

PLANNING BOARD/SELECTBOARD JOINT MEETING

Meeting at which the Housing Subcommittee was created.

DATE: August 29, 2019

TIME: 7:00 P.M.

FOR: Joint Meeting Planning Board/Selectboard

PLACE: Large Meeting Room

PRESENT: Planning Board: Brandee Nelson, Chair; Malcolm Fick; Jonathan Hankin;
Jeremy Higa; Pedro Pachano

Selectboard: Stephen Bannon, Chair; Ed Abrahams; Bill Cooke; Kate Burke;
Leigh Davis

Mark Pruhenski, Town Manager

Chris Rembold, Town Planner

Mr. Bannon called the meeting called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. He read the statement regarding recording of the meeting. Three people announced they would be recording the meeting.

MASTER PLAN:

Mr. Rembold said the goal of the Master Plan is for there to be a yearly review. It has been at least two years since the last review. Mr. Rembold provided the board members a handout updating what items need to be reviewed and the order they should be reviewed. The document titled *Document 2013 Great Barrington Master Plan Progress Update 08/20/2019*.

Mr. Rembold said he didn't think it was necessary to go over all 12 pages of the handout. He said the redevelopment section has been worked on with forward movement. He said key sites that are privately owned have set the stage for redevelopment through zoning and financial backing. Ultimately it is up to the owners to redevelop their properties. At this point there is good progress with the Fairgrounds, the New England Log Homes site and the Housatonic mill buildings. He said the Planning Board has been very proactive and successful in addressing zoning updates.

Mr. Rembold said Affordable Housing and Economic Development will always need attention. The new Economic Development Committee should help with the Town's economic development.

Ms. Nelson thanked Mr. Rembold for the comprehensive review. She asked what the schedule will be to update the Master Plan.

Mr. Rembold said work needs to begin soon. There is a lot happening in the Town right now and all of the boards are busy. He said there will be a census next year with results to be released

in 2021 or 2022. He said some of the estimates might be useful when. He said it might be helpful to have 12 months to ramp up the process.

Mr. Bannon said the Selectboard is working on outreach with neighborhoods to discuss the Open Space and Recreation Plan, climate change impacts and a vulnerability plan.

Ms. Davis said she would like to get information about the Business Improvement District to find out why it wasn't successful.

Mr. Rembold said he could provide information. He said the meetings were usually fruitful but financially not all businesses were on board.

Other topics addressed were working on the infrastructure in both Great Barrington and Housatonic including fiber optics, passenger rail service and natural gas service in Housatonic.

There was discussion of housing and some of the barriers for affordable housing development including an increase in the sewer hookup charges. There are other issues that make it difficult to develop affordable housing. The boards discussed and felt that having local realtors Eric Sternagle and Tom Doyle at an upcoming meeting could provide some useful information.

Additionally, the boards created a Housing Sub-Committee with Kate Burke, Bill Cooke, Jonathan Hankin and Pedro Pachano as members. The sub-committee will work on providing information about affordable housing opportunities.

A discussion about how to better information out to the public about opportunities in Great Barrington led to a request to look into creating an APP for the Town to make people aware of all that Great Barrington has to offer.

SHORT TERM RENTALS:

The boards discussed short term rentals. There was discussion of how best to collect data for how many properties in Great Barrington are participating in short term rentals. The board members agreed that people would be reluctant voluntarily provide information for fear of punitive action from the Town.

Mr. Pruhenski asked for clarification on what information the boards would like to obtain. Mr. Pruhenski was asked to contact the State to find out what data they can provide for short term rentals, how many rentals are owner occupied, find out what the ownership structure is from the Assessor's office and find out how many days per year the short term rentals are rented. This item will be included on the next joint meeting agenda.

HOUSING NEEDS STUDY:

Mr. Rembold said one way to dig into the housing data would be to get some funds for a housing study.

The boards agreed to support an application to the Community Preservation Committee for funds for a housing study.

Mr. Abrahams made a motion to create an application to be submitted to the CPC for funds for a housing study, Mr. Cooke seconded all in favor.

Mr. Fick made a motion to create an application to be submitted to the CPC for funds for a housing study, Mr. Higa seconded all in favor.

CONTINUED-ECOMONIC DEVELOPMENT:

Ms. Nelson said this item was on the first joint meeting agenda.

Ms. Davis updated the board members on the progress of the Economic Development Committee. She said the Committee is working on a Mission Statement and a Vision Statement. The Committee has gone through the Master Plan to pick tasks and items to concentrate on. She said the Committee is focusing on making a recommendation on the Housatonic school.

Ms. Nelson encouraged focusing on broadband as it could open up a lot of opportunities.

Ms. Davis said there are many obstacles broadband including child care and public transportation.

Ms. Nelson said she has heard people comment that there is not enough support for economic development in Housatonic. Additionally there might be some focus on recreation. There needs to be more to bring attention to the natural resources and activities in our community.

Ms. Davis said the Committee will work on the suggestions. She said the EDC is focusing on creating energy in the downtown.

MARIJUANA LICENSE LIMITS:

Mr. Bannon asked if the Planning Board wanted to work with the Selectboard to set limits on the number of marijuana facilities.

Mr. Pachano said the Selectboard is the rightful place for setting the limits.

Ms. Nelson said the Planning Board is reluctant to limit businesses generally. It is not consistent with our past practices.

Mr. Bannon said the Selectboard will move forward with it.

Mr. Fick said we don't know the impact until there are one or two more open. He said he doesn't think it is quite time.

Mr. Abrahams said it would be good to figure out what was meant at Town Meeting for setting limits. He said if the Selectboard gets to the point of setting limits we will seek assistance from the Planning Board.

Ms. Nelson said we will certainly work with you we are just not going to take it on.

The boards set October 10 at 6:00 P.M. for the next joint meeting. The meeting will take place prior to a regular Planning Board meeting. Agenda items for the next meeting will include:

- Having Tom Doyle and Eric Steuernagle speak about housing
- Discuss the question about having two nights for the ATM. Moderator Michael Wise will be invited to attend the meeting
- Short term rentals
- Housing sub-committee report
- ECD report
- Master Plan-pushing out to other committees to possibly get reports

CITIZEN'S SPEAK TIME:

A citizen from Mahaiwe Street suggested citizen outreach when discussing housing.

Ms. Nelson thanked Mr. Rembold for his hard work and congratulated him on his promotion to Assistant Town Manager.

Having concluded the business, the meeting was adjourned without objection at 8:11 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Kimberly L. Shaw
Planning Board Secretary

Approved!

INAUGURAL MEETING OF THE SB/PB HSC

Selectboard & Planning Board
Housing Sub-Committee

DATE: September 18, 2019

TIME: 9:00 A.M.

PLACE: Small Meeting Room, Town Hall
334 Main St.
Gt. Barrington, MA

FOR: Kickoff Meeting

PRESENT: Kate Burke, Bill Cooke, Jonathan Hankin, Pedro Pachano

[Signature]
20 Nov 2019
Minutes
by Pedro Pachano
Housing Sub-Committee

Ms. Burke called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M.

Organization: It was agreed that Kate Burke would serve as chair of the Committee

Sub Committee's Mandate: It was agreed that the task of the committee would be to explore a variety of strategies to address housing affordability in Great Barrington for the production of housing meeting a range of incomes (50% to 120% of Area Median Income). Other items which will be explored:

- Avenues of funding
- Possibilities of partnering with Mass Works with site development for affordable projects.
- Establishing a Room and Board tax for short-term rentals which would contribute to a housing fund.
- Creating Housing incentives such as tax abatements and grants for citizens participation in housing production.
- Establishing the Affordable Housing Trust Fund as enforcement authority for affordable housing incentives.

Housing Study: The Planning Board is currently seeking CPA funding for a housing study. Jonathan expressed his skepticism that such a study would reveal any useful information and that it would be a waste of CPA funds. The others in the Sub-Committee agreed that is would be a useful tool if not for the purposes of this Sub-Committee, town planning in general.

Quality Housing Standards: It was discussed that a housing standards could be coupled with any housing produced from the efforts of the Sub-Committee or projects receiving CPA money. The Sub-Committee with continue to discuss the viability and necessity of such a standard.

Open Space/Development: the Sub-Committee agreed the importance of create a balanced approach to housing production with regards to open space. To be further explored and discussed.

SB/PB Goals: It was agreed that for the next meeting the SB representatives will have examples of fiscal policy and the PB will have examples of land us policy which could potentially be coupled together to create housing policy.

Meeting: It was agreed that the Sub-Committee would meet again on 1 October, 11 AM at Town Hall.

Ms. Burke adjourned without objections at 10:12 A.M.

Review of Recent Housing Production, Opportunities, and Initiatives

Updated November 2022

Many of the housing production goals and strategies of the *Community Master Plan* (2013) have been achieved in the last nine years, including important strides in the areas of organizational capacity, financial assistance, zoning and regulation, and housing production. Despite these efforts, market pressures continue to drive housing costs upward.

Financial Assistance: The Community Preservation Act (CPA) was adopted by the voters of Great Barrington in 2012. Since its inception in Great Barrington and through June 2022, have appropriated \$2.4 million in CPA funds to affordable housing projects, supporting the creation of nearly 160 new units of affordable housing, and providing rental assistance to hundreds of local households during the economic crisis caused by the pandemic.

The Town has received three Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) awards for housing rehabilitation for low- and moderate-income homeowners and to support redevelopment of the Housatonic mills. The Town continues to partner with other municipalities in grant efforts for housing rehabilitation. In FY20 and FY21 a total of 18 homes in town benefitted from grants that, for example, abated lead paint, corrected code and life safety deficiencies, replaced old roofs and windows, and decreased homeowner costs by increasing insulation and energy efficiency.

