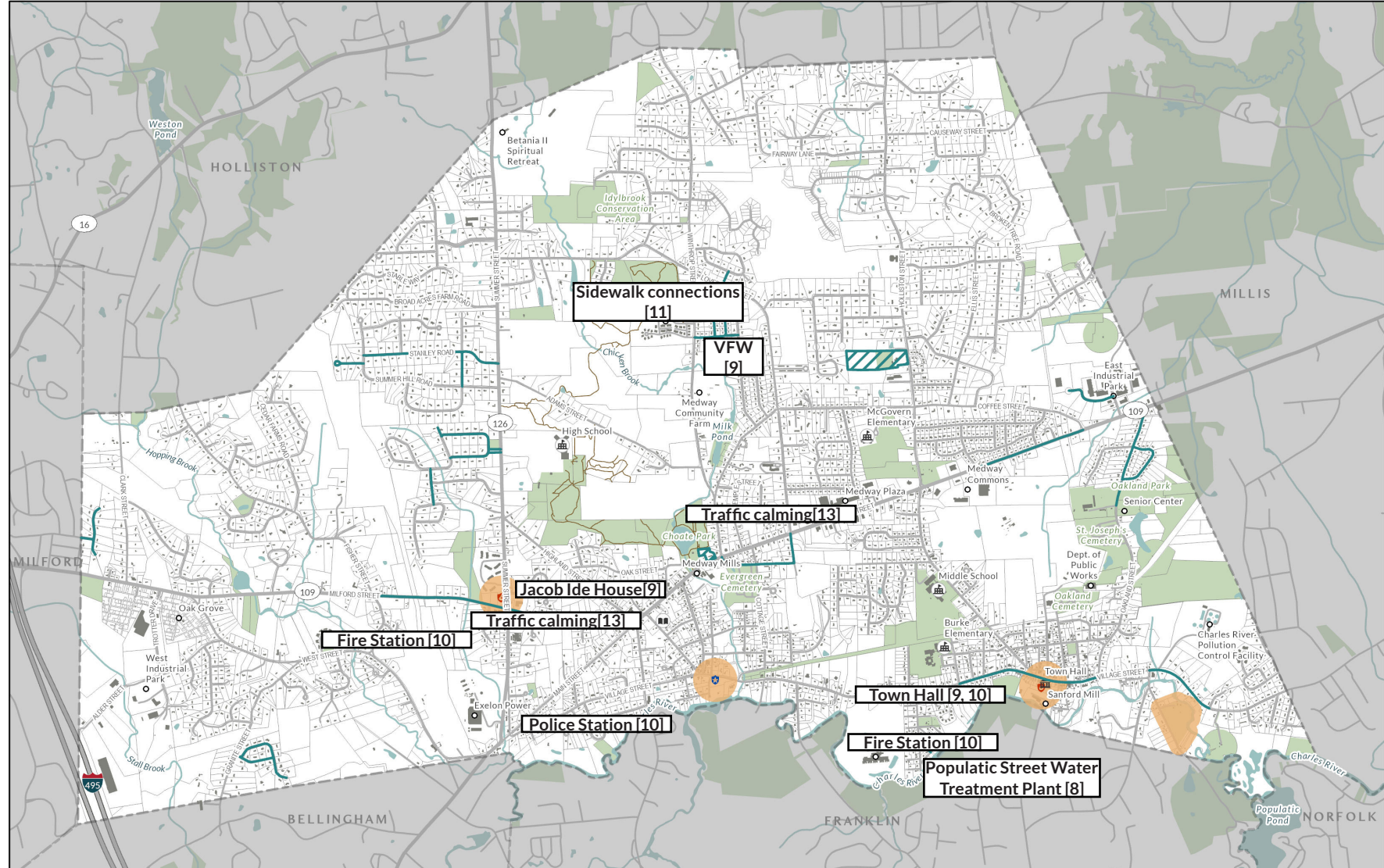
GOALS:

- | | |
|---|--|
| 8. Protect drinking water quality, expand wastewater treatment capacity, and implement MS4 stormwater permit recommendations. | infrastructure to expand electric vehicle and bicycle use |
| 9. Ensure ongoing stewardship and improve accessibility for public assets. | 13. Invest in traffic calming with physical improvements to streets to slow automobile travel speeds and improvements to high crash areas to increase overall road safety. |
| 10. Create new or updated municipal facilities | |
| 11. Improve walking and biking safety, accessibility, and connections. | |
| 12. Support the increased use of technology and | |

TOWN OF MEDWAY - INFRASTRUCTURE TO SUPPORT GROWTH

Prepared by JM Goldson LLC

J M GOLDSON



- | | | | | | |
|--|----------------|--|-----------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| | Town Hall | | Parcels | | Expansion of Existing Infrastructure |
| | Fire station | | Buildings | | New Infrastructure |
| | Police station | | Water bodies | | |
| | School | | Open space | | |
| | Library | | Existing trails | | |

0 0.25 0.5 Miles

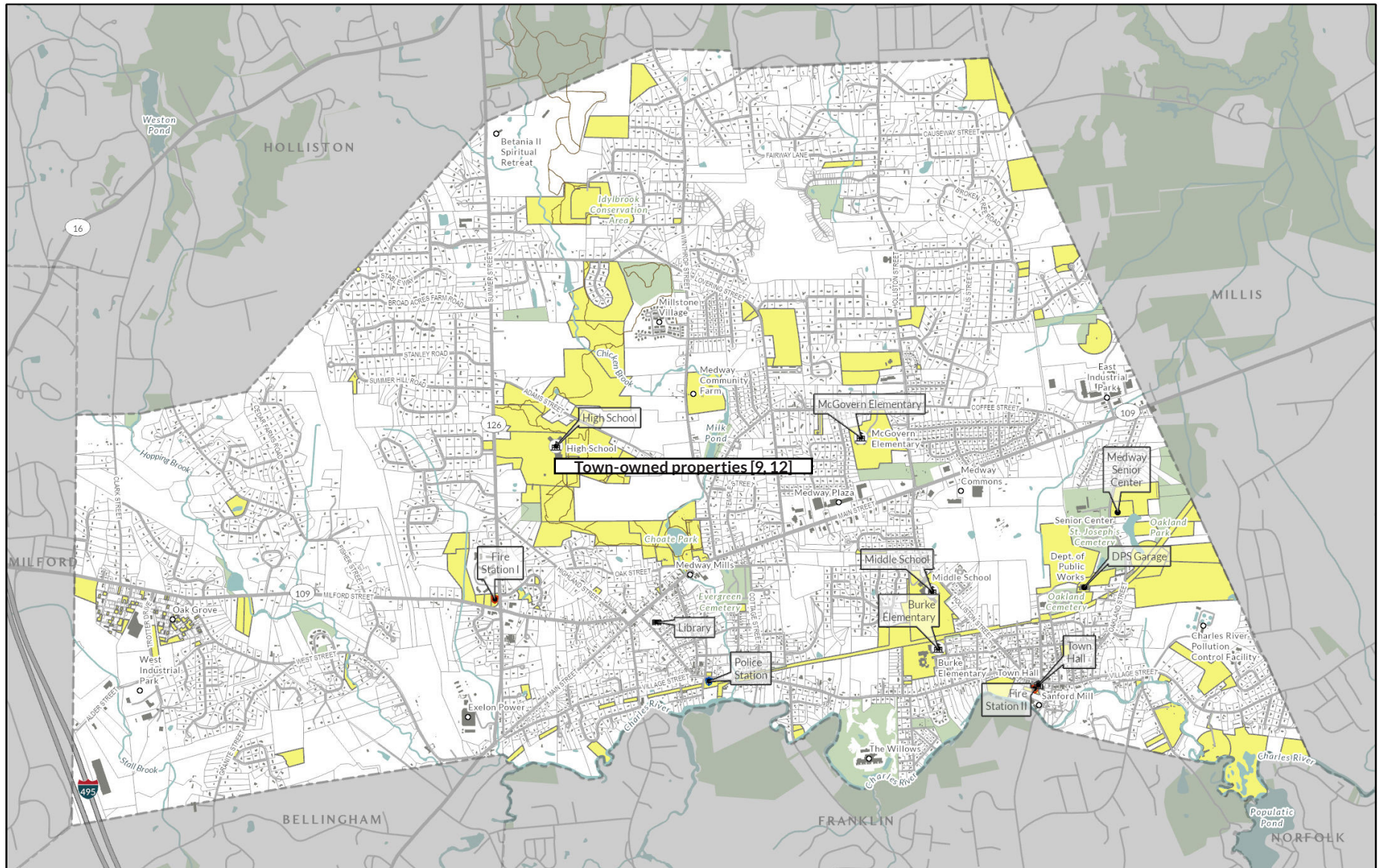
Sources: Town of Medway, MassGIS



TOWN OF MEDWAY - MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS AND PROPERTIES

Prepared by JM Goldson LLC

J M GOLDSON



- | | | | | | |
|--|----------------|--|-----------------|--|-----------------------|
| | Town Hall | | Parcels | | Municipal Buildings |
| | Fire station | | Buildings | | Town-Owned Properties |
| | Police station | | Water bodies | | |
| | School | | Open space | | |
| | Library | | Existing trails | | |



