

# RYE MASTER PLAN VISION WORKSHOP 11/10/2021

## SUMMARY OF ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSIONS AND PUBLIC INPUT FORMS

The Master Plan Vision Workshop used the following **SWOT** format described below to collect insights and input from participants.

**Strengths** – positive outcomes; “win-win” for multiple outcomes and benefits; current policy, regulation and planning that have achieved positive outcomes

**Weaknesses** - improvements, new ideas and approaches needed, under-performing facilities, policies, management strategies or regulations

**Opportunities** – ways to modify current policy, regulation and planning to enhance positive outcomes

**Threats** – past and current trends that have created unintended or undesirable outcomes or impacts

### DISCUSSION TOPICS

Participants were asked to use the SWOT format in responding to the following three discussion topics.

#### OUR COMMUNITY

Needs of the community, needs of citizens including all socio-demographic groups, town services and support for them

#### OUR LAND DEVELOPMENT AND GROWTH

Recent development trends, current zoning impacts and benefits to the community, environmental and natural resource consequences of land development today and into the future

#### OUR ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION AND RESILIENCE

Environment, Natural Resources, Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience, and Community Sustainability

### OVERVIEW/SUMMARY OF MAJOR THEMES AND ISSUES ACROSS DISCUSSION TOPICS

#### STRENGTHS

Beaches/Ocean, Low Tax Rate, Increased Property Value, Conserved Lands/Open Space, Rural Character, Seacoast Location, Proximity to Amenities and Services; Rural Character, Strong Land Development Regulations, Recycling Composting and Swap Shop, Schools and Library Services

#### WEAKNESSES

Cell Phone/Internet Service, Traffic Management, Enforcement of Regulations, Gathering Spaces, Affordable and Workforce Housing, Sewer Expansion, Stormwater and Flood Management, High Number of Zoning Variances, Sidewalks/Off-road Connectivity for Cyclists and Pedestrians, Lack of Commercial Businesses and Services, Airbnb rentals, Long-Term Planning and Implementation, Beach Traffic and Lack of Parking Fees, Lack of Diversity, Septic System Failures and Water Quality Impacts

#### OPPORTUNITIES

Town Center Plan, History and Rural Character, Strengthen Enforcement, Connectivity for Non-motorists, Affordable and Workforce Housing, Route 1 Development, Septic System Education, Renewal Power Education, Sewer Expansion, Long Term Master Planning, Open Space/Land Conservation, Sidewalks and Off-Road Connections, Traffic Calming and Safety, Coastal Management Sea-Level Rise and Flood Protection Education

#### THREATS

Sea-Level Rise and Coastal Flooding, Wetlands Impacts, Needs of Aging Population and Youth, Water Quality and Resource Protection, Natural Resource Protection/Management, Route 1 Development, Population Growth and Development, Strengthen Regulatory Enforcement and Inspections, Lack of Affordable Housing, Short-Term Rentals

# OUR COMMUNITY

Needs of the community, needs of citizens including all socio-demographic groups, town services and support for them

STRENGTHS –	PUBLIC WORKSHOP INPUT	PUBLIC INPUT FORMS	COMMON THEMES
<p>positive outcomes; “win-win” for multiple outcomes and benefits; current policy, regulation and planning that have achieved positive outcomes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ [Table#1] Historical essence; safety, good Police Department, doors unlocked and Emergency Management; friendly rural, location in Seacoast and beaches; “it’s like heaven”; schools, library, passionate people; town transfer station; sense of community, volunteers, good gathering spots; access to healthy clean water; low taxes; town run well</li> <li>▪ [Table #2] outdoor areas and semi-rural; community participation; respect for property rights; schools, library, historic town center, town forest, recreation; conscientious about homes; town deliberative session; dog friendly, beaches, Little League</li> <li>▪ [Table #3] Schools, outdoor spaces; caring people; small town feel; library; historical awareness in community</li> <li>▪ [Table #4] small town feel; low tax rates; seacoast and beaches; library and youth services; civic minded dedication; low crime rate; community groups – Rye Art, joint meetings, Garden Club; state parks and trails; Webster @ Rye?</li> <li>▪ [Table #5] low taxes, nice community; conservation cooperation; speed limit signs; school system, tight knit community; land use regulations; public access to beaches; active vibrant library; volunteers with professional backgrounds; recreational fields</li> <li>▪ [Table #6] near ocean and Portsmouth; interconnectedness; community involvement; low crime; effective zoning</li> <li>▪ [Table #7] library, ocean, thriftiness, town government/management; schools, student programming and PTA; keep open spaces and farms; location to everything; wealthy town with \$ resources; Odiorne State Park</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Beach, schools, volunteers, workers loyalty and commitment</li> <li>▪ Land conservation and open space</li> <li>▪ Caring people, small town feel, outdoor spaces, good schools, accessible beaches</li> <li>▪ Neighborliness, peace and quiet, natural beauty, open spaces, dark night skies, town hall, TD Bank acquisition, library open space</li> <li>▪ Strong action groups vs. development, cooperation with land use boards to educate</li> <li>▪ School system, supportive parental groups (e.g. PTA school board, REF)</li> <li>▪ Schools, programs for children and families, library, recreation</li> <li>▪ Ocean, open spaces</li> <li>▪ Beaches, elementary school, library youth services</li> <li>▪ Forests, dog friendly, Library</li> <li>▪ Low taxes, nice community, good services</li> <li>▪ Schools/community tight knit, low taxes, recreation and woods, beaches, small town relationships</li> <li>▪ Speed limits are slow</li> <li>▪ Ocean, library, open space</li> <li>▪ Schools, historic town center, library, government deliberative session, Goss Farm, Little League</li> <li>▪ Lots of local talent, low taxes, land use regulations</li> <li>▪ low tax rate, quality schools and library, dedicated caring citizens, low crime and sense of safety, social engagement opportunities,</li> </ul>	<p><b>Beaches/Ocean</b></p> <p><b>Low Tax Rate</b></p> <p><b>Community and Civic Life</b></p> <p><b>Rural Character and Safety</b></p> <p><b>Conserved Lands, Open Spaces, Farms</b></p> <p><b>Low Tax Rate</b></p> <p><b>Schools</b></p> <p><b>Strong Land Use Regulations</b></p> <p><b>Library Services</b></p>

