

SOUTHAMPTON MASTER PLAN UPDATE

IMPLEMENTATION STATUS REPORT



JANUARY 2021

Acknowledgements

This Southamptton Master Plan Implementation Element Update was a community driven effort under the direction of the Master Plan Implementation Committee comprised of Town volunteers. Almost 900 Southamptton town officials and residents participated in the Community Engagement Survey where many of the Town's issues and priorities were identified and possible solutions discussed.

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**Pioneer Valley
Planning Commission**

SOUTHAMPTON MASTER PLAN IMPLEMENTATION STATUS REPORT

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Introduction

There are four essential tools for community planning: a master plan, zoning bylaws, subdivision regulations, and a capital improvements plan. This Master Plan is one of Southampton's four essential planning tools. The Master Plan is Southampton's road map to its future. Communities plan for the same reason people plan—because they want to do things efficiently and effectively. If you know where you want to go, and you know whether or not you have the tools and resources to get there, you are much more likely to arrive at your intended destination.

The process of developing a community master plan is also worthwhile in and of itself as it brings members from all areas of the community together to think and work collaboratively toward a shared vision.

A Master Plan is structured in conformance with the state requirements outlined in Chapter 41, Section 81D which describes a Master Plan as “a statement through text, maps, illustrations, or other forms of communication that is designed to provide a basis for decision-making regarding the long-term physical development of the municipality...” and is comprised of specified elements:

- Land Use
- Housing
- Economic Development
- Historic and Cultural Resources
- Open Space and Natural Resources
- Public Services and Facilities
- Mobility

Southampton, as part of its effort in 2012-2013, had also adopted an Energy element, in addition to the state-mandated elements.

The statute requires two other elements: 1) goals and policies to convey the community's visions and 2) an implementation program that covers each of the topic areas listed above.

Implementation is the process of prioritizing actions; deciding when to take them; and delegating responsibilities for advancing them. Implementing this Master Plan will require a dedicated, sustained and patient effort by elected and appointed officials, as well as Town employees. It will also require significant work by volunteers and dedicated citizens.

Master Plans are developed to guide a town's policies and strategies over the next ten to twenty years. The Plan is a living document and often times is reviewed periodically and updated accordingly to be certain it reflects the ever-changing trends and evolving needs of the community. The Plan is not a bylaw, but instead a policy document, intended to be used to provide Town Boards and Commissions with a set of common goals and strategies which can be uniformly taken into consideration when making decisions.

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SOUTHAMPTON MASTER PLAN

The Southampton Master Plan, adopted in 2013, was written to serve several functions:

- 1) Provide detailed historic and current information about land use, housing, natural resources, open space, economic development and other topics that are currently important to Southampton.
- 2) Summarize the vision and goals for future development expressed by residents during the master planning process.
- 3) Clearly state Southampton's priorities and strategies for moving forward to achieve those goals.

It continues to be a statement of policy and aspirations expressed by the community to help manage growth and change, and to help foster more predictable development. Additionally, it is intended to be a resource and metric to help the people of Southampton make decisions about the kinds of regulations and actions they would like to see in the future.

The previously adopted Plan was the result of significant outreach to the residents and businesses of Southampton, as well as detailed information and support supplied by nearly all town departments, elected boards and volunteer committees. The process was overseen by the members of the Master Plan Committee and involved more than 100 residents. The committee carefully considered and incorporated the community's contributions throughout the development of the Plan.

Successful implementation requires a broad understanding within the community that progress may come in small steps and change will not happen overnight. The intent of the implementation process is to continue engaging the community through deliberate civic decision-making. This is one of the best ways to ensure that Southampton achieves its vision of retaining its rural, small-town New England character while adapting to the development challenges that are expected in the growing region.

This Implementation Status Report updates the Southampton Master Plan and provides an overview of the work the Master Plan Implementation Committee has done in the past two years and some context of the priorities identified and established for the Town.

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SNAPSHOT OF SOUTHAMPTON

With any update of a Master Plan element, comes a review of plans to date and a snapshot of where the Town is with regards to achievement of strategies and goals. Further in, this document includes a review of those goals and strategies and a discussion of how the survey results informs the town's actions going further.

Since 2012, the Town has adopted an Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP) in 2013 and has been conditionally approved by the state in January 2021. Additionally, a Hazard Mitigation Plan was completed in 2016 and a Housing Production Plan, completed in 2010, both of which needs updating.

The town's population has grown since 2012 with the current Town Census (2020) producing the following populations per age range:

Age Range	# of residents	Percentage of Census Takers (20-90+ years old)
20-29	601	10.5%
30-39	685	11.9%
40-49	770	13.4%
50-59	829	14.4%
60-69	984	17.1%
70-79	1,075	18.7%
80-89	618	10.8%
90+	186	3.2%
Total residents (Ages 20-90+)	5,748	100%

Master Plan Implementation Committee

The creation of the standing Master Plan Implementation Committee has provided a deliberative body that focuses on advancing the recommendations of the Master Plan. The Town has established a Master Plan Implementation Committee (MPIC) based on the representation below.

	Members	Representing	Designated by
	1	Planning Board	Planning Board
	1	Select Board	Select Board
	1	Historical Commission	Historical Commission
	1	Conservation Commission	Conservation Commission
	1	Housing Authority	Housing Authority
	1	Park Commission	Park Commission
	4	Residents/At-large	Select Board
Total	10		

These past few years MPIC has met and made progress in establishing the status of many of the identified goals. The Implementation Action Plan Summary of Recommendations is intended to assist the Master Plan Implementation Committee to continue prioritizing its activities and resources. The prioritization of recommendations is a significant and important task for the committee and for the community to move forward under the leadership of the Select Board.

MPIC had identified the need to re-address the summary of recommendations through its work when it reconvened and earnestly met consistently starting in late 2018. Southampton requested assistance through the District Local Technical Assistance program in 2020 and work on creating an Implementation Action Plan, or an update to the Implementation element, was identified.

MPIC’s work includes a summary of their work which included a SMARTIE review of their current goals and strategies. The SMARTIE method comes from The Management Center and includes a review of inclusivity and equity (<https://www.managementcenter.org/resources/smartie-goals-worksheet/>).

Per the Management Center’s SMARTIE Goals Worksheet, for a goal to be effective in driving an organization’s performance, it needs to be:

- Strategic** It reflects an important dimension of what your organization seeks to accomplish (programmatic or capacity-building priorities).
- Measurable** It includes standards by which reasonable people can agree on whether the goal has been met (by numbers or defined qualities).
- Ambitious** It’s challenging enough that achievement would mean significant progress; a “stretch” for the organization.
- Realistic** It’s not so challenging as to indicate lack of thought about resources or execution; possible to track and worth the time and energy to do so.
- Time-bound** It includes a clear deadline.
- Inclusive** It brings traditionally marginalized people—particularly those most impacted—into processes, activities, and decision/policy-making in a way that shares power.
- Equitable** It includes an element of fairness or justice that seeks to address systemic injustice, inequity, or oppression.

