

Designing Dedham



Master Plan Committee Meeting #17

Tuesday, May 25th, 2021



Designing Dedham 2030

Photo: Town of Dedham

05/25/2021

Zoom Meeting Protocols

- **The meeting is being recorded**
- Please mute your audio to avoid feedback issues
- If you are not a committee member please leave video off until the comment period at the end of the meeting
- Committee members if you have a question or comment, please raise your hand or unmute yourself
- Public if you have a question or comment during the public comment period, please use raise your hand function to be recognized



Master Plan Committee

Jessica Porter, Co-chair, Planning Board

Sarah MacDonald, Co-chair, Select Board

Margaret Adams Whitfield

James Antonizick

Dieckmann Cogill

Josh Donati, School Committee

Nathan Gauthier

Dan Hart

Justin A. Humphreys

Daniel T. Maher

Shaw McDermott

Jay O'Brien, Planning Board

Alix M. O'Connell, Parks and Recreation

Sharna Small Borsellino

Scott Steeves

Andrew Tittler

Jeremy Rosenberger, Planning Director

Michelle Tinger, Planning Specialist

Committee Values and Expectations

- **Open-mindedness**
- **Respect**
- **Address conflict**
- **Organized**
- **Transparent**
- **Goal minded**
- **Respect history without fearing change**



Agenda

- **Topic goals**
 - Defining goals/strategies/actions
 - Confirm topic goals (committee polls)
- **Community engagement**
 - Focus groups
 - Videos
 - Committee member stakeholder updates
- **Committee member group exercise**
- **Next steps**
- **Public comment**



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Topic Goals



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Content Organization



Example Goals, Strategies and Actions



Economic Development

Goal

- 2 Strengthen support for small businesses that focuses on improving current systems and building additional capacity

Strategy

- A Explore the formation of business improvement district(s)

Action

- 1 Host a business improvement district (BID) information session with business and property owners that includes an initial survey of interest for creation of a BID

Example Goals, Strategies and Actions



Transportation and Connectivity

Goal

- 6 Expand the tools for transportation implementation including regional coordination, collaboration with Transportation Management Associations (TMA), and temporary pilot improvements

Strategy

- A Coordinate with transportation planning in neighboring communities and the Neponset Valley TMA

Action

- 1 Initiate a regular meeting of transportation staff in neighboring communities to include discussion of current issues, upcoming improvements, and committing to a regular meeting

Example Goals, Strategies and Actions



Governance

Goal

- 3 Ensure Dedham's collective representation reflects its social and racial demographics

Strategy

- A Define, implement, and support initiatives to improve the diversity of representation of Town Meeting members

Action

- 1 Establish representation metrics and baseline conditions with a survey of current members, establish goals and supportive policies, and create an outreach and recruitment campaign

Cross-topic themes (initial working draft)

- The three top values from the Initial Community Survey were **fiscally responsible, sustainable, and inclusive**
- Four recurring themes across many topics:
 - Prioritize walking and biking improvements (5/8)
 - Support inclusion and equity in small businesses, employment, housing, policies and programs, and governance (7/8)
 - Strengthen livability and quality of life (7/8)
 - Shape regulations, policies, procedures, and tools to more effectively align with town goals (8/8)

Content Organization





Working Draft Goals

- 1 Align town regulations, boards, and approval processes with vision and goals to implement the town's priorities
- 2 Direct and manage growth more proactively in existing economic activity centers with specific plans for each area and neighborhood
- 3 Advance preservation of natural and historic assets to make them integral town features with improved access and amenities
- 4 Leverage private development investments to match town priorities, mitigate impacts, and optimize shared benefits
- 5 Strengthen compact neighborhoods and local business districts to enhance livability and walkability
- 6 Focus growth and improvements strategically to support safe and convenient non-vehicular connections

Committee Zoom Poll – Land use and zoning

- As a Committee member, do you support the current draft **land use and zoning** goals?

