



LYNNFIELD

2040 Shaping our Future Today

Draft Vision Plan Feedback Survey

Final Results – March 2024

Have you reviewed the draft vision plan available at mapc.ma/LynnfieldDraftVision?

#	Answer	Percentage
1	Yes	100%
2	No	0%
	Total	79

Overall, does the draft vision statement represent how you feel about Lynnfield?

#	Answer	Percentage
1	Yes, absolutely	19%
2	Yes, mostly	26%
3	Somewhat	26%
4	No, not really	25%
5	No, I disagree with everything	4%
	Total	77

What doesn't ring true for you? What would you like to be changed?

The town should not have to provide opportunities for me to meet my neighbors or network with other residents. Do we really need bike paths for that purpose? Our schools and town departments have put too much focus on DEI initiatives. Let's hire the best people based on qualifications and let the parents of Lynnfield teach DEI and other sensitive subjects at home. We need to rake in spending on unnecessary projects like the library and other pet projects of some town officials. How about we take care of sidewalks and roads before we add bike paths and other infrastructure. Let's focus on fixing what we have. Every penny we have received from MarketStreet has been spent and then some. Can we get control of our expenses and taxes? I am not an accountant but revenue-expenses equal a balanced budget. As a town we need to get back to basics in regards to providing basic services like safe water for the town and an education system which we can be proud of. It does not mean throwing more money at these problems. We should be able to manage them with the right people in place. We stretch ourselves to thin.

Not having a reliable clean water source in plentiful supply is a public health issue and a basic expectation of any local government. This summary makes it sound like we are just looking to treat our environment better.

Transparency and more. Lovely description but does not describe present-day Lynnfield. Is our goal to fit this description?

"Lynnfield is a quiet, suburban community with outstanding schools, friendly neighbors, and a transparent, modern government." I see this as a great vision! But nothing in your future plans allows a quiet, suburban community. "People can walk, bike, and roll safely through town to get to school, shops, and recreational areas." Will this include being able to drive a car to these areas? Is that what "Roll" refers to? Or are we going full "15 minute City" in 2040? "Affordable housing is expanded to allow Lynnfield workers to be closer to their jobs" Is this a "15 minute city" thing too? Someone can live in a neighboring community and still be close to their Lynnfield job. We are VERY centrally located! I think it's been stated many times over the last 20 years that there's not much more room for new housing here. "Economic development opportunities are explored to better balance the local economy and tax base" Anyone who's been here long enough knows that we were told Market Street was going to lower our taxes. That didn't seem to work out. Now we have more traffic on our roads, more calls for service to that area for Police, Fire, and EMS as well as an influx of school children from the apartments thus requiring costly emergency school expansions and updated infrastructure. "Lynnfield recognizes that growth is necessary to maintain quality public services and amenities and community vibrancy" Why is growth necessary to maintain quality public services? Seems like the recent unprecedented population growth did nothing but put a strain on ALL of our public resources. Water, Schools, Police, Fire, and roads. "but this growth should be balanced by strong land use, transportation, housing, and economic development policies that maintain Lynnfield's small-town feel, natural resources, and quality of life." I feel like this is contrary to what you're planning. "Prioritize talking with community members who have less influence in local government, including younger residents, renters, people of color, people with lower incomes, people who are new to Lynnfield, and people who work in Lynnfield but do not live in town." Why should people who don't pay taxes in Town have any say in what happens here? And why in the world would you want to prioritize them over tax paying Lynnfield residents? I'd like to think you'd want to prioritize ALL residents no matter what demographic they are. The only ones you left out are the long time Lynnfield residents. Is this because you'd like to fundamentally change the town? "Over 800 people participated in the town wide survey." There are over 13 thousand residents in this town. There was a poor effort to engage all the residents. Also anyone could take this survey and several times! So this may not even truly represent Lynnfield. The data could easily be manipulated for a desired outcome. "Planning Board engaged Lynnfield High School students to hear from younger residents – a group who was less represented in the town wide survey and other engagement activities." While it's certainly nice to engage younger residents, hear their opinions, and teach them about civic involvement, much less weight should be put on their responses as they are not footing the real estate tax bills. It seems like there was more effort to engage children than their parents that pay the bills. "40% of survey respondents expressed fear of housing instability due to high housing costs, including property taxes. Seniors noted that there are limited options for downsizing and longtime residents said that their children cannot afford to stay in Lynnfield. Two-thirds of survey respondents who moved to Lynnfield in the past three years had a difficult time finding housing, and this is likely to continue as housing supply is limited." This is a State Wide issue. So it's disingenuous to pretend that it is a Lynnfield problem. Housing costs are high everywhere in Massachusetts right now. That will happen when Hedge Funds are allowed to invest in local housing with their large cash wallets making it harder for regular buyer to compete and inflating home prices. Also Massachusetts being a sanctuary state and importing seemingly endless numbers of migrants who all need housing, will significantly take up the housing supply for tax paying citizens. "Additionally, while Lynnfield has nearly 6,000 jobs, many of these do not pay wages that match local housing costs. 40% of these jobs are in retail, accommodation, and food services. This jobs-housing mismatch results in very few people who are able to afford to live and work in Lynnfield – only 5% of Lynnfield residents do. It is notable that 19% of survey respondents noted that they want better access to job opportunities that meet their needs in Lynnfield." For an agenda that continually likes to focus on diversity, Mass doesn't seem to want diversity in it's communities. It seems to me that the goal is to have every community eventually be the same. Some people like city living, being in a loud densely populated area, walking everywhere and having a slew of restaurant choices outside their door. Some people enjoy the peace and quiet of suburban living with less traffic and space between neighbors. Both choices are okay. It's good to have diversity and choice. Why are we seeking to take that choice away by cramming more people into an already close to full town? The 2002 Master Plan referenced that there was not much buildable land left back then. Historically people make sacrifices to be able to live someplace nicer and/or enjoy finer things in life. It teaches responsibility and good work ethic. As a resident who's lived here for decades I still have to make sacrifices to be able to afford to live in this community. Sometimes it sucks to not be able to go on vacation like others or buy expensive cars, clothes and accessories. My kids have to go without a lot of things other kids in this town have. But that's a choice I make, so that I can live in a small, quiet, safe, family oriented community. "When asked how welcoming and inviting respondents feel Lynnfield is to residents of different groups, 39% of respondents said Lynnfield is not very welcoming to people with lower incomes. 27% of respondents do not think Lynnfield is welcoming to those whose primary language is not English. 25% of respondents said Lynnfield is not very welcoming to people of

