



**What do you picture when you envision Hampton’s “community character?”**

<b>Rural farm fields</b>	0/12	0%
<b>Dense residential &amp; commercial neighborhoods</b>	3/12	25%
<b>Forested suburban neighborhoods</b>	2/12	17%
<b>Village-like town center with town green</b>	6/12	50%
<b>Natural parklands</b>	3/12	25%
<b>Homes along sandy beaches</b>	4/12	33%
<b>Popular summer beach destination</b>	11/12	92%
<b>Parks &amp; playgrounds</b>	4/12	33%
<b>Modern condominiums</b>	1/12	8%

Noah presented a summary of the feedback that the project team has collected so far through the initial Master Plan survey, the municipal staff questionnaire, and the currently open public survey and text message campaign. Following this, Noah presented another poll question:

<b>How strongly do you agree with each of the priorities we’ve identified through our engagement so far?</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Strongly Agree</b>
<b>Natural Hazard Planning &amp; Climate Resilience</b>	0%	0%	17%	92%
<b>Natural Resource Protection</b>	0%	0%	25%	83%
<b>Improvements to Roads, Public Transit, Walkability and Bikeability</b>	0%	8%	17%	83%
<b>Community Character &amp; Aesthetic</b>	0%	8%	42%	58%
<b>Community Facilities &amp; Recreational Opportunities</b>	0%	17%	25%	33%
<b>Affordable Housing</b>	0%	8%	58%	42%
<b>Economic Development</b>	0%	17%	42%	50%

Noah moved on to Coastal Management and Coastal Resilience topics. Coastal Management was defined as efforts to balance a community’s quality of life, economic prosperity, and the needs of the natural and built environments, within coastal areas. Coastal resilience was defined as the capacity of a coastal community to sustain achievement of community goals and social, economic, and environmental wellbeing over the long term in a changing climate. A series of slides about risk and vulnerability were presented, along with slides explaining projected changes to sea level rise, coastal storms, groundwater rise, and precipitation in New Hampshire (based on New Hampshire DES projections). Measures for advancing coastal resilience were discussed within the following categories:

- Take no Action
- Avoid
- Accommodate
- Resist
- Relocate.

Poll questions were presented.

**Of the four features identified in the definition of coastal management, which do you believe needs the most attention in Hampton?**

<b>Quality of Life</b>	3/12	25%
<b>Natural Environment</b>	5/12	42%
<b>Built Environment</b>	3/12	25%
<b>Economic Prosperity</b>	1/12	8%

**Select the top three items to be included in the coastal management chapter**

<b>Supporting a Coastal Economy</b>	3/12	25%
<b>Managing Public Access to the Coast</b>	2/12	17%
<b>Mitigating Coastal Hazards</b>	8/12	67%
<b>Regulating Development &amp; Redevelopment</b>	8/12	67%
<b>Managing Views &amp; Viewsheds</b>	0/12	0%
<b>Protecting &amp; Restoring Coastal Ecosystems</b>	5/12	42%
<b>Protecting Water Quality</b>	2/12	17%
<b>Open Space &amp; Acquisitions</b>	2/12	17%

**Which parts of Hampton’s coast need the most attention?**

<b>Protective Structures</b>	5/12	42%
<b>Key Infrastructure</b>	8/12	67%
<b>Private Property</b>	4/12	33%
<b>The Beach</b>	1/12	8%
<b>The Harbor</b>	2/12	17%
<b>The Estuary</b>	7/12	58%
<b>Dunes</b>	2/12	17%
<b>Water-Dependent Businesses</b>	2/12	17%
<b>Public Access to the Water</b>	1/12	8%

**Select your top three concerns regarding coastal hazards in Hampton**

<b>Flooding from the Ocean</b>	3/12	25%
<b>Flooding from the Estuary / Wetlands</b>	3/12	25%
<b>Flooding from Rain / Poor Drainage</b>	5/12	42%
<b>Erosion of Land</b>	6/12	50%
<b>Deposition of Sand and Debris on Land</b>	0/12	0%
<b>Direct Damage to Property from Water and Wind</b>	5/12	42%
<b>Secondary Damage from Fuel or Sewage Leaks</b>	1/12	8%
<b>Isolation due to Flooded or Eroded Roads</b>	4/12	33%
<b>Filling of Harbor Channels</b>	1/12	8%

After these polls and chat prompts, Noah presented a summary of the feedback that the project team has collected so far through the initial Master Plan survey, the municipal staff questionnaire, and the currently open public survey and text message campaign. Following this, Noah presented another series of poll questions:

