

# Agenda

## **Updates on outreach / engagement**

Media announcements and survey counts

## **Existing conditions report**

- Outline and topics
- Template

## **Analysis updates**

Maximum buildout under existing zoning (high level)

# 200 survey responses in total as of Tuesday (70 since Monday!)



# **Existing Conditions Report**





Dan Bartman

City of Haverhill Master Plan Update

# Boston: accenting key takeaways, with supporting information

# The city is experiencing phenomenal growth.

No other major American city has made as dramatic a transition from post-industrial urban decline to significant job creation since 1980. Boston's vibrant neighborhoods, cultural assets, highly productive workers, innovative businesses and renowned hospitals and universities have spurred this era of rapid growth.

Between 2010 and 2014, our population grew by six percent, twice the rate of the nation.1 By 2030, Boston will be home to at least 709,000 residents, an increase of eight percent from our current population and a number Boston has not seen since before 1960.2 To house our growing population and reduce pressure on the housing market, we need to add at least 53,000 additional housing units.3 These new units must reflect our shifting demographics: households are smaller, with many more young adults and Baby Boomers seeking suitable housing that meets their preferences and that they can

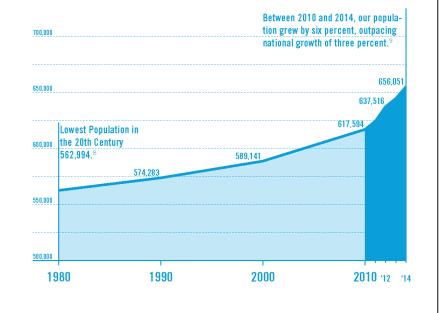
Alongside population growth, Boston added nearly 45,000 jobs between 2010 and 2014.4 Strong growth in professional services, health care and education has fueled this seven

percent increase and created a highly productive economy.5 Today, Boston workers are more productive than the average American worker, and their greater productivity adds \$24 billion in incremental productivity to the Boston economy

The commercial office sector has expanded apace, with 4.8 million square feet of new office space constructed between 2010 and 2015. a nearly 5 percent increase in the city's office stock, and another 4.2 million square feet of office space under construction or approved.7 This recent and upcoming office construction is equivalent to adding over seven new Prudential Towers to the city.

As we build new housing and office space, we must invest in improvements that ensure growth is inclusive and enable us to attract new workers and businesses.

Boston's population has recovered from a mid-century decline, growing steadily between 1980 and 2010 and rapidly over the last five years.

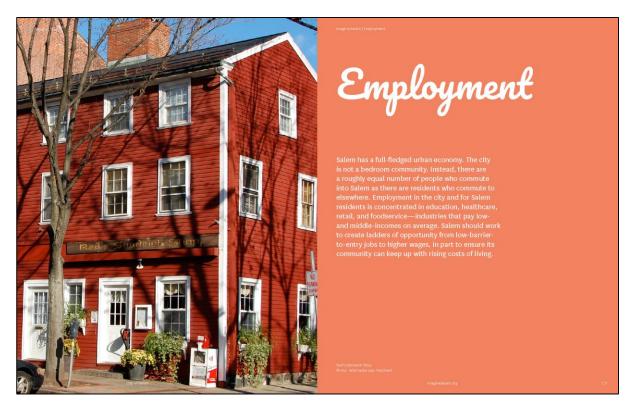


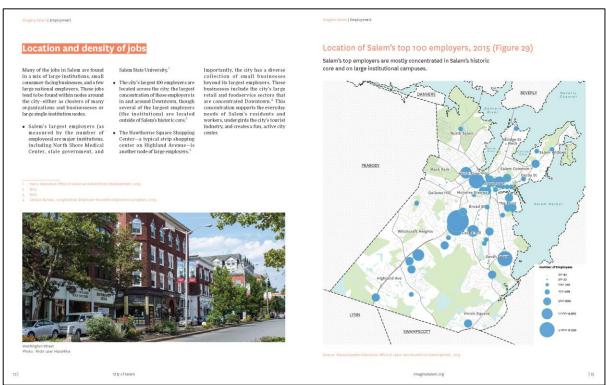
Guiding Growth: Towards An Inclusive City

