

12.4 Creative, Cultural and Historic Resources

Goal 1. Community Assessment

Objective 1.1.: Identify Current Resources.

Action

- | | Resp | Time |
|--|---------------------------|-------------|
| 1.1.a. Create an inventory of vibrant , creative individuals and community organizations that contribute to Westport's identity. | WCC | 1 |
| 1.1.b. Catalog creative and historical resources in the community. | WCC,
ECON DEV.,
SAC | 3 |
| •Develop a map of attractions & points of interest. | | |
| •Identify public venues and Town owned resources. | | |
| •Identify areas for future cultural and artistic expansion and growth. | | |
| •Highlight the contributions of artists and arts organizations to community life and economic development. | | |
| •Highlight organizations that create a sense of place, civic pride and attract visitors to the town. | | |
| •Identify neighborhood programs and activities. | | |

Objective 2.1.: Conduct a Needs Assessment

Action

- | | Resp | Time |
|--|---------------------------|-------------|
| 1.2.a. Conduct a community survey and assessment to gather the views of a wide range of residents. Gather information on priorities, needs and opportunities that citizens value and ways to expand participation (culturally and historically). Meet with a range of organizations to engage them, hear their needs | WCC | 1 |
| 1.2.b. Encourage creative place-making activities and programs within the community based on the needs assessments. | WCC,
ECON DEV.,
SAC | 3 |
| 1.2.c. Partner with Economic Development to identify where collaborations with arts & cultural resources can be integrated into new opportunities for growth in town. | WCC,
ECON DEV.,
SAC | 3 |
| 1.2.d. Identify barriers that limit participation in arts and cultural events and develop bridge building among groups. | WCC | 3 |

Goal 2. Promote Art & Creative Resources throughout the Town

Objective 2.1.: Increase awareness of the arts, culture and sciences in the community.

Action

Resp	Time
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2.1.a. Promote communication and collaboration among neighborhoods, school organizations, local organizations, and diverse age groups that encourage partnerships and build community.	WCC, AC, RC, HC,SAC	3
•Public Art		
•Community events		
•Youth apprenticeships with local cultural and historic organizations		
•Storytelling and oral history		
2.1.b. Promote the Town’s artistic, cultural and historical identity using existing social media, press and exhibits.	“	2
2.1.c. Develop new opportunities for public participation in collaboration working with local non profits and community groups.	“	2
2.1.d. Develop opportunities for new applicants through the Westport Cultural Council's annual funding.	WCC	1

Objective 2.2.: Support programs in the arts, culture & sciences throughout the community.

Action	Resp	Time
2.2.a.Support creative school programs that reach beyond the traditional scope of the classroom.	WCC, BOS SCHOOL COMM.	2
2.2.b.Support cultural activities that engage all Westport residents and encourage community collaborations.	WCC, BOS, ECON. DEV., SCHOOL COMM.	4
2.2.c.Increase visibility of Westport’s diverse artistic, cultural and historical shared heritage.	WCC, BOS, ECON. DEV.	3
2.2.d.Use technology to collect and share the stories of Westport and its people and catalog in the Public Library.	WHC, WCC	3
2.2.e.Expand opportunities to communicate shared goals of Westport citizens through projects focused on engagement and collaboration.	WCC,BOS	3
2.2.f.Encourage participation by diverse groups through the Westport Cultural Council's funding programs.	WCC,BOS	3
2.2.g.Support the work of the Westport Cultural Council.	ALL	1

Goal 3. Cultural Resources

Objective 1. Communicate the importance of neighborhoods and villages to Westport’s identity.

Action	Resp	Time
3.1 a. Establish cultural celebrations, festivals and community events.	BOS,WCC	3
3.1.b. Support Westport History Month and enrich school curriculum.	BOS, SCHOOL COMM, ECON	2

3.1.c. Foster and support celebration of the diverse ethnic contributions to Westport.	BOS,WCC, ECON	3
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Objective 2. Engage youths in programs and activities that recognize Westport's identity and sense of place.

