Background & Context for Waterfront West Discussions

Existing Zoning & Prior Studies

May 4, 2017

Waterfront Mixed Use (WMU) District

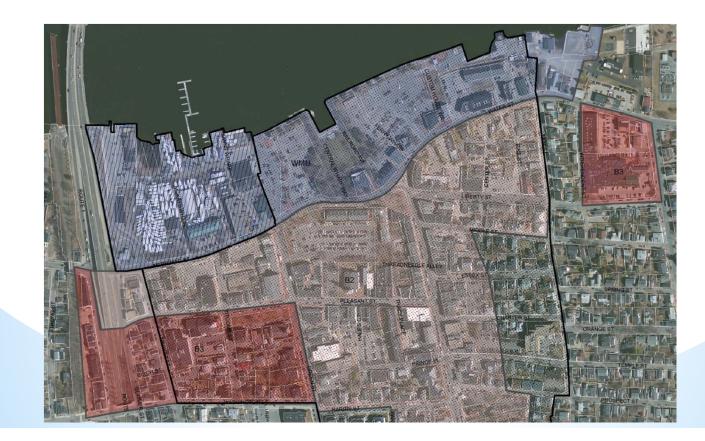
"The purpose of this district is to encourage the development of marine, civic, tourism, and cultural land uses activities which benefit from the location of the central waterfront and to enhance this area as the civic and cultural center of the city. Structures which are totally residential are not allowed in this district. Additional intents in this district include the protection and provision of public access and

views."



Waterfront West Overlay District (WWOD)

"A Waterfront West Overlay District (WWOD) [is] established due to the unique land use, historic, cultural and architectural resources of the properties located along the central waterfront to encourage implementation of the recommendations of the 2001 Master Plan and 2003 Waterfront Strategic Plan..."



Waterfront West Overlay District (WWOD)

A. Architectural Scale & Character Consistent with Historic Downtown;

- B. Reduced setback requirements," mandatory "build-to" lines, increasing building coverage;
- C. Mixed-use buildings with active commercial uses on the ground floor and housing and/or offices above;
- D. Lively mixed-use waterfront district with public space, intimately scaled streets, public pedestrian ways and key views to the water from Merrimac Street;
- E. Maintain and protect marine-dependent uses;
- F. Discouraging surface parking lots and encouraging structured parking;
- G. Encourage "shared parking" strategies in mixed-use projects;
- H. Pedestrian ways to the water: alleys, sidewalks, plazas and other public open spaces;
- I. Preservation & Adaptive reuse of existing historic structures; and
- J. Encourage affordable housing with density consistent with the downtown.

Waterfront West Overlay District (WWOD)

- A. Overlay District (underlying WMU)
- **B.** Special Permit for Large-Scale Redevelopment (minimum size: 4 acres)
- C. Minimum Open Space: 30%, 50% publicly accessible
- **D.** Maximum Building Height: 35' (40' for parking structures)
- E. All required parking on-site
- F. Required Affordable Housing: 10% of all units
- G. Preservation Restrictions: All buildings listed on the National Register

H. Permitted Uses:

- A. Multi-family, over twenty (20) units
- B. Congregate elderly housing
- C. Specialty shopping center (only if part of mixed use)
- D. Health/recreation
- E. Parking structure
- F. Retail/service kiosk automated teller machine
- G. Fast food/carry out (carry-out of prepared food only)
- H. Corporate headquarters



"Newburyport no longer has the same relationship of city to harbor that it had in the early 1800s when the Federal-style commercial blocks were built down to the water's edge and tall ships towered over Water Street."



"The Strategic Plan focuses primarily on the task of reconnecting city and harbor by means of parks, public streets, walkways, bike trails, architecture, and a vibrant mix of community uses."



Strategic Plan

NEWBURYPORT, MASSACHUSETTS

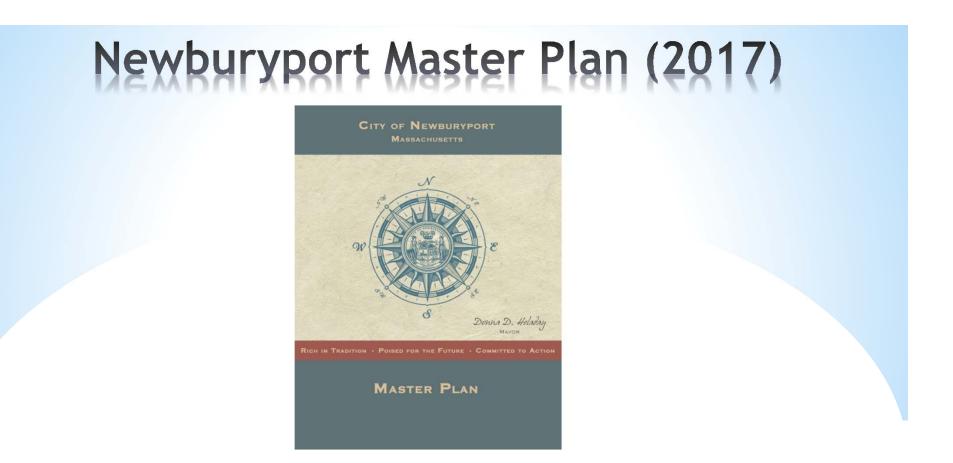
AUGUST, 2003

Goody, Clancy & Associat

Waterfront Strategic Plan (2003) Vision & Goals

- 1. Support the working waterfront and enhance facilities for recreational and commercial maritime uses.
- 2. Reinforce and extend the historic downtown to the waterfront with a new mixed-use neighborhood.
- **3.** Dramatically improve public access to the waterfront while linking the North End and South End to the downtown.
- Enhance and expand public parks and civic spaces along the harbor for relaxation and recreation.

- A policy guide and framework for action
- What the waterfront should be like in the future
- Significant increase in waterfront public access
- "Encourage mixed-use development overlooking parks to enhance security and activity day and night. Reinforce the pattern of open spaces and developed edges along the Newburyport harbor."
- "A variety of experiences for pedestrians traversing the waterfront as water views are held back and revealed in a dramatic way."



"Encourage redevelopment of the 'Waterfront West' area that is compatible with surrounding downtown architecture and uses. Support permitting for new mixed-use (residential and commercial) and hotel development that would support the vibrancy of the existing downtown while adding new tax revenue, public access along the waterfront, affordable residential units, and other public benefits"