

## APPENDIX C

### Public Listening Session Materials

# Town of Shelburne, MA

## Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Planning Grant

### Listening Session Meeting Notes

Zoom – Selectboard Meeting  
Thursday, July 27, 2023  
6:00 pm – 6:45 pm



#### Notes:

- 41 Attendees attended the listening session, and multiple cameras and people calling in had more than one person in the frame / on the line. Estimated total attendance is close to 50 people.

#### Comments/Questions:

- Question: Most of what this project is talking about is what the police and highway department are planning for already. With uncertainty about climate change, why is the town spending money and working with the state on this?
  - Answer: the town departments have expressed challenges keeping up with the maintenance associated with the assets talked about in this project, due to the increased stresses placed on the assets by the climate hazards. The goal of this project is to help the town to be proactive rather than reactive.
    - The town has spent no money on this project - \$36,000 was grant funded, the town's match consists entirely of volunteer hours

- Comment: On dirt roads around town culverts are washing out and narrowing the road. Dangerous for cars and pedestrians, not two-lane roads anymore.
- Question: Are we considering partnering with Buckland on projects?
  - Answer: Buckland was at the CRB workshop and was open to coordinating.
- Question: How do you plan on educating workers to become equipment operators and ways to replenish our emergency volunteer participants? Lacking a chief operator for sewer district. Major workforce issue.
  - Answer: This will be added as an action item in the report.



# MVP Listening Session

Town of Shelburne, Massachusetts

October 23, 2023

# MEET THE CORE TEAM

**Tricia Yacovone-Biagi**

TOWN MVP LIASON

*Town of Shelburne*

**John Taylor**

FIRE CHIEF

*Town of Shelburne*

**Will Flanders**

TOWN PLANNING  
BOARD

*Town of Shelburne*



**Sylvia Smith**

COUNCIL ON AGING  
BOARD MEMBER

*Town of Shelburne*

**Tom Williams**

EMERGENCY  
MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR

*Town of Shelburne*

**Jacqui Goodman**

CULTURAL COUNCIL  
BOARD MEMBER

*Town of Shelburne*

# MEET THE SUPPORT TEAM



**INDRANI GHOSH, PhD**  
SENIOR PROJECT  
MANAGER  
*Weston & Sampson*



**DORIS JENKINS**  
RESILIENCY  
ENGINEER  
*Weston & Sampson*



**JOANNA NADEAU, AICP**  
SENIOR RESILIENCY  
PLANNER  
*Weston & Sampson*

# LOGISTICS



mute



chat



raise your hand



*we're using Slido!*



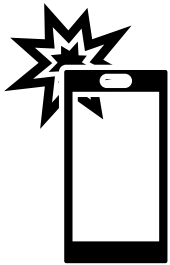
# SLIDO INSTRUCTIONS

Please use **slido** to provide feedback.

1. Open a web browser (on a phone or computer)
2. Type in slido.com
3. Enter code: **SHELBURNE**

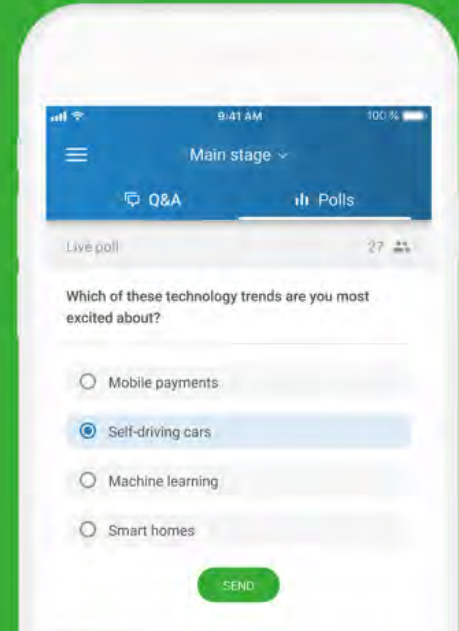
Joining as a participant?

