

Goals and Objectives

(Updated in 2011)

Introduction

The following goals and objectives are based on the focal points described in the Vision Statement of this Master Plan. The Goals and Objectives will help to identify a road map to accomplish specific tasks necessary to realize the Plaistow's vision.

Clean Air (CA)

CA Goal 1: Investigate state and federal idling regulations and

Objective 1: If necessary, establish local regulations that would help to improve Plaistow's air quality.

Clean Water (CW)

CW Goal 1: Add text to the Water Resource section of the Master Plan describing Plaistow's Source Water Protection Program (SWPP) and its contribution to water quality.

Objective 1: Identify next steps to be taken to improve the SWPP.

CW Goal 2: Maintain the list of on-going tasks identified in Plaistow's Source Water Protection Program (SWPP).

Objective 1: Create an annual report containing the tasks completed during the last year and the list of tasks to be worked on during the following year. Such reports should be attached to the SWPP.

CW Goal 3: Add text to the Water Resources Master Plan describing the MS4 permitting process and its contribution to water quality.

Objective 1: Identify and zoning, subdivision regulations, and/or site plan review regulations necessary to ensure that Plaistow can meet its obligations identified in the MS4 permit.

CW Goal 4: Describe Plaistow's water needs and sources.

Objective 1: Add the Aquifer map to the Water Resources section of the Master Plan.

Objective 2: Review the Aquifer Protection District zoning ordinance and update where necessary to ensure the aquifer is receiving the best protection.

Objective 3: Review the 1970s Fenton Keyes report that reported on various possibilities of providing municipal potable water to Plaistow. Update as necessary to make sure all present conditions are taken

into account in the report. These updates may take the form of a Supplement to the original report, or entirely new report.

Objective 4: Apply for grants to determine how and when municipal water and waste water may be provided to the business community along Route 125. A financing plan must also be included.

Objective 5: Review the current plan for the Fire Suppression system and determine if any expansions are necessary or desirable. Any expansion plan must include how the Fire Suppression system would be integrated with a municipal potable water system as well as a financial plan to accomplish the expansion.

Economic Development (ED)

ED Goal 1: Identify opportunities, programs, and possible zoning changes that will help to promote economic development in Plaistow.

Objectives: To be supplied at a later time.

Village Center District (VCD)

VC Goal 1: Goals and objectives to be provided after the Plan NH Design Charrette report has been received.

Objectives: To be supplied at a later time.

Build Out and Infrastructure (BO&I)

BO&I Goal 1: Provide for and maintain a well-balanced pattern of land use that meets the needs of Plaistow residents and business owners in an environmentally sound, economical, and equitable manner that is consistent with the town's small town New England character.

Objective 1: Encourage and manage growth in the areas of Plaistow that will minimize environmental impacts and will not exceed the capacity of the town's municipal services.

Objective 2: Promote a variety of residential opportunities throughout the town.

Objective 3: Utilize access management techniques and appropriate landscaping and buffering along major roadways.

Objective 4: Continue to provide opportunities for business growth, particularly within existing commercial and industrial areas.

BO&I Goal 2: Preserve those community features that contribute to Plaistow's quality of life.

- Objective 1: Preserve the natural and cultural features such as streams, rivers, prime agricultural land, valuable woodlands, quality views, wetlands, country roads, stone walls and other valuable open space areas.
- Objective 2: Adopt regulatory and non-regulatory mechanisms that will protect and enhance the town's character.
- Objective 3: Identify and protect specific scenic areas and view corridors.
- Objective 4: Encourage residents and property owners to support the establishment of land use and design guidelines that will preserve the town's character.
- Objective 5: Encourage public and private partnerships designed to improve and upgrade the physical attractiveness of the Village Center.

BO&I Goal 3: To better appreciate and understand the existing and projected housing needs of Plaistow's citizens.

- Objective 1: To identify the specific housing needs in Plaistow.
- Objective 2: To educate and inform the townspeople on the local housing issues.
- Objective 3: To ensure through the Town's Land Use Regulations that there is opportunity for a variety of choices for residential housing.
- Objective 4: To identify areas in town suitable and appropriate for senior housing.
- Objective 5: To assist providers of elderly housing with assistance and information.
- Objective 6: Opportunities for a range of housing types including single and multi-family.

BO&I Goal 4: To plan and provide for quality community facilities and services to effectively meet the municipal, social, educational and other service needs of Plaistow's residents and businesses in an efficient manner.

- Objective 1: Ensure that the public health and safety of local residents are met.
- Objective 2: Encourage public and private cooperation in planning for and financing community facilities, including an examination of opportunities to privatize selected municipal services when it is appropriate and practical.

Objective 3: Ensure continued cooperation and coordination between the Emergency Management, Fire, and Police departments in order to encourage a cost-effective use of resources.

Objective 4: Provide a rational approach for the financing of the town's community facilities and services.

Objective 5: Work with the Timberlane Regional School District to ensure that all students have the opportunity to receive the best possible and affordable education so that they acquire the necessary skills and knowledge to make a positive contribution to the community.

