



Rebecca Coletta, President

Mary Waldron, Executive Director

(508) 583-1833

70 School Street, Brockton, MA 02301

www.oldcolonyplanning.org

**Regional Water Plan
Steering Committee Meeting
MINUTES OF THE MEETING
Monday, March 18, 2024, 9:00am**

Location: Old Colony Planning Council, 70 School St, Brockton, MA 02301

Attendees:

Steering Committee	
Organization	Name
Town of Abington	Liz Shea
Town of Avon	Jonathan Beder
Town of Bridgewater	Shane O'Brien
Bridgewater Engineering	Greg Tansey
City of Brockton	Pat Hill
CPCWDC	Kimberly Groff
East Bridgewater	John Haines
Easton Department of Public Works	Greg Swan
Town of Kingston	Val Massard
MA Department of Conservation and Recreation	Jason Duff
Department of Marine Fisheries	Brad Chase (via Zoom)
MassDEP	Duane LeVangie
MassDEP	Jon Hobill (via Zoom)
MA State Senate	Al DeGirolamo (via Zoom)
Pembroke Water Department	Dan Sullivan
OCPC	Joanne Zygmunt
Town of Plympton	Gavin Murphy (via Zoom)
Watershed Associations	Pine duBois
Watershed Associations	Jimmy Powell (via Zoom)

Observers	
Organization	Name
South Shore Chamber of Commerce	Peter Forman
OCPC	Bill Napolitano
OCPC	Don Sullivan

OCPC	Mary Waldron (via Zoom)
OCPC Council, President	Becky Coletta

Consultants	
Organization	Name
CDM Smith	Dan Rodrigo
CDM Smith	Kirk Westphal
CDM Smith	Tarun Gill
CDM Smith	Amara Regehr
CDM Smith	Grace Inman
CDM Smith	Kara Rozycki (via Zoom)
Regina Villa Associates	Kyle Olsen

Minutes:

1. Call to Order, introductions
 - a. Introduction provided on overview of the planning process. The main purpose of this workshop is to develop objectives
 - b. Discussed feedback from last meeting. Reviewed engagement protocols that the group agreed upon.
2. Public Comment - none
3. Agreement on Guiding Principles
 - a. Core values that stakeholders use to guide the development of the plan
 - b. Reviewed draft guiding principles:
 - i. Recommend sustainable water supply strategies that balance social, environmental, and economic needs for the region.
 - ii. Align with values of good stewardship and wise use of water.
 - iii. Reflect the limits of our natural resources and current/anticipated regulations.
 - iv. Incorporate uncertainties so implementation of recommendations can adapt over time.
 - v. Strive for equity and social justice within and among the communities.
 - vi. Produce a list of “early-win” projects that can be aligned with available outside funding.
 - c. Discussed potential revisions/additions:
 - i. Ecosystem

- ii. Local/regional communications
 - iii. State
 - iv. Uncertainty → adaptable plan
 - d. CDM Smith will revise based on feedback
- 4. Summary of Mapping Exercise
 - a. Reviewed regional themes from mapping exercise in last meeting: water quality, affordability, growing demand, climate change, maintaining or upgrading infrastructure, sustainable water supply, political support, funding realities, regulations, ecosystem health, and recreational issues.
- 5. Brainstorm Objectives
 - a. Quantity to meet need
 - b. Quality (especially to meet changing regulations, ie. PFAS)
 - c. Affordability
 - d. Balancing focus of supply and demand
 - e. Increasing demand (especially for MBTA housing requirements)
 - f. Differentiate between drinking water and ecosystem quality for other use goals
 - g. State's objectives vs. local objectives/local resource management
 - h. Infrastructure improvements / unaccounted for water
 - i. Stormwater and wastewater as a resource
 - j. Cost and timing of investment
 - k. Potential for partnership
 - l. Redundancy need
 - m. Public trust
 - n. Equity, social justice, and rates
 - o. Public communications on inter-community
 - p. Roadmap of where investments should be made
 - q. Water supply protection policies (ie. Salting)
 - r. Protection for degradation of existing resources. Consider MEPA and inter-basin transfer issues that would arise.