utile Ninigret | Partners Byrne McKinney Nelson

IMAGINE BOSTON

# Salem: summary, bullets, and maps for each main topic area

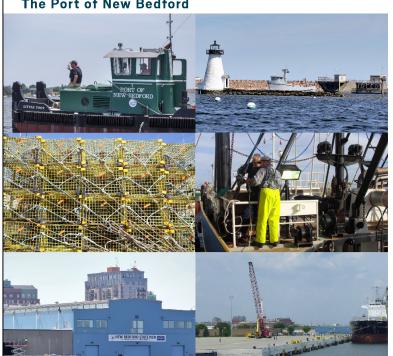




# New Bedford: framing facts and statistics as a marketing tool

01. NEW BEDFORD: A PORT CITY

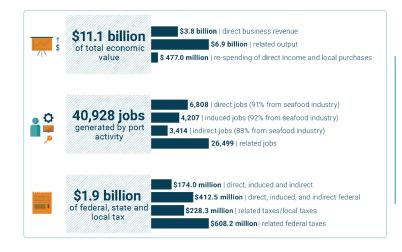
#### The Port of New Bedford



The Port of New Bedford is a self-sufficient international port with a full spectrum of marine services across industries, including fishing, fish processing, cargo, recreation, ferry service, marine tech, offshore wind, ship repair, and more. Located within a thriving regional maritime network, New Bedford has already positioned itself as the longstanding center of commercial fishing on the East

- The Port of New Bedford is integral to the global seafood supply chain, home to 45+ seafood processors that collectively handled and processed 390 million pounds of domestic and foreign seafood in 2014, 35% of which was landed locally. All seafood that enters the port is distributed and consumed locally, regionally, nationally, and internationally,
- While committed to its thriving commercial fishing industry, the City is experiencing an industrial revival on its waterfront, building off of its existing strengths to cultivate new businesses in new and emerging industries within the blue economy. These new opportunities leverage the city's existing assets through collaboration and innovation
- New Bedford is paving the way for new approaches in integrating traditional maritime industries with emerging marine sciences and technology, making new and existing businesses and operations more productive, more sustainable, and more profitable.
- Initiatives like the New Bedford Ocean Cluster exemplify New Bedford's enthusiasm to enter new markets and industries outside of commercial fishing.

The Port is a self-sufficient international port with infrastructure in place to support current and future operations.



Between 2015 and 2018, the total economic value of the Port of New Bedford grew by \$1.4 billion, a remarkable growth driven attributed to an increase in the seafood industry and the ship repair business.

#### 2018 Port of New Bedford Economic Impact

Year after year, the port of New Bedford ranks as the number one commercial fishing port by value of catch in the United States with five times the annual landings of the next largest port. The fiscal impact of the Port of New Bedford is immense. A 2018 economic impact study found that New Bedford's maritime economy generates \$11.1 billion in annual economic value for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, employing over 40,000 individuals and generating over \$1.9 billion in federal, state, and local taxes

NEW BEDFORD Charting the Course in Marine Innovation

# Haverhill's Existing Conditions Report

## **Takeaways**

- Boston: Agreeing upon narrative issues with steering committee will allow us to create a clearer and more concise report focused around these ideas
- Salem: We will want to cover all the general topic areas, but they don't all need to be treated with the same amount of space
- New Bedford: It is always a good idea to think about which audiences will be reading the report

### Recommendations

- The Haverhill report should incorporate some aspects of each of these approaches
- Because this report needs to be completed before our listening tour is complete, we will need to rely on the steering committee's perspective along with the surveys so far to guide our focus



# **Existing Conditions Report**

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**Executive Summary** 

#### Introduction

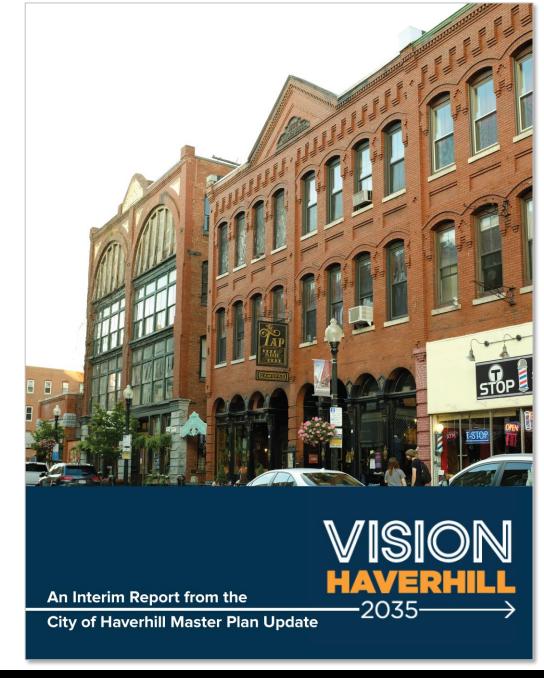
- What is a Comprehensive Plan?
- Why Plan Now?
- Summary of Past Plans
- What is Included in a Master Plan Update?

