

Housing Vision

This vision was developed through feedback received at the first community workshop on June 20, 2017. Participants were asked to take part in a housing visioning exercise, producing words, phrases, sentences, and ideas that led to the development of this housing vision for Weymouth for the next five years.

Vision:

Weymouth strives to be a thriving, pleasant, middle-class community that welcomes people of all ages, incomes, and cultural roots. Its quiet single-family neighborhoods and walkable commercial centers offer a variety of housing options. In the village squares and along the major corridors through town, developments of compact housing will be available to homebuyers and renters, with affordable units for lower-income residents seamlessly interspersed with market-rate options. The community recognizes that housing plays a key role in inspiring high-quality commercial development, so encouraging mixed-use buildings with “top of the shop” apartments will be a mixed-income housing strategy warmly supported by Weymouth residents and stakeholders.

The housing needs of seniors and frail elders will be met in a continuum of housing types that allow older residents to age comfortably and safely in their community. With enough affordably priced housing for health care and social assistance workers and others who work with the senior population, Weymouth will be viewed as a model for smart strategies for accommodating aging “Baby Boomers” and meeting the workforce housing needs of those who care for them. Residents with disabilities will have safe, supportive housing that helps them stay in their community, too.

An important goal of any plan is to help a community prepare for change. Weymouth will continue to change, sometimes in ways that may not be apparent when this plan was written. If conflicts arise in the future about development that includes affordable housing, Town officials will look to this plan for guidance about Weymouth’s housing needs and how best to address them. The Town’s Housing Production Plan will be a living document that helps Weymouth prepare for growth and create affordable housing for all.

Housing Goals

Below are the updated housing goals for the Town of Weymouth. These goals are based on community input from the June 20th community workshop, as well as the comments received via the project boards set up at the library in July.

- Continue to invest in Weymouth's existing housing stock, public schools, and neighborhood infrastructure, including sidewalks, parks, and commercial centers, to strengthen the quality of life, aesthetics, and connectivity of the community, and to increase the desirability of Weymouth as an attractive and livable town for middle-class families.
- Encourage the development of a mix of housing types appropriate for an aging population and affordable to extremely low- to moderate-income senior households, including service-enriched, housing, and continue to provide resources and support for those long-time senior homeowners who choose to age in place.
- Strengthen and expand resources that support greater pathways to homeownership for Weymouth residents.
- Encourage mixed-income housing through mixed-use development in business districts, village centers, and light industrial districts, and reduce the incidence of blighted properties in commercial areas with effective regulatory incentives.
- Support opportunities for service-enriched permanent housing for Weymouth's homeless individuals and families.
- Recognize and address the unique housing quality, suitability, and service needs of residents with physical and cognitive disabilities, and people recovering from substance abuse.
- Integrate affordable units into a broader range of housing types throughout Weymouth's established and newly developed neighborhoods by incorporating affordable units in new development, redevelopment of underutilized properties, and re-use of existing buildings, and improve zoning to allow for more appropriate parking standards for multifamily buildings.
- Increase Town capacity to facilitate housing production and rehabilitation by allocating funding, staff, and other resources to relevant activities, and by educating the community about housing needs.