

Proposed language for a warrant article to fund future community master plan work.

Article #_____. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$8,500 to be added to the Master Plan Expendable Trust Fund under the provisions of RSA 31:19-a for the purpose of updating the Town's Master Plan.

NH RSA Title LXIV § 674:1-4 require the Planning Board to prepare and amend from time to time a master plan to guide the development of the Town. The master plan must include, at a minimum, a Vision section, Current Land Use and Future Land Use section, and may include other sections such as Natural resources and Transportation. The master plan is a set of statements and land use and development principles for the Town with such accompanying maps, diagrams, charts, and descriptions as to give legal standing to the implementation of ordinances and other measures of the planning board. Revisions to the plan are recommended every 5 to 10 years.

Before 2025, the Planning Board's annual budget set aside money to update one or two master plan chapters each year. Last year, the Planning Board proposed, and Brentwood voters approved creating a dedicated Master Plan Expendable Trust Fund. This fund allows the Town to save money over several years so we can update the entire master plan at once, in a more complete and efficient way. This change did not increase the amount of money budgeted for the master plan. It simply shifted how the money is handled: instead of budgeting and paying for small chapter-by-chapter updates each year, the same amount is now placed into a savings fund for a full master plan update. This year's vote is to continue adding money to that fund.