**Engagement Call to Action and Summary** 

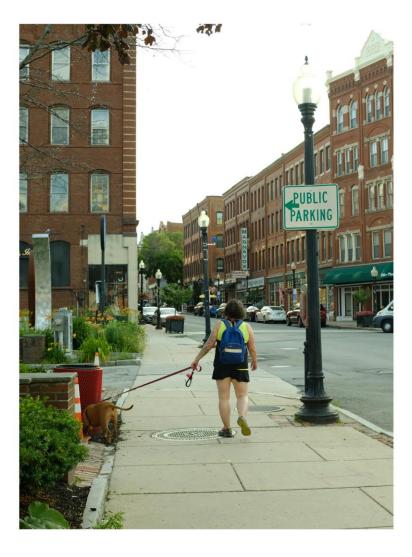
### **Existing Conditions**

- Population and Housing
- Land Use
- **Economy**
- **Mobility**
- Culture and Community
- Open Space

Where Do We Go from Here? Approach to spatial and land use planning



Vision Haverhill 2035 **Existing Conditions** 



## Introduction

Vision Haverhill 2035 is an initiative to update the City of Haverhill's master plan. Sponsored by the City of Haverhill and the Mayor's office, the planning process will craft a vision for the future of Haverhill as we address the issues and seize the opportunities presented to us in this century. The plan will emphasize the needs of our community and embracing our community's values.

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#### What is a Comprehensive Plan?

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#### Why Plan Now?

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Vision Haverhill 2035

#### Summary of Past Plans

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#### Housing Production Plan (2018)

In 2018, the City of Haverhill adopted a housing production plan for 2018–2021. The Merrimack Valley Planning Commission prepared the plan as part of a regional effort. The primary goal set out in the plan is to maintain and grow Haverhill's housing stock at a pace consistent with projected population growth and to grow the deed-restricted affordable housing stock so that affordable housing is at or above 10% of the total housing in the City. (Haverhill just barely meets the minimum requirement of 10% affordable housing under MGL 40B. The plan states concern that Haverhill may drop below the 10% threshold after the 2020 US Census results are released.) Though not explicitly stated as goals, the plan also identifies housing needs that emerge from the analysis, including a rapidly growing senior citizen population and decreasing affordability of unrestricted (market rate) units.

The housing production plan gives 26 strategies for addressing these needs, broadly group under "Planning and Policies," "Production," and "Preservation." Strategies included both broad mandates and specific measures. Broad strategies include encouraging market rate housing units, units affordable to low- and moderate-income households, and accessible units. Specific strategies included measures such as establishing Host Community Agreements, studying the conversion of municipal buildings into affordable housing, converting large single-family homes into small multifamily buildings, and offering supportive services for targeted demographics. Because this plan was adopted less than a year ago, implementation of the earliest actions is still underway.

#### Open Space and Recreation Plan (2016)

The City is currently implementing a 2016–2023 Open Space and Recreation Plan. The plan report provides existing conditions analysis, survey results, goals, objectives set to achieve those goals, and action items to advance those objectives. The plan is concerned not only with parks and recreational activities, but also private open spaces and agricultural land, some of which is preserved. The plan's ten goals cover improved governance, partnerships, and education to support open spaces; improving existing open spaces, acquiring land for new open spaces; protecting and promoting historic resources; promoting agriculture preservation; and promoting sustainable development.

Now several years into the plan's implementation, Haverhill must assess its progress on the plan. Many action items were slated for completion before Summer 2019. If those have not been completed, the City should identify roadblocks to their completion and reassess priorities and implementation schedules in light of those roadblocks.

#### Lower Acre Revitalization Strategy (2009)

In 2009, the Merrimack Valley Planning Commission prepared this report with funding from the Gateway Plus Action Grant program. The plan made detailed recommendations across several topics, including public transportation, housing, parks & recreation, crime & safety, streets & sidewalk, and career development. The plan's biggest recommendations were for Lower Acre residents to form a neighborhood organization, for the City to create a "one stop" informational resource for residents, increase federal and state funding, concentrate the City's revitalization on targeted areas within Lower Acre (similar to its focused efforts to improve Downtown), and revitalize the Winter Street corridor.