Housing Production: Since 2013, with CPA funding, nearly 160 new units of affordable rental housing have been funded with Town support: 11 apartments completed 314 State Road at Forest Springs; 31 apartments completed on Brookside Road at an expanded Bostwick Gardens; 45 apartments completed on Bentley Avenue at the remediated log homes site. Additionally, 49 apartments are underway at Windrush Commons at 910 Main Street.

Market rate housing supply has also increased in recent years, all of which were made possible by Town Meeting approved zoning amendments. New construction in the last decade includes 44 units at Barrington Brook, 3 units on Humphrey Street, 17 units at 47 Railroad Street, and 22 units at 32 Bridge Street.

Permitted / under design / in consideration: Habitat for Humanity will build 20 new homes on North Plain Road in Housatonic; 13 units will be produced by Construct at 684 Egremont Road; 27 units are permitted in Phase 2 of 42 Bridge Street; 22 units are permitted at 546 Main Street; 15 units are permitted at 343 Main Street; 30 units are permitted at 148 Maple Avenue; 47 additional units are permitted at Blue Hill Commons; 11 new units, plus 11 refurbished units, will be at 322 Main Street; at least 10 units are planned at the former Housatonic School; 8 units are being considered at the former Eagleton School; between 20 and 30 are possible at 100 Bridge Street. Future housing sites could also include 111 West Avenue, 218 Main Street, and 255, 295 and 426 Park Street in Housatonic.

Inventory of Multifamily Housing Production in Great Barrington, 2013 – 2028

	<i>Completed</i>	<i>Permitted</i>	<i>Planned</i>	<i>Potential</i>
316 State Rd	11			
899 Main St	31			
47 Railroad St	17			
32 Bridge St	22			
20 Bentley Rd	45			

	<i>Completed</i>	<i>Permitted</i>	<i>Planned</i>	<i>Potential</i>
910 Main St		49		
546 Main St		22		
42 Bridge St		27		
343 Main St		15		
148 Maple Ave		30		
Blue Hill Commons		47		
684 Egremont Rd		13		
34 Bridge St (Ph.2)		27		
North Plain Road			20	
322 Main St			11	
Housatonic School			10	
445 Monterey Rd			8	
100 Bridge St			20	
111 West Ave				10
218 Main St				10
255 Park St				10
426 Park St				10
	126	230	69	40
TOTAL	437 (at least half are likely to be affordable or workforce housing)			
Other Potential				
Monument Mills				100
Rising Mill				100

Organizational Capacity: In 2017 the Town created a municipal Affordable Housing Trust Fund, in accordance with and having the powers authorized under MGL ch. 44, s. 55C. The Trust provides down payment assistance grants, rental assistance grants, and has purchased land on which it will develop affordable housing. The Trust’s efforts have been funded with an initial small appropriation from the General Fund and subsequent larger appropriations from the CPA. To achieve its mission, the Trust works closely with local nonprofit housing providers/ developers. Also, in 2019 the Select Board and Planning Board created a joint subcommittee to review housing matters and to advise the two boards of recommended initiatives, including zoning amendments.

Zoning and Regulation: Within the last decade the Town has approved a number of zoning amendments to implement its housing and redevelopment goals. These have included:

- A new Open Space Residential Development bylaw in 2009 to promote clustered development and open space preservation;
- A new mill overlay district in 2010 to encourage redevelopment of the Monument Mills complex to including housing, historic preservation, and river access;
- Permitting two-family dwellings and accessory dwelling units by right in all districts;
- Replacing the commercial B-2 regulations in Housatonic Village with a Housatonic Village Center district; and rezoning the residential areas of the village to R3.
- Replacing the commercial B-2 regulations south of town with a new Mixed Use district;
- Replacing the commercial B-2 regulations on State Road with new mixed use regulations;
- Creating a special permit process for existing multifamily dwellings, an important source of lower cost rental housing, to come into conformance with zoning;

- Adopting a new Smart Growth Overlay District bylaw, per MGL ch. 40R, for the Monument Mills, the Rising Mill, and south Main Street;
- Amending requirements to add flexibility to development and redevelopment of small lots, including contextual setbacks and buildable area;
- Refining the locational and dimensional requirements governing accessory dwelling units, and allowing tiny houses to be considered as accessory dwelling units;
- Refining the allowable densities and the regulations of PURDs;
- Creating a new bylaw section to promote the redevelopment of former nursing home sites into multifamily housing.

PROJECT/TASK <small>UPDATED: 6-28-2023</small>	RATED 1-3 & LONG-RANGE	RESPONSIBLE DEPT.	COMMENTS/UPDATES	STATUS
High Priority Projects				
#1 Housatonic Water Works	1	TM/DPW	Appraisal completed. Resumed meetings in executive session. Public update expected soon.	WIP
Affordable & Workforce Housing- Aging in Place	1	SB/AHTF/PB/Planning	Significant investment of ARPA funds in FY23. Housy School Developer selected. Housing Trust assistance programs.	WIP
Ambulance Service Study	LONG-RANGE	Fire Dept.	ARPA funds for ambulance replacement approved (\$136k). SBA Board working to ensure efficient operations.	WIP
Cook's Garage Property	1	TM/Planning	Market Study completed. Water test to be performed. Bldg. is deteriorating. Staff rec: HIC and SB discuss next steps.	WIP
Employee Recruitment & Retention	1	TM	New priority added in June 2023.	
Heating and Cooling Centers	2	DPW/EMD	New priority added in June 2023.	
Hous. Com. Center (updates/conf. room/grants)	2	TM/DPW	Weatherization/insulation, LED lighting, storage locker projects completed. Heating system being evaluated now.	WIP
Hous. School- Updates	1	TM/Planning	Windows boarded. Developer drafting plans and working on pre-dev tasks such as permitting/grants. Legal docs IP.	WIP
Housatonic Fiber	1	Planning Dept	Borrowing authorized for make ready costs. Staff to recommend next steps to pursue grants.	WIP
Infrastructure (Bridges/Roads/Sidewalks/Complete Streets)	1	TM/DPW	Public Works Director will provide update on June 13th: roads, bridges, sidewalks, and buildings town-wide.	WIP
Main Street Pedestrian Safety and Traffic	1	DPW/PD/TM	Final design app'd by SB in June 22. Funding approved in FY23. Bid awarded in early 2023 for summer construction.	WIP
Public Safety Staffing Plan	1	TM/FD/PD	Review call volumes and estimate staffing needs--- draft proactive long-range plan to accommodate growth if needed	
Ramsdell Library Entrance/Accessibility	1	TM/DPW	Project designed and bid awarded. Construction will commence this month (June 2023)	WIP
Reid Cleaners Property	1	TM/Planning Dept.	Property survey completed. Testing/drilling work begins this summer to determine clean-up parameters. Cleanup begins 2024.	WIP
Short-term Rental Compliance	2	SB/TM	Registration portal built and live at this time. 49 STR's registered. 2nd notices being mailed.	WIP
Sustainable Waste Management	1	BOH	New priority added in June 2023.	
Trip Hazards Main Street	1	DPW	Funding approved for high priority hazards in FY23. Intend to bid early spring 23 for summer construction.	WIP
Website and URL for email addresses	1	IT /Town Clerk	Funding for new website approved at May 2023 ATM. DOTGOV name has been reserved. Townofgbma.gov	WIP
Moderate Priority Projects				
5G Technology	LONG-RANGE	Planning Dept.	Awaiting AG's decision on recent zoning bylaw amendment. Not currently on PB's to-do list.	
Childcare	2	SB/TM	New priority added in June 2023.	
Committee Charters- Policy for Member Removal	2	SPM	Updated charters need to be drafted for approval by SB for some boards and committees	
Dog Park	LONG-RANGE	TM/ACO/DPW	Commit staff time to locating and developing a plan to establish a town dog park	
Econ. Dev/Sm. Biz Assistance and Job Creation	LONG-RANGE	Planning Dept.	Focus has been on the housing and transportation required to support economic dev/job creation	WIP
Elevator Repairs	1	DPW	This project is being prepped for the bidding phase at this time.	WIP
Fire Department Study	2	TM/Fire Dept.	Initial recommendations complete. This task will be assigned to the new Fire Chief to continue.	
Fire Station (Old) Easement- Telephone Pole/utility	3	TM/DPW	On hold at the moment. Will work with DPW Superintendent, N-Grid, and Property Owner if/when needed.	
Inclusiveness/Diversity (Town Hall/Town-wide)	1.2.3	TM	Translation tablets @ all town buildings. Trust Policy posted in PD and Town Hall lobbies.	WIP
Marketing to young families	LONG-RANGE	TM/Planning Dept.	Welcome new residents initiative launched in winter 2021. New residents tab on website homepage.	
Master Plan Review w/PB	2	Planning Dept.	For continued discussion at SB/PB joint meetings.	
Open Space and Recreation Plan	2	Planning Dept.	Update OSRP. Targeted for 2023	WIP
Parking- Downtown	2	TM/Planning Dept.	Discuss next steps & strategies to manage parking, wayfinding/awareness, working with private sector.	
Rest of River Status	1	Planning Dept./TM	EPA issued permit consistent with settlement; pending appeals. Oral arguments made in Ct of Appeals. Committee reviewing technical docs.	WIP
Selectboard Policies	1	TM/SB	Working document. Should be reviewed and updated in 2023.	
Sign Zoning (+Banners)	LONG-RANGE	Building Dept.	Determine if sign code re-write is desired	
Speed Bumps/Speed Calming Measures	2	DPW	New priority added in June 2023.	
Zoning Enforcement	1	Building Dept.	Active enforcement of zoning issues and signs. Proactive vs. Reactive approach	WIP
Completed Projects				
ADA Committee/Disability Related Issues	1	TM/BLDG	Commission formed.	Completed

Selectboard Projects/Tasks as of 7/29/2020
 Materials for Selectboard / Planning Board Joint Meeting August 2, 2023

