Creative Approaches to Moderate Density

Filling the Missing Middle on Cape Cod

First Public Presentation

Falmouth

June 20, 2018

Project Introduction: Falmouth, Davis Straits Area



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WHY IS FALMOUTH PARTICIPATING?

- Consistent with Falmouth's Local Comprehensive Plan
 Goals and Policies
- Provide visual tool to engage community in plans for redevelopment resulting in:
 - Mixed use development
 - Facilitate affordable and multifamily housing opportunities



Odd Fellows Hall adaptive re-use: 4 affordable units on .12 acres



Project Introduction: Community Resiliency by Design



Heather Harper
Chief of Staff, Cape Cod Commission

Sharon Rooney
Chief Planner, Cape Cod Commission

Outline

- Introduction to Union Studio
- Why are we here?
- Demystifying Density and the Missing Middle
 - Visual Preferences
- Next Steps and Discussion





Union Studio was founded in 2001 with one overriding goal: to use our skills as architects and urban designers to make a **civic contribution** to communities of all types.





To devote our skills as architects and community designers to the creation and repair of neighborhoods and communities of all types.





Which includes the belief that renovating historic structures with care and a **new life** is crucial to maintaining our **architectural and cultural heritage**.





And that the **design** of new public places, neighborhoods and buildings must **resonate with the communities they serve** and **enhance our civic life**.











Our passion for community design stems from our belief that many **time-tested principles** for creating healthy places **have been largely forgotten** over the past 50 years





And that through careful application of the principles of healthy neighborhood design, we can provide a **framework for revitalizing our streets and neighborhoods**.



Some principles of healthy communities

- Walkable and pedestrian friendly
- Mix of housing types that meets the broad needs of the community
- Public & private outdoor spaces and amenities
- Contextual architectural design and materials
- Equitable connection and access to community resources and amenities



Integrated mix of uses and types are the building blocks of complete communities































Why are we here?



Why are we here?









To begin community conversations around strategies and techniques for meeting the increasing demand for housing on cape cod...



Why are we here?





And to get input from all of you on ways to do this that will enhance and support the character of your communities (not detract from them)



Process/Schedule

Review Existing Background Studies

May

Community Engagement and Design Development

First Public Presentations

June 19th and 20th

Online Visual Preference Survey

July - August

Presentation at One Cape Summit

August 17th

Final Conceptual Designs

Second Public Presentations

September

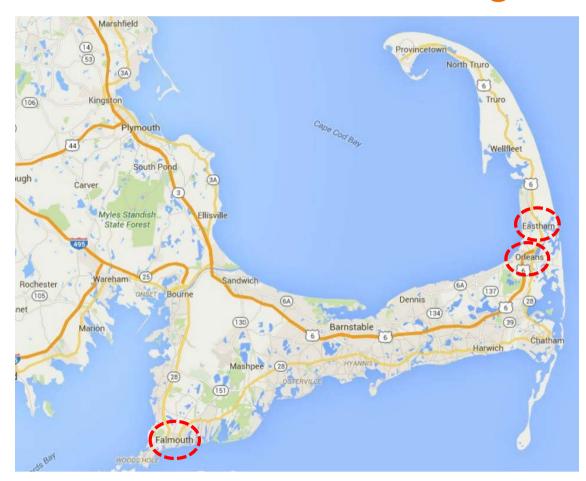
Develop Framework for Form-Based Regulation

Fall

Additional Communities

Time TBD



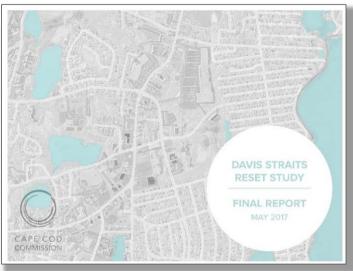


We are beginning with 3 communities (hoping to add more) – that have a cross section of conditions found elsewhere on Cape Cod.



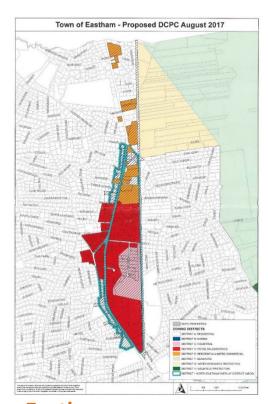
Each community has recently completed studies that identify areas where new housing types would be appropriate

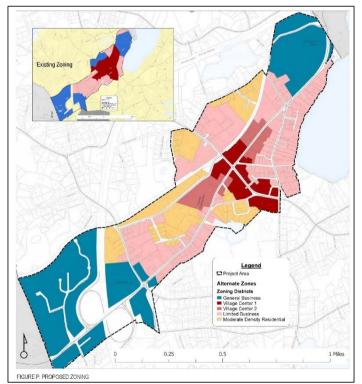




Eastham and Orleans have also adopted recent zoning changes that provide new opportunities for housing and mixed use development.









