



WENHAM ACTION PLAN

ADOPTED JUNE 13, 2024

J M G O L D S O N

CAMBRIDGE ECONOMETRICS



Photo by Michael Porta

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INTRODUCTION

IMPLEMENTATION FRAMEWORK

The Wenham Master Plan Action Plan outlines a wide range of strategies to achieve the Master Plan's vision and goals. The Master Plan is comprised of 105 actionable strategies grouped into five core themes.

To coordinate and oversee these varied actions, the Town could consider creating a Master Plan Implementation Committee (MPIC). If appointed, the MPIC shall work with these various parties in a supportive and collaborative role to:

1. Assist in understanding how the Master Plan integrates with their existing priorities, programs, and services.
2. Advocate to stay on track with the implementation strategies assigned to them.
3. Liaise with and promote collaboration among Town boards, committees, departments, and residents on implementation tasks that require additional planning work.

The MPIC shall also:

1. Coordinate with the Planning Board to track and evaluate the Town's progress on implementation of Master Plan strategies, on an annually to establish priorities based on needs, funding and staff availability, as well as identify issues or constraints and barriers to progress, and determine if conditions have changed or new information has become available that could affect the implementation activities, responsibility assignment, and completion schedule.
2. Prepare and provide an annual progress report to the Select Board, Planning Board, and Finance Advisory Committee.
3. Advocate with various decision-making entities to carry forward Master Plan implementation strategies
4. Secure community support for proposed Master Plan implementation actions by keeping citizens actively engaged in planning and committed to the success of the Master Plan through public education, web site information, and social media.

Strategy Types are the following:



Physical/
Design/
Acquisition



Programmatic

Responsible Entities

Responsible department, committee, or organization of the strategy, and any other organizations that could be involved.

Core Themes Statutory Elements are the following:



LIVE: Housing and
Demographics



PROTECT AND ADAPT:
Sustainability, Natural
Resources, Water, and
Air Quality



WORK AND GROW:
Economic Development
and Fiscal Impacts



PLAY: Open Space
and Recreation



GETTING AROUND:
Transportation and
Mobility



SERVE: Public Facilities
and Services



PRESERVE AND
CONNECT: Historic and
Cultural Resources



ORGANIZE: Land Use

ACTION PLAN STRATEGY GUIDE:

Goals are conditions to aim for that help the community achieve its vision over time.



GOAL 1 ADVANCE PRIORITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SITES TO BE MARKET-READY FOR DEVELOPMENT.

Strategies are actionable ways that the Town will work to achieve goals.

STRATEGY 1A

Coordinate with the Town of Hamilton and the Hamilton Development Corporation to plan for improvements to the T Station area adjacent to the Hamilton commercial area.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

This strategy builds on the 2014 Hamilton Wenham Village Vision and Action Plans. With enhanced access to commuter rail, Wenham can offer improved transportation access to its residents and commuters. The commuter rail station improvements can also support future residential and commercial development in Wenham near the station.

the following:

- Regulatory/Policy
- Capacity Building



STRATEGY TYPE

Programmatic

Sequencing are either of the following timings:

- near-term (0-3 years)
- mid-term (4-7 years)
- long-term (8-10 years)

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Reponsible Town Department:
Town Administrator
Land Use

Supporting Town Board:
Planning Board

Supporting Board or Local Organization:
Zoning Board of Appeals

SEQUENCING



FUNDING

Potential Non-Local Funding Source:
Rural Development Fund
Community Planning Grant Program
Community One Stop for Growth

APPROXIMATE COST



less than \$50k

ies identifies lead re-ent, board or committee and any supporting boards that could help achieve it.

Following:
D ADAPT:
Natural Re-er, and Energy
Space and
Facilities
Land Use

Funding identifies potential existing sources, such as the Town Budget, or outside sources, such as grants.

Approximate Costs are the following:

\$	\$\$
less than \$50k	\$50k to \$250k
\$\$\$	\$\$\$\$
\$250k to \$1M	more than \$1M

CORE THEME ONE

FISCALLY AND SUSTAINABLY BALANCED ECONOMIC GROWTH



THEME VISION

BY 2034, WENHAM HAS FOSTERED SENSIBLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TO INCREASE THE COMMERCIAL TAX BASE. WE PROMOTE AND SUSTAIN SMALL, LOCALLY OWNED SHOPS, MARKETS, AND RESTAURANTS WHICH HELP MAINTAIN OUR TOWN CENTER. WE HAVE STRATEGICALLY WELCOMED LIGHT INDUSTRY, BIOTECHNOLOGY, AND PROFESSIONAL OFFICE SPACES ADJACENT TO OUR MAJOR THOROUGHFARES WITHOUT COMPROMISING OUR NATURAL RESOURCES OR QUALITY OF LIFE.

METRICS FOR MEASURING SUCCESS

1. THE NUMBER OF COMMERCIAL OR MIXED-USE DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS PLANNED, IN PROGRESS, AND COMPLETED WITH POSITIVE NET FISCAL IMPACTS.
2. THE NUMBER OF HOUSING UNITS PLANNED, IN PROGRESS AND COMPLETED IN WENHAM WITH POSITIVE NET FISCAL IMPACTS.
3. THE NUMBER OF SITES IDENTIFIED AND/OR PREPARED BY THE TOWN TO BE MARKETED FOR SALE/DEVELOPMENT AND THEIR POTENTIAL FISCAL IMPACT.
4. REDUCTION IN AVERAGE TAX RANKING/TAX BILL IN WENHAM IN COMPARISON TO NEIGHBORING COMMUNITIES IN ESSEX COUNTY.



Photo by Steve Rosenthal



ADVANCE PRIORITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SITES TO BE MARKET-READY FOR DEVELOPMENT.

STRATEGY 1A

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STRATEGY TYPE

Programmatic

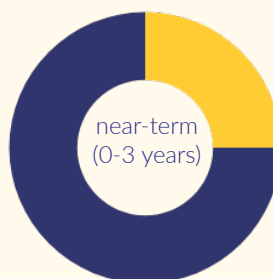
RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Town Administrator
Land Use

Supporting Town Board:
Planning Board

Supporting Board or Local Organization:
Zoning Board of Appeals

SEQUENCING



FUNDING

Potential Non-Local Funding Source:
Rural Development Fund
Community Planning Grant Program
Community One Stop for Growth

APPROXIMATE COST



less than \$50k



ADVANCE PRIORITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SITES TO BE MARKET-READY FOR DEVELOPMENT.

STRATEGY 1B

Collaborate with key property owners, including Gordon College, to plan for future economic development opportunities as they arise.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

Many of the large tracts of developable land are privately owned. As Wenham looks to grow and expand its opportunities for economic development in the coming decade, the Town should pursue partnerships with these property owners to plan for potential opportunities, shape growth, and consider acquisition (or versions of site control) to advance development possibilities.



STRATEGY TYPE

Capacity Building

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Town Administrator
Land Use

Supporting Town Board:
Planning Board

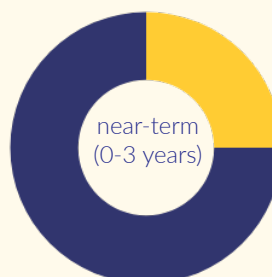
Supporting Board or Local Organization:
Zoning Board of Appeals
Select Board

FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
Capital Improvement Fund

Potential Non-Local Funding Source:
Rural Development Fund
Community One Stop for Growth

SEQUENCING



APPROXIMATE COST



less than \$50k

GOAL 1

ADVANCE PRIORITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SITES TO BE MARKET-READY FOR DEVELOPMENT.

STRATEGY 1C

Consider development opportunities in Wenham's Town Center and Wenham Village and strategically located privately owned parcels.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

This strategy encourages the consideration of commercial and mixed-use development types in Wenham's Town Center and other areas that are deemed appropriate to support more business development and growth in Wenham. This strategy can help Wenham achieve its goals of sustainable and well-balanced economic growth.



STRATEGY TYPE

Physical / Design / Acquisition

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Town Administrator
Land Use

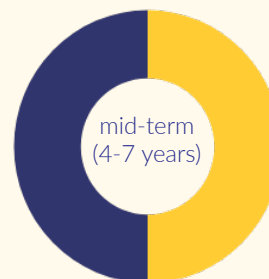
Supporting Town Board:
Planning Board
Zoning Board of Appeals
Select Board

FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
General Fund

Potential Non-Local Funding Source:
Rural Development Fund
Community Planning Grant Program
Community One Stop for Growth

SEQUENCING



APPROXIMATE COST

\$\$
\$50k to \$250k



Photo by Town of Wenham

GOAL 2

SHAPE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES TO ENSURE DEVELOPMENTS ARE APPROPRIATE IN SCALE, DESIGN, AND USE TYPES FOR THE **WENHAM** COMMUNITY.

STRATEGY 1D

Apply and refine the fiscal analysis Dashboard tool provided by Cambridge Econometrics developed for the Master Plan to help assess the revenue, community benefits, and fiscal impacts of proposed development projects with consideration of the findings presented in the Cambridge Econometrics Fiscal Impacts Report.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

This strategy refers to the Fiscal Analysis Dashboard created by Cambridge Econometrics as part of the Wenham Master Plan. The tool allows Wenham Administrators and Planners to determine the potential fiscal (tax and expenditure) impacts associated with different types of development projects. It is a useful way to envision the future development of underutilized or vacant parcels in the Town.



STRATEGY TYPE

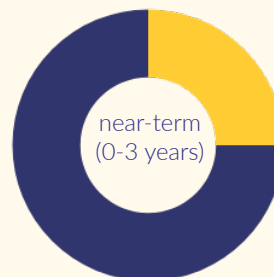
Physical / Design / Acquisition

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Town Administrator

Supporting Town Board:
Planning Board
Select Board

SEQUENCING



FUNDING

Potential Non-Local Funding Source:
General Fund

APPROXIMATE COST



less than \$50k

GOAL 2

SHAPE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES TO ENSURE DEVELOPMENTS ARE APPROPRIATE IN SCALE, DESIGN, AND USE TYPES FOR THE **WENHAM** COMMUNITY.

STRATEGY 1E

Conduct feasibility studies to understand economic development opportunities and market-readiness of key sites, such as properties near the Beverly Airport, and other appropriate sites, to develop a pipeline of diverse properties for potential commercial and mixed uses. For town-owned properties with development potential, like Iron Rail, undertake a 30B disposition process to select an appropriate developer based on the pending Best Use study.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

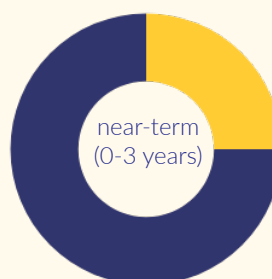
This strategy aims to position Wenham for future economic development. A feasibility study assesses how practical a proposed plan or project is within the context of a given site. By understanding which sites are developable, and what kinds of development opportunities are best suited to each site, the Town can more easily move forward in the development process as properties become available. This goes along with a goal of developing a portfolio of 'market ready' sites and buildings over time.



STRATEGY TYPE

Physical / Design / Acquisition

SEQUENCING



RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Town Administrator
Land Use

Supporting Town Board:
Planning Board

Supporting Board or Local Organization:
Zoning Board of Appeals

APPROXIMATE COST

FUNDING

Potential Non-Local Funding Source:
MassDev Site Readiness Program
MassDev Underutilized Properties
Rural Development Fund
Community One Stop for Growth



\$50k to \$250k

GOAL 2

SHAPE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES TO ENSURE DEVELOPMENTS ARE APPROPRIATE IN SCALE, DESIGN, AND USE TYPES FOR THE **WENHAM** COMMUNITY.

STRATEGY 1F

Reinstitute the Economic Development Committee or non-profit volunteer Economic Development Planning organization and provide them with a clear charge and resources to effectively implement Wenham's economic development strategy and support long-term economic development.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

This strategy aims to increase the Town's capacity to foster economic development. By reinstating this committee or creating a volunteer board, the Town could focus more resources and energy on economic development opportunities in Wenham, and supplement the limited capacity of existing town staff resources.



STRATEGY TYPE

Programmatic

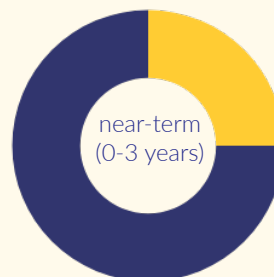
RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Town Administrator

FUNDING

Potential Non-Local Funding Source:
Community One Stop for Growth
Community Planning Grant Program

SEQUENCING



APPROXIMATE COST



less than \$50k

GOAL 2

SHAPE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES TO ENSURE DEVELOPMENTS ARE APPROPRIATE IN SCALE, DESIGN, AND USE TYPES FOR THE **WENHAM** COMMUNITY.

STRATEGY 1G

Regularly review the rules and regulations governing the subdivision of land to adhere to state requirements and best practices for sustainable development every 5-10 years.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

Massachusetts has ten sustainable development principles to promote sustainable development that balance environmental conservation with new growth. This strategy aims to help Wenham update the Town regulations to align with state requirements to protect the natural environment. Sustainable development refers to development that is cognizant of and works to minimize its environmental impacts.



STRATEGY TYPE

Programmatic

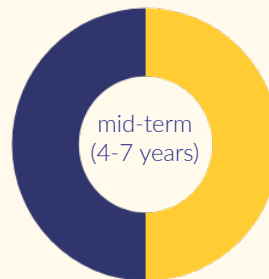
RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Land Use
Planning Board

FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
General Fund

SEQUENCING



APPROXIMATE COST



less than \$50k

GOAL 2

SHAPE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES TO ENSURE DEVELOPMENTS ARE APPROPRIATE IN SCALE, DESIGN, AND USE TYPES FOR THE **WENHAM** COMMUNITY.

STRATEGY 1H

Develop requirements and/or incentives for new developments for enhanced local environmental standards such as: reduced fossil fuel use, preserving tree canopy, providing infrastructure for recycling water, no sprinklers, xeriscaping, solar energy, or others.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

This strategy aims to help Wenham enforce sustainability measures with new developments, lessening the Town's environmental impacts and improving the resiliency of new development projects to the impacts of climate change.



STRATEGY TYPE

Regulatory/ Policy

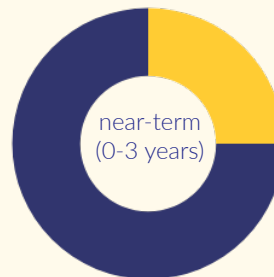
RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Building Department

Supporting Town Board:
Zoning Board of Appeals

Supporting Board or Local Organization:
Conservation Commission

SEQUENCING



FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
General Fund

APPROXIMATE COST



less than \$50k

GOAL 2

SHAPE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES TO ENSURE DEVELOPMENTS ARE APPROPRIATE IN SCALE, DESIGN, AND USE TYPES FOR THE **WENHAM** COMMUNITY.

STRATEGY 1I

Consider creating a full-time planning role to increase Town planning capacity to undertake additional responsibilities for supporting sustainable development opportunities, including interacting with business prospects, addressing technical site issues, creating zoning and ensuring development review.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

As Wenham seeks to make zoning changes and encourage new development, a full-time planner would increase the Town's capacity to dedicate time and energy towards these initiatives. A full-time planner could help to guide the process of rezoning and review plans for development, helping the Town to navigate these processes moving forward.



STRATEGY TYPE

Capacity Building

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

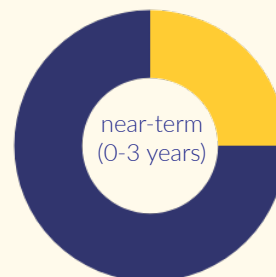
Lead Responsible Town Department:
Town Administrator

Supporting Town Board:
Planning Board

FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
General Fund

SEQUENCING



APPROXIMATE COST

\$\$

\$50k to \$250k

GOAL 3

PROMOTE A VIBRANT, WALKABLE TOWN CENTER AND TRAIN STATION AREA BY INCORPORATING A SUSTAINABLE MIX OF WELL-DESIGNED COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL USES SENSITIVE TO THE COMMUNITY'S HISTORIC AND SMALL-TOWN CHARACTER.

STRATEGY 1J

Allow mixed-use opportunities in the MBTA overlay district and/or areas near train station that reposition appropriate sites for adaptive reuse including multi-family residential, mixed-use, and commercial uses.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

This strategy builds on the MBTA Communities multi-family zoning law (3A) and is a way to encourage the development of more housing options, walkable districts, and increase the opportunities for economic development. Adaptive reuse can help to transform underutilized properties, lower the cost of developing new properties, and maintain the existing fabric of the Town.



STRATEGY TYPE

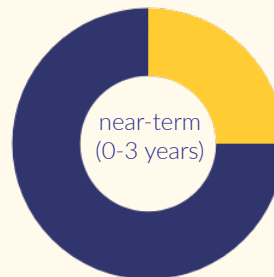
Regulatory / Policy

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Land Use

Supporting Town Board:
Planning Board
Zoning Board of Appeals

SEQUENCING



FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
General Fund

Potential Non-Local Funding Source:
MassDOT Complete Streets
Shared Streets and Spaces
MA Housing Development Programs

APPROXIMATE COST



less than \$50k



PROMOTE A VIBRANT, WALKABLE TOWN CENTER AND TRAIN STATION AREA BY INCORPORATING A SUSTAINABLE MIX OF WELL-DESIGNED COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL USES SENSITIVE TO THE COMMUNITY’S HISTORIC AND SMALL-TOWN CHARACTER.

STRATEGY 1K

Consider 1) amending zoning at key sites, such as Iron Rail and portions of Gordon College property, to expand opportunities and support a broader range of uses, and/or 2) applying a Great Estate Preservation Development overlay, like the Town of Ipswich, to balance new commercial uses with conservation.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

Current zoning at these key sites is restrictive in allowable uses, which limits the potential for future developments that could occur on these sites. To increase opportunities for economic development at these key sites, Wenham should consider amending the zoning code to allow a greater range of business and residential uses. An overlay district is one way to make zoning changes without fully changing the underlying zoning ordinance.