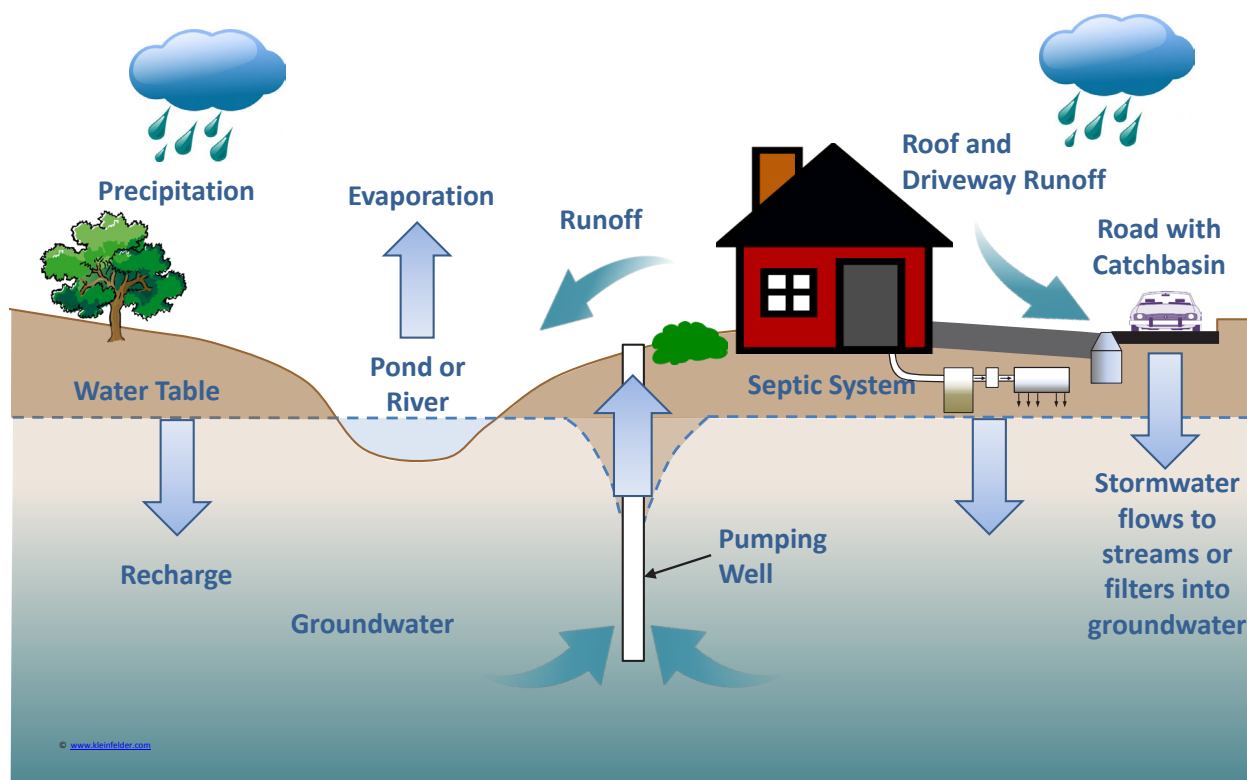
Sources: Town of Medway, MassGIS

GOAL 8

PROTECT DRINKING WATER QUALITY, EXPAND WASTEWATER TREATMENT CAPACITY, AND IMPLEMENT MS4 STORMWATER PERMIT RECOMMENDATIONS.

Strategies:

- Construct the Populatic Street Water Treatment Plant to help ensure safe and adequate drinking water.
- Purchase additional wastewater capacity of about 150,000 GPD as a first phase and more as needed to accommodate both permitted development projects and to account for projected future growth. Implement wastewater system recommendations per the Integrated Water Resources Management Program.
- Implement the recommendations included in the Code Review for Medway's Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit to update codes, bylaws, rules, and regulations pertaining to stormwater and phosphorus removal requirements.
- Review drinking water infrastructure to ensure that the system has adequate energy resources that enable pump and treatment systems to operate if the grid were taken down to ensure safe and clean drinking water for Medway residents in case of an emergency.



The water cycle, from Medway's Integrated Water Resources Management Program website

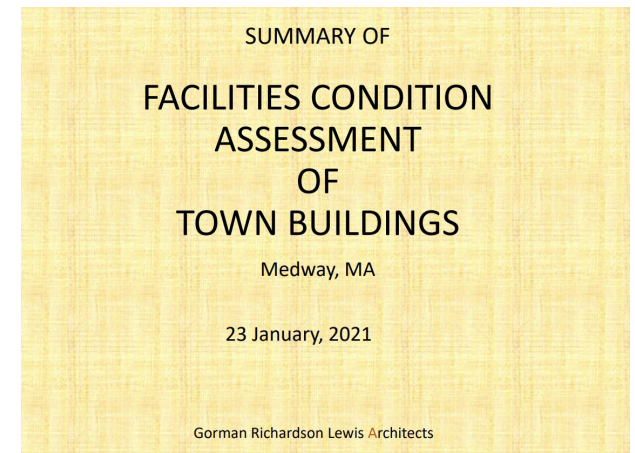
GOAL 9

ENSURE ONGOING STEWARDSHIP AND IMPROVE ACCESSIBILITY FOR PUBLIC ASSETS

including parks, playgrounds, trails, athletic fields, as well as public facilities, DPW, public schools, Thayer House, Ide House, and other town-owned assets.

Strategies:

- a. Update municipal facility assessments at regular intervals to prioritize maintenance and repairs on public facilities to ensure their useful life and longevity.
- b. Create VFW building and Jacob Ide House feasibility studies to determine future uses.
- c. Continue to evaluate staffing for all Town and School departments on an annual basis to ensure the current programming and operations are sustainable.



(left) The Jacob Ide House (owned by the Town); Photo taken by Medway Historical Society, who use a portion of the house.

(right) Facility Assessments prioritize maintenance of public facilities.

GOAL 10

CREATE NEW OR UPDATED MUNICIPAL FACILITIES

including upgraded public safety facilities and Town Hall to promote investment in the Town's essential functions. New facilities should be designed with possible future expansion in mind.

Strategies:

- Consider the creation of a new Town Hall and appropriate re-use of the existing Town Hall site.
- Consider creating a new or updated joint or separate fire and police facilities to further support and coordinate public safety, and appropriate reuse of existing sites.
- Consider implementing recommendations of the feasibility study that will evaluate the establishment of a joint dispatch center for police calls with surrounding towns.



Medway Town Hall



Medway Fire Station

GOAL 11

IMPROVE WALKING AND BIKING SAFETY, ACCESSIBILITY, AND CONNECTIONS

on arterial and connector streets throughout Medway for all ages and abilities by creating a connected network of sidewalks and bike lanes where suitable, as well as off-road trails or pathways providing people with safe and efficient access to schools, parks, commercial areas, and other key destinations.

Strategies:

- Continue funding support and implementation of the Town's master sidewalk plan.
- If a Complete Streets Policy is adopted, create a Complete Streets Prioritization Plan targeting commercial areas and other priority development areas, to unlock Complete Streets construction grant dollars.
- Pursue other federal and state grant programs to leverage local funds to expand pedestrian and bicycle facilities in Town, such as Safe Routes to School or the Shared Streets and Spaces grant programs.

Complete Streets are streets for everyone. They are designed and operated to prioritize safety, comfort, and access to destinations for all people who use the street, especially people who have experienced systemic underinvestment or whose needs have not been met through a traditional transportation approach, including older adults, children, people living with disabilities, people who cannot afford or do not have access to a car. Complete Streets improve equity, safety, and public health.

- Excerpt from Smart Growth America Strategies



CHOATE PARK/RTE. 109 UPDATE

Week of July 1, 2019



Route 109 streetscape improvement program.

Resources

Shared Streets and Spaces Grant Program
Safe Routes to School
Complete Streets Funding Program
MassWorks Infrastructure Program

GOAL 12

SUPPORT THE INCREASED USE OF TECHNOLOGY AND INFRASTRUCTURE TO EXPAND ELECTRIC VEHICLE AND BICYCLE USE, INCLUDING CHARGING STATIONS AND BICYCLE STORAGE.

Strategies:

- a. Supplemented by available grant programs, invest in installations of additional electric vehicle charging stations on public land in or near commercial areas to capture anticipated economic benefits to support Medway's small businesses.
- b. Consider measures to increase accessibility for electric vehicle infrastructure in Medway, such as the adoption of an Electric Vehicle Readiness Policy and a zoning audit focused on ways local regulations can encourage EV charging infrastructure on private and public properties.
- c. Expand bike racks on municipal property near major activity centers, at municipal facilities, parks, and playgrounds.



ChargePoint Station, Medway
(MAPC)

Medway Pride Day bike parade
(Photo: Wiked Local)

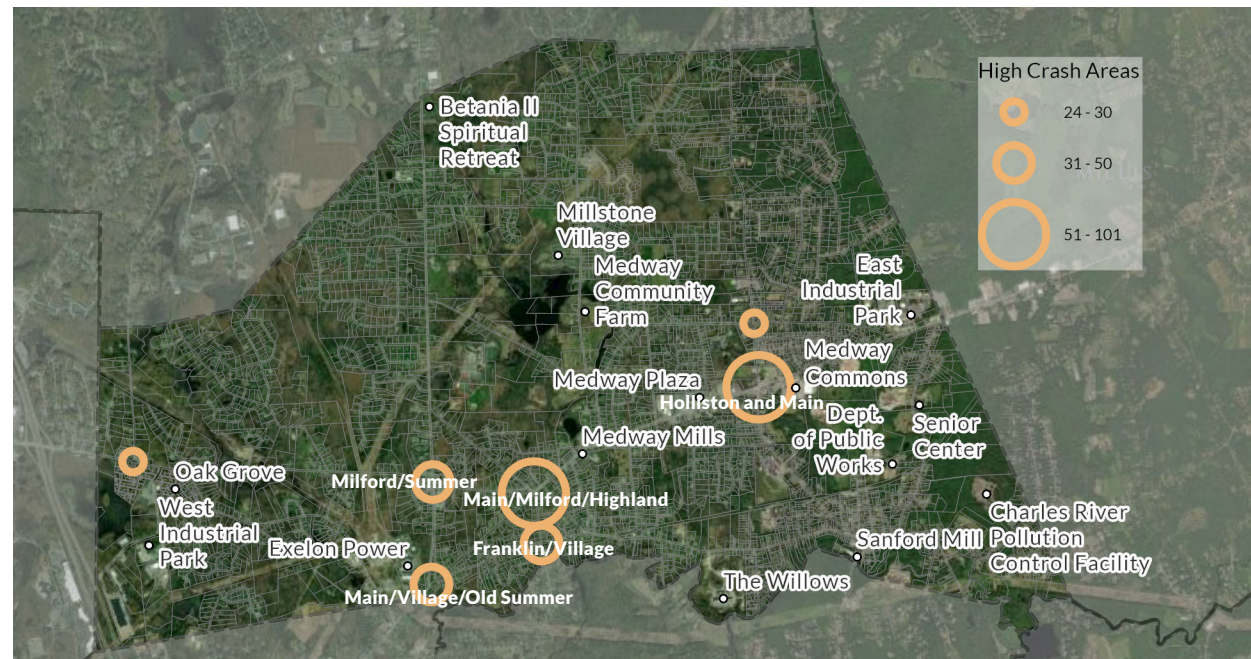


GOAL 13

INVEST IN TRAFFIC CALMING WITH PHYSICAL IMPROVEMENTS TO STREETS TO SLOW AUTOMOBILE TRAVEL SPEEDS AND IMPROVEMENTS TO HIGH CRASH AREAS TO INCREASE OVERALL ROAD SAFETY.