Eastham:Route 6 / Brackett Rd Area

UNION STUDIO

Orleans:Village Center

Falmouth: Davis Straits Area

The study areas focus on the "main street" areas or commercial core of each community—the "transitional" areas at the edge of the single family districts…





Precisely where "Transitional Density" is important to consider as a way to seamlessly knit the community together and avoid jarring transitions in the street character of your communities



What do we hope to deliver?

To develop a series of moderate density prototypes – based on local precedent and community input...





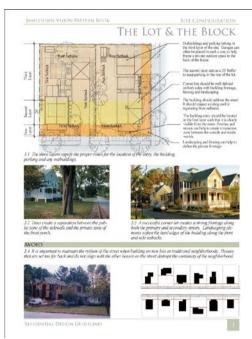


...that could be used to address housing challenges in variety of places on the Cape and in each community.



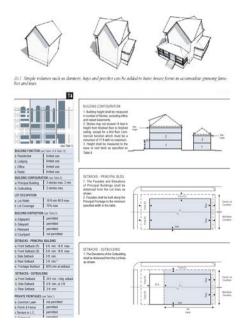
What do we hope to deliver?

Develop the framework (starting point) for form based regulations to assist your town boards as they review new development proposals.









To help guide new development in ways that support the character of your community.



What do we hope to deliver?

Share our initial findings during the One Cape Summit this August



As well as a final series of public meetings and workshops in the fall to review specific recommendations and regulatory goals for each community.



The Housing Challenge.... on Cape Cod

REGIONAL HOUSING MARKET ANALYSIS AND 10-YEAR FORECAST OF HOUSING SUPPLY AND DEMAND

BARNSTABLE COUNTY, MASSACHUSETTS

JUNE 30TH 2017





Submitted to
Barnstable County
and the
Cape Cod Commission



Prepared by





Burlington Vermont www.craneassociates.us Housing Market Analysis
released earlier this year by
the Cape Cod Commission
highlights a number of
challenges as it relates to
housing supply and demand
in the next 10 years (and
beyond).

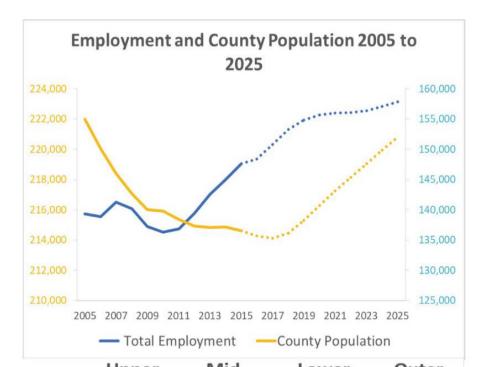
% of Median Household Income	50%	80%	100%	120%	>120%
Income (County Average)	\$36,125	\$57,799	\$72,249	\$86,699	
Affordable Price (County Average)	\$125,043	\$212,438	\$271,473	\$330,618	
Estimated Unit Demand	17,379	12,908	8,477	7,858	32,753
Estimated Unit Supply	3,041	5,322	10,557	12,521	47,934
Affordability Gap in Units (demand minus supply)	14,338	7,586	-2,080	-4,663	
Cumulative Demand	17,379	30,287	38,764	46,622	79,375
Cumulative Supply	3,041	8,363	18,920	31,441	79,375
Cumulative Gap	14,338	21,924	19,844	15,181	
Barnstable County-Estimated Affordable Gap for Re	nter Units, 20	15			
% of Median Household Income	50%	80%	100%	120%	>120%
Income (County Average)	\$16,530	\$26,447	\$33,059	\$39,671	
Affordable Rent (County Average)	\$413	\$661	\$826	\$992	
Estimated Unit Demand	5,232	3,540	1,978	1,646	9,009
Estimated Unit Supply	2,363	1,969	1,807	2,407	12,858
Affordability Gap in Units (demand minus supply)	2,869	1,572	171	-761	
Cumulative Demand	5,232	8,772	10,750	12,396	21,405
Cumulative Supply	2.363	4,332	6.139	8,546	21,405
Cumulative Gap	2,869	4,441	4,611	3,850	



Employment growth is expected to add roughly 6,200 additional residents by 2025.