CodeRED Protocols	1	TM/EMD/FIRE/PD/BOH/DPW	Updated on 6-11-19 and effective on same. Outreach ongoing to large employers.	Completed
Columbus Day/Indigenous Peoples' Day	LONG-RANGE	TM	Proclamation approved by SB	Completed
Court House Improvements	1	TM/DPW	Bathroom work completed. Carpeting and blinds completed.	Completed
COVID-19 State of Emergency 2020-21	1	ALL	State and local State of Emergency lifted on June 15, 2021	Completed
COVID-19 Public Health Emergency 2021-2022	1	Health Department	Added back to the priority list at 1-31-22 meeting. COVID Task Force disbanded in June 2022. Email updates only.	Completed
Downtown (Pride/energy/marketing/entertainment)	2	Planning/Cultural District	Active outdoor dining/entertainment program. Crosswalk project and Cultural District flags, marketing etc. (Ongoing)	Completed
Email Signatures for staff and SB	1	TM/IT Director	Standardized email signature for all gb.org accounts in place. Desktop only.	Completed
EV Charging Stations	2	DPW	DPW incorporating into plans for Taconic lot and future plans for Town Hall lot	Completed
Fire Station- Castle St. (lease status and surplus items)	1	ALL DEPTS/DPW	Building cleared on 11-20-20 and sold. Remediation work is beginning.	Completed
Forensic Audit	1	TM/Finance Director/Treas	Substantially complete at this time. Information has been handed over to authorities.	Completed.
Front Entrance to Town Hall (Steps)	1	DPW	TH front steps are completed January 2022	Completed
Hosting Community Discussions w/BRIDGE	2	TM	Completed trainings through MVP Project	Completed
HR Director (Shared Position)	2	TM	Position was fully funded by CC Grant. Job Desc. Completed and position posting in July 21.	Completed
Joint Meetings w/Planning Board	1	TM	Regular meetings held every other month.	Completed
Laundromat	1	TM	SB request for staff to assist w/local start-up laundromat establishments to the extent possible	Completed
Mission Statement for SB and Town	1	TM	Updated Mission Statement approved by the SB in June 2022.	Completed
MMRHS Entrance- Safety Improvements	1	SB/TM/BHRSD	Intersection Conflict Warning System installed recently. No additional work is expected at this time.	Completed
Open Mtg/Public Records training for boards	1	TM/Town Clerk	Two trainings were held and open to all town board members and staff. April 4th and April 12, 2022 (Move to Ops Cal)	Completed
Personnel Policy/Manual	1	TM/Treasurer-Coll./Fin. Dir.	Final Draft approved by the SB in February 2021.	Completed
Privacy Issues in Town Hall Offices	1	TM/DPW	Addressed by office move with Town Clerk and Assessor	Completed
Senior Work-off Program (Re-boot)	1	TM	New forms, SWO member assigning tasks and working closely w/Seniors	Completed
Standardize hours for Town Hall	1	TM	8:30--4:00 M-F Full time staff on until 5:00	Completed
Sewer Rate Study	2	DPW/TM	Sewer rate study completed in winter 2021.	Completed
Systemic Racism Proclamation	1	TM	Proclamation approved in July 2020. Trust Policy Committee formation on hold after 3 rounds of advertising .	Completed
Town Counsel Policy (on use/access/etc.)	1	TM	SB Policies and Procedures approval on 7-22-19	Completed
Town Meeting(s) Schedule (2-night?)	1	TM/SB/Planning Bd	2-Night ATM schedule approved by SB w/input from PB and Moderator	Completed
Water Bottle Ban/Water in Public Buildings	1	TM	Water Stations installed and functional. Ban in full effect 11/1 Water stations in 3 locations	Completed
Website Designate as Posting Board (Agendas)	1	Town Clerk	Approved by SB and Attorney General. Official posting location as of 1-1-20	Completed
Key				
Current High Priority Projects noted in Pink				
Moderate Priority Projects noted in Yellow				
Completed Projects noted in Green	SB= Selectboard	TM= Town Manager	EMD= Emergency Management Director DPW= Dept. of Public Works	

<u>Action or Strategy</u>	<u>Lead and Responsibility</u>	<u>No Regrets</u>	<u>Building Blocks</u>	<u>Near Term Projects</u>	<u>Vision Projects</u>	<u>Cost to the Town</u>	<u>PROGRESS TO DATE (August 2023)</u> <i>(previous report was August 2019)</i>
<i>Organized by Guiding Principle and by type of action</i>	<i>Town Department, Town Board or Town Commission who will initiate the Strategy and see it through to completion. (Supporting actors in parentheses)</i>	<i>(Take action within 0-2 years) Actions or projects that have low risk and/or certain reward, and address one or more Key Issues</i>	<i>(Take action within 0-3 years) Actions or projects to implement in the near term, as prerequisites to priority and vision projects</i>	<i>(Take action within 1-5 years) Projects that take longer to achieve, need ongoing planning, or need significant investment</i>	<i>(Take action within 2-10 years) Long term projects that require sustained, multi-party effort and significant investment</i>	<i>A \$ ___ = relative annual cost, if any C \$ ___ = relative capital cost, if any n/a – no cost, or, to be achieved through a partnership</i>	<i>(if blank, nothing to report)</i>
1. CHARACTER							
2. REDEVELOPMENT							
3. Support redevelopment of the Housatonic mills. Work with the property owners, as well as local and regional partners in comprehensive planning and marketing. Consider using CPA funds for historic preservation, affordable housing, or open space and recreation actions in the mill district. ED 3.1 Support the coordinated efforts of the mill owners, particularly when it involves access to the River and shared parking. LU H.1	Town Planner (Town Manager, Planning Board, Selectboard)			Plans by 2018	Redevelopment by 2025	C \$	<i>Good progress overall. Since last report: Market study of town-owned 426 Park Street (f/k/a Cook's Garage) was completed last year. Artesian well testing underway soon. Next step is to discuss disposition or reuse scenarios and RFP or auction the site. Other mills in the area have been renovated and reused. Comprehensive redevelopment of northern mills is still contemplated by the owner but timeline is not known.</i>
4. Improve prominent, unattractive and blighted downtown sites. Work with owners and partially fund or sponsor needed remediation efforts or façade improvements with grants and cost loans. ED 2.2 Explore new and creative ways to encourage redevelopment of blighted buildings outside of downtown, such as on State Road. Consider and research tools such as targeted town investment in return for an equity interest and/or first position on the property. ED 3.4 Identify and target gateway sites for redevelopment. ED 4.1	Town Planner, (Town Manager, Financial Coordinator, Planning Board, Selectboard)			Plans, funding or strategies established	Activity by 2018	C \$	<i>Strong Progress. EPA grant underway for continued work at Reid's with cleanup scheduled for 2024. Other sites have been assessed and/or are in foreclosure process now. Foreclosures of some blighted properties (e.g. West Ave) are ongoing in Land Court with no clear timeline for resolution.</i>
5. Support redevelopment of the former New England Log Homes site, the Searles School, St. James Place, and the Fairgrounds by facilitating the permitting process. When appropriate, provide town backing for economic development grants and loans. Improve connections, including sidewalks, trails, parking, and the Bridge Street bridge, if necessary, between the sites and downtown. ED 3.2 and LU D.1	Town Planner (Town Manager, Planning Board, Selectboard)			Plans, funding or strategies established	Activity by 2015	C \$	<i>Strong Progress. CDC continuing to evaluate reuse of front parcel at 100 Bridge Street. Town funded sidewalks and streetscape improvements are completed.</i>
6. Support appropriate redevelopment of the Fairgrounds, including for uses that reflect the agricultural and recreational history of the site. Consider flexible zoning to encourage mixed uses and utilizing CPA funds to support appropriate components of new development. ED 4.2	Town Planner (Town Manager, Planning Board, Selectboard, Agricultural Commission)			Plans, funding or strategies established	Activity by 2015	C \$	<i>No progress since last report. The site is privately owned.</i>
7. Revitalize the Housatonic school campus, attending to the concerns and opportunities outlined in the Task Force Report, including the building itself and parking, and recognizing that the market has not interested in the school building. Explore a CDBG grant. LU H.2	Selectboard (Town Manager)			Plans, funding or strategies established	Activity by 2015	C \$	<i>Good Progress. Selectboard has designated a developer who will create 8 moderate-income rental apartments while preserving the historic building.</i>
8. DESIGN & DETAIL							
9. Ensure quality streetscape environment, including landscaping and signage, appropriate to downtown. Work with a Business Improvement District Chamber of Commerce, Design Advisory Committee, Historical Commission, and Historic District Commission to develop signage and information kiosks to help visitors. ED 2.3 (see also Strategy ED 2.1)	Planning Board (Town Planner)	X		Signage and kiosks installed		A \$	<i>Some Progress. Planning Department received grant during COVID for downtown recovery projects. Cultural District may sponsor some activities. Town Hall campus renovations funded and design in progress. Main Street planters looking great thanks to DPW staff and funding.</i>
10. Establish a uniform signage scheme for historic buildings and streets in historic districts. HC 2.3	Historical Commission	X	Already in process		Signage on all District buildings	A \$	<i>No progress since last report.</i>
11. Encourage development that incorporates existing or future agricultural and food production into its overall plan. AG 2.3	Planning Board (Town Planner)	X				n/a	<i>No progress since last report.</i>
12. Revise regulations to allow mixed-use development along State Road by right, particularly where existing footprints are preserved. Require adherence to design standards that promote pedestrian and bicycle friendly development. ED 4.3	Planning Board (Town Planner)	X				n/a	<i>Completed.</i>
13. Provide zoning and explore other regulatory incentives to residential, nonprofit, and commercial projects that redevelop existing buildings or sites, and incorporate small energy efficient dwelling units and mixed uses. Incentives might include shared parking or density increases. EN 5.1	Planning Board (Town Planner)	X				n/a	<i>Strong, continuing, progress. B2 zone affordable housing recently approved.</i>
14. Allow mixed use and multi-family buildings by right in downtown and Housatonic village. HO 1.3	Planning Board (Planner)	X				n/a	<i>Completed.</i>

