

Community Master Plan Update

Town of Westport, MA



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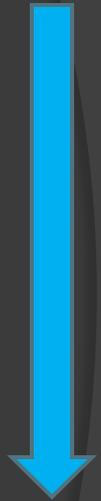
Gay Gillespie
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What is a Master Plan?

Policy/guidance document that:

- Establishes a Vision for the Community
- Sets Goals Consistent with the Vision
- Identifies Policies and Actions for Implementation

general



specific



Why do we Master Plan?

The Master Plan is a Town's Framework for:

Permitting

Regulating

Connecting

Spending

Informing

Grants

Studying

Staffing



Projects from 2004 Plan

1. Increase the number of Ball fields and open space facilities – Westport Youth Athletic Association in the process of doing this work
2. Economic Development Coordinator Position
3. The Town Farm has been protected
4. Dredging of the River
5. Open Space Preservation and Acquisition
6. A number of Zoning Initiatives
 - Site Plan Review
 - Low Impact Development Bylaw
 - Flexible Frontage Bylaw
 - Inclusionary Housing Bylaw



What is the update process?

- ⦿ Master Plan Update Committee
- ⦿ Public Input
 - Public Vision Session
 - Monthly Public Meetings
 - Survey
 - Input from Committees and Boards
 - Public Workshops
- ⦿ Document development
- ⦿ Local approval
- ⦿ Implementation

Implementation

- ① Buy-in from BOS, Departments, Boards and Committees
- ① Establish an Implementation Committee
 - Meet Semi Annually
 - Prioritize Action Items