		small town feel, youth services, beach access and not parking fees	
<p><b>WEAKNESSES</b> – improvements, new ideas and approaches needed, under performing facilities, policies, management strategies or regulations</p>	<p><b>PUBLIC WORKSHOP INPUT</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ [Table #1] Poor cell phone service and ability to communicate to everyone at once; lack of diversity; no sidewalks for pedestrians and cyclists, safety for kids; traffic and speed, congested roads; cost of housing and affordable housing; open space (would like more woods); water pressure; Building Department needs help</li> <li>▪ [Table #2] need gathering place in town center (coffee shop, park); lack of compromise/vision; progress slow; poor cell and internet services; hard to get around without a car; not mindful about community investment; roads are like a maze; increase space for recreation</li> <li>▪ [Table #3] challenges to using/monitoring access to public spaces, potential for community conflict; lack of community gathering places; limited public recreational spaces; people operate in silos; commercial uses at public beaches; opportunities for public events (Parsons, Goss Farm); potential to develop commercial “gathering” spaces such as a “downtown campus”</li> <li>▪ [Table #4] lack of transparency; affordable housing for young and seniors; management of physical buildings; public transportation and connectivity, bike trails, sidewalks; diversity; zoning board rules; clarity of town information; Conservation Commission advisory only</li> <li>▪ [Table #5] sidewalks, include young families and more inclusive of users; beaches, traffic and parking; more fun opportunities (at beaches); few engagement opportunities; lack cell phone coverage; hostility at beaches; lack of town center; road maintenance, collapse; lack of commercial entities at town center</li> </ul>	<p><b>PUBLIC INPUT FORMS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Groups criticizing/not helping/empty complaints, not charging for parking</li> <li>▪ Cell phone reception</li> <li>▪ Enforce no drinking on beaches, limit commercial business use of beaches, limit beach parking on residential streets, overspending town budget and on schools</li> <li>▪ Beach traffic and speeding, traffic calming, parking, substance abuse, commercial overuse</li> <li>▪ Gathering places, alternative town management</li> <li>▪ Little engagement outside from school, silos, speeding, lack of sidewalks</li> <li>▪ Town meeting participation, lack of diversity, commercial activity</li> <li>▪ Metered parking at beaches,</li> <li>▪ Sidewalks, community center and gathering spaces, traffic speeding</li> <li>▪ Staff space in library, spaces for teens, no park</li> <li>▪ Sidewalks, better roads</li> <li>▪ Council on Aging, community center for seniors</li> <li>▪ More fundraising events</li> <li>▪ Lack of diversity</li> <li>▪ Few gathering spaces for adults and children, no general store, lack of compromise</li> <li>▪ Sidewalks, lack of communication among boards and workflow issues</li> <li>▪ Lack of diversity, prepare youth for global citizenship</li> <li>▪ Lack of transparency, affordable housing for youth and elderly, bike lanes and sidewalks, lack of diversity, adversarial planning board, lack of clarity of town issues and processes</li> </ul>	<p><b>COMMON THEMES</b></p> <p><b>Town Center amenities</b></p> <p><b>Cell Coverage/Phone Service</b></p> <p><b>Recreational Spaces</b></p> <p><b>Spaces for Gathering and Public Events</b></p> <p><b>Affordable Housing</b></p> <p><b>Connectivity – Sidewalks and Off-Road for Cyclists, Pedestrians and Children</b></p> <p><b>Beach Parking</b></p> <p><b>Lack of Commercial Businesses and Services</b></p> <p><b>Beach Traffic/Lack of Parking Fees</b></p> <p><b>Lack of Diversity</b></p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ [Table #6] meeting place, town center, gathering location; affordability; town government/BOS &gt; 3 persons; bike lanes, safe for walking, children</li> <li>▪ [Table #7] cell phone service; regulations; lack of commercial businesses; not charging for parking at beaches; participation in town meeting and town government; cost of housing; lack of action on emerging issues; town website needs work</li> </ul>		
<p><b>OPPORTUNITIES –</b> ways to modify current policy, regulation and planning to enhance positive outcomes</p>	<p><b>PUBLIC WORKSHOP INPUT</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ [Table #1] Re-route traffic on Wallis and Washington Roads; sidewalks, traffic flow, enforcement of speed limit (decrease speeds), egress and access to from town; expand sewer service; improvements to town center; affordable housing; gathering spots, flipping weakness into positive for town center; gazebo at Parsons</li> <li>▪ [Table #2] historic town center; transportation – shuttle bus, safe bike and pedestrian paths and routes, traffic calming especially near schools; welcome diverse families, socioeconomic and age groups; embrace history and future (newcomers, clubs, pre-school), Little League, churches)</li> <li>▪ [Table #3] working with commercial entities for beach use (public land)</li> <li>▪ [Table #4] recreation department; community power; beach parking; cell towers, expand technology to allow cable-tv and cell; workforce accommodations, change regulations; trauma training; self-driving cars; tennis court/pickle court</li> <li>▪ [Table #5] a new dog park; all boards communicating better; community center; envision where Rye wants to be; church used more as a community resource; increase safety on roads</li> <li>▪ [Table #6] sidewalks; dimensional requirements; balance with resources; town center/library common</li> <li>▪ [Table #7] ADA walkways to beaches; lack of diversity; keep regulations local; workforce housing; professional town government</li> </ul>	<p><b>PUBLIC INPUT FORMS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Charge for parking, limit commercial activity</li> <li>▪ Keep land in current use</li> <li>▪ More community interaction with boards</li> <li>▪ Community center, general store, ice rink</li> <li>▪ Sidewalks, workforce housing</li> <li>▪ Tennis and pickleball</li> <li>▪ Outdoor classroom/performance area, traffic calming</li> <li>▪ Dog park</li> <li>▪ Council on Aging, senior center</li> <li>▪ More electric street signs</li> <li>▪ Add parking meters at beaches, workforce housing</li> <li>▪ Parsons Field for activities and gathering, long term planning</li> <li>▪ Community input</li> <li>▪ Increase beach parking for residents, more workforce housing, cell tower service and expand cable options</li> </ul>	<p><b>COMMON THEMES</b></p> <p><b>Town Center</b></p> <p><b>History and Rural Character</b></p> <p><b>Sidewalks and Traffic Safety/Calming Management</b></p> <p><b>Cell Service</b></p> <p><b>Affordable/Workforce Housing</b></p> <p><b>Community Gathering Spaces</b></p> <p><b>Beach Parking Fees</b></p> <p><b>Long-term Planning</b></p>

