

Rutland's master plan gets grant boost

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RUTLAND — The town has received a \$40,000 grant from the Mass. Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs Planning Assistance Grant Program to develop the first phase of a town Master Plan.

The grant was announced by Town Administrator Ron San Angelo.

The state requires that each municipality have a Master Plan to identify its goals and policies for future growth and development. Each municipality is charged with soliciting public input in order to determine the community's values and goals as well as identifying patterns of development that will be consistent with these goals. Phase One of the Master Plan will include a statement of goals and policies, including elements that will address housing, land use and economic development.

"The Rutland Board of Selectmen supports the completion of the Master Plan. They understand that this will give a long-term road map as to the future development of the town," San Angelo said.

Norm Anderson, Planning

Board chair, is overseeing the Master Plan Steering Committee and is looking for residents to offer their opinions.

"The people of this community need to be involved with this process if it is going to be successful," Anderson said. "This allows people to contribute their ideas as to what they think the future of the town should be. Housing, land use and economic development are all important issues facing this community."

Town Planner David George is working with the Central Mass. Regional Planning Commission to support the Steering Committee.

"The Planning Office is looking forward to working with the community to create a high-quality community plan that helps set the future direction of the town," George said.

Residents are encouraged to contact the Steering Committee through the Planning Office, 508-886-4100, ext. 3001, or by email at dgeorge@townofrutland.org.

For more information or to get involved, visit rutlandmasterplan.com or connect on social media at [Instagram.com/rutlandmasterplan](https://www.instagram.com/rutlandmasterplan); https://twitter.com/MP_Rutland; or facebook.com/rutlandmasterplan.