

CHARLESTOWN COMPREHENSIVE PLAN REWRITE

The Town of Charlestown is currently in the process of rewriting its Comprehensive Plan. The plan was originally composed in 1991, and last updated in 2006 with approval by the state Division of Planning in 2008. It now requires a thorough study and update, done in a manner compliant with the RI Comprehensive Planning and Land Use Act, including all required elements and maps, consistency with State Guide Plan Elements, and a twenty year planning horizon.

The rewrite is being done through the Planning Department with review of all draft materials and maps by the Planning Commission. The Town has hired Mason and Associates, Inc. of North Scituate, RI to prepare the new plan. The Mason team, principally Nancy Letendre and David Westcott, have been, or will be, reaching out to a variety of town departments, boards and commissions, and organizations. The rewrite is expected to be completed sometime in 2016. The plan requires adoption by the Town Council following a public hearing, and must be approved by the State Division of Planning.

Development of the Charlestown Comprehensive Plan depends on the involvement of the citizens of Charlestown. Public input is welcomed and encouraged.

The Planning Commission has set aside its regularly scheduled workshops, generally on the first Wednesday of every month, to review progress on the Comprehensive Plan. The public is invited to attend and participate in these workshops. Upcoming dates are listed below, but please check the current town calendar for verification:

December 3, 2014
January 7, 2015
February 4, 2015
March 4, 2015
April 1, 2015
May 6, 2015
June 3, 2015
July 1, 2015
August 5, 2015
September 2, 2015
October 7, 2015
November 4, 2015
December 2, 2015

Many of the subjects that will be covered include the following:

Geography and Landforms
Natural Resources
Open Space and Dark Skies
Cultural and Historical
Resources
Recreation Opportunities
Population
Water and Energy
Transportation and Circulation
Economy
Housing Choices
Resiliency and Natural Hazards
Land Use and Future Land Use
A Vision for Charlestown

If you have any questions, or would like copies of materials please contact the Town Planner at (401) 364-1225 or planner@charlestownri.org.