#### Gateway City Economic Snapshot (2018)

MassDevelopment published this study, which included analysis of Gateway City economies in general, as well as targeted analyses of Transformative Development Initiative districts, such as the Merrimack Street TDI district in Haverhill. The study noted the large amount of investment in the district from 2014–2016 (\$51.5 million in public funds and \$22.5 million in private funds). Nearly half of all built area in the TDI district is devoted to office space, and rents are low compared to those in Haverhill overall for both retail and residential uses. Commercial vacancies in the district are high.

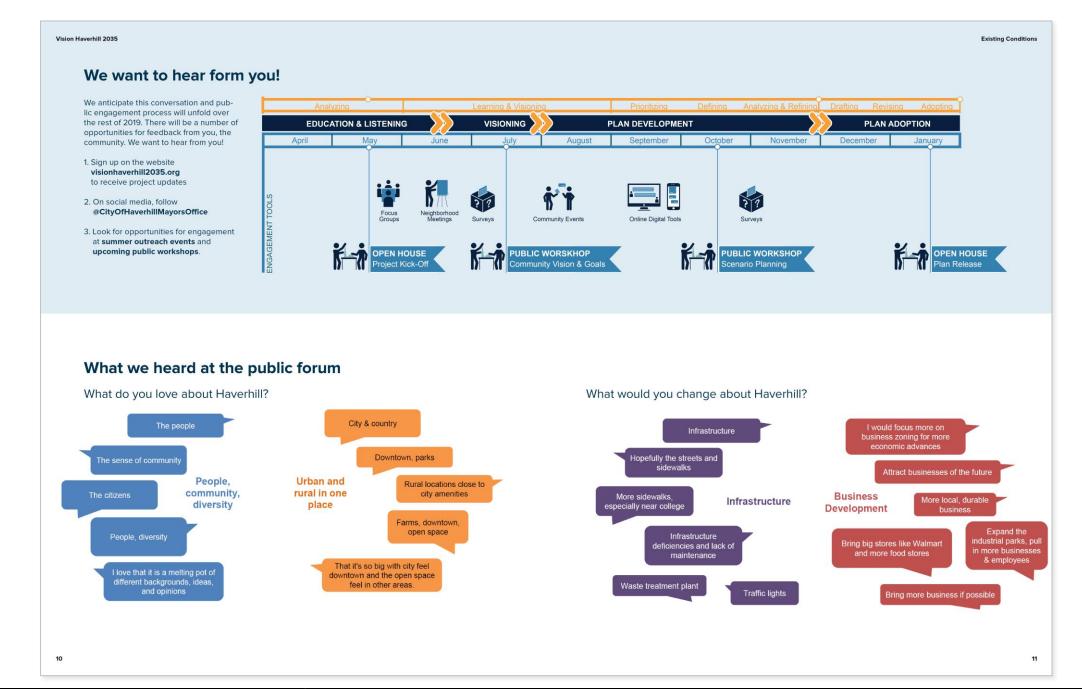
#### Merrimack Valley Active Transportation Plan (2015)

The MVPC published this plan in 2015, laying out a regional approach to developing an Active Transportation Network in the Merrimack Valley. At least three the regionally significant existing or recommended active transportation routes identified in the plan (Route 125 / Main Street; Route 110; and the Merrimack River Trail). The report notes the development of the Riverwalk and Bradford Rail Trail and bike lanes on Water Street. The report also identifies pedestrian and bicycle safety concerns of the time. including Merrimack Street, Winter Street, Lafayette Square, and Washington Street. It also highlights the city's wider streets, developed to accommodate trollies, and gives examples of how those rights-of-way could be allocated to support active transportation. Active transportation priorities identified during the plans engagement process include an on-road bicycle network, sidewalks around Ward Hill, the Riverwalk and rail trails, bicycle parking downtown, safety concerns, and bike/ped improvements on Route 110.

## What is included in a Master Plan Update?

A master plan, also known as a comprehensive plan, or general plan is a document that provides a roadmap for the future of a city, with an emphasis on the city's physical development. A master plan includes an analysis of existing conditions, a community vision for the future, and set of policy recommendations to guide public policy, including the future of zoning and infrastructure investment. Most master plans address the physical, social, and cultural aspects of a community across a range of topics.





