

BOXBOROUGH 2030

A RURAL, ENGAGED COMMUNITY FOR ALL

www.boxborough-ma.gov/boxborough2030

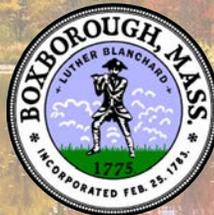


Recommendations & Implementation Plan

Adopted January 2016

A Master Plan for the Town of Boxborough, Massachusetts

Prepared by the Metropolitan Area Planning Council



Boxborough2030 Recommendations

from Vision to Action

This Implementation Plan includes a series of recommendations that will help achieve *The Boxborough Vision*.

Boxborough2030 is the master plan for the Town of Boxborough developed in 2014-2015. The plan was developed by the Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC) with direction from the Boxborough Town Planner and Master Plan Update Committee. Boxborough2030 serves as the Town's decision-making guide to realize its vision as a rural, engaged, community for all. The full plan is available online at <http://www.boxborough-ma.gov/boxborough2030>.

This document includes the plan's recommendations, informed by extensive research and public input on the town's geographic characteristics, population, community assets, services and facilities, land use, housing and neighborhoods, economic development, transportation, energy consumption, and environmental conditions. In some cases, these recommendations include activities the Town is already conducting and should continue doing; in other cases the recommendations identify new activities which should be undertaken.

Vision: The vision is a statement of what the community wants Boxborough to be as it approaches 2030.

This vision guides Boxborough2030 and the Aspirations, Goals, Strategies, and Actions in this plan are intended as pathways toward achieving this vision for Boxborough's future.

Aspirations: What do we value? These are the community values and ambitions elicited by the vision, broken down into categories that each evoke a distinct theme. The plan recommendations are organized by Aspiration.

The community's wishes for Boxborough's future emerged as seven Aspirations for Boxborough2030. The intent for organizing the plan by these Aspirations rather than by plan topics is that in order to achieve *The Boxborough Vision*, cross-cutting approaches that address multiple topics are necessary.

Goals: What do we want to achieve?

At the Goal level, the Implementation Plan moves from the community's wishes toward the specifics of how to realize these wishes by 2030.

Strategies: How do we get there?

Strategies break down the Goals into tasks that would help to accomplish each Goal.

Actions: What specific steps do we need to take?

Actions are suggested specific activities assigned to one or more Town Board, Committee, or Department. In addition to assigning lead responsibility, these Actions list other Town Boards, Committees, and Departments that the lead parties should coordinate with, as well as a recommended timeframe and potential resources, which include funding sources, technical assistance providers, and entities that may be of assistance in accomplishing the Action. It is recognized that these Actions may change over time.

Abbreviations Used in this Document

Town Boards, Committees, & Departments

AgCom	Agricultural Commission
BD	Building Department
BoH	Board of Health
BoS	Board of Selectmen
Clerk	Town Clerk
CoA	Council on Aging
ConsCom	Conservation Commission
CSC	Community Services Coordinator
DPW	Department of Public Works
DRB	Design Review Board
EC	Energy Committee
EDC	Economic Development Committee
FC	Finance Committee
HB	Housing Board
HC	Historical Commission
LBT	Library Board of Trustees
LS	Land Stewards
MPUC	Master Plan Update Committee
PB	Planning Board
PCCC	Public Celebrations & Ceremonies Committee
PFD	Police & Fire Departments
RC	Recreation Commission
SC	School Committee
SFAC	Steele Farm Advisory Committee
SML	Sargent Memorial Library Staff
Staff	Town of Boxborough Staff
TA	Town Administrator
TP	Town Planner
WBC	Well-Being Committee
WRC	Water Resources Committee

Timeframe Symbols

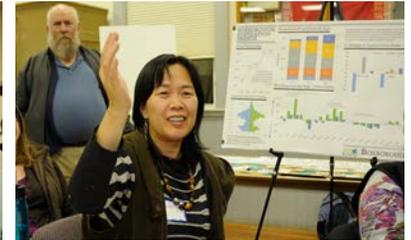
Critical action	
	Short term: 1-3 years/by 2018
	Short-medium term: 1-7 years
	Medium term: 4-7 years/by 2022
	Medium-long term: 4-10+ years
	Long term: 8-10+ years/2023 or later
	Ongoing

Other entities

495/MW	495/MetroWest Partnership
ABRSD	Acton-Boxborough Regional School District
ABWG	Anti-Bias Working Group
ADA	Americans with Disabilities Act
BCT	Boxborough Conservation Trust
BDMC	Boxborough District Minutemen Company
BHS	Boxborough Historical Society
Consultants	Third-Party Consultants
CPA	Community Preservation Act Funds
CrossTown	CrossTown Connect
CWC	Commonwealth Workforce Coalition
EOHED	Massachusetts Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development
LELD	Littleton Electric Light Department
LFG	Land for Good
MAFB	Massachusetts Farm Bureau
MAGIC	Minuteman Advisory Group on Interlocal Coordination (a 13-town subregional council of MAPC)
MAPC	Metropolitan Area Planning Council
MassAudubon	Massachusetts Audubon Society
MassDev	MassDevelopment
MassDOT	Massachusetts Department of Transportation
MassWorks	EOHED MassWorks Infrastructure Program
MDI	EOHED Massachusetts Downtown Initiative
MHC	Massachusetts Historical Commission
MPO	Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization
MWCC	MetroWest Chamber of Commerce
NESFP	New Entry Sustainable Farming Project
NG	National Grid
NVN	Nashoba Valley Neighbors
PTF	Blanchard Parents, Teachers, and Friends
RHC	Regional Housing Consultant
Rotary	Rotary Club of Acton-Boxborough
Towns	Neighboring Towns: Harvard, Littleton, Acton, and Stow
TPL	Trust for Public Land
TTOR	The Trustees of Reservations
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, Rural Community Development Initiative
Volunteers	Volunteers

These recommendations were developed with substantial community input.

On November 19, 2014, community members came together to share their ideas for Boxborough's future at the *Public Visioning and Kickoff Forum* for Boxborough2030. From the input at this meeting, the Boxborough2030 Master Plan Update Committee developed **The Boxborough Vision**, which was approved by the Planning Board and endorsed by the Board of Selectmen on December 15, 2014.



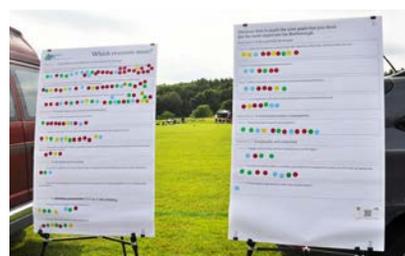
Boxborough's Vision: A Rural, Engaged Community For All

Boxborough shall maintain its traditional values of rural open space, a first-rate educational system, agricultural and conservation lands, and historical roots, while fostering a balanced economic environment and enhancing a close-knit sense of community for all generations.

MAPC worked with the Master Plan Update Committee (MPUC) to refine and categorize what we learned at the visioning forum as well as from two community surveys and several interviews with local businesses. Seven distinct themes emerged from this analysis, which became the **Community Aspirations** for 2030. Additionally, MAPC drafted Goals and Strategies for public input.

On June 20, 2015, Boxborough2030 was featured at Fifer's Day, where draft plan recommendations were shared with fair participants for feedback on priorities and to obtain ideas for Actions to help achieve the community's Aspirations.