- s. Resiliency
 - i. Not having to worry to meet peak demand
 - ii. Drought conditions and extreme precipitation
 - iii. Difficulty of emergency declaration from administrative perspective
 - iv. Coordinate with Drought Management Task Force
 - t. Public support from Board of Selectmen / Decision makers (who often serve as Water Commissioners)
 - i. Will need a public education summary document
 - ii. Plan will need specific next steps
6. Refinement of Objectives
- a. Meet all current and future peak water demands and existing sources of water supply
 - b. Meet safe drinking water quality regulations, current and future
 - c. Improve ecosystem health
 - d. Prioritize alternatives with high cost-benefit value
 - e. Promote equity by incorporating affordability, accessibility, and distribution of infrastructure impacts
 - f. Consider innovative and alternative solutions such as stormwater, wastewater, and water use efficiency
 - g. Encourage sustainable economic prosperity
7. Data Needs
- a. Still missing data from some communities
8. Upcoming Technical Work
- a. Annotated Bibliography will be distributed to each community for review
9. Preview of the Second Workshop and the first Public Meeting
- a. Public outreach communications plan being developed with OCPC, CDM Smith, and RVA. Will include various components: Public meetings, public consultation focus groups, stakeholder interviews, website/e-mail blasts, etc.

Action Items:

Assigned to	Action Item
Dan, Kirk, Amara	Update Steering Committee's guiding principles and objectives

Amara	Update handout with the updated guiding principles, and definitions for guiding principles, objectives, and metrics for next meeting
Steering Committee members	Provide requested data, if not done
Steering Committee members	Review annotated bibliographies to be sent over next month for review

Attachments:

1. Meeting Presentation Slides
2. Meeting Sign-In Sheet
3. Feedback Survey
4. Definitions

Prepared by CDM Smith.

Attachment 1



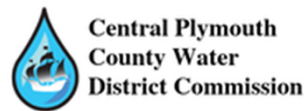
Old Colony Planning Council Regional Water Plan

Workshop 1

Economic Resilience and Sustainable Water Supply



Kirk Westphal, Dan Rodrigo, Kara Rozycki,
Tarun Gill, Dan Rodrigo, and Amara Regehr

March 18, 2024





Agenda

1. Public Comment
2. Agreement on Guiding Principles
3. Summary of Mapping Exercise
4. Brainstorm Objectives
-  *Coffee Break*
5. Refinement of Objectives
-  *Coffee Break*
6. Data Needs
7. Upcoming Technical Work
8. Preview of Workshop Two and Public Meeting One
9. Feedback Survey



Introductions



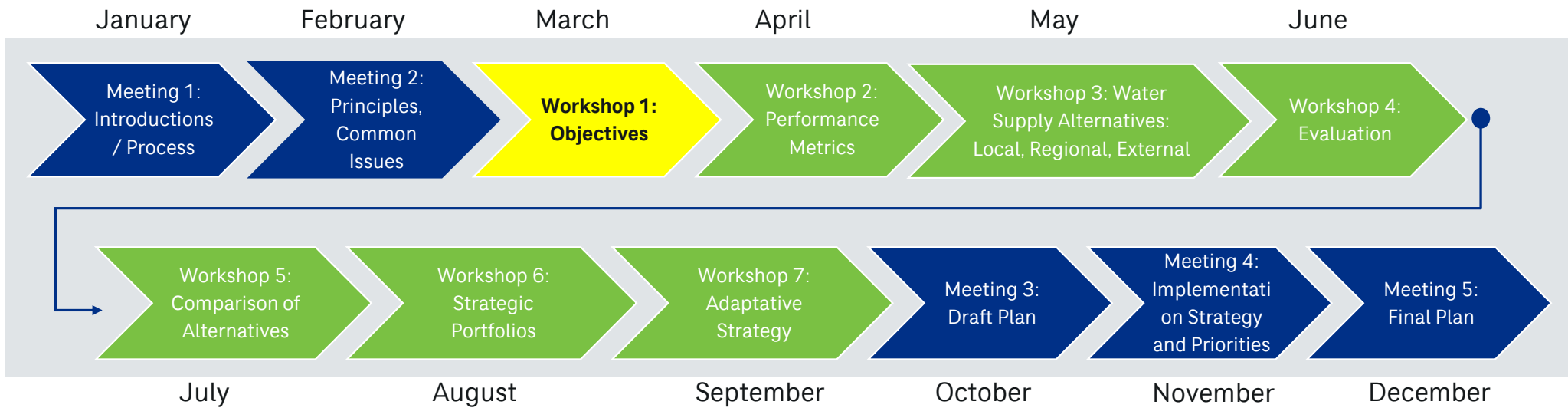
- Name
- Community or organization you are representing
- Position/Title



