

# Lynnfield Visioning

Planning Board Meeting

March 27, 2024



**LYNNFIELD**  
**2040** Shaping our  
Future Today

# Tonight's Agenda

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- 01 Draft Plan Survey Results
- 02 Suggested Changes
- 03 Next Steps

# Draft Plan Survey Results

# Survey Statistics

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68 total responses +  
2 handwritten responses

100% of respondents  
read draft vision plan

## Respondent Demographics

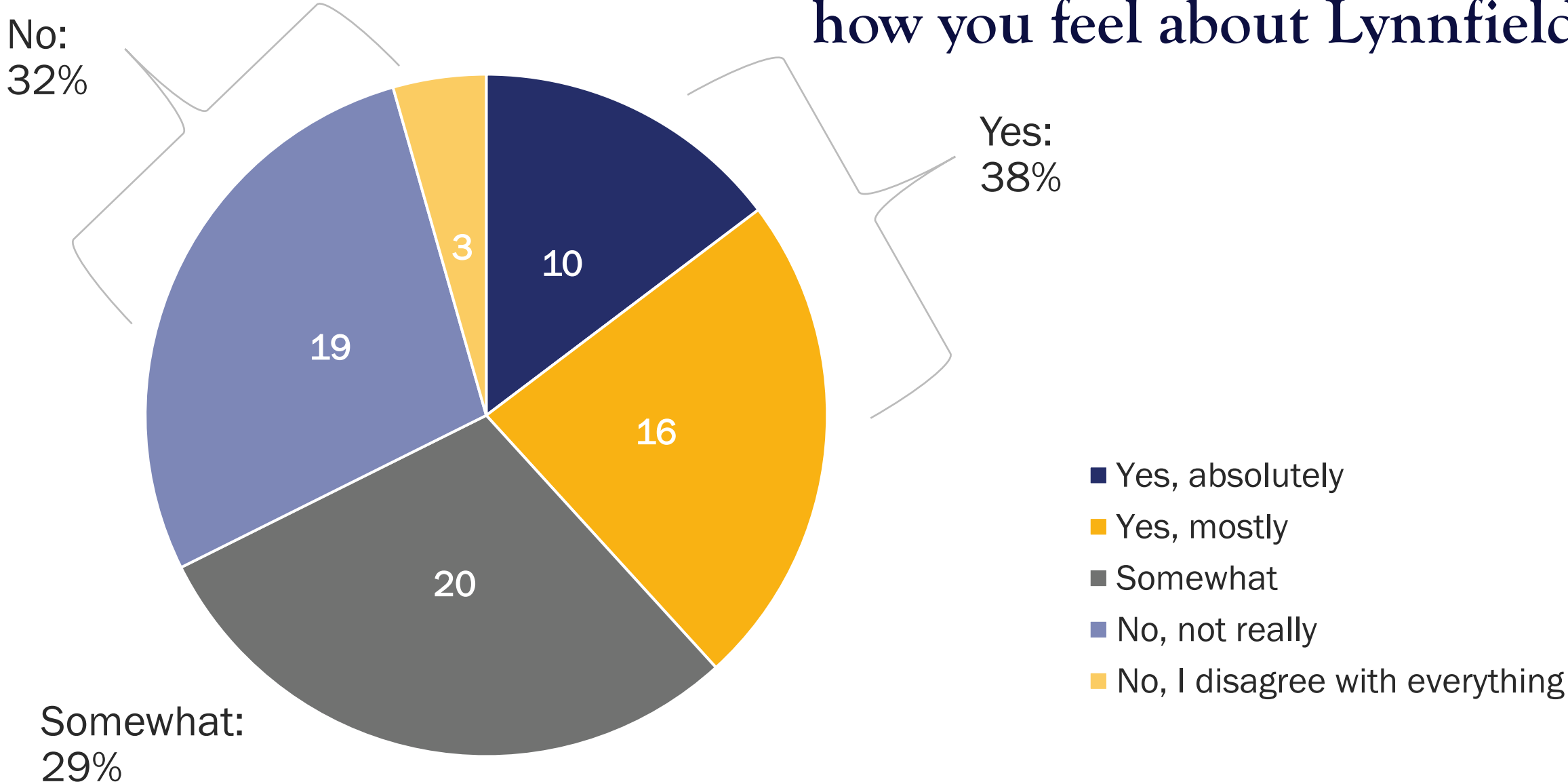
- 68% between 35-64 years old
- 2 identified as people of color
- 45% female, 34% male
- 1 renter
- 25% in households with a median income under \$150,000
- 36% families with children, 30% seniors