**What are the top three priorities for you when considering resiliency projects?**

<b>Long-Lasting</b>	4/10	40%
<b>Supports Habitats &amp; Ecosystems</b>	7/10	70%
<b>Inexpensive</b>	0/10	0%
<b>Helps Protect a Large Area</b>	3/10	30%
<b>Does not Require Changing Behaviors</b>	1/10	10%
<b>Unobtrusive, or Visually Appealing</b>	2/10	20%
<b>Has Multiple Functions &amp; Benefits</b>	7/10	70%
<b>Addresses Social Equity</b>	4/10	40%
<b>Increases Public Awareness &amp; Education</b>	2/10	20%

**Select the top three things that Hampton can do to help build coastal resilience.**

<b>Public education to help understand &amp; prepare</b>	4/10	40%
<b>Internal trainings for municipal staff</b>	1/10	10%
<b>Technical assistance for residents &amp; businesses</b>	2/10	20%
<b>Make it easier or incentivize residents to act</b>	5/10	50%
<b>Secure funding to implement resilience actions</b>	6/10	60%
<b>Secure funding to implement projects</b>	5/10	50%
<b>Conduct resiliency projects</b>	1/10	10%
<b>Improve warning &amp; response systems</b>	0/10	0%
<b>Enact &amp; enforce regulations and ordinances</b>	6/10	60%

## Workshop Part 2: Breakout Rooms

Following the presentation, attendees were split into two breakout rooms based on the interest they expressed in the chat. These rooms were:

1. Vision
2. Resilience and Coastal Management

Notes from these two rooms are presented below:

### Breakout Room – Visioning

**Attendees:**

Jason Bachand: Moderator
Victoria Brudz: Note taker
Tracy Emerick
Katherine Corcoran Harake
Julie LaBranche

An attendee first suggested that the Vision should capture the different characters and lifestyles of what he sees as Hampton’s two distinct “communities”, the village community and the beach community.

Jason then posed the question: what do you like about Hampton? Responses from the participants included:

- The 4 different seasons
- It has retained its historic New England town character
- The history
- The town feels safe and has a good education system
- A lot of services are close by and easily accessible

Jason then posed the question: what do you think are some of the town’s challenges? Responses from the participants included:

- Demographics.
  - One participant reported the town to consist primarily of an older demographic, concluding that there need to be plans to take care of these populations. This may include a senior center or making beach access easier for these populations.
  - Another issue identified was the need to attract younger populations. Participants wondered how the town can do this.
- Economy.
  - Participants are interested in incorporating economies and businesses that are year-round and not just seasonal.
  - Participants are also interested in promoting businesses that can withstand stress. Participants believe local businesses often open with small budgets, and during an event, or stressful period of time, many close their doors as a result.
- Planning the town’s financial allocations for future concerns. As coastal events increase, participants expect that the town will ultimately direct funding towards response, recovery, and

resilience. It is important to participants to balance investment throughout the remainder of town and not just along the coastal areas.

- Incorporation of Environmental Justice.
- Tuck Field is reportedly underutilized.
- Consistency throughout the communities (“village” and “beach” communities), such as consistent signage might better link the communicates and fix the reported disconnect.
- The Greenway presents an opportunity for a great link between the “village” and “beach” communities. There is interest in attracting resilient businesses to develop in town and along the rail-trail.
- The town should look to increase affordable housing in town. There is reportedly a lot of seasonal housing in town that could be shifted to invite different classes of populations.

Jason then named different areas of town and asked participants to use one word to describe how they see each area now, and one word to describe how they would like to see it in the future.

1. Hampton Beach
  - a. Now, it is **inconsistent** [in terms of architectural design]
  - b. Would like to see more **consistency** in the future
2. Town Center
  - a. **Boring**, but does contain many vital services for residents
  - b. Would like to see it **livelier**, but retain that character
3. Route 1 going north and south outside of the core downtown area
  - a. Now, it has not changed over the years
  - b. Would like to see it have more of a typical “downtown” feel, and be more business friendly
4. Towle Farm/Exeter Road Areas near I-95
  - a. No comparison given (ran out of time). It was noted that the development there is okay. People have a right to develop their properties. However, the character of Exeter Road further west of I-95 interchange should be retained.

## Breakout Room – Coastal Resilience and Coastal Management

### Attendees:

Nathalie Morison (facilitator)
David Murphy (note-taker)
Former Senator Nancy Stiles
Rocky Dale
Diane Radler
Frank Kaye
Rayann Dionne
Barbara Kravitz
Tim Roache
Christopher (No last name provided; Newington Resident)

Former Senator Stiles opened the session with a statement about how the coastal management discussion should address what can be done to help Hampton become more resilient.