STRATEGY TYPE

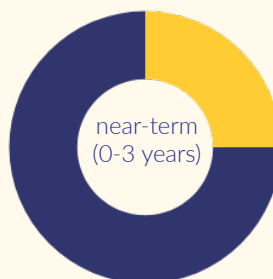
Regulatory / Policy

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Land Use

Supporting Town Board:
Planning Board
Zoning Board of Appeals

SEQUENCING



FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
General Fund

APPROXIMATE COST



less than \$50k

GOAL 3

PROMOTE A VIBRANT, WALKABLE TOWN CENTER AND TRAIN STATION AREA BY INCORPORATING A SUSTAINABLE MIX OF WELL-DESIGNED COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL USES SENSITIVE TO THE COMMUNITY'S HISTORIC AND SMALL-TOWN CHARACTER.

STRATEGY 1L

Rezone residentially zoned areas with existing business uses (pre-existing non-conforming) to allow for expansion of existing businesses or new business formation in the future.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

Rezoning pre-existing non-conforming parcels is a way to ensure that future developments blend well into the existing fabric of a place. Pre-existing non-conforming businesses and buildings are difficult to redevelop if they are noncompliant with the existing zoning; by changing zoning to allow structures that are already existing, those sites are available for business growth, and some barriers to redevelopment are removed. This strategy is a way to promote local business growth and adaptive reuse of existing structures in Wenham, while recognizing the character of existing land use.



STRATEGY TYPE

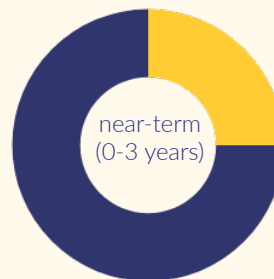
Regulatory / Policy

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Land Use

Supporting Town Board:
Planning Board
Zoning Board of Appeals

SEQUENCING



FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
General Fund

APPROXIMATE COST



less than \$50k

GOAL 3

PROMOTE A VIBRANT, WALKABLE TOWN CENTER AND TRAIN STATION AREA BY INCORPORATING A SUSTAINABLE MIX OF WELL-DESIGNED COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL USES SENSITIVE TO THE COMMUNITY'S HISTORIC AND SMALL-TOWN CHARACTER.

STRATEGY 1M

Conduct a Vibrancy Plan for Wenham Village and Town Center to gauge public support and evaluate commercial development opportunities for uses such as restaurant, retail and hospitality.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

A Downtown Vibrancy Plan will help Wenham tailor planning strategies to the specific context of the Town Center. This strategy aims to help Wenham reinvigorate its Town Center and meet the Town vision. The plan can focus on 1) the kinds of uses that should be included (or increased) in the Town Center; and 2) the sites/properties with the best opportunities to help meet these preferences.



STRATEGY TYPE

Programmatic

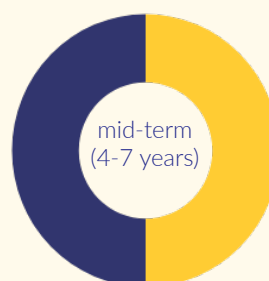
RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Town Administrator
Land Use

FUNDING

Potential Non-Local Funding Source:
MassDev Underutilized Properties
MassDev Site Readiness Program
Community Planning Grant Program
Community One Stop for Growth

SEQUENCING



APPROXIMATE COST



\$50k to \$250k

GOAL 4

STRIVE FOR BALANCED, AFFORDABLE, AND FAIR PROPERTY TAXES WITH ENHANCED REVENUE SOURCES THROUGH COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES.

STRATEGY 1N

Revisit consideration to negotiate payment in-lieu fees with exempt landowners to generate revenues, including from Gordon College and the Academy at Penguin Hall.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

Payment in Lieu of Taxes or “PILOT” programs allow cities and towns to generate revenue from properties that do not pay taxes. This is a common practice for higher education institutions and other tax-exempt properties to negotiate a contribution to their communities. This strategy aims to encourage negotiations between Wenham and specified tax-exempt properties to voluntarily opt in to a “PILOT” program to generate revenue for the Town.



STRATEGY TYPE

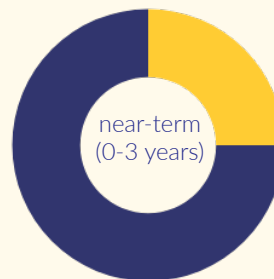
Regulatory / Policy

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Town Administrator

Supporting Town Board:
Finance/Accountant
Planning Board

SEQUENCING



FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
General Fund

APPROXIMATE COST



less than \$50k



Photo by Town of Wenham

CORE THEME TWO

EXCELLENT MUNICIPAL INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES



THEME VISION

BY 2034, WENHAM HAS PROVIDED EXCELLENT PUBLIC SERVICES, INCLUDING MODERNIZED SCHOOL AND RECREATION FACILITIES AND HAS SOUGHT FURTHER REGIONALIZATION WITH SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES TO ENSURE SOUND FISCAL POLICIES. WE HAVE STRENGTHENED OUR CELLULAR, WATER, AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY INFRASTRUCTURE TO ENSURE WE CONTINUE TO MEET DEMAND, ENSURE CLIMATE RESILIENCE, AND FACILITATE RESPONSIBLE ECONOMIC GROWTH. WENHAM IS KNOWN AS A COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT LEADER WITH ACCESSIBLE AND TRANSPARENT COMMUNICATIONS THAT ALLOW COMMUNITY MEMBERS TO EASILY ENGAGE WITH THE COMMUNITY, PARTICIPATE IN LOCAL DECISIONS, AND FOSTER STRONG CONNECTIONS. WE EMBRACE AND HONOR CULTURAL DIVERSITY AND PRIORITIZE EQUITY AND INCLUSION IN ALL MUNICIPAL PROCESSES.



METRICS FOR MEASURING SUCCESS

1. TOTAL REDUCTION IN FOSSIL FUEL ENERGY USED BY COMMERCIAL, RESIDENTIAL, AND MUNICIPAL PROPERTIES.
2. TOTAL INCREASE IN THE AMOUNT OF RENEWABLE ENERGY GENERATED BY COMMERCIAL, RESIDENTIAL, AND MUNICIPAL PROPERTIES.
3. THE PERCENTAGE OF MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS AND VEHICLES THAT ARE CONVERTED TO RENEWABLE ENERGY.
4. PERCENTAGE OF MUNICIPAL PROPERTIES WITH GREEN DESIGN ELEMENTS INSTALLED.
5. PERCENT OF HOUSING UNITS WITHIN OPERABLE RANGE OF CELL TOWERS/ TELECOMMUNICATIONS INFRASTRUCTURE.
6. THE PERCENTAGE INCREASE IN REGIONAL SERVICES AVAILABLE IN WENHAM THAT DEMONSTRATE COST SAVINGS FOR THE TOWN.
7. PERCENTAGE OF ALL SCHOOL CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS THAT ARE INTENDED TO MODERNIZE HAMILTON/WENHAM SCHOOLS, IN PLANNED, IN PROGRESS, AND COMPLETED.
8. NUMBER OF MUNICIPAL PLANNING INITIATIVES IN PROGRESS, COMPLETED, AND IMPLEMENTED THAT SUPPORT CONTEXTUALLY SENSITIVE DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITY RESILIENCE.



WELCOME REGIONALIZATION OPPORTUNITIES TO PROMOTE FISCAL SUSTAINABILITY.

STRATEGY 2A

Work with Hamilton to update the 2012 Athletic and Recreation Facilities Condition Assessment and Usage Report, conduct a needs assessment to determine necessary improvements, and require all Hamilton Wenham Regional School District and Hamilton/Wenham Athletic and Recreation departments to create water use plans.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

As a part of the 2012 Hamilton-Wenham Recreation Assessment & Master Plan, Gale Associates assessed all athletic and recreational facilities in both Towns. This strategy recommends an updated assessment to detail current conditions of facilities and determine necessary improvements as well as create plans for appropriate water use on athletic and recreational fields.



STRATEGY TYPE

Regulatory / Policy

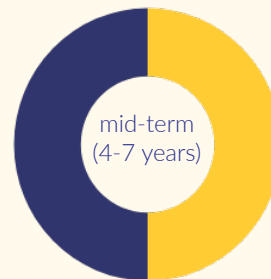
RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Recreation Department
Land Use

Supporting Town Board:
Planning Board

Supporting Board or Local Organization:
Hamilton-Wenham Joint Recreation Committee

SEQUENCING



FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
Community Preservation Act Fund

Potential Non-Local Funding Source:
Community Planning Grant Program

APPROXIMATE COST

\$\$
\$50k to \$250k



WELCOME REGIONALIZATION OPPORTUNITIES TO PROMOTE FISCAL SUSTAINABILITY.

STRATEGY 2B

Conduct a staffing capacity needs study and consider opportunities to further regionalize with neighboring municipalities.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

This strategy recommends conducting a staffing capacity needs assessment to determine department needs and explore regional opportunities to meet capacity shortfalls.



STRATEGY TYPE

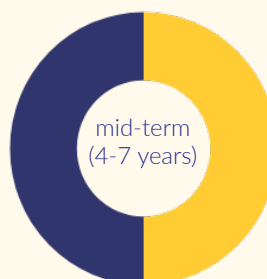
Regulatory / Policy

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Town Administrator
Human Resources

Supporting Town Board:
Finance and Advisory Committee
Town Government Study Committee

SEQUENCING



FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
General Fund

APPROXIMATE COST

\$\$
\$50k to \$250k



WELCOME REGIONALIZATION OPPORTUNITIES TO PROMOTE FISCAL SUSTAINABILITY.

STRATEGY 2C

Explore options to further regionalize public safety services with consideration of fiscal benefits, feasibility, legal constraints, and practicality.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

Regionalizing public safety measures can help the Town of Wenham provide the level of public safety service its residents need while responsibly pooling resources with other nearby communities.



STRATEGY TYPE

Capacity Building

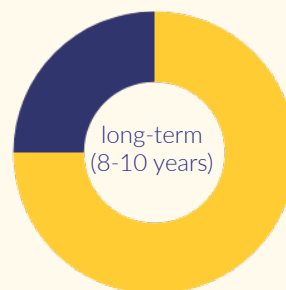
RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Town Administrator

Supporting Town Board:
Police Department
Fire Department

Supporting Board or Local Organization:
Planning Board

SEQUENCING



FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
General Fund

APPROXIMATE COST



less than \$50k



WELCOME REGIONALIZATION OPPORTUNITIES TO PROMOTE FISCAL SUSTAINABILITY.

STRATEGY 2D

Collaborate with Hamilton Wenham Regional School District to encourage and support planning, funding, and green execution of new and expanded buildings and collaborative maintenance services.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

The modernization of Hamilton-Wenham Regional School facilities was a key talking point during community engagements. Given the large price tag associated with green school construction and renovation, the Town should begin working closely with the School District and the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) to plan for this capital expense.



STRATEGY TYPE

Capacity Building

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Town Administrator
School Department

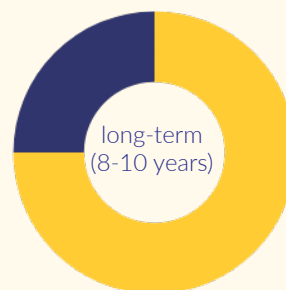
Supporting Town Board:
Department of Public Works

Supporting Board or Local Organization:
Planning Board

FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
Staff Time

SEQUENCING



APPROXIMATE COST

\$\$

\$50k to \$250k



WELCOME REGIONALIZATION OPPORTUNITIES TO PROMOTE FISCAL SUSTAINABILITY.

STRATEGY 2E

Consider municipal or regionally shared grant writer and human resources positions.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

As the Town maps out its capital planning and programmatic needs, Wenham should consider hiring additional employees. A grant-writer position or contract could identify and apply for state and federal funding opportunities. A Human Resources Director would assist with hiring and retention to specific departments, assist with general human resources, personnel questions, legal information, professional development, compensation, and organizational development.



STRATEGY TYPE

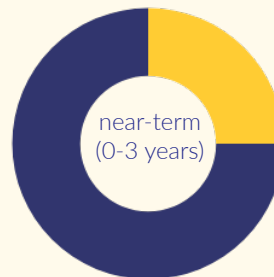
Capacity Building

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Town Administrator
Human Resources

Supporting Town Board:
Finance and Advisory Committee
Town Government Study Committee

SEQUENCING



FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
General Fund

APPROXIMATE COST



\$50k to \$250k



ENVISION PUBLIC REALM IMPROVEMENTS TO SUPPORT DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES, ZONING, DESIGN GUIDELINES, INFRASTRUCTURE, FUNDING MECHANISMS.

STRATEGY 2F

Increase funding, including through Community Preservation Act funds and private donations (such as through the existing Friends of Pingree Park Playground or other friends' groups), to improve public recreation sites and to include revitalization and upkeep funds.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

This strategy can help Wenham increase capacity and resources for maintaining and improving existing open space resources in the town.



STRATEGY TYPE

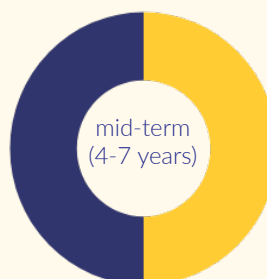
Regulatory / Policy

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Town Administrator
Finance Department

Supporting Town Board:
Community Preservation Committee
Conservation Commission

SEQUENCING



FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
Community Preservation Act Funds

APPROXIMATE COST

\$\$\$
\$250k to \$1M



ENVISION PUBLIC REALM IMPROVEMENTS TO SUPPORT DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES, ZONING, DESIGN GUIDELINES, INFRASTRUCTURE, FUNDING MECHANISMS.

STRATEGY 2G

Identify District Improvement Financing or other funding mechanisms for major public infrastructure improvements, such as streets and sewers, the MBTA station area, Beverly Airport, Boulder Lane, and Iron Rail.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

District Improvement Financing (DIF) is a locally enacted tool that would allow Wenham to identify and capture incremental tax revenue from private investment in a specific area and direct investment toward public improvement projects. Wenham could establish a DIF in strategic locations to assist with transportation and sewer infrastructure costs.



STRATEGY TYPE

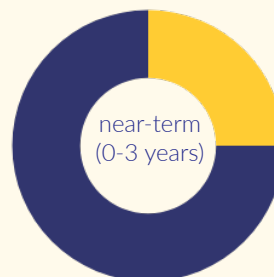
Regulatory / Policy

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Town Administrator's Office
Finance Department

Supporting Town Board:
Planning Board

SEQUENCING



FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
Staff Time

APPROXIMATE COST



\$50k to \$250k



ENVISION PUBLIC REALM IMPROVEMENTS TO SUPPORT DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES, ZONING, DESIGN GUIDELINES, INFRASTRUCTURE, FUNDING MECHANISMS.

STRATEGY 2H

Invest in capital improvements to modernize all school facilities.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

This strategy addresses the community-identified need for updated and modernized school facilities in Wenham. Through capital improvements, Wenham's schools can be better equipped to meet the educational needs of residents.



STRATEGY TYPE

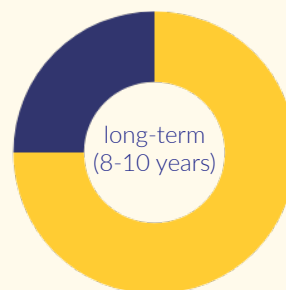
Physical / Design / Acquisition

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Finance Department
School Department

Supporting Town Board:
Select Board
Finance and Advisory Committee

SEQUENCING



FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
Bond/override

Potential Non-Local Funding Source:
Federal Safer Schools and Communities Initiative
Massachusetts School Building Authority

APPROXIMATE COST

\$\$\$\$\$
more than \$1M



ENVISION PUBLIC REALM IMPROVEMENTS TO SUPPORT DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES, ZONING, DESIGN GUIDELINES, INFRASTRUCTURE, FUNDING MECHANISMS.

STRATEGY 2I

Assess, review, and prioritize the replacement aging culverts, particularly those in high-risk flood zones.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

Replacing aging culverts can help Wenham improve environmental design and meet flood resiliency criteria. In a changing climate with more precipitation events, replacing outdated culverts will increase Wenham's resiliency to flooding, and reduce the Town's impact on surrounding watersheds during high precipitation events.



STRATEGY TYPE

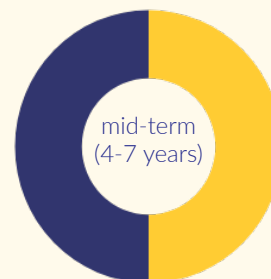
Physical / Design / Acquisition

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Department of Public Works
Land Use

Supporting Town Board:
Planning Board

SEQUENCING



FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
Capital Project Fund

Potential Non-Local Funding Source:
Massachusetts Division of Ecological Restoration Culvert Replacement Municipal Assistance Grant Program
MVP Action Grant

APPROXIMATE COST

\$\$\$
\$250k to \$1M

GOAL 2

ENVISION PUBLIC REALM IMPROVEMENTS TO SUPPORT DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES, ZONING, DESIGN GUIDELINES, INFRASTRUCTURE, FUNDING MECHANISMS.

STRATEGY 2J

Coordinate with town department heads to assess infrastructure and service needs and priorities of municipal facilities including recreation and school facilities.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

This strategy seeks to assess and improve Wenham's public infrastructure and facilities. By working with Wenham's department heads, the Town can better understand and address its infrastructural improvement needs.



STRATEGY TYPE

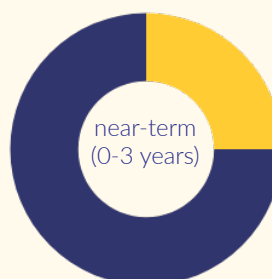
Capacity Building

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Town Administrator
Department of Public Works

Supporting Town Board:
Planning Board
School Department

SEQUENCING



FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
Staff Time

APPROXIMATE COST



less than \$50k



ENVISION PUBLIC REALM IMPROVEMENTS TO SUPPORT DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES, ZONING, DESIGN GUIDELINES, INFRASTRUCTURE, FUNDING MECHANISMS.

STRATEGY 2K

Invest in teachers, school facilities, and students to offer a high quality and well-rounded K-12 public education.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

This strategy can help maintain and improve the quality of education and school infrastructure conditions in wenham.



