# Woonsocket Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee Meeting

February 15, 2022

1:00 - 2:00 PM

Zoom





#### Outreach

- What groups or people are missing from our Master Outreach List? From the Steering Committee?
- Strategies for reaching traditionally underrepresented people
- Key "outreach" points from last month's homework assignment
  - Media (RI NPR, Motif Magazine, Providence Journal)
  - Small businesses, restaurants, community-based non-profits, community gathering spaces, and social clubs
  - Public, private, and charter schools (open house nights)
  - City social media accounts
  - Thundermist
  - Billboards, lawn signs, and digital advertisements
  - Summer Car Cruise nights
  - DWC events

#### "Messaging" the Plan



- Ideas for key messages for the project what are we missing? What will get people interested and excited?
- Key "messaging" points from last month's homework assignment
  - Several suggestions for FAQ document (e.g., Who has final approval of the updated comprehensive plan?)

# Proposed Schedule



- February/March: Informal outreach at public events to promote survey and the first public workshop.
- Late March: First public workshop (in-person and virtual) results posted on website & shared via outreach.
- Late March: Kick off "Woonsocket Conversations" same content at workshops but do-it-yourself format.
- **April-June**: HW Team starts drafting framework for the plan and specific ideas for people to consider. During this time, there will likely be additional interviews and conversations with Steering Committee to build these ideas.
- **June**: Second round of workshops two open houses focused on different neighborhoods.

# Public Workshop #1 – March 2022

#### Proposed objectives

- Educate
  - What is a Comp Plan? Why is it important?
  - Basic data and trends
  - Plan update process
- Listen
  - What are the greatest community needs in Woonsocket?
  - How do people see the future of Woonsocket?

Good date/time/locations?

# What to Expect for the Kickoff Public Meeting

#### Gallery – 30 minutes

- Maps
- Topic summary boards What is your top issue for . . . ?
  - Economic Development, Housing, Transportation, etc.
- Polling questions
  - What do you love about Woonsocket?
  - Three words to describe Woonsocket today and in the future
  - Spin the Wheel! Favorite places in Woonsocket . . .

Kids activities?



# What to Expect for the Kickoff Public Meeting

#### Presentation – 15 minutes

- Importance/role of Comp Plan
- Brief overview of demographics/trends
- Instructions for small group discussions

#### Small group discussions – 60 minutes

- Q1: What is the one thing you love best about Woonsocket?
   Why do you love it?
- Q2: What is the one thing about Woonsocket you most want to change? What are some of the changes you'd like to make?
- Q3: What is one thing you really want to see in Woonsocket that is missing? What are the opportunities and challenges to making this happen?

Report Back and Closing Remarks – 15 minutes

# Virtual Engagement

- Same materials and survey questions made available online
- www.woonsocketplanning.com





# Woonsocket Conversations Where the public

meeting comes to you

- Mini public workshops that anyone can host on their own!
- Church groups, book clubs, friends and family
- We provide you with questions and worksheets you have the conversations and write down ideas

## Open Houses Overview – June 2022

- Objectives
  - Confirm what we've heard so far
  - Discuss how to get there
- Format
  - Drop-in open house
- Stations organized around each of the Comprehensive Plan topics
  - Issues identified
  - Issues studied
  - How do we move forward?
  - Activity to get public input