# Enter code here



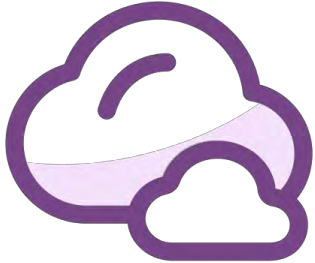
Share your opinion

Vote in live polls





slido

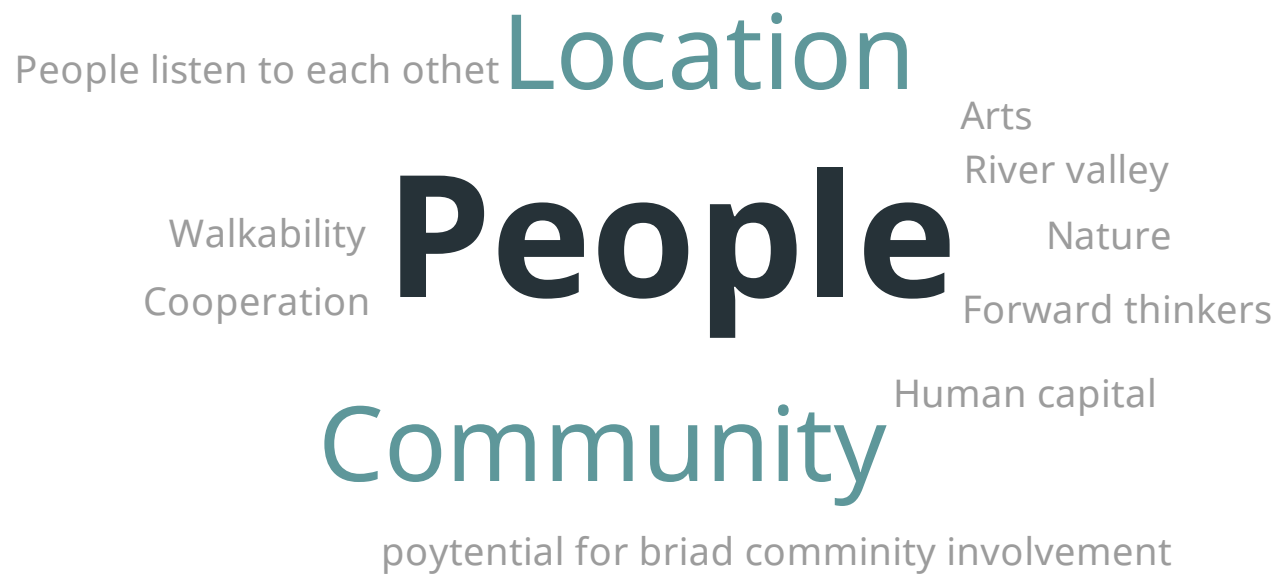


**What do you think is  
Shelburne's greatest strength?**

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# What do you think is Shelburne's greatest strength?

0 1 4



# AGENDA

01

**Overview of Future Climate Projections**

02

**Overview of Massachusetts MVP**

03

**Community Resiliency Building Workshop**

04

**Top 5 Priority Action Items**

05

**Questions and Discussion**

# PROJECT SCHEDULE



**JULY  
2023**

Core Team  
Kickoff



**SEPTEMBER  
2023**

CRB Workshop



**OCTOBER  
2023**

Public Listening  
Session



**DECEMBER  
2023**

MVP Plan Draft for  
Core Team Review



**MARCH  
2023**

MVP Plan  
Published



**MAY  
2023**

MVP Action Grant  
Applications Due

# WHY WE'RE HERE

## Climate change projections for end of century:

### Changes in precipitation

- 18% increase in consecutive dry days
- 57% increase in days with > 1 in. rainfall
- 7.3 inches additional annual rainfall
- Increase in flooding

### Rising temperatures

- 10.8°F increase in average annual ambient temperature
- 42% decrease in days/year with min. temperatures < 32° F
- 1,280% increase in 90-degree days/year

### Winter weather

- Overall, a decrease in annual snowfall
- Likely to have fewer events with a lot of snow
- Freeze –thaw cycle to change

### Regional changes

- Increase in frequency and magnitude of hurricanes and nor'easters
- 4-10.5 feet of sea level rise

# WHAT IS MVP?

OFFERED BY [Governor Maura Healey and Lt. Governor Kim Driscoll](#) [Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs](#)