Yes, I fully support the goals

Yes, I partially support the goals

No, I have concerns about the goals





Housing

Working Draft Goals

- 1 Support the creation and preservation of all types affordable housing for a range of incomes including deed-restricted, subsidized, and market-based units
- 2 Promote equitable development that includes all incomes, races, ethnicities, and life stages to supports fair housing and racial equity
- 3 Protect and support vulnerable households from eviction, foreclosure, or other housing insecurities
- 4 Improve zoning to better align with the improvement, preservation, and diversification of the town's housing stock while requiring linked community benefits and mitigation of community impacts
- 5 Guide mixed-use residential development to existing retail centers, transit stops, and areas that would benefit from redevelopment and investment
- 6 Promote strategic community engagement to alleviate misconceptions about housing and build support for the actions needed to address local housing needs



Committee Zoom Poll – Housing

- As a Committee member, do you support the current draft **housing** goals?

Yes, I fully support the goals

Yes, I partially support the goals

No, I have concerns about the goals





Working Draft Goals

- 1 Invest in neighborhood business districts with a focus on creating an environment for more independently owned businesses and improving pedestrian access
- 2 Strengthen support for small businesses that focuses on improving current systems and building additional capacity
- 3 Improve the ability for people who work in Dedham to live in Dedham by encouraging affordable housing and attracting companies within higher-paying growth industries
- 4 Retain a strategic balance and mix of uses across the town to respond to future economic trends in industrial or other uses and align growth and changes with the community's vision
- 5 Focus transformative growth and future redevelopment on the Providence Highway corridor including enhanced pedestrian and bicycle circulation and connections

Committee Zoom Poll – Economic development

- As a Committee member, do you support the current draft **economic development** goals?

Yes, I fully support the goals

Yes, I partially support the goals

No, I have concerns about the goals





Working Draft Goals

- 1 Prioritize walking and biking infrastructure improvements with a focus on neighborhood business districts, schools and access to transit
- 2 Reduce risk of traffic related injuries and fatalities and increase safety and convenience for all types of travel
- 3 Optimize streets, parking, and transportation infrastructure to create more vibrant, people-centered, and flexible spaces
- 4 Improve safe, comfortable access to existing transit stops, improve local conditions for reliability, and advocate for an increase in frequency of rail and bus service
- 5 Plan for electric and autonomous vehicles, as well as other potential future transportation technologies
- 6 Expand the tools for transportation implementation including regional coordination, collaboration with Transportation Management Associations, and temporary pilot improvements
- 7 Define clear responsibilities for Dedham's transportation committees and town staff and involve diverse perspectives of the public to inform decision-making

Committee Zoom Poll – Transportation

- As a Committee member, do you support the current draft **transportation and connectivity** goals?

Yes, I fully support the goals

Yes, I partially support the goals

No, I have concerns about the goals





Working Draft Goals

- 1 Support Dedham's Health Department by investing in core public health services, cross-sector partnerships, and projects to reduce health risks for vulnerable populations
- 2 Reduce environmental exposures that adversely affect the physical health of Dedham residents
- 3 Support the mental and emotional wellness of Dedham residents, specifically youth and children, to mitigate conditions that contribute to harmful behaviors
- 4 Foster community connectedness and intergenerational ties
- 5 Enact policies and programs that foster inclusive civic and social engagement and expand the outreach and communication for services available to residents
- 6 Support daily physical activity and eliminate risk of traffic related injuries and fatalities

Committee Zoom Poll – Public health

- As a Committee member, do you support the current draft **public health and livability** goals?

Yes, I fully support the goals

Yes, I partially support the goals

No, I have concerns about the goals





Working Draft Goals

- 1 Protect, enhance and expand Dedham's natural, cultural and historic resources in a way that honors the past, responds to the present, and plans for the future
- 2 Implement the recommendations of the Town's recently completed Open Space and Recreation Plan and Climate Action and Resiliency Plan
- 3 Support and expand, resources, programs, and events that are welcoming and inclusive for all members of the Dedham Community
- 4 Make cultural, historic, and natural resources integral to enhanced livability that fosters social cohesion and promotes physical, mental and emotional wellbeing
- 5 Improve connectivity and access to natural, cultural, and historic resources with a safe and equitable multimodal network that serves all users
- 6 Identify funding sources and develop additional capacity (people, knowledge, technology, infrastructure, etc.) to manage and enhance Dedham's natural, cultural, and historic resources
- 7 Integrate arts and culture with economic development as a local engine to improve quality of life, attract investment, and create jobs

Committee Zoom Poll – NCH resources

- As a Committee member, do you support the current draft **natural, cultural, and historic resources** goals?

