



Town of Boston

Comprehensive Plan Update 2024

Acknowledgments

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Planning Consultant services provided by the design team of:

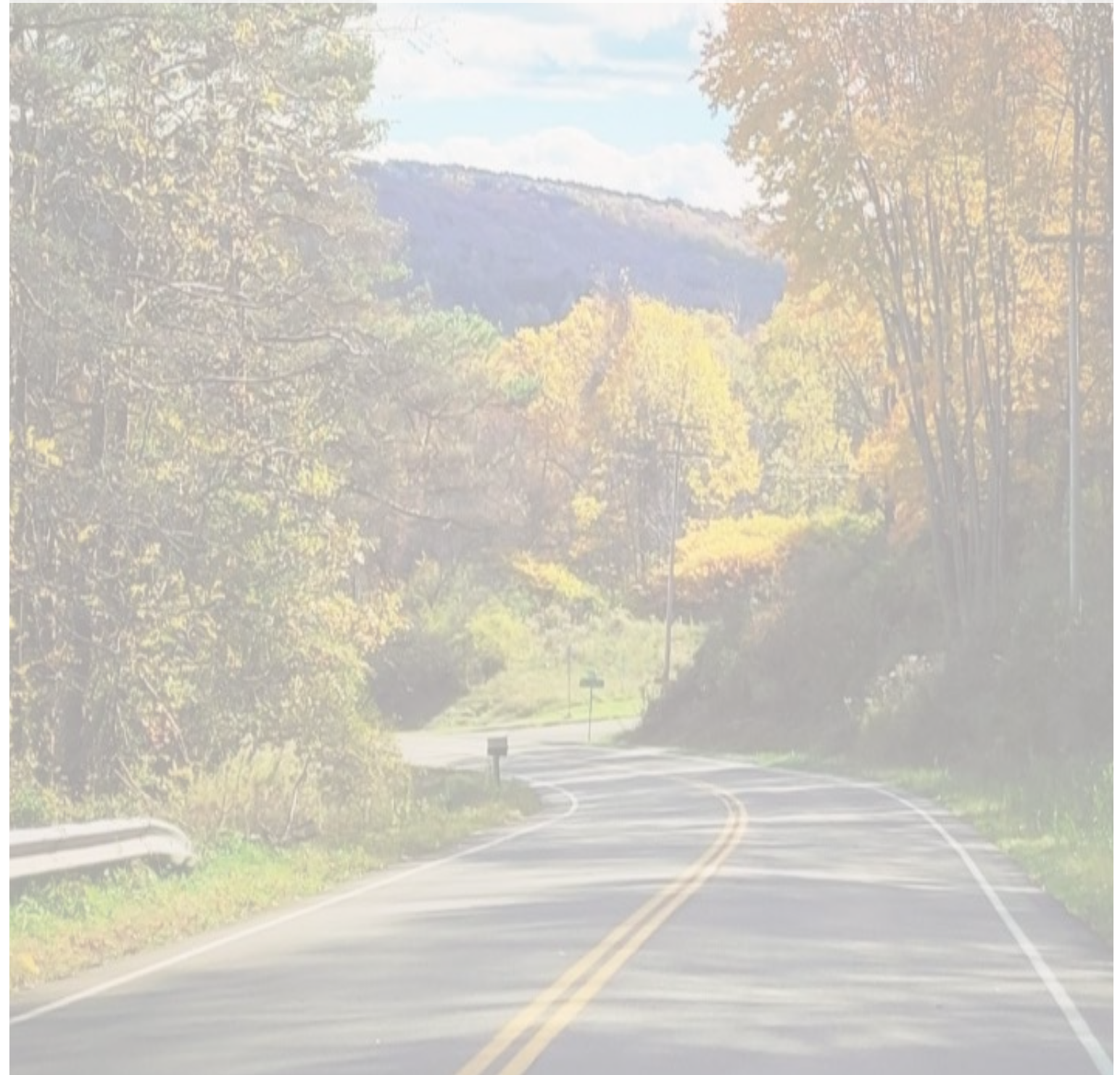
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01 Introduction



01 Introduction

I. Why Plan? Why Now?

In 2023 the Town of Boston NY set out to update their Comprehensive Plan. The current Comprehensive Plan for Boston was completed in 2002, and while still valid, many aspects of the plan reflect outdated information that is less pertinent to contemporary planning efforts. If the past 5 years have been any indication of what possible difficulties lie ahead, then there is no time to waste on identifying Boston-specific concerns and addressing them accordingly to assure that the Town remains a sustainable and viable place to live, farm, conduct business, and visit.

With a current Comprehensive Plan that is over two decades old, it is vital the Town of Boston conduct an update.

II. Plan Intent & Purpose

The Boston NY 2024 Comprehensive Plan Update looks to take a proactive approach to define the community’s vision for the future of the Town. The plan itself is not a regulatory document, instead it is a tool that should be used by local and regional officials in their decision-making processes. The plan also works as a communication tool to residents and businesses on the opportunities that exist.

The authority and power to develop a comprehensive plan is established in New York State Town Law (TWN § 272-a), and is noted as being, “among the most important powers and duties granted by the legislature to town government.” The Comprehensive Plan sets the foundation for local land use regulations and is required if zoning laws are to be adopted. Other benefits of a Comprehensive Plan:

- ▶ The Plan gives guidance to Boston’s elected leaders, appointed Board and committee members, regional officials, federal and state agencies, community organizations, businesses, and even residents.
- ▶ The Plan gives the community an opportunity to work together, discuss ideas, and establish and work toward a collective vision for the future.
- ▶ Marketing/Education: The Plan can act as a marketing and educational tool for the Town, outlining the assets found in the community and the opportunities for development and preservation.
- ▶ Capital Improvements: The Plan can act as a tool for identifying capital programs, projects, and initiatives that benefit and are prioritized by the community.
- ▶ Funding Support: Having a comprehensive vision and strategy for the future demonstrates to grantors that the Town has thought through and analyzed the projects and initiatives it will pursue. This increases the chances of these projects and initiatives being supported and funded.



Agriculture and Farmland Protection Plan

As part of the Comprehensive Plan, the Erie County Department of Environment and Planning awarded the Town of Boston an Agricultural Planning Grant. This grant has provided the opportunity to have a heightened focus on the agricultural community, while planning for the future of the Town of Boston. Although the Town is not a "right-to-farm" community, it is primarily made up of either Farmland of Statewide Importance, Prime Farmland, or Prime Farmland if Drained.



Look for this icon throughout the plan for more information on the AFPP

About the NYS Smart Growth Grant and Principles:

The NYS Department of State has established a set of Smart Growth principles that integrate four essential themes in planning and development:

- 1. equity,
- 2. economy,
- 3. environment, and
- 4. energy/climate.

Smart Growth promotes inclusivity and diversity by advocating for a range of housing options and job opportunities accessible to individuals of all incomes, backgrounds, ages, and abilities. It enhances community quality of life and revitalizes downtown areas, fostering livable, sustainable communities that attract and retain businesses and workers. Environmental stewardship is central to these principles, with green spaces and parks thoughtfully incorporated into community designs.

Within these four themes are ten key principles which expand upon them. These principles can be found on the following page.

This Comprehensive Plan has been funded by both the New York State Department of State, through their Smart Growth Grants and Erie County Agricultural Office.

III. The Process

The activities begin with kickoff meetings that review with the partners and steering committee the aspects of the Comprehensive Plan. This reviews everything from its requirements, anticipated timeline, anticipated outputs, and of course the key players and partners- as well as their roles.

Public Information Meetings are held early in the process to make the community aware, as well as assure that they have opportunities for input throughout the entire process.

More focused meetings are then held with the partners and steering committees to gather feedback on certain aspects of the plan, in this case Risk Assessment and Mitigation Strategies.

There is then a review meeting for the draft plan, to ensure that the document appropriately reflects the goals of the community.

After review is complete, the document is to be submitted for approval by the Erie County Department of Environment and Planning, and the New York State Department of State.

IV. Community Outreach

For more information refer to the Community Outreach Plan, Appendix A.

An important component of the planning process is community engagement. In Boston, this was achieved through various efforts, some traditional and some not, in order to gather ample feedback from a diverse group of individuals.

The methods used for the Comprehensive Plan include:

i. Steering Committee

The call for members of the community to participate on a grander scale drew a large response. This committee, otherwise named in the Acknowledgments, provided feedback, support and guide through monthly, or as needed meetings.

ii. Public Meetings/Workshops:

- 1. Public Informational Meeting** - The kickoff meeting occurred in **August 2023**, as the community's first opportunity for understanding what the project entails, the process, and to provide their initial input. The intent was to identify issues and opportunities that will be included in the community profile and used to develop the vision, core values/goals, and subsequent actions that will be the core part of the Plan's implementation. Some background information on existing issues and opportunities and maps of key assets in the Town of Boston ("What we have to work with?") will be provided to help elicit new ideas and comments from the community.
- 2. Second Public Meeting** – A second meeting occurred in **April 2024** as a public focus meeting to gather feedback on and confirm the community profile and the vision statement that will likely be developed at this point based on input from the community, Steering Committee, and other stakeholders – this meeting is geared towards the question "Are we on the right track?". It also gives a summary of previous outreach efforts that were undertaken up to this point including any community events, stakeholder meetings, or other endeavors carried out as a result of this Outreach Plan.
- 3. Third Public Meeting** – A third meeting occurred in **September 2024** as another public focus meeting to gather feedback on the draft, and specifically focus on the question "Did we miss anything?", posing the question to the community at large.
- 4. Public Hearing** - The final draft document, after consultation with the Steering Committee, is provided to the Town Board for final action, including referral to Erie County, review by NYSDOS, SEQRA compliance, and public hearing prior to adoption. The hearing is led by the Town with a formal presentation of the final draft document by the consultants as requested. This is geared to answer the question "Did we miss anything?".

Smart Growth Principles:



Inclusive Planning Process



Transit Oriented Development



Storm Resiliency



Green Infrastructure



Downtown Revitalization



Mixed Housing Options



Historic Preservation



Public Art



Environmental Justice



Complete Streets

iii. Comprehensive Plan Survey

Prior to the first public meeting, an online survey tool was created and distributed. The survey was intended to gather feedback to the current state of Boston, as well as the vision for the Town's future. This survey was also made into print version for those who were not knowledgeable in online surveys.

iv. Stakeholder Outreach

With the help of the Steering Committee, specific groups were identified as important voices to hear from. Each group were contacted through different methods, but ultimately, each were provided a series of questions to answer. All surveys were made available on the project landing page.

- 1. **Business Owners** –Initial mailers were sent to notify business owners of the online survey about Business in Boston. When the mailers were identified as insufficient, the Steering and Outreach Committees went to businesses to provide flyers with survey details.
- 2. **Agricultural Community** - Mailers were sent to all properties utilizing the Agricultural Tax Rebate. These mailers provided the information for an online survey.
- 3. **Young Families** –The Steering Committee identified young families and young adults as an important groups to hear from, as the community is aging and it will be important to address this. A survey was both distributed through the Boys & Girls Club of Orchard Park-Boston, and was made available online as well.
- 4. **High School Students** - As indicated above, the population in Boston is aging. To better understand what the next generation of residents and property owners may look for in a future home, the Hamburg and Eden Central School Districts* were contacted. With their assistance, one presentation was given, and a survey was presented to members of the senior classes.

**The Town of Boston does not have its own school district and is instead part of Hamburg, Eden, Orchard Park and Springville Central School Districts.*



02 Community Snapshot



02: Community Snapshot

**See Appendix C for the full Community Profile, including full-sized maps*

I. A Brief History of the Town of Boston

According to Boston Town Historian, Frank Gamel, the first resident of what is today the Town of Boston was a man named Charles Johnson, who decided to settle down in the area with his brother and their families due to the valley's clear meadows and abundant source of water from Eighteen Mile Creek.

More settlers followed and purchased plots of land from the Holland Land Company, which, led by Joseph Ellicott, surveyed and split the valley and the hills into parcels.

Agriculture has historically been an important part of the Town's history and local economic activity. In the days of early settlement, Bostonians purchased large parcels of land to build homes and farms. The parcels subdivided by Ellicott would produce grain, potash, corn, apples, potatoes, and raspberries, and would also support livestock. Other important industries that developed in the town include a wool factory, and a bell factory, which at one point was the largest bell factory in the United States, producing around 500 cow and sheep bells a day. Additionally, as the town continued to grow, churches, schools, lumber mills, and stores began to develop.

Boston is one of the oldest Towns in Erie County, having been incorporated on April 5, 1817, with much of its territory formerly encompassing parts of the Town of Eden. The Town grew into 3 hamlets, which include Boston at its southernmost point, Boston Center, later renamed Patchin, and North Boston. Each hamlet had its own post office, fire companies, and churches that were built in the valley and on the hills.

Boston is bordered to the north by the Town of Orchard Park, to the east by the Town of Colden, to the south by Concord and Springville, and to the west by the Towns of Eden and Hamburg. Boston is one of several stops along the Western New York Southtowns Scenic Byway, showcasing the beauty and warmth of a small-town community.

Today, Boston continues to evolve as a part of the Erie County metropolitan area. While it retains its agricultural heritage, the town has also diversified its economy, incorporating various sectors such as manufacturing, services, and retail. Its strategic location, historical significance, and natural beauty continue to attract both residents and businesses, ensuring a steady growth trajectory for the town over time. Find more information about the history of Boston at the Town of Boston website.

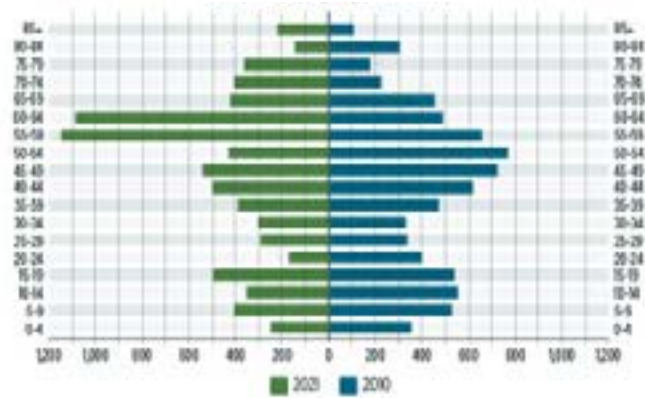
7,948

Population of
Boston, NY

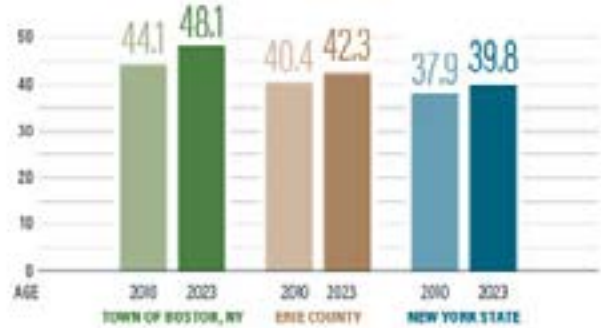


Community Profile

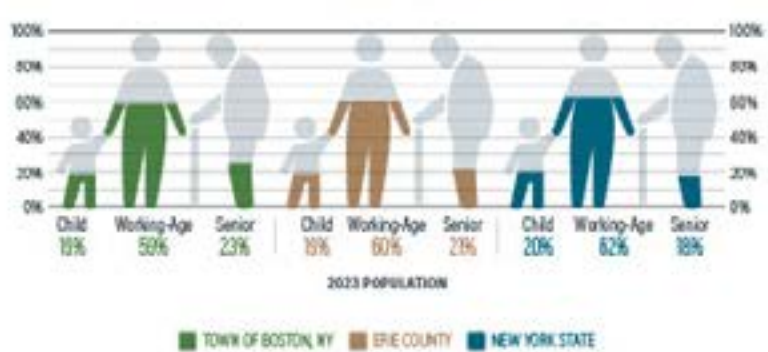
Age Distribution
Town of Boston, NY (2010 & 2021)



Median Age Comparison
2010 vs. 2023 (Age in Years)



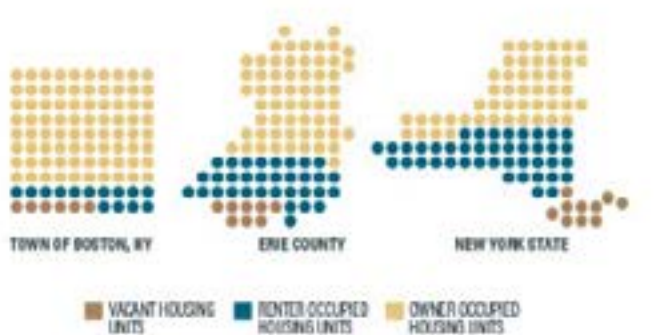
Population by Age Group
(Percentage)



2010 Housing Unit Type Summary
(Percentage)



2023 Housing Unit Type Summary
(Percentage)



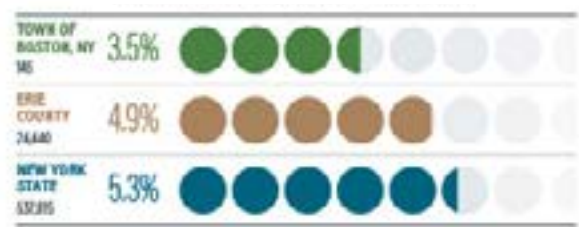
2021 Population with Income Below Povert Level (ACS 5 Years)
(Percentage)



2021 Population with Income Below Povert Level (ACS 5 Years)
(Percentage)



2023 Unemployment Rate
Unemployment Population 16+ (Percentage)



2023 Labor Force
18+ Civilian Population, Town of Boston, NY

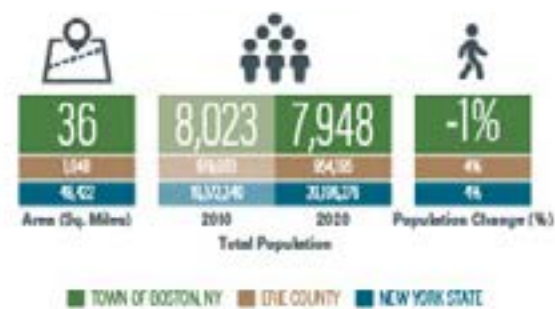
	Town of Boston	Erie County	New York State
CIVILIAN POPULATION/ LABOR FORCE	4,186	495,319	10,219,377
UNEMPLOYED CIVILIAN POPULATION (16+)	145	24,440	537,815
EMPLOYED CIVILIAN POPULATION (16+)	4,041	470,879	9,681,562

Farmland Soils

Town of Boston, NY (Percentage/Acres)

47.0% 10,773.4 Farmland of Statewide Importance	16.8% 5,900.7 Not Prime Farmland	7.2% 2,944 All Areas are Prime Farmland	15.3% 4,335.3 Prime Farmland if Drained
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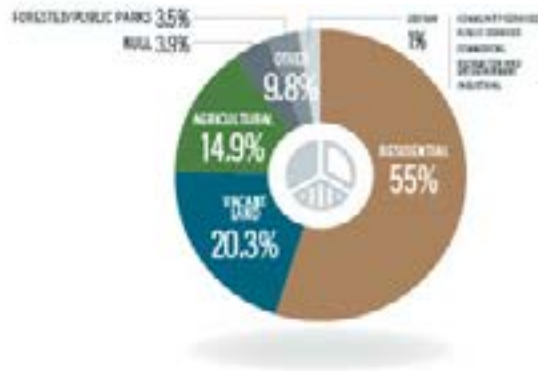
Population and Area



Housing Unit Totals
2010 vs. 2023

	Town of Boston	Erie County	New York State
2010 TOTAL HOUSING UNITS	3,388	419,963	8,104,149
2023 TOTAL HOUSING UNITS	3,574	445,598	8,599,146
CHANGE OVER TIME	▲ 5%	▲ 6%	▲ 6%

Parcel Summary
Town of Boston Acreage (Percentage)



2021 Median HH Income (ACS 5-Year)
Town of Boston, NY (\$USD)



↑ “Empty nesters” (55-64) and seniors have increased since 2010

↓ School-aged Children have decreased since 2010

↑ Median household age is increasing (44.1 to 48.1) since 2010

↑ Housing stock has increased by 5% since 2010

↓ Rate of growth has decreased since 2010

20% of Town land use is categorized as **Vacant**.

* <Null> Represents any parcels that are not identifiable as any property class.

II. About Boston

The most recent Town of Boston Comprehensive Plan entitled *Town of Boston Comprehensive Plan: A Vision for the Year 2020*, prepared in 2002, was based on economic and demographic data that referenced US Census data from 1990 and 2000. Collecting up to date information provides a clearer picture of the Town’s present day conditions and helps identify potential trends in the future. Understanding this data and the trends emerging gives the Town of Boston the opportunity to make informed decisions about its future moving forward.

i. Our Community

The data on the previous pages provides a “snapshot” of the current key demographics for the Town. The trends in the community since 2010 provide a deeper understanding of the outlook for the future. For example, while the population remained relatively stagnant, which might suggest a sufficient balance between inward and outward migration or births and deaths, the population of those older than 55 years old have increased and school-aged children, under 19, have steadily decreased. With such shifts suggest that the community is aging, potentially becoming less appealing or accessible for young families, and the needs of residents are shifting. Re-evaluating the current amount of support for seniors in the community, as well identifying potential means to bring new families to town may be ways the Town can respond to these aging trends.

The housing stock in town has increased by 5% since 2010, but this rate of growth has been decreasing. The balance of older homes verses newer, which currently sits at a 50-50 split, can impact code enforcement for maintenance, affordability, and overall variety from a marketing aspect.

While new homes can increase the tax base and attractiveness of Boston to new residents, housing variety is also key to making the Town more attractive to new residents. Older residents, looking to downsize while remaining in Boston also may benefit from a variety of housing options. Boston lacks such variety, with the vast majority of housing stock in the Town being single-family homes.

Median household incomes in the Town are strong at \$77,294

and greater than both New York State and Erie County. A strong median income is seen as an indicator that there is solid spending power for residents, though it can be overshadowed by inflation and expenses. Keeping the money local is the priority for Boston

The key demographics and trends of the conditions provide one part of a physical attributes in the Town have a significant impact on economic development and the Town’s overall quality of life. Below is a summary of land uses and other physical characteristics and resources of the Town of Boston.

ii. Existing Land Use

The Town of Boston covers an area of approximately 36 square miles. Overall, the Town can be characterized as a rural residential community. Larger lot residential development is located on the western and eastern sides of the Town. Smaller more suburban style housing is located along roads including Boston State Road which runs through the center of Town and is a major corridor where most commercial and community services land uses are found. Feedback during the engagement process revealed residents are concerned about the amount of development that may occur in the future and where that would take place, with many expressing their desire for Boston to maintain its “small town character”.

There is little industrial land (less than 1%) in the Town, with most of it being located in Boston’s southeast section. Land uses in the Town have remained generally the same since completion of the prior plan in 2002, however, the Town has seen an increase in the subdivision of larger lot parcels for single-family homes and the construction of some multi-family homes. The Town has also recently grappled with having a limited inventory of right sized commercially zoned land (both in volume of land and the size of individual available parcels) and in some cases with the compatible integration of certain proposed developments with adjacent residential areas, some of which have historical significance.

Residential Lands are the largest land use in Boston (55%) and are found throughout the Town, with larger lots present on the western periphery and smaller and denser residential properties closer to Boston State Road (See Table 2.1).





Property Class	Acreage	% of Total
Residential	11,947.5	55.05%
Vacant Land	4,401.0	20.28%
Agricultural	3,234.9	14.91%
<Null>*	845.3	3.90%
Wild, forested, conservation lands and public parks	764.0	3.52%
Community Services	145.3	0.67%
Public Services	136.2	0.63%
Commercial	132.1	0.61%
Recreation and Entertainment	88.6	0.41%
Industrial	7.1	0.03%
Total	21,702.2	100.00%

Table 2.1: Existing Land Use; Source: Erie County Department of Environment and Planning

The second largest land use category in the Town is **Vacant Land**. These are lands with no apparent use that are not wooded or formally maintained as open park or recreational space. These areas lack permanent improvements and are not categorized as fallow or underutilized farmland. There is a total of 4,401 acres or 20.2 % of vacant land throughout the Town of Boston, which is scattered throughout the community and not concentrated in one area. There are some larger vacant areas in the southeastern portion of the Town, and these vacant parcels may have potential for development as open space, recreational sites, or renewable energy projects (i.e., solar farms).

11

Exempted
Parcels outside
Agriculture
District

85

Exempted
Parcels in an
Agriculture
District



Image 2.2: Farm Parcels in Boston

Agricultural Land uses comprise the third largest acreage of land use in the community, which amounts to 3,234 acres or 14.9% of the total land area. The Town is fortunate to have an environment conducive to farming with 47% of its soils designated as “Farmland of statewide importance”. Additionally, 7.2% of the soil is classified as “prime farmland” and 15.3% of the soil is designated as “prime farmland if drained” according to the SSURGO soils database. The Town falls within designated Agricultural Districts 8 and 15. These soils are considered those that have the best combination of chemical and physical properties for producing food, fiber, forage, etc. and should be retained for such use.

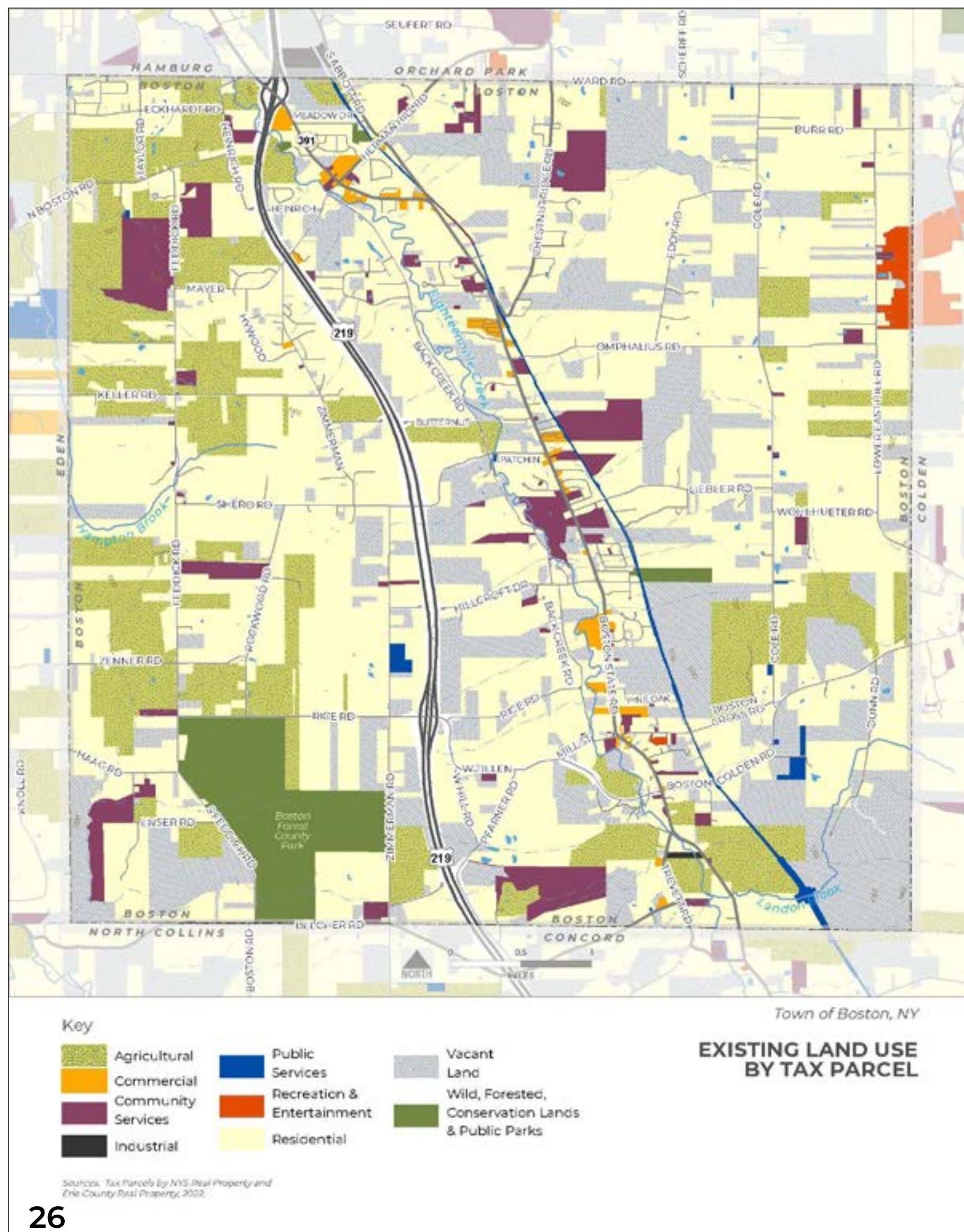
When farmland is lost to farming, it is gone forever, and preservation of the existing agricultural land is very important to Town residents. While agriculture has played an important role in the Town’s evolution and continues to remain an important influence and draw for people looking to live in a small rural community, agricultural lands have been steadily lost to other forms of development, which may be an issue of concern for the Town. The 2002 Comp Plan reported Agricultural land as the number one land use type in Boston at 5,921.8 acres or 27.3% of total land use. In 2023, Agriculture was the third highest land use type in the Town, and between 2010 and 2022, there were 28 fewer agricultural property parcels in Boston (see Image 2.2).

Agriculture is a non-renewable resource and a valuable commodity for the Town of Boston. Once developed, agricultural land has little chance of reverting to its original use. Agricultural lands are presently and will continue to face development pressures in the Town of Boston from uses such as residential development.



Agriculture land use
has decreased to 14%
from 27% in 2002.





The next largest land use category at 3% is **Wild, Forested, Conservation lands and Public Parks** (764 acres or 3.5%). The wild, forested, conservation lands and public parks include wooded areas with densely covered trees, wetlands, conservation easements and State, County, and Town owned public park lands. These lands are located throughout the Town and primarily includes the Boston Forest , which is a 706 acre wooded area on Feddick Road between Belcher and Rice Hill Road.

Community Services (145.3 acres), Public services (136.2 acres), Commercial (132.1 acres), and Recreation and entertainment (88.6 acres), all individually account for less than one percent of total land use in the Town (see Figure 2.1).

Most commercial properties in the Town of Boston are found on Boston State Road, the Town’s main commercial corridor. Businesses found on Boston State Road include a car dealership, restaurants, and a mix of services, stores and professional offices.

The recreation and entertainment land uses include facilities such as auditoriums, theatres, playgrounds, and athletic fields, which the Town of Boston has few of. Boston does however have three public parks, with the largest, Boston Town Park Complex, located at the rear of town hall, giving residents access to green spaces they can readily enjoy. Other significant recreational sites include the school athletic facilities and play areas, and over 20 miles of dedicated snowmobile trails operated by private snowmobile clubs.

Public service uses include facilities such as utilities that provide and support access to infrastructure for residents, and in the Town of Boston, a total of 136.2 acres (0.6%) of land is dedicated to sustaining public services. Some of these uses include a power right of way that extends in a north south direction to the east of Boston State Road and a WNED television/radio satellite station on Zimmerman Road. Additional public services are located throughout the community.

Community service uses include facilities such as municipal buildings, fire halls, churches, schools, and cemeteries, which provide important resources for the community that ensure the well-being of its residents. Overall, this use of land constitutes about 145 acres (0.67%) of land in the Town of Boston.

Lastly, “Null” values, comprising 845 acres (3%) of land in the Town represent parcels without property class codes, with their land use types being unknown.

iii. Zoning

The Town of Boston follows a traditional zoning model, which divides the Town into specific districts that are dictated by a list of primary and other permitted uses, creating a hierarchy within each district that builds off previous districts. The residential districts are the most restrictive while the general industrial district allows for the most varied uses. Currently, zoning in the Town of Boston consists of the following districts (below is a summary of the Town’s nine (9) different districts as further outlined in the following pages with the full code available online.

Navigate through the Town of Boston Code online at <https://ecode360.com/BO0557>.

Zoning Code	Acreage	Percent of Total
Local Commercial District (C-1)	261.75	1.2%
General Commercial District (C-2)	15.00	0.1%
General Industrial District (M-2)	13.28	0.1%
Single-Family Residence District (R-1)	767.28	3.5%
Single family Residence District (R-2)	2,748.52	12.7%
Two or More Family Residence District (R-3)	54.10	0.2%
Mobile Home Court District (R-4)	18.34	0.1%
Residential-Agricultural District (R-A)	17,655.94	81.3%
General Residential Restricted Business District (R-C)	81.91	0.4%
Right-of-way	91.12	0.4%
Total	21,707.24	100.00%

Table 2.2: Zoning Districts; Source: Erie County Department of Environment and Planning

- 1. **Residential (R-1, R-2, R-3, R-4, R-A, R-C)** The intent of each Residential District is to primarily allow single-family residential uses along with some limited community services (i.e., churches, schools, libraries), the difference among them is density, generally dictated by the availability of infrastructure (i.e., sanitary sewer). All uses below are also subject to consideration for special use permits.
- 2. **Commercial (C-1, C-2)** Commercial zoning in the Town includes the local business district and a general commercial district. The majority of this zoning category is clustered along the main commercial corridor in the northern end of the Town along South Abbott Road and Route 391 and through the center of the Town – along Boston State Road. Businesses in the commercial zoning district include Cappellino Chevrolet, Hamburg Overhead Door and Charlaps Dairy, Southtowns Feeds & Needs, North Boston Garage, Expressway Automotive, Brunners Eatery, Georges, etc. Smaller commercial businesses include a mix of stores, services, professional offices and restaurants.
- 3. **Industrial (M1, M2)** Industrial districts in the Town of Boston are very limited – there are three areas where parcels possess this designated zoning located in the central and southern portion of the Town. Uses allowed in these districts generally include office buildings and other administrative, professional or executive offices, research and development facilities, to heavier uses that include coal yards, incinerators, storage of petroleum and petroleum products, manufacturing of abrasives, automobile assembly and fabrication, and open storage yards.

* Land Use recommendations that could impact future zoning are further analyzed in Section 5: Moving Forward, under future land use.

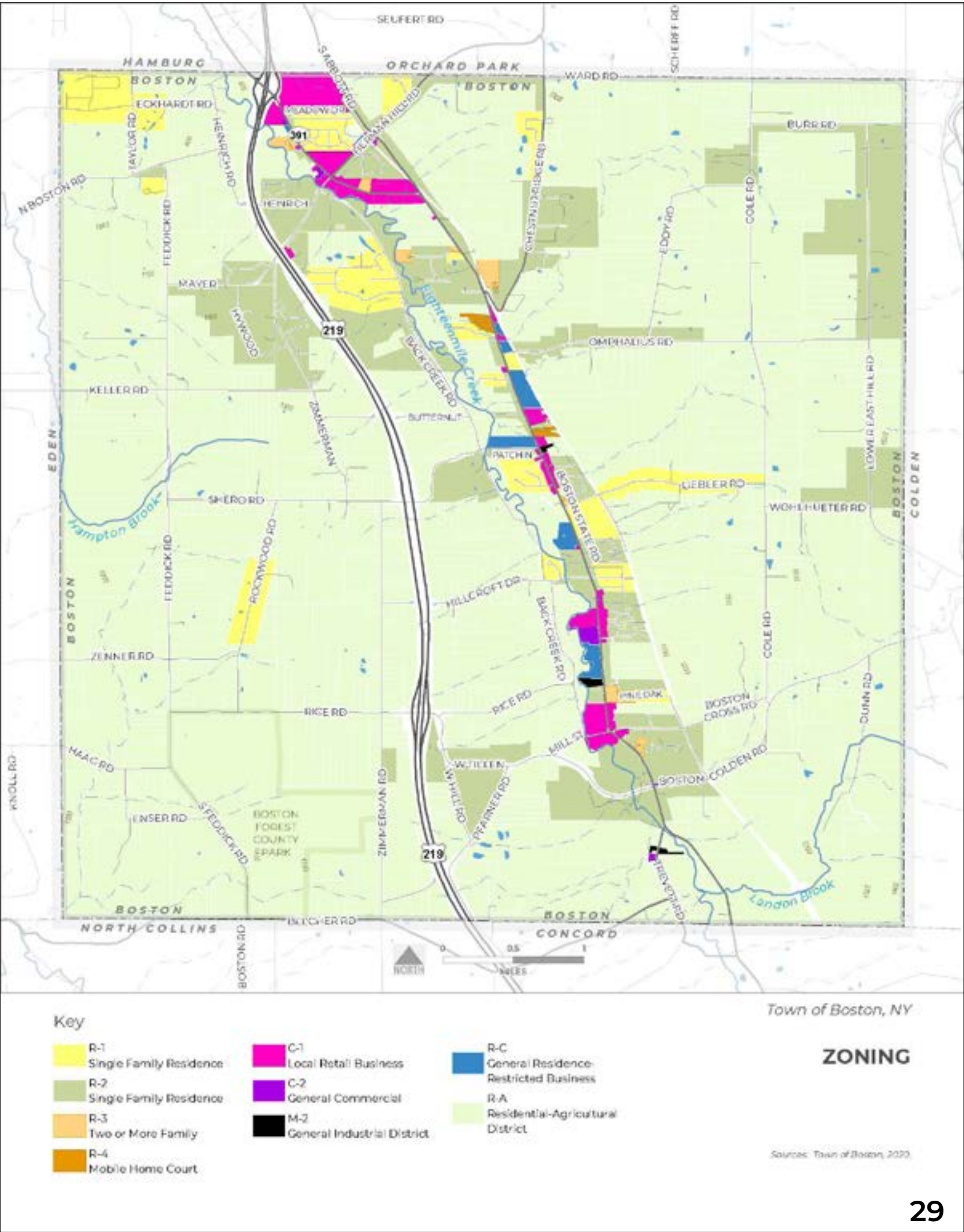




Image 2.3: School Districts in Boston

iv. Community Services and Other Special Town Features

1. **Education:** Public schools are an important part of a community, however a community's municipal lines are not always reflective of school district lines. Residents of the Town of Boston are assigned to one of four school districts (see Image 2.7), depending on where they live within the Town. These districts include Eden Central, Hamburg Central, Orchard Park Central and Springville-Griffith Institute Central School Districts. There is one school building located in the Town of Boston, the Boston Valley Public School, serving elementary students, located at 7476 Back Creek Road.



Image 24: Boston Historical Society

2. **Historic Markers in Boston:** Historic Markers commemorate people, events, former uses of a place, or some other significant thing that make a community special. The Town of Boston is home to several historical markers that help us remember people and events important to the Town's History.
3. **Boston Historical Society:** As of the time of this report, the Boston Historical Society is defunct and the building and its artifacts remain untouched. As a non-profit, the organization is separate from the Town of Boston and relies on community members to succeed.



CALL TO ACTION!

Volunteers are needed to join the Historical Society to revive and maintain the Town's historic artifacts and stories...

Reach out to volunteer:

historian@townofboston.com

The current Historic Markers in Boston include:

- First Fire Company
- Talcott Patchin Home
- John Love Historic Marker
- First Settler Marker
- Typhoid Fever
- Ellen Bach Yaw
- Pioneer Church
- West Boston
- Horton Hill
- Patriot Burials



Image 2.5: Boston Town Park



Image 2.6: Park Signage



v. Community Assets & Natural Resources

1. Parks & Recreation In all, the Town possesses 783 acres of parkland and 24 miles of snowmobile trails. Recreation Trails/linear features in Town include: Boston Nature Trail, power line, and an abandoned rail line. The Town possesses adequate parks and recreation amenities and services to support its population.

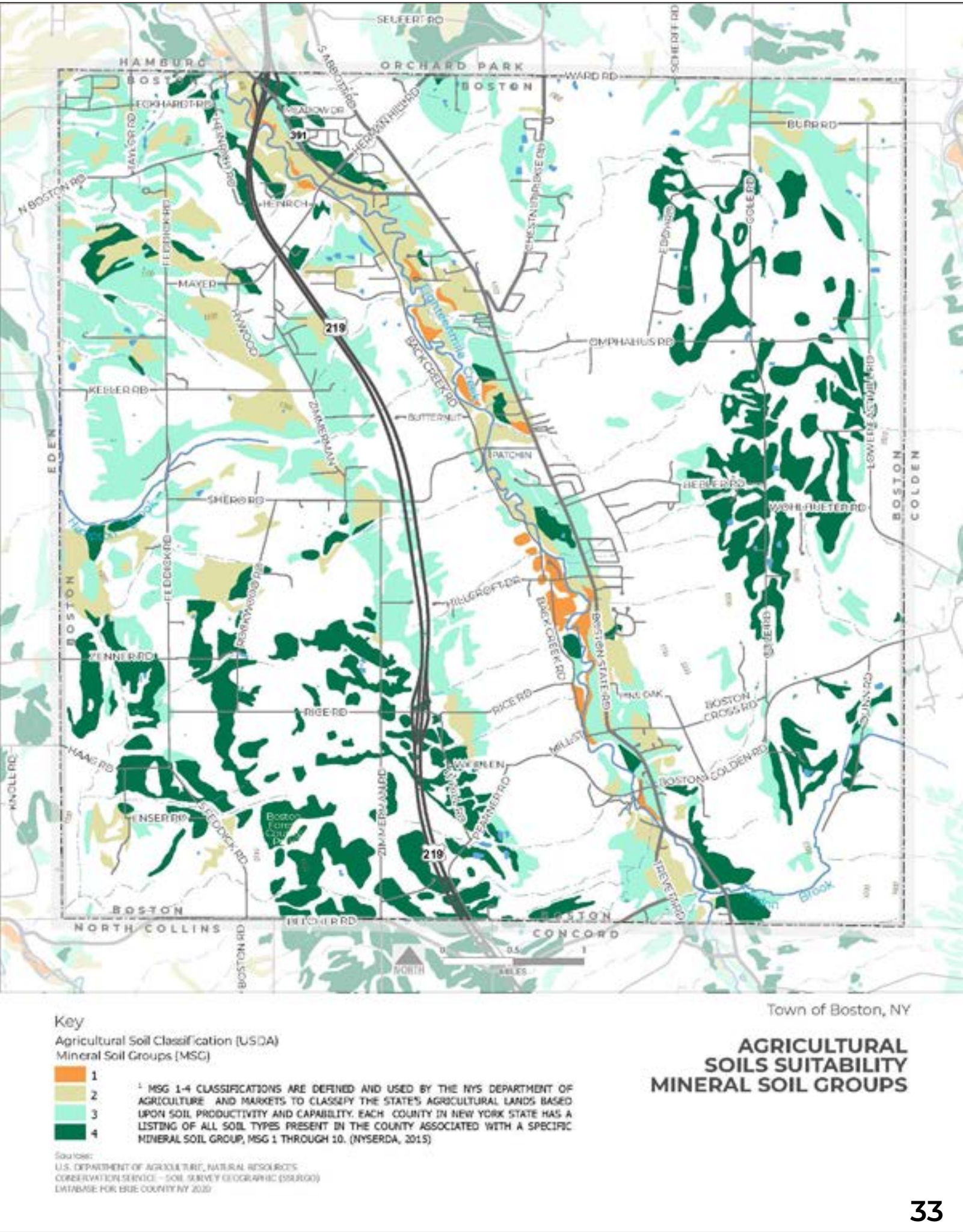
Parks and Recreation spaces in the Town of Boston include the following:

- ▶ Boston Town Park, 8500 Boston State Road
- ▶ North Boston Park (David Finger Memorial Field), 5678 Meadow Drive
- ▶ Boston Valley School Play Ground, 7448 Back Creek Road
- ▶ South Boston Park, 8960 Boston Cross Road
- ▶ *Boston Forest County Park, 5423 Feddick Road*

The Parks in the Town also possess amenities for recreation that the vast majority of overseeing agencies indicate they should possess – play equipment, athletic field amenities. The Town also is home to a designated Senior Center. The Town’s Senior Center, located in Town Hall, recently invested over \$100,000 to replace the center’s HVAC system and complete other COVID-19-related safety-improvements. In addition, there is a Boys and Girls Club in the Town on Boston State Road.

vi. Agriculture

1. Prime Farmland: Soils in Erie County have been considered by the USDA-Soils Conservation Service as some of the best in the nation. In the Town of Boston prime farmland as classified by the Soils Conservation Service, are located along and near Eighteen Mile Creek , which runs in a northwest to southeast direction through the center of the Town. The soils along the creek consist primarily of Blasdel-Farnham-Alton and some Hudson-Varysburg-Valois soils. Most of these soils have high contents of shale fragments and are generally deep and well drained. However, some of the lands are located in areas that are steeply sloping and have the potential for slumping. The steep slopes inhibit



Impacts of Climate Change in Erie County

- Increased temperatures and more frequent and intense heat wave events.
- Increased intensity of both floods and drought.
- More intense wind and precipitation events, magnified by warmer lake temperatures.
- More variability in lake levels and increased shoreline erosion on Lake Erie.
- Warmer Lake Erie temperatures that exacerbate algae blooms, leading to polluted water.
- Amplified threats to public health (e.g., reduced air quality, risk of disease-carrying insects, and extreme temperatures).



- Longer growing seasons, and changes in what type of crops can be effectively grown.

Accoring to the 2023 Erie County Climate Action Plan: <https://www3.erie.gov/climateaction/>

their use in the production of food and fiber, which does not allow these lands to be classified as prime farmland.

2. Agritourism: The Town of Boston offers an ideal setting to take advantage of this type of industry. There are four designated Agritourism Farms in the Town. They include Red Barrel Cider Mill, Meyer’s Homegrown, Smith’s Maple Farm, and Lindstrom’s Plant Nursey. Boston is also home to many roadside fruits and vegetables stands.

vii. Climate Resiliency

Like all communities throughout the region, the Town of Boston has and will continue to experience extreme weather events, flooding, erosion, and other natural phenomena at various times of the year regardless of climate change predictions.

1. Erie County Multi-Jurisdictional Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP): According to the Plan, the Town of Boston's history of federally declared and significant hazard events is consistent with Erie County. The majority of the Town of Boston’s hazard events as documented in the plan are related to extreme climate and include major winter snowstorms, high wind events and flash flooding, among others. A review of the Town of Boston's hazard event history, hazard rankings, jurisdiction specific vulnerabilities, hazard area extent and location, and current capabilities, the Town of Boston identified the following vulnerabilities within their community – all related to extreme weather:

- Eighteen Mile Creek that flows through town causes significant flooding.
- Significant runoff from east and west hills.
- Not all municipal buildings have backup power.
- The town hall, which is currently designated as the main evacuation shelter does not have adequate backup power nor enough space to safely house all residents during a hazard event.
- Frequent flooding events have resulted in damages to residential properties.

Specific areas of concern based on citizen input to the Erie County Hazard Mitigation Citizen survey include:

- Flooding along Eighteen Mile Creek

2. Climate Smart Community: Driven by the Conservation Advisory Council (CAC), the Town of Boston has a current designation as a Climate Smart Community. Climate Smart Communities (CSC) is a New York State program that helps local governments take action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to a changing climate. The program offers grants, rebates for electric vehicles, and free technical assistance.

On March 7, 2022, the Town adopted Resolution No. 2022-54 which stated that the Town of Boston adopts the New York State Climate Smart Communities pledge, which comprises the following ten elements:

- Build a climate-smart community.
- Inventory emissions, set goals, and plan for climate action.
- Decrease energy use.
- Shift to clean, renewable energy.
- Use climate-smart materials management.
- Implement climate-smart land use.
- Enhance community resilience to climate change.
- Support a green innovation economy.
- Inform and inspire the public.
- Engage in an evolving process of climate action.

Being a Climate Smart Community makes Boston eligible for State grant funding for projects to increase natural resiliency to future risks like floods, improve emergency preparedness and response systems, and increase the resiliency of critical infrastructure through the Climate Smart Communities Grant program.

viii. Public Infrastructure, Utilities and Energy

Infrastructure available to Boston residents include water, sewers and other public utilities. In addition, other infrastructure facilities in the Town include, bridges, transmission lines, and natural gas pipelines as well as over 20 FCC tall towers.

1. Water: Public water service is provided to Boston residents under a lease management contract by the Erie County Water Authority. The Town of Boston's water system

Certification Criteria

	🏆	🏆
Mandatory	2	2
Priority	3	6
Points	120	300
Pledge Elements	4	7

Show requirements for:

✓🏆 BRONZE ✓🏆 SILVER

CALL TO ACTION!

The CSC Task Force is in need of active members to pursue the tasks of the Action Plan, and with other initiatives to maintain current status (Bronze), and work towards Silver!

If interested, reach out to the Town of Boston Conservation Advisory Council (CAC) at cac@townofboston.com.

includes three water districts. Of the 3,739 parcels in the Town, 75 percent (or 2,815) of those parcels are public water users and only 471 parcels (or 12%) in the Town are without water services.

- 2. **Sewer:** The Town of Boston is located in Erie County Sewer District #3. District #3 provides full sewer service (collection, transmission, and treatment) to portions of the Towns of Boston, Eden, Hamburg, Holland, Orchard Park, and the Villages of Blasdell, Hamburg, and Orchard Park.
- 3. **Utilities:** Electricity, natural gas, and cable services are provided in the Town of Boston as follows:
 - Natural Gas & Electric – Service provided by National Fuel and NYSEG
 - Telephone, Wireless, Cable Service - Provided by Verizon, Spectrum and Dish Network
- 4. **Renewable Energy:** The Town has developed some regulations for renewable energy systems, including solar and wind, contained within the Town Code (Local Law 4-2019 and 2-2007). These regulations seek to balance the desire to expand renewable energy systems with environmental and property impacts, including implementing mitigation measures. As these systems become more popular and larger, regulations will need to be reexamined by the Town to ensure this balance is maintained.



Image 2.7: Boston Drainage Project, 2021

Key Improvements & Investments

- The Town is currently studying the impacts of doing a water district consolidation plan and expanding water lines to those areas in the Town not presently served. Related to this, there are a number of ongoing water initiatives in the Town of Boston. These initiatives total about \$30 million in system upgrades. They include:
 - Water District 2 Extension 1
 - Adding approximately 130 New Water Users
 - Estimated Cost: \$11,310,000
 - South Central Water Extension
 - Adding approximately 145 New Water Users
 - Est. Cost: \$12,560,000
 - Southeast Water Extension
 - Adding approximately 77 New Water Users
 - Est. Cost: \$6,600,000
- Erie County recently announced a massive multi phased, multi-year plan to upgrade the Southtowns Advanced Wastewater Treatment Facility with a planned upgrade of the facility that will increase its capacity by approximately 50%.
- Utilizing a \$150,000 CDBG grant, the Town of Boston in conjunction with Erie County recently undertook water line replacements on Meadow Drive and Ripple Drive. The project, completed in 2022, was critical for improving water pressure for homeowners in the area.
- In 2021, the Town of Boston completed a Drainage Study in partnership with LaBella. The study was done as a means to understand the current capacity of the infrastructure and where/ what improvements should be considered.



Key Terms:

Phone Carrier - provides an active phone line

Phone Servicer - provides contractual services to clients/users

Internet Service Provider - company that provides internet access via cable, fiber optic, or satellite systems

Click the image below or visit <https://www.erienet.com/about> for more information.

5. Internet: The continued expansion of broadband throughout Erie County and the Southtowns is critical for increased educational and economic opportunities, and the overall quality of life of residents. As experienced during the global pandemic in 2020, the benefits of broadband access in a community like Boston are extensive, and they include better access to healthcare through the utilization of services like telemedicine and remote patient monitoring. Increased access to high-speed connections is a crucial investment that will improve access to quality health care services in rural areas via online consultations. Aside from healthcare, further investments in broadband are also important in supporting online education, for children and adults alike.

The Town is also working towards making access to ErieNet possible for residents, which is a wholesale provider of broadband capacity throughout Erie County, leasing fiber access to carriers, enterprises, and other entities that want to manage and control their own broadband network. The mission of ErieNet is to address the broadband needs of unserved areas, improve services in under-served areas of the community, and allow for upgrades and broadband investment and deployment county-wide. The fiber optic backbone is owned by the county, however, it is managed and controlled by ErieNet, a not-for-profit local development corporation (LDC).



Image 2.8: The maps above show the extent of service providers in Town with tan and darker blue representing a greater number.

ErieNet Community Fiber Optic Broadband Network

6. Transportation: Municipalities throughout New York State struggle to keep up with roads that wear down over time and suffer potholes and degradation due to snow, rainfall, and the annual freeze and thaw process. Transportation tends to be the largest expense for any municipality and with a smaller tax base to work with, rural towns like Boston can face obstacles with maintaining and improving quality local roads. The conditions of the roads in the Town of Boston were an important issue raised during the community outreach process.

The Town of Boston maintains over 90 **local roads**. The major local roads include:

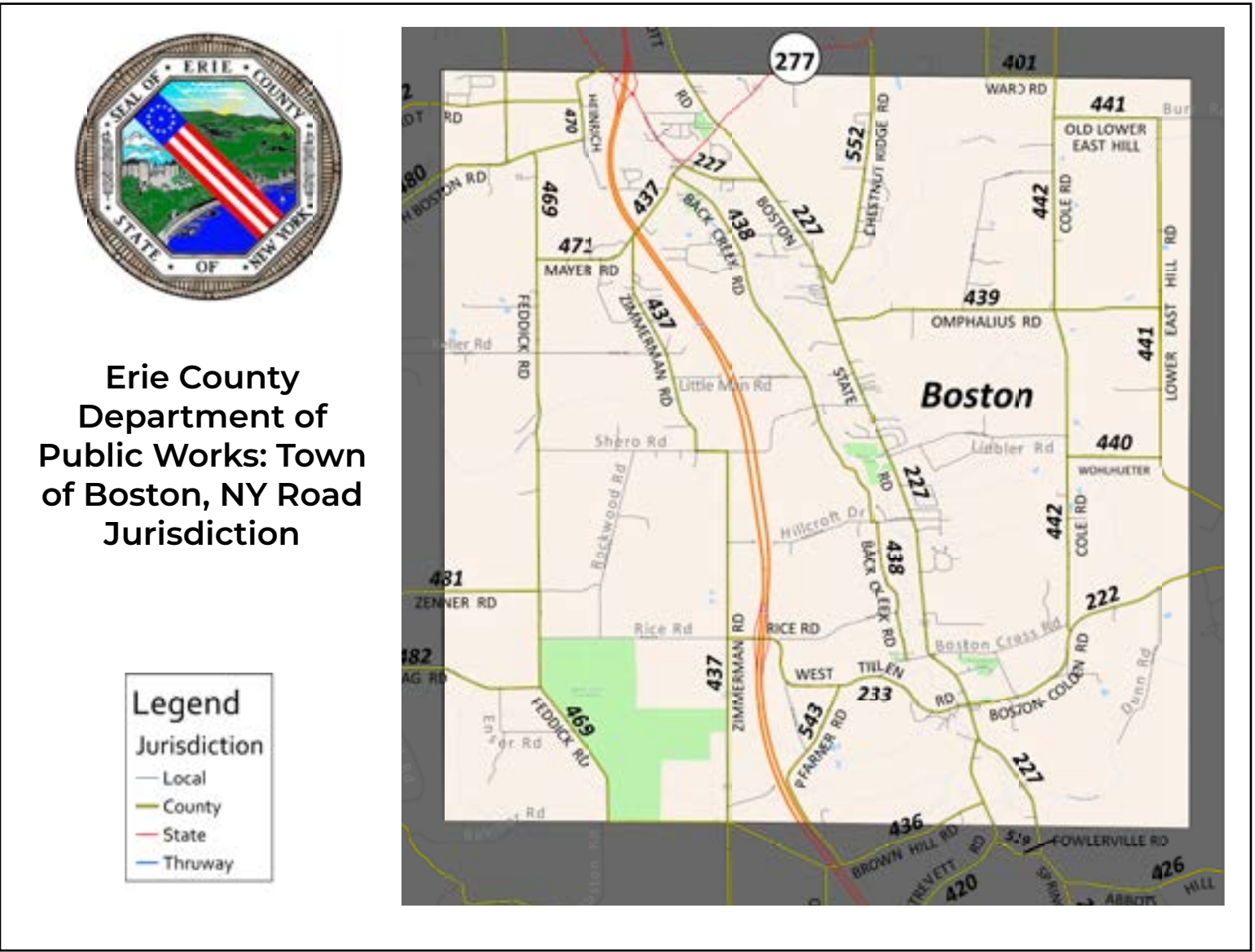
- ▶ South Abbott Road - This local corridor, linked to Boston State Road in North Boston, creates a north-south link between Orchard Park and Concord.
- ▶ Zimmerman Road - Upon linking with Route 277 in North Boston the road creates a north-south corridor. Zimmerman Road links Orchard Park to Concord and continues on to North Collins.
- ▶ South Feddick Road - Originating in northern Boston the corridor moves in a north-south direction, providing a direct route from Boston into North Collins.
- ▶ Cole Road – Runs north- south connecting Boston with Orchard Park. On its southern end Cole connects with Boston Colden Road and to the North runs all the way to Ellicott Road (Rt. 240 in Orchard Park). Primarily a rural road there are mostly rural residential homes and a smattering of commercial uses on Cole Road through the Town of Boston.
- ▶ Boston Colden Road - This road allows direct travel from Boston eastward into the Town of Colden. Although state law considers all roads in the Town usable for bikers and pedestrians, the shoulder width along Boston Colden Road is very narrow and should not be recommended for heavy bike and pedestrian use.

The road system in Boston includes a US Route, NY State Routes, arterial roads and additional town roads. **US Route 219** is the Town’s only major artery and is a limited access divided highway. Route 219 runs in a north-south direction through all of Boston, originating in West Seneca and, the limited access highway portion, terminating in Springville. Route 219 traverses Boston for a total of 6.61 miles. Route 219 has two lanes of traffic in each direction, with lane widths of 12 feet and shoulder widths of 10 feet throughout.

NY Route 391, or Boston State Road runs north-south through the center of the Town route and links Boston to the Town of Hamburg. Route 391 runs for one-mile in Boston and is two lanes - one lane in each direction. For a small segment of its distance in Boston, Route 391 becomes a divided highway and has a lane width of 13.5 feet and a shoulder width of 11 feet. However, for the majority of its distance it has a lane width of 12 feet and a shoulder width of 8 feet.

Walkability in the Town of Boston is limited. There are few sidewalks in Boston. The absence of sidewalks is attributable to the rural setting of Boston, where sidewalks are generally not considered a traditional characteristic. Sidewalks function as a traffic calming element which may be beneficial in areas of Boston State Road where excessive speeds have been the cause of some concern to area residents. During the outreach process for the project, residents commented that traffic calming mechanisms should be examined particularly at high speed/ limited visibility locations and locations that have a mix of traffic and pedestrian crossings (i.e., Boston Deli and the Boston Hotel from parking lot across the street).

Boston has not developed any identifiable **bicycle** paths within the Town. The only options for biking in Boston are along the shoulders of roadways. According to New York State, all roadways in the State, with the exception of interstate highways, are considered bicycle routes. However, many of the local roads within the Town do not have adequate shoulder widths to provide safe biking routes. Ideal locations for future bike trails have been identified along Boston State Road and Abbott-Newtown-Chestnut Ridge Roads. Town residents have identified more opportunities for bike paths an issue of concern.



III. Existing Local & Regional Plans

i. Town of Boston Comprehensive Plan (2002)

The Town of Boston last adopted a comprehensive plan in 2002, anticipating significant growth and development. However, since then, not much has changed in this regard. The plan aimed to effectively manage the Town’s physical and financial resources to prepare for new growth, which was expected to drive redevelopment and increase demand for public services. A key objective of this plan was to strike a balance between fostering growth and preserving Boston’s rural character.

ii. Erie County Agricultural & Farmland Protection Plan (2012)

The Erie County Agricultural & Farmland Protection Plan was created to coordinate and guide efforts across various communities in promoting and sustaining a robust agricultural economy both now and in the future. This plan emphasizes the protection and preservation of active, viable farmlands, particularly on soils that are well-suited for agriculture, while actively discouraging the conversion of these lands to non-agricultural uses. Given the Town of Boston's rural identity, the objectives and goals expressed in this are important in understanding wider efforts to safeguard the viability of agriculture throughout the region.

iii. Framework for Regional Growth: Erie Niagara Counties (2006)

The Framework for Regional Growth acts as the regional comprehensive plan for Erie and Niagara County. As a “rural center”, this document outlines several policies and strategies for communities like the Town of Boston. These strategies include efforts to strengthen the rural economy through avenues that support the conservation of agriculture, rural character protection, and targeted economic development. Additionally, the plan encourages further growth around existing hamlets, rather than outlying areas, to preserve open space and conserve land for agricultural purposes. Also, the plan also encourages the utilization of smart development practices such as infill and adaptive reuse of older/historic buildings and vacant/underutilized buildings where public utilities exist, to make the most of what the community already has available to them. Encourage smart development practices such as infill and adaptive reuse of older/historic buildings and vacant/ underutilized buildings where public utilities exist

iv. Erie County Parks Master Plan (2018)

The Erie County Parks Master Plan is primarily focused on the preservation, enhancement, and improvement of the existing system assets and landscape setting. The plan informs the County on how to prioritize resources and guide decisions for renovating structures, improving existing amenities, and restoring habitats. Principles that guide project prioritization are rooted in public safety, environmental sustainability, and historic preservation. This plan is relevant to Boston, given the presence of Boston Forest Park, located in the southwest corner of town, which is an important outdoor and recreational resource for the community. The plan outlines important goals that should be taken by the county to ensure it remains an important asset, including efforts to improve and assess overall tree health, formalize a parking lot, restoring native habitats, and improving trail access and safety.

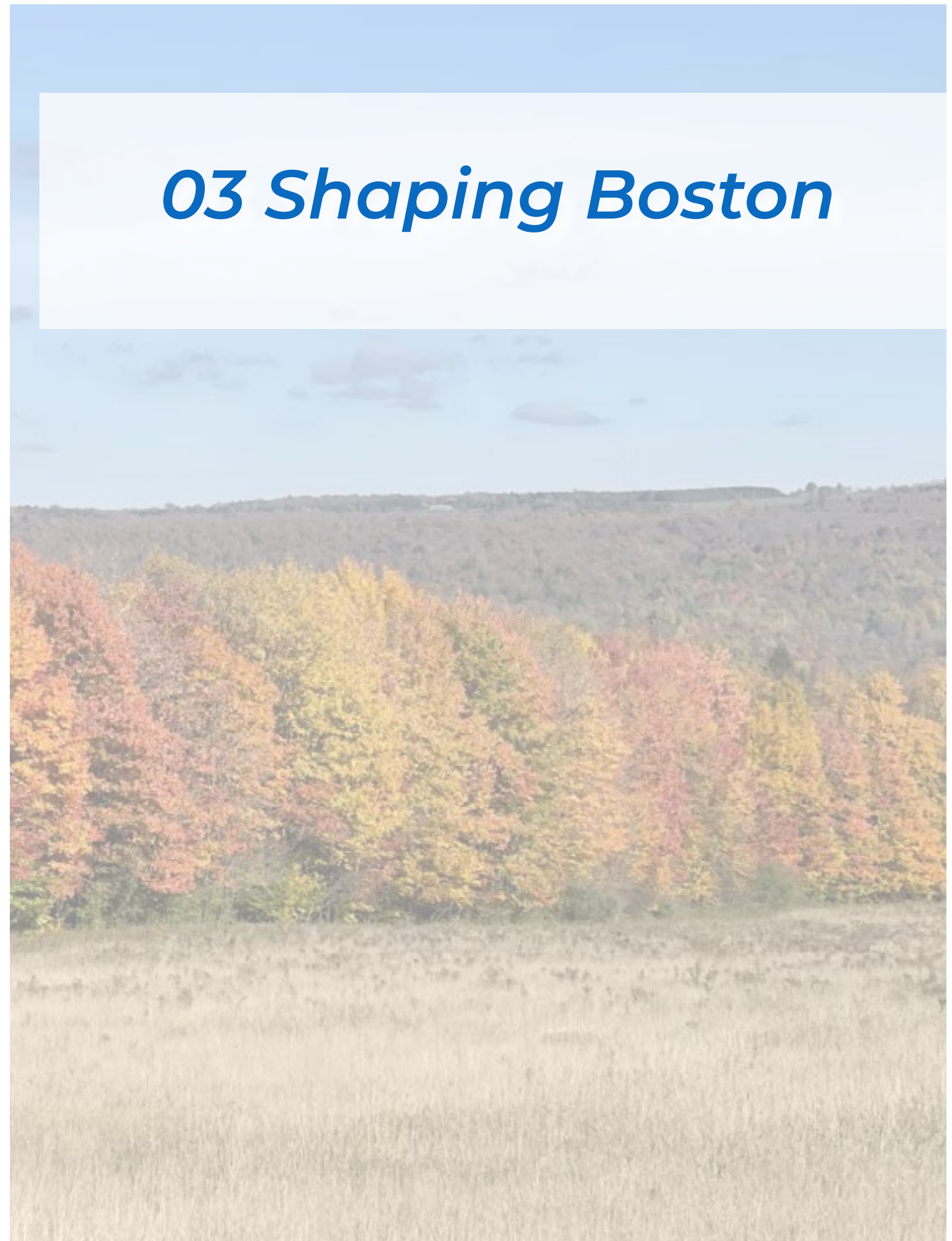
v. Western New York Regional Sustainability Plan (2013)

The WNY Sustainability Plan is the result of a collaborative planning effort involving private, public, and not-for-profit organizations, as well as stakeholders from across the region. Together, they assessed the strengths of the region and established goals for fostering sustainable growth in the future. The plan seeks to implement strategies that protect suitable spaces for future use, such as preserving prime farmland for agriculture, enhancing the management of natural resources, and upgrading aging sewer, water, and transportation infrastructure to better protect and preserve water resources and coastal areas in the region. Additionally, the plan highlights the importance of addressing educational needs and building capacity at the local and county levels. These initiatives are designed to enhance the ability to identify vulnerabilities to climate change and to integrate climate adaptation strategies into existing policies and community planning efforts.

vi. Erie County Hazard Mitigation Plan (2021)

Hazard mitigation is an action to help reduce long-term risks caused by hazards or disasters, such as flooding, earthquakes, or wildfires. The purpose of hazard mitigation is to protect people and structures and minimize the costs of disaster response and recovery. Hazard mitigation can take many forms: capital projects, policies, education, and environmental protection. A hazard mitigation plan (HMP) documents a local government’s evaluation of hazards and the strategies to mitigate those hazards. With regard to the Town of Boston specifically, hazards impacting the community include extreme weather events like winter snowstorms, high winds, and flash flooding. Areas within Boston that have been identified as being prone to these issues include Eighteen Mile Creek which is prone to flooding, and hills in the east and west that have significant stormwater runoff. These extreme weather events can cause significant damage to residential properties and infrastructure within the town, which is why plans like this are important in minimizing the risk and impact posed by them.

03 Shaping Boston



03: Shaping Boston

I. Major Findings

For more information refer to the Outreach Results, Appendix B.

The Comprehensive Plan Update is truly a community-led project. Through a series of outreach conducted, over 600 voices were heard. The results of which provided a concise vision for the future of Boston.

Across several surveys, public meetings and Steering Committee meetings, and survey results, themes began to emerge:

- ▶ The community prioritizes its character and small-town feel;
- ▶ Boston can and should be an outdoor recreational destination;
- ▶ There is a struggle to attract young families and young adults to the town;
- ▶ The population has been stagnant, but aging and this may contribute to issues in the future;
- ▶ Investing in infrastructure has a critical role to play in becoming resilient to weather events;
- ▶ Services to residents should be expanded to reflect the needs of the current and future populations;
- ▶ Supporting small business will support the vitality of the economic health in Boston;
- ▶ Both agricultural and open spaces are highly valued, and should be protected.

Each survey provides a greater understanding of the major findings. The diversity of respondents provided a multi-layered understanding of the perspectives had towards the Town, its

assets, resources and even the resources and priorities.

i. Survey Results

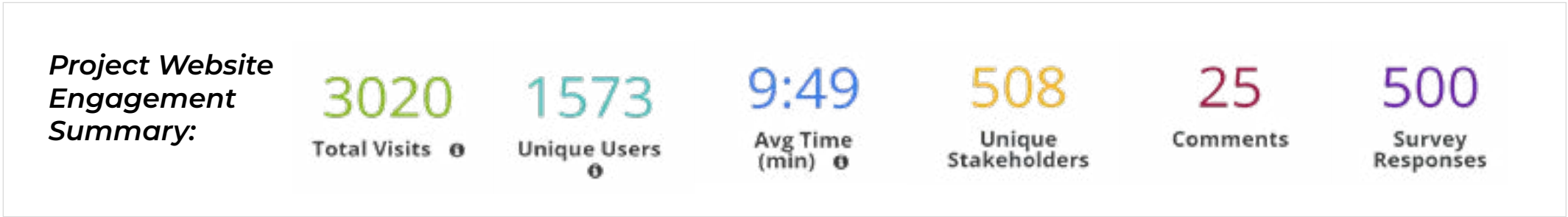
The Comprehensive Plan survey was conducted from August 2023 to November 2023. To better reach residents of the community, the survey was both accessible online as well as in physical form. In total, 233 surveys were submitted- 180 through the online forum, and 53 hard copy responses. The planning team analyzed and summarized these responses into common values and thoughts. More targeted outreach was initiated to garner input from under-represented demographics and age groups.

- ▶ The community prioritizes its rural and small-town character.
- ▶ Natural features and open space are a draw and important asset to the community.
- ▶ There is a desire to build upon the community’s current outdoor recreational activities.
- ▶ There is concern about the lack of young people in the community, and a wish to draw young families and create incentives for the next generation to stay in Boston.

ii. Business Owner Survey Key Findings

In the attempt to reach all known businesses multiple means of outreach were conducted. This includes letters sent to a list provided by the assessor’s office, which was found to be incomplete. With the help of volunteers from the outreach committee, in-person visits were made to address the incomplete list. The survey was also placed on the project page to provide easy access.

The survey garnered 19 responses, roughly a quarter of which also owned businesses outside of Boston. Most of the businesses are in the Hamlet of North Boston and the largest percentage



What the business community wants to see in Boston:



Incentives



Home-based business



Education and support/ Reliable Phone and Internet

(42%) of which have been in operation for between 20-50 years, and another 10% have been in operation between 50-100 years.

The survey revealed a combination of excitement and concern. Some businesses suggest they foresee a longstanding future for themselves, while others are more skeptical of their business's longevity in Boston. Many respondents noted that Boston is not as business friendly as neighboring towns like Hamburg and Eden, and providing incentives might help to bring (and sustain) businesses into Boston.

To best grow new and existing businesses, the Town can make some efforts to establish a more supportive environment. Based on comments in the survey there are some measures to do so:

- ▶ Review the zoning regulations.
- ▶ Provide incentives to bring businesses to Boston (i.e. tax relief).
- ▶ Encourage small businesses and home-based businesses.
- ▶ Create a civic-based network of businesses (business association, etc.)
- ▶ Provide educational opportunities as support to existing businesses
- ▶ Bring reliable internet and phone for businesses.

iii. Young Family Survey Findings

The Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee identified young families as important stakeholders to hear from. Their perspective is important as the Town looks to attract more young families as a priority for the future. The survey was developed to be short and was distributed with the help of the Boys and Girls Club located on Boston State Rd. and was also put on the project website.

The families rated the Town's family-friendliness on the social level as a 3.9/5 and its family-friendliness with its resources as a 3.8/5, suggesting that young families are overall content with the Town of Boston. Some of the things that the Town of Boston is doing well include:

- ▶ Well maintained parks
- ▶ Good sports programs
- ▶ Good schooling

- ▶ Providing space to raise kids
- ▶ The Boys & Girls Club
- ▶ Great family-oriented events

Some of the things that respondents identified as areas that the Town can improve upon:

- ▶ Integrate a dog park
- ▶ Provide water activities like a splash pad at parks
- ▶ More facilities for the Boys & Girls Club in Boston
- ▶ Signage for the Boston Forest Trails
- ▶ More family- oriented events

To address the feedback of the young families in the Town, the following recommended:

- ▶ Inform Town residents about the Erie County plan for Boston Forest County Park.
- ▶ Identify potential funding sources for Town Recreation and the Boys & Girls Club.
- ▶ Encourage more family-oriented events.

iv. High School Student Survey Findings

To reach the youth of the community, local high schools were contacted. The Town of Boston does not have its own school district, in fact it sits within 4 different districts: Hamburg, Orchard Park, Eden, and Springville. The outreach led to students from Eden and Hamburg High Schools participating in surveys



Image 4.1: Outreach at Eden Central High School

What young families want to see in Boston:



Safe Recreation and Playgrounds



Good Schooling



Family-oriented events

What teens want to see in Boston:



Recreation and sports



Food and places to sit and eat (especially late night)



Places to hang out and connect with friends

about the Town of Boston. This consisted of one classroom visit to the Eden Participation in Government class, and an online survey made available to Hamburg High School, as well as made available on the project website.