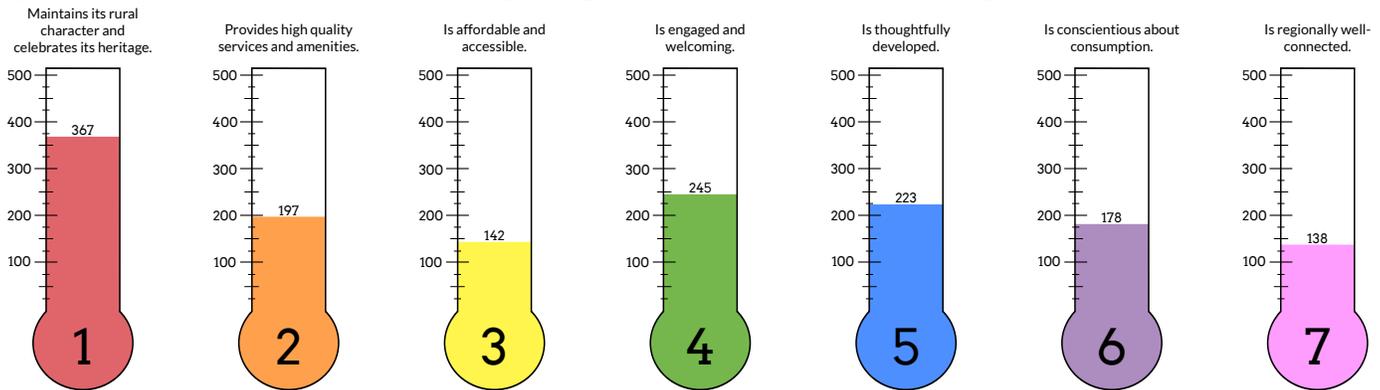
The Aspirations and Goals included in this **Implementation Plan** are arranged in order of the priorities identified by Fifer's Day participants.



Boxborough2030 is not intended to sit on a shelf.



Community Aspirations: Boxborough is...



At Fifer's Day in June 2015, Boxborough community members ranked these seven Aspirations by allocating ten poker chips each among seven labeled baskets. Over 150 fairgoers participated in this activity, and the thermometers below indicate the final results. This Implementation Plan is organized in order of this ranking.

The MPUC met five more times following Fifer's Day to refine plan recommendations and to identify the Top Priorities for Boxborough2030. Boxborough2030 includes the website <http://www.boxborough-ma.gov/boxborough2030> and two documents available in print or for download, a magazine-style summary of the plan and this document, the *Recommendations & Implementation Plan*. This fifteen-year vision and master plan for Boxborough was approved by the Town's Board of Selectmen and Planning Board at a joint public meeting on January 25, 2016.

Implementation Process: One of the biggest concerns the Master Plan Update Committee (MPUC) had regarding the update of the Town's Master Plan was how it would be implemented. After substantial discussion and debate, the MPUC settled on a collaborative, joint, public review process for the Action items within the plan. The implementation process for Boxborough2030 will involve joint meetings hosted by the Boxborough Board of Selectmen and Planning Board, with public invited, along with representatives of Town boards and commissions. These meetings, or review sessions so to speak, would cover a number of the Strategies and Actions items within Boxborough2030 with discussions regarding progress, updates, and brainstorming on how to overcome obstacles for each initiative. Similar items and those topics which pertain to the same board or committee would be discussed at these meetings, but not all subject matters within Boxborough2030 will be covered at each meeting. Topics to be reviewed would be announced in advance. The respective Town board or committee who is responsible for taking the lead role on particular Action items which will be covered at these meetings is expected to send a representative to discuss their relevant items with the Board of Selectmen and Planning Board. It is intended that discussing the Strategies and Action items at a public meeting with both the Board of Selectmen and Planning Board will help communicate the plan to town residents and motivate all Town boards and committees to be conscientious in pursuing their respective actions and initiatives to implement the Goals of Boxborough2030. It is anticipated that these joint review meetings would occur at least twice a year, but perhaps even more frequently should the need arise for particular initiatives.

Web Content and Implementation Tracking: Content on most pages of the Boxborough2030 website are expected to stay the same during the plan, representing data, analysis, conclusions, and recommendations from the vantage point of 2015, when the bulk of the plan was developed. The website includes an Implementation section, which will summarize progress on the plan throughout its fifteen years. Tracking implementation in this publicly accessible way will help the whole community follow the plan's progress.

Top Priorities

These six priorities were chosen by the Master Plan Update Committee as those of highest importance for implementation. The recommendations on the following pages will help to advance these critical priorities for Boxborough.

Encourage **economic development** which will improve the **quality of life** for residents, such as supporting development of a **village-like area** with restaurants, pubs, shops, fitness and health services, and other amenities. Economic development should not be pursued simply to increase the commercial tax base.

Increase **transportation infrastructure** and **mobility**, including providing designated bicycle and pedestrian travel lanes on selected Town roads.

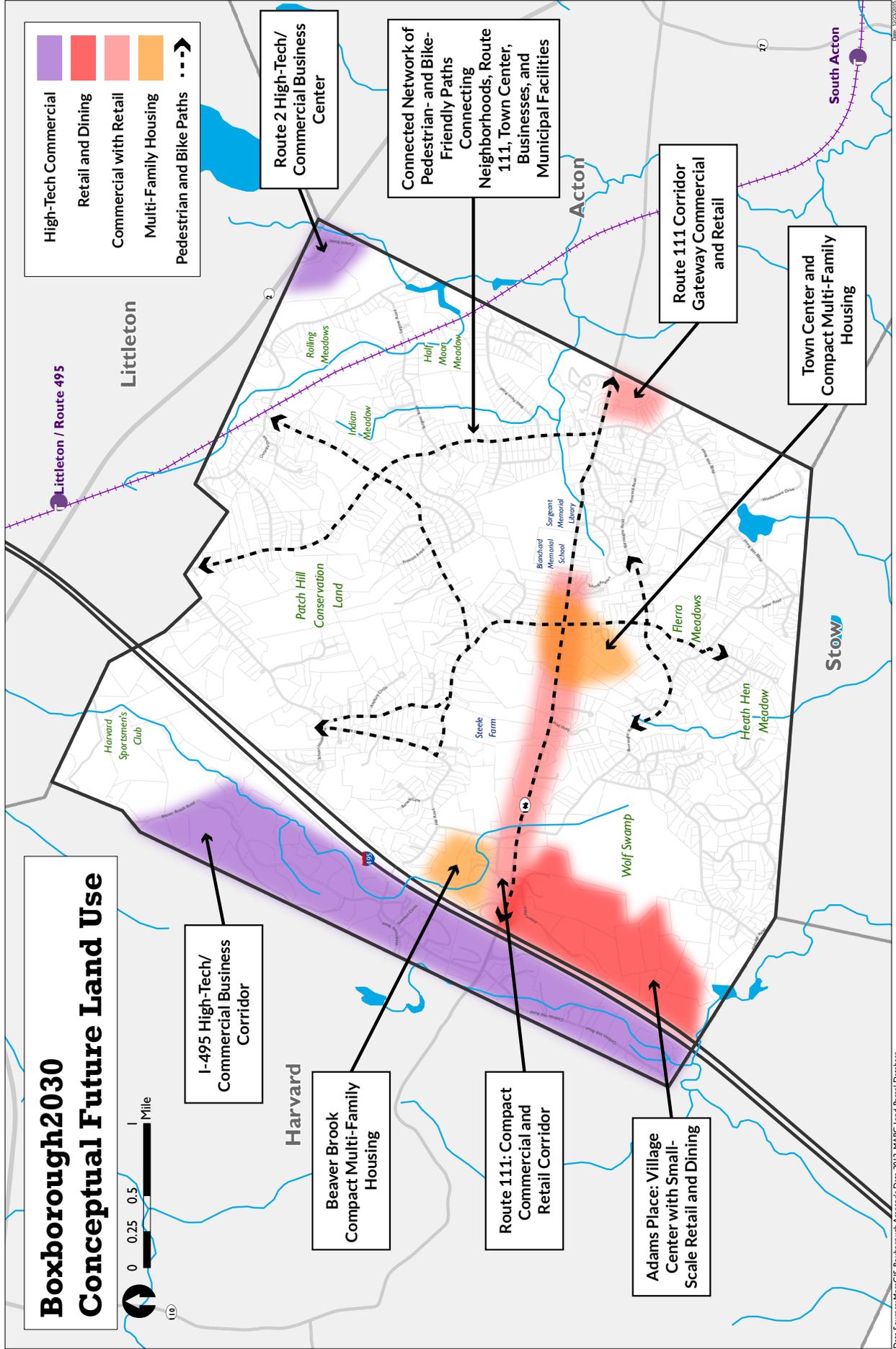
Plan for long-term **water resource management** and protection.