color. The survey responses highlight that community conversations about actions towards advancing racial and social equity and expanding inclusivity are necessary." This survey question was misleading to produce a desired outcome. The question could have been interpreted by respondents several different ways. But the obvious predetermined outcome the surveyors wanted, was to paint Lynnfield as an unwelcoming, racist, community. "For example, Lynnfield can become more racial and socioeconomically diverse through expanding access to more affordable forms of housing (rental homes, accessory dwelling units without an occupancy requirement, and smaller housing types like townhomes or duplexes); however, many comments received in the survey are opposed to these ideas." People are opposed to these ideas because allowing accessory dwelling units, single family home conversions to duplexes, and more apartments would quickly double the town's population. Which would certainly increase traffic and take away from the quiet, peaceful, small town that Lynnfield is. Or was. With a significant increase in population, we will again be dealing with all the same issues and tax increases that we just dealt with the past few years. Limited water supply. More emergency expansions on schools. All 4 of them. More calls for service for Police, Fire, and EMS. More wear and tear on roads that we already can't get fixed!

I don't see vibrant businesses in either Lynnfield Center or Post Office Square.

The Town acts in a fiscally responsible way to maximize resources and manage individual tax burdens This statement is FALSE!! The town of Lynnfield does nothing to decrease the tax burden for citizens especially middle or lower income families and seniors Those elcted to the select board and other town offices do not "work" for or represent these citizens.

Safely cycle is not true, most roads are narrow, none have dedicated lane for cyclists, many roads have potholes or other major damage, and poorly maintained. Although many towns have strategy for cyclist, Lynnfield feels like a car community.

Our town government is not transparent there are a lot of issues within the town government The schools have many issues most recent the school committee and the situation with the ex superintendent Vogel what exactly is going on with that situation has not be told to the public and has not been fully explained to the public The schools do not treat all students fairly and equally only students who are honor students or star athletics get attention Teachers treat some students unfairly and other teachers bring their children to class when they are home sick from school not right needs to be addressed

It's a wish list and not realistic. The Town does not have the money, means or space to make this all happen. Housing -where? Actually take down a million dollar house and replace with 3 small affordable ones>never happening. Then keep our rural look with land this valuable>never happening. You're trying to make everyone happy>never happening.

Not enough senior housing. Center stores are not vibrant.

