

Savage-Dunham, Mary

From: noreply@civicplus.com
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2019 1:00 PM
To: Planning
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Master Plan Comments

Master Plan Comments

The Planning Board initiated the update of the Comprehensive Master Plan to help our town identify needs and priorities as we prepare for the next decade. The guidance from our fellow citizens is essential to the Planning Board as we address current and future challenges that come before us. The last time our town adopted a Master Plan was in 2001. Much has changed over the past seventeen plus years, and the pace of change seems only to accelerate. Town Meeting 2019 voted to authorize the funds for the update of the Comprehensive Master Plan and to establish a Master Plan Committee with the approval of Article 36.

The Master Plan Committee (MPC) will play an advisory role to the Planning Board in the development of the Plan, and welcomes your thoughts and comments during the process. The MPC encourages your participation at the many public meetings and events that will be scheduled and also offers this on-line form for you to share your thoughts as well.

Note: Any comments made are public and will be provided to the Master Plan Committee (MPC) and may be posted on the website with other public comments. The MPC will not be responding directly to comments submitted here but will read them all.

First Name	Elizabeth
Last Name	Moulds
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Comments or Questions	Hi! Thank you for doing this. I've lived in several towns and cities; Hingham has been home for the past 7 years. I see pedestrian and bike safe (and bike lane/sidewalk infrastructure) as huge issues--business as usual is not sufficient as the town's population has expanded. Has anyone explored a pedestrian zone (no traffic) for part of Hingham Square? Though it sounds crazy, I think the research shows it boosts local revenues. "Third spaces" are in short supply in the town-- a pedestrian area downtown would alleviate that as well. RE: zoning--encouraging local, independent shops rather than

services in storefront areas would go a long way towards keeping downtown Hingham a destination. Signs are needed especially at the rotary--1 lane or 2; why is this a mystery?, and at the light at 53 that allows a left turn with no indication. RE: schools - we pay less per student than our benchmark town and while the scores may be strong, I feel like they are more concerned w/ bottom lines than with helping kids who may not learn easily. There's not enough after-care. And please, let's take care of our seniors and our public employees and give them tax breaks or provide protected housing or incentives for qualifying residents before we purchase the Lincoln house. The library is BURSTING at the seams; my kids can't find seats to do homework after school. What's the plan for sea-level rise? Gas leaks--could the town take a more active role in getting National Grid to repair them? Could we make an effort to be a town that leads on environmental issues? It seems like changes will be coming sooner or later, so why not head in that direction now. And... done! Whew. Thank you.

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