

# DANVERS HIGH STREET CORRIDOR

## *Draft Vision Statement*

### What kind of High Street Corridor do we want by 2027?

A critical aspect of the High Street Corridor visioning effort was hearing from town residents and understanding more about how they wanted their street to look and feel by 2027. What were the things that they valued most about High Street and what was needed to change or progress in order to achieve an even better Corridor? The vision statement serves to guide the subsequent planning process based on what local residents told us about their neighborhood at site visits and the visioning open house.

---

**In 2027, the High Street Corridor is a flourishing area offering residents a high quality of life by taking full advantage of, and emphasizing, its many unique assets - as a gateway to downtown Danvers, a strong sense of community, and by offering a vibrant mix of business and residential uses.**

High Street's central location, its mix of business and residential uses, and its proximity to the nearby Danvers bike/pedestrian trail network and parks draw residents and visitors to it. As a residential neighborhood, it offers a welcoming, safe and enriching environment with a variety of housing options - market rate and affordable - for families, seniors and young adults. Redevelopment in the Corridor area has created a series of mixed use properties with shops and services fronting along High Street with residences tucked in the rear of the properties in a walkable environment attractive to young and old residents alike. Sidewalks, safer pedestrian crossings and trails link High Street to school and recreation areas, as well as adjoining residential neighborhoods and downtown Danvers. This appropriately scaled blend of service uses, retail, residential and smaller-scale office spaces attracts business, jobs and increased consumer spending along High Street while the Corridor itself has become safer and more attractive with additional trees and plantings, benches, lighting, consolidated curb cuts, and underground utilities.





# DANVERS HIGH STREET CORRIDOR

## Draft Vision Principles

### Lessons from Community Concepts for the High Street Corridor:

Three groups of community members created concept plans for the High Street corridor at a community forum in May of 2016. The compilation of these concept plans identified overlapping ideas from the three groups and showed that nearly every portion of the study area is imagined to be part of the future improvements and investments imagined in the Vision Statement. The major components of agreement and overlap between these groups' ideas are summarized below.

**High Street Improvements:** The groups' ideas combine to show nearly continuous streetscape improvements on both sides of High Street with reduced curb cuts, increased street trees, and improved sidewalks with four additional locations for marked pedestrian crossings across High Street.

**Expanded Street Connections:** New street connections were identified to both frame redevelopment blocks and add more options for connecting the district and circulating through it. Potential connections at Warrant Street and an extension of Linwood Road are the two suggested locations.

**Extensive Redevelopment Investment:** Redevelopment was shown nearly throughout every property in the study area. The most frequent type of redevelopment shown was mixed-use redevelopment, commercial redevelopment was frequently shown on the eastern frontage of High Street, and residential redevelopment was shown to the rear of the properties west of High Street. Nearly all buildings were placed to define street frontages.

**New River Access:** A new park and trail was shown at the edge of the Porter River estuary to provide access to this natural amenity.

**New Rail Trail Connection:** A new rail trail connection and multi-use recreational path was viewed by all three groups as a unique and distinctive feature for the district that could help drive future positive change and economic development. Each concept showed it along the full length of the study area.

**Integrated Parks and Plazas:** In addition to the two primary district open space amenities of the riverfront park and rail trail, the groups showed other smaller parks and plazas integrated with future redevelopment. Many of these are placed between buildings or buildings and street frontages and could provide outdoor seating or additional landscape areas.

**Improved Parking:** Unlike its current configuration today, parking was not placed as a central feature of the district. When it was included in the concept plans it was shown integrated with surrounding buildings with a placement to the side or the rear of building structures.

# DANVERS HIGH STREET CORRIDOR

## Draft District Illustrative Plan



DRAFT FOR DISCUSSION - 03/16/18