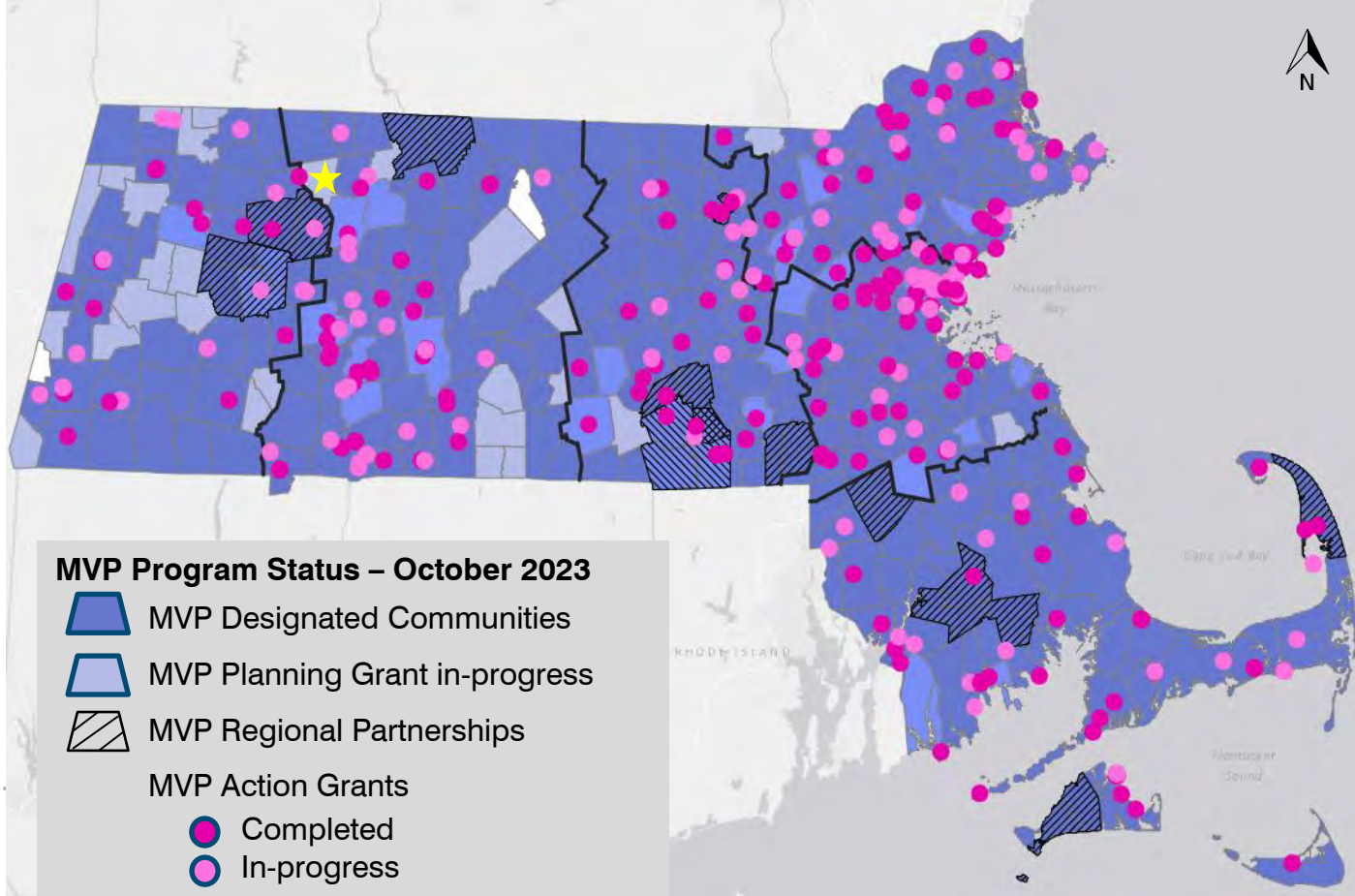
PRESS RELEASE

## Healey-Driscoll Administration Awards \$31.5 Million in Climate Resiliency Funding to Communities

- The Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs' MVP grant and designation program, which builds on Governor Baker's Executive Order 569 as well as other administration-led state and local partnerships, provides communities with **technical support, climate change data and planning tools** to identify hazards and develop strategies to **improve resilience**.
- "Our Administration is committed to partnering with cities and towns to develop **practical and cost-effective solutions** to build the **climate-resilient communities** of tomorrow," said Lieutenant Governor Karyn Polito.

