



Scarborough Conservation Open Space Plan

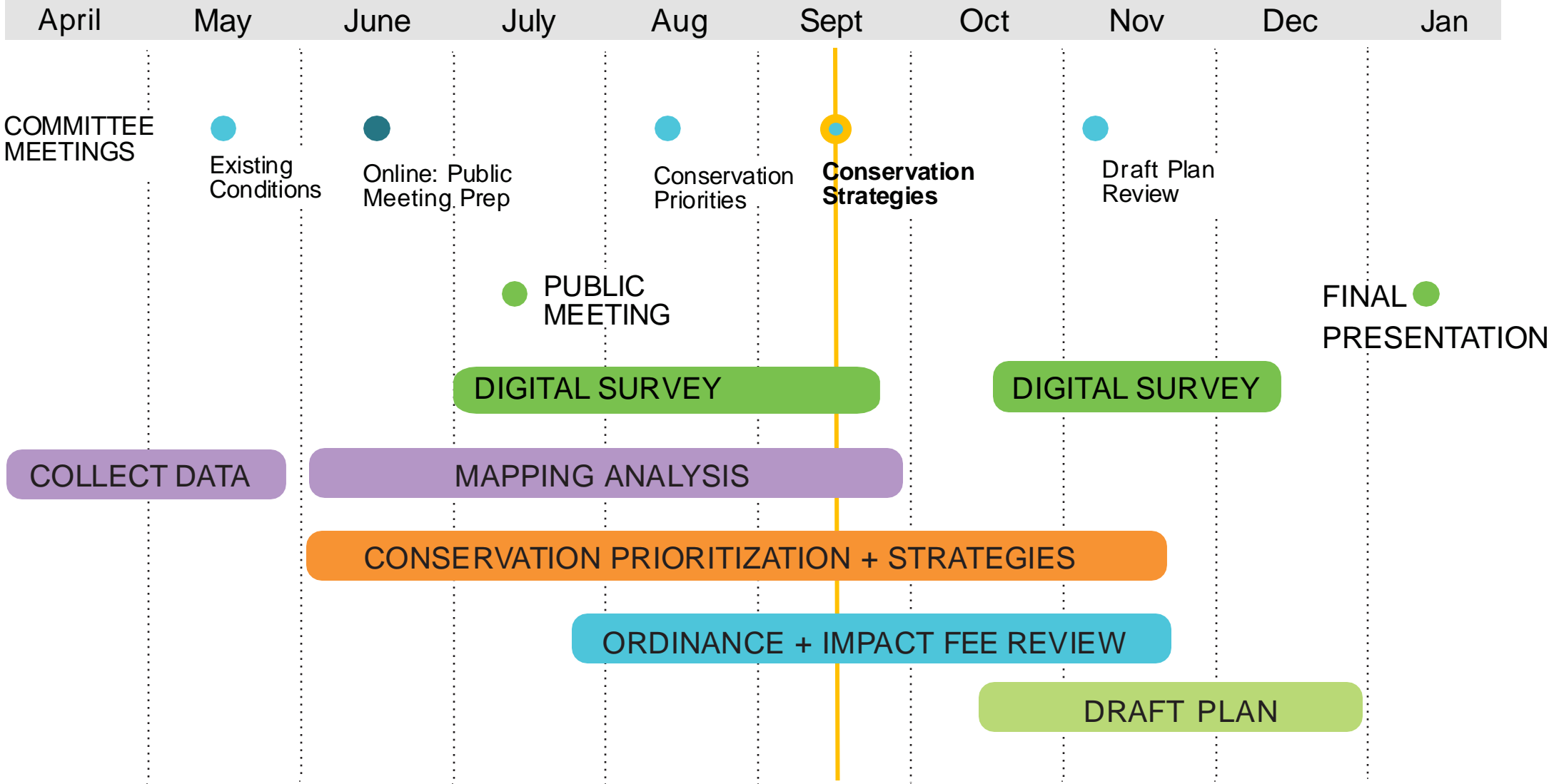
Open Space Ad-hoc Committee

MEETING 3 09/23/2024

AGENDA

- 1.Presentation of Final Open Space Inventory
- 2.Draft Open Space Definition & Discussion
- 3.Draft Open Space Strategies & Discussion
- 4.Review Schedule & Next Steps

SCHEDULE



EXISTING OPEN SPACE INVENTORY

TOTAL	TOWN AREA	30,528 acres
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TODAY	TOTAL CONSERVED	6,131 acres (20%)
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2030	AREA NEEDED TO MEET 30x30 GOAL	3,026 acres (10%)
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What counts as Conserved Open Space?

