VISIONING WORKSHOPS DAY 1

6:00 p.m. – Pizza Dinner, Introduction & Keynote Speaker
6:40 p.m. – Opportunities & Constraints Roundtable: Small Group Discussions
7:20 p.m. – Report Back to the Larger Group: Summary of Group Discussions
7:40 p.m. – Southampton 2030 Small Group Visioning Exercise
8:10 p.m. – Report Back to the Larger Group: Summary of Visioning Discussions (30 minutes)
8:40 p.m. – Wrap Up

INTRODUCTION

What is a Master Plan?
A Master Plan is a blueprint for the future. It is a comprehensive document that will guide development in Southampton for the next 10 to 20 years.

A Master Plan will describe our long-term vision for Southampton, as well as how this vision will be achieved. Through this plan, we will communicate a sense of place and an understanding of what is unique to Southampton. The Goals, Strategies and Actions presented in the Master Plan will guide local decisions on public and private uses of land, as well the provision of public services. Many communities use Master Plans to budget capital improvements, to determine priority lands for open space acquisition, to prioritize zoning changes, and to promote economic development. Our Master Plan will address land use, housing, open space and natural resources, transportation, and public services and facilities. Other topics may include economic development, historic and cultural resources, energy, and food systems.

What is Visioning?
Visioning looks far into the future, asking what we want Southampton be in 20 years. The Visioning Workshops are dynamic public meetings in which community members will discuss basic values and goals for the future of Southampton, as well as major issues that will affect the town’s future. The purpose of vision development is to describe the future based on shared community values. These shared values and common goals will be incorporated into the town’s comprehensive Master Plan and will guide future town decision-making processes.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Catherine Ratté, Pioneer Valley Planning Commission
Catherine Ratté, Principal Planner and Manager of the Land Use & Environment Section of the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission, works on sustainability--focusing most recently on helping Pioneer Valley communities achieve “Green Community” designation, facilitating creation of the Pioneer Valley Sustainability Network, implementing the award-winning Pioneer Valley Clean Energy Plan, and promoting clean energy and energy use reduction, conservation and efficiency to address climate change. She has expertise in participatory planning, smart growth, sustainability, clean energy, adult education and training of trainers, and the intersection of land use and transportation planning. Catherine has been with the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission for more than 11 years. She has also worked for the Wisconsin Department of Transportation, the United States Peace Corps in Cameroon and the Wisconsin Coalition Against Sexual Assault. She earned Master’s degrees in urban and regional planning and social work from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and has an undergraduate degree in Literature and Society from Brown University.
GROUND RULES FOR SMALL GROUP DISCUSSIONS

Guiding Principle: Mutual Respect of All Participants

1. Listen carefully to others. Do not interrupt or dominate the discussion. Everyone’s opinions and feelings are important.
2. Respect other points of view, even if you don’t agree.
3. Speak openly and honestly from personal experience.
4. Do not criticize other people or rehash past conflicts.
5. Don’t argue over facts. Agree to disagree until an answer is found.
6. When disagreement occurs, acknowledge that conflicts exist and try to understand the other point of view.
7. Focus on areas of agreement and try to expend them.
8. Keep an open mind.

OPPORTUNITIES & CONSTRAINTS ROUNDTABLE: SMALL GROUP DISCUSSIONS

- What do you like and dislike about Southampton?
- What are your concerns about the future of Southampton?
- What are our future opportunities?

SOUTHAMPTON 2030 SMALL GROUP VISIONING EXERCISE

A vision is the town’s collective statement of where it wants to be in the future. Once the town has a clear understanding of where it wants to be in the future, we can use this knowledge to make decisions along the way. For this exercise, with the other members of your discussion group, consider the following:

- What is your vision for the future of Southampton?
- What kind of town do you want Southampton to be?

In your group, come up with an ending to this sentence: In 2030, Southampton is a community that….

COMING UP ON DAY 2: DETAILED DISCUSSIONS OF MAJOR TOPICS THAT AFFECT OUR FUTURE...

Land Use, Transportation & Housing - Open Space, Agriculture, Cultural & Historic Resources - Public Services, Infrastructure & Economic Development