

INITIAL DRAFT FOR DISCUSSION

The following initial draft topic strategies have been prepared by MAPC for discussion with the Master Plan Committee. The initial strategies are based on community feedback through survey responses, community meetings, and committee input. The initial draft topic strategies will be edited, refined, and improved with discussion and input from the Master Plan Committee, stakeholders interested in the topic, and the community through meetings to be held in the fall of 2021.

Natural, Cultural, and Historic Resources

The big idea of the goals for Natural, cultural, and historic resources is to protect and enhance these features and resources and make them an integral part of the town's strengthened livability.

Goals with Committee Feedback Integrated (5/25):

1. **Goal 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
 - **Strategy 1.1:** Maintain and update an inventory of places, traditions, landscapes, and buildings that tell the full story of Dedham's history and that responds to transformative social change.
 - **Strategy 1.2:** Expand, document, and promote Dedham's diverse history through use of oral histories, storytelling, photographs, archival data, walking tours, creative placemaking, and public art.
 - i. Action: Highlight these elements and historic narratives through the features of neighborhood business districts, economic activity centers, and elements of public realm improvements.
 - **Strategy 1.3:** Support the stewardship and adaptive reuse of historic structures, existing buildings, and town properties for community and cultural uses.
 - **Strategy 1.4:** Establish new partnerships and expand existing partnerships with non-profit organizations, community groups, and businesses to align and integrate existing and future initiatives, projects, and resources focused on natural, cultural, and historical resources.

2. **Goal 2:** Implement the recommendations of the Town's recently completed Open Space and Recreation Plan and Climate Action and Resiliency Plan

- **Strategy 2.1:** Leverage master plan implementation to help communicate responsibilities that were defined in these plans, identify synergies and priorities, and define specific assistance that is needed to advance implementation.
 - **Strategy 2.2:** Identify the resources that may be needed to assist in implementation of recently completed plans including town staff and capacity, funding or other resources, training needs, or other support.
 - **Strategy 2.3:** Bring together relevant boards and committees to share the recommendations and suggested implementation activities of these plans to build a common understanding and to plan for coordination around the plans and recommendations.
 - **Strategy 2.4:** Prepare a list of recommended implementation activities and projects that are supported and ready for implementation that can be referred to as funding sources become available. This list could help support grant applications and requests for funding.
3. **Goal 3:** Support and expand, resources, programs, and events that are welcoming and inclusive for all members of the Dedham Community
- **Strategy 3.1:** Expand education and communication around resources, programs, and events that are available to help improve the quality of life for residents and families in Dedham.
 - **Strategy 3.2:** Improve the engagement and representation of all Dedham residents, including communities of color, in neighborhood groups and town processes.
 - **Strategy 3.3:** Develop a tool or process to help town departments and community organizations systematically integrate equity into all community planning decisions and processes.
 - **Strategy 3.4:** Strengthen cultural and arts education in Dedham schools and create opportunities for students to engage and participate in historic and cultural projects and events.
 - **Strategy 3.5:** Promote and encourage use of the Dedham Public Library system, the Mother Brook Arts and Community Center, schools, parks, and other community anchors and cultural institutions that provide opportunities for life-long learning.
 - **Strategy 3.6:** Work with residents to develop a townwide cultural asset mapping project that identifies the places and resources that are important to Dedham's cultural identity and creativity.
 - **Strategy 3.7:** Reduce barriers to hosting arts and cultural programs and events in public spaces and underutilized spaces in Town facilities.
4. **Goal 4:** Make cultural, historic, and natural resources integral to enhanced livability that fosters social cohesion and promotes physical, mental, and emotional wellbeing
- **Strategy 4.1:** Improve equitable access to resources that improve quality of life, including natural, cultural, and historic amenities, health care, education, parks, recreation, nutritious food, and the arts.

- **Strategy 4.2:** Design safe and welcoming public spaces that facilitate social connections, enhance cultural identity, and provide gathering and educational spaces for the community.
 - **Strategy 4.3:** Provide spaces and promote events that facilitate and support cross-generational interaction among seniors, adults, and youth.
 - **Strategy 4.4:** Develop a neighborhood-based approach to promotion of resources and programming so that the most relevant and local information gets to the residents.
5. **Goal 5:** Improve connectivity and access to natural, cultural, and historic resources with a safe and equitable multimodal network that serves all users
- **Strategy 5.1:** Increase the percentage of households, both new and existing, within a comfortable, 10-minute walk, bike, or transit trip of a natural, cultural, or historic resource.
 - **Strategy 5.2:** Build and maintain pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure that allows for residents of all abilities to access community resources.
 - **Strategy 5.3:** Identify and prioritize closing gaps in the pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure to provide critical connections to amenities. Filling these gaps should be high priority investments for the town.
6. **Goal 6:** Identify funding sources and develop additional capacity (people, knowledge, technology, infrastructure, etc.) to manage and enhance Dedham's natural, cultural, and historic resources
- **Strategy 6.1:** Reconsider the adoption of the Community Preservation Act (CPA) to augment financial resources for not only historic preservation and open space and recreation but also affordable housing.
 - **Strategy 6.2:** Create a neighborhood toolkit to help build the capacity of neighborhood organizations and associations.
 - **Strategy 6.3:** Develop a marketing strategy to publicize the benefits of federal and state historic tax credit programs and how they work.
 - **Strategy 6.4:** Explore technology that can support resident connections to natural, cultural and historic resources that may include an app with amenities, events, and safest routes to resources, augmented reality to highlight historic narratives, or other tools to enhance resources.
7. **Goal 7:** Integrate arts and culture as a local engine to improve economic development, quality of life, attract investment, and job creation
- **Strategy 7.1:** Leverage Dedham's existing Arts Overlay District (AOD) and increase galleries, art and performance space, and cultural facilities
 - **Strategy 7.2:** Encourage the development of additional creative and cultural districts
 - **Strategy 7.3:** Support artistic and cultural assets and placemaking activities.

- **Strategy 7.4:** Grow public-private partnerships and create incentives or tools to support creative businesses, job creation, and local artists
- **Strategy 7.5:** Identify location and policies that could be used to encourage artist housing in the town. Provide development incentives through zoning or other tools to encourage the creation and preservation of artist housing.

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