STRATEGY TYPE

Regulatory / Policy

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

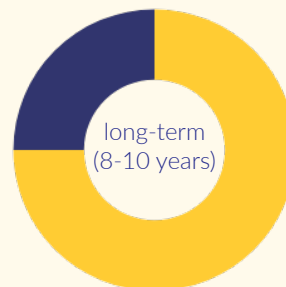
Lead Responsible Town Department:
Town Administrator
School Department

Supporting Town Board:
Finance and Advisory Committee

FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
General Fund

SEQUENCING



APPROXIMATE COST

\$\$\$\$\$

more than \$1M



UNDERTAKE EXPANDED PLANNING AND REGULATORY EFFORTS TO SUPPORT CONTEXTUALLY SENSITIVE DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITY RESILIENCE.

STRATEGY 2L

Expand design guidelines for new and infill development and adaptive reuse or renovation that encourage contextually sensitive design and reinforce neighborhood architectural aesthetics, with attention to historic properties.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

This strategy can help Wenham shape future development in accordance with the community's aesthetic preferences. Design guidelines can ensure that future developments not only meet zoning requirements, but also meet the aesthetic standards of Wenham residents and cohere with the existing Town fabric.



STRATEGY TYPE

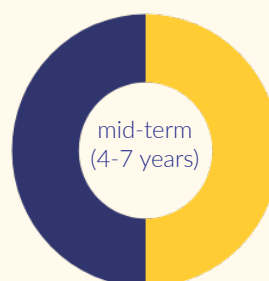
Regulatory / Policy

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Land Use
Planning Board

Supporting Town Board:
Zoning Board of Appeals
Historic District Commission

SEQUENCING



FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
General Fund

Potential Non-Local Funding Source:
Community One Stop for Growth

APPROXIMATE COST



less than \$50k



UNDERTAKE EXPANDED PLANNING AND REGULATORY EFFORTS TO SUPPORT CONTEXTUALLY SENSITIVE DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITY RESILIENCE.

STRATEGY 2M

Update the 2019 Hazard Mitigation Plan and Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Plan.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

The Town's Hazard Mitigation Plan and Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Report are more than five years old, and need to be updated to more accurately reflect the current and future needs of the Town.



STRATEGY TYPE

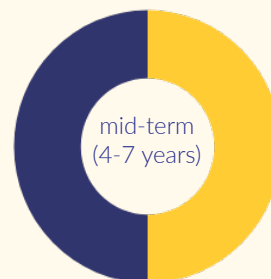
Regulatory / Policy

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Land Use

Supporting Town Board:
Open Space and Recreation Committee
Conservation Commission

SEQUENCING



FUNDING

Potential Non-Local Funding Source:
MVP Planning 2.0
Hazard Mitigation Grant Program
Community Planning Grant Program

APPROXIMATE COST



\$50k to \$250k



ACHIEVE COMMUNITY-WIDE NET-ZERO CARBON EMISSIONS BY 2040 AND BECOME A REGIONAL LEADER IN ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVES.

STRATEGY 2N

Implement a fleet management/replacement plan for vehicles to prioritize electrification upon replacement.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

This strategy can help Wenham upgrade its existing vehicle fleet and transition to more sustainable options upon replacement. Using electric vehicles is essential to meeting Wenham's infrastructural and sustainability goals.



STRATEGY TYPE

Physical / Design / Acquisition

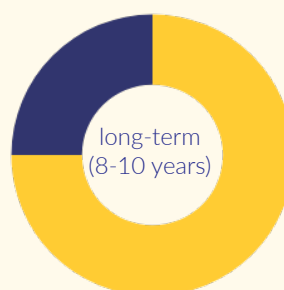
RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Town Administrator
Department of Public Works

Supporting Town Board:
Finance and Advisory Committee
Select Board

Supporting Board or Local Organization:
Hamilton-Wenham Climate Action Team

SEQUENCING



FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
General Fund

Potential Non-Local Funding Source:
MassEVIP Fleets
MassDEP

APPROXIMATE COST



\$50k to \$250k



ACHIEVE COMMUNITY-WIDE NET-ZERO CARBON EMISSIONS BY 2040 AND BECOME A REGIONAL LEADER IN ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVES.

STRATEGY 20

Consider establishing a Community Choice Aggregation program requiring at least 50 percent renewable energy sources.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

Community Choice Aggregation is a program that Wenham can use to switch over to cleaner energy sources. Residents can opt out of this program, and it allows their utilities to still be run through the same provider, while lowering the Town's overall carbon emissions.



STRATEGY TYPE

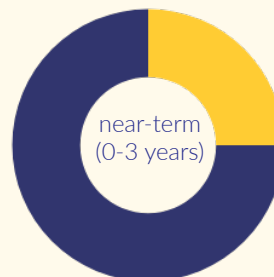
Programmatic

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Department of Public Works
Treasurer/Collector

Supporting Town Board:
Finance and Advisory Committee
Select Board

SEQUENCING



FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
Staff Time

APPROXIMATE COST



less than \$50k



ACHIEVE COMMUNITY-WIDE NET-ZERO CARBON EMISSIONS BY 2040 AND BECOME A REGIONAL LEADER IN ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVES.

STRATEGY 2P

Investigate opportunities to increase clean energy access in Wenham by using the elective pay option for Clean Energy Tax Incentives through the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022, including the Alternative Fuel Vehicle Refueling Property Credit.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

Elective pay allows tax-exempt and government entities to benefit from clean energy tax credits despite not owing federal taxes. Local governments can file Form 990-T to make the elective pay election in addition to any other required materials for each credit. The Alternative Fuel Vehicle Refueling Credit incentivizes electric vehicle refueling and charging stations in low-income and non-urban areas.



STRATEGY TYPE

Programmatic

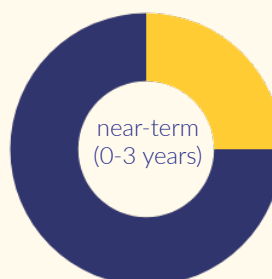
RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Department of Public Works

Supporting Town Board:
Finance and Advisory Committee

Supporting Board or Local Organization:
Select Board
Hamilton Wenham Climate Action Team

SEQUENCING



FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
Staff Time

APPROXIMATE COST



less than \$50k



ACHIEVE COMMUNITY-WIDE NET-ZERO CARBON EMISSIONS BY 2040 AND BECOME A REGIONAL LEADER IN ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVES.

STRATEGY 2Q

Revisit and invest in behavior-based energy reduction programs for users in the Town's highest energy consumption buildings (Hamilton-Wenham Schools; Iron Rail Building).

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

In 2015, Wenham and other North Shore towns hired a consultant to initiate and facilitate a behavior-based energy reduction program in local schools. This initiative sought to reduce energy consumption through building awareness among faculty, staff, and students, as well as managing school building operations.



STRATEGY TYPE

Programmatic

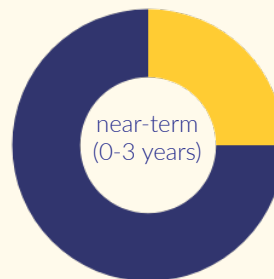
RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Department of Public Works
Building Department
School Department

Supporting Town Board:
Finance Advisory Committee
Iron Rail Commission

Supporting Board or Local Organization:
Hamilton-Wenham Climate Action Team

SEQUENCING



APPROXIMATE COST

FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
Staff Time



less than \$50k



ACHIEVE COMMUNITY-WIDE NET-ZERO CARBON EMISSIONS BY 2040 AND BECOME A REGIONAL LEADER IN ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVES.

STRATEGY 2R

Work with the Hamilton-Wenham Climate Action Team (HWCAT) to develop a five-year Strategic Action Plan to make specific recommendations for achieving net-zero.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

HWCAT is a volunteer organization that was created in 2022 with the intention of accelerating Hamilton and Wenham's transition to clean energy. This strategy encourages collaboration with this group to facilitate the development of an action plan with specific goals and recommendations to achieve their climate resolution (net-zero by 2040), which was approved by the Wenham Select Board on May 18, 2022.



STRATEGY TYPE

Regulatory / Policy

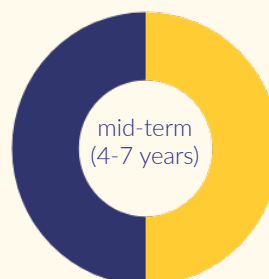
RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Land Use
Department of Public Works

Supporting Town Board:
Conservation Commission

Supporting Board or Local Organization:
Hamilton-Wenham Climate Action Team

SEQUENCING



FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
General Fund

Potential Non-Local Funding Source:
MAPC Technical Assistance Program
Community Planning Grant Program

APPROXIMATE COST



less than \$50k



REQUIRE GREEN DESIGN IN ALL PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENTS.

STRATEGY 2S

Consider requiring infrastructure to promote non-potable water distribution/use for public properties to help reclaim, recycle, and reuse water for non-drinking water purposes, such as a cistern system for collection and storage.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

This strategy calls for the development of a regulatory framework (permitting and oversight) to allow on-site water systems to collect and treat wastewater for non-potable uses such as landscaping and toilet flushing. On-site water systems can include rainwater collected from a roof, stormwater collected at grade, greywater, blackwater, and foundation drainage. On-site water collection, treatment, and reuse offers a way to diversify water supplies, improve stormwater management, and enhance the resilience of water systems.



STRATEGY TYPE

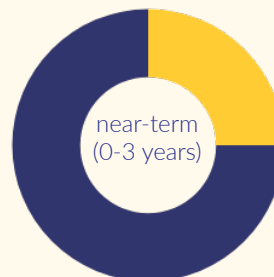
Regulatory / Policy

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Water Department
Department of Public Works

Supporting Town Board:
Planning Board

SEQUENCING



FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
Staff Time

APPROXIMATE COST



less than \$50k



REQUIRE GREEN DESIGN IN ALL PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENTS.

STRATEGY 2T

Require electrification and other green building design practices for new or renovated municipal buildings, and seek green building design certifications (e.g., LEED, Passive House, BREEAM, etc.).

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

This strategy can streamline Wenham's transition to powering municipal buildings with renewable energy. While electrifying the utilities, electricity origin can easily be converted to renewable sources. Green building design guidelines can also help build sustainable development practices into new municipal buildings, which can have a positive impact in the overall environmental impact of the town.



STRATEGY TYPE

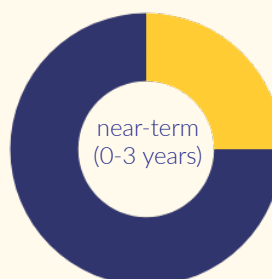
Regulatory / Policy

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Land Use
Building Department

Supporting Town Department:
Planning Board
Select Board

SEQUENCING



FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
Staff Time

APPROXIMATE COST



more than \$1M



REQUIRE GREEN DESIGN IN ALL PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENTS.

STRATEGY 2U

Install and require onsite or off-site renewables for municipal properties, such as ground solar and canopies in parking lots, and prioritize Hamilton Wenham Regional School District High School and Middle School roof replacement and solar installation.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

By lowering the carbon emissions created through powering these educational buildings, this strategy can help transition Wenham's public schools to renewable energy, improve Wenham's utility grid resilience, and meet other sustainability goals.



STRATEGY TYPE

Physical / Design / Acquisition

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Department of Public Works
School Department
Building Department

Supporting Town Board:
Planning Board

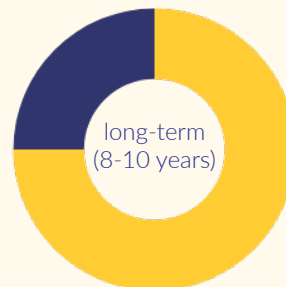
Supporting Board or Local Organization:
Hamilton Wenham Climate Action Team

FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
Staff Time

Potential Non-Local Funding Source:
Private Equity Investment

SEQUENCING



APPROXIMATE COST



more than \$1M



ENSURE DRINKING WATER INFRASTRUCTURE RESILIENCY AND CAPACITY TO CONTINUE MEETING THE POPULATION'S NEEDS.

STRATEGY 2V

Implement the recommendations of the North Shore Water Resilience Task Force for additional water storage options and/or alternative water sources such as the MWRA, as feasible.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

The NSWRTF aims to find solutions to the water supply issues of the Ipswich watershed area and employs a regional approach to watershed management. This strategy can help to ensure that the water supply in Wenham is both well protected and sufficient to meet the needs of the Town's residents.



STRATEGY TYPE

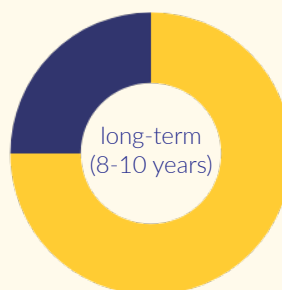
Physical / Design / Acquisition

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Town Administrator
Water Department

Supporting Town Board:
Planning Board
Conservation Commission

SEQUENCING



FUNDING

Potential Non-Local Funding Source:
SRF Drinking Water Program

APPROXIMATE COST

\$\$\$\$\$

more than \$1M



ENSURE DRINKING WATER INFRASTRUCTURE RESILIENCY AND CAPACITY TO CONTINUE MEETING THE POPULATION'S NEEDS.

STRATEGY 2W

Require non-potable water distribution/use by private industrial and commercial entities to reclaim, recycle, and reuse water for non-potable purposes by 2027.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

This strategy can help reduce some of the burden on Wenham's municipal potable water supply by industrial and commercial users. This will help conserve Wenham's drinking water supply and reduce the Town's water consumption levels, by recycling non-potable water through appropriate uses.



STRATEGY TYPE

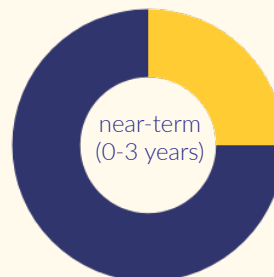
Regulatory / Policy

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Land Use
Water Department

Supporting Town Board:
Conservation Commission
Select Board

SEQUENCING



FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
Staff Time

APPROXIMATE COST



less than \$50k



STRENGTHEN WENHAM'S COMMUNITY COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT, INCLUDING THROUGH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY INFRASTRUCTURE.

STRATEGY 2X

Identify a strategic location for a cell tower or comparable technologies on Town-owned properties such as the Iron Rail property.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

This strategy will help the town generate tax revenue and increase the ability of Wenham to meet the telecommunication needs of the Town's residents.



STRATEGY TYPE

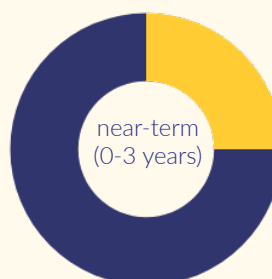
Physical / Design / Acquisition

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Land Use
Department of Public Works

Supporting Town Board:
Iron Rail Commission
Select Board

SEQUENCING



FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
General Fund

APPROXIMATE COST



less than \$50k



STRENGTHEN WENHAM'S COMMUNITY COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT, INCLUDING THROUGH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY INFRASTRUCTURE.

STRATEGY 2Y

Evaluate local telecommunications services to ensure they meet residents' needs for safety and remote working options.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

This strategy addresses the need to bolster the telecommunication services that are currently available in Wenham. Work patterns changed with the COVID-19 pandemic, and remote work and school patterns will continue. It is important that Wenham meets the infrastructural needs of its residents through improving its telecommunications network.



STRATEGY TYPE

Capacity Building

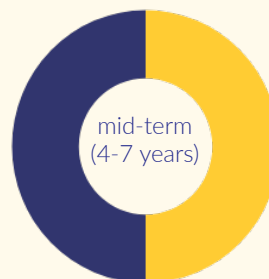
RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Town Administrator
Department of Public Works

FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
General Fund

SEQUENCING



APPROXIMATE COST



less than \$50k



STRENGTHEN WENHAM'S COMMUNITY COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT, INCLUDING THROUGH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY INFRASTRUCTURE.

STRATEGY 2Z

Implement community engagement initiatives based on the 2018 Wenham Citizen Engagement Best Practice Report, such as a Visual Budgeting Tool (such as the budgeting tool used in Arlington, MA), Citizens Academy, high school and college internships, Select Board and Town staff community engagement efforts and the like.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

This strategy seeks to build on the existing best practices put forth on the 2018 report to improve Wenham's community engagement efforts.