The survey asked students about both their association with and thoughts on Boston. Understandably, most of the respondents were from Hamburg. This is expected as the Hamburg school district is the larger of the two surveyed. The students provided insight on their perspectives about Boston, how Boston might fit into their future, and surrounding services that are important for teens, including mental health options and healthy food.

While there are a variety of responses in these areas, there are some general tones. While not the majority, an unsettling number of the students felt the health and mental health support was inadequate, and that the current overall state of wellbeing in the schools is troubling.

Aside from this, it seems that teens are in search of places that allow them to connect with each other. They want recreation and entertainment options, as well as food options. Some minor things can make a huge impact, for instance, students noted that the Boston 7/11 was a huge draw, as it was the closest to them to get a slushie, and others made a request for basketball courts to remain lit later in the winter (a change that Boston has already made, per the request). As for their thoughts on Boston and their potential future there- what many perceive as “boring” others see as peaceful and ideal.

Some key actions that can be taken to address information learned through this survey are below:

- ▶ Create a more established and publicized network of support for the youth of the community, with available resources, wide variety of outreach options, and peer-to-peer discussions.
- ▶ Market the many recreational opportunities in Boston and strengthen their appeal for all ages.
- ▶ Identify ideal business types and locations that would align with the wants and needs of the young people in the community.

v. Agricultural Survey Summary

Using the Town of Boston assessor’s list of those utilizing Agricultural tax incentive, a survey was made available to the Agricultural community. The survey was also made available through the project page. In all, 10 owners or operators took part in the survey.

One-third of the respondents identified as “landowner only”, with 80% stating that the majority (51% or more) of their household income comes from elsewhere. The largest percentage (40%) of the farm businesses have been in operation for between 50-100 years. The respondents represented businesses in Straw/ Hay (28%), Dairy Feed/Fodder(19%), Other Fruits/Vegetables (14%), Equine (9%), Dairy (9%), Beef cattle/pigs/other meat (not poultry) (4%), and Apiary/Bee Keeper (4%).

All respondents believe that development pressures are a threat to their future, notably large and small residential development as well as solar development.

- ▶ Utilize the business-oriented tasks to strengthen Agriculture in Town.
- ▶ Create an Agricultural network with Boston farms, and include surrounding municipalities.
- ▶ Create a layer of protective measures to protect the agricultural properties in Boston.



What the agricultural community wants to see in Boston:



Tax relief and financial supports



Farm labor costs/workers



Protection and security from outside influences and developmental pressures

04 Vision for Boston



04: Vision for Boston

I. Where are we going?

The Town of Boston Comprehensive Plan Update is about identifying the assets that are available and the opportunities that exist. While **Section 5: Moving Forward** will establish the specific actions to take, a road map is only good when it has a direction to take to get there. This section identifies the direction of the Town, by way of a vision statement, that feeds into more distinct goals and objectives that focusing on major issues and priorities of the community.

i. What does the future of Boston look like?

In an ever-changing world, the future of Boston is resilient and strong. It maintains its identity as a small farm- and family-friendly place to live, work and visit, while growing in the important and identified areas that reflect the core values of the community. The Town has attracted new families, who enjoy the many recreational and educational opportunities that Boston has to offer. There is a re-invigorated epicenter of Boston that brings the small-town to life around the North Boston Hamlet, that has both strengthened local businesses and created safer access points for their patrons. The Town has become renown for its 4-season outdoor recreation. Newly established bike-path systems have connected the Town of Boston to existing paths, and has brought visitors in to experience the beauty of Boston in a new way.

The focus on its natural amenities in town play an integral role in an increase in the wellness of its residents. In fact, the Town has become a precedent for other communities to learn from for the increase in overall health and wellbeing of its residents.

The agricultural community has grown, and become a strong presence in the greater agricultural network of Erie County and Western New York. The success of the farms in Boston have had a greater impact on the sustainability of its residents and those in neighboring communities. In the future, Boston is flourishing, and has become a shining star community in Erie County.

ii. How do we get there?

The future, as described, is not out of reach. It can be accomplished with a well crafted set of goals and established tasks for implementation. Where do we start? First, by listening to the community on what it needs. From there, a communal voice is established. This allows for community-led vision and goals to form, and with the continued review by the community, tasks and implementation strategies are created.

iii. Vision for Boston

As part of the planning process, a substantial outreach effort was made. Through this effort over 600 voices were heard, and the results of the outreach helped to frame the vision for Boston's future. It is with this thorough understanding of what the community holds dear and values most that a true vision for the next ten years has come together. This vision has established that the Town has clear values that they wish to see reflected in the planning process.

Vision Statement

In 2035, Boston is a haven from the frenzy and congestion of modern life. Its blend of small-town charm with modern infrastructure has created a stable yet resilient rural community. Housing initiatives preserve our rural character while introducing sustainable and affordable living solutions. Our Town thrives as a self-sufficient hub, supporting local businesses and fostering community. Our transportation and recreational trail systems provide options for getting around. Boston's commitment to preserving agriculture, and scenic and natural resources strengthens its sustainability and desirability, and provides a solid base for controlled growth.

Goal #1

Preserve community feeling and small-town character

Time and time again the residents of Boston have vocalized that the best parts of the Town are its community character. The small-town feel is what makes Boston special, and it is a high-priority of the people to maintain this going into the future.

Goal #2

Preserve and protect the scenic, historic and natural resources that define Boston

The Town must take action to protect the assets that it has. From open recreational space, to agricultural lands and historic resources, to natural features, there is a need to utilize planning and policy to maintain such assets for the future.

Goal #3

Promote a balanced mix of housing, businesses and services to create a self-sustaining live, work and play community

To attract young families/ young adults, new businesses, and new farmers, Boston must consider creating more diverse and affordable real estate.

Goal #4

Promote transportation planning and design that is safe and meets the needs of all users

The Town of Boston has been auto-centric for some time. To address this, the Town should identify and work to create a more infrastructure for pedestrians, bikes, horses and if possible, recreational vehicles.

Goal #5

Improve and maintain local infrastructure to meet current and future needs, and ensure its resiliency

With the constant changes, it is necessary to have an ever-evolving plan for the infrastructure of Town. This means identifying insufficient infrastructure and potential future risks, as well as how to address these risks to keep resilient.

Goal #6

Allocate resources to support public services and encourage civic responsibility

Identify successful means of communicating with residents, as well as where there are gaps. Research ways to fill these gaps and create a communication and participation plan for residents and businesses in Town.

II. Goals for Boston

The goals for Boston will help to bring this vision to fruition. Building on the core values, in order for a plan to be actionable, it needs to include targeted goals and objectives that further outline direction for the future. These goals and objectives will help the community to strive toward their vision and work towards “benchmarks” for measuring results. Using the community survey results, feedback from public meetings, and an analysis/assessment of the physical, demographic, and socioeconomic conditions of the Town, the following goals were identified within each core value.

III. Objectives for Boston

This document sets the pace for the next 8 to 10 years in Boston. The objectives act as a measuring tool, a "yardstick," by which future actions are measured. Objectives will define the strategies for the Town to:

- ▶ Set priorities for capital improvements
- ▶ Encourage desired development patterns
- ▶ Establish parameters for private development in the community

Objectives represent a choice for the future of the community; a choice that needs to be balanced against a number of factors, including, but not limited to, finances, community support, market changes, leadership, local issues, etc. Such factors can be complex and sometimes appear conflicting, hence the need to step back and look at the overall goal that the objective is trying to achieve. In the end, exercise of judgment is a critical component of the planning process.

Recognizing that such areas as recreational assets and retaining young residents were identified as critical components to the future of the Town of Boston, various opportunities and constraints exist that can be addressed from different angles. A Comprehensive Plan is a fluid, living document, intended to adapt with changing conditions as necessary to sustain the community for the future. Slight modifications or deviations from this document are expected provided the core values are maintained. Using the core values identified by the community in the various outreach methods, the objectives were developed

and listed below. As previously noted, this document is an update and a number of objectives likely still apply in different areas, though they may be slightly modified. Where applicable, those objectives have been carried over into this version of the plan.

Each goal for Boston looks to strengthen the Town's core values. To measure the success of this over the next 10 years, the Town can ask the following questions:

Core Value #1: Small-Town Dynamic

- ▶ Have communication networks strengthened?
- ▶ Do residents participate in Town activities and events/government?

Core Value #2: Open Space and Historical Features

- ▶ Have viewsheds and historic sites remained in tact?
- ▶ Do policies remain supportive of preservation?
- ▶ Have agricultural operations been retained or increased?
- ▶ Has there been oversight authority created to aid in preservation?

Core Value #3: Recreation and Trails

- ▶ Are there trail connections in Boston?
- ▶ Has there been increased connectivity in Town?
- ▶ Has there been an increase in use of local and county parks in Boston?

Core Value #4: Family-Oriented Community

- ▶ Has there been an increase in household sizes in Boston (increase in families)?
- ▶ Have youth services been increased in Boston?
- ▶ Has the Boston Valley Elementary School had higher enrollment than past years?

Core Value #5: Safe and Sustainable Infrastructure

- ▶ Has the infrastructure been extended to support more residents in Boston?
- ▶ Has the Town Drainage Plan been successful?
- ▶ Have roadways and intersections been updated to slow traffic and create complete streets?
- ▶ Has Boston improved its Climate Smart Community status?



AFPP Goal #1

Preserve the Priority Farmlands in Boston, NY

The Town must recognize its agricultural assets and protect and preserve, when possible, especially those that are considered to be the Prime Farmland areas in Town. This may mean balancing the needs of now with the needs of the future.

AFPP Goal #2

Create a Resilient Agriculture Community in Boston, NY

Changing climate and weather events are heightening the need to strengthen the community's capability to bounce-back and adapt. This area requires both a proactive and reactive approach.

AFPP Goal #3:

Support the current farm communities in Boston

Existing farmers have expressed needs in areas that have impact on their efficacy, efficiency and wallet. It is vital to act to address these concerns to better the Town.

05 Moving Forward





Thoughts from residents...

"Work with the Erie County Rails to Trails program to find a way to connect the Town of Boston to the trail section in Colden."

"Let's improve the accessibility of the Boston Nature Trail - improved signage/trail map and an ADA accessible trail.."

" Let's start investigating ADUs (Accessory Dwelling Units). An ADU could help aging people meet their needs without moving and provide family support - Give the younger generation who may not be able to afford their home- more opportunity to own a home.."

05: Moving Forward

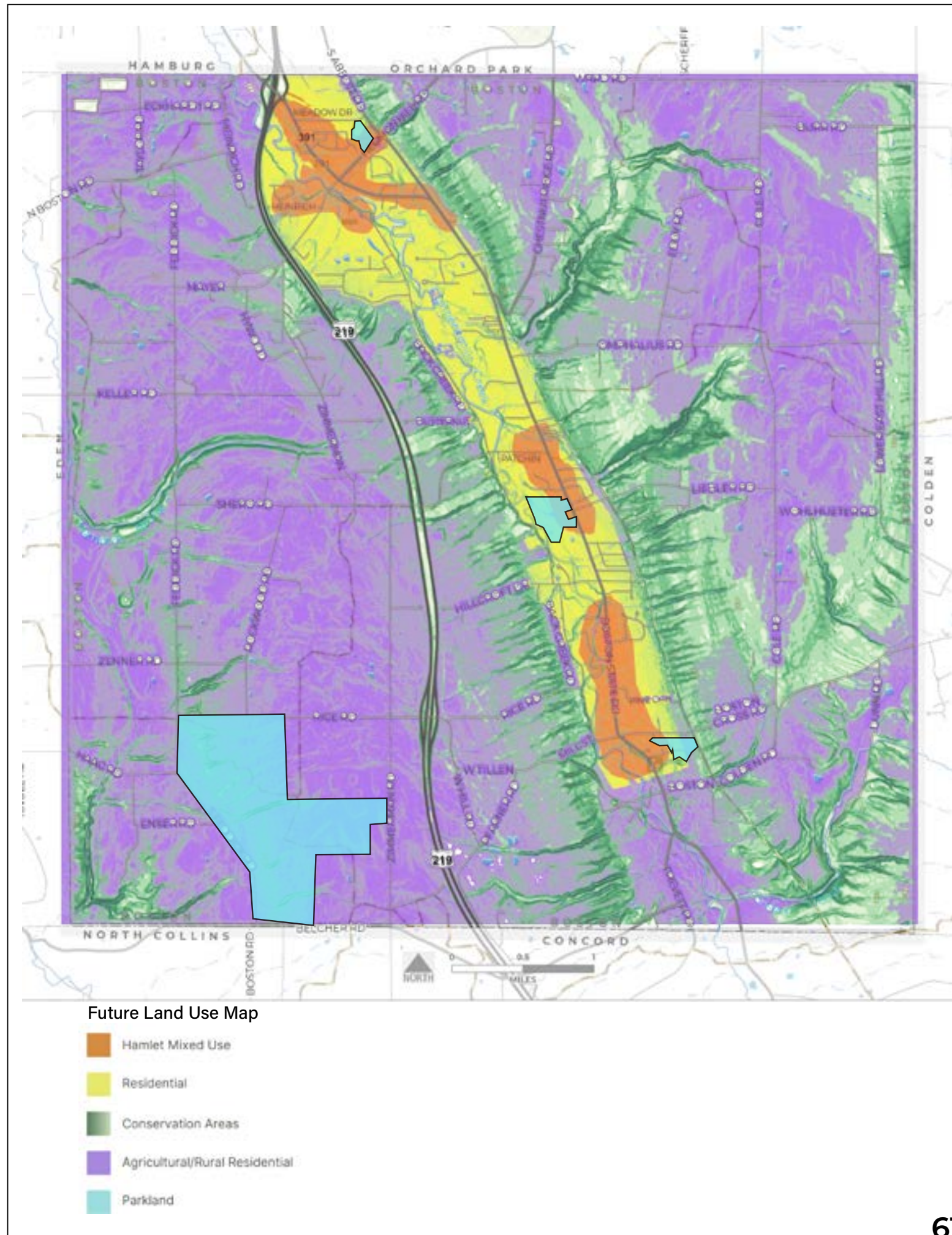
I. Future Land Use

A Comprehensive Plan not only addresses community issues and opportunities, but also addresses conservation, preservation and growth. For Boston, it especially looks to address the relationships between the rural and agricultural areas of the Town to the three Hamlets of Town. The Comprehensive Plan looks to answer:

What do we want Boston to look like (physically) in the future?

Existing land use patterns and targeted development areas provide a more realistic view of what currently exists in Town as well as potential trends and opportunities. These patterns, along with community input throughout the planning process, serve as the basis for the future land use map. The map not only deals with growth, though, as there are a number of valuable natural and cultural resources within the Town that contribute to community character and can serve as economic development catalysts. Prime agricultural lands, recreational areas, and sensitive environmental features are all indicated on the map as well, to support preservation and limited growth. The intended outcome of the future land use map is to focus any services and commercial development along the central corridor of Boston State Road, specifically within the three hamlets that sit along it. This serves two purposes: balancing rural character within the more concentrated development areas, thereby creating more attractive and walkable central business areas, and taking advantage of existing infrastructure. This represents both the needs and the wants of the residents in Boston, as has been reported in meetings and surveys.

Development is intended to be more walkable and safe within the hamlets, supporting the traditional, organic growth that is typical of rural towns; infill, redevelopment, and preservation will be the predominant objectives in North Boston, Patchin



* Larger versions of maps can be found in Appendix D: Maps



Image 5.1: Prime Farmland in Boston

Image 5.2: Infrastructure in Boston

Image 5.3: Overlap of Infrastructure and Prime Farmland Maps focused on the valley

and Boston Center. Successful central business areas require an adequate density of “rooftops,” which already exists in the area around the hamlets with a number of residential neighborhoods serviced by public utilities.

Expanding this residential density further beyond its existing extent will support future business growth and expansion while taking advantage of utilities or requiring minimal extensions to provide service. Assuming that additional residential growth occurs in the Town, strategic expansion would be focused in identified areas along and adjacent to Boston State Rd., while maintaining larger parcel sizes in Agriculture and Rural residential areas to the west and east. Growth, as described, is predominantly focused on North Boston, due to it’s location, existing infrastructure, and at the intersection of two major roadways. This said, the areas in and around Patchin and Boston Center are also a focus, at a slightly condensed scale.

As growth builds over time, improvements in the visual quality and aesthetics of the Hamlets can be made to support them and create more functionality. The remaining areas of Boston will continue to be more rural in character with larger lots at a smaller density, mainly to address the need for private septic and water systems. Several areas of the Town that are prime farmland would continue to remain as such, with added emphasis on agricultural operations and supporting enterprises and protection against non-agricultural conversions. The Future Land Use Map provides guidance on long-term decision-making about land uses, including zoning changes, that implement the goals, policies, and objectives of the Comprehensive Plan. Changes that occur to existing zoning districts in the Town, whether simple regulations and intent or actual boundary changes, will need to be consistent with the Plan. This is a critical connection that is supported and upheld by the courts.

II. Balancing Land Use with Conservation

The organic development of Boston has been focused in the valley- where all three hamlets and the majority of the public infrastructure are located. The valley is also where the Town's prime farmlands are locate . For Town leaders, the objective is to create harmony between two objectives: updating and upgrading infrastructure to meet the needs of the community, as well as the as protecting its agricultural assets in Boston. The existence of the tension between the two objectives makes it important to assure any zoning changes be in conformance with the future land use plan.

Architectural Style of Boston's Hamlets:



Example 1: 1850s Home, currently private residence



Example 2: The old Fred Franks General Store (currently AW Dye)



Example 3: Remains of the late 19th century Boston Center Hotel



Example 4: Rucker Lumber



Example 5: Boston Commons (present site of Boston Hotel and Boston Deli)

III. Land Use Categories

The land uses shown on the future land use map are broken down into the following categories:

i. Hamlet Mixed Use

The hamlet areas are designated as mixed use hamlet areas. Uses should include a variety of higher density housing, small scale retail and office. These areas should become the focus for future development in the Town and would be linked with a comprehensive sidewalk and trail system. Design should emulate historic small town architecture.

ii. Residential

Historically, the residential developmental patterns in the Town have centered along Boston State Road. For this reason, the lots along and adjacent to the center corridor have been both considerable smaller in lot size and denser in nature. This is something that the Town looks to continue into the future, to help guide any residential growth to areas with established infrastructure to support it.

iii. Conservation Areas

The Town of Boston has many high-sloped areas that in itself are not ideal for development. The Town has identified such as "Conservation Areas". This protects the viewshed and protects the areas from potentially harmful development.

iv. Agricultural/ Rural Residential

Areas of the Town that are still more rural in nature, providing the "country character" that is attractive in Boston, but contain less active agricultural lands/farms and therefore having fewer impacts to key farming areas. Public water and sewer is likely not available. Due to this, larger parcels (2 acres +/-) are still needed to provide adequate space for private septic systems and wells.

v. Parkland

The Town of Boston has several areas of parkland- local parks, and a County Park at Boston Forest. It is imperative that these areas are understood as areas for continued upkeep and maintenance to ensure the recreational aspects held dear to the community remain in tact.



Image 5.4: Public Meeting Spring 2024

IV. Tools for Implementation

The Town of Boston's Comprehensive Plan update serves as the policy and guidance document for a sustainable future that balances rural character with growth and investment. Making the vision for the Town a reality will take time, but it cannot be done without a plan for how to implement it. This section outlines various tools for implementation that need to be considered moving forward.

i. Plan Adoption

One of the first actions that the Town must undertake is the official adoption of the Comprehensive Plan Update. This will ensure that the Town fully supports the goals, objectives, and actions contained within it and can begin to implement it using a variety of approaches as outlined on these pages.



Funding



Connections



Support



Local Match

ii. Town Budget

From the perspective of the Town Board, reference to the plan when developing the budget and capital expenditures is one of the more critical connections to carrying out the goals and strategies. Communities have a variety of sources of revenue for community improvement projects, primarily from local property taxes, but also tax funds, grants, receipts, fines, and other fees. When developing the budget, the Town should coordinate its efforts with the Comprehensive Plan as it provides a framework for decision-making and identifies specific actions that could be incorporated into the budget each year.

iii. Regulations

One of the most effective means of implementing the objectives of any plan is through zoning. Following adoption of the plan, the Town should perform a thorough review of the existing zoning code for consistency, paying attention to specific actions that pertain to regulations, and consider amendments to carry out the goals of the plan as appropriate.

iv. Capital Program

As with many efforts, the Comprehensive Plan Update identifies a number of projects/actions that relate to public improvements that can only be carried out by the Town. Being a rural town, Boston's financial resources will always be limited and public dollars must be spent wisely. The use of a capital improvement program allows the Town to prioritize their long-term spending for public improvements, typically over a 3-5 year time-frame, for the most desirable or effective projects/actions, while remaining within budget constraints. The objectives and action items in Town of Boston Comprehensive Plan should be referenced when developing the capital improvement program to ensure higher priority projects are incorporated where appropriate.

v. Plan Relationship

The Town of Boston will use the plan as a resource for future planning activities. The Comprehensive Plan Update has it's own directives and intent, there are other initiatives, programs, and plans that relate to and are consistent with the goals and objectives contained herein. The Town should continue to reference and coordinate long-term planning efforts and

actions with these and other local/regional documents (not an exhaustive list):

- Erie County Agricultural and Farmland Protection Plan
- Framework for Regional Growth
- Sowing the Seeds for Southtowns Agribusiness
- One Region Forward
- Erie County Park System Master Plan

V. Funding Opportunities

In addition to local funding, various other sources exist for the Town to carry out the projects, programs, and other actions contained within the plan. The current nature of grant funding in New York State, administered through the Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) changes yearly, though the grants listed below are generally available each cycle, beginning in late spring. As these funding sources become available, the Town should review the list of action items and identify the potential grants that could utilized.

i. Consolidated Funding Application (CFA)

- Empire State Development (ESD) – Strategic Planning and Feasibility Studies, Grant Funds, Market New York, NYS Grown and Certified Agricultural Producer
- Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program
- New York Main Street Program (NYMS)
- Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation (PRHP) Environmental Protection Funds, Recreational Trails Program
- Department of State (DOS) – Local Waterfront Revitalization Program, Local Government Efficiency
- Department of Environmental Conservation/Environmental Facilities Corp. (DEC/EFC) – Wastewater Infrastructure Engineering/Planning Grant
- Environmental Facilities Corp. (EFC–Green Innovation Grant Program Funding Opportunities
- Climate Smart Communities Program (CSCP)
- State Council of the Arts (SCA) – Arts and Culture Initiatives
- Department of Agriculture and Markets (AGM) - Farm to School, Waste Storage and Transfer System Program, Amendments to Local Laws

ii. NYS Department of Transportation

- Consolidated Local Street & Highway Improvement Program (CHIPS)
- Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP)
- Transportation Enhancement Program (TEP)
- Pedestrian Safety Action Plan (PSAP)
- BRIDGE NY

Grant Tips for Boston:

- ▶ Collaborate with other communities and/or organizations
- ▶ Understand and gather funding. (Local matches range from none to 75%, with a 50/50 match most common, and a certain amount in the form of cash.)
- ▶ Discuss and involve any stakeholders on the project, especially if it involves non-Town owned lands.
- ▶ Reach out to local representatives, community organizations, regional groups, and other influential entities for letters of support for the project.
- ▶ Solicit a grant writing consultant if applicable (service fee may apply).
- ▶ Assemble background information.
- ▶ Prepare a resolution of support.
- ▶ Begin outreach of the project to REDC and other influential organizations to increase visibility.

iii. Greater Buffalo Niagara Regional Transportation Council (GBNRTC)

- ▶ Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP)
- ▶ Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ)
- ▶ Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

v. Other

- ▶ NYS Broadband Equity, Access and Deployment (BEAD) Program (ConnectALL)

Submitting grant applications requires significant effort from the Town and any consultants utilized in preparation and delivery. The plan update provides the important first step in laying out the goals, objectives, and desired actions that can easily be used to support any application. In fact, many applications provide additional scoring points to those communities that have updated plans as they clearly show direction for actions. In addition, highlighting partnerships for each action identifies potential joint efforts and application, which can also increase scoring for grants.

While this information is not required for all grants, understanding the required level of effort and documentation will prepare the Town for successful grant processes in the future.

VI. Action Plan

The core values of the Town of Boston, detailed in the previous chapters, were developed through an extensive outreach effort and with great optimism for the future of the Town. Without a viable action plan to carry them out, results would be difficult to realize. The following pages outline key recommendations for the Town, based and noting the priorities of the community. These recommendations do not make an attempt to address and identify EVERY action that is required nor the exact method for carrying it out. Instead, this guidance document provides direction for action; how the Town ultimately fulfills it is within its own discretion. **The priorities are divided up into three categories:**

- 1. Immediate:** Action to be taken within 1- year time-frame and are considered to be most important to address following the completion of the Comprehensive Plan Update. These typically consists of policy decisions or regulatory/administrative changes. Without following through on these actions, subsequent work to carry out the recommendations of the Plan will be difficult to achieve. These actions may not be associated with a specific recommendation or goal, but rather the entirety of the Comprehensive Plan itself.
- 2. Short-term:** Action to be taken within 2-5 years, and while equally important as the "immediate," these actions may require some additional work to establish partnerships, seek further funding opportunities, or require planning and discussion about Town staff and the community.
- 3. Long-term:** Action to be taken in a 5+ year time-frame. This category consists of long range projects and initiatives that may require additional funding, resources, or strategic partnerships, or rely on earlier actions to take place in order for these to be undertaken. These are typically larger-scale, higher-cost projects that could be associated with State agencies such as the Department of Environmental Conservation or Transportation in order to share financial and technical resources.

This update is intended to be an active, working document for Town government, boards, and the community-at-large. To assist in that effort, other components included in the action plan are:

- ▶ **Associated Cost Bracket:**
 - ▶ **\$:** Low-cost actions, generally referring to items that would cost less than \$50,000 and may be part of the Town's annual capital planning.
 - ▶ **\$\$:** Medium-cost actions that require some outside financial funding. Generally between \$50,000 and \$100,000.
 - ▶ **\$\$\$:** High-cost actions that are over \$100,000 and would be considered as large projects in the community.
- ▶ **Partners:** Those who have a stake in/potential to influence an action (e.g. funding, review, permitting, technical assistance, resources, etc.), Including both internal and external entities.
- ▶ **Core Values:**
 - ▶ Core Value #1: Small-Town Dynamic
 - ▶ Core Value #2: Open Space and Historical Features
 - ▶ Core Value #3: Recreation and Trails
 - ▶ Core Value #4: Family-Oriented Community
 - ▶ Core Value #5: Safe and Sustainable Infrastructure
- ▶ **Smart Growth Principles:** Icons from Page 11 are used to identify which principle each action item addresses.

**Action Items circled in red were identified in part by the Municipal Assessment Boston 2024, performed by Erie County Department of Environment & Planning*

Goal 1: Preserve community feeling and small-town character					
Action Item	Associated Cost Bracket	Priority	Partners	Core Value(s)	Smart Growth Principle(s)
Update zoning codes in conformance with the future land use map. Provide residential zoning code regulations that protect agricultural and rural character, such as cluster development in existing “nodes” and “New Urbanist” styles.	\$- \$\$	2	Town Board, Consultant	#5: Safe & Sustainable Infrastructure; #2: Open Space and Historical Features	 
Create a campaign to spread awareness of Boston's natural amenities, many parks, and recreational assets.	\$	1	Conservation Advisory Council, Erie County Parks, Recreation & Forestry	#3: Recreation and Trails	
Make improvements to Boston Town Park and Eighteen Mile Creek access.	\$\$\$	3	Conservation Advisory Council	#3: Recreation and Trails	 
Create a Commercial Design Guideline Document and update the building and zoning codes to reflect this in Boston's Hamlets.	\$\$	3	Town Board, Consultant	#1: Small Town Dynamic	 
Goal 2: Preserve and protect the scenic, historic, and natural resources that define Boston					
Action Item	Associated Cost Bracket	Priority	Partners	Core Value(s)	Smart Growth Principle(s)
Promote and support the re-establishment of the Boston Historical Society	N/A	1	Town of Boston Historian, Community Advocates	#2: Open Space and Historical Features	 
Continue the installation of Local Historic Markers to educate the community of the local history.	\$	1	Town of Boston Historian	#2: Open Space and Historical Features	
Develop a scenic resources inventory to use to support preservation/conservation efforts and marketing.	\$\$	2	Town of Boston Historian, Conservation Advisory Council	#2: Open Space and Historical Features	 

Apply for CDC Grants, part of the NYS Environmental Protection Fund that will support efforts as described in previous action items.	\$	1	Town Board, Conservation Advisory Council	#2: Open Space and Historical Features	 
Develop a policy to address the siting and development of renewable resources and determine the extent for development of large-scale renewable energy, consistent with community input as well as the future land use and zoning.	N/A	1	Town Board	#2: Open Space and Historical Features	 
Establish a Boston Parks & Recreation Department	\$\$\$	3	Town Board, Erie County Parks, Recreation & Forestry	#2: Open Space and Historical Features	 
Implement conservation and overlay districts within the Town for important environmental assets such as wetlands, streams, rivers, and floodplains.	\$	1	Town Board	#2: Open Space and Historical Features	

Goal 3: Promote a balanced mix of housing, businesses and services to create a self-sustaining live, work and play community.

Action Item	Associated Cost Bracket	Priority	Partners	Core Value(s)	Smart Growth Principle(s)
Build a Community/ Senior Center that can be used by both senior citizens and for recreational purposes <i>(including the short-term goal of conducting a feasibility study for the project)</i> .	\$\$\$	3	Town of Boston, Erie County Senior Services, Boys & Girls Club	#4: Family-Oriented Community	
Develop land use regulations & policy that encourages the development of housing options that appeal to the full spectrum of age groups.	\$	1	Town Board	#4: Family-Oriented Community	 
Review lot size requirements to ensure medium-density residential options are encouraged in areas with close proximity to amenities and infrastructure.	\$	1	Town Board	#2: Open Space and Historical Features	
Provide flexibility in the zoning regulations for properties in the Hamlets to allow a mix of uses and create more diversity and vibrancy.	\$	1	Town Board	#1: Small Town Dynamic	 

Use the Future Land Use map to review/update the Zoning Code & Map, to encourage growth in the Hamlets, creating nodes and density of businesses thereby creating destinations.	\$\$	2	Town Board, Consultant	#1: Small Town Dynamic	
Incentivize local and small businesses to the Boston commercial areas.	\$	1	Town Board	#4: Family-Oriented Community	 
Goal 4: Promote transportation planning and design that is safe and meets the needs of all users.					
Action Item	Associated Cost Bracket	Priority	Partners	Core Value(s)	Smart Growth Principle(s)
Update current pedestrian infrastructure in Town (i.e. additional sidewalks in Hamlets), to increase walkability.	\$\$\$	2	Town Board, NYS DOT, Erie County DOT	#5: Safe and Sustainable Infrastructure	 
Establish/strengthen regulations for road and bridge projects on the major roadways in Town.	\$	1	Town Board	#5: Safe and Sustainable Infrastructure	
Create pedestrian-friendly roads through the concept of complete streets: add bike lanes on Boston State Road & Boston-Colden Road (per GBNRTC Regional Bicycle Master Plan); Study feasibility of roundabout(s) and/or pedestrian accommodation improvements of the 3 Priority Project intersections - Boston State Road, Zimmerman Road and Herman Hill Road/Boston State Road and South Abbott/and Boston State Rd, Boston Cross Rd and Mill St.; also	\$\$\$	3	Town Board, NYS DOT, Erie County DOT, Consultant	#5: Safe and Sustainable Infrastructure	 
Reduce or eliminate parking minimums and encourage walkability by regulating the location of parking facilities behind principal structures.	\$	1	Town Board	#5: Safe and Sustainable Infrastructure	
Re-establish Bus Routes in Boston to serve those who live, work and play in the Town of Boston.	N/A	3	NFTA Metro, Town Board	#4: Family-Oriented Community	
Connect Senior Citizens to Transportation Resources available to them through County Services.	\$	1	Erie County Senior Services, YMCA	#4: Family-Oriented Community	

Conduct a feasibility study to implement a multi-use path along the power line corridor east of Boston State Road, which would also connect to the existing rails to trails systems in neighboring municipalities	\$\$	2	Town Board, Consultant	#3: Recreation and Trails	 
Goal 5: Improve and maintain local infrastructure to meet current and future needs, and ensure its resiliency					
Action Item	Associated Cost Bracket	Priority	Partners	Core Value(s)	Smart Growth Principle(s)
Review and update 2021 drainage study.	\$\$	2	Town Board, Engineer, Consultant, Erie County Division of Sewer Management	#5: Safe and Sustainable Infrastructure	
Develop a plan to extend utility services as needed to support development per the future land use and zoning recommendations of this Comprehensive Plan. Ensure utilities are available/positioned to support desired development in key areas.	\$\$\$	3	Town Board, Engineer, Consultant, Erie County Division of Sewer Management, Erie County Water Authority, NYS Department of Environment and Conservation	#5: Safe and Sustainable Infrastructure	 
Investigate proactive measures to plan for utility infrastructure (existing and future) maintenance.	\$\$-\$\$\$	1	Town Board, National Fuel, National GRID, NYSEG, Erie County Water Authority, Erie County Division of Sewer Management	#5: Safe and Sustainable Infrastructure	
Prepare an engineering study to address infrastructure issues and deficiencies, especially related to storm-water and drainage concerns in the Town.	\$\$	2	Town Board, Engineer, Consultant	#5: Safe and Sustainable Infrastructure	
Provide residents and businesses with options for the community to retain and maintain reliable internet and phone services.	\$	1	Town Board, Erie NET	#5: Safe and Sustainable Infrastructure	
Goal 6: Allocate resources to support public services and encourage civil responsibility					
Action Item	Associated Cost Bracket	Priority	Partners	Core Value(s)	Smart Growth Principle(s)
Engage a communications and media relations specialist to affect how the community projects itself, improve communications with residents, maintain social media, etc.	\$	1	Town Board, Consultant	#4: Family-Oriented Community	 

Hold open houses and community days to showcase what the Town has to offer and ongoing projects.	\$	1	Town Board, Committees	#4: Family-Oriented Community	
Implement legislation requiring the regular maintenance or inspection of private on-site wastewater treatment systems.	\$	1	Town Board	#5: Safe and Sustainable Infrastructure	

 AFPP Goal 1: Preserve the Priority Farmlands in Boston					
Action Item	Associated Cost Bracket	Priority	Partners	Core Value(s)	Smart Growth Principle(s)
Create a Prime Farmland Zoning Overlay with its own regulations, to create another layer of protection for the agricultural assets in the community.	\$	1	Town Board	#2: Open Space and Historical Features	
Implement buffer zone requirements between agricultural uses and other uses.	\$	1	Town Board	#1: Small Town Dynamic	
Update Boston's Zoning Code to be more farm-friendly based on the Boston Farm Friendly Analysis (<i>Appendix D</i>)	\$-\$\$	2	Town Board	#2: Open Space and Historical Features	
Create extensive host community agreements and other mechanisms for agricultural land protection from solar and wind developments that result in funds for conservation easements at a 2:1 ratio.	\$	2	Town Board	#2: Open Space and Historical Features	
Educate sessions for farmers on Agricultural Conservation Easements (ACEs).	\$	1	Town Board, American Farm Trust, Cornell Cooperative Extension	#2: Open Space and Historical Features	

 AFPP Goal 2: Create a Resilient Agricultural Community in Boston					
Action Item	Associated Cost Bracket	Priority	Partners	Core Value(s)	Smart Growth Principle(s)
Create an Agricultural Advisory Committee with members from the Boston Agricultural community, to help accomplish the Action Items of this plan.	\$\$	1	Town Board, Agricultural Community	#1: Small Town Dynamic	

Perform a Climate Vulnerability Assessment to identify the most at-risk lands for climate disasters involving extreme heat or extreme rain.	\$\$		Town Board, Consultant	#5: Safe and Sustainable Infrastructure	 
Connect the farmers/farm-workers in Boston to existing agricultural networks for educational and support opportunities.	N/A		Town Board, American Farm Trust, Cornell Cooperative Extension	#4: Family-Oriented Community	 
 AFPP Goal 3: Support the current farm communities in Boston					
Action Item	Associated Cost Bracket	Priority	Partners	Core Value(s)	Smart Growth Principle(s)
Establish initiatives to maintain steady flow of seasonal workers to area, as well as recruiting locally via farming educational programs and at local high schools.	\$	1	Town Board	#2: Open Space and Historical Features	
Identify ways to support the migrant and seasonal farmworkers with areas such as housing and services.	\$	2	Town Board, American Farm Trust, Cornell Cooperative Extension	#4: Family-Oriented Community	 
Perform Gap Analysis to identify specific businesses that are most needed by current Boston Farmers.	\$\$	2	Town Board, Consultant	#5: Safe and Sustainable Infrastructure	 
Identify incentives that can be offered to buy agricultural land and bring farming operations to Boston.	\$	1	Town Board	#5: Safe and Sustainable Infrastructure	
Encourage farms to participate in the agricultural environmental management (AEM) through the Erie County Soil and Water Conservation District.	N/A	1	Town Board, Erie County Department of Environment and Planning	#2: Open Space and Historical Features	 

VII. Priority Projects

i. Roundabouts

The recommendations of this Comprehensive Plan include proposed single lane roundabouts at three intersections within the Town:

- ▶ Boston State Road, Boston Cross Road and Mill Street
- ▶ Boston State Road and S. Abbott Road
- ▶ Boston State Road, Zimmerman Road and Herman Hill Road

Aroundabout at each of these locations will provide many benefits including traffic calming/ speed reduction, better alignment of awkward intersections that have poor sightlines, increased pedestrian safety, and the creation of a gateway at each of these main routes into the Town. Also proposed for these intersections are sidewalks and crosswalks, stormwater management, and other gateway elements such as signage and landscaping.



Above: Concept Design Boston Cross Rd. and Mill St.



Below: Current conditions, Boston Cross Rd. and Mill St.

Boston State Road, Boston Cross Road and Mill Street

This intersection is the heart of the Boston Hamlet and a gateway into the Town from US Rt. 219 to the west, from Colden to the east and for travelers heading north on Boston State Road from the south. The presence of the historic Boston Hotel, Boston Deli and Boston Country Styles, as well as a volunteer fire station and the library also contribute to the significance of this intersection. The proposed roundabout will reinforce this gateway and one’s arrival in the Boston Hamlet. Most importantly, the roundabout will address several safety issues at this intersection, including improved pedestrian crossing safety and traffic calming to reduce incidents of speeding. Another problem that the roundabout will address is the poor sightlines



Above: Concept Design Boston State Rd. and S. Abbott Rd.



Below: Current conditions, Boston State Rd. and S. Abbott Rd.

when turning onto Boston State Road from Boston Cross Road. With the addition of pedestrian facilities, there is also the opportunity to continue the sidewalk west on Mill Street and connect to a proposed shared-use path through the Boston Fire Company property from Mill Street to Eighteen Mile Creek, providing opportunities for residents and visitors to access the creek for fishing or passive recreation.

Boston State Road and S. Abbott Road

South Abbott Road is one of the main routes into the Town from Orchard Park and Hamburg to the north. A Tops Market at this intersection, the only supermarket in the Town, also contributes to the intersection’s significance. The proposed roundabout

Smart Growth Principles

Roundabouts:



Inclusive Planning Process



Downtown Revitalization



Transit Oriented Development

- ▶ Walkable, bikeable, transit-friendly streetscapes and transportation systems (also known as “Complete Streets”);
- ▶ Safe, accessible and well-planned public spaces

Key elements of round-
about additions:



Signage and speed limit
changes



Crosswalks and connected
sidewalks



Landscaping and trees



Above: Concept Design Boston State Rd., Zimmerman Rd. and Herman Hill Rd.



Below: Current conditions, Boston State Rd., Zimmerman Rd. & Herman Hill Rd.

will reinforce this gateway and one’s arrival into the heart of the Town. Abbot Road intersects with Boston State Road along a curve and at a tight angle, which makes turns difficult and results in poor sightlines. The are currently no pedestrian crossing facilities. The proposed roundabout will address these safety issues and also calm traffic, which will mitigate a known speeding problem at this intersection.

Boston State Road, Zimmerman Road and Herman Hill Road

This intersection is the heart of the North Boston Hamlet and a gateway into the Town from US Rt. 219 and Hamburg to the northwest, from Orchard Park to the northeast and for travelers heading east on Zimmerman Road from the west.

The prevalence of convenience services (food, pharmacy, gas, etc.) at this intersection, as well as a nearby elementary school and volunteer fire station also contribute to the significance of this intersection. The proposed roundabout will reinforce this gateway and one’s arrival in the North Boston Hamlet. Most importantly, the roundabout will address several safety issues at this intersection, including improved pedestrian crossing safety and traffic calming to reduce incidents of speeding. With the addition of pedestrian facilities, there is also the opportunity to provide a safe route between the elementary school and its emergency evacuation site at the volunteer fire station; there are currently no sidewalks connecting the two sites and the posted speed limit on these roads is 40 mph.

ii. Improvements at Boston Town Park

The recommendations of the Comprehensive Plan propose a number of improvements at Boston Town Park, which is the heart of the Town’s civic and recreational activity. These include a new multi-use trail to connect the proposed multi-use trail along the powerline corridor (see Circulation and Wayfinding Concept) across Boston State Road (with rectangular rapid flashing beacons (RRFBs) to aid crossing), to the existing trails within the park. This multi-use trail connection would also intersect with the bike lanes proposed for Boston State Road. Along Eighteen Mile Creek within the park, improvements to the trail are proposed to improve accessibility (switchback), and a project in partnership with Buffalo Niagara Waterkeeper will improve streambank stability. A vegetative screen (i.e. evergreens and other native shrubs) is proposed, to provide visual separation between the park and activity/storage at the Highway Department. A senior and recreation center is proposed for the Town-owned parcel across the street from the park, which will be connected to the park by the proposed multi-use trail and RRFB crossing. Additionally, two informational kiosks are proposed: one where the proposed multi-use trail enters the park at Boston State Road, and another where the existing trails begin near the sports fields and parking area. And to prevent unwanted parking on sloped grassy areas, a row of large boulders is proposed to restrict vehicular access to these areas.

Smart Growth
Principles

Improvements at Boston
Town Park



Inclusive Planning
Process



Green
Infrastructure



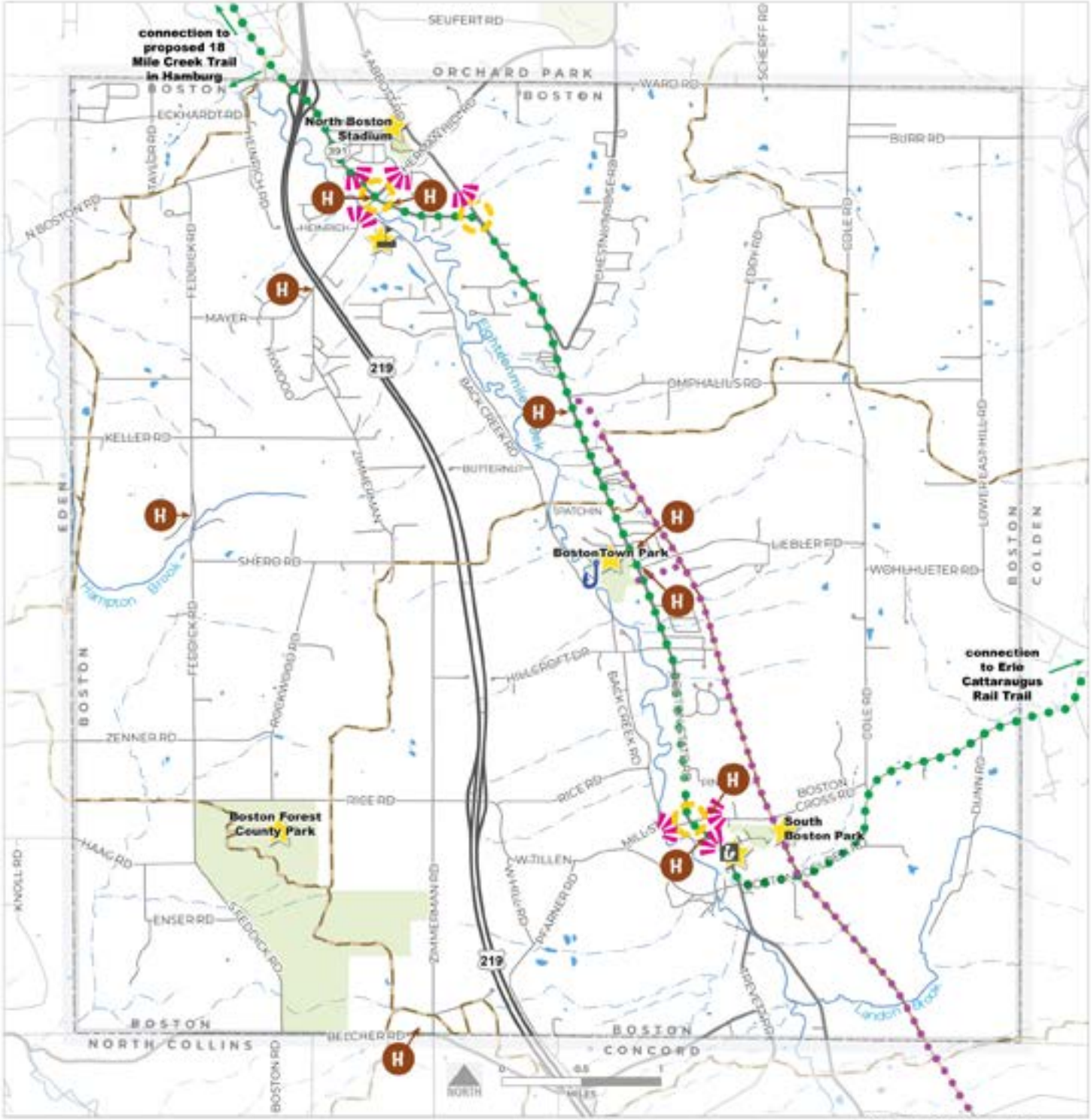
Downtown
Revitalization

- Safe, accessible and well-planned public spaces;
- Walkable, bikeable, transit-friendly streetscapes and transportation systems



PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS AT BOSTON TOWN PARK
Town of Boston, NY

- Key**
- Existing Paved Trail
 - Existing Unpaved Trail
 - J Existing Fishing Access
 - Proposed Multi-use Trail
 - Proposed Bike Lanes
 - ☀ Proposed RRFB Crossing Signal
 - Proposed Location of Senior and Recreation Center
 - W Proposed Landscape Buffer
 - ★ Proposed Information Kiosk with Park Map



- Key**
- 🏫 School
 - 📖 Library
 - ★ Point of Interest / Destination
 - 🌸 Community Gateway
 - J Existing Fishing Access
 - H Existing Historic Marker
 - Proposed Multi-use Trail
 - Proposed Bike Lanes
 - Proposed Roundabout and Pedestrian Accommodations
 - NYS Snowmobile Trail
 - 🌿 Park

CIRCULATION AND WAYFINDING CONCEPT

Circulation & Wayfinding
Concept/ Futures Concept:



Inclusive Planning
Process



Downtown
Revitalization

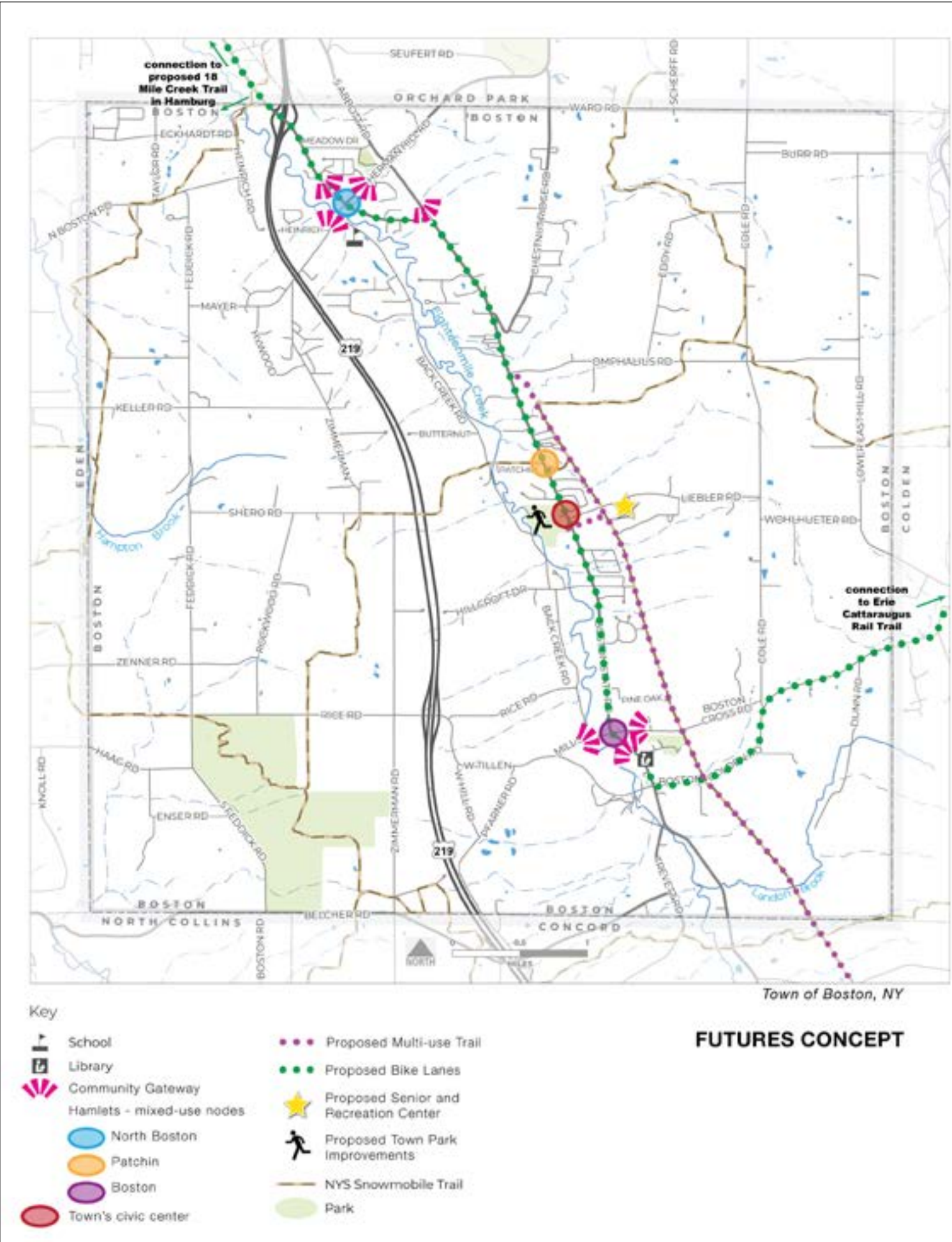
- ▶ Walkable, bikeable, transit-friendly streetscapes and transportation systems (also known as “Complete Streets”);
- ▶ Safe, accessible and well-planned public spaces;
- ▶ Green Infrastructure/ nature-based stormwater management.

iii. Circulation & Wayfinding Concept

The Circulation & Wayfinding Concept is a graphic representation of the existing and proposed recommendations that contribute to multi-modal movement through the Town and between the Town’s various points of interest. The concept illustrates vehicular routes; bike lanes proposed in the Greater Buffalo and Niagara Regional Transportation Council’s Regional Bicycle Master Plan; the proposed roundabouts/gateways at three major intersections along Boston State Road; and the connection to points of interest including North Boston Stadium, Boston Valley Elementary School, parks, existing fishing access, the library, the Town’s ten historical markers, and connections to nearby trails including the Eighteen Mile Creek Trail in Hamburg, the Erie Cattaraugus Rail Trail (ECRT) in Colden and the many trails in Boston Forest County Park. A highlight of this plan is the proposed multi-use trail that would run along the powerline corridor that runs parallel to the east side of Boston State Road. The multi-use trail would traverse the Town from its southern border northwards, intersect the proposed bike lanes on Boston Colden Road (that would connect trail users to the ECRT in Colden), connect to Boston Town Park (with rectangular rapid flashing beacons (RRFBs) to cross Boston State Road), and at its north end intersect with the proposed bike lanes on Boston State Road.

iv. Futures Concept

The Futures Concept is a graphic representation of the Comprehensive Plan’s proposed physical recommendations. Also illustrated are the locations of the Town’s primary character areas (the three hamlets and the civic center of town where Town Hall and Boston Town Park are located), which influence many of the proposed physical and policy recommendations. Recommendations highlighted on the Futures Plan include the proposed multi-use trail and proposed bike lanes (see description under Circulation & Wayfinding Concept), the three locations of proposed gateways (at locations of proposed roundabouts), the proposed improvements at Boston Town Park, and a proposed Senior and recreation center (potentially located on Town-owned land across from Boston Town Park).





Appendix A

Community Outreach Plan

Town of Boston

Comprehensive Plan Update

Community Outreach Plan



Primary Contacts

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This report was prepared for the New York State Department of State with funds from the Smart Growth Comprehensive Plan Grant Program.

Project Background

The Town of Boston has received two grants to update their Comprehensive Plan, one from Erie County Department of Planning and another from New York Department of State. Updating the Comprehensive Plan provides the community with the ability to outline more specific actions, policies, and projects that directly address local needs and opportunities. Actions undertaken within Boston by outside agencies are then required to be consistent with the Town's visions. The intent of this plan is to create a plan to move the town forward into the next two decades.

Purpose of the Outreach Plan

The Comprehensive Plan is only as good as the community support that is has behind it, but getting sufficient input can be a logistical challenge in terms of scheduling locations and timing that has the potential to inhibit meaningful participation. This Community Outreach Plan provides a blueprint for the methods and general steps to effectively engage interested individuals, organizations, and agency representatives in the preparation of the Comprehensive Plan. The input that is gathered as part of this process will be used to determine an overall vision for the Town. Specific goals, strategies, and action items for implementation will then be developed with further community feedback to achieve the vision for the future of Boston.

While various means for community outreach have been identified below, there is always the possibility of a weak turnout or uneven representation from groups and areas in Boston. The Comprehensive Plan should be considered a living document in which outreach elements or activities may require modification(s) to seize on opportunities as they arise during the planning process.

Engaging the Public

As required in the Comprehensive Plan Contract Proposal, the Town of Boston established a Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee. During the kickoff meeting for the Comprehensive Plan update, the backgrounds of the Steering Committee members were discussed to ensure that this committee included representatives with a variety of interests, viewpoints, and standing in the community – a great benefit to the process moving forward. Additional agencies, groups, and organizations that should be included in the outreach efforts for the local Program include:

Municipal Officials

- County Officials (i.e., Planning and Development)
- Adjacent municipal representatives (cooperative/regional efforts)

State and Federal Agencies

- NYS Department of Transportation (NYS DOT) – State Route(s) 219, 277, 391
- NYS Department of Conservation (NYS DEC)
- NYS Department of State (NYS DOS) – funding agency

Local Agencies and Groups (having a stake in the Boston NY)

- Erie County Department of Environment and Planning- Funding Agent
- Erie County Parks, Recreation & Forestry – Boston Forest
- Town of Boston Senior Services

Local Boston Business Owners

- Boston-Colden Chamber of Commerce
- Local Business Owners

Groups

- Religious Institutes
 - St. Martin's Lutheran Church
 - St. John the Baptist RC Church
 - Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
 - Faith United Church of Christ
 - Churchill Memorial United Methodist Church
 - Berean Free Presbyterian Church
- Boston Valley School/Hamburg School System
- Boston Lion's Club
- Boston Amvets Post 219
- Conservation Society
- Boys & Girls Club

Boston Neighborhoods – neighborhood associations/groups (if they exist)

- The Three Hamlets
 - North Boston
 - Boston Valley
 - Patchin
- Zimmerman/Rice Rd
- Boston-Colden/Cole Rd.
- Fowlerville

Outreach Plan Components

Various methods and avenues for outreach have been identified the consultant team to gather input from the community about issues and opportunities related to the Town's Comprehensive Plan. As noted in the original request for proposals (RFP), three public meetings will be held during the Plan update as well as other outreach methods to reach a diverse audience. Public comments will be reviewed by the Committee and consultant team. In some instances, due to the tight schedule, outreach efforts can be combined. Priority events should be identified by the Committee.

The methods that will be used for the Comprehensive Plan include:

1. **Public Meetings/Workshops:**

- **Public Informational Meeting** - With a kickoff meeting likely to occur in **August 2023**, this will be the community's first opportunity for understanding what the project entails, the process, and to provide their initial input. The intent is to identify issues and opportunities that will be included in the community profile and used to develop the vision, core values/goals, and subsequent actions that will be the core part of the Plan's implementation. Some background information on existing issues and opportunities and maps of key assets in the Town of Boston ("*What we have to work with?*") will be provided to help elicit new ideas and comments from the community.
- **Second Public Meeting** – A second meeting during **winter/early spring 2024** will be a public focus meeting to gather feedback on and confirm the community profile and the vision statement that will likely be developed at this point based on input from the community, Steering Committee, and other stakeholders – this meeting is geared towards the question "*Are we on the right track?*". It would also give a summary of previous outreach efforts that were undertaken up to this point including any community events, stakeholder meetings, or other endeavors carried out as a result of this Outreach Plan.

2. **Public Hearing** - The final draft document, after consultation with the Steering Committee, will be provided to the Town Board for final action, including referral to Erie County, review by NYSDOS, SEQRA compliance, and public hearing prior to adoption. The hearing will be led by the Town with a formal presentation of the final draft document by the consultants as requested. This is geared to answer the question "*Did we miss anything?*".

3. **Site tours** – Local tours of specific areas within Boston will provide the consultant team and Steering Committee the opportunity to not only further engage the public and provide the necessary reconnaissance as part of the community inventory and visioning for the plan. Additionally, should any significant (“catalyst”) projects be identified through the planning process, these could also be further explored through a dedicated site tour or field visit. Site tours may consist of walking, biking, or driving events aimed at fully assessing the condition and character of the Town of Boston. Where applicable, Steering Committee members and stakeholders will be invited to provide local knowledge, allowing them to act in the capacity of “local cheerleaders” for the Town and driving the implementation of the plan.
4. **Comprehensive Plan “marketing”** –A logo and tagline could be created to establish a brand or presence for the local program and to help promote the project in a more recognizable manner around the community. People can associate a graphic or tagline with the Comprehensive Plan and, if the document is used as a marketing tool, may help in those efforts.
5. **Town of Boston Stakeholders** – Those who have a direct stake in the Town of Boston, whether they are residents, business owners, or groups/organizations, that typically have the most knowledge of issues and opportunities. A dedicated stakeholder meeting or another form of outreach to stakeholders (e.g., online survey) will be conducted to provide vital background information to the planning process.
6. **Targeted Outreach** – Combined outreach efforts with seasonal, community events or doing presentations in-school with student groups/classes or to senior groups.
7. **Surveys** – Using digital or paper surveys can help to initially get input from the community. Our experience has shown that digital platforms enable easier tabulation of responses and the compilation of summary information for use. Surveys can be conducted at any public meeting, posted on the Town website, or passed around via postcards at local events/functions.
8. **Communication** – Getting the word out will rely on various avenues, including:
 - **Town website**
 - **Town Board meetings** – Having a regular time allotted to a “community conversation corner” to allow residents to give feedback on the future of the town. This would require initial education on what it entails and should be limited in time to not prolong meetings. Follow-up could occur between Board members and those speaking.

- **Facebook** – The Town has an existing Facebook page that is actively utilized. Its use can be important to reach out to younger generations as well as others who may not wish to take part in larger community events. In addition to the Town’s page, a community page could be established specifically for the project to communicate special events, activities and stages of the planning process to the public. Commenting could be limited initially but be made available as time goes on with moderation done by the consultant team.
- **School district** – Email blasts or the school newsletter could be used to promote special events for the project, in coordination with the district.
- **Local publications/mailings** - Chamber of Commerce mailings, newsletters, library flyers will be utilized as needed to advertise meetings, post articles, and generally keep the public informed.
- **Impromptu Events** – There may be locations in the Town of Boston that can be used to post boards or set up an impromptu informational tent, especially as part of any seasonal special events that may occur within the community, especially during the summer or fall months. The Town hosts a *summer concert series* that will likely initially be used for marketing purposes and later as another venue for survey distribution and/or collection. Other events for consideration in the Town include, but are not limited to:
 - Local Environmental Awareness Fair (LEAF) by the Conservation Advisory Committee
 - Boston Young at Heart and other senior activities
 - Boston Fire Dept. Annual Chicken BBQ (fall)
 - Halloween community events
 - Local church dinners

Roles and Responsibilities

There are multiple players involved in the process for the Comprehensive Plan Update, each contributing a specific role. These include:

Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee (s)

The Steering Committee is an extension of the Town’s Planning Department with members selected who have a relationship with the Town of Boston (business owners, residents, other

stakeholders, etc.). This group will meet **once every month, or as often as deemed necessary** to review findings and documents prepared by the consultant team. The committee is the primary entity for leading the development of the Comprehensive Plan and working with the consultant(s) throughout the process, providing local information and being the “sounding board” for community-supported recommendations for the town. Minutes for each meeting will be prepared by the Steering Committee secretary and provided to the Committee and consultants.

Based on interest in participation, an Outreach & Communication subcommittee has been created. This committee will meet **as often as deemed necessary** and will assist the Steering Committee and Town of Boston with the components of this Outreach Plan.

Consultant Team

The consultant team provides technical expertise and work closely with the Steering Committee on the development of the plan, providing guidance and facilitating all community outreach activities. CPL, as the primary consultant, has also enlisted other subconsultants as part of the project team to provide further technical assistance with specific plan components. The contacts for the consultant team are:

Prime Consultant/ Tier 1 Subcontractor

Justin Steinbach, AICP

CPL

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585-402-7541

Subconsultants/ Tier 2 Subcontractors

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716-432-9053

NYS M/WBE & DBE

Molly Vendura

Molly Vendura Landscape Architect PLLC

mvendura@vendurala.com

716-880-6351

NYS WBE

NYS Department of State (NYS DOS)

The NYS DOS Office of Planning and Development is the primary sponsor of the Comprehensive Plan update, providing funding for the plan through the Smart Growth Comprehensive Planning Grant program, as well as any technical assistance throughout the project. Quarterly updates and key task milestones will be reviewed by DOS as well, providing overall project oversight. The contact for NYS DOS is:

Benjamin Bidell, AICP
Revitalization Specialist 1
Benjamin.Bidell@dos.ny.gov
716-847-3150

Erie County Department of Environment and Planning (ECDEP)

The Erie County Department of Environment and Planning is a secondary sponsor of the Comprehensive Plan update. Quarterly updates and key task milestones will be reviewed by DEP as well, providing overall project oversight. The contact for Erie County DEP is:

David Hall
Planner
David.hall@erie.gov
716-858-2251

Town of Boston

As the recipient of the Comprehensive Plan Update funding, the Town is responsible for the day-to-day administration and management of the project. Representatives of the Town will be included in the Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee and will provide input to the committee as well as the selected consultant(s). The Town also acts as grant administrator for the project, providing DOS with quarterly updates and key deliverables corresponding with the tasks outlined in the scope of work. The contact for the Town is:

Jason Keding
Supervisor
SupervisorKeding@gmail.com
716-941-6518



Appendix B

Outreach Results

In accordance with the Boston Outreach Plan, several methods of outreach were performed to spread awareness and gather data for the Comprehensive Plan. The Steering Committee, made up of members from the Boston Community, played an integral role in identifying outreach opportunities, as well as groups of stakeholders. Within the Steering Committee, a sub-committee was formed to assist with outreach. This group of individuals spread awareness of the Comprehensive Plan Survey by attending events and doing targeted in-person outreach to the public. In all, there were five separate surveys conducted and two public meetings.

Public Workshop #1

The first of two public meetings was held in August 2023, as the community's first opportunity for understanding what the project entails, the process, and to provide their initial input. The intent was to identify issues and opportunities that will be included in the community profile and used to develop the vision, core values/goals, and subsequent actions that will be the core part of the Plan's implementation. Some background information on existing issues and opportunities and maps of key assets in the Town of Boston ("What we have to work with?") will be provided to help elicit new ideas and comments from the community.

Results:

Map Exercise (Current maps provided to allow community opportunities to make notes on the current conditions of each topic/map)

LAND USE & ZONING	Notes	Notes 2	Topic
Keep Rural			Character
ADU's -OKAY			Residential
Large Residential Development -NO			Residential
Sewer district			Infrastructure
Recreational development			Recreational
Poor Telecommunication			Infrastructure
Golf Course!			Recreational
Preserve Scenic Views			Recreational
5+ Acres Development per lot size			Residential
Views of Lake			Recreational
Locate Potential Scenic Overlooks			Recreational
Conservation Society	Asset/opportunities	Zimmerman Rd	Recreational
Outreach/Marketing of Resources			Recreational
Limit Clearing for Development			Residential
Partnerships with Erie County	Outdoor Recreation		Recreational
Cider Mill, Three Girls, Georges, Charlaps, Fox Hole Winery, Boston Hotel	Local Restaurants		Commercial
Increase Small Businesses			Commercial
Build off access to Kissing Bridge			Recreational
Horse Boarding & Stable			Commercial
Child Care Center	Churchill is only one now		Services

County Park work being done	Maple Syrup Demo for Kids		Recreational
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RECREATION & AGRICULTURE	Column2	Column3	Topic
Scenic Overlooks			Recreational
Trout Fishing- Public Access			Recreational
Boston County Forest Improvements- Josh Konovits			Recreational
Dog Park			Recreational
Corn Hole @ Old Horse Shoes			Recreational
Pickle Ball @ Tennis Court			Recreational
Golf Course @ Feddick & Keller or Herman Hill Rd	Integrate winery and/or brewery		Recreational
Frisbee Golf at Park			Recreational
Inventory Prime Ag Soils for Preservation/ Protection from Solar & Wind			Agricultural
Protect Forestland from Solar & Wind			Agricultural
Update Code			Agricultural
Improve accessibility of Boston Town Nature Trail- Signage, ADA Compliance			Recreational
Connect Town Parks via Trail System	Can we connect to Colden branch of the Erie Rails to Trails?		Recreational
Park Enhancements: Dog Park, Splash Pad, Art Installations			Recreational

Public Workshop #2

Second Public Meeting – A second meeting occurred in April 2024 as a public focus meeting to gather feedback on and confirm the community profile and the vision statement that will likely be developed at this point based on input from the community, Steering Committee, and other stakeholders – this meeting is geared towards the question “Are we on the right track?”. It also provided a summary of previous outreach efforts that were undertaken up to this point, including any community events, stakeholder meetings, or other endeavors carried out because of this Outreach Plan.

Results:

17 community member participants

Goal 1: Preserve community feeling & small town character

- POLICIES
 - Require variation in size and price for development

- Commitment to SMB with legacy to Boston for sustainability (eg. Red Barrel Cidermill, Charlaps, Boston Hotel)
- Community Days
- Strategies
 - Find ways to connect the youth we have with the charm of Boston
 - Small Growth
 - Keep property taxes reasonable
 - Programs to connect kids to nature
- Priority Projects
 - Farmer's Market

Goal 2: Preserve and protect the scenic, historic, and natural resources that define Boston

- POLICIES
 - Support Farmers with incentives
 - Use policy as protection method
 - Build out historic district in each Hamlet
 - New businesses must include foliage and trees to keep “country feel”
- Strategies
 - Promote education of the history of Boston
 - Restrict growth at the peaks to help address the flooding in the valley
 - Maintain nature trails at the town park
- Priority Projects
 - Hiking, Biking, Golf Course

Goal 3: Promote a balanced mix of housing, businesses and services to create a self-sustaining live, work and play community.

- POLICIES
 - Establish a parks department to provide enhanced support and maintenance to the towns natural resources
 - Medical building near senior housing
- Strategies
 - Senior living complex, ADU
 - Joint Rec. Center & Senior Center
- Priority Projects
 - Golf Course/ disk golf
 - Mixed-use Projects

Goal 4: Promote transportation planning and design that is safe and meets the needs of all users.

- POLICIES
 - Make Erie County put shoulders on Boston State Rd. like it does before Zimmerman

- Bike Lanes
 - Park & Ride, Bus Route, Charging Stations
 - Better traffic flow at Zimmerman and 391, perhaps traffic circles & sidewalks to promote foot traffic to businesses
- Strategies
 - Explore opportunities for increasing walkability in town: sidewalk and trails to connect Hamlets.
 - Ensure roadwork does not drastically interfere with traffic flow (Road study?) to keep safe.
- Priority Projects
 - Complete Streets!

Goal 5: Improve and maintain local infrastructure to meet current and future needs, and ensure its resiliency

- POLICIES
 - Improve drainage and replace culverts with pipe so they do not need to be dredged yearly
- Strategies
 - Take care of what infrastructure we already have before we add more to take care of (8000 residents, only 3500 tax bills)
- Priority Projects
 - Town-wide drainage plan
 - Open ditches
 - Identification of compromised lands

Goal 6: Allocate resources to support public services and encourage civil responsibility

- POLICIES
 - Funding of Auxiliary boards
- Strategies
 - Add to Town Website an Ag producer resource page
 - Community fundraisers and support public services
 - Open houses/Community Days to show what Town offers

Comprehensive Plan Survey

As the Town of Boston conducted its comprehensive plan update, a survey tool was created to solicit additional input from the community. The survey consisted of both open-ended and multiple-choice questions to help understand the community's values and insight.

The survey was conducted through a website dedicated to planning efforts and through a hardcopy version offered in the Town Hall. The survey was advertised through the Town's website, social media platforms, unofficial Town sites, and through outreach performed by the Steering Committee at various events. The survey was conducted from August 2023 to November 2023. In total, 233 surveys were submitted- 180 through the online forum, and 53 hard copy responses. The planning team analyzed and summarized these responses into common values and thoughts. More targeted outreach was initiated to garner input from under-represented demographics and age groups.

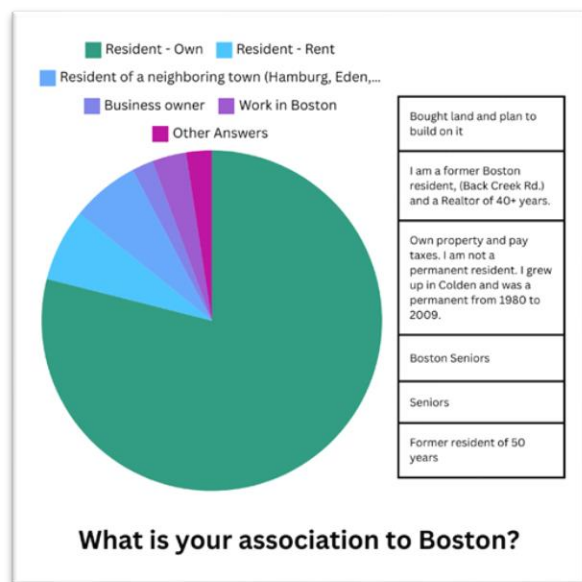
Key Findings

Throughout the survey, the following themes and finding arose through the responses received:

- The community prioritizes its rural and small-town character.
- Natural features and open space are a draw and important asset to the community.
- There is a desire to build upon the community's current outdoor recreational activities.
- There is concern about the lack of young people in the community, and a wish to draw young families and create incentives for the next generation to stay in Boston.

