TOWN OF HARVARD PLANNING BOARD AGENDA MONDAY, APRIL 22, 2024 @ 7:00PM VIRTUAL MEETING via Zoom

Pursuant to Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2023, An Act Making Appropriations for the Fiscal Year 2023 to Provide for Supplementing Certain Existing Appropriations and for Certain Other Activities and Projects, and signed into law on March 29, 2023, this meeting will be conducted via remote participation. Interested individuals can listen in and participate by phone and/or online by following the link and phone number below.

THVolGovt Pro is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting. Topic: Planning Board Time: Apr 22, 2024 07:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada) Join Zoom Meeting <u>https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88952556862?pwd=cDVESWhZeW15ZENHKyt4TVVxNmtuZz09</u>

Meeting ID: 889 5255 6862 Passcode: 573701 One tap mobile +13092053325,,88952556862# US +13126266799,,88952556862# US (Chicago) Dial by your location • +1 309 205 3325 US • +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago) • +1 646 931 3860 US Meeting ID: 889 5255 6862 Find your local number: https://us02web.zoom.us/u/ku7YfPSM3

Public Comment

Old Business:a) Proposed Town Center Overlay District and Town Center Action Planb) 2016 Master Plan progress reportc) Discussion of Ayer Road Vision Plan & Form Based Code – invite UTILE to May meeting

d) Comments for Draft Open Space & Recreation plan

New Business: Site Plan Review Without Special Permit for Lauderly G. Lima on behalf of Shaker Hills Country Club at 146 Shaker Road. §125-38 and 125-39. Request to allow for the existing smaller snack shack to be replaced with a larger and more accommodating snack shack/refreshment center. The old one will remain and serve as storage and support for the newer one.

Discussion of 75% Plans for the Ayer Road Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP)

Worcester County Registry of Deeds: Update signature cards

Public Hearings:

7:15pm Public Hearing requested by Atty. Pamela J. Brown for David Rossi of Bespoke Landscaping 288 Ayer Road, Harvard seeking approval of a Site Plan Review with a Special Permit or other relief as appropriate under M.G.L Chapter 40A, and the "Code of the Town of Harvard" as amended, the Protective Bylaw Chapters 125-23 B(1) (Medium Scale Commercial Uses) and §125-13T Landscaping business & §125-13Y Warehousing as well as §125-38 Site plan approval with Special permit - Permitted uses in C Districts.

The listing of matters are those reasonably anticipated by the Chair which may be discussed at the meeting. Not all items listed may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law, also.

Standard Business: a) Review Metrics update

- b) Board Member Reports
 - Representatives & Liaisons Update
 - Community Matters
- c) Master Planning for 2026
- d) Approve Minutes: April 1, 2024 & Special Mtg. Saturday, April 6, 2024
- e) Approve Invoices: UTILE invoice #10627 Phase II for \$11,780.00
 - UTILE invoice #10628 Phase III for \$920.00

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETINGS: MONDAY, MAY 6, 2024

AS/bny



Town of Harvard | Ayer Road Corridor Vision Plan

April 2024

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Ayer Road Vision Plan: Executive Summary

Planning for the future of the Ayer Road commercial district has been ongoing for several years, driven by the Harvard community's desire to establish it as an active commercial district, and diversify and increase tax benefits for the Town. This planning process has been unfolding in three phases, each aimed at addressing key questions about the corridor's future: what can be done, what must be done, and how to implement it.

Community Feedback

The 2016 Harvard Master Plan describes the strong and widespread interest of residents for a re-imagined and re-vitalized Ayer Road Corridor/ C District area. Stakeholder interviews and community workshops conducted during the Vision Plan engagement process further confirm the community's support for increased commercial and mixed-use development along the corridor. This includes multifamily housing to boost activity, as well as convenience retail such as grocery stores and destination retail like restaurants and family-friendly venues. Additionally, there has been clear emphasis on the need for improved public realm, including enhanced walking and biking access, and safer street crossings.

Vision Plan Purpose

The Ayer Road Vision Plan combines community feedback, extensive market analysis, and evaluations of development possibilities to outline a cohesive vision and development strategy for the commercial district's future. This process underscores the critical need for investment in public water and sewer infrastructure along the corridor to unlock its transformative development potential. Market feasibility assessments indicate that facilitating commercial development along the corridor would require some form of subsidy, likely through residential development. While infrastructure improvements will occur gradually, the Vision Plan serves to document the Harvard community's desired outlook for the Ayer Road corridor/C-district area and provides development guidelines to inform future zoning.

Ayer Road Development Framework

- Prioritize commercial and mixed-use development
- Encourage village-style clustered development
- Foster a continuous built primary frontage
- Improve pedestrian and bike connectivity
- Protect natural and agricultural uses



Introduction

- Planning Background and Goals
- Project Phases and Market Study Takeaways
- Corridor Opportunities and Constraints
- Community and Stakeholder Engagement

Planning Background and Goals

The Ayer Road Vision Plan is a **comprehensive development strategy**, shaped by market analysis, stakeholder input, and public engagement. It identifies the **preferred combination of commercial, residential, and mixed-use development** along the Ayer Road corridor, with a focus on enhancing community benefits. The Vision Plan defines the **suitable scale and character** of these developments and outlines **essential infrastructure improvements** required to bring the envisioned projects to fruition, while considering broader transportation and environmental impacts for the corridor.

The town initiated a three-phase strategy to foster growth in the Ayer Road C-district. The first phase, a comprehensive Market Study and Fiscal Impact Analysis was completed in January 2023. The subsequent phases involve the Vision Plan and the establishment of a form-based zoning code to regulate development on the corridor.

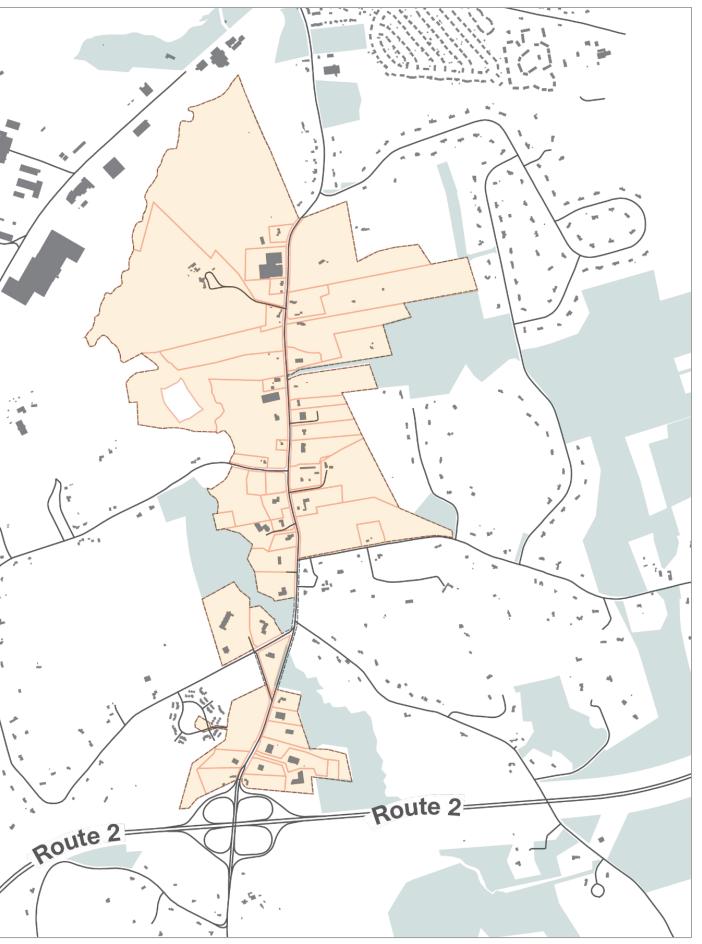
Other past and concurrent planning initiatives

• 2026 Aver Road TIP Project

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- 2023 Market Study and Fiscal Impact Analysis
- 2016 <u>C District Commercial Design Guidelines</u>

• 2016 Town of Harvard Master Plan



C-District study area

Project Phases

Phase 1: Market Study and Fiscal Impact Analysis

(Weitzman Associates, LLC)



Phase 2: Corridor Vision Plan



Identifies possible uses and scale of development the market can support and provides an estimate of fiscal impact/revenue corresponding to level of potential development on the corridor.

Completed January 2023

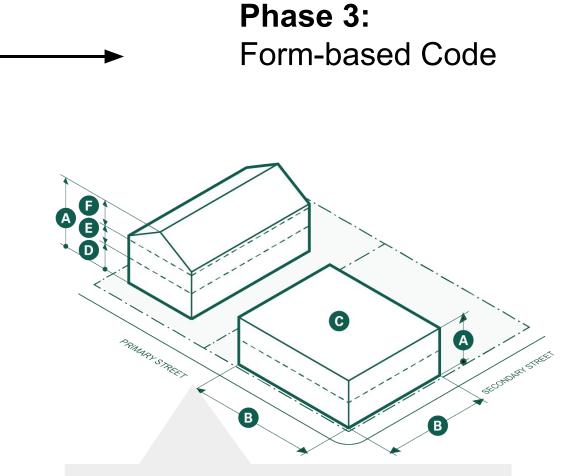
Delves deeper to explore market viability of community-preferred uses along different site-specific scenarios to understand what's feasible relative to commercial vs. residential mix, desired character and design, and assessing overall Town impacts.

Completed April 2024

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Ayer Road Corridor Vision Plan



Translates the community vision for preferred uses and scale of development into a set of form-based zoning tools that prescribe and foster predictable built results, high-quality public realm, and a streamlined process for development.

To be completed by June 2024

Phase 1: Market Study and Fiscal Impact Analysis Takeaways

Phase 1: Market Study and Fiscal Impact Analysis

(Weitzman Associates, LLC)



Identifies possible uses and scale of development the market can support and provides an estimate of fiscal impact/revenue corresponding to level of potential development on the corridor.

- C-District, as well as **deficient zoning**
- mixed-use commercial and residential projects.
- demand.
- New commercial development would need residential subsidy
- for the C-district area. Single family is in excess supply.

Completed, January 2023

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• Lack of access to **public water and sewer infrastructures** and their costly alternatives are the biggest impediment to commercial development in the

Recommends not maximizing the development of Harvard's retail potential, but encouraging incremental and clustered development as part of small-scale

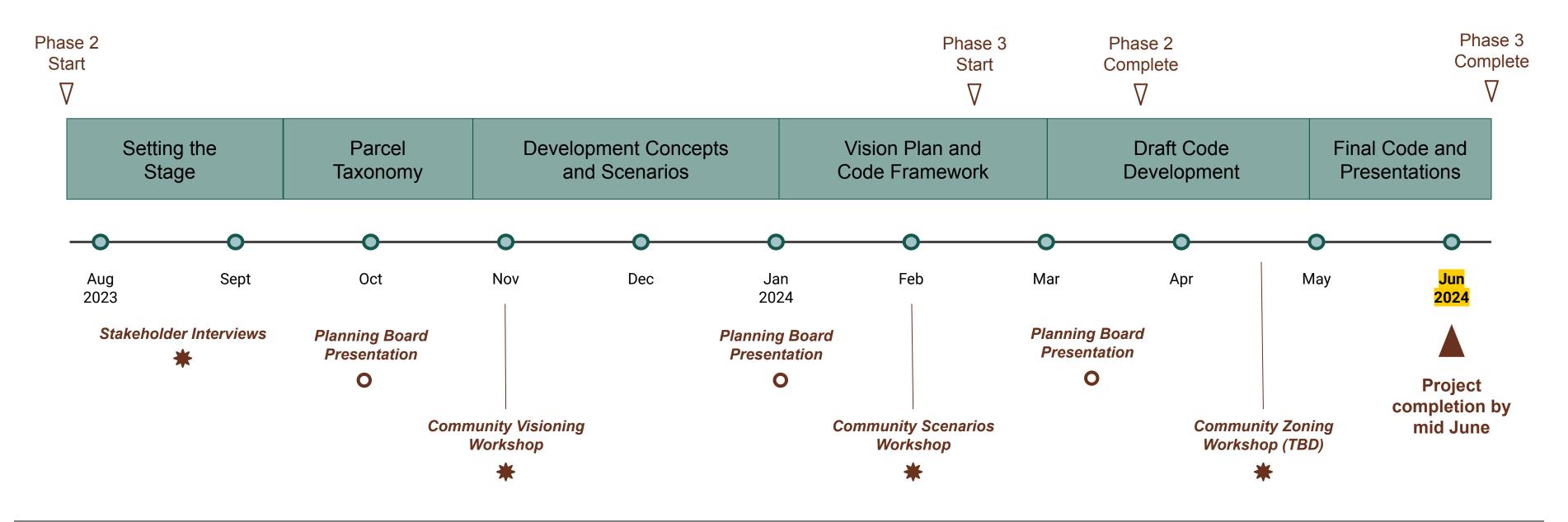
Potential for **community and neighborhood-oriented "necessity retail"**, as well as **visitor-oriented businesses** that would align with an inn. Office uses lack

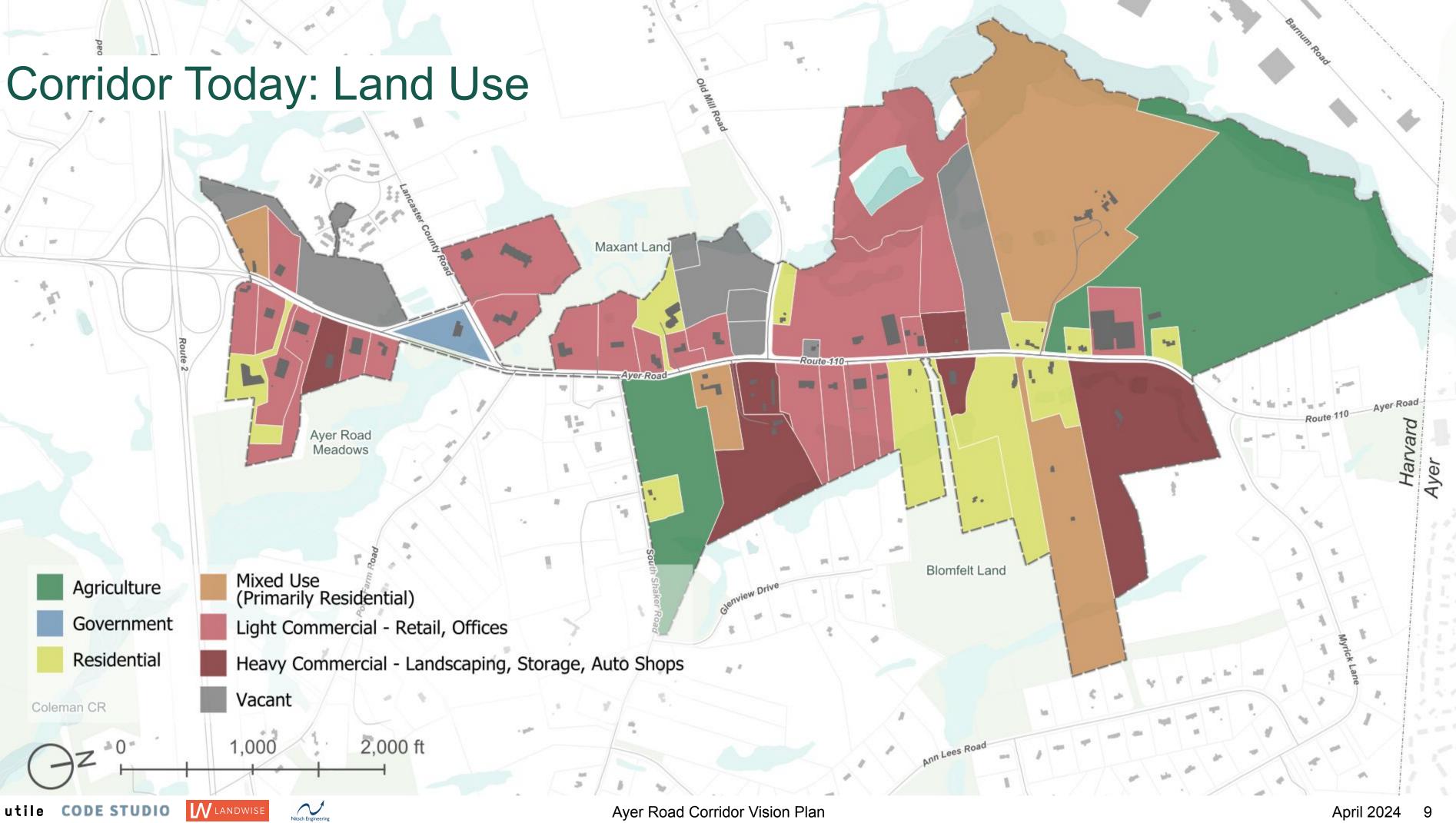
Condominiums and townhomes, and new rental construction are appropriate

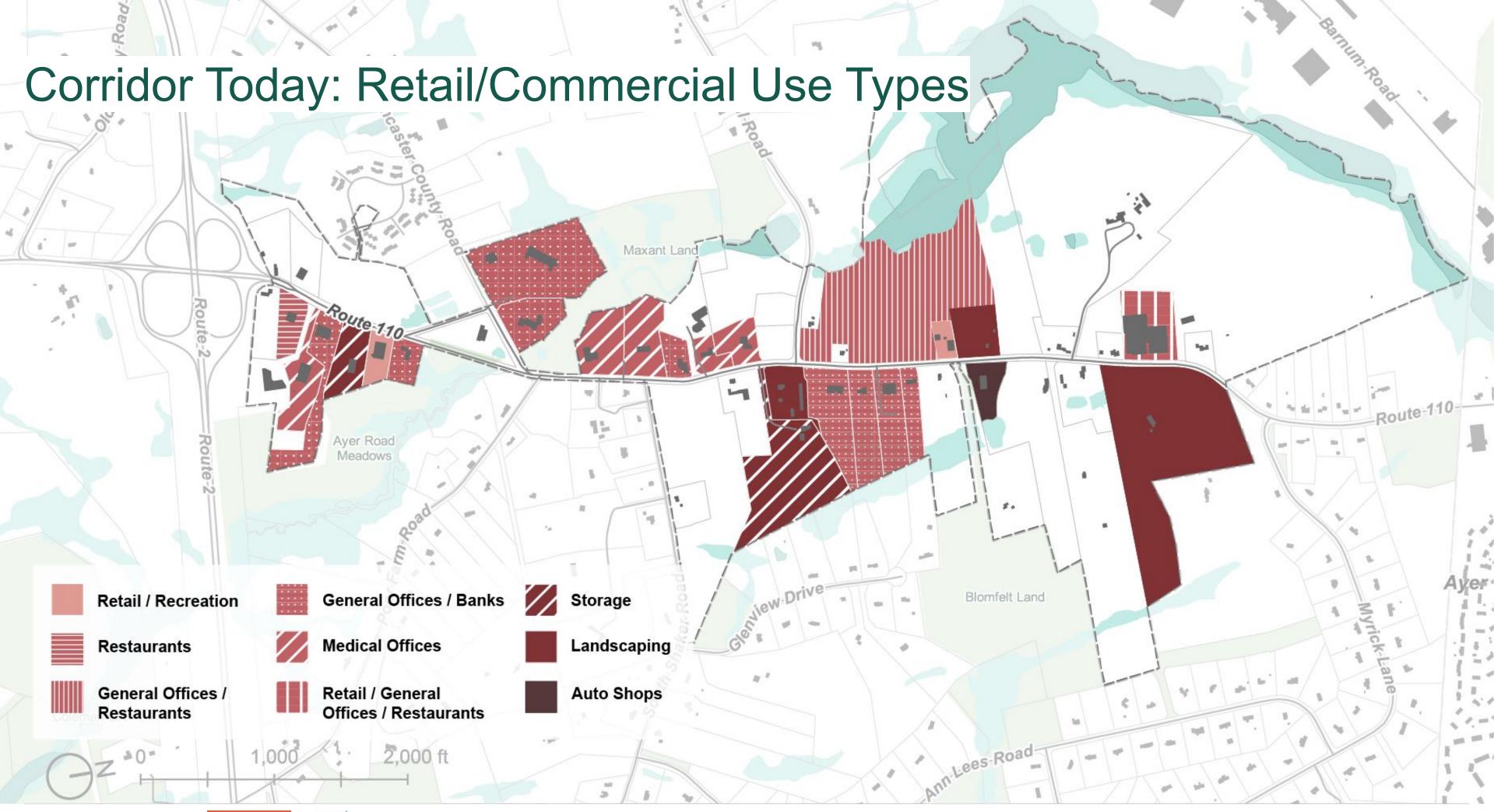
Projected annual direct tax benefits to the town could range from \$100K - \$930K

Phase 2: Vision Plan Process

Phase 2: Vision Plan, which commenced in August 2023, expanded upon the insights from Phase 1: Market Study and Fiscal Impact Analysis. Phase 2 involved multiple steps including a study of how the Ayer Road Corridor functions today, an assessment of developable parcels, and conceptual tests to envision future developments along the corridor. At key stages of the process, the planning team engaged in stakeholder interviews, community workshops, and presentations to the planning board, to share findings and gather input to shape the vision and development framework for the Ayer Road Corridor.



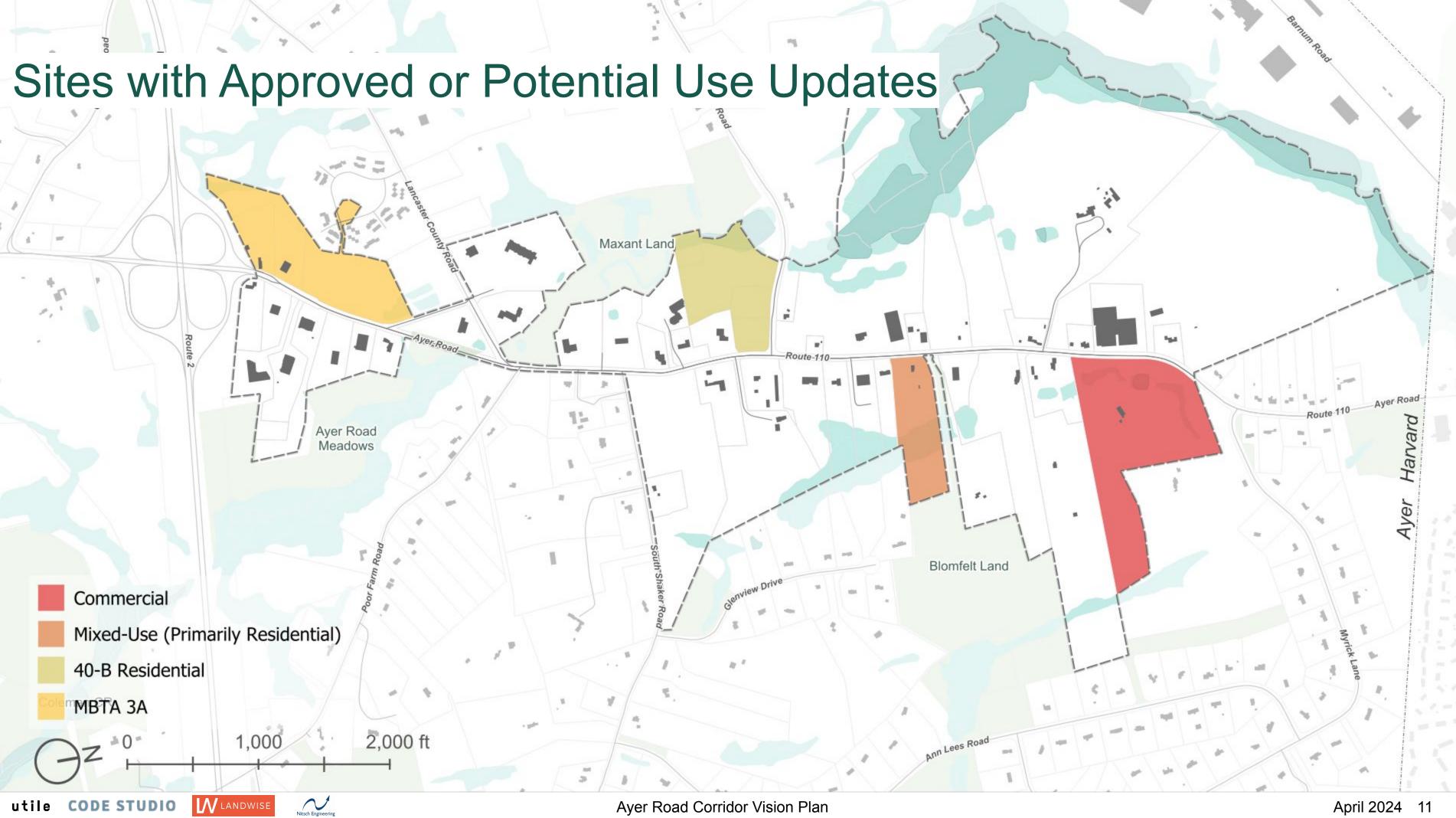




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Ayer Road Corridor Vision Plan



Corridor Today: Retail/Commercial Use Types



188/196/198/200 Ayer Road: Mixed-use cluster Retail / Office / Residential



283/285 Ayer Road: Retail / Office / F&B / Recreation





204 Ayer Road: Recreation

294 Ayer Road: Retail / Auto Service

The corridor today houses a mix of businesses, including warehouse storage facilities, and auto repair shops. The predominant development pattern is characterized by low-density structures, occupying lots with substantial setbacks. Large impervious surfaces such as parking areas are typically oriented towards Ayer Road, contributing to the corridor's sprawling and uninviting appearance.