2013 GREAT BARRINGTON MASTER PLAN PROGRESS UPDATE

8/2/2023

<u>Action or Strategy</u>	<u>Lead and Responsibility</u>	<u>No Regrets</u>	<u>Building Blocks</u>	<u>Near Term Projects</u>	<u>Vision Projects</u>	<u>Cost to the Town</u>	<u>PROGRESS TO DATE (August 2023)</u> <i>(previous report was August 2019)</i>
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15.	Facilitate the development of infill and rear lots, including creating criteria to permit rear lots where zoning district boundaries split lots and revising minimum lot width where practical. HO 1.4	X				n/a	<i>Strong Progress and approval of zoning amendments, as well as recent common driveway and driveway amendments.</i>
16.	Rezone the Housatonic village core, updating dimensional and use regulations that will promote village scale development, allow mixed uses, shared parking, and a variety of housing and employment options without requiring special permits. LU H.3		X			n/a	<i>Completed.</i>
17.	Improve zoning and subdivision regulations to promote infill residential development where water and/or sewer are available, and in keeping with the scale, character, and connectivity of existing neighborhoods. Consider innovative zoning like cottage and cluster zoning LU N.3		X			n/a	<i>Strong progress. PURD revisions. B-2 zone revisions. General review of subdivision regulations may be needed.</i>
18.	Enhance landscaping, particularly of parking lots, and maintain the new landscaping and trees being installed by the Main Street project. LU D.2		X			C \$ A \$	<i>Strong Progress beginning in 2023 with new plantings and funding for landscaping and trees in general</i>
19.	Protect historic character, by expanding and promoting the historic district. LU D.3			X		n/a	<i>No progress since last report.</i>
20.	Expand landscaping requirements to include renovations and conversions, not just new construction. Route 7 north and south of downtown is a gateway to our community. LU R7.1			X		n/a	<i>Completed.</i>
21.	Establish controls to buffer adjacent residential neighborhoods from noise, glare, and other impacts of commercial activities. LU R7.4			X		n/a	<i>Good Progress. Site Plan review process is used to do this. Performance standards updated by zoning amendments passed in 2023.</i>
22.	Retain zoning controls limiting by-right retail to 20,000 square feet, and maintain maximum of 50,000 square feet. Formulaic big box commercial development can create traffic congestion and is not in keeping with the town's small scale character. LU R7.5			X		n/a	<i>Completed.</i>
23.	Consider revising commercial regulations to limit size of new commercial development in transition zones to less than 10,000 square feet by-right, and between 10,000 and 50,000 square feet by special permit only. This would control so called "medium box" retailers that can be significant traffic generators and tend to be formulaic in design, in scenic locations. LU T.1			X		n/a	<i>Completed.</i>
24.	Review B2A zone regulations and boundaries. Update or eliminate the zone if it does not accomplish the goals of this master plan or is no longer relevant. LU T.2 and LU R.3	X				n/a	<i>Completed.</i>
25.	Allow mixed use and shared parking by right in transition zones. Consider also allowing multi-family housing by-right. LU T.4	X				n/a	<i>Completed.</i>
26.	Use Design Guidelines Workbook for siting new development and rehabilitated sites are in character with the surrounding form, lot coverage, and general appearance. LU T.5			X		n/a	<i>No progress since last report.</i>
27.	Review zoning district boundaries to determine where lots split by zoning district lines should be rezoned. LU N.2			X		n/a	<i>Completed but review is ongoing.</i>
28.	Use the Planning Board's power of subdivision review and approval to ensure new roads, public or private, are as narrow as practicable. LU R.2	X				n/a	<i>Waivers can be granted under current regs.</i>
29.	Develop and adopt performance based zoning controls for business and industry, specific controls for stormwater management, noise control, and light pollution, to replace the outdated and over-specific limitations to certain categories, to promote new flexibility for businesses and investors, while maintaining the desirability and livability of neighborhoods near business zones. LU G.3			X		n/a	<i>Good Progress. Site Plan review process is used to do this. Performance standards updated by zoning amendments passed in 2023.</i>
30.	Develop standards and regulations for siting renewable energy facilities that balance the aesthetic concerns with the market realities of the energy developers. LU G.4			X		n/a	<i>Completed. PB may review standards for large scale battery/energy storage</i>
31.	Using the expertise of the Tree Committee, identify how better to care for our town trees. Utilize resources or research available to Great Barrington as a newly-designated Tree City USA. Develop a tree plan for maintenance, protection, and promotion. OSR 7.1	X				A \$	<i>Good progress. Tree Committee strong and active.</i>
32.	NATURAL & RURAL SPACES						
33.	Ensure realtors, sellers, and buyers of land are aware of the Town's Right to Farm Bylaw. AG 4.1	X				n/a	<i>Realtors should be providing notice to buyers.</i>

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34. Explore Natural Resource Protection zoning that preserves agricultural, water and wetland, and scenic resources with sensitive house siting, roads, and driveways, and mandating conservation subdivisions. LU R.1	Planning Board (Town Planner)			X		n/a	<i>Nothing new to report. General review of subdivision regulations may be needed.</i>
35. Evaluate where prime farm soils and undeveloped industrial zones coexist, and consider if a rezoning away from industrial would better preserve the area for farm use. AG 2.2	Planning Board (Town Planner)			X		n/a	<i>The primary concern was the I zone on North Plain Road, which has been preserved by APR.</i>
36. Identify unprotected lands, including lands in Chapter 61 tax status, for potential permanent protection and integration into the recreation and trail system. Key parcels would include those that could complete trail systems, link recreation areas, and our neighborhoods. OSR 5.7	Town Planner (Assessor)			X		C \$	<i>Ongoing Chapter 61 reviews by PB and Cons Comm prior to SB action. OSRP plan update needed.</i>
37. Track, monitor, and combat invasive species, on public and private lands. OSR 9.1	Conservation Agent, Conservation Commission (Town Planner)			X		A\$	<i>No progress since last report.</i>
38. Protect, preserve, and connect habitat areas to each other, and ensure connections such as streams and vegetation remain healthy even in times of environmental stress. OSR 9.2	Conservation Agent (Town Planner)			X		C\$	<i>Some progress, working with conservation partners and land owners.</i>
39. Ensure vegetated buffers protect lakes, ponds, rivers, and streams. OSR 9.4	Conservation Commission	X				n/a	<i>Ongoing in Cons. Comm. permitting</i>
40. HISTORY & CULTURE							
41. Educate property owners about the benefits of historic designation. Clearly address any potential development constraints, costs, or legal ramifications that designation might have. HC 1.1	Historical District Comm	X				n/a	<i>No progress since last report.</i>
42. Continue and expand the oral history programs and walking tours that highlight our historical and cultural assets and educate the public, including locals and tourists. HC 2.1 See also HC 2.3	Historical Commission	X				n/a	<i>Downtown Cultural District funded a summer 2023 walking tour.</i>
43. Consider historic-site bike tours in partnership with neighboring towns, historical and bicycle organizations, to highlight significant places. HC 2.2	Historical Commission (Town Planner)			X		n/a	<i>No progress since last report.</i>
44. Continue to post historical and cultural information links on the Towns website, and link to a partner website like the Historical Society or Chamber of Commerce. The site should include downloadable maps and brochures as well as virtual photo and audio tours. HC 2.10	Historical Commission	X				n/a	<i>See #51 below</i>
45. Develop and adopt a clearly defined historic preservation action plan, with a timeline and responsible parties. HC 1.2	Historical Commission (Town Planner)			X		n/a	<i>No progress since last report.</i>
46. Coordinate the local historic preservation plan with regional preservation studies. Collaborate on methods and identification techniques, and in prioritization of projects. Doing so can help pool historic preservation efforts, leveraging local volunteer time and local funds. HC 1.3	Historical Commission (Town Planner)			X		n/a	<i>Nothing to report.</i>
47. Raise funds for historic and cultural preservation. Use the Community Preservation Act to leverage other funds and donations to protect, preserve, and list historic properties identified. HC 1.4	Historical Commission (Town Planner)			X		A \$	<i>Good progress, using CPA funds.</i>
48. Concentrate preservation funds on properties that also include other community objectives such as creating or preserving affordable housing and jobs. HC 1.5	Historical Commission (Town Planner)			X		C \$	<i>Good progress, using CPA funds.</i>
49. Complete an inventory of artistic and cultural assets, including buildings, exhibits, galleries, monuments, and sites. Make the inventory available to the public, as a brochure, or by sponsoring signage. HC 1.6	Historical Commission, Cultural Council	X				n/a	<i>See #51.</i>
50. Expand existing and create new historic districts to raise the visibility of historic properties. HC 2.4	Historical Commission (Town Planner)			X		n/a	<i>No progress since last report. See also #19.</i>
51. Explore the feasibility and benefits of creating a Cultural District. HC 2.5	Cultural Council (Planner)			X		n/a	<i>Completed. Funding is through MCC and Planning Dept.</i>
52. Develop and implement a public art master plan, open to local artists of all ages (work with the schools and senior center), as well as to regional and national artists. HC 2.6	Cultural Council			X		A \$	<i>Nothing to report</i>
53. COMMUNITY							
54. PEOPLE							
55. Promote cultural and ethnic diversity. For example, work with BRIDGE, the Chamber of Commerce, Berkshire Grown, restaurants and hotels to sponsor events that bridge cultural differences, such as food festivals and other events centered on food and culture. HC 2.8	Cultural Council	X				n/a	<i>Good Progress in DEIB work and cultural competency trainings for boards and staff. Upcoming grants could pay for a Community Liaison position to continue this work</i>

