Aquinnah residents envision that in 2027 the town will be a safe, quiet, close-knit community with a vibrant town center and an ample supply of year-round housing for its multicultural population. Residents old and new will value the town’s wild scenic beauty, peacefulness, and feeling of privacy, while appreciating the modest new residential options in town center that help to foster and sustain Aquinnah’s small-town feel and strong sense of neighborly connection. Seasonal and year-round residents alike will be engaged in the preservation of the town’s rural nature and natural environment and provide resources that support the community’s continued housing needs.

The town will allow smaller lot sizes in certain areas and increase affordable housing to serve the needs of small families, single people, and the elderly. Tribal and town governments will work cooperatively to foster a strong and caring community in this diverse island town.

Over the upcoming decade, the community will make great strides in creating a walkable town center with a mix of uses including town offices, local businesses, and residences. These new residences, which are envisioned to consist of smaller houses on smaller lots, would provide housing options for people of all ages seeking a vibrant, walkable area to live.

New developments of cluster housing and cohousing (like Island Cohousing) with well-designed cottage-style homes, townhouses, and duplexes will preserve open space and scenic views. Residents will be proud of these new developments for their sensitivity to Aquinnah’s natural beauty and ability to enhance the sense of community among residents.

Some residents will create year-round affordable accessory apartments and some owner-occupied duplexes will include an affordable unit. To provide housing opportunities for households with a range of incomes, affordable housing will also be integrated into the new town center area and will help to serve a broader need beyond the existing affordable housing.