325 Ayer Road: Retail / Office / Warehousing / Services

289 Ayer Road: Retail / Services

Corridor Constraints and Opportunities (summary)

Lack of water & sewer infrastructure

Lack of access to public water and sewer infrastructures and their costly alternatives have been identified has the biggest impediment to commercial development. As a result the corridor is characterized by low density development current infrastructure can support.

Potential Infrastructure extensions:

• Potential to bring water into corridor as an extension from the 3A site connection from Devens.

Parcel configurations vary along corridor

Implications for street-oriented commercial development. Several parcels, currently hosting low density commercial activities, are relatively small, long, and narrow, with limited frontage on Ayer Road.

Slow commercial development market

Commercial development applications along the corridor are lacking, with the market showing a preference for housing development. Commercial developments carry considerably higher risk to developers compared to residential projects.

Community support to

revitalize the corridor

New form-based code:

•

 \bullet

- Desire within the community to diversify commercial uses and reimagine the corridor as a vibrant district
- More retail is possible, and the Town can maintain and promote the C-district as mainly commercial: the market can change or the Town might find the right tenant in the future.

Ayer Road Corridor Vision Plan

Enhance parcel connections

- Potential to consolidate parcels and/or create better connectivity across parcels through development clusters
- Propose future site layouts that prioritize active commercial fronts with enhanced public realm, and locate parking and BOH services to back of parcel



Deficient zoning, low density development

Current zoning has resulted in scattered suburban-type development and is conducive to unintended uses such as recent development inquiries for self-storage facilities, auto repair uses, warehousing.

- Implementation of new zoning regulations to enable predictable and desired built outcomes Opportunities for the integration of more street-oriented commercial and mixed-use developments Regulations to include
- design themes reflective of desired village-style character

Car-oriented design, environmental limitations

Corridor functions primarily as a thoroughfare for traffic, lacking pedestrian infrastructure such as sidewalks, safe crossings, and protected bike lanes. Presence of wetlands and environmentally protected areas limits parcel development.

2026 TIP Project:

 10-foot-wide shared use path along the west side of the corridor, aimed at enhancing the public realm and promoting walkability.

Enhance and promote open space network:

- Incorporate wetlands and other environmental restorative areas.
- Support commercial uses that foster connection with agriculture

Community and Stakeholder Engagement

An important initial step in the vision plan involved gathering input from stakeholders and the community regarding the envisioned character, scale, and type of development for the Ayer Road corridor. The following table provides an overview of the feedback collected and generated from both the community and stakeholders in the process:

Ayer Road Opportunities	Ayer Road Challenge
Potential for robust mixed-use development on the corridor featuring retail establishments such as restaurants and cafes, with a focus on farm-to-table concepts like Groton Gibbet Hill.	Economic viability is a needed to support desi
Housing designed to cater to individuals who wish to age in place within the town, along with a commitment to providing affordable housing options.	Water and sewer limita stringent septic system compliance difficult.
Enhancement of public realm, promoting walkability.	The arduous and expe
Tax revenue diversification by shifting the focus towards commercial development, as residential taxes currently form the town's primary income source.	School enrollment impa multifamily housing add
Potential water and sewer connections from Devens and Ayer, aiming to bolster infrastructure and facilitate growth.	Current zoning grants of undesired developmen
Implementation of new zoning regulations and a clear vision for the future, aiming for predictable built outcomes that align with the desired rural village character.	Town residents are hes oversight via planning be be less appealing to de
Having visual representations and setting specific design standards prior to developers initiating projects, streamlining the process while ensuring the desired town character is maintained and enhanced.	Challenges related to in constraints, including o



es

concern, particularly in terms of residential development sired commercial and retail endeavors.

ations pose significant obstacles, with shallow groundwater and m rules impeding meaningful development and making

ensive well approval process dissuades potential investors.

pact perceptions and town resident reluctance towards dd another layer of complexity.

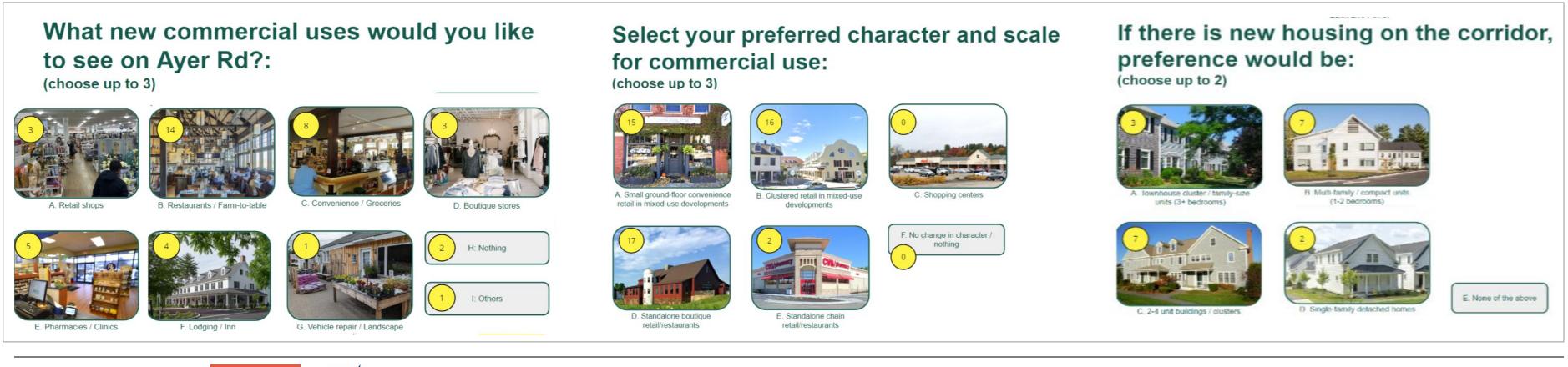
developers considerable freedom that sometimes results in nt character along the corridor.

sitant to proceed with "as of right" development, preferring board involvement or special permits, although this stance may evelopers.

increasing traffic volume, wetland complications, and utility overloaded electric lines predominantly above ground.

11/02/23 Community Visioning Workshop - Takeaways

- Overall support for mixed-use development including multifamily residential and commercial development, leaning towards convenience retail such as grocery stores and destination retail such as restaurants and places for families to visit.
- Desire for enhanced walkability in future developments that prioritize sustainability, incorporating future infrastructure improvements
- Concerns around new development impact on street safety along the Ayer Road Corridor.
- Attendees of the 11/02/23 community workshop generally advocate for **extending water and** sewer infrastructure to accommodate new and vibrant uses along the corridor.



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Aver Road Corridor Vision Plan

Development Precedents

In the community visioning workshop and stakeholder interviews, development examples from similar communities were reviewed to identify appropriate scale and type of developments preferred by the community for the Ayer Road Corridor/C-district.



Northern Bank Town Common, Littleton, MA

- Commercial (37,880 sf total with retail, restaurant, office programs)
- Precedent for character



Summer St development, Manchester-by-the-Sea, MA

- Retail (5,000 sf)
- Residential (39 units; 40B Development)
- Precedent for character / combination of uses / scale

Note: While no precedent can serve as an exact match for the unique opportunities and challenges presented by the Ayer Road Corridor/ C-district, the examples here provide valuable references for character, scale, and the integration of various uses desired by the community. See corridor development framework on next pages and the attached appendix for more detailed summary of precedents discussed through this project.

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Aver Road Corridor Vision Plan



Groton Inn, Groton, MA

- Boutique hotel (60 keys)
- Restaurant within same cluster
- Precedent for character / combination of uses

Corridor Development Framework

- Prioritize commercial and mixed-uses
- Encourage village-style cluster development
- Foster a continuous built primary frontage
- Improve pedestrian and bike connectivity
- Protect natural and agricultural uses

Corridor Development Framework







Prioritize commercial and mixed-use development

Encourage village-style clustered development

Foster a continuous Improve pedestrian built primary frontage and bike connectivity





Protect natural and agricultural uses

Prioritize Commercial and Mixed-Use Development



VillageWorks, West Acton, MA Mixed-use Retail / Restaurant / Brewery / Office / Event Space (35,000 sf)

Ayer Road is Harvard's only commercial district, and as such, the community aspires to maintain and expand the commercial opportunities in the corridor. There is potential for community and neighborhood-oriented "necessity retail" alongside visitor-oriented businesses. As concluded by the 2023 market study for the corridor, new commercial development will require to be supported by including residential uses, especially multi-family.



Aver Road Corridor Vision Plan

Increase the financial feasibility of new commercial spaces by including a diverse array of uses, especially residential. Mixed-use developments will help to add vitality, vibrancy, and all-day activity to the corridor.

Encourage Village-style Cluster Development



The 2023 Market Study and Fiscal Impact Analysis recommends not maximizing the town's retail potential and instead encouraging incremental clustered development of small-scale mixed-use commercial and residential projects.

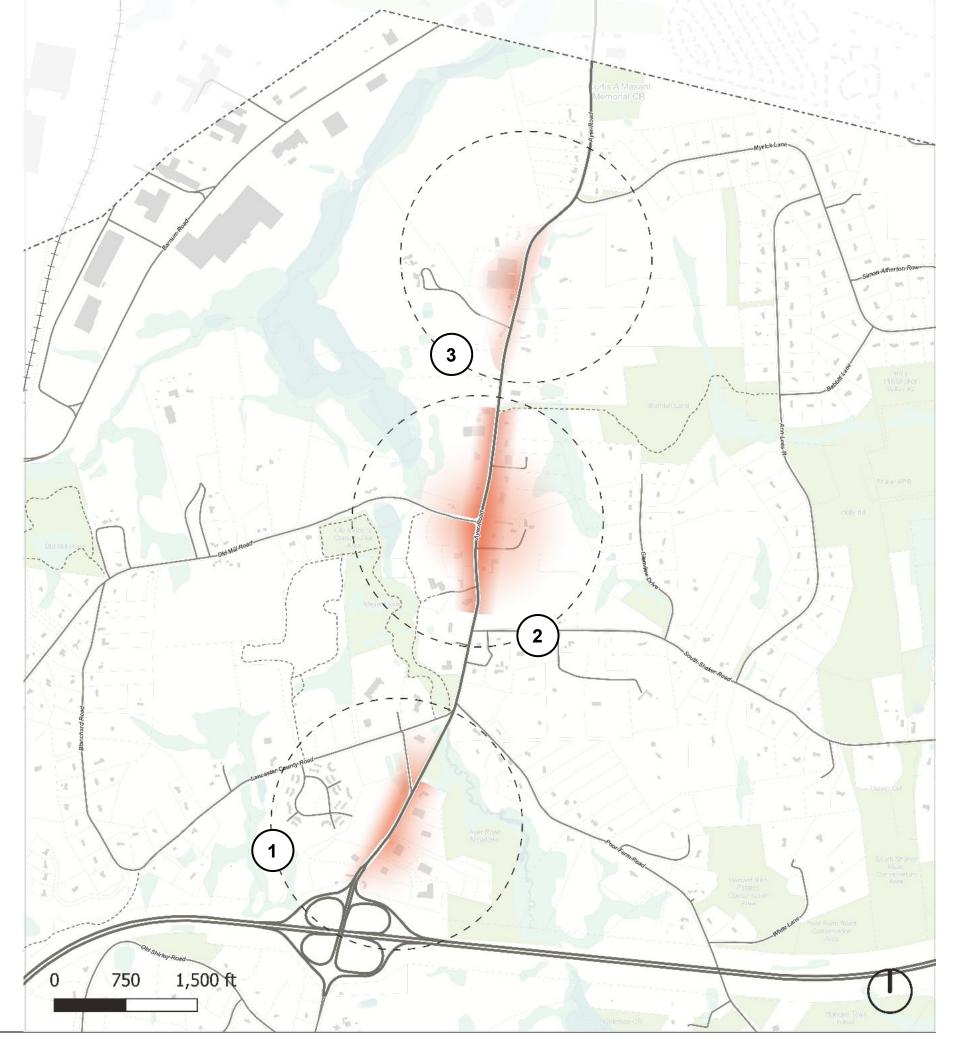


Identify centralities and corridor nodes Group buildings in pedestrian-friendly clusters Develop contextually scaled buildings

Centralities and corridor nodes

Ayer Road has potential nodes that could offer opportunities to divide the corridor into several village nodes. These centralities are not necessarily fixed locations in the corridor and rather provide a gradient of where development would have the maximum impact. These nodes are prime areas for clustered development and street calming.

- 1. **Ayer Road South node:** The conjunction of the only recent mixed-used development in the corridor and the potential commercial and residential developments across the street offers a great opportunity to consolidate an activity cluster close to Rt 2.
- 2. Ayer and Old Mill Roads: The segment between South Shaker Rd and the Blomfelt trail, at the heart of the commercial corridor, contains some of the parcels with more development potential.
- 3. **Doe Orchard:** By adding visitor-oriented businesses within mixed-use developments, another possible node can be developed around Doe Orchard, north of the corridor.





Group buildings in pedestrian-friendly clusters

Although the existing Ayer Road Village Special Permit (ARV-SP) already encourages clustered development, it has not yet achieved the desired transformational development along the corridor. The two ARV-SP projects approved so far have not truly produced the desired proximity between buildings.

By creating clusters of mixed-use sites, especially around the corridor nodes, accommodating retail, residential, and residential service businesses will gradually increase the walkability of the corridor to reflect better a New England village character and the history of the Town of Harvard.

Contextually scaled buildings

Ensuring buildings are proportionate to neighboring structures creates cohesive, visually appealing environments that preserve local character. Future developments would do well to adhere to and follow guidelines that seamlessly integrate new structures with the local form and town fabric.

> Summer St development, Manchester-by-the-Sea, MA Mixed-use Retail (5,000 sf) / Residential (39 units)







Foster a continuous built primary frontage



Northern Bank Proposed Development, Town Common, Littleton, MA

Ayer Road currently has a sparse urban fabric with most existing buildings significantly set back from the street. As part of the clustered development approach, the vision for Ayer Road is for all new developments to create a continuously built edge along the corridor, minimizing the number of curb cuts and driveways, and for commercial uses to be placed fronting Ayer Road.

Consider how frontage, building massing, and other design requirements apply along Ayer Road, other public streets, and internal circulation routes (drives, paths, parking lots, etc.). Relationship to the shared path Secondary paths. Parcel interconnections

- Corners



Aver Road Corridor Vision Plan

Improve Pedestrian and Bike Connectivity



Minuteman Bikeway Crossing, Arlington MA

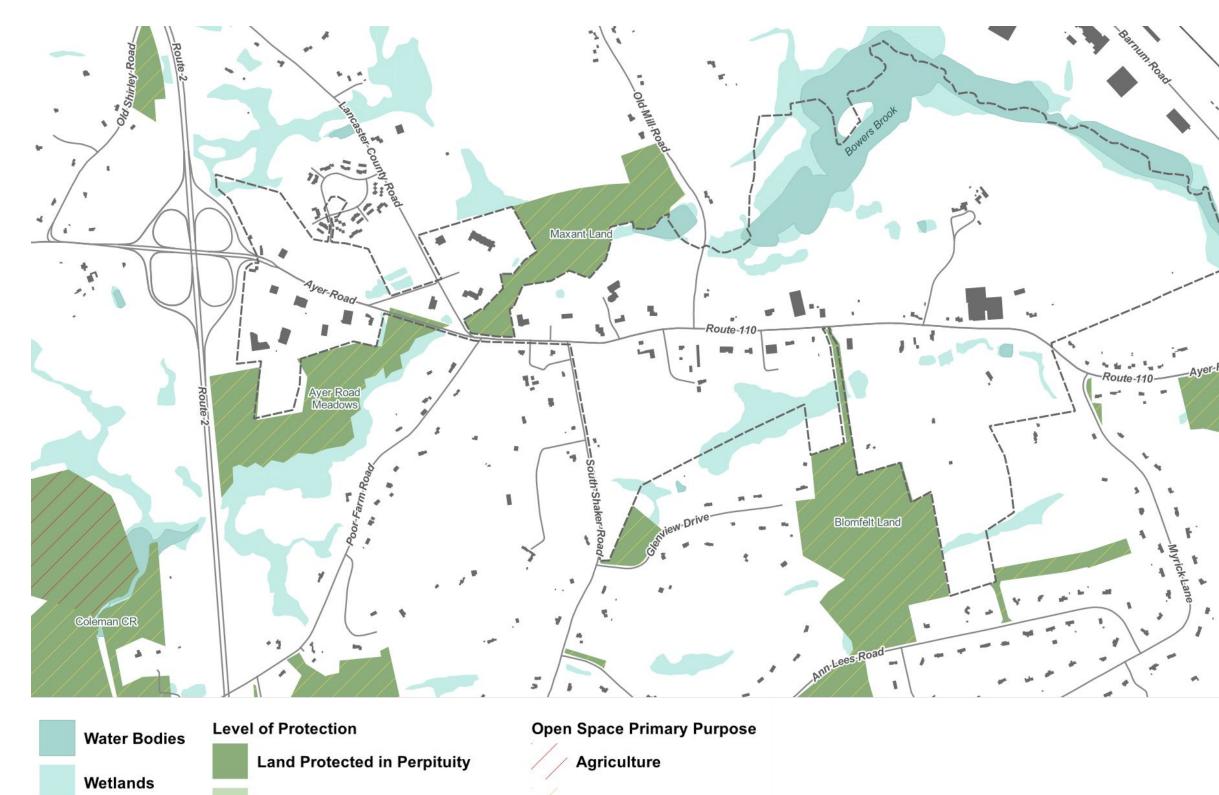
Ayer Road is currently an unwelcoming environment for pedestrians and cyclists. While the TIP will bring significant infrastructure improvements to the corridor's walkability, future clustered development will be crucial to achieving better pedestrian conditions. New development must be designed with parking lots placed behind buildings and landscape arrangements that enhance the quality of the public realm.

Interconnectivity between parcels and cross-access easements could reduce the number of curb cuts and driveways and share secondary pedestrian paths along the corridor. Furthermore, new secondary connections could link into the already extensive trail networks across town.

Pedestrian Crossings

The TIP already brings a significant improvement in the number of pedestrian crossings along Ayer Road. The corridor nodes should receive special attention, making sure to include crossings where development clusters.

Protect Natural and Agricultural Uses



Land NOT Protected in Perpituity

Conservation

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The Commercial District of Ayer Road and the town as a whole have important natural and agricultural areas. New development must include thoughtful buffers from existing agricultural and protection areas, in particular, the natural landscape around Bowers Brook, Blomfelt Land, and the Doe Orchard, and any environmental impacts on adjacent parcels.

Development Scenarios

- Representative Sites
- Development Scenario Process and Approach
- Case Study: Large test-fit site: 285 Ayer Road
- Summary Takeaways

Representative Sites for Development Tests

In collaboration with Town staff, the planning team identified representative sites suitable for testing the vision for commercial and mixed-use redevelopment possibilities on the Ayer Road Corridor. The selection of these sites considers factors such as parcel size and frontage, property ownership, current building and parking configurations, the condition of existing buildings on the property, and prevailing uses.



Ayer Road Corridor Vision Plan

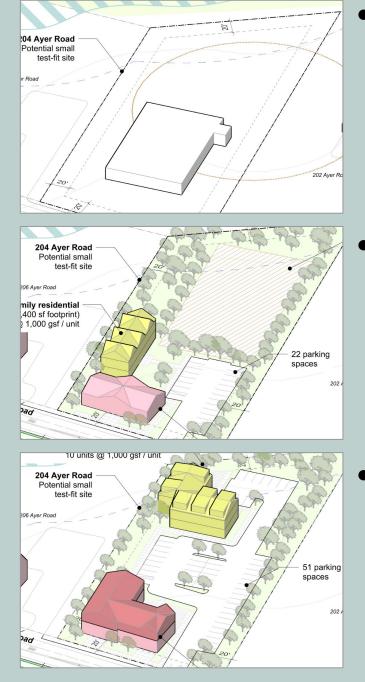
Development Scenario Process

Informed by insights from the 2023 market analysis report and community feedback, conceptual test-fit scenarios explore what an ideal commercial/mixed-use development could look like on the corridor and the **desired access**, connections, parking, and community amenities it can potentially support.

Scenarios are studied through the perspective of a **future** form-based code, aiming to identify dimensional thresholds that govern better site arrangements, building massing approaches, parking locations, and landscape layouts.

Why test scenarios?

While scenarios cannot predict the future of the corridor, they serve as valuable tools for comparing and evaluating development options. They help us to better understand benefits and trade-offs of various outcomes and allow the community to envision the extent of change it is comfortable with.





Scenarios tested explore development thresholds made possible by various increments of infrastructure improvements and their impact on the scale of potential development

Scenario 1: No water or sewer extension

Assumes that neither water nor sewer utilities will be extended through the corridor and each parcel will remain reliant on wells and septic systems.

Scenario 2: Water main extension Assumes that a water main will be

extended down Ayer Road and a sewer main would not be extended. This would remove the reliance on wells, but the septic systems would remain.

Scenario 3: Water and sewer main extension

Assumes that both a sewer main and water main will be extended down Ayer Road, relieving the reliance on septic and wells, while simultaneously reducing the constraints on commercial development.

Scenario Assumptions and Site Parameters

1,000 gsf / unit

1.6 spaces per unit

2.5 stories / 35 ft

50%

20'

20'

4 spaces / 1,000 gsf retail

3 spaces / 1,000 gsf office

Program and dimensional assumptions:

- Residential unit size:
- Residential parking:
- Commercial parking:
- Max building height:
- Min open space (excl.parking):
- Setback: Front & rear
- Setback: Sides

Septic system constraints:

- Leaching field sizing as recommended by Nitsch Engineering (See Appendix for depiction of the septic system sizing)
- No septic systems within 100' of Water Protection Overlay District

Water-related constraints:

- No non-water-supply-related uses on DEP Wellhead Protection Areas
- 100' setback from wetlands

NOTE: Assumptions and parameters are based on estimations and industry standards, and informed by development in comparable communities where applicable. Should be used as approximate values only.

Site configuration assumptions:

- Surface parking

Environmental/Ground conditions:

Estimating costs and revenue impacts:

- Boston market

Traffic and transportation impacts



Horizontal mixed-use development more likely than vertical

Project scope did not include extensive site assessments

• Feasibility analysis of development options based on model by Landwise Advisors (See Appendix)

key inputs such as construction costs and rental rates have been modeled on local comparables and are specific to the suburban

Land market in Harvard is highly variable and projects could be feasible on some sites but not others depending on the value expectation of the land owner.

High-level traffic impacts from test-fit scenarios were estimated by Nitsch Engineering using the 11th Edition Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE) Trip Generation Manual Web-Based Tool. Should be used as approximate values only. (See Appendix)

Case study - Large test-fit site: 285 Ayer Road





NOTE: For the Vision Plan, only the large site scenario is presented, as it best supports commercial cluster development. For tests on small and medium sites, please refer to appendix. Page 37 provides a summary of development feasibility for all sites.

