



Be a
**CHARLESTOWN
CITIZEN
PLANNER**

You can participate in the rewrite of the Charlestown Comprehensive Plan.

JOIN THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE. Attend planning board workshop sessions at 7:00 pm on the first Wednesday of the month at Town Hall.

SHARE YOUR IDEAS: email your ideas on the future of Charlestown to the planning department: jweidman@charlestownri.org. or write to us at the address on the front of this brochure.

FOLLOW OUR PROGRESS: Keep track of the plan as it develops over the next few months at www.charlestownri.org.

ATTEND PUBLIC HEARINGS: Watch for advertisements of public hearings and come to speak in support of planning for Charlestown's future!



COMPREHENSIVE PLAN REWRITE

Charlestown Planning Dept.

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Charlestown, RI
4540 South County Trail, Charlestown RI 02813
Community Comprehensive Plan

2015-2035



The Charlestown Comprehensive Plan—frequently asked questions

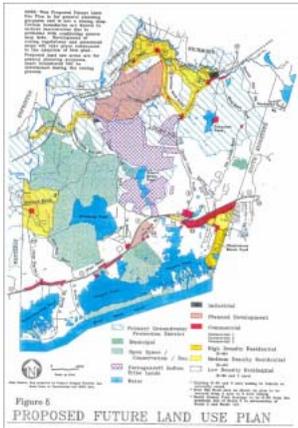
WHAT IS A COMPREHENSIVE COMMUNITY PLAN?

The Comprehensive Plan:

- Is a state approved document required of all cities and towns,
- It establishes a long-term (20 year) vision for the Town of Charlestown,
- Provides the legal basis for the town's zoning and subdivision regulations, and
- Assists town boards and commissions in making consistent decisions.
- It is updated every 10 years

WHY ARE WE REWRITING OUR COMPREHENSIVE PLAN?

The original comprehensive plan is now almost 10 years old. Some of the goals and objectives it provided have been accomplished. Others are no longer relevant. The State has required all communities to update their comprehensive plans by June of 2016. The new plan will address topics that were not included in the old plan. Once approved the new plan will be binding on the State as well as the Town.



The future land use map from the old plan

WHAT DOES THE PLAN CONTAIN?

The Comprehensive Plan contains a vision for the future of Charlestown. It addresses topics such as:

- Land Use
- Economic Development
- Recreation and Open Space
- Natural Resources
- Cultural Resources
- Public Services and Facilities
- Housing, and
- Education.

It establishes the town's goals and policies and offers specific objectives and action items in each area.

WHO USES THE PLAN AND HOW?

The Comprehensive Plan is used by:

- The Planning Commission to guide land use decisions,
- The Zoning Board of review to evaluate applications,
- The Town Council, to clarify the intent of ordinances and prioritize capital budgeting,
- Landowners and developers to align their projects with the town's vision for the future,
- Preservationists and conservation groups to establish priorities for resource protection,
- Economic development interests to plan for appropriate growth in jobs and tax-base.



HOW IS THE NEW PLAN BEING PREPARED?

Charlestown has hired a planning consultant to help rewrite the comprehensive plan. The consultant's efforts are being directed by the Planning Board and the Town Planner. Your participation is welcome.

WHAT CAN I DO TO HELP?

The town needs your assistance to ensure that the plan adequately addresses your concerns and provides a vision for the future that makes sense to you. You can participate in any of the ways listed on the back panel of this brochure. Please consider getting involved and helping us to make a better future for Charlestown.



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See reverse side to learn how