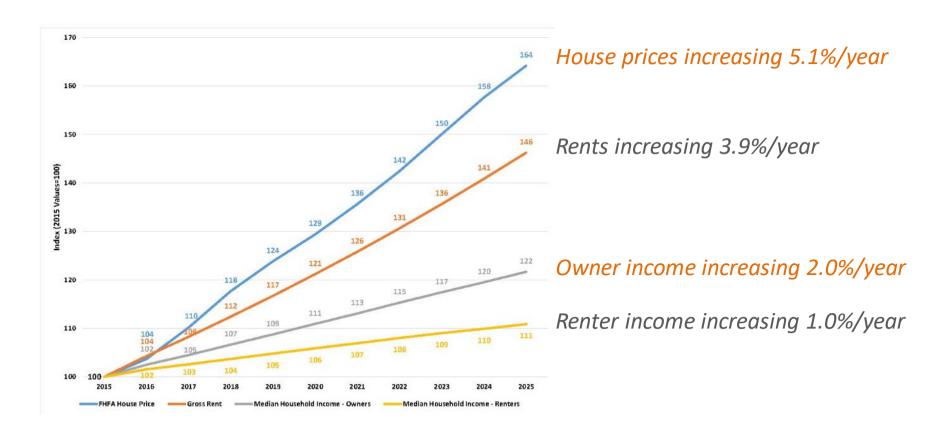


Year	Cape	Cape	Cape	Cape
2016	85,703	81,904	34,023	12,646
2020	86,176	83,094	34,217	12,807
2025	87,517	85,325	34,841	13,137

NET POPULATION GROWTH								
Year	Upper Cape	Mid Cape	Lower Cape	Outer Cape				
2020	256	1,181	84	151				
2025	1,598	3,412	708	481				



But limited supply of housing is driving costs up at rates greater rate than household incomes. Providing limited market rate housing choices for large segments of the working population of Cape Cod





Existing housing stock AND new construction have been (and continue to be) largely focused on delivering stand alone single family homes





- 82% of homes on cape cod are single family (Compared to 60% nationally)
- Less than 20% rental
- Median home size on cape has increased faster than the region and the nation!

Leaving the Cape very out of balance when it comes providing housing options to meet diverse community needs



The report concludes with a number of recommendations for closing the gap between housing supply and demand, several of which may be addressed with what we are here to talk about today:

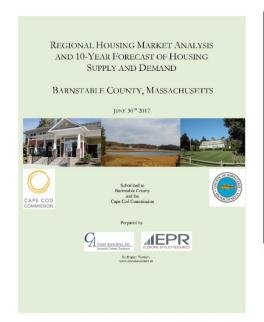
- Adopt housing targets balanced between all 15 municipalities
- Increase the diversity of senior housing
- Increase the diversity of multifamily housing
- Accommodate life stages through better urban design







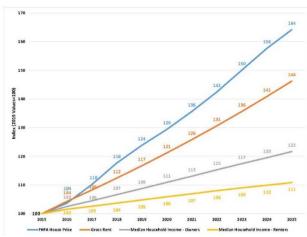
So what is all of this beginning to suggest?















So what is all of this beginning to suggest?

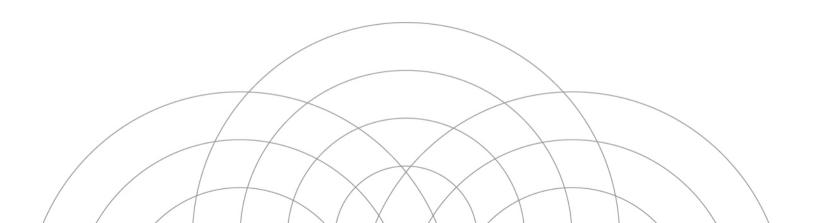


DENSITY!!!



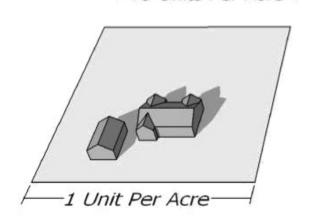
Is all density the same?

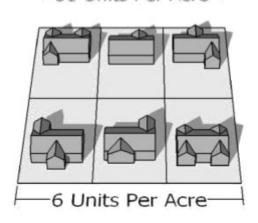
Can we find options for density that feel "right" for our communities?

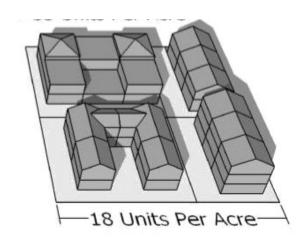


What is density?

When discussing housing, this is typically described in terms of how many residential units are included per acre of land.









