



Bethlehem Comprehensive Plan: 2012

| progress | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|
| Tier I: Priority | Update Zoning and Subdivision Regulations to reflect the recommendations set forth in the Comprehensive Plan | | | | |
| | Conduct a linkage study for Rt 9W that includes a feasibility analysis of a possible "northern alignment" option for the Selkirk Bypass | | | | |
| | Create an official map | | | | |
| | Develop a Local Waterfront Revitalization Program | | | | |
| | Coordinate development of the Vista Technology Park with the proposed New Scotland Road Hamlet | | | | |
| | Establish a Citizens Advisory Committee on Conservation | | | | |
| | Establish a Comprehensive Plan Oversight Committee | | | | |
| | Update Planning Department and Building Department Information System | | | | |
| | Develop a "Citizen's Guide to Town of Bethlehem Land Use and Development Regulations" | | | | |
| | Identify locations for infill and encourage their use | | | | |
| Tier II: Mid-Term | Develop Hamlet Master Plans for specific hamlets | | | | |
| | Adopt local Right-To-Farm and Right-To-Practice-Forestry laws | | | | |
| | Create Delaware Ave. Business Improvement District | | | | |
| | Conduct a Delaware Avenue Linkage Study | | | | |
| | Consider reducing street width in new residential developments and encourage a connected street network | | | | |
| | Explore local funding opportunities for farmland and open space protection | | | | |
| | Develop an inventory of the Town's farmland, open space and natural resources in a Lands of Conservation Interest Map | | | | |
| | Conduct an inventory of historic and cultural resources | | | | |
| | Develop a community center | | | | |
| | Assess and improve the technology infrastructure available in Bethlehem | | | | |
| Tier III: Ongoing | Maintain and enhance pedestrian connections within and between neighborhoods, recreation facilities, and hamlet centers | | | | |
| | Prepare for and comply with the new Phase II Stormwater Management Regulations | | | | |
| | Promote the use of alternative, renewable energy sources for public and private buildings | | | | |
| | Coordinate with fire and emergency service providers in the Town regarding service and long-term planning for facilities | | | | |
| | Encourage the use of Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) standards | | | | |
| | Connect developers to funding opportunities for sustainable design and construction | | | | |
| | Provide educational services for the prevention of illicit discharges into the Town's storm drainage system | | | | |
| | Initiate a "Buy Local" program and develop an agricultural economic strategy | | | | |
| | Provide adequate bicycle facilities and establish a signed system of bicycle routes throughout the Town | | | | |
| | Coordinate with Chamber of Commerce to promote local businesses | | | | |
| Create a Parks Master Plan | | | | | |
| Coordinate with neighboring municipalities, Albany County, school districts and regional entities in planning related activities | | | | | |
| Enhance entranceways / gateways to the community | | | | | |
| Encourage continuing education for board members | | | | | |
| Review the comprehensive plan within five to ten years | | | | | |

The order of this Scorecard is the order in which these goals are identified in the Town's Comprehensive Plan. For more information on these goals, please refer to the Comprehensive Plan available online at townofbethlehem.org or at the Department of Economic Development and Planning, Town Hall, Room 203.

1 Not addressed

Recommendation has not been addressed on its own or in a Town plan, study, advisory committee task, or department action.

2 Considered

Recommendation was considered during the development of a Town plan, study, advisory committee task, or department action but no formal action was taken to address the recommendation.

3 Partially

Recommendation was considered and addressed in a Town plan, study, advisory committee task, or department action but not to the full extent as envisioned by the Comprehensive Plan recommendation.

4 Close to completion

Recommendation has been addressed in a Town plan, study, advisory committee task, or department action, which is expected to be completed within the next six months.

5 Completed

Recommendation has been completed through a Town plan, study, advisory committee task, or department action, with Town Board approval.

