



TOWN OF WHITMAN

OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION

Old Colony Planning Council

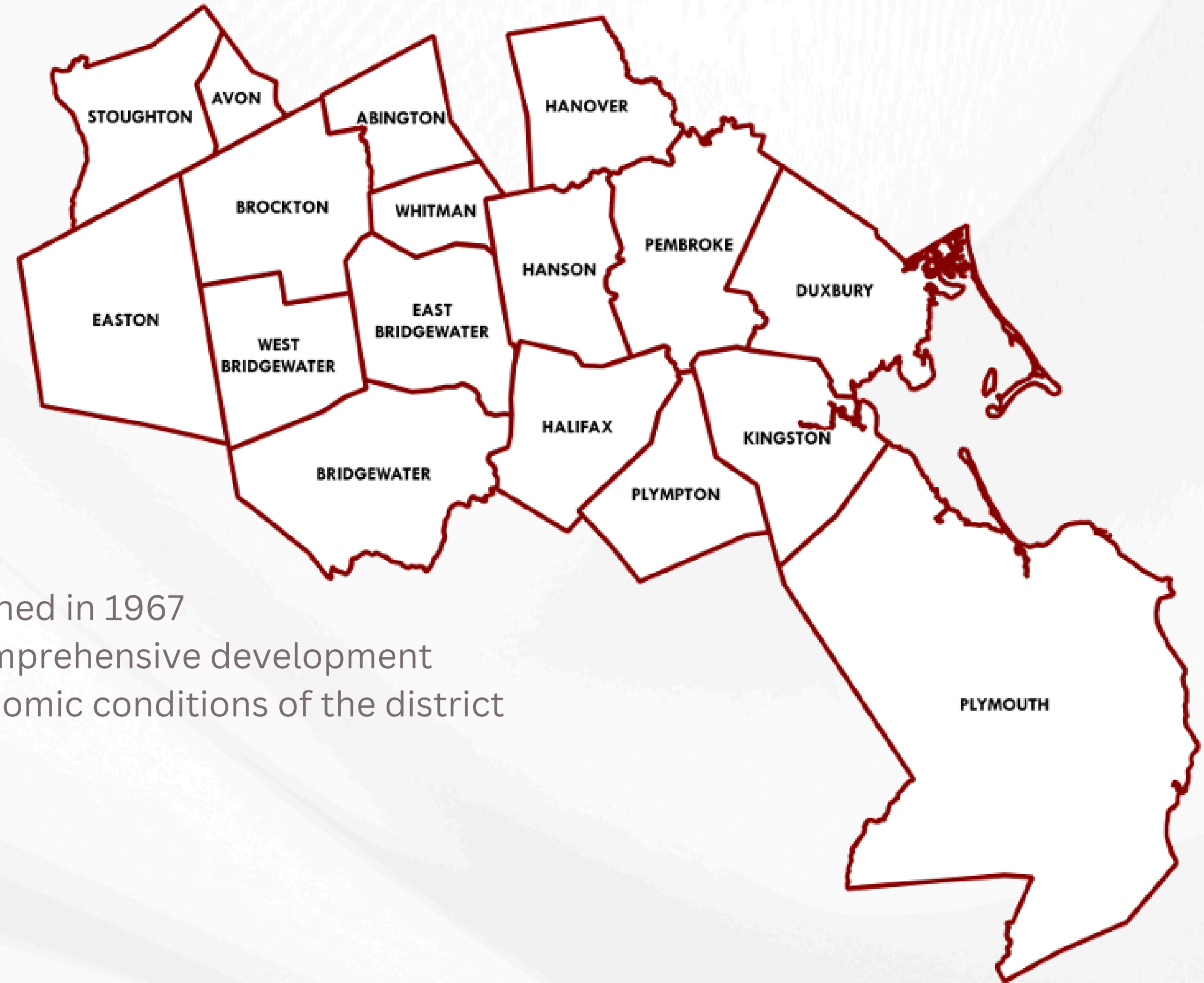


OLD COLONY
PLANNING COUNCIL

INTRODUCTION



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OCPC

- Old Colony Planning Council (OCPC) established in 1967
- Regional planning agency with a focus on comprehensive development
- Objective: Improve physical, social, and economic conditions of the district

-Membership and Expertise

- Comprises 17 member municipalities
- Engages in various planning disciplines

LOOKING AHEAD

- Draft specific language for goals, objectives, and actions.
- Develop public participation plan.
- Collect data (Parcel Inventory, ADA Inventory, Analysis of Needs, Demographics).
- Analyze resource protection needs, management needs.



BACKGROUND

WHAT IS AN OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION PLAN?



Whitman Town Park

- Roadmap for prioritizing open space and recreation projects and expenditures.
- Prerequisite for MA Division of Conservation Service Grants.
- Public Process.
- Plan components:
 - Plan Summary & Introduction
 - Community Setting
 - Environmental Inventory
 - Inventory of Lands
 - Community Goals
 - Analysis of Needs
 - Goals & Objectives
 - 5-Year Action Plan
 - Public Comments
 - ADA Inventory

BACKGROUND

WHAT IS OPEN SPACE?