285 Ayer RoadParcel acreage:9.62 acExisting uses:F&B / retail / recreation / services



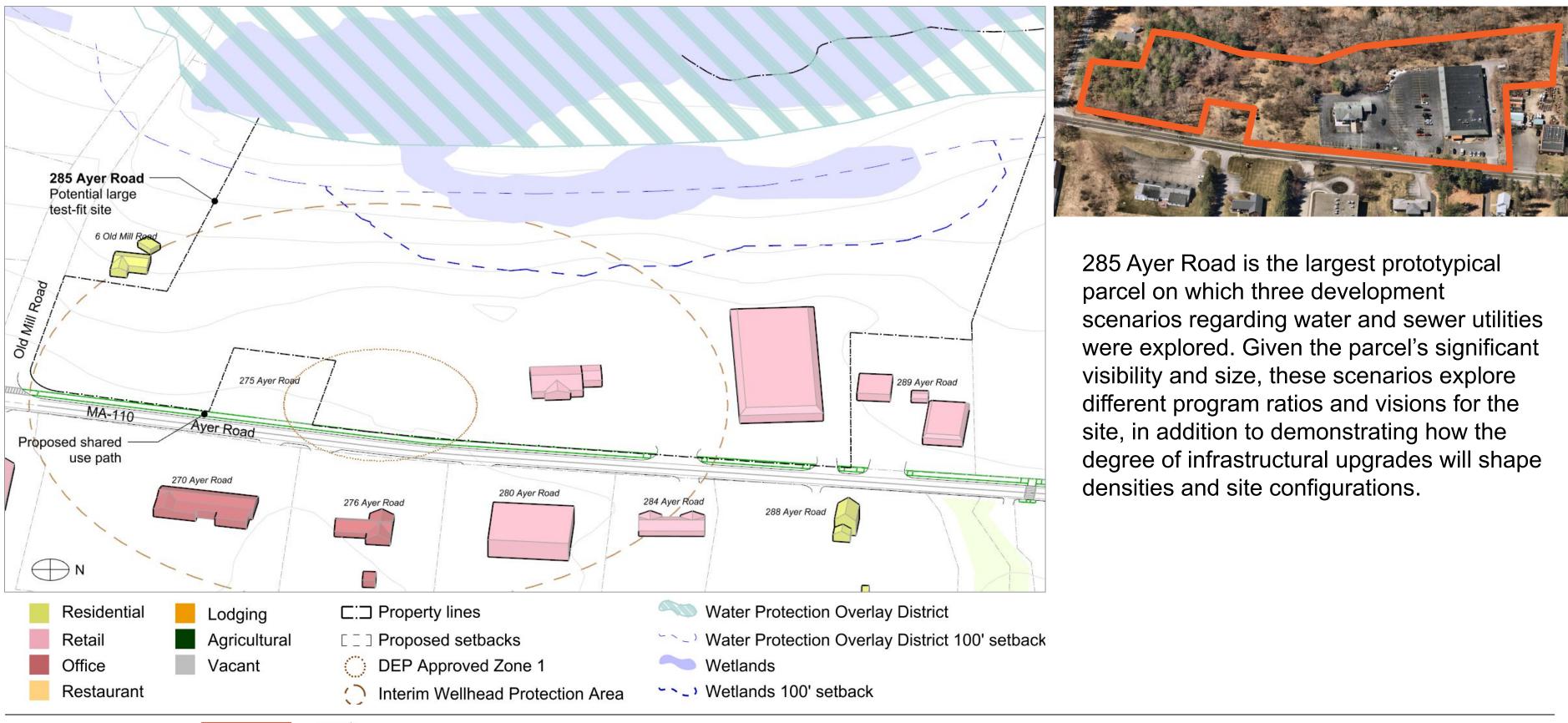
Large test-fit site: 285 Ayer Road

Parcel information

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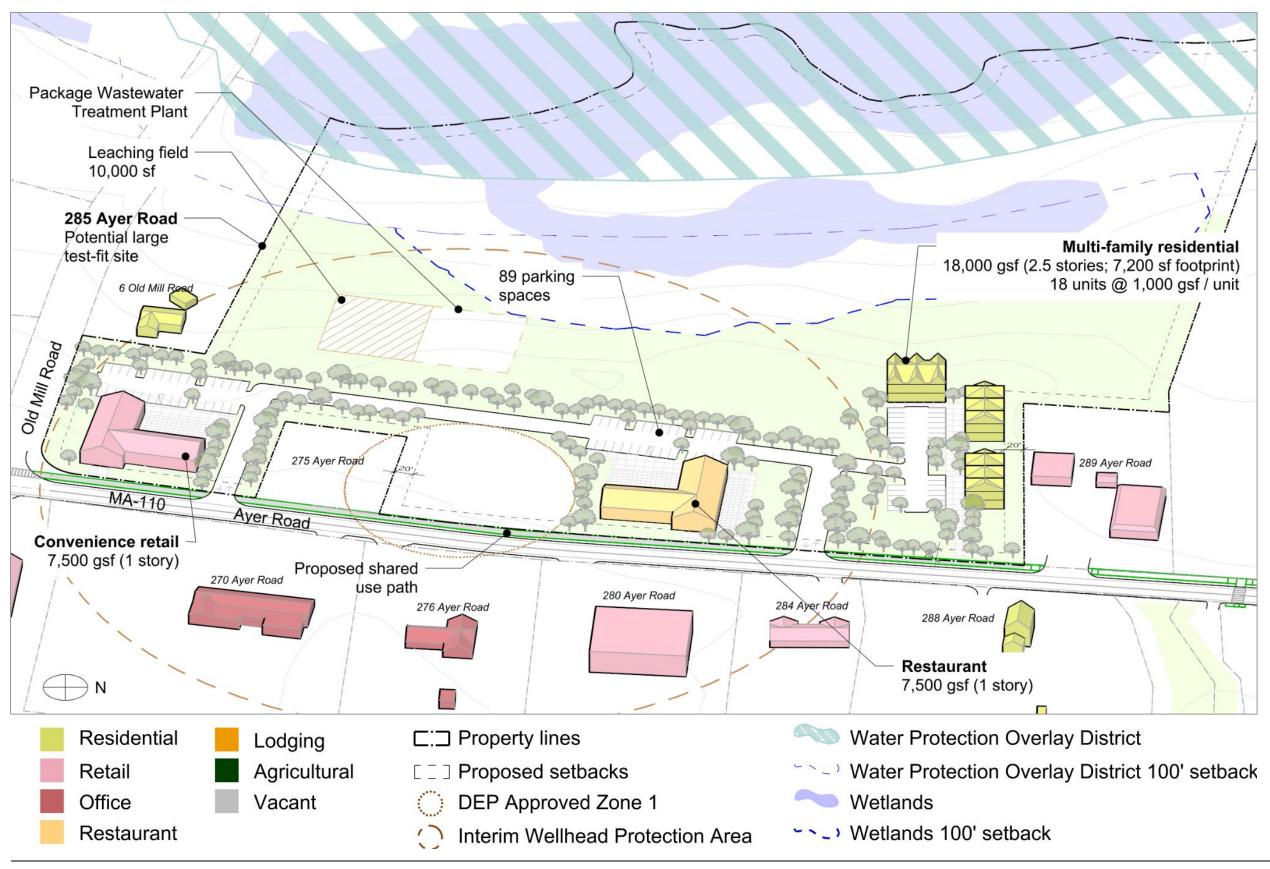
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Ayer Road Corridor Vision Plan

Scenario 1: No Water & Sewer Utilities



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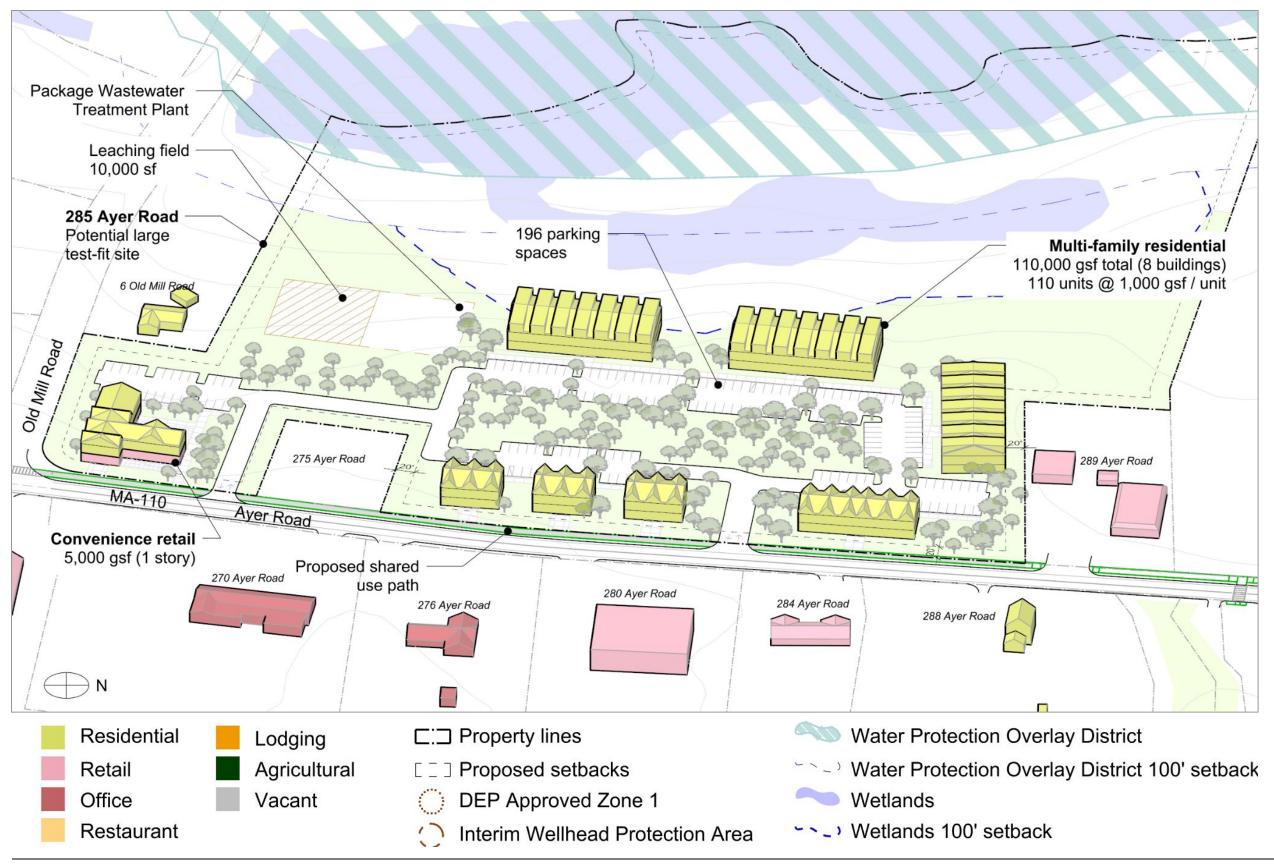
Ayer Road Corridor Vision Plan

- DEP Zone I area and septic system sizing limit frontage and use of full site
- Reliance on public wells limits density
- Convenience retail and restaurant as front-lot developments; multi-family residential and parking in the back
- Wastewater treatment plant required lacksquare

Program	Area	%	Units/Acre
Residential	18,000 sf	55%	1.9
Restaurant	7,500 sf	23%	N/A
Retail	7,500 sf	23%	N/A
Total	33,000 sf		

Lot coverage	
Built structures only	5%
Total impervious area	22%

Scenario 2: Water from Harvard Main + On-site waste disposal



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Nitsch Engineering

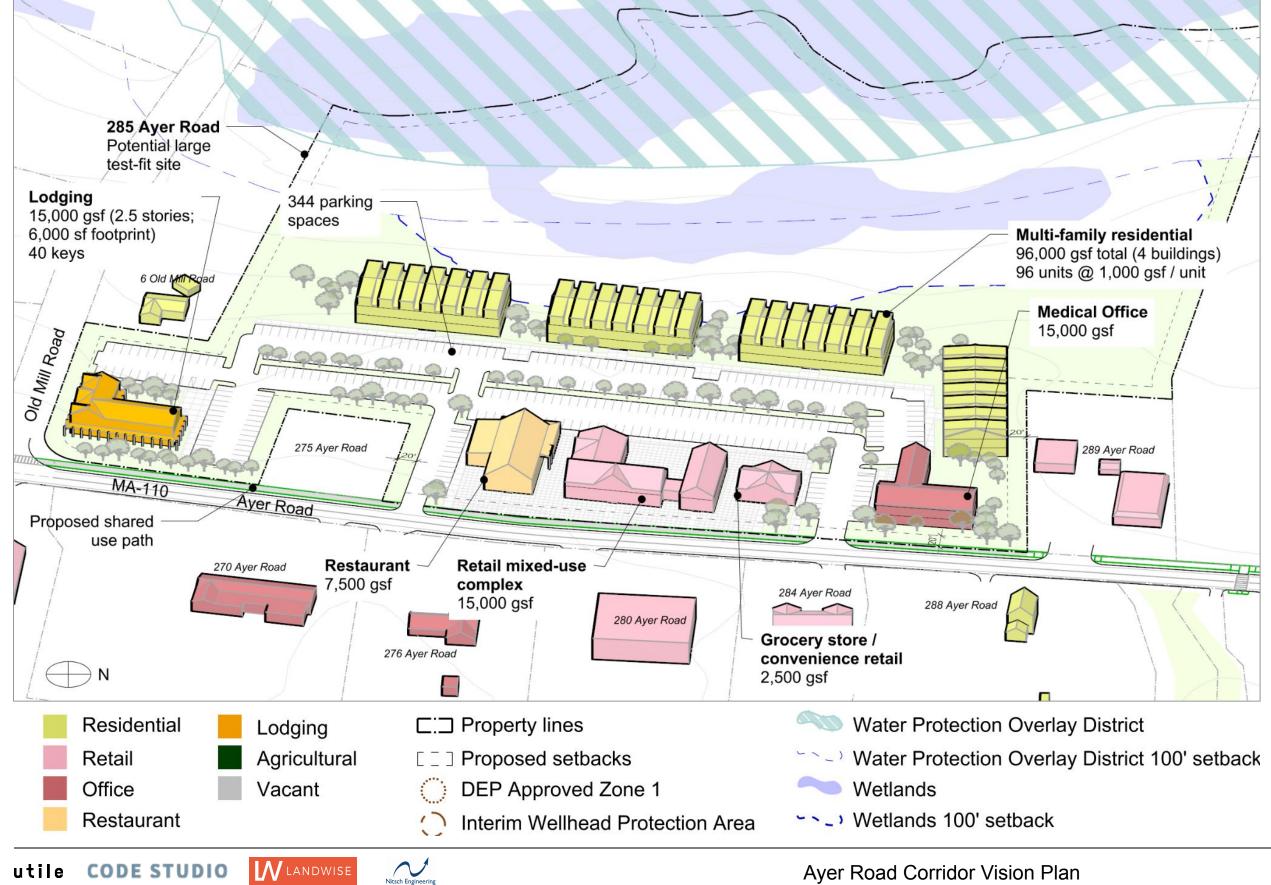
Aver Road Corridor Vision Plan

- This scenario explores minimum retail as a test
- Ground floor retail as part of vertically integrated development near parking entry
- Townhomes lining Ayer Road; apartments and parking in the back
- Wastewater treatment plant required

Program	Area	%	Units/Acre
Residential	110,000 sf	96%	11.4
Retail	5,000 sf	4%	N/A
Total	115,000 sf		

Lot coverage	
Built structures only	11%
Total impervious area	34%

Scenario 3: Water and Sewer from Town of Harvard



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Aver Road Corridor Vision Plan

- Use of full site enabled by removed restrictions on water and sewer
- Opportunity to establish site as destination \bullet with a mix of commercial uses lining Ayer Road, including restaurants, retail complex, grocery stores, offices, and a small inn
- Front-lot building setbacks and lacksquareinterconnected building wings shaping pedestrian public realm

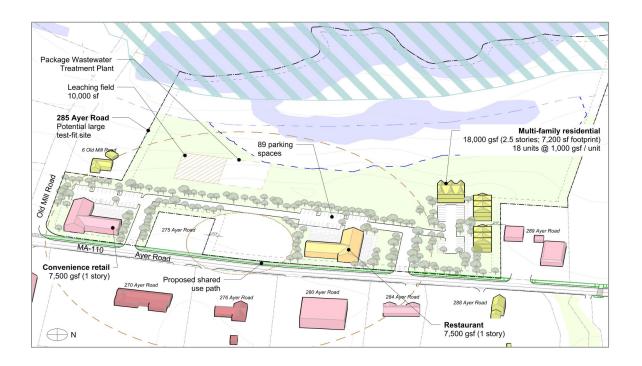
Program	Area	%	Units/Acre
Residential	96,000 sf	64%	10.0
Restaurant	7,500 sf	5%	N/A
Retail	17,500 sf	12%	N/A
Office	15,000 sf	10%	N/A
Lodging	15,000 sf	10%	N/A
Total	151,000 sf		

Lot coverage	
Built structures only	17%
Total impervious area	55%

Large Site Scenario Tests (overview)

Scenario 1

No Water & Sewer Utilities



Scenario is **not financially feasible** as it results in **low land value** at \$1,600,000 or \$165,000 per acre

Scenario 2

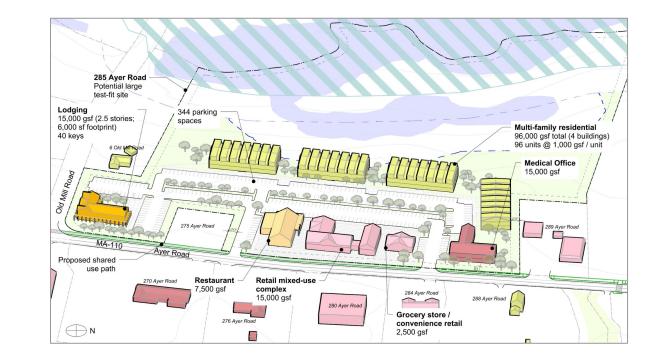
Water from Harvard Main + On-site waste disposal



Scenario is **financially feasible** as it results in **medium value** at \$4,150,000 or \$428,000 per acre



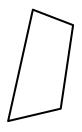
Scenario 3 Water and Sewer from Town of Harvard

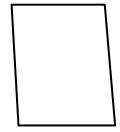




Scenario is **financially feasible** as it results in **medium value** at \$4,600,000 or \$435,000 per acre

Feasibility Takeaways (all sites)





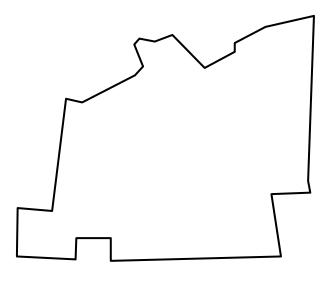
204 Ayer Road

325 Ayer Road

	S	Site 1 - 1.6 acres		Si	te 2 - 4.8 acres		Site 3 - 9.6 acres					
	Scenario 1	Scenario 2	Scenario 3	Scenario 1	Scenario 2	Scenario 3	Scenario 1	Scenario 2	Scenario 3			
Total SF		9,000	20,000	23,000	52,000 79,000		33,000	115,000	151,000			
Residential Units		6	10	15	36	60	18	110	96			
Commercial SF		3,000	10,000	8,000	16,000	19,000	15,000	5,000	55,000			
Land Value/Acre	N/A	\$256,000	\$422,000	\$215,000	\$365,000	\$585,000	\$166,000	\$428,000	\$434,000			
Total Value		\$399,000	\$659,000	\$1,031,000	\$1,746,000	\$2,575,000	\$1,596,000	\$4,121,000	\$4,613,000			
Feasible?		No	Borderline	No	No	Borderline	No	Feasible	Feasible			
Notes	Site recently listed for \$1,115,000			High	n Embedded Val	he	Low Embedded Value					



Ayer Road Corridor Vision Plan



285 Ayer Road

Development Scenarios - Summary Takeaways

- In general, large sites (larger than 10 acres) will be most attractive to developers so they can achieve economies of scale with a larger development (180+ units) and solve the septic challenge on site.
- More meaningful development will become viable with water and sewer infrastructure expansion along the corridor.

Note: precise cost estimate for providing public access to water and sewer services in the Commercial District has yet to be determined pending more detailed engineering studies

- The residential values are likely to support surface parking only. Vertically integrated mixed-use buildings with podium parking are not currently feasible.
- **Commercial developments carry significantly more risk than residential.** The planning team estimates developers will want to cap commercial uses at around 10% or less of the total development square footage. Market feasibility assessments indicate that facilitating commercial development along the corridor would require some form of subsidy, likely through residential development.
- More retail is possible, and the Town can maintain and promote the C-district as mainly commercial: the market can change or the Town might find the right tenant. However, it might take time to find developers who are willing to take on a higher risk
- Traffic and transportation impacts: Scenarios generally represent a net reduction or near net neutral trip generation compared with existing conditions.



Aver Road Corridor Vision Plan

Design Guidelines

- Site Design
- Building Design
- Landscape and Public Realm

Ayer Road Cluster Development: Conceptual Rendering

4

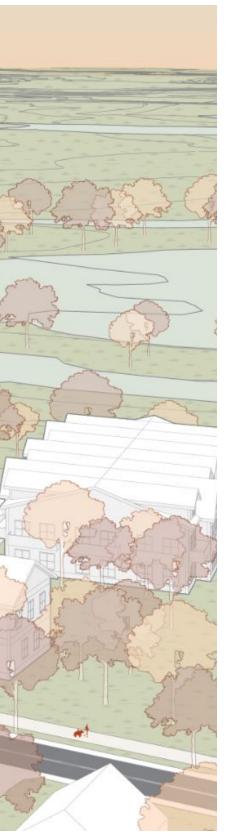
6

5

The long-term vision for the Ayer Road Corridor re envisions the auto-centric commercial strip to incorporate moments of cohesive, pedestrian-oriented commercial village clusters, reflective of Havard's historic character and ideals. Key characteristics of this 'village cluster' approach are described:

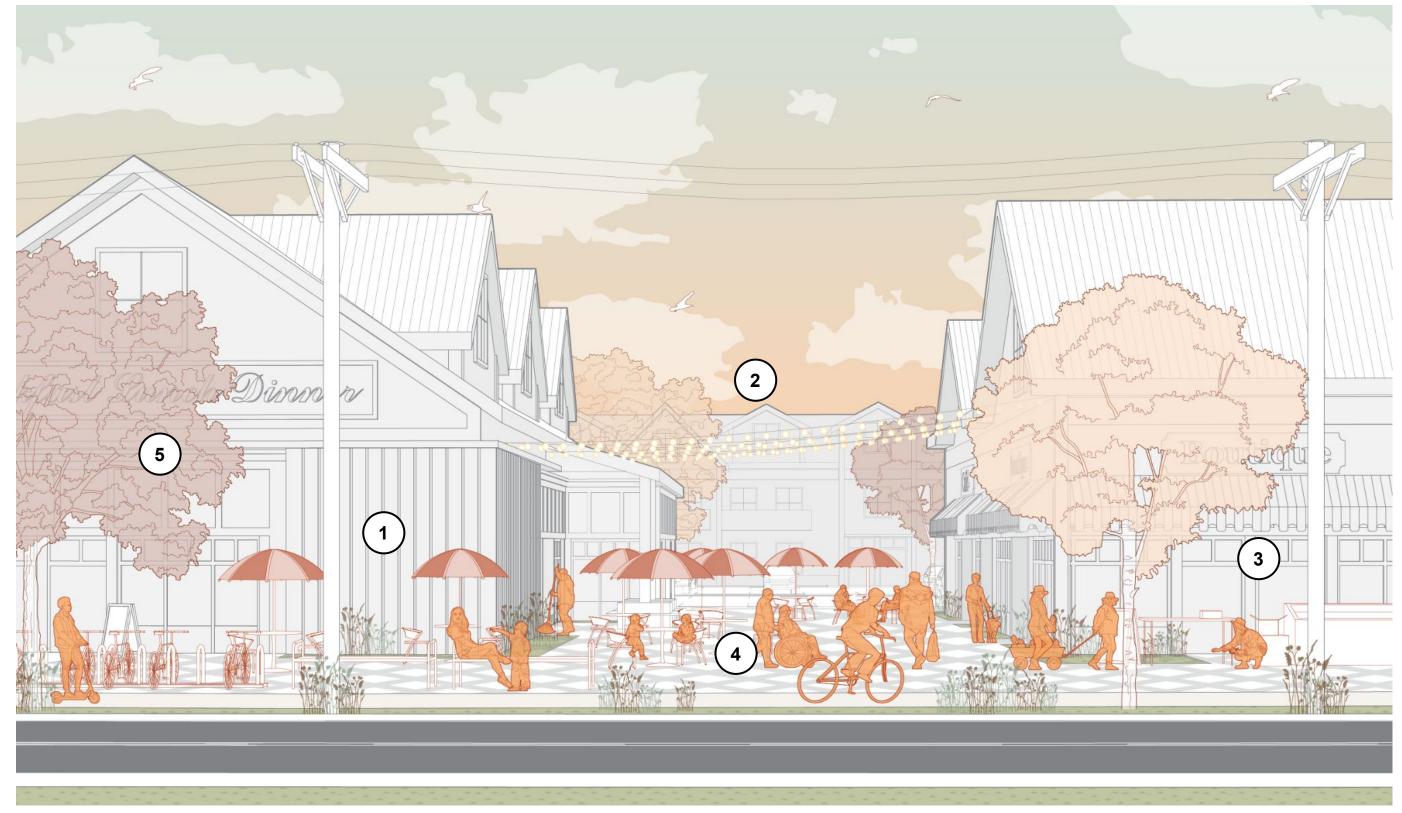


Aver Road Corridor Vision Plan



- Active and continuous street front: Articulated building facades and continuous street wall with buildings close to sidewalk/shared use path to define public realm
- Architectural style and character: Building 2. size and features reflect the small village character and style of Harvard's rich history.
- Pedestrian walkways and plazas: Residents 3. and visitors feel welcome and safe while walking within the development cluster, parking areas, and along the street
- Parking in the back: Parking lots and 4. service/loading areas are located behind or to the side to minimize visual impact. Pedestrian circulation through parking areas is well designed, clearly separated from vehicules.
- 5. Landscape features: such as trees, open spaces, and shrubs provide both visual relief and shade to impervious areas like parking lots. They can also be designed as accessible and functional public space, and an effective way to screen residential development to allow privacy.
- Site planning and building placement: 6. Residential development placed in the back of site, buffered from the active commercial front by parking lot and landscaping, for privacy and noise mitigation.
- 7. Access management and connectivity: Defined entry and exit to development cluster, minimized curb cuts, shared parking, and extended pedestrian pathways to adjacent properties

Ayer Road Cluster Development: Conceptual Rendering





Ayer Road Corridor Vision Plan

- 1. **Building Style:** building form and architecture along the corridor to fit with the context of Harvard's existing character.
- 2. **Building Clusters:** allow to create small pockets of commercial and people-facing activities by keeping building close to each other.
- 3. **Ground floor design:** are designed with specific standards and fenestration to accommodate commercial uses.
- 4. **Public spaces/amenities:** Spaces between buildings and frontages can serve to accommodate pedestrian-oriented spaces such as outdoor plazas, street furniture, public art, parklets.
- 5. Landscape features: setbacks and landscape buffers allow to provide additional pedestrian amenities such as seating opportunities and additional trees.