# WHAT IS MVP?

- Improved resilience and preparedness
- Collaboration with stakeholders
- Increased education, planning, and implementation
- Funding for resilience-related actions





# WHAT IS MVP?

## 1. MVP Planning Grant

- Define climate hazards
- Identify community vulnerabilities and strengths
- Develop and prioritize mitigation actions
- Receive MVP designation

## 2. MVP Action Grant

- Implement priority adaptation actions identified during the planning process



# WHAT CAN THE MVP ACTION GRANT FUND?



Assessments



Outreach & Education



Management Measures



Redesign & Retrofit



Nature-Based Solutions



Ecological Restoration



Water Quality & Infiltration



Flood Protection



Extreme Heat Mitigation



Drought Mitigation



Energy Resilience



Chemical Safety



Land Acquisition



Housing



Mosquito Control

# HOW DO WE FUND RESILIENCY WORK?

## Grant funding opportunities

- Federal grant funding
- State level grant funding
- Regional planning council grant funding

Many grants will cover between **75%-100%** of project costs, with the match as either cash match or **in-kind person hours**.

Shelburne will be applying for an MVP Action Grant this Spring to advance the projects that we will be talking about today!



# COMMUNITY RESILIENCE BUILDING

September 13, 2023

- 25 participants
- 6 hours
- 28 Priority Action ideas generated to make Shelburne more resilient



# COMMUNITY RESILIENCE BUILDING



## Focus on 4 Climate Hazards

### Identified:

- Vulnerabilities
- Strengths
- Priority Action Items

### Across 3 Categories

- Infrastructure
- Societal
- Environmental

# FEATURE ATTRIBUTES

FEATURES	LOCATION	OWNERSHIP	VULNERABILITY OR STRENGTH
Infrastructural	Town wide	State	Vulnerability
Societal	Multi- vs. Single-neighborhood	Town	Strength
Environmental	Specific location	Private	Both
		Shared	

# TOP HAZARDS IN SHELBURNE



Extreme Weather/  
Wind Events



Flooding



Extreme  
Temperatures



Drought



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**Which of the climate hazards  
most concerns you?**

ⓘ Start presenting to display the poll results on this slide.

## Which of the climate hazards most concerns you?

020

Extreme Weather / Wind Events



Flooding



Extreme Temperatures



Drought



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**How prepared do you feel  
Shelburne is for future climate  
impacts?**

ⓘ Start presenting to display the poll results on this slide.

