**Meeting Summary**

Date: Tuesday, December 14th, 2021

Location: Zoom Call

Attendees: Amy Love, Co-Chair Franklin

Rachel Benson, Co-Chair Wrentham

Karen Sherman Holliston

John Gelcich Hopkinton

Susy Affleck Childs Medway

Barbara St. Andre Medway

Paul Yorkis, Medway

Bob Weiss Millis

Richard McCarthy Norfolk

Gino Carlucci Sherborn

Susan Nicholl Senator Karen E. Spilka’s Office

Jeremy Thompson 495/MetroWest Partnership

Alison Felix MAPC

Travis Pollack MAPC

Recorded by: Brian Luther, SWAP Coordinator MAPC

**Welcome and Introductions**

Rachel Benson welcomed everyone to the December 14th SWAP Meeting.

**Business Development Presentation**

Susan Whitaker, the Greater Boston Regional Director for the Massachusetts Office of Business Development (MODB), presented on the Economic Development Incentive Program (EDIP) and TIF agreements. TIF agreements are three party agreements between the municipality, business, and the state for economic d Vacant Downtown Storefront Initiative

Rachel asked how often do businesses awarded TIF funds remain in the municipality once the TIF grant expires? And how do we get this information out to business?

* There is no mechanism that currently collects this information, but it would be interesting to gather going forward.

Additional resources:

* [MOBD Slides](https://www.mapc.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/MAPC-SWAP-Meeting-presentation-12_14_21-002.pdf)

**MetroCommon Update**

Eric Hove, the Co-Director of Strategic Initiatives at MAPC, presented updates to MAPC’s recently updated and approved regional plan. MetroCommon was adopted by the Council in Fall 2021 and staff is in the process of creating an interactive website. Any community that would like to schedule a MetroCommon presentation to their local boards or staff can do so by using this [link](https://mapc.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_bval90E8jkcG0uy).

**Community Exchange**

Jeremy Thompson provided an update for the 495/MetroWest Partnership

* The partnership launched regional supply chain website. [Link here](https://www.495supply.org/).
* The partnership produced a Demand response for public transit Memo. Existing DRT service.

Richard McCarty provided an update for Norfolk

* Norfolk received a grant from Executive Office of Environmental Affairs, in conjunction with MAPC.
* Staff is currently working on a Housing production plan
* In conjunction with other communities, there is an ongoing feasibility study on a rail trail for the Metacomet Greenway.

John Gelich provided an update for Hopkinton

* The Planning Board is conducting sub-projects including a Pedestrian trail project. Has had very well attended trails meeting for the upper Charles. Recently issued a survey and received over 100 survey results in the first few days.

Robert Weiss provided an update for Millis

* Currently wrapping up Green Communities projects.
* Millis has 2 ongoing MVP grants; the Charles River watershed and complimentary flood resilience.
* Recently issued a transportation survey. Many residents want public transit that connects to the commuter rail and 72% mentioned they are willing to pay for that service.
* Millis has 3.3 miles of unused train rails and there is interest from a business to use the tracks.
* The Energy Committee is interested in putting together NetZero Master Plan, looking for neighboring partners.

Amy Love provided an update for Franklin

* Recently received an application for 40 units on a 1 acre site. The zoning barely allows this project but it has been maxed out
* Franklin has New Housing Board members.
* Franklin received some grant funds to assist with a few small business pop-up in the center of towns. Two of those pop-ups will stay.
* Franklin recently Hosted the Lt. Gov to announce 2.2-million-dollar MassWorks grant.
* Staff is currently in the process of special permitting for 2 marijuana facilities through planning board.

Rachel Benson provided an update for Wrentham

* Wrentham has a developer that is in control of both vacant downtown parcels, about 50 acres. They plan to meet with the Planning Board.
* Wrentham is looking to to put trails on right of way for the Metacomet Greenway.
* The town has new branding and logo.

Susy Affleck Childs Medway

* Zoning bylaw amendments were approved on November 15th.
  + Environmental Standards amendment that deal with odor and noise. Stemmed from marijuana cultivation facilities.
* Research study on battery energy storage. Medway is being scouted by a company that would like to build a large storage facility
* Medway is undergoing Master Plan process

Gino Carlucci Sherborn

* Sherborn recently had a proposal for a Solar Facility on a lot that didn’t meet frontage requirements. Land Court reversed town decision because it is a protected use. Previous thought was that protected use was only applicable for residential added use, not commercial facilities producing electricity to the grid.
  + Tracer Lane vs. Waltham. SJC has taken the case and will take a look at all solar cases.