

West Pawlet Master Plan

Firehouse & Community Events

Pot Luck Meeting – February 23rd, 2023



FEBRUARY 23rd, 2023

Welcome Everyone!

Thank you for joining us, and thank you to **West Pawlet Volunteer Fire Department** for hosting us today!



Introduction

Michael Allen - Regrowth Planning

I am working with the Town of Pawlet to develop a Master Plan for West Pawlet Village, documenting a long-term vision for what the community would like to see here.



RUTLAND REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

Funded by a Municipal Planning Grant awarded by the Vermont Department of Housing and Community Development.



Committee

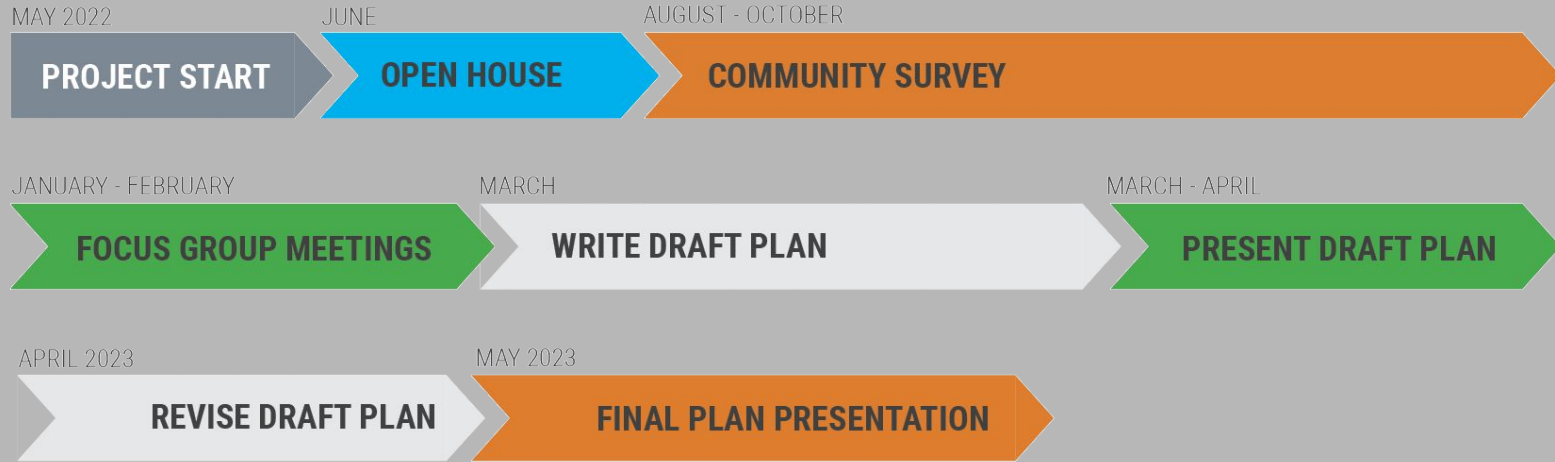
Jessica Van Oort
Mike Beecher
Bruce Sirjane
Rhonda Schlangen
Frank Nelson



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SCHEDULE



WEST PAWLET VILLAGE MASTER PLAN POT LUCK DINNERS

The Town of Pawlet Municipal Planning Grant Committee is hosting a series of **Pot Luck Dinner Meetings** with West Pawlet residents to discuss selected topics for the Village Master Plan.

We invite you to join us at any one of our **four topic meetings** to enjoy some food, see the results of the recent Community Survey, and discuss topics identified in that survey as most important to local residents. We invite you to bring a dish of easy-to-eat finger foods, appetizers and other dishes to enjoy with your neighbors! Public input from these meetings will be used to craft recommendations for the Draft Plan, which will be presented in the Spring for review.

@ **West Pawlet Volunteer Fire Dept** 6pm-9pm
2806 Route 153, West Pawlet, VT Each Night

January 12th 6pm-9pm **Roadway Intersection & Safety Improvements**
Discuss desired improvements to the Route 153 / Egg St intersection, WWI monument and Rail Trail parking area and local streetscape.