Strategies:

- Review speed limits on town-controlled roadways to determine if speeds could be reduced or if design interventions could help slow vehicle speeds.
- Consider design interventions on roads with faster travel speeds such as sidewalk widening, curb extensions, addition of street trees, or other traffic calming measures, funded through programs like Complete Streets or Shared Streets and Spaces.
- Consider testing traffic calming approaches with quick build, short-term, and low-cost pilot projects to evaluate the effectiveness of a solution before pursuing funds for design and construction.



High Crash Areas

Coffee Street Speed plateau
(Medway DPW)





CHAPTER 5 CONSERVATION, RESILIENCE & STEWARDSHIP

CORE THEME

In 2032, the community is regarded as a regional conservation leader due to its commitment and initiatives to ensure heritage protection, natural resource conservation, reforestation, and regeneration, and renewable energy for a sustainable and resilient Town and region. Medway's natural resource conservation has not only increased protected open space and tree canopy coverage, but also has reduced the impacts on essential natural systems caused by human activity, such as wastewater and solid waste, energy consumption, and changes in land use that reduce natural ground cover and increase impervious surfaces.

Medway's commitment to supporting locally grown food and regenerative, water smart farming practices ensures the availability of healthy local food options, through viable farming businesses, as well as pulling excess carbon dioxide out of the atmosphere.

Town assets are well-maintained including Choate and Oakland Parks, the Community Farm, the Thayer House, athletic fields, playgrounds, and the Town's extensive, interconnected trail system along the Chicken Brook corridor.

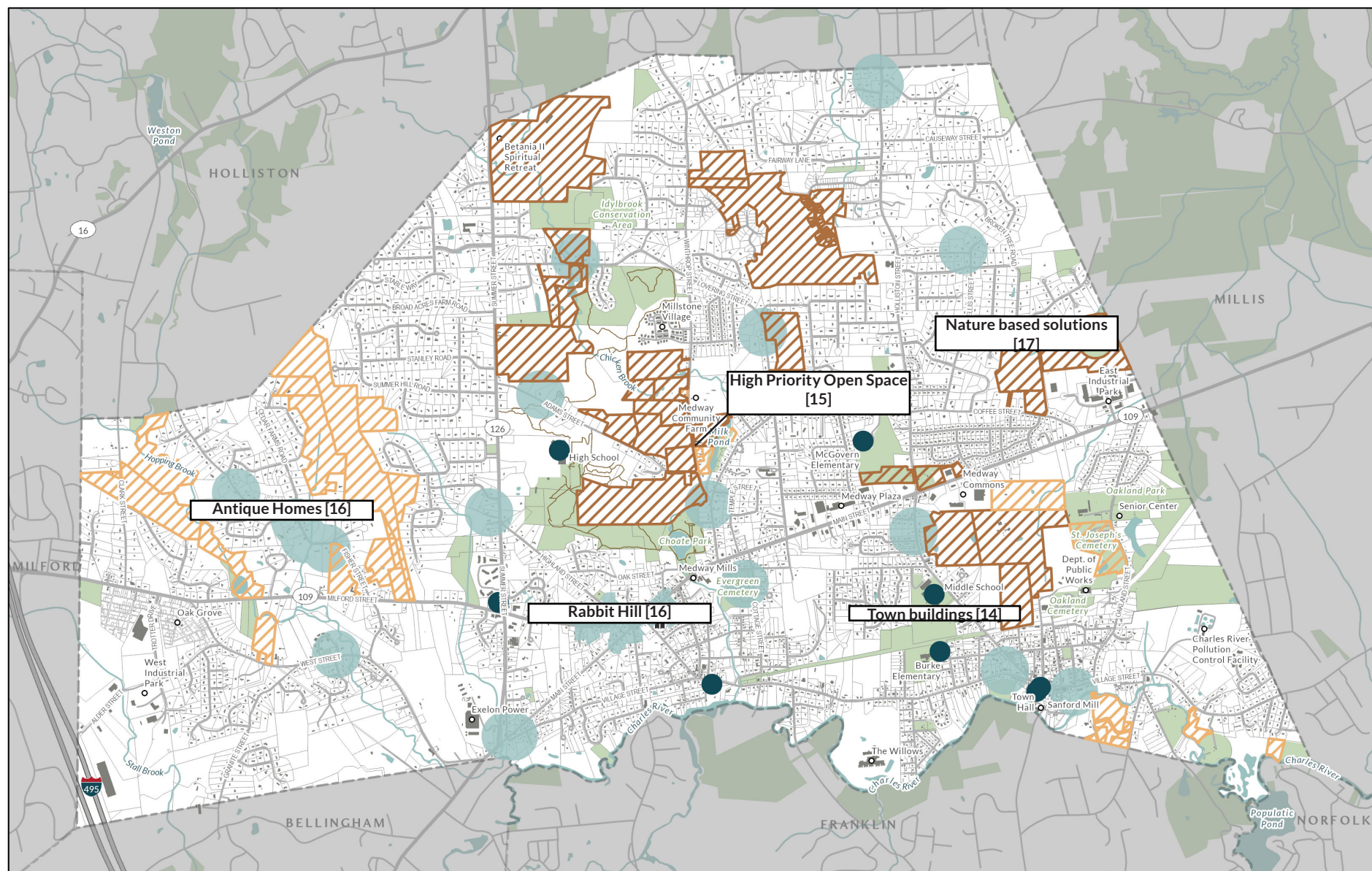
GOALS

14. Actively work to achieve emissions reductions below the Fiscal Year 2009 baseline by 2030 in alignment with the state's Act Creating a Next-Generation Roadmap for Massachusetts Climate Policy.
15. Strive to permanently protect tree canopy and at least 30% of open space land.
16. Celebrate and honor local heritage by increasing local awareness and protecting historic resources.
17. Reduce impacts on essential natural systems caused by human activity.

TOWN OF MEDWAY - CONSERVATION, RESILIENCY, AND STEWARDSHIP

Prepared by JM Goldson LLC

J M GOLDSON



- Town Hall
- Fire station
- Police station
- School
- Library
- Parcels
- Buildings
- Water bodies
- Open space
- Existing trails
- Sustainability/Resiliency Improvements
- Municipal Buildings Buffer 1
- Conservation: Priority Areas
- Conservation: High Priority Areas
- ShadyOaks2
- Conservation/Preservation
- Historic Preservation
- Points of interest

0 0.25 0.5 Miles

Sources: Town of Medway, MassGIS



GOAL 14

ACTIVELY WORK TO ACHIEVE EMISSIONS REDUCTIONS BELOW THE FISCAL YEAR 2009 BASELINE BY 2030 IN ALIGNMENT WITH THE STATE'S ACT CREATING A NEXT-GENERATION ROADMAP FOR MASSACHUSETTS CLIMATE POLICY.¹

1

2009 Baseline - 85 million lbs CO₂, *The Town of Medway Local Energy Action Plan (2013)*

Strategies:

- a. Plan a phased approach to move Medway's public buildings and infrastructure towards net zero energy with the ability to power their operations and vehicle fleets, and run independently from the grid as needed, utilizing solar, wind, or geothermal power.
- b. Promote and utilize Mass Save and the Commonwealth Energy Tool for Savings (energyCENTS) for Medway residents, which address heating, cooling, lighting, appliances, weatherization, air source heat pumps, etc.
- c. Support zoning changes to incentivize high performance green building initiatives and create ways for businesses to pursue sustainable building.
- d. Create a community-supported solar project for residents that do not own their homes or cannot afford to install solar infrastructure. Prioritize new community solar projects above parking lots or already deforested areas.
- e. Expand the Energy and Sustainability Committee's charge to provide for it to take a larger role in climate change mitigation, resilience, and adaptation.

Community Solar (Bare, MA)



GOAL 15

STRIVE TO PERMANENTLY PROTECT THE TREE CANOPY AND AT LEAST 30% OF OPEN SPACE LAND

prioritized for four purposes: carbon sequestration to remove carbon dioxide (CO₂) from the atmosphere, biodiversity conservation to ensure long-term persistence of rare and other native species and their habitats, prime farmland to enable local food production through regenerative water smart farming practices, and passive recreation and trails.

Strategies:

- Acquire the high priority open space for Town ownership, as described in the Open Space and Recreation Plan.
- Strategically acquire and conserve unprotected open space to protect and expand important open space connections, wildlife corridors, and natural resources through fee acquisition or deed restrictions.
- Consider adopting Natural Resource Protection zoning as an alternative to the existing Open Space Residential Development (OSRD) zoning. Natural Resource Protection zoning has a similar process to OSRD zoning but allows for concentrated development with open space preservation as a right, while OSRD requires a special permit.
- Inventory the existing publicly-owned tree canopy in Medway and consider adoption of a tree preservation bylaw to protect Medway's privately-owned tree canopy.