<p><b>THREATS –</b> past and current trends that have created unintended or undesirable outcomes or impacts</p>	<p><b>PUBLIC WORKSHOP INPUT</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ [Table #1] Climate change; lack of affordable housing; livability; beaches overcrowded, threatening rural character; fear of traffic volumes and use of cut-throughs; more services; too much development; short-term rentals; balance development with services; enforce zoning; water quality</li> <li>▪ [Table #2] Execution of plan [master plan]; aging population, lack of young families and impact of funds for school budget; Airbnb and short-term rentals, “transient” neighbors; over building; beach</li> <li>▪ [Table #3] environmental changes; the “big squeeze” sea-level rise, increased popularity and access may overrun/use</li> <li>▪ [Table #4] too many ZBA variances and PB waivers; overcrowding and density; lack of diversity; lack of housing; water quality and septic issues; recognition of existing resources; tidal flooding at beaches; litter; cell phone coverage</li> <li>▪ [Table #5] over-building; expensive real estate; loss of open spaces; water quality; traffic; participation in town government; aging population</li> <li>▪ [Table #6] affordability; control beach traffic in residential areas; high road traffic speeds, unsafe for cyclists; town too popular?; cell phone service; climate change, water quality, beach erosion</li> <li>▪ [Table #7] town sewer would open flood gates to development; lack of protection for historic structures outside historic district; bacteria in ocean; over-development; home prices; lack of enforcement to monitor septic systems</li> </ul>	<p><b>PUBLIC INPUT FORMS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Aging population, volunteers tired of complainers</li> <li>▪ Over development/larger homes, town spending, lack of enforcement of zoning and regulations, too many zoning variances, free parking on Route 1A, lack of protection of historic properties</li> <li>▪ Aging community, barrier to entry, over development</li> <li>▪ Ocean, lack of communication/movement on issues</li> <li>▪ Drinking water</li> <li>▪ Over building and overpriced homes, no execution of plan with polarization undermining progress, short term rentals</li> <li>▪ Over building, over taxing services, schools, beaches</li> <li>▪ Increase expense of real estate, affordable homes, decreasing school population</li> <li>▪ High traffic speeds on Route 1A</li> <li>▪ Keep regulations local and protect historic district</li> <li>▪ Short term AirB&amp;B rentals, overbuilding, aging population, beach access and parking</li> <li>▪ Lack of long-term planning that prompts piecemeal actions that cost more in the end, expensive real estate</li> <li>▪ Litter, sea-level rise and climate change flooding, septic failures and water pollution, traffic speeds unsafe, trauma training for schools and town staff/boards</li> </ul>	<p><b>COMMON THEMES</b></p> <p><b>Sea-Level Rise</b></p> <p><b>Affordable Housing</b></p> <p><b>Open Space</b></p> <p><b>Water Quality</b></p> <p><b>Aging Population</b></p> <p><b>Beach Traffic and Use Volume</b></p> <p><b>Cell Phone Service</b></p> <p><b>Development Increase and Enforcement</b></p> <p><b>Cost of Real Estate</b></p> <p><b>Short-Term Rentals</b></p>
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## **OUR LAND DEVELOPMENT AND GROWTH**