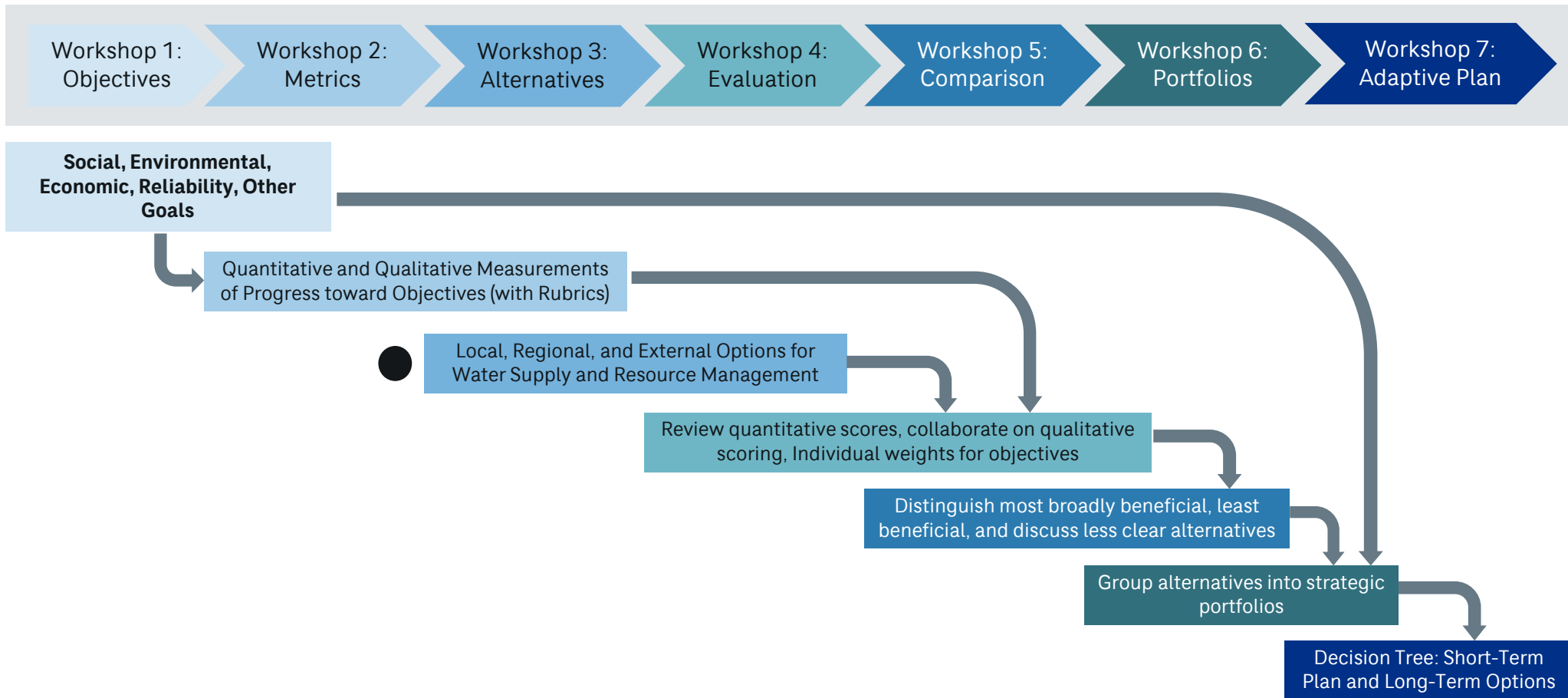
Public Comment



Overview of Regional Water Plan Process



Workshop Process



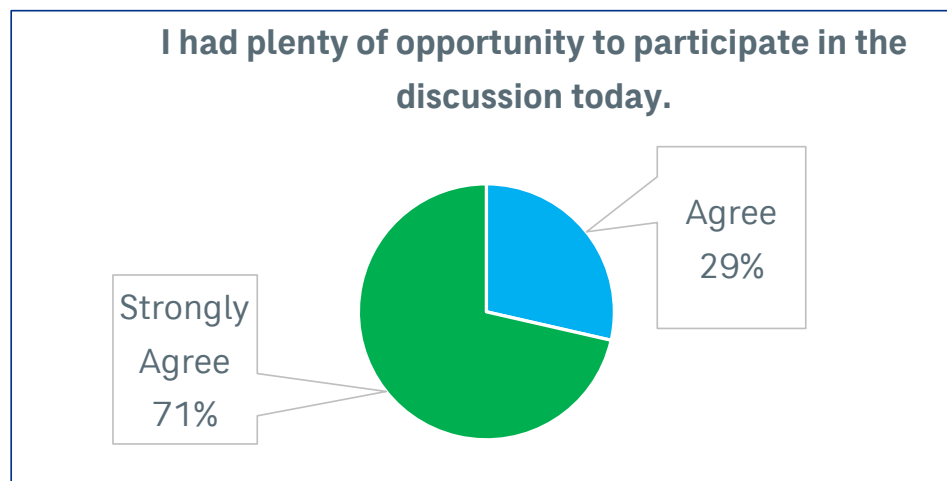
