

Chapter 17 – Regional Coordination Policies and Strategies

The Comprehensive Plan's Regional Coordination Policies and Strategies describe goals, policies, standards and implementation strategies related to regional coordination. These regional coordination efforts are intended to manage the shared resources and infrastructure in Wells and the surrounding communities. This includes but is not limited to surface waters, aquifers, coastal resources, housing opportunities, and transportation facilities. Given the demand on transportation infrastructure, the need for a range of housing solutions, and the impact of development and sea-level rise on resources regionally Wells will benefit greatly from this regional collaboration.

Goals

State Goal:

Cooperate with local, regional and federal agencies and organizations to continually improve planning and resource management.

Regional Goal:

~~Cooperate with local, State, regional, Federal, and other agencies to continually improve planning and management.~~

Wells Goals:

Coordinate with Federal, State regional and local agencies and organizations to continually improve the planning and management of Wells and the many resources within while meeting civic needs.

Policies

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

1. Work with appropriate Federal, State, regional and local agencies and organizations to implement the goals, policies, and implementation strategies related to the land use, transportation, housing, natural resources, economic development, marine resources and other issues addressed in this Comprehensive Plan.

Implementation Strategies

1. Continue the cooperative relationship with the Wells National Estuarine Research Reserve to expand the water quality monitoring program.
2. Work with adjacent communities to maintain or improve water quality

standards for surface waters that occur in more than one community. Specifically, work with the Towns of Sanford and Kennebunk to undertake policies and programs for the protection of the Branch Brook watershed and aquifer.

3. Ensure that the water quality of Ell Pond is not degraded by working with the Town of Sanford to implement a consistent set of standards for water quality protection.
4. Work cooperatively with ~~the US Fish and Wildlife,~~ the Maine Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Department, and other local, State and Federal agencies to manage and protect high value habitat and areas for significant habitat and rare and endangered species while addressing the realities of climate change and its impact on these resources and other infrastructure in Wells.
5. Continue to work with the Department of Marine Resources, the Wells National Estuarine Research Reserve and the Maine Department of Environmental Protection to ensure the viability of the recreational shellfish harvesting program and prohibit any commercial harvesting.
6. Actively participate with the Maine Department of Transportation on ~~any-all~~ active projects in Town including the while advocating for a comprehensive US Route 1 Corridor Study, and ~~on the implementing the~~ Route 109 Improvement Program between Exit 19 and the High Pine area.
7. Work cooperatively with the MDOT to ensure that there is proper planning and implementation of ~~any-all~~ projects in ~~Town~~ Wells, and that a “complete and green streets” approach is incorporated.
8. Participate in the MDOT Regional Needs Assessment process in order to coordinate local transportation planning with the regional and State efforts, and to become aware of funding and program opportunities.
9. Work cooperatively with the Maine Turnpike Authority ~~for~~ to attract and retain a major bus company to provide Boston to Portland bus service with stops in Wells.
10. Establish an ongoing dialogue with all utility providers to ensure that they are aware of the growth area designations, ~~as well~~ sea-level rise projections, complete street policies, and as the other policies ~~of~~ established in this Plan.
11. Work cooperatively with other Towns to help implement the regional Eastern Trail system.
12. Work cooperatively with the Maine Department of Transportation for a new Turnpike interchange between Wells and Ogunquit to ease traffic congestion on Route 1.

13. Continue to work with the Town of Sanford ~~on the Route 109 corridor study~~ ~~and to~~ implement ~~its the~~ recommendations ~~when complete~~ of the Route 109 Corridor Study.
- ~~13.~~ Participate in regional approaches within York County that address housing choice and the creation of workforce housing options that fit with the Visions of the communities involved.