But density can take many forms...



















Mansion Apartments

West Falmouth Highway, Falmouth

5 units on 0.5 acres = 10 du/ac

Typical Single Family Home

Cape Cod

1 unit on 0.25 - 0.5 acre = 2 - 4 du/ac













Bayberry Village

Old Colony Way, Orleans

42 units on 4 acres = 10 du/ac

Mansion Apartments

West Falmouth Highway, Falmouth

5 units on 0.5 acres = 10 du/ac













Beechwood Condos

Route 28, Falmouth

10 units on 2 acres = 5 du/ac

Duplex Cluster

Old Dock Road, West Falmouth

6 units on 0.8 acres = 7.5 du/ac













Stacked Flats

Glenwood Ave & Chancery Lane, Falmouth

9 units on 0.4 acres = 22 du/ac

Rock Harbor Village

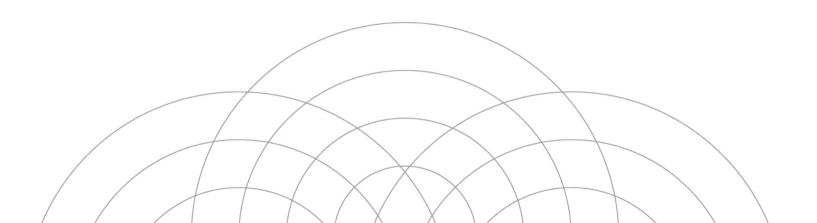
Old, Orleans

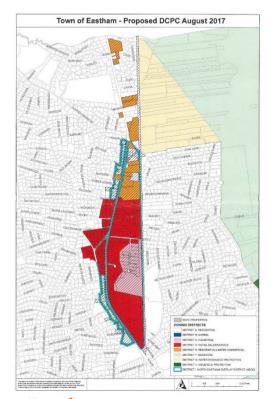
100 units on 6 acres = 16 du/ac

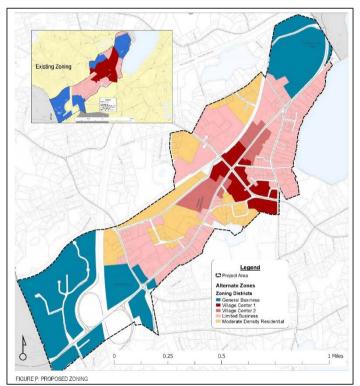




What are some creative approaches to moderate/transitional density?









Eastham: Route 6 / Brackett Rd Area

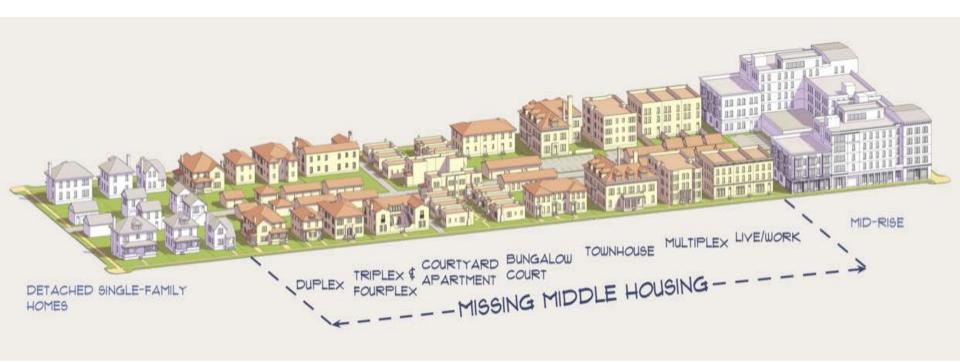
UNION STUDIO

Orleans:Village Center

Falmouth: Davis Straits Area

These areas focus on the "main street" areas or commercial core of each community—the "transitional" areas at the edge of the single family districts...

There are a whole range of building types that have been largely underutilized that scale between single family and the commercial core: what some have called the "Missing Middle".







These housing types were common in pre-1940's walkable neighborhoods



















These types provided denser housing options in forms that were able to integrate into the primarily single family residential areas.





Why is the "missing middle" missing?



- Most zoning ordinances were written post-WWII and focused on the single family house and apartment complex as the two dominant housing types.
- As a result, financing is still largely structured based on those two forms.
- In addition, local residents tend to resist "new" types of development, even if those types are rooted in historical patterns.