Establish strategies for **energy conservation, carbon footprint reduction,** and **climate change resiliency.**

Address community needs pertaining to **social services, modestly priced housing, recreational facilities,** and **open space** for all ages.

Explore improving **municipal facilities.**

The map below visually represents the plan's goals with respect to land use development areas and improved transportation connections.



Data Source: MARGIS, Boxborough, Acton's, Dan, 2017, MARC Land Pinned Database. Document Path: K:\Boxborough\GIS\Map\Boxborough\Map\Boxborough\Project\Boxborough_17.mxd



Aspiration 1. Maintains its rural character and celebrates its heritage: Boxborough cherishes its rural heritage. Preservation of the ecological, agricultural, historic, and scenic resources that contribute to the community’s rural character is of critical importance to the community. New development and redevelopment of existing structures will be physically designed to blend with the town’s rural landscape.

Goal 1.1. Protect the town’s heritage and character through the preservation of both natural and historical scenic areas, roadways, and landscape features.

Strategy 1.1.1. Protect the town’s most important landscape features.

Action 1.1.1.1. Review and prioritize recommendations of *Boxborough Reconnaissance Report: Freedom’s Way Landscape Inventory* and implement as appropriate.

Lead responsibility: HC

Coordinate with: ConsCom, AgCom

Timeframe:

Resources: CPA, BCT

Action 1.1.1.2. Continue to review recommendations of the Massachusetts Audubon Society report *Land Management Plans for Grasslands and Meadows on Town-Owned Land in Boxborough, Massachusetts*. Implement recommendations as appropriate.

Lead responsibility: ConsCom

Coordinate with: AgCom

Timeframe:

Resources: CPA, BCT

Action 1.1.1.3. Provide input to the ongoing evolution of the *Steele Farm Management Plan*.

Lead responsibility: SFAC

Coordinate with: HC, ConsCom, AgCom

Timeframe:

Resources: CPA, TTOR, BHS

Action 1.1.1.4. Conduct a survey and inventory of historic resources.

Lead responsibility: HC

Coordinate with: AgCom

Timeframe:

Resources: MHC, CPA, Staff, consultants

Action 1.1.1.5. Consider additional protections for local historic resources in consultation with the Massachusetts Historical Commission.

Lead responsibility: HC

Coordinate with: AgCom

Timeframe:

Resources: MHC, CPA, Staff

Strategy 1.1.2. Preserve and reinforce the Town Center District as Boxborough’s center for governance, municipal services, and town-wide events.

Action 1.1.2.1. Review existing Town Center zoning and design guidelines, making necessary amendments to preserve character and encourage appropriately scaled and designed developments.

Lead responsibility: PB

Coordinate with: DRB

Timeframe:

Resources: Staff, Consultants

Action 1.1.2.2. Create signage (e.g., “Welcome to Boxborough”) in Town Center District to enhance town image and visibility as well as to improve ease of navigation.

Lead responsibility: HC

Coordinate with: DRB, DPW

Timeframe:

Resources: CPA, MDI

Key to Timeframe Symbols used in this document. See page 3 for a glossary of abbreviations.

Critical Action						
	Short term: 1-3 years/by 2018	Short-medium term: 1-7 years	Medium term: 4-7 years/by 2022	Medium-long term: 4-10+ years	Long term: 8-10+ years/2023 or later	

Strategy 1.1.3. Promote the town’s natural, recreational, and historical assets.

Action 1.1.3.1. Develop a heritage/ scenic guide to generate awareness and promote community assets, events, programs, and resources to local residents and regional visitors.

Lead responsibility: RC

Coordinate with: HC

Timeframe:

Resources: BCT, BDMC, CPA

Action 1.1.3.2. Explore opportunities to hold seasonal walking tours for local trails and historical points of interest.

Lead responsibility: LS

Coordinate with: RC, WBC, SFAC, HC

Timeframe:

Resources: Volunteers

Action 1.1.3.3. Update the *Town of Boxborough Open Space and Recreation Plan* before expiration of the 2015-2022 plan.

Lead responsibility: TP

Coordinate with: ConsCom, RC, AgCom

Timeframe:

Resources: Staff, Consultants

Strategy 1.1.4. Proactively plan for water resource management and protection.

Action 1.1.4.1. Reinstate Water Resources Committee.

Lead responsibility: BoS, BoH

Timeframe:

Resources: Staff

Action 1.1.4.2. Plan for long-term water supply and wastewater management to support private and municipal goals.

Lead responsibility: WRC

Coordinate with: BoH, BoS, EDC, PB, EC

Timeframe:

Resources: Staff, Consultants, Towns

Action 1.1.4.3. Review Watershed and Aquifer Protection zoning to protect Zone IIs and existing and potential well sites in Boxborough and neighboring towns.

Lead responsibility: WRC, BoH, PB

Timeframe:

Resources: Staff, consultants, Towns

Goal 1.2. New development and redevelopment will be physically designed to blend into the town’s rural landscape.

Strategy 1.2.1. Strengthen the design review process for any development without hindering economic development.

Action 1.2.1.1. Review existing design guidelines for Town Center District and update guidelines to include considerations for larger scale developments in other commercial areas.

Lead responsibility: DRB

Coordinate with: PB, TP

Timeframe:

Resources: Staff, Consultants

Action 1.2.1.2. Adopt and incorporate updated building design guidelines into the review process to ensure future developments are physically consistent with town character.

Lead responsibility: DRB

Coordinate with: PB, TP

Timeframe:

Resources: Staff

Key to Timeframe Symbols used in this document. See page 3 for a glossary of abbreviations.

Critical Action						
	Short term: 1-3 years/by 2018	Short-medium term: 1-7 years	Medium term: 4-7 years/by 2022	Medium-long term: 4-10+ years	Long term: 8-10+ years/2023 or later	

Goal 1.3. Protect and/or acquire additional lands for conservation, water resource protection, wildlife habitat, agricultural land preservation, recreation, trails, and wildlife corridors.

Strategy 1.3.1. Proactively review and amend the list of existing and desired parcels of land for acquisition and preservation.

Action 1.3.1.1. Continue to review and prioritize acquisition of lands that protect multiple resources and assets.

Lead responsibility: PB

Coordinate with: FC, ConsCom, AgCom, BoH, WRC

Timeframe: 

Resources: Staff, CPA

Action 1.3.1.2. Periodically review land classified under MGL Chapters 61, 61A, and 61B and be prepared to make appropriate recommendations, including exercising Town’s right of first refusal.

Lead responsibility: PB

Coordinate with: FC, ConsCom, AgCom, BoH, WRC

Timeframe: 

Resources: Staff, CPA

Action 1.3.1.3. When acquisition may not be feasible, work with private landowners, investors, and conservation groups to place appropriate conservation easements or agricultural restrictions on their land to ensure it remains undeveloped in perpetuity.

Lead responsibility: ConsCom, AgCom

Coordinate with: PB

Timeframe: 

Resources: Staff, TPL, CPA, BCT

Action 1.3.1.5. Include a line item in the Town Meeting Warrant each year for the Town’s Conservation Trust Fund, to provide funding for land acquisition.