STRATEGY TYPE

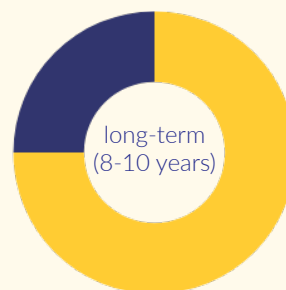
Programmatic

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Town Administrator
Recreation Department

Supporting Town Board:
Select Board
Cultural Council

SEQUENCING



FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
General Fund

APPROXIMATE COST



\$50k to \$250k

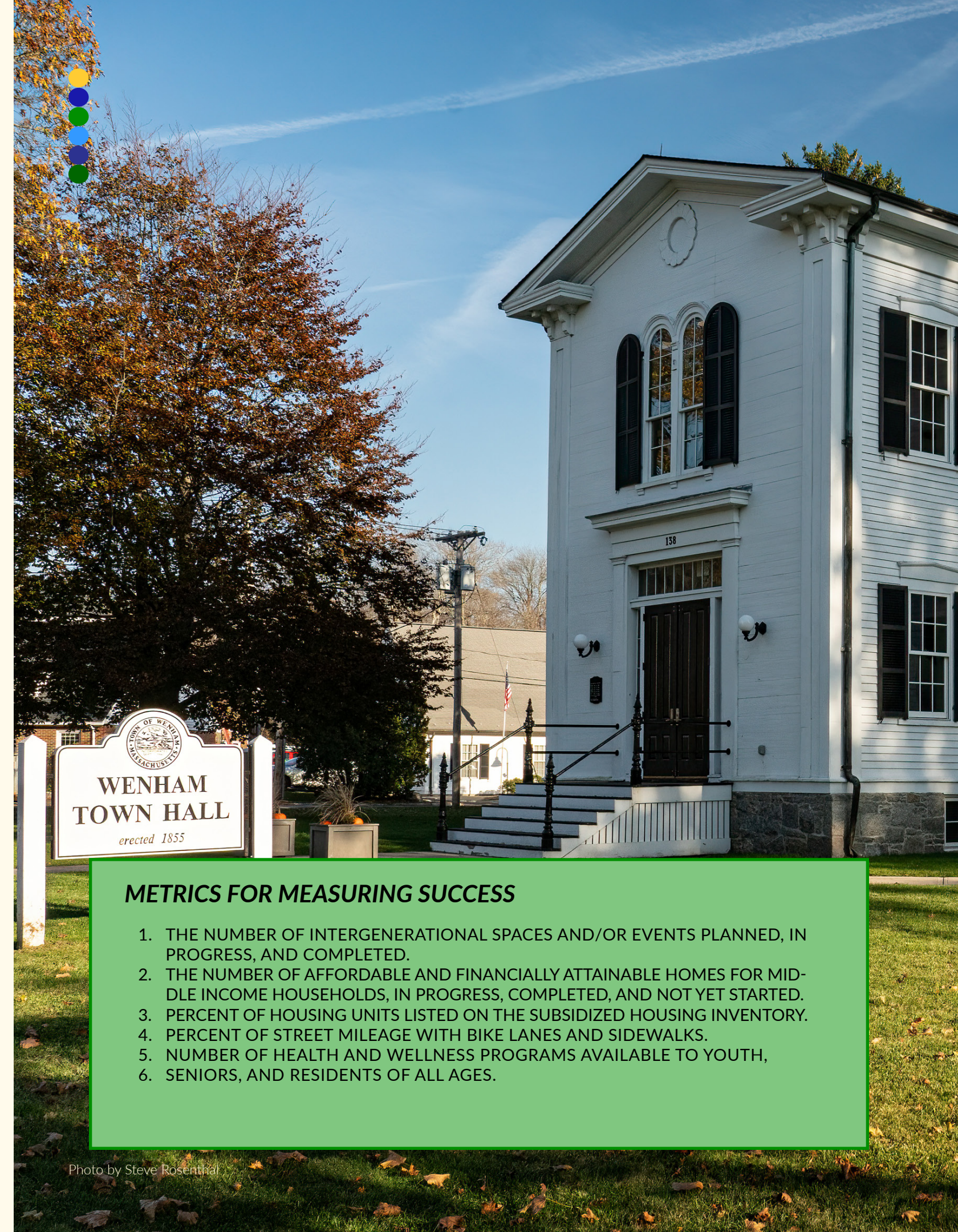
CORE THEME THREE

WORK TO BE INCLUSIVE FOR COMMUNITY MEMBERS AT ALL STAGES OF LIFE



THEME VISION

BY 2034, WENHAM HAS WORKED TO BE AN INCLUSIVE PLACE TO LIVE BY MAKING INVESTMENTS TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF LIFE FOR COMMUNITY MEMBERS AT ALL STAGES OF LIFE. WE ACTIVELY SEEK TO CULTIVATE COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS AND DIVERSIFY OUR HOUSING STOCK TO PROMOTE MORE AFFORDABLE AND ATTAINABLE HOUSING OPTIONS. OUR LOCAL ZONING REGULATIONS ARE KEPT MODERN TO PRIORITIZE SUSTAINABLE LAND USES AND ENCOURAGE AND STREAMLINE RESPONSIBLE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT TO ENSURE OUR HOUSING STOCK PROVIDES A VARIETY OF OPTIONS FOR RESIDENTS. WE CONTINUE TO THRIVE ON STRONG TRANSPORTATION AND SOCIAL NETWORKS. COMMUNITY MEMBERS ENJOY SAFE TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE DESIGNED TO ENHANCE OPTIONS FOR PEOPLE TO WALK AND BIKE TO LOCAL DESTINATIONS. WENHAM'S WALKABILITY AND BIKEABILITY EXTEND INDEPENDENT LIVING, BUILD SOCIAL CAPITAL, AND FACILITATE RESIDENT INTERACTION. RESIDENTS FEEL A SENSE OF PRIDE IN THE COMMUNITY BY KNOWING ONE ANOTHER AND HAVING SUPPORTIVE INTERGENERATIONAL NETWORKS.



WENHAM
TOWN HALL
erected 1855

METRICS FOR MEASURING SUCCESS

1. THE NUMBER OF INTERGENERATIONAL SPACES AND/OR EVENTS PLANNED, IN PROGRESS, AND COMPLETED.
2. THE NUMBER OF AFFORDABLE AND FINANCIALLY ATTAINABLE HOMES FOR MIDDLE INCOME HOUSEHOLDS, IN PROGRESS, COMPLETED, AND NOT YET STARTED.
3. PERCENT OF HOUSING UNITS LISTED ON THE SUBSIDIZED HOUSING INVENTORY.
4. PERCENT OF STREET MILEAGE WITH BIKE LANES AND SIDEWALKS.
5. NUMBER OF HEALTH AND WELLNESS PROGRAMS AVAILABLE TO YOUTH, SENIORS, AND RESIDENTS OF ALL AGES.
6. SENIORS, AND RESIDENTS OF ALL AGES.

GOAL 1

ENCOURAGE THE CREATION OF INTERGENERATIONAL AND GENERATION-SPECIFIC RECREATION AND ENTERTAINMENT EVENTS, PROGRAMMING, AND GATHERING SPACES.

STRATEGY 3A

Install “happy to chat” benches in public open spaces to encourage conversations and help combat isolation.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

“Happy to chat” benches are benches with signage that indicates those who sit on them are open to starting up conversations with passersby or other bench occupants. These are designed to help combat loneliness and isolation. Loneliness has been a real concern since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, especially among elderly populations. This strategy is a way for Wenham to foster connections among people and increase bench seating in public spaces.



STRATEGY TYPE

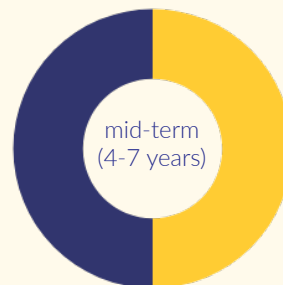
Physical / Design / Acquisition

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Land Use
Department of Public Works

Supporting Town Board:
Finance and Advisory Committee
Council on Aging

SEQUENCING



FUNDING

Potential Non-Local Funding Source:
AARP Massachusetts Small Dollar Big Impact Grant

APPROXIMATE COST



\$50k to \$250k



ENCOURAGE THE CREATION OF INTERGENERATIONAL AND GENERATION-SPECIFIC RECREATION AND ENTERTAINMENT EVENTS, PROGRAMMING, AND GATHERING SPACES.

STRATEGY 3B

Promote and encourage community connections, such as through the use of “Blue Zone” (areas globally where residents live significantly longer due to lifestyle and environmental factors) strategies and prioritizing social infrastructure in Wenham’s built environment.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

Blue Zones are areas globally where their population live significantly longer due to lifestyle and environmental factors. By implementing Blue Zone strategies and strengthening Wenham’s social infrastructure, this can help Wenham achieve the goal of working to be inclusive for community members of all ages.



STRATEGY TYPE

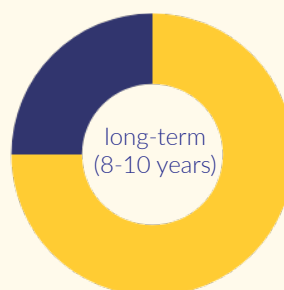
Programmatic

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Town Administrator
Council on Aging

Supporting Town Board:
Cultural Council

SEQUENCING



FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
Staff Time

APPROXIMATE COST



less than \$50k



FACILITATE DIVERSE AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING OPTIONS THAT ARE APPROPRIATE IN SCALE, DESIGN, AND LOCATION TO ENHANCE WENHAM AS A WELCOMING, SUPPORTIVE, AND LIVABLE COMMUNITY.

STRATEGY 3C

Consider amending the zoning bylaw to include provisions for development of housing options, including affordable housing, through means such as adaptive reuse of appropriate buildings.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

The conversion of single-family homes into two or three units can cost-effectively increase the number of housing units without needing to build new buildings, as well as provide lower-cost housing unit sizes for Wenham residents. The conversion of single-family homes can be permitted through a zoning overlay district or by changing the base zoning. This strategy expands the affordable housing options available in Wenham and preserves historic character by permitting the careful renovation of historic homes and estates.



STRATEGY TYPE

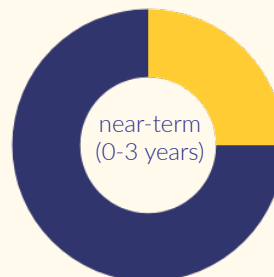
Regulatory / Policy

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Land Use

Supporting Town Board:
Planning Board
Zoning Board of Appeals

SEQUENCING



FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
General Fund

Potential Non-Local Funding Source:
Community One Stop for Growth

APPROXIMATE COST



less than \$50k



FACILITATE DIVERSE AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING OPTIONS THAT ARE APPROPRIATE IN SCALE, DESIGN, AND LOCATION TO ENHANCE WENHAM AS A WELCOMING, SUPPORTIVE, AND LIVABLE COMMUNITY.

STRATEGY 3D

Consider crafting a zoning overlay district that is appropriate in scale and location for Wenham.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

A multi-family overlay district would permit the development of a greater diversity of housing types in Wenham, which will help the Town meet the housing needs of more community members.



STRATEGY TYPE

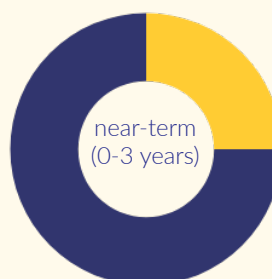
Regulatory / Policy

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Land Use
Town Administrator

Supporting Town Board:
Planning Board
Zoning Board of Appeals

SEQUENCING



FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
Staff Time

)

APPROXIMATE COST

\$\$
\$50k to \$250k



FACILITATE DIVERSE AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING OPTIONS THAT ARE APPROPRIATE IN SCALE, DESIGN, AND LOCATION TO ENHANCE WENHAM AS A WELCOMING, SUPPORTIVE, AND LIVABLE COMMUNITY.

STRATEGY 3E

Consider Amending the zoning bylaw to include a provision to encourage the development of smaller, more compact “starter” homes possibly on portions of Gordon College or other appropriate areas

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

Starter Homes are single-family homes that are less than 1,850 square feet. A Starter Home Zoning District must also contain at least 3 contiguous developable acres, allow 4 units per acre, and 20% of the units in the district must be reserved as affordable units. This strategy encourages the development of smaller and more affordable homes.



STRATEGY TYPE

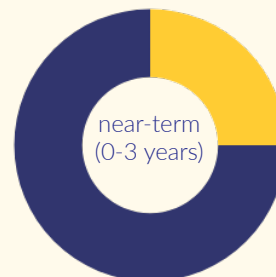
Regulatory / Policy

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Town Administrator

Supporting Town Board:
Land Use
Planning Board

SEQUENCING



FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
General Fund

Potential Non-Local Funding Source:
Community One Stop for Growth

APPROXIMATE COST



less than \$50k



FACILITATE DIVERSE AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING OPTIONS THAT ARE APPROPRIATE IN SCALE, DESIGN, AND LOCATION TO ENHANCE WENHAM AS A WELCOMING, SUPPORTIVE, AND LIVABLE COMMUNITY.

STRATEGY 3F

Consider Amending the zoning bylaw to allow Accessory Dwelling Units by-right.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

Accessory Dwelling Units, also known as in-law suites or granny flats, are additional housing units built on a lot with housing already on it. ADUs can help build infill development, increase density, and increase the availability of housing options in Wenham, while retaining the character of existing neighborhoods. Allowing the development of ADUs by right, instead of by special permit, removes some of the barriers to developing housing in the Town.



STRATEGY TYPE

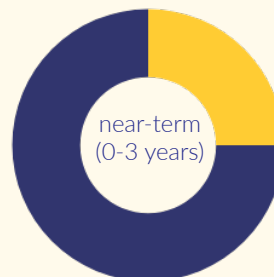
Regulatory / Policy

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Town Administrator
Land Use

Supporting Town Board:
Zoning Board of Appeals

SEQUENCING



FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
Staff Time

APPROXIMATE COST



less than \$50k



FACILITATE DIVERSE AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING OPTIONS THAT ARE APPROPRIATE IN SCALE, DESIGN, AND LOCATION TO ENHANCE WENHAM AS A WELCOMING, SUPPORTIVE, AND LIVABLE COMMUNITY.

STRATEGY 3G

Consider amending the zoning bylaw to change dimensional requirements that control the shape, size, height, and floor area ratios to ensure construction of smaller, more compact housing that are naturally less expensive to buy, rent, and maintain.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

Zoning controls many dimensions of housing development, like the number of floors, building size, number of parking spaces, and allowable density. By altering these requirements, zoning can incentivize the development of more space-efficient units and buildings. This strategy seeks to increase the availability of smaller, denser housing stock using zoning changes in Wenham.



STRATEGY TYPE

Regulatory / Policy

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Town Administrator
Land Use

Supporting Town Board:
Planning Board

SEQUENCING



FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
General Fund

Potential Non-Local Funding Source:
One Stop for Community Growth
Community Planning Grant Program

APPROXIMATE COST



less than \$50k



FACILITATE DIVERSE AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING OPTIONS THAT ARE APPROPRIATE IN SCALE, DESIGN, AND LOCATION TO ENHANCE WENHAM AS A WELCOMING, SUPPORTIVE, AND LIVABLE COMMUNITY.

STRATEGY 3H

Consider amendments to the Subdivision Rules and Regulations to reduce costs for new homebuyers, such as updates to stormwater infrastructure requirements and allowing shared driveways.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

This strategy recommends updating Wenham's Subdivision Rules and Regulations, last updated in 1984, to mitigate the cost of new housing. This could include changing lot size requirements for multifamily dwellings, amending shared driveway regulations, and updating drainage requirements to incorporate cost-effective green stormwater best practices. Updating these regulations can reduce the barriers to developing more housing, reduce costs for new homeowners, and meet modern standards.



STRATEGY TYPE

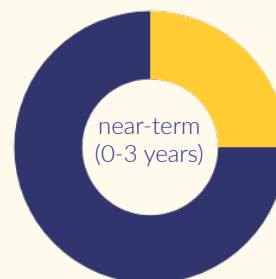
Regulatory / Policy

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Town Administrator
Land Use

Supporting Town Board:
Planning Board

SEQUENCING



FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
Staff Time

APPROXIMATE COST



less than \$50k

GOAL 3

ACHIEVE AND MAINTAIN THE STATE'S AFFORDABLE HOUSING GOAL OF TEN PERCENT OF YEAR-ROUND HOUSING STOCK BEING INCLUDED IN THE SUBSIDIZED HOUSING INVENTORY.

STRATEGY 3I

Update the Town's 2008 Housing Production Plan and 2017 Housing Needs Assessment Report to reflect Wenham's current housing needs and updated strategies to increase diverse, affordable housing options

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

This strategy suggests updating the existing Housing Production Plan to more accurately reflect changing conditions. By updating the Plan, Wenham can have a targeted approach that more effectively meets current and projected community needs.



STRATEGY TYPE

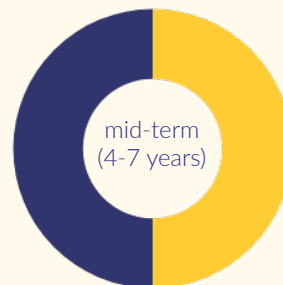
Regulatory / Policy

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Land Use

Supporting Town Board:
Planning Board
Wenham Affordable Housing Trust

SEQUENCING



FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
General Fund

Potential Non-Local Funding Source:
Community One Stop for Growth
Community Planning Grant Program

APPROXIMATE COST



\$50k to \$250k



ACHIEVE AND MAINTAIN THE STATE'S AFFORDABLE HOUSING GOAL OF TEN PERCENT OF YEAR-ROUND HOUSING STOCK BEING INCLUDED IN THE SUBSIDIZED HOUSING INVENTORY.

STRATEGY 3J

Maintain an updated inventory of tax title (and tax foreclosed) and town-surplus property to identify properties that may have potential to foster appropriate-scaled and designed affordable and mixed-use housing, particularly to support family housing needs.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

This strategy seeks to provide additional affordable housing units in Wenham. By working with the Wenham housing Authority and the Affordable Housing Trust, the Town will be able to increase the supply of affordable housing.



STRATEGY TYPE

Capacity Building

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Town Administrator
Land Use

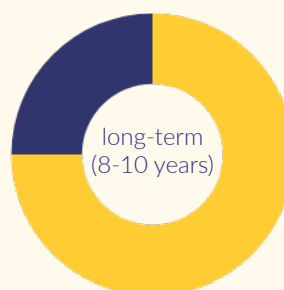
Supporting Town Board:
Wenham Housing Authority
Wenham Affordable Housing Trust

FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
Community Preservation Act Funds

Potential Non-Local Funding Source:
Chapter 200 and 705 State Public Housing
(PHS Family) Programs

SEQUENCING



APPROXIMATE COST

\$\$\$\$\$
more than \$1M

GOAL 3

ACHIEVE AND MAINTAIN THE STATE'S AFFORDABLE HOUSING GOAL OF TEN PERCENT OF YEAR-ROUND HOUSING STOCK BEING INCLUDED IN THE SUBSIDIZED HOUSING INVENTORY.

STRATEGY 3K

Consider adopting an Inclusionary Zoning bylaw to require the provision of affordable units in larger multi-unit housing developments.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

This strategy can help Wenham increase the amount of affordable housing that is developed in the Town. With an Inclusionary Zoning bylaw, new developments that exceed certain size or unit requirements would be required to supply a certain percentage of those units as affordable. This would increase the housing options available to lower-income community members in Wenham and create more mixed-income housing.