Results:

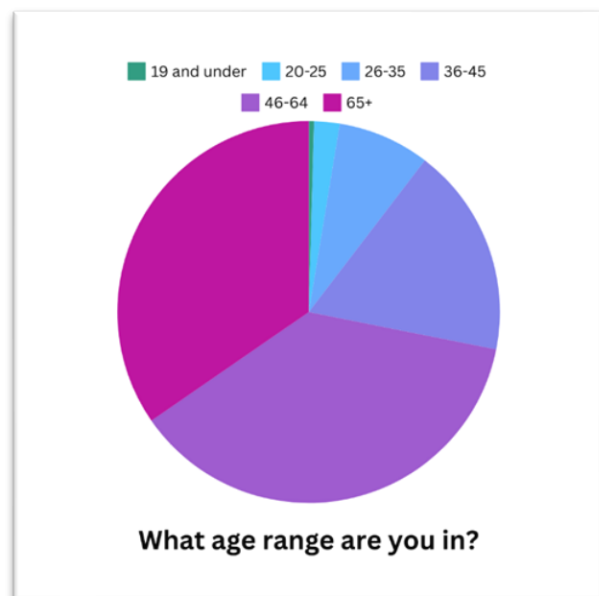
Question 1: What is your affiliation to Boston?



What is your association to Boston?	
Choice	Responses
Resident - Own	195
Resident - Rent	17
Resident of a neighboring town (Hamburg, Eden, Orchard Park, Colden, Concord, Springville, etc.)	16
Business owner	5
Work in Boston	8
Other Answers	6

Question 2: Addresses- *Emitted from report.*

Question 3: What age range are you in?



What age range are you in?	
Choice	Responses
19 and under	1
20-25	5
26-35	18
36-45	41
46-64	86
65+	80

Question 4: What resources or assets of the Town do you value the most?

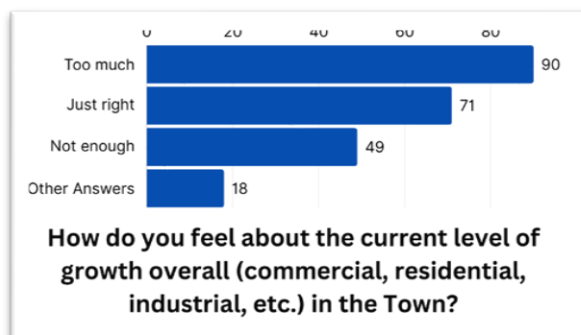
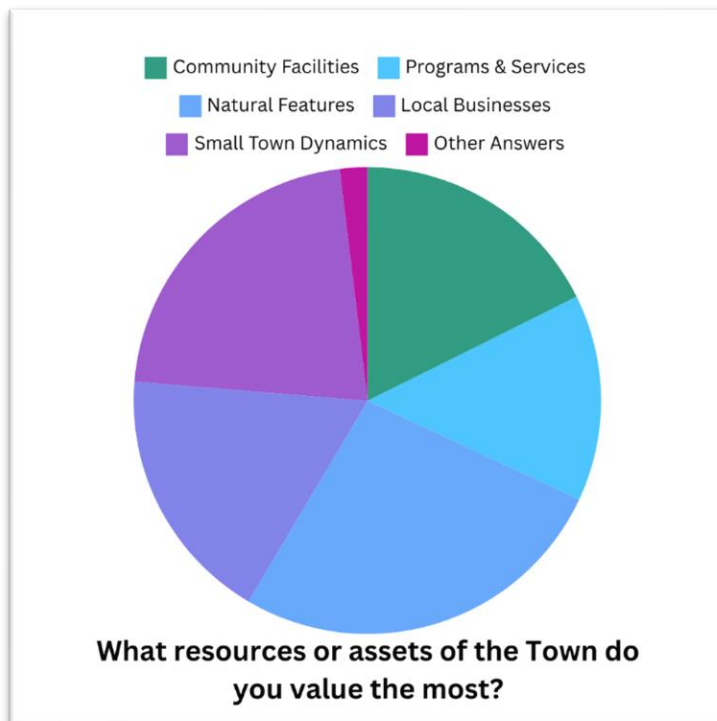
What resources or assets of the Town do you value the most? (For example: community facilities, programs/services, natural features, local businesses, etc. This can be anything in the Town that you feel brings value.)

Choice	Responses
Community Facilities	111
Programs & Services	90
Natural Features	167
Local Businesses	112
Small Town Dynamics	137
Other Answers	12

Other Answers:
Emergency services
Need more restaurants and stores.
Public utilities and services
YOUTH SPORTS
Public Utilities
Specifically water down Boston Colden road
Boston Town Park
Friendly neighbors, clean, fresh air
Friendliness
Boston Seniors
Not a Boston resident- don't feel qualified to answer
No information
911
Peace and quiet and low population also being a distance from my neighbor
Not having developments and privacy which you obviously care not.

Question 5: How do you feel about the current level of growth overall (commercial, residential, industrial, etc.) in the Town?

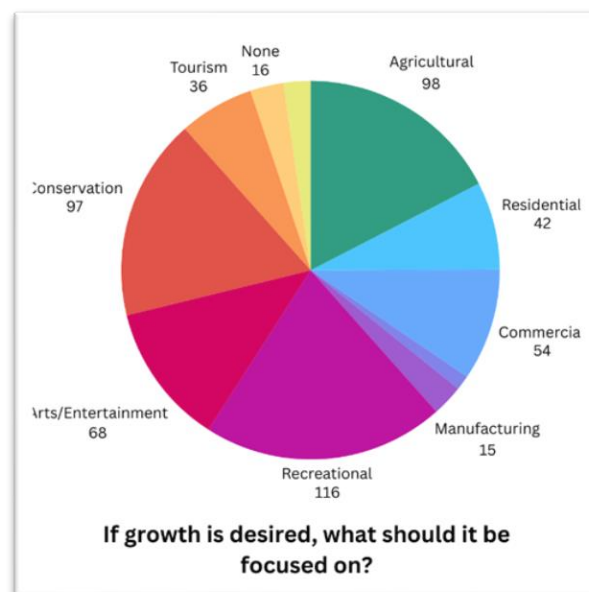
How do you feel about the current level of growth overall (commercial, residential, industrial, etc.) in the Town?	
Choice	Responses
Not enough	49
Just right	71
Too much	90
Other Answers	18



Other Answers
The development is becoming rampant. The lack of community planning boggles my mind. There is no uniformity, or look that successful small towns utilize. I'm a creative director, I would love to be part of that conversation.
The growth is haphazard. It's nice to see old businesses being repurposed but I think the town could do better than adding a Dollar General and another gas station/Tim Hortons. This seemingly random development is taking away the charm of the town. There needs to be a branding plan like what has been done in East Aurora, EVL and Hamburg Village to cohesively enhance the town and its value.
I know that growth is an important aspect of any community, but the direction and type of the growth determines the prosperity and appeal of the community to it's residents and prospective visitors.
Boston sits at a pivotal point of development with corporate outsiders looking in expecting to make profit off of the towns lack of storefronts. Development is a tricky thing to get right because once it's done, it can't be undone. Small businesses, locally owned should be encouraged and given preference over corporate big box retail. 75/25 split. With the 25 being fully vetted to understand the impact and quality they would add to the community.
The level of growth is not a concern, it is the type. Instead of nationally based businesses (Dollar General), and new build investment homes, I would prefer to see locally owned businesses and single-family homes that will be occupied by the homeowner.
I would like to see more growth, but our existing businesses around here need to take care of there properties better. Dollar general front looks horrible, CVS Grass and landscaping looks horrible. Mean while Brunners look beautiful and a new Gas Station finally overhauled.
Residential growth seems just right. Commercial growth feels stagnant and will likely remain stagnant without intentional planning and investment.
Residential growth on Boston Colden Rd hi lights the need for seater project
I enjoy the small town, let's not become Hamburg.
We need competitive shopping choices, particularly groceries, fresh produce, definitely need wellness facility, Urgent Care. something like that. Need some industry to help with property taxes.
I don't like having to use the garbage totes. My driveway is long and they are difficult for the layout. They are something more for suburbs. I'd like an option to also take garbage bags to a town dumpster, if unable to use the totes especially during winter when the snow creates more problems using them.
Buildings built in wrong places
Not Controlled
It really depends on the growth
From what I'm seeing, Boston is a very tight knit community not open to change. Growth is important, but also equally impactful is having a pulse on the wants of residents. I think housing development is a concern, as well as inviting large corporations into a rural-esque area.
We need growth that will bring people here.
I think it should be allowed to grow organically.. not capped or encouraged if thats what you are getting to
Would love to see locally owned small businesses that provide a service to the community such as a bakery, car wash, a cafe that's open beyond lunch. Not another salon, gas station or pizzeria please. Connect the residential neighborhoods with sidewalks so residents do not have to walk/run/cycle solely on BSR.

Question 6: If growth is desired, what should it be focused on?

If growth is desired, what should it be focused on?	
Choice	Responses
Agricultural	98
Residential	42
Commercial	54
Industrial	7
Manufacturing	15
Recreational	116
Arts/Entertainment	68
Conservation	97
Tourism	36
None	16
Other Answers	13

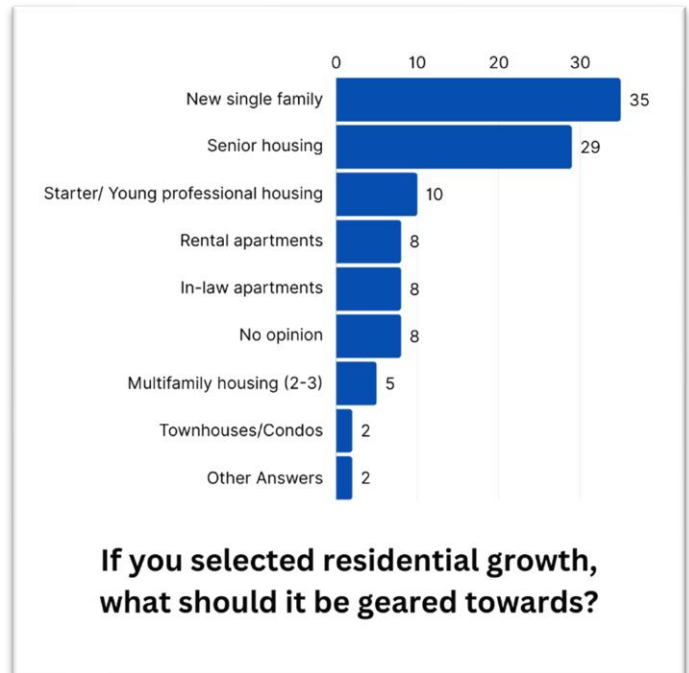


Other Answers
Please see above comment. Those selected above should be locally owned.
Walking biking path along Boston state/Boston Springville Rd.
Food place besides pizza
We could use some decent restaurants. Also indoor entertainment options for kids and families
restaurants
Commercial - with the town stretching through the valley, our commercial areas are small and scattered. I think the Town should invest in infrastructure that more easily allows people to travel throughout the town and to these commercial "hotspots". I.e., sidewalks/bike paths along 391.
Recreational - investment into making the Town of Boston nature trail ADA-compliant, partnership with the County Parks system to improve the Boston County Forest
Fitness for seniors
Manufacturing like on Boston State Rd (Rt 391)- Should be able to expand Businesses in old fire hall
All of these may be beneficial...each needs to be done thoughtfully
none of my business.. should grow how it wants to, not how it was stopped from, guided, or pushed to
We would love to see a community pool and/or a splash pad at the town park. Offer infrastructure support to the Boys and Girls club for capital expansion.

Question 7: If you selected residential growth, what should it be geared towards?

If you selected residential growth, what should it be geared towards?	
Choice	Responses
New single family	35
Rental apartments	8
Senior housing	29
Starter/ Young professional housing	10
Townhouses/Condos	2
In-law apartments	8
Multifamily housing (2-3)	5
No opinion	8
Other Answers	2

Other Answers
ADU Accessory Dwelling Units
Making existing townhome and apartments better

**Question 8: If you selected commercial growth, what should it be geared toward?**

If you selected commercial growth, what should it be geared toward?	
Choice	Responses
Local retail/services (smaller scale)	39
Franchise retail/services (medium scale)	14
Home-based businesses	11
Restaurants/ eating establishments	45
Automotive sales/services	9
Sporting/Outdoor/Recreational Goods	15
Home repair/furnishing/related	17
Professional Office Buildings	6
Mixed-use (ex. business on first floor, residential second floor)	9
Other Answers	4

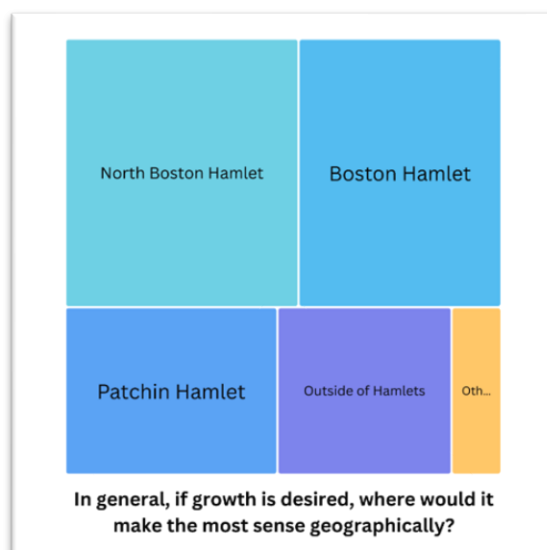


APPENDIX B: OUTREACH RESULTS

Other Answers
Car wash
Hardware store
Senior Fitness
Chinese Buffet
Car Wash facility
Fitness Facility
Hardware store
Car Wash facility

Question 9: In general, if growth is desired, where would it make the most sense geographically?

In general, if growth is desired, where would it make the most sense geographically?	
Choice	Responses
North Boston Hamlet	92
Boston Hamlet	80
Patchin Hamlet	52
Outside of Hamlets	43
Other Answers	12



Other Answers
Not in Boston period
No more subdivisions
Boston does not need to grow.
Not the rural setting it once was and too much traffic as it is.
With most traffic throughout the Town occurring on 391, I think it would make sense to invest in more commercial spaces, public parking, sidewalks/bike paths along this corridor. Let's build up and beautify the commercial spaces that already exist!
NONE
None
Hills
Make improvements and/or building updates and grounds to existing hamlet areas
Again, depends on the project
None
where it wants to needs to.. not what some karen thinks it ought to.
Hamlets could use locally owned commercial growth, outside of hamlets support local agricultural sustainability and growth.

Question 10: In general, if growth is desired, where would it make the most sense geographically?

What, if any, key resources, or lands in Boston should be conserved and/or preserved?	
Response	Response
If the town is going to grow then we should have a plan in place to keep the small town atmosphere. We should be preserving as much green space as possible and keeping our farmland. No farms no food. We need to be sure the farms are preserved.	Town parks and recreation
All of it	All farms should be preserved. In addition, the traffic is getting to be too much so residential development should be stopped.
Backcreek Road, middle lands in the valley, Farmlands, Wooded areas, the animals live here as well,- they are a big part of the charm, dark skies.	All farm land no windmills
Back Creek road, the hills, Shero Road, power line, south Boston around Boston Hotel, woods along the creek to preserve wildlife habitat	Boston should be kept rural with small town values.
18 mile creek and its watershed.	Tops Market
All natural areas	18-mile creek, Boston County Forest, Green hillsides
All of them	The farmland on the top of south hill has been there forever. No one should change that.
Farmland should be preserved	Woodlands and farmland.
Creek accessibility, natural forests. STOP BUILDING RENTAL PROPERTIES, PATIO HOMES, AND APARTMENTS!!!!!!	Farm land and green land
woods, trails green space	Boston Town Park
Historical sites, history of Boston.	Behind the Town Hall is a nice space... we enjoy the Tues. concert and the fireworks
let people do what they want with their property and put your karen nose elsewhere	Farm Land
Green spaces	Our Town Park
School property on back creek and Zimmerman	The land!
Natural habitat for native plant and animal species. It has been sad to see land cleared for housing developments	The Valley
As much as possible. It is way too over grown with people moving in and trying to change to fit their demands.	Farm Land & Parks

APPENDIX B: OUTREACH RESULTS

Current acreage used for farming, personal ownership of land over 3 acres. Owners should not be able to break up property into small pieces. And the town needs to set aside a percentage of green space to leave green...no development.	Area has already been destroyed
Farm land The old rail line made into walking / biking trail	Back Creek/ Boston Hills
All wetlands and farm fields	Farm area, Natural Resources
anything around 18 miles	All historical buildings
Valley	Park land, Open land between houses
I'd like to see no more housing developments in town.	Farm Land
What are you talking about growth for? Boston is only 6miles x 6miles. We have all we need here.	Conservation Area
Farms ans Farm Land.	Fields
Land in general. Leave it alone unless used for farming	The land by the 219 expressway no gas stations
Area around town hall and town park	Creekland 18Mile
Help the farmers and local small businesses be able to stay in business and hand down the businesses to stay open in the next generation.	Rice Rd. Forestry and the waterways
Parks and public lands. Right of way access along the powerline / railbed. Landmark buildings.	All large tracts such as Rice Rd Exit area, no commercial development
West Tillen Road, Trevett Road, county/town parks, along 18 mile creek, save agriculture space/land from development.	Off the 219 should be preserved no gas behind my house by the 219
As much as possible	18 Mile Creek
The hill tops.	Any "nature" things like trails, walkways, open spaces
Farms, was nice here Zittles was sold to a young fellow and the farmers are helping him out!	Up to property owner-Owner rights!
18 mile creek and town park nature trails	Creek
18 Mile Creek	Creek
All land	I feel that we should not be building any residential neighborhoods. We are becoming too populated
Forest, trails.	Our open spaces, 18 Mile Creek * Keeping our taxes low and affordable
As much as possible	Farming
Town hall creek access and path Key exit / entry points into town Alluring hilltop views	We have lived in Boston for about two years. We love the area, particularly the geography and natural features of the area. In and around North Boston (391, Herman Hill, Zimmerman) down to

	the 391 split with S. Abbot should be prioritized. It is in relative close proximity to Hamburg/OP and development in that area could draw from surrounding areas with effecting existing residential areas. Additionally, the area near Boston Hotel could use a facelift.
As much as we can, we should try to retain farm lands and forested areas. Part of the appeal of the Town is the country feel and undeveloped areas.	Historic locations should be honored and kept up. It's important to keep public land / parks in good shape as well.
Wooded areas. Don't allow clear cutting	To much residential subdivisions being built. Ruined my street. I am surrounded by neighbors now, and since wildlife disappeared we have them buying chickens, ducks, feeding squirrels- no common sense Peanuts all over my yard from neighbor feeding squirrels- so now my dog with allergies cannot walk in his own yard. Stupid. It was much better watching tractors go down the road to farm then neighbors planting and feeding everything.
I can't speak to land being conserved but numerous run down/failed business locations should be developed with small, local business grants. It's often said that small business is the back bone of America, we do not need more large/corporate development.	Green space as much as possible. We are close enough to Hamburg, Eden, Orchard Park and Springville for shopping, recreation, etc.
Town park	Farmland needs to be preserved; 1 acre lot minimum for residential units should be enacted to keep with the rural nature of our town and avoid overcrowding in our one elementary school.
Any and all green space. There has been too much new housing being built. It takes away from the small town feeling.	18 mile creek and surrounding hills, Irish Gulf, woods, cemeteries
The woodlands in the hills and along the creek	18 mile creek. But since you keep putting developments in, the pesticides and chemicals will be running in there. Thanks. Can't wait to vote you out
Eighteenmile creek - efforts should be taken to preserve, if not, improve water quality, manage invasive species, and find ways to amplify this natural resource to the community. Prime farmland should be protected, especially in light of solar and wind development. See American Farmland Trust's work on agrisolar. The Town should adopt code that protects these prime agricultural soils and protects the long-term interests of farmers/farmland owners, while balancing the need to meet climate goals.	none - the concept of preservation is most often used as a tool against growth or as a tool of politics or worse. If you force growth it dies from no support.. if you squash it you die from rot.

APPENDIX B: OUTREACH RESULTS

Keep it simple... Minimize impact of over building!	Town park, Library, Boys and Girls Club, creek, emergency services.
All parks and green spaces	Open spaces, no high density projects - residential or commercial.
I feel as much greenspace to keep the small town feel and control traffic slow- but allowing growth A tough balance	Funeral home needs to be cleaned
Erie County Park on Rice Rd	Farmlands, historical, less new construction...protect, fix BACK Creek rd!
Keeping farmland and greenspace as is. Absolutely no place for windmills /solar farms as unsightly and risk to health.	All existing free space and parks. 18 mile creek watershed
Open space, wooded space. Boston needs to conserve the country setting and not build more developments.	Open spaces
All there is too much development now	No more clear cutting lots
Any lots bigger than 5 acres to remain "farmland" or open. No more neighborhoods . No more retail, more its built out the more rural /country feeling is lost, last thing we need is a buildout like Springville on Cascade or milestrip in OP. People shouldn't want to turn this into a mini Amherst, the patio homes here look like public housing , so if you have to have that sort of thing at least make it look like middle-class not rowhouses built the cheapest way possible.	18 mile creek, limit housing developments by allowing only new builds on larger parcels of land (e.g. 5 acre lots).
Agriculture/farmland, green space and rural character should be preserved. Scenic views and natural beauty should also be preserved Historic buildings, stories and document should be preserved	Creeks and streams, woods and the beauty of the hills.
I would have to do some research on this to give an educated opinion..	Creeks and streams....farmland
18 mile creek and the Boston town park. There's a nice trail along the creek at Boston Valley Elementary that was revamped. It would be nice to have more trails along the creek.	18 mile creek
Woodland and farm land	All land
We should keep as much land untouched as possible.. we're close enough to all of the amenities needed and I love the small town feel.	

Question 11: In what areas can the Town improve upon?

In what areas can the Town improve upon? (For example: improving public spaces, improving roadways, improving programs/services, improving opportunities for employment, improving housing availability. This could be anything that could be improved upon to positively impact the residents of the Town.)	
Response	Response
Our town should work to maintain itself as a small town. No large commercial buildings. We should not be allowing big boxes. We should have requirements for architects that maintain the small town feel. An example is East Aurora. All buildings must be a certain style. Most people who choose to live in Boston do so because of the small town it is	Improve road ways
Public spaces, I feel a small amphitheater or indoor space that can accommodate plays, bands, and spoken word would be a benefit to all, especially our youth. Improved roadways and their maintenance is an unspoken demand I feel we would all agree upon. Nature paths. a small skate park. Group lessons/activities: acoustic guitar, fishing, hiking, star gazing - navigation, many other topics, something like the rec program, but for all ages.	Public transportation such as bus route for those needing it.
Improving activities that would benefit residents and encourage others to visit our town and engage in our local businesses.	The older folks aren't leaving so there's no houses for the next generation to buy
Repair boston state road and the skirt around it, repair back creek road.	Introduce a splash pad/park and a dog park.
Roadways. Boston State Road between Herman Hill and Patchin has large potholes and broken blacktop/debris in the shoulder making for a dangerous condition for pedestrians and bicyclists.	A dog park is always a plus. Hamburg and east aurora have great facilities that are often used.
Improve Bob Teelaks personality	Everything. There's literally nothing to do here.
Get rid of zombie houses.	Roadways,water,Sewer through our the town
Improving roadways and cleaning up overgrown and neglected landscaping for businesses along 219. Dollie store, cvs, Boston garage are all terrible looking. Where is the enforcement and it ruins the beauty of our small town	continue to support what is already here , provide low cost grants/loans to help grow/sustain existing businesses.Encourage new business if only can use existing vacant structures with minor changes to established footprint of said vacant property.
Improved roadways(specifically back creek near Mill) which is started to slump into the creek as was the case by Rice Road. Additional recreational options for families(bike park, splash pad) would be a fantastic addition.	Housing for sure. Medical facility, Family Day at Town Park with Food trucks and games for kits. Concerts for adults. R & R.

APPENDIX B: OUTREACH RESULTS

Improve emergency services. Properly fund the emergency services so they don't have to fund raise. Also consolidate fire companies. Start moving towards paying EMS and firefighters. There are less people volunteering and the few that are volunteering are being tasked with more requirements between contractual obligations and training requirements.	I'd like to see more walking/bike trails and more fitness opportunities.
Emergency Services	Maybe a community pool..
City water should be available to EVERYONE in the town of Boston. Especially. Those on top of the hills with very poor quality water and poor well recovery rates. CLEAN DRINKING WATER SHOULD BE FOR ALL! It's 2023 Time to update our towns utility's before we keep adding low tax paying rentals	Could use more Senior housing.
Remove abandoned houses and/or businesses. Tax incentives to replace abandoned businesses with new small businesses. Keep a standard for main roads or intersections to be decorated. Flower pots and small areas of landscape could be donated. Use more public idea based innovation to entice people to visit our historic town. Capitalize on the "old rail " areas with walking trail...i.e. Springville... history matters to residents. Beautify Beautify Beautify	Improving Roadways
There is a need to enforce owner responsibility to keep their properties in good condition. Too many places are true eyesores and some are in danger of collapse or encourage rodents inhabitants. Makes the town look shabby and poor.town should	Improvements to roadways. Install sidewalk or at least widen shoulder- a lot of people enjoy walks
Improving roadways, improving public spaces	Improving Roads
roadways	Opportunities for employment
Improving public transportation. Also improving walkability and bike lanes on Boston State rd.	County & State Roads
Roads	Improving roadways
I think there are a lot of positive programs already in place. Continued programs for youth and the elderly are important for community building to avoid social isolation.	They do a good job now
Improve up keep on road ways.	
The places that are already in place need to be kept up by owners. Like the apartment complexes. And empty places taken care of. Like the funeral home.	The area being newly developed- end of Deanna Dr continues to fill with water- storm about 2 days ago will houses- when built- be flooded

APPENDIX B: OUTREACH RESULTS

The town needs to set building standards where there is a theme to all new/existing buildings similar to East Aurora (Roycroft theme) and the Hamburg village plaza. It should also review the current and stop all further grandfathering of zoning designations. The mechanic shop on the curve is an absolute eye sore and an environmental disaster in the back with all that crap being stored behind the business. Can't we get rid of most of it? I cannot believe we essentially have a junkyard in the middle of town. Again this speaks to standards. The town also needs to enforce the no more than 2 cars without a license plate on the property. The house across from the new salon in Boston St Rd (and right before May Dr) looks like a junkyard in the back. And we cannot have any more ridiculous designs similar to the "barracks"...those rows of apartments on Boston St Rd. No other town in WNY would approve such an ugly design. The Boston valley/hills are a gorgeous area but the planning board has created several eye sores.	
	Road space- Recreation park- skate park
Walking running biking path along The valley.	Improving Roads, no more Businesses
Minor improvements to playground behind town hall. Town fund raiser to resecure the long beam into the ground and to replace the broken handle zipline. Also new water fountain	Roadways
Improve utility infrastructure. ie; city water supply, internet	Improving Employment
family things to do	Improvement for employment
A town pool an indoor gym basketball courts indoors! New sports fields	Road improvements
What Boston needs to do is demand all new build buildings conform to a certain design...ie: east aurora buildings are all complimentary Mission Style/Roycroft type. Boston hills are gorgeous..i spent most of my life there. It's time to set a plan in place that demands architects for businesses create a design that is complimentary whether old west, Martha vineyard, old new England, hyper modern, etc etc etc. Otherwise the town will be inundated with square metal box buildings that don't compliment the area	Improving roadways
I feel that our roads could be improved upon. Also water/ flooding drainage is very important.	None
Side walks on some ket thoroughfares, at least on one side. Or bike lanes. The area is so beautiful but it's so hard to safely walk your neighborhood when they're are no sidewalks or bike lanes.	Improving roadways & programs/ services more area church involvement- come together

APPENDIX B: OUTREACH RESULTS

Stop fighting with the county so we actually receive the bennifits of our tax money. If you dont live on a town road, besides picking up leaves and sticks we don't receive any other services.	Road, Sewer, water
Better Roads.	Improve roadways
ROADWAYS!! Lord Jesus please fix it.	Speed limit on Meadow Dr should be lowered. Sidewalks in the town.
We need to fix Boston state road. I would love to see sidewalks and bike lanes	It is a shame that after 50 years there is nowhere to live
Roads and put in sidewalks on 391	Everywhere especially Boston Commons
Roads can always be improved upon. Getting for staff in the highway dept, to be able to extend the brush pickups. Weekly farmers market in Boston would be nice.	Restraint on unbridled growth & strictly regulated zoning, small business, like East Aurora theme!
More and better sidewalks. Encouraging small businesses. Seasonal activities to encourage out of town people to spend money within the town.	Improving Roadways
Improve biking lanes and more trails, improve oppurtunity for restaurants/bar to open and thrive along Boston state such as Raphael's and The Valley Inn. Bring back Boston Boyscout troop 491!	Keep roadways up to date, maintain sewers
Water	Improving roadways
Getting water on Feddick rd.	Improving shoulders of roadways
Improve county water supply to the west hill. Wells frequently run dry and the only well water delivery service available can only deliver by the thousands of gallons at a time for pools. Contacting the county is no help.	Affordable housing
Improving roads is always a must. Making more places for kids and families to enjoy. The New Garbage pick up is HORRIFIC! You can't put big stuff out any more. The brush and leave pickup should be offered more often.	Senior housing (affordable), Restaurants- variety of eating places
Improving the Town Park playground. Bike Friendly roadways	Clean up dumps, like North Boston Garage. All the junk cars, buildings in all disrepair as well as "landscaping" into North Boston. Plus poorly kept houses, other businesses that distract from "clean," well-kept buildings, areas.
Creek access Programs/services for youth	Sidewalks and street lights
More function for the town library	Employment / Housing availability
An arts center like West Falls has. Pave the old Susquehanna train line for hiking and biking.	Transportation bus services
Sense of unity	Public spaces, improving roadways, Buses

APPENDIX B: OUTREACH RESULTS

Improve on vacant or homes that are not maintained. We try to take care of our area it would be nice to see some properties cleaned up or improved.	Possible sidewalks, more lighting, redoing Backcreek Rd.
Improved starter home/ affordable home options. More apartments. Improved parks system. Better fireworks on the 4th. Boston fest or hill fest or wing fest or Boston community days or any other name for that cool town festival we used to have. Let's use that town hall space. Was cool to have local businesses and fair type attractions in our town at a festival. Summer concert series is great but can always be better.	Make Mayer Road a Town of Boston Road again. The County is terrible on plowing this road, we can see the Town roads around with plowed while our road is not. Bad and scary with school buses.
Improving landscaping for business from 219 to Tops. Garden Club. Grants for business to beautify their property	Multi-use trail would be nice, maintain sand volleyball court so its more usable
how about better police presence on our roads eckhardt is a raceway and only 35mph speed limit many have complained to no avail	I love Boston it is so nice. No homeless or assume seeker. Keep us great.
Roadways in the Town with the exception of county roads are general well maintained. Although Boston State Rd is a county road, it is coming up for its replacement cycle. I would like to see an effort put forth to widen the paved portion of the roadway to allow for pedestrian traffic. When you get farther south it is absolutely unsafe to walk or ride a bike on the non existent shoulder area.	Improving programs/services
Voting in an honest highway superitendent	
We really need to develop local small business stores, restaurants and boutiques/shops	Employment and housing are issues. While I don't think most people want big box retail or manufacturing, "office jobs" would work in Boston (ie, an architect's office or marketing firm, something that uses office space and could be an employer while not creating much extra traffic / pollution / etc.). The town lacks sidewalks and is not very walkable. Our parks are in pretty good shape, but aside from that, there isn't much for kids / teens to do in town. Given the town's rural nature, maybe someone could capitalize on horseback riding lessons or art classes (paint and sip, or for kids), hosting community softball or volleyball teams, etc.
Improving roadways/shoulders for running and recreation. Make it safer.	Commercial industrial development to support population and tax base
Improve public spaces, shopping, restaurants,	Roads need improvement and if we could ever come to agreement with the county it sure would be ince
Demolition of the funeral home. It is depressing to see the building falling apart. If the building is removed, it would allow for new vegetation to grow	Improving roadways. Boston State Road between Zimmerman and Patchin, especially, is dangerous in the shoulders. Bicyclists and walkers use this for exercise and recreation but it is dangerous due to broken asphalt and large/deep potholes which can flip bicycles and trip pedestrians.

APPENDIX B: OUTREACH RESULTS

The town parks , new playground for children	This is a very niche response, but I'm not sure why residents of Patchin living on the even side of the street are required to cross a state road to retrieve their mail.
I would like the town to be more walkable. Sidewalks would be a excellent investment if the county would partner up.	Sidewalks wherever possible. Nature trails/ paths along inaccessible sections of the creek, affordable housing, farmers market. Events and even signage that welcomes diversity and inclusiveness.
I would love to see the hamlets more connected via sidewalks/bike paths that are ADA compliant. Are hamlets are very disconnected and a vehicle is required to get pretty much anywhere across town. Accessibility and walkability is a priority! Interest in a community garden has been expressed by a number of individuals over the years. How can we incorporate this into future facility work at the Town of Boston park? Perhaps combined with a food forest! Investment in beautification, the arts - murals, native tree, flower, and shrub plantings, art installations at Town parks. Investment into services and programming for younger people and families!	Lower taxes. Upgrade electrical grid, water lines and bring fios in.
Water projects as a taxpayer for 25 years need to see upgraded utilities Water is impossible on Boston Colden rd would like to discuss concerns w someone	Better child care and children's activities, updated playground spaces, spray pad or other community activities.
We need a car wash. We also need FIOS. Spectrum Cable should not be in our future.	Keep up with road conditions and storm water runoff.
Expansion of county water and natural gas on Feddick Road and other rural roads.	Roads, roads, roads! Less new construction!
water / drainage (underway). Powerlines underground to reduce power outages as as been done in areas like San Diego County and Gettysburg, PA. Attract a small to medium size manufacturer or two away from the city to perhaps create opportunities locally (town-folk). Low-cost housing and modern low-cost senior living centers. Recreational draws to the area which are not to be found anywhere local... e.g. mini bowling (Hooch & Blotto's).	My parents live in Boston and we need bike lanes on Boston state road
Better snow clearing of boston state road in winter. I know it's probably not your issue. More police presence we have issues of racing down our road and mini bikes racing up and down	If only the town could resume the plowing of the county roads, that would be wonderful! The town does a much better job.
This town I think needs more small businesses set up. We have the deli but I think if more small town stores open up it could change the town.	Bike lanes on boston state rd More community events farmers market

APPENDIX B: OUTREACH RESULTS

Improve roadways- especially the shoulders. Improve all season recreation IE open town park trail all year. Improve ability to walk from one hamlet to another. Improve by saving Bostons history and heritage. Honor special events of Boston's history.	Communication
Sidewalks, bike paths, dog parks, public spaces, public parking	The Town does a great job with community events for families. We are a busy family and often find ourselves going to Hamburg, OP, Springville, or EA for dinner. Hamburg and more recently OP have added restaurants/bars in a walkable area that attracts a lot of residence. Boston does not have a "Town Center" area.
Small retail - so it makes it more convenient for older residents.	Roadways could use some work, I would prefer more small businesses instead of chain type restaurants. For the businesses in the area ensure their grounds are kept up and maintained. So many businesses look run down or over grown with weeds. More available apartments would help support the area but certainly not suggesting a huge complex.
Skate park	Roadways, Services
Well known for pot holes in South Boston...Lacking public transportation.	Back creek road. Needs to be improved/repared, poor drainage causing erosion/freeze-thaw damage yearly to the surface. And at least some resemblance of a shoulder. People walk and bike (no bike lane needed) and currently are at high risk of injury. Especially near the school area. The oil and stone method is antiquated and is a waste of resources at this point, Especially painting the lines afterwards.
More events	Cleanliness... especially around businesses ..isn't there a code for this?
Town roads are generally well maintained but the town must do more to pressure erie county to fix the roads/potholes/etc.	Instead of developments, how about you fix our roads and put in some walking trails.
We were lucky to have public water The water ditches are way too deep (pose a danger to small children -) so would like to see improvement such as proper drainage and sewers put in more areas	The ponds behind the town hall are very over grown and tough for the kids to fish in.
	I would wish they'd return to road maintenance with the county deal with county roads.. I'm on one and the town did a way better job before the falling out than the county does now.

Question 12: What opportunities should the Town take to make these improvements?

What opportunities should the Town take to make these improvements? (For example, if you think the Town could improve upon its public spaces, it might be suggested the the Town add amenities to parks. If you could take steps to improve the Town, what would you suggest be done?)	
Response	
More green space. No commercial buildings. Invest in small country living.	Attract creative and unique businesses. Example - there is not one 'sit down' Chinese food restaurant in Hamburg (nor Boston) to be a draw. A heritage center run by the town or county. Buffalo has Shakespeare in the park, what about Shakespeare in the Southtowns? Town news. Traffic challenges (North Boston)
The town needs to work to maintain Boston as a farming small town. We need our farms.	Go back to five council people to get more done
See above.	I think your doing a fine job just keep it quiet and simple like 30 years ago
Consider bringing in arts and music festivals (one day) to the town park that appeal to a broad audience.	sidewalks where feasible, been awhile since been in the smaller parks so this could already be in place, public washrooms.
Funding for road repair	I like the small food pantry but I think we need more yes we have gabes and bolo in colden but I think there should be more resources like shelters and food
Improve our roads so we can ride bicycles on the side. They are terrible and dangerous to ride on.	Develop a trail or bike/walking path from one end of town to another to link the hamlets. Find a way to keep abandoned properties from becoming an eye sore. The abandoned properties on Boston State Road are an embarrassment Purchase scenic property for view protection Fix the Boston Historical building on the State Road and have it open and available
As mentioned s before a bike skills park that is geared for all ages for be a great addition to the town and would allow for a safe place for the community to ride bikes and scooters.	Weekly concerts at T P Farmers market Fishing contest
Make fishing access at 18mile creek, summer carnival?	I would like to see more fitness and nature opportunities. I like walking, biking and hiking trails. A fitness room for town residents would be great or a pool.
bike lanes on boston state rd for safety	Like I said before maybe a community pool..
Town officials should set fines for unkept homes and businesses throughout the town. Look over the ordinances we presently have and those other towns enforce. Cleanup our town...bring pride to our beautiful picturesque town....	Small retail section I. North Boston- small strip plaza. Farmers market.
Total overhaul of Boston State Rd. - expand shoulders or create a walk/bike lane for safety. New playground equipment at the town hall park.	Public art/ murals etc.
just keep roads patched	Maybe being more festivals to to the town park

APPENDIX B: OUTREACH RESULTS

Add a bike lane or widen the shoulders where possible.	Senior Citizen Building
I like that the educational opportunities with the department of conservation have been offered to residents	Fix the whole 219, not just fill in the potholes
I do not know.	Benches on walk way by the Town Hall
A public pool would be great	How about hiking trails! Bike paths!
I think the parks are vital and should be maintained for future ages. I am glad to see them used by so many youth organizations.	A pool for the town
family amenities	All county, state & federal money
What Boston needs to do is demand all new build buildings conform to a certain design...ie: east aurora buildings are all complimentary Mission Style/Raycroft type. Boston hills are gorgeous..i spent most of my life there. It's time to set a plan in place that demands architects for businesses create a design that is complimentary whether old west, Martha vineyard, old new England, hyper modern, etc etc etc. Otherwise the town will be inundated with square metal box buildings that don't compliment the area	Strictly Regulated Zoning
parks have more than enough, start a policy of employees not using social media to bitch about what happens at the parks.	Town owned properties should be maintained. All vacant properties (private) should be maintained
Fix/Repair roads during lighter travel times.	Fill vacant buildings (senior center) amenities to park (swings, slides, merry-go-rounds, wading pool)
Bathrooms at the parks. Shelters with power that could be reserved by town families for parties or family get togethers.	Like a simple, easy to navigate walking path with benches that senior citizens would enjoy too.
Sidewalks on 391 for safety and walkability	Let people have chickens
Find the money to support such things and spend it.	The public spaces are awesome. The maintenance crew do a great job!
Renovations of closed vacant buildings and businesses to encourage new business. Open a frisbee golf course behind Boston Town Hall in park trails, will increase visitors. Add pickle ball court. Red Barrel can get a liquor license and make a hard cidery and patio.	Pool, picnic areas, disc golf
Run county water to the west hill.	Public spaces, disc golf
We should have big trash pickup like Hamburg has. They have it 3 times a year. We should also. I believe your going to see alot of trash building up around people's homes due to no big trash pickup. To which could cause a rodent issue. Or people dumping trash along the roads. We should offer or try to have craft/festivals more often. Alot of talented artists in this area.	Please take down Wurtz's Funeral Home and make more green space, or a hill park with green space. No more dollar generals!

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Replace broken and damaged playground equipment. Remove stone chips and replace playground floor with tarmac.	Just keeping what we have clean and updated. You've done a good job so far.
Speed limits and enforcement reconsidered, particularly on Zimmerman Rd.	Okay the way it is.
Fundraising events to draw attention	Amenities to parks
Improve hiking trails. Police should limit children on four wheelers who go onto roads and disturb the peace and nauseam all summer. Snowmobilers are always respectful and responsible. Also, focus on not allowing people to park abandoned cars in the front of their homes. Sends a negative image to visitors.	
Sharing of amenities currently offered with community members more frequently.	Incentivizing the creation of jobs and affordable housing might help to draw people. The town could be better marketed as a day trip destination by showcasing what it can offer. I'm not sure what the rules on AirBNB / bed and breakfasts / etc. are, but creating a small-scale tourism culture could draw people here for winter sports and summer recreation - bringing money in and spending it (hopefully) at small businesses.
Like the telephone pole flags and holiday lights.	There are plenty of parks, fire dept- Maybe update our electrical grid and water lines! And fios
Better relations with the county.	Adding amenities to parks such as updated playgrounds with increased bathroom facilities available, spray pad, community pool. More children's sports activities offered such as tennis lessons, basketball, etc. and better after school/summer camp options.
Have more control over the highway superintendent	Centralized business development areas to create walkable gathering areas
Local, small business development grants that support the 'small town' environment.	A recreation path along Back Creek Rd.
Paving and shoulder work	A safe walking/ bike path on 391 might improve safety for those traveling via these methods
Water splash pad, outdoor ice skating rink	Get grants for splash pad. Help local residents with child care.
A splash pad A real bathroom at the park off of Boston cross roads. A farmers market	Dedicated walking and bicycle trails.
Improve roads and parks, improve housing and building infrastructure, bring in more business, do things that people will actually be interested in, promote diversity and environmental development	Unsure

Reach out to residents to gather their input.	Perhaps some public space or a roundabout at 391 and Zimmerman along with some prioritized development for businesses that will regularly attract customers. The existing businesses are structured so that people drive in and out (CVS, 7-11, Dollar General)
Skatepark, and or bicycle pump track	Promote or have small business loans or reduced taxes to attract small businesses.
Have more sports for the kids	We need to work with the county, also in regard to the snow plowing.
1) Boston Town Park (8500 Boston State Road) - reduce erosion, storm water run-off entering Town pond (and Eighteenmile creek) by adding riparian buffer strips above pond - prioritize native flowers, trees, shrubs, grasses. Invest in signage for the Town of Boston Nature Trail. Invest in making the trail ADA compliant. Invest in invasive species management (japanese knotweed!) 2) Connect North Boston, Boston, Patchin with sidewalks/bike paths. 3) Consider building a trail along Eighteenmile creek that goes from the Boston Nature Trail to North Boston with paths that connect to the various neighborhoods that run along the creek. Even better would be to find a way to connect a trail system in Boston to the Erie County Rails-to-Trails section in Colden! 4) Identify large parcels of forested land that could be purchased --&gt; developed into a larger Town Park. This would likely satisfy a climate smart communities action! 5) Create a stand-alone Department of Natural Resources that oversees natural resource management, including parks, and relevant climate smart communities work. 6) Create something similar to Ithaca's Children's Garden.	
A Dog Park would be fabulous	Start replacing old infrastructure in parks.... To improve Boston, stop the developments and focus on the people and why we live here. If I wanted a city, I would have lived in a city not what used to be a beautiful spacious free town.
Child and family recreation activities	Invite businesses and events that diversify the town and its residents' experiences.

The town should do all it can to get rid of the geese at the town hall ponds. The mess they make is unhealthy for us and just disgusting. As mentioned above, more must be done to partner with Erie county to get the roads fixed (I understand I am not a Boston resident but I only live a couple miles from the town line and do most of all my commuting/work in Boston as does my husband/my parents also are residents as I was growing up)	Build a splash pad/park and a dog park.
not sure	Keep Boston a small town.
Allow subdivisions along boston state road from business district to patchin	

Question 13: What are the strengths of Boston?

What are the strengths of Boston? (This could be anything that draws you to the community or that you value. For example: rural character, small town feel, natural beauty etc.)	
Response	Response
Natural beauty and charm	Beauty and small town feel is why I'm here
Rural character and small town feel as well as natural beauty. The hills are amazing. I would hate to have them blocked by a bunch of horrible ANYTOWN USA type of structures. Boston is not anytown USA	The Town Park is our treasure.
We love the beauty of the small town atmosphere with the natural beauty but city amenities a short drive away	It's a beautiful town but that's it. It doesn't even have a small town feeling because everything is stretched so far apart.
Boston is a haven, a place where people relax in their homes without the fear of overt crime. A place that is quiet where we can witness nature and animal life on our own property. a place where we know our neighbors. A strength of Boston is that it offers a refuge from the overcrowded, unplanned cacophonous world out there. I worked in Williamsville and dealt with the stresses of corporate life and traffic going to and from work. When I got off the 219 at our exit, my stress level would decrease. The traffic was manageable, and the tall trees as I approached my home all contributed to the feeling of Boston being a town within nature. In short the rural character, the people, small town feel and natural beauty.	Beauty. Away from the city hustle, but still 20 minutes from the county hall. Country like settings in residential areas. The creek, the greenery and winter landscapes.
Natural beauty and wildlife and the semi rural vibe.	Small town feel while close to amenities

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Being a quiet rural community. With few big box stores and excessive signage. More privately owned businesses.	Rural ,small town feel
Rural character, natural beauty, small town feel.	All of the above. It's been a small town and rural town let's stop tearing down the natural beauty and keep it beautiful
Rural, small town, natural beauty	all of the above, already have quite a few conveniences without giving up the above, seems to have a pretty good balance between existing populace and retail
I really don't think adding any apts, low income housing, trailer parks or townhomes with out much design thought hurts our beautiful scenery. Love our friendly people.	I work at the deli and I can say the best thing about this town is the friendliness. I didn't know anyone before I worked there and now I know the whole town.
We value the small town feel of Boston as well as the natural beauty.Keeping with a	Well maintained and well used town park (but needs to be open year round) Rural, safe, friendly feel. Beautiful every season. Great library with interesting and varied programs.
Rural community	I like the small town rural feel and the natural beauty of Boston.
Tightly bonded community, with small town values.	Rural with amenities like water, sewer, and waste management
I love our towns country feel and people....love well kept historic home.	Small town feel, close knit community, close enough to everything but also just far enough away, beautiful views
Rural character, community, and natural landscape. Right to farm community.	Rural character- please no more sub-divisions!
Natural beauty	Small town feel, strong community
Natural beauty, friendly neighbors	love the small town feel
decent space between houses	Small town feel, too much traffic
Hamburg school district without the business of Hamburg. Also small town feel and natural beauty.	Small town feel- this is home!
Green spaces	Seniors Fire Companies & Emergency Services People come together when sometimes happens
I love the nature and small town feel. It feels like being part of a family	Yes for bands at Town Hall, Yes for Lion Club, Yes for Senior lunches & Boston young at heart
It used to be rural. And not the farming complaints. It had a small town feel. But now with the compound on BSR and the new compound being built. I have a tough time getting in and out of the drive or side streets depending on the time and day.	Events & excellent Parks
That we are not Amherst or Williamsville...we have natural beauty, a fabulous small town feel and	Safety

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minimal sprawl but that needs to be very carefully managed. We also have great snow plowing of roads.	
Convenient location to major roads.	Natural beauty, small town
There is a lot of land that the big builders haven't gotten their hands on yet. Set a plan in place ahead of time so they don't just build a bunch of tiny cookie cutter homes.	Small town feel!
Natural beauty and farmlands	Small town atmosphere
natural beauty should be emphasized	Home town feeling
Please have residents clean up their property! We pay a lot in taxes to have run down houses and businesses!! We need a real grocery store! Maybe a strip plaza with some local businesses!	Small town feel
Small town	Natural beauty
All of the above.	Small town, friendly
It's natural beauty, but also still close to amenities.	Natural Beauty
nope, lost that all 10 years ago when all the land was sold off for housing.	Natural Beauty!
Countryside feel	Small town feel but yet there is some growth
We came here for land, less neighbors/people and peace.	good people
I love the small town feel along with the scenery. I have lived here 12 years but I don't feel like I know the town. Hiking/biking trails, stuff to do with the kids, I am sure there is more to do but people don't know about it.	Rural character. Small town feel
Small town "hallmark" community	Small town values
Strength is the small town, but nobody really knows each other anymore. Weakness is the politics still... but that's everywhere.	Most progressive little town in WNY- compare to Elma- who don't even have sewers
Outdoor resources, locally owned businesses, the ability to live in a rural area with a short commute to downtown Buffalo.	Small town & Natural Resources
Natural beauty, small town feel, local business, friends and family, community involvement (chicken dinners, gun raffles, conservation programs, summer rec., and town sports).	Small Town feel, Nature, rural character
I love it here. Small town feel, rural character, and natural beauty!	Keep rural character
Boston has many nice areas for outdoor enthusiasts.	Rural character
It is very rural (country) and yet only 20 minutes drive to the city.	Country-type living
The Beauty, not a lot of people like the city. Not a city man! LOL	Rural character- beautiful small town
The beauty of the hills no matter what the season. The small town feel and local establishments.	Friendly people, support for seniors, like using Town Hall for senior groups, support to groups, nutrition meal site for seniors is great.

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Rural character and natural beauty while being close to conveniences of Hamburg and expressway.	9 Restaurants, 2 gas stations, 4 small businesses
Small town feel, very friendly, nature	Rural/ Small town feel, that's within 15 miles of downtown. The location is a big strength
The history and good neighbors	All of the above (rural character, small town feel, natural beauty)
Rural character. Natural beauty. FDs. Red Barrel & Monaco's in the Fall. Charlaps. All the maple syrup.	All (rural character, small town feel, natural beauty)
We don't necessarily need more stores that don't maintain their properties. For example the Dollar General or CVS needs to care for their outdoor space by cleaning up and maintain their property.	The Town Hall is a great Natural Scenery to walk, and play sports. All of the clubs also at the town hall are very nice. The festivals & live music.
Small town feel and natural beauty are why Boston is Boston. But let's not be Hokey Pokey stuck in 1800s and advance / modernize in a classy way. Don't want the town to be looked at or become a crusty old town where businesses leave and crime comes in. Safe feeling Boston offers is priority as well.	Small town feel, Natural Beauty, Our low taxes-residents, the Town of Boston Senior Programs are great. You have luncheon programs for the needy.
Rural small town. A few good eateries. Need a few more small restaurants	Small town feel, Natural Beauty
the natural beauty of our town preserving green space for our wildlife	Small town feel
I moved from Hamburg to Boston 10 years ago. Even though it was only a short move living out here in the country is beautiful and peaceful.	
Small town feel although it is going away some unfortunately. Beautiful hills	It's small town feel and beauty of the hills
Beauty, proximity to Buffalo, open space	I love the history here, the hills, and the small town feel.
Privacy, peacefulness, scenery, proximity to other towns and amenities	There is not a small town feel any longer. A lot of gossip clicks.
Beauty, nice Easter egg hunt and other community kids events. Good 4th if July fireworks and Halloween event.	Small town feel, very friendly residents, natural beauty.
The small town feel, amazing natural beauty, and the dedication of the residents	Rural/Small Town feel
Community events	Nature, parks, small town...

As a recent transplant to Boston, the features that drew me to this Town were 1) small town feel but a decent amount of amenities around for the size of the Town, 2) natural beauty - the valley and hills are gorgeous year round but I still find myself having to leave the Town for most nature excursions. Aside from the Town parks and the Boston County forest, we really don't have much to offer to nature enthusiasts that don't own their own land. 3) the abundance of farmland! New York continues to lose prime agricultural land to solar and wind development. While these opportunities are important for meeting climate goals and helping farmland owners to supplemental their income, we must approach this type of development responsibly. https://spectrumlocalnews.com/nys/central-ny/news/2023/08/18/state-continues-to-lose-farmland-to-residential-solar-developments--reports-show-	
Natural beauty small town feel low crime rate good place to raise a family close to other towns with amenities	Concerts Natural beauty
Boston was a great place to live. The people are wonderful., close to 219, still a country feeling. When I lived there the politics were normal. Not toxic as in some places today. The "greater good" was a common goal back then.	Rural character and natural beauty
Small town, big heart. People are friendly willing to help.	Small town feel Really pretty place to be
Small town	Love the community. Helping neighbors is the best part.
Natural Beauty. Kind people.	Rural character, small town feel, quiet atmosphere
All of the above	Country life, long time residents, friendly neighborhood families
Small town feel and family ties	The geography and relative proximity to the city.
Rural and small community feel and everything must be done to keep it this way	Rural character; main reason we targeted Boston as our 1st choice to buy when we moved back to the Buffalo area.
I've always felt Boston is a great place for its small town feel, being out in the "country" and yet close enough to places to shop, restaurants, downtown, etc.	Small town feel, Beauty
Definitely the natural beauty.	Small town feel for sure. The balance of "rural" type area with some conveniences is close to perfection. The quick access to the 219 at both ends makes us easy to get to and easy to get anywhere. So we don't need any major changes. Just some minor

	refinement of what we have, and maintaining that balance going forward.
The town sticks together	Natural beauty
Small town country feel while not being too far from the big town convenience	Not the current management in the people's house. Which I'm case you forgot is the town hall. You are supposed to represent us, not greedy developers.
School system, the library, "hidden gem" feel, landscape.	It's mix of suburb and rural. You can find both if you're looking

Question 14: Are there opportunities to capitalize on these strengths?

Are there opportunities to capitalize on these strengths? (For example, if you view natural beauty as a strength, it may be suggested that natural assets be marketed as an attraction for out-of-Town visitors.)	
Response	Response
A. Make is pretty, this can be accomplished with thematic signage and an improved sense. B. Create easy-to-access and understand nature trails, QR code maps with gps triggered popups for narrative information - get modern with it. C. Consider the concert hall idea, it would draw visitors, provide a taxable asset, and bring business to town. It would also serve as a multipurpose facility for D. Attract a nighttime restaurant in town that serves drinks and something other than pizza. No Chain Restaurants.	The example hits it spot on!!!
Plan development to preserve the natural beauty, Denote historical landmarks with cohesive signage, establish a look & feel to signage, etc. that complements the natural landscape and makes the town look special and unique	We don't really have anything that stands out as a tourist attraction.
No comment	We should expand our parks system, make parks worth exploring, have businesses people actually want to go to.
Natural assets should be preserved for everyone to enjoy	Boston County Forest could be a draw if done right. Open lands by the town could be beneficial for unique draws (town mini-golf course). Nature trails along 18-mile creek. Why no Boston Farmers Market?
Keeping with the small town feel and bike skills park blends in nicely with the natural beauty of our town.	Stop developing
Stop the subdivisions.	would be nice, but right behind that premise would be the need for lodging, food, support for those industries etc, lower ending housing for new employees, these type of jobs typically aren't high paying so now we would be talking apartment type housing ,trailer parks, modular homes. It would not

	be long before atmosphere and appeal to visit would be gone.
Town needs to have residents clean up their properties before you invite people to come see our beautiful town!	I don't really know if there's a way to capitalize our friendliness maybe get more stores?
I would have more designated protected natural land. I worry about the school property (Boston Valley) getting built up. I grew up with that land as a nature trail. We even released our crayfish and butterflies onto that land (science class project) . I hope my future children will have that opportunity too	Hiking trails as part of a county system. Bike paths Encourage native tree planting
Walking, hiking and snow shoe trails along with Rails to Trails should be created/expanded. The town caters to snowmobiles and that's its. I don't want a motel/hotel here, frankly I don't think it would be successful but we might think about creating a travel brochure that highlights the beauty of the area, lots of levels for bicycling, hiking, snowmobile and snow shoe trails, the cider mill, tie the information to the seasons.	Unless you have the population and like-minded people who want to work TOGETHER at rebuilding the Boston vibe it would be a challenge.
Take a trip in the hills of this town in the fall. Public access to the creek for fishing.	Help home owners of historical homes preserve them
Rolling hills, beautiful views, locally grown organic foods, maple and farming attractions.	Scenic overview?
Out of town	Farmers market. Sleigh rides in the winter.
What assets does the town have? everything is privately owned	More community activities ex. The big weekend sales
I honestly don't know	Keep Boston Beautiful... I wish something could be done to clean up some eye-sore properties.
Small-town activities like festivals	Parks
Marketing is a start but will only be functional if there is a reason to stay and spend money within the town. People need more reasons than Tim Hortons and gas to get off the highway between points North and Springfield.	No unnecessary foot traffic, ie the flame was ours to enjoy for many years- when the wonder was discovered too much foot traffic has caused erosion on the trail
Local businesses such as Red Barrel, George's, and Monaco attract out of town visitors, encouraging new businesses to open like this will strengthen the economy and over all well-being of the area. For example, the vacant businesses/restaurants on Boston State and the old funeral home have great potential for renovation to rejuvenate the area. Additionally, adding amenities to the parks such as frisbee golf course, pickle ball court, and biking trails will be great to attract visitors. Natural beauty and public fishing access spots along 18 mile creek and tributaries is good market as well.	Yes

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Views from the hilltops are breathtaking. Winter sports and skiing are close by.	I like that.
That's fine this area could use some tourism.	Yes
No commercial/chain/manufacturing	No.
Apple cider related event & or maple syrup	Yes
Natural beauty of our hills is very important to me.	No hotels & huge buildings; Bed & Breakfast- okay.
It's ok to bring in some out of towners but let not get crazy. Residents shouldn't have to fight with traffic or long lines etc just to bring in tourists and potential rift raft.	The town has no natural beauty to promote
Using our the beauty and charm of our town, we can market and help businesses to develop spaces that allow people to come to town to relax and escape the stresses in life. Getting back in touch with nature while having dinner or going for a nature walk in natural surroundings is unmatched.	Community garden by Tropper Barnicle (sp?)
People should support small businesses	Community Garden
Yes. Utilize the current buildings we have and invest in small business	Yes the Town Hall is a great strength
Apple picking, pumpkin picking, farms, sunflowers, wildflower picking all bring loads of consumers.	
Promote the trails at town park. Not many from out of town know they exist.	Capitalizing on youth programs...for volunteers for parks and rec...
By keeping it's natural beauty, offering family friendly events and having locally owned businesses...+ easy access to ski areas brings plenty of visitors.	What sucks is when out of towners find out about peaceful nature spots...they get ruined...ex...eternal flame
Seasonal activities could be a possibility. The \$50 Grand Gala drew in a lot of people, benefits the fire department and was nice, but doesn't seem like it will be in person any more. Maybe a Boston Fall Fest or Summer Bash with bands, food and prizes would benefit. A community pool would be nice and maybe these events fund the cost of the pool or fitness room/park. Scenic walking trails along the creek would be really nice. People come to Chestnut Ridge for the eternal flame and could easily venture to Boston for more hiking and scenic opportunities. It opens up opportunities for businesses too. People would tend to get ice cream at Charlap's, food at George's or shop at other businesses in the town.	Bed n breakfasts in the hills; capitalize on the skiing assets- perhaps ski resorts/clubs can expand with summer activities for year round tourism. Highlight the school system and library as major assets for growing families.
Bike- hike path on old railway line.	A map of scenic spots, a "Guide to Boston" with a listing of local attractions, restaurants, activities, etc., an on-your-own historic tour (audio or via a

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	pamphlet / map) of notable locations, a small town restaurant crawl....all ways to let people (local or not) know what Boston has to offer.
Boston's natural beauty is most definitely an asset, but we have very little, I think to offer to tourists. Aside from our three Town Parks (including the Town park trail), and the Boston County Forest, we do not have many large natural areas that would be very attractive to out-of-town visitors. We need larger natural areas to attract nature enthusiasts and an assortment of small businesses for them to explore while they're in town - gift shops, art galleries, coffee shops, etc.	There is not much natural beauty left- I drive to allegany now for rural natural beauty. We have run down houses everywhere because nobody can afford to fix anything up.
Town events at parks	Hiking trails and NYSDEC public fishing stream parking
Not sure	Walkways and trails
I feel ADUs would preserve the existing green space and keep the country feel So many benefits for both the town and homeowners	Educate locals what there is to do so they can tell others.
Eternal flame is already a tourist destination. The county wood trails on Rice road need fixing.	I know it's difficult but... some more Community events. Loved the small carnivals the Fire Companies had. The winter carnivals the snowmobile club ran. Not sure if anything like that is even possible anymore.
Possibly safer bike and walking trails	No need to advertise as that would cause more traffic and reduce the quiet nature of our town
More families will help with the programs,, boycotts girlscouts sports. They are dying out without kids	Not interested n vsitors
We have a highway (219) through the town, anything that will bring in outside funds will surely come from this fact. We are easy to get to. However we need to "clean up" our current resources to make it more attractive for visitors. Gas station improvements, roads that aren't trash, or oiled and stoned. (Hills I agree are different)	One thing I notice is that people drive around our town for the views. Motorcyclist, bikers, Sunday drivers seem to all come out. The problem is, there is nothing much else to do. Most people I know that come out this way more recently have been going to the Blueberry Treehouse Farm (not Boston), or stop in Hamburg, OP or even EA after their trip. The Town doesn't have an business attraction that draws people from other towns, such as apple picking, u-pick berry farms, etc.
Well first you have to stop putting developments up. That's a start.	Maybe some bike paths or walking trails to connect the community. Our street is 40MPH and cars speed so fast, it would be nice to be able to walk our dogs or have our grandkids ride a bike without fear of getting hit by a car.
let things grow organically and go karen up some other place.	

Question 15: In a few key words, how do you envision Boston in the next 10 years?

In a few key words, how do you envision Boston in the next 10 years?	
Response	Response
Quiet, quaint, small town feel and charming	The way its growing...not the one light little piece of country heaven its always been.
I hope Boston is still a small town in the next 10 years. I am afraid urban sprawl is making its way into Boston	No wind mills...no sub divisions...maybe a few more restaurants?
Staying he way it is and being able to say my grandkids were raised here	A small town still. I don't want Boston to become Hamburg.
A small charming town, with improvements that address the needs of an advancing society. Not one with unplanned development, without an idea of how it would fit into the town. A place that long-term residents and young people will both enjoy, a place that serves their needs.	Probably the same because it hasn't changed in the 30 years I've lived here, I don't think our town government is remotely interested in making improvements and probably never will.
Charming and unified with restaurants, shops and amenities that support local businesses and talent that support locals and attract others from Buffalo and beyond to experience this lovely town.	Keep urban sprawl out as much as possible, but since progress is inevitable, keep the small town / location appeal in any zone / building planning.
Improve local parks add bike and walking trails. Fix roadside access to walk or bike on main roads.	Hopefully the same rural place that I came to live here for. The trails to hike and creek to watch and birds to listen too and watch. Fireflies for my grandkids to run after and crickets to listen and fall asleep too
I'd like to see the town keep it's rural nature and small town feel.	Hopefully very similar to what it is today, but realistically I think rt 391 is going to become like Southwestern and Milestrip in OP. Very high concentration of commercial
I think more thought should be put in before the planning board approves projects. Better aesthetics for town homes that gas more curb appeal.	A small town that is not completely left in the Stone Age we have new technology and but we still keep our farmland
Over populated and crowded.	Hopefully, much the same natural beauty will be present. The large percent of projected increase in housing is concerning; Bigger and more crowded may not improve quality of life in Boston. New development done carefully to preserve small town character
Going to shit, unless we make some changes for our communit. Changes for ALL! not just those who have money to build more shitty patio homes and gas stations.	Like GOING HOME.
Small town feel. Better opportunities for residents	I'd like to see Boston have a little more community activities and community spaces, but I don't want more development like new suburbs or big box stores.
It will continue to deteriorate if something isn't done!	Controlled growth

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Maintain its charm	Hopefully unchanged. I like our town the way it is
same as now	My hope is it does not expand and keeps its small town character.
Hopefully about the same. I don't want a lot of developments or subdivisions. Work on maintaining and improving the infrastructure we have. Also keep limit chain stores and restaurants. Keep the small town feel.	Maybe the same with some slight changes/improvements
I envision it as a continued sanctuary for both it's residents and nature	Some new development, but still want small town feel
I see it as becoming a suburb like West Seneca. And farming and natural spaces being pushed out.	Built up- too many residents
In a fragile state of the town doesn't properly manage the preservation of green space...a percentage of total open land available for development should be set aside and preserved. And building should be managed to stop the sprawl or we will be end up looking like a suburb.	The growth in activities for community
Much of the same but more tax burden on residents as there is limited commercial / industrial tax base.	At my age, I'll leave it to the young people
Housing boom	Having a YMCA exercise place with a pool.
I envision Boston being a more close knit community. We need to build on our Community offerings. Let's have community wide bonfires, community owned gardens, community garage sales, community farm swaps & support local small businesses by occasional local gatherings.	Calm - Quiet - Rural
more family moving in	small home development
Hopefully cleaned up and better looking than it is! Maybe make a plan for a specific design for all new business construction	Peaceful & loving- more historical bldg activities- participation in ECF- Kathy was good at entering Boston in the Historical Bldg fair display
A uniformed beauty where all commercial buildings and new builds are built to compliment the area	Overpopulated!
Rural community, more local businesses	Keep small town atmosphere
say no to everything, wind, solar, gas stations, no more dollar generals	Hopefully the same
My fear is that it will look more like Hamburg than Boston of old.	Limited growth to maintain small town atmosphere
Unfortunately I think we'll have to move because so much development will happen	Would like to keep Boston small and rural
Growing but not too much. More things for families to do.	No.
A few more boutique but not expensive shops, safely walkable	Too Big
Probably will not be a resident unfortunately. Will most likely be moving, property taxes are high compared to other towns	Hope for the town is still a small town with the beautiful hills & valleys & always small town values

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I envision Boston in 10 years to be peaceful and quiet with local sustainable economy that is well kept and tidy. I envision Boston is free from large corporations and greedy natural gas and energy companies.	I hope the same
More residential growth	Minimal regulated growth. No more housing or developments or duplexes, patio homes. 5 Acre minimums on homes.
Many new homes but still rural.	Small town rural character
Busier!	Will probably remain the same, except for more traffic
Being a top town in Western New York to raise a family.	Some more businesses (fast food restaurant) Keep small town feel even though more business is needed
Smart growth to preserve character while improving quality of life for residents.	It would be nice if the area would be more of a destination- boutiques, restaurants
To stay the same	Progressive like Hamburg
On current path - Overwhelmed. Fractured due to so much inconsistency & "cliques." Still living up to HCSD's "Boston brats" nickname (unfortunately).	Too much like Hamburg
I'm hoping for more homes for families. Keeping the businesses in Boston clean and assessable to all.	I would like to keep our green space or see it used agriculturally
Modern Safe Community Home Natural Beauty Elegant Smart Creative	Unfortunately, I see it growing. Most of the growth north of us is now exhausted according to a TV show last spring. I cringe when I think about growth in Boston.
I would like to see smart growth and strategic development of local businesses throughout the town to serve residents and attract people in from neighboring areas. Restaurants come to mind. We have great restaurants bookending the town but lack something in the Patchin area.	Small growth to add some new single family homes
Don't let it become another Orchard Park or Amherst....	The way it is.
Hopefully populated with local shops	
Hopefully, growing and becoming more of a village type community	My hope is it does not become crowded. But people visit and leave. More community participation
Hopefully it will still have a small town feel and keep the landscape the way it is without allowing for too much new builds	I think what I would like will unlikely happen...more laid back attitude, friendly neighbors, less bitching and complaining from new comers.
I see boston continuing to develop into a town for all.	Boston could become like the town of Elma where development and million dollar home have become prevalent. This is not a good vision.

APPENDIX B: OUTREACH RESULTS

Not clearance	Growing, productive, a fun place to live and work
As a paradise for nature lovers.	Probably more building will go on, our taxes will keep going up and our electric and water lines will not be fixed.
A more kid friendly place with more opportunities for them.	Rural/Small Town
A nature-enthusiast's dream A leader in responsible climate smart development A vibrant rural/farming community	Slow growth...adding natural charm. Invest in little things i.e. classy signage, low cost decorative flowers/ winter charm, lights and decor.
With sound management...Boston will remain the gem it is today.	Increased public access to utilities and increase in commercial activities
My hope is it stays small, rural, with less traffic!!	Without too many changes .
Discourage developments -	Hopefully not too different than it is currently. I grew up in Boston and it's not all that different now than it was 50 years ago. That's what keeps us here.
Hopefully the same. We need our small towns. Keep the town clean talk to residents who have junk laying around in their yard.	I hope it keeps the small town feeling but I know we need growth. The worse thing about Boston is the separate school districts, unfortunately it keeps us all going in different directions.
Hoping if growth does occur it will not destroy the overall appearance of the town. So few areas are truly a treasure like our town.	Keep it rural, quiet, and limit development
Family oriented with country vibe	Small town community
More like Hamburg. Ruined. If this is the trend we are leaving this town and giving our taxes to someone else.	small town community, quaint, great for families
If left be it will be the great place it always was.. if karen'd I'll be likely living elsewhere by then.	Rural with conveniences
Trying to balance legacy with smart growth; preserving land while reusing/repurposing vacant lots/buildings etc; a place where diversity is welcomed	to much growth
	About the same. No need for major "growth" just improve upon what we have. Updates around the 219 would be welcome to have a nice "entrance" into to the town.

Question 16: Is there anything that needs to change to make that happen?