Resources

Medway Open Space and Recreation Plan
Open Space Design (OSD)/ Natural Resource Protection Zoning (NRPZ)
Model Open Space Design/ Natural Resource Protection Zoning
Guide to Local Tree Bylaws for Communities in Massachusetts

Medway Open Spaces (Open Space and Recreation Plan, 2020)



GOAL 16

CELEBRATE AND HONOR LOCAL HERITAGE

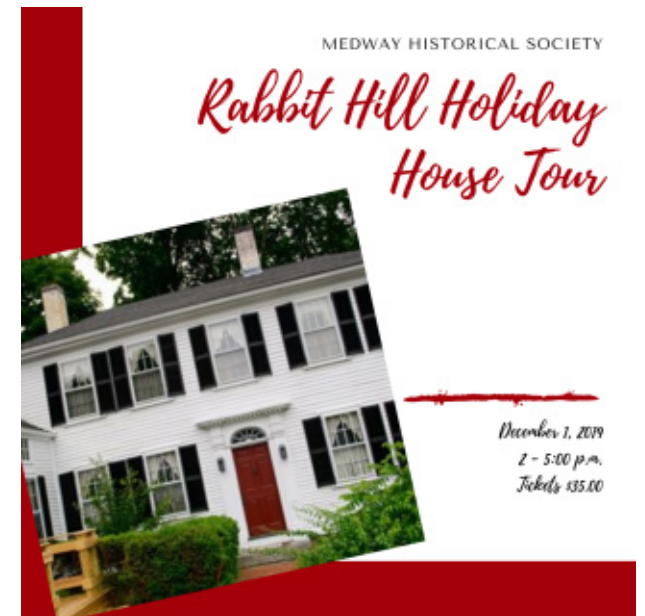
by increasing local awareness and protecting historic resources including buildings, cemeteries, landscapes, archaeological resources, and other irreplaceable resources.

Strategies:

- Expand and create walking tours, publications, and online information to promote awareness of Medway's history, especially historically marginalized populations.
- Consider the establishment of a local historic district to further protect Medway's historic resources, including the Rabbit Hill neighborhood.
- Consider the establishment of a floating local historic district to protect Colonial and Federal (pre-1800) buildings.
- Consider using local, state, or federal grant dollars to provide preservation grants to fund exterior renovations of historic homes for income qualified homeowners, like Cambridge's Affordable Housing Preservation Grants program.



Rabbit Hill National Historic District



GOAL 17

REDUCE IMPACTS ON ESSENTIAL NATURAL SYSTEMS CAUSED BY HUMAN ACTIVITY THROUGH ECO-FRIENDLY LANDSCAPING AND WASTE DISPOSAL, AND NATURE-BASED STORMWATER SOLUTIONS.

Strategies:

- a. Facilitate an education campaign to provide information to residents and businesses about the advantages of conservation, resiliency, and stewardship and incentivize actions that promote these values. Demonstrate these site design and management strategies on municipal properties so they can serve as demonstration sites that aid in this public education initiative.
- b. Use native species to restore aquatic and terrestrial habitats and improve the health of pollinators, fish, and other wildlife.
- c. Collaborate with groups, including the schools, to plant and sustain rain and pollinator gardens and provide more hand-on experiences for children.
- d. Consider creating a town-wide composting program, utilize an existing resource for composting program (e.g., Hidden Acres Compost, Black Earth Compost), and/or bringing compost to local farms.
- e. Review and revise land use regulations to ensure that new development and redevelopment activity integrates nature-based design solutions to reduce stormwater runoff, protect surface and groundwater quality, reduce heat island impacts, and provide other benefits. Public streets, parking lots, and other large impervious areas should be prioritized for these improvements.
- f. Implement education and removal programs that will reduce the dominance of invasive plant species, and allow native plant species to prosper.

“Nature-based solutions (NbS) involve working with nature to address societal challenges, providing benefits for both human well-being and biodiversity...”

—Nature Based Solutions Initiative

Resources

Nature Based Solutions Initiative
Green Streets Handbook
Wenham and Hamilton composting program
Sharon composting program
Pay-As-You-Throw



Choate Park (Denise Legee)



Choate Park (Medway Open Space)



CHAPTER 6: A SUPPORTIVE COMMUNITY

CORE THEME

In 2032, Medway fosters caring connections supported by accessible services; academically thriving and inclusive schools; and arts, cultural, and recreation opportunities for all ages for a healthy, interconnected community.

Residents of Medway, of all income levels, ages, identities, abilities, ethnicities, and cultures support the community as volunteers, actively participate in local decisions including at Town Meeting, and share in the various community events, festivals, and activities sponsored by the Town, schools, and local organizations.

Medway has varied recreation, creative arts, and cultural options where teens and young adults engage with each other as well as programming and services for older adults and intergenerational participants that fosters a socially connected community with strong support systems.

GOALS

18. Nurture and build a sense of belonging for all residents of Medway as a welcoming and inclusive community.
19. Consider ways for the public to submit feedback to the Town so that community members can express their views.
20. Invest to maintain and modernize school facilities and technological resources.
21. Foster strong community connections and social participation.
22. Support affordable supportive community and health services.
23. Meet community needs for inclusive indoor and outdoor recreation opportunities.
24. With the aging population in mind, prioritize the creation of age-friendly housing, access to community services, and opportunities for older residents to participate in community life.

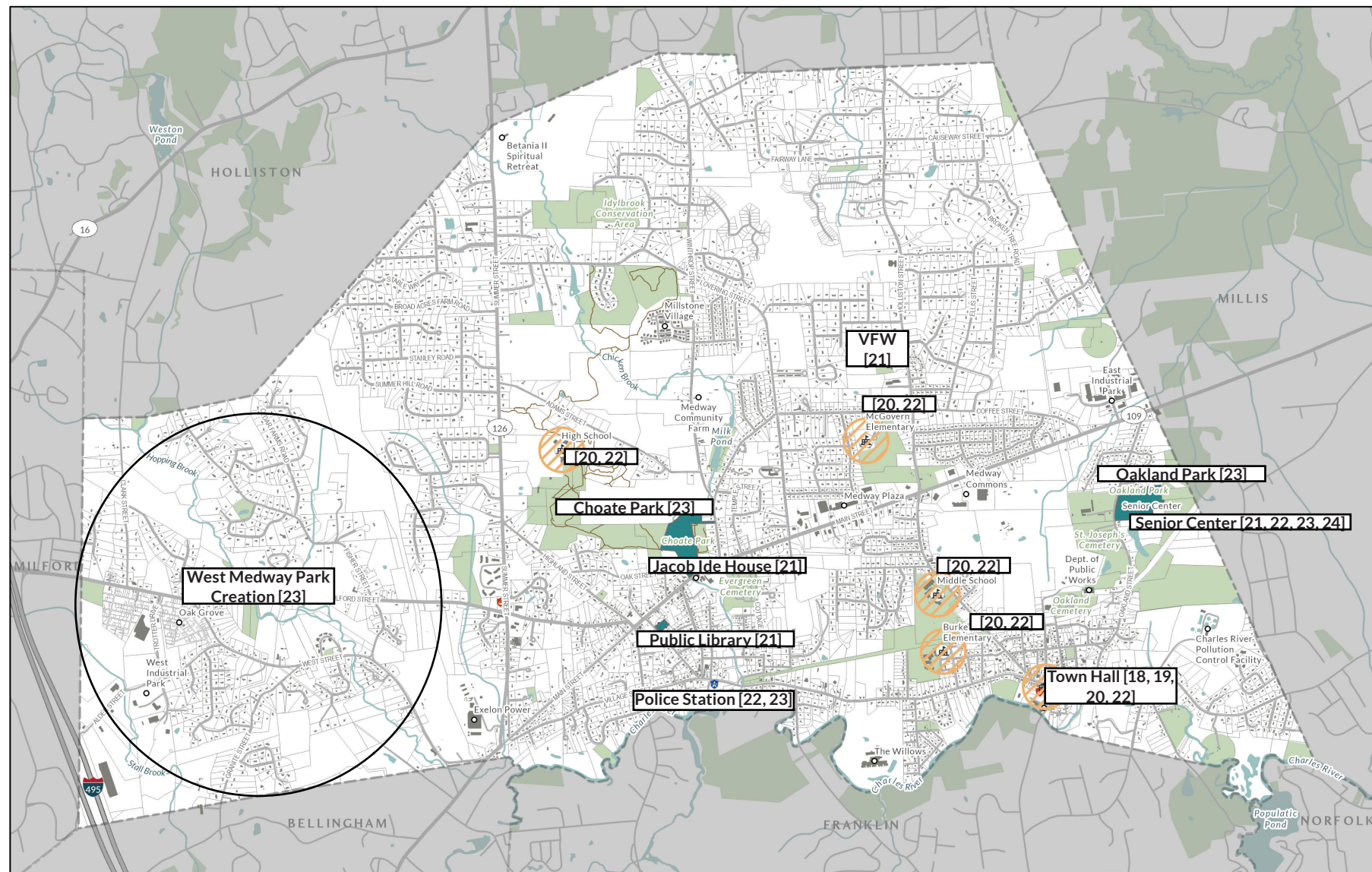
“I think it’s important to commingle all ages and genders. Everyone brings something and everyone needs a diverse group of people to shed light on all perspective and to ensure that all ages put a face to the young, teenagers and adults all the way to seniors. That way people build a respect for each other by forming bonds or friendships. That’s a true community that starts caring for each other”

– Online Forum Participant

TOWN OF MEDWAY - SUPPORTIVE COMMUNITY

Prepared by JM Goldson LLC

J M GOLDSON



- | | | |
|----------------|-----------------|---|
| Town Hall | Parcels | Technology and Infrastructure Improvements |
| Fire station | Buildings | Enhance with Additional Resources, Infrastructure, or Programming |
| Police station | Water bodies | |
| School | Open space | |
| Library | Existing trails | |

0 0.25 0.5 Miles

Sources: Town of Medway, MassGIS



GOAL 18

NURTURE AND BUILD A SENSE OF BELONGING FOR ALL RESIDENTS OF MEDWAY AS A WELCOMING AND INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY

where people with diverse backgrounds and cultural identities feel safe, respected, and integrated, have opportunities to share their traditions, and are encouraged to participate in Town government.