January 26th 6pm-9pm **Village Revitalization & Cleanup**
Discuss ways we could revitalize the village, restore vacant buildings, attract new businesses, improve sidewalks and general cleanup.

February 9th 6pm-9pm **Corner Store**
Discuss ways the town can help to attract a new corner store in the village, where it might be located and what it should include.

February 23rd 6pm-9pm **The Firehouse & Community Events**
Discuss the long-term needs of the Firehouse, how their plans could advance other village goals, and ideas for new community events.



RUTLAND REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
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For more information, please visit:
www.regrowthplanning.com/pawlet



Pot Luck Dinner Meetings:

Jan 12th: Roadway & Safety Improvements

Jan 26th: Village Revitalization

Feb 9th: Corner Store

Today: Firehouse & Community Events



www.pawlet.vt.gov

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Pawlet eNews December 31, 2022

Posted by Sean Ruck

West Pawlet Village Master Plan

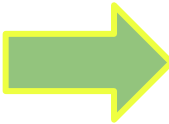
The Town of Pawlet is in the process of developing a Master Plan to help guide the future of the West Pawlet Village. A Master Plan is a document—often with photos, drawings and maps—which outline the desired future vision and general goals of the community. This planning process seeks to invite local residents to provide input on what issues are most important to them and what they would like to see to help shape the plan.

Topics of discussion can include any variety of issues, including business needs, parking, streetscape improvements, housing, zoning, recreation, water and sewer services, tourism, industry, youth and senior activities, trail improvements, and many more. But we need your help—a Master Plan needs to be developed using the input of the community—we want to hear your ideas! Please join us at any of our various events and meetings, described below, to hear different ideas and share your own.

Pot Luck Dinner Meetings

We are hosting a series of four “Pot Luck Dinner Meetings” over the next few months to bring people together and discuss some of the topics which were identified as high priority in the Community Survey. Please join us at any one of our four topic meetings to enjoy some food, see the results of the recent Community Survey, and discuss topics identified in that survey as most important to local residents. We invite you to bring a dish of easy-to-eat finger foods, appetizers and other dishes to enjoy with your neighbors! All meetings will be held at the West Pawlet Volunteer Fire Department between 6pm and 9pm on the dates noted below.

Public comments collected from these meetings will be used to craft recommendations for the Draft Plan, which is expected to be completed by the end of the year.



Search

Events

Tuesday, January 10

Tuesday, January 10
7:00pm Pawlet Select Board

Monday, January 23
7:30pm Pawlet Planning Commi

[Google Calendar](#)

[See full calendar](#)

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West Pawlet Village Master Plan

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Document Downloads



FAQ - Frequently Asked Questions

What is the goal of this effort?

The goal of this effort is to develop a vision document which will help guide the Town of Pawlet on achieving both short and long-term priorities for improving the community. The document can be used by local town officials, community leaders and residents to enable an organized and focused approach to getting things done. It can also be used to help leverage future grant funding for specific projects which the community supports.

How is this work being paid for?

The Town of Pawlet Municipal Planning Grant Committee (MPGC) applied for—and was awarded—a grant from the Vermont Department of Housing and Community Development through the Rutland Regional Planning Commission. Regrowth Planning, a local planning consultant, has been hired to organize the public outreach and assist the MPGC with the writing of this plan.

How can I submit comments or suggestions?

West Pawlet residents are invited to attend the various meetings and events for this effort, including the Open House, Pot Luck Dinners and presentations scheduled over the year. You may also submit comments and questions through our online form, located here: [LINK TO COMMENT FORM](#)



COMMENT FORM

COMMUNITY SURVEY

Overview & Purpose

To help collect public input on issues important to the residents of West Pawlet, a brief survey was distributed within the village center and surrounding areas. The purpose of this survey was to help inform locals about the Master Plan process, identify priorities, collect input on known issues, and allow people to identify additional topics or concerns that were not previously discussed. The resulting feedback was informative to identify specific topics which should be discussed further in the later focus group meetings as well as note individual suggestions for the Master Plan.

