

Chapter 16 – Planning and Management Policies and Strategies

Introduction

The Comprehensive Plan's Planning and Management Policies and Strategies describe goals, policies, standards and implementation strategies related to Town planning and management. The intent of this section is to ensure coordination across the many topics and needs addressed in this planning document. Wells is committed to the holistic implementation of this Plan, and that will require the ongoing coordination of municipal boards, committees, and professional staff throughout the implementation phase of this planning process.

Goals

State Goal:

Plan for, finance and develop an efficient system of public services to accommodate anticipated growth and economic development. (~~Growth Management Act~~)

Regional Goal:

~~Improve the efficiency and effectiveness of public service delivery through formal and informal means of inter-local cooperation and communication.~~

No goal is available at the regional level.

Wells Goals:

1. Promote a pattern of growth and development that allows for cost effective delivery of services that is consistent with the needs and fiscal capacity of the Town.
2. Program public facility improvements through a Capital Improvement Program based upon the policies and actions of the Comprehensive Plan and its updates.

~~Ensure adequate planning to mitigate civil emergencies.~~

3. Continue to upgrade the professional and voluntary planning and management capability of the Town to plan for the future and regulate the quality of new development.
4. Maintain inter-community communications among the Town departments, Town committees and commissions and other levels of government.

Policies

To achieve these goals, it is the policy of the Town of Wells to:

- ~~1. Promote a pattern of growth and development that discourages sprawl and is consistent with the policies on land use, that allows for cost effective delivery of services consistent with the needs of Wells.~~
- ~~2. Maintain and enhance the Town facilities and services to provide for the health and safety of the Town's residents.~~
- ~~3. Encourage public/private cooperation in planning for, and financing, improvements to the Town's public facilities.~~
- ~~4. Ensure all students have the opportunities to receive the best possible and affordable education so they acquire the necessary skills and knowledge to make a positive contribution to the community.~~
- ~~5. Promote sustainable resource use by all Town departments.~~
- 6.1. Maintain inter-community communications among the Town departments, town committees and commissions and other levels of government.
- 7.2. Provide adequate, high quality staff support to the Town's various boards and commissions to inform and guide their efforts.
- 8.3. Support the enforcement of the Town's land use regulations in a fair and equitable manner.
- ~~9. Develop a program for working with the School District on planning for future school needs.~~
- 10.4. Encourage educational programs about Town planning and management for volunteers of all ages involved that incorporate a variety of community resources including conservation lands, historic resources, community facilities and local business.

Standards

To achieve these policies, the following are Town of Wells' standards to guide development:

1. ~~(To be developed in future update.)~~ An Annual Meeting will be held with representatives of all municipal boards, committees, and town staff from each department.
2. Comprehensive Plan Implementation Matrix

Implementation Strategies

1. Maintain a coordinated, accurate system for data management that allows for efficient transfer of uniform data and information from one department to

another including geographic information.

- ~~2. 2 Monitor the space needs of Town Hall and consider a future plan for efficient use or expansion or reconfiguration of Town facilities as the need arises to ensure high quality and efficient level of service.~~
- ~~3. Continue to review the needs of all other community facilities to determine the need for replacement or additions including, but not limited to: fire substations, police station, highway department and recreational facilities.~~
- ~~4. Continue to monitor all town owned properties and resources to ensure that there is a program for ongoing capital maintenance, repairs and acquisition.~~
- ~~5. Program public facility improvements through a Capital Improvement Program (CIP) that is based upon the Comprehensive Plan's policies and implementation strategies and an appropriate system of priorities.~~
- 6.2. Develop and implement Town planning and management educational programs for volunteers of all ages involved in the business of the community which use a variety of community resources including conservation lands, historic resources, community facilities and local businesses.
- ~~3. Establish a monthly municipal newsletter that includes inter-department/inter-board ~~newsletter to communicate appropriate~~ information to be shared among the Town departments and town committees and ~~commissions with the general public.~~~~
- ~~7.4. Host an annual meeting of all municipal boards, committees, and department staff to share updates on the work being completed by each entity and priorities in the year ahead that relate to the implementation of this Plan.~~
- ~~8. Conserve the Town's financial and environmental resources through group purchasing and waste reduction and recycling.~~
- 9.5. Work directly with the businesses and community groups of Wells to determine areas where cost sharing for municipal facilities and services may be appropriate.
- ~~6. Establish a continuing program for ~~re-monitoring and~~ evaluating the policies and ~~implementing the~~ programs established by ~~the this~~ Comprehensive Plan.~~
- 10.7. Communicate the results of the coordinated implementation of this Comprehensive Plan to the public, and engage them in this process ahead of critical votes or requests for financial support.