- Conservation Land,
- Forested Land,
- Agricultural Land,
- Athletic Fields,
- Playgrounds,
- Small/Pocket Parks,
- Green Buffers along Roadways,
and/or
- Undeveloped Land of
Conservation/Recreation
Interest.



Hobart Pond

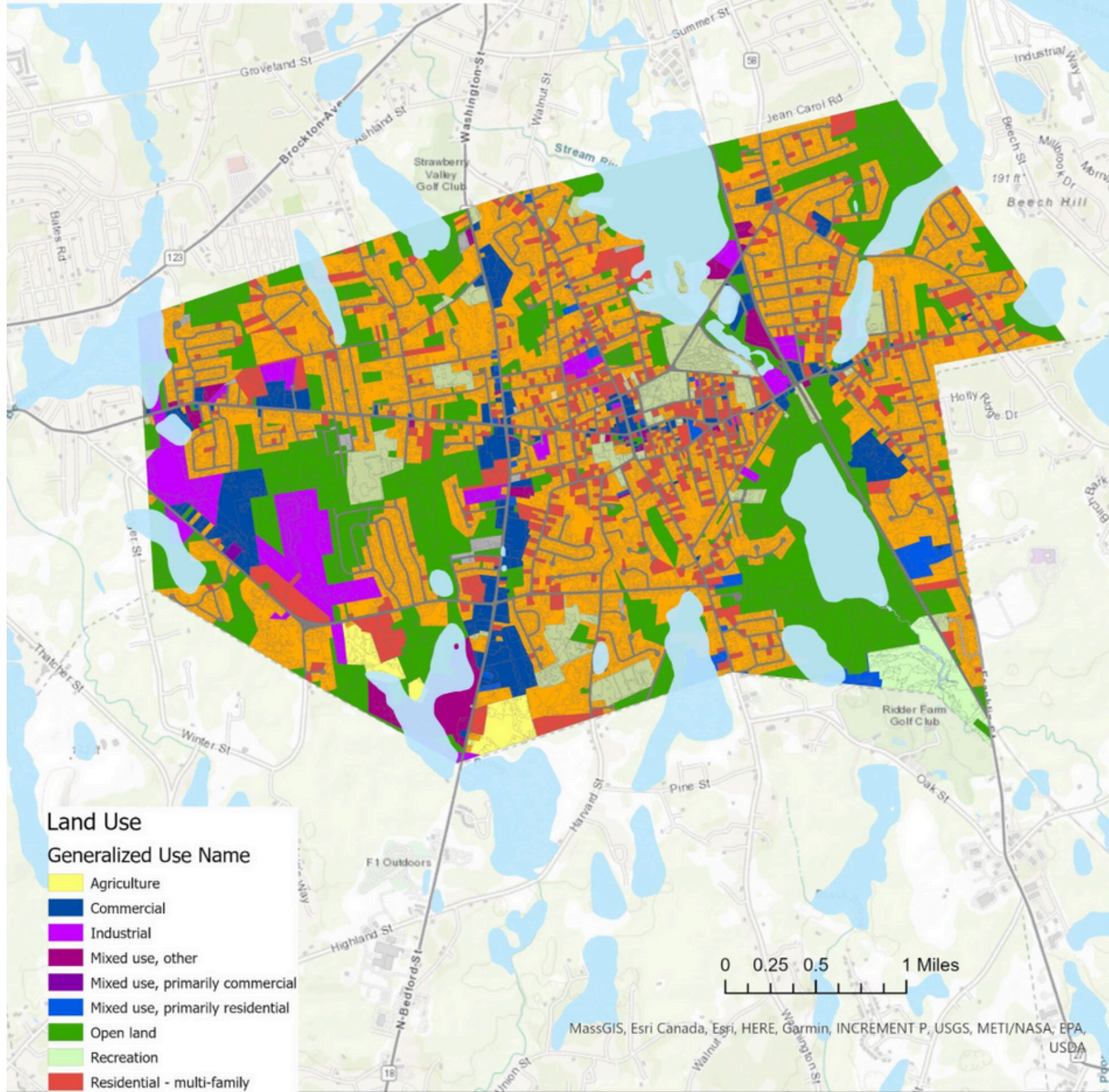


Town Forest



WMS Softball Field

Whitman Land Use



- Land Use**
- Generalized Use Name**
- Agriculture
 - Commercial
 - Industrial
 - Mixed use, other
 - Mixed use, primarily commercial
 - Mixed use, primarily residential
 - Open land
 - Recreation
 - Residential - multi-family
 - Residential - other
 - Residential - single family
 - Right-of-way
 - Tax exempt
 - Unknown
 - Water
 - <all other values>
 - HYDRO25K_POLY

