

# References

- Planning Department Presentation, 15 November 2021

<https://www.newtonma.gov/home/showdocument?id=77571&t=637725933895719473>

Video link:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/play/66ww87R0x2\\_a0QdS25xZhAqfpCtnSgekQlwEwYCVf5JTwnlUo0-7esqk\\_ljB0ElaqldZY8ti2JGwXN4l.x7lJ8VeCf2wa6m9Z?startTime=1637017157000](https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/play/66ww87R0x2_a0QdS25xZhAqfpCtnSgekQlwEwYCVf5JTwnlUo0-7esqk_ljB0ElaqldZY8ti2JGwXN4l.x7lJ8VeCf2wa6m9Z?startTime=1637017157000)

- Companion Materials

<https://www.newtonma.gov/home/showpublisheddocument/70377/637577264339330000>

# Who we reached out to & heard from

- co-hosted focus group
- submitted a Vision Kit
- staff tabled at event of

## Neighborhood Area Councils

- Newton Highlands
- Newtonville NAC
- Upper Falls NAC
- Waban NAC

## Commissions, Committees & Departments

- Commission on Disability
- Council on Aging
- Youth Commission
- Department of Health & Human Services (workers)
- Department of Planning & Development (workers)
- Historic Newton
- Human Rights Commission
- Newton Senior Center
- Transportation Advisory Group
- Economic Development Commission
- Citizens Commission on Energy
- Parks, Recreation + Culture Planning & Development Board

## Councilors

- Reached out to all Councilors
- 12 Councilors of 5 Wards

## Stakeholders

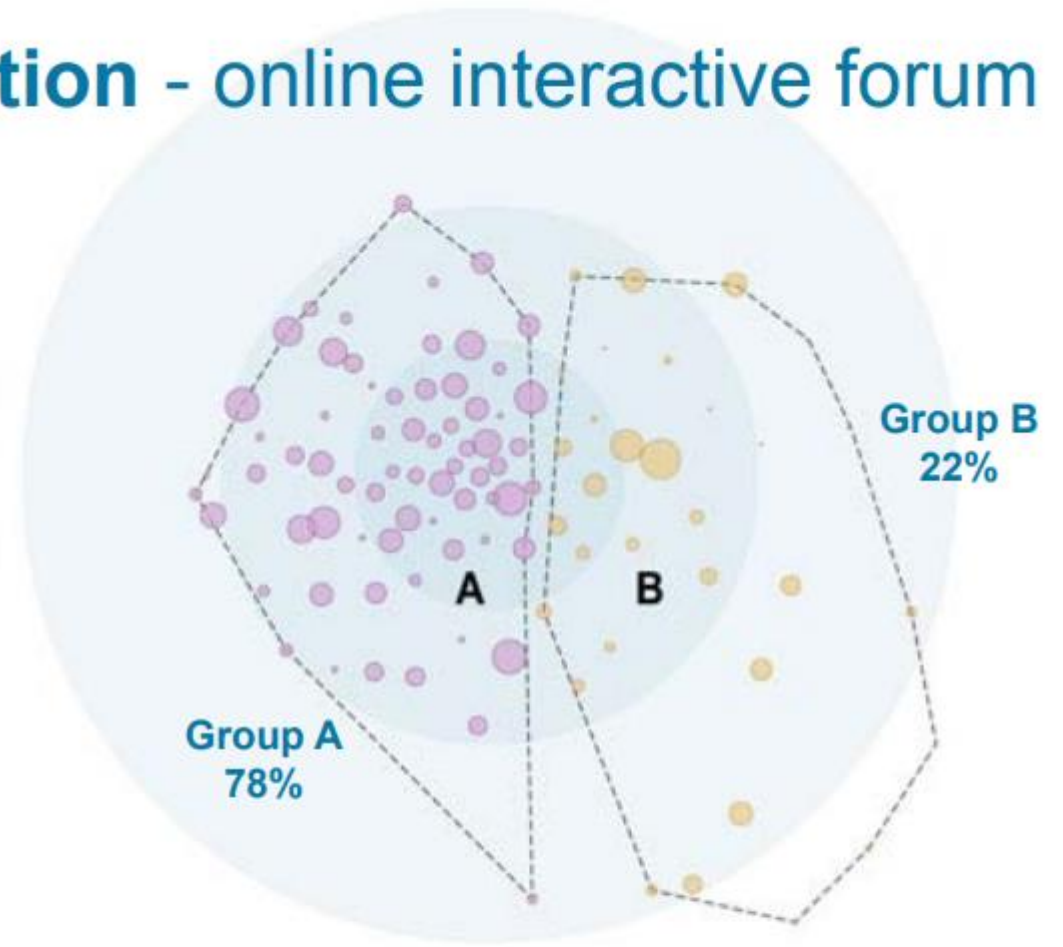
- 350Mass Newton Node
- Bike Newton
- Boston College Graduate Student Union
- Boys & Girls Club
- Chestnut Hill Association
- Chinese American Association of Newton (CAAN)
- ● *Cultural Development (City)*
- Culture Center of Taipei
- Economic and Cultural Office
- Defund Newton Police
- Engine6
- Families Organizing for Racial Justice (FORJ)
- FUUSN - Social Action Council
- ● Green Newton
- Green Newton - School Connections

