Planning Notes   March 5, 2015

Master Plan 1988

Island Future VG 6.16.89

6 planning task forces – housing, health & social services; transportation; land use; environmental quality; economic issues.

Draft plan in 2 public forums – League of Women’s Voters VH and VChilmark Community Center

Mark Adams – Commission Planner Coordinating Staff.

Woodward Filley co-chair of one committee.

Woody – “The worst fear I have is the majority of people saying 'The place is ruined, we cant do anything, so lets just forget it' “If that is the attitude of most people, then we are just wasting our time.  I think people have really got to look at themselves and look at their surroundings and say 'How much does this mean to me?  All you have to do is take a look off-Island.”

Cape & Island 6.5.88

“Last year, it was called the 100 days of madness.”

“Islanders have rallied since the crisis of 1987, and in an unusual display of solidarity among the six provincially minded towns, work is progressing on a new master plan for the Island, on ways to deal with garbage and waste-water disposal, on pulling environmental groups together.”

First time ever drawing up a master plan under MVC.

“That crises was seen last summer when water and electricity services were taxed, when Islanders couldn’t get a dial tone on the telephones because circuits were overloaded, and when the number of car and moped accidents was the highest ever.”

Vineyard Gazette 10.21.88

Growth cap on development proposition position paper under consideration by land use task force – part of master plan.  Written by Stanley Panitz, member.

Beer cans no longer a rarity; bumper to bumper traffic; large tour buses; untouched wild lands disappearing; beaches and wetlands inadequately protected; prinking
water is endangered. New suburban shopping centers like triangle or proposal on State Rd, VH.

Proposal for four lane highway; structured parking garages; public transportation system; bridge to mainland not inconceivable.

4 lane highway – EDG-VH and VH to Beetlebung Corner. Possible.

Only 13% conservation land. (only 7% if Correllus excluded) Vs 34% ACK.

Ultimate build-out 2020 – with 30,000 population. Vs 14,000 today.

Policy: Environmental constraints; road capacity; compensation to landowners for loss of development.

Some advocate for 2-3% growth cap.
Major land acquisition.


Could set limit on number of permits and pay the rest off.

Use financing to buy land. Also buy development rights – make money go further. Use bonds or 3rd-party monies.