Recent development trends, current zoning impacts and benefits to the community, environmental and natural resource consequences of land development today and into the future

<p><b>STRENGTHS –</b> positive outcomes; “win-win” for multiple outcomes and benefits; current policy, regulation and planning that have achieved positive outcomes</p>	<p><b>PUBLIC WORKSHOP INPUT</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ [Table #1] Passionate, educated, qualified Planning Board; strong and sustained public support for conservation land and open space (behind bank, next to library, Goss Farm and Parsons); strong LDR’s and zoning ordinance; value of homes and real estate</li> <li>▪ [Table #2] increased home values and vacation rentals; beaches and wetlands; Route 1A business community, controlled retail; road and water services; low property taxes; conservation land</li> <li>▪ [Table #3] land increasing in value; farms, pastures, meadows</li> <li>▪ [Table #4] beaches affordable to get to; open space, trails, conservation land; careful growth with limited variances; schools</li> <li>▪ [Table #5] planning board and ZBA, Conservation Commission; natural resources inventory; ZBA unanimous in following the law/RZO; Conservation Commission input in ZBA decisions; well-maintained historical records; Heritage Commission and strong historic district commission; beauty of stone walls</li> <li>▪ [Table #6] Conservation Commission; lack of sewer; workforce housing</li> <li>▪ [Table #7] open space next to library; lot sizes; study what is land is left for development/build out</li> </ul>	<p><b>PUBLIC INPUT FORMS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Beach, clean water, open space/conservation</li> <li>▪ Keep large lot sizes, preserve historic properties, open space and dark skies</li> <li>▪ Rye Park at library</li> <li>▪ Conservation planning, sewer ofr Route 1 and west development, workforce housing</li> <li>▪ Conservation Commission</li> <li>▪ Sewer system violations/replace or improve</li> <li>▪ Conserve historical and lands, natural resource inventory, slow growth ordinance</li> <li>▪ Open Space</li> <li>▪ Trails and open space</li> <li>▪ Water, beaches, forests, wetlands</li> <li>▪ 1.5-acre zoning to cap overbuilding, preservation of historic homes, land development boards in place</li> <li>▪ Low tax rate, swap shop</li> <li>▪ Existing regulations and boards, conservation input is valued and implemented</li> </ul>	<p><b>COMMON THEMES</b></p> <p><b>Increased Real Estate Value</b></p> <p><b>Land Conservation</b></p> <p><b>Low Property Taxes</b></p> <p><b>Town Governance</b></p> <p><b>Beaches</b></p> <p><b>Open Space, Conservation Land, Trails</b></p> <p><b>Land Development Regulations</b></p>
<p><b>WEAKNESSES –</b> improvements, new ideas and approaches needed, under performing facilities, policies, management strategies or regulations</p>	<p><b>PUBLIC WORKSHOP INPUT</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ [Table #1] less control over development; more affordable housing in [new] developments; relief from zoning, too many variances; impact of infrastructure and water while balancing developments (need may increase); access to Rye Harbor for residents; aging population and their impact on infrastructure; long term care options for residents wanting to stay past retirement</li> </ul>	<p><b>PUBLIC INPUT FORMS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Developers finding loopholes, fear of town being sued, speed limits</li> <li>▪ Septic system pollution and it’s impact on water quality</li> <li>▪ Too much growth and development, need more commercial development on Route 1 with restrictions</li> </ul>	<p><b>COMMON THEMES</b></p> <p><b>Affordable Housing</b></p> <p><b>Aging Population</b></p> <p><b>ZBA Grant of Variances/Relief</b></p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ [Table #2] zoning too strict, who defines them, land use restrictions, not enough commercial development; no affordable housing; too many realtors; no old historic homes and lack of preservation; too many large homes; lack of income tax and property tax</li> <li>▪ [Table #3] commercialization of Route 1A; lot size requirements drive price inflation; ZBA allows too many variances in wetland buffer</li> <li>▪ [Table #4] too many variances and waivers; zoning and lot sizes; loss of marshes and encroachments; dedicated senior space; state parks; cell phone service</li> <li>▪ [Table #5] zoning regulations, monitoring, inconsistent enforcement of regulations; stormwater management; long term planning</li> <li>▪ [Table #6] demolition; bridges up to code in beach areas; lack of sewer town wide; wetland and wetland buffer impacts; building/code enforcement permitting process and interpreting code</li> <li>▪ [Table #7] sewers create over-development; evaluate and identify loopholes to height requirements; ZBA grant too many adjustments</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Encourage conservation subdivisions for more open space and smaller lot sizes</li> <li>▪ Water protection and sewer</li> <li>▪ No sewer system</li> <li>▪ Lack of accountability and enforcement</li> <li>▪ Lot sizes should be smaller</li> <li>▪ Lack of places to gather, town center</li> <li>▪ Limited range of housing opportunities, tax rated does not reflect investment in the community</li> <li>▪ Lack of affordable housing</li> <li>▪ Lack of sidewalks, lack of commercial activity</li> <li>▪ Zoning needs alignment with town goals</li> <li>▪ Enforcement and monitoring</li> </ul>	<p><b>Enforcement of Regulations and Monitoring</b></p> <p><b>Sewer – town-wide or not to limit development</b></p> <p><b>Limited Housing Options</b></p>