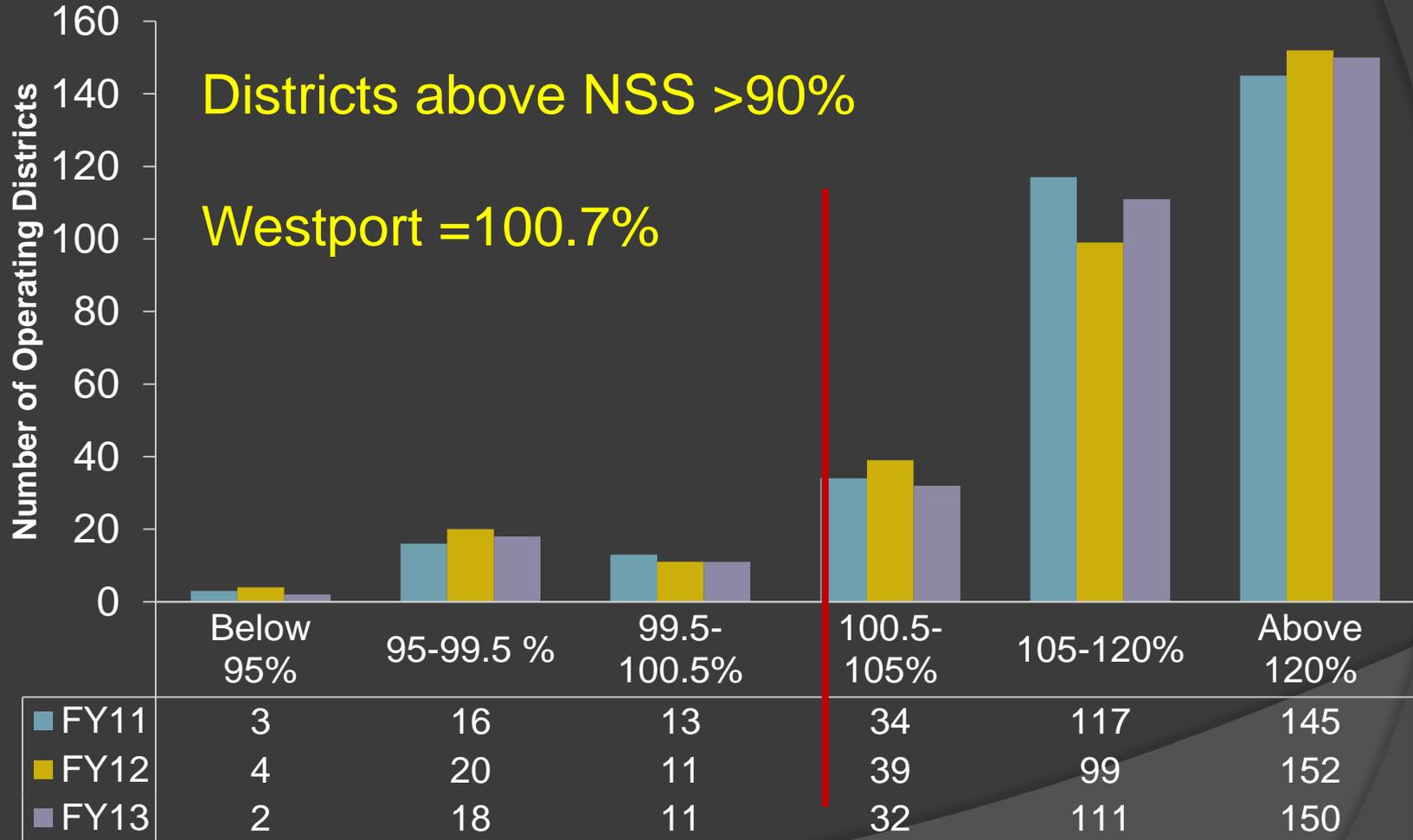
Master Plan Content

- Land Use
- Open Space & Recreation
- Cultural & Historic Resources
- Water, Wastewater & Stormwater
- Traffic & Circulation
- Economic Development
- Housing
- Capital Facilities & Human Resources
- **New Chapter**

Education



Most Districts Spend in Excess of Their Net School Spending (NSS) Requirement (www.doe.mass.edu/)

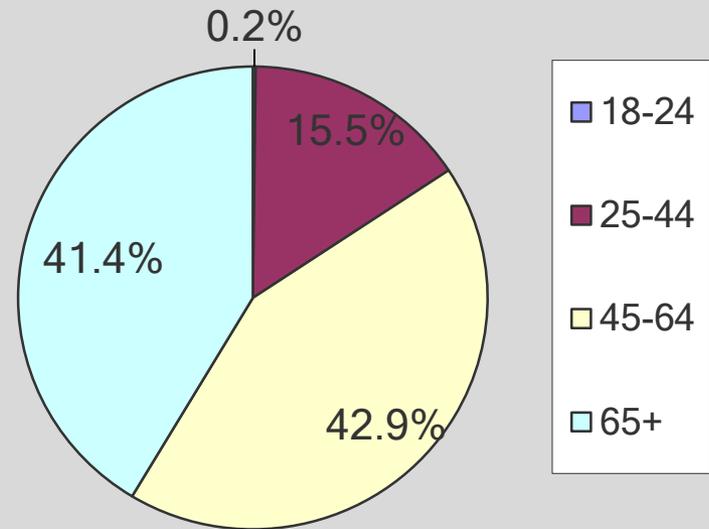
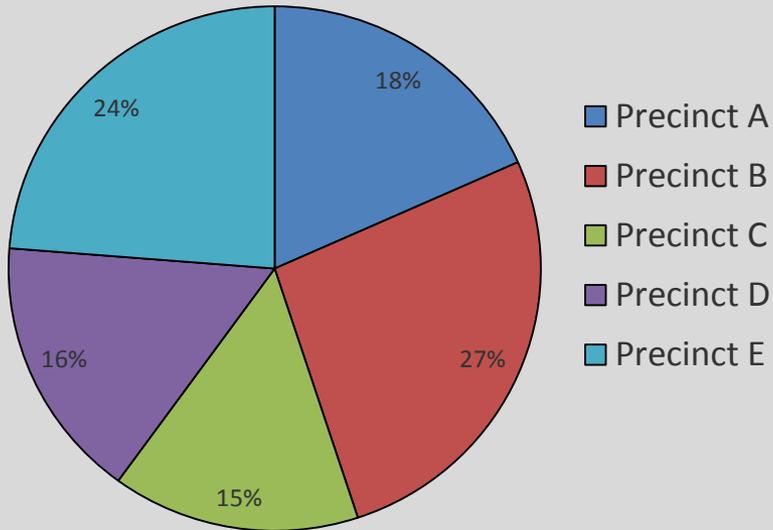


Public Workshops

	Elements	Date
Public Forum #1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Natural Resources• Open Space & Recreation• Water, Wastewater, Stormwater	Sat. 4/12/14
Public Forum #2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Economic Development• Housing• Transportation	Sat. 9/27/14
Public Forum #3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Capital Facilities & Human Resources• Land Use• Cultural Resources	Sat. 10/25/14
Public Forum #4	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Schools/Education	Sat. 2/7/15

Survey

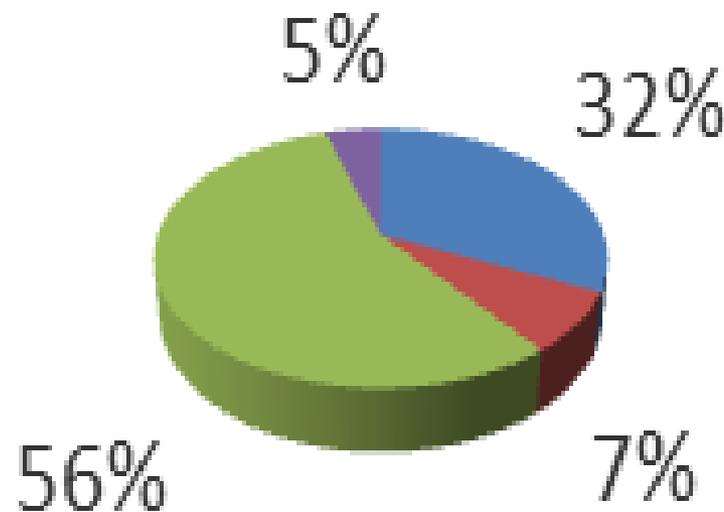
In which precinct do you reside?