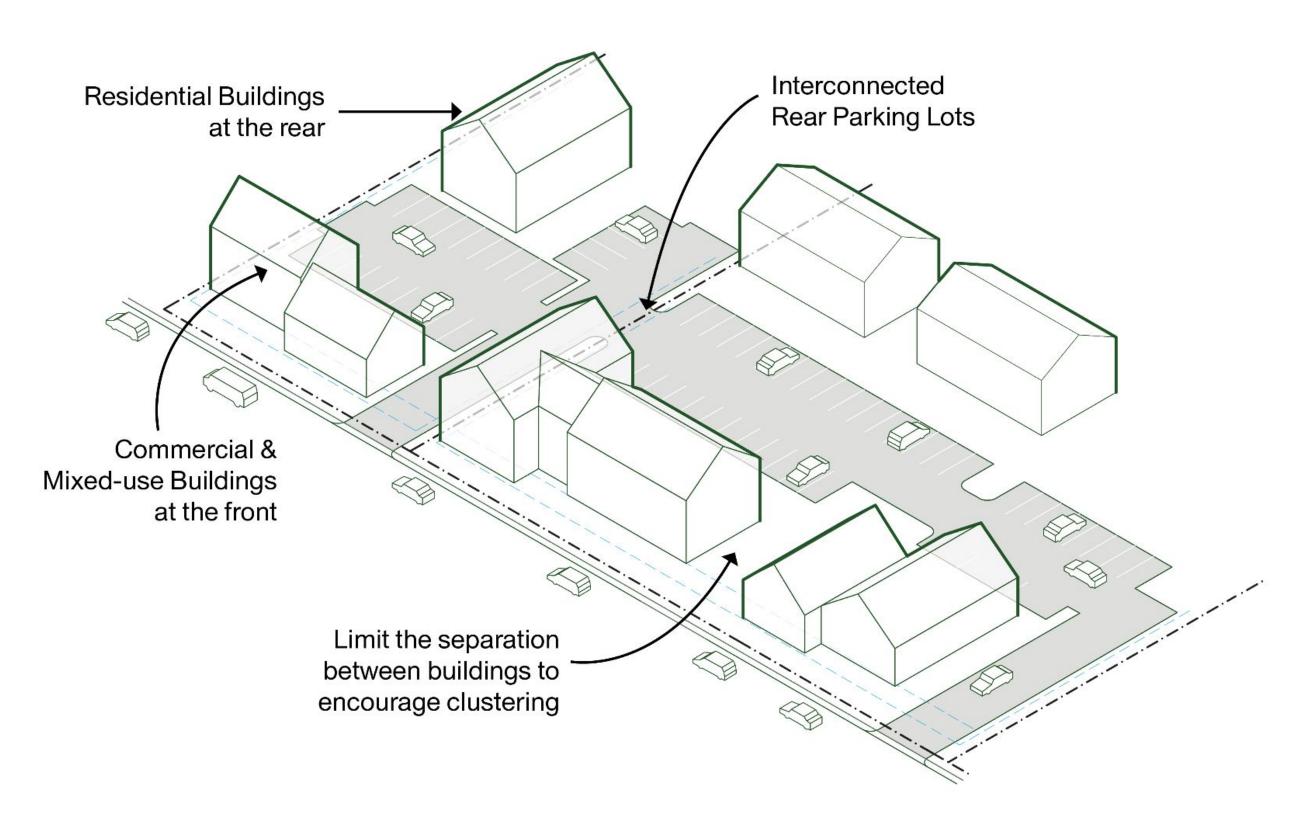
Site Design Guidelines

Buildings Clustering

utile CODE STUDIO W LANDWISE

- Allow for multiple buildings on a single parcel as long as they do not collectively exceed a maximum lot coverage percentage.
- Regulate the **allowed separation** between buildings within the same parcel to ensure buildings create an engaging synergy between them.
- Limit the percentage of residential-only buildings along the front of the parcels to prioritize commercial and mixed-use buildings.

Nitsch Engineering



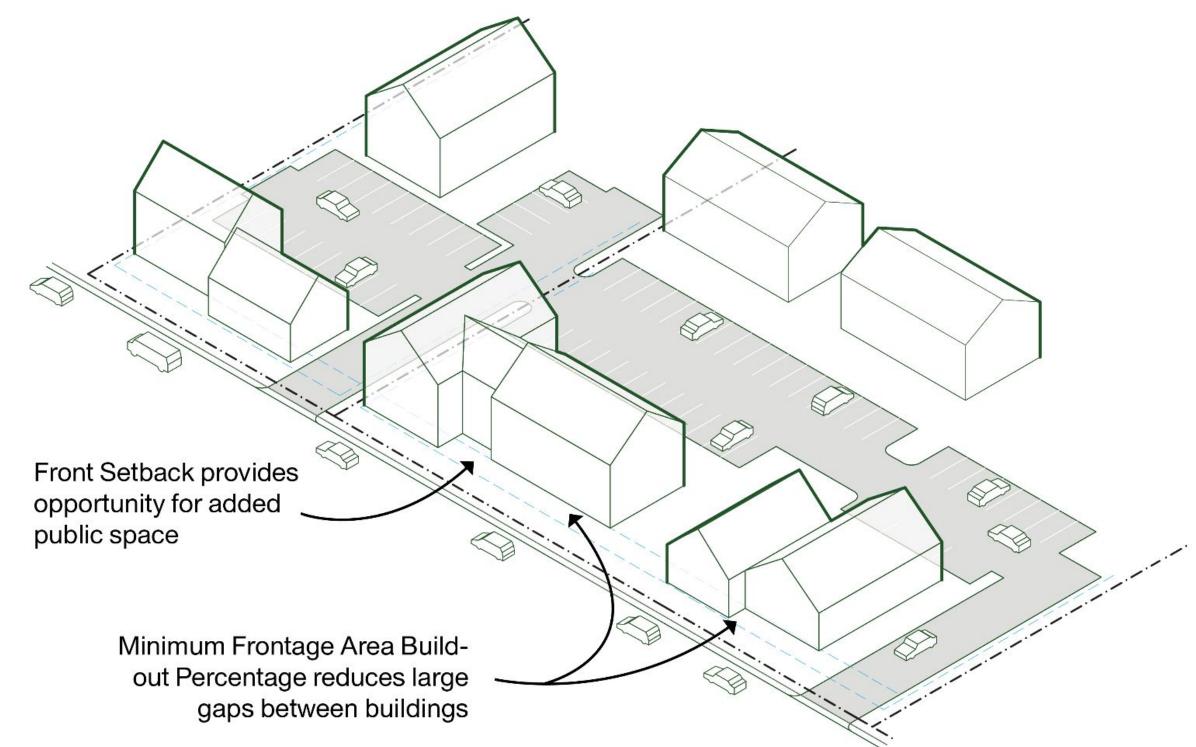
Site Design Guidelines

Buildings Placement

utile CODE STUDIO

- Require new buildings to be setback from the front and side lot lines to maintain Harvard's development patterns.
- Define a **maximum setback** for new buildings, and require facades to meet a minimum percentage of their front lot widths (i.e., "frontage area build-out") to ensure buildings adequately frame and engage the public realm.

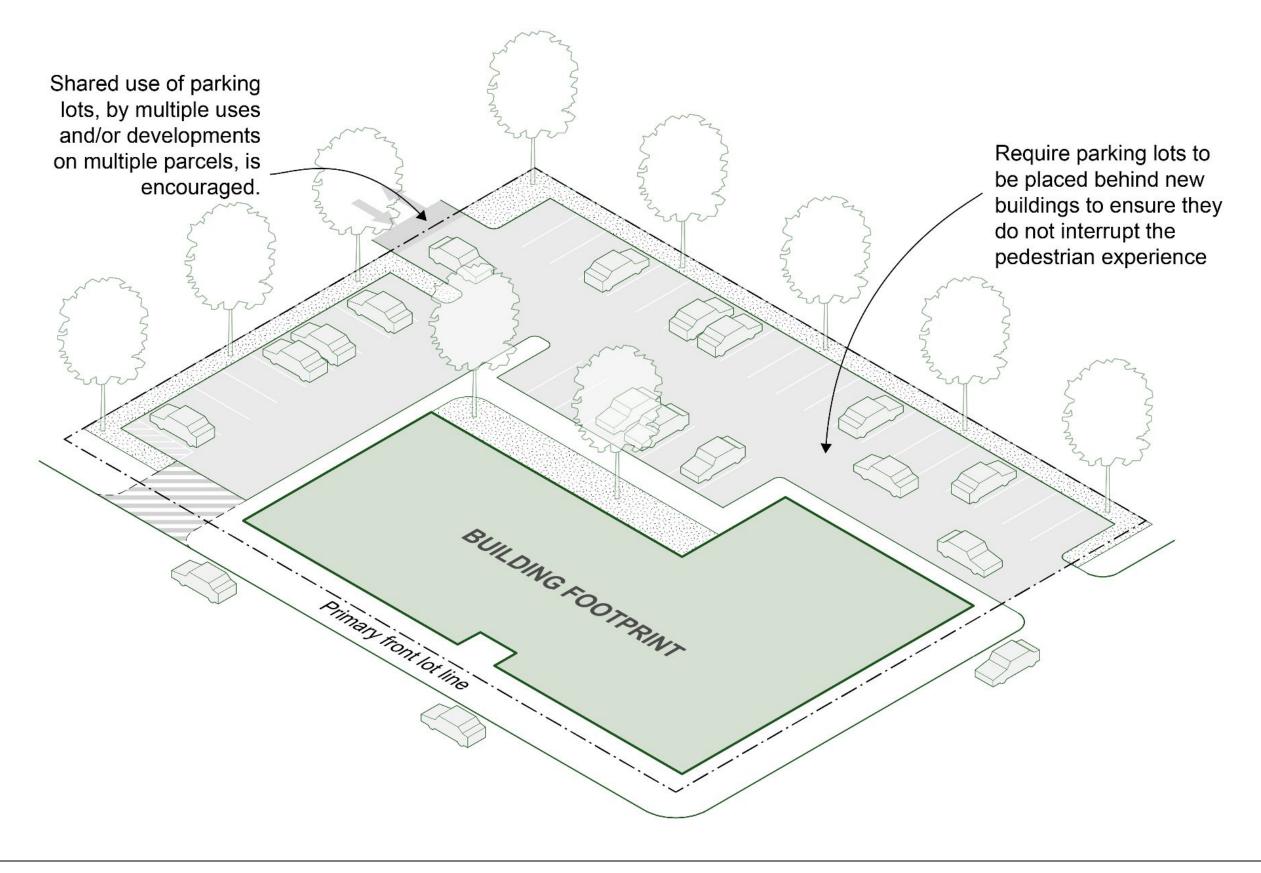
Nitsch Engineering



Site Design Guidelines

Parking and Driveways

- Require parking lots to be placed behind new buildings to ensure they do not interrupt the pedestrian experience.
- Encourage rear parking lots to interconnect with other rear lots and share driveways to maximize visitor convenience and minimize the number of curb cuts.
- Consider shared parking between different uses





Ayer Road Corridor Vision Plan

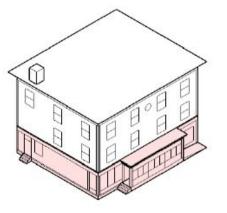
Building Design Guidelines

Buildings Form

- Regulate the type and scale of buildings along the corridor to **fit** with the context of Harvard's existing built character while allowing for the accommodation of larger contiguous floorplates necessary for contemporary commercial uses. Some key metrics to include are:
 - Height and Number of stories Ο
 - Stories heights Ο

utile CODE STUDIO W LANDWISE

- Maximum widths and floorplates Ο
- **Building articulations** Ο
- Require different standards for ground floor design of mix-used and commercial buildings

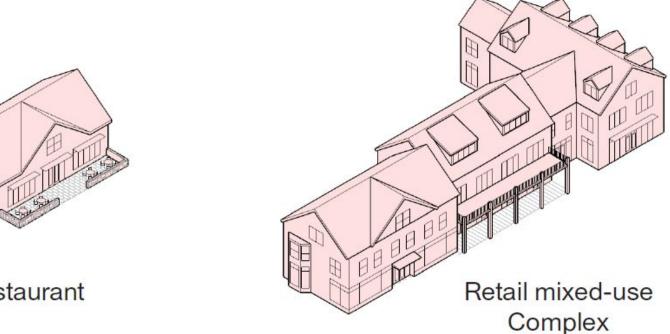


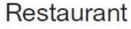
Convenience retail

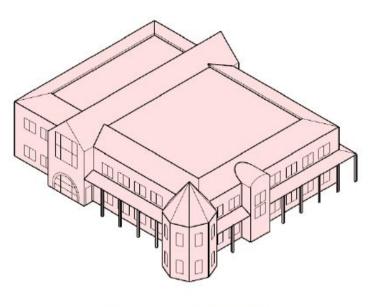


Lodging

Aver Road Corridor Vision Plan





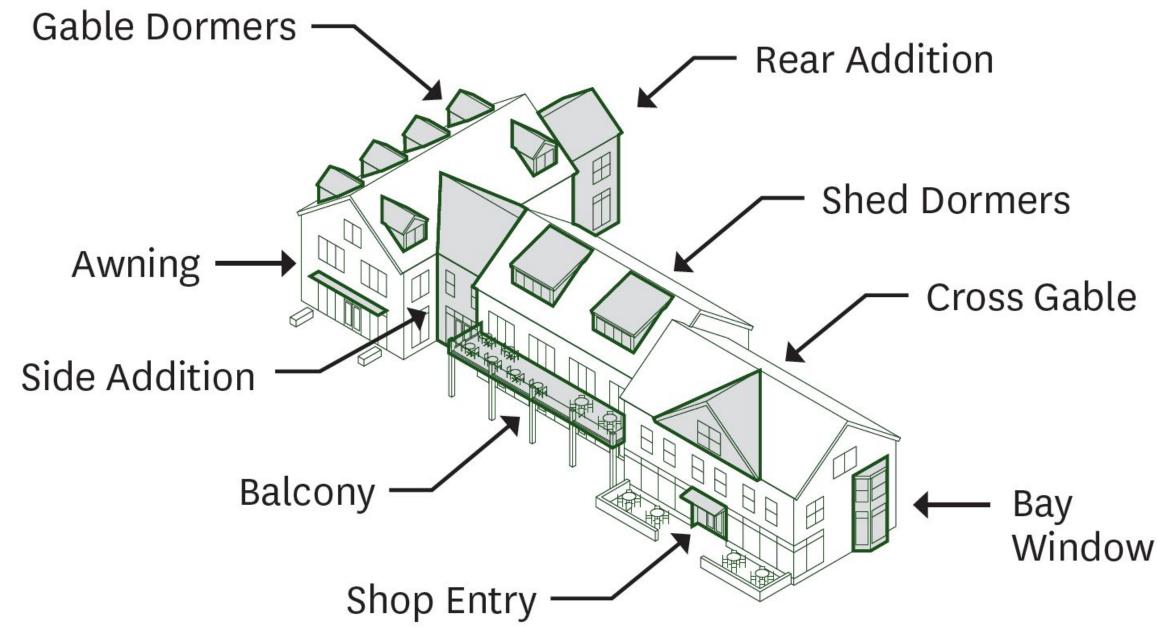


Commercial Office

Building Design Guidelines

Architectural Guidelines

- Regulate relevant architectural features ${ }^{ \bullet }$ based on Harvard's character, including:
 - Facade Articulation Vertical subdivision of the building's facade
 - Fenestration Percentage of Ο glazing in the facade
 - **Building Components Accessory** Ο architectural elements
 - *Frontage Design -* Design of primary Ο entrances
- Limit the type and color of materials to a ${}^{\bullet}$ minimum to maintain a harmonious composition.



Building components are accessory elements attached to primary massing(s) that increase a building's usefulness and provide an important means for achieving variety and individuality in design.



Aver Road Corridor Vision Plan

Landscape and Public Realm Design Guidelines

Parking Design

- Unless specified, limit parking locations behind buildings and landscaped buffers to improve pedestrian conditions and enhance walkability and safety.
- Limit the maximum allowed dimensions of driveways.
- Require a densely planted landscape ${\color{black}\bullet}$ area to screen any parking lot abutting any property line.
- Define a metric to require trees per parking lot surface.

Streetscape Design

- Limit the minimum spacing and the Coordinate the landscape design in number of allowed curb cuts per the frontage area with the abutting parcel, and the curb cuts' widths public sidewalk to provide additional pedestrian amenities such as seating must not be larger than the opportunities and additional trees. driveways.
- Limit the location of driveway aprons Prioritize the use of materials that within the furnishing zone of a are common to Harvard's character, sidewalk to avoid any interference such as short stone walls, pervious with pedestrian circulations. ground covers, and wood decking.

Aver Road Corridor Vision Plan

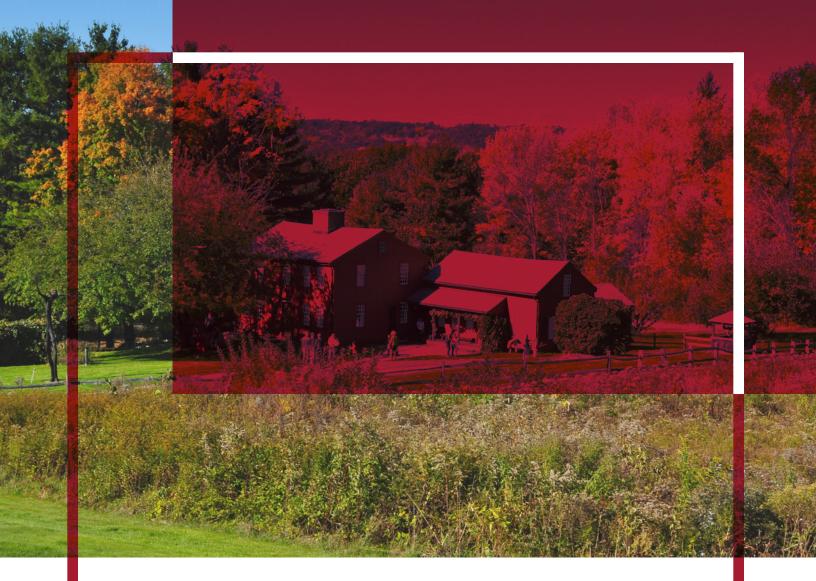
Landscaped areas

Prioritize the use of native plant species and xeriscape.

Appendix

For additional detailed information regarding the project process, the following appendices are available on the Town's website:

- 01_Ayer Road Maps
- 02_Development Precedents
- 03_Development Scenario Takeaways (all sites)
- 04_Development Scenario Test Fit Septic Constraints
- 05_Transportation/Traffic Memo (general assessment)



Code Strategy Report

Ayer Road Corridor Town of Harvard, Massachusetts April 2024

Prepared by:

CODE STUDIO

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Introduction and Vision Plan

INTRODUCTION

Beginning at least as early as 2002, the Town of Harvard has sought to promote mixed-used development, pedestrian-friendly development patterns, and longterm infrastructure improvements in its commercial corridor along Ayer Road. This corridor is home to the Town's commercial zoning district (the C District) and has developed over time with a car-oriented, disjointed pattern of single-use buildings. The redevelopment of the C District has remained an important goal of the Town and continues to enjoy widespread support from residents due to the promise of significant public benefits, including greater social cohesion, increased commercial activity, and a diversified tax base. With this project, the Town seeks to replace its current commercial development process with a new approach, informed by a corridor-specific Vision Plan, to catalyze sustainable development along Ayer Road. Together, the Ayer Road Vision Plan and form-based code will provide the Town of Harvard with the tools to achieve its goal of a mixed-use village along Ayer Road.





AYER ROAD CORRIDOR VISION PLAN

The Vision Plan provides a comprehensive strategy for re-imagining the C District. This strategy is an extension of previous efforts to promote mixed-used development along the corridor, including the 2002 and 2016 master plans, two complementary special permits, and commercial design guidelines. These efforts also include years of community engagement to determine a suitable scale and character for the C District. Because of the considerable public interest in this project, the consultant team adopted a multidisciplinary approach to implement the planning process. In the first phase of the broader Ayer Road Corridor project, the team conducted a market study and fiscal impact analysis to anticipate the challenges and opportunities of mixeduse development in the corridor, including public infrastructure constraints and market conditions.

The second phase of the project, the Vision Plan, expands upon the findings of this initial economic analysis by exploring the viability of different development scenarios on several parcels throughout the corridor. The Vision Plan team also considered possible negative externalities, from increased traffic congestion to environmental degradation, of each development scenario. To finalize the development of the Vision Plan, the team engaged area stakeholders and residents in a participatory planning process consisting of stakeholder interviews, community engagement workshops, and planning board meetings.

SYNTHESIZING THE VISION PLAN

The Ayer Road Vision Plan consists of three key components: a corridor development framework, development scenarios, and design guidelines. The development framework describes in detail the following desired outcomes for future development along Ayer Road, and high-level recommendations on how to achieve them:

Prioritize commercial and mixed-use development

Accommodate a variety of business types, catering to residents and visitors alike, and integrate commercial space with multifamily housing to increase affordability and financial feasibility.

Encourage village-style cluster development

Help preserve a suitable scale and character for the district by authorizing the phased development of smallscale mixed-use commercial and residential projects. Compact development can improve accessibility, walkability, and connectivity.

Foster a continuous built primary frontage

Minimize the number of curb cuts and driveways, which risk contributing to traffic congestion along the corridor. Identify access points and secondary paths to facilitate the flow of traffic.

Improve pedestrian and bike connectivity

Conceal parking lots behind primary buildings and leverage landscape arrangements to enhance the public realm and pedestrian safety. Connect pedestrian paths to existing trail networks throughout Harvard. Use the anticipated Harvard Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) project as an initial launching pad for improvement projects.

Protect natural and agricultural uses

Consider the impact of proposed development on adjacent parcels, and incorporate strategies to appropriately transition between new development and surrounding agricultural and protected lands.

AYER ROAD CORRIDOR VISION PLAN

VISION PLAN DESIGN GUIDELINES

The Vision Plan sets baseline expectations and for some of the more granular aspects of the built environment, including architectural style and character, landscape features, and site planning and building placement. These policy-level design guidelines, together with the corridor development framework, will inform the team's approach to crafting the actual design and building standards in the form-based code.

