



RAYNHAM

MASTER PLAN 2032

THIRD WORKSHOP CLOSES

Open Space & Recreation and Natural & Cultural Resources

On March 1st and 10th, approximately 20 individuals joined the project team for a virtual presentation and interactive discussions about Open Space & Recreation and Natural & Cultural Resources. Just like previous virtual events, the project team provided a number of informational materials, interactive activities, and options for providing more general feedback. This summary highlights the key takeaways from those meetings, results from the interactive activities, next steps, and other ways to provide feedback.



March 1, 2021 Zoom Meeting YouTube video (click the image to watch)

SOCIAL MEDIA: *GOOD NEWS!*

In February, we met our first goal of 350 Facebook and 150 Instagram followers! This continues to be a valuable way of sharing information and learning more about your priorities - let's keep the momentum going! Help spread the word by "liking" our pages or sharing them with a local group you belong to.



370 Followers

Help us get to 450 followers on Facebook!



126 Followers

Help us get to 165 followers on Instagram!

PROJECT TEAM



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STAY CONNECTED



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POINTS OF INTEREST MAPPING RESULTS

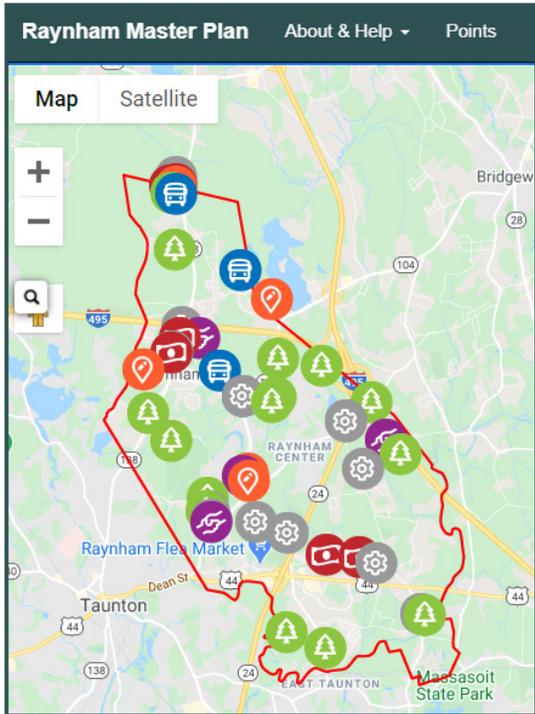
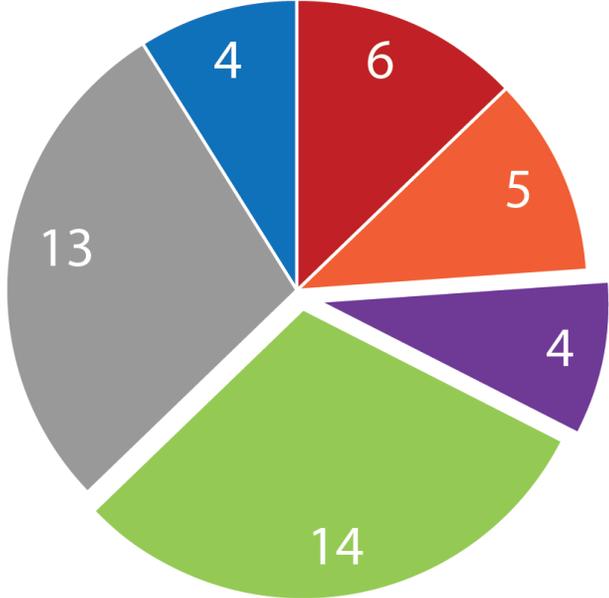
At the first Master Plan workshop we introduced this *Points of Interest Mapping* exercise as a way for the public to share priorities, provide key locations, and to comment about future desires. This exercise will be an ongoing part of the Master Plan workshops and the final results will be part of the final document. To view the current status, visit the mapping exercise [here](#).

