



Envision Duxbury Comprehensive Master Plan

3/26/19 Community Forum Handout – Compiled Written Feedback

TELL US HOW YOU WOULD PRIORITIZE THE TOPICS?

- #1 Open Space and Recreation (2.22 average from responses)
- #2 Sustainability – Energy (3.33 average from responses)
- #3 Historic and Cultural Resources (4.22 average from responses)
- #4 (tie) Housing (4.56 average from responses)
- #4 (tie) Land Use and Zoning (4.56 average from responses)
- #4 (tie) Sustainability – Climate (4.56 average from responses)
- #4 (tie) Transportation and Connectivity (4.56 average from responses)
- #5 Public Facilities and Services (5.11 average from responses)
- #6 Economic Development (5.22 average from responses)

YOUR COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS FROM THE PRESENTATION?

- Duxbury schools are our largest “employer.” In terms of transportation and traffic improvements – include them as stakeholder in considering school buses – 3 tiers, 6 times/day in various locations especially Hall’s Corner.
- Save large trees - We need a tree-protection bylaw to prohibit clear cutting for new development. Trees of 8” diameter or larger should not be cut. If owner wants to cut, he should plant an equivalent in diameter of 3” trees.
- The Chandler Elementary School is not listed on the land use diagram, it should be – it is a community asset with fields and other amenities
- In West Duxbury two neighborhood business districts are missing from the land use diagram – one at Osborne’s Store and another along Route 14, a single business
- Need zoning to address demolition of single family homes to rebuild on lot with very large homes

“MUSICAL BOARDS” DISCUSSION STATIONS - COMMENTS

- Economic Development comments:
 - Need to focus on safe traffic flow
 - Not important if it means enlargement of commercial areas.
 - Clarify what “home occupations” are, maybe use different language
 - Climate resilience is very broad – identify short and longer priorities
 - Developers should be required to set aside money for improvements to town facilities
 - Pedestrian access at Hall’s Corner is poor and needs improvement
 - Include Cox’s Corner – businesses, walking, bike, and stoplight, economic development – there is space
- Transportation and Connectivity comments:
 - Improve Hall’s Corner rotary and enforce a stop at Standish Ave. Also, Exit 10 off Route 3 southbound is a problem and dangerous. Though it is Kingston, Duxbury folks use this to come into Duxbury and it is a problem as the crest of hill creates a visual block when you make the left turn.
 - Need sidewalks for pedestrians in commercial districts
 - Create a crosstown path connecting East and West Duxbury
 - Congratulations! Whole process is super! Thank you.
 - Goal – Create a town-wide multimodal network connecting key nodes – bike paths!
 - Sidewalks from Island Creek toward shop center Kingston needed