0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles

MassGIS, Esri Canada, Esri, HERE, Garmin, INCREMENT P, USGS, METI/NASA, EPA, USDA



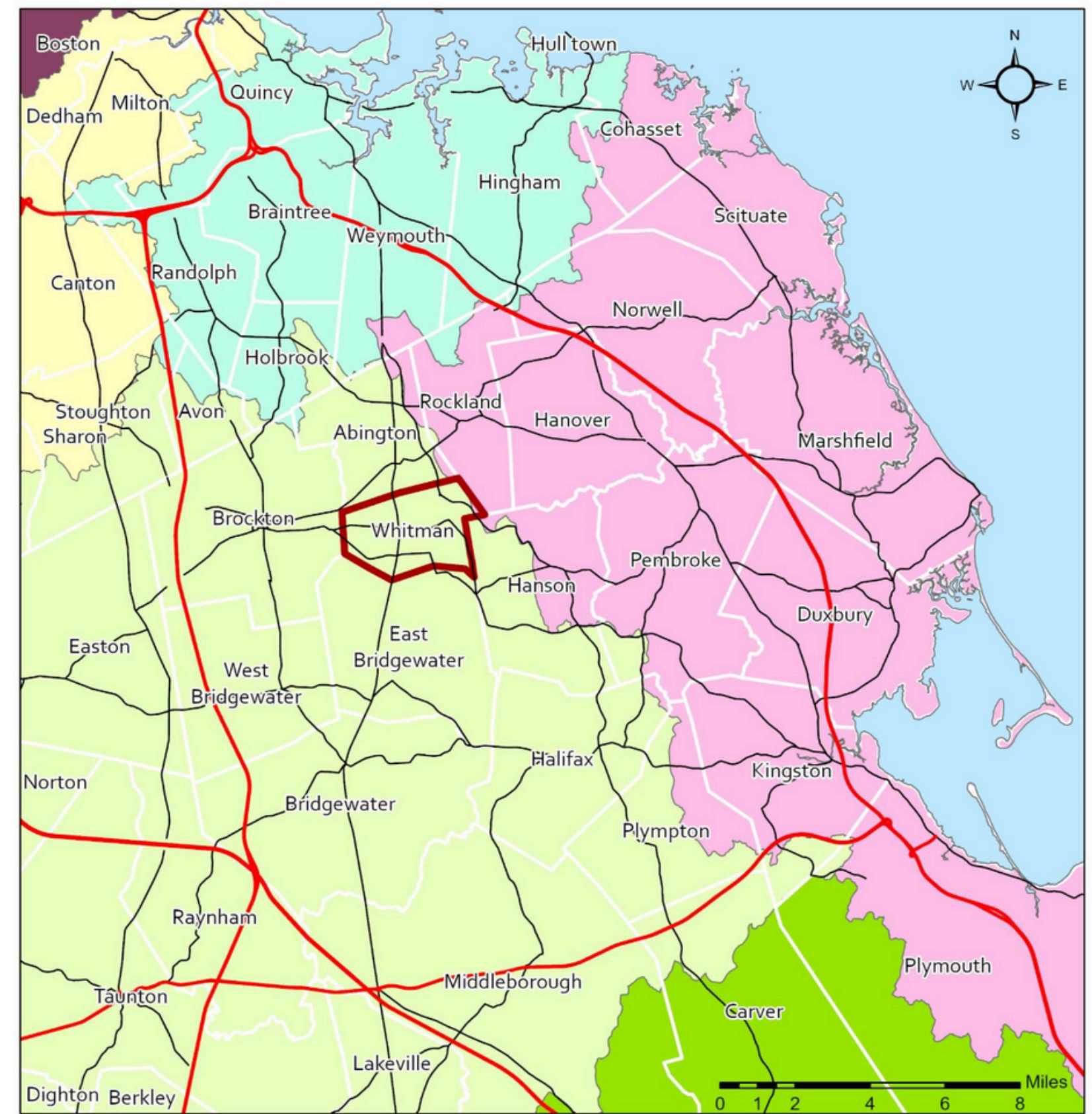
OLD COLONY PLANNING COUNCIL

& School Street Brockton, Ma 02301

oldcolonyplanning.org
Created August 2024

GIS Data Sources:
Office of Geographic Information (MassGIS)
Old Colony Planning Council

Whitman Regional Context



- Buzzards Bay Watershed
- Charles River Watershed
- Neponset River Watershed
- South Coastal Watershed
- Taunton River Watershed
- Weir River Watershed
- Watershed Boundaries
- Interstate / State Highways
- Major Routes

0 1 2 4 6 8 Miles



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Old Colony Planning Council
70 School Street, Brockton, MA 02301