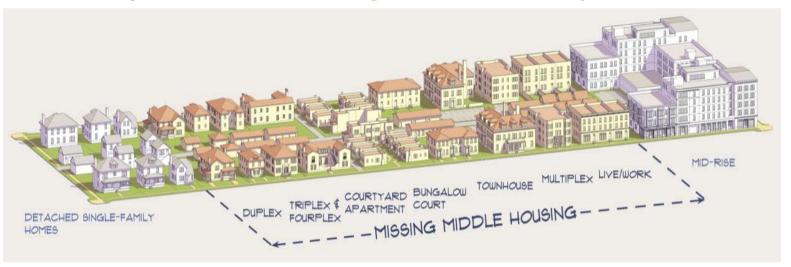


So why is there a renewed interest now?

- Empty nesters and young professionals looking for options in historic cores
- Looking for new models to help provide more affordable housing

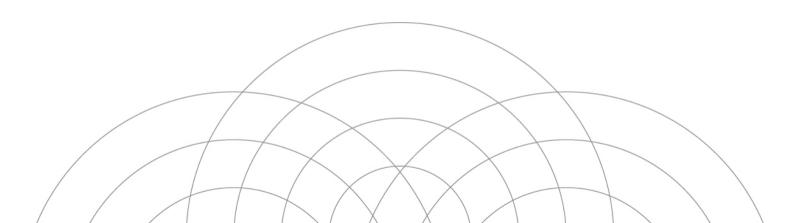
- Industry looking for new ways to develop in smaller increments
- Demographic shift to "right-sized" units and communal living

All of which the Missing Middle can help address

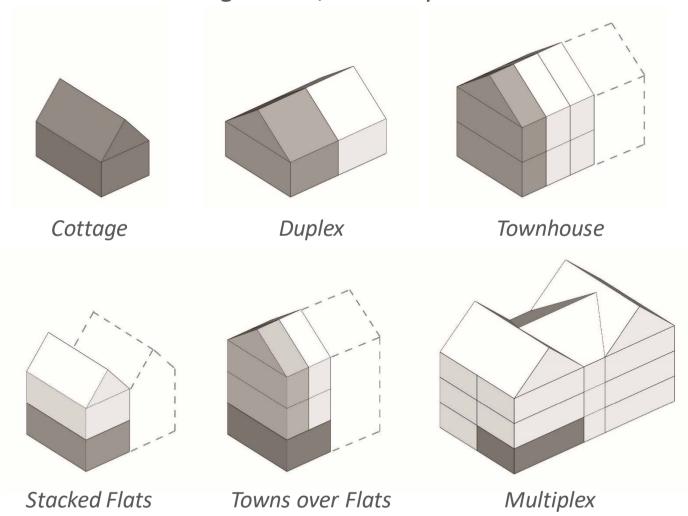




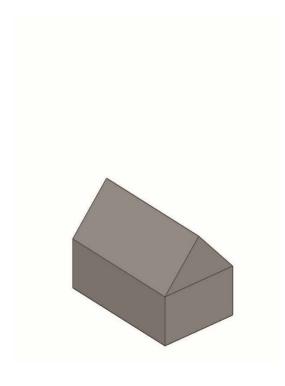
Missing Middle Building Types



What do we mean by "building types"? Basically a means of categorizing units of a similar scale, arrangement, and disposition.











- Typically 1 − 2 Stories
- May be attached, but typically detached
- Density achieved by arranging cottages in clusters, or "cottage courts"
- 8 − 15 dwelling units per acre



Chases Ocean Grove

Old Wharf Road, Dennisport

55 units on 3.6 acres = 15 du/ac







Heritage Sands

Old Wharf Road, Dennisport

64 units (+ Community Building) on 8 acres = 8 du/ac













Riverwalk Concord, MA

Orleans, MA

Cottages on Green, RI





Truro, MA Dennis, MA







Martha's Vineyard

Duxbury, MA

Providence, RI







Which image feels more appropriate here?

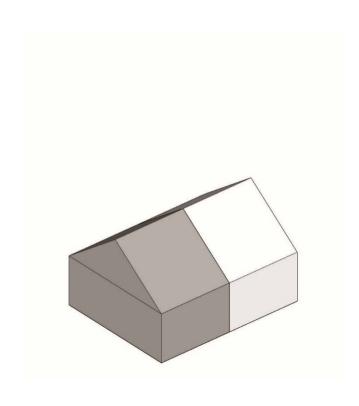






Which image feels more appropriate here?









- Typically 1-2 stories
- Two single family homes that share a common "party wall"
- 5 − 10 dwelling units per acre



Beechwood Condos

Route 28, Falmouth

10 units on 2 acres = 5 du/ac







Duplex Cluster

Old Dock Road, West Falmouth

6 units on 0.8 acres = 7.5 du/ac













Bourne, MA Eastham, MA Tiverton, RI







Sweetbriar, RI



West Falmouth, MA







Which image feels more appropriate here?

