

## **Master Plan 2008 Introduction**

Currently Bellingham is undergoing its Master Planning. General guidelines and information about mater Master planning can be found in M.G.L. Chapter 41: Section 81D which states:

*“A planning board established in any city or town under section eighty-one Shall make a master plan of such city or town or such part or parts thereof as said board may deem advisable and from time to time may extend or perfect such plan. Such plan shall be a statement, through text, maps, illustrations or other forms of communication that is designed to provide a basis for decision making regarding the long-term physical development of the municipality. The comprehensive plan shall be internally consistent in its policies, forecasts and standards.”*

Master planning equips towns with the direction and goals necessary to grow and develop toward meeting the needs of the community. Without planning, many problems can arise after the fact.

A good plan outlines action steps toward implementation and insures that goals are met. It is the intent of the Planning Board to prepare a master plan that can be used by all those doing business with the Town of Bellingham, residents and companies alike.

Bellingham's current Master Plan task force members include participation from the Planning Board, Selectmen, DPW, School Committee, Parks Department as well as several other committees. It is the job of the task force to formulate a plan that will withstand unforeseen variables in our Town's future. This is why it is imperative that the public planning process continues and reshapes itself with the changes that are sure to occur.