IMPLEMENTING THE PLAN

As a strategic planning document, the Vision Plan presents a conceptual framework that will directly inform the creation of the form-based code. The combination of Vision Plan and form-based code is a viable and powerful alternative to the Town's current process of regulating development in the C District, with a strong policy foundation supporting clear, actionable, enforceable standards. The primary objective of this project is to empower and equip the Town with the regulatory tools needed to foster predictable and highquality outcomes in the built environment. The following sections of this report include a thorough analysis of the existing bylaw and design guidelines, and a comprehensive summary of the proposed approach for the form-based code.



Analysis of Existing Bylaw

PLANNING AND ZONING CONTEXT

Harvard is a predominantly rural town, primarily zoned for residential, agricultural, and institutional uses. Located between larger urban centers, such as the nearby towns of Ayer, Shirley, and Littleton, the Town has historically accommodated minimal commercial activity. However, the Town's Planning Board has taken several well-intentioned and decisive steps over the last two decades to establish a new center of social and commercial activity in Harvard. In 2002, the Planning Board commissioned the Harvard Master Plan, which included several recommendations to revise the municipal code to catalyze mixed-use development along a minor thoroughfare and simultaneously prevent rapid or speculative development in the Town. In particular, the master plan directed the Planning Board to establish a Commercial District (C District) along Ayer Road, which runs about 1.4 miles between Route 2 to the south and Myrick Lane to the north (see the zoning map on page 8).

Since then, the Planning Board has adopted additional measures focused on creating incentives for commercial developers and leveraging urban design to create an enabling environment for transformative and

sustainable development in the C District. The Aver Road Village Special Permit (ARV-SP) and Mixed-Use Village Development (MUVD) special permits were adopted in 2004. Both special permits are intended to encourage "village-style" development patterns in the C District, characterized by a mix of "services, amenities, and gathering places" integrated with multifamily residential use (Harvard Master Plan 2002, pg. 4.5). To further promote this aspirational vision of a "Main Street" molded in the New England tradition, the Planning Board developed the Commercial Design Guidelines in 2016 to prioritize building, landscaping, and site standards in the development of the C District. Despite these sustained efforts to align the Municipal Code and development review processes with the stated objectives of the C District, progress has been slow and unpredictable, and the corridor remains "haphazardly developed" and underutilized by residents (Harvard Master Plan 2016, pg. 9).

This section of the report summarizes the current bylaw, with a specific focus on the C District, the Ayer Road Village and Mixed-Use Village special permits, and the Commercial Design Guidelines.



COMMERCIAL (C) DISTRICT

The C District was established to accommodate a mix of uses, amenities and services that are prohibited or conditional in other zoning districts in Harvard. Residents overwhelmingly support the Town's long-term vision to transform the C District into a pedestrian-friendly, mixed-use area that blends into the surrounding natural environment and singlefamily neighborhoods. However, as currently written, the zoning bylaws lack the nuance needed to enable development patterns one would expect in a mixed-use commercial corridor.

DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS

Harvard's current Protective Bylaw employs an unusual approach by applying the same standards to regulate land use, lot area, intensity, and frontages across zoning districts with different objectives, including Agricultural Residential (AR), Business (B), Commercial (C), and Watershed Protection and Floodplain (W). As a result, the C District today hosts a built environment dominated by larger single-use buildings surrounded by parking lots, separated by sprawling open lots and occasional agricultural land. This area currently includes several heavy commercial uses such as landscape supply businesses.

To develop property in the C District, developers who do not hold a special permit must comply with somewhat restrictive regulations, including but not limited to the following rules:

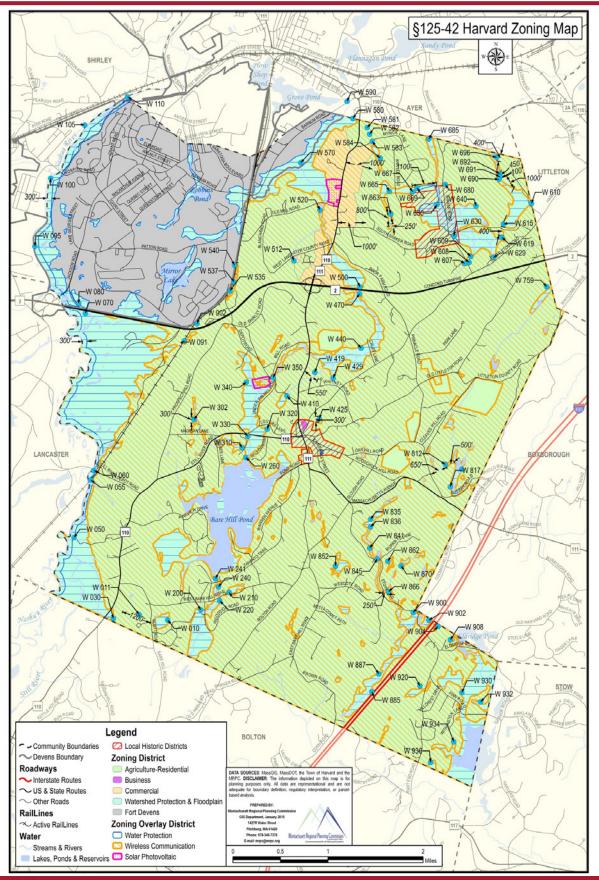
- Maximum FAR of 0.10 or 8,000 SF of building (whichever is larger)
- > Maximum building height of 35 feet or 3 stories
- > Minimum setback from arterial streets (specifically Ayer Road) of 125 feet.
- > Minimum open space coverage of 50 percent of the lot area, plus 25 percent of any lot area over 3 acres
- Maximum 1 building per lot, subject to a lot width circle

CONDITIONAL USE ELEMENTS

As a mitigating measure, the Harvard Planning Board has employed special zoning provisions – namely the Ayer Road Village Special Permit (ARV-SP) and Mixed-Use Village Development (MUVD) – to minimize the conventional commercial sprawl-type development pervasive in the C District. To qualify for either of these special permits, a landowner or developer must meet minimum eligibility requirements and partake in an extensive development review process. Conceptually, an eligible applicant can obtain a special permit to implement a more creative or innovative site plan for various allowable uses, such as grocery stores, restaurants, bookstores, entertainment venues, and some multifamily housing.

While the special permits allow developers to waive many of the base bylaw requirements, only a few developers have pursued this opportunity, and the Town has generally found the process challenging to apply in practice. A lengthy and burdensome permitting process means that only two special permits have been approved (and only one built) in the C District since the adoption of special permit provisions in 2004. These special permit options are examined in more detail in the following section.

CURRENT ZONING MAP



SPECIAL PERMIT OPTIONS

AYER ROAD VILLAGE SPECIAL PERMIT

The Aver Road Village Special Permit (ARV-SP) is the more comprehensive option of the two special zoning provisions incorporated into the current bylaw. Adopted in 2004, the ARV-SP discourages more conventional commercial sprawl-style development patterns by providing incentives for landowners and developers to invest in compact, accessible, and vibrant mixeduse development in the C District. While incentives for specific uses are granted on a case-by-case basis to account for substantial public benefits from each proposed project, they may include waivers from relevant zoning requirements and an increased floorarea ratio (FAR). A second objective of the special permit is to manage traffic along this minor thoroughfare between a major highway and larger urban centers. To this end, the special permit seeks to limit the subdivision of commercial lots, which can cause more traffic congestion and hazards than if smaller lots were merged into well-integrated development sites.

To apply for a special permit, a landowner or their representative must own a lot with a minimum frontage of 300 feet along Ayer Road. Landowners and developers who meet the eligibility requirements may submit their joint applications for a special permit and site plan to the Planning Board, which holds the authority to issue all special permits filed with the town clerk. Due to the high public interest in the future of the C District, the Planning Board has adopted an extensive process to review development proposals under the ARV-SP. In addition to reviewing the site plan and application material, the Planning Board can assess applications against the design guidelines and request additional documentation, including erosion control assessments, traffic impact studies, and complementary special permits related to mixed-use development, sewage disposal, and other factors.

MIXED-USE VILLAGE DEVELOPMENT

The Mixed-Use Village Development (MUVD) special permit can be employed separately or jointly with the ARV-SP to invest in mixed-use development in the C District, subject to the same process as the ARV-SP. According to the bylaw, mixed-use development is categorized under medium-scale commercial uses, along with things such as certain guest accommodations, medical or dental offices, and financial institutions. While the MUVD and ARV-SP both encourage village-style mixed-use development patterns, one of the main objectives of the MUVD is to invest in multifamily housing in mixed-use districts.

Developments built under the MUVD standards can include apartments and condominiums if the residential uses are "integrated with a commercial use constituting 30% or more of the proposed development or total gross floor area" (Harvard Municipal Code, Part II – Protective Bylaw, Chapter 125 - Protective Bylaw, § 125-13Z). The other allowed uses under MUVD include medium-scale grocery stores, restaurants and entertainment venues, and one-screen theaters.

SPECIAL PERMIT OPTIONS

IMPACT ON DEVELOPMENT APPROVAL

As a result of these conditions, the development review process can take months, or even years, and will conclude with a public hearing followed by a final decision. As of 2024, the Planning Board has only approved two ARV-SP developments: a complex consisting of apartments, office space, and a Dunkin' Donuts at 188-200 Ayer Road (below), and a recently approved but unbuilt project just across Ayer Road.



Source: Google Maps

C DISTRICT COMMERCIAL DESIGN GUIDELINES



OVERVIEW OF CURRENT GUIDELINES

The Harvard Commercial Design Guidelines were adopted in 2016, over a decade after the Town revised the Municipal Code to establish the Ayer Road Village Special Permit. The design guidelines were intended to complement and reinforce the zoning regulations and permitting processes adopted to encourage villagestyle, mixed-use development patterns along Ayer Road. The design guidelines were prepared by the Commercial Design Standards Task Force, which was staffed by members of the Planning Board and technical experts across various fields, including architecture, urban design, real estate, landscape architecture, and economic development. By drawing on the insights and recommendations of a comprehensive study of the zoning bylaws and existing physical and spatial conditions in the C District, the Task Force produced a resource that partially fulfilled a direct implementation measure from the Harvard Master Plan 2002, particularly the need to create "strong design guidelines and site standards to support town character" (Harvard Master Plan 2002, pg. 4.5). The design guidelines include guidance on ensuring sustainable development and upholding certain building, landscaping, and site standards. Yet, despite their alignment with the stated objectives of the C District, the design guidelines have not resulted in any significant changes in the development patterns along the corridor in the decade since they were adopted.

DIFFICULTY WITH IMPLEMENTATION

The main issue with the current design guidelines lies in their subjectivity. While the design guidelines presented a vision for the C District, they were also intended to serve as a tool to help developers navigate the development review process and productively engage the Design Review Board (DRB), a subcommittee of the Planning Board responsible for promoting good design principles throughout Harvard. The DRB is also tasked with applying the design guidelines to examine any development proposal in the C District that requires "a building permit for new construction, an addition, exterior alteration, or are subject to site plan review or a special permit" (Harvard Municipal Code §133-62 Applicability). While the design guidelines have assisted Town staff and committees with reviewing development proposals, they are not enforceable in the development review process outside the discretion of the Planning Board to approve or reject applications based on specific design elements in the proposed projects. As such, many developers lack sufficient incentive to submit proposals that reflect the Town's aspirations to transform the C District into a vibrant main street. opting for more conventional commercial development models.

The general, subjective, sometimes vague language of the guidelines has created a process in which the Planning Board is responsible for judging specific design elements on a case-by-case basis, from building roofs and facades, to building and parking placement. Instead of simplifying the development review process, the design guidelines have inadvertently added to the administrative burden and volunteer board workload in implementing the vision of the C District.

An alternative approach should adopt the vision espoused by these guidelines through a more objective, action-oriented tool that can be implemented with less burden on review boards and administrative procedure, and results in a higher-quality built environment and public realm.

Proposed Approach

FORM-BASED CODE ORGANIZATION

The Ayer Road corridor form-based code will be organized as a cohesive regulatory framework, including standards addressing building and site layout and design, as well as detailed information on how these standards are defined and interpreted, a table of land use permissions and related use standards, approval processes for projects within the district, and associated definitions. These sections are shown in the proposed code outline and described in more detail below.

DISTRICT SUMMARY PAGES

The district summary pages (example at right) contain the key building and site design standards (the "form" part of a form-based code) for the Ayer Road district, illustrated and organized into easy-to-read tables. These tables include references to the Rules of Measurement, where each standard is explained in greater detail.

RULES OF MEASUREMENT

The rules of measurement define and illustrate each district metric in a user-friendly way. Each standard or metric generally includes a definition, a statement of applicability, a set of rules for how to measure or interpret the standard, and a description of any forms of relief or methods for alternative compliance (whether by-right or discretionary). Combined with the summary page illustrations and tables, the rules of measurement provide all of the detail required to apply the code to any project.

USE TABLE AND USE STANDARDS

The use table describes which land uses are permitted by right, conditionally permitted, and not permitted within the district. Certain specific uses may be permitted in conjunction with performance standards, which will be listed and described in this section. Finally, any "bonus" uses will be identified here, along with the criteria required to use these programs. One such "bonus" may allow a certain percentage of residential uses on a site as a base entitlement, with higher percentages of residential use allowed only when certain required conditions are met (such as the inclusion of preferred commercial uses, or even a discretionary process requiring commission approval).

DESIGN STANDARDS

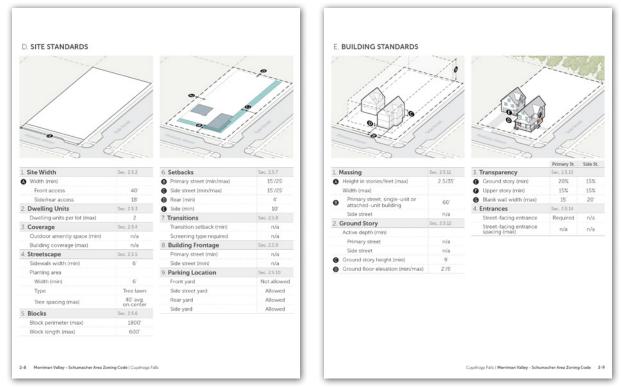
This section contains detailed standards related to the design and layout of site features, including driveways and parking lots, landscaping features, architectural design, and the placement of buildings on a site. These standards will be illustrated and explained in easy-toread text and tables as appropriate.

APPROVALS AND DESIGN REVIEW PROCEDURES

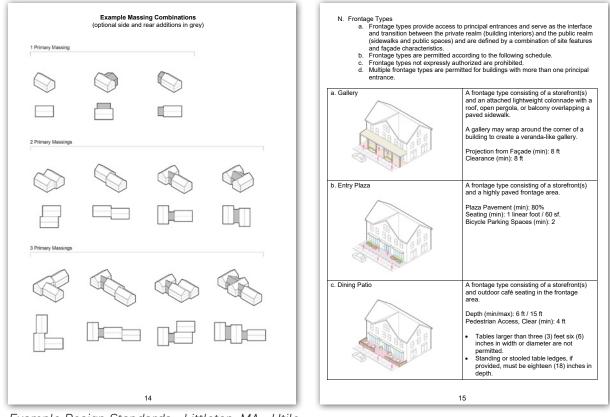
The approvals section will describe the process a proposed development must follow to use the Ayer Road form-based code, illustrated with flow charts. This will likely be proposed as a largely administrative site plan review process conducted by staff, with input from advisory boards as appropriate. Appeals or special cases will rise to the level of review and approval by the Design Review Board and/or Planning Board, as well as any optional or "bonus" programs included in the code.

DEFINITIONS

This section will provide definitions of terms used throughout the Ayer Road form-based code, with these definitions written in plain language to the greatest extent possible.



Example District Summary Pages - Merriman Valley, OH - Code Studio



Example Design Standards - Littleton, MA - Utile

KEY METRICS

HEIGHT, MASSING, AND LOT STANDARDS

Metrics in this section of the code will likely include height (in stories and feet), building size and orientation on the lot, massing elements for each building, minimum setbacks or build-to zones, lot size and coverage, and other spatial standards. Some metrics may vary based on parcel size or frontage width – for instance, smaller parcels may allow for a relatively greater level of some entitlements (such as overall FAR or building bulk) to provide more flexibility for site design and layout.

Some standards may vary based on building location within a site – for instance, buildings fronting along Ayer Road might be subject to a 2.5-story height limit and relatively smaller maximum floor plates to reinforce the character of the corridor, while buildings located deeper into a lot away from the property lines may allow for 3 stories of height and larger footprints. This pattern is seen today in the relative size and height of different buildings at 188-200 Ayer Road, where the 3-story Bowers Brook Apartments are located deeper into the lot than 2.5-story commercial buildings along the road.

BUILDING DESIGN ELEMENTS

These standards will complement the height and bulk regulations to help shape the overall look and feel of buildings and sites developed under the form-based code. These metrics will primarily control finer details of building design than height and mass, including elements such as the amount and size of windows, dormers, balconies, the location and type of entry features (such as stoops, porches, or recessed entries), building articulation, roof style, and certain other architectural features. The approach to regulating building design will likely establish standards for individual building components, as well as how those components fit together into a cohesive whole, and finally how these buildings' frontages interact with the public realm in and around them.

LANDSCAPING

The form-based code will include standards to address landscaping and other natural elements of a site. These might include requirements for planting, screening of various site features, and the protection of, or mitigation of impacts to, existing trees on a site.

PARKING

We propose including a market-based parking approach within the Ayer Road district. There would be no minimum number of spaces required for any land use, instead allowing each property owner to decide the correct amount of parking to provide. This will encourage flexibility and help to avoid unnecessary pavement and its associated negative impacts on the natural environment and the public realm. While in some urban settings, a market-based parking approach can lead to issues with overcrowding of street parking, the lack of other transportation alternatives and the lack of on-street parking in Harvard will mean that developers have a very strong incentive to provide the "right" amount of parking – neither too much nor too little.

The form-based code will also include standards for the design and placement of parking lots, including landscaping and screening requirements, pedestrian walkways, dimensional regulations for individual spaces as well as entire lots, and requirements to locate parking away from primary building frontages along Ayer Road and other pedestrian or open space areas within a site.

ACCESS AND SITE LAYOUT

The form-based code will include elements to encourage multi-modal cross-access interior to parcels, and to reduce the number of curb cuts along Ayer Rd. This may include strategies such as requiring stub-outs to adjoining property lines, encouraging neighboring lots to provide joint access via easements and shared drives, allowing for shared parking arrangements across multiple lots, and providing standards for the design and placement of drive aisles and bike and pedestrian pathways within each development. These strategies along with other regulations in the form-based code will help to encourage the creation of a park-once pattern of development for the Ayer Road corridor.

USE PERMISSIONS AND DEVELOPMENT APPROVALS

The form-based code will include a by-right site plan review process to the extent possible. This represents the inherent "trade-off" of a form-based code, where the greater predictability in outcomes derived from a robust vision planning process, combined with a more prescriptive code, lends itself to a streamlined development approval process. Design standards will be primarily implemented through an administrative design review process by staff, with input from the Design Review Board as appropriate, and full board review on appeals. Careful consideration of use-based performance standards will help to address common concerns beyond the design standards in the code.

We will explore allowing some uses (such as a larger percent share of residential use on a site) or increased flexibility in site design and layout through an optional discretionary approval process. The form-based code will also look carefully at how phased development might be applied to allow developments to better respond to changing market conditions over time.

RELATIONSHIP TO EXISTING BYLAW

STRUCTURE OF THE FORM-BASED CODE

Given the highly graphic and prescriptive nature of a form-based code, the Ayer Road Corridor standards will likely deviate heavily from the current Protective Bylaw as described throughout this document. The form-based code will function best as its own complete set of regulations contained in one place within the Town bylaw. This arrangement will improve the user experience by minimizing cross-references and providing all of the information a property owner will need and will help to ensure the code is as easy to maintain and administer as possible for Town staff and the Planning Board. By reducing references to the greatest extent possible and avoiding the unnecessary duplication of information, the code will minimize the possibility of transcription errors and make future additions or changes easier to draft and codify.

OPTIONS FOR FORM-BASED CODE ADOPTION

There are two main options for how to incorporate the Ayer Road Corridor form-based code into the Town's bylaw. In either option, the Mixed-Use Village Development (MUVD) provisions could remain in the base code for use in other districts, or could be removed and consolidated into the form-based code, given that the MUVD standards have only been used along Ayer Road.

Option 1: Replace the C District (preferred)

With this approach to adoption, the form-based code would entirely replace the C District and the Ayer Road Village (ARV) Special Permit. Those sections would be deleted form the existing bylaw, and properties currently zoned "C" would be re-zoned to the new formbased code district. This option is the simplest approach, and would provide the greatest benefits in terms of ease-of-use and administration. Existing developments which did not meet the standards of the form-based code would be placed into legal nonconformity.

Option 2: Replace the ARV Special Permit

This approach would retain the C District within the Town's protective bylaw, while replacing the ARV-SP with the new form-based code. Under this approach, individual properties would have to opt-in to the formbased code on a case-by-case basis. This option would leave all properties subject to the same standards they are today, and would mean that future development could take place *either* under those standards or the form-based code. While this provides more flexibility, it also complicates the redevelopment process, and provides much less predictability of future development outcomes.

NEXT STEPS

CODE DRAFTING PROCESS AND TIMELINE

The project team is transitioning from the planning stage into drafting the Ayer Road Corridor formbased code. During the drafting process, the team will synthesize the Vision Plan and the approaches described in this report into a cohesive set of standards.

With an ultimate deadline for project completion by mid-June of 2024, the team is targeting the beginning of May for release of a draft code. During the month of May, efforts will be focused on conducting further public engagement with stakeholder outreach and an open house meeting, in order to solicit feedback on the draft from the public and the Planning Board to refine the form-base code. This feedback will be incorporated and the draft updated ahead of the June deadline.



APPLICATION TO THE HARVARD PLANNING BOARD

Applicants should review the Harvard Protective (Zoning) Bylaw, Chapter 125 of the Code of the Town of Harvard, the Planning Board's Rules and Regulations, Chapter 133 of the Code of the Town of Harvard and the Requirements regarding Driveway Inspections (Chapter 125 of the Protective Bylaw). Copies of the Bylaw may be purchased from the Town Clerk and copies of the Rules and Regulations may be purchased from the Land Use Office. Information is also available online at <u>www.harvard.ma.us</u>. The Rules and Regulations specify the documents that are required as a part of the application. The Application, with certified abutters list and filing fee, must be filed with the Town Clerk.

Name of Applicant: Lauderly G. Lima - contractor for Staker Hills CC, Inc.
Address: Lowinster, MA 01453 Phone: Phone: Email:
Applicant is (check one): Owner Agent <u>×</u> Prospective Buyer
Applicant is (check one): Owner Agent x Prospective Buyer ref: 92 South Shaker Rd. more accurately, Location of Property: 146 Shaker Rd. Zoning District: Res Ag
Harvard Assessors' Map 3+6 Parcel 1.1 * 3.1
Registry of Deeds: Book Number 49019 Page Number 291
Owner's Name: Shaker Hills Contry Club Tremail: fourtising gmail.com
Owner's Address: 53 Sheethan Rd., Harvard, MA OHSIOwner's Phone: 508. 335. 7669

Seventeen (17) copies of the application must be submitted to the Town Clerk. This application is for:

Special Permits*	\$500/required permit
Driveway Site Plan	\$180
Inspections of Driveways	\$300
Approval of Covenant	\$100
Wireless Communication Tower	\$2500
Consultant Review Fee**	\$1000
Site Plan Review with a Special Permit	\$180
X Site Plan Review without a Special Permit	\$500
Modification/Extension	1/2 of original application fee
Specific bylaw section(s) you are applying under	125-38 4 125-39

* Unless otherwise specified

** Required with all Special Permit Applications. This is a deposit to cover costs of Planning Board consultants and additional amounts may be required depending on the complexity of the Application. All unused monies will be returned. Please submit "Request for New Vendor" form with application. (Available on line at <u>www.harvard.ma.us</u> under Forms & Documents)

All applications associated with a Wireless Communication Tower requires proof of compliance with § 125-27H(2)

All filing fees are cumulative. All Special Permits and uses subject to Site Plan Approval require Driveway Inspections and written approval by the Planning Board, or its agent, prior to issuance of an occupancy permit or use of the premises (§ 125-31 C) All Shared (common) Driveways require an approved covenant running with the land in accordance with § 125-31 B (4) (b). The applicant will be required to pay a local newspaper of general circulation for the current cost of advertising the hearing. The applicant will be billed directly from the newspaper for the cost of the advertised hearing or all advertising must be paid for in full prior to submittal to the newspaper. The undersigned hereby requests a hearing before the Planning Board with reference to this application?