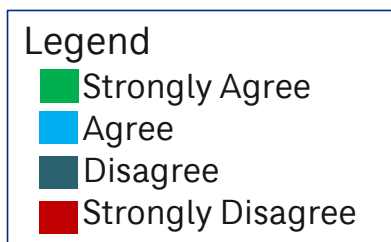
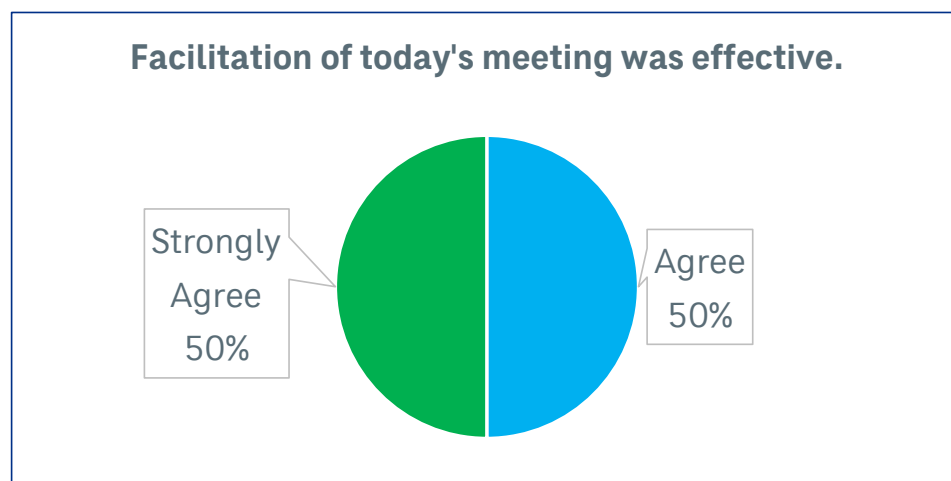
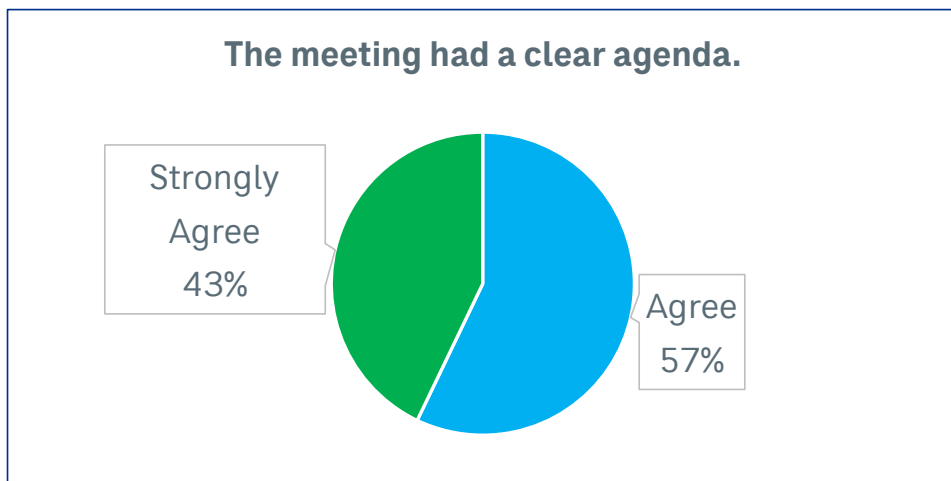