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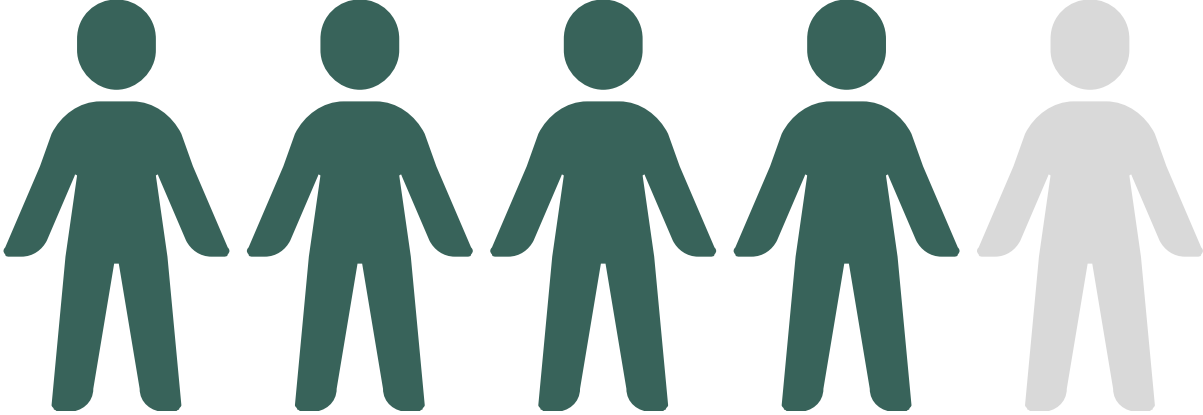
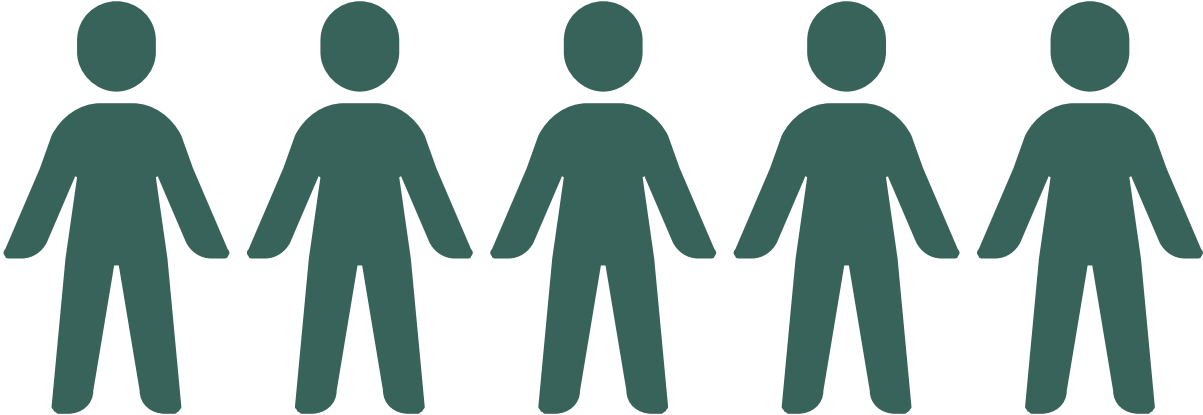
GIS Data Sources: MassGIS,
Old Colony Planning Council

Who Lives in Whitman?

89.2%

White Alone

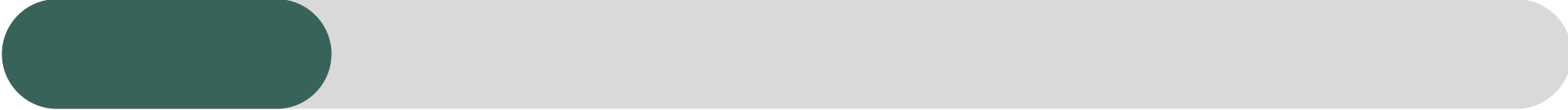
13,510 Individuals



Total Population: 15,146 Individuals

Among Minority Population:

Black or African American Alone



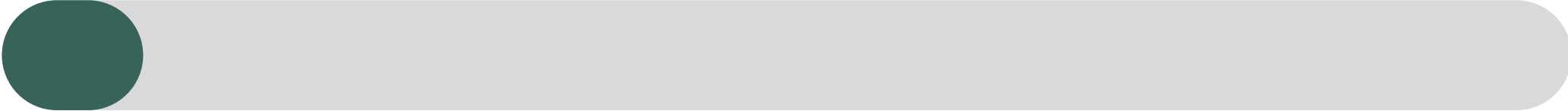
339 Individuals

American Indian and Alaska Native Alone



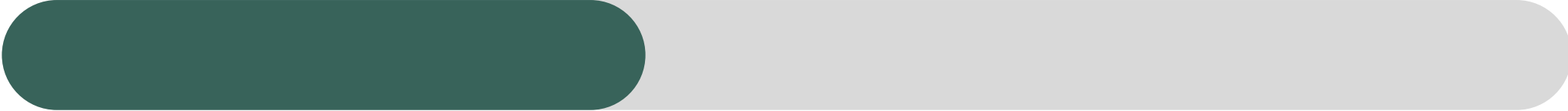
124 Individuals

Asian Alone



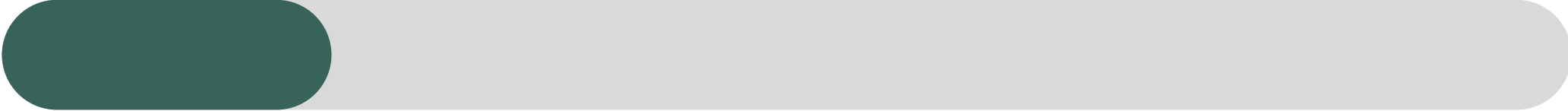
149 Individuals

Two or More Races

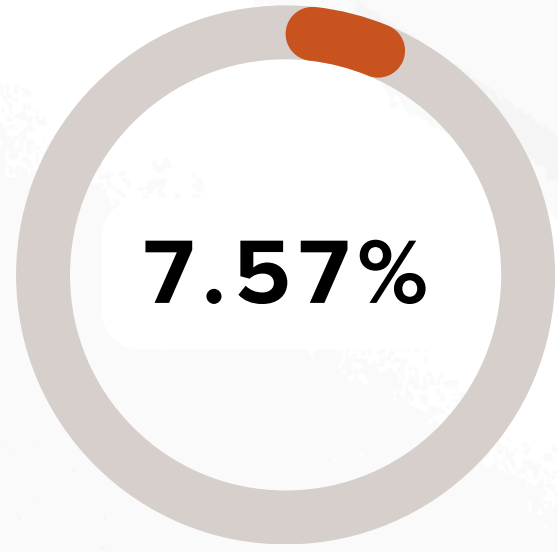