FEDERAL

Land owned by the Federal government.

- Rachel Carson Preserve

527 acres

2% of town

9% of conserved land

STATE

Land owned and managed by state agencies.

- Scarborough Marsh

3,006 acres

10% of town

50% of conserved land

PRIVATE

Privately owned land (MFT / SLT).

- Pleasant Hill Preserve
- Comstock Farm

882 acres

3% of town

14% of conserved land

MUNICIPAL CONSERVATION

Town-owned land with a conservation easement.

120 acres

<1% of town

2% of conserved land

DESIGNATED OPEN SPACE

Conserved land within subdivisions.

1,596 acres

5% of town

26% of conserved land

Municipal Lands Not Included in Conserved Open Space

UNDEVELOPED

Undeveloped Town land.

402 acres
1% of town

RECREATION

Town recreation areas (parks, school fields, boat launches).

59 acres
<1% of town

SCHOOLS

Town land for school buildings + school activities.

183 acres
<1% of town

CIVIC

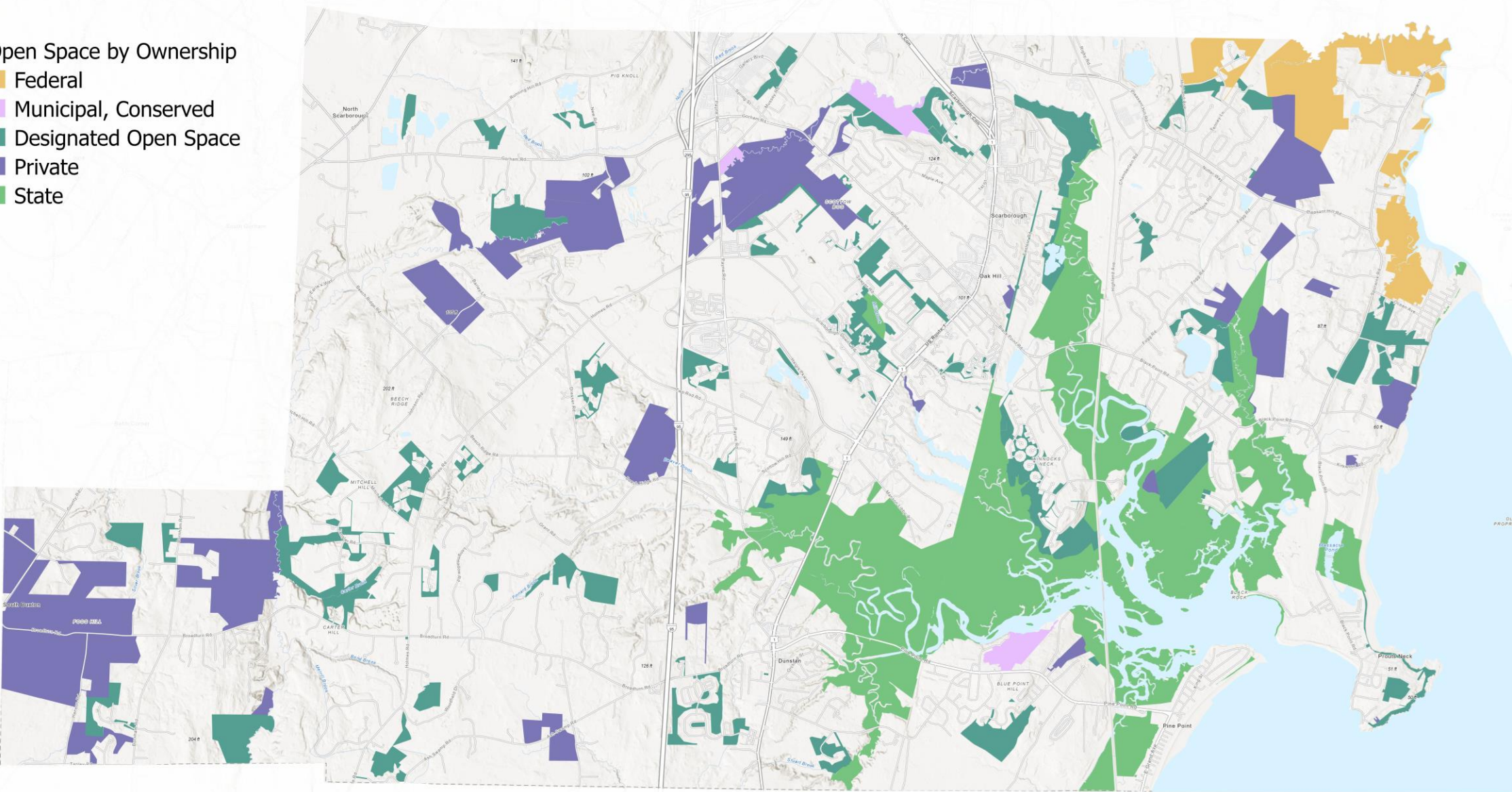
Town land used for civic activities (fire station, snow, parking lots).