<p><b>OPPORTUNITIES –</b> ways to modify current policy, regulation and planning to enhance positive outcomes</p>	<p><b>PUBLIC WORKSHOP INPUT</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ [Table #1] Quality of and need for more volunteers, positions need to be filled; attract young families; development brings in tax dollars and impact fees fund infrastructure; create a comprehensive town center plan; more open space and community opportunity; additional housing creating a call to action</li> <li>▪ [Table #2] environmentally friendly vehicles (EV cars and charging stations, bicycles); diversify population; align zoning with goals; education around conservation, places to visit; protect and expand water; vibrant town center and mixed-use opportunities; invest in community</li> </ul>	<p><b>PUBLIC INPUT FORMS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ More open space and land conservation and sidewalks</li> <li>▪ More conservation lands, keep building height regulations, prevent short term rentals of residential homes</li> <li>▪ Hire land use assistant and enforcement</li> <li>▪ Land covenants to control building size</li> <li>▪ Development pays for their services</li> <li>▪ Make changes before it is too late</li> <li>▪ Septic vs. sewer, what’s left to develop (ADU, convenience or restrictive housing)</li> <li>▪ Create lot sizes for smaller houses, lower cost of housing, increase tax rate</li> </ul>	<p><b>COMMON THEMES</b></p> <p><b>Town Center Plan</b></p> <p><b>Open Space</b></p> <p><b>Affordable Housing</b></p> <p><b>Open Space and Conserved Lands</b></p> <p><b>Development of Route 1 – good and bad</b></p> <p><b>Long Term Master Planning</b></p> <p><b>Septic System and Sewer Planning</b></p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ [Table #3] dedicate more \$ to open space acquisition; strengthen wetland use regulations; decrease development lot size, increase open space (in multi-structure developments)</li> <li>▪ [Table #4] offshore windmills; solar arrays; cluster zoning; connections to outdoors, open space and habitats; pledges to our land for beach/parks, maintaining marshes, wildflowers and open fields; composting; low-income housing without sacrificing open space</li> <li>▪ [Table #5] slow growth ordinance; enforce current zoning ordinance; land use regulations and long-term planning; look at the big picture; extend sewer line to west side of Route 1 development; new master plan specifies development controls and economic development</li> <li>▪ [Table #6] SR 1.5A is it in line?; green space; town preparedness for increased population, multi-family housing; multi-family housing access to town resources, schools, beach, mobility; Adams Park</li> <li>▪ [Table #7] covenant on land to monitor size of house; connect conservation land with trails; more commercial development on Route 1; replicate colonial housing; put sewers in certain places; research and monitor septic capabilities; strengthen commercial base; cluster zoning; make high-tech septic mandatory; incentivize building of smaller homes; incentivize land conservation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Diversify population, education, EV charging stations</li> <li>▪ Historical markers, more conserved lands</li> <li>▪ Education, places to stay</li> <li>▪ Every application is a new application</li> </ul>	<p><b>Renewable Energy</b></p>
<p><b>THREATS –</b> past and current trends that have created unintended or undesirable outcomes or impacts</p>	<p><b>PUBLIC WORKSHOP INPUT</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ [Table #1] too much development on Route 1, will tax systems (safety, water services, impact on rural character and open space); lack of diversity, aging population; threat to school system</li> <li>▪ [Table #2] Drinking water supply and pollution, overbuilding in water supply areas and wetlands; impacts on water quality from lawn treatments; real estate exploitation; lack of housing options; vision missing from development; vacation destination</li> </ul>	<p><b>PUBLIC INPUT FORMS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Developers value \$ not local environment, clean ocean and water pollution</li> <li>▪ Too much spending, free beach parking, warrant article for metered parking passes but what happened?</li> <li>▪ Air B&amp;B's</li> <li>▪ Too many zoning variances, overbulking on small lots, prevent AirB&amp;B</li> </ul>	<p><b>COMMON THEMES</b></p> <p><b>Water Supply and Quality</b></p> <p><b>Aging Population and Lack of Diversity</b></p> <p><b>Population Growth and Overdevelopment</b></p>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ [Table #3] water use; single-family zoning code; high density housing; increased land costs; lack of financial diversity</li> <li>▪ [Table #4] pollution, fertilizers, chemicals, impacts to marshes/beaches; Airbnb's in homes and residential neighborhoods; clean water, increased traffic; septic systems; building density; recycling lacking; land fill capacity; beach erosion; population dynamics change to tax rate</li> <li>▪ [Table #5] over- development on Route 1; septic systems and Parsons Creek watershed; wetlands, water quality, sewer expansion; traffic; increased housing densities in certain locations; too many zoning variances/relief granted; local fisheries; 55/62 developments</li> <li>▪ [Table #6] beach water quality; planning for population growth and overdevelopment, pace of development; Sagamore?????</li> <li>▪ [Table #7] septic monitoring; businesses permitted for 6 months using septic for 12 months; Coakley Landfill threat to Berrys Brook</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Lack of zoning enforcement and too many variances</li> <li>▪ ZBA too liberal but following zoning requirements; over regulation limits small houses to expand</li> <li>▪ Building inspector</li> <li>▪ Current resources cannot support the town</li> <li>▪ Development on marsh land, trash</li> <li>▪ Exploitation, drinking water, lawn treatments</li> <li>▪ Wetlands, traffic, water quality</li> <li>▪ Poor septic systems, pollution at town beaches</li> <li>▪ Building in wetlands, possibilities of becoming more of a vacation destination</li> <li>▪ Builders on boards is a conflict of interest, conditions placed on sensitive areas not political, not seeing the big picture</li> </ul>	<p><b>Development on Route 1 – good and bad</b></p> <p><b>Water Quality</b></p> <p><b>Population Growth and Development</b></p> <p><b>Enforcement and Inspections</b></p> <p><b>Environmental and Resource Impacts from Development</b></p> <p><b>Septic System Failures</b></p>
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## **OUR ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE AND RESILIENCE**