Vision Haverhill 2035 **Existing Conditions** 











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## **Existing Conditions**

## **Population and Housing**

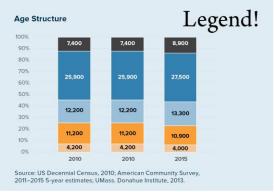
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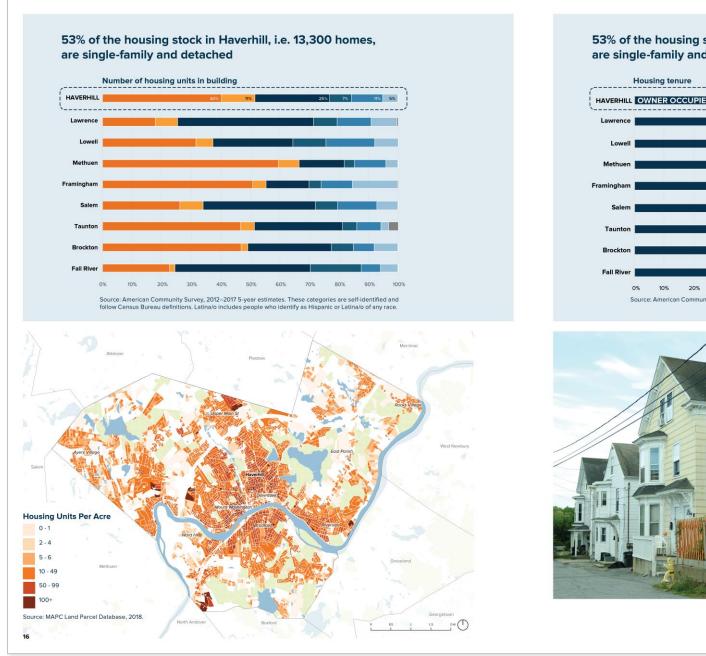
> Haverhill has grown by approximately 7.1% since 2000, averaging approximately 0.4% growth per year. The population growth in this period represents approximately 4,500 new Haverhill residents, including new births and people moving to the city.

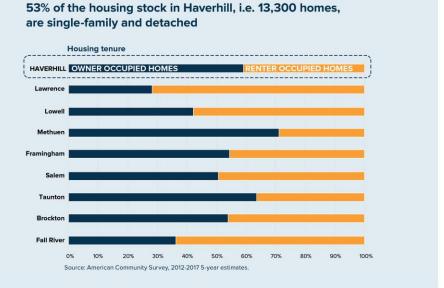


Source: US Decennial Census, 2000 and 2010; Census Bureau Population Estimates Program for all other years.

The number of seniors in Haverhill is expected to nearly double between **2015 and 2035.** This aging population will require new forms of housing and amenities to allow for healthy and active lives and remain in the community.