I think it's an excellent vision but it doesn't currently represent the town. We are lacking safe sidewalks all over town - main streets have them only on one side. All of the main roads should have sidewalks on both sides to allow children and residents to navigate safely around town.

This is what is COULD be with new leadership and a more engaged community, but it is not this now

I don't think it is easy to walk or bike anywhere in Lynnfield. I also would not consider Post Office Square to be a vibrant town center area. Though I frequent the businesses there and appreciate what is offered, it is not a "go to" destination or vibrant in my opinion. Additionally, I am not sure either create a sense of community.

Hockey ring instead of a rail trail. All kids in Lynnfield play hockey or video games.

I would like to see Market Place utilized as to what was promised. It was suppose to lower taxes. All your projects higher our taxes. Property taxes are higher than the cost of living increases. That's insane for those Seniors on a fixed income.

I am a lifelong resident (85 years) of Lynnfield and growing up there was very little directed to the young people. Suntaug park (now Newhall Park) was a gathering place to play tennis and softball. Pillings Pond was another for swimming, boating, fishing, skating in the winter and great hockey games. Yet the pond (100 acres of environmental beauty) is constantly ignored by all committees in town including recreation. The pond is in trouble right now and unless something is done it will deteriorate to the point it will drag the value of some very high end homes in this town. I know because I lived through that type of deterioration in the 70's. The smell travels for miles. The bugs make life miserable. I just want this town to take a close look and do something. This pond has so much to offer the community and no one seems to care.

nothing is mentioned about mall or a few big biz and it's influence on our town govt.

Preservation of community - homes and avoid massive homes that take away from town appeal. It looks odd to see massive homes next to 1950s homes.

Lynnfield's government is not at all transparent. I have lived here for over 40 years and have seen little improvement in the Selectboard reaching out to all community members.

Robust Town Village Center Not MALL NOT pop up but independently owned sm biz with character - walk to full capacity public free library and central flat rail trail thru town so kids can bike and walk with town golf course not developed but open space preserved to enjoy all four seasons and use on occasion for town nonprofit fair. Get the brands and out of town run clubs back in check, let residents use their town and make them first provide programs and decent facility for all ages abilities. Restore Adult Ed in our town so all ages use the schools again. Upgrade centralize the senior center so they communicate on social media and share hours or move them out of the south school so that can be the community center & prek. Prek and kindergarden should be in one school and higher elem in other not split.

Its all about recreation, walking, biking, and shops. We should lead with the expansion of the Town administration and how we are going to get there.

Lynnfield Center is too small for a mixed use development Affordable housing is currently above 10% so not sure how far we need to increase Plus septic and water limits expansion of housing units Believe there are adequate existing facilities if properly identified We should not

institute inclusionary zoning policies as existing policies currently protect our community Investigating town water resiliencies should take into account a moratorium on cluster developments as we already have water bans in place

things

Nothing about what our vision is for the future

More participation in town government from those who take the time to step up and volunteer for positions. Get away from "good old boys" syndrome.

Lynnfield has become much less economically diverse over the last 30 years.

I am a 35-year-old mother of three and was born and raised in Lynnfield. I recently returned. When I grew up here, I thought of Lynnfield as mayberry. However, Having lived in other areas of the country which afforded me the opportunity to see the world through the eyes of those who are not like us (86% white, single family homeowners with an average HHI of nearly 200k), I now see Lynnfield as borderline xenophobic. In 2020 the town passed a resolution that it was "for all" - but passed on resolution taking a pledge of action to make all feel welcome. This is deeply disappointing. I see no attempt to have listening sessions with groups that are marginalized, diverse, underrepresented, or otherwise not old, white men. (ie representative of town leadership.) With all that's going on in today's society, it's imperative that we do more and make action. What are we teaching our children? Lynnfield remains an attractive place to live due to its proximity to Boston and northern New England, but it lacks community gathering spaces. Without these, we cannot have thriving community connections or opportunities for non-profits to emerge with creative ways to engage our communities. The condition of the sidewalks, as a mother with young kids, is poor especially considering the tax rate and cost of living in this town. I'm also disappointed to see so many residents reported they want gathering spaces, yet so many disapproved the Library.

Many parts of the description are not true today; however my understanding is that this is the vision for the future. I agree with this as a vision for the future, but the question posed was is this how I feel about Lynnfield now, and the answer is no.