Lead responsibility: ConsCom

Coordinate with: AgCom, FC, BoS

Timeframe: 

Resources: Staff, CPA, BCT

Action 1.3.1.6. Consider long-term bonds using Community Preservation Funds for land acquisition.

Lead responsibility: FC

Coordinate with: BoS

Timeframe: 

Resources: Staff, CPA

Key to Timeframe Symbols used in this document. See page 3 for a glossary of abbreviations.

Critical Action



Short term: 1-3 years/by 2018



Short-medium term: 1-7 years



Medium term: 4-7 years/by 2022



Medium-long term: 4-10+ years



Long term: 8-10+ years/2023 or later



Ongoing



Aspiration 2. Is engaged and welcoming: Boxborough residents have many options for becoming more involved in the community and have a great deal of pride in their community. An even larger share and more diverse mix of residents will regularly participate in municipal policymaking, attend local events, and frequent local destinations.

Goal 2.1. Support diversity by valuing, respecting, appreciating, and welcoming individuals – those who reside, visit, work, or pass through Boxborough – of all ages, genders, socioeconomic levels, cultural heritages, racial/ethnic backgrounds, sexual orientations, gender identities, religions, and ability levels.

Strategy 2.1.1. Offer diversity and anti-bias training to the community.

Action 2.1.1.1. Continue and expand anti-bias and diversity training for all Boxborough employees.

Lead responsibility: BoS

Coordinate with: CSC, WBC

Timeframe:

Resources: ABWG

Action 2.1.1.2. Offer free diversity and anti-bias workshops for the community.

Lead responsibility: CSC

Coordinate with: WBC

Timeframe:

Resources: ABWG

Strategy 2.1.2. Explore the needs of the Boxborough community as they relate to diversity.

Action 2.1.2.1. Apply for a Community Health Needs Assessment grant and work to implement recommendations as they relate to diversity.

Lead responsibility: CSC

Coordinate with: WBC, TA

Timeframe:

Resources: ABWG

Key to Timeframe Symbols used in this document. See page 3 for a glossary of abbreviations.

Critical Action



Short term: 1-3 years/by 2018



Short-medium term: 1-7 years



Medium term: 4-7 years/by 2022



Medium-long term: 4-10+ years



Long term: 8-10+ years/2023 or later



Ongoing

Goal 2.2. Increase resident participation in town-wide events, programs, and government.

Strategy 2.2.1. Work with community organizations and networks to encourage public participation in town events and utilization of community assets.

Action 2.2.1.1. Continue leveraging private resources by collaborating with local businesses, nonprofit organizations, and community networks in promoting town-wide festivals such as Fifer’s Day, WinterFest, and the Harvest Fair, as well as community service activities such as the Adopt-a-Highway program.

Lead responsibility: PCCC

Coordinate with: RC, WBC, AgCom, CoA

Timeframe: 

Resources: BDMC, PTF, MWCC, Rotary

Action 2.2.1.2. Encourage one or more local organizations to sponsor and hold welcoming events for newcomers.

Lead responsibility: PCCC

Coordinate with: WBC, BoS

Timeframe: 

Resources: BDMC, PTF, MWCC, Rotary, NVN

Action 2.2.1.3. Continue using local venues such as the Sargent Memorial Library and annual events such as Fifer’s Day, WinterFest, and the Harvest Fair as opportunities to convey a welcoming atmosphere in town and an “open door policy” with municipal officials.

Lead responsibility: LBT, PCCC

Coordinate with: WBC, BoS

Timeframe: 

Resources: BDMC, PTF, SML, Staff

Action 2.2.1.4. Explore establishment of (a) new community garden(s).

Lead responsibility: AgCom

Coordinate with: BoS, ConsCom

Timeframe: 

Resources: Staff

Key to Timeframe Symbols used in this document. See page 3 for a glossary of abbreviations.

Critical Action



Short term: 1-3 years/by 2018



Short-medium term: 1-7 years



Medium term: 4-7 years/by 2022



Medium-long term: 4-10+ years



Long term: 8-10+ years/2023 or later



Ongoing

Goal 2.3. Increase resident participation in Town government.

Strategy 2.3.1. Communicate activities and policies widely, with the intention of reaching all households.

Action 2.3.1.1. Develop a town-wide communication and outreach plan.

Lead responsibility: BoS

Coordinate with: TA

Timeframe:

Resources: Staff

Action 2.3.1.2. Provide a periodical e-newsletter on Town government activities, issues, and decisions; encourage residents to sign up on the Town’s website.

Lead responsibility: BoS

Coordinate with: TA

Timeframe:

Resources: Staff, Volunteers

Action 2.3.1.3. Explore options for Internet-based resident engagement platforms.

Lead responsibility: BoS

Coordinate with: TA

Timeframe:

Resources: Staff

Action 2.3.1.4. Consider having a language translation and interpretation firm on retainer for important Town publications and events.

Lead responsibility: BoS

Coordinate with: TA, WBC

Timeframe:

Resources: Staff, Volunteers, Consultants

Action 2.3.1.5. Expand networks and cultivate new relationships with cultural and faith-based organizations to encourage participation in Town governance that reflects the town’s growing diversity.

Lead responsibility: BoS

Coordinate with: WBC

Timeframe:

Resources: PTF

Strategy 2.3.2. Cultivate new members for Town boards and committees.

Action 2.3.2.1. Periodically hold informal meetings between Town board/ committee members and residents to exchange ideas and information.

Lead responsibility: BoS

Coordinate with: TA, WBC

Timeframe:

Resources: Staff

Action 2.3.2.2. Reach out to new Boxborough residents with students enrolled in the Acton-Boxborough School District to welcome them to town and provide information.

Lead responsibility: BoS

Coordinate with: SC, TA

Timeframe:

Resources: PTF, Staff

Action 2.3.2.3. Establish and maintain a citizen skills bank or volunteer database as a resource to Town boards and committees.

Lead responsibility: TA, BoS

Coordinate with: Clerk

Timeframe:

Resources: Staff

Action 2.3.2.4. Include information on Town boards and committee openings, roles and responsibilities, and opportunities to get involved at Town events and prominently on the Town’s website.

Lead responsibility: BoS

Coordinate with: TA

Timeframe:

Resources: Staff

Key to Timeframe Symbols used in this document. See page 3 for a glossary of abbreviations.

Critical Action						
	Short term: 1-3 years/by 2018	Short-medium term: 1-7 years	Medium term: 4-7 years/by 2022	Medium-long term: 4-10+ years	Long term: 8-10+ years/2023 or later	



Aspiration 3. Is thoughtfully developed: The community will build on and maintain its existing assets. Economic development will be focused in existing commercial areas supported by responsible use and management of water resources with provisions for adequate wastewater treatment facilities. The community’s agricultural assets will be leveraged for economic development and to enhance quality of life. Transportation options will continue to improve in order to ensure a pleasant and safe travel experience for various modes of transportation, including walking and bicycling.

Goal 3.1. Guide and concentrate commercial growth in Business, Office Park, and Town Center districts.

Strategy 3.1.1. Create a long-term vision for the town’s commercial areas, prioritizing enhanced quality of life over expanding the commercial tax base.

Action 3.1.1.1. Create and designate an Economic Development Committee (EDC) or similar committee.

Lead responsibility: BoS

Timeframe:

Resources: Staff

Action 3.1.1.2. Develop a 10-15 year Economic Development Plan under the guidance of the EDC.

Lead responsibility: EDC

Timeframe:

Resources: Staff, Consultants

Action 3.1.1.3. Index commercial development opportunity sites for potential private acquisition, assembly, or development.

Lead responsibility: EDC

Coordinate with: PB, FC

Timeframe:

Resources: Staff

Action 3.1.1.4. Conduct a thorough market analysis to identify local and regional retail market opportunities.