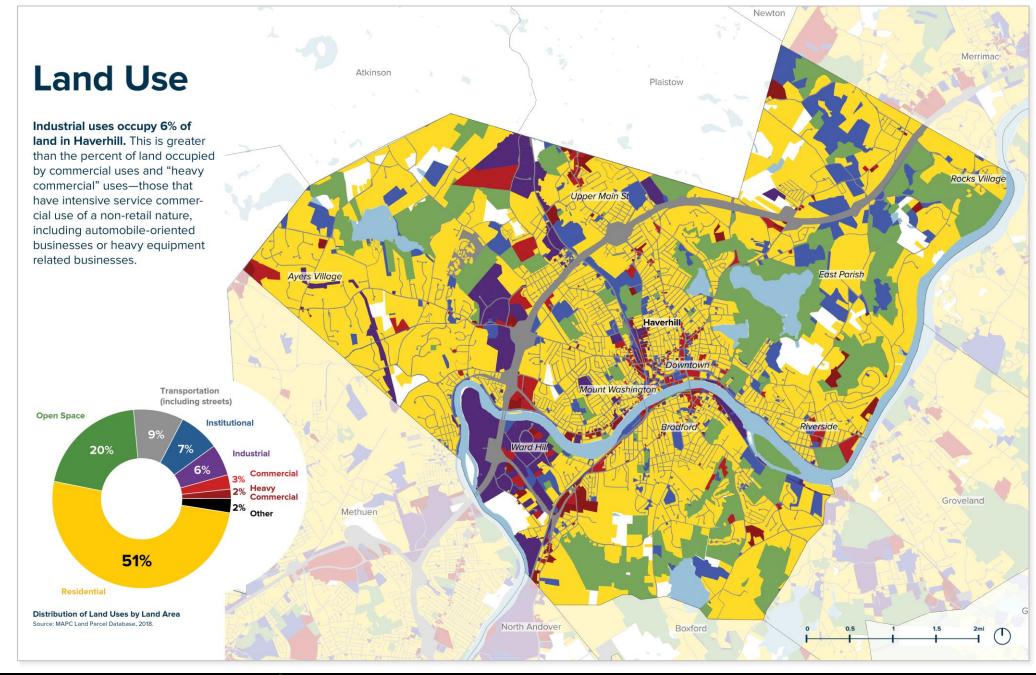








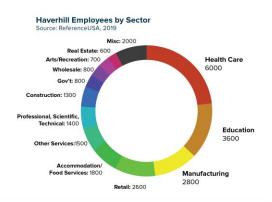


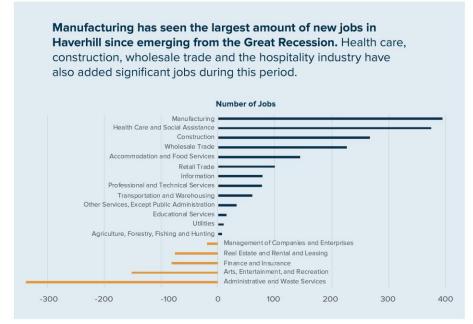


Vision Haverhill 2035 **Existing Conditions** 

## **Economy**

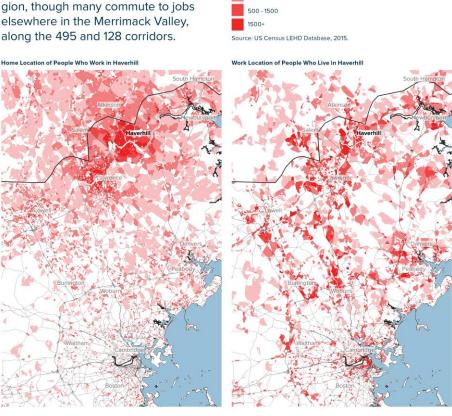
Health care is Haverhill's top employment sector. Education and manufacturing are the next two largest employers in the city. While health care and education are commonly top employers in eastern Massachusetts, it is unusual for manufacturing to continue to play such and important role in the local economy.





#### Of Haverhill's 31,000 workers, about than 5,000 are Haverhill residents. The majority of people working in Haverhill live elsewhere.

They commute in from neighboring municipalities in the Merrimack Valley and beyond. Conversely, a large proportion of Haverhill residents work in the greater Boston metropolitan region, though many commute to jobs elsewhere in the Merrimack Valley, along the 495 and 128 corridors.



EMPLOYED IN HAVERHILI BUT LIVING ELSEWHERE

13,073

Number of workers per sq.mi

1-100

100 - 500

22

23

LIVING IN HAVERHILL BUT

25,687

5.412

## What zoning constraints have we looked at so far?

- Minimum lot size (an X sqft lot is allowed to have up to Y units on it)
- Max building coverage (up to X% of the lot is allowed to have a building on it)
- Max stories (a building can be up to X feet tall)
- Minimum open space (at least X% of the lot must be reserved as open space)
- Maximum floor-area-ratio (gross floor area can be no more than (X \* total parcel size))
- Minimum unit size (to have X units, up to Y sqft must otherwise be allowable on the parcel
- Special permit (is the owner allowed to build or do they need to go through a process first?)

## What zoning constraints have we not looked at yet?

- Setbacks and frontage (how does the specific geometric layout of the parcel affect the building?)
- Parking (can sufficient parking be placed on the site for that number of units?)
- Absorption and demand (a unit might legally fit, but is it something anyone would buy like that?)
- Topography and site suitability (is this a realistic place to build?)
- Variances (can relief be had from zoning?)