Community Engagement Survey and Public Outreach



Community input has been vital to the ultimate success of this Master Plan Implementation Action Plan. This planning process has occurred mostly through a virtual setting due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The drafting and finalizing of this Plan update have been led by the Master Plan Implementation Committee. As mentioned previously, the current membership of MPIC members began to meet in later 2018.

The project to update this Master Plan element began in February 2020 with technical planning assistance provided by the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission (PVPC). The committee has met numerous times via a Zoom virtual setting.

In addition to the committee meetings, and to solicit resident feedback to guide and inform this Plan update, a community survey was done. The survey was posted online and was available in hard copy form that could be dropped off at the Town Hall. The survey received 899 responses.

Thoughtful comments and feedback were gathered by enthusiastic town residents and town officials at two joint meetings with the Select and Planning Boards, supporting the survey results.

Community Engagement Survey

- A Community Survey was developed and posted on Survey Gizmo.
- A hard copy was available at the Town Hall.
- A Notice with the survey link was:
 - Mailed in quarterly tax bill to all residents
 - Handed out to those attending Town Meeting
 - Posted on the Town’s Web Site
 - Shared on social media and Easthampton Media as a town news item
- Additional areas of physical advertisement included:
 - Sign boards throughout Town
 - Handout of the survey link at the Town Meeting held in July 2020



Southampton Residents

Let Your Voices Be Heard

The Master Plan Implementation Committee asks residents to complete a **Community Engagement Survey**.

The results will establish priorities and guide our community development.

Complete the survey online. Link at <https://townofsouthampton.org/>

Hard copies available at the Town Hall, Library and local businesses.

Please return by August 31, 2020



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- A Public Service Announcement video was assembled featuring local residents who provided important information regarding the community survey. It was available on YouTube and posted to the Town's website and could be shared via link – an opportunity to see their fellow neighbors talk about the survey effort lead to more participation. The PSA was also shown on Channel 191.



Survey Results

There were 899 respondents of the Community Engagement Survey. The population of the Town of those 20-90+ years of age, according to the Town Census in 2020 is 5,748. The response rate of this survey is approximately 15.6 percent based on the submitted responses.

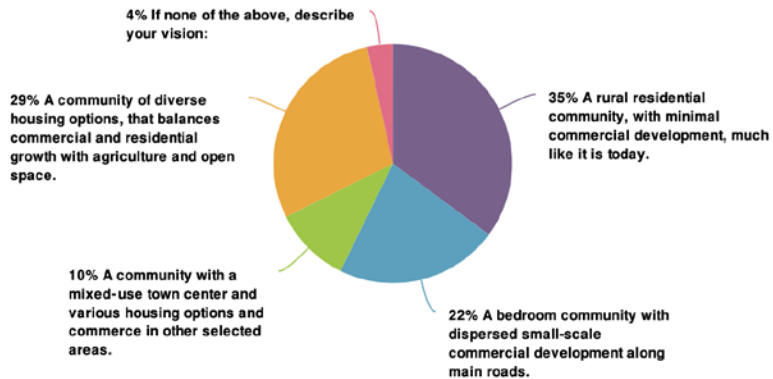
Who responded

- At least 30 percent of respondents have lived in Southampton for up to 10 years – the time frame of that received that most responses (0-10 years). Almost 10 percent of respondents have lived in town over 51 years.
- At least 90 percent of respondents own a home in Southampton.
- The age range of survey respondents reflect the breakdown of the Town Census of 2020.
 - 25 percent of the responses came from those who identify as 60-69 years old, reflecting 7 percent above the those who identified with that range on the Town Census.
 - Most other survey respondents who identified with age ranges 30-39, 40-49, 50-59 responded at a greater rate than those who identified with those ranges on the Town Census.
- 43.8 percent of the respondents describe their household as a member of a couple. Additionally, almost 30 percent of respondents describe their household as being a parent or parents who have school-aged children.
- 94 percent of respondents live in a detached single family home.

Community response to how Southampton should evolve by 2040

At least a third of survey respondents indicated they like Southampton as it is and how it has developed over time, with the next highest response reflecting a want for diversity in housing options balancing commercial and residential growth with agriculture and open space.

Some of the free responses ranged from discouraging any additional development to a lot more commercialization, exploring rezoning in other areas of town.



Value	Percent
A rural residential community, with minimal commercial development, much like it is today.	35.1%
A bedroom community with dispersed small-scale commercial development along main roads.	22.1%
A community with a mixed-use town center and various housing options and commerce in other selected areas.	10.4%
A community of diverse housing options, that balances commercial and residential growth with agriculture and open space.	28.8%
If none of the above, describe your vision:	3.5%

Housing

Eighty-three percent (83%) of respondents find that there are sufficient housing options for them and their families; although, families looking to move to town may not share that sentiment. Some additional comments included that there may be difficulty in being able to afford their homes in the future due to taxes and lack of affordable options. Additionally, other comments included that their children would not be able to afford home in Southampton and the options for affordability and variety of housing for seniors is of concern.

There is strong support for a continued development of affordable and accessible detached single-family homes with at least 75 percent neutral to strongly supporting. Additional majority support is for housing meeting Americans with Disabilities Act compliance (ADA), which can include single floor duplexes and condos.

The survey has documented almost 50 percent support (support – strongly support) for town’s applications for grants or other financing options to rehabilitate limited income homes.

See appendix for full survey results.

Land Use

A majority of the responses were neutral towards making no changes in current zoning bylaws; however, some other responses suggest otherwise.

The support for Southampton remaining a rural community with a mix of development and housing can be reinforced by the support-strong support (57.2%) for lower density housing increasing minimum lot size in different parts of the town along with support-strong support (62.7%) for zoning for agricultural uses exclusively even requiring an even larger minimum lot size. There is strong support (45.9%) to continue educating landowners about options for permanently protecting land and preserving it in perpetuity.

With regards to additional development, the survey shows that a majority of respondents want to see development limited to the capacity of the town’s water supply (42.9%) and that commercial development should be focused at major intersections with 56.3% support-strong support.

Town Priorities

The survey provided an opportunity to identify priorities that the Town should explore. The priorities presented and (support-strongly support %) included:

- Develop a public utility to improve internet/broadband service that would generate revenue for the town (70%)
- Pursue renewable energy generation (e.g. solar on town-owned land) (64.8%)
- Buy land to build a public safety complex (43.6%)
- Invest in public/sewer water provision in commercial areas (42.4%)
- Purchase land to preserve open space (68.4%)
- Build or re-purpose existing municipal building for a multi-use meeting and community center (54.1%)
- Acquire land and complete bike path from Sheldon’s to the Easthampton line (74.7%)
- Develop bicycle paths and greenways that link open spaces, neighborhoods (65.6%)

A follow-up question posed, “if any of the above required a bond issue and/or an increase in property tax, what are your top five priorities?”