I would very much like to see Lynnfield as a place where older folks can downsize and younger folks can buy a starter to remain in the community they were brought up in home but I don't see a path forward for that.

Less focus on multi-unit housing (duplexes/triplexes) and public transportation.

We invite your thoughts on the draft Vision plan. What would you like to see changed, improved, or clarified?

see above

See above. Elevate the issue of not having a plentiful water supply free of PFAS. I'm tired of having to buy bottled water for my family. Also the quality of the schools is mainly due to the low student teacher ratio. Lose that and we become just another MA town in terms of schools.

Want transparency, a larger Select Board, leaders who care about and act in best interest of residents opposed to self interests and the agenda of a few, stop courting commercialism, stop further development.

Let's take the foot off the gas for the rapid expansion of Lynnfield. Put the breaks on and finish the multiple costly projects that we already have in the works. Fix the roads and sidewalks people have been begging for, get the schools back on track after a costly Superintendent debacle, and then come back with your Lynnfield Vision for the Future. Residents need a breather, not only financially but from having to constantly stay on top of the multiple current issues in town. If you want to know what's going on and what your tax dollars are being spent on you have to attend 3 or more evening meetings a week. After working all day it leaves no time to actually spend with family. Town Government should be looking to preserve what's left of the town not changing by laws so all the developers can swoop in and do what they want in a few more years. Lynnfield's Vision 2040 should be finishing what it has already started and fixing what's been left behind.

"Lynnfield could fund a master plan update with local funds, but the Town can also pursue regional and state planning grants that help communities undertake long-range planning efforts. MAPC recommends applying for a Community One-Stop for Growth Planning Grant to help fund a master plan update. The Town could also apply for a MAPC Technical Assistance grant to help fund the update." Please use local funds. The Grants have too many strings attached to them that get us into trouble down the road.

There are few locations for students to go after school. Unfortunately, they appear to go to Market Street. There is a Senior Center, but no Recreation Center or Library for younger students.

For the town elected officials and employees to actually think about "all" citizens who live in the town not just select groups of individuals

More specifics on what transparency and fiscal responsibility look like.

Better visibility on how the population is aging and the impact, both revenue for the town, as well as needed services.

Sidewalks are fine in town Need to repair the roads that haven't been paved in years all my children are in their 20's and rose their bike on sidewalks no issues And you only published what town wanted to here why not all comments from the last survey

Narrow the scope to goals that can be attained in a specific timeframe.

Additional affordable housing- the wait time is extraordinary. More stores at the back of Lynnfield Center that would help to create a community feel. Fix up old library instead of creating new. Refurbish the senior center or utilize the space at night for activities. I attended school there as a Lynnfield resident and not much has been to make it a vibrant place.

Maybe it should say "Lynnfield strives to..."

There is no mention of the library and how it could serve as a community gathering space and resource center.

I would like to see more areas/spaces and opportunities for "community" to get together, more meeting spaces, more recreational spaces (rec center? small gym?), more library meeting rooms. If these exist, I'd like to see them advertised better. Where can families with young and middle-aged children meet in winter, without having to shop at Market Street? Where can teenagers hang out or be active in the community?

Recreational center is a very good idea.

More focus recreational space

Plan needs to account for the unsustainable costs associated with adding affordable/low income housing

No new property taxes. Please clarify wasn't market place suppose to lower our taxes?

I would like to see Market place get a dinner theater more commercial restaurants on route 1. What's with the Christmas Market space? Good Luck Farms where is that restaurant replacement or Logan express drop off.

Lower taxes for medium income seniors.

When will we see concrete action from this plan? People already can't afford to stay in town

More initiatives on housing options, just how crucial it is for people who love this town to stay in town!

adequate and fair range of representation be at town level, including elected officials, appointed and restore the role of liaison so silos don't function separately - a very inefficient set up of town services is currently undermining the town.

Preservation

I think it's great and that it carefully balances respect for the past with openness to the future.

Both Lynnfield Center and Post Office Square are not places where the community congregates. At present, there is little to no space where members of the community can meet. I believe a new library would offer space for every age group and would allow for more community and cultural engagement.