Nathalie acknowledged the broad issue introduced by Former Senator Stiles and opened the discussion to be framed by a set of questions she had prepared. Some of the responses addressed more than one question at the same time, but they are grouped (below) under the question that prompted the responses.

- Question #1 – Which resilience issues concern you the most, or put more simply, “What keeps you up at night?”
  - Mr. Kaye reported that erosion along Eel Creek is a significant problem that is getting worse. He noted that chunks of marsh are washing away, and nothing appears to have been done to date to resolve the erosion. He believes that the “no action” option for resiliency noted in the presentation is not acceptable.
  - Mr. Dale echoed these concerns and reported that the foundation of the condo complex has been at risk.
- Question #2 – Where are flooding and other concerns already being observed?
  - Ms. Dionne noted that the streets that extend toward or into marshes are flooding frequently. She believes that some of these areas were marsh once, and filled for development.
  - Ms. Radler noted the High Street area. She notices that marsh waters are “creeping” closer to the embankment and that extreme tide levels are becoming more frequent.
  - Mr. Dale noted flooding near Glade Path.
- Question #3 – When thinking about high-risk areas, do you worry that some of your favorite places, things, events will be impacted and need to be protected/adapted?
  - Ms. Radler is concerned that significant change will occur in the next 30 years.
  - Mr. Roach (RPC) is not a resident but noted that the economy will suffer if Hampton does not take steps to be more resilient (over the long term this could result in loss of businesses and infrastructure, and livelihoods of residents). Furthermore, he believes that Hampton needs to become resilient to the long-term changes as well as the extreme events that can occur anytime.
  - Ms. Dionne noted that infrastructure such as the wastewater treatment plant and water supply wells are at risk.

- Former Senator Stiles acknowledged that flooding from the ocean from storm surges is understood, but the most common and frequent flooding comes from the marsh side. She noted that flooding occurs at many high tides.
- Question #4 – What kinds of actions should the Town and residents of Hampton take in order to become more resilient?
  - Mr. Kaye believes that actions suggested in the prior Eel Creek studies are sufficient. However, funding is needed.
  - Christopher suggested ideas for more engagement.
  - Ms. Kravitz pointed out the importance of building consensus. She explained that people need to understand what the tools are, and then understand what has been done successfully elsewhere. She noted that sometimes the low-hanging fruit is the place to start working on resilience.

## Closing

Breakout rooms were closed, and Noah provided information on how residents could continue to participate in the planning process.

## Hampton, NH Master Plan Update Vision &amp; Coastal Management Content

**SUMMER PUBLIC WORKSHOP #2**


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<b>MEETING DATE:</b>	August 13, 2020	<b>TIME:</b>	7:00 – 8:30 pm
<b>LOCATION:</b>	Zoom Meeting		
<b>ATTENDEES</b>	Alex Loiseau	Paula Keogh	
	Ann Carnaby	Brian Warburton	
	Julie La Branche	Barbara Kravitz	
	Laurie Olivier	Mary McGhee	
	<u>Facilitators</u>		
	Jason Bachand	Planning Board	
	Nathalie Morison	NHDES	
	Noah Slovin	MMI	
	Dave Murphy	MMI	
	Victoria Brudz	MMI	

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## Workshop Part 1: Presentation

During the first part of the public workshop, Noah walked through a presentation that explained the context for this phase of the Master Plan Update and initiated discussion about the opinions of attendees about the Master Plan Vision and Coastal Management content. The presentation first explained what a Master Plan is, and how the Vision and Coastal Management content fit into the larger document.

Noah then spoke about the Vision, defining it as a process by which “a community decides the future it wants and then plans how to achieve it.” He had attendees consider four questions:

- Where are we now?
- Where are we going?
- Where do we want to be?
- How do we get there?

Noah then presented a series of poll questions, as well as prompts for people to respond to in the chat.