678 Individuals

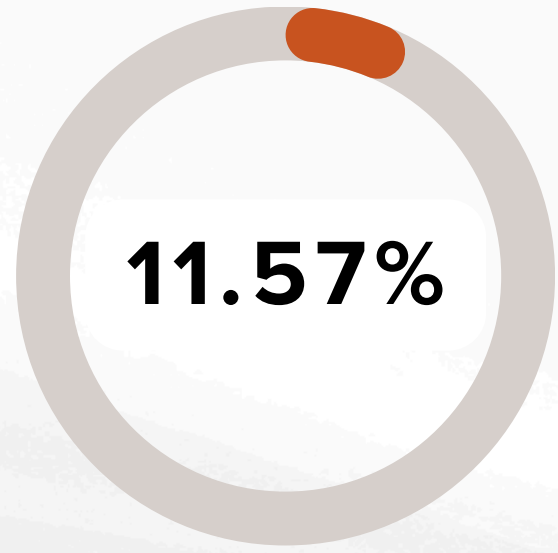
Some Other Race Alone



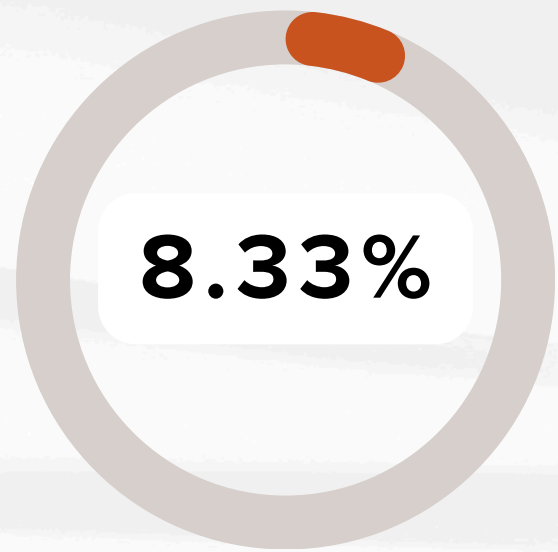
346 Individuals



Whitman
Household
Growth 2010-
2022



OCPC Region
Household
Growth 2010-
2022

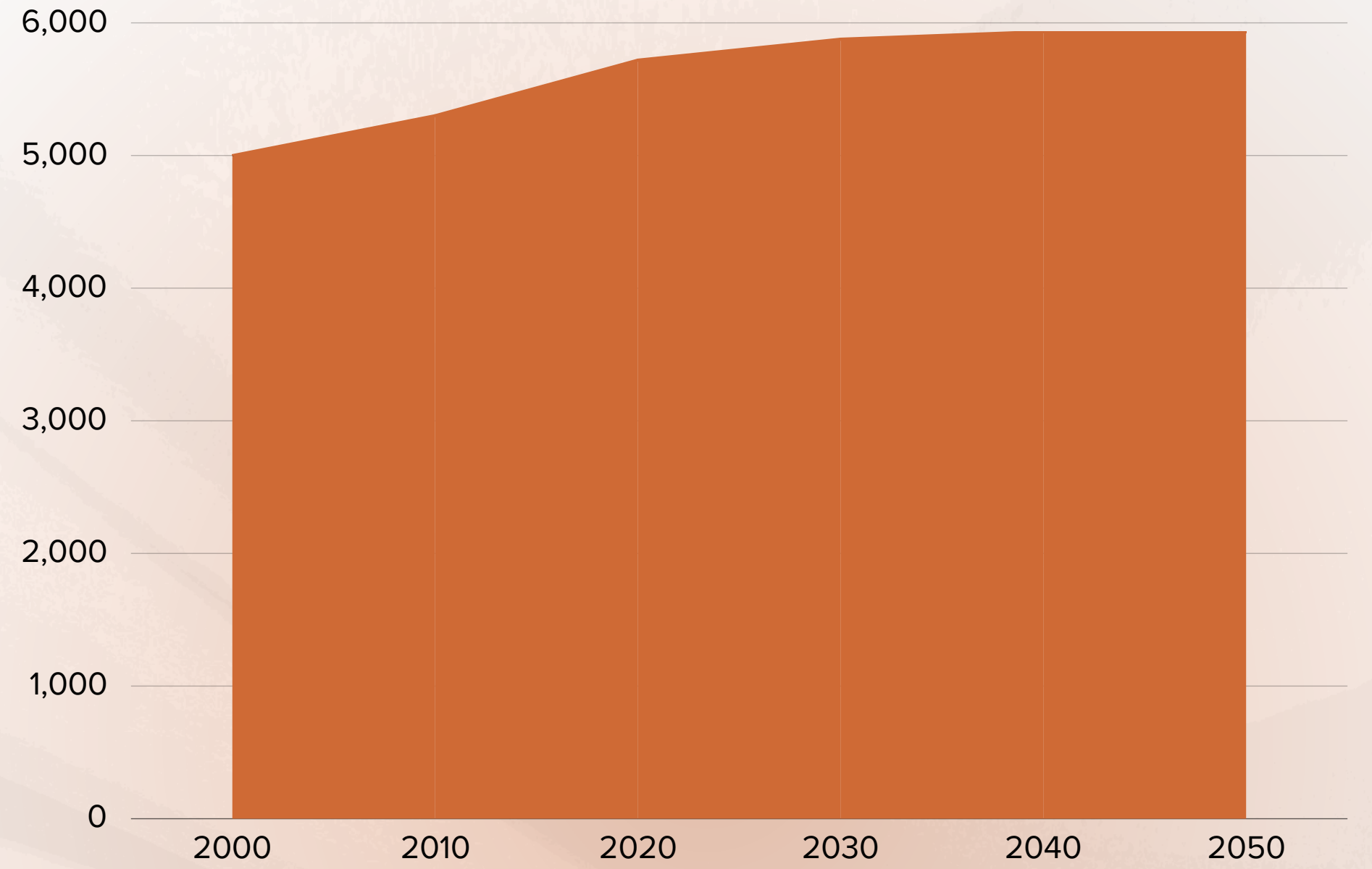


Massachusetts
Population
Growth 2010-
2020

5,701

TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS

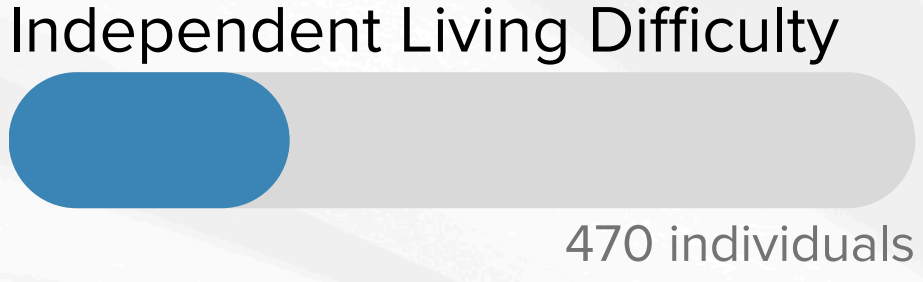
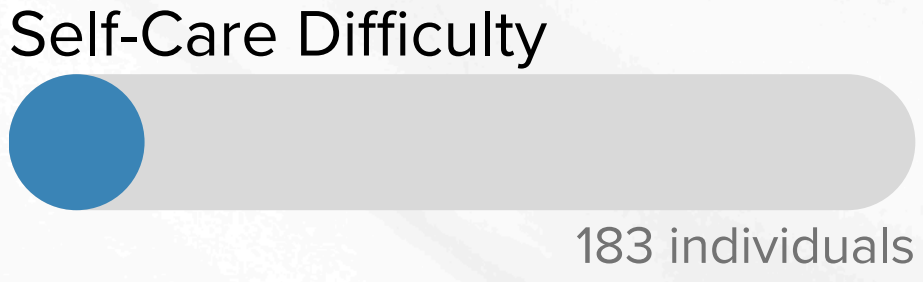
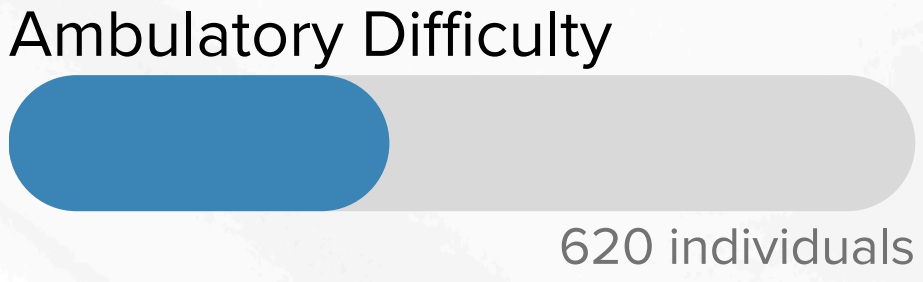
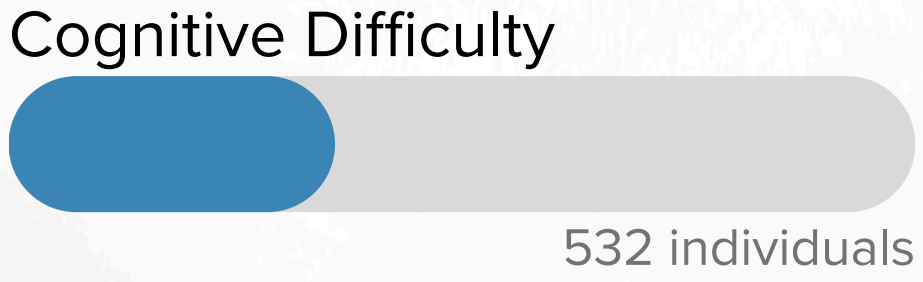
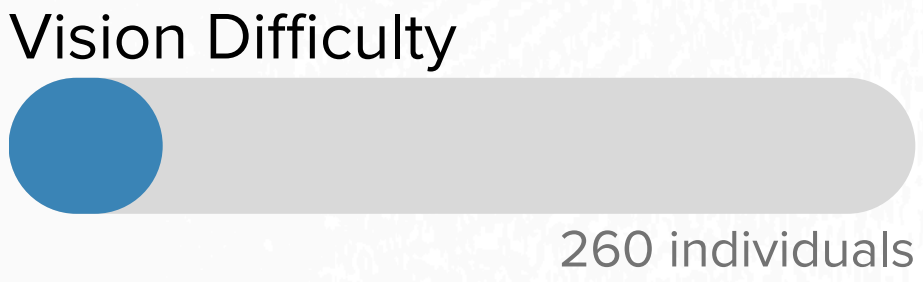
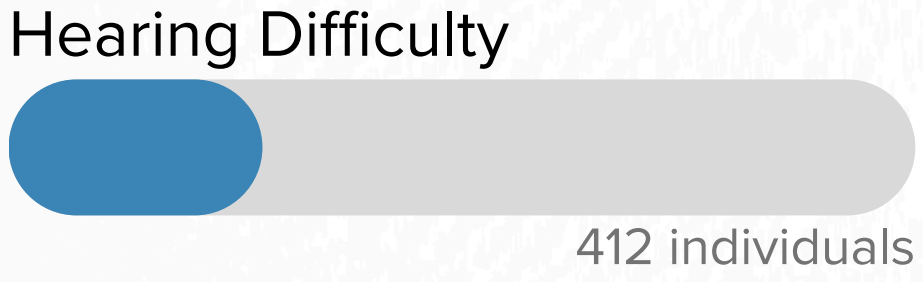
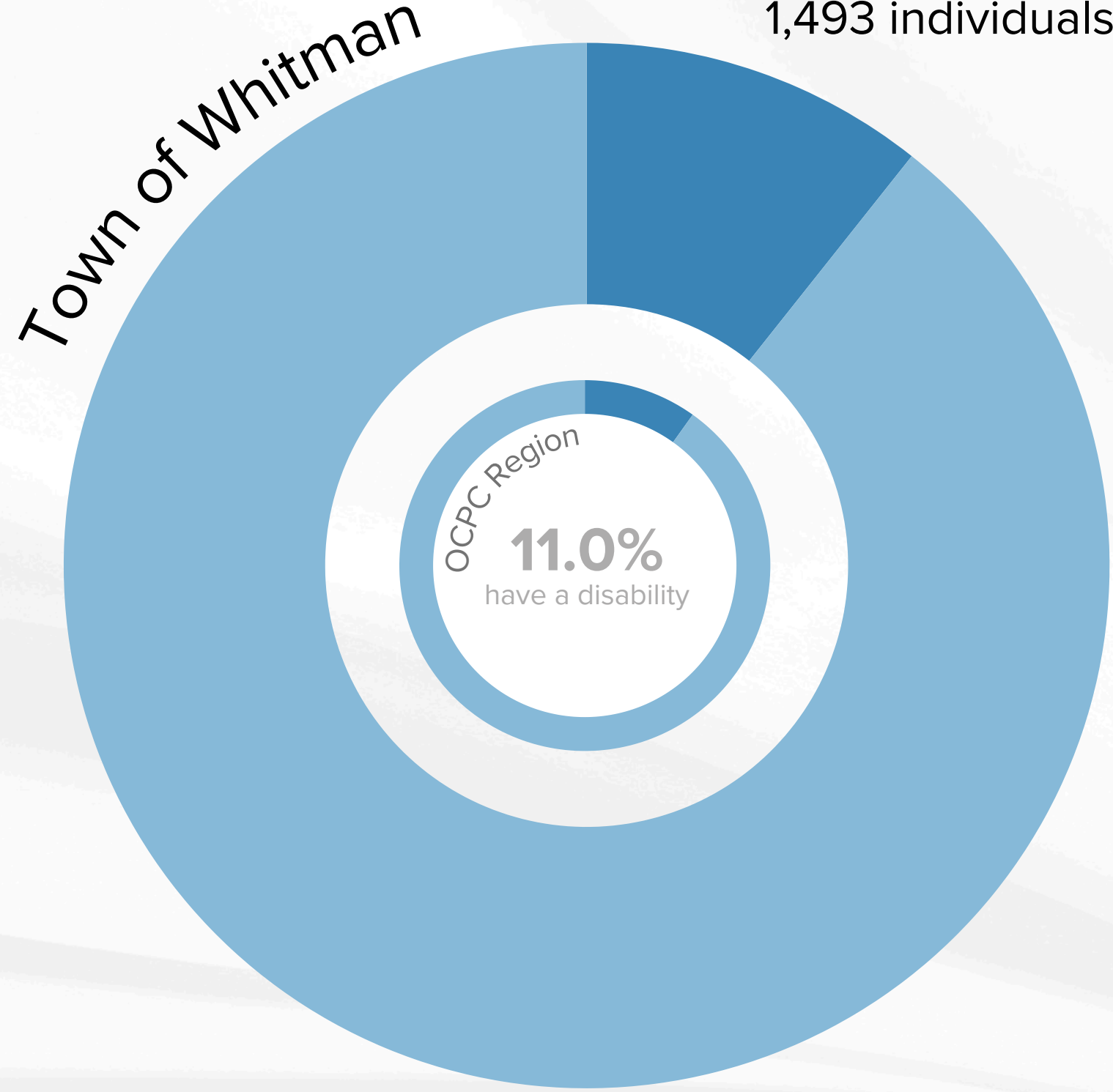
From 2022 ACS



