
TOWN OF COLONIE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE

TOWN OF COLONIE
ALBANY COUNTY, NEW YORK
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CPAC) MEETING



To: Town of Colonie Comprehensive Plan Advisory Committee
From: Chuck Voss, AICP Senior Land Use Planner – Barton & Loguidice, D.P.C.
Re: Meeting Summary Notes
Date: August 8, 2018

Meeting Location: Town of Colonie Public Operations Center
Meeting Date/Time: August 8, 2018 - 6:00 pm – 8:00pm
Meeting Attendees: CPAC, Barton & Loguidice, and several members of the general public

Summary Notes

This was the first meeting of the Comprehensive Plan Advisory Committee (CPAC) since February, 2018. Joe LaCivita, Director of the Planning and Economic Development Department (PEDD) and Chairman of CPAC, welcomed everyone. He also noted that a large amount of work had been occurring in the few months since the last CPAC meeting and that the comprehensive plan webpages on the Town's website have been updated.

Mr. LaCivita introduced Chuck Voss, AICP, Senior Land Use Planner with B&L and the Project Manager for this project and Amy Spain, a planner on B&L's team. Mr. Voss thanked the committee and the Town for assembling for the meeting. He then reviewed the meeting agenda. A copy of the agenda is attached.

A summary of the discussion follows below:

1. Introductions
 - Members around the table introduced themselves to public.
2. Draft Albany Shaker Road Corridor Study Presentation – presented by Don Adams of CME Engineering.
 - Looked at a large project area, which included extension of Aviation Road.
 - Recommendations:
 - i. Lower Speed limits on the Albany Shaker Corridor from 40mph to 30mph
 - ii. Minimize cut thru traffic
 - iii. Side walk additions
 - iv. Increase access to Colonie Commons

- There was a discussion by some CPAC members on the recommendation to lower the speed within the corridor.
 - i. Question: What is a 10mph difference going to accomplish?
 - ii. Answer: Quality of life
 - iii. Question: How will transportation efficiency be impacted? CME was asked for explanations and justifications for the decrease in speed other than quality of life.
 - iv. Answer: This is a residential street.
 1. Counter: 20,000+ cars a day is not a residential street.
 2. Counter: Committee Member suggested a step down to 35mph as opposed to 30mph.
 - v. Question: This discussion should be tabled for the September 6th Public Information Meeting to be held at the Albany Shaker Firehouse and a for potential separate future breakout meeting.
 - vi. Answer: Yes.

3. Summary of Project to Date

- Mr. Voss and Mr. LaCivita recapped the February Meeting and distributed DRAFT revisions and recommendations to the CPAC.
- It was noted that the last few pages of this DRAFT need a little more information from the Town Planner.
 - i. Will have final recommendations for next meeting.

4. Open Space Survey Overview

Mr. LaCivita gave an overview of the Town's current efforts to move forward with an Open Space inventory. He discussed the 2005 open space mapping that was within the original plan and how the Town was going about the process of updating the mapping, with the intent to provide a baseline record of what the open space is that exists in 2018 which will allow us to better plan going forward

- How will spaces in Town be quantified.
- GIS/RPS data was utilized.
- Lupe Way -62 acres in conservation land, Pollack -22 acres in conservation land.
 - i. The Town has a draft open space inventory that will be presented at the September Public Information Meeting.
- Discussed the need and purpose of the inventory/classifications
 - i. What is the Town going to be doing pro-actively to identify and preserve open spaces?
- How/should the Town create inventory for a Report?
 - i. Need for actual report.
 - ii. Need to identify classifications for farm land to better determine how to classify it as potential open space.
- Discussed County/State Grants for preserving open space/farm land
 - i. Need quantifiable data for grant applications/funding.

5. Draft Comprehensive Plan Inventory Analysis Overview

- Central part of plan
- This is a good snap shot of what Colonie really is

- Charles Voss and Joseph LaCivita asked the Committee Members to review for next meeting.
 - i. Plan will be revised as it is further reviewed by the CPAC, public and the Town Board.
 - Question: Population Growth – projection not growing as fast a previously thought.
 - Answer: Region is growing at a moderate pace with no spikes. It has been a slow, steady increase.
 - It was noted that the next Census will begin in the next year or so. 2010 Census date, along with CDRPC projections, are what is being used in the draft Plan.
 - i. There are 19 maps that visually depict data from the inventory. These will be available for next CPAC meeting.
 - Draft Comprehensive Plan Document Outline
 - i. Formatting – How the Plan will look and be put together
 - 1. All figures will be listed out and profile mapping will be added.
 - ii. Request to distribute the draft Inventory & Analysis to the CPAC in electronic form.
6. Review Goals and Recommendations
- Draft will be pulled together by end of October for possible December adoption.
7. Open Comment
- Jim (public) asked about Open Space Easements?
 - i. Committee Members: Will look into other projects and accessibility to open spaces for wild life and non-motor transportation.



Paula A. Mahan
Town Supervisor

TOWN OF COLONIE
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Joseph LaCivita
Director

Comprehensive Plan Committee
Meeting
August 8th, 2018
6:00pm

AGENDA

- 1. Introductions**
- 2. Summary of Project to Date**
- 3. Albany Shaker Road Corridor Study**
Presentation by CME – Don Adams
- 4. Open Space Survey Overview (DRAFT)**
- 5. Inventory Analysis**
- 6. Review Goals and Recommendation**
- 7. Open Comment**
- 8. Next Steps**