

Kennebunk Comprehensive Plans 1980, 1991, 2003, (and 2010 Econ. Dev. Amendments)

Kennebunk has carried out several comprehensive planning efforts over the years – including the development of the **1980, 1991, and the 2003 (as amended) Town Comprehensive Plans.**

The purpose of a Comprehensive Plan is to provide guidance to public and private decision-makers regarding the development of the Town. In addition, the plan provides a framework for the development and updating of the Town's Land Use ordinances.

The process for developing these Town Comprehensive Plans has included:

- Collecting information about the development and functioning of the town, (this has included the collection of demographic info, preparing natural resource mapping, carrying out traffic study's within various parts of town, mapping the of areas served by public infrastructure – ie . sidewalks, bike lanes, sewer , water and utility lines.)
- analysis and public discussion with town residents and town committees regarding how they would like to see the town develop in the future, and
- the development of goals, policies and strategies that will accommodate and guide future development in way that addresses the needs and desires of the community.

The recurring goals that have resulted from all three of these Comprehensive Planning efforts :

- that Kennebunk should attempt to maintain its traditional village and countryside pattern of settlement,
- that the Town's natural resources should be respected and our high value habitat areas protected,
- that future growth should be directed to those parts of Town already served or most easily served by municipal services and public infrastructure,
- that ample opportunity should be provided for the development of reasonably priced housing, and
- that we should maintain and actively foster Downtown Kennebunk, the Lower Village and West Kennebunk Village as vital commercial areas, and should attempt to preserve their traditional village pattern of development.

Some of the strategies that the Town has proposed as a way to implement these goals include :

- In addition to enhancing the existing growth areas which surround the three villages, the town should provide for the enlargement of the growth areas in order to be able to accommodate the town's future growth,
- Review of our land use restrictions to see if there are changes that would encourage more affordable housing,
- The Town should provide and maintain the public infrastructure to support commercial activity in the villages - including parking, sidewalks, lighting, landscaping, rest rooms and support for alternative travel modes,
- Town should continue to provide for Economic Growth by making existing commercially zoned areas more buildable and seeking to expand commercially and industrially zoned areas where possible,
- Provide information to landowners regarding natural resource protection, retention, and improvement **and** create incentives for property owners to protect such areas,
- The Town should support the historic rehabilitation and retention of historic structures and sites in town,
- The Town should study the traffic along Route 1. South and develop a traffic plan similar to the plan developed for Route 1. North with the goal of creating shared curb cuts and a possible rear connector road.