

Planning Board Master Plan
Committee Assignments

Agenda 7 a.

Category	Action or Strategy	Description	Lead and Responsibility	Assignment Category	No Regrets	Building Blocks	Near Term Projects	Vision Projects	Cost to the Town	PROGRESS TO DATE (August 2023)
CHARACTER	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)	Selectboard			Plans, funding or strategies established	Activity by 2015	C \$	Good Progress. Selectboard has designated a developer who will create 8 moderate-income rental apartments while preserving the historic building.
COMMUNITY	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)	Selectboard			X		A \$	Completed.
COMMUNITY	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)	Selectboard			X		C \$\$\$	Resolved. Selectboard has designated a developer to create housing units. See also #7.
COMMUNITY	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)	Selectboard	Already in process		X		C \$	Completed.
CONNECTIONS	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)	Selectboard			X		n/a	Nothing to report
CONNECTIONS	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)	Selectboard	X				n/a	Completed
CONNECTIONS	152	Lobby for and support Housatonic Railroad's efforts to restore passenger railroad service. ED 7.1	Selectboard, Town Manager	Selectboard	X				n/a	Nothing to report
COMMERCE	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)	Selectboard		X			n/a	EDC was created but subsequently dissolved
COMMERCE	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	Selectboard (Town Manager)	Selectboard				X	A \$\$	Consolidation discussions underway.
COMMERCE	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	Selectboard (Town Manager)	Selectboard				X	C \$\$\$	Consolidation discussions underway.

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COMMERCE	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	Selectboard (Town Manager)	Selectboard			X		A \$\$	<i>Vocational programs increasing and likely to be increasing when a new high school is built</i>
COORDINATION & COLLABORATION	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)	Selectboard			X		n/a	<i>Housing subcommittee created. Regional housing discussions resulted in county-wide report 2022. Locally, Housing Trust and nonprofits communicate regularly.</i>
COORDINATION & COLLABORATION	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	Selectboard	X				n/a	<i>Included in Town Manager's development of annual budgets</i>