



Town Plan 2019 Update Overview

Community Forums June/July, 2018



Plan Update Process



- ❑ Plan for a Municipality: Different terms used (Master Plan, Town Plan or Comprehensive Plan)
- ❑ Definition: A comprehensive, long range plan intended to guide the growth and development of a community that typically includes inventory and analytic sections leading to recommendations for the community's future direction related to the community's goals and strategies.
- ❑ A Plan looks at where we have been in the past, where we are today and where we want to be in 5-20 years from now.



Plan Update Process



- In Vermont, State Statute requires that the Municipal Plan be updated or readopted every five years.
- The Municipal Plan for Hartford is entitled the “Town of Hartford Master Plan”, and was last amended in 2014.
- The next update/adoption must be completed by May 26, 2019.
- After the 2019 update, State Statute requires the Plan be updated at least every eight years, and the Town may adopt changes more frequently.



Plan Update Process



- ❑ The Plan serves as a roadmap which describes what is important about the Town, and what to do to meet the community's needs going into the future.
- ❑ The Plan includes information, goals, policies and recommendations about many aspects of the community, including: demographics; land use; transportation; housing; economic development; natural resources, historic and cultural resources; education; energy; utilities; flood resilience; recreation; and other community resources and facilities.
- ❑ State Statute prescribes these elements that must be included in the Plan.
- ❑ The Regional Planning Commission reviews the Plan for conformance with State Statute in order for the Town to be eligible to participate in some State funding grants and programs.



2019 Plan Update



- ❑ There are specific Plan chapters, such as Energy and Natural Resources that will require major updates to meet new state requirements.
- ❑ Input from the Selectboard, Town departments, community, and Town Commissions, Committees and Boards will guide the Plan update.
- ❑ Other update tasks include formatting such as making it more user friendly, visually engaging, and reducing what is in the Plan.



Plan Update Process



- Town Staff and the Planning Commission are working with a Town Plan Steering Committee on the Plan update, meeting 1-2 times a month.
- The Town Plan Steering Committee consists of representatives from the Energy Commission, Zoning Board of Adjustment, Selectboard, Historic Preservation Commission, Parks and Recreation Commission, Conservation Commission, Community Resilience Organization and the Hartford Area Chamber of Commerce.



Plan Update Process



- Public input is an important part of the process.
- Five community forums are scheduled over the next month during the early stages of the update.
- Once a Draft Plan is completed (late fall) community meetings will be held to present the Plan to the public.
- The Draft Plan will be revised based on public comments.
- In the winter/spring, public hearings will be held with the Planning Commission & Selectboard to consider adoption.



Schedule



Hartford 2019 Master Plan Update Schedule	
Due Date	Activity
28-Feb-18	Meet with TRORC (Jan 29th) Distribute chapters to respective Town Depts & Comms/Brds for review (Feb 2nd) Organizing meeting with PC (Feb 12th)
30-Mar-18	First review by Depts of needed updates for 2019 and beyond 2019 (March 5th) Based on update goals, determine benchmark points for community input; adjust schedule accordingly P&D staff work with Depts & Comms/Brds as needed
30-Apr-18	Depts submit working draft of 2019 updates (deadline may be adjusted based on March submittal) P&D staff work with Depts & Comm/Brds as needed. Community input meetings as determined Form Master Plan Update Steering Committee comprised of reps from Town appointed Comms/Brds, Town staff, SB Liaison
May thru Sept 2018	PC/Steering Comm workshops on Chapter updates (detailed schedule set after Dept submittals in March/April) Community input meetings as determined
31-Oct-18	Full Draft Plan completed for community review
Nov thru Dec 2018	Community meetings on Draft Plan
31-Jan-19	Revise Draft based on community input
Feb-19	Distribute Draft Plan and initiate formal Public Hearing Process for PC and SB Hearings
Feb/March 19	PC public hearings - 1 required, plan for 2
April /May 19	SB public hearings, minimum of 2 required
Week of May 20, 2019	SB adoption of Master Plan Update to meet deadline (May 26)
Jun-19	TRORC's formal review and determination of conformance/compatibility with the Regional Plan

Schedule Updated 2-2-18



2019 Plan Update



- Thank you for coming to tonight's forum and participating.
- If you want to be informed of future community meetings/forums, make sure you sign in and provide us with your contact information.
- Help us spread the word about the Hartford Town Plan process.