Survey Design

The survey questions were developed using input from the Open House event as well as suggested topics collected from the Municipal Planning Grant Committee (the committee). Regrowth Planning developed a list of draft questions which were reviewed and discussed by the committee, which were then refined until the final text was agreed upon. The selected questions were then formatted to fit within four pages (two double-sided sheets) to keep it brief and for easy mailing.

The first question on the survey asked people to rank the relative importance of various general topics for the village so that the committee would have information on local priorities and identify future focus group meetings. The remaining questions asked for additional input or detail on these same subjects. The last question provided an open-ended response for people to write in about any topic they pleased. (See copy of survey in Appendix)

Survey Distribution

The survey was distributed in hardcopy via U.S. Postal Service and also made available online for people who did not receive a copy or for additional household members who wished to participate. Since the official "Village Designation" area for West Pawlet is quite small, it was decided that the survey should be mailed directly to all households which were served by the West Pawlet Wastewater Treatment facility. The mailing list for wastewater bills was used as a first step to identify recipients. This list was then reviewed and compared against local tax and property data to identify property owners who lived (or had mailing addresses) out of town, so that an additional copy of the survey could be mailed directly to current occupants of the local home. A total of 137 paper surveys were mailed out.

The survey was additionally advertised on Facebook through the local West Pawlet Neighbors group, as well as on the local Front Porch Forum website.

The paper survey was mailed out on August 23rd with responses collected at Town Hall on September 20th and the closing of the online version on the evening of October 2nd.

Survey Results

Surveys Mailed Out:	137 ¹
Paper survey responses:	19
Online survey responses:	24
Total survey responses:	43

¹ 29 survey envelopes were returned by the postal service as undeliverable to the street home address.

Survey Feedback

WHAT ELSE WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE IN WEST PAWLET?

“Increased spaces for community to gather and connect.”

“Reintroduce a carnival / fair to finance partially our services.”

“Improved understanding and celebration of West Pawlet’s historic cultural and ethnic diversity”

“Pop-Up Farmer’s market - Event space”

“The Firehouse fills a vital need for community space. Bless them for what they do for the community every day!”

“Community projects to help people get people out of their homes and cars and interact with each other.”

Community Events & The Firehouse







Discussion Topics:

“Lost” Community Events





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Improving Existing Community Events



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New Community Event Ideas



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Long Term Needs of Firehouse



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Long Term Needs of Firehouse

Are there any opportunities to meet the needs of the Community **and** the Firehouse?

What Community Events Have Been “Lost”?

- Community Pot Luck Dinners
- Carnival/Fair
- WPVFD Pancake Breakfast (monthly Sept-April)
- WPVFD Flea Market & Tag Sale (July?)
- WPVFD Easter Market (April)
- Newcomer Welcome Event
- Mettowee Makers / Farmers Market?

Current WPVFD Events

- Turkey Raffle
- Casino Night
- Monthly 50/50 Raffle
- Other...?

QUESTIONS:

Plans to expand more events?

What is your biggest event?

What could improve them?

How Might These Events Be Improved?



New Event Ideas?

- Rupert Old Home Day
- BBQ / Roasts / Game Supper
- Community Auctions (Not since 2016?)
- Bake Sales
- Outdoor Movie Night
- Trivia Night
- Christmas Tree Lighting
- Bike Race Waypoint



Calendar - Filling the gaps

JAN WPVFD Pancake Breakfast	FEB WPVFD Pancake Breakfast	MAR WPVFD Pancake Breakfast	APR WPVFD Pancake Breakfast WPVFD Easter Flea Market?
MAY Green Up Day? Mother's Day Brunch?	JUN WPVFD Casino Night	JULY WPVFD Flea Mrkt/Tag Sale? July 4th?	AUG
SEPT WPVFD Pancake Breakfast	OCT WPVFD Pancake Breakfast	NOV WPVFD Pancake Breakfast WPVFD Turkey Raffle	DEC WPVFD Pancake Breakfast

WPVFD Needs

- Storage
- Fundraising / Event Space
- Recruitment
- Improved Operations
- Improved Kitchen
- Other?

