

1. Vision

The town of Barnstable is a vibrant and diverse community where people and nature thrive together. We are committed to creating a healthy, safe, inclusive, and equitable place for all residents and to restore, enhance and protect our natural resources for future generations.

To achieve our vision, we will proactively:

- Protect, restore and enhance priority natural habitats, salt and fresh water resources, and open spaces.
- Maintain healthy coastal ecosystems along with commercially viable harbors.
- Protect and improve the quality and quantity of our drinking water.
- Prepare and adapt to climate impacts including sea level rise.
- Reduce our environmental footprint by investing in low-carbon energy, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and better managing our waste.
- Build on our outstanding recreational opportunities and enhance access to open spaces while also ensuring no environmental harm as recommended by the open space and recreation plan.
- Preserve, enhance and celebrate the unique historic character and sense of place of the town and each of its seven villages.
- Promote a diverse economy that supports living wages and local businesses and restores, enhances and protects the natural environment.
- Commit to providing affordable and attainable year-round housing options.
- Provide access to high-quality public education, healthcare, human and social services, and a healthy environment.
- Foster an inclusive community that values diversity.
- Create a healthy, safe community, and care for those in need.
- Incentivize redevelopment and encourage new development toward locations with adequate infrastructure and away from environmentally sensitive areas town-wide.
- Enable people to travel safely and efficiently by the mode of their choice.
- Build essential infrastructure that is resilient, adaptable, and sustainable and minimizes its environmental impact.
- Increase transparency of the local government so that it can make effective decisions ground in citizen input and implement necessary changes efficiently.
- Strengthen community connections and communication town-wide and seek opportunities for collaboration with neighboring towns.
- Recognize and build upon previous efforts by citizens and the Town to make Barnstable the best that it can be.