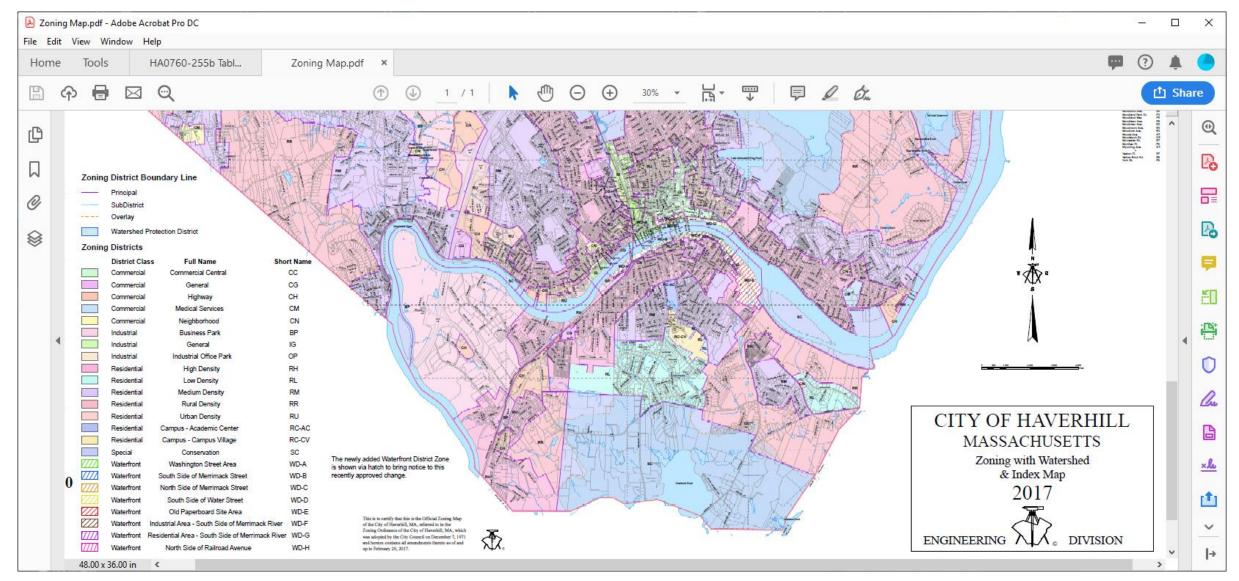
We do not think that these factors will change the overall picture, but it does mean that the capacities provided here are rough estimates and in reality would need to be revised down with these additional constraints.

### **Basic process**

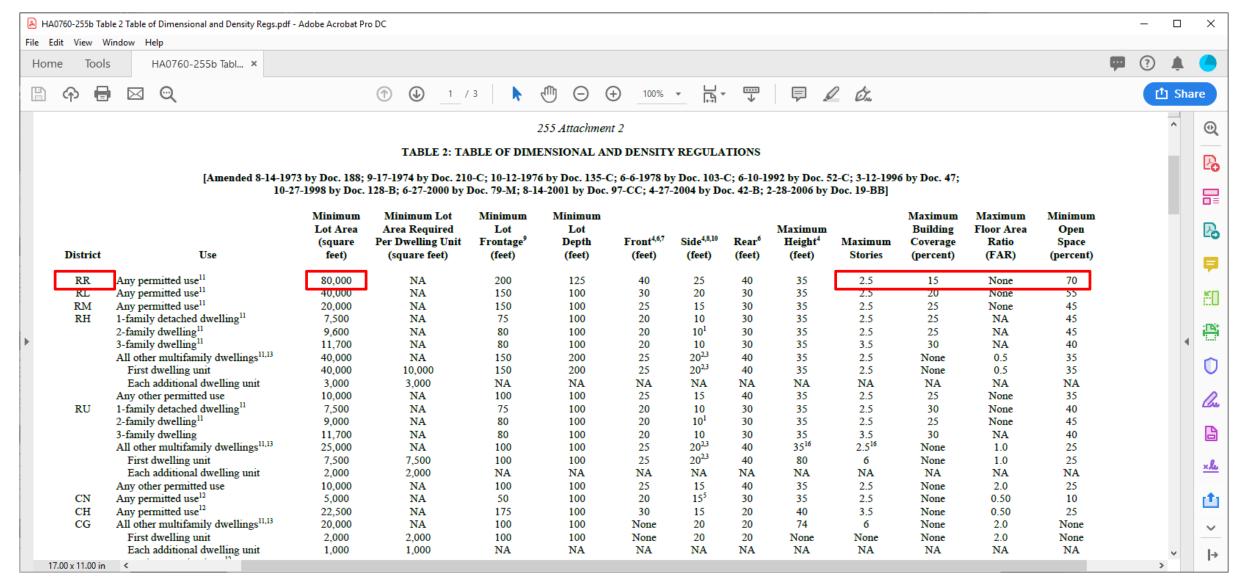
- First: based on lot size and zone, how many units are allowed on the site?
- Second: how does max coverage, min open space, or max FAR reduce that number? (Note: at least when using minimum unit square footages, it doesn't appear to matter)
- Third: how does this number compare to what is currently on the parcel?
- Do this comparison both using "by-right" rules as well as what might be allowed via "special permit."