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56. HEALTH & QUALITY OF LIFE							
57. At existing playgrounds and parks, add picnic tables, benches, chess tables, and other amenities to be enjoyed by those who prefer passive recreation. OSR 3.4	Parks Commission (DPW Superintendent)			X		C \$	<i>Parks Comm continues to assess / survey / plan for needs including at new parks such as Dewey School and existing parks. New amenities added at Lake Mansfield</i>
58. Maintain police, fire, senior center, and library services. Increase where recommended by this Plan and/or by Department Heads. SF 1.1	Town Manager	X				A \$	<i>Service levels remain high despite staffing challenges. Increasing housing development is increasing calls for service.</i>
59. Increase DPW staff by at least one person, and correspondingly increase building and grounds supplies budget, enabling more time to be spent maintaining parks and the grounds of Town buildings. OSR 1.1	Town Manager			X		A \$\$	<i>Completed.</i>
60. Improve recreation facilities at the Claire Teague Senior Center, maintain gardening plots and bocce courts, complete future plans including accessing the Housatonic River, providing a quiet landing near the bank for painting, bird watching and so forth. OSR 3.2	Council on Aging (COA Director)			X		C \$	<i>Senior Center / COA continues its programming, which is coming back since COVID shut downs.</i>
61. Work with pet owners, trainers, and kennel clubs to create a dog park. OSR 6.3	DPW Superintendent				X	C \$	<i>No progress since last report.</i>
62. Formalize building use policies. The policy should address fees, cleaning and maintenance, marketing, and the types of events allowed. SF 3.1	Town Manager	Already completed				n/a	<i>Completed</i>
63. Work with the Police Department to improve the police presence at all facilities, particularly the Memorial Field skate park, at all hours. OSR 1.2	Police Chief (DPW Superintendent)	Ongoing				A \$	<i>Ongoing. Patrols continue</i>
64. Continue to support the existing Housatonic River Walk in downtown through DPW funds and services such as trash pickup. OSR 1.3	DPW Superintendent	Ongoing				A \$	<i>Ongoing</i>
65. Continue the Parks Commission initiatives of making parks multi-dimensional. The installation of fitness equipment at South Street Park is an example of this. OSR 3.1	Parks Commission (DPW Superintendent)			X		C \$	<i>Ongoing, recent examples include pickle ball courts and soccer fields.</i>
66. Support efforts to make open space resources accessible to those with physical disabilities. OSR 3.3	DPW Superintendent				X	C \$	<i>Since last report, Lake Mansfield recreation area improvements are funded and scheduled for 2023-2024</i>
67. Take a formal position on the cleanup strategy for the Housatonic River. Comment regularly and often in the public process to ensure Town concerns are heard and met. OSR 8.1	Town Manager			X		n/a	<i>Court has settled the cleanup dispute. Rest of River Committee active in reviewing clean up scope of work.</i>
68. Create more boat launches for paddlers on the River. OSR 8.4	DPW Superintendent				X	C \$	<i>Completed and nothing further to report.</i>
69. Calm traffic speeds in neighborhoods using passive means such as speed humps, bump outs, and traffic signs. TR 1.1 Slow speeds and reduce curb cuts to minimize vehicle-pedestrian-bike conflicts. Address high volume arterial roads and major neighborhood through streets (like East Street) first. TR 2.1 Continue proactive traffic enforcement. Increase patrols at high-traffic periods. TR 2.3	DPW Superintendent (Police Chief)	X				n/a	<i>PD continues to utilize dynamic speed feedback signs. New signs to be installed on MV Rd. in school zone. Main Street crosswalks to be improved this year. Complete Streets plan implementation should continue and will show progress towards this strategy.</i>
70. Improve the school park and the streetscape, especially Front Street in Housatonic and in front of the former Housatonic School, with new equipment, plantings, benches, and lighting. LU H.5	DPW Superintendent				X	C \$\$	<i>Tree plantings around Bubriskie Park. Nothing further to report.</i>
71. Make accessibility improvements to the Ramsdell Library. Because of the cost of these improvements, grant funding will be required. If funding is limited, consider a partnership with private non-profit agencies. SF 3.2 Evolve Ramsdell Library to serve 21 st Century needs, using the grant-funded accessibility designs as a starting point, and recognizing that the library may take the place of the school as the village's civic space. LU H.6	DPW Superintendent Library Director (Town Planner)				X	C \$\$\$	<i>ADA ramp project is underway now. Library Trustees considering plans / grant applications for future renovations.</i>
72. Implement the Housatonic Walkability Report from 2012, slow traffic speeds, provide safe and convenient transportation options, sidewalks and connections LU H.4	DPW Superintendent (Town Planner)				X	C \$	<i>Good progress. Main Street sidewalk completed. Rail trail improvements pending. Front Street sidewalk link in preliminary design discussions.</i>
73. HOMES & HOUSING							
74. Ensure zoning and development regulations encourage, and do not preclude, a variety of housing options in appropriate locations, including smaller homes or apartments and continuing care options for seniors. HO 1.1		X				n/a	<i>Strong progress. PB continues to evaluate</i>
75. Revise zoning to allow two-family housing by right all zoning districts. Allow multi-family housing by right where it is by special permit now, and by special permit in all other districts. HO 1.2 and LU N.1		X				n/a	<i>Completed.</i>

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76. Promote an accessory dwelling unit (ADU) program, including educating homeowners about ADUs and their requirements. HO 2.2	Town Planner	X				n/a	<i>Completed. ADUs by right. Not promoted but the Housing Trust is considering a program to fund and promote affordable ADUs.</i>
77. Identify owners of two-family and multi-family properties that are below median value or in need of repair, and work with partners to connect owners with professional resources and funding sources to make improvements to their properties. HO 2.3	Planning Dept. (Town Planner)			X		n/a	<i>Continuing progress using housing rehab program supported by CDBG grants. However the outreach contemplated by this strategy is not being undertaken.</i>
78. Create a municipal affordable housing trust fund managed by a housing committee. Proactively advertise this fund. HO 2.4	Selectboard (Town Manager, Financial Coordinator, Town Planner)			X		A \$	<i>Completed.</i>
79. Explore, and if feasible implement, a property tax abatement program for those property owners who rent units below the market rent. HO 2.6	Assessor (Town Planner)			X		A \$\$	<i>Under consideration, having been studied by Planning Board & the Housing Subcommittee.</i>
80. Offer grants to property owners and organizations that rehabilitate or convert existing single family homes into two-family homes or create accessory dwelling units. HO 2.7	Town Planner (Financial Coordinator)				X	A \$\$	<i>Nothing to report</i>
81. Explore monetary incentives to create accessory dwelling units. HO 2.8	Town Planner				X	A \$	<i>Housing Trust is considering a program to fund and promote affordable ADUs.</i>
82. Working with partners including Construct, Inc. identify and create locations for transitional housing, for those in domestic or economic crisis or in the case of a natural disaster. HO 2.5	Town Planner			X		C \$	<i>Private sector nonprofits are doing this, often with Town support through CPA, Housing Trust, or ARPA funds</i>
83. Target blighted properties to create new affordable housing units. Provide zoning or financial incentives in order to spur redevelopment and the creation of affordable units. Contact the owners and work with realtors and banks to identify opportunities where multi-unit buildings are appropriate and can raise much needed revenue to make repairs and improvements. HO 2.1	Town Planner			X		C \$	<i>Town Planner works with owners via the EPA brownfield assessment program</i>
84. Increase the supply of housing for farm workers. Assess zoning regulations to ensure farm worker housing can be provided on farms. Local CPA funds could be used to support the development of farm worker housing. AG 5.5	Planning Board (Town Planner)				X	n/a	<i>ADU/tiny homes bylaw passed. Nothing further to report</i>
85. Develop a municipal affordable housing plan that quantifies housing needs, develops strategies to meet those needs, and works toward a production goal of affordable units. CPA funds could be used to fund this effort. HO 3.2	Town Planner			X		A \$	<i>Strong progress towards housing goals. Housing study was funded and completed 2020.</i>
86. SUSTAINABILITY							
87. Promote community gardens and residential gardens as a way to increase local food security. Work with existing programs like Greenagers and use CPA funds to support garden programs and community supported agriculture. AG 4.4	Agricultural Commission			X		n/a	<i>Nothing to report</i>
88. Revise zoning bylaws to recognize the keeping of chickens as a legitimate accessory use of residential land, with limits to flock sizes in dense neighborhoods. AG 4.5	Planning Board (Town Planner)	X				n/a	<i>Nothing to report</i>
89. Provide technical assistance to homeowners and businesses for energy audits and conservation measures. This can include providing to property owners on a regular basis, perhaps in the tax bills, information about existing free energy audit programs, and rebates for efficient upgrades. EN 1.1	Energy Committee	X				A \$	<i>No significant progress since last report, though the Town is part of a multi-town energy audit and efficiency program funded by Mass Save and run by BRPC.</i>
90. Educate homeowners and businesses about small scale solar, wind, or other renewable technologies that may be available and feasible at their sites. Priority should be given to low income households, seniors on fixed incomes, and first-time homebuyers. EN 2.1	Energy Committee	X				n/a	<i>Nothing new to report</i>
91. Emphasize water conservation as well as energy conservation. Educate homeowners and businesses about planting native, drought tolerant lawns rather than plants that need extensive irrigation, for example. EN 5.4	Conservation Commission Energy Committee	X				n/a	<i>Nothing to report</i>
92. Using technical assistance funds from Green Communities grants, establish a revolving loan fund to underwrite costs of installing renewable energy systems. Priority should be given to low income households and seniors on fixed incomes. EN 2.2	Energy Committee (Town Accountant)			X		A \$	<i>Nothing to report.</i>
93. Minimize stormwater runoff. Use best management practices, education, and regulation to capture and infiltrate stormwater. OSR 9.3	Town Planner (DPW Superintendent)	X				n/a	<i>Improvements continue in LM area. Nothing further to report</i>
94. Investigate property tax and personal property tax incentives for small scale rooftop or off the grid renewable energy and energy efficiency. EN 2.6	Energy Committee (Assessor)			X		A \$	<i>Nothing to report.</i>