Signed:

Revised November 7, 2016



March 5, 2024

CHESS Engineering, LLC Attn: Paul Campbell PO Box 9480 Lowell, MA 01853

Re: Wetland Summary Letter Shaker Hills Country Club Harvard, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Campbell,

A professional wetland scientist from Lucas Environmental, LLC (LE) conducted a site investigation on February 20, 2024 to determine if wetland resources were present at or near the site of a newly constructed structure (the "Study Area") on the Shaker Hills Country Club property located at 146 Shaker Road in Harvard, Massachusetts. The Study Area is located to the south of the 12th hole green, at the top of a hill, within an actively maintained portion of the golf course. Please note that this effort is specific to wetland resources; it does not evaluate constraints related to local planning or zoning requirements, historical or cultural significance, nor does it evaluate the potential for soil, air, or water contamination.

The wetland investigation was performed in accordance with the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act (M.G.L. Ch. 131, § 40) and regulations (310 CMR 10.00 *et seq.*); Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344); Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) publication "Massachusetts Handbook for Delineation of Bordering Vegetated Wetlands (2022); and the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers (USACE) Wetland Delineation Manual (1987), the Northcentral and Northeast Regional Supplement (2012); and the Town of Harvard Wetlands Protection Bylaw, Chapter 119 and Wetlands Protection Bylaw Rules, Chapter 147.

The site investigation was limited to wetland areas within 100 feet and perennial streams within 200 feet of the Area of Interest. The Study Area does not include the entire parcel or off-property areas. Note that the site was reviewed under appropriate field conditions, i.e., minimal snow cover or frozen ground.

The following data sources were examined prior to the site investigation:

- Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Flood Insurance Rate Maps;
- United States Geological Survey Topographic Quadrangle;
- MassGIS MassDEP Wetland and Hydrography Datalayers;
- MassGIS Natural Heritage Atlas Datalayers; and
- United States Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service (USDA-NRCS) Soil Survey.

There were no wetlands, watercourses, or buffer zones regulated under the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act, Town of Harvard Wetlands Bylaw, or Section 404 of the Clean Water Act identified.

Wetland Summary Letter





A review of the current MassGIS data layer for the Massachusetts Natural Heritage Atlas (effective August 1, 2021) under the Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program (NHESP) indicates that the Study Area is not located within Priority Habitat of Rare Species or Estimated Habitat of Rare Wildlife. No Certified Vernal Pools under the jurisdiction of the Wetlands Protection Act Regulations (310 CMR 10.00 et seq.) or the Massachusetts Endangered Species Act (321 CMR 10.00 et seq.) occur within the Study Area.

According to the June 4, 2010, FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Map for Worcester County, Map Number 25017C0216E, the Study Area is located in Zone X, which is classified as areas outside the 0.2% annual chance flood (500-year floodplain). Therefore, Bordering Land Subject to Flooding does not occur within the Study Area.

The Study Area is not located within a MassDEP Wellhead Protection Area, Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC), Outstanding Resource Water (ORW), or Watershed Protection Area.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 617.529.8262 or <u>mdv@lucasenviro.com</u> or Christopher Lucas at 617.405.4140 or <u>cml@lucasenviro.com</u>. Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely, LUCAS ENVIRONMENTAL, LLC

atthew (

Matthew Varrell Environmental Consultant/Wetland Scientist & Soil Scientist

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Notes:

1. The Data Accumulation Depicted Hereon Were Obtained By A Field Survey Using Conventional Survey Methods On March 4, 2024 By Chess Engineering, LLC. All Features And Objects Shown Are Existing As Of The Date Of The Survey Unless Otherwise Depicted As Proposed.

2. The Purpose Of This Plan Is For Obtaining Local Approval For The Existing Or Proposed Use Depicted On This Plan Only. This Plan, Was Prepared In Accordance With The Procedural And Technical Standards For The Practice Of Land Surveying In The Commonwealth Of Massachusetts.

3. This Plan Does Not Show Any Unrecorded Or Unwritten Easements Which May Or May Not Exist.

4. This Plan Shall Not Be Used For Construction. Construction Layout Of Buildings, Location Of Site Improvements And Boundary Location Shall Be Performed By A Professional Land Surveyor. Location Of Features Derived By Scaling This Plan May Not Be Accurate

5. This Plan: A) Shall Not Be Recorded, B) Does Not Imply Or Otherwise Certify Any Form Of Ownership, And C) Shall Not Be Used To Determine The Location Of Any Features (Fences, Driveways, etc) Relative To Any Feature Or Boundary Unless Explicitly Dimensioned By CHESS Engineering On This Plan.

6. Scale of Drawing (1" = 40) Intended For A 11"x17" Print Only.

7. No Wetland Resource Areas Within 100' Or Perennial Streams Within 200' Of The Working Zone Per Lucas Environmental Site Visit Conducted On February 20, 2024.

8. No Certification Of Zoning Compliance Has Been Made Or Intended.

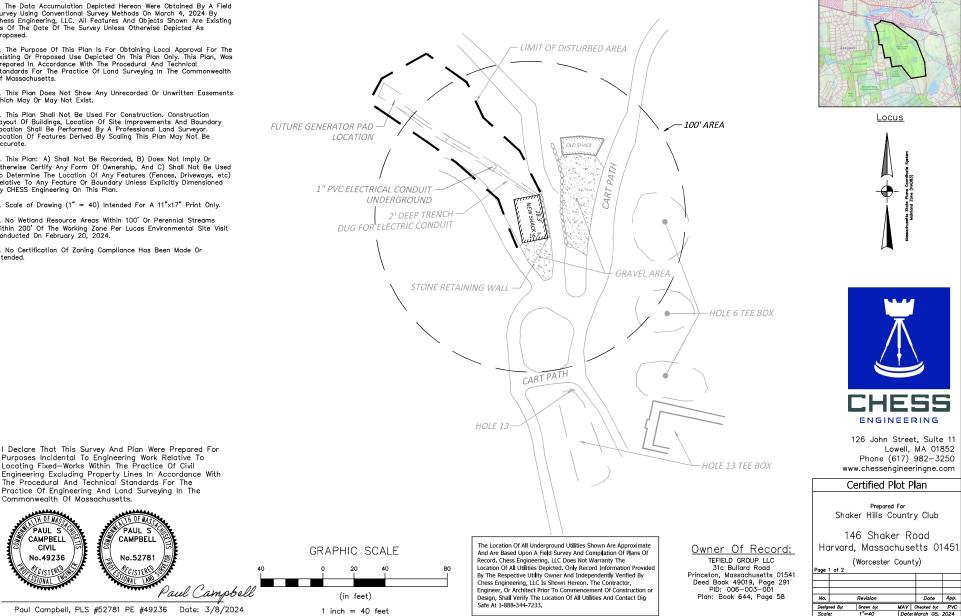
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Plan

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Date App.

MAV Checked by: PVC

Date: March 05, 2024

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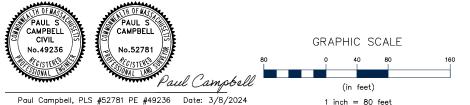
5. This Plan: A) Shall Not Be Recorded, B) Does Not Imply Or Otherwise Certify Any Form Of Ownership, And C) Shall Not Be Used To Determine The Location Of Any Features (Fences, Driveways, etc) Relative To Any Feature Or Boundary Unless Explicitly Dimensioned By CHESS Engineering On This Plan.

6. Scale of Drawing (1" = 80') Intended For A 11"x17" Print Only.

7. No Wetland Resource Areas Within 100' Or Perennial Streams Within 200' Of The Working Zone Per Lucas Environmental Site Visit Conducted On February 20, 2024.

8. No Certification Of Zoning Compliance Has Been Made Or Intended.





The Location Of All Underground Utilities Shown Are Approximate And Are Based Upon A Field Survey And Compilation Of Plans Of Record. Chess Engineering, LLC Does Not Warranty The Location Of All Utilities Depicted. Only Record Information Provided By The Respective Utility Owner And Independently Verified By Chess Engineering, LLC Is Shown Hereon. The Contractor, Engineer, Or Architect Prior To Commencement Of Construction or Design, Shall Verify The Location Of All Utilities And Contact Dig Safe At 1-888-344-7233.

100' AREA

Owner Of Record:

TEFIELD GROUP LLC 31c Bullard Road

Princeton, Massachusetts 01541

Deed Book 49019, Page 291 PID: 006-003-001

Plan: Book 644, Page 58







126 John Street, Suite 11 Lowell, MA 01852 Phone (617) 982-3250 www.chessengineeringne.com

Certified Plot Plan

	Prepared For Shaker Hills Country Club								
	146 Shaker Road Harvard, Massachusetts 01451 (Worcester County) Poge 2 of 2								
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LIMIT OF WORK

LOCATION OF NEW SHED

Project Narrative

Reference B-23-423

The purpose of the requested Site Plan Review is to allow for the existing smaller snack shack (aka Far Point Pavilion) to be replaced with a larger and more accommodating Snack Shack/Refreshment Center. The older snack shack will remain and serve as storage and support for the newer Snack Shack. The original Special Permit issued on September 17, 2012 has been recorded with the Worcester DRD in Book 70276, Page 141. No changes to the lot lines, parking, or driveways are proposed. Replacement of the existing snack shack is intended to improve a golfer's enjoyment of the course but is not likely to affect the number of golfers.

The new Snack Shack will be positioned in between pre-existing golf cart pathways at Holes 6 and 13 with short gravel entrance paths added. It would be accessible by walking or by golf cart. The Golf Course is expansive, being over 170 acres, meaning that the 473 square foot footprint of the new Snack Shack would be extremely minor relative to the entire property. No decking is proposed. The location of the proposed Snack Shack is adjacent to the older snack shack, secluded by surrounding forest, and is far removed and well in excess of the setback requirements regarding any wetlands, abutting property, and roadways. (See Site Plan.)

The small fifteen (15') foot high structure is designed in classic Shaker style as a tribute to our local heritage and is a highlight to urban golfers who visit. It would be constructed of rough barn board with small antique windows for style. Cedar shake shingles adorn the roof. The Snack Shack, being of seasonal nature and limited hours, allows our electricity requirements to be accommodated by a small Honda generator which is low noise and perfect for our operation. All food and drink sold are of a "grab and go" nature since the customers are golfers playing their golf round with no time to sit. The Snack Shack would not be connected to any public or private water supply as only bottled water will be made available. There will be no restrooms in the Snack Shack so there is no need to connect to septic. Trash would be picked up according to the procedures already in place. There is no need for external lighting on or at the Snack Shack as operations would only occur when the golf course is open and according to the terms of the existing Special Permit.

In the event of a fire, water would be provided from a pond located less than 1000 feet away. Arrangements regarding emergency services, such as the ability to reach the Snack Shack by ambulance, would remain unchanged as the location of the new Snack Shack is close to the existing pavilion.

A concession stand is a commonly recognized structure on other local golf courses. This is further supported by the fact that a similar structure was previously approved at the Shaker Hills Country Club in the 2012 Special Permit. The Snack Shack proposed is an upgraded version of the previously approved pavilion and while it performs the same function, it would be better looking and better suited to its patrons.

Worcester District Registry of Deeds - 20/20 Perfect Vision i2 Document Detail Report

Current datetime: 3/12/2024 4:10:53 PM

Doc#	Document Type	Town	Book/Page	File Date	Consideration				
17711	DECISION		70276/141	03/12/2024					
Duran anti- Ctura									
Property-Street Address and/or Description									
146 SHAKER R	146 SHAKER RD								
Grantors									
SHAKER HILLS COUNTRY CLUB, HARVARD TOWN PLANNING									
Grantees									
References-Bo	ok/Pg Description Re	corded Year							
49019/291 FD	2012								
Registered Lar	Registered Land Certificate(s)-Cert# Book/Pg								

Bk: 70276 Pg: 141 2024 0001711 Bk: 70276 Pg: 141 Page: 1 of 4 03/12/2024 02:08 PM WD Page: 1 of 4 03/12/2024 02:08 PM WD Page: 1 of 4 03/12/2024 02:08 PM WD Page: 1 of 4 03/12/2024 02:08 PM WD	To: Shaker Hills Country Club 146 Shaker Road Harvard, MA 01451	To: Fred Curtis, Tefield Group LLC 31C Bullard Road Princeton, MA 01541	September 17, 2012 HARVARD PLANNING BOARD	NOTICE ON APPLICATION OF Shaker Hills Country Club	for	Site Plan Review for construction of the Far Point Pavilion at	146 Shaker Road Harvard, MA 01451 Assessor's Map 3 & 6 Assessors Parcels: 1.1 & 3.1 Registry of Deeds Book: 49019 Page: 291	Shaker Hills Country Club requested Site Plan Approval for the construction of a pavilion on the southeast part of the golf course (referred to as Far Point Pavilion) provided the Plan meets the conditions of Chapter 125-38 Site Plans and 125-39 Site Standards.	ANS AND DOCUMENTS SUBMITTED IN SUPPORT OF THE APPLICATION FOR SITE PLAN REVIEW	The Application for Site Plan Review was received by the Harvard Town Clerk on August 13, 2012 with the corresponding fees paid and also: a. A Plan, from Whitman & Bingham Associates, 510 Mechanic Street, Leominster, MA 01453 dated August 10, 2012, titled "PROPOSED
OFFICE OF THE PLANNING BOARD Page: 1- 13 AYER ROAD HARVARD, MA 01461 878-456-410	To: Janet Vellante, Town Clerk 13 Ayer Road Harvard, MA 01451	True Copy Lieur vi Juande Attest	01 =	NOTICE ON Shaker Hi		1AH) st	146 S Harvar Assesso Assessors I Registry of Deeds	Shaker Hills Country Club requested pavilion on the southeast part of the g provided the Plan meets the conditions St	PLANS AND DOCUMENTS SUBMITTE SITE PI	 The Application for Site Plan Review August 13, 2012 with the correspondin a. A Plan, from Whitman & Bit Leominster, MA 01453 date

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PAVILION SITE PLAN FOR SHAKER HILLS COUNTRY CLUB".

- b. Four (4) pages of architectural renderings of the proposed building and decking for Far Point Pavilion, Shaker Hill Golf Course dated July 27, 2012 from Whitman & Bingham Associates titled, "A.101, First Floor Plan", "A.201, Exterior Elevation", "A.301, Building Sections" and S.101, Framing Plan".
- c. One (1) page narrative from Whitman & Bingham describing the proposed pavilion project. Not dated, but received by the Harvard Planning Board in meeting on September 10, 2012.
- d. A Plan, from Whitman & Bingham Associates dated August 10, 2012, received in meeting by the Harvard Planning Board on September 10, 2012 and titled, "Proposed Pavilion Site Plan for Shaker Hills Country Club in Harvard Massachusetts". Prepared for Shaker Hills Country Club, Timothy Valas 146 Shaker Road, Harvard, Massachusetts 978-772-3330. Job Number 12585, Plan Number 31-D-3.
- II. Materials from Other Town Boards and/or Interested Parties:
 - a. Handwritten note dated August 20, 2012 from Gabe Vellante, Building Commissioner.
 - b. Letter addressed to Harvard Planning Board dated September 17, 2012 from Emergency Services Director, Chief Richard Sicard.
- III. Planning Board Review of the Shaker Hills Country Club Proposed Pavilion with Decking, Far Point Pavilion
 - a. The Site Plan Review for the proposed Pavilion at Shaker Hills Country Club was discussed at regularly scheduled public meetings of the Harvard Planning Board on August 20, 2012, September 10, 2012 and September 17, 2012.
 - b. A formal site walk for the project took place at 7:30am on August 28, 2012 with Planning Board Members Tim Schmoyer, Rich Marcello, Joe Hutchinson and Michelle Catalina. Tim Valas, General Manager of Shaker Hills Country Club and Stephen Ballard, Project Surveyor from Whitman & Bingham Associates, LLC were present to answer questions.

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FINDINGS

- I. The Applicant, Shaker Hills Country Club, would like to build a 160 square foot building and an approximately 2000 square foot deck which will accommodate seating for 102 people.
- The proposed building and decking are a modification to an existing Site Plan approved by the Harvard Board of Selectmen on April 3, 1990 with modifications on July 18, 1990.
- III. There is an existing building at the site of 183 square feet and the proposed building will be smaller, only 160 square feet.
- IV. The proposed structure is set back 381 feet from the nearest property line, meeting the set back condition of 125-30(3), land structure relations.
- V. The proposed structure is approximately 600 feet from the nearest residence and completely screened from the residence by dense woods. Planning Board members walked to the edge of the cleared area into the woods until reaching a private property sign of the nearest residence. The residence was well screened from the proposed pavilion.
- VI. No roads are being built and the pavilion will be accessed by walking or golf cart.
- VII. There will be no lighting on or at the pavilion (125-39D.(1)).
- VIII. The maximum height of the structure is around sixteen (16) feet above grade meeting the requirement of Chapter 125-30C, that the height of the structure be less than 35 feet.
- IX. The pavilion will open when the golf course opens and close 30 minutes after sunset.
- X. Fire protection as required by 125-39E. is provided by a pond approximately 600 feet from the pavilion.
- XI. Emergency Services Director, Chief Richard Sicard, met with the General Manager of the Shaker Hills Country Club, Timothy Valas, on two occasions to make certain the ambulance could safely reach a patron at the pavilion. The Fire Chief has suggested the cutting of trees to make the site more accessible for the ambulance.
- XII. In the original decision to allow Shaker Hills Golf Course, now Shaker Hills Country Club, it was the intent that any structure or building commonly found on a golf course should be allowed at this golf course. Mr. Ballard provided evidence of two local country clubs which both have buildings like the pavilion proposed for Shaker Hills Country Club.

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DECISION

On September 17, 2012, by a unanimous vote of the four (4) members eligible to vote, the Harvard Planning Board approves the site plan subject to the following conditions:

- 1. Trees will be cut as directed by Harvard's Emergency Services Director, Chief Richard Sicard, to make the pavilion more easily accessible by ambulance.
- The pavilion will operate from business opening until 30 minutes after sunset.
- 3. An as built plan shall be filed with the Building Inspector at project completion.

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/ Michelle Catalina, Chair

Peter frooks

Richard Marcello, Member

Hutchinson, Member

Being four (4) Members of a five (5) Member Board

True Copy Aneu Muande Attest

3-12-24 I hereby certity the twenty (20) day appeal period on this decision has expined and no appeals have been filled with this othic. And Might al



WORCESTER DISTRICT REGISTRY OF DEEDS *A division of the Secretary of the Commonwealth* 90 Front Street – C201 Worcester, MA 01608 Tel. (508) 368-7001 Fax (508) 798-7746 worcesterdeeds.com

Kathryn A. Toomey Register

TO: Clerks/Planning Boards

DATE: April 1, 2024

RE: Recording of Plans MGL Ch.41

Dear Town Clerk or Planning Board Members:

Happy 2024, I would like to remind your Planning Board to continue to keep our Registry staff up to date. Kindly provide a list of your current Planning Board members, including signatures and appointment/expiration dates.

Enclosed please find our form to complete and return as soon as possible, <u>after your</u> <u>annual town elections.</u>

Please note, regarding ANR (Approval Not Required) plan(s); It is imperative you complete the section in the middle of the form. If it will be "majority of the above" signatures, please specify such in this section. If only "1" or "2" signatures are required, but only certain Board members, please specify which members, along with the number of signatures required.

This office can make no assumptions. As you know, all of the Worcester District cities/towns have different rules and procedures. Failure to provide this completed form and updated information will result in our office rejecting plan(s) due to missing information it is imperative we have current information regarding the Planning Board.

Sincerely. Kathryn A. Toomey

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MEMBER NAME (Print/Type)	MEMBER SIGNATURE	ELECTION/APPOINTMENT (MM/DD/YYYY)	TERM EXPIRES (MM/DD/YYYY)
			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·

Number of Signatures Required ______ AUTHORIZED AGENTS SIGNING FOR APPROVAL NOT REQUIRED

MEMBER NAME (Print/Type)	MEMBER SIGNATURE	ELECTION/APPOINTMENT (MM/DD/YYYY)	TERM EXPIRES (MM/DD/YYYY)

DATE OF NEXT ELECTION ______(MM/DD/YYYY)

AFTER COMPLETION, PLEASE MAIL ORIGINAL TO: WORCESTER DISTRICT REGISTRY OF DEEDS ATTENTION: PLAN DEPARTMENT 90 FRONT STREET - #C201 WORCESTER, MA 01608

Mass. General Laws Ch.41

APPLICATION TO THE HARVARD PLANNING BOARD

Applicants should review the Harvard Protective (Zoning) Bylaw, Chapter 125 of the Code of the Town of Harvard, the Planning Board's Rules and Regulations, Chapter 133 of the Code of the Town of Harvard and the Requirements regarding Driveway Inspections (Chapter 125 of the Protective Bylaw). Copies of the Bylaw may be purchased from the Town Clerk and copies of the Rules and Regulations may be purchased from the Land Use Office. Information is also available online at <u>www.harvard.ma.us</u>. The Rules and Regulations specify the documents that are required as a part of the application. The Application, with certified abutters list and filing fee, must be filed with the Town Clerk.

Name of Applicant: Pamela J. Brown, Esq. for Bespoke Landscaping

Address: Brown & Brown PC Phone:	(781) 275-	7267 Email: pbrown@bro	own-brown-pc.com
Applicant is (check one): Owner Agent	X	Prospective Buyer	
Location of Property: 288 Ayer Road	Zor	ning District:C	
Harvard Assessors' Map004	_Parcel	34	
Registry of Deeds: Book Number 67617		Page Number	325
Owner's Name: Dave & Jeff Rossi, Trustees	_Email:	david@rerfuel.com	
Owner's Address: 3 Minuteman Drive, Bedford 01	730	Owner's Phone: (617	7) 429-7234

Seventeen (17) copies of the application must be submitted to the Town Clerk. This application is for:

X_Special Permits*	\$500/required permit
Driveway Site Plan	\$180
Inspections of Driveways	\$300
Approval of Covenant	\$100
Wireless Communication Tower	\$2500
Consultant Review Fee**	\$1000
X Consultant Review Fee** X Site Plan Review with a Special Permit	\$180
Site Plan Review without a Special Permit	\$500
Modification/Extension	1/2 of original application fee

Specific bylaw section(s) you are applying under <u>§125-23.B(1) (Medium scale commercial uses) and 125-13.T</u>

* Unless otherwise specified

(Landscaping services involving equipment parking).

** Required with all Special Permit Applications. This is a deposit to cover costs of Planning Board consultants and additional amounts may be required depending on the complexity of the Application. All unused monies will be returned. Please submit "Request for New Vendor" form with application. (Available on line at <u>www.harvard.ma.us</u> under Forms & Documents)

All applications associated with a Wireless Communication Tower requires proof of compliance with § 125-27H(2)

All filing fees are cumulative. All Special Permits and uses subject to Site Plan Approval require Driveway Inspections and written approval by the Planning Board, or its agent, prior to issuance of an occupancy permit or use of the premises (§ 125-31 C) All Shared (common) Driveways require an approved covenant running with the land in accordance with § 125-31 B (4) (b). The applicant will be required to pay a local newspaper of general circulation for the current cost of advertising the hearing. The applicant will be billed directly from the newspaper for the cost of the advertised hearing or all advertising must be paid for in full prior to submittal to the newspaper. The undersigned hereby requests a hearing before the Planning Board with reference to this application.

Signed:

ord

Revised November 7, 2016

BROWN & BROWN, P.C.

JOHN F. BROWN - (1891-1959)

NATHANIEL K. BROWN^{*} MARK S. RAFFA JAMES M. DONOVAN PAMELA J. BROWN, FAICP^{*} ERIC R. PRICHARD BRITNEY M. MARTIN^{*}

* ALSO ADMITTED IN NEW HAMPSHIRE

COUNSELLORS-AT-LAW 110 GREAT ROAD BEDFORD, MASSACHUSETTS 01730

TELEPHONE (781) 275-7267 TELECOPIER (781) 275-6940

WEBSITE: www.brown-brown-pc.com Email: pbrown@brown-brown-pc.com

> OF COUNSEL GEORGE E. FOOTE

January 21, 2024

Mr. Richard S. Cabelus, Chair Ayer Planning Board 13 Ayer Road Harvard, MA 01451

RE: 288 Ayer Road – Special Permit Request for Bespoke Landscaping

Dear Mr. Cabelus and Members of the Board:

On behalf of David and Jeffrey Rossi, owners of the property at 288 Ayer Road (as Trustees of The 39 Eaton Realty Trust) and Scott Rossi, owner of Bespoke Contracting LLC, we seek the Board's review and approval of a special permit to allow use of a portion of the property for a landscape contracting business. This use is permitted in accordance with Zoning bylaw §125-23.B(1) (Medium scale commercial uses) and 125-13.T (Landscaping services involving equipment parking).