The top five priorities (which have the five highest support-strongly support responses from the previous question) are:

- Acquire land and complete bike path from Sheldon’s to the Easthampton line
- Develop a public utility to improve internet/broadband service that would generate revenue for the town
- Purchase land to preserve open space
- Pursue renewable energy generation (e.g. solar on town-owned land)
- Develop bicycle paths and greenways that link open spaces, neighborhoods

These priorities can be incorporated into the existing summary of recommendations as stated beginning on Page 10 and beyond, and will formulate additional new strategies based on the result of this project and the Committee’s work over the past two years.

Action Plan Summary of Recommendations

The Implementation Action Plan summarizes all of the recommendations of the Master Plan established in 2012 presented in a single matrix. This matrix identifies the approximate timeframe and the parties that are suggested to be responsible for implementing each. Recommendations are grouped by each required element.

The Implementation Action Plan Summary of Recommendations is intended to assist the Master Plan Implementation Committee in prioritizing its activities and resources, along with identifying the major committee or authority responsible for seeing to the success of the Plan elements.

This update attempts to provide a status for and identify resources and grant programs for the existing goals and strategies. Considering the survey efforts and discussions by the Master Plan Implementation Committee among other Boards comprising membership of MPIC, an exploration of furthering new goals and strategies should be taken. The following matrix represents the short-term goals that remain consistent from the 2013 Master Plan, representing those priorities that may be more easily accomplished. Accomplishments to date are included at the end of this report.

The mid- and long-term strategies that were identified in the 2013 Master Plan are presented per chapter in the appendix document.

Implementation Goals and Strategies for Chapter 1: Housing

Ch.	Goal	Strategy	Responsible Parties	Target Date	Status/ Resources
	Goal 1-1: Balance residential development with the protection of the town’s natural, scenic and historic resources.				
		Strategy 1-1A: Establish new mixed-use commercial/residential districts, such as at the Village Center, Midtown or Gateway areas, with flexible development requirements to direct future housing unit growth to appropriate areas in town. This new district should establish Design Guidelines for architectural elements and signage.	Planning Board	Short-term 1-5 yrs	Volunteer time, funding for consultants
		Strategy 1-1B: Selectively invest in infrastructure improvements to direct new residential units to areas the community has identified for growth.	Select Board, Highway Dept, Water Com.	Ongoing	Community Development Block Grant funds, staff time
		Strategy 1-1C: Amend the existing Cluster bylaw to encourage use of the bylaw, or reconsider the proposed Open Space Residential Development bylaw drafted in 2006 by the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission under a Smart Growth Technical Assistance grant.	Planning Board, Select Board, Conservation Commission	Short-term 1-5 yrs	Volunteer time
	Goal 1-2: Consider amendments to Southampton Zoning Bylaw to expand housing options in Southampton and clarify ambiguous zoning definitions.				
		Strategy 1-2A: Adjust dimensional standards for Residential Village Zoning district to match the lot sizes of the existing historic homes and to promote smaller, more affordable homes.	Planning Board	Short-term 1-5 yrs	Volunteer time of board or staff time of a consultant
		Strategy 1-2B: Revise definition for “elderly housing” to be clear and transparent about the type of use the town allows in the Residential Village and Commercial Village Districts.	Planning Board	Short-term 1-5 yrs	Volunteer time of board or staff time of a consultant
		Strategy 1-2C: Remove “townhouse” from existing “multifamily dwelling” definition and add “townhouse” or “single-family attached” as a new use for the existing Residential Village and Commercial Village Districts as well as to any future targeted growth districts.	Planning Board	Short-term 1-5 yrs	Volunteer time of board or staff time of a consultant
		Strategy 1-2D: Modify multifamily housing requirements to allow for greater flexibility in design.	Planning Board	Short-term 1-5 yrs	Volunteer time of board or staff time of a consultant
		Strategy 1-2E: Amend existing Accessory Apartments bylaw to increase the allowable apartment size to encourage use of the bylaw.	Planning Board	Short-term 1-5 yrs	Volunteer time of board or staff time of a consultant
	Goal 1-3: Increase awareness of housing needs and available housing resources.				
		Strategy 1-3A: Publicize existing affordable housing resources by expanding the Housing Authority webpage on the town’s website, by creating educational materials and by ongoing public outreach.	Housing Authority, Select Board, Council on Aging, School Dept Staff	Ongoing	CPA funds could be used to pay for a consultant to develop the website and associated materials.

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		Strategy 1-3B: Establish partnerships with town committees, boards and local non-profit developers.	Housing Authority	Ongoing	CPA funds could be used to pay for the development of outreach materials related to publication of these meetings or events.
		Goal 1-4: Create affordable housing opportunities in Southampton.			
		Strategy 1-4A: Identify suitable property for the development of affordable housing.	Housing Authority, Planning Board, Select Board	Short-term 1-5 yrs	Volunteer/ staff/ consultant time
		Strategy 1-4D: Utilize Community Preservation Act funds to purchase existing single-family homes for affordable housing and convert into two or more rental or homeownership units and subsidize affordable units in future mixed-use and/or mixed-income housing developments.	Housing Authority, Community Preservation, Select Board	Ongoing	Volunteer or staff time
		Strategy 1-4E: Continue to seek funds and implement a Community Development Block Grant Housing Rehabilitation Program	Town Administrator, Select Board, Housing Authority, Council on Aging	Ongoing	Staff time, Volunteer time

Goals 1-1 and 1-2 can be achieved by zoning bylaw amendments through review of PVPC Model Zoning Bylaws. Additionally, the PVPC can be a resource for examining Community Development Block Grants and the criteria that could facilitate infrastructure improvements in town. Although, the town does have an inclusionary zoning bylaw, it has not produced the affordable housing that assists the town in meeting the 10 percent goal for affordable housing by the Commonwealth. A review of the inclusionary zoning bylaw and payment-in-lieu of unit fees can create the conversation regarding affordable housing development and housing trust funds. Massachusetts Housing Partnership is a good resource for housing trust funds and affordable development.

Implementing Goal 1-3 can be met by utilizing Community Preservation Act funding. These strategies can be identified in the Community Preservation Plan.

The Housing Production Plan, when updated, will provide planning and guidance to implement Goal 1-4, in addition to seeking funding to support housing rehabilitation and to purchase existing properties for affordable housing through CDBG and CPA funds, respectively.