# Vision

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Lynnfield is a quiet, suburban community with good schools, friendly neighbors, and a transparent, 21<sup>st</sup>-century government. People can walk, bike, and roll safely through town to get to school, shops, and recreational areas. Lynnfield Center and Post Office Square are vibrant retail centers with local businesses that cater to residents' needs and help create a sense of community. New housing provides opportunities for seniors to downsize and young families to buy a home. Affordable housing is expanded to allow Lynnfield workers to be closer to their jobs. The Town acts fiscally responsible to maximize resources and manage individual tax burdens. Economic development opportunities are explored to better balance the local economy and tax base. Actions are taken to preserve existing natural resources and make the Town more resilient and adaptable to future impacts of climate change and other natural hazards.

# Does the draft vision statement represent how you feel about Lynnfield?



# What doesn't ring true about the vision?

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29 respondents provided comments about what they would like to see changed to the draft vision statement

## Themes include:

- Maintaining a small-town feel
- Housing supply, affordability, and diversity
- Community gathering spaces, recreation, and education
- Diversity and equity
- Infrastructure (including sidewalks, water quality and supply, and safe bicycling)
- Responsible, representative government
- Environment
- Property taxes
- Community-serving retail

# What would you like to see changed, improved, or clarified?

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“Lynnfield’s Vision 2040 should be finishing what it has already started and fixing what’s been left behind.”

“I would like to see more areas/spaces and opportunities for ‘community’ to get together.”

“Public Health and Safety came up in the survey as one of the top issues. There is nothing in the vision or plan that addresses that.”

“A much higher emphasis on accountability from town leaders and elected officials.”

“The plan for Lynnfield seems to be turning the town more into a city like Everett or Revere. I left those cities because I liked the small-town atmosphere of Lynnfield.”



# Support for Draft Guiding Principles

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1. Fiscal Responsibility	74%
2. Transparent Communication	62%
3. Lifelong Community	52%
4. Environmental Stewardship	41%
5. Balanced Growth	35%

# Open Feedback

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“I'm afraid that Lynnfield will continue to add big box businesses to attract a tax base; and it will lose its character. We need to focus on developing a small town feel with strong schools, local independent shops – which encourages people to want to visit and feel safe to live.”

“I am really disappointed in the progress of the rail trail...When I read a hopeful completion of 2029, I was shocked. This should be a wake-up call to everyone to select the proper people to are dedicated to get this completed.”

“Thanks to all who put their time into receiving all the data that the report describes and compiling this report which is fair, cautious and optimistic.”

“The leadership in this community does not seem to know their Lynnfield audience. Leadership talks about transparency, but on all levels, there is limited chance for discussion or feedback.”

“I love this town. However, if one is not sports-minded, there are few alternatives. It appears that the arts are often overlooked. Also, where does a new library for all ages fit into the plan?”

# Suggested Changes

# Suggested Changes to Vision Statement

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Lynnfield is a quiet, **safe**, suburban community with outstanding schools, friendly neighbors, and a transparent, modern government. People can walk, bike, and roll safely through town to get to school, shops, and recreational areas. Lynnfield Center and Post Office Square are vibrant retail centers with ~~local~~ **small** businesses that cater to residents' needs and help create a sense of community. New housing provides opportunities for seniors to downsize and young ~~families-people~~ to buy a **starter** home. ~~Affordable housing is expanded to allow Lynnfield workers to be closer to their jobs.~~ The Town acts fiscally responsible to maximize resources and manage individual tax burdens. Economic development opportunities are explored to better balance the local economy and tax base. Actions are taken to preserve existing natural resources and **address water supply challenges** ~~make the Town more resilient and adaptable to future impacts of climate change and other natural hazards.~~

