



Planning Board Public Hearing Guide

Bellingham Planning Board

10 Mechanic Street
Bellingham, MA 02019
Telephone: 508-657-2892

Office Hours:
Monday – Thurs: 8:30 am–4:30 pm
Friday: 8:30 am–1:00 pm

What is the Planning Board & the Review Process?

- ◆ The Planning Board has 5 members and 1 alternate who review proposed development projects and make decisions about them in accordance with statute and local bylaws.

Why am I receiving a hearing notice?

- ◆ Abutters to abutters within 300 feet of the proposed development receive notice as required by statute.



How can I find out more information about the project?

- ◆ You are welcome to view all documents and pay for copies in the Planning Office during business hours listed above.

What happens at the public hearing?

- ◆ The Applicant will present the plans to the Board and the audience. The Board and the audience may ask questions or state concerns. You must state your name and address for the record. If you can't attend a meeting, you may submit your questions and comments in writing to the Planning Office prior to the meeting.

How should I conduct myself at a public meeting?

- ◆ Please show respect to the Chairperson and the Board members, as well as the applicant and your fellow attendees. Allow all comments to be heard. Please maintain a calm demeanor.

How many public hearings will be held for the project?

- ◆ Occasionally, a simple project may be completed in one hearing; but more commonly, hearings are continued and the entire process can take several weeks or months.

What happens after the public hearing is closed?

- ◆ Once the Board closes the public hearing, no new information can be submitted by the Applicant or the abutters. The Board will discuss the project and will vote to approve or deny the project by the decision deadline. The Decision will be signed at a subsequent meeting and then filed with the Town Clerk who then begins the appeal period.

Can a Decision be appealed?

- ◆ Appeals may be made to the Superior Court and in some cases to the Land Court. Subdivisions have a 20-day appeal period and Development Plans and Special Permits have a 30-day appeal period.

For more information, please call the Planning Office at 508-657-2982