Implementation Goals and Strategies for Chapter 2: Economic Development

Ch.	Goal	Strategy	Responsible Parties	Target Date	Status/ Resources
	Goal 2-1: Maintain and expand recreational opportunities connected to Southampton’s natural, cultural, and recreational resources and market as an economic development opportunity.				
		Strategy 2-1A: Establish an annual or bi-annual Agri-Tourism Day which would open local farms to the public for farm tours, selling of farm products, and special events.	Agricultural Commission	Short-term 1-5 yrs	Volunteer time, federal funding for construction
	Goal 2-2: Adopt zoning and land use policies to encourage commercial activity in appropriate growth districts identified by the community.				
		Strategy 2-2A: Review and amend the existing Table of Use and permit certain types of commercial retail businesses that are desired in specific areas of the community. Use the Intent statements for each of the zoning districts as a guide.	Planning Board	Short-term 1-5 yrs	Volunteer time
		Strategy 2-2B: Development Intent or Purpose Statements for all zoning districts to integrate land policies with district delineations. Developing the District Intent statements will assist in the amendments to the Table of Uses.	Planning Board	Short-term 1-5 yrs	Volunteer time
		Strategy 2-2C: Consider eliminating the existing Industrial Zoning District and relocating to area that has the potential for town sewer infrastructure.	Planning Board	Short-term 1-5 yrs	Volunteer time
	Goal 2-3: Establish a streamlined and transparent permitting process to improve communication with permit applicants.				
		Strategy 2-3A: Appoint a single point of contact to work with applicants and be responsible for coordinating the applicant’s efforts to apply for necessary permits in town.	Town Administrator	Ongoing	Staff, volunteer time
		Strategy 2-3B: Maximize the Town’s website and create “one stop shop” for permitting documents and forms from many departments, which can be downloaded at no cost to the applicant.	Planning Board, Town Webmaster	Short-term 1-5 yrs	Volunteer time
		Strategy 2-3C: Create “permitting guidebook” for the town as a “quick reference” guide which applicants may refer to as they navigate through the permitting process.	Town Administrator, Planning Board	Short-term 1-5 yrs	Volunteer time, staff time, funding for consultant
		Strategy 2-3D: Develop permitting flowcharts and checklists to guide applicants through the permitting process, and make this information available via the town website and at the building department office.	Planning Board	Short-term 1-5 yrs	Volunteer time, funding for consultant
		Strategy 2-3E: Ensure the zoning bylaw and subdivision regulations have clear submittal requirements for permit granting boards to help encourage uniformity in the review process.	Planning Board, Board of Appeals, Conservation Commission	Ongoing	Volunteer time, funding for consultant
	Goal 2-4: Invest in infrastructure and provide adequate capacity to meet the current and future needs for water, sewer, and telecommunications.				
		Strategy 2-4A: Encourage infrastructure development and physical improvements in identified commercial / mixed use areas.	Highway Dept., Select Board, Town Admin.	Ongoing	Staff time, volunteer time, funding for improvement
		Strategy 2-4B: Encourage infrastructure improvements, such as sidewalk and traffic improvements, through the special permit process for commercial and industrial projects, particularly in identified commercial / mixed use areas.	Planning Board	Ongoing	Volunteer time

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To implement Goal 2-1, some resources can be found through the Community Involved in Sustaining Agriculture (CISA) with some additional resources and possible grant opportunities through MA Department of Agriculture (MDAR).

Goals 2-2 and 2-3 can be implemented with assistance from PVPC and their model zoning bylaws, subdivision regulations and permitting handbooks. The PVPC can also provide professional staff to assist with consulting services for the town or boards.

Goal 2-4 can be funded through the MassWorks program. The Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development oversees the programs for funding infrastructure dependent on the identified opportunities like water and sewer expansion. The new Community One Stop for Growth, which was launched in 2021, provides an opportunity for the community to apply for multiple grant programs with its application.

The Community One Stop for Growth Program

The Community One Stop for Growth is a single application portal and collaborative review process of community development grant programs that make targeted investments based on a development continuum. This process will streamline the experience for the applicant and better coordinate economic development programs and staff on engagement and grant making. It will also reorient the State from a passive reviewer of funding requests to an active partner in economic development strategy, priorities, and investment.

The One Stop benefits communities as they pursue state funding to realize their housing and economic development goals:

- **Ability to be considered for more than one grant program simultaneously**, saving time on research and applications to different agencies and programs.
- **Guidance and State partnerships**, allowing applicants to receive key feedback before completing a full application, and allowing the State to holistically and directly engage with local leadership.
- **Direct referrals to additional programs** that applicants may realize could support their priorities.
- **Removal of redundant legacy program processes and questions** to streamline the application experience.
- **A full view by program staff of community priorities**, allowing the state to understand community vision beyond four corners of a single, discrete application.
- **Collaborative review**, allowing for State funding coordination and enhanced State awareness and support for community development goals.

Ten programs will be administered through this program through the Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development, Department of Housing and Community Development, and MassDevelopment. Those programs are *MassWorks*, *Urban Agenda*, *43D Expedited Permitting*, *Housing Choice Community Capital Grants*, *Massachusetts Downtown Initiative*, *Community Planning Grants*, *Rural Development Fund*, *Brownfields*, *Site Readiness*, and *Underutilized Properties*.

- Community One Stop for Growth, Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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Implementation Goals and Strategies for Chapter 3: Historic and Cultural Resources

