

Comprehensive Plan Update Review Committee

Our current Comprehensive Plan was last updated and adopted in September of 2009. Accordingly, a new update is not only standard practice for Comprehensive Plans, but also long overdue.

“The Plan was developed to cover a 15-year time period with an expectation that it will be reviewed and updated as necessary. However, it should be formally reviewed a minimum of every five to seven years to ensure that it remains a vital document to help guide Chatham in the future.”

Hence a new Comprehensive Plan Update Review Committee (CPURC) has been formed to review, research, and suggest potential updates to the Town Board.

In the coming weeks, the CPURC will embark on a robust campaign to include as many citizens as possible in our data collection process, keeping in mind the following three questions:

1. What are the current conditions, features, and character of Chatham?
2. What does Chatham want for itself in the future?
3. How will Chatham attain that desired future state?

CPURC’s strategy for data collection and analysis includes, but is not limited, to the following:

- Public hearing to discuss [the current Comprehensive Plan](#).
- Hard copy and digital surveys
- Identify citizens to act as liaisons for specific groups and hamlets to assist the committee’s efforts in holding hamlet-specific meetings
- Review responses from outreach to Chatham groups, committees, programs, services, etc.
- Review Columbia Land Conservancy (CLC) and Chatham Agriculture Partnership (CAP) recommendations
- Review public comments from past Town Board meetings as well as the Tr-Village Firehouse index card submissions
- Review past data/correspondence collected by the Town Clerk
- Review data obtained by Building and Assessors Departments
- Review data from the ZBA and Planning Boards
- Review census data
- Update of maps
- Obtain and review demographic information from diverse sources
- Review any correspondence residents care to submit
- Columbia County Planning Board review information

We urge our fellow citizens to [read the current plan](#) and participate in open discussions on what might need updating, what you are in favor of maintaining, and any thoughts you have on how

we can improve our Comprehensive Plan, in general. However, it is not necessary to read the current plan in order to participate. Whatever your level of involvement has been to this point, we want and need to hear from you now and throughout this process. This plan will have profound effects on our community. Please participate.

If you represent a specific group and want to be contacted directly, please email Council Member Abi Mesick at amesick@chathamnewyork.us, and we will promptly respond. We welcome the community's input and look forward to working together to create a lasting vision for Chatham's future.

Please check the town website for committee minutes, meetings dates, and progress updates.