Lead responsibility: EDC

Timeframe:

Resources: Staff, Consultants, 495/MW, MAPC

Strategy 3.1.2. Continue to assess the need for and feasibility of implementing public water supply in key areas.

Action 3.1.2.1. Identify priority areas for receiving a public water supply based on need and feasibility.

Lead responsibility: WRC

Coordinate with: EDC, BoH

Timeframe:

Resources: Staff

Key to Timeframe Symbols used in this document. See page 3 for a glossary of abbreviations.

Critical Action						
	Short term: 1-3 years/by 2018	Short-medium term: 1-7 years	Medium term: 4-7 years/by 2022	Medium-long term: 4-10+ years	Long term: 8-10+ years/2023 or later	

Strategy 3.1.3. Establish a village business district as Boxborough’s commercial center.

Action 3.1.3.1. Explore development of an area for a village business district and obtain property owner buy-in, if necessary.

Lead responsibility: EDC

Coordinate with: PB

Timeframe:

Resources: Staff

Action 3.1.3.2. Investigate potential zoning amendments to encourage and support appropriate development and utility support in a village business setting.

Lead responsibility: EDC

Coordinate with: PB

Timeframe:

Resources: Staff, Consultants

Action 3.1.3.3. Recruit appropriate businesses to the village business district through marketing efforts or financial incentives such as relocation tax credits.

Lead responsibility: EDC

Coordinate with: FC

Timeframe:

Resources: Staff, MWCC, Rotary

Strategy 3.1.4. Implement land use policies that support and encourage appropriately scaled and mixed-use developments in key areas of town.

Action 3.1.4.1. Conduct a thorough review of the Town’s land use controls, including dimensional requirements and conservation bylaws on commercially zoned land, to identify barriers to growth for appropriately scaled development.

Lead responsibility: PB

Coordinate with: EDC, ConsCom, AgCom, BoH

Timeframe:

Resources: Staff, Consultants

Action 3.1.4.2. Consider regulatory tools that can guide and encourage growth in appropriate areas, such as incentive zoning overlays or floor area ratio (FAR) density bonuses for developments that incorporate affordable housing, or agricultural or open space management.

Lead responsibility: EDC

Coordinate with: PB, ConsCom, HB, AgCom, BoH

Timeframe:

Resources: Staff, Consultants

Strategy 3.1.5. Catalyze private investment in key commercial districts.

Action 3.1.5.1. Invest in public infrastructure in commercial areas to attract private development.

Lead responsibility: EDC

Coordinate with: PB, BoS, BoH, WRC

Timeframe:

Resources: Staff, MassWorks, MassDev

Action 3.1.5.2. Engage in public-private partnerships to stimulate appropriate forms of development and redevelopment on key opportunity sites.

Lead responsibility: EDC

Coordinate with: PB, BoS

Timeframe:

Resources: Staff

Action 3.1.5.3. Consider financial incentives to encourage property improvements, local hiring, or capital improvements through reduced tax rates, abatements, or small grants.

Lead responsibility: EDC

Coordinate with: FC, BoS

Timeframe:

Resources: Staff, USDA

Key to Timeframe Symbols used in this document. See page 3 for a glossary of abbreviations.

Critical Action						
	Short term: 1-3 years/by 2018	Short-medium term: 1-7 years	Medium term: 4-7 years/by 2022	Medium-long term: 4-10+ years	Long term: 8-10+ years/2023 or later	

Goal 3.2. Attract and retain businesses in key existing and emerging industries.

Strategy 3.2.1. Promote Boxborough as a great place to do business for existing and prospective businesses.

<p>Action 3.2.1.1. Develop and implement a marketing strategy plan to attract appropriate types of development or businesses to the town’s commercial districts.</p> <p>Lead responsibility: EDC</p> <p>Coordinate with: BoH</p> <p>Timeframe: </p> <p>Resources: Staff, MWCC, Rotary, 495/MW, Consultants</p>	<p>Action 3.2.1.2. Engage in partnerships with area chambers of commerce or merchants associations.</p> <p>Lead responsibility: EDC</p> <p>Timeframe: </p> <p>Resources: Staff, MWCC, Rotary</p>	<p>Action 3.2.1.3. Identify target industries to market development incentives and land use policies to attract and retain businesses in those industries.</p> <p>Lead responsibility: EDC</p> <p>Coordinate with: PB, WRC</p> <p>Timeframe: </p>
<p>Action 3.2.1.4. Consider financial incentives to attract small businesses, such as establishing revolving loan funds or implementing relocation tax credits.</p> <p>Lead responsibility: EDC</p> <p>Coordinate with: FC, BoS</p> <p>Timeframe: </p> <p>Resources: Staff, MWCC, USDA</p>		

Key to Timeframe Symbols used in this document. See page 3 for a glossary of abbreviations.

<p>Critical Action</p>	<p> Short term: 1-3 years/by 2018</p>	<p> Short-medium term: 1-7 years</p>	<p> Medium term: 4-7 years/by 2022</p>	<p> Medium-long term: 4-10+ years</p>	<p> Long term: 8-10+ years/2023 or later</p>	<p> Ongoing</p>
------------------------	--	---	---	---	---	--

Strategy 3.2.2. Foster Boxborough’s participation in a sustainable regional agricultural economy.

<p>Action 3.2.2.1. Develop a community food plan to create a vision, identify issues, barriers, challenges, and opportunities in the agricultural economy.</p> <p>Lead responsibility: AgCom Coordinate with: EDC Timeframe:  Resources: Staff, MAPC, Consultants</p>	<p>Action 3.2.2.2. Ensure that Town policies and regulations are supportive of agriculture.</p> <p>Lead responsibility: AgCom Coordinate with: PB Timeframe:  Resources: Staff</p>	<p>Action 3.2.2.3. Recruit existing local farmers and work with non-profit organizations to cultivate workforce development, training, and educational programs.</p> <p>Lead responsibility: AgCom Coordinate with: EDC Timeframe:  Resources: CWC, NESFP, MAFB</p>
<p>Action 3.2.2.4. Expand land lease programs for local farms and farmers using town-owned lands to increase agricultural viability.</p> <p>Lead responsibility: AgCom Coordinate with: SFAC, BoS, ConsCom Timeframe:  Resources: LFG, MAFB</p>	<p>Action 3.2.2.5. Periodically review the Boxborough Right to Farm Bylaw and make amendments as necessary.</p> <p>Lead responsibility: AgCom Coordinate with: PB Timeframe:  Resources: Staff</p>	<p>Action 3.2.2.6. Review Town policies and regulations and amend as necessary to ensure clarity and consistency of agricultural use definitions.</p> <p>Lead responsibility: AgCom Coordinate with: PB Timeframe:  Resources: Staff, MAFB</p>

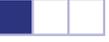
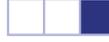
Action 3.2.2.7. Consider adding “Agricultural Business” in the Zoning Bylaw’s Use Regulations as a permitted use in residential and business districts to allow farm stands and similar agricultural business operations at existing and future farms.

Lead responsibility: AgCom
 Coordinate with: PB, TP
 Timeframe: 
 Resources: Staff, MAFB

Strategy 3.2.3. Preserve farmland and areas with soils favorable for agriculture.

<p>Action 3.2.3.1. Identify and index opportunity sites for farmland preservation in accordance with the 2015-2022 <i>Open Space and Recreation Plan</i>.</p> <p>Lead responsibility: AgCom Coordinate with: FC Timeframe:  Resources: Staff</p>	<p>Action 3.2.3.2. Identify federal and state incentives or supplemental revenue streams to support viability for working farms.</p> <p>Lead responsibility: AgCom Coordinate with: FC, BoS Timeframe:  Resources: Staff</p>	<p>Action 3.2.3.3. Consider using CPA funds to acquire and preserve farmlands, giving priority to properties under Chapter 61A and 61B.</p> <p>Lead responsibility: AgCom Coordinate with: FC, BoS Timeframe:  Resources: Staff, BCT, CPA</p>
---	---	--

Key to Timeframe Symbols used in this document. See page 3 for a glossary of abbreviations.