Environment, Natural Resources, Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience, and Community Sustainability

<p><b>STRENGTHS –</b> positive outcomes; “win-win” for multiple outcomes and benefits; current policy, regulation and planning that have achieved positive outcomes</p>	<p><b>PUBLIC WORKSHOP INPUT</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ [Table #1] recycling center and swap shop; protective marshes; mosquito commission; conservation land; educated population recognizes threats; Beach Committee; good zoning ordinances and LDR’s</li> <li>▪ [Table #2] Swap Shop; natural resources, environment, beaches; Conservation Commission; library sandwich board messages; awareness about climate change, environment people want to save</li> <li>▪ [Table #3] available town water; safety first (Police Department); Conservation Commission; robust</li> </ul>	<p><b>PUBLIC INPUT FORMS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Strengthen restrictions around water resources</li> <li>▪ Historic preservation, open space protection</li> <li>▪ Ocean conservation and buffers</li> <li>▪ Scenic vistas, setbacks enforced, no harmful chemicals</li> <li>▪ Preservation of Parsons Field, Rye Woods, marshes</li> <li>▪ Transfer station</li> <li>▪ Composting, beaches</li> <li>▪ An environment worth saving</li> </ul>	<p><b>COMMON THEMES</b></p> <p><b>Climate Change Awareness</b></p> <p><b>Recycling Center, Swap Shop, Composting</b></p> <p><b>Environment, Wildlife, Natural Resources</b></p> <p><b>Protect Wetlands to Mitigate Climate Change Impacts</b></p>
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	<p>wildlife population; strong zoning regulations; Sea Bee Honey</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ [Table #4] beaches, open space, conservation land; New England community; bike lanes, Ocean Boulevard; recycling center, composting, Swap Shop; water quality; building code, zoning ordinance and LDRs; attraction of coastal region; energy savings programs</li> <li>▪ [Table #5] scenic vistas; setbacks are being enforced; no harmful chemicals; Mosquito Commission; transfer station; marshes; open space; Water Department; good permeability regulations</li> <li>▪ [Table #6] unsurpassed natural beauty – beach, marsh, wildlife, trees, RTF, stonewalls, fields, more green space</li> <li>▪ [Table #7] more beach days; transfer station does great job; conserve lands and wetlands to mitigate water level rise; harbor dredged to mitigate water level rise threats</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Mosquito Commission, beaches, transfer station</li> <li>▪ Cheap water, good mosquito control, transfer station and recycling, woods and open green space</li> <li>▪ Isles of Shoals</li> <li>▪ Town already in position to protect land, Conservation Commission, Energy Committee, good mosquito control, beaches and marshes</li> <li>▪ Mr Fox composting, beaches and open space, recycling center</li> </ul>	<p><b>Strong Regulations</b></p>
<p><b>WEAKNESSES</b> – improvements, new ideas and approaches needed, under performing facilities, policies, management strategies or regulations</p>	<p><b>PUBLIC WORKSHOP INPUT</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ [Table #1] storm surge impacts, berms and roads, runoff from parking lots and septic systems (at gazebo and Parsons); inability to identify specific pollutants and sources; trash on streets (liquor bottles/drinking and driving); coastal infrastructure owned by state causes challenges</li> <li>▪ [Table #2] recycling program; septic system maintenance; enforcement of regulations; ZBA issues and enforcement</li> <li>▪ [Table #3] limited inventory of buildable land; reliance on private septic; lack/gap of viable water use plan; limited hazardous waste disposal opportunity; enforcement of lawn chemical use</li> <li>▪ [Table #4] motorcycle noise; resilience of infrastructure current and planned; plastic recycling; beach trash receptacles, keep later in season; sewer; aging infrastructure; energy not part of Capital Plan; 4<sup>th</sup> July litter on beaches, celebrate differently,</li> </ul>	<p><b>PUBLIC INPUT FORMS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Old septic systems and its technology</li> <li>▪ Few bike lanes, zoning</li> <li>▪ Failing septic systems and impact on water and beach quality, over development, runoff</li> <li>▪ Lack of electronic charging stations</li> <li>▪ Lack of commercial businesses</li> <li>▪ Too much development at wetlands and marshes</li> <li>▪ Permitting building on wetlands, lack of awareness, failed septic, pollution on beaches, erosion</li> <li>▪ Sidewalks = more driving</li> <li>▪ Lawn care, lights on houses, noise/lawn care</li> <li>▪ Failed septic systems in Parsons watershed, pollution at town beaches</li> <li>▪ Fragile wetlands</li> <li>▪ Septic system failures/better management</li> </ul>	<p><b>COMMON THEMES</b></p> <p><b>Stormwater Flooding/Management</b></p> <p><b>Septic System Failure/Function Enforcement</b></p> <p><b>Water Quality and Lawn Care</b></p> <p><b>Wetlands Protection and Restoration</b></p>

