

Meeting #1 - Comment Summary

1. What do you value most about the Railroad Avenue area and the adjacent neighborhoods?	# of Groups that Mentioned the Comment
Ability to walk to places, namely the Downtown	1
Shaw's Grocery Store	3
Train station and the access that provides to Boston	2
This is a friendly area with considerate people, drivers stop for pedestrians	1
Conley's Pharmacy - personal service	1
The investments in both existing and new buildings by developers and land owners	1
Pleasant Street and Dale Avenue are nice walking routes between the area and Downtown	2
Station Place and other recent developments have helped revitalize the area	2

2. Given regional and national housing trends, where are the best opportunities for adding housing in this area?	# of Groups that Mentioned the Comment
Could see 2-3 story mixed-use buildings (residential over commercial use) where McDonalds is located	1
Long term, could see the Shaws have other uses, including residential, on the parcel	3
Frontage along Railroad Ave between School Street and Prospect Street	1
Parcel at the corner of Pleasant Street and Prospect Street	1
Should also focus on rehabbing existing housing stock	2
We need to keep housing stock affordable to attract young people and young families and keep them in Gloucester	3
MBTA parking lot could create potential for public/private partnership for development	1
Could see housing located over parking or over commercial space	1
Buildings should include solar panels on the roof	1
Create live/work units or artist housing and work space	1

3. What types of businesses could support the Downtown and surrounding neighborhoods?	# of Groups that Mentioned the Comment
More restaurants	1
A small café or eatery to serve commuters and surrounding neighborhoods	1
Smaller supermarket like a Trader Joes	1
Need more small businesses in this area	1
Need to create a good mix of uses and vitality across the uses	1
Child care/day care	1
Bike rental or segway rental	1

What transportation/streetscape improvements could be made within the study area and to better connect this area to the Downtown and Harbor?	# of Groups that Mentioned the Comment
Sidewalk improvements, especially along Railroad Avenue	3
Crosswalk improvements, many are faded, better crossing needed at Buoy Intersection	2
Bus/trolley/shuttle connections from the train station to other areas in the city like Downtown or the beaches	3
Designated walking routes would be nice. Could accomplish that by creating a uniform streetscape along certain roadways/routes.	1
Need better lighting	2
Could you light the street trees along other streets like what is done on Main Street?	1
Partner with local gardening club to create landscaped areas along designated walking routes as a visual cue to show people where the walking routes are	1
Wayfinding signage to and from Downtown area would help, maybe a kiosk with a map at the Commuter Rail station	3
Could you create a program where people are given a map and they have to walk to different businesses and get the map stamped by each business? Could be a good way to get people out walking and also support local businesses.	1
Challenging to widen roads and create sidewalks, maybe consider one way roads and traffic patterns	1
Need to post the bus/trolley schedule, would be nice to have more trains support Gloucester	1