STRATEGY TYPE

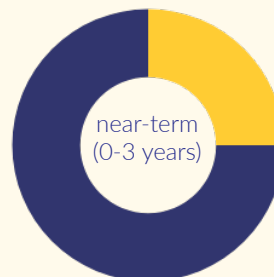
Regulatory / Policy

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Land Use
Planning Board

Supporting Town Board:
Zoning Board of Appeals
Wenham Affordable Housing Trust

SEQUENCING



FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
General Fund

Potential Non-Local Funding Source:
Community One Stop for Growth

APPROXIMATE COST



less than \$50k



PROMOTE ALTERNATIVES TO SINGLE-OCCUPANCY VEHICLE USE FOR LOCAL AND REGIONAL TRIPS BY EXPANDING PEDESTRIAN AND BIKING INFRASTRUCTURE, UPDATING PARKING REQUIREMENTS AND CURB MANAGEMENT TECHNIQUES, AND INCREASING LOCAL TRANSIT OPTIONS.

STRATEGY 3L

Reestablish the Walk Wenham Pedestrian and Bicycle Committee to assist with identifying sidewalk improvements and securing funding.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

This strategy aims to improve walkability in Wenham by having a dedicated Pedestrian and Bicycle Committee. This committee could be tasked with identifying areas in need of trail and sidewalk improvements, maintaining existing bicycle and pedestrian pathways, developing strategies to encourage multimodal transportation, and improving the experience of pedestrians and cyclists along Wenham's roadways.



STRATEGY TYPE

Capacity Building

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

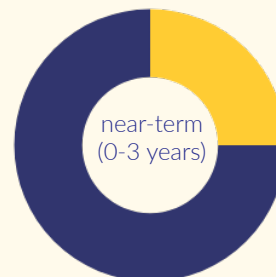
Lead Responsible Town Department:
Town Administrator

Supporting Town Board:
Select Board

FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
Staff Time

SEQUENCING



APPROXIMATE COST



less than \$50k

GOAL 4

PROMOTE ALTERNATIVES TO SINGLE-OCCUPANCY VEHICLE USE FOR LOCAL AND REGIONAL TRIPS BY EXPANDING PEDESTRIAN AND BIKING INFRASTRUCTURE, UPDATING PARKING REQUIREMENTS AND CURB MANAGEMENT TECHNIQUES, AND INCREASING LOCAL TRANSIT OPTIONS.

STRATEGY 3M

Develop a phased, integrated network of bike and pedestrian routes, connected with existing routes, including scenic byways, to increase connectivity between open spaces, schools, neighborhoods, and other major destinations in Wenham to regional bike routes.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

Creating well connected bike and pedestrian networks in Wenham can increase transportation connectivity and encourage the use of these networks as modes of transportation. Further, by ensuring that bike and pedestrian pathways are connected to local points of interest, community members are more likely to use these trails. This strategy can also be a way to connect green space throughout Wenham, improving access and encouraging active and passive recreation.



STRATEGY TYPE

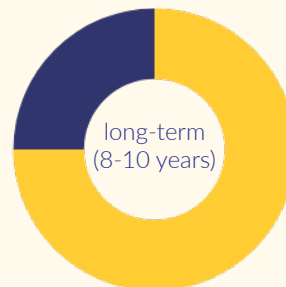
Physical / Design / Acquisition

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Town Administrator

Supporting Town Board:
Planning Board
Open Space and Recreation Committee

SEQUENCING



FUNDING

Potential Non-Local Funding Source:
MA Shared Streets and Spaces Grant Program
Community One Stop for Growth
MA Complete Streets Funding Program
Community Planning Grant Program

APPROXIMATE COST

\$\$\$
\$250k to \$1M



PROMOTE ALTERNATIVES TO SINGLE-OCCUPANCY VEHICLE USE FOR LOCAL AND REGIONAL TRIPS BY EXPANDING PEDESTRIAN AND BIKING INFRASTRUCTURE, UPDATING PARKING REQUIREMENTS AND CURB MANAGEMENT TECHNIQUES, AND INCREASING LOCAL TRANSIT OPTIONS.

STRATEGY 3N

Continue to monitor areas with recent transportation improvement investments to evaluate effectiveness and ensure multimodal, including pedestrian, safety.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

This strategy can help Wenham to achieve their goal of decrease community reliance on automobiles, increase walkability, and increase the safety of Wenham's streets.



STRATEGY TYPE

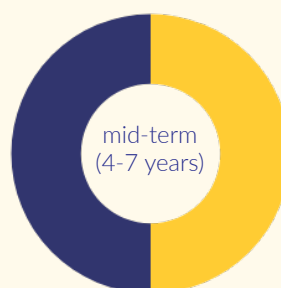
Physical / Design / Acquisition

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Town Administrator

Supporting Town Board:
Select Board

SEQUENCING



FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
Staff Time

APPROXIMATE COST



less than \$50k

GOAL 4

PROMOTE ALTERNATIVES TO SINGLE-OCCUPANCY VEHICLE USE FOR LOCAL AND REGIONAL TRIPS BY EXPANDING PEDESTRIAN AND BIKING INFRASTRUCTURE, UPDATING PARKING REQUIREMENTS AND CURB MANAGEMENT TECHNIQUES, AND INCREASING LOCAL TRANSIT OPTIONS.

STRATEGY 30

Consider options for increasing shuttle services in Wenham, such as expanding the hours of operation for the COA van and working with the MBTA to establish connections between key locations such as to the Hamilton-Wenham Commuter Rail, Gordon College, and the Logan Express transportation service.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

A broader shuttle service in Wenham can help to fill the gap in the public transit that is available in the Town. This can also help to solve first-mile/last-mile disconnects by better connecting community members to existing regional transit networks. This strategy can offer greater opportunities to residents that don't drive, lower carbon emissions, and increase the use of active and multimodal transportation methods.



STRATEGY TYPE

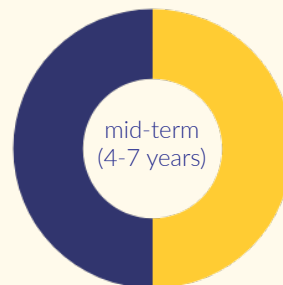
Capacity Building

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Town Administrator
Council on Aging

Supporting Town Board:
Finance Advisory Committee

SEQUENCING



FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
Staff Time

Potential Non-Local Funding Source:
MA Community Transit Grant Program

APPROXIMATE COST



\$50k to \$250k



PROMOTE ALTERNATIVES TO SINGLE-OCCUPANCY VEHICLE USE FOR LOCAL AND REGIONAL TRIPS BY EXPANDING PEDESTRIAN AND BIKING INFRASTRUCTURE, UPDATING PARKING REQUIREMENTS AND CURB MANAGEMENT TECHNIQUES, AND INCREASING LOCAL TRANSIT OPTIONS.

STRATEGY 3P

Support expanding efforts to create a North Shore Regional Transit Authority to provide regional public transit options.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

A regional public transit system can help to fill existing gaps in the transportation network in Wenham and in surrounding communities. There are currently 15 regional transit authorities in Massachusetts; this strategy seeks to expand this network to include Wenham and its surrounding communities.



STRATEGY TYPE

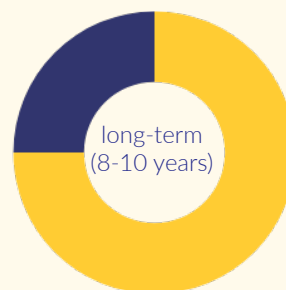
Capacity Building

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Town Administrator

Supporting Town Board:
Finance Advisory Committee
Planning Board

SEQUENCING



FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
Staff Time

APPROXIMATE COST



less than \$50k

GOAL 4

PROMOTE ALTERNATIVES TO SINGLE-OCCUPANCY VEHICLE USE FOR LOCAL AND REGIONAL TRIPS BY EXPANDING PEDESTRIAN AND BIKING INFRASTRUCTURE, UPDATING PARKING REQUIREMENTS AND CURB MANAGEMENT TECHNIQUES, AND INCREASING LOCAL TRANSIT OPTIONS.

STRATEGY 3Q

Work with MassDOT to adopt and implement a Complete Streets Policy and Prioritization Plan for transportation infrastructure improvements, particularly for areas of neighborhood concern and top crash locations such as protected bike lanes, sidewalks, traffic calming measures, and lighted crosswalks.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

A Complete Streets policy works to encourage the use of streets as public spaces that equitably share space between all modes of transportation and mobility. This strategy aims to encourage multimodal transportation in Wenham and greater transportation choice for Wenham residents. The MassDOT Complete Streets Funding Program provides funding and technical assistance to municipalities seeking to implement these strategies.



STRATEGY TYPE

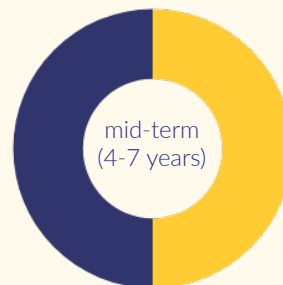
Regulatory / Policy

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Town Administrator
Land Use

Supporting Town Board:
Planning Board

SEQUENCING



FUNDING

Potential Non-Local Funding Source:
MA Complete Streets Funding Program

APPROXIMATE COST



less than \$50k



PROMOTE ALTERNATIVES TO SINGLE-OCCUPANCY VEHICLE USE FOR LOCAL AND REGIONAL TRIPS BY EXPANDING PEDESTRIAN AND BIKING INFRASTRUCTURE, UPDATING PARKING REQUIREMENTS AND CURB MANAGEMENT TECHNIQUES, AND INCREASING LOCAL TRANSIT OPTIONS.

STRATEGY 3R

Work with Hamilton-Wenham Public Schools to establish all schools as Safe Routes to Schools Partners and develop a Safe Routes to Schools Action Plan to implement pedestrian infrastructural improvements such as wayfinding for existing walking trails, additional safe walking trails, streetlights, and crosswalks near and around Wenham Schools.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

An SRTS plan works to ensure that school children in all age groups can walk and bike to school safely. It is a community-focused approach that aims to fill the gap between health and transportation needs, while increasing safety around schools.



STRATEGY TYPE

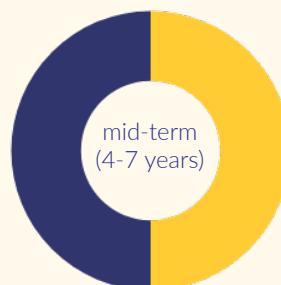
Regulatory / Policy

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Town Administrator
School Department

Supporting Town Board:
Planning Board

SEQUENCING



FUNDING

Potential Non-Local Funding Source:
MA Safe Routes to School Program

APPROXIMATE COST

\$\$
\$50k to \$250k

GOAL 4

PROMOTE ALTERNATIVES TO SINGLE-OCCUPANCY VEHICLE USE FOR LOCAL AND REGIONAL TRIPS BY EXPANDING PEDESTRIAN AND BIKING INFRASTRUCTURE, UPDATING PARKING REQUIREMENTS AND CURB MANAGEMENT TECHNIQUES, AND INCREASING LOCAL TRANSIT OPTIONS.

STRATEGY 3S

Update Parking and Loading Requirements to include provisions for electric vehicle charging stations, bicycle parking infrastructure, and no-idling rules.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

As Wenham continues to implement sustainability measures, like encouraging the use of electric vehicles in the community, the Town should also update zoning requirements to meet the needs of these vehicles. Requiring bicycle parking also increases the amount of multimodal transportation infrastructure available in the Town, encouraging bicycling in Wenham.



STRATEGY TYPE

Regulatory / Policy

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Land Use

Supporting Town Board:
Planning Board
Zoning Board of Appeals

SEQUENCING



FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
Staff Time

Potential Non-Local Funding Source:
Community Planning Grant Program

APPROXIMATE COST



less than \$50k



PROMOTE ALTERNATIVES TO SINGLE-OCCUPANCY VEHICLE USE FOR LOCAL AND REGIONAL TRIPS BY EXPANDING PEDESTRIAN AND BIKING INFRASTRUCTURE, UPDATING PARKING REQUIREMENTS AND CURB MANAGEMENT TECHNIQUES, AND INCREASING LOCAL TRANSIT OPTIONS.

STRATEGY 3T

Assess and improve parking in Town Center to accurately address town parking needs and implement parking strategies.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

To meet Wenham's goals of encouraging multimodal transportation, sustainability and meeting current as well as future transportation and parking needs in Wenham.



STRATEGY TYPE

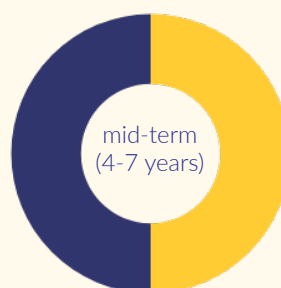
Regulatory / Policy

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Land Use

Supporting Town Board:
Planning Board
Zoning Board of Appeals

SEQUENCING



FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
General Fund

Potential Non-Local Funding Source:
Community Planning Grant Program

APPROXIMATE COST

\$\$
more than \$1M



EXPLORE REGIONAL OPTIONS TO ENHANCE AGE-FRIENDLY PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELLNESS RESOURCES.

STRATEGY 3U

Fund a wayfinding project to identify local businesses, recreation areas, and cultural sites, as well as encourage biking and walking as ways for residents and visitors to navigate the community, socialize, and encourage healthy lifestyle opportunities.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

Wayfinding signs are directional markers that help people find the best routes between places and identify local landmarks. These signs can make places easier to navigate, more accessible, and encourage people to interact with their environments. Wayfinding signs have many benefits, including increasing traffic safety, deepening town branding, and promoting local attractions.



STRATEGY TYPE

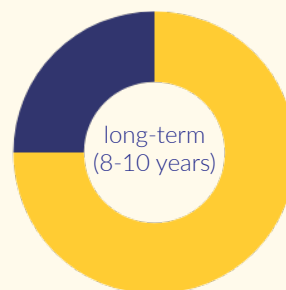
Regulatory / Policy

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Town Administrator
Department of Public Works

Supporting Town Board:
Finance and Advisory Committee
Planning Board

SEQUENCING



FUNDING

Potential Non-Local Funding Source:
MA Downtown Initiative Assistance Grants

APPROXIMATE COST



\$50k to \$250k



EXPLORE REGIONAL OPTIONS TO ENHANCE AGE-FRIENDLY PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELLNESS RESOURCES.

STRATEGY 3V

Continue to implement the Age Friendly Action Plan recommendations for Wenham, and reinstitute the Wenham Connects committee (dissolved in June 2020 due to the COVID lockdown).

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

This strategy seeks to build on the recommendations made by the existing AgeFriendly Action Plan and support Town efforts to encourage healthy aging and allow residents to comfortably age in place.



STRATEGY TYPE

Physical / Design / Acquisition

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

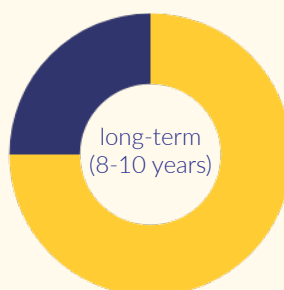
Lead Responsible Town Department:
Council on Aging

Supporting Board or Local Organization:
Wenham Connects

FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
Staff Time

SEQUENCING



APPROXIMATE COST

\$\$\$
\$250k to \$1M



EXPLORE REGIONAL OPTIONS TO ENHANCE AGE-FRIENDLY PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELLNESS RESOURCES.

STRATEGY 3W

Update and expand the Wenham Connects Information and Resource Guide.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

This strategy is aimed at increasing the accessibility and availability of resources for elderly services in Wenham. The Wenham Connects Information and Resource Guide, organized by the World Health Organization's Eight Domains of Livability, was created by the Council on Aging. By updating the Wenham Connects Information & Resource Guide, the Town can continue expanding resources available to aging residents.



STRATEGY TYPE

Programmatic

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Council on Aging
Recreation Department

Supporting Town Board:
Cultural Council
Wenham Connects

SEQUENCING



FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
Staff Time

APPROXIMATE COST



less than \$50k



EXPLORE REGIONAL OPTIONS TO ENHANCE AGE-FRIENDLY PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELLNESS RESOURCES.

STRATEGY 3X

Support ongoing efforts to create and sustain a local newspaper and/or local media to ensure sustainability and longevity such as by publishing public hearing notices.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

A local newspaper is a great way to circulate local information, announcements, and news pertinent to the Wenham community. This strategy seeks to address the need for more avenues of communication between Wenham community members and Town Hall, and is a way for Wenham residents to stay abreast of relevant local issues.



STRATEGY TYPE

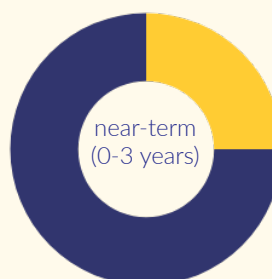
Capacity Building

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Town Administrator
Library Department

Supporting Town Board:
Hamilton-Wenham Community Access and Media
Finance and Advisory Committee

SEQUENCING



FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
Staff Time

Potential Non-Local Funding Source:
National Digital Newspaper Program
American Journalism Project Funds

APPROXIMATE COST



less than \$50k



INCREASE THE USE AND VISIBILITY OF OUTDOOR RECREATION SPACES AND ADD MORE PUBLIC AMENITIES.

STRATEGY 3Y

Explore opportunities to create teen-centered outdoor spaces in central locations, such as a skate park, pump track, or plaza-style outdoor seating areas.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

This strategy is a great way to address the community's identified need for more youth-oriented spaces for recreation and socialization. By developing more dedicated spaces for youth and teens, young people will have safe and positive environments to foster relationships, socialize, and spend leisure time.



STRATEGY TYPE

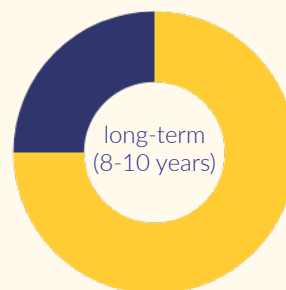
Physical / Design / Acquisition

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Town Administrator
Recreation Department

Supporting Town Board:
Select Board
Cultural Council

SEQUENCING



FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
Community Preservation Act Funds

Potential Non-Local Funding Source:
MOOR Events Grant
Conservation Assistance for Small Communities Grant
PARC Grant Program

APPROXIMATE COST

\$\$\$\$\$
more than \$1M



INCREASE THE USE AND VISIBILITY OF OUTDOOR RECREATION SPACES AND ADD MORE PUBLIC AMENITIES.