- Concerning Hall's Corner – 1. Better rotary flow and adherence to stopping at end of spokes – specifically Standish Avenue 2. Also pedestrian crossings and parking awkwardly at liquor store with truck deliveries.
- Historic and Cultural comments:
 - Would like to see Community Preservation Act % restored to original full amount. It's a wonderful resource for Duxbury.
 - Tie in to Plymouth 2020
 - Need more parking and interpretation at historic sites
 - Connecting resources to broader Plymouth County historic tourism
 - Retain agriculture, not just open space – support young farmers
 - Demolitions in special permit process to slow down tear downs if increase in floor area of 50%
 - Beautiful intact shingle houses replaced by Malibu and Hamptons
 - Increase CPA to full amount for historic and cultural resources
 - Have apartments over business structures in 1975 allowed by special permit. No enforcement. "Illegal apartments are everywhere."
 - Inventory of existing illegal apartments
 - Older homes have stayed in families – resources could be available to preserve them.
- Climate and Open Space comments:
 - Climate mitigation and open space are most important for town to maintain green cover.
 - Climate Goal – Create a resilient shoreline – focus on eel grass regeneration
 - Climate Goal – Integrate natural environment protection plans with state science programs – concerns with eelgrass and marshland
 - Protection of water should be first goal! See past surveys – only 18 people responding at this meeting – not a significant sample size
 - Support Town and Statewide regulation of pesticides and herbicides by homeowners
 - Support young farmers to use or Town Farm land
 - Open Space Goal – Provide opportunities for safe walking and biking in Duxbury – the problem with sidewalks is not enough space without taking people's lawns, so the one we built is UGLY!
 - Open Space Goal – Provide opportunities for safe walking and biking in Duxbury – nice idea but private property and cost has won for 30 years
 - Open Space Goal – Provide opportunities for safe walking and biking in Duxbury – continue walking and biking to Cox's Corner and stoplight. Could expand business activity continuous rectangle to Cox's Corner.
 - Open Space Goal – Protect Duxbury's water resources should be number 1 as indicated on the survey.
- Energy and Public Facilities comments:
 - Wind, solar, more independence
 - Energy Goal – Reduce municipal greenhouse gas emissions – Reduce energy use in high school by turning off lights (in evenings) in rooms not in use! The whole school seems lit up like a Christmas tree until 11:00pm, even though janitors can't be cleaning those rooms all evening.
 - Energy Goal – Develop a community-wide Climate Action Plan – Create zones where folks cannot idle engines – enforceable with fines
 - Energy Goal – Develop a community-wide Climate Action Plan – Enforcing anti-idling regulations
 - Energy Goal – Increase access for local residents and businesses – Rescind the ground mounted wind power ban

- Energy Goal – Increase energy resilience at critical facilities – 1st Parish Church (next to Town Hall) is self-supporting solar – and opens during blizzards and energy outages for folks to come, as a shelter.
- Need 30 year plan for facilities
- Cell phone service is pathetic!!! Can we get town-wide Wi-Fi and better cell service?? Please???
- Cell phone towers – communications improvements in poor reception areas – St. George, Washington, Hall’s Corner, etc.
- Land Use, Zoning and Housing comments:
 - Goal – Strengthen the sustainability and resilience of future development – We need coastal zoning to address (or forbid) rebuilding after coastal flooding and storms
 - Goal – Focus public and private investment to strengthen existing neighborhood business districts – Cox’s Corner again – has potential – needs spotlight
 - Goal – Clarify regulations – Thanks! Clarify – clarity is important all over!
 - Move comprehensive planning – please Zoning Board – cleaner language so that articles aren’t constantly trying to be “fixed” on town meeting floor.
 - Need affordable housing including “in law” apartments
 - Rezoning of historic homes to accommodate seniors/community housing to preserve historic buildings
 - Clarify what “home occupations” are, maybe use different language
 - Need better procedures for enforcement and inspection of units and properties per existing regulations
 - Housing Goal – Strengthen walkability – Bike paths!!
 - Housing Goal – Preserve and strengthen the Town’s established and historic residential neighborhoods – Consider how to restrict tear-downs of small houses (not historic) with replacement houses being much bigger – consider restricting further the size of houses in town.

ANY OTHER COMMENTS NOT DISCUSSED THIS EVENING? / OPEN COMMENTS:

- Economic development is not important if it means enlarging commercial areas. Town should remain 95% residential.
- Create an inventory of housing units – tiny cottages that are winterized between Bay Road and Tremont Street – put them in special permitting.
- Refer to “Bennett’s Corner” area as “Island Creek”, no one calls it Bennett’s Corner
- A Town Forestry Management Plan exists, but no action is ever taken such as a controlled burn, should be more proactive for prevention
- Agriculture land use figure is too low for land area – it should be about the same as 1999. Aquaculture in the bay is not counted.
- We are getting “starter castles”, small, not historic homes – old summer cottages – are being torn down.
- Strategy for saving large trees during construction development – zoning to address demolition of affordable housing
- Chandler Elementary School – soccer fields – Osborne Store – Business District – non-conforming
- Makes no sense to ban power generating structures!