Rec and Culture in budget are not 50 50. Town village side needs an Arts District designated on Summer St to Walnut so Community

Preservation Act when we finally do it can kick in and other arts grants can provide pavillion, cider mill house or open air way of using open space. Giant Buildings are not the answer our town is too small to proliferate municipal buildings and sell out even more to retail. We need to RECONFIGURE to use better the space we already have, and PRESERVE THE OPEN SPACE and trails all oer town with better nonprofit planning and not resort to retail quick fix or developer change of use behind closed doors. We need REAL plan for the complex being planned on golf courses, and TERM LIMITS to town officials, town candidates need debate stage every March, not suppressed dialogue that only ends up making conflict blow up in hearings or town meeting. Bring back the Town Annual Report April tradition a simple snapshot and residents get time to read at their level so they can participate like they used to at town meeting rather than be run over by legalese and procedural trickery. Help people who pay their taxes in this town feel like they all belong. Bring the LET grant showcase back to public review at LMS media center not just take the \$ and run. Educated realtors would make a big difference to the caliber of all town plans. Vanity and property focus constantly is not helping the inside of buildings meant for people to use to have full range of programs and be used properly. Lock and fee is not affordable nor is it desirable to exclude town people for town property. Educated show curate and share sell raise money about the TOWN content and character not about sympathy causes. Town fire muster and traditions like geraniumfest lost to retail. Town and Mall side need balance planning, some streets are going to have to be widended or connected and town has to be realistic about this or end up gridlock. You can't develop on top of cowpath and few main narrow streets. Alternatives key. Finish the rail trail it's funded and stalled, and many more trails need to be up and groomed and many more ways to get to work without running over people on main st. or summer. or essex or salem. Where is the trolley tour? That taught 500 people a shift the fun parts of town and generated a lot of pride. It could be a shuttle from 9-3 also in the triangle of LMS, LHS, Post Office Sq, and Town Center. Open Air dance floor, open air farmer's market, school access to farm in town, apple orchard and apple press ed center - do some real goals match our town. We had 300 barns in this town 100 years ago, we had hundreds of crafters Ten Footer barns /sheds shoe maker areas for winter handworks, but no trace of it at the history center no knowledge of that by kids going to school here. no cider here. Should be some pride in our product in our specific town character, horse statue? We used to have many horses here on the tracks and in the woods on Chestnut. The rural aspect of the town seems to disappear with the 3 car garage mcmansions, why are we letting land flip to such huge homes when they aren't sustainable? Why aren't we providing incentives for starter cape size home lots?

Public health and safety were listed as important by 79% of respondents but nothing addresses these areas in the report. The entire report is centric to recreation.

All of the above. Slower growth. Lynnfield is such a small town it can not handle large growth, ie: housing developments, apartments, shopping centers, condominiums

most

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

Future plans

Specific reference to value and preservation of open spaces

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. Not even an open statement such as a community that promotes optimal health and well-being so that all residents may thrive. Totally missing??

Build up or reappropriate vacant space in the town center so there are more facilities where residents can congregate, coffee shop, etc. Example, when my family first moved to Lynnfield, the town center had a small gas station, grocery store (Worthens), community pharmacy with gift items, bakery, even a dental practice, etc. Not everyone wants or is able to trek to Market Street which attracts a different population accustomed to driving to the local malls.

The content of a book will not always be what the cover provides.

The plan seems to force the rail bike trail initiative to the forefront, when if fact nearly half the town voted against it, and more would have attended to vote against it, if they ever imagined it was going to pass.

The importance of having the community consist of all ages - children, young professionals, midlife families, and seniors.

This vision plan took a lot of work. Thanks to all who contributed.

We need more housing options for seniors to downsize and stay in town

It doesn't bother me if people don't work where they live or live where they work. It's fine to live in Saugus and work in Lynnfield. Likewise, Lynnfield is a suburb of Boston. It would not be reasonable to think that the high paying jobs will be available in Lynnfield means that the big law firms and biotech companies, for example, would have to out to here. We'd lose our small community feel which we so cherish. I just don't see that as possible.

The Vision Plan lays out a beautiful plan for the town. I do wish to see some more concrete steps. For example, when we say 'outdoor or recreation' do we mean playgrounds? (which are lacking in terms of there are so few that are walking-distance to majority of residents) or could we have more stated goals? The plan should call on the town to diversify its leadership across all boards. There should be a stated commitment to diversify by age, race, or underrepresented community. The words of the 2020 announcement are vapid and hollow. Finally, the town must stop these developers from knocking down starter homes for 3 million dollar mansions. Older homeowners should have a housing stock to downsize and homebuyers should have options that are under \$1m. I welcome diversity of culture and lived experience.

We need more housing, that's most important. All types of housing,

I like what is included; I would additionally like to see mention of community resources like senior center and a hopefully new library/meeting center.