City of Haverhill Master Plan Update

# Zoning Districts in Haverhill



# Dimensional and Density Regulations from Zoning Code



# Translate constraints into systematic calculation, yielding:

```
(defn max-per-lot-area
 [parcel special-permits?]
 (let [land-area (land-area parcel)
       sp special-permits?]
   (seese (:ed (:properties parcel))
     (if (>= land-area 80000)
     (if (>= land-area 40000)
     (if (>= land-area 20000)
     (cond (and (>= land-area 40000) sp)
            (+ 1 (int (Math/floor (/ (- land-area 40000) 3000))))
            (and (>= land-area 11700) sp)
            (>= land-area 9600)
           (>= land-area 7500)
           :else 0))
     (cond (and (>= land-area 25000) sp)
           (+ 1 (int (Math/floor (/ (- land-area 7500) 2000))))
           (and (>= land-area 11700) sp)
           (>= land-area 9000)
           (>= land-area 7500)
     (cond (and (>= land-area 20000) sp)
           (+ 1 (int (Math/floor (/ (- land-area 2000) 1000))))
     (cond sp
   * 14k zoning.clj Clojure
                                                      edit unix | 183: 0 30%
```

```
defn constraint-per-units
 [parcel current-units]
 (let [u (int current-units)
       gfa (fn [max-stories max-building-coverage far open-space]
              (gfa-limiter-catch
              parcel (land-area parcel) u max-stories
              max-building-coverage far open-space))]
      (gfa 2.5 0.15 nil 0.7)
      (gfa 2.5 0.2 nil 0.55)
      (gfa 2.5 0.25 nil 0.45)
            (gfa 3.5 0.3 nil 0.4)
            (gfa 2.5 0.25 nil 0.45)
            (gfa 2.5 0.25 nil 0.45))
            (gfa 2.5 nil 1.0 0.25)
            (gfa 2.5 0.25 nil 0.45)
            (gfa 2.5 0.3 nil 0.4))
      (gfa 6 nil 2.0 nil)
1 * 14k zoning.clj Clojure
                                                       edit unix | 297: 0 57%
```

```
:max-per-lot-area-sp 0,
 :max-per-lot-area-by-right 0,
 :max-w-gfa-sp 0,
 :max-w-gfa-by-right 0,
 :remaining-units-sp 0,
 :remaining-units-by-right 0}
 :units_est 2.0,
 :max-per-lot-area-by-right 0,
 :max-w-gfa-sp 4,
 :max-w-gfa-by-right 0,
 :remaining-units-sp 2.0,
:remaining-units-by-right 0}
 :max-per-lot-area-sp 0,
 :max-per-lot-area-by-right 0,
 :max-w-gfa-sp 0,
 :max-w-gfa-by-right 0,
 :remaining-units-sp 0,
 :remaining-units-by-right 0}
 :max-per-lot-area-sp 0,
 :max-w-gfa-sp 0,
 :max-w-gfa-by-right 0,
 :remaining-units-sp 0,
:remaining-units-by-right 0}
 :max-per-lot-area-sp 0.
 :max-per-lot-area-by-right 0,
 :max-w-gfa-sp 0,
 :max-w-gfa-by-right 0,
 :remaining-units-sp 0,
:remaining-units-by-right 0}
:units est 1.0,
 :max-per-lot-area-sp 1,
 :max-per-lot-area-by-right 1,
 :max-w-gfa-sp 1,
 :max-w-gfa-by-right 1,
:remaining-units-sp 0,
1 * 598k *cider-repl clj/zoning:localhost:58801(clj)*
```

Dan Bartman

Initial findings for housing: estimates based on min lot size, max building coverage, min open space, max FAR, max stories, min unit size)

Zone	Current Units	Max By Right	Remaining By Right	Already Built By Right	Max Special Permit	Remaining Special Permit	Already Built Special Permit
RH (High Density)	9500	5500	1400	85%	15000	9500	50%
CC (Commercial Central)	1000	0	0	100%	4000	3000	25%
CG (General)	600	0	0	100%	3000	3000	20%
RU (Urban Density)	3500	800	150	95%	2500	1500	60%
RM (Medium Density)	6500	1500	0	100%	1500	0	100%
RR (Rural Density)	2000	400	0	100%	400	0	100%
RL (Low Density)	600	100	0	100%	100	0	100%
Other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

### **Overall Observations**

- Given the constraints we haven't yet analyzed, it is likely that very little can still realistically be built as-of-right
- Those constraints will likely reduce the large number of potential units that currently appear to be allowable with a special permit
- The discrepancies between the number of existing units and maximum allowed by these calculations shows that a very large number of buildings are already non-conforming and exceed what zoning says can be on-site

## Discussion

- Do these estimates seem on track to the committee?
- Should discussions of growth go into the existing conditions report?

## **Preparing for next steps:**

- How to begin engagement around these substantive topic areas?
- Looking more closely at the role of special permits, and areas of capacity and nonconformities

City of Haverhill Master Plan Update