

Master Plan 2023
Community Services, Facilities, and Circulation Subcommittee
Meeting Minutes
November 29, 2023, 7:10 PM
Room 205
355 East Central Street

This meeting was available to be attended in person by all citizens. The meeting was also live-streamed by Franklin TV and shown on Comcast Channel 11 and Verizon Channel 29. Recordings have been made available on Franklin TV's "Franklin Town Hall TV" YouTube channel. Additionally, citizens were able to participate remotely via phone and Zoom.

1. Introductions -

Committee Members in Attendance: Chair Cobi Frongillo, Member Kenneth Elmore, Member Ginelle Lang.

Committee Members Absent: None

Member / Others in Attendance via Zoom: Member Erin Gallagher

Meeting called to order by Chair at 7:00 pm

2. Prior Meeting Minutes - Motion to approve Prior Meeting Minutes, seconded and approved by a 4-0 vote.

3. Goals and Objectives of the Master Plan.

The Chair shared the PDF - Inventory and Assessment Draft Report with members. The committee proceeded to go through the report, focusing on questions and data needs. Topics discussed were conditions of public buildings. The Chair noted that most of the buildings were listed as satisfactory on the report. Member Gallagher noted that "Satisfactory" doesn't address future maintenance costs. The committee members requested additional detailed information on building conditions. Member Elmore noted that the Police Station needs additional space

for Social Workers. Member Elmore also noted that climate change and its impact on cities and towns needs to be included in the report. Member Elmore also suggested that buildings and facilities should be looked at with a 30 - 50 year outlook for future space needs. Subcommittee members are looking for specific information on building conditions and space requirements and are looking for additional data. The Chair noted the need for financial data on the growth of water expenses. Member Lang noted that additional data on the town's percentage of permeable surfaces is needed for storm water management. The Chair discussed the recycle center and noted that cost and recycle rate comparisons to other towns would be helpful. The members discussed public safety response times and Member Elmore noted that 60% to 70% of the calls to the fire station are not directly related to fires, but to other issues such as animal rescue, medical and wellness issues. It was also noted that Franklin is one of two towns in Massachusetts which require parametric training as a prerequisite to becoming a firefighter. Members discussed the need for additional detailed information on school conditions. Members discussed student test scores, ranking and diversity issues. The Chairs' position would be to include all relevant matrix information in the report. Members commented that schools should have their own report. It was noted that Library services should be enhanced especially since Franklin is the first public library our goal is not to be just normal. Comparable information to other towns is needed. The Senior Citizen Center Council on Aging and Veterans Services for Franklin's aging population was discussed

Circulation

Additional information on roadway conditions, traffic volumes and bike lanes issues was noted by members.

Note:

Community Services, Facilities, and Circulation Subcommittee- next meeting January 4, 2024

Motion to adjourn meeting- seconded. Vote 4-0. Meeting adjourned at 8:16 PM.