I would not note our town centers as vibrant in any way - I think a lot of the community centers can be moderized without fully replacing them

and getting closer to a community center space kids can spend time.

We should pass a town ordinance that says all select board meetings and commission meetings must have an hour of public comment set aside. It should not be up to the commission chair whether or not to allow discussion. If people choose not to show up and take advantage of this then it is on them, but currently it is on the town government that people don't feel listened to.

I read the the draft in its entirety. It was clear that there is a push to fill some agenda by the committee. According to survey results residents seem over all happy and our main concern is keeping our small town feel and esthetic and maintaining open space and parks. However goals from the committee seemed to go again this completely. Residents want to see the bike path built not multi family housing. When a question is posed "wold you like to see a more vibrant down town?" who is going to say no? The question is misleading. Residents are envisioning maybe the addition of a small non chain restaurant or quaint coffee shop not the addition of a major company or some kind of business that would fill the goal stated in the plan- "well paying jobs that align with the current housing market". This is not realistic and not in keeping with a small town feel. Residents are concerned with our schools and natural resources. The additional more housing and multi family housing as stated in the plan only adds more stress to these areas of concern and again goes completely against maintaing our small town feeling. Yes, the housing market in town is challenging for first time buyers but this is not unique to Lynnfield. We are one of the nicer more desirable communities in our area and that brings with it higher property values which we benefit from. Our homes are typically our largest investment. The committee seemed to be pushing some need for residents to be able to work in town and walk to work. We are a commuter town not a city and need for this was not seen as a priority according to your data yet the committee seems to want to make it a priority. The percent of people who live/work in Lynnfield is skewed due to market street where the jobs are mostly part time retail and service oriented. What I would like to see changed, improved and clarified is exactly what the agenda is of the committee because it seems survey questions are vague and structured in a way where we are to "agree' or "disagree" without drilling down further to learn if these are priorities, wants or concerns of the survey takers. I may agree Lynnfield doesn't offer opportunities to walk to work or that there are not a lot of housing options for first time buyer but that isn't something that matters to me. I feel the questions are purposely structured to be misleading so the committee can collect data to back their agenda and goal.

To see more Sr housing

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.

Click the principles that most resonate with you and should drive decision-making in Lynnfield. (Select all that apply.)

#	Answer	Percentage
1	Fiscal Responsibility	74%
2	Transparent Communication	62%
3	Lifelong Community	52%
4	Environmental Stewardship	41%
5	Balanced Growth	35%
	Total	66

Are there any principles that you would add?

Principle Alternative 1	Principle Alternative 2	Principle Alternative 3
Community gathering	Places for life long learning.	Diverse Leadership
Truthfulness	Fairness to all citizens	Less nepotism with town goverment
Easy and safe commute for walk, cycle, and cars		
Honesty from town officials	Better treatment if all students	Less nepotism in town goverment
Sustainability	Welcoming	
Accessibility		
Community welfare and safety		
Sustainable Growth	Preserve Town Character	Commercial Growth on RT 1
Look out for Seniors. People who have lived here for over 50 years.		
Size limits on new buildings		
Housing flexibility		
Preservation		
Expand the Selectboard	The Library has been neglected for decades.	The bike trail is taking far too long.
Specific Character Theme for Town Main Streets	Respect for Women	Ample Meeting Space for all (not just church at high fee)
Historic Preservation	Preservation of parks, trees & waters	Responsible taxation
Accountability	Transparency	Validation
Prioritize initiatives that benefit the town for the long term		
A safe & healthy place to live		
Respect for opposing positions		
Respect for all people of all ages, color, etc.		
Housing flexibility	Economic development/reduce taxes	Diversity
Commitment to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion across town boards and residents		
Community Gathering spots		
Retain the historic feel of Lynnfield without being too commercial.		
Community to evolve with the changing times	Increased family values	Enhanced education with the new changes of the real world
Better Schools	Better After School Programs	

Please add any final comments or questions you have here.

I despise what Lynnfield has become and town leaders have ignored truly relevant problems, hence it is assumed they have motives and plans in the works that they do not disclose. We want leaders who will protect our interests as previous town leaders had.

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.

More transparency with our town government So many issues are not fully disclosed to the tax paying citizens

What does balanced growth entail?

Think of all residents lower income working parents not just wealthy popular residents and what they want Seniors needs to be more respected most of this plan is for the young upper income families in town Seniors need more tax breaks

Include younger voices. It's their future.