- Green Newton - Youth Group
- Harmony Foundation
- Hyde Community Center
- League of Women Voters - Newton
- Myrtle Baptist Church
- New Art Center
- Newton Center for Civic Engagement
- Newton Coalition of Black Residents
- Newton Community Development Foundation
- *Newton Housing Authority*
- Newton Interfaith Clergy Association (NICA)
- Newton Lower Falls Improvement Association
- *Newton Neighbors Helping Neighbors*
- NNHS & NSHS's Sustainability Courses
- Newton Open Studio

- Newton Public School System (PTOs + Teachers + Social Workers + Students)
- Newton Talks Race
- Newton Teachers Association
- NNHS NextGen Voices
- Right-Size Newton
- Safe Routes to School Task Force
- St. Mary of Carmen Society
- Team Sangiolo
- Temple Emanuel Social Justice Group
- Temple Shalom
- The Village Bank
- Tour de Newton
- U-CHAN
- Understanding Our Differences
- Waban Improvement Society
- Welcoming Newton

# How we synthesized the information - online interactive forum

- **1,427** people voted (based on logins or individual devices)
- **1,249** people grouped (978 in Group A, 271 in Group B)
- **124,427** votes were cast
- **484** statements were submitted
- **87.19** votes per voter on average





# Groups - online interactive forum

## Group A (78% of respondents)

**Group A agrees with**  
and Group B disagrees with:

*Increasing density in village centers will increase walkability and encourage people to do more trips without their cars.*

*We need multi-unit housing in and near the village centers. Preferably by right.*