# Goal Themes – No Change

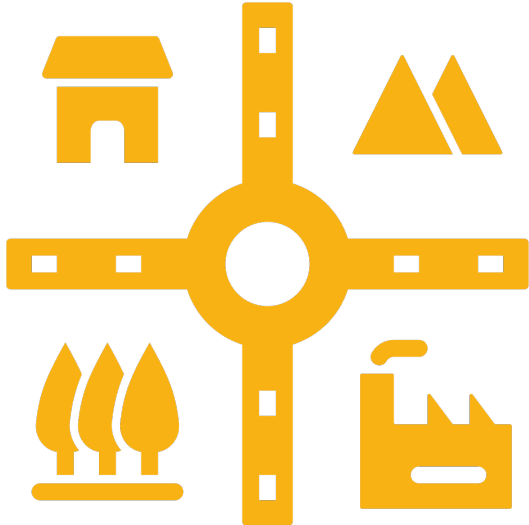
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**Connected  
Community**



**Transparent &  
Well-Run Town  
Government**



**Balanced  
Community Growth**

# Suggested Changes to Principles

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Before

After

Fiscal Responsibility



Fiscal Responsibility

Lifelong Community



Lifelong Community

Transparent Communication



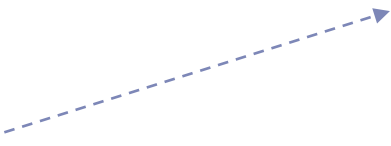
Civic Access & Discourse

Balanced Growth



Resource Management

Environmental Stewardship



Public Health & Safety

# Next Steps

# Making the Vision a Reality

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## Step 1: Finalize Plan

- MAPC will revise plan based on feedback from tonight's discussion
- Final plan will be shared on project webpage and Town website

## Step 2: Adopt Plan

- At an upcoming meeting, Planning Board formally votes to adopt plan
- Share the plan with other Town boards/committees and ask them to adopt too

## Step 3: Implement Plan

- Develop a new master plan
  - Build on public feedback gathered in this process
  - Dig into topics more and have deeper community conversations
  - Identify concrete actions to make progress over the next 10-20 years
- Improve town communication and transparency
  - Work with planning staff to identify ways to share information about plan
  - Work with Town Administrator and Select Board to hold community conversations about community concerns (i.e., rail trail, sidewalk improvements, property taxes)



# Project Webpage

[mapc.ma/LynnfieldVision](http://mapc.ma/LynnfieldVision)

- Recaps of past meetings
- Survey results and other project materials



Taylor Vickers & Company bell | Photo Credit: Sarah Scott, MAPC

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## LYNNFIELD 2040: SHAPING OUR FUTURE TODAY

MAPC >> RESOURCES >> ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT >> LYNNFIELD 2040: SHAPING OUR FUTURE TODAY

### Lynnfield 2040: Shaping Our Future Today



**LYNNFIELD 2040**  
Shaping our Future Today

#### Get Involved

Join our email list to stay updated on this project, and to receive invites to upcoming events!

> Sign Up Here

#### About

Lynnfield 2040: Shaping Our Future Today is a community visioning initiative where residents, business owners, and other stakeholders unite with Town officials and MAPC to imagine the future of Lynnfield. The process is being led by the Town's Planning Board. A variety of engagement opportunities will be held to hear how Lynnfield residents and others want Lynnfield to look, feel, and operate over the next few decades. The visioning process will cover a range of topics, from transportation and public infrastructure to economic development and housing. Opportunities and challenges will be articulated through the process to inform future planning efforts.

The ideas and feedback received through the project will result in a vision statement and guiding values to influence future decision-making around municipal investments and programming by Lynnfield boards and committees. The Vision plan will be a user-friendly resource that community members and Town officials (staff, volunteers, and elected officials) can frequently reference.

#### Why now?

The Town of Lynnfield last conducted a comprehensive plan in 2002. A lot has changed in 20 years! Both older and newer residents should have an opportunity to revisit and update what they want for the future of Lynnfield, so their input can inform municipal goals and priorities.

Questions?

# Thank you!

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