Last Meeting: Feedback Survey Results

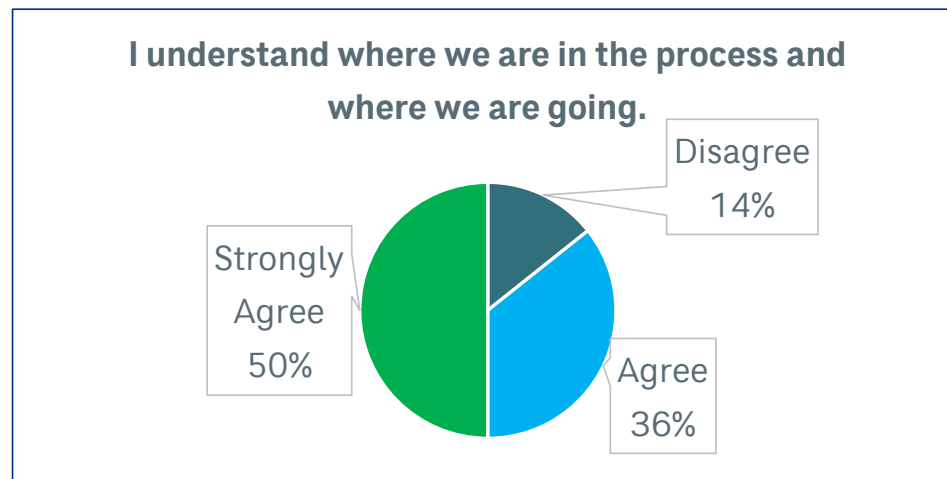
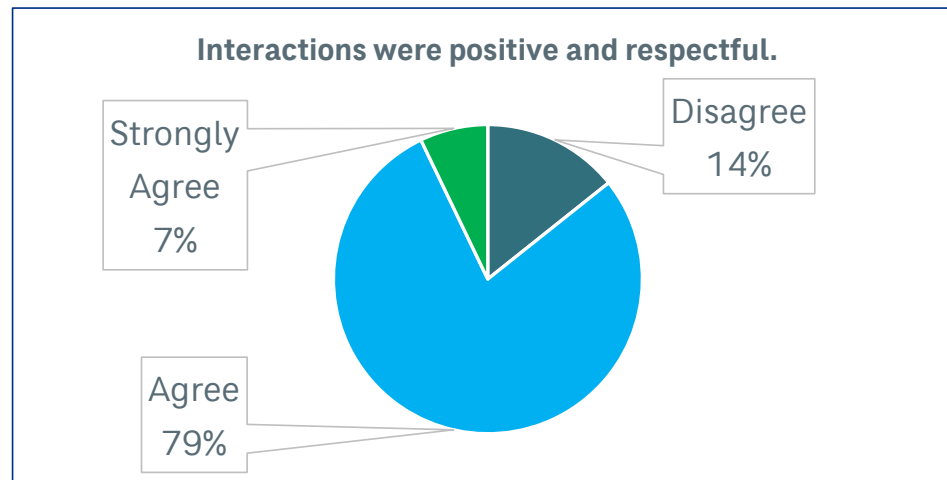
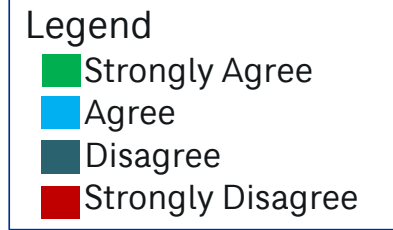
1. Please tick one box per row.
The meeting had a clear agenda.
Facilitation of today's meeting was effective.
I had plenty of opportunity to participate in the discussion today.
Interactions were positive and respectful.
I understand where we are in the process and where we are going.

Strongly disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
-------------------	----------	-------	----------------

Last Meeting: Feedback Survey Results



Last Meeting: Feedback Survey Results





Agreement on Guiding Principles





Definitions of Terms for Strategic Planning

Engagement Protocols	Guiding Principles
Objectives	Criteria / Metrics
Alternatives/ Strategies	Portfolios



Definitions of Terms for Strategic Planning

■ **Engagement Protocols**

- Defines how stakeholders will work together, rules for engagement, and what consensus means.

