

Four Corners Project

Listening Session #1

November 13th, 2024

Clarksburg Community Center

Agenda: Listening Session #1

6:00-6:15 | Reintroduction/Recap

6:15-6:30 | Concepts Preview

6:30-7:00 | Concepts Review + Talk

7:00-7:25 | Group Discussion

7:25-7:30 | Next Steps

Reintroduction

Four Corners Project: Team

Berkshire Regional Planning Commission

Regenerative Design Group

Ecological Site Design, Resilience Planning, Agricultural Planning

Terry Reynolds

Civil Engineer

Meg Bandarra

Outdoor Accessibility Consultant

Flying Cloud

Art + Science Education

Four Corners Project: Objectives

Increase resiliency of the Four Corners Area to flooding and stormwater damage

Enhance Town Sites focus area to support more recreation and community events

Expand safe and accessible routes at and between the Community Center, Town Field, and the Elementary School

Four Corners Project: Timeline

Jan - Mar 2024

Phase One: Project
Initiation + Site Analysis

- Research
- Mapping + Assessments
- Project Team Site Walks

Mar – June 2024

Phase Two: Community
Engagement

- Design Workshops
- Coordination w/ School Group
- Community Site Walks

Sept 2024 – Feb 2025

Phase Three: Concept
Development

- Concept Development
- Listening Sessions
- Final Design Packets

Goal for This Evening

Four Corners Town Sites | Concept A: Maximize Recreation + Connectivity



Safety/Accessibility

- » Accessible trail circuit connects all sites
- » Sidewalk runs from Town Field parking lot to the Community Center

Recreation/Nature

- » Sports, play, and gathering zones are expanded/formalized in the Town Field
- » Boardwalks/viewing platforms provide access to wetland ecology

Water Management

- » Persistent wet areas in Town Field are planted (wet meadow, native plant restoration)
- » Rain gardens + infiltration strips capture and utilize stormwater throughout
- » Turf areas around the Community Center are improved with meadows and gardens
- » Problem culverts are improved



What Do You Like? What Works?

What Do You Not Like? What's Missing?

Review and discuss 3 Concepts for the Town Sites focus area

Collect feedback on each concept poster

For remote participants, this will happen on a shared concept board on Zoom

Phases 1+2 Recap:

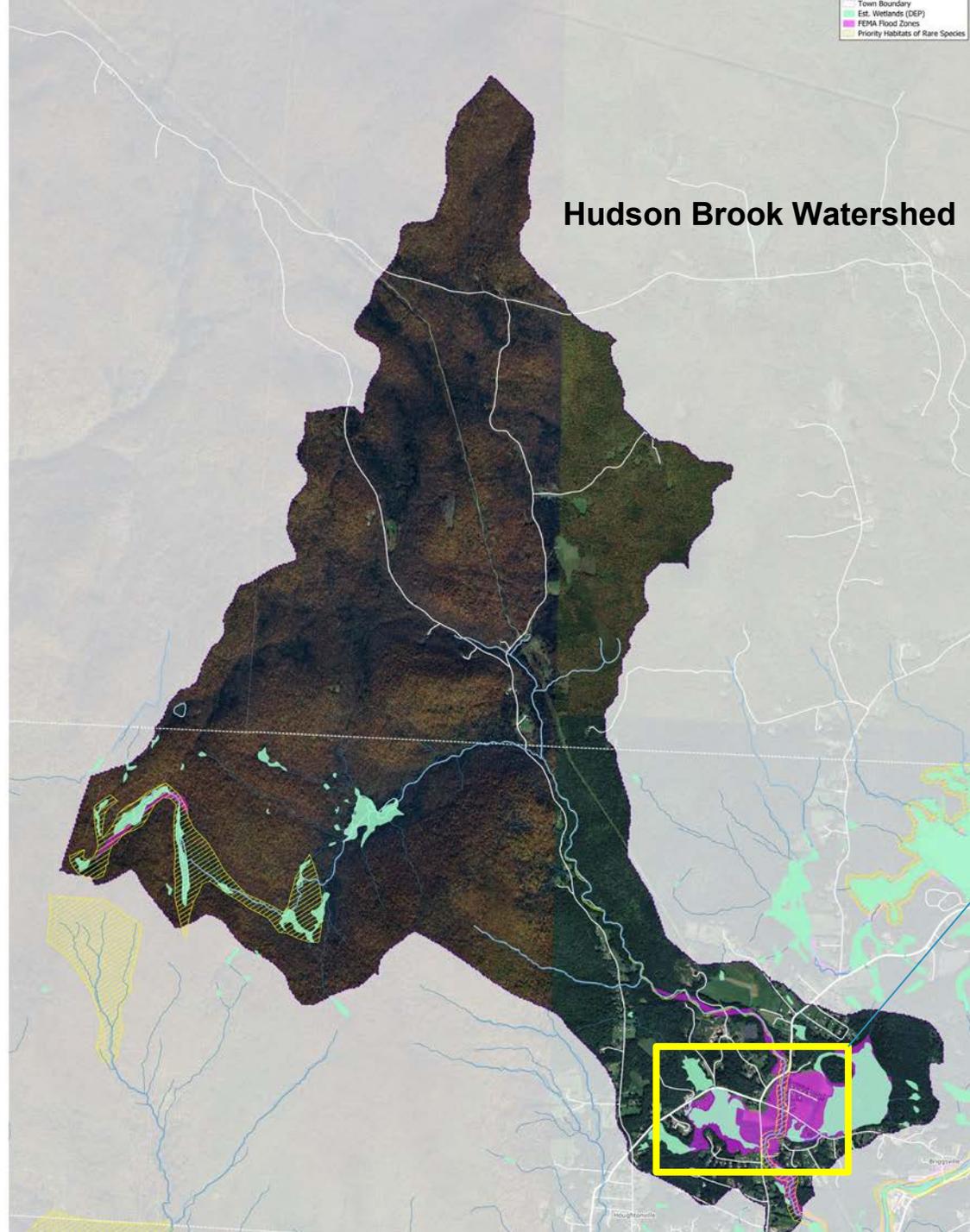
Project Area, Challenges, Priorities

Key Findings - Regulatory

- Several regulated wetland resources are in the project area:
 - Bordering Vegetated Wetlands
 - Land Under Water Bodies and Waterways
 - Bank and Riverfront Areas
 - 100-year Flood Zone
- *These resources require that special permitting be undertaken for any projects that alter their size and function. Several projects prioritized by the community will likely have minor to significant permitting requirements.*

Four Corners Project: Hudson Brook Watershed

7.4 square miles; 4,710
acres; VT/MA



Four Corners
Project Area

Four Corners Project Area

.50 square miles;
350 acres;
floodplain/wetland
complex



Town Sites: Challenges

Recreational infrastructure is inadequate + subject to flooding

Lack of stormwater infrastructure that adequately slows, spreads, + conveys

Lack of safe/ universally accessible parking, sidewalks, and trails

Several regulated wetland resources



Town Sites: Design Workshop Priorities

Manage Stormwater + Floodwater

- Culvert repair/improvement
- Green infrastructure like rain gardens

Improve Accessibility + Safety

- All persons trails
- Wetland boardwalks + viewing platforms
- Safe pedestrian access between the school and community center
- Possible road between the school + town field parking lot

Improve + Expand Recreational/Nature Opportunities

- Better recreation fields and courts
- Playgrounds
- All persons trails
- Wetland boardwalks + viewing platforms

Town Sites Concepts: Overview

Concept Overview

Focus

How do people get to + around the Town Sites?

What do they do when they get there?

Similarities

Improve and increase accessways throughout the 3 sites

Expand and formalize active + passive recreation

Incorporate nature-based solutions for stormwater management (infiltration strips, revegetation, rain gardens, improved stream crossings)

Alter the intersection of W Cross + Gravel Bank Roads for improved stormwater management + safety

Differences

Length, location, and variety of accessways

Location and variety of recreational elements

Extent of disturbance and restoration

Assumptions for All Concepts

Significant regrading

Extensive permitting

Require wetland delineations

Town Sites Concepts: A, B, C



A - Maximize Recreation + Connectivity

Safety/Accessibility

- Accessible trail circuit connects all sites
- Sidewalk runs from Town Field parking lot to the Community Center

Recreation/Nature Connection

- Sports, play, and gathering zones are expanded/formalized in the Town Field
- Boardwalks/viewing platforms provide access to wetland ecology

Water Management

- Persistent wet areas in Town Field are planted (wet meadow, native plant restoration)
- Rain gardens + infiltration strips capture and utilize stormwater throughout
- Turf areas around the Community Center are improved with meadows and gardens

B - Improve Existing Patterns

Safety/Accessibility

- Accessible trail circuit connects the School to Town Field
- Sidewalk runs from Town Field basketball court to the Community Center

Recreation/Nature Connection

- Play and gathering zones are formalized in the Town Field
- New sports courts are established at the Community Center close to existing parking and in drier conditions
- The Town Field and the School have separate Boardwalks/viewing platforms

Water Management

- Persistent wet areas in the Town Field are planted
- Meadow and native plant restoration zones infiltrate and utilize storm/floodwaters in the Town Field
- Rain gardens and infiltration strips capture and utilize stormwater throughout



C - Change Existing Patterns

Safety/Accessibility

- Accessible trail circuit is central to Town Field
- Sidewalk runs from the school to the Community Center
- An interior one-way car lane connects the back of the school to the Town Field parking lot

Recreation/Nature Connection

- Town Field functions as open space/greenspace, with no formal sports areas
- New sports courts are established at CC, close to existing parking and in drier conditions
- A central boardwalk circuit is accessible from the Town Field

Water Management

- Expansive native plant restoration zones infiltrate and utilize storm/floodwaters in the Town Field
- Rain gardens and infiltration strips capture and utilize stormwater throughout
- A wetland replication offsets disturbance from the new one-way road



Town Sites Concepts: Review + Talk