As the property is already characterized by an existing two-family home, the resulting use mix would also support the goals of §125-13.Z (1) Mixed-use Village Development (MUVD). The applicant intends to conduct a family landscaping business to the rear of the existing dwelling. The landscaping business is a division of Bespoke Contracting's home improvement and construction business, currently located Belmont. Harvard will serve as a satellite facility for conduct of the landscaping business, similar to the satellite in the owner's hometown of Bedford (see photos attached). In association with the business, landscaping machinery, equipment and material stock (stone, brick, gravel, etc.) will be stored on site for use on projects in Harvard and surrounding communities. In the future, it is anticipated that a garage might be constructed to allow equipment to be stored under cover; however, no structures are proposed at this time.

The existing 8.53-acre site is located in the Commercial zoning district and characterized by a house built c. 1890 that was recently renovated by the property owner. The two-family home is vested in accordance with Harvard Zoning §125-3 and presently rented. A stream and wetland through the center of the site leaves 3.41 acres of upland (outside of the 100-foot wetland buffer) in the front portion of the property abutting Ayer Road, with another upland area upgradient of the wetland system to the east. A small portion of the easternmost section of the lot is in the Agriculture - Residential Zone, although none of the A-R zoned land is proposed for use.

Harvard's Protective Bylaw §125-23 indicates that "The intent of the C District is to permit shopping and business services type land uses that meet the needs of the local community rather than the region, and to encourage uses that, when established, result in a traditional New *England village form of development of appropriate scale, character, vernacular architecture,* design, and detail."

Bespoke will serve Harvard and beyond. In addition, the mix of uses with the residential dwelling closer to the street and commercial activity at the rear of the property is reflective of historic land use patterns. Under §125-39 Site Standards, paragraph D(2) applicable to mediumscale commercial uses, "any outdoor area for storage or for utilities shall be screened from view from neighboring properties and streets." The non-residential uses on site will be set back over 50 feet from Ayer Road. The Rossi family intends to extend the 6-foot stockade fencing to buffer the contractors' yard from the adjacent office use at 284 Ayer Road and has already installed many arborvitaes to screen the proposed use from abutting properties and Ayer Road.

The 288 Ayer Road neighborhood is mixed in terms of use. Immediately across the street at 289 Ayer Road is Harvard Outdoor Power Equipment, an adjacent shopping center including Sorrento's Pizza, a package store and real estate office located at 285 Ayer Road, and Rollstone Bank & Trust at 283 Ayer Road. Kennedy & Company, Inc. is located north at 295 Ayer Road. Bespoke does not anticipate being a direct competitor to Kennedy. The area is also characterized by a two-story multi-tenant brick office building at 280 and the adjacent building at 284 Aver is home to a certified public accountant and financial advisor. The landscaping operations at 288 Ayer Road will be a low impact complement to the neighborhood, with limited daily activity and visibility from the street. Activity will include deliveries, loading and storage for off-site construction and landscape installations.

As no buildings are presently proposed, and existing curb cuts will be used, we respectfully request a waiver of any specific site plan details not shown on the enclosed plans. A detailed response to the provisions of §125-38 and §125-39 follow. Visually, the landscape contractor operations will be hidden from the street. We believe that the property owner and related party Bespoke Landscaping will be a good neighbor to all and trust that the Board will agree to issue a special permit for the proposed landscape contractor use.

We look forward to responding to any questions you might have at an upcoming meeting of the Planning Board.

Very truly yours,

ela J. Bron

Pamela J. Brown

COMPLIANCE WITH BYLAW STANDARDS

<u>§125-38 Site plans.</u>

Site plan approval is required for uses subject to § <u>125-39</u>. Site standards, and as such is required for the proposed landscape contractor use. That said, no buildings are proposed and the existing curb cut will be used for access to the non-residential area of the site. Neither the access drive nor equipment/vehicle parking areas are proposed to be paved. For these reasons, we respectfully request waivers from site plan requirements where such requirements are not applicable to the proposal.

Content of Plans:

- (1) Lot boundaries and existing buildings are shown. The site plans included show the property lines and existing structure. As no new structures are proposed, photographs of the existing two-family home at the front of the site are included.
- (2) Parking, loading, maneuvering, storage and service areas or uses, walkways, driveways, lighting, green areas and visual screening. Driveways and equipment storage areas are shown as well as existing and proposed fence and buffer landscaping.
- (3) Provisions for water supply and reservoirs, surface water drainage, and treatment and disposal of sewage and any other wastes. Not applicable to the landscape contractor yard. The existing dwelling is serviced by utilities; however, the commercial use will not require water supply or sewage disposal. Drainage shall remain as in the existing condition.
- (4) Levels and grades where substantial excavation or fill is involved. Not applicable, no excavation or fill is proposed.
- (5) Clearing limits used to calculate both the volume and rate of surface water runoff. Not applicable, no clearing is proposed and no additional impervious surface will be installed. The limit of site for the contractor's yard is shown on the plans.

Design Review:

The requirements of 125-38 F. relate to the design of buildings – Not applicable as no new buildings are proposed.

§125-39 Site Standards.

A. Parking and loading.

- (1) Driveway access will be over the existing driveway located to the north of the house, parking, turnaround and storage areas will not be paved and will not be shared with adjacent lots.
- (2) The existing driveway to serve the landscape contractor's use provides convenient and safe access for vehicles. The use is not open for public visitation, so potential pedestrian conflicts are avoided.
- (3) There are no delineated parking spaces or parking access aisles. The majority of the site will be left "green" (undeveloped). Subsections (a) and (b) are not applicable.
- (4) All outdoor areas for storage or overnight parking of trucks, trailers and equipment are set back from the street and will be fenced and buffered by vegetation from the existing home, abutters and the street.
- (5) The existing curb cut at Ayer Road is sufficient to handle the turning radius of all vehicles intended to enter the site.

B. Standards for driveways.

- (1) This section of Ayer Road is straight, and therefore, driveway sight distance is easily satisfied. Using the most conservative standard with 50 mph speeds, stopping sight distance per ASSHTO is 425 feet. As shown in the exhibit attached, stopping sight distance is at least 600' to the north and 850' to the south.
- (2) (4) Residential provisions are not applicable to Landscape contractor use.
- (5) Non-residential Driveway Standards.
 - (a) Only one site driveway is proposed for access to the landscaping operations.
 [1] a formal traffic island is not proposed, as the single non-residential entrance/exit driveway will remain gravel, minimizing visual impact.
 [2] trip generation will not exceed 400 ADT, rather, closer to 10 daily trips.
 - (b) The use of the property will preserve the buffer strip defined in §125-39C(1), by providing a minimum 20-foot setback between the property lines and the area of commercial activity.
 - (c) No internal roadways are proposed, the access driveway exists and the abutting uses are not similar in nature to make interconnections between adjacent properties desirable.
 - (d) The site is not being re-developed, but rather a small business will utilize the land to the rear and side of the existing 2-family home; a new curb cut is not necessary.
 - (e) The angle of intersection of the site driveway with Ayer Road is close to 90°. The entrance is slightly flared to allow turning of larger trucks or trucks with trailers. There is sufficient area within the site that to permit a truck to turn around. In an emergency, secondary access is also available through the residential driveway (which is separated from the commercial use by a gated fence).
- (6) Driveway Construction.

In general, this section is not applicable. The proposed use will be very low intensity and no driveway or parking area is proposed for pavement. The use does not invite the public and no structures are proposed to support the landscape contractor's yard. The existing gravel surface is sufficient for the proposed use by Bespoke and the public will not access the area. As it is not paved, stormwater runoff will infiltrate or flow over vegetated areas toward the wetland area located over 100 feet to the east. According to the NSCS, the majority of the area proposed for the contractor's yard is Walpole, fine sandy loam. Stormwater has and will continue to infiltrate the land surface.

- (7) Turnarounds. Existing since 1890, the 2-family dwelling is served by a single driveway along the property's 277 feet of frontage. Access to the commercial area is gained from the end of this driveway via gate in the fence; however, primary access to the Bespoke yard is by the existing driveway north of the residential driveway. The area of the commercial yard is sufficient to turn around large trucks (able to satisfy the 30' inside radius requirement).
- (8) Runouts. The existing driveway width is consistent running from Ayer Road into the open yard portion of the site, excepting the limited turning area at the street. As an informal gravel driveway, there is no curbing or pavement proposed.

C. Open areas.

(1) A buffer strip is proposed along each common property line with abutters on Ayer Road. In accordance with subsection C (1)(a), a small business identification sign is proposed at the driveway entrance to distinguish the entrance from the residential driveway. The proposed Entrance Sign shall not to exceed 10" height by 30" length, similar to a street sign, but installed lower to the ground. Below is an image of the proposed signage.



(2) The site is over 1,100 feet deep. All of the developed area (residential and proposed commercial) is located on the front quarter of the site, with no activity proposed beyond the point 300' distant from Ayer Road. Existing vegetation along Ayer Road will remain and additional buffer landscaping and fence will be installed.

D. Screening

- (1) As the business use of the property is anticipated only during daylight hours, and no buildings are to be constructed, no site lighting is proposed.
- (2) As shown on the Plan, all outdoor storage of equipment and materials shall be buffered from the street and abutters.
- (3) Regardless of applicable exceptions, screening is provided.
- (4) Screening includes 6' wood stockade fence coupled with arborvitae plantings.

E. Fire Protection. Not applicable, no buildings proposed.

F. Drainage. The use of the land as a landscape contractors yard will not change the stormwater runoff characteristics. We do not believe that the DEP Stormwater Management guidelines are applicable as no pavement or buildings will be added.

G. Sidewalks. Given the small scale of the proposal and the particular use, sidewalks (internal or on Ayer Road) would not benefit the business. Further, no sidewalks currently exist on this section of Ayer Road. If desirable to support a community master plan, the applicant would consider the grant of a sidewalk easement for future development by the Town.

APPLICATION TO THE HARVARD PLANNING BOARD

Applicants should review the Harvard Protective (Zoning) Bylaw, Chapter 125 of the Code of the Town of Harvard, the Planning Board's Rules and Regulations, Chapter 133 of the Code of the Town of Harvard and the Requirements regarding Driveway Inspections (Chapter 125 of the Protective Bylaw). Copies of the Bylaw may be purchased from the Town Clerk and copies of the Rules and Regulations may be purchased from the Land Use Office. Information is also available online at <u>www.harvard.ma.us</u>. The Rules and Regulations specify the documents that are required as a part of the application. The Application, with certified abutters list and filing fee, must be filed with the Town Clerk.

Name of Applicant: Pamela J. Brown, Esq. for Bespoke Landscaping

Address: Brown & Brown PC Phone:	(781) 275-	7267 Email: pbrown@bro	own-brown-pc.com
Applicant is (check one): Owner Agent	X	Prospective Buyer	
Location of Property: 288 Ayer Road	Zor	ning District:C	
Harvard Assessors' Map004	_ Parcel	34	
Registry of Deeds: Book Number 67617		Page Number	325
Owner's Name: Dave & Jeff Rossi, Trustees	Email:	david@rerfuel.com	
Owner's Address: 3 Minuteman Drive, Bedford 01	730	Owner's Phone: (61)	7) 429-7234

Seventeen (17) copies of the application must be submitted to the Town Clerk. This application is for:

X Special Permits*	\$500/required permit
Driveway Site Plan	\$180
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Approval of Covenant	\$100
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Specific bylaw section(s) you are applying under <u>§125-23.B(1) (Medium scale commercial uses) and 125-13.T</u>

* Unless otherwise specified

(Landscaping services involving equipment parking).

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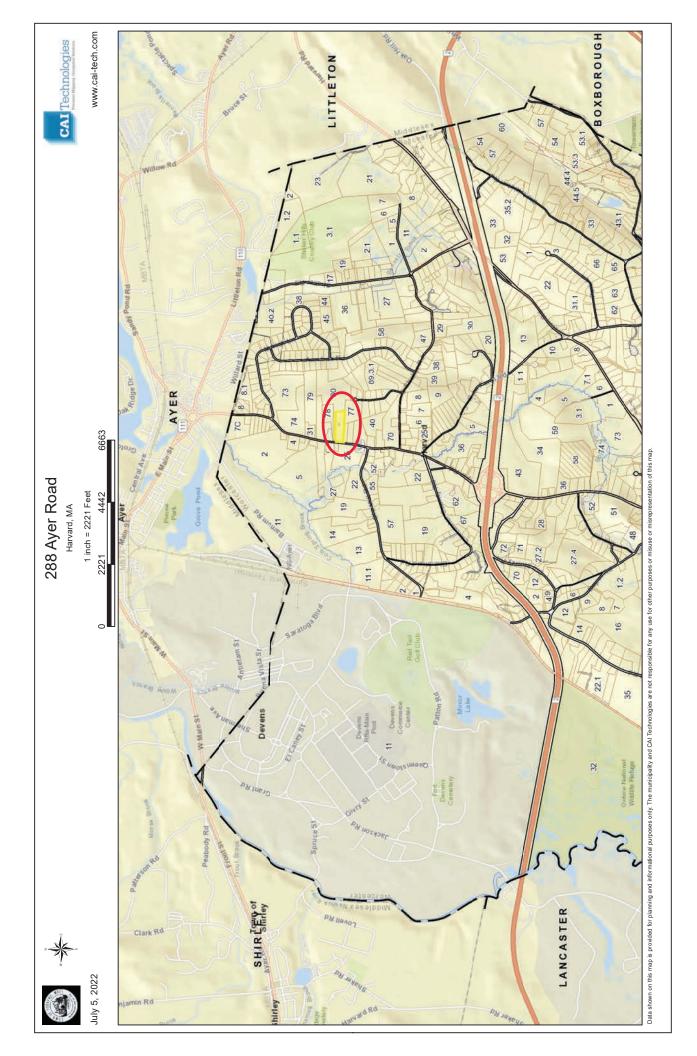
All applications associated with a Wireless Communication Tower requires proof of compliance with § 125-27H(2)

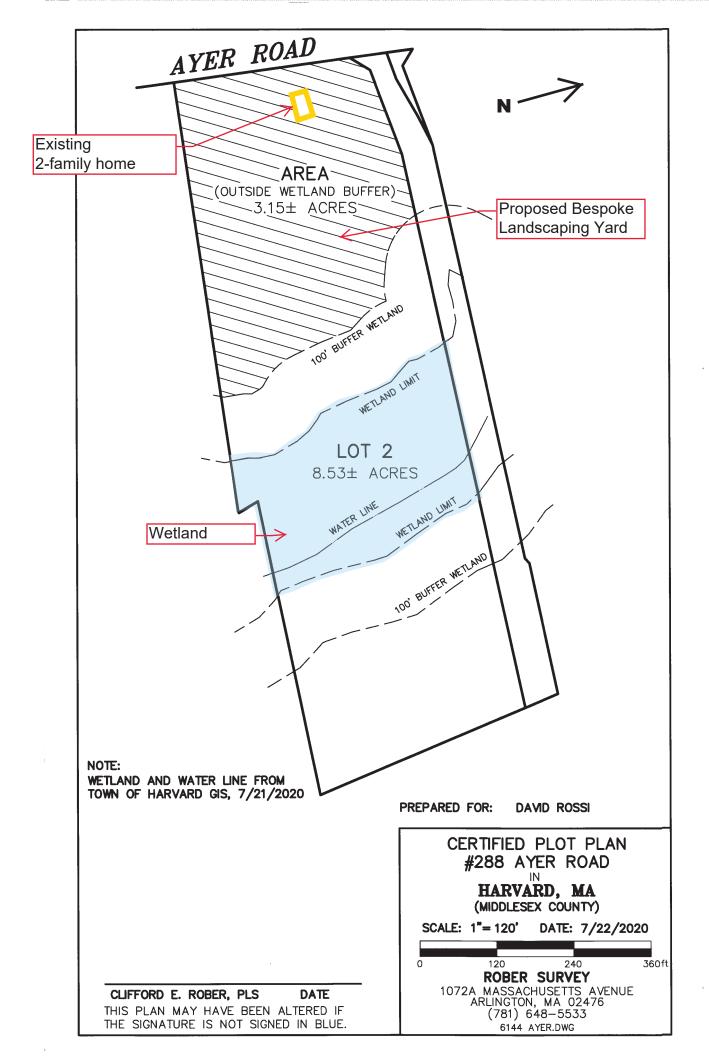
All filing fees are cumulative. All Special Permits and uses subject to Site Plan Approval require Driveway Inspections and written approval by the Planning Board, or its agent, prior to issuance of an occupancy permit or use of the premises (§ 125-31 C) All Shared (common) Driveways require an approved covenant running with the land in accordance with § 125-31 B (4) (b). The applicant will be required to pay a local newspaper of general circulation for the current cost of advertising the hearing. The applicant will be billed directly from the newspaper for the cost of the advertised hearing or all advertising must be paid for in full prior to submittal to the newspaper. The undersigned hereby requests a hearing before the Planning Board with reference to this application.

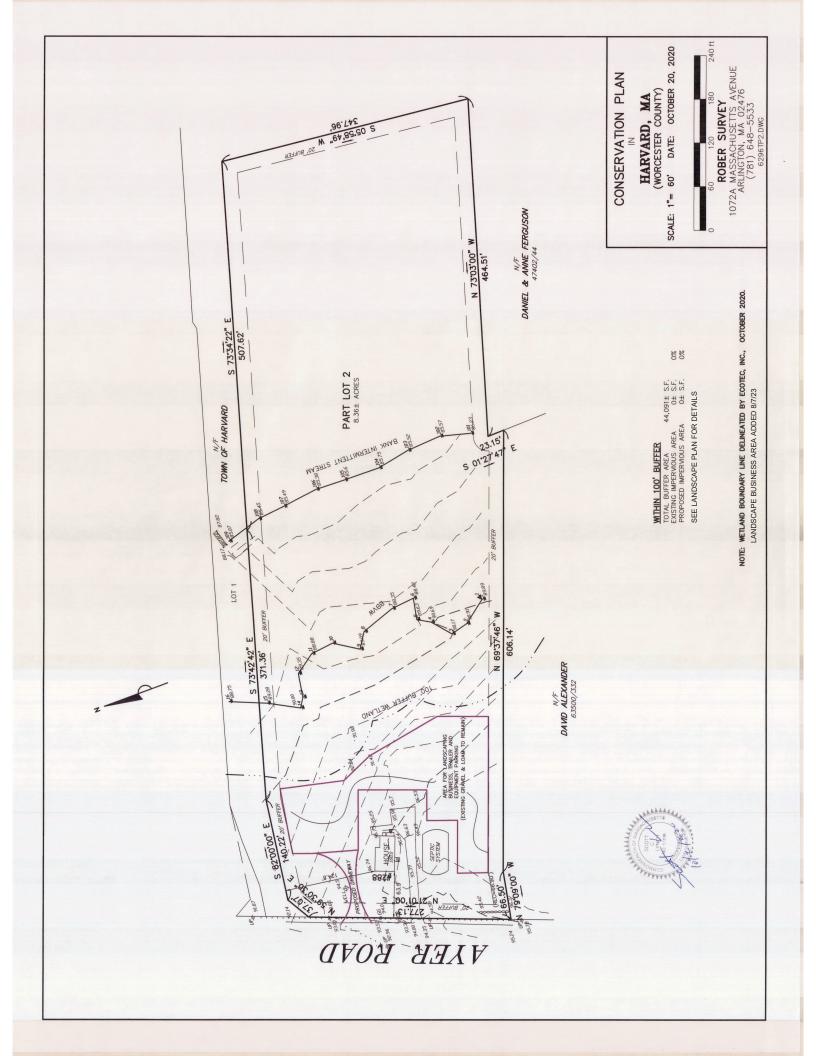
Signed:

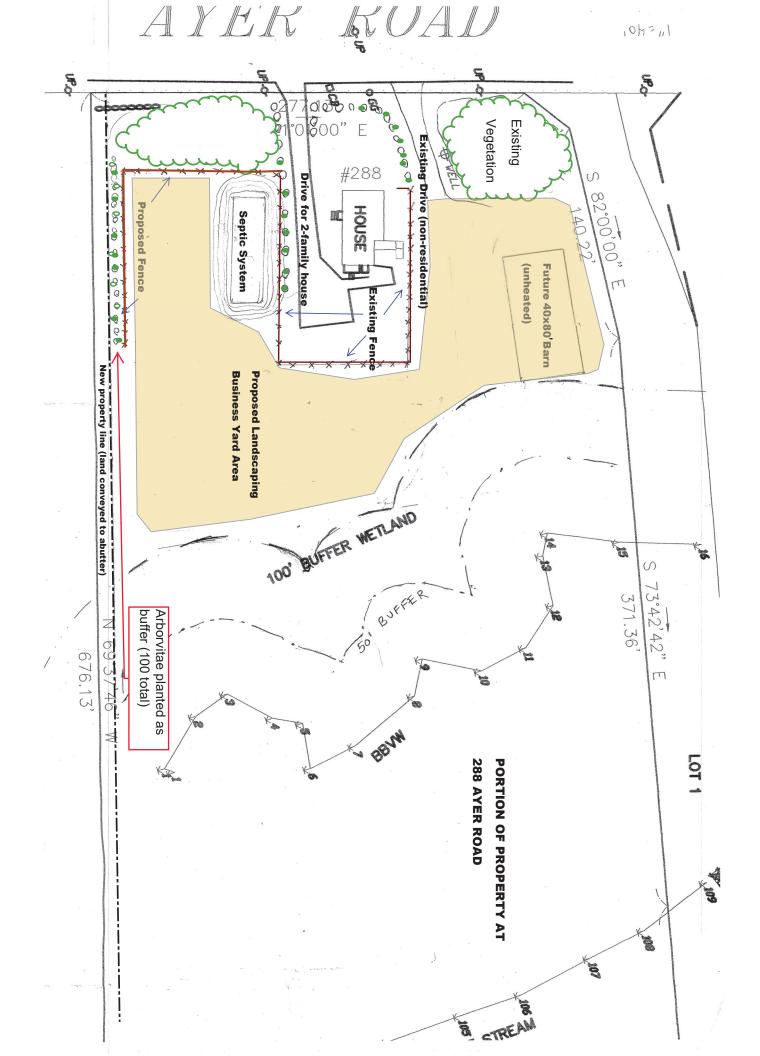
prol

Revised November 7, 2016









Photos of 288 Ayer Road, viewed from front of 289 Ayer Road



View near property line with 294 Ayer Road (above)



Two-family home centered at 288 Ayer Road frontage (new fence and buffer arborvitaes installed 2022)



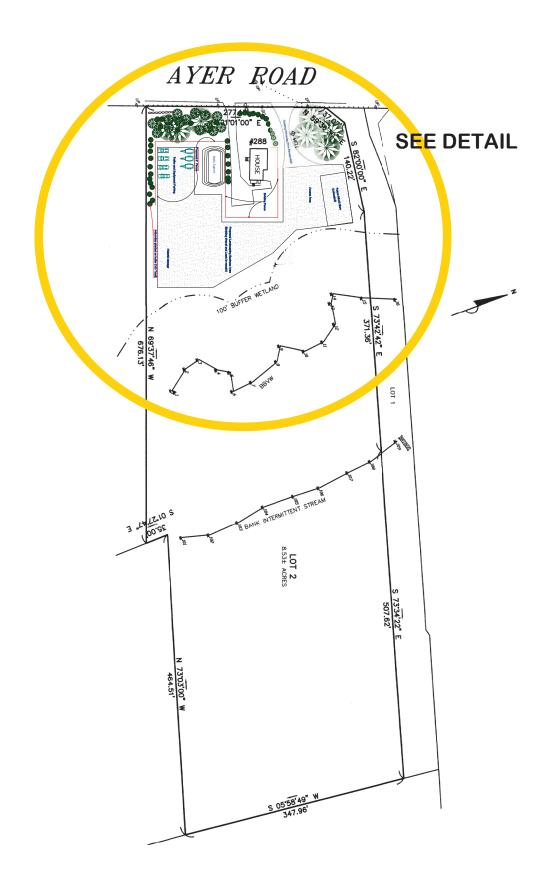
Looking south across 288 frontage toward property at 284 Ayer Road

