

MASTER PLANNING COMMITTEE

Kenneth Swanton	2006
Margaret Campbell	2006
Michelle Simpson	2006
Mark Sullivan	2006
Bradley Reed.....	2006
Christopher Slade, Non-voting member	

The Master Planning Committee had a busy 2005 working on the town’s first Master Plan since 1971. Near the start of the year, the Committee hired Daylor Consulting Group of Braintree, Massachusetts after an extensive Request for Proposal (RFP) process. Daylor was contracted to oversee the public process, develop strategies that address foreseeable problems and improve overall development in the Town, and to prepare a final draft of the plan that meets state guidelines under MGL Chapter 41, Section 81D. The plan outlines a vision for Bolton, and includes chapters on housing, open space and recreation, economic development, natural and cultural resources, land use, public facilities, and an implementation chapter to outline the tasks needed to achieve the plan’s objectives.

The committee met with several boards and committees to review current and foreseeable future needs over the next 20 years. Twenty-seven meetings were held in 2005, including two town-wide meetings to gather input from residents. The committee has also relied heavily on previous plans prepared by other town boards and committees, including the 2002 Town Survey, the Open Space and Recreation Plan prepared by the Conservation Commission and the Affordable Housing Plan prepared by the Affordable Housing Partnership.

Developing a plan that will help Bolton guide appropriate residential, municipal, and commercial development in the next twenty years has been a difficult task given the necessary tradeoffs and complex issues associated with population growth. The committee was downsized in December from eight members to five. The committee will continue to work with five members to complete a plan by the spring of 2006.

The Committee would like to thank Stephen Garner, Dick Heaton, and Russ Karlstad for their hard work and service on the Committee, and for their efforts in getting the Master Plan and Committee started. Also, the Committee would like to thank Ken Troup for his continued assistance with the plan.

**Financial Statement
July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005**

Expenses

Appropriated (Article 4, November, 2004)		\$45,000.00
Expended		<u>\$37,932.16</u>
Unexpended balance	\$ 7,067.84	