## How prepared do you feel Shelburne is for future climate impacts?

0 1 9

I feel the Town is completely prepared

0 %

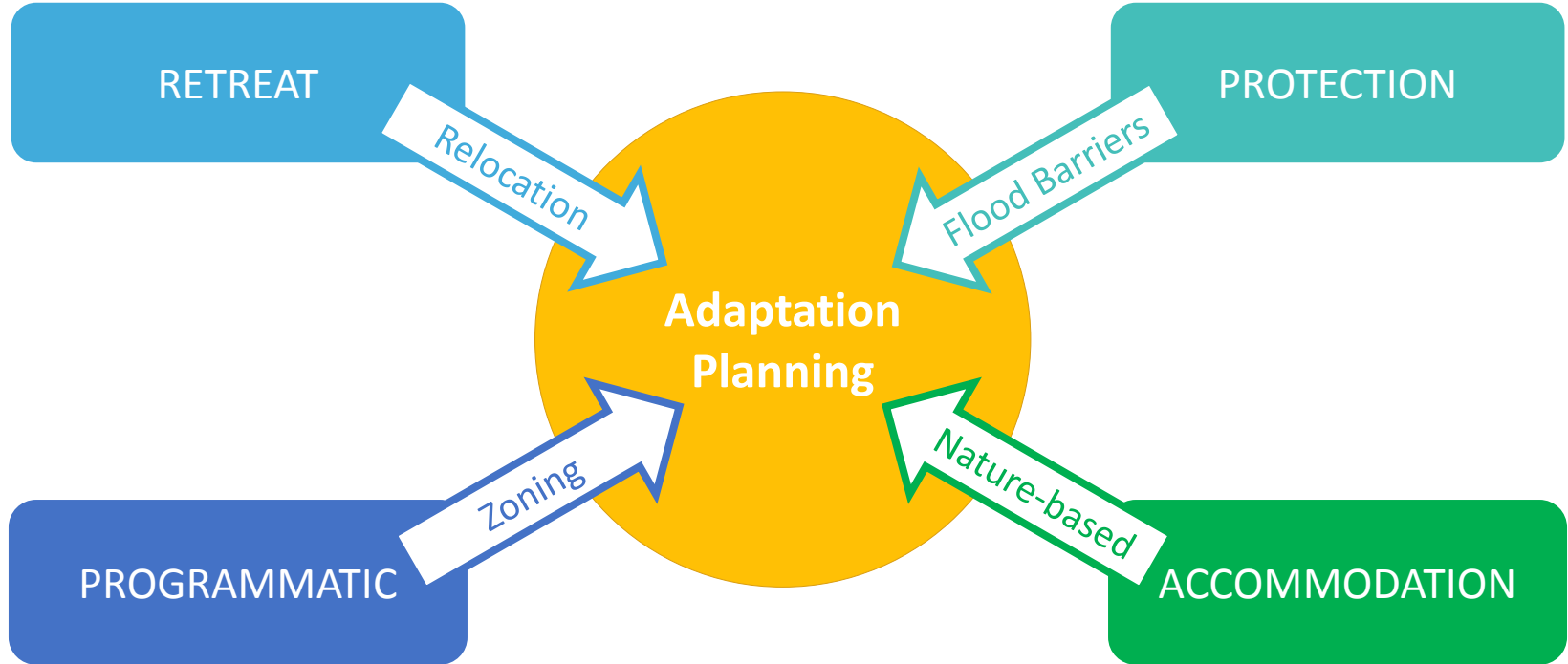
I feel the Town is somewhat prepared

79 %

I do not feel the Town is prepared

21 %

# ADAPTATION STRATEGY TYPES



# GENERATING ACTION ITEMS

Four groups of 6 participants each

- Action items to promote resiliency for infrastructural, societal, and environmental features
- Voted within the group to determine the top 2 within each category, to share with the room




# CONSENSUS ON PRIORITY ACTIONS

Voting to achieve consensus

- Each participant got 3 stickers to vote

NOTE: All the action items identified will be included in the report (even those not voted a top priority)

Community Resilience Building Risk Matrix  www.CommunityResilienceBuilding.org

Top Priority Hazards (Floods, Flood, wildfire, Hurricanes, earthquakes, drought, sea level rise, heat wave, etc.) **SHELBSURNE, MA**

Features	Location	Ownership	V or S	Priority	Time				
				EXTREME WEATHER/WIND EVENTS	IN LAND FLOODING	EXTREME TEMP (HEAT/COLD)	DROUGHT	H L	Short Long
Infrastructure									
Farms			S/V						
Generators	limited dist.		3/V						
Local Roads / Evac. Routes	local roads Haz - V/S	not state	V	Drainage plan / inventories of high prior culverts along w/ design / connect to MADOT to protect evac routes					
Culverts / Aging Infra			V	leverage the county WL friendly culvert upgrades					
Electric / Telecom / Cell Network			3/V	Expand cell tower access + increase public support					
Water + WW (bridge of fitness)			V	develop diff comm channels (eg fire hydrants)					
Societal									
Agricult. Community			S	Public educ re-farming / Diversify ag practices					
Older Adults / Mobility / Health + Low Income Families			S/V	Diversify comm channels + improve list of isolated persons + systems of among comm thru partnerships					
Medical Facilities / Health Ctr.			S/V	Encourage neighbor checkins + comm bldg w/ school for intragenexl activity w/ cafe					
Shelters	Church Gym BSC		3/V	Assess cooling / heating / dehumid. / flooding needs of vul pop + obtain grant to address needs, beyond infra # grants for individuals					
Libraries			S						
Cult Facil. / Senior Ctr.	Memorial Hall		S						
Local Business			V						
Demographics / Youth (locking)			V						
Environmental									
Forested Land - protected rec L private			S/V	Identify means to protect intact NR existing watershed					
Foxbrook Reservoir	Colrain / St.		3/V	Resilient LU planning for forestry (incl. v oscrp) eg. restoration, comm LT + Forest Cln Planning					
Brooks + Streams	local road		V						
Deerfield River	300 main road		S	Increase activity at river + improve access (to expand support for its protection) using volunteers + Deerfield River Party + better communication					
Train / Haz Mat			V						
Riparian buffers			S/V	Better communication for these efforts					