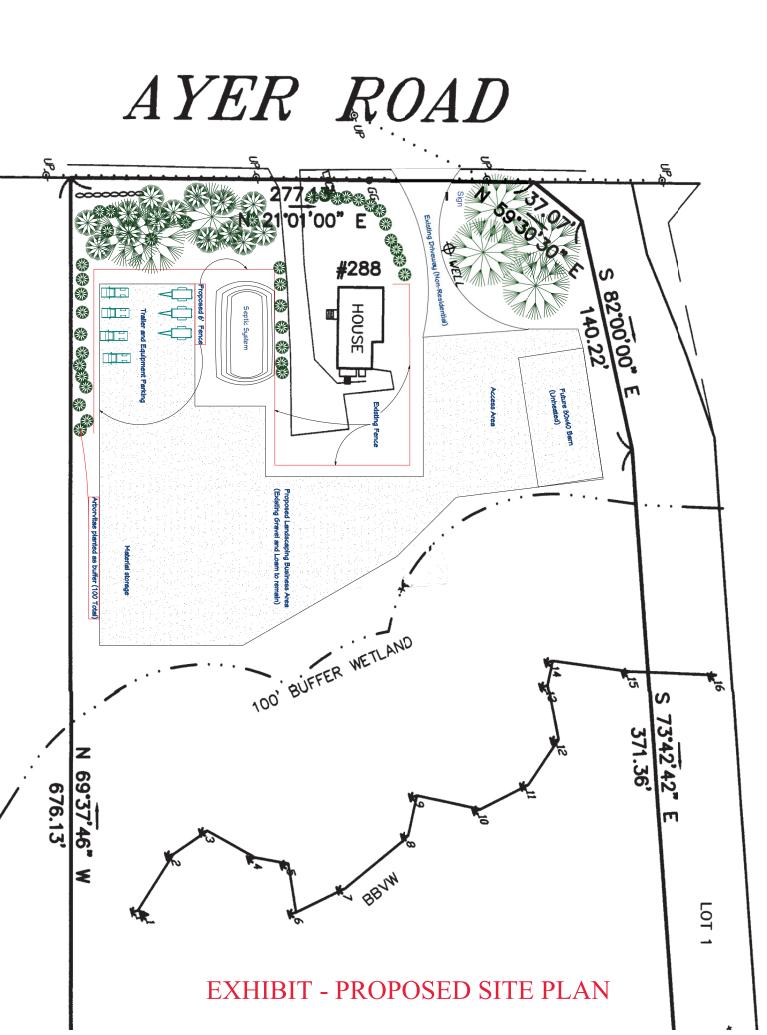


Aerial photo of site showing approximate area for landscaping business use. (above)



Landscape contractor nearby on Ayer Road







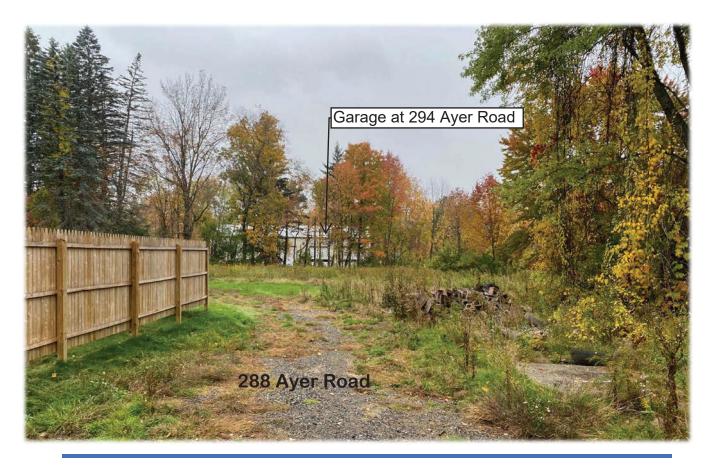
288 Ayer Road, Harvard – Stockade fence surrounds residential yard. Significant areas of upland and wetland buffer remain to the east.

Hand

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288 Ayer Road, Harvard – Stockade fence and arborvitae will buffer activity from neighbors.



similar fence/buffer proposed for Harvard

REQUEST FOR NEW VENDOR

REQUESTOR'S NAME	David Rossi, Trustee, The 39 Eaton Realty Trust	
DATE		
PHONE	(617) 429-7234	
Please check the box which best describes the type of vendor. 1099 Code		
EMPLOYEE (reimbursements) PRODUCT VENDOR		
SERVICE VENDOR	X 7 If using SS number	
CONTRACT LABOR	7	
VENDOR NAME		
ADDRESS		
CITY,STATE, ZIP		
PHONE		
FAX		
FID NUMBER	(Without the proper FID or SS number vendor can not be paid!)	
OR	(without the proper Fib of 33 humber vendor can not be paid!)	
SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER	(Without the proper FID or SS number vendor can not be paid!)	
REMIT ADDRESS If different		
CITY,STATE, ZIP		
	Do not write below this line	
VENDOR NUMBER		
DATE SET UP		

BESPOKE

2/27/2024

To whom it may concern,

This letter is intended to better describe the intention of the commercial use for the property at 288 Ayer Rd. We have no plans to use this as a daily headquarters for our operation. We are simply asking to use the commercial land for monthly storage or materials and equipment when not in use. This would be an overflow location to our existing location in Bedford MA. For an example of the type of materials and equipment which could be stored from time to time please see the list below:

- 1) Enclosed equipment trailers.
- 2) Landscape and open equipment trailers.
- 3) Jobsite storage containers.
- 4) Plows, truck attachments etc.
- 5) Backhoe loader.
- 6) Mini-excavator and skid steer loaders.
- 7) Genie Man-lift.
- 8) Knuckle-boom crane swap n' go box.
- 9) Dump truck.
- 10) Equipment trucks.
- 11) Chip body attachments for trucks.
- 12) Swap n' go loader truck and body attachments.
- 13) Palleted materials such as stepping stones, brick, cinderblocks etc.
- 14) Aggregates, such as sand and crushed stone could be stockpiled from time to time, but we have no intention of daily loading or short term storage of these materials, so set retaining block walls for mulch etc. is not planned. Materials would only be placed and left for long (months) periods of time, and not loaded in and out regularly.

While this list is not exhaustive of all possible materials, it is complete in the spirit of materials and equipment that we own and use. This list is also not intended to mean that these materials will all be onsite at any given time as our inventory is often in flux, and equipment is mostly at open projects.

This would not be a daily operation, and hours of use would be typical to business operations (8-4). There would not be any customers at this location, and mostly storage would be long term through the off season.

Thank you for your time and consideration of our application,

Lett Pi

Scott Rossi, Founder Bespoke Companies



TOWN OF HARVARD ASSESSORS OFFICE 13 AYER ROAD HARVARD, MA 01451 978-456-4100 X315



BOARD OF ASSESSORS TOWN OF HARVARD

REQUEST FOR CERTIFIED ABUTTERS LIST

PROPERTY LOCA	TION: 288 Ayer Rd. Harvard, MA	
MAP/BLOCK/LOT	F: 4, 34, N/A	
PROPERTY OWN	ERS: David Rossi	
REQUIRED FOOT	CAGE: 300 ft	
CONTACT INFOR	MATION	
× EMAIL ADDRESS _pbrown@brown-bro		
	ESS IF DIFFERENT FROM PROPERT	Y LOCATION:
<u></u>		
<u>FEE:</u> \$25.00		hor Check H 7239
To be paid with con	pleted Abutters List request by Cas	h or Check
payable to the Towr	n of Harvard	
	orking days for your request to be p	rocessed**
Carol-	is or concerns, please contact the As	ssassars office at
Kindly update	_	
Kindly update and provide to Planning	<u>ard-ma.gov</u> or 978-456-4100x315	Emailed 2/21/24
~		
Dept. Thanks,		Mailed
CATIC Pan B.		Originals USPS: 2/21/24
Access to Success*		USPS.



Abutters List Report Town of Harvard, MA

Date:February 21, 2024Parcel Number:004-034-000-000Property Address:288 Ayer Rd

Abutters To: 300ft

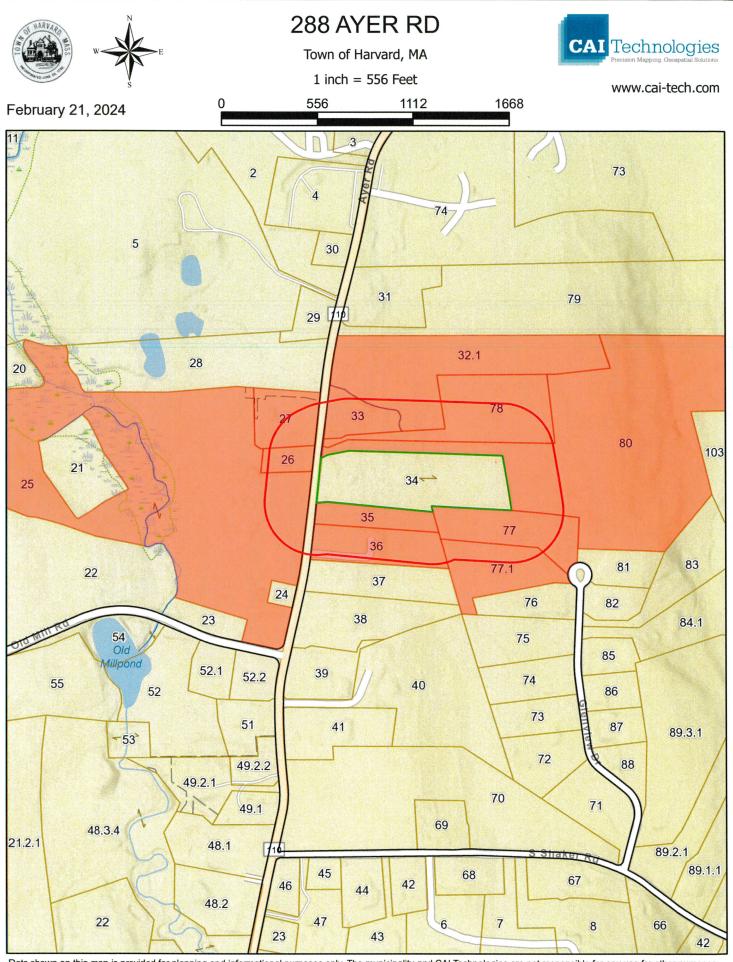
The above Certified Abutters List is a true copy of the records in the Town of Harvard Assessor's office for the last known names and addresses of owners of land located within the above stated range of the subject property.

2a Signed:

Date: 💋

Carol Dearborn Assistant Assessor (978) 456-4100 x315

FINANCE DEPARTMENT - ACCOUNTANT, ASSESSORS, TREASURER/COLLECTOR 13 Ayer Road, Harvard, Massachusetts 01451-1458 www.harvard-ma.gov



Data shown on this map is provided for planning and informational purposes only. The municipality and CAI Technologies are not responsible for any use for other purposes or misuse or misrepresentation of this map.



300 feet Abutters List Report Harvard, MA February 21, 2024

Subject Property:

Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	004-034-000-000 004-034-000-000 288 AYER RD	Mailing Address:	ROSSI, DAVID J. & ROSSI, JEFFREY M., TRUSTEES OF 244 NASHUA RD BILLERICA, MA 01862
Abutters:	the second s		
Parcel Number:	004-025-000-000	Mailing Address:	RDJ REALTY CO
CAMA Number:	004-025-000-000		52 ETHAN ALLEN DR
Property Address:	285 AYER RD		ACTON, MA 01720
Parcel Number:	004-026-000-000	Mailing Address:	289 AYER LLC
CAMA Number:	004-026-000-000		289 AYER RD
Property Address:	289 AYER RD		HARVARD, MA 01451
Parcel Number:	004-027-000-000	Mailing Address:	295 AYER ROAD LLC
CAMA Number:	004-027-000-000		1 BIRCHMEADOW CIRCLE
Property Address:	295 AYER RD		FRAMINGHAM, MA 01701
Parcel Number:	004-032-001-000	Mailing Address:	FADER, STEVEN & CAROLYN H
CAMA Number:	004-032-001-000		304 AYER RD
Property Address:	304 AYER RD		HARVARD, MA 01451
Parcel Number:	004-033-000-000	Mailing Address:	AYER ROAD, LLC
CAMA Number:	004-033-000-000		P.O. BOX 791
Property Address:	294 AYER RD		HARVARD, MA 01451
Parcel Number:	004-035-000-000	Mailing Address:	ALEXANDER, DAVID B.
CAMA Number:	004-035-000-000		59 BADDACOOK POND RD
Property Address:	284 AYER RD		GROTON, MA 01450
Parcel Number:	004-036-000-000	Mailing Address:	YUKON HOLDINGS LLC
CAMA Number:	004-036-000-000		280 AYER RD
Property Address:	280 AYER RD		HARVARD, MA 01451
Parcel Number:	005-077-000-000	Mailing Address:	FERGUSON, DANIEL A & ANNE T
CAMA Number:	005-077-000-000		39 GLENVIEW DR
Property Address:	39 GLENVIEW DR		HARVARD, MA 01451
Parcel Number:	005-077-001-000	Mailing Address:	OFSTHUN, PETER STEPHEN
CAMA Number:	005-077-001-000		10 ERNIES DR
Property Address:	37 GLENVIEW DR		LITTLETON, MA 01460
Parcel Number:	005-078-000-000	Mailing Address:	VICKESH MYER
CAMA Number:	005-078-000-000		46 NORFOLK RD
Property Address:	292 AYER RD		ARLINGTON, MA 02476

CAUTechnologies

2/21/2024

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Page 1 of 2



300 feet Abutters List Report Harvard, MA February 21, 2024

005-080-000-000 Parcel Number: CAMA Number: 005-080-000-000 Property Address: AYER RD

Mailing Address: HARVARD, TOWN OF, CONSERVATION 13 AYER RD HARVARD, MA 01451



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289 AYER LLC 289 AYER RD HARVARD, MA 01451 YUKON HOLDINGS LLC 280 AYER RD HARVARD, MA 01451

295 AYER ROAD LLC 1 BIRCHMEADOW CIRCLE FRAMINGHAM, MA 01701

ALEXANDER, DAVID B. 59 BADDACOOK POND RD GROTON, MA 01450

AYER ROAD, LLC P.O. BOX 791 HARVARD, MA 01451

FADER, STEVEN & CAROLYN H 304 AYER RD HARVARD, MA 01451

FERGUSON, DANIEL A & ANNE 39 GLENVIEW DR HARVARD, MA 01451

HARVARD, TOWN OF, CONSERV 13 AYER RD HARVARD, MA 01451

OFSTHUN, PETER STEPHEN 10 ERNIES DR LITTLETON, MA 01460

RDJ REALTY CO 52 ETHAN ALLEN DR ACTON, MA 01720

VICKESH MYER 46 NORFOLK RD ARLINGTON, MA 02476



March 1, 2024

Frank O'Connor Director of Planning 13 Ayer R. Harvard, MA 01451

Invoice # 10565

Harvard Ayer Ph2 Visio	on Plan				Project #2368.1
Design Consulting					
February 1 - February 2	9, 2024				
T		Durale of East	E	Tatal Data t	
<u>Terms</u>		Project Fees	Expenses	Total Project	
Project Not to Exceed		\$150,305.00	\$4,650.00	\$154,955.00	
Expenses to Fee Reallo	cation	\$3,545.00	(\$3,545.00)	\$0.00	
Terms: Total Project		\$153,850.00	\$1,105.00	\$154,955.00	
Consulting hours and	fee				
e en ouring nouro unu		Rate (\$/HR)	Hrs	Fee/staff (\$)	
Utile			1110	1 00/010m (<i>\</i>)	
Matthew Littell		\$260	7.00	¢1 820 00	
Taskina Tareen		\$200 \$160	32.00	\$1,820.00 \$5,120.00	
Kevin Chong		\$130	15.00	\$1,950.00	
Carlos Sainz Caccia		\$130	20.50	\$2,665.00	
Courtney McCracken		\$105	49.00	\$2,005.00 \$5,145.00	
Jillian Graham		\$85	7.00	\$595.00	
Silian Granam		φΟΟ	7.00	φ393.00	\$17,295.00
					ψ17,200.00
Consultants		Invoice	Date	Amount	
Code Studio		4066	12-Feb-24	\$2,051.55	
Landwise			31-Dec-23	\$2,051.55 \$4,675.00	
Landwise		2309_123124 2209_022924	29-Feb-24	\$7,869.53	
Lanuwise		2209_022924	29-Feb-24	φ1,009.00	\$14,596.08
					ψ14,090.00
Subtotal					\$31,891.08
					· · ·
Total Invoice Amount					\$31,891.08
• • • • • •			- /		
Outstanding Invoices		Invoice	Date	Amount	
		10267	1-Dec-23	\$4,205.00	
		10375	1-Jan-24	\$28,737.97	
Total Balance Due					\$64,834.05
Dillad To Data	la :			-	Tatal
Billed To Date:	Invoice	Date	Fee Amount	Expenses	Total Invoice
	10071	1-Oct-23	\$21,115.00	\$0.00	\$21,115.00
	10178	1-Nov-23	\$23,497.50	0.00\$	\$23,497.50 \$4,205.00
	10267	1-Dec-23	\$4,205.00	\$0.00	\$4,205.00
	10375	1-Jan-24	\$28,700.50	\$37.47	\$28,737.97
	10453	1-Feb-24	\$19,908.75	\$0.00	\$19,908.75 \$21,801,08
	10565	1-Mar-24	\$31,891.08	\$0.00	\$31,891.08
			\$129,317.83	\$37.47	\$129,355.30
	Bala	ance Remaining:	\$24,532.17	\$1,067.53	\$25,599.70

CODE STUDIO

1800 East 4th Street, Unit 125 Austin, TX 78702 (512) 478-2200

BILL TO:	DATE:	2/12/24
Taskina Tareen	INVOICE #	4066
Utilie	PROJECT:	Harvard Ayer
<u>tareen@utiledesign.com</u>		#2368.1.
(617) 423-7200	SERVICE DATES: Sept 1, 3	2023 to Jan 31,

Description	Conract Amount	Prior Bills	% Complete	This Invoice
Phase 1: Vision Plan	\$14,390.00	\$0.00	14%	\$2,051.55
Phase 2: Form-Based Code	\$64,750.00	\$0.00	0%	\$-
Total Fee	\$79,140.00	\$0.00	3%	\$2,051.55

Date Employee	Professional Services - Description	Time
9/20/23 Johnson	Harvard kickoff	1.05
9/20/23 Scarff	Internal kickoff meeting	1.00
12/7/23 Johnson	Presentation review - October and November meetings	0.52
12/7/23 Johnson	Check-in meeting with Utile	0.65
12/7/23 Scarff	Project catch-up with Utile to discuss the coding framework	0.50
12/15/23 Johnson	Review, prep for project memo	0.73
12/18/23 Johnson	Internal discussion re: memo	0.68
12/18/23 Scarff	Framework convo with Ryan	1.00
12/19/23 Johnson	Progress report memo drafting	0.53
12/20/23 Johnson	Memo writing	1.18
12/20/23 Johnson	Memo writing	0.87
12/21/23 Johnson	Internal discussion re: interim report edits	0.50
12/21/23 Johnson	Interim report edits	1.23
12/21/23 Scarff	edits to Code Framework	0.50
12/21/23 Scarff	convo with Ryan re: changes	0.50
1/24/24 Johnson	Meeting with Utile	0.77
1/24/24 Scarff	call with Utile - FBC next steps	0.67
Total Hours		12.88

Amount due this invoice

\$2,051.55



W LANDWISE

INVOICE

Landwise LLC 101 Walnut St Watertown, MA 02472-4026 (617) 852-3581

BILL TO

Taskina Tareen Utile 115 Kingston Street Boston, MA 02111 INVOICE # 2309_123124 DATE 12/31/2023 DUE DATE 02/29/2024 TERMS Net 60

ACTIVITY		AMOUNT
Professional Services December Services for Harvard Economic Imp	act Analysis - 60% complete	4,675.00
Below are wiring instructions for your convenience: Name: Landwise LLC Bank Name: Bank Of America . Bank Address: 1065 Lexington St. Waltham, MA 02452 Bank Account: 004644662826 Bank Routing: 011000138 (paper + electronic) 026009593 (wires)	BALANCE DUE	\$4,675.00
OR Mail Check to:		

Mail Check to: Landwise LLC 101 Walnut Street Watertown, MA 02472 [Please enter Invoice Number]

W LANDWISE

INVOICE

Landwise LLC 101 Walnut St Watertown, MA 02472-4026 (617) 852-3581

BILL TO

Taskina Tareen Utile 115 Kingston Street Boston, MA 02111 INVOICE # 2209_022924 DATE 02/29/2024 DUE DATE 03/30/2024 TERMS Net 30

ACTIVITY		AMOUNT
Professional Services January and February Services for Harvard Ecor	nomic Impact Analysis - 100% cc	7,869.53 omplete
Below are wiring instructions for your convenience: Name: Landwise LLC	BALANCE DUE	\$7,869.53
Bank Name: Bank Of America .		
Bank Address: 1065 Lexington St. Waltham, MA 02452		
Bank Account: 004644662826		
Bank Routing: 011000138 (paper + electronic)		
026009593 (wires)		
OR		
Mail Check to:		
Landwise LLC		

Landwise LLC 101 Walnut Street Watertown, MA 02472 [Please enter Invoice Number]



April 1, 2024

Frank O'Connor Director of Planning 13 Ayer R. Harvard, MA 01451

Invoice # 10627

Harvard Ayer Ph2 Visi Design Consulting	on Plan				Project #2368.1
March 1 - March 31, 20	24				
<u>Terms</u> Project Not to Exceed Expenses to Fee Reallo Terms: Total Project	ocation	Project Fees \$150,305.00 \$3,545.00 \$153,850.00	Expenses \$4,650.00 (\$3,545.00) \$1,105.00	Total Project \$154,955.00 \$0.00 \$154,955.00	
	fa a	φ100,000.00	ψ1,100.00	φ104,000.00	
Consulting hours and	tee	Rate (\$/HR)	Hrs	Fee/staff (\$)	
Utile Matthew Littell Taskina Tareen Carlos Sainz Caccia		\$260 \$160 \$130	3.50 26.50 51.00	\$910.00 \$4,240.00 \$6,630.00	
					\$11,780.00
Consultants		Invoice	Date	Amount \$0.00	
					\$0.00
Subtotal					\$11,780.00
Total Invoice Amount					\$11,780.00
Outstanding Invoices		Invoice 10267 10375 10565	<i>Date</i> 1-Dec-23 1-Jan-24 1-Feb-24	<i>Amount</i> \$4,205.00 \$28,737.97 \$31,891.08	
Total Balance Due					\$76,614.05
Billed To Date:	<i>Invoice</i> 10071 10178 10267 10375 10453 10565 10627	<i>Date</i> 1-Oct-23 1-Nov-23 1-Dec-23 1-Jan-24 1-Feb-24 1-Mar-24 1-Apr-24	Fee Amount \$21,115.00 \$23,497.50 \$4,205.00 \$28,700.50 \$19,908.75 \$31,891.08 \$11,780.00 \$141,097.83	Expenses \$0.00 \$0.00 \$37.47 \$0.00 \$0.00 \$0.00 \$37.47	Total Invoice \$21,115.00 \$23,497.50 \$4,205.00 \$28,737.97 \$19,908.75 \$31,891.08 \$11,780.00 \$141,135.30
	Bala	nce Remaining:	\$12,752.17	\$1,067.53	\$13,819.70



April 1, 2024

Frank O'Connor Director of Planning 13 Ayer R. Harvard, MA 01451

Invoice # 10628

Harvard Ayer Ph3 Vision Plan	Project #2368.2			
Design Consulting March 6 - March 31, 2024				
<u>Terms</u> Project Not to Exceed	Project Fees \$82,450.00	<u>Expenses</u> \$2,550.00	Total Project \$85,000.00	
Consulting hours and fee	Rate (\$/HR)	Hrs	Fee/staff (\$)	
Utile Carlos Sainz Caccia	\$160	5.75	\$920.00	\$920.00
Consultants	Invoice	Date	Amount \$0.00	·
Subtotal				\$0.00 \$920.00
Total Invaire Amount				¢020.00
Total Invoice Amount	Invoice	Data	A 100 0 100 f	\$920.00

Outstanding Invoices		Invoice	Date	Amount \$0.00	
Total Balance Due					\$920.00
Billed To Date:	<i>Invoice</i> 10628	<i>Date</i> 1-Apr-24	Fee Amount \$920.00	Expenses \$0.00	Total Invoice \$920.00
			\$920.00	\$0.00	\$920.00
	Bala	nce Remaining:	\$81,530.00	\$2,550.00	\$84,080.00