I appreciate the hard work and dedication of all who are involved in keeping Lynnfield a beautiful community to live in.

The local newspapers are worth a greater investment of time and resources for the leadership to share news and updates, allow residents an opportunity to give input, feature local businesses and events, and broaden our perspectives beyond the basics. Not all residents use Facebook as a resource to get town information, and often current links to vital town department news and updates are difficult to locate on the official website. Especially critical when town offices are in flux vis a vis locations, hours, staff contacts, etc.

Many of the decision makers and voices heard at town meetings tend to focus on taxes, golf, and the elderly, without much consideration of children, parents, and young adults in Lynnfield. For example - let's find a way to provide space for children to play in a nearby room during a town meeting, rather than force parents to pay for a babysitter so that they can attend and participate. Or more ideally, find a way to host and advertise virtual meetings. Lastly, I appreciate having the opportunity with this survey to share input.

No.

6% of the population should not be dictating the future of the Town for everyone

Lynnfield needs a hockey rink. It is a hockey town.

Property Taxes are growing higher than the cost of living. That's ridiculous! Market place promised lower taxes. Focus on Rt. 1 bring in the diner theater to market place, the restaurant to replace Godwin's, and a bus to and from Logan for our kids to get to the blue line. The rail trail is a waste our taxes will rise on its up keep. Our kids play video games and sports our parks have that covered. A community center is nice but only our Seniors socialize. Get them a nice restaurant.

Make it possible for long time residents to continue to live in Lynnfield

We need to attract from business and commercial use to make this a stronger town and limit property tax increases

Years ago snapshot was in graphic in Town Annual Report, and photo of dept. members and brief summary of goal of Town Dept. was included for all depts. Now no one can read the Town Annual Report - no executive summary either. This drives transparency into the mist, and so many just backing out of annual budget rather than really doing what they need, showing comps of like town depts, showing actual use of people showing up to programs (not just ones offered) so the stats and financials are skewed toward the budget rather than the actual. We need to bring back a Patti Moore do to the Annual Report and draw residents in to see it weeks before the town election and annual town meeting. Not doing our homework is not helping anyone, that is obviously adding up to too much on plate. And corner cutting that goes with that is getting to be a habit.

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.

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?

A few town clubs run our town Healthy Lynnfield, M for Michael, Rotary & moms group it's ridiculous. Anything out of that too bad, gotta drive out of town. There are a few church things here and there, but most people are not going to church anymore and new town residents and old feel disconnected more than ever by the lack of planning here. Most people know the schools are not the 'deal' they used to be, or get disappointed by false promises of realtors that 'mall pays for schools' not so! Lynnfield has to get more welcome spaces, and it's town center focal points matching the caliber of its history. That begins with curating with better realtors better developers a real board of trade and stop leaning on Simon Mall and digital marketeers for the quick fix plan. How can we get away from big box and restore the smaller shops? Other towns do it! Find the models and follow them! New Library would help solve a lot of problems if you could only keep it free and for the public, possibly train business courses there or something. Rec Complex is going to harm the town as it is over the top only for school age and high fee high maintenance and staffing it will be the most politically challenging thing anyone has ever tried here. Just use a ymca or boys n girls club a real nonprofit with the wherewithall to do it right. Constant dreams of this or that sports thing - didn't we learn with LHS stadium and fake turf? Pond is dead, turf is costly to maintain, and replace, trees dying, kids have crud in shoes. Also, It's hard to maintain rural along 128 border with city metro pressure - we need to network with all the other similar towns going thru same thing and create a green wall where when you enter out of the metro zone you are in rural woodland zone and not a place to develop unless actual mass transport subway or tram comes to 128 - it's just cars higher and higher volume now so until infrastructure is in place for capacity- go west and fast growth central mass not the essex county central area which has no highway no transport that isn't overcrowded now anyway. We are not planning to CAPACITY. But there are trains running to places that do need the housing - that works best. There should be a little town network that protects the

character of little towns.

I am really disappointed in the progress of the rail trail. I read the article in March of 2010 stating the trail for both Wakefield and Lynnfield was approved. Since that time Wakefield has completed theirs many years ago. Also of note is Saugus and Peabody's trails have been in use for many years. In fact, Peabody is now in construction for a continuation of their trail. I'm sure they would have faced the same environmental concerns as Lynnfield. 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 be dedicated to get this completed.