144 acres
<1% of town

Existing Conserved Open Space

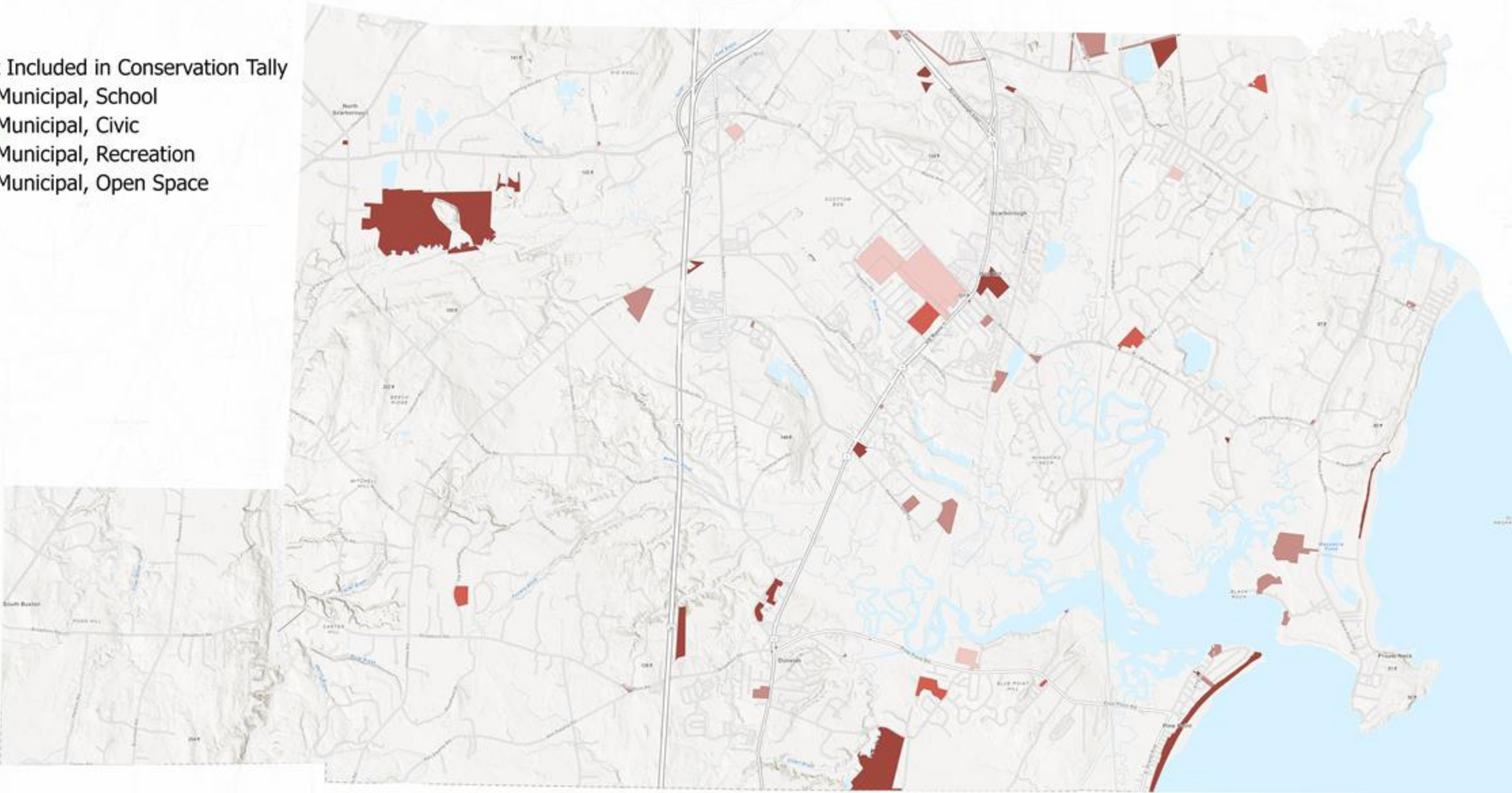
Open Space by Ownership

- Federal
- Municipal, Conserved
- Designated Open Space
- Private
- State



Town Owned Land Not Included in Conserved Open Space

- Not Included in Conservation Tally
- Municipal, School
 - Municipal, Civic
 - Municipal, Recreation
 - Municipal, Open Space



DRAFT OPEN SPACE DEFINITION

Open space is natural land with little human disturbance that fosters a healthier ecosystem and community by providing habitat for wildlife, enhancing water quality, connecting existing open space, and offering passive recreation opportunities.

DRAFT STRATEGIES conserving 30x30

Use the Open Space Focus Areas to prioritize land purchases.

Prioritize connections between open space parcels.

Update the conservation scorecard for acquiring land to align with the Open Space Plan and focus areas.

Support changes to town ordinances that will encourage conservation.

Ensure that the definition of open space is consistent in Town ordinances.

Support bond programs to purchase outright or partner with organizations to purchase high priority parcels.

Review all Town-owned properties to determine if any of them are in high priority areas or provide connectivity.

Create a development fee to fund open space.

Promote the use of the Open Space Current Use Property Tax Program.

Work with neighboring towns to expand connectivity.

DRAFT STRATEGIES residential ordinance changes

Set up an open space fund and impact fees which are based on the conservation priority/value of the parcel, based on the Open Space Focus Areas.