What is your age range?

How fast is Westport Growing?

■ Too Fast ■ Too Slow ■ About Right ■ No Opinion



	Oppose, not needed	Favor, but not for higher taxes	Favor even if higher taxes	No Opinion
Improving school facilities and education standards	10.6%	45.3%	41.2%	2.9%
Purchase open space for conservation	18.0%	47.9%	29.1%	5.0%
Maintenance and capital improvements for town buildings	7.3%	61.1%	29.1%	2.6%
Improving recreation activities	16.3%	55.1%	24.0%	4.6%

Open Response - What do you like most about living in Westport?

	Responses	Percentage
Rural Community/Country Living	368	30.5%
Coastline and Beaches	286	23.7%
Quiet, Peacefulness and Tranquility	212	17.6%
Open Space and Natural Resources	162	13.4%
Family Farms and Farmland	122	10.1%
Low Taxes	101	8.4%
Quality of Life and Community	97	8.0%
Public Safety	54	4.5%
Small Businesses	50	4.1%
Low Traffic Congestion	35	2.9%
Schools	27	2.2%
Elderly Services	8	0.7%
Artists	4	0.3%

What do you like least about living in Westport ?

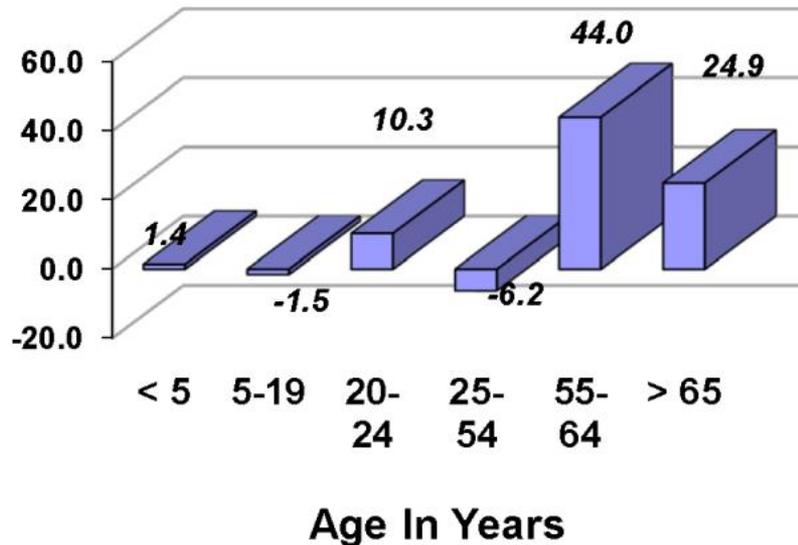
	Referenced
Schools	154
Politics	141
Taxes	75
Sidewalks	35
Cars	69
Growth	14
Transportation	10
Parking	10

Population 2010 Census

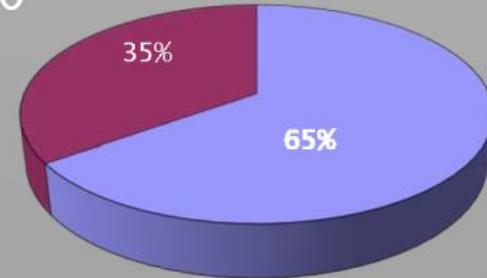
- Massachusetts Median Age 2010 39.1
- Bristol County Median Age 2010 38.7
- Town of Westport Median Age **45.6**
- In 2000 Westport Median Age was 41.0

Shifting Population

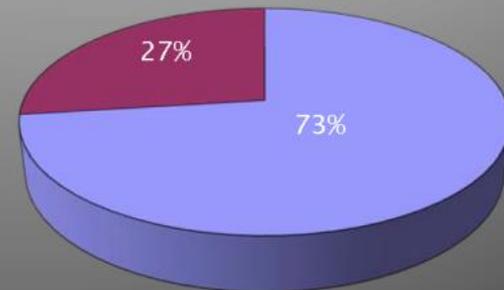
2000-2010 Percent Change in Population by Age Groups