## Group B (22% of respondents)

**Group B agrees with**  
and Group A disagrees with:

*I moved to newton for what it was, don't try to radically change it.*

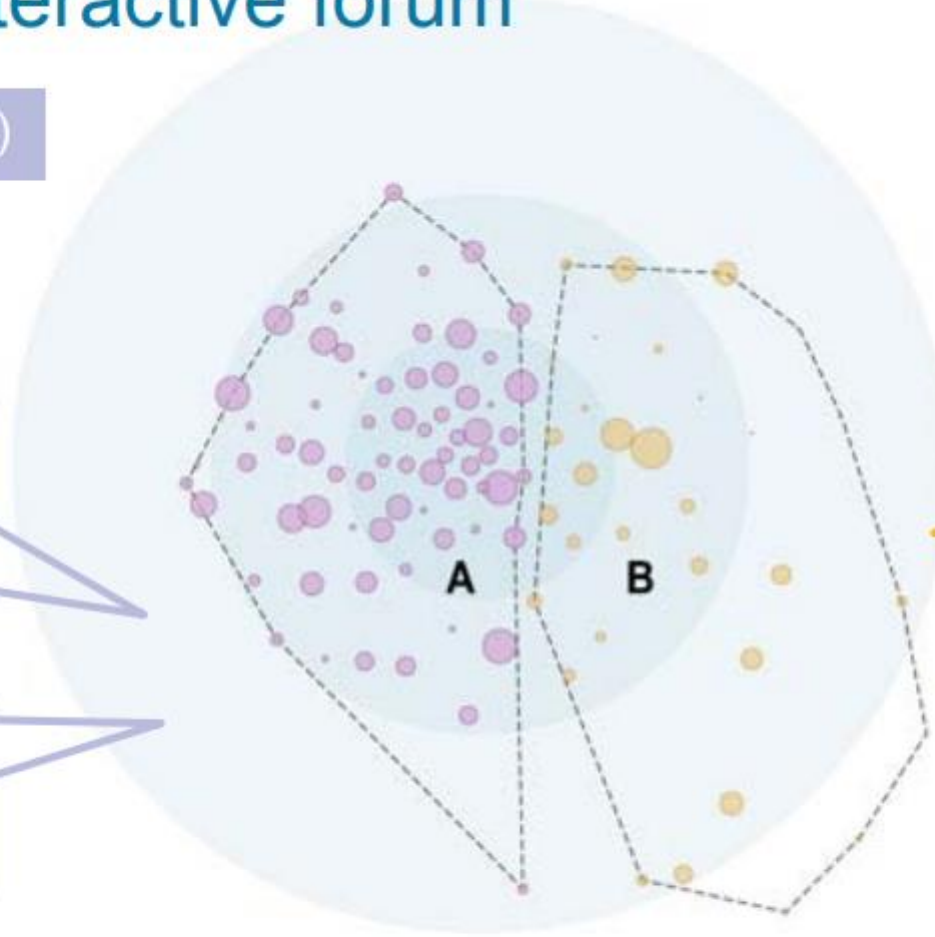
*3-4 story blgs a in VCs is a major change/bad idea. It only takes a few taller buildings to make a canyon. NO MORE TRIO HULKS*

## Both Groups Agree:

*Village Center should have places to do errands, get a bite to eat, go to an event and also to "just hang out" and talk and people watch.*

*Once I am in a Village Center, being able to easily and safely walk to all the businesses is important to me.*

*More outdoor seating, dining, meeting places. COVID has taught us that we can (and like to) hang out outdoors.*



# Communal & Public Space + Activation

**Keep and expand outdoor dining**

Rethink parking lots for these uses

Some current public spaces do not feel inclusive nor representative

**Use zoning tools to encourage or require public art and creative uses in public and private new development**

**Love the NewArt OutDoors and Murals**

Limited space for teens/young people to gather

**Create village center branding for arts, culture, history, and civic life**

Balance housing needs with the need for open/ public space

Appreciation for existing park/recreational areas



# More Diverse Housing Options and Encourage Mixed-Use



*The new apartment buildings in Newtonville have breathed fresh air into this village center. It has felt slow and almost dying for almost a decade, but the improvements (such as Bram Way) are palpable. We need denser housing with commensurate retail to continue to revitalize this part of the city.*

(Vision Kit Submission)

*In order for Newton to remain a viable city, it needs an availability of housing options. I live in West Newton village center and see that place in dire need of help. I think having more housing there will actually be very helpful.*

(Older adults Focus Group)