Is there anything that needs to change to make that happen?	
Response	Response
The town has to have a plan for what buildings should look like to keep that small town feel as well as not allow more big box retailers to build here	More houses for people

APPENDIX B: OUTREACH RESULTS

Yes. Town leadership needs to stop allowing unplanned development and take all factors into consideration; - Lighting downward only, we like our dark skies here - Impacts to existing traffic, what will need modification - Unified look, make Boston, look like Boston. The way it is currently, it's a mixed bag of intentional and unintentional design, none of which follows a theme. a theme would help unify our town. Publicize open hearings on development and policy.	Stop the approval and building of housing developments
An overall vision with a plan that serves as a guide for future development. One that not only considers tax dollars but quality of life for residents and wildlife and creates a roadmap for the future.	Just smart long term outlooks to preserve our beautiful town
Prohibit additional subdivisions and make minimum building lot size as 1 acre minimum.	Limit corporate expansion.
Please do not tear down anymore trees, land to put up more apartments, retail etc. Ruining the beauty of our town.	Elect a new town board with fresh faces and fresh ideas, not the same old people who do nothing for this town.
Try to communicate to all the residents so we make sure we are aware of the meetings.	Less government mandates from Albany which do not make sense or cost the NYS taxpayers more. Keep the cost of living low in the community.
Slow residential growth and encourage business and industrial growth.	Make this a very difficult town to open a business that is going to take undeveloped land and develop it. If reusing existing structures make it easy.
Need town board to enforce regulations	People need to stop hating the new stuff being added we need the homes. There are so many people struggling to find places here. I don't think we need a new gas station tho.
dont karen	Careful planning for any new developments.
Careful consideration of housing developments	I don't know. I am not privy to the inner workings of your government leaders. It takes a lot of work, and cooperation to make things happen and without clear goals agreed upon by all parties' things just stay the same or die.
I do not want it it change to be that way!!	I'd like to see new homes having an acreage requirement along the lines of Elma so that each new house needs several acres of property and restrictions on big box stores and franchises.
Enforce the current laws/mandates, no more grandfathering of anything, and focus on preserving the beauty of the area vs how much more crap can we build without any type of standards. It looks like a mish-mosh, especially business property.	Maybe just add a few more community amenities..
Develop in the hamlets where business can thrive off each other.	Roads/Potholes

APPENDIX B: OUTREACH RESULTS

City water & internet other than spectrum	See # 16 (Keep Boston Beautiful... I wish something could be done to clean up some eye-sore properties)
Boston needs to come together and plan for the future of our little town.	?
business that promote family activities	Forget the politics
Maybe get fresh blood in public office people with a new vision instead of old conservatives	Slow development or select areas that are already deserted, ex funeral home in Boston
Architects and businesses must conform to a certain style of facade ie. Mission, modern, country	Adverstisement? ! Special events- townwide parties
teelak needs gone, using our public assets for his own personal gain.	All new homes built must be built on 5 acres each!
Hometown values.	Keep businesses to a minimum
Stop industrial building and housing development. If buildings need to be created let it be for local small business owners	Build on a lot of vacant land
Community involvement needs to increase	Keep down large businesses
Community involvement and agreement throughout Bostons residents to establish the desired envision.	Sidewalks
more access to services including county water, natural gas, and sewer	No
No.	More law enforcement pressure
We need to work together and communicate more to people around our neighborhoods!	Possible grants, tear down vacant old buildings (funeral home)
Keep it the same	Sidewalks, let people have some live stock
Community unity - including a unified vision, even if temporary and constantly changing. Maybe community days? Help with a unified project/maybe have block or neighborhood days at town hall.	Stop building neighborhoods & townhouses
Spend town money wiser. No political shenanigans or town handouts. Lord knows we don't need taxes any higher.	
We need to reevaluate if we want to bring in multi family residences and developments and instead focus on lot restrictions that will promote home ownership and land conservation.	Yes. Recreation paths with access to the mist beautiful parts of town.
Don't buckle to pressure from the yuppies, snooty people.	See answers above!
Not big box commercial development	Lower ny taxes. Better gov't Lol
Investing in commercial growth	Limit high density residential and commercial projects.
No	Possible zoning and a plan to attract and locate key businesses that compliment each other and provides a broad range of services and products

APPENDIX B: OUTREACH RESULTS

Keep corporate and industrial business out. Windmills have a place but not in this beautiful countryside. Let's keep it as natural as possible	Community action
Stop entertaining people's complaints that are against small town living	I wish I had an answer
Clean up the Powerline roads. Have a dialogue with NYSEG about their responsibilities for children's safety and property owner concerns.	Emact a 1-acre lot minimum for residential units
Politics	Clarify to people moving in that we intend to keep this a rural town. Get ride of Dollar General.
Keep locals informed about construction that may have an impact on their peace and quiet.	I would like to see more business exist that bring people from the town together. Its great to see all the kids hanging our at Charlaps after a little league game, or school activity, but that's about it.
Yes- residential building (including duplexes etc.) should be put on moratorium or have minimum acreage required to build if the town doesn't already.	More attention to derelict homes or businesses. It's proven that improving curb appeal attracts more people to improve upon their own homes/land/businesses.
not sure	Stop expanding housing
Easy. Stop putting in developments.	A limit on subdivisions and large sub divisions,
This survey is a great start in getting feedback!	Not to my knowledge? Funding access for the current small businesses that operate here? Low-0 interest loans for improving what is already in place.

Question 17: Please add any additional comments below...

Please add any additional comments below...	
Response	Response
I am so happy that my wife saw the link to this survey, and that our opinions are being asked. By involving the community, you will get a community that is livable and loved by its inhabitants. Only hearing developers, will breed a line of lights from Buffalo to Springville. Keep and improve on Boston's charm with planned improvements.	Please find a way to "clean up" Boston State Road of the unkept abandoned properties. There are too many of them & they are too visible to everyone that lives here and every visitor as well.
Boston's location and topography has a lot to offer its residents and visitors. It would be nice to see it become more of a destination instead of just a town one passes through on their way somewhere else. I would hate to see it become just a stop off the 219 for gas and fast food. Look at East Aurora and Ellicottville. Any new housing should adhere to building codes that advance the allure of the town. Locally owned businesses such as dining/cafe, farms that sell to the public, hiking and/or cross country ski trails, gift shops, local arts, yoga studio, etc.	Best wishes

APPENDIX B: OUTREACH RESULTS

We certainly don't need any franchises` they just don't fit in this town.	
We have such a lovely town and hopefully we can keep it that way and lure families to want to own a home there. Great elementary school	If there's any opportunity for Boston residents in the Hamburg school district to be able to buy a Hamburg Beach Pass, it would be greatly appreciated.
I would like to see a sewer system to get rid of septic tanks	Please no more dollar generals!!
Im concerned with all this comprehensive plan business that a group of karen's will want to HOA the entire place, and/or slip in the electric and out the gas..	I don't have facebook so I don't see/hear a lot about the events going around Boston
I love living here. Thank you for all that you have done for our town	Good Luck
Moved to Boston because it country feel, I don't want storage sheds, housing development, hotels in my back yard.. I can drive to Hamburg for that. We love the farm land and wildlife, its becoming less and less.	Many things happen (lately) in Boston- which are NOT shared north of the Town hall- like this survey. Why not post activities at Tops or DG or CVS. How is the town addressing the "homeless" people So far- there are 2 in the area...Why is our creek being polluted? With H2O from the (?)Render grove springs? Why is Deanna Dr the ONLY area for new 'cluster' homes? that property has been under h2o for weeks now? Why don't our politicians LISTEN to us?
This town lacks a community spirit. Kids sports and the band concerts and other community events help bring people together to get to know their neighbors. However sub developments lead to bedroom communities. Residential development should focus on interconnections of existing dead end roads.	I love my home & my town
Hamburg, Springville, OP & Blasdell are close by...have all you need.	Love the concerts
Place all Christmas decorations perpendicular to road stop placing them parallel so that people can enjoy looking as.they drive	I am a Town of Evans resident
Stop the development of green space along Boston state rd, too much traffic and roads aren't wide enough to accommodate four lanes	good place to live not far from anything
No more growth. Our town is overcrowded as it is.	Need sidewalks in new builds! Police to enforce speed. Terrible traffic. Speeders
I would like more people to appreciate and engage with Boston without it becoming Ellicottville.	If most of us wanted dense suburbs we would have located to Williamsville!
Keep Boston a secret and say no to windmills, large corporations, and out of town/urban developers.	I am fairly new to living in the area, so trying to learn what Boston offers/needs
More residential development would occur if these services were made available in rural areas.	A motel
If we can't afford city water on the west hill then provide water delivery!	The trees that separate my house and the trooper barracks are awful looking! Hoping for a better solution. Thank you!

Decorations for Christmas needs to expand more through our whole town.	(6) Dollar General was a big mistake. They put there junk outside the store in front and it looks terrible going by the store with all the junk out front. Making Mayer Rd a Town of Boston Road again. I have lived in Boston over 60 years now and have loved every minute of ut. Yes, the town has some problems once in a while, but generally a beautiful, quiet town. Keep it like it is- small town.
sorry to see so many disrespecting the speed limit on my street we have tractor trailers all times of day and not related to farming there must be a weight limit on our bridges that no one seems to care about	Leave town as is
Some of the homes on Boston State should clean up their properties. I've lived here 37 years and seen the homes deteriorate so badly, especially the funeral home!	
A week or so ago I did email the Supervisor on the subject of ADUs not realizing this meeting was taking place. Part of my email and other links below: ADU - Accessory Dwelling Units ADU can be both beneficial to homeowners as well as the community. Short list: - Most people want to stay in their homes as they age, but finances and design can be a problem. An ADU could help aging people meet their needs without moving and provide family support - Give the younger generation who may not be able to afford their home more opportunity to own a home - Preserve open space in the the community - Bring in more tax revenue to the community - contribute to the problems of housing an aging population I came across a website The Plus One ADU Program https://hcr.ny.gov/adu which is is an initiative to create and improve Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) across NYS. The program is aimed to support low- and middle-income single-family homeowners who wish to build a new ADU on their property. I emailed them to find out if there was such a program available in our town and their reply was: "Thank you for your inquiry with Homes and Community Renewal (HCR) on the Plus One ADU Program. Currently, we don't have a program running in your town. I would encourage you contact your local municipality to find out what kind of programs they have available, or to request that they consider providing such a program. We may have future funding opportunities that could	I've only been a Boston resident for less than a year, and as such, I don't feel qualified to answer many of the survey questions. That said, I would never want to live elsewhere. I have years of not for profit operational experience and I would like to help with a strategic plan for the town in any way possible.

come to your town, we just don't have one right now." I'm just wondering if there currently is or has been consideration for allowing ADU's in Boston, NY. I have read quite a bit on this subject and it can be a great option for people, such as myself, who want to "age in place". I also found this publication by HUD that is a good read https://www.huduser.gov/portal/publications/adu.pdf and this that has more to do with farmers that I thought was interesting: http://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/renewingthecountyside/pages/129/attachments/original/1401393367/RTC_ADUs_to_support_farm_transitions.pdf?1401393367	
Be progressive enough about the future to dramatically change the way things are done today. For example, imagine small wind turbines along the Boston stretch of the 219 which generates power from passing traffic to the town of Boston. The vertical devices, known as ENLIL, are able to harness air currents created by moving vehicles to produce energy, along with soaking up solar power at the same time. The breeze produced from passing cars might not seem like much, but ENLIL's long, unobtrusive, upright blades are powerful enough to produce one kilowatt of energy an hour. A single turbine fitted with an additional solar panel on top can seamlessly produce enough electricity to power two Boston households for a day. It's being done elsewhere..	Just over it all. Too much building, terrible electrical and water lines, taxes in ny is causing people to not even take vacations or do home improvements. Biden sucks. But hey let's build a stupid bills stadium and put wind turbines in Tge lake. Ridiculous
While I love the small town feel, I do believe a little growth would be economically helpful (tax base etc). Not opposed to growth	Love this town. Keep it small, keep it beautiful!
I accidentally sent in three prior unfinished surveys. I think there was a glitch and it kept closing. So ignore those.	We could use a couple new restaurants like Mexican food....
Fix the town clock.	Do not allow Solar Farms in the town of Boston
I saw the say no to windmills I second that as well. And tell Hochul I'm not getting rid of my gas heat or stove.	Keep taxes affordable.
First glance. Just wondering myself	Eden has corn fest what do wr have?
Love this little quaint town. Don't want it to become big and busy.	If the town is focused on development, I would like to see a purposeful plan to make the town more livable for its residents. From there, the population will grow naturally. I would like to have an area of town with a "village" -type feel

APPENDIX B: OUTREACH RESULTS

FIOS AND A CAR WASH.....that's all that would please me.	Boston is a beautiful town. While some growth is expected the addition of subdivisions and taking away the farm land for them is not beneficial to that beauty.
Young people don't want to live here because there's nothing to do, no jobs, and an aging population stuck in the past. Until those things change Boston will just be another pitstop on the way to Springville.	Stop putting in developments and lying to us. Can't wait to vote!!!
Only new business like to see come in some type of medical , we could use a Doctor office in town, or a satellite clinic of a local hospital no more pizza/Italian maybe a Chinese one.	Thank you for this well thought out survey. Will we see the results of it at some point?
We don't need another gas station. That intersection is already dangerous.	

Stakeholder Surveys

In late 2023 a series of surveys were conducted as methods of outreach to identified groups of individuals who have a particular stake in the future of the Town of Boston. With the help of the Steering Committee, these groups were defined as business owners, young families, and the youth. Also included was the agricultural community- which plays a more extensive role with the Agricultural and Farmland Protection Plan portion of the Comprehensive Plan.

Business Owner Survey Summary

In the attempt to reach all known businesses multiple means of outreach were conducted. This includes letters sent to a list provided by the assessor's office, which was found to be incomprehensive. With the help of volunteers from the outreach committee, in-person visits were made to address the incomplete list. The survey was also placed on the project page to provide easy access.

The survey garnered 19 responses, roughly a quarter of which also owned businesses outside of Boston. Most of the businesses are in Hamlet of North Boston and the largest percentage (42%) of which have been in operation for between 20-50 years, and another 10% have been in operation between 50-100 years.

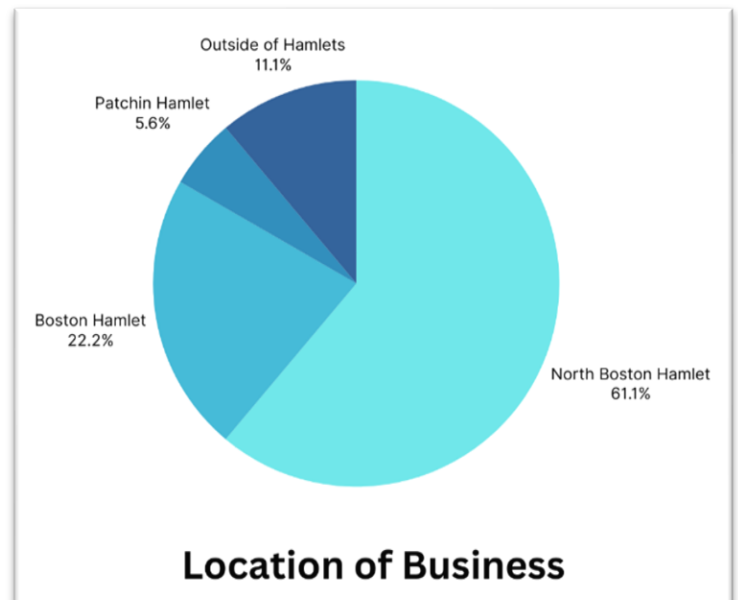
The survey revealed a combination of excitement and concern. Some businesses suggest they foresee a longstanding future for themselves, while others are more skeptical of their business's longevity in Boston. Many respondents noted that Boston is not as business friendly as neighboring towns like Hamburg and Eden, and providing incentives might help to bring (and sustain) businesses into Boston.

To best grow new and existing businesses, the Town can make some efforts to establish a more supportive environment. Based on comments in the survey there are some measures to do so:

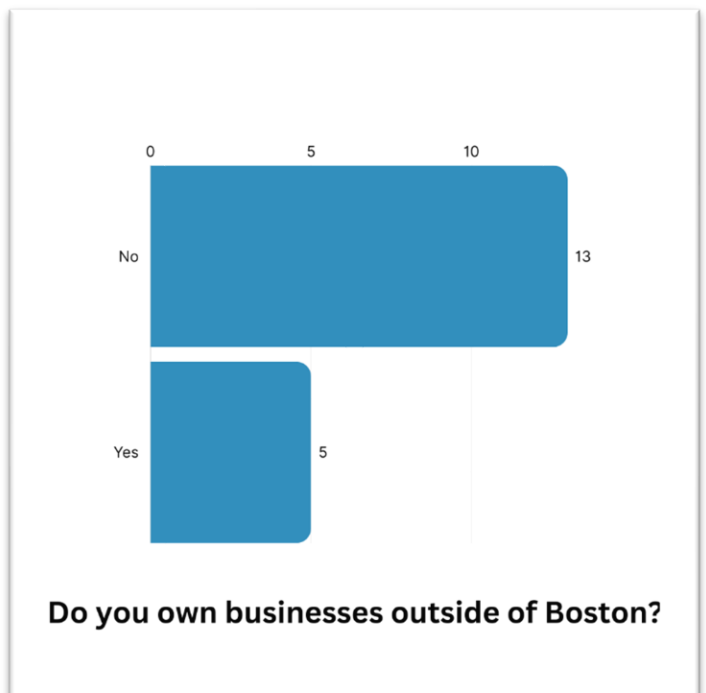
1. Review the zoning regulations.
2. Provide incentives to bring businesses to Boston (i.e. tax relief).
3. Encourage small businesses and home-based businesses.
4. Create a civic-based network of businesses (business association, etc.)
5. Provide educational opportunities as support to existing businesses

Question 1: Where in Boston is your business located?

	Hamlet of Boston;	Hamlet of North Boston;	Hamlet of Patchin;	Outside of Hamlets ;
Count of Where in Boston is your business located?	4	11	1	2

**Question 2: Do you own businesses outside of Boston?**

	Yes	No
Do you own businesses outside of Boston?	5	1

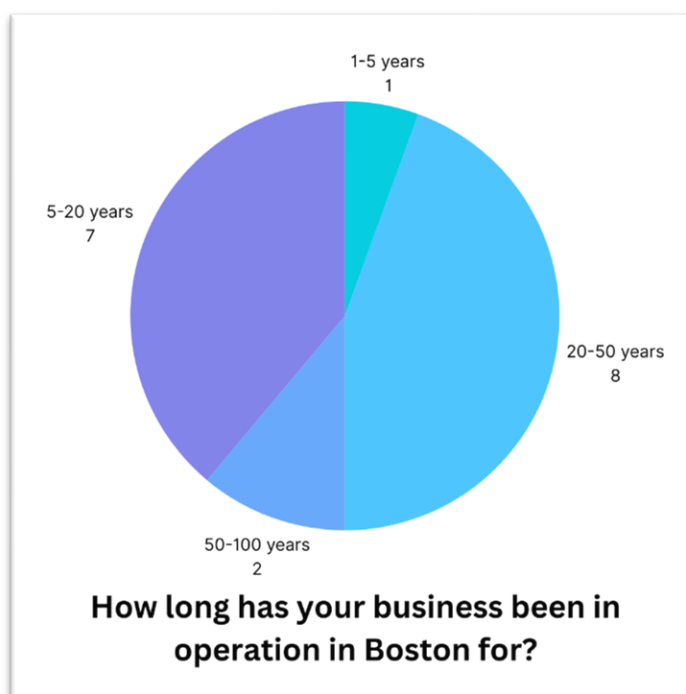


Question 3: What type of business do you take part in? (Answer all that apply)

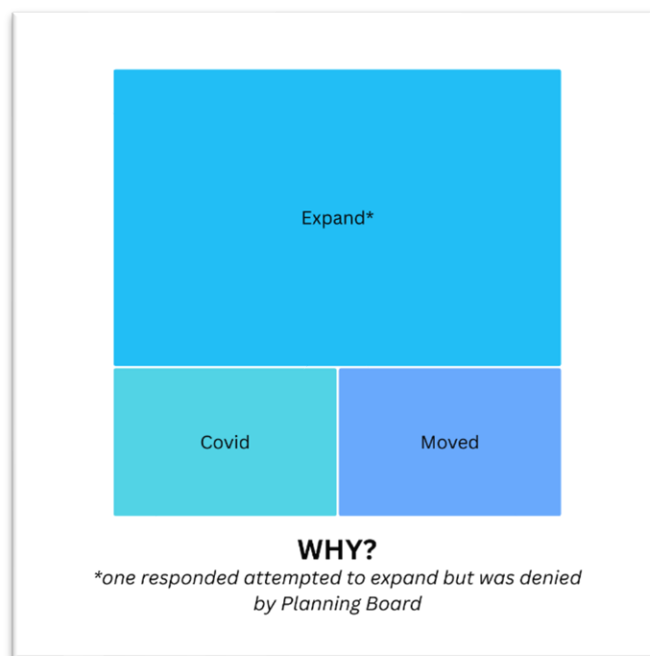
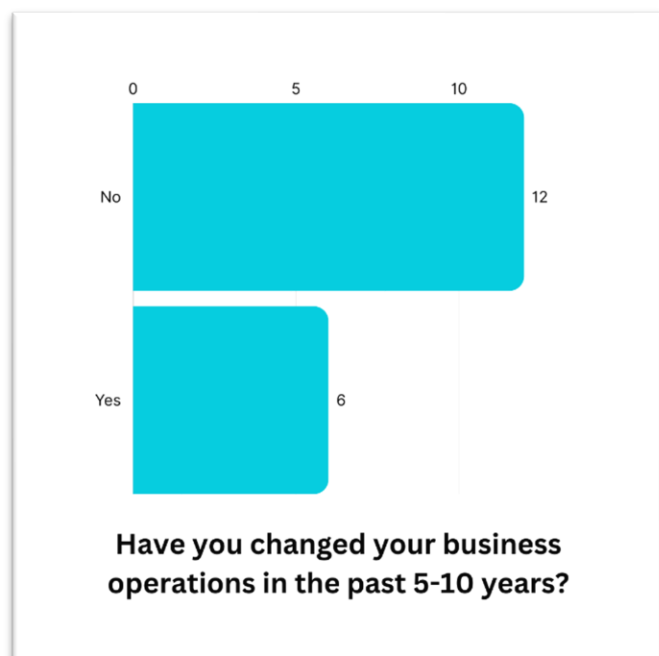
Row Labels	Count
Accommodation & Food Services;	1
Automotive repair;	2
Construction;	3
E-commerce;	1
Finance & Insurance;	1
Manufacturing;	3
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services;	2
Real Estate & Rental Leasing;	2
Retail Trade;	8
Salon;	1
Tattoo & Spa;	1
Transportation & Warehousing;	1
Used car sales	1
Wholesale Trade;	1
Grand Total	28

**Question 4: How long has your business been in operation in Boston for?**

Row Labels	Count of How long has your business been in operation in Boston for?
1-5 years	1
20-50 years	8
50-100 years	2
5-20 years	7
(blank)	
Grand Total	18



Question 5: Have you changed your business operations in the past 5-10 years and why?



Question 6: What do you think the Town could do to help support businesses in Boston?

What do you think the Town could do to help support businesses in Boston? (By "Town," meaning local elected officials and/or Boards of the Town.)
Tax relief for home based businesses.
Include a list of local businesses on the Town of Boston web site and links to each of those businesses web sites (if applicable).
.Free advertising Example - monthly spotlight a business. (Biography, interview, pictures etc)
.Grand - upgrades, renovation of the business.
.Programs - classes (new techniques, technology, training etc.) how to improved and better my business.
Keep us small. Don't allow chains and corporation and help us bring in more local shopping options so people have a reason to stay here to spend their money.
Review and update zoning regulations

There was zero incentive to move our business here unlike offerings from Hamburg/Eden. This is a temp location, we will build a new facility in Eden.
Boston could better support businesses by proving listings and resources to residents and community guests, offering garbage options, and more civic minded organizations. I chose to have my business in this community and love Boston NY!
Make it easy for someone to establish a small business. If I remember correctly there was a couple who wanted to have an antique business but was not zoned for it. Neighbors did not object and I believe they were given a provisional approval which ended when property was sold. Not a bad idea.
Connect with business owners in a semi annual basis to see how they are doing. We are in a very fast changing economy/market. needs change constantly
No comment
I've seen my assessment value (and taxes) increase, and don't feel this is based on factual value. Extra expenses make it harder for me to grow and improve my business in the face of financial pressures. I feel that this is especially pertinent to my building, which is over 150 years old; it's historical, but it also needs work. I have thought of improvement projects on the building that would be wonderful to accomplish; instead I get tax-increases that just make it harder.
Opportunities for expansion of more businesses.
After the Flood of 2009 we received NO HELP at all from the Town. We are still digging out from SBA Loans !
Promote local businesses that live in Boston and have their business in Boston aw well.
Allow growth to continue

Question 7: Besides anything that local officials could do, what are other forms of support you feel are lacking for continued or expanded business opportunities in Boston?

Besides anything that local officials could do, what are other forms of support you feel are lacking for continued or expanded business opportunities in Boston? (Things that may be outside of the ...
Comprehensive online business directory.
Not sure at this time.
.Princing and the conditions of storefronts .Affordable and available storefronts
Keep taxes and fees low enough that we're able to function with prices people can and will pay.
Petition NYS regarding C2 mixed use rules

I feel that our utilities are limiting our business growth, specifically internet and phone services but also water issues.

Somehow, getting the word out that Boston is accessible to the surrounding area. I get calls from Buffalo asking for location and hear "I'm not coming that far." when I explain where I am.

Apply for the federal beautification program all three of our small business districts need attention slower traffic patterns turning Lanes safe sidewalks and safe lighting long since overdue we have worked hard to make our business look great I can only dream Someday My Town will look the same before I die

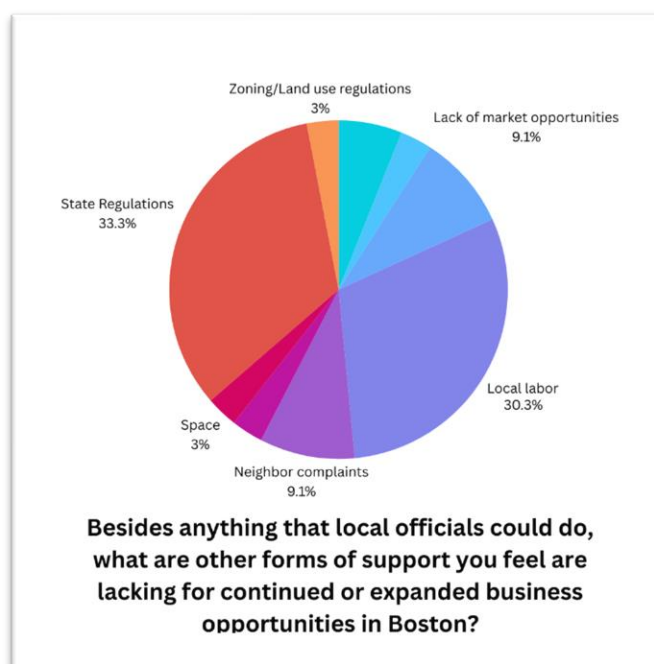
Access to more infrastructure grants.

Help us Keep up .

None

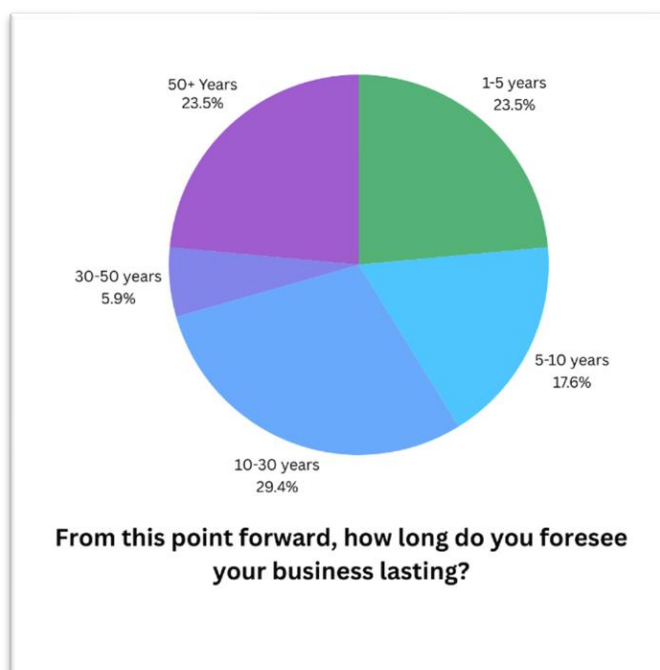
Question 8: Besides anything that local officials could do, what are other forms of support you feel are lacking for continued or expanded business opportunities in Boston?

What is the biggest barrier to your future in Boston? (Apply all that apply?)	
Availability of supplies/support	2
Internet rates	1
Lack of market opportunities	3
Local labor	10
Neighbor complaints	3
Shouldn't be required to have a garage on a new build home	1
Space	1
State Regulations	11
Zoning/Land use regulations	1
Grand Total	33



Question 9: From this point forward, how long do you foresee your business lasting?

Length	
1-5 years	4
5-10 years	3
10-30 years	5
30-50 years	1
50+ Years	4

**Question 10: Closing remarks:**

Any other closing thoughts about the future of your business in Boston? Where do you see it, or would you like to see it going?
We are growing and plan on continuing that track. We have been here for 43 and plan on another 43+
The future of our business depends on the used car market.
Being one of the reasons why people come and visit the Town of Boston
We will likely not be here much longer. Thinking about retaining the property for another use but manufacturing will be moved to Eden.
When the above couple asked me if I minded their opening an antique shop which might take sales away from me I looked at it differently in that customers feel more inclined to travel to a small town for antiques where they could visit two shops during the same visit. Having small business interspersed throughout our 3 small towns would be a plus, providing neighbors agree.
Being in retail, it is slightly challenging for us only because we are not in a very busy/populated area. We are more of a destination store
Before you buy online find it in your neighborhood spend your money at home or they'll be no one here to help you
I am focused on growing my business; eventually when I'm ready to retire, I hope to sell it so that it can keep going.
Staying viable and expanding.
Some of our Manufacturing Equipment is getting to the point of availability to find parts. Nick Charlaps I could definitely use help !

Agricultural Survey Summary

Using the Town of Boston accessor's list of those utilizing Agricultural tax incentive, a survey was made available to the Agricultural community. The survey was also made available through the project page. In all, 10 owners or operators took part in the survey.

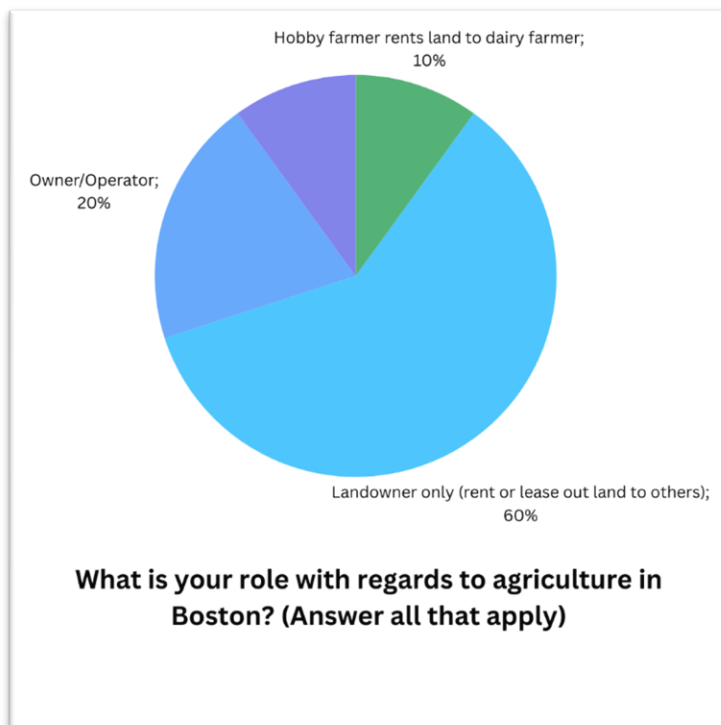
One-third of the respondents identified as "landowner only", with 80% stating that the majority (51% or more) of their household income comes from elsewhere. The largest percentage (40%) of the farm businesses have been in operation for between 50-100 years. The respondents represented businesses in Straw/ Hay (28%), Dairy Feed/Fodder(19%), Other Fruits/Vegetables (14%), Equine (9%), Dairy (9%), Beef cattle/pigs/other meat (not poultry) (4%), and Apiary/Bee Keeper (4%).

All respondents believe that development pressures are a threat to their future, notably large and small residential development as well as solar development.

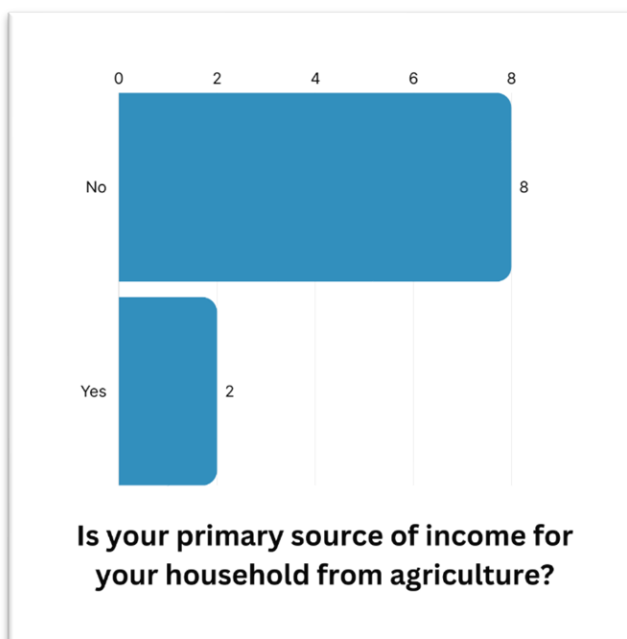
- 1.) **Utilize** the business-oriented tasks to strengthen Agriculture in Town.
- 2.) Create an Agricultural network with Boston farms, and include surrounding municipalities.
- 3.) Create a layer of protective measures to protect the agricultural properties in Boston.

Question 1: What is your role with regards to agriculture in Boston? (Answer all that apply)

Row Labels	Count of ID
Hobby farmer rents land to dairy farmer;	1
Landowner only (rent or lease out land to others);	6
Owner/Operator;	2
(blank)	1
Grand Total	10

**Question 2: Is your primary source of income (51% or more of your gross income as indicated in farm revenue and/or tax filings) for your household from agriculture?**

Is your primary source of income (51% or more of your gross income as indicated in farm revenue and/or tax filings) for your household from agriculture?	
No	8
Yes	2

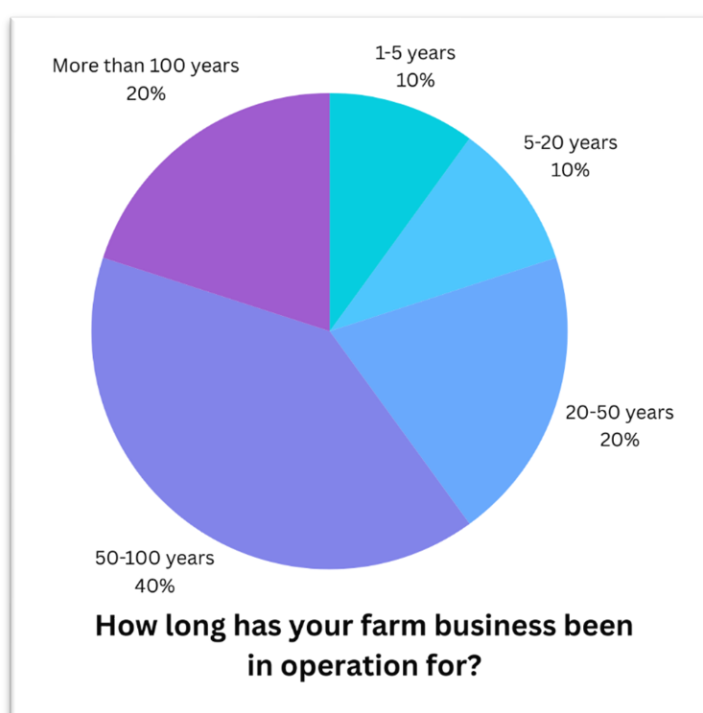


Question 3: What type of farming business do you partake in? (Answer all that apply)

Row Labels	Count of What type of farming business do you partake in? (Answer all that apply)
Apiary/Bee keeping	1
Beef cattle/pigs/other meat (not poultry)	1
Dairy	2
Dairy feed/fodder	4
Equine	2
Other fruits/vegetables	3
Soy beans	1
Straw/Hay	6
Vineyards	1
Grand Total	21

**Question 4: How long have you or your farm business been in operation for (including any changes in what you grow/operations and/or if it's been passed down through family)?**

How long have you or your farm business been in operation for (including any changes in what you grow/operations and/or if it's been passed down through family)?	Count
1-5 years	1
5-20 years	1
20-50 years	2
50-100 years	4
More than 100 years	2



Question 5: What support services do you utilize as part of your farming operations and where are they located? For example: seed supplies, equipment repair, banking/financing, machinery, etc.

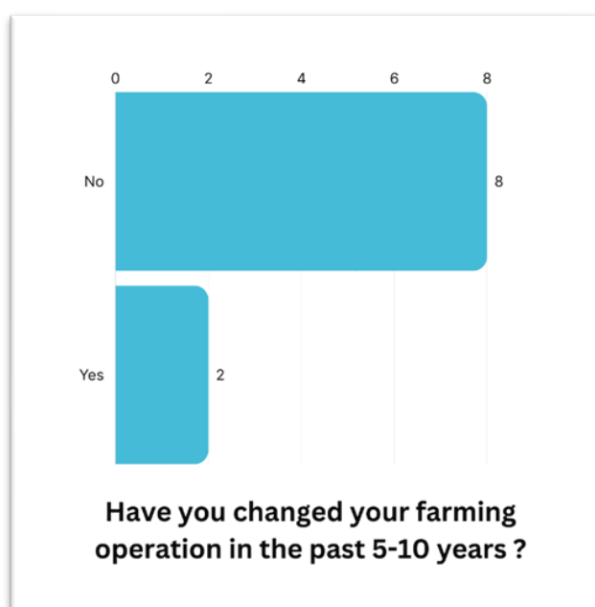
What support services do you utilize as part of your farming operations and where are they located? For example: seed supplies, equipment repair, banking/financing, machinery, etc.		
No services		
Equipment repair. Financing		
all of the above		
all of the above		
Equipment, banking, veterinary, repairs, supplies....all local		
Myself		
equipment repair, machinery (landpro John Deere dealer) Springville NY		
Laing gro, lamb and webster		
Timac fertilizer and seed Eden ny. Monroe tractor Springville NY. Farm Credit East ,Batavia NY. Eden Truck and Auto Napa Eden Ny. Larry Romance and sons Arcade NY		

Question 6: Have you changed your farming operation in the past 5-10 years and why?

Have you changed your farming operation in the past 5-10 years and why?	
No	8
Yes	2

Changes:

- 1.) Lease out our land.
- 2.) Yes discontinued Farrow to Feeder Hog operation, Son is transitioning to Dairy Farming ,Raises calves and heifers to breeding ago, Still direct to horse customer Hay sales



Question 7: Do you engage in any of the following... (Answer all that apply)

Direct sales to public; Sell to larger businesses/ cooperatives; CSA/membership/shares; Agritourism
[\(https://nationalaglawcenter.org/orview/agritoursim/\)](https://nationalaglawcenter.org/orview/agritoursim/)

Do you engage in any of the following... (Answer all that apply)
Farmer we lease to does sell to public
Sell to larger businesses/cooperatives; Direct sales to the public
Direct sales to the public
Sell to larger businesses/cooperatives

Question 8: Do you utilize any of the following... (Answer all that apply)

*Additional information on credits: <https://www.tax.ny.gov/help/taxpayer-education/tax-basics-farmers.htm>

Do you utilize any of the following... (Answer all that apply) *Additional information on credits: https://www.tax.ny.gov/help/taxpayer-education/tax-basics-farmers.htm	
Enrolled in County Agricultural District (not zoning);	8
Agricultural Assessment property tax reduction;	9
Solar energy systems equipment credit;	1
Farmers' School Property Tax Credit ;	3
Agricultural Building(s) Tax Credit;	2
Investment Tax Credit;	1



Do you utilize any of the following...

Question 9: Do you feel that existing open land and farms in Boston are threatened by non-agricultural development?

100% answered YES.

Question 10: IF YES to #9, what do you think is the most prevalent threat? (Answer all that apply)

Skip is your answer to #9 was NO.

IF YES to #9, what do you think is the most prevalent threat? (Answer all that apply) Skip is your answer to #9 was NO.
Industrial;Solar farms;Wind turbines ;
Larger residential (large subdivisions of 5 or more lots);Commercial;Solar farms;Industrial;
Small residential (single lots or subdivisions less than 5 lots);Larger residential (large subdivisions of 5 or more lots);Commercial;Industrial;Public utility expansion (water/sewer);Solar farms;
Small residential (single lots or subdivisions less than 5 lots);Larger residential (large subdivisions of 5 or more lots);Commercial;Industrial;Solar farms;Public utility expansion (water/sewer);
Public utility expansion (water/sewer);Small residential (single lots or subdivisions less than 5 lots);
Small residential (single lots or subdivisions less than 5 lots);Larger residential (large subdivisions of 5 or more lots);Commercial;Solar farms;
Small residential (single lots or subdivisions less than 5 lots);Solar farms;Windmills;
Public utility expansion (water/sewer);Solar farms;Larger residential (large subdivisions of 5 or more lots);Small residential (single lots or subdivisions less than 5 lots);
Small residential (single lots or subdivisions less than 5 lots);Solar farms;
A Solar farms;Small residential (single lots or subdivisions less than 5 lots);Larger residential (large subdivisions of 5 or more lots);

11. Would you consider the Town's zoning and land development regulations "friendly" towards farming? In other words, do you feel the Town supports continued and expanded farming opportunities? (1= Strongly Disagree, 2= Disagree, 3= Neutral, 4= Agree, 5= Strongly Agree)

Column1	Would you consider the Town's zoning and land development regulations "friendly" towards farming? In other words, do you feel the Town supports continued and expanded farming opportunities? (1= St...
1	4
2	3
3	2
4	2
5	2
6	3
7	3
8	3
9	4
10	1
Avg.	2.7



12. If you answered 1 or 2 (Strongly Disagree/Disagree) in #11, what are aspects of the zoning/ regulations have you had issues with?

If you answered 1 or 2 (Strongly Disagree/Disagree) in #11, what are aspects of the zoning/ regulations have you had issues with?

existing farmland is being sold for building of homes and commercial use

increased development of residential areas and businesses

Responsible financial evaluation demonstrates that the most advantageou property tax policy makes vacant land the most beneficial to the Town. Meaning that vacant land provides substantial tax revenue without increasing the cost of public services to the Town. I do not believe that Town authorites have ever been able to grasp or appreciate this.

Non app

Would like to see the town pass laws regarding the preservation of green space ,no development /solar farms on existing IN USE farm land

13. If you answered 4 or 5 (Agree/Strongly Agree) in #11, what do you think the Town has "done right?"

If you answered 4 or 5 (Agree/Strongly Agree) in #11, what do you think the Town has "done right?"

Right to farm law

14. What do you think the Town could do to help foster continued and expanded agriculture in Boston? * By "Town," meaning local elected officials and/or Boards of the Town.

What do you think the Town could do to help foster continued and expanded agriculture in Boston? * By "Town," meaning local elected officials and/or Boards of the Town.

They could make stronger restrictions and codes against industrial solar and wind!!

They have no place in agricultural areas

More opportunities to protect the land and help the farmers.

respect the value and importance of agriculture in this rural area

stronger zoning laws to protect agriculture and agricultural lands

Make a substantial effort to apply for conservation funds for the puchase of consevation easements ...rather than simply rely upon individual landowners to seek the bensfit of tax benefits for the donation of such easements.

Limit industry

Incenivise the existing farm land to agricultural use only by giving additional tax relief to those farmers in this town who are committed to long term farming in this community,,help to promote agrotourisim ,small farm workshops for people who are interested in learning how to grow gardens and provide for themselves and their neighbors ,also to help educate those who move in from non rural areas to explain what the different types of farming are done in the town of Boston,,

15. Besides anything that local officials could do, what are other forms of support you feel are lacking for continued or expanded agricultural opportunities in Boston? *Examples may include other local markets for goods, supporting businesses (banks, equipment, etc.), community education, etc. Things that may be outside of the jurisdiction or ability of the Town to directly control or may require partnerships to carry out.*

Besides anything that local officials could do, what are other forms of support you feel are lacking for continued or expanded agricultural opportunities in Boston? Examples may include other loca...
Consider agrihood design of community . Encourage farm to table lifestyle. Foster local farmers market and educate the community. Discourage pesticide use.
All of the examples above. Society, as a whole, is becoming so disengaged by how their food is grown etc. Farmers markets and community education is what is needed for the public, especially the kids to KNOW where their food is coming from and that there are hard working women and men behind it!
encourage non development !! of farm lands and large acreage toward other use
all of the above
Keep open land keep farms producing and help them to keep them
I feel the town has neglected the farm community for some time ,the focus seems to be on building this town into a suburban setting and forget that agriculture still exists and can thrive „stop the sale of open viable farm land for development by designating it as natural green space without the threat of large developments ,solar and wind farms,

16. What are some other agricultural opportunities that you have heard or aware of that you or other farmers might want to consider exploring in order to expand or sustain your current operation(s)?

What are some other agricultural opportunities that you have heard or aware of that you or other farmers might want to consider exploring in order to expand or sustain your current operation(s)?
Agrihood, community gardens
Oh.. who knows there's so many opportunities to grow with new things but hard to take the leap!
Help with obtaining grants/loans for conservation preservation from County, State and Federal sources.
Implement strong relationships

17. What is the biggest barrier to your future in farming in Boston? (Apply all that apply)

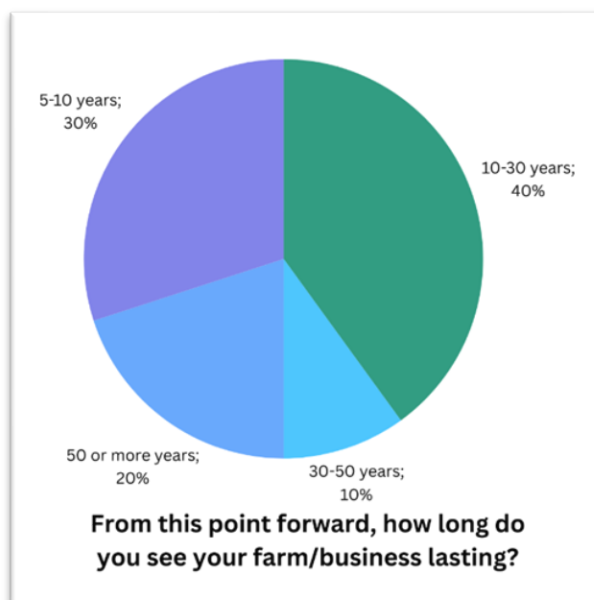
What is the biggest barrier to your future in farming in Boston? (Apply all that apply)
Development pressure (residential, solar, etc.);Lack of market opportunities;Lack of transition plan (family, other farmers, etc.);Lazy people;
Lack of available land;Land prices;Local labor;Zoning/land use regulations;Neighbor complains;Development pressure (residential, solar, etc.);

APPENDIX B: OUTREACH RESULTS

Lack of available land;Development pressure (residential, solar, etc.);Zoning/land use regulations;
Lack of available land;Zoning/land use regulations;State Regulations;
Town lack of enforcement of protections of landowner's property. Specificaaly damage by dirt bikes, snowmobiles and ATV's Damage to crops, harm to animals and destruction of fences. Further, tresspass by hunters is pervasive. Local education would help non farmers respect the rights of private property owners. As development increases, this serious problem is getting much worse.;
Lack of available land;Development pressure (residential, solar, etc.);State Regulations;
Land prices;State Regulations;Zoning/land use regulations;
Age;

18. From this point forward, do you see your farm/business lasting... (Answer all that apply)

From this point forward, do you see your farm/business lasting... (Answer all that apply)	Column1
5-10 years;	3
10-30 years;	4
30-50 years;	1
50 or more years;	2



19. Any other closing thoughts about the future of agriculture in Boston? Where do you see it or would you like to see it going?

Any other closing thoughts about the future of agriculture in Boston? Where do you see it or would you like to see it going?
Small family farms and neighborhood farm to table lifestyle. Teaching farming and gardening classes in schools. Foster good farming practices that are chemical free, hormone free

It started as a farming town and it's so beyond that now, it's disheartening. My family has been here since the 1800's and to see how little of it is left here is just sad.

The problem a lot of times is that we as farmers don't have the extra money to take the next step into updating buildings or stands or equipment etc. So we're just making due. My son is in the local elementary school here and even though he knows where his food comes from, so many kids in his class do not. It needs to start at home but also with presentations throughout the year in school so they know their town is a farming community and hopefully will be for a long time.

preserve the current and future farming /agricultural land in the town of boston

stop development

Agriculture is nice to have around

Seems about right now without any new regulations.

I have watched the town of Hamburg go from a rural community in the 60's 70s and 80s to a suburban community,,without some planning and looking at what is working in other towns the town of Boston will go in the same direction in 20-30 years ,there is a growing base of younger generation farmers in this town that need to be considered to keep this town a peaceful place to raise a family.As a life long resident raised on a small farm I have watched neighbors leave the farming industry,,and the town entertaining the developers and so called green energy companies to take advantage of one of the last large open land areas left south of Buffalo,,I would like to see the town board give some consideration for expansion of land conservancy for farm use only laws as other towns have adopted ,,

Young Family Survey Summary

The Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee identified young families as important stakeholders to hear from. Their perspective is important as the Town looks to attract more young families as a priority for the future. The survey was developed to be short and was distributed with the help of the Boys and Girls Club located on Boston State Rd. and was also put on the project website.

The families rated the Town's family-friendliness on the social level as a 3.9/5 and its family-friendliness with its resources as a 3.8/5, suggesting that young families are overall content with the Town of Boston. Some of the things that the Town of Boston is doing well include:

- Well maintained parks
- Good sports programs
- Good schooling
- Providing space to raise kids
- The Boys & Girls Club
- Great family-oriented events

Some of the things that respondents identified as areas that the Town can improve upon:

- Integrate a dog park
- Provide water activities like a splash pad at parks
- More facilities for the Boys & Girls Club in Boston
- Signage for the Boston Forest Trails
- More family- oriented events

To address the feedback of the young families in the town the following recommended:

- 1.) **Inform** Town residents about the Erie County plan for Boston Forest County Park.
- 2.) **Identify** potential funding sources for Town Recreation and the Boys & Girls Club.
- 3.) **Encourage** more family-oriented events.

Question 1: How would you rank the family-friendliness of social opportunities in the Town of Boston? 1 star= lowest, 5 stars= highest (For example are there enough parks, playgrounds, youth activities)

How would you rank the family-friendliness of social opportunities in the Town of Boston? 1 star= lowest, 5 stars= highest (For example are there enough parks, playgrounds, youth activities)	
	5
	3
	2
	1
	4
	5
	4
	4
	3
	5
	5
	3
	3
	5
	5
	5
	5
	3
AVG: 3.89	



Question 2: How would you rank the family-friendliness of the Town of Boston's resources? 1 star= lowest, 5 stars= highest (For example, proximity to pediatrician, dentist, grocery)

How would you rank the family-friendliness of social opportunities in the Town of Boston? 1 star= lowest, 5 stars= highest (For example are there enough parks, playgrounds, youth activities)	
	5
	3
	2
	1
	4
	2



APPENDIX B: OUTREACH RESULTS

	5
	4
	4
	5
	5
	4
	3
	2
	5
	5
	5
	5
	3
AVG: 3.8	

Question 3: What is Boston doing right for young families?

What is Boston doing right for young families?
Parks are beautifully maintained
The parks are good. Would love to see more activities geared to kids and families.
What does Boston do for young families? I've lived here my whole life and theres actually less to do for kids.
Nothing thats what they do
Not sure
Giving us space to raise our kids
I think so. Would love to have a dog park and a splashpad but our 2 boys are pretty happy (aged 8 & 11)
Good sports programs, boys & girls clubs, Good schooling
Boys & Girls Club
We love the park & Town hall
BGClub
The Boys & Girls Club & improved programming at the club
Boys & Girls Club is great
Offering lots of community events. Providing safe and fun places to play.
Lots of park space always kept up very well
Inclusiveness, support & paying it forward

Providing with care and teach them new things

Great elementary school

Question 4: What can the Town of Boston do to better serve young families?

What can the Town of Boston do to better serve young families?

Add a splash pad to the area behind the town hall

More programs (or maybe there are programs but I don't know about them). Budget friendly as well as times are tough right now.

Nothing has changed in 30+ years for the kids programs. The school doesn't do friday night rec anymore. Soccer, baseball, football, same old stuff at the town hall. The snack shak has bathrooms thats about it. oh and a half assed paved "trial"

Indoor pool indoor gym indoor basketball court! We live in wny 1/2 the year is indoor and there is nothing here! Sidewalks street lights that actually work! Outside lights at town parks when kids play football or baseball! EVERY other town offers these

We only have two playgrounds as far as I know. Something like a splash pad would be nice for summer

Dog park & splash pad- but of course not sharing the same space. Boys & Girls club needs a gymnasium

Better marking of Boston Forest Trails. Many families go to enjoy & get lost.

Promote BGC

Provide more family friendly events in and around town park,utilization of the shelter. Update the town park playground

More programs/ Youth sports throughout the year; events focused on kids; opportunities to utilize Hamburg/OP facilities or have something similar

Nothing. Great job!

Try not to push political agendas on kids

Everything is great

Updated playgrounds. More family oriented activities & sports

Question 5: Please leave any additional comments below.

Please leave any additional comments below

Better publicity around events. Sometimes I don't find out until just before the event or after the event occurred. If fliers go out in the schools please remember that not all kids in the town go to Boston Valley.

Needs better communication. I moved here 12 years ago. I stopped in at town hall to see if they had a map of the community (none) and did not get offered any information about the programs available

Bostin is a great family-friendly town because it is NOT overrun with businesses!

Go Bills!

High School Student Survey Summary

As a means to reach the youth of the community, local high schools were contacted. The Town of Boston does not have its own school district, in fact it sits within 4 different districts: Hamburg, Orchard Park, Eden, and Springville. The outreach led to students from Eden and Hamburg High Schools participating in surveys about the Town of Boston. This consisted of one classroom visit to the Eden Participation in Government class, and an online survey made available to Hamburg High School, as well as made available on the project website.

The survey asked students about both their association with and thoughts on Boston. Understandably, most of the respondents were from Hamburg. This is expected as the Hamburg school district is the larger of the two surveyed. The students provided insight on their perspectives about Boston, how Boston might fit into their future, and surrounding services that are important for teens, including mental health options and healthy food.

While there are a variety of responses in these areas, there are some general tones. While not the majority, an unsettling number of the students felt the health and mental health support was inadequate, and that the current overall state of wellbeing in the schools is troubling.

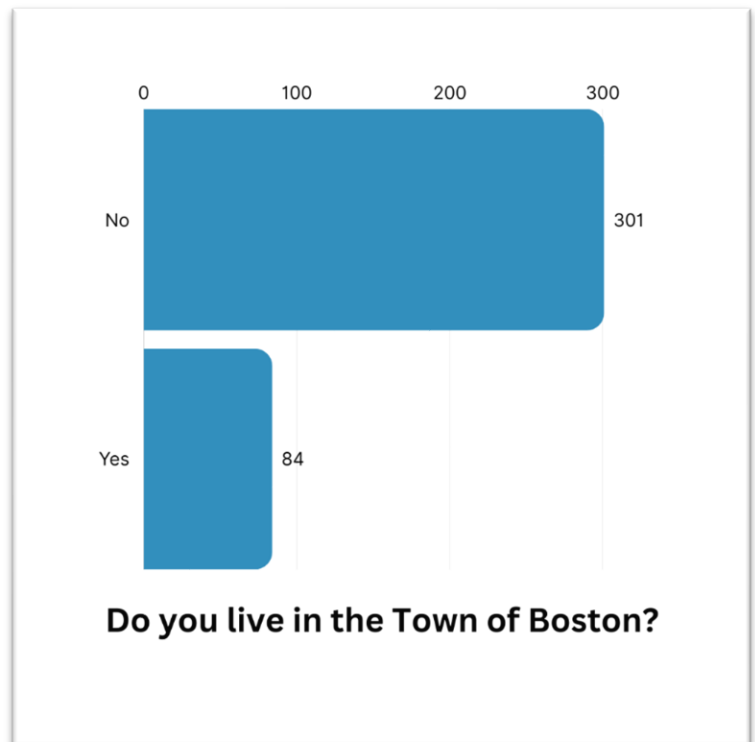
Aside from this, it seems that teens are in search of places that allow them to connect with each other. They want recreation and entertainment options, as well as food options. Some minor things can make a huge impact, for instance, students noted that the Boston 7/11 was a huge draw, as it was the closest to them to get a slushie, and others made a request for basketball courts to remain lit later in the winter (a change that Boston has already made, per the request). As for their thoughts on Boston and their potential future there- what many perceive as “boring” others see as peaceful and ideal.

Some key actions that can be taken to address information learned through this survey are below:

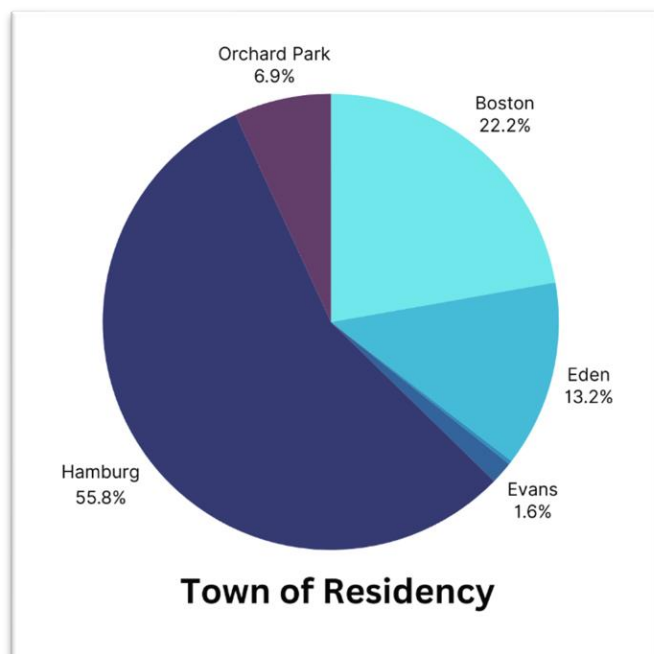
- 1.) **Create** a more established and publicized network of support for the youth of the community, with available resources, wide variety of outreach options, and peer-to-peer discussions.
- 2.) Market the many recreational opportunities in Boston and strengthen their appeal for all ages.
- 3.) Identify ideal business types and locations that would align with the wants and needs of the young people in the community.

Question 1: Do you live in the Town of Boston?

Do you live in the Town of Boston?	
Choice	Responses
Yes	84
No	301
Answered	385
Skipped	1

**Question 2: What town do you live in?**

Town	Town of Residency
Boston	84
Colden	1
Eden	50
Evans	6
Hamburg	211
Orchard Park	26



Question 3: In One sentence, describe the character of the Town of Boston.

In one sentence, describe the character of the Town of Boston. <i>Responses are broken into two columns.</i>	
Response	Response
I'm not sure but maybe empty spaces	Scenic
Neat	Small
Boston is very unique and has a great elementary school and great people in it	quiet
pretty with lots of open land	Calming
Rustic	Inspiring
A very nice town and has great places	Loving
Boston is a small town full of kind people.	Kind
Spaced out and disconnected	Small
Boston is a place that sounds like it has a nice community.	Cute
disconnected	Little
Boston is very tiny	Good Parks
Boring	Small
A classic American town with good roads	quiet
Classic town with old and historic scenery with bountiful beaches that are just as beautiful	quiet
Boston is boring and there isn't much to do there.	Cool
a community but boring	Rural
Country Isolated	Small
Boston is very much like a countryside	Small
Boston is spacious and more country	Small
Small and pretty with a lot of land and open space but nothing to do.	rural
okay, I don't remember much of the town since I live in a more rural area of it, for some reason its still considered the town.	hilly
Boston is boring and not a lot to do	boring
A place I have never been but from what I have heard it is kinda peaceful	quiet
The town is a bit outdated.	aged
Boston is small and very spread out.	environmentally gorgeous
Boston is calm, which can be a good thing, but this also means there are less activities to do.	little
Boston is a spacious town with lots of land.	personality
Boston is a very calm place to live but I do think there is not much things you can do in Boston	growing
A beautiful town, but because they are building a new development RIGHT NEXT TO MY HOUSE it is not going to be as beautiful as it was before.	thriving
Small, quiet, calm	change

APPENDIX B: OUTREACH RESULTS

Small, but friendly. Not very well known.	nice
I have no idea	great businesses
I have never been over to Boston yet	peaceful
Boston is alright	agriculture
Small and tight nit	rural
Boston is fun and good for sit seeing	conservative
Boston is a nice town	homey
Boston is a small, interesting community.	nice
The town of Boston is small and less populated.	steep
Boston is small and somewhat rural.	dangerous
Empty	Small
Boston is a rural town with lots of beautiful scenery.	peaceful
I would describe it as a small community with good people who live there.	small
Unconnected to itself	unknown
Boston is beautiful	faraway
Old	plain
(Never been in it long enough)	dead
Boston is an untapped resource	small
more open	pizza places
Spaced out	Calming
Spaced out	Nice
Boston is hilly.	Simple
Boston is a small town.	Good
Boston is secluded and I only go there for friends and georgias	Homely
a nice small town that has a lot of trees and its a really great scenery if u live up high like me	small
A bit boring, there's not much to, it's empty.	lackluster
Boston is far from my school, it is a quiet town and I don't mind living there. I live close to a few stores and restaurants so it's convenient	small
hilly and not a lot of places	homey
Boston is far from my school and it's a quiet area.	Country
Boston is a nice town, with great people, and I enjoy the feeling of being there.	old fashioned
a valley and has big backyards and space.	small
Boston is hilly and far away, but it seems really pretty.	peaceful
Boston is a place that seems interesting but probably isn't that interesting.	quiet
Boston is flat.	quiet
Boston is the city that serves as the cultural and financial center of the New England region of the Northeastern United States	open
Boston is a beautiful town	green

APPENDIX B: OUTREACH RESULTS

Boston is good	lacking
i dont know i have never been to the town of Boston but i'm sure its beautiful i have only done little research on the town	Agriculture
a nice place.	produce wagons
Its nice	boring
Boston is a beautiful town, filled with kind people	unknown
Boston is a place. Sorry I don't know my areas very well.	small
Country like	rural
Far away	hilly
A town where my friend lives.	enjoyable
Boston is a nice Little and fun town. it also well kept	beautiful
Remote, comfortable and rural.	pretty winter
inviting and accommodating.	small
Boston is a very quiet town and very hilly and beatiful	hidden gem
filled with good scenery.	small
Nice and a big place.	quiet
boston is a big place	uneventful
boston is a fantastic town	faraway
Boston Is in my opinion a pretty good area a nice and a good community around there and I love it!	open
Small	country
Boston is a wonderful community with many kind and respectful people.	small
Boston is hilly farmed	quiet
beautiful	great fireworks
A simple town in the hills	small
Boston is a small town with opportunities for all ages.	nice
Beutifial	small
welcoming	nature
Boston is a nice community	small
Boston is a place where kids can grow and develop.	quiet
The town of Boston has a nice community and nice stores with hard workers	well-organized
small, cozy, friendly	amazingly-connected people
Boston is peaceful.	agriculture
"Out there" like woodsy	rural
Boston is calm	agriculture
Boston is quiet and calm	businesses
Boston is country	residential
Nice and peaceful	okay
Boston is pure nature	scenic

APPENDIX B: OUTREACH RESULTS

empty and small	hilly
Creepy and sketchy	colorful
pretty and has great scenery, not much to do but has a lot of hills.	pretty
Pretty, people there are nice, it's a lot bigger	Good Parks
Really nice	Small
A family	quiet
Hilly and out of the way.	quiet
Boston is very busy	Cool
Friendly	Rural
A town with a lot of land	Small
peaceful	Small
Peaceful	Small
N/a	rural
Never been	hilly
Rural and small, from my understanding	boring
Boston is Rich	quiet
dark roads middle of nowhere not a lot of neighbors	aged
hickville	environmentally gorgeous
A quiet open town	little
Boston is rural	personality
Quite	growing
Boston is a great place to live.	thriving
A very hilly, scenic, rural town	change
Boston is empty	nice
Loud	great businesses
boston is large area but not a lot to do there	peaceful
Country, quiet	agriculture
Kinda Far away	rural
Boston is known for its starring role in the American Revolution in the late 1700s, but it is equally renowned as a sophisticated center of contemporary culture, higher education, and technology. Aside from its rich history, Boston's sporting traditions run deep.	conservative
i would not know, because i do not live there	homey
Dead	nice
A small little town	steep
Rural quiet place	dangerous
Boston is ok but I don't really know.	Small
Boston is a small town that is very quiet and not very populated.	peaceful
it is small and quiet.	small
a happy loving neighborhood	unknown
Boston is spread out	faraway

APPENDIX B: OUTREACH RESULTS

small but charming. It could use a few more restaurants and a few more things to do.	plain
I have genuinely no clue I've never been	dead
Bland	small
a place with lots of farm land	pizza places
Boston is a cute town with lots of farmland	Calming
nice because it has a lot of open land and houses are not close together.	Nice
There is lots of land and the houses are far apart	Simple
Nice and fun looking	Good
A small community	Homely
Small town with shops and farm land.	small
boston is a state where i can live	lackluster
Boston is gorgeous	small
Boston is a beautiful, culture heavy, happy town.	homey
Difficult to get to and bad roads	Country
expensive and quiet	old fashioned
Nice, Quiet, and Hilly	small
Laid back, spacious, good neighborhood	peaceful
very open and country like, really pretty	quiet
Quiet, spacious, fairly conservative, full of nature	quiet
quaint.	open
A smaller, quieter town, kind people, its nice	green
boston is great for firework shows	lacking
fun	Agriculture
boston is farm land	produce wagons
Very far away	boring
Boston is small	unknown
Unique	small
Boston is great.	rural
Very peaceful and a great place to live	hilly
Boston is hilly	enjoyable
over crowded	beautiful
boston is big	pretty winter
Boston is a high character Town with good neighbors.	small
Quiet, full of land, and farming.	hidden gem
Peaceful, calm , sleepy quaint farmer town	small
a country setting with first ring suburb amenities	quiet
A great place to meet new people	uneventful
Down the street	faraway
It's very close knit, everybody knows everyone and it's a nice community	open
A town I don't live in	country
nearby	small
Boston is in the woods	quiet

APPENDIX B: OUTREACH RESULTS

cozy	great fireworks
is in the middle of no where and nothing is exciting.	small
Cool	nice
Man idk	small
small	nature
Small but nice	small
Boston is a place with lots of nature and is pretty during the fall.	quiet
Boston is a town with numerous natural activity to do its a great town.	well-organized
a small and outdoorsy town that is mostly woods.	amazingly-connected people
I don't know, I don't live there and I don't recall going there.	agriculture
quiet	rural
hamburg is quiet	agriculture
different	businesses
Boston is a nice little town and rural area	residential
Boston is a place where all are welcome	okay
Boston is a nice enviroment	scenic
spread out	hilly
Boston is close knitted	colorful
Beautiful but separated	pretty
Boston is a nice place to live.	a neighborly community. I know almost evryone on my street and the one connecting to us. It is a safe place where I was happy to grow up. I live close enough to most of my friends to walk or bike there, and I live right next to the park. My family is always over on the basketball and tennis courts and I don't feel unsafe to leave my curtains open and go let my dog outside in my pajamas.
Pretty and charming	Boston is charming.
Like the middle of nowhere	Boston is quite
Boston is a rural quaint town.	Quiet
Far away	nice
I've never been to Boston	boring
has a lot of hills	Boston is great
Amazeballs	country
Boston is empty.	It has a nice country charm with great proximity to buffalo.
empty and small	peaceful
Awesome	More scenic than Hamburg but there isn't as much to do.
Boston is there.	Charming, almost like a town frozen in time.

APPENDIX B: OUTREACH RESULTS

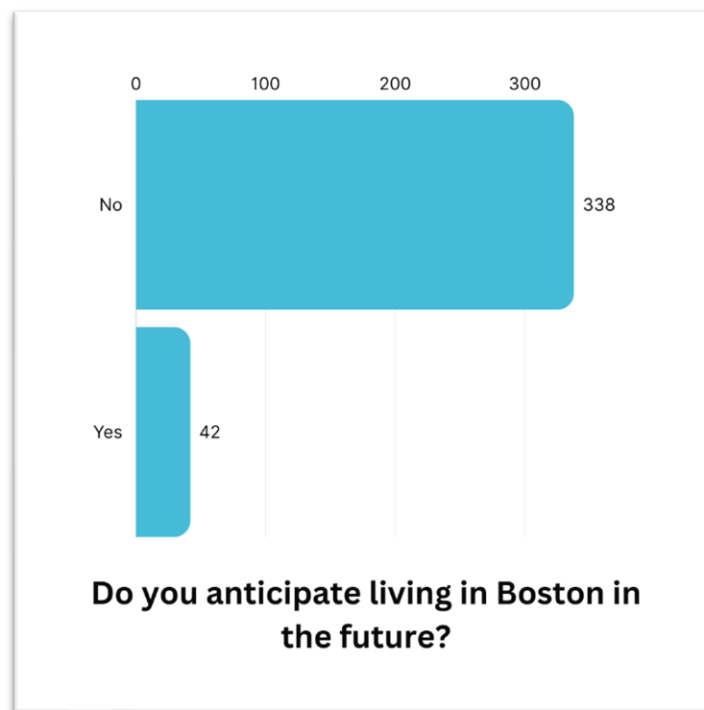
Boston is a place that feels safe.	The character of Boston is very green, spacious, peaceful and quiet.
It's very quiet and has a lot of hills. There is not much out there. There are very few stores. It has a nice town park.	a nice town
Sceneic	interesting
cool	Susceptible to power outages
very isolated.	Small
open.	Boston is farmland
a nice city with cool architecture and good food	Blue collar, hard working, not too different from other towns.
friendly	A city in New York that I don't know much about.
Boston cute and tiny	It's very scarcely populated and hilly
Boring and country like but quiet besides the road	small and not very busy
Nature and hills	Alright
Boston is very spread out, but nice and quiet for those who enjoy solitude.	boston makes good produce but it's bland and pretty empty and lot of trump fans 😊
loud	Boston is the quiet serenity town, settled between the hills
Idk man.	nice place with hills and lakes
lame	Boston is very open
Kind	Boston is very bad
Boston is isolated from a lot of things and people	boring
Boston is a relaxing place, in a secluded area.	Boston is a small town with not too much going on.
I don't know I don't live there	Boston is spread out and hilly.
Boston is small and rundown.	Boston is a nice rural area
I do not live in the town of boston.	Boston is filled with hills and weird people.
Lots of people and nice people.	Boston is boring, not much is there. Some of the roads suck.
Boston is a small town that cooperates with Hamburg.	a small rural town with lots of hills.
Boston is full of red necks and hill billies.	Boston is a quiet town, with buildings to far away and a lack of safety with no sidewalks.
I don't know I don't live there	Boston is kind of rural but pretty in the fall
a town in new york state	I don't know.
Boston is peaceful and always busy on the roads	The roads need to paved
homey	Boston is a small nice town.
a lot of hills	easy to around and most of the people I know live there, it's pretty.
Boston is calm and secluded	Scenic
welcoming	Small
I don't live their but I drive through to go skiing	quiet
Nice?	Calming
Boston is a great and quiet place to live in.	Inspiring

APPENDIX B: OUTREACH RESULTS

There	Loving
Boston is small, quiet, has a nice park. A lot of things happen over by the town hall.	Kind
Boston is small and crowded	Small
a town with lots of hills	Cute
very boring kinda country like	Little
Hilly and older	Boston is OK... it needs some work though. In my opinion, driving down NY-391 and seeing all the trailer parks isn't pretty. Plant some trees to block their view of the main road!!
Boston is welcoming and different	rural
Boston is full of country and hills	Boston is beautiful
Empty and depressing	Boston is there.
Clean but could have a better park and basketball court needs a rework.	Creative, Clean place could use more food. great scenery
Lots of open land	A small friendly town with good scenery.
borng	decent but it's dull.
Boston is a average town.	Boston is a town I scarcely visit based on distance, not because it is unappealing, but because I never really have a reason to visit.

Question 4: In One sentence, describe the character of the Town of Boston.

Do you anticipate living in Boston when you are finished with high school / college?	
Choice	Responses
Yes	42
No	338
Answered	380
Skipped	3



Question 5: Why or why not do you anticipate living in Boston when you are finished with high school/college?