We have lived in Lynnfield for over 45 yrs. & have seen a lot of changes; the biggest was Market St which had a tremendous impact on traffic, car accidents & constant calls for police due to shoplifting & disturbances. We would like this type of development minimized. Lynnfield in the past had a small town atmosphere which is disappearing. **Taxes are high but our side streets & sidewalks are in poor condition.** We would like to see more preservation & protection of historic landmarks, buildings & historical artifacts. The War Memorial shows what great things can be accomplished; bravo! **The Danforth House was left to decay w/ broken windows & could have been saved, possibly even now it can still be saved; the beautiful grounds can be a green walking park. **The push for a multi-million dollars "new" library has divided the town. We already have a lovely library which fits into the town's character & with well thought updates would be even better. Our understanding is the "new" library would NOT HOUSE MORE BOOKS but have more meeting rooms for local groups. If certain groups in town are wanting meeting spaces, the Senior Center which is closed in the afternoons & evenings, has plenty of lg. & small rooms & plenty of parking. Once the Library Annex in P.O. Sq is available that can also be utilized. We do not need to spend millions when town-owned rooms sit empty. **We applaud Selectment & Finance Com. to have the good sense to oppose "new" library. They realize we are already burdened with new taxes. Upgrading existing library & using other facilities for group meetings makes more sense. **Conservation & protection of Pillings Pond, Saugus River, woodlands, parks & Rail Trail (so painstakingly slow, about 19 yrs, so far, we will never be able to walk it) available for all residents is important. Pillings Pond is being abused by some including out-of-towners & more regulations like speed limits for motor boats are needed to save this beautiful asset. **The tree bylaw is a good start but it's not enough as clear-cutting of lots still happens. Residents should receive an incentive, such as a tax credit for an allotted number of trees on their properties. **Residents on fixed incomes are not taken into consideration every time an override is voted in. It seems elderly on fixed incomes, especially long-time residents who purchased their homes years ago, are being pushed out of their homes as they no longer can afford the exorbitant taxes & water bills. ALL seniors from a specified age should receive a discount on property taxes so that they are able to stay in their current homes. The discount currently offered to seniors within a certain level of income falls way below the standard of living needed to be able to live in Lynnfield.

What's to keep this plan from just sitting on a shelf somewhere like the 2002 plan did?

Our town's website could do so much more and people would volunteer to keep it up to date to post policies, procedures and plans. Our town department heads and their staff are horrible communicators and show no concern or empathy when residents bring issues and frustrations.

Good luck!

We can use housing to diversify our community and be more accepting of others

Hopefully the leadership in town makes decisions based on this framework and not their own personal bias

I moved to Lynnfield in 2024. People to move to Lynnfield knowing it is an upper-echelon suburb on Boston's North Shore. THAT is it's attraction to those in well-paying jobs. Making it a place with more renters and affordable housing moves us away from what is attractive about it to NEW residents.

We need the equivalent of the local Irish Pub in the center

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.

What is your age? (optional)

#	Answer	Percentage
1	0-19 years old	0%
2	20-34 years old	3%
3	35-49 years old	34%
4	50-64 years old	33%
5	65-79 years old	20%
6	80+ years old	3%
7	Prefer not to answer	7%
	Total	61

How do you identify your race and ethnicity? (optional)

#	Answer	Percentage
1	Black or African American	0%
2	Asian	2%
3	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0%
4	Native American or Alaska Native	0%
5	Hispanic	2%
6	White	67%
7	Some other race	2%
8	Prefer not to answer	30%
	Total	60

What is your gender? (optional)

#	Answer	Percentage
1	Male	33%
2	Female	50%
3	Non-binary	2%
4	Other	0%
5	Prefer not to answer	19%
	Total	58

Do you own or rent your house? (optional)

#	Answer	Percentage
1	Own	87%
2	Rent	2%
3	Prefer not to answer	12%
	Total	60

What is the average annual income of your household? (optional)

#	Answer	Percentage
1	Under \$50,000	5%
2	\$51,000-100,000	12%
3	\$101,000-\$150,000	7%
4	\$151,000-200,000	12%
5	\$200,000+	37%
6	Prefer not to answer	28%
	Total	60

Do you or any member of your household match the following descriptions? (optional)

#	Answer	Percentage
1	Child(ren) under 18	37%
2	Senior(s) age 65 or above	31%
3	Person(s) with a disability	4%
4	Person(s) who don't speak English very well	2%
5	Prefer not to answer	25%
	Total	51