2010

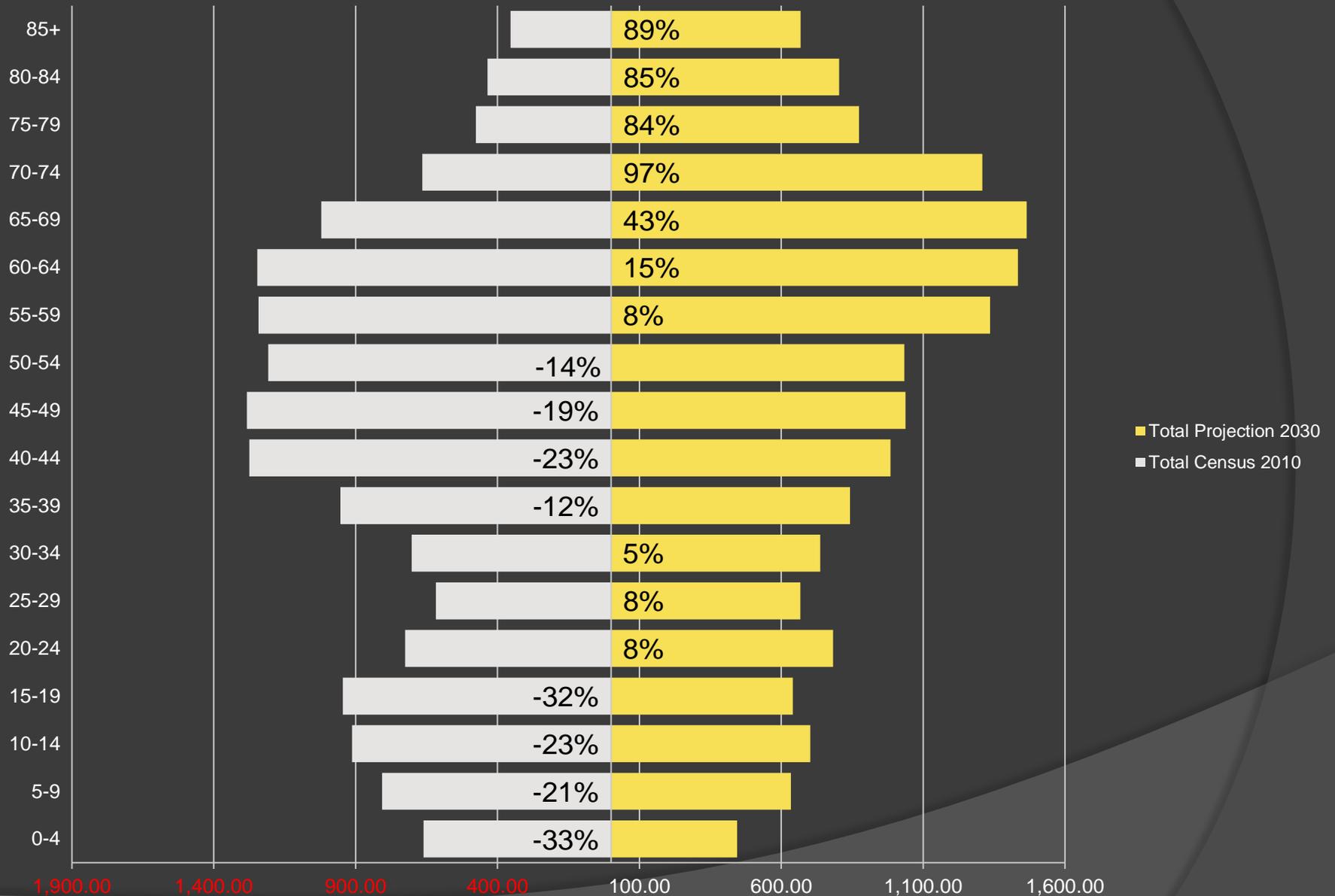


2000



- Less than 55 years
- 55 years and over

Total Population 2010-2030



Source:UMass Donahue Institute Population Projections. December 2013.

How do you connect with the process?

- Website:

<http://planningboard.westport-ma.com/master-plan>

- Contact Planning Department, Planning Board or Master Plan Committee



Land Use

- Preserve Westport's Rural Appearance
- Direct Growth to Appropriate Areas

Natural Resources

- Protect Westport's Natural Resources
 - Reduce Nitrogen Levels in the River

Open Space and Recreation

- Completion of Athletic Fields
- Continue to Preserve Critical Parcels



Water, Wastewater, Stormwater

- Treatment of Stormwater
- Provide Clean Drinking Water

Traffic & Circulation

- Intersection Improvements Routes 177 & 6

Economic Development

- Improve Public Infrastructure
- Support Existing Businesses



Housing

- Provide a Range of Housing Choices to Meet Town Needs

Capital Facilities

- Provide a Town Wide Building Assessment

Cultural and Historic Resources

- Increase Awareness of the Arts
- Preserve and Protect Westport's Historical Resources



Education

- **Community Outreach, Public Relations**
 - **Communicate the importance and value of education to the community**
- **Provide State-of-the-art Facilities**
- **Maximize Use of School Facilities for the Community**