STRATEGY 3Z

Create and implement a plan to beautify and maintain public streetscapes, open spaces, and recreation areas, with landscaping, unified signage, and the like.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

Street beautification efforts can add to the aesthetic appeal of the community, encouraging people to walk, engage with their environments, and socialize. Street beautification can encourage multimodal transportation, bring life to the streets, and make them destinations rather than just roads. This strategy can help Wenham to improve roadways and integrate them with public and open spaces in the Town. Having a beautification plan can encourage community use of public spaces, improve the aesthetic value of streets, and work to improve Wenham's existing open space resources.



STRATEGY TYPE

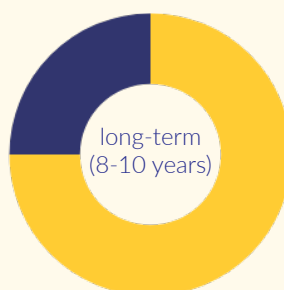
Regulatory / Policy

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Town Administrator
Department of Public Works

Supporting Town Board:
Planning Board
Open Space and Recreation Committee

SEQUENCING



FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
General Fund

Potential Non-Local Funding Source:
Conservation Assistance for Small Communities Grant
Community Planning Grant Program

APPROXIMATE COST

\$\$
\$50k to \$250k

CORE THEME FOUR

SUSTAINABLY PROTECT WENHAM'S RESOURCES



THEME VISION

BY 2034, WENHAM IS A SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY THAT FOSTERS COMMUNITY STEWARDSHIP OF OUR NATURAL AND WATER RESOURCES. OUR COMMUNITY FOCUSES LOCAL EFFORTS ON PROTECTING AND RESTORING NATURAL LANDSCAPES, BIODIVERSITY, AND WILDLIFE HABITAT TO PRESERVE OPEN AND GREEN SPACES. WENHAM IS A LEADER IN LOCAL SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVES AND HAS IMPLEMENTED RESILIENCE INTERVENTIONS TO MITIGATE CLIMATE IMPACTS.

METRICS FOR MEASURING SUCCESS

1. THE PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL LAND AREA IN WENHAM THAT IS PERMANENTLY PROTECTED OPEN SPACE.
2. THE NUMBER OF DAYS ANNUALLY THAT WATER BODIES IN WENHAM ARE SAFE FOR SWIMMING, FISHING, AND RECREATION AND/OR RECEIVE AN "A" GRADE FROM THE EPA WATER QUALITY REPORT CARD.
3. THE INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF PROTECTED TREES IN THE WENHAM HERITAGE TREE PROGRAM* AND/OR NUMBER OF NEW TREES PLANTED ANNUALLY BY THE TOWN.
4. THE INCREASE IN RESILIENCE AND/OR SUSTAINABILITY MEASURES IMPLEMENTED IN COMMERCIAL, RESIDENTIAL, AND PRIVATE PROPERTIES.
5. TOTAL INCREASE THE THE POUNDS OF COMPOST AND TOTAL REDUCTION IN THE POUNDS OF SOLID WASTE PRODUCED IN WENHAM.
6. NUMBER OF ADOPTED AND IMPLEMENTED CLIMATE RESILIENCE POLICIES AND/OR INITIATIVES IN WENHAM.



Photo by Steve Rosenthal



INCREASE PROTECTIONS FOR OPEN SPACE AND THE PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL LAND AREA IN WENHAM THAT IS PERMANENTLY PROTECTED OPEN SPACE BY 2034.

STRATEGY 4A

Adopt a Low Impact Development (LID)* Bylaw.

* LID refers to development practices that seek to mimic natural processes of water infiltration to reduce the overall impact a development will have on surrounding watersheds.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

A LID Bylaw can encourage or require the use of green infrastructure for stormwater management in Wenham. This might include requiring that new developments have stipulations for low impact site design, bioretention ponds, or rain gardens. This can lower the environmental impact of new developments on water infiltration and runoff and can help reduce some of the impacts of climate change on Wenham.



STRATEGY TYPE

Regulatory / Policy

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Town Administrator
Land Use

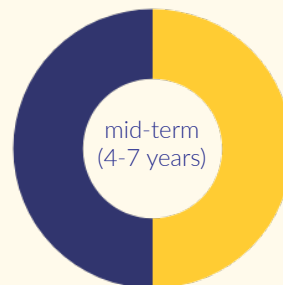
Supporting Town Board:
Planning Board
Open Space Recreation Committee

Supporting Board or Local Organization:
Select Board

FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
Staff Time

SEQUENCING



APPROXIMATE COST



less than \$50k



INCREASE PROTECTIONS FOR OPEN SPACE AND THE PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL LAND AREA IN WENHAM THAT IS PERMANENTLY PROTECTED OPEN SPACE BY 2034.

STRATEGY 4B

Work with eligible private landowners to enroll in Chapter 61 programs to protect undeveloped land, which provides a right of first refusal option to the Town.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 61 program provides tax incentives to landowners who allow their property to be held as forest. Property owners with ten or more contiguous acres of forested land can qualify for this program. Additional aspects such as wildlife conservation or aesthetics can also be highlighted through this program with the creation of a forest management plan that is renewed every 10 years. This strategy allows the Town the right of first refusal when the owner decides to sell the property.



STRATEGY TYPE

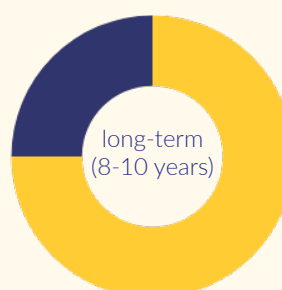
Programmatic

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Town Administrator
Land Use

Supporting Town Board:
Open Space Recreation Committee

SEQUENCING



FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
Staff Time

APPROXIMATE COST



less than \$50k



GOAL 1 INCREASE PROTECTIONS FOR OPEN SPACE AND THE PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL LAND AREA IN WENHAM THAT IS PERMANENTLY PROTECTED OPEN SPACE BY 2034.

STRATEGY 4C

Explore partnerships and funding opportunities to fund conservation of priority open space properties as recommended in the 2019 Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP), or most recent OSRP while considering opportunities for a balance of conservation and development.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

This strategy builds on the most recent OSRP, which identified the need to conserve several key open spaces. By funding the conservation of these spaces in perpetuity, Wenham residents can continue to enjoy these areas in the future.



STRATEGY TYPE

Regulatory / Policy

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Town Administrator
Land Use

Supporting Town Board:
Finance and Advisory Committee
Open Space and Recreation Committee

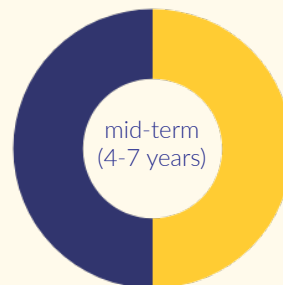
Supporting Board or Local Organization:
Community Preservation Committee

FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
General Fund

Potential Non-Local Funding Source:
Community Planning Grant Program

SEQUENCING



APPROXIMATE COST



more than \$1M



INCREASE PROTECTIONS FOR OPEN SPACE AND THE PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL LAND AREA IN WENHAM THAT IS PERMANENTLY PROTECTED OPEN SPACE BY 2034.

STRATEGY 4D

Work with landowners to identify private properties with public walking trails and install clear signage to indicate accessibility.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

Establishing walking trails in partnership with private landowners can expand the amount of publicly available recreation spaces without the Town needing to buy property. This could be done with tools such as conservation trail easements, allowing property owners to retain ownership, while permitting specific public uses, like walking or biking.



STRATEGY TYPE

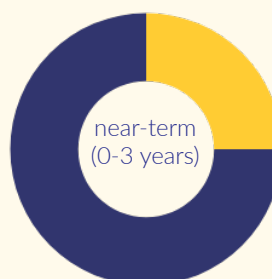
Physical / Design / Acquisition

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Town Administrator
Land Use

Supporting Town Board:
Open Space and Recreation Committee
Conservation Commission

SEQUENCING



FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
Staff Time

APPROXIMATE COST



less than \$50k



GOAL 1 INCREASE PROTECTIONS FOR OPEN SPACE AND THE PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL LAND AREA IN WENHAM THAT IS PERMANENTLY PROTECTED OPEN SPACE BY 2034.

STRATEGY 4E

Explore building bioswales and bioretention facilities in high flood zones and near public facilities to support filtration and drainage.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

Bioswales and bioretention areas are forms of green infrastructure that mitigate the impacts of stormwater flooding during high precipitation weather events. With climate change, stormwater flooding is likely to increase in severity and frequency, and green infrastructure can help Wenham adapt to these changes and reduce potential flood damage.



STRATEGY TYPE

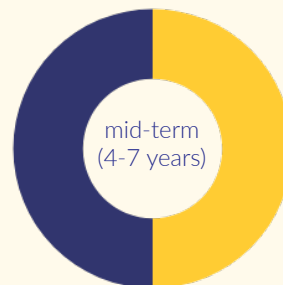
Physical / Design / Acquisition

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Department of Public Works
Land Use

Supporting Town Board:
Planning Board
Open Space and Recreation Committee

SEQUENCING



FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
Capital Project Fund

Potential Non-Local Funding Source:
Rural and Small Town Development Fund

APPROXIMATE COST

\$\$\$
\$250k to \$1M



INCREASE PROTECTIONS FOR OPEN SPACE AND THE PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL LAND AREA IN WENHAM THAT IS PERMANENTLY PROTECTED OPEN SPACE BY 2034.

STRATEGY 4F

Identify locations and strategically plant native pollination gardens on public land.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

Native pollinator gardens can help increase biodiversity as well as provide aesthetic value to the Town. The presence of pollinator gardens can also help the surrounding farm areas have a greater abundance of pollinators for crops. This strategy can help Wenham increase their sustainability and public beautification efforts.



STRATEGY TYPE

Physical / Design / Acquisition

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Land Use
Department of Public Works

Supporting Town Board:
Open Space and Recreation Committee
Conservation Commission

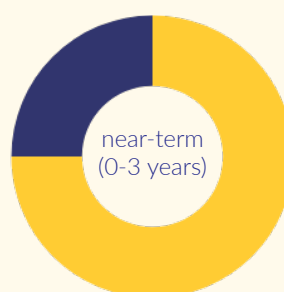
Supporting Board or Local Organization:
Planning Board

FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
General Fund

Potential Non-Local Funding Source:
MassWildlife Habitat Management Program

SEQUENCING



APPROXIMATE COST



\$50k to \$250k



GOAL 1 INCREASE PROTECTIONS FOR OPEN SPACE AND THE PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL LAND AREA IN WENHAM THAT IS PERMANENTLY PROTECTED OPEN SPACE BY 2034.

STRATEGY 4G

Expand installation of green infrastructure* in prime areas, such as Buker School, Pleasant Pond, and West Wenham Park, among others.

*Green infrastructure is infrastructure that, unlike typical grey infrastructure, facilitates the filtration and absorption of stormwater to prevent flooding and pollution from runoff.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

Green infrastructure can be used as a stormwater management technique to prevent flooding, filter pollutants, and create buffers for key infrastructure against extreme weather events. Further, they can have co-benefits including aesthetic value, increasing air quality, and many others.



STRATEGY TYPE

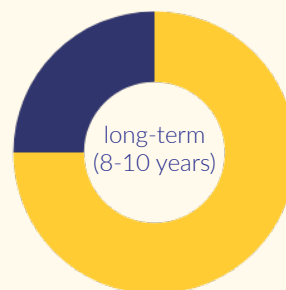
Physical / Design / Acquisition

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Department of Public Works
Land Use

Supporting Town Board:
Planning Board
Open Space and Recreation Committee

SEQUENCING



FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
Capital Project Fund

Potential Non-Local Funding Source:
Rural and Small Town Development Fund

APPROXIMATE COST

\$\$\$

\$250k to \$1M



EXCEED RELEVANT STATE AND FEDERAL SURFACE WATER QUALITY STANDARDS FOR WENHAM'S LAKES, PONDS, AND OTHER SURFACE WATER BODIES.

STRATEGY 4H

Explore opportunities to acquire the three private properties in Zone I, land within the protective radius around a public water supply well or wellfield, and/or negotiate Conservation Restrictions on all Zone I lands to protect the municipal water supply.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

Zone I are areas identified within a certain radius of wellheads for municipal water supply. They are important areas to protect, as they are directly adjacent to or contain the water used for municipal purposes, including drinking water. This strategy seeks to protect Wenham's water supply through the acquisition of these lands from private owners or through conservation restrictions, which could restrict development that would be harmful to the water supply.



STRATEGY TYPE

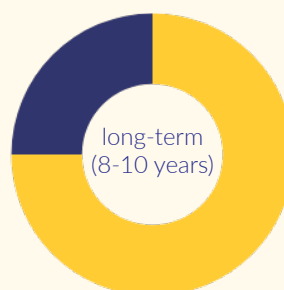
Physical / Design / Acquisition

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Town Administrator
Land Use

Supporting Town Board:
Finance and Advisory Committee
Planning Board

SEQUENCING



FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
Staff Time

Potential Non-Local Funding Source:
Drinking Water Supply Protection Grant Program
Interim PFAS6 Response Program

APPROXIMATE COST

\$\$\$\$\$
more than \$1M



EXCEED RELEVANT STATE AND FEDERAL SURFACE WATER QUALITY STANDARDS FOR WENHAM'S LAKES, PONDS, AND OTHER SURFACE WATER BODIES.

STRATEGY 4I

Consider updating town policies regulating water usage to curb high water usage, particularly from residential water users through fee increases and imposing use fees on new and existing users.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

This strategy recommends that the Town amend their current policies regulating water usage which sets a flat fee per unit by development type, to allow increases to the fee that account various factors and more accurately reflect the burden on the Town's water supply by new developments.



STRATEGY TYPE

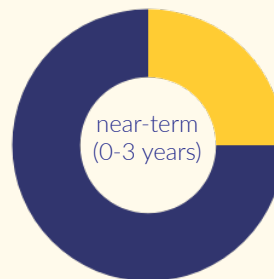
Regulatory / Policy

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Water Department
Department of Public Works

Supporting Town Board:
Select Board
Finance and Advisory Committee

SEQUENCING



FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
General Fund

APPROXIMATE COST



less than \$50k



EXCEED RELEVANT STATE AND FEDERAL SURFACE WATER QUALITY STANDARDS FOR WENHAM'S LAKES, PONDS, AND OTHER SURFACE WATER BODIES.

STRATEGY 4J

Review and update the water resources protection bylaw and corresponding regulations as warranted per the Supreme Court ruling in Sackett v. EPA.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

The recent ruling by the U.S. Supreme Court calls into question which water bodies are to be considered protected under the Clean Water Act, depending on their adjacency to another recognized body of water. This is important for Wenham in protecting its water supply, and protecting the wetlands that exist in the Town from polluting activities.



STRATEGY TYPE

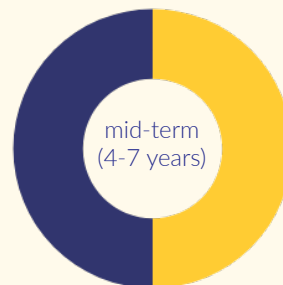
Regulatory / Policy

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Department of Public Works
Water Department

Supporting Town Board:
Select Board
Conservation Commission

SEQUENCING



FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
General Fund

APPROXIMATE COST



less than \$50k



PROTECT VERNAL POOLS AND WILDLIFE ACCESS CORRIDORS TO ENSURE SUSTAINABLE HABITAT.

STRATEGY 4K

Continue to proactively submit required documentation through the MA Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program's Heritage Hub to ensure all vernal pools in Wenham are certified, including those located on private properties.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

This strategy seeks to protect Wenham's vernal pools as protected water resources. Vernal pools are significant natural resources as they provide critical habitat for amphibians and other sensitive species.



STRATEGY TYPE

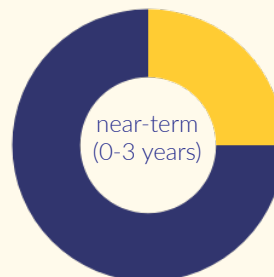
Regulatory / Policy

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Land Use
Department of Public Works

Supporting Town Board:
Open Space and Recreation Committee
Conservation Commission

SEQUENCING



FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
Staff Time

APPROXIMATE COST



less than \$50k



PROTECT VERNAL POOLS AND WILDLIFE ACCESS CORRIDORS TO ENSURE SUSTAINABLE HABITAT.

STRATEGY 4L

Work with the DPW to Develop an invasive species plant management plan on town-owned land including a public education component to increase awareness and knowledge of how to identify and deal with invasive species.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

Invasive plants are species which have been introduced to an area where they are not native. These species outcompete native plants for resources, and can hurt the health of the local environment by disrupting the balance of biodiversity and destabilizing the local ecosystem. By developing an invasive species management plan, Wenham can take actionable steps to eradicate these plants and preserve the habitat of native plant species in the Town.



STRATEGY TYPE

Regulatory / Policy

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Department of Public Works
Land Use

Supporting Town Board:
Open Space and Recreation Committee
Conservation Commission

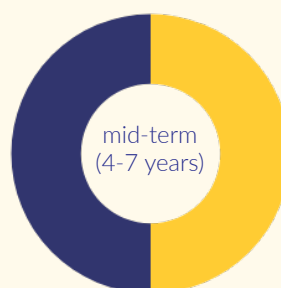
Supporting Board or Local Organization:
Planning Board

FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
General Fund

Potential Non-Local Funding Source:
Community Planning Grant Program

SEQUENCING



APPROXIMATE COST



\$50k to \$250k



PROMOTE SUSTAINABLE LANDSCAPING AND TREE-PLANTING PRACTICES ON PUBLIC AND PRIVATE PROPERTY TO INCREASE POLLINATOR HABITAT AND MAINTAIN A ROBUST TREE CANOPY TOWN-WIDE.

STRATEGY 4M

Increase funding for the Town's tree-planting program to increase tree coverage in high-need areas as identified in the tree inventory.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

This strategy is a way to increase Wenham's tree canopy, which can in turn provide more space for wildlife habitats, lower energy bills by increasing shade, grow property values, and support beautification efforts.