### What are the top 3 issues you want to see covered in the Vision?

<b>Community Character</b>	4/8	50%
<b>Economic Development</b>	2/8	25%
<b>Historic &amp; Cultural Resources</b>	2/8	25%
<b>Recreational Opportunities</b>	4/8	50%
<b>Climate Change Resilience</b>	3/8	38%
<b>Natural Resource Protection</b>	3/8	38%
<b>Housing Needs &amp; Affordability</b>	4/8	50%
<b>Municipal Services</b>	1/8	13%
<b>Infrastructure Maintenance &amp; Improvements</b>	3/8	38%

**What do you picture when you envision Hampton’s “community character?”**

Rural farm fields	1/8	13%
Dense residential & commercial neighborhoods	2/8	25%
Forested suburban neighborhoods	2/8	25%
Village-like town center with town green	6/8	75%
Natural parklands	4/8	50%
Homes along sandy beaches	3/8	38%
Popular summer beach destination	4/8	50%
Parks & playgrounds	4/8	50%
Modern condominiums	0/8	0%

On a scale of 1-4, how strongly do you agree with each of the priorities we’ve identified through our engagement so far?	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
Natural Hazard Planning & Climate Resilience	0%	0%	38%	63%
Natural Resource Protection	0%	13%	13%	75%
Improvements to Roads, Public Transit, Walkability and Bikeability	0%	13%	13%	75%
Community Character & Aesthetic	0%	0%	25%	75%
Community Facilities & Recreational Opportunities	0%	0%	25%	75%
Housing Affordability	0%	25%	0%	75%
Economic Development	0%	13%	25%	63%

Noah moved on to Coastal Management and Coastal Resilience topics. Coastal Management was defined as efforts to balance a community’s quality of life, economic prosperity, and the needs of the natural and built environments, within coastal areas. Coastal resilience was defined as the capacity of a coastal community to sustain achievement of community goals and social, economic, and environmental wellbeing over the long term in a changing climate. A series of slides about risk and vulnerability were presented, along with slides explaining projected changes to sea level rise, coastal storms, groundwater rise, and precipitation in New Hampshire (based on New Hampshire DES projections). Measures for advancing coastal resilience were discussed within the following categories:

- Take no Action
- Avoid
- Accommodate
- Resist
- Relocate.

Poll questions were presented.

**Select the top three items to be addressed in the coastal management chapter**

Supporting a Coastal Economy	3/8	38%
Managing Public Access to the Coast	1/8	13%
Mitigating Coastal Hazards	3/8	38%
Regulating Development & Redevelopment	6/8	75%
Managing Views & Viewsheds	2/8	25%
Protecting & Restoring Coastal Ecosystems	3/8	38%
Protecting Water Quality	3/8	38%
Open Space & Acquisitions	1/8	13%

**Select your top three concerns regarding coastal hazards in Hampton**

Flooding from the Ocean	2/8	25%
Flooding from the Estuary / Wetlands	4/8	50%
Flooding from Rain / Poor Drainage	3/8	38%
Erosion of Land	4/8	50%
Deposition of Sand and Debris on Land	0/8	0%
Direct Damage to Property from Water and Wind	3/8	38%
Secondary Damage from Fuel or Sewage Leaks	0/8	0%
Isolation due to Flooded or Eroded Roads	3/8	38%
Filling of Harbor Channels	1/8	13%

**What are the top three priorities for you when considering resiliency projects?**

Long-Lasting	2/8	25%
Supports Habitats & Ecosystems	4/8	50%
Inexpensive	0/8	0%
Helps Protect a Large Area	2/8	25%
Does not Require Changing Behaviors	0/8	0%
Unobtrusive, or Visually Appealing	3/8	38%
Has Multiple Functions & Benefits	5/8	63%
Addresses Social Equity	2/8	25%
Increases Public Awareness & Education	2/8	25%

**Select the top three things that Hampton can do to help build coastal resilience.**

Public education	4/8	50%
Train municipal staff	1/8	13%
Provide technical assistance	1/8	13%
Make it easier or incentivize residents to act	2/8	25%
Secure funding for projects	5/8	63%
Conduct resiliency projects	3/8	38%
Improve warning & response systems	0/8	0%
Enact & enforce regulations	3/8	38%

## Workshop Part 2: Group Discussion

Because the number of attendees was fewer than ten, breakout rooms were not utilized. The discussion commenced with visioning and then moved into coastal resilience.

### Visioning Facilitation

Jason opened with warm-up questions:

- Who has attended public meetings?
- How long have you lived in Hampton?
- Have you experienced damage from coastal storms?
- Are you optimistic about the Town's future?

Responses were mainly by hand-raising or brief answers.

Next, Jason led the attendees through series of discussion questions.