Societal  
Town wide  
Town  
Vulnerability

## Improve community connections and emergency communications with vulnerable populations

- Improve the list of isolated and vulnerable populations
- Create a system of emergency communications through the community through increased partnerships around town, such as neighbor wellness check-ins and school-based intergenerational gatherings.
- Promote Reverse 911 system and expand awareness about shelter locations.



Infrastructural/  
Environmental

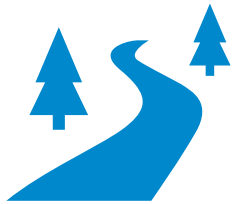
Town wide

Town

Vulnerability

### Create a resilient drainage plan

- Complete hydrologic and hydraulic modeling to identify areas of concern and locations for upgrades
- Leverage the FRCOG inventory of high priority culverts and the Resilient MA Design Standards Tool to prioritize and quantify upgrades
- Leverage funding such as MassDEP Culvert Upgrades.



Infrastructural  
Town wide  
Shared  
Both

### Create a resilient roadway improvement plan

- Coordinate with MassDOT to identify and assess priority roads, bottlenecks / choke points, and protect evacuation routes
- Identify engineering solutions for paved and unpaved roads to address increased runoff and freeze-thaw cycles.



Environmental  
Town wide  
Shared  
Strength

## Create a resilient land use plan

- Protect forest / natural land while maintaining land for affordable housing
- Identify priority actions such as formation of a community land trust, resilient forest climate planning, and/or establishing dynamic forest restoration blocks.



Infrastructural

Town wide

Private

Both

## Improve townwide emergency communication infrastructure

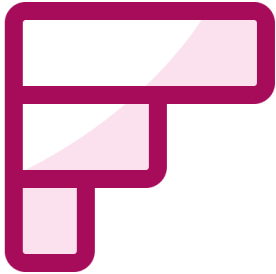
- Identify communications (cell, landline) coverage dead spots
- Expand cell tower access and develop different communication channels (such as radio or fire whistle) to reach areas where cell service is poor.