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95.	Provide incentives to homeowners with older homes who are undertaking energy efficient improvements such as insulation, air sealing, and heating system upgrades. EN 5.3	Energy Committee			X		A \$	<i>CDBG funded housing rehab program will continue in 2023-2024, pending grant application</i>
96.	Actively pursue Solarize Mass program in Great Barrington in order to maximize the available solar incentives offered by the Commonwealth. EN 3.2	Energy Committee (Selectboard)	X				n/a	<i>Completed</i>
97.	Reduce municipal energy use by 20 percent within five years of Green Community designation. This is in accordance with the Green Communities program and the energy reduction plan developed by the Town's Energy Committee. EN 4.1	Energy Committee (Selectboard, Town Manager)			X		C \$\$	<i>Some progress but tracking data has not been completed.</i>
98.	Sponsor renewable energy facilities on private property, most likely by purchasing the power generated by systems on private property. EN 4.3	Energy Committee			X		n/a	<i>Completed.</i>
99.	Develop a local investment fund, for those seeking returns from small town "Main Street" businesses, rather than "Wall Street." ED 2.5	Economic Dev. Comm. (Town Planner)			X		n/a	<i>Nothing to report</i>
100.	Revise zoning regulations to allow wind turbines up to 60 feet tall on lots of two acres or more, and consider up to 100 feet on lots of five acres or more, and develop siting standards. Taller turbines or those on smaller lots may be permitted by special permit. EN 2.3	Planning Board (Town Planner)			X		n/a	<i>Nothing to report</i>
101.	Ensure zoning does not preclude other renewable energies like bio/waste digesters. EN 2.4	Planning Board (Town Planner)			X		n/a	<i>Nothing to report.</i>
102.	Allow for renewable energy facilities on working farms, so long as they increase the overall economic viability of the agricultural enterprise and provide the opportunity to return the land to agricultural use in the future. AG 3.6 See also EN 4.3	Planning Bd / Ag. Comm (Town Planner)			X		n/a	<i>Completed.</i>
103.	Develop town policy, zoning regulations, and siting criteria for large scale solar energy systems. EN 3.1	Planning Board (Town Planner)			X		n/a	<i>Completed.</i>
104.	Provide zoning or regulatory incentives to new developments that build small energy efficient homes or multifamily homes in efficient layouts. EN 5.2	Planning Board (Town Planner)			X		n/a	<i>Nothing to report</i>
105.	Investigate, and promote where feasible and environmentally friendly, small scale hydroelectric projects using the town's abundant water resources. EN 2.5	Energy Committee (Conservation Comm.)				X	n/a	<i>Nothing to report</i>
106.	Conduct renewable energy feasibility studies at town sites, including the landfill and the rooftops of all town buildings and in parking lots. Develop renewable energy systems wherever the studies are favorable. EN 4.2	Energy Committee (DPW Superintendent)			X		C \$	<i>No favorable sites at this time. Reevaluate as technology improves</i>
107.	MUNICIPAL FACILITIES							
108.	Improve the Housatonic Community Center with a community room on the southern or eastern sides. Either this building or an improved and accessible Ramsdell library would be logical locations if senior services demands required program space in Housatonic. SF 3.3	Town Manager (DPW Superintendent, Town Planner)				X	C \$\$	<i>Strong progress. Insulation completed. Center is heavily used. Under consideration as shelter / cooling center.</i>
109.	Resolve the status of the Housatonic School, attending to recommendations of the Housatonic School Campus Task Force, ongoing maintenance or operational costs, and plans for Ramsdell Library and the Community Center. SF 4.1	Selectboard (Town Manager, Planning Board, Town Planner)			X		C \$\$\$	<i>Resolved. Selectboard has designated a developer to create housing units. See also #7.</i>
110.	Keep the District Court at the former Dewey School. Conduct building improvements and complete negotiation of long-term lease. SF 4.2	Selectboard (Town Manager, DPW Superintendent)	Already in process		X		C \$	<i>Completed.</i>
111.	Plan ahead to consider alternate locations for Town Inspectional Services (Building Commissioner and Health Agent) should they need to vacate the old Fire House on Castle Street SF 5.1	Town Manager (Building Commissioner)			X		n/a	<i>Completed</i>
112.	Relocate certain DPW equipment from the old Fire House on Castle Street. SF 5.2	Town Manager (DPW Superintendent)			X		n/a	<i>Completed. DPW evaluating all building needs beginning 2023 with an Asset Management Grant.</i>
113.	If expansion of senior services to Housatonic is required, co-locate them at an improved Ramsdell Library or an improved Housatonic Community Center. SF 5.3	Town Manager			X		C \$	<i>Nothing to report</i>

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114. Consider memberships, cafés, business incubators, and other innovative methods to generate revenue from after-hours or special use of town facilities. Buildings like the Housatonic Community Center, the libraries, and parks could be considered. SF 1.2	Town Manager (All Department Heads)			X		n/a	Nothing to report
115. CONNECTIONS							
116. COMPLETE STREETS							
117. Continue stormwater improvements at Lake Mansfield, including the road, the boat launch, and Knob Hill Road. Design for the health of the lake, the safety of recreation area users, and vehicles. OSR 9.5					X	C \$\$\$	Strong progress since last report including Town Meeting votes, CPA funding, and completed designs. Funding in place to complete the work in 2023-2024.
118. Rehabilitate Bridge Street and Cottage Street bridges. Accommodate pedestrians and bicyclists, and add fishing piers where possible. TR 4.1	DPW Superintendent (Town Planner)			X		C \$\$\$	Strong progress. Cottage St under DOT design/funding.
119. Improve sidewalks, bicycle accommodations, and roads downtown via the improvement plans for Railroad Street, Bridge Street, Church Street, and Elm Street. Extend Bridge Street improvements to connect with new development at Searles School and the Log Homes site. TR 6.3	DPW Superintendent (Town Planner)				X	C \$\$\$	Completed.
120. Ensure sidewalks are in good repair, and connect logically to each other, to services, and to other neighborhoods. Undertake walkability studies to develop a walkability improvement plan; add sidewalks and crosswalks where recommended. TR 1.2	DPW Superintendent (Town Planner)			X		C \$	Good progress. Complete Streets funding recently for West/Lewis. Sidewalk inventories completed to target future spending.
121. Make walking more appealing to pedestrians; buffer sidewalks from roads with street trees, grass strips or other means. Partner with garden clubs, residents, and businesses an “adopt a median / flower box” program following the example of other local towns. TR 1.3	DPW Superintendent (Town Planner)			X		C \$	No new progress to report
122. Improve winter sidewalk maintenance in neighborhoods. Consider a regulation that requires homeowners and businesses to clear their sidewalks within 24 hours of a snow event; attend to concerns of the disabled and the elderly for whom this might be a burden. TR 1.6	Selectboard (Town Manager, DPW Superintendent, Police Chief)			X		n/a	Nothing to report
123. Commit at least 15 percent of local spending for transportation improvements to non-automobile improvements, such as sidewalks, crosswalks, street trees, trails, bicycle accommodations, and signage. Demonstrate this yearly when presenting the street budget and Capital Improvement Plan. TR 1.7	DPW Superintendent (Town Planner)	X				C \$	This goal continues to inform the CIP. FY24 was about \$1.5M, about 25%
124. Commit that every street or road improvement, such as widening, intersection redesign, repaving, and guardrails, also accommodate pedestrians and bicycles. Mandate this in all public roads, subdivision roads, and the driveways of any new commercial development. Attend especially to the needs of our youngsters and senior citizens. Where the road is state-maintained, e.g., all of Route 7 and Route 23 outside of downtown, advocate to Mass DOT to include bike lanes. TR 1.8	Selectboard (DPW Superintendent, Town Planner)	X				n/a	Completed
125. Identify and publicize the best walking roads, for those who prefer not to be off-road. Rural, low-traffic roads can be pleasant walking routes and an alternative to wilderness trails. OSR 5.8	Town Planner (DPW Superintendent)	X				n/a	Nothing to report
126. Encourage shared driveways, connections and curb cuts between adjacent commercial uses. Route 7, particularly Stockbridge Road, can be unsafe to cross or bike or walk along. Better access management is needed. LU R7.3	Planning Board (Town Planner, DPW Superintendent, Mass DOT)			X		n/a	Nothing to report
127. Conduct walkability studies to identify where improvements to sidewalks and crosswalks are needed, and where connections can be made. Use studies to inform the Capital Improvement Plan. OSR 5.2	Town Planner (DPW Superintendent)			X		n/a	Nothing to report
128. Develop a connectivity plan that improves Town-wide connections, using sidewalks, bike paths, and multi-use paths. TR 1.5	Town Planner (DPW Superintendent)			X		n/a	Nothing new to report.
129. Work with Mass DOT and the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission to conduct an access management study of Stockbridge Road to assess needed pedestrian, bicycle, and traffic safety improvements. TR 2.2	Town Planner (DPW Superintendent)			X		n/a	Nothing new to report
130. Before fixing bridges, do a basic analysis of bridges, uses, functions, and traffic counts, to set a priority list. If necessary, limit weights rather than spend large sums to fix them. TR 4.2	DPW Superintendent (Town Planner)			X		n/a	Nothing new to report.
131. Continue cooperation with regional and state transportation officials to inspect and monitor bridges on a regular basis. TR 4.3	DPW Superintendent	X				n/a	Continuing
132. In making repairs and inspections, account for more frequent and more violent storm events that might necessitate armoring abutments and raising bridges higher. TR 4.4	DPW Superintendent				X	C \$\$\$	Completed.