- Question #1 – What do you like about Hampton?
  - Brian likes “many things” about Hampton, including municipal services, and many areas are among his favorites. He believes the town has a very diverse socioeconomic profile.
  - Laurie agreed with Brian. Additionally, she noted her positive feelings about the school campus location and layout, and the ample beach parking for residents.
- Question #2 – What are some challenges that the Town faces?
  - Laurie noted that flooding is a major challenge, citing specific concerns along Kings Highway and near Ashworth. She believes that freeboard<sup>1</sup> alone will not be a solution, because flooding will impact roads and impair travel and access.
  - Paula added that flooding is causing barriers to travel, and feels economic development will depend on continued accessibility.
  - Brian stated that the Town needs to tackle the infrastructure costs associated with development. He utilized the satellite station on the west side of town as an example [*consultant does not know what this is referring to*].
  - Brian additionally noted that a master plan should provide direction for future development, and that the topic was worthy of future discussions. Development and redevelopment are key issues for the master plan.
- Question #3 – Describe the character of Hampton.
  - Laurie stated that the downtown area needs a “facelift” and more “charm,” perhaps in connection with bringing more people downtown.
  - Alex framed the discussion by noting that Hampton has two identities – the beach and downtown. He also noted that, while he believes people sometimes do not like the development densities in the beach area, he finds the historic development patterns to be part of the charm in that location.
  - Ann noted that the overhead utilities and poles in the downtown area are an eyesore, and that she has viewed renderings of that the area could look like without them. She also noted that the bridge could be addressed.

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<sup>1</sup> This is interpreted as freeboard as applied to buildings

- Brian responded by noting the excessive costs associated with placing utilities underground. He referenced the work of 1997-1998 along Route 1.
- Question #4 – In one word, how would you describe the following:
  - **Hampton Beach**
    - Brian typed “visionary” into the chat box; clarification is needed to note whether this word applied to this area.
    - Paula said “congestion” and then elaborated on her choice.
    - Alex agreed with Paula. He noted the popularity of the seafood festival but also noted that the worst congestion is focused on the eight major summer weekends.
  - **Downtown**
    - Brian noted that downtown is not currently a destination. The Town needs to bring in businesses.
- Question #5 – What values, principles, and priorities should guide the future of the Town?
  - Paula noted that sustainability is important. But this includes the many different aspects of sustainability, including environmental and economic sustainability. She noted specifically that the tax burden can only address so much.
  - Ann framed the question as “What do we want to be?” and “Who are we?” She asked “do we want to bring more people here?” or “Do we want to focus on who is here now?” She noted that these were key questions for the master planning process.

Jason provided a sample vision statement and then turned over the discussion to Nathalie.

### Coastal Resilience Facilitation

- Question #1 – Which resilience issues are most pressing, or “What keeps you up at night?”
  - Laurie noted her observation that the tides are getting higher every year, and the beach is becoming more narrow. She has observed water coming over the seawall between 17<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> street, and noted that never happened in the past.
  - Brian noted that Hampton will continue to struggle with sea level rise and erosion, and noted that worsening erosion observed in Hampton is reportedly a problem along the entire coast beyond Hampton. He specifically mentioned the beaches in Hampton, as well.
  - Paula shared that she is reading the book *Rising: Dispatches from the New American Shore* and recommended it to all attendees.
- Question #2 – Area any of the places that you love in high-risk areas?
  - Ann loves the salt marsh and posed the question, “how can we protect it?” She believes that the marsh is an asset in helping to protect Hampton.
  - Laurie specifically mentioned “Secret Spot” and “Cinnamon Rainbows,” and noted that she appreciates the resident parking areas near them. She is worried they will be gone someday due to sea level rise (especially the resident parking area) and posed the question “how can we salvage our favorite places?”
- Question #3 – What are some possible actions to help make Hampton more resilient?
  - Ann would like to know what the options are. For example, would more marshland help address sea level rise? What is the best way to preserve and protect marshland?
  - Paula noted that some neighborhoods were built on filled marshes, and that some new developments are adjacent to marshes. She asked if that was potentially damaging to marshes. She specifically mentioned a new development across from Boars Head.

- Brian explained that seven State agencies share overlapping jurisdictions in Hampton. He believes this to be an asset to the community's efforts to become resilient, and challenged them to come together to provide education and guidance. He believes that education is key and will lead Hampton to coastal resilience opportunities.
- Ann noted that ordinances control development, but ordinances typically take direction from a master plan. In Hampton, they reportedly do not take direction from a master plan. She explained that the Town needs a master plan with protective statements that will lead to ordinances. She noted that they need to "say" that they want to protect the coastline for the future.
- Mary noted that the Town has static infrastructure but a dynamic shoreline. A buffer may be needed, but it can be hard to change what is already in place.
- Alex believes that for structures that are already in place, the Town needs to make it easier to adapt. He posed the question "what can residents do now?" Are incentives or regulations needed to help people act on their own?

## Closing

Breakout rooms were closed, and Noah provided information on how residents could continue to participate in the planning process.