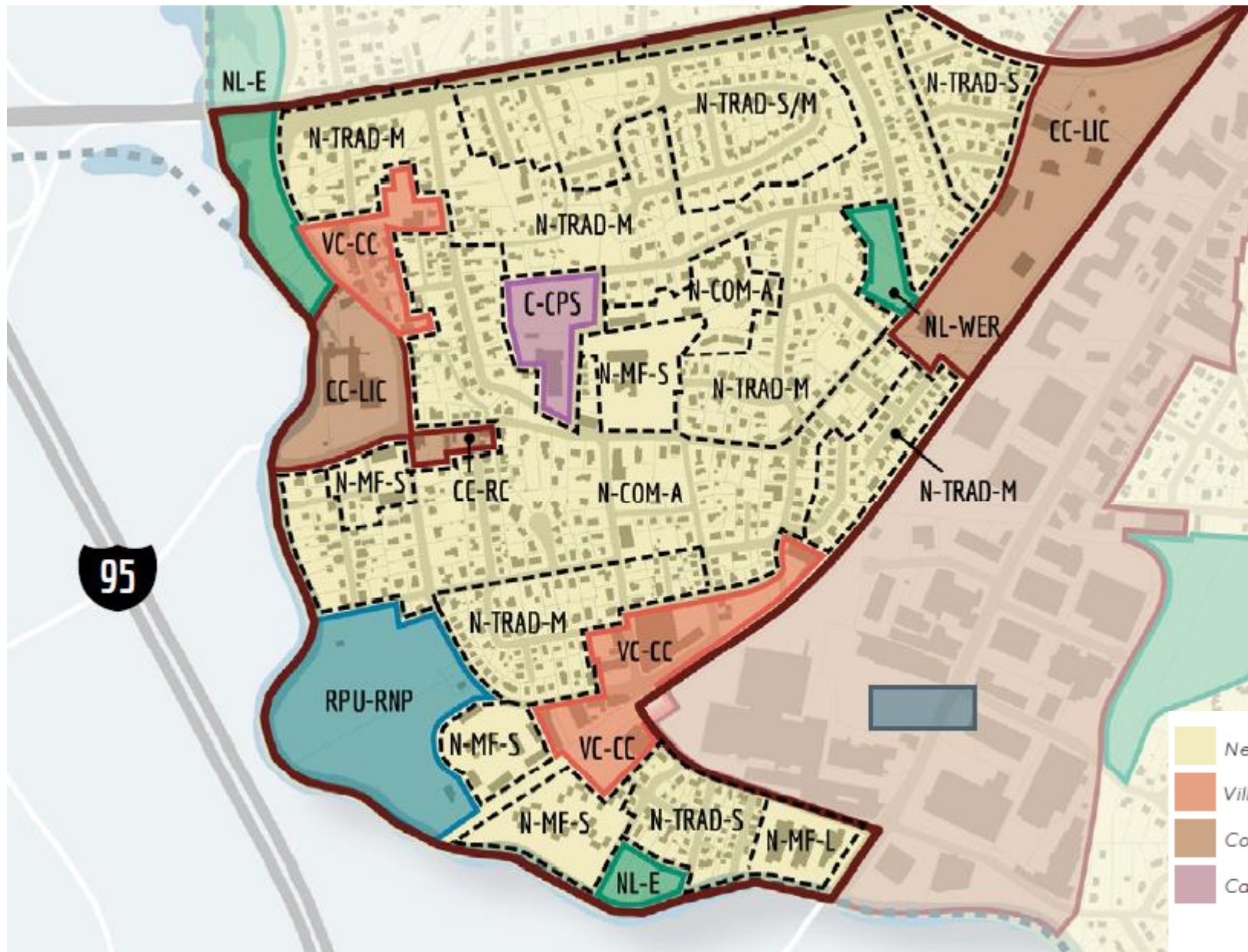


Ages 65+

We need to continue addressing housing shortages in village centers (ownership & rentals, market rate & affordable).







- Neighborhood
- Village|Center
- Commercial Cluster
- Campus
- Recreation & Public Use
- Natural|Landscape

# 2022 Calendar - Community Engagement