■ **Guiding Principles**

- Represent a set of core values that stakeholders use to guide the development of the plan, usually 3-5 statements that convey the following

■ **Objectives**

- Represent specific, measurable goals for the plan that are usually aligned to each guiding principle. There may be more than one objective for each guiding principle.



Definitions of Terms for Strategic Planning

■ **Criteria or Metrics**

- The specific measurements of success in meeting the objectives.

■ **Alternatives / Strategies**

- The proposed actions or combinations of actions that will be evaluated against criteria/metrics.

■ **Portfolios**

- The groupings of alternatives that are considered for the final plan.



Engagement Protocols

Engagement
Protocols

We agree that there will be one voice for each organization.

We will actively listen to others and take turns while speaking.

We will represent our organizations, as well as those with similar challenges, and the region.

Regulators will join us to provide feasibility insights, lessons from other regions, guardrails and their own education about the needs in the region.

We will seek to arrive at a point where we can advocate for the plan.

As a group, we will make recommendations, not necessarily decisions.

We will be patient with the pace of this project.

Debate and disagreement are part of this process, but they must be constructive, forward looking, and respectful.



Engagement Protocols Continued

Engagement
Protocols

For resolving conflict:

We will recommend what we agree on, based on regional progress toward objectives.

We will forge “pathways” for next steps on issues not resolvable within this timeframe.

We will document opinions on all sides of unresolved issues in the plan.



Our Guiding Principles

1. Recommend sustainable water supply strategies that balance social, environmental, and economic needs for the region.
2. Align with values of good stewardship and wise use of water
3. Reflect the limits of our natural resources and current/anticipated regulations.
4. Incorporate uncertainties so implementation of recommendations can adapt over time.
5. Strive for equity and social justice within and among the communities.
6. Produce a list of “early-win” projects that can be aligned with available outside funding.



Summary of Mapping Exercise





Summary of Mapping Exercise





Brainstorm Objectives





Brainstorm Objectives





Brainstorm Objectives





☕ Coffee Break





Refinement of Objectives





Refinement of Objectives





Data Needs





Data Requests

Abington	Avon	Bridgewater	Brockton	Duxbury
East Bridgewater	Easton	Halifax	Hanover	Hanson
Kingston	Pembroke	Plymouth	Plympton	Stoughton
West Bridgewater	Whitman	Watershed Associations	Central Plymouth County Water District Commission	