Ch.	Goal	Strategy	Responsible Parties	Target Date	Status/ Resources
	Goal 3-1: Ensure continued and expanded efforts to preserve and enhance the historical assets of the town of Southampton.				
		Strategy 3-1A: Develop a plan for the future use of municipally-owned historic properties, such as the old Town Hall and Fire Station. Work to determine the highest / best use of these properties and how to re-purpose the buildings while keeping historical character intact.	Historical Commission, Select Board, Planning Board	Short-term 1-5 yrs	Planning grant, volunteer and consultant time
		Strategy 3-1C: Expand number of properties/districts/areas designated on the National and State Register to increase eligibility for matching grants for preservation work.	Historical Commission	Ongoing	Volunteer time
	Goal 3-2: Educate and engage town residents and visitors on Southampton's unique historical and cultural assets.				
		Strategy 3-2A: Update the 1997 Points of Interest Map that identifies significant historical and cultural resources in the community, such as the Northampton-New Haven Canal, the Lead Mines, and historic buildings / districts.	Historical Commission, Citizen Volunteers, Town Webmaster	Short-term 1-5 yrs	Planning grant, volunteer and consultant time, CPA funds
		Strategy 3-2B: Create a historical walking / driving tour based on the Points of Interest Map.	Historical Commission, Conservation Commission	Ongoing	Volunteer and consultant time
		Strategy 3-2D: Work with landowners to ensure public access to key historic sites, and provide signage for access to these sites.	Historical Commission, Conservation Committee	Ongoing	Volunteer and consultant time, CPA funds for display
		Strategy 3-2E: Encourage schools to create classroom history and oral history projects and produce multi-media historic documentaries, including written works.	Historical Commission, Public Schools, Local Community Access TV	Short-term 1-5 yrs	Volunteer and consultant time, funds for display
		Strategy 3-2F: Collect historical photographs and create a gallery display of the photographs at Celebrate Southampton and for an extended period of time at the Public Library.	Historical Commission, Public Library, Council on Aging	Short-term 1-5 yrs	Volunteer and consultant time
		Strategy 3-2G: Add a summary of the history of Southampton on the town's Wikipedia entry	Historical Commission	Short-term 1-5 yrs	Volunteer time
		Strategy 3-2H: Provide signage on roads designated as Scenic to educate town residents and visitors the location of these protected roadways.	Select Board, Planning Board, Highway Dept	Short-term 1-5 yrs	Volunteer and staff time, CPA funds for signage
	Goal 3-3: Increase awareness of the arts and other cultural activities in Southampton.				
		Strategy 3-3A: Promote Southampton's Cultural Council and publicize activities funded by the Council.	Select Board, Cultural Council	Ongoing	Volunteer time
		Strategy 3-3B: Provide opportunities and sites for display of residents and student art.	Select Board, Town Admin.	Ongoing	Volunteer time

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		Strategy 3-3C: Organize nature and farm walks on conservation and town owned lands.	Conservation Commission	Ongoing	Volunteer time
		Goal 3-4: Support growth management that will protect and preserve the rural landscape, scenic vistas, and historic resources that define the community character of Southampton.			
		Strategy 3-4A: Adopt local Design Guidelines or Standards that portray architectural features the Town of Southampton would like to promote in designated Local Historical Districts.	Planning Board, Historical Commission	Ongoing	Volunteer and consultant time
		Strategy 3-4C: Enforce the protection status and regulations for officially designated Scenic Roads.	Planning Board, Highway Dept. Tree Warden	Short-term 1-5 yrs	Volunteer and staff time
		Strategy 3-4D: Adopt zoning regulations that could help to protect open space, key scenic views and vistas as well as enhance rural character.	Planning Board	Short-term 1-5 yrs	Volunteer time, consultants
		Strategy 3-4E: Modify and enforce signage regulations that will enhance rural, community character and minimize visual impact.	Planning Board, Building Inspector, Select Board	Ongoing	Volunteer time, consultants

An inventory of Southampton's historic buildings and structures is recorded in the Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System (MACRIS) database. There are more than 200 entries and the age criterion is 100 years or older.

Goal 3-1 can be met with assistance by consultants to engage in planning studies for the municipally-owned historic properties and expanding the various locations in town to increase eligibility for matching grants for preservation work. CPA funds can be used to support many of the strategies identified in Goal 3-2.

The Massachusetts Cultural Council offers grant opportunities to the local cultural council, of which Southampton can utilize its annual funds to assist with programming that provides for cultural arts and opportunities. Goal 3-3 can be met by prioritization of programming by the local council.

The Planning Board, along with the Historic Commission, Highway and Building Departments, will play an important role to examine how design of buildings and preservation of scenic vistas are handled in Southampton. Guidance can also be found in MGL Ch. 40, Section 15C. The PVPC has model zoning bylaws and documents to assist with adoption and administration of the various regulations that help protect important amenities.

Implementation Goals and Strategies for Chapter 4: Open Space and Natural Resources

Ch.	Goal	Strategy	Responsible Parties	Target Date	Status/ Resources
	Goal 4-1: Promote land use policies that protect the town's natural lands and rural community character.				
		Strategy 4-1A: Hold a series of public presentations about the benefits of smart growth policies that concentrate development in some places and discourage it in others.	Planning Board, Conservation Commission, Select Board, Local Cable Access TV, School Dept	Short-term 1-5 yrs	Staff Time, Volunteer Time, Consultant
		Strategy 4-1B: Hold a series of public presentations about the benefits of cluster development, or the building of homes closer together so that the remaining land on a site can be protected as open space or farmland.	Planning Board, Conservation Commission, Select Board, Local Cable Access TV, School Dept	Short-term 1-5 yrs	Staff Time, Volunteer Time, Consultant
		Strategy 4-1D: Promote the use of Southampton's Agricultural Preservation District.	Planning Board, Conservation Commission, Agricultural Commission	Ongoing	
		Strategy 4-1E: Reconsider the draft Open Space Residential Development bylaw drafted in 2006 by the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission under a Smart Growth Technical Assistance grant.	Planning Board, Select Board, Conservation Commission Open Space Committee	Short-term 1-5 yrs	Volunteer Time
	Goal 4-2: Identify and preserve important parcels for ecological, recreational, cultural and historical value to create a town-wide green network.				
		Strategy 4-2A: Develop a prioritized list of key open space parcels for acquisition based on available developable vacant lands, key natural resource areas, critical habitat areas, priority agricultural lands and soils, recreational lands, and expansion and connection to town-wide green network.	Open Space Committee, Conservation Commission, Agricultural Commission, Planning Board	Ongoing	Volunteer Time
		Strategy 4-2B: Establish and develop a relationship with existing land trusts in the region.	Planning Board, Town Administrator, Select Board, Conservation Commission, Open Space Committee	Ongoing	Volunteer Time

