

Worthington Planning Board working Meeting:  
**Feb 24, 2025**

**In Attendance:**

Bart Niswonger  
Anna Maunz  
Kate Bavelock  
Kathy Ford  
Bob Walden

**ADU Conversation with Building Inspector**

- Town Council happy to have a conversation with us about ADU laws:

**Town Council Questions:**

- Conversation with Town Council about being able to bypass the protected use so that the Town could have blanket 900sq feet.
  - Everyone gets a "Protected Use" ADU. Questions for Town Council if we bypass - would everyone also be eligible for an additional Protected Use ADU
  - Site Plan Review? Is it possible?
- How to Record/ Report ADU data: Building Inspectors responsibility
  - Town its trying to pursue software for permitting data
- Short Term rentals- no extra town regulations.
- Existing ADUs

**Safe Routes:**

- School is interested in participating - but doesn't have the bandwidth to manage the grant
  - Kate meeting with Charley Rose next week to present to the select board.
  - Hoping to adopt a policy this year- any infrastructure would be 3-5 years.
  - Planning Board not trying to lead the initiative but is hoping to support the initiative.

**Discussion about Highway Department**

**Scenic Road Discussion**

Discussion about Letter from Town Council not in favor of our proposed amendment

- Mass Municipal Planners: Reach out to find out what other town's approaches are in regard to how Tree Wardens are dealing with hearings.

**Planning Board OSRP Letter for Review:**

- Draft the Letter for Review

**To Dos:****Bart:**

- Contact Town Council with further Questions
- Mass Municipal Planners: What are other Town's approaches
- Reach back out to Ben: Does he still want to pursue this after Town Council's response?
- Have a follow up conversation with the Select Board about Town Council's response: Does the Selectboard want to pursue this in some way?
- Write Draft of Letter for Review for OSRP

**Kathy:**

- Reach out to Roan about the 2006 plans for walkability: Is she willing to share their plans?

**Short Term Goals:**

- Create list of Planning Board's goals for Town Meeting of Summer 2025.

**Long Term Planning Board Goals:**

- MAPS for Town
- Nestor going to contact the historical society about current town green vs historical context.
- Creating a Master Plan for the visualization of the Town.
- looking into Grant Opportunities to help facilitate a master plan
- **OSRPS To Dos:**
- Revise Water Supply protection bylaw to extend protections
- Expand Westfield River Overlay District to include steep slopes to the east and west of the river
- Target areas for connecting open spaces (part of Master Plan)
- Adopt best management practices for minimizing stormwater runoff in order to prevent erosion (2027).
- Explore demolition delay bylaw for Historic Properties
- Explore zoning changes that protect ridge lines and open agricultural lands that are important for scenic value.

**Important Dates:**

March 24 @ 6:30 p.m.: Next Planning Board Meeting