Update subdivision requirements:

- Create maximum setback
- Allow mowing within envelope only.
- Require protection of trail connections.
- Develop conservation best practices for non-conservation subdivisions.
- Set impact fees for subdivisions in lieu of conservation best practices.

Conservation Subdivisions:

- Require Conservation Subdivisions in RF and R2 districts. (Or, add more triggers for CS)
- Allow Conservation Subdivisions in all other Residential districts and add more triggers for CS.
- Revise the development process to take all relevant natural features into account first and design around them.
- Provide Density Bonus/Reduction in Impact Fees when protecting high value open space.

DRAFT STRATEGIES *commercial ordinance changes*

Modify impervious surface requirements.

Review parking standards.

Use Open Space Focus Areas to require preservation of high value open space and only allow for the use of an impact fee for open space under certain circumstances/locations.

DRAFT STRATEGIES shoreland zoning

Update marsh Resource Protection (RP) zoning to account for sea level rise.

Update FEMA Floodplain RP by adding sea level rise elevations to current FEMA zones.

Require a conservation easement for RP on lots that are divided/subdivided.

DRAFT STRATEGIES data collection

Create a system to refine & track open space data, and coordinate between departments to update and share open space data.

Develop a scenic view inventory to identify, prioritize, and protect important views.

Collect more detailed habitat data for locally important species of flora and fauna.