Objective 6: Encourage cooperation between the Timberlane Regional School District, the Plaistow Library to promote educational programs that use a variety of community resources including conservation lands, historic resources, community facilities and local businesses.

Objective 7: Encourage close coordination between the needs identified in the Community Facilities Chapter and the Capital Improvements Program.

Town Forest and Conservation Lands (TFCL)

TFCL Goal 1: Protect and enhance environmentally sensitive natural resources areas in order to maintain their ecological integrity and/or to promote public health and safety.

Objective 1: Ensure a safe and adequate water supply for all citizens through proper management of land, water supply areas, and aquifer recharge areas.

Objective 2: Protect and maintain the valuable functions of wetlands by minimizing the impact of development and allowing appropriate multiple use of these resources for recreation, wildlife habitat and limited timber harvest.

Objective 3: Encourage only those uses within the 100-year floodplain that are enhanced or unharmed by flooding.

Objective 4: Protect surface water resources by minimizing non-point source pollution from storm water discharge.

Objective 5: Protect unique or unusual natural resource features or communities.

TFCL Goal 2: Maintain the quality of Plaistow's living environment by encouraging the appropriate balance between protection and active use of the town's natural resources.

Objective 1: Protect significant higher elevations for their visual value.

Objective 2: Increase public awareness of Plaistow's unusual and rare plant and animal species.

Objective 3: Encourage the maintenance and proper management of the town's agriculture and forestry resources.

TFCL Goal 3: Protect and manage Plaistow's valuable open space resources.

Objective 1: Provide an integrated network of open space areas and recreation facilities.

Objective 2: Improve, protect, and encourage public access to Plaistow's surface waters.

Objective 3: Encourage new developments to protect and, where possible, enhance valuable natural and open space resources.

Objective 4: Preserve natural features such as ponds, streams, rivers, prime agricultural land, valuable woodlands, quality views, wetlands, and other valuable open space areas that contribute to Plaistow's character.

Objective 5: Support regional open space initiatives.

Objective 6: Ensure protection of wildlife corridors and habitats.

Recreation (REC)

REC Goal 1: Provide suitable recreation opportunities—land, programs, and facilities—to service the town's existing and projected populations.

Objective 1: Meet the town's current and projected recreational needs by ensuring that there is an appropriate amount of land and facilities.

Objective 2: Provide suitable recreation facilities that are within easy access of the town's major neighborhoods.

REC Goal 2: Encourage the long-term use, maintenance, and improvement of existing recreational facilities.

Objective 1: Ensure that there are available recreation resources for all age groups.

Objective 2: Provide for the maintenance and enhancement of existing recreation facilities.

Transportation (TRANS)

TRANS Goal 1: Provide and maintain a transportation system that allows for the efficient movement of people and goods and provides adequate access to places of employment, residential areas, commercial and shopping areas, and recreational opportunities.

- Objective 1: Maximize the safety of drivers and pedestrians through regular maintenance and enhancement to the transportation system.
- Objective 2: Improve the current roadway system to provide efficient traffic flow in the town's urban area while maintaining a safe environment for pedestrians.
- Objective 3: Provide opportunities for a range of non-automotive transportation alternatives that are easily available to the residents of Plaistow.
- Objective 4: Ensure that transportation improvement projects are consistent with the town's policies for protection of natural, cultural and historic resources, and minimize the impact on residential neighborhoods.
- Objective 5: Participate in the coordination of state and local transportation planning that addresses both local and regional needs and use all opportunities for funding.
- Objective 6: Expand opportunities for pedestrian access and safety by identifying and improving sidewalks in need of immediate repair and adding additional sidewalks where appropriate.
- Objective 7: Establish a system of bicycle routes and multi-use trails/paths for the enjoyment of Plaistow citizens that is coordinated with state and regional trail systems.
- Objective 8: Continue the process of funding for transportation enhancement projects through the local capital improvement planning process.
- Objective 9: Encourage public/private cooperation in the financing of additions and improvements to the transportation system.

TRANS Goal 2: Extend the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA) Haverhill commuter rail line to Plaistow.

- Objective 1: Secure the appropriate funding to construct a rail station and requisite rail siding. Adequate Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) funding was received in January, 2011. The funding plan requires a layover facility be provided in close proximity to the rail station. Based on this requirement, the project was expanded from a rail station to a rail station

and layover facility. Plaistow will own and operate the rail station that will be designed in a manner to be revenue neutral to the Plaistow tax payers.

Objective 2: Complete the necessary environmental and engineering studies for the project.

Objective 3: Obtain all the necessary MA and NH legislative approvals.

Objective 4: Complete the construction and begin service.

TRANS Goal 3: Explore the feasibility of reestablishing the Route 125 commuter bus links from surrounding communities to the rail station.

Objective 1: Secure funding to do this feasibility study including ridership levels as well as a long-term funding plan.

TRANS Goal 4: Explore the feasibility of establishing the Route 125 shuttle bus service from major Plaistow shopping centers to the rail station.

Objective 1: Secure funding to do this feasibility study including ridership levels as well as a long-term funding plan.