Comments from the Open Space & Recreation and Natural & Cultural workshop included:

- Raynham is home to one of the first iron works in the country
- Recently purchased land by rifle club, would like to see this remain residential and preserve the cranberry bogs
- Continue to preserve, access, and maintenance (land behind the Middle School along the Forge River)
- Borden Colony is a great town resource that should be cherished and maintained
- Possible access to the Taunton River
- 100 acre site on White Street – town should consider purchasing

Results

Interactions: 46
 Total Points: 7
 Total New Points: 46



Economic Development	Land Use	Housing
Transportation & Circulation	Services & Facilities	Open Space & Recreation
		Natural & Cultural Resources





CULTURAL INVENTORY SURVEY

Raynham has a variety of natural sites, events, and characteristics that make it a special place to call home. In an effort to determine priorities, investment, as well as future programming, the project team crafted the **Cultural Inventory Survey** to get a sense for what places residents value most. The survey results are not exhaustive or completely representative of Raynham's total population, but do offer valuable insight to guide the goals and strategies of the Natural & Cultural Resources chapter of the Master Plan.

The following images represent the categories and the top three selections in each. Though there were clear preferences for most categories, certain Cultural and Historic Sites as well as Events received overwhelming responses.

For example, the Hannat House and the First Congregational Church are considered significant elements of Raynham's historical past. While Johnson Pond & Memorial Park was selected by *every* person who responded to the survey as a special place in town. Lastly, events such as the Raynham Community Day, the Youth Fishing Derby and the Memorial Day Parade were noted as special by the majority of respondents.

Looking into the future, there was interest in seeing access along the Taunton River, more playground space, and potentially, a future community center.

The survey is still open - simply **click here** to share your opinions!

Historical Sites



Cultural Resources



Natural/Open Spaces



Events



Businesses





MAIN THEMES IN THE MAKING

With the third virtual workshop completed, the project team continued to refine the Master Plan's main themes based on the ideas, thoughts, concerns, and statements the participants shared. The items below summarize the comments, thoughts, and suggestions provided by the public specific to open space & recreation and natural & cultural resources.



OPEN SPACE & RECREATION

Continue to protect the town's important natural resources and open spaces while creating access and connections to those appropriate areas for recreational use.

Feedback provided during the virtual meeting and activities indicated that Raynham has many open space and recreation opportunities. However, access to sites such as Hewitt's Pond, the Raynham State Forest, as well as the Taunton River is either limited or confusing. Participants discussed the importance of providing better signage and parking for Hewitt's Pond and the State Forest, both of which could be improved to spread awareness and encourage use. Although currently not provided, residents desire future access to the Taunton River to allow for activities such as kayaking or fishing.



OPEN SPACE & RECREATION

Foster partnerships and pursue funding to acquire additional land for open space and preservation.

Residents in Raynham appreciate the natural surroundings of the town, but realize that some areas are vulnerable to future development. Through discussions and activities, Master Plan participants shared that they supported land acquisitions at key sites in Raynham including a 100-acre site along the Forge River and an area behind Prospect Hill Street that connects to other critical state protected sites. These efforts require funding, which participants acknowledged as an ongoing challenge. Additionally, participants recognized the existing development around town, especially the newer subdivisions, offered an opportunity to connect these locally created open spaces with walking trails to allow for the use and the enjoyment of these areas.



NATURAL & CULTURAL RESOURCES

Focus efforts on supporting and promoting local events, amenities, and spaces to build community and connectivity in Raynham.

Residents highlighted the importance of local events to create a sense of community. Many of the events, specifically Raynham Community Day, the Memorial Day Parade and the Youth Fishing Derby were highlighted as special because of their community focus, local support, and collaborative spirit. The high consideration that residents have for these events encourages future sponsorship and support to continue well into the future. Additional amenities that Master Plan participants emphasized included the creation of a dog park, more playground space, and a community center.





NEXT STEPS

Working with the Master Plan Committee, the project team will schedule Workshop #4 very soon. This event will be designed to solicit input on the Transportation & Circulation as well as Services & Facilities elements of the Master Plan. Stay tuned for more details!



Questions to think about for Workshop #4:

- How do residents currently use roads and sidewalks in town, and how would they like to be able to use them? Are there limitations due to congestion or safety?
- What town-owned facilities have outgrown the demand or needs from the public?
- How does the town communicate with residents? Can we do more to better share information and make decisions?

WAYS TO PARTICIPATE

Anyone can get involved in the Master Plan - parents, residents, students, business-owners! The project team has created the following means of staying connected and sharing information during the course of the Master Plan. Use the icons to visit the webpage and share your thoughts.