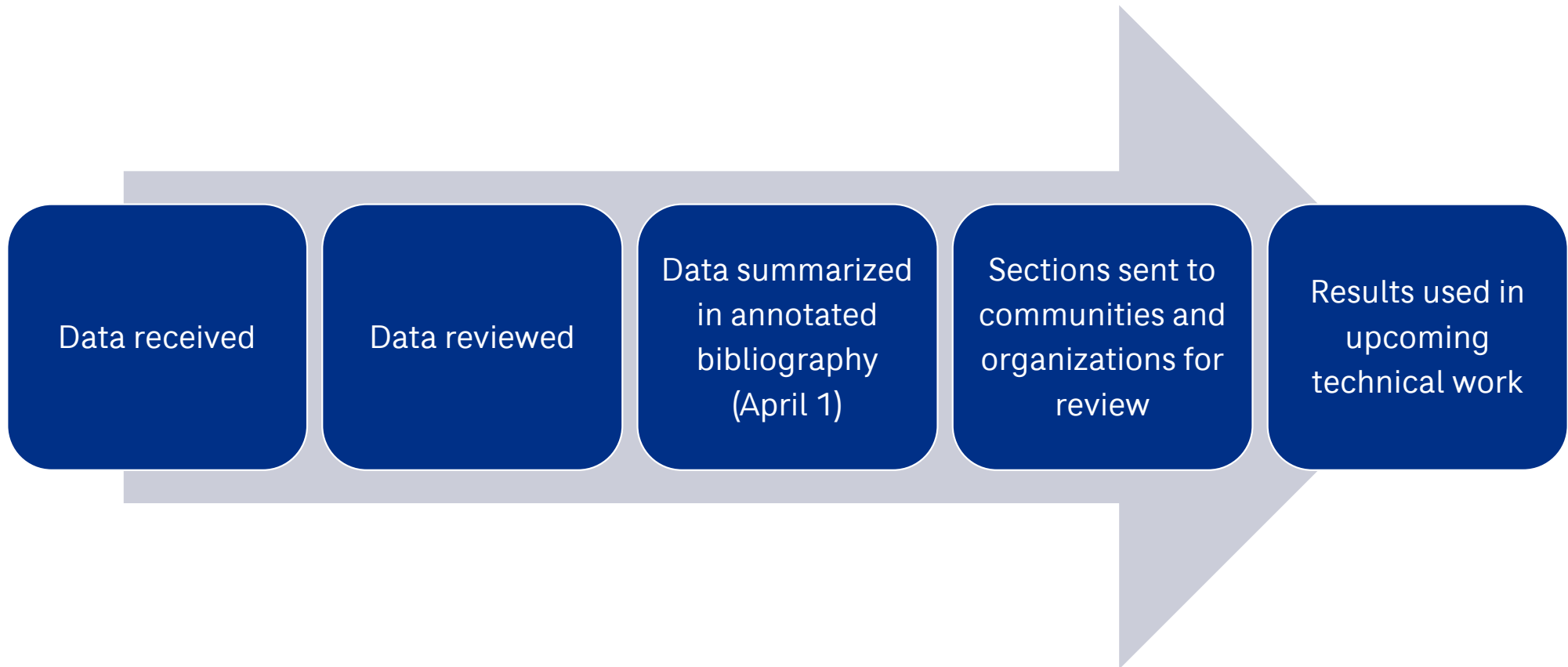


Data Requests

Abington	Avon	Bridgewater	Brockton	Duxbury
East Bridgewater	Easton	Halifax	Hanover	Hanson
Kingston	Pembroke	Plymouth	Plympton	Stoughton
West Bridgewater	Whitman	Watershed Associations	Central Plymouth County Water District Commission	



Annotated Bibliography





Upcoming Technical Work

- Annotated Bibliography
- Supply and Demand Gap Analysis
- Future Demand Projections
 - Combination of community projections, state projections, and our projections
 - Produced on the community and regional level
- Drought and Climate Risks
- Hydrologic Assessment

- Responding to technical requests from the steering committee

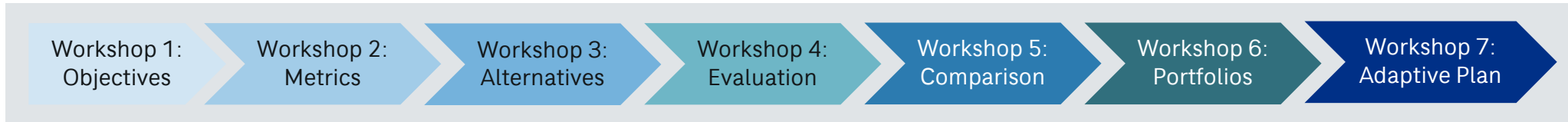


Preview of Workshop Two and Public Meeting One





Workshop Process



Social, Environmental, Economic,
Reliability, Other Goals



Next workshop:

- Identify quantitative and qualitative measurements of progress toward objectives
- Discuss relevant importance of objectives



Upcoming Schedule

WHEN	DETAILS
Tuesday, April 23rd 9:00 am – 12:00 pm	Workshop 2: Metrics
Monday, May 20th 9:00 am – 12:00 pm	Workshop 3
Tuesday, June 25th 9:00 am – 12:00 pm	Workshop 4
Wednesday July 31st 9:00 am – 12:00 pm	Workshop 5
Tuesday, August 27th 9:00 am – 12:00 pm	Workshop 6
Tuesday, September 24th 9:00 am – 12:00 pm	Workshop 7
Tuesday, October 29th 9:00 am – 12:00 pm	Meeting 3
Monday, November 18th 8:00 am – 12:00 pm	Meeting 4
Tuesday, December 10th 8:00 am – 12:00 pm	Meeting 5



Feedback Survey



Attachment 2



OLD COLONY PLANNING COUNCIL

Welcome to the

OCPC Regional Water Plan

Please sign in

NAME

EMAIL

Patrick Hill

Phill@cobma.us

Jason Duff

jason.duff@mass.gov

Kimberly Grott, CPCWDC Rep.

