

Warrant Article: Government Review Committee's Community Survey



BURLINGTON GOVERNMENT REVIEW COMMITTEE
BGRC Meeting January 6, 2026

WHY ?

Survey results typically help communities make more informed decisions by ensuring resident voices are heard before major policy or structural changes are implemented.

Overview



Purpose:

Gather resident input on how decisions are made, who should make them, and how authority should be distributed.



Who we'll outreach to:

Burlington residents



How:

- **Independent third-party managed survey**
- Direct mail and web-enabled to (1) increase awareness of the committee and (2) solicit input via survey



What we're looking to learn:

- Views on roles of Town Meeting, Town Administration, and Boards/Committees
- Effectiveness and perceived accessibility and accountability of Town Government
- Expectations for review process and public input



General Survey Guidelines

Aim for
10 – 12
questions

Inclusion of
demographic
questions

Mostly
close-ended
questions

A few
open-ended
questions

Response
target

Survey
languages

Survey: Scope of Consultant Services

➤ Survey Design and Development

- Online, printable, and translated (Spanish & Chinese) versions

➤ Survey Administration

- Online platform, printable formats, maintain data privacy standards

➤ Data Analysis and Reporting

- Analysis of both online and hard copy responses
- Identify trends, summarize key differences/alignments, comprehensive report



Final Presentation

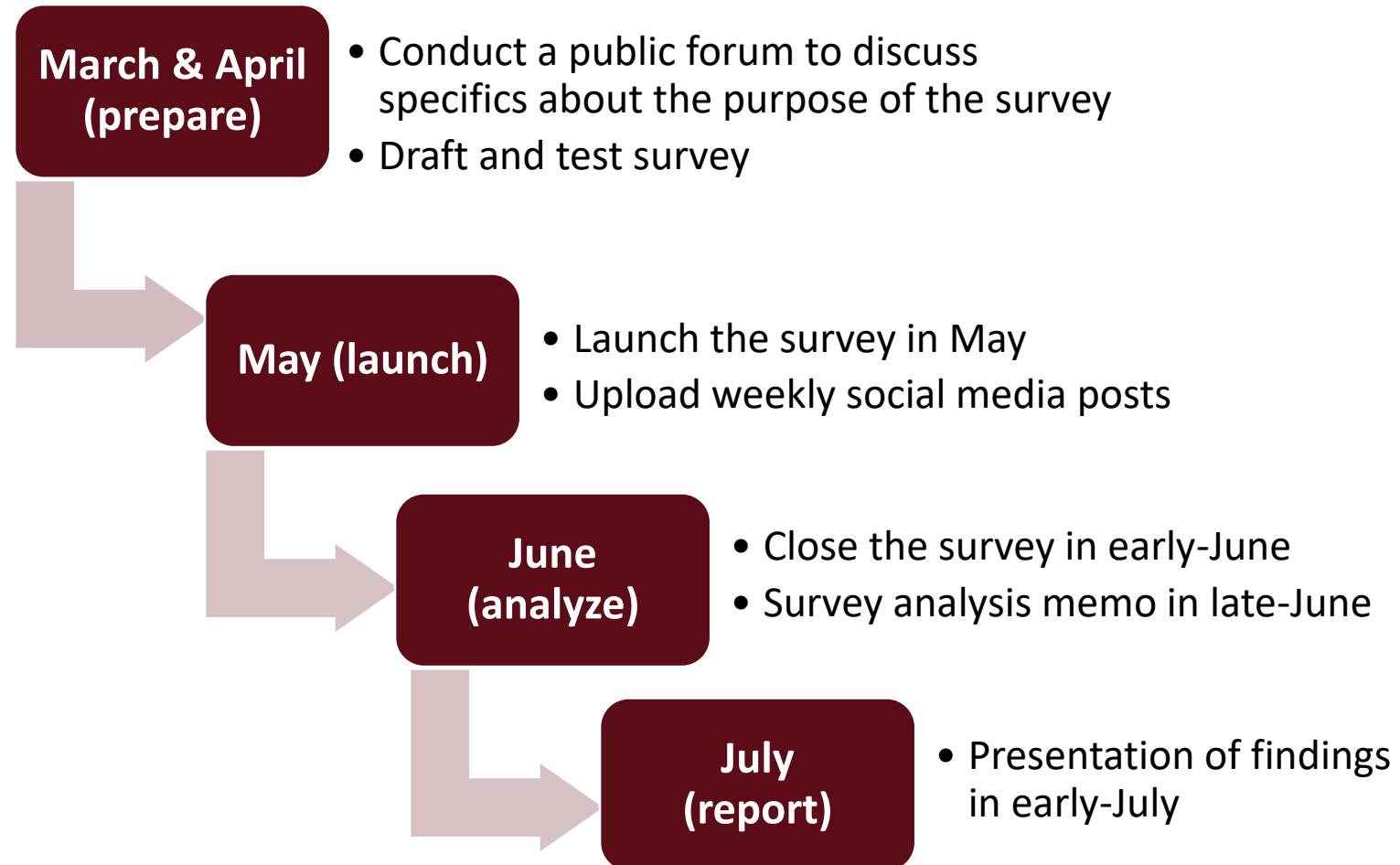
- Including visual materials suitable for public sharing.

Note: Cost and strategy for outreach to public for input (i.e. advertisements, postcard, flyers etc.)

Managed by BGRC/ Town Communications Officer



Survey Timeline



What We Have Done

- Proposals for Survey Consulting Requested from
 - The Center for Public Opinion at UMass Lowell
 - Collins Center: Data Collection/Survey Team
- Quote for promotional advertising requested from the Buzz
- Total Estimated Cost \$19,454 - \$20,005



Article

ARTICLE NAME – GOVERNMENT REVIEW COMMITTEE SURVEY EXPENSES
AMOUNT - \$20,000

To see if the Town will vote transfer from available funds the sum of \$20,000 or any other sum for the purpose of funding expenses related to the Government Review Committee's community survey, resident engagement, postal costs, and any other expenses for the furtherance of the Committee's work, or to act in any other manner in relation thereto.

Submitted by the Select Board

Requested by the Burlington Government Review Committee



Next Steps

- **Select Board Approval of Request**
- **Town Meeting Approval of Article for requested budget**

Once Approved:

- **Establish BGRC Survey Subcommittee**
- **Select Vendor**
- **Project kick off in March**



Questions?

