

Dalton Master Plan Update

Discussion of Plan Sections - Meeting

August 3, 2021



Topics to Cover:

At the August 3rd Planning Board meeting we will plan to discuss:

- Proposed amendments to the Timeline presented in the original Scope of Work.
- Proposed amendments to the Payment schedule and the Contract Price.
- Potential Elements (Section Topics) of the Master Plan.

Scope and Agreement Amendments

Scope of Work

Included in the meeting materials is a proposed Amendment to the agreement between the Town and NCC with an updated timeline chart for the Master Plan update. This timeline now reflects the pause taken within a Continuous Update approach, as described in the original Scope of Work.

Professional Services Agreement

Within the proposed Amendment to the agreement between the Town and NCC, adjustments to the total contract price, to reflect a continuous update, have been made. Additionally, the Payment Schedule has been modified to allow for partial payments within each Task based upon work completed.

Potential Elements of the Master Plan

Benefits of a Master Plan

A master plan can:

Provide guidance to local officials when making decisions,

Guide budgets and capital improvement plans,

Set the stage for land use ordinances (if desired),

Increase access to grant funds,

Jump starts engagement and action around a shared vision and goals.

Optional Sections of a Master Plan (allowed in NH per RSA674:2)

Discussion with the Planning Board in July 2022 suggested that there may be additional or alternative topics which may be of interest to the Town of Dalton, such as energy. Below is a list and description of potential topics the Master Plan may address for discussion, prioritization, and consideration at the August 3rd, 2022 meeting.

(Topics Anticipated for Inclusion are denoted with)*

1. **Transportation *** - which considers all pertinent modes of transportation and provides a framework for both adequate local needs and for coordination with regional and state transportation plans. Suggested items (per statute) to consider may include but are not limited to public transportation, park and ride facilities, and bicycle routes, or paths, or both.
2. **Community Facilities** - which identifies facilities to support the future land use pattern of the Town, meets the projected needs of the community, and coordinates with other local governments' special districts and school districts, as well as with state and federal agencies that have multi-jurisdictional impacts.
3. **Economic Development *** - which proposes actions to suit the community's economic goals, given its economic strengths and weaknesses in the region.
4. **Natural Resources *** - which identifies and inventories any critical or sensitive areas or resources, not only those in the local community, but also those shared with abutting communities. This section, which may specifically include a water resources management and protection plan, shall provide a factual basis for any land development regulations that may be enacted to protect water resources and other identified natural areas. A key component in preparing this section is to identify any conflicts between other elements of the master plan and natural resources, as well as conflicts with plans of abutting communities.
5. **Natural Hazards** - which documents the physical characteristics, severity, frequency, and extent of any potential natural hazards to the community. It should identify those elements of the built environment at risk from natural hazards as well as extent of current and future vulnerability that may result from current zoning and development policies.
6. **Recreation** - which shows existing recreation areas and addresses future recreation needs.
7. **Utility & Public Service** - analyzing the need for and showing the present and future general location of existing and anticipated public and private utilities, both local and regional, including telecommunications utilities, their supplies, and facilities for distribution and storage.
8. **Cultural, Archeological & Historical Resources** - which identifies and protects them for rehabilitation or preservation from the impact of other land use tools such as land use regulations, housing, or transportation. Such section may encourage the preservation or restoration of stone walls, provided agricultural practices, as defined in RSA 21:34-a, are not impeded.
9. **Regional Concern *** - which describes the specific areas in the municipality of significant regional interest. These areas may include resources wholly contained within the municipality or bordering, or shared, or both, with neighboring municipalities. Items to be considered may include but are not limited to public facilities, natural resources, economic and housing potential, transportation, agriculture, and open space. The intent of this section is to promote regional awareness in managing growth while fulfilling the vision statements.

10. **Neighborhood Plan** - which focuses on a specific geographical area of local government that includes substantial residential development. This section is a part of the local master plan and shall be consistent with it. No neighborhood plan shall be adopted until a local master plan is adopted.
11. **Community Design** - which identifies positive physical attributes in a municipality and provide for design goals and policies for planning in specific areas to guide private and public development.
12. **Housing *** - which assesses local housing conditions and projects future housing needs of residents of all levels of income and ages in the municipality and the region as identified in the regional housing needs assessment performed by the regional planning commission pursuant to RSA 36:47, II, and which integrates the availability of human services with other planning undertaken by the community.
13. **Energy** - which includes an analysis of energy and fuel resources, needs, scarcities, costs, and problems affecting the municipality and a statement of policy on the conservation of energy.