



# RUTLAND

COUNCIL ON AGING

APRIL 2021

SPRING

in Rutland, Massachusetts

*The small rural community of Rutland serves over sixteen hundred older adults. Our mission is to help all mature adults socially connect in their community and be linked to all of the programming, services, resources and opportunities they need to maintain independence and age in place.*

*We are proud to be an age friendly community organization!*

## ***SMALL TOWN, BIG PLANS: RUTLAND KICKS OFF MASTER PLAN UPDATE***

The Town of Rutland is pleased to announce the recent launch of an effort to update its Master Plan. The phased initiative will refresh elements of the Town's 2000 Master Plan, providing a modern blueprint to guide Rutland's policies and investments for the next 10-20 years. Following a public call for applications, the Rutland Planning Board established a Master Plan Steering Committee (MPSC) in December. In January, the MPSC convened its initial meeting. The Committee will lead a robust community engagement process that draws out diverse perspectives and thoughts about the Town's future. Working with a consultant team, the MPSC will draft a vision statement and goals to help guide strategy development. As consultant, the Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission (CMRPC) will assist the Committee with data collection, surveys, analysis, subject matter expertise, and final plan development. Phase I of the initiative entails a thorough update of Economic Development, Housing, and Land Use chapters of the existing Master Plan, as well as a new vision and goals statement. The update is funded through a grant from the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA) and a match from CMRPC. Subject to funding, Phase II will address transportation, natural resources, cultural and historic resources, and town services and facilities. According to the committee, the Town is excited to embarked on this planning process. Updating our Master Plan to reflect today's issues and opportunities, and the current needs and desires of residents, is an important step. We're hoping to draw as many residents as possible into the planning process. It's an opportunity for everyone to help shape Rutland's future. We're calling on our residents to join in and share their perspectives."

*For more information or to get involved, visit [rutlandmasterplan.com](http://rutlandmasterplan.com) and like the initiative on Facebook.*