Why or why not do you anticipate living in Boston when you are finished with high school/college?	
Response	Response
Im not sure where I wanna live after college	Not gonna live in New York
i want to move states	There is not enough to do in Boston
idk just where i grew up	because i have bigger and better places than boston new york
No because I would like to live someone warm	As much as I do love my hometown I expect to be living in a more populated and close-knit town.
I want to move far away from hamburg	I want to live somewhere more like a city
Im not feeling it.	idk
Because I have a home in Hamburg and I see no reason to move	Because i dont wanna live here anymore
I want to live in Hamburg	hamburg is good
I currently live there and have lived there my entire life.	I don't know I'm only a freshmen and I haven't thought about were I would live
I want to live in the town of hamburg becuase its where i grew up.	I don't anticipate living in Boston because I want more land.
Because I'm not quite sure if I want to stay in my hometown or if I'd like to go live somewhere else.	I want to live in NC or FI
I want to have more people near me	I want to do other things in life
Because there is not alot to do	I like to live in hamburg
I'm happy with the current conditions of the village	I anticipate moving far away when I finish High school.
I plan on staying with my family or going to a good college far away	I want to go to college in florida.
When im done with college I plan on moving to Carolina	I just don't see myself living there

APPENDIX B: OUTREACH RESULTS

I want to move to a bigger city, somewhere like NYC. Boston never really crossed my mind.	No reason to move there/plans for other places.
I want to live in a city somewhere warm with things to do and more restaurants	I would like to move to a city.
I'm moving to another state.	It's too cold in New York
It's more so a maybe for me, There's some nice houses with land there	it is boring and away from everything
I want to live close to my parents and want stuff in the area to do with my future family	I anticipate living in Boston because Boston is a nice neighborhood and there are lots of job opportunities
I intend to probably live near my family in OP or Hamburg	because I'm not staying in NY
It just isn't for me, there isn't enough things to do and I wouldn't choose it over where I currently live.	because my family is in Hamburg
It is outdated and has not enough fun stuff to do.	Because I want to live somewhere else
I want to live in either piece in the mountains or live out in colder areas	I want to move further away from the city
I want to build a family and I don't want my children to be lonely and have nothing to do	I haven't really thought about it
I want a big backyard with room to have animals and raise kids.	I would like to leave America as the politics and general quality of life is pretty poor for a country of this stature
I won't be living in the town of Boston when I'm done with high school because I want to travel and live in a warm area	I anticipate living in Boston after high school because it is in a nice spot surrounded by bigger cities with lots of job opportunities.
I would like to live down south	I intend on leaving New York.
I enjoy the atmosphere of the town I live in currently and changes are hard for me but I don't know yet.	My family lives there and that's where my home is. If my family moves I will too.
I would like to move somewhere that may not be in New York.	I would like to move further away

APPENDIX B: OUTREACH RESULTS

I do not because I want to go somewhere far out of state.	I dont have any reason or desire to
I want to move to a different state	i don't live there anyways
I will most likely live in Hamburg	I plan on leaving new york and moving to florida
theres nothing good to do there	I probably won't live in Boston because I want to love out of state.
It's always an option that i would consider but i have not really thought about it	I would like to move out of state
I enjoy living in Hamburg. I also haven't considered living in Boston very much.	There is little to do, not walkable
I don't plan on staying in NY after graduating high school and college.	Because I have had a good time in Hamburg and it suites me well.
Once I am done with college I will find work and internships wherever and I don't think those will end up being in Boston.	Don't know where I'm going yet
It just seems like a small, uneventful town.	id rather live somewhere not rural
Not many jobs I like, not much to do	It is just a average town.
Bc I love the scenery	I plan on staying in Hamburg as that's where I've grown up and that is where I plan on staying.
There's not a lot of things to do, like everything fun is a drive away. When I get a house I'm looking for a cute neighborhood close to like a park or a plaza.	there are not many things to do in the town
I would live in Boston if it is not to far away from work and has reasonably priced nice homes	I dont anticipate living in Boston because I would like to move away from New York, but Boston is somewhere I would consider an option of living in because of its nature and hills.

The organization of the town makes it so if you want to go to shops you have to cross major traffic. Here our tight knit community continues through to the shops	My final plans don't involve living in NY state
I want to live down south	Want to leave NY state,
I might not live there but I do want to own property there	It is possible but I am not anticipating on it, I just want to find the best place for me.
maybe i want to live in a modern ranch	There's a lack pro productivity in Boston. There are roads and houses but that's it. When you look at Hamburg and Boston, Boston looks dull compared to Hamburg.
I do not know what I want to do	I haven't yet planned on moving houses after highschool or college.
Bc I like the village and am comfortable where I am	I anticipate libing at home for a few more years throughout college and maybe one after. I am comfortable and I am familiar with all the ins and outs. I think after living in boston my whole life, moving to even the village would be a big change for me.
I want to live with my family.	im going to college and nothing is out there
I want a big population, lots of places to go	I plan to move somewhere more warm
I do not want to live there because there's nothing, I like to be in a busy but not to busy place and boston has nothing	wanna move out of state
i have lived in boston my whole life and i love it, it may be far away from a lot of things but if they added more things like fast food or restaurants it would attract more people	its boring

APPENDIX B: OUTREACH RESULTS

I want to live in the village or a city, I don't have interest living in the country.	haven't really thought about it
I'm moving out of NY, I'm going far away.	I love the location. There are beautiful spots.
no because I do not want to live in buffalo new york	New York State laws
My family will most likely move out and I will stay in Hamburg/Orchard Park where my family is.	Because I don't want to live in New York.
I do because this is where I grew up and I'd love to show my children where I grew up and made memories.	I have no clue where I'm gonna live.
family and need to save money to get a house.	I do not anticipate living in Boston after high school/college, because I have no idea where I want to live in the future in general.
I don't since there isn't much to do there	I want to move away.
Due to the interest of taking education, and going out of state for college.	quiet community, yes
i don't anticipate living in boston when i'm finished with college because i don't really like the country style being so spread out. Although I enjoy the quietness I would much rather live in a larger house somewhere closer in hamburg	It's just not where I wanna live. and my college is not in that area.
I do not anticipate living in Boston but I might go to see that it is like and might depend on what I think.	I want to travel for medical school
Because it's like only a few miles from my parents house.	No plans
Cause I feel like living were I am right now I'd be better since I lived here most of my life wich mean I would know how to get around easier since I am familer with the layout of it	Because I want to dorm

I don't want to stay in buffalo	i'm going to boston massachusetts ☐☐
I want to go live somewhere warm	I plan on moving away.
Because it's boring, there is nothing to do	I need to be closer to where my profession will take me. New York also might not be in my future.
manly because the college i want to go to is not there	Because I Like more of a city feel
I plan to go to Buffalo for college and probably stay there.	It's a very rural area I guess?
I plan on moving out of state	Not close to my desired field of work.
I don't plan on living in buffalo when i'm older	I haven't looked into any schools in Boston and don't have anything that would urge me to go there. It's not completely out of the picture though, I just haven't looked into it.
My family all lives in Rochester and I want to be there for my little cousins as they grow up.	Id like to move out of NYS when I'm finished.
Don't feel like being so far from everything	I don't because there's no reason for me too
I want to live In hamburg	i want to get out of the area and learn to live on my own; nothing against boston specifically just a personal preference
I have no reason to.	I like the country
I want to live somewhere far away and live i the country.	I will be living in Hamburg until I can get enough money to move
I might choose to live in Boston in just depends on where I can find the right affordable house I want.	I am leaving ny state
I plan to go to Buff State, therefore I'd prefer to live in the city of Buffalo.	I want to move out of state
I want to go somewhere away from home and outside my comfort zone and i plan on going to college	I will probably have to move for work.

I have never really been to Boston and I want to live somewhere closer to the city.	I don't plan on living in Boston because I would rather stay in Hamburg or go to another state.
Just because I feel that there are bigger opportunities in art outside of Hamburg and Boston	Im moving out of ney york as soon as possible and moving down south
I plan on going further away but I think the area is very pretty and nice	I do not want to live in New York and especially not Boston because it is not a close community with very few things to do, there are not many places to go.
Because i don't plan on staying in new york when i graduate school	Not much to do there and it's far from other places. Even though I do have some family there it'd be a longer drive to get to places I would need to go to.
because it will be too far away	There is more land in Boston to hunt, fish, and ride dirtbikes/four-wheelers.
I don't know where i want to live when i am done with school but if i were to live at home i would want to live in hamburg.	The lack of side walks create a really unsafe area, which is incredibly discouraging when I would like to be someone who walks and explores the areas I live in. Along with the lack of side walks there are little buildings in walking distance and there are a lack of areas to explore and walk such as a nature walk.
I don't plan on living in NY	I want to stay in Hamburg.
I probably will not move to Boston after high school/college mostly just because I've never really considered it or thought of where to move, but I have no idea maybe I could move to Boston.	Because I want to move to Hamburg
I want to go live in Wyoming county New York	I would like to move to the village of Hamburg

My dad lives there, I grew up there and I love the atmosphere.	I can't really speak for when I'm very old but once I'm fresh out of college I would like to live somewhere more urban
Beucase I want to maybe live in New yourk becuase I want to go see the world so I probably are not going to live in Boston when I am finished with college.	I'm probably going to be out of state.
Id rather go somewhere nicer	"I plan on moving elsewhere for job opportunities"
I want to live somewhere warmer	"I'll be in College"
Stay there and work until I have money to got my own place	"I want to live in a bigger town with more things"
I would either want to move away or stay in hamburg.	"I want to maybe move to see more of the world, explore other states"
This is the area that I've grown up in; I'm more comfortable in this area because I'm familiarized with it	"I'd like to move and try something new"
a lot of family lives hear for me and i know the area very well	"Because I miss the city. There are more things to do in the city"
I do not plan on living in Boston, I do not know where I am going to live, I might move but I am also happy with Hamburg.	" I plan on attending college not near here"
I want to go wherever my parents are too take care of them	"Not enough job opportunities"
I'm planning on leaving the state of New York	50
I plan to be a doctor so any where I can get a job is where I'm going to live	"I'll be in college staying with my parents"
My family lives here and I grew up here	"I like where I live because it is secluded and I can still go to Eden which I love"
Because I own 26 acres of land and I love our property	"I would rather go out west"

APPENDIX B: OUTREACH RESULTS

No beacause I would like to live somewhere closer to the village of hamburg and also maybe near the city	"Far from what I want to do"
i like to be around more things and people which is the opposite of boston	"I haven't been around Boston that much. Have not heard anything interesting about Boston"
i want to live in hamburg or somewhere else	"Not interested, the town itself is too quiet"
Because I wanna live in Hamburg or in Hilton head or somewhere with. Beach	"I am not going to move"
I want to move out of state or out of Buffalo in general.	"It feels as though you have to drive far to have fun or feel in civilization, because Boston is a very isolated community in itself"
I want to stay close to family and Boston is a nice area to be apart of, It's not to busy but it's not so small that you feel disconnected from everyone else	"I love Eden and I plan on moving around since I want to be a traveling nurse"
I dont see any interst in living there	"Because there is not enough to do"
because Boston is a very sketchy place and it doesn't have my needs to get the food and other stuff I need	"I want to live somewhere with more going on"
No, because i'm thinking of moving out of state after college.	"I've never really been there so I don't know what the town has to offer"
i want to move out if state	"I plan on traveling the country/ world to see new things"
Might move out of state	"I don't know where I'm going to live"
because i want to live somewhere nicer without snow	"It's just too small with not enough to do. I have to frive 10 minutes at least to get to anyplace like movie theaters, fast
I'm going somewhere warm	"I plan on moving to another state"

APPENDIX B: OUTREACH RESULTS

Want to move out of buffalo	"I doubt I will stay in Eden (area), if I did I would probably stay in Eden"
my family does not live there	"It is an area with not a lot around and it's far from schools like Eden"
Because i dont live in boston now	"I plan on dorming at college in Alfred, NY"
Want to move states	"Doesn't have a lot of entertainment"
I want to live next to neighbors and be near places	"I don't see any reason to move there"
It's isolated, haphazardly developed, with lots of ugly 70s homes and mcmansions	"I like living in Eden due to most of my family living in the general vicinity"
Does not follow my career path	"I plan to move out of NY"
It's not my thing	"Looking for somewhere more remote"
I don't know	"I prefer a more city town"
I would like to move out of state.	"I'm not familiar with the town, would prefer to not live further away from family"
Not right away, but after I live out of the town for a little I want to come back because I really like it here	"The field I intend to follow after college requires me to be flexible when it comes to moving, and Boston doesn't have that field in it"
I don't want to live there	"Moving states"
I have wanted to travel for a while.	"Cold weather high taxes"
because i would like to live in a area with larger pieces of land	"Get away from cold weather and high taxes"
I would rather live somewhere else.	"Not moving town to town "
Everything is far away from everything	"I am going to Florida"
I don't anticipate living in Boston after high school because Hamburg is a friendly community and little to no crimes or criminals.	"I want to pave a new path instead of staying here"

because I know where I'm growing up at is already a good spot and I'm already doing good from where I am right now and I don't want that to change	"Theres not much to do, looks too similar to Eden"
i am not doing college and i will not be moving there	"I plan on moving to the city or Ellicotville"
Going to the ATL	"Because I have neve lived there and I plan on moving up north"
I haven't thought about it yet.	"It's too small and not enough restaurants and shops"
I do because I like the backyard spaces my friends who live in boston do have. I also like how quiet and natural the area is	"I don't live there"
i like the town and i like boston school and the enviroment	"I would like to live near my parents"
I don't plan on living in Boston because it wont work well with my profession.	"I've never lived there and don't see why I would"
I am going to live in the country of Eden and i am going to be doing hair and nails for a job and that doesnt need college.	"I will not live in Boston because I will ive in Eden"
I have never lived there and was not planning on it.	"I want to live out west"
I am going to a collodge in another state, and I intend to move to Florida to work for NASA	"the area has to develop and becaome a more suitable town to live in with families"
I don't like change lololol	"I would want to live somewhere else"
I'm going out of state	"I will most likely either stay in Eden to be very close to my family or move a little further away than Boston"
I don't know	"No school districts, not much to do. You have to drive everywhere else to do something"
I would either stay in Hamburg or travel to somewhere new.	"Nother worth moving for"
Because i like having the bigs yards	"Because it sounds boring"

APPENDIX B: OUTREACH RESULTS

I don't really know I haven't though about it yet	"It is not the place for me"
I'm going to take care of my father in canada	I want to move south once I finish college.
Because I prefer staying around a close and familiar areas, and my bus lost me in Boston once its like the same as hamburg	Because that is where I don't want to live there isnt much to do there
because they have colleges and dorms apartments and community service	I have lived there my whole life
I personally want to move to somewhere where there is more things to do	i plan on leaving buffalo
I would like to live in a warmer part of the country after I am finished with school.	I don't know where I am going to live yet, but Boston is not a place that I have considered living in post- college.
I like that the houses are far apart and have access to more yard space	I wouldn't like to stay around my current town just because I'd just like to get out of this town and explore outside of it maybe Boston MA but not Boston NY.
to expensive	I am interested in living out of state as I might go to school out of state as well.
I do not want to live in New York after college	I don't know where I'd live after college.
Because	no, just dont want to live there
Because my family lives here and i love the town	looking to live in warmer weather
just not part of my plan, going to college in a different state	I don't really like boston as much as hamburg there is not a good place to walk around
I want to teach, and Boston doesn't have a school district; I want to be within short distance of my school	Because I don't want to live in NY
I would like to live somewhere away from Buffalo.	I have somewhere else planned

APPENDIX B: OUTREACH RESULTS

It's more rural which I like a lot about it	I plan on going out of state for college
i plan on leaving the state	Want to be closer to stuff. Have to travel a decent bit to get places when you live in Boston compared to Hamburg
i don't know where i want to live	after high school yes but after that i want to live somewhere different, im not sure where but i dont think its boston
I don't like boston and everything is far apart from each other and it takes 1 year to get to your house and then school	I need to move south or to NYC for my career
Cause it's far away	I plan to move west
It doesn't have anything to do with me.	I think I'll probably live in Hamburg or Orchard Park instead, closer to my family.
Because I plan on moving somewhere else.	I don't live there so I'm not familiar with it, also I want to live somewhere where I'm not as far away from things
Its kinda boring	I think I'll be out of the state
I enjoy the quiet and peacefulness of the town	It is not close to a city so I can't get a job out there and it is not close to a college that I would consider attending.
Never lived there	Because I have no family in Boston.
it's becoming too overpopulated, and I don't like the new gas station development. I think it's a waste of the towns money and not needed.	Didn't think about it
its more open	i plan on living in a different state
I don't anticipate living in western NY when I'm older.	I want to move to a large city.
I am moving, so I won't be in the state.	It's a small town and I'm looking for a bigger atmosphere with more people.

Boston may or may not have job opportunities for my intended career.	no reason to and i want to live somewhere warm or on the coast
I'd like to move to Colorado	I plan on leaving New York State and moving somewhere new.
I anticipate living in Boston because it is a very nice and safe town with great people and amazing amenities.	My job might be somewhere else
I plan on living out of state	I don't think there is a lot of opportunity in Boston after school.
There's nothing there	Not much to do there.
I love Boston, there's just not much to do here, I always have to go out of town to get what I need or do what I want.	Its country
Because I don't plan on living in Erie County when I'm finished with high-school	i dont wanna live in buffalo
theres nothing there	I plan on going into the Air Force.
its in the middle of no where	Boston is boring to me.
Because there isnt anything special about it.	It is a lovely city and I enjoy visiting but I believe the cost of living and distance from my friends and family are too high

Question 6: What would keep you in Boston or entice you to live here as a young adult?

What would keep you in Boston or entice you to live here as a young adult?	
Response	Response
Stores, parks, restaurants, good internet for kids and adults.	middle of no where
Clean road ditches clean should grass on side of the road is mowed	My parents moved here.
The school and I would like to put more food areas	Better kept environment, nicer looks.
good restaurants and stores/shops	Lower living prices
Pita gourmet	Good community
Small town shops, restaurants, and hangouts	If there were more community events and stores

APPENDIX B: OUTREACH RESULTS

Restaurants	if they added sidewalks and it wasnt such a busy road
Keeping the town the same as it is now would entice me to live there.	Safer road shoulders or sidewalks, would make me more comfortable with living there w a future family/kids.
better restaurants, movie theatre, golf course, better internet	If there was more population
Maybe if they had a nice community and kept it clean, a lower rent price or a smaller house that costs less for a minimum wage job.	good food
sidewalks, stores, places to go, activities,	I don't know i don't wanna live here
Having more stores around	I don't know
More restaurants coffe shops and small businesses	It is small and a nice town.
Nice paved roads and sidewalks with necessities such as grocery stores and hardware in walking distance	I wouldnt i dont like cold weather or the people in NY
Cold weather and many businesses opportunities with a peaceful environment	More opportunity's
Land	I don't know i don't live in Boston
interesting activities and things to do	That is kind of secluded and private.
The land	I do not want to live in Boston as an adult.
Things like good colleges, work opportunities, activities, restaurants, hang out places, etc.	More jobs and opportunities
More things to do	cheap/large land
More activities for other people that's not a restaurant.	I would rather live in a city as opposed to Boston because I like the city setting better.
Not much, as stated previously, I don't know much of the town.	Family
More activities to do and good parks	to be forced cause i know im gonna leave
A book store and maybe like a computer workshop like thing	Nice neighborhood and kind people.
Add sidewalks where needed, add activities (food places, shopping areas)	idk man
I would keep the park it's cool and nothing else would entice me to live there.	my dad lives there
Big backyards, Land, Quiet	More opportunities
If there was more things to do in Boston than I might want to stay but I wouldn't know what should be added into Boston	be more in the country
Nothing I want nice weather.	
If I were to stay though, I would like to keep green space and space for nature.	nice neighborhoods

APPENDIX B: OUTREACH RESULTS

Things that my kids would enjoy	More stores? Less rural
Amenities such as shops and places of hangout.	A huge shift in the types of politicians that are successful and that have control
I have no idea	lots of restaurants to go to
I'm not sure I haven't been through Boston yet	Nothing
Idk	My family would keep me there. The community and friends that live in the Hamburg area.
More activity's and another grocery store besides tops bc it's extremely expensive	less houses/ neighbors
having stores and little shops and coffee places and clothing stores and parks and also a plaza with a lot of different stuff in it	things/activities that are not in hamburg
Things to do inside and out side a nice town and little shops and thigs like that	theme park
Affordable housing, interesting things to do/places to go	More attractions to it, like a few stores
Something that'd make me want to live in Boston is a village with restaurants and shops to walk around in. Living in Hamburg I love walking around the village with my friends. Another thing is activities that many people enjoy like a ice rink so people can skate.	If there were more cafes, places to walk, shops, over all worthwhile living needs.
Lot of activities to do. A nice village area to walk in. Good restaurants. Everything not being so far away from eachother.	The large land and forestry
Low crime rates, shopping areas, and fun things to do like escape rooms and such.	Sidewalks
Things to do, more jobs and opportunities	Good conditions with the environment
Some cute shops or a plaza with a bakery and a boutique. Something that isn't a part of the main, busy, street.	If the price of a house/apartment was in my range and had everything I needed
I would want places around like small businesses around the town or parks.	If it was a large city
If major traffic were closer to major shops like malls or mechanics or restaurants leaving it safe to walk to a bike shop or ice cream	Fun town events
New things to do or like a school there	Affordable house pricing.
(Never been in it long enough)	low taxes

APPENDIX B: OUTREACH RESULTS

Starbucks, more restaurants more neighborhoods	The beautiful nature and hills, the changing of the leaves, and all of the four seasons would keep me in Boston. I like the little town and being close to Hamburg and the 219 is nice.
Low taxes	Less state taxes and better job opportunities.
yard space	the scenery and close family and friend
More jobs there	A good community of people.
More stores like Walmart/target and possibly a couple food places like moes	More stores and more productivity.
My friends and family.	A village similar to Hamburg's, with quality stores and other organized buildings open to the public..
Lots of entertainment, restaurants, big population	I would like more sidewalks and street lighting throughout. Some parts have more sparse lighting than others, my street, Kevinton, has only two lights. Sometimes if it was too dark I was not allowed to walk just down to the end to my friends house. Also, walking to crosbys, or three girls for breakfast, I don't feel safe with all the cars rushing past me and swerving out of the way. If we had a sidewalk or better margins at least, I would probably walk more places, especially during the nice days when we all just want to get outside.
most likely nothing probably family if my bf or husband is there	mall/ good restaurant
there are local parks for your children growing up and many open lots to build	Casino
More things to do	shopping
close stores, things for my kids to do, not expensive rent	brunners
Closer to my family would be the only reason i might stay in boston	more stores
lot of land	the country side
If it was close to where I was working in the future.	its pretty and naturny
Small businesses, lots of woods, lots of property.	low taxes and plowing services.
entertainment and places to hang out.	the Town park, the woods, creeks, fields
If Boston had any important upcoming events I would be more interested in living in Boston.	A million dollars.
Good hiking trails and parks.	A casino

APPENDIX B: OUTREACH RESULTS

Mabey the colleges that they offered like a 2 year college and how much tuition would cost for a 2 year college	Nothing.
More things to do	A wider variety of places to eat. More forms of entertainment possibly. Liven it up more make it look nicer.
The weather would have to change	I don't know
Better roads and housing	Warmer weather
one thing that might entice me to live in Boston is less expensive homes/apartments	Nothing because i've never lived there but if an ocean was added, i'd consider
My family	More opportunities
A pride parade	A more town like atmosphere at its heart, with sidewalks near the cvs area.
If it was clean and had good internet	Nothing
More resources in the area like grocery stores	I'm not sure.
My family, or inclusivity	Close proximity to jobs and employment.
I like how much property there is out that way	I'd like somewhere safe and clean. I don't want to be too far away from home, so that's a positive for Boston. I'd like good stores and places to eat and a decent apartment.
Pizza Hut and more artistic buildings	If the weather and area is nice and its a generally good place, then I'd maybe consider it.
Nothing.	More of a town area
Nothing i would like to explore other parts of the world and not stay in my hometown.	more adult jobs, so basically more opportunities to have a real job and not something in the fast food industry or jobs similar. i want to have a real career and not a job that causes me to rely on a weekly paycheck.
If I did live here low taxes would entice me personally to stay.	I don't know, I don't visit often
An inclusive environment.	Lakes, trails, parks
if new houses weren't being built	Sidewalks and more stores
Having things closer together.	More people more stores more places to walk around and just more town activites
Probably a better art college or better reputation for lgbtq community	i wish there was more nature to enjoy
Jobs in the region and local restaurants	If there were more trails to run/bike/hike on. And sidewalks so you can walk places.
know where the closest stuff is	Better roads, having more things available in the town. Sidewalks.
a collage out in boston	Move and build a nice house on alot of land with space

APPENDIX B: OUTREACH RESULTS

Some of my close family lives in boston and i would want to stay close to them.	Better care, less power outages when the weather is bad.
The community	More businesses, more food options the only places there really are are two pizza places and the Georgie's but that's only open in the summer.
Boston definitely seems like a wonderful place, I know many wonderful people who live there and have had no negative experiences whenever I visit	Lower taxes than hamburg.
If there was more land and bigger land with houses	If there were more buildings in walking distance and it was more safe for pedestrians.
A better community and more stores and clean up the roads the streets and the side walks and just clean up everything then yes I will probably love in boston	Animal behavioral classes.
Friends and family	Build at target
Not sure	Pretty hills during the fall, get more stores like Walmart, target and get more fast food places
If there were plenty of places that were kid friendly so you can raise a family.	More walkable infrastructure and more businesses
keeping mostly everything the same	Family and friends.
Having a good education for my future family.	"More things to do like having a skate parks or trails to walk/ ride bikes. "
The hiking areas, my friends and the bands I have; I'd enjoy to begin the journey in the boston area then go off around the world	"I would like to keep everything as everything is there for a reason, its lovely"
The good people in Boston	"Keep the lights on at the Town Park at night"
The amount of land	"The small town feel it has and the Boston Hotel"
Family	"More attractions, more stores, restaurants, fast food places, etc"
My property	"I would want to live in Boston if there was more stores, popular places to go, because everything is further away from me"
I would keep all of the trees and woods that there is	"More activities"
more privacy and quiet	"Add more activities. There doesn't seem like there's very much to do"
if it was more bright and had more fun stuff to do	"I would make the town of Boston more like the village of Hamburg without the higher taxes. More places to get food with friends and more variety. It has been the same as when my mom grew up here"

APPENDIX B: OUTREACH RESULTS

more things to do for high schoolers and young adults	"More stuff to do"
If my future husband wanted to live in Boston or Hamburg or if work was part of that	"Not very busy, country roads"
Nothing except better weather	"If there was more activities to do daily"
The feel that Boston is all connected and that Boston and Hamburg feel like one united community	"There's a Tim Hortons and easy access to the 219"
Free houses and free food	"More things to do , places to eat"
Probably more of a town like Hamburg but could be a little smaller.	"If there were more food options or stores"
nothing i dont like new york	"Ice rinks, science/art culture, soda fountain"
I don't know	"A college! Office buildings/opportunities for more education and jobs for people in college. Send the elementary kids to schools in hamburg (I went to BVS when I was little, transferred in 1st grade, everyone already knew each other so I was left out and bullied) It is too isolated of a school. Add something in that will draw in people with entertainment and fun! There is so much nature in Boston- take care of it! Better taken care of nature trails, Starbucks, better park, convention center, arcade, gym, YMCA, - all some ideas!"
n/a	"Safe community and entertainment (Drive-ins, parks)"
I don't know	"More family restaurants, more food places in general. A TJ Maxx or another clothing place, stock the creek"
Universities and jobs	"The simpleness of the town and not terribly busy"
nothing	"Hang out spots, restaurants, SKATE PARK!!!, Stores (small stores)"
The land	"Having things to do to have fun and keep entertained. More stores and like food places"
Nothing	"More lights near the streets, and keeping lights on at the basketball courts so its something to do at night. Fixing some of the potholes and roads"
low cost of land	"Although I don't live in Boston, I do pass through every so often and enjoy the atmosphere of the town. I like that there is options in what businesses go to and what other experiences are available. It seems like a nice place to settle down and stay"

APPENDIX B: OUTREACH RESULTS

Relevant to my life	"Things to do such as outdoor events, restaurants and nice properties with lots of land"
More amenities	"Restaurants, fast food, more activities, like malls or shopping areas"
Good roads	"Having more activities, such as gyms, movie theaters, sit-down restaurants and more shopping"
Lower taxes and cheaper land.	"I would like more hotspots in residential areas (have more restaurants and businesses to shop at:)"
A trendy brand store maybe or something fun to do	"More public services, more things to do that are close by"
Becoming more urbanized	"Things to do, fast food close by, more street lights, more/better parks/courts"
the amount land	"Living near stores, restaurants, etc"
more land to build on	"More outdoor activities for everyone to participate in, sports, wilderness, etc"
If I were to get a nice property with lots of land.	"Fun places, a more town like are with sidewalks and walkin stores and restaurant shopping and a gym"
Lower taxes, nicer houses, general attractions like a park, playground, pond, etc. More restaurants.	"A SUNY or community college, modernization, more industry, sidewalks, streetlamps"
More stores and restaurants in Boston	"More entertainment for young adults, teens and kids to raise a family"
Boston should have more things to do and should have a better community.	"A location of interest such as a shopping area"
I would move out there for a few reason 1 if I needed to figure out a new start in life like refreshing and starting in a better start and yeah colleges or jobs out there would entice me to live there	"Having interesting attractions/activities to do that would tempt people to go out and do stuff in town"
actual affordable housing	"If they dug out the ponds in the park and stocked the creek"
More black people	"More activities"
Add more attractions and stores and recreational facilities.	"Affordable housing, low taxes, a golf course"
The main roads don't have many attractions and their aren't many sidewalks and the roads are in condition a lot of the time either	"More forms of entertainment and ease of access to certain necessities. So things like an indoor rec center for sports and other events ir even a bigger grocery store"
i would like sidewalks, a aldi or chick fil a or starbucks or target.	"Lower taxes, fun things to do"
places for entertainment.	"NOTHING"

APPENDIX B: OUTREACH RESULTS

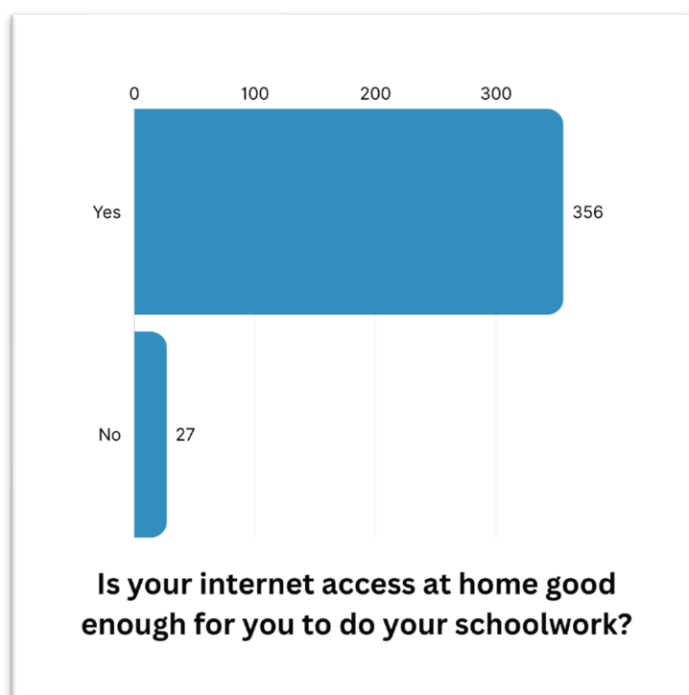
A loving neighborhood exciting stuff to do restaurants and like a fun spot for kids to hangout.	"As a young adult probably nothing, but when I get kids maybe a nice park or some good sports programs"
keeping roads safer	"Restaurants and recreation things"
Entertainment and if there my future job was centered around there.	"Stores clothes, stores known brands, store open 24/7"
I have no clue	"If they had stuff in the community to let kids have a good team"
No	"More places to eat skater or pump? Track"
Nothing	"Jobs, if theres more jobs"
my kids get to go to hamburg and they can grow up with a big yard	"If it wasn't so far away from life/out dated if it was like the Hamburg Village and young stronger school system. I want my future to be like the village of Ellicotville! Spacious but updated"
It's fun to live in the county	"The places they have and the events that the town holds"
Parades or special events	"More shops and a cleaner atmosphere"
Probably the fact that I'd be familiar with the area	"I would like a mixture of Hamburg and a lot of Eden like it. Bella's Pizza"
bigger shops like walmart	"More restaurants/ fast food/entertainment like a theater or farmers market"
I love the nature and parks in Boston. More small businesses or things to do would make me stay.	"More things to do"
i might be to grow up and be a good man i want to attend there .	"House prices, neighborhoods, schooling"
The food and friendliness of the people would keep me in Boston.	"I have no clue, there isn't really anything to make me move there"
How quiet it is	"I would enjoy to go and hike trails and use the hills for sledding during the winter. I would enjoy going to Brunner's with my family or friends pretty often"
more apts and a gym	"More alive, its pretty dead & bring more activities"
Good jobs	"Nothing"
more developed	"If there was more fun things to do like more parks"
lower taxes	"Attractions for me and my kids to do"
the scenery	more places to go
Walkability and a bookstore	family and friends
Boston seems a little sad and separated sometimes. If it was more connected as a community it would entice me.	Being able to go to Hamburg Schools
keep it a smaller town	Being payed

APPENDIX B: OUTREACH RESULTS

n/a	The summer weather is nice and I know people from boston
the people who live there	Probably if there was like social events
I wanna live in a city	It's a nice area
Getting a job there	More opportunities for science careers
A nice house	Big mountains
Nothing	I'm not sure.
Fun activities	Tops
The peacefulness	Lower housing prices
Tim horton	Nothing
less people, more nature, more 'quaint'	I don't live in Boston
everything	a little but more developed with more things like restaurants
I don't think there's anything that would make me change my mind.	More shops and restaurants
Not much, I don't have any family in Boston or New York.	More things to do to keep people entertained.
More things to do in a small area, kind of like the village of Hamburg	If I got a job then I would stay.
The fact that you can jump on a snowmobile or an ATV trail, and you can shoot your guns if you have 5 acres or more. This can't be done in the city. It is a very nice small town in the country.	a town with stores and an olive garden
If the houses stay pretty	More activities and public areas. Have more events and attractions that would be fun.
Nothing	More food places
More things to do, public pool, some fast food, actual shopping plaza, gym, etc	Bella's and Burners pizza is the only thing they got to be honest. And it's ok pizza :/
Nothing	Nothing
a hospital	So I can be closer to my parents
N/A	warm weather
im sure theres cheap rent, im not really sure though	If there was various activity to do like more parks water parks ect.
Nothing, I do not plan living here.	More parks and outdoor improvements to current parks/town owned land.
Maybe like more things to do and activity's	I don't know
Nothing	a movie theater or more public places to hang out at

Question 7: Is your internet access at home good enough for you to do your schoolwork?

Is your internet access at home good enough for you to do your schoolwork?	
Choice	Responses
Yes	356
No	27
Answered	317
Skipped	3

**Question 8: Please explain more about your internet access.**

Please explain more about your internet access.	
Response	Response
My internet access is good to the point I can get my homework done and out of the way.	My house is well connected to internet, there's not many problems with it.
its fine	It's good then sometimes it not I have data if its not working.
It is great and can use lots of apps on it	I never have to worry about getting good internet access at home.
it is good	It can access the internet at the same speed as the school
I have good internet access that I am happy with.	its ok
My internet is very good	its great for doing school work
Spotty at best	It is good except when power goes out
My internet goes out often and there are few options to change it.	I use Verizon
Its good but sometimes cuts out	My internet access is good
It is sometimes bad, but is usually very good.	It works wonderful and lets me do my schoolwork fast
it goes in and out, sometimes i have no internet and sometimes i have full internet	its perfectly fine
I have all internet access	It works well, without the internet crashing or things lagging.
Verizon	My internet needs are met

My internet is a wireless network provided by Verizon	It's usually very good and I have strong connection almost always .
It can run most apps on any device with multiple connections	I don't live there
its fine I have spectrum	Great
it is very good and quick	Our internet access is good but is a little slow when my whole family is working on a device.
its fine spectrum	We have our own WiFi in my apartment.
In hamburg we are able to access any internet service	It's good
It's bad in certain places in my house but overall good	it's works idk
Its fine, it can handle multiple things at once. Better than my other familys house in buffalo.	Good
It is really good I have Verizon	It usually works but tends to be very slow so it's easier to just use my cellular data
It works alright to the point where I can play video games while my family all use tv's in like 5 other rooms	It works fine
It good and had many affordable options.	It goes out sometimes but it's good for the most part.
I'm able to do all my schoolwork smoothly and with ease. The internet is fast for 4 people being on it at all times.	I never have a problem with the internet.
We use spectrum.	I have wifi
I feel like I'm always disconnecting from things and everything is pretty slow	It works well enough.
It is good, but it could be better than what it is.	it's usually good but sometimes it goes in and out for a second
It's easy to access but can be slow	Fast speeds easy access
It's very good i have Verizon.	it works
It's good. It works well.	good.
Verizon is very good and It is fast,	Idk its good.
Because my mom pays for good internet	I have very high quality wifi that works for my schoolwork, gaming, etc.
It just sucks in general	I've got wifi and fast connection
It's good	I have internet access at my house
It's quite fast- it's not always the best in my room so I tend to work in the living room, where it works best.	i have unlimited access
I have Verizon at home but we don't use cable.	Sometimes I have issues connecting to the internet but it's usually good
I have Verizon and at home in Hamburg I am able to log on to the Internet easily.	Most of the time my internet access is fine, but during times when the power goes out (no generator) the service is non-existent. Service in general could be much better.
I can easily use the internet at home for schoolwork and personal use.	it's cool

APPENDIX B: OUTREACH RESULTS

It's great	It's fine ig idk
The internet in Boston is pretty bad when I lived there I could only use the Wi-Fi in the living room that's one really bad thing	i disconnect in roblox
I have no real problems with the internet in our house	I live in hamburg
All of the devices in my house are connected and run through a computer in my basement so it hardly goes out and is very reliable.	It works well
I can do anything I need to do, but I know how to avoid things to stay safe. I also have a vpn to help with anything I miss	Its fast and it doesn't limit me
Very strong	Works fine
It's good and reliable.	My internet access helps me do my work
It's really good	My internet is good when I am at home.
It is very good	I have access to many devices and good working wifi.
it's fast enough	It's fast except at school
It's good	My home internet is very usable for the most part.
My internet is perfect	It works good, on the rare occasion it goes down, my cell service works.
It's good.	I have unlimited access to the internet
My internet works good for what me, and my family need to use it for.	its good
it's just my internet so it works	Strong but goes out frequently during wind storms
i think they should get verison because spectrum isnt great we have the highest internet possible and it still isnt very good	idk
I have good Internet in my house, I can do schoolwork, go on games, watch TV, and use my phone at leisure.	its good
its good, for most things	My interest is great and I get all my stuff done on time
My internet access is pretty good sometimes there's some short times of no connection	it's reliable
it works fine	It works
My internet access is okay. Sometimes my wifi is touchy.	It is fairly smooth most of the time, never really had problems
I am lucky enough to have good internet access, and I am able to reach school sites whenever I need to.	It works fine
very good around the house, very strong.	My home has good internet most of the time. Sometimes it is inconvenient because we get a lot of power outages and it takes a while to fix.
It is easy to access and use the internet whenever I am home because we have a strong connection to it.	its fine
It's AT&T. That's all I know.	pretty fast, verizon plan

APPENDIX B: OUTREACH RESULTS

It's in the middle of my house and I'm close to the wifi box so its very strong on my end and everyone else that has the password to it	My internet is good but the data is spoty
I run 500mb download and 200 upload	I have a good amount of internet access.
my internet access is pretty good i get to go on the internet with little interuptions	My internet works perfectly fine
I have full access to the internet at my house	It works
N/A	It is good in my home and runs smoothly.
It cuts out a lot	It's not the best but it gets the job done
The internet allows me to complete school work when needed	it's fine
I think it's all right.	Internet is strong.
I have internet at home and we pay money to have good WiFi	We are connected with Spectrum and it works just fine.
It works well	i have great internet access because i live in the village
At times it doesn't work but it does work most of the time.	I have internet access and pretty much always have good connection
My internet access is good it is fast and always works at my house.	My familt uses verizon and have a at home router.
I live in Hamburg and I have spectrum so it's fine for me.	I have enough Internet to do my homework.
N/A	works great
some trees fall on the power line and uts happend at least 5 times	I can access internet whenever I want at my house.
I have good internet I have had no problems with it, but I don't live in Boston.	It's great. I barely have bad internet. It only happens once every 3 months.
I have vary good internet at home	It works, sometimes. Sometimes though we will lose it all together. It fluctuates between really fast and great, and barely loading and losing my progress.
Generally flakey and inconsistent	its fast
i live in the heart of hamburg	It works well enough to do simple tasks and browse the web
good enough fir schoolwork	high speed
I am able to get onto my computer and finish my work without and inconveniences.	could be better
My family pays for good wifi for our house	its good
I know in Hamburg I rarely have internet issues, and from what my friends in Boston have told me is that usually they have no issues either, but I do know that they tend to lose internet access a lot more often than we do.	I don't do the homework
my inter net work just fine at my house and the only problems we have is when a tree falls	it is okay

APPENDIX B: OUTREACH RESULTS

It is good I can get all of my work done we have good internet access. So yes I can get all of my work done	Its fast and works very well
Its very good	It is unlimited.
Sometimes it cuts out a lot	Its really good for pirating
I can access my internet well?	My internet access at home is good because it is really useful for when I have to do work for school or just use the internet in general.
I have no problem with my internet.	I have good internet access have no issues with getting ahold of the internet.
I have access to everything I need for school and I have help aswell when I do my homework.	I have a phone and a computer
Sometimes it is slow in the far corner of my house	It's good
i have very little to none internet problems but every once in awhile i will have to restart my internet so i can watch tv or do school work	It's really good
In Hamburg my internet is good for getting my school work done.	it's good in hamburg!
It's good and works fine	It's amazing
I can do homework	It's good!
It slow and unreliable	It is good enough to run games and access the web
It's sucks	It's decent? It works well enough to use?
It's fine, just glitches sometimes	Internet is somewhat limited my family had to have ours installed to our house.
my internet is fine sometimes it acts up though	My internet access is good. I have access to the internet and whatever I need to complete my schoolwork.
My Internet in hamburg is very good and helps me get all my work done and so much more	It works perfectly fine, I have several devices that I could work from if necessary.
mine works perfectly fine	It's average and works
It's nice and I can access things for school	as long as our router is up and working i can usually use my computer etc, but the power does go out often so i'm unable to access the internet at these times. my family has an unlimited data plan for our phones so that is never an issue
I have good internet access that helps me get all my schoolwork done.	Its good i got 5g
Some days it's slow, but most days it's fast enough that I can get my homework done	It is good for living in Hamburg b
It works well.	I barley get any connection
The school wifi is pretty bad so if i wanna do an assiment on my phone i cant, i have to use my chromebook.	My internet is great in hamburg
i have verison	The internet if fine.
Bad Wi-Fi router	It's good enough but sometimes its gets slow.

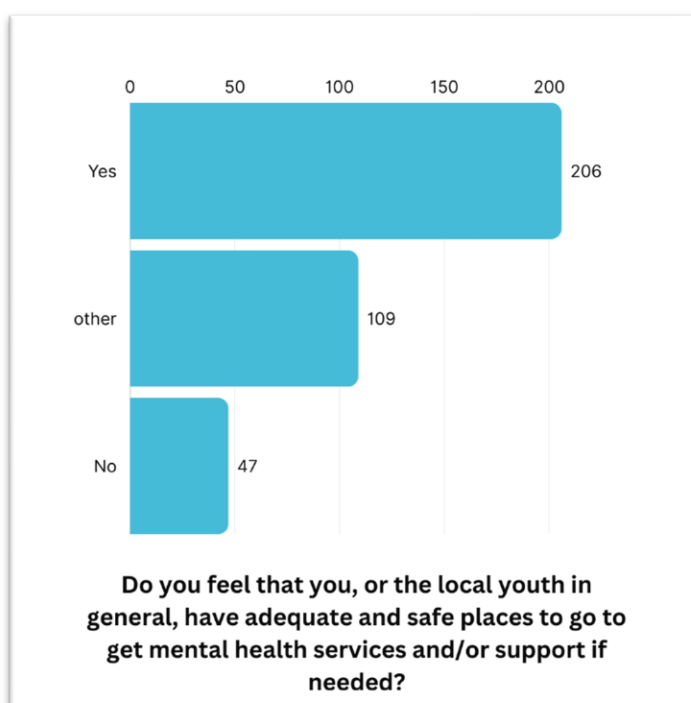
It doesn't cut out it works really well and it is reliable	i use it to do things online
It always go out when a little bit of wind happens	It works, I do not live in rural Boston.
It's great	It's really a 50/50 sometimes it sucks and it's super slow. Other times it's fast.
It works fine	My internet access is pretty good.
I live in hamburg	I live in the village of Hamburg and I thankfully have good access to internet.
Full connection	It's my family WiFi.
I have enough data to do my work from home	It's bad
Wifi and Cellular data	Idk
I have as much access as almost everyone does	It's not perfect but it's pretty good
Always working	It works
It sucks	"I have wifi and unlimited data at home"
It is great no issues ever.	"It is good enough to do my schoolwork but sometimes it gives me trouble when playing games"
My dad makes enough to afford it but when I'm not connected to the wifi it's awful	"My famimly put in a fiber optic line"
Very good	"I have very good internet at my home"
It works well but we loose power very easily.	"It could be better but it is okay"
its workable its sometimes a little slow but normally not a problem	"The internet is good for most of the time but sometimes it just cuts out"
I have good internet at home. I can always do my homework and any other work.	"works great!"
My internet access is good.	"Well sometimes the internet is difficult because the woods I'm guessing"
I have good internet access	"My internet is completely fine to do schoolwork"
My Internet access is really great and it runs fine, It doesn't take long for anything to load.	"My internet at home is good enough to do school work but sometimes I feel like it could be better"
it's a good wifi router	"Yes, but not the best for other stuff, ex. Gaming"
it is strong enough? 🐱	"I have good service at my house because I live pretty central in Eden"
I watch a lot of sponge bob	"I can play my xbox, watch tv, use my phone, and listen to music"
I have verizon.	"we have excellent service"
It is very quick and gives me access to many things	"I have internet"
mine works fine	"I can do my homework"
I have good internet.	"I have multiple gaming devices that I can do work on along with play games"
. My internet is good and never fails	"2 years ago we finally got spectrum on our road before that we had to use mobile hotspots"
It is fine other than when storms happen.	"Yes, mine is perfect"
My internet access is good, and my dad is always trying to improve it.	"I live in the valley and I sometimes don't have the best wifi but mostly I have good wifi"
I have pretty unlimited access to internet	"I have good wifi"

APPENDIX B: OUTREACH RESULTS

It's good	"I am able to switch between 2 wifis so if one goes down I can access other one"
I have a wifi router	"My internet usually runs at around 150 to 200 m/s per second"
it is good but some days it could be better	"It works fine the majority of the time"
It's alright it's good and bad some days	"My access to internet is decent since I live in a decent area with good wifi connection"
i can be a professor at college years before of during the day .	"We have verizon"
It's great and fast	"My internet access is fine at home"
My internets fine but whenever I use wifi my phone bugs our and my computer just refuses to accept wifi	"I can easily get my homework done"
I have good internet access	"It needs to be faster"
I have pretty good internet. When the power goes out (which happens a few times a year) then I am unable to use the internet	"Yes because I have internet"
I have good upload and download speeds from my internet, but sometimes the connection can be choppy.	"I have good wifi"
I get good internet in my kitchen but not in my bedroom	"I get good service, I don't have any issues"
i live right outside village	"I have internet"
no	"It's good enough to do school work as well as many other things requiring internet"
Mines pretty good	"Yes, my internet access at home is good enough to do my school work"
it's good	"It's fine"
I have full bars at home, and I can reliably use the internet at the same time as the rest of my family.	"I have good service & connection where I live"
I have internet as long as I have power, 24/7.	"I'm able to access my school work at boces from my computer at home"
its good enough to do what I need it for	"I live right by the school, not hilly"
n/a	"It is important to have good connection nowadays because most people use their phones and such for many things every single day"
it's very good	"My cromebook connects to my wifi"
I have a wifi box	"I have my school chromebook and my PC at home with internet access"
It's not good	"My parents buy internet boosters for good wifi"
It's fast	"I have a great internet when you has verizon"
It's okay other then when there's wind.	"I rarely have issues, normally I can use my wifi without an issue"
Its good most of the time	"I have Spectrum, it's strong enough where I can comfortably do my homework"
My internet is good by the school	"Because I can afford wifi"

My phone works fine	"It's very fast"
it's fine	"Because I can do more than just homework"
its strong	"It works good"
I have good internet access.	"Yes! I have a chromebook"
It works completely well enough to do pretty much anything.	"N/a- I do not live in Boston, so I would not be able to answer this, but if it is anything like Ede's internet than it needs improvement"
5G internet, reliable (unless snowstorm)	"Mildly- My wifi goes in and out because I live in a valley area"
We have new Internet	"I live in a deadzone"
We have spectrum which is very good but can be problematic at times.	"There are frequent power outages that cause my google assignments hard to complete"
I have general internet that works fine for school work	I live on Zimmerman and it's a lot of money to run it from the road to my house.
Very fast	It's slow.
good	My parents pay for internet so we get internet
full internet access	it works good
its good	It's fine
It's very good	it worked pretty good and is fast

Question 9: It's no secret that kids today are dealing with a lot – from COVID to the many known and unknown impacts from technology. As a result, emotional health and stress related concerns have emerged and been documented in youth. Do you feel that you, or the local youth in general, have adequate and safe places to go to get mental health services and/or support if needed?



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Response	Response
Personally I have my own support that I find sufficient for me.	Yes I feel as if kids have many safe places to get help like for me it's my nana and papa and my counselor
More or less. I have found that the best way to cope with my mental health is to hang out with good friends, but there aren't many sidewalks in Boston neighborhoods to facilitate that. I don't see too many people walking where I live.	yes
Yes , I do the school has a very good system set up, and even out of high school I'm pretty sure your able to go see the counselors	Yes because there are social workers
I have a safe home environment so I don't need any services.	yes because there are a lot of social workers and counselors
I think it is a lot more common to have therapy now and more normalized. It's a good thing to have	Yes
Yes	Yes many school have great social worker
Not in person, I'd have to go to Hamburg to get mental help	Yes
yes	Yes, I feel that there are more than enough places to find help and support.
yes	Yes. there are places at school that help us.
yeah at my school (hamburg high)	Yes, the school gives you a counselor and there are some cheap therapists near Hamburg that give children good help.
Yes	kind of? school but not really
Yes I think so	Yes
Yes, school has very safe people to talk too and parents are usually safe	No I feel fine
i think there are a lot of sources from school that could help people with their mental health	I'm not sure
Yes because there is a lot of places you could do in Boston to fix your mental health	I don't need any support
yee	Yes there is more options then ever for help
Yes, I believe that there is adequate and safe places to go for mental health concerns, there are many places in school and the village that help to promote mental wellness.	I think there could be more mental health safe places for people, and more medical health things.
Yes I believe so.	Yes

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Yes, I feel that my local youth have safe places to go to get mental health services including schools.	No I believe there should be a place teens to go to just hang and be there for each other
Yes, I know that we have at least 1 therapist in the area where I live.	Im not very sure.
yes	Yes there is a lot of options for help
for me yes I have a trusted parent and my school counselor , but other people might not have a trusted adult	I feel like there should be more places like that for kids
I think they do there are counselors, therapists, and many trusted adults	Yes, my community is very kind and considerate of mental health issues
Yes theirs a lot of places to go	Yes there are a ton of safe spaced for kids to go.
Yes, I am fine	yes but i feel like some places are uncomfortable
yes and no . yes because i feel like the youth have there parents and other trusted figures to go and talk to and no because they might be scared to open up	I feel like the way we interact with others have changed alot and we arent as social making talking about problems harder
yea, society is well aware of the effects of covid	Yes
Our school social workers try and force us to play mental health games but when you actually do need to reach out it is a safe space. I wish it was advertised as such.	No I don't really think there is much mental health services and or support because I feel like much stuff like that isn't built or thought about in Boston as much as Hamburg
Yes, I don't live there but I have services in hamburg and Boston is close to there	There are, but it is not enough mental health services.
I feel like there's a lot of support around, just not enough people talking about where and how to get help.	Yes, there are many places around me that are good for mental health services.
I do think kids my age have plenty of places we could go to if we wanted or needed help for our mental health.	Yes i do, lots of people tot all to if needed.
I do. There's a counselor at school	Idk
Yes, I have easy access to therapy and schools have provided many resources for kids to get the help they need.	Not really
yes i'm in therapy	I would have to say Best Self Behavioral health
Sure.	Yes i think there is places to go if u need help

yes.	I would say that I myself have adequate and safe places to go. I have a stable home life and people to rely on, such as family, counselors, and my therapist. However, I do not know about the local youth at large- everyone's situation and access to help is obviously different. There are, of course, school counseling centers, but nothing independently accessible is coming to mind, such as shelters.
Idk. I don't need mental health help.	Yes, I feel like school is a very beneficial way to get support if I were to need it.
Yes, I feel like there are help options.	No, and even the places we can go it's super hard to take the first step to actually get that help even if there are facilities or people that can help.
yes	I sort of do. I personally wouldn't reach out, but I feel if I had to I could find someone to talk to and refer me to a safe place or a place offering mental health services and or support.
Yes, the counselors at Hamburg are very open and I think there are other good places to go to.	Yes, many counseling centers, such as best self
Yes, I feel that we have places to go, especially within school.	Yes, because there's enough places to go if needed.
Sure there's school and out of school counselors who would be happy to help, however kids need to want to get help in order to get help. Nothing will get done if the kid doesn't want or know about help.	Yeah it's just they have to choose if they want support or not
Yes	I have never needed to look for places around Boston to find places for mental health services so i would not know.
yeah	I don't know
yes.	I have a therapist I can bike to when the weather is good. Since I started going my depression has severely lessened. Even just having someone to talk to is helpful
idk no ig.	Yeah counseling
Yes.	Yes, I feel good about myself mentally, physically, socially etc. I feel safe.
Yes there is many support services	Yes
Yes i think there is alot of mental health services that I have access too	Yes many places in school such as councilors and teachers
yes i do o have many people i trust to go to	i don't need it

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Not really, the nearest centers to get psychological or physical help are out in Hamburg rather than close to home, at least a 15 minute drive away.	Ok
Yes I feel like the youth around me and the services are in favor of my mental health	Yes
yeah	no people are really mean
maybe	Yes, Hamburg schools are very big on mental health
No but I live in Hamburg so it doesn't matter	yes, my parents and friends and school but only some teachers
Yes for the most part I think	yes beacuse the school is always here to help u
Yeah except the fact that they will tell other adults so personally i dont go to them	Yes and no, I have mental health issues that includes anxiety and it's hard to get support in school sometimes, but everything always works out in the end, and I have my councelors to support me.
Yes, everything is there that I could need.	no people are really mean at this school
Yes, you can talk with your friends if you needed help	yes, i think my pears and I have safe places such as my house, school, etc
Yes. If i need help I can ask my parents or teachers/counslers.	yes because the schools have good social workers
Yes. School teachers and socia workers can help with mental health. Also doctors or even just a trusted adult like a parents or family member.	Yes, a safe place is my home or buffalo ski club in Boston.
Yes Hamburg is a safe place if you are going through stuff	yes, we are good with our mental health.
for the most part there are people for kids to go to but in many cases I feel that there are not people comfortable for poeple like me to talk to.	Yes, there are many places I feel as if I can go if I need space from technology and one of my favorites is to be outside specifically in the woods.
Yes, in Orchard Park or Hamburg, not really in Boston though.	I am not sure
I don't know I don't go out	Just having clean places for people to meet would help.
there fine	I feel like today in this social that our generation dont have safe place to go I don't think that people thay have friends should be using their friends ad therapist because they are not trained professionals
No, because there is not enough mental health shelters around Boston if any.	Yes
sure sometimes	Yes
yes we consolors	yes i belive i have plenty of services and plan to use them in the fucuter

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Yes everything is there that I will need	Yes
Everyone is depressed	yes i do, i think kids can go to places at school like counselors or go to counseling outside of school.
yes	Yes there are resources everywhere
Yeah	Yes
Yes I do, although I do not personalize use it I know that there are many ways to get appropriate help	Not exactly. Many kids struggle with issues that affect their mental health and have no way to get help.
yes	Yes i feel there are a lot of options to go to when help is needed, they are even in school...
Yes. There are almost too many school social workers and other people telling us we can open up	N/A
I feel as if there are more safety areas near where I live. Such as the fire station, police station, and EMTs by the town hall.	no, because there is no mental service places to go to in Boston
I'm sure we do but i only know of one place in my town	Yes I feel I have trusted people I can go to for problems.
Yes its addressed enough	I feel like hamburger high school has a safe place for me and others to go down to and talk to someone:)
Yes, I feel like I find it in the people around me	not sure
Yes especially at our school	yes, family
Yes, because there are a lot of teachers that care for you and close friends. You can talk to a trusted adult whether that is in school or at home.	I think i personally do just because i know my counselor from outside of school so i have a closer relationship with her but some people might now have that kind of relationship with an adult inside of the school building.
I think we do	Yes I believe there are many places young adults can go for mental health
yes	I do feel like there is many adequate and safe places to get mental health services and support in the area if someone were to need it.
Yes I am surroned by people I can trust.	Yes, I think there are a lot of places people could go and find help.
I'm perfectly fine and any mental health problems I had have been resolved.	I think some people have more access than others depending on their parents and resources available- at school, home, or other places.
yes, many teachers of mine are considered a safe space	No they say they support but when you want to open up you cant say how your truly feeling without threats to mental hospitals

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yes, there are many places to go and people to talk to that can help	We do, but I would do more to combat the stigma as I feel most of my peers would not go to a counselor voluntarily. Focus on men's mental health as well, society really has stigma around that.
yes i think there are enough mental health facilities in the area	No I feel that mental health services lack understanding for how the youth feel in the modern age and don't understand how to help in any meaningful way
Yes. I'm not sure actually because I never used them	Yes I do I have a good doctor good concealer everythng is good so yes when I am sick there are really good doctors and when I need support I get support
With health insurance I feel I have available sources from doctors to therapists.	No Im good
It seems like there is a lot of options at Hamburg High School for people dealing with mental health struggles.	Yes school provides that
no	Yes
Yes, there are places to get help.	The mental health services might need to be more calm with their paitents and treat them with no force unless they begin to misbehave and become violent. I belive hospitals should have better cleanliness and have more ways paitents can cope even if it's with supervison.
No. There are little places and they are far to reach. I only know one which is in Hamburg. If there are any in Boston, I've never heard of those places.	Not really anywhere besides parents or counselors but thats all you need
Yes, I tend to get the annual check-ups in village clinics or buildings less than thirty minutes outside of Hamburg. My emotional health is overall pretty stable.	yes i think health is good
I don't receive any of my professional mental health care anywhere near boston. My dentist is in Colden and my doctor is downtown. I feel like any appointment I have, even doing my hair, I have to go out of my way to get to the place at least 15 minutes.	I feel that I have a good support system that I can depend on if I need to.
sometimes, not a lot of places that are open to the public or close	Yes, there are counselors at school that will help if you need it.
Yes I have my family	Yes there are lots of places for people to go to get help
no	Yeah
no	Yea I see a lot of places around
yes if i really needed my resources are there	Yes

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Yes.	Yes, school provides lots of opportunities for help and to talk
Yes, my fairy godmother has me covered.	yes there's places to get help not really in boston
Yes, because I still feel like COVID is still having an effect on youth throughout the whole world.	yes, Their is a counseling center only 10 minutes from my house were i can go talk about my personal issues
sometimes school but a lot of the times no.	yes, but not all of them feel completely comfortable yet to go to them
everywhere is safe stop making covid such a big deal	Yes,because in schools they have consolors to talk to and lots of adults to trust
yes, i feel like things need to be less technology related though.	Yes there is enough people to talk to and places to go here.
yes, i don't need them but i think others would be fine	Yes, the Hamburg high school has many viable options for students to recive help.
Yes, I believe we have plenty of health services that are adequate and safe. While I believe we do that doesn't mean we couldn't use more places for mental health purposes as it's always good to improve upon the ideas and methods/ Strategies to strengthen mental help services as well as increasing accessibility to such services.	Yes, there are many opportunities for people around the community for anyone who needs it
Yes	Yes because i can talk to people
Yes	Yes i feel like everyone my age has access to support inside and outside of school.
Yeah	yes we have groups at school
yes	Yur
Yes	yes
Yeah I guess so.	N/A
There is nothing in Boston I can think of as help other than just my parents or family that live in Boston.	Yes
Yes, I think there are places to go to get help like school counselors, clubs and numbers to call.	Yes they have access to guidance counselors
Yes, though there is a level of trust that is easily broken when it comes to talking about mental health, which kind of steers me clear.	yes, i have gotten a lot fatter
Yes	Yes they do
not really, i feel like the only place i can go to is my counselor at school or my friends and neither are always sufficient.	Yes I think I have many safe places to go too if I'm feeling down

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I feel like I do.	Schools I guess? Boston doesn't have many large community spaces. Lots of home, work and open space
Yes. I feel options are there for me, although i do not need them therefore i cannot adequately say whether or not the services provided are quality.	Yes there are school counselors and they can get a therapist or just talk to a trusted adult
no	No
Yes, we have many health places around the town of both Hamburg and Boston	Yea it's good
Yes	I don't know to be honest
Yes	Yes
I don't really know.	There is not many places near Boston to get help unless you go to Hamburg
No, there's a lot of resources in schools but outside of school there's not much.	mostly likey at the school ill be able to if i really need it
I am fine and covid did not affect me but kids now are saying covid affected them with metal health i think its a lie	Yes, because there are certain institutes that are made to help with some o of those problems.
No	Yes i do think so from teachers to parents
I think we do have good places to go.	Yes because there is therapy and counsulers in high school for the yung to talk to.
Yes. I think the biggest blocker from kids using social services is their fear or embarrassment.	Increased screen time has been linked to an increased risk of anxiety and depression, as well as negative impacts on attention and concentration. Additionally, social media platforms can have a negative impact on self-esteem and body image, leading to feelings of inadequacy and low self-worth.
I thankfully have amazing mental health services with a counseling center that is within walking distance of both my school and home.	yes
Yes I do. I have several safe people to go to.	Yes I talk to drake
Idk	There is a close counseling center near me so yes.
Idk, yeah maybe	Yes there a many buildings in hamburg that hold a lot of special events and the bulidings here allow meetings

It can be hard to find rides to anyplace that can offer that kind of stuff without having to talk to your parents about it especially before you get your license and some mental health things you don't really want to fully discuss with your parents so it would be nice to have one within walking distance	Yes I think if (some) people disagree they're creating their own problems
The help for teens has increased but for the people who nobody realizes that they need help, or for the people who have parents against them getting help, or other reasons usually stops teens from getting the help they are able to receive.	Yes, I feel I could talk to a teacher or my parents and get professional help if needed.
"Yes, I do feel like I have safe places to go to get mental health support when needed"	yes
"Yes, My parents."	yes
"Yes, Public parks, ponds, places for sports and outside activities"	Yes we have the school we have our parents we have places to go to see therapists.
"Yes, there are plenty of people to talk to"	Yeah I think everyone can talk about it.
"Yes, I don't go in Boston"	Yes, I feel safe when I am in Boston
"I do feel there is adequate support"	Yes. But they can be pricey
"Yes, school is always a good resource"	Yes
"Yes, I feel that even if theres not somebody at home you can find a trusted adult either in school or somewhere else that can help"	Yes
"Yes, most youth generally have a safe place to go to if they need help"	Yes there are people who I can trust and there is a good community
"Yes, go to doctor"	yes there's many places for people to go to get help
"I feel as though that is more of a question for the person in question. But there are places to go to like a therapist or a teacher at the school"	Yes there is always someone
"Yes, school, family & friends"	mental health services in general to adequate your selfs
"Sure, I personally don't need them"	Yes the roads are pretty fast to emergency areas
"Yes, through the school"	No I do not, I hate sharing my emotions with adults, especially adults that know me in person and have connections with my parents
"Yes, because I can go to counseling"	yes like school are parents
"Yes, a few towns over"	I feel that we do have the adequate safe places to go to, but many people do not use them to their benefit.

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"Although I don't live in Boston, I feel that overall most services directed towards youth mental health has been adequate and has helped many people"	Yes, I feel like teachers are much better at understanding that some people took Covid harder than others and try to adjust to help everyone
"Yeah theres always people around"	yes and no
"Yes, I work across from CVS"	Yes
"I think the availability of mental health services is good"	Yes
"I think we have places close like in other close nearby towns, but not in the actual town itself"	yes
"I don't know because I haven't had any reasons to"	yes, going with friends is always good
"I'm not sure where to get help if I needed it in Boston"	I have adequate resources, because my family is fortunate, but as a collective the local youth do not have adequate safe resources for mental health services.
"I don't really know because I haven't needed mental health services"	Yes. I think they exist. I think they are harder to find and the culture surrounding them makes it hard to take advantage of.
"Not sure"	I believe there is plenty of options
"I feel good about my mental health & a lot of places are sketchy but some people are alright"	I feel that I do have safe places through school and family.
"I don't know where any place is in Boston"	yes many resources
"There are some places to go to however, it'll be more than 10 mins drive from my house"	yes
"Yes, I wish there were more options in terms of therapy and counseling but what is there is pretty good."	yes school has counselors and we have good therapists in hamburg
"Not at all, therapy isn't free, and the suicide hotline is too abrupt"	It's ok
"No- The current facilities can be difficult to utilize, there should be wider knowledge offered"	it would be nice to have things like that
"It really isn't talked about much, there should be signs & announcements to bring this topic up more"	Yes more health service
"I haven't researched this much but from what I know there aren't many services like therapy or just somewhere for people to hang out and take a break from everything"	yes
"No, I'm not sure of anywhere to go"	Besides a few churches not much for mental health

"No, There is no close hospitals, you have to use mercy flight in case of emergencies"	My mental health is fine
"No, schools are not always the most trustworthy for kids so more mental health facilities or community gathering places would be nice"	no, you need to go to Hamburg or other towns
"I think so, I haven't had issues"	no
"I think in schools there are enough, but outside of school it lacks"	I think there are adequate and safe places available, however I don't think the youth is informed about these places enough.
"Personally, I have places to go that would be safe. But, I honestly have no idea if everyone around the same age as me can say the same for themselves or as a general statement for a huge youth group"	"I feel like teens can always go to the provided counselors from the school. However, there should be more things in place to help everyone struggling mentally"
	"It is a yes and a no because yes we are slowly understanding mental health and processing it with research. But no for the current state. They need to create a better and more comfortable way to show or share on how you feel no matter the circumstances"

Question 9: It's no secret that kids today are dealing with a lot – from COVID to the many known and unknown impacts from technology. As a result, emotional health and stress related concerns have emerged and been documented in youth. Do you feel that you, or the local youth in general, have adequate and safe places to go to get mental health services and/or support if needed?

Do you have any concerns with the access and availability of food, or the access to free school meals or programs like "Meals on Wheels" for those that qualify and are in need?	
Response	Response
I don't have any concerns about that they do good with school meals and such.	"There is only a Tops for food, so in case of emergencies people may not have access to meals"
no we are good	"The closest gym is in Hamburg so a gym would fit nicely. I think food places like restaurants are needed and stores"
No	"Yes, we are out of the way for most places"
no	"Make sure food at Tops is not out-dated"
No	"I feel like it should be a little more accessible but for the most part, programs like "Meals on Wheels" are useful"
No	"I really only have a problem with the availability of fast food"
No.	"Yes, because sometimes people are unable to provide and there would be another opportunity for them so do so"
I do not have any concerns with the access of food and availability of it.	"There are some stores but Tops in Boston is always out of date and not nice people"
No, these things are well put together	"No, we have good food"
I feel like as prices keep going up for food in stores and it's hard to provide for family if you're not rich... But meals on wheels is good for homeless people in need.	"I don't have any concern with the availability of food"
no	"No, I'm not too concerned with food or nutrition"
We need more stores around I feel	"No, I have a Tops near my house but usually my parents go to Springville"
The food at school is bad	"I don't know"

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I'm not sure	"I feel as if the food is accessible and the school is there to help people who need more assistance"
No concerns, school food isn't great.	"Not really"
no i think all the programs are good	"No, I make and cook my own food"
The school food is horrible	"No because I used to get free food when I had money issues without any issues"
Yes! We do have access to that, and I think that is very helpful. My family does not use it, but I believe that for people who may not have access to meals everyday due to budgets and stuff it's good.	"No concerns. Well taken care of"
Yes there is the Hamburg food bank	"No concerns. There are stores a few minutes away to buy food quickly"
No	"I don't have any concern with the access to food"
The school lunches are expensive and should always be free, IMO. But other than that I dk.	"No but they need to have more spots that have food"
No I don't know much about that and I don't really like school food	"No not really"
My family is fine with food but I don't know about others	"No, they seem fine"
No	"No concerns"
No concerns I think the food is fine	"No I pack lunch everyday"
I'm in no need of nutritional services	"No, I think that the concern with good is fine and stable, but easier access to a bigger store would be beneficial"
No	"No- possibly another restaurant in the future if anything"
I feel like there's not much availability of food close to much people most in Boston is Tops and the Deli and they are both very good places but they are pretty spread apart with nothing in between them	"No, there are restaurants and stores where good can be purchased"
Yes, there are a few restaurants and stores in Boston.	"I do not have any concerns"
No concerns, many grocery stores Around me.	"No, there are programs set up like stated in the question"
I feel that accessibility of food and basic living needs shouldn't be overlooked at any means	"No I do not"

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No, because it works fine in my opinion.	"No- These programs are widely talked about, and information regarding them is easy to find"
Idk	"Personally I have found no issues getting fod and do not utilize Meals on Wheels
Tex's the yello food truck thing always comes around	"No, I have access and availability of food and anything that is needed"
I don't know	"No I am able to eat everyday, but I don't know how the programs currently are"
No i don't think so	"No, my mom makes my lunch everyday"
My knowledge of how these programs operate is unfortunately not very large. I do, however, feel that the free meal program during the aftermath of the pandemic worked well. It was very convenient.	"I've never used any of the programs"
Nope	"Just have like, a SureFine or Wegmans"
No but I think some people getting free lunches because of their stability is a good idea.	"I do not live in Boston, but it is always good to check on the free school meals / other programs and "Meals on Wheels" to make sure that it is being provided to those who need it"
I don't have any concerns, but I'm not too informed on such topics either.	"Don't know"
No	"I don't need to worry about this most of the time, so I can't really say if there are things that concern me about food access due to lack of knowledge on the subject"
I have no real concerns for food in the town of Boston because grocery stores are not too far away.	Yes I do
I have no concerns with access or availability of food but I will say that the school could be better and more appealing.	no concerns
I don't have enough experience with this to answer	yes
Lots of access	no i dont have any concerns
No concerns	No
Yes	No
no	No, I always have food

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No	no i think that the school and other outside programs do a good job when it comes to food insecurity
No	Yes because some people cannot afford doing school lunch and paying there bills, groceries, etc.
No	no
no because at school we have access to free meals	No
No	No I do not.
i think that's great	No, I do not have any concerns.
i think that it is fine there is a couple of places to go but there should be more and up to date	No, I would have no idea about the specifics of that.
I personally don't have issues getting food, but hearing and observing from other people, I think food should be more accessible and cheaper / free.	yes
I do not have any concerns	its great that people are giving people in need food
no because they have good resources to go too but there are also not a lot of grocery stores	No I have food at my house and the school offers a good program for those less fortunate
They're is not a fresh market close by in Boston but the Tops has good options.	School meals need to be better
I do not, I appreciate that those are options for those who need them, but my family is fortunate enough not to need them.	No, I am provided with all the food I need
maybe a community garden.	I feel like Meals on Wheels is a good resource to get food to people who need it
no, because at school we have access to free meals. but at the same time the prices at stores are pricey	No i feel like affordability isn't an issue for me. However school food quality be better
I am not sure	No I am provided for.
Good side walks often work in Hamburg.	No, I don't have any concerns for nutrition around me.
I dont have any concerns about the food that we have and im.not concerned about the food that we get served at schools to.	No concerns
No	Not really

APPENDIX B: OUTREACH RESULTS

No	Yes. Now that school lunches are no longer available for free, I am concerned about kids who do not have food at home or money to buy food at school.
i belive that one big wat to get me to live in hamburg would be if food in general was cheaper	No
I do feel that many people struggle with hunger, but as far as my community goes I do not have any concerns	no i got food
I believe food is not an issue in my Hamburg school. People who need it are getting it.	No.
I think that having a grocery store closer would be helpful but I think schools free meals are very helpful	no
I think it's weird that the government can't afford free lunches but can afford to fund Israel's genocide.	No
No I don't know about that	No, there are food places around.
yes	no
No I do not	I'm not sure, I don't need or know anybody that needs service.
I worry sometimes that school food isn't of good quality, my sibling has chipped a tooth on a cookie and gotten food poisoning from school food. I don't trust it.	No
No, the town has enough grocery's and restaurants to strive within food.	No, I just wish there was an option for more health school lunches also more of a variety of food options. Also give us more food for lunch I'm still hungry even after eating school lunch.
N/A	No i dont
Its great, the food is great in quantity	yeah
No I have no concerns	no.
The meals are fine and the available isn't too bad	no
just in general for schools around the world to get better quality food for kids and adults	School meals do not have enough nutrition and protein
no	No

APPENDIX B: OUTREACH RESULTS

No, i think the school gives a good everyday meal that everyone can have access to.	Nope
No I think the food availability is good as well as the amount of food available	the school food here is horrid some days its not the lunch ladys fault but rather the school for buying freezer meals for everyone. the hot dogs erase pencil here.
I do feel like there is also good access to food for healthy living in Boston/Hamburg for everyone.	No concerns really.
Its great the food is easy to fin with all the farms and markets.	Yes I have access to all the food that I need
Well no we don't have a problem but you guys should get a program where it gives people food that other people don't need and yea everything is good	no
I have food and the proper nutrients and have a healthy lifestyle but i feel we need those programs for people who need it.	I don't know i have enough food
They should make it free meals	no i am well fed
No	no
I think there should be more easy ways to get the food	No I don't have any concerns
No I think these programs do a pretty good job.	I have no access to free food which i think is kind of unfair because even though i have 2 guardians i struggle with extra money and my siblings get ftee food
no i think the tops is perfect for the town	No, everything seems good.
I have no concerns but think it is a good idea to offer meals to people who need it.	I don't have any concerns
Schools should make sure their school meals are fully cooked through and the cleanliness of that should be increased as well. There's been times I have gotten sick after eating school meals and I don't have any allergies. Food in school should be less expensive aswell, there's a lot of kids that don't have 3 dollars to pay for lunch everyday.	I am able to get food.