STRATEGY TYPE

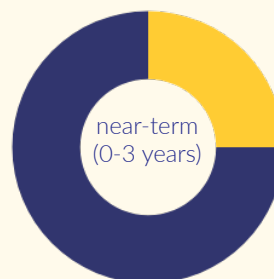
Regulatory / Policy

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Land Use
Tree Warden

Supporting Town Board:
Finance and Advisory Committee
Conservation Commission

SEQUENCING



FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
General Fund

Potential Non-Local Funding Source:
Urban and Community Forestry Challenge Grant

APPROXIMATE COST



less than \$50k



PROMOTE SUSTAINABLE LANDSCAPING AND TREE-PLANTING PRACTICES ON PUBLIC AND PRIVATE PROPERTY TO INCREASE POLLINATOR HABITAT AND MAINTAIN A ROBUST TREE CANOPY TOWN-WIDE.

STRATEGY 4N

Strengthen the Wenham Tree Policy, adopted in 2023, to incorporate penalties.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

The Wenham Tree Policy could be strengthened with fines or other penalties as a deterrent to cutting down trees in Wenham. This strategy is meant to strengthen the municipal protections offered to historic and significant trees in the Town, building off the existing ordinance.



STRATEGY TYPE

Regulatory / Policy

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Land Use
Tree Warden

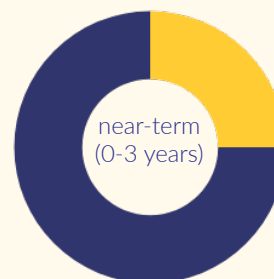
Supporting Town Board:
Open Space and Recreation Committee
Conservation Commission

Supporting Board or Local Organization:
Planning Board

FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
Staff Time

SEQUENCING



APPROXIMATE COST



less than \$50k

GOAL 4

PROMOTE SUSTAINABLE LANDSCAPING AND TREE-PLANTING PRACTICES ON PUBLIC AND PRIVATE PROPERTY TO INCREASE POLLINATOR HABITAT AND MAINTAIN A ROBUST TREE CANOPY TOWN-WIDE.

STRATEGY 40

Continue to inventory and designate eligible trees, which are significantly large, old, rare, interesting, or have documented history, as Heritage Trees per the Wenham Heritage Tree Program to protect trees from removal.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

This strategy proposes a more complete and expanded inventory of heritage trees in Wenham. This can help to preserve the Town's tree canopy and historic green spaces in the community.



STRATEGY TYPE

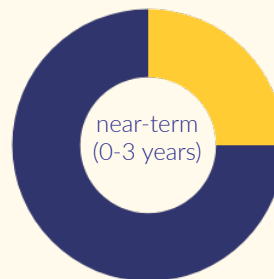
Regulatory / Policy

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Land Use
Tree Warden

Supporting Town Board:
Open Space and Recreation Committee
Conservation Commission

SEQUENCING



FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
Staff Time

APPROXIMATE COST



less than \$50k



PROMOTE SUSTAINABLE LANDSCAPING AND TREE-PLANTING PRACTICES ON PUBLIC AND PRIVATE PROPERTY TO INCREASE POLLINATOR HABITAT AND MAINTAIN A ROBUST TREE CANOPY TOWN-WIDE.

STRATEGY 4P

Consider Adopting a Native Plant policy that encourages new plantings on town-owned non-agricultural lands be composed of plants native to the area, to promote biodiversity, meet water conservation goals, and restore native habitat loss.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

Plants native to the Wenham area, or species that have lived naturally in Wenham without human introduction or intervention, are better equipped to thrive in the area's soil, moisture levels, and weather. Native plants require less watering, reduce the need for pesticides and fertilizer, are the base of the native wildlife food chain, and are a natural stormwater manager.



STRATEGY TYPE

Regulatory / Policy

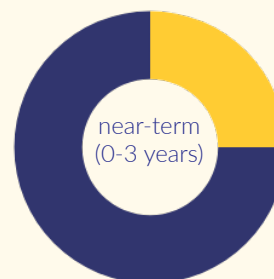
RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Land Use
Department of Public Works

Supporting Town Board:
Open Space and Recreation Committee

Supporting Board or Local Organization:
Planning Board

SEQUENCING



FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
General Fund

APPROXIMATE COST



less than \$50k



EXPLORE OPPORTUNITIES TO RESPONSIBLY EXPAND RESIDENT ACCESS TO PUBLIC AND PRIVATE OPEN SPACES SUCH AS NEIGHBORHOOD POCKET PARKS AND THE WENHAM CANAL.

STRATEGY 4Q

Explore approaches to reopening the Salem-Beverly Water Supply Board properties, including the Wenham Canal, Wenham Lake, and Longham Reservoir for passive recreation use.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

This strategy addresses the community's desire to access the Wenham Canal for recreational uses such as exercise or birdwatching. The Wenham entrance to the trail was closed in November 2020; however, the trail can be accessed from the Topsfield Rail Trail. Currently, the canal is not open to such activities, and this strategy asks the Town to consider legal ways for the community to use this space.



STRATEGY TYPE

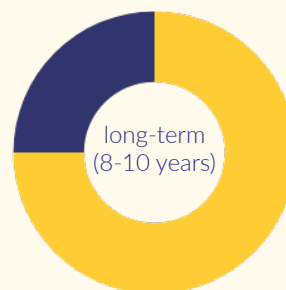
Capacity Building

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Town Administrator
Water Department

Supporting Town Board:
Select Board
Planning Board

SEQUENCING



FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
Staff Time

APPROXIMATE COST



less than \$50k



EXPLORE OPPORTUNITIES TO RESPONSIBLY EXPAND RESIDENT ACCESS TO PUBLIC AND PRIVATE OPEN SPACES SUCH AS NEIGHBORHOOD POCKET PARKS AND THE WENHAM CANAL.

STRATEGY 4R

Identify strategic locations for increasing walkable access to open spaces/parks, including building pocket parks in neighborhoods.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

This strategy addresses a community-identified desire for more access to public spaces through pedestrian pathways. Increasing the pedestrian network of walkable spaces in and around Wenham can encourage walkability and maximize access and enjoyment of Wenham's open spaces and recreation resources. Growing a park network can also increase the use of parks through their connection to other green spaces. Pocket parks are very small parks that can add green spaces to small areas, like courtyards, and can help to connect larger parks to one another.



STRATEGY TYPE

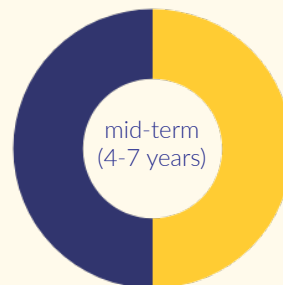
Physical / Design / Acquisition

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Land Use
Recreation Department

Supporting Town Board:
Open Space and Recreation Committee
Hamilton-Wenham Joint Recreation Committee

SEQUENCING



FUNDING

Potential Non-Local Funding Source:
PARC Grant Program

APPROXIMATE COST



less than \$50k



PROVIDE ALTERNATIVES FOR SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL, INCLUDING RECYCLING, COMPOSTING, AND HAZARDOUS WASTE DISPOSAL.

STRATEGY 4S

Participate in the United States Environmental Protection Agency's SepticSmart Week to educate residents about the importance of properly maintaining septic systems.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

The SepticSmart program is a national initiative aimed at increasing awareness and education about how to properly maintain septic systems, how to save money with a septic system, and how to protect your health and the health of the surrounding environment with a septic system. Participating in this program's weeklong annual event will help bring more awareness to caring for the Town's septic system and understanding how to protect Wenham's natural environment through correct septic system maintenance.



STRATEGY TYPE

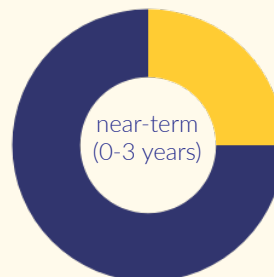
Programmatic

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Department of Public Works
Water Department

Supporting Town Board:
Select Board
Hamilton-Wenham Joint Recreation Committee

SEQUENCING



FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
General Funds

Potential Non-Local Funding Source:
Massachusetts Community Septic Management Program

APPROXIMATE COST



less than \$50k



PROVIDE ALTERNATIVES FOR SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL, INCLUDING RECYCLING, COMPOSTING, AND HAZARDOUS WASTE DISPOSAL.

STRATEGY 4T

Establish a Solid Waste Advisory Committee to explore municipal programs for reducing solid waste including regular yard-waste collection, composting programs, increased recycling opportunities, and hazardous waste disposal.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

A Solid Waste Advisory Committee in Wenham could work with the Town to promote recycling programs, educate residents on proper waste management techniques, and move forward sustainability initiatives to decrease the waste stream in the Town. Having a committee dedicated to this issue could expand the waste management techniques and options available to residents and help lower Wenham's overall environmental impact.



STRATEGY TYPE

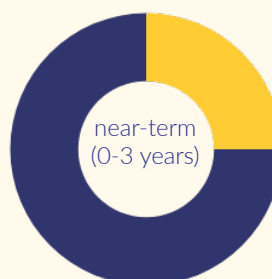
Capacity Building

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Department of Public Works
Town Administrator

Supporting Town Board:
Select Board

SEQUENCING



FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
Staff Time

APPROXIMATE COST



less than \$50k



PROVIDE ALTERNATIVES FOR SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL, INCLUDING RECYCLING, COMPOSTING, AND HAZARDOUS WASTE DISPOSAL.

STRATEGY 4U

Update and publicize the Town's yard waste collection program including leaves, grass clippings, shrubs, trees, etc.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

This strategy addresses the need to better communicate about Town initiatives with the public, increasing awareness of local happenings and the resources available to residents. With this program more publicized, there will be greater community engagement and buy-in.



STRATEGY TYPE

Programmatic

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Department of Public Works
Town Administrator

Supporting Town Board:
Select Board

SEQUENCING



FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
General Fund

Potential Non-Local Funding Source:
Sustainable Materials Recovery Program
Municipal Grant

APPROXIMATE COST



less than \$50k



EXPAND LOCAL KNOWLEDGE ABOUT CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABILITY BENEFITS THROUGH EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMING AND SIGNAGE.

STRATEGY 4V

Install educational signage and wayfinding in open spaces to inform the public about local wildlife, sustainable landscaping practices, and general conservation knowledge.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

This strategy is a terrific way to increase awareness and education about conservation issues relevant to Wenham. Informational signs can create a fun interactive activity in Wenham's public spaces while spreading awareness about wildlife, sustainability issues, and other important topics.



STRATEGY TYPE

Physical / Design / Acquisition

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Land Use
Department of Public Works

Supporting Town Board:
Open Space and Recreation Committee
Hamilton-Wenham Joint Recreation Committee

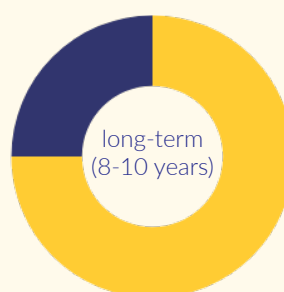
Supporting Board or Local Organization:
Hamilton-Wenham Climate Action Team

FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
General Fund

Potential Non-Local Funding Source:
Shared Streets and Spaces Grant Program

SEQUENCING



APPROXIMATE COST

\$\$
\$50k to \$250k



EXPAND LOCAL KNOWLEDGE ABOUT CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABILITY BENEFITS THROUGH EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMING AND SIGNAGE.

STRATEGY 4W

Promote a library speaker series on environmental issues pertinent to the Town and region, such as climate change, PFAS, or others.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

This strategy is an opportunity for the Wenham community to become more engaged with sustainability issues that relate directly to them and their Town. A speaker series at the library can contextualize sustainability issues and encourage environmental stewardship, building community in a way that is fun and accessible.



STRATEGY TYPE

Programmatic

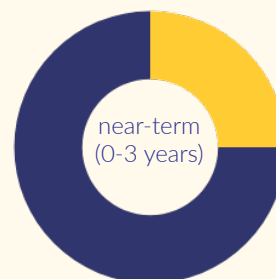
RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Library Department
Town Administrator

Supporting Town Board:
Cultural Council
Hamilton-Wenham Joint Recreation Committee

Supporting Board or Local Organization:
Hamilton-Wenham Climate Action Team

SEQUENCING



FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
General Fund

APPROXIMATE COST



less than \$50k



WORK TO IMPROVE CLIMATE RESILIENCE IN WENHAM THROUGH SUPPORTING SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVES AND POLICIES.

STRATEGY 4X

Create a Climate Action and Sustainability Committee to support the achievement of Wenham's Climate Action Resolution of net zero by 2040 and lead the way in implementing sustainable practices and community resilience.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

This strategy builds on the need to address climate change at the local level. Creating a Climate Action Plan and Sustainability Committee can help Wenham achieve its sustainability goals and be better positioned to adapt to and mitigate the impacts of climate change.



STRATEGY TYPE

Capacity Building

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Town Administrator
Land Use

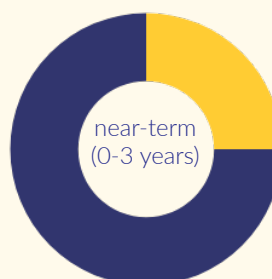
Supporting Town Board:
Select Board

Supporting Board or Local Organization:
Conservation Commission
Hamilton-Wenham Climate Action Team

FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
Staff Time

SEQUENCING



APPROXIMATE COST



less than \$50k



WORK TO IMPROVE CLIMATE RESILIENCE IN WENHAM THROUGH SUPPORTING SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVES AND POLICIES.

STRATEGY 4Y

Incentivize renewable energy options for Wenham homeowners.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

This strategy seeks to build on existing renewable energy incentives offered by Massachusetts, such as participating in the NextZero program, Solar Massachusetts Renewable Target Program (SMART), and the Clean Energy Lives Here program.



STRATEGY TYPE

Programmatic

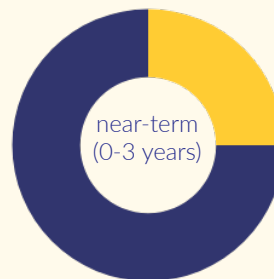
RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Town Administrator
Department of Public Works

Supporting Town Board:
Finance and Advisory Committee
Conservation Commission

Supporting Board or Local Organization:
Hamilton-Wenham ClimateAction Team

SEQUENCING



FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
General Fund

Potential Non-Local Funding Source:
Mass Solar Loan
MassSave

APPROXIMATE COST



less than \$50k

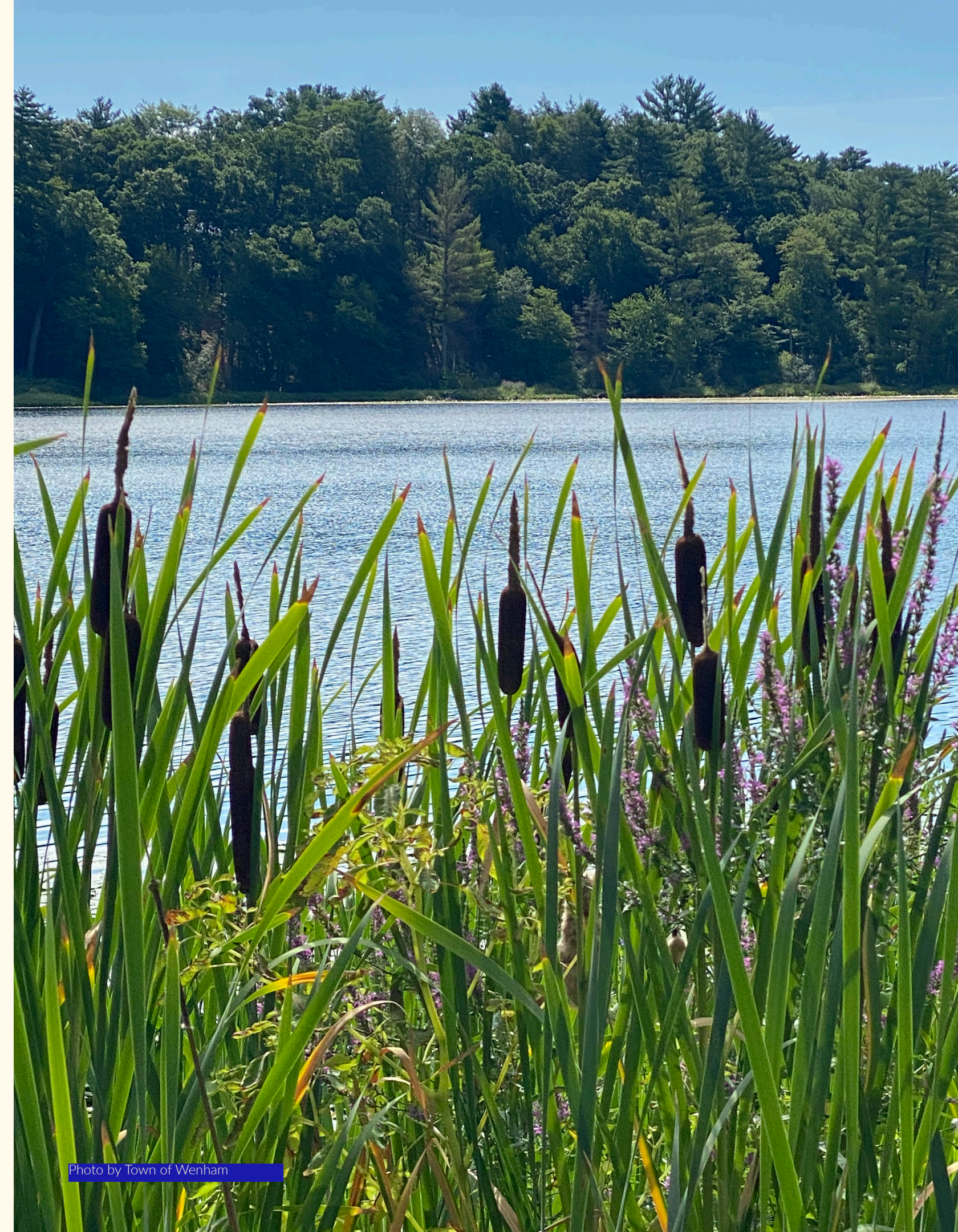


Photo by Town of Wenham

CORE THEME FIVE

WORK TO INCREASE APPRECIATION AND PRESERVATION OF WENHAM'S HISTORY



THEME VISION

BY 2034, WENHAM HAS WORKED TO INCREASE COMMUNITY APPRECIATION OF LOCAL AND REGIONAL HISTORY AND PRESERVATION OF OUR HISTORIC RESOURCES. WE WORK TO MAINTAIN AND ACTIVATE OUR HISTORIC SPACES THROUGH MARKETING AND EXPOSURE AS WELL AS CONSIDERATIONS FOR SUSTAINABLE, ADAPTIVE REUSE THAT ALIGNS WITH THE TOWNS GOALS. WE RECOGNIZE THAT OUR TOWN'S STORY BEGINS WITH INDIGENOUS PEOPLES, AND OUR HISTORICAL NARRATIVES INCLUDE DIVERSE EXPERIENCES.

