

Consulting Partners

Natick 360 engaged some of the best and most experienced consultants in the country to assist with the initiative.

Metropolitan Area Planning Council

The Metropolitan Area Planning Council, of Boston, wrote the Phase 1 report, *Natick Our Community Yesterday and Today*. MAPC is a regional planning agency representing 101 cities and towns in the metropolitan Boston area. Created by an act of the Legislature in 1963, it serves as an independent public body of the Commonwealth within which state and local officials can address issues of regional importance. As one of 14 members of the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), MAPC has oversight responsibility for the region's federally funded transportation program. The Council enhances the quality of life and competitive advantage of the Boston metropolitan region in the global economy by providing a focus for action and developing sound responses to issues of regional significance. The consulting term was led by Marc Racicot. For more information see www.mapc.org.

Blackerby Associates, Inc.

Blackerby Associates, of Phoenix, provided project management and facilitation services during the *Natick 360* strategic planning process. Blackerby Associates helps any organization transform into a high-performance enterprise. The firm's principals have extensive experience in strategic planning for the public and not-for-profit sectors. This recent experience includes project management and facilitation of strategic plan development for: Town of Fountain Hills, Arizona; several agencies of the City of Phoenix; Maine Department of Health and Human Services, Augusta; Lower Manhattan Development Authority, New York; Town of Vassalboro, Maine; Petroleum Technology Transfer Council, Houston; and Manufacturing Extension Partnerships in Massachusetts, Florida and New Mexico. The consulting team was led by Phillip Blackerby, Elizabeth Reuthe and Kevin O'Sullivan. For more information see www.BlackerbyAssoc.com.

ETC Institute

ETC Institute, of Olathe, Kansas, conducted the scientific random sample survey of Natick residents. ETC Institute is one of the nation's leading community-based market research firms. It helps corporate, government, and not-for-profit organizations gather and interpret data from the general public and special interest groups about a wide range of issues. ETC Institute was founded in 1982 to help local governments gather data from residents to enhance community planning. ETC Institute has completed research projects for clients in 46 states. These include thousands of surveys, focus groups, and stakeholder meetings. The company is woman-owned and certified as a disadvantaged business enterprise (DBE). The consulting team was led by Chris Tatham. For more information see www.EtcInstitute.com.