

# NY Forward – Capital Region - Cambridge

Subject	MEETING SUMMARY Public Workshop #1	Date	Tuesday, June 27, 2023
Place	Municipal Building / Old Firehouse 11 W Main St	Time	5:30-7:30pm
In Attendance	<p><b><u>Local Planning Committee</u></b>            Carman Bogle, Mayor, Co-Chair            Linda MacFarlane, Co-Chair            Kathleen Quinn            Sue Preece  <i>Christina Becker (absent)</i>  <i>Chris Crucetti (absent)</i>  <i>Connie Brooks (absent)</i>  <i>Renee Bouplon (absent)</i>  <i>Alane Ball Chinian (absent)</i>  <i>James Sweeney (absent)</i>  <i>Laura Oswald (absent)</i>  <i>Chris Callahan (absent)</i>  <i>Scott Petell (absent)</i></p> <p><b><u>State Team</u></b>            Matthew Smith, NY DOS</p> <p><b><u>Consultant Team</u></b>            Ian Nicholson, Buro Happold            Daniel D'Oca, Interboro</p>	<p><b><u>Public</u></b>            Phil Moses            Naomi Marsh            Brian Gilchrist            Susannah White            Benjie White            Ken Gottry            Evan Lawrence (The Post-Star)            Casey Face            Sara Kelly            Don Boyd            Brad Eastman            Gerry Preece            Beth O'Grady            Brian O'Grady            Philip Bell            Chris Badaloni            David Snider            Mary Fassett            Katie Kerr            Kathy Duhon            Mark Kanonik            Debby Jaffe            Mary Lou Kanonik            Sandy Kanonik  <i>[and others that did not sign-in]</i></p>	

**Meeting Summary:**

Please see "CB\_LPC Meeting 1\_Slides\_record" for the presentation shared during the meeting, which parallels the discussion summarized below.

Please see "CB\_Public Workshop 1\_Visual Summary" for a synopsis and analysis of the feedback provided during the interactive engagement portion.

Opening Remarks

Mayor Bogle delivers brief opening remarks.

## Overview of NYF Program

Ian (BH) provides an overview of the NYF program and process, including introductions from the state and consultant team present. *[See slides.]*

## NYF in Cambridge

Ian (BH) provides an overview of the boundary and preliminary vision and goals that have been put forward for Cambridge NYF, as well as an overview of some key demographic information, needs, challenges, and opportunities. *[See slides.]*

## Interactive engagement session

Dan (Interboro) provides instructions for everybody on the format for the evening and how to discuss and record feedback which will be reported back to the LPC.

Everybody is seated across 3 identical tables that each include a large map, comments cards, instructions, and photos as well as printed copies of the vision and goals. About 45 minutes are spent in open discussion amongst the 3 tables, followed a readout of topics and ideas discussed from each table:

- Table 1
  - Dog park
  - Trails for youth
  - The Community Partnership has an antique carousel in storage...somewhere to deploy it?
  - Varak Park needs aesthetic improvement
  - Owl Kill streambed restoration
  - Traffic calming needed, especially for trucks
  - Disc golf
  - Rice Mansion restoration
  - Quality, accessible, affordable housing
  - Retail opening times are limited
  - Need daycare
  - Affordable condos
  - Juice/coffee/tea shop
- Table 2
  - Recreation economy and housing are best goals
  - Owl kill walls need to be addressed
  - Need small business support – shame that business close so frequently
  - Coffee shop
  - Solar panels / lighting / EV charging
- Table 3
  - Flex work space
  - Move DPW – space could be used as additional parking, could remove parking from Main St
  - Hotel?
  - It's all so expensive! Would be better to do a small number of big impactful projects than to spread the money too thin.
- General discussion
  - Infrastructural issues – no sewer in Village, solid waste pickup/hauling challenges – makes contemplating dense housing difficult
  - Not sure what "recreation economy" means?
  - Where does library expansion fit?

- No playground downtown, should move the one from behind the police station.
- No sledding hill anymore
- How to support the Climate Smart goals?
- Should do a gear library, especially for electric lawncare equipment.
- Parking is NOT an issue in the village
- Should re-consider densifying development in the Owlkill Commons area considering need for septic expansion so close to multiple streams.
- Lots of conversation about demolishing the “old school” behind the library
  - Engineering report done ca. 10 years ago, rehab costs prohibitive given asbestos and other contamination
  - Location creates an inconvenient constraint on library expansion
  - NYF doesn’t fund demo-only projects...so what replaces it?

END OF SUMMARY