Strategies:

- Continue to invest in modernizing the Town's Information technology (IT) infrastructure and technology to maximize community access to Town information.
- Support opportunities for collaborative activities to discuss issues of the day and promote dialogue within the community.
- Consider creating Welcome to Medway materials online and in a Town building that could help new residents by providing resources about the community.
- Review and strategically implement the recommendations of the Inclusion, Diversity, and Equity Advisory Committee, which is tasked with providing feedback and recommendations to the Select Board /Town Manager's Office geared toward policy development that will promote and foster a community that is inclusive and welcoming to people of all backgrounds, beliefs, and cultures.



May 25 | Medway Middle School | 7:00 p.m.



(top) The Inclusion, Diversity, and Equity Advisory committee provided feedback on how to promote a welcoming community. (bottom) Welcome to Medway signs were recently updated.

Resources

Metropolitan Area Planning Council - MAPC
Community Engagement
Medway Diversity Equity and Inclusion
Committee
Medway Business Council
Problem Solving Through Arts and Cultural
Strategies
Welcome to Concord MA Packet
Fitchburg, MA Welcome Kit
Welcome to Charlton, MA

GOAL 19

CONSIDER WAYS FOR THE PUBLIC TO SUBMIT FEEDBACK TO THE TOWN SO THAT COMMUNITY MEMBERS CAN EXPRESS THEIR VIEWS,

as well as community volunteer opportunities to encourage civic engagement. This could be a change to Town Meeting or another vehicle for public comment.

Strategies:

- a. Survey the community to determine strategies to boost attendance at Town Meetings, local elections, and other public meetings, such as providing free childcare.
- b. Allow for alternative meeting methods such as virtual meetings.
- c. Work toward all board and committee meetings being broadcast and recorded, and/or having online ways to view.
- d. Provide resources for language translation, hard of hearing, and blind individuals to access Town information and meetings.



Tabling at the Farmer's Market

GOAL 20

INVEST TO MAINTAIN AND MODERNIZE SCHOOL FACILITIES AND TECHNOLOGICAL RESOURCES

to reinforce and sustain Medway's high quality public education services to plan and prepare for changes to school enrollment.

Strategies:

- a. Strategically invest in Medway School buildings, including in appropriate technology, to ensure the Town's students continue to receive an excellent education.
- b. Evaluate the current and future use of the Burke portion of the Memorial Elementary School.
- c. Meet the increasingly complex and diverse needs of all students in the Medway Public Schools.



Medway High School (Sandy Johnston)

GOAL 21

FOSTER STRONG COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS AND SOCIAL PARTICIPATION

by providing intergenerational gathering spaces, continued learning opportunities, and supporting coordinated educational, artistic, and fun cultural activities and events for all members of the community.

Strategies:

- a. Consider more space dedicated to indoor recreation, youth activities, and the arts such as a new community center, repurposing the VFW building, or the Jacob Ide House. See Strategy 9B.
- b. Consider establishing a commission for public art to make decisions, give direction, and lend support for public art. Public art can foster diversity and multi-dimensional enrichment within Town and promote local businesses.
- c. Invest and partner with the Medway Public Library to expand its dynamic collections, innovative programs, and wide-ranging and sustainable services for all ages and interests. Note, the Library Board of Trustees are currently in the process of updating the library's strategic plan.



Medway Public Library (Sandy Johnston)

GOAL 22

SUPPORT AFFORDABLE SUPPORTIVE COMMUNITY AND HEALTH SERVICES INCLUDING SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL HEALTH SERVICES.

Strategies:

- a. Expand the mental health clinician program shared by Medway and Franklin Police Departments to full-time to further meet the mental health needs of Medway residents.
- b. Address the Council on Aging Department needs for additional funding, staff, volunteers, and space.
- c. Create a strategic plan for health and human services to coordinate and address Town and School needs and expand resources.



Senior Center (Sandy Johnston)

GOAL 23

MEET COMMUNITY NEEDS FOR INCLUSIVE INDOOR AND OUTDOOR RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES, GREEN SPACES, AND WATER RECREATION OPTIONS THAT CAN BE USED AND ENJOYED BY PEOPLE OF ALL AGES AND ABILITIES.

Strategies:

- a. Consider constructing more options for pre-teen/teen recreation such as a community pool, skate park, new volleyball or basketball courts, or temporary outdoor ice-skating rink.
- b. Consider constructing more options for older adult outdoor recreation, such as outdoor fitness (senior playground) equipment, or building a gazebo on the GAR property across from the Police Station using CPA/Tri-County Regional Technical School/Eagle Scouts.
- c. Consider the expansion of recreational services and options at existing recreational facilities, like Choate and Oakland Park.
- d. Identify any town-owned parcel(s) or private parcels for acquisition in the Oak Grove redevelopment area and West Medway to improve the geographic distribution of open space and recreation facilities throughout the Town.



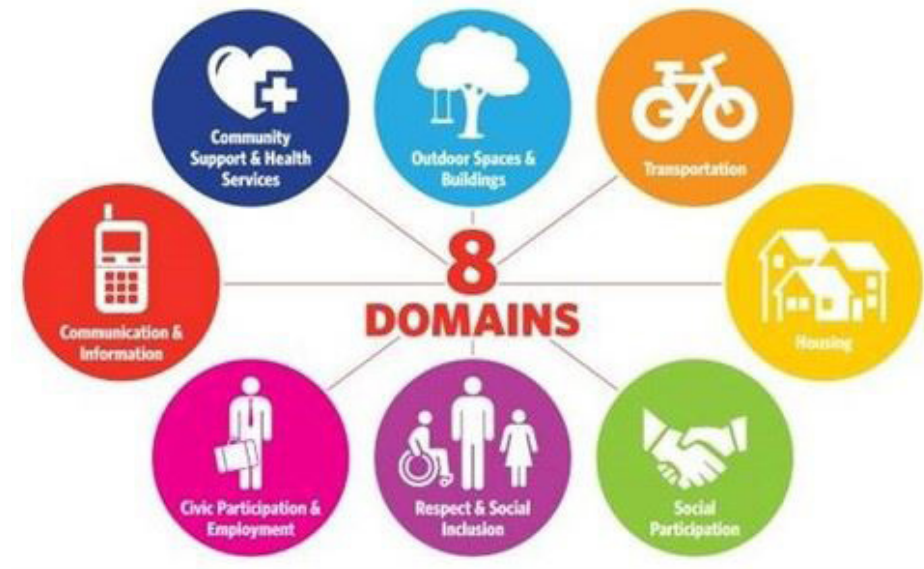
Oakland Park (Sandy Johnston)

GOAL 24

WITH THE AGING POPULATION IN MIND, PRIORITIZE THE CREATION OF AGE-FRIENDLY HOUSING, ACCESS TO COMMUNITY SERVICES, AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR OLDER RESIDENTS TO PARTICIPATE IN COMMUNITY LIFE.

Strategies:

- Create affordable housing opportunities specifically for older adults that are integrated into neighborhoods in Medway, including small single-family homes, rental units, and condos.
- Advance a program towards healthy aging to support local efforts to help people of all ages and abilities live easily and comfortably in the community.
- Explore zoning for co-housing developments, with shared services.
- Prioritize opportunities to increase senior transportation services to provide added services to those who need it most.




Age-friendly Communities graphic (Lincoln, MA)

Medway Council on Aging

NORFOLK T-SHUTTLE

Spring Commuter Rail schedules go into effect on Monday, April 5



Shuttle will Leave Medway Middle School:
5:55 AM and 6:55 AM

Shuttle will leave Norfolk T Station at:
Train 721 5:32 PM and Train 723 6:32 PM

All CDC guidelines and social distancing protocols will have to be followed on GATRA Bus.

Council on Aging Shuttles

Resources

Age and Dementia Friendly Integration Toolkit
Healthy Aging for All
Massachusetts Councils on Aging
Commonwealth Places
AARP Livable Community



CHAPTER 7 GOING FORWARD - PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

The Medway Master Plan Action plan outlines a wide range of strategies to achieve the Master Plan's vision and goals. The Master plan is comprised of 89 actionable strategies grouped into four key themes: Responsible and Strategic Growth; Public Infrastructure to Support Growth; Conservation, Resilience and Stewardship; and Supportive Community. Each strategy identifies a lead responsible party (Town board, committee, or department) and other supporting parties to be involved.

To coordinate and oversee these varied actions, the Town could consider creating a Master Plan Implementation Committee (MPIC) . If appointed, the MPIC shall work with these various parties in a supportive and collaborative role to:

- Assist in understanding how the Master Plan integrates with their existing priorities, programs, and services.
- Advocate to stay on track with the implementation strategies assigned to them.
- Liaise with and promote collaboration among Town boards, committees, departments, and residents on implementation tasks that require additional planning work.

The MPIC shall also:

- Track and evaluate the Town's progress on implementation of Master Plan strategies, on at least an annual basis, to ascertain status, identify issues or constraints and barriers to progress, and determine if conditions have changed or new information has become available that could affect the implementation activities, responsibility assignment, and completion schedule.
- Prepare and provide an annual progress report to the Select Board, Planning and Economic Development Board, and Town Meeting
- Advocate with various decision-making entities to carry forward Master Plan implementation strategies
- Secure community support for proposed Master Plan implementation actions by keeping citizens actively engaged in planning and committed to the success of the Master Plan through public education, web site information, and social media.

GOALS AND STRATEGIES MASTER LIST

1. Catalyze redevelopment of key properties on Main Street (Route 109) to create a traditional, walkable Town Center with public facility investments, public/private partnerships, creation of cohesive visual district branding, coordinated marketing and promotion, and a net increase to the local tax base.

- a. Build on Medway's recent streetscape improvements by leveraging public and private investment in placemaking improvements to the public realm to bring visual cohesion and interest to the district and to create an attractive identity as a Town Center.
- b. Explore adoption of an Urban Center Housing Tax Increment Financing (UCH-TIF) zone to promote private housing and commercial development in the Route 109 future Town Center area.
- c. Consider designating a portion of the Route 109 corridor as an Urban Renewal Area, if eligible, which would include all or a portion of the existing Central Business zoning district (CBD) to promote private development consistent with the community's vision for a traditional Town Center as the CBD zoning allows.