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		Strategy 4-2C: Continue to update the town’s Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP) every five years in order to qualify for state and federal grants.	Open Space Committee, Conservation Commission, Planning Board, Town Administrator	Ongoing	Volunteer Time, Staff Time, Consultants
		Goal 4-3: Protect and enhance the scenic vistas through the town.			
		Strategy 4-3A: Establish priority areas and parcels for scenic preservation.	Open Space Committee, Planning Board, Conservation Commission	Short-term 1-5 yrs	Staff Time, Volunteer Time, Consultant
		Strategy 4-3B: Review and expand the town list of designated scenic roads.	Planning Board, Historical Commission, Highway Department	Ongoing	Staff Time, Volunteer Time, Consultant
		Goal 4-4: Protect Southampton’s remaining agricultural lands, promote local farming, and create opportunities for residents to become involved in local agriculture.			
		Strategy 4-4A: Compile an inventory of farmlands with ownership information, protection status, vulnerability, etc., and meet with owners to explain their importance to the community and available preservation options. Coordinate these efforts with the community’s prioritized list of key open space parcels for acquisition, (as listed under Strategy 1-1A).	Agricultural Commission, Board of Assessors	Short-term 1-5 yrs	Volunteer Time, Staff Time
		Strategy 4-4B: Work with farmers and develop marketing materials to promote agriculture in Southampton.	Agricultural Commission	Short-term 1-5 yrs	Volunteer Time, Consultant Farm Viability Enhancement Program (FVEP)
		Strategy 4-4C: Develop educational materials and hold public meetings to stimulate consciousness about agriculture and the tools available to protect it.	Agricultural Commission	Ongoing	Volunteer Time
		Strategy 4-4D: Establish a weekly Farmer’s Market in an appropriate location in the community.	Agricultural Commission	Short-term 1-5 yrs	Volunteer Time
		Strategy 4-4E: Identify appropriate locations and parcels to be used as a town owned community garden.	Agricultural Commission, Select Board, Open Space Commission, Conservation Commission	Short-term 1-5 yrs	Volunteer Time
		Goal 4-5: Protect Southampton’s water resources.			
		Strategy 4-5D: Adopted a Reduced Road Salt Policy that minimizes salt application and storage near environmentally sensitive areas adjacent to highways and roads to protect aquifers, private wells and surface waters.	Highway Dept, Conservation Commission, Water Comm.	Short-term 1-5 yrs	Staff Time, Volunteer Time
		Strategy 4-5E: Actively participate in the Barnes Aquifer Protection Advisory Committee (BAPAC), and allow BAPAC to comment on development proposals of regional impact.	Planning Board, Water Comm. Conservation Commission	Ongoing	Volunteer Time

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Goal 4-6: Increase capacity for management of town-owned open space lands and promote public use of existing open space network.				
	Strategy 4-6A: Maintain a current environmental inventory and develop a management plan for conservation areas.	Conservation Commission, Parks Commission	Short-term 1-5 yrs	Consultant, Staff Time, Volunteer Time - Urban and Community Forestry Challenge Grants
	Strategy 4-6B: Develop a comprehensive outreach and education campaign to inform the community about existing open space resources, to improve and maintain trail networks, and to improve signage and access to open space resources. Develop trail maps, establish a volunteer trail maintenance program, and educate the public about conservation issues as part of this effort.	Conservation Commission, Open Space Committee, Parks Commission	Ongoing	Staff Time, Volunteer Time
Goal 4-7: Connect open space resources to enhance community livability and wildlife habitat, and to encourage walking and biking.				
	Strategy 4-7A: Develop a rail trail along the existing rail bed to create a north-south connection between the numerous open space areas along its length. Consider expanding the current plan to extend the Rail Trail south along its entire length to Swanson Corners and the Westfield town line.	Greenway Committee, Highway Dept, Conservation Commission	Short-term 1-5 yrs	Staff Time, Volunteer Time, Consultant, Transportation Improvement Funds, PVPC, MassDOT
	Strategy 4-7C: Develop a Manhan River Greenway and Wildlife Corridor Management Plan, and develop a list of priority parcels for acquisition or easements to support the development and enhancement of this greenway and wildlife corridor area.	Greenway Committee, Conservation Commission, Planning Board, Select Board	Ongoing	Staff Time, Volunteer Time, CPA funds, state LAND grant, federal Land and Water Conservation Fund grant

The town has taken great effort in recently completing work in its Open Space and Recreation Plan update, identifying low-hanging fruit and adopting processes and bylaws that will help with important parcel preservation.

Recently, the town adopted a local wetlands bylaw to protect resource areas even further than the state wetlands protection act, started a permanent Open Space Committee to identify priority parcels and the various criteria that would make them prime for preservation, and completed its seven year update to the OSRP.

Grant applications have been submitted to Mass Trails to fund the acquisition of the railroad line for the bike path. Other funding sources have been identified that the town submitted applications for supporting its open space needs, like the Small Community Housing Choice funds. An expression of interest for the Community One Stop for Growth application portal can also lead to possible funding through one of the sources listed on page 14.

An important observation of this plan update and its alignment to the recently updated OSRP suggests the town moving forward on its open space goals. Some of the regulatory strategies both listed in this plan update as well as the OSRP can be complemented with assistance by the PVPC in the form of model bylaws or professional assistance for reviewing development applications, and convening regional advisory groups to address impacts to the Barnes Aquifer.

Implementation Goals and Strategies for Chapter 5: Mobility

Ch.	Goal	Strategy	Responsible Parties	Target Date	Status/ Resources
	Goal 5-1: Utilize the principles of access management to control entrance and egress points for land uses on priority roadways.				
		Strategy 5-1A: Plan for the impact of future growth along the Route 10 corridor by developing an access management plan.	Planning Board, Highway Dept, MassDOT	Ongoing	MassDOT
		Strategy 5-1B: Work with MassDOT District 2 and property owners to request easements for exclusive turn lanes and shoulders, where appropriate, for driveways and entrances to new and existing developments along the Route 10 corridor.	MassDOT, Planning Board, Highway Dept	Ongoing	MassDOT; PVPC;
	Goal 5-3: Develop a safe, interconnected bicycle network.				
		Strategy 5-3C: Promote the installation of bicycle racks on all publicly owned properties. Encourage local business to also provide bicycle racks.	Select Board, MassDOT, Con. Com., Greenway Committee, Planning Board, Highway Dept, Chamber of Commerce, Town Clerk	Ongoing	
	Goal 5-4: Pursue opportunities to expand transit service in Southampton.				
		Strategy 5-4A: Work with PVPC, the Pioneer Valley Transit Authority, and Franklin County Regional Transit Authority to identify a scope, cost and source of funding for a feasibility study that identifies the potential for expanded transit service (fixed route or flexible) to better serve the residents of Southampton.	Select Board, PVTA, FRTA, PVPC, Council on Aging	Ongoing	
	Goal 5-5: Reduce and mitigate traffic impacts on local streets.				
		Strategy 5-5A: Consider developing a local policy on traffic calming for roads that have higher travel speeds or volumes of “cut- through” traffic.	Select Board, PVPC, Police Dept, Fire Dept	Ongoing	
		Strategy 5-5B: Work with PVPC to develop a systematic process to monitor traffic counts and observe the change in traffic volume on regular basis to detail the true impacts of growth in the Town and in surrounding communities.	Select Board, PVPC	Ongoing	
		Strategy 5-5C: Identify parking area on municipally owned property for us as park and ride lots.	Select Board, PVPC, Property Owners	Ongoing	
	Goal 5-6: Maintain a safe, reliable and user friendly transportation system.				
		Strategy 5-6A: Continue to utilize local pavement management system to determine condition of all local and federal aid eligible roadways to prioritize and initiate new projects and new cost-effective repairs to maintain the quality of pavement and prevent further deterioration.	Select Board, PVPC, Highway Dept, Police Dept	Ongoing	

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		Strategy 5-6B: Develop maintenance program to address new minimum sign retro-reflectivity requirements as defined in the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices.	Select Board, PVPC, MassDOT, Highway Dept	Ongoing	
		Strategy 5-6C: Maintain Roadside vegetation to ensure safety and visibility.	Tree Warden, Select Board, PVPC, MassDOT, Highway Dept, Police Dept	Ongoing	

The goals in this mobility chapter all require some integration of work by the regional planning agency, Pioneer Valley Planning Commission, due to the nature of roadway improvements and its monies being funneled through the PVPC. Continued engagement with PVPC through the highway department superintendent and town administration will allow for a seamless delivery of services and monies to support transportation and mobility policies that are outlined in this plan.