APPENDIX B: OUTREACH RESULTS

No because there is a lot of land for farms	I have great access to food at home and in school.
There's enough food for everyone	There is enough food
there needs to be more in boston	wellness and school lunches are adequate.
Nope I have all the food I need right here at my house	No concerns, Baby Tops is perfect!
i think it would be nice to have more healthier options around instead of all fast food and just grocery stores	No my parents take care of my food needs
Yes,I feel that if people need food they have places to go so they have lots of options for this	eat meat
Yes my parents provide me with enough food to have great nutritional meals	No, because there is a tops a 7 11 a dollar general there is more then enough availability for food
I don't have any concerns with free meals but I also don't need free food so I don't get free food.	nah
No, we have Tops in the central area of Boston, although it's small it allows people to get the things they need and not have to drive super far to just get food for the day/week	no it tastes good
No because i am not poor	No I don't have any problems
No I eat more than enough food everyday	no concerns
No but it would be nice if there was somewhere where it was strictly healthy foods	No it's good
I think there should be a store closer to north Boston than the small tops	no
I think the food availability is good and is good quality just prices are sometimes too high	No
No	There is a small tops in Boston so there is access to food and groceries. My church is near Boston so they do provide good access if needed.
no	i do not have any concerns with my access to food
Yeah i like the French toast sticks	No i have no concerns. But i also am not in need of those accommodations so i dont know much about how to access them

APPENDIX B: OUTREACH RESULTS

i don't get a free meal	boston tops is too small not very other options to get food in area
I don't get a free lunch	no, i believe its fair now.
No, food at school could be better tho	No
School lunches don't have enough portions you have to spend another 3 dollars to get a second lunch	No concerns
yes	No, I feel like Hamburg high school does a great job with that aspect of lunch.
No	No
I feel like we need better and healthier school meals	no
no i don't have food insecurity	No I have no concerns.
No	I go to the grocery store.
No	i have no concerns, those who need it have resources to receive it.
No	Yes,I believe everyone should have good meals.
Yep it is available	No, there does not seem to be a problem with food availability.
Yes	fair enough i go to crosbys and tops
Sometimes for the quantity of food it runs out at stores.	No
No we have access to food and many people donate or round up at cash out lines	No, access to food is great. There are many local farms and produce places in Boston which I appreciate and it's good to support local businesses.
not really theres only a little tops and not enough options	Personally, I feel the lunch we're provided at Hamburg High School is pretty consistent and available at all times, albeit at a small price. Otherwise, I don't find trouble in its availability
I no concerns about whether or not I can get food. It's always available to me whenever I need it. My mom goes grocery shopping every week or so.	No, I feel that I have plenty of access to fresh food. I love seeing the carts of corn and pumpkins around the year and it is such an easy way to do things that is unique to Boston.
No, I'm not concerned with any of that stuff.	no
I have access to lots of food	No I don't have any concern I think it is a good thing that they do
Yes. Most schools and other places do food drives for the less fortunate in Hamburg.	not educated enough to answer

APPENDIX B: OUTREACH RESULTS

no	no
yes	no
They need more chicken nuggets	no
I am not concerned about the availability of food.	no.
No our town and school offers a lot towards that type of stuff	No i don't
no we have good food	Yes, I do.
no	Lunch should be free for all students
Yes i feel like they need more food to be fed but there are a lot of people that are feeding them	No.
No it is fine	no
Yes, I think that there could be some more healthy food on offer.	I think we could use more in terms of school meals. But overall I think the accessibility is perfectly fine it's more so about making it more affordable for families It gets expensive overtime.
Nah. I think we do pretty well! I'm also kinda oblivious to be fair	No
No	No
No	i think there are good resources
No, I am very lucky but I do understand that many people have struggles.	I personally have no concerns
no i don't have any concerns	yes
No	No
No everything is pretty good already	No concerns
Im not comfortable sharing my eating habits with others	There is definitely adequate food access in Boston.
No I do not	I've never had any concerns about access to food.
meals on wheels need more concerns that you have an allergy to	The school lunches tend to be quite small and not nutritious, with tiny portions and just gross food. I do appreciate the free meal / breakfast programs, though I feel there needs to be a greater access to that and better food options in general.

APPENDIX B: OUTREACH RESULTS

I feel that the availability of food is amazing in Boston and most times I am able to get any type of food I want without having to search for a long time to get it. I feel that there are plenty of options for people in need of food in Boston and that if someone needs help, they can find it.	I feel like the food isn't fresh and isn't that nutritional at school
I feel like our schools lunches are not as healthy as they should be, even though they sell fruit the main course isn't always the best choice	i think food availability is pretty good, but free lunches at school would be even better. i've never had an issue with being able to get food, the little tops in boston is always there and open when i need food
no	No concerns
No	no
no	No, because there are many mini stores in Boston
i think that the food around is good, school meals are terrible and should be giving kids more food and better options	No
No	no, i have no concerns
No. Being a part of Meals on Wheels, I can attest to the importance of that organization and its efficiency.	No, It's fine
I think its fine	All school lunches should be free.
I don't know enough about this, but in surface level I don't have any concerns	idlk
yes	School lunches should be free, as should school breakfast. I do not qualify for free but I still am hungry during the day.
no	More food options.
no i dont have any concerns	No
Yes more health and filling free meals	Thankfully no, I have access to food and access to stores at comfortable distance.
I think it's a good cause	Food is too expensive, so people have difficulty buying food. Especially those in need.
No	No
I think there should be more nutritious options and should be checked for mold	Yes,

No we have a nice amount of resources	Yeah I think so, but my family is pretty well off so it could be different for other families. I would like to mention, though, that oftentimes the produce in the Boston tops is not as good as the produce in most other grocery stores.
No I have no concerns	I think it should be available to more people.
i feel like there could be more accessible food pantries or something	We have access to food, but I don't know much about other people's access to food.
no	No I feel like I'll have enough food
I don't have any concerns about the access to healthy foods.	Absolutely not. Does not apply to me.
I have no concerns.	I think more people could have help when it comes to food. But there is only so much that can happen at the moment, because there's no proper funding
	No concerns about it

Question 11: What are the Town's three most important strengths and/or opportunities? Do you think the Town could do more for residents to be able to utilize, enjoy or protect these strengths/opportunities? Please explain.

What are the Town's three most important strengths and/or opportunities? Do you think the Town could do more for residents to be able to utilize, enjoy or protect these strengths/opportunities? Please explain.	
Response	Response
My towns important strengths are they have places near the school so you can go to hang out at like tops and Tim's and such	n/a
low population	not sure
Schools and hunting and small town	I don't know.
i'm not sure	I'm not sure, I don't live there and don't go there often so I couldn't name any strengths.
N/A	I don't live there
I'm not really sure because I don't live in Boston	Food, gas, and land. More of them
I do not know	I think it is picturesque and it offers a lot of potential.
Yards at houses, the town park, and being able to live near friends.	I do not know the towns three most important strengths.
Hunting good scenery back yards	Wouldn't know

I feel like everything's price needs to go down, everything went up since COVID days. I also feel like job opportunities are going down father. Also I feel as though students in need should get more help.	i dont know, they have good people
-hills, woods, nature if it was easier to get there a lot of teenagers would probably take the opportunity to go outside and exercise but its impossible to get anywhere in boston without a car -community its hard to meet people or get to friends houses without sidewalks and having to cross boston state road land- boston had good houses and beautiful scenery but nobody moves there because they dont know anyone there and theres few places to go in boston	Mountains, hills and trees, I like all three.
Yes I think we need more opportunities to work	good pizza, good park,
Coffe shops restaurants and grocery stored	Lots of land, nature, nice people
I'm not sure	It is safe, it is welcoming, it is kind of small so it is easier to make your name known. Yes, I think they could.
Wonderful and nice people, many private businesses and modern and old scenery	good pizza ! park ! good vibe
More attractions/fun things. more grocery stores, more homes	There is a lot of space to explore and get out in nature. Not super heavily trafficked. Quiet. Just preserve the peaceful ness with still being open.
community, economy and attractions, yes i think they could do more activities as a town	The strengths are definitely the fireworks.
Its pretty boring so add things to do not alot of restaurants and add entertainment things	I don't know not much to be honest.
Community is a strength. I believe though that for opportunities there could be more things for entertainment.	community, fun, caring
There is not much to do in Boston but in Hamburg there are many stores and shops	1. community 2. courage 3. supportive
Community, economy, Atractions	idk
Yeah, there should def be more things to do, larger park area, if there even is one, more hangout spots, resturant, cafes, etc.	Republican, Jason Martin lives there, good weather

APPENDIX B: OUTREACH RESULTS

I don't know I don't have reason to go to Boston often	The town is good for kids, friendly and well rounded.
Parks, Citizen owned shops, good people internet	the decent amount of stores still available in the area. the somewhat kind people. the park available to anyone and dogs
No	1) Its quiet and spread out, nice for people who enjoy that 2) Sufficient amount of grocery stores/convenience stores
The park school and the kind community	The community of people and the opportunities
I think it is really important that you find a happy medium with new developments. Lots of families own land ,raise animals,hunt, etc and value it for those purposes. For example a dollar general or Tim Hortons at every end of the town isn't necessarily. Hamburg and springville are so close that the drive isn't an issue for getting things like food and other resources. The little Tops is perfect for those emergency trips.	i know nothing about boston they have pretty trees tho
The town has very nice trails in the woods for dogs and just to walk around, I feel like the parks are becoming out dated and could use an upgrade like the one at the town hall	idk
There is green space, there are a few restaurants and stores, and the playground is still good.	I don't know
Lots of space so more roads/homes	Town parks, schools, and restaurants. No I think everyone has the opportunities to enjoy these places.
There should be more public hangout spots maybe like dog parks	No not really its just a boring town
I don't know	I don't know, I don't live there
Idk	I don't know I don't live in Boston
Yes they could have more small little things like gorges to enjoy	I don't know. I don't live in Boston.
Make better houses and more houses and have a lot of jobs opprotunitys for people who struggle to find jobs close to home	I dont know. I dont live in Boston.
i think it's a nice town where there are lots of fun things and opportunities	Lots of people and houses more business in the town
N/A	Could have a more local village.
I'm not sure	The small Tops, roads are pretty good, plowing service when needed is nice. I think that South Abbott could use some work though.

APPENDIX B: OUTREACH RESULTS

Boston is very spread out, people have a lot of land, and even the parts that aren't can sometimes be a little run down looking. Maybe freshen up some public areas. But your scenery in nature beats most towns nearby.	I don't know don't live in Boston
-Make public buildings or areas that can be used -Find an easier way to make such buildings accessible to everyone -Local parks and or businesses	The only thing that I can complain about is how weak the power lines are during storms so just strengthen the power lines
Yes, more residents. The strengths of Boston is the freedom, peace, and quiet	community, strength, comfort idk
-Space for growth in the town for homes and businesses -There are good activities in the town like sports that can be signed up for, this can keep younger kinds busy and involved with the town	idk
One of the things I love about Boston is the scenery and farm land up there.	Idk I don't live in Boston
NA	nice pretty quiet
(Never been in it long enough)	good community good people good structure
I would say history the only thing I ever go there for is nick charlapps and a huge issue is transportation everyone in Boston goes to Hamburg to walk the village and hangout with people	yes
Beauty Farms	I don't live in Boston, but I generally like Hamburg
more stores	There is easy access to the fire department/ police station. Town hall events. No you should not add more people I like the small town vibe.
Teamwork, dedication, commitment	i dont know
Population, space, dedication	we have good shops, parks, restaurants, etc. I think we have good resources for those things.
Parks and other wooded areas - protect these areas Not very populated - don't sell small pieces of land Lots of land	jobs,
I'm not sure	Places that people can come together, welcoming, helpful.

Everyone knows eachother Local stores are very close, in walking distance Neighbors are spread out, but still neighborhoods	Open space, not a lot of people, big plots of land. I would really appreciate if effort was put in to make Boston more walkable/bikeable. Also, Boston State rd needs to be fully repaved because the shoulders are moats
well I think there is not a lot of things to pull people in. so maybe have more stores fun play grounds, SIDE WALKS i think should be a big thing bc bear armor where i live there is no sidewalks and i can't go anywhere without being basically hit	I don't know
there are some good places to adventure, nick charlapes is good, and there is 2 gas stations but i think they should add another walmart or target other than the tiny tops for groceries	Don't know I don't live there
I don't really know because I don't go to Boston often, and when I do, it's to visit my friend, and we just stay at their house.	lots of land, nice people, and it's pretty
village with stores and schools within walking distance sports teams playgrounds for little kids, even indoor playgrounds	The town has everything people might need but theres nothing special about it
Spread out and not crammed Close local stores I can ride bike too everyone knows eachother	I don't know as I don't live in the town.
more grocery stores and restruants	community, care, corn.
Peaceful, outdated, friendly.	The people are the strength of the town, services should get more money
I think a strength is knowing people in your neighborhood and having people you can rely on. Another strength is having many places you can purchase food easily and for reasonable prices. A third strength would be the schools helping to provide as much as they can for children that have families that could be struggling.	I honestly don't know much about Boston
the town hall, 3 Girls Cafe, and Nick Charlaps or Tops. More nicer looking building and houses, maybe a bike park.	Gets snow days. Lots of land. Big park.
I am not sure	Scenery, parks,
Hearts for homeless,Churchill child center,Three girls cafe.	Town park, stores, people. No.

It important strengths or cons are its Prime location it's Rich cultural experiences and its Strong public transportation	Roads are sufficient, food access is great, housing is good. The town could do a lot more for resident to enjoy their communicate and I would start with trying to install more stores and sidewalks in order to increase productivity. More productivity publicly shows that Boston is enjoyable which causes the residents to enjoy where they are living.
The park, that's it. There is nothing to do in Boston	The town park, especially in the summer, has plenty of activities and is very lively. I love the foodtrucks, hearing live music from my backyard, and watching the fireworks every year. I wish we had better landscaping and paving near the edges of the roads. Some of the roads need to be cleaned. I think some community efforts of community service would be a great endeavor. Maybe planting flowers or trees, or doing a park cleanup.
i think more gyms and or activities could be cool and to have more events open to the public	open, community, need food
3 strengths are the amount of open land, community aspect and small businesses throughout the streets.	Land, quiet, and freedom. They can keep it how it is. Peaceful and quiet.
N/A	1. parks 2. food
yes	no clue
I'm so sorry, I don't know much about Boston. I like the hills when we drive on them though.	no
You need more restaurants activities and stores for people to want to be there but other than that you guys have good country sides and good schools	brunner's, the park, nice areas
I do not live there so I am not qualified to give an opinion	yes
I know practically nothing about Boston I have no place to speak on this.	plow better, make more trails, have markets/vendors to draw people out.
One could be the people in the town another can be the restraunts like bella's pizza. and lastly there parks for kids to play at.	Being peaceful, safe, and rural. You have a lot of opportunities to go outside like the Boston Conservation club, town park, and 18 mile creek
N/A	The three most important strengths are always smelling like manure, being in the country side and not much else.
The towns strengths is that its a small town and its quiet and peaceful but the use for sidewalks everywhere would be great	I think the towns biggest strength is how they refuse to plow the sidewalks to the schools and then take to facebook to tell parents to shovel them because they still plan on running school.

APPENDIX B: OUTREACH RESULTS

scenery, good ice cream, good education	The most important strengths are it is very specious for things like farming, building houses and other buildings.
They are very inclusive, help small communities, and are kind	I don't know don't live there
Don't live there	I'm not sure
land, people, emergency services. boston has a good portion of land. the people there are nice. the emergency services are fast	Nice parks
creek, town park, KB	I don't know, I don't visit often
One thing that i like is that there are shops and restaurants located near the school so kids can go out after school and spend time with their friends before heading back home. I think the town is in a good spot now with access to all of these places near the school.	probably but i'm not sure i don't go to boston often
Good countryside good schools and a good community. I don't think the town could do more for the people	The town needs more opportunities
I don't have much personal experience with life in Boston, but I do know that all of my friends who live there really enjoy it and seem to have a great life living in the Town of Boston.	- strengths are an overwhelming amount of DOLLAR GENERALS - a lot of community events
The towns strongest parts are food its easy to fine its quit and its some time peaceful	Community Safety
Where the activities are located helps with having something to do.	Strengths are probably road safety throughout the winter and all year round especially with the state troopers on Boston State roads are well salted and sanded. The sand does seem excessive at times and there are often ice patches on boston state during winter storms.
That you make programes.... for the poor that need food or have no where to live sp they can stay there for a bit intil they get a job and can afford a area != and will be provided with food and stuff but I think everythng eles is fine	Not necessarily/specifically Boston, but there is always more a town could do in community events and youth recreation, that and making a more inclusive space for everyone.
Give out food, have free activities once in a while, make a big open sports facilty for everyone	Hunting fishing and living secluded
I don't know I have only been living there for a couple days	having a pharmacy, places to buy groceries, and places to buy meals as a whole are good assets. maybe add more job opportunities for kids and adults?
integrity, compassion, kindness, The town could be more open to suggestions.	idk

The drug use and the violence should definitely be addressed. People should not have to worry about stepping outside and being shot, stabbed, or jumped because of any reason. In pride events or in BLM events there should be a good amount of police forces there incase of any kind of threat.	More residents and sidewalks for people who walk.
A opportunity the town can have is maybe having a roller hockey rink or a basketball court there is only one which is at the town hall but i feel there should be another one near the dollar general i think it would make great opportunity and bring people together	Good EMS Police and Fire
It it pretty, quiet, and everyone knows everyone.	The town park is nice for physical activities.
Sports , small shops and the community	Good geography (pretty) Has the space for more stores/ restaurants or experiences my friends live there
Country, kind people, good restaurants	Nick Charlaps, Brunners, I know some good people that live there.
I think that there should be a motocross track for dirt bikes and atvs. Also there should be moto trails. We would be fine if they are on our property	Small community, I really don't know
Nature, community (Boston town park football team!)	The nature trails and ponds in Boston Town Park are fun to utilize. The housing taxes are lower than where I currently live. It is rural so there is land to do outdoor activities.
there's a lot of space	Yes sidewalks and more activities to participate in
it is a pretty cool place. Has a nice baseball feild and park. I could possibly live here	Brunners, a small comfortable community
we are a very connected community, we have a lot of services through the school to help out. i think we could improve with more opportunities for stuff like community service and places to work at a young age	I have not been in Boston enough to know.
No,because it's already good enough and changes would make it different to adjust	There's Tim hortans and playgrounds and Charlaps
They have good parks, nice people, and good economics. They just have to keep the people happy.	A lot of playgrounds

three strengths are the clean air, the rural area, and the community. Something like a town pool might be able to support these strengths.	I like the park a lot. I think we should have more and bigger concerts to get people to go there. I think our concerts are a good community activity, but I just wish we had acts that appealed better to the youth. I also really like how we handle our town's history. The historical society is doing a great job and I have no complaints.
I think Boston could use more "hang out" locations, Hamburg has things like Spot coffee, the playground, the village in general, although it's neighboring Boston, I think it would be nice to have more places for Boston. Boston has a very safe feel all around, everyone is united and you can tell that when you're in the town. It's easy to figure out where you're going, the streets aren't confusing and there aren't any weird street signs that are old and hard to read	Town is good at communicating and trying to make things go as easy as possible
hills I played little cagers there once deer	Skate Parks
There are good people, people are behaved, lots of nice places	Pump Tracks
I think Bostons bonuses are it's like its own little town in the mountains thats pretty rural. It seems cozy. And if there are hiking trails im sure those would be fun with all of the hills	Trails for bikes/hikers
Alot of love spreaded around, cute parks for kids, its safe	Modernize
character, friendly, respectful	Village-like center
There's a lot of barber shops	Pretty Seasons
n/a	Close-knit
The town is good	Land Availability
Great things around us	Town Park
A nice downtown area with small business and public places. The town could do more to utilize this by making it easier for smaller business to afford to buy and invest in a shop	4th of July Show
No	Scenery
Bullying	Nature
Opportunity to build and privacy	Beautiful Places
No the town seems fine	Peaceful
Size Land	Nice People
Nah not really	Brunners
No it seems pretty good	Tim Hortons

APPENDIX B: OUTREACH RESULTS

I don't know much about Boston, maybe public transportation?	Charlapps
Lots of land is good I think it could add a little more stores The park holds many activities which is good	Peaceful Nature
the parks are nice but theres not a lot of stuff in walking distance	Variety
I feel the town does a good job protecting its citizens.	Farmland
Strengthen the emergency forces with better gear to save more lives.	Town Park
More parks or playing areas in the area and sidewalks	Shops & Stores
Bostons three strengths is the town hall, the boys and girls club, and the 4th of July celebrations.	Trails for bikes/hikers
Food and water. Every people need and want it. ...Belongingness. Every individual wants and need to have family or people who will love and accept him/her. Safety or security. ...Education. ...Environment, in order for us to live	Industry
i wouls not know, i don't live there.	Businesses
There are no strengths or opportunities that's dead	Public Spaces
Fire dept , George's, Boys and Girls club	Communication
- make sidewalks on busy roads - create more attraction like supermarkets stores and other attractive things - town pool and park	Education
I think the roads need to be tended to more than they are when they get bad and that there could be more activities like skating or something	Food
i like the town i think they should put more stores, food stores	Walkability
the fire haul Georges school.	Recreation
neighbors, the whole overal loving people town hall	Accessibility
rural more land different restaurants	Close-knit
1.Location 2. Resturaunts 3. Culture	Close-knit
I don't know anything about Boston	Restaurants
Farm, food, fun	Land Availability
important strengths are lots of land, privacy, and pretty views	Close-knit

APPENDIX B: OUTREACH RESULTS

I can go outside by friends and by schools	7./11
i have more strengths i could when i graduate from high school	Nature
The priorities is that it's a pretty great place it has what anyone needs and is very full filling to be there	Local Businesses
I dont know much about the Boston schools, most because I dont go there or know anyone who does, but I think to be a good school is to make sure students are eating if they can, make sure the students feel safe and dont gloss over serious topics	Nature
lots of farm land to make money and for jobs and food	Job Opportunities
The three biggest strengths of Boston are the food culture and availability of food in Boston, the culture surrounding the local major league teams such as the Buffalo Bills or the Buffalo Sabres, and the opportunities that young children and high school children have with the multiple community and private colleges in and near Boston.	Recreation
I think Boston is known for having big yards and a lot of space between neighbors and it should stay this way rather than building more houses. It would be best to keep the population the same to protect these factors	Local Businesses
parks more sidewalks bike trails	Farming
Peacefulness	Close-knit
Not throw my garbage can in the ditch	Schools
i think we have a good community, a lot of nice scenery, good roads	Recreation
fix some of the roads utilize the town park a bit more improve the town park	Nature
1) nature 2) peacefulness- it's very quiet and unproblematic 3)	Sports
n/a	Schools
no i think the town is very nice and does a lot for the people who live there	Nature
N/a	Food
Farms Cows And planta	Recreation

APPENDIX B: OUTREACH RESULTS

Youth sports, restraunts, places to go	Rural
Very spacious Farms Alot of trees	Food
they are kind	Outdoor Recreation
The town park, and local farms	Parks
N/A	Sports
I think that the town has an opportunity to promote their local farmers, such as back creek farm; and they could preserve more nature	Recreation
safe, open, kind	Local Businesses
There's good recreational options for kids. Good education. Good opportunities for a social community.	Opportunities
There's a lot of land, work and there's available shopping.	Food
Having places to sit and relax, roundabouts, park and benches. Having garbage cans around. Having the small concerts at memorial park is very nice, events like those are good.	Recreation
It is a safe community, it is a beautiful community, and lower property taxes. The town council should protect these things and make sure they don't change.	Parks
Its neighborhoods are pretty. They are expensive though.	Food
I do not know	Parks
Yes	Firework Show
boston town park is very enjoyable	Parks
I'm not sure, I don't live in boston.	Peaceful
No	Variety
I don't know	Upkept
i think one strength is that its pretty rural but not too rural where it feels like you're in the middle of nowhere, i think its very pretty and there are many places to stop and get produce at	Friendly
Yes and no because I think the town could use some work, but I also feel that it's fine just the way it is	Nice People
schools community centers good community	Close-knit
It's personality, location and people	Small
Important strengths include road safety and keeping the roads clear, offering summer activities for kids, and park restoration/care.	18 Mile Creek

APPENDIX B: OUTREACH RESULTS

I don't know, I don't live in Boston.	7./11
an open hangout spot, keeping the community safe	Brunners
Lots of land, big backyards, nice area to raise animals. Yes I think so	219 Access
Education and jobs	Bella's Pizza
I don't live in Boston so this question is hard to answer	Nick Charlaps
1. Having a strong community 2. having people around to talk to 3. good friends	Brunners
Nice houses, peaceful area, boston town park	Close-knit
i cant know, i dont live there	Nature
Restaurants	Peaceful
Tim Hortons	7./11
7./11	Restaurants
small	Scenery
Close-knit	Hills
Opportunities	

Question 12: What are the three most significant constraints and/or obstacles facing the Town that need to be addressed? What might be a solution to address each? Please explain.

What are the three most significant constraints and/or obstacles facing the Town that need to be addressed? What might be a solution to address each? Please explain.	
Response	Response
yes	Pump Tracks
No	Damaged Roads
bullying in schools need to be prevented	Snow Plow
My towns school doesn't have air conditioning and everyone complains about it to the principle and others but they don't do anything about it.	Trails for bikes/hikers
N/A	Damaged Roads
I'm not sure never been to Boston	Lighting
I don't know.	Lack of Events
Not many areas for entertainment, not many restaurants, and not a lot of options for shopping.	Damaged Roads
Internet just get more cell towers Not alot to do, create a main area for activities restaurants can be added for more population	Boring

APPENDIX B: OUTREACH RESULTS

Food, money, and jobs.	Snow Plow
few places to go- maybe putting in a few stores or small businesses like the town of hamburg? theres nowhere to go and youre stuck in your house without a car unless you want to walk to hamburg	
accessibility- there's absolutely no sidewalks and its hard to get places unless YOU HAVE A CAR when all you have is the muddy shoulder of boston state	
disconnect- unlike hamburg nobody in boston really talks to eachother and theres no sense of community	Lighting
It's boring and there isn't a lot of things to do	Damaged Roads
There is a lot of empty space and not a lot of options to do things	Abandoned
I'm not sure	Boring
Road fixes and building maintenance	Nothing to do
More people. more stores. boring	Nothing to do
it is scary... keeping kids safe	Outdated
Its mostly farm land and not alot of people live there unless there country	Boring
There might be a lack of things to do. I haven't really heard anything in Boston that I would really go drive to do.	Shrinking Population
Listening to the public and keeping Boston more rural because the demographic going to Boston wants that	Walkability
The street lights, more stuff to do, and youth center.	Not Family-Friendly
Theres not much to do, and theres nothing memorable, maybe some cool art thing is needed, or just something neat to be memorable.	Nothing to do
No activities to do for young people Not many people I know there I don't hear about Boston often	Nothing to do

APPENDIX B: OUTREACH RESULTS

Little space, not that many opportunities,	Aging Population
Nothing to do, not a ton of youth to hang out with, bland and depressing	Nothing to do
1) New developments 2) Woods and animals life getting eliminated 3) no sidewalks	Damaged Roads
The town needs to address not having any to very little amount of cross walks and sidewalks	School
No sidewalks Developments are being built Starting to become more like Hamburg For those living in Boston, we don't want to have every town we go to be the same.	School
Small population	Out of way
Not much of a young population.	No Appeal
I don't know	No Appeal
Idk	lack of food
The Wi-Fi the grocery stores and the people some people are extremely ignorant like the guy with the trump flags on his car that doesn't feel good at all he once came up and harassed my family bc we had no trump things	No Appeal
the lack of fun activities for little kids and the lack of jobs for people with little kids at home.	Lighting
I don't know	Old trails
N/A	Damaged Roads
I'm not sure	School
Things being so far away from eachother.	lack of food
-Large, rural spread -No notable places or things to do -Harder to access internet	Lighting
Not many buildings, stores, jobs, offices. Beauty needs to be improved in buildings. Cleanliness. Make the town bigger and more beautiful!	lack of food
I have not really taken notes of these problems that need to be addressed but just simple road repairs and upkeep of everything should be something to do.	No hang out spots
Putting some shops and cute things off of that main street, to a calmer street	Nothing to do
The major traffic separates the homes from the cozy community shops that are family owned or just have that tight knit community feel. This can be fixed by adding some coffee shops, small plazas and so on to tie the homes into the shops	No hang out spots

APPENDIX B: OUTREACH RESULTS

Too old they need to make it look better and make it more walkable	Snow Plowing
I'm not sure	Damaged Roads
(Never been in it long enough)	shopping
the lack of things to do	Outdated
The only thing that makes this even worse is the lack of support	Damaged Roads
More food places More shopping stores to just go and do something if board	Lighting
I'm not sure	Damaged Roads
More food stores and	Lighting
More popular places ex- Starbucks, Wegmans, Target Lots of people More outside things to do	Lack of events
sidewalks, food stores, places to gather that don't look awful	Walkability
there should be more reasturants more convienince stores larger population	No Character
Again I wouldn't know because I don't go to Boston often.	Lighting
I don't know sorry	Damaged Roads
No sidewalks	Nothing to do
get more grocery stores	Outdated
Could be more to do in the town, not many people I know live there.	Not Family-Friendly
One of the constraints could be buildings that are run down could be built up and made to look well kept over time. Another could be building new apartments and houses that have a vintage modern look. A third constraint could be having land and places people can go to socialize, and have a fun respectful time.	Damaged Roads
money and approval from the town.	Pond/Creek Upkeep/Stocking
I am not sure	Repave Crosby's Lot
Idk	No golf course
One is it High cost of living a second one is that it has Difficult landlords and last its Heavy traffic congestion	lack of events
Idk	no appeal

APPENDIX B: OUTREACH RESULTS

the amount of money it cost to live there in general one way to gain people is to have fun games and events and have cheap and affordable housing also having stores not charge as much	School
Theres none that I can think of.	Nothing to do
N/A	lack of food
cleanliness, internet, roads	Damaged Roads
I don't know	No hang out spots
Again, I don't really keep up with Boston. But work on mental health awareness? Too many kids bully me for being "different" when I'm just Autistic	High Taxes
You guys are very far away and don't have much out there to want to go to h feel if you put more out there it would be nicer	No Services
I do not live there so I can't answer that	People
The most glaring issue is Springville. The school is rife with bullies and bigots, I and many others have had bad experiences there.	City
Boston is farther from the bigger towns, Not many people live there, and the overall community doesn't do any events	Life
N/A	Nothing to do
the three most obstacles is the need of sidewalks the new houses being built and the forest being cut down	Outdated
spaced out, run down in some parts, not a lot of people really know about it	Shrinking Population
Don't live there	Damaged Roads
outcastes, more things to do in the area	Costs of Summer camps
some intersections can be dangerous, parking lots can get dull and confusing.	No Appeal
Activity's to do around the town. Far from most towns and not many people live there	No Appeal
I can't think of any issue's I've heard about living in Boston, other than a lot of times I've heard people say they feel that when we have snowstorms, windstorms, etc they feel they're one of the last to be helped out.	No Appeal
the most significant is the roads not being plowed homes losing power and people getting stuck	Shopping
stores, houses, places to work. there is stores just not many. the houses or small of mid size. young adults should be able to get a job in	Shopping

APPENDIX B: OUTREACH RESULTS

walking distance from their house or close to there house	
To give people a place to live or food I'd they don't have one or any and clean up the streets and all of that stuff	Out of way
Sometimes people can just be state up rood or just not respect you as a person but I feel everything els is ok.	Snow Plowing
Idk too much I just think they should help people in need and do free food drives once in a while	Walkability
Not sure I've been living there a couple days	No fast food
I don;t know of any problems in Boston.	Nothing to do
I don't really know that many	Aging Population
There's a lot of littering and that should very well be addressed for everyones health and the worlds health too. Maybe have more people working to pick up garbage and spread awareness about it. People who are in Juvenile detention and who get arrested, with supervision could help clean up	Underdeveloped
please put a stop light at the tim hortons, it is nearly impossible to make a left there and i have almost crashed 4 times because of how terrible it is.	School
People live far away from each other and people might have to drive a long way to get to a grocery store, but I do not go there a lot and I don't have many concerns.	Nothing Boston is cool! Besides the trailer park
The lack of like being able to walk into a village or like ride your bike on boston state road. Everything is just so far apart. But definitely there being like no village is the big one	The roads are horrible, unpaved with potholes everywhere. i'm just waiting to blow out a tire one day.solution-I don't know pave the roads. not many store options and food places.
I can't think of anything	Mentally unstable people
Pot holes, rain ,	There are some unstable people in Boston. Look out for signs of mentally unstable people.
	no olive garden , bad unpaved roads
We need more places to ride dirtbikes and atvs	get more shops / a town center and pave roads
I think cleanliness. the town has great nature features I just think sometimes it can be ruined by litter	Population, accessibility, attractions
far away from everything can't walk or ride bikes easily not very many people	1.) road maintenance 2.)lack of stuff

APPENDIX B: OUTREACH RESULTS

Scary lot of creeps in the town and so much more but overall not that bad	Not sure, I'm just 16.
we don't really have too much to do, everything costs a lot, and there's no way to make money for young people	in the middle of no where, nothing around, have to use a lot of gas.
That it's big and the fact that people who have never been there may not know where there going and have to ask people for directions on where to go	It is in the middle of no where with little access to stores.
To many hills, not much to do. Build more activity centers.	weird people
I honestly don't know, I don't live in Boston and when I do visit it it is always really nice.	Republican, Jason Martin lives there, far from stores etc.
There's no sidewalks, this is an issue for me because I live right off of Boston State so during the summer I tend to walk to places like Charlaps, 7/11, CVS, etc, but it doesn't feel like I can safely walk there since I have to walk on the bare side of the road with no kind of sidewalks People in neighborhoods follow the speed limits, but those speed limits are not a safe limit for neighborhoods, especially since most neighborhoods don't have sidewalks for people to walk on	It's kind of far out and lots of hills. Not much you can do about that
I am not a farmer Houses are not free Who wants to live there	The location and how it is far away from everything.
Poeple speeding,drugs, illegal actions	no side walks. the people walking in the middle of the road on boston state the polution along the 18 mile
i dont know	1) Everything is quite spread out, for people who want to walk/bike to certain places its difficult taking the terrain into consideration. 2) No sidewalks!! Also for those who walk/bike, road shoulders are unsafe and honestly kind of scary to walk along.
I don't know	idk
n/a	there are hills
There were a few dead animals on the side of the road	idk
Need nicer people,playgrounds need to be cleaned	I don't know

APPENDIX B: OUTREACH RESULTS

I never been to Boston before so I'm not sure	Not being able to own farm animals in residential neighborhoods
to stop kids from bullying	Everyone is sad and hurting
no	I don't know, I don't live there
I have no idea	I don't know I don't live there
They are ok	I don't know, I don't live in Boston.
Lower taxes and fuel prices	I dont know. I dont live in Boston.
How long it takes to fix water problems like main breaks or power stuff	More things to do in the town
I'm not really sure but the roads are a big thing	school
im not really sure	There's not much there, there is little productivity and moving forward, there should be sidewalks to make Boston more walkable and accessible would be nice too.
?	I don't know I don't live there
It needs to look nicer and less like a dump.	f
Everything is far away from Boston and it is out of the way	Powerlines, Lack of plowing during the winter, not enough job opportunitys.
Bostons weakness that there is nothing to do, not many big companies, and not many stores.	idk i don't live there
Ransomware & malware attacks. ...Aging infrastructure. ...Obsolete, Inefficient processes and paper-based workflow. ...Loss of trust in government institutions. ...Low recruitment and employee retention. ...Increasing prominence of natural disasters. ...Economic decline. ...Water utility challenges.	no
i do not know.	Idk don't live in Boston
More animals then people No drip No black people	-the roads can be a bit better -more public transport -more people
There is a lack of restaurant stores and recreational facilities.	im not sure
I feel as though it is isolated from the rest of the towns because the only way to get to boston is by going on busy roads or crazy backroads with horrible conditions i feel as though if you were to get more things it would make it better	Not a lot of stores/places to go
i think that there should be side walks and there should be more stores so that you can go and get things you need quickly instead of having to drive far to get things	Sidewalks
not enough things to do not many opportunities to meet other people of our age and more sidewalks	The stoned streets. The lack of plowing. Slow response to power issues.

APPENDIX B: OUTREACH RESULTS

more things to do , more restaurants,	the potholes in the roads
need to fix power speeding glass	Some of the roads are not as good as they could be.
1. Crime - More police on patrol 2. Entertainment - Hold more shows and contests 3. Shops - Have more people make new shops	no town park, smells bad, too many farms
I don't know anything about Boston	the nature, a lot of land is trees
Nothing	Maybe more inclusivity
Pot holes, cross walks	Roads are bad in winter, very dark roads
you can't walk to the village of hamburg	Walkability and bikeability and road infrastructure in general. Boston State should have a sidewalk/ protected bike lane. Also, setbacks from the road for commercial buildings should be reduced/ buildings further integrated into streetscape
McKinley needs a cross walk and I don't know	Address the condition of the parks and get a good rework.
these obstacles needs to pop quiz you.	Don't know
I don't really have any obstacles at the time	boring, spread out, and hilly
I dont think people know too much about it so mabye some more advertising??	No obstacles
I do not know	1. Bring back the old orange street lights! they did a better job 2. Stop paving roads with loose stones. 3. Add more retail to the commercial strip
One of the biggest issues in the Boston community is how we deal with road issues. When a problem arises for a road, it seems like it takes forever for the construction to be done and putting gravel on a road instead of paving it again is probably the worst option for fixing a road. Another problem that we have is the lack of good management in the north boston stores like dollar general and the Tim Hortons. The final issue is the lack of funding for some programs in the schools. In my school(Hamburg Hugh School) we have a big problem with the difference in funding for the sports programs and the arts programs. In our band department we are barely able to afford a nee school instrument or a trip for the different bands.	im not sure
A problem with Boston is that the roads are not always taken care of or are hard to drive on in the dark. And I think more lights and less back roads would help this	Most things are not easy to walk to. Isolated. People speed a lot.
development, stores, restaurants	one single road. could use fast food

APPENDIX B: OUTREACH RESULTS

South abbot road from the 4 way intersection to herman hill is terrible my car feels like its gonna fall apart	Side walks.
fix potholes, increase speed limits in certain places,	Zero sidewalks, little productivity, little stores for necessities (majority of people rely on going to Hamburg to get everything that they need. Stores in Boston aren't sufficient enough)
I don't really know	I want to know if the Town's streets are stable and smooth for transportation.
n/a	I can't think of anything at the moment really. Mostly because I'm in class and numbers are a lot.
i'm not sure	nothing out there
n/a	Bad roads. Fix them.
Far away Not close Can't walk there	updated buildings and facilities to make things nicer
not a lot there, can't think of three, just not alot there	no clue
No sidewalks	there's nothing in boston
potholes in the roads	i dont know
The county plowing	plowing, make it a priority especially on main roads.
N/A	idk
the new development is a terrible, the county plowing in the winter is trash	Free school lunches, Free pony (one for every household), Free mountain dew.
nothing	There are no obstacles the town is facing that I know of that need to be addressed.
Roads. The town parks, some are in rough shape.	troopers need to back off with the radaring
Cleanliness, activities and crime. Things could be cleaner and there's not much to do. Adding more things to do could increase the happiness of people.	the amount of new homes/apartments going up (limit the amount), road quality (repave/fill potholes), ATV/snowmobile riding trail seasons (if there is no snow and its warm in the late winter months, you can ride ATVs of the snowmobile trails.
Potholes are annoying.	I don't have any input for this.
Not everyone has public water. We don't have an option for internet access. Some people don't like the land development. Public hearings would be a solution to every issue.	I don't know
Literally no clue	I don't know, I don't visit often
Not much	honestly not sure
they need to get more stuff, by getting more stuff	Not a lot of recreational activities.
n/a	- commercialism is threatening the towns character. it is no longer a quiet little town. it is being taken over by housing developments, gas stations, and general stores.

APPENDIX B: OUTREACH RESULTS

im not sure- i dont think there are any	I cant think of any obstacles other than road safety. The roads are very used especially back creek and the roads off of that where it is very thin or many holes and bumps in the road.
I'm not sure, I don't live in boston	Again, not specifically Boston, but issues on accessibility, inclusion, and moving money in the proper places.
Nothing I do not know	Not very many people, not much there, it's very hilly
i think that there isnt enough public places for people, specifically young people, to hang out at	not a lot of sidewalks, very busy streets are two i can think of. adding sidewalks would be beneficial
Everything is old and worn down and that is really all that I could think of	idk
make sure everyone has a school bus don't let kids walk to school when there's is feet of snow on the ground not plowed	More sidewalks and stores. There could also be nature walks and more places for teens to hang out
I not really sure probaly just the enviormental stance.	The roads are so bumpy and bad so many pot holes and Boston is so dangerous to walk on or ride your bike
Not being uniform in the conditions of the entire town.	I dont know
As stated in the previous question, I don't live in Boston	It is a small town so it is hard to fit everything.
littering	Stinks a lot of the time not many things to do difficult to take walks and travel
I cant think of any	There are no sidewalks, there are not good plans in place when there is a lot of snow, very hilly terrain.
Better roads the roads ain't good	Not much there, just adding more things for people to do and shop there
The school busses take the longest to get there, the winter weather is dangerous, and there are not many houses?	The sidewalks are bad when they exist. There aren't many options for shopping/gas.
1. potholes 2. no sidewalks	Addition of sidewalks. The lack of sidewalks are extremely concerning and dangerous. Also additional buildings with closer access.
Not alot to do there, Not many stores except for a small tops, very spread out	I don't know much about Boston, but one of my friends says the roads need to be paved.
I'm not sure because I don't live in boston	The pot holes in the road
not sure	The roads get all new roads

I don't know	We need a more walkable infrastructure, this can be done by implementing sidewalks. I would like us to have better accommodations for cyclists, as currently that's as dangerous as walking, if not more. Finally, I think we need more businesses, I'm not sure how this could be aided, but lowering the rent for what used to be the Italian place would definitely help. (I forgot what it was called)
I'm not sure, I don't live there 🙋.	The town needs more affordable housing, better places for employment, and work on pollution and the environment.
I don't live there	Wouldn't know
I do not live in Boston, so I do not feel like I am directly affected by the problems in the town.	Not many gas stations- more of them, not many stores- more of them, middle of nowhere
	the traffic light should be a circle



Appendix C

Community Profile

Community Snapshot

A Brief History of the Town of Boston

According to Boston Town Historian, Frank Gamel, the first resident of what is today the Town of Boston was a man named Charles Johnson, who decided to settle down in the area with his brother and their families due to the valley's clear meadows and abundant source of water from Eighteen Mile Creek.

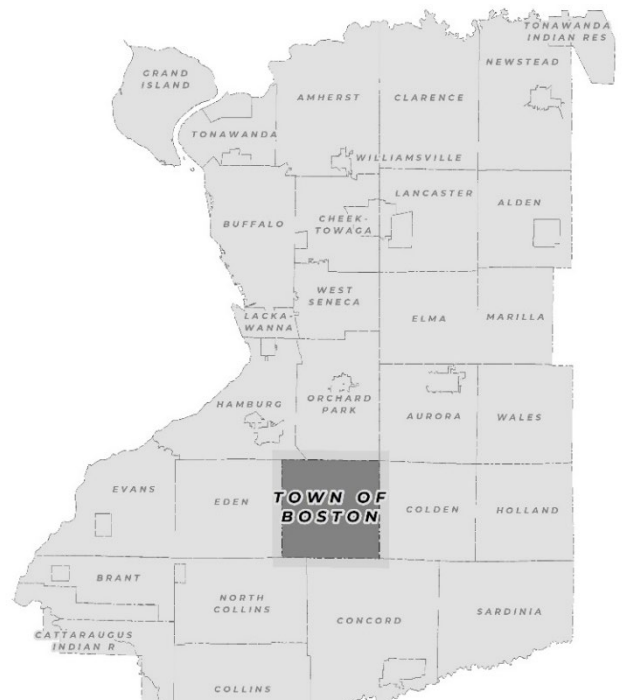
More settlers followed and purchased plots of land from the Holland Land Company, which, led by Joseph Ellicott, surveyed and split the valley and the hills into parcels.

Agriculture has historically been an important part of the Town's history and local economic activity. In the days of early settlement, Bostonians purchased large parcels of land to build homes and farms. The parcels subdivided by Ellicott would produce grain, potash, corn, apples, potatoes, and raspberries, and would also support livestock. Other important industries that developed in the town include a wool factory, and a bell factory, which at one point was the largest bell factory in the United States, producing around 500 cow and sheep bells a day. Additionally, as the town continued to grow, churches, schools, lumber mills, and stores began to develop.

Boston is one of the oldest Towns in Erie County, having been incorporated on April 5, 1817, with much of its territory formerly encompassing parts of the Town of Eden. The Town grew into 3 hamlets, which include Boston at its southernmost point, Boston Center, later renamed Patchin, , and North Boston. Each hamlet had its own post office, fire companies, and churches that were built in the valley and on the hills.



Eighteen Mile Creek runs for over ten miles through the center of the Town of Boston and is a major source of water for the town.



The Town of Boston is 36 square mile, rural residential community located in southern Erie County, NY

Boston is bordered to the north by the Town of Orchard Park, to the east by the Town of Colden, to the south by Concord and Springville, and to the west by the Towns of Eden and Hamburg. Boston is one of several stops along the Western New York Southtowns Scenic Byway, showcasing the beauty and warmth of a small-town community.

Today, Boston continues to evolve as a part of the Erie County metropolitan area. While it retains its agricultural heritage, the town has also diversified its economy, incorporating various sectors such as manufacturing, services, and retail. Its strategic location, historical significance, and natural beauty continue to attract both residents and businesses, ensuring a steady growth trajectory for the town over time. (<https://townofboston.com/departments/officials/town-historian/>)

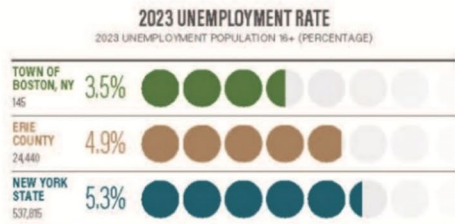
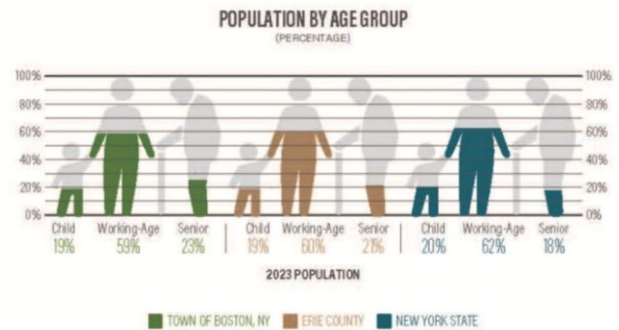
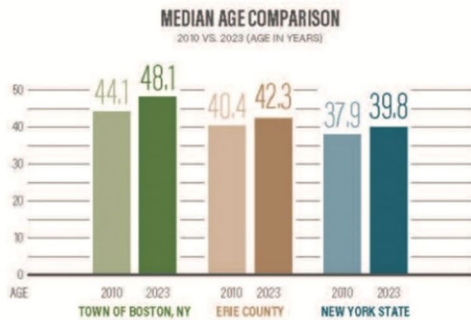
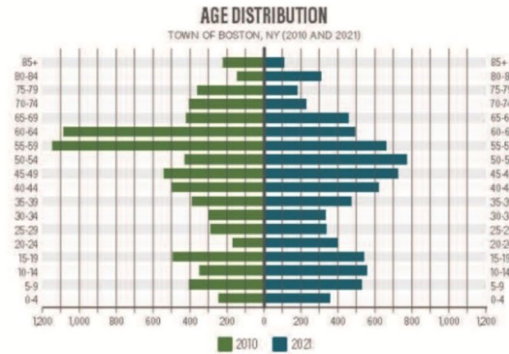
About Boston

The most recent Town of Boston Comprehensive Plan entitled *Town of Boston Comprehensive Plan: A Vision for the Year 2020*, prepared in 2002, was based on economic and demographic data that referenced US Census data from 1990 and 2000. Collecting up to date information provides a clearer picture of the Town's present day conditions and helps identify potential trends in the future. Understanding this data and the trends emerging gives the Town of Boston the opportunity to make informed decisions about its future moving forward.

The data on the following page provides a “snapshot” of the key demographics and trends for the Town.

BY THE NUMBERS

BOSTON, NY COMMUNITY PROFILE

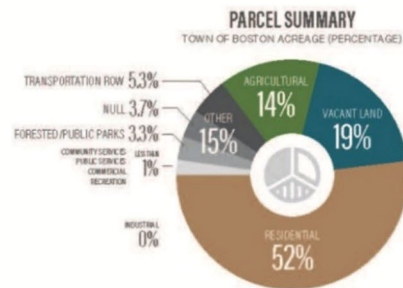


2023 LABOR FORCE
16+ CIVILIAN POPULATION, TOWN OF BOSTON, NY

	Town of Boston	Erie County	New York State
CIVILIAN POPULATION/ LABOR FORCE	537,815	9,681,562	10,219,377
UNEMPLOYED CIVILIAN POPULATION	24,440	470,879	495,319
EMPLOYED CIVILIAN POPULATION	145	4,041	4,186

HOUSING UNIT TOTALS
2010 VS. 2023

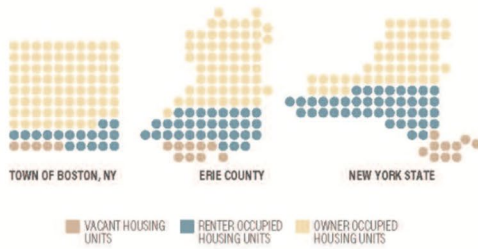
	Town of Boston	Erie County	New York State
2010 TOTAL HOUSING UNITS	3,388	419,963	8,104,149
2023 TOTAL HOUSING UNITS	3,574	445,598	8,599,146
CHANGE OVER TIME	▲ 5%	▲ 6%	▲ 6%



3

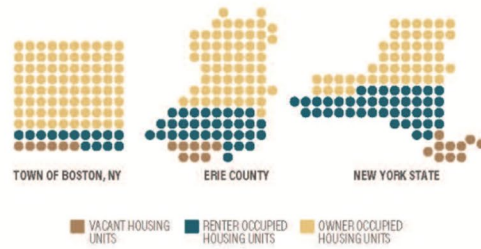
2010 HOUSING UNIT TYPE SUMMARY

PERCENTAGE



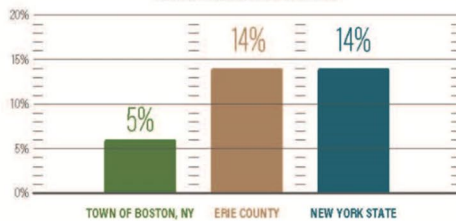
2023 HOUSING UNIT TYPE SUMMARY

PERCENTAGE



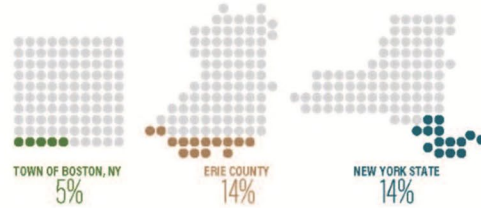
2021 POPULATION WITH INCOME BELOW POVERTY LEVEL (ACS 5-YEAR)

TOWN OF BOSTON, NY (PERCENTAGE)



2021 POPULATION WITH INCOME BELOW POVERTY LEVEL (ACS 5-YEAR)

TOWN OF BOSTON, NY (PERCENTAGE)

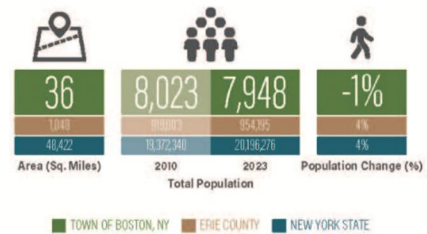


FARMLAND SOILS

TOWN OF BOSTON, NY (PERCENTAGE/ACRES)

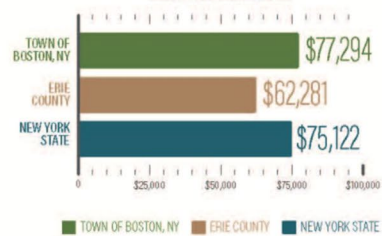


POPULATION AND AREA



2021 MEDIAN HH INCOME (ACS 5-YEAR)

TOWN OF BOSTON, NY (\$USD)



Some key takeaways from the Town's Census Statistics

- Population in the Town can be considered stable at 7,948 - down 1% from 8,023 in 2010.
- Demographic shifts show decreasing youth/younger population and increase in older populations.
- “Empty nesters” (55-64) and seniors have increased since 2010, while school-aged children (under 19) have decreased; young adults (20-34) have remained somewhat stable
- Median household age is increasing (44.1 to 48.1), common among many communities nationwide
- A majority of the Town is residential by use (52%) followed by almost 14% agricultural. Vacant land comprises 19% of Town land use.
- Housing stock has increased by 5% since 2010, though the rate of growth has declined.
- Housing unit types in the Town are heavily dominated by owner occupied units and this unit type has grown since 2010.
- Median household incomes in the Town are strong at \$77,294 and greater than both New York State and Erie County
- Unemployment in the Town is lower than both Erie County and New York State.

Analyzing the Data – Trends and Implications

Demographics give us a glimpse into emerging trends and provide insight for community priorities. For Boston specifically:

- A **stable population** entails that there is a sufficient balance between inward and outward migration or births and deaths. While stability is good for the status quo, it is also an indicator that there is work that can be done to avoid a decline.
- Declining household sizes and increasing median age indicate that there are less **families** and **less children** in the Town, both needed for a sustainable community.
- Higher numbers of **seniors and elderly in the community** translate to the need for diversified community services, increased housing options, as well as expanding the available modes of transportation to support this population.
- The balance of older vs. newer homes can impact code enforcement for maintenance, affordability, and overall variety from a marketing aspect.
 - **Boston** still has an almost 50-50 **balance of older and newer homes**. Newer homes can increase the tax base and attractiveness of Boston to new residents.
- **Housing variety** is also key to making the Town more attractive to new residents, but also for older residents who are looking to downsize but remain in the Town; housing variety is not strong in Boston, with the vast majority of housing stock in the Town being single-family homes.
- A strong median income is seen as an indicator that there is solid **spending power** for residents, though it can be overshadowed by inflation and expenses. Keeping the money local is the priority for Boston.

Our Community

In addition to the demographics discussed above, physical attributes in the Town have a significant impact on economic development and the Town's overall quality of life. Below is a summary of land uses and other physical characteristics and resources of the Town of Boston.

Existing Land Use

The Town of Boston covers an area of approximately 36 square miles. Overall, the Town can be characterized as a rural residential community. Larger lot residential development is located on the western and eastern sides of the Town. Smaller more suburban style housing is located along roads including Boston State Road which runs through the center of Town and is a major corridor where most commercial and community services land uses are found. Feedback during the engagement process revealed residents are concerned about the amount of development that may occur in the future and where that would take place, with many expressing their desire for Boston to maintain its "small town character".

There is little industrial land (less than 1%) in the Town, with most of it being located in Boston's southeast .. Land uses in the Town have remained generally the same since completion of the prior plan in 2002, however, the Town has seen an increase in the subdivision of larger lot parcels for single-family homes and the construction of some multi-family homes. The Town has also recently grappled with having a limited inventory of right sized commercially zoned land (both in volume of land and the size of individual available parcels) and in some cases with the compatible integration of certain proposed developments with adjacent residential areas, some of which have historical significance.

Residential lands are the largest land use in Boston (55%) and are found throughout the Town, with larger lots present on the western periphery and smaller and denser residential properties closer to Boston State Road (See Table X and Figure X, below).

Some Key Findings:

- Over half the land use in Town is designated Residential with Rural residential being the greatest land use type.
- 20% of Town land use is categorized as Vacant – the second highest percentage.
- Agriculture is 14% of the Towns land use which is a substantial decrease from 27% when the previous Comprehensive Plan was done in 2002.

Table X: Existing Land Use

<i>Property Class</i>	<i>Acreage</i>	<i>Percent of Total</i>
Residential	11,947.5	55.05%
Vacant land	4,401.0	20.28%
Agricultural	3,234.9	14.91%
<Null>	845.3	3.90%
Wild, forested, conservation lands and public parks	764.0	3.52%
Community Services	145.3	0.67%
Public services	136.2	0.63%
Commercial	132.1	0.61%
Recreation and entertainment	88.6	0.41%
Industrial	7.1	0.03%

Total

21,702.2

100.00%

Source: Erie County Department of Environment and Planning

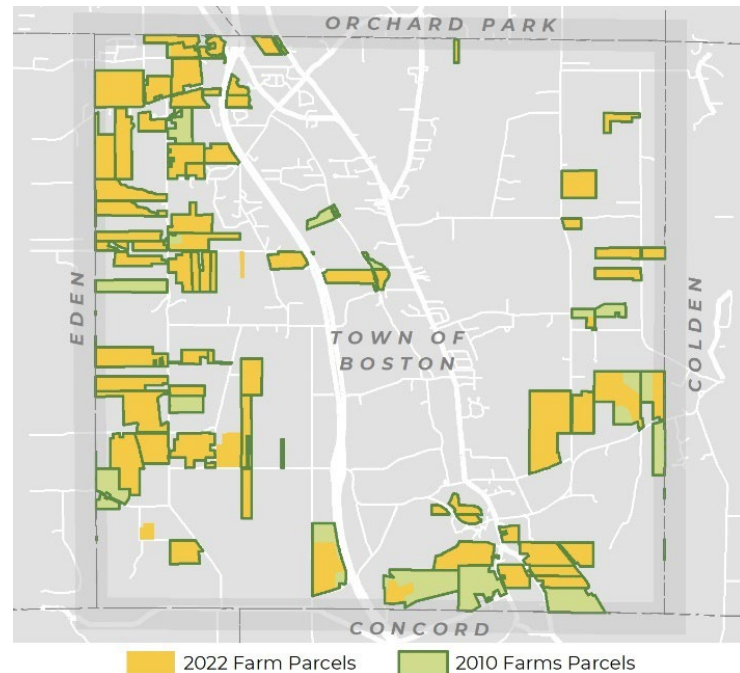
The second largest land use category in the Town is Vacant land. These are lands with no apparent use that are not wooded or formally maintained as open park or recreational space. These areas lack permanent improvements and are not categorized as fallow or underutilized farmland. There is a total of 4,401 acres or 20.2 % of vacant land throughout the Town of Boston, which is scattered throughout the community and not concentrated in one area. There are some larger vacant areas in the southeastern portion of the Town, and these vacant parcels may have potential for development as open space, recreational sites, or renewable energy projects (i.e., solar farms).

Agricultural land uses comprise the third largest acreage of land use in the community, which amounts to 3,234 acres or 14.9% of the total land area. The Town is fortunate to have an environment conducive to farming with 47% of its soils designated as “Farmland of statewide importance”. Additionally, 7.2% of the soil is classified as “prime farmland” and 15.3% of the soil is designated as “prime farmland if drained” according to the SSURGO soils database. The Town falls within designated Agricultural Districts 8 and 15.



Active Farm Land Makes up Almost 15% of the land Use in the Town of Boston (See Table X)

When farmland is lost to farming, it is gone forever, and preservation of the existing agricultural land is very important to Town residents. While agriculture has played an important role in the Town's evolution and continues to remain an important influence and draw for people looking to live in a small rural community, agricultural lands have been steadily lost to other forms of development, which may be an issue of concern for the Town. The 2002 Comp Plan reported Agricultural land as the number one land use type in Boston at 5,921.8 or 27.3% of total land use. In 2023, Agriculture was the third highest land use type in the Town, and between 2010 and 2022, there were 28 fewer agricultural property parcels in Boston (see inset map).



Agriculture is a non-renewable resource and a valuable commodity for the Town of Boston. Once developed, agricultural land has little chance of reverting to its original use. Agricultural lands are presently and will continue to face development pressures in the Town of Boston from uses such as residential development.

The next largest land use category at 3% is Wild, Forested, Conservation lands and Public Parks (764 acres or 3.5%). The wild, forested, conservation lands and public parks include wooded areas with densely covered trees, wetlands, conservation easements and State, County, and Town owned public park lands. These lands are located throughout the Town and primarily includes the Boston Forest , which is a 706 acre wooded area on Feddick Road between Belcher and Rice Hill Road.

Community Services (145.3 acres), Public services (136.2 acres) Commercial (132.1 acres) and Recreation and entertainment (88.6 acres) all individually account for less than one percent of total land use in the Town (see Figure 1).

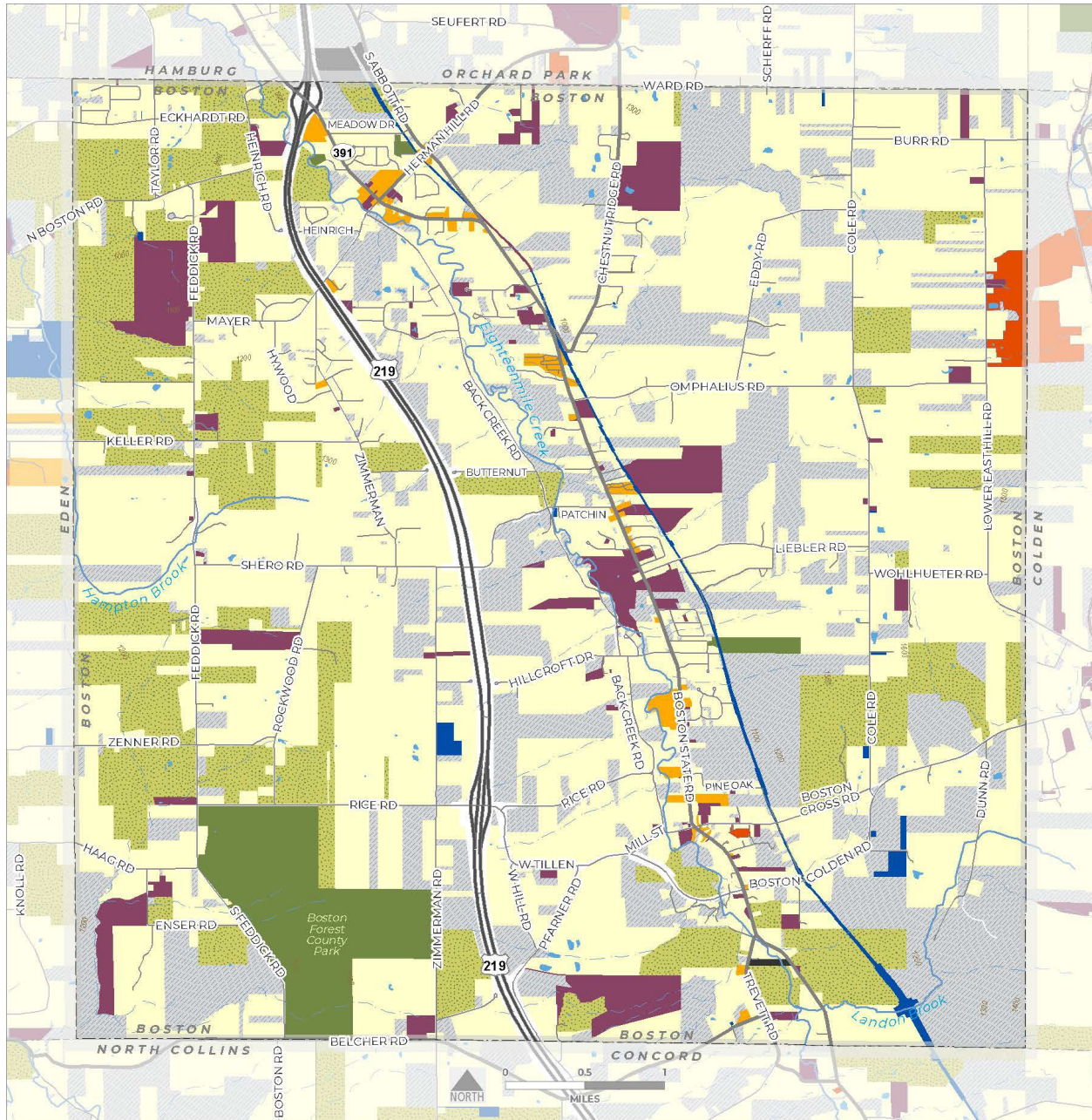
Most commercial properties in the Town of Boston are found on Boston State Road, the Town's main commercial corridor. Businesses found on Boston State Road include a car dealership, restaurants, and a mix of services, stores and professional offices.

The recreation and entertainment land uses include facilities such as auditoriums, theatres, playgrounds, and athletic fields, which the Town of Boston has few of. Boston does however have three public parks, with the largest, Boston Town Park Complex, located at the rear of town hall, giving residents access to green spaces they can readily enjoy. Other significant recreational sites include the school athletic facilities and play areas, and over 20 miles of dedicated snowmobile trails operated by private snowmobile clubs.

Public service uses include facilities such as utilities that provide and support access to infrastructure for residents, and in the Town of Boston, a total of 136.2 acres (.6%) of land is dedicated to sustaining public services. Some of these uses include a power right of way that extends in a north south direction to the east of Boston State Road and a WNED television/radio satellite station on Zimmerman Road. Additional public services are located throughout the community.

Community service uses include facilities such as municipal buildings, fire halls, churches, schools, and cemeteries, which provide important resources for the community that ensure the well-being of its residents. Overall, this use of land constitutes about 145 acres (0.67%) of land in the Town of Boston.

Lastly, “Null” values, comprising 845 acres (3%) of land in the Town represent parcels without property class codes, with their land use types being unknown.



Town of Boston, NY

Key

	Agricultural		Public Services		Vacant Land
	Commercial		Recreation & Entertainment		Wild, Forested, Conservation Lands & Public Parks
	Community Services		Residential		
	Industrial				

Sources: Tax Parcels by NYS Real Property and Erie County Real Property, 2022.

**EXISTING LAND USE
BY TAX PARCEL**

Zoning

The Town of Boston follows a traditional zoning model. This style of zoning divides the Town into specific districts that are dictated by a list of primary and other permitted uses, creating a hierarchy within each district that builds off previous districts. The residential districts are the most restrictive while the general industrial district allows for the most varied uses. Currently, zoning in the Town of Boston consists of the following districts (below is a summary of the Town's Zoning Districts, for a full accounting of all the districts in the Town and the details of each districts, see Town of Boston Zoning Code, Chapter 123 Zoning, Article I <https://ecode360.com/9002443>):

Table 2: Zoning Districts

Zoning Code	Acreage	Percent of Total
Local Commercial Business District (C-1)	261.75	1.2%
General Commercial District (C-2)	15.00	0.1%
General Industrial District (M-2)	13.28	0.1%
Single-Family Residence District (R-1)	767.28	3.5%
Single family Residence District (R-2)	2,748.52	12.7%
Two-or More Family Residence District (R-3)	54.10	0.2%
Mobile Home Court District (R-4)	18.34	0.1%
Residential – Agriculture District (R-A)	17,655.94	81.3%
General Residence Restricted Business District (R-C)	81.91	0.4%
Right-of-way	91.12	0.4%
Total	21,707.24	100.0%

Residential (R-1, R-2, R-3, R-4, R-A, R-C)

The intent of each Residential District is to primarily allow single-family residential uses along with some limited community services (i.e., churches, schools, libraries), the difference among them is density, generally dictated by the availability of infrastructure (i.e., sanitary sewer). All uses below are also subject to consideration for special use permits.

- **R-1 Single-Family Residence District** – Over three percent (or 767 acres) of the Town is zoned R-1. Uses and structures permitted in the R-1 District include single-family detached dwellings, Churches or other places of worship or religious education, parish houses, convents, rectories or parsonages, schools (public, private or nonprofit), public libraries or public museums, fire stations without club facilities, and golf courses.
- **R-2 Single family Residence District** – Almost 13% (or 2,748 acres) of the Town is zoned R-2. Uses and structures permitted in the R-2 District include Principal uses and structures permitted in the R-1 District, except those requiring a special use permit, cluster housing, hospitals or institutions of a religious, charitable or philanthropic nature, provided that they are not used for penal or correctional purposes. Such principal buildings shall be at least 50 feet from any other lot in any R-District.

- **R-3 Two-or More Family Residence District** – A very minimal amount of land in the Town is zoned R-3. A total of approximately 54 acres or less than 1 percent of total land is zoned R-3, occurring primarily along Boston State Road. Uses and structures permitted in the R-3 District include principal uses and structures permitted in the R-2 District, except those requiring a special use permit, two-family dwellings, three-or-more family dwellings or condominiums, where served by sanitary sewers, dwelling groups.
- **R-4 Mobile Home Court District** – The Town has only 18 acres of land zoned R-4. This zoning district is present at two locations on Boston State Road. Uses and structures permitted in the R-4 District include licensed mobile home courts.

- **R-A Residential – Agriculture District** – R-A is by far the largest zoning district in the Town of Boston at over 81% (or 17,655 acres). Principal uses and structures permitted in the R-2 District include two-family dwellings, agricultural, floricultural and horticultural pursuits, veterinarians, small-animal hospitals and dog kennels; private wildlife reservations or conservation projects, cemeteries, hospitals or institutions of a religious, charitable, rehabilitative or philanthropic nature, and nonprofit private clubs, including club swimming pools and/or tennis courts, catering exclusively to members and guests.



Example of Residential-Agriculture Zoning District, Town of Boston

- **R-C General Residence Restricted Business District** – A minimal amount of acreage in the Town is zoned R-C at only 81 acres of land or less than one percent of the total Town acreage. Principal uses and structures permitted in the R-2 District, except cluster housing and those requiring a special use permit, include three-or-more family dwellings, where a lot in the R-C District abuts an R-A District boundary, principal uses and structures as permitted and regulated in the R-A District, excluding those uses and structures requiring a special use permit in the R-A District, telephone exchanges, Real estate or insurance offices, mortuaries, art, dance, music or photography studios, opticians or optometrists, tourist homes, fire stations with club facilities, meeting rooms for private clubs, lodges or fraternal organizations, medical and/or dental buildings, clinics and laboratories, trade or industrial schools, provided that such activity is conducted wholly within an enclosed building, racquetball clubs, squash courts, health

spas and related physical fitness facilities, other administrative, professional or executive offices, but not including the handling, repairing, processing, keeping, displaying, selling, manufacturing, servicing or storing of any goods or merchandise upon the premises.

