

COMMUNITY MASTER PLAN Town of Winchendon, MA

Presentation to Board of Selectmen February 8, 2021



Why do we have a Master Plan?

Required by Massachusetts General Law

Guide the town's growth and development

- Used by
 - Elected and appointed boards and committees
 - Residents, businesses, etc.
 - Staff
- To
 - Set priorities and policies
 - Inform actions, decisions, allocation of resources (time, attention, money)
- With the community's vision in mind

Community's Vision

Winchendon will be a town ...

- Embraces its
 - Heritage of craftsmanship
 - Entrepreneurial spirit
 - Civic engagement
 - Sense of community
- Abundant
 - Culture
 - Recreational opportunities
 - Natural Beauty
- A place that all are proud to call home
 - Improved quality of life for all
 - Sustainable local economy & improved infrastructure
 - Able to attract & retain families, youth

What's in this Guide to our Town's Growth & Development

7 chapters common to all recent Master Plans

- Land Use, Open Space, Economic Development, Housing, Historic & Cultural Resources, Transportation & Circulation, Services & Facilities
- Background: defines the topic, what it includes, challenges and opportunities
- Goals and Strategies: inform where and how to place our attention and resources
 - There are many interrelationship, overlaps across goals, strategies, chapters .. that need coordination ..that impact economic opportunities, tax base, quality of life

What's in this Guide to our Town's Growth & Development

2 chapters that are new to our Master Plan

- Community Health & Well-being, Communication & Engagement
- Recognize that people, not just the physical & natural qualities of our town are key to our future
 - Their opportunities for civic engagement
 - Their sense of community
 - Their entrepreneurial spirit
 - Their heritage of craftsmanship
 - Their contribution to and use of our town's cultural, recreational and natural beauty
 - Their contribution to making Winchendon a place all are proud to call home

What's in this Guide to our Town's Growth & Development

<u>https://www.townofwinchendon.com/sites/g/files/vyhlif4051/f/uploads/</u> <u>mp_final.pptx.pdf</u>

Cut and paste this link .. or go to Town Website

townofwinchendon.com

Click on Planning & Development under the Department tab Click on Master Plan Volume 1 in the blue directory on the left side of the page

Why do we have a Master Plan?

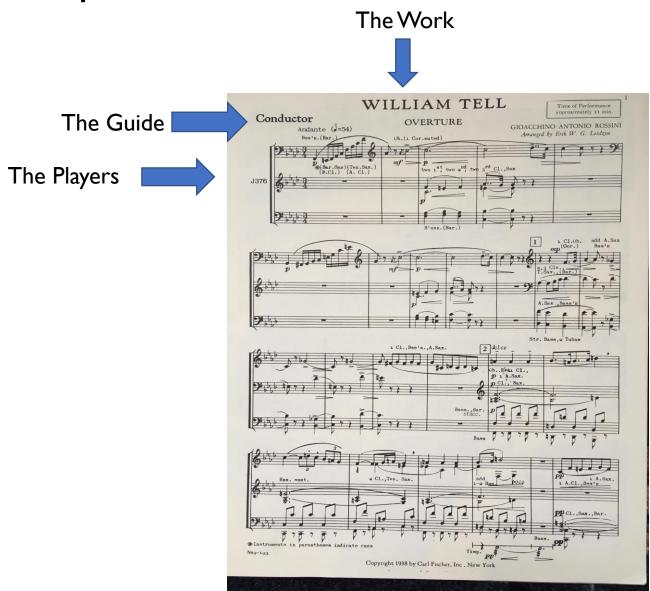
Guide the town's growth and development

- Set priorities, policies
- Inform actions, decisions, allocation of resources

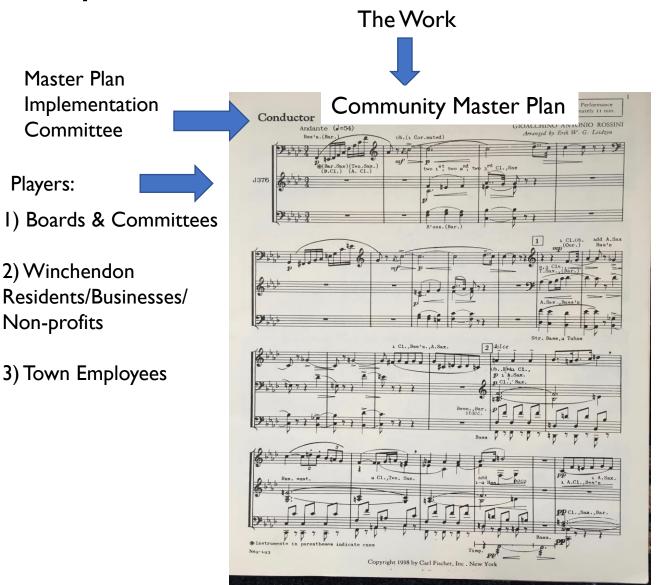
However

A Master Plan only works ... only makes a difference when it is used ... and used effectively

Implementation of the Master Plan: "How?"



Implementation of the Master Plan: "How?"



The Work: Community Master Plan

- Public comment incorporated
- Planning Board approved
- Parts assigned
- Awaiting implementation

The Players:

- Boards & Committees
 - Elected or appointed/approved volunteers
 - Assigned "Lead" and "Contributor" parts
- Winchendon Residents/Businesses/Non-profits
 - Beneficiaries
 - Potential volunteers
 - Official and unofficial opportunities to contribute
- Town Departments
 - Paid employees
 - Assigned "Lead" and "Contributor" parts
- All
 - Use MP as lens for strategic decisions
 - Balance with operating responsibilities

The Guide: The Master Plan Implementation Committee (MPIC)

- Spokespersons for MP
- Appointed by Board of Selectmen (BOS)
- 5 7 Members
 - Supplemented by Advisors
- Reports to BOS
- Given authority
 - Meet with MP Contributors and Leads
- Has a staff liaison
- Operates under MPIC responsibilities...

MPIC Responsibilities

- Coordinate and monitor implementation
- Collaborate with players to develop and track execution goals
 - Assist with goals that require additional resources
- Encourage ongoing citizen engagement
- Assess status of specific actions, evaluate priorities, and suggest new implementation techniques where appropriate
- Identify successful strategies and barriers to progress
- Periodically evaluate the plan
- Create a mechanism to provide updates and progress reports to the Board of Selectmen

Does the Board of Selectmen agree with the concept of the MPIC and its responsibilities?

MPIC Member Qualifications

- Demonstrated interest in and knowledge of MP
 - What aspect of the MP appeals to you?
- Winchendon resident or have vested interest
- Demonstrated team player
- Demonstrated reliability and commitment to another effort
- At least one of these qualifications:
 - Project management
 - Communications
 - Town history
 - Knowledge of "how things work"
- Able to commit to time and MPIC responsibilities
 - 8 10 hours over first 8 weeks
 - Monthly meetings thereafter

MPIC Advisors

- Identified and recruited by MPIC on an as-needed basis
- Roster of individuals with specific expertise or knowledge, ex.:
 - Grant writers
 - Neighboring committees/town department representatives
 - Non-profit representatives
 - Clergy
 - Elected officials
 - Small business owners
 - School administrators
- Available "on call"
- Available for occasional MPIC meetings

What's Next?

- Board of Selectmen
 - Adopt Master Plan as written
 - Establish MPIC tonight
 - Post Membership Qualifications
 - Vet and appoint MPIC members ASAP
 - Place MP Overview in 2020 Town Report

Ready? Set? Go!