Implementation Goals and Strategies for Chapter 6: Public Services and Facilities

Ch.	Goal	Strategy	Responsible Parties	Target Date	Status/ Resources
	Goal 6-1: Continue to protect Southampton’s public water supply and the Barnes Aquifer for generations to come and assure that all infrastructure is up to date and in good repair.				
		Strategy 6-1A: Continue and strengthen homeowner education / awareness about the importance and vulnerability of the Barnes Aquifer, particularly residential areas that cover recharge areas.	Conservation Commission, Open Space Committee, Board of Health, Water Comm, BAPAC	Ongoing	Volunteer time, funding for outreach materials
		Strategy 6-1B: Build a piping system to loop Pequot Pond to Valley Road and connect to an existing water main in Westfield.	Water Commission	Short-term 1-5 yrs	Funding for infrastructure improvements, staff time
	Goal 6-2: Work with owners of existing dams in Southampton to maintain structures and ensure public safety.				
		Strategy 6-2A: Make an inquiry with the City of Holyoke Water Department to get a copy of the Emergency Action Plan (EAP) for the Tighe-Carmody Reservoir Dam.	Water Commission., Police Dept, Fire Dept	Short-term 1-5 yrs	Staff time
		Strategy 6-2B: Request that the municipalities of Holyoke and Southampton collaborate in an emergency response dam exercise.	Police Dept, Fire Dept	Short-term 1-5 yrs	Funding through Homeland Security Advisory Council
		Strategy 6-2C: Let the City of Holyoke Water Department know that the Town of Southampton would like to be kept abreast of developments at the Tighe-Carmody Reservoir Dam, White Reservoir Dam, and the New Intake Dam.	Water Commission, Select Board	Short-term 1-5 yrs	Staff time, volunteer time
		Strategy 6-2D: Approach the owners of the Searle Pond Dam/Alder Pond Dam to ascertain the status and condition of this structure. If information is not forthcoming, make an inquiry about this dam at the Office of Dam Safety.	Select Board, Police Dept, Fire Dept	Short-term 1-5 yrs	Staff time, volunteer time
	Goal 6-4: Establish land use and development policies that respond to infrastructure capacity.				
		Strategy 6-4B: Selectively invest in infrastructure improvements to direct new residential units to areas that have been identified for growth.	Highway Dept, Water Commission	Ongoing	Funding for infrastructure improvements
	Goal 6-5: Implement “e-government” solutions to provide expanded town hall services and hours of operation.				
		Strategy 6-5A: Participate in a regional Online Permitting project facilitated by the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission.	Town Administrator, Planning Board, Select Board, Bldg Inspector, Finance Com.	Short-term 1-5 yrs	Staff time, volunteer time
	Goal 6-6: Support the public library system to meet patron demand and provide an expanded collection that meets 21st century standards.				
		Strategy 6-6A: Increase municipal appropriation for full time staff to the library to ensure patron and staff safety, particularly as the community grows in population.	Select Board, Finance Com., Board of Library Trustees	Short-term 1-5 yrs	Funding

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		Strategy 6-6C: Work with library director to create a careful balance in the collection between all resource formats, and in particular increase electronic materials.	Board of the Library Trustees, Friends of the Edwards Library	Ongoing	Funding
Goal 6-8: Support Southampton’s public elementary school facilities and programming to assist with ongoing student achievement.					
		Strategy 6-8B: Work collaboratively with school officials to apply for technology grants to replace aging computer hardware and software.	School Com., Principal, Town Administrator	Ongoing	Grant research, staff time, volunteer time Community Compact IT Grant Program
Goal 6-9: Explore and develop a public utility to support internet/broadband service					
		Strategy 6-9A: Identify needs, possible issues to develop an independent municipal light plant.	Select Board, Finance Committee, Ad Hoc Tech Committee		Possible entity: Westfield Gas & Electric

Goals 6-1 and 6-2 can be aligned and realized when the town updates its Hazard Mitigation Plan which is due for an update in the next year.

The Community Compact IT grant is an available funding source to provide for capital improvements identified in Strategy 6-8B.

This Implementation Action Plan update has identified a new goal and priority due to the findings in the community survey. Goal 6-9 states that the town should explore and develop a public utility to support internet/broadband service. The related strategy is to identify needs, possible issues to developing an independent municipal light plant at the offset before further conversations could occur related to the town developing its own internet and broadband service.

Observing the moves of rural communities in the western part of the Commonwealth, the town can establish a Municipal Lighting Plant (MLP), which is separate and independent from the general town governmental departments (with the exception of incurring debt and subject to general oversight from the state’s Department of Public Utilities. The MLP is subject to the considerations posed in Massachusetts General Law Chapter 164, Sections 55-57. The Last Mile Infrastructure Grant program, offered by the Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development, provides funding for eligible towns for municipally-owned broadband networks that towns can use for design, engineering and construction services.

Implementation Goals and Strategies for Chapter 7: Energy

Ch.	Goal	Strategy	Responsible Parties	Target Date	Status/ Resources
	Goal 7-1: Promote energy efficiency in all buildings and infrastructure				
		Strategy 7-1B: Provide local incentives for energy efficiency and/or renewable energy, such as a rebate, tax credit, free electric vehicle charging at municipal buildings, and similar efforts.	Select Board and/or designee(s)	Short Term (1-5 years)	Green Communities
		Strategy 7-1C: Improve the efficiency of municipal street lights.	Select Board, Highway Dept	Short Term (1-5 years)	Funding for equipment retrofits, new equipment, controllers.
	Goal 7-2: Promote Renewable Energy in Town				
		Strategy 7-2A: Adopt a wind energy bylaw.	Planning Board	Short Term (1-5 years)	Board and consultant time.
		Strategy 7-2E: Consider Solar Photovoltaic installation on parcel behind the municipal complex (Town Offices, current Fire Station).	Select Board or designee(s), Highway Dept	Mid-term (6-10 years)	
	Goal 7-3: Increase energy efficiency from transportation				
		Strategy 7-3A: Promote cars with higher MPG through local incentives	Energy Committee, Assessor, Planning Board	Short Term (1-5 years)	Volunteer and consultant time
		Strategy 7-3E: Promote biking; install bike lanes where feasible; install bike racks at public buildings	Select Board, Highway Dept	Short Term (1-5 years)	

Energy related goals, especially those that are related to facility and infrastructures improvements can be navigated through assistance from the PVPC, as Southampton is a *Green Community* and would be eligible for funds to support these policies and strategies to achieve energy efficiency.