<p>Critical Action</p>	 Short term: 1-3 years/by 2018	 Short-medium term: 1-7 years	 Medium term: 4-7 years/by 2022	 Medium-long term: 4-10+ years	 Long term: 8-10+ years/2023 or later	 Ongoing
------------------------	--	---	---	---	---	--

Goal 3.3. Create a positive business environment and seek to attract businesses that would enhance the quality of life for Boxborough residents.

Strategy 3.3.1. Build municipal capacity to improve local business environment.

Action 3.3.1.1. Review current permitting regulations and make necessary amendments to improve consistency in fees and enforcement.

Lead responsibility: BD

Coordinate with: EDC

Timeframe:

Resources: Staff

Action 3.3.1.2. Develop a guide for permitting or doing business in Boxborough to streamline business regulatory processes and promote transparency.

Lead responsibility: EDC

Coordinate with: BD, TP

Timeframe:

Resources: Staff, Consultants

Action 3.3.1.3. Proactively meet with local businesses to understand needs for space and employee amenities.

Lead responsibility: EDC

Timeframe:

Resources: Staff

Goal 3.4. Local regulations will reflect community aspirations and yield desired results.

Strategy 3.4.1. Minimize development impact by protecting town's limited water supply and managing stormwater runoff.

Action 3.4.1.1. Review areas where stormwater runoff issues exist due to concentration of impervious surface.

Lead responsibility: ConsCom

Coordinate with: PB, DPW, BoH, WRC

Timeframe:

Resources: Staff

Action 3.4.1.2. Incorporate low-impact design guidelines into the development review process.

Lead responsibility: PB

Timeframe:

Resources: Staff, MAPC, Consultants

Action 3.4.1.3. Revisit subdivision regulations regarding roadway widths and amend as appropriate.

Lead responsibility: PB

Coordinate with: DPW, PFD

Timeframe:

Resources: Staff

Strategy 3.4.2. The development review process will look to limit traffic and air quality impacts of new development.

Action 3.4.2.1. Consider hiring a consultant with air quality impacts/public health experts to determine appropriate expectations for new development.

Lead responsibility: TP

Coordinate with: BoH, EDC

Timeframe:

Resources: Staff, Consultants

Action 3.4.2.2. Determine the scale of development that would require additional traffic impact analysis and incorporate guidelines into the development review process.

Lead responsibility: TP

Coordinate with: DPW, BoH, EDC

Timeframe:

Resources: Staff

Key to Timeframe Symbols used in this document. See page 3 for a glossary of abbreviations.

Critical Action						
	Short term: 1-3 years/by 2018	Short-medium term: 1-7 years	Medium term: 4-7 years/by 2022	Medium-long term: 4-10+ years	Long term: 8-10+ years/2023 or later	

Strategy 3.4.3. New housing and commercial development will prioritize design quality, energy efficiency, and preservation of open space.

<p>Action 3.4.3.1. Explore the potential use of regulatory tools such as transfer of development rights (TDR), natural resource protection zoning, or payment-in-lieu-of-taxes (PILOT) programs to support open space preservation and affordable housing development in the Town’s Agricultural-Residential Zoning District.</p> <p>Lead responsibility: PB</p> <p>Coordinate with: FC, ConsCom, HB, AgCom</p> <p>Timeframe: </p> <p>Resources: Staff, Consultants</p>	<p>Action 3.4.3.2. Provide floor area ratio (FAR) density bonuses for commercial and housing development that incorporate active agricultural management or open space preservation in their overall development design.</p> <p>Lead responsibility: PB</p> <p>Coordinate with: FC, AgCom, HB</p> <p>Timeframe: </p> <p>Resources: Staff</p>	<p>Action 3.4.3.3. Modify the Building Code as necessary to require excellence in energy efficiency for commercial and residential development, considering incorporation of the Massachusetts Stretch Energy Code and Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) green building standards into the code.</p> <p>Lead responsibility: EC</p> <p>Coordinate with: BD</p> <p>Timeframe: </p> <p>Resources: Staff</p>
---	--	--

Action 3.4.3.4. Consider proposing requirements for larger developments to include at least one passive building (with net-zero energy consumption) in new construction, retrofit, or redevelopment plans.

Lead responsibility: EC

Coordinate with: BD

Timeframe: 

Resources: Staff

Key to Timeframe Symbols used in this document. See page 3 for a glossary of abbreviations.

Critical Action	 Short term: 1-3 years/by 2018	 Short-medium term: 1-7 years	 Medium term: 4-7 years/by 2022	 Medium-long term: 4-10+ years	 Long term: 8-10+ years/2023 or later	 Ongoing
-----------------	--	---	---	---	---	--



Aspiration 4. Provides high quality services and amenities:

Boxborough is known for offering a high quality of life for its residents. The community endeavors to provide a balanced mix of housing, businesses, and services to enhance this high quality of life. Boxborough residents prize the community’s regional school system and excellent municipal services.

Goal 4.1. Ensure conservation and recreation attractions are well maintained, safe, and easy to access.

Strategy 4.1.1. Maintain and enhance trail networks.

Action 4.1.1.1. Maintain trail markers, kiosks, and boardwalks.

Lead responsibility: LS

Coordinate with: ConsCom, DPW

Timeframe:

Resources: Staff, Volunteers

Strategy 4.1.2. Ensure ease of access to conservation properties.

Action 4.1.2.1. Assess the need for additional off-street parking at conservation properties.

Lead responsibility: ConsCom

Coordinate with: RC, DPW, TP

Timeframe:

Resources: Staff

Action 4.1.2.2. Assess the need for bicycle parking at trailheads and other conservation properties.

Lead responsibility: ConsCom

Coordinate with: RC, LS, DPW, TP

Timeframe:

Resources: Staff, MAPC

Goal 4.2. Maintain excellent municipal facilities and services.

Strategy 4.2.1. Regularly review Town’s capital improvements needs and continue to plan for maintenance, in concert with the Town’s annual capital plan and Town Meeting.

Action 4.2.1.1. Continue to explore the creation of or finding locations for new Police and Fire Department facilities and Department of Public Works facilities.

Lead responsibility: BoS

Coordinate with: FC, PB, PFD, DPW, TP, CoA, ConsCom

Timeframe:

Resources: Staff

Action 4.2.1.2. Explore regionalization or sharing of key pieces of equipment which the Town needs on a part-time basis.

Lead responsibility: BoS

Coordinate with: FC, PFD, DPW

Timeframe:

Resources: Staff, MAPC

Key to Timeframe Symbols used in this document. See page 3 for a glossary of abbreviations.

Critical Action						
	Short term: 1-3 years/by 2018	Short-medium term: 1-7 years	Medium term: 4-7 years/by 2022	Medium-long term: 4-10+ years	Long term: 8-10+ years/2023 or later	

Goal 4.3. Enhance the quality and variety of recreation programs and facilities to meet current and future demand among all age groups and levels of ability.

Strategy 4.3.1. Address known recreational needs by upgrading or developing new facilities when feasible.

Action 4.3.1.1. Investigate options for the creation of a public swimming facility.

Lead responsibility: RC

Coordinate with: FC

Timeframe:

Resources: CPA

Action 4.3.1.2. Investigate the feasibility of developing tennis and basketball courts at Liberty Fields and Fifer’s Field.

Lead responsibility: RC

Coordinate with: FC

Timeframe:

Resources: CPA

Action 4.3.1.3. Develop a consensus regarding the creation of bike and horse trails and create a plan for making these improvements where they are deemed appropriate.