METRICS FOR MEASURING SUCCESS

1. THE NUMBER OF AGE INCLUSIVE HISTORIC PROGRAMMING EVENTS PLANNED AND EXECUTED.
2. TOTAL ATTENDANCE AT AGE INCLUSIVE HISTORIC PROGRAMMING EVENTS.
3. THE INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF HISTORIC RESOURCES IN WENHAM THAT ARE INVENTORIED AND/OR PROTECTED THROUGH A PRESERVATION RESTRICTION, ACQUISITION, DEMOLITION DELAY BYLAW, OR LOCAL HISTORIC DISTRICT DESIGNATION.



WENHAM
TEA HOUSE

Photo by Steve Rosenthal



BUILD AND MAINTAIN A PUBLICLY ACCESSIBLE INVENTORY OF LOCAL HISTORICAL RESOURCES TO ENCOURAGE LOCAL INTEREST IN WENHAM'S STORY.

STRATEGY 5A

Update the local historic resources inventory to include places identified in the 2017 Wenham Community-wide Historic Properties Survey.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

By registering historic places in Wenham with the National Register, the Town can receive tax incentives, limited protection, and grant funding for these properties. This is a way for Wenham to protect its historic resources, seek funding support, and bring greater awareness to these areas in the Town.



STRATEGY TYPE

Regulatory / Policy

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Town Administrator
Land Use

Supporting Town Board:
Planning Board
Historic District Commission

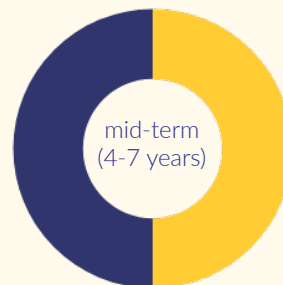
Supporting Board or Local Organization:
Wenham Historical Society

FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
General Fund

Potential Non-Local Funding Source:
Community Planning Grant Program
MHC Survey and Planning Grants

SEQUENCING



APPROXIMATE COST



less than \$50k



BUILD AND MAINTAIN A PUBLICLY ACCESSIBLE INVENTORY OF LOCAL HISTORICAL RESOURCES TO ENCOURAGE LOCAL INTEREST IN WENHAM'S STORY.

STRATEGY 5B

Consider funding options to support new signage and markers for historic properties.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

This strategy aims to increase local awareness of historic resources in Wenham. By providing signs and information, the public can be more engaged and educated about the Town and its history.



STRATEGY TYPE

Physical / Design / Acquisition

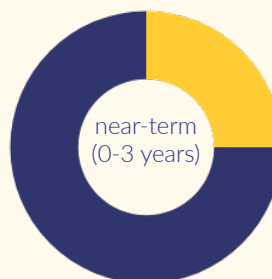
RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Reponsible Town Department:
Town Administrator
Finance Department

Supporting Town Board:
Planning Board
Historic District Commission

Supporting Board or Local Organization:
Wenham Historical Society

SEQUENCING



APPROXIMATE COST



less than \$50k

FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
General Fund

Potential Non-Local Funding Source:
Shared Streets and Spaces Grant Program



BUILD AND MAINTAIN A PUBLICLY ACCESSIBLE INVENTORY OF LOCAL HISTORICAL RESOURCES TO ENCOURAGE LOCAL INTEREST IN WENHAM'S STORY.

STRATEGY 5C

Consider conducting an archaeology study, including identifying sites of indigenous history and other priority sites for conservation, and listing these areas on the National Register of Historic Places.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

Conducting an archaeological study in Wenham can help identify previously unknown historic places and protect sensitive areas and artifacts. This can help Wenham identify additional sites in need of historic preservation and honor past inhabitants of the area.



STRATEGY TYPE

Regulatory / Policy

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Town Administrator
Land Use

Supporting Town Board:
Planning Board
Open Space and Recreation Committee

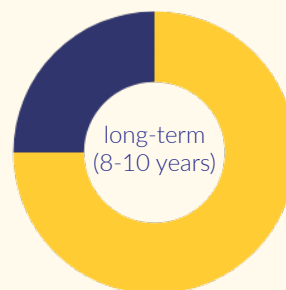
Supporting Board or Local Organization:
Wenham Historical Society

FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
General Fund

Potential Non-Local Funding Source:
Community Planning Grant Program
MHC Survey and Planning Grants

SEQUENCING



APPROXIMATE COST



\$50k to \$250k



BUILD AND MAINTAIN A PUBLICLY ACCESSIBLE INVENTORY OF LOCAL HISTORICAL RESOURCES TO ENCOURAGE LOCAL INTEREST IN WENHAM'S STORY.

STRATEGY 5D

Conduct a First Period Houses Study to document the history of these places as a supplement to the First Period Thematic Resource nomination.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

This strategy would help Wenham expand current understandings of historic places in the Town across housing typologies. The strategy contributes to existing knowledge of historic homes in Wenham, encourages the continuation of efforts to catalog and protect Wenham's historic homes, and supports the establishment of historic tours.



STRATEGY TYPE

Regulatory / Policy

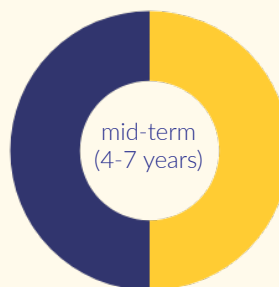
RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Town Administrator
Land Use

Supporting Town Board:
Wenham Housing Authority
Planning Board

Supporting Board or Local Organization:
Wenham Historical Society

SEQUENCING



APPROXIMATE COST



\$50k to \$250k

FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
General Fund

Potential Non-Local Funding Source:
Community Planning Grant Program
MHC Survey and Planning Grants

GOAL 1

BUILD AND MAINTAIN A PUBLICLY ACCESSIBLE INVENTORY OF LOCAL HISTORICAL RESOURCES TO ENCOURAGE LOCAL INTEREST IN WENHAM'S STORY.

STRATEGY 5E

Inventory historic burial grounds, including those of enslaved persons and those of Indigenous peoples.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

This strategy aims to document historic places more fully in Wenham, particularly among groups with less well-known or documented histories in the Town. Burial grounds of enslaved persons are reportedly located on Dodges Row, at the end of Boulder Lane. Currently, only the Wenham and Fairfield cemeteries are inventoried. Completing an inventory of burial grounds within the Town necessarily includes those of indigenous and enslaved persons. This will support a greater awareness of the many of stories within Wenham's past.



STRATEGY TYPE

Regulatory / Policy

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Town Administrator
Land Use

Supporting Town Board:
Cemetery Commission
Planning Board

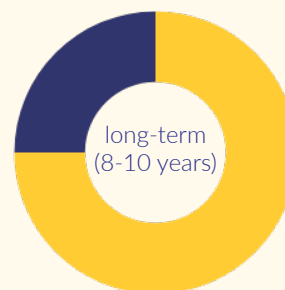
Supporting Board or Local Organization:
Wenham Historical Society

FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
General Fund

Potential Non-Local Funding Source:
Massachusetts Preservation Projects Fund
MHC Survey and Planning Grants

SEQUENCING



APPROXIMATE COST



\$50k to \$250k



PROMOTE OPPORTUNITIES FOR ADAPTIVE REUSE THAT CONTINUE TO HONOR OUR HISTORY.

STRATEGY 5F

Adopt a Historic Preservation Special Permit process to encourage adaptive reuse of historic resources including to promote diverse housing options (see related strategy per Core Theme 3).

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

This strategy aims to expand the life of historic buildings through incentivizing adaptive reuse. This can permit the renovation and use change of historic buildings, while retaining a historic aesthetic. This is a way for Wenham to expand development opportunities and preserve historic buildings.



STRATEGY TYPE

Regulatory / Policy

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Town Administrator
Land Use

Supporting Town Board:
Planning Board
Historic District Commission

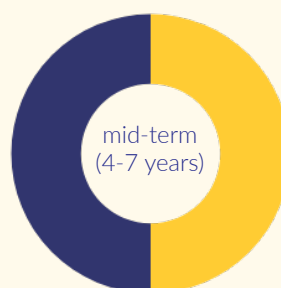
Supporting Board or Local Organization:
Wenham Historical Society

FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
Staff Time

Potential Non-Local Funding Source:
Community Planning Grant Program

SEQUENCING



APPROXIMATE COST



less than \$50k



PROMOTE OPPORTUNITIES FOR ADAPTIVE REUSE THAT CONTINUE TO HONOR OUR HISTORY.

STRATEGY 5G

Review and update Local Historic District guidelines to embrace accessibility improvements and renewable energy.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

By adding design guidelines that allow for renewable energy usage and greater accessibility measures, historic buildings in Wenham will be better positioned to equitably serve visitors with accessibility needs and mitigate and adapt to climate change.



STRATEGY TYPE

Regulatory / Policy

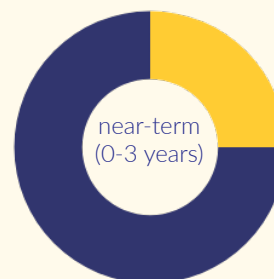
RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Town Administrator
Land Use

Supporting Town Board:
Historic District Commission

Supporting Board or Local Organization:
Wenham Historical Society

SEQUENCING



FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
Staff Time

Potential Non-Local Funding Source:
MHC Survey and Planning Grants

APPROXIMATE COST



less than \$50k



BOLSTER HISTORIC PROGRAMMING TO INCLUDE DIVERSE HISTORIES AND INTERESTS FOR PARTICIPANTS OF ALL AGES.

STRATEGY 5H

Work collaboratively with the Wenham Museum to create a guided historic tour of First Period houses and historic neighborhoods (e.g., audio, live tours, web map, brochure, etc.).

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

This strategy would allow Wenham to increase public awareness of Wenham’s history, better market historic resources, and encourage historic tourism. A self-guided walking tour is a cost-effective way to go about this and will also encourage more walking and active recreation in Wenham.



STRATEGY TYPE

Programmatic

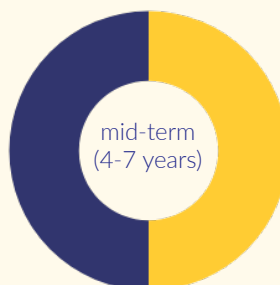
RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Town Administrator
Recreation Department

Supporting Town Board:
Historic District Commission
Cultural Council

Supporting Board or Local Organization:
Wenham Museum

SEQUENCING



APPROXIMATE COST



less than \$50k

FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
General Fund

Potential Non-Local Funding Source:
MOOR Events Grant Program

GOAL 3

BOLSTER HISTORIC PROGRAMMING TO INCLUDE DIVERSE HISTORIES AND INTERESTS FOR PARTICIPANTS OF ALL AGES.

STRATEGY 5I

Work in collaboration with the Wenham Museum to expand events that promote broader understanding of local and regional history.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

The Wenham Museum is an excellent resource for historic preservation in the Town. This strategy seeks to expand the role of the Museum by increasing the number of events offered and broadening the engagement of the Museum.



STRATEGY TYPE

Programmatic

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Town Administrator
Recreation Department

Supporting Town Board:
Historic District Commission
Cultural Council

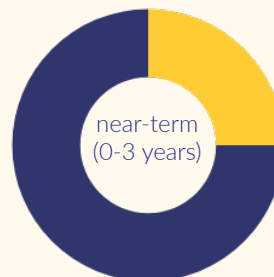
Supporting Board or Local Organization:
Wenham Museum

FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
General Fund

Potential Non-Local Funding Source:
MOOR Events Grant Program

SEQUENCING



APPROXIMATE COST



less than \$50k



BOLSTER HISTORIC PROGRAMMING TO INCLUDE DIVERSE HISTORIES AND INTERESTS FOR PARTICIPANTS OF ALL AGES.

STRATEGY 5J

Partner with neighboring communities to sponsor events that celebrate local history.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

This strategy seeks to promote awareness and engagement with regional history through engaging community events that center local history. This is a way to get people involved and excited about their local and regional history, as well as foster connections between community members.



STRATEGY TYPE

Programmatic

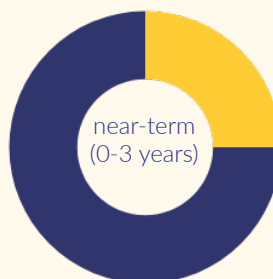
RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Recreation Department
Land Use

Supporting Town Board:
Historic District Commission
Cultural Council

Supporting Board or Local Organization:
Wenham Museum

SEQUENCING



APPROXIMATE COST



less than \$50k

FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
General Fund

Potential Non-Local Funding Source:
MOOR Events Grant Program

GOAL 4

PROTECT AND PRESERVE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE HISTORIC RESOURCES TO ENSURE THEY REMAIN PART OF OUR COMMUNITY'S-BUILT FABRIC AND STORY.

STRATEGY 5K

Prepare a Historic Conditions Report of existing historic monuments and areas, and create a plan for restoration, including funding through the Community Preservation Act funds.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

This strategy is a way for Wenham to document the existing historic resources and plan for their maintenance and restoration. Activated historic places are a way for residents to engage with historic legacies and to foster remembrance of important events. The Community Preservation Act is a source of funding for this strategy which uses State matching of local property tax surcharges.



STRATEGY TYPE

Regulatory / Policy

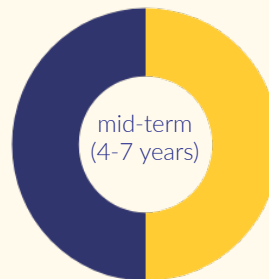
RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Land Use
Town Administrator

Supporting Town Board:
Historic District Commission

Supporting Board or Local Organization:
Community Preservation Committee
Wenham Historical Society

SEQUENCING



FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
General Fund

Potential Non-Local Funding Source:
Community Planning Grant Program
MHC Survey and Planning Grants

APPROXIMATE COST



\$50k to \$250k



PROTECT AND PRESERVE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE HISTORIC RESOURCES TO ENSURE THEY REMAIN PART OF OUR COMMUNITY'S-BUILT FABRIC AND STORY.

STRATEGY 5L

Prepare National Register nominations for resources identified in the 2017 Wenham Community-Wide Historic Properties Survey, such as the Wenham Neck area, expansions of Wenham Village area, Greek Revival buildings, Henry Alley Sr. house, Currier-Hayes Farm, and Iron Rail Vacation home.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

By registering historic places in Wenham with the National Register, the Town can receive tax incentives, limited protection, and grant funding for these properties. This is a way for Wenham to protect its historic resources, seek funding support, and bring greater awareness to these areas in the Town.



STRATEGY TYPE

Regulatory / Policy

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Land Use
Town Administrator

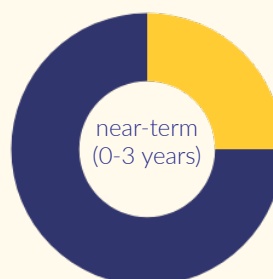
Supporting Town Board:
Planning Board
Historic District Commission

Supporting Board or Local Organization:
Wenham Historical Society

FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
Staff Time

SEQUENCING



APPROXIMATE COST



less than \$50k

GOAL 4

PROTECT AND PRESERVE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE HISTORIC RESOURCES TO ENSURE THEY REMAIN PART OF OUR COMMUNITY'S-BUILT FABRIC AND STORY.

STRATEGY 5M

Reconsider adopting a Demolition Delay bylaw and procedures therein to promote preservation during the delay period.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

This strategy aims to enhance protection for historic structures within the Town. A Demolition Delay bylaw promotes the preservation of historic buildings, proper documentation of historic places, and prevents hasty demolition. Such a bylaw would require time to explore alternatives to demolition and encourage the preservation of historic sites.



STRATEGY TYPE

Regulatory / Policy

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Land Use
Town Administrator

Supporting Town Board:
Planning Board
Historic District Commission

Supporting Board or Local Organization:
Wenham Historical Society

FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
Staff Time

SEQUENCING



APPROXIMATE COST



less than \$50k



PROTECT AND PRESERVE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE HISTORIC RESOURCES TO ENSURE THEY REMAIN PART OF OUR COMMUNITY'S-BUILT FABRIC AND STORY.

STRATEGY 5N

Create a five-year Historic Preservation Action Plan to address recommendations of the 2017 Wenham Community-Wide Historic Properties Survey and identify priority sites for preservation initiatives.

STRATEGY NARRATIVE

This strategy builds on the existing 2017 Survey and extends the recommendations that it put forth. By creating a Historic Preservation Action Plan, Wenham can identify actionable steps to protect historic properties in the Town and further stewardship efforts needed to maintain these places in perpetuity.



STRATEGY TYPE

Regulatory / Policy

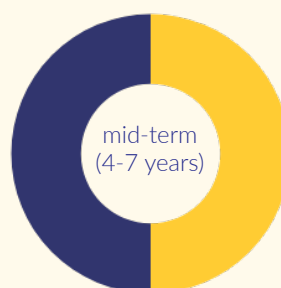
RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

Lead Responsible Town Department:
Land Use
Town Administrator

Supporting Town Board:
Historic District Commission

Supporting Board or Local Organization:
Wenham Historical Society

SEQUENCING



FUNDING

Potential Local Funding Source:
General Fund

Potential Non-Local Funding Source:
Community Planning Grant Program
MHC Survey and Planning Grants

APPROXIMATE COST

\$\$
\$50k to \$250k

