## **REPORT OF THE MEDWAY MASTER PLAN COMMITTEE**

In the first quarter of 2021, the Planning and Economic Development Board established a 17person Master Plan Committee and the Town retained JM Goldson for consulting services with support from RKG Associates and Resilience Planning & Design. Updating a community's local master plan is an essential way to understand forces that are shaping the built and natural environment, to envision a desired future for a community, and to identify priorities and develop specific strategies for implementation. Medway's last Master Plan was completed in 2009, and the Town had committed to writing a new plan every 10 years.

The master planning process consists of 4 parts.



The project, which was launched in March 2021, began with Phase 1, an examination of the community's existing conditions to define trends, challenges, and issues for eight primary elements: 1) land use; 2) open space and recreation; 3) natural resources; 4) housing; 5) economic development; 6) cultural and historical resources; 7) municipal services and facilities; and 8) transportation. The output of Phase 1 was the Existing Conditions report. https://www.townofmedway.org/sites/g/files/vyhlif866/f/uploads/medway mp existing cond itions report 08.26 clean.pdf

Phase 2 involved engaging with the community to think aspirationally about what the ideal future could be for Medway. A live and on-line community forum took place and a survey of Town personnel, Town boards, and residents was conducted. A series of pop up events during the summer provided additional community input. The 7-month community engagement process helped shape the Draft Vision and Goals report. https://www.townofmedway.org/sites/g/files/vyhlif866/f/uploads/medway vision and goals report 012022 - revised.pdf

Phase 3 began January of 2022 and included four focus groups. The focus groups were composed of members of the Master Plan Committee, members of various Town committees and board, Town staff, and citizens at large. The small group discussions focused on the Goals and Strategies identified in Phase 2 of the master plan process. The small groups also got to react to the first strategies draft of master plan as presented by the consulting team. https://www.townofmedway.org/sites/g/files/vyhlif8006/f/uploads/medway\_phase\_iii\_strateg ies full report 060822 0.pdf

Phase 4 took place throughout the summer of 2022. The Master Plan Committee with the guidance of Jenn Goldson and her team further refined the master plan with the feedback gained from the Phase 3 small groups. Various committee members and staff also presented the draft master plan to 20+ Town boards and committees. The final master plan was then presented to the Planning and Economic Development Board for unanimous approval and adoption in October 2022.

In November 2022, the Select Board and Town Meeting voted to endorse the new master plan. <u>https://www.townofmedway.org/sites/g/files/vyhlif8006/f/news/medway\_mp\_</u> <u>final\_pages\_with\_updated\_cover\_0.pdf</u>



We encourage the community and Town leaders to support implementation efforts specified in the Master Plan as it reflects broad community engagement and guidance for the Town's future planning and land use initiatives.

Respectfully Submitted, Jessica Chabot, Chair