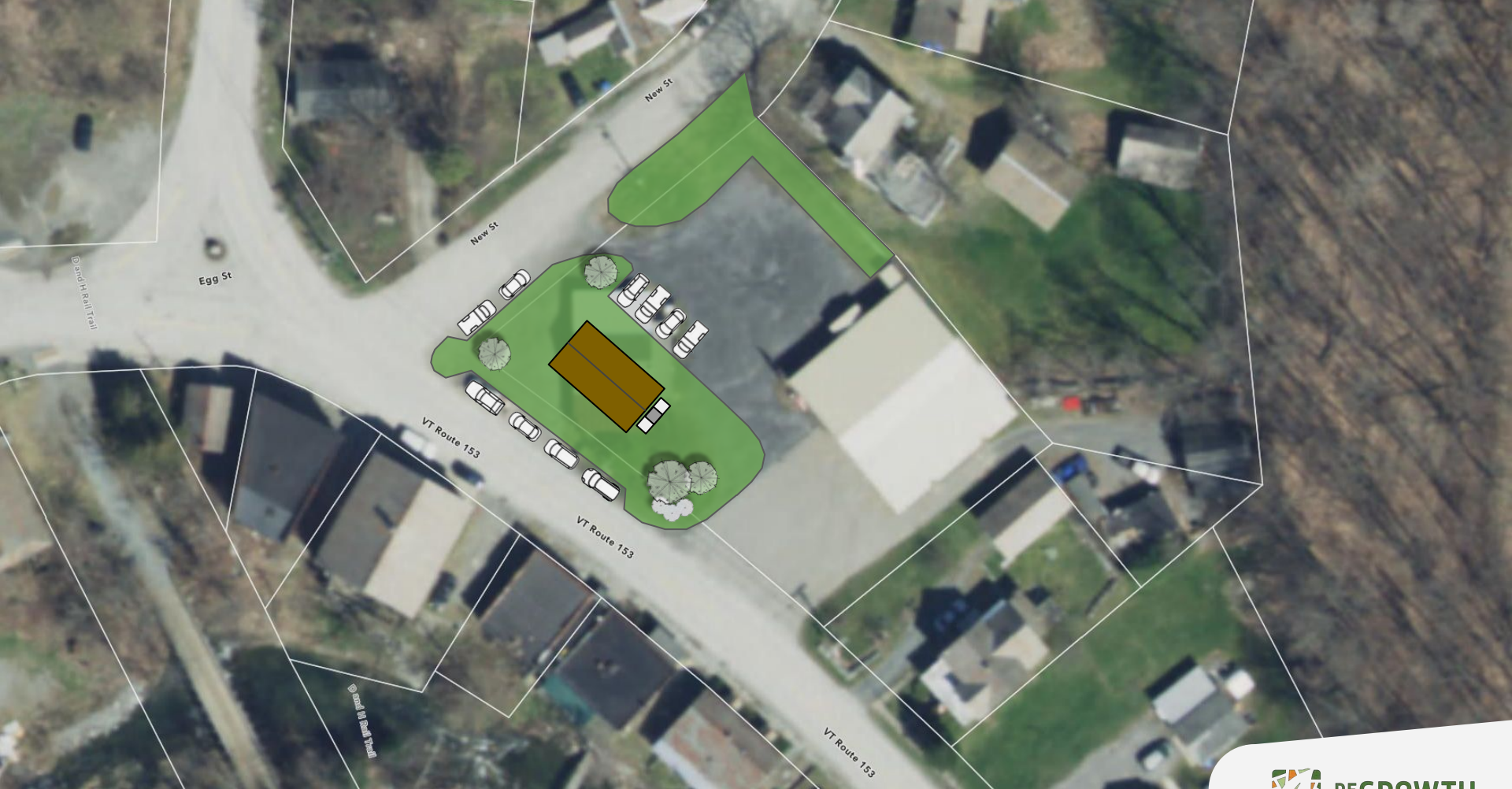


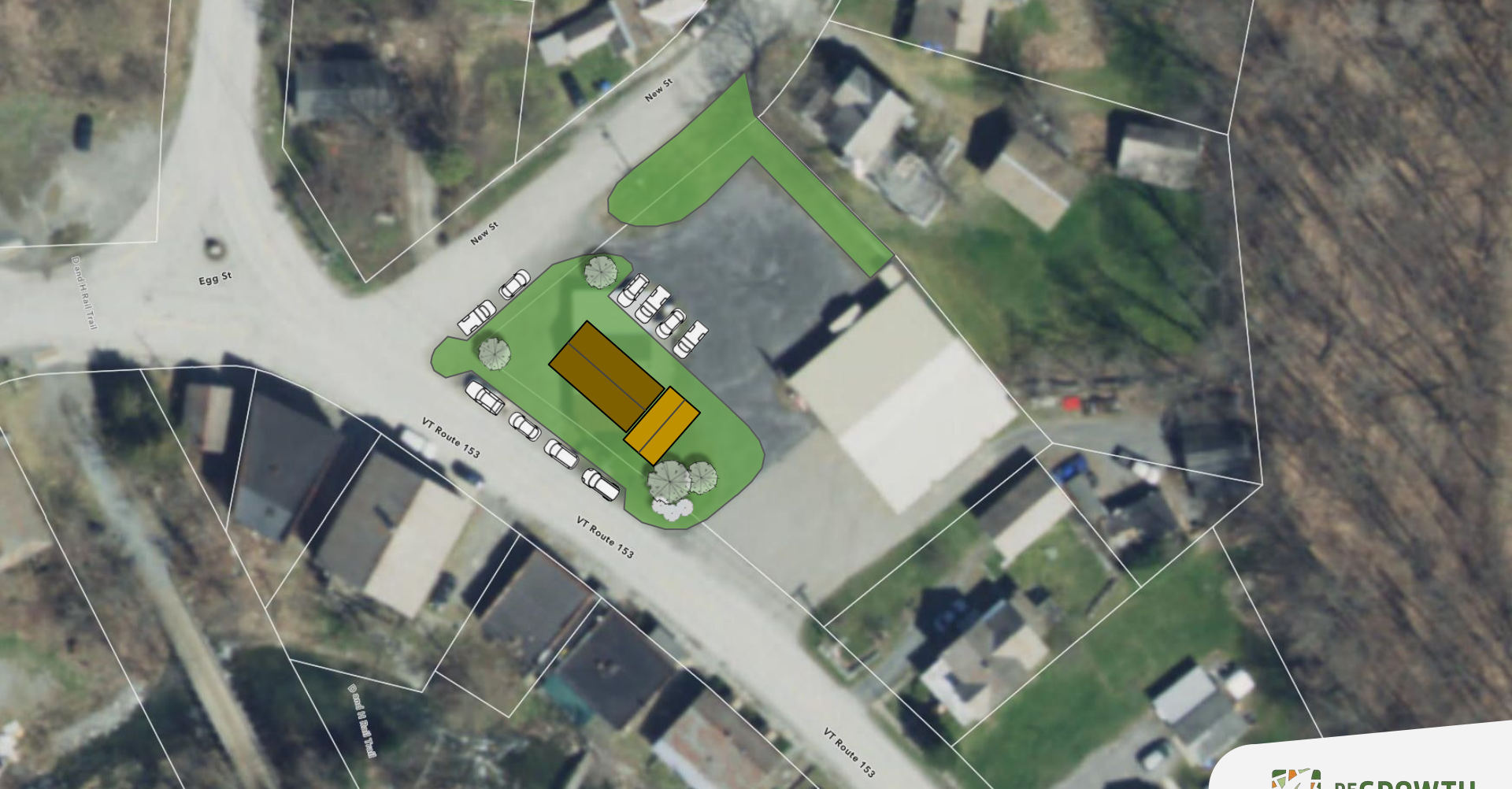












WEST PAWLET VILLAGE MASTER PLAN

Other Potential Event Locations

- Hookery / Industrial Park (Outdoor)
- Celery Compound / Fish & Game Bldg (Indoor)
- Consider Bardwell Farm
- Other?

Information on project webpage:

www.regrowthplanning.com/pawlet

You can submit additional comments and suggestions via our online form.