Yes, I fully support the goals

Yes, I partially support the goals

No, I have concerns about the goals





Working Draft Goals

- 1 Strengthen Dedham capital facilities, infrastructure, and assets to better respond to future needs and risks using best available data
- 2 Improve the transparency of town asset investment and management decisions with clear policies to guide maintenance, upgrades, and disposition processes
- 3 Enhance public facilities to advance sustainability, resilience, innovation, livability, and equity
- 4 Proactively assess funding needs and dedicate staff to pursue external resources
- 5 Expand town services to advance equity and invest in resources and programs that support residents and their families and strengthen relationships among them

Committee Zoom Poll – Community facilities/serv.

- As a Committee member, do you support the current draft **community facilities and services** goals?

Yes, I fully support the goals

Yes, I partially support the goals

No, I have concerns about the goals





Working Draft Goals

- 1 Establish a comprehensive approach to centering residents in services and communications
- 2 Support investment in information technology to modernize the municipal workplace and resident experiences with municipal services
- 3 Ensure Dedham's collective representation reflects its social and racial demographics
- 4 Advance workforce planning and talent management to position Dedham for potential retirement challenges
- 5 Define expectations, goals, and development opportunities for boards and commissions, and encourage increased collaboration and coordination between boards
- 6 Improve monitoring of residents' economic, social, and health needs to define and respond with appropriate social services

Committee Zoom Poll – Governance

- As a Committee member, do you support the current draft **governance** goals?

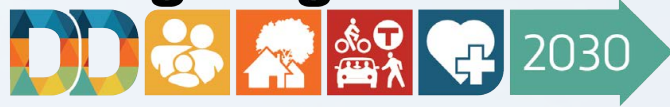
Yes, I fully support the goals

Yes, I partially support the goals

No, I have concerns about the goals



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Community engagement



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Photo: Dedham Wicked Local

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Actions underway

- Outreach to underrepresented population organizations and individuals continues
- Working to improve representation on the Outreach Working Group, outreach to individuals and organizations
- Hosting small group conversations and individual interviews for underrepresented populations, including specifically people of color

Outreach Working Group

Alix Voyajopoulos, Riverdale

Danielle Deluca

Dimitria Sullivan, Select Board, Riverdale

Janet Holmes, Riverdale

Jessica Porter, Planning Board, Dedham Village

Meg Duncan, Dedham Village

Mike Butler, Oakdale

Michelle Tinger, Town staff

Carolina Prieto, MAPC



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Outreach Working Group

<https://youtu.be/vS5WOPubWCE>



MAPC

Dedham Master Plan – MAPC

Design Dedhaming 2030 is a town-wide master planning process that will provide the basis for decision-making in Dedham for the next 10 years.

