

## Gloucester Maritime Summit

### Summary of discussion notes

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**Vision:** In 25 to 30 years, the Gloucester Maritime Economy will ...

Be **sustainable** – produce little to no waste (fishing will use the full amount of fish), be energy-efficient, use shared resources, be responsive to **climate change and sea level rise**.

Be an **extension of the port economy** that maintains and builds upon the fishing industry but does not replace it.

Have industries that **add value locally**.

Focus on marine **education** for future generations, serve as a **knowledge center and intellectual hub** for the maritime industry, and educate on the connections between land use and oceans.

Have solid **partnerships and collaboration** between fishermen, scientists, government and regulators, educational institutions and the working waterfront.

Benefit from **data gathering and analysis** that supports vessel-owners in a variety of activities.

Ocean Science's Mission Statement:

*Gloucester stands on the edge of humanity's newest frontier: the ocean. Gloucester is the go-to place for developing and testing of ocean technologies that can utilize the many underutilized benefits the sea offers. We are a deep water, full-service port with the longest history of commercial fishing in North America. More than 10,000 fishers died to create the knowledge, innovation and tradition that is our priceless heritage. Our unique ocean-centered culture is seeking to promote the development of innovative and sustainable marine technologies that can become part of a new and sustainable, world economy.*

### Strengths

- Partnership-building has begun; basis to continue networking
- Strong local leadership.
- Organizations are here, pieces are in place: Seaport Advisory support; NE Seafood Coalition; MA Fishermen's Partnership
- Gloucester is a Designated Port Area
- Fish and fishermen; the sea life
- NOAA and other governmental organizations located in Gloucester
- A model of fisheries management that is going to preserve the resource for decades to come
- Small business diversity
- Knowledge and skills of the fishermen.
  - Continued authenticity of community – make heritage widely known

### Challenges

- Securing funding
- The perception that Gloucester is divided in interests
- No industrial classification code for maritime industry, so it may be hard to find firms and partners
- Cooperation with existing federal agencies (e.g., NOAA/NIMS) could be better
- Too many challenges on the fishermen's time to develop the partnerships with scientists – capacity problem
- Contaminated waterfront properties, complex regulatory environment an issue

### Needs – General

- Need unified approach for larger requests for large institution and political leaders
- Intellectual network or think-tank: lecture series, meetings, communications/social media, conferences

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- Infrastructure: technological infrastructure, water and sewer, building space, dock/pier facilities, light; parking
- Industries that provide opportunities to next generation
- Increase use of “green” or energy-efficient technology
- Partnerships with local government
- Leadership and capacity
- Great schools – emphasis on math and science
- Retraining fisherman/workforce for research work
- Vision, marketing, branding and promotion
- Community support
- Congressional support
- Sustainable ocean management
- Affordable housing and commuter rail

### **Needs – Business-specific**

- Streamlined regulatory process
- Economic incentives for new marine technology businesses
- Lab space

### **Opportunities**

- Better/stronger relationship with maritime academies
- Establishing a new educational institution
- Attracting biotech industries
- Becoming a part of Marine Highway activities; freight highway to Maritime Highway
- Preparing for rail-based shipping
- Marine sciences/cluster for ocean science research
- Boat building
- Sea logistics resource for marine technologies
- Become a marine food production hub
- Ocean monitoring
- Research
- New marine products
- Developing relationships with educational Partners: MIT, UMass Lowell, WPI, Woods Hole, UNH, Roger Williams, Tufts, The Landing School, law schools, regional high schools, technical schools
- Developing relationships with other partners: Cape Ann Business Incubator, Maritime E-Board, Cape Ann Chamber of Commerce, Fisheries Commission, NOAA, Seaport Advisory Council, Mass Maritime, technology councils
- Developing national and global partnerships
- Expanding the visitor-based economy and eco-tourism
- Integrating local knowledge/skills from Gloucester residents

### **Actions**

- Build on past planning efforts around economic development by identifying gaps and opportunities
- Develop technological infrastructure (broadband) and physical infrastructure (water, sewer) for businesses
- Create a vision statement for Gloucester that includes core values, areas of focus, and is a consistent message
- Have a “go to” person/coordinator who is the contact for maritime-related business investment/development in Gloucester
- Develop a think tank where actionable items are implemented – including and harnessing local talent and capabilities before looking for outside help

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- Engage in community outreach consensus-building activities around maritime economic development
- Make I4C2 parcel location for biotechnology and research center – multi-use, multi-university, commercial collaboration or fisheries institute
- Institute streamlined/expedited permitting
- Develop partnerships and establish a regional maritime industry coalition
- Information on existing businesses and city or locational assets
- Develop long-term partnerships with higher education
- Issue a comprehensive report on Gloucester Maritime Summit
- Become a “sister city” with San Diego and Maritime Alliance
- Leverage congressional support
- Leverage funding outside of “typical” channels
- Improve marking and branding for Gloucester after determining identity
- Strategize to diversify businesses
- Develop and establish a research center
- Map assets – economic resources of existing businesses and fishing industry assets
- Research modern designs for fishing fleet
- Outreach to research community to get sense of what they are looking for
- Start networking – create a database of groups collaborating on maritime economy
- Create a business directory of Gloucester maritime businesses
- Advance boat building industry