

Bar Harbor 2035

DRAFT - Vision Pillars and Elements

The following is a complete description of Bar Harbor's Vision. The vision statement is comprised of four sentences referred to as vision pillars. Each of these pillars is the result of the public input provided during the outreach and engagement process. Additional public input is then summarized under each vision pillar and are referred to as vision elements. The elements provide additional context and ideas that will inform the Comprehensive Plan and ongoing implementation efforts in Bar Harbor over the coming decade. Some of the elements may reflect what the town is now, but the focus is forward-looking toward what residents want Bar Harbor to be in 2035 and beyond.

PILLAR 1: Bar Harbor's vibrancy stems from the mix of people, and the dramatic natural and cultural beauty of our place.

- Our land uses are climate change conscious and resilient.
- The Town's land use regulations incentivize housing for a diversity of residents and support compact, walkable mixed-use neighborhoods.
- We use less land for new development, and encourage gentle density outside of the downtown and village centers.
- Our year-round community is evident by the critical mass of residents living and working here in a variety of industries, and sustaining a sense of community.

PILLAR 2: Together, we build upon our diverse economic strengths and through partnerships we create solutions that meet year-round and seasonal needs.

- Our businesses contribute to our local economy and are sized appropriately from environmental, service and infrastructure, and social perspectives.
- The benefits from tourism are clearly conducive to the conditions the community desires, and the burdens from tourism are minimized.
- Municipal infrastructure and services are scaled to support our diverse year-round community and peak seasonal demands while also contributing to positive experiences for seasonal residents and visitors.

PILLAR 3: Our resilient and sustainable community includes sufficient equitable housing, robust infrastructure, and efficient transportation.

- Our residents and workforce are well-housed and live within a reasonable commuting distance of their jobs.
- Our infrastructure is thoughtfully located, well-constructed and maintained, and collaboratively funded.
- Our schools provide a high-quality education and play a critical role in strengthening our sense of community.
- We facilitate development patterns and street designs that ensure safe walking, biking, and public transit, and have shifted the community from a car-centric to a people-centric focus to decrease our carbon footprint.

PILLAR 4: We work through our differences to strengthen our collective sense of community. We take care of each other, and we take care of our place.

- Our regulations address pressing issues Bar Harbor is facing while protecting the environment and the health, safety and welfare of the community, and acknowledging the rights of individual property owners.
- Our community is welcoming, supportive, and accommodating of all age groups.
- Civic engagement and greater participation in town affairs are realized through clear and accessible communication and public process.
- Our collective prosperity is achieved through a cooperative attitude, and has enabled us to balance and sustain growth while ensuring improvements to resident living conditions and overall quality of life.