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133. NEW CONNECTIONS							
134. Complete the Housatonic River Greenway (the River Walk south), to connect downtown with Olympian Meadows, the Fairgrounds, the Historical Society at the Truman Wheeler Farm, and the senior housing and Senior Center, as detailed in the 1997 Master Plan and in feasibility studies. Reach out to and cooperate with the John Dewey Academy school at Searles Castle to attend to their access, insurance, and liability concerns. Explore alternate routes if needed. OSR 8.2	Town Manager, Town Planner, DPW Superintendent, Conservation Agent				X	C \$\$\$	<i>Riverfront path partially completed by GBLC using CPA and other funds.</i>
135. Develop a River Walk in Housatonic, extending from the Monument Mills to the Berkshire Mountain Bakery, and south, if possible. Preferably as part of development, not as an independent capital project. Consider both the east and west banks of the River. OSR 8.3	Town Planner (DPW Superintendent, Conservation Agent)				X	n/a	<i>Nothing to report</i>
136. Extend the downtown River Walk north to Cottage Street and Stanley Park. OSR 8.5	Town Planner (DPW Superintendent, Conservation Agent)				X	C \$	<i>Nothing to report</i>
137. Work with Bard College at Simon's Rock to develop signage and maps for a pedestrian route from campus to downtown, using the on-campus trails, gas easements, and Castle Hill Avenue. TR 1.9	Town Planner (DPW Superintendent)				X	n/a	<i>Nothing to report</i>
138. Accommodate bike trails, sidewalks, and crosswalks when any road is rehabilitated. (See also "Complete Streets" strategies, above) OSR 5.3	DPW Superintendent				X	C \$	<i>Completed, ongoing</i>
139. Connect Great Barrington and Housatonic village with a bike route or off-road bike trail. Work with local bike advocates and regional partners to build on the possible routes they have already identified, and connect this route to the planned County-long north-south bike route. OSR 5.4	DPW Superintendent (Town Planner)				X	C \$\$\$	<i>Nothing new to report</i>
140. Connect neighborhoods with the Housatonic village core, open spaces including Old Maid's Greenlawn Cemetery, Flag Rock, the Housatonic River, and Rising Pond. LU H.7	Town Planner				X	n/a	<i>Nothing new to report.</i>
141. Extend the River Walk north and south, connecting from Stanley Park to the Senior Center. LU D.4	Town Planner (DPW Superintendent, Conservation Agent)				X	C \$\$\$	<i>See #134 and 136 above.</i>
142. Work with land trusts, businesses, the community center, and the hospitality industry to promote trails and safe connections to open spaces and services. Some of the protected open spaces along Route 7 are connected and these are a good model to follow. These spaces should be promoted through the tourist and hospitality industry. LU R7.2	Town Planner	X				n/a	<i>Good progress. Old Route 7 trail completed.</i>
143. TRAILS & TOURISM							
144. Increase promotion of local and regional trails to tourists, including the Appalachian Trail – prominently post GB Trails walking routes, biking routes, and trail route signs. OSR 5.1	Town Planner	X				n/a	<i>Nothing new to report</i>
145. Continue to develop and support theme-based walking and biking trails, such as the African American Heritage Trail and downtown walking tours about Du Bois and Stanley. Partner with a downtown BID and UHVNHA to accomplish this. OSR 5.6	Historical Commission (Town Planner)	X				n/a	<i>Nothing new to report. A BID is not viable.</i>
146. TRAINS & TRANSIT							
147. Cooperate with regional partners and towns to fund adequately the Southern Berkshire Elderly Transportation shuttle bus service. TR 3.1	Town Manager (Council on Aging)			X		A \$\$	<i>Strong progress with annual operations budget for transit. FY23 additional grant funding allowed for expansion of local transit service for seniors and workforce.</i>
148. Cooperate with regional partners, and state and federal officials, to improve the efficiency of and adequately fund the Berkshire Regional Transportation Authority. Consider a "local hub" from which more frequent service can be provided to employment and community centers in Great Barrington and south county, and that make easy connections to points north. TR 3.2	Town Manager (Town Planner)			X		n/a	<i>Nothing to report.</i>
149. Take the lead in developing a ride share system, seeking business partnerships or other resources as necessary to host a bulletin board or phone number for ride service. TR 3.3	Town Manager			X		n/a	<i>Strong progress with expansion of senior service to workforce.</i>
150. Cooperate with the Housatonic Railroad and regional, state, and federal entities in railroad planning. Support applications for funding and lobby government officials when appropriate. TR 6.1	Town Planner	X				n/a	<i>Nothing new to report</i>
151. Proactively plan for rail station services like pedestrian and bike connections, bus connections, and parking accommodation. TR 6.2	Town Planner	X				n/a	<i>Nothing to report</i>

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152.	Lobby for and support Housatonic Railroad’s efforts to restore passenger railroad service. ED 7.1	Selectboard, Town Manager	X				n/a	<i>Nothing to report</i>
153.	WAYFINDING							
154.	Develop signage to direct people to recreation areas; develop signs and/or informational kiosks at recreational areas. OSR 2.1	Parks Comm, Cons. Comm. (DPW Superintendent)			X		A \$	<i>Nothing to report</i>
155.	Develop and publish a map of town parks and other recreational areas. Highlight opportunities for those with varied interests; e.g., flat trails for non-hikers, best walks for dog walkers, bike rides for families, and the like. Partner with GB Trails & Greenways and other groups in order to share information and pool resources. Increase public awareness of our resources by distributing the map as widely as possible. Suggested outlets include the Chamber of Commerce, visitor centers, cultural institutions, supermarkets, hotels, downtown merchants and offices, websites, as well as the Annual Town Meeting. OSR 2.2	Parks Commission, Conservation Commission (DPW Superintendent)	X				n/a	<i>Town completed a parks map but no further progress to report.</i>
156.	COMMERCE							
157.	BUSINESS NEEDS							
158.	Establish an economic development committee as a liaison between businesses and town government, to track and understand the town’s position and changing needs, and to focus on implementing Plan goals and strategies. ED 1.1	Selectboard (Town Manager)		X			n/a	<i>EDC was created but subsequently dissolved</i>
159.	Improve the downtown setting and services for businesses and customers through a Business Improvement District (BID). ED 2.1	Town Planner (Town Manager)		X			n/a	<i>BID not feasible.</i>
160.	Ensure quality streetscape environment, including landscaping and signage, appropriate to downtown. Work with a Business Improvement District, Chamber of Commerce, Design Advisory Committee, Historical Commission, and Historic District Commission to develop signage and information kiosks to help visitors. ED 2.3	Planning Board (Town Planner)			X		A \$	<i>Nothing to report</i>
161.	Ensure that permitting processes and other interactions between town government and businesses are transparent, prompt, fair and consistent, to reassure businesses and citizens that actions are unbiased, well deliberated, and rational. ED 1.2	Town Manager (Town Planner)	X				n/a	<i>Completed. Ongoing.</i>
162.	Make it easier to locate and grow a business in the village centers. Work with the BID and the Chamber of Commerce to market vacant storefronts and buildings. Ease the permit process burden for businesses that locate downtown, by reducing the need for special permits or by implementing clear special permit and design review decision criteria. ED 2.4	Town Planner			X		n/a	<i>Nothing to report</i>
163.	Working with the business community, review and revise sign regulations in accordance with the goals of this master plan. LU G.5	Town Planner (Building Commissioner)			X		n/a	<i>Nothing to report</i>
164.	Continue to invest in a quality K-12 school system. Close scrutiny of the school budget should continue, but so should the desire to invest in our schools as a basic foundation of our quality of life and our workforce development. ED 5.1					X	A \$\$	<i>Consolidation discussions underway.</i>
165.	Renovate the high school to better meet the educational needs of our youth and to bring the building up to 21 st century learning and safety standards. ED 5.2					X	C \$\$\$	<i>Consolidation discussions underway.</i>
166.	Support vocational and technical training. Education should continue its goal of better preparing students for the jobs that Great Barrington wants to attract and retain, and also for the jobs that will always be here. ED 5.3				X		A \$\$	<i>Vocational programs increasing and likely to be increasing when a new high school is built</i>
167.	ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES							
168.	The town should do all it can to support Wired West or other approved broadband internet provider and its initiative to provide “last mile” connections from the hubs to all homes and businesses. ED 6.1	Town Manager (Town Planner)	X				n/a	<i>Town funding for broadband make-ready to Housatonic approved. Project expected 2023-2024</i>
169.	Market the Town’s history of industrial innovation and invention, its entrepreneurial workers, its unique and historic architecture, broadband service, and its quality of life, as next generation Invention City. ED 3.3	Town Planner			X		n/a	<i>Nothing to report</i>