Action	Resp	Time
3.2.a. Encourage youth apprenticeships in cultural and historic organizations and activities.	SCHOOL	2
3.2.b. Develop activities that encourage local storytelling.	WHC, ECON,WCC	3
3.2.c. Advance tolerance, cultural understanding in programs such as festivals and school events and curriculum.	BOS ECON SAC	3
3.2.d. Integrate a Cultural and Historic Program in school curriculum throughout all grades.	WHC, ECON,WCC	3

Goal 4. Historical Resources

Objective 1: To preserve and protect Westport's historical resources through education and public and private action.

Action	Resp	Time
4.1.a. Preserve and protect historical resources in Westport.	ALL	1
4.1.b. Promote joint efforts by the Westport Historical Commission (WHC) and CPA to identify and fund historic preservation projects.	WHC, CPC	2
4.1.c. Support the work of the Westport Historical Commission and Westport Historical Society.	BOS, SAC,CPC, WHC	1
4.1.d. Support interest in and develop historic districts.	BOS, SAC,CPC, WHC	2
4.1.e. Identify at-risk historical resources in Westport that need protection: buildings, mill sites, areas.	BOS, SAC,CPC, WHC	2
4.1.f. Set up and implement programs, bylaws and other means to preserve historic buildings, roads, trees, stone walls.	BOS, SAC,CPC, WHC	3
4.1.g. Continue updating the WHC Westport Historic Inventory.	WHC,BOS	1
4.1.h. Pursue National Register status for the Westport Town Farm	WHC, BOS	1
4.1.i. Support the Westport Public Library History Room as a site for preserving historic resources.	LC, BOS	3
4.1.j. Map cemeteries, mill sites and other known historical resources into Town website GIS system.	BOS	3
4.1.k. Identify and restore historic Town Landings.	LC, BOS	3

Objective 2: To document and promote recognition of Westport's historical resources through education and outreach.

Action	Resp
4.2.a. Promote the use of historical resources as sources of tourism and economic development such as development of bike paths and heritage trails connecting to other towns and areas.	BOS, ECON, WHC,WCC

4.2.b. Support the work of the Westport Historical Society.	BOS, ECON, WHC,WCC	1
4.2.c. Continue updating the Westport Historic Inventory.	WHC,BOS	1
4.2.d. Foster and support celebration of the diverse cultural (ethnic) contributions to Westport. •Contributions of Portuguese farmers, Polish factory workers, African American community, Native American community, French Canadians, etc.	BOS, ECON, WHC,WCC, SAC	3
4.2.e. Support preservation, protection and documentation of Westport’s historic cemeteries. •Beautification. •Naming of paths in cemeteries •Establish and support a Cemetery Commission.	BOS, WHC, CIG, CPC	2

Objective 3: To preserve and protect Westport’s Agricultural Heritage.

Action

4.3.a. Identify and document the town’s historic agricultural evolution and produce/production throughout the years. •Vegetable/crops (i.e. Macomber Turnip). •Silkworm Industry. •Mink farming. •Dairy. •Sheep. •Firewood.	AC, BOS,SAC, ECON	2
4.3.b. Identify and document the town’s current agricultural produce/production. •Value added products. •Current trends. •Availability.	AC, BOS,SAC, ECON	2
4.3.c. Document where farmers have supplied their goods to such as: •Local markets. •Neighboring towns such as Fall River & New Bedford.	AC, BOS,SAC, ECON	2
4.3.d. Identify agricultural parcels of land that are not protected under 61A, agricultural/conservation restrictions.	AC, BOS,SAC, ECON	2
4.3.e. Research programs and grants that will help the town protect farmland.	AC, BOS,SAC, ECON	2
4.3.f. Encourage economic development in farming to preserve the land and farmers livelihood.	AC, BOS,SAC, ECON	1
4.3.g. Support “Buy Local Campaign”.	AC, BOS,SAC, ECON	1

Objective 4: To preserve and protect Westport's Marine Heritage.

Action

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| 4.4.a. Research ways to support economic development for Westport's fishing fleet as a way to preserve the historical fishing industry. | HM,
BOS,SW, RC | 1 |
| 4.4.b. Support fishing infrastructure such as preservation of historic piers, docks and water access. | BOS, CPC,
SA, HM, SW | 2 |