Lead responsibility: RC

Coordinate with: ConsCom, LS

Timeframe:

Resources: Staff, Consultants

Action 4.3.1.4. Consider demand for, find appropriate locations for, and develop additional playing fields.

Lead responsibility: RC

Coordinate with: FC, TP

Timeframe:

Resources: CPA

Action 4.3.1.5. Improve and update the playground at Flerra Field.

Lead responsibility: RC

Coordinate with: DPW

Timeframe:

Resources: Staff, CPA

Strategy 4.3.2. Identify recreational needs, particularly for teens and seniors.

Action 4.3.2.1. Survey teens and seniors to determine specific needs.

Lead responsibility: RC

Coordinate with: CoA, SC, CSC

Timeframe:

Action 4.3.2.2. Coordinate with schools and Council on Aging to establish new recreational programs for teens and seniors.

Lead responsibility: RC

Coordinate with: CoA, SC, CSC

Timeframe:

Key to Timeframe Symbols used in this document. See page 3 for a glossary of abbreviations.

Critical Action						
	Short term: 1-3 years/by 2018	Short-medium term: 1-7 years	Medium term: 4-7 years/by 2022	Medium-long term: 4-10+ years	Long term: 8-10+ years/2023 or later	



Aspiration 5. Is conscientious about consumption: The community is conscientious about energy consumption and climate change resiliency. It seeks to reduce its carbon footprint through improvements in energy efficiency, high standards for building practices, reductions in its communitywide energy usage, and reduced reliance on fossil fuels.

Goal 5.1. Reduce the town’s overall carbon footprint.

Strategy 5.1.1. Actively explore options to adopt renewable energy generation sources for the town’s electricity needs.

Action 5.1.1.1. Collaborate with the Littleton Electric Light Department to expand its net metering program in order to allow continuation of solar installations, started by LittleBoxSolar, in the residential sector, and to create incentives for local businesses to install solar.

Lead responsibility: EC

Coordinate with: BD

Timeframe:

Resources: Staff, MAPC, LELD

Action 5.1.1.2. Seek guidance from MAPC on *Greening Boxborough*, the town’s long-range sustainability plan. One area for follow up is to assess the feasibility of solar photovoltaic (PV) panels on municipal roofs.

Lead responsibility: EC

Coordinate with: FC, BD

Timeframe:

Resources: Staff, MAPC, LELD

Action 5.1.1.3. Negotiate with Littleton Electric Light Department to have them change their policy on net metering to allow more than bi-directional net metering. This would allow the town to develop a community-shared system for solar for use by residents and businesses in town.

Lead responsibility: EC

Coordinate with: FC, BD

Timeframe:

Resources: Staff, MAPC, LELD

Strategy 5.1.2. Promote energy efficiency and conservation measures for all buildings in the municipal, residential, and commercial sectors.

Action 5.1.2.1. Collaborate with the Littleton Electric Light Department to create a communication strategy for available and expanded energy reduction incentive programs.

Lead responsibility: EC

Timeframe:

Resources: LELD

Action 5.1.2.2. Conduct outreach, awareness, and education programs for Boxborough’s residents and businesses regarding energy reduction strategies, and make this information available in an online resource library.

Lead responsibility: EC

Coordinate with: BD

Timeframe:

Resources: Staff, LELD, NG

Action 5.1.2.3. Encourage residents and businesses to reduce their energy consumption by 20%. Research and adopt means to measure reduction.

Lead responsibility: EC

Timeframe:

Resources: Staff, LELD, NG

Action 5.1.2.4. Reduce municipal building energy consumption by 20%. Use existing database established by Energy Committee to measure reductions.

Lead responsibility: EC

Coordinate with: BD

Timeframe:

Resources: Staff, LELD

Key: Critical Action



Short term



Short-medium term



Medium term



Medium-long term



Long term



Ongoing

Strategy 5.1.3. Develop mechanisms to support use of alternative fuel vehicles.

Action 5.1.3.1. Explore a plan for conversion of Town fleet to electric or hybrid vehicles.

Lead responsibility: EC

Coordinate with: FC, DPW, PFD

Timeframe:

Resources: Staff

Action 5.1.3.2. Explore a plan for using alternative fuel vehicles for municipal vehicles.

Lead responsibility: EC

Coordinate with: FC, SC

Timeframe:

Resources: Staff, ABRSD

Action 5.1.3.3. Explore a plan for incentives to encourage new residential developments to install electric vehicle (EV) charging stations.

Lead responsibility: EC

Coordinate with: PB

Timeframe:

Resources: Staff, LELED

Action 5.1.3.4. Explore a plan for incentives to encourage new and existing office developments to install electric vehicle charging stations.

Lead responsibility: EC

Coordinate with: PB

Timeframe:

Resources: Staff, LELED

Strategy 5.1.4. Implement strategies for climate change resiliency and adaptation.

Action 5.1.4.1. Complete a climate change resiliency action plan.

Lead responsibility: TP

Coordinate with: EC, AgCom, BoS, BoH, WRC

Timeframe:

Resources: Staff, MAPC, MAGIC, MassAudubon

Action 5.1.4.2. Implement climate change resiliency recommendations, including updating the Town’s Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Lead responsibility: TP

Coordinate with: BoH, AgCom, BoS, EC, DPW, WRC

Timeframe:

Resources: Staff, Consultants

Strategy 5.1.5. Pursue a Massachusetts Green Communities designation.

Action 5.1.5.1. Continue to pursue designation of Boxborough as a Green Community.

Lead responsibility: EC

Timeframe:

Resources: Staff

Key to Timeframe Symbols used in this document. See page 3 for a glossary of abbreviations.

Critical Action						
	Short term: 1-3 years/by 2018	Short-medium term: 1-7 years	Medium term: 4-7 years/by 2022	Medium-long term: 4-10+ years	Long term: 8-10+ years/2023 or later	



Aspiration 6. Is affordable and accessible: The community will work to ensure that local policies, housing supply, and housing prices support the ideal of a more inclusive, welcoming Boxborough so that current and prospective residents at all income levels, abilities, and in all stages of life can live here.

Goal 6.1. Increase the availability of housing in Boxborough, including subsidized, market rate, rental, and for sale homes.

Strategy 6.1.1. Continue current efforts to maintain and improve upon the availability of affordable homes.

Action 6.1.1.1. Monitor units on the Town’s Subsidized Housing Inventory to ensure compliance with affordability restrictions.

Lead responsibility: HB

Timeframe:

Resources: RHC

Action 6.1.1.2. Update the *Boxborough Housing Production Plan* as necessary.

Lead responsibility: HB

Coordinate with: TP

Timeframe:

Resources: Staff, RHC, Consultants

Action 6.1.1.3. Support the development of rental housing through the Comprehensive Permit process.

Lead responsibility: HB

Timeframe:

Resources: Staff

Action 6.1.1.4. Identify strategies that would allow extremely-low income and very-low income households to access rental housing through tenant-based rental assistance programs.

Lead responsibility: HB

Timeframe:

Resources: Staff

Strategy 6.1.2. Support the development of a diverse mix of housing that meets the needs of Boxborough residents across all income and age groups.

Action 6.1.2.1. Identify ways to develop housing in Boxborough that is affordable to households with moderate incomes.

Lead responsibility: HB

Timeframe:

Resources: Staff

Action 6.1.2.2. Develop a down-payment assistance program that could be used in conjunction with LIP/Chapter 40B homeownership projects.

Lead responsibility: HB

Coordinate with: FC

Timeframe:

Resources: Staff, CPA, RHC

Action 6.1.2.3. Prioritize seniors’ housing needs, such as accessibility features, in the permitting and development of all multi-family development projects.