**QUESTIONS?**

**Questions about the CRB  
workshop or the five  
priority action items?**

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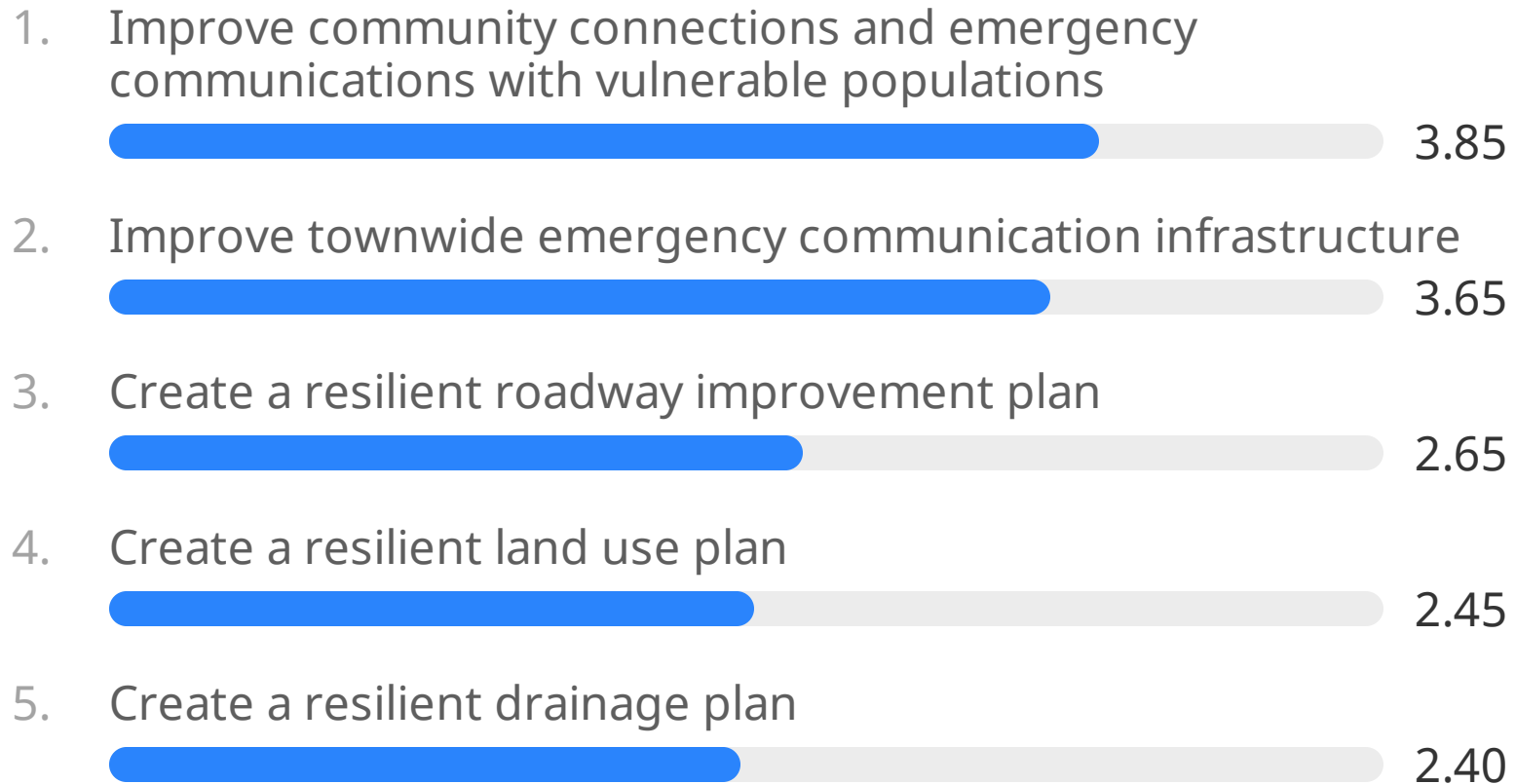
**Rank these 5 action items in order from most urgent to least urgent.**

① Start presenting to display the poll results on this slide.

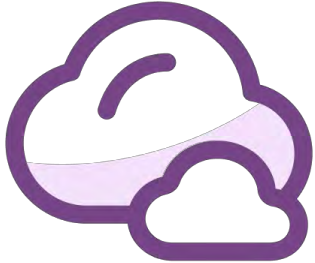


**Rank these 5 action items in order from most urgent to least urgent.**

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**Who within the community  
should be involved in  
advancing these projects?**

① Start presenting to display the poll results on this slide.

Who within the community should be involved in advancing these projects?

0 2 0

A word cloud visualization of responses to the poll question. The words are arranged in a non-uniform, organic shape. The largest and most prominent words are 'Seniors', 'everyone who can participate', and 'Police and fire'. Other visible words include 'Public', 'Select Board', 'Open Committee', 'Road crews', 'Space Zoning', 'Meetings', 'MVP', 'Shelburne Falls Senior Center', 'Select', and 'MTRSD'. The background is white, and the text is in a dark grey or black sans-serif font.

Public  
Seniors  
Open Committee  
Road crews  
Space Zoning  
Meetings  
MVP  
Shelburne Falls Senior Center  
Select  
MTRSD

Planning  
Select Board

everyone who can participate

Police and fire

## 28 priority action items total

The summary of findings report will be released in November for public comment!



## Next Steps

**Draft Summary of Findings Report (November '23)**

**Final Summary of Findings Report (March '24)**

**MVP Action Grants (December '23 - April '24)**



**QUESTIONS?**

## Open Discussion

Questions on MVP or other grants?

Questions on next steps?

**slido**



**Share your email if you would like to receive project updates and a notification when the draft MVP report is ready for review**

① Emails will not be shared with the public.

**thank you**

[westonandsampson.com](http://westonandsampson.com)