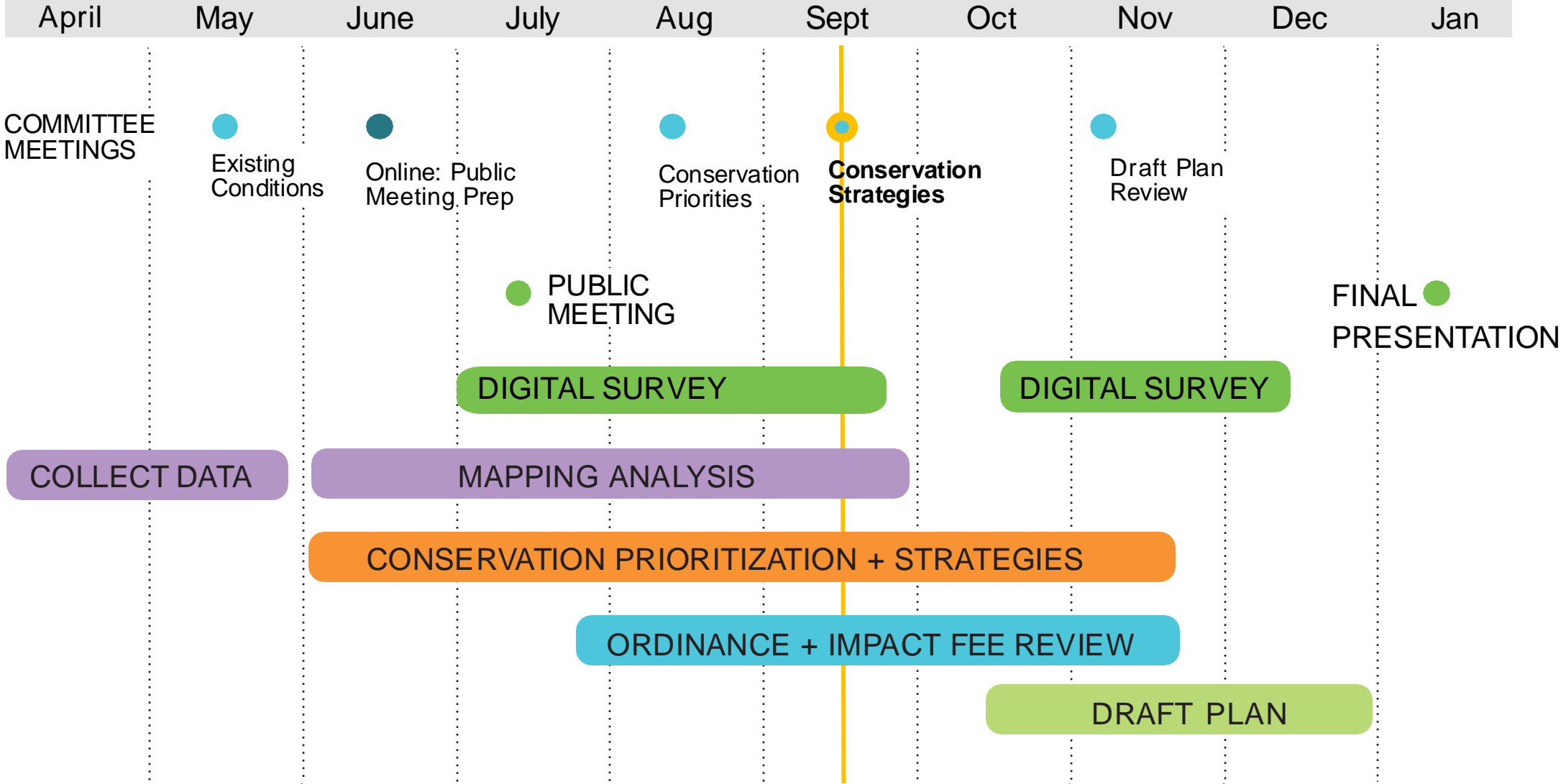
Inventory trails and develop a trail network master plan.

DRAFT STRATEGIES education

Develop educational materials and/or events for community members about good stewardship.

Organize a volunteer group to help care for municipal conservation lands (like a “Friends of ____” group) or an annual community stewardship event.

SCHEDULE



NEXT STEPS

Continue Outreach For Survey!

Set Date For Next Committee Meeting