Based on
MAPC projections

Population Impacted by a Disability **9.9%**

1,493 individuals



9.9%
of male
population

44.5%
of population
aged 75+

10.2%
of white
population

PREVIOUS GOALS & OBJECTIVES

BASED ON 2004 MASTER PLAN, 1987 & 2000 OSRPS

1) To better maintain, manage, and develop existing Open Space and Recreation Resources

- KEY OBJECTIVES:
 - Development of Hobart Pond Swimming Area.
 - Improved access and signage to increase use of existing spaces.
 - Upgraded Town Park, strengthened historical character.

2) Linking Whitman's open space with that in surrounding communities.

- KEY OBJECTIVES:
 - Integration with Abington's Strawberry Valley Golf Course
 - Extension of Flaherty Trail into East Bridgewater.
 - Any possible enhanced connections to Brockton's Washburn's Meadow.

3) Better protection of water bodies and aquatic habitat.

- KEY OBJECTIVES
 - Completing Bear Meadow acquisitions.
 - Streamside acquisition/access improvement where possible.
 - Peat Hole access improvement.

PREVIOUS GOALS & OBJECTIVES

BASED ON 2004 MASTER PLAN, 1987 & 2000 OSRPS

4) Expanded Open Space and Recreation holdings.

- KEY OBJECTIVES:
 - Provide some usable open space in or on edge of all neighborhoods.
 - Create more “Pocket Parks/Tot Lots” serving all ages.

5) Preservation of Whitman’s visual and historic character.

- KEY OBJECTIVES:
 - Preserve scenic open (non-forested) areas, farmland, and ecologically significant areas.
 - Preserve historic landscapes and “places of the heart”.

6) Preserve/Enhance wildlife resources.

- KEY OBJECTIVES
 - Preserved/enhanced greenways or ecological linkages between habitat areas.

7) Provide recreation opportunities for all age/ability/interest groups.

- KEY OBJECTIVES
 - Developed walking trails with steps or handrails in key areas.
 - Increased handicap accessibility (e.g. removing obstructions to otherwise level Flaherty Trail.
 - Provide safe but challenging, non-intrusive opportunities for rollerblading and skateboarding.



OSRP SURVEY

Your input is important. Share your thoughts to help us better understand how we can improve Whitman's parks and recreation areas!

Survey will run August-November 2024

Take the Survey Here:

or type into your browser:

<https://tinyurl.com/yefcck2a>





THANK YOU!

Any Questions?

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