Feb 19th, 2020 (37 kB) ▾



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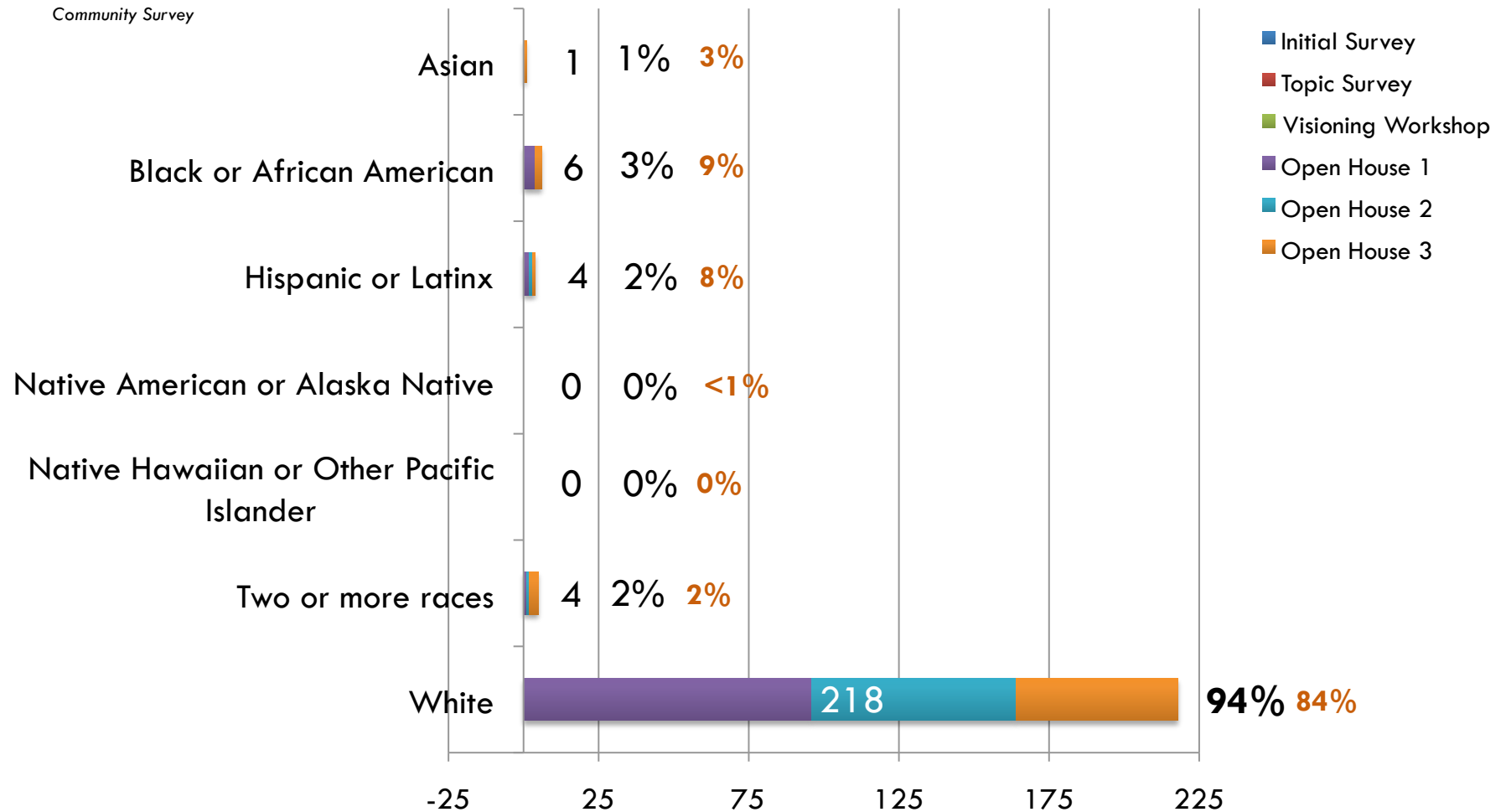
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Community Engagement Insights

What race or ethnicity do you identify with?

Compare to overall population race and ethnicity:

2013-2017 American
Community Survey



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Committee member group exercise



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Photo: Town of Dedham

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Committee Group Exercise

- Breaking into 2 smaller groups for discussion of our process to date framing thoughts as:
 - Rose** – a highlight, success, small win, or something positive
 - Thorn** – a challenge, negative aspect of the process, or issue you have noticed
 - Bud** – new ideas that have blossomed or something you are looking forward to in the next phase of this process.
- Everyone gets to share their thoughts verbally and on Jamboard:
https://jamboard.google.com/d/11zKaVsmGtYdd0AE_DtNz2ZDMMdGZREA4HpLG_qFnVdU/edit?usp=sharing
- Reconvene as a full group for a quick report back and brainstorming about what fall outreach and engagement should look like for this process