Commercial (C-1, C-2)

Commercial zoning in the Town includes the local business district and a general commercial district. Most land zoned as C-1 or C-2 is clustered along the main commercial corridor in the northern end of Town along South Abott Road and Route 391 and through the center of Town, along Boston State Road. Businesses in the commercial zoning district include Cappellino Chevrolet, WNY Overhead Door Distributors and Charlaps Dairy. Smaller commercial businesses include a mix of stores, services, professional offices and restaurants.

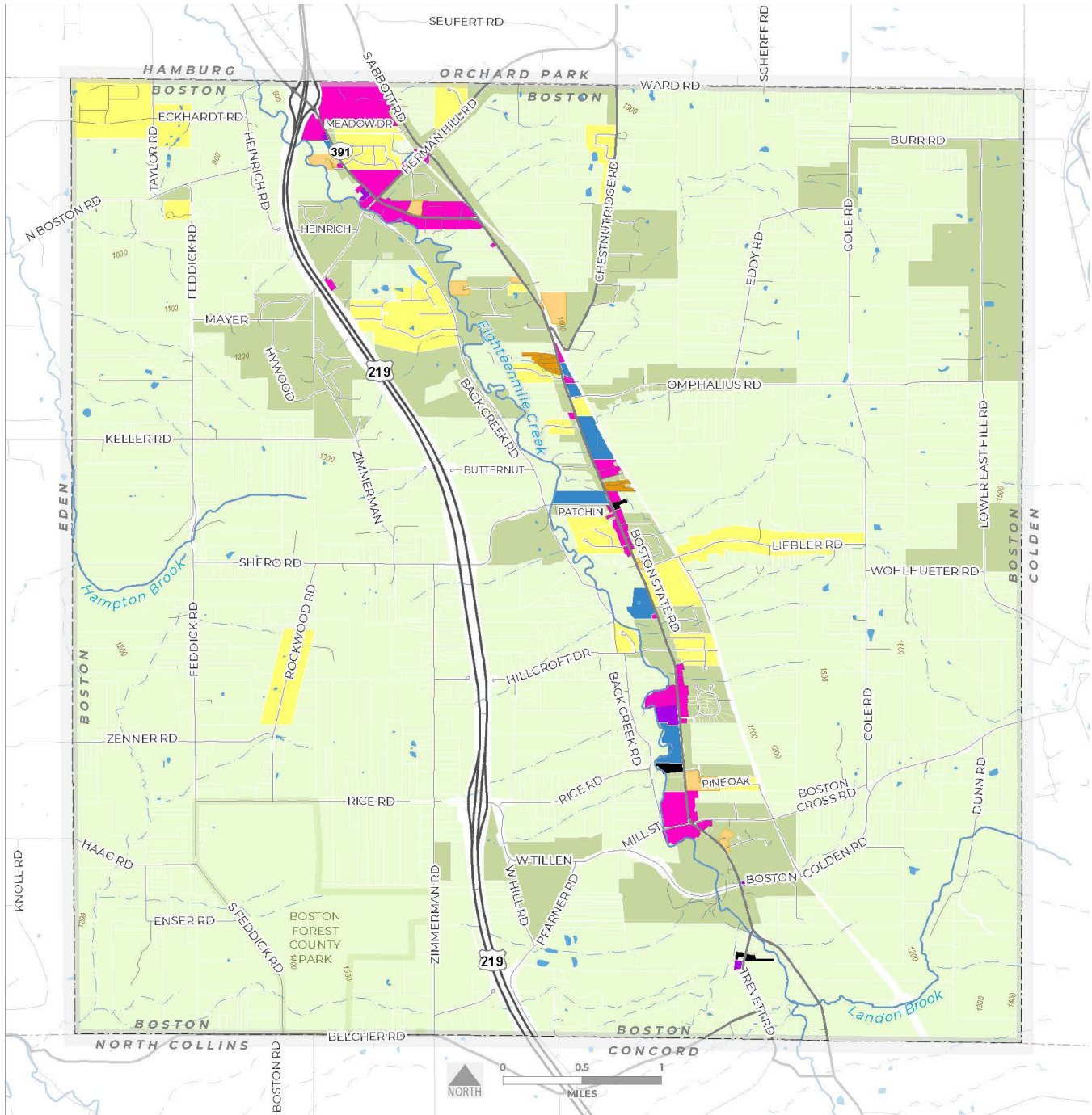
- **C-1 Local Commercial Business District** – C-1 zoned land accounts for over 260 acres of zoning in the Town (which is 1.2 % of the total). This zoning district occurs primarily along the commercial corridors of Boston State Road, South Abbott and Herman Hill Road. Principal uses and structures permitted in the C-1 district are those permitted uses and structures permitted in an R-C District, except that no residential single-family, two-family or three-or-more-family dwellings, cluster housing, private horse stable or accessory apartments shall be permitted. The following uses, when conducted entirely within an enclosed building, are also permitted Retail sales, but not including any use first permitted in the C-2, M-1 or M-2 District, personal service establishments, including but not limited to barbershops, beauty parlors and shoe or hat cleaning or repair and martial arts or related physical fitness facilities, hand laundries, laundromats and dry cleaning or laundry pickup stations, theaters, eating or drinking establishments, hotels or motels, and drive-in banks,
- **C-2 General Commercial District** – Very limited acreage of C-2 zoning is evident in the Town (a total 15 acres or 0.1% of the Town's total acreage). C-2 zoning districts are primarily along the commercial corridors of Boston State Road. Principal uses and structures permitted in the C-2 District are those principal uses and structures permitted in the C-1 District; No cluster housing, bed-and-breakfast establishments, private horse stables, two-family dwellings or accessory apartments shall be permitted. New or used motor vehicle sales and service, automobile collision repair and painting, gasoline stations, eating or drinking establishments, boat or marine sales and service, laundry or dry-cleaning plants, custom shops, including but not limited to printing, electrical, heating, plumbing or woodworking shops, warehouses, but not including the storage of highly flammable or explosive materials, billiard or pool halls, bowling alleys, skating rinks, dance halls or video game rooms, dairies or bottling of nonalcoholic beverages from previously prepared ingredients, wholesale sales and distribution, terminals for local trucking and delivery service, commercial swimming pools, drive-in restaurants, driven theaters, golf driving ranges or miniature golf, commercial car washes, the following uses, provided that they are conducted within a completely enclosed building or within an area enclosed by a solid wall or fence at least six feet in height: public garages, building materials supply, including incidental millwork, public utility storage, service buildings

and yards, small-animal hospitals, machine and tool sales, rentals and service, storage and sales of solid fuel, storage and sales of feed for livestock, contractor's equipment and materials storage.

Industrial (M-1, M-2) – *There are no areas in the Town of Boston Currently zones M-1*

Industrial districts in the Town of Boston are very limited – there are three areas where parcels possess this designated zoning located in the central and southern portion of the Town. Uses allowed in these districts generally include office buildings and other administrative, professional or executive offices, research and development facilities, to heavier uses that include coal yards, incinerators, storage of petroleum and petroleum products, manufacturing of abrasives, automobile assembly and fabrication, and open storage yards.

- **M-1 Industrial Park Research and Development District** - Principal uses and structures allowable in the M-1 district include office buildings and other administrative, professional or executive offices. medical and/or dental buildings, clinics and laboratories. trade or industrial schools, provided that such activity is conducted wholly within an enclosed building, research and development activities, including laboratories, testing, small-scale experimental and pilot plant operations and production operations incidental to research and development practice and techniques, provided that all necessary safeguards are employed to prevent hazard or annoyance to the community, the manufacture, compounding and assembly of products from previously prepared materials including: electrical and electronics components and equipment, musical, scientific, medical, dental and photographic equipment and supplies, pharmaceutical products, cosmetics and toiletries, recreational equipment and toys, clothing and other textile products, printing, publishing and engraving, furniture and furnishings for households and offices and related wood and metal products, food and beverage products, warehousing and wholesale distribution when conducted within a completely enclosed building, lumberyards, repair of trucks and licensed commercial vehicles, including fabrication of miscellaneous parts and accessories.
- **M-2 General Industrial District** - Principal uses and structures permitted in the M-1 District, coal yards, incinerators, concrete products manufacture or concrete- or cement-mixing plants, storage of petroleum and petroleum products, manufacturing of abrasives, automobile assembly and fabrication, manufacture of heavy machinery, processing or treatment of bituminous products, metal casting and foundry products, open storage yards not otherwise limited in this section, including junkyards as regulated by the Town of Boston, adult uses, mining and reclamation activities, subject to a New York State permit.



Town of Boston, NY

Key

 R-1 Single Family Residence	 C-1 Local Retail Business	 R-C General Residence-Restricted Business
 R-2 Single Family Residence	 C-2 General Commercial	 R-A Residential-Agricultural District
 R-3 Two or More Family	 M-2 General Industrial District	
 R-4 Mobile Home Court		

ZONING

Sources: Town of Boston, 2020.

Community Assets and Natural Resources

Parks, Recreation and Open Space

Parks and Recreation spaces in the Town of Boston include the following (See Table 3 and Figure 3):

- Boston Town Park
- North Boston Park
- Boston Valley Elementary School
- South Boston Park
- Boston Forest County Park



Boston Town Park, Fishing Pond

Some Key Findings:

- Town possesses 783 acres of parkland and 24 miles of snowmobile trails.
- Recreation Trails/linear features in Town include: Boston Nature Trail, powerline, and an abandon rail line.
- The Town possesses adequate parks and recreation amenities and services to support its population.

Boston Town Park is a 43.9 acre space located in the center of Town at 8500 Boston State Road, behind town hall, and features several amenities including greenspaces, athletic fields, fishing ponds, nature trails, shelters, and playground equipment. A complete list of all of Boston's Town parks and associated features are presented in Table X. North Boston Park is located at 5678 Meadow Drive and is a 13.8-acre park with accessible parking and abundant green spaces for residents to enjoy. Amenities at the park include athletic fields, playfields, shelters, and picnic tables. A \$100,000 Community

Development Block Grant (CDBG) recently funded the reconstruction of this park.

South Boston Park, located at 8960 Boston Cross Road is approximately 20 acres and includes green spaces and playground equipment. Boston Forest County Park is a 706 acre undeveloped park that is bounded by Rice Road to the north, Feddick Road to the south and west, and Zimmerman Road to the east. The park is a combination of woodlands and meadows, with several nature trails located throughout the property, including NYS Snowmobile Trails. Activities include summer hiking, trail exploration, horseback riding, winter snow shoeing, snowmobiling (on approved trails) and hiking. The Boston Valley Conservation Society, located at 9624 Zimmerman Road nearby is a private membership organization that offers and supports sporting activities, recreational shooting, and club functions.

Table X- Parks and Recreational Facilities

Park	Park Type	Acreage	Park Amenities
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North Boston Stadium	Local Park	13.8	Athletic fields, Playfields, Shelter, Picnic tables
South Boston Park	Local Park	19.2	Green space/playground equipment, shelter, picnic tables
Boston Town Park	Local Park	43.9	Athletic fields, Green Space, Walking /Nature trail, Pavillion, Playfields
Boston Forest County Park *	County Park	706.1	Conservation Park and Forest/trail, Hiking, Horseback riding, Snowmobiling, Snowshoeing
Boston Valley Elementary School	School Play Equipment		Green space, playground equipment.

**Erie County Park*

The National Recreation and Park Association's (NRPA) 2023 Agency Performance Review summarizes key findings from the NRPA Park Metrics benchmarking study. These findings assist parks and recreation professionals in effective management and planning of their operating resources and capital facilities (NRPA, 2023).

According to this review, proximity to high-quality parks and recreation opportunities is consistently identified as an important factor in people's decisions regarding where to live.

Some relevant and key metrics from the NRPA review reveal the following:

- The typical parks and recreation agency offers one park for every 2,287 residents served
- The typical parks and recreation agency has 10.8 acres of parkland for every 1,000 residents.
- An overwhelming majority of parks and recreation agencies have playgrounds (95 %) and basketball courts (86 %) in their portfolio of outdoor assets.
- The typical parks and recreation agency manages or maintains 15 miles of trails for walking, hiking, running and/or biking.
- A majority of agencies offer community and recreation centers.
- Two in five agencies offer senior centers.

Proximity to high-quality parks and recreation opportunities are consistently identified as an important factor in people's decision regarding where to live

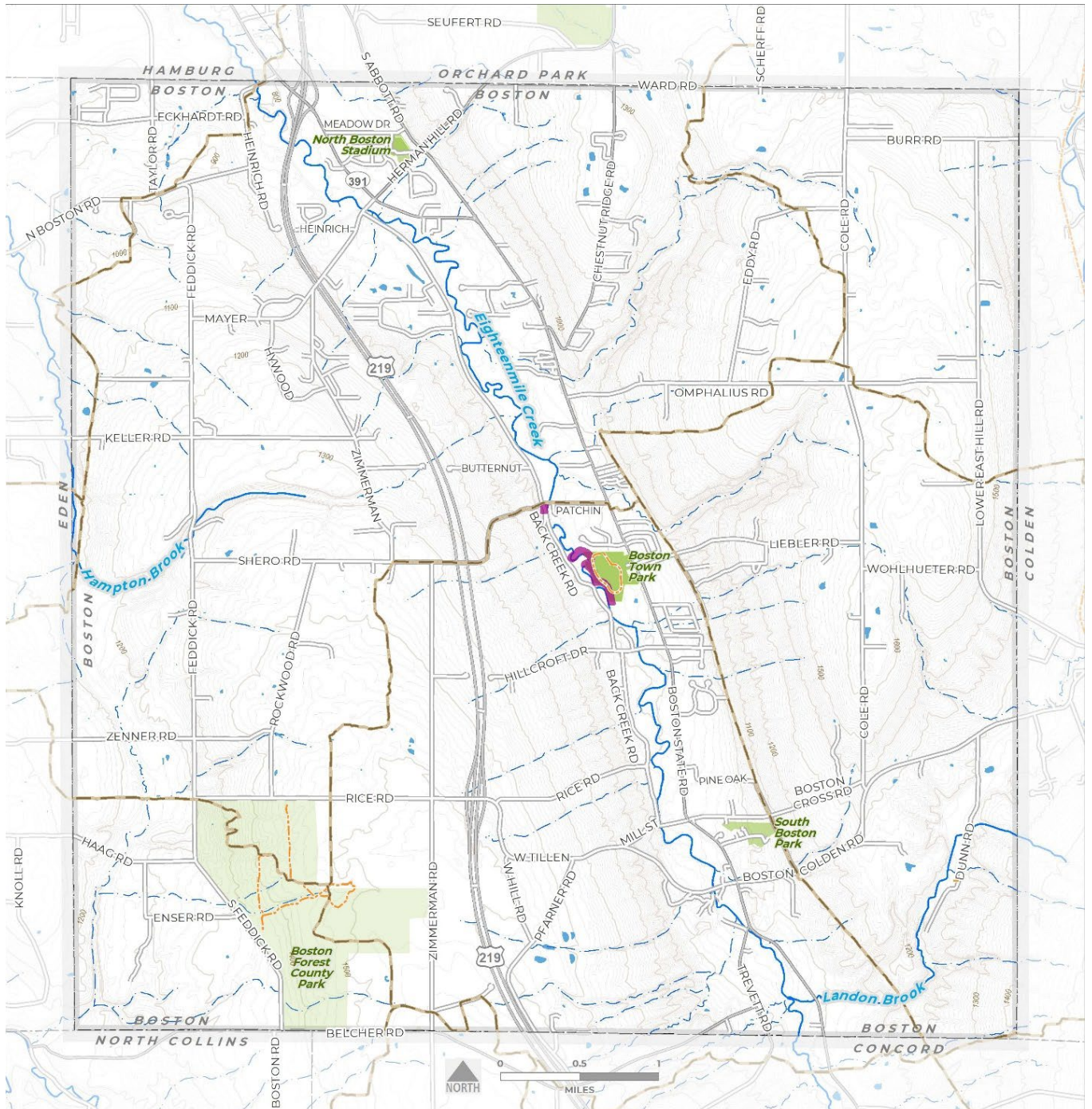
- NRPA 2023 Agency
Performance Review

If we compare the available parks and recreation opportunities within the Town of Boston with these nationwide benchmarking metrics, it shows that while the Town has a fewer number of parks than the typical parks and recreation agency (one park for every 2,287/Boston has four parks), from the standpoint of size of parkland, Boston exceeds typical parks and recreation system levels. The total acreage of parklands in Boston is 783-acres (including the County Forest). Given the population of the Town at 7,958 residents, this total acreage generally meets the typical agency standard of 10.8 acres of parkland for every 1,000 residents identified in the NRPA findings. The Town's parks also possess amenities that the vast majority of parks and recreation agencies indicate they should possess, like playground equipment and athletic field amenities. The Town is also home to a designated senior center with \$109,000 having been recently invested in it, allowing the Town to replace the facility's HVAC system and complete safety improvements such as installing touchless faucets in the restrooms. In addition, there is a Boys and Girls Club in the Town on Boston State Road.

When it comes to the volume of public trails offered for walking, hiking, and biking, the Town is lacking in this regard when compared to nationwide benchmarking standards, which is a sentiment that has been expressed through comments from those in the community. Boston residents have expressed a desire to evaluate a "rail to trails" program in the Town focused on repurposing abandoned rail lines, and residents have also identified a town-owned parcel across from town hall as a possible location for trailheads and parking. Other private parcels were also identified where landowners have indicated that they would be open to providing access for a possible rail line. Additionally, further comments from the public indicated that residents felt that there should be a more focused effort on creating awareness about the Town's recreational resources, while also expressing concern about needed improvements for these facilities. Further, the public also expressed a desire for increased connectivity between the Town's recreational areas and that services for the Town's senior population should be prioritized. Overall, the parks and recreation resources discussed above maintain and enhance the quality of life for Town residents and are an integral part of the community's function offering invaluable outdoor spaces for residents to gather, interact, and enjoy their lives. Boston benefits greatly from the volume, quality, and diversity of its public parks.



The Boston Nature Trail is located on the back side of the Boston Town Park and offers a one-mile-long nature trail in a natural setting.



Town of Boston, NY

Key

- Park Trail
- NYS Snowmobile Trail
- NYS Trout Stream Fishing Access
- Park
- 100-Ft Contour
- 10-Ft Contour

Sources: USGS National Elevation Dataset Contours;
USGS National Hydrography Dataset; NYSDC Snowmobile Trails;
Openstreetmap Footpaths; NYSDC Trout Stream Fishing Access Locations.

RECREATION & PARKS

Public Infrastructure, Utilities and Energy

Public Infrastructure

The reliability and availability of services related to public utilities and infrastructure is a factor in determining the quality of life that residents enjoy.

Feedback from Town residents indicated some concern over the conditions of existing infrastructure in terms of water and sewer expansions, and how they may influence future development in Boston.

Available infrastructure to residents of Boston includes water, sewer, and other public utilities. Additionally, important infrastructure facilities in Town include bridge transmission lines, natural gas pipelines, and over 20 FCC tall towers (See Figure X).

Key Investment

Utilizing a \$150,000 CDBG grant, the Town of Boston in conjunction with Erie County recently undertook water line replacements on Meadow Drive and Ripple Drive. The project, completed in 2022, was critical for improving water pressure for homeowners in the area.

Water

Public water service is provided to residents of Boston through a lease agreement with the Erie County Water Authority, and the Town's water system is comprised of three water districts that service 75% (2,185) of all land parcels in Town (3,739), with only 12% of land parcels having no water services.

Presently, the town is studying the potential impact of a water consolidation plan and expanding water lines to those parcels in Town that are not currently served. Additionally, there are a number of ongoing water initiatives in Boston, totaling up to about \$30 million in system upgrades. They include: Water District 2 Extension 1

- Adding approximately 130 New Water Users
- Estimated Cost: \$11,310,000

South Central Water Extension

- Adding approximately 145 New Water Users
- Estimated Cost: \$12,560,000

Southeast Water Extension

- Adding approximately 77 New Water Users
- Estimated Cost: \$6,600,000

Sewer

The Town of Boston is in Erie County Sewer District #3 which provides full sewer service (collection, transmission, and treatment) to portions of the towns of Boston, Eden, Hamburg, Holland, and Orchard Park, as well as the villages of Blasdell, Hamburg, and Orchard Park. In Boston, most gravity sewer lines run directly along and off Boston State Road, while also

serving the North Boston area. This district provides mostly trunk sewer services in transmitting most of the sewage to the Southtowns Advanced Wastewater Treatment Facility in Hamburg. Erie County recently announced a massive multi phased, multi-year plan to upgrade the Southtowns Advanced Wastewater Treatment Facility that will increase its capacity by approximately 50%. This will be the largest sewer project in Erie County since the original sewer treatment plant and associated infrastructure were built in the 1970's and 80's. The first phase of the expansion work, awarded in Fall 2023, includes a new effluent pumping station, chlorine contact tank, dichlorination facilities, hydraulic improvements, as well as electrical and generator upgrades. This work, along with future phases, will ensure that wastewater is processed swiftly, to effectively mitigate the potential for environmental harm. Available sewer capacity is often viewed as an indicator of a community's ability to support additional growth and development in suitable locations. However, even with planned upgrades and excess sewer capacity in the county treatment system, any new growth in Boston would need to be appropriately connected to the treatment facility with adequate sewer pipe transmission infrastructure. As a result, any large developments would require detailed analyses to properly assess the specific infrastructure impacted and to confirm adequate downstream capacity. **Utilities**

Electricity, natural gas, and cable services are provided in the Town of Boston as follows:

- Natural Gas & Electric – Service provided by National Fuel and NYSEG
- Telephone, Wireless, Cable Service - Provided by Verizon, Spectrum and Dish Network

Solar Energy

The Town does not presently have any solar projects in place or under construction, and currently there is no land that has been identified as available to accommodate large scale solar development. However, pressure from the renewable energy industry to initiate development is an emerging concern, which has led to the Town developing regulations for solar energy facilities (see Town of Boston, L.L. No. 4-2019). The purpose of the regulation is to “balance the potential impact on neighbors when solar energy systems may be installed near their property and to mitigate the impact of solar systems on environmental and agricultural resources, while preserving the rights of property owners to install solar energy systems without excess regulation.”

This comprehensive plan update offers guidance on siting, and regulations for alternative energy projects such as solar and wind, as well as for telecommunications facilities including 5G equipment (see Section X). While giving consideration to this type of development, the Town will work to ensure the protection and preservation of its agricultural and conservation lands.

Internet

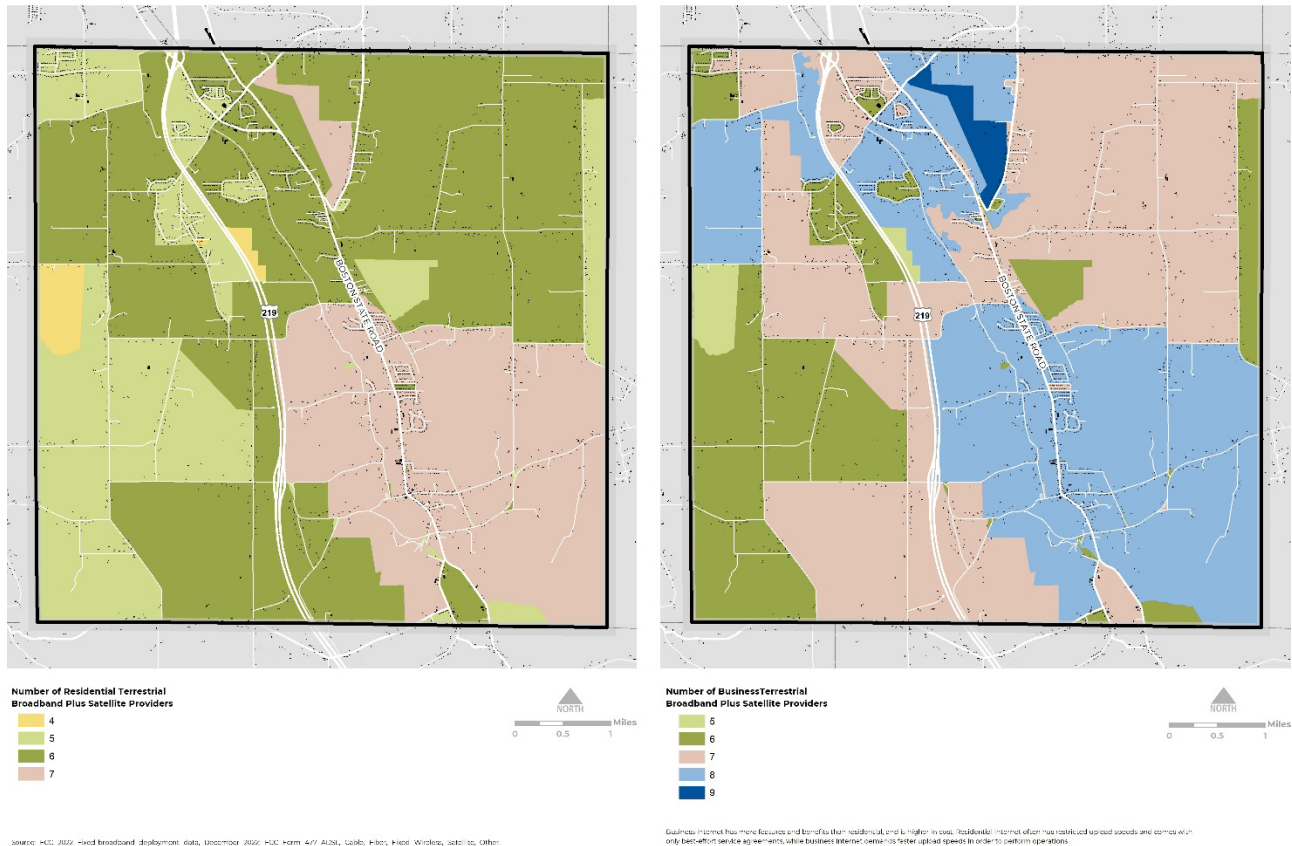
The continued expansion of broadband throughout Erie County and the Southtowns is critical for increased educational and economic opportunities, and the overall quality of life of residents. As experienced during the global pandemic in 2020, the benefits of broadband access in a community like Boston are extensive, and they include better access to healthcare through the utilization of services like telemedicine and remote patient monitoring. Increased access to high-speed connections is a crucial investment that will improve access to quality health care services

in rural areas via online consultations. Aside from healthcare, further investments in broadband are also important in supporting online education, for children and adults alike.

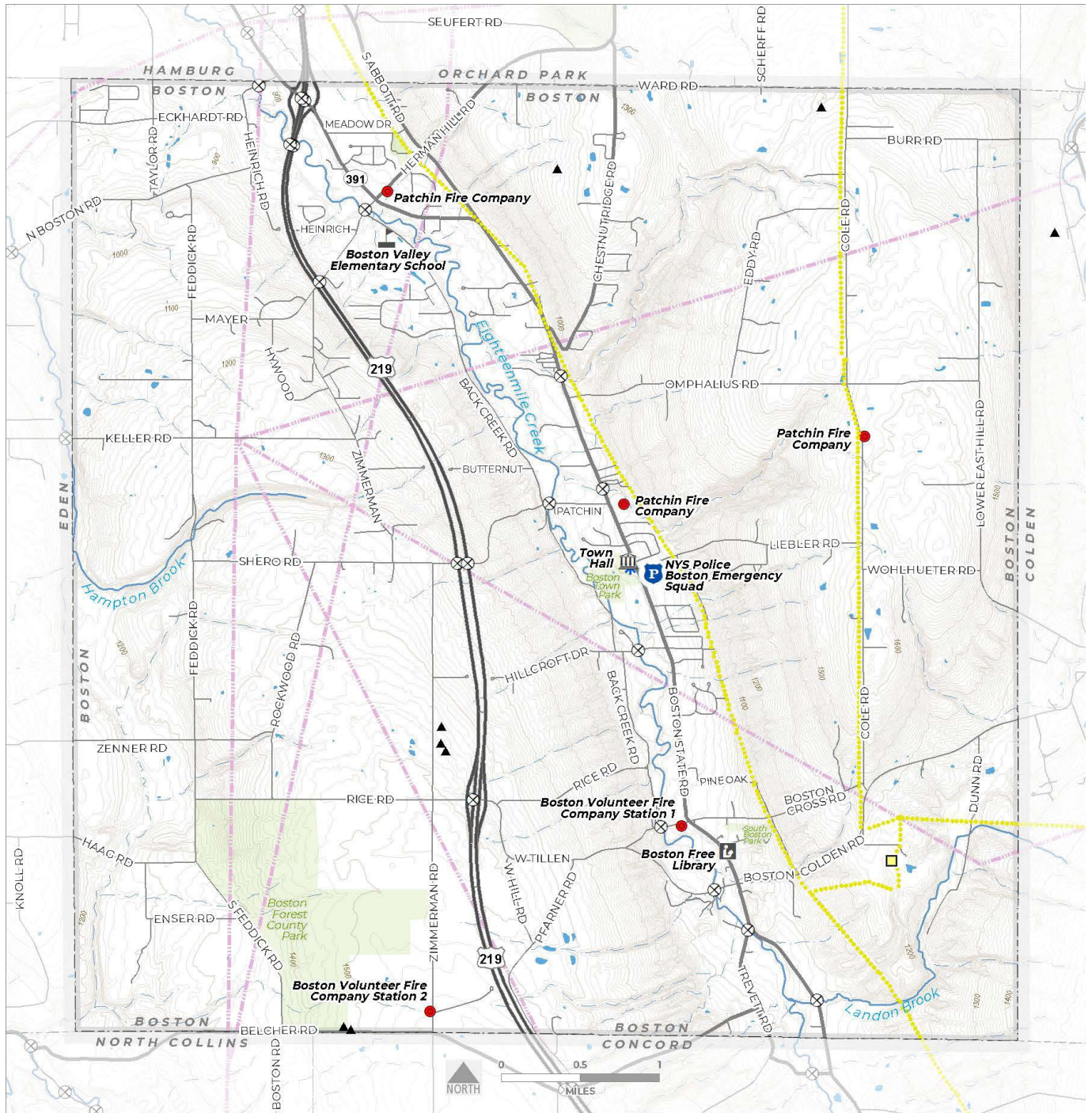
The Town of Boston is currently serviced by Spectrum (Fiber and Coaxial) and satellite providers such as Starlink, ViaSat and HughesNet (see figure X).

Number Residential
Broadband Providers

Number of Business
Broadband Providers



The Town is also working towards making access to ErieNet possible for residents, which is a wholesale provider of broadband capacity throughout Erie County, leasing fiber access to carriers, enterprises, and other entities that want to manage and control their own broadband network. The mission of ErieNet is to address the broadband needs of unserved areas, improve services in underserved areas of the community, and allow for upgrades broadband investment and deployment countywide. The fiber optic backbone is owned by the county, however, it is managed and controlled by ErieNet, a not-for-profit local development corporation (LDC).



Key

- | | | | | | |
|--|-------------------------|--|-----------------|--|----------------|
| | Bridge | | School | | Park |
| | Microwave Service Tower | | Library | | 100-Ft Contour |
| | Electric Substation | | Town Hall | | 10-Ft Contour |
| | Powerline | | Emergency Squad | | |
| | Natural Gas Pipeline | | Fire Station | | |
| | | | Police Station | | |

Town of Boston, NY
INFRASTRUCTURE

Sources: USGS National Elevation Dataset Contours;
US National Bridge Inventory; USGS National Structures
Dataset; Microwave Service Towers and Transmission
Lines | HIFLD Open Data; Energy Information Association
Natural Gas Pipelines.

Transportation The transportation network of a community determines how accessible it may be for those within and outside of the community. Below, Boston's transportation infrastructure will be discussed, along with possible improvements that could be made to it.

Municipalities throughout New York State suffer from severe weather associated with snow, rainfall, and the freeze/thaw process leading to the degradation of roads, which can be problematic for communities like Boston that have a low property tax base that do not have the resources available to install and maintain local roads. During the community outreach process for this plan, residents expressed that this was a major issue of concern for them.

- The Town of Boston maintains over 90 local roads.
- Citizen input survey feedback revealed concern over condition of the local roads.
- There are no bike lanes on Town roads.
- Walkability in the Town is very limited.

Route 219 Boston's local road system includes s U.S. Route, NY State Routes, arterial roads, and other town roads. U.S. Route 2019 is the Town's only major artery and is a limited access divided highway which runs in a north south direction through all of Boston, beginning in West Seneca, with the limited access highway portion terminating in Springville. Route 219 stretches 6.61 miles across Boston, with two lanes of traffic in each direction, having lane widths of 12 feet and shoulder widths of 10 feet throughout. **NY Route 391/Boston State Road**

NY Route 391, also known as Boston State Road, runs north-south through the center of Town and links Boston to the Town of Hamburg. The route runs for one-mile through Boston and consists of one lane in each direction. Additionally, for a small segment of its distance in Boston, Route 391 becomes a divided highway with a length of 13.5 feet and a shoulder width of 11 feet. However, for most of its distance, there is a lane width of 12 feet and a shoulder length of 8 feet.

Local Roads

There are several local roads that allow movement throughout the Town and link Boston to the surrounding municipalities. Major local roads include:

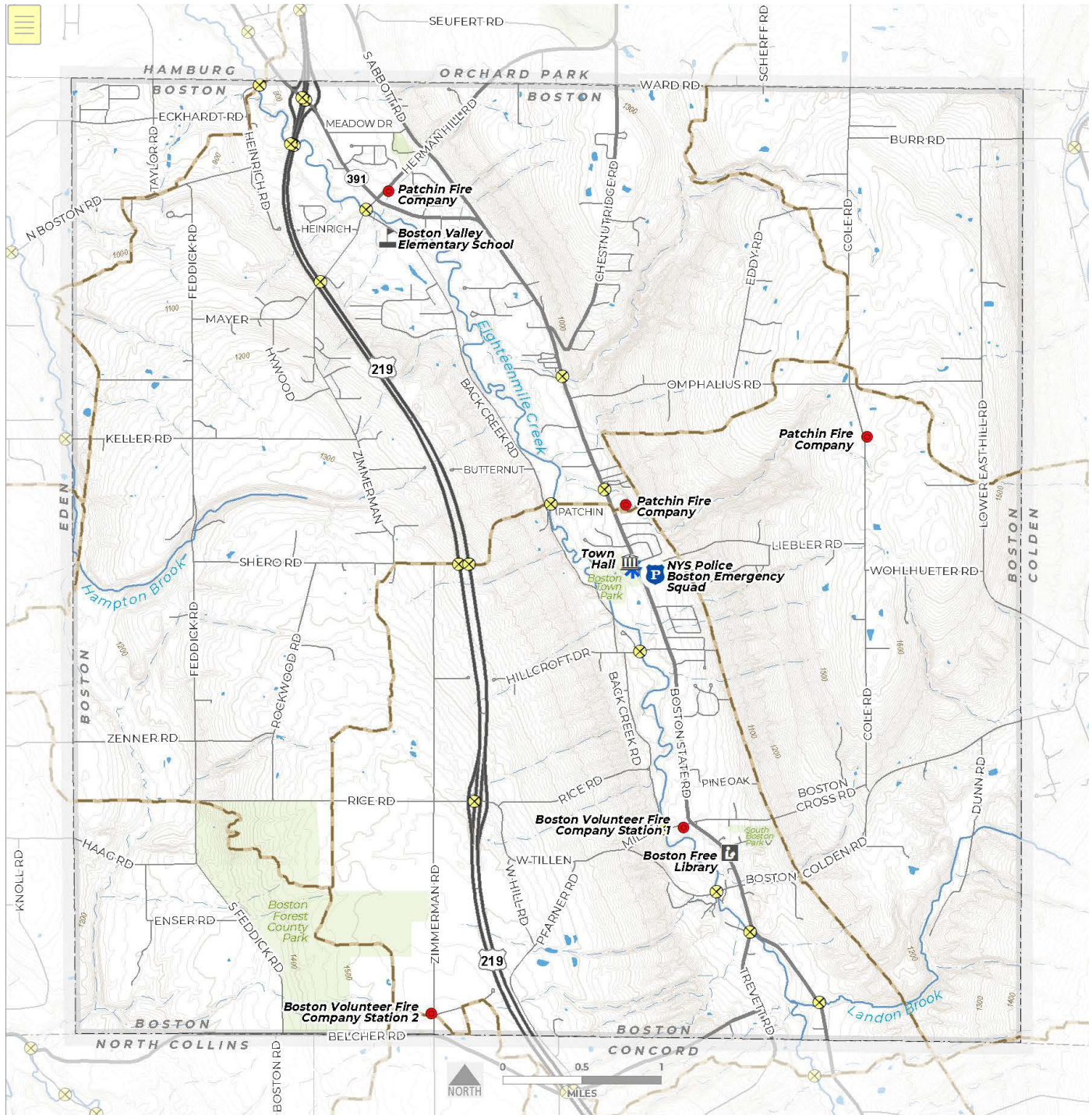
- South Abbott Road - This local corridor, linked to Boston State Road in North Boston, creates a north-south link between Orchard Park and Concord.
- Zimmerman Road - Upon linking with Route 277 in North Boston the road creates a north-south corridor. Zimmerman Road links Orchard Park to Concord and continues to North Collins.
- South Feddick Road - Originating in northern Boston, the corridor moves in a north-south direction, providing a direct route from Boston into North Collins.
- Cole Road – Runs north-south connecting Boston with Orchard Park. On its southern end, Cole connects with Boston Colden Road and to the North runs all the way to Ellicott Road (Rt. 240 in Orchard Park). Primarily a rural road, there are mostly rural residential homes and a few commercial uses on Cole Road through the Town of Boston. A WBUF radio tower is present on Cole Road near its terminus with Boston Colden Road.
- Boston Colden Road - This road allows direct travel from Boston eastwardly into the Town of Colden. Although state law considers all roads in the Town useable for bikers

and pedestrians, the shoulder width along Boston Colden Road is very narrow and should not be recommended for heavy bike and pedestrian use.

Bicycle Access

Within the Town, Boston has yet to construct any identifiable bicycle paths, with the only options for biking being on the shoulders of roadways. According to New York State, all roadways in the State, except for interstate highways, are considered bicycle routes, however, many local roads within the Town do not have adequate shoulder widths to provide for safe biking routes. Ideal locations for future bike trails have been identified along Back Creek Road and Abbot-Newton-Chestnut Ridge Roads, with residents indicating that they would like the Town to find even more opportunities to increase access to bike trails. **Pedestrian Access and Walkability**

Walkability in Boston is limited, with few sidewalks being available given the Town's rural setting where sidewalks are generally not considered a traditional characteristic despite the important role they play as a traffic calming element. Residents in Boston have indicated that they may be open to exploring investments in sidewalks to provide protection to pedestrians, especially around Boston State Road where speeds are higher and other limited visibility areas. Possible sites identified for these projects were Boston Deli and Boston Hotel where there is a greater mix of traffic and pedestrian crossings.



Town of Boston, NY

Key

- | | | | | | |
|--|-----------|--|-----------------|--|----------------------|
| | Bridge | | Emergency Squad | | NYS Snowmobile Trail |
| | School | | Fire Station | | 100-Ft Contour |
| | Library | | Police Station | | 10-Ft Contour |
| | Town Hall | | Park | | |

Sources: USGS National Elevation Dataset Contours;
U.S. National Bridge Inventory; USGS National Structures
Dataset; NYSDEC Snowmobile Trails

POINTS OF INTEREST AND TRANSPORTATION

Natural, Ecological, and Biological Resources

Water Resources

Surface Water

The Town of Boston is composed of surface water and ground water systems. Like all of Erie County, the Town is within the Niagara River/Lake Erie watershed. According to the U.S. Geological Survey, there are three named waterways within the Town of Boston: Eighteenmile Creek (10.2 miles), Landon Brook (2.5 miles), Hampton Brook (2.4 miles), and 53.7 miles of smaller “other waterways,” which are all almost all tributaries to the named waterbodies. The Western Branch of Cazenovia Creek flows into the Town of Boston from the Town of Colden at the central, eastern border.

Eighteenmile Creek is the second largest tributary of Lake Erie and traverses the center of the Town of Boston for 10.2 miles parallel to Boston State Road. The Eighteenmile Creek watershed lies within the Towns of Concord, North Collins, Eden, Boston, Orchard Park, Hamburg, and Evans. Eighteenmile Creek enters the Town of Boston from its headwaters in the Town of Concord in the south and flows to the north. At present, NYDEC categorizes Upper Eighteenmile Creek, Middle Eighteenmile Creek, and the Southern Branch of Eighteenmile Creek and all tributaries as having no known water quality impacts.

Hampton Brook crosses the western, central border of the Town of Boston that it shares with the Town of Eden and intersects with Feddick Road. NYDEC has designated Hampton Brook as having minor water quality impacts when a biological screening effort in 2005 indicated that although there was a balanced distribution of all expected biological species, nutrient levels were “sufficient to cause some stress to aquatic life.” The impact source determination concluded that the water quality impairment of Hampton Brook was likely “influenced by nonpoint nutrients and agricultural sources as well as municipal and urban point and nonpoint sources.”

Landon Brook is a tributary to Eighteenmile Creek located in the southeastern corner of the Town of Boston. As shown in [Figure X](#), NYDEC designates Landon Brook as a NYS Significant Natural Community, Rocky Headwater Stream. According to the NY Natural Heritage Program, Rocky Headwater Streams have a seasonal fluctuation in flow volume with heavy torrents in the spring from snowmelt and slow or stagnant flow by mid to late summer. These streams are threatened by development and associated runoff, so it is recommended to establish a riparian buffer and limit impervious cover to reduce stormwater, pollution, and nutrient runoff.

Flooding

Although there has been no major historic flooding events on Eighteenmile Creek in the Town of Boston, there have been recent minor floods that have damaged property and infrastructure because of ice jams and heavy rains. [Figure X](#) depicts the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) floodplain classifications within the Town of Boston and [Table X](#) lists the acreage of each designation. All FEMA floodplain designations occur within or along Eighteenmile Creek. In 2020, NYDEC finalized the *Resilient New York Flood Mitigation Initiative for Eighteenmile Creek, Erie County, New York*, which includes a description of flooding characteristics, flooding history, a flood risk assessment, and flood mitigation analysis.

Furthermore, the below section “Climate and Resiliency” describes flooding hazards within the Town of Boston as described in the 2022 *Erie County Multi-Jurisdictional Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan*.

Table X: FEMA Floodplain Classifications

Floodplain (FEMA)	Acres
0.2% Annual Chance Flood Hazard	33.1
1% Annual Chance Flood Hazard	207.2
Regulatory Floodway	135.2
Total	375.5

Groundwater

Groundwater accumulates when rain falls to the ground and instead of running into streams, lakes, and other bodies of water, it travels downward into the ground and through the underlying sediment. The water moves through the interconnected openings of sand, gravel, silt, and clay or openings in rock until it reaches the "saturated zone" where it becomes groundwater. Most groundwater occurs between grains of sand, gravel, silt, or clay (unconsolidated sediments) or in fractures, bedding planes, and joints of bedrock. NYDEC-classified unconfined aquifers within the Town of Boston are shown in **Figure X** and their acreage is listed in **Table X** below.

Table X: NYDEC Unconfined Aquifers in the Town of Boston

Unconfined Aquifer (NYSDEC)	Acres
Unconfined, Mid Yield	2354.2
Confined, No Overlying Surficial Aquifer	255.0
Moraine	53.9
Total	2,663.1

According to NYDEC, one quarter of New Yorkers get their drinking water from groundwater and there are many private residential drinking wells throughout the Town of Boston. The Erie County Department of Health is responsible for overseeing and regulating drinking water within the County and will inspect drinking water wells for all house property transfers and new house construction, as well as assist homeowners with questions regarding their well water quality, sampling, and references to engineers and other drinking water specialists.

Wetlands

Wetlands provide many important ecosystem functions such as water storage, filtration of stormwater and agricultural runoff, erosion control, and habitat for specialized plant and wildlife species. There are no explicit Town of Boston local laws protecting wetlands, although the Town’s Conservation Advisory Council is expected to maintain an up-to-date inventory of streams and their floodplains, swamps, marshlands, and other wetlands pursuant to General Municipal Law § 11-5(D).

Pursuant to New York’s Freshwater Wetlands Act, the NYDEC Freshwater Wetlands Program regulates wetlands 12.4 acres in size and greater using a classification system ranging from Class I (providing the most benefits) to Class IV (providing the least benefits). For all state-designated wetlands, there is a 100-foot “Check Zone” (also called an “adjacent area”) where land use activities are regulated by the NYDEC to protect the wetland. A permit from the NYDEC is required to conduct any regulated activity in a state-protected wetland or its adjacent area. As shown in **Figure X** and described in **Table X**, there are two NYDEC-regulated wetlands within the Town of Boston totaling 62 acres: (1) LF-1 is a 40.9-acre Class 2 wetland that overlaps with the eastern border of Boston Forest County Park and (2) CO-3 is a 21.2-acre Class 2 wetland located in the southeastern corner of the Town just north of Landon Brook.

Table X: NYDEC-Designated Wetlands in the Town of Boston

Wetlands - NYDEC	Acres	Class
LF-1	40.9	2
CO-3	21.2	2
Total	62.1	

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) National Wetland Inventory (NWI) categorizes and monitors federal wetlands, while the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers protects NWI wetlands pursuant to the U.S. Clean Water Act. What constitutes “waters of the United States” as defined by the Clean Water Act with respect to wetlands is a constantly evolving legal battle and if there is an NWI-designated wetland within a proposed project area in the Town of Boston, it is advised to consult with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Buffalo District to determine regulatory requirements.

As shown in **Figure X** and detailed in **Table Y**, there are 776 acres of USFWS NWI Wetlands within the Town of Boston with freshwater forested/shrub wetlands comprising the largest acreage (364 acres). The Federal Geographic Data Committee classifies all Federal wetlands and defines Forested Wetlands as wetlands with trees as the dominant life form. They typically have an overstory of trees, understory of young trees and shrubs, and an herbaceous layer at the bottom. The classification “Riverine” (220.6 acres within the Town of Boston) includes all wetlands and deepwater habitats contained within a channel. In freshwater emergent wetlands (68.6 acres in the Town), emergent, rooted, herbaceous plants are the tallest life form with 30% aerial coverage. Freshwater emergent wetlands are known by many names including marsh, wet meadow, and slough.

Table Y: USFWS National Wetlands Inventory Wetlands in the Town of Boston

Wetlands - Federal (USFWS NWI)	Acres
Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland	364.6
Riverine	220.6
Freshwater Pond	120.0
Freshwater Emergent Wetland	68.6
Other	2.8

Total	776.4
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Air Quality

Erie County and therefore the Town of Boston is in attainment with all USEPA-designated National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for all Criteria Air Pollutants regulated under the federal Clean Air Act. There are no air quality monitoring sites within the Town of Boston or any surrounding municipalities, so it is difficult to assess the specific air quality levels within the Town.

Fish and Wildlife

According to NYDEC's Nature Explorer, there are no state or federally listed plant or animal species reported within the Town of Boston. Due to the large, uninterrupted areas of forest and wetland habitats throughout the Town, there are many different species of fish and wildlife that reside here. These species are both permanent residents and transient, migratory species.

Fish

NYDEC has designated the section of Eighteen-mile Creek from Patchin Road upstream to the southern End of the Town of Boston Park property as a stocked trout stream with access for fishermen. NYDEC stocks this stream with Brown Trout during the fourth week of March and fisherman with a valid NYDEC fishing license are allowed to fish from April 1 – October 15th (daily limit of 5 with no more than 2 longer than 12"). Between October 16th to March 31st, trout fishing is catch-and-release only.

Additional fish species that occur within the streams of the Town of Boston include common carp, yellow perch, sucker, smallmouth bass, rock bass, lake trout, rainbow trout, minnows, and shiners. Stocked ponds often contain largemouth bass, bullhead, bluegill, and sunfish.

Wildlife

The most common mammals in the Town of Boston include beaver, Eastern chipmunk, mink, mice, opossum, Eastern gray squirrel, red fox, vole, white-tailed deer, raccoon, moles, muskrat, Eastern cottontail rabbit, rats, skunk, bats, weasel, and woodchuck.

Woodland bird species within the Town of Boston include the rose-breasted grosbeak, dark-eyed junco, cardinal, blue jay, rose and white-breasted nuthatch, tufted titmouse, chickadee, and others. Open-field and successional woodland bird species include warblers, sparrows, swallows, killdeer, purple finch, mourning dove, crow, American robin, raven, gray catbird, red-tailed hawk, Cooper's hawk, barred owl, Great horned owl, and other birds of prey are found in both forests and fields within the Town. Wetland bird species within the Town include red-winged blackbird, marsh wren, sedge wren, swamp sparrow, great blue heron, common snipe, and American woodcock. Stream bird species include the belted kingfisher, great blue heron, bank sparrow, and Eastern phoebe.

Upland game bird species reside within the Town of Boston, including turkey, ring-neck pheasant, grouse, and woodcock. Game bird waterfowl include the mallard duck, American black

duck, and Canada goose. All hunters must obtain a Hunting License from the NYDEC and there are additional license requirements, “stamps,” and seasons for species such as white-tailed deer, turkey, and waterfowl.

There are many species of reptiles and amphibians that reside within the Town of Boston, including but not limited to the common garter snake, Western rat snake, Northern water snake, Massasauga rattlesnake, northern leopard frog, green frog, spring peeper, bullfrog, pickerel frog, snapping turtle, spotted turtle, painted turtle, spotted salamander, Eastern red-backed salamander, Eastern newt, and American toad.



Sources: USGS National Elevation Dataset
Contours; NYSDEC Freshwater Wetlands;
USFWS National Wetland Inventory,
FEMA Floodplains, NYSDEC Surface Water
Quality and Unconsolidated Aquifers.

Sources: USGS National Elevation Dataset
Contours; NYSDEC Freshwater Wetlands;
USFWS National Wetland Inventory,
FEMA Floodplains, NYSDEC Surface Water
Quality and Unconsolidated Aquifers.

Agricultural and Soils

Although the number of farms in Erie County is decreasing slightly, the size of farms is increasing. This trend toward fewer but larger farm operations parallels statewide trends (Erie County Department of Economic Development, Planning & Tourism, 2015).

Historically, early residents of the Town of Boston valued agriculture as an important economic resource as well as something that improved their overall quality of life. Farming continues to be a crucial element of the Town's culture and local economy today with agricultural land making up around 14% of the Town's land use, with a variety of different crops being grown. **Table X** below shows a breakdown of these crops and shows that most of the land in Boston remains uncultivated.

Climate change is a growing and a very real threat to local agricultural economies. Whether it manifests itself in greater weather extremes and harsher weather events that degrade agricultural land or in an influx of climate refugees, it will likely have an impact on Boston's overall land use and ultimately farming economy in the future and will need to plan for.

The NYS Agricultural District Law, Article 25-AA of the New York State Agricultural & Markets Law, provides a locally initiated mechanism to protect and enhance New York's agricultural land as a viable segment of the local and state economies and as an economic and environmental resource of major importance. Counties designate Agricultural Districts by resolution, which are then certified and approved by the Commissioner of Agriculture and Markets and receive important "right-to farm" protections. As depicted in **Figure X**, there are two agricultural districts present in the Town of Boston - District 8 (covering 3,596 acres) and District 15 covering (4,584 acres). In addition, to Boston, these districts cross several communities in the Southtowns.

Prime Farmland

Soil types help govern a land's productivity for farming and its sustainability for future development. The United States Department of Agriculture considers prime farmland as one of several classifications of important farmland. "Prime farmland is the land best suited to produce food, feed, forage, fiber and oilseed crops." The soil must have a favorable temperature, moisture supply, and adequate growing season to generate high yields of crops. Prime farmland may exist in crop land, pastures and woodlands and does not normally exist in urban, built-up land and wetlands. These lands contain a small number or no rocks and are permeable to both air and water.

Soils in Erie County have been considered by the USDA-Soils Conservation Service as some of the best in the nation. In the Town of Boston, prime farmland as classified by the Soils Conservation Service, is located along and near Eighteen Mile Creek (**See Figure X**), which runs in a northwest to southeast direction through the center of Town. The soils along the creek consist primarily of Blasdell-Farnham-Alton and some Hudson-Varysburg-Valois soils. Most of these soils have high contents of shale fragments and are generally deep and well drained. However, some of the lands are in areas that are steeply sloping and have the potential for

slumping. The steep slopes inhibit their use in the production of food and fiber, which does not allow these lands to be classified as prime farmland.

Table X: Crop Lands in the Town of Boston

<i>Cultivated Cropland (USGS NRCS Cropland Dataset)</i>	<i>Acres in Boston, NY</i>	<i>% of Total</i>
Uncultivated	20154.04	86.8%
Other Hay/Non-Alfalfa	1498.85	5.7%
Corn	807.62	3.3%
Soybeans	373.05	1.6%
Alfalfa	213.73	0.9%
Fallow/Idle Cropland	103.31	0.4%
Grapes	29.84	0.1%
Strawberries	18.37	0.1%
Sweet Corn	16.30	0.1%
Winter Wheat	14.92	0.1%
Total	23230.03	100.0%

Table X, Farmland Soil Types, in the Town of Boston

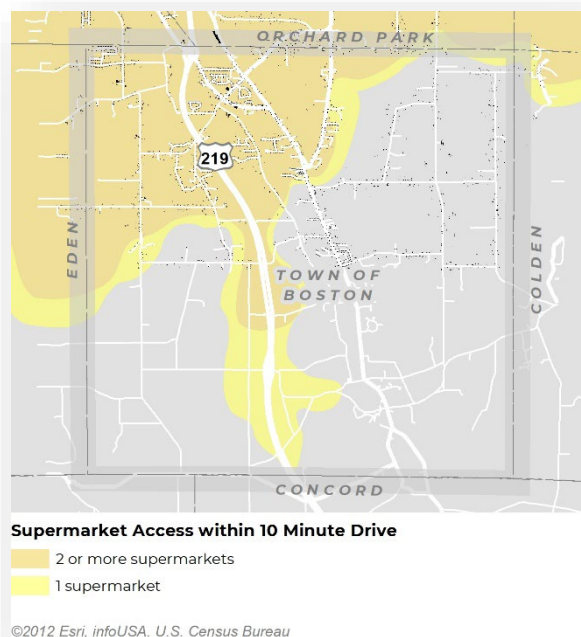
<i>Farmland Soils (SSURGO Soils Data)</i>	<i>Acres in Boston, NY</i>	<i>% of Total</i>
Farmland of statewide importance	10,773.4	47.0%
Not prime farmland	5,900.7	16.8%
All areas are prime farmland	2,114.4	7.2%
Prime farmland if drained	4,135.3	15.3%
Total	22,923.7	100.0%

Erie County is currently developing a Farmland Protection Plan that is expected to be finalized in late 2024. The intent is for this Comprehensive Plan update to complement and coordinate with the County's Farmland Protection Plan for elements applicable to the Town of Boston.

Agritourism

In 2020, Erie County created the Office of Agriculture to address the loss of farmland, improve the viability of farming, and assist rural municipalities with planning for agriculture. Its mission is to help support the viability of farming and to promote the purchase of local and regional farm products, and to encourage all county residents to 'buy local'. One way to do this is through agritourism - a form of commercial enterprise that links agricultural production and/or processing with tourism to attract visitors onto a farm or farm related business to entertain or sell goods and generate income from the farm related activity.

The Town of Boston offers an ideal setting to take advantage of this type of industry. There are four designated Agritourism Farms in the Town. They



Some important local farming and agritourism operations in the Town of Boston include:

Meyer's Homegrown, 9800 Zimmerman Road, Boston, NY

- Corn, Garlic, Pumpkins, Squash, Winter, Zucchini - Products are sold onsite
- Agritourism Activities: Corn maze and petting zoo (coming September 2022)

Kist Maple, 9422 S Hill Road, Boston, NY

- Syrup, maple cream, granulated maple sugar and maple sugar candy also available. - Products are sold onsite
- Agritourism Activities: Maple weekend

Smith's Maple Farm, 5257 Mayer Rod, Boston NY

- Maple syrup, honey, pancake mixes, maple cream and other maple products

Red Barrel Cider Mill, Inc, 8978 Boston State Road, Boston, NY

- Cider

Source: Erie Grown/Erie County Office of Agriculture

include Red Barrel Cider Mill, Meyer's Homegrown, Smith's Maple Farm, and Lindstrom's Plant Nursey. Boston is also home to many roadside fruit and vegetable stands. (See Figure X). There is one supermarket in Town - Tops Friendly Market on Boston State Road in North Boston. It provides close access to many in the northern portion of Town (See Inset Map).

This plan encourages the continued focus on agritourism and a focus on new and expanded opportunities for agricultural development through agricultural tourism

and the related sales of local food and beverage products.

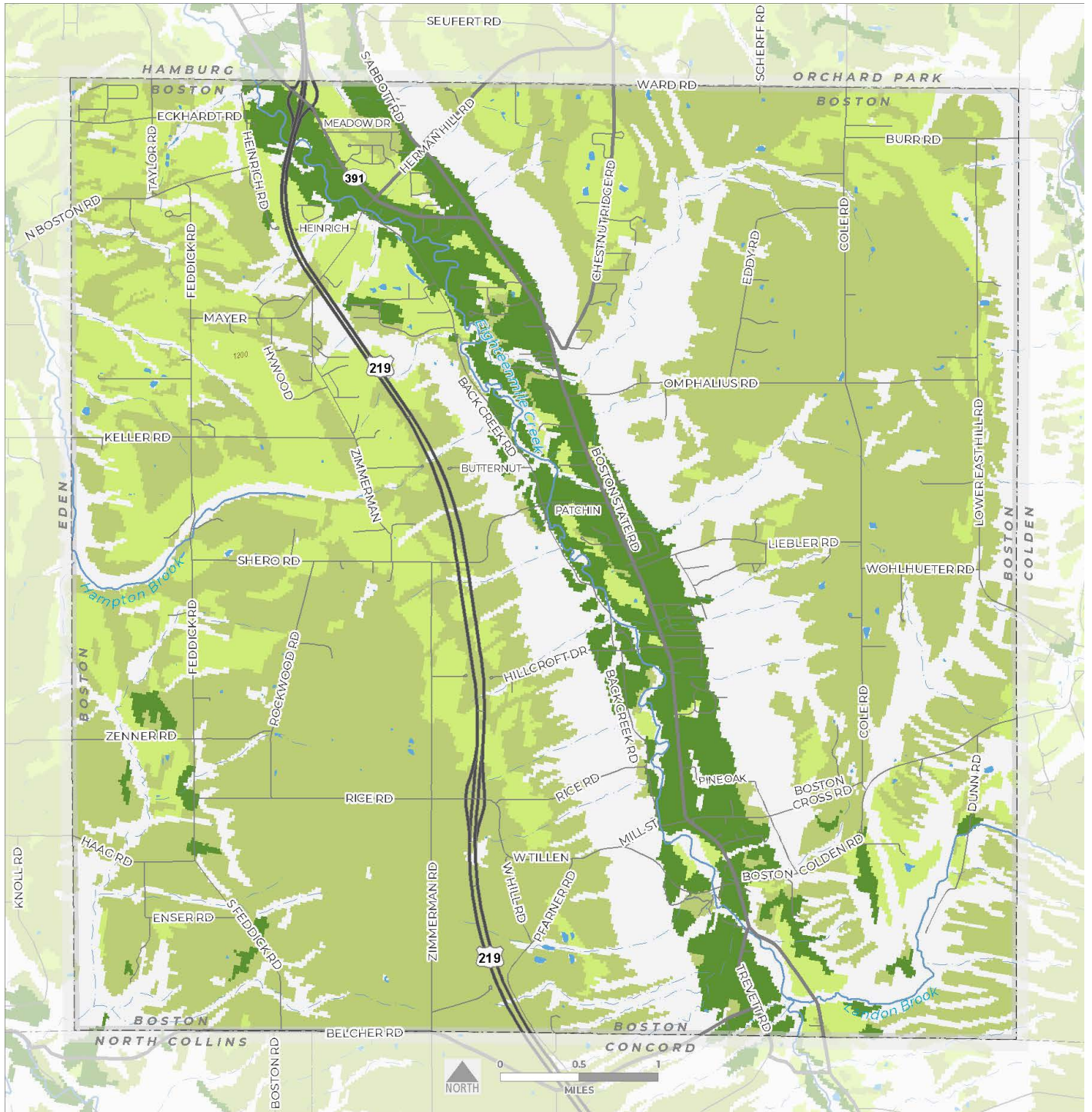
There are no Farmers Markets in the Town of Boston, with the closest ones located in the Towns of Springville, Hamburg, and Orchard Park.



AGRICULTURE

- Key
- | | | | |
|---|---|---|--------------------------------------|
|  | Agritourism Farm |  | Erie County Agricultural District 8 |
|  | Cultivated Cropland |  | Erie County Agricultural District 15 |
|  | Tax Parcel in an Agriculture Property Class |  | 100-Ft Contour |
| | |  | 10-Ft Contour |

Sources: Agritourism Farms by Erie County DEP ErieGrown, 2023. Cultivated Cropland by USDA NRCS, 2020. Agricultural Districts by Erie County DEP, 2022. Tax Parcels by NYS Real Property and Erie County Real Property, 2022.



Town of Boston, NY

Key

- | | |
|--|---|
| All Areas are Prime Farmland | Not Prime Farmland |
| Farmland of Statewide Importance | Prime Farmland if drained |

FARMLAND SOILS

Source: USDA NRCS SSURO Soils by Farmland Class

Community Services and Other Special Town Features

Community resources help meet certain critical needs for those living in and around the Town. They improve the quality of community life and are essential for building and sustaining healthy, vibrant, and resilient communities. The Town of Boston has a number of outstanding community resources; they include but are not limited to the following (See Figure X):

Education – Public schools are an important part of a community, however a community’s municipal lines are not always reflective of school district lines. Residents of the Town of Boston are assigned to one of four school districts (see Figure X), depending on where they live within the Town. These districts include Eden Central, Hamburg Central, Orchard Park Central and Springville-Griffith Institute Central School Districts. There is one school building located in the Town of Boston, the Boston Valley Public School, serving elementary students, located at 7476 Black Creek Road.

OTHER COMMUNITY SERVICES AVAILABLE IN THE TOWN OF BOSTON

EMERGENCY SERVICES

POLICE PROTECTION in the Town is provided by both the Erie County Sheriff’s Department and the New York State (NYS) Police. The NYS Police has a Troopers Barracks located at 8555 Boston State Road. It is a full-service police department answering calls for service relating to public safety in the Towns of Boston, Colder, Concord, and surrounding areas. This department is part of Troop A, headquartered in Batavia, NY.

The Town of Boston consists of one **FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT** that includes three service areas: North Boston, Patchin and Boston Fire Companies. Fire stations include Boston Volunteer Fire Company, North Boston Volunteer Fire Company and Patchin Volunteer Fire Company. The Boston Emergency Squad provides ambulance service to the Town of Boston Ambulance District that encompasses the entire Town. The squad is located adjacent to Boston Town Hall at 8500 Boston State Road.

HEALTH SERVICES

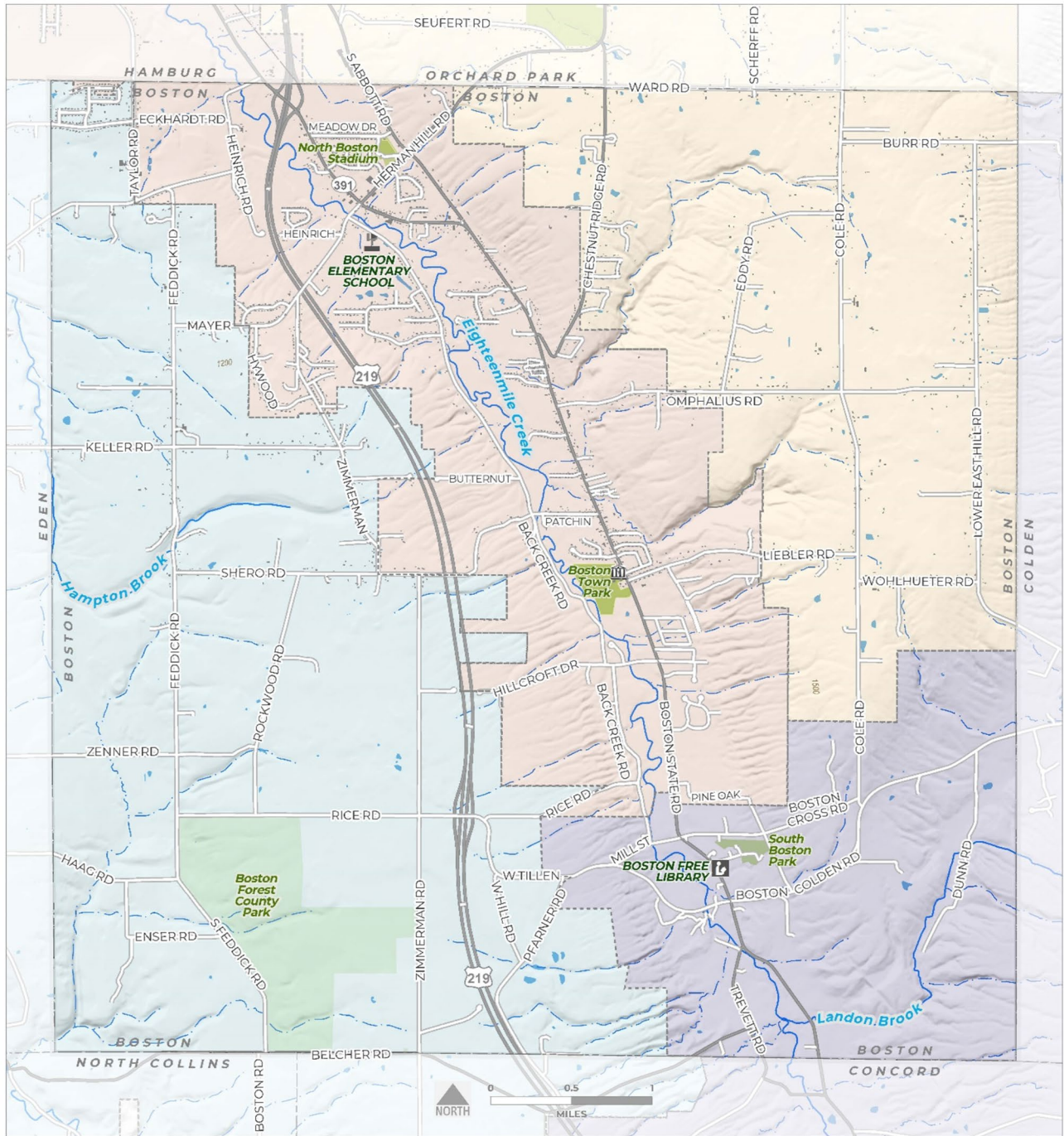
There are a limited number of health care and medical services offered in the Town of Boston. The closest services are offered by Bertrand Chaffee Hospital on Main Street in Springville or Mercy Ambulatory Care Center on Route 20 in Orchard Park and South Buffalo Mercy Hospital in south Buffalo, NY.

CHURCHES

The churches in the Town of Boston are Berean Free Presbyterian Church, 8435 Boston State Road, Churchill Memorial United Methodist Church, 8019 Boston State Road, Faith United Church of Christ, 7097 Boston Colder Road, Good Shepard Lutheran Church, 6113 Thornwood Drive, Saint John the Baptist Church, 6895 Boston Cross Road.

YOUTH SERVICES

Services offerings to Boston youth are plentiful and varied. Many of these services are recreational and include local sports organizations that operate out of the Boston Town Park. Other services include Boy and Girl Scout troops, 4H clubs. Boston is also home to the Town of Boston Boys and Girls Club. The Club is an after-school social recreation program for youth offering extensive youth programming for kids in grades K-8.



SCHOOL DISTRICTS

- EDEN
- HAMBURG
- ORCHARD PARK
- SPRINGVILLE-GRIFFITH

- BOSTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
- BOSTON FREE LIBRARY
- BOSTON TOWN HALL

SCHOOL DISTRICTS

Town of Boston, NY

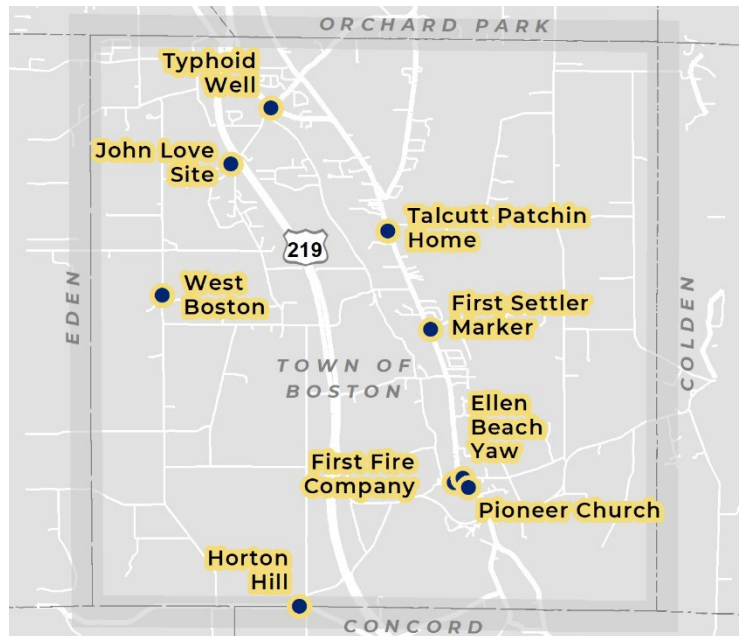
Other Special Town Features

Historic Markers commemorate people, events, former uses of a place, or some other significant thing that make a community special. The Town of Boston is home to several historical markers that help residents remember people and events that were important in the Town's history. (See inset map).

First Fire Company - The Boston Valley's first volunteer fire company was organized in 1904. After seeing the disastrous burning of Schunk's Hotel and the Boston Town Hall, Fred Frank rallied the North Boston community to support the formation of a local fire company. (Located in front of the old North Boston Fire Hall, now Quality Grinding and Manufacturing)

Talcutt Patchin Home - Tallcut Patchin lived here until 1834. He was a dynamic orator, preacher and founder of the "Patchinite" sect, and in 1850 Bostan Center was renamed Patchin in his honor.

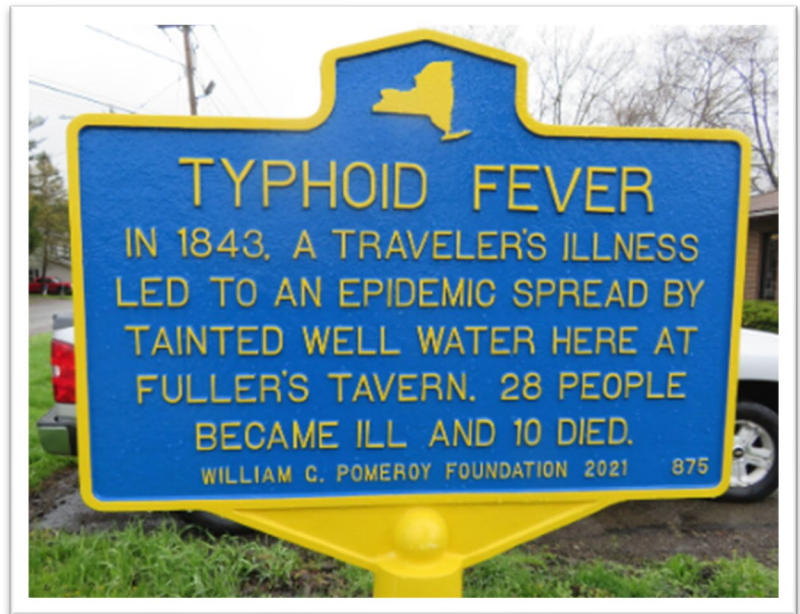
John Love Historic Marker- The Thayer brothers, Isaac, Israel and Nelson, unable to repay the debt they owed to Great Lakes seaman, John Love, murdered him in Israel's home. They were tried and hung in Buffalo, on June 17, 1825, which was the only public hanging in Erie County. (Erected by Erie Bicentennial Commision of 1975 where Meyer Road meets Zimmerman Road).