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170. Work with regional and local partners, like Berkshire Creative, 1Berkshire, and the Chamber of Commerce to market local cultural assets to a regional and national audience. Festivals, lectures, murals, performances, and public art can be both cultural and economic activity. HC 2.7	Historical Commission			X		n/a	<i>Cultural District created, active.</i>
171. Partner with farms, farmers, and land conservancies to purchase Agricultural Preservation Restrictions (APRs) to keep working farms in production. AG 1.1	Agricultural Commission (Town Planner)				X	A \$\$ C \$\$	<i>Nothing new since last report</i>
172. Develop the “agri-tourism” sector of our hospitality industry, working closely with the farms, the Chamber of Commerce, local hotels and restaurants, and Berkshire Grown. AG 3.2	Agricultural Commission (Town Planner)			X		n/a	<i>Nothing new since last report</i>
173. Develop a commercial kitchen facility where farm products can be processed into value added products. Work with local Churches, Berkshire South, and Berkshire Grown for example. AG 3.3	Agricultural Commission (Town Planner)				X	n/a	<i>Nothing to report, Nonprofits like Berkshire Grown and Berk. Agr. Ventures have been successful in increasing local storage caapcity</i>
174. Improve local food connections with Fairview Hospital, nursing homes, and School District. AG 4.3	Agricultural Commission (Town Planner)			X		n/a	<i>Nothing to report</i>
175. Take advantage of the emergence of “healthy living” trends. For example, working with the Chamber and a future Business Improvement District, develop ideas like a “Hike GB” package that offers guided trails hikes, historical tours, agricultural experiences and promotional deals at retailers, hotels and restaurants. OSR 4.2	Town Planner				X	n/a	<i>Nothing to report</i>
176. Capitalize on the long history of success of the Josh Billings Run Aground to market Great Barrington open space resources for competitive events. Consider linking well-known spaces like Lake Mansfield with lesser-known spaces like East Rock and McAllister Park, via swim/bike/run triathlons and other competitive sports. OSR 4.3	Town Planner				X	A \$	<i>Nothing to report</i>
177. Consider policies, procedures, farm-farmer land matching services, and/or incentives that would encourage more land in production and new farmers. AG 5.1	Agricultural Commission (Town Planner)			X		n/a	<i>Nothing to report</i>
178. Lease new agricultural lands to new farmers. The Agricultural Commission can work with Berkshire Grown to maintain or improve the database of farms and farmers. AG 5.4	Agricultural Commission (Town Planner)			X		n/a	<i>Nothing to report</i>
179. Encourage a variety of farming, including tree farming, timber harvest, forage, edible forest, nurseries, and aquaculture especially where there is a clean water source. AG 3.5	Agricultural Commission			X		n/a	<i>Nothing to report</i>
180. Revise zoning bylaws and subdivision regulations to support and protect farmland, including, for example, agricultural resource areas to require clustering of homes, minimum or maximum setbacks, and common driveways, and no permanent disturbance of agricultural soils. AG 2.1	Planning Board (Town Planner)			X		n/a	<i>Nothing new to report</i>
181. Ensure that regulations support diverse income streams for working farms, including, for example, special events on farm lands, farm restaurants, farm stands, and renewable energy facilities. AG 3.1	Planning Board (Town Planner, Conservation Agent)			X		n/a	<i>Nothing new to report.</i>
182. Ensure regulations support greenhouses and “hoop houses” that extend the growing season, and year-round farmer’s market halls, all in order to increase year round production and sales. AG 3.4	Planning Board (Town Planner, Ag. Comm. Conservation Agent)			X		n/a	<i>Nothing to report</i>
183. PARKING							
184. Plan proactively for the possibility of restored passenger railroad service, attending to parking and the needs for associated services. (See also “Trains and Transit” strategies, above) LU D.5	Town Planner	X				n/a	<i>Nothing to report.</i>
185. Partner with property owners to develop seasonal or employee parking lots. Further, encourage owners of private parking lots to clearly sign their lots for after-hours and weekend public use. TR 5.2	Town Manager (DPW Superintendent)	X				A \$	<i>No new progress. Recent efforts to purchase land for public parking failed. With parking at old Searles and old Fosters lot no longer an option, employee and customer parking on east side is being strained</i>
186. Working with the Chamber and/or BID, assess whether parking meters or parking kiosks could increase availability of parking for customers and generate revenue. Any revenue should be reinvested into beautification or services within the downtown. TR 5.3	Town Manager (DPW Superintendent)			X		n/a	<i>Nothing to report</i>
187. Adapt parking lots to future needs. Include provisions for compact car parking, electric car charging stations, and bike racks. TR 5.4	DPW Superintendent			X		C \$	<i>Charging stations installed. Taconic lot improved.</i>
188. Redesign existing parking lots for more efficient use, acquire additional land or easements where possible, and connect to adjacent lots. The lot at the western end of Castle Street near the old Fire Station could be redesigned for better circulation, and the lot at the end of Railroad Street could be extended and redesigned, with a pedestrian connection across the railroad. The lot behind Town Hall should be adapted to connect with improvements behind St. James Church. TR 5.5	DPW Superintendent (Town Planner)			X		C \$\$	<i>Nothing to report</i>

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189. Monitor traffic and parking in downtown and adapt to seasonal and shifting demand. Work with the Chamber of Commerce, BID, and Parking Task Force. ED 2.6	DPW Superintendent (Police Chief)			X		n/a	<i>Parking enforcement continues</i>
190. In Downtown, improve parking access and availability by using signage, maps, and wayfinding kiosks that locate and connect parking lots via walking paths and alley ways, to the shopping and entertainment district. Alleys and sidewalks should be pleasant, safe, and well-lit. Work with the Chamber of Commerce, BID, and Parking Task Force. TR 5.1	DPW Superintendent			X		C \$	<i>Nothing new to report.</i>
191. Work in concert with the Chamber of Commerce to address parking needs by connecting parking lots with signage and landscaping. LU D.6	DPW Superintendent			X		n/a	<i>Nothing to report</i>
192. Incorporate railroad passenger support infrastructure, including stations, parking, and other services, into plans for downtown and Housatonic. ED 7.2	Town Planner			X		n/a	<i>Nothing to report</i>
193. COORDINATION & COLLABORATION							
194. EDUCATION							
195. Promote agricultural education with high schools and colleges, and partner with garden clubs, garden centers, and town facilities like the senior center to introduce gardening programs, strategies, and techniques to a wide audience. AG 4.2	Agricultural Commission (Town Planner)			X		n/a	<i>Nothing to report</i>
196. Ensure all farmers are aware of environmental regulations that may apply to them. Consider a joint Agricultural Commission and Conservation Commission effort to educate landowners and farmers, especially those where prime soils and wetlands may coexist, about the regulations. AG 5.3	Conservation Commission Agricultural Commission (Conservation Agent)	X				n/a	<i>Nothing to report</i>
197. INFORMATION SHARING							
198. Create a housing committee, or form a partnership with the Housing Authority or Community Development Corporation of South Berkshire, that will work with town staff, homeowners, Realtors, and other professionals in town and region-wide to implement these housing strategies. HO 3.1	Selectboard (Town Manager)			X		n/a	<i>Housing subcommittee created. Regional housing discussions resulted in county-wide report 2022. Locally, Housing Trust and nonprofits communicate regularly.</i>
199. Meet regularly with local and regional housing advocates, like Regional Planning, Construct, CDC of South Berkshire, and Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation, to identify trends in housing needs and to share resources, including lists of available subsidized units and units for those with special housing needs. HO 3.3	Town Planner			X		n/a	<i>Regional housing discussions resulted in county-wide report 2022. Locally, Housing Trust and nonprofits communicate regularly.</i>
200. Continue regular coordination with the School Committee in developing Town and School District budgets, recognizing that Great Barrington, though only one of three member towns, provides most of the students and bears most of the budget burden. SF 1.2	Town Manager	X				n/a	
201. Improve communication and access to information of all the events, resources, and local talent that exist already. Before considering expansion of facilities, like the Senior Center, maximize the use of existing facilities first, and enhance programs, publicity, and awareness. SF 1.3	Town Manager (All Department Heads)	X				n/a	
202. Coordinate resources. Have regular meetings of service and program directors to coordinate programs and avoid duplications. The South County resource list is a great example. SF 1.4	Town Manager	X				n/a	
203. Be more proactive in recruiting volunteers for services and for government service. In particular, work with the local colleges and schools to develop internship and community service programs. Establish a calendar for volunteers, and/or a list, database, or 311 phone information service wanted for volunteers to learn about opportunities and respond. The Town website could be a home for these lists and bulletin boards. SF 1.5	Town Manager (All Department Heads)	X				n/a	
204. PARTNERSHIPS							
205. Seek public/private partnerships to minimize reliance on property taxes to fund existing services and facilities. SF 1.1	Town Manager (All Department Heads)			X		n/a	<i>Nothing new to report</i>
206. Join forces and marketing efforts with existing recreation resources like Ski Butternut and Berkshire South to market parks and trails. OSR 4.1	Town Planner			X		n/a	

<u>Action or Strategy</u>	<u>Lead and Responsibility</u>	<u>No Regrets</u>	<u>Building Blocks</u>	<u>Near Term Projects</u>	<u>Vision Projects</u>	<u>Cost to the Town</u>	<u>PROGRESS TO DATE (August 2023)</u> <i>(previous report was August 2019)</i>
<i>Organized by Guiding Principle and by type of action</i>	<i>Town Department, Town Board or Town Commission who will initiate the Strategy and see it through to completion. (Supporting actors in parentheses)</i>	<i>(Take action within 0-2 years) Actions or projects that have low risk and/or certain reward, and address one or more Key Issues</i>	<i>(Take action within 0-3 years) Actions or projects to implement in the near term, as prerequisites to priority and vision projects</i>	<i>(Take action within 1-5 years) Projects that take longer to achieve, need ongoing planning, or need significant investment</i>	<i>(Take action within 2-10 years) Long term projects that require sustained, multi-party effort and significant investment</i>	<i>A \$ ___ = relative annual cost, if any C \$ ___ = relative capital cost, if any n/a – no cost, or, to be achieved through a partnership</i>	<i>(if blank, nothing to report)</i>
207. POLICIES & PROCEDURES							
208. Make consistency with the Master Plan a consideration in developing and evaluating the Capital Improvement Plan. Since capital spending is such a large and visible component of the annual budget, such a requirement would ensure infrastructure investments support, and do not detract from, the vision and goals of the Master Plan. LU G.1	Selectboard	X				n/a	<i>Included in Town Manager's development of annual budgets</i>
209. Make consistency with the Master Plan a requirement of special permit and site plan review decisions. This will ensure new development occurs as envisioned by the community. LU G.2	Planning Board, Selectboard (Town Planner)	X				n/a	<i>Included as an item on SP applications. Review with each permit app.</i>
210. Regularly review progress in implementing this plan; annually, for the Planning Board and Selectboard	Planning Board, Selectboard; all town boards and committees	X				n/a	<i>Should occur every year.</i>