2. Promote new development in the Oak Grove Area to realize the vision of the 2017 Oak Grove Urban Renewal Plan with a diverse mix of uses, including business, industry, open space, and housing and generate sustainable employment opportunities, provide opportunities for economic development, and deliver a net increase to the local tax base.

- a. Leverage funding and execute Phase I and Phase 2 activities of the Oak Grove Urban Renewal Plan including acquiring and assembling parcels, transportation safety improvements, coordinating with developers, and ensuring water and wastewater capacity as described in the Oak Grove Urban Renewal Plan.
- b. Create marketing materials highlighting opportunities in the Oak Grove area for future development. Include Medway's favorable tax rates, access to transportation corridors, streamlined development and permitting process, and more.

3. Promote commercial and industrial development expansion including medium-sized businesses to help minimize residential tax increases and increase local employment opportunities.

- a. Consider offering Economic Development Incentive Program (EDIP) Tax Increment Financing (TIF) to encourage redevelopment in key priority development areas for economic growth, such as Business Industrial, East Industrial, and West Industrial districts.
- b. Encourage smaller-scale redevelopment at "Village" Centers around Medway (e.g., Village Commercial Zoning Districts).
- c. Analyze parcels of land in and around two industrially zoned areas in Medway (East Business Park and West Business Park) to determine if additional land could be rezoned for industrial use and if there are opportunities to modernize industrial zoning to attract more commercial development.

4. Continue to keep Town finances on solid footing and maintain town's favorable AAA bond rating.

- a. Municipal leadership will continue to formally monitor financial and economic conditions impacting the Town.
- b. Municipal leadership maintains a long-range financial forecast regarding debt affordability, liabilities such as pensions, OPEB (Other Post-Employment Benefits), economic development strategies, reserve policies, and asset management strategies.
- c. Municipal leadership maintains a Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) to maintain community assets with optimal service, preserve and improve existing infrastructure, and invest in future needs.
- d. Medway successfully meets spending parameters and target balances. For example, debt service as a percentage of the operating budget target is of 5% to 8% and the unassigned fund balance as a percentage of the total Annual Town Meeting budget target is 10% to 16%.

5. Actively leverage financial, technical, and promotional support for the continued success of existing and new local businesses throughout Medway.

- a. Create initiatives and collaborations to promote agri-entrepreneurs to unlock untapped business potential, such as farm-to-table initiatives, and review zoning provisions for areas with active farms to allow such business uses and programs to support the financial stability of local farms.
- b. Expand the Farmer's Market, which is an avenue for local businesses to educate the public and sell their products and promote its utilization.
- c. Create a place in the Town Center for shared community gathering place and incubator for pop up businesses. This could be a large shed as a "storefront" on town-owned land, or in a private-public partnership with a vacant storefront or lot, where businesses can test-drive their market and residents can come together, like Ashland's "Corner Spot".
- d. Allow for and encourage shared co-working spaces and home-based businesses through programmatic or zoning methods.
- e. Consolidate information on business resources, technical assistance, networking, and engagement events in one location on the Town's website.
- f. Work with the Medway Business Council to host and promote more peer-to-peer collaboration, mentoring, and networking events for the Medway business community.
- g. Clearly communicate to the business community who the point of contact is in Medway for helping new and existing businesses with any town-related processes.
- h. Consider working with the Medway Business Council to create or support a job posting board for local businesses.

6. Foster accessible and affordable housing options, including starter homes and options for low- and middle-income households, in strategic locations that enable residents to thrive in the community and support the needs of an aging population, young families, young adults, special needs, and a socioeconomically diverse population.

a. Rezone residential neighborhoods to match the prevailing existing development patterns more closely to help preserve these types of smaller housing options, such as the Brentwood neighborhood and other neighborhoods with modestly sized housing stock on smaller lots.

b. Revise zoning provisions for accessory apartments, infill bylaw, multi-family overlay, affordable housing provisions; consider other zoning revisions such as cottage cluster provisions to promote greater variety of housing types including senior, accessible, and affordable options in accordance with the most current Housing Production Plan.

c. Support and promote the modernization and rebuilding of Housing Authority properties at Lovering Heights and Kenney Drive to continue to provide safe, decent, accessible housing for low-income elderly and individuals with disabilities by leveraging federal and state funding with local seed funds.

d. Promote the creation of affordable homes, congregate housing for individuals with special needs including older adults, and other supportive housing options through collaborations between the Medway Affordable Housing Trust, Housing Authority, mission-based developers, and other entities.

7. Consider the needs of all residents when planning future transportation improvements with land use planning and regulatory changes that encourage focused residential or commercial growth.

a. Consider adopting a Complete Street Policy to provide safe and accessible options for all travel modes – walking, biking, transit, and vehicles – for people of all ages and abilities (where feasible), which allows design solutions to be context sensitive and complement the community.

b. Consider an on-demand shuttle system that connects village centers and emerging economic development areas on Route 109 and Oak Grove.

c. Explore regional shuttle options for Medway commuters who use the MBTA commuter rail facilities and the public who would benefit from expanded transit options. For example, through the Greater Attleboro and Taunton Regional Transit Authority (GATRA).

8. Protect drinking water quality, expand wastewater treatment capacity, and implement MS4 stormwater permit recommendations.

a. Construct the Populatic Street Water Treatment Plant to help ensure safe and adequate drinking water.

b. Purchase additional wastewater capacity of about 150,000 GPD as a first phase and more as needed to accommodate both permitted development projects and to account for projected future growth. Implement wastewater system recommendations per the Integrated Water Resources Management Program.

c. Implement the recommendations included in the Code Review for Medway's Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit to update codes, bylaws, rules, and regulations pertaining to stormwater and phosphorus removal requirements.

d. Review drinking water infrastructure to ensure that the system has adequate energy resources that enable pump and treatment systems to operate if the grid were down to ensure safe and clean drinking water for Medway residents in case of an emergency.

9. Ensure ongoing stewardship and improve accessibility for public assets including parks, playgrounds, trails, athletic fields, as well as public facilities, DPW, public schools, Thayer House, Ide House, and other town-owned assets.

a. Update municipal facility assessments at regular intervals to prioritize maintenance and repairs on public facilities to ensure their useful life and longevity.

b. Create VFW building and Jacob Ide House feasibility studies to determine future uses.

c. Continue to evaluate staffing for all Town and School departments on an annual basis to ensure the current programming and operations are sustainable.

10. Create new or updated municipal facilities including upgraded public safety facilities and Town Hall to promote investment in the Town's essential functions. New facilities should be designed with possible future expansion in mind.

a. Consider the creation of a new Town Hall and appropriate re-use of the existing Town Hall site.

b. Consider creating a new or updated joint or separate fire and police facilities to further support and coordinate public safety, and appropriate reuse of existing sites.

c. Consider implementing recommendations of the feasibility study that will evaluate the establishment of a joint dispatch center for police calls with surrounding towns.

11. Improve walking and biking safety, accessibility, and connections on arterial and connector streets throughout Medway for all ages and abilities by creating a connected network of sidewalks and bike lanes where suitable, as well as off-road trails or pathways providing people with safe and efficient access to schools, parks, commercial areas, and other key destinations.

a. Continue funding support and implementation of the Town's master sidewalk plan.

b. If a Complete Streets Policy is adopted, create a Complete Streets Prioritization Plan targeting commercial areas and other priority development areas, to unlock Complete Streets construction grant dollars.

c. Pursue other federal and state grant programs to leverage local funds to expand pedestrian and bicycle facilities in Town, such as Safe Routes to Schools or the Shared Streets and Spaces grant programs.

12. Support the increased use of technology and infrastructure to expand electric vehicle and bicycle use, including charging stations and bicycle storage.

a. Supplemented by available grant programs, invest in installations of additional electric vehicle charging stations on public land in or near commercial areas to capture anticipated economic benefits to support Medway's small businesses.

b. Consider measures to increase accessibility for electric vehicle infrastructure in Medway, such as the adoption of an Electric Vehicle Readiness Policy and a zoning audit focused on ways local regulations can encourage EV charging infrastructure on private and public properties.

c. Expand bike racks on municipal property near major activity centers, at municipal facilities, parks, and

playgrounds.

13. Invest in traffic calming with physical improvements to streets to slow automobile travel speeds and improvements to high crash areas to increase overall road safety.

- a. Review speed limits on town-controlled roadways to determine if speeds could be reduced or if design interventions could help slow vehicle speeds.
- b. Consider design interventions on roads with faster travel speeds such as sidewalk widening, curb extensions, addition of street trees, or other traffic calming measures, funded through programs like Complete Streets or Shared Streets and Spaces.
- c. Consider testing traffic calming approaches with quick build, short-term, and low-cost pilot projects to evaluate the effectiveness of a solution before pursuing funds for design and construction.

14. Actively work to achieve emissions reductions below the Fiscal Year 2009 baseline by 2030 in alignment with the state's Act Creating a Next-Generation Roadmap for Massachusetts Climate Policy.

- a. Plan a phased approach to move Medway's public buildings and infrastructure towards net zero energy with the ability to power their operations and vehicle fleets, and run independently from the grid as needed, utilizing solar, wind, or geothermal power.
- b. Promote and utilize Mass Save and the Commonwealth Energy Tool for Savings (energyCENTS) for Medway residents, which address heating, cooling, lighting, appliances, weatherization, air source heat pumps, etc.
- c. Support zoning changes to incentivize high performance green building initiatives and create ways for businesses to pursue sustainable building.
- d. Create a community-supported solar project for residents that do not own their homes or cannot afford to install solar infrastructure. Prioritize new community solar projects above parking lots or already deforested areas.
- e. Expand the Energy and Sustainability Committee's charge to provide for it to take a larger role in climate change mitigation, resilience, and adaptation.

15. Strive to permanently protect tree canopy and at least 30% of open space land prioritized for four

purposes: carbon sequestration to remove carbon dioxide (CO₂) from the atmosphere, biodiversity conservation to ensure long-term persistence of rare and other native species and their habitats, prime farmland to enable local food production through regenerative water smart farming practices, and passive recreation and trails.

