

## **Planning Board EDIC Key Points Input**

**8/9/22**

1. Define context that establishes framework from which to work within – overarching goals
2. Have a specific charge – create and implementing an economic development plan to attract and retain businesses that fits into the Town's overall plan (Comprehensive/Master) – this implies they are working with other Boards and Committees to create a common vision, not a body that acts on their own
3. Directly state they need to work with other Boards and Committees to influence those things under the purview of the other Boards and Committees (i.e. not work in parallel with a different goal/perspective), acknowledging that the Boards and Committees need to balance other perspectives beyond economic development

### **Sample statements**

#### Context

Have a thriving business community is vital to the Stow, both as a source of basic goods and services and as a major factor in improving and maintaining the quality of life in the Town. At the same time, residents desire to maintain Stow's small town rural character while having options for shopping, dining, and services to remain locally accessible. To balance these desires, the Town must ensure that economic development is appropriate for a rural and suburban community by encouraging appropriate businesses that enhance the community. And, to further support the business community, the Town should also guide the continued development of appropriate, efficient, and economical infrastructure for Stow, including utilities.

#### Charge

To create and sustain a thriving business community, the Town of Stow recognizes it is important to have a rigorous and result driven economic development plan to attract and retain businesses. Under the direction of the Stow Select Board, the Stow Economic Development and Industrial Commission (EDIC) will develop and implement an Economic Development Plan for the Town of Stow for anticipated inclusion in the upcoming Comprehensive Plan update (i.e. Master Plan update). Working with the business community and Stow residents, the EDIC will develop a community engagement strategy, gain community data, information, and perspectives to inform the economic development plan. The EDIC will bring relevant data and collaborate with Town boards and committees where the economic development plan needs to influence activities under the purview of the other boards and committees so that the Comprehensive Plan update represents a unified vision for Stow.