kimberlygrottma@gmail.com

Dan Sullivan

dsullivan@TownofPembroke.mass.org

Jamison Beard

JBEARD@TOWN-MA.GOV

Elizabeth Shea

lshea@abingtonma.gov

Duane LeVangie

duane.leVangie@mass.gov

Wayne Parke

wparks@wbridgewater.com

Pine duBois

Pine@yonesriver.org

Vae Massard

vmassard@Kingstonma.gov

GREG TANSEY

gtanseey@bridgewaterMA.ORG

Jane Haines

jhaines@eastbridgewaterma.gov

Jeff Gordon

Jgordon@plymouth-ma.gov

Greg Swan

Gswan@Easton.MA.US

Attachment 3

MEETING FEEDBACK

Please complete this short survey at the end of today's meeting/workshop and drop it in the box by the exit. Your feedback will help us ensure this project meets the needs of the region, municipalities, and other stakeholders as we move forward. We want to make sure we use your valuable time efficiently and effectively and include everyone in the process. **Results will be used by OCPC and CDM Smith internally only.**

1. Please tick one box per row.	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
The meeting had a clear agenda.				
Facilitation of today's meeting was effective.				
I had plenty of opportunity to participate in the discussion today.				
Interactions were positive and respectful.				
I understand where we are in the process and where we are going.				

2. If you disagreed with any of the above, please tell us why and how to improve:

--

3. Based on meetings held to date, do you have any suggestions for us that might improve the meetings or planning process? What have we missed? What do we need to cover in future? Please let us know:

--

4. If you have any other thoughts, concerns, or feedback, please tell us:

--

5. If you would like us to follow-up with you about any of your answers, please leave your name and phone number:

--

THANK YOU!

Attachment 4



Rebecca Coletta, President

Mary Waldron, Executive Director

(508) 583-1833

70 School Street, Brockton, MA 02301

www.oldcolonyplanning.org

Definitions for Decision-Making Terms used in Strategic Planning

1. Engagement Protocols –
 - a. Defines how stakeholders will work together, rules for engagement, and what consensus means.
2. Guiding Principles –
 - a. Represent a set of core values that stakeholders use to guide the development of the plan, usually 3-5 statements that convey the following:
 - i. Why is the plan being done? What are the constraints to work within? What does success look like?
3. Objectives –
 - a. Represent specific, measurable goals for the plan that are usually aligned to each guiding principle. There may be more than one objective for each guiding principle.
4. Criteria or Metrics –
 - a. The specific measurements of success in meeting the objectives.
5. Alternatives/Strategies –
 - a. The proposed actions or combinations of actions that will be evaluated against criteria/metrics.
6. Portfolios –
 - a. The groupings of alternatives that are considered for the final plan.

Engagement Protocols: Listed below are our agreed upon engagement protocols for the steering committee. These define how we will work together over the course of this project.

- We agree that there will be one voice for each organization.
- We will actively listen to others and take turns while speaking.
- We will represent our organizations, as well as those with similar challenges, and the region.
- Regulators will join us to provide feasibility insights, lessons from other regions, guardrails, and their own education about the needs in the region.
- We will seek to arrive at a point where we can advocate for the plan.
- As a group, we will make recommendations, not necessarily decisions.
- We will be patient with the pace of this project.
- Debate and disagreement are part of this process, but they must be constructive, forward looking, and respectful.
- For resolving conflict:

- We will recommend what we agree on, based on regional progress toward objectives.
- We will forge “pathways” for next steps on issues not resolvable within this timeframe.
- We will document opinions on all sides of unresolved issues in the plan.

Guiding Principles: Listed below are the draft guiding principles for this project which were based on the discussion at the Steering Committee Meeting February 28, 2024. These represent a set of core values used to guide the development of the plan.

1. Recommend sustainable water supply strategies that balance social, environmental, and economic needs for the region.
2. Align with values of good stewardship and wise use of water.
3. Reflect the limits of our natural resources and current/anticipated regulations.
4. Incorporate uncertainties so implementation of recommendations can adapt over time.
5. Strive for equity and social justice within and among the communities.
6. Produce a list of “early-win” projects that can be aligned with available outside funding.

Objectives, Alternatives and Strategies, and Portfolios will be developed by the Steering Committee and CDM Smith throughout the course of this project, using the guiding principles to accomplish the vision statement.