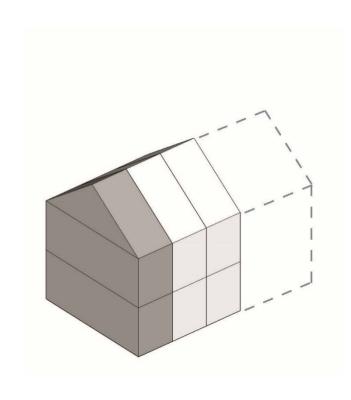


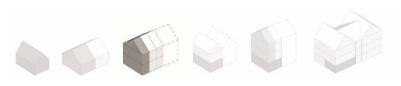




Which image feels more appropriate here?











- Typically 2-3 stories
- Series of single family homes that share multiple common "party walls"
- Can be designed to look like individual units or as a single larger building
- 6 − 12 dwelling units per acre

Anthony Drive

Anthony Drive, Orleans

10 units (+ retail) on 1.6 acres = 6 du/ac





Bayberry Village

Old Colony Way, Orleans

42 units on 4 acres = 10 du/ac











Providence, RI

Sandywoods Farm, RI

Falmouth, MA







Providence, RI







Which image feels more appropriate here?



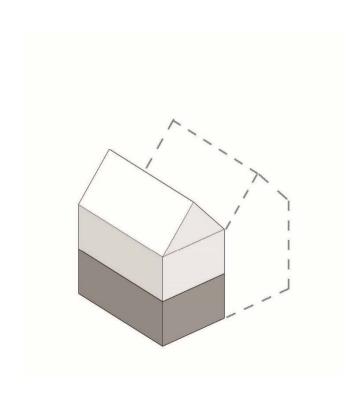




Which image feels more appropriate here?



Stacked Flats: Stacked units, often with independent circulation









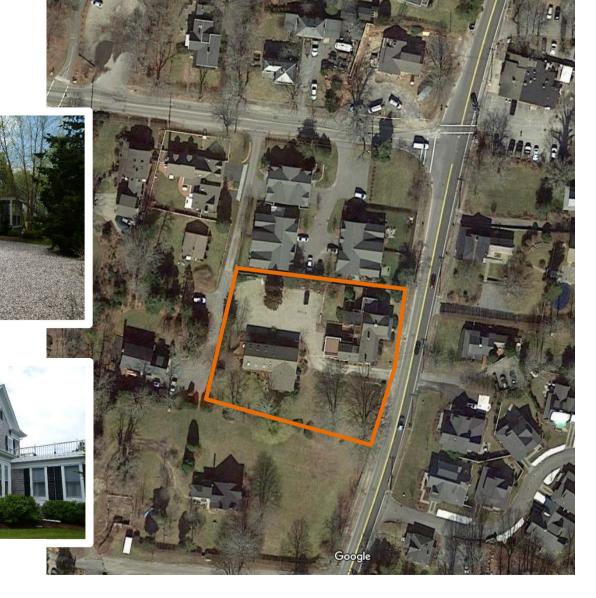
- Typically 2-3 stories
- Single story flats stacked on one another
- May be a stand-alone building or combined
- 10 − 15 dwelling units per acre

Captain Hamblin House

West Falmouth Hwy, West Falmouth

9 units on 1 acres =

9 du/ac





Stacked Flats

Glenwood Ave & Chancery Lane, Falmouth

9 units on 0.4 acres =
22 du/ac (15 du/ac if 6 units)













Providence, RI



Provincetown, MA



Providence, RI



Provincetown, MA



West Falmouth, MA







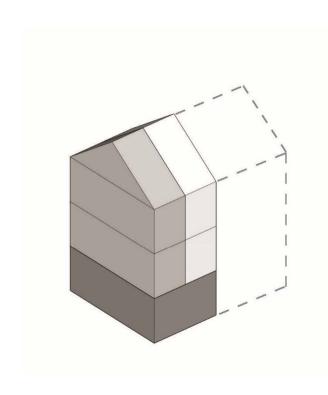
Which image feels more appropriate here?















