

MARLBOROUGH COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE and LOCAL WATERFRONT REVITALIZATION PROGRAM (LWRP)

Comprehensive Plan Update. Marlborough's comprehensive plan dates back to 2002 and the town has recognized the importance of updating the plan to reflect current needs and opportunities. As Marlborough continues to evolve, the community is looking toward continued enhancements of the historic hamlets and waterfront areas, management of traffic, land use and aesthetics of the highway corridors, fostering economic development, and enhancing agriculture, open space, and natural resource conservation.

Land use will be the major focus of the comprehensive plan update as it relates to the future development patterns across the entire town and the zoning regulations that guide growth and change. The plan update will consider the land use and zoning patterns of the town with an eye toward "big picture" recommendations. The comprehensive plan update will address these issues and will be coordinated with a parallel project of creating a local waterfront revitalization program (LWRP) which is being supported with an Environmental Protection Fund grant from New York State Department of State. The town has established a goal of completing the update to the comprehensive plan and the draft of the local waterfront revitalization program in a twelve-month schedule.

Local Waterfront Revitalization Program. The comprehensive plan update will be performed in coordination with the local waterfront revitalization program (LWRP). The LWRP is a special type of plan that focuses on coastal/waterfront areas. With funding assistance from New York State, the LWRP will include an inventory and analysis of waterfront resources, issues and opportunities to revitalize the town's waterfront areas and related places including the hamlets. Ultimately, the LWRP will include:

- Local Waterfront Revitalization Policies
- Proposed Land and Water Uses and Proposed Projects such as:
 - Capital improvement or construction projects;
 - Special studies, plans, design projects, or research necessary to advance or refine components of the LWRP;
 - Education, outreach/training materials and programs;
 - Projects to redevelop underused or deteriorated areas and sites;
 - Projects to provide or improve public access;
 - Projects to protect existing, or provide for new, water-dependent uses, such as marinas, boat yards, yacht clubs, port facilities, swimming beaches, or shellfishing;
 - Projects to upgrade or relocate critical facilities so that essential community services are secure and/or out of hazardous areas;
 - Projects to enhance or restore wetlands, habitats, or other natural protective features; and
 - Projects to improve hazard impact prediction and assessment, and mitigation and adaptation planning, such as development of local or inter-municipal Geographic Information Systems.

The LWRP will put the town in better position to secure grant and other funding for the projects the town wishes to undertake as will be set forth in the final LWRP report. The report will also identify techniques to implement the recommendations such as improvements to town zoning or other town codes. Waterfront communities across New York state have participated in the local waterfront revitalization program as sponsored by the New York State Department of State and through the projects they have initiated have made their waterfront and nearby areas more accessible, more economically vibrant, and better places to live, work, and play. For more information see http://www.dos.ny.gov/opd/programs/pdfs/LWRP_guidebook.pdf

Project Management and Public Involvement. Al Lanzetta, the town supervisor is coordinating these projects in collaboration with the members of the town board and the town's consultant. A project advisory committee has been established by the town board to help guide the comprehensive plan update and LWRP project throughout the 12-month schedule. The committee will help provide ongoing input to the consultant and review draft deliverables. In addition to the committee, input will be sought from the town board and the other town boards and committees as well as other local organizations and the public in general. Behan Planning and Design is the town's planning consultant for both the LWRP and the comprehensive plan update. Behan Planning and Design will work with the town's committee and provide the town with the deliverables for the Comprehensive Plan update and the deliverables for the Draft Local Waterfront Revitalization Plan and as outlined in the Scope of Work set forth in the grant agreement between the town and New York State Department of State. For more information on Behan Planning and Design see: <http://www.behanplanning.com/>

How to stay informed and get involved. A series of public meetings are planned as part of the project and will be announced and notices published in advance. The committee meetings are also open to the public. There will be draft materials posted as these become available on the town website. If you are interested in being placed on an email list to receive notices of meetings and release of project information or otherwise wish to add any questions or concerns, please email Tina Rosa, Secretary, Office of the Town Supervisor at trosa@marlboroughny.us