	<p>communication needed; building too close to marshes; amendment to noise regulations, fertilizer application/lawn care, lawn care companies parking on roads</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ [Table #5] failed septic systems and their pollution, enforcement of septic system regulations; beach closures; lack of awareness about environmental issues; culverts</li> <li>▪ [Table #6] stormwater management and drainage and cost for maintenance/improvement; solar ordinance needed as incentive</li> <li>▪ [Table #7] discarding of dredge materials that could be used for wetland restoration</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Conditions on development not monitored or enforced, 24 beach closures</li> <li>▪ Improve recycling opportunities, roadside litter and at beaches/marshes, more conversation about eco-friendly July 4<sup>th</sup> fireworks</li> </ul>	
<p><b>OPPORTUNITIES</b> – ways to modify current policy, regulation and planning to enhance positive outcomes</p>	<p><b>PUBLIC WORKSHOP INPUT</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ [Table #1] coastal climate adaptation, buffers and setbacks; “Adopt a Road” program; protect public beaches for public access; expand recycling; work with State on sea wall management and flood protection</li> <li>▪ [Table #2] planning around main roads; strengthen Conservation Commission guidance; library host for speaker series; public education about septic systems; alternative energy and state(?); Swap Shop, expand access, recycling, sharing economy and rules; educate about benefits and management of vegetation, and habitat benefits; create process for being at forefront of climate mitigation and adaptation</li> <li>▪ [Table #3] town sponsored home composting opportunities; sewers; create a disaster recovery plan; encourage native plants/ecology; better recycling; education on water use and recycling</li> <li>▪ [Table #4] community education; speakers on climate change, environmental and energy issues; community power to lower costs and reduce consumption; alliances with neighboring towns; neighborhood clean ups; invest in town forest</li> </ul>	<p><b>PUBLIC INPUT FORMS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ More open space/conservation lands, more solar panels</li> <li>▪ Dark sky /light pollution</li> <li>▪ Environmental standards for development and LEED construction</li> <li>▪ Lack of ADA facilities</li> <li>▪ Prohibit building in wet areas</li> <li>▪ Wind and solar as a community resource</li> <li>▪ Land bank</li> <li>▪ Insensitivities to build sustainable, education about energy, lawn care education</li> <li>▪ Water, water, water, geothermal energy</li> <li>▪ Recycling</li> <li>▪ Increased construction</li> <li>▪ Electric vehicle charging stations</li> <li>▪ Protect wetlands and their buffers considering sea-level rise to protect property and infrastructure</li> <li>▪ Expand access and space for swap shop</li> <li>▪ Raise awareness, opportunity to educate about protection for sea-level rise and environmental methods</li> <li>▪ Bike lanes to promote health</li> </ul>	<p><b>COMMON THEMES</b></p> <p><b>Coastal Management, Sea-Level Rise and Flood Protection and Education</b></p> <p><b>Educate About Septic Systems</b></p> <p><b>Renewal Energy/Power Education</b></p> <p><b>Recycling and Composting</b></p> <p><b>Strengthen Enforcement</b></p> <p><b>Protect Wetlands and Buffers</b></p> <p><b>Open Space/Conserved Lands</b></p> <p><b>Water Quality Awareness and Education</b></p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ [Table #5] garbage bags to pick up trash at public places; revise master plan and zoning