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Next steps

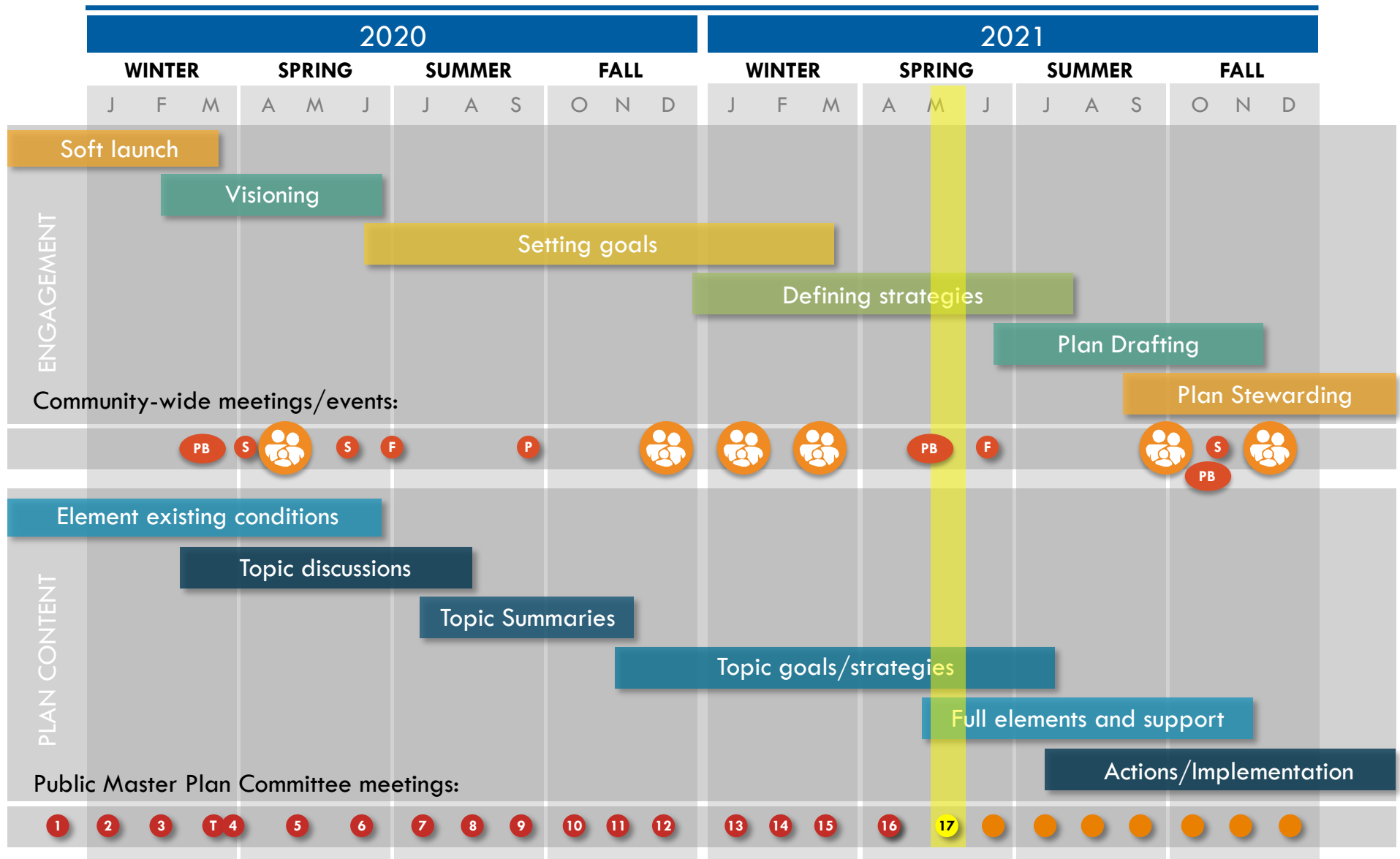


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Photo: Boston Globe, William B. Gould IV/Stanford University Press

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Master Plan Timeline



Next Steps

- Developing draft strategies and actions under each goal
- Continuing with inclusive outreach interviews and focus groups
- Communication to boards and committees
- Designing this fall's community engagement program
- Next Committee Meetings:
Tuesday, June 22nd, 2021 @ 7pm
Tuesday, July 20th or July 27th @ 7pm



Committee Zoom Poll

- Looking ahead, what is your availability for Committee Meetings in June and July?

Tuesday, June 22nd, 2021 @ 7pm

Tuesday, July 20th @ 7pm

Tuesday, July 27th @ 7pm



Next Steps

- Topic strategy discussions
 - **June Committee meeting:**
 - Land use and zoning
 - Economic development
 - Transportation and connectivity
 - Natural cultural and historic resources
 - **July Committee meeting:**
 - Public health and livability
 - Housing
 - Community facilities and services
 - Governance



<http://DesigningDedham2030.org>



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Public comment/adjourn



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