



Town of Colonie
Comprehensive Plan Advisory Committee
August 24, 2016

What is a Comprehensive Plan?

A Comprehensive Plan's primary role is to establish the community's vision for its future, to be directional about how to attain this vision, and to assign responsibilities for, and to prioritize, the specific actions that will be taken following completion of the plan. A Comprehensive Plan provides the venue for identifying:

The current state – take stock of the situation – What do you cherish? What are your issues/concerns about the future?

The desired state - what does the community want to be like in the future – what is its vision?

How does the community intend to get there?

According to state law, the plan may include a wide range of topics "at the level of detail adapted to the special requirements of the town..." Topics such as residential growth, economic development, land-use, infrastructure, transportation, open space conservation, recreation, and community character will be addressed in the Comprehensive Plan.

How does the Comprehensive Plan relate to zoning?

According to state law, "All land use regulations must be in accordance with a comprehensive plan adopted pursuant to this section." Updating zoning and subdivision regulations is one of the most important tools communities in New York State have for ensuring that future growth contributes to achieving the community's vision and goals described in the Plan. If needed, the Town of Colonie will revise its local land use regulations to be consistent with the plan.

What is the role of the Comprehensive Plan Advisory Committee (CPAC)?

The Town of Colonie has established an advisory committee to spearhead the Comprehensive Plan Update. The committee will draft and eventually recommend the Comprehensive Plan Update to the Town Board. The Town Board is ultimately responsible for deciding whether to adopt this policy document.

Proposed Scope of Work

Task 1: Project Coordination and Community Profile

- Project Kickoff and Monthly CPAC Meetings (10)
- Refinement of Community Outreach Process
- Community Profile

Task 2: Community Outreach

- Public Workshops / Public Hearings
 - Public Workshop #1 – Identify Key Issues and Opportunities
 - Public Workshop #2 – Visioning
 - Public Workshop #3 – Draft Comprehensive Plan
 - Public Hearings (2) – One by CPAC and one by the Town Board prior to adoption of the plan
- Interviews with Community Leaders
- Roundtable with Town officials and select stakeholders
- Utilization of Media Outlet Resources – webpage, press releases, progress reports, etc.
- Optional Public Participation Methods – Additional workshops, stakeholder meetings or focus groups, survey (written or on-line), image preference survey, community event outreach, etc.

Task 3: Develop Vision, Goals, and Recommendations

Task 4: Develop Draft Comprehensive Plan

Task 5: SEQR Compliance (Full EAF)

Task 6: Final Plan and Plan Adoption

Proposed Timeline

Town of Colonie Comprehensive Plan Update											
	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	
Task 1: Project Coordination	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
Community Profile	■										
Task 2: Community Outreach		◆	❖	◆	□	❖	◆		■	■	
Task 3: Vision, Goals, and Recommendations				■							
Task 4: Draft Plan						■					
Task 5: SEQR								■			
Task 6: Final Plan and Adoption									■		

• CPAC Meetings ◆ Public Workshops ❖ Interviews □ Roundtable ■ Public Hearings