ordinances; enact prevention measures, strengthen enforcement of current zoning; more recycling and “pay as you throw” trash; sewer system; use parking fees for beach protection; friendly “plastic plan????”; environment, conservation lands; master plan Executive Summary</li> <li>▪ [Table #6] conserve more open space; wind power including wind turbines on open space; solar panels on schools and other public buildings with limited restrictions; more recycling</li> <li>▪ [Table #7] offshore windmills; encourage more green building practices; enforce regulations on septic systems; create land bank to enhance open lands; acquire land to move people off threatened coastal areas; identify vernal pools, protect wetlands with buffers; lack of electrical charging stations; improve roads against water level rise; regulate building in coastal areas</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Encourage weekly/monthly community wide neighborhood and beach cleanup, guest speakers at library on environmental issues</li> </ul>	
<p><b>THREATS –</b> past and current trends that have created unintended or undesirable outcomes or impacts</p>	<p><b>PUBLIC WORKSHOP INPUT</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ [Table #1] marshes; sea-level rise and storm surge; over development; water quality; inability to break contracts</li> <li>▪ [Table #2] sea-level rise, flooding, higher tides, flooding on Route 1A; wetlands, trees; overbuilding; education issues; water pollution</li> <li>▪ [Table #3] increasingly difficult to build near beaches; flood zones based on Rye Beach ZBA and requirements; flooding and storms, drainage; water quantity</li> <li>▪ [Table #4] tax revenue from climate change; no response to energy opportunities; pollution and noise endangering wildlife; fossil fuel usage; septic systems; need vigorous enforcement of existing regulations; lack of awareness esp. among seasonal residents</li> </ul>	<p><b>PUBLIC INPUT FORMS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Water</li> <li>▪ Free parking on Route 1A = lost revenue, too much development, need more preservation of rural character, more bike lanes</li> <li>▪ Lack of protections</li> <li>▪ Building on wetlands</li> <li>▪ Invasive species, wetland loss (sea-level rise)</li> <li>▪ Sea-level rise, heavy rain events, beach erosion, Coakley superfund site</li> <li>▪ Waste disposal at beaches</li> <li>▪ Sea-level rise, rising groundwater and increased precipitation, expanding wetlands, protecting resources from these impacts</li> <li>▪ Sea-level rise, flooding on Rte 1A</li> <li>▪ Summer homes with septic failures and converted to year-round residences</li> </ul>	<p><b>COMMON THEMES</b></p> <p><b>Sea-Level Rise and Flooding, Erosion</b></p> <p><b>Unchecked Development</b></p> <p><b>Water Quality</b></p> <p><b>Enforcement of Regulations</b></p> <p><b>Shoreland Buffers</b></p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ [Table #5] too many variances granted for wetlands impacts, allowing development in sensitive areas; rising sea levels, flooding, erosion, increased rainfall; overpopulation; need water treatment plan; marshes and invasive species; infrastructure, drinking water and aquifer protection (overdevelopment on west side of Route 1)</li> <li>▪ [Table #6] sea-level rise; wildlife; impacts of development on wetlands and shoreland buffers</li> <li>▪ [Table #7] raising houses to accommodate sea-level rise; invasive species regulations; offshore windmills</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ July 4<sup>th</sup> celebrations pollute beaches, aging infrastructure</li> </ul>	
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