Additionally, with relation to the renewable energy goal 7-2, the regional planning agency can assist with providing a wind energy bylaw to reflect Southampton’s support of renewable energy. In 2019 and 2020, the PVPC, with the assistance of eleven communities, compiled best practices for solar development, given that large-scale commercial ground mounted solar arrays have been approved at alarming rates in the Pioneer Valley. A review of the Southampton solar bylaw could be discussed by the Planning Board, given that the bylaw as adopted in 2014, and due to some impacts experienced by surrounding communities, many of those communities have amended their solar bylaw or ordinance. Impacts due to forest cutting, wildlife loss and interruption, abutter experience, stormwater, phasing of construction, among others, have been addressed in this new best practices guide.

The town has identified a consideration for solar development on town-owned land that could be helpful to reduce energy costs. The town’s initial steps can be to determine the lands and buildings where it is suitable and what the ownership and financing model can best support its development. Many communities opt for third-party ownership using a power purchase agreement or lease due to the limitations of municipal budgets and risk for construction and operation of the solar system.

Implementation Goals and Strategies for Chapter 8: Land Use

Ch.	Goal	Strategy	Responsible Parties	Target Date	Status/ Resources
	Goal 8-1: Enhance the unique characteristics and assets of planning focus areas in town.				
		Strategy 8-1A: Encourage streetscape improvements in the planning focus areas along College Highway.	ZBA, Highway Dept, Planning Board	Ongoing	Volunteer time
		Strategy 8-1D: Adopt a Chapter 40R Smart Growth Zoning Overlay District at Easthampton-Southampton town line.	Planning Board	Short-term 1-5 yrs	Volunteer time
	Goal 8-3: Consider connection between existing and planned developments to open space and community facilities as part of the planning process.				
		Strategy 8-3B: Encourage pedestrian connections that link existing open space and planned open space such as the Southampton Greenway to all new development.	ZBA, Planning Board, Conservation Commission, Park Com., Recreational Needs Com.	Ongoing	Volunteer time
		Strategy 8-3C: Encourage pedestrian connections from existing community facilities such as the William Norris School, the library, and town hall to major residential developments and commercial businesses.	ZBA, Planning Board, Conservation Commission, Park Com., Recreational Needs Com.	Ongoing	Volunteer time
	Goal 8-4: Improve ease of permitting in town and land use administration.				
		Strategy 8-4C: Consider appropriating town funds to hire planning staff or contract planning assistance to help the town achieve the goals of this master planning effort.	Planning Board	Short-term 1-5 yrs	Volunteer time
		Strategy 8-4D: Rectify inconsistencies with the Assessor’s office land-use coding methodology to allow the town to better track development and preservation trends over time.	Assessor, Select Board	Short-term 1-5 yrs	Staff time
		Strategy 8-4E: Establish annual reporting requirements for the Planning Board, such as the number of ANR’s approved and subdivisions approved each year, and include these figures in the Annual Town Report.	Select Board, Planning Board	Short-term 1-5 yrs	Volunteer time

The Planning Board should be advised when any of these goals and strategies is in the process to be implemented. The nature of this land use chapter reflects many of the initiatives and responsibilities of the Planning Board.

The town has taken efforts to move on the priorities established in the community survey when it comes to encouraging the proper pedestrian connections to existing open space and planned open space. As mentioned above, Southampton has submitted grant applications to support some of these implementable goals and strategies. It is important that ideas from the OSRP are aligned with those listed here and directly in the *Open Space and Natural Resources* chapter. Funding sources would acknowledge these parallels.

Completed Strategies

As identified below, the Town has made strides to accomplish their town-wide goals by completing the related strategies. Of the 23 strategies that have been identified, twenty of them had been identified as short-term or ongoing strategies, suggesting the town has been working to achieve what they had recognized would be strategies that could be accomplished in the short-term, within the 1-5 years after the Master Plan's adoption.

As the Southampton is entering year 9 after the passage of the Town's Master Plan, more goals in the coming years can be added to this list of accomplishments.

Housing

- Adopt a zoning bylaw, such as an inclusionary zoning bylaw or Chapter 40R bylaw, which provides one or more incentives to developers who choose to include affordable housing units in new housing developments in Southampton.

Economic Development

- Support the establishment of a greenway that would connect the historic center of town to Easthampton's Manhan Trail.
- Create an agricultural farm brochure that identifies all farms in Southampton, commodities sold, hours of operation, seasonal operations, and location map. Make the brochure available on the town website and at Town Hall.

Historic and Cultural Resources

- Digitize historical photographs of Southampton and provide public access through the Historical Society
- Adopt a Demolition Delay bylaw.

Open Space and Natural Resources

- Conduct a water quality education campaign that targets the landowners in town.
- Consider developing a larger local buffer zone requirement than the existing state-mandated 100' protection buffer to better protect the town's significant wetland resources.

Mobility

- Incorporate sidewalks in the vicinity of Norris Elementary School including the Route 10 corridor as proposed in the Safe Routes to School Plan.

Public Services and Facilities

- Continue to educate landowners with contaminated wells and determine solutions to tie into the public water system.
- Continue discussions with the City of Easthampton to extend public wastewater service along Route 10 / College Highway to the Town Center and to County North Road.

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- Maximize the Town's website and create a "one stop shop" for permitting documents and forms from many departments, which can be downloaded and filled out at no cost to the applicant.
- Create an online GIS based parcel information system.
- Increase municipal appropriation for books and materials to the library can continue to meet state certification and aid in the absence of annual fundraising.
- Apply for infrastructure funding through the Safe Routes to Schools program to develop a sidewalk and crosswalk network to the Town Center to allow students to walk to school safely.
- Find funding to address priority facility repairs and maintenance, such as a new roof.

Energy

- Produce a 20% energy reduction plan for town facilities and vehicles.
- Adopt the Stretch Building Code.
- Promote federal, state and utility-based energy efficiency incentives, such as the Mass Save program and tax credits.
- Adopt a solar photovoltaic installation bylaw.
- Purchase renewable energy for municipal facilities.
- Adopt an efficient vehicle policy for the Town fleet.
- Apply for Green Community designation.

Land Use

- Update the Zoning Bylaw with a new format, modern terminology, and definitions that fully describe items discussed within the bylaw to make the development and permitting process clearer and more transparent for all.
- Update the Southampton Subdivision Regulations to make consistent with modern practices and terminology as well as to include low impact development principles and new state stormwater standards.