

TOWN OF NORTH SALEM,  
2008 – 2009  
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

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# OBJECTIVES

- ▣ Identify the defining character of the Town
- ▣ Identify the defining current land use patterns of individual hamlets
- ▣ Evaluate current, future, and potential land use patterns and pressures.
- ▣ Provide a vision of what the Town should be in the future.

# *HOW DO WE GET THERE?*

- ▣ Collaboration and Community Engagement.
  - Comprehensive Plan Committee (CPC) and community meetings and outreach.
  - Interaction between CPC and Consultants
  
- ▣ Expected Outcome:
  - Complete cross-acceptance between neighborhood and Town-wide perspectives.
  
  - Full synergy between stakeholders and the CPC.

## Background Audit

Don't weigh down the Plan with tons of data - the final Plan needs to be pungent, graphic and high-tech.

- ▣ Collate all of the existing data, reports, maps, etc.
- ▣ Update demographics, land use, and traffic.
- ▣ Westchester County Planning and NYSDOT data.
- ▣ Create existing conditions and future baseline chapters of the Draft GEIS.
- ▣ This background material will be later integrated with the Plan recommendations.
- ▣ No need to “re-invent the wheel.”

# TOPICAL STUDIES

- Sustainability: infrastructure, “greening,” “smart growth” environmental design, building design etc.
- Mobility: transportation, traffic calming, transit, pedestrians, long-term alternatives etc.
- Community Design: landscape, lighting, signage, open space, historic preservation, and scenic byways.
- Neighborhood Quality of Life: integrating all of the above on a neighborhood-by-neighborhood basis, factoring in housing policy, including fair share and affordable housing.

# TOPICAL STUDIES

- key objectives to be met;
- overall issues;
- expected work elements;
- potential interim and final products and outcomes.

# EXISTING AND FUTURE BASELINE CONDITIONS

## Objectives:

- Compile and summarize all of the existing data and research
- Fill potential gaps in data
- Consider population, demographic and socio-economic conditions and trends
- Consider regional issues and the plans of other governmental agencies
- Consider fiscal implications as (not after) recommendations are formulated
- Get a “jump start” on the DGEIS

# EXISTING AND FUTURE BASELINE CONDITIONS

## Outcomes:

- Single document for distribution to CPC members, providing a “one-stop shop” source of data.
- Portrayal of market trends.
- Population projections for the Town over the next twenty or more years.
- Analysis of age, employment and other relevant demographic characteristics.
- Initial draft of the most labor-intensive chapters of the DGEIS



# SUSTAINABILITY

## Objectives:

- Develop a strategy that supports sustainable and managed growth.
- Improve storm water management, improve pesticide/herbicide management, reduce clear cutting, and enhance watershed protection measures.
- Factor water and sewer infrastructure into an understanding of environmental preservation; and vice versa.
- Provide ecologically sound strategies for improving infrastructure, particularly focusing upon storm water management and water quality.
- Provide input and direction for the ecologically sustainable components of the Comprehensive Plan.

# SUSTAINABILITY

## Outcomes:

- GIS maps and overlays.
- Strategy for protecting natural resources – both as open space and within developed areas.
- Perspective on density and development
- Ecologically sound storm water management and water quality guidelines.
- Guidelines for the preservation, restoration and/or creation of ecosystems for the Comprehensive Plan.

# MOBILITY

## Objectives:

- Increase the interconnectivity between land uses and roadways to reduce unnecessary traffic circulation.
- Identify roadway improvements compatible with the land uses and development densities desired by Town officials and residents.
- To expand access to and encourage use of public transportation services, where feasible.

# MOBILITY

## Outcomes:

- Proposed improvements to existing roadways.
- Concept Plan and Map balancing the needs of vehicles, pedestrians and bicyclists that addresses parking, safety, access and mobility.
- An annotated list of traffic-calming tools, presenting choices for implementation in residential areas to reduce the impact of congestion on neighborhoods and property values.

# COMMUNITY DESIGN

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## Objectives:

- Identify historic sites and views worthy of protection.
- Develop regulatory strategies to protect these sites and vistas, including standards for site plans, building design and landscaping, as appropriate.
- To identify and articulate historic design features to be protected

# COMMUNITY DESIGN

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## Outcomes:

- Inventory and map of recognized historic resources, areas where consistent design features warrant protection or enhancement, and recognized scenic views and byways.
- Identification of heritage tourism potential.
- Historic, community design and scenic view corridor plan, including recommendations for their preservation and/or enhancement.

# NEIGHBORHOOD QUALITY OF LIFE

## Objectives:

- To integrate all of the earlier topics on a neighborhood-by-neighborhood basis.
- To address existing and future housing needs, including affordable housing.
- To preserve the low density character of the Town

# NEIGHBORHOOD QUALITY OF LIFE

## Outcomes:

- Balanced strategy for accommodating quality housing development and promoting neighborhood stability.
- Provide a series of recommendations pertaining to perceived opportunities and threats bearing on the quality of life of North Salem's neighborhoods.



# DRAFT GEIS

- Provide the Comprehensive Plan and any revised land use regulations with SEQR (State Environmental Quality Review) compliance for assessing impacts.
- Minimize SEQR procedural issues upon subsequent implementation of the Comprehensive Plan's recommendations.
- Prepare the SEQR documentation mindful of the need for SEQR review and compliance in connection with prospective and any forthcoming zoning or other land use recommendations.