- Typically 3 stories
- 2 story townhomes over a 1 story flat
- Best on corners allowing multiple entries
- 15 − 20 dwelling units per acre









Providence, RI



Providence, RI



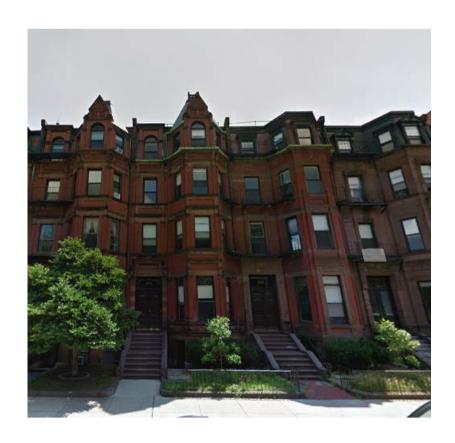
Hyannis, MA





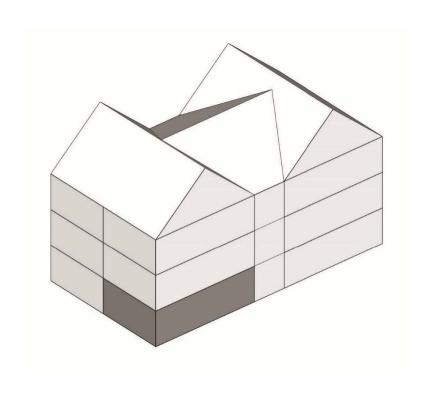


















- Typically 2-3 stories
- Typically 4 12 units per building
- Series of flats with shared circulation
- May be a stand-alone building or combined
- 15 25 dwelling units per acre

Mansion Apartments

West Falmouth Highway, Falmouth

5 units on 0.5 acres = 10 du/ac







Rock Harbor Village

Orleans

100 units on 6 acres = 16 du/ac













Bourne, MA



West Falmouth, MA







Provincetown, MA



Providence, RI









































Which do you think feels more appropriate here?

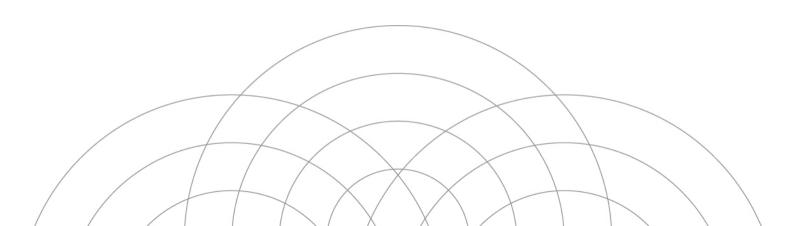




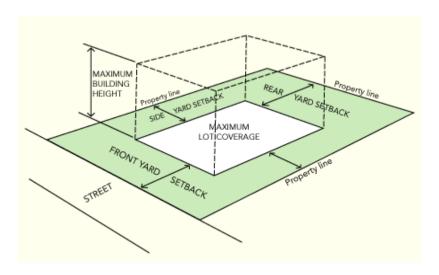




Form Based Regulations to deliver community character



Form based regulations vs purely metric based regulation



ARTICLE 3. APPLICATION OF DISTRICT REGULATIONS

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Use	Minimum Lot Size		Building Lot Coverage	Building Height		Minimum Yards				Accessory Buildings	
	Area in square feet	Frontage		Principal	Accessory	Front	Corner	Side	Rear	Side Lot Line	Rear Lot Line
Single-family dwelling	200,000	300	5 percent	35	25	50	40	40	50	20	20
Other permitted uses	200,000	300	5 percent	35	25	50	40	40	50	40	50

RR-80 Zoning District

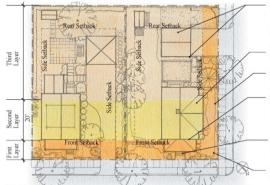
TABLE INSET:

Use	Minimum Lot Size		Building Lot Coverage	Building Height		Minimum Yards				Accessory Buildings	
	Area in square feet	Frontage		Principal	Accessory	Front	Corner	Side	Rear	Side Lot Line	Rear Lot Line
Single-family dwelling	80,000	200	20 percent	35	25	40	40	30	40	20	20
Multifamily dwelling	200,000	300	25 percent	35	25	100	100	100	100	50	50
School, college, religious institution	10 acres	300	25 percent	45	40	100	100	100	100	50	50
Other governmental,	200,00	200	25 percent	45	40	50	40	40	50	40	50

JAMESTOWN VISION PATTERN BOOK

SITE CONFIGURATION

THE LOT & THE BLOCK



Outbuildings and parking belong in the third layer of the site. Garages can often be placed in such a way to help frame a private outdoor space in the back of the bouse.

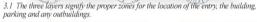
The second layer acts as a 20' buffer to keep parking in the rear of the lot.

Corner lots should be well defined on both sides with building frontage, fencing and landscaping.