First Settler Marker- In 1803, Charles Johnson purchased 50 acres of open land in the forest, paying \$2.25 per acre. He built the town's first log cabin in 1804 and raised the first frame barn in 1807. Johnson owned another 30 acres containing visible remains of an early palisaded Indian village.

Typhoid Well- In 1843, a traveler's illness led to an epidemic spread by tainted well water here at Fuller's Tavern. 28 people became ill and 10 died.

Ellen Beach Yaw - Ellen Beach Yaw, world famous coloratura soprano, is credited with having sung the highest note ever achieved by the human voice. She was the first famous Metropolitan Opera singer to record her voice and later made several recordings for Thomas Edison.



Pioneer Church - Founded by missionary Rev. John Spencer in 1811. Meeting house erected 1837. Rear section housed select school, and was organized in 1809. The structure presently serves as the Boston Historical Society Museum.

West Boston - A German Evangelical Church was organized in 1834 with 20 members. Rev. Jacob Bastian served for many years, and all that remains is a cemetery. ?

Horton Hill - Brothers John and Truman Horton walked from New Lebanon, NY to Concord, bought land in 1815 from Holland Land Co, and then land in Boston 1834.

Climate and Resiliency

Like all communities throughout the region, the Town of Boston has and will continue to experience extreme weather events, flooding, erosion, and other natural phenomena at various times of the year regardless of climate change predictions.

Erie County Multi-Jurisdictional Multi - Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP)

The ability of communities to plan for, manage, and recover from climate change related weather events is becoming more crucial as the events become increasingly frequent. To that end, in 2022, Erie County conducted a hazard risk assessment process and issued a Multi-Jurisdictional Multi - Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) that includes the Town of Boston. The HMP identified 13 possible hazards that occur throughout Erie County and warranted evaluation:

- Coastal Erosion
- Cyber Security
- Earthquake
- Expansive Soils
- Extreme Temperature
- Flood
- Hazardous Materials
- Landslide
- Pandemic
- Severe Storm
- Severe Winter Storm
- Utility Failure
- According to the Plan, the Town of Boston's history of federally declared and significant hazard events is consistent with Erie County. Most of Boston's events as documented in the plan are related to extreme climate and include major winter snowstorms, high wind events, and flash flooding. After a review of Boston's hazard event history, hazard rankings, jurisdiction specific vulnerabilities, hazard extent, and current capabilities, the Town of Boston identified the following vulnerabilities within their community, all related to extreme weather. 18 Mile Creek that flows through town causes significant flooding.
- Significant runoff from east and west hills
- Not all municipal buildings have backup power.
- The town hall, which is currently designated as the main evacuation shelter does not have adequate backup power nor enough space to safely house all residents during a hazard event.
- Town hall does not have adequate backup power on site to power the entire facility.
- Frequent flooding events have resulted in damage to residential properties.

Specific areas of concern based on citizen input to the Erie County Hazard Mitigation Citizen survey include:

- Flooding along 18-Mile Creek

Climate Smart Community

The Town of Boston is a designated Climate Smart Community. Climate Smart Communities (CSC) is a New York State program that helps local governments take action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to a changing climate. The program offers grants, rebates for electric vehicles, and free technical assistance.

On March 7, 2022, the Town adopted Resolution No. 2022-54 which stated that the Town of Boston adopts the New York State Climate Smart Communities pledge, which comprises the following ten elements:

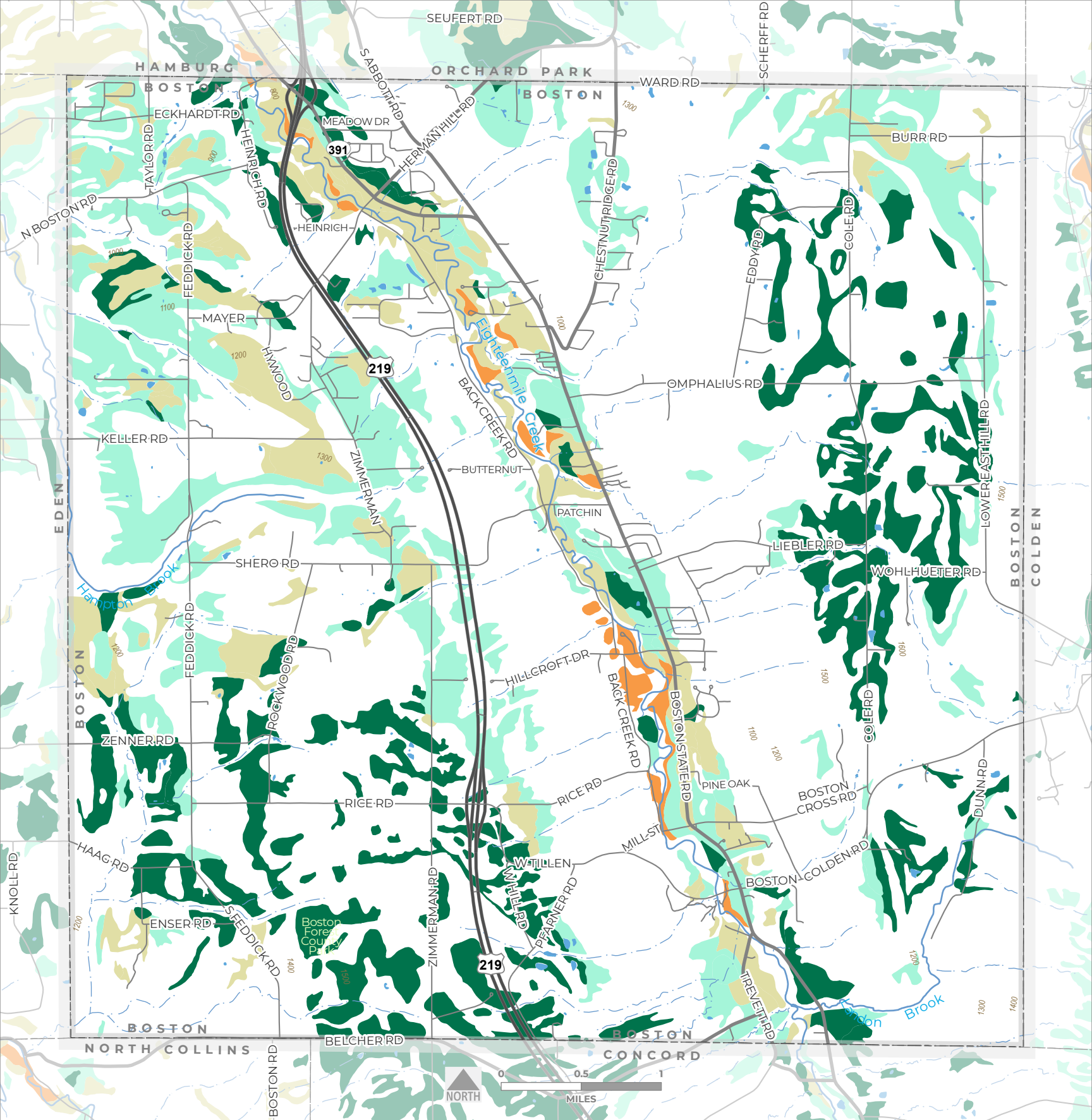
- 1) Build a climate-smart community.
- 2) Inventory emissions, set goals, and plan for climate action.
- 3) Decrease energy use.
- 4) Shift to clean, renewable energy.
- 5) Use climate-smart materials management.
- 6) Implement climate-smart land use.
- 7) Enhance community resilience to climate change.
- 8) Support a green innovation economy.
- 9) Inform and inspire the public.
- 10) Engage in an evolving process of climate action

Being a Climate Smart Community makes Boston eligible for State grant funding for projects to increase natural resiliency to future risks like floods, improve emergency preparedness and response systems, and increase the resiliency of critical infrastructure through the Climate Smart Communities Grant program.



Appendix D

Maps



Key

Agricultural Soil Classification (USDA)
Mineral Soil Groups (MSG)

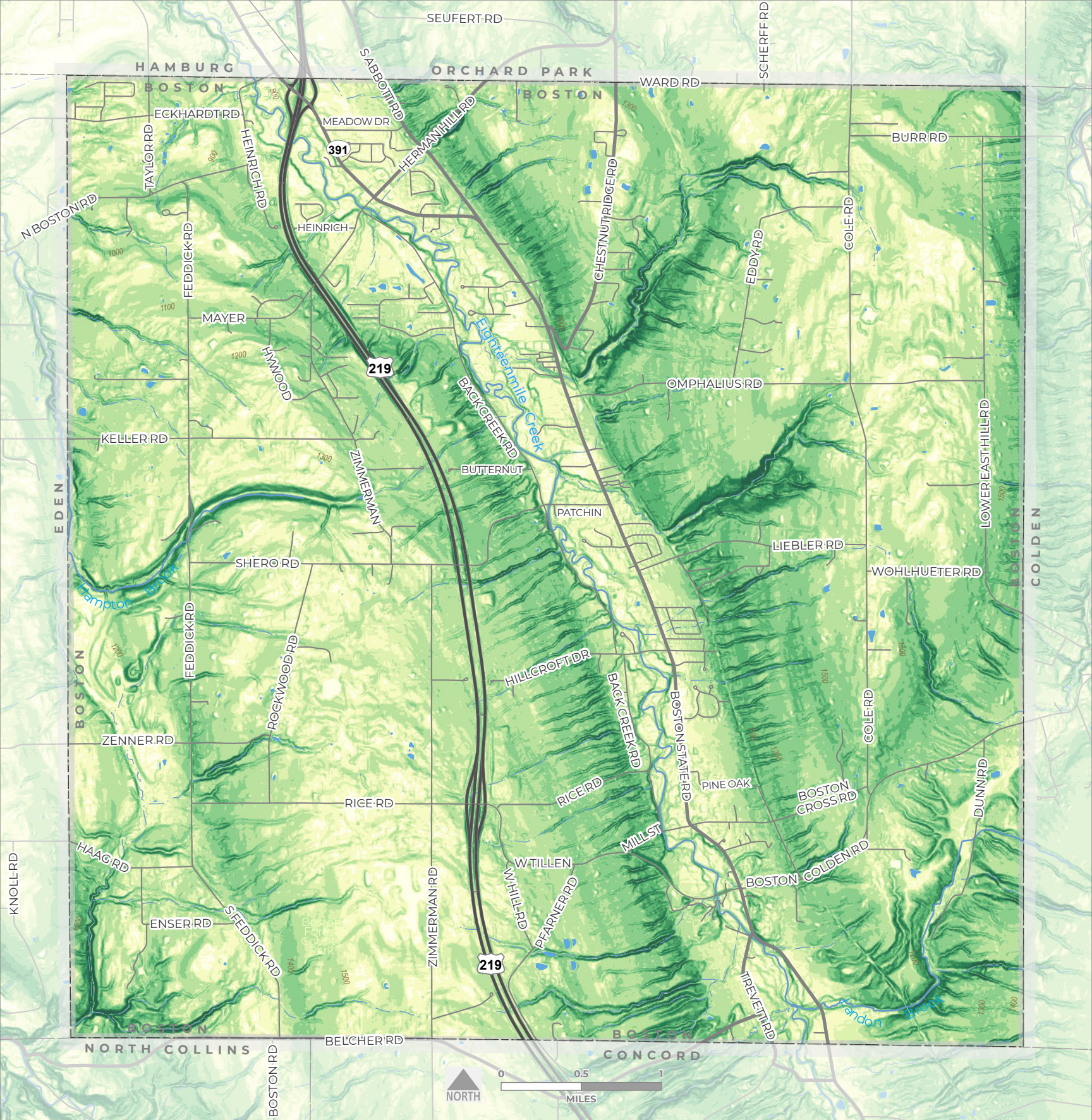
- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4

¹ MSG 1-4 CLASSIFICATIONS ARE DEFINED AND USED BY THE NYS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND MARKETS TO CLASSIFY THE STATE'S AGRICULTURAL LANDS BASED UPON SOIL PRODUCTIVITY AND CAPABILITY. EACH COUNTY IN NEW YORK STATE HAS A LISTING OF ALL SOIL TYPES PRESENT IN THE COUNTY ASSOCIATED WITH A SPECIFIC MINERAL SOIL GROUP, MSG 1 THROUGH 10. (NYSERDA, 2015)

Sources:
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, NATURAL RESOURCES
CONSERVATION SERVICE - SOIL SURVEY GEOGRAPHIC (SSURGO)
DATABASE FOR ERIE COUNTY NY 2020

Town of Boston, NY

AGRICULTURAL SOILS SUITABILITY MINERAL SOIL GROUPS



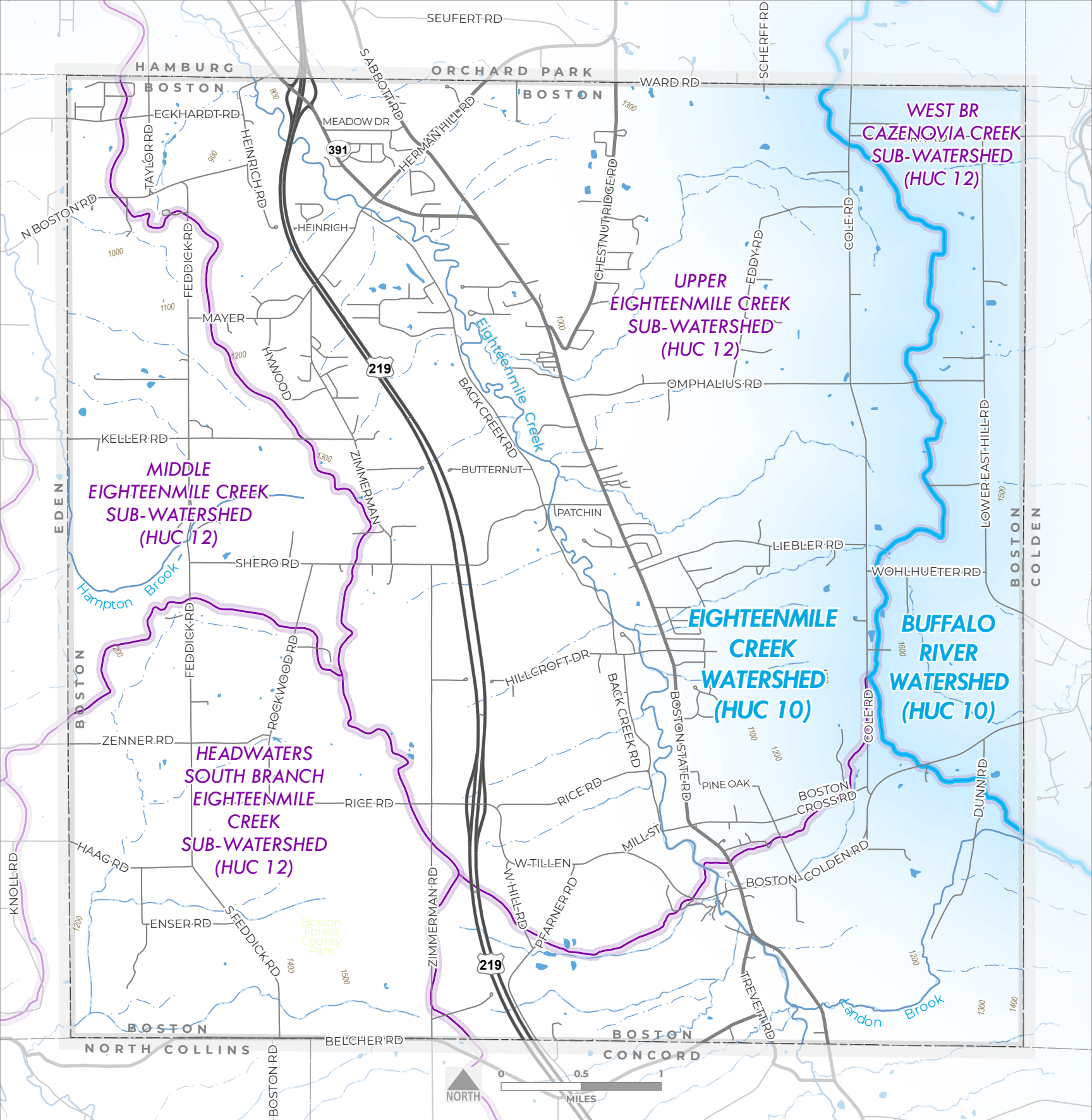
Key

FLAT (0°)	GENTLY STEEP (11° - 15°)
NEARLY LEVEL (1°)	MODERATELY STEEP (16° - 20°)
GENTLY LEVEL (2°)	STEEP (21° - 30°)
GENTLY SLOPING (3° - 5°)	VERY STEEP (31° - 90°)
STRONGLY SLOPING (6° - 10°)	

Sources:
 AIRBUS, USGS, NGA, NASA, CGIAR, NLS, OS, NMA, GEODATASTYRELSEN,
 GSA, GSI AND ESRI LIVING ATLAS

Town of Boston, NY

TERRAIN (DEGREE OF SLOPE)

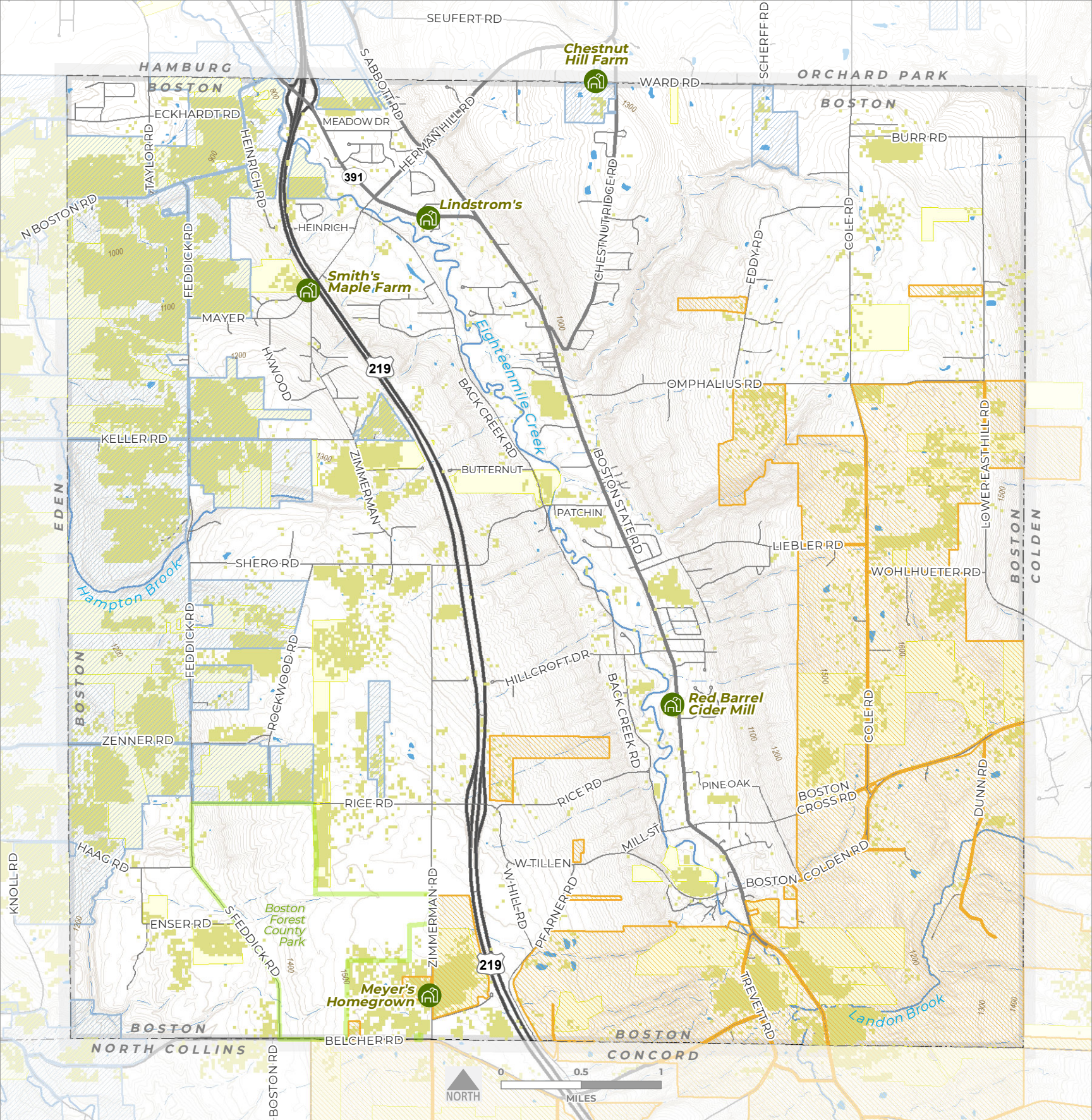


Key

-  SUB-WATERSHED BOUNDARY (HUC 12)
-  WATERSHED BOUNDARY (HUC 10)

Town of Boston, NY

WATERSHEDS & SUB-WATERSHEDS



Key

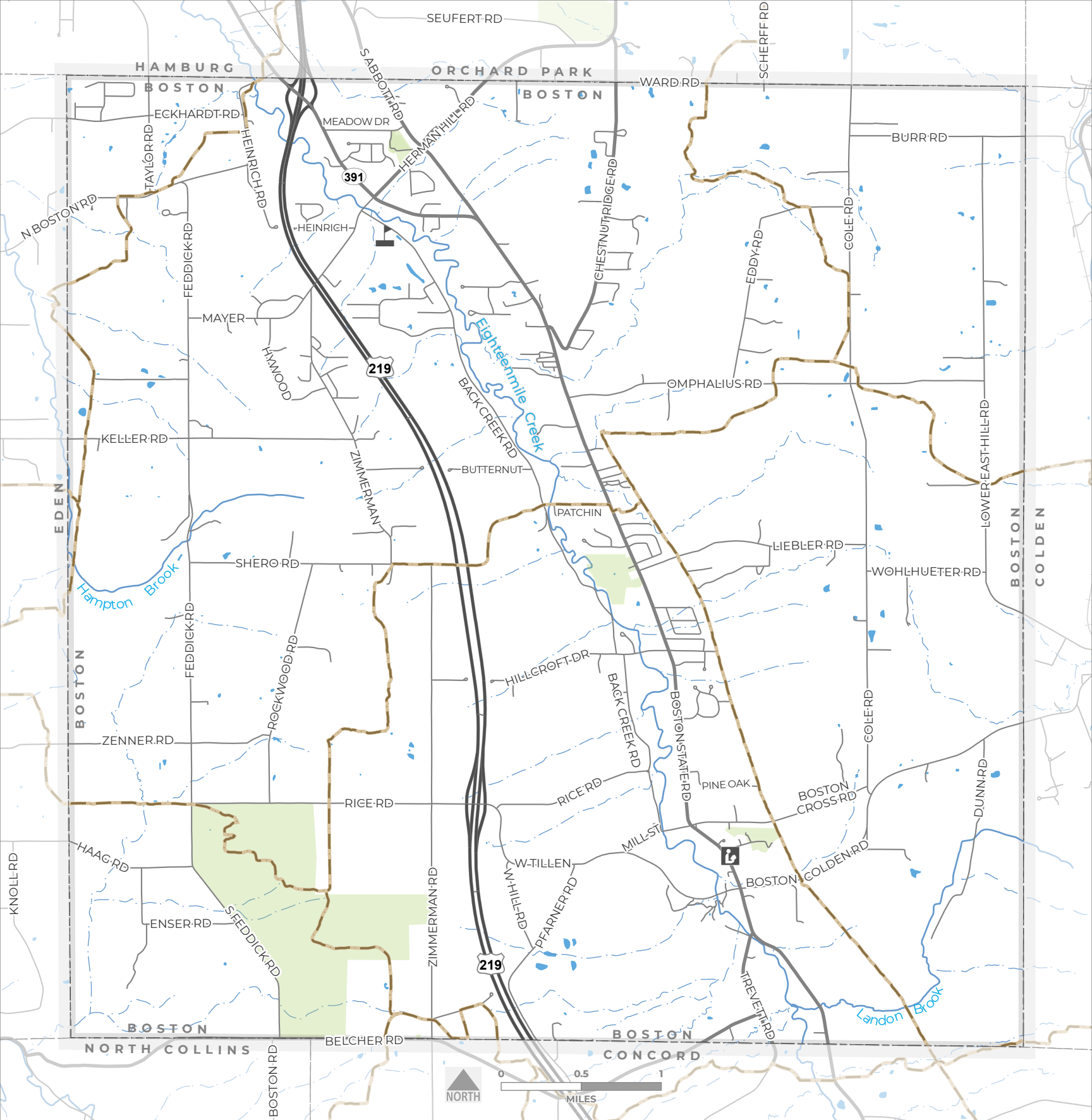
-  Agritourism Farm
-  Cultivated Cropland
-  Tax Parcel in an Agriculture Property Class

-  Erie County Agricultural District 8
-  Erie County Agricultural District 15
-  100-Ft Contour
-  10-Ft Contour

Town of Boston, NY

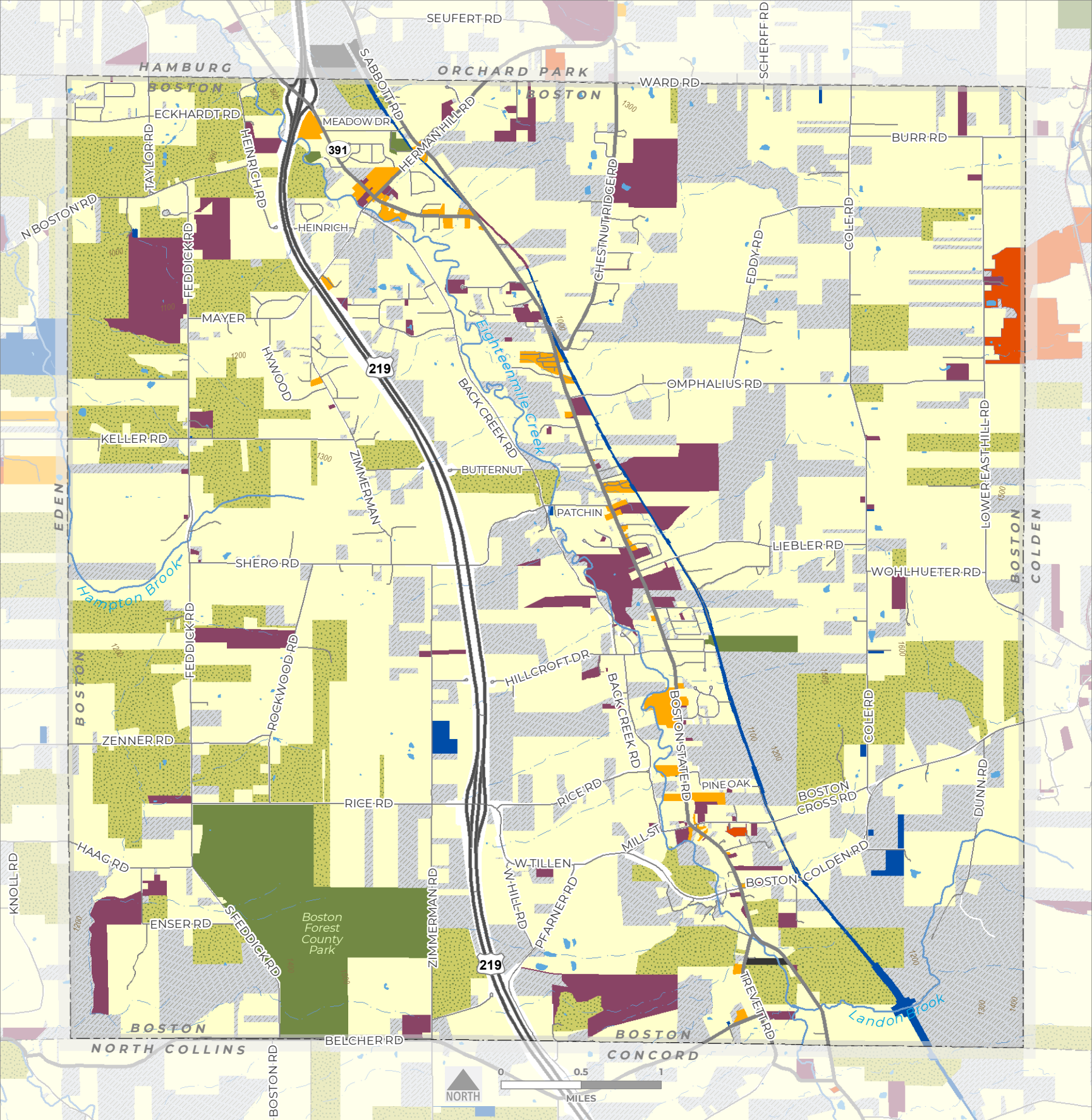
AGRICULTURE

Sources: Agritourism Farms by Erie County DEP ErieGrown, 2023. Cultivated Cropland by USDA NRCS, 2020. Agricultural Districts by Erie County DEP, 2022. Tax Parcels by NYS Real Property and Erie County Real Property, 2022.



Key

-  School
-  Library
-  NYS Snowmobile Trail
-  Park

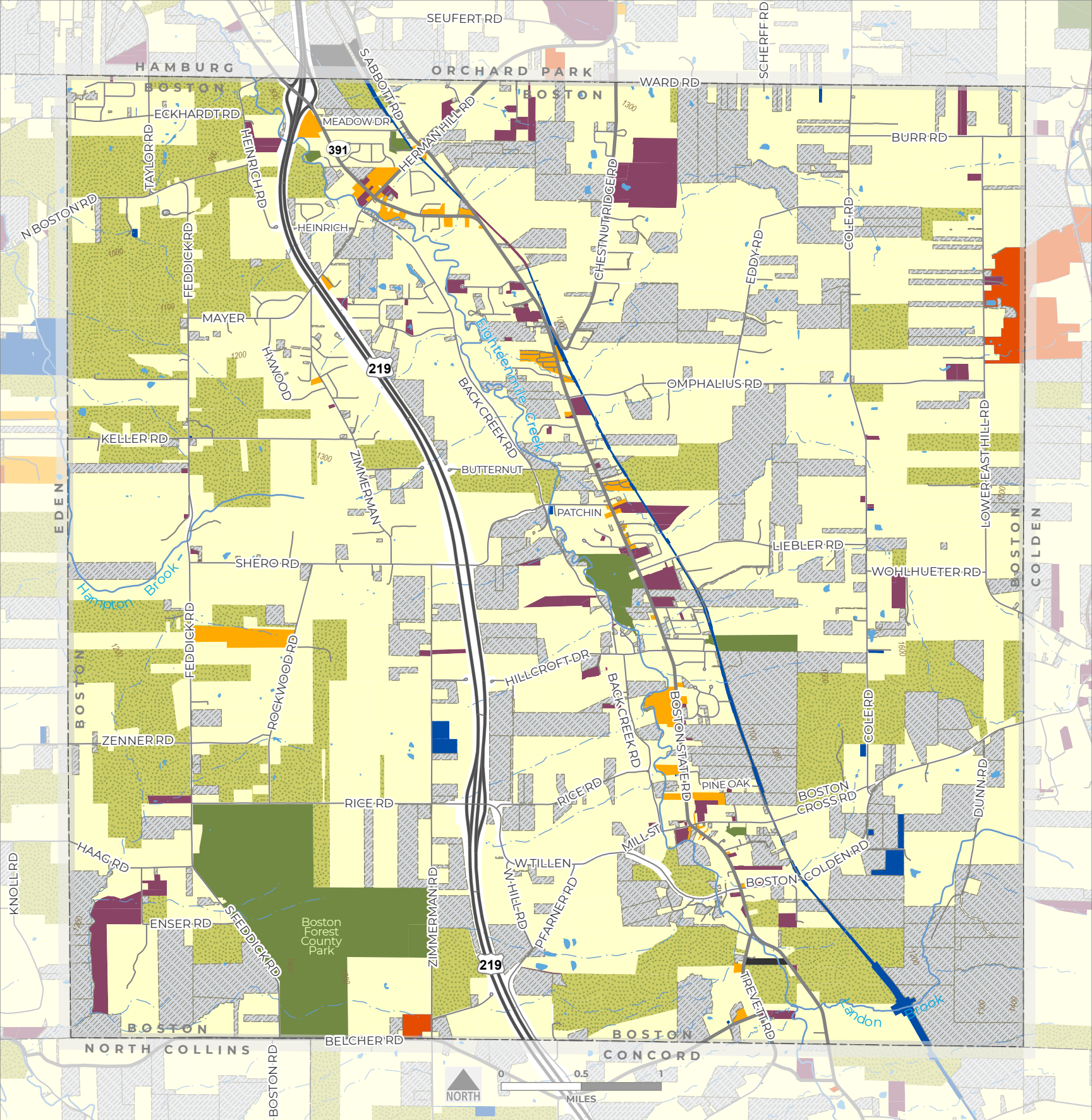


Town of Boston, NY

Key

	Agricultural		Public Services		Vacant Land
	Commercial		Recreation & Entertainment		Wild, Forested, Conservation Lands & Public Parks
	Community Services		Residential		
	Industrial				

EXISTING LAND USE BY TAX PARCEL



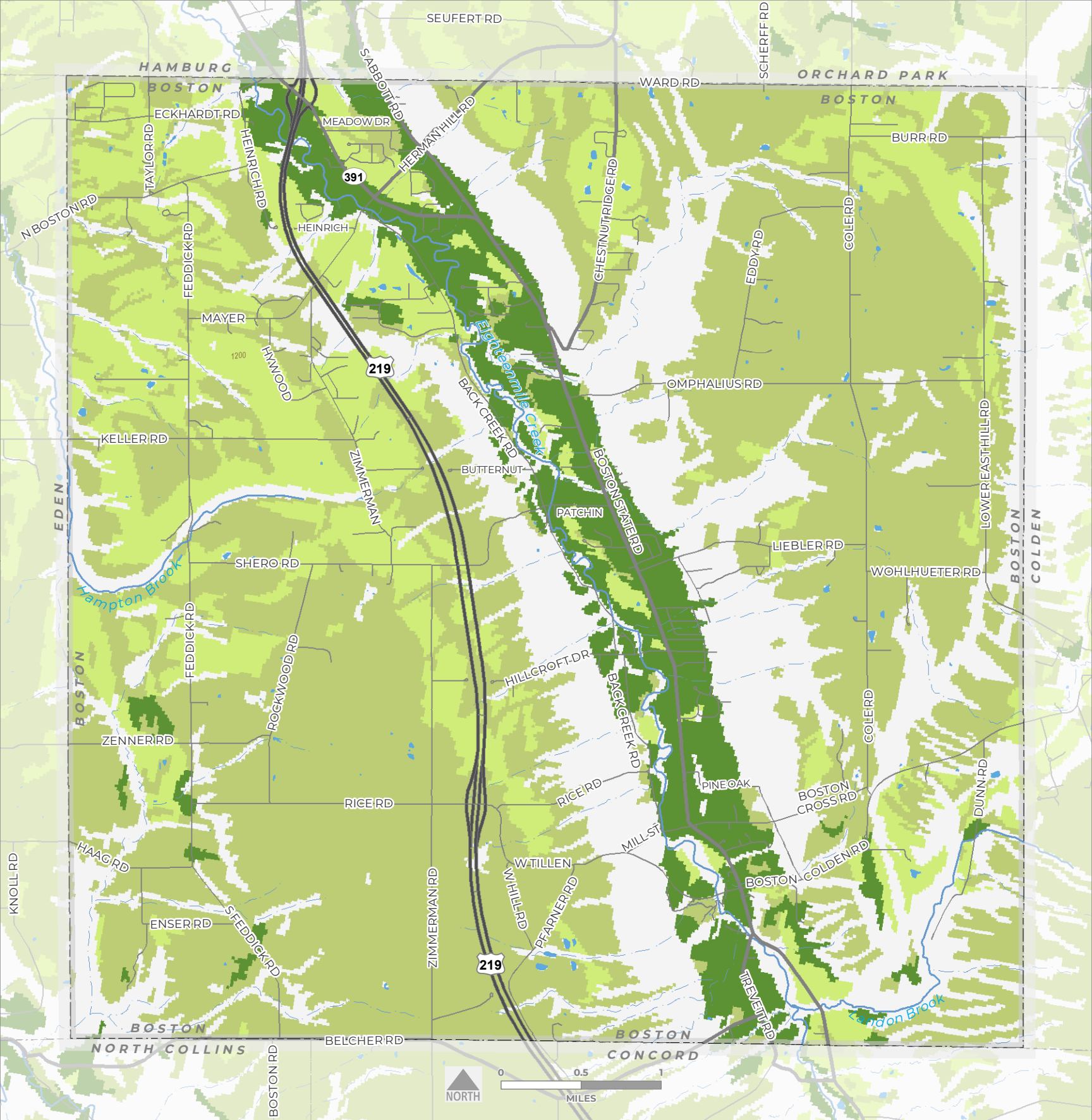
Town of Boston, NY

Key

	Agricultural		Public Services		Vacant Land
	Commercial		Recreation & Entertainment		Wild, Forested, Conservation Lands. Private Forests & Public Parks
	Community Services		Residential		
	Industrial				

EXISTING LAND USE BY TAX PARCEL

Sources: Tax Parcels by NYS Real Property and Erie County Real Property, 2022.
 Land Use categories based on NYS Real Property type classification codes.
<https://www.tax.ny.gov/research/property/assess/manuals/prclas.htm>
 Adjustments to Land Use categories made based on the input of the Boston Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee, 2024.

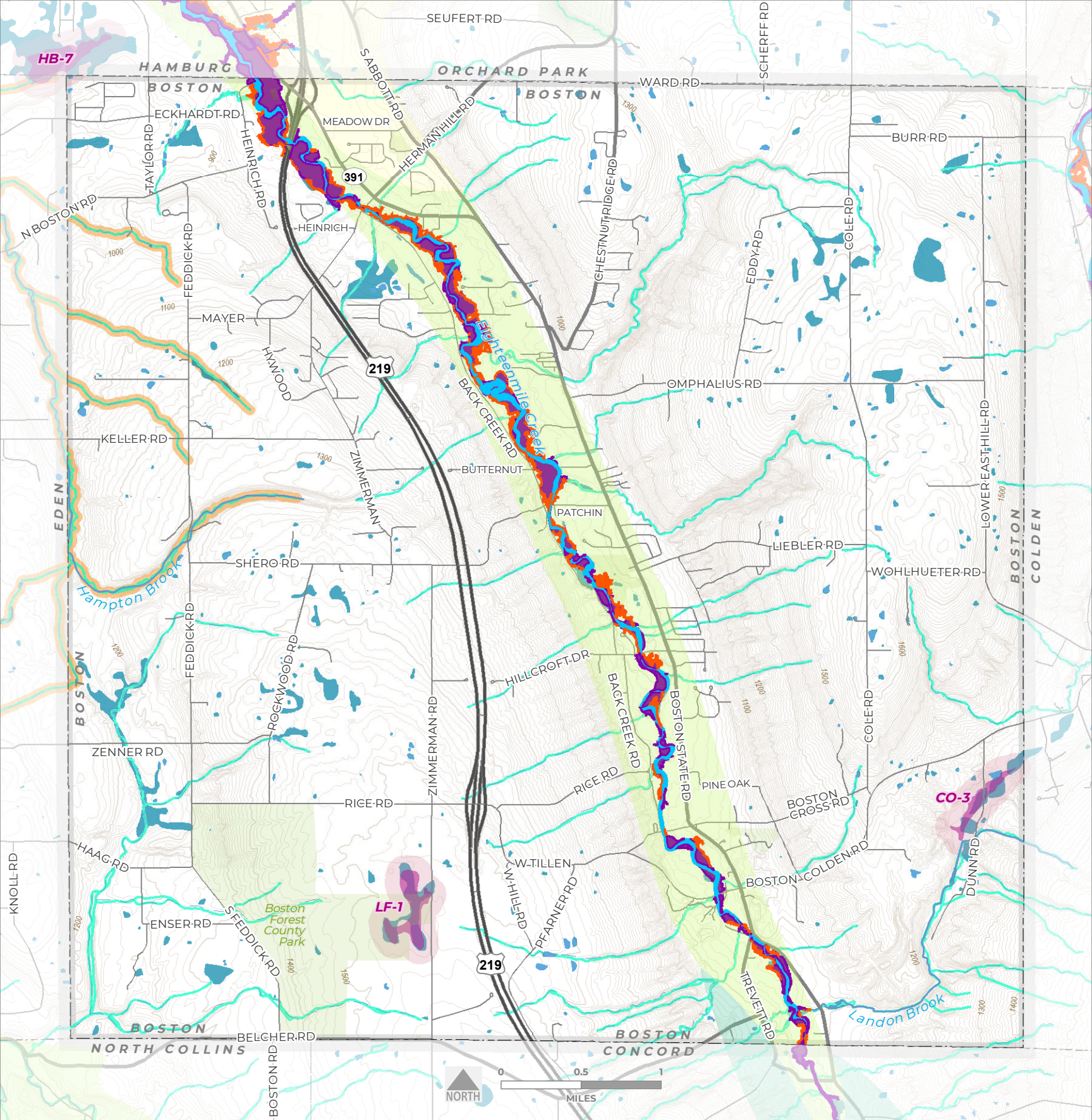


Key

	All Areas are Prime Farmland		Not Prime Farmland
	Farmland of Statewide Importance		Prime Farmland if drained

Town of Boston, NY

FARMLAND SOILS



Key

- Unconfined, Mid Yield Aquifer
- Confined, No Overlying Surficial Aquifer
- Moraine

Floodplain

- 1% Annual Chance Flood Hazard
- 0.2% Annual Chance Flood Hazard
- Regulatory Floodway

- Park
- State Wetland
- State Wetland Checkzone

Federal Wetland

- Palustrine
- Riverine

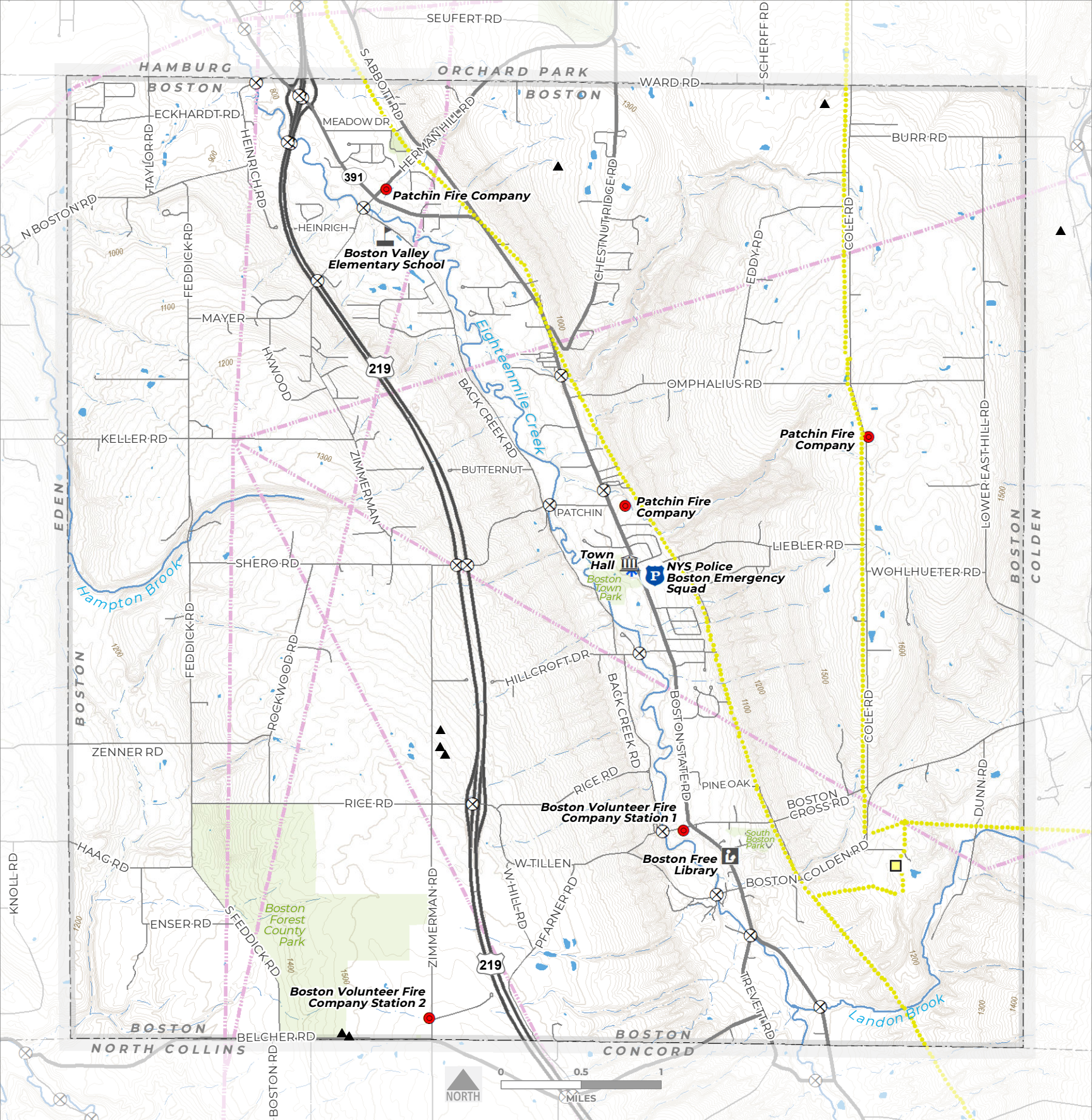
NYSDEC Surface Water Quality

- Minor Impacts

Town of Boston, NY

FLOODPLAIN AND WETLANDS

Sources: USGS National Elevation Dataset Contours; NYSDEC Freshwater Wetlands; USFWS National Wetland Inventory, FEMA Floodplains, NYSDEC Surface Water Quality and Unconsolidated Aquifers.

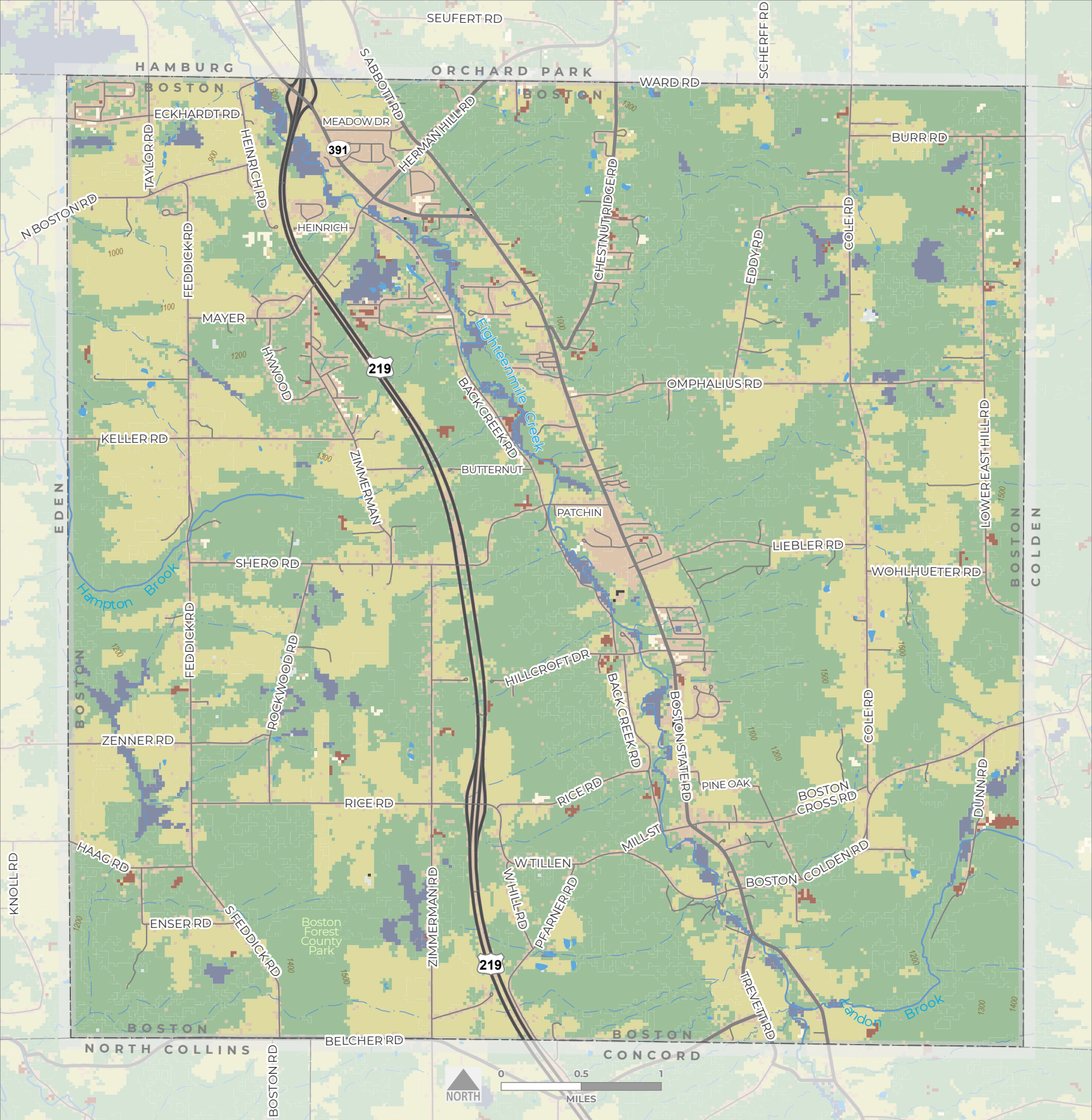


Key

- | | | | | | |
|--|-------------------------|--|-----------------|--|----------------|
| | Bridge | | School | | Park |
| | Microwave Service Tower | | Library | | 100-Ft Contour |
| | Electric Substation | | Town Hall | | 10-Ft Contour |
| | Powerline | | Emergency Squad | | |
| | Natural Gas Pipeline | | Fire Station | | |
| | | | Police Station | | |

Town of Boston, NY INFRASTRUCTURE

Sources: USGS National Elevation Dataset Contours; U.S. National Bridge Inventory; USGS National Structures Dataset; Microwave Service Towers and Transmission Lines | HIFLD Open Data; Energy Information Association Natural Gas Pipelines.



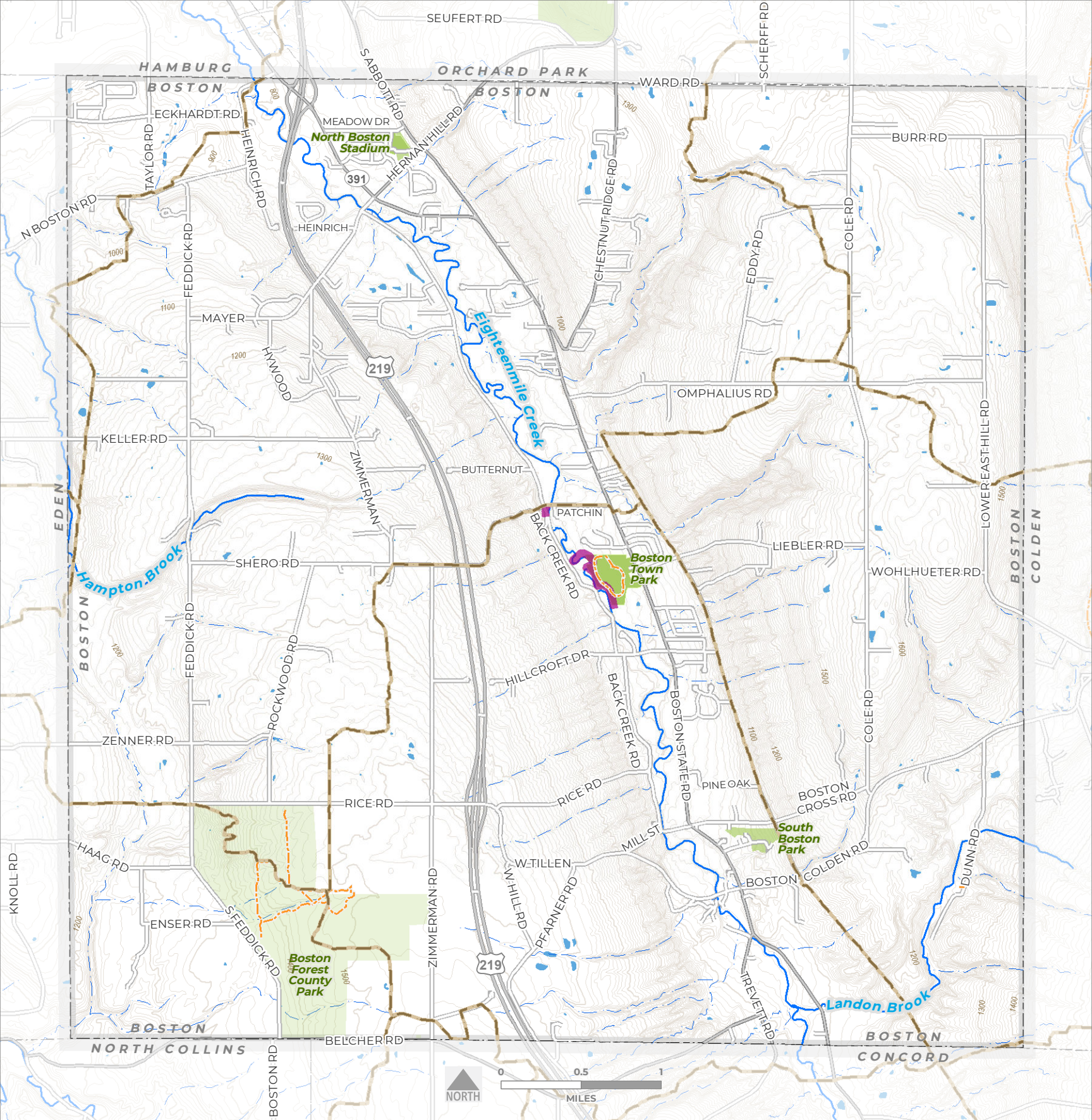
Key

	BARREN		FOREST		WATER
	CROPLAND/ PASTURE		HERBACEOUS		WETLANDS
	DEVELOPED		SHRUBLAND		

Town of Boston, NY

LAND COVER

Sources:
 ERIE COUNTY 2023; ESRI 2024; U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY - NLCD 2021
 LAND COVER (CONUS) 2023



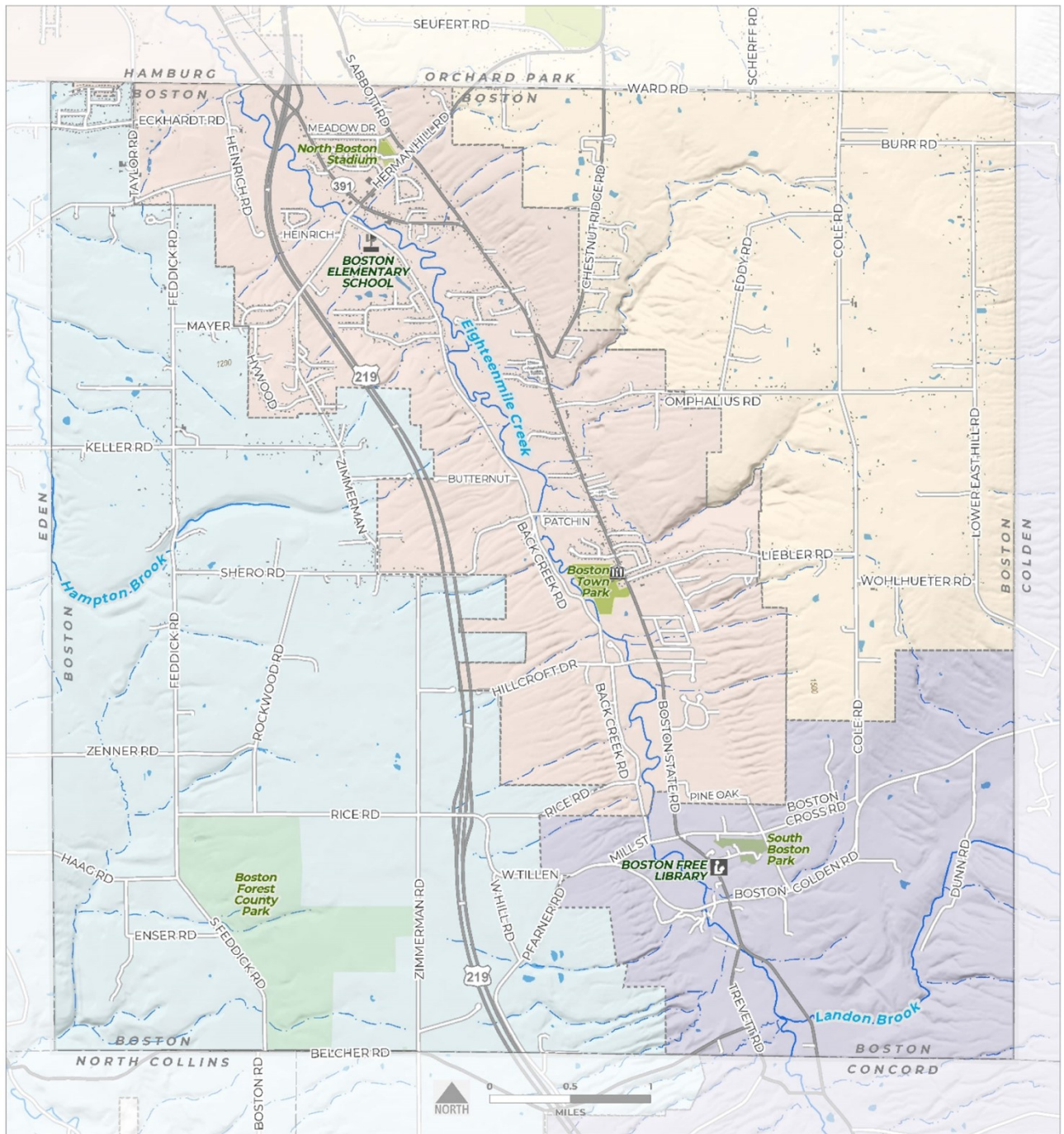
Town of Boston, NY

Key

- Park Trail
- NYS Snowmobile Trail
- NYS Trout Stream Fishing Access
- Park
- 100-Ft Contour
- 10-Ft Contour

RECREATION & PARKS

Sources: USGS National Elevation Dataset Contours;
USGS National Hydrography Dataset; NYSDEC Snowmobile Trails;
Openstreetmap Footpaths, NYSDEC Trout Stream Fishing Access Locations.



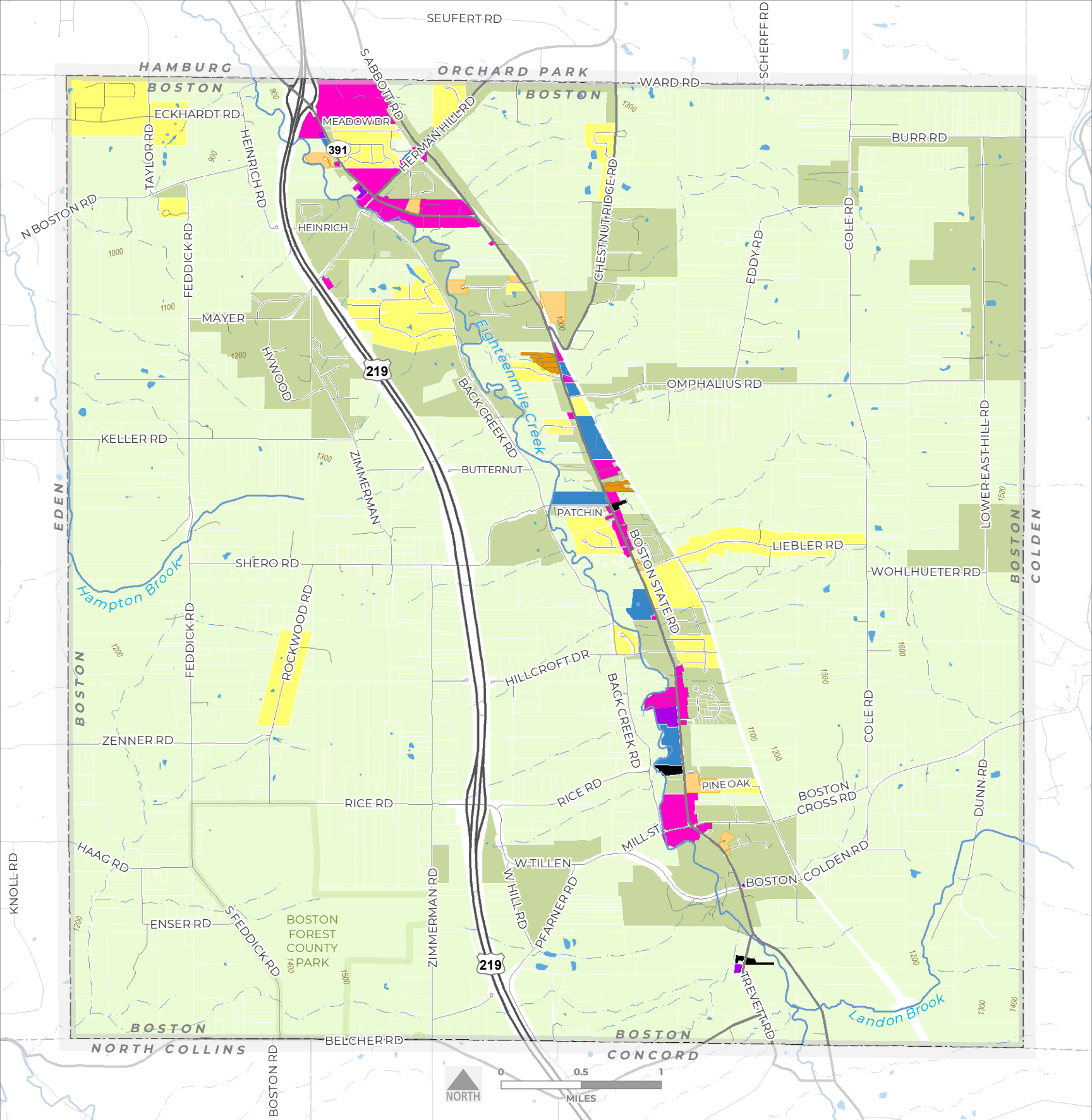
SCHOOL DISTRICTS

- EDEN
- HAMBURG
- ORCHARD PARK
- SPRINGVILLE-GRIFFITH

- BOSTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
- BOSTON FREE LIBRARY
- BOSTON TOWN HALL

SCHOOL DISTRICTS

Town of Boston, NY



Key

 R-1 Single Family Residence	 C-1 Local Retail Business	 R-C General Residence- Restricted Business
 R-2 Single Family Residence	 C-2 General Commercial	 R-A Residential-Agricultural District
 R-3 Two or More Family	 M-2 General Industrial District	
 R-4 Mobile Home Court		

Town of Boston, NY

ZONING

Sources: Town of Boston, 2020.

Town of Boston Comprehensive Plan Map Captions

Map Name	Caption
Soils MSG	The soils map classifies agricultural lands based upon their soil productivity and capability.
Steep Slope	The slope map displays the steepness or degree of incline of the terrain.
Watersheds	The watershed map displays waterways present in the region and the surrounding land it drains into.
Agriculture	The agriculture map shows the locations of local agriculture operations as well as protected agriculture districts.
Basemap	The basemap provides geographic context for the local area and is used to overlay data.
Existing Land Use	The existing land use map illustrates how land parcels are presently being utilized.
Farmland Soils	The farmland soils map classifies soils based upon how suitable they are for farming.
Floodplains & Wetlands	The floodplains and wetlands map shows areas at risk of flooding and the locations of wetlands and their jurisdictions.
Infrastructure	The infrastructure map shows the locations of local utilities, emergency services, and other public buildings.
Land Cover	The land cover map indicates the physical land type present, such as forest or wetlands.
Parks & Recreation	The parks and recreation map shows the locations of parks, trails, and areas accessible for trout fishing.
Transportation POIs	The transportation and points of interest map shows the locations of bridges throughout the town and government services.
Zoning	The zoning map shows acceptable uses of property throughout the town.
School Districts	The school districts map shows the boundaries of local school districts and the locations of education buildings.



Appendix E

Farm Friendly Zoning Analysis

Town of Boston “Farm Friendly” Zoning Analysis

Green **O** denotes condition is satisfied | Red **X** denotes area for improvement

Question	YES	NO	Notes
1. Does the regulation’s purpose statement include a discussion of agriculture or promoting or preserving agriculture specifically?		X	Legislative Intent: <i>“It is the intent of this local law to establish a codification of local laws, ordinances and certain resolutions of the Town of Boston for the purpose of increasing the effectiveness of Town governmental administration, providing for greater public awareness of and access to Town legislation and protecting the health, safety and welfare of Town inhabitants and preserve the integrity of the local agricultural community. The local laws, ordinances and resolutions of the Town of Boston referred to in § 1-2 of this local law shall be known collectively as the “Code of the Town of Boston,” and the various parts and sections of such local laws, ordinances and resolutions shall be distributed and designated as provided and set forth in § 1-2 of this local law.”</i> <i>*Potential revisions in red.</i>
2. Does zoning allow agriculture, and/or agriculture-related uses as permitted uses, by right in every district?		X	There is no “Right to Farm” law in Boston.

3. Does zoning prohibit agriculture, <i>and/or agriculture-related uses</i> , in any district?		X	R4: is the only zone that has no mention of allowable ag use.
4. Does zoning require special use permits for agriculture or <i>agriculture-related uses</i> in any district?	O		• R1: 123 -18 (c) 4: Buildings for private horticultural programs, not to exceed 500 square feet in floor area, provided that such buildings are located to the rear of the front setback line and do not occupy any part of a required side yard. • R2: 123-25 (b) 6: Private horse stables for use by the occupant of the premises and his occasional guests, without compensation, subject to the following conditions and limitations: • R3: Similar to R2 Special Use • R4: None • RA: Residential Agriculture: N/A • RC: Similar to R2 Special Use • C1: No real mention, but a mention in 123-126 (B) suggests Ag is allowable. • C2: 123-78 (A) 11: Dairy permitted w/o Special Use • M1: 123-85 (A) 7: Lumberyards w/o Special Use • M2: Same Principle Uses as M1
5. Does zoning require site plan review for agriculture or <i>agriculture-related uses</i> in any district?	O		123-163: "...except for a farm or single-family dwelling and their permitted accessory uses, buildings or structures...."

6. Does zoning encourage/ <i>permit</i> higher density or commercial growth in core farm areas or where a <i>New York State (NYS) Agricultural (Ag) District</i> exists?	X		Prime Farmlands are found in the same location as all three Hamlets and areas identified as most ideal for growth, along Boston State Rd. 123-48: (3) Residentia- Ag District <i>“Agricultural, floricultural and horticultural pursuits, including but not limited to, general farms, greenhouses, plant nurseries, truck gardens, dairy husbandry, animal husbandry and poultry and livestock, together with all customary buildings and other structures necessary for the production and storage of the products of such pursuits, provided that buildings, pens and runways for the confinement of livestock or poultry shall be at least 100 feet from any property line of an R District and no manure or other odor- or dust-producing substances shall be stored within 100 feet of any lot line.”</i>
7. Does the zoning establish a local agricultural zoning district, agricultural overlay district, or special use district for agriculture?		X	No, there are no current district overlays that exist within the current zoning code.
Question	YES	NO	Notes
8. Does the zoning allow farms to have more than one business or offer flexibility to accommodate the needs of agricultural businesses?		X	The current zoning is not clear to this, and more clarification should be made. This could be addressed in the C1/C2.

9. Are buffer zones between farmland and residential uses required for new construction or subdivision?		X	Yes.
10. Are innovative development patterns that preserve farmland encouraged, allowed, or mandated (conservation subdivision, clustering, transfer of development rights - TDR)?		X	No. Due to the strong correlation between commercial districts and prime farmland, there should be a more intensive understanding and relationship within the zoning code.
11. Are off-site or on-site signs allowed to attract and direct people to farm stands?	O		123-48 (C) Accessory Uses permitted.
12. Are <i>nontraditional and/or retail-based farm businesses</i> (e.g., farm stands, farm retail markets, agri-tourist businesses, <i>farm</i> breweries, <i>etcetera</i> . (etc.), allowed <i>as of right</i> ?		X	Boston does not have a Right to Farm law.
13. Are farm processing facilities such as community kitchens, slaughterhouses, etc., allowed <i>as of right</i> ?		X	Boston does not have a Right to Farm law.
14. Are farm stands limited to selling just products from that one farm?		X	123-48 (C) : “ <i>Incidental to the permitted</i> ” & “ <i>incidental to permitted principal uses.</i> ”
15. Do <i>farm stands</i> need a site plan review or a special use permit approval?	O		123-163: “... <i>except for a farm or single-family dwelling and their permitted accessory uses, buildings or structures...</i> ”

Question	YES	NO	Notes
16. Does zoning allow for accessory <i>agricultural</i> uses and structures such as greenhouses, barns, garages, equipment storage, etc., to be permitted <i>as of right</i> ?		X	123-128: Prohibited on Mixed Use. This section should be updated to assume the uses/structures as a right.
17. Do application requirements include asking for submittal of information or maps about farming that might be taking place on or near the project parcel (e.g., whether it is in an agricultural district; what farming activities take place on or near the site; and/or whether prime farmland soils are present)?	X		Section XXX: Site Plan Review: More straight forward requirements for Ag should be included.
18. Do standards exist that require the <i>Planning Board (PB)</i> or <i>Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA)</i> to evaluate impacts of a project on agriculture?	O		
19. Do any design standards exist to direct building envelopes to areas on a parcel that would still allow farming to occur on remaining open spaces?		X	
20. Does the zoning define agricultural terms (e.g., agriculture, agricultural structure, farm worker housing, agritourism, agribusiness, etc.)?	X		123-7 Defines: Agriculture, Farm, Farm Building. Should add: Farm worker housing, Agritourism, Agribusiness.
21. Are farm-related definitions broad and flexible (i.e., not confined to a certain number of acres and/or income earned)?	O		123-7

Question	YES	NO	Notes
22. Are non-traditional or retail-based farm businesses allowed in a district or agricultural zoned district? For example, can a farmer set up a brewery on site and sell products on site?	X		123-48: C. <i>"Temporary occupancy permits for six months' duration, on the approval of the Code Enforcement Officer, for the sale and display of agricultural products. Any stand used for the sale and display of such products shall contain not more than 200 square feet of floor area and shall be set back at least 20 feet from the street line."</i> Temporary only, by special use.
23. Does the regulation define and allow for farm worker housing?		X	No. See 22. Updates should be made to make this explicit.
24. Does the regulation allow mobile homes for farm worker housing?		X	No. See 22. Updates should be made to make this explicit.
25. Are silos and other farm structures exempt from height requirements?	O		123-50 <i>Maximum height of buildings.</i> <i>Unless otherwise provided, the maximum height of buildings in the R-A District shall be as specified in this section.</i> <i>... E. Farm buildings: no limit.</i>
26. Are personal windmills and solar panels allowed for farms? <i>If so, are these permitted as of right, or do they require permits?</i>		X	No mention.
27. Is an agricultural data statement as per AML 25-aa required as part of an application for site plan,		X	123-163When required; exceptions. <i>Unless otherwise provided and as regulated by the subdivision</i>

subdivision, special use or other zoning permit?			<i>regulations of the Town of Boston,[1] site plan review and a site plan approval shall be required for all uses, buildings and structures that require a building permit or a certificate of zoning compliance under this chapter and for which an application has been made to the Town of Boston, except for a farm or single-family dwelling and their permitted accessory uses, buildings or structures, prior to the issuance of a building permit or certificate of zoning compliance.</i> Add this requirement to this section
28. Does the community require placement of an agricultural disclosure statement on plans or plats when development takes place in an agricultural district?		X	See 27.
29. Does the community have a farmer sitting on their Planning Board?		X	*Verify with TOWN.
Question	YES	NO	Notes
30. <i>Does the community have a Right-to-Farm law?</i>		X	