- a. Acquire the high priority open space for Town ownership, as described in the Open Space and Recreation Plan.
- b. Strategically acquire and conserve unprotected open space to protect and expand important open space connections, wildlife corridors, and natural resources through fee acquisition or deed restrictions.
- c. Consider adopting Natural Resource Protection zoning as an alternative to the existing Open Space Residential Development (OSRD) zoning. Natural Resource Protection zoning has a similar process to OSRD zoning but allows for concentrated development with open space preservation as a right, while OSRD requires a special permit.
- d. Inventory the existing publicly-owned tree canopy in Medway and consider adoption of a tree preservation bylaw to protect Medway's privately-owned tree canopy.

16. Celebrate and honor local heritage by increasing local awareness and protecting historic resources including buildings, cemeteries, landscapes, archeological resources, and other irreplaceable resources.

- a. Expand and create walking tours, publications, and online information to promote awareness of Medway's history, especially historically marginalized populations.
- b. Consider the establishment of a local historic district to further protect Medway's historic resources, including the Rabbit Hill neighborhood.
- c. Consider the establishment of a floating local historic district to protect Colonial and Federal (pre-1800) buildings.
- d. Consider using local, state, or federal grants to fund renovations of historic homes for income qualified homeowners, like Cambridge's Affordable Housing Preservation Grants program.

17. Reduce impacts on essential natural systems caused

by human activity through eco-friendly landscaping and waste disposal, and nature-based stormwater solutions.

- a. Facilitate an education campaign to provide information to residents and businesses about the advantages of conservation, resiliency, and stewardship and incentivize actions that promote these values. Demonstrate these site design and management strategies on municipal properties so they can serve as demonstration sites that aid in this public education initiative.
- b. Use native species to restore aquatic and terrestrial habitats and improve the health of pollinators, fish, and other wildlife.
- c. Collaborate with groups, including the schools, to plant and sustain rain and pollinator gardens and provide more hand-on experiences for children.
- d. Consider creating a town-wide composting program, utilize an existing resource for composting program (e.g., Hidden Acres Compost, Black Earth Compost), and/or bringing compost to local farms.
- e. Review and revise land use regulations to ensure that new development and redevelopment activity integrates nature-based design solutions to reduce stormwater runoff, protect surface and groundwater quality, reduce heat island impacts, and provide other benefits. Public streets, parking lots, and other large impervious areas should be prioritized for these improvements.
- f. Implement education and removal programs that will reduce the dominance of invasive plant species, and allow native plant species to prosper.

18. Nurture and build a sense of belonging for all residents of Medway as a welcoming and inclusive community where people with diverse backgrounds and cultural identities feel safe, respected, and integrated, have opportunities to share their traditions, and are encouraged to participate in Town government.

- a. Continue to invest in modernizing the Town's Information technology (IT) infrastructure and technology to maximize community access to Town information.
- b. Support opportunities for collaborative activities to discuss issues of the day and promote dialogue within the community.

c. Consider creating Welcome to Medway materials online and in a Town building that could help new residents by providing resources about the community.

d. Review and strategically implement the recommendations of the Inclusion, Diversity, and Equity Advisory Committee, which is tasked with providing feedback and recommendations to the Select Board geared toward policy development that will promote and foster a community that is inclusive and welcoming to people of all backgrounds, beliefs, and cultures.

19. Consider ways for the public to submit feedback to the Town so that community members can express their views, as well as community volunteer opportunities to encourage civic engagement. This could be a change to Town Meeting or another vehicle for public comment.

a. Survey the community to determine strategies to boost attendance at Town Meetings, local elections, and other public meetings, such as providing free childcare.

b. Allow for alternative meeting methods such as virtual meetings.

c. Work toward all board and committee meetings being broadcast and recorded, and/or having online ways to view.

d. Provide resources for language translation, hard of hearing, and blind individuals to access Town information and meetings.

20. Invest to maintain and modernize school facilities and technological resources to reinforce and sustain Medway's high quality public education services to plan and prepare for changes to school enrollment.

a. Strategically invest in Medway School buildings, including in appropriate technology, to ensure the Town's students continue to receive an excellent education.

b. Evaluate the current and future use of the Burke portion of the Memorial Elementary School.

c. Meet the increasingly complex and diverse needs of all students in the Medway Public Schools.

21. Foster strong community connections and social participation by providing intergenerational gathering spaces, continued learning opportunities, and supporting coordinated educational, artistic, and fun cultural activities and events for all members of the community.

a. Consider more space dedicated to indoor recreation, youth activities, and the arts such as a new community center, repurposing the VFW building, or the Jacob Ide House.

b. Consider establishing a commission for public art to make decisions, give direction, and lend support for public art. Public art can foster diversity and multi-dimensional enrichment within Town and promote local businesses.

c. Invest and partner with the Medway Public Library to expand its dynamic collections, innovative programs, and wide-ranging and sustainable services for all ages and interests. Note, the Library Board of Trustees are currently in the process of updating the library's strategic plan.

22. Support affordable supportive community and health services, including social and emotional health services.

a. Expand the mental health clinician program shared by Medway and Franklin Police Departments to full-time to further meet the mental health needs of Medway residents.

b. Create a strategic plan for health and human services to coordinate and address Town and School needs and expand services.

23. Meet community needs for inclusive indoor and outdoor recreation opportunities, green spaces, and water recreation options that can be used and enjoyed by people of all ages and abilities.

a. Consider constructing more options for pre-teen/teen recreation such as a community pool, skate park, new volleyball or basketball courts, or temporary outdoor ice-skating rink.

b. Consider constructing more options for older adult outdoor recreation, such as outdoor fitness (senior playground) equipment, or building a gazebo on the GAR property across from the Police Station using CPA/Tri-County Regional Technical School/Eagle Scouts.

c. Consider the expansion of recreational services and options at existing recreational facilities, like Choate and Oakland Parks.

d. Identify any town-owned parcel(s) or private parcels for acquisition in the Oak Grove development area and West Medway to improve the geographic distribution of open space and recreation facilities throughout the Town.

24. With the aging population in mind, prioritize the creation of age-friendly housing, access to community services, and opportunities for older residents to participate in community life.

a. Create affordable housing opportunities specifically for older adults that are integrated into neighborhoods in Medway, including small single-family homes, rental units, and condos.

b. Advance a program towards healthy aging to support local efforts to help people of all ages and abilities live easily and comfortably in the community.

c. Explore zoning for co-housing developments, with shared services.

d. Prioritize opportunities to increase senior transportation services to provide added services to those who need it most.

KEY DEFINITIONS

This list of key definitions is intended to assist the reader and is not intended to replace applicable legal definitions of these terms. The following definitions are for key terms used throughout the document, many of which are based on definitions in statutes and regulations.

Adaptation – a retroactive approach to climate resilience that responds to events that have occurred in the past and alters processes and infrastructure based on lessons learned or damage done.

Areawide Median Income (AMI) – the median gross income for a person or family as calculated by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development, based on the median income for the Metropolitan Statistical Area. For FY2021, the HUD area median family income (HAMFI) for the Boston-Cambridge-Newton MA HUD Metro FMR Area (which includes Medway) was \$120,800.³ AMI is referred to in the document as median family income (HAMFI).

Chapter Lands – Commonwealth of Massachusetts land classification and tax program that incentivizes landowners to maintain their property as forest, agriculture, or recreation areas in exchange for reduced property taxes and provide the town a right of first refusal but do not guarantee conservation. Chapter 60 applies to forestry land; Chapter 61A applies to agricultural and horticultural land; and Ch. 61B applies to recreational land, including golf courses, horseback riding, hiking, and nature study and observation.

Climate Resilience – the ability to anticipate, prepare for, and respond to hazardous events, trends, or disturbances related to climate. Improving climate resilience involves assessing how climate change will create new, or alter current, climate-related risks, and taking steps to better cope with these risks.⁴

Community-Supported Agriculture (CSA) – a program in which consumers support local farmers by subscribing to receive a portion of a farm’s harvest and sharing in the risks of farming.

Complete Streets – “streets designed and operated to enable safe use and support mobility for all users. Those include people of all ages and abilities, regardless of whether they are travelling as drivers, pedestrians, bicyclists, or public transportation riders.”⁵ MassDOT offers a program through which registered municipalities can apply for funding towards eligible projects prioritized by the community.

Cost-Burdened Household – a household that spends 30 percent or more of their income on housing-related costs (such as rent or mortgage payments). Severely cost-burdened households spend 50 percent or more of their income on housing-related costs.

Demolition Delay Bylaw – a regulation that protects historically significant buildings (75 or more years old) by requiring a demolition permit that can be subject to a 12-month waiting period if the Historical Commission determines the structure to be historically significant.

Ecosystem Services – the many benefits humans and other species obtain from natural systems. These include:

- **Provisioning services** - including food production, pollination, and clean water
- **Regulating services** - such as flood control, temperature reduction, and carbon sequestration
- **Cultural services** - including spiritual, aesthetic, and recreational benefits
- **Supporting services** - like photosynthesis, soil formation, and habitat

Educational Attainment – the highest level of formal education achieved, as documented by the US Census American Community Survey.

4 Center for Climate and Energy Solutions

5 U.S. Department of Transportation. Complete Streets. <https://www.transportation.gov/mission/health/complete-streets> (accessed June 2021)

6 MassGIS. MassGIS Data: NRCSSURGO-Certified Soils.

Elderly Non-Families – a household of one elderly person as defined by in the US Department of Housing and Urban Development’s Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy (CHAS) data.