Lead responsibility: PB

Coordinate with: CoA, HB

Timeframe:

Resources: Staff

Action 6.1.2.4. Analyze the prevalence of “tear-downs” in Boxborough to determine if the demolition of existing single-family homes is contributing to the limited supply of homeownership opportunities for moderate-income households.

Lead responsibility: PB

Timeframe:

Resources: Staff

Strategy 6.1.3. Proactively plan for Boxborough’s housing needs to improve the quality, design, and variety of available housing.

Action 6.1.3.1. Identify existing municipally owned parcels of land that are suitable sites for Local Initiative Program (LIP) affordable housing projects.

Lead responsibility: HB
 Coordinate with: TP
 Timeframe: 
 Resources: Staff

Action 6.1.3.2. Identify privately owned parcels of land that could be acquired by the Town for affordable housing development.

Lead responsibility: HB
 Coordinate with: TP
 Timeframe: 
 Resources: Staff, CPA

Strategy 6.1.4. Amend local policies and monitor regulatory compliance to reduce regulatory barriers and proactively plan for Boxborough’s housing needs.

Action 6.1.4.1. Review the Town’s Zoning Bylaw land use controls, including quadrangle requirements, to better understand how this requirement affects the development potential of oddly shaped, but otherwise suitable land parcels.

Lead responsibility: PB
 Coordinate with: TP
 Timeframe: 
 Resources: Staff

Action 6.1.4.2. Identify barriers to multi-family development, including use and intensity restrictions, in the Town’s Zoning Bylaw as a means to support more housing options in Boxborough.

Lead responsibility: PB
 Coordinate with: TP
 Timeframe: 
 Resources: Staff

Action 6.1.4.3. Analyze the efficacy of accessory dwelling units, both attached and detached, as a means to meet affordable housing needs in Boxborough. Review the bylaw language, as well as units that have been constructed since the bylaw was enacted, to determine if amendments are necessary to expand its use.

Lead responsibility: PB
 Coordinate with: TP
 Timeframe: 
 Resources: Staff

Strategy 6.1.5. Promote universal/ inclusive design for new construction and renovations to increase accessibility for all, including people with disabilities.

Action 6.1.5.1. Identify barriers to universal/ inclusive design in existing zoning bylaws and amend as necessary.

Lead responsibility: PB
 Coordinate with: CoA, DRB, CSC, BD
 Timeframe: 
 Resources: Staff, Consultants

Action 6.1.5.2. Improve recreational facilities beyond MassDOT and ADA guidelines, such as adding handicap accessible portable toilets at the Town’s recreational fields.

Lead responsibility: RC
 Coordinate with: FC, CoA, LS, ConsCom
 Timeframe: 
 Resources: Staff

Key to Timeframe Symbols used in this document. See page 3 for a glossary of abbreviations.

Critical Action						
	Short term: 1-3 years/by 2018	Short-medium term: 1-7 years	Medium term: 4-7 years/by 2022	Medium-long term: 4-10+ years	Long term: 8-10+ years/2023 or later	Ongoing



Aspiration 7. Is regionally well-connected: Boxborough sees itself as part of a regional economy with goods, services, employment, and gathering places nearby – sometimes in town, and sometimes in neighboring towns. Convenient access to regional transportation systems, including transit options, will help ensure efficient commuting options for Boxborough residents. Boxborough’s municipal government, including Town boards and committees, will collaborate with surrounding communities and regional entities.

Goal 7.1. Increase the quality, safety, accessibility, and reliability of transportation options for all income and age groups.

Strategy 7.1.1. Encourage active modes of transportation, such as walking and biking.

Action 7.1.1.1. Consider adoption of “Complete Streets” policy that would improve safe road access for all users, including bicyclists and pedestrians.

Lead responsibility: PB

Coordinate with: BoS, DPW, TP

Timeframe:

Resources: Staff, MAPC, Consultants

Action 7.1.1.2. Develop a prioritized plan for new sidewalks and bicycle infrastructure to connect to 1) schools, 2) recreational resources, 3) shopping/ dining, 4) Commuter Rail, and 5) residential areas. Include input from residents, businesses, and regional organizations in the plan.

Lead responsibility: PB

Coordinate with: RC, EDC, CoA, TP, DPW

Timeframe:

Resources: Staff, MAPC, Consultants

Action 7.1.1.3. Implement the 2003 *Economic Development Trail Master Plan* along Route 111/ Massachusetts Avenue.

Lead responsibility: PB

Coordinate with: DPW, ConsCom

Timeframe:

Resources: Staff, MassWorks, CPA

Action 7.1.1.4. Provide bicycle parking at destinations throughout town including but not limited to Town Hall, Fifer’s Field, Hayward Farm/ Oscar’s Burritos, Nashoba Valley Olympia, and additional capacity at Liberty Fields.

Lead responsibility: RC

Coordinate with: EDC, DPW, PB, TP

Timeframe:

Resources: Staff, MAPC

Strategy 7.1.2. Identify and promote solutions to improve local transportation options.

Action 7.1.2.1. Coordinate local transportation options to provide an on-demand shuttle that can serve commuters, reverse commuters, and local daytime trips.

Lead responsibility: BoS

Coordinate with: TA, CoA

Timeframe:

Resources: Staff, CrossTown, 495/ MW

Action 7.1.2.2. Explore new and innovative options to serve residents’ commuting needs, such as ride- or car-sharing services.

Lead responsibility: BoS

Coordinate with: TA, CoA

Timeframe:

Resources: Staff, CrossTown, 495/ MW

Key: Critical Action

Short term	Short-medium term	Medium term	Medium-long term	Long term	Ongoing	

Goal 7.2. Continue to engage in partnerships with surrounding towns and the region.

Strategy 7.2.1. Continue participation in regional planning conversations and decision-making.

Action 7.2.1.1. Continue participation in MAPC (Metropolitan Area Planning Council) and MAGIC (Minuteman Advisory Group on Interlocal Coordination) subregional council meetings and initiatives.

Lead responsibility: BoS

Coordinate with: PB, TP, TA

Timeframe:

Resources: Staff, MAPC

Action 7.2.1.2. Continue to advocate for regional transportation solutions with Regional Transportation Authorities (RTAs) and as a member of the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization, CrossTown Connect Transportation Management Association, and 495/MetroWest Partnership, and with other regional entities and neighboring towns.

Lead responsibility: BoS

Coordinate with: PB, TP, TA, CoA

Timeframe:

Resources: Staff, MAPC, MPO, CrossTown, 495/MW, Towns

Goal 7.3. Pursue regional approaches for open space and recreation.

Strategy 7.3.1. Explore opportunities to improve open space and recreation opportunities across municipal borders with neighboring communities.

Action 7.3.1.1. Identify recreational services and facilities in Boxborough and neighboring towns and plan for sharing of these facilities where feasible and desirable.

Lead responsibility: RC

Coordinate with: DPW

Timeframe:

Resources: Staff, MAPC, Towns

Action 7.3.1.2. Coordinate with neighboring communities to develop a regional open space and trail network.

Lead responsibility: TP

Coordinate with: ConsCom, RC, BoS

Timeframe:

Resources: Staff, MAPC, Towns

Key to Timeframe Symbols used in this document. See page 3 for a glossary of abbreviations.

Critical Action						
	Short term: 1-3 years/by 2018	Short-medium term: 1-7 years	Medium term: 4-7 years/by 2022	Medium-long term: 4-10+ years	Long term: 8-10+ years/2023 or later	

Boxborough2030



A Rural, Engaged Community for All

www.boxborough-ma.gov/boxborough2030

For more information, please contact:

Metropolitan Area Planning Council
60 Temple Place, 6th Floor
Boston, MA 02111
(617) 933-0700
www.mapc.org

Adam Duchesneau, AICP, Town Planner
Boxborough Town Hall, 29 Middle Road
Boxborough, MA 01719
(978) 264-1723
aduchesneau@boxborough-ma.gov