The building should address the street. It should respect existing and/or regulating front setbacks.

The building entry should be located in the first layer such that it is clearly visible from the street. Porches and stoops can help to create a transition zone between the outside and inside worlds.

Landscaping and fencing can help to define the private frontage.





3.2 Trees create a separation between the public zone of the sidewalk and the private zone of the front porch.

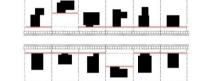


3.3 A successful corner lot creates a strong frontage along both the primary and secondary streets. Landscaping elements soften the hard edges of the building along the front and side softwarks.

AVOID

3.4 It is important to maintain the rythym of the street when building on new lots in traditional neighborhoods. Houses that are set too far back and do not align with the other houses on the street distrupt the continuity of the neighborhood.





RESIDENTIAL DESIGN GUIDELINES



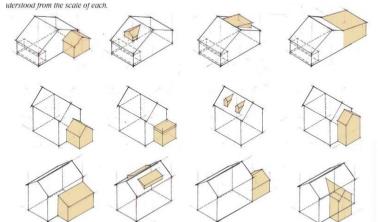
Based on a community input and analysis (workshops, visual preference surveys etc.)

				skipped	question	55
				answered o	question	168
Creation of new public/civic space	14.9% (25)	29.2% (49)	34.5% (58)	21.4% (36)	2.63	168
Water use restrictions	8.9% (15)	18.5% (31)	32.7% (55)	39.9% (67)	3.04	168
Population growth on an Island that has finite borders	8.3% (14)	20.2% (34)	20.8% (35)	50.6% (85)	3.14	168
Total number of dwelling units	11.3% (19)	26.2% (44)	31.5% (53)	31.0% (52)	2.82	168

11. Wild cardtell us anything else you think we need to know to help Jamestown.	
	Response Count
	126
answered question	126
skipped question	97

	Response Percent	Response
ear-round resident for more than 10 years	71.3%	117
Year-round resident for 10 years or less	20.7%	34
Summer resident for more than 10 years	6.1%	10
Summer resident for 10 years or less	1.8%	
	answered question	164
	skipped question	59

13. What is your general location of residence on the island?	
	Response
	164
answered question	164
skipped question	59



1.3 There are various ways to expand and transform an existing home. Additions are most successful when they defer in ale and proportion to the primary form of the original building.





Based on a community input and analysis (understanding and documenting the context)













Translated into a regulating set of tools that focus on describing what the community wants to FEEL like









10.1 Simple volumes such as dormers, bays and porches can be added to basic house forms to accomodate growing families and uses.



BUILDING CONFIGURATION

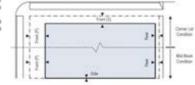
1. Suiting hoight shall be measured in rumber of Stories, excluding Atics and raised basements.

2. Stories may not exceed 14 feet in height from freshed from to finished coeling, except for a first floor or finished coeling except for a first floor or finished coeling except for a first floor or finished.

3. Height shall be measured to the eave or toof deck as specified on Table 8.

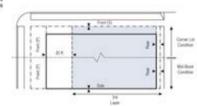
The Facedes and Elevations of Priorigial Buildings shall be distanced from the Lot lines as shown.

J. Facedes shall be built along the Principal Floridage to the novimum specified width in the table.



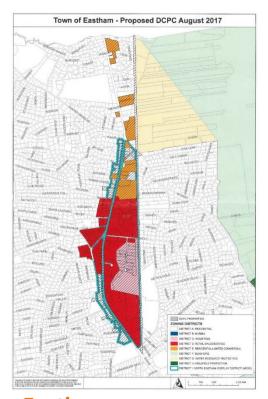
SETBACKS - OUTBUILDING 1. The Elevations of the Outbuilding shall be distanced from the Lot lines as shown.

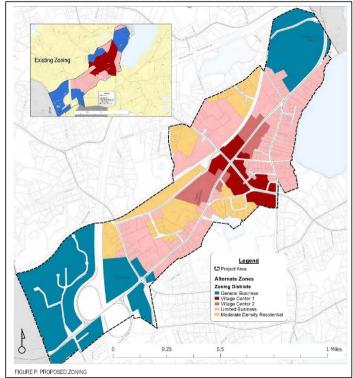
SETBACKS - PRINCIPAL BLDG.





Which brings us to the ultimate question: When thinking about how best to incorporate moderate forms of transitional density in these areas...







Eastham:Route 6 / Brackett Rd Area

Orleans:Village Center

Falmouth: Davis Straits Area



... could any (or all) of these options fit in your community?







Cottage



Townhouse







Towns over Flats



Multiplex