Farmland Soils – The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Natural Resource Conservation Service (USDA NRCS) categorizes soils according to their importance for farming. The Soil Survey Geographic Database (SSURGO) includes three categories of prime farmland soils:

- *All areas are prime farmland: characteristics are suitable for sustained high crop yields for a variety of crop types, including food, livestock feed, and fiber.*
- *Farmland of statewide importance: nearly prime farmland, also capable of economically producing high crop yields of a variety of crop types.*
- *Farmland of unique importance: more suitable for specific high value crops, primarily cranberries in Massachusetts⁶*

Green Community – A designation from the Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources recognizing municipalities that have adopted clean energy and energy-efficiency policies according to the

following criteria:

1. Adoption of zoning that allows as-of-right siting of renewable or alternative energy generating facilities, R&D facilities, or manufacturing facilities in designated locations.
2. Adoption of expedited application and permitting for renewable energy facilities.
3. Establish a baseline inventory and Energy Reduction Plan (with a goal of reducing energy use by 20 percent) for energy use in municipal buildings, facilities, and vehicles.
4. Adoption of a fuel-efficient vehicle policy, development of a vehicle inventory, and planning to replace non-exempt vehicles with more energy-efficient options.
5. Adoption of “Stretch Code” that minimizes energy use in new homes and buildings.⁷

Green Streets – Primarily a stormwater management approach to street design that incorporates vegetation, soil, and engineering systems to slow, filter, and cleanse stormwater runoff from impervious surfaces, removing up to 90 percent of water

pollutants. Green Streets are designed to provide environmental, social, and economic benefits for a community by focusing on design to benefit multiple users of the streets as part of the public realm as well as energy cost reductions. Green Street design incorporates sidewalks and bike lanes to make streets safer for pedestrians, bicyclists, and drivers in addition to their environmental benefits. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has more information about Green Streets: <https://www.epa.gov/G3/learn-about-green-streets>

Heat Wave – In Massachusetts, it is defined as three or more consecutive days above 90° Fahrenheit (F). The National Weather Services will issue a heat advisory when the heat index is forecast to exceed 100°F for 2 or more hours, and will issue an **excessive** heat advisory when the forecast predicts temperature to rise above 105°F.

⁷ MassDOER Green Communities Division. Becoming a Designated Green Community.

⁸ For purposes of MGL c.40B, moderate income is defined as up to 80 percent AMI.

KEY DEFINITIONS

Historic Resource – a building, structure, document, or artifact that is listed on the state register of historic places or National Register of Historic Places or has been determined by the local historic preservation commission to be significant in the history, archeology, architecture or culture of a city or town.

Household – all the people, related or unrelated, who occupy a housing unit. It can also include a person living alone in a housing unit or a group of unrelated people sharing a housing unit as partners or roommates.

Family Household – Family households consist of two or more individuals who are related by birth, marriage, or adoption, although they also may include other unrelated people.

Non-Family Households – Non-family households consist of individuals living alone and individuals living with roommates who are not related by birth, marriage, or adoption.

Income Thresholds – the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) establishes income thresholds that apply to various housing assistance programs. These thresholds are updated annually and are categorized by household size. Medway is part of the Boston-Cambridge-Quincy, MA-NH HUD Metro FMR Area.

Extremely Low-Income (ELI) – the FY 2014 Consolidated Appropriations Act changed the definition of extremely low-income to an individual or family whose annual gross income is the greater of 30/50ths (60 percent) of the Section 8 very low-income limit or the poverty guideline. The FY2022 ELI income limits for a household of one is \$29,450 and for a household of four is \$42,050.

Very Low-Income (VLI) – an individual or family whose annual gross income is at or below 50 percent AMI. The FY2022 VLI income limits for a household of one is \$49,100 and for a household of four is \$70,100.

Low/Moderate income (LMI) – an individual or family whose annual gross income at or below 80 percent of the area median income (AMI).⁸ The FY2022 LMI income limits for a household of one is \$78,300 and for a household of four is \$111,850.

Labor Force – all residents within a community over the age of 16 who are currently employed or **actively** seeking employment. It does not include students, retirees, discouraged workers (residents who are not actively seeking a job) or those who cannot work due to a disability.

Living Infrastructure – all the interconnected natural ecosystems within a municipality. This includes the rivers, forests, wetlands, meadows, soils, and the species of plants, animals, microorganisms, and other biodiversity.

Location Quotient – a metric that reveals the concentration of industries. It is a ratio that compares employment by industry between a community—Medway—and a comparison geography— the state of Massachusetts.

Mitigation – a proactive approach to climate resilience that looks ahead to predicted or potential risks and planning accordingly with the intention of reducing or eliminating foreseen threats.

Nodal Development – A dynamic activity center with a strong sense of place that has distinctive elements – one knows when one is entering and leaving the nodal development. These types of centers can be pedestrian centered and include mixed-uses to create a multi-function activity center. Downtowns are one type, a larger type, of nodal development. Communities can have multiple nodal developments of various sizes that can serve different areas of the community and/or have different combinations of activities. Nodal development is an alternative development pattern to auto-oriented strip development.

Open Space – land to protect for existing and future well fields, aquifers and recharge areas, watershed land, agricultural land, grasslands, fields, forest land, meadows, wetlands, rivers, streams, lake and pond frontage, scenic vistas, wildlife or nature preservation, and/or land for recreational use.

Road Categories:

Arterial Roads – Arterials are roadways that provide the highest level of mobility at the greatest vehicular speed for the longest uninterrupted distances and are not intended to provide access to specific locations.

Collector Roads – funnel traffic from local roads to arterials and provide an additional layer of access to abutting properties compared to arterials, which usually have limited points of access.

Local Roads – provide access to abutting lands with little or no emphasis on mobility. These local roadways provide direct access to properties along them, have slower posted travel speeds, and feed local traffic onto collector roads.

Safe Yield – the yield or capacity of the Commonwealth’s major river basins.

Subsidized Housing Inventory – a list of housing units in each municipality that count towards the affordable housing stock under Chapter 40B.

Unemployment Rate – the percentage of the labor force who is not employed but actively seeking employment.

Vacancy Rate – the percentage of residential, commercial, office, or industrial properties that are not currently occupied by a household or business.

Wetlands Protection Bylaw – Medway’s local ordinance that provides additional protections for wetlands, water resources, and adjoining land that go beyond the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act, including a 25-foot no-disturb zone. Activities within these resource areas are subject to approval by the Conservation Commission.

ACRONYMS

40B

Comprehensive Permit, per MGL Chapter 40B

AADT

Annual Average Daily Traffic Counts

ACS

US Census Bureau's American Community Survey

ADA

Americans with Disabilities Act

ADD

Average Day Demand

ADU

Accessory Dwelling Unit

AMI

Area Median Income

APR

Agricultural Preservation Restriction

ARCPUD

Adult Retirement Community Planned Unit Development

AVT

Average Weekday Trips

BDR

Baseline Document Report

CHAS

Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy

CIP

Capital Improvement Program

COA

Medway Council on Aging

COVID-19

Coronavirus known as SARS-CoV-2

CPA

Community Preservation Act

CR

Conservation Restriction

CRB

Community Resilience Building

CRPCD

Charles River Pollution Control District

CSA

Community-Supported Agriculture

CTPS

Central Transportation Planning Staff

DCR

Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation

DDS

Massachusetts Department of Developmental Services

DEP

Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection

DHCD

Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development

DMH

Massachusetts Department of Mental Health

DOE

Massachusetts Department of Education

DOR

Massachusetts Department of Revenue

DPW

Medway Department of Public Works

EMS

Emergency Medical Services

EMSI

Economic Modeling Specialists, Intl.

EOC

Emergency Operations Center

EOLWD

Massachusetts Executive Office of Labor & Workforce Development

EV

Electric Vehicle

FEMA Federal Emergency Management Agency	IWRMP Integrated Water Resource Management Plan	MGL Massachusetts General Laws
FIRMs Flood Insurance Rate Maps	MACRIS Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System	MHC Massachusetts Historical Commission
FY Fiscal Year(s)	MAPC Metropolitan Area Planning Council	MOE Margins of Error
GATRA Greater Attleboro and Taunton Regional Transit Agency	MassDOER Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources	MPO Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization
GIS Geographic Information Science	MassDOT Massachusetts Department of Transportation	MPC Master Plan Committee
HAMFI Areawide Median Family Income set by HUD	MassGIS Massachusetts Bureau of Geographic Information	MS4 Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System
HPP Medway Housing Production Plan	MassWildlife Massachusetts Department of Fish and Game	MSA Metropolitan Statistical Area
HSIP MassDOT Highway Safety Improvement Program	MBLC Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners	MSBA Massachusetts School Building Authority
HUD United States Department of Housing and Urban Development	MBTA Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority	MVP Medway Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Program
I/I Infiltration and inflow into the wastewater system	MCA Medway Cable Access	MWRTA MetroWest Regional Transit Authority
IDEA Medway Inclusion, Diversity, and Equity Advisory Committee	MedCC Medway Cultural Council	OSRD Open Space Residential Development
	MGD Million Gallons per Day	OSRP Medway Open Space and Recreation Plan 2020

PEDB

Planning and Economic Development Board

R&D

Research and Development

REIS

Real Estate Information Services

SHI

Massachusetts Subsidized Housing Inventory

SOV

Single Occupancy Vehicles

SRTS

Safe Routes to School

SSURGO

Soil Survey Geographic Database

STE(A)M

Science, technology, engineering, (arts,) and mathematics

TIP

Boston MPO's Transportation Improvement Program

TWG

The Warren Group

UMDI

University of Massachusetts at Amherst Donahue Institute, also UMass Donahue

USDA NRCS

U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resource Conservation Service

VFW

Medway Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1526

WMA

Water Management Act

ZBA

Medway Zoning Board of Appeals

THANK YOU!

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Thank you to the community members and Town staff who contributed their time and knowledge.

Master Plan Committee (MPC)

Jessica Chabot (Chair), Planning & Economic Development Board

Debi Rossi (Vice Chair), Board of Parks Commissioners

Eric Arbeene, AICP, At-Large Member

Rebecca Atwood, Cultural Council, Energy and Sustainability Committee

Susan Dietrich, School Committee

John Foresto, Select Board

Ellen Hillery, Finance Committee

Siri Krishna Khalsa, Council on Aging

Tara Kripowicz, Conservation Commission

Denise Legee, Open Space Committee

Cassandra McKenzie, Economic Development Committee

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Linda Reynolds, Lions Club

Kristen Salera, Medway Business Council, Design Review Committee

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Planning and Economic Development Board

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Tom Gay, Associate Member

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Dennis Crowley, Chair

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Frank Rossi, Clerk

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