progress details

| Comprehensive Plan Action Goal | Action to Date | Next Steps |
|---|--|---|
| Update Zoning and Subdivision Regulations to reflect the recommendations set forth in the Comprehensive Plan | Adopted 08/2005, Amended 09/2006, 10/2008, 6/2010, 2/2012 | Periodically review for improvements and clarifications |
| Tier I: Priority Actions | | |
| Conduct a linkage study for Rt 9W that includes a feasibility analysis of a possible "northern alignment" option for the Selkirk Bypass | Route 9W Corridor Study completed 12/2008. Route 9W Design Guidelines added to Zoning Law amendments Feb 2012. | Continued communication with the Thruway Authority to further address Thruway concerns and initiation of work to further define Town funding options |
| Create an official map | None | CPAC consideration |
| Develop a Local Waterfront Revitalization Program | Local Waterfront Revitalization Plan in final stages under review by NYSDOS | Implement recommendations of LWRP |
| Coordinate development of the Vista Technology Park with the proposed New Scotland Road Hamlet | Town Board approved July 2007. Planning Board approved 1st phase site plan Feb 2011. | Continue to utilize the design/development guidance of the New Scotland Road Hamlet Master Plan as development projects arise in the New Scotland Road Hamlet. |
| Establish a Citizens Advisory Committee on Conservation | CACC Established 08/2005 Open Space Funding & Tools Report 10/2006, Recommendations on Open Space Needs & Opportunities 7/2009. Committee no longer active (2009), member terms expired | Committee no longer active. No further action required. |
| Establish a Comprehensive Plan Oversight Committee | CPOC est. April 2007. CPOC Report completed September 2007. | CPOC work completed. No further action required. |
| Update Planning Dept. and Building Dept. Information System | H.T.E System implemented by MIS Department | Update completed. No further action required. |
| Develop a "Citizen's Guide to Town of Bethlehem Land Use and Development Regulations" | Completed Fall 2012 | Guide to be completed by Fall 2012. Place Guide on Town website and provide hard copies at Town Hall. |
| Identify locations for infill and encourage their use | None | DEDP staff to continue to work with developers interested in redeveloping properties and developing infill parcels. |
| Tier II: Mid-Term Actions | | |
| Develop Hamlet Master Plans for specific hamlets | New Scotland Road Hamlet Community Charette 02/2007 Delaware Avenue Hamlet Enhancement Study 02/2012 | Identify hamlets in Town for study. CPAC consideration. |
| Adopt local Right-To-Farm and Right-To-Practice-Forestry laws | Agriculture and Farmland Protection Plan recommended a resolution in support of Albany County's Right to Farm Law | Albany County Right to Farm Law sufficient. No further action required. |
| Create Delaware Ave. Business Improvement District | Property assessment value not enough to create significant funds. | Lack of interest from Delaware Ave businesses during Delaware Avenue Hamlet Enhancement Study combined with minor property assessment value to create significant funds makes this recommendation unfeasible. No further action required. |
| Conduct a Delaware Avenue Linkage Study | Completed 02/2012 | DEDP to incorporate design guidelines and standards into zoning regs. Town to pursue funding/investment for streetscape improvements. |
| Consider reducing street width in new residential developments and encourage a connected street network | NYSDEC Stormwater Management requirements include reduced roadway width as a green infrastructure practice. Town allowing reduced street widths on private roadways. Subdivision and site plan projects a required to connect to adjacent roadways as feasible. | No further action required |
| Explore local funding opportunities for farmland and open space protection | CACC - Open Space Funding & Tools Report 10/2006 | CPAC consideration |
| Develop an inventory of the Town's farmland, open space and natural resources in a Lands of Conservation Interest Map | Agricultural and Farmland Protection Plan 09/2009 - Agriculture and Farmland Map CACC's Recommendation on Open Space Needs and Opportunities Report 07/2009 - Natural Systems Map - Recreation and Pathways Map | No further action required |
| Conduct an inventory of historic and cultural resources | None | CPAC consideration |
| Develop a community center | None | CPAC consideration |
| Tier III: Ongoing Actions | | |
| Investigate the current condition of, and improve as necessary, the technology infrastructure available in Bethlehem | None | CPAC consideration |
| Maintain and enhance pedestrian connections within and between neighborhoods, recreation facilities, and hamlet centers | PaTHs 4 Bethlehem Committee Est. 03/2009 - address bicycle & pedestrian mobility | Continue ongoing efforts by Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee and the Planning Board during the land use review process. |
| Prepare for and comply with the new Phase II Stormwater Management Regulations | DPW Stormwater Coordinator Position since 2007 - Town Code Chapter 98 Stormwater Management & Zoning Law §128-49 11/2007 | No further action required |
| Promote the use of alternative, renewable energy sources for public and private buildings | NYSERDA grant addresses GHG, energy management of Town facilities, DPW participated in several NYSERDA programs to identify energy efficiency and hydroelectric opportunities in the Town's wastewater and water treatment plants, 30kW solar photovoltaic system at Elm Ave Park building 04/2012 | CPAC consideration |
| Coordinate with fire and emergency service providers in the Town regarding service and long-term planning for facilities | Consolidation of Ambulance Services - 2012? | No further action required |
| Encourage the use of Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) standards | Town adopted Climate Smart Communities Resolution April 2009 | CPAC consideration |
| Connect developers to funding opportunities for sustainable design and construction | None | Staff resources limited to address this recommendation. No further action required. |
| Provide educational services for the prevention of illicit discharges into the Town's storm drainage system | Education materials developed and made available through Town's membership in Albany County Stormwater Coalition | No further action required |
| Initiate a "Buy Local" program and develop an agricultural economic strategy | Chamber of Commerce established a buy local program for commercial businesses - 2011 | No further action required |
| Provide adequate bicycle facilities and establish a signed system of bicycle routes throughout the Town | PaTHs 4 Bethlehem Committee Est. 03/2009 - address bicycle & pedestrian mobility. Developed signed Delmar Bicycle Route | Town Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee to continue to plan for bicycle routes. |
| Coordinate with Chamber of Commerce to promote local businesses | Participate in Bethlehem Chamber/Town Focus on Business Forums. Chamber presence at Delmar Farmer's Market | Ongoing effort between Town and Bethlehem Chamber of Commerce. |
| Create a Parks Master Plan | Master Plan Completed for Henry Hudson Park as part of LWRP - 10/2007 | CPAC consideration |
| Coordinate with neighboring municipalities, Albany County, school districts and regional entities in planning related activities | Linkage studies completed, land use review coordinates with regional entities | Ongoing effort between Town and neighboring jurisdictions/agencies/organizations. |
| Enhance entranceways / gateways to the community | Bethlehem Garden Club plantings at entranceways to Town | Ongoing effort by the Garden Club |
| Encourage continuing education for board members | 4 hours of education credits required by NYSDOS - Town Board Resolution adopted April 2008 | DEDP annually monitor Planning Board and Zoning Board continuing education credits, and make members aware of qualifying education opportunities. |
| Long-Term Actions | | |
| Review the comprehensive plan within five to ten years | 2012 begin Comp Plan assessment | Implement CPAC recommendations based on Town Board direction |